

NEW YORK TIMES EDITORIAL ON
DEVILS LAKE

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2005

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to enter into the RECORD an editorial by the Canadian Ambassador to the United States, Frank McKenna, on the crisis surrounding Devils Lake.

[From the New York Times, May 12, 2005]

HELL FROM HIGH WATER

(By Frank McKenna)

WASHINGTON.—A crisis looms on the United States border with Canada, and it could easily be averted with some research and a little patience.

The problem stems from a body of water in North Dakota known as Devils Lake. The lake has no natural drainage, and because North Dakota has drained surrounding wetlands, it has risen 26 feet since 1993, flooding nearby communities. In Canada, we are sympathetic to the plight of the lake's neighbors, but not to the solution their state has proposed.

In June, North Dakota plans to open an outlet that will let Devils Lake water travel into the Sheyenne River and on into the Red River, which flows north into Canada. From there the water will eventually stream into Lake Winnipeg and the Hudson Bay watershed.

Devils Lake, a remnant of a shallow glacial sea, is a closed ecological system that has been geographically separate from the surrounding Hudson Bay basin for more than a thousand years. Its salty waters have high concentrations of nitrogen, sulfates and phosphates—minerals that could cause severe digestive distress if consumed and could be lethal to aquatic life. Because of these contaminants, North Dakota does not allow Devils Lake waters to be used for irrigation.

Once the canal is opened, the pollutants will enter the water supply of downstream communities in North Dakota, Minnesota and Manitoba. Moreover, species of fish, plants, parasites and viruses previously confined in Devils Lake, in some cases for millennia, will spill out into the Sheyenne and Red Rivers. There they could kill the native plants and fish of the larger ecosystem. The consequences for Lake Winnipeg, the largest freshwater fishery in North America, are particularly worrisome.

Despite concerns on both sides of the border about maintaining safe water sources, North Dakota has decided to pump out Devils Lake water without undertaking any environmental assessment or establishing ecological safeguards.

There is a solution to this impending crisis. Nearly 100 years ago, Canada and the United States established the Boundary Waters Treaty. Under that treaty the two governments set up an International Joint Commission to address differences of opinion involving boundary waters. So far, of the 53 issues the two countries have jointly referred to the commission, 51 have been resolved by mutual agreement.

For over a year, Canada has been requesting that North Dakota put off pumping water while the United States and Canada refer the issue to the commission for a time-limited, independent, scientific review. Both the Canadian and Manitoban governments have stated that they will support the commission's finding, whatever it may be. The governors of Minnesota and Missouri, as well as many other officials, have expressed sup-

port for the Canadian request in letters to the United States secretary of state.

At their March meeting in Waco, Texas, President Bush, Prime Minister Paul Martin of Canada and President Vicente Fox of Mexico pledged to enhance water quality "by working bilaterally, trilaterally and through existing regional bodies." Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice should demonstrate the strength of that commitment by joining Canada in referring the Devils Lake project to the joint commission.

If instead the Devils Lake project goes forward without a review, it will damage not only the region's environment and economy, but also North America's most important bilateral water management arrangement. There is a better solution.

IN HONOR OF WOMEN'S HEALTH
WEEK

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2005

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Women's Health Week. It is only within the past decade that scientists have begun to uncover significant biological and physiological differences between men and women. Before that time, women were regularly left out of clinical trials and it was simply assumed that women's bodies would respond to medication in the same way as men's bodies.

Thanks to the efforts of women in the House and Senate, and dedicated organizations such as the Society for Women's Health Research, to mandate that women be included in clinical trials, we are now gaining greater knowledge of the unique differences between the genders—from the composition of bone matter and the experience of pain, to the metabolism of certain drugs and the rate of brain activity—and what we need to do to ensure optimal health care for everyone.

As an ovarian cancer survivor, I understand that research on women's health can both improve and save lives. As a result of such research, death rates have decreased for women with tumors of the cervix, breast, uterus, and ovary due to advances in detection and treatment, such as the development of a cervical cancer vaccine. Quality of life has also improved for cancer patients through the development of less invasive surgical techniques, organ-sparing treatments, and better control of pain and nausea related to chemotherapy.

Women's health research can also lead to less expensive treatments and cost-saving prevention strategies. For example, the total economic value to Americans from reductions in mortality from cardiovascular disease, which strikes 50,000 more women than men each year, averaged \$1.5 trillion annually between 1970 and 1990.

While progress has been made in recent years, there is still much more that Congress can do to improve women's health. The Office of Research on Women's Health, ORWH, in the Office of the Director at NIH must be fully funded so that it can continue supporting the expansion and funding of peer-reviewed Specialized Centers of Research on Sex and Gender Factors Affecting Women's Health, SCOR, and the Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health, BIRCWH, programs.

In addition, I urge Congress to pass the Women's Health Office Act (S. 569/H.R. 949), which will permanently authorize the existing offices of women's health in five federal agencies: the Department of Health and Human Services; the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; the Health Resources and Services Administration; and the Food and Drug Administration. This will allow these offices to continue to carry out their important work without facing underfunding, understaffing, or elimination in the future.

Finally, Congress should further encourage NIH to update and modify its guidelines to actively promote sex differences research at all levels, including basic research in cell and tissue culture, development and study of appropriate animal models, and in early stage clinical research.

I would like to commend the Society for Women's Health Research for its tireless efforts to improve the health of both women and men. I hope that during Women's Health Week, all Members will take a moment to consider the importance of passing these measures and continuing our commitment to women's health.

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST
WISHES TO COLONEL ALAN R.
LYNN

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2005

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a great Army officer and soldier, Colonel Alan R. Lynn, and to thank him for his contributions to the Army and the country. On Thursday, June 2, 2005, Colonel Lynn will relinquish command of the Army's 3rd Signal Brigade which is stationed at Fort Hood, Texas, for reassignment to the Army Staff in Washington, DC.

Colonel Lynn began his military career in 1979 following his graduation from the University of Pennsylvania at California, Pennsylvania. Commissioned as an Air Defense Artillery officer from ROTC he completed several successful assignments in the Air Defense Artillery before he transferred to the U.S. Army Signal Corps. During Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm he served as the 1st Brigade Signal Officer with the fabled 101st Airborne Division. In 1997, he commanded the 13th Signal Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division both at Fort Hood, Texas and in Bosnia with Task Force Eagle. Colonel Lynn took command of the 3rd Signal Brigade, Fort Hood, Texas, on June 13, 2002. He deployed the Brigade to 66 separate locations throughout Iraq in January, 2004 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom creating the largest tactical communications network in Army history. For over a decade Alan has been tested in conflict and hardened in battle to become one of the Army's finest and most experienced Signal Corps commanders.

Alan is a consummate professional whose performance personifies those traits of courage, competency, and commitment that our Nation has come to expect from its Army officers. It is with sadness that we wish him Godspeed and good luck as he leaves Fort Hood for his new assignment.

Alan's career has reflected his deep commitment to our Nation, and has been characterized by dedicated, selfless service, love for soldiers and their families and a commitment to excellence. I ask Members to join me in offering our heartfelt appreciation for a job well done and best wishes for continued success to a great soldier and friend—Colonel Alan R. Lynn.

HONORING GHAZAROS KADEMIAN

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2005

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ghazaros Kademian, a resident of Glendale, Californian and a 96-year-old survivor of the Armenian Genocide. The courage of survivors like Mr. Kademian reminds all mankind of the extraordinary strength and determination of the Armenian people who endured the unspeakable atrocities perpetrated against them by the Ottoman Empire between 1915 and 1923.

Ghazaros Kademian was just six years old when his family was forced into exile from their homeland in the village of Zaitoun (modern day Sulaimane, Turkey). His mother saved him and his siblings by fleeing the oncoming slaughter of the Ottoman Turks. His father stayed behind to defend their village and was murdered by the Turk gendarmes. The family only had the clothes on their backs during the long journey away from their home. Mr. Kademian does not remember all the details of his family's tragic journey, except that it was harrowing, and they had no idea where they were going.

They ended their perilous flight in Kirkuk, in what is now northern Iraq. He remembers very vividly that first night in Kirkuk with his mother. They hugged each other for warmth and slept in front of a church for protection. That was the young Ghazaros's last embrace with his mother. In the morning he discovered that she had died from the cold and hunger. Separated from his brother and sister, he was left orphaned and homeless, in a town where he did not speak the language.

After several days he found shelter with a local Muslim man who took him in, washed him, and fed him. Ghazaros was eventually given an ultimatum by the stranger to accept Islam and a new life or to leave. Proud of his heritage as a Christian Armenian, the brave youngster refused. Ghazaros did not give up his faith and was finally released after enduring days of physical abuse. Fortunately, an Arab Christian family rescued the young survivor from the streets and gave him a new loving home. After some time he was able to reconnect with his siblings and other survivors of the Armenian Genocide. Mr. Kademian went on to marry an Armenian girl named Azadouhi from Beirut, Lebanon, had three children Ohannes, Asdghig and Anahid, and seven grandchildren.

The tragic events of 1915–1923 are part of the dark pages of history. However, the horrors of the Armenian Genocide have not diminished by the passage of time. It is our sacred obligation to honor the memory of the

one and a half million men, women, and children systematically murdered during the Armenian Genocide, and the estimated half million more who were forced into exile. The story of Ghazaros Kademian's family is terrible and tragic, but not uncommon. It is our responsibility to acknowledge the Armenian Genocide and collectively demand reaffirmation of this crime against humanity.

I am very proud to honor Ghazaros Kademian of California's 29th Congressional District and I ask all Members of Congress to join me in paying tribute to this inspiring individual and the important lessons his experience illustrates.

HONORING HYUNDAI MOTOR COMPANY'S FIRST U.S. ASSEMBLY AND MANUFACTURING PLANT IN MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

HON. TERRY EVERETT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2005

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the completion and grand opening of Hyundai Motor Company's first U.S. automotive assembly and manufacturing plant on May 20th in Montgomery, Alabama.

Hyundai broke ground on its \$1.1 billion Alabama facility in April 2002. When Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Alabama reaches peak production, it will employ approximately 2,000 people and produce 300,000 vehicles per year. Hyundai's in-state suppliers will provide another 4,500 jobs and invest more than \$500 million in the local economy.

This plant is the most advanced automobile manufacturing facility in the world, using state of the art robotics and other technologies. Hyundai is truly creating quality jobs and quality products in Alabama.

I am proud to welcome Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Alabama to our Montgomery area and look forward to the job opportunities it will provide for our motivated workforce from central Alabama to the Wiregrass.

I would like to applaud Hyundai for its commitment to building quality products, and its confidence in the great state of Alabama to continue that tradition.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JON SCRIBNER

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2005

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to note the passing of a fine man, longtime Alaskan Jon Scribner. Jon was from Juneau, where he had served as the Regional Director of the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities. In this job, Jon managed transportation issues for Southeast Alaska. He loved his job and did it well; he will be badly missed by his many friends and co-workers in Juneau.

Scribner, 63, died May 12, 2005 at elevation 3,100 feet, in an accidental fall while returning from a successful climb of Mount Stroller White near Juneau.

He was born March 1, 1942, in San Francisco, California and was raised in Weed, California. Jon majored in civil engineering and played basketball at the University of California Davis. For part of his senior year, he had been a bench warmer until he entered late into a game when his team was so far behind that the coach figured the game was lost. Jon intercepted passes, stole balls, and single-handedly scored about a dozen points in less than two minutes. Davis won and Scribner started the rest of the season.

After UC Davis, Jon earned a master's degree in engineering from Stanford, which had a distinguished program in environmental engineering.

He married Kathryn (Kit) Duggan of Carmel, California, on June 10, 1967.

After Stanford, Jon served his nation honorably in the Army Medical Service. Captain Scribner taught at the Medical Field Service School at Fort Sam Houston, Texas from 1967 to 1969. He had been selected as faculty based upon his academic record and related credentials.

Jon and Kit moved in 1969 to Alaska, and he worked for the Alaska Department of Health and Welfare in Fairbanks. In 1971, they moved to Juneau, where he served as director of air and water quality for the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation. He was a senior official in the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, serving as assistant deputy commissioner for design and construction and as director of the department's Southeast Alaska Region. He served at the pleasure of Governors Hammond, Sheffield, Cowper, Hickel, and Knowles. His repeated reappointments attest to his integrity and hard work.

He retired from state service in 1997 after a career publicly recognized for professionalism and accomplishment. When he left the department, then-Juneau Mayor Dennis Egan proclaimed his retirement date, Feb. 7, 1997, as Jonathan Scribner Day in the city. The proclamation included thanks for Scribner getting a Thane Road project out to bid on his last day of work.

In the legislature, the speaker of the House and president of the Senate signed a statement honoring Scribner for his contributions. "All Alaskans, both now and in the future, will continue to benefit from his efforts," it said.

The couple raised their family in Juneau, where they enjoyed boating, hunting, fishing, bird watching, scuba diving, and hiking. They made frequent visits with family to the Mount Shasta area of California. He traveled Southeast Alaska with his 24-foot Bayliner cruiser, Mandy Ann, speeding family and close friends from one end of Southeast Alaska to the other.

He is survived by his wife, Kit; his daughters, Jennifer Laitinen and her husband Todd, and Amanda Mallott and her husband Anthony; his son, Nathan; and his grandson Tyler and granddaughter Addison.

Lu and I send our deepest sympathies to them in their hour of loss. We hope they are comforted by the memory of Jon's very full life, and of his many friends and admirers. I consider myself one of them.