

In one troubling example, last month, The Wall Street Journal reported on a Space Act Agreement between Ames and Google's executives to use taxpayer-subsidized airplane fuel intended for military aircraft for personal travel by Google's leadership. A dubious scientific data collection scheme appears to have been developed as an excuse for this preferential treatment for these executives.

According to the article, "The main jets in the fleet—a Boeing 767, Boeing 757 and four Gulfstream V's—have departed from Moffett a total of 710 times since 2007, FAA records show. The most frequent destinations were Los Angeles and New York, but the planes also flew 20 times to the Caribbean island of Tortola; 17 to Hawaii; 16 to Nantucket, Mass.; and 15 to Tahiti." It would be difficult for anyone to make the case that these taxpayer-subsidized trips provided any credible scientific value to NASA.

The article continued: "In total, [the Google aircraft holding company] has bought 2.3 million gallons of jet fuel since early 2009, according to Pentagon records viewed by The Wall Street Journal, paying an average \$3.19 per gallon. 'I don't see how in the hell anybody can buy it that cheap,' said Fred Fitts, president of the Corporate Aircraft Association, a nonprofit that negotiates discounted jet-fuel prices for 1,600 corporate flight departments at airports around the U.S. Mr. Fitts provided figures showing that CAA members paid an average of \$4.35 a gallon across the U.S. over that period."

Although the article noted that this arrangement was recently terminated, the fact that Ames leadership approved this sweetheart deal for the Google executives and allowed it to continue for six years knowing that there was no serious scientific merit is unacceptable.

In addition to this troubling relationship, I also have been outspoken about my concerns that a number of Ames staff were investigated for a number of years by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the NASA Office of the Inspector General and other law enforcement agencies relating to the alleged illegal transfer of ITAR-controlled technology by individuals at the NASA Ames Research Center. It is my understanding that this illegal technology transfer may have involved classified Defense Department weapons system technology to foreign countries.

According to whistleblowers that contacted Congress, large numbers of foreign nationals were invited to work at NASA Ames over the last six years and that federal information and physical security safeguards may not have been used or may have explicitly been ignored on multiple occasions. Additionally, my colleagues and I were informed that Ames staff may have traveled to foreign conferences and disseminated information about ITAR-controlled technologies in public forums, with Chinese and other foreign officials present.

In correspondence that I have seen, the FBI believed it had a solid case that was ready for prosecution and referred it to the U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of California. However, after a series of unexplained delays and the removal of at least one assistant U.S. attorney working the case, the charges ran up against the statute of limitations, and the first charge expired on December 15, 2012. The case was ultimately declined by the Justice Department for reasons that have never been explained to the Congress or federal law enforcement. I believe these inexplicable delays and ultimate declination was a product of politicization within the Justice Department, and I have included language in the FY 2014 Commerce-Justice-Science Appropriations bill further addressing this matter.

Nonetheless, it appears that federal law enforcement felt there was a solid case against

certain Ames staff members involving export violations. Yet there has been no accountability at Ames for these alleged criminal violations. This is inexcusable.

Again, I hope you quickly correct the record and take appropriate action to inform the conference participants of NASA's actual policy regarding foreign visitors. I look forward to your prompt response.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

FRANK R. WOLF,
Member of Congress.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF DEAN AND JEAN NICHOLSON

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2013

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dean and Jean Nicholson for their years of dedication and service to their community. Sanger, California is a better place today because of the Nicholsons' positive influence and compassion.

Dean and Jean met at Nebraska State Teachers College in Kearney, Nebraska. Dean was raised in Superior, and Jean grew up in Fairbury. In 1941, Dean joined the United States Military, and served in the Army for two years. After Dean completed his service, the Nicholsons moved to Sanger.

Dean was hired at Sanger High School, and taught algebra, geometry, and trigonometry for 38 years. Students and faculty admired Dean and his ability to teach, and for 20 years he served as Chairman for the Math Department. When Dean was not in the classroom, he could be found on the court. He was the head varsity basketball coach for 23 years. For five of those years, he led his teams to the championship. Dean also coached varsity golf and tennis. In addition to his notable career at Sanger High School, Dean also taught advanced algebra and trigonometry for 42 years at Fresno City College. Coach Nicholson had thousands of students in his classroom during his long career as a teacher and he had a profound influence on all of them.

Dean and Jean raised three children: Bob, Cindy, and Tom; and they have six grandchildren. Jean was a stay-at-home mom with three children, but most would agree that she was a mother to countless individuals throughout the community. Her kind and loving character makes it easy for people to go to her when they need to hear caring words or sound advice. Family and friends who are close to the couple often say that, "you can hardly say Dean without Jean." They are an amazing team who exemplify the meaning of true love.

Teaching and coaching have always been important aspects of Dean and Jean's lives but above everything else is their faith. Since 1954, they have been members of the Presbyterian Church of Sanger. For 20 years, Dean and Jean played a prominent role in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and for the last several decades they have both taught Sunday school. Dean and Jean have positively impacted the lives of hundreds of students with their guidance and leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dean and Jean Nicholson for their years of service to the community that they love so dearly.

RECOGNIZING THE POSITIVE COMMUNITY IMPACT OF PADS LAKE COUNTY AND WISHING CONGRATULATIONS ON THE OPENING OF ITS NEW FAMILY CENTER

HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2013

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate PADS Lake County on the grand opening of its new Family Center and to recognize the incredible impact PADS has on our local community.

PADS has been battling homelessness in Lake County, Illinois for more than 25 years, and in that time, they have offered a hand up and a path forward to countless individuals and families who fell on hard times. PADS' mission can be summed up simply by their guiding phrase: "Helping the Homeless Find a Way."

Through a broad variety of services, including those specifically for veterans, families and children, PADS Lake County not only offers temporary support and shelter, but helps guide their clients to a long-term, positive path forward.

With the opening of this new Family Center, PADS will be able to reach even more people who are suffering from homelessness, particularly important just a few years removed from one of this country's most severe economic meltdowns. Just last year, PADS saw a 20 percent increase in the services it was able to offer.

Those numbers translate to real families and real lives touched—improved. Since 2009, PADS increased the number of individuals served by 96 percent. There are people who need the assistance PADS offers, and through the heroic work of its staff, the commitment of its volunteers and the generosity of its supporters, PADS can reach further than ever.

This new Family Center will expand PADS' reach in the area and create a refuge for even more struggling families in the community.

PADS stands for Providing Advocacy, Dignity and Shelter. Through their hard work, they have achieved these aims, and through their example, they have inspired the community.

I congratulate PADS Lake County on this ribbon cutting, and I thank them, the entire community thanks them, for the work they have done and will do.

HONORING SENATOR ROD GRAMS

HON. COLLIN C. PETERSON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2013

Mr. PETERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a friend and colleague, long time Minnesota Senator Rod Grams, who passed away Tuesday night losing his fight against colon cancer.

Rod Grams and I came to Washington at roughly the same time. He served on the Banking and Finance committees while I served on the Agriculture and Government Operations committees.

Everyone knew Senator Grams as being a conservative member of the Republican Party.

He was often times juxtaposed against the other Minnesota Senator, Paul Wellstone on the extreme left. Early on we discovered that we were both fiscal conservatives and almost immediately found common ground on economic issues.

Although conservative, Senator Grams was always searching for common ground and had a willingness to discuss his position with folks. Known for his humble demeanor, Rod Grams quickly became known for one of his greatest achievements, the passage of a \$500-per-child income tax credit that he shepherded through Congress and into law in 1997.

I was struck by his dedication to serving others even in remote parts of the State. I remember during the 1997 floods in the Red River Valley, although he showed up in a finely pressed suit and dress shoes, Senator Grams quickly threw himself into the East Grand Forks flood recovery, mud and all. From that day on he had a constant presence in my District and also realized he doesn't need to wear a suit everywhere.

Senator Grams was a distinguished public servant and a true model of what serving means. He knew when to hold the line and when to work with others. He is a true example of leadership. Senator Grams will be missed in Minnesota politics and I extend my deepest sympathies to the Senator's family and friends.

IN HONOR OF SAUL LANDAU

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2013

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend who spent his life trying to educate people about America's role in the world in an effort to make that world a better place.

Saul Landau passed away last month at the age of 77 after battling cancer for almost 2 years.

Saul was not only a very close friend of mine and my wife Cynthia's. He was a constant mentor, educator, and agitator. He was one of the smartest and hardest working people I have had the pleasure of knowing, and he was one of the funniest.

Saul will be remembered as an award winning documentary filmmaker, an author, an investigator and a columnist. Upon his death, his friends and colleagues and family were treated to a collection of obituaries across the country that paid tribute to his exhaustive body of work, his infectious personality, and his deep caring and passion for his country and the world around it.

I am including here for my colleagues' benefit just two of those remarkable pieces so that others may benefit from reading about this one man's extraordinary life.

To Saul's family, I extend my sincere condolences for their loss. But I offer to them as well a deep appreciation from the halls of Congress of the work and thought that Saul Landau contributed to our public debate.

One of the obituaries carries this quote from Saul. "You want to do what you can while you're on this earth." Saul should rest easy knowing that he did that and more.

I will miss my friend.

Following are obituaries that appeared in the New York Times on September 11, 2013 and in the Los Angeles Times on September 13, 2013.

[From the New York Times, Sept. 11, 2013]

SAUL LANDAU, MAKER OF FILMS WITH LEFTIST EDGE, DIES AT 77

(By Douglas Martin)

Saul Landau, a determinedly leftist documentary filmmaker and writer whose passion for asking what he called "the most intrusive questions" yielded penetrating cinematic profiles of leaders like Fidel Castro and Salvador Allende, died on Monday at his home in Alameda, Calif. He was 77.

The cause was bladder cancer, his daughter Julia Landau said.

Mr. Landau aspired to marshal art and literature to illuminate social and political problems, and his point of view was almost always apparent. In the 1980s, he wrote essays berating the administration of Ronald Reagan for trying to depose the leftist government in Nicaragua, and recently he urged the United States not to become involved in Syria.

He said he saw no difference between documentary and fictional films. In both, he said, a director manipulates light and sound to put across a vision. "One has to simulate reality," he said in 2005 in an interview with The Capital Times in Madison, Wis. "The other one says, 'Here's reality,' whether it is or isn't."

Mr. Landau emerged from the roiling New Left politics of the 1960s to make more than 40 documentaries, including six about Mr. Castro. One of them, "Fidel," released in 1969, was a rare intimate look at the Cuban leader. It shows him arguing with a finger-wagging peasant woman, visiting his nursery school and playing baseball and striking out. "I found Fidel a sympathetic figure and a hell of a good actor," Mr. Landau told The Washington Post in 1982.

His most acclaimed film was "Paul Jacobs and the Nuclear Gang," which he directed with Jack Willis in 1980. With cinematography by Haskell Wexler, the documentary, broadcast on PBS, told of the cover-up of health hazards from a 1957 nuclear-bomb test in Utah. The film won an Emmy Award and a George Polk Award.

The title referred to Mr. Landau's friend Paul Jacobs, a journalist who died of cancer—believed to have been caused by radiation exposure—before the film was completed.

Other films by Mr. Landau portray poverty in big-city slums, the destruction of indigenous Mexican culture, the inner workings of the C.I.A., torture in Brazil and life inside a San Francisco jail. Most have a leftist political edge that some saw as propagandistic, but Mr. Landau characterized the films as educational.

"All my films try to teach people without preaching too hard," he said. "I try not to be too tendentious."

Mr. Landau released two films relating to Mr. Allende, the Chilean who had become Latin America's first democratically elected socialist president the year before. One was an interview with Mr. Allende.

The other film, "Que Hacer!" (1970)—the title is a translation of the title of Lenin's book "What Is to Be Done?"—is a fictional movie, a playful spy story with music concerning a C.I.A. case officer in Chile. There are two casts: a Chilean one directed by Raul Ruiz and an American one directed by Mr. Landau and Nina Serrano, his wife at the time. Country Joe McDonald performed and produced the music. The film won awards at film festivals in Cannes, Venice and Mannheim, Germany.

Orlando Letelier, Chile's ambassador to the United States, invited Mr. Landau to screen it at the Chilean Embassy in Washington, and they became friends. A few years later, Gen. Augusto Pinochet overthrew the Allende government and imprisoned Mr. Letelier.

Mr. Landau worked with other international supporters to win Mr. Letelier's release and to arrange a job for him at the Institute for Policy Studies, a left-wing research organization in Washington. Mr. Landau had joined in 1972. In 1976, Pinochet agents used a car bomb to kill Mr. Letelier and another institute worker. In 1980, Mr. Landau and John Dinges published a book about the case, "Assassination on Embassy Row," documenting the Pinochet government's ties to the killings.

Mr. Landau was at least as prolific a writer as he was a filmmaker. He wrote 14 books and thousands of newspaper and magazine articles and reviews.

Saul Irwin Landau was born on Jan. 15, 1936, a few blocks from Yankee Stadium in the Bronx, and grew up playing stickball in the streets. His father was a pharmacist who had fled pogroms in Ukraine to come to New York in 1920. His mother was a teacher.

As a youth, Mr. Landau once abandoned school to hitchhike across America. When he returned, his mother urged him to take the test for the academically elite Stuyvesant High School. He passed, and went on to perform brilliantly there.

The summer after he graduated, he met Ms. Serrano at a camp in the Catskills, where he was the fry cook and she the drama teacher. Ms. Serrano, who became a published poet, encouraged his interest in leftist politics and a bohemian lifestyle, according to their daughter Valerie Landau.

Ms. Serrano also accompanied Mr. Landau when he went to the University of Wisconsin. When a dean found out that they were living together, he threatened to expel Mr. Landau (Ms. Serrano was not a student then) if they did not marry. They did.

At Wisconsin, Mr. Landau got involved in a so-called Joe Must Go club, which advocated the recall of Senator Joseph McCarthy of Wisconsin over his demagogic attacks on people he accused of being Communists.

After earning bachelor's and master's degrees in history at Wisconsin, Mr. Landau became a researcher for C. Wright Mills, the sociologist, traveling with him to Western Europe, the Soviet Union and Cuba.

Moving to Northern California with Ms. Serrano, he worked toward a doctorate at Stanford but did not complete the studies. In San Francisco, they gravitated to the Beat poets and the emerging New Left movement. Mr. Landau joined Students for a Democratic Society and helped organize the leftist magazines Ramparts and Mother Jones.

He also joined the San Francisco Mime Troupe, for which he wrote, with R.G. Davis, a parody of a minstrel show, "A Minstrel Show, or Civil Rights in a Cracker Barrel." Performers in the show, which satirized racial perceptions, appeared in blackface. The show traveled to New York and elsewhere.

"Through the entire evening there is really nothing to laugh at, no matter how funny it is," Richard F. Shepard wrote in The New York Times. "There is the ominous theme of what hypocrisy and oppression breed."

In 1966 Mr. Landau got a job as a reporter at KQED-TV, San Francisco's public television station, and a year later went to Cuba to make a news documentary. Mr. Castro liked it, and invited Mr. Landau to return to do an in-depth documentary about him. Mr. Landau's marriage to Ms. Serrano ended in divorce. Besides his daughters Valerie and Julia, he is survived by a son, Greg, and two other daughters, Carmen and Marie; his second wife, Rebecca Switzer; a sister, Beryl