

reads: "The U.S. acknowledges that all Chinese on either side of the Taiwan Strait maintain there is but one China and that Taiwan is a part of China."

I have always been puzzled by the "One China" policy. It is a complete abstraction; it simply does not comport with reality. It might serve the interests of the hegemonists in China, but it is an unrealistic as it is outdated.

When Mao Tse-tung's Communists seized power in China in 1949 and established the People's Republic of China [PRC], "Generalissimo" Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalists fled to Taiwan and established the Republic of China [ROC] on Taiwan. According to Mao, the PRC consisted of China, Taiwan, Tibet, and Mongolia. According to Chiang, the ROC consisted of exactly the same territory, i.e., China, Taiwan, Tibet, and Mongolia. Until 1972, the United States and most countries around the world chose to recognize the ROC regime as the sole, legitimate government of the whole territory.

When President Nixon and Henry Kissinger went to China in 1972 and shifted recognition from Taipei to Beijing, they substituted one abstraction of reality for another. The rise of the Soviet Union to superpower status had necessitated a Sino-American relationship; the United States perceived the need for a powerful ally in the area, able to counter the Soviet threat. Indeed, on February 28, Nixon and Mao concluded the aforementioned Shanghai Communiqué. It completely neglected the rights and wishes of the people of Taiwan.

Today, with the recent tension in the Taiwan Strait it is becoming more and more clear that the "One China" policy is an outdated and untenable relic of the cold war. It therefore needs to be abolished.

Constructive ambiguity, strategic ambiguity, and even tactical ambiguity are terms that arise when our relationship with Taiwan is being discussed. To prevent the recurrence of the recent crisis in the Taiwan Strait, we cannot afford to be ambiguous in our China policy; it is time to acknowledge reality. There is one China and one Taiwan; the United States and the rest of the world should adjust their policy to current reality.

The people of Taiwan have fought long and hard to establish a democracy on their island. The world should respect their choice. And if their wish is recognition by the rest of the world of their status as separate from China, then the United States, as the leader of the free world, should take the lead in that process.

Mr. Chairman, we can make a beginning by acknowledging that Taiwan is not a part of China and scrap once and for all the outdated and unrealistic "One China" policy.

LEONARD LOCKE HONORED

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 30, 1996

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my close personal friend and neighbor, Mr. Leonard Locke. On May 30, 1996, Leonard will celebrate his 80th birthday. It is my pleasure to join with his family, many friends, and neighbors in wishing Leonard a very happy birthday.

Mr. Speaker, Leonard Locke was born not too far from where we both live today in the Alden section of Nanticoke. After graduating from Newport Township High School, Leonard proudly served his country in the 76th Division of the 385th Infantry during World War II. He earned five battle stars during his active duty in France, Belgium, Luxembourg, and Germany.

After the war, Leonard opened a neighborhood grocery store in the Alden section of Nanticoke. During the 40 years that Leonard ran the store, he was always a friend to all his customers and his neighborhood. Ten years ago, Leonard retired to enjoy the pleasures of life.

Leonard Locke was an active member of the business community participating as a director of Wyoming Valley Distributing Co. for 20 years, as well as its secretary for 15 of those years. Also in this connection, he lent his business expertise with the United Retail Grocers Association of Northeastern Pennsylvania serving at times as the organization's president and secretary.

Leonard has been a registered Democrat since 1937, and has been proud to serve as a Democratic committeeman in my own ward, the 10th ward of Nanticoke. Upon his retirement, Leonard took an active role in local government serving as a Nanticoke City Councilman in charge of accounts and finance.

Leonard is an active member of the American Legion Post 350 of Nanticoke and a member and past president of Tatra of Luzerne County.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Nancy and I have been neighbors of Leonard Locke since 1979. During the many years that I have known Leonard, I have always enjoyed walking in my backyard and sharing his wonderful friendship and cheerful salute, "Hi neighbor!" My wife and I are extremely pleased to have the opportunity to wish Leonard Locke a happy and healthy 80th birthday.

TRIBUTE TO AUGUST G. ERDMANN, CITY OF MILWAUKEE FIRE CHIEF

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 30, 1996

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today in tribute to August G. Erdmann, fire chief, city of Milwaukee, who will soon retire after serving the Department for 32 years, the last seven as chief.

Chief Erdmann, a life-long resident of Milwaukee, graduated from Custer High School and earned an associate degree in fire science from the Milwaukee Area Technical College.

Throughout this distinguished career, Chief Erdmann has served on the board of directors of the American Red Cross and the Foundation for the Milwaukee Fire Education Center Survive Alive House, the latter which strives to educate the public, especially our youth, about fire safety. His leadership on the Emergency Planning Committee and the State of Wisconsin Hazardous Materials Regional Response Team is to be commended. Chief Erdmann also served as the chairperson of the Combined Giving Campaign, soliciting contributions

to local charities, and has provided direction and leadership to make financial resources available for the Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial.

Chief Erdmann's retirement, as you can certainly see by his involvement in many projects, will undoubtedly leave a void at the Milwaukee Fire Department and in our community as a whole. However, his retirement will also now allow him to spend well-deserved time with his wife, Nancy, their children, and grandchildren.

Best wishes, August, and on behalf of the citizens of Milwaukee, whom you have protected and served so diligently over your long career, thanks for a job well done.

TRIBUTE TO GENERAL MALCOLM O'NEILL

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 30, 1996

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow the military will lose one of its most stellar leaders. After 24 years of outstanding service to the Nation, Gen. Malcolm O'Neill will be retiring. While we wish General O'Neill and his family the best, we will personally regret his retirement and sorely miss his leadership.

It was only 2 years ago that I came to personally know and closely work with General O'Neill. As Director of the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization [BMDO], General O'Neill was one of the first Department officials to meet with me after I took the helm as chairman of the House Research and Development Subcommittee.

As the administration's spokesperson on missile defense matters, General O'Neill was not in a position to support all of the missile defense initiatives supported by the Republican majority—but that never deterred him from remaining accessible, providing us with the facts and most important, from sharing his candid thoughts on proposals from both sides of the aisle. His technical expertise and impartiality are unparalleled. I very quickly came to rely on his judgment, and routinely sought his input on program and policy issues.

While there are major differences remaining between the administration and Congress on missile defense, it is a real tribute to General O'Neill that we were able to reach the level of consensus that we did on this issue. We are no longer talking about if we should have missile defenses, but when we will have missile defenses. We are no longer arguing whether it is prudent to defend against missile threats, but whether we should prioritize theater defenses at the expense of national defense. We are no longer arguing whether it is feasible to defend against incoming missiles, but what option we should pursue.

I have developed a close working relationship with General O'Neill, and perhaps more than any Member of Congress, I will regret his retirement from military service. He has served with integrity, dedication, valor and distinction as an officer in the U.S. Army. Although he has served in numerous and varied posts in his career, his extraordinary performance in one of the toughest department posts shows his true mettle. In fact, I thought so highly of Mal that I drafted a letter—signed by many House Members, including the leadership, urging the Department to discourage his retirement and to retain him as Director of BMDO.