

"More recently, the High-Level Panel that I appointed in 2003 has identified a broad range of threats, including: poverty, infectious disease and environmental degradation; conflict within States, as well as between them; the spread of nuclear, radiological, chemical and biological weapons; terrorism; and transnational organized crime.

"My 'Larger Freedom' report built on this re-definition of global security, drawing it together with the detailed recommendations of the Millennium Project for achieving the Millennium Development Goals by 2015—which in itself would rescue many millions of people from the threats of poverty and disease.

"But my report also included a third dimension: human rights and the rule of law. Without these, any society, however well-armed, will remain insecure; and its development, however dynamic, will remain precarious.

"Member States took the report as their starting-point in negotiating the outcome of last September's world summit. I won't say that that document fulfills all my hopes. But it does contain many important decisions—from the creation of a Peacebuilding Commission and Human Rights Council, through the commitments to advance the Millennium Development Goals, to the acceptance, by all States individually and collectively, of the responsibility to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity.

"Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, "The United Nations cannot stand still, because the threats to humanity do not stand still. Every day the world presents new challenges, which the founders of the UN 60 years ago could never have anticipated. Whether it is a looming crisis over Iran and its compliance with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, continuing atrocities in Darfur, or the threat of an avian flu pandemic, people all over the world look to the United Nations to play a role in making peace, protecting civilians, improving livelihoods, promoting human rights and upholding international law. I have worked long and hard to transform the United Nations so that when called upon, as we are every day, we will deliver what is asked of us—effectively, efficiently and equitably. That is the true objective of the changes I have sought to bring about, and it will be the true measure of my success or failure.

"And my successor—since I understand several members of this panel may be interested in the position—need not worry. Changing the mindset of the United Nations, so that it can both reflect and influence the temper of the times, is a never-ending challenge. There will be plenty more work to do in the years and decades to come."

I have worked for three Secretary Generals and been at post for some 20 years. I am honored to have worked for the House of Peace. As we approach the new era of a new Secretary-General I say it is time for renewal.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT F. CARROLL
CHAIRMAN, APLASTIC ANEMIA &
MDS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to inform the House of the passing of Robert F.

Carroll, a constituent of mine from Wolcott, Connecticut. I ask that you join me in paying tribute to this great man, who served both as the Chairman of the Board of the Aplastic Anemia & MDS International Foundation and the Assistant Executive Director for the Connecticut Association of Schools in Cheshire, CT.

In April 1991, at age 57, Bob was diagnosed with myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS), a serious and non-contagious rare bone marrow failure disease. Bob was told he had MDS after having gone to his doctor for a routine check-up required by the school district for which he worked. He was given two to four years to live. He had always told his wife, Marie, that he would not want to know if he had a life-threatening disease. But courageously Bob transformed his fear of dying to a fear of dying without giving back. From at month in 1991 until today, Bob set about to make a difference for individuals and families suffering from bone marrow diseases.

In early 1992, Bob and his wife were searching the Internet and came across the Aplastic Anemia & MDS International Foundation. He contacted the executive director immediately and, as a result, was given everything he needed to educate himself about the disease, clinical trials, and support networks of other patients. He soon became active and a member of the board. Four years later, he became President of the Foundation, the first patient President in the history of the organization. He believed in the same goals as the Foundation, which is to keep patients attitudes positive. He refused to let his life change because of his MDS. He did not retire, and instead continued with his career in education and the many projects that kept him active and busy.

For 15 years, Bob advocated tirelessly for the tens of thousands of individuals diagnosed with bone marrow diseases (about 35,000 new cases are diagnosed annually). He also became involved in the recovery efforts in Sri Lanka after the devastating tsunami of 2004, traveling to that country and raising money in the U.S. for recovery efforts. And through his service with the Connecticut Association of Schools, Bob worked strenuously to improve the quality of education in our school systems.

Bob was able to live with MDS thanks to the hundreds of transfusions he received over a period of 15 years. Unfortunately, though, there is no cure for MDS. The extreme low blood counts that are caused by MDS ultimately took their toll on Bob's long-term health Bob passed away yesterday in Connecticut.

Bob would not want us to remember him as a victim of a rare disease, but rather as one who experienced a new challenge that gave greater purpose to his life. He often referred to MDS as his "gift" because it taught him that relationships with others are what are important in life. Let us honor this spirit today by paying the highest tribute to this great American and tireless advocate for those suffering from rare diseases.

CONGRATULATIONS TO COACH
TREY GIBSON AND THE LOUISIANA
TECH UNIVERSITY DEBATE TEAM

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Louisiana Tech University Debate Team for its continued success this academic year. Just last month, the debate team regained its national championship status and the team is poised to continue its success next season.

The team's success is not accidental; the foundation of this team's success was established by hard work, determination, dedication and experience. At the helm of the Louisiana Tech Debate Team is Trey Gibson, a Louisiana native who came to Louisiana Tech in 2000. This year's team includes: Levy Leatherman, John Emory, Bill Willis, Kris Lucas, John McCorkle, Michelli McKnight, Matt LaCaze, Baileigh McClaran, Henry Shuler, Courtney McGuffee, Rachel Taylor, Kyle O'Neal, Taryn Branson, Kacey Richard, Nick Cordaro, Richie Robinson, Christina Linza and Reece Lewis.

Gibson works tirelessly to promote this program and uses his talent, energy and drive toward developing articulate students. Long after these students graduate, Gibson's lessons and dedication will continue to surface as his students succeed in business and public service professions. By winning the national championship, the Louisiana Tech Debate Team also earned the prestigious Protagoras Cup. It is also important to note that this year's team faced the trials and tribulations that Hurricanes Katrina and Rita brought to our state. Most north Louisiana institutions of higher learning had to carry the burdens of finding space for our south Louisiana students from other universities, and all state universities had to address budget cuts. Through all of this, the team continued on its successful journey.

Mr. Speaker, I am also pleased to know that the academic honors these students have achieved will truly pay off for our nation. This type of training will enhance and strengthen each student's educational experience. I am thankful for professors like Trey Gibson, who exude energy and determination in the classroom. The fruits of his labor are evident in his team's storied success.

BILL IN SUPPORT OF RELIEF TO
MENNONITE MUTUAL AID

HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a bill that would offer relief to Mennonite Mutual Aid, a organization affiliated with the Mennonite church based in Indiana that provides individuals with socially-conscious investment and retirement options.

For more than 40 years Mennonite Mutual Aid has been offering defined benefits to its customers in the form of annuities paid directly from its 401(a) defined contribution church retirement plan, a process known as "self-