

Bio Medical Maintenance department. As a result of her accomplishments, Alisa developed greater leadership, organizational and planning skills. Her thoughtfulness also contributed widely to Fairbanks and its surrounding communities. I believe that Alisa should receive the public recognition due to her for these significant services to her community and her country.

IN TRIBUTE TO M.L. "LIN"
KOESTER

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my good friend M.L. "Lin" Koester, who will retire tomorrow as the Chief Administrative Officer for the County of Ventura, California.

Lin is one of those exceptional administrators whose special talent is recognizing, and motivating, talent in others. Many of those who worked for him during his 16-year tenure as City Manager of the City of Simi Valley, California, are now city managers in cities across California and the West. It would not be an exaggeration to say he has had a positive influence on elected officials as well. I had the pleasure of serving with him during my entire time on the Simi Valley City Council, including two terms as the city's first elected mayor.

I moved on, as did many others who worked with Lin. Others who served on the Simi Valley City Council during Lin's tenure have gone on to the Ventura County Board of Supervisors, the California Assembly and the California Senate.

Lin is a quiet administrator who would be the last to tout his own accomplishments. His accomplishments are many.

In Simi Valley, Lin earned a reputation as a fiscally responsible manager who kept the city in the black during economically trying times while still providing essential services to residents. With an engineer's eye for details and a discipline born from a stint as a U.S. Navy submarine officer, Lin steered the council through the financing of a new City Hall, the Senior Center, a DMV office and a Cultural Arts Center. Lin was also among those instrumental in the decision to build the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley.

The Ventura County Board of Supervisors was wise to hire Lin as their CAO in 1995. During his tenure, he eliminated a projected General Fund imbalance, consolidated the Human Resources Department and Chief Administrative Office, and revamped the annual budget process. In addition, he initiated a county-wide technology upgrade and policy guidelines.

Lin is a modest man and an effective and efficient administrator. But, above all, it is his loyalty as a friend that I treasure most.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in recognizing M.L. "Lin" Koester for his decades of dedicated service and in wishing him and his family Godspeed in his retirement.

AN ACCURATE ASSESSMENT OF
FOREIGN POLICY

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to comment to you the article written by Mr. Frank Calzon, entitled "Foreign Policy: Words as powerful as actions." Mr. Calzon is the executive director of the Center for a Free Cuba in Washington, D.C. and is a tireless fighter for democratic causes. I encourage my colleagues to benefit from his excellent article.

FOREIGN POLICY: WORDS AS POWERFUL AS
ACTIONS

(By Frank Calzon)

"Sticks and stones will break your bones, but words will never hurt you" is fine advice for the young, but it will never cut mustard in foreign policy. History is full of tragedies that could have been prevented, but for the thoughtlessness of a policy pronouncement.

Children's rhymes were the last thing on the mind of Secretary of State Dean Acheson when, preoccupied with Stalin's expansion into Central Europe, he spoke at the National Press Club in Washington on Jan. 12, 1950. In the speech, which had been approved by the White House, Acheson outlined America's "defense perimeter" in the Pacific, clearly leaving out the Korean peninsula. Five months later, Kim Il Sung's armies, confident that Washington wouldn't intervene, invaded South Korea. Thus began the Korean War, a conflict in which thousands of Americans lost their lives.

Acheson's blunder came to mind recently while reading a July 7 article in The New York Times in which an unidentified Clinton-administration official talked about "a conscious decision in this administration to do what need to be done." The Times ominously explained that to mean "American officials say they are now determined to go forward [with their commitment to relaxing U.S. sanctions against Fidel Castro's regime] even if Mr. Castro responds by cracking down on dissent."

Ironically, the statement coincides with a reappraisal of Canada's longstanding policy of "constructive engagement" with Havana. Despite tourism, trade and foreign aid, Castro remains oblivious to Canada's pleadings on behalf of human rights. Canada's most influential media have called for a tougher stand vis a vis Castro, and a not-so-subtle message to that effect was delivered recently. The new Cuban ambassador presented credentials in Ottawa in an elegant room in which almost all of the chairs set up for official guests were empty.

The new U.S. policy—assuming the report is accurate—is at odds with Americans humanitarian impulse. It could have serious consequences for U.S. policy in the Americas because President Clinton's hemispheric policy is predicated on support for democracy, human rights and the rule of law.

One can only wonder what the consequences would have been had the United States told Moscow that, regardless of its mistreatment of human-rights dissidents, Washington cooperation would remain on track. Or what might have been Poland's fate had the United States signaled to Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski that it was all right for him to crack down on dissents. Instead, to its credit, the Reagan administration imposed trade sanctions on Warsaw when it tried to crack down on Solidarity.

Years earlier Jimmy Carter had electrified the world with his call for worldwide respect

for human rights. Due both to its source and its content, the idea that greater repression in Cuba will not impact U.S. policy undermines Clinton's publicly stated views and Secretary of State Madeline Albright's repeated and principled efforts to mobilize international support for the victims of Castro's repression.

Like Kim Il Sung almost 50 years ago, Castro will interpret the statements attributed to the Clinton administration as a green light for whatever steps he takes. Also, foreign governments that would rather not confront Castro's rhetoric (at the United Nations in Geneva, Cuban diplomats labeled those concerned about human rights in Cuba "lackeys" of the United States) now will find it even easier to turn to deaf ear to the Cuban people's cries for help.

Is it really in America's national interest to broadcast such fickleness to our enemies, repeating Acheson's error? It certainly is not. However, this is exactly what is occurring when senior Clinton-administration officials tell Castro that U.S. policy will not be affected by a crackdown on Cuba's courageous and beleaguered opposition.

How can the Clinton administration claim that it cares about the Cuban people's fate while erasing whatever remaining uncertainty Castro may have about America's intentions? How many ways are there to spell disaster? Several weeks have passed, but it is not too late for the President to order an investigation and reaffirm his commitment to supporting the Cuban people's aspirations for freedom.

HONORING THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE VILLAGE OF
CAHOKIA

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 300th Anniversary of the Village of Cahokia.

As we near the end of this millennium, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the history of the small towns within all of our districts. Throughout this year, Cahokia, a village in my district, continues to celebrate its tricentennial anniversary, with reflection on its vital place in American history.

The Village of Cahokia derives its name, which means "Wild Geese," from the Cahokia Indian tribe. While the Cahokian tribe continues to provide a vital, unique character to the region, in 1699, the diversity of the community was further strengthened with Cahokia's founding by missionary priests from the Seminary of Quebec.

As the 18th century progressed, this community also became the principal commercial center in the Midwest. Specializing in the trade of Indian goods and fur, Cahokia's economic development thrived. This served as the impetus for prompting the expansion of agriculture as a viable livelihood, which was so necessary to feed the rapidly growing community of settlers.

The Village of Cahokia also took pride in its role in winning a battle of the American Revolution. Captain Joseph Bowman and George Rogers Clark negotiated peace agreements in Cahokia at Fort Bowman with neighboring tribes of the Illini Confederation, and then launched an attack on British-occupied Vincennes. Both their soldiers and ammunition