Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of this nation’s most dedicated citizens, Sergeant James W. Hallman, Jr.

On February 24, 2003, we lost James when he was senselessly gunned down during a morning stroll in Cantonment, the randomly chosen victim of a crime that has no explanation. We will forever miss James, but his impact and influence on our Northwest Florida community will never be forgotten.

A 34-year veteran of the Pensacola Police Department, James was the epitome of every law enforcement officer for our world. James was awarded the prestigious Silver Cross from the department in 1989 for going above and beyond the call of duty when he attempted to rescue two children near the 17th Avenue boat ramp. It was that dedication and determination to serve his community to the furthest lengths of his abilities that made him a hero to all and someone to whom so many have tried to model themselves after.

Probably best known as the “Candy Man,” James could always be found passing out candy to children when he was out patrolling schools and housing developments. As Chief John Mathis said at his funeral, “there is little doubt in my mind that right now, James is passing out candy to angels in heaven.”

James’ dedication to serving his community did not end upon his retirement from the police force in 1998. He was a member of the East Brent Baptist Church, the Brownsville Masonic Lodge and 32nd Degree, York Rite Mason, and the Hadji Shrine Temple. He was a man who lived to serve his community and for that we will be forever grateful.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer my sincere and heartfelt condolences to the family of Sgt. James W. Hallman for their loss. His friends knew him as a kind man with an easy laugh and his coworkers knew him more for putting his fingers in his pocket to pull out candy than for putting his hand on his gun belt. On this such occasion, we honor one of America’s greatest citizens, Sgt. James W. Hallman, Jr., whose legacy will live on long beyond his passing.
On Friday, I will present this document to Ambassador Przemyslaw Gruziński, who will accept it on behalf of the Polish government. These records will then travel to Poland with Mr. Allen Paul, an American author whose book, Katyn: Stalin's Massacre and the Seeds of Polish Resurrection, provides a comprehensive account of the crime and the context in which it occurred. Mr. Paul's book has recently been translated into Polish and will be released at an event in Warsaw on April 12. He will place the hearing record at that time.

It is to be hoped that the record established by the Select Committee will aid public officials, historians and many others in efforts to understand the terrible crime of Katyn and its continuing impact on Russo-Polish relations. I am including with this statement some excerpts of Mr. Paul's reflections on the importance and scope of the select committee which will be delivered on April 12 in Warsaw at a 60th Anniversary of Disclosure of the Katyn Forest Massacre.

Mr. Speaker, as we observe the anniversary of the discovery of this tragedy, let us hope and pray that humanity is spared such tragedies in the future.

THOUGHTS ABOUT THE CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION OF KATYN

At this moment we are only a few hours away from the sixtieth anniversary of Radio Berlin's sensational announcement that the Wehrmacht had found the bodies of thousands of Polish officers in Katyn Forest who had been "bestially murdered by the Bolsheviks." Fresh from their catastrophic defeat at Stalingrad, the Germans were eager to divert the world's attention from the pierced veil of Wehrmacht invincibility, and they correctly surmised that this, too, was a golden opportunity to sow seeds of discord in the Western Alliance. At that moment the victims—men who had served Poland faithfully, in fact one might say, valiantly, men who represent the present and future leadership of their nation, fathers and husbands, physicians and engineers, professional soldiers and shopkeepers, unfortunate souls planted as poisons in Polish soil, prisoners of war who were not recognized as POWs by their captors—from the moment the news crackled over the airwaves from Berlin, these tragic victims became geopolitical pawns and would remain so for years to come.

. . . Amidst all the atrocities of World War II we have been left to wonder how the crimes committed there by the Wehrmacht and the Wehrmacht's allies can be brought to justice. At the same time, this question of justice is not only one of those that the Select Committee of Congress concluded, just as the Polish Government-in-Exile had four years earlier, that an international tribunal, in this case the United Nations International Court of Justice, should investigate the crime.

This similarity of findings in no way diminishes the scope and importance of the congressional investigation. Once and for all, it put the United States clearly on the side for an international tribunal to affix guilt and mete out punishment.

In a sense the investigation sponsored by the U.S. Congress vindicated the Poles' findings. The congressional investigation lasted from September 18, 1951 to December 22, 1952. It resulted in hearings in six cities and four countries; 81 witnesses were heard; and private depositions were taken from 100 individuals, most of whom required anonymity to protect relatives still in Poland. The final report of 2,162 pages filled seven volumes. After all was said and done, the Select Committee of Congress concluded, just as the Polish Government-in-Exile had four years earlier, that an international tribunal, in this case the United Nations International Court of Justice, should investigate the crime.

. . . Like the recommendations of the Polish government-in-exile in 1948, the recommendations of the Select Committee of Congress were never acted on. During the war geopolitical realities—principally the fear that the Soviets would sign a separate peace with Germany rather than fight on—kept the Soviets from standing up to the Nuremberg tribunal. After the war geopolitical realities—the fact that the Soviets could block action at the United Nations—continued to stand squarely in the way.

. . . The words of Sir Owen O'Malley and Ambassador Stanislaw Kot ring just true today as the day they were uttered. Kot told us in 1941, "People are not like steam. They cannot evaporate." Kot would tell us today that the quest for justice for Poland's victims became a huge scientific achievement which will help doctors and scientists improve our health and life.

Today, we continue to push forward with scientific advancements. Like information technology and biotechnology breakthroughs of the past ten years, nanotechnology holds the potential to revolutionize our way of life. However, the science is still very much in its fledgling stage, so it is important that the federal government coordinate and fund basic research into the fundamental aspects of nanotechnology so that its potential can one day be realized.

I hope that as we consider legislation for these new issues we consider what we can contribute to our children and grandchildren by encouraging new technologies. I hope that we can leave Alexander, and his generation every one of us, a safer world. . .