On Friday, I will present this document to Ambassador Przemyslaw Grudzinski, 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 overview of the context and the contest 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, in my behalf, in the hands of Mr. Andrzej Przewoznik, Secretary General of the Polish Government Council on War Archives, Public Monuments and Historic Sites.

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, who, when the future leadership of their nation, fathers and husbands, physicians and engineers, professional soldiers and shopkeepers, unfortunate souls placed in a sad fate in Soviet hands, prisoners of war who were not recognized as POWs by their captors—from the moment the news cracked over the airwaves from Berlin and Stalingrad, became geopolitical pawns and would remain so for years to come.

. . . Amidst all the atrocities of World War Two we might consider a crime committed as to the Katyn Forest Massacre so enormous? Poland’s feisty wartime Ambassador to the Soviet Union, Stanislaw Kot, proved to be on this issue spot on, exasperated by continued stonewalling by the Soviet government on the case of his country’s missing soldiers Kot said, “People are not like steam. They cannot evaporate.” 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 officers and deportees will inevitably continue. And surely O’Malley will tell us that justice, if found nowhere else, must be found in our own hearts.

IN MEMORY OF ODELIA ROBINSON

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES
OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, April 3, 2003

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, Odelia V. Robinson, known for her focus on economic development and safety during the dec-ade, represented Mount Pleasant on Cleveland City Council.

Robinson took office in 1990 with a promise to bring housing and youth services back to the community that had seen little construction in recent decades. When she resigned for health reasons at the end of 1995, her accom-
mplishments included the Zelienople George Recreation Center as well as new houses, apartment buildings and a shopping center.

Robinson grew up in the Miles Heights area, where she was a lifelong member of Liberty Hill Baptist Church and taught Sunday School. She graduated from John Hay High School in 1948 and enrolled in the Cleveland College of Western Reserve University. She also took business administration courses at Cleveland State University. In 1953, she married Clarence Robinson, a bus driver who spent his weekends playing baritone saxophone in bands.

Odelia Robinson was the office manager for the American Civil Liberties Union in the 1960s and later worked for the Benjamin Rose Institute, an agency that provides services to aging people. She served as executive director of the Lord’s Place, a facility in Hill House, the Mursit H. Taylor MultiServices Center and the Inner City Renewal Society.

On behalf of the people of the 11th Con-
gressional District of Ohio and the United States Congress, I offer my sympathies to the family of Odelia Robinson.

A CELEBRATION OF YOUTH IN HONOR OF ALEXANDER FRED- ERICK BURNETTE

HON. NICK SMITH
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, April 3, 2003

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the birth and life of my ninth grandchild, Alexander Frederick Burnette, born May 31, 2000, born to our daughter Elizabeth and her husband, Fred. My wife Bonnie and I join with Alexander’s other grandparents, Bonnie and Charles Burnette, in celebrating Alexander.

Alexander faces a great world of great opportunities. Scientific discoveries and advanced technology daily improve our lives. They allow us to live longer, better, and more productive lives. In the year of Alexander’s birth scientists finished a map of the human genome. This was 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 where, with a brighter future because of what we accomplish today.