of all, his commitment to what he perceived as
the definition he gave to the movement, and most
of all, his commitment to what he perceived as
right and just. Judge Johnson deserves this
recognition, and I hope my colleagues will join
me in paying tribute to this legacy that he has
left after him.

DISAPPROVING EXTENSION OF NONDISCRIMINATORY TREAT-
MENT TO PRODUCTS OF PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

SPÉECH OF
HON. PATSY T. MINK
OF HAWAII
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, July 27, 1999

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise
today in strong opposition of providing normal-
trade-relations status to the People's Republic
of China, because China continues to deny
the greater part of its citizenry the most basic
human rights; because it engages in the
worse kinds of religious, political, and ethnic
persecution; because it bullies neighboring
countries, and because it undermines inter-
national stability by exporting missiles and nu-
clear technology to some of the world's lead-
ning rogue nations.

Every year, we are told that normal-trade-re-
lations status promotes continued economic
growth and human rights in the People's Re-
public of China. While this trade has helped
China expand its economy and improve the
living standards of a relatively small number of
its citizens, I believe it is an absolute stretch
of the imagination to argue that China's eco-
nomic growth has benefited the vast majority
of its 1.5 billion citizens who continue to be
denied—oftentimes forcibly—the freedom to
think, speak, read, worship and vote as they
wish.

I simply cannot agree with those who argue
that normal-trade-relations will one day result
in improved human rights in China as the gov-
ernment of that vast nation continues to vi-
olate human rights on a massive scale.

For example, the people of Tibetan have been
subject to especially harsh treatment by the
Chinese Government because their culture
and religion are inseparable from the move-
ment that seeks full Tibetan freedom from
China—a movement that has been brutally
suppressed by the Chinese Government since
the late 1940's when armed Chinese forces
drove the Dalai Lama into exile.

Since then, the Chinese Government has
stepped up its efforts to discredit the Dalai
Lama as well as its campaign to eradicate the
ancient culture and traditions of Tibet. In May
1994, a new ban on the possession and dis-
play of photographs of the Dalai Lama, re-
sulted in a raid of monasteries in which Bud-
dhist priests were brutally beaten by Chinese
military personnel.

And it is not just the Buddhists that have
been victims of this harassment. Since 1996,
all religious institutions in China must register
with the state. The failure to do so results in
the closure of such institutions—or worse. For
example, Human Rights Watch—Asia reports
that unofficial Protestant and Catholic commu-
nities have been harassed, with congregants
arrested, fined, sentenced, and beaten.

Even as recently as July 20, 1999, the Chi-
nese Government has implemented large-
scale arrests of Falun Gong practitioners in
different parts of China. Falun Gong is a wide-
ly practiced meditation exercise that upholds
the principles of truth, compassion, and for-
bearance. Although it has no political motiva-
tion or agenda, the Chinese Government has
officially banned it as an illegal operation.

Sadly, China's policies have not changed
since the United States and China have nor-
malized trade relations. It has persisted on fol-
lowing policies that threaten to make it an
increasingly disruptive force among all other
nations. China's continuing and growing practice
of selling advanced weapons and nuclear
technology to Iran, Iraq and other rogue na-
tions, not to mention their theft of U.S. nuclear
technology, makes it a threat to world peace.

It should be remembered that, like China
today, South Africa had a growing economy, a
growing middle class—albeit racially limited, a
significant United States business presence,
and a severely repressive government. And,
just like the arguments supporting normal
trade relations with China, it was argued that
continued and increased United States trade
with South Africa would bring about the eco-
nomic, social, and political reforms that would
naturally lead to a just and honest, Judge Johnson faced severe
criticism, damaging slander, and even per-
sonal danger in the time that he made them.

Then Governor George Wallace fueled his gu-
ernatorial race by denouncing Judge John-
son's commitment to the law, and am grateful
son in Florida because of the principles
Johnson promoted and the opportuni-
ties he made possible for the African Ameri-
cans of that generation.

Today, I remember him for these opportuni-
ties, the strides he made in civil rights, the
definition he gave to the movement, and most
of all, his commitment to what he perceived as