

was the impression one got from following Garry Trudeau's version of it in "Doonesbury." But, as a Washington Post article explained this week, that now-familiar version of events "isn't the whole story."

Examine all the facts, and a host of surprising details pop up. Details, that is, that undercut many of the main accusations against the administration.

Thomas, for example, was a contract worker, not a full-time civil servant. The caribou map, which Thomas created in 15 minutes, was far removed from the scope of his contract and was based on obsolete data.

Thomas had no expertise in Alaska wildlife matters and had been reprimanded earlier for posting sensitive Pentagon data on the geological survey's Web site.

As described by The Washington Post, "the decision to cancel his contract was made not by Norton or any other bush appointee, but by the top biologist at his research center, a self-described liberal Democrat who opposes drilling in the Arctic refuge. Another career bureaucrat—the chief USGS biologist, also a Democrat and a conservationist—made the call to pull the caribou map off the Web." No evidence has surfaced, the article said, "that Norton or her aides played any role in his termination."

The geological survey's main experts on Alaskan wildlife are its Alaska-based biologists. When they saw Thomas' map, they expressed consternation that a Maryland-based contract worker, with no expertise in caribou studies, was posting inaccurate, albeit official-looking, material on that topic.

A geological-survey caribou biologist inquired about the map and subsequently sent Thomas a pointed e-mail message: "The material you posted is terribly out of date. It is inconceivable that you have posted this outdated material in view of the recent and intense interest in" the refuge.

Not that such details appear to matter as far as the episode's actual political fallout. As the Post observed, regardless of the facts, "the notion that the Bush administration ousted Thomas for political reasons has taken root around the world, thanks to the power of the Internet and the tenacity of environmentalists."

This episode, now help up by Bush critics as a cause celebre, illustrates the ability of politics to trample the truth. It is regrettable, but revealing, that so many have rushed to warp the facts.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE DAN DALLEY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise at this time to recognize the life of a distinguished public servant, Daniel C. Dalley. Dan spent his life protecting the citizens of Fruita, Colorado. This man was known for his honor and kindness, and is worthy of the recognition of Congress.

Born and raised in Fruita, Colorado Dan was an asset to the community even at a young age. During high school Dan worked hard in and out of school, holding a job at Youngs Ranch while attending Fruita Monument High School. After high school Dan went on to college at Mesa State College in Grand

Junction, Colorado, where he received an associates degree in Criminal Justice. Continuing with his passion for the law, Dan graduated from the Police Academy at Colorado Northwestern Community College in Rangely, Colorado.

After graduation Dan joined the Fruita Police Department as a Reserve Officer in 1992. Dan also served as a Patrol Officer, Field Training Officer, Drug Recognition Expert, Sergeant and Detective Sergeant and was then promoted to Acting Chief. The nine years Dan spent on the force were filled with awards and recognition for a job well done. In 1996 Dan received Employee of the year from the Fruita Police Department, and then for two consecutive years, 1997 and 1998, the Mesa County Optimist Club honored Dan with the title of Law Enforcement Officer of the Year.

In addition to Dan's commitment to upholding the law, Dan also was very involved in his community. Dan added to his community duties by serving eight years as a volunteer EMT for the Loma Volunteer Fire Department. Being active in his church was also important to Dan, and the Grace Community Church was lucky to count Dan among its members. His commitment to God and Country are admired by all. He will be greatly missed.

As his family and friends grieve the loss of Dan Dalley, Mr. Speaker I wanted to take the opportunity to recognize his life. His wife, Cybill, and sons, Alan, Tyler, Dalton and Luke should take pride in the fact that Dan made so many contributions to the State of Colorado. Everyone that knew Dan was in awe of his kindness and service. That, Mr. Speaker, is why Dan is worthy of the praise and thanks of the United States Congress.

HIV/AIDS COMMEMORATION

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2001

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, a disease which is devastating both in scope and severity.

The past decade has seen approximately 40,000 new cases of HIV/AIDS each year. In the U.S., the disease continues to ravage countless communities, and the worldwide statistics are staggering, as well. One out of every 100 people on the planet is afflicted with AIDS, about 53 million people are living with HIV, and 17 million have died.

It must be noted that a great deal of progress has been made in the past twenty years. In the 80's, individual activists and groups such as the then-Human Rights Campaign Fund, tirelessly attempted to educate the public about HIV/AIDS. This was a task made all the more daunting by the incredible stigma attached to the disease. Misconceptions about how the disease was transmitted, backlash from religious conservatives, and a general fear fueled discrimination and hostility toward people with HIV and AIDS. However, the efforts of activist groups gradually began to pay off.

The Ryan White Care Act, which eventually became law, was the first major government

investment in treating people with HIV/AIDS. Barred from school because of his HIV infection, the public battle of White helped turn the national spotlight on the disease. Needle-exchange programs were launched in cities throughout the United States. And now, research funding has shed hope in the new vaccine trails.

Despite these glimmers of hope, we have far from exhausted all of our efforts. With AIDS ranking as the top cause of death for people between the ages of 25 and 44, and the recent explosion among African-American communities, it is clear that more needs to be done to expand our AIDS education. Indeed, it has been shown that despite increases in knowledge about AIDS, Americans still exhibit many dangerous information gaps.

Internationally, the situation is equally dire. In some nations, an astounding quarter of the entire population is infected with HIV. African countries face a particularly steep uphill battle, and the precipitous prices of antiretroviral drugs are only aggravating the global plight. These drugs, which currently represent the only hope for people living with HIV/AIDS, cost more than the per-capita income of many developing countries.

Our Nation must continue to make funding for the treatment, research, and prevention of HIV/AIDS a top priority. A comprehensive approach is needed in order to render the HIV/AIDS crisis a thing of the past.

I request that the attached summary of the AIDS/HIV facts and figures compiled by my staff, be included at this point of the RECORD.

AIDS/HIV FACTS AND FIGURES

Casualty Rates: 17 million Africans have lost their lives to AIDS out of the 22 million worldwide; mortality rate rising: 2.2 million Africans died of AIDS in 1999, 2.4 million in 2000; and more than 5 million affected with HIV in the year 2000, 4 million from Africa.

Sub-Saharan Africa makes up 10% of the world's population but makes up more than 70% of the worldwide total of infected people. 1.1% overall infection rate worldwide with 8.8% in Sub-Sahara Africa.

19% of Deaths in Africa caused by HIV/AIDS in 1998 (next highest was malaria at 10%)

Adults HIV Infection rates (%): Botswana, 35.80%; Zimbabwe, 25.06%; South Africa, 19.94%; and Senegal, 1.77% (active AIDS policy).

UNAIDS projects that half or more of all 15 year-olds will die of AIDS in some of the worst-affected countries.

Only region where women are infected with HIV at a higher rate than men: 53% Women infected in Sub-Saharn Africa; 37% Caribbean; and 20% North America.

An estimated 600,000 African infants become infected with HIV each year through mother to child transmission.

12.1 million African children have lost either mother or father or both to AIDS.

Uganda—succeeded in lowering infection rates from 14% in 1989 to 8% by 1997, mostly by employing a public awareness campaign

Fiscal Amounts to combat HIV/AIDS: FY 2001: \$300 Million apportioned; and FY 2002: \$396 Million (President's Request).

Hyde Bill: FY 2002: \$469 Million plus \$50 Million for pilot treatment program for a total of \$519 Million. FY 2003: \$469 Million plus \$50 Million for pilot treatment program for a total of \$519 Million.

Information supplied by Congressional Research Service.