

for her exemplary humanitarian and conservation efforts and her work to build bridges of love, peace and understanding not only to the people of India, but to all nations.

Amma was born in 1953 in a small, coastal village in the South Indian state of Kerala. Drawn from a very early age to a life of service to others, Amma began her lifelong practice of trying to alleviate suffering by sharing food and clothing from her home while still a young girl. This devotion to service was not always appreciated by her family, who faced their own economic challenges and could ill afford to give away any of the little they had, but Amma persisted and soon began her practice of embracing those in need of comfort and support.

As she matured, Amma grew to understand that hugging and personal acts of kindness were not sufficient to heal our world, and she began to speak publicly on the importance of selfless service, compassion towards all beings, conservation, the importance of inter-religious harmony, and against human trafficking and slavery. She founded two important charitable organizations, Mata Amritanandamayi Math and Embracing the World, which have provided essential disaster relief, food, clean water, housing, health care and education to thousands of needy men, women and children in India and in Mexico, Costa Rica, France, Spain, Kenya, Brazil, Slovenia and Australia.

Amma is beloved by many as their guru and has a large following in my district. Her humanitarian efforts have been recognized and celebrated by, among others, the United Nations, the Parliament of World Religions, and Rotary Club International, and she has been awarded an honorary doctorate in humane letters from the State University of New York in Buffalo.

Amma continues to share her vision of peace, understanding and love through speaking programs, meditation retreats and her willingness to embrace all in need of blessing. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize Amma's selfless and compassionate devotion to all people, the work of her charities to relieve poverty and provide health care and education, her outspoken advocacy against human trafficking, and her efforts to encourage sustainable practices and protect our shared ecosystem.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2019

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2500) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2020 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Chair, I am encouraged that my amendment to the National De-

fense Authorization Act (NDAA) for fiscal year passed the House of Representatives by voice vote on July 11, 2019. This important amendment requires the "Annual Report on Military and Security Developments Involving the People's Republic of China" to include an assessment of (1) China's expansion of its surveillance state; (2) Any correlation of such expansion with its oppression of its citizens and its threat to United States national security interests around the world; and (3) An overview of the extent to which such surveillance corresponds to the overall respect, or lack thereof, for human rights.

This matter is one that I have long been attuned to and concerned about, ultimately leading me to draft and introduce the "Protect American IPR Act", which is H.R. 902 this session, and seeks to stop Chinese theft of U.S. intellectual property through duties on Chinese merchandise. For this reason, I have been encouraged to see President Trump prioritizing the Chinese stealing of American intellectual property.

Mass and unabated government surveillance does not only offend individual liberties; in the hands of an authoritarian government, it poses the Orwellian threat of the government always watching, and ultimately using this ability, made possible to an unprecedented extent by modern technology, to spy on, steal from, intimidate and persecute not only those it views as "political enemies" and "threats", but anyone it deems as expedient.

This Orwellian threat is becoming a reality, perhaps nowhere more so than in China, where the government vigorously pursues a national video surveillance network. The affinity of the Chinese government to control its population in part by mass monitoring is not a new phenomenon, but advancing technology makes its prospects more frightening every day for those within and outside of the Mainland.

One internet privacy expert warns, "What China is doing here is selectively breeding its population to select against the trait of critical, independent thinking". Since China is a neighbor to many and more importantly an actor on the world stage, that erosion will not simply negatively impact the Chinese, it will spread—it arguably has already. A world with continually less critical, independent thought is a prospect to tremble at.

It is my strong belief that U.S. policy, including defense policy, should by no measure assist, intentionally or unintentionally, the growth of China's surveillance. Instead, it should discourage the expansion of the Chinese government into the rest of the world, while at the same time encouraging greater human rights for the Chinese people, including expectant mothers and Christians and other religious minorities.

I have heard from many individuals who warn against China's rapid expansion and influence into the rest of the world, including Africa and Central America, our nation's own backyard. Although the government-connected interests bring economic promise (and exploitation) to the developing world, they also bring the Chinese surveillance state with them. To counter this very real and growing threat, we need to first understand its scope, its impact for individuals in China as well as those

around world, and the extent to which it threatens the U.S. national security interests.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MRS. MARGARET A. JONES

HON. MICHAEL F. Q. SAN NICOLAS

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 12, 2019

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mrs. Margaret A. Jones. Margaret was a longtime resident of Guam, a wife, mother, a public-spirited community leader, and a woman of business on Guam. In 1965, she was a founding member of the Guam Memorial Hospital Volunteers Association and gave her time and effort to numerous charitable and non-profit organizations. Her family business, Triple J Enterprises was founded in 1984 and has grown across the Pacific region. Margaret was born on November 5, 1937 and passed away in North Carolina on June 27, 2019, at the age of 81.

Margaret was the daughter of Early and Verna Page. Margaret was born in Willow Spring, North Carolina.

Margaret married Robert H. Jones in 1957. They raised three children and were blessed with eleven grandchildren.

In 1965, Margaret was a founding member of the Guam Memorial Hospital Volunteers Association (GMHVA), known as the Pink Ladies for the pink vests worn by their volunteers. GMHVA has raised millions of dollars for improvements to the Guam Memorial Hospital.

Margaret was active in the American Cancer Society and led Triple J Enterprises in its support for cancer research by participating annually in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life and sponsoring an annual 5k run/walk event.

Margaret had been active with other non-profit organizations, including the Guam Women's Club, Harvest Baptist Church, the Miss Guam Universe Pageant, the Miss Guam World Pageant, and the Board of St. John's School.

Margaret started her career in Guam at the Marianas Travel Agency. In 1975, she joined Pan American Airlines, working as a Special Sales Representative until 1991. In 1984, Margaret cofounded Triple J Enterprises along with her husband, Robert H. Jones, and Georgia Stafford. Today, the Triple J group employs over nine hundred employees across the Micronesia region, many of whom have been with the business for over twenty years.

I am deeply saddened by the passing of Margaret A. Jones and I join the people of Guam in celebrating her life. She was pillar of the island community, leading both in charitable and non-profit service and in business on Guam. My thoughts and prayers are with her family, loved ones, and friends.

I extend my condolences to her husband, Robert H. Jones, her children, Julie Jones Murrell, Jeff Jones, and Jay Jones, and their spouses, and her grandchildren. She will be deeply missed, and her memory will live on in the hearts of the people of Guam.