

is sad to note deteriorating human rights conditions in Turkey and a steady slide towards outright military rule. Instead of supporting the work of independent human rights NGOs, which make significant contributions to development of civil society and the rule of law, the Government of Turkey instead represses them, labels their members "terrorists," and makes them open targets.

Mr. Speaker, the United States Government supports Turkey militarily, economically and politically. Turkey is a NATO ally and member of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. I therefore welcome the settlement by the State Department spokesperson condemning the attack and urging that the perpetrators be brought to justice.

However, our government must do more to demonstrate our commitment to democracy in Turkey. If we truly value a stable and long-term relationship, we must not continue to ignore the fact that the military's predominance in politics precludes true democracy. The inability of military or civilian administrations to peacefully address the Kurdish problem or the rise of Islamic political activism remains a recipe for disaster. The resulting political instability fuels the climate in which human rights activists are attacked, free speech is curtailed and other fundamental freedoms eroded.

Mr. Speaker, as I speak today, my thoughts and prayers are with Akin Birdal, his family, his colleagues at IHD and all those in Turkey committed to the ideals of human rights and democracy. It is a sad day for all, and we can only hope that this incident will make people think and act seriously about the state of human rights in Turkey.

A TRIBUTE TO VIRNITA
McDONALD

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 1998

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention today the fine work and truly remarkable dedication of Virnita McDonald of Joshua Tree, California. My dear friend Virnita will be recognized at a dinner honoring her longtime service to Copper Mountain College as it commemorates the McDonald Hall Student Center.

Virnita McDonald, a fine writer and public relations professional, has long been active in numerous community and civic affairs throughout the Morongo Basin. She has served on many boards and local commissions and has received a number of awards for her fine work. But Virnita is perhaps best known for her work relating to Copper Mountain College.

Virnita has been a driving force behind the establishment and success of Copper Mountain College since 1977 when she was first elected to the Board of Trustees. As of today, she has served five terms on the Board. Her tenacious advocacy for a campus in the Morongo Basin led her to participate in the very first fundraising efforts in 1979. The following year, Virnita went to Sacramento to personally lobby state legislators on establishing an auxiliary for the purpose of fundraising for the yet unnamed campus. Shortly thereafter, the trustees choose the name "Copper Mountain College" as a result of a contest to

name the new college sponsored by the Hi-Desert Publishing Company. In 1981, community leaders gathered for the official groundbreaking at the future site of Copper Mountain College. Today, the campus continues to grow and prosper in remarkable ways as a result of Virnita's vision and determination.

In 1984, I had the distinct honor of nominating the Friends of Copper Mountain College for the Presidential Volunteer Action Award. At the time, Virnita was serving as president of the college board and was largely responsible for the incredible progress being made in moving the campus forward. Later that year, a group of "Friends" traveled to Washington, DC to accept the award from President Reagan. It was a touching and fitting tribute to Virnita and many others who had worked so hard to fulfill the dream of establishing a college campus in the Morongo Basin.

Mr. Speaker, Virnita McDonald has been at every step in the creation of Copper Mountain College and deserves a great deal of credit for her longtime devotion to this fine campus. I ask that you join me and our colleagues in paying tribute to this remarkable woman who fittingly will have her name associated in perpetuity with the new student center. Virnita McDonald is one of the finest, most devoted women I have ever met. As a mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and as a community leader, Virnita continues to set a remarkable example for all of us to emulate. It is only appropriate that the House pay tribute to her today.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 1998

Mr. ADERHOLT Mr. Speaker, fantasy heroes can't help but call attention to themselves, with their unusual cars and costumes. Real life heroes, however, are often humble people, preferring to avoid the spotlight.

In October, 1997, Police Officer Chris McCurley of Etowah County, Alabama, lost his life in an unexpected gunfire battle. Three other officers were also shot in this savage attack: Rick Correll, Khris Yancey, and Gary Lee Entekin—who lost a leg as a result of wounds. Officer McCurley's wife Donna, Tommy Watts, Officer Entekin, and other officers are in Washington DC for National Police Week, which honors the work of officers all over the country.

Officer Entekin's words about Chris McCurley are more eloquent than anything I could say:

I worked side by side with him for years, and he helped me through a lot of hard times. He was the best partner you could ever ask for. He never backed down. He would be the one I'd want with me.

These are true, American heroes, and on behalf of those whom they serve, it is my privilege today to thank them.

CLINTON ADMINISTRATION'S
CHINA POLICY THREATENS
INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 1998

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, increased regional tension and instability resulting from this week's nuclear test detonations in India have heightened concerns over the Administration's policy toward Communist China. China's targeting of thirteen CSS-4 missiles at the continental United States and its unwillingness to abide by existing non-proliferation agreements prove that China is a threat to peace, in general, and American interests, in particular. In light of these critical concerns, I urge the President not to agree to any future dual-use technology transfers to China at this time, including those in the Administration's proposed space agreement. Furthermore, I strongly urge the President and all Members of Congress to oppose maintaining China's Most-Favored Nation (MFN) trade status.

Since President Clinton's election in 1992, China has violated non-proliferation agreements at least twenty times. On a number of occasions, China has transferred military technologies directly to nations hostile to American interests, including Pakistan, Iran and Libya. Additionally, China continues to refuse to join the Missile Technology Control Regime to prevent the future spread of these dangerous technologies. In spite of a clear record of Chinese unreliability and irresponsibility, the Clinton Administration has continued to support waivers allowing additional missile technologies to be transferred from American corporations to the Chinese government. Of particular concern to me is the recent waiver granted by the President to Loral Space and communications, a company currently under investigation by the Justice Department for making allegedly illegal transfers of sensitive missile technologies to Communist China. As the editors of the New York Times noted in April, this waiver "could open the door to discussions about the same kind of guidance system expertise under investigation in the 1996 case, effectively undermining the Justice Department investigation" of Loral.

In the interest of justice and international security, I urge the President to withdraw his support for Most-Favored Nation status for China and to end American dual-use technology transfers to China. Only after it ceases to deploy missiles capable of attacking the United States mainland, ends its transfers of military technology to nations such as Pakistan, Iran and Libya, and agrees to the terms of the Missile Technology Control Regime should China become eligible to receive military technologies from the U.S. and be considered a candidate for Most-Favored Nation status.

I further urge that the President refuse to accept so-called "detargeting agreements" as progress toward any national security goal. As most Members are aware, retargeting can occur with a single keystroke in today's computer age. As long as China maintains offensive missile capabilities against the United States, American policy should seek to render these weapons unreliable and ineffective. Denial of technology transfers could prove a valuable tool in achieving this objective.