

AD 100 is an international guide profiling outstanding and talented designers and architects from around the world. Architectural Digest publishes this list one every five years. The gifted designer being honored is Mr. Tom Allardyce.

Mr. Allardyce and his partner, Illya Hendrix, founded their design firm in Los Angeles in 1980. For the past twenty years, they have specialized in residential estates. Their innovative designs for architectural structures, their customized interior surfaces, and their choice of exquisite antique furnishings have earned them numerous awards and published features of their projects both in national and international magazines. Their most recent endeavor has been the creation of their own line of furniture and accessories. Their firm employs a full-time support staff to provide quality craftsmanship for each project.

The firm's international clientele is varied and includes notable names from the entertainment and business industries. They take pride in their ability to incorporate into the design the preferences and individual style of each of their clients. This enables the client to make an easy transition when their home is completed. Mr. Hendrix and Mr. Allardyce travel frequently to Europe with their clients in search of the unusual and fine furnishings and objects to create and complement the classic and timeless style that is their trademark.

It is with this outstanding achievement, Mr. Speaker, that I offer this tribute in honor of Tom and his contribution to the international community of architecture and interior design.

THE NEED FOR A NATIONAL  
DIALOGUE IN KAZAKHSTAN

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 29, 2000*

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, last December President Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan was in Washington, D.C. for the annual meeting of the U.S.-Kazakhstan Joint Commission. The purpose of these meetings, which are alternately held in the United States and Kazakhstan, is to promote economic and political cooperation between our two countries. Among other things, the U.S. side regularly presses the government of Kazakhstan to improve its human rights record and undertake economic and political reform.

I understand that U.S. officials pressed the Kazakhstani side especially hard this year, because of the sham parliamentary elections held last October, heightened corruption, and an acceleration of abusive action taken against opponents of President Nazarbayev's increasingly repressive government. In an apparent move to blunt U.S. pressure during the upcoming Joint Commission meeting, President Nazarbayev issued a statement on November 4, 1999 indicating his willingness to cooperate with the opposition in Kazakhstan. He also stated he would welcome the return of former Prime Minister Akhezan Kazhegeldin, the exiled leader of the main opposition party.

On November 19, Mr. Kazhegeldin responded to President Nazarbayev by calling for a "national dialogue" to examine ways to advance democracy, economic development and national reconciliation in Kazakhstan.

Similar national dialogues have met with success in Poland, South Africa and Nicaragua. Mr. Kazhegeldin pointed out that convening a national dialogue would be an ideal way to initiate cooperation between the opposition and the government.

However, President Nazarbayev has reacted with stony silence to Mr. Kazhegeldin's proposal. Moreover, Mr. Nazarbayev has reneged on a pledge he made in November to ship oil through the proposed Baku-Ceyhan pipeline, and continues to refuse to settle investment disputes with foreign companies that have lost millions of dollars because the government failed to honor its commitments. Mr. Nazarbayev also arranged to have a "kangaroo court" convict an opposition leader for having the temerity to criticize Nazarbayev's government. Finally, and this is very troubling, an investigation and trial have failed to find anyone to blame for the delivery last year of 40 MIG fighter aircraft from Kazakhstan to North Korea.

Mr. Speaker, the Administration needs to stop turning the other cheek every time Mr. Nazarbayev commits an outrage. The cause of freedom and democracy will continue to backslide in Kazakhstan unless the Administration voices its strong support for a national dialogue similar to the one proposed by former Prime Minister Kazhegeldin. At the very least, the government of Kazakhstan should make one hour a week of state-controlled television available for use by the opposition. The U.S., for its part, should assist the democratic opposition by providing printing presses to replace those that have been confiscated by the government. It is time to stand up for democracy in Kazakhstan and to stop coddling dictators like Nazarbayev.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit an article into the RECORD from the Washington Times that speaks volumes about the situation in Kazakhstan today.

[From the Washington Times, Dec. 20; 1999]  
DINING WITH DICTATORS—WHITE HOUSE FETES  
KAZAKH PRESIDENT

(By Thomas B. Evans, Jr.)

For some inexplicable reason the president of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev, has been invited to visit Washington this month by the Clinton-Gore administration.

Mr. Nazarbayev is the same dictator who over the past eight years has created a monopoly of riches for himself, his family and carefully selected friends. He has also lured many investors to his country and then pillaged their assets for himself, his family and a few cronies. Knowledgeable sources say that he is the eighth richest man in the world. This, in a country where the per capita income is well below the poverty level.

Mr. Nazarbayev is the same person who promised Vice President Gore a year ago that he would permit a fair and free presidential election in January 1999 and then rigged the disqualification of his main opponent, thereby eliminating any chance of defeat and ensuring the perpetuation of his corrupt regime. Mr. Nazarbayev is also the same person who has had \$85 million in ill-gotten gains frozen by the judiciary in Switzerland. Mr. Nazarbayev is the same individual who ordered the destruction of printing presses used to print newspapers questioning his policies.

And Mr. Nazarbayev's record on human rights is anything but outstanding. There is, quite simply, no freedom of the press, no independent judiciary and no freedom of assembly that could threaten Mr. Nazarbayev's one-man one-family rule in Kazakhstan.

In spite of all the above, Kazakhstan still receives millions of dollars in foreign assistance from U.S. taxpayers and hundreds of millions more indirectly through the Export-Import Bank and international financial institutions in which the United States is a major contributor. Is it not just about time that we let dictators like Mr. Nazarbayev know that we are not going to accept this type of behavior? Is it not past time for us to be taken as fools who don't care about how a country's ruler treats his people and foreign investors? Is Kazakhstan's oil so important to us that we would sacrifice basic principles by inviting dictators to dine with our president and vice president? Don't we ever learn lessons from past mistakes? Doesn't anyone in the administration remember how in Indonesia President Suharto's greed, nepotism and general misrule led to his downfall and plunged the country into near chaos? Tolerance of corrupt rule does not contribute to stability. In fact, quite the opposite is true. Have we also learned nothing by cozying up to Victor Chernomyrdin in Russia? Certainly, none of these examples are ancient history.

Surely, this administration does not want to assist in the perpetuation of a regime in Kazakhstan that is the antithesis of all that we stand for as Americans. Both the president and vice president should make it unmistakably clear that the status quo in Kazakhstan is unacceptable.

On Nov. 17, former Prime Minister Akhezan Kazhegeldin, who was prevented from running against Mr. Nazarbayev last January and now heads the leading opposition party (although living in exile in Western Europe), proposed that a national dialogue be launched with a view toward reforming the political and economic system in Kazakhstan and holding free and fair presidential and parliamentary elections. Similar national dialogues were successful in Poland and South Africa, and convening one for Kazakhstan could set the pattern for reform throughout the former Soviet republics of Central Asia. Mr. Clinton and Mr. Gore should emphasize to Mr. Nazarbayev that close cooperation between our two countries depends on his agreement to participate in a national dialogue. They should also insist that in order for a national dialogue to be credible, it must be held outside Kazakhstan and should be organized and monitored with the assistance of respected organizations such as the Council of Europe or the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. Mr. Clinton and Mr. Gore should make support for political and economic reform the centerpiece of their discussions with Mr. Nazarbayev. That is the very least this administration should do at this point, and that is not an unreasonable expectation on the part of the United States.

A PROCLAMATION COMMENDING  
CHRISTOPHER J. BARRETT ON  
HIS PROMOTION TO THE RANK  
OF MAJOR IN THE UNITED  
STATES ARMY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 29, 2000*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following to my colleagues:

Whereas, Christopher J. Barrett was recently promoted to the rank of Major in the United States Army; and,

Whereas, Christopher J. Barrett has served as a Military Police Officer in the United