

Dr. Atkins leaves behind a legacy that will endure. A memorial service is being held in New York City on May 9th and those of us in the House of Representatives who knew him and of his work join with all of those who mourn the loss of a great American.

HONORING JOSEPH THOMAS  
MURPHY

**HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 7, 2003*

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Joseph Murphy, a retired major in the United States Marine Corps (USMC). Tomorrow he will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors. Major Murphy led an admirable life, and he was an American hero.

Mr. Speaker, Major Murphy was the husband of Madonna (Hogan) Murphy, to whom he had been married 59 years. Born in Taunton, Massachusetts on May 9, 1918, he was the son of the late Michael and Catherine (McGuire) Murphy. Major Murphy was raised and educated in Taunton, and had resided in Attleboro, Massachusetts since 1965. He graduated from Taunton High School and earned a bachelor's degree in management from Bentley College.

Mr. Speaker, Major Murphy served for 17 years in the USMC from 1946 to 1963. He received many awards and commendations including the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Presidential Unit Citation, the Army Distinguished Unit Emblem, the American Campaign Medal, and the China Service Medal. Major Murphy was also awarded the Air Medal, the World War Two Victory Medal, the Navy Occupation Medal, the Korean Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the United Nations Service Medal, and the Korean Presidential Unit Citation.

Mr. Speaker, Major Murphy and his wife Madonna raised a large family. He is survived by five children: one daughter and four sons. Additionally, Major Murphy was the grandfather to 12 grandchildren and a great-grandson.

Mr. Speaker, I am confident that the entire U.S. House of Representatives joins me in expressing gratitude to Major Murphy for his years of service to our nation. Moreover, I ask that my colleagues keep Mrs. Murphy and her family in their thoughts.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION  
OF H.R. 1298, UNITED STATES  
LEADERSHIP AGAINST HIV/AIDS,  
TUBERCULOSIS, AND MALARIA  
ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

**HON. TODD TIAHRT**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 1, 2003*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1298) to provide assistance to foreign countries to combat HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, and for other purposes:

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of the United States Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of 2003 and in support of amendments that would strengthen this bill in helping address the AIDS pandemic in Africa. The bill before the House today seeks to prevent 7 million new HIV/AIDS infections, provide care and support for 10 million HIV-infected people and provide antiretroviral therapy for millions of victims over the next 5 years.

Africa is a continent far removed from the everyday lives of most Americans, both in its geographic location and in its distinction among the other populations of the world. But it is a continent whose future has profound implications for the future of the United States.

Sub-Saharan Africa has approximately 10 percent of the world's population, a remarkable history and numerous natural resources. Unfortunately, it also is plagued with the pandemic known as HIV/AIDS that has caught the attention of the international community. In recent years, more than 21 million Africans have died of AIDS, including more than 2 million in 2001. AIDS has surpassed malaria as the leading cause of death and threatens to cripple and destroy African life. An alarming 70 percent of the world's AIDS victims live in Africa. With far more dying from AIDS in Africa than from all its wars and conflicts, we cannot ignore the perilous state of affairs faced by our fellow men.

Of particular concern to me is the fact that 58 percent of those infected with the virus are women who are passing this deadly disease to their children. More than 600,000 infants are HIV infected each year in Africa because of mother-to-child transmission. As one generation passes the deadly virus on to the next, we are witnessing a self-sustaining genocide.

More than 11 million AIDS orphans living in Africa are crying out from malnutrition, and their chances of obtaining an education are severely reduced. These innocent little children are the product of a crisis that is bringing even more severe economic hardship to a land already stranded in poverty. Life expectancy in some African countries has dropped by decades, and agricultural production has declined as workers with AIDS die or become unable to perform their work.

With the leadership of President Bush, the United States is stepping up its efforts to deal with this problem. Not only are we reaching out because of moral principle and human compassion, but also because we recognize the national security implications of not engaging with the AIDS crisis in Africa.

With radical Islamic terrorist cells thriving in poverty-stricken countries, we must acknowledge and address the AIDS pandemic that can fuel desperation, and ultimately, hospitality toward violent groups that seek destruction of America. With an estimated 55 million Africans who will lose their lives to AIDS by 2020, the United States has both an opportunity and an obligation to help defeat AIDS in order to bring stability to these suffering countries. Already, African militaries are feeling the results of high infection rates among their soldiers. As countries lose their ability to maintain peace, anarchy will take over and deliver further havoc on society. If the problem is ignored, the ability of terrorists to recruit more sympathizers will only multiply. By helping prevent the further spread of this horrible disease, we can help ensure that terrorists are given no safe harbor in Africa.

As William J. Bennett and Charles Colson recently stated in the Washington Times, "Al Qaeda networks operating in Africa remind us that, like it or not, no part of the world can any longer be isolated from any other part. If an entire continent sinks into despair and anarchy, the whole world will be affected."

While I support H.R. 1298, I want to express my strong support for amended language that would designate funds for prevention and treatment programs that have an outstanding track record of drastically reducing the number of infected individuals. For example, the world has finally acknowledged how effective Uganda's ABC program has been in reducing the number of HIV/AIDS victims. H.R. 1298 is right to commend the ABC program along with the excellent leadership of President Yoweri Museveni.

Uganda's ABC program "Abstain, Be faithful, use Condoms", in order of priority, has dropped infection rates from 22 percent in 1992 to 7 percent in 2002. This remarkable, yet simple, program first promotes abstaining from sexual relationships until marriage. Rather than blindly pass out condoms, the ABC program promotes a lifestyle of abstinence that guarantees to protect individuals against sexually transmitting the HIV/AIDS virus.

Secondly, the Ugandan ABC program encourages partners to remain faithful to each other. In working to promote faithfulness between married couples, this low-cost program encourages fidelity as a means of reducing the spreading of the virus between multiple partners. With the percentage of sexually active youth falling significantly and the increasing number of Ugandans reporting none or one sexual partner in the past decade, the results speak for themselves.

Thirdly, use of condoms is encouraged as a means to help reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS for those who choose not to abstain.

Congressman JOE PITTS has offered an amendment to HR 1298 that will require 33 percent of AIDS prevention funds be directed to abstinence-until-marriage programs. I stand in full support of this amendment that is supported by both the White House and Chairman HYDE. By supporting pro-family, proven methods that prevent the spread of AIDS, we will most effectively bring an end to this crisis.

I also want to voice my support for the amendment offered today by Congressman CHRIS SMITH that would clarify the right of organizations having moral or religious objections to certain prevention methods to remain eligible for this funding. While there is language in H.R. 1298 to prevent such discrimination, the language is vague and might not offer sufficient protection from bias against these fine groups.

In Africa, there are organizations offering excellent programs to local communities to fight against the spread of AIDS but who have moral objections to condom promotion. It is important these groups are allowed to compete for funding and continue their successful programs. It is to the advantage of the African people that we have the largest pool from which to choose applicants.

As the House of Representatives moves forward with passage of this historic legislation to fight against the HIV/AIDS pandemic in Africa, let us remember the millions who have already lost their lives and the remaining tens of millions who are currently afflicted with this dreadful virus of death.