

But Alan Walden is more than a fine journalist. He also is a great American. As president of Patriots of Fort McHenry, Mr. Walden has done more than any single individual to help restore and preserve this national treasure. We in Baltimore owe him an enormous debt of gratitude for his tireless efforts on behalf of this historic shrine.

I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring Alan R. Walden for his dedication and commitment to quality journalism. His reporting has touched all of our lives, and his dedication to Fort McHenry has enriched the lives of all Americans.

TRIBUTE TO CECIL LEBERKNIGHT

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 1998

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity before my Colleagues in the House of Representatives to honor a great America, Mr. Cecil Leberknight.

We've heard many people praised for being "great Americans" in this Chamber, and in most cases, you think of some nationally known figure. Cecil is not nationally famous for his achievements, but he still fits the description as well as anyone.

Mr. Cecil Leberknight is a native of Cambria County, Pennsylvania who has devoted his life to public service where it most directly impacts people and communities, at the local level. For fifty years he has served, in numerous capacities, as the champion of Pennsylvania's boroughs. He began his incredible career of service in the winter of 1948, when he became Dale Borough councilman in Cambria County, Pennsylvania, which is still his and his wife Dorothy's home. Since then, he has served with over 100 council members. The list of career accomplishments of this one man is amazing. Just reading the list is exhausting.

In the 1950's he was elected and reelected to serve as President of the 33 member Cambria County Borough Association and has represented that county at the state borough association level since 1957. In 1962, he was elected to the Pennsylvania Assembly, where he continued to champion the cause of public service, working tirelessly to obtain better working conditions and pay for police, firemen, school teachers and administrators, and nurses.

Mr. Leberknight also chaired the Governor's Justice Commission in the last 1960's, served on the Johnstown Flood Museum and Heritage Association as both president and board member. Additionally, he has also been: vice chairman of the Johnstown Area Regional Planning Commission, president of Dale Borough Historical Association, board member and treasurer of the Johnstown Symphony Orchestra, president of the Historic Sandviale Cemetery Association, charter member of the Cambria County Chapter of Pennsylvania Clean Ways, organizer, charter member and treasurer of the Pennsylvania 12th District Equipment Center, and member of the Greater Johnstown Watershed Association.

He hasn't stopped. Currently, Mr. Leberknight serves as president of the Cambria County Housing Corporation, where he's been for the last seven years. Additionally

he holds numerous citations from, and honorary lifetime memberships in, local volunteer and civic organizations.

If that weren't enough, Cecil is also a champion of education. His interest in improving and promoting education has led him to hold positions such as the State Legislative Chairman of the Pennsylvania Congress of Parents and Teachers, president of the Cambria County Council of Parents and Teachers, Adult Scouter with the Robert E. Peary Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and a charter and current board member of the Cambria County Ethnic Arts and Cultural Center.

I think that is an extraordinary resume. I am so proud and honored to have known Cecil for most of my life and feel fortunate to live in a town that has a person like him working for it. In addition to being a person who is so civically motivated and cares so much about his community, he is also a great friend and a great family man. He is truly an outstanding person and I am very pleased to be able to congratulate him as he celebrates fifty years of public service.

Congratulations, Cecil, and thank you.

TIME TO RECONSIDER DESTRUCTIVE EMBARGO POLICIES

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 1998

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I have long held that the real victims of U.S. trade policy, and specifically of our various trade embargoes, are American citizens who hope to sell goods abroad, most especially our agricultural producers. The intended victims of sanctions are corrupt foreign rulers but they always find a way to get goods from our competitors and when they fail to do so they simply pass along any suffering to their internal political opponents.

But, as I said, somebody is negatively affected. A recent issue of the American Farm Bureau Federation's "Farm Bureau News" contains a headline story which does a fabulous job of explaining how these embargoes adversely affect our American Farmers and Ranchers. In this front page story the Farm Bureau News masterfully details the true impact of trade embargoes.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent a very rural, agriculturally-based district. My constituents are well aware of the importance of opening export markets for America's agricultural producers. Mr. Speaker, at this time I would like to place in the RECORD this story from the Farm Bureau News in hopes that people in the Administration, as well as in this Congress will begin to reconsider destructive embargo policies which only harm our nation's farmers and other producers including my constituents.

AG TAKES BIGGEST HIT FROM EMBARGOES

Trade sanctions and embargoes for the purpose of social reform or other reasons hurt American farmers and ranchers more than any other sector of the economy. Farm Bureau told a House Agriculture subcommittee last week.

"Farm Bureau strongly opposes all artificial trade constraints such as embargoes or sanctions except in the case of armed conflicts," said Ron Warfield, president of the Illinois Farm Bureau. "We believe that open-

ing trading systems around the world and engagement through trade are the most effective means of reaching international economic stability."

President Clinton imposed sanctions against India and Pakistan after those countries detonated nuclear devices. House Agriculture Committee Chairman Bob Smith (R-Ore.) and ranking minority member Charlie Stenholm (D-Texas) have urged Clinton to exempt food and agricultural commodities from those sanctions. Pakistan is an important market for U.S. agricultural products, ranking third in purchases of U.S. wheat.

Sens. Dick Lugar (R-Ind.), Pat Roberts (R-Kan.), Larry Craig (R-Idaho) and Max Baucus (D-Mont.) have also asked Clinton to exclude agricultural exports from the sanctions.

Warfield, a member of the American Farm Bureau Federation board of directors, told the panel that when sanctions are imposed, agriculture typically bears the brunt through lost sales and gains a reputation as an unreliable supplier. While American agriculture loses through sanctions and embargoes, its toughest competitors win by picking up those markets.

Warfield noted that when the United States placed a grain embargo against the Soviet Union in the 1980s, American farmers lost \$2.3 billion in farm exports. He said the effects continue to be felt.

"When the United States cut off sales of wheat to protest the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, other suppliers—France, Canada, Australia and Argentina—stepped in," Warfield said. "They expanded their sales to the Soviet Union, ensuring that U.S. sanctions had virtually no economic impact. Russia still appears to restrict purchases of American wheat, fearing the United States may again use food exports as a foreign policy weapon."

Just the threat of sanctions can provoke trading partners into a retaliatory stance and threaten U.S. agricultural exports, the farm leader pointed out.

Warfield said Farm Bureau supports a bill (H.R. 3654) by Re. Tom Ewing (R-Ill.) that would prevent selective agricultural embargoes. The legislation, he said, would prevent useless embargoes that destroy American export markets while creating opportunities for other countries. Warfield said engagement with other nations, not sanctions and embargoes, should be the preferred option.

"The United States, as the leader in world trade, has an unprecedented opportunity to promote its values throughout the world by peaceful engagement through trade," Warfield said. "Reaching out through engagement and trade, not withdrawing behind embargoes, is the best way to achieve positive change—not by denying ourselves access to the markets and creating opportunities for our competitors."

TRIBUTE FOR MR. JOHN M. MELLA

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 1998

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, this past April I had the pleasure to speak at a testimonial dinner in a small area of my district a few miles north of the Wisconsin border in a town called Iron Mountain. Iron Mountain is an old, ethnically diverse iron mining town which is surrounded by beautiful lush forests, roving wolves and soaring eagles. It is such a delight for me to have the opportunity to visit this