

immediately. Canacar admits that the Mexican truck fleet is old and in general disrepair, and neither the fleet nor its crews are safely ready to compete with newer American trucks and its rested drivers.

So why does the Mexican Government continue to push for the cross-border opening? Because the Mexican Government does not seem to care much about its own citizens. Right now, the Mexican economic system forces truck operators to drive days on end, and, as reported in a story by the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, most of these drivers are often fueled by narcotics. Mexican truck drivers freely admit that they would prepare for long hauls with beer, marijuana, pills, and cocaine.

According to one driver, "You must not eat too much meat on a long run, because it will make you sleepy and then you need more cocaine." Clearly, these drivers are sleep deprived.

As another driver, Juan Alvarez, put it, "The biggest problem is lack of sleep. I just drove 36 hours straight. Sometimes I get 6 to 12 hours off between loads." Juan does this for \$500 for every 15 days that he drives.

The Mexican Government and its company-sponsored union have forced these drivers into this predicament. Unlike American drivers, Mexican drivers have no right to speak freely or bargain collectively. They know little about the specifics of the NAFTA treaty, and their government likes it that way.

So this brings us back to the American truck drivers, who would be unfairly forced to compete against Mexican truck drivers that are treated with indifference by their own government. But American truckers realize that the Mexican truck drivers are not treated as people by their government; and that, simply put, is not the fault of Mexican truck drivers. It is the Mexican system that is at fault. It is our fault for entering into a treaty with a country that has a completely different socio-economic and labor-management structure than ours.

Thankfully, President Clinton did not open up the borders, as NAFTA called for, on January 1, 2000. Because if he did, we would have thousands of these sleep-deprived Mexican truckers driving all over our highways and byways throughout this Nation endangering other truckers and motorists on the road.

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In fact, many Mexican trucks and their drivers have already been found illegally in States throughout the United States of America. Most likely because their government tells them little about our current law.

Clearly, President Clinton made the right decision by keeping the border closed. For the sake of all American truckers' jobs and the safety of the American public, let us hope it stays that way for a long, long time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PALLONE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. METCALF) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. METCALF addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

IN MEMORY OF EVANDER S. SIMPSON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. ETHERIDGE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, tonight I rise to pay homage to Evander S. Simpson of Smithfield, North Carolina, who died on April 27 after a long and fruitful life. His passing has removed from North Carolina's Second Congressional District a giant of community service, a leader of humanity, and a man who has left the world immeasurably better than he found it.

The death of Evander Simpson leaves a void that will not soon be filled. Mr. Simpson was a member of what Tom Brokaw called "The Greatest Generation." Those were the men and women who went off collectively to save the world when World War II was thrust upon them. And it was they who, when the war was over, joined in joyous and short-lived celebrations, then immediately began the task of rebuilding their lives and the world that they wanted.

Brokaw's description certainly fits the life of Evander Simpson. Born in 1914 in Sampson County to a father who served for 35 years as a teacher and principal, his future and career direction was foreordained. Mr. Simpson attended the University of North Carolina, eventually receiving a bachelor's degree, a master's degree, and an advanced certificate for school administration from that institution. By the age of 24, Evander had become principal of Newton Grove High School.

World War II intervened; and Mr. Simpson, then serving as Secretary to the Committee on Education in the U.S. House of Representatives, volunteered for the Navy, answering the call, as Tom Brokaw said, "to help save the world from the two most powerful ruthless and military machines ever

assembled, instruments of conquest in the hands of fascist maniacs." Mr. Simpson served as a gunnery officer in action in the Arctic and in both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

With the end of the war, Mr. Simpson came home to North Carolina, and for the next 3 years worked at North Carolina State University counseling the thousands of Tar Heel veterans who were flooding into our colleges and universities determined to make up for the time that they had lost while they were off fighting the war. A position as a high school principal followed, but in 1951 Mr. Simpson was appointed superintendent of Johnston County schools, a position which he would hold for 29 years and that would define the rest of his life and leave an indelible impression on the people of Johnston County and North Carolina.

Evander Simpson and Johnston County's schools were at the heart of the county's progress over those 29 years. Eighteen schools were consolidated into five. Accreditation for all schools in the country from the State Department of Public Instruction and the Southern Association of Schools was obtained. Teacher pay supplements were established, kindergarten programs were established county wide, and Mr. Simpson was deeply involved in the establishment of the Johnston County Community College. Mr. Simpson earned a reputation of being one of the top school superintendents in the nation during those years.

An indefatigable man whose devotion to his county was legendary, Evander found time to serve 14 years on the Board of Trustees of the University of North Carolina, to serve as president of the North Carolina Education Association, to serve for 30 years on the Johnston County Board of Health, and to serve for six years on the board of the University of North Carolina at Wilmington.

Mr. Simpson was a Paul Harris Fellow in Rotary International, a member of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Chamber of Commerce. That organization awarded him its Distinguished Citizen Award in 1969. He was a deacon, Sunday school superintendent, and Brooks Bible Class teacher for more than 35 years at Smithfield First Baptist Church.

No man has ever loved his country and its history more than Evander Simpson. Johnston County residents know that his every speech would include references to the great documents of this Nation. A speech to veterans might include George Washington's prayer on his inauguration as President. A speech to a civic club would include a reference to the Declaration of Independence or Lincoln's Gettysburg address, both of which he could recite to memory. The great speeches of history were fodder for his mill, including the great inaugural speech by President Kennedy, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country."

Generations of Johnston County individuals were influenced by the great good of Evander Simpson. He believed in the innate goodness of men and women, that people of good will could