

are being enslaved because they have no access to accurate information. We must empower the people of Afghanistan, counter the lies and false propaganda, and allow free flowing the factual information to be presented to Afghanis. "Radio Free Afghanistan," will allow us to do just that.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 7, 2001

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I was detained in returning from my district last night due to delays in my flights and missed three votes. Had I been here I would have made the following votes: Rollcall Nos. 426—"aye", 427—"aye", 428—"aye."

IN RECOGNITION OF THOMAS J. NOWIERSKI, R.P.H., M.P.H AND ROSE MARIE POVEROMO, BEING HONORED BY THE TAMINENT REGULAR DEMOCRATIC CLUB, INC.

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 7, 2001

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Thomas J. Nowierski and Rose Marie Poveromo who are being honored on November 3, 2001 at this year's annual Taminent Regular Democratic Club, Inc. dinner and dance. Taminent's two honorees have made outstanding contributions to the civic life of the community.

For twenty-five years, Thomas J. Nowierski has served this community's pharmacological needs. He opened his first pharmacy, Ravenswood Drugs, in the Ravensview projects in Long Island City. He purchased Astoria Chemists at Astoria General Hospital, now known as The Mount Sinai Hospital of Queens, three years later.

In 1984, he opened Chris Drug, named for his daughter Christine, at Astoria Medical Group. Mr. Nowierski established one of the first programs in the state where seniors could receive information about their medications free of charge, in various languages.

Mr. Nowierski has spent much of his career working to address the needs of others. This is precisely what led him to open the Western Queens Dialysis Center almost two years ago. His goal was to ensure that patients in need of dialysis can get the quality of care they require.

Over the last decade Thomas Nowierski has worked on behalf of the Variety Boys and Girls Club. He became President of its Board of Directors in 1999. Tom has also dedicated his time and energy to SHAREing & CAREing, work he has done largely in memory of his late mother who battled breast cancer.

For two decades Rose Marie Poveromo has been a dedicated community activist in Astoria and Jackson Heights. A native New Yorker, she owns and operates Rose Marie Realty, while also working as an aide to City Council Speaker Peter Vallone.

She served as President of the United Community Civic Association for 9 years, during which time she organized one of the most successful Town Hall Meetings coordinated by a civic association in Queens County, with more than 600 residents participating to discuss community needs and concerns. She also organized a "Community Health Fair," which attracted over 700 attendees. Rosemarie is a tireless advocate for a better quality of life in Queens, and I have often worked with her on issues relating to the noise and congestion generated by the airports.

Rose Marie Poveromo has also served her community in numerous other capacities. She was a member of Community Board #1, Vice-President of the Astoria Heights Homeowners and Tenants Association and Vice President of Kiwanis Club of Jackson Heights. She currently serves on the Queens Borough President's Air Monitoring Task Force and the Queens Borough President's Aviation Advisory Council.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Thomas J. Nowierski and Rose Marie Poveromo for their contributions to their community.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE HONORABLE MARY WARREN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 7, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of the Honorable Mary Warren for her life long commitment to serving her community.

Sadly, Mary passed away suddenly on this past Sunday, November 4, 2001. She began her long career in community service with the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA). During her thirteen years at NYCHA, Mary held a variety of positions; she worked as a Community Associate, Community Liaison, and Community Service Aide. She was an expert on New York City Housing programs. While she worked for NYCHA, she volunteered for her East New York community as the spokesperson for the Community Police Precinct Council. In addition, she organized tenant patrols, youth patrols, and led her tenant association.

After a rewarding career at NYCHA, I was able to lure Mary and her housing expertise to my staff as my Special Assistant. In this role, Mary proved herself to be an outstanding advocate on behalf of community residents. Also, she was a tireless worker, organizing events, working with constituents, and acting as my liaison to groups and agencies concerning crime, drugs, and, most importantly, housing.

Of course, Mary's service to her community never ended at the end of the work day, she also continued to be involved with both the youth and elderly in her community. As the Community Relations Associate for the Wartburg Lutheran Home for the Aging, Mary developed and implemented marketing strategies to increase participation for Meals-on-Wheels, Adult Day Health Care, Senior Housing and at the nursing home itself. This effort required the ability to work closely with people from the community of all different backgrounds, an area in which Mary excelled. Her outgoing personality served her well as the

Recreation Specialist for the New York City Parks Department's Brownsville Recreation Center. Here, she served as Program Coordinator and Registration Supervisor for the various school and summer programs.

In addition, Mary had five children, 15 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild and was still an active volunteer in her Brooklyn community. She served as the District Leader for the 40th Assembly District for three terms. Finally, as a testimonial of her passion for providing affordable housing to her community and her devotion to the children of East New York, she served as the President of the Long Island Baptist Tenant Association at Unity Plaza Housing for over 20 years.

Mr. Speaker, the Honorable Mary Warren devoted her life to serving her community on all levels and was an invaluable member of the community and my staff. She will truly be missed. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring the life of this truly remarkable community leader.

TRIBUTE TO STATE SENATOR PAULA J. CARTER

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 7, 2001

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my profound sadness over the passing on Monday of Missouri State Senator Paula J. Carter, one of Missouri's most distinguished and respected public servants. She was a powerful force in the state legislature and represented her St. Louis constituents well during her combined 15 years of service in the Missouri Senate and House of Representatives.

Paula Carter was a dear friend of a former colleague of mine in the Missouri General Assembly, and her passing is a tremendous loss to those of us who had the privilege of serving with her. She will be greatly missed.

Paula Carter began her career as a public servant in 1984, when she was elected Committeewoman of the 27th Ward in St. Louis and two years later she was elected to her first term in the Missouri House of Representatives. While in the House, she became an outspoken champion of the poor, the disabled and the disenfranchised, and she worked tirelessly to make Missouri government more caring and responsive to our state's neediest citizens. Through her efforts in the House, Missouri improved its assistance and care of those with mental illness and disabilities, and expanded employment and educational opportunities for women and minorities.

In March 2000, Senator Carter was elected to the Fifth Senate District seat in a special election and subsequently re-elected to her first full term in November 2001. She wasted little time in making her presence felt in the upper chamber. She served on the Senate Appropriations Committee; the Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence Committee; the Insurance and Housing Committee; and the Aging, Families and Mental Health Committee. She also served as President of the Missouri Legislative Black Caucus.

Despite her illness, just two months ago in a special legislative session, Paula Carter played an instrumental role in the passage of

a critical prescription drug benefit plan for Missouri senior citizens. As always, Paula Carter never let her own physical limitations get in the way of her commitment to helping those less fortunate.

So on behalf of the Missouri delegation of the U.S. House of Representatives, I want to offer our deepest sympathies and condolences to the family of Senator Paula Carter. She will be greatly missed, both in our state capital and in her beloved City of St. Louis, but her legislative legacy and accomplishments will endure in the thousands of people she touched through her leadership and determination.

**TALIBAN HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES
NOT COMPARABLE TO CIVILIAN
DEATHS RESULTING FROM U.S.
BOMBING**

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 7, 2001

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member wishes to commend to his colleagues the October 27, 2001, editorial from the Omaha World-Herald entitled "Taliban Atrocities."

Despite its great efforts to prevent civilian deaths in Afghanistan, the U.S. will inadvertently kill some civilians as it continues its bombings against Taliban-held areas. The civilian deaths which have already occurred (and those which likely will occur) certainly and very obviously are not part of a concerted scheme to kill the Afghan people. They are (and will be) an unfortunate consequence of

the war on terrorism and those who continue to harbor terrorists. Unfortunately, civilian deaths simply are a part of any war.

Contrast that fact with the conditions, as outlined in the editorial, which the Taliban has inflicted upon the Afghan people.

Mr. Speaker, it is critical that the U.S. win not only the war on terrorism but also the media war to uncover the horrific human rights abuses systematically implemented by the Taliban against the Afghan people.

[From the Omaha World-Herald, Saturday, October 27, 2001]

TALIBAN ATROCITIES

(By John Cottschalk)

The Taliban's ambassador to Pakistan sounded a hypocritical note when he claimed that the United States is carrying out genocide against the Afghan people.

On the contrary, the United States has gone to great lengths to minimize civilian casualties. Although accidental bombings of residential structures have occurred, military analyst William Arkin noted in The Washington Post that for U.S. military planners, "avoidance of civilian casualties has become institutionalized even to the point of rejecting important targets if there is a high probability of civilian harm."

The Taliban's claim of the moral high ground is further undermined by the fact that it is using Afghan civilians as human shields by relocating its military hardware into schools and mosques.

It is especially brazen of the Taliban to pose as a champion of human rights, considering the horrors it has imposed on the Afghan people in recent years. Here are only a few incidents in the lengthy inventory of human rights abuses by the Taliban:

In January of this year, the organization Human Rights Watch reports, the Taliban

conducted a summary execution of 300 civilian adult males after it retook the town of Yorkaolang.

In September 2000, Taliban forces used bombs, shells and cluster munitions indiscriminately against residential areas in the town of Taloqan and surrounding villages before capturing the area, according to statements by refugees.

In May 2000, Taliban forces summarily executed at least 200 prisoners near a mountain pass northwest of the town of Pul-i Khumri.

In August 1998, the Taliban captured Mazar-i Sharif, a strategic city in northern Afghanistan. Here is how Human Rights Watch described the Taliban's subsequent actions:

"Within the first few hours of seizing control of the city, Taliban troops killed scores of civilians in indiscriminate attacks, shooting noncombatants and suspected combatants alike in residential areas, city streets and markets. Witnesses described it as a 'killing frenzy' as the advancing forces shot at 'anything that moved.'"

Anti-Taliban guerrilla groups, including fighters for the Northern Alliance now supported by the United States, by no means have a spotless human rights record either. Over the past decade, such forces have attacked residential areas with artillery fire and carried out summary executions of Taliban soldiers and suspected supporters, according to Human Rights Watch.

Such considerations indicate the difficulties that lie ahead in erecting a stable, democratic government in Afghanistan in the post-Taliban era.

As for the Taliban, it stands damned by its own disreputable actions. In light of its appalling record, it has no moral standing to lecture the United States about respect for human life and protection of innocent civilians.