IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE VICTIMS OF THE KATYN FOREST MASSACRE

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2001

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the victims of the Katyn Forest Massacre, sixty-two years after the horrible tragedy. Memorial Services will be held on September 16, 2001, at the Katyn Monument site in Jersey City, New Jersey.

Following Nazi Germany's unprovoked attack on Poland on September 1, 1939, Polish troops stood up to a better-equipped and larger army, eventually succumbing to the incredible odds several weeks after Soviet troops viciously attacked from the East. While Polish forces were vastly outnumbered and overextended, they fought vigorously and valiantly on two fronts. Following its defeat, Soviet and Nazi victors immediately placed Poland under their harsh and brutal occupation.

In the Spring of 1940, Soviet-led forces brutally killed and tortured over fifteen thousand Polish men, women, and children. One of the sites of these barbaric and inhumane acts was the Katyn Forest, where four thousand bodies were later discovered.

Today, I honor the victims of the Katyn Forest Massacre. I commend their courage and sacrifice. They stood strong in the face of genocide and appalling brutality.

I ask that my colleagues join me in remembering the victims of the Katyn Forest Massacre, and I ask that we honor their sacrifice for freedom.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REGARDING TERRORIST ATTACKS LAUNCHED AGAINST UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

HON. WILLIAM L. JENKINS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2001

Mr. JENKINS. Mr. Speaker, on September 11, 2001, an act of terrorism took the lives of thousands of innocent Americans. No American is exempt from the pain and anger that resulted. I know I speak for everybody in the First Congressional District of Tennessee when I send their thoughts and prayers to the families and friends of those who are casualties of this act of terror. Our thoughts and prayers also go the thousands of individuals who have responded to the scene and are working non-stop in the rescue and recovery efforts.

It is important that we take the appropriate steps to deal with this matter. The government is functioning and providing the necessary services to deal with the aftermath of the events in New York and Washington. Every necessary resource will be made available to assist in the search, rescue, and recovery efforts. In addition, our law enforcement authorities, intelligence services, and military personnel are moving swiftly in their investigations. A number of positive leads are being pursued, and I am confident that we all know the names of all that are responsible. We have a suspect whose numerous threats are tantamount to an admission. We have the ability to continue to accumulate evidence to prove his guilt.

I applaud the President in his immediate forceful response to this tragedy. He has mobilized our armed forces and directed all appropriate federal agencies to respond to rescue efforts. I also applaud the leadership of a united Congress. The leadership of both parties have communicated the support of the Congress to the President, and he will have the full support of the legislative branch of our government to provide the necessary resources for recovery and rebuilding, as well as the resources that will be needed to provide the appropriate responses to the perpetrators of this crime. We will use these resources to find those responsible and to see that justice is served.

As difficult as it is at this time, we must move forward. We cannot give in to the demands of terrorism. The American resolve is stronger than ever. It is a mistake of terrorists to believe that they will divide us. They have brought us together in ways that many people did not believe could happen. It is a mistake of terrorists to believe that we will cower in fear as a result of their actions. They have only strengthened the willpower, purpose, and determination of all Americans.

One of the most cherished freedoms in this country is the right to disagree. Honorable citizens have the right to voice their disagreements with each other without fear of reprisal. Quite often, Members of Congress find themselves engaging in quarrelsome debate over a variety of issues, which now pale in comparison to the matter that we must deal with in the upcoming days and weeks. Despite these disagreements, the U.S. has always stood for what is right in the world—freedom and democracy. The terrorists believe our ability to disagree is a weakness, and that they can exploit this. They are wrong.

The final casualty numbers will be high—too high to reasonably comprehend. Despite this tragic loss and the crumbling of America's buildings. America's foundation is strong. The history of this great nation proves that when the U.S. is roused—the U.S. fights—and the U.S. wins. We will stand together, outraged and resolute, and we will go to any length to bring these criminals, and those who aid and abet them, to justice. We will have not properly paid our respects to those who have died until their killers are brought to justice.

From this point forward, the rest of the world, and particularly those who harbor hatred and resentment against the United States, will learn that our strength and courage will not tolerate the acts of terrorists. We may never know the specific message these terrorist groups were trying to send to America. I do know that they will ultimately receive a response from America that will be loud and clear. God bless the United States of America.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE CORA HOLLAND

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2001

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, it is with regret and deep sadness that I rise to honor Cora Holland, a former constituent from San Bernardino, who passed away on September 11, 2001, when her plane was hijacked and collided with the north tower of the World Trade Center Building in New York, New York as part of an evil terrorist act.

Throughout the years, Cora was a true humanitarian. She loved her family and followed the Christian teaching of loving our fellow man. I believe that the well-being of our Nation's peoples depends on all our dedication and efforts to invest in the present and the future.

They say a person is measured by the lives he or she touches. Through the grace of God, Cora touched many lives.

Cora was, and will continue to be eternally, the mother of three children and the grandmother of two. Her children Stephanie, Jessica, and Nathan received constant attention from what family and friends alike call ''an incredibly dedicated mother.'' Cora left two grandchildren behind, Drew and Amelia.

Cora Holland grew up in San Bernardino around K and 14th Streets. She graduated from San Bernardino High and worked at the County Hospital when it was in San Bernardino. It was while working in the hospital that Cora Hidalgo met her future husband, Steve Holland.

Cora was, according to her family, the center of the family. The family would often wait for her arrival so that she would coordinate what they were going to do. Her strong and religious spirit also extended to her involvement with feeding the homeless. Cora, a homemaker, spent countless hours using her knowledge of Spanish to help feed the homeless.

May God protect the soul of this wonderful woman. Cora was something that is in short supply in the world, a decent human being. Kind and selfless as seen in her community activism. Caring as seen in her devotion to her family. Her soul is one of the many departed on that fateful day, but the impact of her death is a deep well of sorrow in itself. I wish to extend to her brothers Gonzalo and Ernie, her children, her husband, and the rest of her family my most heartfelt condolences.

I cannot ever come to comprehend what her loss means to her family, but I am saddened and I mourn with them. Let us take comfort in the fact that she is now guarded by our Lord. Cora you are loved by many, you are a hero in every sense of the word, and will not be forgotten.

Cora's family had nothing but praise for her, describing her as a dedicated mother, wife and humanitarian. So in giving this honor, we are honoring her this day.

A devoted wife to Steve Holland, she lived in Sudbury, Massachusetts. Cora has three children: Stephanie, Jessica, and Nathan.

In short, she was a model of excellence we can all follow, at home and in our community. Cora will be missed by family and friends alike. She touched us all with her kind deeds and dedication to her family.