

[From the PPA News, Feb. 1, 2002]

INDIAN SOLDIERS KILL 376 KASHMIRIS IN JANUARY 2002, 107 WOMEN, CHILDREN AMONG KILLED IN POLICE CUSTODY

ISLAMABAD (PPA).—The Indian army during its genocidal operations in the month of January 2002, killed 376 innocent citizens in held Kashmir including 107 killed in custody.

According to statistical data compiled by the Research Section of the Kashmir Media Service, those who fell victim to Indian army's brutalities included 246 men, 11 men and 12 kids.

During the month under review, 625 common people were tortured or critically injured by the Indian troops in the course of crackdowns upon villages, towns and cities. 630 people were arrested during the outgoing month without any valid charge against them while 139 houses and shops were arsoned by setting them on fire on using dynamite blasts.

Twenty-one persons had been kidnapped or reported missing. Relatives of these persons forcibly disappeared by the Indian army have no access to them and they are worried about their missing loved ones.

Molestation of women is one of the weapons being used by the Indian forces to terrorize people and 32 cases of gang rape and molestation were recorded during the month under review. Police and civilian authorities are reluctant to register complaints in this behalf and the victims are left to suffer their fate. The army personnel even threaten their victims of dire consequences if the matter was reported to the authorities.

TRIBUTE TO OFFICER JOHN SKALA

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 5, 2002

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to call to your attention the life of an American hero, Officer John Skala of the Port Authority Police Department. Officer Skala of Clifton, New Jersey, was killed in the Line of Duty while heroically responding to the attack on the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

As the tragic events of that fateful morning unfolded, Officer Skala was assigned to the Lincoln Tunnel Command. He immediately responded to help evacuate the towers after the first plane struck World Trade Center Tower One.

September 11, 2001 has emblazoned so many unforgettable images in our minds. Perhaps none is more vivid, however, than that of courageous men and women in uniform working so valiantly to save the lives of others. It is therefore only fitting that Officer Skala be honored, in this, the permanent record of the greatest freely elected body on earth.

John Skala was born in Passaic, New Jersey and attended high school at nearby Clifton High. At the age of twenty-two, he received an appointment to the Port Authority Police Department. His distinguished career in law enforcement showed him to be a man with the courage of a lion, yet also someone who had a kind and gentle heart, willing to help anyone in need.

A recipient of two Meritorious Service Awards, Officer Skala exhibited the high standards of excellence associated with the

traditions of the PAPD. From assisting in the arrest of armed suspects to the performance of first aid during extreme conditions, John Skala was a public servant in every sense of the word.

Officer Skala's dedication to serving the community at large extended far beyond his work at the PAPD. He dedicated his free time to serving as a paramedic with the Passaic-Clifton Mobile Intensive Care Unit, as a member of the Ukrainian American Youth Association, and as a volunteer with the New Jersey Special Olympics and the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation. John Skala was a hero, both on the front lines and behind the scenes.

He has touched countless lives for the better, and we are all better for having him as part of our American family.

On Tuesday, September 11, our American family was attacked in a way we had only seen in our very worst nightmares. The actions carried out on the people of this nation were unspeakable acts of war, targeting the very foundation of what makes us Americans. That day we all witnessed the very worst of mankind.

What the perpetrators of these acts did not realize was the unwavering commitment to liberty and humankind felt by Officer Skala and his fellow heroes. The bravery and love he exhibited in the face of terror make him an example for us all.

We will honor Officer John Skala by trying to live our lives as he lived his. We will honor John by loving his family as he did, and continuing his work to make our community a better place.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, the City of Clifton, John's family and friends, myself, and a truly grateful nation in honoring the life of a great American, Port Authority Police Officer John Skala.

“REWARDS THAT FOLLOW GENEROUS HEARTS”

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 5, 2002

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, something wonderful recently occurred for many folks in Rome and Floyd County, Georgia. Steve Edwards, owner of a local insurance company in Rome, and his wife Marie, read of the plight of 1200 families in Floyd County who had their gas service discontinued for lack of payment of the previous year's gas bills.

Steve and Marie read of the plight of these families and knew they had to do something. They could not save every family, but they could save at least one. They made a gift to the local Salvation Army for one family's unpaid gas bill. The sense of reward was so powerful, the Edwards decided other families might want to experience it as well. With no budget and no organization, Steve began to challenge families within the First Baptist Church of Rome each to pay for one family's gas bill. The response to his challenge was overwhelming. His vision quickly spread beyond their congregation and beyond Baptists. He believed there were enough generous Christians in Floyd County to turn on the heat for the remaining 1180 families. Steve called

an impromptu meeting of various helping organizations, and “One Family helping One Family” was born.

Joel Snider, Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Rome, expressed the enormity of the situation when he stated, “Imagine being 80 years old and in poor health. All your income is represented by the \$600 per month Social Security check that arrives each month. You pay \$150 a month for the portion of your prescriptions not covered by Medicare. The remaining \$450 covers rent, groceries, phone, utilities, and everything else. Then one day, you receive a gas bill for \$800. The meter is running on your current bill also. What do you do? How do you ever scrape together enough money to catch up?”

“One Family Helping One Family,” while working with Good Neighbor Ministries, the Salvation Army, and Floyd County Baptist Association, have helped 167 families as of January 18, 2002. Four hundred and seventeen total donations had been received by these agencies. Many contributions came from individuals and families; however, some contributions represented the combined efforts of Sunday School classes and student groups. The total amount given up until that date was \$112,522. Every penny has gone to help a family in need.

The entire community, including the staff at Rome Housing Authority, Atlanta Gas Light Company, the staff of the “Rome News-Tribune”, Rome/Carrollton District of the United Methodist Church, Good Neighbor Ministries, Major Kerns of the Salvation Army, Lynne Barton at Info Line, Bruce Day at Floyd County Baptist Association, Susan Seagraves, John Pinson, Armin Maier, Mary and Allen Shropshire, Doug Walker, and many others, have pulled together.

Imagine, if you will, what might happen if each and every community had a “Steve Edwards?” We owe a debt of gratitude to each person who has contributed to this effort. As Pastor Snider so eloquently phrased it in the “Rome News-Tribune” in December, “On behalf of all the families that are warm today because of your gift, I ask God to grant you the richest blessings of this holiday season. May the rewards that follow generous hearts be yours into the New Year.” Amen.

TRIBUTE TO MARGARET GOBLE MADIGAN OF LUTHERS MILLS, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. DON SHERWOOD

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 5, 2002

Mr. SHERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, it is with a profound sense of loss that I inform the House that on Sunday, January 20, 2002, Margaret Goble Madigan of Luthers Mills, known across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as Peggy, passed away.

Although Peggy Madigan is deserving of many superlatives, to say that she was known across Pennsylvania is no exaggeration. She was the wife of Senator Roger Madigan, and she was known and loved by the many individuals whose lives she touched. She was truly unforgettable.

Peggy had an exceptional grace about her that can only come from a deep love of others. Her son, Nick Madigan, in his moving eulogy, described her rare ability to treat every

individual with dignity and respect. She genuinely enjoyed people without regard to title or position. She always—remarkably, given her hectic schedule—made time for everyone.

Peggy was a volunteer, active in many worthy causes including promoting literacy and serving as a director of the local chapter of the American Cancer Society.

A distinguished leader of the Republican Party in Pennsylvania, Peggy Madigan was a role model for all of us. She was a woman who was not only a tireless advocate of family values—her love for her family seemed boundless. They include her husband of 49 years, Roger, her daughter, Vicki Lynne of Carlisle, Annette Madigan Carr, of Annapolis, Maryland, Nicholas Jay Madigan of Towanda, and Steven Gary Madigan of Emmaus. Of all of her many accomplishments, I know that her greatest joy came from the recent birth of her grandson, Matthew Roger Madigan to her son Steven and Carrie May Madigan.

Peggy Madigan was truly family to people across our region and around the Commonwealth. I grieve her loss for her entire family.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO EMMETT HEITLER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 5, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Emmett Heitler and thank him for his extraordinary contributions to his community and to his state. As a resident of Colorado, Emmett has dedicated his life to improving the state by selflessly giving his time and energy to his job, his family and his community. His remarkable business and philanthropic accomplishments are surpassed only by the level of integrity and honesty with which he has conducted himself each and every day of his life. As we celebrate his tremendous accomplishment of being inducted into the Colorado Business Hall of Fame, let it be known that I, along with the people of Colorado, applaud his efforts and are eternally grateful for all that he has done for our state and our community.

Born in Denver in 1909, Emmett excelled academically, graduating with honors from the University of Colorado with a degree in engineering before he was twenty years old. Shortly after, he took a job with General Electric as an electrical engineer, and later became a partner and founder of Fashion Bar stores in Denver. After marrying his wife, Dot, in 1937, Emmett went to work for Shwayder Bros. Inc., a manufacturer of Samsonite Luggage. Over the course of his career with Shwayder Bros. and Samsonite, Emmett advanced to General Manager, and eventually to Executive Vice President. He was instrumental in building Samsonite from a small local business into the world's largest luggage manufacturer and pioneered Samsonite's movement into new, cutting edge technology, most notably using plastics in manufacturing sleeker, more durable luggage.

Emmett was not only an extraordinary businessman, but he was also a true philanthropist. Despite his demanding schedule, he always found time to give back to his community and lend a helping hand to anyone who

might need it. He was active with the Jewish Community Center, serving as Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and was a founding member of the Mile High United Way. He served as Executive Trustee of the Eleanor Roosevelt Institute for Cancer Research, was Chairman of the Board of the National Jewish Hospital and was a Member of the Board of the Denver Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, Emmett has contributed a significant amount of time to the Anti-Defamation League, chaired the effort to build Temple Emanuel and was instrumental in renovating Green Gables Country Club.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Emmett Heitler is a man of unparalleled dedication and commitment to his job, his community and his family. It is his unrelenting passion for each and every thing he does, as well as his spirit of honesty and integrity with which he has always conducted himself, that I wish to bring his efforts before this body of Congress. He is a remarkable man who has achieved extraordinary things and enriched the lives of so many people. It is my privilege to extend to him my sincere congratulations on his induction into the Colorado Business Hall of Fame and wish him all the best in the future.

A TORCH OF LIBERTY AWARD— THOMAS C. GALLAGHER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 5, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, on May 8, 2002, a good friend of America's consumers will receive the prestigious Torch of Liberty Award from the well-respected Jewish Anti-Defamation League. This honor has been bestowed on Thomas C. Gallagher, president and chief operating officer of Genuine Parts Company-NAPA, for his unfailing promotion of diversity and tolerance in the workforce in general and in the Office Products industry in particular, as well as his continued dedication in working for tolerance in the community.

The Anti-Defamation League has never veered from its mission of obliterating hate and bigotry. Since 1913, the ADL has moved forward to quash hatred whenever it raised its ugly head. So, this May, when the ADL in the fine state of New York bequeaths Thomas Gallagher with its Torch of Liberty Award, it will be because of its acknowledgement of people like Mr. Gallagher who never fail to take a stand to do what is right and just.

At a time when America stands unified to protect our precious freedoms, it gives us all pause that organizations like the ADL have fought the "good" battles when those battles weren't popular, that they continue to strive to recognize individuals and will continue to march forward and shine as a beacon of light with truth and justice in what sometimes seems like a world of darkness.

It has been my pleasure to personally know Tom Gallagher and see first-hand his commitment to America's consumers. It is with pride in Tom as a fellow American that I place his name in the Congressional Record for others to know the merits and values of one of America's foremost business leaders.

TRIBUTE TO SUSAN CLYNE

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 5, 2002

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I received this compassionate letter earlier this month from a constituent of mine. The letter once again gives us a sense of how many amazing people we lost in the attack on the United States of America on September 11, 2001, such as Susan Clyne. Susan was a hard working and loving individual who always fought to achieve the goals she set for herself. I ask all of my colleagues to recognize Susan and her husband, Charlie Clyne, who wrote the letter. We will never forget the innocent victims of September 11. I ask that Mr. Clyne's letter be made part of the RECORD.

Sue loved her job at Marsh and loved the view from her 96th floor office. She had just recently been promoted to SVP and she deserved it. She went to school nights after high school to get her degrees. After graduating in three years she set her sights on law school all the while working a full time job. She graduated law school and passed the N.Y.S. bar on the first try. She never stepped foot into a courtroom. She loved computers and since computer law wasn't very popular at the time, she choose to stay in insurance where she carved her niche first as a programmer (self-taught) then up the ladder to manager, AVP, VP, and SVP. She continued going to night school through the 90's for her MBA. She was upset that she could not graduate before the birth of our twins in 1990. However, as soon as she felt up to the task she completed her MBA just before the birth of our second son in 1991. Did I mention that she loved computers? She also shared her love with our kids. She would mesmerize them with cd roms of Mickey starting with shapes and colors then on to pre "K" cd's, math blaster reader rabbit etc. They could work a mouse by the time they were two and were programming by the time they were six. Her education didn't stop with three children. She continued on for various certifications all pertaining to computers until the birth of our last child in 1997. Another change took place in 1997. Her company continued to expand and decided to lease space at the World Trade Center. She was thrilled to move. She let education take a back seat for a while by taken home study courses for her CPCU. She juggled work, family and studying. Her children were her treasures. She adored them and they worshipped her. Her office was filled with their pictures. She developed a family web site with pictures, slide shows and most recently streaming video. (www.clyne.com) They were truly her angels. Sue got up every morning at 4:45 and was on the 6:00 train to the city. We never saw her that morning. We never even had a chance to say good-bye. In an instant, some radical religious moron decided it was her time.

IN HONOR OF WILLIAM F. MILLER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 5, 2002

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor William F. Miller upon his reception of the German Service Cross of the Order of Merit.