

Human Rights Watch called the tragedy at the time "the largest massacre to date in the conflict." The extent of the cruelty of this massacre against women, children and the elderly was unfathomable.

Memorial, a Russian human rights group, reported that "scores of the corpses bore traces of profanation. Doctors on a hospital train in Agdam noted no less than four corpses that had been scalped and one that had been beheaded . . . and one case of live scalping."

According to the British newspaper *The Independent* (February 29, 1992), "Elif Kaban, a Reuters correspondent in Aghdam, reported that after a massacre, Azeris were burying scores of people who died when Armenians overran the town of Khojaly, the second-biggest Azeri settlement in the area. 'The world is turning its back on what's happening here. We are dying and you are just watching,' one mourner shouted at a group of journalists."

Nearly one month later, *TIME* magazine (March 16, 1992) wrote "While the details are argued, this much is plain: something grim and unconscionable happened in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly two weeks ago. So far, some 200 dead Azerbaijanis, many of them mutilated, have been transported out of the town tucked inside the Armenian-dominated enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh for burial in neighboring Azerbaijan. The total number of deaths—the Azerbaijanis claim 1,324 civilians have been slaughtered, most of them women and children—is unknown."

On November 29, 1993, *Newsweek* quoted a senior U.S. Government official describing the aftermath of Armenia's occupation, "What we see now is a systematic destruction of every village in their way. It's vandalism."

Even in far-away Australia, *The Age* (March 6, 1992) wrote "The exact number of victims is still unclear, but there can be little doubt that Azeri civilians were massacred by the Armenian Army in the snowy mountains of Nagorno Karabakh last week."

Every year religious leaders of Azerbaijan's Christian, Jewish, and Muslim communities issue appeals on the eve of the commemoration of the massacre of Khojaly. They urge the international community to condemn the February 26, 1992 bloodshed, facilitate liberation of the occupied territories and repatriation of the displaced communities.

Despite the efforts by many, regrettably, the international community's response has not been adequate. That is why I urge Congress to join all Azerbaijanis in commemorating the tragedy. The world should know about and remember Khojaly.

#### RECOGNIZING JAMES DRUMMOND OF LADY LAKE, FLORIDA

##### HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 25, 2008*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who served with honor and distinction in World War II. Following his enlistment in the Army in 1940, Lieutenant Colonel Drummond was honored with the Purple Heart, Distinguished Service Medal and the Air Medal for his actions in battle. Serving in both the Army and

the Navy until 1972, Lieutenant Colonel Drummond is truly one of America's heroes.

At the end of 1944, Lieutenant Colonel Drummond entered the U.S. Navy, took basic training and was sent to Treasure Island, California. From there he went to Okinawa and Japan where he loaded a Marine expeditionary force of 1,800 Marines and left for China. Their mission was to evacuate Americans and Allied Nationals to areas where they could be transported to Guam and Hong Kong.

In 1949, Lieutenant Colonel Drummond rejoined the U.S. Army and took basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. Upon completion of basic training he was awarded the grade of Corporal and assigned to the 41st Field Artillery. He and his fellow troops then received orders for assignment as part of the first American Division to arrive in support of South Korea.

During his service in Korea, Lieutenant Colonel Drummond was wounded three times by the enemy. Following his third injury, he returned to the U.S. and joined the U.S. Army Artillery School at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. During the rest of his long and distinguished career, Lieutenant Colonel Drummond took command of Headquarters Battery 18th Airborne Corps Artillery, was assigned to the intelligence school staff in Ft. Holabird, Maryland, served as director of the Advanced Intelligence Department U.S. Army Intelligence Staff Officers Course, and had assignments with the Directorate of Staff Intelligence in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence, U.S. Army, at the Pentagon.

In September 1972 James was medically retired with a total of 27 years of service in the U.S. Armed Forces. He is currently rated as 100% combat-related disabled and upon discharge moved to Federal, North Carolina. During his retirement Lieutenant Colonel Drummond was a charter member of the Lafayette Kiwanis Club and was elected president in 1978.

Lieutenant Colonel Drummond and his wife of 51 years currently live in the Villages in Lady Lake. They have one daughter, Brenda Gail, four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Madam Speaker, veterans like James Drummond should be recognized for their service to our Nation and for their commitment and sacrifices in battle. I am honored to present Mr. Drummond with his long overdue Purple Heart, Distinguished Service Medal and all the other medals he earned over his many years of service. All Floridians should know that we truly consider him one of America's heroes.

#### HONORING THE LAKE HIGHLANDS EXCHANGE CLUB AND LAKE HIGHLANDS MILITARY MOMS

##### HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 25, 2008*

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, today I would like to recognize the Lake Highlands Exchange Club and Lake Highlands Military Moms for their dedication in honoring the men and women in uniform who defend our Nation.

Recently, the Lake Highlands Exchange Club and the Lake Highlands Military Moms

joined together to ensure that our service men and women are receiving the local recognition they deserve for their heroic efforts. The members of the Lake Highlands Exchange Club and Lake Highlands Military Moms created posters, similar to the posters for athletes, cheerleaders, and band members in area high schools, featuring photographs of 54 military men and women from Lake Highlands' community in training or serving our Nation in uniform. With already 250 posters on display in Lake Highlands area schools, churches, libraries, and businesses, the Exchange Club is trying to fulfill the high demand by printing additional copies.

I would like to specifically recognize two individuals that had a key role in this project: Bill Duhman, for designing the posters, and Rhonda Russell, the Exchange Club's publicity director and founder of Lake Highlands Military Moms. In 2005, Ms. Russell began collecting the names of military mothers and formed the support group known as Military Moms. Today, Military Moms meets once a month to exchange stories, updates and photographs of their children overseas. Ms. Russell's son, Lee Russell, returned from service in Iraq in 2005 and is currently working in military intelligence.

America owes our service men and women a huge debt of gratitude. It is through their sacrifice and patriotism that we have the security, prosperity and freedom that we enjoy today.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Fifth District of Texas, I am honored to be able to recognize the Lake Highlands Exchange Club and Lake Highlands Military Moms for their continued efforts in honoring the brave Americans that have gone into harm's way so that we could enjoy the blessings of liberty and prosperity. As President Calvin Coolidge once said, "the nation which forgets its defenders will itself be forgotten," and these groups are working hard to ensure that America's service men and women receive the honor and recognition they deserve.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 25, 2008*

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, I was unable to participate in the following vote. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

February 14, 2008, Rollcall vote 61, on motion to suspend the rules and agree—H. Res. 966, Honoring African-American inventors, past and present, for their leadership, courage, and significant contributions to our national competitiveness—I would have voted "aye".

#### HONORING NATIONAL TRIO DAY

##### HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 25, 2008*

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of National TRIO Day, which was on February 23, 2008, and in support of this

important program and the positive influence it has on young people in our country.

Higher education is an important component of success in today's economy, as well as a valuable end in itself. A college education opens doors to exciting new job fields, new experiences, and a deeper understanding of the world. Yet many lower-income Americans face a multitude of obstacles when they consider furthering their education. Parental income is one of the top predictors of whether or not a child will succeed in college, and if he or she is the first in the family to pursue a college education, the challenges can seem insurmountable.

This is why I am a strong supporter of the TRIO programs, which were created to support Congress's commitment to providing educational opportunities for all Americans regardless of race, ethnic background, or economic circumstance. TRIO programs help students exceed societal expectations and predictions by providing tutoring in college preparatory classes and help in navigating through the sometimes daunting maze of required forms and tests known as the college admission process.

Congress enacted the National TRIO Day in 1986 in order to increase awareness and support for the programs, as well as to recognize the achievements of the TRIO programs and their important role in advancing equal opportunity in post-secondary education. Congress declared National TRIO Day "a day on which the nation is asked to turn its attention to the needs of disadvantaged youth and adults aspiring to improve their lives, to the investment necessary if they are to become contributing citizens of this country, and to the talent which will be wasted if that investment is not made."

National TRIO Day gives us an opportunity to celebrate this investment in the lives of young people and in the future of our nation. It is also a National Day of Service, and on February 23<sup>rd</sup> the TRIO programs in my State commemorated the day by doing a wide range of service projects throughout their communities.

As co-chair of the TRIO Caucus, it is my goal to make people aware of this important program and the profound impact that it is having on the lives of students in my home State of Idaho and elsewhere. National TRIO Day gives us a valuable opportunity to recognize that impact and commit ourselves to ensuring that these programs can continue to change the lives of students for years to come.

HONORING REVEREND G.L.  
JOHNSON

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 25, 2008*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Rev. G.L. Johnson upon his 80th birthday and his 45th anniversary with Peoples Church, as well as his retirement from the church. Reverend Johnson will be honored on Sunday, February 24, at Peoples Church in Fresno, California.

Reverend Johnson was born in 1928 in Houston, Texas. He attended Navarro Junior College in Corsicana, Texas and South-

western Assembly of God College in Waxahachie, Texas. He has ministered in many different capacities since 1946, moving from Texas to various cities around the United States.

His ministry began in 1946 when he served as a youth speaker, traveling around the United States speaking at various functions and prayer services. Shortly after marrying Jacqueline Cockerell in 1950, he settled in Corsicana and took a position as a full-time Pastor. In 1951, Reverend Johnson became ordained. His ministries took him back on the road in 1953, as he traveled throughout Texas as an evangelist. In 1957, Reverend Johnson moved his family to Kentucky for a year and then to Florida to serve as a Pastor. In 1961 Reverend Johnson took on a different role. He became the associate director of the Latin American Orphanage. In 1963, he joined People's Church as the senior pastor and has been there ever since.

In Reverend Johnson's time with Peoples Church, he has seen the church build a new facility and has seen different staff members come and go. More importantly, he has seen the rise of the church's attendance and influence. Today the Sunday morning services' attendance averages 4,000 worshipers. This service is also broadcast over the radio every Sunday morning. Along with his position with Peoples Church, he is also involved in a number of religious and civic boards and finds time to teach.

Reverend Johnson has served as the chairman on many religious boards, including: Assemblies of God Theological Seminary Development Committee, Fresno Christian Schools, International Board of Asian Outreach based in Hong Kong, Asian Outreach USA, and Northern California National Association of Evangelicals. Various other board memberships include: Assemblies of God Theological Seminary board of directors; Vanguard University in Costa Mesa, California; Church Growth International in Seoul, Korea; Presbyterian International Missionary Advance in Seoul, Korea; Asian Center for Theological Studies; and more. Outside of the church, Reverend Johnson serves on the Board of Sequoia Council of the Boy Scouts of America, Fresno Leadership Foundation, Police Activities League, Clergy Advisory Council for Clovis Unified School District, North Fresno Rotary Club, and The International Fellowship of Christian Schools. He still finds the time to teach as an adjunct professor at California Theological Seminary and Institute for Clergy Enrichment.

Reverend Johnson has given himself to the church and the community. He has been invited to attend and speak at conferences around the world. He has had numerous books and articles published and has received many professional honors and awards. Reverend Johnson has had a positive impact and success on the many projects he has been involved in.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Rev. G.L. Johnson upon his 80th birthday, his 45th anniversary and his retirement from Peoples Church. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Reverend Johnson many years of continued success.

HONORING DR. ELVIS HESTER

**HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 25, 2008*

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man of God who has dedicated the past 28 years of his life to a church in Georgia's 3rd Congressional District.

Only those who have never darkened the door of a church hold the mistaken impression that preachers work 1 day a week. The writing and delivery of the Sunday morning sermon comprises just a small portion of what a minister does in the service of God each week. In addition to a teacher, a great minister also serves as a CEO of a nonprofit and as a shepherd of the flock, who tends to the sick, the lost and those in need.

Dr. Elvis Hester has fulfilled all of these roles, and his leadership in the service of the Lord has blessed his flock at Eagle's Landing Church of God in McDonough.

As CEO of a big church, a minister often is as deeply involved in management and logistics as he is in pastoral care. Dr. Hester started his career working in logistics for the Federal Government. He went on to serve a stint as an adviser to the nation of Bahrain. There in the Middle East, he helped establish a Church of God populated with 100 Christian converts. A colleague established a sister church in Pakistan.

Upon Dr. Hester's return to the United States he went into the ministry full time, first working at a church in Franklin, GA. In 1980, he took the helm of the church that would become Eagle's Landing Church of God. Under Hester's leadership, the church experienced tremendous growth, with membership topping 1,000.

But Dr. Hester's church members don't focus on how he has affected membership numbers. They reflect on how he has touched their lives.

"The pastor has led our congregation by example for 28 years, serving us all through thick and thin," said church member Janice Ross. "My family remembers when a life- and-death crisis kept us up all night and the next day. After going through a horrible operation, we were blessed by the sound of the pastor in prayer. We are thankful that our pastor has stayed faithful to the Lord and the Word of God."

One of his staff members, youth minister Brian Coody, said: "Our Pastor is the type who is open for everyone to talk to, often going out of his way when you need counsel. He is very much filled with the spirit and he touches the lives of all those he meets. I have personally seen him moved to tears when a troubled soul was touched by Christ. Pastor Hester is a great man of God."

Dr. Hester's ministry has extended far beyond Henry County. He spread the Word in many countries throughout South America, Africa, Europe and Asia.

"While they say there are no absolutes in life, I truly believe that the one absolute that does exist is that long after Pastor Hester and his wife, Rita, are gone, the things that were done and said by our once-in-a-lifetime pastors will be treasured and used by generations to come to spread goodwill and bring the light