

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING SEVEN AMERICANS  
KILLED IN AFGHANISTAN ON DE-  
CEMBER 30, 2009

SPEECH OF

**HON. NIKI TSONGAS**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 20, 2010*

Ms. TSONGAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1009 and to honor the seven Americans who died in the bombing that took place in Khost, Afghanistan, on December 30, 2009. One of the heroes murdered on that day was Harold E. Brown, Jr., a native of Bolton, Massachusetts.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of the seven brave individuals who lost their lives. I extend my condolences to Harold's wife of 16 years, Janet, his three young children, and his parents, Harold and Barbara Brown, who are active and beloved members of the Bolton community.

As the tragic events of December 30, the failed terrorist attack on Christmas Day, and the shootings at Ft. Hood illustrate, there are radicals who wish to do us harm any way and anywhere they can. In this war against extremism, intelligence is our most important asset to prevent future attacks and to keep our country, our freedoms and our ideals secure.

It is the men and women of the intelligence community who sacrifice much to obtain this valuable resource. They are frequently separated from their families and risk life and limb to keep us safe, but they carry out their responsibilities with quiet determination and professionalism.

Rarely do they receive the recognition and thanks that they deserve, and too frequently it only comes in instances of tragedy.

Across the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC, is the message, freedom is not free. The freedom we enjoy is the result of the sacrifices of those who serve. We are the beneficiaries of their courage, their sacrifice, and their vigilance; and so are countless people around the world. The seven brave Americans who were murdered on December 30 made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. It is a debt that we can never repay.

Madam Speaker, it is appropriate that we pass this resolution today to recognize and express our gratitude to the brave men and women of our intelligence community; to remember the tragic loss of the seven Americans who died on December 30 and to honor their lives; and to express our condolences to their families and loved ones.

HONORING ROGER L. JOHNSON  
FOR HIS OUTSTANDING PUBLIC  
SERVICE

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 22, 2010*

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with both great pleasure and appreciation that I rise today on behalf of the entire Connecticut Congressional Delegation to pay tribute to an exceptional public servant, Roger L. Johnson. Appointed in 2002 as the Director of the Veterans Affairs Connecticut Healthcare System, Roger has recently decided to take a position with the Northampton Veterans Administration to be closer to his home and family. To say that he will be missed understates the sentiment by all of those gathered this evening to wish him well.

Roger has dedicated a lifetime to public service. Upon graduating from George Washington University's Hospital Administration Masters Degree program, he began his career with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. Over the course of his career he has held positions at the Veterans Administration offices in Bronx, New York, Sheridan, Wyoming, as well as Boston and Northampton, Massachusetts. His commitment to ensuring the best quality care for our nations' veterans has been the driving force behind his many years with the Department.

Appointed Director in 2002, it is not an overstatement to say that Roger has been one of the strongest leaders the Connecticut VA Healthcare System has had. I can speak for the entire Connecticut Congressional Delegation when I say that Roger has been an invaluable resource for both Members and their staffs. He has been both responsive to our inquiries on behalf of our constituents as well as proactive in ensuring that our offices were aware of any issues the VA Connecticut Healthcare System was facing. It has been that kind of open communication that has allowed us to provide unique services and outstanding quality care to Connecticut's veterans.

In addition to his work at the VA, Roger has long been involved with the Federal Executive Boards and Associations—established by Presidential Directive in 1961, this organization is a forum for communication and collaboration among Federal agencies outside of Washington, DC. For nearly five years, Roger has led the Connecticut Federal Executive Association. Upon his election as Chair, Roger immediately took steps to raise the bar on accomplishments and to increase involvement. During his tenure he made the Annual Federal Awards Luncheon/Breakfast a stellar event with ever increasing attendance which necessitated venue changes to accommodate more participants. He also initiated educational events/agency tours to help broaden the awareness of Connecticut's federal employees as to what federal agencies are in Connecticut

and what they do, retirement seminars to assist employees with what they needed to know and do as they neared retirement, as well as the development of a Connecticut federal agencies communications list in the event of a federal emergency.

Throughout the course of his career, Roger has been recognized with numerous awards and commendations. Given his dedication not only to civil service but to community service has left an indelible mark wherever he has served. I am proud to stand today on behalf of the entire Connecticut Congressional Delegation to extend our deepest thanks and appreciation to Roger L. Johnson for his lifetime of outstanding public service. We wish him all the best in all of his future endeavors.

HONORING THE LIFE OF STEPHEN  
K. HALL

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 22, 2010*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to a truly exceptional man whose life, passions and labors exemplify the meaning of true servant leadership. On January 19, 2010, Stephen K. Hall, a well respected water leader who played a central role in some of the biggest achievements in recent California water policy history, passed away after bravely battling Lou Gehrig's disease. He was only 58.

For years, I had the good fortune of working closely with Steve in Sacramento, California, and more recently in Washington, DC, seeking to address and solve the complicated water problems besetting the people of California. During his 30-year career in water, Steve worked diligently to bring diverse interests together and advance rational policies to address the State's water supply challenges. I can say without reservation that Steve was listened to and respected by all policy makers and stakeholders that he interacted with.

Steve Hall served as executive director of the Association of California Water Agencies, ACWA, from 1993 until his retirement in 2007 due to Gehrig's disease. Steve brought a unique brand of leadership to water discussions when it was needed most. He forged relationships that transcended political and ideological circles. Known as a consensus builder, Steve's ability to bring people together was a determining factor in some of the key water successes of our time. Tim Quinn, current head of ACWA recently credited Steve's contributions with helping set the stage for the historic water legislation enacted last fall.

Steve Hall fought for solutions that work for farms, cities and the environment. He is credited with breaking a long-running gridlock and helping forge agreements that laid the groundwork for the landmark Bay-Delta Accord signed in 2004. He played a primary role in the so-called "three-way" negotiations that led

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

to creation of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program and paved the way for passage of Proposition 204 of 1996 and Proposition 13 of 2002, which provided funding for water management projects and programs statewide.

Steve Hall was always a strong advocate for science-based regulations that protect public health in a cost-effective manner. Steve was a leading advocate for strategies to address invasive species, reform the federal Endangered Species Act, and resolve water supply and ecosystem problems in the Delta. More recently, Steve led a year-long effort to develop ACWA's recent water policy document, "No Time to Waste: A Blueprint for California Water." Among his numerous pursuits, Steve served on the boards of directors of the California Water Institute and the California Infrastructure Coalition. He also served on the State Reclamation Board, the UC Davis Land, Air and Water Advisory Committee and the California Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee.

After retirement, Steve's motto became, "As much as I can for as long as I can." Beyond his dedication to water issues, Steve cared deeply about his family, friends, his Lord and the people of California. Steve leaves behind his wife Pamela, two grown children, Jennifer and Adam, three grandchildren, his parents and a brother and sister. For all of us who knew him, he was an exceptional role model for how we should live; a life lived to its fullest. Steve will truly be missed by all. Here's to a truly great servant of the people.

#### HISTORY OF THE TULE RIVER TRIBE INDIAN RESERVATION

#### HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 22, 2010*

Mr. NUNES. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the Tule River Indians, who I am privileged and proud to represent. The Tules have asked me to share a brief summary of their history, which was prepared by Gelya Frank, Ph.D., with my colleagues and the American people. As someone who is proud of his own heritage and understands its importance, I can well appreciate the pride the Tule River Indians have in their culture and their desire to make it known and am pleased to extend this courtesy to them.

The Tule River Reservation was established in 1856 and farming operations were immediately started with Indians working the land. Initially known as the Tule River Indian Farm, the reservation was set up and administered as part of the Tejon Reservation, the first reservation in California. An Act of Congress of March 3, 1853 authorized the creation of five reservations in California, but they were not all fully established at once. As in the case of Tule River, pieces of agricultural land were located and added piecemeal because of the pressing need to locate Indians in their homelands. This was especially a problem in Tulare County, in the southern part of California's Great Central Valley, or San Joaquin Valley, where a large and stable Indian population remained relatively untouched by the Gold Rush beginning in 1848.

The establishment of the reservations in California followed a failed process of treaty-making, with the Senate abruptly refusing

in 1852 to ratify any of the 18 treaties that it had authorized three commissioners to negotiate with the California tribes the previous year. In fact, the Senate voted to seal all records of its deliberations related to rejection of the treaties for 50 years. According to the unratified Treaty of Paint Creek, of June 3, 1851, a large tract of land in the Tule River region was reserved as a permanent homeland for the local tribes, including the Koyeti and Yowlumne. In 1856, stepping in to conclude a war between settlers and the Tule River Indians, the government established the Tule River Reservation on an existing traditional village site of the Koyeti Tribe.

In 1863, the government closed the Tejon Reservation because of crop failures and the loss of its title to the land to a private party. It relocated the Tejon Indians to the Tule River Reservation, increasing the population at the Tule River Reservation to about 800 Indians. The goal of federal Indian policy in California was to establish reservations as permanent homelands for local tribes where the Indians could support themselves by farming. The reservations were intended to provide land suitable for agriculture and plenty of water for year-round irrigation, as well as access to traditional hunting territories and timber in the mountains. This goal was initially well met with the establishment of the Tule River Reservation but then upended when an employee of the Tejon Reservation, Thomas P. Madden, gained title to 1,280 acres of the land.

Thomas Madden applied for the 1,280 acres in 1857 under a California State program permitting individuals to withdraw public lands for the purpose of locating schools upon them. Madden's activities were officially investigated and documented by the U.S. Treasury Department in 1858 and again by Congress in 1865, but the government did nothing to halt his acquisition of the land or to assert its trust status on behalf of the Tule River Indians. In 1860, when Madden perfected his title, the government was obliged to begin paying an exorbitant rental in order to continue the Tule River Indians' use of the reservation. Although government agents and inspectors recommended purchasing the 1,280 acre "Madden Farm," the government declined to secure the Indians' homeland but continued the rental for sixteen years. The reservation included at least 800 more acres of government land that were fenced and cultivated.

An Executive Order of January 9, 1873 established a new reservation in a remote location, far from the settlers who were taking up lands in region. The new Executive Order reservation, with an estimated 48,000 acres, was much larger than the old. But it was located in a steep rocky canyon on land not nearly as well suited to agricultural development of that era. The government agent and the Indians expressed their dissatisfaction with it and resisted relocating. For many years, the "Madden Farm" had been agriculturally the most reliable and productive reservation in California. A full generation of Tule River Indians was born on that site. They had made major improvements including tilling the soil, constructing government buildings and houses, digging a 5-mile-long ditch, clearing a 25-mile-long road into the timber and fencing some 2,000 acres. Most of the Indians refused to leave the old reservation. In 1876, the last families were finally forced by soldiers to move to the new location in the foothills.

In the decade after relocation on the Executive Order reservation, the Tule River Indian census steadily declined by attrition to a mere third of the number that had been removed. The diminished agricultural capacity of the Executive Order reservation was evident to early inspectors, but the government

ignored their reports, which indicated that only about 250 acres of relatively flat, irrigable land were available for farming. Furthermore, this acreage along the South Fork of the Tule River was not contiguous but located in scattered patches. A second Executive Order was issued on October 3, 1873 to augment the land base by including the drainage of the Middle Fork of the Tule River, about doubling the reservation to include 91,837 acres. The additional lands were withdrawn five years later, however, by an Executive Order of August 2, 1878.

The Indian Service tried to entice the Tule River Indians to settle on the new reservation by promising them new irrigation ditches and help to reestablish themselves as successful farmers. The extent to which the Indian Service lived up to its promise to help the Tule River Indians with the difficult task of irrigating the soil on the steep rocky Executive Order reservation is detailed in a separate report. In 1919 conflicts with the South Tule River Independent Ditch Company, a group comprised of downstream non-Indian users, threatened the reservation's water rights. Consequently, the government undertook its most extensive project, that of lining the existing ditches with cement and adding several smaller modifications to the irrigation system.

The irrigation work undertaken by the federal government, while making an important starting contribution, was not adequate to fulfill the promise of replacing the agriculturally productive "Madden Farm" with a permanent homeland of comparable value for the Tule River Indians. Although they received insufficient help with irrigation, the Indians persisted in maintaining their ditches as best they could. Some tribal members continued to farm the land through the mid-20th century. The Tribe's farming efforts were disadvantaged by the great distance from flour mills for its grain and from markets. The demands of a cash economy eventually overtook the ability of most of the Tribe to support itself on the poorly irrigated land. Money was increasingly needed for food and clothing, medical bills, building materials, household goods and other supplies. Cattle-raising became a viable industry on the Tule River Reservation by the 1930s for a few fortunate families. For most Tule River Indians, however, agriculture was replaced mainly by seasonal wage labor as fruit pickers, ranch hands, workers in the timber industry, and various kinds of unskilled labor. Despite persistent poverty and lack of infrastructure on the reservation, a stable population began to rebuild itself through the latter half of the 20th century.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO A DOMINICAN-AMERICAN SUCCESS STORY MUSICAL GROUP AVENTURA ON THE EVE OF DOMINICAN HERITAGE MONTH

#### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 22, 2010*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, Dominican Heritage Month gives us the opportunity to acknowledge and applaud the economic, cultural, and social contributions Dominican Americans have made to this great nation. Dominicans living in our shores have been motivated by the value of hard work and the bonds of family—the same pillars of our society that has built this great nation for over 230 years.