

is where Tehran intends to fulfill its aspirations to regional hegemony and Shiite dominance. There is too much at stake for Lebanon and for the entire region for the world to leave the Lebanese to the mercies of the radical mullahs in Tehran, the thugs in Damascus and their terrorist allies, Hezbollah.

I urge all my colleagues to not only remember Rafiq Hariri and his sacrifice but to speak out in support of the legitimate democratic aspirations of the people of Lebanon. They want only what we enjoy every day—a free, sovereign and democratic state, the servant only of its own people and the master of its own destiny. It's worth fighting for.

HONORING THE HIROSHIMA-NAGASAKI A-BOMB EXHIBITION

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2008

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Hiroshima-Nagasaki A-bomb Exhibition at the Wisconsin Capitol rotunda. Because of the dedicated efforts of a coalition of Madison organizations, the Hiroshima-Nagasaki A-bomb Exhibition Committee, and the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation, this exhibition has made an incredibly important contribution toward educating Wisconsinites and our country about the devastation in Hiroshima and Nagasaki caused by nuclear weapons.

I am heartened by the mission of these organizations to spread peace and international understanding and grateful to the citizens of Madison who helped bring this vital message to our Capitol. I further commend the Exhibition's goal to raise awareness about abolishing nuclear weapons. This is an issue that demands our close attention.

I want to take this opportunity to reaffirm my support for nonproliferation strategies designed to eliminate weapons of mass destruction from U.S. and worldwide arsenals. I strongly support the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), which sets forth objectives to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and weapons technology and further the goal of achieving nuclear disarmament. I also believe we need to terminate efforts to enhance U.S. military capabilities of the U.S. nuclear arsenal.

My thanks go out to the citizens and organizations of Wisconsin who have dared to imagine peace and help make it a reality.

CONGRATULATING ROB COGORNO ON HIS SERVICE TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2008

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Rob Cogorno, who will soon be leaving his Congressional career here in the House of Representatives for new opportunities off of Capitol Hill.

Rob's formal title is Floor Director for the Majority Leader, but he is truly a servant of

this institution. Rob has worked for several Members of Congress over his 25-year Capitol Hill career, but the reality is that he has truly served both this institution and the ideals that make it what it is.

As a former Congressional staffer, I recognize the value of our staff. We would not be who we are and our country would not be where it is without, in part, our dedicated, smart and hardworking staff. Throughout his career in the House, Rob has served both the individual Members of Congress he worked for and all the Members of Congress of this institution.

Rob is a strategist. He's a master of the procedures that make the House run. He knows what makes the Democratic Caucus tick. He knows how the various groups that make up our Caucus think. He did more than make the trains run on time or make sure that we, as Members of Congress, had an outlet for our various requests. He gave us his unvarnished opinion, in his calm, easy-going, unflappable way, and at times, he was on the receiving end of some very "spirited" rants and complaints from Members of Congress and their staff. But he always behaved professionally and always worked for what he thought was right.

Rob's knowledge and experience will not be easily filled. But more importantly, there will not be another Rob Cogorno in this institution. Yes, there will be other staffers who will fill his role, but Rob cannot be replaced.

The House is losing one of its own—someone who loves and respects this institution; someone who not only believes in the ideals that make up the Democratic party but also believes in fairness for all who make up this body; and someone who has worked every single day to make our country and this world a better place.

Rob—you will be missed, but you won't be forgotten. I appreciate what you've done for this institution and for the Nation, and I thank you for your hard work and dedication. Good luck in the next phase of your professional life.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF AMERICAN HEART MONTH AND NATIONAL WEAR RED DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2008

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 972, Supporting the Goals and Ideals of American Heart Month and National Wear Red Day. February is American Heart month, and today, I join women across the country by wearing red to increase the awareness of heart disease as the leading killer among women and men.

Minorities are disproportionately affected by cardiac disease. In a diverse State like Hawaii, this is an especially important issue. As a Congresswoman, I support funding for medical research and improved treatment. And I will continue to advocate for affordable, accessible health care for all.

However, fighting heart disease is not only a public policy issue. Americans can help prevent and reduce heart disease and decrease

the deaths it causes through education and lifestyle changes. Adults should learn the signs of heart attack and stroke, because quick recognition will increase the chance of survival. And we should all make a point to live healthier. Eating better, exercising more, and refraining from smoking are common sense lifestyle choices that could save our lives. I know how hard it is to make time to eat right and get to the gym—but it is worth it. As we celebrate Valentine's Day and affairs of the heart, let us commit ourselves to making that effort for improved heart health.

EXPRESSING THE CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE TOM LANTOS, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, for almost three decades TOM LANTOS was been a passionate voice in the U.S. Congress, and a tireless advocate for human rights around the world. Chairman LANTOS' commitment to human rights was forged by his own life's experience, by the violence and tragedy that he saw as a young man in Hungary. His commitment to issues such as ending the genocide in Darfur will be remembered by all those who have served with him throughout his long career in public service.

The Bay Area, and the Foreign Affairs Committee, will sincerely miss his passion and dedication, and his unrelenting commitment to not only helping those in need, but making sure that respect for human rights is at the forefront of our Nation's foreign policy. My heart goes out to Annette, his partner for almost 60 years, as well as his two daughters, his grandchildren, and his great-grandchildren.

HONORING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NAGORNO KARABAKH FREEDOM MOVEMENT

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2008

Mr. McNULTY. Madam Speaker, I join today with many of my colleagues in extending my congratulations to the people of Nagorno Karabakh on the anniversary of the Nagorno Karabakh Freedom Movement.

On February 20, 1988, the people of Nagorno Karabakh officially petitioned the Soviet government to reunite with Armenia and reverse the injustice perpetrated by the Soviet dictator, Joseph Stalin.

This peaceful and legal request was met with violent reaction by the Soviet and Azerbaijani leadership and escalated into full military aggression against Nagorno Karabakh. The people of Nagorno Karabakh bravely defended their right to live in freedom on their ancestral land.