

all levels and was an invaluable member of the community and my staff. She will truly be missed. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring the life of this truly remarkable community leader.

TRIBUTE TO STATE SENATOR
PAULA J. CARTER

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 7, 2001

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my profound sadness over the passing on Monday of Missouri State Senator Paula J. Carter, one of Missouri's most distinguished and respected public servants. She was a powerful force in the state legislature and represented her St. Louis constituents well during her combined 15 years of service in the Missouri Senate and House of Representatives.

Paula Carter was a dear friend of a former colleague of mine in the Missouri General Assembly, and her passing is a tremendous loss to those of us who had the privilege of serving with her. She will be greatly missed.

Paula Carter began her career as a public servant in 1984, when she was elected Committeewoman of the 27th Ward in St. Louis and two years later she was elected to her first term in the Missouri House of Representatives. While in the House, she became an outspoken champion of the poor, the disabled and the disenfranchised, and she worked tirelessly to make Missouri government more caring and responsive to our state's neediest citizens. Through her efforts in the House, Missouri improved its assistance and care of those with mental illness and disabilities, and expanded employment and educational opportunities for women and minorities.

In March 2000, Senator Carter was elected to the Fifth Senate District seat in a special election and subsequently re-elected to her first full term in November 2001. She wasted little time in making her presence felt in the upper chamber. She served on the Senate Appropriations Committee; the Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence Committee; the Insurance and Housing Committee; and the Aging, Families and Mental Health Committee. She also served as President of the Missouri Legislative Black Caucus.

Despite her illness, just two months ago in a special legislative session, Paula Carter played an instrumental role in the passage of a critical prescription drug benefit plan for Missouri senior citizens. As always, Paula Carter never let her own physical limitations get in the way of her commitment to helping those less fortunate.

So on behalf of the Missouri delegation of the U.S. House of Representatives, I want to offer our deepest sympathies and condolences to the family of Senator Paula Carter. She will be greatly missed, both in our state capital and in her beloved City of St. Louis, but her legislative legacy and accomplishments will endure in the thousands of people she touched through her leadership and determination.

TALIBAN HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES
NOT COMPARABLE TO CIVILIAN
DEATHS RESULTING FROM U.S.
BOMBING

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 7, 2001

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member wishes to commend to his colleagues the October 27, 2001, editorial from the Omaha World-Herald entitled "Taliban Atrocities."

Despite its great efforts to prevent civilian deaths in Afghanistan, the U.S. will inadvertently kill some civilians as it continues its bombings against Taliban-held areas. The civilian deaths which have already occurred (and those which likely will occur) certainly and very obviously are not part of a concerted scheme to kill the Afghan people. They are (and will be) an unfortunate consequence of the war on terrorism and those who continue to harbor terrorists. Unfortunately, civilian deaths simply are a part of any war.

Contrast that fact with the conditions, as outlined in the editorial, which the Taliban has inflicted upon the Afghan people.

Mr. Speaker, it is critical that the U.S. win not only the war on terrorism but also the media war to uncover the horrific human rights abuses systematically implemented by the Taliban against the Afghan people.

[From the Omaha World-Herald, Saturday,
October 27, 2001]

TALIBAN ATROCITIES

(By John Cottshalk)

The Taliban's ambassador to Pakistan sounded a hypocritical note when he claimed that the United States is carrying out genocide against the Afghan people.

On the contrary, the United States has gone to great lengths to minimize civilian casualties. Although accidental bombings of residential structures have occurred, military analyst William Arkin noted in *The Washington Post* that for U.S. military planners, "avoidance of civilian casualties has become institutionalized even to the point of rejecting important targets if there is a high probability of civilian harm."

The Taliban's claim of the moral high ground is further undermined by the fact that it is using Afghan civilians as human shields by relocating its military hardware into schools and mosques.

It is especially brazen of the Taliban to pose as a champion of human rights, considering the horrors it has imposed on the Afghan people in recent years. Here are only a few incidents in the lengthy inventory of human rights abuses by the Taliban:

In January of this year, the organization Human Rights Watch reports, the Taliban conducted a summary execution of 300 civilian adult males after it retook the town of Yorkaolang.

In September 2000, Taliban forces used bombs, shells and cluster munitions indiscriminately against residential areas in the town of Taloquan and surrounding villages before capturing the area, according to statements by refugees.

In May 2000, Taliban forces summarily executed at least 200 prisoners near a mountain pass northwest of the town of Pul-i Khumri.

In August 1998, the Taliban captured Mazar-i Sharif, a strategic city in northern

Afghanistan. Here is how Human Rights Watch described the Taliban's subsequent actions:

"Within the first few hours of seizing control of the city, Taliban troops killed scores of civilians in indiscriminate attacks, shooting noncombatants and suspected combatants alike in residential areas, city streets and markets. Witnesses described it as a 'killing frenzy' as the advancing forces shot at 'anything that moved.'"

Anti-Taliban guerrilla groups, including fighters for the Northern Alliance now supported by the United States, by no means have a spotless human rights record either. Over the past decade, such forces have attacked residential areas with artillery fire and carried out summary executions of Taliban soldiers and suspected supporters, according to Human Rights Watch.

Such considerations indicate the difficulties that lie ahead in erecting a stable, democratic government in Afghanistan in the post-Taliban era.

As for the Taliban, it stands damned by its own disreputable actions. In light of its appalling record, it has no moral standing to lecture the United States about respect for human life and protection of innocent civilians.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, November 8, 2001 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

NOVEMBER 13

9:30 a.m.

Governmental Affairs
Investigations Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine how the Immigration and Naturalization Service processes persons arrested for illegal entry into the U.S. outside ports of entry.

SD-342

10 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine homeland defense issues, focusing on sharing information with local law enforcement.

SD-226

November 7, 2001

NOVEMBER 14

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Kathleen Burton Clarke, of Utah, to be Director of the Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior.

SD-366

10:30 a.m.

Governmental Affairs

Oversight of Government Management, Restructuring and the District of Columbia Subcommittee

To hold joint hearings to examine improvement processes concerning airline security.

SD-342

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-419

2 p.m.

Environment and Public Works

Superfund, Toxics, Risk, and Waste Management Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 1602, to help protect the public against the threat of chemical attack.

SD-406

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings to examine the investigative report of the Thirtymile Fire and the prevention of future fire fatalities.

SD-366

21955

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

International Trade and Finance Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine hawala—referring a creditor to a third party to receive his/her money; and underground terrorist financing mechanisms.

SD-538

NOVEMBER 15

9:15 a.m.

Governmental Affairs

To hold oversight hearings to examine the Medicare payment policies for ambulance services of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services of the Department of Health and Human Services.

SD-342