

In truth, now that the shock of discovering the dirty, bearded American Taliban in Afghanistan has worn off, Lindh seems more pitiable than threatening.

Lindh said he never fired a gun or tossed a grenade. The government had no evidence to the contrary.

Lindh seems more like the "poor fellow who obviously . . . has been misled" described by President George W. Bush than Abdul Hamid, the holy warrior whom Lindh aspired to be.

What Lindh—known as Johnny Jihad to would-be humorists—actually might have done or not done while in the service of the Taliban probably will remain a mystery. Facts other than Lindh's own statements are in short supply.

Under the circumstances, putting the 21-year-old behind bars for 20 years arguably fits the crime. The government had some legitimate reasons to accept the agreement. Lindh has agreed to share information about his tour of duty with the Taliban. The agreement also shields the government from having to reveal details about its effort to root out the Taliban in the war against terrorism.

And if Frank Lindh can just keep quiet, some of the anger and bitterness Americans feel toward his son might subside by the time he gets out prison in 2023.

TRIBUTE TO REX AND ANN
THOMAS

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2002

Mr. JEFF MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the family of Rex and Ann Thomas. For eight generations this farming family has symbolized the tradition of the American family and our community values.

The Thomas family can trace their roots in America back to the early 1700's where their family homestead in North Carolina. The Thomas family remained in North Carolina until the death of William Elias Thomas, who died in the Civil War. His wife, Mary, went south with six of her nine children settling in Alabama. Their grandson, Charles Thomas married Blanche Stevens and moved to Santa Rosa County, FL, to farm new land and raise six children. Upon the retirement of Charles Thomas, he handed the farm over to his two sons, James and John Rex.

Rex Thomas' passions in life were his family and agriculture. Rex farmed from the time of his father's retirement; he also worked in other areas of the agricultural world. This included farm equipment sales, the management of granaries, and the ownership of his farm supply business.

Ann Thomas, with the help of her sons Dale and Richard, farms around 660 acres of row crops and hay while running the farm supply business. John Rex Thomas Jr. lives with his family in Texas, but can be seen helping out around the farm whenever he is home. Lowell, Rex and Ann's second son, can also be seen driving a truck or tractor whenever help is needed.

The Thomas family has been blessed throughout the years by having strong family values. Whether they are watching their grandchildren's T-ball games, enjoying family gatherings or at a local church function, Rex and Ann Thomas like to be surrounded by as many family and friends as possible.

On behalf of the U.S. Congress, I would like to recognize this special family for the example they have set in their community. I offer my sincere thanks for all that they have done for northwest Florida.

CYPRUS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2002

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, we are approaching a solemn time in the calendar of Cypriots. Twenty-eight years ago, on July 20, 1974, the Turkish armed forces invaded Cyprus, in a tragic and brutal disregard for the human rights of Cypriots. Since the devastating attack on Cyprus in 1974, 37 percent of Cyprus has remained under Turkish rule.

This year, PSEKA (the International Coordinating Committee Justice for Cyprus), the Cyprus Federation of America (an umbrella organization representing the Cypriot American Community in the United States), SAE (the World Council of Hellenes Abroad) and the Federation of Hellenic Societies are commemorating the anniversary of the invasion with a series of special events in New York. They have chosen to hold these events in New York City out of respect for the terrible tragedy that occurred here on 9/11 and in support of New York, which bore the brunt of the terrorist attack on America. The largest Hellenic Cypriot community outside of Cyprus is located in the 14th Congressional District of New York, which I am fortunate to represent.

In a spirit of remembrance and commemoration, a concert will be held on July 20, 2002 at the SummerStage in Central Park, New York, with the participation of two exemplary artists from Greece, Dionyssios Savopoulos and Alkinoos Ioannides. These remarkable performers have been strong advocates against the division of Cyprus and the human rights violations perpetrated by the Turkish army in Cyprus.

On July 21, 2002, memorial services will be held for the victims of the Turkish invasion and occupation of Cyprus at the Cathedral of Holy Trinity in Manhattan. His Eminence, Archbishop Demetrios, Primate of the Greek Church of America, will officiate.

The occupation of Cyprus has had a devastating impact on the people of Cyprus. Families have been separated, parents have lost the right to bequeath land that has been in their families for generations, churches have been desecrated and historical sites destroyed. More than 1,500 Greek Cypriots, including four American citizens, were missing after the invasion and we still do not know what happened to many of them. By commemorating the tragic anniversary of the invasion of Cyprus, we keep alive the memory of those who perished and those who have suffered under occupation.

After twenty-eight years of occupation, all Cypriots deserve to live in peace and security, with full enjoyment of their human rights. I am hopeful that their desire for freedom will one day be fulfilled.

In recognition of the spirit of the people of Cyprus, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring PSEKA, the Cyprus Federation of Amer-

ica, SAE and the Federation of Hellenic Societies and in solemnly commemorating the twenty-eighth anniversary of the invasion of Cyprus. I hope that this anniversary will make the advent of true freedom and peace for Cyprus.

JAN NOWAK SAYS, "THANK YOU,
AMERICA"

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2002

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I want to do two things today. First, I want to pay tribute to Jan Nowak, who like me is an American by choice. Second, I want to call to the attention of my colleagues in this House an outstanding article by Mr. Nowak that appeared in *The Washington Post* earlier this month.

Jan Nowak is a Polish patriot and an American patriot. He was born in Poland, was a Ph.D. student in economics at Poznan University, and was drafted into the Polish army in 1939 as his native land was threatened by Adolf Hitler's Nazi Germany. Jan was captured by German troops, but he successfully escaped from a German prison camp. During World War II, he became a critical link between the underground fighting against the Germans in Poland and the Polish government-in-exile which was forced to flee to London. He recounted his experiences during this time in his autobiography *Courier from Warsaw*.

Jan was in Poland at the time of the Warsaw Uprising of 1944. In that heroic but tragic battle, the Soviet army stood just east of Warsaw poised to march into the Polish capital, but Stalin did not order his troops to assist the heroic Polish partisans as they fought a losing battle against the Nazi German forces. The city of Warsaw was largely destroyed and much of the partisan movement was killed by the Nazis. This eliminated Polish leadership in Poland and made it much easier for the Soviet Union to impose a communist regime at the end of the war. During the Warsaw Uprising, Nowak ran the radio station "Lightening" to keep Poles informed of partisan activities, and he managed to escape from the German forces as they destroyed Warsaw.

Mr. Speaker, in 1951 with Central and Eastern Europe under Soviet dominance, the United States established Radio Free Europe (RFE) to provide information and democratic ideas to the peoples of these communist countries. Jan Nowak was asked to direct the Polish Service of RFE. He continued in that key position of responsibility for 25 years—until his retirement in 1976.

Following his retirement from RFE, Jan Nowak came to Washington, where he served as a consultant on Central and Eastern Europe to the National Security Council staff of Presidents Ronald Reagan and George H. W. Bush. He has continued to promote freedom and democracy in Poland, and he has been one of the most visible and vocal leaders of the Polish community in the United States. Certainly one of the highlights of his recent activity in behalf of Polish democracy—and one that Jan most enthusiastically welcomed—was Poland's admission to NATO in 1999. A reflection of his continued vigor and involvement in