

TRIBUTE TO FORMER GUAM SENATOR ELIZABETH PEREZ ARRIOLA

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2002

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, the island of Guam bids farewell to an esteemed public servant who has committed her life to the people of Guam. The Honorable Elizabeth Perez Arriola, a member of the 17th through the 22nd Guam Legislatures, passed away on June 26, 2002, at the age of 73.

A woman who earned respect and admiration throughout the region, Senator Arriola represented the best the island of Guam has to offer in terms of the strong but gentle leadership role of women in Chamorro society. Graduating as class salutatorian from George Washington High School in Mangilao, she went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree from Rosemont College in Rosemont, Pennsylvania. She later acquired special training through leadership management workshops at Boston University in Massachusetts.

Among the honors she acquired early in her career included election to the Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities. She was also named Honorary Citizen of Palmetto State, South Carolina, and was selected as the Most Inspirational Woman at a Women's Conference in 1977. Beck was the first chairperson of the Women's Democratic Party of Guam, as well as a Charter member and former Vice President of the American Association of University Women. She also had the honor and privilege of being the first female lector at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, during the Beatification of Padre Luis Diego de San Vitores in October 1986.

Senator Arriola's career with the Government of Guam began when she was elected to the 17th Guam Legislature. For two consecutive terms, in the 17th and 18th Guam Legislatures, she held the post of legislative secretary. Throughout her twelve years as a senator she held memberships in the Committees on Rules; Education; General Governmental Operations; Welfare and Ecology; Federal, Foreign and Legal Affairs; Ethics and Standards; Economic Development; and Ways and Means. She also chaired the Committee on Youth, Senior Citizens and Cultural Affairs.

It was as a senator that she greatly demonstrated her dedication to the island, her family and, as a devout Roman Catholic, her faith. As the wife and mother of eight children, she relied upon distinctive experiences and abilities as she performed her official responsibilities. She was known for her tough stances against gambling and abortion and introduced legislation addressing a wide range of issues affecting the island and its culture focusing special concern on those affecting women, youth and senior citizens.

Her membership in the Guam Legislature enabled her to bring further prestige for Guam. She served as Vice President of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures (APIL) and was a member of the Commerce and Labor Committee on the State Federal Assembly of the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL). She also served the Health Task Force as well as the Economic Development and International Trade Committee of the Western Legislative Conference (WLC).

Beck Arriola's community and civic affiliations and activities included memberships in Beauty World Guam, Ltd and the Soroptimist International of Guam. She was also a former president of the Kundirana Guam Charity Association and the charter president and executive advisor of St. Dominic's Senior Care Volunteers Association. She was a worthy regent of the Catholic Daughters of America and a board member of the Guam Lytico and Bodig Association. She also served as executive director of the Guam Museum Board of Trustees.

She leaves behind a great legacy of service and accomplishments. She was a well loved role model. She leaves behind not only a husband and family, but a proud and grateful island. I join her husband, former Speaker Joaquin Arriola, her children, Vincent, Franklin, Michael, Joaquin Jr., Anthony, Jacqueline, Anita and Lisa, her many grandchildren, and the people of Guam in celebrating her life, honoring her achievements and mourning the loss of a wife, mother, community leader, and fellow public servant. Adios, Beck.

THE SCOURGE OF HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2002

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to a brewing crisis in southern Africa that threatens the lives of millions of men, women, and children. The scourge of hunger and malnutrition is far too common around the world, yet there is compelling evidence that we should be particularly concerned about what is taking place in six different countries.

The World Food Program reports that many families in the region have resorted to eating such foods as unripe melons and poisonous berries just to have something to fill the stomach. The numbers are staggering—7 million people require immediate assistance, and this number is expected to rise to 13 million by the end of this year. When people are so desperate to eat that they harvest their unripe crops and consume their seed corn, it is time that the world takes notice and lends a hand.

Mr. Speaker, the causes for the worst food crisis in southern Africa in more than a decade are many. Irregular rains and prolonged drought have upset the rhythm of the planting season and destroyed crops. The HIV/AIDS crisis has seriously harmed the productive capacity of many families since in some areas up to 20 percent of the adult population is infected with the virus. The frailty caused by pre-existing malnutrition has exacerbated the effects of hunger and disease. And corrupt governments have sometimes disrupted food production and distribution.

As the breadbasket of the world, it is imperative that United States increase our efforts to provide immediate assistance to the millions of starving people in southern Africa. Mr. Speaker, we also must address the root causes of this crisis. We need to promote more efficient farming methods, such as improved irrigation and new agricultural technologies. We need to encourage good governance and political stability in the region. And we need to address

the HIV/AIDS crisis in the region. But for now, we must do what we can in the short term so that we can save as many of these people as possible.

RECOGNITION OF CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF NOVEMBER 17 TERRORISTS GROUP

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2002

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Greek authorities and the Greek people for their successful apprehension of several members of the November 17 terrorist group, including the group's mastermind Alexandros Yiotopoulos. This terrible organization has group operated with impunity underground for more than a quarter of a century and inflicted egregious harm on both Greek people and the United States. They are behind the killings of 23 people, including Richard Welch, the CIA station chief in Athens in 1975. I understand that three of the captured members have already confessed to the killings, including the murders of military attaches from the United States and Britain. This is just one-step in our march towards victory in the war on terrorism but it is an important step, I applaud the efforts of the Greek authorities and the vigilance of the Greek people.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FRANK MASCARA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2002

Mr. MASCARA. Mr. Speaker, on July 15, 2002, I was unavoidably absent for personal reasons and missed rollcall votes numbered 296, 297, and 298. For the record, had I been present I would have voted yea on all three votes.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO FARMWORKER APPRECIATION DAY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2002

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great deal of pride that I rise to pay a very special tribute to an outstanding event taking place in my district in Northwest Ohio. On Saturday, August 3, 2002, people from across the district will gather in Fremont to celebrate Farmworker Appreciation Day.

Mr. Speaker, there is no question that farming is the backbone of our nation. From the earliest days of our nation's history, hardworking men and women have taken to the fields to plant and harvest crops and raise livestock in order to feed their families, their neighbors, and their fellow countrymen.

Farming is an honorable profession that takes a great deal of skill, patience, and hard work. Those hardworking men and women