

Congressional Record

proceedings and debates of the 102^d congress, second session

Vol. 138

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 1992

No. 43

IN MEMORY OF MORRNAH NALAMAKU SIMEONA

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, it is an honor and a privilege for me to take the floor of the Senate to speak in memory of Morrnah Nalamaku Simeona who passed away on February 11, 1992, and for whom commemorative services will be held in Hawaii on April 5. I do so with a heavy heart and deep sense of loss.

I join her daughter Karen Piilani Simeona, and other members of her family and friends, to mourn the untimely passing of her mother. We shall all miss her quiet but strong presence and leadership, her friendship, and most of all her understanding and compassion. We take solace though that she has departed from this world and is going home to life eternal.

Morrnah was deeply committed to ho'oponopono which she taught and practiced to bring about a spiritual relationship between self and the divinity, the way to self-identity. In this way, Morrnah brought understanding, peace of mind and happiness to the many, many people she touched over the years. Her good works continue through the Foundation of "I," Freedom of the Cosmos, which she founded.

Morrnah gave freely of her spirituality to others throughout her life, and for this she received many unsolicited honors. She has been recognized as a living treasure by the Hawaii State Legislature and the Honpa Hongwanji Mission. Among the other high honors that were bestowed on her was recognition by the United States Jaycees and the International Register of Profiles in Cambridge, England, for her contributions to society.

She left Hawaii in 1980 in a peripatetic mission to share her gift with the world. She conducted seminars in nearly a dozen States and many countries as well. She went to New York, California, Washington, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Virginia, Arizona, Maryland, New Mexico, Florida, and Washington, DC. She went to Denmark, Sweden, Italy, Germany, Belgium, Holland, Switzerland, France, Yugoslavia, Russia, and Greece. Her updated process of ho'oponopono has been translated into Danish, Flemish, French, German, Greek, Italian, Polish, Russian, and Spanish. I cite this litany of States and countries, and translations, only to impress on one and all that Morrnah was indeed a universal authority on "ho'oponopono."

And when she visited Washington DC, and learned that the original model of the Statue of Freedom from which the mold of the statue which stands on top of our Capitol dome was made lay in ignominious storage, she was inspired to refurbish and restore the statue for display in a place of honor. She shared her intentions with me, and as a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives, I amended the Legislative Committee on Appropriations bill to permit the Architect of the U.S. Capitol to receive private funds for this purpose. Morrnah then raised \$25,000 which she donated to the Architect of the U.S. Capitol. The U.S. Capitol Preservation Commission accepted the gift and approved the proposal to display the statute in the Russell Rotunda. This will be done by the end of this year. The model of the Statue of Freedom in the Russell Rotunda will serve as an eternal remembrance of Morrnah Nalamaku Simeona.

Mr. President, my wife, Millie, and I join all the people of Hawaii, our Nation and the world to bid Morrnah Nalamaku Simeona, aloha and a peaceful journey home. We are the better today for having known her, and the world a better place for her having passed through.