

Congressional Record

PROUD SERVICE OF AMERICANS IN EL SALVADOR

HON. ROBERT J. LAGOMARSINO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 1987

Mr. LAGOMARSINO. Mr. Speaker, for many years have been a strong supporter of American assistance to the democracy of El Salvador. If we truly believe in democracy, freedom, and liberty, we should assist those who are committed to these same ideals. That is why we are committed to stopping the expansion of communism and other forms of totalitarianism. Recently, received the following letter from my constituents, Dr. and Mrs. Craig Larson of Solvang, CA, regarding the untimely death of their nephew, Douglas Lee Adams. Douglas was the crew chief on the American military helicopter that crashed in El Salvador while on a medical mission.

Unfortunately, Douglas's hometown newspapers in Corvallis, OR, wrote about his "dying for a ghost cause". I do not believe that helping the Salvadorans strengthen their democracy, defend their freedom and liberties, and improve their standard of living is a ghost cause. Nor do I believe that helping stem Communist expansion in Central America, our southern neighbors, is a ghost cause. As Douglas Adams' family states, he "gave his life for his country in one of those small battles for peace." I urge my colleagues to read the letter I received from Douglas's aunt and uncle and get a better understanding of what we are really supporting in Central America. I am afraid that too often some of my colleagues listen too closely to the slick Communist apologists and sympathizers and not patriotic American citizens like the family of Douglas Adams.

Representative ROBERT J. LAGOMARSINO,
House Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE LAGOMARSINO: This is the letter we sent to the Corvallis Oregon Gazette-Times in response to their opinion as expressed on Wednesday, July 22, 1987 in the editorial entitled "Dying for a Ghost Cause". We want you to know the reason our nephew went to El Salvador, so you can represent us.



United States
of America

The same people who moan and groan about the United States of America in El Salvador will moan and groan when Communism is at our Mexican border. Moaning and groaning in lament "why didn't WE do something to protect ourselves before "they" are at our borders?"

22 year old Douglas Lee Adams, was the crew chief on the helicopter that went down July 15th while on a medical mission in El Salvador. He was wise beyond his years. His last statement as he left home, bound for El Salvador, was "this is my choice of where to go in defense of my country, and if something happens to me rest assured I am right with God." Douglas Adams knew we Americans must start our defense in the 1st hour, not the 11th.

Americans—LAMENT NO MORE—fighting in the 1st hour of defense is far less bloody, more wise and honorable than in the 11th hour.

If America and her soldiers can't fight the "small" fights with your support then we surely won't be able to fight the big ones with or without your support.

Working for peace is like life itself, made up of many small decisions and many small everyday tasks and battles that must be faced in order to prepare for, or hopefully prevent, the major problems.

Douglas Lee Adams gave his life for his country in one of those small battles for peace. A small battle in some people's eyes, but large and honorable in ours.

The Family of Douglass Adams:

INGRID ADAMS
DR. CRAIG & CAROLYN
LARSON
CRAIG & CARRIE ADAMS
TONIA & MIKE WARREN
ANNA K. LARSON
JANI & BOB BERGDAHL
JUDI LARSON
DONNA & LARRY REED
RICHARD & CHRISTINE
LARSON
BILL & WILMA OKERSTEDT
LOUIS L. LARSON

P.S.—Write your delegates to the Senate and Congress—let them know for true peace we need to teach small countries how to care for and fight for themselves. If not, as our Douglas knew, it will be on our soil soon.