

November 18, 2001

Dear Pastor Norwood:

Twenty three years ago we were transfixed with shock and with horror as the news of Jonestown and its tragedies poured into the peaceful life of the nation. We asked ourselves and each other how it could have come to pass. I write to commend your efforts to see to it that we do not easily forget that great loss of life so remote in time, place and understanding.

In recent weeks our nation has once again felt the brutal impact of inexplicable evil. Though such terrible carnage overwhelms our senses and saddens our hearts, as a living lesson it holds great power to remind and instruct the rest of us--and those who will follow—of the awesome power of misguided belief to work terrible tragedy upon innocent lives.

In recalling the horror inflicted in those days I pray that we may find the means to better meet and withstand the threats of false prophets. I salute your work to help us better remember the lesson of Jonestown.

Sincerely,

Julia Carson

Member of Congress