

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE TO MS. DOROTHY GRACE BOYAJIAN ON HER 53 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor and pride that I pay tribute to an extraordinary teacher, Dorothy Grace Boyajian. For the past 53 years, she has been an inspiration to many of her colleagues by dedicating herself to serving the children of the San Mateo-Foster City School District.

Ms. Boyajian was born in Camden, New Jersey, and arrived in the Bay Area with her parents in 1938. She attended Turnbull Elementary School, and later returned to the same building as a teacher. She attended professional growth classes at San Francisco State University, Stanford University and University of California, Berkeley. Ms. Boyajian still lives in the home her father built in Burlingame. She supports three children through Child Care International.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Boyajian's extraordinary teaching has received many awards. She has won the Who's Who in Teaching Award twice, was inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame and was once judged to be one of the top 40 teachers in the United States. The litany of awards and honors bestowed upon her are indicative of the professional respect she has achieved, but Ms. Boyajian's true legacy is her students.

Since her first days as a teacher 53 years ago, Dorothy Grace Boyajian has instilled in her students an important lesson that no matter how big the world is, they can and should play a part in it. As part of this lesson her students would write to famous dignitaries whose responses line the walls around her classroom. This led to a memorable moment when a local television show came to her classroom and showed responses from Queen Elizabeth II and the then First Lady Nancy Reagan.

After a half century dedicating her life to teaching, Ms. Boyajian's passion for teaching and her commitment to this noble profession has not wavered. Ms. Boyajian has decided to retire in order to save the jobs of two of her younger colleagues. In what is truly the epitome of selflessness, Ms. Boyajian recently reflected on her retirement by saying, "I'll miss [teaching], but if it's going to help out some younger teachers, I'm willing to do it." It is a truly sad day when one of the most special teachers who has touched so many lives, has to retire due to budget cuts.

Mr. Speaker, the impact that Dorothy Grace Boyajian has made on the people of San Mateo County is immeasurable. From the dolls her students have given to her for her collection, to getting stopped on the street by former students and told how she has affected their lives, there is no doubt that Ms. Boyajian is a teacher admired by many. Other teachers who have been lucky enough to work with her have

described her as a mentor, and an inspiration to those who strive to make students feel like dignitaries themselves.

Mr. Speaker, another example of Ms. Boyajian's effect on the community can be seen by the fact that the San Mateo County Board of Trustees has declared that June 4, 2004 will be Dorothy Grace Boyajian Day, and the San Mateo-Foster City School Board will rename the Sunnybrae Elementary School, where she taught over the last 20 years, the Dorothy Grace Boyajian Elementary School for the day.

Teachers like Ms. Boyajian do not come along everyday, and seeing her retire, though well deserved, will certainly be hard on the community. I hope that all those who follow the path that Ms. Boyajian embarked upon over a half century ago find the same riches that she has found, the riches that you find in the hearts and minds of children.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Dorothy Grace Boyajian, whose life has been dedicated to teaching the children of the Peninsula.

HONORING JUNE 4, 2004 AS LINC TELACU SCHOLARS DAY

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. On behalf of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, I rise to recognize June 4, 2004 as LINC TELACU Scholars Day. As a leading service organization, LINC TELACU Education Foundation in partnership with numerous corporations and universities, has helped to improve Latino communities including East Los Angeles by advancing higher education opportunities for thousands of young Latino leaders.

For over two decades, the Foundation has assisted talented Latinos overcome formidable barriers to academic success by providing millions of dollars in scholarships, as well as comprehensive educational support programs which include: leadership development, college retention, internships, counseling, mentoring, tutorial assistance, computer lab, college advisement and placement assistance, and parental support programs. In addition, TELACU was selected nationally as one of only two community-based organizations nationwide to deliver the TRIO Programs—Classic Upward Bound, Veterans Upward Bound, and Talent Search—through which middle and high-school students and veterans receive preparation for post-secondary education.

I would like to commend David C. Lizárraga, TELACU's President and CEO, and his executive staff for their leadership over the past year. Their dedication is helping Latino students overcome the effects of low income, inadequate support and counseling, and a lack of professional and academic role models and to become well educated community leaders.

Thanks to the successful leadership of LINC TELACU, every 2003 LINC TELACU Scholar achieved their high school diploma, college degree, or nursing degree. This year, LINC TELACU will help 600 more students accomplish their higher education goals. As the Chairman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, I am proud of these students for their commitment to succeed and wish them continued success.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to recognize the many achievements and services provided by LINC TELACU. Please join me in honoring the LINC TELACU Scholars on June 4, 2004.

RECOGNIZING ERIC ADLARD FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Eric Adlard, son of Mark and Laura Adlard, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 846, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Eric has been very active with his troop, participating in numerous scout activities. Over the years Eric has been involved with scouting, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as Troop Historian, Patrol Leader, and Senior Patrol Leader. Eric holds such special scouting honors as Arrow of Light, Faith in God, On My Honor, Order of the Arrow, Foxman in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, and World Conservation Award. Eric holds twenty-six merit badges.

For his Eagle Scout project, Eric built three concrete pads for the baseball bleachers at Cecil Baker Memorial Field in Buckner, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Eric Damon Adlard for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Captain John Tipton who was recently killed in Iraq.

Cpt. Tipton, 32, a 1989 Granite City High School graduate, died this past Sunday in an explosion during combat in the Al Anbar Province in Iraq. The province, west of Baghdad,

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

is where Camp Fallujah is located and is one of the most hostile regions in Iraq. Capt. Tipton was commander of Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division out of Fort Riley. He was stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas with his wife, Susie Tipton, of Collinsville, and their two children, Austin, 4, and Kaitlyn, 2.

I am proud of the service Cpt. Tipton has given to our country and the service he and others provide on a daily basis. Not enough can be said about the sacrifice and dedication these men and women display while serving in Iraq. It is troops like Cpt. Tipton, those risking their lives everyday, that ensure our freedom here at home and to others throughout the rest of the world. I salute him and my heart felt condolences go out to his family and all the troops continually fighting to ensure freedom and democracy.

TRIBUTE TO GLENN CUNNINGHAM
A TRUE PUBLIC SERVANT

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, it is with sorrow that I inform my colleagues of the sudden and untimely passing of Glenn Cunningham. Mr. Cunningham was a longtime public servant. He was Mayor of Jersey City, New Jersey, a significant part of my congressional district. He also served as a member of the New Jersey State Senate. Mayor/State Senator Cunningham was the proverbial public servant. His career in the public arena spanned more than three decades. He was truly a man of the people.

Over the years, I had the privilege of working with Glenn on issues of shared interest, as our careers paralleled each other's. I was delighted when Glenn was elected to his first office as a Hudson County Freeholder in 1975, and then watched with pride as he moved forward in his career to become elected to the Jersey City Municipal Council in 1981 and re-elected in 1985 and became President of the Jersey City Municipal Council. In 1996, Glenn was appointed by President Clinton to become the first African American U.S. Marshall from the state of New Jersey. In 2001, Glenn was elected the first African American Mayor of Jersey City, and last year Mayor Cunningham was elected State Senator for the 31st District.

Glenn was especially proud of his military and law enforcement experience, having served with honor as a United States Marine. He also was a member of the Jersey City Police Department for more than two decades, rising to the rank of Captain. He later distinguished himself in the post of Hudson County Director of Public Safety.

Glenn was also known for his interest in Black History. I enjoyed having conversations with him about the history of Jersey City, Underground Railroad in New Jersey and other significant historical events that shaped our state and nation. I was impressed with his passion and the breadth of his knowledge of historical subjects.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in remembering a life long distinguished native son of Jersey City, Glenn Cunningham, who was an outstanding role

model. His exemplary service will long be remembered. I express my condolences to his survivors, especially his wife, Sandra.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE NEW
YORK BLOOD CENTER'S 40TH AN-
NIVERSARY AND WALL OF
HONOR RECEPTION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the achievements of the New York Blood Center (NYBC). On the evening of May 19, 2004, the NYBC will unveil its Wall of Honor, which recognizes the many generous donors—both financial and medical—who make possible the Blood Center's tremendous contributions to the public good. The Wall of Honor will also commemorate the Blood Center's forty years of outstanding service to our community, our nation and our world.

The Blood Center has long been an indispensable part of the New York community. Over the last four decades, the NYBC has become one of America's largest community-based, non-profit blood centers. Each year, it provides life-saving blood products and clinical transfusion services to more than one million patients, in over two hundred New York and New Jersey hospitals. In addition, the Center's Solvent Detergent Viral Inactivation Process has improved the safety of more than twenty billion units of blood-derived products distributed worldwide.

The Blood Center has also become a nationally-recognized center for medical education. The NYBC has trained more than 100 physician professionals through its transfusion medicine fellowship, and has offered clinical training to over 400 medical students and 300 laboratory technicians. In all, more than 30 percent of New York and New Jersey blood bank directors have received specialized training from the New York Blood Center. By any measure, the foregoing statistics represent a truly astonishing record of achievement. The clinicians, staff and contributors of the NYBC should be extremely proud of these accomplishments.

As we take time to celebrate the NYBC's history, we must also acknowledge the Blood Center's efforts to meet new and often daunting challenges. As you may know, the New York region is currently facing a critical shortage of blood. The NYBC estimates that the demand for transfusions will easily exceed the Center's projected supply during the coming summer months. The Center has urged local community groups, schools and churches to organize blood drives to forestall interruptions in major medical services this summer. These difficulties make it all the more necessary for the New York community to continue to support the NYBC's noble efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I request that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to the New York Blood Center, whose forward-thinking initiatives to promote the public's health and well-being are truly worthy of celebration. To the dedicated professionals, volunteers and friends of this fine organization, I offer my continuing admiration, respect and support.

HONORING STEPHEN W. STRUMPH

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Stephen W. Strumph of Glen Cove, New York, a decorated veteran and a proud American.

Mr. Strumph began his military career in 1937, at the Reserve Officers Army Academy of Poland. At the onset of WWII he was commissioned Second Lieutenant Platoon Leader of the 6th Regiment, 22nd Mountain division in the Polish army.

On November 1, 1939 Mr. Strumph was transported to Lukenwalde and was held as a prisoner of war. He heroically escaped German custody three times, before finally being released in the spring of 1945 and heading for the United States zone.

Mr. Strumph was soon commissioned as a U.S. Army multi-lingual interpreter to interview German soldiers and Gestapo. He was then reunited with Polish troops under Colonel Brzeszczynski, and was placed in command of 125 soldiers and a U.S. Army ammunition depot. After he was demobilized in 1947, Mr. Strumph worked for eight years at the U.S. embassy in Paris, before emigrating to the United States.

Since his arrival in New York on July 28, 1955, Mr. Strumph has been an outstanding public citizen, volunteering with veterans and fraternal organizations and was honored as "Outstanding Senior Volunteer of the Year." He and his loving wife are the proud parents of three children and eight grandchildren.

I commend Stephen Strumph for his bravery and valor during World War II and thank him for his invaluable service to the Long Island community.

INDIA'S HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLA-
TIONS IN PUNJAB, KASHMIR
SUCCESSFULLY EXPOSED

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, on May 12, the Subcommittee on Human Rights and Wellness conducted a hearing into human-rights violations in Kashmir and in Punjab, Khalistan. It was a very successful hearing. Witnesses travelled from Kashmir and from out of state to testify.

Those testifying included The Honorable Michael Kozak, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Human Rights and Labor; The Honorable Donald Camp, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of South Asian Affairs; Mr. T. Kumar, Advocacy Director—Asia, Amnesty International; The Honorable Robert Giuda, Deputy Majority Leader of the New Hampshire House of Representatives and Chairman, Americans for Resolution of Kashmir; Dr. Ghulam Nabi Fai, Executive Director, Kashmiri American Council; Mrs. Attiya Inayatullah, a human-rights activist from Kashmir; Selig Harrison, Director of the Asia Program, Woodrow Wilson Center for International Policy; and Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan.

Many witnesses talked about the atrocities that have become everyday policy in India's minority states, such as Punjab, Khalistan and Kashmir. Witnesses testified to such atrocities as extrajudicial killings, including fake encounter killings, custodial deaths throughout the country, excessive use of force by security forces, youth sexually incapacitated through torture, rapes, murders, burning villages, and others.

India claims to be democratic, but it is really a brutal tyranny, as these atrocities show. It has placed over 700,000 troops in Kashmir and another 500,000 in Punjab, Khalistan to suppress any opposition to its brutal rule. The Indian government has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, more than 300,000 Christians since 1948, over 87,000 Muslims in Kashmir since 1988, and tens of thousands of Tamils, Assamese, Bodos, Manipuris, Dalits, and others.

Mr. Speaker, the United States of America, the beacon of freedom for the world, cannot just stand by and let these atrocities occur. We should stop aid to India until it respects human rights and we should put this Congress on record in support of self-determination for the Sikhs, Kashmiris, Nagas, and everyone who is seeking freedom from India's brutal rule.

Mr. Speaker, the Council of Khalistan issued an excellent, detailed, and informative press release on the hearing, which I would like to insert in the RECORD now.

DR. AULAKH, OTHERS EXPOSE INDIAN HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AT CONGRESSIONAL HEARING

WASHINGTON, DC, MAY 12, 2004.—Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, exposed Indian human rights violations against the Sikhs and other minorities at a Congressional hearing today entitled "Decades of Terror: Exploring Human Rights Abuses in Kashmir and the Disputed Territories." He gave a very emotional informative, strong statement. It was a very successful appearance.

"Repression is the official policy of supposedly secular and democratic India," said Dr. Aulakh. "The reality is that India is a Hindu theocracy, not the democracy it claims to be," he said. On October 7, 1987, the Sikh Nation declared its independence from India, naming its new country Khalistan. India's brutal occupation of Khalistan and other minority nations is now internationalized and brought to the attention of the world. On December 5, President Bush told Dr. Aulakh, "I am aware of the Sikh and Kashmiri problem." Dr. Aulakh made it clear to the committee that "freedom for all the minority nations of South Asia is the only way to end the repression and secure full human rights for everyone in that troubled region."

Dr. Aulakh testified that "An Army commander in Amritsar district threatened that he would murder the Sikh men, bring the women to the Army barracks, and produce a new generation of Sikhs." Mr. Chairman, this is disgraceful and extremely insulting to the proud Sikhs. It is unbecoming of an army commander of a nation which claims to be the world's largest democracy." He blasted India's policy of Hindutva, the total Hinduization of every aspect of life in India. He noted that Amnesty International has not been allowed into Punjab since 1978. "Even Castro's Cuba has allowed Amnesty International into the country more recently," he said.

Subcommittee Chairman Representative Dan Burton (R-Indiana) opened the hearing

with a statement. Congressman Burton said, "Just as the world is disgusted by the abuse of Iraqi prisoners by United States servicemen and women, we should be disgusted by the tactics that have been systematically employed by Indian military and paramilitary forces." He quoted the U.S. State Department report on India: "Significant human rights abuses included: Extrajudicial killings, including fake encounter killings, custodial deaths throughout the country, and excessive use of force by security forces." Chairman Burton noted "techniques like reprisal killings, burning down of whole villages, and summary executions." He said that "India's insistence on resolving a political problem by force has dragged it down into a campaign of essentially lawless state terrorism."

"We thank Chairman Burton for holding this important hearing," said Dr. Aulakh. "It has been helpful in showing the world the truth about India's claim to be a secular democracy. What India really is is one of the world's most brutal tyrannies," he said.

Other speakers included The Honorable Michael Kozak, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor; The Honorable Donald Camp, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of South Asian Affairs; Mr. T. Kumar, Advocacy Director—Asia, Amnesty International; The Honorable Bob Giuda, Chairman of Americans for Resolution of Kashmir and Deputy Majority Leader of the New Hampshire House of Representatives; Dr. Ghulam Nabi Fai, Executive Director of the Kashmiri American Council; Mrs. Attiya Inayatullah, a human-rights activist and aid worker; and Selig Harrison, Director of the Asia Program, Woodrow Wilson Center for International Policy. Sikhs from Maryland, Virginia, the District of Columbia, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania came to the hearing. Representatives of the Sikh Coalition were in attendance. Such Sikh youth leaders as Amardeep Singh Bhalla, Gurpreet Singh Dhillon, Mona Kaur Dhillon, and others, as well as Sikh activists Ranjit Singh, Gurbax Singh Dhillon, Karj Singh Sandhu, Kavneet Singh Pannu, and many others attended in an excellent show of Sikh strength.

The Indian government has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, more than 300,000 Christians since 1948, over 87,000 Muslims in Kashmir since 1988, and tens of thousands of Tamils, Assamese, Bodos, Manipuris, Dalits, and others. The Indian Supreme Court called the Indian government's murders of Sikhs "worse than a genocide." Mrs. Inayatullah testified that in Kashmir, "Since 1989 and as of January 2004 the death toll stands at 87,648. The orphan count is 105,210, women ages 7-70 molested is a shameful 9,297 and another 21,286 reported widowed, with there being no record of the number of youth sexually incapacitated through torture and disabled for life." She said that "Buzz words like cross-border terrorism and fundamentalism will not cover India's guilt." Rep. Giuda noted that "Indian law immunizes its army and police from prosecution for actions committed under color of 'prevention of terrorism', enabling a hideous government-sanctioned repertoire of torture, rapes, murder, arson, and custodial killing. Pakistan allows U.N. observers and human-rights organizations unfettered access to Free Kashmir, while India denies access to substantial parts of IOK. One must ask, 'Why are no observers allowed? What is India hiding?'"

Mr. Kumar said that "torture, including rape, deaths in custody, extrajudicial killings, and 'disappearances' have been perpetrated by agents of the state with impunity." He said that "Most families of all backgrounds have experienced some form of loss—of livelihood, of a relative, or of the

sense of security of life, liberty, and other fundamental human rights." Dr. Fai reported that "Killings in Kashmir have become so commonplace that they are reported like car accidents in the United States." He described rapes, torture, arbitrary arrests, and other activities. He noted that "freedom to speak, write, or organize around self-determination or criticism of the Indian government for millions of Kashmiris is chimerical." He noted that the Official Secrets Act gives the government authority to suppress criticism of its policies. He said that "India has authorized a police state reminiscent of the Gestapo."

Mr. Harrison stated that India has built "an inflated military force that has committed well-documented atrocities." Secretary Kozak said, "Our annual human-rights report documents our concern and gives examples of the abuses that take place all too frequently."

Dr. Aulakh testified that Indian police arrested human-rights activist Jaswant Singh Khaira after he exposed their policy of mass cremation of Sikhs, in which over 50,000 Sikhs have been arrested, tortured, and murdered, then their bodies were declared unidentified and secretly cremated. Khaira was murdered in police custody. His body was never given to his family. The police never released the body of former Jathedar of the Akal Takht Gurdev Singh Kaunke after SSP Swaran Singh Ghotna murdered him. Ghotna has not been brought to trial for the murder of Jathedar Kaunke. No one has been brought to justice for the kidnapping and murder of Jaswant Singh Khaira. According to a report by the Movement Against State Repression (MASR), 52,268 Sikhs are being held as political prisoners in India without charge or trial. Some have been in illegal custody since 1984! Amnesty International recently reported at least 100 current torture cases in Punjab. A Sikh leader named Gurnihal Singh Pirzada was arrested on charges that he attended a meeting with "dissidents." Although he denies attending the meeting, he said that it would not be illegal if he did.

Dr. Aulakh noted that history shows that multinational states such as India are doomed to failure. Countries like Austria-Hungary, India's longtime friend the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, and others prove this point. India is not one country; it is a polyglot like those countries, thrown together for the convenience of the British colonialists. It is doomed to break up as they did. India is ruled by Hindu theocrats whose agenda is "Hindu, Hindi, Hindutva, Hindu Rashtra," or total Hindu domination of every facet of Indian life. An Indian Cabinet minister said that everyone who lives in India must be a Hindu or subservient to Hindus.

"As Professor Darshan Singh, a former Jathedar of the Akal Takht, said, 'If a Sikh is not for Khalistan, he is not a Sikh.'" Dr. Aulakh noted. "We must continue to press for our God-given birthright of freedom," he said. "Without political power, religions cannot flourish and nations perish."

IN HONOR OF ROBERT RIVERS

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, Robert Rivers is a man of many parts who has served his community, city and country. Bobby, as he is most familiarly known, was born in Harlem and after

high school joined the Air Force, serving four years and being honorably discharged.

He returned home to his family and met Hazel Pazant, who became his wife. Fortunately for the Bronx they moved here and started to raise their family of four children. Bobby became a police officer in the New York City Police Department in 1969. While a police officer, he attended and graduated Fordham University with a degree in Sociology.

Also during his years on the force, he settled in the northeast Bronx and he joined his local block association, the Seton Falls Neighborhood Association, one of the many organizations helping his community that he joined. He also joined the Guardians Association, a police organization, eventually becoming its president. He retired from the Police Department in 1997 as a Detective but remains active with the National Black Police Association.

He has engaged in many civic activities in his community, including the fight to save Seton Falls Park from becoming a landfill, and joined the 47th Precinct Review Committee, monitoring the activities of the police in the community. He is also a member of the NAACP, serving on several committees in that organization, and is chair of the Legal Redress Committee.

He also serves as Chair of the Thurgood Marshall Independent Democratic Club.

Bobby Rivers is a tireless activist for his community, willing and able to participate in any and every activity that will help his community and improve life there. I congratulate him for his great work and wish him every continued success.

RECOGNIZING JAMES PARKER
SOUTHWORTH FOR ACHIEVING
THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize James Parker Southworth, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 135, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

James has been very active with his troop for the past seven years, participating in numerous Scout activities. Over the years James has been involved with scouting, he has held numerous leadership positions such as Patrol and Senior Patrol Leader, five-year camper at H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation, and Firebuilder in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. He has also earned thirty Merit Badges. For his Eagle Scout project, James organized a project to teach tree pruning techniques to other Scouts and Leaders and then pruned the trees around the four mile walking trail in Kearney, Missouri.

James will be serving the United States of America by enlisting in the Marine Corps and will be leaving by the end of this month for his induction.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending James Parker Southworth for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING GLENN E. ESTESS AS
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT
FOR 2004–2005

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor a good friend of mine, and an outstanding citizen, the newly named president of the Rotary International Club, Mr. Glenn E. Estess Sr. Following is a resolution provided by the Rotary Club of Shades Valley, Alabama, of which Mr. Estess is a member.

Whereas, Glenn E. Estess Sr., a native of the state of Mississippi, United States of America, has devoted a significant portion of his adult life to service with Rotary clubs; and

Whereas, Glenn E. Estess Sr. became a Rotarian first in 1960 as a member of the Rotary Club of Jacksonville, Florida; and

Whereas, upon moving to Wayne, New Jersey, he affiliated with the Rotary Club of that city, becoming as he had been in Florida, a member of the club's board of directors; and

Whereas, when his business brought him to Birmingham, Alabama in 1970, he promptly affiliated with the Rotary Club of Shades Valley, Alabama; and

Whereas, Glenn E. Estess Sr. held many offices of trust and responsibility as a valuable member of the Rotary Club of Shades Valley, Alabama, including that of president of the club in 1975–1976; and

Whereas, in the year 1979–1980 Glenn E. Estess Sr. was called upon to serve in the demanding position of district governor of Rotary District 686 (later 6860); and

Whereas, Glenn E. Estess Sr. was PolioPlus National Coordinator in 1987–1988, giving leadership to a program, conducted in cooperation with various national and international health organizations, designed to eradicate polio and other scourges throughout the world by the year 2005 by initially raising more than \$240 million; and

Whereas, Glenn E. Estess Sr. was a member of the Rotary International Assembly Committee for six years, served as chairman of the Rotary International Assembly, and became International Assembly moderator in 1999; and

Whereas, Glenn E. Estess Sr. has three times been a member of the influential Rotary International Council on Legislation and has also attended two additional sessions of the Council on Legislation as an official observer; and

Whereas, Glenn E. Estess Sr. served as vice president of Rotary International during 1991–1992; and

Whereas, Glenn E. Estess Sr. was a trustee of The Rotary Foundation during the years 1993–1996; and

Whereas, in 1996–1997 Glenn E. Estess Sr. and his charming wife, Mary, served as official aides to the Rotary International president and his wife; and

Whereas, Glenn E. Estess Sr. is a Rotary Foundation Major Donor, a Paul Harris Fellow, and a Benefactor of the Foundation; and

Whereas, Glenn E. Estess Sr. is the deserving recipient of The Rotary Foundation's Citation for Meritorious Service and the Foundation's Distinguished Service Award; and

Whereas, Glenn E. Estess Sr. has recently served as a member of Rotary International's vital Audit and Operations Review Committee, Rotary International's only committee with a six-year term as mandated by the 1998 Council on Legislation; and

Whereas, Glenn E. Estess Sr. is the recipient of Rotary International's coveted Service Above Self Award; and

Whereas, Glenn E. Estess Sr. is married to Mary Grantham, and they are the parents of three adult children, all of whom; along with ten additional family members, are Paul Harris Fellows; and

Whereas, Glenn E. Estess Sr. has further demonstrated his unflagging spirit of service to the community by accepting roles of importance with such prominent civic organizations as the Birmingham Baptist Health System, then an eleven-hospital system with approximately 10,000 employees, of which he was chairman of the Board of Trustees; and

Whereas, Glenn E. Estess Sr. displayed his civic consciousness while living in Florida by serving as chairman of the YMCA, the American Chemical Society, and the Arthritis Foundation; and

Whereas, Glenn E. Estess Sr. has given service as a member of the Board of Regents of the National Association of Personnel Consultants in the United States; and

Whereas, Glenn E. Estess Sr. has been a director of the Better Business Bureau of Central Alabama and a trustee for the Workman's Compensation Trust of the Business Council of Alabama; and

Whereas, Glenn E. Estess Sr. has been a faithful and involved member of Brookwood Baptist Church of Mountain Brook, a suburb of Birmingham, Alabama; and

Whereas, Glenn E. Estess Sr. will be formally installed as president of Rotary International on May 26, 2004, at the annual convention held in Osaka, Japan, to serve during the year 2004–2005; and

Whereas, the citizens of the great state of Alabama are extremely honored and proud that Glenn E. Estess Sr. has been chosen to lead Rotary International during its centennial celebration year of 2005: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the one hundred fifty six members of the Rotary Club of Shades Valley, Alabama, individually and collectively, unambiguously and enthusiastically congratulate its esteemed fellow member, Glenn E. Estess Sr., upon his election to the prestigious position as president of Rotary International for the year 2004–2005; and be it

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be suitably engrossed and framed and presented to Glenn and Mary Estess. Done this 3rd day of May 2004 by members of the Rotary Club of Shades Valley, Alabama, in meeting assembled.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, in the rural landscape of family farms and small towns of central Pennsylvania, the fabric of America is woven. It is a fabric of patriotic Americans who work hard, respect their neighbors, and stand proud for this nation. It is a fabric of families that heaps admiration on the fathers and mothers and the sons and daughters who serve in our Armed Forces with selfless dedication. And it is this same fabric of families who sacrifice so much for this country.

Our soldiers stand resolved to protect our families and our children from danger and attack. To these American military heroes, it is understood that we must do everything possible to win the war on terror and keep Americans safe. Failure is not an option. If freedom

has a price, we hold in the highest regard these men and women who have the courage to pay it.

We mourn the loss of the following heroes in central Pennsylvania: Gunnery Sgt. Ronald E. Baum, 38, of Hollidaysburg, PA; Pfc. Bradley G. Kritzer, 19, of Irvona, PA; Spc. Clint Richard Matthews, 31, of Bedford, PA; Sgt. Timothy L. Hayslett, 26, of Newville, PA; Staff Sgt. Christopher E. Cutchall, 30, of McConnellsburg, PA; Pfc. Richard W. Hafer, 21, Seward, PA.

America's pursuit of freedom is a beacon of light in an otherwise starless sky. I continue to be immensely proud of our soldiers who are fighting this war on terror and I lament those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. They have left homes, families, and jobs to extinguish a threat, and they stand as testament to the strength of our resolve and the durability of our fabric.

America will never forget these heroes.

RECOGNIZING THE SELECTION OF
BRENT BAIR AS CHAIRMAN OF
THE INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION
SOCIETY OF AMERICA
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. I rise today to recognize the accomplishment of Brent Bair for being named Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Intelligent Transportation Society of America (ITSA). ITSA is a not-for-profit organization established in 1991 to coordinate the development and deployment of transportation-related technologies in the United States.

Mr. Bair was named ITSA Board Chairman at the ITSA annual meeting in San Antonio, Texas. Previously, Bair served as vice-chairman of the board and has served as a board member since 2001. Mr. Bair has also served as chairman of the Congressional ITS Caucus Advisory Committee and is a board member and former president of the Intelligent Transportation Society of Michigan.

As an ardent supporter of Intelligent Transportation Systems, Mr. Bair brought the FAST-TRAC system to more than 600 intersections in Oakland County, Michigan. The FAST-TRAC system uses video cameras to detect vehicles approaching an intersection and computers determine, in real time, the most efficient timing for the traffic signals at that intersection. Because of Mr. Bair's vision for the future, the Road Commission for Oakland County now operates the largest system of adaptive traffic signals in the nation and the largest deployment of video imaging for traffic management in the world.

Mr. Speaker, Brent Bair has served the people of Oakland County with distinction and I am confident his abilities will serve all Americans as chairman of the Intelligent Transportation Society of America. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the appointment of Mr. Bair and to thank him for his service to the people of Michigan.

HONORING ALPHA NU OMEGA
CHAPTER OF ALPHA KAPPA
ALPHA SORORITY, INC.

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the Alpha Nu Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., as it celebrates its 75th Anniversary. Since it was chartered on June 8, 1929, the Alpha Nu Omega Chapter has enriched the social and intellectual life of African American college women in Berkeley and Oakland, California and contributed to the social and economic well-being of the greater East Bay community.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., is an international society that was founded at Howard University in January 1908. First conceived as an organization to enrich the social and intellectual aspects of college life, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority cuts across racial, international, and social barriers to help individuals and communities develop constructive relationships with others.

Inspired by the mission and dedication of the National Sorority, young women in Oakland and Berkeley, California founded the Alpha Nu Omega Chapter 21 years later. The moving spirit in the establishment of Alpha Nu Omega Chapter was Soror Ida L. Jackson who, at that time, was an Oakland public school teacher.

Over the years, Alpha Nu Omega Chapter has undertaken a wide range of community service activities that have greatly benefited communities in the East Bay and throughout the country.

The main thrust of its work has been to aid the community through social, civic, and health programs, vocational guidance, and political awareness.

As early as 1934, the chapter began supporting health programs and projects when Soror Ida L. Jackson proposed opening a health clinic in Lexington, Mississippi. In 1964, before Head Start, the chapter organized and operated an interracial "Pre-Kindergarten Program" for children from two elementary schools in Berkeley. Since the early 1970's, the chapter has sponsored a reading experience program—"Reading is Fundamental"—in several schools in Oakland.

Political activities such as the Rumford Fair Housing Bill, passage of school financial bills affecting thousands of California students and teachers, and voter registration and education have all been part of Alpha Nu Omega's ongoing commitment to community service.

During critical periods in our history—such as the transition from segregation to integration, wartime, the post war era, sit-ins, struggles for human dignity, acts of civil disobedience—Alpha Nu Omega has held high the torch for equality and social justice. I have no doubt that they will continue to blaze new trails and provide visionary leadership in the area of community service and political action throughout the Oakland-Berkeley area.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT AND SHERRI
VINES

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Robert and Sherri Vines, who are to receive this year's the Rabbi Norman F. Feldheim Award for service to our community on June 12, 2004, also marking the 113th anniversary of the founding of the Congregation Emanu El. As members of the Congregation for the past 30 years, they have embodied the characteristics of integrity, humility, and love. I join today with family and friends in honoring their remarkable achievements and expressing pride in this recognition that has been afforded to them.

Robert and Sherri have served the Congregation in numerous capacities over the years. As a teacher at the School of Jewish Living, chair of the Community Seder, and member of the Executive Committee, Sherri has continued to provide invaluable insight and unyielding effort in improving her community.

Robert has equally shared in the leadership responsibilities while serving on the United Jewish Welfare Fund of San Bernardino County as President, the Dues Adjustment Commission, and the Board of Managers for the Home of Eternity Cemetery.

In addition to these contributions, Robert is a celebrated attorney, receiving many accolades in his profession for integrity and performance. He was previously recognized in the Inland Empire Magazine as one of the top ten attorneys in the Inland Empire.

Through their pro-active approach to leadership, Robert and Sherri have generously contributed their time, knowledge, and resources not only to their Congregation but also the entire Inland Empire community. The Rabbi Norman F. Feldheim Award is a way we can recognize these good works and pay tribute to their immense dedication over the last three decades.

I join today with their children, Jennifer, Jill, and Michael, to express our pride and admiration that they have received this well-deserved award. They are symbols of the qualities that Rabbi Feldheim exhibited and a continuing inspiration to their community.

RECOGNIZING THE ANNANDALE
HIGH SCHOOL UPON ITS 50 YEAR
ANNIVERSARY

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Annandale High School as it prepares to celebrate its 50th anniversary.

Since its establishment in 1954 when President Eisenhower's "Atoms for Education" program lent its name to the school's mascot, the Annandale Atoms, Annandale High School has committed itself to lofty standards of academic and extracurricular excellence. Over the years, as the Annandale area has expanded

and diversified, Annandale High School has followed the community's example. The school boasts such a great diversity that it recently received national attention. During his second term, President Clinton publicly recognized Annandale as a "model school for diversity", commenting on the fact that Annandale's student body represents over 80 countries and more than 40 native languages.

To this day, Annandale High School remains a distinguished and greatly lauded school in all aspects from sports to the arts to academics. Annandale High School has won six state football championships and many other state-level recognitions. In addition, the band program, accompanied by the choral department, has won multiple awards in national competition and has performed in concerts at the Kennedy Center. This summer, a select choir will participate in the second part of an international exchange program with Germany. Furthermore, Annandale High School has taken the initiative to pioneer the International Baccalaureate program within the Fairfax County Public School System. This program, which allows students to take accelerated, honors courses that count towards an internationally recognized diploma, is one that other schools throughout the county remain reluctant to adopt due to its rigorous nature.

Annandale High School plays an instrumental role in shaping its students into kind, considerate, and generous individuals devoted to helping others and improving their community. Most recently, three sisters, all students at Annandale, founded Wash America, a car wash initiative designed to provide financial support to families of the victims of the September 11th attacks.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to thank Annandale High School faculty and staff for the immeasurable contributions that they have made to the community by shaping today's youth and tomorrow's future. I congratulate the High School on its successes over the last 50 years and I wish it more successful years in the future. I ask that my colleagues join me in applauding this outstanding and distinguished institution.

RECOGNIZING SETH THOMAS
JOHNSEN FOR ACHIEVING THE
RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Seth Thomas Johnsen, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 135, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Brian has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the 4 years Brian has been involved with Scouting, he has earned 26 merit badges and held numerous leadership positions, serving as Patrol and Senior Patrol Leader, 4-year camper at H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation, and as a Brave in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say.

For his Eagle Scout project, Tommy organized the Scouts and Leaders into teams for

the purpose of cleaning and painting fire hydrants in the City of Kearney to the color of safety yellow.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Seth Thomas Johnsen for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Gary Weston, who was recently killed in Kosovo.

Gary Weston was an employee of DynCorp International, which was serving with the United Nations as international police officers. Gary and other members were fired upon by a Jordanian police officer for unknown reason. Two fellow workers were killed in the resulting firefight. Gary was flown to a hospital after receiving several gunshots. He later died from complications of the gunshot wounds, his wife Nina Weston was there by her husband's side.

Gary Weston was 52 years old and lived in Vienna, Illinois. Not enough can be said about the great sacrifice this man made for his country, the ultimate sacrifice. He is survived by wife, Nina Weston; his mother, Christine Weston of Metropolis; a son, Richard N. Weston of Granite City; two daughters, Rachel A. Weston of Honolulu, Hawaii and Elizabeth E. Weston of Vienna; five grandchildren, Trey, Derek, Heather, Dalton and Parker; two brothers, Ben and wife Jan Weston of Vienna and Ed and wife Susan Weston of Cape Girardeau; a sister, Melinda and husband Ron White of Austin, Texas; and his mother-in-law, Marilyn Whiteside of Vienna. My thoughts and prayers go out to his families and loved ones. Gary Weston gave his life in an effort to improve the lives of others. This sacrifice should never be forgotten.

HONORING THE DEDICATION OF
THE NATIONAL WORLD WAR II
MEMORIAL

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the dedication of the National World War II Memorial on the National Mall on Saturday, May 29, 2004.

Dedicated almost 60 years after the end of World War II, this stunning memorial honors all military veterans of the war, citizens on the home front, the nation at large and the high moral purpose and idealism that motivated the nation's call to arms.

We must never forget the 16 million troops who served in the armed forces during World War II and the more than 400,000 who made the ultimate sacrifice. As a member of the

House Armed Services Committee, I know the importance of the troops' sacrifice to protect our freedom.

I am especially pleased to welcome over 200 Long Island veterans to Washington, DC for the dedication. Serving those who have served our country has been one of my greatest honors as a Member of Congress. I am proud to have secured over \$1.16 billion in retroactive benefits for veterans in my district.

On this historic occasion, we must remember to honor our troops and veterans not only with memorials and red poppy lapel pins, but also in our policies and budgets. Restoring cuts to veteran's services and making VA spending mandatory, not discretionary should be a top priority. We in Congress have a duty to make America a fit country for these heroes to live in.

This memorial is a long-overdue tribute to the "Greatest Generation." They risked and gave their lives to protect our freedom, and we must ensure our debt to them is repaid.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. PAMELA LYNN
WILEY

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding and devoted citizen in my state, Mrs. Pamela Lynn Wiley. On Sunday, June 6, 2004, she will be honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award at St. Paul's Calvary United Church of God Usher's Annual Day.

Pamela was born on November 16, 1958 in Summit, New Jersey to the late Thomas and Gloria Peterson. She grew up in Vauxhall, New Jersey, where she attended the Union County school system and graduated from Union High School in 1977.

Pamela has been an active member of Saint Paul's Calvary United Church of God for over 40 years, ministering to its members through her service on many of the church boards and committees.

She is a member of their missionary department, as well as the Saint Paul's Calvary Young Adult Choir, The Voices of Praise. She is also an advisor to the CLC ensemble.

She is a beloved member of the usher board, having joined at a very young age, and is actively serving as their Vice President.

Pamela will be joined at this celebration by many friends and family, including her husband, Nathan Lamont Wiley, Sr.; her oldest daughter, A1C Joyita Kwamina Wiley-Jackson (U.S. Air Force); her son, CS3 Nathan Lamont Wiley, Jr. (U.S. Navy); her youngest daughter, SFC Gloria Lynette Wiley (Union High School JROTC); and her sisters, Kimm and Kiesha Peterson.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in extending my thanks to Pamela Lynn Wiley for her years of ministry and service to her congregation and to our community, and I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing her the strength and grace to continue for many years to come.

COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN CONGRATULATES INDIA'S NEW SIKH PRIME MINISTER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, as you know, a Sikh, Dr. Manmohan Singh, has been named as the new Prime Minister of India. Dr. Singh is a former Finance Minister in the government of Narasimha Rao from 1991 to 1996. He is a very experienced Indian official.

I hope that this will be a step forward for good relations between the United States and India, Mr. Speaker. We all seek good relations. However, the support of India's Communists for the governing coalition makes me wonder if good relations are possible under this particular government.

Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan has sent a letter to Prime Minister Singh congratulating him on his new position. In the letter, Dr. Aulakh notes that it is good for the image of Sikhs worldwide that Dr. Manmohan Singh is now Prime Minister. He also notes that it was the RSS, parent organization of the ousted BJP, that assassinated Mohandas Gandhi and takes note of India's violent history, urging Prime Minister Singh to take strong measures to avoid repeating this history, such as releasing the political prisoners that India holds, punishing those responsible for atrocities, ending the taking of Punjabi water to nonriparian states without compensation, and other such policies I think we can all support. India will be a better place if Prime Minister Singh implements these policies.

According to the Movement Against State Repression (MASR), 52,268 Sikhs are being held as political prisoners. Amnesty International reports that tens of thousands of other minorities are also being held as political prisoners. A democracy should not hold political prisoners. I am sure all my colleagues will agree with me that all these political prisoners should be released immediately.

The letter also reminds Prime Minister Singh that while ending the BJP's policy of Hindutva—total Hinduization of every aspect of Indian life—will be welcome, it was the Congress Party under Dr. Singh's political patrons, the Gandhi family, that carried out the military attack on the Golden Temple, the center and seat of the Sikh religion and the massacre of Sikhs in Delhi and elsewhere in India. Dr. Aulakh urges Dr. Singh to make a complete break with these policies by punishing those responsible.

In 1987, the Sikhs declared themselves independent from India, naming their new country Khalistan. As Dr. Aulakh points out in his letter, allowing Khalistan, Kashmir, Nagaland, and the other nations seeking their freedom from India to be free is the best way to spare the subcontinent any more bloodshed.

I join in that call, Mr. Speaker. We should support a free and fair plebiscite on the question of independence for the minority nations of South Asia. And until human rights are fully observed and a complete break is made with the bloody and repressive policies of the past, the United States should stop providing aid to India. These measures will encourage India to

take the steps necessary to bring peace, freedom, prosperity, and dignity to everyone in the subcontinent.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert the Council of Khalistan's letter to Prime Minister Singh into the RECORD at this time.

COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN,

Washington, DC, May 26, 2004.

The Hon. Dr. Manmohan Singh,

Prime Minister of India, Chanakyapouri, New Delhi, India.

DEAR PRIME MINISTER SINGH: Congratulations on becoming Prime Minister of India. You have been entrusted with a significant responsibility.

We are very pleased to see a Sikh as Prime Minister. You have reached this high office because of your intelligence and hard work and your presence in this position gives the world a strong and positive impression of Sikhs. However, remember the way that the Gandhi family used Giani Zail Singh when he was President of India. He became the figurehead for their repression of the Sikhs. Unlike Zail Singh, you are in a position of real power. Sikhs around the world will be watching what you do and hoping that you will not allow yourself to be used in a similar manner.

As a Sikh, you are in a position to understand the problems of the Sikh Nation. The Movement Against State Repression (MASR) did a report that showed the government admitted to holding 52,268 Sikh political prisoners. They have been held without charge or trial, some for as long as 20 years! If you are truly committed to secularism, one of your first acts should be to release all political prisoners. If any have died in custody, their bodies should be released to their families. These are people who have committed no crime but opposition to the government. How can there be political prisoners in a democracy?

I urge you to restore to Punjab what is rightfully Punjab's. I call on you to restore the Punjabi-speaking areas that were removed from the state of Punjab to it. Punjab was meant to be a unified Sikh state and Indian governments of the past have pursued a deliberate policy of dividing, bankrupting, and weakening it to divide and weaken the Sikhs. As a Sikh and as Prime Minister, you are in a position to put a stop to this policy. You are also in a position to restore Punjab's water rights. For years, Punjab's water has been diverted to non-riparian states with no compensation to Punjab or to the people of Punjab. Please put an end to the diversion of Punjab's water to non-riparian states and when such diversion is necessary, please make certain that the Sikh farmers of Punjab get appropriate compensation for their water. This is only fair and right, and it is a policy that will earn you greater support among the Sikhs. All other states control their water resources.

We are also pleased that the BJP is out of power. Rahul Gandhi, MP, the son of Sonia and Rajiv Gandhi and a member of your party, pointed out that the RSS, which is the parent organization of the BJP, assassinated Mahatma Gandhi. The RSS is a pro-Fascist organization and both Vajpayee and Advani are proud RSS members. The end of the policy of Hindutva will be a welcome development. Sikh support for the Congress Party is also a by-product of the corrupt Parkash Singh Badal regime in Punjab, the most corrupt government in Punjab's history. The Badal government even invented a new word for bribery: fee for service. However, it was a Congress government that attacked the Golden Temple and carried out the massacre of Sikhs in Delhi and throughout India.

As your own nephew pointed out, Sikhs can never forget the attack on the Golden

Temple. Thus it is disturbing to read that you have said you intend to follow the policies of Rajiv Gandhi. His policy was the murder of at least 8,000 Sikhs in Delhi alone and over 20,000 throughout India. It is also disturbing that your party gave tickets to Jagdish Tytler and Sajjan Kumar, who are responsible for ordering the murders of thousands of Sikhs in Delhi, and that Tytler was appointed to your Cabinet. Tytler and Sajjan Kumar supplied gasoline for these murders and incited the crowd. These people belong in jail, not in the government.

I hope that you will not follow such undemocratic, anti-secularist, anti-Sikhs policies. Policies such as these have made it clear that there is no place for Sikhs in India. If you are truly committed to secularism, you cannot follow such brutal, repressive policies against Sikhs and other minorities. The brutal policies have brought about the murders of over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, more than 87,000 Kashmiri Muslims since 1988, over 300,000 Christians in Nagaland, and tens of thousands of Assamese, Bodos, Dalits, Manipuris, and other minorities. The United States State Department exposed the fact that between 1992 and 1994, a Congress government paid out more than 41,000 cash bounties to police officers for killing Sikhs. One officer received a bonus for murdering a three-year-old boy, claiming the toddler was a "terrorist."

The time has come for India to make a clean break with its past by punishing those responsible for these actions, compensating the victims' families, and committing itself to preventing and punishing such acts in the future. This will show your commitment to secular, democratic government and not the theocratic repression of the country's past governments.

India is a very fractured country. Because of past history, no party is able to unify the people and command a majority of the support, so coalition governments are inevitable. Coalition governments are inherently unstable. For example, the support of India's three Communist parties for your coalition weakens your ability to pursue good relations with the United States and other Western countries, which could increase India's isolation from the world.

History also shows us that multinational countries are doomed to failure. Austria-Hungary, the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, and Yugoslavia are examples of this. India is a multinational state, not a single country, thrown together by British colonialists and with 18 official languages. How can such a country be held together except by massive repression and bloodshed? And the repression has simply created greater resentment of the central government, which also strengthens the support for the 17 independence movements throughout India. Either way, holding India together is a futile enterprise destined to fail.

Since India is a democracy, I urge you to solve this problem the democratic way. In 1947, India committed itself to a plebiscite on the status of Kashmir. The Sikhs also seek their freedom and sovereignty, as the Nagas and others also do. If India is truly the world's largest democracy, why not simply allow the people to decide their status by a free and fair vote. That is the way that you achieved power, by the people's votes. Why not let the people vote on this critical issue? The essence of democracy is the right of self-determination.

As a Sikh, you are aware that the Sikh Nation is a separate nation which was supposed to receive sovereignty at the time of India's independence. As you know, Sikhs ruled Punjab from 1710 to 1716 and from 1765 to 1849. No Sikh representative has signed the Indian Constitution to this day. Every day,

Sikhs pray "Raj Kare Ga Khalsa," the Khalsa shall rule. As you know, the Sikh Nation declared its independence from India on October 7, 1987, calling their new country Khalistan. As former Jathedar of the Akal Takht Professor Darshan Singh has said, "If a Sikh is not a Khalistani, he is not a Sikh."

I know that you are a Sikh, Mr. Prime Minister. I can see your turban. I know that you are concerned about the future of the Sikh Nation. Therefore, I urge you to sit down with Sikh representatives and negotiate the boundaries of a sovereign, independent, free Khalistan. This is the best thing that you can do for the Sikh Nation, your own people, and it is the best way to ensure that India goes the way of Czechoslovakia, not that of Yugoslavia. Please spare India, Khalistan, and all the nations of South Asia any further bloodshed.

Congratulations again on your new position.

Sincerely,

DR. GURMIT SINGH AULAKH,
President, Council of Khalistan.

IN HONOR OF DAVID SABLE

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, the adage if you want something done ask a busy person to do it was never more true than in the case of David Sable. For more than 20 years he has been busy in marketing communications, becoming vice chair and president of Wunderman's worldwide operations.

But there is another side of Mr. Sable, one which led the Riverdale Jewish Center to honor him at their 50th anniversary celebration, a decision they said wasn't particularly difficult.

He was raised in Riverdale from early childhood, the son of the founding Rabbi of the Riverdale Jewish Center. He has served the RJC with extraordinary tenure as President and is currently the Chair of the Board of Trustees. He is, in their words, understanding of the RJC past, an integral part of its present, and a source of confidence for its future.

He also has served his community in a larger sense, as a member of New York City's Cultural Advisory Committee and a member of the steering committee for the Mail Industry Task Force of the United States Post Office.

His love for Israel is well known. With the breakout of the Yom Kippur war, he joined the Israeli Defense Force as a combat medic. He is a member of the Board of the Tzfat Foundation. He has also served the RJC as Youth Director and Vice President.

A celebration of the Riverdale Jewish Center without David Sable would not be a true celebration. I congratulate him and the RJC for all the good work both have accomplished in Riverdale and beyond.

RECOGNIZING JUSTIN MYERS FOR
ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE
SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Justin Myers, a very special

young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 320, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Justin has been very active with his troop by participating in many Scout activities, earning numerous merit badges, and serving in a variety of leadership positions. He has held such positions as Patrol Leader, Assistant Patrol Leader, and Senior Patrol Leader, as well as Troup Guide. Justin has attended camp at Saukenauk Scout Reservation as well as Camp Maumee and Polar Bear Camp. He has also attended a High Adventure in Elk Horn, Colorado and a National High Adventure in the Northern Tier Bissett. Justin's dedication is quite impressive as he has been a member of four separate Councils through his career in the Scouts. For his Eagle Scout project, Justin organized the materials for him and his fellow Scouts to construct a safe and enjoyable playground area for the children of the Clay County Christian Church.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Justin Myers for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO HONORABLE WARD
WHARTON MCFARLAND

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember and pay tribute to one of Alabama's most esteemed citizens on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of his passing. Today a flag flies over the Capitol building to honor the man who contributed to the state of Alabama as an educator, lawyer, and as a businessman. The Honorable Ward McFarland taught at the University of Alabama in the Economics Department for two years prior to practicing law in Tuscaloosa. He served as both State Highway Director and Docks Director for the state, and participated in International Commerce on behalf of the State of Alabama in order to recruit industry. His efforts were recognized in 1979, at the time of his death, as the Alabama State Senate commended him as one of the state's most outstanding and contributing citizens.

Mr. McFarland founded a multi-million dollar real estate empire that included the construction of malls, apartment complexes, medical buildings, restaurants, hotels, and neighborhoods throughout Alabama and the South. His works were again recognized this past year as Alabama Governor Bob Riley proclaimed June 20, 2003 to be James Elisha Folsom, Sr.-Ward Wharton McFarland Day, placing him alongside the governor with whom he had worked during two administrations. Concomitant to that proclamation came the naming of a highway in Alabama the "Folsom-McFarland Highway".

His legacy reaches well beyond the borders of Alabama as well. Mr. McFarland served in the Navy during WWII, during which his vessel was bombed. Accepting Medical Discharges along with all other survivors of the incident, he came home to enlist in the U.S. Army Air Corps. His resolute patriotism during this time

served as a foreshadowing of the resolve he maintained in all other enterprises in his life. Mr. McFarland has a lasting legacy in the state of Alabama, one that will continue to be echoed in the structures that he helped build, and the minds and determinations that he helped to mold in the next generations of Alabama's citizens.

Mr. Speaker, I know that the citizens of Alabama are aware of and appreciate all that Mr. McFarland has done for his state. I am now honored to recognize his accomplishments to this House of Representatives in our nation's Capitol.

CONGRATULATING BEDFORD FIRE
DEPARTMENT #1, INC. ON 200TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Bedford Fire Department #1, Inc. on its 200th Anniversary and to extend my sincere gratitude for the selfless actions of so many firefighters over the years. The citizens of Bedford, Pennsylvania are undoubtedly grateful for all that they have done.

The history of firefighting in Pennsylvania can be traced back to the early 1700's. Ben Franklin, a Philadelphia resident at the time, developed a fine-tuned system of volunteer firefighters that could handily combat the threat of fire within the city limits. When referring to how this cooperative technique worked, Franklin said,

Soon after [a fire] is seen and cried out, the place is crowded by active men of different ages, professions and titles who, as of one mind and rank, apply themselves with all vigilance and resolution, according to their abilities, to the hard work of conquering the increasing fire.

The Bedford Fire Department is one of the oldest fire departments in the United States, founded in 1804. For 200 years this entirely volunteer department, which now consists of 82 members, has successfully collaborated to provide safety and protection for over 11,000 people within an area of 210 square miles.

These volunteer firefighters deserve the highest honors for constantly putting themselves in harm's way to protect and save fellow citizens. Their unselfish valor and relentless dedication to their community make them special, and certainly worthy of praise.

The two stations built within the rural area provide the necessary resources for the firefighters to perform to the best of their ability and handle any variety of situations. The volunteers spend countless hours planning and implementing fundraising events to maintain adequate facilities, provide each firefighter with the proper equipment, and ensure the continued success of the department.

I am tremendously appreciative of the vital duties that the Bedford Fire Department performs and for the time it spends contributing to the safety of the Bedford community. Congratulations on reaching the 200 year milestone! I am proud to have the distinguished honor to represent such a reputable group of volunteers.

RECOGNIZING THE SUCCESS OF
THE THIRD ANNUAL MID-MICHIGAN
NATIONAL DANCE WEEK

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure today to recognize the outstanding success of the third Annual Mid-Michigan National Dance Week. National Dance Week is a wonderful opportunity for the children in Michigan's Eighth District as it encourages their cultural growth and promotes their physical well-being. In late April, over 450 mid-Michigan dancers representing 16 dance, gymnastics and performing arts studios delighted over 3,000 spectators who enjoyed a weekend filled with free, family-oriented entertainment.

Over the past 23 years, National Dance Week has actively encouraged the growth of dance in America. Today, National Dance Week is providing an opportunity for many young Michiganders to learn about the cultural and artistic expression of dance.

Mr. Speaker, National Dance Week is broadening the horizons and opening doors for many of mid-Michigan's most talented dancers. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the success of National Dance Week 2004 and to wish continued success to National Dance Week this year and beyond.

GIRL SCOUTS OF THE U.S.A.
AWARD WINNER, MOLLY GOODMAN OF ASTORIA, ILLINOIS

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to salute an outstanding young woman who has been honored with the Girl Scouts of the USA Gold Award by Girl Scouts of Two Rivers Council in Quincy, Illinois. She is Molly Goodman of Astoria, Illinois.

She is being honored for earning the highest achievement award in Girl Scouting. The Girl Scout Gold Award symbolizes outstanding accomplishments in the areas of leadership, community service, career planning, and personal development. The Girl Scout Gold Award can be earned by girls ages 14–17 or in grades 9–12.

Girl Scouts of the USA, an organization serving over 2.6 million girls, has awarded more than 20,000 Girl Scout Gold Awards to Senior Girl Scouts since the inception of the program in 1980. To receive the award, a Girl Scout must fulfill five requirements: earn four interest project patches, earn the Career Exploration Pin, earn the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award, earn the Senior Girl Scout Challenge, and design and implement a Girl Scout Gold project. A plan for fulfilling the requirements of the award is created by the Senior Girl Scout and is carried out through close cooperation between the girl and an adult Girl Scout volunteer.

The earning of the Girl Scout Gold Award is a major accomplishment for Molly and I believe she should receive the public recognition due her for this significant service to her community and her country.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember our veterans and to mourn all our losses. Our words today cannot match the eloquence or power of the moment of silence that preceded them because that silence reflects all the voices that have been stilled by war.

Each Memorial Day we pause to remember those who have fallen in the service of our country. Sadly, in the last year we have added hundreds of names to that tragic roll call.

Among those names is that of twenty-six year old Specialist Joseph Carl Norquist, of Oakland, California in my district. Specialist Norquist died in Iraq on October 9, 2003. He was serving in the 588th Engineering Battalion. He died when his convoy came under fire, and he posthumously received the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart.

Today, my thoughts and prayers go out to Specialist Norquist's family and friends and to all of those who mourn loved ones that they have lost.

This weekend, we also dedicate the World War II Memorial on the Washington Mall, to honor the service of those veterans, to recognize their tremendous sacrifice, and to shudder to think for a moment about what our world might have been like had they not served.

Mr. Speaker, on Memorial Day, we are especially aware of the terrible costs of war. Let us also then re-dedicate ourselves to the cause of peace so that we can dream of a year when we add no new names to the roster of those who have fallen in battle.

CELEBRATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ADULT REHABILITATION CENTER OF THE SALVATION ARMY

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Adult Rehabilitation Center of the Salvation Army in Alexandria, Virginia.

The Adult Rehabilitation Center (ARC), is a social service organization dedicated to saving people from addiction, dysfunction, poverty, incarceration, and homelessness. It provides support to those who suffer from social and emotional needs and enables them to provide for themselves.

An impressive 600-person turnout at the dedication ceremony on January 29, 1984 re-

vealed both a need and support for the work of the ARC in Northern Virginia.

The ARC provides adequate housing, therapy and employment in an orderly and nourishing environment. ARC focuses on the physical and spiritual needs of participants to facilitate re-entry into society through gainful employment. Frequently those who are rehabilitated experience a normal lifestyle.

ARC is also unique in that its programs are self supporting. Items such as clothing and household items are brought to the salvation centers, repaired and refurbished and then resold to the public in the Salvation Army Thrift Stores.

Finally, ARC does not discriminate based on race, color or religious belief and is open to all men with a treatable handicap. Because of these distinct and honest characteristics, the Salvation Army is very successful. Since its inception ARC has provided an invaluable asset to the Northern Virginia community. Its services are greatly appreciated.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to congratulate the Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center of Alexandria on 20 years of successful service. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding their efforts to prepare individuals in body, mind and spirit for active useful roles in society.

TRIBUTE TO ANTHONY ACEVEDO

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I pay tribute today to Anthony Acevedo. He is a man who has exuded integrity and great character throughout his life, and it gives me no greater pleasure than joining today with family and friends in honoring this great patriot.

Anthony was born in San Bernardino, before moving to Mexico at the age of 13 where he was schooled. His overwhelming feelings of patriotism, however, brought him back to the United States where he registered for the draft and was inducted in August of 1943. As a member of the 70th Division, 275th Regiment, Company B, he was sent to Marseilles, France in December 1944 to fight on the front lines of WWII.

Anthony paid the ultimate price of being a soldier when he was captured during the Battle of the Bulge in the winter of 1944 and forced to endure unparalleled torture. Yet through it all, he remained proud, determined, and hopeful. Throughout his time serving our Nation, he always exhibited a tremendous passion and a deep resolve to fight for the freedoms that Americans experience on a daily basis. He is truly one of our American heroes.

Today, I am proud to join family and friends in paying tribute to Anthony Acevedo, a true American patriot. His unselfish duty to our country should not be overlooked. He is a symbol of all that we, as Americans, strive to be and I present to him today my steadfast thanks for his service.

RECOGNIZING ERIC G. ANDERSON
FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF
EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Eric G. Anderson, a very special

young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1024, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Eric has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities and earning a number of merit badges. For his Eagle Scout project, Eric built a one-hundred fifty-foot vinyl fence at the Earnest Shepard Center in Liberty, Missouri. Eric will be graduating

from Liberty High School this month and will begin his college career next fall at the Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Eric G. Anderson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.