

# HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHINA THE CONTINUING STORY OF REPRESSION AND ABUSE

## HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 1995

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, we are only days away from the 6th anniversary of the Tiananmen Square massacre which was the Chinese Government's violent response to the peaceful prodemocracy demonstrations of students and other Chinese citizens in 1989.

As the anniversary of the Tiananmen Square pro-democracy movement approaches, the Chinese Government now turns its attention to prominent dissidents who have petitioned the Government for greater tolerance of dissent. Wang Dan, one of the leaders of the 1989 movement, is among those who have been detained.

The men and women who bravely stand up for human rights, democratic reform, and greater tolerance deserve our support and encouragement. They are the hope for the future of China. However, disturbing trends of abuse of human rights call us to realistic see the Chinese Government for what it is: butchers and despots who have no regard for human life and dignity.

In the course of the last 2 years we have watched as human rights have continued to deteriorate in China. New laws which restrict religious activity for both the underground and Government-sponsored Christian were issued in January 1994.

Recent reports confirm that the Chinese Government's attack on religious believers is increasing. During the Easter celebration the Public Security Bureau in Linchuan County arrested 40 pro-Vatican Catholics suspected of organizing a Mass attended by nearly 20,000 worshippers. Eleven of these people are still being detained.

A Protestant minister, Li Dexian, his wife, and several companions were arrested and detained in April while conducting a worship service. Pastor Li was beaten and kicked during this detention. This was the fourth time he was arrested in 4 months.

And citizens of two predominantly Catholic villages in Liangshou County have been forced to flee their homes and go into hiding to escape the brutal torture by the population control officials because they refuse to follow the one-child-per-couple policy. They refuse to bow to the new population slogan of "Better to have more graves than more than one child." The villagers report that they have been subjected to being hanged upside down and having their tongues burned with electric wires.

The new law on maternal and infant health care enacted in October 1994 is in actuality a eugenic law, reminiscent of the Nazi eugenic policies of an earlier era. This law prohibits marriage between people if one of them has "a serious hereditary disease, which is medically deemed unsuitable for reproduction" unless the couple would agree to take long-lasting contraceptive measures or give up child bearing by undergoing ligation." The law further states that when a woman is determined to be carrying a child that may carry "serious hereditary diseases \* \* \* or have a serious deformity," the pregnancy should be terminated.

Dr. John Aird, former Chief of the China Branch at the U.S. Census Bureau, said "Coercion in the Chinese family planning program has in the past 2 years reached its second extreme peak approaching or perhaps exceeding the levels of 1983."

Couples have no right to determine the number and spacing of their children. Those that choose to violate the one-child-per-couple policy may be hunted down like animals. Women are forced to abort their babies, many are sterilized. Those that do have a second or third child are usually subjected to loss of jobs and property, harassment, and fines that far exceed their income.

Another area of concern is the extensive prison labor system which exists in China. No other system like it exists in the world today. It is the most extensive forced-labor system in the world, and this system has destroyed the lives of millions of people, and it continues to do so.

When I was in China last year I met with several people who bear the permanent scars of years in Chinese prison labor camps. I heard their stories of beating and torture and saw for myself the broken bodies which these camps create.

New, disturbing evidence that prisoners are being executed so their body parts can be sold for transplants is now coming to light. There are even reports that some prisoners are having their kidneys removed before they are dead. Harry Wu, himself a survivor of the prison labor system has documented this body trafficking practice on film. How much more do we need to see before we are convinced that the Chinese Government has no concern for human life whatsoever?

Concern for human rights in China has been virtually ignored by the Clinton administration since last year's renewal of MFN. Official after official has traveled to China and human rights has not been on their agenda.

Mr. Clinton has an opportunity to lessen the damage done by extending MFN at the cost of human rights when he attends the G-7 meeting in Nova Scotia on June 15. I join my colleagues in urging the President to raise the deterioration of human rights in China at this meeting.

But should he forget the dissidents, the prisoners, the tortured, the abused, the murdered, we Members of Congress will not. The Subcommittee on Foreign Operations and Human Rights, which I chair, has held two hearings on human rights abuses in China. The first on the Laogai prison labor system, the second on the coercive population control policies. These were the first hearings of their kind to be held by a congressional committee. Future hearings will focus on other forms of human rights abuse in China.

The Chinese people who value freedom, democracy, and human rights deserve our support.

THANKS, AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 251

## HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 1995

Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to ask my colleagues to join me

in recognition of American Legion Post No. 251 of Montclair, NJ. Post No. 251 has been an invaluable resource in its community. For more than 60 years, it has provided services ranging from youth educational opportunities to sports and recreational activities. In addition to these quite laudatory services, Post No. 251 has left an indelible mark with regard to the essential role that Black Americans have played in the American military.

In fact, on May 26, 1995 at the Friar Tuck Inn in Cedar Grove, NJ, Post No. 251 will honor the Nation's African-American service people with its Salute to All Black Veterans. This event will be held in commemoration of the numerous Black men and women who have so valiantly served this country. Among those to be honored include Crawford Crews, for whom Post No. 251 is named after. Crews was a member of the illustrious all Black 369th Infantry Regiment of New York. This unit fought in the trenches for 191 consecutive days without losing a foot of ground, a single prisoner, or the battle against the Germans. Additionally, three other Montclair residents Austin Barnes, Alonzo Mills, and Benjamin Smith, who all fought in World War I, will also be honored.

While our Nation has been extremely slow to pay the respect and homage to the Nation's Black veterans that they deserve, Post No. 251 has attempted to pick up the slack. For this, we must pay them our deepest thanks.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for allowing me this opportunity to share with my colleagues of the tremendously beneficial works that American Legion Post No. 251 is contributing to the Essex County community.

TRIBUTE TO FATHER GEORGE THOMAS BROWNE

## HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 1995

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Father George Thomas Browne. Father Browne is the pastor at St. Angela Parish in Roseville, MI and on June 4 he will celebrate the 40th anniversary of his ordination as a priest.

It is my sincere pleasure to congratulate Father Browne on what I am sure is a proud anniversary. The devotion he has displayed to his faith and the community over these past 40 years is an inspiration. In addition to the many parishes at which he has served as pastor, Father Browne has also been a chaplain for Sinai Hospital in Detroit, the Marine City Fire Department, the blue Water Fire Fighters, and the Knights of Columbus.

Many people depend on the emotional, educational, and spiritual support provided by their pastor or chaplain. Too often, many human needs are left unsatisfied in the secular world and I know that he has conscientiously attempted to see those need met. Whether saying a Sunday morning Mass or serving as a Archdiocesan school board member, which he did in the late 60's, Father Browne has dedicated his life to the Lord's work.

I am always impressed by the many people committed to improving our communities. And, I am always pleased when constituents ask me to recognize the contributions of such an

individual. Earlier this month, I had the opportunity to meet with about 90 students from St. Angela School. On June 2, many of these same students along with their teachers and families will be holding a special mass and liturgy for Father Browne. I was pleased to meet the students and their chaperones and am grateful that I was asked by them to officially recognize Father Browne on his anniversary. It is always privilege to pay tribute to someone who is so well respected by members of the community.

As a former seminarian, I feel a certain affinity with Father Browne. Although our paths have differed, I am pleased that Father Browne and I are able to share a constituency. I commend him for his work and faith and wish him continued success in his role as a religious leader.

I ask my colleagues to please join me in offering heartfelt congratulations to Father George Browne on this momentous milestone.

#### 12TH ANNUAL OBSERVANCE OF NATIONAL MISSING CHILDREN'S DAY

#### HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 1995*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the 12th annual observance of National Missing Children's Day and to recognize Child Quest International, Inc., a San Jose based nonprofit organization, for all of their tireless efforts on behalf of missing children. As of this year, Child Quest International has assisted in the recovery of 1,016 missing children.

More than 1,000,000 children are reported missing in the United States each year and between 20,000 and 50,000 of those remain missing for more than 1 year. Child Quest International was founded in 1990 and formed to protect and recover missing, abused, and exploited children. Child Quest International works to successfully reunite missing children with their families and to provide support and referral services to children who have been abused and exploited.

Child Quest International assists families 24 hours a day, 365 days a year through a nationwide toll-free number. Its caseworkers all have criminal justice backgrounds with the expertise to investigate cases and provide technical assistance and counseling to families. They have a worldwide photo distribution network over which they can distribute posters and flyers. They are able to do mass and direct mailings and utilize mass media such as television, radio, newspapers, billboards, and bus signs. Child Quest International differs from other nonprofit organizations, in that it also utilizes new technologies such as computer information networks and computer digitized photographs.

Child Quest International also provides support and referral services for families worldwide in the following areas: abused and exploited children, Grandparents' rights, and missing adults. They provide mediation services for parents and children and referrals for counseling and therapy. Child Quest International is also very active in education and prevention through TV and radio programs, public service announcements, presentations

at schools, service clubs, and community events, and such services as the S.T.O.P. kidnapping program.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend Child Quest International for its dedication to the protection and recovery of missing, abused, and exploited children on this 12th annual observance of National Missing Children's Day.

#### IN HONOR OF SISTER M. HELEN RITA FOR HER 65 YEARS AS SIS- TER OF ST. JOSEPH

#### HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 1995*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sister M. Helen Rita, S.S.J., for her 65 years of dedication to God and the community. A 12 noon mass will be held in her honor at St. Andrew's Church on June 4, 1995 with a reception to follow afterward.

Sister M. Helen Rita, a native of Pennsylvania, entered the Sisters of St. Joseph at Chestnut Hill on Sept. 10, 1930. She has been a teacher at the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, PA and Newark. She was also a teacher at the Diocese of Charlotte in North Carolina.

Sister Rita has been a teacher at the St. Andrew School for 29 years. She is a wonderful person who has shared her knowledge and love with those around her. Her dedication to the children is second to none. She has shown the children love, compassion, and understanding.

Sister Rita is a loving and caring person and I am proud to have her as one of my constituents. She has worked hard to mold and shape the young minds of our children. Her tireless efforts and support is very much appreciated.

Please join me in honoring such a great person. Sister M. Helen Rita has been an inspiration to us all. Her dedication and love will never be forgotten. May God bless her and may her wisdom and love be an inspiration to us all.

#### TRIBUTE TO ROBERT B. LEWIS

#### HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 1995*

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize an outstanding teacher, coach, and principal as he retires from the Morley Stanwood school system. On June 5, 1995, Robert B. Lewis will retire from 30 years of service in Michigan junior and senior high schools.

Bob taught classes in industrial arts throughout his teaching career, and students in his classes found they were learning from a truly gifted instructor. Their work was described by other industrial arts instructors as unbelievable. Under his tutelage, students earned award after award at both local and State level competitions constructing canoes, model ships, carvings, and furniture.

But Bob's commitment to Michigan's youth did not end with the end of the schoolday. After the last class bell rang, he spent his time as a coach of both football and basketball

teams. Throughout his career he coached team after team to victory. In Ellsworth, MI, his basketball team finished their 1966 season with 16 wins, 3 losses, and a league championship.

But Bob's capabilities reached far beyond both teaching and coaching, to administration. In 1992, Bob became the principal of Pickford Junior-Senior High School, in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, and here he once again demonstrated his enormous capacity for leadership. During his tenure on the other side of the desk, Bob earned a reputation as an exceptionally fair and clear-minded administrator. Teachers and students alike appreciated and admired his firm but fair approach to discipline as well as his unfailingly caring and generous nature toward his students and colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, Robert Lewis's love for and dedication to Michigan's youth is clear. He has consistently gone beyond what was expected or required to achieve excellence not only in teaching, but also in coaching and in administration. His reputation as a kind, honest, and hard-working public servant will reverberate through the halls of Michigan schools for many years to come. I know you will join me in recognizing his achievements and wishing him a satisfying retirement.

#### TRIBUTE TO MARLENE HOWARD, BIG SISTER

#### HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 1995*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, in a few days, we will be honoring Marlene Howard on the occasion of her retirement from Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Monmouth County.

Many of my colleagues in the House of Representatives met Marlene during her days in Washington as the right hand to her husband, Jim Howard, former chairman of the House Public Works and Transportation Committee. She is affectionately and respectfully remembered by many in Washington, DC, as a driving force behind many initiatives that resulted in saving thousands of lives and improving the condition of millions of other lives.

Day after day, week after week, Marlene provided the gentle but persistent encouragement that helped Jim Howard gain enactment of anti-drunk-driving legislation, reduction in the speed limit, and other important highway safety measures. As a leader in the Congressional Wives Club, Marlene made sure the other congressional wives lobbied their husbands to vote for these life-saving bills.

She fought for other important causes, including increased funding for mental health programs, human rights and quality television programming for children. Without Marlene's initial and ongoing support, we would not have a flourishing congressional award for young people in New Jersey and elsewhere around the country.

Marlene's involvement in helping at-risk teenagers and children extends back to her days in Washington when she was on the advisory board of the Washington Metropolitan Area Big Sisters. She received the Special Recognition Award in 1982 for her outstanding service as a caseworker and as the most active volunteer on the advisory board. In November a year earlier, she was honored as