

serve their community for another hundred years.

PUNCH DRUNK AFTER ONLY ONE ROUND?

HON. CYNTHIA A. MCKINNEY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 1995

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, I am outraged and dismayed that the Voting Rights Section of the United States Justice Department seems punch drunk after only one round. Is it that the lawyers over there have forgotten the rich and violent heritage that resulted in their employment?

The Voting Rights Act was won only after tears had been shed and blood had been spilt. People died for the passage of the Voting Rights Act. And that our country could survive the turmoil and emerge a better place for all of us is a tribute to our strength.

But the Justice Department is about to let us down. The headline in yesterday's Atlanta Constitution just about tells it all: Another majority-black district at risk. It reads, "The U.S. Justice Department has abandoned its defense of Georgia's 2nd Congressional District, and state attorneys on Monday admitted that race dictated the drawing of its lines—putting the future of another majority-black district in jeopardy."

Anybody can be a star when times are good. It was adversity that made Dr. Martin Luther King the strength of a nation. It was adversity that made John Lewis a hero to us all. Shame on you, Department of Justice. Shame on you!

REVEREND DOCTOR V. SIMPSON TURNER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 1995

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a shining star in the great borough of Brooklyn, NY, the Rev. Doctor V. Simpson Turner, who this year celebrates his 30th year as senior pastor of the historic Mt. Carmel Baptist Church in Brooklyn, NY.

Dr. Turner's achievements during his pastorate have been many, including the rebuilding in 1978 of a new church complex and education facilities, costing over \$2 million. Again, he oversaw the rebuilding of the church sanctuary after a devastating fire in 1986. In 1995, the Mt. Carmel Housing Development Corp. developed 78 units of housing, and in March of that year, 38 families realized their dreams of home ownership and moved into the Mt. Carmel town houses. The latest project undertaken by the church includes developing plans to build a home for the homeless near the church at a proposed cost of over \$3 million.

Other initiatives during the past 30 years have included: a homework center for youngsters of all ages, a high school equivalency program, a senior services and handicapped bus ministry, and a radio ministry.

In addition to pastoring Mt. Carmel Church, Dr. Turner has been active in numerous com-

munity organizations. He serves as president of the board of trustees of the Baptist Medical Center, and serves on the board of trustees of Gordon College, the Baptist home for the elderly, and the Brooklyn public library. His ecumenical involvement includes: chairman, Department of Communications, Council Churches of the city of New York; former president, North American Baptist Fellowship of the Baptist World Alliance; member of the board of directors, Religion in American Life; and, former president, Baptist Minister's Conference of Greater New York. Dr. Turner is also a member of Brooklyn Community Board #3. He is an adjunct professor of urban concerns at Alliance Theological Seminary, and he appears regularly as a radio and television host. Dr. Turner has traveled throughout the world as a featured preacher.

Dr. Turner has been honored by many community groups, including: the NYC Bureau of Child Welfare, the United Builders Association, the Boy Scouts of America, and the YMCA. He was appointed by the Governor of the State of New York to the New York State Commission on Health Education and Illness Prevention.

Dr. Turner has a B.A. from Gordon College, an M.S. from Biblical Seminary of New York City; an M.T.S. from New York Theological Seminary; and a D.Min. from Drew University. He is the author of "Compassion for the City," used throughout the country as a textbook for students pursuing urban ministry. For 10 years, he served as editor of the Baptist Progress, the official journal of the Progressive National Baptist Convention.

Dr. Turner is married to Laura B. Turner, an educator, and they have two children.

I am pleased to bring the life and service of the Rev. Doctor V. Simpson Turner to the attention of my colleagues and commend him on a ministry well-served and a life well-lived.

STATEMENT OF CAROL ANN DEVINE AS READ BY BIANCA JAGGER AT THE CONGRESSIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS CAUCUS ON SEPTEMBER 27, 1995

HON. ROBERT G. TORRICELLI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 1995

Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following statement and recommend it to my colleagues:

On June 8, 1990, my husband, Michael Vernon DeVine, was kidnapped and almost completely decapitated by members of the Guatemalan military. Michael was a kind, gentle, and honest man. He devoted himself to our family and our business, and was a good friend to our neighbors in Popun, Peten where we lived. He was not politically active.

After Michael's assassination, many wonderful people supported my children and me in our efforts to find out who killed Michael and why, and to bring to justice those responsible for his murder. Remarkably, six soldiers were convicted and sentenced to 30 years in prison. One officer, Captain Hugo Contreras, was also convicted. The day that he was sentenced, Captain Contreras was allowed to escape from the military base at which he was held. As is typical in Guatemala, no other officer was held responsible. Anyone at all familiar with Guatemala

knows that it would be impossible for a group of low-ranking Guatemalan soldiers to travel by army vehicle 100 kms, as Michael's killers did, to murder a U.S. citizen without orders and promises of protection from their superiors. Several officers, including Colonel Guillermo Portillo Gomez, Julio Roberto Alpirez, and Mario Roberto Garcia Catalan, were clearly implicated in ordering the murder or the attempted cover-up, but they were never brought to justice.

In March of this year, I was stunned to learn that Congressman Robert Torricelli had received information that Colonel Alpirez, whom we had always suspected of involvement, had indeed been a paid asset of the CIA, and had helped at least to facilitate and cover-up my husband's murder. Congressman Torricelli's revelations raised serious questions about the role of various U.S. government agencies in handling Michael's death. Consequently, the White House ordered a government-wide inquiry to answer these questions, as well as questions raised about other Guatemalan human rights cases. I am indebted to Congressman Torricelli for making public information about Alpirez and allegations of U.S. Government wrongdoing, and for insisting on serious investigations.

As shocked as we were by the disclosure of possible U.S. Government misconduct related to Michael's assassination, my children and I became hopeful that we would finally learn the complete truth about Michael's death. I have since filed dozens of Freedom of Information Act [FOIA] requests, cooperated with U.S. government investigators who are assigned to examine the circumstances of my husband's murder, and met with members of Congress.

Now, however, I am becoming increasingly discouraged that we will never learn the full truth of what happened to Michael, why he was murdered, or what part the U.S. government may have played. My children and I were especially discouraged after reading the four-page summary of the 700-page CIA report, part of which focused on my husband's case. I believe that the summary report side-steps all the basic questions about Michael's murder, and contains misleading statements.

For example, we still do not know the details of what the CIA knew and when, and why the CIA continued its relationship with Colonel Alpirez after having information that he was connected to Michael's assassination. We also do not know why the CIA eventually decided to terminate its relationship with Alpirez.

In addition, the summary report makes no mention of facts which have already been publicly established, such as Alpirez's role in facilitating the murder by providing the assassins with a place to stay, and attempting to cover up military responsibility. This omission is quite misleading, and appears, inexplicably, to be an attempt to cast Alpirez in a positive light. I also believe that it is misleading for the CIA to say that it is aware of no information indicating that its "employees" were involved, while failing to mention paid assets such as Alpirez.

Equally troubling is the CIA's failure to release its full report. It is obviously impossible to respond to some of the conclusions in the summary report without knowing the basis for those conclusions. How can I or anybody else be confident that there was no involvement on Colonel Alpirez's part in ordering Michael's murder, or that there is no other information about CIA wrongdoing, without at least knowing what the full report says? The failure to disclose anything more than a four-page summary makes me wonder what the CIA is trying to hide.

I gather that a number of people who have seen the full CIA report believe it to be unsatisfactory in many respects. Based on the contents of the CIA's summary report, I can well imagine that the full report is seriously flawed. I hope that all of you here today will encourage the CIA to conduct further investigations and to release publicly the full 700-page report so that answers can be provided to the many unresolved questions in the case.

The inadequacy of the CIA's investigation and its failure to disclose the basis for its findings makes me seriously doubt how much I, or the United States and Guatemalan people, will ever really learn about what happened, and the role of the United States or its intelligence assets. One of the unfortunate effects in Guatemala of the CIA summary report is that Colonel Alpirez is now being publicly vindicated of all involvement. In addition, last month a Guatemalan appeals court upheld a military court ruling that cleared Colonel Garcia Catalan of any connection to Michael's murder. Despite strong evidence that Garcia Catalan author-

ized Michael's kidnapping and assassination or at least participated in the cover-up, the appeals court held that since an earlier trial had already resulted in convictions, there was no basis to proceed with charges against Garcia Catalan.

The results of my FOIA requests have been as discouraging to me as the CIA summary report. I have received complete denials, on a variety of grounds, from the DEA, Interpol, and the Attorney General. The DEA has acknowledged that it has documents on Colonel Alpirez, but that it still will not release them because, for example, disclosure "may constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy," reveal the identity of a source, or relate to internal practices or policies of the DEA. I have received nothing, other than receipts for my requests, from the Department of Defense, the State Department, and the National Security Council. To date, the only documents I have received from any agency are a transcript from the CIA of William Studeman's statement at the open hearings held on April 5th by the Senate Select Intelligence Committee, and cop-

ies of two cables from Interpol which explain nothing.

I love Guatemala, but many terrible things happen there to innocent people. I believe that terrible things will continue to happen, and that there will never be real peace until the guilty parties are held accountable for their acts. For the sake of the people of Guatemala and the United States, as well as for my family, I ask all of you here today to press the Clinton administration for meaningful investigations, the fullest disclosure possible, and the declassification of all documents related to Michael's assassination.

Although my once unshakeable faith in the U.S. Government has been deeply challenged, I still want to believe that the government will do the right thing. I can see no good reason why my children and I should be prevented from knowing at least what our government knows about the facts of my husband's murder, and all those who played a part in ordering his execution, carrying it out, or covering up the true circumstances.

Thank you for your interest and support.