

of California and socialist independent Bernard Sanders of Vermont.

[From the News India-Times, Nov. 10, 1995]

BIGGEST THREAT TO LOBBYING EFFORTS

WASHINGTON.—“Sikh nation” activists led by Gurmit Singh Aulakh perhaps pose the biggest challenge and threat to India’s lobbying efforts in the capital, only next to the anti-India campaign funded by pro-Pakistan forces.

Aulakh got some print mileage last week in the conservative daily paper, Washington Times, which promptly published his offensive “encounter” with his bete noir, none other than the Indian ambassador to the US, Siddhartha Shankar Ray. The juicy part of the report is that Aulakh called Ray “a murderer.”

According to the paper, Aulakh, “a leader of Sikh expatriates”, spotted Ray in the Longworth House Office Building one day last month. “I walked up to him and told him, you are a murderer and you should not be walking these halls,” Aulakh told the paper describing his brief confrontation.

Aulakh, president of the Council of Khalistan, blames Ray for “widespread human rights abuses” when the ambassador was governor of Punjab in the late 1980s. “During that time thousands died in violence linked to Sikh demands for a separate land,” the paper said in its “embassy row” column, adding that “Ray could not be reached for comment.”

News India-Times learned that Ray, who was caught unawares by the intruder, had reportedly shot back, “Who are you?” Later an escort took Aulakh aside and asked him not to spoil the Hill meeting scheduled by Ray.

The Washington Times further said that Aulakh was organizing a rally in front of the White House at Lafayette Park on Nov. 4, culminating in a march to the Indian Embassy on the anniversary of a 1984 confrontation in Delhi in which thousands of Sikhs were killed.

Aulakh has also been publicizing a letter signed by 65 members of US Congress, calling on Indian Prime Minister Narasimha Rao to release “Sikh human rights activist” Jaswant Singh Khalra. The letter cites an Amnesty International bulletin of September 7, accusing Indian police of abducting Khalra.

Khalra “had published a report showing that the Punjab police have arrested more than 25,000 young Sikh men, tortured them, murdered them, then declared them unidentified and cremated their bodies,” the letter said.

“These atrocities are intolerable in any country, especially one that calls itself a democracy. . . . This abuse of police power is inexcusable.”

The letter, organized by Rep. Gary Condit, California Democrat, drew wide bipartisan congressional support, from lawmakers including conservative Republican Dan Burton of Indiana, liberal Democrat Ronald Dellums of California and socialist independent Bernard Sanders of Vermont.

The anti-India signature drive by the Council of Khalistan in terms of the number of lawmakers on the Hill it had mobilized, was simply too big to be overwhelmed by a pro-India signature drive such as the one mobilized by the India Caucus against the Brown amendment as only 40 house members had signed the caucus letter.

THE 54TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DAY OF INFAMY

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 1995

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, there is no American of my generation who does not recall where they were and what they were doing 54 years ago today.

On that day—which President Franklin D. Roosevelt labelled “a day which will live in infamy”—aircraft of the Japanese Empire staged a surprise attack on the army and naval forces stationed at Pearl Harbor, HI.

Striking without warning at 7:55 a.m. local time, the Japanese forces succeeded in sinking or severely damaging 19 of our naval vessels, including three battleships—the *West Virginia*, the *California*, and the *Arizona*. A fourth battleship—the *Oklahoma*—was capsized and a fifth—the *Nevada*—sustained heavy damage during a second strike by Japanese forces about an hour after the first. This second strike also succeeded in reducing three additional destroyers to wrecks.

Ninety-seven army airplanes and eighty naval aircraft were also destroyed by the Japanese in the attack, most of which while still on the ground at nearby Hickam and Wheeler fields.

The unexpected, immoral attack by Japan, which took place at the exact minute that peace negotiations were taking place in Washington, claimed the lives of over 2,000 men and women in the U.S. Navy, over 200 Army personnel, and 49 civilians.

As was the case with the bombardment of Fort Sumter for an earlier generation, and the assassination of President John F. Kennedy at a later time, the attack on Pearl Harbor radically altered the lives of millions of Americans and also changed the direction which our Nation had been following.

Prior to Pearl Harbor, the general attitude of millions of Americans was that the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans formed a great natural defense against any and all enemies. Accordingly, it was not only unnecessary but also undesirable for the United States to involve itself in international affairs under any circumstances. Such highly respected Americans as the aviator and national hero Charles A. Lindbergh, former U.S. President Herbert Hoover, and newspaper publisher Robert R. McCormick had for months publicly denounced any American involvement in World War II and received a great deal of support and acclaim from the American people for doing so. When the bombs fell on Pearl Harbor, all support for this point of view virtually evaporated overnight. All Americans put their prior political beliefs aside and joined in a united front to win the war in a manner of national unity never experienced by the American people before or since.

Although there has been great national debate on many important issues throughout the 54 years since the Day of Infamy, including the current ongoing debate regarding our involvement in Bosnia, never since Pearl Harbor has any American seriously suggested that our Nation completely withdraw from the international stage and depend upon the vastness of the oceans for our security. Although there have been many debates regarding our defense posture, never since Pearl Harbor has

anyone suggested that our military be dismantled.

The more than 2,400 military and naval personnel who gave their lives the morning of December 7, 1941, were joined by thousands more who made the supreme sacrifice in the European and Pacific theaters of World War II. Thousands of more courageous veterans risked and gave their lives in Korea, in Southeast Asia, and in the Persian Gulf. Thousands more are now being put into harm’s way in Bosnia. The courage and valor of our veterans has never been questioned throughout the 54 years since the Day of Infamy.

Some observers at the time, in numbers which have increased in frequency and in shrillness since Pearl Harbor, have contended that President Roosevelt was duplicitous in his foreign policy, and in fact knew that the attack on Pearl Harbor was coming. These partisan revisionists contend that the President wanted the disaster to take place at Pearl Harbor to unite the American people into fighting World War II.

These slanderous contentions against President Roosevelt are not only totally lacking in any supporting evidence, they also fly in the face of the massive historic evidence which is at our disposal. In all of his public statements at the time, in his private conferences with Winston Churchill and others which were made public after his death, and in private correspondence which is only now coming to light, President Roosevelt made it clear that his top priority was defeating Hitler and the Nazi hordes which had overrun Europe and North Africa. The last thing in the world President Roosevelt wanted was a war in the Pacific which would divert American attention and energies from defeating Nazi Germany.

In fact, in the days following Pearl Harbor, President Roosevelt fretted over how he could unite the American people against Hitler when all of our rage and energies were concentrated against the Japanese. Hitler himself solved this problem for Roosevelt when he declared war against the United States within a week. Recently, historians have argued that, if Hitler were smart enough to restrain from declaring war on us, it is conceivable that our anger against the Japanese would have prevented our ever entering the war in Europe.

In any case, there are none of us who can dispute that Pearl Harbor altered our Nation and each of our individual lives in ways that none of us could foresee 54 years ago.

Today, on December 7, it is the responsibility of those of us who remember that perfidious attack to remind younger generations of the valuable lessons we learned. We learned that we must never again give the perception of a weak defense posture. We learned that we cannot live isolated from the world. We also learned that, when threatened, the American people can act with unity and vigor in a manner unheard of in all previous history.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of our colleagues to join in reflecting on the meaning of this most significant of all days in our history.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TILLIE K. FOWLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 1995

Mrs. FOWLER. Mr. Speaker, due to a death in the family, I was not present for rollcall vote

No. 838. Had I been present I would have voted "yes."

CONGRESS IS READY; WHITE
HOUSE DRAGS

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 1995

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member commends to his colleagues an editorial which appeared in the Omaha World-Herald on December 5, 1995.

[From the Omaha World-Herald, Dec. 5, 1995]

CONGRESS IS READY; WHITE HOUSE DRAGS

Congress has gone further toward a balanced budget than many people thought possible just a few months ago. It happened in part because of the political courage of Republicans in Congress. They have agreed among themselves on a seven-year plan to balance the budget. They stuck to it even when public opinion polls rewarded President Clinton standing in their way.

Talks broke down last week. The two sides were trying for an agreement by Dec. 15, to avoid another partial shutdown of the government.

Each side accused the other of being inflexible. Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, referring to President Clinton's people, said, "They owe us a counteroffer." A White House spokesman said the Republicans failed to show how they would keep a Nov. 19 agreement to propose a budget that would acknowledge White House concerns about social and environmental programs.

Republicans displayed flexibility. Senate Budget Committee Chairman Pete Domenici, R-N.M., said that "everything is on the table," meaning everything is negotiable, including a seven-year, \$245 billion tax cut that the Republicans want and many Democrats oppose. Senator Domenici said that serious talks awaited only a gesture from Clinton, which Domenici said would consist of a proposal that would allow good-faith negotiating to begin.

Robert Reischauer, a Democrat, said that his party must eventually face the fact that a good many Americans have had it with \$170 billion annual deficits and a \$5 trillion national debt.

Reischauer, who served as director of the Congressional Budget Office when the Democrats controlled Congress, said: "The vast majority of Americans agree with the Republicans when it comes to bottom-line budget policy."

"They favor a balanced budget or a substantial reduction in the deficit," he said. "The President can't appear to be walking away from that. He can't be seen as defending the status quo."

But will that message get through to the White House? Clinton's resistance to a slower rate of increase in Medicare and other domestic programs was rewarded when polls indicated that his position attracted twice as much support as that of the GOP leaders. The determination of the Republicans to persevere has been demonstrated. But if they are willing to put everything on the table in the pursuit of a balanced budget, what's keeping the White House?

A 50TH ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE TO
THE 390TH BOMBARDMENT
GROUP (H)

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 1995

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the World War II veterans who served this country in the 390th Bombardment Group (H). During this 50th anniversary year of the end of World War II, it is fitting and appropriate to pay tribute to the 390th which flew 301 bombing missions in B-17's against the German war machine.

The veterans of the 390th have established a permanent memorial to and for those who made the supreme sacrifice and to all men who had served in the group during World War II. The memorial is a museum and is the source and location of the heritage, history, and honor of the 390th and the men who so proudly served in it.

The 390th Memorial Museum is located in Tucson, AZ on the grounds of the third largest air museum in the United States—the Pima Air and Space Museum. The 390th museum contains the beautifully restored B-17G "I'll be Around", an 11- by 23-foot mural of "Top Cover for the J Group" which is probably the most recognized picture of World War II. It also contains an honor wall, a gallery of crews, art and aircraft models, and many different items of memorabilia. The Joseph A. Moller Library, in the museum, contains over 79,000 pages of 390th combat history, over 9,000 photographs and is a research center for the air campaign of Central Europe.

After intensive training in the United States, the group was battle ready and sent to its base at Framlingham, England. On August 12, 1943, it flew its first operational mission bombing an instrument factory in Bonn, Germany.

During this period, 145 aircraft were missing in action. Overall, the 390th used up over 200 Flying Fortresses counting those battle damaged aircraft returning to England but immediately declared as salvage. At war's end, 88 aircraft were returned to the United States. The 390th earned two Presidential Unit Citations for conspicuous battle action over Regensburg and Schweinfurt in August and October, 1943.

On October 10, 1943, on a mission targeted at Munster, Germany, the 390th was credited with destroying 62 enemy fighters in air-to-air combat. This was the highest kill rate in a single day for any bomber or fighter group in the European Theater of Operations. That day, the group dispatched 18 aircraft and 8 of them were officially listed as missing in action. In their 301 missions the 390th was credited with the destruction of 377 enemy aircraft, 57 probably destroyed, and 77 damaged.

The price paid for these achievements was not small. Some 1,400 personnel of the 390th were killed in action. Only 15 of the 35 original combat crews, those which trained as part of the group in the States and launched the combat career of the 390th in the European Theater of Operations, finished their tours of operations—the others were missing in action. The museum is a memorial to the men of the 390th and those who made the supreme sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, it is vitally important that we remember the sacrifices made

by our veterans and those who today serve our country in the military. It is equally important that we remind future generations of the sacrifices made by our Nation's veterans.

THE EMPEROR NEEDS NEW
CLOTHES

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 1995

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to speak to you about the leader of the Republican revolution. Over the last year, we have watched House Republicans line up behind Speaker GINGRICH, marching in step, barking out the dogma of this so-called revolution. This whole incident reminds me of a story from when I was child. You see Mr. Speaker, once upon a time there was an emperor who needed some new clothes. When a con-artist of a tailor convinced the Emperor that the outfit he designed for the King was the latest fashion, the King marched proudly out into his kingdom receiving praise and accolades for his new suit. All of a sudden a small child approached the King and told him he was naked, that he was not wearing clothes. Although Democrats have been saying this all year, last night the House Ethics Committee unanimously told Emperor NEWT that he was not wearing any clothes. They found that he was guilty of violating three House rules. They appointed special counsel to investigate improper conduct. They sent him a scathing letter denouncing his actions on numerous other accounts. But stay tuned. We have not even started on chapter 2: "Nasty NEWT and the GOPAC Gang"

TRIBUTE TO BILL SHULTZ

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 1995

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, December 19, 1995, is a truly historical date. On this day Fender Musical Instruments will host the grand opening of a new facility in Corona, CA. This 90,000 square foot manufacturing operation, will produce high quality speakers and amplifiers, creating 250 new jobs for the Corona community.

A short 9 years ago this company almost became a historical statistic as a result of competition from Japan. The great name of Fender was close to being wiped out by cheap foreign imitations. Using economic advantages that did not exist in this country, the foreign product dominated the musical instrument business.

Led by its president, Bill Schultz, Fender Musical Instruments became the comeback story for the past decade. Moving to the city of Corona in 1986 with only 15 employees, this once great company was manufacturing just two dozen guitars per day. Faced with what many considered an uncertain future at best, the success story of quality and tradition began to unfold in my hometown of Corona.

Today, Fender Musical Instruments builds 350 high-end guitars per day and employs