

Khalistani leader Jagjit Singh Chohan, and the arrest of U.S. citizen Balbir Singh Dhillon on trumped-up charges.

The Sikhs feel they have no place in Indian democracy. Therefore, the Sikhs declared their independence in 1987, calling their new country Khalistan. For the people of Khalistan, the U.S. must continue to demand a full accounting of the policy of mass cremations. Additionally, we must demand the whereabouts of Mr. Khalra and the release of Mr. Dhillon.

PILGRIM BAPTIST CHURCH, RED BANK, NJ—A CENTURY OF SERVICE TO GOD AND COMMUNITY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, October 20, 1996, Pilgrim Baptist Church of Red Bank, NJ, will celebrate its 100th anniversary. It is an honor for me to pay tribute to this great milestone.

Pilgrim Baptist Church was founded in 1896 and has remained in Red Bank throughout that entire century of service to the community. The church's founders—who included the parents of one of Red Bank's most renowned citizens, the great bandleader Count Basie—held services in their own private homes until they were granted permission to share the facilities of the Calvary Baptist Church on Bridge Avenue. In fact, the name "Pilgrim" evolved because the founders of the congregation had to go from house to house when Calvary was not available.

In 1905, the Rev. William B. Scott was called to pastor the church and his tenure lasted for 11 years, during which time the small congregation was able to purchase the parcel of land at Pearl Street. The year 1910 marked the beginning of the construction of the historic "Little Pilgrim" on Pearl Street, which still stands and now houses St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church. Following Rev. Scott, Reverends D.K. Askew, W.B. Hebron, and W.B. Neal served as pastors. In 1945, the Rev. Henry L. Morgan was installed, and he would go on to serve for 25 years. With an increasing membership, in 1955 the congregation purchased its present building at 172 Shrewsbury Avenue. The Rev. Kenneth Grayson succeeded the Rev. Morgan, serving from 1971 until 1975. The Rev. Millard W. Harris, Jr., Pilgrim's current pastor, was installed in January 1976.

Under the leadership of Reverend Harris, the membership of Pilgrim has continued to grow. At the same time, the church has purchased rental properties on Earl and Leonard Streets, purchased vehicles, expanded the sanctuary, and built classrooms that house the Head Start program.

Mr. Speaker, it is great honor to pay tribute to Pilgrim Baptist Church for its 100 years of service to God and community. The Reverend Harris, officers of the church, and all the members of the Pilgrim family have made—and continue to make—a huge difference for the entire Red Bank and Monmouth County area. While the Pilgrim family can be proud of their first century, I know that their thoughts and prayers are clearly focused on continuing that legacy into a new century.

OMNIBUS MEAT, POULTRY, AND SEAFOOD INSPECTION LEGISLATION

HON. STEVE GUNDERSON

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. GUNDERSON. Mr. Speaker, in the last 2 years, the Livestock, Dairy and Poultry Subcommittee, which I chair, has had several hearings on meat, poultry, and seafood inspection issues with an eye on making the safest inspection system in the world even better. Our goal was to update decades-old inspection laws and to unite meat, poultry, and seafood regulations under a single roof.

Regrettably, that will not happen in the 104th Congress largely because this is an emotionally charged issue where the personal agendas of some government employees, industry executives, and consumer group lobbyist have too often prevailed. That's why, in a Presidential election year, the vast majority of my colleagues felt that this issue was "too hot to handle."

Even though legislative action was unlikely, we had our subcommittee staff, on a bipartisan basis, working on legislation that would both simplify and strengthen meat, poultry, and seafood inspection by uniting it under a single agency and encouraging greater cooperation between government and industry. While this legislation will not move in the 104th Congress, I am introducing our work product today, in draft form, for the use and information of future congresses.

I, therefore, commend the attention of my colleagues to the draft "Meat, Poultry, and Seafood Inspection Reform Act of 1996." I believe that it would make an excellent starting point for the 105th Congress on this issue.

A TRIBUTE TO SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING AGENCY HONOREES

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the fine work of the city of San Bernardino Private Industry Council and the employment and training agency, organizations that are doing fantastic work in addressing some very special job training needs on behalf of citizens in California. It was my honor earlier this week to join leaders of our local business community in recognizing four outstanding alumni of the Job Training Partnership Act Program [JTPA], as well as the outstanding business of the year and the outstanding school of the year.

Michael and Carla Davis are extraordinary examples of the value of this remarkable public-private partnership. Both were employed as engineers until they faced layoffs in 1994. Through San Bernardino's Dislocated Worker Adjustment Assistance Program, they enrolled in the teaching credential program at the University of Redlands. Within 2 years of being laid off, both Carla and Michael had their teaching credentials and quickly found teaching jobs in local school districts.

Leticia Calderon Delgado is a remarkable success story. As a young woman on welfare with three young children and few job skills, she applied remarkable determination and motivation to turning her life around. After enrolling in a work experience program and obtaining her GED, Leticia went to work for a local insurance agency. She is now off welfare and working at a job she loves.

Norma Gonzalez is a young person who, through the Summer Youth Employment and Training Program, has found a job and success that will serve her well as she pursues a college degree and, she hopes, a future in the medical field.

Accent Furniture last year relocated from Anaheim to San Bernardino to capitalize on land and building availability and to take advantage of incentives offered by the city. Today, the company is growing and serving the area by training and hiring JTPA eligible employees referred by SBETA.

The U.S. Truck Driving School is not only meeting the growing demand for trained truck drivers in the Inland Empire, it is fulfilling a valuable role in a public-private partnership that is training people and putting them to work in well-paying jobs.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me and our colleagues in recognizing the outstanding contributions of the San Bernardino Employment and Training Agency and the many fine individuals who are benefiting from the Job Training Partnership Act. In light of these tremendous records of success, it is only fitting that the House recognize all of them today.

TRIBUTE TO VERNON ODOM

HON. THOMAS C. SAWYER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. SAWYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with Members the loss of a man who was not only an extraordinary community leader in the 14th Congressional District of Ohio, but whose work in the National Urban League touched the lives of countless others across the country.

There are a few people who, by the very way that they live their lives, have changed entire communities, people whose actions enrich the lives of others and whose vision, perseverance, and accomplishments inspire others to succeed.

Vernon Odom, a 43-year resident of Akron, OH, was such a person. Everyone whose life he touched benefited from his wisdom, his commitment, and his strength of character.

Born in Biscoe, AR, in 1921, Mr. Odom was the son of a former slave who went on to attend medical school at Meharry in Nashville, TN, before the turn of the century. Mr. Odom's mother was widowed when he was only 2 years old. Surrounded by the racial tensions of the rural South during the 1920's and 1930's she managed to raise eight children, supervise sharecroppers, and fend off the theft of her property.

At age 16, Vernon Odom moved to Cleveland to continue his education—the school for African-Americans in his hometown only went to the 10th grade. After high school he enrolled at Morehouse College in Atlanta, GA, but soon had to postpone his studies to serve

in the U.S. Army during World War II. In the Army, Mr. Odom served as a master sergeant in the Signal Corps stationed in Europe.

After the war, Vernon Odom finished his studies at Morehouse College, earning his degree in June, 1949. During this same period, he met and married his wife, Sadie Harvey, an Atlantan who became his inspiration and most trusted advisor. While participating in graduate field study in Harlem in August, 1949, Mr. Odom became embroiled in the Peekskill riot, defending Paul Robeson's right to sing in public.

In 1950, Mr. Odom received a master's degree in social work from Atlanta University, and 3 years later joined the staff of the Akron Community Service Center and Urban League. He later rose to executive director, a position he held from 1964 to 1992. As the executive director, Mr. Odom changed the agency's mission from charity work to opportunity building.

Mr. Odom served in leadership positions on most of the major planning and public-service boards in the greater Akron area. He had the unique ability to combine a broad civic vision with sincere concern for individuals which led him to be both widely respected and genuinely loved throughout the Akron community.

During his career, Mr. Odom helped provide thousands of young men and women with jobs, training, money for school, and personal counseling. At the same time, he established himself as an effective civic leader—pushing to desegregate the city of Akron's police department, workplaces and most other major institutions. For his work, he received national recognition, including the Whitney Young Medallion—the highest award of the National Urban League, the National Black Police Association Humanitarian Award, and an honorary doctorate in Human Service from the University of Akron.

Mr. Odom was a lifetime member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, a member of the Century Club of the United Negro College Fund and the Arlington Church of God.

Vernon Odom passed away on May 22, 1996. While my entire community mourns his death, we remain deeply grateful for the far-reaching and ongoing contribution he made to improving the quality of our lives together, throughout our community and Nation. Vern Odom's life itself is his legacy. Those of us who knew him are better for his having lived it among us.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ONLINE PRIVACY PROTECTION ACT

HON. BOB FRANKS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I was deeply concerned to learn that several national data base companies provide Social Security number information online. A Social Security number is one of the most sensitive pieces of information a person can know about another person. Although it was not meant to be, a person's Social Security number has become something close to a national identification number. It is the key to unlock

countless sensitive documents about a person, such as credit reports, driving records, and court documents.

In fact, with a person's Social Security number, it is possible to steal their identity. With it, a person can obtain a Social Security card, and then a driver's license, and then credit cards. That is why it is imperative that the confidentiality of Social Security number be protected.

However, on at least two national data bases, Lexis-Nexis' P-Trak and the Westlaw data base, it is possible to connect a whole cornucopia of information with a Social Security number, such as a name, past address, maiden name, and birthdate.

Industry representatives say these services are not a problem since they no longer provide Social Security numbers to searches that are begun with a name or address. However, those firms continue to provide all the other information on the data base to searches begun with a Social Security number—an equally worrisome practice.

Any unscrupulous individual wanted to steal a new identity could easily keypunch any random Social Security number and obtain that person's personal information. A thief would not care whose Social Security number they have, just that there were able to connect to other information. By random searching, such a person could get a Social Security card and drivers license.

I understand that there are many legitimate purposes for these services. They are used to find people who skip court appearances, fail to pay child support, or need to be notified of changes in pension plans. However, these purposes do not necessitate a commercial online lookup service containing Social Security numbers. Individuals on these data bases also have rights to privacy and protection from abuse.

My bill would seek to require these services to obtain written permission before they can list any person's Social Security number on their data base. This legislation would not stop people from searching for individuals using public records by traditional means, such as doing research in a courthouse. My bill would merely require that in order to add this sensitive personal information to online searchable indexes, the person whose Social Security number is included would have to grant consent.

Mr. Speaker, I understand there are only a few legislative days left in this session. Accordingly I, with 11 of my colleagues, have written a letter to the Federal Trade Commission asking them to look into the appropriateness of these data bases and to see what actions could be taken to suspend these services until a more comprehensive review can be accomplished. If the Federal Trade Commission fails to adequately address this problem, I will reintroduce this measure in the next Congress.

TRIBUTE TO THE ROCKLAND COUNTY SHIELDS

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Rockland County Shields,

which are currently celebrating their 30th anniversary.

The Rockland County Shields are dedicated to providing a fraternal and social organization for all active and retired police officers who either worked or lived in Rockland County. The organization has fostered the fact that officers, be they Federal, State, city or local are all brothers. This ideal has been maintained for the last 30 years, and today the Shields have over 1,600 members.

The organization offers benefits not only to police officers, but to the citizens of Rockland County. Moreover, the Shields maintain an emergency fund to aid the community, award eight scholarships annually, and provide monies for United Hospice, local school functions, and scout troops for eagle scout projects. They have an annual Saint Patrick's Day party and march in the Rockland parade, which is the second largest in the country. They also have summer picnics, fishing trips, and dances.

Since the Rockland County Shields were started in 1966, similar fraternal police groups have been formed in Orange, Sullivan, Ulster, Delaware, and Westchester counties.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join in congratulating the Rockland County Shields for their 30 years of invaluable community service and wish them for future success in both their service and fraternal brotherhood.

TRIBUTE TO THE WORLD ORGANIZATION OF CHINA PAINTERS

HON. JAMES M. TALENT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. TALENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the World Organization of China Painters and recognize the efforts of its membership to promote and celebrate the accomplishments of their unique artistic talents. China painting is the overglaze decoration of china, and its artists are seeking recognition as a fine art.

I rise today not only in support of their efforts, but for all artistic and cultural activities which promote the participation in and the appreciation of the arts in all areas. The efforts of the World Organization of China Painting, stands as a testament not only to the art of china painting, but as an example of the importance of artistic achievement.

The World Organization of China Painting has over 6,000 members around the world of which my State, Missouri has the largest membership. The organization is presently headquartered in Oklahoma City, OK, where they have a museum displaying numerous works by china painting artists.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the World Organization of China Painting on their efforts to promote and advance their art form.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WILLIAM F. CLINGER, JR.

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. CLINGER. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, September 26th, I regrettably missed Rollcall