

I urge my colleagues to support my bill and work with me to clarify the law to ensure that insurance agent "termination payments" are subject to capital gains treatment for Federal income tax purposes.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN M. McHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I was called away from Washington on the evening of October 11th to attend to an ill family member. Due to my absence that evening and on Friday, October 12, I missed votes on the floor of the House of Representatives, including the vote on H.R. 2975, the Provide Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism (PATRIOT) Act. Had I been present, I would have voted in support of the legislation and its worthy objective of providing law enforcement officials with additional tools to detect, apprehend, and prosecute terrorists.

The horrific events of September 11th have demonstrated that more needs to be done to protect Americans from terrorism. At the same time, my colleagues and I are quite cognizant of our responsibilities in safeguarding the fundamental constitutional rights of the American people. The PATRIOT Act recognizes these concerns and strikes a balance between security enhancements and tools for law enforcement and civil liberties.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL JOHN D. HAVENS

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to congratulate and pay tribute to General John Havens, who recently retired as the Adjutant General of the Missouri National Guard. He has distinguished himself, the Missouri National Guard, and our nation with dedicated service.

General Havens began his military career as an ROTC cadet at the Missouri School of Mines, now the University of Missouri-Rolla. Upon graduation, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant and attended the Army's engineer school at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. Next, General Havens served as a Platoon Leader and Engineer Supply Officer in France and Assistant S4 at Fort Ord, California. General Havens was then released from active duty in 1963.

General Havens' distinguished career with the Missouri National Guard began in 1963 as a Platoon Leader in Rolla, Missouri. He held the same position in Fredericktown, Missouri, and Salem, Missouri, before serving as a Maintenance Officer at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri. General Havens continued to serve at Jefferson Barracks for 11 years, serving as Assistant Operations Officer, Construction Engineer, Engineer Plans Officer, and Facility Engineer. The next position General Havens held was Chief Facility Engineer at Nevada, Missouri, and was then promoted to Com-

mander, Camp Clark Training Site in Nevada. General Havens then served as Director of Facilities at the Missouri National Guard Headquarters.

In July of 1993, General Havens was appointed Assistant Adjutant General, Army, of the Missouri National Guard. He served in this position until 1997 when he was appointed, by Governor Mel Carnahan, Adjutant General of the Missouri National Guard. As the Adjutant General, he was responsible to the Governor for the command and control of 10,000 Missouri Army and Air National Guard personnel. He was also responsible to the Governor for the State Emergency Management Agency and the Civil Air Patrol.

Mr. Speaker, General Havens has had an impressive career in the military. As he prepares for this next stage in his life, I am certain that my colleagues will join me in wishing General Havens all the best. We thank him for his 40 years of service to the United States of America.

INDIA FIRING ON KASHMIR OPPORTUNITY TO BRING FREEDOM TO SOUTH ASIA

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, last year when former President Clinton visited India, 35 Sikhs were massacred in the village of Chithisinghpora. Two independent investigations have shown that the Indian government carried out this massacre. Now Secretary of State Powell is visiting India and Indian troops are firing on Kashmir. I can't help but wonder why the sudden outbreak. It seems odd these incidents occur when American officials visit the country.

Mr. Speaker, this could be an opportunity for the people and nations seeking freedom in South Asia. The Council of Khalistan has put out an open letter saying that now is the ideal time for the people of Kashmir, Khalistan, Nagaland, and the other minority nations of South Asia to claim their freedom.

Clearly, India is taking advantage of the U.S. war on terrorism to advance its own hegemonic agenda. The fact that Sikhs, Kashmiri Muslims, and other minorities are going to be casualties of this strategy is apparently of no importance to them. It's just another opportunity to take down their enemy, Pakistan, which has been an active supporter and participant in the U.S. antiterrorist coalition.

America was founded on the idea of freedom. It is that freedom that the terrorists are trying to destroy. One of the best ways to fight the terrorists is to help spread freedom to new corners of the world.

Mr. Speaker, the time has come to cut off U.S. aid to India in light of its human-rights abuses and its opportunistic use of the antiterrorist effort to promote its narrow interest. It is also time to put the U.S. Congress on record in support of the freedom movements around South Asia in the form of a free and fair plebiscite on their political status. These measures will help spread freedom and undermine the efforts of the terrorists to destroy our principles.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to place the Council of Khalistan's open letter on the Indian at-

tack on Kashmir into the RECORD for the information of my colleagues.

INDIAN ATTACK ON KASHMIR PROVIDES OPPORTUNITY FOR FREEDOM; INDIA IS NOT ONE NATION

Taking advantage of the U.S. war on terrorism to advance its own agenda, India has begun shelling Azad (Free) Kashmir. This action brings the war over Kashmir out into the open just as Secretary of State Colin Powell is arriving in South Asia. Unfortunately, there will undoubtedly be casualties, and most of them will be Kashmiris, Sikhs, and other minorities. The only party that benefits from this is the Indian government, which has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, over 200,000 Christians in Nagaland since 1947, more than 75,000 Kashmiri Muslims since 1988, and tens of thousands of Dalits (dark-skinned "Untouchables," the aboriginal people of South Asia), Tamils, Bodos, Assamese, Manipuris, and others.

This act by India shows who America's real allies are, and which country is the real supporter of terrorism. Once again, India is claiming that it is going after terrorism, despite India's own record of terrorism.

In November 1994, the Indian newspaper Hitavada reported that the Indian government paid the late governor of Punjab, Surendra Nath, approximately \$1.5 billion to organize and support covert state terrorism in Punjab Khalistan, and in Kashmir. The book *Soft Target*, written by journalists from the Toronto Star and the Toronto Globe and Mail, shows that the Indian government blew up its own airliner in 1985, killing 329 innocent people. According to India Today, the Indian government created the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and put up LTTE leaders in New Delhi's finest hotel. The LTTE were created to stop a U.S. broadcast tower in Sri Lanka. Then the Indian government turned on the LTTE because the LTTE seeks an independent country for Tamils.

The Indian government sentenced Devinder Singh Bhullar to death because he advocated Khalistan, yet Ribeiro, Ray, K.P.S. Gill, Swaran Singh Ghotna, and the other police and political officials who committed genocide against the Sikhs are not punished. In June a train carrying Sikh religious pilgrims was attacked by militant Hindu fundamentalists. On May 27, several Indian soldiers were caught red-handed trying to set fire to a Gurdwara and some Sikh homes in Kashmir. Sikh and Muslim residents of the village overwhelmed the troops and stopped them from carrying out this atrocity.

A report issued in April by the Movement Against State Repression (MASR) shows that India admitted that it held 52,268 political prisoners under the repressive "Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Act" (TADA). These Sikh political prisoners must be released immediately. These prisoners continue to be held under TADA even though it expired in 1995. Persons arrested under TADA are routinely re-arrested upon their release. Cases were routinely registered against Sikh activists under TADA in states other than Punjab to give the police an excuse to continue holding them. The MASR report quotes the Punjab Civil Magistracy as writing "if we add up the figures of the last few years the number of innocent persons killed would run into lakhs [hundreds of thousands.]" As General Narinder Singh has said, "Punjab is a police state." U.S. Congressman Dana Rohrabacher has said that for minorities like the Sikhs, the Muslims of Kashmir, and others, "India might as well be Nazi Germany."

It is not just Sikhs who are being targeted by Indian terrorism. In 1997, a Christian religious festival was broken up by police gunfire. Since Christmas 1998, Christians have

been subjected to a reign of terror which has seen the murder of priests, the rape of nuns, the burning of churches, attacks on Christian schools and prayer halls, and other incidents carried out by supporters of the pro-Fascist Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS), the parent organization of the ruling BJP, which was formed in support of the Nazis. RSS activists also burned missionary Graham Staines and his two young sons, ages 8 and 10, to death while they slept in their jeeps. The killers gathered around the jeep chanting "Victory to Hannuman," a Hindu god. Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee told an audience in New York last year, "I will always be a Swayamsewak."

India is also anti-American. According to the May 18, 1999 issue of the Indian Express, the Indian Defense Minister met with the Ambassadors from terrorist countries Iraq, Libya, and Cuba, as well as Red China, Russia, and Serbia, to set up a security alliance "to stop the U.S." India voted with the dictators to throw the United States off the UN Human Rights Commission. It votes against America at the United Nations more often than any country except Cuba. It voted to suppress a U.S.-sponsored resolution critical of China's human-rights violations. It was a strong Soviet ally.

This is an ideal opportunity to begin a Shantmai Morcha and form a Khalsa Raj party to achieve independence for Khalistan and to liberate the other countries seeking their freedom from Indian occupation. Remember the words of former Akal Takht Jathedar Professor Darshan Singh: "If a Sikh is not Khalistani, he is not a Sikh." Self-determination is the right of all people and nations.

Pro-Khalistan handbills were handed out at the Golden Temple on June 7 during the commemoration of Gullughara Divas and Sant Bhindranwale's martyrdom. Ajmer Singh Lakhowal, the head of the Bharat Kisan Union, has called for self-determination for the Sikhs. The flame of freedom burns bright in the hearts of the Sikhs.

When we liberate Khalistan, we will be more respected, appreciated, and understood by Americans and throughout the world. We must take this occasion to renew our commitment to free Khalistan. Every Sikh should put a bumper sticker on his or her car saying "INDIA FREE KHALISTAN." This sticker is available from this office.

In 1947, when India was divided, the cunning and deceitful Hindu leadership promised that Sikhs would have the glow of freedom in Punjab and that no law affecting Sikh rights would be passed without Sikh consent. As soon as the transfer of power had occurred and India was free, those promises were broken. Instead, India began its effort to wipe out the Sikh people, the Sikh Nation, and the Sikh religion.

Sikhs gave over 80 percent of the sacrifices to free India from the British. At that time, they were only 1.6 percent of the population. Sikhs are the ones who suffered the most after the freedom and partition of India. Fifty percent of the Sikh population had to migrate from the Pakistan side of Punjab to the Indian side of Punjab. Sikhs were prosperous farmers in West Punjab. They lost their fertile farming land. When they were allotted lands in Indian Punjab, everyone got a cut between 25 and 95 percent of their acreage.

In a free Khalistan, there will be economic prosperity. The Punjab farmers will be able to sell their produce at high prices in the international market and buy cheaper fertilizers, insecticides, and seeds. Farm produce will not lie in the market for weeks without buyers as it did during the sale of the rice crop last year.

We must have a full, free, and fair plebiscite on the status of Khalistan and we must

launch a Shantmai Morcha to liberate our homeland. India is not one nation. It has 18 official languages. Let us take this opportunity to bring freedom to our homeland and all the countries of South Asia.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF ROGER
HERNON

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, today, I was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Roger Hernon.

Roger Hernon was a great American, and is to be commended for his accomplishments as the city of Warren Fire Chief and City Councilman. He leaves behind a wife, Norma; nine sons; 18 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Roger first began his firefighting career in May of 1960 when he was hired as a Warren firefighter. He was then promoted to fire chief in 1978. Roger was also a founding member of the Irish Heritage Society, where he earned the "Erin Go Bragh Irishman" of the Year Award in 1985. Not only did Roger serve his community as a Warren City Councilman-At-Large, but he also served his country in the Korean war where he was awarded the Purple Heart.

Roger Hernon will be sorely missed, and I extend my deepest sympathy to his family.

TRIBUTE TO JUSTICE JAMES H.
BRICKLEY

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday a memorial service was held to honor and remember an exceptional distinguished citizen of our State of Michigan.

Jim Brickley life's work spanned all three branches of government. Early in his career, he served as a legislator on the Detroit Common Council. He served in the Executive Branch, in state government twice as Lieutenant Governor and much earlier in the FBI after he graduated law school in 1954. His legal career encompassed work in early years as an assistant prosecutor, later as a U.S. attorney and at the end of his public career as a Justice and Chief Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court.

The public careers of few individuals ever achieve such a broad scope. What is even more remarkable is the talent and integrity which Jim Brickley brought to each segment of his life's work. He also brought a decency and humanity into public life that reflected his numerous, diverse relationships in his private life cutting across all racial, religious and ethnic lines.

Michigan will miss Jim Brickley. He was an exceptional public servant. We send our deepest condolences to his wife Joyce Braithwaite and the entire family.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. RUTH GRUBER

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to Dr. Ruth Gruber who recently celebrated her ninetieth birthday on September 30th, 2001. A courageous leader, devoted humanitarian, acclaimed journalist, and loving grandmother, Dr. Gruber's contribution to New York and our nation is immeasurable.

At the age of 20, Dr. Gruber became the youngest Ph.D. in the world. That, a remarkable achievement in and of itself, was only the first of many unprecedented accomplishments. In 1944, at the request of then Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes, Dr. Gruber was sent on a top secret mission to escort 1,000 refugees from war-torn Europe to America. After safely arriving back in the United States, she immediately led the charge to ensure that the refugees be allowed to stay in the country permanently.

Dr. Gruber's talents as a journalist took her to all corners of the globe. She was the first foreign correspondent to enter the Soviet gulag, an experience which she chronicled in her book, *I Went to the Soviet Arctic*. She visited Korea and Vietnam to write *They Came to Stay*, a book about 10 Korean children who had been adopted by families in the United States. Through her many books and articles Dr. Gruber has been our eyes on the world. We are fortunate that she went to places she knew we needed to see and told such compelling stories.

In February, CBS will air *Haven*, a four hour documentary chronicling Dr. Gruber's exceptional life. At age ninety, she still has plans to write more books, although much of her time is spent with her precious grandchildren. It is my privilege to thank Dr. Gruber for all she has done for our society, and of course, to wish her a happy ninetieth birthday.

HONORING THELMA HERMAN

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it brings me great pleasure to have the opportunity to congratulate Thelma Herman, who recently celebrated her 103rd birthday. It isn't often that one encounters a person with such longevity and, according to her friends at Belmont Senior Care, she is still going strong.

Thelma has spent much of her life living in Pueblo, Colorado. As a young adult, she worked as a telephone operator and at a pharmacy. She has outlived both of her siblings and has only one surviving relative. Thelma cannot quite nail down exactly why she has survived so long, but she has always been relatively healthy. Thelma has developed a wide variety of healthy habits throughout her life including drinking a glass of water with every meal, taking a walk each day, never snacking between meals and brushing her teeth several times per day. Her advice to young Americans today is to be a good citizen. Thelma has been a good role model and citizen who has voted nearly her entire life.