

for many years. We particularly applaud Coach Thompson and the John Thompson Foundation for their emphasis on the educational success of inner city youth. The Basketball Classic serves as an inspiration for those interested in expanding educational opportunities for the District's African American youth.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me in saluting Coach John Thompson, the John Thompson Foundation, and all those associated with the John Thompson Foundation, whose dedicated and creative energy make a significant impact on the progress and the lives of African American youth.

49TH ANNUAL ANDERSEN AIR
FORCE BASE CHRISTMAS DROP
IN MICRONESIA

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, 49 years ago in 1952, over the tiny island of Kapingamarangi in Micronesia, the crew of an Air Force WB-50 aircraft assigned to the 54th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron in Guam quickly gathered a box of goodies they had on the plane upon seeing a number of islanders waving at them. Thus began the five-decade-old tradition.

For years, the residents of Kapingamarangi, Nukuoro and other remote islands have been receiving a variety of gifts such as machetes, hoes, snorkels, coloring books, soccer balls and toiletries—items they probably would not have been able to obtain otherwise due to their remote location in the Pacific. This year, four C-130 Hercules aircraft from the 36th Airlift Squadron based out of Yokota Air Base in Japan dropped 60 boxes of holiday gift items on the 54 islands and atolls in the Micronesia area. The operation lasted six days and entailed cargo planes descending upon sparsely populated islands and atolls. In addition to the goodwill spread among these communities, the aircrew involved also benefit from the opportunity of having their navigation and flight skills tested as they search out unfamiliar drop zones on remote and isolated island locations.

This year's organizers had a bit of difficulty in raising the necessary funding for this project due to Guam's current economic situation. However, the community has somehow managed to get together and, in the true spirit of this season of sharing, allow for another successful year. For the past several months the Christmas Drop committee has raised funds through several events. Three scuba diving boat trips, a 5k run/walk, a golf tournament along with T-shirt and commemorative coin sales generated a substantial part of the funds used for this year's operation. Despite a recent drop in tourism arrivals on Guam, donations steadily flowed from island residents and the local business communities. Also worth mentioning is the effort initiated by Jacob Jansen as part of his community service project in his effort to attain the rank of Eagle Scout. Through Jacob's efforts, a canned food drive was held at Andersen Air Force Base's middle and elementary schools as well as at Guam High School.

During these times of uncertainty and hardship, it is very gratifying to see that worthwhile

projects such as the annual Christmas drop remains alive. This is a testament to our capacity to unite as a community and as a nation in the face of adversity. There is no better way to demonstrate our compassion and generosity than worthwhile projects such as this. I take this occasion to commend all those who participated and contributed towards the success of this year's Christmas drop. Let us keep this tradition going for many more years to come.

TERRORIST ATTACK ON INDIAN
PARLIAMENT CONDEMNED—AT-
TACK IS INEVITABLE CON-
SEQUENCE OF REPRESSION IN
INDIA

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I join with my colleagues and all decent people of the world in condemning the terrorist attack on the Indian Parliament. I extend my sympathies to the victims and their families. Terrorism is never acceptable. We are currently at war against terrorism, as we should be.

However, India is a country that has practiced terrorism against the peoples living within its borders. It has a pattern of terrorism. Remember that two government officials there were quoted last year as saying that Pakistan should be absorbed into India. It is clear that India seeks hegemony over all the peoples and nations of South Asia.

In May, Indian troops were overwhelmed by villagers, both Sikhs and Muslims, while they were trying to set fire to a Sikh Gurdwara and some Sikh houses in Kashmir. Independent investigations by the International Human Rights Organization and jointly by the Punjab Human Rights Organization and the Movement Against State Repression have conclusively shown that the Indian government carried out the massacre of 35 Sikhs in Chithisinghpura in March 2000 while former President Clinton was visiting India. Its police broke up a Christian religious festival with gunfire. According to the excellent book *Soft Target*, written by two respected Toronto reporters, the Indian government blew up its own airliner in 1985, killing 329 innocent people. According to a report in the *Hitavada* newspaper, India paid the late Governor of Punjab, Surendra Nath, \$1.5 billion to create terrorism in Punjab, Khalistan and in Kashmir.

We must work to stop terrorism wherever it occurs. India's terrorism is no exception. We should stop our aid to India until it stops its repression of the Christians, Sikhs, Muslims, and other minorities, and we should declare our public support for self-determination for all the people of South Asia in the form of a free and fair plebiscite on the question of independence.

A report published this past May by the Movement Against State Repression showed that the Indian government admitted that 52,268 Sikh political prisoners are rotting in Indian jails without charge or trial. Many have been in illegal custody since 1984. The Indian government has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, according to the Politics of Genocide by Inderjit Singh Jaijee. Over 75,000

Kashmiri Muslims and over 200,000 Christians have been killed.

Mr. Speaker, the Council of Khalistan has published an excellent press release on this attack. I would like to share it with my colleagues by inserting it into the RECORD now.

[From the Council of Khalistan, Dec. 14, 2001]

COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN CONDEMNS ALL TERRORISM—TERRORIST ATTACK ON INDIAN PARLIAMENT IS A PRODUCT OF INDIAN REPRESSION

(By Guru Gobind Singh Ji, Tenth Master)

India Must End Its Repression Instead of Blaming Pakistan—Newspaper Says Indian Government Knew of Attack in Advance

WASHINGTON, DC—The Council of Khalistan today condemned the terrorist attack on the Indian Parliament, but called on the Indian government to join the fight against terrorism worldwide and to end its own terrorism against minorities.

"We condemn terrorism in all forms, wherever it comes from," said Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, the government pro tempore of Khalistan, the Sikh homeland, which declared its independence from India on October 7, 1987. "We strongly condemn this terrorist action and we condemn the Indian government's terrorism that gave rise to this act," he said. "When you repress people long enough, they strike back. India's repression of minorities made this incident inevitable."

The Deccan Chronicle reported today that the Indian government knew of the attack in advance and did nothing to stop it. This shows government involvement in the incident, yet the Indian government has blamed Pakistan for the attacks. India will use this incident as an excuse for more repression of the minorities, such as the Sikhs of Khalistan, the Muslims of Kashmir, the Christians of Nagaland, and others.

"India must stop blaming Pakistan for everything that goes wrong in India and end its own terrorism against the Sikhs, Christians, Muslims, and other minorities," said Dr. Aulakh. "It is time for India to release more than 52,000 Sikh political prisoners and the tens of thousands of other political prisoners and end its repression," Dr. Aulakh said. The book *"Soft Target,"* written by two Canadian journalists, proves that the Indian government blew up its own airliner in 1985 to generate more repression against Sikhs. In November 1994, the newspaper *Hitavada* reported that the government paid the late governor of Punjab, Surendra Nath, \$1.5 billion to generate terrorist activity in Punjab and Kashmir.

"I salute Pakistani President Musharraf for risking his political life by supporting America and the world in its fight against terrorism. It is time for India to get on board," Dr. Aulakh said. "I call on India to join the fight against terrorism and I call on the Sikh leadership in Punjab to stop making coalitions with the Indian government and work for freedom for the Sikhs and the other minority nations of South Asia," he said. "There is a very good reason that there are 17 freedom movements within India's current borders."

The Indian government has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984. According to a report in May by the Movement Against State Repression, India admitted that 52,268 Sikh political prisoners are rotting in Indian jails without charge or trial. Many have been in illegal custody since 1984. Over 200,000 Christians have been killed since 1947 and over 75,000 Kashmiri Muslims have been killed since 1988. The Indian Supreme Court described the situation in Punjab as "worse

than a genocide." In May, Indian troops were caught red-handed trying to set fire to a Gurdwara (a Sikh temple) and some Sikh houses in Kashmir. Two independent investigations have proven that the Indian government carried out the March 2000 massacre of 35 Sikhs in Chithisinghpura. U.S. Congressman Dana Rohrabacher has said that for Sikhs, Kashmiri Muslims, and other minorities "India might as well be Nazi Germany."

India has also repressed Christians. Two leaders of the ruling BJP said that everyone who lives in India must either be a Hindu or be subservient to Hinduism. Priests have been murdered, nuns have been raped, churches have been burned, Christian schools and prayer halls have been destroyed, and no one has been punished for these acts. Militant Hindu fundamentalists allied with the RSS, the pro-Fascist parent organization of the ruling BJP, burned missionary Graham Staines and his two young sons to death. In 1997, police broke up a Christian religious festival with gunfire.

"Nations that do not have political power vanish," Dr. Aulakh said. "Sikhs are a separate nation and ruled Punjab up to 1849 when the British annexed Punjab. The nations and people of South Asia must have self-determination now."

CONGRATULATING BURLINGTON CITY HIGH SCHOOL ON ITS GRAMMY AWARD

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2001

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the students and faculty of the Burlington City High School Music Department in Burlington City, New Jersey for their recognition by the national GRAMMY Foundation as a GRAMMY Signature School.

Burlington City is now one of 100 high schools from across the country to receive a certificate of recognition based on its high level of commitment to music education. The GRAMMY Signature School Program honors high school music students, teachers, principals, and school districts that promote and preserve music education—both performing and studying music—as a key part of their curriculum.

The importance of music education in the overall educational experience of students is becoming clearer every day. In fact, several studies have shown a quantifiable value of the arts in improving overall academic performance. According to the College Entrance Examination Board, students of the arts continue to outperform their non-arts peers on the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT). In 1995, for example, SAT scores for students who studied the arts for four or more years were 59 points higher on the verbal, and 44 points higher on the math portion of the exam, than students with no course work on experience in the arts.

Moreover, most teachers know that music appreciation and performance can often provide a critical mechanism to engage, and stimulate interest in, other school activities. Students who otherwise would have dropped out of school, and put their long term economic futures at risk, have been re-engaged through music and the arts.

The GRAMMY Signature School Program is developed through the GRAMMY Foundation, a non-profit arm of the Recording Academy that is dedicated to advancing music and arts-based education across the country. Through educational, cultural and professional initiatives, the Foundation aims to strengthen our educational system.

What makes Burlington City's accomplishments so special is the knowledge that it successfully competed against 18,000 public high schools nationwide. In the end, Burlington City's program was chosen by an independent screening committee comprised of university music professors, and representatives from professional music organizations to receive the Signature School Award for their exceptional job of cultivating their arts program.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the faculty and students in the music department for their commitment to furthering music education. I would like to thank the school and the local school board for their hard work and dedication to providing an outstanding music educational program that superbly serves the students of Burlington City.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2001

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, December 18, 2001, I was unavoidably delayed on my return to Washington, DC because of a security breach at Charlotte Douglas Airport, where I was scheduled to transfer flights, and a security delay at Reagan National Airport.

For this reason, I missed votes on the final passage of H.R. 3334, the "Richard J. Guadagno Headquarters and Visitors Center Designation Act" and H.R. 3054, "A bill to award congressional gold medals on behalf of government workers who responded to the attacks on the World Trade Center and perished and on behalf of people aboard United Airlines Flight 93 who helped resist the hijackers and caused the plane to crash."

Had I been present, I would have voted in the affirmative for both of these bills.

WALTER H. MALONEY

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2001

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Walter H. Maloney, known to his friends as Mike. Mike represented the First District on the Prince George's County Council at the time of his death and he was a leading figure in County politics for four decades. He was legendary for his political independence, perseverance and his remarkable commitment to public service.

Mike was born in Kansas City, Missouri in 1930 and came to Washington, DC in 1937 when his father was recruited to work in the Roosevelt Administration. Mike's mother taught music at the Sidwell Friends School in Washington, DC where Mike also attended

school. Mike went on to graduate from Georgetown University and its law school. He also received a LL.M. degree from the University of Michigan Law School before joining the U.S. Army. Mike was commissioned as a first lieutenant and served in the Judge Advocate General's Corps in La Rochelle, France.

After serving in the Army, Mike embarked upon his impressive career as assistant counsel to the United States Senate Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights chaired by Senator Sam Ervin. He then moved on to the National Labor Relations Board as a trial attorney in the Baltimore regional office, and was appointed a Federal administrative law judge at the NLRB in 1973. Mike worked at the NLRB until his retirement in 1994. He also taught labor law on the adjunct faculty of the University of Maryland University College from 1956 to 1971.

Mike prided himself on fighting for the little guy and his work at NLRB is proof of that dedication. As an administrative law judge, he won national acclaim from the nation's editorial pages and from Congresswoman Bella Abzug on the Floor of this House for his decision in the landmark Farrah slacks case in which he detailed the mistreatment of factory workers in a Texas textile shop.

Mike and his wife, Cecelia, moved to Prince George's County in 1958. He quickly immersed himself in civic activism and was elected a delegate to the statewide Democratic convention in 1962. He also began forty years of involvement in County public affairs by joining efforts to adopt a home rule charter for the County and reform zoning practices.

In 1968, Mike was elected to the Charter Board, which was created by the voters to draft a proposed home rule charter for Prince George's County. Mike chaired the five member board and is widely regarded as the author of the County's modern form of government.

Mike's efforts helped bring about a sweeping reform of the County's government. The County Commissioner system was abolished and replaced by an elected County Executive and council with home rule powers. Prince George's County had previously been run by the Maryland General Assembly in Annapolis.

Mike's reform efforts did not stop with the adoption of the new Charter. He led the way in the election of a bipartisan slate in 1971 and was appointed as the first County Attorney under the new Charter.

Mike helped guide the new County government during his time as Attorney General until he resigned to become a Federal administrative law judge. The incisive and hard-hitting nature of his legal opinions as Attorney General earned him the nickname "Iron Mike."

Mike's demanding career at NLRB did not prevent him from being active in local affairs or from working extensively on local bond and zoning issues over the years. In 1994, following his retirement from the Federal Government, Mike ran a successful grassroots campaign for the Prince George's County Council. He was re-elected in 1998.

As a member of the Council, Mike continued to assert his political independence and to use his sharp mind to challenge land use and spending policies, and fight for the best interests of the community. At the time of his death, Mike was ineligible to run for the Council again thanks to term limits that he helped put in place.