

named a 2001 National Medal of Technology Laureate.

Given each year by the President, the National Medal of Technology is the highest honor that our country can bestow upon America's innovators. Enacted by Congress in 1980, the National Medal of Technology was first awarded in 1985 to honor those scientists who through their work push the bounds of technology with the goal of benefiting humanity.

Dr. Netravali's career achievements are certainly deserving of the highest acclaim. He is a pioneer in the field of digital technology. Serving from 1999 to 2001 as the ninth president to Bell Labs' history, Dr. Netravali is currently the company's chief scientist and has been the head of the research and development team working on Bell Labs' high definition television (HDTV) effort. He has authored more than 170 technical papers and co-authored three books. He holds more than 70 patents in the areas of computer networks, human interfaces to machines, picture processing and digital television.

With great minds like Dr. Netravali working along the frontier of technology, we can only expect to be amazed by what will be achieved in the near future. I commend Dr. Netravali for his lifelong dedication to science and his unrelenting pursuit of the unimaginable.

IN MEMORY OF INDIA'S ATTACK ON A RELIGIOUS SHRINE

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2002

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, as you may know, this week marked the anniversary of India's June 1984 attack on the Golden Temple in Amritsar, the seat of the Sikh religion. This is the equivalent of attacking the Vatican of Mecca.

In the attack, which also included attacks on 38 other Sikh temples (known as Gurdwaras), more than 20,000 Sikhs were killed, including Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, a Sikh political leader. The Indian government hoped that by murdering Bhindranwale, it would end the Sikh Nation's aspirations for freedom, but as Bhindranwale himself said, the attack "laid the foundation of Khalistan," the independent Sikh homeland.

I would like to extend my sympathies to all Sikhs on this occasion and I would like to let them know that many of us grieve with them at this brutal atrocity committed against them.

The Council of Khalistan recently led a commemoration of the Golden Temple attack. I would like to place the report of that commemoration into the RECORD for the information of my colleagues.

SIKHS OBSERVE KHALISTAN MARTYRS DAY—
SIKHS NEVER FORGIVE OR FORGET ATTACK
ON GOLDEN TEMPLE

GOLDEN TEMPLE ATTACK LAID FOUNDATION OF
KHALISTAN

WASHINGTON, D.C., June 1, 2002.—It is a Sikh tradition and Sikh history that Sikhs never forgive or forget the attack on the Golden Temple, the Sikh Nation's holiest shrine. In that spirit, Sikhs from all over the East Coast gathered in Washington, D.C. today to observe Khalistan Martyrs Day.

This is the anniversary of the Indian government's brutal military attack on the Golden Temple and 38 other Sikh temples through Punjab, from June 3-6, 1984. More than 20,000 Sikhs were killed in those attacks, known as Operation Blue Star. These martyrs laid down their lives to lay the foundation for Khalistan. On October 7, 1987, the Sikh Nation declared its homeland, Khalistan, independent.

"We thank all the demonstrators who came to this important protest," said Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan. "These martyrs gave their lives so that the Sikh Nation could live in freedom," Dr. Aulakh said. "We salute them on Khalistan Martyrs' Day," he said. "As Sant Bhindranwale said, the Golden Temple attack laid the foundation of Khalistan."

Sikhs ruled Punjab until 1849 when the British conquered the subcontinent. Sikhs were equal partners during the transfer of power from the British. The Muslim leader Jinnah got Pakistan for his people, the Hindu leaders got India, but the Sikh leadership was fooled by the Hindu leadership promising the Sikhs would have "the glow of freedom" in Northwest India and the Sikhs took their share with India on that promise. No Sikh representative has ever signed the Indian constitution.

Recently, former Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell (D-Me.) said, "The essence of democracy is the right to self-determination." The minority nations of South Asia need freedom. "Without political power nations perish. We must always remember these martyrs for their sacrifice," Dr. Aulakh said. "The best tribute to these martyrs would be the liberation of the Sikh homeland, Punjab, Khalistan, from the occupying forces," he said. "That must be the only objective," he said. "We should use the opportunity presented by the situation in South Asia to liberate our homeland."

The Golden Temple attack launched a campaign of genocide against the Sikhs that belies India's claims that it is a democracy. The Golden Temple attack made it clear that there is no place for Sikhs in India. Since 1984, India has engaged in a campaign of ethnic cleansing in which tens of thousands of Sikhs were murdered by the Indian police and security forces and secretly cremated after declaring them "unidentified." The Indian Supreme Court described this campaign as "worse than a genocide." General Narinder Singh has said, "Punjab is a police state." U.S. Congressman Dana Rohrabacher (R-Cal.) has said that for Sikhs, Kashmiri Muslims, and other minorities "India might as well be Nazi Germany."

According to a report last year 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. In February, 42 Members of the U.S. Congress wrote to President Bush to get these Sikh prisoners released. 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]."

Indian security forces have murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, according to figures compiled by the Punjab State Magistracy and human-rights organizations. These figures were published in *The Politics of Genocide* by Inderjit Singh Jaijee. India has also killed over 200,000 Christians in Nagaland since 1947, over 80,000 Kashmiris since 1988, and tens of thousands of Tamils, Bodos, Dalits (the aboriginal people of the subcontinent labelled "Untouchables") as well as indigenous tribal peoples in Manipur, Assam

and elsewhere. In March 2000, while former President Clinton was visiting India, the Indian government murdered 35 Sikhs in the village of Chithisinghpura, Kashmir and tried to blame the massacre on alleged militants. The Indian media reported that the police in Gujarat were ordered by the government to stand by and not to interfere with the massacre of Muslims there.

"Guru gave sovereignty to the Sikh Nation," Dr. Aulakh said. "The Golden Temple massacre reminded us that if Sikhs are going to live with honor and dignity, we must have a free, sovereign, independent Khalistan," he said.

PASSING OF W. BAIN PROCTOR, JR.

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2002

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, on June 5th, Spalding County and the City of Griffin, Georgia lost a dear friend and public servant. W. Bain Proctor, Jr. tirelessly worked for the betterment of the people of Griffin, serving as a City Commissioner, County Commissioner, and on the boards of the Griffin-Spalding County Recreational Board and the Georgia State Recreational Board.

Mr. Proctor was a servant of the people in the true sense of the word. He never regarded praise for his actions or sought credit, often working behind the scenes to get things done. Bain was a consistent force for positive government action. Often he would call or write to me to let me know how people in his area felt about a particular issue. Nothing in that is unusual. As Members of Congress, we hear from hundreds of constituents on a regular basis. What made Bain's contacts memorable and effective was that he seldom tried to influence your decision on legislation in a particular way, based on any bias he may have had. He was simply satisfied to make sure that I knew how the people of Griffin felt. As such, whenever he did have a position to advocate, I made sure to listen.

In addition to his steady influence on local public policy, Bain was involved in the more charitable side of his community, serving on the boards of the Salvation Army and the American Cancer Society, he was a member of the Rotary Club, and a Navy veteran of the Vietnam War who helped to build a memorial to the brave men and women who laid down their lives in that conflict.

Not only did Bain lead by example, he did a great job of instilling his love of community and service to those close to him. During Bain's funeral, his daughter Heather implored the filled-to-capacity room to pick up the torch her father had passed. "On behalf of Dad and the rest of the family, I ask you to be a part of this community. Get involved and remain involved. He would not have gone on if he did not have faith in us," Heather urged.

Bain Proctor lived a life of silent leadership. He was a steady force in a turbulent world. He will be missed by his community, his family, and those of us who were close to him. I thank him and commend him for his efforts on behalf of the people of Griffin and I thank him for his insights and advice to me as a lawmaker. I ask God's blessing on Bain's family

during their time of grief, and urge everyone who hears this to follow Heather's urging and pick up Bain's torch of community service.

**MEMORIAL TRIBUTE AND EXTOL
TO THE CITY OF LYNWOOD,
CALIFORNIA**

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2002

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, whereas, the city of Lynwood, California, was incorporated in 1921, when new residents flocked to the area because of its great land and plentiful water; and

Whereas, since Lynwood's inception, the city has shown tremendous strength in community involvement and has overcome many obstacles that challenged the young city; and

Whereas, in the 1930s, Lynwood faced a devastating earthquake and severe economic hardship during the Great Depression, yet the community was rebuilt, supplying construction jobs for unemployed local citizens; and

Whereas, Lynwood grew rapidly through the economic boom of the 1940s and served as a settling place for returning World War II veterans; and

Whereas, in 1961, Lynwood won the National All-American City Contest and 22 Lynwood schools captured Freedom Foundation Awards; and

Whereas, through the years, Lynwood has grown into a multi-racial, multi-ethnic, and multi-lingual community representative of a diverse United States; and

Whereas, Lynwood was invigorated during the 1990s with many new community developments, including a new state-of-the-art high school, a youth center, and the Rosa Parks Transit Center.

Now therefore, be it recognized that Congresswoman JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD proudly recognizes the city of Lynwood, California for the 80th Anniversary of its incorporation and as a flourishing, multi-cultural community that is representative of an increasingly diverse United States.

**A TRIBUTE TO COL. ABRAHAM J.
TURNER**

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2002

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, today, I am pleased to recognize the outstanding service to our Nation of Col. Abraham J. Turner, who will be leaving his position with us as Chief of the Army House Liaison Division on June 13, 2002 for assignment as the Assistant Division Commander of the 82d Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, North Carolina. During his tenure here, Abe has distinguished himself as a friend, trusted resource, and an officer who epitomizes the modern American professional soldier.

Abe Turner's illustrious career as an infantry officer embodies all of the Army's values of loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage.

Colonel Turner has demonstrated his outstanding tactical and operational expertise in numerous command and staff positions overseas and in the continental United States. Continually serving in positions of ever-increasing responsibility, the highlights of his career include serving as a company and Battalion Commander with the 82d Airborne Division, regimental tactical officer at West Point, commander of the Infantry Training Brigade, and special assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Indicative of the quality of Colonel Turner's leadership, management, and interpersonal skills, was the fact that he was specially selected to serve as the Chief of the Army's Congressional Liaison Office in the U.S. House of Representatives. As such, he has been responsible for maintaining liaison with 435 Members of Congress, their personal staffs, and 20 permanent or select legislative committees. Over the past year, Abe devoted himself to getting to know over 180 members personally. His dedication, candor and professionalism while serving in this capacity has earned him the reputation of being the best source on Capitol Hill to resolve issues pertaining to the Army.

Upon leaving us, Colonel Turner, already selected and confirmed for promotion to Brigadier General, will return home to the 82d Airborne Division, where he will continue to serve our nation as Assistant Division Commander. That great All-American Division could not hope for the stewardship of a better leader than Abe Turner.

Accordingly, I invite my colleagues to join in offering our heartfelt thanks to Col. Abraham J. Turner for his selfless service. He represents the very best that our great Nation has to offer. We wish Abe and his wife, Linda, continued success and happiness in all of their future endeavors.

HONORING LUTHER KHACHIGIAN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2002

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Luther Khachigian for his many years of service as a board member of the California Grape Rootstock Commission and the California Grape Rootstock Research Foundation. In January, Mr. Khachigian retired from his service on these boards, but remains an active member of the organizations and the agriculture community.

Luther graduated from the University of California, Davis, with a degree in pomology and a minor in viticulture. In 1962, he founded Cal-Western with a one acre nursery and has expanded to a farming and nursery operation, which is now known throughout California's Great Central Valley. Cal-Western specializes in table grapes, wine grapes, walnuts, and the production of grape rootstock.

Mr. Khachigian has dedicated his time, efforts, and finances to the improvement of more than just the agriculture industry in California. In addition to the Commission and the Foundation, Luther is a member of the College of Sequoias Board of Trustees, the University of California Ag Issues Center, and the University of California, Davis, Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Luther Khachigian for his many years of devoted service to agriculture and his participation on the Boards of the California Grape Rootstock Improvement Commission and the California Grape Rootstock Research Foundation. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Luther many years of continued success.

**IN MEMORY OF MEDAL OF HONOR
RECIPIENT GINO MERLI**

HON. DON SHERWOOD

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2002

Mr. SHERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and remember an American hero — World War II Medal of Honor recipient Gino Merli. Mr. Merli passed away yesterday at his home in Peckville, Pennsylvania, at the age of 78. The son of a coal miner, Gino Merli lived a life defined by the words "service" and "sacrifice".

At a time when America was at war, much like today, Mr. Merli answered his internal call to service and enlisted in the Army, even before graduating from high school. He was a teenage machine gunner in September of 1944, when, in the vicinity of Sars la Bruyere, Belgium, his company was overrun by the superior firepower and numbers of an attacking German force. Private First Class Merli and his assistant gunner resolutely held their position covering the withdrawal of his fellow soldiers and blunting the attack of the enemy.

During the night, the Germans assaulted Pfc. Merli's position killing his assistant gunner and capturing the position. Pfc. Merli feigned death by slumping down beside his assistant gunner and endured many bayonet thrusts to determine if he and his gun crew were out of action. When the Germans moved on, he would jump back to his machine gun and engage the enemy with fire. Throughout the night, Pfc. Merli remained with his weapon and repeated this process several times until daybreak. As morning dawned, the Germans had suffered such heavy losses that 700 surrendered. Pfc. Merli's commanding officer found him still at his weapon, covered in his assistant gunner's blood, with 52 enemy dead around his position.

When informed by his commanding officer that he would be recommended to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor, Pfc. Merli stated that his assistant gunner who had made the ultimate sacrifice should be the recipient. He said that his gunner was the "true" hero. Pfc. Merli's only request was to attend church.

This moment defined the courage, integrity and conviction of young Merli. He demonstrated the ability to think under tremendous pressure to fulfill his duty. At its core, courage is the ability to think and act under pressure while realizing the potential costs of your actions. He demonstrated his integrity as he recommended his assistant gunner for our nation's highest military honor, for the gunner had given his last full measure of life in the execution of his duty. And he manifested his selfless religious convictions as he walked to church to pray for his fellow fallen soldiers and those German soldiers whose lives he had taken.

Last Saturday, the History Channel aired a special on Mr. Merli's First Infantry Division