

President Bush. And this year, she worked closely with the gentleman from California, Mr. McKEON, on legislation to reduce federal red tape in higher education.

I'm truly disappointed we won't have the chance to continue this partnership with PATSY. We'll never know exactly where it might have led, or the things that might have been accomplished. But I do know one thing. I'm very grateful for the chance to have served with her, and to have worked alongside her to achieve some of the goals for which she strived.

PATSY MINK's passing is a significant loss for our committee, the people of Hawaii, and the people of the United States. I offer my sincere condolences to her family and constituents. She will be greatly missed.

HOUSES OF WORSHIP POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2002

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce my intention to vote against H.R. 2357, the Houses of Worship Political Speech Protection Act.

I firmly support the base principle of this legislation—reinforcing the right of freedom of speech to America's religious leaders without fear of losing their tax-exempt status. However, I cannot support this legislation because it does not address the issue of political contributions and fundraising by or within the church.

Under this bill churches can maintain their tax exempt status while engaging in political activity such as endorsements, issue advertisements, and get-out-the-vote efforts. Most egregiously, under this bill churches will become involved with partisan fundraising while allowing for tax deductible and tax-exempt status for the church and congregation.

The abuse by political parties and partisan groups and individuals of so many American institutions when it comes to political activity should not be allowed to cross the doorway into America's houses of worship. Politics is not the purpose of our places of worship.

I have been informed that 77 percent of clergy and over two-dozen religious groups have announced their opposition to this bill.

While I do believe that the primary intentions of the bill were well meant, I cannot support it in this form.

INDIAN COMPANIES SELLING MILITARY MATERIALS TO IRAQ

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 2, 2002

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, just as we are about to go to war with Iraq, supposedly democratic India is propping up that brutal dictatorship.

According to an article in the September 25 issue of the *Times of India* by Rashmee Z. Ahmed, Iraq possesses some of the deadliest

weapons of mass destructions and missile infrastructures thanks to the illicit help of Indian companies. One such company, NEC Engineers Private Limited, has "extensive links in Iraq," according to the article. Although such transactions violate India's export control laws, they are apparently taking place with a wink and a nod from the Indian government. Earlier I exposed India's oil transactions with Iraq, which violates UN sanctions.

In spite of this, according to the September 18 issue of the *Times of India*, the United States and India are conducting joint naval exercises.

On January 2, the *Washington Times* exposed the fact that India is sponsoring cross-border terrorism in the province of Sindh in Pakistan. India's leading newsmagazine, *India Today*, reported that India created the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), which the United States government calls a "terrorist organization." The U.S. State Department reported that the Indian government paid 41,000 cash bounties to police officers for killing Sikhs. According to the Indian newspaper *Hitavada*, the late governor of Punjab, Surendra Nath, received \$1.5 billion from the Indian government to foment terrorism in Punjab and Kashmir. The book *Soft Target* shows that the Indian government blew up its own airliner in 1985 to blame Sikhs. This has been discussed many times.

If India is practicing and sponsoring terrorism and helping to build Saddam Hussein's war machine, why are we conducting joint naval exercises with India? Isn't this like conducting joint exercises with the enemy? I call on the Defense Department to call off these exercises.

Mr. Speaker, we can help bring freedom to South Asia and end India's flirtation with terrorist enemies of the United States. The time has come to impose sanctions on India, cut off its aid, and openly declare our support for self-determination for all the people of the subcontinent. This is the best way to help see to it that everyone in that troubled region can live in freedom, dignity, prosperity, stability, and peace.

I am inserting the articles from the *Times of India* into the RECORD.

[From the *Times of India*, Sept. 25, 2002]

INDIAN FIRMS ARMING IRAQ, SAYS UK

(By Rashmee Z. Ahmed)

LONDON: Britain has alleged that Saddam Hussein's Iraq is able and willing to deploy some of its deadliest weapons of mass destruction in under one hour from the order being given and that it possesses missile infrastructure produced with the illicit help of Indian companies.

The British claims of Indian involvement are contained in a 55-page dossier controversially and uniquely published by Tony Blair on Tuesday on the basis of what he called "unprecedented and secret" intelligence information.

The dossier, received by largely skeptical political, press and public opinion here, tries to make a case for a Gulf War II-type operation to disarm Saddam and "regime change". Repeating US and UK claims that Baghdad continues to improve its missile capability, the dossier names names when it comes to alleged Indian support for Iraqi missile production.

The document, which only obliquely blames "Africa" for supplying uranium to Saddam's secret nuclear weapons programme, pinpoints India as part of the sup-

ply chain for banned propellant chemicals destined for ballistic missiles. One of these, ammonium perchlorate, the dossier says, was "illicitly" provided by an Indian company, NEC Engineers Private Limited, which had "extensive links in Iraq", particularly to its al-Mamoun missile production plant and Fallujah 2 chlorine plant.

Analysts added that in an intriguing insight, the dossier appeared to indicate that much of this had been known to New Delhi for some time.

"(The) Indian authorities recently suspended its (the company's) export license" after "an extensive investigation", the dossier says, "although other individuals and companies are still illicitly procuring for Iraq".

In what defense experts suggested was yet another indication of a host of "front companies" in India and elsewhere, the dossier further says the machine tools and raw materials supply chain crucially remains in place for Iraq's al-Samoud and longer-range missile systems.

Even as Iraq refuted the dossier's claims as "totally baseless" and a "Zionist campaign", Blair went before a heated emergency session of the British parliament to declare, "regime change would be a wonderful thing".

Blair's dossier, which precedes Washington's promised evidence on Iraq, was greeted by boredom and yawns among sections of the pundits and politicians, who said it crucially lacked the so-called killer fact.

Commentators said the dossier, which Blair described as primarily for the British people, may do little to persuade opinion further afield, notably India. India has long said that it is opposed to military intervention in Iraq and that "regime change" is an issue for the Iraqi people.

INDIAN DIPLOMATS REACT

Responding to the allegations in Blair's dossier, Navdeep Suri, spokesman for the Indian High Commission confirmed that the case against the company, NEC, had been charged and the matter was currently sub-judice.

He said, "such actions are in violation of India's export control laws and whenever such a violation comes to the government's attention, firm action is taken". He declined to comment on what he called "speculative statements" about "other (Indian) individuals and companies" continuing to procure illicit material for Iraq.

[From the *Hindustan Times*, Sept. 23, 2002]

LABOUR MP STOKES KHALISTAN FIRE IN
BRITAIN

(By Sanjay Suri)

WOLVERHAMPTON, September 23.—A senior ruling Labour Party MP has supported a demand for a separate Sikh state of Khalistan if the move is made "peacefully and democratically".

Rob Marris, Labour MP, expressed his support at a meeting organized by a pro-Khalistan group in a gurdwara in Wolverhampton Sunday.

At the same meeting a senior shadow minister of the Conservative Party expressed support for Sikhs in Britain to register themselves as Sikhs and not Indians.

Rob Marris, who is treasurer of the All Party Panjabis in Britain Parliamentary Group, expressed strong support for the Sikh Agenda that the Sikh Secretariat has produced. The agenda calls for Sikhs to be registered as separate from Indians in Britain, and calls for self-determination in Punjab.

Marris addressed specifically the demand for Khalistan raised at the meeting. "That is an issue dear to your hearts I can see by looking down the hall. Those in the Indian

subcontinent, who peacefully and democratically push for self-determination for that part of the Indian subcontinent, their opinion for self-determination, their right for an independent Khalistan should not be suppressed."

The comment was followed by loud cries of Khalistan zindabad.

Marris said it would not be right for parties in Britain to decide whether there should be self-determination in that part of the subcontinent. "But it would be right for people to democratically and peacefully express their opinions."

A senior shadow minister of the Conservative Party declared at the meeting of Khalistanis Sunday that the Conservatives will give Sikhs the option to register as Sikhs and not Indians when the party comes to power.

The announcement follows backing to the Khalistanis' demand by two senior shadow ministers of the Conservative Party earlier. The developments at the meeting Sunday mark rapid strides the Khalistani group has made in Britain in recent weeks. There has been little evidence of support for the Khalistanis among Sikhs, but strong Conservative Party backing to this group pursuing what they call the "Sikh agenda" has given them new prominence.

The Sikh Secretariat, which organised the meeting in Wolverhampton, had said 10,000 would attend. Only a few hundred came, most of them brought in coachloads from London and Southampton.

Caroline Spelman, shadow cabinet minister for international development and women's affairs, told the meeting that the Sikhs are a distinctive group, "and yet we have very little idea how many Sikhs there are".

Spelman said: "At best that is discourteous, at worst it deprives you of proper monitoring of what your needs are."

She said it was "extraordinary" that an opportunity to find out had been missed in the 2001 census.

She said the Labour government should monitor Sikhs separately and "if they fail, then that will be a task for a Conservative administration to deliver on".

The move is politically loaded. It would give Sikhs the option to declare themselves Sikhs and not Indians. It would mean that the estimated 1.2 million Indian population in Britain could fall to about half of that on the records.

Marris supported the demand for separate listing of Sikhs in Britain. He said there would be many opportunities to do so before the 2011 census.

Amrik Singh Gill, who heads the group that called the meeting, said Khalistan "is the only way out" for Sikhs and that "we will get our own rule". Posters of separatist leader Bhindranwale lined the walls of the hall where the meeting was held.

RECOGNIZING THE DEVASTATING IMPACT OF FRAGILE X

SPEECH OF

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2002

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, A few years ago, a friend from the South Shore of Boston told me about his son who for years had struggled to overcome the deficits associated with a disease called "Fragile X." Like most Americans, I had never heard of this disorder.

I soon learned that Fragile X is the most common inherited cause of mental retardation. About one in 260 women is a carrier of the disease, and it affects one in 2,000 boys and one in 4,000 girls. Despite this high incidence rate, Fragile X is relatively unknown even within the medical profession. It is easily identified by a simple blood test, yet families often struggle for months, even years, searching for explanations for alarming developmental delays and behavioral problems associated with Fragile X. There are some common physical signs, such as large ears, long faces and flat feet, but half of all Fragile X children do not exhibit these characteristics. Other symptoms are less tangible, including hyperactivity, attention deficits, severe anxiety and violent seizures, making diagnosis difficult. As a result, it is estimated that over 80 percent of children with Fragile X are currently undiagnosed or misdiagnosed.

It is fitting that we gather today to consider a resolution recognizing National Fragile X Research Day, and the urgency of the need for increased funding for Fragile X research. Two years ago this week, Congress enacted another bill I co-authored with Congressman WATKINS, the Fragile X Research Breakthrough Act, as part of the Children's Health Act of 2000. This law directed an arm of the NIH to expand and coordinate research on Fragile X, and authorized the establishment of at least three Fragile X research centers.

I am pleased to report significant progress toward implementing these provisions. Early this year, the Institute began accepting applications for the Fragile X research centers, which may be ready to open their doors by this spring.

Thanks to this federal commitment, many prominent scientists have undertaken Fragile X research projects—rapidly accelerating progress and leading to new breakthroughs about its cause. In a series of landmark discoveries, researchers have identified the set of genes which are normally regulated by the Fragile X gene. Scientists are also now pursuing promising drug therapies for Fragile X as new evidence has shown that this type of defect can be blocked by relatively simple medications.

These new discoveries may not only lead to treatments for Fragile X, but also have uncovered striking connections between Fragile X and other neurological and psychiatric disorders—with implications for autism, pervasive development disorder, Rett Syndrome, Alzheimer's, schizophrenia, obsessive-compulsive disorder, Tourette's Syndrome, and numerous other disorders.

All this holds great promise for the development of safe and effective treatments, but there's a great deal more to do.

Among the thousands of Fragile X families across the country are your constituents and mine. And their experiences are likely similar to Patricia Crouse of Chatham, Massachusetts who wrote to me about her grandson: "After searching for several months and spending a small fortune in doctor bills, my son and daughter-in-law finally found that the cause of their son's development delay is Fragile X. This is apparently just the beginning of a lifetime of special needs he will have unless the researchers can discover a cure or treatment."

Or Blaine and Suzanne Smoller of Brewster, Massachusetts whose son Devin was diagnosed with Fragile X as a toddler. Devin is a

bright and happy 12 year old—he is also easily distracted, prone to mood swings and hyperactivity, and has difficulty comprehending conceptual issues. Ensuring Devin receives the education and life skills needed to reach his full potential is a full time job—but because of the lack of understanding of Fragile X, the Smollers have also spent much of the last decade educating themselves, teachers, other parents, and friends about Devin's disorder.

Awareness and early diagnosis is critical to effective therapy and treatment, and can provide emotional relief to families struggling through this maze of medical tests. Only with sound information can parents prepare for the special care and education services most Fragile X children will need—which averages more than \$2 million over a lifetime. Accurate diagnosis helps not only the child and parents, but also siblings and extended family members who may have Fragile X, or who risk passing on the mutation.

Countless parents agonize about a child who learns slowly, suffering from intense anxiety and temper tantrums. Do they go from doctor to doctor, without explanation? Do they have additional children with Fragile X before learning a mother is a carrier? Is a child deprived of treatment because she received inaccurate diagnoses? Do parents conclude they simply have a "bad kid"?

For years, Fragile X families and the FRAXA Research Foundation have worked hard to raise public awareness about the disease, and to increase funding for research. Until a cure is discovered, our goal is to provide families dealing with Fragile X with the most significant tool now available: knowledge. With a little help from Congress, these families will at least have a better shot at accurate diagnosis and access to treatment, as we also accelerate research toward overcoming this debilitating disease. I therefore urge my colleagues to join with us in supporting this resolution—which recognizes the devastating impact of Fragile X, calls for an increase in federal research, urges medical schools and other health educators to promote this research, and commends the goals of National Fragile X Research Day.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO THE
BALLREICH'S COMPANY OF TIF-
FIN, OHIO AND THE 150TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE POTATO CHIP

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 2, 2002

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize an indelible institution in Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. In this, the 150th anniversary year of the potato chip, the Ballreich Potato Chip and Snack Company has been producing some of the best snack foods known to northwestern Ohioans.

The Ballreich Potato Chip and Snack Food Company was started in the 1920s by Fred Ballreich. Fred began his entrepreneurial journey into the snack food business while he was just a teenager while working in a bakery that was owned by his sister. With the end of World War I, Fred, and his wife Ethel, decided to venture into the arena of small business