

During the months following September 11, my school painted pictures of the Twin Towers and memories of that day. We made a tree of buttons representing the people that died that day on the wall in our hallway. Collections of food and money were presented to the Red Cross and a garden in the form of our flag was planted at school.

At Dowling College, a memorial Garden was planted to be kept forever funded by a dinner our school held.

People everywhere still fly their American flags at their homes and, in their cars.

In the meantime we will rebuild our city and the towers that will again stand, this time as a huge memoriam of 9-11 and those lost. The day that changed America.

SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

(By April Lavallo)

9-11 was a day of mixed emotions, sadness, anger and determination. Even though many innocent people were killed, never will the people of America stop the deeds, kind donations and prayers for all who have passed away. Some people were lucky not to know anyone who was in the Twin Towers. But I knew my personal life would never be the same. I took so many things for granted.

I now think about the desperate families of the innocent people who have died. Even though people try to do all they can to make families who lost loved ones feel better, nothing can serve as compensation for those who left us on September 11th. America now has to prove to the world that we are a strong nation and will fight for what we need. The world is no longer a peaceful place for us and no longer united. A gray sky will stay in our minds until we find peace and our sun will again shine through.

Our community hung flags, made donations and I bet you that everyone prayed. We are a proud and patriotic nation. Don't think 9-11 made us a weaker country; it made us a stronger America.

EXPRESSING SORROW OF THE HOUSE AT THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE PATSY T. MINK, A MEMBER OF CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF HAWAII

SPEECH OF

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2002

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for this opportunity to remember and pay tribute to our dear departed colleague, PATSY MINK of Hawaii. I am deeply saddened by her passing. PATSY MINK was a wonderful woman and a great leader for her constituents of Hawaii and for our Nation.

I had the honor and privilege of serving on the Government Reform Committee with Congresswoman MINK. During my short tenure on the committee, PATSY MINK's passion and her belief in her work was evident and could be felt by all that knew her.

Mr. Speaker, PATSY MINK will always be remembered for her legislative achievements. Her ability to build coalitions for progressive legislation led to the first comprehensive Early Childhood Education Act and authored the Women's Educational Equity Act.

Her constituents benefited from her dedication to equality for women and she played a key role in the enactment of Title IX of the Higher Education Act Amendments, which prohibited gender discrimination by federally funded institutions. This legislation has become the major tool for women's fuller participation not

only in sports, but also in all aspects of education.

Most significantly, I have admired PATSY MINK for her tireless commitment to the people of the second district of Hawaii. While this tribute cannot begin to communicate her greatness as a leader and friend, I can say that this body has been made better by her presence and is truly diminished in her absence. She was a role model, and always led by example.

Mr. Speaker, when you come to Congress, you look to certain people that set the framework on how you should act and how you should conduct yourself. You cannot find a better example of that than PATSY MINK. I consider myself fortunate to have had the opportunity to know and work with her. Congresswoman MINK's mark on this institution has been left, and she will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory and celebrating the accomplishments of Congresswoman PATSY MINK.

TRIBUTE TO ANN S. MILLER AND TED MALIARIS

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 8, 2002

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ann S. Miller and Ted Maliaris of South Florida for their patriotism and consistent dedication to our nation through the "A Tribute to America Tour."

Ann Miller and Ted Maliaris, a mother and son team, wrote and produced "A Tribute to America—A 21st Century Anthem" following the devastating events of September 11th. Their anthem is pertinent to all Americans, recognizing the dedication of our Armed Forces and the men and women in uniform who risk their lives every day to ensure our safety and the safety of freedom.

Their sense of pride and devotion to America is clearly evident through their lyrics:

We have freedom in our land, we will fight for our rights, we will stand up for the brotherhood of man

No one can destroy us through thick or thin we're a nation that was built to survive.

No terrorist plight can destroy our sight or the strength of this motherland

We're America, America
Strong, Proud, Brave and Bold

I urge all our colleagues, Mr. Speaker, to join me today in paying tribute to two loyal and proud Americans, Ann S. Miller and Ted Maliaris.

STOP RACIAL PROFILING OF SIKHS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 8, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, racial profiling of Sikhs continues in our country a year after terrorists attacked New York and Washington. According to the September 20 issue of the New York Times, two Sikh men were arrested while trying to fly from New York to Las Vegas for an Exxon convention. Mr. Wander could be facing up to 20 years in prison, according to the article.

Gurdeep Wander and Harinder Pal Singh were headed to that convention on a Northwest Airlines flight after missing a previous connecting flight in Minneapolis. They were flying on the night of September 10 to avoid flying on the anniversary of the September 11 attacks, but had to fly on the morning of the 11th after being delayed. Apparently, it is now a crime to fly if your hair is long and your skin is dark.

Mr. Wander and Mr. Singh were late for their flight and ran on board. Right after them, a Hispanic man named Carlos Nieves rushed onto the plane. All that the two Sikh men carried was the shaving kits they had been given by the airline, because their luggage had already been forwarded to Las Vegas. The flight attendants said that they found three swarthy men rushing onto the plane suspicious. I can't help but wonder if they would have been suspicious of three white men rushing onto a plane.

Right before departure, Mr. Wander got out of his seat and got the shaving kit the airline had given him. He asked to use the restroom. After a few minutes, the flight attendant asked him to sit down and he asked for a minute to finish up. After Mr. Wander came out, Mr. Nieves went to the restroom, followed by Mr. Singh. The flight attendant tried to prevent Mr. Singh from using the restroom, claiming that explosive devices could be assembled if separate individuals carried the components. Because of Mr. Wander's, Mr. Nieves's, and Mr. Singh's skin color, she clearly assumed that they were doing so.

After the plane made an emergency landing in Arkansas, Mr. Singh, Mr. Wander, and an Egyptian man named Alaaeldin Abdelsalam were detained. All the luggage was taken out of the plane. Soon, the plane was surrounded by bomb-sniffing dogs.

It is clear that Northwest Airlines detained these individuals because of their darker skin color. This is racial profiling, and it is wrong. It must be ended. The Transportation Department must put out an order banning racial profiling. Otherwise, it will be dangerous for any minority to fly.

We must treat all passengers equally. No one should be detained for his or her skin color. It must be stopped now. I call on Northwest and all the airlines to end this racist practice and I hope that those who are victimized by this practice will get full recompense.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to place the New York Times article I referred to into the RECORD at this time.

[lsqb]From the New York Times, Sept. 20, 2002[rsqb]

BOUND FOR LAS VEGAS, 2 MEN TAKE A 9/11
DETOUR TO JAIL

(By Edward Wong)

FORT SMITH, Ark., Sept. 19.—The distance between a convention in Las Vegas and a brick jail here in the lush plains of western Arkansas proved far shorter than Gurdeep Wander and Harinder Singh ever could have imagined.

Mr. Wander and Mr. Singh, two gas station workers of Indian descent from New Jersey and Pennsylvania, boarded a Northwest Airlines flight on Sept. 10 from La Guardia Airport, bound for an Exxon convention. In one of the more Kafkaesque instances of air travel jitters, they landed in the county jail here

on Sept. 11, and spent more than a week sleeping in orange jump suits between razor-wire fences. Today, Mr. Wander appeared in a federal courtroom and quietly listened as Judge Beverley Stites Jones said that she had found probable cause that he had intimidated a flight attendant.

A grand jury will probably decide next week whether to indict him in the crime, which carries up to 20 years in prison.

The story of how Mr. Wander and Mr. Singh, who was released on Wednesday, ended up here involves a missed plane connection, terrorism concerns, a surplus of facial hair and arguably poor judgment on the part of many people. Mr. Wander's lawyer, Matthew J. Ketcham, says his client is the victim of racial profiling and paranoia. Federal prosecutors argue that Mr. Wander scared a flight attendant when he refused to sit down, which resulted in the pilot's landing the Las Vegas-bound plane here.

Mr. Wander, who is a 48-year-old American citizen, and Mr. Singh, a 41-year-old citizen of India, made it a point to travel on Sept. 10 because they wanted to avoid flying on the anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks, Mr. Ketcham said. Their plane arrived late in Minneapolis, and the two missed their connecting flight. The airline gave each a shaving kit, and they slept in a nearby hotel, Mr. Ketcham said.

They caught a flight the next morning, barely making a connection to Las Vegas through Memphis. They rushed on board, followed by a Hispanic man named Carlos Nieves. Mr. Wander and Mr. Singh carried only their shaving kits, because their luggage had been forwarded. The three men sat in different parts of the plane.

The sudden appearance of the men seemed suspicious to the three flight attendants, who asked burly passengers to keep an eye on them, said Deborah Summers, a flight attendant who testified here today. Right before takeoff, with the "fasten seatbelt" sign on, Mr. Wander left his seat at the rear to get his shaving kit from an overhead compartment. Ms. Summers said she noticed from his boarding pass that he had not taken his assigned seat next to Mr. Singh.

Mr. Ketcham said Mr. Wander just wanted to stretch out because he had had little sleep.

After the plane began ascending, and while the "fasten seatbelt" sign was still on, Mr. Wander asked Ms. Summers if he could use the restroom. She let him go. He stayed inside for 10 minutes, Ms. Summers said, prompting her to knock on the door. Mr. Wander opened the door, told her he needed to clean up and shut the door. She knocked again soon afterward. When he opened the door, he was shirtless and in the middle of shaving. The pilot urged her to check his razor, then told her to tell him to get out. After five exchanges, Mr. Wander sat down.

"He didn't refuse to leave," Mr. Ketcham said. "She only asked him explicitly twice to sit down and he asked for a minute to finish up."

Almost immediately, Mr. Nieves, who did not know the other two men, got up to use the same restroom. This was reported to the pilot, Capt. David McGuirk, who had ordered all passengers to stay in their seats. After Mr. Nieves left the restroom, Mr. Singh went to use it.

By now, Ms. Summers said, she was trying to lock the restroom. She had learned that "an explosive device can be assembled if separate individuals carry the components," an affidavit by an F.B.I. agent who questioned her said.

Ms. Summers tried to dissuade Mr. Singh from using the same restroom, saying it was broken. Mr. Singh insisted, because another one in the rear was occupied, said George

Lucas, a lawyer for Mr. Singh. He used the other restroom, then sat down next to Mr. Wander.

While Mr. Singh was in the restroom, Captain McGuirk decided to make an emergency landing here. Soon, the plane was surrounded by police officers, fire trucks and bomb-sniffing dogs. The three men, along with a native of Egypt living in Louisiana named Alaaeldin M. Abdelsalam, were told to remain in their seats, Mr. Ketcham said. "It's no coincidence that these dark-skinned men were singled out," he said.

The plane's luggage was pulled out, and a dog raised an alert at Mr. Abdelsalam's bag, which was blown open with a water cannon. He was arrested, along with Mr. Wander and Mr. Singh. Mr. Nieves was released after questioning. Mr. Abdelsalam was released after he explained that he worked in an oil field and that his chemical-stained boots and hard hat were in his bag.

The authorities let Mr. Singh go on Wednesday after he agreed to pay a \$500 civil penalty. As for Mr. Wander, Mr. Cromwell said the intimidation charge "is warranted." Mr. Wander was released today on a \$25,000 bond.

Ms. Summers, prosecutors and Northwest Airlines said the flight crew's actions were based on the behavior of the men, not on their skin color.

Mr. Singh could not be reached for comment, and Mr. Wander did not make a public statement today. After his release, he piled into a car with family members to return to his home in Washington, N.J. Apparently, no one wanted to fly.

SHRIMP IMPORTATION FINANCING FAIRNESS ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 8, 2002

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Shrimp Importation Financing Fairness Act. This bill aids America's struggling domestic shrimping industry by placing a moratorium on restrictive regulations affecting the shrimping industry. This bill also prevents tax dollars from going to the domestic shrimping industry's major foreign competitors.

The United States domestic shrimping industry is a vital social and economic force in many coastal communities across the United States, including several in my congressional district. A thriving shrimping industry benefits not only those who own and operate shrimp boats, but also food processors, hotels and restaurants, grocery stores, and all those who work in and service these industries. Shrimping also serves as a key source of safe domestic foods at a time when the nation is engaged in hostilities abroad.

Given the importance of a strong shrimping industry to so many Americans, it seems strange that the federal government continues to burden shrimpers with excessive regulations. For example, the federal government has imposed costly regulations on this industry dealing with usage of items such as by catch reduction devices and turtle excluder devices (TEDS). The mandatory use of these devices results in a significant reduction in the amount of shrimp caught by domestic shrimpers, thus damaging their competitive position and market share.

Many members of Congress have let the National Marine Fisheries Service, which is

the lead federal agency with responsibility to regulate the domestic shrimp industry, know of their displeasure with the unreasonable regulatory burden imposed upon the industry. In response, the agency recently held briefings with House and Senate staffers as well as industry representatives to discuss how the agency's actions are harming shrimpers.

However, even after hearing first-hand testimony from industry representatives and representatives of communities whose economies rely on a thriving shrimping industry, the agency refuses to refrain from placing regulatory encumbrances upon the domestic shrimping industry. Therefore it is up to Congress to protect this industry from overzealous regulators. The Shrimp Importation Financing Fairness Act provides this protection by placing an indefinite moratorium on all future restrictive regulations on the shrimping industry.

Seven foreign countries (Thailand, Vietnam, India, China, Ecuador, Indonesia, and Brazil) have taken advantage of the domestic shrimping industry's government-created vulnerabilities. These countries have each exported in excess of 20,000,000 pounds of shrimp to the United States in the first 6 months of this year. These seven countries account for nearly 70 percent of all shrimp consumed in the United States in the first six months of this year and nearly 80 percent of all shrimp imported to this country in the same period!

Adding insult to injury the federal government is forcing American shrimpers to subsidize their competitors! In the last three years, the United States Government has provided more than \$1,800,000,000 in financing and insurance for these foreign countries through the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC). Furthermore, the U.S. current exposure relative to these countries through the Export-Import Bank totals some \$14,800,000,000. Thus, the United States taxpayer is providing a total subsidy of \$16,500,000,000 to the home countries of the leading foreign competitors of American shrimpers! Of course, the American taxpayer could be forced to shovel more money to these countries through the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Many of the countries in question do not have free-market economics. Thus, the participation of these countries in United States-supported international financial regimes amounts to a direct subsidy by American shrimpers to their international competitors. In any case, providing aid to any of these countries indirectly grants benefits to foreign shrimpers because of the fungibility of money.

In order to ensure that American shrimpers are not forced to subsidize their competitors, the Shrimp Importation Financing Fairness Act ends all Export-Import and OPIC subsidies to the seven countries who imported more than 20 million pounds of shrimp in the first six months of 2002. The bill also reduces America's contribution to the IMF by America's pro rata share of any IMF aid provided to one of those seven countries.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for Congress to reign in regulation-happy bureaucrats and stop subsidizing the domestic shrimping industries' leading competitors. Otherwise, the government-manufactured depression in the price of shrimp will decimate the domestic shrimping industry and the communities whose economies depend on this industry. I, therefore,