

where the blaze had started. Despite repeated rescue attempts by their colleagues, both men were lost.

Firefighter John "Gino" Ginocchetti, age 41, was a paid professional with the Manlius Fire Department. Firefighter Timothy "T.J." Lynch, age 28, was a full-time firefighter with the Fayetteville Fire Department, a part-time paramedic with Rural/Metro Medical Services, as well as a volunteer responder with the Manlius and Kirkville Fire Departments. Each leave behind a wife and son.

Both men held a longtime commitment to fire service, and since the tragedy, numerous stories of their previous acts of heroism and compassion have been recalled. Their tragic deaths remind us all how dangerous the fire fighting profession truly is.

On behalf of a grateful community, I thank the Ginocchetti and Lynch families for their sacrifice. Our thoughts, prayers, and admiration are with them during this difficult time.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO STAN BROOME

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 2002

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to one of Colorado's first class citizens, Mr. Stan Broome. As President and Chief Executive Officer of Club 20, Mr. Broome worked hard to promote the common interest in the economic future of Colorado's Western Slope. Stan's leadership was essential in developing Club 20's strong reputation for its ability to focus on important issues, while representing the interests of Western Colorado.

As President of Club 20, Stan Broome maintained the high standards of dedication and commitment to the Western Slope and the State of Colorado that the organization has built its reputation around. Because of his leadership, we enjoy the protection of our resources, the promotion of tourism, improvements in our transportation systems, the rise and creation of new telecommunications capabilities, creation of a powerful business infrastructure, and the ability to provide recreational activities in our region. Mr. Broome has remained steadfast in the Club 20's commitment as the "The Voice of the Western Slope."

Stan has made a number of contributions to the State of Colorado, and although he is retiring, I expect that he will remain an active public servant in his community. Stan's background is rich in experience and accolades, working as the Executive Director of Region 10 and President of SB & A Consultants. In addition, he has held several positions in planning and development in Garfield and Grand counties, and served a term with the Colorado Governor's office.

Stan has established strong ties with the Colorado communities in which he has lived and worked. These relationships with the residents and the land have inspired Stan to work with many organizations, including his chairmanship of the Colorado Rural Development Council, serving on the Economic Developers Council of Colorado, being distinguished as a fellow of the Society of American Foresters,

and his association with the Colorado Forestry Association.

Mr. Speaker, Stan Broome has dedicated his life to serving the interests of Colorado's Western Slope, both professionally and as a volunteer. It is my privilege to honor Stan for his many years of guidance and support of Club 20 and Colorado's Western Slope. His dedication and commitment to his fellow Coloradans deserves the recognition of this body of Congress, and this nation. It is with great pleasure that I wish Stan Broome a pleasant retirement and all the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING DR. DAN MAYDAN

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 2002

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, today we rise to honor Dr. Dan Maydan, who has been president of Applied Materials since 1994 and a member of the Board of Directors since 1992. Dr. Maydan is the 2002 recipient of the Anti-Defamation League's Torch of Liberty Award. The Anti-Defamation League's Torch of Liberty Award was established to recognize individuals and corporations who have exhibited humanitarian concerns, and whose everyday actions exemplify the principles on which the Anti-Defamation League was founded: namely, to "secure justice and fair treatment for all."

Born in Tel Aviv, Dr. Dan Maydan is a member of the United States National Academy of Engineering. Over the years, he has received numerous awards and honors for his contributions to the global semiconductor industry and for his efforts to strengthen the links between Israel and global high-technology markets. He is the recipient of the International Partnership Award from the California Israel Chamber of Commerce in recognition of his long-term commitment to building bridges between Israel and California. Additionally, Dr. Maydan received the Israel Trade Award from the Israel Ministry of Industry and Trade. In 1998 he was also awarded the State of Israel Jubilee Award in recognition of his efforts to integrate Israel into the global economy and for realizing its world-class business potential.

In 2001 Dr. Maydan was awarded Honorary Doctorate Degrees from Edinburgh University in Scotland and from the Technion in Israel. In our community, Dr. Maydan is a noted patron of a number of local organizations. Dr. Maydan and Applied Materials have been recognized by numerous organizations for their leadership in responding to community causes.

As friends of Dr. Maydan's, we are incredibly proud at his being presented with this prestigious award. Both as colleagues and as fellow Californians, we are incredibly grateful to him for both his innovation and his compassion. We congratulate him and his family on receiving the Anti-Defamation League's Torch of Liberty Award, and thank him for his commitment and devotion to our community.

APPLAUDING VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 2002

Mr. JEFF MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud the Veterans Affairs Committee for their recommended increase over the Administration's request in the Fiscal Year 2003 Budget Resolution for the Department of Veterans Affairs.

We on the Committee constantly speak of a needs-based budget that fulfills our duty and our obligation to those who have given so much to this nation.

The Committee has been extremely effective under the expert leadership of Chairman Smith, and all of us on the Committee know much work remains. In fact, the Department of Veterans Affairs projects that nearly 700,000 additional veterans will seek VA healthcare in 2003. While we should be proud of the quality and the breadth of care that the VA provides, VA healthcare struggles because appropriated funding is not keeping pace with growth in enrollment and the increased demands for service. Additionally, there is a need for additional clinics and primary care facilities, and much of VA's physical infrastructure is in immediate need of hundreds of millions of dollars in repairs restorations and upgrades. The result of under-funding and inaction in this area could be crippling to the system, and in the end the losers are the ones who have sacrificed the most for this nation—our veterans.

In addition to providing adequate funding for veteran programs, the time has come for Congress to act to resolve inequities in current law, including the prohibition on concurrent receipt as provided for by H.R. 303; and an increase in premiums for the Survivor Benefit Plan as provided for in H.R. 548.

Mr. Speaker, we must fulfill our obligations to care for those who place their lives on the line to defend our nation, our people, and our principles; and to do so we must be willing to provide the needed resources, no matter the cost. The time has come to enact a VA budget that is worthy of this great nation and worthy of our veterans' sacrifice.

May God Bless our nation's veterans, and may God continue to bless these United States of America.

IN HONOR OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DELAWARE BIBLIOPHILES

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 2002

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Delaware Bibliophiles on the occasion of their twenty-fifth anniversary this month. The Delaware Bibliophiles are an organization of book collectors and one of twenty-six officially recognized book collecting societies in the United States. These members, however, collect more than books. They continue to build upon the strong humanities and arts foundations in Delaware and enrich our community.

The Delaware Bibliophiles have published five books with a sixth in the works and recently offered each public library in the State their choice of two books to add to their collections as a gift. In addition to this generosity, the club also participates in numerous exhibits that further enhance the history of the written word, the beauty of design, and the art of book collecting.

The Delaware Bibliophiles are members of the prestigious Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies and currently have over 100 members from eleven states. Certainly, the Delaware Bibliophiles have reached the goal of any bibliophile organization—to foster literary study and promote the arts pertaining to the production of books. I commend them for this fine accomplishment on the occasion of their silver anniversary.

RECOGNIZING THE 317TH AIRLIFT
GROUP STATIONED AT DYESS
AIR FORCE BASE

HON. CHARLES W. STENHOLM

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 2002

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 317th Airlift Group as they return to Dyess Air Force Base from a three-month deployment in Southwest Asia. These folks have been supporting the war effort in Afghanistan and today they return to home to the cheers and support of their families, friends and the entire city of Abilene, Texas.

I want to add my voice to this chorus of support for these brave folks who have spent the last three months working in incredibly challenging physical conditions, flying and supporting missions, in our nation's assault on terrorism. They saw firsthand how the battle in Afghanistan has cost precious American lives even as they put themselves in harm's way.

Today, I join with a grateful nation to express not only thanks to members of the 317th Airlift Group and all those who wear Air Force Blue, but also to the wives and husbands and sons and daughters and family members who share in the sacrifices they make. Our ability as a nation to deploy throughout the world at a moment's notice is possible only because there are strong families and communities to provide support.

Since the terrorist attacks on our nation on September 11, 2001, we have called on folks to make great sacrifices, and our nation's military has answered that call with swift, forceful action. Like all Americans, I have the highest level of confidence in those folks who volunteer to serve in defense of our nation. They have our confidence and respect because they have earned it. They earn it every day as they face hardship and danger. They serve because they believe in America, and America believes in them.

ATTACKS ON MUSLIMS IN INDIA
ARE A REPEAT OF 1984 ATTACKS
ON SIKHS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, more than 540 people have recently died in violent attacks on Muslims in Gujarat, India while police stand by and do nothing. This violence is very disturbing and very reminiscent of the violence against Sikhs in Delhi in November 1984. At that time, police also stood by and did nothing. Sikh police were locked in their barracks and the state-run radio and television stations fanned the flames of the massacre. Even a former Member of Parliament was killed in the riots last week while police stood by, according to a report in the National Post.

When the government, through its police, stands by and lets these attacks unfold, it condones them. Unfortunately, this shows the real truth about India's claim that it is secular and democratic. In a secular, democratic country, the police do not allow minorities to be massacred. This is the act of a theocratic country that seeks to wipe out minorities. That is not the kind of country that America should be supporting.

We should stop providing aid to India while its minorities suffer from this kind of repression. We should not build up its economy with trade. And we should support the people and nations of South Asia in achieving freedom. Self-determination is the right of all people; let us support a free and fair plebiscite on the future of Khalistan, Kashmir, Nagaland, and the other countries seeking their freedom from India.

Mr. Speaker, the Council of Khalistan recently published a press release discussing the parallels between the current violence and the Delhi massacres of Sikhs.

KILLING OF OVER 540 MUSLIMS BY HINDU MILITANTS PARALLELS 1984 MASSACRE OF SIKHS

WASHINGTON, D.C., MARCH 5, 2002.—The attacks on Muslims in Ahmedabad parallel the November 1984 massacre of Sikhs in Delhi, according to Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, the government pro tempore of the Sikh homeland, Khalistan, which leads the struggle for the independence of Khalistan. "The police stood by then, too, and the police gave a nod to the violence," Dr. Aulakh said. "This is part of the overall plan of a Hindu fundamentalist regime that is determined to wipe out minorities," he said. More than 540 people have died during the last week in the current violence in Ahmedabad. "When 13 people were killed in the attack on the Indian Parliament, there was a lot of outrage, as there should be for the killing of any human being," Dr. Aulakh said. "Where is the outrage at the death of over 540 people in this massacre?" he asked.

"The true face of Indian secularism is exposed," Dr. Aulakh said. "They demolished a mosque the other day, they demolished the mosque in Ayodhya and they are proceeding with plans to build a Hindu temple on the site," he said. "They attacked the Golden Temple in 1984. They have attacked Christian churches, schools, and prayer halls." In 2000, Indian troops were caught red-handed trying to set fire to Sikh homes in Kashmir. During the Delhi massacres in November 1984, Sikh police officers were locked in their

barracks while more than 20,000 Sikhs were massacred and the state-run television and radio called for more Sikh blood. "It is too bad that atrocities like these are carried out with impunity," he said.

The Indian government has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984. Over 75,000 Kashmiri Muslims have been killed since 1988. More than 200,000 Christians have been killed since 1947, along with tens of thousands of Dalits, Tamils, Assamese, Bodos, Manipuris, and other minorities. A report issued last year shows that 52,268 Sikh political prisoners are held in Indian jails, as well as tens of thousands of others. Since Christmas 1998, Christians have felt the brunt of the attacks. 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. Pakistan has requested the extradition of Home Minister L.K. Advani, who is wanted for the murder of Muhammad Ali Jinnah, the founder of Pakistan, 50 years ago.

Last year, a cabinet member said that everyone living in India must be a Hindu or be subservient to Hindus. In July 1997, Narinder Singh, a spokesman for the Golden Temple, told National Public Radio, "The Indian government, all the time they boast that they're democratic, they're secular, but they have nothing to do with a democracy, they have nothing to do with a secularism. They try to crush Sikhs just to please the majority."

The attacks in Ahmedabad reportedly came in retaliation for an attack on a railroad car full of Hindus on their way to Ayodhya to build a temple on the site where the most revered mosque in India was destroyed several years ago. 58 Hindus were burned to death in that attack. For several days, train loads of Hindu extremists had passed through the village of Godha, where the train attack occurred, shouting provocative slogans about building a temple.

"By standing by while this violence went on, the government condones it," Dr. Aulakh said. "The only way to escape this government-supported violence and tyranny is for the Sikhs, Christians, Muslims, and other minorities to claim their freedom from India," he said. "That is the only way to prevent the Hindu militant theocracy from wiping us out," he said. "Now is the time for a Shantmai Morcha (peaceful agitation) for the independence of Khalistan," he said. "Sikhs are a separate nation. Sikhs ruled Punjab until the British annexed Punjab in 1849. The people of South Asia must have self-determination now," he said. "India is on the verge of disintegration, as Steve Forbes predicted in the current issue of Forbes magazine," he said. "Khalistan will be free by 2008."

PAYING TRIBUTE TO HARRY
MUSSELL

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 2002

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Harry Mussell and thank him for his extraordinary contributions to his community and to his state. As a resident of New Castle, Colorado, Harry has dedicated his life to improving the