

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

community by selflessly giving his time and energy to a number of volunteer organizations. His remarkable philanthropic accomplishments are surpassed only by the level of integrity and honesty with which he has conducted himself each and every day of his life. As we celebrate his tremendous accomplishment of having a day, "Harry W. Mussell Day," named after him by the citizens of New Castle, let it be known that I, along with the people of Colorado, applaud his efforts and are eternally grateful for all that he has done for the community of New Castle and the State of Colorado.

Harry has served in the Glenwood Springs Rotary Club for nearly 35 years, having a perfect attendance record for 32 straight years. Even when Harry was out of town, he always made a point to find a local Rotary Club Chapter, so he could attend the weekly meetings. Not only is Harry a lifetime honorary Rotarian in Glenwood Springs, but he also started Rotary Clubs in Aspen, Carbondale and Rifle, and has attended nine international Rotary conventions.

In addition to his dedication to the Rotary Club, Harry has devoted an enormous amount of time to a number of other organizations. He has been a volunteer with Colorado Mountain College's Senior Programs, serving on the advisory council of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program for several years. In addition, he has volunteered at "The Gathering", a senior lunch program held every Monday in New Castle and Wednesday in Silt. In 1997, Harry was a candidate for the Glenwood Post Humanitarian Service Award, and has previously served on New Castle's Senior Housing Committee.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Harry Mussell is a man of unparalleled dedication and commitment to his community and to the people who reside in it. It is his unrelenting passion for each and every thing he does, as well as his spirit of honesty and integrity with which he has always conducted himself, that I wish to bring before this body of Congress. He is a remarkable man who has achieved extraordinary things and enriched the lives of so many people. It is my privilege to extend to him my sincere congratulations on the advent of "Harry W. Mussell Day," as he is most deserving, and I wish him all the best in the future.

HONORING CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY MEN'S BASKETBALL ON THEIR VICTORY IN THE NORTHEAST CONFERENCE TOURNAMENT

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 2002

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Central Connecticut State University (CCSU) men's basketball team for their accomplishment this season.

The CCSU Blue Devils defeated Quinnipiac College by a score of 78–71 to win their conference, improve their record to 27 wins and 4 losses and more importantly secure an invitation to the NCAA tournament for the second time in 3 years.

As the buzzer sounded the capacity crowd of 3,556 erupted in celebration of our home-

town Blue Devils continuing their nation-leading winning streak to 19 games.

Mr. Speaker, to watch the students storm the court, and to hear Head Coach Howie Dickenman, himself a CCSU graduate, say "This was an event tonight, an event that the whole city rallied around" is to understand what March Madness is all about.

I am proud to be a resident of the city of New Britain, home of the 2002 Northeast Conference regular season and conference tournament champions. I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating this exemplary group of student-athletes, their coaches, parents, classmates, and others who supported and cheered them on this season.

Mr. Speaker, their exceptional play this season is an inspiration to all of us. Congratulations to the Blue Devils, and best of luck in the Big Dance. To steal a phrase from Dick Vitale and Bristol Connecticut's own ESPN, CCSU you are "awesome with a capital A baby!"

A TRIBUTE TO NANCY BLOOMER

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 2002

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, many of our colleagues and staff will celebrate the service of Nancy Bloomer to our country tomorrow.

Nancy served the House International Relations Committee for many years, both in the minority prior to 1995 and in recent years in the majority. The committee dealt with critical issues of our time—the cold war, Central America, Desert Storm, Haiti, Bosnia, and Iraq. After the elections in 1994, Nancy and the new committee staff director, Rich Garon, assembled a team that helped guide this House through the transition to a Republican majority.

Many people did not know what a Republican majority would do at the helm of the committee. Barely anyone was around in 1954 when Republicans last took charge. Under Chairman BEN GILMAN, Nancy and the committee team leapt into action as dedicated internationalists, committed to America's role in the world. We passed key parts of the Contract with America, the American Overseas Interests Act and numerous other pieces of legislation designed to strengthen U.S. foreign policy.

I was a staff member of that team. I remember Nancy as the complete professional, helping Chairman GILMAN organize many different member requests into a coherent whole. In those days after the cold war and before the War on Terror, it was hard to build a central core of members with a common vision of America's role in the world. It took vision by members of this body and it took solid staff work by Nancy and her colleagues through endless hours spent between hearings, markups and consideration of legislation on the floor.

Nancy should be very proud of her work. Congress has played a strong hand in modernizing the State Department, paying our dues to the United Nations and backing up key allies in need. We also played the leading humanitarian role in feeding starving North Koreans and helping refugees around the world. Much of this work would not have been done

or would have not looked easy to do without Nancy's contribution to her country. As she departs the Congress after years of service, we wish her well and know that America is stronger overseas in part due to the service of Nancy Bloomer.

HONORING AMERICAN AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION FOR 100 YEARS OF SERVICE AND FOR TAKING AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THE SAFETY OF AMERICANS

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 2002

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate AAA on 100 years of serving Americans. On March 8 in my home state of Idaho, the Oregon-Idaho AAA office will hold a grand opening for its brand new building in Boise.

When AAA started 100 years ago, America was starting to emerge as a technological trendsetter. Alexander Graham Bell was developing the telephone. Thomas Edison was experimenting with electricity and the light bulb. The Wright Brothers were jumping off hillsides to attempt flight. Henry Ford was beginning his own company to replace horse and cart with steel and wheels. This was the environment in which AAA began—an inventor's paradise—where good ideas became life-altering institutions.

In 1902, American motorists needed better roads, so nine regional auto clubs in Chicago took on the task. Since then, AAA has expanded its mission from helping kids and parents know the life-saving value of car seats, to developing signature roadside service, to the famous TripTik maps to travel discounts. AAA also continues to fight for better roads for safer Americans.

AAA in Idaho has a long history as well, starting in 1920. In fact, the new 14,000 square foot building is named after Richard "Dick" Navarro, AAA Idaho's President from 1981 to 1993.

Congratulations AAA on 100 years of serving Idaho and for taking an active role in the safety of Americans. Your outstanding work is appreciated and shows by your 48 million loyal members.

COMMEMORATING ELIZABETH BUFFUM CHACE

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 12, 2002

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I come before you to recognize the accomplishments of a great person in Rhode Island history, Elizabeth Buffum Chace. A controversial figure in the 19th century because of her progressive views on slavery and women's suffrage, Chace has since earned immense respect in Rhode Island for her determination and willingness to fight for just causes. Today, in celebration of her great deeds, the state honors Elizabeth Buffum Chace by placing a statue of her on permanent display in the State House.

The dedication of the Elizabeth Buffum Chace statue comes as the result of an extensive search conducted by the Rhode Island