

model for all Americans who desire to serve their country in the most difficult and trying of circumstances. Many young men and women are now serving their nation without regard to personal safety to ensure we enjoy the freedoms our forefathers paid for so many years ago. We are proud of and honor you Christopher, good luck with your recovery, and good luck in your future endeavors.

SIKH ACTIVIST DETAINED IN CANADA AND BRITAIN AT BEHEST OF INDIAN GOVERNMENT

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Bhagwan Singh Sandhu, a leader of the Sikh Students Federation, was detained at the airports in Vancouver and in London last month, apparently at the behest of the Indian government. According to information I have received, Dr. Sandhu was detained overnight and interrogated by Canadian intelligence agents who were in constant contact with Indian officials in Delhi. According to Dr. Sandhu, he was told that he was a terrorist, yet no evidence to support this claim was produced by authorities in Canada. The same thing apparently happened to him on his arrival in London. All records of his interrogation were retained by the Indian regime.

Mr. Speaker, the Indian Government appears to be trying to capitalize on the world's heightened concerns about terrorism to harass innocent Sikhs beyond its own borders. In the case of Dr. Sandhu, it appears that India manipulated our friends in Canada and Great Britain so that they would detain Dr. Sandhu. The Council of Khalistan has issued an excellent press release on the detention of Dr. Sandhu. It is very informative. I would like to place it in the RECORD at this time.

[From the Council of Khalistan, Mar. 11, 2002]

SIKH ACTIVIST ARRESTED IN CANADA AND ENGLAND AT BEHEST OF INDIAN GOVERNMENT
INDIA TERRORIZING SIKHS INTERNATIONALLY

WASHINGTON, D.C., March 11, 2002.—Dr. Bhagwan Singh Sandhu, a leader of the Sikh Student Federation, was arrested at the Vancouver airport on February 12 on the instructions of the Indian government. Canadian intelligence agents interrogated Dr. Sandhu while they were in constant touch with Indian intelligence in Delhi. They offered no evidence of any involvement by Dr. Sandhu in any terrorist activity in India or any other country. Yet he was labeled a terrorist by the Canadian intelligence operatives. They locked him in a cold, small cell with only a cement bench to lie down on. The following evening, February 13, he was put on a plane to London.

When Dr. Sandhu arrived in London, the British, acting at the behest of the Indian government arrested him. He was interrogated and searched, then held in jail overnight. He was then sent back to India. The Indian government kept all the papers related to his arrest and detention. When he arrived in India, he was arrested again. He had to get medical attention due to his injuries from his arrests. His letters of protests to the Canadian, British, and Indian authorities have gone unanswered.

"This arrest shows the true face of Indian secularism," said Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh,

President of the Council of Khalistan, the organization that leads the Sikh Nation's struggle for independence. "These illegal arrests show that the Hindu nationalists will reach anywhere to destroy Sikhs and other minorities," he said. "They attacked the Golden Temple in 1984. They have attacked Christian churches, schools, and prayer halls. It has been an ongoing pattern of repression," he said.

"It is shameful that the Canadian and British governments have gone along with India's repression by illegally arresting and harassing Dr. Sandhu," said Dr. Aulakh. "Dr. Sandhu is a victim of India's tyrannical, fanatical drive to eliminate all minority populations in the service of rampaging Hindu cultural imperialism," he said. "It is clear that the agents at the airports in Vancouver and London were working at the behest of the brutal Indian government, perhaps at its direction since they were apparently in constant contact with Delhi."

The Indian government has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984. Over 75,000 Kashrairi 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. On February 28, 42 Members of the U.S. Congress wrote to President Bush, asking him to work to get these political prisoners freed. 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.

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 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," Dr. Aulakh said. "That is the only way to prevent the Hindu theocracy from wiping us out," he said. "We must launch a Shantmai Morcha (peaceful agitation) to liberate Khalistan," he said.

"Sikhs are a separate nation and ruled Punjab until 1849. No Sikh leader has signed the Indian constitution. The people of South Asia must have self-determination now," Dr. Aulakh 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."

FALUN GONG

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak out against the religious persecution of Falun Gong practitioners in mainland

China. Falun Gong representatives believe that over 100,000 Falun Gong practitioners have been arrested. Tens of thousands have been thrown into labor camps without trial, and at least 1,000 healthy practitioners have been put into mental hospitals and have suffered illegal psychiatric abuse. It has also been reported that between 365 and 1,600 people have been killed in police custody.

It is thought that there are as many as 100 million Falun Gong practitioners worldwide. Falun Gong believers hold that this spiritual practice instills the three principles of truthfulness, compassion and tolerance. They would merely like the opportunity to peacefully practice their beliefs without fear of torture or imprisonment.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting Falun Gong and its practitioners' quest for peace and tolerance.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. SOSSINA HAILE, 27TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR—2002

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's most notable women during the month of March and it is my honor to not only recognize women of the past but to also recognize women who are making a difference in my community. While a month of remembrance is certainly not sufficient, I am honored today to pay homage to such women as Eleanor Roosevelt, Sandra Day O'Connor, Harriet Tubman, Sally Ride and all the women of my Congressional District, whose contributions have made a profound difference in the face and fabric of our nation.

It is a special privilege to recognize an outstanding woman of California's 27th Congressional District. Dr. Sossina M. Haile is a well-respected and valuable member of the educational community in my district and her work as a professor and advisor are important in helping to shape the face and scope of research in this country.

Dr. Haile received her Bachelor of Science degree in Math, Science and Engineering from MIT and went on to receive her M.S. degree in the same discipline from the University of California, Berkeley. She returned to her alma mater, MIT, where she earned a Ph.D.

She began her professional career in education at the Max-Planck-Institut für Festkorperforschung in Stuttgart, Germany as a Fulbright then Humboldt Fellow between October 1991 and August 1993. She served as the Department of Materials Sciences and Engineering's Battelle Assistant Professor at the University of Washington from September 1993 to September 1996. In the fall of 1996 she became an Assistant Professor in the Materials Science Department at the California Institute of Technology and I am happy to announce that she was recently granted an Associate Professorship at Caltech in the fall of last year.

Over her academic years, Dr. Haile has compiled an impressive and outstanding list of

notable awards and accomplishments. She was named an award recipient as a National Young Investigator from 1994 to 1999 and was presented the Hardy Award in 1997 for exceptional promise of success in materials science. In 2000 she was honored with the Coble Award in recognition of outstanding research in ceramic science and in 2001 was presented with the J. Wagner Award for significant contributions towards the understanding of high-temperature, ion-conducting materials.

One of her greatest contributions to our community is the research which she is undertaking and the doctoral, masters, and senior theses students which she is guiding along this journey. Dr. Haile's time and efforts are certainly appreciated not only by the science community but also by the sixteen students which she mentors and guides so well.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring an outstanding and extraordinary woman of California's 27th Congressional District, Dr. Sossina Haile. The entire community joins me in thanking Sossina for her continued efforts to make the 27th Congressional District a place of academic excellence and continued research success.

HOMELAND SECURITY ISSUES

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Speaker, in order to maintain our position in the world economy America's border security must be highly efficient, posing little or no obstacle to legitimate trade and travel. Yet, America's borders—land, air or sea—are our first line of defense in the war on terrorism. Our budget makes a bold step toward establishing the border of the future. It begins the process of integrating active measures abroad to screen goods and people, inspections at the border, and measures within the United States to ensure compliance with entry and import permits. Federal border control agencies are provided more resources to establish a seamless information-sharing system that allows for coordinated communication with the broader law enforcement and intelligence gathering communities. Funding the use of advanced technology to track the movement of cargo and the entry and exit of individuals is essential to the task of managing the movement of hundreds of millions of individuals, conveyances, and vehicles.

Customs: The 2003 Budget increases the inspection budget of the Customs Services by \$619 million, for a total of \$2.3 billion. This additional funding increases the ability of the Customs Service to fulfill its critical border security role. Specifically, the additional resources in the 2003 Budget will allow the Customs Service to achieve two key objectives: Acquisition of Additional Personnel and New Technology.

Coast Guard: The 2003 Budget increases funding for the Coast Guard's homeland security-related missions (protecting ports and coastal areas, as well as interdiction activities) by \$282 million, to an overall level of \$2.9 billion. After September 11, the Coast Guard's port security mission grew from approximately

1–2 percent of daily operations to between 50–60 percent today. However, we must recognize that the Coast Guard's other important missions, such as suppressing illegal immigration, drug interdiction and search and rescue remain vital to our constituents and coastal communities.

INS: We have also included sense of the House language that the \$380 million in Function 750 will be used by the Immigration and Naturalization Service to implement a visa tracking system.

SUPPORTING FIRST RESPONDERS

America's first line of defense in any terrorist attack are our "first responders"—local police, firefighters, and emergency medical professionals. Properly trained and equipped first responders have the greatest potential to save lives and limit casualties after a terrorist attack. The FY 2003 Budget directs \$37.7 billion to homeland security, up from \$19.5 billion in 2002.

As a first step in our commitment to improving "consequence management" we passed H.R. 3448, the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Response Act of 2001. H.R. 3448 is intended to better prepare America for bio-terrorist threats or other public health emergencies by improving America's ability to respond effectively and quickly to such threats. This sweeping legislation will cover everything from public health preparedness and improvements, to enhancing controls on deadly biological agents, to protecting our food, drug and drinking water supplies. Our Budget proposes to spend \$3.5 billion on enhancing the homeland security response capabilities of America's first responders—a greater than 10-fold increase in Federal resources to ensure that the people on the frontline of our defense have the training, equipment and technology necessary to protect them and protect our homeland.

DEFENDING AGAINST BIOLOGICAL TERRORISM

One of the most important missions we have as a Nation is to be prepared for the threat of biological terrorism—the deliberate use of disease as a weapon. An effective bio-defense will require a long-term strategy and significant new investment in the U.S. health care system to defend against attacks on our population and economic attacks against our agricultural infrastructure. The President's Budget for 2003 devotes \$2.4 billion to jump-starting the research and development process needed to provide America with the medical tools needed to support an effective response to bio-terrorism.

This new funding will focus on: (1) Infrastructure. Strengthen the State and local health systems, including by enhancing medical communications and disease surveillance capabilities, to maximize their contribution to the overall bio-defense of the Nation. (2) Response. Improve specialized Federal capabilities to respond in coordination with State and local governments, and private capabilities in the event of a bioterrorist incident and build up the National Pharmaceutical Stockpile. (3) Science. Meet the medical needs of our bioterrorism response plans by developing specific new vaccines, medicines, and diagnostic tests through an aggressive research and development program. (4) Agriculture. I introduced HR 3198 because I believe threats of agricultural bioterrorism should receive the same level of priority as other terrorist threats. The FY 2003 budget makes important steps in

this direction by calling for \$74.4 billion in spending, an increase of \$11 billion over the FY 2002 budget, and \$6 billion above actual budget outlays in FY 2001. Significant funding increases in the agriculture budget that relate to homeland security and the protection of agriculture are a \$48 million increase for animal health monitoring, a \$19 million increase in the Agricultural Quarantine Inspection (AQI) program for improved point-of-entry inspection programs and a \$12 million increase for programs to expand diagnostic, response, management and other technical services within the Animal Plant Health Inspection Services (APHIS).

NON-PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

Nuclear weapons technology is now almost 70 years old, chemical and biological weapons technology is almost 100 years old. Nuclear weapons, and other weapons of mass destruction, are no longer the exclusive province of the major powers of the First World. Since the Soviet Union became a nuclear power in 1949 five countries have established significant arsenals of nuclear weapons; China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States. India, Pakistan, Israel, and possibly North Korea are also reported to have nuclear weapons.

With the break up of the Soviet Union, nuclear weapons materials and production equipment may be available on the international black-market or may be transferred from one state to another. Additional countries may therefore be able to develop nuclear weapons if they are able to obtain fissile material. Even terrorist groups may acquire and use radiological weapons that use a conventional explosive to disperse deadly radioactive material, evidence of such intentions has reportedly been found in Afghanistan.

Our Budget recognizes the importance of non-proliferation to our Homeland Security effort. The resolution accommodates the President's request for \$1.12 billion for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation in fiscal year 2003, a 39 percent increase over pre-September 11th funding: including International Nuclear Materials Protection, (increased 67 percent, to \$233 million) Nonproliferation Research and Development, (increased 38 percent to \$284 million) and Fissile Materials Disposition, (accommodates the President's funding request of \$350 million, a 40-percent increase above the previous year).

While much of our past focus has been on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons we must recognize that other weapons of mass destruction, such as chemical and biological weapons, also pose a very real and present threat. Earlier this week, President Bush articulated his administration's doctrine for dealing with this threat, "Men with no respect for life must never be allowed to control the ultimate instruments of death. Against such an enemy, there is no immunity, and there can be no neutrality." Our Budget provides the President with the resources he needs to continue our non-proliferation efforts and, if necessary, confront any nation posing a threat with chemical, biological or nuclear weapons.