

On behalf of myself and the citizens of Sacramento, I congratulate and thank CH2M Hill on 30 years of continued success and service.

CHINA'S TORTURE OF THE FALUN GONG

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, you may recall, I have been endeavoring to bring to our colleagues' attention the egregious abuses of human rights by the Chinese government toward its own citizens. Today I will provide information regarding the perpetual and unjustifiable harassment, torture and death of Falun Gong practitioners at the hands of the Chinese government. Many of the victims are old men simply trying to pursue their religious beliefs peaceably. They hope only for what we in America take for granted—the right to follow one's conscience. Instead they are brutalized by the state. I offer these accounts and hope that our colleagues will come to the same conclusion that I did—that we must act to help the persecuted people of China.

"IN THEIR OWN WORDS" STATEMENTS ON THE TORTURE OF THE FALUN GONG

Imagine the leader of the world's apparently most-promising emerging market suddenly banning the faith of one out of every twelve of his/her own citizens, subjecting them to arbitrary detention, forced-labor, brainwashing sessions, physical torture and death, and using a shocking amount of foreign investment capital to do it. Imagine no more. This is the reality.

According to the testimonies of thousands of victims, the Chinese government implemented the persecution through a three-prong directive to all levels of government:

Destroy Falun Gong practitioners physically through systematic, state-sanctioned forced-labor, torture and killings.

Destroy Falun Gong practitioners' reputations through a worldwide media campaign to demonize Falun Gong and falsely depict its practitioners as dangerous "cult" members and a menace to society.

Destroy Falun Gong practitioners financially, which, in a Communist nation where the government can exercise significant control over employment and housing, allowed the government to deny Falun Gong practitioners basic necessities for living, such as salaries/pensions, employment, education, housing, etc. in addition to suffering widespread extortion, confiscation of property and state-enforced fines when detained by police.

Almost 800 deaths from torture have been verified. Thousands more people have been forcefully incarcerated in mental hospitals where many are tortured. More than 100,000 have been sent to forced labor camps, typically without trial.

In January 2003, after more than 3 years of torture and abuse, 65 year-old Mr. Quanfu Zhang was beaten to death in a Chinese forced-labor camp. His 38-year-old son, Qifa Zhang, died 16 days later from sustained torture in the same labor camp.

In January of 2003, a U.S. citizen was detained and later imprisoned where he has been beaten and repeatedly subjected to brainwashing sessions in an attempt to force him to renounce his beliefs. His fiancé leads a grassroots call for his release in the U.S.

Sixty-seven year-old Li Jianhou from Nanchong City, Sichuan Province was tor-

tured to death in Deyang Prison, Sichuan Province on March 27, 2003. His wife is being held at a local detention center.

On July 18, 2003, After three years of torture and abuse, a university teacher from Jilin Province with a master's degree in philosophy was detained on several occasions for his practice of Falun Gong. He died in a Chinese Labor Camp.

In August 2003, Ms. Zhengshu Cui, an ethnic Korean and a graduate of the Baicheng Finance and Trade Training School who lived in northeastern China, died on August 12, 2003, from extended torture and abuse sustained while imprisoned for her beliefs in a forced-labor camp.

In August 2003, after being abducted multiple times and tortured by local police for his practice of Falun Gong, a 56-year-old farmer from Heilongjiang Province was subjected to forced-feeding with boiling water. Emaciated and unable to stand on his own, he died in a Chinese prison.

DEATH OF DONALD HOLLAND

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, South Carolina has lost one of its best public servants recently when State Senator Donald Holland of Camden, South Carolina, died at the age of 75. He was my colleague during my seventeen years of service in the South Carolina State Senate. He will always be remembered as a gentleman who conducted his chairmanship of the Judiciary Committee with civility. He was respectful of the minority and promoted open debate. His legacy will be the fair election laws appreciated by South Carolinians due to his chairmanship of the Election Laws Study Committee, where he was always respectful and understanding of my minority role. The Wilson family extends its deepest sympathy to the Holland family.

The following is his obituary printed in the State newspaper.

SEN. DONALD HOLLAND

CAMDEN.—The Honorable Donald Harry Holland, husband of Betty Bell Holland and father of Elizabeth Alberta (Lisa) Holland, died October 5, 2003, at his home. Funeral services will be held at Lyttleton Street United Methodist Church at 1 p.m. Wednesday, October 8, with the Reverend T. Lee Bryant Jr. and Chaplain George G. Meetze officiating, followed by committal in Beulah United Methodist Church Cemetery.

Holland, son of the late Eugene and Alberta Branham Holland, was born on a farm in the rural Kershaw County community of Cassatt on August 19, 1928. A graduate of Midway High School (1945), Holland entered the United States Army and was posted to the Asiatic-Pacific Theatre. At the age of 18, Holland served with U.S. Forces occupying Japan at the conclusion of World War II. As part of his duties with the Judge Advocates Office, Holland developed a proficiency for speaking Japanese and served as a translator.

Upon his honorable discharge from the military in 1948, Holland reentered the University of South Carolina and, under a combined program of undergraduate and law school studies then available, earned a law degree in 1951.

While concluding his studies at the University, Holland sought election to the South Carolina House of Representatives for

Kershaw County. His election in 1950, at age 21, began over one-half century of continuous public service under 11 governors. Holland's six terms in the House of Representatives were followed by five years of service on the State Highway Commission and 35 years of service in the South Carolina Senate.

At the time of his death, Holland was the longest-serving lawmaker in South Carolina. In South Carolina's post-colonial history, only three persons have provided more years of combined House and Senate service than Holland. In 1999, Holland was honored by the National Conference of State Legislators for having a tenure of service placing him among the ten most senior legislators in the country.

His long tenure was one of remarkable accomplishment. In addition to chairing the Senate's standing committees on Judiciary, General Laws, Corrections and Penology and Fish, Game and Forestry, Holland was the catalyzing force and chairman behind many of the body's most influential study committees and special committees. In the 1970s and 1980s, Holland led the state's efforts to reform and modernize its election laws and laws governing criminal prosecution and conviction. A champion of an effective and fair criminal justice system, Holland served as chairman of nearly all legislative conference committees, which produced significant legislation within the past 20 years in the areas of support of victims of violent crime, substantive criminal reform and drug interdiction.

As chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee from 1995 until 2001, Holland devoted much of his energy and attention to children's issues and domestic violence. In recognition of his efforts, the South Carolina Victim Assistance Network named Holland "The Outstanding Legislator of the Year for 1999-2000."

In 1988, Holland, serving as chairman of the General Assembly's Screening Committee for Candidates for the Public Service Commission, began a 15-year effort to reform the qualifications of public service commissioners. Within the most recent legislative session and working in the bipartisan manner with which he was most comfortable, Holland's crusade for change in the Public Service Commission brought to the forefront legislation accomplishing significant reform. Holland also provided stable leadership to the Senate as chairman of its Redistricting Committee during the late 1980s and 1990s.

Of his accomplishments, Holland was most proud of his ability to serve his neighbors. His able service to the far-flung reaches of his geographically-large Senate district resulted in progress coming to areas where it was not a common visitor. Often recollecting the dire needs of South Carolinians during his boyhood, Holland stubbornly held to making sure that rural South Carolinians were not forgotten. His well-known devotion to these interests resulted in his having a statewide constituency. Holland was a member of Lyttleton Street United Methodist Church, the VFW, American Legion and Woodmen of the World. He was a 33rd degree Mason and a Shriner. Consistent with his abiding love of history, Holland was a member of the Kershaw County Historical Society and the South Carolinian Society, the repository for his personal and political papers.

Holland was predeceased by his stepmother, Ruby Gordon Holland. Besides his widow and daughter, he is survived by brothers of Camden, Dr. Alton Holland and Carl Holland; four sisters, Margaret Holland Ford of Camden, Maxine Holland Humphrey of Camden, Zulene Holland Dougherty of Camden, Sandra Holland Hatcher of Florence; a number of nieces and nephews; his beloved dog, Maggie, and cat, Bully.

The family suggests those wishing to make memorials may do so to Cassatt Baptist Church Building Fund, P.O. Box 110, Camden, SC 29032; the Beulah United Methodist Church Cemetery Fund, 820 Beulah Church Road, Camden, SC 29020; the South Carolina Troopers Association, 4961 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC 29212; or to the charity of one's choice.

THE PEOPLE OF THE TAIWAN
REPUBLIC OF CHINA

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my sincere congratulations and

best wishes to the people of the Taiwan Republic of China as we celebrate the National Day of the Republic. For over half a century, our two nations have celebrated a close friendship, and common values.

With the election of President Chen a few years ago, and the first substantial transfer of power, Taiwan has helped to set an excellent example for many nations about the importance, and successful exercise, of democracy, liberty, self-government, and self determination.

Mr. Speaker, as President Chen said in his address last year, "Despite twists and turns along the course of democracy, the people of Taiwan have never lost sight of the need for change . . . Looking toward a better tomorrow requires us to be vigilant today. The opportunity to create change is often transient, and

every minute wasted increases the cost of reform. We will not back down from our advocacy of reform and we will not stop until we achieve our aim."

President Chen's passion and his commitment to democratic ideals is commendable. I know I speak for many when I say that I am proud to count President Chen and the Republic of China among America's closest allies.

In closing, let me again express both my heartiest congratulations as Taiwan celebrates her birthday, and my deepest hope for our continued cooperation, friendship and shared progress.