

2000. In 2003, she was awarded the prestigious Philippe Chatrier Award, the International Tennis Federation's highest honor. That year she was also one of six inaugural inductees in the Court of Champions at the USTA National Tennis Center.

In 1990, Life Magazine named her one of the 100 Most Important Americans of the 20th Century—the only female athlete to win the honor. She is a member of the International Tennis Hall of Fame and the National Women's Hall of Fame. She was also named Woman of the Year by Time Magazine in 1976. On April 27, 2004, King is the recipient of the National Woman's Party's Alice Award, in honor of her groundbreaking work on behalf of women in sports.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the achievements of Billie Jean King, a sports legend, feminist, and champion.

TRIBUTE TO MARY ROSE
DICKHAUT, SELECTMAN, TOWN
OF CLINTON, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2004

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to one of the many great local officials who provide such dedicated service to the cities and towns all across this country that we are privileged to represent. Because our office requires that we are frequently away from our constituents, I think we sometimes fail to fully appreciate and seldom still acknowledge the daily demands that our mayors, city councilors and selectmen encounter in the communities where they live and serve.

For no less than 18 years, Mary Rose Dickhaut has met and mastered those daily demands as a selectman in the Town of Clinton, Massachusetts. On Tuesday, May 4th, she will return to life as a private citizen, leaving behind a sterling example of civic commitment and selfless devotion to one's hometown.

Mary Rose's tenure both as a member of the Board of Selectmen and as Chairman is unsurpassed in a community widely known for its rich and vibrant political culture. Her public service is remarkable not only for its longevity and distinction as the town's first and only female selectmen but for its impressive record of achievement as well.

After nearly two decades, there is scarcely a local issue or major municipal project in the Town of Clinton that has not benefitted from the strong, steady and forceful advocacy of Mary Rose Dickhaut. She led the town in its historic battle against the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority to enforce a century old agreement to provide drinking water to the citizens of Clinton. She championed the restoration of the community's Town Hall, the revitalization of its downtown and the expansion of its police station. Long before it was fashionable to do so, Mary Rose urged the town to invest in its rapidly deteriorating water and sewer infrastructure. In 1999 and 2000, she cochaired the town's 150th Anniversary Celebration Committee which planned, among many other memorable events, the first Olde Home Days Festival in Central Park that has

since grown to become a popular annual attraction for families from all over Central Massachusetts.

Mr. Speaker, while these very public accomplishments have placed Mary Rose's indelible handprint on the Town of Clinton, they do not begin to fully describe the tremendous contributions and sacrifices she has made on its behalf. As we know, many of the good deeds performed by elected officials go unnoticed and unrecorded. For 18 years, Mary Rose has graciously taken the nightly phone calls at home, politely endured the interrupted trips to the grocery store and faithfully attended the countless committee meetings and public hearings. She has endeavored whenever possible to help those who sought her capable assistance and to better her community for future generations to enjoy. Through it all, she has maintained a well-deserved reputation for honesty and integrity and earned the respect of her colleagues for her keen intellect, diligent work ethic and an unfailing fidelity to the town's best interests.

Mr. Speaker, the Town of Clinton, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the United States of America owe Mary Rose Dickhaut a debt of gratitude for her years of dedicated service. Accordingly, I respectfully request that this esteemed body convey its heartfelt appreciation to Mary Rose for her efforts and our best wishes for a happy, healthy and enjoyable retirement from public life.

Madam Chairman, you have earned it.

HONORING THE REV. DR. L.H.
MAYFIELD

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2004

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Rev. Dr. L.H. Mayfield, a friend, fellow member, and retired pastor of Hyde Park Community United Methodist Church in Cincinnati, who will receive the Wesley Foundation United Methodist Campus Ministry in Cincinnati's 2004 Spirit Award on May 4, 2004.

Although he will be recognized by the Wesley Foundation for his work with young people, some say that Dr. Mayfield is best known for his attention to the needs of the poor, disadvantaged, and elderly. We can all agree that he celebrates life and has made a difference in all that he does.

The Wesley Foundation United Methodist Campus Ministry in Cincinnati has been serving Cincinnati's young adults in higher education since 1925. The Wesley Foundation's ministry is a welcoming, affirming community that nurtures spiritual growth and empowers students to explore, enrich, and practice their faith.

Dr. Mayfield was a member of the Wesley Foundation Board of Directors for 10 years. He was chairperson of the board while pastoring the Mt. Auburn United Methodist Church and serving as chaplain at Christ Hospital. Dr. Mayfield was instrumental in expanding Wesley Foundation to a full-time campus ministry with a building close to the university.

Dr. Mayfield has committed his time and energy to the Wesley Services Organization (WSO), a ministry that provides services to the

elderly. WSO ministers to the elderly through Wesley Hall and Lincoln Crawford, both skilled nursing and rehabilitation facilities, and Wesley Community Services, which serves seniors in their homes. Dr. Mayfield has been a member of the WSO Board of Directors since 1965; and in 1980, he helped to raise the funds to build a new nursing facility for Wesley Hall. He also led the effort to regain Lincoln Crawford's financial stability.

Dedicated to many organizations in our area, Dr. Mayfield has volunteered with Hospice of Cincinnati, the Elizabeth Gamble Deaconess Home Association, the American Cancer Society, Cancer Family Care, and prison ministries.

Dr. Mayfield has received numerous awards for his community service. In 1999, he was the recipient of the Greater Cincinnati Foundation's prestigious Jacob E. Davis Volunteer Leadership Award, which is presented annually to an outstanding volunteer in the community, who then awards the money to a non-profit organization. Dr. Mayfield designated WSO.

All of us in the Greater Cincinnati area thank Dr. Mayfield for his service and congratulate him on receiving this well-deserved honor.

EASTER CRACKDOWN ON THE
MONTAGNARDS

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2004

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, Easter is usually a joyous time for Christians throughout the world. Unfortunately, that was not the case this year for many Montagnards Christians, ethnic minorities in Vietnam's Central Highlands. On Saturday April 10, more than a thousand ethnic minority Christians assembled in the streets of Buon Ma Thuot to protest ongoing religious repression and confiscation of tribal lands.

Their peaceful protests were met with brutal force by the Vietnamese police, who attacked and arrested the protesters and sealed off the area to foreigners—much like the Chinese Tiananmen Square massacre in 1989.

Numerous reports state that hundreds may be dead with many others arrested, injured, and or in hiding. This follows years of ongoing persecution and a brutal crackdown in December of 2001, when the government also forcibly suppressed mass protests in the region, after which the Vietnamese government closed hundreds of Christian Churches.

Religious persecution in Vietnam against Catholics, Christians, members of the Unified Buddhist Church, and members of Vietnam's indigenous religious groups has been well documented in the State Department's Country Reports on Human Rights and International Religious Freedom.

Last year, the Commission on International Religious Freedom recommended Vietnam should be designated as a Country of Particular Concern for "systematic, egregious, and ongoing" religious freedom abuses. As if there was any doubt, the Easter crackdown confirms the fact that Vietnam should be designated as a Country of Particular Concern for violations in religious freedom. Protections and

assistance for Montagnard asylum seekers should be provided also be provided by the Cambodian government and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

Congress will continue to keep up the pressure on the regime in Hanoi. We will work to pass H. Con. Res. 378, a resolution calling for the release of Father Nguyen Van Ly, a prominent and outspoken Catholic priest, that was reported out of the House International Relations Committee and has nearly 90 cosponsors.

And we will also work to pass H.R. 1587, "The Vietnam Human Rights Act," which calls for careful monitoring of human rights in Vietnam. Similar legislation cleared the House 410-1 in the 107th Congress but stalled in the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit the following articles by Human Rights Watch detailing the events of the Easter crackdown, to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

The United States and the world cannot turn a blind eye to this Easter crackdown and continual persecution of Montagnards and religious groups in Vietnam. We must take a stand.

[Article from Human Rights Watch]

VIETNAM: OPEN CENTRAL HIGHLANDS TO INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS REPORTED KILLINGS OF MONTAGNARD PROTESTERS MUST BE INVESTIGATED IMMEDIATELY

(NEW YORK, April 22, 2004)—Vietnamese security forces appear to have coordinated with armed men in civilian clothing to savagely attack Montagnard protesters at more than a dozen mass demonstrations during Easter weekend, Human Rights Watch said today.

"The international community must act now and insist that Vietnam allow independent observers into the highlands to conduct a thorough and impartial investigation," said Dinah PoKempner, General Counsel for Human Rights Watch. "We've received alarming reports that scores of protesters were wounded during the demonstrations, and that some protesters were beaten to death."

Large-scale unrest involving between 10,000 and 30,000 indigenous minority Montagnards occurred in the Central Highland provinces of Dak Lak, Gia Lai, and Dak Nong on April 10 and 11, according to Vietnam's state media and independent accounts. Montagnard activists in Vietnam and abroad say that their movement seeks to peacefully press for religious freedom and return of ancestral lands in the Central Highlands. The Vietnamese government has charged that "anti-government" and "counter-revolutionary" elements are inciting the Montagnards to seek a separatist state.

Human Rights Watch has received firsthand reports that security forces and men in civilian clothing, armed with metal bars, shovels, clubs with nails attached to them, machetes, and chains, confronted Montagnard protesters at more than a dozen locations leading into Buon Ma Thuot, the capital of Dak Lak province, on the morning of April 10. According to witnesses, the demonstrators were not armed, although some defended themselves when attacked by throwing stones at the police.

In twelve eyewitness accounts obtained by Human Rights Watch, sources from seven different locations in Dak Lak, Gia Lai and Dak Nong provinces described seeing Vietnamese police, and civilians working with the police, beating protesters. Vietnam's state-controlled media reported that two protesters were killed—one from rocks thrown by other protesters and another who

was run over by a tractor driven by Montagnards. While it is impossible to confirm the numbers of casualties because the government is barring outside observers from the region, to date Human Rights Watch has received credible eyewitness accounts that at least ten Montagnards were killed—one from a gunshot wound to the head and the others from beatings and hundreds were wounded.

Clashes broke out at more than a dozen locations when security forces and ethnic Vietnamese in civilian clothes blocked demonstrators on roadways leading into Buon Ma Thuot, including Phan Chu Trinh Road northwest of the city; at Ea Knir Bridge on the road from Ea Kao commune, which lies east of the city; and at three locations along the road leading to Krong Pak district town, which lies northeast of the city, including the Ea Pak and Krong Ana bridges. Particularly hard hit at Phan Chu Trinh Road were 3,000 protesters from several villages in Cu Mgar district, northwest of Buon Ma Thuot.

"The security forces were well prepared for the protesters," said PoKempner. "They had set up ambushes at key places such as bridges and the main roads into the city, and assembled people dressed as civilians holding crude weapons to block the roads and attack the protesters."

Security officials confiscated and burned hundreds of the farm tractors and makeshift trailers that many Montagnards were traveling on, which had been packed with food and supplies in preparation for several days of protests.

In Gia Lai province, Vietnamese state media reported that demonstrators from Ayun Pa, Cu Se, Dak Doa, Duc Co and Chu Prong districts gathered at the provincial administrative offices in Pleiku provincial town on April 10. On April 11, Montagnards gathered to demonstrate in numerous communes in Ayun Pa, Cu Se, and Dak Doa districts of Gia Lai. Human Rights Watch has received reports of clashes in at least seventeen locations in Gia Lai, with the fiercest incidents occurring in Ha Bau, A'Dok and Glar communes of Dak Doa district and Ia Tiem commune of Cu Se district.

State media reported that the provincial hospital in Pleiku received fifty-two injured people. The provincial hospital in Dak Lak reported forty injured people on the night of April 10. Prior to a government-imposed news blackout on hospital personnel, staff at Pleiku hospital told reporters that they had received scores of wounded people on Sunday night, many with deep gashes and head injuries, and that at least two demonstrators died that night. Many other wounded demonstrators, fearing arrest, have not gone to the hospitals despite being in need of medical attention, Human Rights Watch said.

Witnesses said authorities quickly collected wounded people and dead bodies from the Phan Chu Trinh area, and that within days, the blood on the roadway had been washed away.

Human Rights Watch stressed the urgency of an independent investigation. "We fear that a huge cover-up operation has likely already taken place," said PoKempner. "The Vietnamese government needs to account for the large numbers of people who never returned to their villages after the demonstrations and are now feared to be dead or detained at unknown locations."

Hundreds of Montagnards have fled their villages and gone into hiding, Human Rights Watch said. In violation of Cambodia's obligations under international law, Cambodian security forces have been instructed to deport any Montagnards who try to cross the border.

TESTIMONY: THE KILLINGS ON PHAN CHU TRINH ROAD

A twenty-six year old Ede woman described a deadly incident she witnessed on Saturday morning, April 10 when several thousand Montagnard protesters, some riding on their farm tractors, arrived at Phan Chu Trinh road, an industrial area of machine shops and welding supply stores on the outskirts of Buon Ma Thuot. Police had lined up students and ethnic Vietnamese men in civilian clothing holding metal bars, shovels, and machetes along the roadway, she said.

"They suddenly rushed at the unarmed crowd, beating the demonstrators until many were lying in the streets," she said. "They chased demonstrators who tried to flee, including children and women."

She and many other demonstrators fled to the coffee fields behind the shops lining the roadway, chased by security forces. She described what happened:

"A thousand people tried to get away from the slaughter by the police and civilians. They were beating us with metal bars and sticks. People were bleeding from their throats, noses, mouths, and eyes. The villagers were crying as they tried to get away from the slaughter by the police and civilians. We were running helter-skelter. Those who tried to hide in the coffee plantation were caught, beaten and killed on the spot. Police, students, and Vietnamese threw rocks at us. Many of us were bleeding from being hit on our heads with rocks. Many people were injured and bleeding. We didn't have any first-aid for their wounds. They were bleeding from their throats, noses, mouths, and eyes. A blind woman sitting on the farm tractor was killed on the road by a dozen Vietnamese people, including police. They asked her to get down from the tractor but she could not because she was blind. They rushed at her and beat her until she fell from the tractor and died. The police and Vietnamese civilians smashed and stepped on our food, clothing and blankets we had prepared for a long-term peaceful demonstration asking for freedom and the end to harassment of our religion and our Montagnard life."

HONORING NORVA MAXWELL, VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA CLINICIAN OF THE YEAR

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2004

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Norva Maxwell of the Visiting Nurses Association of Central Jersey. Ms. Maxwell was recently chosen as the Visiting Nurse Association of America VNA, Clinician of the Year among 90,000 VNA Clinicians nationwide.

Norva Maxwell's holistic approach to patient care makes her highly effective as a community health nurse. Her clinical skills are impeccable. Her patience, sensitivity, and thoroughness allow her to detect problems others might have missed. In a number of instances, her experienced assessment has resulted in appropriate interventions for patients with assessment of respiratory distress, changes in mental status, or exacerbated injection.

Patients and families aptly describe Norva as "a credit to the nursing profession." There