

is where Camp Fallujah is located and is one of the most hostile regions in Iraq. Capt. Tipton was commander of Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division out of Fort Riley. He was stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas with his wife, Susie Tipton, of Collinsville, and their two children, Austin, 4, and Kaitlyn, 2.

I am proud of the service Cpt. Tipton has given to our country and the service he and others provide on a daily basis. Not enough can be said about the sacrifice and dedication these men and women display while serving in Iraq. It is troops like Cpt. Tipton, those risking their lives everyday, that ensure our freedom here at home and to others throughout the rest of the world. I salute him and my heart felt condolences go out to his family and all the troops continually fighting to ensure freedom and democracy.

TRIBUTE TO GLENN CUNNINGHAM
A TRUE PUBLIC SERVANT

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, it is with sorrow that I inform my colleagues of the sudden and untimely passing of Glenn Cunningham. Mr. Cunningham was a longtime public servant. He was Mayor of Jersey City, New Jersey, a significant part of my congressional district. He also served as a member of the New Jersey State Senate. Mayor/State Senator Cunningham was the proverbial public servant. His career in the public arena spanned more than three decades. He was truly a man of the people.

Over the years, I had the privilege of working with Glenn on issues of shared interest, as our careers paralleled each other's. I was delighted when Glenn was elected to his first office as a Hudson County Freeholder in 1975, and then watched with pride as he moved forward in his career to become elected to the Jersey City Municipal Council in 1981 and re-elected in 1985 and became President of the Jersey City Municipal Council. In 1996, Glenn was appointed by President Clinton to become the first African American U.S. Marshall from the state of New Jersey. In 2001, Glenn was elected the first African American Mayor of Jersey City, and last year Mayor Cunningham was elected State Senator for the 31st District.

Glenn was especially proud of his military and law enforcement experience, having served with honor as a United States Marine. He also was a member of the Jersey City Police Department for more than two decades, rising to the rank of Captain. He later distinguished himself in the post of Hudson County Director of Public Safety.

Glenn was also known for his interest in Black History. I enjoyed having conversations with him about the history of Jersey City, Underground Railroad in New Jersey and other significant historical events that shaped our state and nation. I was impressed with his passion and the breadth of his knowledge of historical subjects.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in remembering a life long distinguished native son of Jersey City, Glenn Cunningham, who was an outstanding role

model. His exemplary service will long be remembered. I express my condolences to his survivors, especially his wife, Sandra.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE NEW
YORK BLOOD CENTER'S 40TH AN-
NIVERSARY AND WALL OF
HONOR RECEPTION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the achievements of the New York Blood Center (NYBC). On the evening of May 19, 2004, the NYBC will unveil its Wall of Honor, which recognizes the many generous donors—both financial and medical—who make possible the Blood Center's tremendous contributions to the public good. The Wall of Honor will also commemorate the Blood Center's forty years of outstanding service to our community, our nation and our world.

The Blood Center has long been an indispensable part of the New York community. Over the last four decades, the NYBC has become one of America's largest community-based, non-profit blood centers. Each year, it provides life-saving blood products and clinical transfusion services to more than one million patients, in over two hundred New York and New Jersey hospitals. In addition, the Center's Solvent Detergent Viral Inactivation Process has improved the safety of more than twenty billion units of blood-derived products distributed worldwide.

The Blood Center has also become a nationally-recognized center for medical education. The NYBC has trained more than 100 physician professionals through its transfusion medicine fellowship, and has offered clinical training to over 400 medical students and 300 laboratory technicians. In all, more than 30 percent of New York and New Jersey blood bank directors have received specialized training from the New York Blood Center. By any measure, the foregoing statistics represent a truly astonishing record of achievement. The clinicians, staff and contributors of the NYBC should be extremely proud of these accomplishments.

As we take time to celebrate the NYBC's history, we must also acknowledge the Blood Center's efforts to meet new and often daunting challenges. As you may know, the New York region is currently facing a critical shortage of blood. The NYBC estimates that the demand for transfusions will easily exceed the Center's projected supply during the coming summer months. The Center has urged local community groups, schools and churches to organize blood drives to forestall interruptions in major medical services this summer. These difficulties make it all the more necessary for the New York community to continue to support the NYBC's noble efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I request that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to the New York Blood Center, whose forward-thinking initiatives to promote the public's health and well-being are truly worthy of celebration. To the dedicated professionals, volunteers and friends of this fine organization, I offer my continuing admiration, respect and support.

HONORING STEPHEN W. STRUMPH

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Stephen W. Strumph of Glen Cove, New York, a decorated veteran and a proud American.

Mr. Strumph began his military career in 1937, at the Reserve Officers Army Academy of Poland. At the onset of WWII he was commissioned Second Lieutenant Platoon Leader of the 6th Regiment, 22nd Mountain division in the Polish army.

On November 1, 1939 Mr. Strumph was transported to Lukenwalde and was held as a prisoner of war. He heroically escaped German custody three times, before finally being released in the spring of 1945 and heading for the United States zone.

Mr. Strumph was soon commissioned as a U.S. Army multi-lingual interpreter to interview German soldiers and Gestapo. He was then reunited with Polish troops under Colonel Brzeszczynski, and was placed in command of 125 soldiers and a U.S. Army ammunitions depot. After he was demobilized in 1947, Mr. Strumph worked for eight years at the U.S. embassy in Paris, before emigrating to the United States.

Since his arrival in New York on July 28, 1955, Mr. Strumph has been an outstanding public citizen, volunteering with veterans and fraternal organizations and was honored as "Outstanding Senior Volunteer of the Year." He and his loving wife are the proud parents of three children and eight grandchildren.

I commend Stephen Strumph for his bravery and valor during World War II and thank him for his invaluable service to the Long Island community.

INDIA'S HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLA-
TIONS IN PUNJAB, KASHMIR
SUCCESSFULLY EXPOSED

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, on May 12, the Subcommittee on Human Rights and Wellness conducted a hearing into human-rights violations in Kashmir and in Punjab, Khalistan. It was a very successful hearing. Witnesses travelled from Kashmir and from out of state to testify.

Those testifying included The Honorable Michael Kozak, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Human Rights and Labor; The Honorable Donald Camp, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of South Asian Affairs; Mr. T. Kumar, Advocacy Director—Asia, Amnesty International; The Honorable Robert Giuda, Deputy Majority Leader of the New Hampshire House of Representatives and Chairman, Americans for Resolution of Kashmir; Dr. Ghulam Nabi Fai, Executive Director, Kashmiri American Council; Mrs. Attiya Inayatullah, a human-rights activist from Kashmir; Selig Harrison, Director of the Asia Program, Woodrow Wilson Center for International Policy; and Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan.

Many witnesses talked about the atrocities that have become everyday policy in India's minority states, such as Punjab, Khalistan and Kashmir. Witnesses testified to such atrocities as extrajudicial killings, including fake encounter killings, custodial deaths throughout the country, excessive use of force by security forces, youth sexually incapacitated through torture, rapes, murders, burning villages, and others.

India claims to be democratic, but it is really a brutal tyranny, as these atrocities show. It has placed over 700,000 troops in Kashmir and another 500,000 in Punjab, Khalistan to suppress any opposition to its brutal rule. The Indian government has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, more than 300,000 Christians since 1948, over 87,000 Muslims in Kashmir since 1988, and tens of thousands of Tamils, Assamese, Bodos, Manipuris, Dalits, and others.

Mr. Speaker, the United States of America, the beacon of freedom for the world, cannot just stand by and let these atrocities occur. We should stop aid to India until it respects human rights and we should put this Congress on record in support of self-determination for the Sikhs, Kashmiris, Nagas, and everyone who is seeking freedom from India's brutal rule.

Mr. Speaker, the Council of Khalistan issued an excellent, detailed, and informative press release on the hearing, which I would like to insert in the RECORD now.

DR. AULAKH, OTHERS EXPOSE INDIAN HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AT CONGRESSIONAL HEARING

WASHINGTON, DC, MAY 12, 2004.—Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, exposed Indian human rights violations against the Sikhs and other minorities at a Congressional hearing today entitled "Decades of Terror: Exploring Human Rights Abuses in Kashmir and the Disputed Territories." He gave a very emotional informative, strong statement. It was a very successful appearance.

"Repression is the official policy of supposedly secular and democratic India," said Dr. Aulakh. "The reality is that India is a Hindu theocracy, not the democracy it claims to be," he said. On October 7, 1987, the Sikh Nation declared its independence from India, naming its new country Khalistan. India's brutal occupation of Khalistan and other minority nations is now internationalized and brought to the attention of the world. On December 5, President Bush told Dr. Aulakh, "I am aware of the Sikh and Kashmiri problem." Dr. Aulakh made it clear to the committee that "freedom for all the minority nations of South Asia is the only way to end the repression and secure full human rights for everyone in that troubled region."

Dr. Aulakh testified that "An Army commander in Amritsar district threatened that he would murder the Sikh men, bring the women to the Army barracks, and 'produce a new generation of Sikhs.' Mr. Chairman, this is disgraceful and extremely insulting to the proud Sikhs. It is unbecoming of an army commander of a nation which claims to be the world's largest democracy." He blasted India's policy of Hindutva, the total Hinduization of every aspect of life in India. He noted that Amnesty International has not been allowed into Punjab since 1978. "Even Castro's Cuba has allowed Amnesty International into the country more recently," he said.

Subcommittee Chairman Representative Dan Burton (R-Indiana) opened the hearing

with a statement. Congressman Burton said, "Just as the world is disgusted by the abuse of Iraqi prisoners by United States servicemen and women, we should be disgusted by the tactics that have been systematically employed by Indian military and paramilitary forces." He quoted the U.S. State Department report on India: "Significant human rights abuses included: Extrajudicial killings, including fake encounter killings, custodial deaths throughout the country, and excessive use of force by security forces." Chairman Burton noted "techniques like reprisal killings, burning down of whole villages, and summary executions." He said that "India's insistence on resolving a political problem by force has dragged it down into a campaign of essentially lawless state terrorism."

"We thank Chairman Burton for holding this important hearing," said Dr. Aulakh. "It has been helpful in showing the world the truth about India's claim to be a secular democracy. What India really is is one of the world's most brutal tyrannies," he said.

Other speakers included The Honorable Michael Kozak, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor; The Honorable Donald Camp, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of South Asian Affairs; Mr. T. Kumar, Advocacy Director—Asia, Amnesty International; The Honorable Bob Giuda, Chairman of Americans for Resolution of Kashmir and Deputy Majority Leader of the New Hampshire House of Representatives; Dr. Ghulam Nabi Fai, Executive Director of the Kashmiri American Council; Mrs. Attiya Inayatullah, a human-rights activist and aid worker; and Selig Harrison, Director of the Asia Program, Woodrow Wilson Center for International Policy. Sikhs from Maryland, Virginia, the District of Columbia, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania came to the hearing. Representatives of the Sikh Coalition were in attendance. Such Sikh youth leaders as Amardeep Singh Bhalla, Gurpreet Singh Dhillon, Mona Kaur Dhillon, and others, as well as Sikh activists Ranjit Singh, Gurbax Singh Dhillon, Karj Singh Sandhu, Kavneet Singh Pannu, and many others attended in an excellent show of Sikh strength.

The Indian government has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, more than 300,000 Christians since 1948, over 87,000 Muslims in Kashmir since 1988, and tens of thousands of Tamils, Assamese, Bodos, Manipuris, Dalits, and others. The Indian Supreme Court called the Indian government's murders of Sikhs "worse than a genocide." Mrs. Inayatullah testified that in Kashmir, "Since 1989 and as of January 2004 the death toll stands at 87,648. The orphan count is 105,210, women ages 7-70 molested is a shameful 9,297 and another 21,286 reported widowed, with there being no record of the number of youth sexually incapacitated through torture and disabled for life." She said that "Buzz words like cross-border terrorism and fundamentalism will not cover India's guilt." Rep. Giuda noted that "Indian law immunizes its army and police from prosecution for actions committed under color of 'prevention of terrorism', enabling a hideous government-sanctioned repertoire of torture, rapes, murder, arson, and custodial killing. Pakistan allows U.N. observers and human-rights organizations unfettered access to Free Kashmir, while India denies access to substantial parts of IOK. One must ask, 'Why are no observers allowed? What is India hiding?'"

Mr. Kumar said that "torture, including rape, deaths in custody, extrajudicial killings, and 'disappearances' have been perpetrated by agents of the state with impunity." He said that "Most families of all backgrounds have experienced some form of loss—of livelihood, of a relative, or of the

sense of security of life, liberty, and other fundamental human rights." Dr. Fai reported that "Killings in Kashmir have become so commonplace that they are reported like car accidents in the United States." He described rapes, torture, arbitrary arrests, and other activities. He noted that "freedom to speak, write, or organize around self-determination or criticism of the Indian government for millions of Kashmiris is chimerical." He noted that the Official Secrets Act gives the government authority to suppress criticism of its policies. He said that "India has authorized a police state reminiscent of the Gestapo."

Mr. Harrison stated that India has built "an inflated military force that has committed well-documented atrocities." Secretary Kozak said, "Our annual human-rights report documents our concern and gives examples of the abuses that take place all too frequently."

Dr. Aulakh testified that Indian police arrested human-rights activist Jaswant Singh Khalsa after he exposed their policy of mass cremation of Sikhs, in which over 50,000 Sikhs have been arrested, tortured, and murdered, then their bodies were declared unidentified and secretly cremated. Khalsa was murdered in police custody. His body was never given to his family. The police never released the body of former Jathedar of the Akal Takht Gurdev Singh Kaunke after SSP Swaran Singh Ghotna murdered him. Ghotna has not been brought to trial for the murder of Jathedar Kaunke. No one has been brought to justice for the kidnapping and murder of Jaswant Singh Khalsa. According to a report by the Movement Against State Repression (MASR), 52,268 Sikhs are being held as political prisoners in India without charge or trial. Some have been in illegal custody since 1984! Amnesty International recently reported at least 100 current torture cases in Punjab. A Sikh leader named Gurnihal Singh Pirzada was arrested on charges that he attended a meeting with "dissidents." Although he denies attending the meeting, he said that it would not be illegal if he did.

Dr. Aulakh noted that history shows that multinational states such as India are doomed to failure. Countries like Austria-Hungary, India's longtime friend the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, and others prove this point. India is not one country; it is a polyglot like those countries, thrown together for the convenience of the British colonialists. It is doomed to break up as they did. India is ruled by Hindu theocrats whose agenda is "Hindu, Hindi, Hindutva, Hindu Rashtra," or total Hindu domination of every facet of Indian life. An Indian Cabinet minister said that everyone who lives in India must be a Hindu or subservient to Hindus.

"As Professor Darshan Singh, a former Jathedar of the Akal Takht, said, 'If a Sikh is not for Khalistan, he is not a Sikh.'" Dr. Aulakh noted, "We must continue to press for our God-given birthright of freedom," he said. "Without political power, religions cannot flourish and nations perish."

IN HONOR OF ROBERT RIVERS

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, Robert Rivers is a man of many parts who has served his community, city and country. Bobby, as he is most familiarly known, was born in Harlem and after