

can see, Ray spent a lifetime giving back to his community.

An avid Rison Wildcat football fan, Ray will be remembered by many in the Rison community for nearly six decades as the voice of the Wildcats. In 1995, Ray and his brother were honored for their dedication to the Rison School District when the school district designated a 'Ray and Roy Martin Week' to honor a half century of service. Ray truly set a high bar of community service for us all to aspire to.

Ray was a dear friend of mine and my heartfelt condolences go out to Ray's wife, Mary Ethel, their daughters, Cindy and Hilda; their grandsons, Marty, Russ, and Jason; and their great-granddaughters, Lindsey and Ella. While Jim may no longer be with us, his legacy and his spirit will always live on in all the lives he touched.

TRIBUTE TO JESS F. GRANONE

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2005

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Jess F. Granone for his many years of outstanding service as Executive Director of the U.S. Space and Missile Defense Technical Center (SMDTC). Mr. Granone is leaving the position, which he assumed in May of 1999.

As director of SMDTC, he has been responsible for managing the day-to-day research, development, test, and evaluation activities for the Army's space and missile defense technology program. He has ensured that the command's efforts are balanced and integrated to support the Army, the Missile Defense Agency, and the Program Executive Office for the Air and Missile Defense.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Granone began his career in missile defense as an engineer in the Joint Anti-Tactical Missile Project office in the mid-1980s. He has participated in numerous international defense initiatives in conjunction with NATO, Israel, and Japan, as well as numerous special assignments such as Chairman of the U.S. Army Missile Review Board.

Some of Mr. Granone's accomplishments include developing SMDC's first integrated technology program for Directed Energy, developing the first ever KATYUSHA rocket shot down by a laser system, and developing the Army's science and technology research efforts related to space and office products. Mr. Granone was also instrumental in starting the Rapid Aerostat Initial Deployment System program.

Through his many years of service, Mr. Granone has received numerous awards for his accomplishments. Most notably, he has received the Senior Executive Service Presidential Rank Award, the Meritorious Civilian Service Award, the Superior Civilian Service Award, and a Letter of Commendation from the Secretary of Defense.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of Alabama's 5th Congressional District, I rise today to express my gratitude to Jess Granone for his service to our military and our Nation.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS M.
DEVANNEY

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2005

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Thomas M. Devanney for his many years of outstanding service to our military and our Nation.

Mr. Devanney is currently the Acting Program Director for the Ground-Based Midcourse Defense Joint Program Office. In this capacity, he is responsible for the Ground-Based Midcourse Defense element of the Ballistic Missile Defense System.

Including his service in the GMD Joint Program office, Mr. Devanney has over thirty years of military and civilian missile system acquisition experience. Through his many years of service, Mr. Devanney has served in a variety of roles including the Chief of Missiles and Air Defense Systems in the Pentagon, Deputy PEO for Army Tactical Missiles and the Project Manager for the TOW Heavy Antitank Weapon Systems. He also served two overseas tours with the HAWK Air Defense System, and tours in Germany, Korea, and Vietnam.

Upon retiring from the Army, Mr. Devanney entered the private sector with Alliant Techsystems, Inc. He held several key positions, including Director of the Warheads and Munitions Business Segment.

For his many accomplishments, Mr. Devanney has received numerous prestigious awards. Most notably, he has received the Presidential Rank Award for Meritorious Executives, the Exceptional Civilian Service Award, the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit Award, and the Bronze Star Medal.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of Alabama's 5th Congressional District, I rise today to express my gratitude to Thomas Devanney for his extraordinary service to our military and our Nation.

IN HONOR OF JOYCE L. FIGGS,
PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES
AUXILIARY OF THE DELAWARE
VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSO-
CIATION

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2005

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Joyce Figgs, the outgoing President of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Delaware Volunteer Firemen's Association (LADVFA). In addition to logging more than 46 years of service to the Delmar Ladies Auxiliary, Joyce has also served several terms as President of the Delmar chapter.

From 1991-1993, Joyce served as the Ladies Auxiliary President in Wicomico County, Maryland. After a successful term in the Free State, thankfully, Joyce shifted her talents to Delaware and in 1993, was elected President of the Sussex County Ladies Auxiliary.

In 1994, Joyce was inducted into the Del-Mar-Va Hall of Honor, an illustrious and fitting

tribute. However, her service would not stop with this induction. Joyce would serve additional terms as President of the Del-Mar-Va Firemen's Association Ladies Auxiliary from 1996 to 1997 and President in Wicomico County until 2003.

As you know, firefighters are of critical importance to our society. In order to be as effective as possible, they require dedicated and organized supporters. During her tenure, Joyce has led the Auxiliary in these areas admirably.

In closing Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Joyce Figgs for her exceptional career of service and dedication. LADVFA 1st Vice-President Barbara Rossiter and 2nd Vice-President Florence Legates join me in congratulating Joyce on her service as President of the LADVFA.

TRIBUTE TO MS. ELOUISE
ASHFORD COLEMAN

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2005

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a friend and fellow South Carolinian, Ms. Elouise Ashford Coleman. After 35 years of tireless dedication to the students of South Carolina, Ms. Coleman is celebrating her retirement on Saturday with friends and family.

Ms. Coleman received her early public school education in Fairfield County, graduating from McCrorey-Liston High School in 1966. She then matriculated at Vorhees College, receiving a Bachelors of Arts in Mathematics in 1970. Ms. Coleman began her educational career shortly thereafter. First, as a math teacher at Winnsboro High School in Fairfield County, and later, as a math teacher at Columbia High School, in Columbia, South Carolina. She taught at Columbia High for 19 years, during which time she received a Master's degree in Education from the University of South Carolina.

Ms. Coleman left the classroom in 1994 upon accepting the position of Assistant Principal at Columbia High School. It is from this position that Ms. Coleman is retiring after serving as an administrator for 11 years. She will be sorely missed as she begins her well deserved retirement.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me today in honoring Ms. Elouise Ashford Coleman. She has given of her time and talents for 35 years as an educator in my home state. The contributions she has made to her community and to the educational system will leave lasting impressions on the lives she has touched. I wish her continued success and Godspeed.

INDIAN PRIME MINISTER APOLOGIZES TO SIKHS FOR GENOCIDE OF 1984—INDIAN MUST FREE KHALISTAN AND ALL OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, recently the Prime Minister of India, Manmohan Singh, apologized to the Sikhs for the massacres of Sikhs that took place in November 1984. Over 20,000 Sikhs died in that massacre just in Delhi. Meanwhile, Sikh police officers were locked in their barracks and the state television and radio were encouraging more Sikh bloodshed.

This is a sad chapter in the history of India and it is appropriate that the Government has finally admitted its own culpability and apologized for this atrocity. These kinds of admissions are always welcome. But Prime Minister Singh's apology is 21 years too late and it is only a baby step in the direction of justice. And an apology for the military attack on the Golden Temple in June of that year is still not forthcoming.

Mr. Speaker, there are families of those who died in this massacre who have still never been compensated in any way. We know that no compensation can bring back their loved ones, but at least it can help make their lives better. India must compensate the victims' families if this apology is serious. It must also bring to justice the officials responsible for the massacre. These are necessary steps for the apology to be taken as anything more than mere empty words.

But there is something else that India must do as well. It must make proper restitution to the whole Sikh Nation for this massacre and its many other atrocities against the Sikhs.

How do you pay such a huge debt, Mr. Speaker? How do you pay back an entire nation for atrocities against it? On October 7, 1987, the Sikh Nation declared its independence, declaring the new country of Khalistan. Since then, India has continued to occupy Khalistan. Over half a million Indian troops still carry out this brutal occupation to this day. These troops must be withdrawn and India must recognize the sovereignty of a free and independent Khalistan. That is how it can compensate the Sikh Nation.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the Indian Government maintains that there is no support for Khalistan among the Sikhs in Punjab, despite large marches that have occurred as recently as June demanding Khalistan. In June, 35 Sikhs were charged with a crime. Their offense? They made some speeches and raised the Khalistani flag. To quote my friend Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, president of the Council of Khalistan, "Is asking for freedom a crime in a democracy?"

So if India is democratic and there is no support for Khalistan, then why is the Indian Government afraid to have a vote on the matter? Why not simply have a vote and prove it? It is time for the United States to hold India's feet to the fire on its proclaimed democratic principles. We must stop our aid to India until it respects human rights and ceases activities such as the Delhi massacre, the arrests of activists for raising a flag, and the like. And we

must demand self-determination for the people of Khalistan, Kashmir, Nagaland, and all the suppressed, captive nations of South Asia. In a democracy you cannot rule against the will of the people, and the essence of democracy is the right to self-determination. It is time to press India, the self-proclaimed "world's largest democracy," to do the right thing and let the people have their freedom.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert the Council of Khalistan's press release on Prime Minister Singh's apology into the RECORD at this time. Thank you.

WASHINGTON, DC, Sept. 14, 2005.—Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh has formally apologized to the Sikh Nation for the genocide against the Sikhs in November 1984 in which over 20,000 Sikhs were killed in Delhi alone while Sikh police were locked in their barracks and Indian radio and television called for more Sikh blood.

"We appreciate the Prime Minister's apology," said Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan. "It is more than any other Indian leader has done, but it is too little, too late—21 years too late, in fact." The Council of Khalistan leads the struggle to liberate the Sikh homeland, Khalistan, which declared its independence from India on October 7, 1987. "We need to see if this apology is sincere or just another propaganda ploy by the Indian government." However, he noted that the Indian government's military attack on the Golden Temple, the center and seat of Sikhism, in June 1984 was more important to the Sikh Nation. "Where is the apology for that?" he asked.

"India must pay full and appropriate restitution to the families and bring the officials responsible to justice," Dr. Aulakh said. "But the most appropriate and important restitution that can be made to the Sikh Nation is to withdraw all Indian forces from Khalistan and allow it to enjoy its independence," he said. "Only then can the Sikh Nation live in peace, dignity, and freedom, secure in the knowledge that these kinds of incidents will not happen again," he said. "If India and Prime Minister Singh truly believe in freedom and democracy, they have a moral obligation to withdraw from Khalistan and all the nations they occupy, such as Kashmir, Nagaland, and others," he said.

Professor Darshan Singh, a former Jathedar of the Akal Takht, has said, "If a Sikh is not a Khalistani, he is not a Sikh." The Indian government has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, more than 300,000 Christians in Nagaland since 1948, over 90,000 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." According to the Movement Against State Repression (MASR), 52,268 Sikhs are being held as political prisoners in India without charge or trial.

"The flame of freedom still burns bright in the hearts of Sikhs despite the deployment of over half a million Indian troops to crush it," Dr. Aulakh said. "Last year, Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh signed a bill cancelling the agreements that allowed the diversion of Punjabi water to non-riparian states. The bill asserted the sovereignty of Punjab. Sardar Atinder Pal Singh, another former Member of Parliament, held a seminar on Khalistan in Punjab. It was well attended and featured outstanding presentations, including one by Professor Gurtej Singh, IAS, Professor of Sikhism," he said. "There have been several marches through Punjab demanding the establishment of an independent Khalistan. India is on the verge of disintegration," he said.

Cases were registered against dozens of Sikhs for raising the Sikh flag at the Golden Temple on the anniversary of the Golden Temple attack in the presence of over 30,000 Sikhs. Warrants have been issued for their arrest. The flag of Khalistan was also raised on Republic Day, January 26. 35 Sikhs were arrested at that time. Some of them have been denied bail. Dr. Aulakh demanded that India release all the people arrested for hoisting the flag and drop all charges against all these individuals. "Is it a crime to demand freedom in a democracy?," he asked. "Is this the freedom of speech that is guaranteed under India's constitution?"

History shows that multinational states such as India are doomed to failure. The collapse of countries like Austria-Hungary, India's longtime friend the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, and others prove this point. India is a polyglot like those countries, thrown together for the convenience of the British colonialists. It has never been a single nation. It is doomed to break up as they did. Steve Forbes, writing in Forbes magazine, said that India is a multinational, multiethnic, multireligious, multicultural, multilingual state that is doomed to disintegrate like the Austro-Hungarian Empire. "India is not a homogeneous state," Forbes wrote. "Neither was the Austro-Hungarian Empire. It attacked Serbia in the summer of 1914 in the hopes of destroying this irritating state after Serbia had committed a spectacular terrorist act against the Hapsburg monarchy. The empire ended up splintering, and the Hapsburgs lost their throne." India is doomed to fall apart just as Austria-Hungary and the others did.

"We must continue to pray for and work for our God-given birthright of freedom," Dr. Aulakh said. "While this apology is a small first step, only a free Khalistan will satisfy the Sikh Nation," he said. "We must continue to work until this goal is achieved."

IN MEMORY OF RYAN BRANDT
YOUNG

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember former Navy SEAL Ryan Brandt Young, a 32-year-old native of Halfway, MD, for serving our country in Iraq.

Young was based in southern Iraq as a security contractor for Triple Canopy and worked with the Bureau of Diplomatic Security. He was killed Wednesday, September 7, when a bomb went off in the lead vehicle of a motorcade escort from the airport to the U.S. Embassy in Basra.

In my recent visit to Iraq, Young was a member of the detail that protected my mission. His group watched over the delegation as we traveled into dangerous territory. I was fortunate enough to have met him and honored to have him protect our unit. He was courageous, thoughtful and a true American. Today, I would like to recognize and celebrate his life. He made up his mind when he was only 14 that he would someday be a Navy SEAL, and he certainly achieved that goal. Eight of Young's 13 years in the Navy were spent as a SEAL.

His mother talked to him just 10 days before the bombing, and she described him as very happy, very up, and I think we could learn a great deal from him. It was my honor to have