

Bifida have access to, and enjoy, a high quality of life. Additionally, Mr. Pote devoted his efforts to preventing the incidence of Spina Bifida by educating women on the importance of consuming folic acid prior to pregnancy and throughout their childbearing years.

Not only has Mr. Pote been successful in his endeavors to raise awareness surrounding Spina Bifida, he had a very successful business career as well. He attended Princeton University where he received a bachelor's degree in economics and subsequently received a Masters of Business Administration from Harvard Business School. Mr. Pote's hard work eventually led to his nomination as Chairman and CEO of Fidelity Bank at the age of 37. After co-founding the Beacon Group, he was appointed to lead Chase Manhattan's Regional Banking Group—eventually culminating with a position as chairman of Retail Financial Services for JP Morgan Chase. Once Mr. Pote retired from JP Morgan Chase, he served as CEO of the American Financial Realty Trust in Philadelphia.

In its 8 years of existence, under Mr. Pote's steadfast leadership, SBF has achieved many incredible successes for the Spina Bifida community. Due to Mr. Pote's perseverance and commitment to reducing the suffering from Spina Bifida, and advancing medical research in the field, individuals born with Spina Bifida are now living much longer, fuller lives than they had previously.

Mr. Pote's vision and dedication has helped not only Gregory, but tens of thousands of people who suffer from Spina Bifida as well. Hal Pote's sudden and unexpected death is a tragedy not only to his loved ones and the Spina Bifida community, but to all our colleagues who have lost a great man. To Mr. Pote's wife, Linda Johnson, his mother Lucille Bock Pote, his two brothers Frank and Corey Pote, and his nephews—we offer our deepest condolences.

We ask our colleagues to join us in saluting and remembering this extraordinary man.

#### PROMOTING PATRIOTISM

### HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 3, 2007*

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize the Military Order of the Purple Heart, San Jacinto Chapter 782, an organization made up of patriots serving the second district of Texas. Members in this organization share one common bond, each member is a recipient of the Purple Heart. They may not have served in the same branch or war but they are all combat veterans who have fought bravely to protect our freedoms.

San Jacinto Chapter 782 pledges to preserve and promote patriotism. They vow to never forget the sacrifices of our Armed Forces. They continue to remind us of the courageous service of the men and women in our military who fight to maintain our freedom and security.

San Jacinto Chapter 782 provides every family of a fallen soldier in my district a memorial plaque. This memorial plaque honors the memory of their loved ones brave service while defending our country. This plaque reminds us that the price of freedom is never free.

San Jacinto Chapter 782 works with schools and other organizations around our district to boost patriotism. They distribute flags, enter parades, and erect monuments. They continue to search for opportunities to remind us of the sacrifices of veterans throughout history.

We are proud and appreciative of the courage and the bravery of these patriots, who volunteer their time, championing those in the Armed Forces who have shed their blood for freedom and peace.

And that's just the way it is.

#### TOP POLICE OFFICIAL ARRESTED IN PUNJAB

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 3, 2007*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, recently, the former Director General of Police of Punjab, S.S. Virk, was arrested on September 9 on corruption charges. Ironically, he was arrested by the government of Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal, who in his previous tenure redefined corruption as “fee for service”—no fee, no service.

Apparently, Mr. Virk managed to collect the equivalent of a billion dollars in assets on a meager police official's salary. I salute the arrest of Mr. Virk and hope he does serious jail time. But Mr. Virk should be arrested for more than corruption.

Mr. Virk was Director General when tens of thousands of Sikhs were murdered by the Indian regime in Punjab, Khalistan. Nobody has been brought to justice for these murders nor for the murders of other minorities, such as Christians, Muslims, and others.

I call on the Indian government to bring to justice the likes of Mr. Virk, K.P.S. Gill, and the others who were responsible for the atrocities against the Sikhs and other minorities. Until they do so, we should stop our aid to India and our trade with that country. And we should put the U.S. Congress on record in support of freedom for Khalistan, Kashmir, Nagalim, and the other nations seeking to be free in south Asia by means of a free and fair plebiscite on their status.

The Indian newspapers gave some good coverage to Mr. Virk's arrest and the Council of Khalistan published an excellent press release about the situation.

#### FORMER DGP VIRK ARRESTED FOR CORRUPTION

WASHINGTON, DC, SEPT. 12, 2007.—Former Punjab Director General of Police S.S. Virk was arrested Sunday by the Vigilance Bureau (a state agency of Punjab) for corruption. He had amassed wealth in excess of 100 crore (100 million) rupees. This was far in excess of what he received from his position as DGP. He was also charged with misuse of his official position, making private business deals as a public servant. Virk had arrangements with “Cats,” former “militants” who turned to working for the Indian regime, to kill Sikhs throughout Punjab. While Virk was amassing this wealth, half of the population of India continues to subsist on less than two dollars per day.

Hours after his arrest, he was hospitalized with high blood pressure and gallstones. A case was registered against him under the Prevention of Corruption Act. Virk had been removed as DGP shortly before the Punjab

elections earlier this year. He had been suspended by the Badal government shortly after it came to power in February. Former Chief Minister Amarinder Singh has openly supported Virk. “We are amazed that someone of the stature of Captain Amarinder Singh supports the corruption and the killing of Sikhs under S.S. Virk's regime,” said Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan. Virk was quoted as saying that “everyone in the world” keeps agents like the “Cats.” “Even if that were true, that does not relieve him of his responsibility,” Dr. Aulakh said. “No law enforcement agency should be allowed to murder ordinary citizens. If they break the law, they should be tried in the court and punishment should be determined by the courts, not by police officials.”

Virk claimed that his arrest was a “political victimization and vendetta.” The Badal family, during their prior term in office, ran the most corrupt government in Punjab's history. They practiced corruption on a grand scale. Unless they were paid a bribe (which they renamed “fee for service”), no service was provided. Former DGP K.P.S. Gill presided over the murders of more than 50,000 extrajudicial killings, which were exposed by the Punjab Human Rights Organization (PHRO) in a study begun by Sardar Jaswant Singh Khalra, who was picked up by the police in September 1995 and murdered in police custody in October of that year.

“We salute the arrest of S.S. Virk,” said Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan. “We are glad that he is under arrest. There shouldn't be any corruption in high places,” Dr. Aulakh said. “When will Badal, Gill, and the others responsible for high-level corruption and atrocities against the Sikh nation be arrested?” he asked.

“In a free Khalistan, no one would accept those who carry out genocide against the Sikh religion and the Sikh Nation or against any other people. They would all be arrested, not just selectively arrested to cover the corruption of the leaders ordering the arrest” said Dr. Aulakh.

Dr. Aulakh also cited the case of Sukhwinder Singh Sukhi, a “Cat,” who was reported as killed. Someone was killed in his place, his identity was changed, and he was used by the police to kill Sikhs. “Who was killed in Sukhi's place?” asked Dr. Aulakh. Several years ago, a Sikh man who had been reported as killed by the police went to court to force the government to declare him alive.

A report issued by the Movement Against State Repression (MASR) shows that India admitted that it held 52,268 political prisoners under the repressive “Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Act” (TADA), which expired in 1995. Many have been in illegal custody since 1984. According to Amnesty International, there are tens of thousands of other minorities being held as political prisoners in India. The Indian government has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, more than 300,000 Christians in Nagaland, over 90,000 Muslims in Kashmir, tens of thousands of Christians and Muslims throughout the country, and tens of thousands of Tamils, Assamese, Manipuris, Dalits, Bodos, and others. The Indian Supreme Court called the Indian government's murders of Sikhs “worse than a genocide.”

“The time is now to launch a Shantmai Morcha to free Khalistan,” Dr. Aulakh said. “That is the only way to prevent this kind of corruption and allow the Sikh Nation to live in freedom, peace, dignity, and prosperity. The time has come for some pro-Sikh organizations such as Dal Khalsa and others to step forward in Punjab and accelerate our struggle for the liberation of Khalistan,” he said.

"Religions cannot flourish without political power. We must free Khalistan now."

[From the Times of India, Sept. 9, 2007.]

FORMER PUNJAB DGP S S VIRK ARRESTED

NEW DELHI—Former Punjab DGP S S Virk was arrested here on Sunday by Punjab Vigilance Bureau in connection with a case registered against him for allegedly possessing assets disproportionate to his known sources of income. Virk, who was removed as DGP shortly before the assembly elections in Punjab this year, was arrested from Maharashtra Sadan by a team of vigilance officials, senior Bureau officials said. The senior IPS officer of the Maharashtra cadre, who was repatriated from Punjab by the Centre after the Punjab elections, was also charged with having misused his authority by indulging in private business as a public servant in violation of service rules, the sources said.

The case was registered against Virk on Saturday under the Prevention of Corruption Act after investigations for the last few months, the sources said, adding the former DGP did not offer any resistance at the time of his arrest.

[From Rediff India Abroad, Sept. 9, 2007]

FORMER PUNJAB DGP S S VIRK ARRESTED

Former Punjab Director General of Police S S Virk, who was removed shortly before the assembly poll in the state, was arrested on Sunday on charges of possessing assets disproportionate to his known sources of income and misuse of official position.

Virk, a senior IPS officer of the Maharashtra cadre, who was arrested in Delhi by a team of Punjab Vigilance Bureau officials, described the charges against him as 'false and fabricated.'

A case was registered against Virk under the Prevention of Corruption Act on Saturday, Vigilance Bureau Sources said, adding that he did not offer any resistance at the time of his arrest.

Soon after his arrest from Maharashtra Sadan in New Delhi on Sunday morning, the former Punjab Police chief was taken by road to Mohali near Chandigarh where he was quizzed by vigilance sleuths.

He was also medically examined, the sources said, adding that searches were also conducted at a number of places in Punjab in connection with properties owned by the former DGP.

The team that arrested Virk included four officers of the rank of Superintendent of Police.

Besides allegedly possessing assets disproportionate to his known sources of income, the ex-DGP was charged with misusing his authority by indulging in private business as a public servant in violation of service rules.

A visibly tired Virk, who was repatriated by the Centre from Punjab after the assembly election, told media persons at a police station in Mohali that all the cases registered against him were false and fabricated. "It is political victimisation and vendetta," said the IPS officer.

Virk, the first DGP from the state to be arrested, was suspended by the SAD-BJP government, led by Parkash Singh Badal, soon after it came to power in February this year.

He was removed as DGP shortly before the assembly poll by the Election Commission after the opposition SAD leveled allegations of corruption against him.

It also charged Virk with helping the then ruling Congress at former Chief Minister Amarinder Singh's behest. After his removal as DGP, Virk was initially posted as DGP-cum-Chairman Punjab Police Housing Corporation on January 22 and suspended in April.

R S Gill, a 1973 batch IPS officer, was appointed DGP Punjab on January 22 after

Virk was removed by the Election Commission.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 3, 2007

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, from September 4th through September 6th I was in Omaha recovering from a medical condition and was unable to travel back to the Capitol. I therefore missed 13 recorded votes. The votes I missed were rollcall vote 847 through rollcall vote 859.

#### TRIBUTE TO LUCAS KEIGLEY

### HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 3, 2007

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an exceptional young man from my Congressional District in Iowa.

Lucas Keigley, a 9-year-old fourth-grader from Gilbert, Iowa, was recently honored for his role in solving an arson case in July of this year.

According to a story in the Ames Tribune, Lucas had been at Gilbert Elementary School playing when two older boys, ages 14 and 15, lit a piece of cardboard on fire and threw it into a dumpster. The fire caught, and its proximity to both school property and several propane tanks could have made for a dangerous situation.

Lucas jumped into action and rightly followed the good advice that his mother Lisa always taught him: find an adult and tell them what he saw.

After alerting his mother to what he saw, Lucas worked with the Gilbert Fire Department and the Story County Sheriff's Office to help them find the suspects immediately, sparing law enforcement the time and cost of a lengthy arson investigation.

It is heartening to know that Lucas may be considering law enforcement as a career, according to his mother. It may just be his calling considering that his grandfather, Claire Keigley, served his community of Ames as a police officer for more than 28 years.

When we see, read and hear news of tragedy, pain and scandal on almost a daily basis it is heartening to hear the story about a fine 9-year-old young man from Iowa named Lucas Keigley who bravely did the right thing. I am honored to represent Lucas and his family in Congress and I know that all of my colleagues here in the United States Congress join me today in congratulating and thanking Lucas for helping make his community a safer place.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 3, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, on October 2, 2007, I was unable to

cast my floor vote on rollcall votes 927, 928, 929, 930, and 931.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 927, 928, 929, 930, and 931.

#### IN HONOR OF CAROL R. KING

### HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 3, 2007

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Carol R. King, whose death last week at the age of 79 leaves a tremendous void in the Second Congressional District of Georgia and indeed, in our country.

Carol was a true pioneer. She volunteered her time and her efforts to a range of causes, and so I feel there are many reasons to honor her today. Carol is perhaps best known for helping to found the first Head Start program in the Southeastern United States. As the longtime Head Start coordinator for the Harambee Child Development Council, Carol helped 16,000 children over a period of 30 years get access to education, health care, and meals that normally would have been out of their parents' reach.

Of course, many of us also know Carol as the committed help-mate and biggest supporter of her husband, the late, great civil rights attorney, C.B. King. He was the first black lawyer in South Georgia, and he also represented the iconic Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Throughout the years, Carol was by his side through dangers seen and unseen as he undertook the many legal battles for civil and human rights across Georgia. She was a devoted wife, matriarch of the King family, and mentor to thousands through her work with countless significant community efforts. More than that, she was our friend and devoted church member. We are all better because she touched our lives.

Madam Speaker, it is difficult to put into words the sadness I feel at her passing. In many ways, it is the end of an era. However, her life was an inspiration to many, and I am confident her legacy and her work will live on through the many organizations she helped to lead.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF MASTER WAN KO YEE

### HON. BARBARA LEE

CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 3, 2007

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Master Artist Wan Ko Yee, a distinguished scholar who resides in the 9th District of California. His areas of expertise include literature, painting, sculpting, calligraphy, music, martial arts, and traditional medicine. As a professor at Auburn University, Master Yee is a well renowned author, researcher, and philosopher. He has created exceptional work exhibited throughout the world. His work reflects Buddhist themes and the ideas of tolerance and peace between nations. He is recognized as a pioneer in creating multi-colored sculptures.