

three nations granted power. The Hindu leaders of India assured the Sikhs that they would enjoy the glow of freedom and that no law affecting their rights would pass without the consent of the Sikh nation, and on that basis the Sikh leadership joined with India. But as soon as India achieved its independence, its repression of the Sikhs began.

I am proud to have been among the members of this House who have helped to publicize these cases, such as the September 6 kidnapping of Jaswant Singh Khalra. Concerned Members of this House have helped bring to light reports by Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch/Asia, and other human rights groups which provide a mountain of evidence of India's genocide and tyranny against the Sikhs and others. We will continue to raise our voices for the freedom of the Sikhs, the Kashmiris, the Nagas, the Assamese, the Manipuris, the Dalits, and others. Freedom is the universal birthright of all mankind. On Vaisakhi Day, let us join the Sikh nation in recommitting to the cause of freedom.

I believe the Sikhs should have the right to and opportunity for self-determination, and they should be allowed to decide the question of independence in a free and fair vote. To help accomplish this goal, I hope my colleagues will cosponsor H.R. 1425, which will halt all United States developmental aid to India until the President certifies that India is respecting human rights. To further explain this need, I am inserting for the record a letter from Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, president of the Council of Khalistan. In celebration of Vaisakhi Day, I hope my colleagues will read his letter and will cosponsor H.R. 1425.

VAISAKHI DAY MESSAGE TO THE SIKH NATION ON THE BIRTHDAY OF THE SIKH NATION, RE-COMMIT TO A FREE KHALISTAN

Dear Khalsa Ji: It is Vaisakhi Day again, the 297th anniversary of the Sikh nation. We celebrate our Sikh identity and the courage of the Sikh nation. On this occasion, we must remember our heritage: Khalsa Bagi Yan Badshah: Either the Khalsa is in rebellion or it is a ruler. We have been enslaved by the brutal genocide of the Indian tyrants for too long. It is time to renew our commitment to free the Sikh nation by starting a shantmai morcha to liberate Khalistan. Only a free Khalistan will insure that the Sikh nation can live in freedom, security, peace, and dignity.

Elections are scheduled to be held on April 27th. Simranjit Singh Mann has filed to challenge S.S. Barnala in Sangrur. We are to feel deeply betrayed by the Akalis shameful eagerness to fight elections under a government that has made every effort to destroy us as a nation. The Akalis have been fighting elections since 1950. What have they achieved? Are we any closer to freedom because of their desire to cow-tow to the Indian regime? It is clear that a nation-wide shantmai morcha is the only way to liberate Khalistan. The sooner we as a nation realize this, the sooner we will enjoy the fruits of freedom so long denied us. I ask the Khalsa Panth to remember that the Sikh nation won the Jaito morcha by peaceful means. We also liberated the Gurdwaras in the 1920s by peaceful means. Likewise, it is through peaceful means and the grassroots involvement of the Sikh nation that we will achieve freedom for Khalistan. The time is now to start a shantmai morcha. We must boycott the Indian government. Protest by the hundreds of thousands. Court arrest. Fill the jails. We cannot allow the Indian regime to deny us our sovereignty. Free Khalistan today?

India's tyranny continues to be exposed, hastening the inevitable breakup of India's bloody empire. The new video documentary "Disappearances in Punjab" shows a Punjab policewoman speaking about the brutality of the Indian regime. She says, "I joined out of patriotic sentiments, but what I saw, atrocities—including those against women—that I cannot bear. Women suffer much. Male officers torture them. They also rape detainees. Some who had been picked up were in the interrogation center. Then I read that they had been killed in an encounter. But I had seen them in detention." Here is a member of the Punjab police admitting that rape and torture is common? She also reveals that victims' legs were broken as part of the Indian regime's campaign of terror against the Sikh nation. According to the documentary, the Chief Medical Officer at Patti Hospiatl in Punjab, Khalistan admits that he provided quick, fraudulent postmortem reports to police so that the authorities could cremate the bodies of their victims, destroying any evidence of state-sponsored murder. "My example set the precedent in Punjab," the Chief Medical Officer says in the video. "Five minutes a postmortem, five minutes a postmortem." The modus operandi of the India police is exposed? This video, produced by a Hindu human rights activist, has blown the cover off India's genocide against the Sikh nation.

India has also been hit in print. On November 4, The Pioneer ran an article by Iqbal Masud called "The Bogus Peace of Beant and Gill." Masud reports that "the Beant-Gill duo committed mass incarceration and called it 'normalcy.'" He also writes about the case of Sarabjit Singh, who was brought in for an autopsy but found to be alive. The regime then killed him and brought his body back to the same hospital. "When I read that," writes Masud, "I said, Welcome to Super Nazi State."

The U.S. Congress continues to speak out for freedom for the Sikh nation. Recently, seven more statements were inserted into the Congressional Record. Members of Congress were vocal in their support for the liberation of Khalistan and exposed India brutal history of human rights abuses against the Sikhs. Members of Congress also strongly supported two bills, H. Con. Res. 32 and H.R. 1425 which would respectively recognize the Sikhs nation's right of self-determination and cut off U.S. development aid to India until human rights are observed. These Congressional statements are covered in the April 5 issues of India Abroad, News-India Times and Navjyoti, a Hindi language Indian newspaper.

Within Khalistan, human rights activists continue to raise their voice about Indian repression. A group of human rights activists have written to Indian President Sharma "to point out that the rule of law is yet to be restored to Punjab. Examples like the disappearance of human rights activist S. Jaswant Singh Khalra are continuing. There is an urgent need to carry out a census under the supervision of UNO, on illegal killings and disappearance as these may be over a hundred thousand," these activists wrote. Amnesty International has also issued two recent reports on Indian repression. Amnesty points out that it is routine for people to be arrested for their political views, that preventive detention is widespread, torture "remains endemic," and "disappearances" are rampant. These are just a few examples that show that awareness of India's repression of the Sikh nation is rising.

I urge all Sikhs to renew their commitment to the liberation of Khalistan. A shantmai morcha is the only means by which we can reclaim our sovereignty. Indian's state terrorism will not deny the Sikh na-

tion the freedom to which we are entitled. If India could not suppress our struggle for freedom by killing over 150,000 Sikhs, kidnapping and murdering more than 25,000 young Sikh men, and holding over 70,000 Sikhs in detention under the expired TADA law, then how does it think that more repression will end our movement? Let us liberate Khalistan the way that India got its own freedom. Peaceful resistance is the only way to liberate Khalistan, and an independent Khalistan is the only way that the Sikh nation can live in freedom, security, and dignity.

On this Vaisakhi Day, the dawn of freedom in Khalistan is closer than ever. We look forward to celebrating Vaisakhi Day 1996, the 300th birthday of the Sikh nation, in an independent Khalistan where the glow of freedom shines brightly, bringing peace and prosperity to the Sikh nation and the South Asian subcontinent. On this Vaisakhi Day, let us recommit ourselves to this goal. Khalistan Zindabad.

Panth Da Sewadar,
DR. GURMIT SINGH AULAKH,
President, Council of Khalistan.

HONORING JAMES J. SWEENEY

HON. BILL BAKER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 1996

Mr. BAKER of California. Mr. Speaker, Moraga, CA, is a lovely city in the heart of my congressional district. It is a great place to live, work, raise a family, and develop a true sense of community with one's friends and neighbors. Moraga is the kind of place many Americans idealize as representative of the best small town virtues—except that in Moraga, these ideals are realities.

This year's Moraga Citizen of the Year is Jim Sweeney. The list of Jim's contributions to the Moraga community is remarkable. His two-term tenure as the town's mayor, his work with the Moraga Fire Protection District Board of Commissioners, his service with the Moraga Chamber of Commerce and the Hearst Art Gallery, and his involvement with a host of other organizations is the stuff of local legend. His faithful service is a tribute to his dedication to making Moraga the wonderful place it is.

Too often we fail to honor the people who care enough to make a decisive difference in our local communities. Jim Sweeney is such a person, and is richly deserving of recognition as Moraga's Citizen of the Year. After all, citizenship is about loyalty to the people and institutions that comprise a good and decent society. In so many ways, Jim Sweeney defines what true citizenship is all about. I am very pleased to recognize this outstanding American in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

INTRODUCTION OF DEEP WATER
OUTFALL TREATMENT SYSTEMS
ACT

HON. CARLOS A. ROMERO-BARCELÓ

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 1996

Mr. ROMERO-BARCELÓ. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Deep Water Outfall