

extract oil from the outer continental shelf occurred 10½ miles from shore in 18 feet of water; today the industry is developing oil and gas reserves over 168 miles from shore in thousands of feet of water.

Today, there are nearly 200 drilling rigs currently producing gas and oil energy for the United States. Since their exploration began, the industry has developed 3-dimensional seismic translation of geophysical data which uses high speed computers to provide scientists a clear picture of energy reserves beneath the seafloor. The industry has also pioneered the development and application of remotely operated vehicles and is at the forefront of the development and use of a satellite positioning system.

So who is driving the advance of domestic offshore industry? It is the men and women of Aker Gulf Marine of Ingleside, TX, who built Shell's record-setting Mars facility. It is the employees of Halter Marine shipyard in Sabine, TX, who specialize in construction, repair and modification of mobile offshore rigs. It is the workers in Chiles Offshore and the AMFELS yard in Brownsville, TX, who are building a jack-up rig capable of drilling in 360 feet of water.

The industry provides nearly 40,000 petroleum-related jobs located offshore and another 46,000 jobs indirectly related to Gulf of Mexico oil and gas operations. As we enter the 21st century, our Nation is facing the challenge of protecting our environment and wisely using our natural resources. I am confident that the offshore industry will continue to provide reliable and affordable energy supplies to meet America's evolving needs. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 50th anniversary of the offshore industry and the 25th anniversary of the National Ocean Industries Association.

#### TRIBUTE TO FRIEDA HARDIN

### HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 30, 1997*

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a very special veteran in my district, Frieda Hardin. On October 18, Yeoman Hardin, a resident of Livermore's veterans center, was one of six featured speakers and one of two female World War I veterans in attendance at the dedication of the new Women in Military Service for America Memorial in Washington, DC.

At 101 years of age, Frieda Hardin may be the nation's oldest living female veteran. She enlisted with the Navy in 1918 at the age of 22, just 2 days after she learned the Navy was accepting women. During the war, she was assigned to Portsmouth, VA, and the Norfolk Navy Yard where she was a Yeoman Third Class working as a clerk checking document receipts in the freight office. At that time there was not yet military housing for women so she lived in a boarding house in town. After the war ended, Yeoman Hardin completed her 2 years of service with the Navy in Bremerton, WA. She went on to raise four children and has since been involved with many veterans' events.

Frieda Hardin is truly a pioneer. At the time she joined the Navy, women were not yet al-

lowed to vote. She did not let that deter her. She wanted, as she puts it, "to do something more, something bigger and better" for herself and her country. She encourages women in the military to "carry on!" and believes they are doing a wonderful job. She is proud to have been able to serve her country and has great admiration for those who do so today. Her speaking role at the dedication of the Women in Military Service for America Memorial is an honor well deserved. She is a role model for women veterans everywhere. I would like to thank Yeoman Hardin for her dignity, courage, and service to our country.

#### OCTOBER 29, 1997—EXPRESSING SORROW OF THE HOUSE AT THE DEATH OF HON. WALTER H. CAPPS, REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

SPEECH OF

### HON. MATTHEW G. MARTINEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 1997*

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues today to mourn the untimely passing of Congressman WALTER CAPPS.

WALTER possessed great moral integrity and deep rooted religious values which he combined with a devotion to his community and our country. WALTER CAPPS was a community leader, not a career politician. If there were conflicting political differences, WALTER would seek common ground.

On an ideological level, WALTER CAPPS and I were political allies, on a personal level we were good friends and I will sorely miss him. I own a trailer on a hunting ranch in WALTER's district and every time I made it up there, I would try to stop by and visit him. Everybody admired WALTER for his vitality and conviction to issues like quality schools, safe streets, affordable health care, and financial security for the elderly.

WALTER CAPPS brought a fresh perspective to Congress, a desire to improve the lives of his constituents, enrich his community, and restore the bond of trust between our Government and the people. WALTER always believed that our Government should be as good as the people it serves.

My condolences go out to WALTER's wife, Lois, who has lost a great husband, to Lisa, Todd, and Laura who have lost a great father and to the thousands of people who's lives WALTER has touched.

#### INDIAN POLICE FIRE AT CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS FESTIVAL

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 30, 1997*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, India may dress like a democracy for Halloween, but it is only a costume. That was proven again last week when a Christian religious festival in Ludhiana was shut down by police gunfire.

According to the Tribune of Chandigarh, 19 police and 9 Christians were injured in the incident. Two vehicles were also damaged, the

newspaper reported. Those Christians were merely holding a five-day festival on the theme "Jesus Christ is the answer." Is there something wrong with this in a secular democracy? Apparently, the Indian authorities think so.

The festival was met with protests by the Bharatiya Janata Party, Shiv Sena, and the Bajrang Dal. These are militant Hindu political organizations that do not believe in religious tolerance. It was at their instigation that permission to hold the festival was withdrawn. However, when assurances were given that no "magical healing" would occur and no conversions would take place, the festival was allowed to go on.

That's right, Mr. Speaker, the festival was only allowed to take place in the secular democracy of India after the authorities were assured that no conversions would take place. In other words, if people became Christians as a result of what they saw and heard at the festival, then the festival would be closed. Secular democracy in action.

On October 22, activists from the militant Hindu organizations tried to set the festival's location on fire. The electric lights were damaged. These religious terrorists were not punished. No action was taken against them. Is this how India protects its secular tradition?

While this was going on, the Indian regime is attempting to arrest the Jathedar of the Akal Takht, the spiritual leader of the Sikh Nation. Here is another fine example of religious tolerance by the world's largest democracy.

Finally, the Christian festival was closed by the authorities. The attendees then began a dharna, or what we would call a sit-in. For this act of peaceful resistance, the tyrannical forces of Indian theocracy opened fire on them.

Mr. Speaker, such a country is unworthy of the label "democracy." We rightly protest human-rights violations in China, including the mistreatment of Christians, Buddhists, and others. Yet India is 100 times more oppressive than China. We must take strong measures to bring democracy to South Asia by cutting off U.S. aid to this theocratic satrapy, placing an embargo against it, and declaring our support for the self-determination of the Christians of Nagaland, the Sikhs of Punjab, Khalistan, the Muslims of Kashmir, and the other South Asian people and nations struggling for their freedom. We must also include India in any sanctions taken against countries that fail to observe religious freedom. Those measures will stand as our contribution to political, cultural, and religious freedom in South Asia.

I am introducing the story from the Tribune of Chandigarh into the RECORD.

[From the Chandigarh (India) Tribune, July 16, 1997]

#### DSP HURT IN BRICKBATTING

LUDHIANA, October 26.—The police opened fire in the air and resorted to a lathi charge to disperse an agitated mob of Christians last night as many as 19 policemen, including a DSP and nine Christians were injured in the brickbattling and lathi charge. Two vehicles were also damaged. The Christians had started a five-day programme on "Jesus Christ is the answer" festival from October 22, to October 26 on the Chandigarh Road. They claimed that they were holding their prayers and thousands of Christians were participating in the same. On the other hand BJP activists of the Shiv Sena and the Bajrang Dal objected to the holding of the festival alleging that the Christians were resorting to conversions and indulging in