

cancer patients, this organization comes to the aid of families who need it the most. They help take away worries, so families can have more time for hope.

Besides touching lives of individual children, the American Cancer Fund for Children has also made an impact on communities, through outreach and education about childhood cancer, and has contributed to cancer research.

While researchers and activists continue to search for a cure for cancer, it's important to recognize the interim needs of child victims and their families. Steven Firestein and the American Cancer Fund for children are doing just that. I encourage all my colleagues to join me in recognizing the American Cancer Fund for Children, and it's continuing efforts in easing the pain of childhood sickness and reaching for a cure.

INDIA LABELS INNOCENT SIKH A
"TERRORIST"

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 19, 1998

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that India's Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) conspired to place a false label of "terrorist" on a young Sikh man named Navjot Singh, and that the vaunted National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has ignored his case.

I have a copy of a letter sent to the NHRC President by the young man's father, Tarlok Singh Chhabra, this past December 12, 1997, that details his case. It is very disturbing. The letter states "that the CBI with the connivance of Delhi Police, planted a false claim" against Navjot Singh. According to the letter, "on protracted correspondence with the NHRC, it transpired that the NHRC had not bothered at all to go through the representation." Navjot Singh was forced to sign false papers to implicate him falsely in an incident in Delhi, as well as another pending case. This is an outrageous abuse of power, unacceptable in any country, but especially when that country wants to portray itself as the world's largest "democracy."

Several of us recently sent a letter to the Government of Punjab regarding its failure to punish those responsible for the genocide against the Sikh Nation. It requested that the Punjab Chief Minister appoint a commission to investigate over 75 cases of police murder, rape, and torture of Sikh youth that have been documented by the CBI, the Supreme Court of India, and the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. In fact, these agencies report that this abusive behavior has occurred deliberately, and on a massive scale. Also, it has been reported that the Punjab Government is diverting the mail of a fiercely independent journalist named Sukhbir Singh Osan. And a number of my colleagues were dismayed by Prime Minister Gujral's recent threat that "Hindustan will not tolerate another attack on Iraq." Now we are informed about Mr. Navjot Singh and his unfortunate experience with the Indian Government. India may have conducted a new round of elections, resulting in its fifth government in two years, but it takes more than elections to make a democracy.

Mr. Speaker, India is one of the five largest recipients of U.S. foreign aid, and the Presi-

dent wants to increase last year's assistance by almost \$12 million. The Indian Government is responsible for taking the lives of 250,000 Sikhs in Punjab between 1984-1992, over 200,000 Christians in Nagaland since 1974, and 53,000 Muslims in Kashmir since 1988. There are a half-million Indian soldiers occupying the province of Punjab, and another half-million occupying Kashmir. We should not be supporting a government that condones these widespread abuses with American tax dollars.

The United States is the world's preeminent power, arguably the only Nation on earth with both the economic might and the moral legitimacy to make the observance of human rights a pillar of its foreign policy. The unfortunate peoples of the world, whose basic human rights are suppressed either by tyrants or failed economic experiments, turn to the United States for hope, not cheap imports! From India to China, the people who suffer under such regimes understand that, if America joins their struggle by sacrificing short-term economic gain for long-term justice and freedom, the regimes will ultimately succumb.

An increase in aid is difficult to justify to the American people, who send their hard-earned tax dollars to a country that obviously shares none of our most-cherished values. The time has come for action, it is time for America to take a stand.

The Human Rights in India Act, introduced by me along with my good friend and colleague GARY CONDIT of California, will bar development aid to India unless the government releases prisoners of conscience, ends the practice of torture by police and military forces, permits impartial investigations of reported torture and disappearances of those in custody, brings to justice police forces responsible for human rights abuses, and permits critics of the government to travel abroad,

My colleagues, from this well of the House of Representatives you will hear many stories of human rights abuses from all around the world. Today, I ask that you think of the hundreds of thousands who are suffering in India. Please do not turn your back on the innocent. Give them a flicker of hope and send a strong message to the Government of India. I urge my colleagues to give the Human Rights in India Act their full consideration, and their strong support.

I am placing Mr. Chhabra's letter into the RECORD, and recommend that my colleagues give it their immediate attention.

Subject: Conspiracy of the CBI to implicate Mr. Navjot Singh, an innocent boy & labelled him fraudulently as a "terrorist"

The CHAIRMAN,

National Human Rights Commission, New Delhi.

SIR: Your attention is invited immediately to paras 6 and 7 of my representation dated 19-1-96, which is reproduced for ready reference: "That the CBI with the Connivance of Delhi Police, planted a false case and implicated him in FIR 681/95 of 27-9-95 and he was lodged in Tihar Jail Delhi for about 6 weeks in 'C' class and that too in solitary confinement whereas in Chandigarh he was kept in 'B' class on account of his academic and professional qualifications. That the falsification of Delhi Police case can be proven by its own concocted story, that on 17-9-95 he had been arrested from our home and on the next day produced in the Chandigarh Police and remanded to police custody & then Judicial custody and it was from Burail Jail Chandigarh only to Delhi and planted a false

case against him in Delhi whereas he was never present at Delhi on 27-09-95 as he was present in his office up to the last date of his arrest. During his police remand Delhi, he was interrogated by the officers/officials of the CBI only and not by any other Agency. There at also he was forced to sign many blank papers etc."

2. On protracted correspondence with the NHRC, it transpired that the NHRC had not bothered at all to go through the representation in totality and had taken the matter lightly which required rapt attention of the NHRC in such a crucial matter involving the whole career of an educated young man. I have the documentary evidence to adduce, that it is all a conspiracy of the CBI officials to implicate my son falsely in Delhi case as well as Beant Singh case. What the hell on earth is that my son was forced to sign many blank papers including few diary pages of an old diary at gun point? Why duty is not cast upon the investigating agencies to faithfully discharge their duties and not involve innocent people in concocted and false cases which has glaringly happened in our case? Why penal action should not be taken against defaulting officials, who themselves behave like criminals and human rights are violated? A thorough enquiry be conducted and I be associated with the NHRC Court proceedings with following observations besides other issues:

1. The name of my son in FIR 681/95, does not figure at all at any stage.

2. The concocted confessional statement has been written in a language other than English and his signatures in English were already taken on blank sheets besides diary writings and few papers might have been filled in later on suiting the whims and fancies of the investigating officials, which is again a criminal offence on the part of the so called investigating officials and this fact cannot be ignored.

3. The Delhi case against my son came into being only as CBI were refused further remand by Chandigarh Court in Beant Singh case, in which he was falsely implicated already.

4. My son had never known any person named as co-accused or to any witness cited by the prosecuting agency, which again shows implication in a false and concocted case.

5. He was already arrested on 17-9-95 and was already lodged in Chandigarh Jail, whereas the Delhi FIR came into being on 27-9-95, what a big fraud? He was straight away taken from Chandigarh Jail for Delhi, it is highly unbelievable as to how the Delhi Police came to know that he was already lodged in Chandigarh Jail, whereas in the statement of a witness falsely brought on record by Delhi Police in connivance with CBI, as the complete residential address as well as the name of father of Navjot Singh was completely missing, requires thorough probe and stern action against the erring officials, both of CBI and the Delhi Police which culminated in implicating an innocent boy in false cases. It is pertinent to add that he was subjected to 3rd degree methods, just to compel him to become approver in Beant Singh assassination case which he flatly refused to do so. He was also threatened that he will be implicated in other false cases of other states too and his family members shall also be subjected to all sorts of tortures etc.

PRAYER

I urge to your Lordship to please raise our case to its entirety and book the culprit officers/officials of the CBI and of Delhi police in whose connivance all episode of Delhi case as well as Chandigarh case took place, which

had shaken the whole precious life of my only son.

Yours faithfully,

TARLOK SINGH CHHABRA,
889, Sector-60, MOHALI.

TRIBUTE TO DON TURNER

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 19, 1998

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work and dedication of Don Turner who will retire from his post as Superintendent of Bradley-Bourbonnais Community High School at the end of the 1998 school year.

Mr. Turner retires from Bradley-Bourbonnais Community after thirty-five years of service to the High School. Mr. Turner grew up in Chrisman, Illinois where his dream in life was to become a basketball coach. After graduation from High School, Mr. Turner entered Eastern Illinois University to pursue that dream but left halfway through to serve in the Korean War. After serving his country, Mr. Turner returned home and finished his degree at Eastern Illinois University.

Mr. Turner's dream of becoming a coach became true when he became the head basketball coach at Lafayette High School. After two years of coaching at Lafayette, he moved to Serena, Illinois to become the high school basketball coach. It was during this time that Mr. Turner decided to make a career change. He returned to college and obtained a master's degree in education administration from the University of Illinois. After receiving his master's degree, he became principal at Gilman Grade School and after one year he became principal at Gilman High School.

In 1963, Mr. Turner was hired by Bradley-Bourbonnais Community High School. During his tenure at Bradley-Bourbonnais High School, Mr. Turner has been dean of boys, dean of students, and assistant superintendent. In 1982, Mr. Turner became the Superintendent at Bradley-Bourbonnais High School. Mr. Turner has seen Bradley-Bourbonnais High School grow dramatically and has been instrumental in the additions of the pool, computers and the new auditorium. Mr. Turner's best memories of the school include all the people who have passed through its doors. In spite of numerous job offers, Mr. Turner has never considered leaving Bradley-Bourbonnais High School.

Mr. Speaker, today I recognize this gentleman for his honorable career, uncommon loyalty, and education impact. I urge this body to identify and recognize others in their communities whose actions have so greatly benefited and strengthened America's schools.

TRIBUTE TO LT. GEN. JOE N.
BALLARD

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 19, 1998

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate Lt. Gen. Joe Ballard the Chief of Army Engineers and the Commander of the

United States Army Corp of Engineers. On February 28, General Ballard was recognized as the Black Engineer of the Year during the 12th Annual Black Engineer of the Year Awards Conference at Baltimore, Maryland. This award was presented by the Career Communications Group and the Council of Engineering Deans of the Historically Black College and Universities. A panel of judges from industry and academia screened over 200 entries and unanimously agreed that General Ballard was by far the best qualified for this award. General Ballard, a native of Oakdale, Louisiana, and a graduate of Southern University, leads the world's premier public engineering organization with engineering, construction and real estate responsibilities worldwide.

In the civil works program, the Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for operating and maintaining 275 locks, 12,000 miles of navigable waterway and 300 deep draft harbors. Flood control systems across our nation prevent an estimated \$26.8 billion in potential damage each year and Corps facilities provide 24 percent of our nation's hydroelectric power. When disaster hits our hometowns across the United States, General Ballard's forces are always on the front lines fighting as they did recently in the Midwest and California floods and the New England ice storm.

General Ballard overseas the design and construction management of military facilities for the Army and Air Forces worldwide and often provides the same support for other Defense and federal agencies. As the senior Engineer in the Army, his engineer soldiers are also found on the front lines in Bosnia and Kuwait serving our nation. Through all this, he has the additional responsibilities for the nation's environment, managing environmental restoration programs and practicing environmentally sustainable development to balance environment values with economic growth.

It is a tremendous honor that one of our finest public servants is recognized across the country as the Black Engineer of the Year for 1998. We applaud General Ballard for his professionalism, dedication and leadership, and we in the Congress, congratulate him on this significant distinction.

DIRECTING THE PRESIDENT TO
REMOVE UNITED STATES ARMED
FORCES FROM BOSNIA-
HERZEGOVINA

SPEECH OF

HON. DOC HASTINGS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 18, 1998

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my reluctant opposition to this resolution, which I believe proposes the wrong means of achieving the right end. I opposed the President's original decision to deploy our troops in Bosnia because I believed that neither the goals of the mission nor the exit strategy was clearly defined. Furthermore, I strongly suspected that the Dayton Agreement would not easily or permanently resolve the disagreements dividing groups in the region, and that the conditions of the Dayton Agreement could only be enforced through a long-term U.S. presence. As a result, I have voted on numerous occasions to put an end to this seemingly endless deployment of troops.

Unfortunately, my reservations have become reality. A mission originally characterized by President Clinton as a temporary implementation measure has turned into an open ended mission with U.S. troops serving as everything from peacekeepers, to traffic cops, to construction workers. For that reason, I have supported efforts in the House to fix a date certain for the withdrawal of our forces through the use of our Constitutional authority to control funding for such missions.

I must confess that because of my strong desire to see our troops returned home I considered supporting H. Con. Res. 227. However, in the end I cannot in good conscience endorse a process which I believe to be unconstitutional simply to settle a policy difference with this President. I have consistently opposed the War Powers Act as contrary to the intent of the framers of the Constitution, who reserved leadership in foreign policy to the Presidency.

I have always viewed the War Powers Act, enacted in 1973, as a partisan gimmick devised and used by liberal Democratic Congresses seeking to tie the hands of Republican presidents with whom they disagreed. To change my position now that we have a Congress controlled by Republicans in order to score points against Bill Clinton would be politically opportune, but counter to my basic opposition to the War Powers Act.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to reject the unconstitutional mechanisms of the War Powers Act and defeat this resolution. Instead, I encourage my colleagues to vote their consciences on the Bosnia issue when we consider the President's request for additional funding to continue this deployment. Let us bring our troops home in an orderly, but timely manner. I have voted to do so before and I will do so again, but not in a way that I believe does such great damage to the doctrine of separation of powers enshrined in our Constitution.

TRIBUTE TO DR. STANLEY S.
BERGEN, JR.

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 19, 1998

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of Dr. Stanley S. Bergen, Jr., to mark the occasion of his retirement as President of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ).

Dr. Bergen has served the State of New Jersey with exceptional dedication, energy and leadership that has distinguished his 27-year career as the first and only president of UMDNJ. Under Dr. Bergen's stewardship, the University has emerged as the largest public university of the health sciences in the country, and serves as a national resource for health professions education, research, patient care, and service to the community.

Through his resolve to provide educational opportunity and health care services to all the people of New Jersey, UMDNJ has grown to include seven schools on five academic campuses statewide, with programs at more than one hundred affiliated educational and health care institutions in communities throughout the State.