

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INDIAN DUPLICITY EXPOSED;  
INDIA MUST LIVE UP TO DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES

**HON. DAN BURTON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 30, 2001*

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, the duplicity of India is clearer after the collapse of its talks with Pakistan. Pakistani President Musharraf went home abruptly because India was not dealing in good faith. Although much discussion focused on the Kashmir issue, India's spokeswoman never even acknowledged that Kashmir was on the agenda. India refused to go along with three drafts of a joint statement approved by both leaders. Instead, India insisted on including its unfounded accusations that Pakistan is fomenting terrorism in Kashmir and other places that India controls.

India has a long record of supporting terrorism against the people within its borders. The most recent incident took place last month when Indian military troops tried to burn down a Gurdwara and some Sikh homes in Kashmir, but were stopped by Sikh and Muslim residents of the town. There are many other incidents. The massacre in Chithisinghpora is very well known by now. It's also well known that India paid out over 41,000 cash bounties to police officers for killing Sikhs. It's well known that India holds tens of thousands of political prisoners, Sikhs and other minorities, in illegal detention with no charges and no trial. Some of them have been held since 1984. Is this how a democratic state conducts its affairs?

It is India that introduced the specter of nuclear terrorism into South Asia with its nuclear tests. Can we blame Pakistan for responding? Although it claims that the nuclear weapons are to protect them from China, the majority of them are pointed at Pakistan. Unfortunately, if there is a war between India and Pakistan, it is the minority peoples in Punjab and Kashmir who will suffer the most and bear most of the cost.

The United States must become more engaged in the subcontinent. We should continue to encourage both India and Pakistan to reduce their nuclear stockpiles. However, we should not remove the sanctions against India for its introduction of nuclear weapons into this region. In addition, we should end all aid to India until the most basic human rights are respected and not violated. Finally, we should publicly declare support for a free and fair vote in Kashmir, as promised in 1948 and as President Musharraf was pushing for, and in Punjab, Khalistan, in Nagalim, and in all the 17 nations under Indian occupation where freedom movements are ongoing. Only by these means can we strengthen America's hand in South Asia, ensure that a violent breakup like that of Yugoslavia does not occur in the subcontinent, and let the glow of freedom shine for all the people of that troubled region.

DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002

SPEECH OF

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 27, 2001*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2620) making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes:

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support for the Bonior-Waxman-Obey-Brown (OH)-Kildee amendment. I don't think there is one person out there in America who, if asked, would state a preference for dangerous levels of arsenic in their drinking water. The Republican majority and President Bush clearly haven't asked the American public or just don't care because tougher protections from arsenic are long overdue.

In 1996, the Congress instructed EPA to update the Arsenic standard of 50 parts per billion no later than January of 2001.

In 1999, the National Academy of Sciences, after years of research, found that the old arsenic standard of 50 ppb for drinking water "does not achieve EPA's goal for public health protection and, therefore, requires downward revision as promptly as possible."

Finally, in January 2001, after decades of public comment, debate, and millions of dollars of research, EPA issued the new standard of 10 ppb—which was considered a compromise proposal.

In April I released the results of a study that was conducted by Congressman WAXMAN's staff on the Government Reform Committee. The report was focused on Illinois and warned that the health of thousands of Illinois residents is at risk since their drinking water contains unacceptable levels of arsenic. The report showed that as many as 134,000 people in Illinois in almost 60 communities are drinking water that contains arsenic levels above the standard of 20 parts per billion (ppb).

Science has proven that arsenic is a carcinogen and it is deadly—it causes cancer, birth defects, and cardiovascular disease. What more evidence does President Bush need to get it out of our water? I've been a consumer rights advocate for a long time and in public office for ten years, and until now, I've never met a so-called leader so eager to do so little for public health.

Thanks to the deep pockets of President Bush's mining and chemical industry friends, the United States has the same arsenic drinking water standard as Bangladesh at 50 ppb. This Administration is willing to risk the health of millions to pay back the special interests and it is time we put a stop to it.

I urge all members to support this important amendment to prohibit EPA funds from being used to weaken the arsenic standard.

HONORING MARY E. JOHNS

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 30, 2001*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to both honor and thank Mary Johns, a dedicated member of the community and my staff. Mary has a long history of involvement in the 2nd Congressional District of Colorado and is deserving of special recognition.

After graduating from Santa Monica College with a degree in Public Administration, Mary moved to Colorado to raise a family and pursue her interests in local and national government. Her commitment to public service is apparent when one looks at her involvement in local politics and community-based organizations. She was a member of the City of Thornton Career Service Board, also serving as Vice-Chairwoman, and was Chairwoman and Trustee of the MetroNorth PAC. Mary's interests also included involvement in the ADCO Partners in Progress for a New Airport and the Adams County Airport Task Force.

During this time she went to work for United States Congressman David Skaggs. It was in that office that she began working with veterans, postal workers and labor organizations. She demonstrated great understanding and compassion with all constituents that she came in contact with and continued to work towards improving the quality of life for the people of her community.

Beyond working for elected officials, Mary became one herself in 1989 when she was elected to the Adams Twelve Five Star School District Board of Education. Mary understood the importance of our public education system and worked hard to ensure that every child in her district had access to quality schools. She has served as President and Vice President during three terms on the school board, and I am sure that she will continue to be an advocate for education.

Mary has been a member of my staff since I was elected in 1998. She has continued to help constituents as a caseworker, and her knowledge and experience have been invaluable to both my staff and me. I wish her the best of luck as she continues her journey from public service to full-time grandmother, mother and wife. On behalf of the people of the 2nd Congressional District, I thank her for all she has done.

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