

to freedom of speech and belief, and the Chinese president was breaking the International Covenant of Human Rights by torturing and killing innocent people. They said that it didn't matter because I was in China and had to do what they said. I didn't agree. They began asking me many questions and kicked, slapped, and shoved me when I refused to answer. After about one and a half hours of interrogation, I was taken to a hidden detention center located in a parking garage.

The detention center had two cells in it. I was put into a cell by myself and my luggage was kept away from me. The cell was very dirty and the bed was covered in stains. Most of the policemen watching me were very young and had no interest in arresting me. They were just doing their jobs. I felt very sorry for them because of this. Upon reading the information about Falun Dafa that I had brought with me, they seemed shocked to see the pictures and read the information about the people who have been killed.

I was locked in the cell by myself for the next 45 hours until about 4:00 p.m., Wednesday the 27th. On different occasions, the guards tried to get me to answer several questions as to where I was from, who I traveled to China with, where I got the information I had brought with me, and if I had been in contact with anyone in China. I refused to answer any questions I thought could be used to distort the truth or used to hurt other people. They also tried to get me to sign a form several times, but I refused. On two occasions, the guards were very violent.

One of these times was in the afternoon on Tuesday the 26th. After being escorted to and from the bathroom, I asked them if I could do my homework (which I had brought with me from school). At this point, one of the guards became very angry and pushed me back into the cell. He punched me in the mouth and stomach, and kicked me down to the bed. I had a bloody lip for about 20 minutes.

The other time was in the morning on Wednesday, the 27th. When the guards were still asleep, I used a coin to write Chinese characters on the wall. The characters read 'Falun Dafa is good', 'truthfulness, compassion, and forbearance is good', and 'Falun Dafa is a righteous practice.' I signed it 'an American college student, March 27th.' I wrote the words because I felt it was the only way left I had to let the people who came into the detention center know why I was there. Upon waking up, the guards were stunned, and stared at the writing over and over again. Two hours later, they came into the cell and washed the words away, demanding that I leave the cell with them so they could take my photo and thumbprints. I refused. Again, I told them I was not a criminal and had done nothing wrong. I shouldn't be here, and they should be out on the street arresting people who commit real crimes and rob people. Two of them dragged me out at that point and began punching me in the head and kicking me in the torso. In the end, they were unsuccessful at taking my thumbprints or photo. Later in the day, one of the mean-spirited guards spit in my face after I told him he shouldn't persecute good people.

It was 24 hours before they asked me if I wanted any food or water. At this point, I went on a hunger strike for the remaining 24 hours of my stay. I told them that my detention was illegal and I would not eat or drink until I was released. I practiced the Falun Dafa exercises frequently to keep my energy up and the guards got very quiet and looked on intently as I went through the slow motion movements. Probably most of them

were very intrigued to watch a westerner perform the exercises. There were always at least two guards on duty at all times, but there were frequently up to five or six at various times.

During the whole time, I tried to remain calm and put the principles of truthfulness, compassion, and forbearance into practice. For some of the guards, the ones that had a little bit of kind heart in them, it had a positive effect. After a while, they could see I was a good person and their consciences began to function. They were more open to what I said and didn't yell back in reply. They didn't want to have anything to do with the beatings.

At around 4:00 pm on March 27, the guards entered my cell and told me that it was time to leave. Upon walking out of the cell, I grabbed my luggage and was escorted into a police van with seven more uniformed police. I was taken to a place where they picked up my new return trip tickets, and then to the airport. At the airport, they drove the police van up to the plane itself so that I was not allowed to come into contact with any other people while in China. They treated me like a highly dangerous criminal. They most likely feared that I would tell the people I came into contact with that Falun Dafa was good and expose the beating I had received while in custody.

Though it was very brutal, what I experienced is nothing compared to what the people in China have been facing everyday for the past two and a half years; and they don't have a safe home to come home to. Hundreds of thousands are languishing in labor camps and detention centers all across the country where they are tortured with electric batons, beatings, sleep deprivation, and mind-altering drugs. If they refuse to sign statements to give up practicing Falun Gong, they are forced into brainwashing classes where they are barraged with hate propaganda designed to break their wills. The physical and mental suffering is unimaginable.

The day I arrived in China, there was a huge police sweep in the northeast city of Changchun. The police sweep came after a state order from the Chinese President two weeks earlier to "kill without pardon" Falun Dafa practitioners who post information or expose the truth of the persecution to other people. The police were given a quota: five practitioners for every one policeman. In one day, over 5,000 people were arrested. Over the course of a single week, dozens have reportedly been executed.

The situation becomes increasingly urgent with each passing day, and is approaching the severity of Nazi Germany. Though I didn't get to talk to many Chinese people directly while in China, I am glad that at least more people here are aware of the situation. I hope that all kind-hearted people can offer any support that they can.

IN HONOR OF ALLISON  
McCORMACK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2002

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of June Allison McCormack, community and political activist, successful businesswoman, beloved mother, grandmother, and trusted friend.

Mrs. McCormack was an extremely kind soul with a generous spirit, who was always

looking for ways to help others. She traveled frequently to points across the globe, looking for ways to improve the environment for children living in impoverished areas.

Mrs. McCormack donated her time and money to several worthy charitable organizations, and encouraged others to do so. Instead of accepting holiday and birthday gifts from families and friends, she requested that they donate to the charity of their choice.

Besides her philanthropic work and commitment to volunteerism, Mrs. McCormack possessed a sharp sense for business, and successfully operated June McCormack Realty for 25 years, before retiring in the mid-eighties.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honor and remembrance of June Allison McCormack, beloved wife of the late Earl Patrick McCormack, devoted mother of four, and devoted grandmother of ten. Mrs. McCormack leaves behind a legacy of a generous spirit and devotion to helping others, especially children, and she will be greatly missed.

FIGHTER PILOTS HONORED

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2002

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a group of individuals who did a great service to our nation. These men are fighter pilots from the Royal Australian Air Force and the New Zealand Royal Air Force who were assigned to US combat units and served as Forward Air Controllers during the Vietnam War. I would like to honor the following individuals:

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

Wg. Cdr. Col Ackland, Flt. Lt. Ray Butler, Fg Off. Peter Condon, Flt. Lt. Garry Cooper, Flg. Off. Mac Cottrell, Wg. Cdr. Vance Drummond, Flg. Off. Huck Ennis, Flt. Lt. Brian Fooks, Flt. Lt. Tony Ford and Flg Off. Frank Fry.

Flt. Lt. Dick Gregory, Flt. Lt. Jack Hayden, Flg. Off. Chris Hudnott, Flg. Off. Dick Kelloway, Flt. Lt. Chris Langton, Wg. Cdr. Peter Larard, Flg. Off. Chris Mirow, Flt. Lt. Ken Mitchell, Flg. Off. Bruce Mouatt, Sqn. Ldr. Graham Neil, Sqn. Ldr. Dave Owens, Wg. Cdr. Tony Powell, Sqn. Ldr. Rex Ramsay and Flt. Lt. Doug Riding.

Flg. Off. Dave Robson, Flg. Off. Barry Schultz, Flt. Lt. Bruce Searle, Flt. Lt. Ken Semmler, Flt. Lt. Arthur Sibthorpe, Flt. Lt. Ron Slater, Flt. Lt. Peter Smith, Wg. Cdr. Barry Thomas, Flt. Lt. Gavin Thoms, Sqn. Ldr. Nobby Williams, Flt. Lt. Roger Wilson and Flt. Lt. Bruce Wood.

NEW ZEALAND ROYAL AIR FORCE

Flt. Lt. Murray Abel, Flg. Off. Mike Callanan, Flt. Lt. J.M. Denton, Flg. Off. B.W. Donnelly, Flt. Lt. Ross Ewing, Flt. Lt. Graeme Goldsmith, Wg. Cdr. R.F. Lawry, Flt. Lt. Bryan Lockie, Flg. Off. Darryl McEvedy, Flt. Lt. Dick Metcalfe, Sqn. Ldr. John Scrimshaw, Flt. Lt. G.R. Thompson, Wg. Cdr. Wallingford and Flt. Lt. Peter Waller.

I would also like to recognize Lt. Col. Eugene Rossel and Flt. Lt. Garry Copper for actively pursuing decorations for these men who served our country in a time of need.