EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

12TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MASSACRE AT THE GOLDEN TEMPLE OF AMRITSAR

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 30, 1996

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a sad date—the 12th anniversary of the Indian Government's brutal attack on the Golden Temple—the holiest shrine of the Sikh religion. This military assault, which many of my colleagues will remember vividly, took place in June 1984, in the state of Punjab.

Mr. Speaker, the Golden Temple is to the Sikh religion what the Vatican is to Christians or Mecca is to Muslims. Thirty-eight other Sikh temples were attacked by the Indian Army throughout Punjab. In all, more than 20,000 Sikhs were killed by Indian forces in these attacks, many in brutal mass executions. Many unarmed civilians were shot at point-blank range.

The entire world was appalled by this senseless attack. Indian soldiers burned the Golden Temple's library, which contained countless original manuscripts of Sikh scriptures. The Sikh holy book—the Guru Granth Sahib—was shot full of holes. This brutal repression of the Sikh people and the Sikh religion was condemned by governments around the world. For the Sikh people, it crystallized the growing movement for an independent homeland by the name of Khalistan.

Mr. Speaker, the Golden Temple massacre kicked off a wave of repression that has not abated to this day. More than 1.1 million Indian soldiers occupy Punjab and the neighboring state of Kashmir today. Over the last 12 years, they have released a reign of terror over both the Sikh and Kashmiri people—including widespread torture, summary executions, gang rapes of women, abductions, and disappearances of innocent civilians. It has been estimated by many that over 150,000 Sikhs have died in the violence since the attack at the Golden Temple.

The recent election results and the growing strength of the Hindu fundamentalist BJP party offer little hope for improvement in India's record of abuse. India now has its third government in 3 weeks. Now more than ever, it is especially important that governments around the world mark the anniversary of the attack on the Golden Temple by urging the Indian Government to exercise restraint and respect the rights of all people to democracy, self-determination, and freedom from human rights abuses.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring H.R. 1425, which would cut off development aid to India until it respects human rights, and House Concurrent Resolution 32, which calls for self-determination for the Sikh people, who have suffered for too long under a repressive regime.

THE TAYLOR AUDUBON STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS PROGRAMS

HON. BOB LIVINGSTON

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 30, 1996

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity and express my support for a program in my district, the Taylor Audubon Students and Scholars Program. This program provides positive incentives to our youth to stay in school and achieve good grades.

Under the Taylor program, all Louisiana students in grades 7 through 12, who complete the school year with good grades, will be awarded private memberships in the Aquarium of the Americas and the Audubon Zoo. Specifically, all students with an overall grade point average of 2.5 or higher will earn a free year's membership in the aquarium. Students finishing with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher will qualify for the Scholars Program, which in addition to the Aquarium membership, includes a free year's membership in the zoo. I should also note that the program allows award winning students to take their parents to the aquarium and the zoo free of charge in January and February.

All public, private, and parochial school students in Orleans Parish in grades 7 through 12 are eligible this year. Next year, the program will be made available to such students statewide.

It is imperative that we encourage our children to take their school work seriously. Unfortunately, more and more of our children are dropping out of school. And, despite the massive expenditure of Federal and State funds, we have seen little improvement in the performance of those students who remain in school. For example, SAT scores have dropped from a total average of 939 in 1972 to 902 in 1994. In science, 17-year-olds scored 11 points worse than they did in 1970. Reading scores are also down, with 66 percent of 17-year-olds not reading at a proficient level. While U.S. students scored worse than all other large countries except Spain, I believe the Taylor Audubon Students and Scholars Program will help reverse this dangerous trend.

I am impressed with how the Taylor program affords students a positive incentive to stay in school and improve their performance. I hope that other States and cities will look to the Taylor approach as a model for education improvement. Having visited the Aquarium of the Americas and the Audubon Zoo myself on numerous occasions, I am confident that all will notice the positive change in their children's attitude toward school.

Mr. Patrick Taylor, the father of this most worthy program, deserves our praise and our appreciation for a wonderful contribution to the betterment of our world.

TRIBUTE TO COL. C. FRANK FOGLEMAN

HON. MARK ADAM FOLEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 30, 1996

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and recognize the retirement of one of Palm Beach County's most prominent and respected law enforcement officers, Col. C. Frank Fogleman of the Palm Beach County sheriff's office.

Col. Fogleman began his law enforcement career in 1962 as a patrolman with the Belle Glade police department. He earned the rank of detective in 1965 and joined the Palm Beach County sheriff's office as a detective in 1967.

With hard work and a professional demeanor, Frank rose through the ranks of the sheriff's office and served as a lieutenant in charge of the Detective Bureau and Vice Intelligence Unit, as a captain responsible for the Belle Glade substation, and in 1986 became a major and director of the Criminal Investigations Division.

And, since 1989, Frank has served the citizens of Palm Beach County as colonel, overseeing nearly 1,000 employees in the uniform division. This duty has required him to directly manage the road patrol division and smooth operation of three substations, along with the airport, marine, mounted, K–9, and aviation divisions.

Frank's long service with the sheriff's office is a testament to his devotion to public service, inner drive for excellence and dedication to the basics tenets of honorable law enforcement. After 34 years of procedures, apprehensions, reviews, arrests, and budgets, Frank certainly deserves a chance to go fishing.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank Col. C. Frank Fogleman for his 34 years of service to the people of Palm Beach County, and wish Frank and Dottie many enjoyable and healthy years to come.

CONGRATULATIONS TO TEACHER MARTHA ''MARTIE'' SEMMER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 30, 1996

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Martie Semmer of Frisco, CO. Martie is the recipient of a national award for building community interest in foreign language education. I would like to outline just a few of Martie's numerous contributions to her profession.

Martie worked tirelessly on all levels to bring her noble profession the attention it deserves. Due to her hard work at the grassroots level, her Summit School District is one of the few to have K–12 foreign language offering. But