Punjab, Khalistan, under India's tyrannical rule.

After seeing this video, I am more convinced than ever that we need to support the Sikhs of Khalistan and the other oppressed people of the South Asian subcontinent in their struggle to be free. The Indian regime has killed over 150,000 Sikhs since 1984, over 200,000 Christians in Nagaland since 1947, over 43,000 Moslems in Kashmir since 1988, and thousands of Assamese, Manipuris, Tamils, Dalits—black untouchables—and other people who are in the way of the Brahmin class. Maybe that is what the New York Times had in mind when it described India in its February 25 edition as ''a rotten, corrupt, repressive, and anti-people system.'' No one should have to live in such a system. If America can help the peoples of the subcontinent escape from this brutal and bloody tyranny, it is our moral duty to do so. We must do whatever we can.

One thing we clearly can do is to cut off United States aid to India. A good first step in that direction is H.R. 1425, the Human Rights in India Act. Under this act, United States development aid to India would be cut off until human rights are observed. I urge my colleagues to vote for this bill and to join those of us who have become sponsors. America must not be supporting tyranny with aid or trade. We must be especially careful not to support tyrants with the tax dollars of the American people.

We must also pass House Concurrent Resolution 32, urging a plebiscite in Indian-occupied Khalistan under international supervision. This is a sense-of-the-Congress resolution. Frankly, India shows all the signs of a country in the process of unraveling. It is time that America got itself on the side of the emerging South Asian nations who will soon be free despite Indian's repression. Only then will the subcontinent live in prosperity and harmony.

HONORING THE LUDLOW BOYS SOCCER TEAM'S STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 1996

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to pay tribute to Coach Tony Goncalves and his Ludlow High School Lions boys soccer team for their outstanding 4 to 1 victory over Somerville High School to win the Massachusetts Boys Division I State Soccer Championship. The impressive performance by the Lions in the championship capped off a tremendous 17–2–3 campaign for Coach Goncalves and his team and earned them a spot in the top 25 of the Umbro Boys High School Soccer Poll. Over the years Ludlow High School has enjoyed a rich tradition of soccer excellence and this team will certainly be remembered as one of the best in Ludlow High School history.

I would also like to recognize Coach Goncalves' assistants, Jack Vilaca, Greg Kolodziey, and Jon Cavallo, as well as team managers Brian Gosciminski and Tony Sanches for their outstanding efforts throughout this championship season. It is the unsung efforts of people like these that often make championships possible, and Ludlow was quite fortunate to be assisted by such able individuals.

Finally, I would like to recognize the players who delivered this spectacular victory: Seniors, Bob Nascimento, Eddie Pires, Rich Huff, John Summerlin, Aaron Majka, Carlos Gomes, Adriano Dos Santos, Wesley Manuel, Chris Goncalves, Mark Eusebio, Jeff Leandro, James Ziemba; Juniors: Rob Gomes, Matthew Goncalves, Adriano Genovevo, Danny Elias, Jason Alves, Ryan Lemek; Sophomores: Alex Carvalho, Dave Garcia, Jon Haluch, and Justin Larame.

The achievements of these young men are a tremendous source of pride for not only the town of Ludlow but for the entire Second Congressional District. I am honored to represent such outstanding individuals and I join with the citizens of the Second Congressional District in offering most heartfelt congratulations. I would also like to wish the returning players the best of luck as they embark on their title defense next season.

ERISA CLARIFICATION ACT OF 1996

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 1996

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the ERISA Clarification Act of 1996.

For almost 20 years, the insurance industry has relied on a Department of Labor interpretive bulletin stating that assets contained in an insurance company general account were not plan assets under ERISA.

However, in 1993 the Supreme Court ruled in John Hancock versus Harris Trust that such pension assets were covered by ERISA. Because the court recognized that this interpretation could seriously disrupt pension management, it recommended that potential problems be addressed either administratively or legislatively.

Although the Department of Labor is currently working to develop new rules governing prospective insurance company activities, without legislative changes, insurance companies might go unprotected from retroactive liability further threatening the security of pension assets.

Because of the manner in which insurance companies have managed their pension assets over the past 20 years, this legislation will remove the threat of retroactive liability. In doing so, pension plan participants and beneficiaries will be protected without affecting any ongoing civil action.

Since the Department of Labor issued its interpretive bulletin in 1975, there is little evidence that plan participants have suffered as a result of this longstanding practice of the insurance industry. In fact, prior to the Harris Trust decision, the Department of Labor had not initiated any enforcement proceedings based on alleged mismanagement.

If we do not address this issue, we will seriously risk the safety and security of pension assets while unfairly exposing the insurance industry to retroactive liability costs based on actions which, at the time, were in accordance with the Department of Labor's rules and regulations.

Therefore, I would ask my colleagues to join me in this effort by becoming cosponsors of this necessary legislation.

HONORING THE 163-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE TREATY OF AMITY AND COMMERCE

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 1996

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 163d anniversary of the Treaty of Amity and Commerce between the United States and the kingdom of Thailand. This treaty was the first of its kind between the United States and an Asian nation.

The United States has had a close relationship with Thailand dating back before 1833 when this treaty was signed. Scores of teachers, Christian missionaries, and medical personnel were instrumental in the 19th century in building schools, churches, and leprosy clinics and hospitals throughout the kingdom, often working closely with the Chakri Dynasty of kings, including the current monarch, King Bhumibhol Adulyadej, who was born in Boston while his father attended Harvard Medical School. Americans helped bring Thailand its first X-ray machine and printing press.

While there have been successors to the 1833 Treaty of Amity and Commerce which have been accorded status as the ruling documents of diplomacy between our two nations, I would like to emphasize that this particular treaty was the foundation for 163 years of close personal and political friendships. The United States and Thailand have reaffirmed their commitment to conduct bilateral relations in a manner consistent with the spirit of this treaty.

Thailand's culture and Government go back thousands of years, and it is the only nation in Southeast Asia that was never colonized. For this reason, our long friendship holds a special significance in the region. I believe that as we approach the 21st century it is important to recognize our old, close friend throughout the world.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure that my colleagues are aware of the differences of opinion we have with Thailand over a number of trade-related issues. However, I hope that we remember that Thailand is a long-time friend to the United States and prompt us to work together to solve these problems in a manner befitting our long cordial friendship.

DR. ELIZABETH BOGGS: IN MEMORIAM

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 1996

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to revise and extend my remarks to mark the memory of Elizabeth Boggs who died on January 27, 1996. I am privileged to join many other Americans in paying tribute to Dr. Elizabeth Boggs.

We met when I first entered the New Jersey State Legislature in the early 1980's. She was

physically striking—but it was her towering mind that was totally overwhelming. Elizabeth had an encyclopedic memory and when she said she knew the law, she meant it. Elizabeth would quote chapter and verse of most every statute since she in most cases wrote them. She was not boastful, but rather quite matter of fact: facts, figures, dates, times, locations, and people. When she looked down at you through her glasses you'd better be prepared to be questioned, grilled, interrogated, and vastly overpowered and outmanned on all counts.

When I chaired the appropriations process in the New Jersey Legislature, she would confront me in person and write long and detailed letters citing the most irrefutable evidence for her arguments. Elizabeth Boggs took my breath away literally with her intellect. Her integrity was unquestioned, so the force of her arguments made many of us rewrite our policy and appropriations bills accordingly. As well, she put a human face on her advocacy for individuals with mental retardation and developmental disabilities.

I consider myself lucky to have been in her company during my time in Trenton and more recently in Washington. Most of us in politics and government are lay people, thank goodness, so we benefit from those who educate us. While there are many teachers in my past, Elizabeth Boggs was one of the best and most memorable. Her education formula: perseverance, patience, repetition, love, and lots of heart.

IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE COMPREHENSIVE SOUTHWEST BORDER ENFORCEMENT STRATEGY

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 1996

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, as the House begins debate on an immigration reform bill, I would like to take this opportunity to highlight the Immigration and Naturalization Service's [INS] efforts to control illegal immigration along the United States' southern border. The administration has made the enforcement of our borders a high priority, and for the first time in recent memory the INS has the resources to seriously undertake this responsibility. Both Attorney General Janet Reno and INS Commissioner Doris Meissner have made personal visits to the border, with the Commissioner visiting Nogales, AZ, as recently as last month. Commissioner Meissner and Attorney General Reno are to be commended for their efforts at border enforcement, and I submit for the RECORD an outline of the INS's successful comprehensive Southwest border enforcement strategy.

THE IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE: BUILDING A COMPREHENSIVE SOUTHWEST BORDER ENFORCEMENT STRATEGY

I. OVERVIEW

The Clinton Administration has made control of illegal immigration a top priority and has worked to provide the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) with the resources necessary for an enforcement strategy that will make a difference quickly and sustain itself over time. The Administration focused immigration control efforts first on the 2,000-mile U.S.-Mexican border. Years of neglect had left the Southwest border an open invitation to illegal immigration. The INS did not have the personnel or the equipment to properly control this important frontier.

For the first time, the Clinton Administration developed a coherent strategy to restore the rule of law to the Southwest border. This strategy is backed by adequate resources and broad community support. The Administration's goal is unambiguous: a border that deters illegal immigration, drug trafficking, and alien smuggling and facilitates legal immigration and commerce.

II. A COMPREHENSIVE BORDER CONTROL STRATEGY

The international boundary between the United States and Mexico divides two countries with dramatically different economies, but many shared values, commercial interests and a shared history. It is a border that runs through communities. It is also a border that is used by migrants from Mexico and around the world to enter the United States illegally. It is a border that is today experiencing tremendous immigration pressures.

INS developed a multi-year border enforcement strategy both to facilitate legal travel and commerce between the United States and Mexico, and to aggressively enforce the nation's immigration laws. The plan is comprehensive, recognizing that the various regions of the border are interconnected, and any action on one part of the border affects conditions along other parts of the border.

The Administration's border control plan has several key objectives:

To provide the Border Patrol and other INS enforcement divisions with the personnel, equipment and technology to deter, detect and apprehend illegal aliens;

To regain control of major entry coordiors along the border that for too long have been controlled by illegal immigrants and smugglers;

To close off the routes most frequently used by smugglers and illegal aliens and to shift traffic to areas that are more remote and difficult to cross illegally, where INS has the tactical advantage;

To tighten security and control illegal crossings through ports of entry; and

To make our ports of entry work for regular commuters, trade, tourists and other legitimate traffic across our borders.

These objectives are essential to effectively deter illegal immigration into the United States. The over-arching goal of the strategy is to make it so difficult and so costly to enter this county illegally that fewer individuals even try.

The Administration developed an ambitious plan to achieve these objectives. It involved the strategic deployment of resources, equipment and technologies in concentrated areas of illegal activity. In the past, INS resources were spread out along the length of the border. This deployment plan diminished the effectiveness of Border Patrol agents, vehicles and sensors. By contrast, INS first targeted deployment of new resources to the San Diego and El Paso sectors. These two sectors alone historically accounted for approximately 65 percent of all Border Patrol apprehensions. INS has also deployed significant new resources in Arizona. This concentrated approach has enabled INS to gain a greater degree of control in these two regions. As we regain control in these areas, we are working to expand control to other corridors of illegal entry.

III. PUTTING EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES INTO PLACE

The 2,000-mile border contains many distinct areas with wide-ranging topography, histories and crossing patterns. INS designed strategies for each area consistent with the comprehensive approach and the over-arching goal of deterring illegal immigration.

INS began by concentrating resources in areas that have long been major corridors for illegal immigration. The agency launched Operation Hold the Line in El Paso, Operation Gatekeeper in San Diego, and Operation Safeguard in Arizona. INS has continued to strengthen these operations with new agents, tightened enforcement at ports of entry, and a crackdown on alien smugglers.

Operation Hold the Line

INS launched Operation Hold the Line in El Paso, Texas to close the holes in what had become one of the most porous areas of the U.S.-Mexican border. Before Operation Hold the Line, 18 percent of all illegal crossers caught entering the United States were apprehended in this area. INS redirected 54 Border Patrol agents to the Sector in FY 1994, and added 50 new agents in FY 1995 to support Operation Hold the Line.

With Operation Hold the Line, the Border Patrol developed a high visibility strategy to deter illegal alien traffic into El Paso. The strategy was based on the specific crossing patterns, the characteristics of the illegal crossers in El Paso, and the flat terrain of the region. The majority of aliens apprehended by the Border Patrol in El Paso have historically been commuters—traveling from Juarez, Mexico to El Paso on a regular basis to work, shop or visit with friends and relatives. Most tried to enter the United States directly through downtown El Paso. Accordingly, the Border Patrol focused on a strategy of deterring these crossers, placing Border Patrol agents directly on the line at regular intervals.

The Operation has proven to be tremendously effective. Apprehensions in the sector dropped significantly. In addition, the crime rate in downtown El Paso is down, and it appears that many short-term illegal crossers have been deterred from entering the United States. Traffic at the El Paso ports of entry has risen, and INS has applied law enforcement and facilitation strategies there.

At the same time, while many illegal crossers are deterred, a number of more determined crossers are shifting their routes of entry to the outskirts of El Paso. INS is responding to these shifts in traffic by adding additional agents to support outlying stations, building fences, and providing agents with sophisticated equipment and technologies to track and apprehend aliens who cross in remote regions.

Operation Gatekeeper

For years, before the Administration launched Operation Gatekeeper, the Border Patrol in San Diego fought a losing battle. The border was overridden with illegal alien traffic. Nearly 25 percent of all apprehensions along the U.S.-Mexican border took place along the 5-mile stretch between San Diego and Tijuana known as Imperial Beach. A 14-mile stretch in San Diego—which includes Imperial Beach—has historically accounted for as much as 40 percent of Southwest border apprehensions. Before Operation Gatekeeper, illegal aliens openly congregated on the U.S. side of the border while waiting for an opportunity to head north. Many areas of Imperial Beach belonged to smugglers, illegal aliens and criminals who preyed on aliens and U.S. residents alike.

San Diego has historically been a main point of entry for illegal crossers coming to the United States from the interior of Mexico. Unlike El Paso, there are fewer ''commuters.'' The vast majority of illegal crossers are highly motivated and try repeatedly to enter. Many hire smugglers to help them evade the Border Patrol. The terrain—a combination of rugged canyons, mountains, forest areas, and mud flats, along with heavily