

On behalf of the people of the 7th Congressional District of Washington, I extend sincere sympathy to the family and friends of PO 2d Class David Bosley of San Mateo, CA, PO 3d Class Matthew Schlimme of Whitewater, MO, and Seaman Clinton Miniken of Snohomish, WA. We extend our best wishes for a rapid and complete recovery to Seaman Apprentice Benjamin Wingo of Bremerton, WA.

To Adm. David Spade, Commander, and all members of the 13th Coast Guard District, we extend deep appreciation for the professional accomplishment of your mission of search and rescue, vessel traffic safety, and marine environmental protection. We too frequently take for granted that the Coast Guard is always prepared for an emergency and we fail to recognize the vital contribution of your entire command in support of economic prosperity and the enjoyment we derive from our environment.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD this tribute from the editors of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer printed on February 19, 1997, the date of the memorial services:

HONORING HEROES OF THE SEA

The 23rd verse of the 107th Psalm speaks of "they that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters."

The members of the U.S. Coast Guard daily do business in great waters. Often it is the business of saving lives. Sometimes the cost of doing business is the loss of their own lives.

So the mourning bells will ring today in Seattle and LaPush for three District 13 Coast Guardsmen who died exactly one week ago during the rescue of a couple on a damaged sailboat off the mouth of the Quillayute River. The couple survived, rescued by a Coast Guard helicopter out of Port Angeles. One member of the guard's 44-foot motor lifeboat, Benjamin Wingo, 19, of Bremerton, also survived.

The rest of the crew did not. Killed were Petty Officer 2nd Class David Bosley, 36; Petty Officer 3rd Class Matthew Schlimme, 24, and Seaman Clinton Miniken, 22. They died when the lifeboat, a Coast Guard workhorse for 35 years, was repeatedly overturned by 25-foot seas and winds as high as 45 knots crossing the Quillayute bar.

That bar already had a reputation as a killer, claiming the lives of seven crewmembers of the fishing boat Gambler in 1990.

The last time a Coast Guardsman was killed in the line of duty anywhere in the Northwest was in 1991 during the rescue of a capsized fishing boat off the Columbia River.

During 1996, the 13th Coast Guard District, which includes Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana, was credited with coming to the aid of more than 8,000 individuals, saving 381 lives and rescuing nearly \$267 million in property.

The Psalm's story has a happy ending. After its sailors ride stormy seas on which they "mount up to the heavens, they go down again to the depths . . . and are at their wit's end," God calms the seas and "bringeth them unto their desired haven."

A week ago the seas were not calmed and the three Coast Guardsmen failed to reach safe haven.

"He was my hero," said Sandi Bosley of her husband David Bosley, the coxswain of the ill-fated vessel.

Today we join family and friends in mourning the deaths, and celebrating the lives, of all these heroes.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

HON. THOMAS W. EWING

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. EWING. Mr. Speaker, I have introduced a bill that would grant permanent most-favored-nation status to the People's Republic of China upon its entry into the World Trade Organization. Under the rules of the WTO, each member country must grant permanent MFN to all other member countries. As the administration moves forward in its WTO talks with the Chinese, it is imperative that commercially viable terms of entry are negotiated. The WTO is America's best weapon against the forces of protectionism and predatory mercantilism. China's entry into the WTO is in America's national interest. First, entry into the WTO will require China to further liberalize its trade regime by lowering tariffs and eliminating many nontariff barriers that American goods face. Second, the WTO provides a more useful forum for resolution of trade disputes than the bilateral approach now in place with China. It is important to note that WTO membership is not a gift to China. The administration is negotiating tough commercial terms upon which China will enter and these terms will define United States-China trade in the future.

Perhaps the most important reason that we should be pushing for China's accession to the WTO is the level playing field that this membership would provide for United States exporters. Currently, exporting to China can be a very costly and timeconsuming endeavor for American producers. There are many nontariff barriers that, intentionally or not, impede market access. There is a certain amount of discriminatory treatment of products that will be difficult for the Chinese to continue when under the jurisdiction of the WTO. Transparency is also a big problem in China. It is difficult to find out which laws and regulations apply to which products and when do they apply. As a WTO member China's import policies will have to become more transparent and more defined. This will allow American exporters to conduct business in China by following internationally recognized trade practices. China's trade regime will have to conform to these international principles.

The United States exports less, as a percentage of GDP, than any other industrialized nation. Enhancing and increasing U.S. export performance will be essential as we search for ways to improve and increase economic growth in the U.S. economy. China's vast market potential, combined with the discipline of market forces and liberalized trade policies, are a positive step toward increasing market access for American exports.

AID TO ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss an issue which disturbs me to no end. Just last week, I introduced a bill, H.R. 849, to close a loophole that allowed an illegal immigrant to obtain \$12,000 in Federal housing assistance.

One week ago, I sent letters to INS Director Doris Meissner and HUD Secretary Andrew Cuomo to find out just how this could have happened. Why did HUD not immediately contact the INS to report an illegal alien residing in this country? And why has INS still done nothing to address the situation? Mr. Speaker, this begs the question, what good are laws if our Federal agencies do nothing to enforce them?

People write and call my office every day for an explanation. And it's not just my constituents. Word of this unbelievable act has spread from my hometown in southern California clear across the country. Hardworking Americans who know the value of citizenship want to know why their tax dollars continue to be given away to illegal immigrants.

I urge my colleagues to support my legislation, H.R. 849, and to join in the call for an explanation of why this is still occurring. Mr. Speaker, the people want an answer.

INDIA DETAINS HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST KUMAR

HON. GARY A. CONDIT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 1997

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, last year Members received from the Council of Khalistan an excellent video entitled "Disappearances in Punjab," an expose of the massive human rights abuse in Punjab, Khalistan under Indian rule. Now I have been informed that last month the Indian regime briefly detained the maker of that film, Ram Narayan Kumar. Mr. Kumar is a Hindu and a human rights activist.

According to a letter Mr. Kumar wrote to the Indian Home Minister, he was illegally detained and interrogated at the Delhi airport on the night of January 19-20 as he was leaving the country to return to his home in Austria. Mr. Kumar has written a book on the situation in Punjab, Khalistan which the regime apparently does not like.

Mr. Kumar was detained for 19 months in the 1970's because he criticized the dictatorial measures of Indira Gandhi. He was incarcerated again in 1982 for leading a strike. As a member of the Committee for Information and Initiative on Punjab, Mr. Kumar has been actively involved in documenting and exposing human rights violations in Punjab, Khalistan.

Like Jaswant Singh Khalra, who remains in the bowels of the Indian system after 17 months, Mr. Kumar ran afoul of the Indian state for exposing the truth about Indian "democracy." Clearly, the regime's fear of exposure is growing. Why would a Democratic country be afraid of the truth?

Maybe it's because they are afraid that the inevitable collapse of India is on the horizon. With a 13-party coalition running the central government, it is inherently unstable. According to a letter that appeared in the Washington Post on January 26, there are 17 insurgencies going on in India. That is no surprise. The regime has murdered tens of thousands of Sikhs, Christians in Nagaland, Muslims in Kashmir, Assamese, Manipuris, Dalits—black untouchables, and others. In this light, is it any wonder that so many countries are trying to free themselves from Indian rule?

The illegal detention of Mr. Kumar merely advertises to the world the fact that India is