

Samaha has helped supply food, clothing, and a range of support to needy individuals throughout our community.

On October 10, 1997, Sister Samaha will be honored by her friends and colleagues at the Ohlone College Foundation's annual luncheon. I join in recognition of her lifetime of giving to the community.

HONORING BERTHA GORDON MILLER AND THE SEVEN ACRES JEWISH GERIATRIC CENTER

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Bertha Gordon Miller of Houston, who on October 21, 1997, will be honored by the Seven Acres Jewish Geriatric Center with its 1997 Spirit of Life Award.

Mrs. Miller has spent a lifetime giving and working for charitable causes and is described by Punkin Hecht and Barbara Schneider, co-chairs of the Seven Acres award luncheon, as a role model among role models.

A native Houstonian, Mrs. Miller attended Rice University. She was married to the late Isadore Miller for more than 50 years, and they have two children, Dede Weil and Arnie Miller, and five grandchildren.

A member of Seven Acres' Board of Directors since 1953, Mrs. Miller continues to contribute her time and talents to the Jewish home, which has benefited from endless hours of dedication on her part. Although she is said to have worked for every fundraising drive in Houston, she has narrowed her activities in recent years to three organizations: Seven Acres, the Houston Symphony, and the Retina Research Foundation.

Through her good work, Bertha Gordon Miller has touched the lives of Houstonians in countless ways. But most of all, she has helped ensure a high quality of life for the residents of Seven Acres, the largest and only Jewish geriatric facility serving the Texas gulf coast.

Seven Acres provides the highest standards in adult day health care through the Wolfe Center and specialized geriatric care and services through its 290-bed residential facility. Funds raised by the awards luncheon will help provide financial aid and other benefits for the residents.

The annual Spirit of Life Award celebrates and recognizes long-term community service performed with the highest standards of integrity. The exemplary individuals so honored have demonstrated extraordinary commitment and serve as role models of dedicated service on behalf of others. The award recipients are persons whose energy and community spirit have earned them the respect and admiration of all those touched by their accomplishments.

In addition to Mrs. Miller, Edward Asner, the award-winning actor, noted activist, and humanitarian, has been named by Seven Acres as recipient of its 1997 National Spirit of Life Award and will be guest speaker at the luncheon.

Bertha Gordon Miller and Edward Asner certainly meet the high standards of the Spirit of Life Award and serve as examples for all of us of outstanding community service.

INDIAN GOVERNMENT APPEARS TO BE BEHIND BOMBINGS OF MARKET AND TRAIN IN DELHI AREA

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, the recent bombing of a market in New Delhi and a train outside New Delhi are terrorist acts that must be condemned by all decent people. The loss of life and the injuries to people are tragic, but I especially want to note that the explosions injured five Australians and two Japanese visitors to India. I note that the Council of Khalistan, the organization leading the Sikhs in their struggle for freedom from Indian oppression, issued an excellent press release condemning these bombings as "a cowardly and reprehensible act against God and man."

The Indian regime blames the bombings on a "Sikh terrorist" organization called Shaheed Khalsa. If they are responsible, they deserve the condemnation of the civilized world. But even the Indian press is reporting that no one has ever heard of this organization before. It just appeared on the scene very suddenly, at the moment when it is most convenient for the Indian Government. Even the Decca Herald newspaper reports that this organization is a fraud. It is likely that Shaheed Khalsa is a front for the Indian Government.

The bombings were apparently carried out using RDX explosives, a weapon known to be in common use by the Government. This is the same explosive the regime planted on American citizen Balbir Singh Dhillon, a Sikh businessman, father of two, and activist who went to Punjab to visit family and some Sikh religious sites.

India has a record of state terrorism. In November 1994, the newspaper Hitavada reported that the Indian Government paid the late governor of Punjab, Surendra Nath, \$1.5 billion to create terrorism both in Punjab, Khalistan, where Sikhs are in the majority, and in the neighboring state of Kashmir, which has Muslim majority.

The terrorism creates an excuse to crack down and kill even more Sikhs. More than 250,000 Sikhs have already died at the hands of the Indian Government since 1984, according to numbers issued by the Punjab State Magistracy and by a coalition of human rights groups. It has also killed more than 200,000 Christians since 1947, over 53,000 Muslims in Kashmir since 1988, and tens of thousands of Assamese, Manipuris, and others. It has also killed thousands of Dalits, black untouchables, the aboriginal people of South Asia. Over 60,000 cash bounties have been paid to police officers for killing Sikhs like little Arvinder Singh, a 3-year-old child who was killed along with his father and uncle. The police claimed that the three were terrorists and received a \$30,000 cash bounty for their murders.

On September 4, over 1,000 Indian security forces launched a raid on a Sikh church, called a Gurdwara, in Chandigarh. They illegally arrested nine Granthis, the local clergy. Three of the Granthis were severely beaten and tortured. No charges were filed against any of the Granthis. This happened on the very same day that we were voting on whether to cut aid to India and just a week before the state funeral of Mother Teresa.

Mr. Speaker, we must ask the question, who benefits from these bombings? Clearly, no one could believe that the Sikhs benefit. They will only suffer more bloodshed and repression as a result of these horrible acts. The Government of India, however, sees its country falling apart from the weight of its domination of a diverse land with many nations and 18 official languages. They are desperate to keep their empire together. These bombings provide a perfect excuse to suspend the elected government in Punjab, impose direct rule from New Delhi, and increase the repression and bloodshed.

Responsible Members of Congress and decent people everywhere must speak out against this genocidal policy. We should support all the freedom movements of South Asia by word and deed. We must go on record in support for freedom for Khalistan and all the nations of South Asia, and we must stop U.S. aid to this terrorist regime and place it under embargo until the freedom of all peoples and nations in the region is respected. Only then will India truly be able to call itself a responsible, secular democracy.

I am placing the Council of Khalistan's press release on the bombings into the RECORD.

DR. AULAKH CONDEMNS INDIAN GOVERNMENT BOMBINGS OF MARKET AND TRAIN IN DELHI AREA

WASHINGTON, D.C., October 2.—Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, today strongly condemned the bombing of a market in New Delhi and a train outside New Delhi. "This is a cowardly and reprehensible act against God and humanity," he said.

Although the Indian government blames the bombings on a "Sikh terrorist" group called Shaheed Khalsa, Dr. Aulakh pointed out that no one has ever heard of this organization. "It appeared out of thin air," he said. "I suspect that it is yet another terrorist organization convened, armed and controlled by Indian security and intelligence services, if it even exists at all."

"These bombings are desperate acts of a desperate political party," he said. "If you want to find out who is really responsible, investigate Congress politicians who have lost electoral support. Ask the question: Who benefits from these bombings?" Dr. Aulakh said. The Congress Party supports the ruling 13-party coalition.

"Every time the ruling party, in particular Congress, loses control of State government in Punjab," Dr. Aulakh said. "These bombings begin to occur throughout Punjab and Delhi. It then allows Delhi to suspend the government and impose direct rule in the name of maintaining law and order. At that point, police and security personnel shut down the press, the courts, rights groups and Sikh temples and the slaughter of our Sikh brothers and sisters begin anew. These bombings allow the police to continue their extortion, kidnapping and murder-for-cash bounty rackets." He noted that Delhi has suspended Punjab state government nine times, every time a Sikh party wins power they are never allowed to finish their term of office.

On September 4, a week before the state funeral for Mother Teresa, 1000 Indian security troops raided a Sikh church (Gurdwara) in Chandigarh and illegally arrested nine clergy (Granthis). Three were severely beaten in jail. None of the Granthis was charged with a crime. The government has murdered more than 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, according to Punjab State Court and human rights groups findings. Over 60,000 cash bounties have been paid to police for killing Sikhs.

"The bombings show that India stops at nothing to end the freedom struggle," Dr. Aulakh said. On Oct. 7, 1987, the Sikh Nation declared its independence from India, forming the separate country of Khalistan. The Council of Khalistan was formed at that time to serve as the government pro tempore of Khalistan. It leads the peaceful, democratic, nonviolent independence struggle.

"India's artificial empire is collapsing around them, so the regime resorts to acts of terrorism to keep it together," said Dr. Aulakh. "The democratic nations of the world must rise up and condemn this cowardly act and the reign of terror it advances."

86TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROC

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, October 10 marks the 86th anniversary of the founding of the Republic of China [ROC]. In Taiwan, October 10 is known as National Day and is a day of celebration and remembrance. I think it is important that my colleagues and I take a moment to send our congratulations to the 21 million people on Taiwan for developing a strong participatory democracy.

The ROC government began 11 years ago to take the final steps toward true political maturity. They broadened the scope of local and national elections, increased licensing of private TV and radio stations, and privatized government-owned monopolies. These reforms culminated with the popular, direct election of Lee Teng-hui as Taiwan's President.

Mr. Speaker, the Republic of China's current representative to the United States, Dr. Jason C. Hu has been an integral part of the positive political developments of the past 11 years. In 1991, as a cabinet official under President Lee, Dr. Hu helped to open the political system to greater participation. As the President's spokesman during the last election, Dr. Hu helped to get out President Lee's message of political inclusion which helped garner Lee more than 54 percent of the vote in a four-way race. As representative to the United States, Dr. Hu has worked to strengthen ties between the United States and the ROC.

Later this month, Dr. Hu will be returning to the ROC to become the Minister of Foreign Affairs. In this very senior position within the President's cabinet, Dr. Hu will build on the work he has begun here in the United States. I am sure he will help guide the ROC to even better relations with the United States. I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating the ROC on its National Day, and in wishing Dr. Hu well and thanking him for all his assistance.

TRIBUTE TO PRESIDENT LEE AND DR. HU

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, there is one worthy country in the world that deserves much wider recognition. It is the Republic of China

in Taiwan. Even though it is the 14th largest training entity in the world and a full democracy. Taiwan is recognized by only 30 countries in the world. Recently President Lee Teng-hui of Taiwan visited several Central American countries to shore up diplomatic support for Taiwan.

To help him win more international friends and support, President Lee has announced that Taiwan's representative in Washington, Dr. Jason Hu, will be Taiwan's new foreign minister.

We were delighted to hear the good news. We know Dr. Hu will make an excellent foreign minister. During his past 15 months in Washington, Dr. Hu is known as a hard-working diplomat who conducts his country's business with charm and intelligence.

It is my hope that Taiwan's diplomatic fortunes will dramatically improve in the months and years ahead now that President Lee has chosen Jason Hu as his country's top diplomat.

IN HONOR OF PULASKI DAY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Casimir Pulaski, a Polish patriot and a military hero. The Polonia Foundation, the Polish Legion of American Veterans, U.S.A., and many other organizations in the Cleveland area are holding a memorial ceremony in honor of Casimir Pulaski, Saturday, October 11, 1997.

Pulaski originally made his name fighting the Russian domination of Poland. When he met Benjamin Franklin in Paris in 1777, he was already one of the most renowned cavalymen in Europe. Sympathetic to the American cause, he sailed to America and was made head of the newly formed American cavalry during the Revolutionary War.

Pulaski was involved in many significant battles during the Revolution. His last took place at Savannah, GA in October 1779 where he led a valiant charge against British artillery. He was shot and died a few days later. Pulaski was one of the more dashing European volunteers to join the Americans in the Revolution. He reportedly wore a plumed hat, flashing saber, and an elaborate uniform and spent his own money to feed and equip his troops.

He fought valiantly for the ideals of the American Revolution and made important contributions to American history. Because of his courage and bravery, Casimir Pulaski is an American hero and an significant figure in the role Polish immigrants have played in American history.

SHIRLEY SISK HONORED FOR DEDICATED SERVICES TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE 13TH DISTRICT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor Shirley Sisk, the

executive director of the League of Volunteers. Shirley Sisk founded the League of Volunteers in 1979. She served as president until accepting the position of executive director in 1989. For three decades, Shirley has worked in numerous ways to make our community a better place.

From 1972 to 1993 Shirley served on the Newark City Council. During that time she was committed to responsible management of the city's policies, programs, and budgets. Her leadership resulted in a range of programs including the Human Relations Element of the General Plan, Music at the Grove, School/City Youth Committee, Volunteer of the Year Recognition, and Newarks of the World.

Shirley is the founder and president of the annual Newark Days Celebration. The celebration is a shining example of volunteer support which is enthusiastically anticipated by the community each year.

Shirley is also the founder and president of the Bay Area Cable Excellence Awards Program and the Society for the Preservation of Carter Railroad Resources. She is actively affiliated with the Ohlone College Foundation, the Business Leadership Council, and the Fremont Kiwanis.

In 1994 the State of California recognized her outstanding service and numerous achievements by naming her Woman of the Year.

On October 10, 1997, Shirley will be honored by her friends and colleagues at the Ohlone College Foundation's annual luncheon. I would like to join their commendation of her hard work on behalf of our community.

TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY AND DR. JASON HU

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on the eve of Taiwan's National Day, I wish to pay tribute to President Lee Teng-hui of the Republic of China. This first democratically elected head of state in Chinese history has recently led his country through major constitutional reforms and visited several Central American countries in his effort to shore up diplomatic support for Taiwan.

In addition, President Lee has announced that Dr. Jason Hu, Taiwan's top diplomat in Washington, will become Taiwan's new Foreign Minister.

I believe Dr. Hu is the right person to help President Lee win more international friends in the months and years ahead. Even though Taiwan is a major political and economic power in the world, it hasn't received proper international recognition.

In his new position as foreign minister, Dr. Hu will have the right platform to tell the world why Taiwan deserves a much louder voice in the international arena.

Best wishes and good luck to both President Lee and Representative Hu.