

their village on 5 January 1992. A copy of the Punjabi Tribune dated 10 January 1993, which reported the Badal Akali Dal's position on Jathedar Kaunke's case, and report of his arrest in Ajit's 6 January 1992 edition, are enclosed.

A team specially appointed by the Committee has been conducting investigations to determine the true facts of the case. The team comprises the following: Ram Narayan Kumar, Amrik Singh Muktsar, Jasapl Singh Dhillon, D.S. Gill and Rajwinder Singh Bains. Investigation conducted by this team conclusively proves inhuman torture of Bhai Gurdev Singh Kaunke, first at the Sadar Police Station of Jagraon and then at the CIA interrogation Center, from 25 December 92 to 1 January 1993. The team has also acquired irrefutable evidence to establish that the former Jathedar of the Akal Takht was killed under torture.

The Coordination Committee is seeking an appointment with the Chief Minister of Punjab to acquaint him with its findings and to demand registration of a case against the culprits under relevant sections of the IPC. We also insist that the government of Punjab must hand over the investigation of the case to the CBI. Our demand, which rests on legally binding evidence, is no more than a reiteration of the position that Prakash Singh Badal had himself taken at the time of the incident. The Akal Takht is the highest institution of the Sikhs that embodies their sacred and secular aspirations. Its former Jathedar was inhumanly tortured to death. We are confident that the Sikh Chief Minister of Punjab would not treat this matter in the same lackadaisical spirit that generally marks his attitude on our human rights concerns.

We also demand that the key witnesses in the case and their family members be provided with adequate security from a central police force. Our experience in the Khalra case shows that policemen accused of grave human rights offenses resort to every method—from cajoling, browbeating and bribing to open threats to life—to suborn the witnesses and to destroy the evidence. Therefore, it is crucial that the key witnesses to the custodial torture and murder of Akal Takht's former Jathedar are protected from harassment from the very beginning.

Darshan Singh, former policeman at Jagraon when the incident occurred, is a key witness in the case. We demand that Drashan Singh and his family members be protected by the CRPF.

We would submit a list of other important witnesses in the case, who must likewise be protected, to the Chief Minister when we meet him.

Justice (rtd) Kuldip Singh, President, World Sikh Council; Justice (rtd) Ajit Singh Bains, Maj. Gen (rtd) Narinder Singh, D.S. Gill, Amar Singh Chahal, Inderjit Singh Jaijee, Navkiran Singh, Ram Narayan Kumar, Converter; Dr. (Mrs.) Sukhjot Kaur, Amrik Singh Muktsar, R.S. Bains, Jaspal Singh Dhillon, Mrs. Baljit Kaur.

FIFTIETH ANNUAL MONTGOMERY COUNTY AGRICULTURAL FAIR

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 1998

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, this summer, my constituents will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair! I am proud to again be a part of this

yearly community tradition. Over the past fifty summers, our local fair has proven itself as one of the very finest in the nation. It is the largest county fair in Maryland, with more than 250,000 visitors and 17,000 exhibits last summer. During this extra-special anniversary year, we recall the grand past of our county fair and look ahead to an exciting future.

Congratulations and best wishes to all of the fair's participants. The farmers, artists, craftspeople, entertainers, and volunteers work diligently all year to make this annual event a tremendous success. The highlight of every summer, the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair attracts people of all ages in a magnificent example of community spirit to display for the public the true importance of agriculture. It offers a chance to have fun, learn about local agriculture, and build memories. The summer event provides the opportunity to proudly showcase the agricultural foundations of Montgomery County.

During this milestone anniversary celebration, we look forward to even more exciting fairs in the future. The agricultural leaders of our community are firmly committed to a strong future of farming in Montgomery County. In just two summers, we will be at the dawn of a new millennium. I am sure that the glorious tradition and heritage of the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair will continue to flourish in the next century and beyond.

I'll see you at the fair!

HONORING ADELE ZELLER

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 1998

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak of an extraordinary person who is being named Woman of the Year by the Business and Professional Women's Club of Mount Vernon—Adele Zeller. I have known Adele for several years and can attest that she is a dynamic person who gives unselfishly for the betterment of the whole community.

She and her husband Noel have owned businesses in Mount Vernon since 1964 and have lived in Westchester County for the past thirty years. They have founded and operated several companies, the latest, Zelco Industries, has expanded operations worldwide with facilities in the United States, Italy, Hong Kong and China. Its broad range of products are distributed in 30 countries around the world.

They have also opened a second company in Italy. This expansion can be credited to Adele's remarkable sales and marketing proficiency and her ability to converse in Italian, Spanish and French.

Adele is Chair of the Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce and is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Rose YM-YWHA. In both positions she is serving with distinction.

Her hard work and caring and her dedication to the community has made Mount Vernon a better community for all who live and work there. I know we all cherish and thank Adele Zeller for her dedication and commitment.

HONORING JAMES K. HAAS

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 1998

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate James "Jim" K. Haas of Lamar, Colorado for attaining the rank of Eagle Scout. Jim is a member of Varsity Team #222 chartered by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. A mere two percent of all Boy Scouts ever attain this elevated rank.

Jim began his Scouting career at six years of age, as a Tiger Cub at Pack #221 chartered by Washington Elementary School. He completed the Cub ranks at Washington through first year Webelos. Jim then transferred to Pack #222 and completed the second year Webelos and Arrow of Light Requirements. In May of 1993, Jim became a Boy Scout in Troop #222, and a Varsity Scout in February of 1996. Jim has served as quartermaster, grub master, scribe, chaplain, assistant patrol leader, and senior patrol leader. He has attended two years of summer camp at San Isabel Scout Ranch, Packard High Adventure Camp, and the 1997 National Jamboree at FT. A.P. Hill, VA. He also earned the "On My Honor" religious award in 1997. To date, Jim has earned 42 merit badges, the varsity letter, three varsity pins, and is looking forward to a Philmont trek this summer.

Jim chose his Eagle project after a wildfire swept through the Lake Hasty Campground last March, destroying much of the natural cover for the birds in the area. With the help of fellow members of Troop and Team #222, 13 quail shelters were erected, two bat boxes, two owl platforms, and 12 bird houses were placed in the Hasty Lake area. A total of 164 hours was involved in this project.

Mr. Speaker, I hereby submit for the RECORD a copy of an article which appears in the Lamar Daily News about Jim Haas.

JIM HAAS ACHIEVES THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

An Eagle Court of Honor was held May 2, 1998 for James K. Haas. Jim is a member of Varsity Team #222 chartered by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

The Eagle Court was conducted by David Northup. Opening flag ceremony was presented by Dragon Patrol of Troop #222 with piano accompaniment of Stars Spangled Banner by Katie Rose. The invocation was given by Andy Rose. "Voice of the Eagle" was presented by Robet Haas. Eagle presentation was done by James Rupp. Lance Porter then issued the Eagle Charge. Congratulatory letters were read by Connie Haas. A memory quilt highlighting Jim's Scouting accomplishments was presented by his sister, Jennifer Haas and family friend, Paige Porter. A special music number "Because I Have Given Much" was sung by the David Northup family. Closing flag ceremony was done by the Hawk Patrol of Troop #222. Benediction was given by Jim Haas.

Jim chose red, white and blue as his colors for this Court of Honor, and Service as his theme. Table decorations consisted of red and blue streamers on white table clothes, with silk flower vases of red roses and blue and white carnations. Jim presented these as a token of his appreciation to all who helped with his Court of Honor.

Out of town guests included, Mr. and Mrs. James Rupp and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Haas,