

democracy, nothing to do with a secularism. They just kill Sikhs to please the majority.”—Narinder Singh, spokesman for the Golden Temple, on NPR August 1997.

U.S. Representative Dana Rohrabacher (R-Cal.) has said that for the minorities such as Sikhs and Kashmiris “India might as well be Nazi Germany.”

A PATTERN OF REPRESSION AGAINST THE SIKH NATION

Over 250,000 Sikhs murdered since 1984. 52,268 Sikh political prisoners, according to the Movement Against State Repression

More than 50,000 Sikhs disappeared in Indian government’s secret cremations. Their remains have never been given to their families.

Indian government paid over 41,000 cash bounties to police to kill Sikhs

Gurnihal Singh Pirzada, a senior officer in the IAS, arrested after allegedly being seen at a meeting of gathering of Punjab “dissidents.” Pirzada denies attending such a meeting, but points out that it would not be illegal if he did.

Jaswant Singh Khalra kidnapped by police and murdered in police custody after exposing Indian policy of arresting Sikhs, torturing them, murdering them, cremating the bodies, as “unidentified.”

Surdev Singh Kaunke, former Jathedar of the Akal Takht, highest Sikh religious leader, murdered by police official Swaran Singh Ghotna, who has never been punished.

The Indian newspaper Hitavada reported that the Indian government paid the late Governor of Punjab, Surendra Nath, the equivalent of \$1.5 billion to foment and support covert state terrorist activity in Punjab and Kashmir.

This is the state of freedom in Punjab, Khalistan under Indian rule.

“The mere fact that they have the right to choose their oppressors does not mean they live in a democracy.”—Rep. Edolphus Towns (D-NY).

THE REPRESSION CONTINUES WHILE INDIA PROCLAIMS ITS SECULARISM AND DEMOCRACY

Half a million Indian forces have been sent to Punjab, Khalistan to subdue the freedom movement there. Another 700,000 are deployed in Kashmir. They join with the police in carrying out the kinds of atrocities described above. India calls this “protecting its territorial integrity.”

In March 2000 in the village of Chithisinghpura, 35 Sikhs were massacred. Two studies of this massacre, one by the International Human Rights Organization, based in Ludhiana, and the other conducted jointly by the Punjab Human Rights Organization and the Movement Against State Repression, concluded that the massacre was the work of Indian forces, a conclusion supported by reporter Barry Bearak in the December 31, 2000 issue of the New York Times Magazine. In another village in Kashmir, Indian troops were caught red-handed trying to set fire to several Sikh houses and the local Gurdwara. Sikh and Muslim villagers joined together to stop this atrocity before it could be carried out

Sikhs ruled Punjab as an independent, secular country from 1765 to 1849. Sikhs have never accepted the Indian constitution. At the time of the transfer of power, Sikhs were equal partners who were to receive sovereignty along with Muslims and Hindus. When the Indian constitution was adopted in 1950, no Sikh representative signed it and no Sikh representative has signed it to this day.

On October 7, 1987, the Sikh Nation formally declared its independence from India, naming their new country Khalistan. Since then, Khalistan has been under illegal occupation by the Indian government and its forces.

“If a Sikh is not for Khalistan, he is not a Sikh.”—Professor Darshan Singh, former Jathedar of the Akal Takht

Unfortunately, Sikhs are not the only victim of India’s brutal tyranny.

India has murdered over 300,000 Christians in Nagaland since 1947, more than 85,000 Kashmiri Muslims since 1988, and tens of thousands of other minorities

Australian missionary Graham Staines and his two young sons were brutally murdered by being burned to death while they slept in their jeep by a mob of Hindu militants affiliated with the militant, pro-Fascist Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS) who chanted “Victory to Hanuman,” a Hindu god.

An American missionary from Pennsylvania, Joseph Cooper, was expelled from the country after being so severely beaten by RSS goons that he had to spend a week in the hospital.

In January 2003, an American missionary and seven other individuals were attacked.

Christian schools and prayer halls have been attacked and destroyed.

A Christian religious festival was broken up by police gunfire.

In March 2002, between 2,000 and 5,000 Muslims were brutally murdered in Gujarat. India’s National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), an official body, found evidence in the killings of premeditation by members of Hindu extremist groups and complicity by Gujarat state officials. A police officer confirmed to an Indian newspaper that the massacre was pre-planned by the government.

The most revered mosque in India, the Ayodhya mosque, was destroyed by Hindu mobs affiliated with the BJP and a Hindu temple was built on the site.

The states of Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, and Orissa have all passed bills barring religious conversions.

DEMOCRACIES DON’T COMMIT GENOCIDE; SUPPORT SELF-DETERMINATION IN SOUTH ASIA

The right to self-determination is the essence of democracy. Please urge your representatives to support self-determination for Khalistan, Kashmir, Nagaland, and all the states seeking their freedom. Demand a free and fair plebiscite on the question of independence and an end to foreign aid to India until human rights are respected.

INTRODUCTION OF THE “IMPORTATION OF SAFE FOOD ACT OF 2004”

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to announce the introduction of the “Importation of Safe Food Act of 2004.” The Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002 (the Act) imposes new requirements intended to protect U.S. consumers from adulterated food products. Unfortunately, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, in attempting to comply with the Act, has overstepped its authority in a manner that could lead to the unintended consequences of raising consumer prices, increasing job losses, and threatening legitimate U.S. businesses. This legislation would prevent the loss of these important jobs.

A proposed FDA regulation is scheduled for full enforcement on August 13, 2004, and would require that confidential manufacturing facility registration numbers appear on all prior

notices submitted to the FDA as a condition of food import. This requirement would be impossible to meet for lawful third-party importers who do not deal directly with the manufacturers and thus have no means of obtaining the confidential numbers. The adversely-affected importers include food wholesalers distributing in the secondary marketplace or reimporting American-manufactured products, and manufacturers bringing competitors’ articles into this country for sampling or testing.

The requirement also would create domestic job losses and raise consumer prices. For example, it is estimated that thousands of jobs within the secondary market industry alone could be at stake. In addition, numerous freight forwarders, truckers, and warehousemen who work in conjunction with the industry likely would face similarly substantial economic hardship. Moreover, the secondary market results in cost savings to consumers ranging between 10 and 15 percent. That is a major benefit to the American economy that cannot be discounted.

That is why we are introducing the Importation of Safe Food Act of 2004. This bill would clarify that (1) the notice must contain the name and address of the manufacturer and that the importer must identify those parties required to be shown by whatever means available to it; and (2) food articles may not be automatically rejected solely on the basis of an incomplete notice unless the Secretary is presented with additional evidence that the article poses a threat to the health of an animal or human. It also would give the government more authority in regulating food facilities so that tainted foods cannot enter the Nation’s food supply.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker I was unavoidably detained and unable to cast a number of rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted “no” on rollcall No. 279, “no” on rollcall No. 280, “yes” on rollcall No. 281, “yes” on rollcall No. 282, “yes” on rollcall No. 283, “yes” on rollcall No. 284 and “yes” on rollcall No. 285.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT NED NEUSTROM OF JOHNSON COUNTY MED-ACT

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lieutenant Edward “Ned” Neustrom of Johnson County Med-Act, who died unexpectedly of cardiac arrest while on duty on Friday, June 18th.

Lieutenant Neustrom was found by firefighters at the emergency response station located at 13801 Switzer in Overland Park, KS, where he was assigned. Neustrom was a respected paramedic and departmental mentor with more than 25 years experience with