

Currently, Dutch serves on the Missouri Democratic Party's State Executive Board; is a Missouri State Committee Member; Chairperson of the 10th Senatorial District Committee; and has been the 5th Ward Democratic Committeewoman for over 30 years. Dutch is the Founder and President of the Westport Landing Democratic Club, former founder and Past President of the 5th District Women's Democratic Club, former Vice Chair of the Fifth Congressional District Committee, former Vice Chair of the Jackson County Democratic Committee, Past President of the State of Missouri Women's Federation Democratic Club, and was the first woman appointed by the Governor of Missouri to serve on Senatorial Redistricting Committee. Dutch has represented the State of Missouri as a delegate to the Democratic National Convention eight times. She has received many honors, including the Harry S Truman Award, Women's Fifth District "Woman of the Year Award", the Rodger A. Gooden Award for her strong commitment to social justice and inclusiveness, and the Combat Community Mother's Award. As an institution in the local Democratic Party, Dutch has stood prominently beside U.S. Presidents and other officials during their visits to Kansas City.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in recognizing the matriarch of Westport, Hila "Dutch" Bucher Newman, for her unyielding commitment to the Westport area and the Fifth District. With this honorary naming of Westport Road, we pay tribute to a lifetime of work and dedication to the betterment of her community. I urge my colleagues of the 109th Congress to join me in congratulating Dutch on her well-deserved honor.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF DAVE
AND LINDA HARMON TO THE
GUAM COMMUNITY

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of two individuals, who, for the last 11 years, have dedicated themselves to exceptional service to our community. David and Linda Harmon, Majors in the Salvation Army, are recognized in the Guam community for their boundless benevolence and enduring commitment to serving the disadvantaged, feeding, clothing and housing those in need, and helping individuals recover from substance abuse.

David and Linda Harmon first arrived on Guam in July 1995. The Salvation Army Guam Corps has become an integral part of Guam's disaster recovery and relief system under their leadership. Dave and Linda have helped the people of Guam recover from several natural disasters since their arrival on Guam, including Supertyphoon Paka in 1997, and Typhoon Chata'an and Supertyphoon Pongsona in 2002. The Salvation Army donated thousands of dollars of food, clothing, and supplies through their efforts to many residents who lost everything as a result of these natural disasters. The organization under their leadership also assisted in providing humanitarian assistance to the Kurdish refugees who were evacuated from Iraq to Guam as part of Operation

Pacific Haven in 1996, and to Burmese refugees who came to Guam to seek political asylum in the United States in 2000. Additionally, the Salvation Army Guam Corps, under the Harmon's leadership in 1997, provided critical assistance in the aftermath of the tragic crash of Korean Air Flight 801 on Guam.

The Harmons helped establish the substance abuse recovery program which eventually became known as the Lighthouse Recovery Center. The Lighthouse Recovery Center has grown from meager beginnings to a 16-bed residence today, and has helped start over 200 men down the road to recovery from substance abuse and addiction. With guidance from the Harmons the Corp's Thrift Store was expanded. And after acquisition of the former Navy Chapel at Tiyan, the Salvation Army developed its Food Bank and Education Center as their Family Services and One Stop Homeless Assistance Center.

The Harmons have been active citizens in the Guam community outside of the Salvation Army as well. They are members of the Guam Symphony Society, the Rotary Club of Tumon Bay, the Guam Homeless Coalition, the Council on Homelessness, and Linda is a past president and member of the Guam Women's Club.

Mr. Speaker, over the years, I have come to personally know the Harmons. I helped welcome them to Guam as Lieutenant Governor when they first arrived on the island, and as a Charter Member of Guam Corps, I have worked closely with them in the activities of the Salvation Army. David and Linda are kind, self-sacrificing, and have a genuine, passionate love for Guam and its people. They are dear friends to many, and we will all miss them when they leave Guam for their next duty station. I am only comforted by the fact that the Salvation Army Santa Monica, California Corps will be in very capable hands under their leadership.

Therefore, on behalf of a grateful island, I join their children, Joel, Fred, Holly, and Lisa, and all the people of Guam in extending a heartfelt "Dangkulo na Si Yu'os Ma'ase" to David and Linda Harmon for all the good they have done for the people of Guam and for their service to our community.

SIKHS IN PUNJAB DEMAND INDEPENDENCE WHILE OBSERVING
ANNIVERSARY OF GOLDEN TEMPLE
MASSACRE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, June 3 through June 6 marked the anniversary of a very dark chapter in history, the Indian government's military invasion of the Golden Temple, the seat of the Sikh religion, in 1984. That atrocity was commemorated by Sikhs and others all over the world. There were demonstrations here in Washington and in many cities.

At the Golden Temple in Amritsar they had a ceremony to commemorate the occasion. The Jathedar of the Akal Takht, Joginder Singh Vedanti, the highest Sikh religious leader, led the commemoration. During his remarks, he did not mention Saul Jamail Singh Bhindranwale, the leader of the Sikhs who

was murdered at the Golden Temple, or General Shabeg Singh or any of the others who were murdered. This displeased the crowd.

The Sikhs in attendance, hundreds of them, chanted slogans of "Khalistan Zindabad," which means "Long live Khalistan," Khalistan is the Sikh homeland which declared itself independent from India on October 7, 1987. These chants show that the movement to liberate Khalistan is still alive in Punjab. Last year, there were speeches and flag-raising on the Golden Temple anniversary. There were similar events this past January. Those events resulted in arrests and criminal complaints, even though the Indian courts have ruled that speaking out [or Khalistan is not a crime, In spite of these intimidation tactics, the Sikhs spoke out again for Khalistan.

Over 20,000 Sikhs were killed in the Golden Temple attack and the attacks on 37 other Gurdwaras around Punjab, known as Operation Bluestar. During Operation Bluestar, the Indian army shot bullet holes in the Sikh holy scriptures, the Guru Granth Sahib. Young boys were taken outside and summarily shot. The Golden Temple itself was ransacked and severely damaged. Do these sound like the acts of a democracy?

If India were truly committed to democratic values, at the very least, the Indian government would issue a public apology to the Sikhs and pay compensation to the victims' families.

The Golden Temple attacks show that there is no place for Sikhs in India, and other minorities also feel the massive repression of "the world's largest democracy." More than a quarter of a million Sikhs have been killed and over 52,000 continue to be held as political prisoners. India has killed over 300,000 Christians in Nagaland and tens of thousands more in the rest of the country, as well as more than 90,000 Kashmiri Muslims, thousands more Muslims around India, and tens of thousands of Assamese, Bodos, Manipuris, Tamils, and other minorities. For minority peoples and nations, India is one of the world's worst tyrannies. It is a democracy for the Brahmins and a police state for the minorities.

This is not acceptable, Mr. Speaker. I would like to express the sympathy of the Congress to the Sikh Nation for the Golden Temple massacre. In light of this atrocity and the ongoing atrocities of the Indian government, I wonder why the United States continues to fund such a country. The time has come, Mr. Speaker, to stop our aid and trade with India and to support self-determination for all peoples and nations in South Asia. This is the best way to bring about stability, peace, freedom, and prosperity in the subcontinent, to defuse the troubles there, and to make sure that every person's rights are protected.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to place a couple of very good articles on the chanting of Khalistan slogans at the Golden Temple into the RECORD for the information of my colleagues.

[From the Tribune (Chandigarh), June 7, 2006]

RADICALS RAISE KHALISTAN SLOGANS

AMRITSAR, June 6.—Activists of various radical Sikh organizations raised slogans in favour of Khalistan on Ghallughara divas (genocide day) to mark the 22nd anniversary of Operation Bluestar in front of Akal Takht here today.

Mr. Parkash Singh Badal, president, SAD, distanced himself from it.

As soon as Mr. Simranjit Singh Mann, president, SAD (A), came out from Akal Takht after participating in ardas, radicals started raising slogans for an independent Sikh state and showed pages containing statements in favour of Khalistan and posters displaying damaged Akal Takht in the military operation. However, Mr. Badal accused those who indulged in sloganeering of being agents of the Congress, which was responsible for the infamous Army operation. He said Mr. Mann was well aware that Punjab had to suffer greatly because of this.

Mr. Mann said though they were not allowed to continue their peaceful struggle to attain independence, they would contest the next elections democratically.

Commenting on the recent judgments and coverage in newspapers, he claimed that judges and the English media had also saffronised. He asked people to raise their hands if they wanted revival of Anandpur Sahib's resolution of 1973 and for severing of relations with the Congress and the BJP.

Giani Joginder Singh Vedanti, Jathedar, Akal Takht, said the real tribute to those killed in the operation would be to protect the Sikh history and culture, and to stop apostasy and addiction among the Sikh youth.

He said the Sikh religion was formed to safeguard human ideal's of truth, righteousness and values. He added that for this reason it had to fight against rulers who forgot their duties towards the masses.

Among those present on the occasion were Mr. Avtar Singh, president, SGPC, Bibi Jagir Kaur, former SGPC president, and senior Akali leaders, including Mr. Gurdev Singh Badal, Mr. Ranjit Singh Brahmputra, Mr. Sewa Singh Sekhwan, Mr. Sucha Singh Langah, Mr. Bikramjit Singh Majithia and Mr. Guljar Singh Ranike.

IN CELEBRATION OF RUTH
PASSEN

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Ruth Passen as she celebrates her 80th birthday. I am proud to pay tribute to her 40 years of respected community journalism as the editor and publisher of the Potrero View, and recognize her lifetime of community service and social activism. Born and raised in San Francisco, she became a formidable advocate for social justice, peace, equality, democracy and freedom.

In 1970, with a few dedicated volunteers, Ruth launched the Potrero View, which has become San Francisco's longest running community newspaper. With her guidance, the Potrero View grew from a neighborhood newsletter into an award-winning, respected, and much anticipated journal of local news, as well as a significant resource of community services. Its investigative style and editorial integrity are well-known throughout the San Francisco Bay Area.

As a dear friend and right arm to the late, legendary Enola Maxwell, Ruth helped build the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, affectionately known as the Nabe, into a hub of vital services for the youth, the elderly, and the families of Potrero Hill. She was instrumental in bringing her beloved jazz and theater to the Nabe and the wider community.

Ruth was actively involved with the Women's International League of Peace and Free-

dom in the peace mobilization of the 1960s and 70s and worked in solidarity with the people of El Salvador for justice and democracy in the 1980s.

Ruth and her husband Joe Passen, whose life we celebrated on this floor 14 years ago, were relentless champions of the labor movement. Together, they fought for working men and women on the San Francisco waterfront and in the maritime industry throughout the West Coast. They helped San Francisco become the first and foremost trade union town in the world. They worked alongside Cesar Chavez in support of California's farm workers.

As Young Democrats they were part of a progressive movement in San Francisco that brought Phillip Burton, John Burton, Sala Burton and me to this people's house.

We thank Ruth for her immeasurable contributions to our City. We wish her every happiness as she begins a new chapter in her life as Editor Emeritus of the Potrero View and grandmother extraordinaire. Finally, she will have much deserved time to pursue her many interests, as well as spend time with her beloved family—her son Marc, daughter-in-law Dianne, and granddaughters Natalie and Teresa. Thank you, Ruth for your years of service to our beautiful City of San Francisco.

ARTICLE EXPOSES REPRESSION
OF SIKHS BY INDIA

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, a good article appeared in the Argus of Fremont, California on repression of the Sikhs in India. Fremont has a large Sikh population and the article appeared earlier this month in conjunction with the commemoration of the Indian government's June 1984 attack on the Golden Temple, the most sacred Sikh shrine.

The article points out that the abuse at Abu Ghraib which embarrassed all of us, was a lesser offense than what India did to its Sikh population in June 1984 when it attacked the Golden Temple and 37 other Gurdwaras in Punjab.

The article quotes a Sikh named Jasdeep Singh as saying that "We would have said that was nothing" referring to Abu Ghraib.

Now, Mr. Speaker, since we know how atrocious the Abu Ghraib incidents are, that gives us an indication of the carnage that was inflicted on the Sikh Nation by the Indian regime in June 1984.

The article also discusses the Sikhs' desire for an independent, sovereign Khalistan, which declared its independence from India in 1987. This has been met with many years of bloody repression, including the murders of over 250,000 Sikhs and over 52,000 who are held as political prisoners in "the world's largest democracy."

Mr. Speaker, the time has come to demand self-determination and full human rights for all people in South Asia. We should stop our aid and trade with India and we should demand a free and fair plebiscite not only on the status of Khalistan, but of Kashmir (as India promised in 1948), of Nagalim, and all the nations seeking their freedom in that troubled region.

It would be good for the freedom, prosperity, and stability of all concerned.

I would like to insert the Argus article into the RECORD at this time.

[From the Argus, June 5, 2006]

FREMONT SIKHS RECALL OPPRESSION

(By Matthew Artz)

FREMONT.—Jasdeep Singh couldn't help but laugh at the uproar over the torture of prisoners at Abu Ghraib.

"We would have said that was nothing," said Singh, who moved to Fremont in 1992, he said, after Indian authorities detained and tortured him three times because he is Sikh.

Sikh nationalism barely a blip on the international radar, was front and center Sunday at the Fremont Gurdwara Sahib, the local Sikh house of worship, where community leaders reaffirmed support for transforming the Indian state of Punjab into a secular Sikh-majority state of Khalistan.

"We know from our history that Sikhs will never be safe or truly free unless they have a homeland of their own," Singh said.

For the estimated 150,000 Sikhs living in the Bay Area, Tuesday marks the anniversary of two of the most devastating and seminal events in the history of the 500-year-old faith.

In 1984, with Sikhs pressing for an independent Punjab, where they are a majority, the Indian government invaded the Golden Temple—Sikhism's holiest place—and 36 other religious sites where separatists were hiding, killing thousands. The attack came on the 378th anniversary of the torture and death of a Sikh religious leader.

Four months later, when Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was murdered by two of her Sikh bodyguards, rioters murdered thousands more Sikhs, who are easy to identify because the men wore turbans and grow long beards.

The bloodbath and ensuing eight years of repression drove many Sikhs to North America.

Now, 7,500 miles from their ancestral land, leaders of the Fremont gurdwara won't let their brethren forget about what transpired in India.

Photographs of 73 Sikhs murdered by Indian authorities in 1984, including the two men who killed the prime minister, ring the gurdwara's dining room.

On Sunday, the gurdwara installed an exhibit about their faith that included photographs of Sikh men being burned alive or beaten by Indian soldiers. Other pictures commemorated the 400th anniversary of the torture and murder of Guru Arjan Dev Ji, who refused to remove references to Islam and Hinduism from the Sikh's holy book.

"We're trying to make people aware," said Ram Singh, a gurdwara leader who plans to protest outside the Indian Consulate in San Francisco tomorrow. "We don't want our future generations to forget what happened to us."

Jasdeep Singh, an engineer, won't forget the day in 1989 when soldiers raided his graduate school boarding house and detained all the Sikhs in an effort to gain intelligence on separatist leaders.

"First the clothes came off," he said. Later, guards tied his hands behind his back and hung him from the ceiling. "These two shoulders," he said, "felt like they were going to pop out."

Since Singh arrived in Fremont, persecution of Sikhs in India has decreased and the governing Congress Party named a Sikh, Mammohan Singh, to serve as prime minister.

Years of repression followed by some reforms have stifled the independence movement in Punjab and left Sikhs in the Bay