

minister and the head of the Directorate of National Intelligence noted that the junta had detained 30,568 people, of whom more than 8,000 still were being held. The two also agreed that an unspecified number of people were being secretly held because "they are part of sensitive, ongoing security investigations."

The Pinochet government never publicly acknowledged secret detentions. According to Chilean government reports in 1991 and 1996, a total of 2,095 extrajudicial executions and death under torture took place during the military regime, and 1,102 people disappeared at the hands of government forces and are presumed dead.

By July 1977, U.S. policy under the new Carter administration had turned sharply against Pinochet. Yet the embassy expressed irritation over being asked to write "still another human rights report" on Chile and noted the "strong and varied views" inside the mission.

In its own report, the embassy military group complained: "We [the United States] do not appear to be visionary enough to see the total picture; we focus only upon the relatively few violation cases which occur and continue to hound the government about past events while shrugging off demonstrated improvements."

WARTIME VIOLATION OF ITALIAN AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES ACT

HON. RICK LAZIO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 1999

Mr. LAZIO. Mr. Speaker, late in the night of December 7, 1941, only hours after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Filippo Molinari heard noises outside his San Jose home. When Molinari went to investigate, he found three policemen at his front door. They told him that by order of President Roosevelt, he must come with them.

Molinari had served in the Italian army during World War I, fighting alongside American troops. He was well-known within his community as a door-to-door salesman for the Italian language newspaper *L'Italia*. He was the founding member of the San Francisco Sons of Italy. And now, he was under arrest. Shortly thereafter, Molinari would be shipped to a government detention center in Fort Missoula, Montana.

Filippo Molinari's story is not unique. He was one of hundreds of Italian Americans arrested in the first days of the war and sent to internment centers or excluded from California. In 1942 over ten thousand Italian Americans across the nation were forcibly evacuated from their homes and relocated away from coastal areas and military bases. Additionally, some 600,000 Italian nationals, most of whom had lived in the United States for decades, were deemed "enemy aliens" and subject to strict travel restrictions, curfews, and seizures of personal property.

These so-called "enemy aliens" were required to carry photo-bearing ID booklets at all times, forbidden to travel beyond a five mile radius of their homes, and required to turn in any shortwave radios, cameras, flashlights and firearms in their possession. In California

52,000 Italian residents were subjected to a curfew. In Monterey, Boston, and elsewhere Italian American fishermen were grounded. Many fishermen who were naturalized citizens had their boats impounded by the navy—all this while half a million Italian Americans were serving, fighting, and dying in the U.S. armed forces during World War II.

It has long been a historical misconception that President Roosevelt's infamous Executive Order 9066 applied only to Japanese and Japanese-Americans living in the western states. Clearly this was not the case. There is another chapter to this sad story, "Una Storia Segreta"—a secret story. The bill I am introducing today is an attempt to start setting the record straight.

The Wartime Violation of Italian American Civil Liberties Act calls on the Department of Justice to prepare and publish a comprehensive report detailing the government's unjust policies and practices during this time period. A part of this report would include an examination of ways in which civil liberties can be safeguarded during future national emergencies.

This legislation would also encourage relevant federal agencies to support projects such as exhibitions and documentaries that would heighten public awareness of this unfortunate episode. Further, it recommends the formation of an advisory committee to assist in the compilation of relevant information regarding this matter and related public policy matters.

Finally, the Wartime Violation of Italian American Civil Liberties Act calls upon the President to acknowledge formally our government's systematic denial of civil liberties to what was then the largest foreign-born ethnic group in the United States.

I am pleased to say that I am joined today in introducing this important piece of legislation by 62 of my colleagues from both sides of the aisle, including fellow-New York Representative ELIOT ENGEL, who has led the way on this issue. The diversity of this list of original cosponsors, is indicative of both the national scope of the injustices that took place and the widespread interest—interest across ethnic and geographic lines—that justice is finally done. We owe it to the Italian American community and the American public to find out and publicize exactly what happened. A complete understanding of the ethnic persecution that took place in this sad chapter of American history is the best guarantee that it will never happen again.

"A NOTE OF THANKS TO THE "GREATEST" "

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 1999

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, looking forward toward July 4th, Independence Day, I believe it is absolutely appropriate that this country reflect on the sacrifices made to keep this country independent. Towards that goal, I would like to submit for the RECORD an essay by Philip Burgess which most eloquently makes the point.

A NOTE OF THANKS TO THE "GREATEST"

A few days ago I received an e-mail from a friend, an attorney who reads a lot and is thoughtful about what he reads. He had a good idea for Memorial Day.

"Like many other Americans," he began, "I have been reading Tom Brokaw's *The Greatest Generation*. As you know, it is a book of short stories about how ordinary Americans (farmers, factory workers and store clerks) came of age during the Great Depression and the Second World War and, in Brokaw's words, 'went on to build modern America—men and women whose everyday lives of duty, honor, achievement and courage gave us the world we have today.' They sought no praise or glory; they simply did a job they had to do."

He continued, "Today, I had an interesting experience. I attended a family gathering of a new Naval Academy graduate. His grandfather was there. As a young man, the grandfather had fought in the Pacific during WW II. Here I was, face-to-face with a member of the 'greatest generation.' As I visited with him, I was moved by my increasing awareness of how much he and his peers had contributed to democracy and other values I hold dear. I was also moved by the realization, that on an individual basis, I had never thanked a WW II veteran for what he or she had done for me and my family and the freedom and opportunities we now enjoy and too often take for granted.

"So, during a lull in the conversation, I approached the grandfather. I looked him in the eye and I told him that I'd been reading about and reflecting on what he and others like him had done for me and for the country during WW II. And then I said: 'Thank you for what you did.'

"As he looked at me, the grandfather's eyes began to water and he said: 'No one has ever thanked me for that before.' He then reached up and put his arm around my shoulders and said: 'Thank you. That means a lot to me.' We embraced, and then, with a tear in my own eye, I turned around and walked away."

My friend's idea: "As this Memorial Day approaches, I encourage you to think of WW II veterans (or any other war veteran) you know and communicate to them your personal thanks for what they did during that great war. WW II veterans are in the twilight of their lives. They will not be around forever to receive your thanks."

I was moved by this note. I decided to start with a letter to my relatives who were part of "the greatest generation." Uncle Bud served in the Pacific and would have been part of a Japan invasion force, but was delivered from that fate by President Truman's decision to use the atomic bomb rather than more American blood to end the war in the Pacific. Uncle Walt was a B-24 bomber pilot and a flight instructor. Aunt Betty was an Army nurse who accompanied the first infantry units in the liberation of the concentration camp at Dachau and returned with pictures and other mementos that document that many horrors that occurred there.

I have talked with them many times about their wartime experiences. But I have never thanked them for answering their call to duty nor for their many subsequent achievements, the fruits of which I enjoy today. I intend to fix that before the week is over. I've already started the letters, and with the first words last night, I began to realize that it's my spirit that will be enriched by writing these letters—at least as much as theirs will be lifted by receiving them.

A heart-felt "thank-you" always seems to work that way, but it's their spirit and their

achievements that we need to remember this Memorial Day.

SIKH JOURNALIST'S MAIL IS
BEING INTERCEPTED

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 1999

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that journalist Sukhbir Singh Osan, proprietor of *Burning Punjab* and a writer for several Indian newspapers, is once again being harassed by the Indian government. After he came to North America to cover the big Sikh marches in Washington, New York, and Toronto and made a speech in the United Kingdom on the human rights situation in India, he was grilled for 45 minutes by Indian intelligence officers. Now, Indian postal authorities are intercepting his mail.

In a letter to the Chief Postmaster of Chandigarh, which was brought to my attention by Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, Mr. Osan noted that postal officials were handling his mail over to police constables. Several important documents were found lying on the desk of a Deputy Inspector General of Police. Mr. Osan, who is a law graduate as well as a journalist, pointed out that this action violates the Indian constitution and violates a ruling by the Indian Supreme Court in 1995.

This is not the first time Mr. Osan has run afoul of the Indian state. His mail has been diverted before and he has received telephone threats for his reporting on corruption and human rights violations.

Here is Indian democracy in action. If you criticize the government, your mail is seized, the government grills you, and you are threatened. In spite of all this, Mr. Osan goes on providing information about the situation in Punjab, Khalistan on his website and in his articles. His courage deserves our respect.

This abuse of Mr. Osan's rights is just the latest Indian violation of the basic liberties of Sikhs in Punjab, Khalistan. In light of this pattern of tyranny, America should help bring liberty to the people living under Indian rule.

Let us use our influence constructively to bring freedom, peace, and stability to this troubled region before it turns into another Kosovo. If that happens, it could pose a serious danger to the entire world, given India and Pakistan's possession of nuclear weapons and India's alleged use of chemical weapons in the Kargil conflict. We must act now to keep this from happening.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHRIS
CAHOON

HON. ROBERT A. WEYGAND

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 1999

Mr. WEYGAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to laud the courageous efforts of Chris Cahoon, a resident of Warwick, Rhode Island, who re-

cently came to the rescue of a choking child. Chris, a sixteen year-old volunteer at the Washington Fire Department in Coventry, Rhode Island, was spending Father's Day with his family at a local restaurant when he notices some commotion at another table. A father was slapping his son on the back, trying to assist his choking ten year-old. Using the quick thinking and first aid training he had learned as a Fire Scout, Chris leapt from his seat and deftly administered the Heimlich maneuver to the child, who, after being examined by the local rescue team, was able to resume his meal. For his decisive action, Chris earned the respect and gratitude of the child, his family, and the assembled emergency medical technicians.

Such mature behavior may seem uncharacteristic of a sixteen year-old, though Chris's family and acquaintances have known of his dedication to helping others since his earliest days. Like many young children, Chris once told everyone within earshot that he wanted to grow up to be a firefighter. However, unlike other youths, Chris followed his dream and joined the Washington Fire Department's Fire Scout Program at the early age of thirteen, a full two years before the standard admission age. Bill Hall, director of the program, recognized Chris's enthusiasm and ability and thus waived the minimum age requirement for the young protege. Chris did not disappoint, excelling in all aspect of the training, from pulling lines to dressing hydrants, and perhaps most importantly, first aid. Not surprisingly, Chris is considered one of the most adept alumni of the program, and wishes to continue his training after high school by pursuing a career in firefighting. Given his previous accomplishments, Chris Cahoon will have shining career in public service ahead of him.

Not only does Chris's heroic action give us reason to recognize a commendable young man, it also provides proof that America's youth are still learning important values such as self-improvement, service to others, and selflessness. Chris had a childhood dream—a noble dream—and he was encouraged to pursue this path by the community around him, most notably by his parents, Debbie and Gene Cahoon. Mr. Speaker, I am proud of Chris and hold him as an example of what our children may accomplish if they are provided with nurturing surroundings. Furthermore, I salute him personally for his heroism and kindness.

HONORING DWAIN HAMMONS UPON
HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 1999

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Dwain Hammons who retires this week from Hammons Products Company in Stockton, Missouri, as the chief executive officer. Hammons Products Company known at one time as "Missouri Dandy," has for the past 53 years bought, shelled, and sold Eastern Black Walnuts. In just a little over half a century, Hammons Products Company has become the

world's foremost supplier of the Eastern Black Walnut. This becomes even more significant when you realize they created a market that at the time was virtually non-existent in the sale of Eastern Black Walnuts.

Hammons Products Company began as a dream of Dwain's father, Ralph, in 1946, when he was a local grocery store owner in Stockton. Ralph's dream eventually became a reality that Dwain has never lost sight of as he has continued building their business year after year. Dwain has led his family and the business through the changing of the times in the past 50 years. Although Dwain deserves much of the credit for the success of the business, he rarely accepts it. Instead he gives the credit to his father, Ralph, who urged him to always be willing to advance and modernize the company. He also credits the employees, who he will tell you have been a steadfast example of the company's mission statement, "To lead and grow the Black Walnut nut industry, and to excel in providing quality nut products and superior service with strong business integrity enhancing the economic well being and quality of life for owners, employees, customers, suppliers, and our communities." An example he is quick to give is how they helped to invent the companies first walnut shucking machine.

For everyone who knows Dwain and has worked with him, they will quickly tell you he is an example of the mission statement and deserves recognition as he has worked consistently year after year to ensure the Black Walnut will be here for years to come. It is in that effort he has established the Tree Research and Management division to study the Black Walnut tree. Dwain is also a conscious conservationist and has allowed nothing to be wasted when it comes to the walnut itself. After the walnut is shucked, it is then ground into six different sizes where it can be used as a cleansing and polishing agent for jet engines, electronic circuit boards, and jewelry. It is also used in oil well drilling, water filtration systems, soaps, cosmetic and dental cleansers.

Dwain is more than just a successful businessman. He is a servant to his community, State, and Nation in many different roles. In the community of Stockton, he served on the Board of Alderman for six years and as town mayor for four. He is a life member of the Stockton Lions Club and has served as their president. He is also a member at the United Methodist Church in Stockton where he has been a member of the choir for over 40 years and served as its director for over 20. He has been active in the Boy Scouts at the local, district, and council levels. In the State of Missouri, he has served on the Governor's Task Force on Rural Economic Development, a member for six years on the Missouri State Chamber of Commerce, Executive Board and on the Advisory Board of the University of Missouri School of Forestry, Fisheries and Wildlife. These are just to name a few. At the national level he was awarded the Meritorious Service Award from the National Walnut Council and is also a lifetime member. The National Association of Marketing Officials awarded him the National Marketing Award. In 1992 he was awarded by President George