

Award. He continues to serve as a Trustee of the Los Angeles Science Center and he sits on the Los Angeles Area Boy Scouts Council. He is the author of "Thirteen Years: 1936-1949", a book describing his family's journeys through war-torn Europe in their search for stability and freedom from the ravages of despotism and war. Our country has been enriched by George Paulikas' service to the United States of America, and we celebrate with him on this 50th anniversary of his family's passage to freedom.

A TRIBUTE TO MARILYN BEYES

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 1999

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to commend Marilyn Beyes of Smithboro, Illinois for her unparalleled volunteer activity in the community. She travels 18 miles almost every day to work as a volunteer at a number of community establishments. Marilyn may be seen laying ten-pound bricks in the Fayette County Museum Garden or organizing an art show with over 250 entries and 350 people in attendance.

When asked about why she puts in such long hours as a volunteer she said, "I see a need, and I want to lead this community with something good." When Vandalia Mayor Sandra Leidner was asked about Marilyn she said, "She's the epitome of volunteerism. I think she sets a fine example for others." It is great to see such determination and willingness to lend a hand to the community. Marilyn is a perfect example of not only a community volunteer but also a community leader.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 1999

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 308, due to travel restrictions, I was unavoidably detained and unable to cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

OPEN LETTER FROM COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN CALLS ON SIKHS TO STOP SUPPORTING INDIAN TYRANNY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 1999

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, the conflict in Kashmir has been in the news a lot lately. The conflict stemmed from an attack on the Kashmiri freedom fighters in Kargil. While it looks as if the conflict may be receding, there is still fighting. The Sikhs in Punjab are afraid that it will spread to Punjab, Khalistan. The fighting will continue as long as India uses force to

suppress the freedom movements of South Asia.

While the fighting was at its height, the Council of Khalistan, which leads the Sikh freedom struggle, issued an open letter on the situation. The letter told Sikh troops that if they died for India, they would die as mercenaries, but if they died for Sikh freedom, they would die as martyrs. It urged them to go home and join the struggle to liberate Khalistan.

In the letter, the Council of Khalistan pointed out that an Indian colonel said that the troops were "dying like dogs" and that 60 percent of the soldiers killed were Sikhs. This is typical of India's strategy to keep the minority nations of South Asia within their artificial borders. They send draftees from one minority to kill another. They don't put Hindu lives at risk. "Are you willing to die for a country that practices a policy of mass cremations against our Sikh brothers and sisters, a policy the Indian Supreme Court called, 'worse than a genocide'?" said the letter.

It is essential that we help bring real peace to South Asia. Both India and Pakistan have nuclear weapons, and we must do what we can to prevent these weapons from being used. So far, American involvement in the situation has been mainly to lean on Pakistan to bring an end to the conflict. But it is only India that can end the conflict. Only when India stops its efforts to repress the freedom movements can the conflict in South Asia end.

India is anti-American and has tried to organize a security alliance against the United States, and in May the Foreign Minister organized and led a meeting with Cuba, China, Russia, Serbia, Iraq, and Libya "to stop the U.S." Amnesty International reported that thousands of political prisoners remain in illegal detention without charge or trial. Some have been there for 15 years. India has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984 in its quest for "Hindutva." It has also killed tens of thousands of Christians in Nagaland, Muslims in Kashmir, Dalits, and other peoples in this pursuit. Sooner or later, India is doomed to break up. I only hope that it does so peacefully. We must not allow another Yugoslavia to emerge in South Asia, where nuclear weapons are present.

Mr. Speaker, the time has come for our country to support freedom for all the people of South Asia. If India cannot learn to respect basic human rights as we do in this country, then it should not receive any aid or trade from the United States. It is time for the Congress to put itself on record in support of the freedom movements in Khalistan, Kashmir, Christian Nagaland, and the other nations of South Asia.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to put the Council of Khalistan's open letter on Kashmir into the RECORD for the information of my colleagues.

COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN,
Washington, DC, June 16, 1999.

OPEN LETTER TO THE SIKH SOLDIERS AND OFFICERS

Stop "Dying Like Dogs" for the Indian Oppressors

Will You Be a Martyr or a Mercenary?
Join the Freedom Movement to Liberate Khalistan

KHALSA JI: The Indian attack on the Kashmiri freedom fighters at Kargil again shows

the reality of Hindutva. You see the death of your fellow Sikhs on a daily basis. About 60 percent of the casualties are Sikhs. When India wants to suppress a freedom movement, they send other minorities to do the dirty work, pitting minorities against each other. Hindustan will just use you and discard you. Do not let yourself be a mercenary for this divide-and-rule strategy by the Indian tyrants.

India is losing this war. Casualties are mounting. An Indian colonel admitted that the troops are "dying like dogs." A corporal is quoted as saying, "Even in war we don't have such senseless casualties." All these deaths are very tragic, but it is especially sad when Sikh soldiers give their lives for the oppressor. If a Sikh soldier must die, at least die for the Khalsa Panth. If you die for the Khalsa Panth, you will be a martyr. If you die for India, you are just a mercenary.

What are you dying for? Are you willing to die for a country that has murdered over 250,000 of our Sikh brothers and sisters since 1984? Are you willing to die for a country that desecrated the Golden Temple, shot bullet holes through the *Guru Granth Sahib*? Are you willing to die for a country that practices a policy of mass cremations against our Sikh brothers and sisters, a policy the Indian Supreme Court called "worse than a genocide"?

If you are dying anyway, come home and die for our homeland like the martyrs who were murdered in the Golden Temple attack. It is better to promote the freedom and glory of the Khalsa Panth than to promote Hindutva and the "territorial integrity" of India. When human-rights are being violated on such a massive scale, "territorial integrity" is not an issue.

The political creed of India is "Hindu, Hindu, Hindutva, Hindu Rashtra." As the former Speaker of the Lok Sabha, Balram Jakhar, said, "If we have to kill a million Sikhs to preserve our territorial integrity, so be it." When India wants to protect its artificial borders, it is Sikhs who get killed. When we seek freedom, it is Sikhs who get killed. How can Sikhs put their lives on the line for a country like that?

You are all aware of the plight of Sikhs back home in Punjab. The Indian government has bribed Sikh policemen with cash and promotions to murder their Sikh brothers and sisters. The U.S. State Department reported that between 1992 and 1994 the Indian government paid over 41,000 cash bounties to policemen for killing Sikhs. One policeman collected a bounty for murdering a three-year-old boy. Why should Sikhs give their lives for that?

Are you aware that in 37 border villages back in Punjab, the people have evacuated because they are afraid that his war on the Kashmiri freedom fighters will expand to Punjab? As the people of Kosovo fled from their homes in fear of the Serbian government's brutality, the people of Punjab, Khalistan—your family, friends, and neighbors—are fleeing their homes in fear of the brutal Indian government. There has been a new deployment of troops to Punjab, raising fears that India will launch an attack on Pakistan from the Siakot sector. If that happens, more Sikhs will lose their lives.

Every day in Ardas, Sikhs pray "Raj Kare Ga Khalsa," the Khalsa shall rule. Our heritage is "Khalsa Bagi Yan Badshah," the Khalsa rules or it is in rebellion. Our Gurus teach us to oppose tyranny wherever it rears its ugly head. How can Sikhs say that and then go fight for a country that denies our Sikh brothers and sisters the most basic human rights?

India's political situation is unstable and it is losing this bloody war. In desperation, it has resorted to using chemical weapons. This is a shame on India. It shows the Indian government's complete disregard for the lives of Sikhs, Muslims, and other minorities. However, the instability provides an opportunity to liberate Khalistan.

Recently, a group of Sikhs living in Pakistan called for a common front with our Kashmiri brothers to liberate both Khalistan and Kashmir. They said that now is the ideal time for such an effort. They are right. Let us make common cause with the Kashmiri freedom fighters and liberate our countries together.

Sikhs remember their martyrs and we also remember our enemies. Sikhs ended the regime of the tyrant Indira Gandhi. A brave Sikh named Delawar Singh ended the tyranny of Beant Singh. Would you rather be remembered as a brave Sikh martyr like Delawar Singh or as a traitor like K.P.S. Gill?

I call on Sikhs in the Indian armed forces, whether officers or soldiers, to stop shooting at the Kashmiri freedom fighters and join the Sikh freedom movement. Stop "dying like dogs" for the theocratic Indian state. These Kashmiri freedom fighters have the same as the goal of the Sikh Nation: to live in freedom, peace, prosperity, and dignity.

Now is the time to join the Sikh freedom movement and liberate Khalistan. You are trained soldiers. The Khalsa Panth needs your services. You will be remembered as the liberators of Khalistan. Remember Gen. Shabeg Singh who gave his life defending the sanctity of Darbar Sahib and the honor of the Sikh Nation. We must free Khalistan. Nations don't survive without political power. This is the opportune time for us. We must not let this opportunity pass.

Panth Da Sewadar,

DR. GURMIT SINGH AULAKH,
President.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE WITH REGARD TO THE UNITED STATES WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM AND ITS WINNING PERFORMANCE IN THE 1999 WOMEN'S WORLD CUP TOURNAMENT

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 1999

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, the looks on the faces of the little girls gazing up with hero worship to the U.S. Women's Soccer Team made an awful lot of struggles that we have gone through worthwhile. When Title IX was first written and passed in the Congress, there was a great furor about it. The idea of opening athletics to women was almost anathema. We have seen now what a wonderful opportunity we have given; that girls in school know that they too can achieve in sports and that they too can be part of that wonderful experience of being a member of a winning team.

Title IX has helped us to reduce the inequality and the differences in Americans and says to everybody, "You too can be a winner."

I commend to my colleagues the following article from my local paper, the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle.

[From the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle, July 11, 1999]

GIRLS EXPAND SPORTS HORIZONS

(By Bob Chavez)

Chelsea Kilburn was having too much fun. She not only shed her blocker to reach the quarterback, but her tackle included an "emphasis" that would draw a flag in any organized football game.

Good thing for her this was just a clinic. It's also a good thing that the quarterback was just a stuffed pad.

"I love tackling and that swimming thing," the 13-year-old from Rochester said, referring to the moves taught to her by former Buffalo Bills longsnapper Adam Lingner at yesterday's Girls Sports Festival at Frontier Field.

More than 400 girls attended the festival, in its second year. Robin Guon, who works for Monroe County Sports Development, said the event undoubtedly was a success.

"We got such positive feedback from last year that we decided to do it again," explained Guon, who said attendance was up by about 100 girls this year. "We would like this to be an annual event."

Girls ages 8 to 14 participate in up to six of the 17 sports offered. Some girls selected sports they liked. Others, like Irondequoit's Kristin Deiere, picked lacrosse.

"I just wanted to see what it was like," said Deiere, 11. "It's pretty hard, but I like it."

Emma Hardy, 9, of Penfield tried lacrosse because her friends play on a team. She'd like to do the same some day, but throwing the ball presents quite a challenge.

"Probably because I'm so bad at it," she said. "My dad tells me to watch the ball but it can be so frustrating. But he tells me how to do things correctly and sometimes I just have to concentrate harder."

The best part of the day for Hardy was the chance to try her hand at games she had never played.

"I like all sports and this day is great," she said. "Some of (the games) were new to me. But I tried them and I actually liked them."

Emily Thomas, 10, of Chili had a tough time deciding her favorite, but ultimate frisbee was right near the top of the six sports she tried.

"It was fun to throw the frisbee to other people and I like to learn new things," she said, adding that lacrosse was a close second to frisbee.

Alissa Coates of Honeoye Falls preferred the more physical games. Her list included stops for taekwondo, karate and boxing.

"I learned different kicks and punches," she said. "I also learned different finger locks. It was all new and it was nothing like the taekwondo I learned in school."

Devon Monin, 11, of Rochester was at the baseball clinic, but could not stop talking about all she learned about football.

"You get to tackle and pass the ball a lot," she said. "I also learned that there are a lot of positions. I didn't know there were so many."

Given the choice, she'd play defensive line. "It's not exactly in the middle and it's not exactly outside," she said of why she liked the position. "You get to play a lot of both."

As much fun as Kilburn had learning to read blocks to sack the quarterback, she was just as glad to have the opportunity to learn.

"It was really good," she said. "I knew nothing about any other sports, but I learned a lot. Now when I watch football with my brother, I'll actually know what I'm talking about."

CONGRATULATING THE UNITED STATES ARMY SCHOOL OF THE AMERICAS FOR ITS ROLE IN ACHIEVING PEACE ON THE EC-UADOR/PERU BORDER

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 1999

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the nations of Ecuador and Peru for ending their half-century-long border dispute. I also rise to offer congratulations to the United States Army School of the Americas (USARSA) for its important role in resolving this conflict.

Col. Glenn Weidner, the current commandant of the school and a graduate of and former instructor at the USARSA, guided the operation that supervised the cease fire, separated the combatants, demobilized over 140,000 troops, established the demilitarized zone, and negotiated the continuation of the mission, incorporating observers of the two parties. That trajectory laid the basis for the three-year diplomatic effort to settle the underlying border issue. Assistant Secretary of State Alex Watson presented Colonel Weidner special recognition for his "contributions to diplomacy". Colonel Weidner credits the success of his mission in large part to the skills he learned at USARSA in 1986-1987 and the enhanced credibility he enjoyed because of his link to the school.

Of the six officers key to the success of the Peru/Ecuador mission, three were former USARSA students/instructors. The "school tie" provided a higher degree of common understanding and increased confidence upon which to proceed. There were also USARSA grads among the observers and the officers of the two parties with whom they dealt on a daily basis to verify the peace.

Finally, Ambassador Luigi Einaudi, the U.S. diplomat recognized and decorated by Presidents Fujimori and Mahuad as playing a key role in the final settlement, is a strong supporter of the school, and has agreed to serve on the new Board of Visitors.

I find it ironic that this very week, even as we congratulate Peru and Ecuador on their newfound peace, a small but vocal group of extremists continues to mislead the American people and members of this body about the role the USARSA plays in the post-Cold War era. Graduates of the U.S. Army School of the Americas are working daily to enhance peace and security in Latin America and to solidify the democratic transformation that has occurred there. I congratulate the USARSA for its important role in bringing peace to the Ecuador/Peru border and urge my colleagues to recognize the school for what it really is—a meaningful tool for establishing peace and democracy in our own back yard.