

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF PRESIDENT AND MRS. RONALD REAGAN

### HON. LINDSEY O. GRAHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2000*

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was unavoidably detained in South Carolina yesterday. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on the bills H.R. 1089 and H.R. 3591.

President and Mrs. Reagan stand as shining examples to all Americans. I have often told audiences around the nation that we should have a man as president whom everyday Americans can point to as a role model to their children, a man whom they can respect, and a man they can trust. Ronald Reagan was such a man. He played a key role in my own decision to get involved in politics. Ronald Reagan is a man that people trust, a man that made America feel good about itself again.

As First Lady, Nancy Reagan carried herself with dignity and grace and used her time in the nation's spotlight to focus America's attention on the negative impacts of drug abuse, especially among young people. Mrs. Reagan has been a brilliant example for all Americans who have loved ones that require long term care, and has continued her work to combat youth drug abuse.

I can think of no two people more deserving of our recognition of their dedication to public service, than Nancy and Ronald Reagan. That is why I am an original cosponsor of H.R. 3591, and deeply regret that I was not able to support it with my vote yesterday.

HONORING OUR 40TH PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN AND MRS. NANCY REAGAN

### HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2000*

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, due to a family medical emergency I missed Recorded Votes No. 96 and No. 97 on April 3, 2000. Had I been present I would have voted "aye" on both bills.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday, this House considered legislation to honor two of the finest people to ever grace our country with their service. These two individuals urged us to win one for the Gipper, and guaranteed us it was morning in America. They taught us to Just Say No. They brought economic security back to our country, and moral values back to our nation. And most importantly they slew the beast known as Soviet communism. Of course I refer to President and Mrs. Reagan.

President Ronald Reagan is more than just a great American President. He is more than a leader who gave the working family a much needed tax break, while encouraging productive investment to create jobs. He is more than a leader who strengthened our national defense. He is more than a leader who made these United States of America the sole superpower on the face of this Earth. He is a man that took away the infliction of malaise, which filled us as a nation with fears and doubts, and replaced it with a sense of hope and a sense of pride. Ronald Reagan is more than just a great President, President Ronald Reagan is an American Icon.

Mr. President and Mrs. Reagan I say Thank You. Thank you for your patriotism, thank you for your service, and thank you for your leadership. Mr. President and Mrs. Reagan it is my honor to support awarding you the Congressional Gold Medal.

IN HONOR OF THE OHIO JUNIOR CLASSICAL LEAGUE

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2000*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Ohio Junior Classical League for their continued celebration of the classics.

Formed in 1936, the National Junior Classical League (NJCL) is an organization of junior and senior high school students sponsored by the American Classical League. Composed of local and state/provincial chapters across the United States, Canada, and Australia, it is the largest Classical organization in the world today with over 55,000 members. Its purpose is to encourage an interest in and an appreciation of the language, literature and culture of ancient Greece and Rome and to impart an understanding of the debt of our own culture to that of Classical antiquity.

The NJCL holds a yearly convention in late July or early August. This year's convention will be held in Tallahassee, Florida, at the Florida State University. Similarly, the OJCL holds yearly conventions in Columbus, Ohio, in March. These conventions give a chance for students to compete and have fun with others who share their love for Latin. This year, during the weekend of March 10-12, 2000, over 900 Latin students and their teachers from across Ohio gathered in Columbus for the 50th OJCL State Convention. In addition to the competitions normally found on the schedule, the OJCL incorporated events to recognize fifty years of OJCL history.

In a period of diminishing participation in classical languages, the OJCL has been able to keep the classical enthusiasm alive with 55 local Latin clubs across the state. The OJCL has been able to keep young people inter-

ested in and appreciative for the language, literature, history, and culture of classical civilizations.

My fellow colleagues, please join with me in honoring OJCL on their continued success.

35 SIKHS MURDERED IN INDIAN-CONTROLLED KASHMIR

### HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2000*

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on the evening of Monday, March 20, 2000, in a Sikh village located in the Indian-controlled side of Kashmir, several armed men roused Sikh villagers from their homes, lined up 35 of the men, and shot them to death. According to Associated Press (AP) reports, witnesses said the gunmen entered the village about 7 p.m., dressed in what appeared to be Indian army uniforms. They knocked on doors, forced the adult men to come out with their identity cards, lined them up in two groups and opened fire.

There has been much speculation about who is responsible for these gruesome murders. India claimed that Kashmiri militants were responsible for the massacre, and accused neighboring Pakistan of supporting the rebels. On the eve of President Clinton's visit to India, and considering Pakistan's current situation, it is difficult for me to believe that Pakistan would take this sort of a risk to their relationship with the United States.

That is why I am inserting into the RECORD a press release from Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan. Dr. Aulakh, who has conducted a peaceful, democratic, nonviolent effort for a free and sovereign Khalistan, suggests that this, as the AP reported, may be the handiwork of the Indian government.

Mr. Speaker, the Indian government has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984; 200,000 Christians in Nagaland since 1947; more than 65,000 Kashmiri Muslims since 1988; and tens of thousands of Assamese, Manipuris, Tamils, and Dalits. With a track record like that, I certainly believe that Dr. Aulakh's assertion merits a closer look.

INDIAN GOVERNMENT MURDERS 35 SIKHS

RAW AGENTS POSE AS KASHMIRI MILITANTS—CONTINUES PATTERN OF PITTING MINORITIES AGAINST EACH OTHER

WASHINGTON, DC, March 21—Thirty-five (35) Sikhs were murdered in Kashmir today by agents of the Indian government's Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) posing as Kashmiri militants. There are over 700,000 Indian troops stationed in Kashmir, yet the murderers disappeared without detection. The murders were carried out during President Clinton's visit to South Asia.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, strongly condemned the murders. "These murders are evil, cowardly, and stupid acts designed to pit one community against another and prop up India's image for the President's visit," Dr. Aulakh said. "Whoever carried out these brutal acts, they are cowards," he said. "They may escape justice in this world, but they will face the justice of God. That will be worse for them."

"Sikhs and Kashmiris are allies in the struggle for freedom," said Dr. Aulakh. "What motive would Kashmiri freedom fighters have to kill Sikhs? This would be especially stupid when President Clinton is visiting. The freedom movements in Kashmir, Khalistan, Nagaland, and throughout India need the support of the United States," he said. Khalistan is the Sikh homeland declared independent on October 7, 1987.

The murders continue a pattern of divide-and-rule terrorism by the Indian government. The government has recently tried to blame Sikhs for the murder of Christian missionary Graham Staines by arresting a Hindu man who uses the alias Dara Singh. Every Sikh male uses Singh in his name. Yet it was reported at the time of the Staines murder that he and his two sons were burned to death in their jeep by a mob chanting "Victory to Hanuman," a Hindu god. That mob was affiliated with the Fascist RSS, the parent organization of the ruling BJP. In November 1994, the Hitavada reported that the Indian government paid the late Governor of Punjab, Surendra Nath, \$1.5 billion to organize and support covert state terrorism in Punjab, Khalistan, and in Kashmir. The book "Soft Target", written by two respected Canadian journalists, proved that the Indian government blew up its own airliner in 1985, killing 329 people, to blame the incident on the Sikhs and provide an excuse for more repression and bloodshed. This is a well-established modus operandi of RAW.

The Indian government has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, according to figures compiled by the Punjab State Magistracy and human-rights organizations. The figures were published in "The Politics of Genocide" by Inderjit Singh Jaijee. The government has also killed over 200,000 Christians in Nagaland since 1947, more than 65,000 Kashmiri Muslims since 1988, and tens of thousands of Assamese, Manipuris, Tamils, Dalits, and others. The U.S. State Department reported that the Indian government paid more than 41,000 cash bounties to police to murder Sikhs. Amnesty International recently reported that there are thousands of political prisoners, including prisoners of conscience, held in Indian jails without charge or trial. Some Sikh political prisoners have been in this illegal detention since 1984.

"This shows that there is no freedom for minorities in India," Dr. Aulakh said. "For minorities, India is no democracy," he said. "As U.S. Congressman Dana Rohrabacher said, for the minorities 'India might as well be Nazi Germany.'"

"I urge President Clinton and Ambassador Richard Celeste to confront India on these brutal murders, as well as the recent harassment of journalist Sukhbir Singh Osan, getting Sikh and other political prisoners released, and the ongoing, massive, and brutal human-rights violations against Sikhs and other minorities," Dr. Aulakh said. "If the United States wants to see an end to these incidents, it should support self-determination for Khalistan, Kashmir, Nagaland, and all the other nations seeking their freedom

from India," Dr. Aulakh said. "Only a free Khalistan will end India's corruption, tyranny and genocide against the Sikh Nation," he said. "India is on the verge of disintegration. The Sikh leadership should immediately begin a "Shantmai Morcha" to liberate our homeland, Khalistan."

[From the Washington Post, Mar. 21, 2000]

NEAR CLINTON'S INDIA VISIT, VIOLENCE  
FLARES IN KASHMIR  
(By Pamela Constable)

SRINAGAR, India March 20.—While their government and most of their countrymen are hoping President Clinton will play down the sensitive topic of Kashmir during his visit to India this week, people in this depressed, wintry city at the political heart of the disputed, violence-torn region are praying for just the opposite.

Today, in the worst single attack on civilians in a decade of guerrilla war, unidentified gunmen massacred 35 Sikh men in the Kashmiri village of Chati Singhpura Mattan, wire services reported. Security officials had feared that armed Pakistan-based insurgents, who have stepped up attacks here in recent months, might stage a dramatic attack during Clinton's stay in India.

Clinton condemned the attack in Kashmir. "On behalf of the president and all Americans let me express our outrage at the attack on a village in Kashmir last night," White House spokesman Joe Lockhart told reporters in New Delhi.

Many Kashmiris believe that only a world leader of Clinton's stature can put pressure on Indian officials to start meaningful negotiations with Pakistan over the mountainous, predominantly Muslim border region where separatist sentiment is strong, guerrilla violence is rapidly rising and Indian troops patrol with an iron fist.

"If Mr. Clinton can make a difference in places like Chechnya and Bosnia, why not in Kashmir?" said Shah Khan, 22, who sells shirts and pants in the teeming alleys of Lal Chowk bazaar. "We are happy because at least his visit will bring some attention to our problems, but we wish he would come to Kashmir and see for himself. Then we would all tell him one thing; we want freedom."

But this message is highly unlikely to reach Clinton's ears or the Indian capital this week. On Sunday, about 50 Kashmiri independence activists were arrested and jailed as they tried to board buses that would take them to New Delhi for a protest rally near Parliament, where Clinton is scheduled to speak Wednesday.

In a brief interview in jail today, the group's leader, Shabir Shah, 44, said they had been tear-gassed and dragged into police vans as they prepared to leave. He said the group, which seeks Kashmiri independence from India, had planned to stage a peaceful rally and a symbolic hunger strike.

"President Clinton says he wants to help ease tensions in the region, and he will be talking with India and Pakistan, but we wanted to tell him that it is futile until we Kashmiris are taken into account," Shah said.

Kashmir, which is divided between India and Pakistan, has been the major source of friction between the two neighbors and nuclear powers for a generation. Since the early 1990s, the Indian-occupied part has been the site of a violent conflict between anti-India insurgent groups and Indian security forces, which has cost tens of thousands of lives. Last summer, a 10-week border conflict in the Kargil mountains left hundreds dead.

Today's attack on the Sikhs seemed to represent an especially gruesome escalation of violence and attempt at ethnic cleansing in the Kashmir Valley, where Muslims dominate the population and the insurgency has become increasingly directed by Islamic groups based in Pakistan. The victims were separated from their families by unidentified gunmen who entered their village after dark and shot them.

In the past, Kashmiri insurgent groups have concentrated on military targets and have denounced terrorism against civilians. But in recent weeks, there have been a half-dozen attacks on Hindu truck drivers and on scattered villages of Kashmiri Pandits, or local Hindus, many of whom were violently driven from the region years ago. Now Sikhs, who have lived peaceably in northern Kashmir for years, appear to have become their latest target.

Clinton, who has called Kashmir "the most dangerous place in the world," has repeatedly expressed interest in helping to defuse the tensions and to nudge India and Pakistan back toward dialogue. But Indian authorities are adamantly opposed to any foreign intervention in the dispute, and have declared they will not resume talks with Pakistan until it stops arming and training Kashmiri insurgents.

In interviews over the weekend, some Srinagar residents said they were skeptical that Clinton's talks with Indian leaders could make any difference. They said the United States was too concerned with bigger issues, such as trade and nuclear non-proliferation, to let Kashmir become an irritant to improving relations.

"Clinton is coming as a guest, so he won't want to embarrass his hosts. What he says in America about Kashmir may not be what he says here," said Masood Ahmed, 30, another shopkeeper in Lal Chowk. "He already knows that thousands of people have been killed in Kashmir, but he is only coming to see the Taj Mahal."

[From the New York Times, Mar. 21, 2000]

35 MASSACRED IN SIKH TOWN IN KASHMIR

SRINAGAR, India, Tuesday, March 21 (AP).—Gunmen rounded up and killed 35 Sikh villagers in the disputed state of Kashmir, the police said today as President Clinton began a visit to India.

The massacre on Monday night was the first major attack on the small Sikh community in Kashmir since separatist Muslims started their insurgency 10 years ago. Sikhs are considered a neutral minority, but Indian officials had warned earlier of violence by Muslim militants hoping to draw attention to Kashmir during Mr. Clinton's visit.

Both India and Pakistan claim the Himalayan territory and have fought two wars over it.

The gunmen were not immediately identified and no group claimed responsibility for the attack, the police said.

Mr. Clinton arrived in New Delhi, 400 miles to the south, on Monday evening after a visit to Bangladesh. He has said that reducing tensions between India and Pakistan is one of his objectives of the trip.

Many Kashmiris were hoping that the president's visit would lead to a breakthrough in the long deadlock on the region's future.

Mr. Clinton's spokesman, Joe Lockhart, expressed outrage over the killings, saying in a statement that "our most profound sympathies go out to the victims of this brutal massacre."

The attackers entered the village of Chati Singhpura Mattan after dark and forced the

residents from their homes, police officials said.

The assailants separated the men from the women, announcing that they were conducting a "crackdown." Indian security forces operate similarly when searching a neighborhood for militants that they suspect may be hiding there. The gunmen then opened fire on the men, killing 35 of them. One man was critically wounded.

Sikhs have lived mostly undisturbed in the Kashmir Valley, the only area in predominantly Hindu India with a Muslim majority. Many run the trucking companies that supply the valley.

In the last six months, attacks by the militants have focused on army bases and patrols rather than random terrorism, and have shown a higher degree of training and expertise, senior army officers have said. They said about 3,500 militants were in Kashmir, and many of them had infiltrated the ceasefire line from Pakistan, with the help of the Pakistan army. Pakistan denies giving active aid to the militants.

The area of the Sikh village is about 42 miles from Srinagar, Kashmir's summer capital, and is controlled by armed Kashmiri groups that abandoned separatism and were recruited by the Indian army as a counterinsurgency auxiliary force.

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM ON WINNING THE 2000 NCAA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. SAM GEJDENSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2000*

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate the University of Connecticut Women's Basketball team on winning the 2000 NCAA National Championship in outstanding fashion over the Tennessee Lady Volunteers. This is the second National Championship for the Huskies in five years. As a graduate of the University of Connecticut, I join the UConn community as well as residents throughout eastern Connecticut and across our State in celebrating an incredible team effort and season.

Anyone who watched the game on Sunday night cannot dispute the fact that the Huskies are far and away the best team in women's basketball. From the opening tip through the final buzzer, the Huskies dominated on offense and defense on route to a 71 to 52 victory—the second largest margin of victory ever in a women's NCAA championship game. The Huskies demonstrated once again why the program was the number one team in the nation for every single week of the 1999–2000 season. Sue Bird directed an incredible offensive attack with a combination of assists, scoring and hustle. All-American Shea Ralph, who earned Tournament MVP honors, demonstrated the tenacity on offense and defense which has become her trademark. She led the team with 15 points and finished the year as the team's leading scorer averaging more than 14 points per game.

All-American Svetlana Abrosimova, MVP of the East Regional final, sparked the Huskies'

with an early 3-point bucket on her way to another spectacular game on both sides of the ball. She scored 14 points and finished the season averaging more than 13 points per game. Kelly Schumacher, who stepped into the starting lineup mid-season, was smothering on defense setting a tournament record with 9 blocked shots. Swin Cash added offensive punch scoring 9 points while finishing the season averaging nearly 10 points per game.

As UConn has demonstrated throughout the season, winning the championship was truly a team effort. Every player made contributions throughout the game and over the course of the season enabling the Huskies to compile a 36 and 1 record and, ultimately, to win another National Championship. Asjha Jones, who provided depth off the bench all season, scored 12 points—more than all but one Tennessee player. Tamika Williams, Kennitra Johnson, Paige Sauer, Stacy Hansmeyer, Marci Czel, Keirsten Walters and Christine Rigby each played important minutes in the championship game and throughout the course of the season.

I also want to offer congratulations to Head Coach Gino Auriemma. Coach Auriemma has led the Huskies to two National Championships, including an undefeated season in 1994–1995. He is widely viewed as one of the foremost coaches in collegiate basketball. He and his entire coaching staff—Chris Daily, Tonya Cardoza and Janelle Elliott—deserve much credit for the Huskies' success this season and throughout the 1990s.

Mr. Speaker, I believe it is safe to say that the UConn Women's Basketball program was one of the two most dominant in the nation in the 1990s. Over the past decade, UConn won 313 games, 2 national titles, 8 Big East championships, including 7 straight, and played in the NCAA tournament every year. Only Tennessee won more games. UConn's performance has helped to elevate the national profile of women's basketball—and women's sports in general—to an unprecedented level. The team can take pride in this achievement as much as any other.

I also believe that it goes without saying that the Huskies' fans are among the most dedicated in the nation. The Huskies have been number one in the nation over the past six years in home attendance attracting more than 983,000 fans. Fans from across the state and throughout New England travel to every game at Gampel Pavilion and the Hartford Civic Center. The enthusiasm of the Huskies' fans was evident this weekend as more than 20,000 people attended the women's championship game in Philadelphia.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join every resident of Connecticut and fans across the nation in congratulating the University of Connecticut Women's Basketball team on winning the 2000 NCAA National Championship.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF SGT.  
DELBERT L. ZIMMERMAN, JR.

**HON. JAMES A. BARCIA**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2000*

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a fine gentleman, Sgt. Delbert L. Zimmerman,

Jr. of Saginaw, MI, on the occasion of his retirement from the Michigan Department of State Police.

For 25 years Sergeant Zimmerman has served in Michigan as an officer with the State Police. He began his distinguished career as a civilian radio operator with the Michigan Department of State Police in 1974. On March 23, 1975, he was appointed to the 89th Recruit School as an enlisted member and graduated on July 17, 1975, whereupon he was assigned to a post in Jackson, MI.

Sergeant Zimmerman was transferred to my home town of Bay City, MI, on March 25, 1984, where he initially worked as a K-9 handler. He was promoted to the rank of sergeant and assigned to a post in Flint, MI, on June 28, 1988. Two years later he again returned to Bay City. On August 2, 1992, he transferred to the Traffic Services Section and was assigned to the Third District Headquarters. Last week, on March 31, Sergeant Zimmerman retired from his post.

During his distinguished career, Sergeant Zimmerman has received many awards. Time dictates that I only mention a few: the 1988 Bay City Post Trooper of the Year award, the 1991 Bay City Post Trooper of the Year award, and the 1984 National Police Association Professional Excellence award.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is fair to say that Sergeant Zimmerman has always worked hard to protect the men, women, and children, who rely daily on the courage and commitment of our State troopers. Likewise, I think it is also fair to state that Sergeant Zimmerman has provided steadfast guidance and leadership to his fellow officers. Such individuals are rare, and deserve our eternal thanks for dedicating their lives to protecting ours.

Mr. Speaker, I invite you and our colleagues to join me in wishing the best in retirement for this dedicated public servant. It is my hope that Sergeant Zimmerman enjoys his newfound time with his family, his wife Kriste, and daughters Kayna, Jennifer and Molly. Again, on behalf of the many families in our neighborhoods that Sergeant Zimmerman has devoted his life to protecting and serving, I extend sincere and heartfelt words of thanks and appreciation, and offer my congratulations for his distinguished career.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT OF JOSEPH J. EGLIN, JR., ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR HIGHER EDUCATION ISSUES, HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION, UNITED STATES GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE

**HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 4, 2000*

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to offer my congratulations to Joseph (Jay) Eglin, Jr. on his retirement from the U.S. General Accounting Office [GAO]. Jay has served the Congress and the public in a long and distinguished career at the GAO that has spanned more than 37 years.

Jay began his career in the Los Angeles Regional Office and he is ending his career in