

member of his community. Upon his retirement as a history teacher, I would like to honor his dedication and years of service and extend my warmest regard to Dave and his family.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REGARDING THE TERRORIST ATTACKS LAUNCHED AGAINST THE UNITED STATES ON SEPT. 11, 2001

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2001

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the world was different.

Today and tomorrow and forever our America is changed.

Today, there are no Republicans, no Democrats.

Today, we all are Americans.

May God hold in His arms the victims and their families who suffered these terrorist attacks.

Buildings and bodies may be destroyed. But freedom will survive. Because freedom burns in the heart of every American. And freedom burns in the hearts of freedom loving people throughout the world.

May God bless those who fight for freedom, and may God bless our United States of America.

INDISCRIMINATE ATTACKS ON SIKHS MUST STOP; SIKHISM IS VERY DIFFERENT FROM ISLAM

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2001

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, a despicable terrorist attack was carried out on the United States of America. I am pleased to see how all of us, Republican and Democrat, liberal and conservative, are pulling together in support of our nation. That is inspiring and it shows the greatness of America.

At the same time, it is very unfortunate that some Americans have been made targets of violence simply because of the way they look and the way they dress. That is unacceptable. Despite the anger that we all share against those responsible for the terrorists attacks, we must not sink to their level and become a people who extract revenge indiscriminately.

It appears that there have been several attacks on Sikhs, largely in the New York area but elsewhere as well, including a beating of an elderly Sikh man with baseball bats. Apparently, some Sikhs are being singled out for attacks because their turbans and beards remind people of the terrorist chief Osama bin Laden. Other Sikhs are being mistaken for Muslims.

Attacking innocent American Muslims is wrong, and we should stand together in condemning attacks on them. However, it must be

emphasized that Sikhs are not Muslims. Sikhism must not be mistaken for Islam, Hinduism, or any other religion. Every Sikh is required to wear a turban; it is part of the religion. Very few Muslims wear turbans. Osama bin Laden is one of the few Muslims who does. The style in which a turban is worn by a Sikh is quite different from the style that is worn by some Muslims. In addition, Sikhs can be identified by the kirpans (small ceremonial swords) that they carry and the bracelets they wear. These are two of the five things that identify a practicing Sikh. Tragically, some people, who are ignorant of Islam and Sikhism, have targeted innocent Sikh-Americans for violence. It must be made clear that Sikhs do not hold any ill will toward America. Sikhs from around the world have always looked toward the United States as a beacon of freedom to be emulated, not a nation to be destroyed.

Mr. Speaker, attacks against Sikhs must stop. I am calling for an end to this violence against Sikh Americans and anyone else of any faith who was not involved in the terrorist attack on our country. I call on our nation's leaders to speak our forcefully against these attacks. I also believe that it is the responsibility of the media to expose these attacks and denounce them. All Americans are justified in being very angry about what happened on September 11, but that does not justify acts of violence against innocent Americans.

VERMONT HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT CONGRESSIONAL TOWN MEETING

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2001

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the outstanding work done by participants in my Student Congressional Town Meeting held this summer. These participants were part of a group of high school students from around Vermont who testified about the concerns they have as teenagers, and about what they would like to see government do regarding these concerns.

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF JUSTICE BENJAMIN J.F. CRUZ

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this occasion to commend and congratulate a distinguished public servant, Chief Justice Benjamin J.F. Cruz, upon his retirement from the Supreme Court of Guam. A highly regarded jurist, Chief Justice Cruz is well known and respected for his commitment to Guam's judiciary and the important decisions he rendered as a judge in the island's court system.

Widely known on the island as "B.J.," Chief Justice Cruz was born in Guam to Juan Quenga Cruz and Antonia Cruz Franqueze on

March 3, 1951. A successful businessman and a respected leader, B.J.'s father was elected as commissioner of the village of Piti. Upon the death of B.J.'s father in 1956, his mother moved the family to California and later married Vicente Cruz Guerrero.

On Guam, young B.J. attended Saint Francis School in Yona. He later graduated from St. John Bosco Senior High School in Bellflower, California in 1968 and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and Economics from Claremont Men's College where he wrote his senior thesis on the constitutional and legal history of Guam. In 1972, B.J. attended the University of Santa Clara School of Law. He spent the summer of 1973 working as a law clerk for both the Federal District Court and the Superior Court of Guam. He was awarded his Juris Doctorate in May 1975.

Upon graduation, B.J. commenced a long and distinguished career in government service. He initially served as the Assistant Consumer Counsel in the Office of the Attorney General of Guam and, shortly thereafter, joined the first administration of Governor Ricardo J. Bordallo as its legal counsel. B.J. served in this capacity until January 1979, when he went into private practice. Within this period, he also served as minority legal counsel to the Democratic Senators of the 15th and 16th Guam Legislatures. B.J. remained active in the promotion of cultural and political rights working as an incorporator and legal counsel for a number of indigenous rights organizations and the Nuclear Free Micronesia organization. During Governor Bordallo's second term, B.J. was chosen to head the newly established Governor's Washington Liaison Office in Washington, D.C.—a post he held until his appointment as a Superior Court Judge in 1984.

As a judge, B.J. was known for his fair and impartial decisions. His reputation is of fairness, firmness and compassion. For over thirteen years, he served as a trial court judge with Superior Court of Guam—the first nine years of which he spent with the Family Juvenile Court. First appointed to the Guam Supreme Court in 1997, he began his term as Chief Justice on April 21, 1999.

Outside the courtroom, Chief Justice Cruz has always been involved with community events and organizations. Having previously served as vice president and treasurer of the Guam National Olympic Committee, he now serves as the organization's secretary general. His tenure in the Family Juvenile Court undoubtedly led him to serve as President of the Board of Directors for Sanctuary, Inc., an organization dedicated to the island's troubled youth and their families. In addition, he has been actively involved with civic and community associations such as the Guam Chapter of the American Cancer Society, the Miss Guam World Association, and the Guam Beauty Association.

Upon his retirement in August 21, 2001, Chief Justice Cruz left a legacy of achievements and accomplishments. The decades of service he dedicated to the people of Guam has truly earned him a place in our hearts. On behalf of the people of Guam, I congratulate him on his well earned retirement and thank him for his service to the island and its people. Si Yu'os Ma'ase', Chief Justice Cruz.