

claiming that it is going after terrorism, despite India's own record of terrorism.

In November 1994, the Indian newspaper Hitavada reported that the Indian government paid the late governor of Punjab, Surendra Nath, approximately \$1.5 billion to organize and support covert state terrorism in Punjab Khalistan, and in Kashmir. The book *Soft Target*, written by journalists from the Toronto Star and the Toronto Globe and Mail, shows that the Indian government blew up its own airliner in 1985, killing 329 innocent people. According to *India Today*, the Indian government created the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and put up LTTE leaders in New Delhi's finest hotel. The LTTE were created to stop a U.S. broadcast tower in Sri Lanka. Then the Indian government turned on the LTTE because the LTTE seeks an independent country for Tamils.

The Indian government sentenced Devinder Singh Bhullar to death because he advocated Khalistan, yet Ribeiro, Ray, K.P.S. Gill, Swaran Singh Ghotna, and the other police and political officials who committed genocide against the Sikhs are not punished. In June a train carrying Sikh religious pilgrims was attacked by militant Hindu fundamentalists. On May 27, several Indian soldiers were caught red-handed trying to set fire to a Gurdwara and some Sikh homes in Kashmir. Sikh and Muslim residents of the village overwhelmed the troops and stopped them from carrying out this atrocity.

A report issued in April by the Movement Against State Repression (MASR) shows that India admitted that it held 52,268 political prisoners under the repressive "Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Act" (TADA). These Sikh political prisoners must be released immediately. These prisoners continue to be held under TADA even though it expired in 1995. Persons arrested under TADA are routinely re-arrested upon their release. Cases were routinely registered against Sikh activists under TADA in states other than Punjab to give the police an excuse to continue holding them. The MASR report quotes the Punjab Civil Magistracy as writing "if we add up the figures of the last few years the number of innocent persons killed would run into lakhs [hundreds of thousands.]" As General Narinder Singh has said, "Punjab is a police state." U.S. Congressman Dana Rohrabacher has said that for minorities like the Sikhs, the Muslims of Kashmir, and others, "India might as well be Nazi Germany."

It is not just Sikhs who are being targeted by Indian terrorism. In 1997, a Christian religious festival was broken up by police gunfire. Since Christmas 1998, Christians have been subjected to a reign of terror which has seen the murder of priests, the rape of nuns, the burning of churches, attacks on Christian schools and prayer halls, and other incidents carried out by supporters of the pro-Fascist Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS), the parent organization of the ruling BJP, which was formed in support of the Nazis. RSS activists also burned missionary Graham Staines and his two young sons, ages 8 and 10, to death while they slept in their jeeps. The killers gathered around the jeep chanting "Victory to Hanuman," a Hindu god. Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee told an audience in New York last year, "I will always be a Swayamsewak."

India is also anti-American. According to the May 18, 1999 issue of the *Indian Express*, the Indian Defense Minister met with the Ambassadors from terrorist countries Iraq, Libya, and Cuba, as well as Red China, Rus-

sia, and Serbia, to set up a security alliance "to stop the U.S." India voted with the dictatorships to throw the United States off the UN Human Rights Commission. It votes against America at the United Nations more often than any country except Cuba. It voted to suppress a U.S.-sponsored resolution critical of China's human-rights violations. It was a strong Soviet ally.

This is an ideal opportunity to begin a Shantmai Morcha and form a Khalsa Raj party to achieve independence for Khalistan and to liberate the other countries seeking their freedom from Indian occupation. Remember the words of former Akal Takht Jathedar Professor Darshan Singh: "If a Sikh is not Khalistani, he is not a Sikh." Self-determination is the right of all people and nations.

Pro-Khalistan handbills were handed out at the Golden Temple on June 7 during the commemoration of Gallughara Divas and Sant Bhindranwale's martyrdom. Ajmer Singh Lakhwal, the head of the Bharat Kisan Union, has called for self-determination for the Sikhs. The flame of freedom burns bright in the hearts of the Sikhs.

When we liberate Khalistan, we will be more respected, appreciated, and understood by Americans and throughout the world. We must take this occasion to renew our commitment to free Khalistan. Every Sikh should put a bumper sticker on his or her car saying "INDIA FREE KHALISTAN." This sticker is available from this office.

In 1947, when India was divided, the cunning and deceitful Hindu leadership promised that Sikhs would have the glow of freedom in Punjab and that no law affecting Sikh rights would be passed without Sikh consent. As soon as the transfer of power had occurred and India was free, those promises were broken. Instead, India began its effort to wipe out the Sikh people, the Sikh Nation, and the Sikh religion.

Sikhs gave over 80 percent of the sacrifices to free India from the British. At that time, they were only 1.6 percent of the population. Sikhs are the ones who suffered the most after the freedom and partition of India. Fifty percent of the Sikh population had to migrate from the Pakistan side of Punjab to the Indian side of Punjab. Sikhs were prosperous farmers in West Punjab. They lost their fertile farming land. When they were allotted lands in Indian Punjab, everyone got a cut between 25 and 95 percent of their acreage.

In a free Khalistan, there will be economic prosperity. The Punjab farmers will be able to sell their produce at high prices in the international market and buy cheaper fertilizers, insecticides, and seeds. Farm produce will not lie in the market for weeks without buyers as it did during the sale of the rice crop last year.

We must have a full, free, and fair plebiscite on the status of Khalistan and we must launch a Shantmai Morcha to liberate our homeland. India is not one nation. It has 18 official languages. Let us take this opportunity to bring freedom to our homeland and all the countries of South Asia.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF ROGER
HERNON

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, today, I was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Roger Hernon.

Roger Hernon was a great American, and is to be commended for his accomplishments as the city of Warren Fire Chief and City Councilman. He leaves behind a wife, Norma; nine sons; 18 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Roger first began his firefighting career in May of 1960 when he was hired as a Warren firefighter. He was then promoted to fire chief in 1978. Roger was also a founding member of the Irish Heritage Society, where he earned the "Erin Go Bragh Irishman" of the Year Award in 1985. Not only did Roger serve his community as a Warren City Councilman-At-Large, but he also served his country in the Korean war where he was awarded the Purple Heart.

Roger Hernon will be sorely missed, and I extend my deepest sympathy to his family.

TRIBUTE TO JUSTICE JAMES H.
BRICKLEY

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday a memorial service was held to honor and remember an exceptional distinguished citizen of our State of Michigan.

Jim Brickley life's work spanned all three branches of government. Early in his career, he served as a legislator on the Detroit Common Council. He served in the Executive Branch, in state government twice as Lieutenant Governor and much earlier in the FBI after he graduated law school in 1954. His legal career encompassed work in early years as an assistant prosecutor, later as a U.S. attorney and at the end of his public career as a Justice and Chief Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court.

The public careers of few individuals ever achieve such a broad scope. What is even more remarkable is the talent and integrity which Jim Brickley brought to each segment of his life's work. He also brought a decency and humanity into public life that reflected his numerous, diverse relationships in his private life cutting across all racial, religious and ethnic lines.

Michigan will miss Jim Brickley. He was an exceptional public servant. We send our deepest condolences to his wife Joyce Braithwaite and the entire family.