

"world's largest democracy" which has been going on since Christmas of 1998. It follows the murders of other priests, the rape of nuns, church burnings, attacks on Christian schools and prayer halls, the burning deaths of missionary Graham Staines and his two sons while they slept in their jeep by Hindu militants chanting "Victory to Hannuman (a Hindu god)," and other incidents.

After one incident that involved the rape of nuns, the VHP, which is part of the pro-Fascist RSS (the parent organization of the ruling BJP, hailed the rapists as "patriotic youth" and denounced the nuns as "anti-national elements." BJP leaders have said openly that everyone who lives in India must either be Hindu or be subservient to Hinduism. It has even been reported that the RSS has published a booklet on how to implicate Christians and other religious minorities, such as Sikhs and Muslims, in false criminal cases. The Indian government has killed more than 200,000 Christians in Nagaland. This pattern of religious tyranny and terrorism is apparently what India considers religious freedom.

It is not just Christians who have suffered from this kind of persecution, of course, but it seems to be their turn to be the featured victims. Sikhs, Muslims, and others have also been persecuted at the hands of the Indian government. Over 250,000 Sikhs have been murdered by the Indian government. Two independent investigations have shown that the massacre of 35 Sikhs in the village of Chithi Singhpora was carried out by the Indian government. The evidence also seems to show that the Indian government is responsible for the recent massacre of Sikhs in Kashmir. In November, 3,200 Sikhs, who were trying to get to Nankana Sahib in Pakistan on a religious pilgrimage, were attacked by 6,000 police with heavy sticks called lathis and tear gas. Only 800 of these Sikhs made it to the celebration of the birthday of Guru Nanak.

It is the BJP that destroyed the Babri mosque and still seek to build a Hindu temple on the site. Now BJP officials have been quoted as calling for the "Indianization" of Islam, according to Newsroom Online. The Indian government has killed over 70,000 Muslims in Kashmir since 1988. In addition, Dalits (the "black untouchables"), Tamils, Manipuris, Assamese, and others have seen tens of thousands of their people killed at the hands of the Indian government.

Mr. Speaker, in light of this ongoing pattern of state terrorism against the peoples living within its borders, it is appropriate for America, as the leader of the world, to do what we can to protect these people and expand freedom to every corner of the subcontinent. The best way to do this is to stop American aid to India and to support self-determination for all the peoples and nations of the subcontinent.

Mr. Speaker, I insert into the RECORD an India-West report regarding the beating of these two priests. I commend it to all my congressional colleagues who care about human rights.

[From India-West, Jan. 12, 2001]

TWO CHRISTIAN PRIESTS ABDUCTED AND BEATEN

JAIPUR (Reuters)—Two Christian priests were recovering in hospital Jan. 5 after being abducted and beaten in a tribal village in western India, police said.

They said the priests, identified only as Simon and David, were abducted from Zer, a village in Rajasthan's Udaipur district, Jan. 4 and forcibly taken to the neighboring state of Gujarat where they were beaten.

Anand Shukla, an Udaipur police chief, told Reuters the two abductors had been identified. One was a Zer villager and the other a resident of Gujarat.

The priests suffered minor injuries and were admitted to a hospital in Bijaynagar in Gujarat, Shukla said.

No motive was given for the attack, but Gujarat has in the past been the scene of violent attacks on Christians, who make up about two percent of India's billion-strong population. Right-wing Hindu organizations have been blamed for the attacks.

Hindu leaders deny the charge. They say forced religious conversions by Christian missionaries are responsible for unrest in tribal areas.

A TRIBUTE TO LYNDA DIANE MULL

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 7, 2001

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I wish to pay tribute to Lynda Diane Mull, a dedicated advocate for our nation's two million migrant and seasonal farmworkers. Diane has recently resigned her position with the Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs (AFOP) after 20 years of dedicated service.

AFOP is a national federation of farmworker service, employment, and training providers who serve migrant and seasonal farmworkers in 49 states and Puerto Rico. AFOP's members are funded by the Department of Labor to provide direct services—jobs, training, housing, English classes, emergency assistance, and other vital services—to farmworkers through a network of more than 300 field offices located throughout rural America. As AFOP's Executive Director Diane helped build the organization into one of the nation's leading farmworker advocacy groups, as well as a leader in the fight to end abusive child labor, particularly in rural areas, in this country and around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I have worked closely with Diane for many years in our attempt to protect farmworker children who toil in our nation's agricultural fields. As you know, hundreds of thousands of children who harvest fruits and vegetables are exposed to working conditions that many adults cannot endure. Hundreds of thousands of young people's immune systems are being placed in great risk of harm from toxic fertilizers and pesticides.

Diane's career began as an Information/Education Specialist for North Carolina's Department of Human Resources, Division of Mental Health, where she coordinated community mental health, drug, and alcohol education for mental health centers and hospitals. In 1978, Diane began her efforts with farmworker programs, taking a position as a Job Development Specialist for Telamon Corporation. Late in 1978, she became Program Coordinator for Telamon's Georgia farmworker program, supervising seven field offices, and in late 1980

she was selected as Telamon's State Director for the West Virginia program.

Diane was appointed Executive Director of the Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs (AFOP) in 1981. At AFOP, she helped educate Members of Congress about the plight of the nation's farmworkers, as well as their employment and training needs. She worked tirelessly to improve resources to help the poorest of the poor.

Seven years ago, Diane conceived and helped establish AFOP's AmeriCorps National Farmworker Environmental Education Program which has provided pesticide safety training to nearly 220,000 farmworkers in order to protect them from the dangers of toxic chemicals. The program has also enhanced the work skills and leadership abilities of more than 450 AmeriCorps members—many of them young people from farmworker families who have received over \$1 million in education awards.

Diane Mull has been active on numerous boards, commissions, federal advisory committees, and panels dealing with farmworker issues, including the National Child Labor Coalition, the National Children's Center on Childhood Agricultural Injury Prevention, the U.S. Department of Labor's National Stakeholders Forum, and others. She has been named to four federal advisory committees: the U.S. Department of Labor's Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Employment and Training Federal Advisory Committee, the Environmental Protection Agency's Children's Health Protection Federal Advisory Committee, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Regional Coordinating Council on Migrant Head Start, and the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Advisory Committee on International Child Labor Enforcement. Diane also founded and is the co-chair of the Children in the Fields Campaign, the domestic and international campaign to end the worst forms of child labor in agriculture.

Over the years, Diane has worked tirelessly to publicize farmworker issues, even as she waged her own successful battle against cancer. She was instrumental in bringing about the Associated Press's five-part 1997 series entitled, "Children for Hire," which played a dramatic role in bringing our nation's child labor problem to the public's attention. She also worked closely with Dateline NBC's "Children of the Harvest," which aired in 1998. Most recently, she assisted Seventeen Magazine with its article "We Are Invisible," which included one of Diane's many photos depicting child labor in agriculture.

Diane Mull has received numerous awards in recognition of her contributions. In 1991, she was awarded the first National Award for Professional Staff Development by the National Association of Workforce Development Professionals. In 1994, she participated at the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe's Human Dimension Seminar in Warsaw, Poland representing the interest of U.S. migrant workers and the non-governmental organizations that serve them. In 1996, Diane was inducted into the National Farmworker Advocates Hall of Fame, and in June 1998, she spoke at a briefing on child labor before the International Labor Organization (ILO) in Geneva, Switzerland.

In 1999, Diane founded the International Initiative to End Child Labor (IIECL), a non-profit

organization whose sole mission is to end the most exploitative forms of child labor in the United States and around the world. In that same year, through Diane's voluntary efforts, IIECL received three grants working in partnership with AFL-CIO's American Center for International Labor Solidarity, the National Consumers League, and the International Labor Rights Fund.

Throughout her career, Diane has testified on numerous occasions before both the House and Senate, and submitted hundreds of statements and testimony to the executive and legislative branches of the federal government on behalf of farmworkers and farmworker organizations. More recently, she addressed the First International Symposium on Micro-Enterprise in Obregon, Mexico in 1999 addressing child labor and youth employment issues. She returned to Mexico in August 2000 to complete a country survey on child labor in agriculture for the International Labor Rights Fund.

In November, Diane left AFOP to take a new position at Creative Associates working with the United States Agency for International Development. She will oversee the development of innovative basic education programs to prevent child labor around the world. Additionally, she will brief Congress and USAID on international child labor developments, as well as provide training and technical assistance about child labor to U.S. AID global, regional, and mission-level staff in Asia, Latin America, Africa, and Europe.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in expressing our gratitude to Diane for her two decades of service on behalf of our nation's migrant and seasonal farmworkers. We wish her great success in her continuing work to prevent abusive child labor.

HONORING UNSUNG HEROES

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 07, 2001

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to honor three people who have dedicated their professional careers to fighting for better lives for the children and families of our nation's capital. Each week, all of us come to this revered institution to continue the greatest exercise in democracy and freedom the world has ever known. And yet, in the shadow of the Capitol itself are families and children whose lives we cannot imagine. There are children who are not able to contemplate the beauty of democracy and freedom because they are only concerned with surviving another day with enough food, with proper shelter, and without being a victim of abuse.

Luckily, there are many people who are using their formidable talents to provide a better life for these children and their families. On Monday, March 6, the Bar Association of the District of Columbia honored three special individuals as "Unsung Heroes." I would like to take this opportunity to also honor these people.

Alec I. Haniford Deull has been a lawyer in Washington DC for nearly a decade. After graduating from the Washington College of

Law at American University, magna cum laude, Mr. Deull opened his own practice in 1993. For his entire professional career as an attorney, he has represented clients in child abuse and neglect cases. He also represents children in special education court actions. He is widely respected for his passionate advocacy on behalf of his clients. Mr. Deull is also working to train the next generation of children's advocates, often taking on numerous interns from local law schools.

Juliet J. McKenna is now the Executive Director of the District of Columbia chapter of Lawyers for Children America, a wonderful organization. This organization trains lawyers in private practice who are volunteering their time as guardians ad litem in child abuse and neglect cases. Before joining Lawyers for Children America, she spent two years in the District's Office of the Corporation Counsel in the Abuse and Neglect section of the Family Services Division. Ms. McKenna is a bright and enthusiastic young woman who only graduated Yale Law School in 1995, but has already earned a reputation as an outstanding advocate.

Finally, upon graduating from Northwestern University School of Law, Anthony R. Davenport joined the Office of the General Counsel of the District of Columbia Department of Human Services and then the Office of the Corporation Counsel. In all, he spent eight years working for the people, families and children of the District. For the past six years, Mr. Davenport has been a solo practitioner specializing in litigation concerning the rights of children and families. He has spent countless hours working to provide a better future for children and families across this city.

These are three extraordinary people. I ask that all my colleagues join me in recognizing and honoring these people for their contribution to making our nation's capital a better place for children and families.

HONORING PASTOR CLINTON M. MILLER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 7, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Reverend Clinton M. Miller of Brooklyn, New York. This weekend Reverend Miller will be installed as the new pastor of the Brown Memorial Baptist Church in Fort Greene. Reverend Miller has worked towards this goal since the moment he realized that he wanted to dedicate himself to religion and I am pleased to acknowledge his achievement.

Reverend Miller was born and raised in Brooklyn. He received his high school diploma from the Bishop Loughlin Memorial High School and a Bachelor's Degree from Southern Connecticut State University. While in college, at the age of 19, he heard the call to pastor. This led him to Yale University's Divinity School where he received a Master's Degree. After being ordained by the American Baptist Churches and the United Missionary Association of Greater New York, Clinton began what would become an apprenticeship

at the Abyssinian Baptist Church. Rev. Clinton taught in the New York City Public School System until he became a fulltime youth minister at Abyssinian Baptist Church. As a youth minister, Reverend Miller developed a wide array of youth programs, including Sunday evening services, Summer Day Camp, basketball teams and counseling services. In addition, he held a weekly bible reading for seniors.

Mr. Speaker, Rev. Miller has had the opportunity of being exposed to the highest quality of spiritual training and guidance under one of the most renowned ministers in the nation, Rev. Dr. Calvin O. Butts; Rev. Miller believes in a fresh approach to teaching the scripture; he believes in utilizing the tools of the congregation; he believes in using the parish to benefit the community; and he was a student of Abyssinian's renovation effort. As such, Rev. Miller is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today, and I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable man of faith.

CLARIFICATION OF THE HI TAX

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 7, 2001

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing, along with Messrs. TIERNEY, FRANK, MCGOVERN, CAPUANO, OLVER and MARKEY, legislation to clarify that the employees of a political subdivision of a State shall not lose their exemption from the hospital insurance tax by reason of the consolidation of the subdivision with the State.

This issue has arisen because in 1997 Massachusetts abolished county government in the State, assumed those few functions which counties had performed, and made certain county officials employees of the State. Specifically, the law provided that the sheriff and all his personnel "shall be transferred to the commonwealth with no impairment of employment rights held immediately before the transfer date, without interruption of service, without impairment of seniority, retirement or other rights of employees, without reduction in compensation or salary grade and without change in union representation."

However, the issue of whether or not these consolidated employees were required to pay the Medicare portion of the FICA tax needed to be clarified. Federal law creates an exemption from this tax for state and local employees who were employed on or before March 31, 1986 and who continue to be employed with that employer. The law is written so it is clear that consolidations between local entities, and consolidations between State agencies, do not in and of themselves negate the grandfather rule. However, the issue of a consolidation between a political subdivision and a State is not directly addressed and I doubt it was thought of during the consideration of the federal law.

The Internal Revenue Service has taken the position that a State, and a political subdivision of a state, are separate employers for purposes of payment of the Medicare tax and