

women have been killed. Many of the young women were abducted in broad daylight in well-populated areas, held captive for several days, and subjected to physical violence, humiliation, and sexual torture before having their mutilated bodies discovered days, or sometimes years, later in deserted areas. Since 2004, at least 30 women have been killed in the city of Juarez in Chihuahua.

On May 28, 2004, 14-year-old Luisa Rocio Chavez was found murdered in the state of Chihuahua after disappearing the previous morning on her way home from the store. She had been raped and strangled to death, and her body was found partially clothed. And before that, on April 26, 2004, a 33-year-old factory worker, Teresa Torbellin, was found after being beaten to death and dragged through bushes and desert, eventually being dumped in a deserted area outside the city. Like these deaths, nearly all of the cases remain unsolved. In fact, many of the bodies of victims have yet to be positively identified. One can only imagine how much pain and suffering this has caused the families and friends of these young women. I want to make sure these deaths are never forgotten, and that the Governments on both sides of the border continue to give this issue the attention it so rightly deserves.

Human rights groups have reported that in many cases bodies have been misidentified, evidence contaminated or lost, key witnesses not properly interviewed, and autopsies inadequately performed. And there have been serious allegations of instances of individuals being tortured into confessing to these horrible crimes. In one such case, an American citizen, Cynthia Kiecker, and her husband Ulises Perzabal were accused of killing a young woman and reportedly tortured into confessing. I am pleased that they have since been released.

President Vicente Fox has taken steps to address this issue by setting up the Commission to Prevent and Eradicate Violence Against Women, which is responsible for coordinating federal and state efforts in preventing violence of women in Ciudad Juarez and Chihuahua, and appointing a special prosecutor for punishing those responsible for the murders in Ciudad Juarez. The federal prosecutor, Maria Lopez Urbina, has reviewed over 200 cases and cited 130 Chihuahua public servants for negligence and malfeasance. I am encouraged that the new governor of Chihuahua, Jose Reyes Baeza Terrazas, has indicated a willingness to take steps to resolve these murders.

I also want to recognize the efforts of Commissioner Guadalupe Morfin Otero, who has done some good work in investigating the issues surrounding these deaths. The Mexican Federal Government has also established a DNA database to help better identify the vic-

tims. While obtaining independent verification of victims' remains an outstanding issue, the creation of this database is a positive step in the right direction.

Although I am pleased that President Fox has taken the initiative on these fronts, I continue to believe that there needs to be a more coordinated effort on the part of the Mexican and U.S. Governments. That is why I have submitted this vitally important resolution. I stand ready to assist in any way I can, and I believe that the U.S. Government should be prepared to do so as well. The U.S. Agency for International Development has begun providing assistance to the state of Chihuahua for judicial reform, and I hope that the Mexican and U.S. Governments can work together on other initiatives as well. This resolution isn't meant to be a condemnation of Mexico. It is meant to express that the U.S. Congress stands with the victims of this violence and is willing to take constructive steps to assist in preventing these murders in the future.

Specially, this resolution would condemn the abductions and murders of young women in the state of Chihuahua, Mexico, express the sincerest condolences and deepest sympathy of the Senate to the families of the young women, and urge a continued multilateral effort on the part of the Governments of Mexico and the United States to address this issue.

To this end, it would urge the Governments of Mexico and the United States to support steps that would allow families to positively identify the remains of the victims, and encourage the Secretary of States to continue to facilitate U.S. participation in such efforts.

It would also encourage the Secretary of State to urge the Mexican Government to ensure fair and proper judicial proceedings for the individuals accused of these abductions and murders, and to impose appropriate punishment for those individuals found guilty of such crimes. Additionally, it would condemn threats against human rights activists and the use of torture as a means of investigation.

Lastly, this resolution would condemn all senseless acts of violence against women across the world and express the solidarity of the people of the United States with the people of Mexico in the face of these tragic and senseless acts.

This problem can't be ignored. We have the chance to help end the suffering of these innocent families, and I hope the Senate will join me in supporting this resolution.

#### THE TIBETAN DAY OF COMMEMORATION

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, Today I rise to commemorate the 46th

Anniversary of the Tibetan Uprising of 1959.

It is my sincere hope that both the Chinese government and the Tibetan leaders might use this opportunity to reflect on the importance of pursuing a viable, long-term solution that provides the Tibetan people the right to enjoy religious, cultural, and social autonomy as part of the People's Republic of China.

This anniversary marks a sad, but important day in the history of the Tibetan people.

In 1951, two years after the People's Liberation Army first entered Tibet, Chinese government representatives and Tibetan leaders signed what has been called the 17 Point Agreement.

This agreement, among other things, included the promise of Tibetan religious, cultural, and social autonomy, and preserved the institution of the Dalai Lama.

Sadly, the Chinese government failed to uphold these promises and attempted to force "revolutionary socialist reforms" upon the Tibet people and leadership. This ultimately culminated in the 1959 Lhasa Uprising which saw tens of thousands of Tibetans killed and forced the Dalai Lama and many others to flee to India.

Today human rights abuses continue against Tibetans wishing to practice their religion or promote their unique cultural and historical identity. Hundreds have been imprisoned in Tibet, and tens of thousands more have had to flee their homeland.

Nevertheless, the Dalai Lama remains steadfast in his desire to find a long-lasting and viable solution that will provide freedom and autonomy for the Tibetan people without pursuing independence.

In a speech today to mark this 46th anniversary, he stated:

We remain fully committed to the Middle Way Approach of not seeking independence for Tibet and are willing to remain within the People's Republic of China.

He also praised the economic progress and development that has taken place in Tibet over the past 40 years, including the new railroad link that will begin operation this year.

I have personally worked for well over two decades to try and bring both the Chinese government and Tibetan leadership together in a spirit of cooperation and dialogue to overcome the differences that have impeded progress on a solution for Tibet. And after many conversations with the Dalai Lama, I am fully convinced that he is sincere in his promise not to pursue a separate path for Tibet.

To that end, several times over the years I have carried messages from the Dalai Lama to Beijing and communicated regularly with Jiang Zemin and other Chinese officials on the importance of establishing dialogue on the Tibet issue.

I have also been pleased to see that discussions between the Dalai Lama's envoys and Chinese officials have resumed and that a third round of meetings took place last September in Beijing.

It is my hope that both sides will build upon these meetings and that President Hu, with his knowledge and understanding of the Tibetan people, will come to appreciate the international goodwill that would be fostered by his willingness to meet with the Dalai Lama and pursue a reasonable solution to the Tibet issue.

Despite the slow pace of progress over the years, I remain confident that if the Chinese leadership will only sit down with the Dalai Lama and listen openly to his views, that a sustainable solution providing for the preservation of the distinctive identity, religious and cultural heritage for the Tibetan people can be found.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### AMERICAN CULINARY FEDERATION'S SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

• Mr. ALLEN. Mr. President, I am pleased today to recognize a group of Americans who are constantly seeking to improve upon their skills and pursue excellence in their passion and vocation.

Beginning today, chefs, cooks, students and foodservice professionals from Southeastern America will gather in Roanoke, VA for a 4-day conference hosted by the American Culinary Federation's Southwestern Virginia Chapter. The event serves as an invaluable opportunity for these culinarians to share their immense skill and knowledge with others in their profession. It provides a chance for these culinary artists to create new relationships and foster old ones, and for senior and master chefs to inspire the aspiring junior chefs.

The conference will honor a number of individuals for excellence in their trade, with the following distinctions being awarded: chef of the year award, pastry chef of the year award, and student member of the year award. These individuals will then compete at the national conference of the American Culinary Federation to receive the national award in each division.

In addition to the work the American Culinary Federation does to promote the art of cooking and to enhance the dining experience for those who indulge in a meal prepared by these talented individuals, the ACF also works hard to fight childhood hunger across the nation by providing nutrition-based education programs to children in preschool through grade five. Chefs work to increase the awareness of childhood hunger and poverty, and help to train food-relief agencies.

I am pleased that the Southwestern Virginia Chapter of the American Culinary Federation will host such a talented and compassionate group of Americans in the great town of Roanoke. I wish them continued success in their culinary endeavors.●

##### TRIBUTE TO THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, ON ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY

• Mr. BOND. Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate the First Baptist Church of Kansas City, MO, on its 150th anniversary.

The First Baptist Church has had a long and proud history, coinciding with the history of Kansas City. The church was organized on April 21, 1855, by a group of 10 men and women in the small settlement along the Missouri River incorporated as the City of Kansas. The first pastor was the Reverend R.S. Thomas. In 1859 the congregation completed its first building at Eighth and May Streets in downtown Kansas City.

In 1880, a new church building was completed on the southwest corner of Twelfth and Baltimore, later the side of the Hotel Muehlebach. The growth of the congregation and the city dictated relocation of the church in the early 1900s. A new site was chosen at Linwood Boulevard and Park Avenue while a West Side Branch of the church was established at Thirteenth and Broadway to serve the needs of downtown residents. Both buildings were dedicated in 1909. From 1909 and 1942, First Baptist Church ministered in two very different locations. After our country's entry in World War II, changing conditions and needs brought the decision to end the West Side ministry. The property was sold to the Salvation Army.

In 1960, the congregation voted to establish a branch church in the southern part of Kansas City. The new colonial-style church building was completed in 1963 at the northwest corner of Wornall Road and Red Bridge Road. There have since been two additions to the original structure. The First Baptist Church of Kansas City was once again ministering at two locations within the city. In 1982, the Linwood Boulevard building was sold to the Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church. Since that time, the church's single location has been at Red Bridge and Wornall.

Throughout its 150 years, First Baptist Church of Kansas City, MO, has striven to maintain its concern for and involvement in the entire Kansas City community. Its pastors and members have often assumed leadership positions in civic affairs, especially during a time when Kansas City was fighting to end political corruption within the local government and later when Kan-

sas City worked to bring an end to discrimination in public facilities and housing.

The First Baptist Church of Kansas City has strongly supported the home mission and foreign mission programs of their denomination. Many of their members have served in foreign mission fields, including two who are presently working in Hong Kong. The church has always been involved in ecumenical relationships with other churches, other denominations and other faiths in their community, in our nation, and throughout the world by their membership in the Baptist World Alliance.

I commend the congregation of First Baptist Church of Kansas City on their commitment to maintain high standards of worship, music, and fellowship. I am pleased to join with the Kansas City community and the State of Missouri in congratulating the congregation and wishing them continued growth and success for the next 150 years.●

##### REPORT ON THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO IRAN—PM 9

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report, which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the Federal Register and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. Consistent with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice stating that the Iran emergency declared on March 15, 1995, is to continue in effect beyond March 15, 2005, to the Federal Register for publication. The most recent notice continuing this emergency was published in the Federal Register on March 12, 2004 (69 FR 12051).

The crisis between the United States and Iran constituted by the actions and policies of the Government of Iran, including its support for international terrorism, efforts to undermine Middle East peace, and acquisition of weapons of mass destruction and the means to deliver them, that led to the declaration of a national emergency on March 15, 1995, has not been resolved. These actions and policies are contrary to the interests of the United States in the region and pose a continuing unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy