

The Delaware Bibliophiles have published five books with a sixth in the works and recently offered each public library in the State their choice of two books to add to their collections as a gift. In addition to this generosity, the club also participates in numerous exhibits that further enhance the history of the written word, the beauty of design, and the art of book collecting.

The Delaware Bibliophiles are members of the prestigious Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies and currently have over 100 members from eleven states. Certainly, the Delaware Bibliophiles have reached the goal of any bibliophile organization—to foster literary study and promote the arts pertaining to the production of books. I commend them for this fine accomplishment on the occasion of their silver anniversary.

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RECOGNIZING THE 317TH AIRLIFT  
GROUP STATIONED AT DYESS  
AIR FORCE BASE

**HON. CHARLES W. STENHOLM**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 12, 2002*

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 317th Airlift Group as they return to Dyess Air Force Base from a three-month deployment in Southwest Asia. These folks have been supporting the war effort in Afghanistan and today they return to home to the cheers and support of their families, friends and the entire city of Abilene, Texas.

I want to add my voice to this chorus of support for these brave folks who have spent the last three months working in incredibly challenging physical conditions, flying and supporting missions, in our nation's assault on terrorism. They saw firsthand how the battle in Afghanistan has cost precious American lives even as they put themselves in harm's way.

Today, I join with a grateful nation to express not only thanks to members of the 317th Airlift Group and all those who wear Air Force Blue, but also to the wives and husbands and sons and daughters and family members who share in the sacrifices they make. Our ability as a nation to deploy throughout the world at a moment's notice is possible only because there are strong families and communities to provide support.

Since the terrorist attacks on our nation on September 11, 2001, we have called on folks to make great sacrifices, and our nation's military has answered that call with swift, forceful action. Like all Americans, I have the highest level of confidence in those folks who volunteer to serve in defense of our nation. They have our confidence and respect because they have earned it. They earn it every day as they face hardship and danger. They serve because they believe in America, and America believes in them.

ATTACKS ON MUSLIMS IN INDIA  
ARE A REPEAT OF 1984 ATTACKS  
ON SIKHS

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 12, 2002*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, more than 540 people have recently died in violent attacks on Muslims in Gujarat, India while police stand by and do nothing. This violence is very disturbing and very reminiscent of the violence against Sikhs in Delhi in November 1984. At that time, police also stood by and did nothing. Sikh police were locked in their barracks and the state-run radio and television stations fanned the flames of the massacre. Even a former Member of Parliament was killed in the riots last week while police stood by, according to a report in the National Post.

When the government, through its police, stands by and lets these attacks unfold, it condones them. Unfortunately, this shows the real truth about India's claim that it is secular and democratic. In a secular, democratic country, the police do not allow minorities to be massacred. This is the act of a theocratic country that seeks to wipe out minorities. That is not the kind of country that America should be supporting.

We should stop providing aid to India while its minorities suffer from this kind of repression. We should not build up its economy with trade. And we should support the people and nations of South Asia in achieving freedom. Self-determination is the right of all people; let us support a free and fair plebiscite on the future of Khalistan, Kashmir, Nagaland, and the other countries seeking their freedom from India.

Mr. Speaker, the Council of Khalistan recently published a press release discussing the parallels between the current violence and the Delhi massacres of Sikhs.

KILLING OF OVER 540 MUSLIMS BY HINDU MILITANTS PARALLELS 1984 MASSACRE OF SIKHS

WASHINGTON, D.C., MARCH 5, 2002.—The attacks on Muslims in Ahmedabad parallel the November 1984 massacre of Sikhs in Delhi, according to Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, the government pro tempore of the Sikh homeland, Khalistan, which leads the struggle for the independence of Khalistan. "The police stood by then, too, and the police gave a nod to the violence," Dr. Aulakh said. "This is part of the overall plan of a Hindu fundamentalist regime that is determined to wipe out minorities," he said. More than 540 people have died during the last week in the current violence in Ahmedabad. "When 13 people were killed in the attack on the Indian Parliament, there was a lot of outrage, as there should be for the killing of any human being," Dr. Aulakh said. "Where is the outrage at the death of over 540 people in this massacre?" he asked.

"The true face of Indian secularism is exposed," Dr. Aulakh said. "They demolished a mosque the other day, they demolished the mosque in Ayodhya and they are proceeding with plans to build a Hindu temple on the site," he said. "They attacked the Golden Temple in 1984. They have attacked Christian churches, schools, and prayer halls." In 2000, Indian troops were caught red-handed trying to set fire to Sikh homes in Kashmir. During the Delhi massacres in November 1984, Sikh police officers were locked in their

barracks while more than 20,000 Sikhs were massacred and the state-run television and radio called for more Sikh blood. "It is too bad that atrocities like these are carried out with impunity," he said.

The Indian government has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984. Over 75,000 Kashmiri Muslims have been killed since 1988. More than 200,000 Christians have been killed since 1947, along with tens of thousands of Dalits, Tamils, Assamese, Bodos, Manipuris, and other minorities. A report issued last year shows that 52,268 Sikh political prisoners are held in Indian jails, as well as tens of thousands of others. Since Christmas 1998, Christians have felt the brunt of the attacks. Priests have been murdered, nuns have been raped, churches have been burned, Christian schools and prayer halls have been destroyed, and no one has been punished for these acts. Militant Hindu fundamentalists allied with the RSS, the pro-Fascist parent organization of the ruling BJP, burned missionary Graham Staines and his two young sons to death. Pakistan has requested the extradition of Home Minister L.K. Advani, who is wanted for the murder of Muhammad Ali Jinnah, the founder of Pakistan, 50 years ago.

Last year, a cabinet member said that everyone living in India must be a Hindu or be subservient to Hindus. In July 1997, Narinder Singh, a spokesman for the Golden Temple, told National Public Radio, "The Indian government, all the time they boast that they're democratic, they're secular, but they have nothing to do with a democracy. They have nothing to do with a secularism. They try to crush Sikhs just to please the majority."

The attacks in Ahmedabad reportedly came in retaliation for an attack on a railroad car full of Hindus on their way to Ayodhya to build a temple on the site where the most revered mosque in India was destroyed several years ago. 58 Hindus were burned to death in that attack. For several days, train loads of Hindu extremists had passed through the village of Godha, where the train attack occurred, shouting provocative slogans about building a temple.

"By standing by while this violence went on, the government condones it," Dr. Aulakh said. "The only way to escape this government-supported violence and tyranny is for the Sikhs, Christians, Muslims, and other minorities to claim their freedom from India," he said. "That is the only way to prevent the Hindu militant theocracy from wiping us out," he said. "Now is the time for a Shantmai Morcha (peaceful agitation) for the independence of Khalistan," he said. "Sikhs are a separate nation. Sikhs ruled Punjab until the British annexed Punjab in 1849. The people of South Asia must have self-determination now," he said. "India is on the verge of disintegration, as Steve Forbes predicted in the current issue of Forbes magazine," he said. "Khalistan will be free by 2008."

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PAYING TRIBUTE TO HARRY  
MUSSELL

**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 12, 2002*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Harry Mussell and thank him for his extraordinary contributions to his community and to his state. As a resident of New Castle, Colorado, Harry has dedicated his life to improving the