

From January to June this year the unemployment in Tennessee rose from 5.4 percent to 5.6 percent. That is a loss of 10,900 jobs. This has occurred despite the 4,000 new jobs that have occurred since Gov. Phil Bredesen took office. Of course, some of these new jobs were the result of the administration of Gov. Don Sundquist.

Tennessee Commissioner of the Department of Economic and Community Development Matt Kisber said that economic development has continued as a seamless transition between the two administrations. That included landing the \$124 million Toyota plant at Jackson.

Unemployment in Blount County and Tennessee has remained below the national average. But still many local families tell of their sons and daughters with 20 years seniority losing their jobs in other states as major corporations moves their manufacturing plants to Mexico or China.

We need to tell you that we do not think the problem with the economy is the fault of action or inaction by any administration, state or national.

We think the whole problem with the economy lies with the nation's free trade—global economy—approach approved by Congress. And we have to tell you that we have supported the free trade policy. It sounds good on paper but it doesn't work for several reasons.

We were wrong!

It is time for the United States to abandon a free trade policy and adopt a fair trade policy.

In a free trade policy, the nations remove tariffs that protect manufacturing businesses in our country.

A fair trade policy would permit tariffs that would result in selling goods for prices that would be fair considering the differences in the manufacturing costs—things such as wages, working conditions and materials.

National governments have the authority to set tariffs and quota unless they agree not to do so.

Of course, what has happened is that many major U.S. companies have moved their manufacturing operations to China, or are in the process of doing so, to take advantage of the lower wages. That permits them to make bigger profit.

If they were to pay that profit to stockholders that would be fine, the stock market would rebound strongly and help a lot of people, especially those with 401-Ks and IRAs, but that is not going to happen. They will continue to waste much of it on overpaid, greedy executives. Most items can be manufactured for far less in countries where there are no labor standards and the pay scale is very low.

We will probably pay the same price for the manufactured items but we will not have the jobs that will enable our people to purchase the items.

Today, Americans are having to train some of their replacements in countries such as China and India, individuals who will do their job when the companies move overseas.

Think about it!

Our nation cannot maintain its standard of living with all of the manufacturing jobs going overseas.

If allowed to continue unabated, the free trade market would result in our nation sharing its wealth with poor nations. In other words, our standard of living will be greatly reduced.

The difference between most rich and poor nations is farm subsidies and import duties, a form of tariff.

It seems to us that it would be far better to maintain our standard of living and as a nation and provide more foreign aid support

to needy nations. That doesn't mean money to provide arms for Israel or its opponents but perhaps food to the starving.

Textiles are having the most tribulations, jobwise. The U.S. lost 8,000 textile jobs in July. And that doesn't count the 7,600 likely to be lost by the July 30 bankruptcy of Pillowtex Corp., a 106-year-old textile manufacturer.

Since April, the United States has lost 26,000 jobs in textiles and 21,000 jobs in apparel.

Next year's deadline is the end of a decade-long phase-out for quotas used by the United States and other wealthy countries to limit imports from developing countries. That is expected to accelerate China's growing market dominance. The American Textile Manufacturers Institute predicts that 630,000 jobs in textiles, apparel and related industries could be lost by 2006. The impact could be felt as early as next spring as material orders are placed.

North Carolina would be the biggest loser with about 85,000 more losing their jobs in the next three years. That is two out of every three jobs remaining in this field. South Carolina would have 42,000 layoffs.

Quotas slow the drain of U.S. jobs but are estimated to cost an average family of four \$300 to \$750 a year more for clothes. That is a small price to pay for a job though.

Of course, developing nations have something to say about this too. Many of them have tariffs on industrial goods which they must import from richer nations.

Hopefully, we as a nation could be smarter at the bargaining table in adjusting quotas and tariffs in a fair trade market. It appears to us that if we lose the majority of our manufacturing jobs there will not be anything left to negotiate!

NORTHWEST INDIANA ALLIANCE BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2003

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate and recognize the Northwest Indiana Alliance Basketball Team on winning the national title for the 9th grade category at the United States Specialty Sports Association Nationals in Fort Wayne, Indiana on August 3, 2003. The tournament began on July 30, 2003 and ended with the Alliance's outstanding victory against the Illinois Wildcats on August 3rd.

The Northwest Indiana Alliance is made up of seven high school sophomores and two freshmen from across Northwest Indiana, along with their coach Mr. Jim Van Weelden. With their collaborated efforts, they achieved victories over other teams from Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, and other states across the nation. With an outstanding record throughout multiple tournaments, the Alliance completed their highly successful season with 34 victories and 17 losses, 16 of those by ten points or less.

Mr. Aric Van Weelden, a sophomore at Munster High School, has been a member of the Junior Varsity team for Munster since his freshman year. Two other Alliance members, Mr. Scott Rutkowski and Mr. Jeff Marinier, were also members of the Munster High School Junior Varsity Basketball Team as freshmen. Mr. Andrew Helmer, from Highland High School, plays three different sports for his high school including football, basketball,

and baseball. All four of these great athletes from Northwest Indiana became leaders for the Alliance team by averaging 12 to 15 points each per game.

Mr. Nate Triezenberg, a resident of Highland, is a freshman at Illiana Christian High School, and is recognized by his teammates for his positive attitude and strong will. Mr. Nick Ullman just completed his freshman year at Andean High School in Merrillville last spring, and is now a sophomore at Crown Point High School. Another Alliance member that plays many different sports at his high school is Mr. Derek Moser, who plays football, basketball, and baseball for Highland High School.

The remaining two members of the Northwest Indiana Alliance are Mr. Mike Bizoukas and Mr. Nick Stolarz from Munster High School. Mike recently completed his 8th grade year at Wilbur Wright Middle School, and is now a freshman at Munster High School. Nick, as a freshman, played on the Junior Varsity team, and is now a sophomore at Munster High School.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating the Northwest Indiana Alliance Basketball Team for their outstanding championship victory at the United States Specialty Sports Association Nationals. Their hard work and dedication is worthy of the highest commendation.

SIKHS PROTEST ON INDIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY, DEMAND FREEDOM

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, while we were in recess, India celebrated its Independence Day on August 15. I join my colleagues in congratulating India on 56 years of independence, but what is India really celebrating?

Indian Independence Day is certainly not a celebration for the minorities living under the boot of Indian repression. Is missionary Graham Staines, who was burned to death along with his two young sons while they slept in their jeep, celebrating? Is human-rights activist Jaswant Singh Khalra, who was murdered in police custody after exposing the Indian government's policy of mass cremations, celebrating? Is Gurdev Singh Kaunke, who was murdered by the Indian police official Swaran Singh Ghotna, celebrating? What about the priests who have been murdered, the nuns who have been raped, the Christians whose peaceful religious festival was broken up by police gunfire, or American missionary Joseph Cooper, who was thrown out of the country after being beaten so severely by Hindu nationalists that he had to spend a week in a hospital? Do you think they are celebrating Indian Independence Day? I seriously doubt it, Mr. Speaker.

India is a multinational state like the old Austro-Hungarian Empire or the Soviet Union. The record of history is that countries like that don't last. Eventually, they all break up. That makes India's 56 years of independence all the more remarkable, and perhaps it explains why India has to try to keep the country together by force.

This effort has claimed the lives of over a quarter of a million Sikhs, over 200,000 Christians in Nagaland, more than 85,000 Kashmiri Muslims as well as thousands of Muslims in Gujarat and other places around the country, and tens of thousands of Assamese, Bodos, Dalits, Manipuris, Tamils, and so many others. According to the Movement Against State Repression, India admitted to holding more than 52,000 Sikhs as political prisoners under TADA, a repressive law that expired in 1995. Some of these Sikhs have been in custody for almost 20 years without charge or trial. Even a Sikh Member of Parliament has recently had TADA charges brought to court against him. Amnesty International notes that tens of thousands of Christians, Muslims, and others are also being held as political prisoners, Mr. Speaker. Do you think they are celebrating India's independence?

Listen to what a spokesman for the Golden Temple, Narinder Singh, told National Public Radio on the fiftieth anniversary of Indian independence in 1997: "The Indian government, all the time they boast that they are secular, that they are democratic. They have nothing to do with a secularism, nothing to do with a democracy. They kill Sikhs just to please the majority." And Sikhs are unfortunately not the only ones. That is why Sikhs from the East Coast showed up to protest in front of the Indian Ambassador's residence, where an Independence Day celebration was being held. They demanded the basic democratic freedom of self-determination and freedom for the Sikh homeland, Khalistan, which declared itself independent on October 7, 1987.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for America to take a stand for freedom and democracy in South Asia. We must act now to cut off aid to India until it allows real democracy and freedom for the Sikhs, Christians, Dalits, Muslims, and other minorities. And we must put this Congress on record in full support of self-determination for all the peoples and nations of South Asia in the form of a free and fair plebiscite on the question of independence. Self-determination is the cornerstone of democracy and India is not allowing self-determination for anyone but the upper-caste Brahmins. A free and fair plebiscite will allow everyone to have self-determination and allow this to happen peacefully. We must not allow militant Hindu fundamentalist theocrats to turn South Asia into another Yugoslavia, Mr. Speaker.

I would like to place the International Sikh Organization's press release on the Independence Day protest into the RECORD at this time. DECEITFUL INDIAN GOVERNMENT MOVES INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION TO AVOID SIKH DEMONSTRATORS—ARE VICTIMS OF INDIAN REPRESSION CELEBRATING?

WASHINGTON, D.C., August 15, 2003.—The cowardly, deceitful Indian regime again moved its Independence Day celebration from the Indian Embassy in Washington, D.C. to the Ambassador's residence to avoid Sikhs who came from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, and Virginia to protest Indian repression of Sikhs, Christians, Muslims, and other minorities and to demand an independent, sovereign Khalistan.

"This action shows the cowardice of the fundamentalist Hindu nationalists," said Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan. "They are afraid of a peaceful protest," Dr. Aulakh said. "That is not how democracies act," Dr. Aulakh said.

The protestors raised slogans like "India out of Khalistan", "Khalistan Zindabad", and others. They carried signs demanding

the release of over 52,000 Sikh political prisoners in India as well as thousands of Christian, Muslim, and other political prisoners, denouncing India for its violent repression of minorities, pointing out India's long history of anti-Americanism, and demanding freedom for Khalistan. Khalistan is the independent Sikh homeland declared on October 7, 1987. It has been under Indian occupation since then. When India became independent, Sikhs were equal partners in the transfer of power and were to receive their own state, but the weak and ignorant Sikh leaders of the time were tricked into staying with India on the promise that they would have "the glow of freedom" and no law affecting the Sikhs would pass without their consent. Sikhs ruled an independent and sovereign Punjab from 1710 to 1716 and again from 1765 to 1849 and were recognized by most of the countries of the world at that time. No Sikh representative has ever signed the Indian constitution. The Council of Khalistan is the government pro tempore of Khalistan, the Sikh homeland.

History shows that multinational states such as India are doomed to failure. Countries like Austria-Hungary, India's longtime friend the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, and others prove this point. India is not one country; it is a polyglot like those countries, thrown together for the convenience of the British colonialists. It is doomed to break up as they did. "We only hope that the breakup will be peaceful," said Dr. Aulakh, "and that the fundamentalist Hindu nationalists will not force a violent, bloody breakup like that of Yugoslavia." India is ruled by Hindu theocrats whose agenda is "Hindu, Hindi, Hindutva, Hindu Rashtra," or total Hindu domination of every facet of Indian life. An Indian Cabinet minister said that everyone who lives in India must be a Hindu or subservient to Hindus.

"It is clear that India does not accept Sikhs," said Dr. Aulakh. "The Indian government continues to persecute and kill our Sikh brethren," he said. "Sardar Atinder Pal Singh's question of 13 years ago is still the question facing the Sikh Nation: Why don't we liberate Khalistan? As Professor Darshan Singh, a former Jathedar, said, 'If a Sikh is not for Khalistan, he is not a Sikh.'" Dr. Aulakh noted, An Indian newspaper reported on Tuesday that Sikhs in India had decided not to celebrate Indian Independence Day, but instead would hoist a black flag for the occasion. "This shows that the drive for freedom is still alive in Punjab," Dr. Aulakh said.

The Indian government has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, more than 200,000 Christians since 1948, over 85,000 Muslims in Kashmir since 1988, and tens of thousands of Tamils, Assamese, Manipuris, Dalits (the aboriginal people of the subcontinent), and others. The Indian Supreme Court called the Indian government's murders of Sikhs "worse than a genocide."

"Is Jaswant Singh Khalra celebrating? Is Jathedar Kaunke celebrating? Is Graham Staines celebrating?" Dr. Aulakh asked. "How can a democracy celebrate the kind of violent repression that claimed their lives?"

Indian police arrested human-rights activist Jaswant Singh Khalra after he exposed their policy of mass cremation of Sikhs, in which over 50,000 Sikhs have been arrested, tortured, and murdered, then their bodies were declared unidentified and secretly cremated. He was murdered in police custody. His body was not given to his family. The police never released the body of former Jathedar of the Akal Takht Gurdev Singh Kaunke after SSP Swaran Singh Ghotna murdered him. No one has been brought to justice for the Khalra kidnapping and murder. SSP Swaran Ghotna has never been brought to trial for the Kaunke murder. Yet according to a report by the Movement

Against State Repression (MASR), 52,268 Sikhs are being held as political prisoners in India without charge or trial. Some have been in illegal custody since 1984!

Missionary Graham Staines was murdered along with his two sons, ages 8 and 10, by a mob of militant, fundamentalist Hindu nationalists who set fire to the jeep, surrounded it, and chanted "Victory to Hannuman," a Hindu god. None of the people involved has been tried. The persons who have murdered priests, raped nuns, and burned Christian churches have not been charged or tried. The murderers of 2,000 to 5,000 Muslims in Gujarat last year have never been brought to trial. An Indian newspaper reported that the police were ordered to stand aside in that massacre and not to get involved, a frightening parallel to the Delhi massacre of Sikhs in 1984.

"Only in a free Khalistan will the Sikh Nation prosper and get justice," said Dr. Aulakh. "India should act like a democracy and allow a plebiscite on independence for Khalistan and all the nations of South Asia," Dr. Aulakh said. "We must free Khalistan now."

CONGRATULATING DR. SHELBY M. ELLIOTT ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2003

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on December 31, 2003, Dr. Shelby M. Elliott will retire as president of the Texas Chiropractic College. I rise to congratulate Dr. Elliott on his successful tenure at Texas Chiropractic College and to wish him well in his retirement.

Shelby M. Elliott was born in Wild Cherry, Arkansas, the eldest son of parents who instilled the values of hard work and the importance of attaining as much education as possible. After attending pre-chiropractic coursework at Paducah Community College, he completed his Doctor of Chiropractic degree at Texas Chiropractic College, then enrolled in Logan College of Chiropractic and earned a second doctorate.

He maintained a successful chiropractic practice in Dayton, Texas for 38 years and held several key business and civic leadership positions, including president of the Rotary Club of Dayton, charter member of the Dayton American Legion Post No. 512, board member of the Moody National Bank and the First Texas Bank, and member of the Dayton School Board and the Dayton-Liberty Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. Elliott was honored as "Young Chiropractor of the Year" in 1964 and as "Chiropractor of the Year" in 1971 by the Texas Chiropractic Association and has been awarded the coveted Keeler Plaque. He was also awarded the "William D. Harper Science of Existence Award" in 1988 by Texas Chiropractic College, the "Lifetime Chiropractic Achievement Award" in 1988 and the "Doctor of the Year" in 1990 by the American Chiropractic Association and was honored as "Citizen of the Year" by the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce in 1996. I first met Doc Elliott in 1974 when he ran for State representative in East Texas. His loss was healthcare's gain.

He has held every elective position in local, State and national chiropractic associations. Shelby Elliott served as president