

TRIBUTE TO DISTRICT RANGER  
CHUCK JONES

### HON. BARBARA CUBIN

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 4, 1998

Mrs. CUBIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to a dedicated member of the U.S. Forest Service as he concludes 32 years of service to his country. We are proud to have had this man serve as District Ranger in Jackson, Wyoming Ranger District for the past 10 years.

Mr. Charles G. Jones deserves this honor. We owe our gratitude for his contributions to the wise and sustainable use of our national forests and water resources.

Chuck Jones' personal and professional career accomplishments are as diverse as they are noteworthy. His loyal service and sacrifices for over three decades, working in the small communities of the Rocky Mountain west, are a testament to all who use and appreciate our public lands. I would like to take a moment to reflect on Chuck's career as he makes the transition to life beyond government service.

Upon graduation from Michigan Technological University in 1964, with a degree in forestry, Chuck moved west and began work as a timber forester with the Northern Pacific railroad and Seeley Lake, Montana. Two years later, and then married to the former Carolyne McCollum, he embarked on public service work as a forester with the Kaniksu National Forest in Newport, Washington.

Following a transfer to Noxon, Montana, and serving as a forestry specialist, he moved in 1971 to the Red Ives Ranger District in Saint Maries, Idaho, as a timber management officer. Helping further our nation's dependence on wood products from the national forests, he spent the next several years in Troy, Montana, and Mountain Home, Idaho, on the Boise National Forests respectively.

In 1982 Chuck was appointed as the District Ranger in Cascade, Idaho. Following five years of success in that position the Forest Service assigned Chuck as the District Ranger in Pinedale, Wyoming, a state where we appreciate his brand of leadership and his abundant talents. Quickly adapting to the unique life-style of rural Wyoming, he then became the ranger in Jackson where he has served with distinction for the past 10 years.

Chuck's last tour of duty has been as remarkable for its challenges as it has been for his ability to find solutions that mirror public interests. The Jackson Ranger District, located in close proximity to the Tetons and well known national parks, offers the most complex combination of multiple uses of the land and heavy public visitation of any district administered by the Forest Service. A well known and highly regarded member of the Jackson Hole community, Chuck's fairness and problem solving will be hard to replace.

Whether dealing with the catastrophic fires of 1988, coordinating with world class ski areas, managing heavy public use in the Snake River canyon, or hosting Presidential visits, Chuck always demonstrates the highest ideals of public service. I am especially proud to mention his initiative and compassion in bringing the nine families together for a me-

morial service the year after their loved ones perished on a tragic C-130 crash in the Gros Ventre Wilderness.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me to present these credentials of Chuck Jones before the House today. It is clear through his stated, and unstated, accomplishments that he has dedicated himself to furthering the benefits we enjoy from our public lands. All of his actions reflect a true leader with a sense of purpose, commitment, and conscience.

As Chuck departs from public service I ask my colleagues to join with me in delivering an appreciative tribute from a grateful nation, and best wishes to he and Carol for a productive and rewarding retirement.

### CONGRESS CALLS FOR RELEASE OF HUMAN-RIGHTS ACTIVISTS

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 4, 1998

Mr. TOWNS: Mr. Speaker, on July 31, several of my colleagues and I sent a letter to President Clinton asking him to get involved in trying to free some human-rights defenders in India. Those of us who signed the letter thank the Washington Times for its excellent coverage of it in the August 4 issue.

Jaspal Singh Dhillon helped Jaswant Singh Khalsa put together his report on mass cremations in Punjab. He came to the United States in 1993 and visited the White House. The Indian government arrested him in 1993 but was forced by international pressure to release him. Now he has again been arrested on trumped-up charges. Not only that, but his attorney, Daljit Singh Rajput, has been arrested in the same case. It is virtually certain that they are being tortured.

Rajiv Singh Randhawa was kidnapped along with a friend of his in broad daylight. He was picked up because he saw the kidnapping of Mr. Khalsa and had identified the police officers who were involved. This is what happens to you were you cross the police in democratic India.

Kuldip Singh is a former low-level police employee who heard the murder of Mr. Khalsa. He reported the gruesome details to the press. He was getting some water for Mr. Khalsa when he heard a shot and ran back. Khalsa was bleeding and had stopped breathing. He, too, has to be protected from the police.

Human-rights workers like Jaspal Singh Dhillon and witnesses like Kuldip Singh should not live in fear of the police. The United States must take the strongest possible action to bring about the prompt release of these innocent Sikhs and to see to it that the Indian government prosecutes and punishes those responsible for these atrocities.

I am inserting the Congressional letter and the Washington Times article into the RECORD. I urge my colleagues to read them carefully.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, July 31, 1998.

Subject: Arrest and fear of disappearance and torture of human-rights activist Jaspal Singh Dhillon and others.

Hon. Bill Clinton,

President of the United States, The White House, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: We are very disturbed by the July 23 abduction of Jaspal

Singh Dhillon, who worked with human-rights activist Jaswant Singh Khalsa on his report exposing the mass cremations of Sikhs by the Punjab police. Earlier the police abducted Rajiv Singh Randhawa, a key eyewitness to the kidnapping of Khalsa. Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, the President of the Council of Khalistan, informed us that these individuals may be in danger of being murdered and listed as "disappeared" like tens of thousands before him, as Mr. Khalsa documented.

Jaspal Singh Dhillon was picked up on a false charge that he was involved in a conspiracy to blow up the Bureil jail to free and alleged "militant." His vehicle was also seized. We are afraid that the police will plant false evidence in the vehicle. Jaspal Singh Dhillon has testified before the United Nations about the human-rights violations in Punjab. He has even been to the White House. Mr. Dhillon was picked up five years ago and severely tortured. It is only because you and other Western leaders intervened that Mr. Dhillon was released at that time.

Mr. Randhawa was picked up on July 15 from his home in Amritsar by plainclothes police who held a gun to his head, tied him up with his own turban, and took him away along with a friend of his. The police officials who kidnapped and murdered Khalsa are due for a hearing on July 28. Clearly, the Randhawa kidnapping is an attempt to remove the one witness who can do the most damage to them.

In addition to these cases, a police witness, Kuldip Singh has had to turn to the Central Reserve Police Force for protection because he is afraid that the Punjab police will try to eliminate him. Kuldip Singh said that he was getting water for Jaswant Singh Khalsa in the Chhabra police station when he heard a shot. He ran back and Khalsa was bleeding. He had stopped breathing and he was dead. As you know Jaswant Singh Khalsa was kidnapped in 1995 after he exposed India's policy of mass cremations of Sikhs.

In a democracy, human-rights activists like Jaspal Singh Dhillon and witnesses like Kuldip Singh and Rajiv Singh Randhawa should not have to live in fear of the police. We call on you to intervene with the government of India to ensure the release of Mr. Dhillon and Mr. Randhawa immediately and call on them to begin an immediate prosecution of those who abducted them. We strongly urge you to protect these innocent Sikhs and to work with the Indian government to make sure that those responsible for the crimes against these Sikhs are punished.

Sincerely,

Edolphus Towns, M.C.; Dan Burton, M.C.; Dana Rohrabacher, M.C.; Richard Pombo, M.C.; Frank R. Wolf, M.C.; Jack Metcalf, M.C.; Bill Redmond, M.C.; Wm. J. Jefferson, M.C.; Sheila Jackson-Lee, M.C.; Peter T. King, M.C.; Donald M. Payne, M.C.; Roscoe Bartlett, M.C.; Lincoln Diaz-Balart, M.C.; John T. Doolittle, M.C.; Jerry Solomon, M.C.; Cynthia McKinney, M.C.; Barbara Kennedy, M.C.; Gregory Meeks, M.C.; Bernard Sanders, M.C.; Wally Herger, M.C.; Dale E. Kildee, M.C.; Esteban E. Torres, M.C.; J.C. Watts, Jr. M.C.; Merrill Cook, M.C.; "Duke" Cunningham, M.C.; Duncan Hunter, M.C.; Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, M.C.; Phil Crane, M.C.; Bill Paxon, M.C.; Ron Lewis, M.C.; Sanford D. Bishop, Jr., M.C.; Ron Packard, M.C.

[From The Washington Times, Aug. 4, 1998]

HOUSE MEMBERS OF BOTH PARTIES ASK  
CLINTON'S HELP IN FREEING FOUR SIKHS

(By Tom Carter)

A bipartisan group of 33 legislators has written to President Clinton urging him to get involved in protecting four Sikh human rights activists arrested in India last month.

"There is reason for concern that their detention is without merit and that they are at risk of torture while in detention," wrote Rep. Constance A. Morella, Maryland Republican, in a letter dated July 30.

"I hope that your administration will urge Indian authorities to undertake an independent investigation of these cases, urging them to review these arrests and to act to protect the physical integrity of those detained," she wrote.

In a separate letter, sponsored by Edolphus Towns, New York Democrat, 32 members of Congress urged Mr. Clinton to involve the government of the United States in securing these men's release.

"In a democracy, human rights activists . . . should not have to live in fear of the police. We call on you to intervene with the government of India," said the letter dated July 31.

Others who added their names to the letter included Republicans Dan Burton of Indiana, Frank R. Wolf of Virginia, Peter T. King of New York, Philip M. Crane of Illinois and Ileana Ros-Lehtinen of Florida. Democrats who signed the letter included Reps. Esteban E. Torres of California, Cynthia A. McKinney of Georgia and Barbara B. Kennelly of Connecticut.

The Council of Khalistan, which advocates independence for Sikhs in Punjab, faxes copies of the congressional appeals to news organizations over the weekend.

The four human rights activists were arrested last month in Punjab on what Mr. Towns described as "false charges."

Jaspal Singh Dhillon, Rajinder Singh Neeta, Kulbir Kaur Dhani and Daljit Singh Rajput were arrested for what Indian authorities claimed was their involvement in an plan to help free "militants" by blowing up a jail.

A State Department official, asked to comment on the matter, said the U.S. Embassy in India was aware of Mr. Dhillon's case.

"They have made informal contact with the Indian authorities and they are monitoring it," the official said.

The Indian government yesterday had no comment on the specifics of the case.

"The police wouldn't have acted just like that. They will have done their work. There is rule of law in Punjab," said Amar Sinha, press spokesman of the Indian Embassy.

On July 24, Amnesty International issued an "urgent action" on the four men.

According to the Amnesty release, Mr. Dhillon worked with Jaswant Singh Khalra, a well-known human rights activist who "disappeared" in September 1995 after his arrest after exposing the mass cremations of unidentified Sikhs.

Nine police officials have been charged, but not prosecuted, in the arrest and "disappearance."

"There is a fear that [Mr. Dhillon] may disappear too," said Jurjit Chima of Amnesty International yesterday.

Gurmit Singh Aulakh, director of the Council of Khalistan, which advocates independence of Sikhs in Punjab, said the men were arrested to prevent them from testifying at a "People's Commission" human rights forum to be held Aug. 8 through 10.

TRIBUTE TO HARRIET PHILIP,  
WHO WILL BE CELEBRATING  
HER 105TH BIRTHDAY ON AU-  
GUST 5, 1998

**HON. NYDIA M. VELAZQUEZ**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, August 4, 1998*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise, to pay tribute to a kind and able woman, Harriet Philip. Harrie, as she is known by her friends, was born on the Caribbean island of Trinidad on August 5, 1893. Later in life, she immigrated to the United States and settled in Brooklyn where she is surrounded by friends and family members who love her sense of humor and her particular attitude about her needs and wants.

Harrie, an expert artist, crochets, knits, and designs exquisite articles for her loved ones without the use of patterns. She also loves to talk with her friends and family who admire her charming personality. Harrie's uplifting spirit and longevity have been an inspiration to all those around her.

Harrie, a follower of the Bahai religion, has raised three sons and one daughter. These children have blessed her with two beautiful grandchildren.

It is with great pleasure and personal regard that I ask my fellow colleagues to rise to pay tribute to Mrs. Harriet Philip on her 105th birthday, with wishes of many more to come.

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE,  
JUSTICE, AND STATE, AND JUDI-  
CIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES  
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

SPEECH OF

**HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, August 3, 1998*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4276) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes:

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of the amendment, which would restore funding for the Legal Services Corporation to current levels.

The Legal Services Corporation is a lifeline for thousands of people with no other means of access to the legal system. Last year, LSC resolved 1.5 million civil cases, benefiting over four million indigent citizens from every county in America.

Who are these people? Over two-thirds are women, and most are mothers with children. Women seeking protection against abusive spouses. Children living in poverty and neglect. Elderly people threatened by eviction or victimized by consumer fraud. Veterans denied benefits, and small farmers facing foreclosure.

These are the people who will be hurt if this amendment is not adopted today. If LSC is forced to absorb the huge cuts made in committee, half of the 1,100 neighborhood legal services offices will have to be closed. This

will leave a single lawyer to serve every 23,600 poor Americans. Over 700,000 people in need of legal services will have to be turned away.

We cannot—we must not—allow this to happen. I urge my colleagues to vote for this amendment. It's the decent thing to do.

RABBI AND MRS. MERVIN B.  
TOMSKY TO CELEBRATE THEIR  
50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

**HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, August 4, 1998*

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend, Rabbi Mervin B. Tomsy, and his wife, Helen, who are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on August 22, 1998. Though they are longtime residents of California, the story of the Tomsy's marriage actually begins in Minnesota. Mervin and Helen knew each other in Minnesota as children, attended the University of Minnesota together, and got married in Minnesota. A few years later the couple moved to New York, where Mervin attended the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. He was ordained as a rabbi in 1956.

Fifteen years later the Tomsys moved to Southern California, where they have lived ever since. I met Rabbi Tomsy after he became rabbi at Temple Emanu El in Burbank, California, and had the pleasure of speaking to his congregation on a couple of occasions. Today he holds the title of Rabbi Emeritus at Temple Emanu El, and he is the recipient of an honorary Doctor of Divinity Law from Jewish Theological Seminary.

Both Rabbi Tomsy and Helen are extremely active people, which may well be one of the reasons for their successful marriage. Helen was a public school teacher for many years and has been heavily involved in literacy programs. Rabbi Tomsy is on the Board of Directors for the University of Judaism, where his duties include interviewing candidates who wish to convert to Judaism.

For 22 years, the Tomsys have been active in Jewish Marriage Encounter, which stresses ways to enhance the marital bonds. It hardly needs to be said that the Tomsys are an ideal role model for younger couples who participate in the program.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Rabbi Mervin and Helen Tomsy on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. I join their children, David, Sharon and Judith, and grandchildren, Andrew and Daria, in wishing them all the best in the years to come.

COMMEMORATING THE 175TH ANNI-  
VERSARY OF THE DELAWARE  
AND HUDSON

**HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, August 4, 1998*

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, the Delaware and Hudson, headquartered in Clifton Park, New York, is the oldest continuously operated transportation company in North America. The