

CONGRATULATING DR. STANLEY
NUSSBAUM

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Dr. Stanley Nussbaum, who is being honored by the Herbert Tenzer Five Towns Democratic Club at its annual brunch on May 3, 1998. Stan is a dynamic political leader, representing the community in my district known as the Five Towns on the local, state, and national levels. The residents of my district have reaped the benefits of his commitment to the community, as he has always put forth the needs and concerns of the people of Long Island.

Stan's leadership is quite impressive. He has been a member of the Nassau Democratic County Committee for twenty-five years, and served as President of the Five Towns Democratic Club from 1978–1980 and then again from 1984–1990. He was Zone Leader of Lawrence-Cedarhurst and in 1994 was elected as a New York State Committeeman.

An early supporter of President Clinton prior to his election, Stan proceeded to run and was elected as a Clinton delegate for the 1992 Democratic National Convention. Currently, Stan serves the Island as Assembly District Leader in the 20th A.D.

In addition to his outstanding and extensive involvement within the Democratic Party, Stan is also very active in community affairs. Locally, he served as President of the Five Towns Jewish Council, and has been a trustee of the American Jewish Committee. Presently, he is a trustee of Temple Beth El of Cedarhurst, and sits on the boards of the American Committee of Israeli MIA's and the Conference of Jewish Organization of Nassau County. Stan is a life member of the American Dental Society.

Amazingly, Stan has managed to accomplish all of this and remain extremely devoted to his family including his wife, Toby; their three children, Felice, Hillary and Larry; and two grandchildren, Ananda and Sierra.

Dr. Nussbaum emulates the ideals of citizenship in our country—through his concern for others, his service to the community and active participation in our government. I wish to congratulate—and thank—my good friend Stan, for all that he has done for me, my district, and Long Island.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE
HONORABLE BELLA ABZUG

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, last night a number of my colleagues, led by Congressman JERRY NADLER and Congresswoman ELIZABETH HOLMES NORTON, paid tribute to the late Bella Abzug. I want to lend my voice to theirs in honoring this remarkable woman.

It is particularly fitting that we honor her this week, after we watched two new women members be sworn in. We now have 55 women serving in the House of Representa-

tives—the largest number in history. Bella would be proud.

Those gains were made possible by women like Bella Abzug, women who fought their way into what was still a "man's world." Bella spent her career working to promote women's rights. After she left Congress she founded the National Women's Political Caucus, a vital organization with the goal of promoting women's participation in government. As we look around the chamber today we can see the tremendous progress we have made toward that goal.

With her trademark hats and her bold style, Bella hit the ground running in Congress and never once stopped. As the daughter of immigrants and the first Jewish woman to serve in the House, Bella never forgot who she was or where she came from. She spent her lifetime looking out for those who were traditionally excluded from the Washington power structure—immigrants, minorities, and especially women. She fought to end U.S. involvement in Vietnam. She fought for women's rights, civil rights, worker protections. Bella served as a voice for those who had been shut out of the process for far too long.

Before she came to the House in 1971, this body had never seen the likes of Bella Abzug. We all know that we never will again. Bella was a true pioneer.

Every woman who walks these halls today, and every woman who will follow us in the future, owes a tremendous debt to Bella for all the barriers she broke. Bella, we thank you and we will never forget you.

TRIBUTE TO VICTIMS OF
ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 1998

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, April 24 marks the 83d anniversary of the beginning of one of the most terrible chapters of human history—the Armenian genocide.

From 1915 to 1923, over 1½ million Armenians perished at the hands of Ottoman Turks. As Peter Balakian documents in his book "Black Dog of Fate":

Every day you heard about Armenians disappearing. Shopkeepers disappearing from their shops in the middle of the day. Children not returning from school. Men not coming back from the melon fields. Women, especially young ones, disappearing as they returned from the bath.

But sadly, the Turkish government is practicing historical revisionism by denying that a genocide took place. Even more regrettably, Turkey continues its blockade of Armenia, attempting to starve it of humanitarian aid and commerce. The United States should persuade Turkey to be a catalyst for truth and peace in the region. Only with Turkey's cooperation and America's leadership will it be possible to move forward to bring peace and prosperity to the descendants of the victims and the survivors of the Armenian genocide.

This period of ethnic cleansing was only the first of the twentieth century. It was to be followed by the Holocaust of World War II and

the mass murders of the Bosnian conflict and central Africa. Perhaps if more people had known the truth behind Armenia's tragedy, the world would have seen the warning signs, and prevented the subsequent genocides. Today in 1998, ethnic cleansing threatens to reignite in places like Kosovo. It is of utmost importance to acknowledge the Armenian genocide, for its example is relevant more than ever today.

I am a proud cosponsor of House Concurrent Resolution 55, which honors the victims of the Armenian genocide and urges the United States to be active in the struggle to bring recognition to this tragedy.

Today, Armenian grandparents are passing the story of Armenian suffering down to their families because they know the importance of keeping the truth alive. We in Congress should do our part too, to inform the public, to recognize historical fact, and to honor those who suffered.

THINK TANK PREDICTS NUCLEAR
WAR BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKI-
STAN

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, a very distressing article has just come to my attention, thanks to Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan. It is a report from the April 17th issue of India Abroad that the Rand Corporation, a widely-respected think tank, predicted that within a few years, there will be a major war between India and Pakistan and that this war could involve nuclear weapons.

The prospect of a nuclear war in South Asia must be distressing to anyone. This event could pose a major threat to the entire world. We should all commit ourselves to making sure that even if a war does break out, it is fought without the use of nuclear weapons.

In its report, the Rand Corporation noted that "the insurgency in Indian Kashmir has become unmanageable" and that "the insurgency has begun to spread into Punjab." The Indian Government is fond of telling us that there is no support for independence in Punjab, Khalistan. Yet Rand Corporation, which has no interest in promoting either side, tells us that the "insurgency" is spreading into Punjab, Khalistan.

This disastrous scenario is one more reason the United States, as the world's only remaining superpower, should support freedom for Khalistan, the Sikh homeland that declared its independence on October 7, 1987, and the other nations in South Asia that are seeking their freedom. An internationally recognized and independent Khalistan could serve as a buffer between both India and Pakistan. This would be in the best interests of India, Pakistan, the United States, and the whole world.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for this Congress to go on record in support of a free and fair plebiscite on the political status of Khalistan. It is time to demand that India keep its promise made in 1948 to hold a plebiscite in Kashmir. That is the democratic way to settle these issues. It is also the best way to prevent South Asia from becoming the tinderbox of a nuclear disaster for the entire world.

I would like to enter the India Abroad article into the RECORD, and I strongly urge my colleagues to read it carefully.

[From India Abroad, Apr. 17, 1998]

THINK TANK PREDICTS INDIA-PAKISTAN WAR
(By Aziz Haniffa)

WASHINGTON—A scenario prepared for the Pentagon by the semi-official Rand Corporation, a highly regarded think tank which receives some Federal funding, finds large-scale humanitarian operations in a nuclear combat zone in South Asia following the year 2005, which is fueled by an "unmanageable" situation in Kashmir.

The scenario, contained in Rand's report titled "Sources of Conflict in the 21st Century: Regional Futures and U.S. Strategy," paints a picture where "the insurgency in Indian Kashmir has become unmanageable," so much so that "despite the best efforts of the Indian government, the insurgency has begun to spread into Punjab."

"Recognizing that it has been left behind in its conventional military competition with India," the scenario notes, "Pakistan sees these revolts as a way of weakening its great rival and increases its material and diplomatic support, including training and sanctuary, to both insurgencies."

By early the following year, it predicts, "Pakistan's involvement—never precisely subtle to begin with—becomes highly visible when two Pakistan soldiers, acting as trainers for Kashmiri insurgents, are captured in an Indian commando raid on a rebel-controlled village."

According to the scenario, "India warns Pakistan to desist from supporting the insurgencies and threatens dire consequences. Pakistan initiates diplomatic efforts to isolate India while increasing levels of covert support for the insurgents." In the spring of 2006, the scenario shows that "India dramatically increases its counter-insurgency operations . . . and the rebels are pushed into precipitate retreat."

Pakistan's response, it says, is "by infiltrating a number of special-forces teams, which attack military installations."

India then mobilizes for war "and launches major attacks all along the international border, accompanied by an intense air campaign."

Consequently, according to the Rand scenario, "the Indian Army makes significant penetrations in the desert sector and achieves a more limited advance in Punjab, capturing Lahore and heading north toward Rawalpindi and Islamabad."

Additionally, "a supporting attack from Kashmir is poised to go at the proper moment," and conventional missile and air strikes "have done extensive damage to Pakistani military infrastructure, while India's air bases, in particular, have been hit hard by the Pakistanis."

The scenario notes that "fearful that the Indians will use their emerging air superiority to locate and destroy the Pakistani nuclear arsenal and perceiving their military situation as desperate," Islamabad demands that India cease all offensive operations and withdraw from occupied Pakistani territory "or face utter destruction."

But it paints a picture of India pressing on with its conventional attacks while announcing that while it would not "initiate the escalation of the conflict," it would "surely respond in a * * * devastating manner" to any Pakistani gambit.

Bringing in the nuclear dimension to its scenario, the Rand report then notes that as Indian forces "continue to press forward, Pakistan detonates a small fission bomb on an Indian armored formation in an unpopulated area of the desert border region; it is

unclear whether the weapon was intended to go off over Pakistani or Indian territory." India responds by destroying a Pakistani air base with a two-weapon nuclear attack.

Condemning the "escalation" to homeland attacks, Pakistan then attacks the Indian city of Jodhpur with a 20-kiloton weapon and demands cessation of hostilities.

But India strikes Hyderabad with a weapon assessed to be 200 kiloton and threatens "10 times" more destruction if any more nuclear weapons are used during the conflict. Pakistan then offers a cease fire.

Meanwhile, according to the scenario, "pictures and descriptions of the devastation in Jodhpur and Hyderabad are broadcast worldwide, and Internet jockeys—playing the role ham radio operators often have in other disasters—transmit horrifying descriptions of the suffering of the civilian victims on both sides."

This results in the United Nations immediately endorsing a massive relief effort, "which only the United States—with its airlift fleet and rapidly deployable logistics capability—can lead."

Thus, within 48 hours—after the cease-fire has been accepted by India but before it is firmly in place—"the advance echelons of multinational, but predominantly American, relief forces begin arriving in India and Pakistan."

In noting the constraints in such a scenario, the Rand report notes the war has rendered many air bases in both India and Pakistan only marginally usable for airlift operations.

"U.S. citizens," it states, "are scattered throughout both countries, and the host governments' attitudes toward their evacuation are not known."

The U.S. President meanwhile has assured the nation in a broadcast address that only the "smallest practical number" of troops will be deployed on the ground in either India or Pakistan.

In a preface to the report, Rand said the study, sponsored by the Deputy Chief of Staff, Plans and Operations, "was intended to serve Air Force longrange planning needs."

It said the "findings are also relevant to broader ongoing debates within the Department of Defense and elsewhere."

PUNJAB IS STILL A POLICE STATE UNDER AKALI RULE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, we had hoped that the election of a new Sikh-led government in Punjab would end the tyranny that has reigned there. Unfortunately, that has not been the case. Former Justice Ajit Singh Bains, chairman of the Punjab Human Rights Organization (PHRO), recently described Punjab as a police state. As the Council of Khalistan recently pointed out in a letter to Punjab police chief P.C. Dogra, Punjab remains a police state even under the rule of the Akali Dal.

Since the Akali government took power in March last year, over 100 atrocities have been documented, including murders, rapes, and many instances of torture by the Punjab police. The Akali government has not freed any of the Sikh prisoners held in illegal detention, some since 1984, nor has it brought charges against even a single policeman. Even the Congress Party governments in Punjab and

Delhi charged a few police officers who committed the most visible abuses. Yet despite a Supreme Court order that the police officers who kidnapped human-rights activist Jaswant Singh Khaira on September 6, 1995 be indicted, the Akali government proudly boasts that no action has been taken against any police officer.

Earlier this month, members of the Khaira Committee had their tires slashed by the police during a court hearing. Mr. Khaira's wife, Paramjit Kaur Khaira, has been falsely charged with bribing a witness, who is now under police protection. Two other witnesses have also had their rights infringed. Kikkar Singh was falsely implicated in two cases, and PHRO Vice Chairman Kirpal Singh Randhawa recently wrote to the Chief Minister and the President of the World Sikh Council exposing a police conspiracy to eliminate him.

In March, a 17-year-old Sikh girl named Hardip Kaur was gang-raped by four policemen. In February, two Sikh youths were arrested while riding their bicycles in front of a Gurdwara (a Sikh temple.) Also in February, a Sikh named Malkiat Singh died from torture by the police at the Ahmedgarh police station. Plainclothes police even occupy the Golden Temple in Amritsar, the holiest of Sikh shrines, which was the scene of a brutal desecration and massacre by the Indian military in June 1984.

Even Justice J.S. Sekhon, a member of the government-appointed Punjab Human Rights Commission, expressed his concern about police behavior. He said that his commission has received 90 complaints about police misconduct. Some incidents have resulted in death. This does not sound like the way a democracy operates. Justice Bains is right. Punjab is a police state. I call upon the Punjab government to begin prosecuting police, to bring in independent human-rights monitors, to release all Sikh political prisoners, and to begin observing the basic rights of all human beings. If it will not, America should ban all trade with Punjab and demand an internationally-supervised plebiscite on independence for Punjab, Khalistan. These are the best steps we can take to insure that the rule of law and the glow of freedom finally come to the Sikh homeland.

I am placing the Council of Khalistan's letter to Mr. Dogra into the RECORD.

[Open Letter to Punjab DGP Dogra From Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President, Council of Khalistan, April 16, 1998]

PUNJAB IS A POLICE STATE—END POLICE ABUSES NOW!

MR. DOGRA: Recently Justice Ajit Snigh Bains, the chairman of the Punjab Human Rights Organization, described Punjab as a police state. He is right. Your police have murdered, raped, tortured, and secretly cremated tens of thousands of Sikhs since 1984.

Last week the human-rights community in Punjab met with the Chief Minister. They detailed numerous abuses of human rights by the police. Your police slashed the tires of Khaira Committee members. The Supreme Court ordered the indictment of the police officers who kidnapped Jaswant Singh Khaira on September 6, 1995, yet they are still at large. Mr. Khaira's whereabouts remain unknown. Mr. Khaira published a report exposing the police tactic of abducting Sikhs, torturing and killing them, then declaring their bodies "unidentified" and cremating them. For this, the late Tarn Taran police chief, Ajit Sandhu, threatened that