

May 9, 1979

LB 262

but, colleagues, that is a question that the bereaved families of innocent victims of murderers are asking, too, and how will we answer them. I hope you will join me in answering the families of these victims by voting no against LB 262.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, sometimes the most obvious things end up being the most hidden. For eight years as everybody knows I put the kill motions on Ernie's death penalty repeal as I mentioned before and have been successful. Now you all know I took a trip recently. I went to India and I said I went to get a little relaxation and look around. I am going to tell you the other half of the story of the reason I went. I have a friend, a very, very, very close friend, lived in California and he had a friend. He had a friend whose name you probably know. He went all through college with him, Berkeley, knew him on a very personal basis. They were roommates all the way through college. Well, my friend went on to become one of the heads of something called the Baha'i faith and his friend went on to become President of Pakistan. His name is Ali Bhutto, and as happens in foreign countries pretty regularly, when they change governments, they don't retire, the losers end up in jail or under other conditions. Well, Ali Bhutto, as you know, was overthrown by another fellow and Ali Bhutto was put in prison and the Pope and all the major religions of the world, Presidents of foreign countries, one after another, were doing whatever they could to try to keep the new head of Pakistan from killing Ali Bhutto and my friend thought that possibly with his contacts and other things he might be able to convey a message from the United States or some other people to spare the life of Ali Bhutto and he asked me to go along with him and I did. And the second day after we arrived and communicated our message and messages were coming in from other places, that night they took Ali out in the middle of the night, and as you know they strung him up. Now prior to that time, prior to the moment of Ali Bhutto's death, he wasn't much in India because, remember, he was the break away. Pakistan used to be part of India and in his own country where he had been the leader of the people at one time he obviously didn't get overthrown accidentally, did he? Somebody didn't like him. But the morning after, the morning after Ali Bhutto was hung the headlines in India and every country in the world with possibly the exception of the United States had Ali Bhutto as a martyr,