

media and the absence of any form of state censorship or official coercion of any kind and is protected by the rule of law;

Whereas freedom of the press and freedom of expression in Russia today is being threatened by some forces within the Russian government, particularly since the dramatic reporting of the war in Chechnya;

Whereas there have been reports in the Russian press, including the official press, of efforts to establish a government committee that would impose censorship on the press in Russia;

Whereas there have been persistent reports regarding the possible issuance of government decrees that would undermine or compromise the independence of privately-owned television stations and other media enterprises which have provided factual reporting on the war in Chechnya or which have editorialized against Russian military action in Chechnya;

Whereas there has been recent evidence of government involvement in actions against independent television outlets and those who use or finance such businesses, including a widely-reported assault on the office of the Most Group, which owns NTV and other media outlets, and, furthermore, allegations of the involvement of presidential security forces in that assault have never been denied;

Whereas the latest effort to intimidate the press involves the launching of a criminal investigation by the Prosecutor General against the largest private television network, NTV, and threatening action against the producers of a political satire program in which puppets are used to caricature prominent Russian officials and personalities;

Whereas the suspicious murder of popular television journalist Vladimir Listeyev of Ostankino TV remains unsolved after nearly one year;

Whereas the assassination of journalist Dmitri Kholodov of Komsomolskaya Pravda, who was killed by a package bomb while he was in the final stages of an investigation into corruption in the military, also remains unsolved;

Whereas journalists in Russia, including both foreign and domestic journalists, have faced harassment, risked arrest, had equipment confiscated, been beaten and even murdered as a result of their efforts to report objectively regarding events in Chechnya; and

Whereas a free and independent information media is essential to the conduct of free, open, fair and democratic elections which are scheduled later this year in Russia; now therefore be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring). That it is the sense of the Congress that

(1) A free press is vital to the development and consolidation of democracy in Russia;

(2) Freedom of the press and freedom of expression must be safeguarded against those forces who would suppress or censor these essential fundamental democratic rights;

(3) To protect freedom of the press and freedom of expression, the right and opportunity of independent entrepreneurs to establish, operate, and maintain independent media outlets must be protected and safeguarded;

(4) Russian government leaders, including the President, the Prime Minister, and Members of the Russian Duma, should fully support freedom of the press and the right of free expression in Russia; and

(5) The President and the Secretary of State are requested to convey to appropriate Russian government officials, including the President, the Prime Minister, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, this expression of the views of the Congress.

INS CHECKPOINTS

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with my colleagues the concerns of Richard and Anne Hicks of Laguna Niguel, constituents from my district. In a letter to me, they expressed their frustration with the Immigration and Naturalization Service [INS] inland border checkpoints in California. Closing the inland check points and reallocating these resources to the California border is cost effective and efficient. I have the same concerns as Mr. and Mrs. Hicks and I would like to share their comments with you.

Today on our way to/from San Diego from Laguna Niguel—we were disgusted while observing the huge traffic back-up surrounding the San Clemente outpost. This is a low pay-off investigation as it is 60 miles north of the border. We resent this intrusion especially when it deters transportation on our busy Southern California freeways, and uses the 'needle in the hay stack' method of immigration control.

Mr. Speaker, I support controlling illegal immigration. My constituents understand first hand, just how ineffective inland checkpoints are.

Effective and efficient control starts at the borders themselves, not 60 miles north. I attached an amendment to the 1996 Commerce, Justice, State bill to move scarce resources from the checkpoints to the border. In order to stop illegal immigrants in their tracks, we need to plug up the source—the California-Mexico border.

OUTSTANDING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS FROM THE FIRST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO

HON. STEVEN SCHIFF

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, the following graduating high school students from the First Congressional District of New Mexico have been awarded the Congressional Certificate of Merit. These students have excelled during their academic careers and proven themselves to be exceptional students and leaders with their scholastic achievements, community service, and participation in school and civic activities. It is my pleasure to be able to recognize these outstanding students for their accomplishments. I, along with their parents, their teachers, their classmates, and the people of New Mexico, am proud of them.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AWARD WINNERS, 1995

Albuquerque Evening High School, George Strimbu, 3200 Central SE, Albuquerque, NM 87106.

Albuquerque High School, Eva Dubuisson, 3025 Delano Place NE, Albuquerque, NM 87106.

Bernalillo High School, Jessica Marie Archibeque, PO Box 675, Bernalillo, NM 87004.

Cibola High School, Aaron Olson, 6371 Sandpiper Trail, Rio Rancho, NM 87124.

Del Norte High School, Jean Yates, 7405 El Morro NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109.

Eldorado High School, Luke Wittenburg, 10100 Modesto, Albuquerque, NM 87122.

Estancia High School, Mary Perea, PO Box 18, Torreon, NM 87061.

Evangel Christian Academy, Leah Henderson, 7317 Appomahon Pl. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109.

Freedom High School, Kamila Szwecayk, 8205 Trumbull SE, Apt. G, Albuquerque, NM 87108.

Highland High School, Lisa Smith, 1012 Parkland Place SE, Albuquerque, NM 87108.

Hope Christian School, Vivian Lee Sisneros, 4506 Dusty Trail Ct., Albuquerque, NM 87120.

La Cueva High School, Jamie Mahan, 12090 Roma Ave. NE., Albuquerque, NM 87123.

Los Lunas High School, Emily Williams, 09 Blueberry Lane, Los Lunas, NM 87031.

Manzano High School, Joshua Stephenson, 12238 Kinley NE, Albuquerque, NM 87123.

Menaul School, Rose Allyson Abeyta, 3617 San Pedro NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110.

Moriarty High School, Julie Ann Johnson, 44 Apple Ranch, Tijeras, NM 87059.

Allison Fitzpatrick, PO Box 334, Sandia Park, NM 87047.

Mountainair High School, Shawna Shovelin, PO Box 183, Mountainair, NM 87036.

New Futures School, Berenice Lopez, 6109 Dennison SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102.

Rio Grande High School, Jason Hunter, 221 Rossmoon Road SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102.

School on Wheels High School, Yvette Garcia, 432 Merlida SW, Albuquerque, NM 87121.

St. Paul X High School, Catherine A. Csepregi, 908 Sierra SE, Albuquerque, NM 87108.

Sandia High School, Meredith Ford, 7228 Vivian Dr. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109.

Sandia Preparatory School, Rebecca Debenport, 2224 Dietz Place NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107.

Valley High School, Antonio E. Jaramillo, 3103 9th Street NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107.

West Mesa High School, Nicole J. Abeyta, 3016 Corona NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120.

HONORING CHIEF JOSEPH ROWLEY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, today it is my pleasure to honor a distinguished citizen from my district, Chief of Police Joseph Rowley. After 36 years of exemplary service, Chief Rowley retired on July 14 from the Orange Police Department.

Chief Rowley had dedicated his life to serving his country and his community. After serving honorably in the U.S. Air Force, he joined the Orange Police Department as an officer in 1959. Time after time, he distinguished himself with his hard work and commitment to enhancing public safety. During his years of service to the Orange Police Department, he received three letters of commendation and one letter of recognition for his performance in various criminal cases. One of the most notable awards was a letter of commendation for his leadership of the investigation and conviction of two murderers.

His ability to lead earned him numerous promotions, culminating in his being named chief of police in 1990. As chief, he has served with distinction for the past 5 years. Indeed, Chief Rowley is well known to Orange residents for