as well as the Russian Jewish Community's reaction. Next it catalogues the Western governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGO)'s response to this growing problem. Finally, it outlines the less than adequate, largely rhetorical response by the Russian Government to this problem.

HONORING PEGGY BRAVERMAN
HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, November 18, 1999
Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, the Bronx is losing one of its most distinguished public servants and a woman who has done more for her borough and her community than we can ever thank her for. Peggy Braverman is retiring after more than 15 years as Deputy County Clerk for the Bronx where she oversaw a staff of more than 80 people as they helped residents secure business certificates, passports, or more than 80 people as they helped residents secure business certificates, passports, and other significant documents while answering questions about jury duty and other matters.

She was always active in her community and the political arena. She was an administrative assistant in the Bronx Borough President's office from 1979 to 1985 and before that she served as an administrative assistant for then Councilman, now Assemblyman Stephen Kaufman. She was also Democratic District Leader for the 81st Assembly District.

At least as extensive was her work in the voluntary area. She was an active member of the Educational Jewish Center, the Morris Park Community Association, the Allerton Avenue Homeowners Association and the 49th Precinct Community Council. She also served as President of the PTA of Christopher Columbus High School and Vice President of JHS 135. She was also a scout leader.

Peggy Braverman is that rare person who serves her neighborhood and her fellow citizens in so many capacities, someone, who by their service, does so much to make government work and the community prosper. The people of the Bronx will miss her in government; let us hope we can keep her helping in the community. I want to join her legion of friends and admirers in wishing her in retirement what she has learned—the very best from life.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE SURESH KWATRA
HON. JACK QUINN
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, November 18, 1999
Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, before the first session of the 106th Congress adjourns, I want to pay tribute to Mr. Suresh Kwatra, a dedicated 25-year career employee of the United States Department of Veterans' Affairs, who died unexpectedly on June 21, 1999.

Mr. Kwatra was indeed an inspiring individual. He was an accounting graduate of the Delhi University. He immigrated to the United States from his native India in 1969 and served in the United States Army during the Vietnam conflict, shortly after gaining his American citizenship.

Mr. Kwatra began his career with the former Veterans Administration in 1974. He served as a veterans benefits counselor, strategic planner with VA's national cemetery system, and statistician and analyst in the Office of VA's Assistant Secretary for Policy and Planning. Because of his exceptional initiative and professionalism, the Congressional Veterans' Claims and Adjudication Commission selected Mr. Kwatra to be an analyst and project manager. In my role as chairman of the Subcommittee on Benefits, Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I have read his insightful analysis in the commission's report.

Mr. Speaker, Suresh Kwatra came to America, served proudly and honorably in our military, and then committed his life to serving fellow veterans for a quarter of a century. To Suresh's former co-workers, members of his church and community, and the thousands of permanent friends and admirers, I say that Suresh Kwatra was more than an inspiring individual, indeed he was an American hero.