June 29, 2001

the stretcher. Once the hand-cuffed and leg-cuffed man was shot, a bailiff removed the leg irons. Xiong Tongyi and I had 15 seconds to bring the executee to the waiting ambulance. Inside the ambulance, the best urologists removed both kidneys, and rushed back to the waiting recipient at the hospital. Meanwhile, our burn surgery department waited for the execution of the following three prisoners, and their corpses to the crematorium where we removed skin in a small room next.

Although I performed this procedure nearly a hundred times in the following years, it was an incident in October 1995 that tortured my conscience to no end. We were sent to Hebei to harvest skin. We arrived one day before the execution of a man sentenced to death for robbery and the murder of a would-be witness. Before execution, I administered a shot of heparin to prevent blood clotting to the prisoner. A nearby policeman told him it was a tranquilizer to prevent unnecessary suffering during the execution. The prisoner responded by giving thanks to the government.

At the site, the execution commander gave the order, ‘‘Go!’’ and the prisoner was shot to the heart. Because the executioner was nervous, aimed poorly, or intentionally misfired to keep the organs intact, the prisoner had not yet died, but instead lay convulsing on the ground. Either because the executioner was nervous, aimed poorly, or intentionally misfired to keep the organs intact, or because the mission was urgent, the prisoner had been shot, a bailiff removed him from the ambulance, and the probably dead corpse was thrown in a plastic bag onto the flatbed of the crematorium truck.

As we left in the ambulance, we were pelted with stones. There was a half-dead corpse was thrown in a plastic bag onto the flatbed of the crematorium truck. When we arrived one day before the execution, I administered a shot of heparin to prevent blood clotting to the prisoner. A nearby policeman told him it was a tranquilizer to prevent unnecessary suffering during the execution. The prisoner responded by giving thanks to the government.

I hereby expose all these terrible things to the light in the hope that this will help to put an end to this evil practice.

TRIBUTE TO THE MOUNT HOPE HOUSING COMPANY, INC.

HON. JOSE´ E. SERRANO
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Mount Hope Housing Company, Inc. (MHHC) as they celebrate their 15th anniversary today.

The Mount Hope Housing Company, Inc. was formed in 1986 as a part of intense organizing efforts of residents and community groups in the Mount Hope neighborhood in the South Bronx. Focusing first on the pressing need for the availability of affordable housing, Mount Hope completed one of the first housing tax credit projects in the United States in 1986 and to date has rehabilitated over 1,400 housing units. As a result of this intense and comprehensive effort, one in six residents of the Mount Hope neighborhood lives in a building operated by the MHHC.

Since its founding, the MHHC has continued to enhance its abilities and expand its services to the community. In 1994, the MHHC opened a thrift shop. One year later, the Mount Hope Primary Care Center opened. And in 1996, the New Bronx Employment Service was inaugurated, followed by the Neighborhood Housing Service/MHHC Home Maintenance Training Center in 1998. And now MHHC is planning to develop a community center that will house programs for area youth like a Boys and Girls Club, affordable child care and a state of the art center for computer training.

Mr. Speaker, the Mount Hope Housing Company, Inc. is another fine example of a community organization dedicated to empowering Bronx residents and revitalizing the community, using a comprehensive, self-sustaining, and long-term approach. Its success reminds all of us of the contributions local organizations have made to improve the lives of citizens in their respective communities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the Mount Hope Housing Company, Inc. and in wishing them continued success.

CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY OF DAVID HOFFMAN

HON. MIKE THOMPSON
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to request that the testimony given by David Hoffman, President of Internews in Arcata, CA, be submitted into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Mr. Hoffman’s valuable testimony before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations is as follows:

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

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open, civil societies and healthy market economies in line with democratic ideals. This support needs to be sustained for the long run until stable economies and civil societies are in place.

And third, in the developing world, locally-produced television programs and other media coverage are unparalleled in their potential to effectively educate mass populations about urgent social problems such as HIV/AIDS.

We would urge the committee to give special attention to this last point.

ROLE OF MEDIA IN COMBATING HIV/AIDS

In Africa, there is an important opportunity to harness the power of local media to reduce the spread of this disease. Over 17 million African women have died of AIDS since the epidemic began in the late 1970s. In at least eight sub-Saharan African nations, infection levels in the general population are 15% or higher. Yet local news coverage of this epidemic is often seriously flawed. African journalists do not usually specialize in one particular area, so their stories on HIV/AIDS may be shallow and the language they use may inadvertently further stigmatize victims of HIV/AIDS. As a recent Time magazine cover story concluded, “ignorance is the crucial reason the epidemic has run out of control.”

By training local African journalists in how to cover this issue effectively and responsibly, as Internews has done in Russia, Ukraine, and Armenia, we can reduce the ignorance and fear that exacerbate the suffering. One of the biggest challenges of the AIDS pandemic is in reaching young audiences with needed information before they become sexually active. By focusing a media campaign on pre-pubescent African children, we can begin to get ahead of the spread of this deadly virus.

Internews therefore requests that this Committee recommend funding in the amount of $2 million for Internews to implement a media training program to combat the spread of HIV/AIDS in Africa.

As we all know better than most the unequalled power of the media to inform and motivate the public. In Africa and the developing world, the public is more effective than hearing local people talking on the radio speak in the local dialect. If we can educate those voices about the true nature of the HIV virus, we can begin to change the attitudes and practices that have allowed this disease to run out of control.

WOMEN AND MEDIA IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD

In the developing world, women have a special role to play in changing public health practices and on a wide range of social issues.

In his book Development As Freedom, the Nobel Prize winner Amartya Sen illustrates how increased literacy, education, job opportunities, property rights and political representation for women directly translate into reduced infant mortality rates, lower birth rates, cleaner water, reduced crime and overall improved health.

If we want to see the less developed countries emerge from the morass of poverty, disease and chronic warfare, there is nothing more important than increasing the political and social influence of women. One way to increase the influence of women in the developing world is to open up opportunities for women journalists, producers and media entrepreneurs in Africa. Let us develop the capacity of women’s NGOs to utilize the media to deliver their messages. Let us help start new radio programs that address the needs of women. For example, with a grant from the Ford Foundation, the Ford Foundation, Rockefeller Financial Services, the W. Alton Jones Foundation, the Joyce Mertz-Gilmour Foundation, the Ford Corporation of New York, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Foundation, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, and many others. The organization had a budget of $15 million in 2000.

ABOUT INTERNEWS

Internews® is an international non-profit organization that promotes open media worldwide. The company fosters independent media in emerging democracies, promotes innovative television and radio programming and Internet content, and uses the media to reduce conflict within and between countries.

Internews programs are based on the conviction that vigorous and diverse mass media form an essential cornerstone of a free and open society. Internews projects currently span the former Soviet Union and Eastern and Western Europe, the Middle East, Southeast Asia, Africa and the United States.

Formed in 1982, Internews Network, Inc., is a $501(c)(3) non-profit corporation based in California, with offices in 23 countries worldwide. The organization currently has offices in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Kosovo, France, Belgium, Israel/Palestine, the former German Democratic Republic, Thailand, Iran, Rwanda, Tanzania, and the United States.

To support independent broadcast media, Internews has done the following (as of 12/31/00):

Since 1992, Internews has trained over 16,000 media professionals in the former Soviet Union, the Balkans, the Middle East, and Indonesia in broadcast journalism and station management.

The organization has worked with over 1500 non-governmental TV and radio stations since 1992.

Internews has also supported the development of 16 independent English television networks linking nongovernmental TV stations in the former Soviet Union, the former Yugoslavia, and the West Bank and Gaza.

Internews has formed 19 media associations around the world.

In 2000 Internews, working with local producers, created approximately 740 hours of television and radio programming. Internews’ original programs reach a potential audience of 308 million viewers and listeners worldwide.

In addition, since 1994 Internews’ Open Skies program has selected, acquired, versioned and distributed over 1000 hours of high-quality international documentary programming to independent television broadcasters in the former Soviet Union and the former Yugoslavia.

Just since 1992 the company has provided over $2 million in television and radio production equipment to nongovernmental media, in the form of grants or no-cost equipment.

Internews is primarily supported by grants. Funders include the US Agency for International Development, the Open Society Institute, the Ford Foundation, Rockefeller Financial Services, the W. Alton Jones Foundation, the Joyce Mertz-Gilmour Foundation, the Ford Corporation of New York, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Foundation, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, and many others. The organization had a budget of $15 million in 2000.

INTRODUCTION OF TRIBAL ENERGY SELF-SUFFICIENCY ACT

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II
OF WEST VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 28, 2001

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, in my role as the Ranking Democrat on the Resources Committee, today I am pleased to be introducing the “Tribal Energy Self-Sufficiency Act.”

As elected officials, you know better than any of us that energy is a fundamental and powerful tool that can provide Indian Country with the tools it needs to achieve energy self-sufficiency. When enacted, this legislation will go a long way to promote energy development in Indian lands where it is wanted and badly needed.

The “Tribal Energy Self-Sufficiency Act” contains a multitude of provisions relating to the production of energy resources on Indian lands, the development of renewable sources of energy, and access by tribes to transmission facilities largely by building upon programs that are already in place.

Mr. Speaker, I have worked to draft this comprehensive energy bill with the Council of Energy Resource Tribes, the Intertribal Energy Network and numerous energy and tribal experts representing over 100 Indian tribes.