

resolution is a companion to H.Con.Res. 37 which was introduced by Congressman CHRIS SMITH, Chairman of the Helsinki Commission.

In October of last year, General Albert Makashov, Communist Party member of the Duma, insulted and threatened the Jewish community with physical retribution for what he asserted as being a cause of Russia's current instabilities. When other members of the Duma sought to censure General Makashov for his comments, Communist party members blocked the measure on two different occasions and the Duma failed to condemn his statements. Then in December, Viktor Ilyukhin, Communist Party member and Chairman of the Security Committee, asserted that the Jews were committing 'genocide against the Russian people'. He further referenced the influence of President Yeltsin's 'Jewish entourage' and called for ethnic quotas in these posts to counter Jewish influence.

It is imperative that the Russian Duma be sent a clear message that these expressions of racism and ethnic hatred will not go unnoticed by the U.S.

Today, I am joined by Senators LAUTENBERG, ABRAHAM, SMITH of Oregon, BROWNBACK, TORRICELLI, REID, CLELAND, BURNS, and FEINGOLD in submitting a resolution which condemns these anti-Semitic statements made by the Russian Duma. It likewise commends the actions taken by those in the Duma who sought to censure the Communist Party leaders and commends President Yeltsin for his forceful rejection of the statements. This resolution also reiterates the firm belief of the Congress that peace and justice cannot be achieved as long as governments and legislatures promote policies based upon anti-Semitism, racism, and xenophobia.

In light of Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov's upcoming visit to the U.S., this resolution is especially timely. I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution which underscores the U.S. commitment to religious freedom and human rights.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I rise today in support of the resolution condemning anti-Semitic statements by Russian political leaders and commending President Yeltsin and others for raising their voices against such hateful speech.

Anti-Semitism in Russia is not a new phenomenon. Throughout Russia's history, Jews have often been singled out for persecution during times of crisis. It happened in the seventeenth century, when a reign of terror was unleashed against Jews in Eastern and Central Europe, and it happened in the pogroms of World War I, when entire Jewish communities were annihilated. In short, when there's trouble in Russia, Jews are usually the first to be blamed. Anti-Semitic comments coming from high-ranking officials in Russia in recent months are particularly

worrisome. They come at a time when Russia should be overcoming its troubled past and rejoining the world community by honoring freedom of religion, free speech and other human rights.

The anti-Semitic statements made by prominent Russian officials are well known by now: Last November, retired General Albert Makashov blamed the country's economic crisis on "yids." In an open letter, Gennady Zyuganov, the Communist Party chief, voiced his belief of a Zionist conspiracy to seize power in Russia. Another top Communist lawmaker, Viktor Ilyukhin, accused Jews of waging "genocide" in the country.

Officials in the Russian government have criticized these statements. Yet not so long ago, Russian President Yeltsin went ahead with a summit with his counterpart, Belarus president Alexander Lukashenko, who himself blamed Jewish financiers and political reformers "for the creation of the criminal economy." Alexander Lebed, a top contender for the presidential post in the 2000 elections, has also made negative remarks about several religious groups.

We in Congress have asked senior Administration officials to lodge our protests against the anti-Semitic comments made by Russian leaders. During her recent trip to Moscow, Secretary Albright did exactly that and received assurances that anti-Semitism has no place in Russia. The Administration will have another opportunity to voice our concern when Vice President GORE receives Russia's Prime Minister Primakov next week.

I will closely be watching events in Russia to ensure the government is in compliance with its international human rights commitments. There has been concern that the country's religion law, passed in 1997, cedes too much authority to local officials. The omnibus appropriations bill for 1999 directs a cutoff of Freedom Support Act aid to Russia unless the President determines and certifies that Moscow hasn't implemented statutes, regulations or executive orders that would discriminate against religious groups. That certification must be made by late April. I hope certification, as well as the International Religious Freedom Act, passed last year, will be strong incentives for Russian leaders to reverse a troubling anti-democratic trend.

As you know, in 1989 I authored legislation making it easier for Jews and members of other persecuted religious groups in the former Soviet Union to obtain refugee status in the United States. I introduced this law because I felt deeply that religious freedom was a basic human right, which was anathema under the Soviet system of government. Recent events in Russia convince me my legislation remains very necessary and I will be asking my colleagues to support an extension again this year.

During a trip to Poland last year, President Kwasniewski and Prime Min-

ister Buzek reached out to the Jewish community to help bridge the gap between Poles and Jews. This is a difficult and long-term process, but at least leaders across the political spectrum are making a real effort to heal wounds and create a more welcome climate for Jews in Poland. I welcome President Yeltsin's rejections of anti-Semitism and I hope more members of the Duma will speak out in this manner.

I want also to pay tribute to Parliamentarian Galina Starovoitova, a steadfast supporter of human rights and democracy, who was shot dead last November in the entry way of her St. Petersburg apartment building. Ms. Starovoitova, a non-Jew, was a leading voice in condemning anti-Semitism in Russian society. Her courage will be sorely missed.

Congress understands Russia cannot be a great democracy until it makes progress in human rights, and doesn't revert to past practices. Russia's leaders must come to the same conclusion. We must all work together to reach a common goal—helping Russia integrate into the international community.

Mr. President, I urge all my colleagues to support this timely resolution.

SENATE RESOLUTION 64—RECOGNIZING THE HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE OF THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE GOOD FRIDAY PEACE AGREEMENT

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. DODD, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. REID, Mr. STEVENS, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. DASCHLE, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. KERREY, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. THURMOND, Ms. LANDRIEU, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BURNS, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. LOTT, Mr. BAYH, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 64

Whereas Ireland has a long and tragic history of civil conflict that has left a deep and profound legacy of suffering;

Whereas since 1969 more than 3,200 people have died and thousands more have been injured as a result of political violence in Northern Ireland;

Whereas a series of efforts by the Governments of the Republic of Ireland and the United Kingdom to facilitate peace and an announced cessation of hostilities created an historic opportunity for a negotiated peace;

Whereas in June 1996, for the first time since the partition of Ireland in 1922, representatives elected from political parties in Northern Ireland pledged to adhere to the principles of nonviolence and commenced talks regarding the future of Northern Ireland;

Whereas the talks greatly intensified in the spring of 1998 under the chairmanship of former United States Senator George Mitchell;

Whereas the active participation of British Prime Minister Tony Blair and Irish Taoiseach Bertie Ahern was critical to the success of the talks;

Whereas on Good Friday, April 10, 1998, the parties to the negotiations each made honorable compromises to conclude a peace agreement for Northern Ireland, which has become known as the Good Friday Peace Agreement;

Whereas on Friday, May 22, 1998, an overwhelming majority of voters in both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland approved by referendum the Good Friday Peace Agreement;

Whereas the United States must remain involved politically and economically to ensure the long-term success of the Good Friday Peace Agreement; and

Whereas April 10, 1999, marks the first anniversary of the Good Friday Peace Agreement: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the historic significance of the first anniversary of the Good Friday Peace Agreement;

(2) salutes British Prime Minister Tony Blair and Irish Taoiseach Bertie Ahern and the elected representatives of the political parties in Northern Ireland for creating the opportunity for a negotiated peace;

(3) commends former Senator George Mitchell for his leadership on behalf of the United States in guiding the parties toward peace;

(4) congratulates the people of the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland for their courageous commitment to work together in peace;

(5) reaffirms the bonds of friendship and cooperation that exist between the United States and the Governments of the Republic of Ireland and the United Kingdom, which ensure that the United States and those Governments will continue as partners in peace; and

(6) encourages all parties to move forward to implement the Good Friday Peace Agreement.

SENATE RESOLUTION 65—TO AUTHORIZE TESTIMONY, DOCUMENT PRODUCTION, AND LEGAL REPRESENTATION

Mr. LOTT (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 65

Whereas, in the case of *Dirk S. Dixon, et al. v. Bruce Pearson, et al.*, Civil No. 97-998 (Cass Cty., N.D.) pending in North Dakota state court, testimony has been requested from Kevin Carvell and Judy Steffes, employees of Senator Byron L. Dorgan;

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(2) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §§288b(a) and 288c(a)(2), the Senate may direct its counsel to represent Senators and employees of the Senate with respect to any subpoena, order, or request for testimony relating to their official responsibilities;

Whereas, by the privileges of the Senate of the United States and Rule XI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, no evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may, by the judicial process, be taken from such control or possession but by permission of the Senate;

Whereas, when it appears that evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may promote the administration of justice, the Senate will take such action as will promote the ends of justice consistently

with the privileges of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Kevin Carvell, Judy Steffes, and any other former or current Senate employee from whom testimony or document production may be required, are authorized to testify and produce documents in the case of *Dirk S. Dixon, et al. v. Bruce Pearson, et al.*, except concerning matters for which a privilege should be asserted.

SEC. 2. The Senate Legal Counsel is authorized to represent Senator Byron L. Dorgan, Kevin Carvell, Judy Steffes, and any other Member or employee of the Senate from whom testimony or document production may be required in connection with the case of *Dirk S. Dixon, et al. v. Bruce Pearson, et al.*

SENATE RESOLUTION 66—TO AUTHORIZE TESTIMONY, DOCUMENT PRODUCTION, AND REPRESENTATION OF EMPLOYEES OF THE SENATE

Mr. LOTT (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 66

Whereas, in the case of *United States v. Yah Lin "Charlie" Trie*, Criminal No. LR-CR-98-239, pending in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas, documentary and testimonial evidence are being sought from the Committee on Governmental Affairs;

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(2) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §§288b(a) and 288c(a)(2), the Senate may direct its counsel to represent employees of the Senate with respect to any subpoena, order, or request for testimony relating to their official responsibilities;

Whereas, by the privileges of the Senate of the United States and Rule XI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, no evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may, by the judicial process, be taken from such control or possession but by permission of the Senate;

Whereas, when it appears that evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may promote the administration of justice, the Senate will take such action as will promote the ends of justice consistently with the privileges of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Governmental Affairs, acting jointly, are authorized to produce records of the Committee, and present and former employees of the Committee from whom testimony is required are authorized to testify, in the case of *United States v. Yah Lin "Charlie" Trie*, except concerning matters for which a privilege should be asserted.

SEC. 2. That the Senate Legal Counsel is authorized to represent present and former employees of the Senate in connection with the testimony authorized in section one.

SENATE RESOLUTION 67—TO AUTHORIZE REPRESENTATION OF SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

Mr. LOTT (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 67

Whereas, in the case of *Bob Schaffer, et al. v. William Jefferson Clinton, et al.*, C.A. No. 99-K-201, pending in the United States District

Court for the District of Colorado, the plaintiffs have named the Secretary of the Senate as a defendant;

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(1) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §§288b(a) and 288c(a)(1), the Senate may direct its counsel to defend officers of the Senate in civil actions relating to their official responsibilities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate Legal Counsel is directed to represent the Secretary of the Senate in the case of *Bob Schaffer, et al. v. William Jefferson Clinton, et al.*

SENATE RESOLUTION 68—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING THE TREATMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS BY THE TALIBAN IN AFGHANISTAN

Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Mr. BROWNBACK) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 68

Whereas more than 11,000,000 women and girls living under Taliban rule in Afghanistan are denied their basic human rights;

Whereas according to the Department of State and international human rights organizations, the Taliban continues to commit widespread and well-documented human rights abuses, in gross violation of internationally accepted norms;

Whereas, according to the United States Department of State Country Report on Human Rights Practices (hereafter "1998 State Department Human Rights Report"), violence against women in Afghanistan occurs frequently, including beatings, rapes, forced marriages, disappearances, kidnappings, and killings;

Whereas women and girls in Afghanistan are barred from working, going to school, leaving their homes without an immediate male family member as chaperone, visiting doctors, hospitals or clinics, and receiving humanitarian aid;

Whereas according to the 1998 State Department Human Rights Report, gender restrictions by the Taliban continue to interfere with the delivery of humanitarian assistance to women and girls in Afghanistan;

Whereas according to the 1998 State Department Human Rights Report, women in Afghanistan are forced to don a head-to-toe garment known as a burqa, which has only a mesh screen for vision, and women in Afghanistan found in public not wearing a burqa, or wearing a burqa that does not properly cover the ankles, are beaten by Taliban militiamen;

Whereas according to the 1998 State Department Human Rights Report, some poor women in Afghanistan cannot afford the cost of a burqa and thus are forced to remain at home or risk beatings if they go outside the home without one;

Whereas according to the 1998 State Department Human Rights Report, the lack of a burqa has resulted in the inability of some women in Afghanistan to get necessary medical care because they cannot leave home;

Whereas according to the 1998 State Department Human Rights Report, women in Afghanistan are reportedly beaten if their shoe heels click when they walk;

Whereas according to the 1998 State Department Human Rights Report, women in homes in Afghanistan must not be visible from the street, and houses with female occupants must have their windows painted over;