

think Jews should be concerned, and I am declaring my complete support for Russian Jews here.

And I think the Russian people should be insulted. I have too much respect for the character, strength, and, yes, the spirit of the Russian people to think that they need to be patronized by threats of religious persecution.

I will continue to support democratic evolution in Russia. And I think that this evolution demands respect for all human rights—including the right to freedom of religion. I have expressed this in a letter I have drafted to President Yeltsin and Ambassador Vorontsov, and I am grateful that my colleagues here have co-signed it. I am also happy to sign the letter Senator BENNETT has drafted to Secretary of State Christopher.

I ask unanimous consent that these letters be printed in the Record.

I now call on Alexandr Lebed to apologize, and to demonstrate that he has no intention of repeating his threats to freedom of religion in Russia. The future of democratic Russia depends on the preservation of this freedom.

There being no objection, the letters were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. SENATE,

Washington, DC, June 28, 1996.

His Excellency BORIS YELTSIN,
President of the Russian Federation, The Kremlin, Moscow, Russia.

DEAR PRESIDENT YELTSIN: We are writing to express our outrage at the comments on religion reported by Western and Russian news agencies of your new National Security Council Chief, Alexandr Lebed. Mr. Lebed's malicious, unfounded and untrue remarks are an attack on all of the Christian faithful of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, the Mormon Church. His comparison of the Mormons to a murderous cult in Japan is offensive, false, and a heinous calumny that could not be explained by mere ignorance.

In addition, his notable exclusion of the Jewish faith from the religions he believes should be "officially recognized" raises concerns worldwide. We are greatly worried over what such an omission means for Russia's Jews.

We are strong supporters of democratic evolution in Russia and have watched with great admiration many of the recent developments in your country. But we simply cannot understand how such hateful declarations of intolerance from leaders of the Russian government can be reconciled with individual human rights, the whole of which cannot exclude freedom of religion.

Furthermore, while we admire and support the very real movement toward democracy in Russia, we cannot ignore the manifestation, explicit in these remarks, of a mentality from Russia's authoritarian past that fabricates foreign threats and influences.

Finally, we have all studied Russian history. As citizens of a free country, we've probably had access to greater resources on Russian history than citizens of your country had up until a few years ago. Any understanding of Russian history must recognize the character and intelligence of the Russian people as well as their individual courage. It is simply incomprehensible to us that any of Russia's leaders would insult their own citizens with a paternalistic attempt to prevent

them from making their own determinations about matters as deeply personal as religious beliefs.

Sincerely,

ORRIN G. HATCH.
JESSE HELMS.
ROBERT F. BENNETT.
ARLEN SPECTER.
HARRY REID.
JOSEPH I. LIEBERMAN.

U.S. SENATE,

Washington, DC, June 28, 1996.

His Excellency YULIY M. VORONTSOV,
Ambassador of the Russian Federation, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. AMBASSADOR: We are writing to express our outrage at the comments on religion reported by Western and Russian news agencies of your new National Security Council Chief, Alexandr Lebed. Mr. Lebed's malicious, unfounded and untrue remarks are an attack on all of the Christian faithful of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, the Mormon Church. His comparison of the Mormons to a murderous cult in Japan is offensive, false, and a heinous calumny that could not be explained by mere ignorance.

In addition, his notable exclusion of the Jewish faith from the religions he believes should be "officially recognized" raises concerns worldwide. We are greatly worried over what such an omission means for Russia's Jews.

We are strong supporters of democratic evolution in Russia and have watched with great admiration many of the recent developments in your country. But we simply cannot understand how such hateful declarations of intolerance from leaders of the Russian government can be reconciled with individual human rights, the whole of which cannot exclude freedom of religion.

Furthermore, while we admire and support the very real movement toward democracy in Russia, we cannot ignore the manifestation, explicit in these remarks, of a mentality from Russia's authoritarian past that fabricates foreign threats and influences.

Finally, we have all studied Russian history. As citizens of a free country, we've probably had access to greater resources on Russian history than citizens of your country had up until a few years ago. Any understanding of Russian history must recognize the character and intelligence of the Russian people as well as their individual courage. It is simply incomprehensible to us that any of Russia's leaders would insult their own citizens with a paternalistic attempt to prevent them from making their own determinations about matters as deeply personal as religious beliefs.

Sincerely,

ORRIN G. HATCH.
JESSE HELMS.
ROBERT F. BENNETT.
ARLEN SPECTER.
HARRY REID.
JOSEPH I. LIEBERMAN.

U.S. SENATE,

Washington, DC, June 28, 1996.

The Honorable WARREN CHRISTOPHER,
Secretary of State, U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SECRETARY: According to Western news agencies, yesterday General Alexandr Lebed, the new head of Russia's National Security Council, made a number of comments on religious life in Russia today. First, he equated the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints to the Japanese terrorist cult Aum Supreme Truth. His characterization of the Church is defamatory and indefensible in any circumstances, let alone for the second most powerful official in the

Russian Federation. Further, given Russia's history of anti-Semitism, his omission of the Jewish faith as an acceptable part of religious life in Russia further reflects a dangerous return to the practices of the past.

Equally disturbing, General Lebed's assessment of the principal religious traditions in Russia, beyond being false, is taken directly from the pre-election speeches of Communist Party Gennadei Zyuganov. This willingness to adopt Communist misstatement on the part of a Russian government official leaves us genuinely concerned about whether the Russian political elite is serious in its efforts to break decisively with the Communist past.

As Senators, however, we are most offended that such statements by Mr. Lebed, or any other Russian official, indicate no tolerance in Russia for religious freedom or dissent of any kind. Such behavior demonstrates that, despite the presence of electoral institutions, Russia has made precious little progress toward the development of a civil society. Indeed, Mr. Lebed's statements may have demonstrated that the emperor of Russia "democracy" has no clothes.

Finally, Mr. Secretary, inasmuch as freedom of religion is a core element of American society and one of the bases of our current assistance program, we ask that you review United States assistance to Russia. In a separate letter, we will be raising the same issue with Brian Atwood, Administrator of AID. We look forward to your comments.

Sincerely,

ROBERT F. BENNETT.
HARRY REID.
ARLEN SPECTER.
ORRIN G. HATCH.
JOSEPH I. LIEBERMAN.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Thomas, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:58 pm., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3663. An act to amend the District of Columbia Self-Government and Government Reorganization Act to permit the Council of the District of Columbia to authorize the issuance of revenue bonds with respect to water and sewer facilities, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3675. An act making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The message also announced that the Speaker also signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 2437. An act to provide for the exchange of certain lands in Gilpin County, Colorado.

H.R. 3525. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to clarify the Federal jurisdiction over offenses relating to damage to religious property.

MEASURE REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3675. An act making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-3228. A communication from the Acting General Counsel, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the support for S. 39; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3229. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report on Financial Overview for fiscal year 1995; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3230. A communication from the Director of the Office of Global Programs, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a final rule entitled "Climate and Global Change Program," received on June 12, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3231. A communication from the Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on a final policy statement relative to the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3232. A communication from the Managing Director, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Commission's Rules to Permit Routine Use of Signal Boosters,"; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3233. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a trade regulation rule concerning the incandescent lamp industry; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3234. A communication from the Office of the Chairman, Surface Transportation Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of rules relative to traffic; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3235. A communication from the Office of the Chairman, Surface Transportation Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of rules relative to rail lines; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3236. A communication from the Deputy Director of the Office of Public/Private Initiatives, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a final rule entitled "International Buyer Program," (RIN0625-XX07) received on June 17, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3237. A communication from the Director of the Resource Management and Planning Staff, Trade Development, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a final rule entitled "Market Development Cooperator Program," (RIN0625-ZA03) received on June 13, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3238. A communication from the Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to Congress Civil Aviation Security; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3239. A communication from the Program Management Officer, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a final rule entitled "Summer Flounder Fishery," (RIN0648-AI93) received on June 20, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3240. A communication from the Acting Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of an interim final rule entitled "Fisheries in the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic," (RIN0648-AI20) received on June 24, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3241. A communication from the Director of the Office of Fisheries, Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a final rule entitled "Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area," received on June 13, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3242. A communication from the Director of the Office of Fisheries, Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a final rule entitled "Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area," received on June 21, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3243. A communication from the Director of the Office of Fisheries, Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a final rule entitled "Pacific Halibut Fisheries," received on June 7, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3244. A communication from the Director of the Office of Fisheries, Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a final rule entitled "Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico," received on June 24, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3245. A communication from the Director of the Office of Fisheries, Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a final rule entitled "Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area," received on June 24, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3246. A communication from the Director of the Office of Fisheries, Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a final rule entitled "Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery," received on June 12, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3247. A communication from the Director of the Office of Fisheries, Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries

Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a final rule entitled "Ocean Salmon Fisheries Off the Coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California," received on June 24, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3248. A communication from the Office of the Managing Director, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to noise figure performance measurements; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3249. A communication from the Office of the Managing Director, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to open video systems; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3250. A communication from the Office of the Managing Director, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to FM broadcast stations; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mrs. KASSEBAUM, from the Committee on Labor and Human Resources, with amendments:

S. 1423. A bill to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to make modifications to certain provisions, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 104-308).

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 1174. A bill to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain segments of the Lamprey River in New Hampshire as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 104-309).

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

S. 1226. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to prepare a study of battlefields of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, to establish an American Battlefield Protection Program, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 104-310).

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 1874. A bill to amend sections of the Department of Energy Organization Act that are obsolete or inconsistent with other statutes and to repeal a related section of the Federal Energy Administration Act of 1974 (Rept. No. 104-311).

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment:

H.R. 238. A bill to provide for the protection of wild horses within the Ozark National Scenic Riverways and prohibit the removal of such horses (Rept. No. 104-312).

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

H.R. 1014. A bill to authorize extension of time limitation for a FERC-issued hydroelectric license (Rept. No. 104-313).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated: