

Nelson was born and raised in Medford, Massachusetts. He was known for his boundless energy and for enjoying life to the fullest. Whether hard at work, participating in one of his many favorite sports, or having fun with family and friends, Nelson was always giving his all.

With his ever-present smile and positive personality, Nelson endeared himself to all. Like most young men at 23, Nelson had dreams. He wanted something better out of life. He decided to return to school, and to prepare himself for a solid future. He looked forward to spending time as a loving uncle to his sister's child, and to one day enjoying a family of his own. Nelson always regarded family and friends as the most important aspect of his life.

On the night of February 12, 1995, Nelson was visiting the home of a new girlfriend when suddenly the girl's ex-boyfriend arrived angry, jealous and ready to assault the couple. The police were called, and upon their arrival the man was taken to jail. Believing the situation was safe, Nelson continued his visit unaware the ex-boyfriend would be freed that very night. Once out of jail, the man armed himself with a 38 caliber handgun. He then proceeded to smash his way into the girl's basement apartment with the intent to murder everyone inside. And murder he did—killing the girl's brother, Nelson, and firing two shots into the girl, who has since survived.

Since that moment, the family and friends of Nelson have focused their love, emotions, and sense of loss through the creation of the Nelson Foundation. The mission of the Foundation is to provide public awareness on the true costs of gun violence. The Nelson Foundation raises funds for organizations that fight gun and domestic violence through positive community programs. In addition, it has developed a scholarship program for students who are dedicated to the message of peace and non-violent conflict resolution.

I commend the family and friends of Nelson DeOliveira in their efforts to honor the spirit of this exceptional young man by working to put an end to the epidemic of gun violence.

And I urge Congress to do its part by passing meaningful gun safety legislation. We can not afford to lose one more life to one more bullet. We can not afford to lose the promise and the hope of young people like Nelson DeOliveira.

TRIBUTE TO DEBI BARRETT-HAYES

HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2000

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the dedicated work of my constituent and one of Florida's finest educators. Debi Barrett-Hayes, has spent the past twenty years of her life working to enrich the minds of our youth by teaching Art to students from Kindergarten through 12th grade. Today, June 14, 2000, Debi Barrett-Hayes will be inducted into the National Teachers Hall of Fame. It is her invaluable commitment and dedication that we honor today.

Ms. Barrett-Hayes is currently the Chair of the Visual Arts Department K-12 and a teach-

er of Visual Arts grades 9-12 with Florida State University School in Tallahassee, Florida. She has spent her entire career committed to the arts. Debi began as a graphic designer and freelance artist, then moved into the education field where she has stayed for the past twenty years. She has been teaching art to students of all levels, including the Primary, Secondary and University levels. Throughout her career, Ms. Barrett-Hayes has been honored with a variety of awards. Just this past year, she was given the Christa McAuliffe Fellowship Award. In 1996 she was named Florida Art Educator of the Year, and the year before Florida State University School also named her Teacher of the Year.

Debi is also the National Art Education Association Secondary Division Director and was one of the first art teachers to obtain the status of National Board Certified Teacher. Her commitment to advocating the importance of art on the national level has been impressive throughout her career. She has successfully written numerous grant requests, and has brought in over \$400,000 in additional funds for her school district. Conducting over 300 workshops and being invited to speak on the state, national and international level certainly distinguishes her remarkable career.

The greatest reflection of an educator's career is when they are recognized by their peers and students. Countless colleagues, parents and students have eagerly stepped forward to praise the work of Debi Barrett-Hayes. They are impressed with her rapport with students and with her ability to integrate art into the lives of those she teaches. She uses history, science and culture to bring about a greater understanding of the visual arts. Other impressive attributes to her career are the successes her students experience through the awards and scholarships they have received for their talents. The need for caring and effective educators in today's society is extremely important, and honoring those who have dedicated their lives to reinforcing a system of quality education is why I rise today.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, we join Debi Barrett-Hayes' family, colleagues, students and friends in honoring her as she is inducted into the National Teachers Hall of Fame.

IN HONOR OF CORNUCOPIA, INC. AND NATURE'S BIN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Cornucopia and Nature's Bin on the occasion of their 25th anniversary.

Cornucopia, a nonprofit organization, helps people with disabilities achieve successful integration into the workplace. Since 1975, this organization has devoted its time on training programs in their natural food store, Nature's Bin. Originally known as "The Bin," this shop started as a humble little storefront on Madison Avenue in a section of Lakewood known as "Birdtown." At the time, The Bin only sold produce. Since then, Nature's Bin has become the training site for Cornucopia's vocational programs for people with disabilities. Through encouragement and direction, Nature's Bin has helped bring many disabled persons into

the workplace. It is an important task that they have undertaken. Upon graduation from one of Cornucopia's training programs, a person can enter the workforce as a skilled and confident individual.

It is evident that Cornucopia and Nature's Bin has, over the years, played a crucial role in the community, and that its many years of service have been an invaluable contribution.

Cornucopia and Nature's Bin will be celebrating its 25th anniversary June 23rd through June 25th. The celebration will include several speakers throughout the weekend and will be capped with a late afternoon of jazz.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in honoring Cornucopia and Nature's Bin for the service they have provided to those with disabilities for 25 years.

OUR CONSTITUTION PROTECTS ITS DEFENDERS

HON. TOM DELAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2000

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be introducing today the "American Servicemembers Protection Act of 2000". This legislation will protect our Armed Services from being prosecuted by the ill-conceived International Criminal Court which the United States has refused to join.

In some parts of America, national sovereignty is still taken seriously. Today, we take a strong step to protect the men and women who protect U.S. from an extra-constitutional monster that could very easily be abused.

The International Criminal Court is a threat to our national interests. Under this system, American servicemembers could become pawns for hostile powers seeking revenge against U.S. policymakers.

We must not allow the International Criminal Court to exert authority over our fighting forces. Administration officials admit that our armed forces could be subjected to the ICC's jurisdiction through peacekeeping, humanitarian and other missions. That means Americans could be prosecuted or imprisoned by the court even though we never signed the treaty. This we cannot allow.

The administration refused to sign this treaty because of the threat it poses to our military personnel. This bill is a reasonable measure that gives the President the necessary tools to protect U.S. from a deeply flawed proposal.

If the President ever signed and the Senate ever ratified this treaty, then this bill will become null and void. In the meantime, we must meet our responsibility to protect our armed services from the whims of a new international bureaucracy.

American men and women in uniform take an oath to defend our Constitution from all threats, foreign and domestic. At a minimum, our soldiers, sailors, and airmen deserve all of the protections granted to them by the great document they swear to preserve.

What if we do nothing?

Under its terms, Americans could be brought before the ICC's court and tried without important rights. They could be denied a trial by jury. The court could compel Americans to provide self-incriminating testimony. And it could deny them the right to confront

and cross-examine any witnesses that testify against them.

If we don't act to protect Americans, this court will assume unto itself powers over our citizens that the Constitution forbids. Our first duty as Members of Congress is to protect our Constitution.

Turning a blind eye to the threat posed by this International Court could constrain the options available to American officials. We have no idea what threats the future holds. Can we risk allowing the threat of actions by this court to water down our nation's response to acts of terrorism, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and aggression against our vital interests and allies?

Under this treaty, an American President could be tried before an international court if the prosecutor decided that an American foreign policy decision was unjustified.

This bill protects Americans in several important ways. First, it stops federal, state, and local governments from assisting the ICC. It stops U.S. officials from arresting or extraditing suspects for the ICC. It also prevents U.S. entities from performing searches and seizures. In short, this bill protects Americans from all the ways the ICC could intrude into their lives.

The bill also stops U.S. forces from taking part in missions that would expose them to the reach of this court. U.S. forces could still be deployed if the President certifies to Congress that exemptions to prosecution are in place to protect our forces. The bill also safeguards our national interests by denying classified data to the ICC.

Finally, this bill authorizes the President to use whatever means necessary to rescue Americans who are detained under the authority of the ICC.

The Clinton administration is continuing to seek revisions to the ICC treaty to protect our armed forces from the court's jurisdiction. This legislation should reinforce the administration's efforts by making clear to those countries that support the ICC what the future will hold if American concerns about the court are not satisfactorily addressed.

Mr. Speaker, America is not ready to timidly cede her sovereignty to an unaccountable, international entity that is not bound to respect our Constitution, and that we have refused to join. Members should support this bill and defend our first principles.

INTRODUCTION OF H. CON. RES. 352

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the Record the text of House Concurrent Resolution 352, a resolution I am today introducing to express the concern of the Congress of the United States with regard to the increasing intimidation and manipulation of the Russian media by the Russian government, its officials and agencies.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution makes it clear that the Congress is very concerned over a number of things that the Russian government has done—or, at times, failed to do—with regard to freedom of the press in Russia. Very little privatization has been carried out when it

comes to major sectors of the media in Russia. Enterprises such as large printing and publishing houses, newspaper distribution companies, and nationwide television frequencies and broadcasting facilities have been only partially privatized, if they have been privatized at all. In the context of the extensive privatization of state-owned enterprises that has taken place in recent years in Russia, the failure to more extensively privatize key segments of the media is inexplicable. That failure, however, has allowed the Russian government to continue to exert an immense influence over the media at all levels, an influence that we have seen employed, blatantly and cynically, for political ends in the recent parliamentary and presidential elections in Russia.

Beyond the manipulation of the media that took place in the context of the recent Russian elections, this resolution points out that the Russian government and its officials and agencies have taken steps intended to simply intimidate those in the media that it could not manipulate. A new Russian Ministry for the Press was created last July. In one of his earliest statements, the Minister in charge of that agency stated that its job was to address the "aggression" of the Russian press. As leading Russian editors said in an open letter to former Russian President Boris Yeltsin last August, high-ranking government officials have put pressure on the mass media, particularly through unwarranted raids by tax police. In fact, Mr. Speaker, as recently as May 11th, masked officers of the Russian Federal Security Service mounted an armed raid on the headquarters of "Media-Most," which operates "NTV," the largest independent national television station in Russia, and then, just this week, arrested the owner of Media-Most, Vladimir Gusinsky, on what I understand to be rather vague charges.

Mr. Speaker, Russian reporters have been beaten and murdered, and police investigations tend to fail, more often than not, to identify the perpetrators, much less bring them to justice. Andrei Babitsky, a Russian reporter working for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty and covering the war in Chechnya, was arrested by the Russian military and then exchanged to unidentified Chechens for Russian POWs, a blatant violation of his rights as a Russian citizen. His prosecution by the Russian government since his return to Moscow has also involved reported abuses of his rights under Russian law. Aleksandr Khinshtein, a reporter for "Moskovsky Komsomolets," was ordered by the Federal Security Service in January to enter a psychiatric clinic far from Moscow for an examination after he wrote critical articles concerning illegal activities by Russian officials, a disturbing return to Soviet-era practices of repression. Thankfully, Mr. Khinshtein's lawyer appeared in time to prevent that order from being carried out, but, who can say what faces such courageous Russian reporters tomorrow?

Indeed, who can be sure what will face the Russian people tomorrow? This resolution points out a very disturbing fact. Russian intelligence agencies are right now moving to ensure total surveillance over the Internet in Russia. Under a so-called technical regulation, known by its acronym as "SORM-2," the Federal Security Service is installing a system by which all transmissions and e-mails within Russia and all such transmissions to parties in

Russia can be read in real time by that agency. At the same time that the manipulation and intimidation of the Russian media is taking place, a new structure of surveillance over all of Russia's citizens is being created.

Mr. Speaker, with regard to the abuse of freedom of the press now underway in Russia, Thomas Dine, President of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, has to date been the only American official who has clearly and strongly identified that distressing trend. He has stated publicly that the Russian government's efforts to intimidate the mass media in that country threaten the chances for democracy and rule of law there. I believe that this resolution makes that fact clear, but also makes it clear that the freedom of expression of Russians in general is under attack by the current Russian government and its agencies.

This resolution makes it clear that the United States continues to support freedom of speech and freedom of the press in Russia. By its passage, the President of the United States will be requested to make that quite clear to the President of Russia and to emphasize the fact that such intimidation and manipulation of the media in Russia is incompatible with true democracy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting passage of this important resolution.

H. CON. RES. 352

Whereas almost all of the large printing plants, publishing houses, and newspaper distribution companies, several leading news agencies, and almost all of the nationwide television frequencies and broadcasting facilities in the Russian Federation remain under government control, despite the extensive privatization of state-owned enterprises in other sectors of the Russian economy;

Whereas the "Press Freedom Survey 2000" reported by "Freedom House" of Washington, DC, stated that the approximately 2,500 regional and rural newspapers in Russia outside of Moscow are almost completely owned by local or provincial governments;

Whereas the Government of Russia is able to suspend or revoke broadcast and publishing licenses and apply exorbitant taxes and fees on the independent media;

Whereas, in 1999, a major television network controlled by the Russian Government canceled the program "Top Secret" after it reported on alleged corruption at high levels of the government;

Whereas, in July 1999, the Government of Russia created a new Ministry for Press, Television and Radio Broadcasting, and Mass Communications;

Whereas, in August 1999, the editors of fourteen of Russia's leading news publications sent an open letter to then Russian President Boris Yeltsin stating that high-ranking officials of the government were putting pressure on the mass media, particularly through unwarranted raids by tax police;

Whereas Mikhail Lesin, Minister for Press, Television and Radio Broadcasting, and Mass Communications, stated in October 1999 that the Russian Government would change its policies towards the mass media so as to address "aggression" by the Russian press;

Whereas the Russian Federal Security Service or "FSB" is reportedly implementing a technical regulation known as "SORM-2" by which it could reroute, in real time, all electronic transmissions over the Internet through FSB offices for purposes of surveillance, a likely violation of the Russian constitution's provisions concerning the right to privacy of private communications,