

bases illegally stationed in occupied regions of Abkhazia and the Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia without the consent of the Government of Georgia or a mandate from the United Nations or other multilateral organizations;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation continues the process of aggression carried out against Georgia since the early 1990s and occupation of Georgia's territories following the August 2008 Russia-Georgia War;

Whereas the March 5, 2017, closure of two crossing points on the Administrative Boundary Line (ABL) with Abkhazia in the villages of Nabakevi and Otobaia violated fundamental rights to freedom of movement, privacy, and family life, as well as access to education and health care for the local population, contravening commitments to work towards enhanced security and improved living conditions for the conflict-affected population;

Whereas President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin has ordered his government to conclude an agreement to effectively incorporate the military of Georgia's South Ossetia region into the Russian armed forces' command structure, thereby impeding the peace process;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation's policy vis-à-vis Georgia and the alarming developments in the region illustrate that the Government of the Russian Federation does not accept the independent choice of sovereign states and strives for the restoration of zones of influence in the region, including through the use of force, occupation, factual annexation, and other aggressive acts; and

Whereas the United States applied the doctrine of non-recognition in 1940 to the countries of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania, and every Presidential administration of the United States honored this doctrine until independence was restored to those countries in 1991: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the policy, popularly known as the "Stimson Doctrine", of the United States to not recognize territorial changes effected by force, and affirms that this policy should continue to guide the foreign policy of the United States;

(2) condemns the military intervention and occupation of Georgia by the Russian Federation and its continuous illegal activities along the occupation line in Abkhazia and Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia;

(3) calls upon the Government of the Russian Federation to withdraw its recognition of Georgia's territories of Abkhazia and the Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia as independent countries, to refrain from acts and policies that undermine the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia, and to take steps to fulfill all the terms and conditions of the August 12, 2008, Ceasefire Agreement between Georgia and the Russian Federation;

(4) stresses the necessity of progress on core issues within the Geneva International Discussions, including a legally binding pledge from the Government of the Russian Federation on the non-use of force, the establishment of international security arrangements in the occupied regions of Georgia, and the safe and dignified return of internally displaced persons and refugees to the places of their origin;

(5) urges the United States Government to declare unequivocally that the United States will not under any circumstances recognize the de jure or de facto sovereignty of the Russian Federation over any part of Georgia, its airspace, or its territorial waters, including Abkhazia and the Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia;

(6) urges the President to deepen cooperation with the Government of Georgia in all areas of the United States-Georgia Charter on Strategic Partnership, including Georgia's advancement towards Euro-Atlantic integration;

(7) urges the President to place emphasis on enhancing Georgia's security through joint military training and providing self-defensive capabilities in order to enhance Georgia's independent statehood and national sovereignty; and

(8) affirms that a free, united, democratic, and sovereign Georgia is in the long-term interest of the United States as it promotes peace and stability in the region.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 107—CONGRATULATING THE RIFLE TEAM OF WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY ON WINNING THE 2017 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION RIFLE CHAMPIONSHIP

Mrs. CAPITO (for herself and Mr. MANCHIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

##### S. RES. 107

Whereas, in 2017, the West Virginia University Mountaineers rifle team (referred to in this preamble as the "Mountaineers") completed an undefeated regular season with a record of 12 wins and no losses and won the Great America Rifle Conference championship for the eighth consecutive year;

Whereas, on March 11, 2017, the Mountaineers won the National Collegiate Athletic Association (referred to in this preamble as the "NCAA") Rifle Championship;

Whereas the 2017 NCAA Rifle Championship is the fifth consecutive title for the Mountaineers;

Whereas the Mountaineers have now won 19 national championships, securing team NCAA titles in 1983, 1984, 1986, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2009, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017;

Whereas the Mountaineers have won more national championships than any other rifle program in the United States;

Whereas the Mountaineers shot a championship-record 4723 aggregate score at the 2017 NCAA Rifle Championship;

Whereas freshman Milica Babic won the 2017 NCAA air rifle championship;

Whereas freshman Morgan Phillips won the NCAA smallbore title and earned the Top Performer Award of the NCAA Rifle Championship;

Whereas the Mountaineers swept the NCAA individual titles in 2017, the fifth time that shooters from the Mountaineers have swept the individual championships; and

Whereas Head Coach Jon Hammond and all members of the Mountaineers, including Jack Anderson, Will Anti, Milica Babic, Noah Barker, Elizabeth Gratz, Jean-Pierre Lucas, Morgan Phillips, and Ginny Thrasher, completed a record performance to claim the 2017 national title: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate congratulates the West Virginia University rifle team on winning the 2017 National Collegiate Athletic Association Rifle Championship.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, I have 7 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to Rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

#### COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

The Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 30, 2017, in the President's room, S-216 in the Capitol, in order to vote on the nomination of George "Sonny" Perdue, of Georgia, to be Secretary of Agriculture.

#### COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 30, 2017, at 9:30 a.m., in open session to consider the nomination of Honorable Heather A. Wilson to be Secretary of the Air Force.

#### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 30, 2017, beginning at 9:30 a.m. in Room 366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

#### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate in order to hold a hearing on Thursday, March 30, 2017, beginning at 2:30 p.m. in Room 366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

#### COMMITTEES ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 30, 2017 at 10 a.m., to hold a hearing entitled *The Road Ahead: U.S. Interests, Values, and the American People*.

#### COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 30, in between votes in S-216, to consider the following: Nomination of Alexander Acosta to serve as Secretary of Labor.

#### SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Senate Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the 115th Congress of the U.S. Senate on Thursday, March 30, 2017 from 10 a.m. for Panel I, and from 2 p.m. for Panel II, in room SD-106 of the Senate Dirksen Office Building to hold open hearings entitled *Disinformation: A Primer in Russian Active Measures and Influence Campaigns*.

#### PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Melissa Rubenstein, a fellow in my office, be granted floor privileges for the remainder of this Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

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CONGRATULATING THE RIFLE  
TEAM OF WEST VIRGINIA UNI-  
VERSITY ON WINNING THE 2017  
NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATH-  
LETIC ASSOCIATION RIFLE  
CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 107, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 107) congratulating the rifle team of West Virginia University on winning the 2017 National Collegiate Athletic Association Rifle Championship.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 107) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.  
(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

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ORDERS FOR MONDAY, APRIL 3,  
2017

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it

adjourn until 3 p.m. on Monday, April 3; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

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ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY,  
APRIL 3, 2017, AT 3 P.M.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:17 p.m., adjourned until Monday, April 3, 2017, at 3 p.m.