

Cape Coral, FL; Kris Kempinski, 32, St. Louis, MO; Samuel L. Leonard, 43, Chicago, IL; Keith McSwain, 21, Washington, DC; Alfredo Montano, 23, Chicago, IL; Ronald Posada, 22, Houston, TX; Latrell Thomas, 34, Chicago, IL; Robin Thompson, 21, Baltimore, MD; Taha Wheeler, 21, Detroit, MI; Willie Wilson, 44, Philadelphia, PA; Ronnie Woodall, 26, St. Louis, MO; and an unidentified male, 27, Portland, OR.

RUSSIA HUMAN RIGHTS

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I wish to voice my concern about the deteriorating human rights situation in Russia. A decade after the break-up of the Soviet Union, Russia still faces enormous obstacles to becoming a stable and prosperous nation. Russia's GDP is less than half of what it was before the break-up, with much of its population impoverished and uncertain about its future. Russia's medical system is in near collapse, and both life expectancy birthrates have declined sharply. Crime is escalating, and corruption is widespread.

This is a scenario that would challenge any government. It will require great leadership to turn things around in order to move Russia towards greater freedom and prosperity. But recent events have made me fearful that, rather than leading Russia forward, President Putin and his government are leading their country back into the regrettable past.

The apparently baseless arrest of Vladimir Gusinsky raises new concerns about President Putin's commitment to an independent media, particularly in light of his government's abuse of Radio Liberty journalist Andrey Babitsky in retaliation for critical reporting from Chechnya. The Russian government has not heeded international calls for an independent investigation into reports of escalating human rights abuses allegedly committed by Russian troops against Chechen civilians. The reported harassment by the Putin government against some religious minorities, including pressure placed on a prominent Jewish group, is also extremely troubling.

Mr. President, a Russia that is democratic and free and follows the rule of law will be a strong and prosperity country, a source of pride to its people, and an ally respected by all nations. I call on Congress and the Administration to do all that is possible to ensure that President Putin moves his country towards this goal.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Tuesday, June 27, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,650,719,953,982.79 (Five trillion, six hundred fifty billion, seven hundred nineteen million, nine hundred fifty-three thousand, nine hundred eighty-two dollars and seventy-nine cents).

One year ago, June 27, 1999, the Federal debt stood at \$5,640,526,000,000 (Five trillion, six hundred forty billion, five hundred twenty-six million).

Five years ago, June 27, 1995, the Federal debt stood at \$4,948,217,000,000 (Four trillion, nine hundred forty-eight billion, two hundred seventeen million).

Ten years ago, June 27, 1990, the Federal debt stood at \$3,165,289,000,000 (Three trillion, one hundred sixty-five billion, two hundred eighty-nine million) which reflects almost a doubling of the debt—an increase of almost \$2.5 trillion—\$2,485,430,953,982.79 (Two trillion, four hundred eighty-five billion, four hundred thirty million, nine hundred fifty-three thousand, nine hundred eighty-two dollars and seventy-nine cents) during the past 10 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

PRESERVING TYRE, LEBANON

• Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the American National Committee for Tyre and the International Association to Save Tyre for all the good work they are doing to raise awareness on the issue of preserving this great historical site. As many may know, Tyre, Lebanon was one of the most important cities in the classical era. It served as an administrative center of life for the people of the Mediterranean region, and was the birthplace for the modern day alphabet and democracy. If restored to its original beauty, and its antiquities are carefully unearthed and preserved, Tyre could become a world center for cultural education of past civilizations.

I am pleased to serve as the Honorary Chairman of the American National Committee and I am honored to work with my colleague and friend, Senator Claiborne Pell, whose previous 20 years of leadership on this issue remains invaluable.

There is no dispute that underneath the present day soil of Tyre lies the great archeological treasures of eight successive civilizations: the Phoenician, Persian, Roman, Greek, Byzantine, Arab, and Ottoman, as well as that of the Crusaders. Many attempts have been made to unearth these treasures, but present day realities have made it very difficult to implement a full fledged plan to discover these antiquities.

Tyre has been designated as a World Heritage site, and as such, should be treated with great respect for the education of future generations. The Government of Lebanon is searching for ways to protect the archeological sites while planning realistically for economic expansion and tourism. However there are problems.

The Lebanese Government recently approved building the southern extension of the coastal highway near many of the archeological treasures. The government has also permitted some of the coastal sea area to be refilled for the construction of parking lots. In addition, there has been damaging activity surrounding Tell El-Mashouk.

It is my hope that the Lebanese government will institute a master plan, cultural resources assessment, and a management plan for Tyre which will clearly map out the best approach at uncovering, preserving, and displaying these vast treasures. I do hope that the government will cease its present activity in the area until it can develop a workable and enforceable plan.

It seems a particularly appropriate time for the Lebanese Government to be planning their approach to the city of Tyre. With the Israeli withdrawal from the South of Lebanon, and peace close at hand, Lebanon can begin the process of rebuilding through tourism. It is my hope that part of the agenda to rebuild Southern Lebanon includes the preservation of the great city of Tyre and its surroundings, and I offer my assistance to do what I can in the United States to help the government of Lebanon achieve this goal.●

TRIBUTE TO WAYNE SHACKELFORD

• Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to a constituent, a distinguished public servant, and a friend—Wayne Shackelford, who recently retired as Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Transportation.

During his tenure, Commissioner Shackelford presided over the reshaping of Georgia's transportation network, helping build up our state's infrastructure for the 21st century. As one of the fastest growing states in the Union, with a population rapidly approaching 8 million, Georgia will face many challenges in the coming decades. We are well prepared to meet those challenges in large part thanks to the vision and leadership of Wayne Shackelford.

Since taking office in 1991, he has overseen the construction of more than 5,000 miles of new roads throughout the state, while stewarding such innovations as Georgia's first express lanes for buses and car pools and a computer system to monitor and manage traffic movement. In fact, Georgia DOT's Advanced Transportation Management System, NAVIGATOR, is the most complete model of an urban transportation management system in the United States and is being studied by transportation leaders worldwide.

Commissioner Shackelford is recognized for his interest in multimodal and intermodal transportation issues. He has refocused the efforts of Georgia DOT on the movement of people and goods, not just vehicles, and has looked beyond roads by initiating the development of passenger rail service and expanding rural airports to accommodate commuter aircraft.

His leadership extends to regional and national transportation policy development. He served as President of the Southeastern Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials in 1993 and was President of the American Association of State Highway and