

Mr. Quarles was in a very similar position a decade ago in the Bush administration. The financial sector was booming, but average Americans were sitting around their kitchen tables, feeling less and less secure, wondering what they were going to do next.

During this time when Mr. Quarles served in the Bush administration, the Treasury Department's foreclosure filings in Ohio doubled—from around 40,000 at the beginning of 2002 to 80,000 by the end of 2006. Mr. Quarles just brushed off concerns about the growing troubles in the mortgage market. Famously, he said in those days, in 2006, that the future looked bright. His actions today suggest he ain't learned a lot since. His amnesia and the collective amnesia of this body are just a little too familiar in this town. We can't afford any more nominees who fail American workers, who fail American homeowners, or who fail American taxpayers.

It always comes back to, whose side are you on? Are you going to fight for the little guy, whether she punches a time clock or whether he works in a diner, or are you going to fight for the 1 percent? Are we here to serve American workers in the middle class, or are we here to serve Wall Street? Randal Quarles has made it clear whose side he is on. I urge my colleagues to reject his nomination.

#### THE FREE PRESS

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, first, I want to say how much I appreciate Senator SASSE's words. I hope that other people in his political party will have the courage he has to stand up and speak out on some of these things.

This week, the President of the United States went overseas. Instead of standing up to America's enemies, the President of the United States went out of his way to attack the American free press.

As Senator MCCAIN described today's press conference with Russian President Putin: "The President made a conscious choice to defend a tyrant against the fair questions of a free press and to grant Putin an uncontested platform to spew propaganda and lies to the world."

Let me repeat that. Senator MCCAIN—once a Republican nominee for President of the United States and one of the most respected Senators of our lifetimes—said: "The President made a conscious choice to defend a tyrant against the fair questions of a free press and to grant Putin an uncontested platform to spew propaganda and lies to the world."

We are talking about a man—President Putin—who presides over a regime in which journalists are killed. According to a 2016 PolitiFact article, Russia ranks 180 out of 199 countries for press freedom, behind, not ahead of, Iraq, Sudan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and others. This is according to the international watchdog Freedom

House. After all, Putin was a KGB agent.

Yet the President didn't just defend a dictator against the press; he openly attacked the American free press. While heading to meet with the leader of a country that tramples on the rights of journalists, our President, President Trump, said: "Much of our news media is, indeed, the enemy of the people." That is Soviet talk. That is Putin kind of talk. That is KGB talk. That has never been the talk of an American President. "Much of our news media is, indeed, the enemy of the people."

Everybody in this body knows a lot of reporters. Nobody in this body believes that the media are enemies of the people. Unfortunately, almost nobody on this side of the aisle will stand up to the President and say: No, Mr. President. No, FOX News. The media are not enemies of the people; they are doing work that is essential to our democracy.

A journalist's entire job is to ask tough questions to challenge powerful interests. In church, we comfort the afflicted. Journalists afflict the comfortable. We know that reporters put their safety and sometimes their lives—we see that—on the line, whether when they are covering floods and hurricanes at home or when they are transversing the globe to bring us war zone stories. We depend on reporters in Ohio and around the world to bring us the stories that have an impact on our day-to-day lives and to tell the stories that might not otherwise be told. Yet, too often today, we see reporters restricted, vilified, and threatened—all for doing their jobs. We can't dismiss these threats as just empty rhetoric.

Think of the anguish and the heartbreak and the terrible sight that happened at the newsroom at the Capital Gazette in Annapolis. We all know too well how dangerous a job it has become to report the news. Just last Thursday, the Herald newspaper—the daily paper south of Columbus in Circleville, OH—received an unmarked letter in the mail. Inside, it threatened physical harm to all of the workers there. Think about that—just for doing their jobs at a local newspaper in covering football games, in covering a business that might have cheated a customer, or in covering a politician who might have cut corners. In serving their community, these workers had their safety threatened.

This is personal to me, and I apologize for making this personal. My wife, Connie Schultz, is a Pulitzer Prize winner from the Cleveland Plain Dealer. She writes a weekly column for the Creators Syndicate in 150 newspapers. She is about as far from being an enemy of the people as anyone I know.

She was a working-class kid who grew up in Ashtabula, OH. Her dad carried a union card, which saved her life because she had health care at the Cleveland clinic that other people would have not been able to have bene-

fited from whose dads didn't have insurance. She worked her way through Kent State University, and she became a reporter.

Do you know why she won the Pulitzer Prize? She won the Pulitzer Prize because she has written about servers—servers in restaurants where sometimes management skims their tips. She has written about single parents who struggle every day and oftentimes get little help from anybody. She has written about workers and a system that is so often rigged against them. They work every bit as hard as we all do here, but they get so little for it.

She teaches at Kent State. She teaches millennials. She teaches young men and women who are mostly working-class kids, most of whom will graduate with tens of thousands of dollars in debt, which is something the President of the United States has never faced. They work part time and some of them full time. They struggle to get through their classes. They want to be reporters because they want to go out and comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable because they care about truth and care about honesty. Again, they are as far as can be from being enemies of the people. How shameful it is the President of the United States says that.

The job of the President of the United States and the job of our political leaders is to set an example—to respect our democratic institutions, including the press, and to bring Americans together and not divide us.

Please, Mr. President, won't you do that?

I yield the floor.

#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow, Tuesday, July 17, 2018.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:57 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, July 17, 2018, at 10 a.m.

#### NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

##### IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

*To be general*

LT. GEN. JOHN M. MURRAY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

MAJ. GEN. JAMES F. PASQUARETTE

#### CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate July 16, 2018:

##### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

SCOTT STUMP, OF COLORADO, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR CAREER, TECHNICAL, AND ADULT EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.