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House of Representatives

CONGRESSIONAL SALUTE TO THE PEOPLE OF NORTH CAUCASIA ON THEIR 48TH ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

HON. ROBERT A. ROE
of New Jersey

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, May 11, 1976

Mr. ROE. Mr. Speaker, I have received a communique from the Honorable Tschermi Soubzokov of my congressional District, who is President of the Committee for Liberation of North Caucasia, Inc., requesting that I call to the attention of you and our colleagues here in the Congress the plight of the freedom-loving people of North Caucasia in seeking independence as a free state among the nations of the world and join with North Caucasia and the North Caucasia-American community throughout our country in commemorating this week, May 9-15 of our Bicentennial Year, as North Caucasia Independence Week.

On May 11, 1918 the North Caucasia, having survived many bloody battles since the Russian conquest of 1864, declared their independence and with your permission, I would like to insert at this point in our historical journal of Congress a brief summary of the oppression of the North Caucasia forwarded to me by the Committee for Liberation of North Caucasia, Inc. The summary is as follows:

History of the Oppression of North Caucasia
The North Caucasia have suffered Russian enslavement for a long time, but little of this has been known to the free world. One of the reasons is that the North Cau-

casians are little known, and their cause is overshadowed by other enslaved European people who are better known to the Western World, such as the Polish, Hungarians, and the Czechs. Since the suffering of the North Caucasia, as well as of these peoples, is a result of Soviet Imperialism and since freedom should be enjoyed by all people regardless of nationality, it is important that the oppression of North Caucasia be made known.

The North Caucasia, under the Soviet rule, through the ages, the North Caucasia people struggled bitterly against any oppression who tried to deny them their right to be free. In the 10th century, however, with an intention of the Tartar Russian imperial scheme to reach the warm waters of the Mediterranean and the Persian Gulf, the North Caucasia position became more serious. Being inhabitants of the country which is under constant Russian aggression, from the outset, the North Caucasia realized owing to their small numbers, the futility of their fight against the colossal Russia. But they made their choice to die on their feet rather than to live on their knees. The whole first part of the 19th century, the North Caucasia fought the tremendous Russian Army without any outside help. After six decades of fighting, in 1864, Russia claimed that she pacified the North Caucasia by forcing over half a million people into mass exile. Most of these exiles were accepted into the Russian Empire and their descendants are still living in several countries of the Middle East.

The North Caucasia who remained in the Caucasus under Russian rule, tried through several sporadic attempts to gain their freedom and independence, but without any success. When the Bolshevik revolution of 1917 occurred, the North Caucasia as well as other subjugated peoples of the Caucasus, seized the opportunity to re-establish themselves as a free people, and some of them began to organize themselves into a democratic republic. But as soon as the Bolsheviks established themselves, the whole Caucasus once again came under the Rus-

asian yoke. This time the Russians, being white, were not more amiable, more humane. They engaged their attention on the people massacring those who did not accept so called Marxist doctrine. Many North Caucasia, who took arms against the new masters of the Caucasus, were killed, and some who escaped, moved to the Caucasus. Thus, the second episode of North Caucasia took place.

Between the 1930 World War, the Caucasia experienced the most severe and subjugation in their history. When Second World War started, once again North Caucasia took arms as an opportunity to free themselves and joined sides with their Communist masters. Again the oppressed, and again were managed to escape to the free world. The North Caucasia of Patterson are some of those who have been in the United States and are the third episode of the North Caucasia.

Although the North Caucasia of Patterson are lucky to find refuge in the States, where they enjoy the blessing of democratic institutions and human rights, they cannot forget themselves from those of their brothers, sisters, sons and daughters who are not free but are enslaved. The fullest meaning of that word, the North Caucasia of Patterson, is their duty to raise their voice and to let the world and the peoples of the free world about their case and cause.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of my Congressional District and the State of New Jersey, I join in this anniversary of the North Caucasia of Patterson and trust that through our intervention and cooperation, they will arrive to achieving a complete national understanding and agree that will eliminate the oppression of people and restore "human rights" at rights of self-determination by the people of the so-called captive nations of the world.

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