

One area that this is most evident is in bilingual voting. The Voting Rights Act requires localities with populations over a certain proportion of the population to provide all materials in the language(s) of the affected populations, even if the language does not have a written form. This opens the door to fraud and misrepresentation of issues by interpreters. Inaccurate bilingual voting materials are a costly burden on State and local governments, and is neither effective nor a low cost method of ensuring anyone's right to vote.

Nothing in my legislation prevents a State, locality, political party, or individual from providing multilingual voting assistance. Localities will be free to adopt the approach that serves their constituencies best. Given that bilingual ballots have been both inaccurate and expensive, other approaches might be more helpful.

Multilingual Government services such as these are simply too costly in a nation in which more than 320 languages are spoken. It only makes sense to designate one common language for all official Government business. That is why I am introducing this important legislation.

It is time the Government came to the same conclusion as the rest of the American people: English should be our official language. English has enabled this Nation to be something unique in history, a true Nation of immigrants. English is the language of future opportunity for all our Nation's citizens. Official English is really just common sense.

NAZI SS MEMBERS IN THE UNITED STATES

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 1997

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring a very serious and troubling affair to the attention of my colleagues. Several news reports, over the last couple of days, have uncovered an incredible story: The German Government is giving pensions to over 3,000 former members of the Nazi Waffen SS Corps, living in the United States. Not extraordinary in and of itself, because these men receive their pensions as a result of their military service during World War II, yet the question that begs answering is: How many of these individuals might be war criminals? The outrage in this matter, is that the German Government may never have bothered to check.

At this same time, there are many Holocaust survivors—Catholics, Jews, and others living in the United States and elsewhere in the world—who have received very little in the way of compensation, and even scores of surviving victims who do not receive anything from the German Government. After the horrors and suffering they were forced to endure during the war, how can we allow this additional measure of indignation?

Apparently, many of these former SS members were able to enter the United States, and eventually gain citizenship, by falsifying their identities and lying about their wartime activities. Many of them, however, have been living in the United States for years now, some boldly with the same names, the same identities, the same blood on their hands.

Mr. Speaker, there is no excuse for that, and it is simply unacceptable. Yesterday, I

sent letters to German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, President Clinton, and Attorney General Janet Reno, asking that they obtain the names of these Nazi pensioners, and release them to the proper American Government agencies, in order to fully investigate the possibility of war criminals in our midst. There must be a full accounting. Yes, many of them are old, frail men, who have lived peacefully in their respective neighborhoods for decades. Did they show the same respect for the millions in Europe who also were old, frail, and living their lives peacefully? I think we all know the answer to that question.

Thanks to the hard work of the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations, as well as some other prominent organizations, we are beginning to uncover a trail of Nazi war criminals among us. In fact, the OSI is finding and prosecuting Nazis at the rate of one per month. It is imperative therefore, that we have all the necessary information at our disposal, so that we can continue to bring these murderers to justice. They have eluded the authorities, and the moral outrage of their deeds, for over 50 years now, but we will no longer allow that to continue. I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in this endeavor, so that we may finally honor the memories of the Nazis' victims. Everyday, more and more Holocaust survivors leave this Earth, while their former tormentors continue to live on, having never been held accountable for the horrible deeds of the past. It's simply time to act now. Therefore, I call on the Government of Germany to work with us in addressing and resolving this issue once and for all—for the survivors, for the victims, and for the future. They need to do the right thing.

CURTIS W. MEADOWS, JR., RE-CEIVES JONSSON ETHICS AWARD

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 1997

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the first recipient of the J. Erik Jonsson Ethics Award, Mr. Curtis W. Meadows, Jr.

On October 22, 1996, Southern Methodist University's Cary M. Maguire Center for Ethics and Public Responsibility presented Mr. Meadows this award for his commitment to philanthropy and to serving the needs of the Dallas community. Mr. Meadows was president and director of Dallas' Meadows Foundation, one of the largest community foundations in the United States, for 18 years between 1978 and 1996. The Foundation, created by Mr. Meadows' uncle Algur H. Meadows nearly 50 years ago, has made over \$300 million in charitable contributions to benefit health, education, arts and culture, civic and public affairs, and human services programs throughout Texas.

Mr. Meadows has served on the boards of the National Council of Foundations, the Conference of Southwest Foundations, the Dallas Bar Foundations and on the advisory boards of more than 40 nonprofit organizations including the Dallas Citizens Council, Habitat for Humanity, and the Suicide and Crisis Center. He has served on the building committees for the Dallas Museum of Art and the Museum of African-American Life and Culture, and has par-

ticipated in the Mayors Task Force on Homelessness.

To be the first recipient of an award named for Mr. J. Erik Jonsson is a great honor indeed. Mr. Jonsson was a mayor of Dallas from 1964 to 1971, and under his leadership, a number of public buildings including the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport, city hall, and the Dallas Public Library were constructed and improvements to the city's public schools were made. Both Mr. Jonsson and Mr. Meadows have demonstrated the public virtue that this Ethics Award represents. Congratulations, Mr. Meadows, and thank you for all that you have done for Texas.

HONORING SAM NUNN

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 1997

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that would designate the Atlanta Federal Center as the Sam Nunn Federal Center, in honor of the former Senator from Georgia.

I believe we all recognize the tremendous accomplishments of Sam Nunn during his service in the U.S. Senate. Senator Nunn is one of the true statesmen of that body and is a source of pride to Georgia. Since my election to Congress in 1986, I have had many opportunities to work with Senator Nunn on several issues and often benefited from his experience and support during the time that we served together.

Since his election to the Senate in 1972, Senator Nunn has served the State of Georgia with honor and dedication. Senator Nunn worked to become the Senate's foremost expert on national security and international affairs. Senator Nunn served 8 years as the chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee and retired as the ranking Democrat on both the Armed Service Committee and the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations.

I have dedicated much time and effort in support of the Atlanta Federal Center. When Georgia Gov. Zell Miller approached me and asked my support for naming the Federal Center after Senator Nunn, I thought the dedication a fitting tribute to Senator Nunn. For these reasons, I will work to see that the Federal Center soon bears the name of our former Senator, Senator Sam Nunn.

GIVE FANS A CHANCE ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 1997

Mr. BLUMENAUER. On Sunday, January 26, the Packers won the Superbowl. When they returned home to Green Bay, their fans stood in freezing temperatures for hours to catch a glimpse of their heroes.

The Packers aren't an ordinary football team. Their fans aren't ordinary fans. And their community isn't an ordinary community—because 1,915 residents of Green Bay and other "Packer Backers" own their football team. The Packers are a vital part of the glue that holds the Green Bay community together.