

his voice than his face, but people felt like they knew him. Eddy was an exercise walker, and his routine consisted of walking one way and busing back. He said he took the bus because he enjoyed getting to know people.

A native of New York, he loved Green Bay and always spoke highly of its friendly, hard-working people. In 1941, Eddy spent 6 years as a military instructor in the Army. He returned to Green Bay in 1947 as a young actor, whose profession had already led him to Chicago and Hollywood, where he starred in a number of silent films.

Eddy made his mark in Wisconsin in the Town Hall Players, an acting group based in LaCrosse that made more than 300 appearances across the State. Eddy fondly remembered the job's best fringe benefit—the free meal offered at many of the engagements.

Eddy broke into Green Bay radio with a noon-time program called "The Farm Hands" that broadcast from the top of the Bellin Building. Every day the show was kicked off by a live, barking dog. It was less than glamorous but he reveled in radio.

"Partyline" debuted in November 1948 on WBAY Radio. With partner Roger Mueller, Eddy began a Green Bay tradition of on-the-air storytelling, joking, and reporting.

Eddy Jason had no plans to retire. He loved his job and his coworkers. He didn't even consider his radio show work. He called it a hobby.

He was on the air 5 days a week and never missed a wedding anniversary or birthday announcement.

Eddy Jason will be remembered by many as not just a broadcasting pioneer, but as an outstanding human being who cared deeply about the community where he lived and worked.

Our thoughts and prayers today are with his son, Wallace McDonald, his six grandchildren, and 16 great-grandchildren.

After 47 years, the airwaves will seem a little empty without Eddy Jason's kind voice. For years to come, the people of Green Bay will not be able to turn on their radios without thinking of him. He will be fondly remembered and sincerely missed.

#### VFW CHARTER AMENDMENT

### HON. BOB STUMP

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 20, 1995*

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to amend the Congressional Charter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States [VFW]. My good friends SONNY MONTGOMERY, and JERRY SOLOMON, former chairman and former ranking Republican member of the House Committee of Veterans' Affairs respectively, join me in introducing this bill. It provides that veterans who have served in the Republic of Korea for not less than 30 consecutive days, or a total of 60 days after June 30, 1949, would become eligible for VFW membership.

Now, only veterans of Korea who served during the war itself are eligible to belong to the VFW. The VFW's congressional charter requires its members to have received a campaign medal or badge to be eligible for membership. However, many veterans have served

in Korea but did not receive the requisite campaign medal or badge because of narrow DOD eligibility criteria. Consequently, those service men and women are not eligible to join the VFW.

The VFW believes, and I agree, that those veterans who would be covered by this legislation should be eligible to enjoy membership in the VFW. Only Congress can make this change, because the VFW's congressional charter must be amended.

Mr. Speaker, the realities of the United States military presence in Korea, and the current dangers there provide compelling reasons to support the VFW's desire to amend its charter, I strongly urge all Members to co-sponsor and support this bill. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

#### REFORM OF THE FEDERAL BLACK LUNG PROGRAM

### HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 20, 1995*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, today, I am re-introducing legislation that I have sponsored for several Congresses now to form the Federal Black Lung Program.

This legislation reflects the frustration of thousands of miners and their families with the extremely adversarial nature of the current program as administered by the Labor Department.

As it now stands, disabled miners who suffer from the crippling effects of black lung disease are faced with a Federal bureaucracy so totally lacking in compassion to their plight, that it appears intent upon harassing their efforts to obtain just compensation at every single step of the claim adjudication process.

In fact, today, we are witnessing less than a 10-percent approval rate on claims for black lung benefits.

This figure does not attest to any reasonable and unbiased comportment of the facts.

Rather, it represents nothing less than a cruel hoax being perpetrated against hard working citizens who have dedicated their lives to the energy security and economic well-being of this Nation.

The original intent of Congress in enacting legislation to compensate victims of black lung disease was for this to be a fairly straightforward program. This intent has been defeated by years of administrative maneuverings aggravated by some extremely harmful judicial interpretations. Under this bill, we will return to a program that reflects the statutory commitment Congress, and indeed, the Nation, made to compensate these coal miners and their families.

Make no mistake about it. Victims of black lung disease are not people who are looking for a handout.

They are people who worked their lives in one of the most dangerous occupations in this country.

They are people who were promised compensation by their Government. And they are people who now see their Government break that promise.

It is time, indeed, long past the time that Congress move legislation on behalf of the thousands of miners, their widows and families

who are being victimized by this program, the very program that was intended to bring them relief.

In general, this measure contains the following proposals:

First, new eligibility standards. A miner would be presumed to be totally disabled by black lung if the miner presents a single piece of qualifying medical evidence such as a positive x ray, ventilatory or blood gas studies, or a medical opinion. The Secretary of Labor could rebut the presumption of eligibility only if he can show that the miner is doing coal mine work or could actually do coal mine work.

Second, application of new eligibility standards. The new standards would apply to all claims filed after enactment of the Black Lung Benefits Act of 1991. All pending claims, and claims denied prior to enactment of the Black Lung Benefits Act of 1991 would be reviewed under the new standards.

Third, elimination of responsible operators. All claims would be paid out of the coal industry financed black lung disability trust fund. The purpose of this provision is to eliminate coal operators as defendants in black lung cases and the advantage they have over claimants by being able to afford to pay legal counsel.

Fourth, widows/dependents. A widow or dependent of a miner would be awarded benefits if the miner worked 25 years or more in the mines; the miner died in whole or in part from black lung; the miner was receiving black lung benefits when he died; or medical evidence offered by the miner before he died satisfies new eligibility standards. Widows who are receiving benefits and who remarry would not be disqualified from continuing to receive the benefits; and, a widow would be entitled to receive benefits without regard to the length of time she was married to the miner.

Fifth, offsets. The practice of offsetting a miner's Social Security benefits by the amount of black lung benefits would be discontinued.

#### TURKEY: HERE WE GO AGAIN

### HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 20, 1995*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, last October, the Chairman of the Helsinki Commission, Dennis DeConcini, lead a delegation to Turkey to examine human rights issues in that country. While in Diyarbakir, the largest city in the predominantly Kurdish southeast, delegation members visited the offices of the local Human Rights Association [HRA] branch. The delegation had met with HRA leaders in Ankara and the Helsinki Commission has often worked with the HRA and has found its publications extremely useful and reliable.

While meeting with the Commission delegation, HRA leaders explained how the organization's members operated at great risk to their personal safety. HRA members around the country, but especially in the southeast, face constant danger and persecution. Dozens of activists had been threatened, kidnapped, murdered and disappeared with the collusion of security forces. The Diyarbakir HRA branch was the only office in 10 state of emergency provinces allowed to remain open. HRA leaders believed authorities wanted to use the

open office to demonstrate their tolerance of human rights organizations. Now, even that Potemkin village has been pulled down by authorities bent on eradicating all criticism of Kurdish polices.

Mr. Speaker, last Tuesday, seven leaders of the HRA chapter in Diyarbakir were arrested and charged with disseminating separatist propaganda. Prosecutors are seeking jail sentences of more than 10 years for these activists because of their publication which detailed human rights cases in 1992. One of those now in prison awaiting trial is Neymetullah Gunduz, an attorney who met with members of Chairman DeConcini's delegation and who visited the Helsinki Commission in 1993 while on a USIA grant. Mr. Gunduz is highly regarded and is considered a dedicated human rights lawyer and reliable source of information concerning rights abuses by both the Government and the PKK.

Mr. Speaker, just recently the Government abandoned a similar case brought against a group of well known Turkish activists. The move was widely hailed as a positive development in an otherwise bleak human rights picture. What this new case seems to indicate is that the recent acquittal stands merely as an aberration as opposed to a genuine effort to dismantle restrictions on free expression. I have said it before, and I reemphasize it now, Turkey cannot be considered a truly democratic nation as long as individuals like Neymetullah Gunduz, Mehdi Zana, Halit Gerger, former parliamentarians and other are jailed for exercising their rights to free expression.

Mr. Speaker, a recent commentary in a large Turkish daily purports that the Government has spent five times more money fighting terrorism than on the giant GAP water project supposed to be the cornerstone of development in southeast Turkey. Tens of billions of dollars have been used to institute policies which have left the region more devastated than ever and its population more resentful than ever. Meanwhile, Turkey continues to fact mounting economic and political crises tied directly to failed Kurdish policies. Unless Turkish leaders bit the bullet and seek political approaches to the Kurdish situation, there can be no hope for peace, prosperity or democracy in Turkey. As a friend and ally of Turkey, such a dismal prognosis can bring no happiness to anyone in this country either.

SALUTE TO A CIVIL RIGHTS PIONEER—ERNEST MCBRIDE OF LONG BEACH, CA

### HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 20, 1995

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, during this week in which we commemorate the life and legacy of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, to honor a gentleman from my District, California's 38th, Mr. Ernest McBride, whose life and work embody the spirit and intent of Dr. King's message. Throughout his half century of residency in our community, Mr. McBride has been a crusader for civil rights and racial justice—and our community is a much better place for his dedication.

Mr. McBride, who is now 85 years of age, moved to southern California when he was 21

to seek a better life for himself and escape the racism and prejudice of his native South. Unfortunately, as an African-American, he did not find the California of the thirties much better. Arriving in a nearby community, he saw a sign that read, "We don't serve coloreds here". But instead of traveling on, Mr. McBride chose to remain. He recently told a Los Angeles Times reporter, "I decided I had to stop and fight somewhere. And I decided Long Beach was where I was going to stop."

Mr. McBride's determination to stay in Long Beach turned out to be a decision which has benefited many people. He fought prejudice and injustice wherever he saw it—not through violence and hatred, but with an attitude of determination and dignity. In 1932, he was hired as a grocery store janitor. Over the 8 years that he worked there, his requests for a raise were continually turned down—until he organized his fellow workers and eventually won a raise and a shorter workweek.

In the early 1940's, when a union at the Long Beach Naval Shipyard refused to allow African-Americans to join, Mr. McBride rounded up 180 people to petition President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The President responded by ordering the union to allow minorities to join or face losing its status as a bargaining agent.

As Dr. King began garnering national attention with his nonviolent efforts to end discrimination and prejudice, Mr. McBride led picketing against local grocery stores that refused to hire blacks and pressured Long Beach city leaders to open up more jobs for African-Americans. He organized a student revolt at a Long Beach high school that forced school officials to abandon minstrel shows and to drop a textbook that depicted African-Americans only as slaves.

Mr. McBride cofounded the Long Beach chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People [NAACP], and his house was often the chapter's gathering place where members discussed strategies for desegregating housing, ending discriminatory hiring practices, and ridding local schools of racially-biased textbooks.

Recently, Mr. McBride's home of many years—a modest bungalow which he purchased in the 1940's despite racially restrictive covenants and neighbors who petitioned to keep him out—was declared a historical landmark by the city council in honor of Mr. McBride's dedicated efforts to make our community a place that welcomes and encourages peoples of all races.

After the city council's unanimous vote, Long Beach City Council Alan S. Lowenthal, said, "It's certainly too bad we can't designate Ernie and his late wife Lilly as a historic monument. He really is the landmark."

Today I honor Mr. McBride and thank him. He stands as a model of the good that one man—with dedication and compassion—can accomplish for the generations to come.

OUR FOREIGN POLICY REQUIRES BIPARTISAN CONSENSUS BASED ON SOUND INTELLIGENCE

### HON. STEVE GUNDERSON

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 20, 1995

Mr. GUNDERSON. Mr. Speaker, our foreign policy must be bipartisan. However useful or

inevitable our internal debates or expressions may be for domestic issues, we simply cannot continue to apply many voices to foreign affairs. Our goal in foreign affairs is to positively influence and shape foreign situations to our benefit. That is so whether it is a trouble spot in Chechnya, North Korea, Bosnia, or Iraq. It is so for whatever type of situation—be it impending trouble or opportunity—that may arise somewhere else.

That influence cannot serve U.S. interests, however, if it is founded on, and bespeaks, divisive and often petty partisan agendas. This is especially so when those agendas derive from domestic interests having little relevance to the situation. So doing confuses us. It confuses our constituents. It confuses foreign leaders who look to what we say and do to formulate their own policies and reactions. Confusion about what we are doing, or are likely to do, simply from too many voices, can itself harm the situation, can increase the dangers. Ultimately, many voices confuse—and dissipate—our ability to shape our national future relative to other countries. I submit to you that the more we cast about in the eddies and swirls of partisanship, blown hither and yon by polarization and parochialism, the more we will seem to lack any overarching, unifying vision at all for what we want our own future to be. A ship that has no clear port of embarkation, no compass, no rudder, and no articulated destination—how can it ever arrive? How can we even begin to advance on our national goals of peace and security when they are not what we have set before us?

Colleagues, we must get beyond our partisan differences. Our higher order national interests and visions—spoken with one voice—must guide. Random undertow denies our choices, traps us. Our foreign goals, policies, strategies and objectives—indeed the effects of all those on our future national security—simply cannot be left to such chance. We cannot permit our end points to forever recede.

Instead, we must together do the hard work of shaping foreign policy, and decide our strategy, for the reasons that are relevant to the specific situations at hand. We must begin the process with accurate and expert estimates of those situations, and how they might be affected by various events and courses of action. Our support for this work must come not from vested parochialism, but from U.S. intelligence agencies that we fund for this very purpose.

An additional point may pertain here. These agencies, as we speak, are reviewing and adapting their own visions, goals, and the organizations and processes that should flow from those. They are doing so to more effectively meet requirements that we and others place before them. In envisioning their future uses, purposes, character, and attributes, these agencies surely are telling themselves "if we don't know where we are to be, then we won't get there." Clearly, in better defining