

reach. It is the NEA funds that attract other moneys in these otherwise neglected areas of our country.

Since its inception in 1965, the number of symphony orchestras has quadrupled, the number of theaters has increased eight times, and the number of dance companies has gone from 37 to over 250. Each year, the Arts Endowment opens the door to the arts for millions of schoolchildren, including many at-risk youth.

The arts make an extraordinary contribution to the lives of our citizens. Not only do they improve the quality of life, but they are also a significant industry and powerful force in the economic development of our cities, towns, and communities. They contribute far more to the economy than they receive in public funding. The not-for-profit arts create \$37 billion in economic activity, \$634 million in my home State of Maryland alone. This economic activity supports 1.3 million jobs nationwide. As a result, \$3.4 billion—20 times the budget of the NEA—is returned to the Federal treasury through income taxes.

The few isolated cases of controversial art work are not an accurate representation of the thousands of grants the NEA gives out each year. Distorting the truth is a tactic that opponents of the Endowment must engage in because their view is contrary to public opinion. A recent Lou Harris poll indicates that 61 percent of Americans "would be willing to pay \$5 more per year in taxes to support Federal Government efforts in the arts."

But the voice of the American people often falls on deaf ears here on Capitol Hill. A diversity of opinions, a marketplace of ideas—those are the ideals upon which this country was founded. Must we burn the entire orchard if there are a few apples that are not to our liking?

Join me to help lend a voice to the painters and the sculptors, the singers and the musicians and the actors—the artists of this country. Join me in saving the National Endowment for the Arts. Join me in saving the spirit of this Nation. Esteemed colleagues, I urge you to join me in opposing this rule.

THE BALTIC STATES ARE NOT FORMER SOVIET REPUBLICS

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 11, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, NATO member countries met in Madrid earlier this week and announced support for a limited round of enlargement to include Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic. I was proud to participate in these historic events.

While I believe NATO's announcement should have rightfully included Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, and Slovenia, I hope and trust NATO will take steps to enhance the security of countries not named and on a concrete mechanism for a second round of enlargement. Indeed, the U.S. delegation to the summit, led by President Clinton, was successful in inserting language into the final communiqué that clearly leaves the door open to further new members.

The Russian Government will no doubt marshal its forces to prevent any further enlarge-

ment. Over the last year, the Russian Government has repeatedly and vociferously indicated its opposition to NATO enlargement in principle. While it has toned down its general opposition to any first round of enlargement to Central Europe following the signing of the Founding Act, it has attempted to draw the line at any countries it considers former Soviet Republics. To those making the decisions in the Russian Government, former Soviet Republics include Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania.

Yet, to take Russia's understanding of which countries are former Soviet Republics would be both wrong and historically inaccurate. Under international law and underscored by 50 years of United States nonrecognition policy toward the Baltic States, these countries were never Soviet Republics. Instead, these nations were forcibly occupied against their will for 50 years under the nefarious terms of the Nazi-Soviet Pact of 1939 and its secret protocols.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to place in the RECORD the text of the Nazi-Soviet Pact, which proves definitively that the Baltics became part of the Soviet Empire not voluntarily, but due to the evil machinations of the two worst dictatorships of this century.

NONAGGRESSION PACT BETWEEN GERMANY AND THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

The Government of the German Reich and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, led by the desire to consolidate peace between Germany and the USSR, and on the basis of the fundamental provisions of the Treaty of Neutrality signed in April 1926 between Germany and the USSR, have arrived at the following agreement.

ARTICLE I

Both parties to the treaty are obligated to refrain from any aggressive act and any attack on each other, either individually or jointly with other powers.

ARTICLE II

In the case that one of the parties to the treaty should become the object of belligerence on the part of a third power, the other party shall not support the third power in any way.

ARTICLE III

The Governments of both contracting parties shall in the future remain constantly in contact with each other in order to keep each other informed about their common interests.

ARTICLE IV

Neither of the two contracting parties shall participate in any power alignment aimed directly or indirectly at the other party.

ARTICLE V

In the case that disputes or conflicts should arise between the two contracting parties over questions of this or that kind, both parties shall settle these disputes or conflicts exclusively through a friendly exchange of opinion or, if need be, through the intermediary of an arbitration commission.

ARTICLE VI

The present treaty shall be valid for 10 years, subject to the proviso that unless one of the contracting parties terminates it one year before this period is up, the treaty will automatically continue in force for an additional five years.

ARTICLE VII

The present treaty shall be ratified within the shortest possible time. The documents of ratification shall be exchanged in Berlin.

The treaty shall take effect immediately upon ratification.

Prepared in two versions, Russian and German.

Moscow, August 23, 1939.

VON RIBBENTROP.

(For the Government
of the German
Reich).

V. MOLOTOV.

(For the Government
of the USSR).

SECRET SUPPLEMENTARY PROTOCOL

On the occasion of the ratification of the non-aggression pact between the German Reich and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the delegates of both parties, undersigned below, held a highly confidential discussion concerning delimitation of the spheres of interest of both parties in Eastern Europe. This discussion led to the following results:

1. In the case of territorial-political reorganization in the territories belonging to the Baltic States (Finland, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania), the northern boundary of Lithuania also forms the boundary of the spheres of interest of Germany and the USSR. The interests of Lithuania in the territory of Vilna are recognized in this connection.

2. In the event of a territorial-political reorganization of the areas belonging to the Polish nation, the spheres of interest of Germany and the USSR are approximately demarcated by the lines of the Narew, Vistula, and San Rivers.

The question as to whether bilateral interests make the maintenance of an independent Polish state seem desirable, and how this state would be demarcated, can only be determined definitively in the course of further political developments.

In each case both Governments will solve the question by amicable agreement.

3. As regards southeastern Europe, Soviet interest in Bessarabia is emphasized. The German side declares its complete lack of interest in these areas.

4. This protocol will be treated as top secret by both sides.

VON RIBBENTROP.

(For the Government
of the German
Reich).

V. MOLOTOV.

(On the authority of
the Government of
the USSR).

(Blurred stamp in upper right-hand corner says: "Return to office of the Reich Foreign Minister")

SECRET SUPPLEMENTARY PROTOCOL

The undersigned delegates establish agreement between the Government of the German Reich and the Government of the USSR concerning the following matters:

The secret supplementary protocol signed on August 23, 1939 is amended at No. 1 in that the territory of Lithuania comes under the USSR sphere of interest, because on the other side the administrative district "Woywodschaft" of Lublin and parts of the administrative district of Warsaw come under the German sphere of influence (cf. map accompanying the boundary and friendship treaties ratified today). As soon as the Government of the USSR takes special measures to safeguard its interests on Lithuanian territory, the present German/Lithuanian border will be rectified in the interests of simple and natural delimitation, so that the territory of Lithuania lying southwest of the line drawn on the accompanying map will fall to Germany.

It is further established that the economic arrangements in force at the present time between Germany and Lithuania will be in

no way damaged by the aforementioned measures being taken by the Soviet Union.

Moscow, September 28, 1939.

VON RIBBENTROP,
(For the Government
of the German
Reich).

V. MOLOTOV,
(On the authority of
the Government of
the USSR).

SECRET PROTOCOL

Graf von Schulenburg, the German Ambassador, acting for the Government of the German Reich, and the Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR, W.M. Molotov, acting for the Government of the USSR, have agreed upon the following points:

1. The Government of the German Reich renounces its claims to the portion of the territory of Lithuania mentioned in the September 28, 1939 Secret Protocol and shown on the included map.

2. The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics is prepared to compensate the Government of the German Reich for the territory mentioned in Point 1 of this protocol by payment of the sum of 7,500,000 gold dollars=31 million 500 thousand reichsmarks to Germany.

Payment of the sum of 31.5 million reichsmarks will be accomplished by the USSR in the following way: one eighth, i.e., 3,937,500 reichsmarks, in shipments of non-ferrous metal within three months of ratification of this treaty, and the remaining seven eighths, 27,562,500 reichsmarks, in gold by a deduction from the German payments in gold which the German side was to bring up by February 11, 1941. On the basis of the correspondence concerning the February 11, 1940 economic agreement between the German Reich and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in the second section of the agreement between the Chairman of the German Economic Delegation, Herr Schnurre and the People's Commissar for USSR Foreign Trade, Herr A.I. Mikoyan.

3. This protocol has been prepared in both German and Russian (two originals) and goes into effect upon being ratified.

Moscow, January 10, 1941.

ILLEGIBLE, PRESUMABLY
"VON SCHULENBURG,"
(For the Government
of the German
Reich).

V. MOLOTOV,
(Acting for the Gov-
ernment of the
USSR).

Mr. Speaker, from their occupation by Soviet tanks in 1940 until the United States recognized the governments of the Baltic States in 1991, the United States never recognized Soviet de jure control over these countries and maintained diplomatic relations with the Baltic governments through their representatives in Washington.

While this may seem an obvious history lesson, it is important that the United States Government make this distinction to its Russian counterparts and that we and our European allies not allow ourselves to compromise future enlargement based on a faulty understanding of history.

It is also important to note that Russian President Boris Yeltsin himself played a pivotal and commendable role in bringing about Russian recognition of Baltic independence by annulling the consequences of the brutal 1940 occupation of Lithuania in a treaty signed between Lithuania and Russia in 1991. By annull-

ling the annexation, Russia itself has recognized that the Baltic States were never Soviet Republics but instead Soviet-occupied republics. Mr. Speaker, I also ask unanimous consent that excerpts from this treaty be placed in the RECORD at the conclusion of my remarks.

By treating the Baltic States as former Soviet Republics while refusing to recognize the historical wrong of a 50-year occupation, the Russian Government hopes to stop NATO enlargement after the first round. They hope to secure general agreement that the former Soviet Republics are distinctly in Russia's zone of interest.

Mr. Speaker, NATO should never agree to any Russian proposals that would exclude any country from exercising its sovereign right to request NATO membership.

TREATY BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA AND THE RUSSIAN SOVIET FEDERATED SO- CIALIST REPUBLIC ON THE BASIS FOR RELA- TIONS BETWEEN STATES

(Excerpts)

The Republic of Lithuania and the Russian Soviet Federated Republic, hereinafter called "the High Contracting Parties,"

Assigning to the past events and actions that hindered each High Contracting Party from fully and freely realizing its state sovereignty,

Being convinced that once the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics annuls the consequences of the 1940 annexation violating Lithuania's sovereignty, created will be additional conditions for mutual trust between the High Contracting Parties and their peoples, . . .

have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

The High Contracting Parties recognize each other as full-fledged subjects of international law and as sovereign states. . . .

The High Contracting Parties pledge to refrain from the use of force and the threat of the use of force in their mutual relations, to refrain from interference in internal affairs, to respect sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of borders in accordance with the principles of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. . . .

ARTICLE 2

The High Contracting Parties recognize each other's right to independently realize their sovereignty in the area of defense and security in ways they find acceptable, contributing to the process of disarmament and reduction of tension in Europe, as well as through systems of collective security. . . .

TRIBUTE TO CLARENCE R. WHEELER

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 11, 1997

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a civic leader and respected member of the southwest Missouri business community, Clarence R. Wheeler, of Springfield, MO.

Clarence was a devoted husband to Edna and his family was his priority. His presence will be missed by family, friends, the business community, and the entire region.

Mr. Wheeler was another example that the American dream continues to live. Starting in 1948, Mr. Wheeler took a vision, molded it with endless hours of hard work, and created

the region's most successful chain of 38 supermarkets. The patrons to his Consumers Markets liked his innovative and forthright style that brought them top quality products at competitive prices. He was a strong moral leader of the region and for four decades his store reflected his belief in what was good for families.

His employees knew he had an open door policy and paid a fair wage; Clarence was a man of honesty and integrity who was a good listener to employees and customers alike.

Mr. Wheeler also gave back to the community with the spirit of a giver. He was a generous giver to charities like the Kitchen, the Missouri Baptist Home, Blood Center of the Ozarks, Southwest Baptist University, and the Good Samaritan Boy's Ranch. He was active in civic clubs, the local Chamber of Commerce, and his church.

His tough but fair approach won him praise from business associates who said "he had as much concern about the employees as he did the company and the company profits. We need more businessmen like him. The world would be a better place." Clarence Wheeler's peers in the business community, others who hoped to build their small business as he did, charities in the Ozarks and around the world, his family and friends benefited from his life and example.

IN HONOR OF MR. DON ROGERS

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 11, 1997

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay personal tribute to a man who was a mentor to me in my formative years as a pharmacist and small businessman; and a true friend in the years thereafter.

Mr. Don Rogers was the owner and operator of Don's West Markham Pharmacy in Little Rock, AR, the place where I worked as a pharmacist from 1965 to 1967. Don Rogers was one of the finest businessmen that I have ever known, and I can't imagine having had a better teacher on how to do business with honor, integrity, and Christian values.

He treated his customers and employees as individuals and friends with different needs to be respected. He listened to their concerns as if their problems were the only ones in the world that mattered at that moment, and when they left his store they felt better not only due to the prescriptions that he administered with loving care, but also because of the fine treatment that they received.

I was blessed to have him as an employer and friend at that age. He taught me the value of putting the customer first; of caring about their needs before and after they came to the store; and of the caring for the health of the community before short-term profit decisions. These are lessons that all of us in public service would do well to remember as we go about our responsibilities in this hallowed chamber. Indeed, the things that he taught me have stayed with me in all the days since I had the privilege of working with him.

Don Rogers passed away January 28, 1994, but his spirit still lives on in those who knew and loved him, and in those who did business in that pharmacy in Little Rock.