

itself and its members, sanctioning those who were the targets of this abuse makes no sense. No one will be fooled by the League's effort to appear pro-active and even-handed while punishing the very people who were the victims of abuse.

The National Council for Combating Discrimination, a Romanian Government body, also sanctioned the offending team about \$1400 and fined the stadium announcer about \$600. The fact that a governmental body so quickly recognized the racist nature of these events was a positive signal. However, any time a state positions itself to regulate speech, there is the risk that free speech, which may include unpopular or controversial views, will be unduly limited. I believe there are other ways to combat racist, xenophobic, or anti-Semitic manifestations. In particular, it is critical that Romania's public leaders, including President Traian Basescu, speak out against such manifestations.

Unfortunately, the April 13 events were not an isolated phenomenon, but part of a pattern of racist abuse in Romania. In 2002, scores of fans at a Bucharest soccer match worked in concert to display a massive sign reading "Die, Gypsy." In 2003, like-minded fans displayed a sign reading "One million crows, one solution—Antonescu." "Crow" is a pejorative slang term in Romanian for a member of the Romani minority. General Ion Antonescu was Romania's World War II fascist dictator who spearheaded the selection of Roma for deportation to Transnistria.

These manifestations tell us two things. First, it is not enough for public leaders to leave it to the National Council for Combating Racism to speak out against these manifestations. Romania's highest leaders must stand up and confront such outrages. Those who would foment racism, and who potentially incite racist violence, must be given no safe harbor. Invoking praise for the World War II dictator who oversaw the persecution of Romania's Jews and Roma is despicable.

Second, these manifestations underscore the need for continued efforts to improve Holocaust education in Romania.

Following decades of denial, the Government of Romania has made great strides in the past year in recognizing Romania's role in the Holocaust and in the deportation and death of Jewish and Romani citizens. The government is to be commended for taking steps to examine this dark and painful chapter in the country's history. Last November, the International Commission for the Study of the Holocaust in Romania, led by Elie Wiesel, officially issued its findings in Bucharest. In addition to the establishment of a national Holocaust Remembrance Day, which Romania marks on October 9, the Commission recommended that Romania establish a national Holocaust memorial and museum in Bucharest, annual war criminal rehabilitations and de-

velop a Holocaust education curricula and courses in secondary schools and universities. I hope the Government of Romania will move quickly to implement the Wiesel Commission's recommendations.

With this in mind, I was heartened to learn that in April the U.S. Embassy in Bucharest hosted the premier of "Hidden Sorrows," a documentary about the tragic deportation of 25,000 Roma from Romania to Transnistria during the Holocaust; more than 11,000 men, women and children died from the horrific conditions of their internment. Several, nearly 100-year-old survivors attended the premier, adding a deeply personal element to the documentary's message.

From the Inquisition to the Holocaust, Roma have suffered some of humanity's worst abuses. They were enslaved in Romania until the formation of the modern Romanian state in 1864. They were persecuted and deported and murdered during the Holocaust. Even after the fall of Ceausescu, they were subjected to dozens of pogroms. And yet they have survived.

The Romani people, who have endured so much, should not be made to suffer at a time that otherwise holds so much promise and hope for so many. We must ensure that these people, their culture, and their heritage are not destroyed by hatred and violence. ●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:33 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1279. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to reduce violent gang crime and protect law-abiding citizens and communities from violent criminals, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 637( d)(I) of the Help Commission Act (22 U.S.C. 2394b) and the order of the House of January 4, 2005, the Speaker appoints the following members on the part of the House of Representatives to the Helping to Enhance the Livelihood of People (HELP) House Around the Globe Commission: Mr. Robert H. Michel of Washington, D.C., Mrs. Jennifer Dunn of Virginia, Mr. William C. Lane of Virginia, and Mr. Nicholas Eberstadt of Virginia.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 801 of Public Law 101-696 (40 U.S.C. 188a(c)), the Chairman (Mr. NEY) of the Joint Committee on the Library appoints the following Member of the House of Representatives as his designee to the Capitol Preservation Commission: Mr. MICA of Florida.

The message also announced that pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 2702, the Clerk of the House appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Advisory Com-

mittee on the Records of Congress: Susan Palmer of Aurora, Illinois.

At 6:19 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate: .

H.R. 1544. An act to provide faster and smarter funding for first responders, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 2004(b), and the order of the House of January 4, 2005, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Board of Trustees of the Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation: Mr. AKIN of Missouri and Mr. SKELTON of Missouri.

The message further announced that pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 6968(a), and the order of the House of January 4, 2005, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Board of Visitors to the United States Naval Academy: Mr. CUNNINGHAM of California and Mr. WICKER of Mississippi.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1279. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to reduce violent gang crime and protect law-abiding citizens and communities from violent criminals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 1544. An act to provide faster and smarter funding for first responders, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-2099. A communication from the Principal Deputy, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a list of officers authorized to wear the insignia of brigadier general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2100. A communication from the Principal Deputy, Personnel and Readiness, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of officers authorized to wear the insignia of the next higher grade to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2101. A communication from the Principal Deputy, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the authorization of the wearing of the insignia of the grade of vice admiral; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2102. A communication from the Principal Deputy, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the authorization of the wearing of the insignia of the grade of admiral; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2103. A communication from the Principal Deputy, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the authorization of the wearing of the insignia of the grade of general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2104. A communication from the Principal Deputy, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the authorization of the wearing of the insignia of the grade of lieutenant general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2105. A communication from the Principal Deputy, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the authorization of the wearing of the insignia of the grade of lieutenant general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2106. A communication from the Principal Deputy, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the authorization of the wearing of the insignia of the grade of lieutenant general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2107. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Multiyear Contracting" (DFARS Case 2004-D024) received on May 8, 2005; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2108. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Reporting Contract Performance Outside the United States" (DFARS Case 2004-D001) received on May 3, 2005; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2109. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Personal Services Contracts" (DFARS Case 2003-D103) received on May 3, 2005; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2110. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Unique Item Identification and Valuation" (DFARS Case 2003-D081) received on May 3, 2005; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2111. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Trade and Employment Effects of the Andean Trade Preference Act"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2112. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Andean Trade Preference Act; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2113. A communication from the Chairman, Advisory Committee for Trade Policy Negotiations, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Committee's report on the Extension of Trade Promotion Authority; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2114. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Implementation of the Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2115. A communication from the Chairman, United States International Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of and investigation entitled "The Impact of Trade Agreements Implemented Under Trade Promotion Authority"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2116. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, trans-

mitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "The Use of Specific Claims Payment Error Rates to Improve Effectiveness and Performance of Medicare Contractor Provider Education and Outreach Programs"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2117. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Program; Prospective Payment System for Long-Term Care Hospitals: Annual Payment Rate Updates, Policy Changes, and Clarification" (RIN0938-AN28) received on May 4, 2005; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2118. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Program; Update of Ambulatory Surgical Center List of Covered Procedures" (CMS-1478-IFC) received on May 4, 2005; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2119. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Diesel Fuel and Kerosene Excise Tax; Dye Injection" ((RIN1545-BE44)(TD 9199)) received on May 3, 2005; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2120. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Section 29 Inflation Adjustment Factor" (Notice 2005-33) received on May 3, 2005; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2121. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medical Rebates" ((Rev. Rul. 2005-28)(RR-142416-02)) received on May 3, 2005; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2122. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Electronic Submission under Rev. Rul. 2005-6" (Notice 2005-35) received on May 4, 2005; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2123. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementation of Election and Notice Provisions of Section 104 of the Pension Funding Equity Act" (Notice 2005-40) received on May 4, 2005; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2124. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Designation of Dividends by a RIC" (Rev. Rul. 2005-31) received on May 8, 2005; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2125. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Automatic Consent to Change to the Alternative Tax Book Value Method for Expense Appointment" (Rev. Proc. 2005-28) received on May 8, 2005; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2126. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, a report of proposed legislation relative to extending the life of the United States Parole Commission; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2127. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Annual Program Performance Report for Fiscal Year 2004; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2128. A communication from the Chief Financial Officer, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Fiscal Year 2004 Performance and Accountability Report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2129. A communication from the Chairman, Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's Performance and Accountability Report for Fiscal Year 2004; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2130. A communication from Director, National Science Foundation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Foundation's Fiscal Year 2004 Performance Highlights Report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2131. A communication from the Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's annual report summarizing its activities for calendar year 2004; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2132. A communication from the President, Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC), transmitting, pursuant to law, OPIC's Management Report for Fiscal Year 2004, the OPIC Fiscal Year 2006 Performance Budget, OPIC Fiscal Year 2004 Performance and Accountability Report, a Report on Development and U.S. Effects of OPIC's Fiscal Year 2004 Projects, a Report on Cooperation with Private Insurers, and a Report on the Environment; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. MCCAIN, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, without amendment:

S. 536. A bill to make technical corrections to laws relating to Native Americans, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 109-67).

#### EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of committee was submitted:

By Mr. SPECTER for the Committee on the Judiciary.

William H. Pryor, Jr., of Alabama, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. SANTORUM:

S. 1008. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to add meningococcal vaccines to the list of taxable vaccines for purposes of the Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund; to the Committee on Finance.