

this problem. Bilingual education has had 27 years and billions of dollars to prove that it accomplished what it said it would do in 1968: teach children English quickly and effectively. Too many people lose sight of the fact that the real issue here is how to help children and newcomers who don't know English and who need to assimilate.

Let us not forget about Ernesto Ortiz and his children, about Bilga Abramova and other new Americans like them. While a Senate committee will discuss this issue for the first time tomorrow, Ernesto and Bilga have already given us their testimony on bilingual education, in words and in images. We must not lose sight of the fact that this is not just an abstract public policy issue; bilingual education and our national language policies have real world consequences. When our policies fail, the failures have names and faces attached to them. When our policies serve to divide rather than unite us, the rips appear in the very fabric of the American Nation. Don't underestimate this issue's importance. This is an issue that can affect the very future of new Americans and America itself.

OUTRAGE OVER FRANCE'S NUCLEAR TESTING PROGRAM IN SOUTH PACIFIC

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from American Samoa [Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise again today to express my outrage and dismay with the continuation of France's willful disregard for the millions of human lives that may be seriously at risk because of its nuclear testing program in the South Pacific. France has now exploded four nuclear bombs in addition to 166 nuclear bombs that have already been exploded, filling the landscape in and outside of the Moruroa Atoll in French Polynesia.

It may not be now, Mr. Speaker, but within the next 10 years when the French Government is no longer around in this part of the world, when the Moruroa Atoll finally starts to break apart, the horrors of France's nuclear testing contamination will infuse itself into the fish and other living organisms in our Pacific marine environment. If by some accident of nature this atoll starts to break up because of serious volcanic or earthquake disturbances in or around the ocean floor, what then, Mr. Speaker?

The French Government certainly does not have the capability to clean up the environmental nightmare sure to result, and perhaps our own country may have to commit resources to clean up the mess.

Mr. Speaker, do our colleagues and the American people realize that scientists have verified that the two areas of the Pacific where considerable con-

centrations of ciguatera poisoning exist are found in the reefs and marine life of the Republic of the Marshall Islands and of French Polynesia?

Mr. Speaker, may I remind my colleagues and the American people there is a direct correlation between nuclear tests that were conducted in the Marshall Islands by our own Government and the nuclear tests now being conducted by the French Government in French Polynesia. The point is, Mr. Speaker, ciguatera poisoning is heavily concentrated in the fish and marine life of these two areas of the Pacific, and there is a tremendous need right now to examine this serious by product of nuclear testing which poisons the very food we depend upon from the Pacific Ocean.

Mr. Speaker, we do not need to explode more nuclear bombs to see if it does harm to human beings.

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The two nuclear bombs that were dropped on the residents of the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki some 50 years ago killed and vaporized some 290,000 men, women, and children in Japan during World War II. Mr. Speaker, while the international community looks on, France continues to defy the concerns of millions of people around the world, continues to explode their nuclear bombs not in or anywhere near France, but some 14,000 miles away from Paris.

Mr. Speaker, I submit here is a classic example of a so-called democracy that so desperately wants and desires respect and preeminence as a superpower in Europe, they are pursuing nuclear weapons development at the expense of the lives and safety of some 200,000 French citizens living in French Polynesia. Mr. Speaker, how does one justify the Chirac government's exploding more nuclear bombs when over 60 percent of France's public is opposed to nuclear testing? How about the 200,000 French citizens who will be directly impacted if nuclear contamination breaks out from the atolls, where the tests now are being conducted?

Is it fair, Mr. Speaker, for President Chirac of France to conclude that the lives of 200,000 French citizens living in French Polynesia are deemed expendable for the sake of France to become a preeminent force in Europe? Is it also fair, Mr. Speaker, that President Chirac has now determined that the safety of some 28 million people living in the Pacific region is also deemed expendable so as to promote France's nuclear capabilities? In the name of fairness and equity, Mr. Speaker, what right does President Chirac have to impose the hazards of nuclear contamination on millions of people in the Pacific who are not subject to French control? Mr. Speaker, I am not one to defend China's nuclear testing program, but at least they test within their own backyard.

Mr. Speaker, recently the gentleman from Massachusetts, Congressman ED-

WARD MARKEY, and the gentleman from California, Congressman PETE STARK, and myself introduced a bill, H.R. 2529, that places up to an 800-percent duty on all French beaujolais wine imported to this country. With each nuclear explosion, the price of French wine shall escalate. People should not buy French wine to protest France's testing. I ask my colleagues and the American people to support us in this effort, and to send President Chirac a strong message: Nuclear testing and nuclear bomb explosions are no longer relevant in our world today.

I submit, Mr. Speaker, when are we going to stop this madness, in that we continue to justify ourselves by saying this is the only way that we are going to defend ourselves, by having a nuclear deterrent capability. Mr. Speaker, this is the height of contradiction. We outlaw germ warfare, we outlaw chemical warfare, but we don't touch nuclear warfare, the most destructive warfare in existence. This the height of hypocrisy, Mr. Speaker. The height of hypocrisy.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD articles on the European Community's reaction to the bombings.

[From the Washington Times, Nov. 20, 1995]

TEST CRITICS RILE PARIS

CHIRAC CANCELS SUMMITS WITH ITALY, BELGIUM

(By Pierre-Yves Glass)

PARIS.—French nuclear tests in the Pacific have blown open a rift between France and most of its European partners. For Paris, their criticism of the blasts amounted to betrayal.

Angered by their support of a U.N. resolution condemning French nuclear tests, President Jacques Chirac on Friday abruptly canceled planned summits with the leaders of Belgium and Italy.

Paris justified its action, saying the positions of those states and eight other European Union members didn't "correspond to our idea of European solidarity."

By joining 85 other nations in condemning France, those 10 EU states broke a decades-old tradition of backing a fellow EU member when it deemed its actions essential to its national interests.

But their act could be a reminder to Mr. Chirac that the EU has 15 states and isn't just a club run by its most powerful members—France, Germany and Britain.

The French have to understand that their partners in the European Union have opinions on an initiative on which they have not been consulted," Belgian Prime Minister Jean-Luc Dehaene said Saturday.

France has responded to world outrage by insisting its series of six underground nuclear blasts in French Polynesia this fall are essential to ensure the viability of its nuclear arsenal. Government sources said the fourth detonation would take place within the coming days.

Paris has pledged to sign a testban treaty next spring after completing the tests. The United States, Britain and Russia all have adhered to a moratorium on nuclear testing.

A U.N. commission's resolution Thursday "strongly deplored" continued nuclear tests by France and China—without naming the countries—and demanded the General Assembly call for a stop to them.

Among the EU's 15 members, only Britain—the bloc's other nuclear power—voted with France against the resolution. Germany, Spain and Greece—usually staunch French allies—abstained.