**Recognizing Former Georgia State Representative John Yates**

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of former Georgia State Representative John Yates, who passed away on December 11 at the age of 96.

Representing Griffin, Georgia, just south of Atlanta, he was first elected to the Georgia General Assembly in 1988, and over time came one of the most inspiring officials in the State. When he retired from government, Representative Yates was the only World War II veteran serving in the Georgia General Assembly. He was drafted into the Army in 1942, and flew a Piper Cub airplane, a small plane with a top speed of less than 100 miles an hour. He flew 200 missions adjusting artillery fire on the enemy, including an hour. He flew 200 missions adjusting artillery fire on the enemy, including an hour. He flew 200 missions adjusting artillery fire on the enemy, including an hour. He flew 200 missions adjusting artillery fire on the enemy, including an hour.

After the war, he went back to school to earn his college degree and embarked on a 35-year journey with Ford Motor Company, eventually becoming a depot manager.

Representative Yates served the State of Georgia with the most humble attitude and went to great lengths to help Georgia's veterans. Anyone who was lucky enough to know Representative Yates could learn from his attitude, knowledge, and experience.

Mr. Speaker, I had the honor and privilege of serving with Representative Yates. He was a great American, a true American hero, and a fine man. He will be missed.

**Condemning the Slave Trade in Libya**

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE, Mr. Speaker, by now, we have all seen the horrifying video of a slave auction in Libya. It is outrageous. Migrants and refugees, most of them Black Africans, are being preyed upon, held in detention camps, and bought and sold like property.

Mr. Speaker, the United States cannot stand by as an idle spectator to the plague of slavery in Libya. People are not property.

Last week, members of the Congressional Black Caucus and I met with Libya's Ambassador. We agreed that the Libyan Government will conduct a transparent investigation, but they do not have the capacity to do so. That does not absolve the United States of its responsibilities.

We must immediately investigate allegations of slavery and forced labor in Libya. We need to impose sanctions if Libya fails to end slave auctions and forced labor. We must ensure the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Agency for International Development are adequately staffed to respond to the situation in Libya.

Mr. Speaker, Congress should adopt the bipartisan H. Res. 644, which will do all these things and more.

**Attacking the Rule of Law and Democratic Institutions**

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ABBOTT) said under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GAETZ) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight, along with many of my colleagues, to fight back against an attack on the rule of law and our democratic institutions.

Right now, the investigations into Donald Trump and the prior investigations into Hillary Clinton have been infected with the virus of severe bias.

Hillary Clinton went under investigation for the mishandling of classified information and her dealings through the Clinton Foundation, which was essentially investigated by her own fan club. Meanwhile, Robert Mueller obtained his team by fishing in the never-Trump aquarium.

Only through the antidote of transparency can we end this procession of the rule of law and restore the American people's confidence in the institutions that we must trust to live in a civilized society.