

The FBI shot and killed Randy Weaver's unarmed son. The FBI then shot and wounded Randy Weaver. The FBI then shot and killed Randy Weaver's unarmed wife while holding her infant son, shot her right between the eyes. Now reports say that the FBI destroyed documents to conceal the incident of Ruby Ridge.

Did anyone really believe the FBI would leave a smoking gun on Ruby Ridge? It is unbelievable, my colleagues.

The bottom line here is the FBI says they made a mistake. I say the FBI committed felonies and committed a crime on Ruby Ridge. Since when did the Congress of the United States empower the FBI to first entrap and then shoot down and kill unarmed American families?

The remains of the Weaver family are screaming out from graves for justice, and Congress is turning its back. Let us investigate Ruby Ridge, and let us let the FBI answer to the people, the Constitution, and the Congress of the United States of America.

#### WE ARE GOING TO PROTECT, PRESERVE, AND IMPROVE MEDICARE

(Mr. HOKE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, Republicans have a simple three-step plan to give Medicare recipients the right to the same quality and choice that their own children and grandchildren have.

First, all senior citizens currently on Medicare must be allowed to remain on Medicare just exactly the way it is for as long as they want, if that is what they choose.

Second, all seniors who want to join a health plan that covers more than today's Medicare, including routine physicals, prescription drugs, and eyeglasses, should have that right.

Third, all seniors who want to set up a Medicare savings account that will pay for their health care needs and reward them for making healthy choices should be given that right as well.

Mr. Speaker, today's seniors deserve the right to the best medical care system possible, and tomorrow's seniors deserve to know that the money that they have paid in Medicare taxes will also have been a sound investment, and, Mr. Speaker, according to the budget resolution all of this would be done with an increase in spending per beneficiary from \$4,816 in 1995 to \$6,734 in 2002.

We are going to protect, preserve, and improve Medicare.

#### SAVE MEDICARE

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, the real question is, How many years have your loved ones, parents, aunts and un-

cles, relatives, been in the work force? 30 years? 40 years? 50 years?

The legacy of our seniors who have given to this country is one of hard work.

But do my colleagues know what the call of the Republican Party is today?

Let's ration them. Let's voucher the Medicare system. Let's make sure that seniors and the disabled just get a minimal amount of medical care and make sure that, if they need more, the heck with them. It doesn't matter whether you've been in the work force and given to this Nation 30, 40, 50 years of commitment, and now you come to a time when you are retired and you need the Medicare system, developed by this Nation in order to relieve the health care burden on seniors and the disabled. What the Republicans want to do is voucher you out of the system. They want to cut \$270 billion out of Medicare with the false premise that we're slowing growth.

What does slowing growth mean? It means that those who are diabetic who have been able to be under maintenance, and survive, and be healthy will no longer have any care. It means people with high blood pressure will wind up in hospitals with strokes, without adequate health maintenance to keep their blood pressure down.

Save the Medicare program. What we need is to fix the fraud, but we do not need to voucher those who contributed to this Nation out of the system. Medicare is for those who have worked and the disabled. Both groups now need our help to save Medicare.

#### ROLE MODEL ECONOMY

(Mr. DICKEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DICKEY. Mr. Speaker, \$245 million; that is what the tax cut is proposed right now. People are saying, "What about spending cuts first? Part of this is being overlooked." One way that we can have spending cuts in our Government is to starve the agencies that are overspending at this time. So, we are looking at shrinking the Government by reducing the taxes. That is No. 1.

No. 2 is that we are going to give back to the taxpayers the money that they have earned. We have too long gone with the idea that this money that comes up here is the Government's. It is ours. It is the bureaucrats'. It is the politicians'.

It is not. It is the people who earn it, and those people who earn it are entitled to spend it, and, if we give it back to them, they will spend it the way they want to, or they can save it. We, as a government, are not saving anything. We have a chance to give it back to the people. We have a chance to say, "You've earned it, and you could do what you want to with it. It will help the economy."

One other thing:

When we sit here and say we are going to discriminate against the rich

and we do not want to have a tax cut because it will help the rich, it is avoiding an opportunity to have a role model for those people who want to acquire more.

#### CAMPAIGN AND LOBBY REFORM

(Mr. MEEHAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, last Sunday on "Face the Nation," Speaker GINGRICH backed down on his promise to pass campaign finance and lobby reform. His excuse—Congress is moving too quickly on the issue.

Too quickly? Is he serious? Mr. Speaker, we have yet to have a hearing this Congress on campaign finance reform. And there has been no floor action on lobby reform since the Republican leadership stopped us on the first day of the session. Even the loyal class of freshman Republicans is starting to get fed up with Speaker GINGRICH's string of broken promises on these reform issues.

Mr. GINGRICH, I know you are enjoying the dramatic increase in PAC contributions to the Republican Party and it's clear you don't mind if industry lobbyists co-write legislation. But if you're really serious about curbing the power of special interest in Washington and making Congress more accountable to the voters, it's time to move on campaign finance reform.

You're not fooling anyone with your call for exploratory committees, Mr. Speaker. It's just another transparent delay tactic coming from a party leader benefiting from the status-quo.

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#### SAVE MEDICARE

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, what do Robert Reich, Donna Shalala, and Robert Rubin have in common?

(a) They are all Democrats  
(b) They are all members of President Clinton's cabinet

(c) They all predict that the Medicare Trust Fund will go bankrupt by the year 2002

(d) All of the above  
If you picked (d), you're right. Republicans aren't making the Medicare crisis up. The Medicare Trustees, which are members of the President's own Cabinet, have said that the Medicare Trust Fund is going broke. So while the Democrats in the House chose to ignore the Administration, the Republicans have listened. We understand the importance of the situation, and we know what will happen if we do nothing but maintain the status quo—Medicare will go bankrupt.

Republicans will work hard to preserve, protect and improve Medicare not only for this generation, but also