

there may even be a period of time here where we are trying to move from these archaic, unrealistic accounting practices to a fair, honest, and open system. The hard work may still be ahead of us in correcting this as an institution. But I noted with great satisfaction that Members on both sides of the aisle stepped up unanimously I believe, if my math is correct and my recollection correct, to vote for a resolution approving of this audit and carrying on the business at hand.

This morning, during the course of 1-minutes, one speaker had the audacity to pooh-pooh, I guess, just put down the audit process. I note with interest the Member voted for this resolution. I appreciate his commitment there. But the fact is that working together, Members of both parties must remake this institution in the image of the American people. Mr. Speaker, we are committed to that.

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY'S WANTED POSTER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Georgia [Ms. MCKINNEY] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, 30 years ago, a little bit more than 30 years ago, the Republican Party put out a wanted poster, and the day after this poster was put out, our beloved President was assassinated.

Well, old habits die hard. And so now we find that the Republican Party has once again put out a wanted poster. Now, what is it that they expect to happen to the good people who are on this wanted poster, people who are elected by 580,000 people sent here to do a job, and whose main business is to take care of their constituents back home and to make sure that this is indeed a kinder and gentler Nation. But when you put on a wanted poster black folks, women, Latinos, certain white males, and Jews, and you say that these are people who are aiding and abetting President Bill Clinton's big government, what are you really saying? What you are saying to me, it seems, is that there are too many black people in Congress, there are too many Jews in Congress.

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There are too many women out of the house, in this House, making public policy. And what is the result of this kind of racist, anti-Semitic, divisive politics? Something happens in the heartland of America, and I can tell you what happens in the heartland of America. I have received hate mail.

This is just a sample of the hate mail that I receive: "Save America. Nigger genocide." Some people do not even have any feelings. They will sign their name. This one says, "You have a hell of a nerve trying to tell the Supreme Court what they can and cannot do. You lousy niggers." I have another one that says, "Definition of a nigger: An

extremely vile and heinous, fecal-colored, wild animal that inhabits America's concrete jungles and walks upright on its hind legs, attempting to mimic human behavior." Then another one here: "Niggers destroy America."

It seems that in the quiet of their homes, people find some kind of pleasure in using the word "nigger." Well, you know, I have heard it all my life. It does not bother me. But some people get off using that word "nigger." That is what happens when you try and divide a nation. That is what happens when you try and divide a country. And that is what happens when you put politics above all else and the bottom line above all else and above all people.

American people are smart, though, and there is hope.

I just received this letter from a young woman in Gainesville, FL. She said, "Dear Congresswoman McKinney: I watched you this morning in regards to the idiotic poster the Republican party distributed labeled 'Wanted liberals.' I realize your office has been under attack recently, due to the Supreme Court decision on redistricting and this most recent incident. As a young white female with all of the advantages of growing up in the upper middle-class neighborhood of Gwinnett County, GA, allow me to be the first to say thank you for speaking the truth. The forces trying to tear you apart are the same people who say that they are trying to protect what I have. I have a lovely home, I have a bright future, and I have a blessed life. I do not need protection for what I have. I need to know that other people will grant the opportunity to achieve what I take for granted."

Mr. Speaker, I think the people get the point.

HEARINGS CONCERNING THE BRANCH DAVIDIAN/WACO AFFAIR

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCINNIS). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. BRYANT] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BRYANT of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we begin hearings in this House on the 1993 Waco incident.

Mr. Speaker, ours is a Government of laws, not men. In order to preserve the rules of law, our citizens must be assured that their government, its institutions, its officials, and its law enforcement agents are accountable. Accountability is the key to ensuring public confidence in the system in order for all of us to live well. Confidence in one's government is essential to the long-term survival of that government and to the peaceful life of that government's citizens.

The abuse of power threatens any society. However, a government of laws gives stability to a nation, a state, and a community. The abuse of power is tyranny.

Mr. Speaker, when a sizable portion of our citizens become concerned, even

fearful, over a perceived lack of accountability by Federal law enforcement, the time has come that we need to clear the air.

These hearings are intended to be a part, to demonstrate how our system works. The members of these investigating committees seek to ascertain the truth. We seek to restore the confidence of the American people in their government. We seek to discover and explore the events leading up to and including what many consider excessive force by law enforcement. We seek a more complete revelation of the details of the Waco events.

The goal of these hearings is to discover the truth, to seek the answers to unanswered questions that linger, that even have festered since earlier hearings.

The surviving Davidians have been tried in court, which yielded new information and mixed verdicts. With respect to individuals involved on all sides, let the chips fall where they may. Those responsible for breaches of law or policy must be held accountable for their abuses of power.

Only by finding the truth can accountability be secured.

If abuses of the Government power in fact occurred, then we must take what we learn at these hearings and move forward with steps that insure such abuses of Government power will not occur again.

Mr. Speaker, I believe Government has its proper roles. While we do not need or want anarchy, we do not want unlimited Government either, nor do we want agents who breach our constitutional rights or God-given rights.

As a former young State's attorney and Federal prosecutor, I worked closely with Federal law enforcement personnel at all levels of government. I believe the majority of enforcement personnel are honorable and only want to do what is legal and just. These hearings are not intended to bash any law enforcement in general or any agency in particular; at least, that is not my purpose in participating in these hearings.

Individuals make decisions, and individuals should bear responsibility for consequences of their actions. That goes for criminal offenders and those in fiduciary roles of Government.

In the bigger picture, it is my hope these hearings will help to restore the American people's confidence in their Federal Government. This country needs a healing, a renewal.

I look forward to these hearings and to the healing effect that is so needed in this great Nation. Let us do our part to restore the rule of law and the preservation of liberty.

THE TRAGIC CONSEQUENCES OF THE "WANTED" POSTER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Florida [Mrs. MEEK] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am one of 28 infamous, so-called infamous, people that appeared on the fundraising poster that was put out by Mr. BILL PAXON of the Republican fundraising committee.

It is respectable to be a Republican. There are many good ones who seek only good for all people. There are others who feel that it is not respectable or to be respected to be racist or sexist.

It is truly disgusting what some people would do, Mr. Speaker, to raise political money. Why, in this period of fear and discontent, uncertainty and danger, when the country is still reeling from the Oklahoma City bombing, the unabridged threats and lawless, paranoid, violent people who can only express themselves by killing other people of defaming other people are inflicting pain and suffering? Why in this unsettled and unsettling climate, Mr. Speaker, would someone put another person's picture on a wanted poster that looks like something the FBI would put in a post office?

This kind of thing can bring fear, particularly to a woman's heart who has to walk many times in dark places and dark corners of this country.

The reason why? The National Republican Congressional Committee, under Mr. PAXON, tells us it is to raise money. I do not think that is a good reason, Mr. Speaker. I guess he has concluded that hate sells.

Hate does not sell in this country, particularly when they are trying to separate God's people, those who are black, those who are white, those who are Jewish, those who are female. That is not the way that our Maker would have us go. So hate does not sell.

If that is the case, then I feel sorry for those who feel that that is so. These people feel that it is OK to feed hate and hysteria. They do not mind advancing their cause by making enemies of those who have honest disagreements with them. Yes, I did not vote for the Contract With America. I did not feel that I wanted to vote for many of the concepts of the contract. Therefore, I voted against it.

I was told that was the reason why I was placed on the poster. That could not be further from the truth, in that there were 70 or 80 other people who voted the same way as I did. Yet their faces did not appear on the contract.

What seemed to be the target on the contract, on the poster, were people of African-American descent, people of Jewish faith, and white women. Those are the people who appeared on this poster.

But I want to say that the Republican Party should repudiate the likes of the kinds of ethics and techniques that Mr. PAXON has used. He has not set a great example for this party. This was the party of Lincoln. This was the party that freed the slaves. So certainly this is not a good way to depict what their party stands for.

I have been in the public a long time. I have been through the lynching pe-

riod. I have been through the civil rights period. I have been through all of these periods of racial hate. But I had to come to the great Congress of the United States to have the kind of hate poster and the hate mail which I have received here.

Do you know why? This kind of thing, coming from the top of the party, sets a climate of lawlessness and hate, and it provides the atmosphere and the climate for people who want to divide this country, to be able to write us here in Congress the kinds of hate mail and to give us the hate kinds of calls, using our ethnicity as a cloak to form their hate.

This wanted poster is not a healthy sign. It is a sick sign. It is as much a reflection of our times as it is a product of people who think in a sick way.

I have got my own wanted poster, Mr. Speaker, I want decent schools for the people in this country, both black and white and otherwise, and I want better education and training for young people. I want a way the senior citizens can get help in their old age and get long-term care. I want that, Mr. Speaker. I want to make sure that parents who buy food for their children, that the meat will have the proper inspection so they can have good health. I want good health for all people of America. I do not want to think this is a color-blind society. I know it is not. But I want everything good for everybody.

I want to assure these older Americans that they will not go bankrupt if they get sick. My wanted poster is out there, Mr. Speaker, My voting record attests to that. It is composed of goals that all of us should work for, not people to search, target, and destroy, because of hateful literature.

I thought that the Republican Party had come much further than Mr. PAXON has taken them, but I guess he wants to revive the old Nixon enemies hit list.

I call on the Republicans of good faith to repudiate what Mr. PAXON has done.

I have all kinds of hate mail. It is so much of it that I just make one or two excerpts from it to show you the kind of things that come from the kinds of things that are happening in the party now, and it is throwing a very bad light on all the rest of us. "Sit down and shut up," as if I were not elected by the people of Florida. They use the "b" word throughout much of this stuff. I cannot mention it in the hallowed hall of this House. They are saying;

We are taking our Nation. We took it with force of arms, defended it with force of arms, and we will take it back with force of arms. You and your filthy species are nothing.

I say to them, my father and my forefathers helped to build this country. I will not take a back seat to anyone. I will continue to voice my opinion on this floor of this House.

They continue to say:

"You are primitive, childish, selfish, petulant, demanding, dependent, arrogant, evil,

treacherous creatures regressing to your natural state, Rwanda, Biafra, Somalia, Liberia, South Africa, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Los Angeles, New York, Washington, Atlanta, New Orleans, Miami, that is your legacy. You will pay for what you have done. We are enemies forever. No way around this fact. We cannot and will not coexist with you animals.

I want to say to you, Mr. Speaker, and the rest of this House and the rest of this country, we are God's children like everyone else. We do not have to tolerate this kind of bad literature that comes because it is stirred by the hatred from that poster.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for 5 minutes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from North Carolina?

Mr. KINGSTON. Reserving the right to object, Mr. Speaker, would the gentlewoman tell us how many other unanimous consent orders there may be tonight?

Mrs. CLAYTON. I would not know. I am only asking for one myself.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, will the gentlewoman be the last one?

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, there is one other.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I object unless we can get a commitment that this will be the last one, simply because we have the first hour. We would be happy to yield some time in the spirit of dialog, but inasmuch as this is an orchestrated attempt, I do not know that we need to continue.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, we are the last two.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I am including in the RECORD following rollcall votes 517 through 525 an indication of how I would have voted had I been present, to be followed with statements submitted for the RECORD.

I was away from Washington at work back in my district today. However, had I been here I would have responded in the following manner for the rollcall votes on House Resolution 1977, Interior Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1996.

Roll call No. 517, Schaefer amendment, "aye"; roll call No. 518, Chabot amendment, "nay"; roll call No. 519, Parker amendment, "nay"; roll call No. 520, Zimmer amendment, "nay"; roll call No. 521, Klug amendment, "aye"; roll call No. 522, Kennedy (MA), "aye"; roll call No. 523, on passage, "nay"; roll call No. 524, ordering the