

But I hope we will be able to do that as we return.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Wanda Evans, one of his secretaries.

AMERICANS AFRAID OF THEIR OWN GOVERNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Madam Speaker, I want to thank the minority leader and his young floor man, Dan, who does a fine job and a fair job, for giving me this opportunity to speak. Many of the American people know that I go without a committee, but I am a Democrat.

I want to talk about several issues here today that I think are very important. I very seldom take a special order, but while the Congress is involved in negotiations on an important bill affecting the lives of many people, I decided to take this time.

I heard my very good friend the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS), a member of the Committee on Ways and Means, talking about the energy problem, and I could not agree with him more. His wisdom and wisdom like that is needed in this Congress. But I also have a different view that goes a little further.

I have a bill in that says that if there is price gouging in America, there should be a \$100 million fine for any company that gouges American consumers of petroleum products. Mobil merged with Exxon; BP with Amoco. Competition is down. I think they are gouging us, and I think a \$100 million fine for anybody artificially raising prices, 9 cents more on the weekend, come on. They get hit once in the pocketbook, and it is all over.

Another thing before I move off that energy issue, I think it is time to tell these monarchs and dictators who control oil overseas that next time they are attacked by Saddam Hussein, call the Welcome Wagon, because Uncle Sam is not going to show up, and we will see those prices go down.

But I am here today to talk about a serious problem in America, a dangerous problem, one that I have seen. Many Americans see it and feel it and may not realize it or come to speak about it, or maybe just whisper it. Many Americans are afraid of their government. They look at the government as a separate entity, the people and the government. It was not designed to be that way. I personally believe the psychology of this change occurred in 1963 with the assassination of President Kennedy. If you believe what the government has told us about that, you believe in the tooth fairy.

But I want to get down now to some specifics that bother me. Before a subcommittee of the Committee on Government Reform of the United States House of Representatives, the people's House, testimony just brought out that four men 30-some years ago were convicted for murder. They were sentenced to life imprisonment. Two of those four convicted murderers, supposedly, died in prison. The other two, Salvadi and Limone, were recently released, because the FBI finally admitted they had exculpatory evidence that Salvadi and Limone were not the killers, and they protected their valuable informants who did the killing.

When the FBI agent was asked if he had any remorse, his answer was, "What do you expect, tears?" Thirty years, ladies and gentlemen, for a murderer they did not commit.

Now, let us look at FBI agent Hanssen; 15 years selling our secrets to the Russians. Do you honestly believe he could do that in the structure of the Federal Bureau of Investigation with no one else knowing it? Come on now.

Now, how about the case in Boston, Massachusetts, where the FBI agent-in-charge has now been indicted? He has been indicted for overlooking murder on behalf of his informants. And guess what the FBI agent-in-charge said? "I was told by my superiors to lie."

Now let us take a look at Waco, David Koresh. They could have arrested him any morning out jogging, but they wanted a sensational bust. Eighty-some Americans killed. Tanks. Thirty children. They could have arrested him any morning. They wanted a sensational case; they now have sensational headaches.

But how about Randy Weaver and his family? I did not agree with his politics. He was a white separatist. But his 14-year-old boy was shot and killed by Federal agents. His wife, holding her infant child, standing in the doorway, horrified over the scene she was witnessing, was shot by one of the FBI's best sharpshooters. Put your finger right between your eyes above your nose. And the court ruled accidental shooting. Why, then, did American taxpayers give \$5 million to Randy Weaver? Was it for justice, or to shut him up?

But now I take you to northeast Ohio. I am the Member that is under indictment, the only American in history to have beaten the Justice Department in a RICO case, pro se, without being an attorney, through a full jury trial. Experts say my chances are 1 in 5 million. Well, there are 275 million Americans. That means I am one of about 55 Americans that have a shot. I am going to take that shot.

Now, here is why: In the early eighties, a man named Charles Carabbia, an underworld figure, was killed in Youngstown, Ohio. Subsequent to that, the FBI said the second most important Mafia informant since Valachi, a man named Angelo Lonardo,

gave the government, the FBI, information in 1984, and then gave this same testimony to a Senate subcommittee of the United States Senate.

Angela Lonardo, the underboss of Cleveland, was credited with helping to take down the Mafia in Kansas City and in New Orleans. But listen to what he told the U.S. Senate in 1987, and that he had told the FBI in 1984.

He said two underworld figures by the name of Joseph Naples and James Prato came to him in the early eighties and asked permission to kill Charles Carabbia. He and his boss met with them personally and they said no, work it out. He later testified they come back and said they met with the Pittsburgh Mafia and the Pittsburgh Mafia wants Mr. Carabbia killed. They said no, work it out.

Then Mr. Lonardo, not through Mr. Jones getting information, Mr. Lonardo testified that he heard that Mr. Carabbia was missing and feared murdered. He said several weeks later he got a call from Mr. Prato and Mr. Naples, and Mr. Prato and Mr. Naples met with Mr. Lonardo and his boss, Mr. Licavoli, in a restaurant outside of Cleveland, and said, "We killed Charles Carabbia, and we apologize for leaving his car in the Cleveland area."

Ladies and gentlemen on the House floor, there was no grand jury investigation into the murder of Charles Carabbia. Joseph Naples was murdered in the early nineties by a mob rival and James Prato died of old age, and now affidavits and documents reveal the Youngstown office of the FBI was on the payroll of the mob, Naples and Prato. Documents also show that Assistant U.S. Attorneys were on the payroll of the mob in Cleveland, Ohio.

What has happened to our country here? How did the FBI, the IRS, the EPA, get so strong that we fear them? Who elected them? It is up to Congress to take our country back, so help me God. But there are several things that I have done since my first trial.

So the bottom line is, maybe the government can notify you, and by that I mean the real government, the middle management bureaucrats that are not elected, and if they do not like a Member of Congress, they will go after them. Think about that.

But, you see, since those incidents I have tried to crack down on some of the power. Since being in Congress, I passed four specific laws to deal with the IRS.

The first one said they have to treat us courteously across cultural lines. They have a training program with their agents about taxpayers' rights. They oppose that. They oppose that. We finally passed it. After I threatened a bill and killed a Treasury appropriations bill, they came to me and said, "We will build you a courthouse if you do not do that anymore." I said, "Go right ahead, but put my language in the next bill," and they did. Now they have to have a training program.

The next year I came back and said, what good is a training program if they