

other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

#### A TRIBUTE TO AMORY UNDERHILL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TERRY). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SHAW) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to my dear friend Amory Underhill who passed away last night at the age of 89 in DeLand, Florida. Amory was highly respected and honored for his lifetime accomplishments and service.

Amory served as lieutenant commander in the United States Navy. After his military service, Amory came to Washington, D.C. where he became special attorney at the United States Department of Justice. Amory also served as first assistant in the anti-trust division and Deputy Attorney General's office and was appointed as assistant Attorney General by President Truman.

Amory was proud to have attended every presidential inaugural from President Roosevelt through President Clinton and privileged to have a personal relationship with each one of these presidents.

Throughout all of Amory's achievements, he remained a dedicated Floridian through his service and generosity to his native State. Amory served as trustee emeritus of my alma mater, Stetson University in DeLand, Florida, and Saint Leo College in Saint Leo, Florida. He served as chairman emeritus of the Board of Overseers of Stetson University College of Law in St. Petersburg, Florida, and as chairman and president of the Bert Fish Foundation in DeLand, Florida.

Amory was actively involved in the Florida House here in Washington, D.C., serving as treasurer and as a member of the founding board with the late Governor Lawton Chiles and his wife, Rhea. From the time he first came to Washington, through the rest of his life, he was a fixture at every Florida State society function, acting as friend and mentor to generations of Floridians in Washington, including the Florida Congressional Delegation.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored and grateful to have had the opportunity to have known Amory Underhill. Amory was a highly respected man in Florida. While I am saddened by his passage, his extensive contributions to Florida, this Nation, and the fond memories that I have will live on forever.

#### THE WACO TRAGEDY, WILL THE TRUTH EVER BE KNOWN?

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

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to briefly discuss the Waco tragedy that has been so much in the news over the past few days.

Before coming to Congress, I spent 7½ years as a criminal court judge trying felony criminal cases. I tried the attempted murder of James Earl Ray, several death penalties cases, and many high profile cases of all types. I believe in the death penalty as it is now used, meaning on our most horrible cases, and I believe in very long sentences for violent, hardened criminals. I am very strongly anticrime; but I must say tonight that I think this Waco tragedy was one of the most tragic episodes in our Nation's history and one of the most despicable things the Federal Government has ever done.

Eighty-six people, including 24 children, were put to death simply for attempting to be left alone, so they could practice what I and most other people felt were kooky religious beliefs. But in a free country, people are supposed to have the right to have kooky, weird or unusual beliefs as long as they are not hurting anyone else.

The Waco victims were killed apparently because federal law enforcement officials were bound and determined to conduct a raid that would make the national news. This was not about law enforcement; this was about publicity.

Now, after 6 years, we discover, as many people suspected all along, that the FBI has been lying about this sordid affair. We heard a few days ago that contrary to previous Justice Department statements, incendiary devices were placed by the Government into the Branch Davidians' home.

Today, we are told even more incendiary devices were put in there, something called military star flares, highly flammable. The federal law enforcement people bombarded this home for many weeks, hour after hour, minute after minute, with extremely loud noises, extremely bright lights throughout the night. Then they moved in the tanks.

Hundreds of officers, thousands and thousands of highly paid man-hours, hundred of millions of taxpayer dollars wasted in a massive overkill of people who were of no threat to anyone.

Then the Government attempted to do a false public relations campaign about child abuse, of which there was no proof, and illegal weapons, also not proved.

What makes all of this even worse is that the kooky leader, David Koresh, was frequently out of the Davidians' home alone and could have easily been arrested on many occasions if the ATF and others were not primarily interested in publicity in the first place.

Eighty-six people killed, 24 children dead, in what many people now say was a raid done in an attempt to justify increased appropriations.

Five or 6 years ago, Forbes Magazine had a lengthy cover story about the

Justice Department. The story said that we had quadrupled the Justice Department funding since 1980 and that prosecutors and federal law enforcement people were falling all over themselves trying to find cases to prosecute.

The article said they were resorting to going after honest business people who had unintentionally violated laws they did not even know were in existence, shades of the IRS.

Several months ago, Newsweek Magazine had a cover story which said on its cover, "The IRS, Lawless, Abusive, Out of Control."

Well, the same thing could be said today of the Justice Department under Attorney General Reno and our federal law enforcement agencies. Today, our law enforcement dollar is out of whack. The highest paid law enforcement people are federal bureaucrats who sit here in Washington and never see a real criminal unless they are mugged on the way to their cars after work.

The lowest paid law officers are the local police and sheriffs deputies, the people who are fighting the real crime, the street crime, the violent crime that people want fought.

The tragedy at Waco, the deaths of the children, the lies about it since it happened, are all the outgrowth of a Federal Government that has grown too big for its own good, and certainly too powerful and too arrogant for the good of the people for whom these Government officials are supposed to be working.

While I am discussing this, I should also mention the cold-blooded killing by the FBI of 13-year-old Sammy Weaver and his mother at Ruby Ridge, Idaho.

This small boy was cowardly shot in the back and his mother was shot as she held her small baby in the doorway of her house.

And no one is ever held accountable for all of these deaths and all of these lies, because today we do not have a Government of, by and for the people but instead have one that is of, by and for the bureaucrats, the unelected elite of this Nation.

The only thing these people really care about is their money. What we should do, but will not, is to drastically cut the money for these agencies and give it instead to local law enforcement agencies or back to the hard-working citizens we took it from in the first place.

It certainly, Mr. Speaker, will not satisfy anyone to have a whitewash investigation by establishment types handpicked by the Justice Department and approved by our very biased national media.

#### VA-HUD INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS FOR FY 2000

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RUSH) is recognized for 5 minutes.