

through before they died. However, the media bought Washington's spin, plain and simple," end quote.

Sheriff Nourse contrasts the Federal spin with the real investigation by the Texas Rangers in pointing out the following: He said, "The investigation by the Texas Rangers is not spin. A dozen spent rifle cartridges preferred by sharpshooters, as well as the FBI and ATF, were found in a house near the Davidians' compound that was occupied by Federal agents during that stand-off. Both agencies denied firing a single round during that stand-off that followed the initial attack."

Mr. Speaker, Sheriff Nourse also asked the puzzling question that every single county sheriff must grapple with. He wrote, "The question that really bothers me is how did the Federal Government take over such an operation? And why the total absence of local law enforcement on the scene? And what was the local sheriff doing while all of this was going on?"

Sheriff Nourse continued, "I have never been told this part of the story and it deeply worries me. I know what my position would be here in Canyon County and I am more than a little concerned as to what that might lead to."

Finally, Mr. Speaker, Sheriff Nourse, who has himself participated in numerous law enforcement activities, makes an observation that dumbfounds us all. States Nourse, "Think about it. Law enforcement officers shooting fully automatic weapons at a building knowing there are 24 small children inside. That is not law enforcement," the sheriff writes. "It is an act of war at its worst."

Mr. Speaker, I again urge my colleagues to join me in seeking hearings on this tragic epic in American history. We must get to the bottom of why the Federal Government waived the Posse Comitatus Act and involved the military in this domestic law enforcement action. This is a decision that could only have been made at the very top levels of government and we must find out who exactly made that decision at that top level.

Outstanding Americans such as Sheriff Nourse are demanding answers to these questions. We must join him. Let us not make this same tragic mistake, as Federal law enforcement, by spinning instead of conducting real bona fide investigations.

THE SHINING STAR: SPIN IS NOT AN INVESTIGATION!

(By Sheriff George Nourse)

Janet Reno's Whacky War on Waco is back in the news. And Washington D.C. is gearing up to give it a second coat of whitewash.

Democrat Henry Waxman is leading the defense, saying the Republicans just overlooked the evidence that the F.B.I. shot incendiary devices into the Davidians' compound. It was not a cover-up? This, of course, conflicts with Janet Reno's statement that the F.B.I. assured her no incendiary devices were used.

Washington doesn't investigate. It spins! The spin in Waco was to demonize the people

who were killed. (Demonizing people was the tactic used to justify the killing of innocent people as witches in our early history.) The feds killed more people at Waco than all the school violence and wacko shootings added together over the last six years. Seventeen of the 24 Waco children were under the age of ten. Think about it! The terror! The screaming and confusion those people went through before they died. Compare how the national news media beat us over the head with all the lurid details of Columbine, and the absence of such details at Waco. The media bought Washington's spin, plain and simple.

My hat is off to the chief of the Texas Rangers. After 6 years the truth about the Waco War may come out. But don't bet on it; the Washington spin machine is hard at work.

The investigation by the Texas Rangers is not spin! A dozen spent rifle cartridges preferred by sharpshooters, as well as the F.B.I. and A.T.F., were found in a house near the Davidians' compound that was occupied by federal agents during the stand-off. Both agencies denied firing a single round during the stand-off that followed the initial attack.

The reason I call it the "Waco War" is because the mentality used by the A.T.F. and F.B.I. was identical to the mentality used in fighting a war. They certainly were not there to solve a social problem in the sense local law enforcement applies. The question that really bothers me is, How did the federal government take over such an operation? And, Why the total absence of local law enforcement on the scene? What was the local sheriff doing while all of this was going on?

I have never been told this part of the story, and it deeply worries me. I know what my position would be here in Canyon County. And I'm more than a little concerned as to what that might lead to.

Think about it! Law enforcement officers shooting fully automatic weapons at a building, knowing there are 24 small children inside. This is not law enforcement! It is an act of war at its worst.

Reflect on what happened in the local law enforcement agency involved with Rodney King: officers caught on video hitting King with night sticks. King was high on P.C.P., and led officers on a high-speed chase that threatened the lives of anyone in his path. King wasn't killed. In fact, he wasn't even hospitalized.

Result? King got \$1,000,000; two police officers went to prison; and the police chief got fired. Compare this to Waco, and you come up with a huge credibility gap.

If the American people are counting on Detective Janet Reno for answers on Waco, they should know by now she can't detect a giraffe in a band of sheep! It's all a spin!

□ 1900

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

(Mr. BROWN of Ohio addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

(Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HONORING THE LIFE OF WALTER PAYTON

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a tremendous American, a great individual who was known perhaps best for being an outstanding football player. I guess he was, indeed, an outstanding football player, Walter Payton, who broke every record, set every record at the position which he played.

Chicago is a great football town. For many years, our football fortunes were not where we wanted them to be. There was not much to cheer about. There was not much to bring the people out. But then, from a small historically black college came Walter Payton, a college that not many people necessarily knew about, had heard about, Jackson State. Here comes a young man with the grace and finesse of a wizard, one who could sneak and weave through lines no matter what the linemen looked like.

While Walter set all of these records and we talk about his greatness as an athlete, if one ever had an opportunity to interact with him, to see him up close, to know the man, to talk with him, to understand him, then one saw much more than an athlete. One saw much more than a football player. One saw a role model. One saw a humanness that existed. One saw just a good solid human being. Walter was well coached and was ready for the National Football League when he came.

I always felt a tremendous sense of pride in his accomplishments because I, too, attended one of the historically black colleges or universities. We were in the same conference, and I must confess that Jackson State usually beat the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff more than we beat them.

But also in that conference was Alcorn University, Grambling, Southern, Texas Southern, Prairie View, sometimes Wiley College, sometimes Bishop, sometimes Mississippi Valley.

The real point is this is an opportunity to highlight the contributions of historically black colleges and universities, not only academically, not only athletically, but in a total sense of what they meant.

Walter died needing an organ transplant. This is also an opportunity to urge all Americans who are able to participate in organ donation programs to help give and sustain life to those who might need an organ, especially if ours is no longer going to be useful to us.

So, Walter, even in your death, you win out victorious because you raised the question, you raised an issue, and you helped America understand the need for a program, an organ donation program and policies which will assure that, when people need organs, they are in fact available. You will be in the other Hall of Fame. Rest easy.