

may be conspiratorial but what may be ugly and deadly.

I join my colleague, the gentlewoman from North Carolina, in supporting her resolution calling upon this Congress to denounce these vicious activities. I rise this evening in the shadow of two very serious burnings in Texas, my home State. I rise as a member of the House Committee on the Judiciary, having participated in hearings just a week or so ago calling upon the President and the Attorney General to first of all organize a coordinated effort to attack this siege and I am glad to say that as of this weekend, after a meeting with ministers of churches who have been burned, such a coordinated effort was first established along with an 800 toll-free number and, yes, of course, an increased effort to determine the cause and the perpetrators of these heinous acts.

Tomorrow the House Committee on the Judiciary will mark up legislation dealing with the penalizing and the effort to obstruct those who would lay siege upon the Constitution of the United States of America.

I would simply say the tragedy in Texas has determined that there were at least three perpetrators. But the one thing we do know is that the houses of prayer, no matter where they are, should be sacred institutions of which all of us respect their existence and the right of those individuals to worship.

It is important also that we acknowledge the racial underpinnings of these acts and certainly not run away from the tensions that have been created in the last 2 years amongst our people in this country. It would simply ask, as the ministers have asked, that we pray and that we have the opportunity to join together as humankind to stand up against these tragedies and atrocious acts.

I call upon my colleagues in the U.S. Congress to support this resolution of outrage, and I call upon the President and the Attorney General to seriously emphasize that the perpetrators, wherever they are, will be caught and brought to justice. If need be, I would ask that we entertain the idea of the National Guard being sent into these respective places, so that we can find some sense of solace and comfort to those who feel they are under siege.

I do ask those who are part of the investigatory process to be sure that they do not make those who are the members of the churches the victims and that the investigation be done in a manner that respects the tragedy that has occurred. We certainly want to get to the bottom of it. We do not want to throw stones. We do not want to have misinformation. But we certainly want to get the right information, the best information, the information that will allow us to fairly solve these crimes.

And most of all, Mr. Speaker, we ask that we will have the ability to save lives and not have something similar to the atrocity and the very sinful and terrible act of the 1963 church bomb-

ings that took the lives of four little girls.

I stand here because I want to save lives. Let us join together in this investigation, taking it extremely seriously. Let all parties join together and provide the necessary information on the toll free act. Let us swiftly pass legislation that may in fact prosecute those individuals more quickly and certainly let us rise together as a house to denounce these atrocities collectively in a resolution sponsored by my colleague from North Carolina to denounce these church arson burnings.

Let us join together as Americans so that we can safely and freely pray together in our houses of worship.

#### OUR NATION'S DRUG POLICY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. MICA] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I come before the House tonight to talk about a situation as serious as the one my colleague has just enumerated with the burning of the black churches in this country. Certainly I support her comments, and everything should be done in that regard to resolve this situation.

Mr. Speaker, I want to talk about another serious situation, and that is the lack of a national drug policy. I represent central Florida, a beautiful area between Orlando and Daytona Beach. I am so fortunate. Other areas of the country sometimes have problems, and we have problems. But it is normally a very tranquil place. People work and go to school. But lately I get home, got home last weekend and turn on the television. I do not know whether I am in Washington, DC, with the murders, with the atrocities that are being committed by certain individuals in our society or whether I am in Detroit or New York or wherever. Sometimes you read the conflicts. But last weekend, we had a 13-year-old car hijacking. We had the incident of 18-year-olds involved in murders, some double murders. I look out in the community, and I have seen people that I have worked with who have lost family now in this drug war. I wonder where our Nation's drug policy is.

Really, what you sow, I guess, is what you reap in this business. I am really disappointed in the President and this administration. I come before the House tonight to talk about the drug policy. I am afraid that under the President, it has been an absolute disaster. I guess when you take some actions like the President has taken, first thing he did was dismantle the drug czar's office and fire everyone in the White House with only a handful left working on the drug czar.

Then he appointed Joycelyn Elders our Nation's number one health official. And what did she say? She said: Just say maybe, maybe we should legalize drugs. Then we stopped sharing the drug information with our South

American and other allies in the drug region. We saw how our policy was a disaster in that regard, only through an uproar in Congress did some of that get changed.

Then we witnessed the destruction of our drug interdiction program, how we found recently assets that were destined for drug interdiction got diverted to Haiti, to other projects, how the Coast Guard, who in the Caribbean had a \$630 million budget and now is getting up to maybe \$370 million to fight drugs, a dramatic decrease in interdiction because this President wanted the money to go for treatment. I submit to my colleagues tonight that treating just folks in this drug war is like treating the wounded in a battle.

Mr. Speaker, we have seen the results. The results are absolutely startling. Tonight I want to talk about a report that is out by the Drug Abuse Warning Network which talks about the increases of cocaine, which talks about the increases of marijuana, which talks about the increases of heroin. It is not just among our adult population. It is now in our children.

Look at this chart, which details, and you can see from the 1980's, how drug abuse and drug use are going down. In 1992, when this policy kicked in, you see what has happened here, with 12th graders, with 10th graders, and even 8th graders. This is not an acceptable situation.

Let me read from this report that just came out last week. The Drug Abuse Warning Network, commonly known as DAWN, collects data from hospitals and other reporting agencies. The news according to this report is terrible.

Let me quote it: Compared with the first half of 1994, which was the high water mark for drug related emergency room cases, cocaine related emergency increased 12 percent, from 68,000, to 76,000. In heroin related episodes, that rose 27 percent. Marijuana related episodes increased 32 percent and methamphetamines and some of the designer drug cases grew by about 35 percent. So we have seen the results in our emergency rooms and our communities, with some of our children, some of our young people out of control.

Mr. Speaker, let me also cite this report that we have seen what has happened with cocaine prices. On cocaine prices, we see the consequences of the changes in this administration's policy. Cocaine prices actually went down, and we made cocaine more available. Prices were from \$172 a gram to \$137. So in interdiction where we have dismantled the program we see the direct results.

I serve on the committee that oversees our drug policy. Let me tell you, the report that we came up with on our assessment of this situation is detailed in this report released in March. I brought it before the Congress. It should also be startling to everyone in the media, everyone in the public, and everyone in this Congress. This details

increases in heroin use, cocaine use, designer drug use. What is interesting even in the marijuana area is that the marijuana that was used in the 1960's and 1970's was nowhere near as powerful as what this report says is 30, 40 times as powerful and is messing up the brains and the genes and the minds of our young people. That is one of the problems that we see with crime, with disorder and again with the use of these drugs by our young people.

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So the reports are in. The Congress, my subcommittee over at International Affairs and Oversight has released this report. We now have the report of the drug abuse warning network that shows that the problem is even worse than what this chart details before us.

But I think, my colleagues, that it is time that we took back our children, I think it time that we took back our schools, that we took back our streets, we took back our communities, the violence that we have seen, the crime that is related to drug abuse. My sheriffs and police chiefs have told me that 70 percent of the criminals that they have incarcerated are involved with drugs, and narcotics and illegal substances.

So we know where the problem is. It is not going to be answered by curfews, it is not going to be answered by regulating cigarettes, it is not going to be answered by uniforms or V-chips. It is going to be answered by the highest leadership of this country, the White House, taking this issue seriously. It is going to be answered by this Congress providing more resources to a drug interdiction program and education programs, some of which have been gutted by this administration, and making drug abuse and misuse a serious topic of conversation because it is ruining our ability to live as a society.

We heard about the black churches that have been destroyed across the Nation. Well, just in this city since I have been in Congress the last 3½ years, 1,000, in excess of 1,000, young black males between the ages of 14 and 45 have lost their lives in a drug war. I asked the President in any war I would send in the National Guard, and when we saw what was going on here with the deaths, he denied our activity. I participated in a hearing in San Juan today, and we found that where they brought in the National Guard where they had high intensity or problems that, in fact, they took their streets back.

So we are going to have to take whatever measures are necessary because we are in a war. The victims in this war are children. We are losing a generation. Our jails are filled. We cannot put any more people in prison, so we are going to have to concentrate on what has become a national scandal and a national problem, and that is drug abuse and drug misuse. The direction the President has been heading in

is the wrong direction. We need to get in the right direction, and we need every American to speak out on this, not just in Congress, but throughout the land.

Mr. Speaker, we must solve this problem or we are not going to again have safe streets or have our children have an opportunity for the future.

#### CHURCH BURNINGS STRIKE MY DISTRICT

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

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, last night two churches in Greenville, TX, the fourth district that I represent, were damaged by fires which are suspected to be acts of arson. These are the latest in a long and tragic series of church burnings that have struck predominantly black, southern churches in the past 18 months. Whether these burnings eventually are found to be part of a conspiracy, isolated incidents, or "copy-cat" crimes, these are crimes that must be given top investigative priority.

Members of the blue dog coalition, of which I am a member, have joined with members of the Congressional Black Caucus in asking Attorney General Janet Reno to give this issue the full and focused attention of the Department of Justice. In recent weeks, we have received assurance that the Department is committed to thorough investigation of these burnings, and yesterday Attorney General Reno gave her personal assurances to a delegation of ministers. As we speak here tonight, agents from the FBI and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms are in Greenville investigating these recent burnings.

I would like to commend the efforts of the distinguished gentleman from Louisiana, Mr. CLEO FIELDS, and the distinguished gentleman from Alabama, GLEN BROWDER, for their leadership on this issue, and I join others in the blue dog coalition, the Congressional Black Caucus, other Members of Congress, and the majority of Americans in condemning these acts of violence. Whether these are crimes of hate or random incidents of vandalism and arson, this is a disturbing pattern of violence in America that must receive our serious attention.

The issue is not merely the physical damage resulting from these fires. I am confident that the congregations of Greenville's New Light House of Prayer and the Church of the Living God will unit to repair their churches and will be joined in that effort by the Greenville community at large. The issue is that these fires represent an act of violence that must not be tolerated in a free and civil society. When we read about church burnings or awaken one morning to discover that a suspicious fire has damaged a church in our own community, we are reminded that reli-

gious freedom is the solid rock upon which our great Nation was founded and which must be preserved and protected.

#### REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON H. CON. RES. 178, CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET, FISCAL YEAR 1997

Ms GREENE of Utah, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 104-615) on the resolution (H. Res. 450) waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 178) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 1997 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

#### REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3603, AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

Ms. GREENE of Utah, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 104-616) on the resolution (H. Res. 451) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3603) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

#### IMPACT OF REPUBLICAN CUTS ON MEDICARE AND MEDICAID

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy on May 12, 1995, the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. PALLONE] is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on previous occasions during these special orders I have talked about the impact of the Republican cuts in Medicare and the fact that the Republican leadership proposals on Medicare would cut the Medicare Program so much that most of the money, or a good percentage of the money that would be cut, would be used for tax breaks for wealthy Americans and also that the changes in the Medicare Program that have been proposed by the Republican leadership would negatively impact the Medicare Program by essentially depriving many senior citizens of their choice of doctor, pushing them into managed care programs; if they did not go into managed care of HMO programs, they would actually experience rather large