

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow is United Nations Day. As we reflect on the value of global partnerships to solve problems, I want to recognize the 40th anniversary of the international global health organization known as PATH, Program for Appropriate Technology and Health.

PATH is headquartered in Seattle, and since its founding, it has been an incredible force for good. It is a place that I had the opportunity to work at for many years in the 1990s.

PATH works in more than 70 countries, improving health for 150 million people each year. PATH has made a difference in countless lives, from stopping preventable deaths of mothers and children to keeping people safe from infectious disease outbreaks.

PATH has also helped make Washington State a global center of development for lifesaving health equity, innovations, and solutions. In 2013 alone, this global health industry generated \$5.8 billion in direct economic impact and employed more than 12,500 people.

PATH collaborates with governments, the private sector, and NGOs to advance more than 100 health strategies and technologies. It has saved \$14 million per year doing things like preventing undamaged vaccines from being discarded.

Congratulations to PATH.

□ 1930

TAX REFORM

(Mr. COHEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, this House and its committees will discuss what is being called tax reform, what is being told to the American public is a middle class tax break.

Well, I am here to tell you it is a con job. It is a tax giveaway to the wealthiest people in this country like never before at the expense of people in the middle class, lesser incomes, who will not get benefits, and if they do, it is chump change. It is the change you give somebody at a restaurant when you get your meal.

Billionaires will get to get away without having to pay an estate tax, like Donald Trump—billions of dollars they will not have to pay to the government to help fund Pell grants, LIHEAP, and other programs that help people who need something. That is something they will not come off of.

They may raise a little rate and say: We are going to put a little higher rate on the wealthy because it is not in there now.

They may say: Give the State and local income tax exemptions back.

But they are not going to go back on the estate tax because that is for the superwealthy, and that is who this bill is for.

Wake up America. It is a con job.

CIVIL RIGHTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MAST). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. VEASEY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to co-anchor this CBC Special Order hour. Also, I want to acknowledge the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, Mr. CEDRIC RICHMOND, from the State of Louisiana, and other Members who are here to participate. For the next 60 minutes, we have a chance to speak directly to the American people on issues of great importance to the Congressional Black Caucus, the constituents that we all represent in our various districts.

For this particular Special Order hour, I am going to open it up and begin to talk about something that is very important and has been widely discussed within the Congressional Black Caucus, and that is civil rights and some of the things that we are worried about that are going on within the Justice Department.

We have several important Members here to speak on these. Before I go any further, I want to go ahead and recognize them. The first speaker we have is from the State of South Carolina, representing that State's Sixth Congressional District, and also our caucus' assistant leader. That is Mr. JIM CLYBURN.

I thank Representative CLYBURN for joining and being a part of this Special Order hour to talk about this subject matter that is very important to so many members of the Black Caucus.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN).

(Mr. CLYBURN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding to me.

I also thank him and our colleague, Congresswoman EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON, for joining me at the Center for African American Studies at the University of Texas at Arlington last Thursday evening. It was a wonderful experience for me. President Vistasp Karbhari, Dr. Jason Skelton, and my longtime friend, Dr. Marvin Delaney, were perfect hosts.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, Sergeant La David T. Johnson died a hero's death in a distant land on a mission few Americans know about or understand. This weekend, his grieving

family, including his pregnant wife, took him to his final resting place in Florida. Sergeant Johnson's tragic death leaves this young family fatherless.

Mr. Speaker, in his second inaugural address, President Abraham Lincoln called on our Nation to endeavor to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan.

Unfortunately, rather than comfort Sergeant Johnson's grieving family, the current occupant of the White House has chosen to use them as his latest prop in his constant effort to sow discord and division in this country.

The President and White House Chief of Staff John Kelly, who happens to be a four-star general, have insulted and smeared an honorable public servant who happens to be a five-star Congresswoman, and, in effect, called her and her grieving widow constituent liars.

Congresswoman FREDERICA S. WILSON has been a champion for the people of south Florida for decades. It is no mystery—and it was not political—that she was accompanying Mrs. Johnson and her family to receive her husband's remains. She had mentored Sergeant Johnson throughout his childhood.

I have participated in several of Congresswoman WILSON's 500 Role Models events and have spoken for one of their graduations. I also wear this red tie to this floor helping her highlight their efforts. Her passionate work on behalf of those kidnapped girls of Boko Haram is unmatched.

As the husband of a five-star African-American woman for more than 56 years and the father of three African-American daughters who are working hard to earn their stars every day, I feel compelled to respond to General Kelly and completely disregard his concocted misrepresentations.

Mr. Speaker, we can have political differences here in Washington. That comes with the territory. But people need to have the common decency and basic humanity to refrain from exacerbating the pain of those already suffering so much. I was taught from childhood that silence gives consent. I want the White House to know this: I and the members of the Congressional Black Caucus will not be silent, and we will not be silenced.

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN) very much for his timely and very serious comments. I hope that all of the Members who are here on both sides of the aisle realize the seriousness of the comments. There is nothing humorous about them all, nothing to be smiling or laughing about. It is very timely in light of the unfortunate incident that happened with our colleague. I thank the gentleman very much for bringing that to light.

Mr. Speaker, I now yield to my fellow Texan from the 18th Congressional District in Houston. I thank very much

Representative SHEILA JACKSON LEE for joining us this evening. We look forward to the gentlewoman's words.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the manager, Mr. VEASEY, for his leadership, his sensitivities, his sensibilities, and his empathy, knowing his distinguished wife and the leadership she gives to the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation. I am sure that there are many women in the gentleman's family, and I know that he has a great honor and respect for them.

It is appropriate to follow the leader, Mr. CLYBURN, who is vested in the storied history of African Americans from the East to the West, North to the South. He often diminishes his status by saying that he was raised in a parish house, but when he eloquently rises to the floor to defend, all eyes and all ears are tuned to him.

Now, I want to adhere to our discussion today because it is extremely important, and to also acknowledge my colleagues. So let me hurry through my comments. I do want to acknowledge the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, CEDRIC RICHMOND. I thank the women of the caucus for their eloquent and pointed statement regarding the series of events that has occurred.

Let me, first of all, say that our topic today deals with a retracing of the horrible history that was perpetrated under FBI Director Hoover for the decades that he served in that capacity. So as I label what it is, let me just for a moment deviate to what happened this weekend. I believe that the FBI personnel, through much of its history, were mostly men—fine men—who wanted to protect this Nation. But you see, Mr. Speaker, I have firsthand knowledge of the devastation of FBI surveillance way before the word "terrorism" became part of our normal discussion or language.

So I want to put a pause there and say that in the history of African Americans, we have been subjected to name-calling. That is what happens to you when, in the Constitution, you are not a complete human being. That is what happens to you even after the Emancipation Proclamation and the short-lived Reconstruction, the Nation rushed toward the hanging fruit, Jim Crowism, and the rampant murder of African Americans in the Deep South, some of the very States in which the President stood and called young African-American men sons of Bs.

There is another name-calling. So it seems that even as we have gone through the transition of freedom and we came through the 20th century with civil rights, and then affirmative action, that name-calling seems to be the welcomed and accepted tactic to use with people of color and, in this instance, African Americans.

What would be the explanation for the unseemly events that occurred around a grieving mother, aunt, uncle, and a grieving widow with beautiful children who no longer have their dad?

I offer my sympathy to Sergeants Wright, Black, La David Johnson, and Jeremiah Johnson.

So how their loss, through no fault of their own, in the battle for this Nation turned into an ugly name-calling, I am baffled, except for the fact that it is easy to call African Americans names. It is easy for some White Americans to call African Americans names.

When we are on the floor of the House and we say things that are untoward in some segments of the population, our phones ring off the hook with the N word, N word, N word. I don't know how many of my friends who are not people of color—I am sure we all say things that people disagree with, and I don't know whether they call up and call them White, White, White.

You see, race is something that we are fearful of discussing, and that is because the thought would be: Here she goes again.

But there is a great love—my interaction, my life's history is with the diversity of this world, from White Caucasians, Anglos in Texas, to Hispanics, African Americans, Asians, and beyond in various religious. I feel comfortable in my soul.

But this weekend was the most difficult time for African-American women who are—in the category of casting, the caste system—at the bottom of the totem pole. Even today, the likes of Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, Mae Jemison, Shirley Chisholm, Barbara Jordan, doctors, lawyers, and others, we are at the bottom.

So there was much latitude—uncontrolled latitude—in name-calling. Forty-five mentioning untoward words about our colleague, Congresswoman WILSON: name-calling. Nobody—there is no retribution or reprimand. None of his constituents would give a hoot. But it was name-calling.

Mr. Speaker, you don't know how many people stop me in airports, along the road, hurt and appalled. Let me just come to a close on that.

First of all, Congressman CLYBURN has already given the attributes of Congresswoman WILSON. I do want to add that she is a principal. She is an old-fashioned principal, though she is a young woman.

□ 1945

She loved her students. She implemented the 5000 Role Models. She took the children as family, and Sergeant David Johnson was one of those. So if people don't understand the cultural distinctions in the African-American community, we are aunts and uncles without bloodline. We are Godparents. We are family.

Her presence in that car was not as an interloper. She didn't break the door down. She was in there as family. She was not eavesdropping. The phone was on. As indicated by Mrs. Johnson's interview, she asked the phone to be put on speaker.

It seems that her offense in breaking down moved the Representative to ar-

ticulate, probably seeking some humanity, to say: Can you just, if you hear my words, apologize?

That never happened. The untruth spread all over. You see, as an African-American woman, you don't have to worry about saying the truth about us. We are various names—sons of Bs—and we have got all kinds of disturbing situations going on with names that we can be called. And that is what this White House did.

My dear friend, who I knew in the Southern Command, that is what happens when you are here for just a few years. He had great leadership and loss. I was here when that happened. And I don't want to spend a moment to diminish his status as a Gold Star parent. He has a right to mourn and to speak of his loss.

But then, when you are forced to step from that humble position over to an untruth, you can do it to a Black woman. They have no power. I can talk something that doesn't have any truth, because I have to defend—and this is said lovingly—a White man who happens to be in the Oval Office.

We don't count. We are the largest group of active, civic women in all kinds of organizations. If there is something being done—first of all, it is women overall, I love them all, but you will see the African-American woman—she is in there scrubbing, she is in there teaching, she is in there handling the religious institutions, she is standing by babies, and she is standing by young people.

She is a civil rights activist, she is a scientist, she is a doctor. She is president of various organizations. She is just in there.

That is what happened that has brought me to this point that what we have now is so dangerous. I hope before the end of the week—maybe before the end of tomorrow—my good friend, General Kelly, seeks to apologize for the distortion. He didn't have to defend a person who does it in his own way and besmirch all of the Gold Star families and this young mother who has not been able to see her son.

Mr. Speaker, I know there are many of us who served in this Congress who have seen their brethren fall. They have been injured. What is it like for their family not to be able to see the body? What is it like to know that the person's body was not found for 48 hours?

I am going to get to an end for my colleagues. I just want to say this. There are those of us who know about the African Command. There are those of us who know the soldiers there. The Congressional Black Caucus was instrumental when George Bush said that an African Command needs to stand up when Charles Taylor was killing his citizens in Liberia.

I know it firsthand. I have been to all those countries. I know ISIL was connected with Boko Haram. We have been trying to say it, but people have deaf ears, maybe because it is Africa.

Now, all of a sudden we are awake. Congresswoman WILSON knew that. She has been there. We have been there. Why don't people listen to Black women who know what they are talking about, along with our distinguished colleagues?

This document that I hold in my hand, "Black Identity Extremists Likely Motivated to Target Law Enforcement Officers," I have a lot to say on, but I am going to summarize.

As a member of the Judiciary Committee, this is name-calling. We just got through a reckless weekend of name-calling of a distinguished Member of Congress.

This is name-calling. This is the FBI defining BIEs as individuals who seek, through unlawful acts of force or violence, a response to perceived racism and injustice.

But do you know what will happen, Mr. Speaker? This will be a big fishnet: the high school student who is getting his fists up; the college student who is rallying around in opposition to racism; the students down in Charlottesville who may believe they should stand up and be counted.

I know this, Mr. Speaker, because, with a little bit of humor, I am young, going backwards, but I served on the Select Committee on Assassinations that investigated the assassination of Martin Luther King—the reopening of the investigation—along with John F. Kennedy.

I was immersed in the files of COINTELPRO. I saw how the FBI dogged a modern-day prophet, a man who only wanted peace and believed in the beloved community. Yes, he was human. When you dog someone, you can find them throwing gum on a sidewalk.

Dr. Martin Luther King was subjected to the COINTEL program. It was dastardly and devastating, and may have been the basis of the loss of his life. If he was subjected to the COINTEL program, we always wondered why he couldn't have been in another hotel.

So the danger of this document that has come under Donald Trump and not under any other President—not Bill Clinton, not George Bush, not President Obama—as I understand it, but it came in August of this year, under President Trump, the same President who could find nothing distinctive between the alt-right and racist vileness talking about Jews and Blacks and everybody else in Charlottesville. There were good people on both sides.

Now we have this document. Lo and behold, what other names of Black activists and African Americans still fighting the war of civil rights peacefully may be caught up in this large net?

Again, I want to be able to say my respect for the service of FBI agents. They are friends of mine. I am on the Judiciary Committee. They are friends to all of us. We continue to salute their service. But this document is a riotous document.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I include in the RECORD: "The History of Surveillance and the Black Community." It goes into the discussion.

[From the Electronic Frontier Foundation, February 13, 2014]

THE HISTORY OF SURVEILLANCE AND THE BLACK COMMUNITY
(By Dia Kayyali)

February is Black History Month and that history is intimately linked with surveillance by the federal government in the name of "national security." Indeed, the history of surveillance in the African-American community plays an important role in the debate around spying today and in the calls for a congressional investigation into that surveillance. Days after the first NSA leaks emerged last June, EFF called for a new Church Committee. We mentioned that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was one of the targets of the very surveillance that eventually led to the formation of the first Church Committee. This Black History Month, we should remember the many African-American activists who were targeted by intelligence agencies. Their stories serve as cautionary tales for the expanding surveillance state.

The latest revelations about surveillance are only the most recent in a string of periodic public debates around domestic spying perpetrated by the NSA, FBI, and CIA. This spying has often targeted politically unpopular groups or vulnerable communities, including anarchists, anti-war activists, communists, and civil rights leaders.

60s. COINTELPRO, short for Counter Intelligence Program, was started in 1956 by the FBI and continued until 1971. The program was a systemic attempt to infiltrate, spy on, and disrupt activists in the name of "national security." While it initially focused on the Communist Party, in the 1960s its focus expanded to include a wide swathe of activists, with a strong focus on the Black Panther Party and civil rights leaders such as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

FBI papers show that in 1962 "the FBI started and rapidly continued to gravitate toward Dr. King." This was ostensibly because the FBI believed black organizing was being influenced by communism. In 1963 FBI Assistant Director William Sullivan recommended "increased coverage of communist influence on the Negro." However, the FBI's goal in targeting Dr. King was clear: to find "avenues of approach aimed at neutralizing King as an effective Negro leader," because the FBI was concerned that he might become a "messiah."

The FBI subjected Dr. King to a variety of tactics, including bugging his hotel rooms, photographic surveillance, and physical observation of King's movements by FBI agents. The FBI's actions went beyond spying on Dr. King, however. Using information gained from that surveillance, the FBI sent him anonymous letters attempting to "blackmail him into suicide." The agency also attempted to break up his marriage by sending selectively edited "personal moments he shared with friends and women" to his wife.

The FBI also specifically targeted the Black Panther Party with the intention of destroying it. They infiltrated the Party with informants and subjected members to repeated interviews. Agents sent anonymous letters encouraging violence between street gangs and the Panthers in various cities, which resulted in "the killings of four BPP members and numerous beatings and shootings," as well as letters sowing internal dissension in the Panther Party. The agency also worked with police departments to Department that aided in a raid on BPP leader

Fred Hampton's apartment. The raid ended with the Chicago Police shooting Hampton dead.

The FBI was not alone in targeting civil rights leaders. The NSA also engaged in domestic spying that included Dr. King. In an eerily prescient statement, Senator Walter Mondale said he was concerned that the NSA "could be used by President 'A' in the future to spy upon the American people, to chill and interrupt political dissent."

The Church Committee was created in response to these and other public scandals, and was charged with getting to the bottom of the government's surveillance overreach. In response to its findings, Congress passed new laws to provide privacy safeguards, including the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. But ever since these safeguards were put in place, the intelligence community has tried to weaken or operate around them. The NSA revelations show the urgent need to reform the laws governing surveillance and to rein in the intelligence community.

Today we're responding to those domestic surveillance abuses by an unrestrained intelligence branch. The overreach we've seen in the past underscores the need for reform. Especially during Black History Month, let's not forget the speech-stifling history of US government spying that has targeted communities of color.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. It says: "We mentioned that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was one of the targets of the very surveillance that eventually led to the formation of the first Church Committee. This Black History Month, we should remember the many African-American activists who were targeted by intelligence agencies. Their stories serve as cautionary tales for the expanding surveillance state."

Where are the conservatives to stand up against this document? We can be safe, we can have the First Amendment, and we speak our different issues, but now we are going to entrap African Americans—young men who are kneeling because of their concern for police reform and violence that has taken the lives of African-American young men.

There are so many law enforcement officers who agree with me on the idea of police reform to help all of us work together. We are not divided, but we will stay divided with a document that is going to label us.

Where is the document for the alt-right, the religious right, the White supremacists? Where is that?

When are we going to understand that the calling of names—in our community, we call it calling me out of my name—by the majority community is a carryover from slavery and Jim Crow.

I am saddened by the last couple of days of steering away from the mourning of those wonderful heroes who reflected the greatness of America. They reflected what young men and women do who are willing to sacrifice their lives. They go without a recognition of what color their fellow soldier is. We honor them with no distinction.

That is what the last couple of days should have been about, as well as the loving care of that widow and the families of the other young men. Yet, in the

spirit of the FBI COINTEL program, that may be the downfall, again, of those of us trying to heal and not reflecting on how the best way to deal with those who would do us harm violently, of which I stand against, we are now in the midst of name-calling.

I go to my seat mourning. When is America going to change?

On August 3, 2017, the FBI released their new "Intelligence Assessment" report entitled: Black Identity Extremists (BIE) Likely Motivated to Target Law Enforcement Officers".

The FBI defines BIE as individuals who seek, through unlawful acts of force or violence, a response to "perceived" racism and injustice in American society.

The FBI also indicates, there is a desire for black physical or psychological separation based on religious or political beliefs grounded in racial superiority or supremacy.

Blacks fought for America long before it was a country, pre-revolutionary period, where during the first 100 years of conflict we stepped up; and will continue, for equality and justice.

Blacks led civil rights movement winning double victories in both World War II and the Jim Crow era, forcing our then President Truman, to announced that "there are no justifiable reasons for discrimination because of one's ancestry, or religion, or race, or color of his skin."

Today, Trump's FBI believes that the African American community's reality is a mere perception as it relates to the racism and injustice that plague our communities. Why?

The FBI has consistently relied upon a flawed system to determine the number of people killed by officers. This flawed system is shaped by "voluntary law enforcement compliance"—in other words, police departments need not report this stat.

"The Counted" launched by the Guardian, is a public-service project tallying deaths of unarmed persons by law enforcement. They reached a tally of 1,068 at the start of 2015.

Former FBI Director Comey said, this was embarrassing and unacceptable that a Guardian U.S. investigative unit had a better tally than his agency's near 35,000 employees.

There is no reliable mechanism to accurately depict the true dimensions of an epidemic of lethal violence, force, and shootings committed by police across this country on unarmed civilians.

The reality is Sandra Bland died while in the custody of law enforcement; Michael Brown was gunned down in the street by law enforcement; Eric Garner died from a chokehold at the hands of law enforcement; Freddie Gray died while being transported in the custody of law enforcement; Tamir Rice was shot dead by a law enforcement officer previously deemed an emotionally unstable recruit and unfit for duty; and Laquan McDonald shot in the back and killed by law enforcement officers.

These are just a few of the innocent lives robbed and thus, gone too soon. These are the realities not perceptions that young activists in their own modern ways represent, whether it's marching, protesting with passion, or even taking a knee.

They are protesting unapologetically with great passion and hunger for justice, but nonetheless, peacefully.

They are not killing others who do not agree with them; nor are they inflicting violence due to religion, nationality and race.

Therefore, it is highly insensitive, offensive and blatantly discriminative and unconstitutional to mount a counter intelligence program, now COINTELPRO 2.0, to once again, aggressively target a race that merely seeks justice and equality it is entitled under our Constitution.

According to sources close to the FBI, the term "Black Identity Extremists" did not exist before the Trump administration. The FBI named BIE, a major threat to national security and public safety, thereby, criminalizing black activism.

The newly coined term, black identity extremists (BIE) is such a vague terminology that it invites alarming abuse of a specific race's constitutional rights based solely on an Administration's disturbed and visceral approach to race relations.

Under FBI Director Edgar Hoover's leadership, the Counter Intelligence Program (COINTELPRO), a covert, often illegal, campaign was mounted to break up the civil rights movement and "neutralize" activists they perceived as threatening.

COINTELPRO was used to surveil and discredit civil rights activists, members of the Black Panther Party and any major advocates for the rights of black people in our nation's history.

COINTELPRO allowed the FBI to falsify letters in an effort to blackmail Martin Luther King Jr. into silence.

This was such a disgraceful period in our nation's history that our recent FBI Director, James Comey, kept a copy of a 1963 order authorizing Hoover to conduct round-the-clock surveillance of Martin Luther King Jr. on his desk as a reminder of Hoover's abuses.

The FBI's dedicated surveillance of black activists follows a long history of the U.S. government aggressively monitoring protest movements and working to disrupt civil rights groups, but the scrutiny of African Americans by a domestic terrorism unit was particularly alarming to some free speech campaigners.

This administration continues the same vile tactics used in well-documented stories of civil rights leaders who were profiled, targeted and killed for insisting that black people receive equitable treatment under the law in a country whose Constitution guarantees it.

Today the FBI continues its once intrusive, abhorrent and illegal targeting of black activists by labeling the Black Lives Matter movement as BIE.

We know that the Department of Homeland Security has been surveilling Black Lives Matter activists since 2014, but there's no way to know what's next.

With this recent report, the FBI has legitimized the idea that black activism is a threat and should be treated accordingly, with violent force.

Despite Charlottesville and all the other harms inflicted by emboldened white nationalists, the FBI has instead, chosen to target a group of American citizens whom merely decry the injustice seen and felt throughout their communities.

Despite numerous unarmed black individuals, particularly, young black men that are disproportionately the victims of police shootings, the FBI would like us to believe this is not a reality.

Instead, the FBI's report claims there is a danger in black activism by asserting that violence inflicted on black people at the hands of police is "perceived" or "alleged," not real.

This month the Congressional Black Caucus has written to the FBI Director, Christopher Wray, to express our concern over the recent "Intelligence Assessment" report.

We have requested a briefing on both the origins of its research and the FBI's next intended step based on its findings. No response as of date.

We should be allowed to exercise our constitutional and fundamental rights of free speech.

We should not be restricted and criminalized when we demand that those we elect to office exercise justice and fairness.

This FBI report will further inflame an already damaged police/community relation under the leadership of Attorney General Jeff Sessions.

Sessions has dismantled all the safeguards installed under Attorney General Holder's leadership, thus, returning our justice system to the broken system under Ashcroft.

Session has unleashed a merciless approach to "all" crimes including low level drug-related cases, and demands that his attorneys prosecute every case to the fullest extent of the law.

In doing so, Session has taken away any prosecutorial discretion once available to prosecutors throughout our justice system under U.S. law.

The FBI in this Trump Administration has returned to the era of Director Edgar Hoover, in their unleashing of this damaging, discriminative, and unconstitutional COINTELPRO 2.0.

With these lethal forms of attacks on the African American community from both the DOJ and the FBI, where is justice?

Mr. VEASEY. I thank my colleague from the 18th Congressional District for her comments.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE), my friend and classmate who represents the 10th Congressional District.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from the Lone Star State, my classmate, Congressman VEASEY, for hosting tonight's Special Order hour.

Mr. Speaker, it is unfortunate that we find ourselves in this position where the lines are being so blurred that Gold Star families have come into this political discussion and are being dragged into this, unwillingly, over the past several days.

I have great respect for General Kelly and was very delighted to see him get the job as Chief of Staff so that he could maybe bring some semblance of calm and normalcy to the White House, but it seems like he has been infected by the disease that is the scourge in the White House.

There is no reason for him to fabricate what one of our colleagues said. The videotape is there. She never did one thing that General Kelly said she did on that fateful day in the dedication to that FBI building.

I don't understand what is going on with people these days, but these are the times we find ourselves in.

Mr. Speaker, as much as we would like to live in a colorblind society, in an America where people should be judged by the content of their character and not the color of their skin,

we aren't there yet. Race, unfortunately, still matters.

Juries devalue Black lives by punishing offenders more harshly when their victims are White than when their victims are Black. Police are more likely to use force when interacting with Black people than when interacting with White people. Emergency room doctors are less likely to prescribe pain medication to Black patients than to Whites.

Results from psychological studies of racial bias have shown that nearly 90 percent of the White people in the United States who have taken the implicit-association test have an inherent racial preference for White people over Black people. Oh, yes, race matters in America, and we have got to talk about it.

It should not take a crisis for the United States to discuss race and the effects of stereotypes that are baked into our national cultural. We should not have to wait for a police officer to shoot an unarmed Black man before we discuss how negative stereotypes about Black people affect snap judgments.

□ 2000

It should not take mass murder in a Bible study to get us talking about how negative stereotypes of Black people in social media help White supremacists rationalize their racism.

Back in 1997, Professor Jody David Armour warned us that bad actors would try to make racism seem reasonable. Professor Armour wrote a book called "Negrophobia." In it, he predicted that "perhaps the gravest threat today to progress toward racial justice comes from the right-wing ideologues bent on convincing White people of good faith that negative stereotypes about Blacks are justified."

Professor Armour told us to look out for people trying "to prove that Blacks are inherently less intelligent and more violent than Whites." And he explained that these people would try to make racism seem rational by using discredited studies, unscientific experiments, and cooked statistics.

What have we seen on our social media over the past few years? We have seen that negrophobia is alive and well in the United States, and social media is its enabler.

People like the President have used social media to spread cooked statistics and outright lies to rationalize the racist stereotypes that Black people are inherently violent.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will suspend.

Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, countries like Russia have used social media to fuel racial tensions in America's communities, and White supremacists have used social media to organize their hate.

We must not be afraid to ask: What role has Facebook played in fueling negrophobia in America?

Facebook was born in an age of diversity, but it was not born with a commitment to diversity. Only 3 in every 100 Facebook employees are African American.

The company has no Black executives, and it has no Black board members. The company's global director of diversity has said that hiring women and people of color is complicated. Its chief executive officer, Sheryl Sandberg, has promised that Facebook would hire a Black board member sometime soon.

Why has it taken so long? Why have minority voices been left out of the essential media development? Has Facebook's failure to value minority voices inside the company made Facebook an online megaphone for racist voices outside the company?

Facebook's algorithms have the power to affect the way Americans think about Black people, for better or worse. When Facebook accepts money from foreign actors who want to exploit racial tensions in the United States, Facebook perpetuates negrophobia.

By the same token, Facebook's algorithms could weaken negrophobia by enhancing positive messages that challenge people to reexamine and resist discriminatory responses, but that will require Facebook to fully commit to diversity right now, not sometime in the future.

Mr. Speaker, the Congressional Black Caucus met with Facebook a week ago in terms of these negative ads that were found out to be bought by Russian actors and spending \$100,000 in doing so, and buying fake "Black Lives Matter" responses and ads and "anti-Black Lives Matter" ads to continue to fuel this division in our country.

If countries are able to see a weakness in our fabric in this Nation, then they will exploit it. We have to come together as Americans and understand that our issues are something that we have to deal with and look each other in the face and have an honest discussion about.

No one is perfect. No one is saying that one side is worse than the other, but we need to come together as a unit, as this great experiment called the United States was meant to be, that all men are created equal and endowed with certain inalienable rights—all Americans, not just some—and we continue to strive towards that goal, towards that utopia in this country.

This is the greatest country in the world, and we all know it here because we benefit from it, but we have a long way to go in terms of reaching the ultimate goal.

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman from Newark, New Jersey, for his comments, and also to talk about the fact that I am glad that he mentioned Facebook, because one of the things that really surprised me was the fact that some of those ads were purchased in rubles, and no one seemed to notice that, seems

absolutely amazing to me. And we need to, again, just continue to have this discussion and talk about these things, so I thank the gentleman very much for his comments tonight.

I yield to my friend and colleague from the great State of Michigan, representing the State's 14th Congressional District, BRENDA LAWRENCE. Again, I want to thank BRENDA for participating. She participates often in this hour, and I just really appreciate her comments. Her district appreciates the comments, her State, and our country, and I appreciate her joining us this evening.

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Congressman VEASEY for his leadership and for his dedication.

Today, I am at this mike for a number of reasons. One is that we have witnessed, over the weekend, another time in history that will be written for many to read, for generations to try to understand what exactly happened.

Most of us are raised that, in a time of grieving and mourning, you are sympathetic, you are patient, and, most of all, you try to be understanding.

I am at a loss in trying to understand how the dialogue was reduced to name-calling and then just unfactual information. But what I had hoped and what I feel that, as an American, as a Member of Congress, as a citizen, if someone gets it wrong, that at least I deserve, "I'm sorry, I didn't get the information right," or maybe "I spoke out of turn." And when you are grieving the loss of someone you love dearly, someone who was serving this country, someone who, as the family of a military service person, gave the sacrifice as well for them to represent our country.

I would hope—I was hopeful that that would happen, but it did not. There comes a point in time, Mr. Speaker, as American citizens, that we begin to stand up and say, as our country, there is an expectation. There is an expectation for those we elect, there is an expectation for those in leadership, and truly, there is an expectation of civility and, at minimum, truth.

As we know, the FBI has had a long, troubling history of using its broad investigatory powers to target Black citizens. It is not a myth. It is a fact. It has been written. During the 1960s, Director Hoover used the counterintelligence program to surveil and discredit civil rights activists, members of the Black Panther Party.

For an example, the FBI falsified a letter in an attempt to blackmail the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King into silence.

So the Congressional Black Caucus is concerned by the assertion that coins a new term, "Black identity extremists," and claims, with high confidence, that they are likely to target law enforcement based on perceptions of police brutality against African Americans.

In August, the FBI Counterterrorism Division issued a chilling and outlandish warning to its agents, all hidden behind the veil of an internal report never meant to be seen by the American people. It worries me because, in 2017, such a misguided and hateful and dangerous report exists at all.

Released just 9 days before the hateful violence in Charlottesville, this report targets so-called Black identity extremists by falsely linking peaceful and necessary calls for justice from Americans, from the African-American community, to entirely unrelated acts of violence against law enforcement.

Mr. Speaker, I served as a mayor of a diverse city for 14 years and had the responsibility of an entire police force for a city. I have such respect and honor for those who serve us.

I understand how, when there is trouble, the police run to that trouble to protect us, but I also know that the power that is held on the shield of a police force can be used for other than protection of their people. And that in this great country that we live in, time and time again in history, some people will use the comment: Don't be so sensitive about everything that happened. But history has shown us, every change that we have made in this country of freedoms and rights have come from people who had the courage, the political courage, to stand up and fight for that. Is that extremism?

Will you say the right to vote were Black extremists? Would you say that the women who protest and march so that women could have the right to vote, were they extremists? Or were they Americans who believed in this country and had the courage to stand up not just for them but for generations to come?

Our Social Security, when we looked at—and we looked at hunger in this country, and people repeatedly have shown, of all ethnic groups, that nothing in America happens without protests and the courage to stand up. Are they extremists, or they part of this amazing democracy that we have?

And the threat of being labeled by our FBI so you have permission to now treat these individuals, who have the courage to stand up, as unlawful villains and terrorists, and you have the permission now by the FBI to attack and to imprison them.

We must, as a Congress and a country, learn to understand the power of our words, and I am going to close with this.

Your words mean something. If this administration has taught us anything, the words of those who are elected to leadership do matter, whether it is the truth or whether it is a lie. It matters.

It fuels anger and hatred in people. It tells people that it is okay to disrespect others. Words mean something. And for me to be a Black woman in America and be labeled, if I stand up and fight for my rights, if I stand with others, if Black Lives Matter has not

just been Black people standing up—it has been all members of the United States, citizens saying that all lives matter and that we will not tolerate criminal injustice against Black people and the murder rate that we see of those who are of color.

□ 2015

This has been a movement in our country, and now we see this internal labeling by our law enforcement in our country. Does that cause me to feel afraid in my own country? Does that give me the fear that history is going to repeat itself because words have given permission for this to happen when you legitimize people whose only purpose to stand and be in a position in your community is to say that you have no value less than me and we hate you?

But do you know what? There are some very fine people there. Being a Black person in America, I can tell you, we have had some fine days. I would not be standing here, this little Black girl from Detroit, if this country did not give me the opportunities. But it came from the protests; it came in the death and the riots of the people in my generation before me who would not sit down and be quiet.

So now are we being told that we are not to use our constitutional rights of free speech and protests and to gather to say that now you are being an extremist? I am not going to allow that to happen in this country, and if you want to label me, label me. But I would not be here today if it were not for those who had the political courage to stand up for what is right, not just for Black people, but for Americans in this country. And that is something that this report strikes a chord with me.

I stand in opposition. I understand when someone takes their freedom to stand up and oppose something that is happening in America, and I want to protect that First Amendment right. But if we can avoid the consequences of halfway speech fueled by fear and false perceptions, we will be stronger as a country.

Mr. Speaker, I call on Congress to join me and my colleagues in condemning this report and standing with us for a more peaceful, a more accepting, and a more equal country where we can really mean, when we stand up and we say the Pledge of Allegiance and we say, "one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all," and for all of us we have a name.

We have a name that we were given at birth, and we expect our leadership, our President, our Congress, our Chief of Staff, our military to address us by our names. It is not acceptable, it is embarrassing for us as a country, to reduce ourselves to that level. And I stand here tonight, on the RECORD, that I am an American. I am a Member of Congress. I am a woman. I am an African American. I deserve respect, and I expect all of our colleagues to conduct themselves the same way, including the President of the United States.

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mrs. LAWRENCE for her comments, which are very timely in light of everything that is happening right now.

Mr. Speaker, before I close out, the one thing that I would like to make note of is that I think, with this COINTELPRO 2.0 that is going on right now, we should take this very seriously. And I just want to remind everybody that may be out here listening right now, we talk a lot about extremist groups. We talk a lot about alt-right and KKK and White supremacist groups, but one thing that we have to keep in mind is that, in the 1960s, when Dr. Martin Luther King came to town, he was not treated like he is now.

I hear so many people—conservatives, liberals, Democrats, and Republicans—talk about how much they admire and respect Dr. King, and rightfully so, because he earned the respect and the admiration that he has now, posthumously, in this country. I don't think that anyone would argue that. But if we could travel back in time to the 1960s, we will find that he was not that welcomed.

And let's just put aside the White supremacists. Let's put aside the alt-right. Let's put aside these hateful forces that, again, all of us agree on are bad people. But remember, when Dr. King came to some of these Southern towns in the 1960s, he was not welcomed. He was not welcomed by people at the Lions Club, people at the Elks Club, people at the First Baptist Church, people at the Methodist Church. People thought that Dr. King was bad, that he was stirring up trouble, that he was not "keeping his place," and that he had come into these communities to stir up a lot of trouble.

And because regular, everyday people—again, not the Klan, not the White supremacists, just regular, everyday, tax-paying shopkeepers in these little Southern towns—these conservative individuals who represented all segments of our society thought that Dr. King was out of place for doing what he was doing, because of that, the Nation reacted. And one of those people who reacted against Dr. King, against Malcolm X, and against other organizations like the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, SNCC, which was the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, and many, many others, they ran the domestic counterintelligence program that you have heard about tonight, this COINTELPRO, and it became a weapon that was used to spy on individuals.

We heard mentioned earlier that our colleague, BARBARA LEE, was one of these people who was monitored. But this was happening to everyday African Americans who were just out there trying to make sure that we can vote and that our water fountains and our schools weren't segregated. And these regular town folk—again, the ones that weren't in the Klan, that were just good old folks that went to Sunday

school and went to church every Sunday—were trying to prevent this from happening, and J. Edgar Hoover stepped in and decided that he was going to discredit, disrupt, and neutralize these organizations, again, that were just trying to make sure that African Americans were no longer second-class citizens.

I think these groups and these organizations and these individuals that I mentioned earlier within the Black community that were willing to be part of that circle, I know that I would not be here serving had it not been for that surveillance that they endured, and I know that I would not be here today were it not for them putting their lives on the line, quite frankly, Mr. Speaker, because of that.

So what I would just like to say is it is important that we monitor everything that is coming out of the Justice Department in relation to any announcements that they are going to make about investigating these organizations that they disagree with politically because it is dangerous, and we don't want to go back to those times. We don't want to end up in a situation where the organization is doing any sort of domestic spying on people who are practicing their First Amendment rights of free speech.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to inquire how much time is remaining on the clock.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas has 7 minutes remaining.

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, let me also, again, talk about, very briefly, some of the things that people are concerned about in regards to civil liberties during the Cold War. That is when the FBI started running a lot of these counterintelligence programs, and Dr. King was always very high on the list. That is what people are concerned about. Their concerns are concerns that are very warranted because of what happened.

I know that people always say: Well, those things happened a long, long time ago. But, in reality, there are people who serve with us in this body who, sadly, remember those days. So it didn't happen that long ago because they are still here, and they are still active, very healthy members of society. They weren't Members of Congress back then, but they are now, and they saw this up front. They saw this in a very personal way, and that is important.

Also, one of the things that was mentioned earlier by Representative PAYNE from Newark, New Jersey, was the fact about social media. Social media has been very convenient. It has helped spawn new wealth in this country. It has brought us together like never before, but it can also tear us apart if we let it.

We have to be very serious when we have a foreign entity, a foreign country that doesn't like America, that doesn't like our values, and they have been

very open and blatant in saying that you can't have a multicultural society that exists. We need to take that threat very seriously.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) so she can tell her story, and I thank her for joining us this evening.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman VEASEY for yielding, but also for his remarkable leadership here in Congress and for hosting this very important Special Order this evening.

Mr. Speaker, I rise, along with my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus, with a message for the American people: Wake up. COINTELPRO 2.0 is on the rise.

Mr. Speaker, now, in a report that was never supposed to see the light of day, the FBI's Counterterrorism Division branded African Americans in the fight for equality and justice as Black identity extremists that pose a domestic threat to police officers.

Now, I have witnessed many covert tactics designed to suppress African-American activism in my life, but the revelation of this report is one of the most troubling details I have ever learned about our government.

I remember very clearly the days of COINTELPRO under J. Edgar Hoover. As a community worker who worked closely with the Black Panther Party in their Ten-Point Platform, which made programs like Free Breakfast for Children possible and paved the way for our government's free breakfast program for low-income children, I witnessed firsthand how the lives of good people doing good work were destroyed by COINTELPRO.

Seeing the emergence of what is effectively COINTELPRO 2.0 is not only alarming, it is frightening. Just listen to how the FBI describes young women who take a stand for justice.

According to the FBI: "Black identity extremist, BIE, perceptions of police brutality against African Americans" has been responsible for "an increase in premeditated, retaliatory lethal violence against law enforcement and will very likely serve as justification for such violence in the future."

My God.

□ 2030

Mr. Speaker, we know that all police officers aren't bad actors. Actually, thousands of officers, the majority of officers, go to work every morning to protect our communities and to provide public safety for everyone, but I want to be very clear about two things, Mr. Speaker.

Police brutality is not, as they said in this FBI report, a perception. Police brutality is a reality African Americans grapple with every day.

African Americans are three times more likely to be killed by police than White people. That is a reality. That is not a perception. The facts speak for themselves.

Despite being only 13 percent of our population, nearly 25 percent of those

killed by police in the United States each year are African Americans. That is a reality. That is not a perception.

Nearly 99 percent of police-involved shootings have not resulted in any officers involved being convicted of a crime. Now, that is a reality, not a perception.

I also want to be very clear that Black identity extremism does not exist. It is simply not real. No academics or journalists have uncovered such a movement. No one has identified as a leader of such a movement. No act of hate or violence has been committed in the name of Black identity extremism.

So what is it, then? It is a twisted attempt by arbiters of the alt-right, including Attorney General Jeff Sessions and this administration, to deflect attention from the realities of police misconduct and the alt-right and White supremacy.

First let me thank Congressman VEASEY for his remarkable leadership in Congress and for hosting this vitally important Special Order hour.

Mr. Speaker I rise today along with my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus with a message for the American people.

Wake up! COINTELPRO 2.0 is on the rise.

Mr. Speaker, in a report that was never supposed to see the light of day, the FBI's Counterterrorism Division branded African Americans that fight for equality and justice as "Black Identity Extremists" that pose a domestic threat to police officers.

I have witnessed many covert tactics designed to suppress African American activism in my life, but the revelation of this report is one of the most troubling details I have ever learned about our government.

I remember clearly the days of COINTELPRO under J. Edgar Hoover.

As a community worker who worked closely with the Black Panther Party on their 10 point platform, which made programs like free breakfast for children possible, I witnessed firsthand how the lives of good people doing good work were destroyed by COINTELPRO.

So seeing the emergence of what is effectively COINTELPRO 2.0 is not only alarming it is frightening.

Just listen to how the FBI describes young men and women who take a stand for justice.

According to the FBI:

"Black Identity Extremist (BIE) perceptions of police brutality against African Americans" has been responsible for "an increase in premeditated, retaliatory lethal violence against law enforcement and will very likely serve as justification for such violence" in the future.

Mr. Speaker, we know that all police officers aren't bad actors. Thousands of officers go to work every morning to protect our communities.

But I want to be very clear about two things Mr. Speaker: Police brutality is not a perception. Police brutality is a reality African Americans grapple with every day.

African Americans are three times more likely to be killed by police than white people. That is a reality, not a perception.

Despite being only 13% of our population, nearly 25% of those killed by police in the U.S. each year are African Americans

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I also want to be very clear that Black Identity Extremism does not exist.

It is simply is not real.

No academics or journalists have uncovered such a movement.

No one has identified as a leader of such a movement.

And no act of hate or violence has been committed in the name of Black Identity Extremism.

So what is it then?

Black Identity Extremism is a twisted attempt by arbiters of the alt-right, including President Trump and Jeff Sessions to deflect attention from the realities of Police brutality and white supremacy.

That is why members of the Congressional Black Caucus are here this evening. To sound the alarm.

This is not just another revelation or press report that should be dismissed.

This kind of hateful stigmatization presents a serious threat to the African American community. This is not mere speculation, Mr. Speaker.

If we're honest about the history of our nation, we must admit that the FBI has a disturbing history of surveillance and intimidation of African Americans for political expediency.

I remember all too clearly the lives that were cut short during the civil rights movement through the highly coordinated counterintelligence program known as COINTELPRO.

For 15 years under the direction of FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, the federal government spied on civil rights leaders and sowed division among African Americans with one express goal.

To "expose, disrupt, misdirect, discredit, or otherwise neutralize" any individual or group deemed to be subversive or a threat to the established power structure.

Members of the Black Panther Party were the greatest victims of this vitriolic pursuit.

Under the guise of COINTELPRO FBI agents harassed, intimidated and committed acts of violence against Black Panthers and their supporters.

Men and women were killed as a result of this program. We simply cannot allow government sanctioned violence to develop against innocent African Americans fighting for the perfection of our union.

As the conscience of Congress, members of the Congressional Black Caucus are determined to stop COINTELPRO 2.0 dead in its tracks.

That is why we are demanding that the FBI give a full account to Congress on the development of this report and the sources used to inform it.

It has been said that those who do not know their history are doomed to repeat.

Well Mr. Speaker, we are here to give the American people and the Trump Administration a history lesson.

Clearly the FBI has not learned from its mistakes. But I want to be clear about one thing, under no circumstances will we allow another generation of African Americans to be subjected to unwarranted surveillance and harassment.

It will not happen, not on our watch.

I stand with our Chairman Congressman RICHMOND, Congressman CONYERS, Con-

gressman THOMPSON and Congressman CUMMINGS in demanding that the FBI come clean about this report.

Enough is enough.

Mr. VEASEY. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, in my role as a member of the House Committee on the Judiciary, I have always taken a serious view of my oversight of the Federal Bureau of Investigations. It is vitally important that we keep a close watch on the activities of law enforcement, especially regarding their operations in domestic intelligence gathering. In the wake of September 11th attacks, a time of crisis when civil liberties can be viewed as a luxury, it was important to ensure that all Americans could rely on the Constitution to both protect our rights and protect public safety.

As we all know, the FBI has a long, troubling history of using its broad investigatory powers to vulnerable or dissenting groups in our society. As a long-serving member, I was here in Congress when the reports of the FBI's surveillance activities against African-American groups involved in the struggle for civil rights first surfaced in the press.

Centralized operations under COINTELPRO officially began in August 1956 with a program designed to "increase factionalism, cause disruption and win defections" inside American Communist Party. Tactics included anonymous phone calls, IRS audits, and the creation of documents that would divide the American communist organization internally. An October 1956 memo from Hoover reclassified the FBI's ongoing surveillance of black leaders, including it within COINTELPRO, with the justification that the movement was infiltrated by communists.

In 1956, Hoover sent an open letter denouncing Dr. T.R.M. Howard, a civil rights leader, surgeon, and wealthy entrepreneur in Mississippi who had criticized FBI inaction in solving recent murders of George W. Lee, Emmett Till, and other black people in the South. When the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), was founded in 1957, the FBI began to monitor and target the group almost immediately, focusing particularly on Bayard Rustin, Stanley Levison, and, eventually, Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. During the 1960's Director J. Edgar Hoover also used COINTELPRO to spy on and attempt to discredit civil rights activists and members of the Black Panther Party.

After the 1963 March on Washington, Hoover singled out King as a major target for COINTELPRO. Soon after, the FBI was systematically bugging King's home and his hotel rooms, as they were now aware that King was growing in stature daily as the leader among leaders of the Civil Rights Movement. Amidst the urban unrest of July-August 1967, the FBI began "COINTELPRO—BLACK HATE",

which focused on King and the SCLC as well as the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), the Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM), the Deacons for Defense and Justice, Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), and the Nation of Islam. BLACK HATE established the so-called Ghetto Informant Program and instructed 23 FBI offices to "disrupt, misdirect, discredit, or otherwise neutralize the activities of black-nationalist hate type organizations."

The program was successfully kept secret until 1971, when the Citizens' Commission to Investigate the FBI burgled an FBI field office in Media, Pennsylvania, took several dossiers, and exposed the program by passing this material to news agencies. In 1976, the "Church Committee" (Sen. Frank Church-Idaho) launched a major investigation of the FBI and COINTELPRO. Journalists and historians speculate that the government has not fully released the many dossiers and documents related to the program.

Against this backdrop, the Congressional Black Caucus is justified in its concern about the FBI's investigation of African-American political organizations. The coining of the phrase "Black Identity Extremists" and claims with "high confidence" that these groups are likely to target law enforcement based on "perceptions of police brutality against African Americans" takes us back to claims about groups like the Black Panthers in the 1960's.

While it is important that the FBI monitor all threats domestic, its activities around the American Muslim community and efforts to "combat violent extremism" have raised questions about tactics and constitutional norms. The CBC has called for an FBI briefing on the origins on this research and the Bureau's intended next steps. I have supported this request in my role as Ranking Member on the Judiciary Committee and intend to keep a close eye on the Bureau's activities. This is not the time for a COINTELPRO 2.0 in America.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) published a report on August 3rd with findings that "black identity extremists" and their views on police brutality have very likely contributed to an uptick in premeditated violence against police officers. While many questions about the origins and intentions behind this report still remain unanswered, I cannot help but feel that this troubling assessment is reminiscent of the 1960's era Counter Intelligence Program (COINTELPRO) that targeted black activists during the Civil Rights Movement.

There are no doubts that the 2012 shooting of Treyvon Martin or the 2014 death of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri have paved the way for increased tension within our communities. The subsequent protests and rise of the Black Lives Matter movement born out of the 2013 acquittal of Treyvon Martin's murderer fueled further tension between law enforcement and racial minorities. However, these protests—while interspersed with bouts

of violence—have been largely peaceful at their core.

Interestingly, we have yet to also see a comparable FBI report investigating the white supremacists that have emerged during rallies in Charlottesville, VA and other parts of the country. This apparent double standard sets a dangerous precedent for race relations in the United States. The FBI's recent report is also extremely troubling given the rise and prominence of far-right movements throughout the country during this tense moment in our history.

Mr. Speaker, the Congressional Black Caucus has called for an FBI briefing on the origins of this report and the Bureau's intentions on next steps. I will join my colleagues in eagerly awaiting a response from the FBI, so that we can make sure that there is no impropriety or racial bias fueling this investigation. I am disappointed in the FBI's report and urge my colleagues to tread carefully as we look to avoid a repeat of history by using government institutions and resources to unfairly target racial minorities.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 32 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, October 24, 2017, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2872. A letter from the Acting Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Specialty Crops Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Pecans Grown in the States of Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Mississippi, North Carolina, New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Carolina, and Texas; Establishment of Assessment Rates [Doc. No.: AMS-SC-17-0027; SC17-986-1 FR] received October 6, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2873. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting an Executive Order amending Executive Order 13223, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1601 (H. Doc. No. 115—73); to the Committee on Armed Services and ordered to be printed.

2874. A letter from the Counsel, Legal Division, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, transmitting the Bureau's final rule — Equal Credit Opportunity Act (Regulation B) Ethnicity and Race Information Collection [Docket No.: CFPB-2017-0009] (RIN: 3170-AA65) received October 2, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

2875. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone, Delaware River; Dredging [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0947] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received October 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2876. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, Camp Lejeune, NC [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0792] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received October 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2877. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Remedial Action Schemes Reliability Standard [Docket No.: RMI6-20-000; Order No.: 837] received October 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2878. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulator Commission, transmitting the Commission's regulatory guidance — Physical Inventories and Material Balances at Fuel Cycle Facilities (Regulatory Guide 5.88) received October 3, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2879. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's NUREG revision — Consolidated Guidance About Materials Licenses: Program-Specific Guidance About Service Provider Licenses (NUREG-1556, Volume 18, Revision 1) received October 4, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2880. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's regulatory guidance — Emergency Planning for Research and Test Reactors and Other Non-Power Production and Utilization Facilities (Regulatory Guide 2.6, Revision 2) received October 3, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2881. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's regulatory guides withdrawal — “Conduct of Nuclear Material Physical Inventories”, and “Statistical Evaluation of Material Unaccounted For” [NRC-2017-0196] received October 3, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2882. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulator Programs, NMFS, Office of Protected Resources, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants: Final Rule To List the Maui Dolphin as Endangered and the South Island Hector's Dolphin as Threatened Under the Endangered Species Act [Docket No.: 160614520-7805-02] (RIN: 0648-XE686) received October 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2883. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Special Local Regulation; Tennessee River, Chattanooga, TN [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0727] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received October 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2884. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Special Local Regulation; Cumberland River, Nashville, TN [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0812] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received October 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2885. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Special Local Regulations and Safety Zones; Recurring Marine Events Held in the Coast Guard Sector Northern New England Captain of the Port Zone [Docket No.: USCG-2016-0998] (RIN: 1625-AA08; AA00) received October 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2886. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Pacific Ocean, Kilauea Lava Flow Ocean Entry on Southeast Side of Island of Hawaii, HI [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0172] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received October 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2887. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Roanoke River, Plymouth, NC [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0886] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received October 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2888. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Patapsco River, Northwest and Inner Harbors; Baltimore, MD [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0808] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received October 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2889. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone, Blue Angels Air Show; St. Johns River, Jacksonville, FL [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0577] (RIN: 1625-AA11) received October 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2890. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary interim rule — Safety Zone; Sector Key West COTP Zone Post Storm Recovery, Atlantic Ocean, FL [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0939] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received October 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2891. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary interim rule — Safety Zone; Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, Socastee, SC [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0801] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received October 17, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2892. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland