

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Let me just note this, if the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) was being accused of perjury and saying that he had committed perjury in the past, how can he now investigate and have a perjury investigation? If the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) was being accused of obstruction of justice, that would be something else. We probably would say maybe there is a point here, and someone has a built-in situation where he should not be that chairman or something.

That is not what the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE), what they brought up. That is not what they brought up on the gentlewoman from Idaho (Mrs. CHENOWETH) and the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON).

Let us say that the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) had been accused of all sorts of campaign violations, and of course he is looking into campaign violations himself, these things.

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These things, hypocrisy is something that someone can talk about and charge with someone. Someone has a double standard and things such as that. But that is not what has happened here. And, of course, we do know that Mr. Starr, and I have not personally commented on this. This is the first time that I have publicly commented on this. That Mr. Starr, of course, the investigator himself, has been brutalized over and over and again these last few years.

When I was in the Reagan White House, Ronald Reagan was committed to seeing that the communists would not take over Central America. And as much as people do not like to admit that, that was the core issue that was going on. Ronald Reagan was going to stop the Sandinista government, which had billions of dollars of military equipment from the Soviet Union, from expanding and put them on the defensive.

We did that until the Soviet Union collapsed. Because had the Sandinistas started expanding their role, it would have been a terrible thing. Probably communism would not have collapsed because they would have thought they were going to win.

Anyway there were some mistakes made by people in the White House and elsewhere, and we helped the Contras at a time when some Members of Congress felt that it was not legal for us to do so. Let me add, I personally believe that no laws were ever broken in that situation. I personally believe that it was perfectly legal for the President to, although it was not advisable what he did in terms of Iran, but it was perfectly legal for him to try to make those contacts with Iran and there was residual money that was left over that was then transferred to the Contras.

Mr. Speaker, that was a big crisis in the Reagan administration. That was as big as a crisis and upsetting of the natural order of things here as what we

are going through now, based on this current scandal. But at no time do I remember that the special prosecutor in that case, that we tried to do anything like is being done to Mr. Starr to the special prosecutor that went after Mr. Reagan.

And, by the way, that special prosecutor spent more money and had more people working for him, I believe, or at least an equal amount, and a number of people, and I do not remember seeing anything in the paper about whether seeing if people believed in the special prosecutor's words as they do now. They have polling as, "Who do you believe? Clinton or Starr?" That did not happen during the Reagan years.

I think Mr. Starr, and believe me, I do sympathize somewhat with the idea that prosecutors should not just have a blank slate and be able to come in and investigate anything in anybody's life until they find something. I understand that. But that is not what the situation is today. We have some specific things that we have to decide here, very specific things about specific statements made under oath that we believe that may well not have been truthful.

Mr. Speaker, we have to investigate that because it was made under oath and involving a civil legal matter. If we do not say that, we just say across the board that it is okay to lie under oath in civil cases. Now we cannot say that. We cannot permit that standard to sink that low.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COOK). The Chair must remind members not to discuss charges against the President.

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, I have not mentioned the President when discussing any particular charge. And in fact, some of the charges, some of the things that we have been discussing have no relationship to the President whatsoever. And, in fact, relate more perhaps to some of the President's staff or perhaps to other people in the executive branch. Or perhaps some of the things that we are discussing are aimed more at people who are liberal activists in the news media.

So, although obviously some of the things we are discussing may have some impact on the President, we are not addressing this specifically at the President.

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, lest there be any doubt, we come to this Chamber, and indeed in the next few trying weeks this should be our cause. This, Mr. Speaker, should be our mission not to address the impending crisis as Republicans or as Democrats, but as Americans. Americans concerned about the future of the rule of law. Americans who understand that our adherence to the rule of law is both central and elemental to our survival in a constitutional republic. Adherence to the rule of law for all, regardless of title, regardless of job, regardless of economic standing, regardless of race,

religion, color or creed. This is the essence of what it means to be an American in the late 20th century. To understand that adherence to rule of law is everything. For if we lose that, then, Mr. Speaker, we have nothing. I yield to my colleague.

Mr. ROHRBACHER. In conclusion, let me say that I am pleased that my friend from Arizona joined me here tonight. Actually I am sure he saw me on C-SPAN and decided to come over, working late in his office. He was probably working in his office after 11 o'clock at night and came over here, and I know that has happened to me at times as well.

Mr. Speaker, we are both concerned, and I think that tomorrow that we will see in this body a great deal of concern about this vicious personal attack on the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE). And I would hope that it is a source of unity for this body, that we unify tomorrow and say that this is over. This is beyond the pale. This is over the bounds of acceptability. And we will stand together to uphold the standards of law because that is true, both Democrats and Republicans, we realize that like in that movie about the young boys who were on the island, remember that? Somebody else is going to have to help me with this. Lord of the Flies, in that movie Lord of the Flies, I remember I read the book as well, come to think of it. There was a conch that was the symbol of respect for law. But once that respect for whoever held that conch so the people would be quiet and listen to them and they could discuss the issues, once that was destroyed, there was a degeneration into a type of life, a savagery that came out. We will maintain the comity of this body. We will maintain goodwill. Goodwill among free people, goodwill among people who believe in democracy and constitutional government.

What happened with the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) was not in keeping with that spirit, and it will not, and let us just state once and for all, we will not be intimidated. Justice will be served. We will make an honest determination of everything that comes before us and personal attacks on us must stop and they will not be tolerated.

HOUSE BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT

The President notified the Clerk of the House that on the following dates he had approved and signed bills and a joint resolution of the following titles:

June 16, 1998

H.R. 824, An act to redesignate the Federal building located at 717 Madison Place, NW., in the District of Columbia, as the "Howard T. Markey National Courts Building."

H.R. 3565, An act to amend Part L of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968.

June 23, 1998

H.R. 1847, An act to improve the criminal law relating to fraud against consumers.

June 24, 1998

H.R. 3811, An act to establish felony violations for the failure to pay legal child support obligations, and for other purposes.

July 14, 1998

H.R. 651, An act to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act for the construction of a hydroelectric project located in the State of Washington, and for other purposes.

H.R. 652, An act to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act for the construction of a hydroelectric project located in the State of Washington, and for other purposes.

H.R. 848, An act to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act applicable to the construction of the AuSable Hydroelectric Project in New York, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1184, An act to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act for the construction of the Bear Creek Hydroelectric Project in the State of Washington, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1217, An act to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act for the construction of a hydroelectric project located in the State of Washington, and for other purposes.

July 16, 1998

H.J. Res. 113, Joint resolution approving the location of a Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial in the Nation's Capital.

H.R. 960, An act to validate certain conveyances in the City of Tulare County, California, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2202, An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend the bone marrow donor program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2864, An act to require the Secretary of Labor to establish a program under which employers may consult with State officials respecting compliance with occupational safety and health requirements.

H.R. 2877, An act to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970.

H.R. 3035, An act to establish an advisory commission to provide advice and recommendations on the creation of an integrated, coordinated Federal policy designed to prepare for and respond to serious drought emergencies.

H.R. 3130, An act to provide for an alternative penalty procedure for States that fail to meet Federal child support data processing requirements, to reform Federal incentive payments for effective child support performance, to provide for a more flexible penalty procedure for States that violate inter-jurisdictional adoption requirements, and for other purposes.

July 21, 1998

H.R. 1635, An act to establish within the United States National Park Service the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom program, and for other purposes.

July 22, 1998

H.R. 1316, An act to amend chapter 87 of title 5, United States Code, with respect to the order of precedence to be applied in the payment of life insurance benefits.

H.R. 2676, An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restructure and reform the Internal Revenue Service, and for other purposes.

July 29, 1998

H.R. 1273, An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for the National Science Foundation, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1439, An act to facilitate the sale of certain land in Tahoe National Forest in the State of California to Placer County, California.

H.R. 1460, An act to allow for election of the Delegate from Guam by other than separate ballot, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1779, An act to make a minor adjustment in the exterior boundary of the Devils Backbone Wilderness in the Mark Twain National Forest, Missouri, to exclude a small parcel of land containing improvements.

H.R. 2165, An act to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act applicable to the construction of FERC Project Number 3862 in the State of Iowa, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2217, An act to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act applicable to the construction of FERC Project Number 9248 in the State of Colorado, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2841, An act to extend the time required for the construction of a hydroelectric project.

H.R. 2870, An act to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to facilitate protection of tropical forests through debt reduction with developing countries with tropical forests.

H.R. 3156, An act to present a congressional gold medal to Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela.

August 5, 1998

H.R. 39, An act to reauthorize the African Elephant Conservation Act.

August 7, 1998

H.R. 643, An act to designate the United States courthouse to be constructed at the corner of Superior and Huron Roads, in Cleveland, Ohio, as the "Carl B. Stokes United States Courthouse".

H.R. 1151, An act to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to clarify existing law with regard to the field of membership of Federal credit unions, to preserve the integrity and purpose of Federal credit unions, to enhance supervisory oversight of insured credit unions, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1385, An act to consolidate, coordinate, and improve employment, training, literacy, and vocational rehabilitation programs in the United States, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3152, An act to provide that certain volunteers at private non-profit food banks are not employees for purposes of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938.

H.R. 3731, An act to designate the auditorium located within the Sandia Technology Transfer Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico, as the "Steve Schiff Auditorium".

H.R. 4354, An act to establish the United States Capitol Police Memorial Fund on behalf of the families of Detective John Michael Gibson and Private First Class Jacob Joseph Chestnut of the United States Capitol Police.

August 12, 1998

H.R. 434, An act to provide for the conveyance of small parcels of land in the Carson National Forest and the Santa Fe National Forest, New Mexico, to the village of El Rito and the town of Jemez Springs, New Mexico.

H.R. 1085, An act to revise, codify, and enact without substantive change certain general and permanent laws, related to patriotic and national observances, ceremonies, and organizations, as title 36, United States Code, "Patriotic and National Observances, Ceremonies, and Organizations".

H.R. 3504, An act to amend the John F. Kennedy Center Act to amend appropriations for the John F. Kennedy for the Performing Arts and to further define the criteria for capital repair and operation and maintenance.

H.R. 4237, An act to amend the District of Columbia Convention Center and Sports Arena Authorization Act of 1995 to revise the revenues and activities covered under such act, and for other purposes.

August 13, 1998

H.R. 765, An act to ensure maintenance of a herd of wild horses in Cape Lookout National Seashore.

H.R. 872, An act to establish rules governing product liability actions against raw materials and bulk component suppliers to medical device manufacturers, and for other purposes.

August 14, 1998

H.R. 3824, An act amending the Fastener Quality Act to exempt from its coverage certain fasteners approved by the Federal Aviation Administration for use in aircraft.

SENATE BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT

The President notified the Clerk of the house that on the following dates he had approved and signed bills and a joint resolution of the Senate of the following titles:

June 16, 1998

S. 1605, An act to establish a matching grant program to help State and local jurisdictions purchase armor vests for use by law enforcement departments.

June 19, 1998

S. 423, An act to extend the legislative authority for the Board of Regents of Gunston Hall to establish a memorial to honor George Mason.

S. 1244, An act to amend title 11, United States Code, to protect certain charitable contributions, and for other purposes.

June 23, 1998

S. 1150, An act to ensure that federally funded agricultural research, extension, and education address high-priority concerns with national or multistate significance, to reform, extend, and eliminate certain agricultural research programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1990, An act to establish a commission to examine issues pertaining to the disposition of Holocaust-era assets in the United States before, during, and after World War II, and to make recommendations to the President on further action, and for other purposes.

July 7, 1998

S. 2069, An act to permit the mineral leasing of Indian land located within the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation in any case in which there is consent from a majority interest in the parcel of land under consideration for lease.

July 14, 1998

S. 2282, An act to amend the Arms Export Control Act, and for other purposes.

July 16, 1998

S. 731, An act to extend the legislative authority for construction of the National Peace Garden memorial, and for other purposes.

July 21, 1998

S. 2316, An act to require the Secretary of Energy to submit to Congress a plan to ensure that all amounts accrued on the books of the United States Enrichment Corporation for the disposition of depleted uranium hexafluoride will be used to treat and recycle depleted uranium hexafluoride.

July 29, 1998

S. 318, An act to require automatic cancellation rights with respect to private mortgage insurance which is required as a condition for entering into a residential mortgage transaction, to abolish the Thrift Depositor Protection Oversight Board, and for other purposes.

August 12, 1998

S. 2344, An act to amend the Agricultural Market Transition Act to provide for the advance payment, in full, of the fiscal year 1999