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NEWS

U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

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WALSH INVESTIGATION

PART-TIME PROSECUTOR KEEPS SPENDING & SPENDING & SPENDING; CLOSING LAVISH IRAN/CONTRA OPERATION WOULD BE REAL TAX RELIEF

NINE MONTHS AGO THIS WEEK, I SENT A LETTER TO THEN-ATTORNEY GENERAL DICK THORBURGH, SUGGESTING THAT THE TIME HAD COME TO CLOSE DOWN THE OFFICE OF IRAN-CONTRA INDEPENDENT COUNSEL LAWRENCE WALSH.

GIVEN THE FACT THAT THE COURTS WERE OVERTURNING THE CONVICTIONS AND THROWING OUT THE INDICTMENTS WON BY MR. WALSH, I CONCLUDED THAT THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT COULD DO A MUCH BETTER JOB, AT A GREATLY REDUCED COST.

TODAY, MR. WALSH, LIKE THE EVER-READY RABBIT IN TELEVISION COMMERCIALS, JUST KEEPS ON GOING, AND GOING, AND GOING. AND HE KEEPS ON SPENDING AND SPENDING AND SPENDING TAX DOLLARS ON A CASE THAT IS GOING ABSOLUTELY NOWHERE.

TODAY, DESPITE THE FACT THAT NEARLY A YEAR AND A HALF AGO, MR. WALSH, HIMSELF, SAID THAT THE END OF HIS INVESTIGATION WAS NEAR, THERE IS NO SIGN THAT MR. WALSH WILL PULL THE PLUG ON HIS EXERCISE IN FUTILITY.

IN FACT, IN A STORY IN YESTERDAY'S WASHINGTON TIMES, MR. WALSH IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT WHEN IT COMES TO HIS INVESTIGATION, "IT'S PERFECTLY CLEAR WE'RE TALKING (ABOUT) A LONG TIME. MONTHS, NOT WEEKS."

PROLIFIC PROSECUTOR

THE ARTICLE ALSO REVEALED THAT MR. WALSH HAS NOW TURNED OVER THE DAY-TO-DAY OPERATION OF THE INVESTIGATION TO HIS DEPUTY, AND REMAINS IN OKLAHOMA THREE WEEKS OUT OF FOUR, WORKING ON HIS BOOK ON THE INVESTIGATION.

AND WHILE MR. WALSH FIDDLES WITH HIS BOOK, HIS INVESTIGATION -- HOUSED IN SOME OF THE MOST EXPENSIVE WASHINGTON, D.C. OFFICES -- CONTINUES TO BURN TAX DOLLARS.

MR. WALSH HIMSELF, ADMITS, THAT THE INVESTIGATION HAS COST AT LEAST THIRTY MILLION DOLLARS. OTHERS PUT THE PRICE TAG MUCH HIGHER--PERHAPS AS MUCH AS \$100 MILLION WHEN YOU INCLUDE COSTS TO THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT, THE FEDERAL COURTS, THE CIA AND OTHER AGENCIES.

COSTLY DEFENSE

AND WHILE MR. WALSH MAY HAVE THE LUXURY OF AN UNLIMITED BUDGET, THOSE WHOM HE IS INVESTIGATING DO NOT. THE WASHINGTON TIMES ALSO REPORTED THAT JOE FERNANDEZ, A CIA OFFICER, WHO WAS THE SUBJECT OF MR. WALSH'S INVESTIGATION SPENT NEARLY \$2 MILLION TO DEFEND HIMSELF AGAINST CHARGES THAT WERE EVENTUALLY DROPPED.

RICHARD SECORD COULDN'T AFFORD HIS ATTORNEYS ANYMORE, AFTER HIS LEGAL BILLS WENT OVER THE \$1.2 MILLION MARK, SO HE OPTED TO PLEAD GUILTY TO A CHARGE OF MAKING A FALSE STATEMENT TO CONGRESS. HIS PENALTY? PROBATION AND A \$50 FINE.

THE FIRST STEP TO REAL TAX RELIEF

WHAT WAS OBVIOUS NINE MONTHS AGO IS MORE OBVIOUS NOW. THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT CAN DO THE MOP-UP WORK NEEDED TO FINISH THIS INVESTIGATION.

I, FOR ONE, THINK THAT MR. WALSH SHOULD NOW HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK FULL-TIME ON HIS MEMOIRS. AND IF WE ARE SERIOUS ABOUT TAX RELIEF, CLOSING THE DOORS OF MR. WALSH'S LUXURIOUS MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR TAXPAYER-FUNDED OPERATION WOULD BE A GOOD FIRST STEP.

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