Cult Leader to Surrender to Federal Agents

Column by Matthew H. Hersch
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

WACO, TEXAS APRIL 8, 1993 (AP)

With the standoff between Federal agents and the members of a religious cult approaching its 8,000th day, negotiators from the Federal Bureau of Lunatics say they are nearing a final settlement with the group’s leader, musician and divine mouthpiece, David Koresh.

Koresh, who claims not only to be Jesus Christ but to own a pair of his underwear, is expected to surrender on Friday, April 9, in exchange for new products and operating expertise.

Hossenfeffer deflects criticism

With the standoff between Federal agents and Koresh’s followers. The standoff, which has lasted twenty years and has resulted in the loss of 3,000 men, 48 helicopters, fifteen B-52 bombers, and the battleship Wisconsin, has already cost American taxpayers an average of $2 million.

Despite the news of impending settlement, though, the President reiterated her support for House Resolution 1462, which would mandate the forcible expulsion of Texas from the Union, and provide for the construction of a moat on the present Texas-Oklahoma border.

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According to Hossenfefer, Wednesday’s dramatic cruise missile attack on the compound should be credited for the latest negotiation breakthrough. Of the 44 Tomahawk II missiles fired from the guided missile cruiser USS Homossett, almost half of them landed somewhere in Texas, a success rate one Navy spokesman described as “neato.”

Most of the missiles, according to the spokesman, landed on the Al Rashid hotel in Baghdad. Koresh, who was later discovered to have kept a room at the Middle Eastern resort, was reportedly traumatized by news of its destruction, and appealed to the federal agents for a settlement soon after hearing of the attack.

President pleased

News of the breakthrough was received warmly by President Clinton, who hoped that Koresh’s surrender would end the bloody confrontation that has raged between federal agents and Koresh’s followers. The standoff, which has lasted twenty years and has resulted in the loss of 3,000 men, 48 helicopters, fifteen B-52 bombers, and the battleship Wisconsin, has already cost American taxpayers an average of $2 million.

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