



Obama Biden Watch



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for the next four years

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Guantanamo Inmates Returning to Battlefield

President Obama's reckless decision to close Guantanamo Bay prison before having a plan for the jailed terrorists is continuing to haunt the inexperienced Commander-in-Chief. A shocking report recently released by the Defense Department indicated that one in seven prisoners released from the Guantanamo detention facility have returned to the battlefield!

According to the report, "Based upon a comprehensive review of available information as of mid-March 2009, the Defense Intelligence Agency reported 14 percent as the overall rate of former Guantanamo detainees confirmed or suspected of reengaging in terrorist activities... Various former Guantanamo detainees are known to have reengaged in terrorist activity associated with the al-Qaeda network, and have been arrested for reengaging in terrorist activities including facilitating the travel of terrorists into war zones, providing funds to al-Qaeda, and supporting and associating with known terrorists."

The report in question was released on May 26th, but was delayed because the Obama White House was fearful of its political consequences. According to a *New York Times* story published on May 20th, "Two administration officials who spoke on condition of anonymity said the report was being held up by

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Who is Sonia Sotomayor?

President Obama's selection of Federal Appeals Court Judge Sonia Sotomayor to replace retiring Justice David Souter on the U.S Supreme Court is as predictable as it is disappointing. President Obama seems to make most of his decisions with his re-election prospects in mind. The choice of Judge Sotomayor is no exception. By making Sotomayor the first Hispanic and only the third woman on the High Court, President Obama made the calculation that this will help him with these two critical demographics in several 2012 swing states. By going in this direction, the President sacrificed picking the best judge available. According to *The New Republic*, "[people who have worked with Sotomayor] expressed questions about her temperament, her judicial craftsmanship, and most of all, her ability to provide an intellectual counterweight to the conservative justices..."



Furthermore, it's no secret that President Obama wants to move the country far to the left. Judge Sotomayor shares his ultra-liberal ideology. President Obama picked Sotomayor knowing full well that she will attempt to legislate from the bench and solidify the liberal wing

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Journalists Flocking To Obama Administration

President Obama is continuing to appoint friendly members from the liberal media to political jobs in his administration. To date, at least ten former journalists have joined the ranks of the Obama Administration, with no end in sight. Throughout the campaign, President Obama became the media's darling, and now it appears that he's rewarding the positive coverage that helped him get elected.

Here's the list to date:

Warren Bass - Former Washington Post Deputy Editor is now writing speeches for Susan Rice at the United Nations.

Rosa Brooks - Former Los Angeles Times Op-Ed Columnist has joined the Pentagon as an Adviser to the Undersecretary of Defense for Policy.

Jay Carney - Former Time Magazine Washington Bureau Chief is running the Communications Office for Vice President Biden at the White House.

Linda Douglass - Former ABC News Correspondent is now the Director of Communications at the new HHS Office of Health Reform.

Peter Gosselin - Former Los Angeles Times Reporter is Chief Speechwriter for Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner.

David Hoff - Former Education Week Reporter has become Deputy Assistant Secretary for Communications Development at the Education Department.

Sasha Johnson - Former CNN Producer has accepted the position of Press Secretary at the Transportation Department.

Beverly Lumpkin - Former ABC News Justice Department Reporter is now a Public Affairs Specialist at the Justice Department.

Rick Weiss - Former Washington Post Science Reporter has joined the White House in the Office of Science and Technology.

Jill Zuckman - Former Chicago Tribune Correspondent is the Communications Director at the Transportation Department.

A skeptical media is supposed to serve as a check and balance in Washington, especially when one party has all the power. The Fourth Estate is a critical component to a healthy and functioning democracy. Can journalists be trusted to ask former fellow journalists and their bosses the tough questions? We'll keep you posted as this list promises to grow over the coming months.

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Defense Department employees fearful of upsetting the White House, at a time when even Congressional Democrats have begun to show misgivings over Mr. Obama's plan to close Guantanamo."

The White House should be very worried about a report such as this because it illustrates exactly why these terrorists were incarcerated in the first place. The findings should cause President Obama to rethink his entire policy with regard to Guantanamo. These prisoners are terrorists and should not be released into any country, much less the United States. Recapturing terrorists that the United States has already locked up once is a disastrous strategy. President Obama is no longer candidate Obama and keeping America safe is more important than pleasing the ACLU. If President Obama is truly a pragmatic decision-maker, he should announce that the only option is to keep Guantanamo open.

Notable Quotables**Judge Sonia Sotomayor:**

"All of the legal defense funds out there, they're looking for people with court of appeals experience...the court of appeals is where policy is made."

"I would hope that a wise Latina woman with the richness of her experiences would more often than not reach a better conclusion than a white male who hasn't lived that life."

"The aspiration to impartiality is just that--it's an aspiration because it denies the fact that we are by our experiences making different choices than others."

...Sotomayor continued from Pg. 1

of the court on issues such as abortion and gay marriage. Sotomayor's pride in her own judicial activism is a cause for concern. At a forum at Duke University in 2005, Sotomayor brazenly stated that "the court of appeals is where policy is made." The video shows Judge Sotomayor quite at ease with the idea that it's appropriate for members of the judiciary to make law instead of interpreting it.

The choice of Judge Sotomayor is also disappointing because she made a racially divisive statement in the recent past that didn't seem to bother President Obama during the vetting process. During a 2001 speech at a California Berkeley Law School symposium, Sotomayor stated "I would hope that a wise Latina woman with the richness of her experiences would more often than not reach a better conclusion than a white male who hasn't lived that life." Judge Sotomayor was opining on Justice Sandra Day O'Connor's line that "a wise old man and wise old woman will reach the same conclusion in deciding cases." Apparently Sotomayor does not agree with the notion that race and gender should have nothing to do with how one interprets the Constitution.

The best point about this statement was made by former House Speaker Newt Gingrich. What would happen if a white male Supreme Court nominee made the same statement about a Latina woman? There would undoubtedly be calls forcing that nominee to withdraw.

As the confirmation process moves forward, it is important that Democrat leaders who control the hearing schedule on Capitol Hill allow time for a thorough examination of Judge Sotomayor's record. President Obama and Vice President Biden want to rush Sotomayor's confirmation and have the vote before the August recess. This is hypocrisy at its finest as Obama and Biden were both in favor of filibustering Justice Samuel Alito's nomination in 2006.

Stimulus Bill Spin

The U.S. economy is now officially the Obama economy. President Obama and his team demonstrated this by going on a full blown public relations offensive to mark the 100 day anniversary of his stimulus bill becoming law. Unfortunately, the details being released by the Obama Administration are contradictory, short on facts, and exaggerated.

President Obama continues to make the claim that the bill has created or saved 150,000 jobs, but on the same day, his chief economic adviser Christina Romer relayed a very different message: “The gold standard is going to be jobs numbers. And realistically, we’re not going to see us adding jobs for a while.” Even *The New York Times* has reported that the 150,000 jobs claim is tough to back up: “some economists have questioned the administration’s claims that



the bill has saved or created 150,000 jobs.”

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, since the Obama stimulus bill was enacted, the United States has lost over 1.2 million jobs. The reality is that President Obama completely oversold the bill’s impact when he promised it would create or save millions of jobs over the next two years. The National Association for Business Economists recently estimated that about 4.5 million jobs will be lost in 2009 alone! According to *Reuters*, “Peter Morici, an economist and professor at the University of Maryland, said the Obama administration was overselling the gains from the stimulus.”

It also appears that stimulus funds are not being sent to the states that need it most, which was one of President Obama’s main objectives

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Source Document Center: President Obama Should Fire Harry Knox

On April 6th, President Obama announced the appointment of Harry Knox to the President’s Advisory Council on Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. The President made this appointment despite the fact that Knox has a history of making anti-Catholic statements. According to Fox News, “Harry Knox, director of the religion and faith program at Human Rights Campaign, a Washington-based gay rights group, lambasted the prelates in a gay newspaper last month for their support of Proposition 8, the successful November ballot measure that made same-sex marriage unconstitutional in California. Knox told the Bay Area Reporter that the Knights of Columbus, the Catholic fraternal service organization, were ‘foot soldiers of a discredited army of oppression’ for their role in the campaign, saying

the group ‘followed discredited leaders,’ including bishops and Pope Benedict.”

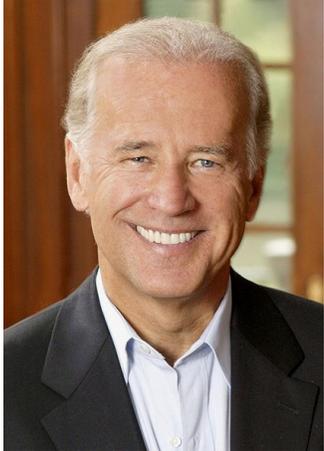
In response to Knox’s appointment and statements, a group of Catholic leaders from around the country, including House Republican Leader John Boehner (R-OH) and Congressman Thaddeus McCotter (R-MI), released a letter demanding that President Obama remove Harry Knox from his post. The letter states in pertinent part: “As Catholics, we call on you to remove Mr. Knox from his position and to formally disassociate yourself from his militant anti-Catholicism. Failure to do so will result in the tainting of your Faith-Based Council - and indeed, your entire administration - as anti-Catholic.”

Read the entire text of the letter here:
<http://www.mrc.org/press/2009/press20090512-letter.asp>

for economic recovery. According to *USA Today*, "Nationwide, federal agencies have awarded nearly \$4 billion in contracts to help jump-start the economy since President Obama signed the massive stimulus package in February. But, with few exceptions, that money has not reached states where the unemployment rate is highest...In Michigan, for example — where years of economic tumult and a collapsing domestic auto industry have produced the nation's worst unemployment rate — federal agencies have spent about \$2 million on stimulus contracts, or 21 cents per person. In Oregon, where unemployment is almost as high, they have spent \$2.12 per capita, far less than the nationwide average of nearly \$13."

President Obama has also failed to fulfill his

promise to allow Americans to monitor how their billions in taxpayer dollars are being spent. According to *The Washington Post*, "to build support for the stimulus package, President Obama vowed unprecedented



Biden



Obama



Pelosi

Partisan Stimulus Bill Coming Back to Haunt Liberals

a big part of which, he said, would be allowing taxpayers to track money to the street level on *Recovery.gov*...But three months after the bill was signed, *Recovery.gov* offers little beyond news releases, general breakdowns of spending, and acronym-laden spreadsheets and timelines. And congressional Democrats, state officials and advocates of open government worry that the White House cannot come close to clearing the high bar it set."

Earlier this month Vice President Biden filed

his first report regarding the stimulus bill's progress and *The Associated Press* reported that the administration was exaggerating what was actually happening with the economy: "Vice President Joe Biden uses anecdotes to paint a glowing picture of an economy on the rebound. In reality, the picture is incomplete and the colors far more muted... capturing the full effect of the stimulus at this early stage is difficult, but the administration has set high bars for success. In championing those successes, however, the White House plays a little loose with the facts."

To date, this stimulus package has done very little to help the economy and the Obama Administration's words and actions demonstrate a group of politicians very worried about the

bill's true progress. The situation would be very different today if President Obama had decided to compromise with Republicans during the stimulus debate and made it a bipartisan effort. Instead, he chose to

rush a bill through Congress that was nothing more than a Democrat wish list. Several members of Congress have openly admitted that they were not even given the opportunity to read this bill before voting. Perhaps this is one reason the bill passed with a total of three Republican votes. President Obama needs to start telling Americans the truth about our economic situation and what, if anything, his stimulus bill is doing to help American families.

It Depends What The Definition Of “Lobbyist” Is

If you ask the Obama White House, they’ll tell you they’ve only had to issue a few waivers to permit lobbyists to work in their Administration. Seemingly, every time you turn on the television, someone from the liberal media is trumpeting how tough President Obama has been on lobbyists by pointing to the executive orders he issued on his first day in office. After reading the orders, it’s clear that President Obama was very careful with the language, as most of the rules revolve around two year restrictions:



“If I was a registered lobbyist within the 2 years before the date of my appointment...I will not for a period of 2 years after the date of my appointment: participate in any particular matter on which I lobbied within the 2 years before the date of my appointment...or seek or accept employment with any executive

agency that I lobbied within the 2 years before the date of my appointment.”

If President Obama truly believes that lobbyists are the root of all evils in Washington, why not increase the number of years or ban lobbyists completely?

A little noticed report issued by *National Journal* contains the answer: “National Journal checked the names of 267 individuals appointed or nominated to various senior positions in the Obama administration against the Senate Office of Public Records database of registered lobbyists...

This chart lists the names of 30 individuals, or about 11 percent of the total, who were registered to lobby at some point within the past five years.”

Is President Obama being genuine in his actions to prevent lobbyists from working in his Administration? Before making a judgment, be sure to read the fine print.

President Obama Praises Pelosi Despite CIA Swipe

It shouldn’t surprise anyone when a San Francisco liberal disrespects the hard working professionals at the CIA by labeling them a bunch of liars. What if the liberal in question is House Speaker Nancy Pelosi? Instead of coming clean with the American people and admitting that she knew about waterboarding years ago and did nothing about it, Pelosi decided to blame it all on the CIA.

The Speaker, who is second in line to be President, said this about the CIA’s efforts to keep America safe: “So yes, I’m saying that the CIA was misleading the Congress.” To make matters worse, a few days later, President Obama praised the Speaker by remarking that she has “just been cracking the whip and, you know, making Congress so productive over these last several days. We are grateful for her.”

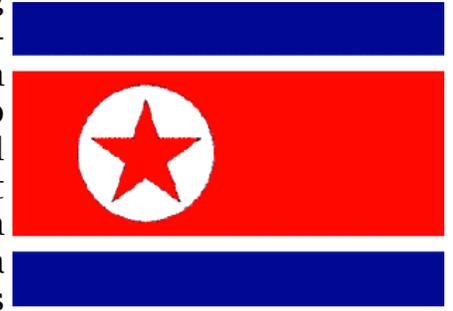
These actions and statements by the liberal Democrats in charge of our national security are severely disappointing and could wind up emboldening our worst enemies. The CIA works hard to keep America safe every day and should be treated with the utmost respect by our leaders.

Obama's North Korea Strategy Failing

On April 5th, hours after the Communist regime in North Korea threatened United States' security with a missile test, President Obama stated his intention to disarm: "Today, I state clearly and with conviction America's commitment to seek the peace and security of a world without nuclear weapons."

The provocative North Korean response to President Obama's peaceful gesture has been loud and clear. Just over a month after President Obama responded to the threatening DPRK missile test with a soft diplomatic approach for fear of offending the peaceniks, the North Koreans exploded a nuclear bomb roughly equivalent to the weapons that devastated Hiroshima and Nagasaki. As if that weren't enough of a rebuke, they conducted a series of missile tests over the days that followed.

Most disturbing of all are the reports that North Korea seems to have interpreted President Obama's foreign policy shift as a sign of weakness (i.e. Jimmy Carter-esque appeasement) and an opening to trample U.S. interests. As reported by *UPI*: "The North appears increasingly confident that it can defy Obama and his new administration."

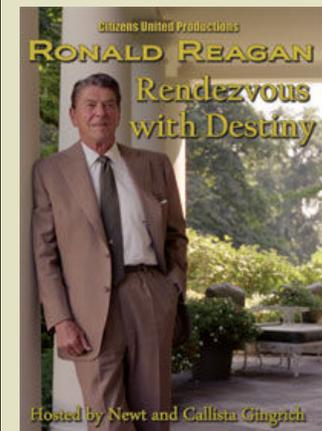


President Obama's vaunted "turn the other cheek" approach to foreign policy certainly isn't changing the psychopathic North Korean regime's ways anytime soon. Again, President Obama is learning that it's one thing to criticize your predecessor on the campaign trail, but quite another thing when it's your turn to get results.

Citizens United Productions Presents

We are proud to announce that our newest documentary, *Perfect Valor*, is now available for purchase. On May 16th, the film premiered at the GI Film Festival and won the award for "Best Feature Documentary!"

Narrated by Senator Fred Thompson, *Perfect Valor* is the story of the price extracted from U.S. forces in Iraq and the legacy of that campaign as seen through the eyes of the men and women who were there, risking their lives in service to their country. Visit the website at www.PerfectValor.com.



Ronald Reagan: Rendezvous with Destiny continues to premiere throughout the country to packed houses! Be sure to keep up to date with the latest premieres. On June 7th, the film will be shown in Washington D.C. at an event for the National Republican Congressional Committee and National Republican Senatorial Committee.

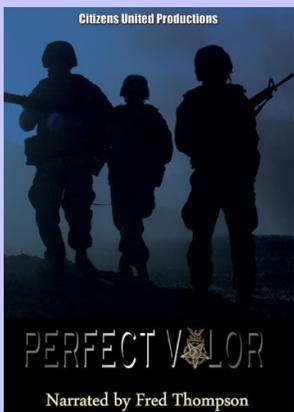
On June 26th, *Rendezvous with Destiny* will be screened in San Francisco.

For more information, visit www.ReaganDocumentary.com and www.CitizensUnited.org.

A FINAL THOUGHT FROM
CITIZENS UNITED PRESIDENT
DAVID N. BOSSIE

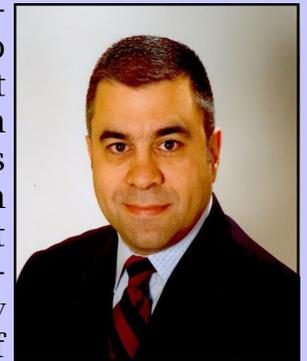
We've all noticed that coverage of the war in Iraq has dropped off over the last year or so. Ever since it became an incontrovertible truth that the Bush Surge worked, The *New York Times* and MSNBC seem to have decided that there wasn't much worth covering anymore. Now that things are going better in Iraq and controversies are more difficult to create, it doesn't merit the coverage it once did. This phenomenon, while unfortunate, is not the most egregious failure of the mainstream media in covering the war in Iraq. Focused as they were for the last five years on finding reasons to blast President Bush for anything that happened in Iraq, the reporters tasked with covering the conflict missed some of the most incredible acts of courage and sacrifice that have ever been performed.

Sadly, the trend in Hollywood has mirrored the mainstream media. In a sad contrast to the epic films from fifty years ago showing the heroic GI vanquishing the evil Nazi, those in control of Hollywood today seem to revel when Americans face setbacks and dismiss any sign of progress. Major studio film projects have been almost uniformly shrill in their anti-war message, reflecting the usual Hollywood liberal fallacy that their views are representative of what the rest of the country believes.



Last spring, I was in Los Angeles where I had the privilege of seeing a trailer for a documentary entitled *Brothers At War*. *Brothers At War* was written and directed by Jake Rademacher, a filmmaker who

followed two of his brothers as they deployed to Iraq. It occurred to me that for all the ink that has been spilled about the causes and conduct of the war in Iraq, up until that point there had not been a documentary film that really captured the essence of what it is like to be a combat soldier in Iraq. A film had not yet been made to show something that your average Hollywood liberal doesn't understand: while there is plenty of disagreement over the war itself, it is close to impossible to find an American citizen who is not proud of the men and women in the military and their service to this country.



Almost exactly one year after I first saw the trailer for *Brothers At War*, I am proud to say that Citizens United Productions' latest documentary, *Perfect Valor*, narrated by Senator Fred Thompson, won the prestigious "Best Feature Documentary" award at the 2009 GI Film Festival in Washington, D.C. on May 16, 2009. *Perfect Valor*, Citizens United Productions' 11th feature documentary, is the story of Operation Phantom Fury, the 2004 battle for the control of Fallujah. Throughout this operation, American troops battled through a city of enemy insurgents, fighting house to house and street to street to seize control of the most dangerous city in the world.

I encourage conservatives to take a moment to peruse the GI Film Festival website at www.gifilmfestival.com and look at the amazing work being done by filmmakers around the country to capture the incredible stories that the men and women who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan have to tell.

For more information about Citizens United Productions, please visit us at www.CitizensUnited.org and www.PerfectValor.com.