

The Complete Obama Timeline

April 2015

On April 1 nuclear talk with Iran continue in Switzerland, despite the March 31 deadline and despite Obama having said a few weeks earlier that he would not extend the discussions. (Working in Obama's favor is the Congressional Easter recess. When members of Congress return to Washington, D.C., they will be more than critical if Obama has not yet struck a deal. Of course, they will also be very critical if he does strike a deal—because it will likely be a bad one.) [73763, 73795, 73810]

Secretary of State John Kerry may still be willing to negotiate, but he is doing so without the French, Russian, and Chinese ministers—who CBS reports have all left. Great Britain still has a negotiator at the talks. Ed Morrissey writes at HotAir.com, “[T]he Iranians want to stick with their demands to keep all their enriched uranium and have all sanctions lifted, plus be able to keep developing more efficient centrifuges that will accelerate their run to a nuke. The only question appears to be whether the Obama administration is desperate enough to go along with it, in order to have a foreign-policy achievement about which they can brag ...at least until the first mushroom cloud appears in the Middle East. By that time, they're all hoping to be long gone, though, so it won't be their problem. That leaves the rest of us to cross our fingers and hope that the P5+1 group wakes up to the threat, and to the history of appeasing extremist tyrants for an interregnum from principles.” [73782, 73783, 73787, 73810]

According to Reuters, “Negotiators have a tentative agreement on the rough outline of a possible public statement on the progress they have made so far that would also highlight areas of disagreement, diplomats close to the talks said.” (In other words, “Negotiators might be able to agree on what they might say about their lack of an agreement.”) [73782]

FreeBeacon.com reports, “Javad Zarif, Iran's foreign minister, said late Wednesday that he is ‘all smiles’ as talks with Western powers over the country's nuclear weapons program run past a self-imposed deadline and Tehran pushes the United States to make more concessions.” [73824, 73825]

CNN.com reports, “An Iranian military observation aircraft flew within 50 yards of an armed U.S. Navy helicopter over the Persian Gulf this month, sparking concern that top Iranian commanders might not be in full control of local forces, CNN has learned.” [73791]

Iraqi forces—with the assistance of Iranian-backed fighters—take the city of Tikrit from ISIS. [73855]

At Townhall.com Wayne Allyn Root suggests that wealthy conservatives set up “a \$200 million super fund to end [the] careers of Obama & Hillary [Clinton].” Root writes, “For \$200 million in reward money, *everyone who knows something will talk*. Here is how we save America: 1. Offer \$50 million to implicate Obama and top WH aides in the Obamacare fraud. ... We need witnesses to come forward to report the names of everyone at the meetings when it was agreed Obamacare could only pass by lying about not losing your doctor ... and not losing your insurance policy ... and not raising health insurance premiums for middle class families ... and not creating massive debt ... and not killing jobs. And how about the inside details of the \$1 billion of taxpayer money wasted on foreign companies (who just happened to be friends of the Obamas) to build and fix a defective website. 2. Offer \$50 million to any IRS official or officials who come forward to report on who in the White House gave them their marching orders to target, intimidate and persecute Obama critics and opponents (like me). ... 3) I’ve saved best for last. Here’s where you offer the really BIG money. Offer \$100 million to any hacker in the world who can recover Hillary’s 32,000 deleted emails. I guarantee you there’s a reason she deleted them. The words on those emails would not only end her political career, they could send Hillary to jail. And if I’m right, the messages she sent about Benghazi will end Obama’s presidency too. Hillary wiped her server clean for a good reason—she was hiding the criminal cover-up of a massive foreign policy blunder that makes Watergate look like a ticket for jaywalking.” [73771]

Root may want to investigate Hillary Clinton’s involvement in the Waco, Texas massacre. Rense.com has speculated that “Hillary was the one who ordered the... final assault on the holed-up Branch Davidians in Waco on April 19th, 1993. The final death count from this disastrous fiasco was 76 Branch Davidians, including 21 children and two pregnant women. ... Hillary was putting pressure on Vince Foster (her longtime boyfriend, sexual partner and emotional husband) and Webb Hubbell who was the #3 guy at Justice Department, to have a forceful resolution to the Waco standoff. Webb Hubbell is also probably the father of Chelsea, not Bill Clinton. ... According to the former Special Forces member [and Waco investigator Steve Barry], Hillary set up a special ‘crises center’ in the White House to deal with Waco. Serving with her in the center was Vincent Foster who, according to his widow was subsequently ‘fueled by horror at the carnage at Waco for which the White House had ultimately been responsible.’ Foster himself was found dead, from a gun-shot wound to the head, in a Virginia park three months later. Could he have known too much about Waco? Journalist Ambrose Evans-Pritchard maintains that Foster had been ‘drafting a letter involving Waco’ on the very day of his death. Moreover Evans-Pritchard says that Foster kept a Waco file in a locked cabinet that was off limits to everyone, including his secretary.” [74316, 74893]

“Prior to Waco, Foster was ‘dignified, decent, caring, smart’ says [former White House assistant] Linda Tripp; in its aftermath though, she said, ‘Vince was falling apart.’ She was with the former White House deputy counsel when the news about Waco broke on television. ‘A special bulletin came on showing the atrocity at Waco and the children. And his face, his whole body slumped, and his face turned white, and he was absolutely crushed—knowing the part he had played.’ ‘And he had played the part at Mrs Clinton direction,’ said Tripp. Moreover, there was a marked contrast between Foster’s heartfelt

emotion at the Waco tragedy and Hillary Clinton's. Tripp insists, 'Her reaction was heartless.'" [74316]

It is worth asking wondering Webster Hubbell would be given Secret Service protection if Hillary Clinton were elected president. If Hubbell were to get 24x7 protection, millions of people would ask why. But if Hubbell were to not receive any such protection (and if he is Chelsea Clinton's real father), would that not be a security risk? As commander-in-chief, what would a President Hillary Clinton do if the father of her daughter were kidnapped by ISIS and held for ransom?

The Department of Justice announces it will not prosecute former IRS executive Lois Lerner for contempt of Congress. Michael Steel, spokesman for House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH) responds, "Once again, the Obama administration has tried to sweep IRS targeting of taxpayers for their political beliefs under the rug. The White House still has the opportunity to do the right thing and appoint a special counsel to examine the IRS' actions." WashingtonTimes.com quotes Catherine Engelbrecht, president of True the Vote: "The double standard is breathtaking. Lois Lerner played the part of front line operative in a targeting scandal that reveled in 'putting politics before a citizen's constitutional rights.' Time and again, Lerner abused the power of her IRS position to shut down organizations whose views she did not share." [73797, 73801, 73809, 73833, 73852]

While it is letting Lois Lerner skate, the Department of Justice indicts Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ) on federal corruption charges. According to WashingtonTimes.com, Menendez "was indicted by a federal grand jury in Newark and charged with improperly helping Florida-based Dr. Salomon Melgen, a longtime friend who frequently contributed to the senator's campaigns, by intervening in the doctor's dispute with federal regulators over Medicare charges. Prosecutors said Mr. Menendez, who currently serves as the ranking member on the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, also assisted Dr. Melgen with securing a port security contract in the Dominican Republic." (Unlike Menendez, Lerner had enough sense not to criticize Obama's Cuba and Iran policies.) [73800, 73802, 73804, 73805, 73850]

At Townhall.com Leah Barkoukis writes, "Tax Day is quickly approaching and those looking to figure out which of their medical expenses are deductible might be surprised to see abortion at the top of the list of items that can be included in one's medical expense deduction. That's right, according to the IRS, 'you can include in medical expenses the amount you pay for a legal abortion.' In other words, killing your child earns you a tax break. Even more disconcerting, however, is that the medical expenses parents incur for a stillborn child cannot be deducted. So death of a child by natural causes cannot be exempted, while the active killing of an unborn child can be deducted." [73834, 73835]

Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson, not eager to be pummeled by the leftist mainstream media or become the target of their lies, says he will not sign into law his state's Religious Freedom Restoration Act until changes are made to the language. (Hutchinson

wisely calls for the legislature to make the state law's language equal to that of the federal legislation signed into law by Bill Clinton in 1993). According to Newsmax.com, "Hutchinson had initially supported the bill and on Tuesday his office had said he planned to sign it into law. ...The Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights group, has run ads in Silicon Valley targeting technology firms Hutchinson hopes to attract to the state." [73798, 73954]

At Townhall.com Thomas Sowell writes, "Recent statements from United Nations officials, that Iran is already blocking their existing efforts to keep track of what is going on in their nuclear program, should tell anyone who does not already know it that any agreement with Iran will be utterly worthless in practice. It doesn't matter what the terms of the agreement are, if Iran can cheat. It is amazing—indeed, staggering—that so few Americans are talking about what it would mean for the world's biggest sponsor of international terrorism, Iran, to have nuclear bombs, and to be developing intercontinental missiles that can deliver them far beyond the Middle East. ...Clearing the way for Iran to get nuclear bombs may—probably will—be the most catastrophic decision in human history. And it can certainly change human history, irrevocably, for the worse." [73826, 73827]

Iran not only has a reputation for cheating on agreements, it has been downright barbaric. When Iran was at war with Iraq in 1984, *The Washington Post* reported that Iran used children to clear minefields. *National Review's* Jim Geraghty notes a March 23, 1984 *Post* article that stated, "[R]eports say that among the Iranian hordes are hundreds of thousands of Iranian children, aged from 12 to 17, and, recently, old men, who are sent forward as a 'human wave.' ...[A]n east European journalist... said he saw 'tens of thousands' of children 'roped together', in groups of 20 to prevent the faint-hearted from deserting, hurl themselves onto barbed wire or march into the Iraqi minefields in the face of withering machinegun fire to clear the way for Iranian tanks." (Obama trusts the Iranian mullahs who authorize such savagery to honor its commitments in a nuclear agreement.) [74060]

Breitbart.com reports, "A strikingly high percentage of refugees to the United States use some form of public assistance, according to a government report to Congress. The Office of Refugee Resettlement's Annual Report to Congress for FY2013 reveals that nearly 3 in 4 refugees were on food stamps. Additionally, nearly half were on some form of cash assistance and more than a half were on medical assistance. More than 20 percent were on Supplemental Security Income, more than 22 percent were in public housing and nearly 20 percent were on Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). The report noted that many households received more than one type of assistance and the data dealt with refugees who arrived in the U.S. between March 1, 2008 to February 28, 2013. ...Refugees from Africa and the Middle East were the heaviest users of cash assistance at 61.9 percent and 68.3 percent respectively. Latin American refugees only used cash assistance at a rate of 8.1 percent and South Asia used about 42.7 percent." [73935, 73936]

On April 2 Al-Shabab terrorists massacre as many as 147 students at Garissa University College in northeastern Kenya. The terrorists release Muslims, and only kill Christians who are unable to recite passages from the Quran. Some of the students are beheaded. One survivor tells AFP the gunmen mockingly shouted, “We don’t fear death, this will be a good Easter holiday for us” in Swahili. Reuben Nyaora, a clinical officer working for the aid agency International Rescue Committee, later states, “I have seen many things, but nothing like that. There were bodies everywhere in execution lines, we saw people whose heads had been blown off, bullet wounds everywhere, it was a grisly mess. We were giving first aid during the fighting—and there were soldiers being shot right in front of us, as well as the casualties among the hostages. Then when we went into the halls, it was too horrible, too awful to imagine, and yet we saw it. Everyone seemed dead, but then as we talked, some students who had been hidden for hours came out—some from wardrobes, others from the ceiling, and then others who had lain down with the dead, covered in blood, hidden among their friends who had been killed.” (Pamela Geller writes, “Remember, this has nothing to do with Islam. And if you dare make any connection, you are a racist-islamophobic-anti-muslim-bigot.”) [73848, 73865, 73866, 73870, 73871, 73872, 73873, 73920, 73921, 73922, 73927, 73942, 73949]

Obama issues a statement in response to the university massacre—a hollow statement that avoids any reference to Islam, radical Islam, Muslims, Christians, or religion: “Michelle and I join the American people in expressing our horror and sadness at the reports coming out of Garissa, Kenya. Words cannot adequately condemn the terrorist atrocities that took place at Garissa University College, where innocent men and women were brazenly and brutally massacred. We join the world in mourning them, many of whom were students pursuing an education in the pursuit of a better life for themselves and their loved ones. They represented a brighter future for a region that has seen too much violence for far too long. We also commend the heroism of the responders who lost their lives in the selfless protection of the students and faculty. I know firsthand the extraordinary resilience and fundamental decency of the people of Kenya. So I know that the people of Garissa and all of Kenya will grieve, but their determination to achieve a better and more secure future will not be deterred. And neither will the resolve of the United States. We will stand hand-in-hand with the Kenyan Government and people against the scourge of terrorism and in their efforts to bring communities together. This much is clear: the future of Kenya will not be defined by violence and terror; it will be shaped by young people like those at Garissa University College—by their talents, their hopes, and their achievements. This is a message I will relay to the Kenyan people when I visit Kenya in July. Even at this difficult hour, the Kenyan people should know they have an unwavering friend and ally in the United States of America.” [73917, 73918, 73919, 73930, 73962]

Obama should read Danish professor Tina Maggaard, a religious scholar who has observed, “What is striking is not in itself that one can find murderous passages in the Islamic texts, as such passages can also be found in other religions. But it is striking how much space these passages takes up in the Islamic texts and how much they focus on a them-and-us-logic where infidels and apostates are characterized as dirty, rotten, criminal, hypocritical and dangerous. It is also striking how much these texts demands

the reader to fight the infidels, both with the words and the sword. In many passages Mohammed plays a central role as one who encourages the use of violence, whether it comes to stonings, beheadings, acts of war or execution of critics and poets.” [73923, 73924]

Al-Qaeda fighters free about 300 terrorists and criminals from a prison in al-Mukalla, Yemen. [73851]

Mass graves and other evidence found in northeastern Nigeria suggest the several hundred Christian women and girls kidnapped by Boko Haram in 2014 have been murdered. (The Obama administration’s “Bring Back Our Girls” Twitter message seems not to have been successful.) [73863]

NYTimes.com reports, “Two female roommates in Queens have been charged with planning to build a bomb that they wanted to detonate in the United States. The roommates, Noelle Velentzas, 28, and Asia Siddiqui, 31, both United States citizens, were named in a complaint unsealed on Thursday in Federal District Court in Brooklyn. Ms. Siddiqui ‘is currently in possession of multiple propane gas tanks, as well as instructions for how to transform propane tanks into explosive devices,’ the complaint reads. The women appeared to be interested in jihad and had been communicating with Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula personnel. They also watched videos of ISIS beheadings, according to the complaint.” Siddiqui works at the 82nd Street Academics pre-school in Queens. Velentzas has appeared in a video for the Islamic Circle of North America’s ICNA Relief “charity.” She has praised the September 11, 2001 attacks, and reportedly had been “obsessed with pressure cookers since the Boston Marathon attacks in 2013.” Velentzas’ multi-wived husband, Abu Bakr, says, “I know nobody’s perfect, but she is. ...I don’t believe any of it, period. We are all shocked, the whole community. That’s not who she is.” (This would be the same Abu Bakr who, according to JihadWatch.org, “was photographed at the Muslim Day Parade in New York City with the black flag of jihad. He carried it at other parades as well.”) [73869, 73874, 73875, 73876, 73898, 73944, 73945, 73990, 73991, 74045, 74046]

The Telegraph reports, “A woman has been arrested in south London on suspicion of fundraising for the purpose of terrorism. The 44-year-old was held by officers from the Counter Terrorism Command on Thursday morning. Scotland Yard said she was detained at a residential address under the Terrorism Act 2000. The woman has been taken into custody at a central London police station while officers search the home. A Metropolitan Police spokesman said: ‘Enquiries continue.’” (At JihadWatch.org Robert Spencer comments, “Imagine in 1940 and 1941 if British media coverage of The Blitz never identified who was bombing Britain and why. All its coverage was on the order of ‘Airplanes bombed England for the tenth straight day,’ etc., with no indication that there was a war on, or who was fighting. That is what this story is like, and it is typical of media coverage of jihad activity. This woman was arrested on suspicion of funding terrorism. What kind of terrorism? No telling. Part of the global jihad? The Telegraph doesn’t deign to tell us... This is why we’re in the fix we’re in. How can we win a war

when few even know there is a war on, and when everyone is afraid to identify properly what exactly we're fighting?") [73925, 73926]

Devvy Kidd writes at NewsWithViews.com, "Once again a constitutionally ineligible individual has declared his candidacy for president of these united States of America. Once again another battle rages that should have been addressed in 2008 when the criminal impostor in the White House, Barack Obama (Known aliases: Barry Soetoro, Barry Dunham, Barry Obama, Barack Dunham), who also lied on his Illinois Bar Application when he said he has never used another name was allegedly elected. The usurper was/is using Barack Obama then but his friends at Occidental College knew him only as Barry Soetoro. Barack Obama was simply made up by the pathological liar at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. ...The reason why [Senator] Ted Cruz [R-TX] must be declared eligible is because if he isn't eligible then neither is the criminal impostor in the White House. Barry Soetoro's father was a foreign national on U.S. soil. He had not applied for citizenship and in fact, there was question as to whether or not he should be allowed to stay in the U.S., as his personal behavior was in the slutty category. Soetoro's mother was a natural born citizen. Soetoro was born with dual citizenship and no amount of political high jinx and lies can change that fact. He was and always will be constitutionally ineligible to be president of this country." [73811, 73812, 73813, 73814, 73815, 73816, 73817, 73818, 73819, 73820, 75201]

"Ted Cruz's mother is a natural born citizen. His father was a foreign national in the U.S. with Cuban citizenship; he finally became a U.S. citizen in 2005. Ted Cruz was born with dual citizenship: Cuban and American. No different than Soetoro. But, Cruz has taken the position that 'natural born' means he can change his citizenship at age 44 (he will be 45 in December) and magically turn himself into a natural born citizen. Well, Ted, it doesn't work that way. Natural born means when you're born. This doesn't seem to matter to Cruz or some of his ardent supporters. ...Ted Cruz announced in 2013 he was giving up his Canadian citizenship; it was finalized in 2014. However, that does not make him a natural born citizen. ...The stealing of the presidency beginning in 2008 was breathtaking in scope. I doubt the majority of adult aged Americans in this country have any idea of just what went on to get Barry and McCain declared constitutionally eligible. ...[U]nless Cruz and Rubio are stopped and if one of them should get elected, we might as well just burn the U.S. Constitution. The reason the framers grandfathered in the natural born citizen clause was to ensure a president's first loyalty would be to our constitutional republic. One can see just where Barry/Obama stands on that issue. No president in the history of this country has hated America more than the current occupant of the White House and done so much to destroy her. I have no doubt whatsoever that Cruz and Rubio do love America, but if they get away with becoming president it will mean anyone can hold that office just like the unvetted criminal in the White House. Do we want another Barry/Obama down the road?" [73811, 73812, 73813, 73814, 73815, 73816, 73817, 73818, 73819, 73820, 75201]

"...We need to focus on the states right now getting them to stand firm against the Outlaw Congress and the usurper in the White House. When the time comes—if and it's

a big if—any of those three [Cruz, Rubio, Jindal] were to get the GOP nomination, I hope lawsuits are brought in as many states as possible to keep them off the ballot. ...[T]he target would be the Republican National Committee for putting forth a candidate on state ballots who is constitutionally ineligible. It's fraud—just like the Democratic/Communist Party USA did in 2008. Maybe even a RICO lawsuit. In the meantime, Cruz and his mouth pieces are trying to deflect away from the issue and I suspect Rubio will do the same. You might send each of them a short letter: You're not constitutionally eligible; both parents must be U.S. citizens at the time of the child's birth and we will file lawsuits to keep you off the ballot. Just maybe they will drop out of the race. Can't raise enough money, don't want to lose their powerful seats in the Senate, some excuse to evade the real issue. ...And so the big lie, one of the biggest frauds ever perpetrated against the people of this country stays in place because (1) Republicans want the White House in 2016 and (2) as I said, to declare Cruz ineligible would cause a massive constitutional crisis: a usurper is sitting in the Oval Office and any laws, EO, treaties or other legal documents he signed are null and void—and they are—every last one of them." [73811, 73812, 73813, 73814, 73815, 73816, 73817, 73818, 73819, 73820, 75201]

Indiana Governor Mike Pence announces an updated Religious Freedom Restoration Act that supposedly addresses the issues raised by leftists. (The "fix" gives sexual orientation priority over religious liberty—meaning the law is no longer about restoring religious freedoms.) Pence tweets, "Now that this is behind us, let's move fwd together w/a renewed commitment to civility & respect that make IN[diana] great." (Pence is naive if he believes the issue is now behind him. In any event, the entire premise of such laws is invalid. U.S. citizens *already have freedom to practice their religion*; that right is recognized by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Of course, freedom to practice one's religion is not totally without restrictions. No Muslim in the United States, for example, can claim a right to murder non-Muslims simply because Islam condemns "infidels." Laws against murder apply to everyone equally and cannot be "trumped" by a religious argument. But problems arise when some argue that it is not only reasonable to expect Muslims not to kill Jews and Christians, it is also reasonable to *force* devout Christian bakers and photographers to service gay weddings. Being told, "I'd rather not have your business" is not quite the same as having one's head cut off. But *if* one accepts the (invalid) premise that the government is justified in forcing individuals to buy health insurance they neither want nor need, one can hardly object to the government forcing individuals into signing contracts to provide services. [73841, 73842, 73884, 73889]

Because the U.S. Constitution is ignored more than it is followed, however, an individual may very well find himself in hot water merely for using *his own property* as he sees fit. Arguably, the right to do as one pleases with one's property usually has little to do with religion, so any "Religious Freedom Restoration Act" is like a bright neon sign telling anti-religious leftists, "Come and attack me!" It would be far more logical to pass a "Property Rights Restoration Act" declaring that the owners of property can do as they wish with their property. The policy of "No Shoes, No Shirt, No Service" has nothing to do with religion, but people accept the fact that the business owner has the right to decline service to certain customers he finds objectionable. In a free society, a business owner *should* be free to decline service to anyone he chooses—however objectionable

others may find his actions. If the refusal is considered reasonable by the community, the business owner will have the support of that community. If the refusal is considered unreasonable, the business owner will lose support—and he will lose customers as a result. (If customers hate the food and service at Joe’s Restaurant, Joe will go out of business. But it is the customers who should be deciding which restaurants warrant their business, *not* the government.) [73841, 73842, 73884, 73889]

At NationalReview.com Andrew C. McCarthy later writes, “Trumped up controversies like the one in Indiana are needlessly divisive. There would be many more Americans supportive of, or at least resigned to, the concept of gay marriage if it were just a matter of live-and-let-live tolerance. Instead, the Left’s agitators have made it the leading edge in a campaign to suppress traditional religious belief. They demand not toleration but compulsory approbation—with dissenters stigmatized and subjected to the prohibitive expense of legal fees. We should not allow the law to be used this way. The law is supposed to be a reflection of our social consensus, not a cudgel to impose an unpopular outcome that breeds resentment. There is fast-growing public support for the proposition that gay marriage should be permitted, but nothing close to a consensus that it must be endorsed and facilitated by people who have reservations based on millennia of teaching that, up until about five minutes ago, was society’s nigh-unanimous consensus. And the vast majority of those people who still hold the view recently held by a vast majority honor the human dignity of gay people; they are perfectly willing to serve them as customers, just as they serve everyone else. Their objection is to the *forced participation in a marriage ceremony*, because they—again, based on those millennia of teaching—understand marriage as a solemn religious institution whose underpinnings gay marriage contradicts.” [73947]

Obama trots out to the White House Rose Garden to brag about a nuclear deal with Iran—despite the fact that nothing has been signed and the “deal” is only a “framework” for a possible agreement. Obama calls it a “good deal” that will “cut off every pathway that Iran could take to develop a nuclear weapon.” (The odds of that claim being factual are slim to none.) Obama does admit, “Nothing is agreed to until everything is agreed to.” “If we can get this done, and [if] Iran follows through on the framework that our negotiators agreed to, we will be able to resolve one of the greatest threats to our security, and to do so peacefully.” While Obama claims sanctions against Iran will be “phased out,” Iran suggests they will cease almost immediately. (It is not much of a “framework” if the two sides are giving the media different versions of the terms. The final agreement will reportedly be hammered out by June 30.) During his brief comments, Obama notes that it was sanctions that brought Iran to the negotiating table. (He conveniently neglects to mention that he opposed the imposition of those sanctions—which were imposed because Iran cheated on prior agreements.) The scheme, of course, is for Obama to trick enough people into believing substantial progress has been made so that they will raise a fuss if Congress tries to take any action against the “agreement.” After more than a year of discussions, all Obama has is an oral pledge from Iran to hammer out a written agreement over the next three months—at which point it will likely seek yet another deadline delay. [73821, 73840, 73858, 73859, 73860, 73867, 73906, 73916]

According to the *Daily Mail*, “The preliminary agreement announced in Switzerland on Thursday is spelled out in a four-page document... released by the White House and the State Department. Here’s some of what Iran is agreeing to do: Won’t build any new centrifuges for 15 years; Won’t enrich uranium at the previously secret Fordow site for 15 years; Reduce nuclear-material centrifuges from 19,000 to 6,104; Let the IAEA store all the extra centrifuges’ Give IAEA inspectors access to its uranium mills for 25 years; Rebuild heavy-water reactor at Arak so it can’t produce weapons-grade plutonium; Won’t build new heavy-water reactors for 15 years. In return, the West will: Give Iran relief from nuclear-related economic sanctions ‘if it verifiably abides by its commitments’; Lift ‘all past UN Security Council resolutions on the Iran nuclear issue’ as soon as Iran has completed all its promised ‘nuclear-related actions’; The U.S. will keep in place its sanctions on Iran related to ‘terrorism, human rights abuses, and ballistic missiles.’” [73821, 73928]

The “framework for an agreement” will be ridiculed by many. It is a victory for Iran and a disaster for the rest of the world. Iran is giving up almost nothing, but will get sanctions lifted, allowing it to reinvigorate its economy—and that will give it the billions of dollars it needs to continue and even expand its support of world-wide terrorism. Further, Iran will *not* be required to dismantle *any* of its nuclear facilities. Not being allowed to build any *new* heavy-water reactors is meaningless, because Obama is allowing Iran to keep and continue to operate its *existing* heavy-water reactors. (In 2013 Obama said the Iranians “certainly don’t need a heavy-water reactor at Arak in order to have a peaceful nuclear program,” and, “They don’t need to have an underground, fortified facility like Fordow in order to have a peaceful nuclear program.” In 2015 he is eagerly allowing the Iranians keep both.) [73857, 73860, 73892, 73907]

Additionally, there is no provision for “snap” inspections. Obama claims that if Iran “cheats,” the sanctions will quickly be re-imposed. But that will not happen—because Russia, China, and the European Union will not agree to re-impose them, and Iran will not care if only the United States does. Even worse, Obama’s negotiating team has apparently *not* demanded in the agreement that Iran release an American Christian minister and a U.S. Marine (and several other Americans) who are imprisoned in Iran. The terms released so far suggest that much of what Obama considered unacceptable months ago has now become acceptable. (Obama does not explain how “the world will know it” when Iran cheats. At TheHill.com, former Congressman John LeBoutillier (R-NY) notes that in 1992 then-Senator John Kerry (D-MA) fraudulently duped reporters into believing a planned inspection at a Hanoi prison was really a “no-notice inspection.” If Kerry could not be trusted in 1992, there is no reason to believe he can be trusted in 2015.) [73857, 73860, 73892, 73907]

The alleged agreement requires Iran to “dilute” much of its enriched uranium. That is hardly a “concession” by Iran, because the process can be reversed in only a few weeks. [73885]

While Obama and Secretary of State John Kerry celebrate their nuclear “framework,” Iranian troops continue to push back rebel forces in the Golan Heights area of Syria. The British *Times* notes, “The prospect of Iranian troops being posted on a frontier that has been calm for decades is causing alarm in Israel...” Additionally, Iran is providing the terrorist group Hizbullah with guided warheads for its rockets. *The Jerusalem Post* reports, “Speaking at the Israel Air and Missile Defense Conference in Herzliya, Col. Aviram Hasson, who is involved in preparing IDF air defenses, said Iran was converting Zilzal unguided rockets into accurate, guided M-600 projectiles by upgrading their warheads. Hasson, who is in charge of upper-tier missile defenses at HOMA—part of the Defense Ministry’s Administration for the Development of Weapons and Technological Infrastructure—described Iran as a ‘train engine that is not stopping for a moment. It is manufacturing new and advanced ballistic missiles and cruise missiles. It is turning unguided rockets that had an accuracy range of kilometers into weapons that are accurate to within meters.’” [73822, 73823, 73829, 73830]

Townhall.com political editor Guy Benson suggests that Iran is simply buying time with talks that produced nothing more than “non-binding ‘outlines of an understanding’ with scant details. Some in the media will call this a ‘deal.’ It’s not. It’s a face-saving, time-buying charade—an implicit admission that years of repeatedly-extended negotiations have resulted in nothing concrete, with yet another deadline disappearing in the rearview mirror. ...[W]e have ‘outlines of an understanding’ that allow the parties to keep on negotiating, with the Iranians (a) stressing that the agreement is informal and non-binding at this stage, and (b) lobbying to keep as many details—to the extent that they exist at all—private.” Iranian President Hasan Rouhani “and Tehran’s chief negotiator (a hothead who’s reportedly known for angrily berating his Western counterparts) are apparently feeling chipper about today’s developments. Remember, these are the puppets of a fanatical, anti-Semitic, anti-American regime that is the world’s leading sponsor [of] terrorism, known for cheating, lying and evading international obligations. Iran has been killing Americans and Jews for decades. Its supreme leader leads chants of ‘death to America’ to this day.” [73836]

Benson lists some of what Iran gets in the deal: “An active nuclear program with international legitimacy.” “Thousands of operational centrifuges.” “Expiration dates on [nuclear program] restrictions.” “Major sanctions relief.” “No action on other abuses and rogue programs.” The West gets: “A relatively robust-sounding inspections/verification regime.” “[Temporarily] Limiting Iran’s enrichment to low levels, with rudimentary technology.” “A lengthened Iranian nuclear ‘breakout’ period [from perhaps a few months to one year].” “Iran reduces its current stockpile of nuclear materials.” [73838]

Israel calls the nuclear framework “detached from wretched reality.” Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu tells Obama the deal will threaten the existence of Israel. (Some might argue that was Obama’s goal.) [73839, 73843]

Twitter user NotKennyRogers tweets, “Just so I’m clear, our country has tightened sanctions on Christian business owners and relaxed sanctions on Iran building a nuclear

bomb?” Cameron Gray tweets, “ICYMI [in case you missed it] Sanctions have been lifted on Cuba, are being lifted on Iran, and have been placed on Indiana.” Dana Loesch asks, “Wonder if the admin asked for Iran to legalize gay marriage or stop killing gays as a requirement for deal.” David Burge tweets, “Once again, Obama does an end zone dance after being tackled for a safety.” [73844, 73845, 73846, 73847]

While Obama and Kerry pretend that Iran can be trusted, Iran warns that it will topple the Saudi monarchy for trying to stop Iranian-backed Houthi terrorists in Yemen. [73859]

Only hours after Obama’s announcement of the nuclear deal “framework,” Iran accuses the United States of lying about it. FreeBeacon.com reports, “Iranian Foreign Minister Javad Zarif accused the Obama administration of misleading the American people and Congress in a fact sheet it released following the culmination of negotiations with the Islamic Republic. Zarif bragged in an earlier press conference with reporters that the United States had tentatively agreed to let it continue the enrichment of uranium, the key component in a nuclear bomb, as well as key nuclear research. Zarif additionally said Iran would have all nuclear-related sanctions lifted once a final deal is signed and that the country would not be forced to shut down any of its currently operating nuclear installations. ...Zarif went on to push back against claims by Kerry that the sanctions relief would be implemented in a phased fashion—and only after Iran verifies that it is not conducting any work on the nuclear weapons front. Zarif, echoing previous comments, said the United States has promised an immediate termination of sanctions.” [73861, 74864, 73929, 73943, 74010]

Zarif states, “We will continue enriching [uranium]. We will continue research and development. Our heavy water reactor will be modernized and we will continue the Fordow facility. We will have centrifuges installed in Fordow, but not enriching. ...We have said right from the beginning that no agreement would be signed today. We have always stated that there could be only one agreement which could go into effect at the end of the talks on July 1 if everything goes well.” [73878]

Secretary of State John Kerry says, “We will give the international community confidence that’s Iran’s nuke program is and will remain exclusively peaceful. I can tell you the political understanding with details we have reached is a solid foundation for the good deal we are seeking. ...We have acknowledged there are some gaps. There are issues we have to resolve.” [73878]

On MSNBC, Andrea Mitchell—who is normally an Obama sycophant—observes, “The Iranians are running circles around the Americans here in terms of public diplomacy. They are setting the expectations.” (On the other hand, Mitchell has compared Secretary of State John Kerry to the great British Prime Minister Winston Churchill. She may not be aware that Churchill was a statesman who saved a nation, while Kerry is an arrogant and dim-witted politician who would sell his mother for a Nobel Peace Prize.) [73868, 73893]

At JihadWatch.org Robert Spencer writes, “The catastrophe of this [purported Iranian nuclear agreement] cannot be overstated. The US and the free world will be paying for this deal for a long time to come.” [73877]

The Center for Security Policy’s Middle East specialist Clare Lopez tells WND.com, “If Iran wanted to be nuclear, that was fine with this administration. I really think that’s their policy. ...[But] All the evidence suggests Iran already has nuclear warheads. IAEA [International Atomic Energy Agency] reporting over recent years indicates at a minimum they strongly suspect that Iran already has built nuclear warheads. It’s certainly known that Iran has long range ICBMs [intercontinental ballistic missiles]. The only thing I don’t think we know for sure is whether the Iranians have been able to marry the nuclear warheads to missiles, which is a technically difficult thing to do.” WND.com asks, “If Iran already has warheads, did it buy or build them?” Lopez replies, “I think they built them. I don’t see how not, after this many years of working closely with other countries’ programs.” Nevertheless, the Obama administration is “desperate to get a deal” in order “To sort of rack up a political win. It’s for appearances. A political notch in the gun belt. But it’s not real. I mean, they know it’s not real.” [73879]

“Lopez warns, “I’m not sure if architects of this policy agenda, including [Obama], actually understand the history of Islamic jihad and what it’s done in, and to, the world—especially the non-Muslim world, much of which was forcibly subjugated to Islamic rule over the centuries. Or else, how could they possibly follow such a policy? ...According to its own constitution, [Iran] is dedicated to jihad and a global Islamic government under Shariah. Its ideology says it can accelerate the return of the 12th Imam by instigating Armageddon: a frightening thought about a regime driving for a nuclear bomb.” Additionally, “Islamic law obligates Muslims to lie to non-Muslims [when it furthers the cause of Islam]. Why on earth would anyone expect Iran, a jihad and Shariah state, to negotiate with Westerners in good faith?” Obama and his negotiators have “an apparent trust that if the U.S. adopts a more accommodating attitude, well, then so will the Iranians. I’m not sure how Ivy League graduates could be so ignorant of world history. I cannot imagine they’d want to inflict the legacy of Islamic jihad on anyone if they knew what it has meant historically.” [73879]

Former CIA and NSA head General Michael Hayden tells Newsmax.com, “It took us 18 months to get to the outline of a [nuclear agreement] framework and now we’re going to get to the fine print in what, three months? That shows you how difficult this is. We have just agreed that Iran will be an industrial-strength nuclear state and that it will never be any more than one year away from having a nuclear weapon.” [73885, 73899]

At PJMedia.com Rick Moran posts a comparison of what the Iranians believe the nuclear agreement framework requires and allows and what the Obama administration claims is in the deal. (Needless to say, the two interpretations are not identical.) Moran writes, “We ought to call this deal ‘The Swiss Cheese Agreement.’ It’s obvious that Iran is going to interpret the deal any way it wants and that the administration’s spin is geared to putting a prom dress on a pig, selling it to the press, to Democrats, and to the American people as a

‘good deal.’ From where I’m sitting, far from putting Iran in a box, [it] allows them to continue dual-purpose research and does nothing to shorten the time it would take them to kick out the inspectors and quickly gear up to build a bomb.” [73890]

Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ) states, “In the coming days, this preliminary understanding will receive close scrutiny, and for that reason, Congress must fulfill its oversight responsibilities. That begins with taking up on April 14 in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act of 2015. If diplomats can negotiate for two-years on this issue, then certainly Congress is entitled to a review period of an agreement that will fundamentally alter our relationship with Iran and the sanctions imposed by Congress. The best outcome remains a good deal that ends Iran’s illicit nuclear weapons program. That requires a strong, united, and bipartisan approach from the Administration and Congress.” Senator Mark Kirk (R-IL) states, “Neville Chamberlain got a better deal from Adolf Hitler. Under today’s deal, the United States and its international partners will dismantle the sanctions regime against Iran, while Iran, the world’s biggest exporter of terrorism, will be allowed to keep vast capabilities to make nuclear weapons.” Senator Bob Corker (R-TN) states, “If a final agreement is reached, the American people, through their elected representatives, must have the opportunity to weigh in to ensure the deal truly can eliminate the threat of Iran’s nuclear program and hold the regime accountable. Rather than bypass Congress and head straight to the U.N. Security Council as planned, the administration first should seek the input of the American people.” [73890, 73891, 73897]

Senator Tom Cotton (R-A) states, “Iran will keep a stockpile of enriched uranium and thousands of centrifuges—including centrifuges at a fortified, underground military bunker at Fordow. Iran will also modernize its plutonium reactor at Arak. Iran won’t have to disclose the past military dimensions of its nuclear program, despite longstanding U.N. demands. In addition, Iran will get massive sanctions relief up front, making potential ‘snap-back’ sanctions for inevitable Iranian violations virtually impossible. ... These concessions also do nothing to stop or challenge Iran’s outlaw behavior. Iran remains the world’s worst state sponsor of terrorism. Iranian aggression is destabilizing the Middle East. And Iran continues to hold multiple Americans hostage.” Senator Chris Coons (D-DE) states, “As a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, I have urged Administration officials to not make any concessions on breakout timeline and capacity, centrifuge research and development, or the duration of any deal. While I support the Administration’s efforts to seek a negotiated path towards ending Iran’s illicit nuclear program, I have also been clear that no deal is better than a bad deal.” [73890, 73891, 73897]

The Washington Post editorial board writes, “The ‘key parameters’ for an agreement on Iran’s nuclear program released Thursday fall well short of the goals originally set by the Obama administration. None of Iran’s nuclear facilities—including the Fordow center buried under a mountain—will be closed. Not one of the country’s 19,000 centrifuges will be dismantled. Tehran’s existing stockpile of enriched uranium will be ‘reduced’ but not necessarily shipped out of the country. In effect, Iran’s nuclear infrastructure will

remain intact, though some of it will be mothballed for 10 years. When the accord lapses, the Islamic republic will instantly become a threshold nuclear state. That's a long way from the standard set by ...Obama in 2012 when he declared that 'the deal we'll accept' with Iran 'is that they end their nuclear program' and 'abide by the U.N. resolutions that have been in place.' Those resolutions call for Iran to suspend the enrichment of uranium. Instead, under the agreement announced Thursday, enrichment will continue with 5,000 centrifuges for a decade, and all restraints on it will end in 15 years. ... We hope that, as that debate goes forward, [Obama] and his aides will respond substantively to legitimate questions, rather than claim, as Mr. Obama did, that the 'inevitable critics' who 'sound off' prefer 'the risk of another war in the Middle East.' ...Both Mr. Obama and Secretary of State John F. Kerry emphasized that many details need to be worked out in talks with Iran between now and the end of June. During that time, the administration will have much other work to do: It must convince Mideast allies that Iran is not being empowered to become the region's hegemon, and it must accommodate Congress's legitimate prerogative to review the accord. We hope Mr. Obama will make as much effort to engage in good faith with skeptical allies and domestic critics as he has with the Iranian regime." [73895, 73896]

On MSNBC, Ann Curry gushes over the nuclear "framework," saying, "It is definitely an historic moment. It is rare to see nations who have for decades threatened each other with war step back from the brink and give peace a try. For Secretary of State [John] Kerry, it is a momentous announcement. This is potentially going to be one of his greatest triumphs. ...[T]his has been a major focus for his time in office. It will be a legacy. It's a legacy moment for him. There is even some discussion that it is possible, depending on how this goes, whether or not it is finally signed at the end of June, beginning of July, and whether or not it is actually deemed an effective document, a good deal, that it could actually portend the possible nomination of not only Secretary Kerry but possibly even the Iranian Foreign Minister for a Nobel Peace Prize." [73900]

Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, not eager to stick her neck out, issues a bland statement: "The onus is on Iran and the bar must be set high. It can never be permitted to acquire a nuclear weapon. It is also vital that these efforts be part of a comprehensive strategy to check Iran's regional ambitions, defend our allies and partners, and reinforce American leadership in the Middle East." (The agreement does not at all prevent Iran from developing nuclear weapons. In his 2012 State of the Union address Obama said, "Let there be no doubt: America is determined to prevent Iran from getting a nuclear weapon, and I will take no options off the table to achieve that goal." He lied.) [73901, 74106]

In Seattle, businesses comply with a minimum wage law which this weeks increases the amount to \$11 per hour and eventually to \$15 per hour. According to FoxNew.com, "Ivar's Salmon House, an iconic Seattle seafood restaurant, decided to skip the phase-in period and began paying \$15 right away. It also raised menu prices 21 percent. The famous Fish 'n Chips will run you \$20.60 and the Wild Alaska Halibut is now \$43.50. ...One Subway [sandwich restaurant] in South Seattle that's now paying workers \$11

raised prices four percent. ‘I don’t have a choice but to increase prices,’ said Subway franchisee David Jones. ‘I just hope that the public rewards us for giving good service and having good food.’ ...Paul Guppy, policy analyst at the Washington Policy Center, observes, “Youth unemployment in particular will be higher in Seattle. It will be harder for people to find a summer job or [for] students to add to their income when they’re in college.” [73902]

According to ADP’s national employment report, only 189,000 jobs were created from February to March, the fewest in more than a year. [73853, 73854]

The American Enterprise Institute (AEI) notes a survey which shows the average American believes businesses make an astounding 36 percent profit. In fact, the average profit margin is in the 7.5 percent range. “Big Oil” earned a 5.1 percent profit in the most recent quarter, and Walmart earned a mere 3.1 percent. AEI notes, “[F]or every \$100 in sales for Walmart, the state/local governments get an average of \$6.88 in sales taxes (and as much \$9.44 in Tennessee and \$9.16 in Arizona), while Walmart gets only \$3.10 in profits! Bottom Line: The public’s complete overestimation of how much companies earn in profits as a share of sales explains a lot. If \$36 of every \$100 in sales at a company like Walmart, McDonald’s, Home Depot, Ford Motor Company or a local dry cleaner or restaurant really did turn into profits, then of course those companies could afford to pay unrealistic living wages of \$15 per hour, accept unreasonable demands from labor unions, provide all sorts of generous fringe benefits including weeks of paid holidays, long paid maternity leaves, and gold-plated pension programs, etc. The public that believes in the fantasy-world of sky-high 36% profit margins would naturally think companies are just being greedy and stingy when they don’t pay higher ‘living wages’ and have to be forced to do so through minimum wage, or living wage, legislation.” [74083]

According to WashingtonPost.com, “Senior staffers for a House committee overseeing the Secret Service have asked the Obama administration to investigate complaints that agency employees circulated private personnel information revealing that the panel’s chairman was once rejected for a job as an agent, according to people familiar with the discussions. The committee staff referred the issue Thursday to the Department of Homeland Security after receiving whistleblower complaints that Secret Service staff at agency headquarters had circulated potentially unflattering information about Chairman Jason Chaffetz (R-UT). He has been an outspoken critic of Secret Service managers after a string of security lapses. In an interview, Chaffetz confirmed that he unsuccessfully applied for a position as a Secret Service agent in a Western field office. He recalled it was around 2003. He said he had not been granted an interview, and that he thinks he was rejected because he was then, in his mid-30s, too old. He said he found it ‘disconcerting to say the least’ to learn about the possibility that agency employees were circulating private information.” “‘I won’t be intimidated, but I’m sure that’s what it’s intended to do,’ he said.” (Chaffetz and his committee have hammered the Secret Service for its recent security lapses. In retaliation, someone in the agency apparently chose to leak the information about Chaffetz’s unsuccessful attempt to join the agency.) [73937, 73938, 73948]

Michelle Obama likely embarrasses her two daughters (and perhaps much of the nation) by dancing with Jimmy Fallon on *The Tonight Show*. (For the record, Steve Allen, Jack Paar, and Johnny Carson never danced with Mamie Eisenhower, Jacqueline Kennedy, Lady Bird Johnson, Pat Nixon, Betty Ford, Rosalynn Carter, Nancy Reagan, or Barbara Bush.) [73862, 73886]

On April 3 CBS *This Morning* remarks, “At Friday prayers [in Iran]... there was the usual chant of ‘Death to America’ ...but more out of habit than conviction.” (How CBS might know that is not explained.) [73952, 74105]

At BloombergView.com Josh Rogin and Eli Lake report, “The internationally recognized government of Libya says there are more than 5,000 fighters allied with the Islamic State operating inside the country—far more than previous estimates—yet it doesn’t want the U.S. to expand its Middle Eastern air war there because it’s unlikely to help. ... While the Libyan government is begging for international assistance of all kinds, including aid to its armed forces, the leadership in Tobruk is afraid airstrikes will only plunge Libya into greater chaos and topple the already fragile economy. ... According to a March 2 cable from the U.S. ambassador to Libya, Deborah Jones—described to us by a U.S. counterterrorism official—the State Department has been considering outreach to other, supposedly more moderate elements of the militia-aligned opposition forces in an effort to balance U.S. influence and cover all political bets.” (The usual question arises: How does anyone identify “moderates,” let alone trust them?) [73986, 73987, 73988]

USAToday.com reports, “Army officials are investigating a diversity training briefing at Fort Gordon, Ga., in which a slide about ‘white privilege’ was inappropriately shown to soldiers, according to an Army spokeswoman. The Equal Opportunity briefing took place Thursday for about 400 soldiers of the 67th Signal Battalion, Capt. Lindsay Roman, an Army spokeswoman, said Friday. The slide titled ‘The Luxury of Obliviousness’ has bullet-point items about ‘white privilege.’ One item reads, ‘Race privilege gives whites little reason to pay a lot of attention to African Americans or to how white privilege affects them. ‘To be white in America means not having to think about it.’”

TheBlaze.com reports the reactions of the soldiers: “‘True story: I went to a forced EEO class and the white female SSG said we white folks were a problem. I looked around the room and everyone of every race were rolling their eyes,’ Scott Hampton Truelove recalled. ‘We of all races went fishing, eating out, having BBQs, went to the club, together [sic]. We all never had a problem with race. We as a group stood up and walked out. She was cutting into our beer drinking time.’” [73959, 73960, 73961]

The Department of Labor reports that only 126,000 jobs were created in March—an even lower figure than the ADP estimate. The almost-meaningless “official” unemployment rate remains at 5.5 percent. (More than 150,000 jobs per month are needed every month just to keep up with population growth. About two million students graduate from college every year, and they alone account for 167,000 jobs per month. Many high school graduates do not go to college, and they also need jobs. Beyond that, there are more than

12 million unemployed Americans begging for full-time jobs. The simple truth is that although 126,000 jobs per month may seem like a lot to some people, it actually signifies a terrible economy.) [74853, 73894, 73939]

CNSNews.com adds, “A record 56,131,000 women, age 16 years and over, were not in the labor force in March, as the labor force participation rate for this group dropped to 56.6 percent—a 27-year low, according to data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).” Additionally, “A record 12,202,000 black people were not in the labor force in March, as the participation rate for this group declined over the month to 61.0 percent...” and the total “number of Americans 16 years and older who did not participate in the labor force—meaning they neither had a job nor actively sought one in the last four weeks—rose from 92,898,000 in February to 93,175,000 in March... That is the first time the number of Americans out of the labor force has exceeded 93 million.” [73903, 73904, 73905]

The leftist PoliticusUSA.com, desperately seeking a silver lining in the monumental black cloud of March employment figures, writes, “Well, this is awkward for Republicans. The Obama economy has set yet another job growth record in the private sector” with “61 straight months of job growth...” (More than 93 million Americans of working age are *not* working, and Obama supporters are applauding the creation of a mere 126,000 jobs—ignoring the fact that more than that many people have dropped out of the workforce during that same month. The creation of only one job would apparently be celebrated by PoliticsUSA, even if 250,000 others were lost at the same time.) [73909]

DailyCaller.com reports, “Federal prosecutors have indicted two men affiliated with the New Black Panther Party who allegedly planned to bomb the Gateway Arch and murder St. Louis County prosecuting attorney Robert McCulloch as well as then-Ferguson, Mo. police chief Tom Jackson back in November. ...The indictment charges that Brandon Orlando Baldwin and Olajuwon Ali Davis, both 22 years old, allegedly hatched a plan to get a bomb past security at the iconic Gateway Arch and plant it inside the 630-foot high observation deck at the top of the monument.” [73888]

FoxNews.com reports, “A new State Department and Department of Homeland Security program seeks to stop the surge of immigrant children from Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador at the southern border by giving their U.S.-based parents the option to apply to have their kids picked up and put on a plane, without paying a penny. ... ‘I think many Americans are going to be surprised to learn that illegal aliens here in the United States are getting the Obama administration to go and get their children and fetch them,’ Tom Fitton, president of the conservative watchdog group Judicial Watch, told Fox News. ‘And all at our expense.’ ...So far, the State Department has not provided a cost for the plane tickets, or the benefits that follow upon their arrival in America. Asked Friday about the issue, spokeswoman Marie Harf said: ‘The price tag? I don’t know.’” [73911]

The *Daily Mail* reports, “A federal judge has ordered the Internal Revenue Service to hand over a list of the 298 tea party organizations that it targeted with broad and often

intrusive questions when they applied for nonprofit tax-exempt status. The decision from U.S. District Judge Susan Dlott means right-wing groups are a step closer to being allowed to pursue a class-action lawsuit against the IRS. The agency has admitted playing political favorites with the tax code beginning in 2010, when it began applying extra scrutiny to groups with red-flag words like ‘patriots’ or ‘tea party’ in their names. While those organizations’ applications were held up for years, liberal groups sailed through the process. Federal tax-exempt status is conferred [sic; conferred] on groups that serve a public purpose, including issue advocacy, and allows them to promise tax deductions to their donors.” [73931, 73941, 74002]

ABC’s Denver affiliate reports, “Last week, the Colorado Civil Rights Division ruled that Denver’s Azucar Bakery did not discriminate against William Jack, a Christian from Castle Rock, by refusing to make two cakes with anti-gay messages and imagery that he requested last year.” But “Last year, the Colorado Civil Rights Division ruled that another bakery, Masterpiece Cake Shop in Lakewood, could not refuse to make a wedding cake for a gay couple, calling it discriminatory.” [73933, 73934, 74209]

Obama issues a statement on the observation of Passover: “Michelle and I send our warmest greetings to all those celebrating Passover in the United States, in the State of Israel, and throughout the world. Tonight, for the seventh year, I’ll hold a Seder [ritual Passover feast] in the White House, and we’ll join millions of Jewish families as we retell one of humanity’s great stories of liberation. The Exodus was neither easy nor quick. The Israelites’ journey to freedom required them to choose faith over fear and courage over complacency. Above all, it required the works of an awesome God, who led them out of bondage with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. The story of the Exodus—the signs and wonders that appeared when hope seemed lost, the Jewish people’s abiding belief that they would one day reach the Promised Land—has inspired countless generations over the years. It inspired Jewish families to hold fast to their faith, even during times of terrible persecution. It inspired young Civil Rights leaders as they marched across an Alabama bridge in search of their own Promised Land, half a century ago. And it continues to inspire us today.” [73951]

“Tonight, my family will read the passage of the Haggadah that declares we must see ourselves as though we personally were liberated from Egypt. The Exodus reminds us that progress has always come slow and the future has always been uncertain, but it also reminds there is always reason for hope. Like the Israelites who Moses led out of slavery long ago, it is up to us to never lose faith in the better day that lies ahead. In our own country, we can continue our march toward a more perfect union. Around the world, we can seek to extend the miracles of freedom and peace, prosperity and security, to more of God’s creation. And together, we can continue the hard but awesome work of tikkun olam [‘healing the world’], and do our part to repair the world. From my family to yours, Chag Sameach [essentially ‘happy holidays’ in Hebrew].” [73951]

On April 4, with April 15 fast approaching, tens of thousands of ObamaCare enrollees have yet to receive correct 1095A forms needed for their federal tax filings. (According

to the Tax Foundation, the average taxpaying American must work until April 24 to pay his taxes. Roughly one-third of his annual income goes to the government. Newsmax.com points out, “Americans will pay \$3.38 trillion in federal taxes and \$1.57 trillion in state and local taxes this year, for a total of more than \$4.8 trillion, or 31 percent of the nation’s income. Collectively they will spend more on taxes in 2015 than they will on food, clothing, and housing combined, according to the Foundation.”) [73932, 73946]

In his weekly radio/Internet address, Obama pushes his proposed nuclear agreement with Iran. He argues that the only three options available are his agreement, bombing Iran’s nuclear facilities, or re-imposing sanctions. But he claims that sanctions “always led to Iran making more progress in its nuclear program” anyway, and are therefore not the answer. At BloombergView.com Eli Lake later writes, “Here’s the catch: Two days earlier, at the announcement of the framework agreement, Obama praised the efficacy of renewing sanctions in case Iran cheats. ‘If Iran violates the deal,’ he said, ‘sanctions can be snapped back into place.’ All of this presents a major problem for Obama and his team as they try to sell their deal to a skeptical Congress. If Obama doesn’t think the sanctions that have cut off Iran’s banks from the international finance system and blocked the Tehran government from legally selling its oil will halt the regime’s nuclear program, why does he think snapping them back would deter Iran from cheating?” [74125]

Breitbart.com reports, “In its indictment of Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ) and Dr. Salomon Melgen, a Florida ophthalmologist, the Department of Justice cites Melgen’s \$600,000 donation to Senator Harry Reid’s (D-NV) Senate Majority PAC in 2012. That money, the feds charge, was earmarked for the successful re-election of Menendez, and was part of ‘hundreds of thousands of dollars and contributions to entities that benefitted Menendez’s 2012 Senate campaign, in exchange for specific requested exercises of Menendez’s official authority.’ The indictment makes no mention of the additional \$100,000 Melgen contributed to the Senate Majority PAC a mere two weeks before Reid arranged an August 2, 2012 meeting among himself, Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius, and Menendez. At that meeting, Menendez advocated directly to Secretary Sebelius on behalf of Melgen’s appeal of an HHS finding that he owed \$8.9 million for overbilling Medicare in 2007 and 2008. That advocacy, the indictment charges, was the influence Melgen received from Menendez in return for his \$600,000 contribution to Reid’s Senate Majority PAC. That charge leads to an obvious question. If Melgen’s \$600,000 contribution to Senate Majority PAC was an illegal quid-pro-quo between Melgen and Menendez, does it not stand to reason that Melgen’s \$100,000 contribution to the same Senate Majority PAC was an illegal quid-pro-quo between Melgen and Reid in which the influence Melgen received was Reid’s arrangement of and participation in the August 2, 2012 meeting attended by Reid, Sebelius, and Menendez? ...Two former federal prosecutors tell Breitbart News that the Department of Justice, which indicted Menendez on Wednesday for his role ‘in the scheme to sell influence for huge campaign contributions,’ has chosen ‘to downplay or omit salient details of Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid’s (D-NV) participation in [that] corruption scheme.’” [73950, 74059]

Former U.S. Attorney Joseph diGenova tells Breitbart.com, “It is obvious that the Justice Department chose to calibrate its charges so as to skip Reid. The timing and size of the contributions to Reid’s PAC coupled with his personal attendance at a meeting with Secretary Sebelius along with Menendez on behalf of the Doctor demonstrate facts sufficient to warrant further investigation.” Former prosecutor Andrew C. McCarthy comments, “I don’t understand, for example, how you go to the trouble of itemizing trivial gifts like Melgen’s buying Menendez a \$360 steakhouse dinner but leave out Melgen’s giving \$100,000 to a Reid-controlled super PAC just a few days before Reid—not Menendez—arranged a meeting with the HHS secretary to intervene in Melgen’s \$8.9 million Medicare billing dispute.” [73950]

Obama is interviewed by *The New York Times*’ Thomas Friedman. Defending his policy of “engagement” with adversaries, Obama says, “We are powerful enough to be able to test these propositions without putting ourselves at risk. And that’s the thing... people don’t seem to understand. You take a country like Cuba. For us to test the possibility that engagement leads to a better outcome for the Cuban people, there aren’t that many risks for us. It’s a tiny little country. It’s not one that threatens our core security interests, and so [there’s no reason not] to test the proposition. And if it turns out that it doesn’t lead to better outcomes, we can adjust our policies. The same is true with respect to Iran, a larger country, a dangerous country, one that has engaged in activities that resulted in the death of U.S. citizens, but the truth of the matter is: Iran’s defense budget is \$30 billion. Our defense budget is closer to \$600 billion. Iran understands that they cannot fight us. ... You asked about an Obama doctrine. The doctrine is: We will engage, but we preserve all our capabilities.” (Iran, of course, does not have to fight the United States to get what it wants, because Obama is willing to give it what it wants: freedom to develop nuclear weapons. Iran is not afraid of the military might of the United States because it knows Obama is unlikely to use it. Additionally, Iran’s defense budget is reportedly about \$18 billion, not \$30 billion.) [73966, 74110]

Obama continues, “...And so for us to say, ‘Let’s try’—understanding that we’re preserving all our options, that we’re not naive—but if in fact we can resolve these issues diplomatically, we are more likely to be safe, more likely to be secure, in a better position to protect our allies, and who knows? Iran may change. If it doesn’t, our deterrence capabilities, our military superiority stays in place. ...We’re not relinquishing our capacity to defend ourselves or our allies. In that situation, why wouldn’t we test it? ...Now, what you might hear from Prime Minister [Binyamin] Netanyahu, which I respect, is the notion, ‘Look, Israel is more vulnerable. We don’t have the luxury of testing these propositions the way you do,’ and I completely understand that. And further, I completely understand Israel’s belief that, given the tragic history of the Jewish people, they can’t be dependent solely on us for their own security. But what I would say to them is that not only am I absolutely committed to making sure that they maintain their qualitative military edge, and that they can deter any potential future attacks, but what I’m willing to do is to make the kinds of commitments that would give everybody in the neighborhood, including Iran, a clarity that if Israel were to be attacked by any state, that we would stand by them. And that, I think, should be ...sufficient to take advantage of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see whether or not we can at least take the nuclear

issue off the table. What I would say to the Israeli people is ...that there is no formula, there is no option, to prevent Iran from getting a nuclear weapon that will be more effective than the diplomatic initiative and framework that we put forward—and that’s demonstrable.” (Obama is mistaken. His deal with Iran will not prevent it from getting nuclear weapons. It provides a pathway to that outcome. His “once-in-a-lifetime opportunity” remark may be an admission that no future occupant of the Oval Office would be foolish enough to accept such a one-sided agreement.) [73966]

Obama says, “I think the election of [President Hassan] Rouhani indicated that there was an appetite among the Iranian people for a rejoining with the international community, an emphasis on the economics and the desire to link up with a global economy. And so what we’ve seen over the last several years, I think, is the opportunity for those forces within Iran that want to break out of the rigid framework that they have been in for a long time to move in a different direction. It’s not a radical break, but it’s one that I think offers us the chance for a different type of relationship, and this nuclear deal, I think, is a potential expression of that.” (Obama’s claim is absurd. Rouhani is as radical as his predecessor, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. The only difference is that Rouhani pretends to be a “moderate.” But both Ahmadinejad and Rouhani are puppets controlled by the ayatollahs. If Obama had any concern for the Iranian people, he would have supported their “green revolution” in 2009—rather than standing idly by while Ahmadinejad’s goons mowed protesters down in the streets of Tehran.) [73966]

With the possibility that Iran’s incursions into Iraq and Syria and its quest for a nuclear weapon will only encourage other Middle East nations to “go nuclear,” Obama says, “I think the biggest threats that they face may not be coming from Iran invading. It’s going to be from dissatisfaction inside their own countries. That’s a tough conversation to have, but it’s one that we have to have. ...[O]ur friends in the region, our traditional Sunni states, have some very real external threats, but they also have some internal threats. ...[P]art of our job is to work with these states and say, ‘How can we build your defense capabilities against external threats, but also, how can we strengthen the body politic in these countries, so that Sunni youth feel that they’ve got something other than [ISIS] to choose from?’ And that’s going to be a generation [sic; generational] process ...and ultimately it will be up to the societies to do that.” (Obama’s comment pleases the Hizbullah-affiliated Al-Manar television station in Lebanon, which WND.com notes “led with the headline ‘Obama to ‘Gulf States’: Biggest Threat is from inside own Countries, not Iran.’” Iran certainly wants its neighbors to believe it is not a threat, and Obama is doing Iran a favor by spreading that falsehood.) [74047, 74072]

The White House issues a statement: “In a special video message, ...Obama offered his warmest wishes to people across the country and around the world celebrating the Easter and Passover holidays. Last night, [Obama and his wife] hosted a Seder here at the White House to mark the start of the Jewish holiday of Passover. Tomorrow, the First Family will celebrate Easter, reflecting on Christ’s sacrifice and embracing the hope that this sacred season represents. ‘Whether we’re Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh, Hindu, or Buddhist; whether faith in God shapes our daily lives completely or not at all, we believe

that with common effort, and shared sacrifice, a brighter future is just around the bend,' [Obama] said. 'And we embrace our obligation to do something meaningful, something lasting, with the precious time we've been allotted on this Earth.' [Obama] also encouraged all Americans to 'pause and give thanks for the chance to live in a country where everyone has the right to worship and pray and love as they choose.'" [73964]

On April 5 Obama and his family (for the first time in a very long time) attend church services—at the Alfred Street Baptist Church in Alexandria, Virginia. Obama no doubt enjoys the sermon by Dr. Howard-John Wesley, who says, "Even today in our political landscape, a line in the sand is drawn forcing you to make a decision on where you stand. Where do you stand with rights or same sex couples? Where do you stand on gun reform? Where do you stand with police body cameras? Where do you stand on affordable health care? Life has a way of making you make a decision. Where you stand on the resurrection of Jesus Christ: You either believe it or you reject it." [73970]

British Prime Minister David Cameron issues a video statement: "Easter is a time for Christians to celebrate the ultimate triumph of life over death in the resurrection of Jesus, and for all of us, it's a time to reflect on the part that Christianity plays in our national life. The church is not just a collection of beautiful, old buildings; it's a living, active force doing great works right across our country. When people are homeless, the church is there with hot meals and shelter. When people are addicted or in debt, when people are suffering or grieving, the church is there. ...Across Britain, Christians don't just talk about 'loving thy neighbor,' they live it out in faith schools, in prisons, in community groups, and it's for all these reasons that we should feel proud to say, 'This is a Christian country.' Yes, we're a nation that embraces, welcomes and accepts all faiths and none, but we're still a Christian country. ...We have a duty to speak out against the persecution of Christians around the world too." [73963, 73964, 73971]

"It is truly shocking that, in 2015, there are still Christians being threatened, tortured, even killed, because of their faith—from Egypt to Nigeria, Libya to North Korea. Across the Middle East, Christians have been hounded out of their homes, forced to flee from village to village—many of them forced to renounce their faith or [be] brutally murdered. To all those brave Christians in Iraq and Syria who are practicing their faith, or sheltering others, we must say, 'We stand with you.' This government has put those words into action, whether getting humanitarian aid to those stranded on Mount Sinjar, or funding grassroots reconciliation in Iraq. And in the coming months, we must continue to speak as one voice, for freedom of belief. So this Easter, we should keep in our thoughts all those Christians facing persecution abroad, and give thanks for all those Christians who are making a real difference here at home—on which note, I'd like to wish you and your family a very happy Easter." (Some Americans might wish that Obama had issued such a statement, noting the persecution of Christians around the world. Instead, Obama interjects acceptance of homosexuality in his statement by asking Americans to "pause and give thanks for the chance to live in a country where everyone has the right to worship and pray and love as they choose.") [73963, 73964]

Christians in Urumiyeh, Iran are prevented from attending Easter services by the Iranian regime. (At JihadWatch.org Robert Spencer writes that if Obama “wasn’t a full-on appeaser [he] might have insisted during negotiations with Iran that there would be no deal unless the Iranian regime guaranteed the full rights of religious minorities.”) [74213, 74214]

On *Meet the Press*, Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal is asked by NBC’s Chuck Todd, “Well, let me ask you this. Do you agree with some other social conservatives that you think Governors [Mike] Pence and Governor [Asa] Hutchinson of Arkansas and Indiana [sic; of Indiana and Arkansas, respectively] have essentially caved to too much pressure?” Jindal responds, “Well, Chuck, I was very worried about the law in Indiana. I’m disappointed. Let’s remember what this debate was originally all about. This is about business owners that [sic; who] don’t want to choose between their Christian faith, their sincerely held religious beliefs, and being able to operate their businesses. Now, what they don’t want is the government to force them to participate in wedding ceremonies that contradict their beliefs. They simply want the right to say, ‘We don’t want to be forced to participate in those ceremonies.’ So I was disappointed that you could see Christians and their businesses face discrimination in Indiana. I hope the legislators will fix that, rectify that. Chuck, there used to be a bipartisan consensus in this country around religious liberty saying that as Americans we don’t all have to agree with each other, but we should respect each other’s rights and freedoms. And that’s what this debate is about. Are we gonna use government to force people to contradict their own sincerely held beliefs.” [73954]

Todd asks, “Well, the debate, I guess, is about the line on freedom and a personal conviction versus how you conduct yourself in a business. So you think it’s okay based on religious conviction for a business to deny services to a same-sex couple?” Jindal replies, “Well, Chuck, we’re not talking about restaurants denying service to people who want to come and have dinner. We’re not talking about day-to-day routine commercial transactions. We’re talking about a very specific example here of business owners, of florists, of musicians, of caterers who are being forced to either pay thousands of dollars [in fines] or close their businesses if they don’t want to participate in a wedding ceremony that contradicts their religious beliefs. So in that instance, yeah, I think part of the First Amendment means that we allow individuals to obey their conscience, to obey their religious beliefs.” (Jindal is correct. There is a substantial difference between serving customers who come into one’s store or restaurant, and the government forcing florists, bakers, and photographers to *enter into service contracts with certain customers*. It would hardly be proper, for example, for the government to force religious business owners to ignore their Sabbath and remain open seven days per week. Nor would it be proper for the government to force a Muslim silversmith to make a Menorah for a Jewish customer, or to force a Muslim butcher to sell pork if he chose not to. No customer is substantially harmed by such deference to religious beliefs, because another service provider can almost always be found.) [73954]

Todd introduces the segment by saying, “This week, the debate over so-called religious liberty, or freedom legislation in Indiana and Arkansas, marked a new round of the culture wars with liberals, LGBT activists, and the big business wing of the Republican Party pitted against evangelical conservatives.” (At NationalReview.com Ross Kaminsky notes Todd’s use of the term “so-called,” writing, “Todd may not value the free exercise of religion—a right explicitly protected, along with freedom of speech, assembly, and the press in the First Amendment to the United States Constitution—but that does not justify his suggestion that it is not a true, indeed a fundamental, right. Like most Washington correspondents desperate to be invited to all the right cocktail parties, Todd missed the fact that a recent AP-GfK poll found that 57 percent of Americans, most of whom live outside his Beltway bubble, support the right of ‘wedding-related businesses with religious objections... to refuse service to same-sex couples.’ ...Since the Left cannot, despite the rapid cave-ins of governors Pence (Ind.) and Hutchinson (Ark.) on RFRA, simply impose their view that a claimed ‘right’ to buy from a particular baker (or photographer or even pizzeria) trumps a true and long-recognized foundational American right to the free exercise of religion, they resort to disparaging measures designed to protect religious freedom as ‘so-called religious liberty’ laws. They have been masters of so controlling the language for at least the past century.” [74061, 74062]

“Chuck Todd is the personification of the liberal self-righteousness that denies one of our nation’s most fundamental rights and demeans those who would exercise it, demanding a version of ‘tolerance’ that turns the meaning of the word on its head and instead creates what are little more than thought crimes. ...Chuck Todd’s insulting language says much more about him than it does about Indiana’s unnecessarily controversial law. It also says a lot, and none of it good, about the philosophical unmooring of the Fourth Estate from principle. ...One can hardly imagine [Thomas] Jefferson—or any of those who pledged their lives, fortunes, and sacred honor to defend America’s noble conception of individual rights—stooping to such rhetorical pusillanimity as ‘so-called liberty.’ But then what do you expect from a so-called journalist like Chuck Todd?” [74061, 74062]

On *State of the Union*, Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu states, “I think the alternatives are not either this bad deal [with Iran] or war. I think there’s a third alternative. And that is standing firm, ratcheting up the pressure, until you get a better deal. A better deal would roll back Iran’s vast nuclear infrastructure and require Iran to stop its aggression in the region, its terror worldwide, and its calls and actions to annihilate the state of Israel. ...[R]estrictions placed on Iran are temporary, after a few years, Iran will have unlimited access [to produce nuclear weapons]. ...[Iran has] cheated in the past on this; in this case, with this deal, what’s been illegitimate is being legitimized not only the ability to maintain but in a few years to increase it, that’s very dangerous.” [73969]

Also appearing on *State of the Union* is Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), who calls on Netanyahu to “contain himself, because he has put out no real alternative, in his speech to the Congress, no real alternative, since then, no real alternative [to Obama’s proposed Iran deal].” She calls the proposal “a better agreement, candidly, than I thought it was

every going to be... and it can signal a new day. Otherwise, we keep this dynamic going, which is not productive of anything that's positive for the region. ...I believe that this foreign minister [Javad Zarif] and this Iranian president [Hassan Rouhani], both of whom are moderates, really want to show that there is another way for Iran, and therefore, giving up this [nuclear] program is worth it. ...I believe he [Zarif] is sincere. I believe that President Rouhani wants this. And it looks like the supreme leader will be agreeable. Now, having said that, we have got everybody jumping to conclusions in the Congress. This agreement has to be written up into a binding kind of agreement. And that's the document that we all need to see, the final document.' (Feinstein is clearly mistaken. Zarif and Rouhani are not "moderates," and Iran is not about to give up its nuclear program.) [73974]

On *Sunday Morning Futures*, Congressman Peter King (R-NY) tells Maria Bartiromo that Obama's deal with Iran is a "bad one." "We are now basically institutionalizing it [Iran's nuclear power]. We're allowing Iran to keep what we said we would take away. I think [Obama] honestly wants a deal, and he's willing to take a not-so-good deal because I believe that he wants to institutionalize Iran, to make Iran a dominant player in the Middle East, so you have the U.S. and Iran, almost a balance of power ...like the days of the U.S. and the Soviet Union. ...[T]he Middle East is out of control. There isn't any grand strategy. ...[Obama is] willing to live with a strong Iran, believing that if we make certain concessions to them, we can work with them." [73968]

On *Fox News Sunday*, Senator Bob Corker (R-TN) states, "If [Obama] feels like this [Iranian nuclear proposal] is something that's good for the nation, surely he can sell this to the United States Senate and the House. ...What the American people may not know right now, is there will be all kinds of classified annexes [to the agreement] that are very important. They lay out the details as to how much of this is going to take place. And that's why it's so important that Congress play its rightful role in approving this." [73975]

On *60 Minutes*, Secretary of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson is asked by Lesley Stahl, "As I understand it, of the 180 Americans who have gone overseas to fight in Iraq and Syria, 40 have come back. I assume you're keeping close tabs on those 40?" Johnson replies, "We have, in fact, kept close tabs on those who we believe have left and those who've come back. A number have been arrested or investigated and we have systems in place to track these individuals. But you can't know everything." [74048]

On April 6 columnist Sally Kohn demonstrates her inability to grasp reality by writing at TalkingPointsMemo.com, "You may have heard that the government is forcing businesses not to discriminate. It isn't. If you chose to run a business, you have to follow the laws. If you don't, that's a choice—and you choose to suffer the consequences." (Her leftist "logic" is, "You are not forced to follow the law, but if you do not, you will be punished by the government. Therefore you are not being forced to do anything." Charles C. W. Cooke tweets, "By Sally Kohn's rationale, anti-sodomy laws are fine because you don't have to have sex, and laws criminalizing homosexuality are fine too.") Kohn argues

that a gay man who owns a print shop can refuse to print protest signs that read, “God hates fags” because that “is not discrimination in any legally prohibited sense.” (Of course, Kohn—who is a lesbian—would no doubt be satisfied with the government forcing a Christian printer to print invitations for a gay wedding. Kohn would probably also be pleased to learn that, in England, the National Union of Teachers is demanding that a “positive portrayal of same sex relationships” be made “compulsory” in sex education classes.) [73955, 73956, 73958, 73965, 74152]

On Twitter (for reasons unknown), Michelle Obama posts a photo of herself holding a dumbbell and her husband wearing boxing gloves. The caption reads: “Knockouts. #GimmeFive #EasterEggRoll.” [73597, 73977, 74006, 74027]

At FreeBeacon.com Bill Gertz writes, “Despite promises by ...Obama that Iranian cheating on a new treaty will be detected, verifying Tehran’s compliance with a future nuclear accord will be very difficult if not impossible, arms experts say. ‘The Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action will not be effectively verifiable,’ said Paula DeSutter, assistant secretary of state for verification, compliance, and implementation from 2002 to 2009. ...[A]rms control experts challenged the administration’s assertions that a final deal to be hammered out in detail between now and June can be verified, based on Iran’s past cheating and the failure of similar arms verification procedures. ...The centerpiece for verifying Iranian compliance will be a document called the Additional Protocol of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), according to the White House. However, the State Department’s most recent report on arms compliance, made public in July, states that Iran signed an IAEA Additional Protocol in 2003 but ‘implemented it provisionally and selectively from 2003 to 2006,’ when Tehran stopped complying altogether.” [73967, 73989]

“‘The framework claims that Iran will once again execute an Additional Protocol with IAEA,’ said William R. Harris, an international lawyer who formerly took part in drafting and verifying U.S. arms control agreements. ‘This might yield unprecedented verification opportunities, but can the international community count on faithful implementation?’ Harris also said Iran could cheat by shipping secretly built nuclear arms to North Korea, based on published reports indicating Iran co-financed North Korea’s nuclear tests, and that Iranian ballistic missile test signals reportedly showed ‘earmarks’ of North Korean guidance systems. ‘So what would prevent storage of Iranian nuclear weapons at underground North Korean sites?’ he asked. ‘If there is to be full-scope inspection in Iran, the incentives for extraterritorial R&D and storage increase.’ ...[Iran’s] nuclear facilities at Fordow, an underground facility where centrifuges will be removed, and Natanz, another major centrifuge facility, were both built in violation of the NPT [Non-Proliferation Treaty] and will not be dismantled.” [73967, 73989]

Hizbullah leader Hassan Nasrallah states in a television interview, “The nations in the region must prepare to make sacrifices in any future conflict with Israel,” and applauds the proposed nuclear deal with Iran, saying, “Iran will become richer and wealthier and

will also become more influential. There is no doubt that an agreement will have repercussions on the region.” [74073]

WFAA.com reports, “Eight Syrian refugee families call North Texas home right now—four in Dallas and four in Fort Worth. But [Syrian American Council volunteer Rami] Basatneh said more are on their way after the U.S. State Department agreed to accept as many as 10,000.” The council’s Rawan Shishakly says, “It’s our duty to help people that [sic; who] need it.” (There are billions of people in the world who need help. Whether Shishakly believes U.S. taxpayers should help all of them, or just Syrians, is not clear.) Pamela Geller writes, “The FBI admits that they cannot properly screen the Syrians, while the US State Department is telling the media that 10,000 Syrians will be here soon. Syria, home of the Islamic State. Al hijrah, jihad by immigration. And while the genocide of Christians is ongoing in Syria, over 90% of the Syrians who are being brought to America are Muslims. It’s a catastrophe. The top five states targeted for Syrian Muslim resettlement are California, Illinois, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Texas.” [74238, 74239, 74240]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, “Just as Hillary Rodham Clinton is preparing to launch her presidential campaign, a new behind-the-scenes book about life at the White House is providing a fresh look at her bitter fights with husband-President Bill Clinton over the Monica Lewinsky affair, including a bloody clash in the first couple’s bedroom. ‘There was blood all over the president and first lady’s bed,’ writes former White House reporter Kate Anderson Brower. ‘A member of the residence staff got a frantic call from the maid who found the mess. Someone needed to come quickly and inspect the damage. The blood was Bill Clinton’s. The president had to get several stitches to his head.’ ‘The Residence: Inside the Private World of The White House,’ is due out Tuesday from publisher Harper, but excerpts began making the rounds Monday. Ms. Brower is a former White House reporter for Bloomberg News.” (The book quickly reaches the number one spot on The New York Times bestseller list.) [73976, 74066, 74425]

Brower’s book is apparently full of tales that put the Clintons in a bad light. According to DailyCaller.com, “White House help also confirmed that the Lewinsky affair was common knowledge, and that the staff even kept track of ‘Lewinsky sightings.’ ‘Some on the staff have said that Hillary knew about Lewinsky long before it came out, and that what really upset her was not the affair itself but its discovery and the media feeding frenzy that followed,’ Bower writes. Former White House usher Skip Allen tells Brower the Clintons were ‘about the most paranoid people I’d ever seen in my life.’ Another usher Chris Emery was fired because he taught former first lady Barbara Bush how to use a computer, and later took her call when she had technical problems. But the Clintons saw his call log, became convinced he was informing on them, and found a pretense to fire him. ‘I was out of work for a year,’ Emery says. ‘They ripped the rug right out from under me. You wonder what they’d do to someone who’s really powerful.’ One White House staffer shared the disturbing time Chelsea Clinton called a Secret Service Agent a ‘pig’ to his face, a derogatory term for law enforcement: Chelsea was on the phone. ‘Oh, I’ve got to go,’ she told her friend. ‘The pigs are here.’ The agent turned ‘crimson,’

[White House florist Ronn] Payne recalls. ‘Ms. Clinton, I want to tell you something. My job is to stand between you, your family, and a bullet. Do you understand?’ She replied: ‘Well, that’s what my mother and father call you.’” [74018, 74057, 74065, 74066]

White House press secretary Josh Earnest tells reporters, “My view is that there are a number of members of Congress that [sic; who] have considered this [Obama’s Iranian proposal] in a principled way. And those are members of Congress with whom we can have legitimate conversations about our efforts to try and prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon. There are a substantial number of members of Congress, all of them Republicans as far as I can tell, who have engaged in an effort to just undermine the talks from the very beginning.” (“Democrats are allowed to question the proposal, but Republicans are not because, well, they are Republicans.”) [73979]

Meanwhile, Senator Charles Schumer (D-NY) expresses support for legislation sponsored by Senator Bob Corker (R-TN) that would give Congress input on Obama’s Iranian deal/framework. Schumer tells Politico.com, “This is a very serious issue that deserves careful consideration, and I expect to have a classified briefing in the near future. I strongly believe Congress should have the right to disapprove any agreement and I support the Corker bill which would allow that to occur.” (It is a certainty that the White House is lobbying Senate Democrats, urging them not to support the legislation. Obama will, of course, falsely argue that to disagree with him means being in favor of war with Iran.) [73980, 74023, 74069]

BizPacReview.com reports, “A Maine lacrosse coach [Scott Lees] lost his job when he posted a letter on Facebook criticizing ...Obama with an unflattering—but accurate—description of America’s Muslim heritage.” The letter Lee posted on Facebook (not authored by Lee) reads, “Dear Mr. Obama: Have you ever seen a Muslim hospital? Have you heard a Muslim orchestra? Have you seen a Muslim band march in a parade? Have you witnessed a Muslim charity? Have you seen Muslims shak[ing] hands with Muslim Girl Scouts? Have you seen a Muslim Candy Striper [hospital volunteer]? Have your [sic; you] seen a Muslim do anything that contributes positively to the American way of life???? The answer is no, you have not. Just ask yourself WHY??? Finally, Mr. Obama, where were Muslims on Sept. 11th, 2001? If they weren’t flying planes into the World Trade Center, the Pentagon or a field in Pennsylvania killing nearly 3,000 people on our own soil, they were rejoicing in the Middle East. No one can dispute the pictures shown from all parts of the Muslim world celebrating on CNN, Fox News, MSNBC and other cable news networks that day. Strangely, the very ‘moderate’ Muslims who’s [sic; whose] asses you bent over backwards to kiss in Cairo, Egypt on June 4th [2009] were stone cold silent post 9-11. To many Americans, their silence has meant approval for the acts of that day. And THAT, Mr. Obama, is the “rich heritage” Muslims have here in America...” [74005, 74040]

According to a Rasmussen poll, “Just 16% of Likely U.S. Voters think the U.S. government is too aggressive in deporting those who are in the country illegally. A new Rasmussen Reports national telephone survey finds that 62% believe the government is

not aggressive enough in deporting these illegal immigrants, up from 52% a year ago and 56% in November. Fifteen percent (15%) feel the current number of deportations is about right. ...An overwhelming 83% of voters think someone should be required to prove they are legally allowed in the United States before receiving local, state or federal government services. Just 12% disagree. These findings have changed little over the past four years.” [73981, 73982, 73983, 73992]

Based on the results of the Rasmussen poll, most Americans will not be pleased to learn from a FreeBeacon.com report that “The Social Security Administration (SSA) approved disability benefits for hundreds of Puerto Ricans because they do not speak English, despite the fact that Puerto Rico is a predominantly Spanish-speaking territory.” The Office of the Inspector General “was able to identify 218 cases between 2011 and 2013 where Puerto Ricans were awarded disability due to ‘an inability to communicate in English.’ ...Last year Senator Jeff Sessions (R-AL) raised concerns that the Obama administration was broadly applying the education rule under the Social Security Act to allow individuals to receive disability payments solely because they cannot speak English. He noted that the Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) rolls swelled 230 percent between 2000 and 2010, while the U.S. population only grew 9.7 percent.” [74012]

In a radio interview with Glenn Beck, former Hewlett-Packard CEO Carly Fiorina (a likely Republican presidential candidate in 2016) calls the water shortage in California “a man-made disaster. California is a classic case of liberals being willing to sacrifice other people’s lives and livelihoods at the altar of their ideology. It’s a tragedy. ...That’s the tragedy of California, because of liberal environmentalists’ insistence—despite the fact that California has suffered from droughts for millennia, liberal environmentalists have prevented the building of a single new reservoir or a single new water conveyance system over decades during a period in which California’s population has doubled. There is a man-made lack of water in California—and Washington manages the water for the farmers. ...Obama goes out to California a little over a year ago, calls it a tragedy of global warming and hands out money to a food bank. This is all about politics and policy, and it is liberal environmentalists who have brought us this tragedy.” (California Governor Jerry Brown has imposed absurd rules on the state’s citizens that even restrict the length of time used to take a shower. WashingtonTimes.com notes, “Environmentalists have long blamed agriculture for absorbing more than its share of water, but figures from the California Department of Water Resources show that farming accounts for about 41 percent of applied water usage. Fully 48 percent is reserved for environmental purposes, which includes improving the health of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and its most famous inhabitant, the delta smelt.”) [73984, 74003, 74007, 74020, 74076, 74208, 74332]

The problem in California is not so much that there is a water shortage, the problem is that state and federal bureaucrats—rather than market forces—control the prices and who gets the water. Mises.org’s Ryan McMaken notes, for example, Los Angeles residents pay about 0.6 cents per gallon for water, while farmers pay about 0.3 cents per gallon.

McMaken writes, “At prices like these, it is no wonder that there is now a shortage of water. The price of water has for years been sending the message that water is barely a scarce resource at all. ...In central and northern California, the primary beneficiaries of federal water projects are growers, although it’s the city dwellers, who use a relatively small amount of water, who get lectured about conserving water. Were an actual market in water allowed, however, growers would have to compete for water with city dwellers, whose industries are far more productive than agricultural enterprises and who are likely to be willing to pay higher prices. ...When crops like pecans, which are native to Louisiana where it rains over fifty inches per year, are being grown in central California, we will have to ask ourselves if there is true comparative advantage at work here, or if the industry is really sitting upon a shaky foundation of government-subsidized and -allocated resources. ... After all, many of the crops grown in dry parts of California are much more economically grown in more humid environments, including citrus plants, avocados (which are native to Mexico), and various tree nuts. And of course, it’s these crops, which are already fairly expensive and water-intensive that get mentioned when we’re told that California growers must be given what they want until the end of time. This will likely mean higher prices for some of these crops in the short run, the correct response is not government favoritism, but free trade, and letting comparative advantage work. In a world with market prices, it’s simply not economical to grow everything under the sun in the California desert. If markets were allowed to function, with real water prices and free trade, this would quickly become abundantly clear.” [74208]

Walter Williams later writes at LewRockwell.com, “A large part of California’s water problem has economic roots. Whenever there’s a shortage of anything—whether it’s water or seats at a baseball stadium—our first suspicion should be that the price is too low. California agriculture consumes about 80 percent of the state’s delivered water, and it has been exempted from many of California’s new restrictions. On top of that, agricultural water users pay a much lower price than residential users. In other words, California’s farmers are being heavily subsidized. ...Western water is mostly controlled by the U.S. Congress and its Bureau of Reclamation. Through lobbying efforts, the Bureau of Reclamation is controlled by growers and other special interests. Water is distributed in California and other Western states not by market prices but by the political process. Agricultural interests have disproportionate political power. That means that agricultural interests receive taxpayer-financed handouts. California farmers argue that without federal and state government subsidies, crops could not be grown in desert areas. That’s a foolish, self-serving argument. If I were an Alaskan wanting to use government subsidies to build hothouses to grow navel oranges, I could use the same argument: Without government subsidies, I couldn’t grow navel oranges in Alaska. ...The bottom line for solving California’s water problem is that there needs to be a move toward a market-oriented method for the distribution of water. Government management has been a failure.” [74924, 74932]

Meanwhile, the Obama administration is angry over the fact that famous liberal lawyer Lawrence Tribe has been hired by Peabody Energy to represent the coal company in a lawsuit against Obama’s overzealous (and unconstitutional) anti-coal Environmental Protection Agency regulations. NYTimes.com writes, “Next week Mr. Tribe is to deliver

oral arguments for Peabody in the first federal court case about Mr. Obama's climate change rules. Mr. Tribe argues in a brief for the case that in requiring states to cut carbon emissions, thus to change their energy supply from fossil fuels to renewable sources, the E.P.A. is asserting executive power far beyond its lawful authority under the Clean Air Act. At a House hearing last month, Mr. Tribe likened the climate change policies of Mr. Obama to 'burning the Constitution.' To Republicans who oppose Mr. Obama's climate change agenda, Mr. Tribe is a celebrated convert. 'When I saw the brief, I thought, this is dazzling,' said Michael McKenna, a Washington energy lobbyist. 'And the fact that it was written by a guy on the other side made it even better.' ...To many Democrats and professors at Harvard, Mr. Tribe is a traitor. ...Mr. Tribe dismissed the criticism and said that his brief and comments reflect his views as a constitutional scholar, not as a paid advocate for the coal company. 'I'm not for sale,' he said. 'I'll say what I believe.' 'I feel very comfortable with my relationship with Peabody,' he added. 'Somebody wanted my help and it happened to coincide with what I believe.'" (Obama worked for Tribe as a research assistant at Harvard Law School. In the article, the *Times* incorrectly calls Obama "a former professor of constitutional law." He was merely a part-time law lecturer at the University of Chicago—and not a well-respected one.) [74031]

In an interview with NPR, a thin-skinned Obama defends his administration's Iranian nuclear discussions: "I am confident that any president who gets elected will be knowledgeable enough about foreign policy and knowledgeable enough about the traditions and precedents of presidential power that they won't start calling into question the capacity of the executive branch of the United States to enter into agreements with other countries. If that starts being questioned, that's going to be a problem for our friends and that's going to embolden our enemies." Stung by criticism by Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker, Obama adds, "It would be a foolish approach to take, and perhaps Mr. Walker, after he has taken some time to bone up on foreign policy, will feel the same way." (Obama, of course, had zero foreign policy experience when he entered the White House. His "bone up" remark demonstrates his astounding—and typically leftist—arrogance: He considers anyone who disagrees with him uninformed or partisan because no one can know as much as he knows.) [74004, 74021, 74028]

Walker later responds that Obama's "failed leadership has put him at odds with many across the country, including members of his own party, and key allies around the world. Americans would be better served by a [leader] who spent more time working with governors and members of Congress rather than attacking them. Whether it is cutting a bad deal with Iran, calling ISIS the JV squad, or touting Yemen as a success story, Obama's lack of leadership has hurt America's safety and standing in the world." [74004, 74021, 74028, 74150]

Obama also responds to Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's April 3 call for Iran to accept Israel's right to exist as a condition of any nuclear deal. Obama says, "The notion that we would condition Iran not getting nuclear weapons in a verifiable deal on Iran recognizing Israel is really akin to saying that we won't sign a deal unless the nature of the Iranian regime completely transforms. And that is, I think, a fundamental

misjudgment.” (In other words, “It’s acceptable for Iran to remain a barbaric regime that wants to wipe Israel off the face of the earth.”) [73985, 74011, 74022]

Obama admits that “in year 13, 14, 15” of the nuclear deal, “they [Iran] have advanced centrifuges that enrich uranium fairly rapidly, and at that point, the breakout times would have shrunk almost down to zero.” (Some estimate that Iran would currently need about one year to produce a nuclear weapon. It’s “breakout time” is therefore one year—although many believe Iran is further along than that, especially considering it is probably getting nuclear program assistance from North Korea. Obama is admitting that even if his proposed deal is accepted by Iran, its breakout time would be significantly reduced—even if Iran does not cheat.) [74091, 74106]

The next day State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf desperately tries to explain away Obama’s statement after Associated Press reporter Matt Lee asks about Obama’s “rather unusual sales job” in which he admits the nuclear breakout time would be reduced. Harf replies, “...I think his words were a little mixed up there, but what he was referring to was a scenario in which there was no deal. ...It was more of a hypothetical, ‘well look, without a deal, this is what could possibly happen.’ He was not indicating what would happen under an agreement in those years.” (Her explanation is unconvincing. Obama specifically referred to a reduced breakout time “in year 13, 14, 15” of the agreement. There would be no such years in the deal if there were no deal.) [74091, 74106, 74129]

CNN reports that Karen Finney will be Hillary Clinton’s Strategic Communications Adviser and Senior Spokesperson. (As a former, failed program host on MSNBC, Finney—who once referred to Republicans as “crazy crackers on the right” and blamed them for the death of Trayvon Martin—was a frequent defender of Clinton. Finney, currently with the leftist Media Matters, has also appeared on CNN, and “is a longtime member of Hillaryland, having served as Deputy Press Secretary to Clinton when she was First Lady, after working on Bill Clinton’s 1992 campaign. Finney was a traveling press secretary on Hillary Clinton’s 2000 senate campaign and Communications Director at the Democratic National Committee from 2005-2009.”) [74008, 74024, 74067]

Clinton has also hired Kristina Schake, who WhiteHouseDossier.com’s Keith Koffler notes was once employed by the White House “to help Michelle transform herself into a likable first lady.” Koffler writes, “Remember when Michelle Obama used to seem kind of mean and didn’t appear to like America very much? Well, today, she’s just a hip, dancing mom who cares about what your kids eat, shops at Target, and wants to help tell our troops, *Thank you for your service*. Well, that didn’t just happen. ...Now Hillary wants some of that. According to NBC News, Mrs. Clinton has taken Schake into her orbit to help her appear like less of a space alien. Schake no doubt will jettison the poor-little-rich girl shtick—‘We left the White House broke!’—put Hillary in the aisles at Walmart, and have the Associated Press catch her at Bingo night down at the church. ...It would be great if Hillary could just be herself. But no one seems to like that very much.” (Nor did they like the “real” Michelle Obama very much.) [74014]

On *The Kelly File*, former Defense Intelligence Agency chief Lieutenant General Michael Flynn is asked by Megyn Kelly, “What do you think the odds are that the Chinese, the Russians hacked into [Hillary Clinton’s] and her e-mail account?” Flynn replies, “Very high. Likely.” Kelly: “Really?” Flynn: “Likely. They’re very good at it. China, Russia, Iran, potentially the North Koreans. And these—and other countries who may be our allies, because they can.” (“Other countries” might include Germany and Israel.) [74078]

In the NCAA championship game. Duke University defeats the University of Wisconsin. (According to HuffingtonPost.com, Mitt Romney correctly selected six of the final eight teams, all of the final four teams, and picked Duke to win the final game. “Out of 11.57 million brackets filled out in ESPN.com’s Tournament Challenge, Romney is in 6,326th place—good enough for the 99.98th percentile. By contrast, the famously basketball-savvy ...Obama sits all the way back in 6,918,578th place (the 40th percentile).” [74013, 74077])

On April 7 Obama says at an Easter prayer breakfast, “On Easter, I do reflect on the fact that as a Christian, I am supposed to love, and I have to say that sometimes when I listen to, uh, less-than-loving expressions by Christians, I get concerned.” With a smirk he adds, “But that’s a topic for another day.” After a fair amount of arguably unjustified laughter, he continues, “Where there is injustice,” and smiles again, saying, “I was about to veer off. I’m pullin’ it back. ...Where there is injustice we defend the oppressed. Where there’s disagreement [he laughs], where there’s disagreement, we treat each other with compassion and respect.” (It is assumed that Obama’s mocking tone is intended for Indiana and its Religious Freedom Restoration Act. He should be reminded that, as a candidate in 2008, he opposed gay marriage. In 2015, from atop the high horse he seems always to be riding, he ridicules those who hold the same view he used to have.) Townhall.com’s Katie Pavlich tweets, “Wondering when ...Obama will express concern about non-loving statements from Muslims.” [73999, 74000, 74016, 74050, 74051, 74056, 74068, 74074, 74085, 74087]

Obama also tells the prayer breakfast audience, “I start tearing up in the middle of the day, and I can’t explain it. Why am I so sad? They’re leaving me.” (That is, his daughters are getting older. Some might wonder why Obama takes separate vacations from his wife and daughters if he knows he will miss at least two of them quite a bit.) [74090]

Ed Morrissey later comments at HotAir.com, “At the Easter prayer breakfast, Obama chose not to pray for all of those victims of genocidal Islamist terror, but to scold Christians in the US for what Obama calls ‘less-than-loving expressions.’ ...*Ahem*. In Kenya last week, almost 150 Christians got slaughtered in an al-Shabaab terrorist attack, deliberately chosen by the terrorists for murder, but nowhere in Obama’s official statement on that atrocity can one find a mention of their religion. Neither can one find in the statement any mention of the ‘less than loving expressions’ of Islam. Two months ago, when a group linked to ISIS butchered 21 Christians from Egypt specifically for their religion, the White House statement on that mass murder not only didn’t mention

either religion, it emphasized that ISIS' attacks were 'unconstrained by faith, sect, or ethnicity.' *Riiiiiiight*. ...[W]hen it comes to 'less-than-loving expressions' and Christians in this country, which was less loving? The shopkeepers who welcomed LGBT customers but decline to participate in same-sex marriage events, or the people who threatened to burn them down and run them out of town? And which should concern public officials more?" [74074]

White House press secretary Josh Earnest is later asked by reporters what Obama meant by his "less-than-loving" remark. Earnest replies, "I don't. ...I did have the benefit of attending the breakfast today, too, and I don't think it was a big question that was hanging in the air. I think it was something that drew a lot of laughter in the room, principally because people understand that, you know, in a room full of believers, there's still going to be people with pretty starkly different views. And in some cases, it means that those differences may provoke some people to fall short of even the expectations that they set for themselves, so they try to set a high standard for the way that they live their life, and [Obama] acknowledged in his remarks that he was somebody who himself felt—acknowledged that he fell short of that every day, too." (Anyone who views the video of Obama's remarks will consider Earnest's response idiotic.) [74087]

Earnest also tells reporters that Obama will veto the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act. CNSNews.com explains that the legislation, sponsored by Senator Bob Corker (R-TN), "would prohibit the administration from suspending sanctions against Iran for 60 days, during which Congress could hold hearings before approving, rejecting, or taking no action on the nuclear agreement. It would further require [that Obama] certify every three months that Iran has not breached the agreement, taken any action to 'significantly advance' a nuclear weapons program, or 'directly supported, financed, planned, or carried out an act of terrorism against the United States.'" Earnest complains, "Specifically incorporated into the Corker legislation is a provision that essentially makes the agreement contingent upon Iran renouncing terrorism. Now, that's an unrealistic suggestion because we've been very clear that this agreement is focused on preventing Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon, and that it is not going to succeed in resolving the long list of concerns that we have with Iran's behavior. ... We want to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon, and inserting a provision like this, that essentially is intended to undermine the agreement in the first place, is why we so strongly oppose—or at least have significant concerns and oppose—the current form of the Corker bill." Remarkably, Obama *opposes* the legislation because it calls for Iran to *not* support, finance, plan, or carry out acts of terrorism against the United States.) [74089, 74138]

The Unraveling: High Hopes and Missed Opportunities in Iraq is published. From 2007 to 2010 author Emma Sky served as political advisor to General Ray Odierno in Iraq. In the book Sky writes, "If only Obama had paid attention to Iraq... But his only interest in Iraq was in ending the war." She notes that Odierno "wanted US engagement with Iraq to continue for years to come, but led by US civilians, not the military. He believed that, in order to train Iraqi security forces and provide the psychological support needed to maintain a level of stability, 20,000 or so US troops needed to stay in Iraq beyond 2011."

(Obama, of course, ignored the advice of military experts. The result was the rise of ISIS and Iran's increasing control of Baghdad.) [74393, 74394, 74431]

Kansas bans the “dilation and evacuation” abortion procedure, becoming the first state in the nation to do so. According to DailySignal.com, “Similar legislation was introduced in Missouri, South Carolina and Oklahoma. In Oklahoma, the bill was approved by the Senate on Wednesday afternoon and will now go to the governor’s desk, where she is expected to sign it into law. Pro-life advocates—including Republican Gov. Sam Brownback—say this type of dilation and evacuation (or ‘D&X’) is a particularly ‘horrific’ way to end an unborn child’s life. ‘This is a horrific procedure and we are pleased to ban it in Kansas and we hope it will be banned nationally,’ Brownback said after signing the bill into law.” The National Right to Life organization’s Mary Balch states, “We think the time has come for the American people to understand just what a ‘dismemberment abortion’ is. We think that if they knew what was happening in secret—what is happening within the closed doors of groups like Planned Parenthood where they literally rip a living unborn child from limb to limb until he or she bleeds to death—I think most American people would demand that it stop.” (The Oklahoma state senate passes its abortion dismemberment ban on April 8.) [74117, 74155, 74186]

It is worth noting that Obama’s rabidly pro-abortion former Secretary of Health and Human Services, Kathleen “no fetus left alive” Sebelius, was once the governor of Kansas. She frequently blocked anti-abortion legislation and once hosted a party for the state’s leading abortionist George Tiller. Tiller, who performed controversial late-term abortions, also frequently donated funds to and raised money for Sebelius’ campaigns. He was shot to death on May 31, 2009 by anti-abortion activist Scott Roeder. [74117, 74118, 74119]

Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) announces his candidacy for president of the United States. His announcement video states, “On April 7, one leader will stand up to defeat the Washington machine and unleash the American dream.” Paul states, “I am running for president to return our country to the principles of liberty and limited government.” Townhall.com’s Guy Benson notes, “Paul represents the libertarian wing of the Republican Party on domestic matters, and his non-interventionist bent on foreign policy is sure to spark fierce debate as the GOP primary unfolds. Paul’s campaign will seek to consolidate the committed base of support that his father, [former Texas Congressman] Ron Paul, enjoyed during previous presidential bids, then expand his message to appeal to a broader audience. The video... makes clear that the Kentuckian will engage in active outreach to racial minorities and young people as part of a strategy to bring new voters into the Republican fold. Paul enters the race with the endorsement of fellow Kentucky Senator Mitch McConnell, the upper chamber’s majority leader.” (Leftists are apoplectic at Paul’s announcement. Salon.com warns about Paul’s proposed “Economic Freedom Zones”—apparently because it opposes economic freedom. Planned Parenthood issues a series of tweets—many of them misstatements of Paul’s positions—that obviously reflect their fear of the loss of federal funding if the Republicans capture the White House.) [73993, 73994, 73995, 73996, 73997, 74001, 74009, 74017, 74029, 74030]

On MSNBC, Chris Matthews comments on Paul's candidacy: "I think [Paul] laid down the fight here. He said the line is 'I'm not for nation-building overseas, I'm going to build bridges here at home, not over there.' It is a direct charge against the neocons [neoconservatives] and the piggish money behind them right now. And you talk about the big money being spent against [Paul], let's lay out who those people are. Let's not just talk about ads as if they're coming from God. There's a rotten crowd that is hawkish in the Republican Party that wants to fight more wars and do more regime change, more nation-building. Let's go through the list. They wanted to knock off Iraq, they wanted to knock off Egypt, they wanted to knock off Syria. They want to knock off Iran and they already did Libya. It's really worked well for us, hasn't it? This continued effort to knock countries apart, create instability and chaos and then say we're going to create western-style pro-Israeli democracies." (Whether Matthews will be widely criticized for implying that Jews are "piggish money people" remains to be seen—but it is unlikely. He is wrong about Egypt and Libya, of course. It was not "neocons" who worked to oust the leaders of those countries and turn them over to the Muslim Brotherhood and terrorists, it was Obama.) [74015]

"It is all nonsense. It's always been nonsense. I think the Republican voter out there, not the piggish money people, but the regular voter is not going to stand for it. Look at the latest poll we have from Pennsylvania. A regular state. Pretty much a bit of Democratic but not too Democratic of a state. Rand Paul is beating Hillary Clinton there by a point. That tells me all this money, this piggish money—that is the term we used in the '60s for the hawks, all this money that's trying to create a right-wing hawkish [candidate] for president may not sit too well for the average Republican voter because the cloth-coat regular Republicans who send their kids to war are not the ones who pay for the ads. They are totally different people. The ones who send their kids to war and come home maimed and wonder what the hell they were doing it for, those people are not impressed by these God damn ads. ...They're all front groups. They're hawkish right-wing front groups. Call them what they are. Let's not pretend like some nice people got together and thought we ought to go to war and nation-build and knock off another government. And I salute Rand Paul for having the guts to take on this crowd. He may be the only Republican candidate for doing it which make him worth watching it." [74015]

According to a PPP survey, Hillary Clinton leads "the field of potential Republican candidates by anywhere from 3-9 points. Her advantage is down from being ahead by 7-10 points against the various potential GOP contenders on our February poll. ...Clinton leads [Wisconsin governor] Scott Walker... 46/42. ...In addition to Walker, 2 other GOP hopefuls come within 4 points of Clinton. Marco Rubio trails her just 46/43, and Rand Paul's deficit is 46/42. Paul's numbers are interesting. He actually does better than anyone else on his side with independents, leading Clinton by 14 points at 47/33. But the 77% of the Republican vote he gets against Clinton is the lowest of any candidate other than Chris Christie." [74033]

Senator John McCain (R-AZ) announces he will run for reelection in 2016—when he will be 80 years old. [74032]

NBCNews.com reports, “An explosion at a power station Tuesday left the White House, the Capitol and the State Department briefly without electricity Tuesday as part of a widespread outage in Washington and its suburbs. Patrons were evacuated from the Smithsonian, the National Portrait Gallery, the Air and Space Museum and the National Museum of Natural History, and the Metro transit system said that 13 of its stations were operating on emergency lighting. Power utility Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative said the outage originated just before 1 p.m. ET at its Charles County, Maryland, switching station, where a 230-kilovolt transmission conductor broke free from its support structure. The failure interrupted service to other stations. ...At the White House, the lights dimmed in the press briefing room before backup power kicked in. Josh Earnest, the White House press secretary, said that ...Obama was unaffected.” [73998, 74063, 74207]

According to CNN.com, “The State Department is expected to recommend that Cuba be removed from the government’s list of State Sponsors of Terrorism... a notorious designation that has been a stumbling block in the establishment of embassies in both Havana and Washington. ‘Our expectation’ is that Cuba will be removed from the list, the official said. But the official cautioned the Obama administration has yet to make any formal announcement.” (Cuba, of course, still *is* a state sponsor of terrorism.) [74025, 74026, 74151, 74175]

CNN also reports, “Russian hackers behind the damaging cyber intrusion of the State Department in recent months used that perch to penetrate sensitive parts of the White House computer system, according to U.S. officials briefed on the investigation. While the White House has said the breach only affected an unclassified system, that description belies the seriousness of the intrusion. The hackers had access to sensitive information such as real-time non-public details of [Obama’s] schedule. While such information is not classified, it is still highly sensitive and prized by foreign intelligence agencies, U.S. officials say. ...The FBI, Secret Service and U.S. intelligence agencies are all involved in investigating the breach, which they consider among the most sophisticated attacks ever launched against U.S. government systems. The intrusion was routed through computers around the world, as hackers often do to hide their tracks, but investigators found tell-tale codes and other markers that they believe point to hackers working for the Russian government.” [74036, 74058]

ZeeNews.India.com reports, “Iraqi forensic teams began on Monday excavating 12 suspected mass grave sites thought to hold the corpses of as many as 1,700 soldiers massacred last summer by Islamic State militants as they swept across northern Iraq. ...The images of Shi’ite soldiers being machine-gunned in their hundreds, posted online by the jihadists, could rank as the deadliest single act of bloodshed during a decade of periodic sectarian war in Iraq.” Khalid al-Atbi, “an Iraqi health official working with the forensic team sent to Tikrit,” says, “It was a heartbreaking scene. We couldn’t prevent

ourselves from breaking down in tears. What savage barbarian could kill 1,700 persons in cold blood?” (Robert Spencer writes at JihadWatch.org, “Careful, al-Atbi, or you will [be] tarred as a racist, bigoted ‘Islamophobe.’ And you should know that the Islamic State was only trying to ‘strike terror into the hearts of the enemies of Allah.’ (Qur’an 8:60).”) [74043, 74044]

In *The Wall Street Journal*, former Secretaries of State Henry Kissinger and George Schultz write, “For 20 years, three presidents of both major parties proclaimed that an Iranian nuclear weapon was contrary to American and global interests—and that they were prepared to use force to prevent it. Yet negotiations that began 12 years ago as an international effort to prevent an Iranian capability to develop a nuclear arsenal are ending with an agreement that concedes this very capability, albeit short of its full capacity in the first 10 years. Mixing shrewd diplomacy with open defiance of U.N. resolutions, Iran has gradually turned the negotiation on its head. Iran’s centrifuges have multiplied from about 100 at the beginning of the negotiation to almost 20,000 today. The threat of war now constrains the West more than Iran. While Iran treated the mere fact of its willingness to negotiate as a concession, the West has felt compelled to break every deadlock with a new proposal. In the process, the Iranian program has reached a point officially described as being within two to three months of building a nuclear weapon.” [74071, 74140]

“...Progress has been made on shrinking the size of Iran’s enriched stockpile, confining the enrichment of uranium to one facility, and limiting aspects of the enrichment process. Still, the ultimate significance of the framework will depend on its verifiability and enforceability. ...Iran permanently gives up none of its equipment, facilities or fissile product to achieve the proposed constraints. It only places them under temporary restriction and safeguard—amounting in many cases to a seal at the door of a depot or periodic visits by inspectors to declared sites. The physical magnitude of the effort is daunting. Is the International Atomic Energy Agency technically, and in terms of human resources, up to so complex and vast an assignment? In a large country with multiple facilities and ample experience in nuclear concealment, violations will be inherently difficult to detect. Devising theoretical models of inspection is one thing. Enforcing compliance, week after week, despite competing international crises and domestic distractions, is another.” [74071, 74140]

“...Absent the linkage between nuclear and political restraint, America’s traditional allies will conclude that the U.S. has traded temporary nuclear cooperation for acquiescence to Iranian hegemony. They will increasingly look to create their own nuclear balances and, if necessary, call in other powers to sustain their integrity. Does America still hope to arrest the region’s trends toward sectarian upheaval, state collapse and the disequilibrium of power tilting toward Tehran, or do we now accept this as an irremediable aspect of the regional balance? Some advocates have suggested that the agreement can serve as a way to dissociate America from Middle East conflicts, culminating in the military retreat from the region initiated by the current administration. As Sunni states gear up to resist a new Shiite empire, the opposite is likely to be the case. The Middle East will not stabilize

itself, nor will a balance of power naturally assert itself out of Iranian-Sunni competition. ...Until clarity on an American strategic political concept is reached, the projected nuclear agreement will reinforce, not resolve, the world's challenges in the region. Rather than enabling American disengagement from the Middle East, the nuclear framework is more likely to necessitate deepening involvement there—on complex new terms. History will not do our work for us; it helps only those who seek to help themselves.” [74071, 74140]

DCClothesline.com reports, “On Wednesday, April 1 Wolfgang Halbig retained a Connecticut-based attorney, Kay Wilson, to represent him in his FOI [Freedom of Information] case for records pertaining to the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting of December 14, 2012. On April 3 Wilson informed Halbig that she could no longer represent him, citing a fear for her safety and that of her family, according to Halbig. ‘My new attorney just resigned stating that she is concerned for her safety and that of her family,’ Halbig wrote in an April 3 email to Linda Fasciano, one of the Connecticut’s Freedom of Information Commission’s administrative assistants. ‘All this in just three days. Who talked to her?’” [74034]

Appearing on the *700 Club*, Reverend Franklin Graham warns that “The storm of Islam” is coming. ...and what you’re seeing... this isn’t just radical Islam—this is Islam. They’ve been persecuting Christians, minorities for centuries. This isn’t something that just started with ISIS. This is something that’s been going on for, again, it goes all the way back to the time of Mohammed, when he began to turn his sword on Christians and Jews and Saudi Arabia. At that time there were large Christian communities in Arabia. Now there’s not one Jew, there’s not one Christian left. It’s against the law in Saudi Arabia to have a church. There’s [sic; there are] fairly large communities of Christians in places like Iraq. But after 9/11 those communities now have dwindled down just to thousands where they were millions. This is happening in Syria. This is happening in Egypt. There’s persecution of churches and Christians in Turkey. You see this in Sudan. The list goes on and on, to Indonesia where Christians are persecuted. There’s not any place for these Christians to run anymore. Those that [sic; who] could escape to the West have come.” [74088]

“And it’s going to get worse. We’re going to see persecution, I believe, in this country because [Obama] is very sympathetic to Islam. The reason I say that... is because his father was a Muslim, gave him a Muslim name, Barack Hussein Obama. His mother married another Muslim man, they moved to Indonesia, he went to Indonesian schools. So, growing up, his frame of reference and his influence as a young man was Islam. It wasn’t Christianity, it was Islam. ...[We] now have radical Islamists that [sic; who] are advising various levels of government. It’s going to get worse, and nobody seems to be alarmed about it. Nobody is saying anything about this. And we as Christians are going to lose. ...There are Muslims that [sic; who] have access to [Obama] in the White House. Our foreign policy has a lot of influence now from Muslims. We see the Prime Minister of Israel being snubbed by [Obama] and by the White House and by the Democrats and

it's because of the influence of Islam. They hate Israel and they hate Christians, and so the storm is coming, I believe..." [74088]

Breitbart.com reports that it has "exclusively obtained leaked information on the Iraqi man who was apprehended while illegally crossing the U.S.-Mexico border into Texas on February 12, 2015. The Border Patrol agent responsible for interviewing the subject initially expressed concerns that the Iraqi was sent by Russia, largely due to the Iraqi man's history as a military trainer, his speaking several languages, including Russian, and his having lived in Crimea, according to one of the leaked documents. Breitbart Texas was provided with two documents by a federal agent who works under the umbrella of Customs and Border Protection (CBP). The agent insisted on remaining anonymous. The Iraqi man is named Ahmed Adnan Taha, Al Khafaji. His date of birth is 6-25-84. He has one sister in the U.S., one in Turkey, three brothers in Turkey, one in Ukraine, one in New York State, and three brothers in Iraq, according to the leaked documents." [74037, 74162]

Fox News' Bret Baier reports, "Intelligence sources say investigators found documentation of [Bowe] Bergdahl's apparent intent to travel to Uzbekistan." Additionally, his laptop computer shows "searches related to Russian organized crime" and "contact with [an] Afghan working on [a] local construction project." (Some might suggest that Bergdahl should be charged not just with desertion, but with treason.) [74053, 74054, 74055]

AFP reports, "The US military command that scans North America's skies for enemy missiles and aircraft plans to move its communications gear to a Cold War-era mountain bunker, officers said. The shift to the Cheyenne Mountain base in Colorado is designed to safeguard the command's sensitive sensors and servers from a potential electromagnetic pulse (EMP) attack, military officers said. The Pentagon last week announced a \$700 million contract with Raytheon Corporation to oversee the work for North American Aerospace Command (NORAD) and US Northern Command." [74095, 74201]

A single EMP attack would devastate the United States, even if its military commanders were safe in a underground bunker and even if the nation could respond with an immediate bombing of whichever nation set off the nuclear device over the skies of America. An EMP attack would essentially "fry" electronic devices over a widespread area and destroy the power grid. The destruction would not look like a bombed Hiroshima; there would be little or no obvious destruction. But many times more Americans would die than were killed at Hiroshima. With the collapse of the power grid and the outage of electronic devices, homes and businesses would be without electricity—*probably for months*. Americans could not get news from their televisions, because those devices would not work. An Internet connection would be useless. Most automobiles would not start, because their electronic components would not allow them to start—and even if they did, the corner gas station would have no ability to pump gas if it had no electrical power. Grocery stores would run out of food because the trucks that

deliver their products would also be stranded. Families would run out of food and have no ready means of obtaining more. [74538, 74539]

BackDoorSurvival.com lists some of the concerns: “Food Shortages Can Actually Happen.” “Medicine Is One Of The First Things That Becomes Scarce...” “You Cannot Even Take Water For Granted.” “Your Credit Cards And Debit Cards [Will] Stop Working.” “Crime, Rioting And Looting Become Commonplace...” “Many Average Citizens Will Start Bartering.” “Suicides Spike.” “Your Currency May Rapidly Lose Value...” “When Things Hit The Fan The Government Will Not Save You.” (It is not an issue of how families will survive if they lose electricity for a few days. It is an issue of how they will survive if they lose electricity, all forms of electronic communication, and many forms of transportation for a few *months*.) [74359]

Judge Andrew S. Hanen denies a request by the Obama administration to lift his hold on Obama’s illegal immigrant amnesty program. According to TheHill.com, the judge “wrote that the government misled the court by revealing last month it had granted expanded work permit renewals to 100,000 illegal immigrants before the court blocked the administration from implementing its new policies. He added that a new hearing in March only ‘reinforced’ his February decision to issue a ‘stay’ to block those new policies, meant to delay deportations for millions of immigrants in the country illegally and provide them with the opportunity to apply for work permits. ‘It is obvious that there is no pressing, emergent need for this program,’ he wrote as part of the rationale for not allowing the administration to immediately implement its new policies. Hanen also issued a second order that slammed the Justice Department for ‘misconduct’ in its delay of informing the court about the expanded work permit grants. He cited transcripts from hearings to argue that there was an understanding that the administration had not implemented any new immigration policies before Hanen’s initial ruling, even though the Department of Homeland Security had already begun processing expanded work permit renewals.” [74038, 74049, 74070, 74079, 74092, 74116, 74122]

WashingtonTimes.com quotes Hanen’s ruling: “In summary, the chief executive [Obama] has ordered that the laws requiring removal of illegal immigrants that conflict with the 2014 DHS directive are not to be enforced, and that anyone who attempts to do so will be punished. This is not merely ineffective enforcement [of existing immigration laws]. This is total non-enforcement.” According to the *Times*, “...Judge Hanen gave tremendous weight in his 15-page ruling to Mr. Obama’s February town hall when he described how he would carry out his policy and warned immigration agents of ‘consequences’ to not following his dictates.” [74039]

Despite the significance of Hanen’s ruling against the Obama administration, Newsbusters.org notes that ABC, CBS, and NBC all neglect to report the story in their evening news broadcasts. Fox, Univision, and Telemundo report the story. [74147]

The University of Michigan cancels an April 10 showing of *American Sniper* because it would make its delicate snowflake students “feel unsafe,” and because the movie

allegedly perpetuates “negative and misleading stereotypes” against Muslims. According to TheCollegeFix.com, some students and faculty circulated an online letter that states, “The movie *American Sniper* not only tolerates but promotes anti-Muslim ... rhetoric and sympathizes with a mass killer.” Not surprisingly, protesters include the Muslim Students Association and the president of Students Allied for Freedom and Equality, a Palestinian solidarity group. A children’s film about a stuffed bear, *Paddington*, will be shown instead. (The University, hit with immediate and unrelenting criticism, then reverses its decision and agrees to show *American Sniper*—“in a forum that provides appropriate space for dialogue & reflection.” Bill Kristol tweets, “Hey, I know of a place that used to provide ‘an appropriate space for dialogue & reflection.’ It was called college.”) [74052, 74100, 74101, 74102, 74104, 74120, 74121, 74139, 74219, 74286]

State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf responds to a *Wall Street Journal* op-ed by former Secretaries of State Henry Kissinger and George Schultz, telling reporters, “I didn’t hear a lot of alternatives. I heard a lot of sort of big words and big thoughts in that piece, and those are certainly, there’s a place for that. But I didn’t hear a lot of alternatives about what they would do differently.” *New York Times* columnist David Brooks responds on Hugh Hewitt’s radio program: “Are we in nursery school? We’re not, no polysyllabic words? That’s about the lamest rebuttal of a piece by two senior and very well-respected foreign policy people as I’ve heard. Somebody’s got to come up with better talking points, whatever you think. And of course, there are alternatives. It’s not to allow them [the Iranians] to get richer, but to force them to get a little poorer so they can fund fewer terrorism armies.” [74098, 74130, 74140, 74227]

In an interview with ABC, Obama shamelessly uses one of his daughters to make his “global warming” case. He says, “Well, you know Malia had asthma when she was 4 and because we had good health insurance, we were able to knock it out early. ... And if we can make sure that our responses to the environment are reducing those incidents, that’s something that I think every parent would wish for. ... Keep in mind that climate change is just one more example of how the environment will cause health problems, and I think most people understand that.” (“Global warming” does not cause asthma. In fact, according to MayoClinic.org, *cold* air is one of asthma’s triggers. Other triggers include “airborne allergens, such as pollen, animal dander, mold, cockroaches and dust mites; respiratory infections, such as the common cold; physical activity (exercise-induced asthma); air pollutants and irritants, such as smoke; certain medications, including beta blockers, aspirin, ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin IB, others) and naproxen (Aleve); strong emotions and stress; sulfites and preservatives added to some types of foods and beverages, including shrimp, dried fruit, processed potatoes, beer and wine; gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD), a condition in which stomach acids back up into your throat; menstrual cycle in some women.” Obama’s daughter would more likely have been harmed by smoke from his cigarette habit than an almost immeasurable increase in the earth’s average temperature. Additionally, one cannot “knock out” asthma as it has no known cure. The symptoms can, however, be managed.) [74080, 74081, 74082, 74107, 74145, 74146, 74188, 74261, 74305]

In the interview, Obama gives ObamaCare an eight out of 10 rating. “The reason I don’t put it at a 10 is because you can always improve something. ...Sixteen million people or more have health insurance that [sic; who] didn’t have it before.” (Most of those people are not, however, paying for that insurance. Millions are getting it free via an expansion of Medicaid, and millions of others are receiving taxpayer-funded subsidies of their insurance.) Obama whines that some states have not agreed to expand Medicaid, falsely claiming, “There are millions of more people that could be helped, and it won’t cost the state anything. We’re just seeing some stubbornness that’s really based on ideology, not on wise public health policy, that is preventing most people in most states from getting the Medicaid that would save the state money in the long term.” (The states pay a portion of Medicaid expenses. It is not “free.”) [74108, 74109]

Obama also admits that he has “no particular plan B” if the Supreme Court rules against him in *King v. Burwell*, a lawsuit based in the fact that the Affordable Care Act only allows insurance premium subsidies to individuals who enroll through state exchanges. (Obama, who allegedly cares about the uninsured, has not plans to deal with a ruling declaring that the letter of the law must be followed. If he cared, he *would* have a “plan B.” In fact, he likely will not mind if the Court rules against him because he can then say, “Well, let’s see what the Republican-controlled Congress is going to do about all those newly-uninsured Americans.” Obama is a political, partisan animal—and he will eagerly use *King v. Burwell* to excoriate the GOP all the way to election day in 2016.) [74144]

At Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government, CIA Director John Brennan tells an audience, “I think over time [Iranian President Hassan] Rouhani was able to explain to [Ayatollah] Khamenei just how challenging the economic environment was in Iran right now, and it was destined to go down.” As a result, Iran had to work to get the sanctions lifted, by engaging in nuclear negotiations. But, admits Brennan, “I don’t think this [proposed agreement] is going to lead to a light switch and the Iranians are going to become passive, docile.” [74127, 74128]

At PJMedia.com Scott Ott later observes that Brennan “inadvertently suggested that ...Obama’s nuclear deal would rescue the Iranian economy, providing more funding to this state sponsor of terror. The unintentional implication is, nevertheless, true. CIA Director John Brennan certainly didn’t mean to say it this way, but he clearly implied that the Obama nuclear deal with Iran will boost funding for the world’s most active state sponsor of terrorism... By lifting sanctions, the U.S. kickstarts the failing Iranian economy, and provides blood money to a nation whose shrapnel is embedded in the brains and torsos of innumerable U.S. troops who left their shattered limbs scattered in the desert, a nation whose activity and weapons are the cause on countless American death certificates, and whose armed agents today work to conquer U.S. influence—from Yemen, to Syria and Iraq, to North Africa and beyond. ...Brennan acknowledges that since the deal was about nukes and sanctions only, the Islamic Republic is free to continue its vigorous work as state sponsor of terrorism. ...So, whether you believe that the aggressive nuclear monitoring and reduction of centrifuges from 19,000 to 6,000 will increase or decrease Iran’s ‘breakout time’ to a nuclear weapon, or the likelihood of war

with Iran, one thing you can know for sure: Lifting the sanctions will increase cash flow to the Iranian terror network. American troops—as well as noncombatants—will pay for Obama’s nuclear deal with their flesh, their blood and their lives.” [74127, 74128]

On *Special Report*, Charles Krauthammer comments on Obama’s slam of Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker’s foreign policy opinions: “I think this really helps Walker, of course. It’s not just a campaign story. This is a character story. I mean, we all know that Obama is a narcissist, but this is bordering on the pathological. Given the wreckage that he has left America’s foreign policy in across the world, and I could go through the list of countries but it would take up the whole segment from all the way from Mali to what’s happening in Iran and Iraq and Syria right now. For him to be condescending to anybody on how to conduct foreign policy is quite remarkable. And if he is giving out advice, I think any president, a new president would be knowledgeable enough to, for example, this is one of hundreds—you would not want to tell a KGB thug like Putin that after my election I will be a more flexible because Putin, of course, understands all that and he has reacted accordingly. [Obama] has left the United States in a position of more weakness, less respect, less trust of our allies, of respect of our enemies around the world, compared to six years ago when he came into office. I think he should be a little more humble when it comes to offering others advice.” [74019, 74133]

Hugh Hewitt interviews former Vice President Dick Cheney, who comments on Obama’s call for Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker to “bone up on foreign policy.” Cheney says, “Well, it starts from a flawed presumption on Obama’s part. For most of the last 70 years since World War II, we’ve had a bipartisan accord in this country between Democrat and Republican, Harry Truman, Jack Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson, Ronald Reagan, Dwight Eisenhower, the Bushes, believed that America had to play a leading role in the world, that we needed to maintain a first class military capability to do that, and occasionally use it, that the world works best with U.S. leadership. The first president, who doesn’t, no longer believes that fundamental truth, is Barack Obama. And what he’s saying in his criticism of Governor Walker I think probably Governor Walker welcomes. It’s almost like a paid commercial. I heard today that as soon as the statement came out from Obama criticizing the Governor, he immediately sent out letters to all of his supporters. I’m glad he did that. I think it’s a mark of the weakness of [Obama] that he’d say such a thing.” [74075, 74097]

Hewitt asks Cheney if Obama is naive, or “does he have a far-reaching vision that only he entertains of a realigned Middle East that somehow it all works out in the end?” Cheney responds, “I don’t know, Hugh. I vacillate between the various theories I’ve heard, but you know, if you had somebody as president who wanted to take America down, who wanted to fundamentally weaken our position in the world and reduce our capacity to influence events, turn our back on our allies and encourage our adversaries, it would look exactly like what Barack Obama’s doing. I think his actions are constituted in my mind those of the worst president we’ve ever had.” (The thin-skinned Obama will almost certainly respond to Cheney’s remarks.) [74075, 74097]

On *Hannity*, author Mark Steyn says, “If I’d been at that [White House] prayer breakfast, I would have shouted out, ‘Shame!’ And I think it’s a pretty poor reflection, even on presumably loyal liberal Democrats in that audience, that no one objected to it [Obama’s snide remark about ‘less-than-loving... Christians’], because it is time for people to object to it. This is part of a conscious strategy. Just before he stood up and made that condescending remark—and by the way he’s no more an expert on Christianity than he is on Islam, you got the impression from his thing about loving each other that he’d maybe seen a production of *Godspell* in high school and that’s about as far as it goes—but 148 young students in Kenya have just been killed, slaughtered, their bodies on the floor, by Muslim fanatics who asked the students in that university, ‘Are you Christian or are you Muslim?’ And they let the Muslims go, and they slaughtered the Christians. Now, this is a guy who’s happy to draw general lessons when a black youth gets killed in Ferguson, Missouri. That apparently has wide application for black people all over America, but 148 black corpses has no general application.” [74099, 74192]

“Well, Mr. [Obama], ‘hashtag black lives matter’ when they’re Christian too. And the biggest story of our time is the extinction of some of the oldest Christian communities on the planet at hands of Islam, remorselessly, you [Obama] dishonor those Kenyan students in death by not identifying them as Christians as you dishonored the [murdered Christian] Egyptians only a couple weeks earlier. ...Here’s a guy who was essentially raised by white grandparents and he sought, I think, consciously, a more exotic identity. ...I think... Christianity for him is something he associates with white imperialism, whereas Islam is the exotic other and it’s the victim group. And the fact is that on his watch, the last Christian church in Afghanistan was razed to the ground on America’s watch, the Christian community in Iraq, an American protectorate has been exterminated on America’s watch, and that is something that ought to be shameful for him. ...We’ve seen this guy who staged this act of Rose Garden theater over Bowe Bergdahl, it’s not a small thing when the leader of a supposedly free people lies to those people about what’s going on in the world.” [74099, 74192]

“...I don’t think in any sense [Obama] is a Christian... I think he’s a social justice warrior who, like a lot of people from the cultural left, regards religion as the ‘opiate of the masses’... but I think in Obama’s case, it’s compounded by the fact that he does have this profound respect for Islam that leads him actually to invert the situation that’s going on in the world today, so that the Christians are the problem and the Muslims who are beheading the Christians, and shooting the Christians and cutting the throats of the Christians are somehow the victim group that we all need to be more sensitive to. ...If Obama were working for the other side, what would he be doing differently? We’ve just turned Iran into a nuclear threshold state, Iran controls four Middle Eastern capitals, it controls Aden, a critical seaport [in Yemen], we’ve hollowed out and turned into failed states Libya and Yemen—America is at best a bystander in the world, and at worst colluding with some of the most dangerous and brutal, violent forces on the planet. As I said, if he were working for the other side, what would he be doing differently?” [74099, 74192]

In Chicago, Mayor Rahm Emanuel (Obama's former chief of staff) wins reelection, defeating Jesus "Chuy" Garcia by a wide margin. [74035, 74064, 74096, 74143]

On April 8 U.S. Army Specialist John M. Dawson is killed in Afghanistan. He is the first member of the U.S. Armed Forces to die there since the "official" end of the combat mission on December 28, 2014. According to CNSNews.com, "Dawson was supporting Operation Freedom's Sentinel when he died in Jalalabad, Afghanistan of wounds suffered from small arms fire while he was on an escort mission." [74605]

TimesofIsrael.com reports, "Iran will begin using its latest generation IR-8 centrifuges as soon as its nuclear deal with the world powers goes into effect, Iran's foreign minister and nuclear chief told members of parliament on Tuesday, according to Iran's semi-official FARS news agency. If accurate, the report appears to make a mockery of the world powers' much-hailed framework agreement with Iran, since such a move clearly breaches the US-published terms of the deal, and would dramatically accelerate Iran's potential progress to the bomb. Iran has said that its IR-8 centrifuges enrich uranium 20 times faster than the IR-1 centrifuges it currently uses." [74041, 74042, 74086]

Iran's Fars news agency reports, "Iran's Defense Minister Brigadier General Hossein Dehqan categorically rejected as a 'lie' a Guardian report alleging that Tehran has granted access to its military facilities under the recent framework agreement with the world powers. 'No such agreement has been made; principally speaking, visit to military centers is among our redlines [sic; red lines] and no such visit will be accepted,' Gen. Dehqan stressed on Wednesday, rejecting 'the report by foreign media outlets, such as the Guardian' as "untruthful allegations.' The Iranian defense minister reiterated that the Supreme Leader's guidelines, government's strategy and the negotiating team's resolve have placed the Iranian diplomacy on a path that it would never allow the opposite parties to the talks impose their will on the Iranian nation." [74123, 74124, 74141, 74142]

A jury finds Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev guilty on 30 counts. He faces life in prison without parole—or a death sentence. Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) states that Tsarnaev should not be put to death: "I don't support the death penalty. Nothing is ever going to make those who were injured whole. It's been a terrible thing. ...The point is that he stays in prison, he dies in prison, he's put away. He's not a danger to anyone else. And he's not a part of an ongoing story. He's not someone who is able to keep sucking up a lot of energy and a lot of attention." (Although the death penalty will not restore the dead or heal the injured, the injured and the victims' families might find comfort in knowing that an executed Tsarnaev would not cost the taxpayers a fortune for several decades of his care and feeding. Additionally, Tsarnaev might very well still be a danger to others if he spends years in prison converting other convicts to radical Islam. He may never be paroled, but they might.) Tsarnaev's mother writes on a Russian social media site, "I will never forget it. May god bless those who helped my son. The terrorists are the Americans and everyone knows it. My son is the best of the best." [74084, 74118, 74163, 74164, 74165, 74166, 74167]

According to Bloomberg.com, “an associate” of Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) says “a cluster of affiliated super-political action committees was formed only this week, and among them they are expected to have \$31 million in the bank by Friday. Even in the context of a presidential campaign cycle in which the major party nominees are expected to raise more than \$1.5 billion, Cruz’s haul is eye-popping, one that instantly raises the stakes in the Republican fundraising contest.” (It took about six months for Mitt Romney’s 2012 campaign to raise \$31 million.) [74093, 74126, 74246]

Obama advisor Valerie Jarrett issues a statement condemning psychological treatments for homosexuals that attempt to convert them to heterosexuality: “The overwhelming scientific evidence demonstrates that conversion therapy, especially when it is practiced on young people, is neither medically nor ethically appropriate and can cause substantial harm.” According to FoxNews.com, “The White House is not explicitly calling for congressional legislation to ban the therapies nationwide. But Jarrett’s statement highlighted states that have outlawed the practice and expressed hope that there will be broader action. The White House says lawmakers in 18 states have introduced legislation similar to measures already in place in California, New Jersey and Washington, D.C., banning licensed professionals from using conversion therapy on minors. The American Psychiatric Association has long opposed conversion therapy, which the organization says is based on the assumption that homosexuality is a mental disorder.” (Meanwhile, the Eisenhower Executive Office Building, where much of the White House staff works, now has a “gender neutral” bathroom—apparently upon the orders of Obama advisor Valerie Jarrett.) [74131, 74132, 74149, 74190]

At the White House, Michelle Obama addresses the issue of creating opportunities for native American youth, telling a gathering, “You see, we need to be very clear about where the challenges in this community first started. Folks in Indian Country didn’t just wake up one day with addiction problems. Poverty and violence didn’t just randomly happen to this community. These issues are the result of a long history of systematic discrimination and abuse. . . . So given this history, we shouldn’t be surprised at the challenges that kids in Indian Country are facing today. And we should never forget that we played a role in this. Make no mistake about it—we own this. And we can’t just invest a million here and a million there, or come up with some five-year or ten-year plan and think we’re going to make a real impact. This is truly about nation-building, and it will require fresh thinking and a massive infusion of resources over generations. That’s right, not just years, but generations.” [74179, 74180]

At WND.com Leo Hohmann writes, “With Muslim immigrants streaming into the United States at a rate of 100,000 per year, some of the communities targeted for new arrivals are seeking information on their new neighbors, only to be frustrated by federal bureaucrats and their hired contractors. How does a city get on the U.S. State Department’s list of 190 communities selected for refugee resettlement? How can cities find out who will be coming and when? What services will they use, and what will be the cost to taxpayers? And, the granddaddy of all questions: Can the communities be assured that foreign nationals with ties to ISIS, al-Shabab and other Islamic terrorist groups won’t slip

through the government's porous screening process posing as 'refugees?' The answers to these questions are simple. Very little information is available. And there are no guarantees that some very bad apples won't arrive in your town, says a leading expert on the refugee resettlement program. One community that is trying to get information right now is Spartanburg, South Carolina. ...[A] story broke in the local Spartanburg newspaper that World Relief, one of the nine resettlement agencies that works under contract with the federal government, was planning to open an office in Spartanburg. When an agency like World Relief opens an office in a city, it means refugees will be arriving soon. There are no public hearings or announcements in local media... Typically a story will appear in the local newspaper just before or after the first arrivals appear in town." (Some may wonder if Spartanburg was targeted by the administration because it is in the Congressional District of Trey Gowdy (R-SC), an outspoken critic of Obama.) [74103, 74576]

Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy sends an email that reads in part, "Yesterday, I had the opportunity to meet with ...Obama, EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy and health care professionals to discuss climate change. We talked about the impact of climate change on public health and the importance of prevention. Clearly, we all have a stake in our national and global health. Every single one of us stands to benefit from a public health system that is focused on wellness and prevention—not one that simply focuses on treating sickness and disease. ...Every one of us wants to do what we can to protect the health of our families, including the health of our grandchildren and future generations. That starts with being informed about how we can keep ourselves, and one another, healthy—particularly in the face of a changing climate." (Arguably there is no need for the nation to even have a Surgeon General, but Obama appointed Murthy to spread his anti-gun message and propaganda about climate change.) [74107, 74153]

En route to Panama, Obama visits Jamaica and, according to CBS' Mark Knoller, "dropped by the Bob Marley Museum for a look-see." (Whether Obama will issue an executive order changing the national anthem from *The Star-Spangled Banner* to *One Love* remains to be seen. Vice President Joe Biden is still reportedly holding out for *You've Got a Friend*.) The White House to issue a Twitter message of a Marley quote: "People who are trying to make this world worse are not taking the day off. Why should I?" (Some might argue that is not the best message to tweet when relaxing in Jamaica.) Politico.com notes, "It's not the first time [Obama] has made his love for Marley known. During the 2012 campaign, Obama told MTV that he is a big fan of the late reggae artist and cultural stoner icon." [74115, 74173, 74176, 74191]

D. W. Ulsterman reports, "Last week Clinton Machine operatives met in private with Martin O'Malley to offer the former Maryland governor a spot on the Clinton ticket, according to Capitol Hill sources. The effort is meant to head off a possible challenge by O'Malley for the Democratic nomination, something the Clintons are increasingly concerned about given Hillary's sudden drop in the polls following her email and possible pay-to-play scandals, and a still-looming Bill Clinton 'Orgy Island' media relations debacle. While the O'Malley camp is said to be seriously considering the

Clinton offer that he be her running mate, they remain tight-lipped over whether or not the former Maryland governor would rather run AGAINST Hillary Clinton and take the Democratic nomination for president himself. ... Those who opposed Governor O'Malley in Maryland know well how ruthless of a politician he can be, despite his often cheerful and outgoing public persona—a persona that makes him a far more capable retail politician that Hillary could ever hope to be. He has strong union support, considerable fundraising potential, and of late, very favorable media attention—all essential to any Democrat hoping to be President of the United States. ... O'Malley's refusal to give the Clinton operatives a definitive answer following last week's meeting was not well received by either Bill or Hillary, both of whom long considered him a Clinton loyalist.” [74160]

On April 9 TheHill.com reports, “The Clinton Foundation reportedly accepted millions of dollars from a Colombian oil company head before then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton decided to support a trade deal with Colombia despite worries of human rights violations.” [74111, 74112, 74113]

Politico.com's Glenn Thrush tweets, “Yes, Hillary's collapsing completely, shouldn't even bother to enter the race...” (Thrush later says he was “joking”—which possibly means other media leftists told him, “Not yet...”) [74753, 74754]

Reuters reports, “Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei on Thursday demanded that all sanctions on Iran be lifted at the same time as any final agreement with world powers on curbing Tehran's nuclear program is concluded. Khamenei, the Islamic Republic's most powerful figure and who has the last say on all state matters, was making his first comments on the interim deal reached last week in the Swiss city of Lausanne. ... ‘I neither support nor oppose the deal. Everything is in the details, it may be that the deceptive other side wants to restrict us in the details,’ Khamenei said in a speech broadcast live on state television. ‘All sanctions should be removed when the deal is signed. If the sanctions removal depends on other processes, then why did we start the negotiations?’ Khamenei said. The U.S. State Department on Thursday repeated its position that sanctions against Iran would be removed gradually.” [74134, 74158]

Meanwhile, FreeBeacon.com reports, “The international framework nuclear agreement reached in Switzerland last week makes no specific mention of Iran's Parchin military facility—a key location of suspected nuclear weapons work. The omission of Parchin in the formal statements released by negotiators after the deal was reached is raising questions about whether Iran will agree to disclose all details of its work on building nuclear arms. ‘Parchin has been the center of Iran's weaponization efforts for decades,’ said John Bolton, former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations. ‘There is simply no provision for adequate international inspections of Parchin or any other weaponization-related activities, including Iran's ballistic-missile programs,’ Bolton added. ‘We have only our own intelligence capabilities, which Iran and North Korea have repeatedly evaded.’ ... Unlike two other nuclear facilities at Fordow and Natanz that are extensively covered by the framework nuclear accord, nothing in the framework specifically calls for

access to Iran's military facility at Parchin. ...The two centrifuge plants [at Fordow and Natanz] were built in violation of Iran's commitment to the Non-Proliferation Treaty." [74135]

AFP reports, "Washington warned Thursday it would not stand by while Tehran supports Shiite rebels in Yemen, as Iran's supreme leader denounced Saudi-led air strikes in the country as 'criminal acts.' In the most direct American criticism yet of Tehran's backing for the Shiite Houthi rebels, Secretary of State John Kerry said Washington would not accept foreign interference in Yemen." Kerry tells NPR, "Iran needs to recognize that the United States is not going to stand by while the region is destabilized or while people engage in overt warfare across lines, international boundaries in other countries." (Of course, the United States has been doing just that.) [74136]

According to new Quinnipiac University Swing State Polls, Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) leads Hillary Clinton in presidential match-ups in Colorado (44-41 percent) and Iowa (43-32), while Clinton leads in Virginia (47-43). Peter A. Brown, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Poll, comments, "Ominous for Hillary Clinton is the broad scope of the movement today compared to her showing in Quinnipiac University's mid-February survey. It isn't just one or two Republicans who are stepping up; it's virtually the entire GOP field that is running better against her. That's why it is difficult to see Secretary Clinton's slippage as anything other than a further toll on her image from the furor over her e-mail. In all three of these states, more, and in Colorado many more, registered voters say she is not honest and trustworthy. Voters do think she is a strong leader—a key metric—but unless she can change the honesty perception, running as a competent but dishonest candidate has serious potential problems." [74137]

Meanwhile, Lincoln Chafee, a Republican-turned-Independent-turned-Democrat former mayor, governor, and United States Senator from Rhode Island, announces the formation of a presidential exploratory committee. Democrat National Committee chairwoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL) tweets, "Lincoln Chafee has done great things for Rhode Island. I'm excited to hear his thoughts for the country as he considers a bid for president." [74154, 74157, 74189, 74441]

Hillary Clinton will reportedly announce her candidacy on April 12. (Some might wonder how, if Clinton is frightened into announcing by a challenge by Lincoln Chafee, she will be able to stand up to Iran, Russia, and North Korea if elected president.) Polls show that even though most people expect Clinton to be the Democrat nominee in 2016, Democrats and Independents want to see her challenged in the primaries—if only to give her practice in fighting off attacks. [74156, 74172, 74184, 74187, 74194, 74199, 74204, 74221]

DCClothesline.com reports, "J. Christian Adams, a former United States Department of Justice official in the Civil Rights Division, who resigned as a matter of conscience when Eric Holder refused to charge two Black Panthers armed with billy clubs and brass knuckles for voter intimidation, will be testifying and producing proof positive that illegals are registering to vote while getting driver's licenses under the Motor Voter

Act.” Adams has stated, “The bigger problem is that when they get those drivers licenses, there’s a government social services agency that is compelled under motor voter to offer voter registration. For example, I’m representing a client—the American Civil Rights Union. We’re about to file a brief to the Supreme Court that shows actual voter registrations of people who on their voter registration forms that they’re not citizens, but they’re still getting registered to vote.” (As noted previously in this *Timeline*, in 1995 Obama sued the State of Illinois on behalf of ACORN to get the state to comply with the federal Motor Voter Law, which Republican Governor Jim Edgar correctly argued would invite voter fraud—partly because government officers registering new voters are ‘under orders not to ask anyone for identification or proof of citizenship.’ ACORN has been prominent in the fight against photo I.D. for voting and other means of voter identification. ACORN specifically sought out Obama to represent them in the lawsuit; the case was not simply assigned to him by a law firm. At least six of the 19 terrorists involved in the attacks of September 11 were illegally registered to vote in the United States, partly because of ACORN’s activities in spreading the motor voter laws.) [54, 240, 255, 284, 74148]

Newsmax.com reports, “Judicial Watch released more emails in the IRS targeting scandal Thursday, with these showing that former IRS supervisor Lois Lerner feared that the information used to single out tea party groups and other opponents of ...Obama for special scrutiny ‘might raise questions.’ ‘We understand why the criteria might raise questions,’ Lerner told Troy Paterson, the audit manager for the Treasury Department's Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA), in an email dated Jan. 31, 2013. ...The email was among 1,157 pages of documents Judicial Watch released after obtaining them through its continuing Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit against the IRS. ...‘These new emails show that the IRS scandal is not over,’ Tom Fitton, Judicial Watch's president, said Thursday. ‘These documents point to document gaps caused by the refusal of the Obama IRS to search for Lois Lerner’s emails.’” [74171, 74178, 74293]

According to TheBlaze.com, “The Congressional Budget Office reported Wednesday that the federal government saw a higher budget deficit in the first half of fiscal year 2015 compared to 2014, and said higher spending due to Obamacare is part of the reason. CBO said the budget deficit was \$430 billion in the first half of fiscal year 2015, a \$17 billion increase. While there were several contributing factors to that increase, CBO said spending on Obamacare was a significant change from 2014 to 2015.” [74177]

D. W. Ulsterman reports that Obama and close advisor Valerie Jarrett met in private with “leading media to help sell Iran nuke deal story.” According to Ulsterman, “The meeting was said to be just over an hour long and run primarily by Valerie Jarrett herself while Barack Obama sat quietly nodding in the affirmative and mumbling a few barely coherent suggestions from time to time. Jarrett’s media soldiers were given their marching orders—a very specific outline of how the Iran nuke deal is to be reported on from here on out. Pravda has truly come to America... The list of those in attendance at the private, off-the-books meeting are as follows as reported by the always excellent

White House Dossier: ‘The Atlantic’s Jeffrey Goldberg, New York Magazine’s Jonathan Chait, The Wall Street Journal’s Gerald Seib, The New York Times’ Carol Giacomo, The New Yorker’s Dexter Filkins, The Daily Beast’s Michael Tomasky, The Huffington Post’s Ryan Grim and The Washington Post’s David Ignatius, Eugene Robinson, Ruth Marcus and Greg Sargent.’ Some of those named are of no surprise of course. The one that will likely raise eyebrows is the participation of the WSJ’s Gerald Seib. The WSJ has been among the most vocal critics of the Obama White House’s closed shop media mentality. Will it now report on this quite odd off the books media meeting between its Washington Bureau Chief and Valerie Jarrett? (with Obama there but his mind apparently on hiatus) Time will tell. Or perhaps not...” [74159]

At ThePostEmail.com J. B. Williams delves into the term “natural born citizen,” which was understood by the nation’s Founding Fathers to mean born on U.S. soil to U.S. citizen parents. Williams points out that many people (often intentionally) misuse the words “naturalized,” “native,” and “natural” in an effort to claim that Obama, Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX), Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL), Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal, former Senator Rick Santorum (R-PA), and South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley are natural born citizens when they are not—because of the non-U.S. citizenship of one or both parents. It is true that the U.S. Constitution does not define the term “natural born citizen,” but it does not define *any* terms. It is therefore critical that one know what the words and terms in the document meant *when it was written in 1789*. Many (and this *Timeline*) have noted that the Founding Fathers were familiar with and relied on Emerich de Vattel’s *The Law of Nations*, which stated, “The natives, or natural-born citizens, are those born in the country, of parents who are citizens.” Williams notes a subsequent sentence by Vattel: “As the society cannot exist and perpetuate itself otherwise than by the children of the citizens, those children naturally follow the condition of their fathers, and succeed to all their rights.” Other statements by Vattel also confirm that the general thinking of the time was that the citizenship of the child’s father was as critical as the place of birth. [74161]

Obama’s father (if he was the drunken socialist bureaucrat from Kenya) was not a U.S. citizen. Ted Cruz’s father was a Cuban citizen at the time of his son’s birth in Canada. Marco Rubio’s father and mother were Cuban citizens when he was born. Bobby Jindal’s parents were still citizens of India, as were the parents of Nikki Haley. Rick Santorum’s father was an Italian citizen. Regardless of the fact that today many Americans have an incorrect understanding of the term natural born citizen, that is irrelevant under the law. What is important is what the Founding Fathers meant in 1789, and they clearly would *not* have considered Obama, Cruz, Rubio, Santorum, Jindal, or Haley to be natural born citizens. Williams emphasizes notes that the Citizenship Act of 1934 pertains only to “naturalized citizenship,” not natural born citizenship. The terms *naturalized* and *natural* do *not* mean the same thing—despite the efforts of many to claim that they do. Even though that 1934 legislation allows U.S. citizenship to be granted to the foreign-born child of an American mother even if the father is not a U.S. citizen, that child is a *naturalized* citizen, not a *natural born* citizen. Thus, Canadian-born Ted Cruz can be considered a naturalized U.S. citizen, but he is not a natural born citizen of the United States.” [74161]

Williams writes, “Much more than a political ambition or agenda is at stake here... The Natural Right of every child to inherit the condition of their birth family, specifically that of the Father (patriarch), the head of the family, is a constitutionally protected Natural Right. Americans must understand that everything our Founders created was based upon inalienable Natural Rights, not man-made laws via legislative process or judicial review. When anyone begins to mess around with natural born, they are in fact messing around with the Natural Law and all Natural Rights, the cornerstone of our Founders creation and any form of freedom and liberty.” Thus, Obama, Cruz, Rubio, Jindal, Santorum, and Haley cannot be “deemed” natural born citizens. That was either their status at the moment of their births or it was not—and it was not. One cannot pretend they were born where they were not or ignore the citizenship of their parents simply because doing so serves a convenient political purpose. One cannot “deem” them eligible to serve as president simply because one now wants the term natural born citizen to mean something other than what James Madison understood it to mean. The proper course of action would be to amend the U.S. Constitution to eliminate the natural born citizen requirement—if that is what the citizens demand. It is not to pretend that the term means something else. Pretending that the Constitution means what it does not is precisely how the United States government became a gargantuan abuser of citizens’ rights and purveyor of countless special privileges to various voting blocks. That Obama is illegally serving as president is more than a specific problem. It is a symptom of monumental problems. [74161]

Meanwhile, a “2015 Birther Commemorative Coin” goes on sale. The “unique and highly detailed commemorative 2 troy ounce silver bullion coin honors Article 2 Section 1 Clause 5 of the United States Constitution which defines the Natural Born Citizen presidential eligibility requirement of two citizen-parents at birth.” The obverse shows Lady Justice, while the reverse includes a quote from Emerich de Vattel, “Natural-born citizens are those born in the country of parents who are citizens,” and the words of the Supreme Court case *Minor v. Happersett*, “All children born in a country of parents who were its citizens became... natural born citizens.” [74202, 74203]

Senator John McCain (R-AZ) tells talk show host Hugh Hewitt, “It’s probably in black and white that the Ayatollah [Khamenei] is probably right. [Secretary of State] John Kerry is delusional. ...I think you’re going to find out that they [the Iranians] had never agreed to the things that John Kerry claimed that they had. So in a way, I can’t blame the Ayatollah, because I don’t think they ever agreed to it, and I think John Kerry tried to come back and sell a bill of goods, hoping maybe that the Iranians wouldn’t say much about it. ...I knew that things were going to be bad when I lost [to Obama] in 2008, okay? But if you take a look at the map of the world in January of 2009 and look at the world today, my friend, you and I even haven’t had a chance to talk about the shameful, disgraceful actions of us not giving the Ukrainians weapons to defend themselves. That’s a shameful chapter.” [74182, 74275]

According to TheHill.com, “Americans who were held hostage in Iran from 1979 to 1981 are pushing the Obama administration to demand that they be compensated as part of any

nuclear deal. Dozens of the hostages and their families will meet with lawmakers' staffs early next week to reiterate their call for compensation from Iran, which has gone unanswered in the 35 years since they were held prisoner. Senator Johnny Isakson (R-GA) has filed two amendments to Iran legislation that would 'ensure that resolving the issue of compensation for hostages is considered' prior to any nuclear agreement, a source familiar with the amendments told The Hill. ...A State Department official noted that the administration has in the past backed Isakson's bipartisan efforts on compensating the hostages, but suggested the issue would not be part of the nuclear talks." [74183]

FoxNews.com reports, "Islamic State militants are demanding up to \$30 million in ransom to release the hundreds of Christian hostages in Syria, according to an officer within the Assyrian leadership. In ongoing negotiations between ISIS terrorists and the Assyrian leadership to free the 250-300 Christians abducted by the militant group in February, ISIS is demanding \$100,000 per individual, according to the source." [74185]

USAToday.com reports that the Walgreens "plans to close about 200 U.S. stores as the nation's largest drugstore chain expands on a \$1 billion cost-reduction plan it announced last August." [74310]

At Breitbart.com James Delingpole reports that the police in South Yorkshire, England have seen "a 577 per cent rise in reported child sexual exploitation cases between 2011 and 2014. Since its beat includes Rotherham—where at least 1400 girls were groomed and raped by Muslim gangs—perhaps we shouldn't be so surprised by this. ...The reason for the epidemic of recent child rape crimes in Britain is not because a bunch of dirty old perverts... are still actively engaged in kiddy fiddling. It's because of a massive, entrenched cultural problem whereby, for three decades, gangs of Mirpuri Pakistanis in Muslim ghettos around Britain have been permitted with virtual impunity to groom, drug and rape vulnerable, mostly underage white girls. And the reason they've been getting away with it is because almost all the authorities which should have prevented it happening—from the local police to the council children's services to the various children's charities—preferred, for reasons of political correctness, to bury their heads in the sand." (British taxpayers are arguably subsidizing the rapes, because huge numbers of Muslim immigrants in England are "on the dole"—living on welfare benefits.) [74553]

On April 10 The National Rifle Association (NRA) begins its annual meeting with, according to Townhall.com's Katie Pavlich, "more than 10,000 acres of guns and 550 displays in downtown Nashville. At least 80,000 people are expected to attend this year's event in Music City. The first major event for the conference will kick off this afternoon with the NRA-ILA Leadership Forum, which will feature many potential 2016 presidential candidates like Jeb Bush, Marco Rubio, Bobby Jindal, Scott Walker, Mike Pence, Rick Santorum, Rick Perry and Dr. Ben Carson. Ted Cruz, who has already announced he will be running for president, will also speak." (Meanwhile, many Democrat legislators worry that Obama might again push for more restrictions on guns—an action that would cost them votes in November 2016. Dave 'Mudcat' Saunders, a

Democratic strategist and lifelong gun owner, tells WashingtonTimes.com, “Every time a Democrat starts talking about guns, they lose numbers because it is the Second Amendment. How many gun owners are there in America now? Look it up. There is a bunch of them, and anytime you start talking about guns, you are going to take from your numbers.”) [74168, 74174, 74181, 74205, 74206]

At the NRA event, Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker says, “I don’t know about all of you, but in an America where my children are going to grow up, I want a commander in chief who will look the American people in the eye and say that radical Islamic terrorism is a threat and we are going to do something about it. We need a president who will be straight up with the American people and look them in the eye and tell them ‘It is not a matter of if, it is a matter of when they try another attempt on America soil, and for the sake of my children and yours I am not going to wait. I am going to take the fight to them before they bring the fight to us.’ ...I see an occupant in the White House right now who seems to forget that when the president is sworn in he takes an oath of office to preserve, to protect and to defend the Constitution of the United States. Well, Mr. [Obama], the last time I checked, the Second Amendment was part of the Constitution. You don’t get to pick and choose which part of the Constitution you like, and which part you don’t.” [74225, 74231]

Milwaukee County Sheriff David Clarke addresses the NRA crowd. He says, “This is where I want to be, standing shoulder to shoulder with you, God-loving, freedom-loving patriots who support the United States Constitution, which includes the right to keep and bear arms—or, as ...Obama calls us, ‘bitter clingers.’ He says that when things don’t go right that we ‘cling to our guns and our religion’—to which I reply, ‘Damn right we do... and don’t you forget it.” [74232]

NRA executive vice president Wayne LaPierre tells the audience, “She will not bring a new dawn of promise and new opportunity. Hillary Clinton will bring a permanent darkness of deceit and despair forced upon the American people to endure.” [74226]

According to Gallup polls, approval of Obama by American Jews has fallen 23 percent since 2009. “For the first quarter of 2015, 54% of American Jews approved of the job Barack Obama is doing... compared with an average of 46% among all Americans. That eight-percentage-point gap is lower than the average 13-point gap seen so far throughout Obama’s term in office, and is representative of a general narrowing of Obama’s Jewish advantage over the last nine months.” In early 2009, Jewish-American approval of Obama was as high as 77 percent. [74312, 74313]

John Thomas Booker, Jr., a Topeka resident also known as Muhammad Abdullah Hassan, is arrested by the FBI for planning to bomb the U.S. Army base at Fort Riley, Kansas. Later in the day Alexander E. Blair is arrested for knowing about the bomb plot and failing to report it to authorities. [74210, 74211, 74212, 74218]

BuzzFeed.com reports that there are “more than 400 Americans” stuck in Yemen who have no way to escape. They were reportedly told by consulates and the State Department, “There are no plans for a U.S. government-coordinated evacuation of U.S. citizens at this time.” (On the other hand, “The State Department has issued travel warnings against citizens visiting Yemen for years now.”) Associated Press reporter Matt Lee asks State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf, “You alerted them [Americans] to opportunities to leave the country? What are those opportunities? Swim?” Other reports suggest there are as many as 3,000-4,000 Americans trapped in Yemen. [74169, 74170, 74229, 74447]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, “The State Department’s inspector general has agreed to investigate the program that allowed former Secretary Hillary Rodham Clinton to hire one of her key advisors, Huma Abedin, for government work even as she was also employed by a private firm, a senator revealed Friday. Inspector General Steve A. Linick also said he wasn’t aware of Mrs. Clinton’s or Ms. Abedin’s use of a non-government email account to conduct official business, and said that’s generally been frowned upon at the department. He pointed to a 2012 report that instructed an embassy to stop using a commercial email system as evidence. And Mr. Linick said he is looking into whether those employed as Special Government Employees—the designation Mrs. Clinton gave to Ms. Abedin—are following the law, and avoiding conflicts of interest.” Senator Charles Grassley (R-IA) “questioned whether Ms. Abedin was qualified to be designated an SGE, saying that privilege is supposed to be used to entice someone in the private sector to split his or her time, in order for the government to tap someone’s ‘special knowledge and skills.’ In Ms. Abedin’s case she was already working for Mrs. Clinton when she was converted to an SGE, allowing her to then also take an outside job...” [74193, 74260]

In an interview with *Elle* magazine, Chelsea Clinton Mezvinsky says, “[W]hen you ask about the importance of having a woman president, absolutely it’s important for, yes, symbolic reasons.” (Bernard Goldberg comments, “There it is. Hillary Clinton’s daughter says her mother should be crowned president of the United States because ‘it’s important for *symbolic* reasons.’ Electing a woman—a liberal Democratic woman and not, of course, a Republican conservative woman—would show just how far America has come. Symbols matter, right? But we elected [Obama] largely based on symbolism and our economy is still only limping along while Iran tells us to drop dead and a lot of the rest of the world is on fire.” Goldberg notes psychiatrist Julie Holland, who writes at Time.com, “Biologically speaking, postmenopausal women are ideal candidates for leadership. They are primed to handle stress well, and there is, of course, no more stressful job than the presidency.” “So,” observes Goldberg, “Hillary is ready to be president because she’s not menstruating anymore?”) [74302]

The White House tweets a photograph of Obama standing at the door of Air Force One, with his hand in the air and a rainbow emerging from that hand. The caption is: “With hard work and hope, change is always within our reach.” (Some might suggest the

caption, “We are going to keep shoving this hope-and-change claptrap down the throats of the American people until his very last day in office.”) [74195, 74228, 74230]

Attorney General Eric Holder issues a memorandum to all Department of Justice personnel reminding them that “they are prohibited from soliciting, procuring, or accepting commercial sex. This rule applies at all times during an individual’s employment, including while off duty or on personal leave, and applies regardless of whether the activity is legal or tolerated in a particular jurisdiction, foreign or domestic.” (On April 16 the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee issues a bipartisan vote of “no confidence” for Drug Enforcement Administrator Michele Leonhart, who had told the committee she could not fire DEA agents involved in a drug cartel prostitution scandal because of federal regulations and civil service rules.) [74196, 74197, 74217, 74408]

The White House releases a copy of Obama’s 2014 tax return. According to Bloomberg.com, their tax return shows a reported adjusted gross income of \$477,383, based on his salary, book royalties (about \$88,000), and interest income (about \$16,000). They paid \$39,566 in interest on the mortgage of their Chicago mansion, and donated \$70,712 to charities. The Obamas will receive a tax refund of \$20,641. Their taxes are \$93,362, a tax rate of about 19 percent. [74198]

Meanwhile. D. W. Ulsterman reports that \$25 million “is apparently the (and still ongoing) negotiated figure for Barack Obama’s post-presidency memoirs. Trusted operatives for the already part-time president are said to have been engaged in a flurry of wide-ranging negotiations involving the book deal, real estate, and a worldwide speaking tour that is to be set up and promoted similar to a rock concert tour. The speaking tour will then include another book and film deal. In 2009 it was reported Mr. Obama signed an agreement with Crown Publishing but it is now believed his post-presidency dealings are being negotiated with a number of high-profile publishing firms including one said to be owned by a multinational media giant who [Obama] has consistently spoken out against during his time in office [Rupert Murdoch?]. Another odd component to these negotiations also involves Mr. Obama allegedly providing a personal supplement to be included in newly published 2017-2018 edition U.S. history textbooks to be used throughout American K-12 public schools, a plan apparently initiated not so much for short term financial gain but rather longer term legacy development. All told, the post-presidency Obama Machine could quite possibly generate income of \$100 MILLION DOLLARS or more for [Obama] within just a few years of leaving office. Financial backers of most if not all the ongoing negotiations are said to include considerable involvement of various Middle East interests. At the earnings pace Mr. Obama is set to initiate after leaving the White House, he might very well be worth more within ten years than his 2012 re-election opponent Mitt Romney. Readers will likely recall Romney’s wealth was used quite effectively by the Obama campaign as proof the GOP candidate was ‘out of touch’ with the common voter.” [74200]

At WND.com Alan Keyes, Obama's Republican opponent in the 2004 U.S. Senate race in Illinois, writes, "The fact that Obama has come to terms with such masterminds of evil [in Iran] ought to produce the sort of revulsion that demands an emetic remedy, lest we die. So does the likelihood that Obama, Hilary Clinton and their friends in the Muslim Brotherhood had a hand in arming the malevolent Islamic State forces Obama's de facto alliance with Iran now purports to fight. The 'experts' and pundits reacting with alarm to Obama's apparently self-contradictory rapprochement with deadly evil speak of his ambition to secure a triumph for his foreign-policy legacy, or his failure to appreciate the real nature of the dangers involved in thinking that Iran can be safely installed as the stabilizing power in the Middle East. Most don't even hint at what may be his most sinister aim, i.e., 'to take America down.' The Obama administration now appears to include people at the highest level disloyal enough to form a de facto alliance with America's most outspoken and implacable enemies. They have agreed to look the other way while Iran finishes the work needed to construct weapons that put them in a position to force us to choose between complying with their agenda and unleashing nuclear destruction." [74234, 74235]

"Who among us thinks that, like the generation fresh from the triumphs of the last World War, our current self-serving politicians have the experience, moral probity and courage to face that choice of evils? Who is honestly sure that they aren't already preparing an exit strategy that leaves their own factional power intact, even if America is no longer free? What if Obama isn't looking to his 'legacy?' What if the threat of nuclear devastation he helps to arm with this agreement (an America-hating Iran with nuclear bombs) is to be brandished, along with a related threat from ongoing terrorist uprisings on U.S. soil, to create the exigent circumstances needed to justify imposing martial law throughout the United States *and* a plausible excuse for demanding that Obama remain in office until the emergency passes? There it is. The unthinkable scenario predicated upon the thought that Barack Obama and those who lifted him to power are precisely what they appear to be – the enemies of America's power, its prosperity, its constitutional liberty, its moral strength, indeed of everything about America except their own boundless ambition. Why is it at all inconceivable that people willing to collude with and arm our boldest enemies may be doing so for the sake of their own power? Why should we be unwilling to ponder the possibility that the Obama faction has agreed to help Iran achieve hegemony in the Middle East in order to help themselves to dictatorial control over the United States? What certainty do we have that, in some secret, back-channel codicil, this agreement is not already in place?" [74234, 74235]

According to CNN's Brian Stelter, Hillary Clinton campaign staffers host an off-the-record, "greasing the skids" cocktail party. Guests include ABC's Diane Sawyer, George Stephanopoulos, and David Muir, MSNBC's Joe Scarborough, NBC's Savannah Guthrie, and CBS' David Muir and Norah O'Donnell. [74268]

According to a Bloomberg poll, 53 percent of surveyed adults believe Hillary Clinton "purposely withheld or deleted" important emails. Only 29 percent believe she is telling the truth, while 18 percent are not sure. Clinton's favorable/unfavorable ratings are 48/44

percent, with 8 percent not sure. (In June 2013 her favorable/unfavorable percentages were 60/33.) Only 42 percent of Democrats say they will “definitely” vote for Clinton if she is the party’s nominee. Unfortunately for Clinton, a whopping 83 percent of adults say her gender is not important, while 12 percent say they are “more inclined to vote for her” because she is a woman.” [74276, 74277]

On April 11 the Islamic State releases a brutal video called “We Will Burn America” that, according to PJMedia.com, “calls for supporters to attack the American homeland and promises another 9/11.” ISIS also releases an animated video called, “A Message to America” that shows a jihadist beheading a crying Obama. [74241, 74242, 74243, 74294, 74308, 74309, 74328, 74335, 74364]

At the Summit of the Americas in Panama City, Obama meets with Cuban President Raul Castro. Castro calls Obama “an honest man” with a “humble background.” (Castro may not be aware that Obama was educated at some of the most exclusive and expensive schools in the world.) Obama says, “This is obviously an historic meeting. ...It was time for us to try something new. "We are now in a position to move on a path toward the future.” (By “new,” Obama means the United States will make concessions to Cuba while Cuba changes nothing and its brutal regime continues.) “The Cold War has been over for a long time, and I’m not interested in having battles frankly that started before I was born. ...The United States will not be imprisoned by the past. We’re looking to the future. ...What we have both concluded is that we can disagree with a spirit of respect and civility, and over time, it is possible for us to turn the page and develop a new relationship between our two countries.” Castro says, “We are willing to discuss everything, but we need to be patient, very patient. We might disagree on something today on which we could agree tomorrow.” Also at the event, Brazil’s communist president, Dilma Rousseff, states that she rejects the adoption of sanctions against Venezuela. (Rousseff has been dealing increasingly with both Cuba and Venezuela as she begins her second term of office.) [74215, 74224, 74233, 74251]

Bolivian President Evo Morales tells Obama, “No more interference, no more spying on us or hijacking our planes.” [74223]

During a group meeting of world leaders at the summit, Obama again bashes the United States, saying, “I am a student of history so I tend to actually be familiar with many of these episodes that have been mentioned. I am the first one to acknowledge that America’s application to concern around human rights has not always been consistent. And, I’m certainly mindful that there are dark chapters in our own history in which we have not always observed the principles and ideals upon which the country was founded. Just a few weeks ago I was in Selma, Alabama celebrating the 50th anniversary of a march across a bridge that resulted in horrific violence and the reason I was there and the reason it was a celebration is because it was a triumph of human spirit in which ordinary people without resort to violence were able to overcome systematic segregation. There voices were heard and our country changed. America never makes a claim about being perfect, we do make a claim about being open to change.” (Obama is no “student of

history.” Rather, he has a distorted understanding of history—with intentional emphasis on its anti-American aspects.) [74280]

Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) responds to the Obama-Castro meeting with a statement: “Keeping up with a disturbing trend of this administration, ...Obama is in the process of striking another very bad deal, now with the communist dictatorship of Cuba. ...Obama’s approach gives the Castros exactly what they want—economic relief and legitimacy on the international stage—and effectively abandons the pro-U.S. opposition. [Obama] has shown he is willing to do what nine previous presidents of both parties would not: cave to a communist dictator in our own hemisphere. [Obama] said today that his unprecedented meeting with Raul Castro was a step towards the future. Unfortunately, he is leaving the Cuban people imprisoned in the past. Of course we should look for new ways to bring relief to the people of Cuba, but if the United States is to provide an economic lifeline, we must first extract significant concessions. For instance, American fugitives being harbored in Cuba should be extradited. We should demand significant legal reform so that the Cuban government can no longer detain its citizens indefinitely with no process. We should demand that the political opposition to the Castros be included in any and all negotiations with Cuba, so their concerns will be addressed. And we should calibrate any relaxation of sanctions directly to the cessation of their human rights violations. If Cuba will not show it can operate in good faith by making such changes before sanctions are lifted, we have no assurance that the Castros will take real action to improve the lives of their impoverished and oppressed citizens. Meanwhile, American dollars will flow exclusively into the Castros’ pockets while the Cuban people continue to suffer.” [74236]

Obama, noting Senator John McCain’s (R-AZ) criticism of Secretary of State John Kerry as “delusional” for his handling of the Iranian negotiations, says, “When I hear some, like Senator McCain recently, suggest that our secretary of State, John Kerry, who served in the United States Senate, a Vietnam veteran, provided exemplary service to this nation is somehow less trustworthy in the interpretation of what’s in a political agreement than the Supreme Leader of Iran, that’s an indication of the degree to which partisanship has crossed all boundaries, and we’re seeing this again and again. ...Now we have a senator suggesting that our Secretary of State is purposefully misinterpreting the deal and giving the Supreme Leader of Iran the benefit of the doubt in the interpretation. That’s not how we’re supposed to run foreign policy, regardless of who’s president or Secretary of State. We can have arguments, and there are legitimate arguments to be had. I understand why people might be mistrustful of Iran. I understand why people might oppose the deal, although the reason is not because this is a bad deal, per se, but they just don’t trust any deal with Iran. You know, they prefer to take a military approach to it.” (Once again Obama shamelessly uses a false choice argument, that the only alternatives are his or war. Because he is psychologically incapable of accepting that his way is not always the correct way to deal with a problem, he must defend himself with such ludicrous arguments—not only to fool the citizenry, but to fool himself.) [74182, 74275, 74307]

Obama adds, “We don’t have to speculate on what the meaning of a deal’s going to be. Either there’s going to be a document that Iran agrees with and the world community

about, and a series of actions that have to be taken—or there’s not. Part of the challenge in this whole process has been opponents of basically any deal with Iran have actually tried to characterize what the deal is without seeing it.” (Again, he gives a false choice argument. He ignores the reality that opposition to *his* deal does not mean opposition to *any* deal. Granted, no one has seen a final deal—because there is none yet. But the Obama administration itself has leaked information about the proposal and provided the media with talking points. He is essentially saying, “Trust me, because I know best,” and “We have to sign the agreement before you can see what is in it.”) [74275]

McCain later responds, “It is undeniable that the version of the nuclear agreement outlined by the Obama Administration is far different from the one described by Iran’s Supreme Leader—on inspections, sanctions relief and other critically important issues. These widely divergent explanations of the nuclear deal must be fully explained and reconciled if we are to give serious consideration to this agreement.” [74275]

Obama also criticizes Binyamin Netanyahu for his opposition to the framework of the Iran deal: “The prime minister of Israel is deeply opposed to it, I think he’s made that very clear. I have repeatedly asked, what is the alternative that you present that you think makes it less likely for Iran to get a nuclear weapon? And I have yet to obtain a good answer on that.” Netanyahu responds the next day: “[L]et me reiterate again the two main components of the alternative to this bad deal. First, instead of allowing Iran to preserve and develop its nuclear capabilities, a better deal would significantly roll back these capabilities, for example, by shutting down the illicit underground facilities that Iran concealed for years from the international community. Second, instead of lifting the restrictions on Iran’s nuclear facilities and program at a fixed date, a better deal would link the lifting of these restrictions to an end of Iran’s aggression in the region, its worldwide terrorism and its threats to annihilate Israel.” (Netanyahu, and Congressional Republicans, have repeatedly offered alternative terms for an Iran agreement. Obama simply continues to pretend that they have never been offered, knowing the mainstream media will not call him out on the issue.) [74282]

Asked about Hillary Clinton, Obama arguably tells three lies in four statements: “She was a formidable candidate in 2008. She was an outstanding secretary of state. She is my friend. I think she would be an excellent president.” Asked about Vice President Joe Biden succeeding him, Obama says, “I am not in the business of prognosticating about future elections.” [74222]

Shots are fired outside the U.S. Capitol Building, prompting a lockdown of the facilities. According to FoxNews.com, “The lockdown lasted almost two hours as police investigated the shooting, which was later confirmed to be a suicide. Officials ordered the precautionary lockdown after reporting the shooter had been ‘neutralized’ and as police checked a suspicious package connected to the shooting. Fox News confirmed the shooter died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound. The gunman killed himself just before 2 p.m. Sources familiar with the situation told Fox News the shooter shot himself in the head. It was unclear what weapon they [sic; he] used.” [74216, 74220, 74244]

Anti-free speech hackers once again take down Pamela Geller's web site. [74273]

As Hillary Clinton gets ready to announce her candidacy for the presidency, Jerome Corsi writes at WND.com, "There may be far more hurdles for her to overcome in 2016 than she and her supporters realize. ...One source close to the entertainment industry is shopping what are described as hours of telephone conversations allegedly recorded by a jilted lesbian lover in which an inebriated Mrs. Clinton supposedly trashes politicians and celebrities, including her husband. The opening bid for the recordings is \$10 million. Whether their actual content will ever see the light of day is an open question. But would Clinton, already under fire for her erasing most of her emails as secretary of state, be able to handle the dropping of a bomb like that? Some in the progressive and feminist community are angry with Clinton for her role in the cover-up of what they see as legitimate sexual harassment, womanizing and even rape, allegations against her husband. ...It could get rough out there—and Clinton has even more baggage. ...[T]he relationship between Clinton and [advisor Huma] Abedin [has so far] survived revelations that the latter has extensive family ties to the Muslim Brotherhood, the wide-ranging network that birthed both al-Qaida and ISIS and whose organizations mission is 'destroying Western civilization from within.'" [74237, 74289]

"But it gets worse. While Clinton used an insecure private email account exclusively as secretary of state, she officially prohibited other State Department employees from doing so. Yet, Abedin, as deputy chief of staff, also violated the policy. Judicial Watch has filed suit in federal court for access to these emails. Abedin is also certain to receive additional scrutiny over disclosures that private consulting firm Teneo, where Doug Band, former 'body man' and advisor to former President Bill Clinton is president and Bill Clinton is a board member, paid Huma \$335,000 as a consultant working a second job while she was also a part-time consultant to the State Department, earning \$135,000 as a government employee. Then, of course, there's the ongoing investigation of her role in the Benghazi disaster. ...But there's yet more trouble in paradise. Still brewing for Bill Clinton is the Jeffrey Epstein scandal and the rumored \$3.5 million contribution Epstein sent from a Swiss bank account to Bill and Hillary's foundation after allegations of Bill's involvement in Epstein's pedophile 'Orgy Island' became public earlier this year. Then there are the innumerable foreign contributions made to the Clinton Foundation, including some made by foreign lobbyists while Mrs. Clinton served as secretary of state. Will it really be a smooth ride to the Democratic Party presidential nomination this time? How about the White House?" [74237, 74289]

For years it has been common knowledge in Washington, D.C. and the mainstream media that Clinton and Abedin are "very close" ("wink, wink"). On July 31, 2007 at VillageVoice.com Michael Musto wrote, "[W]hisper campaigns are claiming that HILLARY CLINTON is GAYLE KING-ing her aide de camp, the glamorous HUMA ABEDIN, an Indian/Pakistani goddess from Kalamazoo, Michigan. In other words, Hillary may be putting Huma out there in the press and purposely making her more visible as a pre-emptive strike that amounts to her hiding in plain sight. This way, no

Republican can later say, ‘Who is this gorgeous babe who spends so much intimate time with Hillary that the *Observer* called her Hill’s ‘body person?’ Was GENNIFER FLOWERS’s book right about Hillary’s sexual taste?’ And does either of *this* couple have the balls to bottom? Of course that whole scenario can’t possibly be true, since Bill and Hill have been so lovey-dovey lately for the cameras, and besides, whenever he’s been serviced by an intern—or by anyone—he’s clearly been thinking of his wife. (They’re that close.) But suddenly, Huma—a sort of Muslim SALMA HAYEK—has that spread in *Vogue* and the accompanying write-up notes that she ‘oversees every minute of Senator Clinton’s day.’ Every single minute? Even Gayle King takes a break now and then! (PS: If I called for comment, Hillary’s camp would surely say, ‘Just because two powerful women are closer than sardines doesn’t make them dykes.’ And that’s so true. Look at MATT and BEN...” Musto states that he told one Democrat about “the Hillary/Huma scenario and he deadpanned, ‘That’s a step up from DONNA SHALALA.’” [74556, 74557, 74558, 74559]

Abedin, a Muslim who speaks English, Urdu, and Arabic, was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, but at age two moved with her parents to Saudi Arabia. Her Indian father was an Islamic and Middle Eastern scholar. Her Pakistani mother, Saleha Mahmood Abedin, a supporter of Islamic Shari’ah law, is a member of the “Muslim Sisterhood,” the female equivalent of the radical Muslim Brotherhood; she is also a member of the board of the pro-Hamas International Islamic Council for Dawa and Relief. Abedin attended George Washington University (GWU) after returning to the United States, and was an executive board member of the school’s Muslim Students Association. (The chaplain and “spiritual guide” of GWU’s MSA was Anwar al-Awlaki, who later became an al-Qaeda recruiter.) Abedin began working at the White House in 1996. At the State Department, Abedin was Hillary Clinton’s Deputy Chief of Staff—although it is not known how she received a security clearance, considering her mother’s radical connections. From 1996-2008 Abedin was also employed by the Institute of Muslim Minority Affairs (IMMA), which shares the Muslim Brotherhood’s goal of global Islamic supremacy and the worldwide imposition of Shari’ah. Huma Abedin’s brother Hassan Abedin works at the IMMA. Her sister Heba Abedin Khaled also works at the IMMA’s *Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs*. Hillary Clinton has said, “I have one daughter. But if I had a second daughter, it would be Huma.” Abedin shared Clinton’s private email server, which kept their communications private and hidden from Congressional investigators. [74560, 74561, 74562]

At NationalReview.com Andrew C. McCarthy writes, “There is not, nor has there ever been, an Iran deal. The ‘framework’ [Obama] announced last week was just a stunt. As yet another negotiations deadline loomed with [Obama] plainly unwilling to walk away despite Iranian intransigence, Congress appeared poised to end the farce by voting to stiffen sanctions. The ‘framework’ is a feint designed to dissuade Congress and sustain the farce. In reality, what we have is simply an Obama administration assumption and a timetable. The assumption is that Iran will become a nuclear-weapons power. The timetable involves dragging out the enervating negotiations-to-nowhere for as long as it takes to inure Americans to the prospect of a nuclear Iran. ...Iran has built its foreign policy around the goal of ‘Death to America’ for the last 36 years. It continues,

unabashed, to be the world's leading state sponsor of jihadist terrorism—in particular, anti-American terrorism. It has killed and abetted the killing of Americans throughout the current regime's existence. It is a totalitarian sharia state that, at this moment, is imprisoning at least three Americans. One of them, Saeed Abedini, has been sentenced to eight years' incarceration for establishing Christian houses of worship, which the regime says is a threat to national security. The regime, further, has repeatedly vowed to exterminate Israel, our close ally and the only true democracy in the region.” [74259]

“With such a rogue state, there is only one negotiation a sensible nation—particularly the world's most powerful nation—can have. You tell them that until they convincingly disavow their anti-American stance, cease their support for terrorism, release American prisoners, and acknowledge Israel's right to exist as a Jewish state, that there is no point in discussing anything else. This is not complicated. It is not, as Obama would have us believe, a call to invade Tehran at midnight and keep 300,000 American troops there for a decade or three. You tell the mullahs that the basic tenets of their existing government make it an enemy regime, so naturally our response must be to use every component of our government—financial, treasury, trade, diplomacy, law-enforcement, intelligence, and military—to punish the Iranian regime until it reforms or disappears. You tell them that, in view of their posture toward our country and our allies, and of their violation of international commitments and resolutions, we regard their nuclear and ballistic-missile programs as unacceptable. Without committing to any specific tactic or set of tactics to undo them, you convey that we are quite serious about taking no options off the table.” [74259]

“...In the middle of their negotiations with Obama, the mullahs had one of their top military commanders announce that, as far as Iran is concerned, ‘erasing Israel off the map’ is ‘nonnegotiable.’ That is one of their bottom-line requirements. Obama's job is to move them off their bottom line, not erase ours. He isn't even trying. Thus, the details of Obama's negotiations with the mullahs are beside the point; *the fact that we are negotiating* becomes a humiliating defeat—an implicit admission that we accept Iran's aggression. ...Some negotiations. They thunder about attacking us. We twaddle about how many thousands of centrifuges they should keep. Seriously?” [74259]

In Passaic, New Jersey, Rizek Mushesien throws lit firecrackers into the Ahavas Israel Synagogue and yells “Allahu Akhbar.” [74324, 74325]

On April 12 Hillary Rodham Clinton announces her candidacy for the presidency of the United States. (Although this *Timeline* is primarily about Obama, it is also about the political and world events taking place while he is in the White House. Until he leaves office, Obama and the nation's politics can hardly be separated. The 2016 presidential race will therefore be covered in some detail in this *Timeline*, even if Obama does not personally inject himself into the campaign of any of the Democrat candidates.)

John Podesta, Hillary Clinton's campaign chairman, sends an email to supporters and donors that states, “I wanted to make sure you heard it first from me—it's official: Hillary's running for president. ...She is hitting the road to Iowa to start talking directly

with voters. There will be a formal kickoff event next month, and we look forward to seeing you there.” [74252, 74253]

In her announcement video—complete with Spanish-speaking business owners and gay and lesbian couples—Hillary Clinton says, “Americans have fought their way back from tough economic times, but the deck is still stacked in favor of those at the top. Everyday Americans need a champion, and I want to be that champion.” She also sends a Twitter message: “I’m running for president. Everyday Americans need a champion, and I want to be that champion.” [74253, 74254, 74257, 74262, 74274, 74295, 74297, 74300]

The video includes a young mother saying, “My daughter is about to start kindergarten next year, so we’re moving, just so she can belong to a better school.” (At PJMedia.com Paula Bolyard notes, “Someone—actually everyone—on Team Hillary apparently missed the irony of a family being forced to move to a different school district to find a better school when it’s well known that Hillary is vehemently (and irrationally) opposed to school vouchers.” Clinton once warned that parents would use school vouchers to send their children “to the school of the church of the white supremacists” or “the school of the jihad.” Bolyard writes, “That hasn’t happened anywhere in the country where vouchers are allowed, but it’s a scary bogeyman opponents like to use to counter those who say poor children in failing schools ought to be allowed to take their funding dollars to the school of their choice. If Hillary really wanted to be the ‘champion’ for that little girl in her video—and for families across the nation—she’d stop supporting policies that force families to move in order to escape failing, sclerotic school systems. She would support school choice in all forms, including school vouchers, instead of standing in the way of progress.” [74334]

Clinton’s campaign slogan is an unimaginative and arguably meaningless, “It’s your time.” (The slogan will prompt some to think she means, “It’s my turn.” Others will be reminded of an over-50 Internet dating site called “OurTime.com.”) [74288]

HillaryPAC sends an email that claims Hillary Clinton has “fought children and families all her career.” The entire sentence reads, “From her mother’s own childhood—in which she was abandoned by her parents—to her work going door-to-door for the Children’s Defense Fund to her battling to create the Children’s Health Insurance Program, she’s fought children and families all her career.” (It is unclear how Hillary Clinton could have begun her career during her mother’s childhood, and if she fought children throughout her life she should be in jail.) [74269, 74270, 74292]

NBC’s Andrea Mitchell observes, “There is no foreign policy in her video. She’s not focusing on her years as Secretary of State, and that’s most likely because there are a lot of missteps there. ... With the growth of ISIS and toppling of leaders in Egypt and Libya not working out—failed states everywhere you see. There is not a whole lot to look at and the embrace of Iran and those negotiations are still controversial. People are taking a very cold, hard look at that. So the verdict isn’t in on the engagement policy of [Obama] and she was in on the launch of all of that.” [74279]

Former Bill Clinton political advisor Dick Morris later comments on Hillary Clinton's bland announcement that included no speech before an adoring crowd: "It would appear that she is so eager to avoid being roasted in the media and so adverse to answering questions that she is hiding in plain sight as she is running. So why bother announcing? The answer is unbelievable and sickening. It is a lawyer's announcement. Under the campaign finance laws, she cannot pay her staff except out of campaign money and she can't raise that until she becomes an official candidate. So to start the paychecks flowing to her image, hair, makeup, issue, speech, conduct and acting coaches, she has to announce. She is announcing to comply with the small print of the law while ignoring the big print of public relations. Why? The public be damned. She is unopposed in the Democratic primary and has the party so locked up tightly that she is confident of getting a pass no matter how low her poll numbers go. That she would think it would be OK to announce in a tweet—140 characters, no questions, and no elaborations—is incredible. It is of a piece with a private email server. Take the hit now. Don't worry about how it looks. Just play defense until the election comes around. A solution only a lawyer could love." [74329]

On *Fox News Sunday*, Mitt Romney calls Hillary Clinton "a creature of Washington" who is "just not trustworthy. ... The Clinton-Barack Obama foreign policy has really been a bust." Also appearing on the program is Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ), who says Obama "has a misguided calculation that if you open your hands to dictators that they will unclench their fists. And while Raul Castro may have said some nice things about ... Obama, at the same time, just last month, we had 600 arrests of innocent people inside of Cuba who were detained, many political activists and human rights activists who were not allowed to leave the country to go to the Panama Summit. And last year we had 1,600 detentions and there are still many long political prisoners sitting and languishing in Castro's jails. And when you say that and provide those facts as well as their violations of armed shipments in contravention to international law—and a whole host of other things, like having one of the ten top terrorists on the FBI list in their country, then people change their attitude about what this policy is all about." [74287, 74338]

On *Meet the Press*, New York City's communist mayor Bill "the Red" de Blasio calls on all the Democrat candidates in 2016 to advocate higher taxes: "I think every day, Americans are demanding that their candidate for president—and every other level, really—say that we have a plan that we can believe in for addressing the income inequality. It has to include progressive taxation. It has to include increases in wages and benefits. It has to include the willingness to tax the wealthy so we can invest in infrastructure, so we can invest in education again. That's what I think progressives and everyday Americans will be looking for from Hillary and all other candidates." [74306]

The *New York Post* cover shows a photograph of Hillary Clinton and the words, "OH HILL NO!" "No, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no." (At NewsWithViews.com Devvy Kidd provides some of the many reasons why the Clintons cannot be trusted and why Hillary Clinton should not be allowed to become president.) [74255, 74258]

WashingtonExaminer.com posts “A brief guide to Clinton scandals from Travelgate to Emailgate.” [74296]

One of Bill Clinton’s sexual harassment victims, Kathleen Willey, asks Investigative Radio Sunday’s Aaron Klein, “What has [Hillary Clinton] done, what has she accomplished to run for president, to become the president of the United States? I can’t find, for the life of me, one thing. And if I could find one thing, I would acknowledge that fact. But I haven’t seen one single accomplishment that would give her the credentials to be president of the United States. ...If [being a woman is] her one credential for running for president, then why don’t I run? I’m a woman. It makes absolutely no sense. ...There are a lot more women out there way more qualified than she. The only thing Hillary has been successful on is riding in on the coattails of other men—like Obama and her husband. That’s it. ...Women should pay attention to what she’s done to other women, and not just the women who were unfortunate to cross paths with her husband. ...[W]e’re going to hear one of those scandals every single day that she’s running for the nomination. And then if she wins we’re going to hear about ‘travelgate’ and Vince Foster and Monica Lewinsky and me and all of the trouble they got themselves into in Arkansas. The thing that boggles my mind is that doesn’t seem to bother her. If she would really look at that, is that really good for the country? Nothing embarrasses these people. It’s like a scandal a week with these people.”

WND.com notes, “While serving as a volunteer in the White House and facing financial hard times, Willey says she met with Bill Clinton in the Oval Office to request a paying position. But instead of getting help, she says, she was subjected to ‘nothing short of serious sexual harassment.’ Distraught, Willey fled Clinton’s presence, only to discover that her husband Ed had committed suicide that same tragic afternoon. Later, she was drawn ‘unwillingly’ into the Paula Jones lawsuit, the Ken Starr investigation and impeachment proceedings. Willey also claims the Clinton tag team was behind a string of events that can only be described as a mob-style intimidation campaign to keep her silent that even included breaking into her home to steal her memoirs of the events. Willey wrote ‘Target’ [*Target: Caught in the Crosshairs of Bill and Hillary Clinton*] when Hillary Clinton was running for president the first time in 2007, and her comments are all the more relevant now that Clinton is running for the presidency in 2016.” [74265, 74266, 74267]

Townhall.com reports, “Maine has already seen a drastic reduction in the number of able-bodied adults with no children that [sic; who] are collecting food stamps from the state thanks to new rules put in place by Republican Gov. Paul LePage’s administration. Before January 1, there were roughly 12,000 adults in the program, but after work and volunteer requirements were put in place late last year, the number of participants in the program dropped to 2,680 as of March.” (For those who cannot find employment, they need only perform volunteer work six hours per week—which *The New York Times* writes “has stoked discontent among advocates for the poor and hungry who say the law is unfair...” Ellen Vollinger, legal and food stamp director for the Food Research and

Action Center, says, “If the job situation in the area is a really a tough situation, this is an incredibly harsh provision.” To Vollinger, asking a childless, unemployed adult to volunteer six hours per week in exchange for food stamp benefits is “incredibly harsh.” [74245, 74290, 74291, 74343]

Townhall.com also reports that, after one year, New York Governor Andrew Cuomo’s jobs program, “Start-Up NY,” has cost \$53 million and resulted in 76 jobs. At NYPost.com Kyle Smith writes, “Start-Up NY’s professed goal? Creating 2,100 jobs. Over five years. Points for modesty. In a state in which there are 7,775,000 jobs, that’s projected job growth of 0.005% a year. Touting this as ‘economic development’ is like saying you’re going to fight hunger in India by sending Mumbai one box of Minute Rice.” (Partly because of high tax rates, businesses and individuals have been leaving the state in droves. Between 2004 and 2013 New York lost about 1.5 million residents.) [74247, 74248, 74249, 74256, 74298, 74299]

On CNN, Dana Bash asks Senator Rand Paul (R-KY), “If you were the Republican nominee and you’re on the stage with Hillary Clinton, a female opponent, [are] you going to have to pull your punches given the perception of you now?” Paul responds, “I would treat her with the same respect that I would treat a man, but I wouldn’t lay down and say ‘I’m not going to respond.’ That would be a sexist sort of response, to say, ‘Oh, my goodness, she deserves to be treated as aggressively because she’s only a woman.’ I would never say that about anybody. I don’t come into our interview thinking, ‘Okay, it’s a woman-versus-man interview.’ I think she has tough questions, he will ask tough questions, I have to be prepared.” At HotAir.com Noah Rothman writes, “Nothing says ‘I’m here to shatter the glass ceiling for women’ like ‘how dare you fail to treat me like the delicate flower that I am.’ Apparently, however, this is how Clinton and her supporters are going to approach the 2016 campaign. To express frustration with a woman is to reveal sexist impulses that must be checked. Hillary Clinton is an accomplished figure in her own right; therefore she must be shielded from criticism and coddled. Only to the left, and apparently the political reporting establishment inside the Beltway, does this line of thinking make sense.” [74250]

Meanwhile, the National Organization for Women (NOW) whines that the phrases “Bush versus Clinton” or “Clinton versus Bush” are sexist because they use Hillary’s married name. (Of course, many say that calling her Hillary is also sexist, as well as condescending.) Dr. Deirdre Condit, Associate Professor and Chair of the Political Science Department at Virginia Commonwealth University, states, “Hillary Clinton is being pilloried because she has her husband’s last name. ... We still think of all women as daughters and wives. It’s a sexist response to a woman candidate, we cannot see her separately from her husband.” (Clinton is not being pilloried because she has her husband’s last name, but because she is an individual with no accomplishments to any of her names that did not involve fraud, deception, lying, law-breaking, or skullduggery of one sort or another.) Cortney O’Brien, who had the misfortune of attending the NOW convention in Virginia, writes at Townhall.com, “Condit provided a full account of how Hillary wanted to keep her maiden name, ‘Rodham,’ yet changed it just so she could help

get her husband elected. (It wouldn't appear they were such a happily married couple to the American people if she refused his name, Condit suggested.) ...Her fellow panelists nodded along with her breathless assertions. ...The panel was not encouraging. I found it as little more than an hour and a half opportunity to demean men. Women should campaign more. We should seek to run in politics. But, we don't have to do it by trying to drag men from office. For, regardless of what these panelists tried to claim, many men seek to serve out of passion for their constituents too. If a candidate is ready and willing to serve the people, it shouldn't matter what gender they are; all that matters is that they can get the job done. So go ahead ladies, get your name out there—maiden or not.” [74311]

Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) comments, “Hillary Clinton just announced what we've known for a long time—she's running for president, again. But the good news is that we're ready for Hillary—we know exactly what to expect. Hillary Clinton represents the failed policies of the past and there's going to be a very clear choice to make in 2016. Does America want a third Obama term or are we ready for strong conservative leadership to make America great again? Her announcement raises a critical question: ‘Is the world a safer place because Hillary Clinton was Secretary of State?’ The answer is obvious. No. The Obama-Clinton national security policies have made the world more dangerous for America and for our allies. She designed and implemented ‘leading from behind.’ On her watch we have witnessed the rise of Russia, Iran, and ISIS. Radical Islamic terrorists are on the march. Here at home, the Obama-Clinton economic policies have made life harder and harder for millions of hard-working Americans. We know that a Hillary Clinton Administration would be no different than an Obama Administration.” [74278]

Shortly after Clinton's announcement, the most popular hashtag on Twitter is “#WhyImNotVotingForHillary.” [74283]

Secretary of State John Kerry appears on *Face the Nation* to defend the framework of the Iranian deal that is not yet a deal. Criticizing legislators for daring to question the agreement, Kerry says, “We've earned the right to be able to try and complete this without interference, and certainly without partisan politics.” He asks members of Congress to “hold their fire” until the deal is final. (To some, that might sound remarkably like, “We have to sign the agreement to find out what's in it.”) [74263]

Meanwhile, Tawfik Okasha, owner of the Egyptian television station Al-Faraeer, tells a nationwide audience, “Our dear friend Netanyahu. Please—Iran faces you and the Bushehr reactor faces you. Put your trust in God and bomb it. We are with you. And if you need fuel for the jets we will give it to you.” [74336, 74337, 74453]

CBS announces that its political director, John Dickerson, will replace *Face the Nation* host Bob Schieffer when he retires in a few months. (Dickerson, who has written for the leftist Slate.com, is arguably more partisan than Schieffer. Of the 2010 U.S. Senate race between Republican Scott Brown and Democrat Martha Coakley, Dickerson wrote, “It's going to get uglier. Republicans, no matter what the outcome is, feel emboldened, they

feel excited and they see glory in attacking [Obama].” Before Obama’s January 2013 inaugural speech, Dickerson wrote that Obama, “who came into office speaking in lofty terms about bipartisanship and cooperation can only cement his legacy if he destroys the GOP. If he wants to transform American politics, he must go for the throat. ...Obama’s only ...option is to pulverize [the Republican Party]. Whether he succeeds in passing legislation or not, given his ambitions, his goal should be to delegitimize his opponents. Through a series of clarifying fights over controversial issues, he can force Republicans to either side with their coalition’s most extreme elements or cause a rift in the party that will leave it, at least temporarily, in disarray.” Of Obama’s Syria failures, Dickerson told PBS’ Charlie Rose, “Some would say it’s a complex, ugly world, and this goes back to [Obama’s] red line. He’s not meaning red line if we just pay close attention. He’s got a sense here and the complexity of the world is what’s the problem, not his talent for handling this.” (In other words, “Obama is the smartest person in the world, but the world is so screwed up that even *he* cannot resolve its problems!”) [8191, 41696, 41697, 41698, 48310, 74264]

Hillary Clinton begins what the media calls a “surprise” road trip to Iowa in a fleet of (\$60,000, four-wheel-drive, blacked-out windowed, luxury) vans. Although NBC’s Chuck Todd stops short of praising the crease in Clinton’s pantsuits or claiming that she gives him a tingle up his leg, he issues an absurd Twitter message: “So hard in this new media age to do anything that looks spontaneous to political world. This Hillary road trip idea has done just that.” (It is, of course, a certainty that the trip was planned far in advance by the Clinton campaign and that Secret Service agents will have scoured all the “surprise” stops along the way.) [74270, 74284, 74333, 74351]

On *America’s News Headquarters*, possible (and perhaps likely) Republican presidential candidate Carly Fiorina says, “I’m not running because I’m a woman. The facts are, I am a woman. I’ve never been a token in my life.” [74277]

Tens of thousands of angry citizens take to the streets in Brazil to protest their corrupt government and demand the impeachment of their communist president, Dilma Rousseff (a former convicted terrorist). CNN.com reports, “Police estimated that 275,000 demonstrators marched in Sao Paulo. A sea of protesters dressed in the green and yellow of the Brazilian flag used decades-old rallying cries to fire up their ranks, singing rock songs that date back to protests of the country’s one-time military dictatorship. It’s the second day of nationwide anti-government demonstrations in less than a month. And protesters vowed that it wouldn’t be the last. There are a number of issues at play. One of the biggest: an investigation into a multimillion-dollar kickback scheme at the state-run oil company Petrobras. Most of the politicians accused in the investigation belong to Rousseff’s Workers Party and its allies. And during many of the years that the alleged corruption took place, Rousseff was the chairwoman of Petrobras. ...Rousseff won re-election with just over 50% of the votes in October, but her approval rating plummeted to 13% after protests began last month.” [74271]

In August 2009 the Obama administration, via the U.S. Export-Import Bank (Eximbank), loaned more than \$2 billion to Petrobras to finance oil exploration off the coast of Brazil. It is unclear why Obama and many of his fellow Democrats thought it was unreasonable to allow American oil companies from drilling off the coast of the United States while believing it was reasonable to lend taxpayer dollars to one of the largest state-owned corporations in South America—which made a profit of about \$7.4 billion in the first half of 2009. Obama’s leftist supporter, billionaire George Soros, invested \$811 million in Petrobras in 2008. Soon after his investment, the company announced the discovery of an enormous oil deposit off Brazil’s southern coast. Sarah Palin wrote on Facebook.com, “So why is it that during these tough times, when we have great needs at home, the Obama White House is prepared to send more than two billion of your hard-earned tax dollars to Brazil so that the nation’s state-owned oil company, Petrobras, can drill off shore and create jobs developing its own resources?” The Export-Import Bank was established by the federal government in 1934 to create U.S. jobs by increasing American exports. (It is unclear how lending \$2 billion to a Brazilian oil company will increase American exports.) According to the Interhemispheric Resource Center and Institute for Policy Studies, “To qualify for Eximbank support, a product or service must have at least 50% U.S. content and not affect the U.S. economy adversely.” (It is unclear how oil extracted off the Brazilian coast can have 50 percent U.S. content, or how creating jobs for Brazilians rather than Americans would not affect the U.S. economy adversely.) [4357, 4358, 4379, 4433, 4434, 4435, 11986, 12162, 74401]

In May 2010 then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton addressed the Brookings Institution and, in support of higher taxes in the United States, said, “Brazil has the highest tax-to-GDP rate in the Western Hemisphere and guess what—they’re growing like crazy. And the rich are getting richer, but they’re pulling people out of poverty.” (The wealthiest Brazilians have indeed grown wealthier—especially those who have invested in the banks and Petrobras—but the poor are desperately poor, and food price inflation is not helping them. Few Americans would change places with the average Brazilian, gorgeous beaches notwithstanding. But if Clinton’s goal is to have Americans living like Brazilians, raising U.S. taxes would be a good start toward lowering the standard of living so that they too can live mostly on beans and rice.) [11580, 11764, 12681]

In March 2011 UPI reported that the Obama administration had given Petrobras approval to begin oil and gas production off the coast of Louisiana. “The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement gave Petrobras approval to use a floating production storage offloading [FPSO] facility at its Cascade-Chinook project in the Gulf of Mexico. The approval marks the first time FPSO technology will be used in U.S. waters off the Gulf of Mexico. The oil and gas project is about 165 miles off the coast of Louisiana in 8,200 feet of water. The FPSO has a production capacity of 80,000 barrels of oil and 16 million cubic feet of natural gas per day.” (While Democrats ridiculed Sarah Plain for saying, “Drill, baby, drill!” Obama essentially said, “Drill, Brazil, drill!”) The Obama administration issued a moratorium on new wells for U.S. oil companies, and then reluctantly approved just one new permit only because a federal court ordered action on five pending permits, but eagerly approved a permit for a Brazilian company—in which his billionaire pal George Soros had invested. In his visit to Brazil, Obama told

Rousseff, “The oil you recently discovered off the shores of Brazil—we want to be one of your best customers.” (Obama’s plan for American “energy independence” apparently includes propping up Brazil and earning more profits for George Soros.) [18803, 18938, 18955, 18962, 19098, 19266, 36849]

CNSNews.com reports, “The Department of Homeland Security has experienced a 182 percent increase in the number of requests it receives under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) since President Obama first took office in 2009, according to the DHS 2014 Freedom of Information Act Report published Thursday. The DHS says it received a record 291,242 FOIA requests in fiscal year 2014, spending about \$51.5 million to process and fill them. It fully granted only 16,651 of these requests, or about 5.7 percent, partially granted another 128,603, and denied 6,212 requests, the report stated. ... The department also said it has an ever-growing backlog of FOIA requests. Under federal law they are meant to be processed within 20 business days unless there are ‘unusual circumstances,’ such as requiring extensive research or involving collection of a large number of records.” [74304]

The leftist Democracy Alliance meets at San Francisco’s Four Seasons hotel. According to FreeBeacon.com, “The Alliance is a hub of liberal and Democratic fundraising. It steers tens of millions of dollars each year to leading political and policy groups strategically vetted and endorsed by its staff of progressive operatives. ‘If there was an attack on this building, the Democratic donor base would be gone,’ joked investor Joe Sanberg. ‘There are probably a lot of conservatives who would love to drop a bomb on this building.’ ... Progressives’ main electoral problem, attendees were told, was an insufficiently populist message. ‘Do you wonder why [Senator] Elizabeth Warren [D-MA] memes dominate your Facebook feed? Come join us for a discussion of bold and winning strategies to alter the existing economic power structure,’ one panel description asked of its considerably powerful audience.” Attendees include billionaire hedge fund manager Tom Steyer, Hillary Clinton campaign manager John Podesta, Center for American Progress Neera Tanden, and George Soros’ son Jonathan Soros. [74476]

On April 13 Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) announces his presidential candidacy. Rubio says, “The Republican party, for the first time in a long time, has a chance in this election to be the party of the future. Just yesterday, we heard from a leader from yesterday who wants to take us back to yesterday, but I feel that this country has always been about tomorrow.” [74272, 74281, 74301]

CNN’s Dana Bash tweets, “New @marcorubio 2016 logo on display on a jumbotron outside announce location. Note American flag over the ‘I.’” (The “Twitterverse” immediately ridicules Bash, pointing out that it is a map of the continental United States over the “i” in Rubio, not an American flag.) [74330]

At the White House, Obama meets with Jewish leaders—in an attempt to convince them that his proposed nuclear deal with Iran should be supported. According to Washingtonpost.com, guests included “Malcolm Hoenlein, the executive vice chairman

of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations; Robert Cohen, president of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee; Allen I. Fagin, executive vice president of the Orthodox Union; and Abraham Foxman, national director of the Anti-Defamation League.” [74317]

FreeBeacon.com reports that the U.S. Air Force has awarded a \$10,000 contract to the “Date Safe Project” for three 90-minute seminars to let airmen know “when it is okay to kiss a girl.” The classes will “offer a ‘unique combination of humor and dramatic story telling,’ the Air Force said in an attachment detailing the contract terms. ...Each ‘May I Kiss You?’ session covers three major areas: asking before a person engages in intimacy with their partner, how to intervene if they see alcohol used to facilitate sexual assault, and how to support a survivor should they confide in the audience member that they have been affected by a sexual assault.” [74285]

At *Morning Jolt* Jim Geraghty writes, “If Hillary Clinton did nothing between now and Election Day ...no interviews, no public appearances, refused to show up to any debates, taped no commercials or videos, and just sat in her house in Chappaqua for the next 20 months ...she would still do pretty well. In fact, she might avoid some big mistakes! ...Absent-Hillary would probably still carry California, New York, Illinois, most of the West Coast, and New England. That’s about 183 electoral votes right there. Credit the Democrats; they’ve built a political machine where the quality of the candidate isn’t really a factor. Their base is going to show up and vote, no matter what. The vast majority of the disappointed Hillary voters of 2008 turned out to vote for Barack Obama. Thus, yesterday’s belly flop of a campaign announcement doesn’t really matter that much for her. She didn’t need a huge rally with thunderous applause. She didn’t need the dramatic live television coverage. A Tweet and video sufficed. ...[But] Hillary Clinton is going to be a pretty bad candidate. The notion that she, with her \$400,000 speeches to Goldman Sachs, is going to be the ‘champion’ for ‘everyday Americans’ (as opposed to part-time Americans?) against the people at the top is ludicrous. She won’t be able to hide from the press, and she tends to answer questions terribly, as we saw in her press conference about the e-mails. She is indeed a congenital liar, and a bad one. She’ll have at least one more big ‘sniper fire in the Balkans’ style blowup in the next six months, count on it. ...The good news is that she’s not going to be a good candidate. The bad news is it’s not clear she needs to be one in order to win.” [74290]

CNSNews.com reports, “From January 1 next year, Iran will be a member of the executive board of the U.N. Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (U.N. Women), the executive board of the U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and Commission on Narcotic Drugs.” (The actions are, of course, not only laughable, they are an insult to people around the world. Homosexuals are hanged in Iran, and women in that nation are hardly treated equal to men. Congress should object by slashing U.S. funding of the United Nations—but will not.) [74303]

On MSNBC, Andrea Mitchell comments on Hillary Clinton's road trip to Iowa: "This is their attempt to show her as the average person, relating to average everyday people as did her video, trying to show she can cross the country. It's a deliberate, very well-orchestrated attempt. Everybody in the media are being used in this regard." [74314]

FoxNews.com reports, "While the United States and Iran edge closer to a nuclear deal, nearly two dozen U.S. states are imposing their own sanctions against Tehran—a move some say could derail fragile talks between the two countries. The states, though, say they aren't budging. In fact, Kansas and Mississippi are even considering adding more sanctions. Several states across the country have put their own measures in place to punish Iran-linked companies operating in certain sectors of its economy, directing public pension funds with billions of dollars in assets to divesting from the firms and sometimes barring them from public contracts, Reuters reported. ...Typically, U.S. states coordinate their measures with federal sanctions on Iran. However, the states' divestment actions are, in fact, much more strict when it comes to foreign firms with Iran links. Georgia, Florida and Michigan are just three states that say they have no intention of changing their policies on Iran—even if progress is made on a federal level." Florida State Senator Don Gaetz states, "Our investment sanctions are not tied in any way to ...Obama's negotiations with the Iranians. They would have to change their behavior dramatically and we would not be necessarily guided by ...Obama or any other president's opinion about the Iranians. ...Florida, an early adopter of divestment policies going after Iran, pulled \$1.3 billion out of companies like PetroChina—a Chinese oil and gas company that has ties to Iran. Michigan divested \$185 million of its pension funds from companies like HSBC and Vodafone." [74318]

America's Survival, Inc. president Cliff Kincaid notes a newly-posted YouTube.com video of a September 1995 address by Barack "uh" Obama at the Cambridge Public Library. At the book-hawking event, Obama specifically mentions Frank Marshall Davis as having "schooled" him on race relations. In his book, *Dreams From My Father*, Obama referred to Davis only as "Frank." All 22 references to "Frank" were intentionally *omitted* from the audio version of Obama's book. It is clear that he did not want voters to know that he was mentored by a racist, communist, anti-American, pornographer. But in his 1995, he revealed Davis' full name—not knowing that in years to come the Internet and YouTube would bring to light many of the facts about his past he preferred to keep secret. [74320, 74321, 74322, 74357]

At AmericanThinker.com author Jack Cashill later writes of Obama's library performance, "*The Obama of 1995* was not a very good speaker. He had a halting delivery, stuttered, was obviously nervous, and, although congenial enough, could not tell a joke. What Obama did do well was read. He read a dramatic passage from his book for a full fifteen minutes uninterrupted and used multiple voices halfway credibly. ...Over the years, Obama's handlers have exploited his ability to read and sheltered him as far as possible from impromptu speaking. Had Obama's teleprompter malfunctioned during his breakthrough speech at the 2004 Democratic National Convention, he would not be [in the White House] today. He has always depended on the eloquence of others, and he still

cannot tell a joke.” Cashill notes that Obama turned on his fake black accent when needed, “especially when answering questions from black women.” Once again Cashill suggests that “*Obama did not write Dreams [Dreams From My Father] unaided.*” Cashill believes (as does this *Timeline*) that the lion’s share of the writing was done for Obama by his friend William Ayers. Cashill points out that Obama mispronounces the name of black author W. E. B. Du Bois, which Du Bois himself pronounced “Due Boyss,” while those unfamiliar with the author say “Dew Bwah.” Cashill writes, “I think he made this error because he did not actually read Du Bois or talk about Du Bois but rather imported the reference—and the anger implicit in it—from his muse, the terrorist emeritus Bill Ayers. Ayers did read DuBois. ‘W.E.B. DuBois’ greatest book was called John Brown,’ Ayers said in a published interview in 2012. ‘Nobody reads it, but it was a great book.’” [74429]

Cashill notes that one passage from *Dreams From My Father* that Obama read at the library event “had Ayers’s fingerprints all over it. The difference between the eloquence of the words Obama read and the tortured syntax of the words he spoke was obvious to anyone who has seen the 1995 video. Besides, Ayers was a master of ‘rage.’ In his writing, he speaks of it the way that Eskimos do of snow—in so many ways, so often, that he feels the need to qualify the varieties. A former community organizer who named his kids Malik and Zayd [both are Islamic names], Ayers was fully capable of crawling inside Obama’s head and directing Obama’s anger away from his absent parents and towards white America. Like Wright, Ayers reinforced Davis’s message ‘that black people have a reason to hate.’ ...Obama’s dilemma, as [author Shelby] Steele sees it, was that in his quest to seem an ‘authentic’ black man, Obama has felt compelled to exaggerate the state of black victimization. Rather than fix problems, many of which are generated within the black community, the newly authentic Obama has fixed blame.” [74430]

Russia announces it will lift its ban on the delivery of its S-300 air defense missile system to Iran, stating, “We are convinced at this stage there is no longer a need for such an embargo, specifically for a separate, voluntary Russian embargo. The S-300 is exclusively a defensive weapon which cannot serve offensive purposes and will not jeopardize the security of any country, including, of course, Israel.” Israeli cabinet minister Yuval Steinitz states, “This is a direct result of the legitimacy that Iran obtained from the emerging nuclear deal. Instead of demanding Iran stop its terror activities that it spreads in the Middle East and the entire world, it is being allowed to arm itself with advanced weapons that will only increase its aggression.” According to NBCNews.com, “Russia signed the \$800 million contract to sell Iran the S-300 missile system in 2007, but suspended delivery three years later because of strong objections from the United States and Israel.” (That the S-300 system is defensive does not mean it would not make offensive actions by Iran easier. If Iran can protect itself against air strikes, it obviously can act more aggressively against its enemies.) [74327, 74344]

As noted previously in this *Timeline*, in July 2009 the Democrat-controlled Senate voted 58-40 to cancel additional purchases of the F-22 Raptor stealth fighter—the most

advanced multi-role aircraft in the world. (It is also worth noting that in March 2013 Obama ordered the phase out of Tomahawk missile purchases—dozens of which have been used in the attacks on ISIS in Syria.) The F-22 is the only fighter that can avoid surface-to-air missiles from Russia’s S-300 defense system. Before Obama took office the Air Force wanted 381 of the advanced fighters; the Obama administration then argued that the 187 it had were enough. By canceling the F-22 program, Obama had a ready excuse for not selling the advanced plane to Israel, which would then have a more difficult time should it decide to attack Iran’s nuclear facilities if they are protected by the S-300 system. In 2007 Iran signed an \$800 million contract with Russia for five S-300 installations. Whether they were delivered is not known for certain. (Russia may also have sold the system to Syria.) [1688, 1855, 2232, 2261, 2286, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 3963, 3964, 3995, 3996, 4111, 48257, 48259, 48267, 65136]

In a speech at Elmendorf Air Force Base in November 2009, White House aides demanded that the F-22 parked in the hanger be switched to an older F-15 fighter so that Obama would not be seen with the plane whose production he had canceled. *The Weekly Standard* wrote, “And keep in mind, Obama was happy to have his picture taken with Hugo Chavez and Daniel Ortega, but the F-22—a plane that Americans can and should be proud of... Obama had them move it out of the shot.” The article’s headline: “What Do the Dalai Lama and the F-22 Have in Common? Answer: Obama won’t pose for a picture with either of them.” [472, 473, 474, 1688, 1855, 2232, 2261, 2286, 3963, 3964, 3995, 3996, 4519, 4520, 6261, 6747, 6748, 8440, 8464, 8465, 14582, 14583, 43963, 65136, 74326]

On *Special Report*, National Journal’s Ron Fournier says, “The Clinton campaign is really worried about [Senator Marco Rubio’s presidential candidacy]. They really are. Hillary gave him an advantage, but so did Obama by these [loosened] relations with Cuba. So every time he [Rubio] said ‘yesterday, yesterday, yesterday, past, past, past,’ he may as well have said ‘Clinton, Clinton, Clinton, Bush, Bush, Bush.’ This was a not too subtle hit at Jeb Bush as well. I do agree it was very Clintonesque. I think he’s trying to talk about building the bridge to the 21st century that Clinton promised to do in ’96 and never quite got done. Very aspirational, very forward thinking. Very new generation. Good speech.” [74315]

On *The O’Reilly Factor*, Charles Krauthammer remarks, “I expect [Hillary Clinton] to win the nomination hands down. It won’t be a coronation, it’ll be a worship service at the Democratic Convention. But I don’t expect her to win the general election. I think it’s close. I give her somewhere under a 50 percent chance. But I think if the Republicans can put up a dynamic candidate, they can—I think she is easily beaten. ... Bloomberg did a poll just a few days ago; 39 percent of the electorate said they will definitely not vote for her; about 17 percent say definitely yes, 18 percent probably yes... I think [that reaction is] two things, actually. The first is the glaring inauthenticity. When people hear her speak, they go way back to the ’90s. They hear all the parsing of words, they hear the whole Clinton litany, and they get instantly fatigued; that’s the 39 percent. The other thing is, she’s old. I don’t mean chronologically. I mean politically. She’s been around

longer than anybody in the field, and there's a sense that the country wants renewal, particularly after eight years of one party in power. Historically, if you go back to Eisenhower, only once has a party held the White House for two terms and then won it again in the third. That was a reward for the most successful presidency of the half century [Ronald Reagan's]. I would not categorize the Obama presidency as the most successful." [74331]

On April 14 LewRockwell.com reports, "Austrian police have confirmed the date of the 2015 Bilderberg meeting." The meeting will take place "June 11th-14th, at the exclusive Interlpen Hotel, in the mountains near Telfs. ...Participants at the 2014 conference in Copenhagen included: Chancellor of the Exchequer, George Osborne MP; Paul Achleitner, the Chairman of Deutsche Bank; Stephen Poloz, the Governor of the Bank of Governor; Robert Dudley, the Group Chief Executive of BP; Eric Schmidt, the Executive Chairman of Google; Douglas Flint, the Group Chairman of HSBC; Christine Lagarde, the head of the IMF; and Peter Sutherland, the Chairman Goldman Sachs International." (Obama and Hillary Clinton allegedly attended the June 2008 meeting.) [74323, 74477]

The Obama administration announces it is removing Cuba from the list of state sponsors of terror—even though it is still sponsoring terrorism. Obama claims, "the government of Cuba has not provided any support for international terrorism during the preceding six-month period," and "has provided assurances that it will not support acts of international terrorism in the future." According to WashingtonTimes.com, "Obama notified Congress Tuesday afternoon of his intent to rescind Cuba's designation, saying Havana has not provided any support for international terrorism in the preceding six months, and has assured the U.S. it will not support terrorism in the future." Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL) responds that Obama "has demonstrated that his eagerness to capitulate to dictators has no bounds," and claims that Cuba's terrorist actions include "extensive espionage activities, shoot-down of unarmed civilian aircraft in international waters, assistance to the Maduro regime in oppressing the opposition and subverting Venezuela's democratic institutions, harboring members of terrorist organizations such as the FARC and ETA, harboring fugitives from U.S. justice including terrorists Joanne Chesimard and William Guillermo Morales, and weapons smuggling in violation of international sanctions. This is just another shameful concession to the Castro regime. Fortunately, most sanctions against the Castro regime are codified in U.S. law and can only be lifted by the U.S. Congress, when free, fair elections are scheduled, independent labor unions, political parties, and the press are legalized, and all political prisoners are freed." [74339, 74369, 74385]

The Heritage Foundation's Mike Gonzalez tells Fox News, "Raul Castro is a family man, like 'Don Corleone'—he is now setting up his pieces and Obama has given him an assist in how to perpetrate that. It ensures that he and his regime will continue to rule Cuba. It makes it a lot easier for them to remain in place and have a Russian or Chinese [-like] transition. ...Only less than two years ago, Cuba was caught violating U.N. Security Council resolutions by sending weapons to North Korea. Less than two months ago, it was caught importing weaponry from China that it labeled as 'grain shipments' ...there is

speculation this would be supplied to the FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] terrorist group.” [74340]

At NationalReview.com Victor Davis Hanson writes that Obama’s “foreign-policy errors result not from incompetence but from a conscious agenda. Lots of questions arise about the muddled foreign policy of the Obama administration. Critics suggest that America’s friends have now become enemies, and enemies friends. Others cite incompetence and naïveté rather than deliberate agendas as the cause of American decline, and of growing global chaos from Libya to Ukraine. But, in fact, there is a predictable pattern to Obama’s foreign policy. [Obama] has an adolescent, romantic view of professed revolutionary societies and anti-Western poseurs—and of his own ability uniquely to reach out and win them over. In the most superficial sense, Obama demonstrates his empathy for supposedly revolutionary figures of the non-Western world through gratuitous, often silly remarks about Christianity and Western colonial excesses, past and present. He apologizes with talk of our ‘own dark periods’ and warns of past U.S. ‘dictating’; he contextualizes; he ankle-bites the very culture he grew up and thrived in, as if he can unapologetically and without guilt enjoy the West’s largesse only by deriding its history and values.” [74489]

“...Obama refuses to concede that Islam can become a catalyst for radical killers and terrorists, and he has a starry-eyed crush on those who strike anti-Western poses and have turned their societies upside down on behalf of the proverbial people. Keep that in mind, and it makes sense that, during the Egyptian turmoil, Obama was intent on ousting the pro-Western kleptocrat Hosni Mubarak and investing in the Muslim Brotherhood, despite the dark anti-democratic history of Mohamed Morsi and the Brothers and their agenda of Islamicizing the most populous country in the Arab world. For Obama, such zealotry is evidence of their legitimacy and the justice of their efforts to overturn the established hierarchies of old Egypt. Moammar Qaddafi was a monster and a thug. But in fear both of radical Islamists and of the implications for Libya of the Western military action in Iraq and Afghanistan, and eager to have Western knowhow rehabilitate his ailing oil and gas industry, he had reached out to the West and ceased his support for international terrorists. But ridding Libya of the cartoonish and geriatric Qaddafi and allowing it to be overrun by stern revolutionary Islamists was again in tune with Obama’s rose-colored view of the Middle East.” [74489]

“...No one could quite figure out why Obama bragged of his ‘special relationship’ with Turkey’s [then-] prime minister Recep Erdogan. [Now president] Erdogan, after all, is systematically destroying free expression in Turkey. He has bragged that he got off the bus of democracy when he no longer found any utility in it—and he has openly romanticized the Ottoman imperialists. A once-staunch NATO ally, Turkey has turned into a virulently anti-Israeli and anti-American society that has spiked tensions in the eastern Mediterranean with Cyprus, Greece, and Israel. But, again, the redeeming virtue was that Erdogan was taking Turkey in a new and revolutionary direction, trying to massage the Arab Revolution as its spiritual mentor, and becoming point nation in hatred

of Israel. In other words, Turkey was churning and evolving, and, for Obama, that apparently was a good thing.” [74489]

“...For Obama, in the struggle between the Palestinian Authority and Israel, Israel is a Westernized colonial construct and a proponent of Western neo-liberal capitalism. The PA and Hamas, in contrast, are seen both as the downtrodden in need of community-organizing help and as authentic peoples whose miseries are not self-induced and the wages of tribalism, statism, autocracy, fundamentalism, misogyny, and anti-Semitism, but rather the results of Israeli occupation, colonialism, and imperialism. Obama may not articulate this publicly, but these are the assumptions that explain his periodic blasts against Netanyahu and his silence about the autocratic Palestinian Authority and the murderous Hamas. In such a landscape, the current Iranian talks make perfect sense. Obama was in no mood in the spring of 2009 to vocally support a million, pro-Western Iranian dissidents who took to the streets in anger over the theocracy’s rigged elections, calling for transparency and human rights. He snubbed them as if they were neoconservative democracy zealots. In his eyes, their false consciousness did not allow them to fully appreciate their own suffering at the hands of past American imperialists. In Obama’s worldview, the Iranian mullahs came to power through revolution and were thus far more authentic anti-Western radicals, with whom only someone like Obama—prepped by the *Harvard Law Review*, Chicago organizing, the Rev. Jeremiah Wright’s pulpit, and the most liberal voting record during a brief stint in the U.S. Senate—could empathize and negotiate. Why would Iranian idealists and democrats be foolish enough to spoil Obama’s unique diplomatic gymnastics?” [74489]

“...[Obama] is less worried about a nuclear Iran and what it will do to a mostly pro-Western Gulf or Israel, or to other traditional U.S. interests, than about the difficulties he faces in bringing Iran back into the family of nations as an authentic revolutionary force that will school the West on regional justice. (‘There’s incredible talent and resources and sophistication inside of Iran, and it would be a very successful regional power that was also abiding by international norms and international rules, and that would be good for everybody.’) Iran will assume its natural revolutionary role as regional power broker in the Middle East; and, almost alone, it is not beholden to any Western power. In some sense, Obama views the rest of the world in the same way as he views America: a rigged order in which the oppressed who speak truth to power are systematically mischaracterized and alienated—and in need of an empathetic voice on the side of overdue revolutionary accounting. The chief danger in Obama’s romantic view of revolutionary societies is that nothing in their histories suggests that these regimes will ever cease aggression or adopt internal reforms. ...And at no point does Obama ever empathize with thousands of dissidents rotting in Cuban and Palestinian jails, or homosexuals and feminists persecuted in Iran or journalists in Turkey.” [74489]

By a unanimous vote the Senate Foreign Relations Committee approves legislation requiring that Congress have final say on Obama’s eventual nuclear deal with Iran. Obama caves in and agrees not to veto the bill—only because he knows a veto would be overridden. But Obama wins a major concession, with the removal of a requirement that

approval would hinge in part on Iran ceasing its support of terrorism. The agreement also does not include a provision that Iran must recognize Israel's right to exist. According to FoxNews.com, "An earlier version of the bill sought to put any plan by Obama to lift sanctions on Iran on hold for up to 60 days while Congress reviewed the deal. The compromise approved by the committee shortened the review period to 30 days. During that time, Obama would be able to lift sanctions imposed through presidential action, but would be blocked from easing sanctions levied by Congress. ... Under the terms of the bill, if a nuclear deal is submitted after July 9—a short time after the final agreement is [supposed] to be reached on June 30—the review period would revert to 60 days. [Obama] would be required to certify to Congress every 90 days that Iran is complying with terms of any final agreement." (Arguably, the legislation is a sham that allows Obama to claim he received bipartisan support for his actions, and Congress can brag that they "were tough on Obama" even though they were not. Both sides assume, or at least hope, that most Americans will remain uninformed.) [74341, 74342, 74345, 74354, 74362, 74363, 74365, 74386, 74419]

At WhiteHouseDossier.com Keith Koffler writes, "I keep reading today that the White House folded, caved, threw up the white flag, rolled over on its sword and died a humiliating death by accepting legislation by Senator Bob Corker (R-TN), giving Congress 'a role' in the Iran negotiations. In this case, that's a bit of spin that both the White House and Republicans want you to buy. Because Republicans want you to think they've etched out some kind of a victory over Obama, and finally stood up one of his power grabs. While the White House want to camouflage... its latest successful power grab. 'The Unified States Senate just capitulated to Obama,' radio host and Constitutional scholar Mark Levin said... 'The Unified States Senate just rewrote the Treaty Provision of the Constitution.' And he's right. Because a treaty requires a two thirds vote by the Senate to be accepted as law. Corker's bill turns that on its head, allowing Congress to vote down the treaty with Iran but giving Obama veto power, which must be overridden by a two thirds vote. MEANING THAT INSTEAD NEEDING TWO THIRDS OF THE SENATE FOR HIS TREATY, OBAMA ONLY NEEDS ONE THIRD. And that's a victory for Congress?" [74419, 74488]

"What Corker has done is legitimize Obama's power grab. Congress could have instead voted this treaty down on its own and then passed legislation withholding funding for its implementation. Obama could also veto the measure withholding funds, which would require the same two-thirds override. But at least the point would have been made that he was acting unconstitutionally, and he would be on record as defying the Congress. As a practical matter, this would have made it far easier for a future president to discard the Iran deal. ... With the Corker bill, [Obama] now has Congress in his pocket as he joins Iran in shredding the Constitution over a Swiss negotiating table. And in ten to 15 years, when Iran conducts its first nuclear test, Congress will have had a 'role' in the tragedy." [74419, 74488]

At NewRepublic.com Brian Beutler suggests that Hillary Clinton select Obama as her vice presidential running mate in 2016 in order to retain the black vote, and argues

(incorrectly) that is permissible under the U.S. Constitution. The ill-informed Beutler writes, “[T]he Twenty-Second Amendment begins ‘No person shall be elected to the office of the President more than twice.’ Whether its adopters intended it or not, the plain language of the Twenty-Second amendment doesn’t prohibit a former two-term president from succeeding a sitting president and serving out the remainder of her term. It merely prohibits him from running for a third. By using the term ‘elected’ instead of ‘eligible,’ its authors created a loophole large enough for a Clinton-Obama ticket to coast to victory through.” Beutler ignores the fact that the Twelfth Amendment states, in part, that “...no person constitutionally ineligible to the office of President shall be eligible to that of Vice-President of the United States,” and, of course, a person who has already served two terms as president is subsequently constitutionally eligible to serve again. Because Obama would be ineligible to serve as president after his second term ends, the Twelfth Amendment prohibits him from serving as president. (As *Timeline* readers know, of course, Obama has been ineligible to serve all along because he is not a natural born citizen. Even if he was born in Hawaii, he did not have two U.S. citizen parents at the moment of birth. Some might argue that having Obama serve as Hillary Clinton’s vice president would make Secret Service protection for her unnecessary, thereby saving the taxpayers a fortune.) [74346, 74347]

Meanwhile, some pundits suggest that Clinton’s running mate will be Julian Castro, Obama’s Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. (Castro was the overrated mayor of San Antonio. His mother detests the battle of the Alamo and everything it stands for, and has called the mission’s defenders “a bunch of drunks and crooks and slaveholding imperialists who conquered land that didn’t belong to them.” According to DailyCaller.com, “Castro pushed through a \$596 million bond program in 2012 to finance various projects to ‘transform San Antonio into a world class city by the year 2020.’ With only 1.3 million residents, the program represents \$458 dollars for every man, woman, and child. Castro’s plans included ‘doubling public and private funding for the arts,’ ‘reducing vehicle miles traveled per person by 10%,’ ‘increasing population growth in center city neighborhoods and downtown’ by 15%, ‘increasing the ratio of urban core housing to suburban development by 35%,’ and, predictably, ‘green jobs.’ Kevin Wolff, a Bexar County Commissioner, told the *New York Daily News*, “I see a serious lack of leadership at the local level, like street drainage, safety and security, trash pickup. All of his concentration seems to be, ‘How can I shine a better light on myself from a national perspective?’” While Castro was mayor, San Antonio misused \$1.1 million in HUD funds—but Obama chose him to head the agency anyway. Castro, who has been called “a Latino Obama, but with even less experience,” would be chosen as a Clinton running mate solely to attract Hispanic votes. Yet he does not speak Spanish.) [36510, 36511, 36537, 36539, 36557, 36579, 58563, 58965, 58966, 58967, 58968, 74418]

Campaigning in Iowa, Hillary Clinton says she has “four big fights”: strengthening the economy, helping families, defending the United States, and getting money out of politics “even if it takes a constitutional amendment.” (She does not say she will limit the amount of money her campaign collects, which may top \$2 billion. She will take the money out of politics, but not until after she raises what she needs to enter the White House.) Clinton

essentially wants to restrict the free speech rights guaranteed by the First Amendment. That alone should render her unfit to serve as president. Clinton clearly objects to the Supreme Court ruling in *Citizens United v. Federal Elections Commission*, which Obama whined about in his January 2010 State of the Union address. The case revolved around an unconstitutional provision of the 2002 McCain-Feingold law that prevented Citizens United from showing a movie that was critical of Hillary Clinton. (In 2013 Senate Democrats proposed a tyrannical constitutional amendment that would eliminate the free speech rights of corporations, unions, non-profits, and religious organizations. According to FreeBeacon.com, “The text of the amendment states, ‘The words people, person, or citizen as used in this Constitution do not include corporations, limited liability companies, or other corporate entities.’”) [74348, 74349, 74358]

Clinton complains, “I think it’s fair to say that if you look across the country, the deck is stacked in favor of those already at the top. There’s something wrong when CEOs make 300 times more than the American worker...” (She does not mention that she earns in the neighborhood of \$300,000 to deliver a speech and was given a \$14 million advance for her book, *Hard Choices*—which did not even generate enough sales to earn the publisher a profit. At \$300,000 per hour to deliver a speech, if Clinton gave speeches 40 hours per week, 50 weeks per year, her salary would be \$600 million per year. If she gave only one speech per day for 50 weeks, her salary would be \$75 million. At *Morning Jolt*, Jim Geraghty notes, “According to salary.com, the median expected annual pay for a typical chief executive officer in the United States is \$681,798, so 50 percent of the people who perform the job of chief executive officer in the United States are expected to make less than \$681,798. For perspective, Bill Clinton made \$17 million in public-speaking fees in one year and \$106 million from 2001 to 2013. The CEO making that median salary would have to work about 25 years to make what Bill Clinton made in speaking fees in that year; a CEO making that median salary would have to work 155 years to equal Bill Clinton’s speaking-fee total over that twelve-year period.) [74376, 74377, 74378, 74387, 74486]

A Clinton visit to Kirkwood Community College in Monticello, Iowa forces a partial lockdown, leaving many students stuck in their classrooms—while the Secret Service follows Clinton her around as she meets with “everyday Iowans.” She says to a small group of students, “There is something wrong when hedge fund managers pay lower tax rates than nurses or the truckers that I saw on I-80 as I was driving here over the last two days.” (Clinton and her entourage enter the school via a back door, locking out reporters who run from the front of the building in an attempt to follow her van. Some suggest that the entourage drove to the back of the building to avoid Hillary Clinton having to face ordinary Iowans who had assembled at the front. The crowd included senior citizens in wheelchairs who wanted to catch a glimpse of her.) [74355, 74356, 74376, 74399, 74417, 74438, 74515]

At the orchestrated event, Clinton is asked about the federal “Common Core” education guidelines—by a teacher who is angry that they are being attacked. Clinton responds, “How do we end up at a point where we are so negative about the most important, non-

family enterprise and the raising of the next generation—which is how our kids are educated?” (By “non-family enterprise,” Clinton clearly means it is the government, not the parents, who should make education decisions. Fox News’ resident libertarian, John Stossel, tweets, “Today, in defense of common core, Hillary Clinton called education a ‘non-family enterprise.’ I really don’t want to live in HER village.”) [74417]

Some might say there is something wrong with Clinton charging \$200,000 or more to give speeches at colleges, while students complain of rising tuition—and Clinton will certainly not turn down campaign contributions from wealthy hedge fund managers like Tom Steyer. Clinton’s hypocrisy will certainly cost her some votes. Whether it will cost her the nomination or the general election remains to be seen. In many ways Clinton is at odds with the base of the Democrat party, which chose Obama over her in 2008 precisely because of her Wall Street connections, her vote for the Iraq war, and her support of the “establishment” and dealings with lobbyists. Although she is far more to the political left than most or all of the likely Republican candidates, she is not far enough to the left to thrill the more socialist members of the Democrat party. Those voters will either hold their noses and vote for her, or stay home on election day. Meanwhile, Clinton’s “inevitability” as the Democrat party candidate effectively makes Obama less relevant far earlier than would normally be the case. Instead of the candidate being selected during the 2016 caucuses and primaries, the candidate has essentially already been chosen. That places the spotlight on Clinton in 2015, rather than in 2016, and that takes the spotlight away from Obama that much sooner—something he will no doubt not like. “What do you think of Hillary Clinton’s statement that...” will certainly be a question Obama is asked more than once, and while Obama will want to “stay the course” and cement his “legacy,” Clinton will be forced to talk about “change” if she wants to avoid being labeled “Obama’s third term.”

Senator Elizabeth “Wampum” Warren (D-MA) makes the outrageous claim, “In 99.6% of all job categories, men outearn [sic] women. That is not an accident—that’s discrimination.” (Her claim is beyond absurd—which is why she does not cite a source. Rather than making ridiculous claims, if Warren is concerned about gender pay discrimination she should demand that the Department of Justice and the Department of Labor enforce the Equal Pay Act of 1963. For more than 50 years it has been against the law to pay a woman less than a man when they are doing the same work and have the same qualifications. [74350, 74367, 74368, 74382, 74384]

Additionally, according to a Pew Research poll, the gender “wage gap”—which Democrats frequently claim is 77 percent—is actually closer to 84 percent. That is, women, *on average*, earn about 84 percent of when men earn. For young women, the figure is about 93 percent. Much of that “gap,” of course, simply reflects the fact that women tend to enter lower-paying professions than men, and women often leave the work force to raise children. There is no “Republican conspiracy” to pay women less than men. Nor is it “unfair” that the female CEO of General Motors, Mary Barra, gets paid far more than the men working on the corporation’s assembly lines. One might argue that because men are far more likely to be killed in on-the-job injuries than women, women

should be forced to enter the more dangerous professions in order to reduce the “killing gap”—and that argument would be as absurd as whining about the fact that women choose to enter professions that pay less.) [74350, 74367, 74368, 74382, 74384]

Judicial Watch reports, “ISIS is operating a camp just a few miles from El Paso, Texas, according to Judicial Watch sources that include a Mexican Army field grade officer and a Mexican Federal Police Inspector. The exact location where the terrorist group has established its base is around eight miles from the U.S. border in an area known as ‘Anapra’ situated just west of Ciudad Juarez in the Mexican state of Chihuahua. Another ISIS cell to the west of Ciudad Juarez, in Puerto Palomas, targets the New Mexico towns of Columbus and Deming for easy access to the United States, the same knowledgeable sources confirm. During the course of a joint operation last week, Mexican Army and federal law enforcement officials discovered documents in Arabic and Urdu, as well as ‘plans’ of Fort Bliss—the sprawling military installation that houses the US Army’s 1st Armored Division. Muslim prayer rugs were recovered with the documents during the operation. ...According to these same sources, ‘coyotes’ engaged in human smuggling—and working for Juarez Cartel—help move ISIS terrorists through the desert and across the border between Santa Teresa and Sunland Park, New Mexico. To the east of El Paso and Ciudad Juarez, cartel-backed ‘coyotes’ are also smuggling ISIS terrorists through the porous border between Acala and Fort Hancock, Texas. These specific areas were targeted for exploitation by ISIS because of their understaffed municipal and county police forces, and the relative safe-havens the areas provide for the unchecked large-scale drug smuggling that was already ongoing.” [74352, 74353, 74361, 74426, 74502]

Politico.com reports, “Hillary Clinton has named three senior policy advisers to lead the development of an agenda for her presidential campaign. The team leaders are: Maya Harris, a former senior fellow at the [far left] Center for American Progress; Ann O’Leary, a former legislative director to Clinton when she was in the Senate; and Jake Sullivan, a top aide to Clinton while she was Secretary of State and a former national security adviser to Vice President Joe Biden. The announcement is an early indication of the policy themes Clinton is likely to emphasize as she launches her campaign. Harris has a background in human rights, while O’Leary specializes in early childhood education and headed the children and families program at Next Generation, the Tom Steyer-funded advocacy group. Sullivan, meanwhile, was a key player in laying the groundwork for the talks that led to the Obama administration’s tentative agreement on Iran’s nuclear program.” (Steyer is a billionaire hedge fund operator who pumps millions into the campaigns of Democrats who push his leftist “global warming” agenda.)

MSNBC announces hypes “exclusive interview” with Hillary Clinton—an interview that consists of one question and one answer: “You lost in Iowa in 2008. How do you win this time? What’s your strategy?” “I’m havin’ a great time. Can’t look forward, uh, any more than I am. Thank you.” (Newsbusters.org notes that the “interview” lasts eight seconds.) [74380, 74455]

FreeBeacon.com reports, “Controversial new union election regulations went into effect on Tuesday, curtailing the ability of employers to educate workers about the effects of unionization. The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), which oversees the union ballot process, will begin implementing new rules that could force companies to hold elections within two weeks of a petition being filed. Business groups slammed the board for tilting the scales in favor of organized labor. Professional labor organizers can spend months and even years persuading [sic; convincing] employees about the benefits of unionization. Employers are limited to the time between the petition’s acceptance and the day of the election to mount a campaign explaining the potential downsides of organizing, according to David French, a spokesman for the National Retail Federation (NRF). ...The new regulations speed up the election timeline and force employers to hand over personal contact information for all workers to labor groups. Employees will have no say in who has access to their home addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses.” [74381]

On April 15 Americans face the final day on which they can pay their income taxes. Townhall.com notes that the U.S. tax code exceeds 70,000 pages; Americans will spend more than \$27.7 billion preparing their tax returns; and 6.1 billion man-hours are spent each year to comply with the tax code. According to (2011) IRS figures analyzed by the Heritage Foundation, the bottom 50 percent of income earners pay only 3 percent of all income taxes. The top 1 percent pay 35 percent. The top 2-10 percent pay 33 percent of all income taxes. For 2014, according to the Tax Policy Center, as reported by CNBC, “The top 1 percent of Americans will pay nearly half of the federal income taxes for 2014 (45.7 percent), the largest share in at least three years. The bottom 80 percent of Americans are expected to pay 15 percent of all federal income taxes in 2014. ...[The] bottom 60 percent are expected to pay less than 2 percent of federal income taxes.” [74370, 74371, 74443]

At *Morning Jolt* Jim Geraghty writes, “[W]hat worries us conservatives doesn’t worry progressives, and vice versa: By and large, the Republicans are worried about the right problems—the big problems: crazy people who want to kill us, a skyrocketing debt, a growing culture of dependency, an avalanche of red tape strangling the entrepreneurial lifeblood of the economy, and an unsecure border. Both conservatives and progressives look at America and see problems, but they see completely different problems. They dismiss with a shrug the problems that worry us most. What’s the Democratic solution to the national debt? It’s not really a problem. What’s the Democratic solution to Putin’s aggression? It’s not really a problem. What’s the Democratic solution to the Islamic State? It’s not really a problem, we’re handling it fine through airstrikes. What’s the Democratic solution to illegal immigration and an insecure border? It’s not really a problem, let’s pass an amnesty. What’s the Democratic solution to children being raised without fathers? To the extent they address this, they insist it reflects low wages and economic factors.” [74378]

“Meanwhile, they turn to us and ask, ‘What’s your plan for dealing with the temperature rising a century from now? Why aren’t you concerned about micro-aggressions? What’s

your plan to ensure every woman in America has access to affordable birth control? What are you going to do to stop people from being able to buy guns?’ Sometimes Democrats get really creative in finding new problems. Not so long ago, Hillary Clinton lamented the ‘fun deficit’ in America and suggested the solution was sending adults to camps. If Hillary sits down and does tough interviews—well, you’ll probably see something like the press conference about her private e-mail server. So the Hillary camp is going to keep her in front of small groups, handing softball questions. We can expect Team Hillary to make a huge deal out of any perceived insult, something that they can claim represents sexism, woman-hating, or that tired perennial, the ‘war on women.’” [74378]

Before an interview on MSNBC’s *Morning Joe*, Obama advisor Valerie Jarrett receives hugs and kisses from the panelists—a greeting most would assume would not be given to Sarah Palin, Carly Fiorina, or any other conservative. [74374, 74375, 74395]

A single-seat gyrocopter flies over the reflecting pool and lands on the lawn in front of the U.S. Capitol Building. According to ABCNews.com, the pilot is Dough Hughes, “a 61-year-old Postal Service worker from Ruskin, Florida... Law enforcement sources said he wanted to draw attention to the issue of campaign finance reform. ...The Secret Service first learned of Hughes’ plot in October 2013 when a friend called about his plan, said spokesman Brian Leary. Leary said the Secret Service said it conducted a ‘complete and thorough investigation’ after interviewing Hughes. The agent that interviewed him deemed him not dangerous at that time, according to several law enforcement sources.” [74391, 74406, 74448]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, “The administration has granted about 541,000 Social Security numbers to illegal immigrants under ...Obama’s original 2012 deportation amnesty for Dreamers, officials told Congress in a letter made public Wednesday. That means almost all of the illegal immigrants approved for the amnesty are being granted work permits and Social Security numbers, opening the door to government benefits ranging from tax credits to driver’s licenses. ...Social Security numbers are considered one of the gatekeepers for being able to live and work in the U.S., and some experts have said granting them to illegal immigrants makes it easier for them to access rights reserved only for citizens, such as voting. But the Obama administration has ruled that the illegal immigrants it has approved for its temporary deportation amnesty, known as ‘deferred action,’ are here legally for as long as the program exists, and so they are entitled to work permits and Social Security numbers. The IRS has acknowledged that getting a Social Security number entitles illegal immigrants to go back and claim refunds under the Earned Income Tax Credit for time they worked illegally—even if they didn’t file returns or pay taxes for those years.” [74392, 74424]

In an interview with Univision’s Jorge Ramos, Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) says (in Spanish), “Well, DACA [Obama’s Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals policy] is going to have to end at some point. I wouldn’t undo it immediately. The reason is, there are already people who have that permission, who are working, who are studying, and I don’t think it would be fair to cancel it suddenly. But I do think it is going to have to end.

And, God willing, it is going to end because immigration reform is going to pass. ...But DACA, I think it is important; it can't be cancelled suddenly because there are already people who are benefitting from it. But it is going to have to end. It cannot be the permanent policy of the United States. And I don't think that's what they're asking for, either. I think that everyone prefers immigration reform." (Some conservatives slam Rubio, but his campaign blames the uproar over the translation of his comments into English, which implied he did not want to end DACA. The criticism should continue, however. To say that DACA should end but then suggest that the policy simply be permanently enshrined in "comprehensive immigration reform" hardly eliminates the issue prompting the criticism.) [74483]

Just one day after Obama removes Cuba from the list of state sponsors of terrorism, AFP reports that guerrillas with the Cuban-sponsored terrorist group FARC (Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia) "killed 10 soldiers and injured 20 others in a pre-dawn attack in western Colombia on Wednesday prompting President Juan Manuel Santos to order a resumption of air strikes against the rebels." [74388, 74389, 74390]

Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV), asked by CNBS what he thinks of the Republican presidential candidates, says, "I don't really care. I think they're all losers." He also calls Senator John McCain (R-AZ) "a lump of coal" who "believes that coal is the salvation of the world." Of the Democrat "contest," Reid says, "I am not a big fan of primaries, I don't think they help, especially when there's someone as noted as Hillary." (In other words, "We don't need no stinkin' voter input. Let the coronation begin!") [74360, 74379]

DailySignal.com reports, "With just hours to go before Medicare physicians potentially faced deep cuts in payments, the Senate passed legislation that stabilizes such payments but adds \$141 billion to the deficit. Fresh off of a two-week recess in their home states, the Senate voted 92-8 to pass the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015, which would replace the Sustainable Growth Rate. Known as the 'Boehner-Pelosi' plan for its architects House Speaker John Boehner and Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, the legislation calls for the implementation of a new payment system for Medicare physicians. If Congress failed to act by midnight, doctors' payments would've been cut by 21 percent. ...The House passed the 'doc fix' bill late last month, 392-37. Though the legislation received bipartisan support, conservatives in the House argued that permanently keeping physician payments from being cut came with a substantial cost. Roughly \$73 billion of Boehner and Pelosi's \$214 billion plan would be paid for. The remaining \$141 billion would be added to the deficit, a report by the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office found." (The bill repeats the charade that has been going on for years. Medicare payments to physicians had been capped, and Congress bragged that it was reducing the deficit. But every year since then, Congress has reversed the cap in order to keep physicians from refusing to take on Medicare patients.) [74366, 74384]

In a Public Policy Polling survey in New Hampshire, Hillary Clinton gets 45 percent, while "Not Clinton" gets 46 percent. [74372, 74373]

The *Daily Mail* reports that Hillary Clinton’s “morning visit to a coffee shop in LeClaire, Iowa was staged from beginning to end, according to Austin Bird, one of the men pictured sitting at the table with Mrs. Clinton. Bird told Daily Mail Online that campaign staffer Troy Price called and asked him and two other young people to meet him Tuesday morning at a restaurant in Davenport, a nearby city. Price then drove them to the coffee house to meet Clinton after vetting them for about a half-hour. The three got the lion’s share of Mrs. Clinton’s time and participated in what breathless news reports described as a ‘roundtable’—the first of many in her brief Iowa campaign swing. Bird himself is a frequent participant in Iowa Democratic Party events. He interned with ...Obama’s 2012 presidential re-election campaign, and was tapped to chauffeur Vice President Joe Biden in October 2014 when he visited Davenport. ...The other two, he confirmed, were University of Iowa College Democrats president Carter Bell and Planned Parenthood of the Heartland employee Sara Sedlacek. ... It’s unclear how many Iowans featured in photographs with Clinton that rocketed around the country on Tuesday were planted. ‘The mayor of LeClaire was there, and his wife was there,’ Bird said, recalling the scene at the coffee shop.” (In other words, Clinton’s “impromptu” event was carefully orchestrated, with staffer insuring that only leftists would be speaking with her.) Before the meeting, Clinton’s coffee shop guests were asked to sign a release and turn over their cell phones. [74396, 74407, 74445, 74446, 74484]

According to NationalEnquirer.com, “a world exclusive investigation... reveals that some of the presidential candidate’s [Hillary Clinton’s] famously ‘deleted’ emails are packed full of lesbian references and her lovers’ names. ...The ENQUIRER learned the list of Hillary’s lesbian lovers includes a beauty in her early 30s who has often traveled with Hillary; a popular TV and movie star; the daughter of a top government official; and a stunning model who got a career boost after allegedly sleeping with Hillary. Hillary made the huge mistake of mixing public and private messages while using her personalized email server—before risking a massive scandal by refusing to make the documents public. ‘That’s clearly why she went to the extraordinary step of deleting everything,’ the high-ranking source told The ENQUIRER. Hillary is particularly concerned about intimate emails to longtime aide Huma Abedin—who married [former] U.S. Representative Anthony Weiner [D-NY] in a ceremony that many ridiculed as a political arrangement. Anthony later resigned over extramarital sexting scandals, after porn star Sydney Leathers said that she believed he was in an open marriage.” (Clinton and Abedin have long been rumored to be “close.” In an interview with the *Daily Mail*, one of Bill Clinton’s former lovers, Gennifer Flowers, once said, “I don’t know Huma or the Weiners. I just know what Bill told me and that was that he was aware that Hillary was bisexual and he didn’t care. He should know. He said Hillary had eaten more p***y than he had.”) [48581, 48596, 48638, 74472, 74473]

At a town hall meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina, Obama says, “If you listen to some of my political critics, they always want to paint me or the Democratic Party as this tax-and-spend, you know, irresponsible. Since I came into office, the federal deficit’s come down by two-thirds. ...When Bill Clinton was president, the budget got balanced, and we had low deficits. ...Then somebody else came in [after Mr. Clinton], and deficits started

going up. And then I came in and I inherited this huge recession that drove up the deficits.” (Obama neglects to mention that he first almost tripled the deficit before it started going down. George W. Bush’s final 2008 deficit was \$458 billion. Obama’s first deficit was \$1.412 *trillion*—and much of that was caused by his \$787 billion “stimulus” program. It was not until 2013 that the deficit fell under \$1 trillion. The budget deficits fell during Clinton’s tenure not because of anything in particular Clinton did, but because the “dot.com” explosion of the economy created jobs and boosted tax revenues. Additionally, after Republicans took control of the House, they forced Clinton to accept welfare reform—after he had twice vetoed it. That reform prompted many people to get off welfare and find jobs, which also helped the deficits go down. Deficits understandably increased during the Bush presidency because of the disastrous effects the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks had in the economy. By 2005 the deficits again started going down, but after the Democrats took control of the House in January 2007, federal spending shot up again. Obama is intentionally distorting the facts. He can do so because the mainstream media will not point out his errors and the average citizen is not informed enough to know any better.) [74397, 74398]

The Associated Press reports, “Japan overtook China in February as the top foreign holder of U.S. Treasury securities, a position Japan last held in August 2008. In its monthly report on bond holdings, the Treasury Department said Wednesday total foreign holdings of Treasury debt dipped 0.9 percent in February to \$6.16 trillion, down from a record of \$6.22 trillion in January. The holdings of China, normally the top holder of Treasury debt, slipped 1.2 percent to \$1.22 trillion. Japan’s fell 1.1 percent from January. China’s decline was a bit larger, allowing Japan to jump into the top spot, \$700 million above China.” [74400]

Congressman Trey Gowdy (R-SC), chairman of the House Select Committee on Benghazi, states that his witness list will include Hillary Clinton and her key advisors: Cheryl Mills, Huma Abedin, and Sidney Blumenthal. (Abedin can reportedly be as arrogant and difficult to deal with as Clinton. In *The First Family Detail: Secret Service Agents Reveal the Hidden Lives of the Presidents*, Ronald Kessler notes that Abedin once appeared at an event without proper identification: “‘You don’t have the proper identification to go beyond this point,’ a female agent reportedly told Abedin. ‘Huma basically tried to throw her weight around,’ a former Secret Service agent told the author. ‘She tried to just force her way through and said belligerently, ‘Do you know who I am?’” It didn’t work. Abedin was forced to calm down and cooperate so the Secret Service could confirm her identity.’”) [74402, 74525]

TimesOfIsrael.com, reports, “An Israeli cyber expert warned Wednesday that ‘the next 9/11’ will be carried out by computer hackers infiltrating air traffic controls, rather than suicide bombers. Col. (res.) Dr. Gabi Siboni said the US and Israel must increase cyber-defense cooperation in preparation of future terror attacks, and said distrust is preventing greater collaboration between the two allies. ‘Computer hackers have begun targeting electric and nuclear power plants and other critical operations around the world in audacious and continuous efforts to take control of them,’ Siboni, the director of the

Cyber Security Program at Israel's Institute for National Security Studies said. Siboni spoke ahead of a bilateral cybersecurity conference, set to take place in Washington, DC later this month. According to Siboni, in the worst case scenario, terror groups could disrupt and possibly infiltrate critical air control infrastructure, causing deadly accidents and bringing flight systems to a standstill." [74403, 74404]

IsraelNationalNews.com reports, "US intelligence officials revealed that during the ongoing Iran nuclear negotiations, North Korea has provided several shipments of advanced missile components to the Islamic regime in violation of UN sanctions—and the US hid the violations from the UN. The officials, who spoke to the *Washington Free Beacon*... on condition of anonymity, said more than two shipments of missile parts since last September have been monitored by the US going from North Korea to Iran. One official detailed that the components included large diameter engines, which could be used to build a long-range missile system, potentially capable of bearing a nuclear warhead. The information is particularly damaging given that Admiral Bill Gortney, Commander of North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) and US Northern Command (USNORTHCOM), admitted this month that the Pentagon fears that North Korea and possibly Iran can target the US with a nuclear EMP strike. Critics have pointed out that the nuclear framework deal reached with Iran earlier this month completely avoids this question of Iran's intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) program, which would allow it to conduct nuclear strikes. ...Obama was given details of the shipments in his daily intelligence briefings, but the officials say the information was hidden from the UN by the White House so that it would not take action on the sanctions violations." [74616, 74617, 74618]

John Bolton, former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations observes, "If the violation was suppressed within the U.S. government, it would be only too typical of decades of practice. Sadly, it would also foreshadow how hard it would be to get honest reports made public once Iran starts violating any deal." Former CIA analyst Fred Fleitz comments, "[W]hile it may seem outrageous that the Obama administration would look the other way on missile shipments from North Korea to Iran during the Iran nuclear talks, it doesn't surprise me at all. Iran's ballistic missile program has been deliberately left out of the talks even though these missiles are being developed as nuclear weapon delivery systems. Since the administration has overlooked this long list of belligerent and illegal Iranian behavior during the Iran talks, it's no surprise it ignored missile shipments to Iran from North Korea." (If the claims are accurate, Obama intentionally hid information from the United Nations in order to make it easier to remove sanctions against Iran. Obama arguably placed his own personal ambitions—a nuclear agreement to enhance his "legacy"—ahead of the security and safety of the United States and the world. In some circles that would be called an act of treason.) [74616, 74617, 74618]

According to WashingtonTimes.com, "Christians are leaving the U.S. military or are discouraged from joining in the first place because of a 'hostile work environment' that doesn't let them express their beliefs openly, religious freedom advocates say. Michael Berry, senior counsel at the Liberty Institute, a Texas-based legal organization dedicated

to defending religious liberty in America, said recent high-profile cases of military chaplains facing punishment for private counseling sessions that reflected the teachings of their religion could cause devout Americans who are qualified for military service to think twice about joining the military.” [74405]

It is not just Christians, it is patriots of every religion in the U.S. Armed Forces who sometimes sense a “hostile wok environment.” On September 1, 2014 Jodi Swan of TeaPartyCrusaders.com posted a letter by one member of the military, who wrote, “Here’s the problem for us soldiers: we can’t trust each other, as there are those who are extreme liberals, socialists, and those who love the current administration. We’re infiltrated with these traitors and we don’t know how to organize without others turning us in and sabotaging our plans. That’s just one problem. Outside of that, as an organization we have become plagued with disfunction [sic; dysfunction], toxicity, illness, injuries, and betrayal. It does not allow for a good foundation at the current moment for us to clean house for a country. They know this. They created the environment as it is right now. We didn’t see it until it was too late. Militants are forming, but in small pockets, and [they are] unable to fully unite and plan our strategies in secrecy. And there are watch dogs out there watching us attempt to plan. I’m sure every word I am typing right now is watched. There is no privacy in which we can operate on our own soil. Our best efforts will only be when they place us on orders against you. That is when we will know what soldiers will bleed for you, and which are loyal to this regime.” Swan wrote, “Can you imagine a day when they put Conservatives, Republicans, and the Tea Party on trial? ‘Are you now, or have you ever been a member of the Tea Party?’ I promise you, that is not a radical thought. It is a reality that we very well may have to face if we don’t begin to do something now.” [74459, 74460]

Hillary Clinton is caught in a lie, telling supporters in Iowa that her grandparents were all immigrants. BuzzFeed.com notes, “The story of her [paternal] grandmother specifically immigrating is one Clinton has told before. Clinton’s sole foreign-born grandparent, Hugh Rodham Sr., immigrated as a child. ‘Her grandparents always spoke about the immigrant experience and, as a result she has always thought of them as immigrants,’ a Clinton spokesman told BuzzFeed News. ‘As has been correctly pointed out, while her grandfather was an immigrant, it appears that Hillary’s grandmother was born shortly after her parents and siblings arrived in the U.S. in the early 1880s.’” Only one of Clinton’s four grandparents were immigrants; census records prove her wrong. (On Justice with Judge Jeanine, Jeanine Pirro later quips, “You know, my dad always spoke about the [New York] Yankees, but it never made me think he *was* a Yankee.” Whether Hillary will falsely claim native American ancestry, as has Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA), remains to be seen.) [74409, 74421, 74442, 74485]

This is not, of course, Clinton’s first brush with “exaggeration.” In addition to falsely claiming that she had to duck to avoid sniper fire in Bosnia, she has also claimed that she was named after the first person to climb Mount Everest, Sir Edmund Hillary. Clinton, however, was born in 1947 and could hardly have been named after a famous person who did not become famous until 1953.) [74409, 74421, 74442, 74485]

The Wall Street Journal reports that the “Bill, Hillary and Chelsea Clinton Foundation” has decided to continue accepting donations from foreign governments—despite the fact that Hillary Clinton is running for president. But the foundation will accept payments from only six nations: Australia, Canada, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway and the United Kingdom. Townhall.com’s Katie Pavlich comments, “Regardless of which foreign governments are still allowed to donate to the Clinton Foundation, the point still stands. If Hillary is elected president, will she put the best interests of the United States first? Or will she put the interests of the Clinton Foundation ahead of everything else? Based on her latest email scandal, it’s a fair question. During her time as Secretary of State Clinton put her own interest of evading congressional oversight above the national security of the U.S. by using personal email on an unsecured, personal server to conduct **all** of her official State Department business.” [74410, 74411, 74422]

ISIS launches an attack to capture the Iraqi city of Ramadi. ANSA reports, “Tens of thousands of civilians on Friday fled Ramadi after the Iraqi city came under heavy shelling from Islamic State (ISIS). Eye witnesses said the evacuees, in car or on foot, were heading for Khalidiya, 25 kilometres away, and Baghdad, 100 kilometres away.” Jihad Watch’s Robert Spencer notes a November 2014 statement by Ahmed al-Dulaimi, the governor of the Anbar province: “If we lose Anbar, that means we will lose Iraq.” [74423, 74462, 74463, 74475]

PamelaGeller.com posts undercover video from LiveAction.org showing Planned Parenthood workers telling pimps and prostitutes to lie and say their child prostitutes are at least age 15 in order to make it easier for the agency to give them abortions without parental or law enforcement notification. The stings took place in Richmond, Roanoke, Charlottesville, and Fall Church, Virginia, as well as the Bronx, New York and Perth Amboy, New Jersey. (Planned Parenthood receives more than \$500 million per year in subsidies from the federal government, and performs more than 300,000 abortions per year.) [74435, 74436]

On April 16, Holocaust Remembrance Day, the White House issues a statement: “Today, with heavy hearts, we remember the six million Jews and the millions of other victims of Nazi brutality who were murdered during the Holocaust. Yom HaShoah is a day to reaffirm our responsibilities to ourselves and future generations. It is incumbent upon us to make real those timeless words, ‘Never forget. Never again.’ Yet, even as we recognize that mankind is capable of unspeakable acts of evil, we also draw strength from the survivors, the liberators, and the righteous among nations who represented humanity at its best. With their example to guide us, together we must firmly and forcefully condemn the anti-Semitism that is still far too common today. Together we must stand against bigotry and hatred in all their forms. And together, we can leave our children a world that is more just, more free, and more secure for all humankind.” (The White House might be stating “Never again,” but Obama’s anti-Israel actions and pro-Iran appeasement is signaling, “It’s coming again.”) [74542]

Hillary Clinton's campaign van illegally parks in a handicapped parking space in Council Bluffs, Iowa. (Apparently after having had her fill of the "little people," Clinton is later spotted flying home out of Omaha, Nebraska.) It is also reported that Clinton and her close aid Huma Abedin left nothing in the tip jar at a Maumee, Ohio Chipotle restaurant they had visited on their "road trip." DailyCaller.com writes, "[A] deeper look at the former First Lady's tipping habits shows she does have a history of stiffing people who depend on tips to make ends meet." [74412, 74413, 74414, 74415, 74420, 74454]

Al-Qaeda (the terrorist group Obama claims to have decimated) captures a major airport, seaport, and oil terminal in southern Yemen (the nation Obama holds up as an example of his success in combating terrorism). White House press secretary Josh Earnest says the administration is "clear-eyed about the risk that is emanating from Yemen right now and that there is certainly a risk that the conflict there could spiral into a broader, more regional conflict." [74416, 74427, 74432, 74456, 74457, 74478]

At the Pentagon, General Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, discusses the possible fall of Ramadi to ISIS with reporters. Dempsey says, "The city itself, it's not symbolic in any way. It's not been declared part of [Islamic State's] 'caliphate' on one hand or central to the future of Iraq... I would much rather that Ramadi not fall, but it won't be the end of a campaign" if it does fall. (Dempsey's comment outrages many in the military—and relatives of U.S. soldiers who were killed or wounded fighting in Ramada.) [74513, 74514]

LifeNews.com reports, "The Supreme Court issued an order... preventing the Obama administration from forcing religious groups in Pennsylvania to obey the HHS mandate that requires them to pay for abortion-causing drugs for their employees. This is the fifth time the Supreme Court has rebuked the Obama administration and prevented it from making such a mandate. ...According to the Becket Fund, Justice Alito's order is similar to the preliminary order Justice Sotomayor provided to the Little Sisters of the Poor on New Year's Eve in 2013. The group said order requires the government to brief the Supreme Court next week on why it should be allowed to fine these organizations for refusing to distribute abortion-inducing drugs and devices and other contraceptives. Lori Windham, Senior Counsel for the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, told LifeNews: 'How many times must the government lose in court before it gets the message? For years now the government has been claiming that places like Catholic Charities and the Little Sisters of the Poor are not 'religious employers' worthy of an exemption.' 'That argument has always been absurd. Every time a religious plaintiff has gone to the Supreme Court for protection from the government's discriminatory mandate the Court has protected them. That's what happened to the Little Sisters of the Poor, Wheaton College, Notre Dame, and Hobby Lobby,' Windham continued. 'The government really needs to give up on its illegal and unnecessary mandate. The federal bureaucracy has lots of options for distributing contraceptives—they don't need to coerce nuns and priests to do it for them.'" (The Obama administration would rather win in court, but even if it expects to lose it will continue to act against religious organizations because doing so

forces them to spend money taking the issue to court. If Obama cannot beat his enemies, he will try to bankrupt them.) [74428]

Obama addresses a “Working Families Champions of Change Event” at the White House. He says, “[W]hen a baby arrives or an aging parent gets sick, too often workers have to make gut-wrenching choices about whether they can afford to be there when their families need them most. Too many women face unnecessary difficulties on the job, like the difficulty of being paid less than a man for doing the same work. That’s a difficulty. Or being reprimanded or fired for taking too many bathroom breaks when you’re pregnant. Clearly that’s a man making that decision because they don’t have five pounds of kicks pressing down on their bladder. Or being forced to take leave when they’re still perfectly capable of doing their work. Women can’t even depend, by law, on getting a paid day off to give birth. So yesterday I traveled to Charlotte for a conversation with working women about the issues they care about most—heard a lot about the wage gap and how it impacts families. And as I pointed out, ensuring equal pay for women is a no-brainer. ...[P]aying women the same as men for doing the same job, that’s not hard. That’s not hard.” (Once again, it must be pointed out that the Equal Pay Act of 1963 makes it illegal to pay women less than men for doing the same work when they have the same skills and experience. Obama cannot be so stupid as to not know that law has been on the books for more than 50 years. If he knows of a woman who is paid less than a man for the same work all he needs to do is use his phone to call the Department of Labor and order it to enforce existing law. With regard to women not being guaranteed pay to take time off to have a baby, male workers do not get paid to take months off at a time either. Absent workers do no work. No company can stay in business if it is forced to pay workers not to work.) [74532]

Former Arkansas governor Mike Huckabee tells WHO-AM’s Jan Mickelson that Christians should not enlist in the U.S. military while Obama remains in office: “This administration has had an open hostility toward the Christian faith. And I know that sounds like a bold statement, Jan, but when you have a [commander-in-chief] whose administration orders its chaplains to put their Bibles away, not to pray in Jesus name, not to counsel people on the issues of sexual morality; when you have this attitude that is more about promoting gay marriage and gay rights in the military than it is about being able to protect religious liberty for those people of faith, it’s going to be hard to find people who are truly devoted people of faith and Christian believers and Orthodox Jews and others. Why would they want to be in a military that would be openly hostile and not just simply bring some scorn to their faith, but would punish them for it? ...There’s nothing more honorable than serving one’s country and there’s [sic; there are] no greater heroes to our country than our military, but I might suggest to parents, I’d wait a couple of years until we get a new commander-in-chief who will once again believe in ‘one nation under God’ and believe that people of faith should be a vital part of the process of not only governing this country, but defending this country.” [74492]

The Associated Press reports, “Italy’s migration crisis took on a deadly new twist Thursday as police in Sicily reported that Muslim migrants had thrown 12 Christians

overboard during a recent crossing from Libya, and an aid group said another 41 were feared drowned in a separate incident. Palermo police said they had detained 15 people suspected in the high seas assault, which they learned of while interviewing tearful survivors from Nigeria and Ghana who had arrived in Palermo Wednesday morning after being rescued at sea by the ship *Ellensburg*. The 15 were accused of multiple homicide aggravated by religious hatred, police said in a statement. The survivors said they had boarded a rubber boat April 14 on the Libyan coast with 105 passengers aboard, part of the wave of migrants taking advantage of calm seas and warm weather to make the risky crossing from Libya, where most smuggling operations originate. ...The surviving Christians, the statement said, only managed to stay on board by forming a 'human chain' to resist the assault." JihadWatch's Robert Spencer writes, "It will be interesting to see how the mainstream media and Western government officials explain to us that this had nothing to do with Islam." [74433, 74434, 74437, 74452]

The American Action Forum reports, "According to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) own estimates, its proposed power plant regulation could eliminate one-fifth of existing coal generation facilities and 80,000 energy jobs. The regulation, set for final publication this summer, would regulate emissions at existing coal and natural gas power plants, while also ensuring that consumers use less energy from coal facilities. Based on American Action Forum (AAF) research, this means that more than 90 coal-fired power plants could be retired across the country. Secondary employment impacts suggest that EPA's power plant regulation could eliminate 296,000 jobs, about the population of Cincinnati, Ohio and more than the total number of jobs the economy created in February 2015. ...For perspective, 80,000 jobs is larger than the population of Napa, CA. But this is only the first part of the story. EPA never quantifies the secondary employment effects of these lost jobs. A 2009 PricewaterhouseCoopers study found that one energy job supports 3.7 additional jobs. Using a jobs multiplier of 3.7, applied to the 80,000 lost jobs that EPA concedes, yields about 296,000 lost jobs across the U.S." [74439, 74440]

Addressing a Susan B. Anthony List event, former Hewlett-Packard CEO Carly Fiorina notes the Democrat party's abortion position: "Here is what it says: Any abortion, anytime, at any point in a woman's pregnancy, for any reason, to be paid for by taxpayers. Now, there are Democrats who want to add, 'to be performed by a non-doctor.' And this policy has been succinctly summarized by Democrats, such as Barbara Boxer, as 'it isn't a life until it leaves the hospital.' Do you agree with that? Nobody agrees with that! Even people who think they're pro-choice don't agree with that. ...A woman facing a difficult choice always deserves our empathy and our support, never our judgment or our condemnation. But if we can engage in a reasonable conversation with people we can change people's minds." [74705]

In its annual "100 Most Influential People" list, *Time* magazine calls Hillary Clinton "one of America's greatest modern creations. Her decades in our public life must not blind us to the fact that she represents new realities and possibilities. Indeed, those same decades

have conferred upon her what newness usually lacks: judgment, and even wisdom.” (The magazine’s cover does not include a “barf alert.”) [74449]

Congressman Jason Chaffetz (R-UT) introduces legislation that would slash taxpayer payments to presidents after they leave office, limiting their pensions to \$200,000 per year and slashing additional subsidies (like office expenses), depending on the income they earn. Chaffetz says, “The basic premise here is, if they want to go fishing in Utah for the rest of their lives, they can do that. They will be well compensated for the rest of their lives. If they’re going to make millions of dollars, the taxpayers shouldn’t have to subsidize them.” (Chaffetz’ proposal is perfectly logical—which probably means it does not stand a chance of getting voted on and signed into law by Obama. In June 2014 FreeBeacon.com reported, “...the Government Services Administration (GSA), which is in charge of supporting federal disbursements, budgeted \$950,000 for former president Bill Clinton in the 2014 budget. ...The Clintons have received a total of \$15,938,000 in federal money since 2001. ...Clinton’s pension is just a small portion of the costs the former president will incur over the next year. GSA budgeted \$450,000 to pay for Clinton’s office space, the highest total of the four living presidents.”) [74450, 74543]

Florida Governor Rick Scott announces plans to sue the Obama administration for threatening to cut the state’s share of funding of the “Low Income Pool” program in retaliation for the state’s decision not to expand Medicaid under ObamaCare. On *On the Record*, Scott agrees with Kimberly Guilfoyle that Obama is engaging in “extortion”: “Absolutely. First off, you think about the families in our state that are relying on this. Second, [Supreme Court Chief] Justice [John Roberts said... that it’s not lawful for the federal government, for the Obama administration, to use coercion tactics, basically [hold] a gun to our head, if we don’t expand ObamaCare. They say they can’t do that. ...And doesn’t everybody now understand that this is an administration that’s going to use coercion tactics, and when it’s appropriate, they’ll cut back funding if you don’t do another program they want? One, they don’t care about the low income families because they are willing to walk away from a program. And then, two, they are using bully—this is a *Sopranos* [episode]. They are using bullying tactics to attack our state. It’s wrong. It’s outrageous just that they’re doing this. ...We will fight to protect the healthcare of Floridians, and their right to be free from federal overreach. Our citizens already pay federal taxes that go into the federal LIP program. Now, ...Obama has decided that the state must take on a larger Medicaid program, forcing our taxpayers to pay even more to government, before they get their own federal tax dollars back. This is outrageous, and specifically what the Supreme Court warned against.” (The expansion of Medicaid under ObamaCare will cost states billions of dollars. The federal government is only partially reimbursing the states for the additional cost of adding millions of additional people onto the Medicaid rolls.) [74451]

On *The Daily Show*, Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) displays her economic ignorance by saying, “If we would reduce the interest rate on student loans, young people would have a lot more money to spend. ...Why can’t we reduce the interest rate? Why can’t we just say look, that’s not what we should be doing as a country? We should not say to kids,

if your mom and dad can write a check for college you pay this much for college but if they can't, you've got to pay a much higher rate because you've got to pay more on your student loans. We should not be charging our kids more to get a loan to go to college than we charge big financial institutions in order to finance their businesses." (Of course, students do not pay higher tuition rates if their parents cannot afford to pay for college. Yes, students who borrow money for college have to pay interest on their loans, but so do people who borrow money for houses or cars. Money does not appear out of thin air; it has to be earned. Those who have earned it and saved it can hardly be criticized for expecting interest when they loan that money to people who want it without working for it and saving it. Warren might just as easily say, "If General Motors, Ford, and Chrysler gave away their cars for free, people would not have to make car payments and they would have a lot more money to spend!") [74471]

On April 17, in honor of National Poetry Month, Obama hosts a poetry reading at the White House—at which he arrogantly tells guests, "If you want to understand America, you better read some Walt Whitman, Langston Hughes." (Obama's knowledge of poetry is likely no better than his knowledge of English grammar. The proper statement would be, "If you want to understand America, you *had* better read some Walt Whitman and Langston Hughes." One of the few known poems allegedly written by the student Obama was almost certainly penned by his communist mentor, Frank Marshall Davis.) Appearing at the event is poet laureate Elizabeth Alexander, who lives near Obama's Chicago mansion and who Obama selected to compose an original poem for his 2009 inauguration festivities. (Alexander, a Yale African-American Studies professor, is known for outrageous writings. Her poem *The Venus Hottentot* includes lines like, "Her genitalia will float inside a labeled pickling jar," "Since my own genitals are public I have made other parts private," "I am a black cutout against a captive blue sky," and "Monsieur Cuvier investigates between my legs, poking, prodding, sure of his hypothesis. I half expect him to pull silk scarves from inside me, paper poppies, then a rabbit!" Alexander has received taxpayer funding from the National Endowment for the Arts for her work.) [78, 279, 297, 333, 840, 860, 871, 74444]

At a White House press conference Obama complains that his nominee for Attorney General, Loretta Lynch, has yet to be confirmed by the Senate. He says, "It's gone too far. What are we doing here? Enough. Enough. Call Loretta Lynch for a vote. This is embarrassing, a process like this. ... We still have is this crazy situation where a woman who everybody agrees is qualified... has been now sitting there longer than the previous seven attorneys general combined. There's no reason for it ... beyond political gamesmanship in the Senate. There are times where the dysfunction in the Senate just goes too far." (Everyone does not, in fact, agree that Lynch is qualified. In particular, some Senators are concerned that she supports Obama's unconstitutional illegal immigrant amnesty program. The job of the Attorney General is to see to it that the nation's existing laws are enforced—not to support schemes to undermine those laws.) [74458]

FreeBeacon.com reports, “The federal government’s top labor arbiter may use its regulatory power to force non-union employees in right to work states pay union dues. The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) put out a call for legal briefs on Wednesday asking labor law scholars to weigh in on whether unions should have the ability to extract dues payments from non-members. The announcement drew immediate criticism from right to work activists.” Mark Mix, president of the National Right to Work Committee, responds, “It is unfortunately not surprising that the Obama NLRB is now actively working to undermine the 25 state Right to Work laws. Its ‘call for briefs’ signals this NLRB’s intention to reverse over 60 years of Board precedent to give union bosses an unprecedented tool to eviscerate employees’ Right to Work protections.” [74577]

Of Russia’s sale of its S-300 missile defense system to Iran, Obama says, “I will tell you this is actually a sale that was slated to happen in 2009. When I first met with then-Prime Minister [Vladimir] Putin, they actually stopped the sale, paused or suspended the sale at our request. And I’m, frankly, surprised that it held this long, given that they were not prohibited by sanctions from selling these defensive weapons. When I say I’m not surprised—given some of the deterioration in the relationship between Russia and the United States, and the fact that their economy is under strain and this was a substantial sale [sic].” [74490]

Obama says, “There were a number of people who were supporting [Senator Bob] Corker’s legislation suggesting that, as a routine matter, a president needs to get sign-off from Congress to negotiate political agreements. That is not the case. That has never been the case. This is not a formal treaty that is being envisioned. And the President of the United States, whether Democrat or Republican, traditionally has been able to enter into political agreements that are binding with other countries without congressional approval. And I still have some concerns about the suggestion that that tradition was in some ways changing. But there was language in the legislation that spoke to this being directly related to congressional sanctions. And that, I think, at least allows me to interpret the legislation in such a way that it is not sending a signal to future presidents that each and every time they’re negotiating a political agreement that they have to get a congressional authorization.” [74528]

Asked if he would consider lifting sanctions on Iran immediately (as Iran has demanded), Obama replies, “How sanctions are lessened, how we snap back sanctions if there’s a violation, there are a lot of different mechanisms and ways to do that.” The negotiating job, says Obama, is to “find formulas that get to our main concerns while allowing the other side to make a presentation to their body politic that is more acceptable.” (Obama is signaling to Iranian negotiators that he would, in fact, be willing to cave in on their sanctions demand. His reliance on an ability to “snap back” sanctions is preposterous. He opposed imposing them in the first place, and it took considerable effort to get other nations to agree to them. Russia and China in particular are unlikely to agree to reimpose sanctions on Iran. Townhall.com’s Guy Benson notes that Russia is in the middle of selling Iran its advanced S-300 defense system, and China is building a pipeline with Iran.) [74569]

U.S. defense officials report that Iran has sent an armada of ships to Yemen, probably to provide Houthi rebels with supplies—and perhaps weapons. TheHill.com reports, “Officials fear the move could lead to a showdown with the U.S. or other members of a Saudi-led coalition, which is enforcing a naval blockade of Yemen and is conducting its fourth week of airstrikes against the Houthis. ... What’s unusual about the new deployment, which set out this week, is that the Iranians are not trying to conceal it, officials said. Instead, they appear to be trying to ‘communicate it’ to the U.S. and its allies in the Gulf. It is not clear what will happen as the convoy comes closer to Yemen. Saudi Arabia has deployed ships around Yemen to enforce the blockade, as has Egypt. An official said the ship convoy could try to land at a port in Aden, which the Houthis have taken over. ... U.S. officials say they are unsure why Iran is making the brazen move. One theory they have floated is that the Saudi-led coalition has effectively blockaded any air routes into Yemen and there are no other ways to resupply the Houthis. Another theory is that Iran is trying to distract the coalition from another ship it has tried hard to conceal that is currently docked at Oman—a potential land route for smuggling arms into Yemen. Yet another theory is that Iran wants to force a confrontation with Saudi Arabia that it believes it will win, because Iran views the Saudi military as weak and suspects the U.S. lacks the willpower to support its Gulf ally.” [74461, 74524]

At PJMedia.com Bridget Johnson describes a “guide for jihadists in the West” distributed by ISIS.: “Converts to Islam are encouraged to ‘hide your Islam as much as possible,’ such as quickly leaving after Friday prayers instead of mingling at the mosque. Goatees are encouraged to ‘fulfill the obligation’ without growing a full beard. Women are told to wear colored hijabs instead of black ones. They’re told to alter their first name—‘Al’—instead of Ali, or a neutral name like Adam’—or make up an alias, as jihadists in the Islamic State ‘are not allowed to tell their real name to anyone in case their friends are captured and interrogated and reveal the real name of the brothers to the tyrants.’ Plus, they argue, an alias with a non-Muslim name would come in handy if they want to get an ‘important position’ such as work in a power plant. Then comes the question of cold, hard cash: ‘Before any real Jihad can be fought, Muslims require money.’ Conveniently, ‘in cases of necessity and for survival, Muslims are permitted to get money from ways which are not normally allowed.’ ‘If you are an expert in credit card fraud, paypal/ebay scams, Phishing, hacking, or you know the secrets of a big company, then take advantage of your skills,’ the book advises, emphasizing the crimes in bold. ‘If you can claim extra benefits from a government, then do so. If you can avoid paying taxes, then do so.’ Taking out a loan you’ll never repay and using the money to immigrate [sic; emigrate] to the Islamic State is encouraged, but if you get caught doing this or other scams don’t say you were raising dough for jihad, the guide cautions.” [74551]

“...The e-book covers how to make six types of bombs, with tips previously published in AQAP’s *Inspire* magazine: Molotov cocktail, nail bomb, microwave airbag bomb, gas canister bomb, remote controlled bomb, and car bomb. ‘Practice them with trial and error on a small scale first to make sure you are doing them right.’ ...As a final word of advice, ISIS followers are urged to share the manual by renaming the file first—‘something else safe (i.e. How to make cake).’” (Pamela Geller comments, “It sounds dangerously like

the Muslim Brotherhood project followed by MB terror groups like CAIR, ISNA, MSA—and we see how well they have succeeded. ISIS will, too,” and warns, “Obama has been importing hundreds of thousands of Muslims from jihad nations. They will reach critical mass in no short order. Things are going to change on a dime.”) [74551]

Breitbart.com reports, “Dr. Salomon Melgen is being held in a Florida jail without bond on a second set of charges. The Florida ophthalmologist is one of three men involved in an August 2012 meeting with Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius. That gathering is at the center of criminal charges of corruption brought by a New Jersey federal grand jury against Melgen and one of the other two key players, Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ). The third key player, the man who actually organized that August 2012 meeting, is Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV). He’s being protected by a selective Department of Justice, a stonewalling Capitol Police, and a compliant and incurious mainstream media and remains unindicted. ...Melgen was indicted on 76 separate counts of Medicare fraud totaling \$190 million between 2008 and 2013 by a South Florida federal grand jury earlier this week. ...The latest set of Medicare fraud charges against Melgen go well beyond the fraudulent \$8.9 million... overbilling in 2007 and 2008 Reid and Menendez attempted to justify to Secretary Sebelius in that August 2012 meeting. ...Before, during, and after the 2012 meeting in the Majority Leader’s office, both Reid and Menendez pressured Sebelius to intervene in an ongoing HHS adjudication on the disputed 2007 and 2008 Medicare overbilling and force her HHS subordinates to find in Melgen’s favor. To her credit, Sebelius refused to do so.” [74474]

Among the favors Menendez extended to Melgen was “fast track” approval for visas. Michelle Malkin later sarcastically refers to one as the “36DD visa.” She writes that “...Menendez and his staff pressured the State Department to expedite the foreign tourist and student visa approval processes for a bevy of buxom foreign beauties. One of them, Brazilian actress and nudie model Juliana Lopes Leite (a.k.a. ‘Girlfriend 1’), had her F-1 student visa application moved to the top of the Mount Everest-high heap in 2008 as a favor to Menendez’s now-indicted donor pal and accused Medicare fraudster Salomon Melgen. ...‘The State Department responded within hours, and the woman got her visa the following day,’ the [New York] Post reported. Sugar daddy Melgen set up a shady nonprofit to help fund Lopes Leite’s education, according to the indictment. The IRS-approved ‘foundation’ for ‘helping with the educational needs of disadvantaged persons’ also subsidized college costs for a second woman ‘romantically linked to Menendez.’ Here’s my question: Menendez played visa-fixer in 2008. Lopes Leite graduated with a law degree from the University of Miami in 2010, but spent most of her time jet-setting around the world with Melgen. According to the Post, she is still here and now practicing law in Miami—seven years after obtaining her 36DD visa. Why and how is she still here? [Leite’s] F-1 is supposed to be a temporary visa.” [74644]

The 5th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals hears oral arguments in a lawsuit challenging Obama’s illegal immigrant amnesty executive orders. Politicio.com observes that the court signaled “that it is unlikely to allow ...Obama’s request to go ahead with a new round of relief for illegal immigrants, making it likely that the White House will have to

take its legal case to the Supreme Court within days. ...Notably, one Republican-appointed judge used [Obama's] own comments to put the Justice Department on the defensive. By the time the court session wrapped up, it appeared likely the appeals judges will rule, 2-1, against the administration's request for a stay of a district court injunction, which would most likely leave the Supreme Court to decide whether the program can move ahead while lawsuits play out in the states. If the administration can't get its new moves underway sometime this year it may have difficulty getting them done before Obama leaves office." (At DailySignal.com, Hans von Spakovsky later writes, "The Obama administration's lawyer, Benjamin Mizer, the acting assistant attorney general of the Civil Division at the Justice Department, did not have an easy time in his argument... before a three-judge panel of the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals in the immigration lawsuit filed by 26 states. ...As I listened to Mizer responding to questions from the judges, I was shaking my head at some of his answers. One of his justifications for [Obama's] actions towards the beginning of the argument was so strange, I wasn't sure I heard it correctly.") [74512, 74607]

On April 18 a suicide bomber kills 35 and wounds as many as 125 at a bank in Kabul, Afghanistan. President Ashraf Ghani blames ISIS. He says, "Today the deadly attack in Nangarhar Province—who claimed responsibility? Taliban did not claim responsibility, but Daesh [ISIS] claimed responsibility." NYTimes.com writes, "If Islamic State militants did carry out the attack, it will be the first time they have struck so far from their Middle East home ground." (Obama's "JayVee team" is apparently expanding its operations.) [74550]

The *Daily Mail* reports, "Nazi sympathisers, Holocaust deniers and their supporters from across the world have held a sickening secret rally in Britain at which speakers unleashed anti-Semitic rants, referring to Jews as 'the enemy' and 'children of darkness.' The meeting of the shadowy organisation will fuel fears of a growing resurgence in hatred towards Jews across Europe. The vile event was observed by a Mail on Sunday undercover team. Held in London's Victoria, the meeting was, said experts, the most significant gathering of Holocaust deniers Britain has ever seen, with speakers invited from Spain, Canada and the United States." [74565]

In his weekly radio/Internet address, Obama (who is apparently ignorant of the fact that a few large volcanic eruptions can release more SO₂ and CO₂ than mankind can create in an entire year) says, "Today, there's no greater threat to our planet than climate change. ...Climate change can no longer be denied, or ignored. ...This is the only planet we've got. And years from now, I want to be able to look our children and grandchildren in the eye and tell them that we did everything we could to protect it. ...Rising sea levels are putting a national treasure, and an economic engine for the South Florida tourism industry, at risk. ...Climate change can no longer be denied or ignored. The world is looking to the United States, to us, to lead. And that's what we're doing. ...It's about protecting our God-given natural wonders, and the good jobs that rely on them. It's about shielding our cities and our families from disaster and harm. It's about keeping our kids healthy and safe." (Obama will commemorate "Earth Day" on April 22 with a climate

change speech in the Florida Everglades. He does not identify the amount of global warming that will occur as a result of his unnecessary trip on Air Force One.) [74464, 74465, 74466, 74467, 74530]

Newsweek.com reports that “Ukrainian oligarch Victor Pinchuk, 54, has courted the Clintons for at least nine years—in the United States, the Alps and Ukraine. Earlier this year, he was confirmed as the largest individual contributor to the Clinton Foundation, whose aims include the creation of ‘economic opportunity and growth.’ The fourth richest man in Ukraine, Pinchuk owns Interpipe Group, a Cyprus-incorporated manufacturer of seamless pipes used in oil and gas sectors. Newsweek has seen declarations and documents from Ukraine that show a series of shipments from Interpipe to Iran in 2011 and 2012, including railway parts and products commonly used in the oil and gas sectors. ...Both the rail and oil and gas sectors are sanctioned by the US, which specifically prohibits any single invoice to the Iranian petrochemical industry worth more than \$1m.” HotAir.com’s Ed Morrissey writes, “...Interpipe should have been slapped with penalties and sanctions for its operations with Iran. Pinchuk’s company has a US subsidiary, which means that US sanctions apply across the entire organization. The agency for imposing penalties for sanctions violations in these cases... is the State Department. Who was in charge at the State Department during this period? None other than Hillary Clinton.” [74468, 74469, 74470, 74504, 74505, 74506, 74519, 74585]

According to WND.com, in 2014 former Congressman Steve Stockman (R-TX) “tried to alert the Obama administration to the [Victor Pinchuk] problem but was ignored. ‘It seems possible, Hillary Clinton, for getting that money, ended up benefiting from selling potential nuclear parts to Iran,’ Stockman told WND. Newsweek recently reported that Ukrainian oligarch Victor Pinchuk ‘has been trading with Iran and may be in breach of U.S. sanctions imposed on the country.’ But Stockman told WND what Newsweek did not know was that Pinchuk may have sold Iran ‘dual-use’ technology that could be used in the country’s nuclear program, a much graver violation of sanctions. And the sales occurred when Secretary of State Clinton was in charge of monitoring the list of non-U.S. companies trading with Iran and was responsible for sanctions enforcement. Newsweek reported Stockman wrote to the Treasury Department in November 2014, questioning Interpipe Group’s dealings with Iran. ... Stockman’s letter referred to a ‘body of evidence’ detailing ‘exports from Interpipe to Iranian entities’ that “may have contravened US sanctions to Iran.’ At least one sale, in May 2012, of \$1.8 million exceeded the sanctions limit of ‘any single invoice to the Iranian petrochemical industry worth more than \$1 million.’ But Stockman told WND he had suspicions the sales violated U.S. policy banning the export of dual-use technology to Iran. ...Stockman said he was told by sources in Ukraine that the piping sent to Iran could be used in the building of nuclear reactors. ...He said he never received any response from the Obama administration. ‘There was zero follow-up by anybody, as far as I could tell. And this is a letter from a congressman. You would think they would respond to it. They didn’t. They don’t care.’” [74744]

At Townhall.com Cortney O'Brien reports that Congresswoman Diane Black (R-TN and Congressman Ted Poe (R-TX) "have reintroduced the Freedom From Intrusive Regulatory Enforcement of Arbitrary Registration Mandates Act..." The legislation would eliminate the requirement that gun purchasers provide their race and ethnicity—information that is totally irrelevant but currently demanded by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). (The ATF added the requirement to its Form 4473 in 2012.) [74479]

In Mason-Dixon Polling & Research survey, Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) bests former governor Jeb Bush 31-30 among registered voters in Florida. (All other candidates scored single-digit support.) [74480]

Global Citizen Earth Day is celebrated on the National Mall. (The "green" attendees leave behind mountains of trash.) [74481, 74482, 74503, 74511, 74614]

Army Day is celebrated in Iran with a parade of soldiers and weapons—and a banner reading "Death to Israel." According to TimesofIsrael.com, "A televised broadcast of the parade was punctuated by repeated cries of 'Death to America' and 'Death to Israel.' 'If Israel makes a mistake,' the announcer on Iran television said during the broadcast, as heavy trucks carrying armored personnel carriers rolled past, 'those in Tel Aviv and Haifa will not sleep at night, not one person.' ...Among the weapons systems paraded past dignitaries was a domestically produced version of the Russian S-300 anti-aircraft missile, the Bavar 373." [74500, 74501]

Addressing GOP activists at the Republican Leadership Summit in Nashua, New Hampshire, Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) says, "There's a group of folks in our party who would have troops in six countries right now—maybe more. This is something, if you watch closely, that will separate me from many other Republicans. The other Republicans will criticize Hillary Clinton and [Obama] for their foreign policy, but they would have done the same thing—just 10 times over! ...Why the Hell did we ever go into Libya in the first place? Everyone who will criticize me wanted troops on the ground, our troops on the ground, in Libya. It was a mistake to be in Libya. We are less safe. Jihadists swim in our [U.S. embassy] swimming pool now. It's a disaster. ...Every time we've toppled a secular dictator, a secular strongman, we've gotten chaos and the rise of radical Islam. We have to decide when getting involved is good and when it's not so good. There's a group of folks in our party who think it's always good ...There's [sic; there are] people in our party who supported giving arms to [Moammar] Gaddafi before they supported giving arms to the 'freedom fighters,' who turned out to be al-Qaeda. I'm not saying don't be involved in the world. I'm not saying don't defend our interests. But think about it. As a physician, we're taught: first, do no harm." [74487]

"Yes, ISIS is a threat. But I would also put ISIS into the context of things. If we don't do this, we're never going to learn. How did ISIS grow stronger? Well, we put 600 tons worth of weapons into the Syrian civil war. You've got Assad on one side. You've got two million Christians living under Assad. And then you have the Islamic rebels. All the

weapons we gave to the Islamic rebels ... a lot of them wound up in the hands of ISIS. There's nobody good in that civil war. There's not one Islamic rebel group that would recognize Israel ... The next time you come across somebody who is either from Syria or is a Syrian Christian or related to one, you ask them, 'Which would you pick: ISIS or Assad?' No question, they'd pick Assad because he's tolerated Christians to a certain extent. He's not a great guy—he's a tyrant—but compare that to ISIS. But now we do have to do something, so I support military action against ISIS." [74487]

Former Hewlett-Packard CEO Carly Fiorina also addresses the Nashua audience. She says, "For the first time in U.S. history, we are destroying more businesses than we are creating. The weight of the government is literally crushing the potential of the people of this nation. ... Managers are people who do the best they can within the existing system. Leaders are people who do not accept what is broken just because it has been that way for a long time." Criticizing Hillary Clinton Fiorina says, "I come from a world where speeches are not accomplishments. Activity isn't accomplishment. Title isn't accomplishment. I come from a world where you have to actually do something; you have to produce results." [74494]

At AmericanThinker.com Deborah C. Tyler writes, "Watching Hillary Clinton reach out and touch ordinary Americans is excruciating. In working a crowd of regular folks, Hillary is fingernails on the blackboard in a pantsuit. It is difficult to imagine anyone more out of touch with her own affect, movement, and connection to the people around her. She is unable to talk, touch, listen or smile in a natural manner. She doesn't seem to know what to do with her hands, where to direct her eyes, her scope of awareness is restricted. A blind person with a stick would be better than Hillary Clinton at reading people around her. In the staged and rigidly controlled glimpses of her, we see people positioned a handshake away wishing to be noticed by this woman who may be the next president, growing discouraged and becoming commensurately uncomfortable because Hillary can't see them. Everyone is down on Hillary. The right hates her for moral, patriotic, and ideological reasons, the left wing has a worsening case of Hillaphobia. Those on the left who are not too drug-addled to be aware of politics don't like her because they are driven by narcissistic emotional needs which she does not meet. She cannot reach the anti-traditionalist places where the left likes to be massaged, nor can she humor them with hipness." [74491]

Michelle Obama and her mother, Marian Robinson, have lunch at celebrity chef Mario Batali's Lupa restaurant. (BizPacReview.com notes, "Interestingly, the 'Black Lives Matter' crowd didn't interrupt this lunch.") The taxpayer cost for flying the two to New York city is not known. Whether the meal is consistent with Mrs. Obama's "Let's Move!" school lunch program is also not known. [74507, 74508, 74509]

On April 19 Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu states, "Israel views with utmost gravity the supply of S-300 missiles from Russia to Iran, especially at a time when Iran is stepping up its aggression in the region and around the borders of the State of Israel.

...There is no stipulation that this aggression be halted, whether at the start of the agreement or as a condition for the lifting of sanctions.” [74490]

General Hossein Salami, a senior commander in the Iranian Revolutionary Guard, says inspectors will not be allowed to the country’s nuclear sites: “We will respond with hot lead [bullets] to those who speak of it. Iran will not become a paradise for spies. We will not roll out the red carpet for the enemy. ...It means humiliating a nation. They will not even be permitted to inspect the most normal military site in their dreams.” (Salami should have a discussion with Obama, who obviously views the alleged nuclear framework differently and claims “the world will know it” if Iran cheats.) Ayatollah Ali Khamenei tells Iran’s military leaders, “The real source of threat is the United States of America, which creates insecurity through its interference in domestic and internal issues of other countries in the region and faces no inhibitory forces. ...The Islamic Republic has proved that it would defend itself powerfully. The whole nation would come together like a fist and face aggressors.” [73857, 73860, 73892, 73907, 74498, 74499, 74527, 74568]

The Wall Street Journal writes, “Give Ayatollah Ali Khamenei credit for knowing his opposition. Two weeks ago the Supreme Leader declared that Western sanctions had to be lifted immediately as a condition of a nuclear deal. And sure enough, on Friday ...Obama said Iran would get significant sanctions relief immediately upon signing a deal. The Ayatollah knows that Mr. Obama wants an agreement with Iran so much that there’s almost no concession [he] won’t make. So why not keep asking for more? Keep in mind that the talks began with the U.S. and its European partners demanding that Iran dismantle its nuclear program. But to persuade the Ayatollah to accept the recent ‘framework’ accord, Mr. Obama has already conceded that Iran can keep enriching uranium, that it can maintain 5,060 centrifuges to do the enriching, that its enriched-uranium stockpiles can stay inside Iran, that the once-concealed facilities at Fordow and Arak can stay open (albeit in altered form), and that Iran can continue doing research on advanced centrifuges. All of these concessions are contrary to previous U.S. positions, and we’re no doubt missing a few. But none of that was enough for the Ayatollah, who quickly asserted two new deal-breaking objections: immediate sanctions relief, and no inspections under any circumstances of Iran’s military sites... These latest events reinforce a conclusion that the Iranian talks are heading toward a deal that confers Western blessing on Iran as a nuclear-threshold state. Tehran will retain the facilities and means to develop a bomb at the moment of its choosing. The main question now is how many more concessions the Ayatollah will squeeze from [Obama, who] he believes is desperate for a deal.” [74570, 74579]

ISIS terrorists in Libya shoot and behead a group of Ethiopian Christians. National Security Council spokesperson Bernadette Meehan states, “We express our condolences to the families of the victims and our support to the Ethiopian government and people as they grieve for their fellow citizens. That these terrorists killed these men solely because of their faith lays bare the terrorists’ vicious, senseless brutality.” [74493, 74495, 74496, 74497, 74510, 74520, 74549]

NYTimes.com reports that an upcoming book, *Clinton Cash: The Untold Story of How and Why Foreign Governments and Businesses Helped Make Bill and Hillary Rich*, already has Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) “call[ing] its findings ‘big news’ that will ‘shock people’ and make voters ‘question’ the candidacy of Hillary Rodham Clinton. ...The book, a copy of which was obtained by The New York Times, asserts that foreign entities who made payments to the Clinton Foundation and to Mr. Clinton through high speaking fees received favors from Mrs. Clinton’s State Department in return. ‘We will see a pattern of financial transactions involving the Clintons that occurred contemporaneous with favorable U.S. policy decisions benefiting those providing the funds,’ [author Peter] Schweizer writes. His examples include a free-trade agreement in Colombia that benefited a major foundation donor’s natural resource investments in the South American nation, development projects in the aftermath of the Haitian earthquake in 2010, and more than \$1 million in payments to Mr. Clinton by a Canadian bank and major shareholder in the Keystone XL oil pipeline around the time the project was being debated in the State Department. ...From 2001 to 2012, the Clintons’ income was at least \$136.5 million, Mr. Schweizer writes, using a figure previously reported in The [Washington] Post. ‘During Hillary’s years of public service, the Clintons have conducted or facilitated hundreds of large transactions’ with foreign governments and individuals, he writes. ‘Some of these transactions have put millions in their own pockets.’” (Hillary Clinton brushes off the book, saying her campaign invites “distractions and attacks, and I’m ready for that.” White House press secretary Josh Earnest says there is “not a lot of evidence” to support the claims in the book—despite his having not read it.) [74516, 74518, 74519, 74536, 74540, 74541, 74584, 74613, 74722]

On *Face the Nation*, former Maryland governor Martin O’Malley says, “I believe that if you have the executive experience, the ideas to serve our nation well, and the ability to govern, you should offer your candidacy and let the people decide.” (In other words, “Don’t be surprised when I announce my presidential candidacy.”) [74521]

On *Fox News Sunday*, Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC) says he is “91 percent sure” he will run for president in 2016. “I think I’ve got a good message. I’ve been more right than wrong on foreign policy. ...If I’m on the ballot [in the South Carolina primary], I’ll win.” (Of course, winning only one primary will not get Graham the GOP nomination. Newt Gingrich won the 2012 GOP primary in South Carolina.) [74522, 74523]

Graham also says, “We have to adjust the age of retirement [for Social Security benefits] for younger people. [And] People of my income level are going to have to have their benefits means-tested.” (That is, “The retirement age must be raised to ‘save the system,’ and people who can survive without Social Security benefits should not receive them.” Of course, denying benefits to people who paid for them destroys the concept that Social Security is a “retirement system”—which of course it has never been. It has *always* been “welfare for old people,” but President Franklin D. Roosevelt called it a retirement system knowing that was the only way he could get the program passed into law. The

belief that everyone has money “in an account” in a “lock box” somewhere in the nation’s capital is absurd. Every dime the Social Security Administration collects in weekly payroll taxes is almost immediately paid out in benefits. In fact, since 2010 the system has been paying out in annual benefits *more* than it collects in payroll taxes. The system is not “going broke.” It *is* broke.) [74526]

With regard to Obama’s nuclear deal with Iran, Graham, says it will not be approved by Congress if it does not allow snap inspections of Iranian nuclear facilities. “Don’t think there’s a snowball chance in hell that a Congress is going to approve this framework the way it’s set up. The ayatollah’s saying he gets immediate sanction relief with no intrusive inspections. ...[M]embers of the Senate understand that this is the most consequential vote we will ever take and the Iranians can’t be trusted. They lie, they cheat. I’ll wait and see how it looks on paper, but if you don’t have any time, anywhere inspections, forget about it. I just don’t think any Democrat or Republican is going to agree to allow that to become binding.” [74529]

On *This Week*, Senator Clair McCaskill (D-MO) calls Hillary Clinton the “most qualified” presidential candidate. “You have a cast of thousands on the Republican side because there’s—it’s clear that many of them are reading *Cliff Notes* to try to figure out this dangerous world right now. ...[A]nyone [on the Democrat side] can challenge Hillary Clinton if they would like to, [but the reason people aren’t challenging her is because of her qualifications.” [74531]

Author Toni Morrison, who was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by Obama in 2012, tells *The Telegraph*, “People keep saying, ‘We need to have a conversation about race.’ This is the conversation: I want to see a cop shoot a white unarmed teenager in the back, and I want to see a white man convicted for raping a black woman. Then when you ask me, ‘Is it over?’, I will say yes.” (Much like Obama, Morrison, who is black, tends to view almost everything through a racial prism. More whites have been shot by police officers than blacks, and white men have certainly been convicted of raping black women. *WashingtonTimes.com* notes that “deaths of whites at the hands of law enforcement typically receive less attention, even when the case is shrouded in controversy. For example, Gilbert Collar, an 18-year-old white student at the University of South Alabama, was shot and killed while naked, unarmed and under the influence of drugs by a black police officer. The officer, Trevis Austin, was cleared of wrongdoing in 2013 by a Mobile County grand jury in a case that received little media coverage outside Alabama. Mr. Collar’s parents filed a federal lawsuit last year against the officer.” Peter Moskos, assistant professor at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice at the City University of New York, observes, “If one adjusts for the racial disparity in the homicide rate or the rate at which police are feloniously killed, whites are actually more likely to be killed by police than blacks.”) [74588, 74589, 74590, 74620]

On April 20 the U.S. envoy to Poland, Stephen Mull, apologies to the eastern European nation for an outrageously ignorant comment recently made by FBI Director James Comey at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. Comey said, “In their minds, the

murderers and accomplices of Germany, and Poland, and Hungary, and so many, many other places didn't do something evil. They convinced themselves it was the right thing to do, the thing they had to do." FoxNews.com reports, "Polish Prime Minister Ewa Kopacz said Comey's words were 'unacceptable' in Poland. 'To those who are incapable of presenting the historic truth in an honest way, I want to say that Poland was not a perpetrator but a victim of World War II,' Kopacz said. 'I would expect full historical knowledge from officials who speak on the matter.' Tomasz Nalecz, an aide to President Bronislaw Komorowski, in a debate on TVN24 called Comey a 'blockhead,' but added that the 'stupidity of one official does not erase the friendship between Poland and the U.S.' ...Obama caused similar outrage in 2012 when he referred to a Nazi facility in occupied Poland where Jews were processed for extermination as a 'Polish death camp.' Obama subsequently apologized." (There were concentration camps in Poland—such as Belzec, Treblinka, and Sobibor—but they were not "Polish death camps." They were Nazi-run death camps located in Poland for the primary purpose of exterminating Polish Jews. Of course, there were Nazi collaborators throughout Europe, including Poland, but that hardly justifies Comey's remark.) [74517]

FoxNews.com posts a letter from Debbie Lee to General Martin Dempsey, who on April 16 told reporters the possible fall of Ramadi to ISIS would "not be symbolic in any way." Lee writes, "I am shaking and tears are flowing down my cheeks as I watch the news and listen to the insensitive, pain inflicting comments made by you in regards to the fall of Ramadi. 'The city itself is not symbolic in any way?' Oh, really? Are you willing to meet with me and with the families who have lost a son, daughter, husband, wife, father, mother, aunt, uncle, grandson, or teammate? My son Marc Lee was the first Navy SEAL who sacrificed his life in Ramadi Iraq Aug 2, 2006. His blood is still in that soil and forever will be. Remember that was when so many of our loved ones were taken from us. You said that 'it's not been declared part of the caliphate on one hand or central to the future of Iraq.' My son and many others gave their future in Ramadi. Ramadi mattered to them. Many military analysts say that as goes Ramadi so goes Iraq. What about the troops who sacrificed their limbs and whose lives will never be the same. Our brave warriors who left a piece of themselves in Ramadi. What about the troops who struggle with PTS/TBI who watched their teammates breath their last or carried their wounded bodies to be medevac'd out of Ramadi." [74514]

"...You sir owe an apology to the families whose loved ones blood was shed in Ramadi. Ramadi matters to us and is very symbolic to us. You need to apologize to our troops whose bodies were blown to pieces from IEDs and bullet holes leaving parts and pieces behind, Ramadi matters to them. You need to apologize to our troops who endured the extreme temperatures and battled the terrorists in some of the worst battlefields in Iraq, Ramadi matters to them. They carry vivid memories of the battles and the teammates whose future is gone, Ramadi matters to them. You and this administration have minimized that Ramadi could fall, now you are minimizing that it is falling, but you Sir WILL NOT minimize the sacrifice my son Marc Lee made or any of our brave warriors! Awaiting an Apology, Debbie Lee." [74514]

General Dempsey later sends Lee a letter of apology. He writes on April 20, “I’ve read your letter, and I do apologize if I’ve added to your grief. Marc and so many others died fighting to provide a better future for Iraq. He and those with whom he served did all that their nation asked. They won their fight, and nothing will ever diminish their accomplishments nor the honor in which we hold their service. We are in a different fight now, with a different enemy, and with a different relationship with the Government of Iraq. They must determine the path and pace of this fight. That’s what I intended to convey. I want you to know that you’ll always be a part of the military family. God Bless you and all of our Gold Star families.” [74602, 74603, 74649, 74629]

Reuters reports, “More than 90,000 people have fled their homes in Iraq’s western province of Anbar where ISIS militants have been gaining ground over the past week, the United Nations said on Sunday [April 19]. ISIS militants have encroached on the provincial capital Ramadi, displacing thousands of families. ‘Our top priority is delivering life-saving assistance to people who are fleeing—food, water and shelter are highest on the list of priorities,’ Lise Grande, humanitarian coordinator for the United Nations in Iraq, said in a statement. ...Provincial officials warned earlier this week Ramadi was in danger of falling to the militants. At least 2.7 million Iraqis have been displaced across the country since January 2014, including 400,000 from Anbar.” (“Only” 2.7 million Iraqis have been displaced by what Obama called a “JayVee team.” [74554, 74555]

On Facebook, Reverend Franklin Graham writes, “Each day’s news seems to reveal new horrors from militant Islam. Can it be that the world is no longer as shocked by Christians having their heads cut off and then ISIS proudly promoting this on video? We should continue to be horrified and nauseated. We should make sure our government and the current administration recognizes Islam for the danger it is, and that they are doing all they can to work against it. Our government needs to: (1) Immediately look at immigration reform to halt all immigration of Muslims from countries that have active terrorist cells—the threat this poses to our nation is huge and could end up costing thousands of lives in the future if we don’t act now. And (2) Take immediate military action to defeat ISIS. The influence of radical Islam is spreading, not diminishing. I urge you to contact your senators and representatives in Congress to share your concern and outrage—and ask them to take action.” [74672]

Zee News reports that Obama has sent a chadar (a Muslim “holy cloth”) to a Muslim shrine in Ajmer, Rajasthan, India, for a religious celebration of the first day of Rajab, the seventh month of the Islamic calendar. (It is a Muslim tradition to place the chadar on the grave of a Muslim saint.) [74563, 74564]

Comedienne Roseanne Barr tells *TheDailyBeast.com*, “I think [Hillary Clinton] a Democrat just like they all are. She seems like every other Democrat. I would not like to see her win. She’s the same old shit. I’d like to see me win [as a Green Party candidate]. I don’t see how she can win, but it will be interesting to see how the process goes—although its kind of offensive that the American people for 21 months have to live

through the mudslinging that goes on between the two parties, which I think is just a tactic to prevent government from doing anything about any of our problems. It just elongates the election process. It's like a traffic jam. That's how it works: blaming and mudslinging. ...I think that a party that was woman-friendly would be revolutionary, and that party could be headed by a male or female. It's what the party itself stands for that matters. She is standing as a Democrat so she's a Democrat, and I don't see much difference between them and the Republicans. They both get paid by the same guys. They do the same thing, they want the same stuff, more business." [74533, 74534, 74578]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, "A U.S. carrier battle group is repositioning to the Arabian sea in response to a deteriorating security situation in Yemen, but Pentagon officials denied reports that the move is designed to intercept Iranian ships. 'Ships are repositioning to conduct maritime security operations, they are not going to intercept Iranian ships,' Col. Steve Warren, Pentagon spokesman, said. The Associated Press sent a breaking news alert reporting the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt is steaming toward the waters off Yemen to join other American ships prepared to intercept any Iranian vessels carrying weapons to the Houthi rebels fighting in Yemen. The carrier, as well as the cruiser USS Normandy, transited the Strait of Hormuz on Sunday night and are now conducting operations in the Arabian Sea, Col. Warren said. ...The U.S. Navy has been beefing up its presence in the Gulf of Aden and the southern Arabian Sea amid reports that a convoy of Iranian ships may be headed toward Yemen to arm the Houthis." [74535, 74537, 74568, 74593, 74599, 74604, 74606, 74620]

State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf tells reporters the battle group is there only to "ensure the shipping lanes remain open and safe" and "not to do anything in terms of those Iranian ships." Harf claims it is "blatantly untrue" that U.S. ships will intercept Iranian ships, "so this discreet movement of U.S. assets is for a discreet purpose." (How U.S. ships can ensure that shipping lanes will remain clear without interfering with the Iranian ships that might block them is not clear.) Asked if the decision to send ships to the area is "a message to Iran in any way not to send this [weapons] shipment," she responds, "No." Another reporter asks, "Well, why not? Why don't you want to send a message to the Iranians that they should abide by the Security Council resolution?" Harf: Well, I think there's [sic; there are] ways to send that message, and we've said that very publicly. We have a variety of ways of sending messages about what should happen here." [74645, 74671]

FoxNews.com reports, "The Obama administration is facing mounting pressure to use its leverage in the Iranian nuclear talks to demand the release of Americans imprisoned there—as Tehran proceeds with charges critics say are unfair and unjust. The latest case involves Washington Post Tehran bureau chief Jason Rezaian, whom the newspaper revealed Monday is being charged by Iran with espionage and other alleged crimes. He had been arrested, along with his wife, in 2014. His wife was later released, but he has been detained at the notorious Evin Prison. The charges reported on Monday marked the first time they have been publicly described—and the information only came from his lawyers, not from the court itself. A State Department official, asked Monday about the

report, could not confirm the charges but said, if true, they are ‘patently absurd.’
...[W]hen asked why the White House can’t just tie the nuclear talks to the release of prisoners like Rezaian, [press secretary Josh] Earnest said the talks are very ‘complicated’ and must focus on one issue at a time.” (Iran is also holding Marine Corps veteran Amir Hekmati, and pastor Saeed Abedini.) [74582, 74600, 74954]

FreeBeacon.com reports, “The State Department on Monday would not rule out giving Iran up to \$50 billion as a so-called ‘signing bonus’ for agreeing to a nuclear deal later this year, according to comments made to journalists following reports that the Obama administration had formulated a plan to release tens of billions of frozen Iranian funds. Experts have said this multi-billion dollar ‘signing bonus’ option, which was first reported by the *Wall Street Journal*, could be the largest cash infusion to a terror-backing regime in recent memory. A cash release of \$30 to \$50 billion upon reaching a final nuclear agreement would come in addition to the more than \$11 billion in unfrozen assets that Iran will already have received under an interim nuclear accord reached in 2013. When asked to address these reports on Monday, State Department Spokeswoman Marie Harf attempted to dodge the issue and then accused reporters of getting ‘spun up’ on the issue.” (Pamela Geller writes, “Is there anything Obama *won’t* give to the Iranians? Why not just vacate the White House and hand over the keys to them, while he is at it? Obama’s traitorous Iran policy could be something we are paying for for years to come, and not just with taxpayer dollars.”) [74713, 74714, 74747]

Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz tells reporters the U.S. government has known for several years that Iran has been only two or three months away from creating sufficient fissile material for a nuclear weapon. He says, “They are now, they are right now spinning, I mean enriching with 9,400 centrifuges out of their roughly 19,000. Plus all the ...R&D [research and development] work. If you put that together it’s very, very little time to go forward. That’s the 2-3 months.” BloombergView.com writes, “Here is the puzzling thing: When Obama began his second term in 2013, he sang a different tune. He emphasized that Iran was more than a year away from a nuclear bomb, without mentioning that his intelligence community believed it was only two to three months away from making enough fuel for one, long considered the most challenging task in building a weapon. Today Obama emphasizes that Iran is only two to three months away from acquiring enough fuel for a bomb, creating a sense of urgency for his Iran agreement.” In 2013 Obama said, “Right now, we think it would take over a year or so for Iran to actually develop a nuclear weapon, but obviously we don’t want to cut it too close.” (It is not a “puzzling thing.” Obama lied, until he found it to his advantage to reveal some of the truth. When he was worried that Israel might attack Iran’s nuclear facilities, Obama claimed Iran was at least one year away from a nuclear weapon. Now, eager to ink a deal with Iran, he admits their breakout period is much shorter, because he wants to frighten the world—and Congress—into supporting his ill-advised agreement. When it served his agenda, Obama ridiculed Israel for claiming Iran was within months of having a nuclear weapon. Israel was right.) [74591, 74592, 74596, 74623]

At ThePostEmail.com retired U.S. Navy Captain Joseph R. John warns that “more than 360,000 Muslim refugees are begin targeted for... resettlement in the U.S. by the UN Resettlement Program. Obama is encouraging the acceptance of more Muslim refugees for resettlement here than in all the other countries in the world combined. When the UN Muslim Resettlement Program began, it was run and controlled by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton by agencies of her department. Obama directed Hillary to let the Muslim refugees enter the U.S. without slowing the process down by the time-consuming investigation of their backgrounds to determine if they had terrorist ties. On Obama’s orders, Hillary placed all entering Muslims on a fast track to obtain U.S. citizenship. Obama ordered Hillary to resettle and integrate the Muslim refugees in communities throughout the U.S. without informing elected state and local law enforcement officials where the were being resettled; this has been going on since Hillary Clinton became Secretary of State in 2009.” John notes that “George Soros is funding the resettlement of Muslim Refugees through his organization, Welcoming America, which has been working with La Raza to also integrate millions of illegal aliens to be resettled throughout the U.S. with funding from George Soros’ Open Society Institute...” [74548]

IntelNew.org reports, “A folder of secret documents, drafted by a senior commander of the Islamic State, reveals previously unknown information about the origins, meticulous planning and intelligence structure of the organization. Among other things, the documents show that the organization, which is also known as the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), had plans to capture territory in both countries as early as 2010—several years before its existence was even known. The folder belonged to Samir Abd Muhammad al-Khlifawi, a military general and political ally of Iraq’s late leader, Saddam Hussein. Better known as Haji Bakr, the former Baathist general became a founding member of ISIS and helped shape the organization until his death in a firefight in 2014. Following his demise, an unnamed informant stole the documents and secretly smuggled them into Turkey. It was there that German investigative newsmagazine *Der Spiegel* accessed them. On Saturday [April 18], following months of research, the newsmagazine published its findings based on the stolen documents. They reveal important information about the history and structure of the mysterious organization known as ISIS.” [74552]

“...The folder acquired by *Der Spiegel* contains handwritten fragments from 31 different pages bearing organizational charts, lists of ISIS officials, as well as programmatic schedules. It reveals a hierarchical organizational structure with direct and indirect chains of command, which reach all the way down to local cells. According to the documents, these cells were initially set up in disguised form, so as to resemble Islamic schools or missionary facilities. Today these have expanded to include detention facilities, weapons depots, as well as a complex structure of Sharia-compliant educators, judges and enforcers. The organization also has an elaborate intelligence structure, which appears to undertake daily surveillance and security tasks. The latter depend on an army of officers, agents and informants, many of whom are as young as 16. The documents detail several ISIS espionage operations in Syria and Iraq, which include meticulous studies of power structures of the local tribes. These were done in an effort to detect what *Der Spiegel* describes as ‘age-old faults within the deep layers of [tribal] society,’ and were then used by ISIS to divide and eventually subjugate dissident elements within the territory under

their control. In other cases, informants were instructed to detect the personal weaknesses and faults of local leaders, which were subsequently used to blackmail them. Priority was given to recruiting members of powerful families, so as to “ensure penetration of these families without their knowledge,” *Spiegel* notes.” [74552]

While campaigning in New Hampshire, Hillary Clinton is asked by ABC’s Celia Vega, “Your reaction please to these book allegations. Did foreign entities receive any special treatment for making any kind of donations to the Clinton Foundation or your husband?” Clinton dodges the question, instead saying, “We’re back into the political season and therefore we will be subjected to all kinds of distractions and attacks and I’m ready for that. I know that that comes unfortunately with the territory. The Republicans seem to be talking only about me. I don’t know what they’d talk about if I wasn’t in the race. But I am in the race and hopefully we’ll get on to the issues and I look forward to that.” [74567]

During a discussion with “ordinary people” in New Hampshire, mumbles “mmm hmm” as many as 88 times while listening to her guests. (Clearly, an advisor told Clinton to make sure she acknowledges comments, so everyone knows she is “listening to the American people.”) [74586]

The Clinton campaign trots out campaign chairman John Podesta to “kill the messenger” and respond to charges in the upcoming book, *Clinton Cash*, that Hillary Clinton traded her influence in exchange for donations to the Clinton Foundation and \$500,000 speaking fees for her husband. Podesta tells PBS’ Charlie Rose that the book’s author “cherry-picked information that’s been disclosed and woven a bunch of conspiracy theories about it. The facts, there’s nothing new about. The conspiracy theories we’ll get to judge when we read the book.” Katie Pavlich writes at Townhall.com, “Naturally Podesta is calling [Peter] Schweizer’s book a bunch of ‘conspiracy theories’ compiled together in one place, despite the fact he hasn’t seen or read the book yet.” (Arguably, Podesta is partially correct” there is “nothing new” about the Clintons’ involvement in shady, self-serving deals. But if the facts make it clear that Clinton likely did “sell her influence” to foreign governments, it will be incredibly difficult to avoid an investigation. She could face charges far worse than those that have been leveled against Senator Robert Menendez (R-NJ), as her actions may have directly jeopardized U.S. security. Selling out the United States for personal gain can approach the level of treason.) [74572, 74573, 74584, 74613]

White House press secretary Josh Earnest dodges questions about whether the administration gave preferential treatment to individuals or nations that made large donations to the Clinton Foundation while Hillary Clinton was Secretary of State. Earnest says, “I know there’s [sic; there have] been a lot of accusations made about this, but not a lot of evidence. [Obama] continues to be extraordinarily proud of the work that Secretary Clinton did as the Secretary of State. But for the details of some of those accusations, I’d refer you to Secretary Clinton’s campaign. I’m not going to be in a position here where

every time somebody raises a spurious claim, that I'm going to be the one sit down here and say that it's not true." [74580, 74597]

Lost in the uproar over the Clinton Foundation is the fact that the U.S. Constitution prohibited Hillary Clinton from even serving as Secretary of State while being a part of the Foundation that was accepting money from foreign governments. Article I, Section 9, states, "No Title of Nobility shall be granted by the United States: And no Person holding any Office of Profit or Trust under them, shall, without the Consent of the Congress, accept of any present, Emolument, Office, or Title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State." The point of that section was, of course, to prevent foreign governments from "buying influence." Hillary Clinton and Obama were either unfamiliar with the U.S. Constitution, or they did not care that it was being violated. [74601]

In fact, as noted previously in this *Timeline*, Hillary Clinton could not legally serve as Secretary of State even if she was not collecting cash from foreign governments. Article I, Section 6 of the U.S. Constitution states, "No Senator or Representative shall, during the Time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil Office under the Authority of the United States, which shall have been created, or the Emoluments whereof shall have been increased [increased] during such time; and no Person holding any Office under the United States, shall be a Member of either House during his Continuance in Office." While serving as a U.S. Senator from New York, Clinton voted to increase the salary of the Secretary of State. She was therefore prohibited from becoming Secretary of State. (Again, Clinton and Obama were either unfamiliar with the U.S. Constitution or did not care that it was being violated.) [74601]

NYPost.com reports, "Despite repeated claims to the contrary, [New York City] Mayor Bill de Blasio is positioning himself to be the leftist 'progressive' alternative to Wall Street-friendly Hillary Rodham Clinton as the Democratic candidate for president, a national party operative told The Post. De Blasio's hope, the operative said, is a 'Draft de Blasio' movement will develop among progressive activists over the next several months that will lead to the mayor being able to defeat Clinton in the primary elections next year in much the same way leftist Sen. George McGovern successfully challenged the initially front-running establishment Democratic candidate, Sen. Edmund Muskie, more than 40 years ago. Standing ready to back de Blasio against Clinton, said the operative, is the state's small but influential [communist] Working Families Party, which has strong ties to de Blasio and is funded by some of the nation's most powerful labor unions. Earlier this year, the New York-based WFP urged Massachusetts Senator and Wall Street-bashing 'progressive' favorite [Senator] Elizabeth Warren [D-MA] to challenge Clinton and run for president—but she has repeatedly said she won't do so." (The Republican Party would be thrilled if the far left radical de Blasio were to become the Democrat nominee—because his chances of winning would be close to zero.) [74583, 74598]

TimesofIsrael.com reports that Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and President Reuven Rivlin "have turned down invitations to meet with former US president Jimmy Carter during his upcoming visit to Israel over his 'anti-Israel' views. Both the president

and prime minister declined the invitations after consulting with the Foreign Ministry and the National Security Council. A senior diplomatic official told Channel 10, which broke the news, that Carter is ‘a disaster for Israel,’ and that all Israeli leaders should refrain from meeting the former president, due to his ‘anti-Israel positions.’ ...During Israel’s war with Hamas in Gaza last year, Carter charged that there was ‘no justification in the world for what Israel is doing.’ He also accused Netanyahu of blocking steps toward a two-state solution and working toward a ‘Greater Israel.’” (In his 2006 book, *Palestine: Peace Not Apartheid*, Carter wrote, “Israel’s continued control and colonization of Palestinian land have been the primary obstacles to a comprehensive peace agreement in the Middle East.”) [74587]

DailyCaller.com points out that although about 800,000 birds have died as a result of the BP oil spill of 2010, “A 2013 study found that 573,000 birds and 888,000 bats are killed every year by wind turbines—a figure 30 percent higher than the federal government estimated in 2009. These deaths have likely increased as wind power capacity increases across the country.” [74615]

In Kenner, Louisiana, police arrest 25-year-old illegal immigrant Hermes Rivera after he raped a 10-year-old girl. (Obama has no comment.) [74805]

On April 21 the New York Post’s cover depicts Bill and Hillary Clinton awash in money, and the headline, “QUID PRO DOUGH.” [74574, 74643]

NYTimes.com reports, “In a meeting with economists this year, Mrs. Clinton intensely studied a chart that showed income inequality in the United States. The graph charted how real wages, adjusted for inflation, had increased exponentially for the wealthiest Americans, making the bar so steep it hardly fit on the chart. Ms. Clinton pointed at the top category and said the economy required a ‘toppling’ of the wealthiest 1 percent, according to several people who were briefed on her policy discussions but could not discuss private conversations for attribution.” HotAir.com notes, “It takes a net worth of around \$8 million to join ‘the one percent.’ The Clintons’ net worth is estimated at \$55 million...” (*Red Eye’s* Andy Levy suggests—almost certainly correctly—that the story was concocted by the Clinton campaign for planting in the *Times*, to placate the Elizabeth Warren wing of the Democrat party. No reporter “sniffed out” the story; the campaign simply handed it over to serve its purposes.) [74669, 74670]

Via Twitter, Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) asks his followers to send him information they may have about money given to the Clinton Foundation that may have influenced U.S. foreign policy. [74630, 74631]

DCWhispers.com reports, “Former Maryland governor Martin O’ Malley has apparently been informed by high-ranking operatives within the Obama get-out-the-vote machine to ‘get ready’ for a challenge against presumed Democratic presidential nominee, Hillary Clinton. ...O’Malley is said to be preparing to run against her in 2016 and getting help

from Obama Machine operatives working at the direction of Valerie Jarrett. Rumors are swirling of an O'Malley announcement as early as next month. Team Hillary has been desperate to keep the former Maryland governor from moving forward with a bid for the White House, allegedly offering him a high-ranking post within a Hillary Clinton administration to dissuade him from doing so, including but not limited to, the Vice Presidency. To date, the O'Malley camp refuses to give a definitive answer as to whether he is in or out, though speculation was apparently enough to cause Bill Clinton himself to make a personal call to the former governor over the weekend demanding to know what O'Malley's intentions were. Things have become so contentious between the respective Clinton and Obama political machines that some former Obama staffers who recently joined the Hillary 2016 campaign are said to be facing accusations of spying for Valerie Jarrett. These accusations apparently originated from the very top of Team Clinton." [74914]

At Nathan Hale High School in Seattle, Washington, not one senior student shows up for class to take new statewide "Smarter Balanced" reading and math tests. The boycott is in defiance of the "Common Core" teaching curriculum that has grown increasingly unpopular across the country. BizPacReview.com writes, "Critics blamed the White House for the unpopular standards, now that Obama has made Common Core adoption a requirement for states to be eligible for federal Race to the Top grant money." [74853, 74854]

In New York City, Federal Court Judge John Koeltl rules that the Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) cannot prohibit anti-jihad ads on city buses. The MTA had tried to deny the American Freedom Defense Initiative's (AFDI) right to run the ads, claiming they would be likely to incite violence. (In the strange world of the politically-correct leftists, denouncing violence against innocent people leads to violence. The leftists claim the AFDI's Pamela Geller is "Islamophobic," when it is actually her critics who are. They are so afraid of Muslims that they dare not even criticize the small minority who are violent. It is not Islamophobic to demand that jihadists stop beheading people; it is Islamophobic to avoid criticizing *any* Muslims out of fear of being beheaded.) According to NYDailyNews.com, the ad, which mocks Muslim propaganda group ads portraying jihad as non-violent violent, features "a picture of a menacing man with his face masked in a Middle Eastern scarf next to the quote, 'Killing Jews is worship that draws us close to Allah.' The quote was attributed to ' Hamas MTV' and included the tagline, 'That's His Jihad. What's yours?'" Koeltl writes, "The defendants' theory is thoroughly unpersuasive. The defendants contend that the advertisement could be read as urging a subset of Islamic extremists to follow Hamas's command, but if that group is as violent and radicalized as the defendants contend, presumably they would not need a bus advertisement to remind them of Hamas's interpretation of the Quran." [74646, 74647, 74648, 74649, 74650, 74651, 74652, 74653, 74654]

Geller responds to the ruling, "Islamic supremacists and craven government bureaucrats are put on notice—sharia restrictions on free speech are unconstitutional and will not stand in these United States." An MTV spokesman states, "We are disappointed in the

ruling and we are reviewing our options.” Monica Klein, a spokeswoman for New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio, states, “These hateful messages serve only to divide and stigmatize when we should be coming together as one city. While those behind these ads only display their irresponsible intolerance, the rest of us who may be forced to view them can take comfort in the knowledge that we share a better, loftier and nobler view of humanity.” (To Klein, criticizing Muslims who say, “Killing Jews is worship that draws us close to Allah” is somehow “irresponsibly intolerant,” and ignoring the brutality of uncivilized savages is to “share a better, loftier, and noble view of humanity.”) [74646, 74647, 74648, 74649, 74650, 74651, 74652, 74653, 74654]

TheBlaze.com reports, “A business student from Alabama whose family came to America decades ago to build a better life abruptly abandoned her loved ones and fled to Syria to join the Islamic State last November, with the startling details of her story shocking her suburban community. Hoda Muthana, 20, of Hoover, Alabama, graduated high school in 2013 and went on to study at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, before executing an elaborate plan to secretly leave for Syria, according to BuzzFeed. ...The unsuspecting young woman was reportedly radicalized via the Internet after she left high school, abandoning her family’s moderate Islamic views for the extremist brand of the faith that is embraced by the Islamic State. Her official joining with the Islamic State came after she told her father that she would be taking a school trip to Atlanta. But rather than go to Georgia, she reportedly traveled to Syria, instead, where she connected with the terror group and married a jihadist after just one month; less than three months later, her new husband died on the battlefield, though that hasn’t dissuaded her from perpetuating the Islamic State’s mission.” In a text message to her father, Muthana allegedly wrote, “I’m not going to come back. This is the right place for me to live and I am really ready to die, to meet my God as a true Muslim.” On Twitter, she wrote, “Americans wake up! Men and women altogether. You have much to do while you live under our greatest enemy, enough of your sleeping!” “Go on drive-bys and spill all of their blood, or rent a big truck and drive all over them.” “Veterans, Patriot, Memorial etc Day parades... go on drive by’s + spill all of their blood or rent a big truck n drive all over them. Kill them.” [74655, 74656, 74657, 74658, 74659, 74660, 74811]

Some might argue that Muthana’s family is not “moderate.” Pamela Geller notes that her parents have hired Hassan Shibly to be their spokesman. “It’s hard to believe that this family opposes jihad when they have Hassan Shibly speaking for them. Shibly is the chief executive director for the Florida chapter of terror designated group CAIR and a long time supporter of Hezb’Allah. Why would they have a terror group speak on their behalf? And of course Shibly exploits the opportunity to proselytize for Islam and assure us that this is not Islamic. Regular Atlas readers are long familiar with Shibly’s jihad. If his mouth is moving, he is lying. Shibly calls Hezbollah a ‘resistance movement’ and said it provides valued social services to the Lebanese people. ‘They’re absolutely not a terrorist organization and any war against them is illegitimate.’ He has depicted America as an imperialistic nation consumed by its insatiable lust for oil; questioned the veracity of the U.S. 9-11 narrative.” Jihad Watch’s Robert Spencer asks, “Has anyone investigated and verified that her family and her mosque actually teach ‘moderate Islamic views?’ Or is everyone just taking their word for it? Why was all the moderation that she learned

from her family and at the mosque not able to withstand the appeal of the Internet radicalizers? Why don't mosques in the U.S. have any programs to teach young Muslims why they should reject this understanding of Islam?" [74655, 74656, 74657, 74658, 74659, 74660, 74811]

Patrick Poole reports at PJMedia.com, "An Ohio man indicted by a federal grand jury on terrorism support charges last week, Abdirahman Sheik Mohamud, was questioned by the FBI two days after becoming a naturalized U.S. citizen. During that questioning, he was caught lying about his identity. Several days later, Mohamud applied for a U.S. passport and was allowed to travel to Syria. There, he fought and trained with Jabhat al-Nusra—an official al-Qaeda affiliate—and then was allowed to return to the U.S. where he planned to launch terror attacks inside the U.S." Mohamud became a naturalized U.S. citizen on February 18, 2014 and submitted his passport application on February 25, 2014. On February 20, 2014 the FBI interviewed Mohamud and concluded he lied. Nevertheless, the State Department issued him a U.S. passport. He traveled to Turkey, joined terrorists in Syria, and returned to Ohio in June 2014. [74622]

Former Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi is sentenced to 20 years in prison for inciting violence and directing illegal detentions and torture. According to NYTimes.com, "The charges stemmed from a night of bloody street fighting between Mr. Morsi's supporters and opponents outside the presidential palace in December 2012. All of the defendants were members of his administration or Islamists from the Muslim Brotherhood, which supported him. The ruling illustrated the determination of the government of the current president, Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, to crush the Muslim Brotherhood, the 87-year-old Islamist movement whose candidates received the most votes in presidential and parliamentary elections in 2011 and 2012. The convictions in the case are likely to deepen the alienation of Mr. Morsi's supporters and make the chances of any reconciliation even more remote. Prosecutors had also accused Mr. Morsi of premeditated murder and had sought the death penalty, but the court acquitted him of those charges." (Morsi came to power after Obama abandoned U.S. ally Hosni Mubarak during the so-called "Arab Spring," which some claimed would usher in new, open democracies in the Middle East. Instead, the radical Muslim Brotherhood took advantage of the upheaval and took power. The Egyptian citizens, however, did not put up with Morsi for long—much to the regret of Obama.) [74608, 74609]

Dr. Mahmoud Moradkhani, a nephew of Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, posts an open letter to Obama on an Iranian web site called Khodnevis.org. Moradkhani writes, "I am presenting this open letter as one of the serious opponents of the Islamic republic of Iran on behalf of the like-minded opposition groups and myself. Because of my knowledge of this regime, especially of Ali Khamenei who is my uncle (my mother's brother), I see it as my duty to inform you about this regime and the issue of nuclear negotiations with the Islamic regime of Iran. Let me at first inform you that the regime that falsely calls itself a republic came to power in 1979 by deceiving [the] Iranian people and the world through provoking Iranian people against the regime of Mohammad Reza Pahlavi and gaining the support of the world community. The tragedy

of Cinema Rex [a 1978 theater fire terrorist attack in Abadan, Iran that killed more than 400 people], believing in Khomeini's words and then establishing a backward regime that is violent, medieval and against all international laws are all results of Iranian people and the world community being deceived. We are witnessing that not only a rich and cultured country like Iran has become a victim of this regime but also the Middle East and the whole free world. The intervention of Ali Khamenei's regime (following Khomeini's footsteps who had no other intention other than domination of Iraq) in Lebanon, Palestine, Afghanistan, Iraq, and Syria is more than obvious. As if these were not enough, he has now added the Arabian Peninsula to that list." [74621]

"In any case, this regime has done great damage to Iranians and to the international community. We can find a historical example of this kind of deception prior to the Second World War. Hitler manipulated and deceived German people and European countries and the hesitation in addressing the problem with Hitler led to a great disaster. Due to the changes in time, the domain of the disaster might become limited now but breach of human rights is the same, regardless of the number of people who become victimized in the process. Although the goal of recent negotiations with this regime is to prevent its military nuclear capability, we know that it has used all in its power to buy time and conceal its true intentions. Ali Khamenei and his collaborators know very well that they will never become a nuclear power. They certainly do not have the national interest of Iranian in their mind; they just use the nuclear issue to bully the countries in the region and export their revolution and middle-aged culture to other countries. Obviously, you and European countries do not give the Islamic regime any concession unless you are certain that they comply with the agreement. The Islamic regime of Iran will certainly prolong the verification period the same way that they have delayed and prolonged the nuclear talks. It is in this period that the wounded regime will retaliate with its destructive policies." [74621]

"The countless breaches of human rights violations, spreading of Islamic fundamentalism, intervention and creating crisis in the Middle East are all unacceptable and contrary to democratic and humane beliefs of yours and ours. While we can, with some measure of decisiveness and courage, uproot the wicked tree of the Islamic regime of Iran, just settling for cutting its branches is nothing more than avoiding responsibility. It is clear that the eradication of the Islamic regime of Iran is the responsibility and mission of Iranian people and specially the opposition abroad; however, by putting obstacles in front of Iranian people and the Iranian opposition abroad one prevents them from doing their task. The Islamic regime of Iran, based on their deceptive nature have sent their mercenaries abroad and even managed to recruit and manipulate some American-Iranians. Individuals who out of self-interest are lobbying for the Islamic regime of Iran and hiding its true nature and giving a false picture of its intentions; in the same manner that while Khomeini was in France, the so-called Iranian intellectuals did not let people of Iran and the world, realize the true meaning 'the Islamic republic.' Those so-called intellectuals polished the remarks of Khomeini and converted them to positive, popular, strong and victorious ones." [74621]

“We see that unfortunately in your country and your state media (the Persian section of Voice of America) and especially in UK (the Persian section of BBC) the remarks of the opposition of Islamic regime of Iran are being censored and instead the indecent habit of analyzing and relaying statements of the Islamic regime of Iran have become a norm. I have a deep understanding and insight of the habits, morals and true intentions of this regime and I find it necessary to let you and the world know that the true evil of the Islamic regime of Iran is far more damaging and dangerous to be resolved by just signing an agreement. People who have always lied, deceived and believe in Taqiya [or taqiyya, the practice of lying in order to further the cause of Islam], people whose main goal is supremacy and domination over others can never be trusted. Instead they should be confronted with the very basic principles that have led to their criminality and:

To put an end on breaching of human rights violations; in other words, an end to Qisas [retaliation in kind; ‘an eye for an eye’], random executions, discrimination, suppression of dissent, media repression, religious and ideological hegemony.

Devolving power to the people and the abolition of restrictive laws, such as mandatory supervision in elections.

Giving freedom to religious minorities and repealing laws limiting the choice of thought and religion.

Non-interfere policy toward governments of countries such as Afghanistan, Iraq, Lebanon, Syria and Yemen.

Cancelling the assassination orders of dissidents in the world that have resulted in the killing of journalists, writers and even cartoonists.

I believe that any agreement or concession that is not associated with these basic conditions in reality will only be assisting this regime in achieving its indecent goals.

The possible disaster following this kind of hesitation will be similar to the historical mistake made prior to the Second World War.” [74621]

“Ali Khamenei will not be satisfied with the little that he has today and surely, and in all secrecy, at the first possible moment will attempt to bully and dominate. Removing the crippling sanctions without fundamental changes in this regime will not be in Iran’s interest and will only facilitates the Islamic regime of Iran in reaching its objectives. [The] United States of America and Europe should not jeopardize their long-term interests due to short-term ones. There are powerful and pro-active forces in the Iranian opposition and if the censorship of the media that are supporting the Islamic regime of Iran were to be removed, the opposition can easily organize and assist the powerful civil disobedience of Iranian people. Iranian people want peace and freedom; without this

regime not only can they ensure the resurrection of a civilized country but also a peaceful region. Yours respectfully, Dr. Mahmoud Moradkhani” [74621]

The Associated Press reports, “A new United Nations report says the Islamic State group has more than 225,000 Syrians under siege in a single city. The latest monthly report by Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon says the last time the U.N. was able to reach the besieged western neighborhoods of Deir ez Zor was in May 2014. The report says the only U.N. aid that made it in last month, via the world body’s humanitarian partners, was 140 sheep. The report obtained by The Associated Press says access to food is a serious concern. The U.N. has been unable to deliver food and water treatment supplies for months to areas under the Islamic State group’s control, including the provincial capital of Raqqa. The World Food Program again in March was unable to reach 700,000 affected people.” [74715]

Senate Democrats cave in on their demand that the anti-human trafficking bill not prohibit funding of abortions. (The concession by the Democrats means that the Senate will likely soon vote on the confirmation of Loretta Lynch to replace Attorney General Eric Holder.) [74566, 74571, 74594, 74595]

At USA Today.com former Clinton-Gore campaign advisor Kirsten Powers notes that Obama “was mute on the killings” of Christians who were thrown overboard by Muslims on a boat fleeing from Libya to Italy. “He failed to interject any sense of outrage or even tepid concern for the targeting of Christians for their faith. If a Christian mob on a ship bound for Italy threw 12 Muslims to their death for praying to Allah, does anyone think [Obama] would have been so disinterested? When three North Carolina Muslims were gunned down by a virulent atheist, Obama rightly spoke out against the horrifying killings. But he just can't seem to find any passion for the mass persecution of Middle Eastern Christians or the eradication of Christianity from its birthplace. Religious persecution of Christians is rampant worldwide, ...but nowhere is it more prevalent than in the Middle East and Northern Africa, where followers of Jesus are the targets of religious cleansing. Pope Francis has repeatedly decried the persecution and begged the world for help, but it has had little impact. Western leaders—including Obama—will be remembered for their near silence as this human rights tragedy unfolded. [Obama’s] mumblings about the atrocities visited upon Christians (usually extracted after public outcry over his silence) are few and far between. And it will be hard to forget his lecturing of Christians at the National Prayer Breakfast about the centuries-old Crusades while Middle Eastern Christians were at that moment being harassed, driven from their homes, tortured and murdered for their faith.” [74575, 74648, 74642]

Meanwhile, according to Washington Examiner.com, “More than 50 organizations, scholars, religious leaders and human rights advocates, along with 43 members of Congress, called on Obama... to fill the vacant post of special envoy for religious minorities in the Middle East and South Central Asia, which has stood vacant since it was created.” (The still-unfilled position was created by Congress in the summer of 2014.) [74581]

Entertainer Bill Nye (the “science guy”) tweets, “Heading down to DC to catch an Earth Day flight on Air Force One tomorrow with [Obama]. We’re going to Act On Climate.” (Nye will fly to Washington, D.C., and then fly with Obama on Air Force One to visit the Florida Everglades—to lecture Americans about “global warming.” Nye does not bother calculating the “carbon footprint” of the trip, but wants everyone else to worry about theirs. It is worth noting that envirosocialism spokesman Nye is not a climatologist or weather expert. He was a mechanical engineer for Boeing who worked on the 747.) Townhall.com’s Katie Pavlich notes that Ira Einhorn, the founder of Earth Day, “killed and composted his girlfriend.” [74464, 74465, 74466, 74467, 74530, 74610, 74661, 74662, 74673, 74708, 74709, 74718]

Attorney General Eric Holder announces that Drug Enforcement Agency Michelle Leonhart will retire in mid-May. (Leonhart was excoriated by the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee for claiming she could not fire DEA agents involved in a drug cartel prostitution scandal because of federal regulations and civil service rules.) [74196, 74197, 74217, 74408, 74612]

White House press secretary John Earnest is pressed by ABC’s Jonathan Karl on a Hillary Clinton comment that small business creation has “stalled out.” Earnest replies, “I didn’t see the entirety of her remarks, but I can tell you that [Obama] certainly believes there is more that we can do here in Washington to put in place policies that will further strengthen job creation in our economy...” Karl asks again: “But do you agree with Hillary Clinton that under ...Obama small business creation has ‘stalled out’ in the United States?” Earnest: “I’m not sure that’s a direct quote. I suspect that it’s not.” Karl: “She used the phrase ‘stalled out.’ She said small business creation has ‘stalled out.’ Do you agree that it has stalled out?” Earnest: “...[Obama] himself has said many times that there are additional important steps that can be taken by Washington, D.C., where members of Congress no longer serve as impediment to forward economic momentum, but actually they can support it.” Karl: “That’s not my question, though, I just asked: do you agree that small business creation has stalled out in the United States?” Earnest: “Again, I didn’t see the entirety of her remarks.” Karl: “Forget what she said. Has small business creation stalled out in the United States?” Earnest: “Well, we’ll take a look at the statistics.” [74625, 74643, 74674]

DCWhispers.com later reports, “The latest dispute between the Clinton and Obama camps is said to have originated via an awkward back and forth between ABC’s Jonathan Karl and Obama White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest. That back and forth was the direct result of recent comments Hillary Clinton made [small business creation has ‘stalled out’] that placed the Obama economy under a rather poor light, particular in regards to its negative impact upon American small business. To say Valerie Jarrett was less than pleased would be a considerable understatement. Word of the less than stellar press conference reached Jarrett while she was travelling with [Obama]. Apparently she immediately demanded to speak to Hillary Clinton but was informed by a Clinton staffer that Mrs. Clinton was unavailable at that time. Jarrett is said to have made a second call

shortly after and was told the same thing—Mrs. Clinton was not available to speak with her. This left the staffer to receive the full brunt of de facto President Jarrett’s considerable fury. Specific threats were said to have been made, but if so, details of what those threats involved were not disclosed.” (The Clinton-Obama tensions may lead to some interesting actions. The vindictive Obama and Jarrett are quite willing to leak information that will discredit the Clintons. Hillary Clinton has to distance herself from Obama to appeal to voters who have been disappointed by his policies, but doing so will only further anger Obama and Jarrett. Clinton will have to walk a fine line. Of course, she can also leak information that will discredit Obama. If she does, an all-out political war may take place.) [74704]

DailyCaller.com reports, “Documents obtained by The Daily Caller and interviews with American veterans reveal a shocking government program: The Department of Veterans Affairs is disarming America’s veterans by getting them placed on the FBI’s criminal background-check list. The VA sends veterans’ personal medical and financial information directly to the FBI and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, which can seize their guns in home raids. Veterans deemed mentally incompetent or financially incapable are finally speaking out about the errors in the system and the fearful harassment they and their families face from the federal government. And it all starts when vets go to the VA to get medical help.” [74619]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, “The illegal immigrant [Jesus Rangel-Hernandez] accused of killing a former ‘America’s Next Top Model’ contestant [Mirjana Puhar] and three others in a drug-fueled spree was a known gang member with drug arrests on his record at the time he was approved for ...Obama’s amnesty for Dreamers, a top lawmaker [Senator Charles Grassley (R-IA)] revealed Tuesday. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services now acknowledges that it bungled the case two years ago when it approved the man for amnesty. The agency said it has revoked his status—a month after he was arrested and charged with murder in connection with four deaths in North Carolina.” (*Known* gang member Rangel-Hernandez was arrested for possession of marijuana in 2012 and “in removal proceedings as an alien present in the United States” when he applied for Obama’s Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. His request was approved in August 2013. In February 2015 he allegedly murdered Puhar and three others.) [74628, 74681, 74682, 74733]

California Democrats unveil 10 bills to make life easier for illegal immigrants. One would create an “Office of New Americans.” Another would make it illegal for businesses to discriminate against residents on the basis of their immigration status. At TheDailyBeast.com Reuben Navarrette, Jr. writes, “That last one is a beauty. If it extends to hiring, it flies in the face of federal law, namely the 1986 Immigration Reform and Control Act that made it a federal crime to knowingly hire an illegal immigrant. Now California wants to make it a state crime to not hire one? Employers can now pick their poison: They can violate one law or the other.” [74772]

TheBlaze.com reports that Congressman Duncan Hunter (R-CA) has introduced legislation “that he said would require a ‘true’ government report on unemployment. His bill would make the Bureau of Labor Statistics report an unemployment rate that factors in people who have given up looking for work entirely because of the bad job situation, or for other reasons. That change would have a dramatic impact on how people perceive unemployment. For example, the official nationwide unemployment rate was 5.5 percent in March. But if the reported number included discouraged workers and others who give up looking for a job for other reasons, the rate would jump to 6.7 percent.” (The true unemployment rate is actually much higher than 6.7 percent, of course. Millions of Americans are on welfare, and they are also not working—yet they are not counted in the unemployment figures. It is ridiculous to count as unemployed only those able-bodied Americans who are actively seeking employment. That people on welfare may not bother to look for work does not mean they are not unemployed.) [74634]

On *Hardball*, Obama tells MSNBC’s Chris Matthews he has been “yanking this economy out of the worst recession since the Great Depression.” On the issue of Russia’s sale of its advanced S-300 defense system to Iran, Obama says, “Even if they’ve got some air defense systems, if we had to, we could penetrate them.” (The issue is not whether the United States military can penetrate S-300 airspace; the issue is whether the Israeli military could. Obama knows it cannot—because he shut down production of the advanced F-22 fighter jet so that Israel could not buy any.) On Yemen, Obama naively states, “What we need to do is bring all the parties together and find a political arrangement. It is not solved by having another proxy war in Yemen. We’ve indicated to the Iranians that they need to be part of the solution, and not part of the problem.” Of the Trans Pacific Partnership trade deal, Obama says, “I love [Senator] Elizabeth [Warren (D-MA)]. We’re allies on a whole host of issues. But she’s wrong on this. I would not be doing this trade deal if I did not think it was good for the middle class. And when you hear folks make a lot of suggestions about how bad this trade deal is, when you dig into the facts they are wrong.” [74611, 74731, 74732]

The next day Warren responds: “The Administration says I’m wrong—that there’s nothing to worry about. They say the deal is nearly done, and they are making a lot of promises about how the deal will affect workers, the environment, and human rights. Promises—but people like you can’t see the actual deal. For more than two years now, giant corporations have had an enormous amount of access to see the parts of the deal that might affect them and to give their views as negotiations progressed. But the doors stayed locked for the regular people whose jobs are on the line. If most of the trade deal is good for the American economy, but there’s a provision hidden in the fine print that could help multinational corporations ship American jobs overseas or allow for watering down of environmental or labor rules, fast track would mean that Congress couldn’t write an amendment to fix it. It’s all or nothing. Before we sign on to rush through a deal like that—no amendments, no delays, no ability to block a bad bill—the American people should get to see what’s in it.” [74732]

The Clinton campaign distributes a “talking points memo” advising staffers on how to react to the book, *Clinton Cash: The Untold Story of How and Why Foreign Governments and Businesses Helped Make Bill and Hillary Rich*. Not surprisingly, the memo whines about the Koch brothers, Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX), Senator Rand Paul (R-KY), “false, right-wing attacks,” “partisan-fueled fiction,” and “absurd conspiracy theories.” [74632]

On Hugh Hewitt’s radio program, former Bush administration press secretary Dana Perino says of Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV), “He’s an absolutely poisonous figure in Washington, D.C., he’s been a disaster for the country. I think a lot of the dysfunction in Washington can be traced directly to his doorstep.” Perino says Reid’s upcoming retirement is “very good for this country, for the world, and especially for the Democrats. I’ve never seen anything so abhorrent in my entire life as Harry Reid.” (Perino has a well-deserved reputation for being one of the nicest people in politics. For her to excoriate Reid in such terms is a clear indication that he is, in fact, a terrible person.) [74633, 74719, 74729]

April 22 Obama visits the Florida Everglades to make an “Earth Day” statement. (Obama does not mention that Air Force One consumes five gallons of fossil fuel per minute. According to CBS News’ Mark Knoller, Obama’s Everglades trip will use more than 9,000 gallons of fuel—enough for a 25-mpg automobile to circle the earth more than nine times.) [74636, 74663, 74664, 74743, 74901]

Obama’s Earth Day remarks are initially canceled because of weather, and then “un-canceled.” The audience for Obama’s speech is not particularly large. (Jon Gabriel tweets, “Bad news for Earth Day: Al Gore saw his shadow, so we’ll have six more years of environmental hysteria.”) [74637, 74665, 74666, 74667, 74668]

At the White House, Michelle Obama celebrates “Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day.” Asked to describe her childhood, she says, “When I was a kid? You know, I had a normal childhood. I grew up in Chicago. ...I was kind of a tomboy when I was little, because I had a big brother and I used to box with him. My father used to box, so he bought us both boxing gloves. My brother had big ones, I had little ones. And I used to beat up my brother and my cousins. I loved baseball and softball. And like special times were we’d go to the drive-in and we’d be able to eat in the car—simple things. Like [sic], we played outside until it got dark, and we liked to play ‘tag’ and ‘it’ and ‘chase.’ And I always worked hard in school. School was always important. So I always wanted to do my best in school, so I made sure that I got good grades and I did my homework, because I was listening to my parents because I knew that would make them proud. But otherwise, I was just a regular little girl.” [74737, 74738]

Asked how long she and her husband have been married, Michelle Obama seems not to know the answer. She says, “Uh, 20-something years,” looks to her aides, and asks, “Wait, somebody, you guys know the date. When was it? It’s been over a decade. It’s been a while.” Asked which baseball team is the favorite of her daughters, Mrs. Obama replies that they do not watch baseball because “they’re girls.” [74809, 74810]

According to a Fox News poll conducted by Anderson Robbins Research (D)/Shaw & Company Research (R), Obama's approval/disapproval ratings are 42/53 percent (with 5 percent "don't know"). On the economy: 45/52; health care: 43/55; terrorism: 40/53; Iran: 32/57. [74774, 74775, 74776]

Katie Pavlich writes at Townhall.com, "Two weeks ago IRS Commissioner John Koskinen admitted the agency ignored 60 percent of taxpayer phone calls, even during tax season, due to a lack of resources. He begged Congress for more money, money that of course comes from the paychecks of hard working Americans. ... But according to a new report from the House Ways and Means Committee, the IRS isn't lacking the resources to answer taxpayer phone calls, but instead prioritized resources to pay out big bonuses to employees and to fund union events instead. 'During the 2015 tax-filing season, the IRS provided what its own Commissioner described as 'abysmal' customer service, blaming skyrocketing wait times for telephone and in-person assistance on agency budget cuts. The IRS even called budget cuts 'a tax cut for tax cheats,' the report states. 'But a close review of the agency's spending shows the IRS deliberately cut \$134 million in funding for customer service to pay for other activities. Spending decisions entirely under the IRS's control led to 16 million fewer taxpayers receiving IRS assistance this filling season. Other spending choices, including prioritizing employee bonuses and union activity on the taxpayer's dime, used up resources that otherwise could have been used to assist another 10 million taxpayers.'" "Meanwhile," notes Pavlich, "federal government employees, which includes those working at the IRS, owe at least \$3.3 billion in back taxes. 'These findings are deeply troubling,' Ways and Means Chairman Paul Ryan said in a statement. 'At all times, but especially during tax season, the IRS should put the taxpayer first. But instead, the agency cut funding for the very customer service that taxpayers rely on. The IRS has a lot to answer for, and the Ways and Means Committee is going to hold it accountable.'" [74675]

NationalReview.com reports that MSNBC's Toure Neblett, Melissa Harris Perry, Joy-Ann Reid, and Al Sharpton are all tax scofflaws: "In September 2013, New York issued a state tax warrant to Neblett and his wife, Rita Nakouzi, for \$46,862.68. Six months later, the state issued an additional warrant to the couple for \$12,849.87. In January 2014, Neblett tweeted, 'Regressive taxation & tax-avoidance & union crushing & the financial corruption of legislation has fueled inequality more than hard work.' In 2012, he also criticized Republican politicians, saying they were 'all afraid to vote for a modest tax increase of people who can totally afford it.'" Harris Perry, who has said, "We actually do better as a country when we spread the wealth around," owes about \$70,000 in delinquent taxes. Reid is a small change delinquent, owing only about \$5,000, while Sharpton and his enterprises owe as much as \$4.5 million." (Comedian Dennis Miller tweets, "There are only two things certain in life (at MSNBC) ... death and not paying taxes.") [74638, 74639, 74701, 74721]

The Associated Press reports that Obama "will once again stop short of calling the 1915 massacre of Armenians a genocide, prompting anger and disappointment from those who

have been pushing him to fulfill a campaign promise and use the politically fraught term on the 100th anniversary of the killings this week. Officials decided against it after opposition from some at the State Department and the Pentagon. After more than a week of internal debate, top administration officials discussed the final decision with Armenian-American leaders Tuesday before making it public. ...As a candidate in January 2008, Obama pledged to recognize the genocide and at least one of his campaign surrogates—the current U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Samantha Power—recorded a nearly five-minute video at the time imploring Armenian-Americans to vote for Obama precisely because he would keep his word on the issue. But Obama has never used that description since taking office, mainly out of deference to Turkey, a key U.S. partner and NATO ally, which is fiercely opposed to the ‘genocide’ label.” In the February 2008 video, Power said, “I know [Obama] very well and he’s a person of incredible integrity, and he’s not going to focus-group his way to making very important policy decisions. He’s a true friend of the Armenian people, an acknowledger of the history.” (Whether Power was gullible enough to believe Obama’s pledge, or was also lying, is not known.) [74624, 74640, 74641, 74712, 74723, 74736, 74813]

Of course, Obama has made many promises he failed to keep. He also promised during the 2008 campaign, “I will make ending the genocide in Darfur a priority from day one.” He never came close to addressing that issue—beyond meeting with actor George Clooney—let alone ending the killing. Although Obama lacks the integrity to use the word genocide to describe the Armenian genocide, at a 2003 dinner in honor of his Palestine Liberation Organization pal Rashid Khalidi, Obama allegedly said, “Israel has no God-given right to occupy Palestine,” and there has been “genocide against the Palestinian people by Israelis.” In 2006 then-Senator Obama wrote to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice to complain that the Bush administration was not describing the 1915 killing of 1.5 million Armenians by Turkish Muslims as genocide. He stated, “When State Department instructions are such that an ambassador must engage in restrained reasoning—or even an outright falsehood—that defies a common sense interpretation of events in order to follow orders, then it is time to revisit the State Department’s policy guidance on that issue.” (Of course, that was in 2006—when Obama knew he would run for president and wanted to please Armenian-American voters, who outnumber Turkish-American voters. After he entered the Oval Office, Obama ignored his previous statements and promises because his personal ideology was more sympathetic to Turkish Muslims. Obama will never make any statement about the Armenian genocide that might upset his Muslim friend, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.) [384, 387, 395, 418, 419, 438, 439, 440, 1377, 1680, 74624, 74640, 74641, 74712, 74723, 74736, 74813]

FreeBeacon.com reports, “An anti-Israel activist who served as an expert witness on behalf of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) in a recent terrorism trial was hosted for a meeting with senior White House officials, according to visitor logs released by the Obama administration and media reports. Michael Sfar, an anti-Israel activist who has reportedly been paid by the PLO to serve as an expert witness in terrorism trials against it, met in December 2014 with a senior White House National Security Council (NSC) member for a meeting about the Middle East, according to the logs and reports. Sfar, a lawyer, serves as the legal council for the left-wing Israeli group Yesh Din,

which advocates lawfare, or the practice of trying Israeli officials for so-called war crimes when they travel abroad. Critics have dubbed the lawfare movement anti-Israel in nature. Sfar is the latest in a string of officials and voices openly hostile to the Israeli government, including pro-Iranian ones, who have recently been hosted at the White House.” [74626]

RightWingNews.com news notes, “Earlier this month, Gehad el-Haddad, a senior adviser and media spokesman for the Muslim Brotherhood was sentenced to life in prison in Egypt. The son of Morsi’s former foreign affairs adviser Essam el-Haddad, he was the main English-language spokesman for the Muslim Brotherhood. He is also a former employee of the Clinton Foundation. ...In 2012, Gehad El Haddad divided his time between volunteering for the Muslim Brotherhood and heading the Cairo office of the Clinton Climate Initiative, but later that year began to work full time for the Muslim Brotherhood. Both Gehad El-Haddad and his father, Essam el-Haddad, were the closest advisors to Mohammad Morsi. As Liberty News Online says, ‘One thing is clear: Essam and Gehad aren’t just close family members; they were close collaborators. Essam had another partner in crime as well. His name is Ayman Ali. Via El-Fagr (translated): Essam Haddad and Ayman Ali worked as former advisers to the president, Mohamed Morsi, and are in a high-security prison (Al-Aqrab) in Egypt. Both are charged with major espionage with foreign countries.’ ‘As for its record in funding terrorism, the el-Haddad family has the equivalent of a terrorist rap sheet, via Estkal (translated): ‘Al-Haddad family worked with the International Islamic Relief Organizations (IIRO).’ In August 2006, the Treasury Department also designated the Philippines and Indonesian branch offices of the IIRO as terrorist entities ‘for facilitating fundraising for al-Qaida and affiliated terrorist groups.’” [74751]

DailyCaller.com reports, “General Electric (GE) CEO Jeffrey Immelt said Wednesday that he will not release the emails that GE exchanged with Hillary Clinton’s State Department during the period in which GE was donating to the Clinton Foundation. ‘Again, I think that’s not something we would do. Right?’ Immelt said at GE’s shareholder meeting in Oklahoma City, OK in response to a question from Justin Danhof of the National Center For Public Policy Research, who pressed the CEO to release written communications with the State Department. Secretary of State Clinton lobbied the Algerian president in 2012 to pick GE as a contractor for Algerian power plants. GE got the Algeria deal and quickly thereafter donated to the Clinton Foundation. Clinton also lobbied on behalf of Clinton Foundation donors including Boeing and Chevron.” (The deal violated an agreement between Clinton and the Obama administration that the Clinton Foundation would not accept donations from foreign governments while she served as Secretary of State.) [74706, 74707]

Author Ann Coulter writes, “I gather from the increasing hysteria of the feminists that Democrats are beginning to rebel at having a loser of a presidential candidate being foisted upon them, in the person of Hillary Clinton. ...[T]o satiate the feminists, the Democrats seem to be stuck with Hillary as their presidential nominee. No one really likes Hillary. Ask Bill. Like Toni Morrison novels, most people just pretend to like Hillary just so

liberals will leave them alone. She's a bore. She has the warmth of an Arctic ice floe. She hates people, and they hate her. She makes children cry and puppies shy away from her. Nobody wants to watch her wallow around in those neon pantsuits for the next five years. But no Democrat dares state the obvious. Although her base of support is infinitesimally shallow, it is quite shrill. Feminists on TV are shocked that people are allowed to criticize Hillary in a way they were not allowed to criticize the angel Obama. Park Avenue matrons with their own fancy degrees from places like Smith and Wellesley rave about how smart Hillary is as a way of calling themselves smart. All Democrats are required to pretend that Hillary is the most amazing, brilliant, accomplished woman who's ever lived—or be found guilty of a crime against feminism." [74716]

"Hillary's main claim to fame is that she was married to the horny hick, and then stood by him when he was impeached for the most embarrassing sex scandal in history. By feminist logic, that meant Hillary was owed the presidency. Quid pro 'ho. ...Hillary's long list of accomplishments consists of: (1) being cheated on as first lady; (2) being handed a Senate seat from a heavily Democratic state, where she accomplished nothing legislatively (other than her vote for the Iraq War, which I think was terrific!); and (3) being appointed secretary of state, whereupon she participated in one foreign policy disaster after another. ...Democrats have built their party as the Church of You May Not Insult Obama, and look at what they've wrought: 80 fewer Democrats in Congress; a string of foreign policy disasters to their name; and a base of competing angry constituencies. Without another black magician, that's not a winning combo platter. Instead, they have a chubby gal in a Star Trek smock." [74716]

The Senate Finance Committee votes to give Obama "fast track" trade promotion authority, in an effort to seal the deal on a Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade pact over the next several months. (Hillary Clinton has supported the TPP in the past, while Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) and many on the far left do not. On Special Report, Charles Krauthammer points out that "there are winners and losers" with trade deals. "There is a net benefit, but there are losers and the losers are Democrats, the losers are unions. They are identifiable and they speak out. I think what Hillary is going to do—even though she knows is the right thing to do and this is going to be a really good deal, she will not oppose it in principle. she'll say, well if it's worked out, I haven't seen the details. She'll delay until it's published, until it can be read. Then, I think, she will oppose it by saying, well, it's just the way it's written. There are things inside of it. If I become president, I'll try to improve it, and I think she'll get herself on the correct side for her own left and as a way to prevent Elizabeth Warren—I could see her getting so upset about this and making it her big issue that it could provoke her entry into the race. And as Steve [Hayes] said, the one thing she wants to do, Hillary, is to keep Warren out of the race because she's the only one that [sic; who] can challenge her." [74720, 74730, 74798]

Former Maryland governor Martin O'Malley, a Democrat, opposes the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade pact, and may very well enter the presidential race. HotAir.com reports, "Former Miami Mayor Manny Diaz, a former Clinton supporter and a donor to her 2008 presidential campaign, announced on Wednesday that he will back O'Malley in 2016 and

host a fundraiser for his political action committee.” Diaz says, “He’s not running yet, but I’ll tell you, if he does run, I will endorse him.” Asked if she will support Hillary Clinton, New Hampshire Governor Maggie Hassan, says, “I look forward to a very vibrant New Hampshire primary season. ...I’m not making any decisions about 2016 until after the [state] budget is done.” [74730]

The Senate votes 99-0 to approve the anti-human trafficking bill that Democrats had held up because it contained the usual “Hyde Amendment” language prohibiting federal funding of abortions. [74717]

BirtherReport.com reveals more information related to Loretta Fuddy, the former Director of the Hawaii Department of Health who was the only fatality in a mysterious plane crash of the coast of Molokai. Linda Jordan writes, “Now a wrongful death lawsuit, filed by Fuddy’s brother, has lawyers suggesting that someone may have tampered with the engine. The day of the plane crash, December 11, 2013, there were nine people on board. Clyde Kawasaki was the pilot. Kawasaki and several passengers have said that shortly after take off they heard a loud metallic thud or bang and the engine lost power. Kawasaki successfully glided the aircraft to an ocean landing a few hundred yards offshore. Fuddy, who had recently been named in a Grand Jury request to investigate her role, in any, in the production of Obama’s forged birth certificate, made it out of the plane and in to a life jacket. For the first twenty five minutes the group stayed together and all accounts say that Fuddy was fine and in no distress. At that point she drifted off with her Deputy Director Keith Yamamoto and, around eighteen minutes later, she was dead. Fuddy was the only fatality. The last person to see her alive and the only person to have witnessed her death, Yamamoto, was never interviewed by the Maui Police Department. Coast Guard rescue swimmers found Fuddy alone, floating in her life jacket around 200 yards from the nearest survivor, a woman.” [52380, 52381, 52399, 52400, 52404, 52414, 52415, 52422, 52464, 52465, 52469, 52471, 52478, 52493, 52527, 52723, 52760, 52772, 52812, 53394, 53396, 74755, 75756, 74757, 74758, 74759]

“...On June 9, 2014,” continues Jordan, “Lewis Fuddy filed a wrongful death lawsuit against Pratt & Whitney Canada, (P&WC) the maker of the engine in the Cessna Caravan that Fuddy was a passenger in and against Makani Kai Air who operated the commuter aircraft. The lawsuit specifically charged P&WC with manufacturing a faulty engine which, in turn forced the ocean ditching which, in turn, caused his sister’s death.” Pratt & Whitney Canada “asserts that if any product at issue was designed, manufactured and/or sold by P&WC, any damages allegedly resulting from such product were proximately caused by the unforeseeable misuse of, improper maintenance/inspection of, alteration of or tampering with such product by parties over which P&WC had no control.” Jordan observes, “Suggesting foul play in this kind of small plane accident is not standard boiler plate language. P&WC raised this notion five months after the engine had been recovered and thoroughly [sic; thoroughly] inspected by the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), P&WC and other investigators. ...The lawyers knew what the findings of the engine investigation were when they included the possibility of tampering in their reply brief. If the inspection had shown no indication of engine ‘tampering,’ if the experts had

been able to rule out foul play, I don't think P&WC lawyers would have brought it up.” [74755, 75756, 74757, 74758, 74759]

The small airline company, Makani Kai, “says that they don't have enough ‘sufficient knowledge’ to confirm that Kawasaki was an employee or authorized agent of Makani Kai when he was flying the plane. They would only confirm that he was indeed the pilot that day.” Jordan asks, “How could Makani Kai not know if Kawasaki was an employee or authorized agent of theirs!? Can anyone just walk in and fly their planes? Makani Kai is on the record as saying that Kawasaki had been flying for them for about a year. So why refuse to acknowledge that Kawasaki was working for them when he piloted the ill-fated flight? After reading this I researched employee rosters for Makani Kai and could not find any with Kawasaki's name on it. Also, on the FAA report the hire date, indicating when Clyde Kawasaki started to work for Makani Kai, is left blank.” [74755, 75756, 74757, 74758, 74759]

Although the NTSB report states “the engine compressor turbine blades were somewhat melted by the intense fire,” Jordan writes, “I have interviewed one of the passengers in depth and they confirm that before the engine failure, during the failure, after the ocean ditching, and until the plane sank (twenty five minutes after landing) there was no visible smoke, there were no visible flames and there was not even the smell of smoke.” In addition, “A review of news accounts and the public record from the Maui Police Department, Maui Fire Department, and the United States Coast Guard have Loretta Fuddy dying three different ways, from severe internal injuries to drowning and finally cardiac arrhythmia, and in four different places, in the fuselage, in the wreckage, in the waters off of Molokai and on the island of Molokai. That alone calls for some kind of reckoning. On December 13, 2013, after performing an autopsy on Fuddy, the Medical Examiner, Dr. Lindsey Harle, made a preliminary finding that Fuddy had drowned. The fact that she was wearing a life jacket and that eye witnesses say that Fuddy was in no distress for at least the first twenty-five minutes in the water, was not enough to overcome this preliminary finding. That means the physical evidence of drowning, that Harle found during the autopsy, was so strong it outweighed eye witness testimony.” The cause of death was later changed to “acute cardiac arrhythmia due to hyperventilation.” [74755, 75756, 74757, 74758, 74759]

ThePostEmail.com editor Sharon Rondeau has noted the conflicting news reports. One report claimed that passenger Keith Yamamoto helped Fuddy put on her life jacket while they were in the water and she then let go of his hand; another quotes Honolulu Fire Captain Terry Seelig as saying that Fuddy “remained in the fuselage of the plane” and “It's always a difficult situation when you're not able to get everybody out;” and still another report claimed Fuddy's body had been recovered from the wreckage. According to ABCNews.com, “the aircraft glided toward the ocean and made a remarkably smooth belly landing,” and the pilot “expertly maneuvered the plane after the engine failed, avoiding what could have been a catastrophic impact on the water.” (ABC did not explain how Fuddy could have died under such circumstances.) [52493, 52538, 52555, 52772, 52812, 53394, 53396]

Fuddy's co-worker and fellow passenger, Keith Yamamoto, "the last person to see Fuddy alive and the only person to witness her death, was never interviewed by the Maui Police Department." According to documents filed with the Hawaii Ethics Commission, Jordan notes that in February 2014 Yamamoto "reported changes reflecting investments valued at \$461,000 to \$1,035,000. Several companies Yamamoto had investments with were in Chicago. One of them is called Ariel Investments. The CEO of Ariel is John Rogers who is tight with Barack Obama. He was co-chair of Obama's Presidential inaugural committee in 2009. From 2010 to 2013 he was Chair of the Presidential Advisory Council on Financial Capability for Young Americans. Between August 2012 and February 2014 Yamamoto's salary went from the \$50,000 but less than a \$100,000 category to the \$100,000 but less than \$150,000 category. Yamamoto's investments are most likely legitimate and a possible influx of money could have come from selling his business, Keith's Cookies, prior to February 2012. But it always peaks my interest when I find Chicago and Obama connections in strange places." In addition, it has been reported that Fuddy's financial reports show significant income and asset disparities between 2011 and 2012, when her liabilities decreased by between \$50,000 and \$75,000. [53444, 55907, 58530, 74755, 75756, 74757, 74758, 74759]

As long-time *Timeline* readers know, Loretta Fuddy, a social worker, was given her position by then-Governor Neil Abercrombie after he unexpectedly removed Dr. Neal A. Palafox from the position. Abercrombie had made Palafox the director on December 18, 2010. On December 27, 2010, Abercrombie announced he would resolve the 'birther' issue. On January 20, 2011 Abercrombie announced he could not find the birth certificate but that information "actually exists in the archives, written down." On January 26, 2011 Abercrombie replaced Palafox with Fuddy. On April 25, 2011 Fuddy, having apparently "found" the document Abercrombie could not locate, allegedly released it to Obama attorney Judith L. Corley. Fuddy ignored numerous subpoenas related to numerous lawsuits that have questioned Obama's eligibility to serve as president. [20083, 20179, 20180, 20181, 20182, 20272, 22089, 22090, 22148, 22182, 22209, 22547, 22583, 22615, 22809, 22880, 22918, 22930]

In May 2011 the author of "Obama's Garden" explained why she terminated her blog. Shortly after emailing Fuddy about Obama's forged birth certificate, the blogger received—from someone she did not know—an email with an IP address that traced back to an Atlanta, Georgia organization called the "Center for Progressive Training." The blogger wrote, "On the surface, the email I received was friendly enough—wishing me a happy belated birthday and mentioning my preschooler by first name. *PAUSE* Yes, my very sweet, very young child's first name was staring back at me in an email from an unknown thug. Understand that in the two years I've investigated the Obama birth certificate controversy, I have never received an email that I could say with certainty was meant to terrify me. I have had some emails that scared me because they referred to violence allegedly perpetrated against other people, but nothing I could say with complete confidence was intentionally threatening. However, whether or not a direct threat was made by this person doesn't really matter—this particular email was from a terrorist. This email named a sweet, innocent, bubbly little kid by first name to scare the

shit out of me. And it did. Threats or not, this sick person wanted me to fear for my child's safety. Needless to say, this is what led to the recent decision to close my blog.” [20986]

At AmericanThinker.com in January 2014 Dr. Jason Kissner wrote of the connections between Fuddy, Obama's mother, and the Indonesian Subud cult—which may explain the inclusion of the name “Barack Hussein Obama (Soebarkah)” in the “include (exclude) children” section of the August 13, 1968 passport renewal application of Stanley Ann Dunham. Deliana Loretta Fuddy was the chairperson of Subud USA from 2006 to 2008. Note that Stanley Ann Dunham lived in and attended school in Seattle, and Subud has had a presence in Seattle, Chicago, Hawaii, and Indonesia. Additionally, Subud members were regularly found at the East-West Center at the University of Hawaii—where Dunham allegedly met second husband Lolo Soetoro, Sr., and which was established by the State Department and had CIA ties. A “Subud-style” memorial service was reportedly held after Dunham's death. There has also been speculation that Indonesia's CIA-installed dictator, General Suharto, was an adherent of Subud—and Lolo Soetoro had ties to Suharto. [13933, 13934, 13936, 53899, 53900, 53901, 53902, 53918, 53919, 53920, 53921, 53922, 53923, 53945, 54084, 54085, 54209, 54391, 54392, 54393, 54395, 54396, 54397, 54398, 54399, 54400, 54401, 54402, 54403, 54418, 54440, 54469, 54470, 54473, 54480, 54635, 54726, 55907, 62630]

Justifiably or not, Fuddy's name will certainly be added to the list of suspicious deaths of people with Obama connections (Obama's “Death Pool”): *Rolling Stone* reporter Michael Hastings; Lt. Quarles Harris, Jr., who had been cooperating with federal investigators in connection with the 2008 illegal access of Obama's passport information, and who was found shot to death in his car in Washington, D.C.; Donald Young, the gay choir director of Obama's Chicago church, who was murdered in December 2007; Larry Bland, another gay member of Obama's church, who was murdered a few weeks before Young; Clinton ally and Arkansas Democratic Party Chairman Bill Gwatney, who was murdered two weeks before the 2008 Democrat National Convention in Denver; Kam Kuwata, a Democrat campaign worker who died under suspicious circumstances after telling others he witnessed a drugged Obama backstage at the 2008 convention; Jamie Zapata; Michael Cormier; the members of SEAL Team Six; Stephanie Tubbs Jones; Christopher Kelly; Mercedes Hugley; Tanika Hill; Hasad Al Shareez; Darsano Rahardjo; Christopher Hargrove; Curtis “Pookie” Jackson; Paul Rothchild; Harvey Kenyon; Sheila Baugh; Lawshanna Martin; and Gandy Baugh. [134, 135, 136, 392, 393, 409, 842 pp. 143, 352–353, 358; 1242, 1991, 2278, 2438, 2475, 9276, 9297, 28336, 28337, 28338, 28339, 28342, 28420, 28421, 28422, 28423, 28424, 28425, 28426, 28427, 28428, 28429, 28481, 28482, 28483, 28484, 28766, 29249, 29371, 30804, 30851, 30913, 31019, 34612, 43929, 43935, 43950, 43975, 52493, 52505, 52506, 52528, 52529, 53394, 53396]

At Brooklyn College, Pamela Geller discusses “The First Amendment and Social Criticism.” Geller writes, “In the current climate of intolerance, hate and speech suppression on college campuses, even the fact that I was invited is a historic moment. It is rare when I (or any of my colleagues) can speak on an American college campus. While hate preachers, terror supporters and Jew-haters are welcome with open arms at

U.S. universities, voices of freedom, voices opposed to jihad, Sharia, creed apartheid and gender apartheid are banned—in a not-so-subtle adherence to Shariah blasphemy laws. ... Hamas-CAIR top dog Ibrahim Hooper started hounding Brooklyn College officials as soon as he heard that I was invited. The warmonger kicked off his emails to them with ‘peace.’ What contempt this nasty cynic has for the infidel. His subject line was, ‘Is Brooklyn College Really Hosting the Nation’s Leading Islamophobe?’ ... Hooper failed to get my talk canceled, so CAIR then issued an alert ‘calling on Brooklyn College to protect Muslim, Arab students after appearance by hate group leader.’ Protect them from what? Protect them from whom? They are in no danger. It’s the Islamic groups like Muslim Brotherhood MSA and SJP that present a very real and present danger to Jewish students and those who stand with Israel. CAIR’s premise is so absurd. The students who are being menaced on college campuses today are not Muslims, but Jews. Muslim groups such as Students for Justice in Palestine, or SJP, and others have made college campuses unsafe for Jewish students. ... So CAIR is employing its typical projection, trying to deflect attention away from increasingly aggressive and predatory Muslim students on campus and portray Muslims as victims of marauding counter-jihadists who exist only in Ibrahim Hooper’s fevered mind.” [74710, 74711, 74724, 74676, 74677, 74678, 74760, 74761, 74762, 74763]

After the event, Geller writes, “I spoke tonight at Brooklyn College, if you can still call it that. Every seat was filled—80% by Muslim students. If this is the future, it is murder. The sneers, the jeers, the laughter—my discussion of the most savage acts was met with huge peals of laughter. It wasn’t a talk, it was a vicious circus: lawless and shameful. Muslim fascist students are now boasting and thumping their chests on Twitter, claiming that they shut down the event. This is, of course, a lie. I gave my entire talk and took questions. They shut down nothing. And Lord knows I tried to have a genuine discussion with them. I was patient, I was indulgent—but to no avail. If you watch any of it, watch the Q and A. That will show you everything. A couple of fights almost broke out. Muslim students were reading questions off their phones, sent from their puppetmasters, about inane irrelevant things such what did I think of some Muslim basketball player and such. (Geller is correct. The question and answer session is embarrassing to watch. The room is full of poorly-educated students acting like spoiled 10-year-olds.) [74710, 74711, 74724, 74676, 74677, 74678, 74760, 74761, 74762, 74763, 74923]

“There were many Muslim girls in the audience. I asked them where they were for Rifqa Bary, and Aqsa Parvez, and Noor Almaleki, and the other victims of honor killing and oppression? Of course, in response there were just more jeers, more catcalls. This event made it clear: Brooklyn College and our nation’s universities in general are not about learning, or about reasoned discourse, or about a search for truth. They are centers for fascist indoctrination. And the fascists were out in force tonight. The worst of it was one woman who stood up to thank me. She was the victim of a genocide. Her mother was atheist, her father was Muslim. She is married to a Jewish man. She describes herself as an ‘open-minded Christian.’ And they went after her like vultures on carrion. I actually wanted my security team to make sure she got out safely at the end, because it was bedlam, but I wasn’t able to find out what happened. I said over their caterwauling— ‘You laughing and screaming and taunting and attacking this woman, this is what the

Nazis looked like. This is a victim of genocide. You're depraved and you're soulless.'" (As Geller leaves the event, Muslim students shout, "Don't come back!" and "Allahu akbar!") [74710, 74711, 74724, 74676, 74677, 74678, 74760, 74761, 74762, 74763, 74923]

On April 23 ArabianBusiness.com reports that Obama's Kenyan grandmother, Sarah Obama, "is reportedly in Saudi Arabia to perform the Islamic pilgrimage of Umrah [or 'hajj,' the pilgrimage to Mecca which is mandatory for all able-bodied Muslims]. Omar, believed to be about 94 years old and pictured in a wheelchair being escorted by Saudi aids, is visiting the kingdom with her son Saeed Obama, ...Obama's uncle, and her grandson Mousa Obama... During her visit she commended the Saudi government's \$21 billion expansion of the Grand Mosque and visited the Prophet Muham." (In 2007 Sarah Obama told *The New York Times*, "I am a strong believer of the Islamic faith." In early 2008, when the issue of candidate Obama's religion was in the news, she told *USA Today* that she too was a Christian—in an attempt to damper the "Obama is a Muslim" rumors. She has made the pilgrimage to Mecca at least twice—hardly the action of a Christian, especially when Christians are not even allowed to enter.) [329, 2416, 2716m 2987, 4431, 4440, 74764, 74765, 74766, 74767, 74768]

Obama announces that a January drone strike against al-Qaeda operatives inadvertently killed two hostages—one American, Dr. Warren Weinstein (held captive since 2011), and one Italian, Giovanni Lo Porto (held since 2012)—who the intelligence community did not know were being held at the Afghanistan/Pakistan border compound. Later asked if there had been any previous attempts to get the hostages released, White House press secretary Josh Earnest tells reporters, "Our policy is we don't negotiate with terrorists." (Earnest is lying—unless one can believe he never heard of Bowe Bergdahl.) Earnest also claims that Obama did not specifically sign off on that particular strike (as if that somehow makes a difference). Another strike in January reportedly killed American Adam Gadahn, who joined al-Qaeda as a propagandist more than 10 years ago. (Gadahn was also reportedly killed in early 2008. Whether the current report can be believed is not known.) [74697, 74698, 74702, 74703, 74725, 74726, 74735, 74739, 74742, 74769, 74770, 74920, 74921]

The administration claims Gadahn was not the target of the strike. Many will assume that Gadahn was, in fact, the intended target, but the administration does not want to be accused of killing after an American—despicable as he may be. On the other hand, Obama's drone program will be subjected to even more criticism because of the "We didn't know who was there" argument. (The military should not be bombing targets if the intelligence about those targets is unreliable.) Many will also question why the January events were not reported until April. The answer may be that the information was leaked and the media was getting ready to report the story, and Obama had no choice but to make the statement to "beat the press."

The Associated Press reports, "Former CIA Director David Petraeus, whose career was destroyed by an extramarital affair with his biographer [and alleged mistress, Paula

Broadwell], was sentenced Thursday to two years' probation and fined \$100,000 for giving her classified material while she was working on the book. The sentencing came two months after he agreed to plead guilty to a federal misdemeanor count of unauthorized removal and retention of classified material." [74750, 74773]

Obama issues a statement on the 1915 Armenian genocide, carefully avoiding the use of the word genocide: "This year we mark the centennial of the Meds Yeghern, the first mass atrocity of the 20th Century. Beginning in 1915, the Armenian people of the Ottoman Empire were deported, massacred, and marched to their deaths. Their culture and heritage in their ancient homeland were erased. Amid horrific violence that saw suffering on all sides, one and a half million Armenians perished. As the horrors of 1915 unfolded, U.S. Ambassador Henry Morgenthau, Sr. sounded the alarm inside the U.S. government and confronted Ottoman leaders. Because of efforts like his, the truth of the Meds Yeghern emerged and came to influence the later work of human rights champions like Raphael Lemkin, who helped bring about the first United Nations human rights treaty. Against this backdrop of terrible carnage, the American and Armenian peoples came together in a bond of common humanity. Ordinary American citizens raised millions of dollars to support suffering Armenian children, and the U.S. Congress chartered the Near East Relief organization, a pioneer in the field of international humanitarian relief. Thousands of Armenian refugees began new lives in the United States, where they formed a strong and vibrant community and became pillars of American society. Rising to great distinction as businesspeople, doctors, scholars, artists, and athletes, they made immeasurable contributions to their new home. [74786, 74787, 74788, 74795, 74813]

"This centennial is a solemn moment. It calls on us to reflect on the importance of historical remembrance, and the difficult but necessary work of reckoning with the past. I have consistently stated my own view of what occurred in 1915, and my view has not changed. A full, frank, and just acknowledgement of the facts is in all our interests. Peoples and nations grow stronger, and build a foundation for a more just and tolerant future, by acknowledging and reckoning with painful elements of the past. We welcome the expression of views by Pope Francis, Turkish and Armenian historians, and the many others who have sought to shed light on this dark chapter of history. On this solemn centennial, we stand with the Armenian people in remembering that which was lost. We pledge that those who suffered will not be forgotten. And we commit ourselves to learn from this painful legacy, so that future generations may not repeat it." (Obama is, of course, lying. In 2007 and 2008, while courting the Armenian-American voters, he used the term genocide. After he entered the Oval Office, he steadfastly refused to use the term to describe the 2015-2016 killings, because he did not want to anger Turkish Muslims or his friend Recep Tayyip Erdogan—former Prime Minister and current President of Turkey. Pledging that those millions who suffered will not be forgotten is nothing more than pandering. If Obama cared, he would not use such torturous language to avoid a historical reality.) [74786, 74787, 74788, 74795, 74813]

At PJMedia.com Bridget Johnson writes, “The pope’s condemnation of the genocide—using the word—led an angry Turkey to pull its ambassador from Vatican City. ... Earlier this week, White House officials told Armenian leaders that Obama would, again, not be recognizing the genocide as genocide. Turkey has paid D.C. lobbyists handsomely over the years to work against the Armenian Genocide resolutions that surface each Congress. Turkey has recalled its ambassador in a huff whenever the bill has made it out of committee. A large Turkey caucus in Congress—the Caucus on U.S.-Turkey Relations & Turkish Americans—also helps derail genocide legislation.” Congressman Brad Sherman (D-CA) states, “Genocide denial is the last act of a genocide and the first step in the next genocide—just as the Armenian Genocide, in part, prepared the world for the Holocaust. When Adolf Hitler sought the destruction of the Jewish people, those around him wondered how he could get away with it. Hitler pointed out that the Ottoman Empire had gotten away with it because no one remembered the genocide of the Armenians. That is why I have repeatedly asked my colleagues in the House and Senate to formally recognize the genocide—we cannot afford to wait another century.” (It is worth noting that Israel does not refer to the murder of 1.5 million Armenians as genocide—perhaps in an effort to keep the term linked most closely to Hitler’s extermination of Jews in World War II. The Soviet Union killed millions of Ukrainians via bullets and starvation in the early 1930s, yet that is rarely referred to as genocide. The mass killings of Cambodians by the Khmer Rouge also could be called victims of genocide. The Turks are certainly not alone in their savagery.) [74795]

While Obama carefully avoids using the word genocide to avoid offending Muslims in Turkey, Muslim Congressmen Keith Ellison (D-MN) and Andre Carson (D-IN) write a letter to Secretary of State John Kerry and Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson asking that Dutch lawmaker Geert Wilders be denied entry into the United States to speak at a Capitol Hill reception, to which he was invited by Congressman Louie Gohmert (R-TX). According to ForeignPolicy.com, Ellison and Carson claim Wilders should be barred entry “under the authority of the International Religious Freedom Act, which empowers the State Department to ban the entry of a foreign leader responsible for severe violations of religious freedom. The somewhat obscure 1998 law has only been used to deny the entry of a foreign official once, when Narendra Modi, the current prime minister of India and former chief minister of Gujarat, was accused of failing to protect Muslims during communal rioting in 2002.” (Wilders has not violated anyone’s religious freedom, but he has been severely critical of Islam and its most radical followers. To Ellison and Carson, who are apparently unfamiliar with the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, criticism of Islam is not acceptable.) One Democrat Congressional aide remarks, “It’s a pretty heavy-handed use of that law, and if you’re going to start banning people for saying offensive things against Islam, you’re going to have to deport half the Republican caucus.” [74988, 74989, 74996]

As noted previously in this *Timeline*, in June 2009 Ellison (also known as Muhammed Hakim), a socialist, refused to answer questions about his 2008 pilgrimage to Mecca, which was paid for by the Muslim American Society (MAS) of Minnesota—an organization with ties to Islamic extremists. (It is illegal for a member of Congress to accept any gift in excess of \$50.) An Ellison spokesman told the *Minnesota Star Tribune*

that the Congressman paid for his own trip, but an annual congressional disclosure form filed by his office shows that his November 29-December 14 trip was paid for by MAS-Minnesota. That organization's official publication, *The American Muslim*, has defended Palestinian "martyrdom operations" against Jews and other non-Muslims. Ellison, who once said, "I want socialism, and I want it now," is a member of the Islamic Society of North America and a friend of Holy Land Foundation co-conspirator Jamal Said. In November 2006 Ellison appeared on the North American Imams Federation (NAIF) program, along with Mazen Mokhtar (an al-Qaeda web site designer) and Siraj Wahhaj (1993 World Trade Center bombing co-conspirator). [216, 226, 325, 368, 390, 391, 665, 721, 1362, 1280, 1971, 2440, 2666, 2667, 3400, 3683, 3684, 3789, 3790, 3817, 5648, 5688, 7082, 13601, 13602, 13603, 13611, 13625, 13662, 18486, 18487, 18488, 18523, 18524, 21718, 21719, 21720, 21729, 21761, 21790, 46827, 46828, 46940, 54788, 54805, 54858,]

Ellison (who took the oath of office using the Quran rather than the Bible and is a supporter of the virulently anti-Semitic Louis Farrakhan) was the keynote speaker at the annual convention of the Muslim American Society (MAS) of Minnesota, which supports the terrorist group Hamas. The MAS web site states, "If you gain a victory over the Jews, kill them," and "A Muslim must always worship Allah and wage jihad until death... Regularly make the intention to go on jihad with the ambition to die as a martyr." Ahmad Abousamra, one of the persons named as a conspirator in a Boston terrorism plot to attack mall shoppers with machine guns, is the son of Abdu-Badi Abousamra, former vice-president of the Boston MAS—the largest Islamic center in the northeast. Ellison has referred to the U.S. Constitution as "their" Constitution—meaning "the white man's Constitution." Ellison has also stated, "The bottom line is we're not broke, there's plenty of money, it's just the government doesn't have it." In January 2009, at the CAIR annual meeting, Ellison encouraged his fellow Muslims to apply for some of the 8,000 jobs available in the upcoming Obama administration. He remarked that now that they have a president with the middle name "Hussein," no Muslims should shy away from work in the government. Ellison has argued that ObamaCare's disincentive to work is a good thing because "people might be able to actually cook dinner rather than [get jobs and] have to order out to get some take-out [food]." [216, 226, 325, 368, 390, 391, 665, 721, 1362, 1280, 1971, 2440, 2666, 2667, 3400, 3683, 3684, 3789, 3790, 3817, 5648, 5688, 7082, 13601, 13602, 13603, 13611, 13625, 13662, 18486, 18487, 18488, 18523, 18524, 21718, 21719, 21720, 21729, 21761, 21790, 46827, 46828, 46940, 54788, 54805, 54858,]

Andre Carson is the Congressman who claimed he heard people yell "nigger!" 15 times when members of the Congressional Black Caucus walked through a crowd of anti-ObamaCare demonstrators to get to the Capitol Building in March 2010. Carson and the others were accompanied the entire length of the walk by a police officer; the video of the scene shows no reaction from the officer—let alone the "hundreds of people and Capitol Police" amassing to "protect" them—as Carson claimed. Carson has stated, "The Tea Party is stopping that change. And this is beyond symbolic change; this is the effort that we are seeing of Jim Crow. Some of these folks in Congress right now would love to see us [blacks] as second class citizens. Some of them in Congress right now of this Tea

Party movement would love to see you and me ...hanging on a tree. Some of them right now in Congress right now are comfortable with where we were 50 and 60 years ago.” On June 12, 2012 TheBlaze.com reported that in an address to the Islamic Circle of North America/Muslim American Society, Carson “empathized with fellow followers of Islam over how difficult life was for them after the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11th, 2001. The congressman cited racism and Muslims losing their jobs as a direct result of how ‘tough’ life was after the terror attacks. ‘It is very true that all of us are under tremendous strain right now—9/11 was tough on Muslims. Those of us who were in the workplace faced exacerbated prejudice, unrelenting bias, and in many cases, some of us were terminated from our jobs. It was tough to be a Muslim in the workplace.’” [9792, 9797, 9855, 9870, 9890, 9902, 9943, 9975, 9976, 10075, 10141, 10146, 10158, 10159, 10160, 10168, 10212, 10319, 10343, 23939, 23944, 23956, 23976, 23997, 70252, 70253, 70254, 70311, 70343, 72195, 72608, 72609]

Carson complained that Muslims in the United States were “under attack” and “must not retreat.” “Now,” said Carson, “it is unfortunate that there are those who are thinking that at this convention right now we’re having secret meetings, that we’re plotting to destroy this country, but I say to those who are here under cover, Allah will not allow you to stop us.” Pamela Geller has noted, “Between January 2008 and June 2014, Carson received 55 separate political donations (totaling nearly \$34,000 altogether) from terror designated Muslim groups, the Council on American-Islamic Relations, the Islamic Society of North America, the Muslim American Society, and the Muslim Public Affairs Council.” (Carson has no business even being in Congress, let alone sitting on the House Intelligence Committee.) WND.com reported, “A Washington-based think tank focused on national security has released a dossier on Muslim U.S. Rep. Andre Carson (D-IN), charging his association with radical Islamic groups warrants his removal from the House Intelligence Committee. The Center for Security Policy, in its report, called for a ‘rigorous assessment of the potential risks associated with Rep. Carson’s vulnerabilities to recruitment, blackmail or suborning.’ ...Carson received a \$5,000 campaign contribution in 2008 from the Council on American-Islamic Relations, or CAIR, an unindicted co-conspirator in a terror-financing trial in which the federal judge found ‘ample evidence’ of CAIR’s links to Hamas. Carson received another \$1,000 from CAIR in 2014. Carson, however, has an even larger relationship with another radical group, the Islamic Society of North America, or ISNA, which was listed by the Muslim Brotherhood as a ‘likeminded’ organization that shares the goal of making the U.S. an Islamic nation. The congressman received more than \$30,000 in campaign contributions ‘from individuals associated with CAIR and with the Islamic Society of North America, which was also named an unindicted co-conspirator in the Holy Land Foundation case,’ the Daily Caller reported.” [9792, 9797, 9855, 9870, 9890, 9902, 9943, 9975, 9976, 10075, 10141, 10146, 10158, 10159, 10160, 10168, 10212, 10319, 10343, 23939, 23944, 23956, 23976, 23997, 70252, 70253, 70254, 70311, 70343, 72195, 72608, 72609]

Obama’s nominee for Attorney General, Loretta Lynch, is confirmed by the U.S. Senate—despite her support for Obama’s improper illegal immigrant amnesty scheme and her support for partial birth abortions. (CNSNews.com points out that Lynch “joined a group of former U.S. attorneys in signing an amicus brief presented to the Supreme

Court in 2006 in the case of *Gonzales v. Carhart* that argued that the federal ban on partial-birth abortion was unconstitutional because its language was too vague. In their brief, for example, Lynch and the other former U.S. attorneys argued that the term ‘living fetus’ was too vague to be understood by those responsible for following and enforcing the law. Congress enacted the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act in 2003 with broad bipartisan support. Senators Joe Biden of Delaware, Harry Reid of Nevada, and Patrick Leahy of Vermont all voted for it.” (The vote to confirm Lynch is 56-43. Ten Republicans vote for her: Mitch McConnell, Orrin Hatch, Lindsey Graham, Jeff Flake, Thad Cochran, Susan Collins, Mark Kirk, Kelly Ayotte, Ron Johnson, and Rob Portman. More importantly, 20 Republicans voted for cloture, ending debate on the issue. Had those Republicans voted against cloture, the Democrats would have lacked the 60 votes to proceed and Lynch would *not* have been confirmed. To vote for cloture and then vote against Lynch is cowardly; it allows the Senator to pretend that he opposed Lynch when, in fact, he allowed her to be confirmed.) [74678, 74679, 74694, 74802, 74803, 74860]

Lynch says, “I am honored beyond words to step into this larger role today as your attorney general, as we continue the core work of our mission: The protection of the American people. We can restore trust and faith, both in our laws and in those of us who enforce them. We can protect the most vulnerable among us from the scourge of modern day slavery, so antithetic to the values forged in blood in this country. We can protect the growing cyber world, and we can give those in our care both protection from terrorism and the security of their civil liberties. My friends, we will do this as we’ve accomplished all things both great and small: working together, moving forward, and using justice as our compass.” (What “modern day slavery” in the United States Lynch is referring to is not clear.) [74931]

Former Hewlett-Packard CEO Carly Fiorina—who is likely to formally announce her presidential candidacy on May 4—states, “It’s the Clinton way: raking in millions from foreign governments behind closed doors while making promises about transparency that they never intended to keep. Now they’re scrambling to refile their taxes and account for her decisions as Secretary of State. The American people will have a choice. Are we going to demand trust and transparency from our leaders? Have we had enough of a ruling political class that doles out favors to the wealthy and well connected few?” (Fiorina has been drawing good-sized crowds in a 13-stop, five-day Iowa tour.) [74680, 74745, 74746]

More stories regarding the deal-making of Bill and Hillary Clinton flood the news. One involves a friend of Bill Clinton, who struck a deal to buy uranium mines in Kazakhstan (for pennies on the dollar, with the approval of the Russian government), and later sold the company to Russia. Now known as Uranium One, the company also owns uranium mines in the United States. According to *The New York Times*, “the sale gave the Russians control of one-fifth of all uranium production capacity in the United States. Since uranium is considered a strategic asset, with implications for national security, the deal had to be approved by a committee composed of representatives from a number of United States government agencies. Among the agencies that eventually signed off was

the State Department, then headed by Mr. Clinton's wife, Hillary Rodham Clinton." The *Times* notes, "As the Russians gradually assumed control of Uranium One in three separate transactions from 2009 to 2013, Canadian records show, a flow of cash made its way to the Clinton Foundation. Uranium One's chairman used his family foundation to make four donations totaling \$2.35 million. Those contributions were not publicly disclosed by the Clintons, despite an agreement Mrs. Clinton had struck with the Obama White House to publicly identify all donors. Other people with ties to the company made donations as well." In 2010, Senator John Barrasso (R-WY) warned in a letter to Obama that the deal "would give the Russian government control over a sizable portion of America's uranium production capacity." Barrasso's warnings were ignored. [74683, 74684, 74728, 74740, 74741, 74784]

Townhall.com's Guy Benson adds, "The Clinton campaign insists that there's no direct evidence pointing to corrupt influence peddling, but this entire story reeks to high heaven. The fact that it arises from [the book] 'Clinton Cash' is additionally problematic for Hillaryworld, given their efforts to dismiss the author as a right-wing hack peddling 'distractions' and 'conspiracies.' But here we have solid proof that while the Clintons raked in millions from Russian interests for their foundation and themselves personally, a suspect transaction to cede a major stake in US uranium capacity to Vladimir Putin snaked its way into fruition, securing a key national security-related green light from Hillary's State Department along the way. Meanwhile, vows on transparency and ensuring Russian accountability were ignored and discarded by the Clintons—with Hillary conducting all of her official business on a since-culled and -destroyed private email server (without any oversight) throughout, against every rule in the book. At a bare minimum, this entire imbroglio is a gleaming monument to the 'appearance of impropriety.' It very much looks like the Clintons enriched themselves by renting out US foreign policy. To wealthy Russians. On a matter of national security. And Hillary's campaign is responding by protesting that the *Times* hasn't established and connected each dot in the quid pro quo. This story alone could be enough to end a less powerful candidate's presidential campaign." [74683, 74684]

Additionally, Clinton donor and Canadian financier Frank Giustra met with mining company executives and Russians at the Clinton's mansion in Chappaqua, New York. The Clintons denied that the meeting ever took place—until a photo of the meeting was produced by *The New York Times*' Jo Becker. [74687, 74688, 74689, 74690, 74780]

Meanwhile, Reuters reports, "Hillary Clinton's family's charities are refiled at least five annual tax returns after a Reuters review found errors in how they reported donations from governments, and said they may audit other Clinton Foundation returns in case of other errors. The foundation and its list of donors have been under intense scrutiny in recent weeks. Republican critics say the foundation makes Clinton, who is seeking the Democratic presidential nomination in 2016, vulnerable to undue influence. Her campaign team calls these claims 'absurd conspiracy theories.' ... The errors, which have not been previously reported, appear on the form 990s that all non-profit organizations must file annually with the Internal Revenue Service to maintain their tax-exempt status.

A charity must show copies of the forms to anyone who wants to see them to understand how the charity raises and spends money. ...For three years in a row beginning in 2010, the Clinton Foundation reported to the IRS that it received zero in funds from foreign and U.S. governments, a dramatic fall-off from the tens of millions of dollars in foreign government contributions reported in preceding years. Those entries were errors, according to the foundation: several foreign governments continued to give tens of millions of dollars toward the foundation's work on climate change and economic development through this three-year period. Those governments were identified on the foundation's annually updated donor list, along with broad indications of how much each had cumulatively given since they began donating." [74685, 74691, 74727, 74734]

Benson again: "Wait, the Clintons' organizations are re-filing *at least five years'-worth of taxes because they failed to report tens of millions of dollars* in donations from foreign governments? The Clintons' team has effectively responded by saying, 'oops, our bad, but you guys only caught us in this 'mistake' because of how transparent we are.'" [74686, 74695]

It is worth noting that many people defend the Clintons and their schemes by arguing that events following each other do not "prove" any links or connections. ("That A is followed by B; B is followed by C; and C is followed by D does not prove there is any quid pro quo.") Yet some of those same people are quick to claim that mankind is causing "global warming," with their only "proof" consisting of pointing out that slightly warmer average global temperatures followed the use of SUVs and power plants.

During a panel discussion on women in girls at the Council on Foreign Relations, Chelsea Clinton states, "What the Clinton Foundation has said is that we will be even more transparent, even though Transparency International and others have said we're among the most transparent of foundations. I very much believe that that is the right policy. That we'll be even more transparent. That to eliminate any questions while we're in this time, we won't take new government funding, but that the work will continue as it is." (In other words, "Only because we were caught, we'll stop doing what we were doing.") [74699]

Meanwhile, the White House does its best to dodge questions about the Clinton developments, with press secretary Josh Earnest offering "You'll have to check with the State Department" and "I'll have to get back to you on that" answers to questions from ABC's Jonathan Karl. [74785]

Congressman Trey Gowdy (R-SC), chairman of the Select Committee on Benghazi, calls on Hillary Clinton to testify before the committee the week of May 18. According to TheHill.com, Gowdy "is not about to give Clinton a pass on her personal email use, including a list of 136 sample questions on the topic" of her email use in a letter to Clinton attorney David Kendall. (As more Clinton scandals erupt, Republicans may smell blood in the water and feel emboldened to more aggressively investigate Hillary Clinton's Benghazi and email-hiding actions as Secretary of State. If Democrats start

deserting Clinton and moving to other possible 2016 candidates, support for her could quickly collapse. Senate and House Democrats would like to win back seats in November 2016, and if they believe Clinton will be an albatross, rather than a savior, she may find herself being abandoned by many legislators.) [74696, 74801]

Hillary Clinton delivers an address at a “Women in the World” event. She says, “Far too many women are still denied critical access to reproductive health care and safe childbirth. All the laws we’ve passed don’t count for much if they’re not enforced. Rights have to exist in practice, not just on paper. Laws have to be backed up with resources and political will, and deep-seated cultural codes, religious beliefs, and structural biases have to be changed.” (In other words, “You idiots who believe in religion should get over your opposition to abortion.”) There is no question and answer session after Clinton’s speech. [74692, 74693, 74792, 74841, 74879, 74911]

At NYMag.com, Jonathan Chait slams Bill and Hillary Clinton, writing, “All sorts of unproven worst-case-scenario questions float around the web of connections between Bill’s private work, Hillary Clinton’s public role as secretary of State, the Clintons’ quasi-public charity, and Hillary’s noncompliant email system. But the best-case scenario is bad enough: The Clintons have been disorganized and greedy. The news today about the Clintons all fleshes out, in one way or another, their lack of interest in policing serious conflict-of-interest problems that arise in their overlapping roles... The Clinton campaign is batting down the darkest and most conspiratorial interpretation of these stories, and where this all leads remains to be seen. But [even] the most positive interpretation is not exactly good. ...The Obama administration wanted Hillary Clinton to use official government email. She didn’t. The Obama administration also demanded that the Clinton Foundation disclose all its donors while she served as Secretary of State. It didn’t comply with that request, either. The Clintons’ charitable initiatives were a kind of quasi-government run by themselves, which was staffed by their own loyalists and made up the rules as it went along. Their experience running the actual government, with its formal accountability and disclosure, went reasonably well. Their experience running their own privatized mini-state has been a fiasco.” [74752]

Chait is a liberal. For him to write, “the best-case scenario is bad enough: The Clintons have been disorganized and greedy,” should make Democrats nervous. There are a number of factors at play. First, the Obamas hate the Clintons and the Clintons hate the Obamas. Obama would certainly prefer that Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) succeed him. Warren is more ideologically in-sync with Obama than is Hillary Clinton. Obama will therefore not go out of his way to defend Clinton, unless and until he knows she will be the certain Democrat nominee in 2016. Second, a substantial percentage of Democrat voters also prefer Warren to Clinton. (For example, the far left Democrats agree with Warren’s opposition to the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade proposal, believe Clinton is too chummy with Wall Street and Israel, and believe Clinton to be too hawkish on war issues. They will certainly not forget her 2003 vote to authorize the war in Iraq.) Third, many media leftists prefer Warren over Clinton in 2016, just as they preferred Obama over Clinton in 2008. There are pro-Clinton journalists, of course, but there are possibly

more pro-Warren journalists. Many of the latter will ride the fence until they believe the Clinton scandals may be taking their toll. The moment liberal journalists sense that Clinton will lose to the Republican candidate in 2016, they will desert her—as they did in 2008.

Fourth, Clinton will—at least temporarily—have her Democrat operatives steadfastly (if unconvincingly) defending her on television talk shows, swearing, “There is no there there,” “She has done nothing wrong,” “It’s all a vast right-wing conspiracy,” etc. But those appearances will not only be to convince the public that all is well with Clinton; *they will also be to demonstrate to Clinton that they are loyal to her.* If pundit John Doe or Jane Doe appears on a talk show and criticizes Clinton or expresses doubts about scandals and her ability to lead, Doe will quickly be placed on the Clinton enemies list—and it is a certainty that she maintains one. If Clinton then wins the nomination and the election, Doe and everyone else on that list will be toast. He or she will certainly not get a plum White House position, and will very likely lose consulting contracts as punishment for deserting “dear leader.” The pundits will therefore be *very* careful. They will not desert the sinking Clinton ship *until they are certain that ship is, in fact, sinking.* A wrong guess may destroy a career. But if that ship does spring more leaks and begin to sink, the escaping rats will sound like a thundering herd of elephants.

A Quinnipiac poll shows that 54 percent of registered voters believe Hillary Clinton is honest or trustworthy. [74700]

Variety.com reports that Hillary Clinton “will hold her first fundraisers in Los Angeles for her 2016 presidential campaign on May 7, including events at the home of Steven and Dayna Bochco and Haim and Cheryl Saban.” (Steven Bochco is a producer of television series. Billionaire Haim Saban’s Saban Capital Group owns the Spanish language network Univision. Saban, a strong supporter of Israel, has hinted that Clinton opposes Obama’s Iranian nuclear deal.) [74777, 74778]

House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH) says, “I’ve not made any decisions yet but all options are on the table... If we need to do that [subpoena Hillary Clinton’s email server], we may have to. It’s important for the American people to know the truth about what happened in Benghazi and it’s important to know what was going on at the State Department before, during, and after the events that occurred in Libya. ...She violated the law, and the idea that she was going to use her own server and do official business on it goes against every transparency issue that [Obama] likes to tout. At some point, they just can’t ignore the fact that there are a lot of public documents on this server that the American people have a right to see. And we believe that it’s time for Mrs. Clinton to turn that server and all those documents over to the IG, the Inspector General, at the State Department.” [74791]

Claims for weekly unemployment benefits increase for the third consecutive week, to 295,000. [74748]

At PJMedia.com J. Christian Adams writes, "...Obama's amnesty by edict has always been about adding new Democrats to the voter rolls, and recent action by the Department of Homeland Security provides further proof. Sources at the Department of Homeland Security [DHS] report to PJ Media that the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services is reallocating significant resources away from a computer system—the 'Electronic Immigration System'—to sending letters to all 9,000,000 green card holders urging them to naturalize prior to the 2016 election. This effort is part of the DHS 'Task Force on New Americans.' ...Other DHS sources report that racial interest groups such as La Raza (translated to 'The Race') and the American Immigration Lawyers Association have been playing a central and influential role in rewriting the administration's immigration policies—both the public policies as well as internal and largely unseen guidelines. One DHS official who disagrees with the administration's policies told me DHS 'intends to 'recapture' 'unused' visas from years past to grant more visas and LPR [green card] status. In addition to this 'visa blizzard,' the agency will allow folks to jam in applications during the blizzard, knowing that the visa applicant/beneficiary is not eligible for the visa.' This means that DHS is not only rushing green card holders toward citizenship before the next election, but also jamming previous visa holders toward green card status. These policies and priorities add to the brazen public positions of [Obama] toward enforcing immigration laws." [74794, 74926]

Rush Limbaugh later comments, "You know the objective is to get them to vote. The objective all along here has been the registration of illegal aliens as Democrats. That's gonna happen one way or the other. That's what all of this talk is about. What's newsworthy here is that it has been learned that the Department of Homeland Security is mobilizing now to essentially create 9 million new registered Democrats by the 2016 election among current green-card holders. They're putting everything in place so that when Obama decides to go executive amnesty, it's not the beginning of any process, it's just the period. It's just the last thing to happen. ...In fact, it'll be the end of the process of getting them registered to vote because while Obama is waiting to sign [executive amnesty], these efforts going on behind the scenes to get these people registered [are] taking place even now." [74926]

Obama hosts the Super Bowl champion New England Patriots at the White House. Twitter user Rusty Shackelford quips, "These are the first patriots that have entered the WH in years." Conspicuous by his absence is quarterback Tom Brady, who was attending his parents' 50th wedding anniversary. ESPN's Stephen Smith (who is black) implies Brady (who is white) is a racist. (Brady has been to the White House in the past. To give priority to his parents' 50th wedding anniversary over a few minutes with Obama is not an expression of racism. It is an expression of love and respect.) [74782, 74789, 74850, 74856]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, "Deportations have plummeted by another 25 percent so far this year, with the government even struggling to find enough criminals to kick out of the country, according to the latest statistics that suggest ...Obama's amnesty has hampered removal efforts. That could undercut Mr. Obama's legal justification for the

deportation amnesty, where the pace of deportations has been raised as a key way of judging whether [Obama] is complying with the law by trying to grant ‘deferred action’ to millions of illegal immigrants. The numbers for the first six months of fiscal year 2015, which began Oct. 1, are striking: The government has deported just 117,181 immigrants, which is just three-quarters of the 157,365 immigrations kicked out during that same period a year earlier, according to figures provided to Congress. ‘This is a stunning free fall in enforcement activity, not just deportations but arrests too,’ said Jessica Vaughan, policy studies director at the Center for Immigration Studies, which supports stricter immigration limits. ‘It turns out that even criminal arrests and deportations have dropped, including those of the ‘worst of the worst’ Level 1 felons, and the huge numbers of criminal releases continues.’ Overall, deportations are down a stunning 41 percent in the last three years—and the drop began almost exactly at the beginning of ...Obama’s 2012 temporary deportation amnesty for so-called Dreamers.” [74771]

Meanwhile, the U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) wants \$134.5 million in contingency funding for its 2016 budget to handle as many as 104,000 unaccompanied alien children who are expected to cross the border. (It apparently does not occur to the CBP that \$134.5 million could pay for several thousand additional Border Patrol Agents—who could prevent those children from entering the United States illegally.) [74804]

FoxNews.com reports, “A nine-ship Iranian convoy believed to be laden with weapons bound for rebels in Yemen turned around Thursday after being followed by U.S. warships stationed in the area to prevent arms shipments, multiple sources in the Pentagon told Fox News. The sources said the nine-ship convoy is south of Salalah, Oman, and now headed northeast in the Arabian Sea in the direction of home. The ships, which include seven freighters and two frigates, had sailed southwest along the coast of Yemen heading in the direction of Aden and the entrance to the Red Sea.” [74790]

Fox also reports, “A Muslim woman expected to enter an arranged marriage in Phoenix was raped, beaten and sexually assaulted by her groom-to-be after she refused to marry the man... Mohamed S. Abdullahi, 30, who was arrested on Tuesday, reportedly faces sexual assault and kidnapping charges. Police referred to the alleged victim as a young adult. The report said that the families agreed on a ‘Nikah,’ a formal Islamic marriage. The woman, who apparently had no desire to be with Abdullahi, ran away but returned about 15 days later to finish school. Police are investigating details leading up to the alleged assault, investigating whether the woman's Somali family forced her into the apartment where police say she was raped and held against her will.” [74835, 74836]

MyFoxBoston.com reports, “The family of the convicted [Boston] marathon bomber is in America, on your tax dollars, and survivors are outraged after learning the news. As of Thursday [April 23], family members of Dzhokhar Tsarnaev have been staying at the Hampton Inn in Revere under very tight security, just one of the things tax dollars are paying for. ...Sources say these family members are being called as witnesses and not

only that, at least three agencies are working around the clock to protect and transport them. This is all part of the defense team's strategy to save Tsarnaev. While it's unclear when their flight started, we know the last part of it came through Amsterdam and landed at Logan Airport and cost nearly \$2,500 per person. The cost to put them up at the Hampton Inn at the government rate: almost \$200 per night, per person. And a source says at least three agencies, the FBI, US Marshals and Revere Police are involved in constant protection. 'I think you're probably talking about \$100,000 plus in that neighborhood in terms of security and out of pocket costs associated with travel,' former US attorney Michael Sullivan said. And that's just for this trip. Lawyer fees or even what all witnesses during the trial cost is still unclear. One defense witness, Mark Spencer of Arsenal Consulting, charged \$375 per hour and billing taxpayers for \$150,000." [74837, 74839]

Stripes.com reports that a Canadian judge has "ordered the release of a former Guantanamo Bay inmate while he appeals his conviction in a Washington court for war crimes, including killing a U.S. soldier. Judge June Ross said the terms of Omar Khadr's release will be determined May 5. Canada's government said it would appeal the order. Toronto-born Khadr is in prison in Alberta, serving out an eight-year sentence handed down by a U.S. military commission in 2010. He was convicted of five war-crimes, including throwing a grenade when he was 15 years old that killed Army Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Speer in Afghanistan during a 2002 firefight. He spent a decade in Guantanamo Bay." [74838]

Pushing the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade deal, Obama tells a group of Organizing for Action workers, "We can't go back to the past. We shouldn't want to. We want to make sure we win the future. ... You don't make change through slogans. You don't make change through ignoring realities." (This would be the same Obama who in 2008 ran an entire campaign on the slogans, "Yes, We Can" and "Hope and Change.") Defending his support of the TPP, Obama says, "If you were watching MSNBC and all this stuff, you were thinking, 'Oh man. I loved Obama, but what's going on here?' So I want to set the record straight. I want to be clear about what we are doing." [74779, 74781]

Ed Schultz, one of MSNBC's more rabid leftists, then slams Obama for his support of the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade agreement. Schultz tells his viewers, "Well Mr. [Obama], I want you to know that I believe in what I'm doing. If you can prove to the American people that there will not be a depression of wages, if you can prove to the American people that this will create jobs, if you want to go face-to-face with me, ... Obama, I'm ready to go because I have the facts, okay? ... Obama, a word from this broadcaster to you. I supported you big time. I was the first liberal talker to support you. I've carried your water big time when it comes to health care, I've carried your water on the economy and defending your move on the automobile industry, but Mr. [Obama], you can take shots at this network, but I guarantee you, you are wrong on this [TPP issue]." [74781]

On *Special Report*, Charles Krauthammer observes, “It’s hard to know where to start with this [latest Clinton scandal]. They [donations to the Clinton Foundation] go unreported, and then you hear the principal who donates the money saying that he really was interested in the charitable objectives of the Clinton Foundation, when it is obvious to anybody who is over nine years old that you take the president of the United States, ex-president, on a plane, you go to Kazakhstan, he praises one of the more infamous dictators in the region at a time when he needs that kind of validation. A few days later this small company which is sort of unknown, a shell company, gets a huge concession and then there is a donation, and then there’s a speech that he can pocket. Whereas the donations, you know—what did you report the other day, something like \$70 million the foundation has spent on transportation? I mean, what does it take? I mean, that’s really flying pretty high. So in a sense it’s a piggy bank for the Clintons.” [74783]

“But what strikes me about all this is the unbelievable arrogance of the Clintons, who do this in the full expectation that they’re going to get away with it. They burn the tapes, they eliminate the e-mails. Yes, you might not have had a direct quid pro quo in the emails, but there might have been hints of things going on that would support other evidence and now it has disappeared, it’s gone. And you do all this knowing you’re walking the line. You know, you may not be able to prove an actual quid pro quo, which is what you’d need for a criminal prosecution, but you come really close to that line. But they think in the end they’re going to get away with it? This comes out in April of this year and by next year, do you know what they’re going to say? ‘Old news. We have dealt with it.’” [74783]

Mitt Romney tells radio host Hugh Hewitt, “You know, I’ve got to tell you, I was stunned by it. I mean, it looks like bribery. I mean, there is every appearance that Hillary Clinton was bribed to grease the sale of, what, 20 percent of America’s uranium production to Russia, and then it was covered up by lying about a meeting at her home with the principals, and by erasing emails. And you know, I presume we might know for sure whether there was or was not bribery if she hadn’t wiped out thousands of emails. But this is a very, very serious series of facts, and it looks like bribery. ... Well, we don’t know who gave money, and the IRS apparently is making it known that the filings of the Clinton Foundation did not include the fact that foreign governments were making contributions. And they had misstated their filings over the past several years. This is obviously a very troubling setting. But even what we do know, based on what was written by *The New York Times*, and is being reported by Fox and others, it has every earmark of bribery. And this is from the office of Secretary of State. This is a very troubling set of facts, and clearly, there’s got to be some kind of investigation to find out what the truth is here, because around the world, people are going to look at Hillary Clinton, a potential candidate for president, a former Secretary of State, and say gosh, is this a person who could be trusted? And I think the American people are asking that question as well.” [74797]

Romney says the response from the Clinton team has not been sufficient: “Well, it’s blah, blah, blah. The story that came from *The New York Times* is pretty straightforward, which

is that millions upon millions of dollars were given to the Clinton Foundation at the same time by a group of people who had uranium assets, and shortly thereafter, these people came to the State Department for approval to be able to sell these assets to Russia for a huge price tag. And those are the facts. And if those things are connected, as they certainly seem to be, it's a form of bribery. And that's what it appears to be, and that is of course what's going to have to be delved into, and I'm afraid this is a, this is bigger than just her presidential campaign. I mean, this is a question about whether or not the United States Secretary of State was bribed to grease the sale of strategic assets to Russia.” [74797]

On April 24 Italian police arrest 18 people, shutting down an al-Qaeda network that had planned to attack the Vatican. (It remains unlikely that the Pope will recant his statement that equating Islam with violence is wrong.) [74799, 74800, 74815, 74816, 74817, 74822]

Meanwhile, KSTP.com reports, “A Minneapolis man is accused of threatening federal agents, the U.S. Attorney in Minnesota, and a criminal informant who assisted in the arrest of six men accused of trying to join the Islamic State terrorist group in Syria. Mahamed Abukar Said was charged in federal court Friday after posting a series [of] threats on his Twitter page, according to an FBI affidavit. ...The arrests of the six men, all of Somali descent, created tension in Minnesota's Somali community, the largest in the United States. Since 2007, more than 22 young Somali men have traveled from Minnesota to Somalia to join the militant group al-Shabab. Authorities have also said a handful of Minnesota residents have traveled to Syria to fight with militants in the past year.” (Pamela Geller observes, “You would think that the arrest of six jihadis in Minneapolis would relieve the Muslim Somali in Minnesota community... Instead, it has created tension and animus. What side are they on?”) [74874, 74875]

In Great Britain, Labour Party leader Edward Miliband (a socialist who may end up being the next Prime Minister), tells *The Muslim News*, “We are going to change the law on this so we make it absolutely clear of our abhorrence of hate crime and Islamophobia. It will be the first time that the police will record Islamophobic attacks right across the country. ...I will always engage with people. I really value my relationship with the Muslim community and it is a relationship I would nurture as a Prime Minister.” (Miliband may be desperate to gain the votes of Muslims, but they may not be eager to vote for Miliband—who is Jewish.) At JihadWatch.org, Robert Spencer writes, “The problem is that Islamic supremacists, apparently deliberately, conflate ‘Islamophobia’ meaning attacks on innocent Muslims, which are never justified, with ‘Islamophobia’ meaning honest examination of how Islamic jihadists use the texts and teachings of Islam to justify violence and supremacism, and resistance to Sharia oppression. Miliband's new law making ‘Islamophobia’ an ‘aggravated crime’ would criminalize and silence all opposition to Islamization, would effectively destroy what remains of the freedom of speech in Britain, and spell the end of Britain as a free society.” [74877, 74878, 74993, 74994]

Eric Holder's final action as attorney general is to pat himself on the back. He tells State Department employees, "I said earlier that when we celebrated Robert Kennedy's 50th anniversary of his swearing in in 2011 [sic], people said that was the golden age for the United States Department of Justice. Well, I think 50 years from now, maybe even sooner than that, people will look at the work you all did and say this was another golden age. But every now and again, at an appropriate time, a group comes along that is worthy of special recognition. And you all are in fact one of those groups. I am proud of you. You all are always going to be my family. And wherever I am, whatever I am doing, I will be rooting for you from the sidelines." [74825]

Obama advisor Valerie Jarrett tweets, "Thank you, AG Holder. Because of you, the arc of the moral universe has been bent a little closer to justice." (Jarrett, like Obama, seems to be overly fond of that phrase. Obama has used it several times, rarely crediting the person he thinks he lifted it from: Martin Luther King, Jr. In fact, King stole the quote from Unitarian minister Theodore Parker, who in 1853 wrote, "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." In 1850 Parker wrote, "A democracy—that is a government of all the people, by all the people, for all the people." Those words, of course, were later used by Abraham Lincoln—also without attribution.) [14208, 14209, 14240, 14288, 14296, 33082, 33755, 74807, 74808]

An administrative law judge in Oregon calls for \$135,000 to be paid by a bakery to a gay couple "for the emotional suffering they experienced" when Sweet Cakes by Melissa declined to bake a wedding cake for the "two-brides" wedding. According to DailySignal.com, the "examples of symptoms" of pain and suffering cited by the lesbian "victims" included "acute loss of confidence," "doubt," "excessive sleep," "felt mentally raped, dirty and shameful," "high blood pressure," "impaired digestion," "loss of appetite," "migraine headaches," "pale and sick at home after work," "resumption of smoking habit," "shock" "stunned," "surprise," "uncertainty," "weight gain" and "worry." The bakery has already been put out of business by the lesbians, and former owners Aaron and Melissa Klein do not have \$135,000. Their lives are being destroyed over a cake that Rachel and her partner Laurel could easily have purchased elsewhere. (At the time of this writing a "Go Fund Me" drive has collected \$75,325 for the Klein family. The goal is \$150,000.) [74793, 74796]

Noah Rothman writes at HotAir.com, "On the issue of trade, Hillary Clinton is walking a tightrope. The prohibitive Democratic nominee for the presidency in 2016 is facing substantial pressure from her left to denounce the Trans-Pacific Partnership as have progressives like Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) and former Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley. If she does, however, Clinton will open herself up to the charge that she is flip-flopping on the issue. As a member of ...Obama's Cabinet, Clinton called the TPP 'the gold standard in trade agreements.' As recently as last year, Clinton wrote in her autobiography that the TPP sets 'high standards' and 'if implemented and enforced, should benefit businesses and workers.' In recent days, the former secretary of state's campaign communications officials have sounded more cautious notes on this trade agreement, but Clinton has not personally indicated that she has changed her mind on the

TPP. To backtrack from her past statements about this agreement and trade in general is to be seen as pandering to the Democratic Party's liberal wing. But Clinton might have to do just that, no matter how unseemly it will appear to outside observers." [74798]

Rothman continues, "'Unions, environmentalists and grass roots activists—all Democratic foot soldiers in presidential races—hope to see Mrs. Clinton join a liberal alliance that wants the deal to be killed,' *The Wall Street Journal* reported on Friday. 'Mrs. Clinton has a complicated history with free-trade agreements dating back a quarter century. When she has been a candidate for elective office, she has typically been more skeptical of free-trade deals than when she's not.' For their part, the White House is not helping Clinton maintain this balancing act. The New York Democrat was surely furious to learn that White House Deputy Press Sec. Eric Shultz told reporters on Wednesday that, as far as they know, Hillary Clinton is foursquare behind them and fully supportive of the TPP. 'I haven't seen anything to suggest any distance,' Shultz told reporters when asked if they think Clinton is behind Obama's push to pass the new trade deal. 'Asked if the White House considers Clinton an ally on trade, Schultz said yes,' Politico reported." [74798]

IJReview.com notes, "'On January 20, 2009, the U.S. Senate was poised to nominate Mrs. Clinton 'by unanimous consent,' but Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) stood up and objected. At the time, The New York Times reported: 'Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton's smooth ride to confirmation as secretary of state hit a small bump on Tuesday as one of her Republican colleagues blocked a vote on Mrs. Clinton's nomination, citing ethical questions arising from donors to her husband's charitable foundation.' Cornyn also sent a detailed letter to then-Sen. Clinton detailing his concerns over the potential conflict (full text below). In the letter, Cornyn specifically raised the specter of the Clinton Foundation's international fundraising activities while Clinton served at the State Department: 'I believe that during your tenure as Secretary of State, the Foundation should refuse all pledges and contributions from foreign sources. As Senator [Richard] Lugar [R-IN] noted at your confirmation hearing on Tuesday, the Foundation 'exists as a temptation for any foreign entity or government that believes it could curry favor through a donation' and thus arise 'potential perception problems with any action taken by the Secretary of State in relation to foreign givers or their countries. ...the Foundation's refusal of foreign-source donations while you serve as Secretary of State is in this nation's interest.'" [74814]

Former Virginia governor Jim Gilmore, a Republican, tells MSNBC's Luke Russert, "As of today, I call on Hillary Clinton to withdraw from the race. Withdraw from the race. ...This is the story. Hillary Clinton's Foundation, together with Bill Clinton, has taken hundreds of millions of dollars from overseas interests. She should never have been secretary of state under those circumstances. She should drop out of the race and the reason is because the people of the United States don't have confidence in our democratic system, they think it is all rigged, they think it is all set up, they think it's all big money. She is the perfect candidate to continue that cynicism." [74806]

On MSNBC, *New York Times* reporter Jeremy Peters says, “You know, what I wonder is if the Clinton message machine ever decides to kind of, to recalibrate and dial it back a little bit. Because right now, and this isn’t all coming from the Clinton camp itself but it comes from the orbit around them where you have these people whose main goal is to misdirect and obfuscate every time there is the slightest bit of criticism about the Clintons’ leadership. ...They are definitely misdirecting here. I mean, this is what Media Matters exists to do.” [74812]

The University of Maryland cancels May 6 and 7 screenings of the movie *American Sniper* to placate Muslims students. The school’s “Student Entertainment Events” organization states it is “choosing to explore the proactive measures of working with others during the coming months to possibly create an event where students can engage in constructive and moderated dialogues about the controversial topics proposed in the film.” (After considerable outrage, the university relents and schedules a screening of the movie on May 4.) [74818, 75147]

Angered by a court decision prohibiting it from banning an anti-jihad bus ad, New York City’s Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) considers banning “all advertisements of a political nature.” (In other words, “If we cannot prohibit speech with which we disagree, we will prohibit all speech.”) [74819, 74820, 74821]

At WND.com, political strategist Dick Morris explains how the Clintons disguise the identities of the individuals, organizations, or countries paying Bill Clinton for his speeches. “Federal law required her to publicly disclose the ‘source’ of honoraria to Bill, but she apparently interpreted that to mean the entity that wrote the check, not the entity that paid or contributed to it. Bill had no duty to publicly disclose anything. [He was no longer a government employee when his wife served as Secretary of State.] But in a Jan. 9, 2009, letter to the State Department ethics officer, Clinton lawyer David Kendall volunteered that ‘President Clinton would provide the ‘identities of the host(s) (the entities that pay the speaker’s fee) of proposed paid speeches.’ And he did. But Hillary’s public list of payees for speeches is a lot different than Bill’s private list.” As an example, “Hillary disclosed ‘Power Within’ as the source of five speeches in 2009 and 2010, totaling \$955,000. Power Within, produced by lifestyle guru Anthony ‘Tony’ Robbins, was the event planner. But the sponsor for the events was TD Bank, a major investor and proponent of the Keystone Pipeline, which Hillary’s State Department had to approve. Hillary mentioned nothing about the generous benefactor and ignored her blatant conflict of interest.” [74833]

Another example from Morris: “Hillary disclosed the Silicon Valley Business Information Council as the ‘source’ for an October 21, 2011, speech for \$200,000. But Bill’s filing indicated that the money came, in part, from the Suzhou People’s Government, a provincial People’s Republic of China (‘PRC’) government. Additional sponsors included the California State Friendship Committee, an organization that fosters relationships with China and California legislators. The Committee paid for a trip by Rep. Mike Honda to China to meet government ministers. Another sponsor was the China

Association of Science and Technology Industry Parks, another Chinese government-related organ.” (It is not difficult to hide a conflict of interest. If, for example, Country X wanted a favor from then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Country X could give a \$5 million donation to a university on the condition that the university pay Bill Clinton \$500,000 to give a speech. Hillary Clinton then takes action as Secretary of State to assist Country X. On paper, it looks only as though the university paid Bill Clinton to deliver an address. There is no obvious indication that the Clintons were doing favors for Country X.) [74833]

Kim Kardashian (whose ancestry is Armenian) calls out Obama on his refusal to use the term genocide to describe the 1915-1916 massacre of Armenians by Turkish Muslims. She writes in a *Time* magazine op-ed, “I would like ...Obama to use the word ‘genocide.’ It’s very disappointing he hasn’t used it... We thought it was going to happen this year. I feel like we’re close—but we’re definitely moving in the right direction. ...It is not the fault of the people who live there now; it was 100 years ago on Friday. I believe in moving on and looking toward a brighter future, but you can’t move on unless you acknowledge the past.” [74826]

Charles Krauthammer observes, “The Clintons say, ‘There’s not a shred of evidence.’ Well, sure, that’s because you shredded the evidence—the emails.” [74823, 74824]

On April 25 at least 7,000 people are killed after a 7.8 magnitude earthquake strikes Nepal. (Victims include at least eight climbers on Mount Everest, killed by avalanches triggered by the earthquake. Israel sends more than 250 doctors and rescue personnel to the region to assist victims. Israel has devoted the most manpower to help Nepal, while the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, and Australia have offered the most financial assistance.) [74830, 74832, 74882, 75005, 75122, 75123]

In *The Telegraph*, Christopher Booker reports that “tops scientists” are examining “fiddled global warming figures. ...The Global Warming Policy Foundation (GWPF) has enlisted an international team of five distinguished scientists to carry out a full inquiry into just how far these manipulations of the data may have distorted our picture of what is really happening to global temperatures. ...Their inquiry’s central aim will be to establish a comprehensive view of just how far the original data has been ‘adjusted’ by the three main surface records: those published by the Goddard Institute for Space Studies (Giss), the US National Climate Data Center and Hadcrut, that compiled by the East Anglia Climatic Research Unit (Cru), in conjunction with the UK Met Office’s Hadley Centre for Climate Prediction. All of them are run by committed believers in man-made global warming.” Booker notes, “Careful analysts have come up with hundreds of examples of how the original data recorded by 3,000-odd weather stations has been ‘adjusted’ to exaggerate the degree to which the Earth has actually been warming. Figures from earlier decades have repeatedly been adjusted downwards and more recent data adjusted upwards, to show the Earth having warmed much more dramatically than the original data justified.” [74925]

NYPost.com reports, “The al Qaeda captors of now-slain hostage Warren Weinstein pocketed \$250,000 in ransom money from his family in 2012, before reneging on the secret deal, according to a Pakistani intermediary. The captors even continued to negotiate with the intermediary for weeks after the 73-year-old American aid worker was accidentally killed in a US drone strike in January. After that strike, the kidnapers spoke of handing Weinstein over to ISIS, never hinting he was dead, according to the intermediary, who spoke directly with the terrorists.” [74920, 74921]

WND.com reports, “While the FBI investigates a possible ISIS terror attack on the basis of intercepted chatter and intelligence information, the TSA issued a classified warning that ISIS is planning an attack on U.S. soil. Little is known about the nature of the attack other than its imminence, which has prompted the TSA to deploy its new Visible Intermodal Prevention and Response teams, or VIPR, to various undisclosed locations. The VIPR teams include airports, train stations and other busy transportation hubs. One law enforcement source suggested parts of California were of special concern. As a result of the FBI warning, some cities have increased security as a precaution, but those cities have not been disclosed. The TSA classified warning was issued Friday [April 24]. The FBI investigation was confirmed Saturday [April 25]. Reuters adds, “A Federal law enforcement official who asked not to be named said there was a known threat to Los Angeles International Airport, but did not say whether this was a new threat or was associated with Islamic State.” [74834, 74870, 74871]

The New York Times reports, “Some of ...Obama’s email correspondence was swept up by Russian hackers last year in a breach of the White House’s unclassified computer system that was far more intrusive and worrisome than has been publicly acknowledged, according to senior American officials briefed on the investigation. The hackers, who also got deeply into the State Department’s unclassified system, do not appear to have penetrated closely guarded servers that control the message traffic from Mr. Obama’s BlackBerry, which he or an aide carries constantly. But they obtained access to the email archives of people inside the White House, and perhaps some outside, with whom Mr. Obama regularly communicated. From those accounts, they reached emails that [Obama] had sent and received, according to officials briefed on the investigation. White House officials said that no classified networks had been compromised, and that the hackers had collected no classified information. Many senior officials have two computers in their offices, one operating on a highly secure classified network and another connected to the outside world for unclassified communications. But officials have conceded that the unclassified system routinely contains much information that is considered highly sensitive: schedules, email exchanges with ambassadors and diplomats, discussions of pending personnel moves and legislation, and, inevitably, some debate about policy.” [74828, 74829]

At Townhall.com Courtney O’Brien reports that only one person has been fired as a result of the Veterans Administration hospital scandals. A second person retired rather than be fired, and a third has termination pending. [74840]

On *Justice with Jeanine*, Democrat strategists Richard Fowler and Marjorie Clifton do their best to defend Hillary Clinton, partly by trying to separate her actions from those of Bill Clinton.

Demonstrators riot in Baltimore, Maryland, angry over the unexplained death of Freddie Gray—a 25-year-old (black) man who died from a spinal injury after being arrested the previous weekend. Some media outlets report that one of the organizers of the demonstration is Malik Shabazz, who they describe as “president of Black Lawyers for Justice.” (*Timeline* readers know that Malik Shabazz has been the national chairman of the New Black Panther Party. Shabazz was one of three club-wielding thugs who intimidated white voters at a Philadelphia polling place on election day in November 2008. The federal government *won the case* against the three in April 2009, but the Obama administration chose to drop the charges. Poll watcher Bartle Bull, a former civil rights lawyer and campaign manager for Robert F. Kennedy, said in his affidavit, “I watched the... uniformed men confront voters and attempt to intimidate voters. They were positioned in a location that forced every voter to pass in close proximity to them. The weapon was openly displayed and brandished in plain sight of voters.” The three men interfered with poll observers, and said to one white worker, “You are about to be ruled by the black man, cracker.” Hans Von Spakovsky, former Justice Department official and voting rights scholar, states, “I have never heard of the Department dismissing a case it has already won by default. They have... sent the message that hurling racial epithets and slurs at voters and intimidating and threatening voters at the polls is fine with the [Eric] Holder Justice Department—at least if you are African-American. I seriously doubt that would have happened if the races had been reversed in this case.”) [2948, 2961, 2962, 2983, 3076, 3110, 74852, 74855, 74858, 74859, 74862, 74864, 74876, 74880, 74952]

Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake says, “I’m a life-long resident of Baltimore and too many people have spent generations building up this city for it to be destroyed by thugs who in a very senseless way are trying to tear down what so many have fought for.” (Absurdly criticized for using the word “thugs,” she is later pressured to apologize via Twitter: “I wanted to clarify my comments on ‘thugs.’ When you speak out of frustration and anger, one can say things in a way that you don’t mean.” “That night we saw misguided young people who need to be held accountable, but who also need support. And my comments then didn’t convey that.”) [75026]

Rawlings-Blake also tells reporters, “...I’ve made it very clear that I, uh, worked with the police and instructed them to do everything that they could to make sure that the protesters were able to exercise their, uh, right to free speech. Um, it’s a very delicate balancing act because while we, uh, try to make sure that they were protected from the cars and the other, y’know [sic] things that were going on, um, we also gave those who wished to destroy, space to do that as well. And we, uh, worked very hard to, uh, to keep that balance and, and to put ourselves in the best position to deescalate, and that’s what you saw, this evening.” (To Rawlings-Blake, there is apparently an acceptable level of property destruction and violence that has to be “balanced” with the safety of law-abiding

citizens. For that statement alone the mayor should be run out of town. Not surprisingly, she later states, “I never said, nor would I ever say, that we would give people space to destroy our city”—even though she was recorded saying just that.) Rawlings-Blake adds, “I want to also thank, uh, the Nation of Islam, who has been, who have been very present in our efforts to keep calm and peace in our city.” She is joined by Jason Downs, who represents the family of Freddie Gray. He calls on protesters to stop the violence. “We must be peaceful. Please be peaceful.” [74867, 74903, 74915, 74917, 74922, 74928, 74929, 74930, 74950, 74951, 75000]

Author Jack Cashill (*If I Had a Son: Race, Guns, and the Railroading of George Zimmerman*) tells WND.com, “I watched the video to make sure the mayor’s ‘safe space’ remark was not taken out of context. Unfortunately, it wasn’t. For perhaps the first time in American history, a public official openly and casually took credit for allowing citizens to destroy property and terrorize innocent bystanders. Scarier still, the major media have not found this admission remarkable. In a city with a black mayor, a black police chief, and a predominantly minority police force, the protesters have so thoroughly ingested the anti-white propaganda educators and the media have fed them over the years that they feel comfortable in blaming Freddie Gray’s death on white people.” (Baltimore has not had a Republican mayor since 1967.) [74929, 74955]

Author Colin Flaherty (*White Girl Bleed A Lot: The Return of Racial Violence To America and How the Media Ignore It*) observes, “The riots in Baltimore [are] not just about a black man who died in police custody. These riots and protests [are] all about how black people are relentless victims of relentless white racism. All the time, everywhere and that explains everything, especially why police arrest so many black people for apparently no reason whatsoever. Of course the mayor’s ‘safe space’ for property destruction during what she called ‘largely peaceful’ protests led to more violence. This is just one more example of black mob violence and how reporters and public officials ignore, deny, condone, excuse, encourage and even lie about it. ...Mayor Rawlings-Blake is saying out loud what has been a city policy for years: Baltimore is one huge No Go Zone, with entire areas of the city often off limits to white people. Two summers ago, [then-governor Martin] O’Malley suggested the mayor needed to put more police on the street to stop a rash of black mob violence downtown and near the Inner Harbor. Mayor Rawlings-Blake blasted O’Malley, saying she was not ‘returning to the days of mass arrests.’ Now, the mayor openly proclaims she will give rioters a safe space to destroy property and create mayhem. That is what Baltimore is today.” [74929]

On the “red carpet” prior to the annual White House Correspondents’ dinner, former Maryland governor Martin O’Malley, who has not yet announced his candidacy for president, says, “I would bring to this offering 15 years of executive experience running a big city, running a state, getting difficult things done and actually making my state a safer and more prosperous state as a result of it. And it’s also what I would bring, I believe, is a new perspective from a new generation that is different than that of my older Baby Boomer brothers and sisters. It’s about getting things done.” (In other words, “Hillary Clinton and Jeb Bush are old news.”) O’Malley continues, “I certainly haven’t traveled as

widely as former Secretary of State Clinton—I'm not sure any American has traveled as widely as a former secretary of State—but I have led trade delegations all around the world and I understand that the first job of the commander in chief is protecting all of us, keep us secure and you can't do that in isolation. You can be engaged with like-minded nations around the world, even as we make ourselves stronger at home. We have to be working in collaboration with other nations on things like climate change, making this transition to renewable energy economies and rally the cause of a rising middle class around the world." [74899]

Along with a few thousand journalists and celebrity non-journalists, Obama appears at the annual dinner. During the National Anthem, the camera focuses on Helena Andrews—a gossip writer for *The Washington Post*—who ignores the music while pre-occupied with her cell phone. Andrews, later tweets, "Apparently someone saw me on TV 'texting' during the dinner. FTR I was taking notes. On my phone. Because it's 2015." (Why being disrespectful to the National Anthem is justified by "taking notes" or the fact that "it's 2015" is not clear.) With riots taking place not far away, *Saturday Night Live's* Cecily Strong "jokes" that the Secret Service is "the only law enforcement agency in the country that will get in trouble if a black man gets shot." She tells Obama, "After six years in office, your approval rating is at 48 percent. Not only that, your gray hair is at 85 percent. Your hair is so white now it can talk back to the police." [78487, 78488, 74849, 74851, 74857, 74887, 74890, 74902, 74907]

Actress "Hanoi" Jane Fonda is among the non-journalists at the event. She is interviewed along with CNN's Wolf Blitzer and the State Department's Marie Harf. Blitzer says, "Can you believe I'm here with Jane Fonda and Marie Harf, acting spokeswoman of the State Department?! How cool is that?" Harf says, "I was looking forward to meeting Jane Fonda, so this was a dream come true. We've already done selfies in the car." Fonda refers to Blitzer as "smart," "cute" and "progressive." [74891]

Obama tells the audience "we will not rest" until *Washington Post* reporter Jason Rezaian is released by the Iranians. (Obama neglects to mention Americans Amir Hekmati and pastor Saeed Abedini, who are also in jail in Iran. In fact, Obama almost never mentions their names. At PJMedia.com Rick Moran later writes, "This is an old game being played by Iran. They are holding the three Americans on trumped-up charges in order to get something valuable in exchange for them. All thug nations do this, knowing that America will move heaven and earth to get our people home. Usually. In Obama's case, there's always something more important, like enabling Iran's nuclear program or buddying up to the Iranian leadership. Iran will continue to pluck Americans off the street or drag them out of their homes until the cost of keeping them becomes too high. Don't expect that cost to rise while ...Obama is in office.") [74594, 75002]

Obama cracks (some arguably bad) jokes, among them: "I'm so old John Boehner has already invited Netanyahu to speak at my funeral." "Let's face it, there is one issue on every reporter's mind, and that's 2016. Already we've seen some missteps. Turns out Jeb Bush identified himself as Hispanic back in 2009. Look, I understand. It's an innocent

mistake. Reminds me of the time I identified myself as American back in 1961.” “Hillary kicked things off by going completely unrecognized at a Chipotle. Not to be outdone, Martin O’Malley kicked things off by going completely unrecognized at a Martin O’Malley campaign event.” “And Bernie Sanders might run. I like Bernie. Bernie’s an interesting guy. Apparently some folks want to see a pot-smoking socialist in the White House. We could get a third Obama term after all!” “Soon the first presidential contest will take place and I for one cannot wait for who the Koch brothers pick. Who will finally get that red rose? Marco Rubio, Rand Paul, Scott Walker, Ted Cruz, Jeb Bush? The winner gets the billion dollar war chest; the runner up gets to be the bachelor on the next season of ‘The Bachelor.’” (Over the years, the gathering has changed from an event for and about serious journalists to a party for media personalities and celebrities who have nothing to do with journalism.) Amazingly, CNN, which broadcasts the event, tells viewers if they want news they should check Twitter. (Showcasing Obama is apparently more important to CNN than breaking news stories.) [74827, 74831, 74842, 74843, 74844, 74847, 74848, 74890, 74900, 74906, 74907, 74927, 75002]

BizPacReview reports, “[I]n a scene reminiscent of Marie Antoinette’s famous quote ‘let them eat cake,’ ...Obama’s White House regaled the ‘nerd prom’ audience of the White House Correspondents’ Association Dinner with a song called ‘I Don’t Care’ at the same time thousands of Orioles and Red Sox fans were trapped at a baseball game at Camden Yards.” (Although it is not true that Antoinette said, “Let them eat cake,” it is true that Obama and a few thousand guests were yukking it up while tens of thousands of baseball fans were stuck inside the stadium, unable to leave because of the rioting outside.) [74892]

Former President George W. Bush meets with Jewish donors in a closed-door meeting. BloombergView.com later reports, “One attendee at the Republican Jewish Coalition session, held at the Venetian Hotel in Las Vegas with owner Sheldon Adelson in attendance, transcribed large portions of Bush’s remarks. The former president, who rarely ever criticizes Obama in public, at first remarked that the idea of re-entering the political arena was something he didn’t want to do. He then proceeded to explain why Obama, in his view, was placing the U.S. in ‘retreat’ around the world. He also said Obama was misreading Iran’s intentions while relaxing sanctions on Tehran too easily. According to the attendee’s transcription, Bush noted that Iran has a new president, Hassan Rouhani. ‘He’s smooth,’ Bush said. ‘And you’ve got to ask yourself, is there a new policy or did they just change the spokesman?’ Bush said that Obama’s plan to lift sanctions on Iran with a promise that they could snap back in place at any time was not plausible. He also said the deal would be bad for American national security in the long term: ‘You think the Middle East is chaotic now? Imagine what it looks like for our grandchildren. That’s how Americans should view the deal.’” [74868, 74889, 74908, 74962]

Also appearing at the event is former New York governor George Pataki, who calls for the arrest of anyone involved in recruiting or fundraising for ISIS or Hamas. He says,

“The Internet does not provide a special safe haven to suspend the laws against incitement to acts of violence against America.” [74869]

On April 26 *This Week's* George Stephanopoulos interviews author Peter Schweizer in an effort to discredit his book, *Clinton Cash*. The ABC host accuses Schweizer of being partisan. (Schweizer is too polite to remind Stephanopoulos that he worked in the Clinton White House, is as partisan as they come, and routinely keeps in touch with Democrat operatives to keep his talking points consistent with theirs.) [74845, 74846, 74881, 74897]

Bloomberg Politics' managing editor Mark Halperin also appears on *This Week*. He remarks, “The Clinton Foundation does great work. Some of the charges against her are overstated. That’s on one side of the ledger. On the other side of the ledger, it’s extraordinarily serious. Imagine if an assistant secretary of State had done what Hillary Clinton—we know that she did. They’d be out of the State Department.” [74959]

On *Meet the Press*, Doonesbury cartoonist and leftist jihad-apologist Garry Trudeau says, “I certainly wouldn’t draw pictures of the prophet [Muhammad].” Meanwhile, after the PEN American Center decides to award its annual Freedom of Expression Courage award to the French newspaper *Charlie Hebdo*, six writers withdraw as hosts at the group’s May 5 awards banquet. NYTimes.com reports, “The novelists Peter Carey, Michael Ondaatje, Francine Prose, Teju Cole, Rachel Kushner and Taiye Selasi have withdrawn from the gala, at the American Museum of Natural History in Manhattan. Gerard Biard, *Charlie Hebdo*’s editor in chief, and Jean-Baptiste Thoret, a *Charlie Hebdo* staff member who arrived late for work on Jan. 7 and missed the attack by Islamic extremists that killed 12 people, are scheduled to accept the award. In an email to PEN’s leadership on Friday, Ms. Kushner said she was withdrawing out of discomfort with what she called the magazine’s ‘cultural intolerance’ and promotion of ‘a kind of forced secular view,’ opinions echoed by other writers who pulled out. Mr. Carey, in an email interview yesterday, said the award stepped beyond the group’s traditional role of protecting freedom of expression against government oppression.” The craven Carey also states, “All this is complicated by PEN’s seeming blindness to the cultural arrogance of the French nation, which does not recognize its moral obligation to a large and disempowered segment of their population.” (In other words, Carey defends Muslims because he is afraid to offend them.) In France, *Charlie Hebdo* cartoonist Luz states he will no longer draw Muhammed, saying, “It no longer interests me.” (Translation: “I’m afraid Muslims will kill me too.”) [74986, 74987, 74995, 75070, 75071, 75073, 75107]

TrevorLoudon.com reports that The Clinton Global Initiative (CGI) has “an interesting way of doling out the ‘contributions’ it received.” Between 2009 and 2013, CGI issued grants of about \$75 million, while spending a whopping \$425 million on “salaries, travel & unknown.” Few normal Americans would donate to an alleged charitable organization that spends only 15 percent of its income on helping others, while spending 85 percent on overhead. But it is not normal Americans who contribute to the Clintons’ CGI; it is deep-pocketed individuals, organizations, and countries that want something in return. Loudon

writes, “The Clintons are a malignant tumor on the body politic. They have a history of doing anything for money—including selling out their own country—and when it comes to their personal bank accounts, there’s apparently never enough zeroes.” [74863]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, “A top Democratic moneyman recruited by Hillary Rodham Clinton’s presidential campaign has put fundraising activities on hold, saying he can’t do it with a clear conscience because the former secretary of state has too many unanswered questions swirling around her. New York businessman Jon Cooper, who Team Clinton enlisted for its elite corps of early fundraisers known as ‘HillStarters,’ said that he decided not to tap his donor network for Mrs. Clinton because she hasn’t provided enough answers about foreign donations to the Clinton Foundation while she ran the State Department, her exclusive use of private email for official business as America’s top diplomat and her commitment to liberal priorities. ‘I’m officially on the fence,’ said Mr. Cooper, a bundler for ...Obama’s campaigns who is active in Democratic politics in New York, which Mrs. Clinton represented in the U.S. Senate and where she has set up her campaign headquarters. Mr. Cooper said he was writing a fundraising email to the roughly 10,000 people in his network when he realized that his heart wasn’t in it. ‘I was sitting there trying to draft the email, and I just couldn’t do it,’ he told The Washington Times.” [74865]

At SperoForum.com Rabbi Yehuda Levin calls on Supreme Court Justices Elena Kagan and Ruth Bader Ginsberg to recuse themselves from participating in a case involving gay marriage because both have officiated at gay weddings. Federal law, of course, calls on judges to disqualify themselves from “any proceeding in which his impartiality might reasonably be questioned.” Levin writes, “Therefore we call upon Chief Justice Roberts, ...Obama and the House and Senate Judiciary committees to speak out and take the necessary steps to disqualify Kagan and Ginsberg from participating in these proceedings. Furthermore we invite the leadership of all religious denominations including but not limited to the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Southern Baptist Convention, as well as African American, Latino and Muslim religious organizations to join our demand that simple justice requires these two pro same-gender ‘Marriage’ activist justices be disqualified before the case is heard. We express our fervent hope and prayer that the lawyers who will be representing the traditional view of marriage will have the courage and conviction to demand that the justices be disqualified if they are still seated as the hearing begins. We ask all Presidential candidates, Democrats and Republicans from Secretary Hillary Clinton to Governor Scott Walker and everyone in between, regardless of their viewpoint on the marriage issue, to vocally advocate that to insure the integrity and impartiality of our highest court, Justices Ginsburg and Kagan must be disqualified. It’s an issue of simple fairness. Finally we question why an ‘impartial’ media that queries Republicans as to whether they would attend a same gender ‘Marriage’ does not question any and all of the above mentioned politicians, judicial and religious leaders including justice Kagan and Ginsburg themselves as to why these two should not be disqualified.” (The odds of Ginsburg and Kagan recusing themselves are close to zero. Further, some believe that Kagan and Justice Sonia Sotomayor are lesbians.) [74866]

PamelaGeller.com reports, “In 2012, a 28-year-old American woman, Caitlin Coleman, was kidnapped along with her [Canadian] husband, Joshua Boyle, while traveling in Afghanistan. Coleman was pregnant and gave birth while in captivity. The family has been held ever since by the Taliban. Her name and that of her husband and baby should be on the lips of every American. Another story the media doesn’t report.”

TheDailyBeast.com notes, “Their plight—only occasionally mentioned in the Western press—was given fresh urgency Thursday when the U.S. government revealed that a CIA drone accidentally killed two hostages in Pakistan while targeting an al Qaeda meeting. The couple were seen last year in a pair of videos pleading for their governments to help them. U.S. officials, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss the case, have said that they don’t believe the three hostages’ lives are in immediate danger, unlike those Americans who were held hostage and eventually executed by ISIS. ...Boyle had previously been married to the sister of Omar Khadr, a Canadian who’d spent 10 years as a prisoner in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. But officials said there is no connection between that previous relationship and Boyle and Coleman’s captivity.” Boyle’s mother Linda told the Associated Press, “They really and truly believed that if people were loved and treated with respect that that would be given back to them in kind. So as odd it as it may seem to us that they were there, they truly believed with all their heart that if they treated people properly, they would be treated properly.” Coleman’s father describes Caitlin as “naive” and “adventuresome.” [74872, 74873]

Iran’s Ayatollah Khamenei needles Obama with tweets about the deaths of black Americans Michael Brown and Freddie Gray: “On false pretexts US police shoots ppl on streets. This is a type of power which doesn’t ensure security but leads to insecurity.” “Acquittal of US cops who committed murder is among measures taken by statesmen who ignore humanity& religion.” “It’s ridiculous that even though US President is black, still such crimes agnst US blacks continue to occur.” “They celebrate a day for abolition of slavery but such crimes are committed against the blacks.” “Power with cruelty isn’t favored by Islam. Police should embody justice and mercy while being potent.” [74888, 74912]

NYPPost.com reports, “The Clinton Foundation’s finances are so messy that the nation’s most influential charity watchdog put it on its ‘watch list’ of problematic nonprofits last month. The Clinton family’s mega-charity took in more than \$140 million in grants and pledges in 2013 but spent just \$9 million on direct aid. The group spent the bulk of its windfall on administration, travel, and salaries and bonuses, with the fattest payouts going to family friends. On its 2013 tax forms, the most recent available, the foundation claimed it spent \$30 million on payroll and employee benefits; \$8.7 million in rent and office expenses; \$9.2 million on ‘conferences, conventions and meetings’; \$8 million on fundraising; and nearly \$8.5 million on travel. None of the Clintons is on the payroll, but they do enjoy first-class flights paid for by the foundation. In all, the group reported \$84.6 million in ‘functional expenses’ on its 2013 tax return and had more than \$64 million left over—money the organization has said represents pledges rather than actual cash on hand. Some of the tens of millions in administrative costs finance more than 2,000 employees, including aid workers and health professionals around the world. But that’s still far below the 75 percent rate of spending that nonprofit experts say a good

charity should spend on its mission. Charity Navigator, which rates nonprofits, recently refused to rate the Clinton Foundation because its ‘atypical business model ...doesn’t meet our criteria.’ Charity Navigator put the foundation on its ‘watch list,’ which warns potential donors about investing in problematic charities. The 23 charities on the list include the Rev. Al Sharpton’s troubled National Action Network, which is cited for failing to pay payroll taxes for several years. ...‘It seems like the Clinton Foundation operates as a slush fund for the Clintons,’ said Bill Allison, a senior fellow at the Sunlight Foundation, a government watchdog group where progressive Democrat and Fordham Law professor Zephyr Teachout was once an organizing director.” (Current CEO of the Clinton Foundation is Donna Shalala, who served as Bill Clinton’s Secretary of Health and Human Services from 1993 to 2001. Look for the “slush fund” comment to appear in more than a few political ads.) [74894, 74895, 74896, 74909, 74961]

In a stunningly atrocious op-ed in *The Des Moines Register*, Hillary Clinton writes, “We can do a lot—if we do it together. We can build an economy for tomorrow, not yesterday, where being middle class means something again. We can strengthen families and communities, because when families get ahead, our country gets ahead, too. We can fix our dysfunctional political system and get unaccountable money out of it once and for all, even if that takes a constitutional amendment. And we can protect our country from the threats that we see around the world and ones that are still over the horizon. These are the four big fights I’m taking on for you, but I can’t do it alone. We’ve got to tackle this together. We need to build on the success, the hard work and the innovation I found in Iowa. As school principal Jason McLaughlin put it, Iowans are ‘pragmatic, proud people.’ That’s certainly what I saw first-hand this month. And it’s that spirit that’s going to help move our country forward.” (HotAir.com’s Ed Morrissey later observes, “Most people long for an opportunity to write a newspaper column to say *something*. Hillary Clinton used her opportunity to say almost *nothing*. She recites a few platitudes, rehashes a couple of progressive mantras, and offers literally no policy prescriptions or specific actions she would take if elected. It’s a curious mash-up of whining and brown-nosing of Iowa voters, and that’s it.”) [74904, 74905]

On April 27 the White House announces it will send several representatives to the funeral of Freddie Gray, a street thug with a lengthy arrest record (drug possession and drug selling, assault, burglary), who died of a spinal injury a few days after being in police custody. (The action is clearly unjustified. Regardless of the police actions, Gray was no hero deserving of the honor of a White House representative.) [74883, 74884, 74885, 74886, 74985]

Reuters reports, “The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday revived religious objections by Catholic groups in Michigan and Tennessee to the Obamacare requirement for contraception coverage, throwing out a lower court decision [*Michigan Catholic Conference v. Burwell*] favoring ...Obama’s administration. The justices asked the Cincinnati-based 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to reconsider its decision that backed the Obama administration in light of the Supreme Court’s June 2014 ruling that allowed certain privately owned corporations to seek exemptions from the provision. ...The high court threw out a June 2014 appeals court ruling that went in favor of the government. In

March, the court took a similar approach in a case concerning the University of Notre Dame.” Mark Rienzi, Senior Counsel of the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, comments, “The government keeps making the same bad arguments and the Supreme Court keeps rejecting them—every single time. This is because the government can obviously come up with ways to distribute contraceptives without the forced involvement of Catholic ministries. As with the Supreme Court’s decisions in Little Sisters of the Poor and Hobby Lobby, this is a strong signal that the Supreme Court will ultimately reject the government’s narrow view of religious liberty. And it makes it less likely that lower courts will accept arguments the Supreme Court has rejected over and over and over again.” [74958, 75050]

According to a Quinnipiac poll, “only 35 percent of voters are ‘very confident’ or ‘somewhat confident’ the [Obama] agreement would prevent Iran from developing nuclear weapons, while 62 percent are ‘not so confident’ or ‘not confident at all.’ ... Voters support 65 - 24 percent making any Iran agreement subject to congressional approval.” Only four percent say they are “very confident” that Obama’s Iran deal will prevent it from developing nuclear weapons; 31 percent say they are “somewhat confident,” 23 percent say they are “not so confident,” and 39 percent say they are “not confident at all.” Additionally, only 38 percent believe Obama is a strong supporter of Israel. [74898]

ANSA reports, “ISIS supporters are tweeting photos of handwritten pieces of paper signed by ISIS being held in front of well-known locations and monuments in Rome and Milan, intelligence and counter-terrorism expert Rita Katz said on the website of her organisation SITE. ‘We are on your streets, we are locating targets,’ the signs reportedly say.” [74998]

The Nigerian terrorist group Boko Haram changes its name to the “Islamic State’s West Africa Province” (ISWAP). [75202]

CNSNews.com reports, “In 19.9 percent of American families in 2014, according to data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), no one in the family worked. A family, as defined by the BLS, is a ‘group of two or more persons residing together who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption. In 2014, there were 80,889,000 families in the United States, and in 16,057,000 of those families, or 19.9 percent, no one had a job.” [74910]

DCWhispers.com reports that Hillary Clinton was less than amused by some of the jokes at the White House Correspondents’ Dinner on April 25. Obama joked, “For example I have one friend, just a few weeks ago she was making millions of dollars a year. And she’s now living out of a van in Iowa,” and “Not to be outdone, Martin O’Malley kicked things off by going completely unrecognized at a Martin O’Malley campaign event.” Clinton reportedly “...unleashed a tirade of profanities” and referred to Obama as “that idiot!” “Hillary’s tantrum continued for several minutes and was volatile enough [that] her longtime assistant, Huma Abedin, who rarely leaves Mrs. Clinton’s side, quickly scurried from the room with a handful of other staff who it seems had little reluctance to

then share details of the outburst with others, including the following description: ‘She’s old. She’s tired, and she’s very cranky.’ It appears Hillary’s concerns are being proven out as Martin O’Malley’s Google trend rating suddenly skyrocketed in the hours following [Obama’s] name-drop. And it was not only [Obama] who offered the significant O’Malley bump. Hollywood did the same with a story that trended upward as well at nearly the very moment Barack Obama’s own O’Malley comments were made.” [74913]

Rioting, looting, and property destruction continues in Baltimore. More than 140 automobiles are burned. Baltimore Police Commissioner Anthony Batts says, “This is not protesting. This is not exercising your First Amendment rights. This is criminal activity.” (Obama says nothing.) Governor Larry Hogan states, “These acts of violence and destruction of property cannot and will not be tolerated”—even though they are being tolerated. [74916, 74918, 74919, 74928, 74933, 74965]

Targets of arsonists in Baltimore include a CVS pharmacy and a new senior center being built by the Southern Baptist Church. According to Shoebat.com, “The senior housing project, planned as roughly 60 apartments and a community center, has been in the works since at least 2006. ...The Department of Housing and Community Development granted \$200,000 last year toward the center, which was intended for community events, educational services and employment training. The city also loaned \$15 million toward the construction of the senior apartments at 1600 N. Chester Street, which also received public financing in the form of low income housing tax credits.” [74980]

Hogan declares a state of emergency and activates Maryland’s National Guard. Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake institutes a week-long citywide curfew, from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m., beginning April 28. (Why she did not begin the curfew on the 27th is not explained.) [74916, 74918, 74928, 74966]

An ISIS flag is seen among the Baltimore protesters. [74992]

CNN commentator Marc Lamont Hill defends the outrageous rioting and violence: “We can’t ignore the fact that the city is burning, but we need to be talking about why it’s burning and not romanticize peace and not romanticize marching as the only way to function. I’m not saying we should be hurting, I’m not saying we should be killing people, but we do have to understand that resistance looks different ways to different people and part of what it means to say black lives matter, is to assert our right to have rage—righteous rage, righteous indignation in the face of state violence and extrajudicial killing. Freddie Gray is dead. That’s why the city is burning and let’s make that clear. It’s not burning because of these protesters. The city is burning because the police killed Freddie Gray and that’s a distinction we have to make.” Hill declares, “I think we should be strategic in how we riot.” [74953, 74960, 75374, 75375]

Even communist Van Jones (who, like Hill, is also black) disagrees with Hill. Jones says, “Yes, it is true. Dr. [Martin Luther] King [Jr.] said riots are the language of the unheard. It is, in fact true, and important that people recognize that the conditions in Baltimore for

black teens are worse than conditions for teens in Nigeria. So, the outrage should be of course about the incredible injustice both from the police, but also the economic deprivation and I want to have a conversation. But I do want to be able to draw a line to say that the righteous outrage—we can take a moral position, as a part of this movement. Black lives matter, but you know what? Black jobs matter, and black businesses matter, and black neighborhoods matter and I don't think it's appropriate for us to give any kind of suggestion that the destruction of black communities is a positive or can be positive in this context.” [74593, 74960]

Newly-sworn in Attorney General Loretta Lynch issues a statement: “I condemn the senseless acts of violence by some individuals in Baltimore that have resulted in harm to law enforcement officers, destruction of property and a shattering of the peace in the city of Baltimore. Those who commit violent actions, ostensibly in protest of the death of Freddie Gray, do a disservice to his family, to his loved ones, and to legitimate peaceful protestors who are working to improve their community for all its residents. The Department of Justice stands ready to provide any assistance that might be helpful. The Civil Rights Division and the FBI have an ongoing, independent criminal civil rights investigation into the tragic death of Mr. Gray. We will continue our careful and deliberate examination of the facts in the coming days and weeks. The department's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services has also been fully engaged in a collaborative review of the Baltimore City Police Department. The department's Community Relations Service has already been on the ground, and they are sending additional resources as they continue to work with all parties to reduce tensions and promote the safety of the community. And in the coming days, Vanita Gupta, head of the Civil Rights Division, and Ronald Davis, Director of Community Oriented Policing Services, will be traveling to Baltimore to meet with faith and community leaders, as well as city officials. As our investigative process continues, I strongly urge every member of the Baltimore community to adhere to the principles of nonviolence. In the days ahead, I intend to work with leaders throughout Baltimore to ensure that we can protect the security and civil rights of all residents. And I will bring the full resources of the Department of Justice to bear in protecting those under threat, investigating wrongdoing, and securing an end to violence.” [74934]

It is worth noting that it might be easier to know what caused the death of Freddie Gray while he was in police custody if Baltimore police officers wore body cameras. In November 2014 the Baltimore City Council voted to require body cameras, but the bill was vetoed by Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake. [74949]

On April 28 the Iranian navy fires at and boards the MV Maersk Tigris, a Marshall Islands -flagged, commercial cargo ship as it passes through the Strait of Hormuz. Al Arabiya News and Reuters report, “U.S. planes and a destroyer were monitoring the situation after the vessel, the MV Maersk Tigris, made a distress call in the Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's most important oil shipping channels. The ship had no U.S. citizens aboard, the spokesman said, contradicting earlier reports which said there were 34 U.S. sailors on board. The company managing the vessel told a Danish news channel there were 24 crew members, mostly from Eastern Europe and Asia. ...The vessel had

been following a normal commercial route between Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates...” It is worth noting that Iran never ratified the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Laws of the Sea. (How—or whether—Obama will respond remains to be seen. However, Iran’s action is more likely a message to Saudi Arabia to stop its attacks on Iranian-backed Houthi rebels in Yemen. Iran is not-so-subtly suggesting that if the Saudis continue, their oil shipments could be blocked.) [74944, 74945, 74946, 74947, 74963, 74964, 74990, 74991, 74997, 75030]

The Marshall Islands are a U.S. protectorate and, under a “Compact of Free Association” signed in 1983, the United States may have a legal obligation to defend them. HotAir.com notes that, according to a February 4, 2015 State Department fact sheet, “The United States has full authority and responsibility for security and defense of the Marshall Islands, and the Government of the Marshall Islands is obligated to refrain from taking actions that would be incompatible with these security and defense responsibilities.” But CBS News reports, “Pentagon lawyers have determined... US has no obligation to come to the defense of a Marshall Islands-flagged vessel at sea.” (America’s allies, especially NATO allies, have reason to be nervous.) [74944, 74945, 74946, 74947, 74963, 74964, 74990, 74991, 74997, 75030, 75037, 75038]

Schools are closed in Baltimore and the evening’s Orioles baseball game is re-scheduled. The April 29th game with the Chicago White Sox will be played in Baltimore—but with no fans allowed into the Camden Yards stadium. (The Orioles’ upcoming three-game series against the Tampa Bay Rays will be moved from Baltimore to Tropicana field in St. Petersburg, Florida.) [74937, 74957, 75218]

On *Fox & Friends*, former New York City Police Department detective Bo Dietl says Obama, “who’s got a big mouth, should have been on national TV last night saying, ‘Kids, go home.’ These are kids who thought this was an opportunity to [say], ‘Wow, let’s go loot stores.’ It was animal house, that’s what it is. When you have nowhere, nothing to live for, you want to do something that makes your friends go, ‘Wow, Bo just whacked a cop.’ That’s what’s out there. ... This should have been nipped in the bud and [Obama] ... should get on national TV and say [stop]. We’ve got to take charge otherwise anarchy will be all over this country. ... I pray to God [Obama] steps up and becomes a leader.” The Fox Business Networks’ Charles Payne adds, “Obama mishandled this whole thing, particularly on the racial side,” Payne said. “You’ve got to admonish people. You can’t always make the looters the victims. ... When we look at ... Obama, he could have taken the words of Martin Luther King to the next level.” [74967]

Leftists are angered that Whole Foods is giving sandwiches to Baltimore riot police, while school closings mean children will not get their taxpayer-subsidized lunches. They are also angry with Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) for greeting a few National Guardsmen and shaking hands with them. [74938, 75015, 75016, 75024, 75025]

During a press conference with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, Obama angers many blacks when he says, “A handful of criminals and thugs tore up the place [Baltimore].” (In “politically correct” circles, the word “thug” cannot be used to describe thugs because

it is apparently “racist.” Baltimore City Council president Jack Young even apologizes for calling the thugs thugs, saying they are merely “misdirected and angry.” The minimum sentencing for being misdirected and angry is not noted. *Washington Post* contributor Sally Kohn is among the leftists who whine about the use of the word “thug.” This *Timeline* suggests an alternative: “uncivilized incarceration seekers.” [74939, 74940, 74941, 74943, 75001, 75019, 75095, 75108, 75112, 75177]

Obama states, “I think it’s pretty understandable why the leaders of civil rights organizations—but more importantly, moms and dads across the country—might start saying this is a crisis. What I’d say is this has been a slow rolling crisis. It’s been going on for a long time. This is not new and we shouldn’t pretend this is new. But the good news is that perhaps there’s some newfound awareness—because of social media and video cameras and so forth—that there are problems and challenges when it comes to how policing and our laws are applied to certain communities. And we have to pay attention to it and respond. ... We can’t just leave this to the police. If our society really wanted to solve this problem, we could. It’s just that it would require everybody saying this is important, this is significant. And we don’t just pay attention to these communities when a CVS burns. And we don’t just pay attention when a young man gets shot or has his spine snapped. We’re paying attention all the time, because we consider those kids our kids and we think they’re important—and they shouldn’t be living in poverty and violence. ... We have seen too many instances of what appears [sic] to be police officers interacting with individuals, primarily African Americans, often poor, in ways that raise troubling questions. And it comes up it seems like once a week now, or every couple weeks. And so I think it’s understandable that, and more importantly moms and dads across the country, saying this is a crisis [sic].” [74967, 75001, 75177]

Obama lectures, “I think there are police departments that have to do some soul searching. I think there are some communities that have to do some soul searching. But I think we, as a country, have to do some soul searching.” (NationalReview.com’s Jim Geraghty responds, “No, we don’t! This is not a time for the usual ‘Socialism of Blame’ where responsibility for what happened gets spread far and wide and equally to everybody. Why do we have to do some soul searching? We didn’t do anything to Freddie Gray, the man who died after being arrested. The police actions are being investigated. We didn’t set fire to a senior center under construction. We didn’t run into a CVS and grab everything we could. We didn’t set police cruisers on fire, or jump atop smashed police cruisers. You know who’s responsible for the punctured fire hose? The SOB who reached down with a knife and stabbed the fire hose [while firefighters were trying to extinguish the blaze at a CVS pharmacy]! ... ‘We, as a country, have to do some soul searching’? I’m sure there’s a significant chunk of you who have never even been to Baltimore. We can shut down our entire chain of soul stores and do a complete inventory, counting what’s on every shelf, and it’s not going to change one fact on the ground in Baltimore.”) [75030, 75031, 75032, 75042, 75177]

To the surprise of perhaps no one, Obama uses the Baltimore riots to criticize the GOP. He says, “If we are serious about solving this problem, then we’re going to not only have to help the police, we’re going to have to think about what can we do, the rest of us, to

make sure that we're providing early education to these kids. To make sure that we're reforming our criminal justice system so it's not just a pipeline from schools to prisons. So that we're not rendering men in these communities unemployable because of a felony record for a nonviolent drug offense. That we're making investments so they can get the training they need to find jobs. That's hard. That requires more than just the occasional news report or task force, and there's a bunch of my agenda that would make a difference right now in that. I'm under no illusion that under this Congress we're going to get massive investments in urban communities. And so we'll try to find areas where we can make a difference around school reform, and around job training, and around some investments in infrastructure in these communities trying to attract new businesses in." (By "there's a bunch of my agenda that would make a difference right now" Obama means, "The Republican-controlled Congress needs to authorize the spending of billions of dollars we don't have on 'massive investments' across the country." Why Obama thinks spending money on "infrastructure" will help the unskilled and the unemployed in Baltimore is not stated. Even if billions were to be spent repairing roads and bridges in Maryland, the construction jobs would not go to high school drop-outs on welfare. The jobs would go to existing union construction companies.) [74999, 75001, 75042, 75177]

National Review's Kevin Williamson tweets, "Baltimore is the Left fighting the Left over the failed policies of the Left." [74942]

Vox.com reports, "The size and scope of the symbiotic relationship between the Clintons and their donors is striking. At least 181 companies, individuals, and foreign governments that have given to the Clinton Foundation also lobbied the State Department when Hillary Clinton ran the place, according to a Vox analysis of foundation records and federal lobbying disclosures. ... That's not illegal, but it is scandalous. ... It should come as no surprise that the folks who have a lot of cash to give are also those who have the most at stake in decisions made by the federal government. That's why politicians get so much money from special interests. It's also why the voting public should be aware, and wary, of the flow of money from special interests to candidates and elected officials. Transparency is not an antidote to corruption, so that money flow deserves intense scrutiny." Disclosed donors include the Microsoft/Gates Foundation (at least \$26 million), Coca-Cola (at least \$5 million), Walmart/Walton Foundation (at least \$2.25 million), and more than \$1 million each from the government of Qatar, Goldman Sachs, Dow Chemical, Pfizer, Duke Energy Corporation, ExxonMobil, and several others. (The far left Vox.com is likely critical of the Clintons not because it strives to objective reporting, but because Hillary Clinton is not far enough to the political left.) [74935, 74936]

The U.S. Supreme Court hears oral arguments in the same-sex marriage case, *Obergefell v. Hodges*. Justice Samuel Alito addresses attorney Mary L. Bonauto, "Suppose we rule in your favor in this case and then after that, a group consisting of two men and two women apply for a marriage license. Would there be any ground for denying them a license?" (That is, "Can a marriage consist of four people?") Bonauto gives two reasons why she believes such a marriage would be denied: "One is whether the State would even say that that is such a thing as a marriage, but then beyond that, there are definitely going

to be concerns about coercion and consent and disrupting family relationships when you start talking about multiple persons. But I want to also just go back to the wait and see question for a moment, if I may. Because—” Justice Antonin Scalia interrupts: “Well, I didn’t understand your answer.” (To claim that a state would not even recognize a four-person marriage because it is non-traditional is not much of an argument for an attorney who is trying to persuade the Supreme Court that same-sex marriages should be accepted—after thousands of years of societies considering them unacceptable.) [75043, 75044, 75086, 75111, 75358]

After some back and forth that resolves little, Bonauto responds, “The question is one of—again, assuming it’s within the fundamental right, the question then becomes one of justification. And I assume that the States would come in and they would say that there are concerns about consent and coercion. If there’s a divorce from the second wife, does that mean the fourth wife has access to the child of the second wife? There are issues around who is it that makes the medical decisions, you know, in the time of crisis. I assume there’d be lots of family disruption issues, setting aside issues of coercion and consent and so on that just don’t apply here, when we’re talking about two consenting adults who want to make that mutual commitment for as long as they shall be. So that’s my answer on that.” (Bonauto’s answer is nonsensical, as it applies to traditional two-person marriages just as well. To argue that a four-person marriage could involve child-custody and medical decision disputes is irrelevant, *because such disputes also arise in two-person marriages.*) [75043, 75044, 75086, 75111, 75358]

PJMedia.com’s Paula Bolyard writes, “Justices [John] Roberts and Alito questioned Solicitor General Donald Verrilli about the rights of religious schools if the Court decides to impose same-sex marriage on the states. Justice Roberts asked if religious schools that provide housing to married students would be required to offer such housing to same-sex couples. Verrilli demurred, saying there is currently no federal law banning discrimination based on sexual orientation. ‘Those issues are going to have to be worked out,’ he said. Not satisfied with that answer, Justice Alito brought up the Bob Jones case, where the Court held that a college was not entitled to tax-exempt status if it opposed interracial marriage or interracial dating. He asked if the same would apply to a college or university that opposed same-sex marriage. ‘You know, I don’t think I can answer that question without knowing more specifics, but it’s certainly going to be an issue,’ Verrilli said. ‘I don’t deny that. I don’t deny that, Justice Alito. It’s going to be an issue.’ Suddenly we have a clear, unambiguous answer for those who have been bleating, ‘Yeah, but how would gay marriage affect you personally?’ It’s not that proponents of traditional marriage haven’t been saying this all along, but now we have it on the record—from the lips of Obama’s lawyer to the ears of the masses: We’re coming for your Christian schools.” (In other words, the Obama administration would deny tax-exempt status to religious organizations that do not support same-sex marriage.) [75034, 75043, 75044, 75045, 75086, 75111, 75358]

Justice Roberts addresses Bonauto: “You say [same-sex couples should be allowed to] join in the institution [of marriage]. The argument on the other side is that they’re seeking to redefine the institution. Every definition that I looked up prior to about a dozen years

ago defined marriage as unity between a man and a woman, as husband and wife. Obviously, if you succeed, that core definition will no longer be operable.” Bonauto responds, “I hope not, your honor, because what we’re talking about here is a class of people who by state laws [are] excluded from being able to participate in this institution. And if your honor’s question is about does this really draw a sexually orientation line—” Roberts: “No, my [point] is, you’re not seeking to join the institution [of marriage]; you’re seeking to change what the institution is. A fundamental core of the institution is the opposite sex relationship and you want to introduce into it a same-sex relationship.” Justice Anthony Kennedy notes that the definition of marriage as the union of a man and a woman “has been with us for millennia. And it’s... it’s very difficult for the court to say, oh, well, we, we know better [than thousands of years of societal customs].” Justice Scalia comments, “Well, the issue, of course, is not whether there should be same-sex marriage, but who should decide the point.” [75043, 75044, 75086, 75111, 75358]

How the Court will decide remains to be seen. A decision is not expected until June. The Court may rule that the issue is best left to the voters in each state to decide. The issue is perhaps not so much legal as it is societal, and the people, rather than the courts, should decide. Of course, many on the political left do not want the people to decide because they may decide against same-sex marriage. Additionally, it is *far* easier for a politician to say, “Don’t blame me, blame the courts,” than to have to vote on the issue in a legislative session. Dumping an issue on the courts is a politician’s favorite way of avoiding a vote on the issue.

AJC.com reports that Nancy Perry, a middle school teacher in Dublin, Georgia, “has been removed from the classroom to pave the way for her retirement at the end of the school year” because she told her students Obama is not a Christian—and neither is anyone who voted for him. [75035, 75036]

The far-left Salon.com calls “smashing police cars... a legitimate political strategy.” [74948]

Bloomberg.com reports, “Twitter Inc. co-founders Evan Williams and Jack Dorsey lost almost \$750 million in paper wealth this afternoon after the company posted first-quarter revenue that fell short of estimates. The microblogging business also cut its sales forecast as the company struggles to attract more users and advertisers. The stock fell 18 percent, fueled by the early release of results. Williams, who owns 7.5 percent of the San Francisco-based company, dropped almost \$525 million, according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index. Dorsey, who also co-founded Square Inc., a mobile-payments company, lost about \$220 million.” [74956]

According to Vermont Public Radio, Senator Bernie Sanders (D-VT) will announce his candidacy for president on April 30. If elected, Sanders would be the nation’s first Jewish socialist president. (Sanders will, of course, not even win the Democrat Party nomination.) [74968, 75040]

According to TheHill.com, “An inspector general investigating the IRS’s improper scrutiny of Tea Party groups has found thousands of emails from Lois Lerner, the agency official at the center of that controversy, according to committees involved in the probe. The Treasury inspector general for tax administration (TIGTA) said it found roughly 6,400 emails either to or from Lerner sent between 2004 and 2013 that it didn’t think the IRS had turned over to lawmakers, the panels said. The committees have yet to examine the emails, according to Capitol Hill aides. ...Of the emails the inspector general found, about 650 were from 2010 and 2011, and most were from 2012. The inspector general found about 35,000 emails in all as it sought to recover data from recycled back-up tapes.” [75013, 75014, 75039]

Race-hustler Al Sharpton meets with Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake. [74969]

TheFourthEstate.com writes, “The Fourth Estate has contacted sources who allege that Freddie Gray received spinal and neck surgery a week before we was arrested, and was allegedly receiving a large structured settlement from Allstate Insurance. The surgery is allegedly related to a car accident in which Gray was involved. Sources allege that Gray also attempted to refinance his structured settlement into one lump sum payment through Peachtree Funding. If this is true, then it is possible that Gray’s spinal injury resulting from his encounter with the Baltimore Police was not the result of rough-handling or abuse, but rather a freak accident that occurred when Gray should have been at home resting, not selling drugs. The structured settlement from Allstate and Gray’s attempt to convert it into one lump sum payment has been confirmed by Howard County Circuit Court Records. ...It is reasonable to believe that the injuries Gray suffered after the arrest were not related to the police’s treatment of him at all. Spinal and neck surgery is a large ordeal, and doctors advise weeks of bed rest and taking it easy in order to not rupture the patient’s recently fused spine. If this is true, Freddy Gray decided to go out and ended up getting in a scuffle with the police instead of healing properly. The police didn’t mistreat him at all; he mistreated himself.” (This *Timeline* has not been able to confirm the report. Whether the story is accurate remains to be seen, but it appears *not* to be legitimate.) [74970, 74971, 74972, 74973, 74976, 74984, 75087]

According to InfoWars.com, “Police officers in Baltimore reportedly told journalists that they were ordered by Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake not to stop looters during yesterday’s riots.” (The claim has not been confirmed by this *Timeline*.) [74981]

CNN’s Brooke Baldwin says, “And a lot of these young people, I’ve been talking about this so much. A lot of young people, and I love our nation’s veterans, but some of them are coming back from war, they don’t know the communities, and they’re ready to do battle.” (That is, veterans who leave the Armed Forces and then become police officers are to blame for tensions with lawbreakers—as if they go directly from Iraq to Afghanistan to the streets of Baltimore without training.) Baldwin later apologizes via Twitter: “I am sorry for what I said earlier about veterans. It was wrong and I apologize to anyone who was hurt by my comments.” “Folks. Please don’t misunderstand me. Dear

friends/family of mine are veterans. I was repeating a concern vocalized to me lately. That's it." [74979, 75006, 75007, 75023, 75027, 75041, 75047, 75052]

On *Your World with Neil Cavuto*, Milwaukee County Sheriff David A. Clarke (who happens to be black) observes, "Like Baltimore, like Ferguson, like New York and many other areas where failed liberal government policies have led to high unemployment, chronic poverty, failing schools. This is what besets the Baltimore area. Ninety percent of the homicide victims in the Baltimore area are black as are ninety percent of the suspects. That's a bigger problem than Freddie Gray. ... These individuals that [sic; who] are rioting and looting right now and throwing rocks and bottles do not know Freddie Gray, do not care about Freddie Gray. If they were in a nightclub in Baltimore [they] would shoot and kill him for bumping into them on the dance floor." [75029]

According to Breaking911.com, protests in Chicago turn violent. [74974, 74975]

Protesting and looting also takes place in Ferguson, Missouri. [75020]

Demonstrations continue in Baltimore, curfew notwithstanding, although only about 10 people are arrested, and violence and looting are limited. [74977, 74978, 74982, 74983, 75028]

DailyCaller.com posts "The Top 10 Worst Liberal Journalist Tweets About The Baltimore Riots." They include: "I don't condone this, but we need to listen to what these children in Baltimore are communicating. Make no mistake, this is communication." (*The New Republic's* Jamil Smith) "Riots are what happened in Kentucky after the basketball team lost the championship. What we're seeing is an international wave of UPRISINGS." (Marc Lamont Hill) "When West Baltimore *isn't* rioting, the national media, by and large, could not possibly care less what's happening there." (MSNBC's Chris Hayes) "Seeing many, many folks Tweet a variant of 'whites don't riot.' Serious question: Does this qualify?" (Politico.com's Glenn Thrush, referring to the Oklahoma City bombing—which most certainly was not "white people rioting.") "Burning police cars and destroying private property is a legitimate political strategy." (Salon.com) [75033]

Daniel Greenfield writes at the Sultan Knish blog, "Race riots usually begin with criminality and end with criminality. They're protests by criminals on behalf of a dead criminal. The stores with smashed windows aren't the means to express outrage, but the end. ... The police were never the problem. The looters and rioters were. The counterculture has not changed dramatically since the 70's, but it has tossed aside any appearance of idealism. The new counterculture draws in two groups, disaffected upper middle class white youth and lower class black youth. Their goals are purely materialistic, looted iPods and government subsidies for housing, education and anything else they can think of. Divestment is the common denominator. Neither the white leftist nor the lower-class black rioter is invested in his society. The white rioter is a globalist, the black rioter is an outsider. Neither are invested in the city and country they are busy trashing. These are the children of the welfare state with little in common except a rejection of the commercial way of life. Neither the entitled white university brat or the

posturing ghetto teenager has any interest in working. ...This lawless materialism is the essence of the welfare state. 'Loot as much as you can, or someone else will.' If you don't grab government benefits or sneakers in store windows, someone else will. The rich are grabbing, the pols are grabbing—time to queue up and loot your share. Communism made this way of thinking so commonplace that all of Russia became one black market. And we are not far behind." [75058]

What kind of people behave this way? Those who have come to think of wealth as an infinite pile from which everyone grabs as much as they can. This is where the ethos of the socialist left and hip-hop comes together. Obama gleefully spending millions on himself and trillions on national giveaways for his donors and supporters is the most obnoxious fusion of this phenomenon. ...The rioters aren't outraged, they're usually bored young men, frustrated and lacking in empathy. Many of them have gang ties or a criminal record stretching back to kindergarten. ...The rest are there to get some attention while providing them with protective coloration. 9 out of 10 people screaming frenziedly while holding up 'Black Lives Matter' signs would eagerly scream and hold up 'Justin Bieber 4 President' or 'Baltimore Loves the KKK' signs if it got them positive attention and a shot at being on television. ...The left's motives for rebelling are different than those of minority looters. But the end result is similar enough. A disregard for the civilization becomes a disregard for its laws. And that leaves self-interest as the only hedge against anarchy. ...But the real purpose of a riot isn't to benefit the rioters. It's to benefit those who incite the riot. The rioters and looters react in response to riot-friendly conditions created from above. If you build the political infrastructure for a riot, the rioters and looters will come. ...Those who gain from unleashing chaos and violence are not the powerless, but the powerful. Sharpton rose to his important role as Obama's liaison on a trail of bodies. Someone operating here hopes to be the next Sharpton. Meanwhile Obama is playing a perverse fusion of Sharpton and MLK, amping up a bad situation and then telling blacks and whites that they need to rise above it. As always, the ringleader tries to keep his hands clean while convincing the establishment that he can turn the violence on or off any time he wants to. Obama exploits the riots he cultivated for his own political ends. The looter at the top is not through looting yet." [75058]

On April 29 Adam Kredo reports at FreeBeacon.com, "Secretary of State John Kerry told his Iranian counterpart that he wished the United States had a leader more like Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei, according to comments made by a senior Iranian cleric and repeated in the country's state-run media." (Not surprisingly, the Obama administration denies that claim.) [75004, 75072, 75100]

At the White House, Obama meets with teacher of the year award recipient Shanna Peeples, who then walks with him to the nearby Teatism cafe—where he tells a customer to stop filming him with his cell phone camera. [75060, 75061]

According to the Commerce Department, the Gross Domestic Product increased at a dismally low annual rate of only 0.2 percent in the first quarter of 2015, down from 2.2 percent in the fourth quarter of 2014 and 5 percent in the third quarter of 2014. [75008, 75009, 75102, 75152]

According to data from income tax preparer H&R Block, about two-thirds of subsidized ObamaCare subscribers had to reimburse the IRS for overpayments. The average amount owed was \$729. [75008]

At CanadaFreePress.com investigative journalist Cliff Kincaid excoriates *The Washington Post's* Michelle Ye He Lee for her March 23 “Fact Checker” story disputing former New York City mayor Rudy Giuliani’s claim that communist Frank Marshall Davis was Obama’s mentor in Hawaii. Lee gave Giuliani “Three Pinocchios” for his statements, in essence calling him a liar. In his lengthy article, Kincaid refutes every point made by Lee—as did author Paul Kengor at AmericanThinker.com on March 26. As readers of this *Timeline* know, there is no doubt that Obama was heavily influenced by Davis, a member of the Communist Party USA who many believe was Obama’s real father. Both Kincaid and Kengor make the point that Lee could hardly have reported the truth. Kengor writes, “Really, can you imagine the *Washington Post* running a headline like this? ‘Rudy Was Right: Young Obama Influenced by Communist Party Member.’” Kincaid writes, “Today, the *Post* continues the cover-up by attacking the messengers who bring the truth forward. We will not be silenced. Giuliani and other Republicans should not back down.” [75115, 75116, 75117]

According to Bloomberg.com, many of the donations to the Clinton Foundation “came in through the Clinton Giustra Enterprise Partnership (CGEP)—a Canadian affiliate of the Clinton Foundation he established with the former president” and Frank Giustra “feels doubly implicated by the insinuation of a dark alliance. ‘We’re not trying to hide anything,’ he says. There are in fact 1,100 undisclosed donors to the Clinton Foundation, Giustra says, most of them non-U.S. residents who donated to CGEP. ‘All of the money that was raised by CGEP flowed through to the Clinton Foundation—every penny—and went to the [charitable] initiatives we identified,’ he says. The reason this is a politically explosive revelation is because the Clinton Foundation promised to disclose its donors as a condition of Hillary Clinton becoming secretary of state. Shortly after Barack Obama was elected... in 2008, the Clinton Foundation signed a ‘memorandum of understanding’ with the Obama White House agreeing to reveal its contributors every year. The agreement stipulates that the ‘Clinton Giustra Sustainable Growth Initiative’ (as the charity was then known) is part of the Clinton Foundation and must follow ‘the same protocols.’ It hasn’t. Giustra says that’s because Canada’s federal privacy law forbids CGEP, a Canadian-registered charity, from revealing its donors. ...Canadian tax and privacy law experts were dubious of this claim. Len Farber, former director of tax policy at Canada's Department of Finance, said he wasn’t aware of any tax laws that would prevent the charity from releasing its donors’ names.” (The entire point of donating to Clinton through the Canadian partnership was to maintain secrecy, which benefited the Clintons more than the donors.) [75010, 75011, 75012, 75075, 75101, 75101]

At TheFederalist.com Sean Davis adds, “If that sounds to you like more of a laundering operation than a charitable organization, that’s because it certainly looks like more of a laundering operation than a charitable organization. In this case, however, rather than taking cash from blatantly illegal activities (as far as we know) and then cleaning it up by

running it through legitimate businesses before it ends up at its final destination, the Clinton Foundation mops up cash from wealthy foreigners, bundles it within a larger organization to hide the money's original source, and then funnels the cash from that legitimate charity right into the Clinton Foundation coffers. ...The Clinton Foundation's deliberate misinterpretation of Canadian privacy law in order to rationalize its secrecy raises several questions, chief among them: why? Why go to all this effort to hide years' worth of million-dollar donations from foreign citizens and foreign governments? Donations which were almost certainly being made while Hillary Clinton was serving as Secretary of State, and almost certainly with the intent to influence her decisions? The answer is an easy one, albeit one that is highly uncomfortable: for the past several years, the Clinton Foundation has basically been a foreign money-laundering operation. The scheme works like this: collect millions of dollars in foreign money, dump it into a foreign charity, pretend that the law prohibits you from ever disclosing the identities of those foreign donors to the foreign charity, then have the foreign charity bundle all the cash and send it to the Clinton Foundation. Then, when the time comes—whether it be a Clinton Foundation conference or a lavish Clinton Foundation trip overseas—make sure those individuals get some me-time with the Clintons.” [75010, 75011, 75012, 75075]

“...[T]he Clinton Foundation spun off the bulk of its charitable medical activities back in 2010. By 2013, the main Clinton Foundation entity—the Bill, Hillary, and Chelsea Clinton Foundation—housed only a handful of charitable initiatives, the largest of which existed solely to serve the Clintons, via their conference series and the Clinton presidential library, rather than truly charitable causes. In 2013, for example, the Clinton Foundation spent less than 10 percent of its budget on charitable grants. The foreign-to-domestic laundering scheme satisfies a number of key Clinton objectives. First, it gave Secretary of State Hillary Clinton total plausible deniability about the millions in foreign cash that were being funneled into her family's non-profit coffers. She wasn't on the board of CGEPartnership, and wasn't even named to the board of the Clinton Foundation until 2013, so how could she have known about this? Second, it gave Hillary's allies the ability to claim that wealthy foreign individuals were not sending cash to the Clinton Foundation.” [75010, 75011, 75012]

DailyCaller.com reports that “...Uranium One, the Russian-owned uranium mining company at the center of a recent scandal involving the Clintons and a close Canadian business partner, has lobbied the State Department through a firm co-founded by Hillary Clinton's 2016 presidential campaign chairman [John Podesta]. Senate records show that The Podesta Group [run by Podesta's brother, Tony Podesta] has lobbied the State Department on behalf of Uranium One—once in 2012, when Hillary Clinton was secretary of state, and once in 2015. Uranium One paid The Podesta Group \$40,000 to lobby the State Department, the Senate, the National Park Service and the National Security Council for 'international mining projects,' according to a July 20, 2012 filing. ...And according to a disclosure filed April 20, Uranium One spent \$20,000 lobbying the Senate and State Department on the same issue.” [75096, 75364, 75365]

At NationalReview.com Jonah Goldberg writes, “I once had a boss who gave me some great advice, not just for managing people but for judging politicians: You forgive

mistakes; you punish patterns. Everybody screws up. But if someone won't learn from his mistakes and try to correct his behavior, then he either doesn't think it was a mistake, he just doesn't care, or he thinks you're a fool. The one indisputable takeaway from Peter Schweizer's new book, *Clinton Cash*, is that Bill and Hillary Clinton fit one or all of those descriptions. ... The Clinton spin on the book is that there's not a 'shred of evidence' of criminal wrongdoing, or as ABC's George Stephanopoulos helpfully repeated over the weekend, 'There's no smoking gun.' He's right, but not being a criminal is a remarkably low bar for a politician, even a Clinton. The standard is that public servants should avoid even the appearance of impropriety. Not only is there three decades of evidence that the Clintons don't think that standard applies to them, but there's growing evidence that his biggest supporters are happy to play the fool—again.” [75120]

Senator James Lankford (R-OK addresses Secretary of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson at a hearing: “We in the United States actually have freedom of religion, not freedom of worship. The [U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services'] questionnaire civics test has in it one of these things, 'What are two rights of everyone living in the United States, and it listed out six different things: freedom of expression, freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, freedom to petition the government, freedom of worship, the right to bear arms. I'd love to see 'freedom of worship' switched to 'freedom of religion.'” DailySignal.com writes, “Sarah Torre, a policy analyst at The Heritage Foundation who focuses on issues related to religious liberty, argued the difference between 'freedom of worship' and 'freedom of religion' is significant. 'This incorrect view of religious liberty argues that faith should remain a private affair—relegated to personal activities or weekend worship services,' she said. 'Step outside the four walls of a home or house of worship and robust protection of religious freedom ends.’” [75153]

In New York City, the police try to prevent protesters from blocking the Holland Tunnel. [75017, 75018]

Former Obama campaign guru David Axelrod, noting the Baltimore Orioles' game before a “crowd” of no fans, tweets, “Something eerily sad and symbolic about America's pastime being played before an empty stadium in a locked down city.” (It does not take long for Twitter users to explain the symbolism to Axelrod—and most is critical of Obama.) [75021, 75022]

Addressing the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) condemns Obama for his mishandling of the race issue: “He's made decisions that I think have inflamed racial tensions, that have divided us, rather than bringing us together. He has exacerbated racial misunderstanding, racial tensions. From back at the beer summit [after Obama' friend Henry Louis Gates was confronted for breaking into his own house] to a series of efforts to pit Americans against each other. And part of the problem is the way he advocates for any given plan is to build a straw man and then vilify a caricature. ... I think they [Obama and other Democrats] are treating immigration as a political cudgel, where they want to use it to scare the Hispanic community. Their objective is to have the Hispanic community vote monolithically Democrat as, unfortunately, they have

succeeded in scaring the African-American community to do.” Cruz says members of the media “are not neutral observers. The media are Barack Obama’s chief protectors right now, and no one is more ‘Ready for Hillary’ than the mainstream media. My messaging is going to be consistent throughout ...my views are not hard to figure out, whether you like them or not.” [75114]

CBSNews.com reports, “A plane carrying former President Bill Clinton made an unscheduled landing in Tanzania Wednesday after a problem with one of the plane’s four engines was identified... The engine was repaired, and the aircraft was on the ground at the Dodoma fueling station less than 45 minutes before taking off again. Clinton was traveling in the East African nation to visit projects that have been funded by his family’s foundation.” (Clinton is accompanied on the nine-day trip to Africa by his daughter Chelsea and 20 wealthy donors, including billionaire Lynn Forester de Rothschild. HotAir.com’s Ed Morrissey writes, “A Clinton Foundation spokesperson insisted last week that this trip ‘has nothing to do with the campaign.’ *Riiiiight*. It’s just another way of seeking out wealthy donors to keep funding that 6.4% passthrough rate on direct grants to actual charitable work. Hey, those travel expenses won’t just materialize on their own, y’know. But this is what we’ve come to expect from the Clintons—sleazy deals and privilege hidden behind sanctimonious assertions of virtue.”) [75046, 75103]

In an address at Columbia University, Hillary Clinton comments on the rioting in Baltimore, saying, “The violence has to stop. ...It’s time to change our approach. It’s time to end the era of mass incarceration. We need a true national debate about how to reduce our prison population. We don’t want to create another incarceration generation. ...We have to come to terms with some hard truths about race and justice in America. ...We can’t separate the unrest we see in our streets from the cycle of poverty and despair that hollowed out those neighborhoods.” (Clinton does not admit that the welfare state, “it takes a village” policies she has supported for decades led to that cycle of poverty and despair.) [75051]

Clinton does not also admit that her husband was partly responsible for the “era of mass incarceration.” BizPacReview.com notes, “President Bill Clinton signed the 1994 Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act, which put 100,000 new [police] officers on the street and provided harsher sentences, including 60 new death penalty offenses. In a further ironic twist, the bill was originally written by then-Senator Joe Biden. And here’s the real kicker: Crime declined sharply in the country in the 1990s, contrary to expectations. So Hillary is running against one of the policy platforms that made her husband’s presidency such a successful time in the United States.” [75090]

New York City’s Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) meets to discuss rule changes in order to censor bus ads—such as the anti-jihad ad run by Pamela Geller’s American Freedom Defense Initiative (AFDI). MTA member Ira Greenburg states that the ads “make me want to strangle the life out of the person [Geller] who took them out.” (Geller asks, “*And I’m the hater?* ...Greenberg’s death threats are tolerant.’ Baltimore burning is ‘free speech.’ But our ads—get banned. Got it? We are marching to totalitarianism.”) The cowardly MTA board then votes 9-2 to ban *all* political ads—losing about \$1 million in

annual ad revenue in order to appease Muslims who resent the AFDI's anti-jihad ads. (Geller writes, "The West is lost. ...Rewarding savagery with capitulation and fear will only bring more bloodshed and more terror. You haven't seen anything yet...") [75065, 75066, 75067, 75068, 75069, 75146, 75148, 75151]

According to Politico.com, "The House is currently dozens of votes short of being able to pass legislation that would allow ...Obama to send trade deals to Congress for fast approval, according to senior lawmakers and aides in both parties, imperiling a top White House priority for [Obama's] final years in office. At this point, upward of 75 House Republicans could vote against trade promotion authority if it comes up for a vote in the coming weeks, according to aides and lawmakers involved in the process. Some of the lawmakers fear job losses in their districts from free trade; others distrust Obama and oppose giving him more power. ...House Democrats, meanwhile, say just 12 to 20 of their lawmakers support Obama's request. That figure, if it holds, would amount to a stinging rebuke of [Obama] by his own party." (Townhall.com political editor Guy Benson tweets, "Trade plan supporters, I hear Bill is available for a \$500k speech that might 'fix' this. (wink).") [75093, 75124]

At a "Washington: A Man of Prayer" service at the U.S. Capitol, Rabbi Jonathan Cahn, author of *The Harbinger*, comments on the same-sex marriage case being considered by the Supreme Court: "The justices of the Supreme Court took up their seats [on the bench] on whether they should strike down the biblical and historic definition of marriage. That the event should even take place is a sign this is America of [George] Washington's warning... a nation at war against its own foundation." (WND.com notes, "Washington's warning was the smiles of heaven can never be expected on a nation 'that disregards the eternal rules of order and right which heaven itself hath ordained.'") Cahn continues, "If this court should overrule the word of God and strike down the eternal rules of order and right that heaven itself ordained, how then will God save it? Justices, can you judge the ways of God? There is another court and there another judge, where all men and all judges will give account. If a nation's high court should pass judgment on the Almighty, should you then be surprised God will pass judgment on the court and that nation? We are doing that which Israel did on the altars of Baal. We are exchanging our light for darkness." [75074]

WashingtonPost.com reports, "A prisoner sharing a police transport van with Freddie Gray told investigators that he could hear Gray 'banging against the walls' of the vehicle and believed that he 'was intentionally trying to injure himself,' according to a police document obtained by The Washington Post. The prisoner, who is currently in jail, was separated from Gray by a metal partition and could not see him. His statement is contained in an application for a search warrant, which is sealed by the court. The Post was given the document under the condition that the prisoner not be named because the person who provided it feared for the inmate's safety. The document, written by a Baltimore police investigator, offers the first glimpse of what might have happened inside the van. It is not clear whether any additional evidence backs up the prisoner's version, which is just one piece of a much larger probe." (If Gray was, in fact, banging himself

against the walls, that may have been indicative of drug use.) [75048, 75049, 75059, 75088, 75089, 75106]

On *Hannity*, Milwaukee County Sheriff David Clarke blasts Obama for his “soul-searching” comment after the Baltimore riots. Clarke says Obama has “built a career off of dividing people. Creating divisions, stoking animosity, the rich versus the poor, the one percent, tax the rich, the war on women... It’s been very destructive for America.” Clarke also says Obama has a “general disdain for the American police officer,” and “Nothing’s gotten better. The failed liberal Democrat policies have kept people mired in misery in the American ghetto. ...All these failed liberal government policies have done is mired black people in generational poverty, kept their kids in failing schools, chronically unemployed, they can’t find meaningful work [and] having to live in crime infested neighborhoods.” [75170]

On April 30 socialist Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT) announces he is running for president as a Democrat, challenging Hillary Clinton. Sanders states, “This country today, in my view, has more serious crises than at any other time since the Great Depression of the 1930s. For most Americans, their reality is that they’re working longer hours for lower wages. And [in] inflation-adjusted income, they’re earning less money than they used to years ago, despite a huge increase in technology and productivity. While at exactly the same time, 99 percent of all new income generated in this country is going to the top one percent. How does it happen that the top one percent owns almost as much wealth as the bottom 90 percent? And my conclusion is that that type of economics is not only immoral, it’s not only wrong, it’s unsustainable.” Sanders makes the envirosocialists happy, saying, “We have a Republican Party with virtually few exemptions that does not even recognize the reality of climate change, let alone that it is caused by human activity, let alone that the scientific community tells us this is the major global environmental crisis that we face. And I want to see this nation lead the world in transforming our energy system away from fossil fuel to energy efficiency and sustainable energy.” [75053, 75104, 75121, 75131, 75132, 75155]

“Real unemployment,” says Sanders, “is not 5.5 percent. Real unemployment is 11 percent. We need to create millions of jobs, and the best way to do that it is to rebuild our crumbling infrastructure—and I’ve introduced legislation to do just that.” (It can be assumed that Sanders’ platform will be higher taxes, more government spending, more government borrowing, and more inflation of the money supply to cover the deficit spending. His candidacy will push Clinton further to the political left, which may help her in the Democrat primaries but hurt her in the general election if she becomes the Democrat Party’s nominee.) [75053, 75104, 75121, 75131, 75132, 75155]

At Townhall.com radio talk show host Mark Davis later quips, “[Bernie] Sanders is far from the first Socialist presidential candidate, he’s just the first to admit it.” Davis also notes that Sanders “is an instant jolt of energy to a race that otherwise buckles under the prospect of a dreary march to a Hillary coronation. She certainly provides no spark, and no other rival packs a wallop. But Bernie brings a gift. Bernie doesn’t care. I say that as praise. I love candidates that don’t care. I wish the GOP had more of them. By this I

mean: the candidate has views and shares them without a lot of hand-wringing and navel-gazing about how they will go over. The candidate's demeanor says 'Here is what I believe; if you like it, great. If not, whatever.' I don't see Bernie lying awake at night fretting over messaging, focus groups and handlers. ...He will surely energize the liberal base, some of whom view Hillary as too Wall Street, too one-percent, maybe even too hawkish for her sliver of time spent supporting the earliest moments of the War on Terror. Sanders connects on the sacraments of the left. He is viscerally opposed to America as a force for good around the world, positively bristles at the notion of wealth held by anyone, and unapologetically yearns for the redistribution of income from the haves to the have-nots. For a hardcore liberal, what's not to love? ...[Sanders] will bring class envy, aversion to fighting global jihad, global warming quackery, and the rest of the catnip Democrats deploy to score points. But unlike Hillary or any of the other pretenders in the on-deck circle, he will be fun to watch." [75128, 75155]

Reuters reports, "Britain has informed a United Nations sanctions panel of an active Iranian nuclear procurement network linked to two blacklisted firms, according to a confidential report by the panel seen by Reuters. The existence of such a network could add to Western concerns over whether Tehran can be trusted to adhere to a nuclear deal due by June 30 in which it would agree to restrict sensitive nuclear work in exchange for sanctions relief." According to the report, Great Britain "is aware of an active Iranian nuclear procurement network which has been associated with Iran's Centrifuge Technology Company (TESA) and Kalay Electric Company (KEC)." (In the midst of negotiations over its nuclear program, Iran continues to cheat on existing agreements—and Obama thinks it can be trusted to comply with the next agreement. While Obama asks Iran to use fewer centrifuges to enrich uranium, it is busy buying more of them.) [75125, 75126]

The Baltimore Police Department turns over its investigation of the death of Freddie Gray to prosecutors. The State's Attorney is Marilyn Mosby, a former insurance company lawyer who is married to a member of the city council, Nick Mosby—who told Fox News the evening of April 27, "We asked [the police] to back off." According to *The Wall Street Journal*, Mosby "is the daughter and granddaughter of police officers, and she witnessed the murder of a close family member in front of her house." [75054, 75055, 75097, 75098, 75113]

Leftist Hollywood propagandist Michael Moore tweets, "Here's my demand: I want every African-American currently incarcerated for drug 'crimes' or nonviolent offenses released from prison today." "And the rest who r imprisoned- I dont believe 50% of them did what they're accused of. Lies. Greed. A modern day slave system. Poor whites 2" "Next demand: Disarm the police. We have a 1/4 billion 2nd amendment guns in our homes 4 protection. We'll survive til the right cops r hired" [75056, 75057, 75157]

At LewRockwell.com Nick Giamb Bruno interviews Dr. Joe Salerno, an Austrian economist with the Mises Institute about the "war on cash," which Salerno notes "is the attempt by governments to phase cash out of their economies. Governments hate cash because they hate the financial privacy cash makes possible. And they prefer that you

keep your money in a bank to help prop up an unsound fractional reserve banking system. ...One symptom of the war is that the largest denomination of US currency is the \$100 note. US currency used to be issued in denominations running up to \$10,000 (including also \$500; \$1,000; \$5,000 notes). The US government stopped printing large denomination notes in 1945 and officially discontinued their issuance in 1969, when the Fed began removing them from circulation. Since then, the largest currency note available has a face value of \$100. But since 1969, the inflationary monetary policy of the Fed has caused the US dollar to depreciate by over 80%, so that a \$100 note today has less purchasing power than a \$20 bill in 1969. So in addition to lowering the nominal size of the largest bill, they also reduced the bill's purchasing power through inflation.” [75062, 75322]

“Despite this enormous depreciation, the Federal Reserve has steadfastly refused to issue notes of larger denomination. This has made large cash transactions extremely inconvenient and has forced the American public to make much greater use than is optimal of electronic-payment methods. Of course, this is precisely the intent of the US government. ...[T]here are a number of hyper-Keynesian economists who want to remove all barriers to negative interest rates, so that you'll hurry up and spend whatever cash you have. But the only way they can do that is to corral everyone's money in to the banking system. It's absurd, and they've gone way beyond Keynes with this craziness. ...The War on Cash reflects the desperation of governments. They want to squeeze every last penny out of their citizens. And they are at wits' end on how to cure the stagnation of the global economy that began in the 2008 financial crisis. So it really says that they are bankrupt, both literally, in the sense that they can't pay what they've promised, and intellectually.” [75062]

Meanwhile, author James Howard Kunstler writes, “Is it not a wonder that professionalized interest groups like AARP have not screamed bloody murder over the suppression of interest rates which deprives its members of bank account and bond interest on savings? Instead AARP, like virtually every enterprise in America, has turned to racketeering. Don't worry, they'll be gone from the scene soon enough. The next shoe to drop will be various forms of bail-ins and attempts to prevent bank account and money market holders from getting access to their cash. A withdrawal above \$2,000 already can trigger a report to the IRS. The next step will be to put a simple ceiling on withdrawals. Will that trigger public ire? Who knows? Nothing yet has in the USA. The meme currently circulating is the fear that government would like to abolish cash altogether and put in a regime of all-electronic money. Being allergic to conspiracy ideas, I'm skeptical about this idea, but I really can't dismiss it. A cashless society would conceptually allow government much more leak-proof control of all citizen money transactions. Mainly it could funnel tax revenue into the treasury much more efficiently.” [75063]

“...I put the question to a table of college-educated people last night and their response was surprising: utter complacency. ...They couldn't grok the possibility that a cashless money system might easily deprive them of access to whatever reserves they have. Or perhaps, more specifically, they couldn't imagine an economic or political emergency that might provoke such a situation. They might find out sooner than they realize. As I

suggest in the lede, apprehension is growing that some kind of ‘corrective’ event is at hand on the financial scene. Even the supposedly salubrious 20 percent S & P drop could set off a chorus of margin calls that would make the trumpets of Jericho sound like a kazoo concert. What will Americans do if they can’t get their money out of the banks? The last time this happened, 1933, we were a hard-up but polite and highly-regimented society, and the automatic rifle was a novelty restricted to a relatively tiny army and Al Capone’s crew. Behind the financial jitters of the informed minority is the greater fear of social unrest.” [75063]

Also at LewRockwell.com, Bonner & Partners’ Bill Bonner writes, “The S&P 500 is trading at 27 times the average inflation-adjusted earnings of the previous 10 years. Only twice in history have S&P 500 earnings, measured this way, been so pricey: at the peak of the dot-com bubble and right before the 1929 crash. ...[I]f prices have gone up because interest rates have gone down, what will they do now that interest rates are already down near all-time lows? How much lower can interest rates go? ...Why are stocks—and assets generally—so richly valued? ...No one earned it. No one saved it. But here’s our prediction: Someone will miss it when it is gone! If the US money supply were a deck of cards, Uncle Sam has been slipping in extra aces for the last 44 years. ...What’s in store in 2015? It doesn’t look good. Washington’s budget deficits are estimated to stay at about \$500 billion a year until 2020. This will absorb a lot of liquidity to pay zombies. ...The bad news begins in the third quarter, says [Richard] Duncan [author of *The New Depression*]. Because income tax returns are due in the second quarter, it always brings in tax revenue to the US government. This reduces Washington’s need to borrow... leaving liquidity available to the stock and bond markets. But in the third quarter, net liquidity is likely to turn negative. And the stock market is likely to correct. What then? The Fed will panic and announce QE4... and other measures.” (“QE4” means the possible fourth edition of the Federal Reserve’s “Qualitative Easing” program of artificially expanding the money supply. Money will be created out of thin air. That inflation of the money supply will lead to consumer price increases.) [75064]

ISIS releases yet another execution video. Its latest shows about members of the Second Brigade of the Army of Yemen Mountaineers being shot in the head and beheaded. [75149, 75150]

By a vote of 226-197 the House of Representatives passes a budget that calls for higher defense spending, along with reductions in welfare and ObamaCare spending. Fourteen Republicans vote against the budget. According to TheHill.com, “Republican leaders have pointed to the budget framework, which [allegedly] balances in a decade by cutting more than \$5 trillion from spending, as yet more proof that an all-GOP Congress is governing effectively. The Senate is expected to pass the combined budget next week.” Obama, of course, will veto any budget that rolls back ObamaCare. [75145]

BloombergView.com reports that Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) “has a very poisonous pill he is seeking to add to Iran legislation this week before the Senate. No, it’s not his much discussed amendment saying Congress would not lift its sanctions on Iran unless Iran recognized Israel. Rather Rubio just wants the Iran deal to conform to [Obama’s] own

description of a nuclear framework agreement. As Rubio said Wednesday, ‘It requires this final deal be the deal [Obama] says it is.’ On the surface, this seems like small ball. On April 2, the White House released a fact sheet that spelled out Iran’s obligations to modify some of its nuclear facilities and limit its enrichment. The fact sheet said sanctions would be phased out over time as Iran complied with the terms of the framework. Rubio’s amendment simply quotes that fact sheet verbatim and says [Obama] may not waive or lift any Congressional sanctions until he certifies Iran has met the White House conditions. ‘For the life of me, I don’t understand why that would be controversial,’ Rubio said Wednesday. ‘Yet somehow, I was told this would box the White House in.’” HotAir.com comments, “It’s a clever tactic by a guy who, I think, has a knack for clever tactics. But ...does it have a chance of ending up in the final Corker-written Senate bill on Iran? Obama can only be boxed in if Congress passes the bill with Rubio’s amendment attached, and the odds of that happening seem, shall we say, modest.” [75158, 75159]

Blogger Ace of Spades writes, “Rubio’s offering some bullshit amendments designed to make him appear Strong On Defense but he’s just part of Failure Theater like the rest of them. Without this bill, Obama needs 67 votes to approve the Iran treaty. With the bill, the treaty is presumptively approved, and it takes 67 votes to disapprove of the treaty. And this is [Senator Bob] Corker’s [R-TN] way of showing he’s ‘standing up to Obama.’ How? By performing analingus [sic; anilingus] on him? This is just the latest insult from the Republican Party. All their bullshit is designed to *trick conservatives into thinking they’re taking a stance, when in fact they’re voting with the Democrats*. If Corker has good reasons why this treaty should be passed—and it’s plain that he’s a fan, because he’s making up yet more Fake Opposition to pass it—he should say so. ...No, they [establishment Republicans] lie, they pretend they’re opposed to it, and they stage productions of Failure Theater to trick conservatives into thinking they’re opposing it—but are just being outfoxed, by gum!—when in fact they’ve voted in advance to lose on the issue. They think conservatives are unreasonable, emotional, unthinking racist monsters, *just like MSNBC does.*” [75160]

“...Without the Corker bill, Obama would need 67 Senate votes to pass his treaty. The treaty dies without the Corker bill. With the Corker bill, Obama needs only 34 Senate votes to keep his treaty—which is actually passed, beforehand, by the Corker bill. The treaty passes into law with the Corker bill. But Corker, [Senate Majority Leader Mitch] McConnell [R-KY], and the rest of the traitors will Lie To Your Fucking Face that they ‘did their best’ when, once again, another Obama measure is passed by the Senate. ... Here’s how you actually defeat Obama’s treaty: 1. You scrap the Corker bill, which *approves* of the treaty, then requires a supermajority of 67 to block it. (Something which will fail.) 2. Then, you vote against the treaty. Simple, isn’t it? You just vote against the treaty. You don’t create a convoluted process where you first vote *for* the treaty and then later vote against it—but oh darn! That first vote was the important one! Failed again! The fuck with these people. They are lying to us, they are corrupt as the worst whores of hell, and they are leading this country into destruction. Do not go gently on this Corker bill.” [75160]

At an event at a Washington, D.C. school, Obama says after he leaves the White House “I’ll go back to doing the kinds of work I was doing before, just trying to find ways to help people.” After one long-winded statement, Obama is cut off by a student moderator who says, “I think you’ve sort of covered everything about that question.” [75076, 75077, 75085, 75161, 75162]

Protestors gather in Philadelphia and attempt to block traffic. They demand “All charges for arrested protestors be dropped.” “No Philadelphia or Pennsylvania police to be sent to Baltimore.” “Justice for Freddie Gray, Brandon Tate-Brown, Frank McQueen. Mya Hall and all families impacted by police terror.” “Jail killer cops!” [75078]

Appearing with Baltimore mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake in front of a backdrop that reads, “no justice, no peace,” race hustler Al Sharpton calls for the Department of Justice to take over all police departments in the United States. Despite saying the mayor would answer all questions after the press conference, she answers none. [75079, 75080, 75081, 75083, 75084, 75219]

CNN’s Jake Tapper asks former Maryland governor and Baltimore mayor Martin O’Malley, “What do you say to conservatives who say, ‘This shows that liberal policies are failing urban America. Everything—this is a Democratic city, in a Democratic state—everything that they wanna do, they do here. And look at west Baltimore. It’s still horrible.’” O’Malley responds, “Well, what I would say to them is, beyond the, beyond the tangible progress of nation-leading crime reductions, beyond the fact that we’ve made our schools, as a state, the best in America for five years in a row, I think the real question, or the real conclusion we draw from Baltimore, from Charleston, from Ferguson and other places, is that America is failing America. We are failing to live up to the sort of people that we expect ourselves to be. That our grandparents expected us to be, and that our kids need for us to be. You cannot create an economy that treats people and labor and human beings as if they’re worthless commodities. You cannot create pockets of unemployment and extreme poverty without creating extremely dangerous conditions. And that’s what we’ve done in our country.” (Translation: “Don’t blame me for things that happened while I was mayor and governor.”) [75082, 75109]

BizPacReview.com writes, “It’s getting harder and harder to deny the connection between the riots in Baltimore and previous events in Ferguson, Mo. After a second night of quiet in Baltimore, brought on by a curfew and heightened police presence, both conspicuously absent during Monday night’s rioting, Fox News is reporting that the mayor of Baltimore ordered police to stand down during the civil unrest. Citing a senior law enforcement source, correspondent Leland Vittert told Fox News host Neil Cavuto... that Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake instructed police Monday to ‘let them loot.’ ‘This is coming from a very senior law enforcement official with direct knowledge of the orders that were given by the mayor and by her police commanders, down to the very core of the police riot control units,’ Vittert said. ‘What I am quoting now from him is, quoting the mayor, ‘Let them loot, it’s only property.’” Vittert added that his source was ‘very clear that on Monday night, that when [businesses] were looted, that the police were told effectively to stand down and watch it. I was standing right here on Monday

night. The police were about 75 yards up there... That's what we saw happen.”
(According to the White House, Obama advisor Valerie Jarrett has been in “regular contact” with Rawlings-Blake. MoonBattery.com writes, “Not just anybody gets orders directly from Obama’s babysitter.”) [75091, 75092, 75099, 75111, 75119, 75163, 75164]

Politico.com reports, “A handful of deep-pocketed donors are reconsidering their gifts to the \$2 billion Clinton Foundation amid mounting questions about how it’s spending their money and suggestions of influence peddling, according to donors and others familiar with the foundation’s fundraising. One major donor who contributed at least \$500,000 to the foundation last year said a 2015 donation is less likely because of revelations about sloppy record-keeping and huge payments for travel and administrative costs.”
Politico.com also reports that the Clinton Foundation “mischaracterized as foundation donations money from the China Overseas Real Estate Development and the U.S.-Islamic World Conference. That money was actually honoraria paid for Bill Clinton speeches by those entities, said foundation officials, who added this week those were the only mistakes ‘we are aware of.’” (That is, Clinton neglected to list as taxable income cash he received for giving speeches, listing it instead as tax-free donations to his foundation. The average American would be crucified by the IRS for making such a “mistake.”) [75094, 75134, 75135]

WashingtonExaminer.com reports, “State Department officials began allowing the Clinton Foundation to review emails the government planned to release to Congress and Freedom of Information Act requesters in January 2014, prompting a process that has delayed the publication of agency records for months, according to the group pursuing the records. Many of the emails Clinton Foundation officials were permitted to review discussed the charity’s work, as well as the hundreds of ethics reviews that former President Clinton faced as a result of his paid-speaking engagements around the world while his wife, Hillary Clinton, was secretary of state.” Judicial Watch president Tom Fitton states, “On top of the obstruction that is in no small measure criminal in nature—with the hiding, removal and destruction of records by Mrs. Clinton—they are sending these records out to the foundation that are the very subject of these public controversies.” (Having the Clinton Foundation review emails prior to their release is tantamount to having Charles Manson collect forensic evidence at the Tate and LaBianca murders crime scenes.) [75133]

Bloomberg.com reports, “The IRS may be trying to block the tax exemption of one of the largest politically active nonprofit groups, Crossroads Grassroots Policy Strategies, an organization founded by Republican strategist Karl Rove. The oblique disclosure can be found between the lines of an inspector general’s report released on Thursday, which said that 149 of 160 stalled applications from nonprofits with potential ties to politics have been resolved. Of the other 11, six are in litigation with the IRS—which Crossroads isn’t—and five have received proposed denial letters or are appealing. That suggests that the Internal Revenue Service has sent Crossroads a denial letter. Crossroads is one of the most politically involved nonprofit groups, and its bid for tax exemption is being closely watched by campaign-finance lawyers. Federal taxpayer privacy laws prevent the IRS

and the inspector general from disclosing information about Crossroads' case. The report doesn't directly say that Crossroads is one of the five cases." [75154]

FoxNews.com reports, "Sources told a Baltimore television station that the medical examiner found Freddie Gray died as a result of slamming his head against the inside of a police van, breaking his neck. The local ABC affiliate WJLA reported sources said the medical examiner's report, contained in the police report handed over Thursday to the state attorney, found Gray's wound was consistent with the bolt inside the back of the police van." [75118]

USAToday.com reports, "So far, 21 of the 22 current female CEOs in the Standard & Poor's 500 have reported their latest compensation... and they were paid an average of \$18.8 million during their latest fiscal years, according to a USA TODAY analysis of data from S&P Capital IQ and Bespoke Investment Group. That far exceeds the average \$12.7 million paid to the 455 current male CEOs in the S&P 500 that have reported compensation data for the same time period. The compensation awarded to female CEOs, on average, also outstrips the \$14.3 million average paid to all the CEOs of the 100 largest publicly held companies that had reported through early April, according to pay tracker Equilar and compensation consultant Towers Watson. ...Total pay for this analysis was calculated using the Securities and Exchange Commission's guidelines, which includes salary and the present value of options and stock grants." [75350, 75351]

Politico.com laughably calls Obama a "bookworm," even though Obama himself has said, "I basically floss my teeth and watch SportsCenter." [75355, 75356]