

*The Complete Obama Timeline*

*December 2015*

On December 1, at the climate conference in Paris, Obama pushes a tax on carbon emissions, saying, “I have long believed that the most elegant way to drive innovation and to reduce carbon emissions is to put a price on it. ...I think that, as the science around climate change is more accepted, as people start realizing that even today, you can put a price on the damage that climate change is doing. You go down to Miami, and when it’s flooding at high tide on a sunny day and fish are swimming through the middle of the streets, you know, there’s a cost to that. And insurance companies are beginning to realize that in terms of how they price risk. And the more the market on its own starts putting a price on it, because of risk—it may be that the politics around setting up a cap and trade system, for example, shifts as well.” (Obama is, of course, lying. Fish do not swim in the middle of the street in Miami, and high tide does not flood the city’s streets. Obama is, however, correct that if such flooding *were* to routinely happen insurance companies would factor in that risk. In fact, people would stop buying real estate in Miami if the streets routinely flooded. But those are arguments for government *not* getting involved in “climate change.” The private economy will respond to events like flooding *if it happens*. No one needs government to force people to respond rationally to any changes in the climate. They will respond on their own.) [84360, 84424]

Obama says his successor will honor any climate change agreement because “99.5 percent of scientists and 99 percent of world leaders” believe climate change “is really important.” The false number routinely quoted by leftists has been 97 percent. Obama has now upped that to 99.5 percent—with no facts to back him up. CNSNews.com reports, “The origin of the ‘97 percent’ statistic has been traced back to a 2009 study by University of Illinois/Chicago graduate student Kendall Zimmerman, who sent a survey to 10,257 earth scientists [most who were *not* climate experts] asking them two questions: ‘When compared with pre-1800s levels, do you think that mean global temperatures have generally risen, fallen, or remained relatively constant?’ and ‘Do you think human activity is a significant contributing factor in changing mean global temperatures?’ Eighty-two percent of the 3,146 scientists who completed the survey (a 30.7% response rate) answered ‘yes’ to question 2. That figure included 75 of the 79 individuals (97.4%) who self-identified themselves as climate scientists.” [84501, 85672]

In addition, “In a 2013 paper published by the Institute of Physics’ IOPScience and cited by NASA, University of Queensland climate communication fellow John Cook also stated that 97 percent of scientists who took a position on global warming agreed that humans were the primary cause. ...However, a peer review of Cook’s paper by David Legates, a former state climatologist and professor at the University of Delaware, that was published in the April 2015 issue of Science and Education debunked the 97 percent consensus figure. Legates pointed out that only 41 of the 11,944 academic papers Cook examined in his meta-analysis (0.3%) explicitly stated that most of the global warming since 1950 was caused by human activity. ‘It is astonishing that any journal could have published a paper claiming a 97% climate consensus when in the authors’ own analysis

[of] the true consensus was well below 1%,’ Legates wrote. Cook’s paper was also criticized by other scientists for what they said was a number of methodological errors.” [84501, 85672]

Meanwhile, Congressman Hank Johnson (D-GA) knocks the 97 percent claim down to a still false 95 percent, saying, “Some of us really don’t care, some of us don’t care to consider that 95 percent of scientists recognize that it’s man’s activities that are contributing to the astronomical rate of climate change that is occurring that has the potential to render our planet uninhabitable by human beings. You can laugh, you can smile, you can joke, but 95 percent of the scientists agree that if we continue along the same path that we are continuing along that it’s the demise of humankind itself—that’s the end result.” (This is the same Hank Johnson who once claimed that Guam would “tip over and capsiz” because too many people live on the island.) [84502, 84503]

Obama also comments on the recent shooting at a Colorado Springs Planned Parenthood facility. He says, “With respect to Planned Parenthood, uh, obviously, uh, uh, my heart goes out ta [sic; to] the families of those impacted, um, I mean, ...I, I, I say this every time we’ve got a, one of these mass shootings. This just doesn’t happen in other countries.” (The man is delusional. Only two weeks before the Colorado incident 129 people were shot to death in Paris. Obama does not mention that the number of mass shootings in the United States have increased since he entered the White House in 2009. During the Reagan presidency, there were 11 mass shootings resulting in four or more deaths; under George H. W. Bush, 12; under Bill Clinton, 23; under George W. Bush, 20; under Obama (so far), 162.) [84337, 84338, 84360, 84366, 84368, 84385, 84549, 84550]

DCWhispers.com writes, “What is going on with [Obama] that he would say such a thing? How removed from even his own reality and surroundings is he to stand before a people still traumatized by the single deadliest mass shooting attack since World War Two and tell them they in fact did not just suffer that event? Is Mr. Obama so invested in talking down to America, does he so despise the United States he cannot conceive that terrible tragedies do in fact occur elsewhere around the world? Or when he is given a script does he not have the mental capacity to see beyond that script and realize how it does not apply to the real-world situation he finds himself in? ...[I]f this was a Republican president who said something so stunningly inaccurate and insensitive there would be open calls from the media to investigate his mental competence. ...This is frightening on all kinds of levels.” [84368]

“...Now it appears some among the Climate Summit’s host-nation French media were just as outraged by Barack Obama’s glaringly ignorant commentary regarding how mass shootings only happen in the United States—and said those words while standing on a stage in Paris less than two weeks after that city saw hundreds of its citizens gunned down and blown up by Muslim terrorists in a mass shooting attack. ...It is said that following what was at times a painfully slow, slouching, and seemingly disinterested performance by ...Obama, some among the French media were heard repeatedly using the words, ‘Connard!’ (dickhead) and ‘Trouduc!’ (asshole) to describe their feelings regarding Mr. Obama’s bizarre commentary—phrases rather specific to a certain part of

the human anatomy. ...Apparently Geraldo Rivera, hardly a far-right journalist, was at the press conference and later told Fox News he was appalled by [Obama's] linking of global warming to the current and ongoing Islamic terror attacks against western nations. Mr. Rivera made clear his own shock at Mr. Obama's apparent disconnect from reality. The question that remains is if our own American Mainstream Media will allow the crumbling facade that is the Obama myth to be more fully exposed or work double-time to protect and maintain that image in the final year of the Obama presidency. Sadly, recent history would indicate the latter..." [84369]

Retired Lieutenant General Michael Flynn, the former head of the Defense Intelligence Agency, tells CNN's Jake Tapper that in 2011 and 2012 Obama ignored reports warning him about the rise of ISIS because "they did not meet a narrative the White House needed [to ensure Obama's reelection]. ...I think the narrative was that al-Qaeda was on the run, and [Osama] bin Laden was dead—they're dead and these guys are, we've beaten them." Flynn also warns that the United State could suffer a terrorist attack from ISIS: "I really do believe it's [only] a matter of time, I believe, there's going to be where our luck is going to run out and they're gonna [sic] be able to achieve something along the lines of what we saw in Paris." (Arguably, Obama deliberately ignoring national security warnings for the purposes of protecting his reelection efforts is an impeachable offense. But in the Washington, D.C. political climate that would never happen—and Obama knew it then and knows it now.) [84339, 84340, 85329]

General Joseph Dunford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, tells the House Armed Services Committee, "We have not contained ISIL [ISIS]." Defense Secretary Ashton Carter tells the committee, "Tens of thousands of U.S. personnel are operating in the broader Middle East region. And more are on the way. We have some of our most advanced air and naval forces attacking ISIL. U.S. troops are advising and assisting ground operations in Syria and Iraq. I'll briefly describe some of these efforts and how we're accelerating them. ...In full coordination with the government of Iraq, we're deploying a specialized expeditionary targeting force to assist Iraqi and Peshmerga forces put even more pressure on ISIL. These special operators will, over time, be able to conduct raids, free hostages, gather intelligence, and capture ISIL leaders. This force will also be in a position to conduct unilateral operations in Syria." [84341, 84392, 84393]

Remarkably, Dunford states that regular top-level planning meetings between the Pentagon and the State Department about ISIS and Syria did not begin until only two months ago. Dunford says, "[A]bout two months ago, we began to meet on a periodic basis to attack specific issues. So far, the oil issue is actually an outcome of the first meeting that we had, and the most recent meeting was on foreign fighters because that clearly requires the whole government. Am I satisfied with the level of integration? No. We're working on that." [84399]

Congressman Stephen Lynch (D-MA) tells Boston public radio WGBH, "Back in August, we did an investigation—the Inspector General did—of the Department of Homeland Security, and they had 72 individuals that [sic; who] were on the terrorist watch list that [sic; who] were actually working at the Department of Homeland Security.

...Then we went further and did an eight-airport investigation. We had staffers go into eight different airports to test the department of homeland security screening process at major airports. They had a 95 percent failure rate. We had folks—this was a testing exercise, so we had folks going in there with guns on their ankles, and other weapons on their persons, and there was a 95 percent failure rate.” [84450, 84451]

DailyCaller.com reports, “A government watchdog says it can’t audit billions in Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) spending because the agency’s financial books are kept so poorly. HUD’s financial statements and systems are missing records, inaccurate and sometimes even violated federal laws, according to a HUD inspector general report released Monday. Included among the programs with useless financial accounting records is nearly \$20 billion at the Government National Mortgage Association.” (The Secretary of HUD is Julian Castro, the vastly overrated former mayor of San Antonio who some Democrats would like to be Hillary Clinton’s 2016 “ethnic quota” running mate. Although he is Hispanic, Castro does not speak Spanish. 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.” As mayor, Castro pushed through a \$596 million bond program in 2012 to finance various projects. With only 1.3 million residents, the program represented \$458 dollars for every man, woman, and child. 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?’”) [36510, 36511, 36537, 36539, 36557, 36579, 58563, 58965, 58966, 84353]

KeepTalkingGreece.com reports that, effective January 1, 2016, Greek citizens will have to report as assets not just their homes and vehicles, but cash, jewelry, and gold. “[T]axpayers will also have to declare their deposits. And not only that. They will have to file if they rent bank lockers and if yes, also the name of the bank and the branch, even if abroad. ...The new assets declaration form has a total of 56 pages.” The author asks, “How can a bride know the value of the jewelry her parents-in-law gave as a wedding gift? If the retail price of X valuable item was 10,000 euro in 2005, what is the value today? And what will happen if one will not declare his assets? The tax authorities will raid the home and search under the mattress to find grandma’s ring? ...ARE YOU KIDDING ME?” [84435, 84436]

Although this action is taking place in Greece—which is so desperately in debt that the government may be considering taxing or even confiscating assets—it must be remembered that shortly after Franklin D. Roosevelt entered the White House in 1933 he ordered the confiscation of gold. FDR’s clearly unconstitutional Executive Order 6102 ordered *all* U.S. citizens to sell their “excess gold” to the federal government—with “excess” meaning anything over \$100 in value. They were paid \$20.67 per ounce. *After* the gold was confiscated, the government set the price of gold at \$35 per ounce—thereby robbing Americans of \$14.33 per ounce. The \$35 per ounce price was only for bankers and governments, because Americans were prohibited from owning gold until late 1974.

[10588, 12609, 84435, 84436]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, “Senate Republicans put themselves on track to pass a long-sought bill this week to dismantle Obamacare and strip funding from Planned Parenthood for one year, finalizing a measure Tuesday that will put a major repeal of the Affordable Care Act on ...Obama’s desk for the first time. Mr. Obama is sure to veto the bill, but just getting it to his desk will be a victory for Republicans, who have repeatedly run into Democratic filibusters in the Senate.” [84357, 84468]

At an investors meeting, UnitedHealth CEO Stephen Hemsley says participating in ObamaCare “was for us a bad decision. I take accountability for sitting out the exchange market in year one so we could in theory observe, learn and see how the market experience would develop. This was a prudent going-in position. In retrospect, we should have stayed out longer.” Bloomberg.com notes, “UnitedHealth said on Nov. 19 that it may quit selling coverage in the Affordable Care Act’s individual markets in 2017. ...Losses from the plans this year and next will total more than half a billion dollars, the company has said, and UnitedHealth will scale back efforts to market coverage to millions of people shopping for 2016 insurance on the Affordable Care Act’s new marketplaces. ...The company said it expects operating earnings of \$13.1 billion to \$13.5 billion next year, on revenue of \$180 billion to \$181 billion.” [84388]

Earnings of \$13.5 billion from \$181 billion in revenue is a profit of 7.5 percent profit. Those who argue that insurance companies are ripping off the public are mistaken. The average American mistakenly believes the average company earns about 36 percent profit. In fact, it is about 7.5 percent. Walmart makes a profit of about 3.1 percent; local communities receive more in sales taxes than Walmart receives in profit. The oil companies average about 5.1 percent; beverage companies, 13; broadcasting, 12; building materials, 4; cable television, 9; computer services, 6; drug companies, 16; entertainment, 13; food processing, 7; home furnishings, 4; healthcare products, 9; hospitals, 5; mining, 2; newspapers and publishing, 14; recreation, 9; restaurants, 9; retail groceries, 3; semiconductors, 14; software, 16; tobacco, 22; trucking, 4; general utilities, 9; water utilities, 15. [84388, 84389, 84390]

FreeBeacon.com reports, “Car service, hotels, and accommodations for the president and other administration officials to attend climate change talks in Paris are costing taxpayers nearly \$2 million, according to government contracts. The COP21 meeting of global leaders, which ...Obama said is a ‘powerful rebuke’ to terrorists, began on Monday [November 30]. Representatives from 195 countries traveled to Paris, burning 300,000 tons of carbon dioxide for the United Nations conference that is seeking to reduce global emissions. The tab for Obama’s motorcade alone totals \$784,825. The State Department issued a \$407,868 contract to Biribin Limousines, an international chauffeur service, for vehicles for [Obama’s] security detail. Numerous other contracts for passenger vehicle rentals, including \$9,042 for accompanying press, totaled \$376,957. Taxpayers were also billed \$100,216 to book hotel accommodations for [Obama’s] stay. Hotel rooms and cell phones for the U.S. Secret Service... cost \$16,642 and \$4,034, respectively.” [84358]

“A number of cabinet secretaries are also in Paris for the United Nations conference, including IRS Commissioner John Koskinen, whose car service tab is \$5,400. Secretary of State John Kerry’s car service totaled \$76,435, with three separate contracts worth \$38,684, \$15,789, and \$21,962. Car service for Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz is costing \$19,080, and two contracts worth \$10,153 and \$10,737 were issued for Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack’s chauffeur service. Interior Secretary Sally Jewell is also attending the conference, with hotel accommodations at the Tuileries Finances in Paris costing \$36,091, and her car service totaling \$13,903. In all, costs associated with the climate change summit totaled \$1,805,282.” (Why the IRS commissioner is at the conference is not explained.) [84358]

The House approves two resolutions (already approved by the Senate) to block Environmental Protection Agency greenhouse gas rules for power plants. (Obama will veto the resolutions.) [84367]

The International Monetary Fund announces that the Chinese currency, the yuan (also called the renminbi), will be included as a world reserve currency—along with the U.S. dollar, British pound, the European euro, and the Japanese yen. *The New York Times* writes, “The move will help pave the way for broader use of the renminbi in trade and finance, securing China’s standing as a global economic power. ... The I.M.F. designation, an accounting unit known as the special drawing rights, bestows global importance. ... By adding the renminbi to this group, the I.M.F. effectively says that it considers the currency to be safe, reliable and freely usable.” (The action may be bad news for the U.S. dollar, especially since China has been stockpiling gold in an effort to make its currency more respected. Meanwhile, the U.S. government and the Federal Reserve continue to make the dollar less respected and valuable, with massive operating deficits and the continued expansion of the money supply. If world traders change from demanding dollars to demanding gold or the yuan, the result will be bad for the U.S. economy.) [84380, 84381]

On December 2 Donald Trump says on *Fox & Friends*, “We have a president who doesn’t know what he is doing... all he’s worried about is climate change. ... I would knock the hell out of ISIS. I would hit them, I would hit them so hard... like they’ve never been hit.” Asked about civilian casualties, Trump responds, “I would do my best, absolute best—I mean, one of the problems that we have and one of the reasons we’re so ineffective is, you know, they’re trying to, they’re [ISIS is] using them [civilians] as shields, it’s a horrible thing. They’re using them as shields. But we’re fighting a very politically correct war. And the other thing is, with the terrorists, you have to take out their families. When you get these terrorists, you have to take out their families.” [84394, 84421, 84481]

The French government closes three mosques. The Associated Press reports, “One of the mosques, 35 kilometers (22 miles) east of Paris in Lagny-sur-Marne, was targeted by raids early Wednesday, with police seizing a 9mm revolver, a computer hard disc and jihadist propaganda. ... The two other mosques, in Lyon and Gennevilliers in the Paris region, were shut down last week amid a state of emergency.” [84447, 84448, 84813]

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton announces “he has filed suit on behalf of the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) against the federal government to halt the relocation of refugees from Syria in the state, citing the Refugee Act of 1980, which requires that the federal government consult with state authorities in advance of such relocations. The federal government is directing the nonprofit entity tasked with placing the refugees in Texas from disclosing even basic information that would help resolve Texas’s security concerns. ...Texas takes in roughly 10 percent of the refugees resettled in the United States, partnering with local volunteer agencies to help refugees transition to the State and pay associated costs. In this case, authorities have left Texas uninformed about refugees that could well pose a security risk to Texans and gives them no say in the process.” [84571, 84572]

FreeBeacon.com reports, “More than 179,000 illegal immigrants convicted of committing crimes, including violent ones, continue to roam free across the United States, with reports indicating that these illegal immigrants commit new crimes ‘every day,’ according to lawmakers and the director of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency, also known as ICE.” [84574]

Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel (Obama’s former chief of staff) is angered by a Politico.com report that he will be vacationing in Cuba over Christmas. (Emanuel once took a trip to Kenya.) [84395, 84411, 84454]

U.S. District Court Judge Jon DeGiulio, an Obama appointee, issues an injunction against Elkhart, Indiana’s Concord Community Schools, preventing Concord High School from including a nativity scene in their Christmas program. DeGiulio claims it “conveys an endorsement of religion and thus runs afoul of the Establishment Clause.”

FoxNews.com’s Todd Starnes reports, “The Freedom From Religion Foundation and the ACLU of Indiana had filed a lawsuit on behalf of a family whose child is in the production. ...The kids in Elkhart have been staging a Christmas Spectacular since 1970. The show is modeled after the Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular. And until last August—there were absolutely no problems.” (DeGiulio may not be aware of what the first six letters of Christmas represent. A school Christmas program does not force anyone to convert to Christianity, just as a school production of *Grease* does not force audience members to go out and purchase tight pants.) [84649, 84650]

Emanuel insists he will not resign, despite the furor over the police shooting of Laquan McDonald—and the failure to release dashcam video of the incident or charge the officer until 13 months later, long after Emanuel’s reelection victory. A testy Emanuel says, “We have a process called the election. The voters spoke. I’ll be held accountable for the decisions and actions that I make.” (Of course, the voters were denied critical information that might have changed the election’s outcome.) [84480, 84858]

Sandy Berger dies at age 70. Berger, former National Security Advisor to Bill Clinton, was infamous for stealing documents from the National Archives to protect his former boss. [84396, 84397, 84410]

In a Quinnipiac poll, Donald Trump has 27 percent support, followed by Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) with 17 percent, Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) (16), Ben Carson (16), Jeb Bush (5). On the Democrat side, Hillary Clinton leads Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT) 60-30 percent. [84401, 84402]

USAToday.com reports, “More Americans had their backgrounds checked purchasing guns on Black Friday than any day on record, according to data released by the FBI this week. The National Instant Criminal Background Check System processed 185,345 requests on Nov. 27, one of the largest retail sales days in the country. ‘This was an approximate 5% increase over the 175,754 received on Black Friday 2014,’ wrote Stephen Fischer, the FBI’s chief of multimedia productions. ‘The previous high for receipts were the 177,170 received on 12/21/2012.’” At Townhall.com Christine Rousselle writes, “People are likely buying guns in increased numbers due to recent comments by the president that suggest new gun control measures are coming. The previous record for background checks came shortly after the Sandy Hook School shooting in December 2012.” (More than 100 million guns have been sold in the United States since Obama entered the Oval Office in January 2009.) [84415, 84416, 84479, 85013]

The Associated Press reports, “US health care spending in 2014 grew at fastest pace [5.3 percent] of Obama’s presidency.” [84459, 84460]

Conservative author Ann Coulter, anticipating a rash of “most mass murderers are Christian white men” after the Colorado Springs shootings, posts a list of some decidedly non-white mass murderers in the United States in recent years. [84417]

Obama threatens to veto the latest spending bill proposal, with a message from the Office of Management and Budget: “This legislation is being considered by the Senate just days ahead of the December 15 deadline for [ObamaCare] Marketplace coverage that starts on January 1, 2016. Rather than refighting old political battles by once again voting to repeal basic protections that provide security for the middle class, members of Congress should be working together to grow the economy, strengthen middle-class families, and create new jobs. If [Obama] were presented with H.R. 3762, as amended by the Senate amendment, he would veto the bill.” According to TheBlaze.com, “The bill would reverse much of Obamacare, including cutting the employer mandate, eliminating the ‘Cadillac tax’ and redirecting federal funding of Planned Parenthood. ... The bill would also prohibit federal funds for one year for Planned Parenthood, which includes its affiliates, subsidiaries, successors, and clinics, while hiking funding to community health centers by \$235 million in each of fiscal years 2016 and 2017.” [84413, 84422, 84469, 84470]

In San Bernardino, California two gunmen attack a social services facility, killing 14 and injuring 21. The gunmen escape the scene. According to FoxNews.com the shooters, “who witnesses said were wearing body armor and masks, entered the Inland Regional Center just after 11 a.m. with grim precision, according to San Bernardino Police Chief



Jarrold Burguan. Once inside, they opened fire with rifles, shooting people in a conference room where a holiday party was taking place, authorities said. Hundreds of people were seen streaming out of the building moments later, some described by witnesses as holding their hands above their heads and even diving for cover behind cars in a parking lot. ‘Up to three people entered the building and opened fire on people inside the building,’ Burguan said at a news conference some three hours after the first call went out. ‘The suspects have fled, potentially in a dark-colored SUV. They came prepared to do what they did as if on a mission,’ he added. The incident lasted less than [sic; than] five minutes, police said.” [84409, 84414, 84420, 84423, 84438, 84439, 84440, 84441, 84442, 84444, 84445, 84475, 84530, 84541, 84723]

“...The Inland Regional Center is one of 21 facilities serving people with developmental disabilities run by the state, said Nancy Lungren, spokeswoman for the California Department of Developmental Services. The social services agency administers, authorizes and pays for assistance to people with disabilities such as autism and mental retardation. On an average day, doctors at the regional centers would be evaluating toddlers whose parents have concerns and case workers meeting with developmentally disabled adults. The San Bernardino facility consists of three buildings, and employs approximately 600 workers. Inland Regional Center Executive Director Lavinia Johnson told Reuters the shooting happened at a conference center her group rented out for a county personnel holiday department.” [84409, 84414]

Unwilling to wait for facts, CNN analyst Tom Fuentes states, “Well, to me it says that it’s a [sic; an] anti-government operation, probably a militia-type group or a wannabe-type militia group, as opposed to an international terrorist organization, because most of the international terrorism attacks we’ve seen—it’s a suicide mission. They don’t come in protecting themselves with body armor. If anything, they wear vests to explode.” (This would be the same Tom Fuentes who said of the killer at the recruitment center in Little Rock, Arkansas, “I know... what the name [Mohammad Youssef Abdulazeez] sounds like, but we don’t know that it’s a Muslim name. We know it’s an Arabic name. We don’t know what this individual was believing in, and that’s what they’re gonna [sic] be trying to determine.”) [78279, 78280, 78281, 78288, 78294, 78295, 78314, 78336, 78369, 78370, 78380, 78381, 84452, 84453]

CNN’s Harry Houck says the shooters “could be some right-wing group, for all I know.” [84504]

Also on CNN, criminologist Casey Jordan says, “Disgruntled employee. They can have Arabic or Middle Eastern names as well, but the key is that from the beginning everything that was reported about him, going into this conference room where there was a holiday party which may have been offensive to him. But the bottom line is the motivation always appeared to be intrinsic not, extrinsic... [I]t was almost like he was looking for an excuse to go get the guns, get the female getaway driver—you know, put on his fatigues and let it look like terrorism.” (In Jordan’s ludicrous opinion, the shooting has nothing to do with jihad. Instead, the killers were merely offended by Christmas parties and to “cover their tracks” they made their killings look like terrorism—because

everyone has military gear, 12 pipe bombs, and thousands of rounds of ammunition lying around their homes just in case they encounter something that offends them.) [84505, 84515, 84538]

A more rationale CNN guest says, “I think one thing that’s clear though is, uh, none of this, uh, these things that are occurring have anything to do with, um, climate change.” [84497, 84564]

Both CNN and MSNBC go out of their way to reassure viewers that the shooting incident is nowhere near the area’s Planned Parenthood facility. [84473, 84482]

MSNBC gives time to the far left ThinkProgress.org’s Igor Volsky, who ridicules people who offer thoughts and prayers after tragedies: “The responses are so predictable. I mean, they’ve been thinking and praying about this since [the 2014 school shootings in] Newtown... [T]hese folks only want to think and pray and the NRA pays them to only think and pray about gun violence and not to do anything else about it. ...[W]hen it comes to gun violence, time and time again, all we hear from these people is thoughts and prayers and people keep on dying and dying and dying, and all they can say is, thoughts and prayers...” [84506]

With the killer still at large, Obama tells CBS’ Norah O’Donnell, “You know, obviously our hearts go out ta [sic; to] the victims and, and, and the families.” (It is time for politicians to come up with a new phrase. “Our hearts go out” is as tiresome as “blood, sweat, and tears” and the definition of insanity often—probably falsely—attributed to Einstein or Benjamin Franklin: “Doing the same things over and over again and expecting different results.”) “The one thing we do know is that, uh, that we have a pattern now of, of mass shootings in this country that, uh, has no parallel anywhere else in the world, and there’s [sic] some steps we can take not ta [sic] eliminate every one of these mass shootings, uh, but, uh ta [sic] improve the odds that, uh, they don’t happen as frequently, uh, common sense gun safety laws, uh, stronger background checks, and, you know, for those who are concerned about terrorism, uh, you know, some may be aware of the fact that we have, uh, a no fly list where people can’t get on planes, but those same people who we don’t allow to fly could go into a store right now in the United States and buy a firearm and there’s nothin’ that we can do to stop ’em. Uh, that’s a law that needs to be changed.” (The problem with Obama’s demand is that the no-fly and terrorism watch lists are riddled with errors because it is ridiculously easy to get a name added to the lists—*which contain hundreds of thousands of names*. As an example, the late Senator Edward Kennedy, *The Weekly Standard*’s Stephen Hayes, and Nelson Mandela were on the watch list. Making matters worse, persons wrongly added to the lists have a terribly difficult time getting their names removed.) [84414, 84418, 84443, 84446, 84486, 84499, 84516, 84726, 86322]

“... We don’t yet know what the motives, uh, of, of the shooters are, uh, but we do know it is [sic] that there’s [sic] steps we can take to make, uh, Americans safer, uh, and that we should come together in [sic; on] a bipartisan basis at every level of government ta [sic], uh, ta [sic], you know, make these rare, uh, as opposed to normal. We should never

think that, uh, this is, uh, something that just happens in the ordinary course of events 'cause [sic] it doesn't happen, uh, with the same frequency in other countries.” (After his absurd claim in Paris that shootings don't happen in other countries, Obama is careful here to add “with the same frequency.” He is still mistaken. There are nations in Africa where mass shootings occur far more often than in the United States. In addition, just looking at gun deaths—not mass shootings—the most violent nations are Honduras, Venezuela, El Salvador, Jamaica, Swaziland, Guatemala, Columbia, South Africa, Brazil, and Panama. The United States is not even in the top 10.) [84414, 84418, 84443, 84446, 84449]

As events unfold, Hillary Clinton tweets, “I refuse to accept this as normal. We must take action to stop gun violence now.” Democrat candidates Martin O'Malley and Bernie Sanders tweet messages. [84425, 84426, 84457]

Police later encounter the alleged getaway vehicle, a black SUV, and two occupants are reportedly shot and killed by police: one man and one woman. They are identified as Syed Rizwan Farook, 28, and his wife, Tashfeen Malik, 27. Farook, a Sunni Muslim, was born in Illinois. A son of Pakistani immigrants, he had recently returned from Saudi Arabia with Malik, who entered the United States on a K-1 fiancé visa with a Pakistani passport. They were reportedly married in Mecca, Saudi Arabia. According to WashingtonTimes.com, “Farook worked for San Bernardino County as an environmental health specialist, and recent government records indicate that he oversaw water quality testing at several pools. A third man was arrested at the scene of the fatal gunbattle [sic; gun battle], but it wasn't immediately clear whether he was involved in the massacre at the morning party or just an innocent bystander fleeing in panic.” (Obama wants the nation to believe 200,000 Syrian refugees can be properly vetted—yet Malik has already proven the process is a sham.) [84414, 84419, 84423, 84427, 84428, 84429, 84431, 84432, 84433, 84445, 84461, 84476, 84487, 84544, 84648, 84669]

Interestingly, Malik is a male name. Walid Shoebat notes, “The name is very unusual for a woman and there is no record of any *Tashfeen Malik* in the U.S. or even abroad in Arabic. Tashfeen Malik (King) is a nom de guerre for a Muslim Jihadist from the annals of Muslim history.” The assumption is that Tashfeen Malik was not the terrorist's birth name, but a name she later chose. (Some wonder whether Obama's daughter, Malia Ann, was named in honor of one of the daughters of Malcolm “X” Little, Malika Shabazz, or after Malcolm X himself, whose tombstone is inscribed with “Hajj Malik.” Malik means “king” in Arabic, while Malukah means “queen.” Malcolm X became a Sunni Muslim and, after a pilgrimage to Mecca, he called himself El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz; his children use the surname Shabazz, rather than Little.) [527, 2421, 84784]

One Redlands, California, neighbor tells authorities Farook and Malik frequently had packages delivered to their rented house and they were often up late doing something in their garage. When police search the property they find what is essentially a bomb factory. (The neighbor could perhaps have saved 14 lives—but was afraid to report the suspicious activity out of fear of being called an Islamophobe.) Farook's father states, “He was very religious. He would go to work, come back, go to pray, come back. He's

Muslim.” (A third person—perhaps Farook’s brother, Syed *Raheel* Farook—may have been involved in the shootings.) [84432, 84437, 84438, 84458, 84462, 84463, 84474, 84542, 84543, 84545]

JihadWatch.org’s Robert Spencer writes, “The same thing happened several years ago in the Fort Dix jihad plot: the young man who inadvertently discovered the plot initially hesitated to contact police, fearing that to do so might be racist. This is what 14 years of pounding in the media from Hamas-linked CAIR and the Left has done: make people think that defending themselves and their country is somehow wrong.” [84545]

Members of the Los Angeles office of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) quickly hold a tightly-controlled press conference. (This would be the same CAIR that encourages Muslims not to cooperate with the FBI.) CAIR-LA Executive Director Hussam Ayloush tells reporters, “We condemn this horrific and revolting attack and offer our heartfelt condolences to the families and loved ones of all those killed or injured. The Muslim community stands shoulder to shoulder with our fellow Americans in repudiating any twisted mindset that would claim to justify such sickening acts of violence.” Farhan Khan, the husband of Farook’s sister, says, “I have no idea why he would do that, why he would do something like this.” A defensive Ayloush stops reporters from asking Khan questions, telling them, “He truly doesn’t feel he’s informed enough to comment.” [84432, 84477, 84484, 84546, 84551, 85286]

Pamela Geller later writes, “Complicating matters is that the family is not forthcoming or trustworthy. The fact that the family of shooters went to CAIR on the day of the slaughter speaks volumes about them. Would YOU go to a terror group? CAIR is an un-indicted co-conspirator in the largest terrorist-funding trial in our nation’s history. And the UAE [United Arab Emirates] has designated CAIR a terrorist group. The CAIR press conference was a preemptive shot—to shut down discussion of the true motive behind the Islamic attack in San Bernardino: jihad.” [84542]

The FBI states, “This may or may not have been a terrorist attack.” (It is obvious that it is terrorism, but “higher ups” are just as obviously calling for the word not to be used until there is no way to avoid it. Obama will not be happy that the FBI used the word terrorism.) [84433]

At WND.com Cheryl Chumley writes, “Reuters reported the couple started their day by dropping their baby girl off at the Redlands home of Farook’s mother, telling her they needed to go to a medical appointment. Farook actually attended the Christmas party, sat for a while but left and returned later with Malik. The two stormed the party, decked out in armored gear and masks, and carting assault weapons, and began shooting up the scene. Fox News reported they didn’t say anything, but simply walked into the facility, opened fire, emptied their magazines, then reloaded and opened fire again. They fled from the scene in a black SUV and by sunset, were killed by police in a shootout. Police also found several pipe bombs and makeshift explosive devices at the site of the massacre.” The husband and wife terrorist team’s arsenal included 15 pipe bombs and thousands of rounds of ammunition. [84433, 84495]

Not only did a neighbor wonder about suspicious activity at the Farook home and not report it, Chumley reports, “Another man whose work had brought him into the neighborhood in recent days said he had noticed several Middle Easterners in the area in the last few weeks. But he [told KCBS-TV] he didn’t want to report their presence because he worried about being labeled a racial profiler. ‘We sat around lunch thinking, ‘What were they doing around the neighborhood?’ We’d see them leave where they’re raiding the apartment.” [84433, 84458, 84462, 84463, 84490, 84498]

At a rally in Manassas, Virginia, several black pastors endorse Donald Trump for president. Pastor Steve Parson says, “[P]eople ask me, ‘Why are you endorsing Donald Trump?’ Well, [in] my opinion, he’s the best and the only one who can beat Hillary Clinton. I mean, listen, we gotta [sic] win. And one thing about Donald Trump is he’s a winner. Amen? And here’s another thing too, he knows how to create wealth. Can I get an amen? And as a black minister, I’ll just tell you this: we’re right in the inner-city, and I’ll tell you we need jobs, we need employment, we need businesses. And I’ll tell you, who better can help us help [us] than Donald Trump? ...I personally believe that this is a movement. It’s a movement. And I believe that we’re in a situation now that this country called America is going to come back and be made great again. Ain’t that right? In fact, I believe it’s a wealth transfer—a wealth movement—okay? I’ll tell you one thing, Mr. Trump is going to make this military strong again, too. Why is that? Why is this? I’m not going to take too much time, I’ll just tell you this: Donald Trump doesn’t take anybody’s mess.” [84485, 84779, 84785]

Whether Trump can win a large portion of the black vote remains to be seen, but if he is the GOP nominee and if he can manage 10-15 percent of the black vote, Hillary Clinton could lose by a wide margin. In 2012 Obama won 45 percent of the male vote, 55 percent of the female vote, 39 percent of the white vote, 93 percent of the black vote, and 71 percent of the Hispanic vote—but only 51 percent of the total vote. In 2016, Clinton will not do well among male, white voters. But black voters will not support her as enthusiastically as they supported Obama. Obama received the majority of the votes of Americans earning less than \$50,000, a category in which Trump may do well. Trump’s anti-China rhetoric may also help him among union workers, a group Obama won handily in 2012. While many assume Trump will do poorly among Hispanic voters, the reality is that many legal Hispanic immigrants resent illegal immigrants competing with them for jobs. Trump may capture more Hispanic votes than many might anticipate. [84785]

On *Hannity*, Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) says, “It is abundantly clear that Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton can’t defeat ISIS, because they have no intention of even trying. They won’t even acknowledge the enemy. I mean, Hillary Clinton at the last Democratic debate went out of her way to refuse to say the words, ‘radical Islamic terrorism.’ What we need, Sean—yes, we can defeat ISIS with a strong commander-in-chief. If I am elected president, I will make unequivocally clear to the world we will destroy ISIS. Now how can we do so? We should do so, number one, with overwhelming air power. In the first Persian Gulf War, we launched roughly 1,100 air attacks a day, for 37 days,

pulverized the Iraqi Army. It then took 36 hours for our troops to mop up what was left of it. Right now, today Obama is launching 15 to 30 air attacks a day. It's a pinprick, it's a photo op foreign policy. And the second thing we ought to be doing is arming the Kurds. The Kurds are fighting ISIS. They are our allies. They are effective fighters. The Kurds, are, in a very real sense, our boots on the ground. And yet, the Obama administration and Hillary Clinton is sadly in this mix. They refuse to arm the Kurds for political reasons because it would upset Baghdad. That doesn't make any sense." [84488]

On December 3 Barack "Uhbama" again addresses the shootings in San Bernardino, telling reporters, "At this stage, we do not yet know, uh, why this terrible event occurred. Uh, we do know that, uh, the two, uh, individuals who were killed, uh, were equipped with, uh, weapons and appeared to have access to, uh, additional weaponry at their homes, but we don't know why they did it. Uh, we don't know, uh, at this point, the extent of their plans, uh, we do not know, uh, their motivations, and I just received a briefing from, uh, FBI director [James] Comey as well as Attorney General [Loretta] Lynch, uh, indicating, uh, the course of their investigation. At this point this is now a [sic; an] FBI investigation, uh, that's been done in cooperation, uh, and consultation with local law enforcement, uh, it is *possible* that this was terrorist-related, but we don't know." (Obama most certainly knows it is terrorism.) [84446]

"Uh, it's also possible that this was workplace-related, uh, and until, uh, the FBI has been able to conduct, uh, what are gonna [sic] be a large number of interviews, uh, until we understand, uh, the nature of, uh, the workplace relationship, uh, between, uh, the individual and, uh, his superiors, because he worked, uh, with the organization where, uh, this terrible shooting took place, until all the social media and electronic information has been exploited we're just not gonna [sic] be able to answer, uh, those questions, uh, but, uh, what I can assure the American people is we're gonna [sic] get to the bottom of this and that we are gonna [sic] be, uh, vigilant as we always are in getting the facts, uh, before we issue, uh, any, uh, decisive judgments in terms of how this occurred. Uh, more broadly, uh, as I sad yesterday, you know, we see the prevalence of these kinds of mass shootings in this country, uh, and I think so many Americans sometimes feel as if there's nothing we can do about it." [84446]

"Uh, we are fortunate to have an extraordinary, uh, combination of law enforcement, intelligence, uh, and military that work every single day to keep us safe. Uh, but, uh we can't just leave it to our professionals ta [sic], uh, ta [sic] deal with, uh, the problem of these kinds of horrible killings, uh, we all have a part to play, and I do think as the investigation moves forward, it's gonna [sic] be important for all of us, including, uh, our legislatures, uh, to see what we can do, uh, to make sure that when individuals decide that they want to do somebody harm, uh, we're making it a little harder for them to do it, uh, because right now, it's just too easy, uh, and, uh, uh, you know, we're, we're gonna [sic] have ta [sic], I think, search ourselves as a society to, to make sure that we can, uh, take basic steps that, uh, would make it harder, uh, not impossible, uh, for individuals, uh, to get access to weapons." [84446, 84539, 84540]

While leftists express outrage over a *New York Post* cover that declares, “Muslim Killers,” other Americans are outraged by leftists mocking those (especially Republican presidential candidates) who are praying for the victims’ families and a *New York Daily News* headline that proclaims, “God Isn’t Fixing This.” (The newspaper’s editor in chief Jim Rich later laughably claims its front page “is not, in any way, shape or form, condemning prayer or religion...” The next day the newspaper’s cover blames the NRA for the terrorist shootings. In the space of two days the leftist rag mocks those who “cling” to both “guns and religion.”) [84464, 84465, 84466, 84467, 84483, 84496, 84507, 84512, 84527, 84553, 84554, 84557, 84562, 84652]

Disgraced former CBS anchor Dan Rather calls for more gun control legislation, stating, “it is not enough to say our prayers are with the victims.” (Those who argue that “prayers are not enough” seem to be incapable of comprehending that people are capable of both praying and acting. As far as gun control, there are already more than 23,000 gun-related laws on the books in the United States—most of which are routinely violated by criminals. Rather apparently believes that having 23,001 laws would make a difference.) [84508, 85399]

*The Washington Post*’s Gene Weingarten tweets, “Dear ‘thoughts and prayers’ people: Please shut up and slink away. You are the problem, and everyone knows it.” (Weingarten had no such response when Hillary Clinton tweeted, “Our prayers are with the people of France tonight” after the terrorist attacks in Paris on November 13.) [84514]

According to WashingtonPost.com, “Rabia Chaudry kept her 7-year-old daughter home from her private Islamic school in Maryland on Thursday, fearing anti-Muslim backlash from Wednesday’s massacre nearly 3,000 miles away in San Bernardino, Calif.” (The *Post* does not explain why Chaudry feared anti-Muslim backlash *at a private Islamic school*, where all the students are Muslims.) Chaudry, a lawyer at the leftist New America Foundation, says, “I think we are all feeling exhausted and very vulnerable. I’m angry at those people who did this attack. And I’m angry at how this is being politicized. Everything boils down to, ‘We should fear Muslims. And they shouldn’t be here.’” The *Post* whines, “Muslims said they are bracing for an even more toxic climate in which Americans are increasingly suspicious of Muslims.” (That, of course, is the natural result of more than 20,000 Islamist terrorist attacks worldwide since September 11, 2001. If those attacks were perpetrated by Buddhist monks people would necessarily be suspicious of Buddhist monks.) [84642]

Deranged House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) protests moments of silence in the House of Representatives, telling reporters, “Gun violence is a crisis of epidemic proportion in our nation. We’ve had far too many moments of silence on the floor of the House. And while it is right to respectfully acknowledge the losses, we can no longer remain silent. What gives us the right to hold moments of silence when we do nothing to act upon the cause of the grief?” (Whether Pelosi will hold her breath until the Second Amendment is repealed is not known.) [84613]

Newsmax.com writes, “San Bernardino gunman Syed Rizwan Farook had become increasingly radicalized, CNN reports, and had been in touch by phone and via social media with more than one international terrorism subject under investigation by the FBI. Authorities did not dismiss other issues—including that Farook had a workplace grievance—as additional motives. ... ‘They came prepared to do what they did, as if they were on a mission,’ San Bernardino Police Chief Jarrod Burguan said. At a press conference today, the chief said there is no doubt the shooting had ‘some degree’ of planning. ‘Nobody gets up and does this,’ he said, adding there were too many weapons, ammunition and other materials amassed for the mass shooting to be spontaneous.” [84472]

ABC’s Brian Ross, desperate to downplay radical Islam as the motive for the terrorists, says, “Well, it appears to be a kind of hybrid, uh, workplace jihad. He [Syed Farook] had issues, he targeted his co-workers... He appears to be an all-American boy. He enjoyed snowboarding, working on cars, and guns—he was very comfortable with the gun culture.” (The “boy” was 28 years old, and while he may have enjoyed snowboarding, he also enjoyed memorizing the Qur’an—which hardly made him “all-American.” Ross’ reference to “gun culture” is clearly intended as a criticism of *American* gun culture. Ross’ shameless implication is that Farook was a “nice guy” who was angered by co-workers and turned violent by the NRA.) [84547, 84573]

CNN’s Erin Burnett, looking for an excuse for the shootings, addresses former FBI profiler Jim Clemente: “...I just have to ask you, could there be something else, anything else, that could have explained her [Tashfeen Malik’s] involvement? Something like a postpartum psychosis?” Clemente somehow refrains from laughing, and responds, “Well, postpartum psychosis, in the cases that I’ve seen of it, really is typically internal. I mean, the violence goes internally or within the family. The kids are most likely going to be the targets of that or the person suffering from it. So, I don’t see this as a common case of postpartum psychosis. This is something much more related to extremism.” [84609]

Also on CNN, Fareed Zakarias says, “Look, for some of this, for this particular case, there is a terrorism angle that you’ve been exploring, but in general the stories of gun violence really do startle, alarm, um, the rest of the world in a way that’s difficult to completely explain. It’s more than anything else—the rest of the world looks at this as the one element of America that they find truly baffling because, you know, there are other elements, the religious, the other industrialized countries, but that they understand because they used to be more religious themselves, there are other countries that are more religious [sic]. With guns, the United States is essentially alone in the world. There is no other country that has anything approaching the violence we do. The only country that comes close is Yemen, which is essentially a war zone. So, they look at this and they really can’t understand it, um, and they don’t understand how we put up with it.” [84622, 84623]

Zakaria is lying, or is incredibly ignorant. The United States is hardly the most violent nation in the world. He apparently knows nothing of Honduras, Venezuela, El Salvador, Jamaica, Swaziland, Guatemala, Columbia, South Africa, Brazil, and Panama—the 10



nations which, previously noted, have the highest firearm-related death rates. Zakaria also falsely claims that “European countries, roughly speaking, have 1/20th to 1/25th the amount of violence that we have.” At RedState.com Leon H. Wolf writes, “There’s of course a major problem with this claim—it’s absolute BS. I mean, it’s not even close to being correct. There is literally no country in Europe for which Zakaria’s claim is correct, much less is it true of ‘most European countries’ as he claims. ...[W]hen viewed in terms of crime *rate*, which is to say, crime per 1,000 persons, then generally speaking the following two truths bear out: 1. The United States has between 3-5 times more homicides than most European countries; and 2. Overall, most European countries have between 2-5 times more overall crime than the United States. ...France, mentioned specifically by Zakaria, has almost twice as much crime per 1,000 but about 1/4th the murders per 1,000.” [84449, 84622, 84623, 84624]

WeaselZippers.com posts the names of some of the Twitter accounts Syed Farook had been following: The Syrian Revolution Network; Palestine; The Islamic Ummah; Islam; WhyIslam; MuslimAmericanSociety; CAIR-SFBA; CAIR National; and an individual named Safeen. [84509]

Newsmax.com reports, “Federal agents have discovered preliminary evidence that San Bernardino gunman Syed Rizwan Farook was in contact by phone and social media with people who had been the subject of a terrorism probe by the FBI, according to multiple law enforcement sources.” [84510]

On Facebook, CV Claverie writes, “The islamic terrorist who took the Life of my friend & bro in Christ, Nicholas Thalasinios, on yesterday in San Bernadino [sic; Bernardino], CA, had been threatening him, telling him that islam will rule the world, Christians and Jews deserve to die; and that he (Nicholas) was going to die. But, they aren’t reporting that in the ‘news’... I wonder why...” Jihad Watch’s Robert Spencer asks, “Did Thalasinios report these threats to police? If so, what did they do—ascibe Thalasinios’ concerns to ‘Islamophobia’? Or did he not report them, and if not, did he fear charges of ‘racism’? Farook told a Jewish coworker: ‘You will never see Israel.’” [84682, 84683, 84684, 84699]

Attorney General Loretta Lynch says of the San Bernardino shootings, “Violence like this has no place in this country and in this nation. [For the record, this country and this nation are the same.] This is not what we stand for, this is not what we do, this is not what we work for. It’s not what we live for, it antithetical to our values. [Why Lynch finds it necessary to point out that mass murder is not what the nation stands for is not clear.] ...[W]e’re at a point where these issues have come together, really like never before in law enforcement thought, and in our nation’s history and it gives us a wonderful opportunity and a wonderful moment to really make significant change.” (Some might have thought that Rahm Emanuel’s infamous remark, “Never let a crisis go to waste,” could not be outdone, but Lynch calling a mass killing “a wonderful moment to really make significant change” moves him to second place.) [84513]

On MSNBC Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez (D-CA) claims, “[M]ulti-automatic round weapons [sic] are easily available, even though not in California, but they can cross the state line, as you know.” (There is no such thing as a “multi-automatic round weapon.” Sanchez is typical of many gun-ignorant people on the political left. As an example, they often use the term “assault weapon,” which is essentially a meaningless term. Any weapon can be used in an “assault.” Many on the left believe it means an “automatic” weapon, like a machine gun, but those have been outlawed since the 1930s, except for museums and exotic gun collectors who have to follow incredibly strict rules and regulations to obtain them.) Not surprisingly, program host Tamron Hall does not challenge Sanchez’s statement—probably because she is as ignorant of weapons as is the Congresswoman. [84520, 84521, 84651]

At NYPost.com Harry Litman reveals that the Associated Press filmed Palestinians in the West Bank celebrating the 9/11 terrorist attacks, but “the actual footage has never been seen, because [the AP] has kept it under wraps for the last 14 years. ...On the afternoon of Sept. 11, 2001, thousands of jubilant Palestinians took to the streets, chanting ‘God is great,’ firing automatic weapons and handing out sweets to passers-by. The largest demonstration took place in Nablus in the West Bank, where some 3,000 marchers danced and cheered as guerrillas fired assault rifles and grenades into the air. Many journalists were on the scene, but they were forcibly detained in a hotel by armed Palestinian security forces to prevent coverage of the rally. One cameraman—a freelance AP reporter—nevertheless managed to film some of the celebration. The next day, members of Tanzim, the military arm of Fatah, physically threatened the cameraman and warned AP not to air the material. ...The threat worked. After initially declining to confirm the incident, the AP bureau chief in Jerusalem acknowledged the intimidation and the news organization’s capitulation to it. ...Fourteen years later, the historic footage from 9/11 remains inaccessible to public view. ...These searing images belong in the public record, not in the closed video vault of a cowed news agency.” [84598, 84599]

Defense Secretary Ashton Carter announces that the military will open combat positions to women. He says, “There will be no exemptions. To succeed in our mission of national defense, we cannot afford to cut ourselves off from half the country’s talents and skills. We have to take full advantage of every individual who can meet our standards.” (The logical question is: will young women now be required to register with the Selective Service when they turn age 18, as young men are required to do?) [84489, 84494, 84511, 84570, 84583, 85870]

Newsmax.com reports, “Then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton slept in on Saturday following the Benghazi, Libya attacks, missing a staff meeting that was being set up about intelligence issues and the Presidential Daily Brief, according to a new batch of her emails released Thursday by conservative watchdogs Judicial Watch. ‘These new Benghazi emails are disturbing and show why Hillary Clinton and the Obama administration had to be forced to disclose them,’ said Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton in a release to Newsmax. ‘Hillary Clinton, despite knowing that terrorists were responsible for the attack, allowed her spokesman to go to the Arab world and blame an Internet film.’ Further, he maintained that the emails show Clinton ‘trafficked in

fantastical conspiracy theories’ suggesting that American conservatives and Israel were to blame for the Benghazi attack and jihadist violence. ‘And the crazed email from Sidney Blumenthal shows that she was taking direction on her Benghazi spin based upon attack-style presidential campaign politics,’ said Fitton. ‘Finally, [an] ‘I just got up’ email shows that, smack dab in the middle of the Benghazi crisis, Hillary Clinton fell behind and may have not been fully briefed as she began an intense round of phone calls to foreign leaders.’ She was also to make a series of calls to foreign leaders on that day, the email chain shows, and requested a list of the people she was to call.” [85850, 85851, 85852]

At a campaign event in New Hampshire, Hillary Clinton is confronted with a question from the audience, “You say that all rape victims should be believed, but would you say that about Juanita Broaddrick, Kathleen Willey, and Paula Jones? Should we believe them as well?” With a self-satisfied smile, Clinton replies, “Well, I would say that everybody should be believed first, until they are disbelieved based on evidence.” (Broaddrick, Willey, Jones—as well as Eileen Wellstone, Elizabeth Ward Gracen, Regina Hopper Blakely, Sandra Allen James, Kathy Bradshaw, Cristy Zercher, Carolyn Moffet, Dolly Kyle Browning, Sally Perdue, Betty Dalton, Becky Brown, Helen Dowdy, and Denise Reeder—are among Bill Clinton’s many sexual assault victims. No one ever presented evidence to disprove their claims, but Hillary Clinton dispatched teams of attackers to go after them, discredit their stories, and destroy their reputations.) [84517, 84519, 84523, 84524, 84552, 84569, 85894, 85914, 85950, 85990, 86076, 86331, 86332]

Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA) says, “Sensible gun laws work, we’ve proven it in California, and we’re not gonna [sic] give up.” (Boxer is apparently unaware of what happened in San Bernardino just one day earlier.) Boxer cannot state with certainty that California’s gun laws—which are among the strictest in the nation—have reduced gun violence. HotAir.com notes that gun violence is “also down in states that haven’t passed such laws. Gun violence has been dropping across America for 20 years now, although the decline has leveled off a bit over the last few years...” Although gun violence has been declining in general, shootings have been increasing in “gun-free zones.” [84518, 84561, 84568, 84588, 84600]

Pamela Geller writes, “Latest news is reporting the Muslim terrorists had planned on a second hit. This is the earmark of jihad terror—the first hit is the soft target. Once they have a successful jihad attack under their belt, they move onto a second target—a harder target. The kinds of devices the jihadis left behind is signature al Qaeda. Obama say, ‘workplace violence.’ The suspects’ SUV was initially reported was found to contain 12 pipe bombs, 2,000 9mm rounds, more than 2500 .223-caliber rounds and ‘several hundred’ 22 long rifle rounds, San Bernardino Police Chief Jarrod Burguan said. Their home was an IED bomb factory. They had 12 pipe bombs. They had thousands of rounds of ammo. They had state-of-the-art body armor. Who paid for this?” [84531]

At DailyCaller.com Chuck Ross reports, “Syed Rizwan Farook was heavily involved in his local mosque and focused his energies on memorizing the Quran, he wrote in a short-lived dating profile in 2013. ‘I spend much of my free time in the masjid [mosque],’ Farook, then 28, wrote on his profile for the dating site, BestMuslim.com. He also

enjoyed ‘memorizing the quran and learning more about the religion,’ he added. ...Farook reportedly had contact with known terrorists in the Middle East. He has also traveled to the Middle East and to Pakistan multiple times. It has also been reported that Farook viewed ISIS propaganda online. Investigators found a heavy arsenal of guns, ammunition and pipe bombs at their house in Redlands, Cal.” [84532, 84533]

Pamela Geller writes, “This mosque should be shuttered at once. Why hasn’t the media even questioned which mosque he attended? All mosques that teach, preach and incite to jihad should be shuttered. ...Four separate studies of American mosques revealed that about eighty percent of them provide extremist literature and occasionally feature extremist preachers. That doesn’t mean that every American mosque is a hotbed of jihad-terror, but it is most certainly a red flag. There should be an immediate investigation into foreign mosque funding in the West and new legislation making foreign funding of mosques in non-Muslim nations illegal. We should surveil mosques and conduct regular inspections of mosques in the U.S. and other non-Muslim nations to look for pro-violence materials. Any mosque advocating jihad or any aspects of Sharia that conflict with Constitutional freedoms and protections should be closed.” [84534]

Geller also reports, “Syed Farook ‘used social media to contact extremists watched by the FBI.’ Syed Farook contacted people known to the FBI as potential extremists—raising questions as to why he was not on the FBI’s radar. That’s jihad. The media and the jihadi in the White House are choking on their traitorous narrative. The Feds have not been able to tell us exactly who Tashfeen Malik (if that’s her real name) is, or provide a picture, records of where she came from, when they were married, when the child was born, or proof that Syed is the father and she had a legitimate claim to be in this country, etc. (Thanks to BFH for pointing this out.) This is a stunning indictment of Obama’s vetting of Muslims from Syria and other jihad nations.” [84535, 84536, 84537]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, “The Muslim husband and wife behind the mass shooting in San Bernardino began erasing their digital footprint a day in advance of the deadly attack, deleting email accounts, disposing of hard drives and smashing their cellphones, according to law enforcement investigators who are treating the probe as a counterterrorism case. Investigators edged closer Thursday to the conclusion that Syed Rizwan Farook and his wife, Tashfeen Malik, were radicalized by Islamist extremists either in the U.S. or during trips to the Middle East, including Saudi Arabia. ...Authorities have tracked down at least four people from the Los Angeles area who were previously under investigation by U.S. counterterrorism officials and were found to have had communication with Farook in the past, said a law enforcement source involved in the investigation.” [84548]

According to CBS, “Shooting suspect Tashfeen Malik passed DHS counterterrorism screening as part of her vetting for [a 90-day] K-1 visa.” According to CNN, Malik had pledged her allegiance to ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, via Facebook. (It is later reported that both Malik and Syed Farook pledged their allegiance.) [84563, 84580, 84585, 84586, 84646, 84647, 84648, 84669, 84672, 84680, 84872]

The DHS vetting is apparently not too thorough: according to ABC News, the Pakistani address listed by Tashfeen Malik on her visa application does not even exist—nor does the town she listed. State Department spokeswoman Elizabeth Trudeau states, “We continue to revise, we continue to look at this. But these are process that happens around the world, every day, in our U.S. embassies. And while we won’t get ahead of this investigation, the process that visa applicants go through continues to be improved. It was improved after 9/11, something that we look at every day. But at this stage, you know, we stand behind those processes.” [84607, 84608, 84663, 84664, 84665, 84669, 84765]

BizPacReview later notes, “Data on admittance rates for each visa category from the State Department show the K-1 visa only had 118 rejections out of 36,425 applications in 2014. This ratio of 1:308 can be compared to the most popular categories of the B-1 tourist and business visa (1:6.5) and the F-1 student visa (1:5.7). Even visa categories that apply to diplomats gaining entry to the U.S., such as the A-1 (1:74), have approval ratings far below the K-1.” (In other words, becoming engaged to a U.S. citizen is the least difficult way for a terrorist to obtain legal permission to enter the country.) [84669]

On his radio program, Glenn Beck says, “Mr. President, I say this with as much respect as you deserve, screw global warming! What the hell is wrong with you? If you actually believe that global warming is the biggest problem we face with terror all around the world, an \$18 trillion debt—nine of which is yours—no real allies left that trust us, riots in the streets, riots in our university campuses, race relations worse than I’ve seen since the 1960s, and a distrust of our fellow Americans unlike anything I have ever seen, you, sir, are either delusional or you’re the dumbest son of a bitch on the planet. Which is it? ...Because it is about Islam. So was Boston. So was Benghazi. So was Fort Hood. So was [sic; were] a half dozen others that you failed to address, and quite frankly, sir, so was Ahmed the Clock Kid. It was a timer and not a clock.” [84522]

The Senate votes 83-16 in favor of a largely unfunded \$305 billion five-year highway bill that includes the re-establishment of the “crony capitalist” Export-Import Bank. Obama will sign the legislation. [84525]

The Senate also votes 52-47 to repeal ObamaCare, avoiding a filibuster by using the “budget reconciliation” procedure the Democrats used to pass the misnamed Affordable Care Act in 2010. The legislation, which also ends federal funding of the abortion mill Planned Parenthood, will next be approved by the House—and then vetoed by Obama. (Republican Senators Mark Kirk of Illinois and Susan Collins of Maine vote with the Democrats.) [84560, 84565, 84577, 84594]

WashingtonExaminer.com reports, “One of the suspects in the San Bernardino shootings, Syed Farook, may have been motivated to carry out the attacks as a result of watching the Islamic State’s propaganda videos, according to a Thursday night press conference by law enforcement. Officials speculated Farook may have been radicalized by his wife Tashfeen Malik, who entered the U.S. from Saudi Arabia last year.” [84645]

Attorney General Loretta Lynch addresses the Muslim Advocate's 10th anniversary dinner. BuzzFeed.com reports, "Lynch said since the terrorist attacks in Paris last month, she is increasingly concerned with the 'incredibly disturbing rise of anti-Muslim rhetoric ...that fear is my greatest fear. ...When we talk about the First amendment we [must] make it clear that actions predicated on violent talk are not American. They are not who we are, they are not what we do, and they will be prosecuted. My message not just to the Muslim community but to all Americans is 'We cannot give in to the fear that these backlashes are really based on.'" (Muslims kill 14 innocent Americans in cold blood and Lynch is more worried about people criticizing Muslims than the next terrorist attack. The mass murders committed by Syed Farook and Tashfeen Malik were certainly "predicated on violent talk." It is *that* talk Lynch should be worried about. If Lynch wants to prosecute "violent talk," she should send federal agents to radical mosques. Those who believed Lynch would not be as atrocious as her predecessor, Eric Holder, were mistaken.) [84528, 84529, 84558, 84578, 84592, 84593, 84610, 85283]

Lynch tells the Muslim audience, "Often, you learn of incidents before law enforcement and I encourage you to report these incidents to the Justice Department. I assure you: each and every report of a potential hate crime is taken seriously and, as our record of recent activity makes clear, we will investigate and prosecute violations of federal law whenever we can. [She is not encouraging them to report possible terrorist connections; she is encouraging them to complain if their feelings are hurt by criticism of Islam.] ...If you are aware of situations where children are involved [Muslim children are being bullied by their classmates], please contact the Department of Justice and the Department of Education. Everything need not result in a lawsuit, but some things We can provide guidance, we can have conversations. do have to go to that area. We have, as you may know, opened an investigation into the case of the young man ['clock boy' Ahmed Mohamed] in Irving, Texas. We will see where that investigation goes. You have extreme situations like that, but you also have those everyday things that happen. We have an important, important role to play so please, please think of us there as well." (Apparently the Department of Justice has spare manpower that can quickly be dispatched any time a Muslim child is called a "raghead" by a classmate. Unfortunately, manpower is not available to conduct proper vetting of jihadist brides from Pakistan.) [84578, 84688, 84709, 84816]

While Lynch is worried about criticism of Muslims, it is worth noting that, according to the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting Program, there were 6,727 victims of hate crimes in 2014. "Of the 1,140 victims of anti-religious hate crimes: 56.8 percent were victims of crimes motivated by their offenders' anti-Jewish bias. 16.1 percent were victims of anti-Islamic (Muslim) bias." (Jews make up about 1.9 percent of the U.S. population; Muslims make up about 0.9 percent. Clearly, Jews are far more likely to be victims of hate crimes than Muslims, yet neither Lynch nor his predecessor, Eric Holder, have expressed concern about anti-Jewish sentiments.) [84810, 84811, 84812]

On *Hannity*, Donald Trump says, "Well, perhaps [Obama is] incompetent. We have a president that [sic; who] doesn't know what he's doing. I think perhaps you could actually say, [it's] hard to believe but we have somebody that's [sic; who is] incompetent.

He wasn't meant for the position but, he's there, and we have him for another year, a little more than a year if you think. And we're stuck with him, I guess, for a little while. ...[H]e doesn't even want to use the term [radical Islamists], the proper term to describe these people, and, you know, if you're not going to use the term, and you're not going to define them correctly, you're never going to solve the problem. So, he doesn't use the term. He doesn't really know. I don't know. You know, somebody told me before they think he has bad intentions. Let's assume he doesn't have bad intentions. I just don't think he knows what he's doing. I think it's gotten to a point where it's embarrassing. He's over there talking about global warming. [Obama says] Global warming's our biggest problem. [But the jihadists] want to blow up our country. They want to blow up our cities. They want to knock down our buildings, and he's worried about global warming. So, you know, we have somebody that's [sic; who is] not in touch." [84590]

On December 4 Obama talks with *CBS This Morning's* Norah O'Donnell about his anti-global warming agenda. He says, "Keep in mind, these are [carbon dioxide emission reduction] pledges over a number of years. And this is in our interest. Let's take a country like India that's got over a billion people. If they are to develop using, let's say, coal as their main way of generating electricity, with a billion people... you're looking at an amount of carbon that would mean South Florida's gone, because the oceans would have risen too high. You can't build a border wall when it comes to carbon emissions or global temperatures or the oceans. We've got to make sure that people have incentives to work with us." [84555]

Obama also says Donald Trump "should run back a tape or quote on some of the stuff he's said—99.5 percent of scientists in the world say this is a really urgent problem. Political parties around the world. The only people who are still disputing it are either some Republicans in Congress or folks on the campaign trail." (Obama's 99.5 percent claim is a lie and he knows it; it is an exaggeration of a 97 percent claim has been thoroughly debunked.) [84555, 85672]

Fred Reed writes at LewRockwell.com, "Terrorism by Moslems [Muslims] in America and Europe cannot be stopped. If attacks do not occur, it will be because nobody tried very hard. Stopping them would require excluding Moslems, deporting them, or controlling them by totalitarian methods. Or, improbably, minding our own business in the Middle East. What you think of the foregoing approaches doesn't matter, since none of them will be used. In France the result would be a civil war. America is too divided to do anything about anything. The notion that the government can prevent terrorism suggests studied inattention to the obvious. To begin, the intelligence agencies have proved useless. NSA did not prevent the first attack on the Twin Towers in 1993, nor the successful one. French intelligence did not prevent the recent attacks in Paris, nor Russian intelligence the downing of the airliner over Syria. On and on." [84526]

"...What goes on at airports is not security. It is Security Theater. When the government's own agents try to smuggle 'weapons' aboard airliners to test the system, they succeed ninety-five percent of the time. Further, a terrorist doesn't need to get aboard an airliner to blow up spectacularly. At many airports, hundreds of people line up

at ticket counters during peak hours. A carry-on bag of explosive would easily create enough slaughter to shut down air travel and to make international headlines for weeks. The willingness of a suicide bomber to die makes him almost unstoppable. If he has assembled enough explosive for a car bomb, he has only to find a large number of people together, pull up to them, and push the button. An AK, a thirty-round magazine, and a Fourth of July crowd would serve well. Ten pounds of C4 in a shoulder bag in a crowded movie theater would also work. Suicide would not be necessary: ‘Would you watch my bag for a minute while I go to the john?’” [84526]

“...The appeal of terrorism is great because it is by a very wide margin the most cost-effective form of warfare. By the expenditure of at most a few lives and a little money, terrorists can throw a country into panic, spur major reductions in civil liberties, permanently alter its government, and perhaps cause it to launch exhausting wars. For example, consider what Nine-Eleven has done to America. ...Domestic surveillance is of little use. It assumes that terrorists are stupid and do not read newspapers. When the terrorists find that NSA can track cell phones, they stop using them. This is an inconvenience, but not a bar to success. Lone terrorists don’t have to communicate with anyone. ...[A] suicide type could create quite a stir just by shooting everybody in a restaurant in Washington. Gun control is not an answer. It serves only to keep the law-abiding from getting guns. Mexico strictly controls guns. Does anyone get shot there?” [84526]

“...The future? Hard to say. As I write, President B. Hussein Obama is endeavoring to import tens of thousands of Moslems. It will be impossible to screen them, presumably making the importation a free ride into the US for terrorists if they so choose. It is not politically incorrect to note that the countless Moslem terrorists in recent years have been countless Moslem terrorists. It is, however, true. The greatest question about terrorists is not whether they can, but why they haven’t.” [84526]

Reverend Franklin Graham writes at Facebook, “It’s confirmed—San Bernardino shooter Syed Rizwan Farook was a devout Muslim. Friends say he had memorized the Koran. The headlines say Farook and his wife were a couple ‘bent on jihad.’ ...Obama and his administration are trying to blame this incident on gun control when it was caused by hate-filled hearts intent on killing infidels in the name of Islam. Take away the guns and this couple would’ve still slaughtered innocent civilians. Their apartment was a bomb-making factory! It’s happened in France and it’s happening here. ISIS has warned us that more attacks like this are going to follow. Next time it could be a mall or a school, but until our politicians understand and admit the threat of radical Islam we’re going to have more of these horrible acts of violence.” [85003]

“Farook’s wife, Tashfeen Malik, was allowed into America on a ‘K-1’ fiancé visa and reports now confirm she had pledged allegiance to ISIS before the massacre. Mr. President, we don’t need more gun control—we need border patrol. No Muslims should be allowed into this country until there’s a process in place to fully vet them. We’ve got to turn away those who could potentially pose a threat until this war with radical Islam is



over. Please join me in continuing to pray for the family members of the victims in this tragic shooting as the funerals and memorials services will begin to take place.” [85003]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, “Shadi al-Menei, the commander of ISIS in the Sinai, is meeting with Hamas leaders in the Gaza Strip to discuss ways that the terrorist groups can increase cooperation and coordinate attacks. There has been conflict between Sunni jihadis and Hamas previously in the Israeli territories of the West Bank and Gaza, as Islamic radicals want to continue to provoke Israel to attack, and Hamas has been more cautious. Now it seems those gloves are off and the two will be working together.” [84686, 84687]

At CommentaryMagazine.com Peter Wehner writes, “If you want to witness an adamant mind at work, you could do a whole lot worse than observe the 44th president of the United States. Barack Obama is the most rigidly ideological president of my lifetime, a man who has a nearly blind adherence to a particular ideology (progressivism). It’s a disturbing, if at times a psychologically fascinating, thing to witness. ...No one is asking Mr. Obama to indict all of Islam or have America or the West declare a war on it. He should do neither. But what we should expect is [for him] to understand the nature of the enemy we’re facing. It would also be refreshing if [Obama] did not live in a world hermetically sealed off from facts that are inconvenient to his worldview. But that is precisely what Mr. Obama is doing. Barack Obama has a self-conceit: He sees himself as pragmatic, empirical, a man driven by reason rather than emotion, truth rather than dogma. Which simply underscores how ideological he is. His self-conception is a self-delusion; he is blind to how closed his mind is and how much he distorts reality in the cause of his meta-narratives. This happens on issue after issue—Mr. Obama’s intellectual distortions are not, alas, contained to a single topic—but it may be most pronounced in his utter inability to see the struggle within Islam that is unfolding before his very eyes. He doesn’t want it to be true, and so he won’t allow it to be true.” [84677]

“Here’s the problem: There is an independent reality apart from what Mr. Obama thinks. He can ignore the truth, but he cannot wish it out of existence. And by ignoring the reality of things, he makes everything worse. ...Mr. Obama is lost and confused, inhabiting a world of his own making. That would be bad enough if he was a community organizer; it is disastrous for a man who is president. America and the world are paying a terrible price because of the closing of Barack Obama’s mind.” [84677]

In Toronto, police find an abandoned Mercedes at the side of the road, the apparent result of a single-vehicle accident. Arthur Weinreb reports at CanadaFreePress.com, “Police looked in the trunk and found a couple of handguns, a machine gun, two silencers and some ammunition. ...Police also reported there were ‘religious materials’ in the trunk of car but refused to say what these materials were.” [84670]

On *Breitbart News Daily*, former FBI counter-terrorism Special Agent John Guandolo says the “vast majority” of the 2,200 Islamic organizations, centers, and mosques in the United States are a part of a broader “Jihadi network” determined to impose Shari’ah law in the United States. According to Guandolo, “the most prominent Islamic organizations

in America and North America are a part of the Muslim Brotherhood, Hamas, the jihadi network here. ...[I]nternal documents entered into evidence say that the purpose of this network is to wage civilization jihad... until the entire world, and specifically the United States, is under Sharia law and the Islamic State is established here.” [84589]

The Muslim Brotherhood network includes the Muslim Students Association, World Assembly of Muslim Youth, Islamic Society of North America, Muslim Youth of North America, American Muslim Council, International Institute for Islamic Thought, Muslim American Society, North American Islamic Trust, Global Relief Foundation, Mosque Foundation, Islamic Circle of North America, United Association for Studies and Research, Islamic African Relief Agency, Council on American-Islamic Relations, SAAR Network, ANSWER Coalition, Holy Land Foundation, al-Qaeda, Hamas, and Palestine Islamic Jihad. In addition, many mosques on the United States preach violent jihad and are funded by Saudi Arabia. The amount of radical indoctrination is enormous, and it takes place under the cover of “religious freedom.” [84678]

Pamela Geller writes, “Obama shrugged. Hillary shrugged. The media shrugged. ... ‘Motive unknown.’ That’s the mantra from the Obama administration and his running dogs in the media. ... This was jihad terror. This was premeditated, methodical, and well planned. The bombs left behind at the site were for first responders. ... Some have downplayed this connection to other jihadis, saying that the attack was inspired, not directed, by ISIS. That is a distinction without a difference. ISIS has directed devout Muslims to ‘think globally, act locally.’ They have directed Muslims who accept their authority as the caliphate to kill American civilians on U.S. soil. That is their explicit directive, and that is exactly what this cell did. Yet Josh Earnest in Friday’s press conference still refuses to acknowledge the terror connection. ... Tashfeen Malik was subjected to background checks by the FBI and the Department of Homeland Security before she was allowed to enter the country. She passed both. That is a stunning indictment of Obama’s vaunted ‘vetting process’ for the Syrian refugees he is intent upon inflicting upon this country.” [84680]

Reuters writes, “Muslim Americans fear their religion will be demonized and Islamophobia will spread after a young Muslim couple was accused of carrying out one of the bloodiest mass killings in the United States. ... In Milwaukee, Wisconsin, the Attari Supermarket bustled on Thursday with customers shopping for Middle Eastern products. ‘In every culture and in every religion there are bad apples that will spoil the rest of the apples. That has happened toward us,’ said Dawod Dawod, a 25-year-old Muslim American, who manages the store that his family has owned for a decade.” (The problem is the number of “bad apples” who follow Islam. There have been more than 20,000 terrorist attacks by Muslims around the world since September 11, 2001.) [84643, 84644]

Jihad Watch’s Robert Spencer writes, “This is a typical ‘backlash’ story, of the kind that invariably appears after a jihad attack or foiled jihad plot. It attempts to deflect attention away from the jihad terror and onto Muslims as victims, their religion unfairly demonized. One bad apple shouldn’t be taken as spoiling the bunch, we’re told. ‘Two people’s actions do not constitute a whole population’s actions,’ we’re reminded. And of

course that is true. But sidestepped here, as is always the case in these weepy creepy ‘backlash’ stories, is the fact that Islamic jihadis can and do point to Islamic texts and teachings to justify their actions and make recruits among peaceful Muslims. No mention is made of the fact that Muslim clerics have been involved in jihad terror activity and have exhorted Muslims from the pulpit to commit acts of violence. If Muslims really fear ‘backlash’ and the ‘demonization of Islam,’ they should be the first to act against such clerics, and would be working publicly and honestly to reform those teachings. Mosques and Islamic schools would be implementing programs to teach against the understanding of Islam that justifies hatred and violence. But ‘backlash’ articles never deal with any of that—they’re all always just about how Muslims fear reprisal attacks. Meanwhile, FBI statistics show that anti-Semitic attacks are far more common than attacks against innocent Muslims. Yet you never see articles about that.” [84643, 84644]

Former Congressman Joe Walsh (R-IL) responds to Attorney General Loretta Lynch’s threat to prosecute those who engage in “anti-Muslim rhetoric” that “edges toward violence.” Walsh states, “What the hell does that mean? I have a 1st Amendment right, Ms. Lynch, to say whatever I want about Muslims. You want to try and prosecute me for what I say? I dare you. Here goes: Most Muslims around the world are terrorists, support terrorism, and/or support Sharia Law. They are our enemy. I don’t want them in America. Any Muslim that [who] won’t assimilate should get the hell out of America. Any Muslim [who] is a terrorist or supports terrorism should be killed. If ‘Moderate’ Muslims don’t speak out against terrorism, they are our enemy and we should call them out and kick them out of this country. I hope there is a backlash against Muslims because Islam, as practiced by most Muslims, is not a religion of peace, and all of us who do live in peace should do whatever we can to defeat Islam. There Ms. Lynch. As an American, I have a right to say everything I just did. And I will continue to speak the truth about Islam in the hopes that others will wake up to this truth and do what we can to defeat this evil in our midst. Is that ‘anti-Muslim rhetoric’ that ‘edges toward violence.’ Go ahead and prosecute me. I dare you.” [84625, 84673, 84698, 84709]

Former New York governor George Pataki tweets, “We must declare war on radical Islam. Loretta Lynch, I’m not edging toward violent speech, I’m declaring we kill them. Go ahead, arrest me.” [84696, 84697]

While Loretta Lynch worries about anti-Muslim backlash that will probably never come, Muslims do not hesitate to send threatening messages over the Internet. Among them: “That awkward moment you’re a kaffir [non-Muslim] and you’re celebrating a shirk [blasphemous] holiday/drinking/singing and you’re dead.” “Obama said he contained IS. Yet he alerts US citizens from Worldwide travel! But, they don’t need to travel to die!” “Pure happiness is seeing this [a photo of U.S. flag-draped coffins].” “California, we have already arrived with our soldiers... decide how to be your end, with knife or bomb.” “We announce the martyrdom of Mujahid Sayed Farouk and his wife Tashfeen Malik after completing mission.” “Which one kafir leader do you want to be executed first...” [84681]

CAIR-LA's Hussam Ayloush blames the United States for the terrorism in San Bernardino, telling CNN, "Let's not forget that some of our own foreign policy, as Americans, as the west, have fueled that extremism." U.S. support for repressive regimes, says Ayloush, "push people over to the edge. Then they become extremists. We are partly responsible. Terrorism is a global problem, not a Muslim problem. And the solution has to be global. Everyone has a role in it." [84637, 84668]

Journalists gain access to the rented townhouse of the two San Bernardino terrorists. Dozens of reporters and their cameramen enter and issue live reports. The unconscionable act will give lawyers a justification for getting evidence thrown out of court if it is determined that any other individuals aided the terrorists. (The landlord initially says he didn't give anyone permission to enter his property, but later admits that he had. Such an action is unprecedented, and will lead many to wonder if there is motive for giving the media access to the property.) [84556, 84601, 84606, 84614, 84616, 84640, 84708]

David Bowdich, assistant director of the FBI's Los Angeles office, states, "As of today, based on the information and the facts as we know them, we are investigating this horrific crime as an act of terrorism." (That, of course, should have been obvious from the beginning considering the weapons used, the stockpile of ammunition, and the pipe bombs in the vehicle and home of the attackers. In addition, the killers smashed their cellphones and hard drives and deleted email accounts.) [84595, 84638, 84639]

Fox News' Peter Doocy asks White House press secretary Josh Earnest, "Does the President really think that common sense gun laws would deter terrorists?" Earnest replies, "Yes. [Obama] believes that passing common sense gun laws that makes [sic] it harder for people with bad intentions to get guns makes the country safer." Doocy follows up: "[Obama] thinks that when there are potentially two terrorists sitting around planning a mass murder they may call it off because ...Obama has put in place common sense gun laws?" Earnest: "Well Peter, we're still learning of the precise motives of the individuals who carried out this heinous act of violence yesterday. One thing we do know is the four firearms they were wielding were legally purchased under the laws in place now. That's a fact. So, that might lead some to conclude that we should have made it a little harder for them." (Earnest is mistaken. The weapons are illegal in California. In addition, the terrorists illegally modified the weapons. Further, they assembled pipe bombs—which are obviously not legal. Murder is also against the law, a fact which seems not to have bothered the terrorists or occurred to Earnest.) [84666]

At Townhall.com Christine Rousselle reports, "Bennetta Betbadal, one of the 14 people killed in the San Bernardino shooting, fled Islamic radicalism and Christian persecution in her home country of Iran. ...Betbadal and her husband, who are Roman Catholics, were married in 1997 and had three children." [84602]

Also at Townhall.com, Katie Pavlich reports that "leaders of the ISIS terror attacks in Paris last month engaged in recruitment for their cause at a Hungarian refugee camp." Meanwhile, "The Obama administration has made it clear they have no plans to

reconsider policies allowing 10,000 Syrian refugees into the United States over the next two years, despite FBI and Homeland Security officials saying the vetting process is incomplete. ISIS has publicly declared they will use the refugee crisis to smuggle fighters into western nations to carry out attacks.” [84603, 84604, 84605]

Several House Democrats attend mosque prayer services to show solidarity with Muslims. [84611, 84612]

At NewsWithViews.com J. B. Williams argues that Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) is not only not a natural born citizen and therefore could not legally serve as president, he may not even be eligible to serve in the Senate. Williams writes, “In investigating Cruz eligibility for the Oval Office, his eligibility for the US Senate came into question... The Constitutional requirements for the US Senate are as follows: ‘No Person shall be a Senator who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty Years, and been nine Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State for which he shall be chosen.’ At 42 years old [when elected] in 2012, Ted Cruz obviously met the age requirement of 30 years. However, he also needed to meet the requirement of at least ‘nine Years a Citizen of the United States.’ As the Constitution states, one cannot be just an ‘Inhabitant of that State for which he shall be chosen.’ ...Ted Cruz issued his Canadian Birth Certificate as evidence of being ‘born a citizen of Canada.’ ...The next piece of authenticated evidence released by Ted Cruz is a Canadian document proving that he remained a legal citizen of Canada until renouncing that citizenship in May of 2014, which means, he was still a legal citizen of Canada in 2012 when he ran for, was elected and took the oath of office for the US Senate.” [84559, 84567, 86061]

“...[T]here is no evidence to suggest that the parent or parents of Ted Cruz ever filed a CRBA [Consular Report of Birth Abroad of a Citizen of the United States of America] form with the U.S. Government in or around 1970, which is why Ted Cruz released a copy of his Canadian citizenship records and not any U.S. citizenship records. At present, all FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) requests filed in search of any U.S. citizenship documents to confirm the true official U.S. citizenship status of Ted Cruz have been denied access. All citizenship records for Ted Cruz are sealed unless and until Ted Cruz agrees to allow any such records to be released by either U.S. or Canadian agencies.” (Cruz was born in Alberta, Canada to a Cuban-citizen father and a U.S.-citizen mother. Even if one argues that Cruz was born with dual citizenship (Canadian and U.S.) or even triple citizenship (Cuban, Canadian, and U.S.) and can legally serve as a U.S. Senator, he most certainly is *not* a natural born citizen—which historically has been considered to mean birth on U.S. soil to two U.S. citizen parents. As mentioned often in this *Timeline*, Obama, Cruz, Marco Rubio, Bobby Jindal, and Rick Santorum are *not* natural born citizens because they do not meet those requirements.) [84559, 84567, 86061]

According to the Department of Labor, the economy added 211,000 (mostly part-time) jobs in November, down from 298,000 in October. The unemployment rate remains at 5.0 percent. (The unemployment rate for whites is 4.3 percent; for blacks it is 9.4 percent; for Hispanics, 6.4 percent; for Asians, 3.9 percent.) The number of working age

Americans not in the labor force is 94,446,000; the labor force participation rate is 62.5 percent. Politico.com observes, “The 211,000 jobs... are more than enough for the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates later this month—a move that could imperil Hillary Clinton’s hopes of winning the White House if the Fed inadvertently triggers an economic slowdown.” [84566, 84596, 84597, 85028]

PJMedia.com reports that the guns used by terrorists Syed Farook and Tashfeen Malik may have been “purchased legally [not necessarily by Farook and Malik], but they were not used legally and in fact, they were modified in violation of the California firearms laws, says the ATF.” According to WSJ.com, “While they were originally sold legally, with magazine locking devices commonly known as bullet buttons, the rifles were subsequently altered in different ways to make them more powerful, according to Meredith Davis, a special agent with the ATF. The Smith & Wesson rifle was changed [modified] in an attempt to enable it [to] fire in fully automatic mode, while the DPMS weapon was modified to use a large-capacity magazine, she said. Those alterations made the weapons unlawful under California’s ban on assault weapons, which bans guns with magazines that can detach for quick reloading. The state legally allows the sale and ownership of assault weapons that have fixed magazines.” (Farook reportedly purchased the handguns, but he obtained the rifles—perhaps illegally—from a friend.) [84581, 84582, 84781]

David S. Chesley and Muhammad Abuershaid, attorneys for the family of Syed Farook, claim Tashfeen Malik “was never involved in the shooting. ...She’s probably about 90 pounds, so it’s unlikely she could even carry a weapon or wear some type of a vest or do any of this. ...It just doesn’t make sense for these two to be able to act like some kind of Bonnie and Clyde or something. It’s just ridiculous. It doesn’t add up. It doesn’t add up, the military skills to carry out something like this, really. I’m just telling you straight out—it doesn’t make sense. ...There was nothing to show that [Malik] was extreme at all, and [Farook] was a normal guy, in every sense of the word ...I don’t know what can come in, but there’s more information we haven’t received yet.” [84617, 84690]

Chesley discredits Malik’s allegiance to ISIS on Facebook, telling reporters, “All there is thus far is some nebulous thing that somebody looked at something on Facebook. I mean, any one of us may have looked at something on Facebook. It doesn’t mean we believe in it. I’ve checked out a Britney Spears post and I hate Britney Spears music.” [84675]

The *Daily Mail* reports, “The woman who took part in the ISIS-inspired San Bernardino massacre is linked to her native country’s most notorious radical mosque, American officials believe. Sources have told Daily Mail Online that US officials handed over information to their Pakistani counterparts about links between Tashfeen Malik and the Red Mosque in Islamabad. The mosque is infamous for its links to violence and authorities in Pakistan are now considering taking action against its preacher, Maulana Abdul Aziz, after the disclosures by US officials.” [84691, 84692, 84695]

Al Jazeera America complains to ABC News after it posts a photograph of terrorist Tashfeen Malik without a burqa, claiming it is “disrespectful to her culture.” (Al Jazeera

should be reminded that murdering 14 people because they do not follow Islam is disrespectful of American cultural. If Islam is a peaceful religion, and if Malik defied Islam by committing mass murder, then Muslims should not be outraged that her image was shown in the media. That she remains worthy of their respect is telling.) MSNBC's lispng leftist, Melissa Harris Perry, whines that the photo of Malik sends the signal that "this is what terrorism looks like." (No, it merely shows the face of that particular murder, just as the news reports about the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing showed the face of Timothy McVeigh.) [84619, 84710, 84738, 84819, 84820]

JudicialWatch.org reports, "Five young Middle Eastern men were apprehended by the U.S. Border Patrol this week in an Arizona town situated about 30 miles from the Mexican border, law enforcement and other sources told Judicial Watch [JW]. Border Patrol agents spotted the men crossing a ranch property in the vicinity of Amado, which is located about 35 miles south of Tucson and has a population of 275. Two of the Middle Eastern men were carrying stainless steel cylinders in backpacks, JW's sources say, alarming Border Patrol officials enough to call the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for backup. A multitude of federal agents descended on the property and the two men carrying the cylinders were believed to be taken into custody by the FBI." [84621, 84671, 84734]

"Only three of the men's names were entered in the Border Patrol's E3 reporting system, which is used by the agency to track apprehensions, detention hearings and removals of illegal immigrants. E3 also collects and transmits biographic and biometric data including fingerprints for identification and verification of individuals encountered at the border. The other two men were listed as 'unknown subjects,' which is unheard of, according to a JW federal law enforcement source. 'In all my years I've never seen that before,' a veteran federal law enforcement agent told JW. ...Special Agent Remus told JW that there is no record of this week's incident in Amado and that he knew nothing about it. JW also put in a call to DHS headquarters, but received no response. In the last year JW has broken a number of stories involving serious terrorist threats on the southern border that were disputed on the record by various Obama administration official." (In other words, Judicial Watch believes the Obama administration is keeping some border incidents secret.) [84621]

Despite the best efforts of the GOP establishment and the mainstream media to stop him, Donald Trump's lead in a CNN/ROC poll surges to 36 percent. He is followed by Ted Cruz (16 percent), Ben Carson (14), and Marco Rubio (12). All other candidates have less than 5 percent. Jeb "establishment choice" Bush has a mere 3 percent. [84584, 84587]

The Democrat establishment and the mainstream media will, of course, play their usual psychological game, saying "Hillary Clinton fears GOP candidate X the most!" when candidate X is precisely the individual the Democrat believe can be defeated. In 2008 John McCain was pushed by media and praised as a "maverick" who could easily cross the aisle and get things done with Democrat cooperation. As soon as McCain won the Republican nomination, the media went after him with a vengeance, portraying him as an

old dunderhead who could not even use email. In 2012 the media and the Democrats worked to get Mitt Romney nominated by the GOP, knowing he could be defeated because of his “RomneyCare” and Bain Capital baggage. As far back as 1948 the Democrats were eager to help Thomas E. Dewey get nominated by the Republicans, knowing he would be easier for Harry S. Truman to defeat than Robert A. Taft, the U.S. Senator from Ohio and the son of former president William H. Taft.

TheGatewayPundit.com reports, “A wounded veteran whom Donald Trump pledged to help has seen quick results since the first update announced by the Trump campaign in October. Within two weeks of meeting Trump, the VA resolved back pay and medical records issues for the veteran. U.S. Army First Sgt. Todd Landen (Ret.) spoke to Trump, the leading Republican presidential candidate, on October 27 at a Sioux City, Iowa campaign rally about problems he was having with the Veterans Administration. Trump pledged to help Landen saying, ... ‘As president I can guarantee it. As Trump I can say, ‘I’ll probably be able to pull it off anyway.’ Because they know it won’t stop...’ The Trump campaign announced the next day that phone calls had already been made on behalf of Landen.” [84591]

In Chicago’s northwest suburbs, Township High School District 211 caves in to federal demands (in order to not lose federal funding) and will allow a “transgender” student to use the girls’ locker room and shower facilities even though he is male. According to DailyCaller.com, “The student will use a separate, semi-private area in the girls’ locker room of his public high school. The settlement between the U.S. Department of Education and the school district—the largest in Illinois—provides that the male student can use girls’ locker rooms as long as he changes in changing stations described as private...The feds have also deigned to allow the district to install curtains in the girls’ locker room for use by any actual, biological girls who want privacy. The district must also arrange for the male student to have access to female bathroom and changing facilities at all district-sponsored activities off-campus activities and must create a ‘support team’ for this one student to ensure he is happy.” One parent comments, “I’m not intolerant, and I’m not a bigot. People have the right in this country to live their lives the way they see fit, and I respect that. [But] When it starts infringing on other people’s rights, that’s when it becomes a problem.” [84615]

Breitbart.com reports, “A resolution that would put Texas secession on the ballot for Republican primary voters has cleared its first hurdle by passing the Republican Party of Texas’ Resolution Committee. The committee met during a regular meeting of the State Republican Executive Committee (SREC). ...Six people spoke for the resolution and no one spoke against it. The resolution passed by a vote of 7 to 4. As passed, the wording of the resolution is as follows: ‘If the federal government continues to disregard the Constitution and the sovereignty of the State of Texas, the State of Texas and its people should reassert its prior status as an independent nation.’ ...The committeewoman who presented the resolution, Tanya Robertson, SD11, said Texas independence should be put before the voters because Texans are dissatisfied with Washington D.C. representatives and excessive federal government spending.” [84618, 84620]



In attendance at the White House Holiday Reception is Black Lives Matter agitator/activist DeRay McKesson. (Earlier in the day Attorney General Loretta Lynch tweeted to him, “Great meeting with you today. Thank you for your work on this.” By “this” she means the Black Lives Matter movement.) [84661, 84662]

On *The Kelly File*, Charles Krauthammer observes, “I think one of the reasons for the true widespread and deep anxiety in the country, insecurity—reflected for example in the increase in purchase of firearms—is that people feel that the authorities, particularly [Obama], the White House, the ultimate authorities, simply are clueless about what’s happening. Either they had no idea what to do about it [radical Islam] and thus deny its existence or its importance or its severity, or that [Obama] truly doesn’t believe that this is a major threat to the security of his own people. And when you feel leaderless, when you have the White House an hour before the FBI says it’s terrorism, still refusing to call it terrorism, when you have [Obama] saying ISIS is contained, ISIS is not gaining strength and his own head of the Joints Chief of Staff says in testimony a few weeks ago, ISIS is growing, it’s not contained, when you have every single indication of the highest authorities in the land, downplaying the threat at every turn, starting from the JV team until right now, then you have the sense that this is not an administration to whom you can entrust your safety and the safety of your children.” Gun control, notes Krauthammer, is “of total irrelevance when it comes to international terrorism. The problem of ISIS isn’t a gun control problem.” [84676]

On December 5, at about 3:50 a.m., two “foreign speaking” “Middle Eastern men” buy 60 pre-paid cell phones at a Walmart store in Lebanon, Missouri—paying cash. A similar incident reportedly also occurred in Columbia, Missouri the previous evening. In addition, dozens of propane tanks have been stolen from the area. (Setting aside innocent reasons for buying 60 cell phones, there are three other possible reasons: 1. Using pre-paid devices to communicate with other terrorists without being easily traced. 2. Using the phones to detonate bombs. 3. Trying to get questioned and arrested, after which an “Islamophobic discrimination” lawsuit is filed—as was done by “clock boy,” Ahmed Mohamed. Of course, potential terrorists may also be “prodding”: engaging in “dry run” suspicious activities to see what authorities might do or not do.) [85112, 85123, 85232, 85305, 85461]

*The New York Times* runs an anti-gun editorial on page one. (The newspaper had not had a page one editorial since 1920.) The *Times* writes, “It is a moral outrage and a national disgrace that civilians can legally purchase weapons designed specifically to kill people with brutal speed and efficiency. [Perhaps the *Times* knows of weapons that shoot bullets sloooooowly.] These are weapons of war, barely modified and deliberately marketed as tools of macho vigilantism and even insurrection. America’s elected leaders offer prayers for gun victims and then, callously and without fear of consequence, reject the most basic restrictions on weapons of mass killing, as they did on Thursday. [Senate Republicans voted against prohibiting gun sales to people on the terrorist watch list—*because the list is full of names of people who should not be on the list.*] They distract us with arguments about the word terrorism. Let’s be clear: These spree killings are all, in their own ways, acts of terrorism.” [84659, 84660, 84667, 84674, 84754]

The *Times* writes, “No right is unlimited and immune from reasonable regulation. [Perhaps the editorial board would feel differently if restrictions on the *First* Amendment were being proposed.] Certain kinds of weapons, like the slightly modified combat rifles used in California, and certain kinds of ammunition, must be outlawed for civilian ownership. [The San Bernardino terrorists *illegally* modified their weapons. The *Times* is demanding that something *already illegal* should be made illegal.] It is possible to define those guns in a clear and effective way and, yes, it would require Americans who own those kinds of weapons to give them up for the good of their fellow citizens. [The *Times* does not bother to define those guns—because it knows it is a next-to-impossible task. The term ‘assault weapon’ is meaningless. Automatic weapons are already illegal. That one rifle has a wooden stock and another ‘looks scary’ because it is black has nothing to do with how they perform.] What better time than during a presidential election to show, at long last, that our nation has retained its sense of decency?” [84660, 84674]

Pamela Geller reports, “Two brothers who attended the same Southern California mosque, The Dar Al Uloom Al Islamiyah of America mosque, as the Muslim gunman who killed 14 people say that Syed Rizwan Farook was a devout Muslim who showed up to pray *every day*. Nizaam Ali and Rahemaan Ali said Thursday that Syed Rizwan Farook had been a constant presence at the mosque for two years and had recently memorized the Quran. One who memorizes the Quran is [called] a hafiz. ...There have been over 26,000 deadly Islamic attacks since 9/11—each one with a mosque behind it and the imprimatur of a Muslim cleric. What are we doing to monitor these hotbeds of jihad activity? Every mosque with links to terror must be thoroughly investigated and monitored. Several surveys have shown that 80% of mosques in the U.S. teach hatred of infidels and the necessity to replace the Constitution with sharia. In 1998, Sheikh Muhammad Hisham Kabbani, a Sufi leader, visited 114 mosques in the United States. Then he gave testimony before a State Department Open Forum in January 1999, and asserted that 80% of American mosques taught the ‘extremist ideology.’” [84689]

DailyCaller.com reports, “Rafia Farook, the mother of San Bernardino terrorist Syed Rizwan Farook, is an active member of the Islamic Circle of North America (ICNA), a Muslim organization that promotes the establishment of a caliphate and has ties to a radical Pakistani political group called Jamaat-e-Islami. Farook’s affiliation with ICNA was revealed on Friday when MSNBC and other new outlets scoured the Farooks’ apartment in Redlands, Cal. An MSNBC reporter found a certificate of appreciation presented to Rafia Farook last summer by ICNA’s sisters’ wing.” RedState.com notes, “According to Wikipedia, the headliners at ICNA’s 2007 convention were Anwar al-Awlaki (since deceased by a Predator) and Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, the guy who tried to blow up an airliner on Christmas Day, 2009, with explosives in his drawers. Two members of the New York chapter were found guilty of war crimes in Bangladesh and sentenced to death in absentia. The Pakistani Islamist group, Jamaat-e-Islami, has claimed that ICNA is its North American face.” [84721, 84722, 84633, 84775, 84848]

The White House announces that Obama will deliver an address to the nation (on Sunday night, December 6, at 8 p.m. Washington, D.C. time) to “provide an update on the

ongoing investigation ...in San Bernardino” and discuss “the steps our government is taking to fulfill his highest priority: keeping the American people safe.” Obama “will also discuss the broader threat of terrorism, including the nature of the threat, how it has evolved, and how we will defeat it.” (Obama is apparently taking the issue seriously, as he cancels his Saturday golf game to meet with his national security advisors—although he did attend the White House holiday party Friday evening. One Twitter user predicts Obama’s speech will be “5% terrorism, 50% gun control, 45% Pro-Muslim.”) [84654, 84657, 84658, 84700, 84711, 84712]

In a London subway station, a man with a knife shouts, “This is for Syria, my Muslim brothers!” and attacks several commuters. According to the BBC, Muhaydin Mire was “arrested after being Tasered by police. One victim suffered serious knife injuries while two others received minor injuries.” [84654, 84655, 84685, 84822]

Obama issues a statement on Planned Parenthood’s “Day of Solidarity.” He states, in part, “No woman, no American, should fear violence or intimidation when seeking health care, or assisting others in obtaining treatment. We are a people who stand up for the rights of women to make their own decisions about their health. We are a people who stand up for the rights of every single person, no matter who they are, no matter what they look like, or where they come from to choose their own path and make of their what they will [sic], free from fear or intimidation. That is who we are as Americans—and it’s something we will never allow anyone to take away from us. May God bless those we’ve lost, and may he continue to bless the United States of America.” (By “those we’ve lost” Obama means the three people killed at a Planned Parenthood facility in Colorado Springs on November 27—not the tens of millions of babies Planned Parenthood has aborted.) [84657]

The despicable *New York Daily News* sinks even lower, with the vile Linda Stasi writing that there were only 13 innocent people killed in the San Bernardino terrorist attack. She decides that one of the 14, Nicholas Thalasinos, deserved to die because he “was a radical Born Again Christian/Messianic Jew” and “an anti-government, anti-Islam, pro-NRA, rabidly anti-Planned Parenthood kinda guy.” (Whether Stasi thinks women wearing short skirts deserve to be raped is not clear. Stasi has previously called for the National Rifle Association to be designated a terrorist group by the U.S. government, supporting her demand with grossly misleading statistics.) [84707, 84716, 84732, 84749, 84755, 85091]

Former tennis champion Jennifer Capriati slams Obama in a series of tweets, among them: “what is obama doing?? its [sic] it’s] becoming so predictable almost like its [sic] all part of a plan. obama doesn’t seem the least bit concerned...” “its unbelievable whats [sic] happening to this world. obama is trying to destroy this country. first divide the nation then make us targets” “everything happening faster and faster more frequent as we get closer to the end of term.. it seems like it.. [has] never been like this before” “its [sic] going to come he will ban guns.. a civil uproar will happen and he will invoke marshal law and stay in power..” [84713]

On *Justice With Judge Jeanine*, Judge Jeanine Pirro says, “The single deadliest terror attack on U.S. soil since 9/11 has happened. *They’re here*. And it’s time... to stop pussyfooting around, time to stop this politically incorrect nonsense worrying about other people’s feelings, pull out all the stops, and start fighting for the survival of this country and our way of life. *You need to make a plan*, how you’re going to protect yourself, your family, and your kids. And this is *not about politics*. It’s about being safe. It’s about *surviving*. The plan? Number one: *Get a gun*. Buy one legally, learn how to shoot it, and be primed to use it. And I don’t care if you get a long gun, a handgun, a revolver, a semi-automatic—get whatever gun you can handle. And don’t let *anyone* talk you out of it. The Second Amendment to the Constitution and the United States Supreme Court confirm your right to have one.” [84679]

“Number two: It is time to weaponize your local police department. They are the first line of defense in this Islamic terrorist war against us. And if you watched the San Bernardino attack unfold, you understand that these jihadists were not going to stop with that one attack. The local police are the ones who took down these Islamic terrorists and stopped a further massacre. Your local police, like the cops in San Bernardino—three hundred of them running toward the danger, openly stating, ‘I’ll take the first bullet’—these are your defenders. And these remarkable men and women in blue are our heroes, who don’t think twice about taking a bullet for you.” [84679]

“Number three: *We need to close the borders*, from Mexico and from Canada, pure and simple. Syed Farook and Tashfeen Malik have set the precedent by showing the world that it can be done on American soil. And there needs to be a halt to the issuance of visas. And *I don’t care* if it’s a business visa, or a vacation visa, an education visa, a fiancé visa, a 90-day visa, *stop*. These people do *not* have a right to be here. Period. End of story.” [84679]

“And number four: We must stop the refugee resettlement program immediately. And *I don’t want to hear* that ‘It’s not who we are.’ *I know who we are*. We are a nation founded on the Judeo-Christian ethics. And I don’t need *anyone* to tell me that *I* have to take in somebody because they want to change the political demographics of this nation. And need I remind anyone that we don’t have the ability to vet them. And even when we do, we don’t know what the hell we’re doing. Example: the Tsarnaev brothers. The Boston bombers. We gave the family political asylum, and they thanked us by killing, dismembering, and blinding innocent Americans.” [84679]

“Number five: Get ready to give up some privacy. The [NSA] metadata collection that was going on has been stopped. If that program were still in place the Feds could have taken the cell phones of those terrorist animals and immediately connected them to their contacts. You’ve got to arm yourself with knowledge. In order to confront the enemy, you must know *who* the enemy is. And since our commander-in-chief won’t even call them what they are, Islamic terrorists, but instead prefers to preach what Islam *is* and *isn’t* and that we shouldn’t denigrate all Muslims based on the actions of a few—while *he* is willing to denigrate all gun owners and take away *our* rights based on the actions of a few.” [84679]

“You need to recognize the danger. Talk to your neighbors. Create organizations to stay current on questionable behavior, not just in your community but around the country. We’re told to ‘say something when we see something.’ But don’t say anything against people who act suspiciously who happen to be Muslim because that would be ‘Islamophobic.’ Farook and Malik’s neighbors said *nothing* when they saw *something* because they were fearful of being called Islamophobes or racially profiling. *And that’s the plan, folks: to shut us up.* When our attorney general, Loretta Lynch, trumpets her *greatest fear* is that anti-Muslim rhetoric would lead to violence against Muslims, the day before the FBI calls the massacre of 14 Americans a terrorist act, *we’ve got a problem.* And I’m here to tell you it is *part* of the Islamic terrorist plan. If we are stopped from saying something against Mohammed, the Muslim religion, or Muslims in general, then *Shari’ah law is already here.* We are living in dangerous times. Ladies and gentlemen, the jackals are at the door.” [84679]

On December 6 Victor Davis Hanson asks, “How much damage can [Obama] do in his last year of office? Insidiously and inadvertently, Barack Obama is alienating the people and moving the country to the right. If he keeps it up, by 2017 it will be a reactionary nation. But, counterintuitive as it seems, that is fine with Obama: *Après nous le déluge.* By sheer force of his personality, Obama has managed to lose the Democratic Senate and House. State legislatures and governorships are now predominantly Republican. Obama’s own favorable ratings rarely top 45 percent. In his mind, great men, whether Socrates or Jesus, were never appreciated in their time. So it is not surprising that he is not, as he presses full speed ahead. ...What remaining unpopular executive acts might anger [Obama’s] opponents the most? Close down Guantanamo, let thousands more refugees into the United States, free thousands more felons, snub another ally, flatter another enemy, weigh in on another interracial melodrama, extend amnesty to another million illegal aliens, make global warming laws by fiat, expand Obamacare, unilaterally impose gun control? In lieu of achievement, is the Obama theory to become relevant or noteworthy by offending the public and goading political enemies?” [84861]

“An Obama press conference is now a summation of all his old damn-you clichés — the fantasy straw man arguments; the caricatures of the evil Republican bogeymen; the demagogic litany of the sick, the innocent, and the old at the mercy of his callous opponents; the affected accentuation (e.g., Talīban; Pakīstan, Īslām, Latīnos, etc.) that so many autodidacts parade in lieu of learning foreign languages; the make-no-mistake-about-it and let-me-be-clear empty emphatics; the flashing temper tantrums; the mangled sports metaphors; the factual gaffes; and the monotonous I, me, my, and mine first-person-pronoun exhaustion. What Obama cannot do in fact, he believes he can still accomplish through invective and derision.” [84861]

“...If you suggested to Obama that, in his search for a contrarian legacy, he should do something to stop the slaughter in the Middle East and be careful about letting in more unexamined refugees, in answer, he would be more likely to do less than nothing abroad and vastly expand the influx of migrants. Getting under his critics’ skin is about all that is left of a failed presidency. Many of our observers still do not quite grasp that Obama will

end his presidency by seeking to get his opponents' goat—and that his resentment will lead to some strange things said and done. ...A lot of ambitious and dangerous powers are watching Obama assume a fetal position, and may well as a consequence act foolishly and recklessly this next year. Not only Russia, China, and North Korea, but also Hamas, Hezbollah, Iran, ISIS, and assorted rogue states may take chances in the next 14 months that they would otherwise never have entertained (given that America is innately strong and they are mostly in comparison far weaker)—on the premise that such adventurism offers tangible advantages without likely negative consequences and that the chance for such opportunities will not present itself again for decades to come.” [84861]

“At home, Obama feels liberated now that he is free from further elections. He thinks he has a legitimate right to be a bit vindictive and vent his own frustrations and pique, heretofore repressed over the last seven years because of the exigencies of Democratic electioneering. Obama can now vent and strike back at his opponents, caricaturing them from abroad, questioning their patriotism, slandering them for sport, and trying to figure out which emblematic executive orders and extra-legal bureaucratic directives will most infuriate them and repay them for their supposed culpability for his failed *vero possumus* presidency. The more contrarian he becomes, and the more he opposes the wishes of the vast majority of the American people, all the more Obama envisions himself speaking truth to power and becoming iconic of something rather than the reality that he is becoming proof of nothing. Hold on. We haven't seen anything yet...” [84861]

The Daily Mail reports that Enrique Marquez “is the close friend accused of purchasing the guns that were used to mow down 14 innocent people in San Bernardino last Wednesday. ...Marquez, 29, checked himself into a mental health facility in Long Beach, California on Wednesday afternoon—hours after close friend Syed Farook, 28, and his wife Tashfeen Malik, 29, opened fire on revelers at a work Christmas party. Police have said that the two handguns used in the mass shooting were purchased by his wife and fellow fanatic Malik. But officials said the other two firearms, which are modified 'assault-style' weapons, had been purchased by an unidentified third party, which they believe to be Marquez, according to ABC News. The guns were purchased three years ago, according to the Los Angeles Times. In the early hours of Saturday morning, Marquez's Riverside home was raided by the FBI, who allegedly arrived in search of explosives.” [84701, 84702, 84715, 84781, 85234]

TimesofIsrael.com reports, “Syed Farook, father of San Bernardino terrorist Syed Rizwan Farook, has described his son as negatively 'obsessed' with Israel. In an interview with Italian daily La Stampa, Farook said that he once tried to console his son by promising him that Israel would not exist in another two years because 'China, Russia and America will bring the Jews back to Ukraine.' In Sunday's La Stampa report, Farook said, 'My son said that he shared [ISIS leader Abu Bakr] Al Baghdadi's ideology and supported the creation of the Islamic State. He was also obsessed with Israel.’” (The elder Farook does not explain why he did not report his son to the authorities once he learned he supported ISIS.) [84703, 84704, 84705, 84750, 84814]

At WND.com Leo Hohmann reports, “A young man who came to Minnesota as a ‘refugee’ from Somalia has been linked to Syed Farook, the shooter who, along with his jihadist wife, killed 14 Americans in San Bernardino less than a week ago. Fox News contributor Rod Wheeler provided a key piece of information about the case, linking the San Bernardino shooters to Mohamed Hassan [or Hasan], a known terrorist recruiter who has been on the FBI radar screen for at least seven years. What Fox did not report, however, is how Hassan ended up in the United States. His family came into the U.S. as refugees from Somalia. The Somali refugee program has been going on for decades and has produced some of America’s most feared terrorists, even as the Syrian refugee program grabs most of the headlines. ...Hassan also helped radicalize Elton Simpson, one of the two jihadists who tried to storm into a Prophet Muhammad drawing contest in Garland, Texas, on May 4. Their plans to kill the participants and behead free-speech activist Pamela Geller were foiled by an off-duty cop who engaged them in a gun battle before they could enter the auditorium where Geller was holding the art contest. ...Law enforcement conducting the raid at Syed Farook’s apartment in Redlands, California, found evidence tying Syed Farook to Hassan, according to Wheeler’s report for Fox.” [84719]

Mohamed Hasan is a known ISIS recruiter from Minneapolis, Minnesota who calls himself “Miski” online. He is probably no longer in the United States, and is believed to have been connected to the failed terrorist attack in Garland, Texas. [84739, 84740]

France holds regional elections. The National Front (FN) party may win more than 30 percent of the national vote, with former President Nicolas Sarkozy’s centre-right Republicans in second place, and current President Francois Hollande’s Socialist Party in third place. A second round of voting will be held on 13 December. According to the BBC, “FN leader Marine Le Pen, who stood in the northern region of Nord-Pas-de-Calais-Picardie, and her niece Marion Marechal-Le Pen, who stood in Provence-Alpes-Cote d’Azur in the south, both looked to have won more than 40% of the vote, polls predicted, breaking previous records for the party. Marine Le Pen told supporters it was a ‘magnificent result’ which proved the FN was ‘without contest the first party of France.’” (The media labels the National Front a “far-right” because it dares to place the interests of the French ahead of immigrants.) [84776, 84777, 84790, 84850, 84880, 85006, 85303]

On *This Week*, Clinton says she does not use the term “radical Islam” because it “sounds like we are declaring war against a religion. It doesn’t do justice to the vast number of Muslims in our country and around the world who are peaceful people.” (Her excuse is absurd. It is like refusing to use the term “flat tire” because it does a disservice to all tires.) She adds, “Number two, it helps to create this clash of civilizations that is actually a recruiting tool for ISIS and other radical jihadists who use this as a way of saying, ‘We are in a war against the West—you must join us.’” (Clinton is apparently unaware that argument *is* already used by jihad recruiters, and there *is* a clash of civilizations.) [84745, 84746, 84772]

Clinton also denies that she personally told relatives of the Benghazi victims that the YouTube video was the cause of the attack. (If Republicans do not use her denial in

political ads they are fools. They need merely run an ad comparing her denial with the heartfelt and heartbreaking statements of the victims' families to prove she is a shameless liar. The *New York Post* editorial board calls Clinton's denial her "most repugnant lie." Kate Quigley, the sister of Benghazi victim Glen Doherty, tells Boston Herald Radio's *Morning Meeting*, "[Clinton] knows that she knew what happened that day and she wasn't truthful. This is a woman that will do and say anything to get what she wants. I have very little respect for her. I know what she said to me and she can say all day long that she didn't say it. That's her cross to bear.") [84989, 85061, 85062, 85076, 85237]

A Jordanian with a U.S. passport—that is, an American Muslim—is arrested after trying to open the plane's door on a Lufthansa flight from Frankfurt to Belgrade. According to *The Telegraph*, "Passengers quoted by Belgrade media said he banged on a cockpit door threatening to bring down the plane while it was flying over Austria if he was not allowed inside. Lufthansa said the cabin crew and passengers on Flight 1406 managed to restrain him for the rest of the journey..." [84736, 84737, 84747, 84748]

At FamilySecurityMatters.org Lawrence Sellin writes, "Barack Hussein Obama is fond of telling Americans, 'that's not who we are,' when admonishing us about not agreeing with his policies. It is Obama and his fellow travelers, who are, in fact, 'not who we are.' It is why many mistakenly describe his views as being delusional, basing their conclusion on what mainstream America believes, not on Obama's Islamo-Marxist proclivities. ...Obama and his fellow travelers intentionally excuse Islamic terrorism by invoking the mantra of moral equivalence; the 'we are just as bad or worse as they' argument, by framing it as an unhappy consequence of 'Western misdeeds and faults.' It is a form of pathological self-criticism adopted by self-absorbed and morally self-flagellating liberals, but cynically and skillfully used by America's enemies to undermine our will to resist the onslaught of radical Islam. Unlike homicides due to insanity or criminal activity, Islamic terrorism has a unique goal; to demoralize and undermine the target societies to prepare the way for the global caliphate and the imposition of Sharia." [84741]

"Stated simply, Obama and his fellow travelers dissemble and lie because their true objective, their so-called fundamental transformation, is the permanent decline of the United States as a world power and the dismantling of the country as a capitalist republic based on Judeo-Christian democratic principles. Because the goal is ideological and totalitarian, the Machiavellian dictum of 'the ends justify the means' is their operational approach, where statements not bounded by facts, logic or even common sense are not delusional, but practical, if they result in the desired outcome. To Obama and his fellow travelers, they are not lies or delusions. It is acceptable to use bad or immoral methods as long as you accomplish something 'good' by using them. In other words, in order to achieve what you consider as an important aim, it is acceptable to do something bad. Morally 'right' consequences often necessitate morally wrong actions and what is considered 'right' or 'wrong' is determined by whatever supports their Islamo-Marxist agenda. It, therefore, does not matter whether or not Obama believes what he is saying or even if what he is saying is rational. ...What is the nature of a religion, where the more 'devout' you become, the more you want to kill people? Make no mistake. Obama and



his fellow travelers intend to soothe us into complacency and continue to pursue policies that will ultimately make us more vulnerable. And that is no delusion.” [84741]

Even a panel on CNN’s *Inside Politics* criticizes Obama for his reaction to ISIS and the San Bernardino terrorist attack. John King says Obama “has certainly sounded tone deaf, at a minimum, tone deaf, at times. ...[White House] press secretary Josh Earnest repeatedly refused to use the word terrorism to talk about San Bernardino...” Jeff Zeleny: “...I think they seem fixated to me on ‘this is a gun control argument.’” Another panelist: “...Politically, in some ways, it is easier for [Obama] to talk about the gun issue than it is than, you know, these were self-created jihadis. It’s a much thornier challenge.” [84758]

Military strategist, author, and commentator John R. Schindler tweets, “Talked 2 an old friend, snr [senior] IC [intelligence community] official - who said on #ISIS: ‘If the public knew the truth, Obama would be impeached.’ Friend’s a Dem[ocrat], btw [by the way].” (Townhall.com political editor Guy Benson writes, “*Hmm*. Could the truth somehow be worse than the Obama White House systematically dismissing or doctoring urgent national security assessments on burgeoning threats, for nakedly political reasons? With the public’s attention focused on these issues after the massacres in Paris and San Bernardino, America’s intelligence community seizing the moment to confirm what has already been painfully exposed by events—ISIS is not ‘contained,’ as Obama wrongly asserted last month.”) [84759, 84760, 84761]

Meanwhile, at TheDailyBeast.com, Kimberly Dozier writes, “A new U.S. intelligence report on ISIS, commissioned by the White House, predicts that the self-proclaimed Islamic State will spread worldwide and grow in numbers, unless it suffers a significant loss of territory on the battlefield in Iraq and Syria, U.S. officials told The Daily Beast. The report stands in stark contrast to earlier White House assurances that ISIS had been ‘contained’ in Iraq and Syria. And it is already spurring changes in how the U.S. grapples with ISIS, these officials said. It’s also a tacit admission that coalition efforts so far—dropping thousands of bombs and deploying 3,500 U.S. troops as well as other coalition trainers—have been outpaced by ISIS’s ability to expand and attract new followers, even as the yearlong coalition air campaign has helped local forces drive ISIS out of parts of Iraq and Syria.” [84762]

“The White House commissioned the intelligence report prior to last month’s deadly strikes in Paris, and long before last week’s terror attacks in San Bernardino, California, three senior U.S. officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity in order to describe a confidential document and policy changes. It was also commissioned before ...Obama declared ISIS ‘contained’ in Iraq and Syria—just a day before the Paris attacks—but it was delivered to the White House in the weeks afterward. After reviewing its grim conclusions, Obama asked Secretary of Defense Ash Carter and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Marine Gen. Joseph Dunford to come up with new options to beat the group back.” [84762]

From the Oval Office, Obama delivers a brief speech—allegedly to calm fears about the threat of ISIS. (He fails at the task.) Nothing Obama says is new; everything he says is

predictable. (“The threat from terrorism is real, but we will overcome it.”) Obama essentially says, “We don’t want another war like George W. Bush got us into; I killed Osama bin Laden and decimated al-Qaeda’s leadership; we’re not at war with Islam; we will continue weak air strikes against ISIS; be nice to Muslims, because most of them are not terrorists; it should not be easy to buy guns.” [84714, 84717, 84718, 84724, 84729, 84744, 84751, 84766, 84783, 84787, 84788]

Obama claims he has a four-part program:

“First, our military will continue to hunt down terrorist plotters in any country where it is necessary. In Iraq and Syria, airstrikes are taking out ISIL [ISIS] leaders, heavy weapons, oil tankers, infrastructure. And since the attacks in Paris, our closest allies—including France, Germany, and the United Kingdom—have ramped up their contributions to our military campaign, which will help us accelerate our effort to destroy ISIL.” (Those efforts are totally inadequate.) [84729]

“Second, we will continue to provide training and equipment to tens of thousands of Iraqi and Syrian forces fighting ISIL on the ground so that we take away their safe havens. In both countries, we’re deploying Special Operations Forces who can accelerate that offensive. We’ve stepped up this effort since the attacks in Paris, and we’ll continue to invest more in approaches that are working on the ground.” (The training has been minimal—if not pathetic—and there are few Special Operations Forces in place. There is no indication that any of Obama’s “approaches... are working on the ground.”) [84729]

“Third, we’re working with friends and allies to stop ISIL’s operations—to disrupt plots, cut off their financing, and prevent them from recruiting more fighters. Since the attacks in Paris, we’ve surged intelligence sharing with our European allies. We’re working with Turkey to seal its border with Syria. And we are cooperating with Muslim-majority countries—and with our Muslim communities here at home—to counter the vicious ideology that ISIL promotes online.” (Turkey is cooperating with ISIS; and border security is a farce. There is no evidence that Muslim communities in the United States are doing anything to counter the jihadist ideology. In fact, it is within those communities that the ideology is spreading.) [84729, 84778]

“Fourth, with American leadership, the international community has begun to establish a process—and timeline—to pursue cease-fires and a political resolution to the Syrian war. Doing so will allow the Syrian people and every country, including our allies, but also countries like Russia, to focus on the common goal of destroying ISIL—a group that threatens us all.” (This claim is total nonsense. First, there is no “American leadership” with Obama in the White House. Syrian President Bashar al-Assad is going nowhere, especially since he is now being propped up more strongly by Russia.) [84729]

“This,” says Obama, “is our strategy to destroy ISIL.” (It is nothing of the sort. It is window dressing designed merely to give the appearance that Obama is doing something when he is not. He will dump the problem fully in the lap of the next temporary occupant

of the Oval Office. If he prays at all, he is praying that no huge terrorist attack on U.S. soil will take place until after January 20, 2017.) [84729]

Obama says. “I’ve ordered the Departments of State and Homeland Security to review the visa waiver program under which the female terrorist in San Bernardino originally came to this country.” (Whoever wrote Obama’s speech should be fired. Had Tashfeen Malik entered the United States under the visa *waiver* program she would not have needed a visa. Coming from Pakistan and Saudi Arabia she most certainly needed a visa—and it was foolishly approved.) “And that’s why I will urge high-tech and law enforcement leaders to make it harder for terrorists to use technology to escape from justice.” (Obama is doing nothing. He is merely “urging” others to do something.) [84727, 84728, 84729, 84767, 84783]

“Congress should act to make sure no one on a no-fly list is able to buy a gun. What could possibly be the argument for allowing a terrorist suspect to buy a semi-automatic weapon? This is a matter of national security.” (There are more than one million names on the no-fly/terrorist watch lists; the no-fly list is the smaller of the two. Obama may be pulling a bait-and-switch, mentioning the no-fly list but intending to use the larger list, or perhaps both. In either case, thousands of names on those lists—perhaps as many as 40 percent—should not be there. They are there because it is incredibly easy to prompt a name to be added to the lists, yet it is incredibly difficult to have a name removed. To deny people their Second Amendment right to self-defense, without due process of law, simply because of a clerical/bureaucratic is absurd. Obama does not mention that at least 72 employees of the Department of Homeland Security are on the terrorist watch list. He might want to do something about that before he prevents someone from buying a gun simply because a name was spelled wrong by a bureaucrat.) [84729, 84731, 84764, 84832, 84833]

“...Finally, if Congress believes, as I do, that we are at war with ISIL, it should go ahead and vote to authorize the continued use of military force against these terrorists. For over a year, I have ordered our military to take thousands of airstrikes against ISIL targets. I think it’s time for Congress to vote to demonstrate that the American people are united, and committed, to this fight.” (This is total claptrap. Although Congress could certainly declare war on ISIS, Obama already has authority to act against the terrorists. Congress has resisted Obama’s “official” war legislation proposal because it includes restrictions on actions Obama’s successor could take. In addition, for more than a year Obama has imposed absurd rules of engagement that make it next to impossible for the U.S. military to take out ISIS targets. Obama’s fear of inadvertent casualties and oil field fires has left on the battlefield thousands of ISIS fighters who should have been killed and oil revenue in the hands of ISIS leaders.) [84729]

“We should not be drawn once more into a long and costly ground war in Iraq or Syria. That’s what groups like ISIL want. They know they can’t defeat us on the battlefield.” (The stupidity of Obama’s statement is monumental. How can he argue that ISIS *wants* the United States to engage it in a ground war because it knows ISIS fighters would *lose*? “Yes, please fight us because we know we will lose!” U.S. military leaders are probably

drawing blood biting their own lips because they are unable to state publicly what they think about their “commander in chief.”) [84729]

Obama again repeats his ridiculous “ISIS has nothing to do with Islam” claim: “...We cannot turn against one another by letting this fight be defined as a war between America and Islam. That, too, is what groups like ISIL want. ISIL does not speak for Islam. They are thugs and killers, part of a cult of death, and they account for a tiny fraction of more than a billion Muslims around the world—including millions of patriotic Muslim Americans who reject their hateful ideology. Moreover, the vast majority of terrorist victims around the world are Muslim. If we’re to succeed in defeating terrorism we must enlist Muslim communities as some of our strongest allies, rather than push them away through suspicion and hate.” (If there are “millions of patriotic Muslim Americans who reject” the jihadist ideology it might be helpful if they could show some outward sign of that rejection. If ISIS has nothing to do with Islam, Obama should explain why Egypt’s foremost Islamic authority, Dr. Dr. Ahmed al-Tayeb, the Sheikh and Grand Imam of Al Azhar, refuses to call ISIS un-Islamic.) [84729, 84744, 84818]

“...But just as it is the responsibility of Muslims around the world to root out misguided ideas that lead to radicalization, it is the responsibility of all Americans—of every faith—to reject discrimination. It is our responsibility to reject religious tests on who we admit into this country. It’s our responsibility to reject proposals that Muslim Americans should somehow be treated differently. Because when we travel down that road, we lose. That kind of divisiveness, that betrayal of our values plays into the hands of groups like ISIL. Muslim Americans are our friends and our neighbors, our co-workers, our sports heroes—and, yes, they are our men and women in uniform who are willing to die in defense of our country. We have to remember that.” (Translation: “Be nice to Muslims because Cassius Clay and Lew Alcindor converted to Islam.”) [84729, 84744]

“...Even in this political season, even as we properly debate what steps I and future Presidents must take to keep our country safe, let’s make sure we never forget what makes us exceptional. Let’s not forget that freedom is more powerful than fear; that we have always met challenges—whether war or depression, natural disasters or terrorist attacks—by coming together around our common ideals as one nation, as one people. So long as we stay true to that tradition, I have no doubt America will prevail. Thank you. God bless you, and may God bless the United States of America.” (America will prevail—but not until after Obama leaves office.) [84729]

After his useless address, Obama dons a tuxedo to attend a Kennedy Center Honors awards event. (Honorees are motion picture producer George Lucas, singer and composer Carol King, actress Rita Moreno, actress Cicely Tyson, and musical conductor Seiji Ozawa. The event will be taped and broadcast on CBS on December 29.) [84725]

On Fox News, leftist Juan Williams applauds Obama for calling the San Bernardino terrorist attack a terrorist attack. (Pamela Geller writes, “He said... nothing. He did finally call San Bernardino call a terrorist attack. That’s how low our bar is. We have to applaud this elemental declaration.”) [84729]

Geller also observes, “He spoke, of course, about gun control. California has some of the strictest gun control laws in the country. These two jihadists were not on any terror watch lists, so nothing Obama proposes would have stopped [Syed] Farook and [Tashfeen] Malik from getting their bloody hands on weapons. He insisted that he would not send in ground troops. Good. I would not want one American sent to his death because of Obama’s crippling and homicidal rules of engagement. We need a wartime president. He spent a lot of time talking about not ‘discriminating against Muslims.’ A lie. There is no discrimination against Muslims. His tongue flapped on about how ‘only a fraction of the billions of Muslims around the world’ are not peaceful and don’t oppose jihad, when in fact Pew and Gallup and numerous other surveys state otherwise.” [84729, 84730]

“The bottom line? There was no change of strategy. Nothing. This was only the third Oval Office address of his presidency—they are reserved for events of national importance. Does he think huffing and puffing in the Oval is enough? He did not announce major changes to his plans to fight the Islamic State, even though that strategy came under question after the group claimed responsibility for a major terrorist attack in Paris last month in which gunmen killed 130 people around the city. He said the current strategy is supported by military and counterterrorism experts. Nothing.” [84729]

On CNN, Daily Beast columnist and author Michael Weiss is asked how ISIS will react to Obama’s address. Weiss responds, “Well, I think... they’ll laugh, frankly. ...I heard in [Obama’s] remarks self-congratulation and cheerleading. ‘We will destroy ISIL, we will defeat this... death cult. ...[Obama] came out and said ISIS has been contained... Last week the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff repudiated those remarks and said, ‘No, actually, they’re not contained, we’ve had some tactical victories on the battlefield but, strategically, ISIS is very much on the front foot. They’ve established franchises or affiliates in the Sinai Peninsula, Yemen, Libya, Afghanistan, the North Caucasus—the list continues. ...This is why the Defense Intelligence Agency—50 different analysts got up and blew the whistle and said, ‘We are being forced to cook the intelligence to make it seem more progress than we have done.’ ...We have to be very realistic here. ...I really think [Obama’s] head is in the clouds if he thinks this current strategy is going to succeed. ...This is not a contained threat.” [84763, 84782]

ABC’s George Stephanopoulos praises Obama’s speech, claiming he was “stern and direct” and laid out “a strong and smart strategy to deal with the terrorist threat that has evolved here in the United States...” Jonathan Karl comments, “But I must say, the most interesting line at the end, when he said Muslim-Americans are our friends, they are our neighbors. They are our sports heroes, and yes, the men and women that serve in our military. That a direct message to those that [sic; who] have been vilifying Muslims.” [84792]

On PBS, Judy Woodruff gushes, “I was struck when [Obama] said we will destroy the Islamic State. He said we will prevail by being strong and smart.” [84792]

At WashingtonTimes.com Charles Hurt notes the beginning of Obama's speech: "On Wednesday, 14 Americans were killed as they came together to celebrate the holidays. They were taken from family and friends who loved them deeply. They were white and black; Latino and Asian; immigrants and American-born." Hurt writes, "Seriously? The worst terrorist attack on American soil since 9/11 and ...Obama is still wearing his race-hustler glasses? This is just another opportunity to divvy up his people by the color of their skin? What an embarrassment. No, Mr. President. These were not whites, blacks, Latinos or Asians. That is not why they were killed and has no business being discussed in the present crisis. These were Americans. And they were enjoying their freedom peaceably at a holiday party in the most powerful country on earth that stands as this world's greatest hope for religious freedom. That, Mr. President, is why those 14 Americans were killed. You are the ONLY person who looked at them and saw race. It is truly amazing the lack of seriousness and cynical political gamesmanship President Obama brings to every facet of being commander in chief. ...And people wonder why real estate developer Donald Trump has risen to such stunning levels of statesmanship in this country. Well, this is why. Because Donald Trump is, literally, Winston Churchill or Franklin D. Roosevelt compared with this aimless nincompoop." [84804]

In a campaign ad, Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) says, "Under ...Obama and [former Secretary of State Hillary] Clinton the world is more dangerous and America is less safe. If I'm elected to serve as commander-in-chief, we won't cower in the face of evil. America will lead. We'll rebuild our military; we'll kill the terrorists; and every Islamic militant will know, 'If you wage jihad against us, you're signing your death warrant.' And under no circumstances will I ever apologize for America." [84742, 84743]

In elections in Venezuela, socialist president Nicolas Maduro's party loses control of the National Assembly, with the opposition coalition—the Democratic Unity Roundtable—winning at least 99 of 167 legislative seats. (The opposition wins despite vote fraud, intimidation, and the murder of at least one candidate.) [84838, 84839]

On December 7 criticism of Obama's address is widespread, especially among GOP presidential candidates. Carly Fiorina tweets, "Vintage Obama: No strategy, no leadership. Politics as usual." Donald Trump: "Is that all there is? We need a new President – FAST!" Senator Rand Paul (R-KY): "The Obama speech was an attempt to turn a necessary discussion on terrorism and national security into an ineffective gun control debate." "Let's be clear: disarming more law abiding citizens will not stop mass murderers and terrorists." Former New York governor George Pataki: "Obama speech was as believable as a hostage video. Pathetic response to the worst attack on US since 9/11." Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC): "...Obama is intentionally misleading the nation about the threat we face from ISIL." "...Obama is also overselling the successes we are having on the battlefield. His strategy will not destroy ISIL and he knows it." Former senator Rick Santorum: "[Obama] solution - 'Congress authorize what I am already doing and restrict law abiding people's right to defend themselves.'" Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX): "If I am elected President, I will direct the Department of Defense to destroy ISIS." "And I will shut down the broken immigration system that is letting jihadists into our country." "Nothing ...Obama said tonight will assist in either case." [84752, 84753, 84773]

CNN leftist Fareed Zakaria also calls the speech “vintage Obama,” but not in the negative way intended by Fiorina. Zakaria says, “Well, I think it was in some ways, it was vintage Obama. He is—I think the way he views it, people like Donald Trump are playing with fire and he is the fireman. He is the guy who’s going to douse those flames. He is going to be cool, measured, he’s going to have an adult conversation about, you know, the steps that are being taken to deal with ISIS, what we should do and what we shouldn’t do. It may be too cool for some people.” [84851]

Congressman Peter King (R-NY) calls Obama’s speech “pitiful” and “a total failure of leadership. ...Nothing [Obama] proposed or spoke about had any relevance or connection to the San Bernardino massacre. Once again he failed to say that our enemy is Islamist terrorism. Nor did he call for increased surveillance of the Muslim community. Instead he tried to raise the phony specter of Islamophobia. The truth is that the Obama policy against ISIS has failed totally and his speech totally failed to address or correct that failure! Nothing he said will calm the fears of the American people.” [84774]

Former CBS reporter Bernard Goldberg writes, “I can’t imagine that there are many Americans who listened to ...Obama’s Oval Office speech on terrorism and when it was over took a deep breath and said, ‘Now I feel better.’ ...[W]hen it comes to fighting the war on terror, ...Obama doesn’t exactly instill confidence. He hasn’t even used the term since January 23, 2009—*his fourth day in office*. ...No one will confuse Barack Obama with Harry Truman. Or Franklin Roosevelt. Or Winston Churchill... None of this liberal squeamishness is resonating even with those who once supported Barack Obama. Polls show that a big majority of Americans don’t approve of the way [he] is fighting terrorism in general and ISIS in particular. But even in his Oval Office speech, he offered nothing new in the way of a strategy to defeat the Islamic State. ...Barack Obama once got by on his magic, on a charisma that few politicians are lucky enough to possess. The magic is gone. The charisma, such as it is, no longer mesmerizes. Americans know we’re at war with Islamic terrorists, no matter how inconvenient the president and Hillary Clinton find that fact to be. And no matter how many times they refuse to even utter those words.” [84991]

HotAir.com writes, “What we received from this historic, rare address from in front of [Obama’s] own desk was yet another ration of the same old, same old. The nation was lectured about not being too reactionary and assured that he planned to stay the course with the same playbook which has thus far done virtually nothing to defeat the evil which confronts us. ...On the gun control front, [Obama] simply reiterated the same requests he’s been making for ages... requests which are essentially non-starters. He once again claimed that lax gun laws are a gaping hole in our strategy against the terrorists, though no law currently under consideration would have stopped the killers in San Bernardino. ...Perhaps even worse than the lack of any substance, new ideas or hope for progress coming out of the speech was the tiresome tone which [Obama] took with the nation. It wasn’t uplifting or forceful or even understanding of the feelings of the people he was elected to lead. It was yet another lecture, tinged with a hint of disappointment in how we could all be so foolish as to question him.” [84783]

“...[Obama] isn’t angry at the enemy so much *as he’s disappointed in the American people*. We’ve let him down terribly and it shows in his countenance behind the podium [sic; lectern]. He can’t understand why we’re such a bunch of hateful reactionaries and why we might actually want him to start checking out the mosques and determining if there’s another Tashfeen Malik out there whose friends might not have found worth the bother of mentioning to the authorities. He can’t seem to grasp why record numbers of Americans are clinging to their Second Amendment rights in the hopes of defending themselves the next time this happens. We’re simply a mystery to the man, but he’s willing to patiently explain to all of us yet again why he’s right and we’re wrong about virtually everything.” [84783]

“This speech was supposed to be a major event. It was to be a prime time revelation and a rallying cry from our highest elected official, letting us know that we were getting back on track, there was a steady hand on the tiller and relief was on the way. What we received was another session of tongue clucking from our betters and a reminder that there is no help on the horizon. For the next thirteen months you are on your own, America. Good luck to us all.” [84783]

At ConstitutionRising.com Rick Wells writes, “There was nothing contained in [Obama’s] speech that we haven’t already heard in the four days that have passed since the attack in San Bernardino; the speech was a propaganda tool and nothing more. We could easily have done without it but Obama would have been seen as being missing in action due to the nature of the strike and his complicity in the creation of the situation. It’s better politically to serve up the standard helping of tripe, his untrue reaffirmations that what he’s doing is working, and to deliver his pronouncements of the wisdom of staying the current dangerous and feckless course.” [84785]

“...The lighting and optics made Obama look unmistakably like a worn-out, watery-eyed, washed-up alcoholic or drug-addict, with a pasty texture to his skin. His face had an odd, orange tone that might have been makeup, dark circles under his eyes, a re-emergence of his dark, discolored lips that many have speculated over the years is vasoconstriction associated with cocaine abuse, and, at least when watching it live on Fox, a sometimes splotchy appearance across this eyes and nose. ...While still clearly dedicated to distortion, disinformation and the destruction of America, he lacked his customary zest for victimizing the American people. He was reflexive in his attacks on the greatest nation on earth. He really didn’t seem to be enjoying himself but more to be just going through the motions of nation killing. ...Many would argue that anything that slows down this maniacal enemy of America is a blessing, a position that is difficult to challenge. Obama doing nothing would arguably be better than regular Obama, an agent of fundamental transformation engaging in our destruction. Maybe we could keep him perpetually hung-over or enlist one or two Secret Service agents to keep his lines chopped out or his crack pipe full and a match at the ready. Champagne or cognac should never be more than a snap of the fingers away. Maybe they’re already doing that.” [84785]



The liberal American Civil Liberties Union states, “The No Fly List is in the news this week, just in time for the ACLU’s argument in federal court on Wednesday in its five-year-long challenge to the list’s redress process. ...There is no constitutional bar to reasonable regulation of guns, and the No Fly List could serve as one tool for it, but only with major reform. As we will argue to a federal district court in Oregon this Wednesday, the standards for inclusion on the No Fly List are unconstitutionally vague, and innocent people are blacklisted without a fair process to correct government error. Our lawsuit seeks a meaningful opportunity for our clients to challenge their placement on the No Fly List because it is so error-prone and the consequences for their lives have been devastating. ...We filed the suit in June 2010 on behalf of 10 U.S. citizens and permanent residents who the government banned from flying to or from the U.S. or over American airspace. (Three more people later joined the suit.) Our clients, among them four U.S. military veterans, were never told why they were on the list or given a reasonable opportunity to get off it. Some were stranded abroad, unable to come home. As one response to our lawsuit, the government began to allow Americans to fly home on a ‘one-time waiver,’ with stringent security precautions.” [84881]

“Separately, the government made two basic arguments in its defense of the No Fly List, both of which the court rejected. First, it argued that U.S. persons had no constitutionally protected right to fly. ...Second, the government asserted that national security concerns meant the government couldn’t confirm or deny whether people were on the No Fly List, and it couldn’t give them reasons or a hearing before a neutral decision-maker. This is absurd as a practical matter and violates due process as a constitutional matter. Practically speaking, people know they are on the No Fly List when they are banned from flying and surrounded—and stigmatized—by security officials publicly at airports. ...Unfortunately, the government’s new redress process still falls far short of constitutional requirements. In our case, it refuses to provide meaningful notice of the reasons our clients are blacklisted, the basis for those reasons, and a hearing before a neutral decision-maker. Much as before, our clients are left to guess at the government’s case and can’t clear their names. That’s unconstitutional.” [84881]

According to a CNN poll conducted before the terrorist attack in San Bernardino, 64 percent disapprove of Obama’s handling of ISIS; 60 percent disapprove on terrorism in general; 61 percent disagree with his refugee policy; 68 percent say the U.S. response to ISIS has not been aggressive enough—including majorities of Democrats, independents, and Republicans. [84760]

Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson (whose job “experience” consists not of work in the security industry but raising campaign funds for Obama) visits the All Dulles Area Muslim Society mosque in Sterling, Virginia. He says, “In responding to this new environment, we must not vilify American Muslims. We must not throw a net of suspicion over American Muslims and an entire religion. We must not force American Muslims to run and hide, and retreat to the shadows. This would be counter to our homeland security efforts, and it is un-American. Now, more than ever, is the time to work together, to protect and defend our communities, our families, and our homeland. ...The overwhelming, overwhelming majority of American Muslims, and Muslims

worldwide, are men, women and children of peace, who seek to live their lives in peace, and want nothing to do with terrorism. Anyone who does not understand this does not understand Islam. The very essence of the Islamic faith is peace. The standard greeting As-salamu alaykum is ‘peace be upon you.’” [84840, 85413]

“...It is also the tradition of this great nation that, ultimately, those who once existed on the margins of society become part of the fabric of our society.” Johnson notes that in 1949 his grandfather “was called upon to testify before the House Un-American Activities Committee, to deny he was a member of the Communist Party and defend the patriotism of African Americans. Today his grandson is responsible for the homeland security of this entire nation.” (Johnson’s grandfather, Charles Johnson, was president of Fisk University, a black college that was infiltrated by communists. One of Obama’s favorite authors, communist W. E. B. Du Bois, attended Fisk University. Du Bois, vice chairman of the subversive Council on African Affairs, was a member of the Community Party. In 1959 he received the Soviet Lenin Prize. Obama advisor Valerie Jarrett’s father, maternal grandfather, and father-in-law were also hardcore communists, under FBI investigation.) [84840, 84841, 84842, 84843, 84844, 85536]

In Victorville, California, a man named Mohamed Elrawi chases a neighbor with a sword, yelling, “I would die and kill for Allah!” The neighbor is uninjured; Elrawi is arrested; and a search of his house yields “a Koran along with several other items leading investigators to believe Elrawi may be a radicalized Muslim.” [84864, 84865, 84876]

At a train station in Osnabrücker, Germany, police are forced to pepper spray a Muslim “refugee” after he kicks and bites them while screaming “Allahu akbar” and the Arabic name for ISIS. (The 23-year-old Moroccan man apparently did not like being asked to show his ticket. Why he is considered a refugee is not clear, as there is no war in Morocco. Of course, welfare benefits in Germany are greater than those provided by Morocco.) [84877, 84878]

Vermont resident H. Brook Paige files a lawsuit against the state, calling for the names of Senators Ted Cruz (R-TX) and Marco Rubio (R-FL) and Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal not to be allowed on ballots because they are ineligible to serve as president because they are not natural born citizens. (As noted frequently in this *Timeline*, the term natural born citizen has historically meant born on U.S. soil to U.S. citizen parents. Cruz was born in Canada and his father was at that time a citizen of Cuba. Rubio was born in Florida, but both his parents were at that time still citizens of Cuba. Jindal was born in the United States to citizens of India. A mountain of evidence supports the historical meaning of the term, but the courts have refused to rule on the definition of the term. The U.S. Supreme Court refused to even hear *Kerchner v. Obama* because it was afraid to rule against Obama. Simply stated, the Republican establishment allowed the Democrat establishment to nominate Obama because they believed he could be defeated and because they wanted the Democrats to ignore the fact that their rising stars, Rubio, Cruz, and Jindal, were also ineligible to serve as president.) [85926, 85927, 85948]

On the floor of the House of Representatives in 1866 Congressman John Bingham (the “Father of the Fourteenth Amendment”) stated, “Every human being born within the jurisdiction of the United States of parents not owing allegiance to any foreign sovereignty is, in the language of your Constitution itself, a natural born citizen.” (Born “of parents not owing allegiance to any foreign sovereignty” means, of course, born “of two U.S. citizen parents.”) The point of the natural born citizen requirement is to reduce the possibility that the president may have divided loyalties or be swayed by any feelings of allegiance to the home country of one or both parents. If the president is born in the United States *and* his parents are U.S. citizens on the day of his birth, the likelihood is greater that the president’s loyalties will lie with the United States. If one or both parents are foreigners, the likelihood increases that the president could be influenced by their links to their home country. The Founding Fathers wanted to reduce the likelihood of such influence, and did so by requiring that the president must be more than a *born citizen* (born on U.S. soil); he must be a *natural born citizen* (born on U.S. soil to two U.S. citizen parents).

As an example of the issue of divided loyalties, one could ask whether a President Jindal be able to be fully objective in the event of a conflict between Pakistan and India—when his parents were from India and he may even have relatives living there. Would a President Rubio or a President Cruz be totally objective with regard to a conflict arising between the United States and Cuba? If Syrian refugees enter the United States in 2015 and have a child in Dearborn, Michigan in 2016, what if that child chooses to run for president in 2051 upon reaching age 35? If he were elected without regard to his parents’ citizenship, how would he view a conflict between Syria and Israel? Would he choose a policy position based solely on what is best for the United States, or would his policy be swayed by his links to Syria and Islam? Would Americans be comfortable with the child of Syed Farook and Tashfeen Malik running for president of the United States?

The Congressional Budget Office releases a report that estimates that ObamaCare will cost the equivalent to about two million jobs over the next decade. “Some people would choose to work fewer hours; others would leave the labor force entirely or remain unemployed for longer than they otherwise would.” [84882, 84883, 84884]

Secretary of State John Kerry states that Obama “has put in place one of the most ambitious national climate action plans in the world. We’ve doubled our car efficiency and truck—We’re requiring our coal-fired power plants have to begin to phase out [sic].” (Kerry is mistaken. The nation has certainly not doubled car and truck efficiency, or miles-per-gallon, since Obama entered the White House—if that is what Kerry means. The federal government has increased the miles-per-gallon *mandate*, but that does not mean the automobile industry will be able to comply. The government can mandate a 500-miles-per-gallon standard, but that does not mean it can be accomplished. Kerry is correct that the Obama administration is essentially forcing coal-fired power plants out of business—but that does not mean their electricity generating capacity can be readily or economically replaced.) [84999]

Kerry says, “It’s the private sector—the next Elon Musk or Steve Jobs is going to find a way to do battery storage for alternative and renewable energy, or we’re going to find a way to burn energy, or maybe this dream of fusion is going to be accelerated and actually have a commercial viability. I don’t know the answer, but I have absolute confidence in the ability of capital to move where the signal of the marketplace says ‘go’...” (In other words, “Obama and I haven’t the faintest idea where more efficient cars or electricity is going to come from. Just trust that when your local power plant is shuttered you will still be able to get electricity from somewhere.”) [84999]

DailyCaller.com notes that the web site JebBush.com directs users to the home page of Donald Trump’s campaign web site. (The Bush campaign’s site is Jeb2016.com—but his staffers were too stupid to also register JebBush.com.) In addition, “Two other domain names that incorporate Bush’s name and president already exist, but aren’t operated by his campaign. JebBushforPresident.com is a blog about a gay couple who own the website and JebBushforPresident.net is used to oppose Bush’s record.” [84735]

In a Monmouth University poll of registered voters *who have voted in primary elections in the past*, Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) moves into first place in Iowa, with 24 percent. He is followed by Donald Trump (19), Senator Marco Rubio (17), Ben Carson (13), and Jeb Bush (6). All other candidates have less than 5 percent. [84756, 84757, 84789]

In a CNN/ORC poll of registered voters, Trump leads in Iowa with 33 percent, followed by Cruz (20), Carson (16), Rubio (11), and Bush (4). (The CNN/ORC poll may be more meaningful because Trump may be getting the support of many people who ordinarily do not vote in primary elections—or at all. That is, the “party faithful” may not prefer Trump, but he is attracting the support of many who may not be in that category.) [84796, 84985]

The U.S. Supreme Court refuses to hear an appeal of a case challenging a Highland Park, Illinois ban on various semi-automatic weapons and magazines that hold more than 10 rounds of ammunition. [84794, 84821]

Speaking at the National Defense University, Congressman Mike McCaul (R-TX) says, “I don’t want to get into specifics to protect my sources” but “ISIS members in Syria have attempted to exploit it to get into the United States. The U.S. government has information to indicate that individuals tied to terrorist groups in Syria have already attempted to gain access to our country through the U.S. refugee program. To me that’s very disturbing.” [84801]

Fox News contributors Lieutenant Colonel Ralph Peters and Stacey Dash are suspended for two weeks for on-air remarks. (Peters called Obama a “total pussy.” Dash called Obama’s speech “an epic fail” and says, “It was like when you have to go to a dinner with your parents but you have a party to go to afterwards; that’s what it felt like. He was just trying to get through it because he wanted to go to this event afterwards. You know, I did not feel better, I didn’t feel any passion from him... I felt like he could give a shit—excuse me. He could [not] care less; he could [not] care less.”) Peters says, “I do

apologize for giving in to my anger, but... I feel like you know the American people understand where I'm coming from on this. My choice of words was incorrect, but my sentiment, I think, is shared by many." Dash states, "Consequences. Some of us have to pay them. Gladly." *Media Buzz*' Howard Kurtz calls it "Flippin' embarrassing"—something the truth often is.) [84768, 84769, 84770, 84791, 84799, 84800, 84829, 84830, 84837, 85103]

The Federalist.com's Sean Davis writes, "If the performance of these gun maker stocks is any indication, ...Obama might be the greatest gun salesman in American history. Since Obama took office in January of 2009, stock prices for publicly traded American gun manufacturers are booming. There are two publicly traded gun manufacturers based in the U.S., and their stock prices have gone through the roof since Obama became president. Smith & Wesson's stock price has increased nearly 700 percent since January 20, 2009, according to a list of historical daily prices provided by Yahoo! Finance. Over that same period of time, the overall stock market, as measured by the S&P 500, increased by approximately 150 percent. When Obama took office, the price of one share of Smith & Wesson stock was \$2.57. As of Monday morning, that same share was worth nearly \$20. The stock price for Ruger, which is based in Southport, Connecticut, increased even more than the price of Smith & Wesson shares. Since January 20, 2009, Ruger's share price has increased by an eye-popping 800 percent. Monday's share price of nearly \$57 is more than nine times higher than Ruger's opening share price of \$6.25 on the day of Obama's 2009 inauguration. ...Both gun manufacturers are now valued at roughly one billion dollars. The Massachusetts-based Smith & Wesson has more than 1,700 full-time employees. Ruger employs nearly 1,900 people, according to *Forbes*." [84771]

Gun sales are also increasing in Europe, largely because of concerns about the increased crime resulting from the influx of Muslim refugees. Gatestone Institute writes that Sweden is now "a night-watchman state—each man is on his own. ...Mr. and Mrs. Swede have every reason to be worried, with the influx of 190,000 unskilled and unemployed migrants expected this year—equivalent to 2% of Sweden's current population. The number is as if 6.4 million penniless migrants who did not speak English arrived in U.S. in one year, or 1.3 million in Britain. And the Swedes are preparing: demand for firearms licenses is increasing; more and more Swedes are joining shooting clubs and starting vigilante groups. After a slight dip in 2014, the number of new gun permits has gone up significantly again this year. According to police statistics, there are 1,901,325 licensed guns, owned by 567,733 people, in Sweden. [Sweden's population is about 9.5 million.] Add to this an unknown number of illegal weapons. To get a gun permit in Sweden, you need to be at least 18 years old; law-abiding; well-behaved, and have a hunting license or be a member of an approved shooting club." [85327, 85328, 85401, 85586, 85587]

"“There is also a high demand for alarm systems right now,” says a salesman at one of the security companies in an interview with Gatestone. ...At another security company, a salesman said that every time the Immigration Service buys or rents a new housing facility [for refugees], his firm is swamped with calls. “The next day,” he said, “half the

village calls and wants to buy alarm systems.’ ...Even before the massive influx of migrants in the fall of 2015, Swedes felt a need to protect themselves—and with good reason. Since the Parliament decided in 1975 that Sweden should be multicultural and not Swedish, crime has exploded. Violent crime has increased by more than 300%, and rapes have increased by an unbelievable 1,472%. The politicians, however, ignore the people's fear completely. It is never discussed. Instead, the people who express concern about what kind of country Sweden has become are accused of xenophobia and racism. Most likely, that is the reason more and more people are taking matters into their own hands, and protecting themselves and their families to the best of their ability.” [85327, 85586]

Attorney General Loretta Lynch announces that the Department of Justice is opening a “pattern or practice” civil rights investigation into whether the Chicago Police Department’s use of force, including racial, ethnic and other disparities, and accountability systems amount to a violation of federal law. Lynch says, “Building trust between law enforcement officers and the communities they serve is one of my highest priorities as Attorney General. The Department of Justice intends to do everything we can to foster those bonds and create safer and fairer communities across the country. And regardless of the findings in this investigation, we will seek to work with local officials, residents, and law enforcement officers alike to ensure that the people of Chicago have the world-class police department that they deserve.” (The investigation was prompted by the release of a video showing a Chicago Police officer repeatedly shooting 17-year-old Laquan McDonald.)

At TakiMag.com Jim Goad writes, “This past summer when Dylann Roof killed nine black churchgoers in Charleston, SC, US Attorney General Loretta Lynch—a black woman—expressed zero concern about protecting neo-Confederates against a looming public backlash. But last week, a mere day after two radical Muslims slaughtered 14 people in San Bernardino, she told a group of Muslim advocates that her ‘greatest fear’ is that the shooting would lead to anti-Muslim ‘rhetoric.’ The day after she said that, she announced publicly that the feds were opening an investigation to determine whether a Muslim teen in Texas had his civil rights violated after being arrested for bringing a homemade clock to school that officials had mistaken for a bomb. She made no note of the fact that the Muslim couple who perpetrated the San Bernardino massacre had planted **an actual bomb** at the scene of their attack. Would one be crazy for suggesting that the powers that be have trouble distinguishing real danger from hypothetical danger? And would it be even nuttier to suspect that in their zeal to protect minorities, they step right on the majority’s throats?” [84793]

“...OK, lemme [let me] get this straight. Fear that people would say bad things about Muslims is legitimate, but fear that Muslims might kill people is a groundless form of ‘hatred.’ And the only ‘rhetoric’ we should fear is negative speech aimed at Muslims, not the ISIS propaganda that apparently inspired last Wednesday’s mass killing. We have met the enemy, and we pay it taxes to destroy us. It is not only that the government is indifferent to majority interests—it is actively hostile toward them. ...People have been so literally terrorized at the idea of being called a racist, they set themselves up to be killed. And this form of psychological terrorism—fear of being called a racist—is far

more pervasive and effective than the occasional bombing or mass shooting. Huge swaths of the populace have been psychologically terrorized into what is effectively suicidal masochism. ...The ones you should fear most are those who try to dictate what it's acceptable for you to fear. Let's hire a bomb squad to defuse the word 'racist,' because it is the primary weapon being wielded to club the white majority into abject, ankle-grabbing submission. Once that word has been divested of its power, the rest is mere cleanup work." [84793]

DCWhisper.com writes, "Last night, Barack Obama gave what was in the seven years of his presidency only the third primetime address to the nation. And he didn't want to do it. Immediately after the San Bernardino terror attack, [Obama] was said to be initially interested in the events to the point of outright excitement for the opportunity to once again make a call for enhanced federal gun control measures—which he did. Within hours of the attack it became clear to federal officials that Islamic terror played an integral role. Once that was known, Mr. Obama's enthusiasm is said to have 'waned considerably.' And then when the L.A. FBI office went public with calling San Bernardino a terrorist attack, both Barack Obama and Valerie Jarrett went into 'warpath mode.' Jarrett's displeasure was apparently first to make itself known. She was outraged the FBI had done so without first getting prior approval from her. Jarrett was said to be particularly concerned with the proximity of the FBI's terror designation and [Obama's] quick words on calling for more gun control measures soon after the actual San Bernardino terror attack." (Jarrett allegedly said, "They're [the FBI] making us look like fools!") [84795]

"The focus of the White House's ire soon became FBI Director, James Comey. At one point, [Obama] is said to have flung several papers onto the floor of the Oval Office as he sat behind his desk stewing over Director's Comey's now-infamous terrorist attack remarks." (Obama allegedly said, "This was supposed to be a gun issue for us, not some anti-Islamic bullsh\*t!") "Jarrett then dispatched an order for Director Comey to meet in person with [Obama]. It was at that meeting the already existing fracture between Comey and the White House on such issues as the Black Lives Matter/anti-law enforcement movement, which Director Comey already spoke out against, was said to have worsened considerably following the San Bernardino attacks. Comey is alleged to have refused to fully capitulate with the White House's demands he lessen the 'terrorist attack' rhetoric. When Director Comey went ahead with a planned press conference on the issue, Jarrett sent Attorney General Loretta Lynch there to oversee the Director's statements on the San Bernardino attack. Included in that press conference was a moment the Mainstream Media then attempted to hide as Jarrett operatives terminated the Director's public comments when he moved away from his Jarrett-approved script via an attempt to open the press conference to questions from the media." [84795]

"Ultimately it was Valerie Jarrett who apparently informed [Obama] he would be giving a primetime address on Sunday evening. This decision was based almost exclusively on fears the White House was quickly losing control of the narrative, and was in fact suggested by a handful of trusted Mainstream Media figures devoted to the Obama White House's well-being. A small battle was waged by several White House advisers and

consultants regarding both the tone and content of [Obama's] Sunday evening commentary. In the end, as usual, Jarrett's opinion is said to have won out. There would be [only a] brief mention of terrorism, ISIL, and [Obama's] ongoing efforts to keep Americans safe. Then the speech would focus almost entirely on the need for gun control and a caution to Americans not to engage in anti-Muslim rhetoric or action (a warning that had been outlined earlier by Attorney General Lynch who called anti-Muslim sentiment her 'greatest fear'). Mr. Obama was willing to swallow the bitter pill of admitting a terrorist attack had taken place inside of the United States, but only after Valerie Jarrett had the call for gun control and pro-Islamic rhetoric be made the more dominant part of the relatively brief primetime address." [84795]

"During the intense back and forth among speech writers and Jarrett, was a moment where Barack Obama is said to have pointed defiantly at Jarrett and declared, 'This is just as much an Israel problem as it is a gun problem! Nobody wants to say it, but it's true!' At least one who was there to witness that outburst must have been troubled enough by it to then leak it to others on staff who were outside the Oval Office at the time it is alleged to have been spoken. Why [Obama] would include a reference to Israel in regards to San Bernardino is unknown. What is known by almost everyone involved with last night's primetime address to the nation by ...Obama is he went to that podium [sic; lectern] kicking and screaming nearly the entire way. It was not a speech he cared to give and he very much resented having events require he do so." [84795]

DCWhispers.com later adds, "Some of the mystery regarding [Obama's] anti-Israel comment in relation to the San Bernardino terror attack might have been revealed just this morning. Multiple reports now indicate that one of the two terrorists, Syed Farook, was 'negatively obsessed with Israel.' This information was given by Farook's own father who lives in Italy. It seems quite likely Barack Obama was already aware of this fact in the hours prior to his Sunday night address to the nation. More troubling is that an American president appears to share an equally negative obsession with Israel as did a recent and undeniable, Islamic terrorist." [84795]

Support for the DCWhispers.com claim comes from DailyCaller.com: "...Obama spent nearly 20 percent of his Oval Office address on terrorism to urge Americans not to be racist, about twice as long as he took to describe the threat of ISIS. ...Obama spoke for 1,910 words. He spent 372 words telling Americans not to discriminate against Muslims, compared to 160 words directly referencing the threat of ISIS. Obama used an additional 131 words, roughly 7 percent of the speech, to talk about the need for stricter gun laws. While Obama discussed ISIS in abstract terms or reiterated strategy, he only used 160 words in reference to the threat ISIS posed. Those words encompassed 8 percent of the speech." [84797]

Even the leftist *Los Angeles Times* comes out in opposition to using the no-fly list to ban gun purchases. The *Times* writes, "One problem is that the people on the no-fly list (as well as the broader terror watch list from which it is drawn) have not been convicted of doing anything wrong. They are merely suspected of having terror connections. And the United States doesn't generally punish or penalize people unless and until they have been



charged and convicted of a crime. In this case, the government would be infringing on a right guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution—and yes, like it or not, the right to buy a gun is a constitutional right according to the U.S. Supreme Court. [Technically, it's a constitutional right *according to the U.S. Constitution.*] How certain is it that the people on the two lists are dangerous? Well, we don't really know, because the no-fly-list and the broader watch list are government secrets. People are not notified when they are put on, nor why, and they usually don't discover they have been branded suspected terrorists until they try to travel somewhere." [84825, 84993]

"But serious flaws in the list have been identified. According to the American Civil Liberties Union, which is suing the government over the no-fly list, the two lists include thousands of names that have been added in error, as well as the names of family members of suspected terrorists. The no-fly list has also been used to deny boarding passes to people who only share a name with a suspected terrorist. Former Sen. Ted Kennedy (D-MA) was famously questioned at airports in 2004 because a terror suspect had used the alias 'T. Kennedy.' It took the senator's office three weeks to get his name cleared." [84825]

Donald Trump calls for a moratorium on allowing Muslims to enter the United States "until our country's representatives can figure out what is going on. ...Until we are able to determine and understand this problem and the dangerous threat it poses, our country cannot be the victims of horrendous attacks by people that [sic; who] believe only in jihad, and have no sense of reason or respect for human life." (The media will excoriate Trump for his statement, as will his GOP opponents. Whether the American public feels the same way remains to be seen. For the record, *current federal law* allows Obama to deny entry to the United States to *any* individual or group for *any* reason. Obama can today legally do what Trump is proposing. In addition, a ban on immigrants from particular countries or regions is not unconstitutional and they have been imposed in the past. Banning immigrants based on religion may seem extreme, but it would not be illegal. The Bill of Rights applies to Americans, not the entire world.) [84798, 84802, 84824, 84836, 85025]

Eric Posner, a professor at the University of Chicago Law School, tells WND.com that the Supreme Court "has held consistently, for more than a century, that constitutional protections that normally benefit Americans and people on American territory do not apply when Congress decides who to admit and who to exclude as immigrants or other entrants. This is called the plenary power doctrine. The court has repeatedly turned away challenges to immigration statutes and executive actions on grounds that they discriminate on the basis of race, national origin, and political belief, and that they deprive foreign nationals of due process protections." Eugene Volokh, a First Amendment specialist at the UCLA School of Law, comments, "As a policy matter, I think that banning entry by Muslims would be a very bad idea, for many reasons. But, like many very bad ideas, it might not be unconstitutional." (It is worth noting that the Immigration Act of 1924 banned the immigration of all Asians and Arabs into the United States. The legislation remained largely in effect until the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965.) [85025, 85306]

Jihad Watch's Robert Spencer comments, "This is being greeted with the usual howls of outrage and victimhood. Trump's a racist. Trump's a Nazi. Trump's a bigoted Islamophobe. I am no fan of Trump, but is what he said here really so outrageous? No one has some natural right to enter the U.S. Trump is suggesting a temporary measure, and in view of the intelligence failures involved in Tashfeen Malik's passing background checks from both the FBI and DHS, and the stated plan of the Islamic State (ISIS) to embed jihadis among the refugees, and the fact that two of the Paris jihadis were recent arrivals into Europe as refugees, it is prudent to call a halt and try to devise some genuinely effective vetting measures—although that will be impossible as long as Obama's policy of denying the reality of jihad continues. Must our commitment to 'multiculturalism' and 'diversity' override any concern for national security? Are our elected officials so afraid of being charged with 'racism' and 'bigotry' that they will remain committed to a program that very likely will result in the entry of more jihad killers into the U.S.? How many Americans must be killed before we consider the security aspects of immigration and the refugee crisis?" [84817]

"Trump's recommendation is unworkable in practice, but unless some reliable way can be discovered to discern jihadis trying to enter the country, the entry of Muslims into the U.S. will continue to provide an opportunity for jihadis to enter. The Islamic State has explicitly instructed its operatives entering the US to appear 'moderate'—don't wear a caftan, don't carry a Qur'an, don't wear a beard, don't go to mosque. Even if there were any sanity in the Administration's approach to this threat, which there isn't, the efforts of ISIS members to conceal their allegiances and intentions make vetting well-nigh impossible. Those who are saying that this is a religious freedom issue are missing the point, probably deliberately. The problem is not with the religious aspects of Islam, but with the political, supremacist and authoritarian aspects of Islamic law. I will never support Trump for President, even were he to knock on my door, get on one knee, and ask for my vote. I could never support a candidate who advocates kowtowing to violent intimidation and submitting to the Islamic supremacist war against the freedom of speech, as he did after the jihad attack on our event in Garland, Texas. But the national security aspects of Muslim immigration should be considered, and those who are calling Trump a Nazi tonight should kindly think of some alternate plan to deal with those aspects." [84817]

Breitbart.com reports, "A north Texas mosque, near the home of 'Clock Boy' Ahmed [Ahmed Mohamed], was named as an unindicted co-conspirator in the largest terrorism financing trial in United States history. The judge found there was ample evidence that the mosque, the Islamic Association of North Texas, assisted the Holy Land Foundation in funding millions of dollars to a Palestinian military terrorist organization that has killed Israeli children. The Richardson, Texas, mosque, also known as the Dallas Central Mosque, was set up largely for the purpose of funding Hamas and terrorist activities by funding the Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development (HLF). The foundation was based in the same city as the Islamic Association of North America—Richardson, Texas. The HLF was designated as a terrorist organization by the federal government in 2001. The organization was shut down and its assets were seized because the charity's

primary purpose was found to fund Hamas. In May 2009, five of the key leaders of the HLF were sentenced after having been convicted in November, 2008, of providing material support to the terrorist organization. Two of the leaders lived in Richardson where the Islamic Association of North Texas is located. Another leader was from nearby Garland, Texas.” [84803]

Intelligence sources reveal that Iran tested a new medium-range ballistic missile on November 21, in violation of United Nations Security Council resolutions. According to FoxNews.com, “The missile, known as a Ghadr-110, has a range of 1,800 - 2,000 km, or 1,200 miles, and is capable of carrying a nuclear warhead. [It is not only capable of doing so, it is designed to do so.] The missile fired in November is an improved version of the Shahab 3, and is similar to the precision guided missile tested by Iran on Oct. 10, which elicited strong condemnation from members of the U.N. Security Council.” U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power states, “The United States is deeply concerned about Iran’s recent ballistic missile launch.” After the October 10 test, Obama said, “I think what we’ll be doing is we’ll review, as we have in the past, any violations of U.N. resolutions, and we’ll deal with them much as we have in the past.” (“We’ll deal with them” means, “We’ll issue a statement of condemnation and take no action.” In fact, Power cannot even get the Security Council to issue a statement. She responds to critics: “Discussions are a form of U.N. action. It’s a little bit like a hearing is a form of congressional action.”) [84828, 85059]

On *On the Record*, FoxNews.com’s Catherine Herridge reports that \$28,500 was deposited in terrorist Syed Farook’s bank account on or about November 18, via WebBank.com. Two days later he withdrew \$10,000 in cash. Of the \$28,500, \$15,000 was transferred to Farook’s mother—in three \$5,000 installments. (The night before Obama said, “So far, we have no evidence that the killers were directed by a terrorist organization overseas, or that they were part of a broader conspiracy here at home.” That \$28,500 deposit may prove Obama wrong.) [84786, 84805, 84831, 84863]

FoxNews.com reports that although “[n]one of the pipe bombs left at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino by Syed Farook and Tashfeen Malik in Wednesday’s attack detonated, ...the technique has investigators very concerned... ‘This was meant to kill more, but also scare other future responders to attacks,’ a source with inside knowledge of the investigation said. ‘This was meant to get into the minds of medics and officers who are arriving first on scene.’” [84806]

Pamela Geller writes, “Further proof of what I said numerous times: this was a massive intel failure. The two jihadis trained overseas, practiced shooting at LA shooting ranges (like the Garland [Texas] jihadis), were linked to American ISIS recruiter Mohamed Hasan (like the Garland jihadis), were flagged by law enforcement (like the Garland jihadis), left an electronic footprint, were ‘radicalized for quite some time’ prior to their jihad, and left a money trail. Tashfeen attended a radical mosque and went to a ‘radical’ Pakistan madrassa. A \$28,500 deposit was made to Syed Farook’s bank account from WebBank.com on or about Nov.18, some two weeks before he and his wife Tashfeen Malik carried out the San Bernardino massacre, a source close to the investigation. On

12/3 I asked... ‘Who Paid for This?’ The San Bernardino jihad rampage is a direct result of Obama’s jihad denial. He scrubbed all counter terror materials of jihad and Islam. If you can’t vet for that, intel failures are all but guaranteed. The money train and digital footprint is a stunning Obama’s intel failure.” [84807]

At WeeklyStandard.com Stephen Hayes reports, “Scanner traffic indicates law enforcement may have investigated San Bernardino shooter Syed Farook a week before the attack. Law enforcement officials in San Bernardino and Los Angeles may have investigated Syed Farook one week before the shooting on the community development center on December 2, 2015, that left 14 dead and 17 injured, according to a review of police communications immediately following the attacks. ...Farook is first identified by name at approximately 11:40am local time, just a half hour after the shooting began. The information came from a county worker, who noted that Farook had been acting nervous and left the holiday party twenty minutes before the shooting began. In a subsequent exchange at approximately 12:08pm the dispatcher addresses an officer nicknamed ‘Trav’ upon hearing ‘Syed Farook.’ She says: ‘Reference that name, I believe one of the [garbled] was working that name up for something last week. I’ll have to check.’ In a second exchange shortly after 12:20, another officer says of Farook: ‘I just got some info from that LAPD that they have information on one of your suspects. I heard that somebody was trying to INV that guy. Can you find out who I can give this information to?’” [84808, 84809]

On *The O’Reilly Factor*, Bernard Goldberg observes, “There are people in the media who have a lot invested in Barack Obama and they’re not gonna [sic]... throw him under the bus. But when Barack Obama makes you look foolish by defending him, that’s another story.” Bill O’Reilly: “Do you think that we’ve reached that point? Do you think it’s the eye-roll point?” Goldberg: “I think we’re... at a tipping point. The American people know that ISIS isn’t the JV team, and so do journalists, including liberal journalists. The American people know that ISIS isn’t contained, and so do liberal journalists. The American people know that terrorists aren’t on the run, and so do liberal journalists. If they think they’re going to look like idiots defending the indefensible, you know, we could see that—we could see things changing for the first time in a long time.” [84995]

On December 8, at LewRockwell.com, Laurence M. Vance makes 25 significant points about borders and immigration:

- “1. There is a difference between the right of Americans to freely travel between states and the right of foreigners to enter the United States.
2. There is a difference between open borders and no borders.
3. There is a difference between unrestricted immigration and open borders.
4. There is a difference between a free state and a welfare state.
5. There is a difference between admitting refugees and subsidizing the admittance of refugees.
6. There is a difference between government-facilitated immigration and government-controlled immigration.

7. There is a difference between the government allowing refugees to enter the United States and the government transporting refugees to the United States.
8. There is a difference between working immigrants and welfare immigrants.
9. There is a difference between a 'natural born citizen' and an 'anchor baby.'
10. There is a difference between 'birthright citizenship' and 'maternity tourism.'
11. There is a difference between an immigrant and an illegal immigrant.
12. There is a difference between the government welcoming refugees and the government resettling refugees.
13. There is a difference between private relief efforts and government relief efforts.
14. There is a difference between suspicion and hatred.
15. There is a difference between profiling and persecuting.
16. There is a difference between building a fence to keep people out and building a fence to keep people in.
17. There is a difference between inviting immigrants and recruiting immigrants.
18. There is a difference between being a guest and being a trespasser.
19. There is a difference between discrimination and xenophobia.
20. There is a difference between assimilated immigrants and alienated immigrants.
21. There is a difference between privately-funded immigration and taxpayer-funded immigration.
22. There is a difference between the United States giving sanctuary to refugees and the United States opening facilities overseas to process refugees.
23. There is a difference between the U.S. government limiting the number of refugees its accepts and the U.S. government refusing to grant asylum to Jewish refugees on the St. Louis in 1939.
24. There is a difference between the private, voluntary acceptance of refugees and the taxpayer-funded Office of Refugee Resettlement.
25. There is a difference between free immigration and forced immigration."

White House press secretary Josh Earnest tells reporters, "I think what [Obama] would say based on his comments from Sunday night is that we are seeing extremist organizations, including ISIL [ISIS], trying to radicalize people in the United States to essentially mimic the tactics of other mass shooters in this country. So, there certainly is a national security benefit to closing the gun show loophole or reinstating the assault weapons ban. There is such profound frustration on the part of [Obama] that Congress hasn't taken common sense steps that would make it harder for those who shouldn't get guns from getting their hands on them. The suggestion is not that we can stop every incident of violence in this country but if there are some common sense things that we can do that will at least make some of them less likely, then why wouldn't we do it." [84823]

"The intensity of [Obama's] view about the importance of us implementing some policies that make it harder for those who shouldn't be able to get their hands on guns from getting them, has not waned in it's [sic; its] intensity. I'm talking about common sense measures like making sure you can't avoid a background check just by purchasing the gun over the internet or even reinstating the assault weapons ban that would prevent or at least reduce the likelihood that weapons of war end up on our streets." [84823]

First, there is no “gun show loophole.” Whether a customer buys a gun from a store or from a gun dealer at a gun show, he or she still has to go through a background check. A licensed gun dealer follows the same procedures at gun shows as he follows at his store. Second, if a firearm is purchased over the Internet, the customer must also go through a background check. The gun is then shipped to a local licensed dealer for pickup. (No seller can legally ship a gun to a home address.) Third, if a gun is purchased across state lines, the seller has to ship that gun to a local, licensed dealer—where the buyer must fill out paperwork and go through a background check. One *can* buy a gun from a private party, such as a relative who is not a licensed gun dealer, but it is a felony for any such private party to sell a gun to someone he suspects might not be able to pass a background check. (Second Amendment supporter Pat Nicklaus observes, “Calling a rifle an assault rifle based merely on cosmetic features is kind of like calling Michelle [Obama] a princess if only you put a gown and a tiara on her.”) [84834, 84835]

Fourth, Earnest does not define “assault weapon.” Many on the left mistakenly believe Americans can easily purchase fully automatic weapons (machine guns). Since the 1930s it has been illegal to buy an automatic weapon, except for collectors who have to go through an incredibly strict review process. (Virtually no Americans own automatic weapons, partly because they are almost impossible to purchase, and partly because they are *very* expensive.) By “assault weapon” many on the left simply mean “rifles that look scary.” That a weapon has a black plastic stock rather than a wooden stock does not influence the speed of the bullet leaving the barrel. Lastly, the fact that a particular weapon may be illegal would not stop someone who is determined to commit murder (mass or otherwise). Someone who is willing and eager to violate laws against murder certainly does not care if an illegal weapons charge is added to his list of felonies.

Judicial Watch releases “a new Benghazi email from then-Department of Defense Chief of Staff Jeremy Bash to State Department leadership immediately offering ‘forces that could move to Benghazi’ during the terrorist attack on the U.S. Special Mission Compound in Benghazi, Libya on September 11, 2012. In an email sent to top Department of State officials, at 7:19 p.m. ET, only hours after the attack had begun, Bash says, ‘we have identified the forces that could move to Benghazi. They are spinning up as we speak.’ The Obama administration redacted the details of the military forces available, oddly citing a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) exemption that allows the withholding of ‘deliberative process’ information. Bash’s email seems to directly contradict testimony given by then-Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta before the Senate Armed Services Committee in February 2013. Defending the Obama administration’s lack of military response to the nearly six-hour-long attack on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi, Panetta claimed that ‘time, distance, the lack of an adequate warning, events that moved very quickly on the ground prevented a more immediate response.’” [84826, 84827, 84853, 84860, 84879, 84893, 84984, 84989]

Breitbart.com reports that Hillary Clinton “is seizing on Donald Trump’s proposal to ban all Muslim entry into the U.S. with a fundraising email featuring long-time aide Huma Abedin, who is Muslim. The email reads, in part: ‘I’m a proud Muslim—but you don’t

have to share my faith to share my disgust.’ The email is noteworthy for two reasons: first, that it acknowledges Abedin’s faith at all; and second, that it features Abedin, who is not only under ethical criticism but also suspected of radical ties. ...Democrats have come a long way, from trying to appease anti-Muslim sentiment in their own party to using Muslims to fundraise from their supporters. However, Huma Abedin is an odd choice. A ‘proud Muslim’ would not marry a Jew—much less scandal-plagued former Rep. Anthony Weiner—given that Islamic law prevents women from marrying non-Muslims. Stranger still, Huma Abedin’s mother Saleha is reported to be part of the Muslim Brotherhood, which is not only ‘proud’ but radical, and violent. In addition, Huma Abedin was recently investigated for embezzlement, and has been accused of failing to provide complete financial disclosure to the State Department, as well as working for a private contractor on the side. Not exactly a proud record—except in Clintonland.” [84845]

Although no one should be surprised that Obama’s December 6 speech did not satisfy Republicans—and probably more than a few Democrats—it also did not sit too well with some Muslims. On National Public Radio (NPR), Palestinian-American activist Linda Sarsour complains, “We would never ask any other faith community to stand up and condemn acts of violence committed by people within their groups. The fact that this is only directed at the Muslim community is something that I personally can’t accept.” (Sarsour’s claim is, of course, preposterous. If Jews or Christians had, like Muslims, committed more than 20,000 terrorist acts in the name of their religion around the world since September 11, 2001, the public would most certainly be demanding that synagogues and churches act.) [84846, 84992, 85040]

Mirroring Sarsour’s complaint is an American Muslim named Shahed Amanullah, who tells NPR, “We’re not law-enforcement officials. We’re community members and Americans like everybody else, and we should have the same relationship with law enforcement that everybody else has. To expect us to be on the front lines without having the capacity or the support would not be [productive]. It wouldn’t be productive with any community.” (The Council on American-Islamic Relations has encouraged American Muslims not to cooperate with the FBI.) [84992]

DailyCaller.com points out that “Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump’s proposal to temporarily bar alien Muslims from entering the country is legal under the Immigration and Nationality Act, which gives the president authority to suspend the entry of any and all aliens deemed ‘detrimental’ to U.S. interests.” The 1952 legislation (US Code 1182) states, “Whenever the President finds that the entry of any aliens or of any class of aliens into the United States would be detrimental to the interests of the United States, he may by proclamation, and for such period as he shall deem necessary, suspend the entry of all aliens or any class of aliens as immigrants or nonimmigrants, or impose on the entry of aliens any restrictions he may deem to be appropriate.” (Whether it would be popular, practical or politically correct for a president to keep Muslims from entering the United States is another issue, *but it would be legal*. President Jimmy Carter once blocked all immigration from Iran—and he certainly did not get the criticism Trump is

getting. During World War II, of course, the federal government restricted immigration from Germany, Japan, and Italy.) [84854, 85011, 85049, 85057, 85279, 85280]

At NationalReview.com former prosecutor Andrew C. McCarthy has noted, “Under federal law, the executive branch is *expressly required to take religion into account* in determining who is granted asylum. Under the provision governing asylum (section 1158 of Title 8, U.S. Code), an alien applying for admission ‘must establish that ...religion [among other things] ...was or will be at least one central reason for persecuting the applicant.’ Moreover, to qualify for asylum in the United States, the applicant must be a ‘refugee’ as defined by federal law. That definition (set forth in Section 1101(a)(42)(A) of Title 8, U.S. Code) also requires the executive branch to take account of the alien’s religion: ‘The term ‘refugee’ means (A) any person who is outside any country of such person’s nationality ...and who is unable or unwilling to return to ...that country because of persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution on account of ...*religion* [among other things]...’ The law requires a ‘religious test.’ And the reason for that is obvious. Asylum law is not a reflection of the incumbent president’s personal (and rather eccentric) sense of compassion. Asylum is a discretionary national act of compassion that is directed, by law not whim, to address *persecution*.” [85039]

White House press secretary Josh Earnest says Donald Trump is “disqualified” from being president because of his proposal to restrict Muslim immigration. [84856]

BuzzFeed.com editor-in-chief Ben Smith tells his editorial staff it is acceptable to call Trump a “mendacious racist” in their columns. [84996]

At WND.com Douglas Ernst writes, “Secret Service agents assigned to protect Trump since Nov. 11 may be working overtime in the wake of his comments on halting Muslim immigration into the U.S. A slew of death threats against the billionaire were tweeted after a campaign stop in South Carolina on Monday.” (Writing “Someone needs to kill trump ASAP” or “kill trump immediately” on Twitter is not a good idea—but people are writing things like that.) [84847]

Media magnate Rupert Murdoch tweets, “Has Trump gone too far? Regardless, public is obsessed on radical Muslim dangers, Complete refugee pause to fix vetting makes sense.” [84857]

Donald Trump hits 41 percent in a December 3-7 New Morning Consult Poll of registered voters, with Ben Carson at a mere 12 percent, Marco Rubio at 10, Ted Cruz at 7, and all other GOP candidates with less than 5 percent. Among Democrats, Clinton leads Bernie Sanders 52-23. According to the poll, Trump would defeat Hillary Clinton 45-40 percent. Carson would defeat her by the same margin. Rubio would win 41-10, while Clinton would defeat Cruz 42-40 and tie Jeb Bush (41-41) and Chris Christie (40-40). Clinton’s unfavorable rating is 54 percent; Obama’s is at 59 percent, and 74 percent say the nation is on the wrong track. [85065, 85071, 85084, 85085]



The *Daily Mail* reports, “FBI agents found an empty GoPro [camera] package, shooting targets and tools inside a car belonging to the mother of San Bernardino mass shooter Syed Farook. . . Authorities have repeatedly denied rumors that Farook, 28, and his wife Tashfeen Malik, 27, strapped recording devices to their body armor as they stormed the Inland Regional Center, slaughtering 14 people and wounding 21. However Daily Mail Online has discovered that an empty GoPro box was one of dozens of items seized from a black Lexus IS300 in the wake of last Wednesday’s massacre. Documents confirm the car was insured by Farook’s 62-year-old mother Rafia, who lived in the same home in Redlands, California, where he and Malik built pipe bombs and stored thousands of rounds of ammunition. . . .An [FBI] inventory left behind on the front seat read: ‘Apple iPhone, multi-tool, key, business card, miscellaneous indicia, bank receipt, shooting targets, hammer, vice grips, U-Haul receipt, tire receipt, notebook, garment, GoPro packaging, vacuumings, legal documents.’” (Rafia Farook should be arrested. If there are no charges against her, it will be because of pressure from Obama and his lackeys in the Department of Justice.) [84848, 84849, 84875]

TheHill.com writes, “Democrats are increasingly fearful that . . .Obama’s handling of the threat from the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) is becoming a liability for their party. Those fears have become more acute after Obama’s Sunday evening address from the Oval Office, where [Obama] unveiled little by way of news or strategic shifts. ‘Weak and unclear,’ Democratic strategist Hank Sheinkopf told The Hill, when asked for his reaction to Obama’s remarks. ‘What is the plan of action?’ Sheinkopf added that, at this point, ‘any rational person would worry about his legacy, and any rational Democrat would worry about the Democrats being injured in an electoral setting. . . .[Obama] has no specific plan except to say we will stay the course and everything will be fine. If the polls are to be believed, [voters] liked it when he took the lead to kill Osama bin Laden, and they don’t like that he’s not taking the lead now. Americans still hope John Wayne will show up.’ Democratic strategist Brad Bannon observes, “If [Obama’s] ratings are low, that’s always a problem for his party in elections. There is no getting around that.” [84852, 84990]

With bipartisan support—a 407-19 vote—the House of Representatives passes legislation making the Visa Waiver Program less susceptible to abuse. Visas would be required for anyone who had traveled to Syria, Iraq, Iran, or Sudan. (The 19 votes in opposition are all cast by Democrats. There are obviously enough votes to override an Obama veto.) [84885, 84994, 85014]

It is worth noting that the current visa application asks, “Do you seek to engage in terrorist activities while in the United States or have you ever engaged in terrorist activities?” “Are you a member or representative of a terrorist organization?” “Have you ever or do you intend to provide financial assistance or other support to terrorists or terrorist organizations?” (It can be assumed that Tashfeen Malik answered “no” to those questions.) [84997]

Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) demands that the GOP-controlled Senate cave in to his demands, saying, “Unless Republicans go along with Democrats, the

government shuts down at midnight this Friday. If we fail to meet that deadline, it will be another evidence of a Republican failure in leadership.” (Democrats object to plans to some ObamaCare restrictions and the elimination of Planned Parenthood funding. Obama, who wants additional insurance company “risk corridor” bail-out funds added to the legislation, has promised to veto any short-term continuing resolution.) [85001, 85016]

A Reuters December 3-8 poll shows Donald Trump in first place with 35.2 percent, followed by Marco Rubio (13.7 percent), Ben Carson (12.8), Ted Cruz (9.8), Jeb Bush (9), Chris Christie (3.1), Carly Fiorina (3.0), Rand Paul (2.5), Mike Huckabee (2.2), John Kasich (1.3), Lindsey Graham (0.7), and George Pataki (0.6). [84855]

In a CNN/WMUR poll in New Hampshire, Trump leads with 32 percent, followed by Rubio (14), Christie (9), Bush (8), Kasich (7), Cruz (6), Fiorina (5), and Carson (5). [84860]

Trump announces, “A new [*USA Today*] poll indicates that 68% of my supporters would vote for me if I departed the GOP & ran as an independent.” [84986, 84987, 84988]

DCWhispers.com reports, “Ignoring repeated concerns voiced by the Obama administration, Russia’s Vladimir Putin further escalated his war against ISIS and Islamic militant forces throughout Syria today via a series of high-powered missile attacks launched via a submarine located in the Mediterranean Sea. Following ISIS-related terrorist attacks against a Russian fighter plane and earlier in Egypt, a Russian passenger airliner, Putin is said to be more determined than ever to ‘...wipe ISIS from the face of the earth.’ The missile attacks are said to have focused primarily on areas in and around the ISIS stronghold of Raqqa in Syria.” [84862, 85002, 85004]

Russian President Vladimir Putin reportedly told Defense Minister Sergey Shoigu, “Regarding the submarine strikes we must, of course, analyze everything that happens on the battlefield, how the weapons acts. Both the ‘Kalibrs’ [missiles] and the X-101 rockets as a whole proved to be very good. This new, modern, highly efficient, and highly precise weapon can be equipped with both a conventional warhead as well as a special, nuclear warhead. Naturally, in the fight against terrorism that is unnecessary, and I hope there will be no need [to use nuclear weapons against the Islamic State].” [85004, 85070]

NBCNews.com reports, “San Bernardino terror couple Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik spent at least a year preparing for their terror attack, NBC News has learned, practicing at a local gun range and making financial plans for their family after their deaths. And the husband may have discussed an attack as many as three years ago, law enforcement sources said Tuesday. ... Reuters reported that the loan to Farook was made by the online lender Prosper. ...[A] senior law enforcement official told NBC News Tuesday that FBI investigators have been told that Farook discussed staging an attack in California as early as 2012. ...[F]ederal investigators are interviewing a neighbor of Farook and Malik who bought two of the four guns that were used in the massacre. That man, Enrique Marquez—who NBC News has learned is an in-law of Farook—had

converted to Islam about three or four years ago, according to the son of the imam at the Islamic Center of Riverside. Marquez, along with Farook and Malik, attended the mosque, officials have said. In 2014, records show, Marquez married a woman named Mariya Chernykh—the sister of Tatiana Farook, who is married to Syed Rizwan Farook’s brother, Syed Raheel Farook.” [84866, 84867, 84869, 84870, 84871, 84872, 84873, 85233]

Meanwhile, several people who survived the attack at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino insist there were three shooters. WND.com writes, “Sally Abdelmageed, who worked inside the center where the attack occurred, claimed in an interview broadcast on CBS News that there were three assailants. ... [Are] You are certain you saw three men?’ the reporter asked her again. ‘Yes,’ she stressed. ‘It looked like their skin color was white. They look like they were athletic build and they appeared to be tall.’ A second witness, Juan Fernandez, confirmed Abdelmageed’s description of events, telling reporters he also saw ‘three white men in military fatigues’ who ‘took off’ in a ‘black Impala or SUV.’” [85021, 85063, 85064, 85082, 85090, 85397, 85398]

A third witness, Chris Nwadike, insists that Farook and Malik were not the shooters he saw. According to InfoWars.com, Nwadike “recently told reporters he received a phone call from an unknown person around 7 p.m., on the evening of the shooting, who told him that he must say that Syed Farook was the shooter. ...Nwadike told reporters: ‘No it’s not him. I told them about it. He’s quiet. He doesn’t make any trouble. He was just spraying bullets everywhere,’ Nwadike said. But the gunman was not Syed, or his wife.” [85073, 85074]

At Breitbart.com Pamela Geller writes, “The similarities between the jihad attack on our American Freedom Defense Initiative (AFDI) free speech event last May in Garland, Texas and the San Bernardino jihad slaughter are both striking and unnerving. Both events—our Muhammad Cartoon Contest and the San Bernardino Christmas party—offended Muslims. Both events violated the sharia: one was an art exhibit with depictions of Muhammad in art and literature over the past 1400 years, and the other celebrated a Christian holiday. Both deeply offensive to Muslims. The jihadis in both attacks trained at shooting ranges. The jihadis in both attacks were also ‘radicalized’ long before they plotted and executed that jihad. Both attacks were Islamic State (ISIS) attacks in America. Some have downplayed this connection to other jihadis, saying that the attack was inspired, but not directed, by ISIS. That is a distinction without a difference. ISIS has directed devout Muslims to ‘think globally, act locally.’ They have directed Muslims who accept their authority as the caliphate to kill American civilians on U.S. soil. That is their explicit directive, and that is exactly what this cell did. These are ISIS fighters.” [84874]

“...Both jihadis, Ibrahim Simpson at Garland and Syed Rizwan Farook in San Bernardino, were linked to American ISIS recruiter Mohammed Abdullahi Hassan, also known as Mujahid Miski. Why Obama’s FBI and counter-terror agencies didn’t make his capture a priority is deeply disturbing. The jihadis in Garland, Texas and the jihadis in San Bernardino both extensively prepared for and plotted their acts of war. As they did so, they all came under suspicion and were feared by many. But nothing was done: to

have acted upon those suspicions and fears would have been ‘Islamophobic.’ ...Even more disturbing is that the Garland Muslims and the San Bernardino Muslims were both known to law enforcement and both were of concern, but law enforcement officials did nothing, either. ...The reaction by the media and the elites to San Bernardino is the same as it was to Garland: blame the victims. ...While media outlets such as the *New York Daily News* defame and libel the dead, Obama, Hillary, and the left are trying to make this jihad mass murder all about gun control. Do they really think that Islamic jihadists will obey gun control laws and not obtain weapons illegally?” [84874]

“The only difference between Garland, Texas and San Bernardino was that in Texas, a state that allows for an armed citizenry, we were armed. And the difference between what happened at our event and what happened in San Bernardino couldn’t be more horrible and more stark. The lesson is that citizens must be armed for their own protection and the protection of those around them. The lesson learned from Garland and San Bernardino should be that more guns save law-abiding citizens. ...Attorney General Loretta Lynch promised Muslim groups that she would prosecute ‘anti-Muslim’ rhetoric. That’s sharia. And President Obama warned Americans not to discriminate against our Muslim “neighbors, our co-workers, our sports heroes.” Obama warned us not to criticize Islam. More sharia. So you can make the case that jihad terror is working. Devout Muslims wage jihad to impose the sharia. And they are succeeding. I have seen the future, brother, it is murder.” [84874]

On *Hannity*, Congressman Mike McCaul (R-TX), chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, says Obama is “playing Russian Roulette with national security” by insisting on bringing more Syrian refugees into the United States. “I will say 2,000 of them have been brought in already, and we don’t have the ability to monitor them. I think we need to put a pause on the program, put the brakes on it, pass my legislation to ensure the safety of Americans. I’ve had this both publicly and privately from the intelligence community and law enforcement that this poses a serious and imminent threat to the United States. ...I sent a letter to the DNI, FBI, secretary of homeland [security]. The DNI, Director of National Intelligence, responded that the National Counterterrorism Center has identified—and this is very, very important to your viewers—has identified already individuals tied to terrorist organizations in Syria that want to exploit and get into the United States through the refugee process. Some of these have been stopped, but my concern is, if we allow this program to go forward, we could potentially be bringing ticking time-bombs into the United States that could perpetrate terrorist attacks.” [85000]

On December 9 FoxNews.com reports, “As secretary of state, Hillary Clinton intervened in a request forwarded by her son-in-law on behalf of a deep-sea mining firm to meet with her or other State Department officials after one of the firm’s investors asked Chelsea Clinton’s husband for help setting up such contacts, according to the most recently released Clinton emails. The lobbying effort on behalf of Neptune Minerals Inc. came while Clinton... was advocating for an Obama administration push to win Senate approval for a sweeping Law of the Sea Treaty. The pact would have aided U.S. mining companies scouring for minerals in international waters, but the Republican-dominated Senate blocked it. Clinton ordered a senior State Department official in August 2012 to

look into the request. Her action came three months after an investor in the mining firm emailed Marc Mezvinsky, Chelsea Clinton's husband and a partner in Eaglevale Partners LP, a New York hedge fund, asking for his help in setting up State Department contacts." [84886, 85056]

Defense Secretary Ashton Carter tells the Senate Armed Services Committee he agrees with General Jack Dunford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, that ISIS has not been contained. (How Obama and Valerie Jarrett reacted is not known.) [84887, 84888]

FBI Director James Comey tells the Senate Judiciary Committee that, in addition to Hillary Clinton's server, State Department computers have been seized in connection with the investigation of her emails. In words Clinton will not like to hear, Comey adds, "Anybody's view about an investigation they're not involved in is irrelevant. We care about finding out what is true, and doing that in a competent, honest, and independent way. I promise you that's the way we conduct ourselves. As I've said many times, we don't give a rip about politics." [84889, 84890, 85093]

Comey also states, "There are a variety of things that we do when we are notified that someone on our known or suspected terrorist database is attempting to buy a firearm. The FBI is alerted when that is triggered, and then we do investigation... [to see if there are] disqualifiers that we're aware of that could stop the transactions, and if the transaction goes through, the agents who are assigned to that case, to that subject are alerted to it so they can investigate." (Comey's statement conflicts with Obama's false claim that "[T]here's nothing that we can do to stop" suspected terrorists from buying weapons.) [85060]

Also according to Comey, the FBI has been unable to decipher 109 messages between an overseas jihadist and Elton Simpson, one of the Garland, Texas terrorists, because they were encrypted. [85222, 85223]

WTXL.com reports, "Two male Afghan air force students did not report for duty yesterday at their regular maintenance training at Moody AFB in Valdosta, Georgia. Both are assigned to the 81st Fighter Squadron. They have been at Moody since February 2015 and were screened prior to their arrival in the United States more than a year ago. The students [Mirwais Kohistano and Shirzad Rohullah] have trained alongside American counterparts for the entirety of 2015 and do not pose any apparent threat. There is a well-coordinated process among federal agencies to locate the individuals as quickly as possible and return them accordingly to the proper authorities to manage their present situation." (Major Nidal Malik Hasan was also screened—before he took 14 lives at Fort Hood, Texas in November 2009.) As of December 17, 2015, Kohistano and Rohullah are still missing. [84891, 84892, 85005, 85042, 85050, 85463]

In Afghanistan, Taliban fighters kill 37 in an attack on the Kandahar airport. [85036, 85037]

The Associated Press reports, “An Ohio man who prosecutors say was sympathetic to the Islamic State posted the names and addresses of 100 members of the military on social media, calling for them to be killed, according to a federal indictment issued on Tuesday. A grand jury charged 25-year-old Terrence J. McNeil of Akron with three counts each of solicitation of a crime of violence and threatening military personnel.” [85038, 85041]

By a vote of 85-12 the Senate passes revisions to the “No Child Left Behind Act.” Although annual reading and math for students in grades 3-8 will continue to be required, the law leaves the federal government with less power over education. CNSNews.com reports, “The federal government taxed more, spent more, and ran a bigger deficit in the first two months of fiscal 2016 than it did in the first two months of fiscal 2015, according estimates the CBO published yesterday. The federal fiscal year begins on Oct. 1 and ends on Sept. 30.” During those two months, the government collected \$416 billion in taxes and spent \$616 billion. (If that ratio continues, the annual deficit for 2016 will be \$2.4 trillion.) As of December 4, the national debt is \$18,786,830,545,682.60. That represents about \$160,000 for each household in the United States. [84998]

In Paris, Secretary of State John Kerry addresses the climate change conference. He says, “The fact is that even if every single American citizen biked to work, carpoled to school, used only solar panels to power their homes, if we each planted a dozen trees, if we somehow eliminated all our domestic greenhouse gas emissions, guess what? That still wouldn’t be enough to offset the carbon pollution [carbon dioxide is not a pollutant] from the rest of the world. If all the industrialized nations went down to zero emissions, remember what I said all the industrialized nations went down to zero emissions, it wouldn’t be enough, not when more than 65 percent of the world’s carbon pollution comes from the developing world.” Christopher C. Horner, a senior fellow at the Competitive Enterprise Institute, responds, “What he’s doing is inadvertently pointing out that this is all pain, no gain. He won’t admit to the pain. [But] They still say that if the state uses its coercive power and forces you into energy rationing and so on ...it still wouldn’t impact the climate.” [85241, 85242, 85243, 85284, 85868]

The Paris proposals are nonsensical. DailySignal.com writes, “[T]he climate regulations the Obama administration are imposing on the energy sector—costs that will be passed down to households—will avert a meager 0.018 degree Celsius of warming by the year 2100. In fact, the U.S. could cut 100 percent of its CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and it would not make a difference in global warming. Using the same climate sensitivity modeling as the U.N.’s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the world would only be 0.137 degree C cooler by 2100. What’s worse is that if you included 100 percent cuts from the entire industrialized world in their modeling, then you would only avert warming by 0.278 degree C by the turn of the century. If Kerry got his wish, developing countries like India and China would play ball. But they’re not going to and quite frankly, neither is the rest of the developing world and some parts of the developed world. According to the Climate Action Tracker, there are plans to build more than 2,400 coal-fired power plants over the next 15 years. That includes plants that have been announced, in the pre-permit stage, permitted or under construction. These countries want access to cheap and

abundant energy, in order to provide their citizens with a stable current of electricity and to keep their economy growing.” [85284]

It is worth noting that as long ago as 2008 Al Gore claimed that within five years the north polar ice cap would be completely gone during parts of the summer. (He was grossly mistaken—but John Kerry and Obama still believe him.) [85407]

Reverend Franklin Graham writes at Facebook, “For some time I have been saying that Muslim immigration into the United States should be stopped until we can properly vet them or until the war with Islam is over. Donald J. Trump has been criticized by some for saying something similar. The new Speaker of the House Paul Ryan said yesterday that he disagrees—saying that ‘such views are not what this party stands for and more importantly it’s not what this country stands for.’ Politicians in Washington seem to be totally disconnected with reality. Research shows that there are 2.75 million Muslims living in the U.S. According to a poll commissioned by the Center for Security Policy, 51% of Muslims living in America believe ‘Muslims in America should have the choice of being governed according to sharia’ (Islamic law) instead of the U.S. Constitution. 29% agree that violence against those who insult Mohammad is acceptable, and 25% agree that violence against America can be justified as part of global jihad. Among males under the age of 45, that number rises to 36%. And 29% of males under 45 believe that violence against America is justified in order to make Sharia the law of the land. This is frightening. Our politicians are not listening to the truth—my prayer is that God will open their eyes. This affects our security and the future of our nation. If you agree, email your Congressman or Senator today, and SHARE this with others...”

Newsmax.com reports, “Almost two-thirds of likely 2016 Republican primary voters favor Donald Trump's call to temporarily ban Muslims from entering the U.S., while more than a third say it makes them more likely to vote for him. Those are some of the findings from a Bloomberg Politics/Purple Strategies PulsePoll, an online survey conducted Tuesday [December 8], that shows support at 37 percent among all likely general-election voters for the controversial proposal put forward by the Republican front-runner.” (It is worth noting that more than a dozen nations ban Israelis from entering—including Saudi Arabia—and no prominent politicians or media pundits are whining about that.) [85008, 85017, 85026]

According to a Fox News poll, support for Donald Trump in South Carolina jumped from 30 to 38 percent *after* he called for a ban on Muslims entering the United States. [85022]

According to a Rasmussen poll, only 34 percent of Americans rated Obama’s December 6 address to the nation good or excellent; 43 percent rate it poor. In addition, 66 percent of likely Republican voters favor a temporary ban on Muslims entering the United States. [85012, 85058]

In a nationwide Zogby poll of Republican primary and caucus voters, Trump leads with 38 percent, followed by Ben Carson (13), Marco Rubio (12), Ted Cruz (8), Jeb Bush (7), Chris Christie (4), and Carly Fiorina (3). (Bush has reportedly already burned through

almost half of the \$100+ million raised by his Super PAC, Right to Rise.) [85027, 85053, 85054]

In a CNN/WMUR poll in New Hampshire, socialist Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT) leads Hillary Clinton 50-40. [85081]

Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT) is set to offer an amendment to a nuclear safety bill that declares, “the United States must not bar individuals from entering into [sic] the United States based on their religion, as such action would be contrary to the fundamental principles on which this Nation was founded.” (The amendment is, of course, intended to humiliate Donald Trump. One congressional source tells FreeBeacon.com, “This is not simply a slippery slope. This is ripping open Pandora’s box. If you can establish that we have no right to consider religious beliefs, then you could help establish we have no right to consider a candidate’s age, skill, income, or country of origin. ...It would lead to rules saying you can’t discriminate against foreign single mothers, or unemployed elderly seniors, or members of religious cults. And if religion cannot be considered, then of course you cannot favor say Australian immigration over Middle East immigration since religion is, of course, a factor in that decision. It would mean you could not favor a Christian Syrian priest over a fundamentalist Muslim cleric, and that if you denied the cleric you’d be paving the road to them having standing to sue for entry from a foreign country.”) [85023]

Obama celebrates the 150th anniversary of the Thirteenth Amendment (which abolished slavery) with an address at the Capitol. He says, “Hundreds of thousands died to allow this amendment to pass, and in the years and generations that followed, more fought to ensure that African-Americans would be treated with the same respect and guaranteed the same rights as everyone in this country.” “We would do a disservice to those warriors of justice—[Harriet] Tubman and [Frederick] Douglass and [Abraham] Lincoln and [Martin Luther] King [Jr.]—were we to deny that the scars of our nation’s original sin are still with us today.” (Translation: “The United States is still an evil, racist nation.”) “We condemn ourselves to shackles once more if we fail to answer those who wonder if they’re truly equals in their communities, or in their justice systems, or in a job interview.” “We betray the efforts of the past if we fail to push back against bigotry in all its forms. ...Our freedom is bound up with the freedom of others, regardless of what they look like or where they come from or what their last name is or what faith they practice.” (Interestingly, Obama is at his most forceful when he utters the words, “or what faith they practice.” Obama is *angry* that anyone would dare criticize Muslims.) [85009, 85010, 85024]

Rush Limbaugh comments, “The 13th Amendment abolished slavery. It ended slavery. Why is he up there honoring it? You know that he doesn’t think that we’ve gotten rid of slavery. The Black Lives Matter crowd doesn’t think we’ve gotten rid of it. The civil rights coalition still acts like we have slavery in this country. This is blatant hypocrisy what he’s doing up here. I’m dead serious about this. ...It doesn’t appear to me that too many people in the civil rights community think we’ve made any progress, do you? Isn’t that the whole point of the civil rights business? Isn’t that the whole point of the civil



rights industry is to make sure that the problems never get solved, to abolish the idea we've made any progress? I find this hypocritical. I really do. I predicted to everybody when this Regime began that race relations in this country would get worse. I predicted that the divide in this country would get worse because there was nothing unifying about Obama or his agenda or any of that." [85020]

ClarionLedger.com reports that a "suspected explosive device was found on campus and two students were detained... following a bomb threat at Warren Junior High in Vicksburg [Mississippi]. Vicksburg Police Chief Walter Armstrong said the suspected bomb was found in a book bag on school grounds. Two male students at Warren Central Junior High were detained and questioned, officials said. Authorities executed a search warrant on one of their homes Wednesday night. ...The Clinton Police Department's bomb squad and the FBI's bomb technician found the suspicious device around 3:30 p.m. After taking it outside with a robot, it was rendered safe..." [85048]

The little-read and now largely irrelevant *Time* names German Chancellor Angela Merkel its "Person of the Year." (Adolph Hitler was awarded the same honor in 1938.) The magazine writes, "For asking more of her country than most politicians would dare, for standing firm against tyranny as well as expedience and for providing steadfast moral leadership in a world where it is in short supply, Angela Merkel is *Time's* Person of the Year." (Merkel did not ask; she forced. She has not stood up to tyranny; she has welcomed it into Germany.) *Time* applauds Merkel—who won out over Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi and Bruce "Caitlyn" Jenner—for her handling of the Greek debt crisis and immigration crisis. (That is, she is being honored for printing money and creating havoc in her country.) [85015, 85030, 85055, 85837]

Takimag.com comments on *Time's* selection: "The magazine's glowing profile of the dumpy, toadstool-like alleged woman with the Moe Howard haircut focused on how she grew up in Eastern Germany during communism and was traumatized by the sight of the Berlin Wall and how she is now actively agitating to build a world without walls, which eventually will mean a world without whites, although they didn't explicitly say that. *TIME* also noted that Germany is still mostly seen as the country that gave birth to Nazism but that it is also the most aggressively penitent country in world history and is constantly apologizing for its past, and this is all good stuff because there's nothing worse than taking pride in your heritage and wanting to sustain it. So because she's opened her legs spread-eagle to at least a million Middle Eastern "migrants" by the end of this year, *TIME* has designated her a hero rather than a traitor. *TIME*, your time is up." [85278]

Pamela Geller observes, "Unlike *Time*, history will not be kind to Merkel. She will be remembered as a singular figure in the destruction of Europe." DailyCaller.com quips, "Merkel threw her country under the bus and all she got was this crummy *Time* magazine cover." [85015, 85030, 85055]

Geller also writes, "The running dogs on the left are frothing at the mouth over my Loretta Lynch remarks on the Joyce Kaufman Show. In an interview yesterday with

popular Florida radio host (and woman warrior) Joyce Kaufman, we discussed Attorney General Loretta Lynch's pledge to Muslim groups that she would prosecute "anti-Muslim" rhetoric. That was the Obama administration's take away from the San Bernardino jihad slaughter. Sharia enforcement. I said to Joyce, if some idiot did something stupid and had Atlas Shrugs in his browser history, then by all accounts, Lynch could arrest me based on this new policy. And I declared, 'Come and get me, biatch.'" [85031, 85111]

At TruthRevolt.org David Horowitz writes, "A 2009 'World Opinion' survey by the University of Maryland showed that between 30 and 50% of Muslims in Jordan, Egypt and other Islamic countries approved of the terrorist attacks on America and that only a minority of Muslims 'entirely disapproved' of them. ISIS has acknowledged its plans to use refugee programs to infiltrate its terrorists into the United States and other infidel countries. In Minneapolis we have a Somali refugee community many of whose members have returned to Syria to fight for ISIS. Other Muslim immigrants like Major [Nidal Malik] Hasan and Tashfeen Malik have carried out barbaric acts of terror here at home. Today Muslim terrorists are using assault rifles and pipe bombs, but we know they have Sarin gas and other chemical weapons which they might use tomorrow. The terrorists inexorably arrive along with the other immigrants, no one in authority apparently knowing who's who. Who, then, in his right mind does not think that Muslim immigration poses a serious security threat to us?" [85066]

"The outrage against Trump should properly have been directed at [Obama], who refuses to identify the enemy as Islamic terrorism, who has opened the door to nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles to the Islamic America-haters in Iran, whose policies have created the vacuums that ISIS has filled, and who even after Paris and San Bernardino is determined to bring 100,000 immigrants from Syrian war zones to our unprotected shores. This outrage is missing and it is precisely because it is missing that Trump's unconstitutional proposal resonates with so many rightly concerned Americans. When the man in charge of our security is by general consensus out to lunch in regard to fighting the war on Islamic terror, or protecting us at home, a proposal like Trump's, which at least recognizes the threat, is going to resonate with the public." [85056]

"...Donald Trump's great contribution is saying the unsayable; putting things on the table that would otherwise be buried; calling a spade a spade in a time when political correctness has made us unable to discuss things that have to do with our basic national survival. This is the crux of the issue. Every time he creates a controversy like this he also tells this country that its emperors, Republican and Democrat have no clothes. That they prefer propriety over defending the country. That they are dedicated only to keeping the lid on a cauldron of threat and challenge they have allowed to boil over. The 2016 election will be a referendum on the defense of this country and its survival. Let's see who answers the call." [85056]

While *Time* gushes over Merkel taking money from hard-working Germans in order to subsidize the lives of jihadi-inclined refugees, Emilia Müller, the minister of social affairs in the German state of Bavaria, announces, "From January until today, a million asylum

seekers have registered at the initial reception centres of the federal states through the so-called EASY-System and were then accommodated. ...One million EASY-registrations mean around 153,000 asylum seekers for Bavaria. That's 153,000 asylum seekers attending our receptions and for whom we must provide medical examinations, care and accommodation. That's more people than live, for example, in Heidelberg." [85033, 85034, 85035]

In Chicago, Black Lives Matter protesters block traffic and call for the resignation of Mayor Rahm Emanuel over the 2014 police shooting of unarmed 17-year-old Laquan McDonald. (At some point Emanuel may become a liability for Hillary Clinton: when blacks demand that she denounce her long-time friend.) [85018, 85043, 85709]

Illinois State Representative La Shawn Ford, a Democrat, files legislation calling for a recall election process to be put in place to remove Emanuel from office. [85047]

DNA testing confirms the identity of another attacker at Paris' Bataclan theater: Foued Mohamed-Aggad. A French citizen, he had traveled to Syria in December 2013. [85019, 85032]

At LongWarJournal.org Thomas Joscelyn reports, "Ibrahim al Qosi, an ex-Guantanamo detainee, now serves as a leader and spokesman for al Qaeda in Yemen." Qosi, who is also known as Sheikh Khubayb al Sudani and who was close to Osama bin Laden, was released to Sudan in July 2012. [85075, 85118, 85338, 85666]

The *Daily Mail* posts a photograph of Hillary Clinton and Giovanni Gambino, "the son of Francesco 'Ciccio' Gambino and the cousin of Carlo Gambino—the boss of the notorious crime family and one-time head of the American Mafia—while she was campaigning in the presidential primary in 2007." The Mafia heir reportedly "asked for his drug kingpin father to be released early from prison in exchange for votes..." Clinton allegedly responded, "Listen, I'll see what I can do." [85072, 85654]

At OfTwoMinds.com Charles Hugh Smith writes, "**Despite a ceaseless propaganda campaign declaring all is well with the U.S. economy, the Status Quo is fragile—and voters know it.** Not only do they know the economy—and their financial security—is one crisis away from meltdown, they're also fed up with all the official gerrymandering of data to make the economy appear healthy. **The American Dream—characterized by plentiful jobs offering living wages, security and opportunities to get ahead—is over, and voters know this, too.** People are realizing the U.S. economy has changed qualitatively in the past 20 years, and claims that it's stronger than [sic; than] ever ring hollow to people outside Washington D.C., academic ivory-towers and ideologically driven think-tanks." [85029]

**"...When credit expansion gets ahead of productivity and the production of goods, services and income that support all borrowing, the only possible result is a repricing of debt, risk, collateral and assets—that is, a crash.** The global central banks have pushed that repricing forward seven years by lowering interest rates to near-zero (or

less than zero), enabling borrowers to add more debt even though their incomes have stagnated or declined. **But enabling more debt does not reverse supply-demand imbalances or create income out of thin air.** As a result, piling on more debt is not a solution; it's simply a politically expedient method to forestall the crisis, while guaranteeing the eventual repricing will be even more severe because the debt load is now so much larger." [85029]

**“Unsurprisingly, adding more debt to a weakening base of real productivity and income yields diminishing returns.** Seven years of strong, widely distributed global growth before the 2008 Global Financial meltdown required \$15 trillion in additional non-financial global debt. Seven years of tepid, fragile expansion since 2008 required \$40 trillion in additional debt. ...**If the American Dream depends on skyrocketing debt built on a weakening foundation of stagnant productivity and income, then it is indeed over.** Voters sense this fragile, debt-dependent economy is one repricing away from implosion, and they're uneasy for good reason. Voters are rightly angry that the official statistics mask or manipulate this reality, for if we can't face reality then we have zero hope of solving any problems.” [85029]

White House advisor Valerie Jarrett reveals that Obama has asked for an executive order on gun control to be prepared for his review “in short order.” (What Obama has in mind is not known, but it will certainly be met with legal challenges. Licensed gun dealers already perform background checks on gun buyers. Obama may be considering a change in the definition of “gun dealer” in order to restrict firearm sales. If, for example, he were to redefine “gun dealer” as anyone who sells more than one weapon in a one-year period, he could effectively force background checks even when someone wants to sell a few guns to his neighbor or a relative. But the 1968 Gun Control Act defines a person “engaged in the business” of selling guns as “a person who devotes time, attention, and labor to dealing in firearms as a regular course of trade or business with the principal objective of livelihood and profit through the repetitive purchase and resale of firearms.” If Obama distorts that definition to an unreasonable degree, he will be inviting a lawsuit.) [85069, 85104, 85121, 85273, 85363, 85571]

On December 10 Phoebe Maltz Bovy—safe from her home in Canada writes at NewRepublic.com, “Ban guns. All guns. Get rid of guns in homes, and on the streets, and, as much as possible, on police. Not just because of San Bernardino, or whichever mass shooting may pop up next, but also not *not* because of those. Don't sort the population into those who might do something evil or foolish or self-destructive with a gun and those who surely will not. As if this could be known—as if it could be assessed without massively violating civil liberties and stigmatizing the mentally ill. Ban guns! Not just gun violence. Not just certain guns. Not just already-technically-illegal guns. All of them.” [85044]

Millions of Americans are embarrassed for their country, as Michelle Obama “raps” in a video that encourages people to go to college. [85045, 85046]

According to *New York Times* polling, 44 percent of Americans favor an “assault weapons” ban, while 50 percent oppose such a ban. (Of course, what the poll means depends on how people define “assault weapon.” Many Americans, particularly those on the political left, mistakenly believe it means “automatic weapon” or machine gun.) [85120, 85227]

Barack Obama reveals more of his hatred for Israel and Jews. At FrontPageMag.com Daniel Greenfield writes, “Obama's Chanukah parties have had issues in the past. But this time it teetered over into full-blown violently offensive territory. Obama's own remarks were boilerplate inoffensive stuff. Israel's President Rivlin, a political hack who desperately sucks up to the media, was equally insipid. But the White House chose Susan Talve to light the Menorah. Talve is a member of the anti-Israel group T'ruah which is currently promoting assorted 'soft BDS' [boycott, divestment, and sanctions] programs. She's also a Ferguson [Missouri] activist. Her behavior was deeply insulting to the religious Jewish community and made it clear that the White House was determined to hijack even a Chanukah party to promote an anti-Jewish agenda. So the general conviviality of the Chanukah party was disrupted by a crazed rant from Susan Talve in which she seemed determined to jam as many leftist talking points as possible in her limited time. Instead of talking about Chanukah, Talve blathered on about getting, 'guns off our streets' and to 'clean up the fires of toxic nuclear waste.'" [85122, 85276]

“Talve screeched, ‘I stand here with my fierce family of clergy and black lives matter activists who took to the streets of Ferguson.’ Having celebrated the race riots which destroyed a community, she pivoted to Syrian Muslim migrants. Chanukah is a celebration of the Maccabees defeating a Syrian occupation, but Talve may not even know that. Radical clergy tend to be light on the religion and heavy on the social justice. Instead she rambled on about how the ‘gates of this nation would stay open for all immigrants and all refugees.’ Then, not satisfied with having made a disgrace of the Chanukah ceremony, Susan Talve declared, ‘I stand here to light these lights to say no the darkness of Islamophobia and Homophobia and Transphobia.’ Talve babbled about insuring ‘justice for Palestinians’ and began gleefully chanting, ‘Ins’Allah, Ins’Allah.’ Or ‘Allah Willing.’ I don’t recall Susan Talve mentioning G-d or a word of Jewish scripture. Indeed, she spent more time talking about Muslims than about anything in Judaism. And yet that's typical for Social justice clergy who have no organic ties to Judaism. It’s bad enough that Obama insists on pursuing anti-Israel policies, but the Susan Talve appearance was just gratuitously insulting to the Jewish community.” [85122, 85276]

Reuters reports, “North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un on Thursday appeared to say his country has developed a hydrogen bomb, a step up from the less powerful atomic bomb, but the United States and outside experts were skeptical. ...The work of Kim Il Sung ‘turned the DPRK [Democratic People’s Republic of Korea] into a powerful nuclear weapons state ready to detonate a self-reliant A-bomb and H-bomb to reliably defend its sovereignty and the dignity of the nation,’ KCNA quoted Kim Jong-Un as saying. ...North Korea conducted underground tests to set off nuclear devices in 2006, 2009 and 2013, for which it has been subject to U.N. Security Council sanctions banning trade and financing activities that aid its weapons program.” (Reuters does not explain how the

United States and others could be “skeptical” of North Korea’s claim while also noting that it has detonated devices in the past.) [85051, 85052]

At Breitbart News Daily, women’s rights activist and author Joy Brighton says, “Sharia-ism, the political movement of radical Islam, is like Communism. It’s like Nazism. It’s a system of total control and they are justifying their total control on some archaic religious rules called Sharia. ...There’s [sic’ there are] a few things we should be doing to protect our country. When a terrorist kills someone in this country or terrorizes someone in this country, the entire extended family must be deported. That way it is very humane—you just get everybody and you put them on a plane. It’s only the family members, and extended family members, who want to stay in this country who can police their own family members. ...The Muslim Brotherhood—you talk about a ban—the Muslim Brotherhood needs to be shut down in this country. We look at our coalition leaders—Saudi Arabia, the [United Arab] Emirates, Egypt, et cetera—what did they do when ISIS first popped its head up? They banned the Muslim Brotherhood. And yet we are not willing to do that.” [85067]

“Eighty percent of the Mosques in this country are owned and operated by Saudi Arabia. We know that the leadership in 80 percent of the Mosques is radical. In my book [*Sharia-ism Is Here: The Battle To Control Women; And Everyone Else*] you’ll read quote after quote after quote from Imams across this country. Here’s an example from an Imam in Washington, D.C.: ‘If you don’t give us justice, if you don’t give us equality, if you don’t give us our share of America, if you don’t stay out of our way and leave us alone, we’re going to burn America down.’ This is not just one Imam in one Mosque. We’re seeing this all over the country. We’ve seen this for at least five years at a minimum going on here.” [85067]

“...Freedom of religion is being challenged because if you’re not a Muslim, then you are a target right now. ...[T]here are dozens of books that have been pulled by publishers, including Random House because they’re books about Mohammed or his bride, or things Mohammed has done—some of them novels. These publishers like Random House have been getting threats saying, ‘If you don’t pull this book, we can’t guarantee the safety of your employees,’ and so books have been pulled off the shelves. This is an assault on our U.S. Constitution.” [85067]

The House Oversight and Government Reform Committee grills Kelli Ann Burriesci, the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Screening Coordination, Office of Policy of the United States Department of Homeland Security. Congressman Jim Jordan (R-OH) tells her, “Ms. Burriesci, I’ve asked you the number of Americans who’ve traveled to Syria, you don’t know. The number of Americans who may have traveled and returned, you don’t know. The number of Syrian refugees who’ve entered the country in the last year, you don’t know. The number of visa waiver program overstays, you don’t know. The number of visa waiver overstays who may have been to Syria before they came here, you don’t know. And the number of American citizens on the no-fly list and you don’t know. And yet you are the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Screening Coordination, Office of Policy,

Department of Homeland Security in front of the oversight committee and you can't give us one single number to some, I think, pretty basic questions?" [85094, 85095, 85275]

The 5,000-member New England Police Benevolent Association endorses Donald Trump for president. [85114, 85115]

In New Hampshire, Trump addresses an audience of law enforcement officers and officials. He says, "One of the first things I'd do in terms of [an] executive order, if I win, will be to sign a strong, strong statement that would go out to the country—out to the world—[that] anybody killing policemen, police women, police officer... the death penalty is going to happen. I want to let you know, the police and law enforcement in this country—I will never, ever let them down. The job they do and the job all you in this room do is second to none, and everyone in our country knows that." (A President Trump could not, of course, issue such an executive order. With his statement he is doing two things: he is telling the law enforcement community he supports them, and he is mocking Obama for his unconstitutional executive orders.) [85291]

According to WesternJournalism.com, "Michelle Obama's November five-day trip to Qatar and Jordan... cost the American taxpayer an estimated \$750,000. (She spoke at the "Let Girls Learn" conference in Doha, Qatar for 24 minutes.) [85068]

DailyCaller.com reports, "A mysterious Turkish Islamic cleric—whose followers have donated hundreds of thousands of dollars to Hillary Clinton's family foundation and to her presidential campaign—is being accused of ordering the false imprisonment of three followers of a competing religious sect, according to documents filed in federal court earlier this week. The cleric, Fethullah Gulen, has lived in Pennsylvania's Pocono mountains since 1998, when he went into exile from Turkey amid accusations that he plotted to undermine the secular regime that was in place at the time. But the 74-year-old has been able to wield control from that secluded compound over his worldwide network of media organizations and charter schools—some 120 of which are in the U.S. Gulen also maintains enormous power in Turkey, where he uses his strong following to quash political opponents, according to Robert Amsterdam, an attorney hired by the Turkish government to investigate Gulen." [85077]

DailyCaller.com also reports that "as soon as the shooting [in San Bernardino] took place, Obama convened a meeting with the National Security Council and the heads of other federal enforcement agencies to discuss a public relations strategy" because the White House wanted to "squash [sic; quash] the terror classification." (Pamela Geller writes, "A public relations strategy.' Not a counter-terror strategy. Not a plan to fly to San Bernardino to meet with the families of the deceased. Not an emergency meeting to address and examine his failed policies that led to this catastrophic intel failure. Downplay Islamic terror. More sharia in the wake of jihad slaughter.") [85078, 85086, 85087, 85110, 85221]

Congressman Steve King (R-IA) tells TalkingPointsMemo.com "Sharia law is incompatible with the United States Constitution and so if they want to demonstrate that

they are open to being Americanized, the first thing they should do is renounce Sharia law. You won't get [Muslim Congressmen] Keith Ellison [D-MN] or Andre Carson [D-IN] in this Congress to renounce Sharia law, let alone somebody that's [sic; who has] just come out of the Middle East that [sic; and who] is someone who has been steeped in Islam for a lifetime." Ellison calls King's charge "an incredibly ignorant statement, and when I say ignorant I don't mean it as an insult, I mean it as it is incredibly uninformed. That is all I can really say." (In other words, Ellison refuses to condemn Shari'ah law.) [85080]

The Senate Judiciary Committee votes 16-4 in favor of a resolution from Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT) stating "that the United States must not bar individuals from entering into the United States based on their religion, as such action would be contrary to the fundamental principles on which this Nation was founded." [85108, 85109]

Former presidential advisor Pat Buchanan tells *Newsmax Prime's* J. D. Hayworth, "Somebody's got to tell the Republican Party, look, everybody's advising you how you get rid of [Donald] Trump, but you destroy him, you destroy his issues or you deny his issues and arguments, where do you think those people are going to go? They're going to stay home [on election day]. ...The whole message in this campaign, frankly, and it's also to a degree in the Democratic Party, is that the American establishment since 1991, the end of the Cold War, has utterly failed America. And [it] resulted in one after another defeat in foreign policy and in trade policy and in the ability to control our borders. ...The establishment is unhinged. It is unhinged and the incredible overreaction—using terms like fascist and Nazi and Hitler and Mussolini to Trump's suggestion about a temporary moratorium on immigration from the Middle East until we find out how we can vet folks a lot better than we're doing right now." [85106]

"...This whole San Bernardino thing is really underscoring a point that basically was made by Donald Trump. He said, look, if we can't vet these folks coming in from the Islamic world, where all these wars are going on, Sunni versus Shia, al-Qaeda, and ISIS, maybe we ought to have a moratorium, a temporary time out on mass immigration into the U.S. until we correct our system, or reduce the numbers coming in. Trump is a great threat to that establishment and they can sense it and you see it in the hysterical reaction, hysterical, to what Trump said. ...First, the United States basically does not have a need for millions more people. We do have a need for tighter and better security of those who are coming in. What tremendous advantage is there to the United States by hurrying to bring one or two or three million more folks in, especially from a part of the world where Islamists are fighting one another? ...I don't care who wins the nomination, but the Bush Republicans, if you will, and the Cruz Republicans and the Trump Republicans and all of them need to be up on that stage together supporting and endorsing that nominee. If they do, they've got a good chance to win the election, but a house divided will not win this election in November of 2016." [85106]

According to Breitbart.com, "An illegal immigrant from the United Arab Emirates is facing charges in Florida for illegally possessing ammunition, the U.S. United States



Attorney for the Middle District of Florida A. Lee Bentley, III revealed Thursday. According to a complaint, 25-year-old Hamid Mohamed Ahmed Ali Rehaif had been living at a hotel in Melbourne for 53 days, checking out each morning and checking back into the hotel each evening. He further had paid over \$11,000 in cash for room fees. ...The complaint notes that Rehaif was admitted to the U.S. on a student visa in 2013. He was enrolled at the Florida Institute of Technology in Melbourne, Florida but was dismissed in the fall of last year. He failed to leave the country within 30 days of the end of his student status. By failing to leave Rehaif became an illegal immigrant. He has been charged with possession of ammunition by an unlawful or illegal alien, a penalty that carried up to 10 years in federal prison.’ [85083]

TheHill.com reports, “A yearlong investigation by the House Armed Services Committee has concluded that the Obama administration broke the law in swapping five Taliban members for Army Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl—and went out of its way to hide the negotiations as they were happening. The report said the administration broke a law requiring it to give members of Congress 30 days' advance notice of any detainee transfers from the Guantánamo Bay detention facility, where the senior Taliban leaders were held. It also found that it misled reporters and lawmakers about a potential prisoner exchange. Congress was instead notified just hours before the May 2014 transfer took place. ...The report also found that the administration kept some defense officials who would normally work on transfers out of the loop. ... ‘Our report finds that the Administration clearly broke the law in not notifying Congress of the transfer,’ said the committee’s chairman, Rep. Mac Thornberry (R-Texas).” [85088, 85089, 85116]

On December 11 divers search Seccombe Lake, near the site of the San Bernardino terrorist attack, apparently in an effort to find evidence—perhaps a computer hard drive—discarded there by Syed Farook and Tashfeen Malik. [85092, 85285]

In Geneva, Switzerland, police arrest two people with Syrian passport and find traces of potential bomb-making chemicals in their car. CNN.com reports, “The Swiss alert came after a tip from U.S. intelligence officials, who told their Swiss counterparts that they had intercepted communications among extremists discussing the idea of attacking Geneva, as well as Chicago and Toronto, a source close to the investigation told CNN.” [85244, 85245, 85246, 85247]

British authorities are less than pleased when Donald Trump tweets, “In Britain, more Muslims join ISIS than join the British army.” (What angers the Brits most is that Trump is correct. The *Daily Mail* reports, “Khalid Mahmood, the Labour MP for Birmingham Perry Barr, said in August 2014 that there were about 2,000 British jihadis... And this figure was then compared to Ministry of Defence data showing there were about 600 British Muslims in the Armed Forces at the time—just 0.4 per cent of total personnel.” According to the Soufan Group, “Between 27,000 and 31,000 people from 86 countries have traveled to join the Islamic State in Syria and similar militant organizations.”) [85248, 85249, 85250, 85253, 85254, 85255]

The British authorities are also peeved that Trump stated there are areas in the United Kingdom “so radicalised the police are afraid for their lives.” (Trump was right about that as well. One Lancashire police officer tells the *Daily Mail*, “There are Muslim areas of Preston that, if we wish to patrol, we have to contact local Muslim community leaders to get their permission.” An officer from Yorkshire writes, “I’m not allowed to travel in half blues [uniform] to work anymore IN MY OWN CAR as we’re ‘All at risk of attack’—yet as soon as someone points out the obvious it’s ‘divisive’ In this instance he [Trump] isn’t wrong. Our political leaders are best either ill-informed or simply being disingenuous. ... We implement half measures such as, ‘No-one is allowed to come into work half blues, even in your own cars because if you get beheaded it’ll be your own fault.’”) [85261, 85262, 85340]

In Texas, Dr. Nidal Alsayyed tells KFDM News he was forced to resign as religious director of the Islamic Society of the Triplex after saying he agrees with Donald Trump’s statements that the U.S. should temporarily stop accepting any new Muslim immigrants into the country. Alsayyed had stated, “I certainly see it to be wise that the US government should stop temporarily accepting any new Muslim immigrants (refugees and non-refugees) into the United States. But my justification to that is based on the fact that we can hardly distinguish who is Muslim and who is not! Islam is not about an ID card or last name! or shouting ‘Allahu Akbar!!’ I believe the situation nationally is getting mixed up and certainly agree with Mr. Trump on closing the door until further understanding is achieved. This should not prevent the United States to fulfill its duties towards the international partners and humanity calls outside the United States. I certainly advise Mr. Trump not to agitate and differentiate Muslim versus non-Muslim refugees. Refugees are simply hard to identify. The history tells us that terror acts are usually plotted and managed by individuals who are residing, living, and knowing their way around, not refugees that are mostly children!” (While millions of Americans are asking why there are not more moderate Muslims calling out the radicals, Alsayyed’s dismissal provides an explanation.) [85258, 85259, 85260, 85263]

Donald Trump tweets, “Dopey Prince (Al-Waleed bin Talal) wants to control our U.S. politicians with daddy’s money. Can’t do it when I get elected.” [85414]

Saudi Arabia’s billionaire Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal tweets back, “You are a disgrace not only to the GOP but to all America. Withdraw from the U.S presidential race as you will never win.” This would be the same Saudi prince who has for decades been funding radical mosques in the United States, and who gave \$20 million to Harvard Law School to fund an Islamic studies program—which is likely how Obama got into the school despite his low grades at Occidental College. Also greasing the skids for Obama was a letter of recommendation from Percy Sutton, who was Malcolm “X” Little’s attorney. The Prince’s principal financial advisor is Khalid Abdullah Tariq al-Mansour—previously known as Donald Warden—a radical Muslim and vitriolic anti-Semite, mentor of Black Panther Party founders Huey Newton and Bobby Seale, close associate of Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan, and friend of Obama and former fellow fugitive of the Weather Underground’s William Ayers. Al-Mansour is believed to have been Obama’s main financial backer and planner for as long as 25 years. It has been suggested

that it was William Ayers who persuaded Khalid al-Mansour to raise funds for Obama's Harvard tuition. [41, 43, 259, 264, 315, 380, 381, 382, 408, 558, 2668, 2669, 2271, 85096, 85097, 85366, 85414]

Obama now denies knowing al-Mansour, but al-Mansour, in an interview with *Newsmax* reporter Kenneth Timmerman, admitted he had spoken with Obama and told him he would keep a "low profile" during the 2008 campaign in order to avoid embarrassing the candidate. As previously noted in this *Timeline*, a Harvard letter of recommendation for Obama was also written by John McKnight, who served on the Gamaliel Foundation's Board of Directors as well as the board of National People's Action (NPA)—yet another Alinsky-inspired activist group. The NPA consisted of thugs and agitators who, when picketing the homes of business and government leaders to demand more welfare benefits and government handouts sang: "Who's on your hit list, NPA? Who's on your hit list of today? Take no prisoners, take no names. Kick 'em in the ass when they play their games." [230, 264, 267, 315]

Loring Wirbel, co-chair of the American Civil Liberties Union chapter in Colorado Springs, resigns after writing on Facebook, "The thing is, we have to really reach out to those who might consider voting for Trump and say, 'This is [Nazi propagandist Joseph] Goebbels. This is the final solution. If you are voting for him [Trump] I will have to shoot you before election day.' They're not going to listen to reason, so when justice is gone, there's always force, as Laurie would say." (Police say they will not investigate the threat.) [85098, 85107, 85124, 85217, 85269]

NewsNet5.com reports, "Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine announced Friday the conclusion of his investigation into the alleged sale of fetal tissue by state Planned Parenthood locations. Although the investigation found no evidence that fetal tissue was sold by Planned Parenthood, the attorney general's office says they discovered that fetal remains were ultimately disposed of in landfill sites. ...These disposals violate Ohio Administrative Code 3701-47-05 which requires that a 'fetus shall be disposed of in a humane manner.' 'Disposing of aborted fetuses from an abortion by sending them to a landfill is callous and completely inhumane,' DeWine said. 'It is important the public be aware that these practices are taking place at these Ohio facilities.'" [85099, 85270]

White House press secretary Josh Earnest tells reporters that the country is safer under Obama than his predecessors, and it would be safer if the Republicans had given him the immigration reform (amnesty) bill he wanted. [85100, 854101, 85102]

While Earnest claims America is safer under Obama, according to a Gallup poll, Americans' trust in government to keep them safe falls to a record low 55 percent—down 12 points since June. (Even shortly after the September 11, 2001 terrorist attack 88 percent trusted the government to keep them safe.) [85364]

Obama issues an executive order giving federal employees one-half-day off with pay on Thursday, December 24, 2015. [85292]

Meanwhile, the United Arab Emirates declares December 24 a holiday to celebrate the birth of Islam’s prophet, Mohammed/Muhammad. (Of course, no one knows the exact date of Mohammed’s birth, any more than anyone knows the exact date of Christ’s birth.) [85391, 85392]

On the Senate floor, Senator Ben Sasse (R-NE) asks Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) if he believes “there is any connection between our enemy and Islam.” Brown responds, “I’m sorry, excuse me?” Sasse repeats his question, and Brown replies, “I guess, I don’t know, I’m not here to debate this. I don’t know exactly what that means, ‘A connection between our enemy and Islam.’” Sasse argues that the refusal to link ISIS with Islam “is lunacy. First, while the White House is insisting that no one use the word ‘Islamic’ or note any connection between the war that we’re facing and some subset of Islam—even as the White House insists that no one use the word—their own preferred adjective—ISIL or ISIS—begins with an ‘I.’ Every fourth-grader in America can deduce, without any assistance from [the *Wheel of Fortune*’s] Vanna White, what the rest of the word that begins with an ‘I’ is, and yet the White House insists that no one should use the word.” [85267, 85268]

DailyCaller.com reports, “A former Department of Homeland Security agent says that an investigation he was conducting into a fundamentalist Islamic group operating in the U.S. may have helped stop San Bernardino jihadi Syed Farook had the government not shut down his probe. During an interview with Fox News’ Megyn Kelly on Thursday [December 10], Philip Haney said that in 2012 as an agent with U.S. Customs and Border Protection’s National Targeting Center, he opened an investigation into a Sunni Islamic group called, Tablighi Jamaat, a subset of the fundamentalist Deobandi movement. But Haney said that just a year into the investigation it was shut down by the State Department and the Homeland Security Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties. The reason the investigation was quashed? Because the federal government did not want to profile Islamic groups, Haney told Kelly. In the process of shutting down Haney’s inquiry, the feds also deleted his files, which included information on an organization with ties to Farook’s mosque, San Bernardino’s Deobandi movement-affiliated Dar-al-Uloom al-Islamia. And Farook’s wife and accomplice, Tashfeen Malik, went to school at Pakistan’s al-Huda, which also has ties to the Deobandi movement.” [85113, 85119, 85219, 85282, 85442, 85454, 85461, 85661, 85662]

Politico.com reports, “Ben Carson... blasted the Republican National Committee [RNC] following a Washington Post report that nearly two-dozen establishment party figures were prepping for a potential brokered convention as Donald Trump continues to lead most polls. RNC Chairman Reince Priebus held a dinner in Washington on Monday, and, according to five people who spoke with the Post, the possibility of Trump heading into the Cleveland convention with a substantial number of delegates was a topic of discussion. Some attendees suggested the establishment lay the groundwork for a floor fight that could lead the party’s mainstream wing to unite behind an alternative. Carson rejected this approach. ‘If the leaders of the Republican Party want to destroy the party, they should continue to hold meetings like the one described in the Washington Post this morning,’ Carson said in a statement released by his campaign.” [85117, 85224, 85227]

“Carson said he prays the Post’s report is incorrect and threatened to leave the GOP. ‘If it is correct, every voter who is standing for change must know they are being betrayed. I won’t stand for it,’ said Carson, who added that if the plot is accurate, ‘I assure you, Donald Trump won’t be the only one leaving the party.’ The retired neurosurgeon said that next summer’s Cleveland convention could be the last Republican National Convention if leaders try to manipulate it. ‘I am prepared to lose fair and square, as I am sure is Donald,’ Carson said. ‘But I will not sit by and watch a theft. I intend on being the nominee. If I am not, the winner will have my support. If the winner isn’t our nominee, then we have a massive problem.’” (The GOP establishment is frightened to death that Trump will win the nomination. Publicly, they say they fear Trump will lose to Hillary Clinton. The truth is more likely that they fear Trump will upset their taxpayer-funded apple carts. They know that neither Clinton nor Jeb Bush will slash federal spending, and they fear that Trump will.) [85117, 85224, 85227]

Iowa radio host Steve Deace, a supporter of Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX), tells TheHill.com, “This is clearly their [the GOP establishment’s] contingency to stop Trump and Cruz at all costs. These people would rather lose elections than lose control of the party. And they’d rather have Hillary [Clinton] in the White House than someone the GOP base actually wants.” Jeffrey Lord a Trump supporter and former Regan administration official, calls the GOP’s move “Dumb. Big mistake. They just poured gasoline all over the fire. I get that you need to have contingency plans in place, but this looks like they’re trying to rig the game, and it just feeds the narrative that the establishment is completely out of touch with the base.” Adam Brandon, CEO of the conservative activist group FreedomWorks observes, “The Republican establishment is playing with fire if they take any action that is perceived to harm the winners of caucus and primary states. If that’s what they are planning or doing, they may inadvertently set the stage for independent presidential campaigns and further damage an already fractured relationship with many conservatives and Republican voters, which is why insurgent candidates are thriving in the first place.” [85218]

Politico.com reports, “The State Department has told Senate investigators it cannot find backup copies of emails sent by Bryan Pagliano, the top Hillary Clinton IT staffer who maintained her email server but has asserted his Fifth Amendment right and refused to answer questions on the matter. State officials told the Senate Judiciary Committee in a recent closed-door meeting that they could not locate what’s known as a ‘.pst file’ for Pagliano’s work during Clinton’s tenure, which would have included copies of the tech expert’s emails, according to a letter Chairman Chuck Grassley [R-IA] sent to Secretary of State John Kerry... The department also told the committee the FBI has taken possession of Pagliano’s government computer system, where traces of the messages are most likely to be found, according to the letter. Grassley... has been considering whether to grant Pagliano immunity in exchange for testimony on who approved Clinton’s private email setup and whether anyone raised any objections to the system.” [85125, 85228, 85271, 85307, 85770]

Politico.com also reports that the State Department has, in response to a *four-year-old* Freedom of Information Act from Judicial Watch, “belatedly discovered about 1,300 emails relating to deceased Islamic cleric Anwar Al-Awlaki in official accounts belonging to top aides to former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton [Huma Abedin, Cheryl Mills, Jake Sullivan], more than four years after a conservative group requested all such records, a new court filing reports.” [85229, 85230]

Syed Farook’s brother-in-law, Enrique Marquez (who provided Farook with the rifles used in the San Bernardino killings), tells authorities although he and a friend have built pipe bombs in the past he did not build the devices Farook planned to use. BizPacReview.com reports, “Co-workers and patrons of Morgan’s Tavern, where Marquez worked, said he often spoke of ‘sleeper cells’ ready to pounce and attack the U.S. but no one took him seriously. ‘He would say stuff like. ‘There’s so much going on. There’s [sic; there are] so many sleeper cells, so many people just waiting. When it happens, it’s going to be big. Watch,’ Nick Rodriguez, a regular customer, told the New York Times. ‘We took it as a joke. When you look at the kid and talk to him, no one would take him seriously about that.’ ‘He would come and say he just came from praying. He would just come in after and drink, which I never understood,’ Rodriguez added as Islam forbids drinking alcohol.” [85126, 85233, 85256, 85257, 85266]

FoxNews.com reports that if no one comes forward to claim the body of terrorist Tashfeen Malik “she will likely be cremated at taxpayers’ expense, a fate forbidden by Islamic law for even the most reviled radical killers.” (Someone eventually comes forward to claim Malik’s body. She and Syed Farook are then buried at a cemetery far from San Bernardino which was willing to accept the terrorists’ bodies.) [85234, 85235, 85566]

Hillary Clinton attends a fundraiser at the home of billionaire George Kaiser. WashingtonTimes.com notes that Kaiser “was a major campaign bundler and fundraiser for Barack Obama during the 2008 election cycle and a frequent visitor to the White House after he became president. He also is the founder of Argonaut Private Equity, the largest private investor in Solyndra, a California-based solar panel maker that won more than \$530 million in federally backed loans under Mr. Obama’s 2009 stimulus program. The company went bankrupt in 2011 and was unable to repay the loan, leaving taxpayers on the hook.” (Kaiser is worth about \$10 billion, but he cost the taxpayers \$535 million with his Solyndra scheme. The Obama administration violated the Energy Policy Act of 2005 because it subordinated taxpayers’ loan money to two hedge funds controlled by Obama’s investor pals.) [26031, 85105]

A Carly Fiorina event in Iowa draws a mere 14 attendees; a Jeb Bush event attracts only 54; and Donald Trump fills a stadium. [85281]

On December 12 French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius unveils the final draft of an international climate change agreement that he calls an “historic turning point” in the global warming battle. “The world is holding its breath. It counts on all of us.” Obama also calls it a “turning point for the world. ... In short, this agreement will mean less of

pollution that threatens our planet. Full implementation of this agreement and will pave the way for more progress in stages over the years. It sends a powerful signal: a low carbon future, in clean energy at a scale we have never seen before.” According to Politico.com, “The deal still needs approval from representatives of the U.S. and 195 other governments...” In addition, the agreement is non-binding—which means it is next to useless. (Rush Limbaugh asks, “Now that they fixed climate change, can we stop hearing about it?”) [85225, 85236, 85240, 85272, 85322]

The Paris climate agreement states that “Developed country Parties shall provide financial resources to assist developing country Parties with respect to both mitigation and adaptation in continuation of their existing obligations under the Convention. As part of a global effort, developed country Parties should continue to take the lead in mobilizing climate finance from a wide variety of sources, instruments and channels, noting the significant role of public funds.” (“Public funds” means \$100 billion per year from developed countries to other countries.) [85297, 85298]

*The New York Times* gushes, “For Mr. Obama, the [climate change agreement] agreement represents a legacy-shaping success, destined to join his health care law in the annals of his most lasting achievements.” (The claim is laughable. The agreement is non-binding; few countries will abide by it; and the climate will continue to change—as it has for billions of years—with little regard for Obama’s lunacies.) [85274]

At NationalReview.com Rich Lowry later writes, “Paris is a legally binding agreement not to have legally binding limits on emissions. It might be the most worthless piece of paper since the Kellogg-Briand Pact outlawed war—about a decade prior to the outbreak of World War II. ... The Paris summit operated on the principle of CBDRILONCWRC, or ‘Common but Differentiated Responsibility in Light of National Circumstances With Respective Capability.’ That means nothing was actually mandated on anyone because that proved—understandably enough, dealing with all the countries in the world—completely unworkable. Instead, countries came up with so-called Intended Nationally Determined Contributions. That’s climate bureaucratese for ‘You make up your emissions target, whatever it is, and we will pretend to take it seriously.’ Thus, do the waters recede and Earth is saved from looming climate catastrophe.” [85371]

Obama plays golf in Chevy Chase, Maryland—rather than attend memorial services for the victims of the San Bernardino terrorist attack. [85231]

In Bloomberg Politics/Des Moines Register poll in Iowa, Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) moves into first place with 31 percent, followed by Donald Trump (21), Ben Carson (13), Senator Marco Rubio (R-F) (10), and Jeb Bush (6). [85238]

On *Breitbart News Saturday*, Jan Ting, professor of Law at Temple University Beasley School of Law, says, “I think the reaction to candidate Trump’s proposal [to temporarily ban Muslim immigrants] has really been what I call hysterical. I think the failed establishment is panicked that Trump is making a case for himself. There’s clear statutory authority in the laws [outlined by] Congress ... delegating to the president” the power to

impose such a ban “whenever the president finds that such admission would be detrimental to the United States. Prior Supreme Court opinions clearly suggest that courts would reject” challenges to a temporary suspension. “The role of the courts is ...minimal. ...Any policy toward aliens is tied up with foreign relations, the war power. This is going to be constitutional. What we’re talking about is a policy dispute between political candidates. Nothing to get worked up into a hysteria over. ...There’s a clear line of cases that says the United States government can exclude those people for any reason or for no reason at all.” [85239, 85598]

Residents in Hamtramck, Michigan complain that the Muslim call to prayer which comes from the Ideal Islamic Center is far too loud. HamtramckReview.com writes that resident Jeanette Powell “said she’s not complaining as a way to ‘bash anyone’s religion.’ She said the call or prayer was broadcast at 6 a.m. and found the volume ‘overbearing.’ ‘Just turn it down a little bit.’ Carol Marsh said not only was the call to prayer too loud, she insisted that the organizers of the center never said it would serve as a mosque. ‘We were lied to,’ she said. ‘We were told it would never be turned into a mosque.’ But Sakrul Islam of the center said no one ever said it would not be a mosque, saying an Islamic center ‘covers everything.’ He warned Marsh that if she continued claiming she was lied to he would file a defamation lawsuit.” [85251, 85252]

In his pre-recorded Saturday Internet address, a tone-deaf Obama says, “[O]ne of the most important things we can do is to stay true to who we are as Americans. Terrorists like ISIL are trying to divide us along lines of religion and background. That’s how they stoke fear. That’s how they recruit. And just as Muslims around the world have to keep rejecting any twisted interpretation of Islam, all of us have to reject bigotry—in all of its forms. I’ll say it again, prejudice and discrimination helps ISIL and it undermines our national security. The good news is that Americans are coming together to reaffirm the core values that keep us strong. Political leaders across the spectrum—Democrats and Republicans, liberals and conservatives—are standing up, forcefully, for freedom of religion. Churches and synagogues are reaching out to local mosques—reminding us that we are all God’s children. Grateful citizens are saying thank you to our patriotic Muslim American service members and veterans. Some of our greatest sports heroes have reminded us why they’re true champions—and voices for tolerance and understanding. Across the country, Americans are reaching out—to their Muslim friends, neighbors and coworkers—to let them know we’re here for each other. I think of the woman in Texas carrying a sign saying, ‘We love our Muslim neighbors.’” [85264]

“That’s the message I hope every Muslim American hears—that we’re all part of the same American family. And it’s a message all of us can deliver—parents to our children, teachers to their students, leaders in politics and business and entertainment. Back in San Bernardino, people from across the community have joined in prayer vigils—Christians, Jews, Muslims and others. They’ve sent a powerful message—we’re all in this together. That’s the spirit we have to uphold. That’s what we can do—as Americans—united in defense of the country that we love.” [85264]



Jihad Watch's Robert Spencer writes, "But don't be concerned. U.S. officials are going to vet the heck out of those Syrian refugees. They're going to vet them til the cows come home. That's right: U.S. officials who are bound as a matter of policy to deny that there is any connection between jihad terror and the Islamic faith are going to discern the level of commitment of Muslims to the jihadi tenets of the Islamic faith that they deny exist. Tashfeen Malik stands as an indication of how successful this vetting is going to be." (Malik was allegedly "vetted" by five FBI and Department of Homeland Security background checks. The government was not aware that Malik was a radical not to be trusted, but it is probably keeping track of many Americans who are critical of Obama via social media.) [85265, 85387, 85388, 85394, 85395]

In Belgorod, Russia, an imam is detained after weapons and explosives are found in his apartment. [85521]

According to *The New York Times*, "[I]mmigration officials do not routinely review social media as part of their background checks, and there is a debate inside the Department of Homeland Security over whether it is even appropriate to do so." The *Times* observes, "Had the authorities found [Tashfeen Malik's] posts years ago, they might have kept her out of the country." (The *Times* neglects to report what was in those posts. It also neglects to explain why it would *not* be considered appropriate to review public social media posts of immigration applicants. Most Americans will, of course, be stunned to learn that immigration officials have not been conducting even a quick review of Twitter or Facebook to see what an immigrant may have posted. Average Americans now probably look up a person's name on Google after being asked out on a date. It is absurd for the government not to at least do that with foreigners wishing to enter the United States. Had that been done, San Bernardino terrorist Tashfeen Malik would still be in Saudi Arabia.) [85288, 85293, 85308, 85309]

The *Times* adds, "Social media comments, by themselves, however, are not always definitive evidence. In Pakistan—as in the United States—there is no shortage of crass and inflammatory language. And it is often difficult to distinguish Islamist sentiments and those driven by political hostility toward the United States." (This statement is more than bizarre. Why must one differentiate between "Islamist sentiments" and "hostility toward the United States?") Most Americans would probably argue that statements from either category should be enough to justify the denial of a visa. "We're not sure if the visa applicant loves oppressive Shari'ah law or hates the United States" is a statement raising a distinction that makes no difference.) [85309]

On December 13 Secretary of State John Kerry confirms, in an appearance on *Fox News Sunday*, that the Paris climate agreement "doesn't have mandatory targets for reduction and it doesn't have an enforcement, compliance mechanism." *WashingtonExaminer.com* notes, "Binding legal requirements would have made the Paris agreement a treaty, requiring approval from two-thirds of the Senate. Because no climate change measure could [come] close to the high bar in the chamber, the Paris deal was written to avoid it." (In other words, the entire process was a sham.) [85277]

On *This Week*, Kerry says, “I think, frankly, a lot of members of Congress are on the wrong side of history, and I don’t believe you can be elected president of the United States if you don’t understand climate change and you’re not committed to this kind of a plan.” [85299]

On *Meet the Press*, Kerry insists, “We have plenty of ways to vet people. We already do it. We have a huge process of examining people for visas. We know who’s coming into our country for the most part. ...But clearly the [use of] social media has placed a whole new burden and a whole new set of questions, but not impossible ones to resolve; and I think we need to look at this very, very carefully, which is what we’re doing, before we jump to a wholesale prohibition without understanding what the implications may be.” [85296]

According to [WashingtonTimes.com](http://WashingtonTimes.com), Democrat National Committee (DNC) Chairwoman Debbie Wasserman (D-FL) has drafted legislation that would require taxpayers to contribute \$20 million toward the costs of each political convention. “The DNC is facing tough financial circumstances. The latest report shows it had just \$4.7 million in cash on hand as of Oct. 31, less than the \$6.9 million in debts the committee reported. By contrast, the Republican National Committee reported \$20.4 million in cash, offset by \$1.9 million in debts. ...Republican National Committee spokeswoman Allison Moore said the party doesn’t need the help.” [85310, 85365]

Planned Parenthood tweets, “Imagine ‘life in a magical land where abortions and birth control are free and plentiful’ This place exists.” The message provides a link to an article praising Great Britain’s National Health Service, through which one get—in exchange for high taxes—“free” birth control and abortions. Congresswoman Diane Black (R-TN) reacts: “With a single tweet, Planned Parenthood accidentally told us the truth. They effectively admitted that the abortion lobby’s mantra of ‘safe, legal, and rare’ abortion is a lie and that the organization’s real mission is to encourage more elective abortions funded off the backs of taxpayers. These statements are painful to hear and offensive to all Americans of conscience, but what else would we expect from an organization that calls the destruction of an unborn life ‘healthcare’ and that allows aborted babies to be disposed of in landfills? We must not stand for this barbarity. With the Senate just having passed a reconciliation bill to reallocate Planned Parenthood’s funding, every Senator who voted against this measure should be forced to square their vote with this appalling statement.” [85377]

At [Breitbart.com](http://Breitbart.com) Julia Hahn writes, “In January of 2015, a handful of Senators quietly introduced new legislation in Congress that would allow for virtually unlimited Muslim immigration into the United States—lifting caps entirely on several categories of visas favored by immigrants from Muslim countries. The [Facebook CEO] Mark Zuckerberg-backed legislation, S.153, is called the Immigration Innovation Act (or I-Squared), and it has taken on new significance following the terrorist attacks in San Bernardino. ...The I-Squared bill is significant for a second reason. One of the Senators who introduced the bill is also running for President: Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL). And several of Rubio’s most prominent financial backers are among the bill’s boosters. I-Squared would expand five

major visa categories used by Muslim migrants: the F-1 foreign student visa, green cards for foreign students, green cards for their family members, the H-1B foreign worker visa, and the H-4 spousal visa.” [85382, 85383]

Pamela Geller reports, “The Muslim Students Association, a Muslim Brotherhood proxy named an un-indicted co-conspirator in the largest terrorist funding trial in our nation’s history, sponsored a ‘wear a hijab to school’ event at Vernon Hills High School in Chicago in order to ‘provide a better understanding of the Muslim faith.’ ...Such stupidity and ignorance is without peer. Cultural jihad. We are disarming our children in the information battle-space in what is the gravest threat to their future. There is nothing in their curriculum that teaches about the misogyny, creed apartheid, gender apartheid, FGM, Islamic Jew-hatred, or all incitement to violence and murder of the unbeliever taught in the Quran and Islamic texts.” [85420, 85421]

On December 14 Obama meets with members of the National Security Council at the Pentagon to discuss ISIS strategies. After the meeting, Obama tells reporters, “We recognize that progress needs to keep coming faster. This continues to be a difficult fight.” He claims, “We are hitting ISIL [ISIS] harder than ever. Coalition aircraft, our fighters, bombers and drones have been increasing the pace of airstrikes, nearly 9,000 as of today. ...The point is, ISIL leaders cannot hide, and our message to them is simple: you are next.” (It is worth noting that 9,000 airstrikes over a period of more than one year is not particularly aggressive. In the 1991 Gulf War, more than 100,000 sorties were flown over a period of about five weeks.) [85287, 85290, 85301, 85302, 85318, 85319, 85374]

Politico.com writes, “The timing [of Obama’s Pentagon visit] ...seemed aimed at blunting the criticisms that are expected Tuesday [December 15] from the GOP presidential candidates during a prime-time debate. ...And in the latest sign of the public’s uneasiness, an NBC News/Wall Street Journal poll released Monday found Obama’s approval rating at 43 percent, his lowest in more than a year, with only 34 percent of Americans supporting his handling of ISIL. Obama’s ‘ability to resort to speeches and rhetoric has not succeeded,’ said James Mann, a scholar in residence at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies... ‘The reason he is doing this this week is that the nationwide speech he made just over a week ago did not have the results he hoped for,’ Mann added. ‘He is [trying to show] himself as a hands-on commander in chief. I think that’s a response to the criticisms that he seems too detached.’” [85325, 85443]

ABC reports, “Fearing a civil liberties backlash and ‘bad public relations’ for the Obama administration, Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson refused in early 2014 to end a secret U.S. policy that prohibited immigration officials from reviewing the social media messages of all foreign citizens applying for U.S. visas, a former senior department official said. ‘During that time period immigration officials were not allowed to use or review social media as part of the screening process,’ John Cohen, a former acting under-secretary at DHS for intelligence and analysis. Cohen is now a national security consultant for ABC News. One current and one former senior counter-terrorism official

confirmed Cohen's account about the refusal of DHS to change its policy about the public social media posts of all foreign applicants. ...Cohen said officials from United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) both pressed for a change in policy. ...Cohen said the issue reached a head at a heated 2014 meeting chaired by Homeland Security Deputy Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, other top deputies and representatives of the DHS Office of Civil Liberties and the Office of Privacy. 'The primary concern was that it would be viewed negatively if it was disclosed publicly and there were concerns that it would be embarrassing,' Cohen said... 'They felt looking at public postings [of foreign U.S. visa applicants] was an invasion of their privacy,' [an] the official told ABC News. 'The arguments being made were, and are still, in bad faith.'" (Not only have immigration officers not been reviewing social media of foreigners seeking entry into the United States, the Obama administration has ordered them not to do so.) [85289, 85304, 85311, 85312]

Pamela Geller writes, "After jihadis tried to slaughter hundreds at a free speech event in Garland, Texas, Obama's DHS chief extended a policy preventing scrutiny of visa applicants' social media activities. Obama feared bad PR [public relations]. Like San Bernardino, Obama's concern is optics. As the mangled broken bodies of Americans at a Christmas party lay in a river of blood, Obama convened a meeting with the National Security Council and the heads of other federal enforcement agencies to discuss a public relations strategy. Despite the glaring similarities between Garland and San Bernardino, the Obama administration continued to provide cover for jihadis in America and abroad. That is treason." [85326]

In federal court, Edgewood, Maryland resident Mohamed Yousef ElShinawy is arraigned on charges of communicating with overseas terrorists, providing support to ISIS, and lying to the FBI. According to IBTimes.com, he was being sent money "to possibly carry out an attack or to travel to Syria." (Luckily for ElShinawy's potential victims, his brother reported him to the FBI after he expressed a desire to be a martyr for ISIS.) [85330, 85331, 85342]

Hasan Edmonds, a former member of the Illinois National Guard, pleads guilty to conspiring to provide material support to ISIS. (His cousin, Jonas Edmond, pleaded guilty to similar charges one week earlier.) ABC reports, "Prosecutors say the cousins devised a plan for Hasan Edmonds to travel to the Middle East and join Islamic State fighters overseas. After dropping his cousin off at Midway International Airport last March, Jonas Edmonds went to Hasan Edmonds' home and collected several National Guard uniforms that he planned to wear as a disguise during a planned attack at the Joliet armory, the plea agreement said. ...Charges alleged the armory attack was planned to kill as many as 150 people." [85336, 85337, 85840]

In several cities in Sweden, dozens of citizens receive letters threatening them with beheading if they do not convert to Islam within three days. The letters read, "In the name of Allah, the merciful, full of grace. You who are not believers will be decapitated in three days in your own house; we will bomb your rotten corpses afterwards. You must

choose between these three choices: 1. Convert to Islam. 2. Pay the jizya [religious tax] for protection 3. Or else, you will be decapitated. The police will not prevent or save you from you being murdered. (Death comes to all of you).” [85332, 85333, 85560, 85561]

Also in Sweden, Reuters reports, “Two Swedish men were sentenced to life in prison on Monday for ‘terrorist crimes’ in Syria in 2013, a Swedish district court said in a statement. The two men, aged 32 and 30, were convicted of assisting in executions in Syria. During a search of one of the men’s homes, police had found a USB stick containing films showing the killings, the court was told. In a video shown in court by the prosecutor, masked men stood around three men on their knees with their hands tied behind their backs.” (Reuters does not provide the names of the two men, who very likely did not consider themselves to be Swedish.) [85339]

According to the *Daily Mail*, “Hundreds of asylum-seekers entering Norway were discovered to have images of ‘executions’ and ‘severed heads’ on their mobile phones. The revelation comes amid heightened fears that ISIS is exploiting the migrant crisis to smuggle fighters into Europe, following last month’s attacks in Paris. Police admitted that the ‘explosion’ of refugees crossing into the country over the summer and in recent months meant that security checks were less thorough than required, and weren’t checking the background of those entering the country.” (Norway has found it necessary to include in its asylum center education programs a notice to refugees that “To force someone into sex is not permitted in Norway, even when you are married to that person.”) [85334, 85715, 85716]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, “In a secret project tied to the overall U.S. campaign against the Islamic State, intelligence officials have spent months mapping out known physical locations of media safe houses where the extremist group’s operatives are compiling, editing and curating raw video and print materials into finished digital propaganda products for dissemination across the Internet. Most of the locations are embedded in heavily residential areas in Syria, Iraq and Libya and are not being targeted by U.S. airstrikes because of Obama administration concerns about civilian casualties, according to sources who spoke to The Washington Times only on the condition of anonymity.” (In other words, the U.S. military has identified the targets but Obama won’t let them be taken out. ISIS cannot be “degraded” with such a “strategy,” let alone be destroyed.) [85358, 85375, 85402]

Secretary of Transportation Anthony Foxx announces that all drones that weight one-half pound or more must now be registered with the federal government.

WashingtonTimes.com reports, “The government will issue registration numbers for each drone, which must be clearly marked so the government can trace who is responsible for any significantly sized aircraft in the sky, the Federal Aviation Administration [FAA] said. Registration can be done online, and everyone flying a drone will be required to keep proof that they’ve complied with them whenever they’re using it... Toy balloons, Frisbees and paper airplanes are exempt...” Failure to register can result in up to three years in jail, \$27,500 in civil penalties, and \$250,000 in criminal fines. (Not surprisingly,

the FAA's web site is unable to keep up with the more than 45,000 registration requests in its first few days of operations.) [85294, 85300, 85476, 85691, 85936]

The Pentagon releases three documents to the *Miami Herald's* Carol Rosenberg in response to a Freedom of Information Act request—that she submitted on February 3, 2005. The letter to the journalist states, “I am sorry that this response was not provided in a more timely manner.” [85959]

BizJournals.com reports on Toyota's decision to move its North American headquarters from Torrance, California to Plano, Texas: “The main driver of Toyota's move... was housing costs, according to Albert Niemi Jr., dean of the Cox School of Business at Southern Methodist University, who has inside knowledge about the move. Niemi shared the anecdote at an SMU Cox Economic Outlook Panel on Friday morning. ‘It wasn't so much that we don't tax income [Texas has no state income tax],’ he said. ‘It was really about affordable housing. That's what started the conversation. They had focus groups with their employees. Their people said, ‘We're willing to move. We just want to live the American Dream.’ Toyota did the math and found that housing costs in Los Angeles County, where Torrance is located, are three times per square foot the cost of a house in Dallas-Fort Worth. ‘They're paying the same salary,’ Niemi said. ‘So in real terms, they're going to triple the affordability of housing they can buy if they move to Texas.’” (California will lose about 3,000 good-paying jobs.) [85359, 85360, 85361]

Those on the political left consistently fail to understand that increasing taxes generates additional tax revenue only until the individual or company being taxed “cries uncle” and relocates. Pharmaceutical company Pfizer recently announced a deal to buy Allergan—and relocate to Ireland. Donald Trump states, “The fact that Pfizer is leaving our country with a tremendous loss of jobs is disgusting.” It is also predictable, considering the fact that the United States has the highest corporate tax rate in the developed world. At NationalReview.com Kevin D. Williamson writes, “Politicians create economic incentives for firms to do certain things, such as park their foreign earnings abroad, and then howl when companies respond rationally to the incentives the politicians created. This is usually followed by denunciation, which is the mode the Democrats and some Republicans are in, lambasting as ‘unpatriotic,’ ‘deserters,’ ‘traitors,’ and guilty of economic ‘treason’ the companies in question. ...Hillary Clinton has suggested simply seizing the assets of companies that relocate abroad. (She calls this an ‘exit tax,’ but it is, in fact, ransom.) Jeb Bush and quondam [former] Democrat Donald Trump both have put forward punitive measures to discourage tax inversions. The problem is plunder by politicians, and the answer politicians are giving is: more plunder. ...Capital just wants to be loved. It will go where it is most welcome. And try as they might, the politicians can't stop it.” [85433, 85434]

At DailySignal.com Mike Needham writes, “As Obamacare's implosion continues to unfold, Democrat lawmakers have been desperate to postpone some of the law's most adverse impacts on Americans. Now it appears K Street lobbyists have convinced some Republican lawmakers to join their Democrat colleagues by attempting to delay the so-called ‘Cadillac tax,’ which is an excise tax on all plans offered by employers above a

specified amount. Why is this? Simply put, Democrats own Obamacare's outcomes, and they're looking to postpone the pain for their constituents. They clearly have an interest in limiting, or making more palatable (at taxpayer expense), the law's adverse effects. But delaying the Cadillac tax doesn't change the fact that the law is bad policy." (The tax will apply to high-level health insurance policies provided by employers, and will primarily impact union workers. The tax was included in the ObamaCare legislation to make it less expensive. Democrats now want to delay the tax until 2020. Republicans would be wise not to go along with the delay. The Democrats should be made to suffer the wrath of union workers when the tax goes into effect, at which the Republicans can tell the voters, "Don't blame me. I didn't vote for ObamaCare." It will, of course, be easier for the GOP to repeal ObamaCare if more people hate it. To remove the Cadillac tax will increase the federal deficit and leave the Democrats off the hook.) [85362]

In an Associated Press/GfK poll, only 28 percent of adults surveyed said Obama had "clearly explained the United States' goals in fighting the Islamic State, while 68 percent said he had not." [85370]

In a December 10-13, "post-Muslim-ban" Monmouth University poll, Donald Trump reaches 41 percent. Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) is in second place with 14 percent, followed by Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) at 10 percent, and Ben Carson at 9. All other candidates have 3 percent support or less. Trump's favorable/unfavorable percentages are 61/29. [85295, 85367]

In an NBC/Wall Street Journal poll, Hillary Clinton would defeat Trump 50-40 and Ted Cruz 48-45, while she would lose to Marco Rubio 45-48 and Ben Carson 46-47. [85346, 85347, 85348]

Donald Trump releases a report from his long-term physician, Dr. Harold N. Bornstein, indicating that the candidate is in excellent health. Bornstein states, "Mr. Trump has had a recent complete medical examination that showed only positive results. Actually, his blood pressure, 110/65, and laboratory test results were astonishingly excellent." (Hillary Clinton will at some point be pressured to release a medical report of some form. It will almost certainly be vague.) [85313, 85314, 85315]

Rush Limbaugh criticizes Donald Trump, saying, "One thing here, I'm questioning the way Trump went after [Senator Ted] Cruz here, calling him a maniac, refusing to work with people in the Senate, the reason I am focusing on that folks is because it's so unlike Trump. I mean, that's a huge mistake, but, on paper it's a huge mistake. Trump gets away with his mistakes, such is the bond of loyalty his support base has for him that he gets away with them and I don't think he's made that many, don't misunderstand. But for any of you that [sic; who] are holding out hope that Trump is a genuine conservative, even in the Republican field, would not go after Cruz this way [sic]. That just raised a red flag for me." [85319, 85320, 85321, 85341]

Mark Levin also has a word for Trump: "It was a bad few days for my friend, our friend Donald Trump, in my view. I hope he learns from it. If he doesn't and stands firm and he

keeps sticking it to conservatives and keeps promoting the establishment and promoting big government programs, it'll have an effect on him and you. This has to be the dumbest strategy yet, defending the establishment. Trashing Cruz? Look, there are things you can question Cruz about, his past position on immigration, his past position on trade, substantive, positions you can question him about. This is not that! You and I rally around him and have because of the way he's taken on the establishment, because of the establishment that Trump's taking on. So why raise a stupid issue?" [85345]

General Robert B. Abrams, head of Army Forces Command at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, announces that Sergeant Bowe Bergdahl will, in fact, face a court-martial on charges of desertion and endangering troops. (National Security Advisor Susan Rice has stated that Bergdahl "served with honor and distinction.") If convicted, Bergdahl faces a possible life sentence (or even a death sentence). (Abrams overrules Lieutenant General Kenneth Dahl, who had recommended lesser charges and called any jail sentence for Bergdahl "inappropriate." Obama will not be pleased.) Bergdahl's arraignment will be December 22, on charges of "desertion with intent to shirk important or hazardous duty" and "endangering the safety of a command, unit, or place." [85316, 85317, 85324, 85368, 85411, 85498, 85781]

Asked about the Bergdahl issue, White House press secretary Josh Earnest tells reporters, "Unfortunately in this instance, I'm very, very limited in what I can say about this ongoing matter. This is a case that is currently working its way through the military justice process, and as the spokesperson for the commander in chief, there's a lot of sensitivity about the potential for influencing the outcome of that military justice proceeding. So, I'm really not able to react even in the most general terms to the latest twists and turns in the case." [85373]

FoxNews.com reports, "The FBI played a central role in making a botched 'payment' meant to help secure Army Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl's release last year, according to the office of a House Republican now seeking answers on why the bureau was involved at all in the apparent rescue attempt." Congressman Duncan Hunter (R-CA), "who has long questioned whether a ransom of some kind was offered for Bergdahl's release... claimed in a recent letter to the Justice Department inspector general that he has learned 'non-DoD [non-Department of Defense] organizations, led by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), undertook the recovery mission.'" The FBI allegedly paid an illegal ransom for Bergdahl's release, but the Afghan intermediary "then ran off with the money." Bergdahl was eventually released in a trade for five Taliban leaders Obama released from Guantanamo. [85323]

Investigative reporter Sharyl Attkisson reports that YouTube.com has suspended her account and blocked her from posting videos of her *Full Measure* television reports. YouTube provides no explanation. Twitchy.com notes that Attkisson, "formerly an investigative reporter with CBS, recently launched Full Measure News. Those who have followed Attkisson on Twitter know that she has been relentless in her pursuit of stories that have been abandoned by the mainstream news, such as the Fast and Furious scandal and Benghazi." (Attkisson's YouTube channel is later restored, also with no explanation.)



It is worth noting that Google owns YouTube, and former Google CEO Eric Schmidt is a strong supporter of Obama.) [85353, 85354, 85379]

In an interview with Yahoo News' Olivier Knox, Obama says, "I am absolutely persuaded, as are my top intelligence and military advisers, that Guantanamo is used as a recruitment tool for organizations like ISIS, and if we want to fight 'em, then we can't give 'em these kinds of excuses." (The argument is ludicrous. Even if the terrorist detainees were moved from Guantanamo to prison in the United States, there is no reason to believe that action would lead ISIS and other groups to put down their weapons and stop recruiting.) Obama also says he expected that only "a handful" of Guantanamo detainees released since 2002 would go back to fighting. *The Weekly Standard's* Stephen Hayes points out that the "'handful' of Guantanamo recidivists ...is nearly 200." Obama also claims that only "low-level" terrorists were released, which is another blatantly false statement. [85355, 85356, 85357]

In Las Vegas, on the eve of their next debate, the GOP presidential candidates hold rallies for their fans. According to Wayne Allyn Root, who spoke at the Trump rally, "Each of them attracted 200 people here...100 people there...50 people here...40 people there. Donald Trump on the other hand had a 'small intimate gathering' for 5000 to 7000 fans! ...I became the opening act for the man I believe is the next President of the United States. It was like opening for Mick Jagger and the Rolling Stones. This wasn't a political rally... it was a rock concert! ...I used this opportunity to spend quality time and talk to the Trump supporters. I got to really *know* them. And what I found is the reason Donald will win the GOP nomination and eventually...the Presidency of the United States. The reason is Donald is the hero of working class Americans. Donald's fan base is plumbers, electricians, construction workers, taxi drivers, secretaries, hairdressers, cops, firemen and yes, in Las Vegas—casino workers. Donald is a man of the people." [85465, 85494]

"I know it's ironic. It took a business mogul worth \$10 billion to bring working class Americans to the GOP, but Donald did it. These people—almost to a man and woman—have either never voted before, or voted only Democrat in the past, or voted once for a Republican in their lives—Ronald Reagan. These are Reagan Democrats and blue dog Democrats and independents. This is great news for the GOP. The media keeps saying the GOP needs to expand their tent. Well Donald Trump has done it. ...Trump has expanded the [Republican party] base, not based on race or gender ...but based on class. Why is that bad? I think expanding the tent is good, no matter who comes in. You mean that expanding the tent to include gays or women or blacks or Hispanics or Muslims is good... but expanding the tent to include millions of working class Americans isn't good? ...I read articles across the world on Tuesday claiming that Trump attracted an 'uneducated crowd' to the Vegas rally. The Boston Globe described the rally as 'ugly.' Really? When they vote Democrat these same people are 'middle America' 'the working man' and 'salt of the earth.' But when they vote for a Republican the media insinuates they are low class and uneducated." [85465, 85494]

"Well that mass of working class Americans is the Trump Army. This is a citizen revolution. I call it 'The Trump Revolution of working class stiff.' Good people. Honest

people. Hard working people. Salt of the earth. The foundation of America. Real Americans who don't want handouts, only a job and a fair chance for upward mobility. Real Americans who have never taken welfare in their lives. Real Americans who just want their kids to do better than themselves. Real Americans who pay into the system, not take out. God bless them. And why are they so mad? Why is Trump their hero? Because he speaks for them. He speaks plain spoken, common sense, American values. He tells the raw honest truth. They are sick of the B.S. They are sick of being lied to. They are sick of political correctness. And most importantly, they are sick of being under attack. ...On Monday night in Las Vegas, I saw it all, up close and personal. I was blessed to be a witness to a new citizen revolution. I am a witness to THE TRUMP REVOLUTION. I am a witness to history." [85465, 85494]

On December 15, 2015 all public schools in Los Angeles are closed because of an alleged "credible" terrorist threat via an email message to a member of the school board. LATimes.com reports, "The Los Angeles email threat was traced to an IP address in Frankfurt, Germany, according to law enforcement sources. ...The email was very specific to LA Unified campuses and included all of them, LAPD Chief Charlie Beck said. The implied threat included mention of explosive devices, 'assault rifles and machine pistols. These are obviously things we take very seriously,' Beck said." (No bombs are found. In fact, the New York City school system received the same threat and left its schools open. The email may have been a hoax, or it may have been a probe by terrorists to learn how the school systems would react to a threat.) [85349, 85352, 85372, 85393, 85405]

The school system informs parents to show proper photo ID when picking up their children from the schools. (Spicy Elf tweets, "Please also bring that same ID when you intend to cast a vote in America. Thank You.") [85351]

Katie Pavlich writes at Townhall.com, "Five years ago today, Marine and Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry was killed in a firefight by Mexican bandits. The firearms used by the criminals who killed him were part of the Obama Justice Department's Operation Fast and Furious. As a reminder, ATF agents allowed more than 2,500 AK-47s and other firearms to be purchased and trafficked by known Mexican cartel members through Fast and Furious. Hundreds of people have been killed as a result of the program, which was secret until ATF whistleblower John Dodson exposed it after Terry's death in 2010. ...Today, not a single ATF agent has been fired as a result of the operation. Terry's killers have been sentenced to life in prison after being found guilty on a variety of different charges, including first degree murder. ...May he rest in peace and may his family one day see complete justice." (The scheme was designed to boost gun violence and prompt Americans to demand new gun control legislation. No one has ever been held accountable for the operation. Obama and Eric Holder should have been impeached, indicted, convicted, and jailed.) [85344]

Congressman Phil Roe (R-TN) drafts legislation to remove from public housing families that are ineligible to receive the subsidized benefit because they earn too much money. According to WJHL.com, a federal audit "uncovered 25,000 over-income families living

in public housing nationwide making up to a million dollars.” The proposed legislation “would require overincome families to move out of public housing if they’ve made 125% over the median area income for at least a year.” [85871, 85872]

Pat Buchanan writes, “With the two-thirds rule dead, the only way to have a convention without a nominee on the first ballot is a three- or four-way split in delegates. But assume at the GOP convention in Cleveland that Trump runs first, Ted Cruz second, Marco Rubio third and Ben Carson fourth. Rather than wait for Karl Rove & Co. to tell us whom the party shall nominate, Trump would phone Cruz, offer him second spot on the ticket in return for his delegates, and if Cruz declined, ask for Rubio’s phone number. Candidates who have gone through a yearlong campaign, and sustained the defeats and suffered the abuse, are not going to let a Beltway cabal decide the nominee.” [85343]

“...Moreover, the old establishments are dead. ...What is left are elites, collectives of officeholders past and present, donors, lobbyists, think-tankers angling for jobs, party hacks and talking heads. What the Republican collectivity has to realize is that it is they and the policies they produced that are the reason Trump, Carson and Cruz currently hold an overwhelming majority of Republican votes. It was the elites of both parties who failed to secure our borders and brokered the trade deals that have de-industrialized America and eviscerated our middle class. It was the elites of both parties who got us into these idiotic wars that have blown up the Middle East, cost us trillions of dollars, thousands of dead, and tens of thousands of wounded among our best and bravest. That Republican elites would sit around a dinner table on Capitol Hill and discuss how to frustrate the rising rebellion against what they have done to America, and decide among themselves who shall lead us, is astonishing. To borrow from the Gipper, they are not the solution to our problems. They are the problem.” [85343]

At the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, Hillary Clinton discusses a vague “360-degree strategy” to combat terrorism in the United States. (There is nothing new or dramatic in Clinton’s address. Essentially, her policy will be Obama’s, and she will avoid ground troops.) [85350]

French police arrest two men and one women in connection with the November 13 terrorist attacks in Paris. [85389, 85390]

Ansa.it reports, “In Rome, A Palestinian and a Tunisian national were arrested after they tried to disarm soldiers stationed outside Santa Maria Maggiore cathedral while yelling ‘Allah (God) is great,’ Rome police said Tuesday. When police intervened, the two men aged 40 and 30 called other foreigners in the area to their aid, and assaulted and threatened the arresting officers. After they were taken to the police station, they continued to speak out against law enforcement and Europe in both Arabic and Italian. They were charged with resisting and threatening an officer and instigation to commit a crime with intent to commit terrorist acts, slapped with an expulsion order, and taken to a migrant reception center in the southern city of Bari prior to repatriation.” [85403, 85404]

JihadWatch.org reports, “The Danish police claim that they are ‘more pressed than ever,’ mainly because of the terror threat and the migrant crisis. The rule of law is already undermined, as the police—as a result of being overburdened with handling Muslims—will no longer investigate thefts of less than 15,000 euros [about \$16,456, in mid-December 2015]. Even if you call the police while the burglars are still to be seen inside your neighbour’s house, they will not come. The police are now requesting that the National Guard prepare to help, possibly even armed, in a situation of terrorism.” [85400]

At WND.com Douglas Ernst reports, “A detained German terrorist told authorities that Chancellor Angela Merkel can expect an Islamic blitzkrieg from returning fighters. Lawyers for a disillusioned member of the Islamic State group say the man, known only as Harry S, wants to ‘come clean.’ The 27-year-old from Bremen told Der Spiegel that he ‘saw it all’ and wants to talk. ...Harry S said he was twice approached by ISIS members in the spring to conduct terror attacks inside Germany, but told them he was not ready. He fled Syria in the middle of the night after months of witnessing executions.” [85569, 85595]

Politico.com reports, “Two senior Democratic lawmakers are asking their colleagues to bring a Muslim-American guest to the State of the Union in protest of Donald Trump’s recent proposal to ban Muslims from entering the U.S. In a letter sent to House Democrats and Republicans on Tuesday, Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz [D-FL], the chairwoman of the Democratic National Committee, and Rep. Keith Ellison [D-MN], the first Muslim elected to Congress, said lawmakers should bring Muslim-Americans to the Jan. 12 speech as a way to rebut anti-Muslim rhetoric.” [85444]

Ben Carson releases a statement: “Our country faces grave national security threats. We must act boldly and decisively to protect American citizens from terrorists at home and abroad. We can no longer dawdle while ISIS continues to persecute Christians, enslave young girls, oppress civil societies and perpetrate terrorist attacks against the free world. We must destroy their caliphate and prevent their terrorists from infiltrating our homeland. We must also secure our borders, identify radical Islamic extremism by name and root out its agents and collaborators in our own country. My ‘Seven Steps for a Safer America’ offers a path forward for confronting these threats and protecting this great country. ...The Department of State should designate the Muslim Brotherhood and other organizations that propagate or support Islamic terrorism as terrorist organizations, and fully investigate the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) as an offshoot of the Muslim Brotherhood and a supporter of terrorism.” [85478]

In an ABC/Washington Post poll, Donald Trump leads GOP rivals with 38 percent, followed by Ted Cruz (15), Ben Carson (12), Marco Rubio (12), and Jeb Bush (5). Rated on the issues of “strongest leader,” “would bring needed change,” and “best chance of winning presidency” Trump is far in front with 54, 51, and 47 percent. [85369]

In a Public Policy Polling survey, Trump leads in Iowa with 28 percent; Cruz has 25; Rubio, 14; Carson, 10; Bush, 7. [85378]

According to a Pew Research Center poll, “[S]ince the start of this year, the share of Americans who say the government is doing well in reducing the threat of terrorism has fallen by 26 percentage points—from 72% to 46%—and now stands at its lowest point in the post-9/11 era. Approval of the way Barack Obama is handling the threat of terrorism also has declined, even as his overall job rating (currently 46%)—and his ratings on immigration, the economy and other issues—is little changed. Just 37% approve of the way Obama is handling terrorism while 57% disapprove, the lowest rating of his presidency for this issue.” [85467, 85468, 85480]

According to an Economist/YouGov poll, 53 percent of adults view Hillary Clinton “as dishonest and untrustworthy compared to 31 percent who view her as trustworthy and honest.” [85533]

At a swearing-in ceremony for 31 new U.S. citizens, Obama says, “You may come from teeming cities or rural villages. You don’t look alike. You don’t worship the same way. But here... you’ve raised your hand and sworn a sacred oath. I’m proud to be among the first to greet you as my fellow Americans.” Obama criticizes those who fear Muslim immigrants, saying, “In the Syrian seeking refuge today, we should see the Jewish refugee of World War II.” (Obama ignores the fact that there were no ISIS terrorists hiding amongst the Jewish refugees of World War II.) “...We succumbed to fear. We betrayed these [founding] documents. It’s happened before. And the biggest irony is that those who betrayed these values were themselves the children of immigrants. How quickly we forget. One generation passes, two generations, and suddenly we don’t remember where we came from.” (How quickly Obama forgot about September 11, 2001, the Boston Marathon bombing, the San Bernardino terrorist attack, Fort Hood, the “shoe bomber,” the “underwear bomber,” et al.) “We can never say it often or loudly enough: Immigrants and refugees revitalize and renew America.” [85460]

Fox News’ Catherine Herridge reports that she has received confirmation from the intelligence community that at least two of the emails Hillary Clinton received on her private, unsecure server as secretary of state were “top secret.” “The sources, who were not authorized to speak on the record, told Fox News that while the emails were indeed ‘top secret’ when they hit Clinton’s server, one of them remains ‘top secret’ to this day—and must be handled at the highest security level. The second email is still considered classified but at the lower ‘secret’ level because more information is publicly available about the event.” [85376, 85429, 85430, 85432, 85457]

NYTimes.com reports, “Defense Secretary Ashton B. Carter relied on a personal email account to conduct a portion of his government business during his first months at the Pentagon, according to White House and Defense Department officials and copies of Mr. Carter’s emails obtained by The New York Times. Mr. Carter continued the practice, which violated Defense Department rules, for at least two months after it was publicly revealed in March that Hillary Clinton had exclusively used a personal email account as secretary of state, the officials said.” (The White House reportedly learned of the policy violation in May.) [85469, 85470, 85499]

Estimates for this year's upcoming Obama vacation in Hawaii come in at about \$3.7 million. Judicial Watch president Tom Fitton comments, "The Obamas' travel is out of control. They are treating the Air Force One like an Uber ride, and [Barack] Obama seems oblivious to the burden he is placing on Americans with his continuous vacations, getaways, and political junkets at taxpayer expense." (Obama will reportedly "drop in" on San Bernardino on his way to Hawaii, for a quick "I care" photo-op.) [85380, 85477]

The Republican presidential candidates debate in Las Vegas, Nevada. For viewers seeking attacks, rather than substance, Marco Rubio and Ted Cruz go after each other, and Jeb Bush says, "[Donald] Trump is great at one-liners, but he's a chaos candidate. And he'd be a chaos president. He would not be the commander-in-chief we need to keep our country safe." (To many observers, there are probably no clear winners in the debate. None likely picked up or lost more than a percentage point or two of support. The biggest loser may be Bush, whose aggressiveness likely turned some people off, and who fumbled his way through a closing statement that he should have memorized better.) [85381, 85384, 85385, 85406, 85415, 85424, 85425, 85426, 85427, 85436, 85437]

During the debate, Trump reaffirms that he will not desert the Republican party and run as an independent. [85386, 85423]

Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) says, "It is not a lack of competence that is preventing the Obama administration from stopping these attacks, it is political correctness." [85412]

Carly Fiorina, who has criticized Hillary Clinton for "playing the gender card," plays it herself, saying, "Margaret Thatcher once said, 'If you want something talked about, ask a man. If you want something done, ask a woman.'" (Having appeared on *The View* several times, Fiorina should know that statement does not apply to all women.) [85412]

Senator Rand Paul (R-KY): "Charity is about giving your own money. Charity isn't giving someone else's money." [85412]

New Jersey Governor Chris Christie: "The American people are not whispering to us. They are screaming to us that it's our job to make this government work. It's so dysfunctional. It's so ineffective." Christie also calls Obama "a feckless weakling." [85412, 85428]

John Kasich: "And for the Russians, frankly, it's time that we punched the Russians in the nose. They've gotten away with too much in this world, and we need to stand up against them, not just there, but also in Eastern Europe where they threaten some of our most precious allies." (To whom this statement will appeal is not clear.) [85439]

Christie declares he would shoot down Russian planes violating no-fly zones: "Not only would I be prepared to do it; I would do it. A no-fly zone means a no-fly zone, Wolf [Blitzer]. That's what it means. See, maybe, maybe because I'm from New Jersey, I just have this kind of plain language hang-up. But I would make very clear—I would... talk

to Vladimir Putin a lot. But I'd say to him, 'Listen, Mr. President, there's a no-fly zone in Syria; you fly in, it applies to you.'" [85439]

Rand Paul: "Well, I think if you're in favor of World War III, you have your candidate [Christie]. My goodness, what we want in a leader is someone with judgment, not someone who is so reckless as to stand on the stage and say, 'Yes, I'm jumping up and down; I'm going to shoot down Russian planes.' Russia already flies in that airspace. It may not be something we're in love with, the fact that they're there, but they were invited by Iraq and by Syria to fly in that airspace. And so if we announce we're going to have a no-fly zone—and others have said this. Hillary Clinton is also for it. It is a recipe for disaster. It's a recipe for World War III. We need to confront Russia from a position of strength, but we don't need to confront Russia from a point of recklessness that would lead to war." [85439]

In his closing statement, Paul says, "The greatest threat to our national security is our debt. We borrow a million dollars a minute. And whose fault is it? Well, frankly, it's both parties' fault. You have those on the right who clamor and say, oh, we will spend anything on the military, and those on the left who say the same for domestic welfare. But what most Americans don't realize is there is an unholy alliance. They come together. There's a secret handshake. We spend more money on everything. And we are not stronger nation if we go further into debt. We are not projecting power from bankruptcy court. To me, there is no greater threat than our debt. I'm the only fiscal conservative on the stage because I'm willing to hold the line on all spending." [85441]

At Breitbart.com Milo Yiannopoulos explains, "Trump is right not only that limiting or knocking out the internet is the best way of hampering Islamic State, but also because there is at least one solution that is eminently feasible. It's just that sneering commentators aren't educated enough to know about it. ...Any traffic intended for Islamic State, on about 95 per cent of the internet, could be redirected to the United States and then 'nullrouted'—essentially, dumped into a black hole, perhaps after being analyzed by the NSA or the military. Problem solved. ...'[S]hutting down' parts of the internet isn't as bonkers as it first sounds. Although it requires more technical literacy than most commentators possess to understand what kind of software solutions are available and would be effective in the fight against Islamic State, that doesn't mean Donald Trump is wrong. But, as a nuclear option to knock out the internet connectivity of, say, a rogue terrorist state, it works just fine. Whether or not Trump wins the election, the next President of the United States should use it." [85435]

On December 16 House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) announces an agreement on a 2,009-page, \$1.1 trillion spending bill that will fund government operations through September 2016. According to DailySignal.com, Republicans "are able to brag about at least some policy provisions included in the spending bill, most significantly measures ending a 40-year-old ban on oil exports and stopping what Republicans refer to as a 'bailout' of Obamacare's risk corridor program for health insurers." But Democrats won on other issues: "The bill does not contain measures restricting the Syrian refugee program, ending funding for Obama's executive actions on immigration, or defunding Planned

Parenthood.” The bill—which also includes \$3 billion for Obama’s “Green Climate Fund”—will pass, despite conservative objections (and despite no one actually reading it), because of Democrat support. [85408, 85409, 85410, 85449, 85453, 85474, 85475, 85482, 85491, 85544, 85570, 85676, 85895]

Ryan states, “In divided government, no one gets exactly what they want. But this week, we have completed two bipartisan agreements that advance Republican priorities.” (By “Republican priorities” he means “Republican *establishment* priorities.”) [85440]

Ryan defends the agreement, saying, “We’ve played the cards we were dealt as best as we could.” (Ryan apparently believes that “excuse” will placate conservatives. Republicans control both the House and the Senate. There is absolutely no justification for giving Obama what he wants on the first round, without a fight. If conservative voters are not angered by the spending agreement, they are not paying attention.) [85462]

Senator Jeff Sessions (R-AL) says, “There is a reason that GOP voters are in open rebellion. They have come to believe that their party’s elites are not only uninterested in defending their interests but—as with this legislation, and fast-tracking [Obama’s] international trade pact—openly hostile to them. This legislation represents a further disenfranchisement of the American voter.” [85462, 85539]

Congressman Dave Brat (R-VA) states, “The end product here is just cleaning the barn; it’s a disaster. We’re breaking our pledge on the budget caps to the American people, we’ve lost fiscal discipline, and we’re throwing it all on the next generation.” Brat warns, “We have a fundamental budget problem coming our way in eleven years. All federal revenues will go only to entitlement and mandatory spending programs and interest on the debt in eleven years. All federal revenues will be used just to pay for those programs. So, that’s Medicare, Social Security, Medicaid, Bush prescription drug program, etc.” Brat tells *Washington Journal*, “If that’s true, and it is... there won’t be one dollar left for... the military, education, transportation, running government, in eleven years. We’ll have to deficit-finance the entire budget to run the government.” [85453, 85483]

Obama certainly gets what he wants. White House spokeswoman Jennifer Friedman says, “[Obama’s] team is still reviewing the text of omnibus, but it appears to meet the priorities [Obama] outlined first at the beginning of this year.” White House press secretary Josh Earnest gloats, “We succeeded.” (In other words, the Republicans caved in again.) [85450, 85462, 85484]

Labor unions also score a victory with a delay of the “Cadillac tax” on high-value health insurance plans. The delay reduces tax revenue, increasing the deficit and making ObamaCare even more of a drain on the taxpayers, while allowing the Democrats to sail through the 2016 election season without having to deal with angry labor union members whose insurance plans were impacted by the tax. [85452]

Planned Parenthood is also pleased, and praises Democrats for “holding the line against these harmful policy riders and cuts to key women’s health programs. Extreme members



of Congress spent an entire year targeting access to reproductive health care at every opportunity—even threatening to shut down the government. Today’s budget bill maintains access to critical preventive health services and lacks these harmful attacks on women’s health care—at home and abroad.” (Republicans control both the House and the Senate, and yet cave in on Democrat demands. Rather than cut spending, send the legislation to the White House, and dare Obama to shut down the government with a veto, the Republicans once again prove themselves gutless. It is true that if Obama were to issue a veto the leftist media would do its best to place the blame on his political opponents, but those opponents do not even bother to put up a fight—which is why the voters wonder if they are even opponents.) [85451]

The IRS gets an additional \$290 million—which contradicts Republican claims that the agency is being “reined in.” [85600, 85601]

WND.com reports, “Buried in the 2,000-page omnibus spending bill released by the Senate Wednesday morning is a secret provision that many senators hope unemployed blue-collar workers won’t find out about. This provision would quadruple the number of H-2B visas for low-skilled foreign ‘guest workers.’ It would allow more than a quarter-of-a-million foreign workers to enter the U.S. each year and work in the construction industry, hotel-motel services, truck drivers, food processing, forestry and many other fields that don’t require a college education. ...The bill also includes funding for all of President Obama’s foreign refugee resettlement program and does nothing to stop the proliferation of so-called ‘sanctuary cities.’” [85448, 85535, 85628, 85769]

Breitbart.com argues that the \$1.1 trillion bill fund’s Obama’s “fundamental transformation of America” because it fully funds Obama’s DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) program; continues to fund sanctuary cities; continues to fund all refugee programs; continues to fund the Mideast immigration programs; funds illegal immigrant resettlement; funds the release of criminal aliens; quadruples the number of H-2B foreign worker visas; continues to fund tax credits for illegal aliens; locks in huge spending increases; fails to compete the border fence Congress ordered in 2006. (In other words, Obama could have written the legislation.) Senator Jeff Sessions (R-AL) says of the H-2B vis expansion, “Blithely dismissing the just concerns of the great majority of American voters, and especially Republican voters, is not a wise course for the Republican Speaker [of the House, Paul Ryan].” [85482, 85628, 85769]

Although the legislation does nothing to secure the nation’s borders, Breitbart.com reports that new House Speaker Paul Ryan’s home is now “surrounded by a tall border fence reinforced by equally high bushes—ensuring both privacy and security. Moreover, the fence is manned by an on-duty agent who guards his property’s perimeter. Upon even the slightest appearance of any unusual activity— such as a 5’2” female taking a photograph of the fence—Ryan’s border agent will deploy into action to ensure the perimeter’s sovereignty.” [85540, 85541]

House Democrats introduce the “Assault Weapons Ban of 2015.” According to TheHill.com, the legislation “would target semi-automatic and other military-style guns.

It would ensure that no such weapons are manufactured for consumer use, while placing new restrictions on the sale of already existing assault weapons. The legislation is backed by about 90 Democratic co-sponsors, but has no hope of passing through Congress, given opposition from Republicans. The gun lobby argues that the bill would affect many law-abiding hunters who use assault weapons.” [85473]

Insurance company HealthSpan announces it will stop selling individual and small-group health plans on the ObamaCare exchanges. About 166,000 customers will be affected. [85534]

For the first time in almost 10 years, the Federal Reserve raises its main interest rate. The 0.25 percent hike was widely anticipated. The federal Reserve states, “The stance of monetary policy remains accommodative after this increase, thereby supporting further improvement in the labor market conditions and a return to 2 percent inflation.” (That is, the agency is seeking to boost the official inflation rate to two percent.) The action is intended to signal that the government believes the economy is improving. In fact, the rate hike is necessary so that the rate can be lowered when the economy next stumbles. [85396, 85422]

Economist Marc Faber comments, “[I]t’s precisely the wrong time [to raise interest rates]. The global economy has decelerated very badly, and many countries are already in recession, or going into recession.” [85438, 85516]

At PJMedia.com Roger L. Simon writes, “No more bets, ladies and gentlemen. The game is over. Donald Trump has won the nomination.” [85481]

The Associated Press (apparently afraid to write “terrorist attack”) tweets that Obama will “meet with families of the victims of this month’s mass shooting in San Bernardino.” [85416, 85417]

FBI Director James Comey classifies the July 16 terrorist attack in Chattanooga, Tennessee as a terrorist attack. He states, “The Chattanooga killer was inspired by a foreign terror organization. It’s hard to entangle which particular source ...there are lots of competing poisons out there.” [85515, 85594]

The Independent reports, “Two suspected ISIS militants believed to have links to the Paris attacks have been found posing as refugees in Austria. The two men were found in a transit camp for asylum seekers in Salzburg at the weekend, reportedly carrying fake Syrian passports after travelling from territory held by the so-called Islamic State. Austria’s *Kronen Zeitung* reported that the suspects are French, with Algerian or Pakistani heritage, and were awaiting orders for further terror attacks. They are believed to have entered Europe via Greece and travelled along the Western Balkan route used by hundreds of thousands of refugees fleeing conflict in the Middle East and Africa.” [85418, 85419, 85455]

A judge declares a mistrial after jurors become deadlocked in the trial of William Porter, one of the Baltimore police officer charged in the death of Freddie Gray. Outside the courthouse, protesters chant, “No justice, no peace!” State’s Attorney Marilyn Mosby “looked visibly upset,” according to CNN. (That may be because Mosby over-charged Porter—with misconduct in office, involuntary manslaughter, second-degree assault, and reckless endangerment—which collectively may have been a bridge too far for the jurors—who, it is later reported, voted 11-to-1 to acquit Porter.) [85445, 85447, 85465, 85495, 85551, 86725]

According to figures obtained by FoxNews.com, “Some 102,313 Syrians were granted admission to the U.S. as legal permanent residents or through programs including work, study and tourist visas from 2012 through August of this year, a period which roughly coincides with the devastating civil war that still engulfs the Middle Eastern country. Experts say any fears that terrorists might infiltrate the proposed wave of refugees from United Nations-run camps should be dwarfed by the potential danger already here.” The Center for Immigration Studies’ Jessica Vaughan observes, “The sheer number of people arriving on all kinds of visas and with green cards, and possibly U.S. citizenship, makes it impossible for our counterterrorism authorities to keep track of them all, much less prevent them from carrying out attacks or belatedly try to deport them.” [85446]

The Federation for American Immigration Reform’s Ira Mehlman states, “It is highly unlikely that the 102,313 Syrians who were admitted over the past three years were effectively vetted. Even in countries where we have a strong diplomatic presence, the sheer volume of background checks being carried out precludes the kind of thorough vetting that is necessary.” [85446]

At PamelaGeller.com Nonie Darwish, author of *The Devil We Don’t Know*, writes, “...Obama told CNN’s Fareed Zakaria that 99.9 percent of Muslims are peace-loving and reject jihadist Islam. This is a common statement by many of the so-called ‘moderate Muslims’ in my country of origin, Egypt. That statement is incorrect in many ways, and is designed to confuse Americans and save face of Muslims and their defenders. It is hard to believe that ...Obama believes what he says about Islam, because the day Osama bin Laden was killed was a day of mourning all over the Muslim world. When Obama realized that, he had bin Laden’s body buried at sea so the Muslim world could not erect a monument in Mecca for him. So why is Obama so passionate about telling us how wonderful Islam is? What does he mean by defending Islam as moderate and peaceful?” [85456]

“It defies logic that only 0.1% percent of Muslims are causing all this never-ending worldwide havoc, and unspeakable mayhem, torture, burning and beheading of hundreds of thousands of people around the world. If they are only 0.1% of the Muslim population, how come the brutal Islamic legal system is unable to round the jihadists up and behead them in the infamous public squares of Saudi Arabia? How come moderate Muslims, the 99.9%, are unable to explain away their passivity with jihadists while those jihadists are brutalizing, honor killing and terrorizing apostates? How many jihadists have been declared apostates by Saudi Arabia? How many were beheaded in the Saudi or Iranian

public squares? Why has the “moderate” largest Islamic university in the world, Al Azhar, never issued a fatwa of death against ISIS fighters and anyone who joins ISIS? They issue fatwas of death on apostates and women who have sex outside of marriage all the time, so how come none against those jihadists who supposedly ruined Islam’s reputation and caused the world to fear Muslims? How come ...Obama did not demand just that from Al Azhar or from Saudi Arabia, to prove to the anxious American people that the 99.9% of Muslims are on our side?” [85456]

“...If jihadists and terrorists were only 0.1%, we would not have the worldwide Islamic terrorism of today. The number of the criminal population in most societies, Western and non-Western, is certainly more than 0.1%, and most societies, especially in the West, are perfectly capable of controlling their criminal population, and are capable in creating law and order and safety and security for their own citizens. How come the 0.1% of radical Muslims is capable of causing millions of Muslim refugees, and how come rich Arab countries are not taking care of them? Survey after survey keeps confirming our fears that the majority of Muslims are for killing apostates. ... I have yet to see fatwas of death against jihadists in the Arab media or from Muslim political and religious leaders. It is clear where the heart of those who call themselves moderate Muslims is. It is not against jihadists, but against those who speak against jihad.” [85456]

“Moderate Muslims are confused people, and have been violently and harshly trained over centuries to never think for themselves. Moderate Muslims are suffering from a pathology that allows them to believe in two opposite ideas at the same time and feel perfectly comfortable with them. In their minds, there is no contradiction at all when they say: ‘Islam is a religion of peace,’ and they have no problem with commandments in the Quran to kill and terrorize the infidels. The confusion in the West about moderate vs. radical Islam is not by accident, but by design, because no one wants to do anything about it; not Western leaders, and not even the 99.9% of nice Muslims.” [85456]

JihadWatch.org reports, “A Middle Eastern woman was caught surveilling a U.S. port of entry on the Mexican border holding a sketchbook with Arabic writing and drawings of the facility and its security system, federal law enforcement sources tell Judicial Watch. The woman has been identified as 23-year-old Leila Abdelrazaq, according to a Customs and Border Patrol (CPB) report obtained by JW this week. Abdelrazaq appeared to have two accomplices, a 31-year-old man named Gabriel Schivone and a 28-year-old woman named Leslie McAfee. CBP agents noticed the trio ‘observing the facilities’ at the Port of Mariposa in Nogales, Arizona on December 2. Schivone was first noticed inside the entrance of the pedestrian area while the two women stood outside by the entry door, the CPB document states.” [85458, 85459, 85479]

NYTimes.com reports, “The authorities in Belgium said on Wednesday that one of the Paris attackers may have been holed up in a house in Brussels two nights after 130 people were killed and hundreds more injured—but that he could have escaped because of a law banning police raids on private homes from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m., according to the country’s justice minister.” [85471]

The *Times* also reports that Defense Secretary Ashton Carter “has notified Congress in recent days that he has approved 17 proposed transfers of lower-level detainees [from Guantanamo]. ...Obama wants to close the Guantánamo prison in Cuba before he leaves office in a little over a year. His administration has stepped up efforts to find countries to take 48 detainees on a transfer list and moved to speed up the work of a parole-like board that might approve the release of others who are currently recommended for indefinite detention.” (Because Obama cannot persuade Congress to permit the transfer of detainees to the United States, it appears he is simply going to release them, one at a time, until the facility is empty.) [85487, 85488, 85497, 85544, 85634]

Obama’s most significant Guantanamo problem is likely Khalid Sheikh Mohammed (KSM), the mastermind of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks (and other attacks). It is beyond the realm of possibility that Obama would release him, even if another nation promised to take him and keep him under lock and key for the remainder of his lifetime. But the likelihood that Obama could successfully transfer KSM to a U.S. prison is close to zero. The political uproar of the release or transfer of the terrorist would be monumental. Even if Obama manages to whittle down the detainee population at Guantanamo to only a handful of prisoners, he will never be able to release or move KSM. [85640, 85704]

On December 17 Obama meets with counter-terrorism officials and then issues a meaningless statement not much different than his December 6 Oval Office address. He insists the United States is being kept safe by professional, that there are no specific, credible terrorist threats, that Americans should not be fearful of terrorist attack because that is what the terrorists want, and that everyone should go about their daily routines. [85493, 85508, 85509]

At WND.com Cheryl Chumley reports that Obama “went behind closed doors, and off official White House schedule, to meet with former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg—the nanny of city governance who’s helped finance a massive campaign to challenge with National Rifle Association—and discuss gun control.” [85485]

The Augusta County, Virginia school board announces that schools will be closed on December 18 and all weekend extra-curricular activities will be canceled—out of an “abundance of caution.” The action is in response to parent outrage over geography teacher Cheryl LaPorte’s calligraphy assignment in which students were told to write the Muslim statement of faith. (The “shahada” reads, “There is no god but Allah, and Muhammad is the messenger of Allah.”) [85502, 85503, 85504, 85505, 85596]

While many schools across the country prohibit religious songs in Christmas programs in order to not offend Muslims or atheists, some parents in Blaine, Minnesota are angry over a choir teacher’s decision to include a song about Ramadan in a holiday concert. The song’s lyrics include, “Allahu akbar.” (Although the media typically suggests that Allahu Akbar means “Allah is great” or “God is great,” Jihad Watch’s Robert Spencer notes that it actually means “Allah is greater,” or “*Allah Is Greater Than Your God or Government.*” It is the aggressive declaration that Allah and Islam are dominant over every other form

of government, religion, law or ethic, which is why Islamic jihadists in the midst of killing infidels so often shout it. One primary purpose of shouting is to ‘strike terror in the hearts of the enemies of Allah.’”) [85517, 85518, 85522, 85565, 85572, 85801]

In Camden County, Missouri, authorities are notified after “Middle Eastern men” ask about renting a boat so that they could tour Bagnell Dam. [85519, 85520]

Breitbart.com reports, “As many as 1000 migrants have been involved in a plan to storm the Calais entrance to the Channel Tunnel in a bid to reach England, some armed with iron bars and hammers. The A16 road into Calais had to be shut for an hour as police fired tear gas at the crowd to drive them back. Vigilant locals have taken to the Facebook group ‘Les Calaisians en Colère’ (Calaisians are Angry) to warn that gangs of around 50-60 migrants at a time were working to bring traffic to a standstill as their accomplices attacked the tunnel.” [85506, 85507]

A bomb is discovered at the Fishergate Shopping Center in Preston, England. The device is detonated safely. [85510, 85511]

In Paris, 14 people are mildly injured after being poisoned by a toxic substance left on an electronic keypad at a synagogue. [85512]

A Jewish cemetery in Poland is desecrated with spray-painted messages: “Fuck Jews!” “Islam will dominate” “Islamic State was here” and “Allah bless Hitler.” [85513]

Jalil Ibn Ameer Aziz, 19, is charged in a criminal complaint unsealed by the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania. The Harrisburg, Pennsylvania resident is charged with providing material support to ISIS, using at least 57 Twitter accounts to encourage jihad against the United States and help others travel for the cause. Aziz posted the names and addresses of about 100 U.S. military members and called for violence against them. In addition, authorities found “a tactical-style backpack in his closet, which contained high-capacity weapons magazines, ammunition, a knife, and other survival items.” (In one of his messages Aziz discussed “buying one girl” once he arrives in the Islamic State. “I just want one girl 17 years old.”) [85563, 85564, 85577, 85602, 85615, 85619]

Newly-elected Brooklyn Civil Court Judge Carolyn Walker-Diallo is sworn in on a Qur’an. NYDailyNews.com reports, “The swearing-in session went off without a hitch, but after attendees posted video of the ceremony to social media, the backlash became so severe that some of Walker-Diallo’s supporters became concerned for her safety. ‘Sickening,’ one Facebook user posted in response to the video. ‘Is this America or the Middle East.’ ‘Another piece of s--- Muslim,’ another user wrote, ‘trying to take over this country.’” (Pamela Geller comments, “The Koran forbids allegiance to non-Muslim authority, so isn’t this Muslima’s vow worthless? How can she serve two masters at once? In Islam, sharia supersedes all manmade laws. It is the law of Allah. The Koran dictates that Islam is in a perpetual war against all infidels until a sharia-dominant world

is established. Which master will she serve in this conflict? I find the circus that followed her swearing in [Arabic singing and dancing in the chamber] to be outrageous and contemptuous of American legal traditions.”) [85834, 85835, 85836]

At a House Oversight and Government Reform Committee hearing, chairman Jason Chaffetz (R-UT) asks Assistant Secretary of State Michele Bond, “The [State] Department has revoked approximately 122,000 visas for a variety of reasons including nearly 9500 with links to terrorism. Of the 122,000 revoked visas, how many of those people are still in the United States?” Bond replies, “I don’t know.” Chaffetz asks Alan Bersin, Assistant Secretary for International Affairs at the Department of Homeland Security, “Homeland Security, how many revoked visas are still in the United States of America.” Bersin responds, “I don’t have that.” (Translation: The State Department has revoked 9,500 visas and the Obama administration has no clue where in the United States any of those people may be.) [85526, 85537, 85542, 85588, 85589, 85618]

Townhall.com’s Katie Pavlich reports, “The attorney defending Juan Francisco Lopez-Sanchez, the five-time deported illegal alien accused of murdering 32-year-old Kate Steinle in San Francisco earlier this year, is asking for murder charges to be dropped in the case and argues the entire incident was simply an accident. Last month Kate’s Law, which would require a maximum five-year prison term for criminal illegal aliens who are caught reentering the country, was blocked by Senate Democrats.” [85466]

Enrique Marquez, pal of San Bernardino terrorist Syed Farook, is finally arrested. He will likely be charged with conspiring to provide material support to terrorism, making a false statement in connection with the acquisition of firearms, and immigration fraud. KTLA.com reports, “The immigration fraud charge is connected to Marquez’s ‘sham marriage’ to Farook’s sister-in-law’s sister—Mariya Chernykh. He is believed by authorities to have bought two assault rifles used by Farook and Farook’s wife, Tashfeen Malik, in the December 2 mass shooting and terror attack that left 14 people dead in the Southern California city.” [85472, 85490, 85496, 85514, 85555, 85567]

Russian President Vladimir Putin says Donald Trump is “a very colorful character and talented. ...He’s the absolute leader in the presidential race. He’s said that he wants to move to a new level of ties, closer and deeper ties with Russia. How couldn’t we welcome that? Of course we welcome it.” [85486, 85489, 85538]

Rush Limbaugh tells his radio listeners, “The country was just sold down the river again by your very Republican Party. I have a headline here from the Washington Times: ‘White House Declares Total Victory Over GOP in Budget Battle.’ That headline’s a misnomer. There was never a battle. None of this was opposed. The Republican Party didn’t stand up to any of it, and the die has been cast for a long time on this. I know many of you are dispirited, depressed, angry, [a] combination of all of that. But, folks, there was no other way this could go. Because two years ago when the Republican Party declared they would never do anything that would shut down the government and they would not impeach Obama, there were no obstacles in Obama’s way and there were no obstacles in the way of the Democrat Party. When you surrender the power of the

purse—and that’s the primary power the House of Representatives has. Not a penny of money can be spent in this country by this government without the House of Representatives authorizing it. Obama can spend all he wants, but if the House doesn’t give him the mechanism, he can’t spend any of it. But the Republicans squandered that. They gave up the power of the purse. The reason they did that is because for some inexplicable reason, they are literally paranoid and scared to death of even being accused of doing something that would shut down the government.” [85492]

Limbaugh adds, “There is no Republican Party! You know, we don’t even need a Republican Party if they’re gonna [sic] do this. You know, just elect Democrats, disband the Republican Party, and let the Democrats run it, because that’s what’s happening anyway. ...And now the Republicans have the largest number of seats in the House they’ve had in Congress since the Civil War, and it hasn’t made any difference at all. It is as though Nancy Pelosi is still running the House and Harry Reid is still running the Senate. ‘Betrayed’ is not even the word here. What has happened here is worse than betrayal. Betrayal is pretty bad, but it’s worse than that. This was out-and-out, in-our-face lying, from the campaigns to individual statements made about the philosophical approach Republicans had to all this spending. ...If Donald Trump didn’t exist and if the Republican Party actually does want to win someday, they’d have to invent him. It’s just mind-boggling when you figure out everything that has been granted Obama. All the money, the tax increases, the Cadillac plans in Obamacare. All kinds of punitive things in Obamacare, delayed yet again so that people will not be made aware of the pain and suffering Obamacare’s gonna [sic] cause.” [85524]

Of the \$1.1 trillion spending bill Donald Trump says, “The only special interest not being served by our government is the American people. If anyone needed more evidence of why the American people are suffering at the hands of their own government, look no further than the budget deal announced by Speaker [Paul] Ryan [R-WI]. To avoid a government shutdown, a cowardly threat from an incompetent President, the elected Republicans in Congress threw in the towel and showed absolutely no budget discipline. ...The American people will have to absorb higher deficits, greater debt, less economic liberty and more corporate welfare. Congress cannot seem to help itself in bending to every whim of special interests. How can they face their constituents when they continue to burden our children and grandchildren with debts they will never be able to repay? Our government is failing us, so we must do something about it. Who knows how bad things will be when the next administration comes in and has to pick up the pieces?” [85545]

On December 18 *Morning Joe’s* Mika Brzezinski (a Democrat) suggests, “If you want someone to beat Hillary Clinton, it would be Donald Trump, because he will do things that none of those [other GOP] candidates will do. I’m not saying it’s good, and I’m not saying it’s pretty, and I’m not saying it’s right. But the Democratic Party has a problem if Trump wins the nomination.” (Clinton and her campaign will not know how to deal with a Trump candidacy. She will unleash her “dirty tricks” squads in an effort to turn voters against Trump, but his Republican opponents have already demonstrated that will not work. Clinton will also not be prepared for Trump’s blunt talk. Where a typical opponent would say “she has misled the American people,” Trump will say, “She’s a liar and



should be in jail.” Clinton will find that “traditional” campaign strategies will not work against Trump.) [85554]

Pamela Geller reports that students at the Anne Frank School in Nordham, Germany will be moved to mobile classrooms so that about 500 Muslim refugees can be housed in the school. (Whether Anne Frank is rolling over in her grave cannot be known with any certainty.) [85500, 85501]

Geller also writes, “Jihadis have vowed murderous terror attacks against American and European civilians. It will get much worse, while our leaders work hard to assure us that it has nothing to do with Islam. The Islamic State boasted that it would soon flood Europe with as many as 500,000 refugees. And the Lebanese Education Minister recently said that there were 20,000 jihadis among the refugees in camps in his country. Meanwhile, 80% of migrants who have recently come to Europe claiming to be fleeing the war in Syria aren’t really from Syria at all. So why are they claiming to be Syrian and streaming into Europe? An Islamic State operative gave the answer when he boasted in September, shortly after the migrant influx began, that among the flood of refugees, 4,000 Islamic State jihadis had already entered Europe. He explained their purpose: ‘It’s our dream that there should be a caliphate not only in Syria but in all the world, and we will have it soon, inshallah.’ These Muslims were going to Europe in the service of that caliphate: ‘They are going like refugees,’ he said, but they were going with the plan of sowing blood and mayhem on European streets. As he told this to journalists, he smiled and said, ‘Just wait.’” [85568]

Breitbart.com reports, “A group of seven men sang a war-chant favoured by the Islamic State and tried to recruit fellow passengers while riding on the Berlin U-Bahn railway. Berlin police are investigating after a large group of suspected radical Islamists rode the underground train while prostelysing [sic; proselytizing] for the Islamic State late on Thursday night. Eye witnesses said they sang an Islamic song, spoke in Arabic and handed out leaflets about the Islamic State. Engaging other passengers in Arabic between stops in the historic centre of the city, one witness said the men were obviously ‘advertising’ for the Islamic State... Police are now reviewing security footage. A police spokesman said the force has determined the show was in support of a terrorist organisation.” [85590, 85591]

TheBlaze.com reports that Obama “indicated during a private meeting with columnists that he ‘did not see enough cable television to fully appreciate the anxiety after the attacks in Paris and San Bernardino,’ the New York Times reported on Thursday. He also reportedly said he plans to ‘step up his public arguments.’ The comments, first reported by New York Times chief White House correspondent Peter Baker and reporter Gardiner Harris, were later seemingly scrubbed by the newspaper without an explanation in the story.” (In other words, Obama thinks Americans watch too much Fox News and should not be so upset by terrorist attacks—which make him look bad. Once the *Times* realized its report made Obama look even worse, it removed the reference to Obama’s remark. With his 24x7 Secret Service protection Obama, of course, has no reason to fear for his own personal safety. But he apparently believes unprotected Americans are foolish for

being concerned about their own safety—and want to hear him talk even more. Obama is clearly inside a bubble, surrounded by “yes men,” and oblivious to what average Americans are going through and thinking.) The *Times* later claims the change was made for space reasons—but the revised story is longer than the one it replaced. [85523, 85525, 85530, 85550, 85558, 85573, 85575]

Obama grants clemency to 95 federal prisoners, most of whom were incarcerated for non-violent drug offenses. According to DailySignal.com, “Inmates given clemency do not leave the prison system right away. They are sent to lower-security prisons and then halfway houses to ease their transition, before they are released from the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons... Most ex-inmates then have to undergo five years of probation.” [85629, 85811]

Gutless House Republicans side with Democrats to approve the \$1.15 trillion spending bill. The vote is 316-113; 166 Democrats are joined by 150 Republicans. [85531, 85557]

House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) says Obama called to thank him for “making government work.” (That is, “Thanks for caving in and giving me what I wanted in the spending bill.”) [85528]

The Senate then passes the legislation, 65-33, and sends it to Obama for his signature so that he and Congress can go on vacation—while the taxpayers get stuck with the \$1.1 trillion bill. (Campaigning in Iowa, Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) misses the vote.) [85549, 85552]

At CrowsNestPoliticis.com, Ken Crow, former leader of Tea Party of America, writes, “All patriots should contact your group’s leaders and begin organizing nationwide to put down this RINO [House Speaker Paul Ryan] in order that he is not re-elected to his seat in Wisconsin. The Badger State patriots need to begin soliciting your State Senators, high-profile business leaders or the State Legislators who reside within the 1st District of Wisconsin.” [85733, 85734, 85843]

Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL) succeeds in blocking a ban on an Internet access tax. (According to Stephen Moore at Townhall.com, “Grinch Durbin has promised to hold this bill hostage unless he gets paid a ransom. He says he will only allow a permanent ban on Internet access taxes, if Congress votes to allow state and local sales taxes on Internet purchases. It’s a game of pick your poison.”) [85675]

Obama holds an end-of-year press conference before leaving for his holiday vacation in Hawaii. He says, “I said at the beginning of this year that interesting stuff happens in the fourth quarter and we are only halfway through. I plan on doing everything I can with every minute or every day I have left as president to deliver on behalf of the American people. Since taking office, I’ve never been more optimistic about a year ahead than I am right now.” Obama claims, “Five years later, I was right about Syria.” He ridicules Republicans for not believing in global warming and repeats his absurd claim that

keeping terrorists at Guantanamo is a recruiting tool for ISIS. [85527, 85532, 85546, 85548, 85673]

Obama says, “We’re going to defeat ISIS, and we’re going to do so by systemically squeezing them, cutting off their supply lines, cutting off their financing, taking out their leadership, taking out their forces, taking out their infrastructure. We’re going to do so in partnership with forces on the ground that sometimes are spotty, sometimes need capacity building, need our assistance, need our training, but we’re seeing steady progress in many of these areas. And so they’re going to be on the run.” (The American people have not seen any evidence of that alleged progress.) “Now, in order for us to stamp them out thoroughly, we have to eliminate lawless areas in which they cannot still roam. There are still operatives who are interested in carrying out terrorist attacks because they still operate in areas between Pakistan and Afghanistan or more prominently right now in Yemen that are hard to reach.” [85673]

“Our long-term goal has to be able to stabilize these areas so that they don’t have any safe haven, and in order for us to do that in Syria, there has to be an end to the civil war. There has to be an actual government that has a police capacity and a structure in these areas that currently aren’t governed.” (Obama is delusional. Bashar al-Assad will be president of Syria long after Obama leaves the White House. Obama should be focusing on destroying ISIS, not eliminating Assad to please his Turkish buddy, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.) [85673]

Obama lies when he tells reporters, “It’s important to distinguish between [social media] posts that are public—social media on a Facebook page—versus private communications through carious social media or apps. Our law enforcement and intelligence professions are constantly monitoring public posts and that is part of the visa review process—that people are investigating what individuals have said publicly, and questioned about any statements that they maybe [sic; might have] made.” (It has already been confirmed that immigration officials do not search a visa applicant’s social media. In fact, they had been ordered by the administration not to.) [85574]

As he ends the press conference, Obama says, “Okay everybody, I gotta [sic] get to *Star Wars*” (referring to a new *Star Wars* movie). [85576, 85578, 85983]

In Riviera Beach, Florida, Old Dixie Highway is renamed President Barack Obama Highway. [85529, 85817]

According to a Heritage Foundation analysis, 95.5 million people in the United States are dependent on the government (via food stamps, disability benefits, food stamps, Pell Grants, the Earned Income Tax Credit, etc.). [85674]

In a Public Policy Polling survey, Donald Trump moves up 8 points from the prior poll and leads with 34 percent. Ted Cruz follows with 18 percent; Marco Rubio has 13; Jeb Bush, 7; Ben Carson, 6; Chris Christie, 5; Carly Fiorina, 4; Mike Huckabee, 4. Hillary Clinton leads Bernie Sanders 56-28. [85556]

Trump leads a Fox News poll with 39 percent, followed by Cruz (18), Rubio (11), Carson (9), Jeb Bush (3), Carly Fiorina (3), Rand Paul (3), Chris Christie (3), and John Kasich (2). [85580, 85583]

In an interview with ForeignPolicy.com, former Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel says that Obama's refusal to act after Syrian President Bashar al-Assad crossed the chemical weapons "red line" was a mistake: "There's no question in my mind that it hurt the credibility of [Obama's] word when this occurred. A president's word is a big thing, and when the president says things, that's a big deal." Of the ISIS threat, Hagel says that in 2014, "I got accused of trying to hype something, overstate something, and make something more than it was. I didn't know all of it, but I knew we were up against something here that we had never seen before. And in many ways, we were not prepared for it." Hagel states that national security policy meetings "were not productive. I don't think many times we ever actually got to where we needed to be. We kept kind of deferring the tough decisions. And there were always too many people in the room. ... We seemed to veer away from the big issues. ... I eventually got to the point where I told Susan Rice that I wasn't going to spend more than two hours in these meetings. Some of them would go four hours." Hagel states, "There were times that I had called over and asked to have a private meeting with [Obama], and when I showed up, there were others in the room." (Hagel does not say who those others were, but Valerie Jarrett—"Obama's brain"—was probably present.) [85547, 85553, 85559, 85581, 85582]

TheHill.com writes, "Tension between Hagel and other officials in ... Obama's inner circle surfaced publicly last year, as the then-Defense chief and the White House disagreed over a number of policy initiatives. Hagel and White House national security adviser Susan Rice 'frequently butted heads' over Syria policy and the Guantánamo Bay detention facility, according to the Foreign Policy report. Hagel, who did not mention Rice by name, told the magazine that even after he agreed to leave the administration, some White House officials continued to anonymously knock him in the press. White House aides criticized him in a November 2014 New York Times report, claiming he was mostly silent in meetings in the Situation Room and made a decision on Guantanamo that annoyed Rice. 'They already had my resignation, so what was the point of just continuing to try to destroy me?' Hagel told Foreign Policy. 'I don't know what the purpose was,' he said of what he views as backstabbing by White House aides. 'To this day, I'm still mystified by that. But I move forward. I'm proud of my service.'" [85547, 85553, 85559, 85581, 85582]

It is not surprising that Hagel would have problems dealing with Rice. She has been roundly criticized by many in the State Department and the military. In the 1990s, Rice worked with Richard Clark to persuade Bill Clinton *not* to accept Sudan's offer to hand over Osama bin Laden to the United States. Former Clinton staffer Mansoor Ijaz stated that efforts to capture or kill Osama bin Laden were "overruled every single time by the State Department, by Susan Rice and her cronies, who were Hell-bent on destroying the Sudan." The anti-Semite Rice, wife of ABC news producer Ian Cameron, also encouraged Clinton to do nothing to stop the Rwanda genocide. Rice has been considered

“wildly incompetent” by some Washington insiders, and one critic who has worked with her once stated, “She doesn’t know what she doesn’t know. And she doesn’t tolerate dissenters. To have her head the U.S. mission to the U.N. is a mind-boggling decision. It is frightening.” (Susan Rice and Valerie Jarrett may be the two most dangerous people in the Obama administration.) [356, 360, 568, 569, 590, 628, 670, 1377, 1679, 1680, 1681, 2197, 5476, 8155, 8516, 10556, 30277, 30315]

In San Bernardino, Obama meets with the families of some of the 14 people killed in the terrorist attack—but is criticized for not meeting with any of the wounded or the first responders. (Obama then changes his plans and meets with some first responders.) [85607, 85651]

On December 19 Obama and his family arrive in Hawaii for their holiday vacation. The *Daily Mail* writes, “Obama’s eighth consecutive Christmas vacation to Hawaii begins just as a new report published Thursday showed the total cost of Obama’s vacations since taking office in January 2009 has now hit \$70.5 million. The costs are being savaged by a critical conservative group, which said Obama is treating Air Force One, which costs \$206,000/hour to run, ‘like an Uber ride’ ahead of his next jaunt to his home state, Tom Fitton, president of the Judicial Watch pressure group said. ...Obama has taken 23 vacations spanning all or part of 177 days, according to Mark Knoller, a CBS News White House correspondent who tracks presidential vacations.” (For the record, George W. Bush never left for Christmas vacations until the day *after* Christmas—so that hundreds of Secret Service agents, staffers, and reporters could remain with their families in the Washington, D.C. area for the holiday.) [85562, 85746, 85747]

The *Daily Mail* also reports that Abdelhamid Abaaoud, the mastermind behind the terrorist attacks in Paris, “had a photograph of one of Britain’s busiest shopping centres on his mobile phone... West Midlands Police investigators revealed that Abaaoud’s photograph [of Birmingham’s Bullring] was among others of ‘key and sensitive sites’ in the city, said well-placed sources. The photos have led police to the ‘frightening conclusion’ that the terrorist ringleader was planning to bring carnage to England’s second city similar to the events he unleashed in Paris on November 13. The Bullring is the most visited site in Birmingham, and receives almost 40 million shoppers a year. The claim that the shopping centre—with its futuristic-looking Selfridges store—may have been a key target for the cell behind the Paris attacks comes as hundreds of thousands of shoppers this week flock to its 160 shops to do their last-minute Christmas shopping.” [85592, 85593, 85616]

TheHill.com reports that Obama “has vetoed a pair of measures by congressional Republicans that would have overturned the main pillars of his landmark climate change rules for power plants. The decision was widely expected; Obama and his staff had repeatedly threatened the action as a way to protect a top priority and major part of his legacy. The White House announced... that he is formally not taking action on the congressional measures, which counts as a ‘pocket veto’ under the law.” (With the veto of legislation to overturn Obama’s Clean Power Plan, some coal-fired power plants will be forced to shut down.) [85637]

Breitbart.com reports, “The Hillary Clinton campaign is quietly making cash transfers to the Democratic National Committee (DNC) to fund state party efforts in the South. Breitbart News has obtained an email sent by Hillary Clinton deputy national political director Brynne Craig, 30, to a state party chairman. Craig assures the chairman that the Clinton campaign will be making another ‘transfer’ to the DNC. Then Craig said she would ‘follow up to let you know the amount that is transferred.’” [85584, 85605]

Democrats candidates Hillary Clinton, Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT), and former Maryland governor Martin O’Malley debate in Goffstown, New Hampshire. (Because it is Saturday night, only days before Christmas, and the competition is a new *Star Wars* movie, the debate has few viewers—about 6.7 million—which is precisely what Clinton and the Democrat National Committee want. The next Democrat debate is scheduled for Sunday, January 17, 2017—the same day as two NFL playoff games. The next GOP debate is Thursday, January 14.) [85579, 85575, 85599, 85603, 85705]

Sanders says he is running for president to address “the planetary crisis” caused by global warming. [86645]

Clinton says Americans “need to make sure that the really discriminatory messages that Trump is sending around the world don’t fall on receptive ears. He is becoming ISIS’s best recruiter. They are going to people, showing videos of Donald Trump insulting Islam and Muslims in order to recruit more radical jihadists. ...I want to explain why this is not in America’s interest to react with this kind of fear and respond to this kind of bigotry. ...We have to reach out to Muslims and say, ‘You are not our adversary. You are our partner.’ Mr. Trump has a great capacity to use bluster and bigotry to inflame people.” (There is no evidence that Trump’s statements are prompting ISIS recruitment. In fact, it is Clinton and Obama who may be encouraging ISIS recruitment with their insistence that they will never put “boots on the ground” to defeat the terrorists. When radical Muslims see ISIS growing in size and are told they will never have to face U.S. troops in combat, they are naturally enticed by the option of joining a “winning team.” “The U.S. is our enemy and it is afraid to fight back!” is probably far more appealing than “ISIS Wants You!”) [85597, 85599, 85604, 85608, 85656, 85714]

Politifact later states, “We were unable to find any evidence to support this. The Clinton campaign did not provide any evidence that this is already happening—only that it could be happening, or that it may in the future. If ISIS was using Trump for recruitment videos, we would expect a frenzy of media coverage over it. We rate this claim False.” (Actually, there is an ISIS propaganda/recruitment video called “No Respite” that features images of Obama, Vice President Joe Biden, Secretary of State John Kerry, “liar” George W. Bush, and “fornicator” Bill Clinton. Trump later calls Clinton a liar and demands an apology for calling him an ISIS recruiter; Clinton responds, “Hell no!” when asked if she will apologize; and Clinton then calls Trump a bully. Clinton thus makes two mistakes: fully elevating Trump to her presumed candidate level, and opening her up to charges of bullying her husband’s molestation and rape accusers.) [85608, 85612, 85620, 85632, 85644, 85650, 85663, 85664, 85665, 85689, 85692, 85697, 85714]

Clinton says, “I don’t think a halt [of refugee admissions to the United States] is necessary.” (She does not offer to house them at her mansion in Chappaqua, New York.) On the issue of fighting ISIS, Clinton calls for a coalition and a no-fly zone in Syria. Both Clinton and Sanders call for higher taxes on the top income earners (although their promises of “free stuff” for the voters will cost far more than could ever be collected through tax increases). Laughably, Sanders says he will pay for his goodies with higher taxes and lowering interest rate on the federal debt. (Sanders apparently believes he can get more nations and individuals to buy U.S. debt by offering them lower interest rates.) Clinton claims she will “build on the successes” of ObamaCare, while Sanders calls for full-blown socialized health care. On the issue of the disaster she created in Libya with the ouster of Muammar Gaddafi in 2011, Clinton offers an answer that will sound good to the uninformed but evasive to those who know better. [85599]

Clinton says, “I worry greatly that the rhetoric coming from the Republicans, particularly Donald Trump, is sending a message to Muslims here... and... around the world, that there is a ‘clash of civilizations.’” (Of course, there is such a clash—and ignoring it does no one any favors.) Clinton does herself no favors with a claim that the administration is “where we need to be” in the fight against ISIS. [85700, 85706, 85713]

After the debate’s first commercial break, Clinton fails to immediately return to the stage and Sanders is in the middle of answering a question when she shows up and says, “Sorry.” (The Clinton campaign later correctly explains that the women’s bathroom is much farther from the stage than the men’s bathroom. Clinton also reportedly chose to wait for someone else to leave the restroom because she did not want to share the facility with a Martin O’Malley staffer. Rush Limbaugh quips that the “queen was caught on the throne.”) [85606, 85610, 85636, 85647, 85735, 85748]

Clinton moans, “We don’t have enough oversight of what the insurance companies are charging everybody right now.” (The government should have no oversight or control over any prices. If a customer believes a price is too high, he can find another seller. That is an essential part of the free market, capitalist system that made the United States the wealthiest and most productive nation in history. Insurance is expensive because of government interference in the marketplace.) [85623]

Clinton also says, “I am not giving up on Libya and no one should.” (Libyans should be frightened to death.) [885623]

Clinton claims, “I think it’s important to point out that about three percent of my donations come from people in the finance and investment world. You can go to OpenSecrets.org and check that. [I receive] more donations from students and teachers than I do from people associated with Wall Street.” (DailyCaller.com later points out, “But the website, which is maintained by the Center for Responsive Politics, does not break down campaign contributions by job occupation, as Clinton suggested. Thus there’s no way to compare how much money she’s received from students and teachers or from people associated with Wall Street banks. That leaves fact-checkers having to

compare donations by industry. And such a review reveals that the biggest donors to Clinton's 2016 campaign committee, Hillary for America, come from the legal, business services, and securities and investment industries. The education industry is the fifth largest source of contributions to the Democratic front-runner's effort.") [85635]

One of the "hard-hitting" questions Clinton is asked comes from ABC's Martha Raddatz: "First Ladies, as you well know, have used their position to work on important causes like literacy and drug abuse, but they also supervise the menus, the flowers, the holiday ornaments and White House decor. I know you think you know where I'm going here. You have said that Bill Clinton is a great host and loves giving tours, but may opt out of picking flower arrangements if you're elected. Bill Clinton aside, is it time to change the role of a president's spouse?" (Raddatz was once married to Julius Genachowski, who Obama appointed chairman of the Federal Communications Commission. Obama attended their wedding.) [85643]

Writer and debate watcher Walter Olson tweets, "'Every election is a sort of advance auction sale of stolen goods.' - H. L. Mencken." 85622]

On December 20 *The Washington Post*, which is normally in Obama's pocket, writes, "Iran is following through on the nuclear deal it struck with a U.S.-led coalition in an utterly predictable way: It is racing to fulfill those parts of the accord that will allow it to collect \$100 billion in frozen funds and end sanctions on its oil exports and banking system, while expanding its belligerent and illegal activities in other areas—and daring the West to respond. Unfortunately, the Obama administration's response to these provocations has also been familiar. It is doing its best to downplay them—and thereby encouraging Tehran to press for still-greater advantage. [Iran] ...has unjustly sentenced Post correspondent Jason Rezaian to prison and arrested two businessmen with U.S. citizenship or residence since signing the nuclear accord. There have been no penalties for those outrageous violations of human rights. Now a United Nations panel has determined that Iran test-fired a nuclear-capable missile on Oct. 10 with a range of at least 600 miles, in violation of a U.N. resolution that prohibits such launches. Moreover, it appears likely that a second missile launch occurred on Nov. 21, also in violation of Security Council Resolution 1929..." [85680, 85681]

"It's not hard to guess the reasons for this fecklessness. ...Obama is reluctant to do anything that might derail the nuclear deal before Iran carries out its commitments, including uninstalling thousands of centrifuges and diluting or removing tons of enriched uranium. The same logic prompted him to tolerate Iran's malign interventions in Syria, Yemen and elsewhere, along with the arrest of Mr. Rezaian, while the pact was under negotiation. U.S. officials argue that Iran's nonnuclear violations make it all the more important that the nuclear deal be implemented. But that ignores the clear connections between the missile launches and Tehran's ambitions to become a nuclear power. The only practical military purpose of the missiles the regime is testing is to carry atomic warheads. And while missile launches are not prohibited by the nuclear pact itself, the separate resolution banning them remains in effect until the deal is implemented, after which a new resolution takes effect that calls on Iran not to develop such missiles for



eight years. By flouting the U.N. resolutions, Iran is clearly testing the will of the United States and its allies to enforce the overall regime limiting its nuclear ambitions. If there is no serious response, it will press the boundaries in other areas—such as the inspection regime.” [85680, 85681]

On MSNBC’s *Politics Nation*, Al Sharpton interviews Maricopa County, Arizona Sheriff Joe Arpaio. Sharpton asks, “Are you and Trump still on this ‘birther’ thing? I mean, do you really believe [Obama] was not born in Hawaii?” Arpaio replies, “I don’t care where he was born; I said that from day one. I said that it’s [Obama’s birth certificate is] a fraudulent document... If you had a fake document, you’d be in jail tomorrow. Sharpton asks, “Why hasn’t anybody been able to establish that it’s a fake document?” Arpaio responds, “We established it, but nobody wants to look at it. They avoid it. And I’ve had two major press conferences two, three years ago. Nobody will look at it; they don’t even want to hear about it. The only reason I mentioned [Donald] Trump is the fact he brought this out a long time ago; he was the only one that [sic; who] talked about it. Nobody wants to talk about it, Al.” [85611]

On *This Week*, Clinton toady George Stephanopoulos asks Donald Trump if he will “take back” his calling Hillary Clinton a liar for saying Trump is being used in an ISIS recruitment video. Trump replies, “Of course I’m standing by it. It was vetted. They went to [the fact checkers at] *The Washington Post*. Fox News went out in great detail and looked for it and there’s no such video. They may make one up knowing the Clintons and knowing Hillary.” Stephanopoulos again hounds Trump on his claim that Muslims in the United States celebrated the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. Trump pushes back: “George, I know you’re having a lot of fun this morning and so am I if you want to know the truth. The fact is, that we have a problem, George. You don’t have to admit it, because I know you want to be so politically correct all the time, you don’t have to admit it. But we have a problem and the problem is a very serious problem. ...With [politically correct] attitudes like your attitude people won’t turn them in [radical Muslims]. People are just going to go along. We have to solve a very serious problem, and if you don’t want to talk about it, or if you think it’s politically incorrect, that’s your problem not mine.” (Of course, an ISIS recruiting video featuring Trump will eventually surface—even if the Clinton campaign team has to create it.) [85630, 85649, 86011]

Jay Symopoulos reports at DCClothesline.com that snuck into the \$1.1 trillion spending bill was the Cyber Information Sharing Act (CISA). Congressman Justin Amash calls CISA “the worst anti-privacy legislation since the USA PATRIOT Act.” Symopoulos writes, “Advocates of the CISA provisions say their aim is to help prevent cyber threats, but critics say that the legislation essentially gives corporations legal immunity when sharing consumers’ private data about hacks and digital breaches with the Department of Homeland Security. ...Originally, the CISA anti-privacy legislation was shelved after a public outcry against the bill, but corporations soon realized the bill would provide them with legal immunity for sharing customers’ private data with the government and began a renewed effort to pass CISA. And miraculously, even in defeat, a bad bill became worse, and a crisis became an opportunity. ...It’s a shameful testament to the power of corporations and the intelligence community, to craft legislation that the American people

clearly don't support and then hide it within a budget bill to gain passage of the legislation, due to the fact that the public would never support it otherwise. What's more is that the Praetorian guard, also known as the mainstream media is choosing to keep it out of the public's eye." [85609]

According to a December 12-15 poll conducted by the Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research (PSR) in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, "67 percent of Palestinians are in favor of stabbing attacks against Israelis and almost the same amount [is] in favor of 'an armed intifada.'" [85613, 85614, 85617]

Conservative icon Phyllis Schlafly endorses Donald Trump. She tells WND.com, "It sounds like Donald Trump is the only one who has any fight in him. He will fight for the issues that we really care about and are very hot at the present time, such as the immigration issue. I don't see anyone else who's eager to fight." Of the \$1.1 trillion spending deal, Schlafly says, "It's the worst kind of a betrayal because we thought we elected a bunch of good guys who would shape up the party. We had a lot of fancy promises that the Republicans were going to shape up and change course. And they disappointed us. Betrayal is an appropriate word to describe it. ...[Trump] does look like he's the last hope [for America]. We don't hear anybody saying what he's saying. In fact, most of the people who ought to be lining up with him are attacking him. They're probably jealous of the amount of press coverage he gets. But the reason he gets so much press coverage is the grassroots are fed up with people who are running things, and they do want a change. They do want people to stand up for America. It really resonates when he says he wants to 'Make America Great Again.'" [85648]

At TheIntercept.com Zaid Jilani writes, "When a CBS News segment featuring a focus group of American Muslims aired Friday [December 18], it highlighted their relationship to terrorism, with a particular fixation on how much responsibility they felt to condemn terrorist attacks. But in interviews with *The Intercept*, two Muslim Americans who took part in the group complained that CBS edited out parts of the discussion where they raised their own concerns—including critiques of U.S. militarism, surveillance, and entrapment. They also said that Frank Luntz, the right-wing pollster who led the focus group, silenced members of the group when they criticized discriminatory U.S. government policies. ...Sarah Harvard, a New York City journalist who was in the group, wrote a lengthy Facebook post after the airing of the CBS segment where she noted that the total time spent filming was around an hour—and that the most telling exchanges were cut out. For example, Harvard wrote that after Luntz asked the group whether they were Americans or Muslims first, she chose to demonstrate the offensive nature of the question by asking, 'Well, are you an American or Jewish first?' That didn't make it on the air either." [85659, 85660]

U.S. aid worker and Army veteran Lisa Akbari is shot to death in Kabul, Afghanistan—reportedly by a mullah (of the "religion of peace") who "has links to terrorist groups." [85669, 85670, 85671]

In Las Vegas, a woman drives her car onto the sidewalk, intentionally ramming a crowd of pedestrians. One person is killed and dozens are injured. (There are unconfirmed reports that the driver shouted “Allahu Akbar” during the incident. The mainstream media suggests the woman was under the influence of drugs.) [85687, 85688, 85703]

On December 21 a Taliban suicide bomber kills six American soldiers in Afghanistan—just a few weeks after Pentagon spokesman Navy Captain Jeff Davis stated, “What we’re not doing (is) counter-terrorism operations against the Taliban. We actually view the Taliban as being an important partner in a peaceful Afghan-led reconciliation process. We are not actively targeting the Taliban.” Obama, golfing in Hawaii, has no comment. (The Associated Press breathlessly reports, “Obama attempted a chip shot of about 40 feet and made it into the hole. He reacted by dropping his wedge and raising his hat and arms into the air. He then pointed his finger at the media and tipped his hat and waved toward the gallery watching him from the road.”) [85624, 85695, 85696, 85707, 85708, 85725, 85736, 85737]

Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC) withdraws from the presidential race. [85638, 85639]

On *Morning Joe*, MSNBC’s Mika Brzezinski comments, “First of all, I don’t have a problem when Donald Trump calls in [to talk show] the day after a debate, but I do have a problem when Donald Trump calls in, and then you’ve got Chris Christie and all these other guys getting up at, like, whatever time it is, Carly Fiorina, on, you now, West Coast time or wherever the debate is, and showing up on TV, and then watching all the Sunday morning shows, ...he’s [Trump]’s on the phone, all the other candidates are schlepping in, *but*, we’ve got the opposite problem with Hillary [Clinton], who shows up when she wants to, who shows up when she feels like it, and only when a red carpet has been rolled out, and everything has been negotiated and pre-planned. And everyone can say, they don’t do that—[but] they do.” [85728]

Superior City, Wisconsin Mayor Bruce Hagen prompts calls for his resignation for writing on Facebook that Michelle Obama “and her Muslim partner have destroyed the fabric of democracy that was so very hard fought for!” Hagen responds to the criticism: “I have huge respect for the Office of the President, but no respect for the current administration.” [85726, 85727]

The Obama administration warns Congress not to restrict visas for travelers from Iran because it would violate the Obama/Kerry nuclear agreement. According to FreeBeacon.com, “a portion of the Iran nuclear deal mandates that the United States not take any action that could harm Iran’s economic relationships with other countries. Iranian officials maintain that the new [visa] restrictions violate this passage of the deal.” The Israel Project’s Omri Ceren comments, “According to the Obama administration’s latest interpretation, the nuclear deal allows Iran to test ballistic missiles in violation of international law, but does not allow Congress to prevent terrorists from coming into the United States.” [85621, 85646, 85731]

Meanwhile, Secretary of State John Kerry writes Iran's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mohammad Javad Zarif, essentially telling him "not to worry." Kerry writes, "I am also confident that the recent changes in visa requirements passed in Congress, which the Administration has the authority to waive, will not in any way prevent us from meeting our [nuclear deal] commitments, and that we will implement them so as not to interfere with legitimate business interests of Iran. ... To this end, we have a number of potential tools available to us, including multiple entry ten-year business visas, programs for expediting business visas, and the waiver authority provided under the new legislation." (Translation: "My boss and I will place the safety of Americans at risk in order to protect our nuclear deal with Iran." Obama should be impeached over the issue.) [85652, 85653, 85660, 85667, 85668, 85731]

House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) responds, "Contrary to what the Secretary of State seems to be saying to Iranian Foreign Minister Javad Zarif, it was not and has never been Congress's intent to allow the Administration to grant a blanket waiver to travellers [sic; travelers] from Iran in order to facilitate the implementation of the Iran deal. ... Instead of undermining Congressional intent regarding the visa waiver program, the White House should instead focus on Iran's repeated violations of the U.N. Security Council's bans on missile tests. Iran's unwillingness to follow these international agreements should be a red flag that the Iran nuclear deal isn't worth the paper it is written on." [85652, 85653, 85660, 85731]

Obama is widely criticized—and ridiculed—for comments made in an interview with National Public Radio's Steve Inskeep. Obama says, "This [ISIS] is not an organization that can destroy the United States. This is not a huge industrial power that can pose great risks to us institutionally or in a systematic way." (That ISIS cannot totally destroy the United States is irrelevant. Neither could Japan or Germany in the 1940s. Obama is essentially arguing that the United States and the world can absorb occasional terrorists because they are only *sporadically* killing *some* people. He may as well argue that we should not act against bank robbers as long as they limit their targets to small banks.) Obama does, however, pay minor lip service to the fears of Americans: "They can hurt us, and they can hurt our people and our families. And so I understand why people are worried." [85625, 85694, 85740, 85833]

Obama claims, "We are pounding ISIL's core structure in Syria and Iraq. [That is not true.] We have put together a coalition that is increasingly effective. [That is also not true.] We have seen ISIL lose about 40 percent of its populated territory in the region. [Another falsehood.] The most damage they can do, though, is if they start changing how we live and what our values are. [If we] remember who we are and make sure that our resilience, our values, and our unity are maintained, ISIL will be defeated." (No, the most damage ISIS can do is attack the United States with a nuclear, biological, or chemical weapon. Going to see a Star Wars movie "in defiance of the terrorists" will not stop them from poisoning an American city's water supply. Radical jihadists will not be defeated merely by maintaining resilience, values, and unity; they will be defeated with overwhelming military superiority.) [85625]

Obama then blames the media, saying, “If you’ve been watching television for the last month, all you have been seeing, all you have been hearing about is these guys with masks or black flags who are potentially coming to getcha [sic; get you].” (Translation: “Don’t worry about those 14 deaths in San Bernardino; worry about the media hyping the story just to make me look bad.”) “Look, uh, the, the media, uh, is pursuing ratings, this is a legitimate news story. Uh, I think that, uh, you know it’s up to the media to make a determination about how they want to cover this. There is no doubt the actions of ISIL are designed to amplify, uh, their power and the threat that they pose.” (In the last two weeks Obama has addressed ISIS and terrorism in three prominent addresses. Obama cannot have it both ways. If ISIS and terrorism are not a major threat, he did not need to emphasize that they are with a rare Oval Office address. Did he not want the media to cover his speeches?) Obama then says, “There is a legitimate criticism of what I’ve been doing and our administration has been doing in the sense that we haven’t, you know, on a regular basis, I think, described all the work that we’ve been doing for more than a year now to defeat ISIL.” (Translation: “I have been doing an extraordinarily good job, but I have failed at communicating my wonderfulness to the American people.”) [85626]

Meanwhile, according to a Pew Research Center poll, confidence in the government’s handling of terrorism falls to an all-time low of 46 percent—down from 72 percent at the beginning of the year. [85627]

Once again Obama plays the “race card,” addressing voter anxieties by saying, “If you are referring to specific strains in the Republican Party that suggest that somehow I’m different, I’m Muslim, I’m disloyal to the country, etcetera—which unfortunately is pretty far out there, and gets some traction in certain pockets of the Republican Party, and that have been articulated by some of their elected officials—what I’d say there is that that’s probably pretty specific to me, and who I am and my background. In some ways, I may represent change that worries them.” [85633]

Obama even provides an excuse for the Democrats losing the House in the 2010 elections: [T]he truth of the matter is is [sic] that where Democrats have had problems is we had the misfortune of doing poorly in 2010 when there was redistricting, and in many of the successive elections Democrats have actually voted at higher rates. This was true in 2012, for example. There were more Democratic ballots cast for Democratic candidates than there were Republicans, but because of where Democrats live and where Republicans live, and because of the nature of the Senate, we ended up having problems.” (The Democrats were annihilated in the 2010 mid-term elections, but that had almost nothing to do with redistricting. Democrats lost only a handful of Congressional districts because of the 2010 census and redistricting. They lost because of widespread disappointment with Obama and his policies. That there may have been more total Democrat votes than Republican votes is irrelevant. Obama should be reminded that the nation is a republic, not a democracy. That states like California, Illinois, and New York have overwhelming numbers of Democrats does not mean they should be able to force their will on states with smaller populations. It does not matter that California has more Democrats than does Utah. Utah has two Republican Senators because Utah has more conservative voters than leftist voters.) [85641]

Obama says, “I do think that when you combine that demographic change with all the economic stresses that people have been going through because of the financial crisis, because of technology, because of globalization, the fact that wages and incomes have been flat-lining for some time, and that particularly blue-collar men have had a lot of trouble in this new economy, where they are no longer getting the same bargain that they got when they were going to a factory and able to support their families on a single paycheck, you combine those things and it means that there is going to be potential anger, frustration, fear. Some of it justified but just misdirected. I think somebody like Mr. Trump is taking advantage of that. That’s what he’s exploiting during the course of his campaign.” (Morning Jolt’s Jim Geraghty writes, “Obama’s largely correct, but what’s fascinating is that Obama seems to see this as more random ‘misfortune’—i.e., he doesn’t seem to see anything he could or should have done about it, or do about it now. Mr. [Obama], you’ve been in the Oval Office for seven years now! Doesn’t it bother you that after all this time on your watch, Americans are so full of anger, frustration, and fear? Doesn’t the fact that people are so receptive to Trump suggest that after all this time, your policies haven’t alleviated their problems and may in fact have exacerbated them?”) [85641, 85642]

USAToday.com reports, “Former Utah governor Jon Huntsman, who unsuccessfully sought the GOP presidential nomination in 2012, says he’s getting ‘a lot’ of encouragement to launch another White House bid from Republicans concerned about the prospect of Donald Trump as the 2016 GOP nominee. This time, to run as an independent. ‘I always want to help my country where I can, but you don’t want to embark on a suicide mission,’ he told Capital Download. ‘I’m not ready for a third-party run until we have a complete collapse of the Republican Party that I can still believe in.’” (Huntsman showed how much he believes in the Republican Party with Democrat-lite positions that quickly torpedoed his campaign in 2012. What a Huntsman candidacy would accomplish is not clear. Few Trump supporters would ditch him to support Huntsman. Huntsman might draw some votes from left-leaning Republicans who might otherwise stay home on election day. In fact, Huntsman might draw a few votes from moderate Democrats who cannot stand Hillary Clinton. If there is a scheme afoot it is not yet clear. The reality is that Huntsman is probably delusional.) [85685, 85686, 85693]

In the *London Review of Books* Seymour Hersh writes that Obama’s “repeated insistence that Bashar al-Assad must leave office—and that there are ‘moderate’ rebel groups in Syria capable of defeating him—has in recent years provoked quiet dissent, and even overt opposition, among some of the most senior officers on the Pentagon’s Joint Staff. Their criticism has focused on what they see as the administration’s fixation on Assad’s primary ally, Vladimir Putin. In their view, Obama is captive to Cold War thinking about Russia and China, and hasn’t adjusted his stance on Syria to the fact both countries share Washington’s anxiety about the spread of terrorism in and beyond Syria; like Washington, they believe that Islamic State must be stopped. The military’s resistance dates back to the summer of 2013, when a highly classified assessment, put together by the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) and the Joint Chiefs of Staff, then led by General Martin Dempsey, forecast that the fall of the Assad regime would lead to chaos and,

potentially, to Syria's takeover by jihadi extremists, much as was then happening in Libya. A former senior adviser to the Joint Chiefs told me that the document was an 'all-source' appraisal, drawing on information from signals, satellite and human intelligence, and took a dim view of the Obama administration's insistence on continuing to finance and arm the so-called moderate rebel groups." [85655, 85751, 85798, 85799, 85800, 85858]

"...Lieutenant General Michael Flynn, director of the DIA between 2012 and 2014, confirmed that his agency had sent a constant stream of classified warnings to the civilian leadership about the dire consequences of toppling Assad. The jihadists, he said, were in control of the opposition. Turkey wasn't doing enough to stop the smuggling of foreign fighters and weapons across the border. 'If the American public saw the intelligence we were producing daily, at the most sensitive level, they would go ballistic,' Flynn told me. 'We understood Isis's long-term strategy and its campaign plans, and we also discussed the fact that Turkey was looking the other way when it came to the growth of the Islamic State inside Syria.' The DIA's reporting, he said, 'got enormous pushback' from the Obama administration. 'I felt that they did not want to hear the truth.'" [85655]

Hersh writes, "The four core elements of Obama's Syria policy remain intact today: an insistence that Assad must go; that no anti-IS coalition with Russia is possible; that Turkey is a steadfast ally in the war against terrorism; and that there really are significant moderate opposition forces for the US to support." (This *Timeline* believes Obama is wrong on all four. Obama wants Assad gone because his pal, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, hates him and wants him gone. Obama knows full well that if Assad falls, what replaces him could be even worse: radical Islamists. Obama has no problem with that, just as he had no problem with the radical Muslim Brotherhood replacing U.S. ally Hosni Mubarak in Egypt. If radicals take over both Egypt and Syria, Israel can be squeezed and attacked with impunity by Hamas from the south and Hizbullah in the north. At the same time, the growing Islamist caliphate will need a leader—and Erdogan hopes to fill that position and restore the Ottoman Empire. Erdogan pretends to help the West while actually aiding ISIS; Obama pretends that his opposition to Assad is based on humanitarian ideals, rather than a desire to destroy Israel. Russia can, in fact, be a partner against ISIS—as can China; Turkey is not a steadfast ally; and there are few moderates the United States can trust. But Obama is not naive; he has dark, ulterior motives. Unfortunately, the generals who best understood the situation, such as Michael Flynn and Martin Dempsey, are no longer in the administration and, as notes Hersh, "Obama now has a more compliant Pentagon.") [85655]

Donald Trump addresses a huge crowd in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He blasts Hillary Clinton for claiming he appears in ISIS recruitment videos, and ridicules her for losing the nomination in 2008: "She was favored to win and she got schlonged." (The term "schlonged" has been used infrequently to mean "defeated badly," but the noun "schlong" means penis in Yiddish. Although Trump receives criticism for his use of the term, it serves his purpose: it brings up the image of a loser when Clinton is mentioned. Earlier in his campaign Trump successfully used the term "low energy" to describe Jeb Bush. Justifiable or not, the image stuck and Bush moved from the "inevitable nominee"

to the “inevitable loser.” Clinton’s imaginative attack dog at Media Matters, David Brock, says, “The idea of a black rapist [Obama] using the schlong to defeat Hillary, I mean, I think that’s what that really was about.” [85657, 85699, 85742, 85743, 85768, 85828]

Trump tells thousands of supporters in the arena, ““Nobody gets audiences like I get. We broke the record. And I don't have a guitar, no guitar. Elton John said, ‘You get the biggest crowds in the world for a guy without a guitar.’” [85827]

On December 22 a national Quinnipiac poll shows Donald Trump leading all GOP candidates with 28 percent, followed by Ted Cruz (24), Marc Rubio (12), Ben Carson (10), Chris Christie (6), Jeb Bush (4), Carly Fiorina (2), and Ron Paul (2). In match-ups with Hillary Clinton, Trump trails by 7, and ties both Cruz and Rubio. [85677, 85690]

CNN.com reports, “A Secret Service agent’s [Sig Sauer] gun, badge, radio, handcuffs and flash drive were stolen in broad daylight Monday near the agency’s headquarters in Washington, according to a police report and sources briefed on the incident.” [85678, 85679, 85684]

In Fairfield, Iowa Hillary Clinton proposes \$2 billion per year in annual spending to find a cure for Alzheimer’s disease. CNN.com writes, “Clinton, who aides said consulted with leading physicians and scientists to develop the plan, will set a goal of making a cure of Alzheimer's a reality by 2025.” (Why Clinton is discriminating against other diseases is not clear. Some may be surprised that she is not focusing on cirrhosis of the liver.) [85682]

At a town hall meeting event in Keota, Iowa, Clinton asks a questioner from the audience, “Can you just slow down a little bit, I’m having a hard time. I want to hear you, so just slow down a little.” (Whether the incident will lead some to believe age is affecting Clinton’s senses or mental abilities remains to be seen.) [85744]

Clinton calls on Hannah Tandy, a young girl in the audience, who says she is bullied because she has asthma and asks what the candidate will do about bullying. Clinton plays the victim card and uses the question to attack Donald Trump, shedding a few fake tears in the process: “You are looking at somebody who’s had a lot of terrible things said about me and I am well aware of the fact that it’s really easy to do that. I really do think we need more love and kindness in our country. That’s why it’s important to stand up to bullies wherever we are, and why we shouldn’t let anybody bully his way into the presidency, because that is not who we are as Americans.” (The issue of bullying is, of course, best addressed by the children, their parents, and their teachers—and not the federal government. The question itself is ridiculous—and it is a virtual certainty that the little girl was being manipulated by her parents and the Clinton campaign. No one in the audience asks Clinton about her history of bullying her husband’s sexual assault and rape victims, such as Paula Jones, Kathleen Willy, Juanita Broaddrick, and a multitude of others.) [85766, 85767]



Director Michael Bay releases a trailer for his new motion picture, *13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi*. (Obama and Hillary Clinton will not be pleased. The movie, which will be released January 15, 2016, relates the story of the September 11, 2012 attack on the Benghazi compound in which four Americans were killed. The film makes it clear that the incident was planned and not prompted by a YouTube video, and that there was a “stand down” order given to the military.) [85832, 86104, 86105, 86108, 86205]

TheHill.com reports, “The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Inspector General (IG) will investigate federal oversight of fetal tissue research in the wake of controversial undercover videos targeting Planned Parenthood. The investigation comes after Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY) and 34 other Republican senators wrote to the IG in October requesting an investigation.” [85683]

Evangelist Franklin Graham (son of Billy Graham) writes on Facebook, “Unless more godly men and women get in this process and change this wicked [political] system, our country is in for trouble. I want to challenge Christians, even pastors, across the country to pray about running for office where they can have an impact. We need mayors, [county] commissioners, city council members, school board members who will uphold biblical values.” Graham notes the \$1.1 trillion spending bill just passed by Congress: “This is an example of why I have resigned from the Republican Party and declared myself independent. I have no hope in the Republican Party, the Democratic Party, or tea party to do what is best for America.” [85698, 85869]

After public outrage, *The Washington Post* is forced to remove a cartoon showing Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) as a Santa Claus organ grinder and his two young daughters as monkeys. (Some leftists claim Cruz’s daughters are fair game because they appeared in a spoof which featured Cruz reading comedic Christmas stories. Some might wonder, “Inasmuch as Chelsea Clinton is now an adult, is it permissible for the GOP to publicly note that her father is more likely Hillary Rodham’s former Rose Law Firm co-worker, Webster Hubbell, than Bill Clinton?”) [85717, 85718, 85723, 85724]

Pamela Geller announces a victory in her First Amendment trademark case, with a Federal Circuit Court of Appeals ruling that she is entitled to trademark “SIOP” (Stop Islamization of America). (The Obama administration had denied her application for the trademark because it was considered disparaging to Muslims.) [85709, 85712]

In Ceranova, Italy, protesting refugees throw their trash into the street because they have yet to be given free wi-fi service or a cleaning service. [85711]

WashingtonTimes.com reports that Obama “slashed the number of deportations in 2015, the administration announced Tuesday, removing out only about 235,000 aliens from the U.S. as his amnesty kicked into full gear, putting most illegal immigrants out of reach of agents. Overall deportations dropped by 32 percent, and even deportations of criminals—whom Mr. Obama had said he wanted to focus on—dropped by 27 percent compared to fiscal year 2014, according to year-end statistics released by Homeland Security.” According to MRCtv.org, of the 235, 413 illegal aliens expelled in fiscal year 2015

(October 2014 through September 2015), only 69,478 illegal aliens were removed “from the interior of the United States... Of these, about 92 percent had been previously convicted of a crime. The other 166,000 or so illegal aliens were kicked out of the country after being apprehended ‘at or near the border or points of entry,’ meaning most hadn’t been residing in the United States when they were deported.” The 69,478 represents only about 0.579 percent of the approximate 12 million illegal immigrants—and there may be far more than 12 million. [85721, 85882]

Bowe Bergdahl appears before a military judge and defers his plea. [85701]

Political strategists Dick Morris and Eileen McGann write, “In the latest Rasmussen Reports poll, taken right after the third and most recent Democratic debate shows that Hillary has lost crucial ground in the Democratic nomination battle. Before the debate, Rasmussen had her defeating Bernie Sanders by 50-29 (a margin of 21). Now her lead is down to 16 points—46 to 30. Her four-point drop in vote share is huge because it means that a majority of the Democratic primary voters do not want to vote for her. Sanders won 30 points in the poll, O’Malley got 7 points, 9% favored some other candidate, and 8% percent were undecided. So 46% vote for Hillary and 54% don’t. Hillary has lost her majority. In the previous Rasmussen Reports poll, Hillary still had a majority of 50% while Bernie was back at 29%. Once you lose your majority in politics, you are in trouble. Hillary is now in trouble. ...Hillary’s candidacy is all about gender. Men broke even between Sanders and Clinton while 55% of women supported Hillary.” (Clinton will obviously win the Democrat nomination, but perhaps only because she is the least unappealing of the Democrat candidates—not because there is overwhelming enthusiasm for her.) [85702, 85713]

Those who believe the GOP needs to nominate Ted Cruz or Marco Rubio to win some Hispanic support will be surprised to see the results of a December 16-17 Public Policy Polling survey which shows Donald Trump with a 24 percent favorability rating among Hispanic registered voters. Cruz follows with 22 percent; Jeb Bush has 20 percent; Ben Carson has 13; and Marco “amnesty” Rubio has 11. [85720]

NewsBusted’s Jodi Miller quips, “Michelle Obama told reporters she doesn’t know what to buy her husband for Christmas. After all, he just got everything he wanted from Paul Ryan’s budget deal.” “Congress is now on holiday recess, and House Speaker Paul Ryan is making the most of his time off. He’s at home teaching his dog to roll over.” [85780]

On December 23 Black Lives Matter protesters are blocked from causing trouble at the Mall of America in Bloomington, Minnesota. They then take mass transit to the airport, where police officers prevent them from entering. As a last resort, they block traffic. [85719, 85732, 85762, 85779]

Protesters also block traffic on the 405 Freeway in Los Angeles. [85759, 85760]

At Salon.com Patrick L. Smith writes, “The U.N. Security Council... passed a resolution Friday providing for a settlement in Syria and—important to note—the sequence in

which steps are to be taken. No one assumes these things can get done easily, and some of those involved doubt they ever will be. But there is a goal all agree on now, and this counts no matter the difficulties ahead. In brief, the U.N. resolution calls for a cease-fire binding all parties to the conflict with the exceptions so far of the Islamic State and al Nusra, the Syrian offshoot of al-Qaida. By implication, these are now identified as the common enemies of all those to be bound by the peace pact. Following the cease-fire, there is to be what we used to call an all-parties conference—talks between the Assad government in Damascus and all its various adversaries—armed, unarmed, exiled, jailed. ...Then come negotiations on a constitutional rewrite that addresses the sources of the current conflict. ...Last are national elections. Elections do not always certify democratic process as Americans pretend them to, but Syria's are to be internationally supervised, and the scrutiny is certain to be extremely close." [86068]

"Do not miss this, finally: The U.N. resolution makes no mention of President [Bashar al-] Assad. There is no stipulation that he is to step down, or aside, or do anything else as a precondition of a settlement. Syrians are left to determine for themselves what place, if any, Assad has in their future political formations. Recognize any of this? ...These provisions vary little from a settlement plan Sergei Lavrov put on the table in Vienna last October, when a new round of talks among more than a dozen of the Russian foreign minister's counterparts began. ...[R]eaders of our corporate media, notably the New York Times, will be terribly confused at this point. They have been reading for some time that the U.N. resolution last Friday in New York was the consequence of Secretary of State Kerry's arduous diplomacy. Facts being facts, the record the record, and history being history, this takes a lot of forgetting." [86068]

"...Washington's reckless, anti-democratic insistence that Assad must be pushed from power in a coup before Syrians can have any say in their future leadership disappeared maybe two or three weeks ago. Now we get spongy writing such as this, from last Wednesday's [*New York Times*] paper: 'The United States,' Mr. Kerry said, 'was not seeking Mr. Assad's ouster per se, but rather considers it unlikely that he can preside over a successful settlement.' I love the 'per se,' since ousting Assad per se has been explicit American policy for years. If you can explain in the comment box what the rest of the sentence means, please do. You are a better reader than I. Ten days ago, the inimitable Michael Gordon, the Times' State Department correspondent, broke the ice decisively, when he referred to 'Mr. Kerry's plan,' and then recited each of the provisions described above. That is to say, he described Lavrov's plan. When Americans cannot lead, they pretend to by attempting to steal the statecraft of others. Then we read about the heroics of our diplomats and the wisdom of our policy cliques." [86068]

A federal judge rules that the state of Utah has the right to terminate its contract with Planned Parenthood as a result of the undercover videos showing that the abortion mill sells baby parts. (Obama and many leftists seem to believe that once an organization receives government money it has a right to receive it in perpetuity.) [85762]

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce file a lawsuit against the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) over its latest ozone

rule, describing it as “unworkable and overly burdensome.” Leah Barkoukis notes at Townhall.com, “In October, the EPA changed the standard for ground-level ozone from 75 parts per billion, which was set in 2008, to 70 parts per billion. ‘The EPA’s ozone regulation, which could be one of the most expensive in history, is unworkable and overly burdensome for manufacturers and America’s job creators,’ said Linda Kelly, NAM’s senior vice president and general counsel, in a statement. ‘Manufacturers across the United States need regulations that provide balance and allow us to be globally competitive.’” (The EPA had considered a 65 parts per billion standard; the industry estimated it would cost \$1.1 trillion to comply. Even the revised standard will be difficult to meet. The EPA keeps pushing the envelope on its rules and regulations without regard for the cost and practicality of compliance. The agency seems unable to comprehend the concept of “diminishing returns.” At some point it is simply impossible to meet the standards and remain in business. Even a homeowner scrubbing a kitchen sink cannot attain perfection; there will always be *some* germs present. To demand almost zero germs would leave one continually cleaning the sink and without the time to do anything else. If the EPA regulated hotel maid service there would have to be a maid in each room 24x7.) [85788]

In a national CNN/ORC poll conducted December 17-21, Donald Trump leads GOP candidates with 39 percent, followed by Ted Cruz (18 percent), Ben Carson (10), Marco Rubio (10), Chris Christie (5), Ron Paul (4), Jeb Bush (3), Mike Huckabee (2), John Kasich (2), and Carly Fiorina (1). (Rand Paul leads the “inevitable” Jeb Bush.) [85729, 85730, 85739, 85741]

Breitbart.com’s John Nolte provides some examples of Democrats ridiculing the children of Republicans: “CNN obtained audio of Governor Sarah Palin’s daughter Bristol reporting an alleged physical assault to the police. If you are anything close to a human being, the recording is objectively harrowing, a frightened young mother describing a brutal physical and verbal assault to authorities. Before playing the audio, a delighted CNN [anchor Carol Costello] told its audience to ‘sit back and enjoy’ the audio, and added that the recording is ‘quite possibly the best minute and a half of audio we’ve ever come across, come across in a long time anyway.’” [85738]

“Almost exactly two years ago, on its cable news outlet MSNBC, NBC News’s Melissa Harris-Perry mocked Mitt and Ann Romney’s infant grandchild, Kieran Romney. His only sin is being black. You can hear panelist Pia Glenn singing the lyrics to the ‘Sesame Street’ song, ‘One of these things doesn’t belong here.’ [‘One of these things is not like the other.’] After finishing the ditty, Glenn says, ‘And that little baby, front and center, would be the one.’ Dean Obeidallah then attacks the child as token, ‘I think this picture is great. It really sums up the diversity of the Republican party, the RNC. At the convention, they find the one black person.’” [85738]

“Throughout the 2008 presidential campaign, in order to freak-show Sarah Palin’s attractive, everyday family, The Atlantic launched a vicious and relentless smear campaign that claimed Palin’s daughter Bristol was the mother of Trig Palin. Trig Palin is Sarah Palin’s youngest child.”

[85738]

“After describing Governor Palin as a ‘GILF’ (Governor I’d Like to F\*\*\*), in 2008, The Daily Beast went on to mock the names of the Palin children before singling out Bristol.” “Salon mock[ed] George W. Bush’s daughters as drunks.” “CNN’s Dana Bash laugh[ed] at Senator Scott Brown’s kids being called ‘prostitutes.’” [85738]

Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) responds to the cartoon portraying him as an organ grinder and his two daughters as monkeys by tweeting a cartoon showing Hillary Clinton walking two of her lapdogs: *The Washington Post* and *The New York Times*. [85763, 85764]

Campaigning in Iowa, Hillary Clinton uses a mild version of her phony southern drawl—even though Iowans do not speak with southern drawls. [85745]

Donald Trump tweets, “The Hillary Clinton staged event yesterday was pathetic. Be careful Hillary as you play the war on women or women being degraded card.” [85750, 85771, 85773]

Breitbart.com’s John Nolte observes, “There is no question as to what Trump is referring to. For going on fifty years, Hillary has protected her husband, former President Bill Clinton, an accused rapist, groper, and serial-sexual harasser. The women who claim to be his victims have also accused Hillary of being part of the campaigns to personally denigrate, silence and destroy them. There is more here than just accusations and rumor. Bill Clinton was forced to settle a sexual harassment suit with Paula Jones. Trump is a master of media manipulation, primarily because he knows exactly how the media operates, how in 2012 the DC Media was fully onboard with the Obama campaign’s phony ‘War on Women’ crusade. Trump also knows that when it comes to Hillary’s sordid past involving her own role in personally destroying Bill’s alleged victims—including Juanita Broaddrick, who to this day stands by her claim that Bill raped her, the DC media intends to make that criticism off limits.” [85749, 85750]

“...[A]s his tweet proves, Trump also is eager to wage this war. He’s been planning on it for some time, moving his chess pieces into place for months now. Trump ally Roger Stone just released an entire book that examines Hillary’s treatment of these women. That is no accident. It is aggressive, and exactly how you win presidential campaigns. If Republican primary voters know one thing, it is this: The DC Media’s rules are designed to benefit Democrats. If we play by those rules, we lose. If we are going to win, we need a candidate willing to go through the incoming hell that comes with violating those rules. As of right now, only Trump has shown that courage—time and again, on issues surrounding immigration, terrorism, and the media itself, Trump has proven he will GO THERE. And unless you are willing to GO THERE, you will not be president.” (The Clinton campaign ridicules Trump in an effort to make voters believe she can defeat him easily, while pretending Marco Rubio is the GOP candidate it fears most. In fact, Clinton and her media sycophants know full well that Trump can destroy her.) [85749]

The *Daily Mail* reports, “A radical Islamic convert has been arrested in France on suspicion of plotting a suicide bomb attack amid claims she bought a fake pregnancy belly to hide explosives. The unnamed 23-year-old was detained by officers in Montpellier, southern France, on Monday [December 22] and is in custody with her partner, 35. Police searched her home and found a fake belly covered in silver foil and investigators believe she may have wanted to use it to conceal an explosive device. ...[S]he told police she had the belly to help conceal stolen goods from shops. But detectives are said to have found ISIS propaganda documents at her home.” [85752]

RT.com reports, “Undermining FBI Director James Comey’s claim that encryption hinders terrorism investigations, the director of SITE Intelligence Group said the FBI was warned a week before the Garland, Texas attack occurred, citing the attacker’s public Twitter activity. For [ISIS], the May 3 attack in Garland was its first inspired act of terrorism on US soil, targeting Pamela Geller’s ‘Mohammed Art Exhibit and Cartoon Contest.’ Although no one died, it was not carried out all that differently from the deadly, [ISIS]-inspired attacks in Chattanooga, Tennessee in July or the San Bernardino, California attack in November. ...Garland shooter Elton Simpson was already known by the FBI to use Twitter, as he followed and messaged well-known jihadists, according to an Associated Press source in federal law enforcement, as well as Chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee Rep. Michael McCaul (R-TX). McCaul also has said the Department of Homeland Security and FBI issued joint intelligence bulletins to local authorities on April 20, warning the Garland cartoon contest was a likely target. ...Simpson’s final tweet came hours before the Garland attack, saying in part, ‘May Allah accept us as mujahideen,’ and ending with the hashtag #texasattack.” [85753, 85754]

Pamela Geller asks, “Why didn’t the FBI pay heed to this? Was it because ‘the future must not belong to those who slander the prophet of Islam,’ as Barack Obama solemnly intoned after the Benghazi jihad attack? Did the Obama administration want us to get killed? ...[O]ne of the jihadists the Texas would-be murderers were tweeting/communicating with, Mujahid Miski, was also tied to the San Bernardino slaughterers.” JihadWatch’s Robert Spencer asks, “Why did these warnings go unheeded? Could it have been because the Obama FBI didn’t approve of our standing for the freedom of speech in this way? If this had been a Leftist conference on ‘Islamophobia’ that was threatened with violence by ‘right-wing extremists,’ would the FBI have failed to act?” [85753, 85754, 85755]

FoxNews.com reports, “The application file for San Bernardino shooter Tashfeen Malik’s fiancée visa reveals her American husband provided the U.S. government with minimal evidence to prove their relationship—yet it was good enough for immigration officials to approve her visa. ... ‘In order to obtain a fiancée visa, it is required to demonstrate proof that the U.S. citizen and foreign national have met in person,’ Goodlatte said in a statement. ‘However, Malik’s immigration file does not show sufficient evidence for this requirement.’ He said ‘what is worse’ is that the U.S. officials reviewing the application apparently requested more evidence to demonstrate they’d actually met ‘but it was never provided and her visa was approved anyway.’” [85756, 85757]

Obama issues a statement: “During this season of Advent, Christians in the United States and around the world are preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. At this time, those of us fortunate enough to live in countries that honor the birthright of all people to practice their faith freely give thanks for that blessing. Michelle and I are also ever-mindful that many of our fellow Christians do not enjoy that right, and hold especially close to our hearts and minds those who have been driven from their ancient homelands by unspeakable violence and persecution. In some areas of the Middle East where church bells have rung for centuries on Christmas Day, this year they will be silent; this silence bears tragic witness to the brutal atrocities committed against these communities by ISIL. We join with people around the world in praying for God’s protection for persecuted Christians and those of other faiths, as well as for those brave men and women engaged in our military, diplomatic, and humanitarian efforts to alleviate their suffering and restore stability, security, and hope to their nations. As the old Christmas carol reminds us: The Wrong shall fail, The Right prevail, With peace on earth, good-will to men.” [85765]

At Investors.com, author (*Muslim Mafia and Infiltration*) Paul Sperry writes, “While there’s no evidence to suggest Obama is a practicing Muslim, there is plenty to suggest he is disloyal [to the United States]. He not only shares Muslim hatred for America and Israel, but actually sympathizes with the endless anti-Western grievances lodged by Muslim terrorists. The reason [Obama] won’t engage this enemy is because he sides with it, not because he can’t see it or understand it. It is not a matter of incompetence. It is a matter of bias. If this sounds like betrayal, that is because it is.” Sperry lists 21 counts on his “bill of indictment” against Obama. [85945]

On December 24 TheHill.com reports, “The Office of the Director of National Intelligence (DNI) released a handful of sensitive documents Thursday morning dealing with terrorism suspect Anwar al-Awlaki and the terrorist attacks in Benghazi, Libya. The Christmas Eve document dump includes 16 pages of heavily blacked-out emails about the events surrounding the 2012 terrorist attack on a U.S. diplomatic compound in Benghazi that killed four Americans.” [85758, 85789, 85818]

In a year-end review of accomplishments, the State Department brags that it is “bringing peace, security to Syria.” State Department spokesman Mark Toner responds to reporters’ justifiable skepticism, saying, “The operative word there is ‘bringing,’ not ‘brought.’ So we’re bringing peace and security to Syria, I think that is a truthful claim. There has been significant progress, we believe, in the past year, on both fronts.” (If peace is being brought to Syria, there is no reason for Obama to bring tens of thousands of Syrian refugees to the United States.) The State Department also declares that the Obama administration is “winning [the] fight against violent extremists” and that an Iranian “peaceful nuclear program [has been] ensured.” (At Townhall.com Ben Shapiro later writes, “There are only two possible rationales for this sort of disconnect with reality: first, the Obama administration knows they’re full of it, but they keep on gritting their teeth and pushing the misinformation; second, they seriously believe that they are achieving magnificent results. In other words, they’re either cynical or delusional. My

money's on delusional. ... Thus alleged deserter Bowe Bergdahl becomes a soldier who served honorably; Benghazi becomes a battle over a YouTube video; Israel becomes the aggressor against the peaceful Palestinians; ISIS becomes a jayvee threat; Iran becomes a potential ally. Obama has done the calculations on his chalkboard, and [in his mind] they all add up." [85917, 85918]

At Breitbart.com John Nolte writes, "Despite the fact that her allies in DC Media have handed Hillary Clinton six weeks of the best press any presidential candidate not named Barack Obama could ask for, despite the fact this same corrupt media has launched an outright jihad against Donald Trump and the Republican Party in general, in the latest national CNN poll, Hillary is slipping against her most likely GOP foes. With the national spotlight turning to the Texas Republican Senator, in this particular poll, Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX) has surged +5 points to a +2 point lead against Clinton, 48% to 46%. As of now, in the Real Clear Politics poll of polls, Clinton is only an eighth of a point ahead of Cruz. This is extraordinary when you realize that for the last four years, this is the same Ted Cruz the media has worked overtime to turn into America's Anti-Government Bogeyman. Against Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL), Clinton loses by +3 points, 49% to 46%. In the last CNN poll, Rubio was only up +1. In the poll of polls, Rubio is up +2 points. Clinton has even slipped a tad against the man the corrupt DC Media has spent the last month attempting to exterminate. In November, Trump lost to Clinton by -3 points. Today he is only down -2, 49% to 47%. In the poll of polls, Trump is behind -6 points. When you consider the beating Trump has taken, that is pretty extraordinary. ... Another factor that should worry Her Majesty is that while the DC Media has been nuking the GOP for months, Republicans have yet to train any real fire on her. She's losing to Cruz and Rubio, and only barely ahead of Trump when she has yet to face any serious political opposition. Another Big Loser in this poll is the Republican Establishment. These bloated nest-featherers have one card left to play, The Cruz and Trump Can't Beat Hillary Card." [85772]

Donald Trump leads an unscientific Intellihub poll conducted December 17-24 with 42 percent, followed by Rand Paul (31 percent), Bernie Sanders (10), Ted Cruz (8), undecided (3), Hillary Clinton (2), and Ben Carson (2). [85859]

*National Review's* Katherine Timpf tweets, "Now that Hillary Clinton has successfully shamed every abused woman who threatened her husband's career she's decided to be a feminist." "Lena Dunham and Hillary Clinton believe [the claims of] all who report sexual assault... except the politically inconvenient victims who accused Bill." "The fact that people will support and vote for Hillary Clinton despite this hypocrisy sickens me." "I know it's Christmas Eve. But for the love of God, my fellow women—pay attention! Hillary Clinton is trying to make a fool of you." [85774, 85775, 85776, 85777, 85778]

Actor and director Clint Eastwood observes, "I think there's [sic; there are] quite a few of them [Republicans running for president] who are really good people. ... People are looking for somebody who is outspoken and who isn't afraid, and [Donald Trump] seems to have kind of a fearless attitude. I like Ben Carson because he is kind of a common-



sense guy. Any one of them would be better than what we [have] got [now].” [85815, 85816, 85847]

WashingtonPost.com reports, “The Department of Homeland Security has begun preparing for a series of raids that would target for deportation hundreds of families who have flocked to the United States since the start of last year, according to people familiar with the operation. The nationwide campaign, to be carried out by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents as soon as early January, would be the first large-scale effort to deport families who have fled violence in Central America, those familiar with the plan said. ...The ICE operation would target only adults and children who have already been ordered removed from the United States by an immigration judge, according to officials familiar with the undertaking... The adults and children would be detained wherever they can be found and immediately deported. The number targeted is expected to be in the hundreds and possibly greater.” [85795, 85796, 85806, 85820]

Donald Trump tweets, “Wow, because of the pressure put on by me, ICE TO LAUNCH LARGE SCALE DEPORTATION RAIDS. It's about time!” [85821]

Head pastry chef Susie Morrison tweets a photograph of a 500-pound gingerbread house on display at the White House. (Not surprisingly, the photo prompts responses complaining about the cost of such an extravagance. Michael Wise tweets, “We have a HEAD pastry chef. Which means there are other pastry chefs? Ehh, let them eat cake.” David Burge: “Hope there’s enough that Caligula’s horse can have seconds.”) [85822, 85823]

Immigration advocate Frank Sharry, of America’s Voice, observes. “This will be a political nightmare for the Democrats. The specter of raids picking up families and sending them back to violent countries is going to put Hillary Clinton in a difficult position. She’ll have to choose between protecting refugees from Central America, a demand of the Latino community, or standing with the law-and-order position of Obama and Republicans. ...The administration will be accused of being Trump-like with immigrants. She’ll have to choose.” (Obama’s position is arguably not “law and order,” and a few hundred deportations is meaningless, but the issue will nevertheless cause Clinton some grief.) [85795, 85796]

The Associated Press reports, “An Arizona man already accused of helping plan an attack on a Prophet Muhammad cartoon contest in Texas in the spring also planned to fight with the Islamic State group and inquired about explosives to attack a Super Bowl game, an indictment states. The document released Wednesday [December 23] charges Abdul Malik Abdul Kareem with conspiracy to provide material support to a foreign terrorist organization. Prosecutors allege he researched traveling to the Middle East to fight alongside the group and inquired about the types of explosives that would be needed to blow up a mall and the stadium in metro Phoenix where the 2015 Super Bowl was held. ...Kareem is accused of researching the trip and seeking the pipe bomb information with Elton Simpson and Nadir Soofi, who were killed in a May 3 shootout with police outside the cartoon contest in Garland, Texas.” [85782, 85783, 85812, 85838, 85876, 85877]

Police in Brussels, Belgium arrest a ninth person—“Abdoullah C.”—on terrorism charges related to the Paris attacks of November 13. The New York Times notes, “In addition, a global manhunt continues for Salah Abdeslam, 26, a Belgian-born Frenchman believed to be the only direct participant in the attack who is still alive, and Mohamed Abrini, 30, who was seen on video driving with Mr. Abdeslam two days before the attacks.” [85784, 85785]

In Jerusalem, two attackers stab two people. One of the victims dies: Rabbi Eduardo Birmajer, from Argentina. Police shoot and kill the attackers. [85786, 85787]

NYPost.com reports on a recent podcast in which Bowe Bergdahl discusses his time in captivity with the Taliban: “Although watching over Bergdahl was a high honor, the guards were often bored and would pass the time by making videos of him, interrogating him with ridiculous questions or shaving his beard into shapes they found amusing, he said. ‘They ask you, is Obama gay and sleeps with men?’ he recalled. His young guards were also curious about where US military bases got their prostitutes, alcohol and drugs, and were obsessed with American soft drinks, he added. ‘They love Mountain Dew. If you want to piss people off in that country, all you do is cut off their sugar supply,’ he said.” [85793, 85794, 85797, 85802, 85819]

In Bangladesh and other places around the world that have a strong Islamist presence, Christians skip midnight services out of fear of angering Muslims who might engage in violence. [85803, 85804]

On December 25 Bill Clinton’s childhood home in Hope, Arkansas catches fire. Arson is suspected. According to WashingtonTimes.com, “The historic home suffered extensive damage, but other buildings on the property, including a gift shop, weren’t affected.” [85814, 85824]

In Calais, hundreds of Muslim refugees storm the streets and attempt to break into the Eurotunnel that connects France with England. (Several thousand migrants now live in the area’s camp, which is known as “The Jungle.”) [85864, 85865]

In Kimba, Nigeria, members of Boko Haram (which Hillary Clinton’s State Department refused to label a terrorist organization) kill 16 Christians, set houses and stores on fire, and kidnap six. (ISIS-supporting Boko Haram Islamists have murdered more than 20,000 people over six years.) [85898, 85899]

Czech Republic President Milos Zemen states, “I am profoundly convinced that we are facing an organised invasion and not a spontaneous movement of refugees. A large majority of the illegal migrants are young men in good health and single. I wonder why these men are not taking up arms to go fight for the freedom of their countries against the Islamic State.” [85897]

Obama and his wife visit a Marine Corps base in Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii. He tells the assembled Marines, “We never take for granted what all of you do for the American people. You help keep us free. You help keep us strong. And whatever service you’re in, whatever branch, we are extraordinarily grateful for everything that you do every single day. And we hope you guys had a wonderful Christmas. ...The only problem I’ve got when I’m here is having to work out with Marines in the gym, because I generally feel like your commander-in-chief is in pretty good shape, and then I get next to some guy curling 100 pounds and it makes me feel small. But that’s okay. It gives me some inspiration. I’m going to work harder so I can keep up with you next year, all right?” [85841, 85842, 85844]

Adam Shaw reports at FoxNews.com, “A powerful report by the U.K. government accuses the Muslim Brotherhood of being sympathetic to terrorists and a risk to British national security, striking a contrast with the Obama administration’s more conciliatory approach—and fueling criticism that the U.S. government should wake up to the threat. ‘I think the report is a damning indictment of the Muslim Brotherhood, and it’s a very realistic assessment of the nature of the Brotherhood itself,’ Nile Gardiner, director of the Heritage Foundation’s Margaret Thatcher Center for Freedom, told FoxNews.com. ‘The British government has taken a far more serious approach compared to the Obama administration’s.’ The internal review of the Muslim Brotherhood was ordered by Prime Minister David Cameron in April 2014 and while the report is classified, Cameron ordered the main findings of the report to be made public. ... ‘The Muslim Brotherhood plays word games, they know how to pretend to be moderate,’ Ryan Mauro, national security analyst at The Clarion Project, told FoxNews.com. ‘If the Obama administration is saying the Muslim Brotherhood is non-violent and democratic then they do not understand the Muslim Brotherhood and do not understand the overall threat of radical Islam.’” [85790, 85791]

In a December 19-24 Reuters poll, Donald Trump leads GOP candidates with 35.1 percent, followed by Ted Cruz (13.2), Ben Carson (11.9), Marco Rubio (8.4), Jeb Bush (6.6), Mike Huckabee (3.8), Chris Christie (3.6), Carly Fiorina (3.3), and Rand Paul (3.0). [85792]

On December 26 new rule goes into effect in the state of Washington that makes it illegal for businesses and schools to prevent men from using women’s bathrooms if they claim to be transgender. [85980, 85981, 85982]

An Iranian naval vessel fires several unguided rockets near (but directed away from) the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Harry S. Truman, operating in the Strait of Hormuz. The live-fire exercise is later called “unsafe, “unprofessional,” and “highly provocative” by senior U.S. military commanders. According to NBCNews.com, “A French frigate, the U.S. destroyer USS Bulkeley and other commercial traffic were also in the area at the time... Only 23 seconds warning was given before the weapons were fired, according to U.S. Navy Cmdr. Kyle Raines, a spokesman for U.S. Central Command. The rockets were not fired at the Truman and other ships, and there were no direct communications between U.S. and Iranian navies, military officials said.” [85928, 85943, 85954, 85955, 86344]

Congressman Trey Gowdy (R-SC) confirms that he will endorse and campaign with Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL). [85805, 85849]

Frank Luntz, a pollster and frequent focus group leader on Fox News, tweets, “Thank you, President Obama, for giving me a ride on your private jet.” (Luntz is apparently unaware that Air Force One is owned by the taxpayers.) [85901]

ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi releases an audio statement in which he taunts, in part, “Crusaders and Jews don’t dare to come [to fight us] on the ground because they were defeated in Iraq and Afghanistan. ...Jews, soon you shall hear from us in Palestine, which will become your grave. ...The Jews thought we forgot Palestine and that they had distracted us from it. Not at all, Jews. We did not forget Palestine for a moment. With the help of Allah, we will not forget it. ...Be confident that Allah will grant victory to those who worship him, and hear the good news that our state is doing well. The more intense the war against it, the purer it becomes and the tougher it gets.” [85807, 85808, 85839, 85866]

Leah Barkoukis reports at Townhall.com, “Hacktivist group Anonymous has claimed responsibility for a massive cyber attack against Turkey that took down hundreds of thousands of websites in the country. Anonymous claimed to have carried out the attacks over Turkey’s support of the Islamic State, despite the fact that the government has repeatedly denied helping the terror group.” [85809]

Also at Townhall.com Cortney O’Brien reports, “Thirty-six years after being released from the U.S. embassy in Iran after a 444-day hostage crisis, the American prisoners that captivated the nation in the late 1970s will finally receive full compensation for their harrowing ordeal. This long overdue news was a part of the \$1.1 trillion spending bill that prevented a government shutdown last week. ...The money is expected to come from the French bank BNP Paribas, which had to pay billions of dollars in settlements after violating sanctions against Iran, Cuba and Sudan.” [85810]

Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT) tweets, “You have families out there paying 6, 8, 10 percent on student debt but you can refinance your homes at 3 percent. What sense is that?” (Sanders is not only a socialist, he is incredibly ignorant—which arguably go hand in hand. He apparently has never heard of the word “collateral.” If an individual fails to meet his obligation on a home mortgage or automobile loan, the lender can take possession of the house or car—the collateral for the loan. But Student loans have no collateral; they are personal loans with a greater risk to the lender because there is no collateral to take in the event of a default. Interest on a loan without collateral necessarily costs more than one backed by property. BanCollectivism tweets, “Well you see, Sen Sanders, a home has actual value, whereas a \$100,000 degree in ‘women’s studies’ is WORTHLESS.”) [85813, 85845, 85846, 85848]

Former Senator Jim Webb (D-VA) tweets, “Hillary Clinton’s failed vision in Libya & the Arab Spring are foreign policy leadership at its worst.” Webb includes a link to a

Facebook page in which he states, “Our next commander in chief must define a strategic vision for the country and accept accountability for past actions. Hillary Clinton should be called to account for her inept leadership that brought about the chaos in Libya, and the power vacuums that resulted in the rest of the region. She’ll need better answers than the recent nonsensical comment that she advocated taking out Muammar Qaddafi in Libya in order to avert a situation like Syria. The predictable chaos in Libya was bad enough, but it also helped bring about the disaster in Syria. Who is taking her to task for this?” (Webb withdrew from the Democrat race in October. Whether he plans to reenter as an independent is not known.) [85829, 85830, 85831, 85862, 85881]

On December 27 Leo Hohmann warns that San Bernardino terrorist Syed Farook may not have been a “lone wolf” but was in a “sleeper cell,” according to journalist Jayna Davis (author of *The Third Terrorist: The Middle East Connection to the Oklahoma City Bombing*). Hohmann writes, “Davis says the FBI still hasn’t learned the pivotal lesson in the way it investigates terrorist attacks on U.S. soil. And those failures were on full display in the recent San Bernardino attack. ‘What I found in 1995 was basically a blueprint for terrorist attacks today. What I found as a journalist, it’s basically what is happening today,’ she said. ‘I see striking parallels between 1995 and what is happening today.’ ...She believes the government is lying about the nature of the attacks. The San Bernardino shooters were not merely ‘self-radicalized’ or ‘inspired’ by a foreign terrorist organization. Rather, she believes they were part of a larger network of sleeper cells operating within the United States. ...‘God forbid if it becomes the headline of the month, another attack, because we do have a sleeper network here in the United States of America. And it’s been building since the 1990s,’ Davis said. ‘Oklahoma City was the nerve center. My intelligence sources in the U.S. government called it Little Syria. There’s a reason why (terrorism investigator) Steve Emerson began his investigation right here in OKC. This is what we are not acknowledging. We have to demand more from our law enforcement.’ [85853]

On *Fox & Friends*, Donald Trump declares that if Hillary Clinton charges that he is a sexist, he will bring up Bill Clinton’s past. “I think he’s fair game because his presidency was considered to be troubled, to put it mildly... She’s got to be careful and fair. We all have to fight fairly and we have to fight for the good of the country, for the good of the people, for the good of everybody. But we have to fight fairly. And she’s playing the woman’s card. It’s like, give me a break. I have had so many women come up to me, saying, ‘you have to keep her out.’ She’s just terrible. She’s playing the woman’s card left and right. And women are more upset about it than anybody else, including most men. ...So, you know, certainly Bill Clinton is not going to be the end-all in the campaign. He’ll come under attack, not just from me, but he’ll come under attack from many other people.” (Trump’s comment does not please NBC’s Andrea Mitchell, who comes to the Clintons’ defense on *Meet the Press*: “Are we gonna [sic] get into an argument not only of sexism between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton but Donald Trump attacking Bill Clinton?”) [85854, 85855, 85878, 85887, 85894, 85958]

NYPPost.com reports, “Buffalo real-estate developer Carl Paladino, who upended the Republican establishment in 2010 to win the GOP primary for governor, has organized a

statewide effort to make Donald Trump the winner of New York's April 19 presidential primary, sources tell Inside Albany. ... 'Serious organizing activities are under way on behalf of Trump,' said Rochester-area Assemblyman Bill Nojay, a Paladino ally who predicted that many prominent upstate Republicans would join the effort. ... Trump's backers are telling party activists their candidate is the only one who would have a chance of carrying heavily Democratic New York—and thus would be the best candidate to help turn out the Republican vote in November. ... One prominent GOP lawmaker who said he would soon endorse Trump publicly said he was doing so without much enthusiasm. 'Trump scares me, especially with some of the stuff he's been doing lately. But Trump is the one guy you feel can hold his own against [Russian President Vladimir] Putin and the mullahs, can negotiate a good deal with the Chinese, and will make America competitive again. When the ship is in peril, you only care about one thing: Who can get us through the storm?'" (Translation: "I don't care if the captain is a crude, loud-mouthed slob who puts his elbows on the table during dinner. We want to save the ship and the lives of the passengers, not choose an etiquette columnist.") [85896]

Actor David Spade caustically criticizes Obama and his wife for their many appearances on non-news television programs: "A president should have a little more dignity than, I mean, I realize that Woodrow Wilson went on *Dancing With the Stars* once but what president is doing reality shows? It just sounds weird to me... it's just too much. I think that, you know, Michelle Obama's on *Ellen* [DeGeneres' television program] more than I am... It's just a new world, ...I'm not used to it. ...It seems a bit thirsty to me, that's all." [85879, 85880]

DailyCaller.com reports that Virginia Republicans "returned fire over the state Democrat Attorney General Mark Herring's move to halt recognition of concealed carry permits from 25 different states. ... Republican state legislators could strip Virginia Democrat Governor Terry McAuliffe of his protective detail. Virginia Sen. Bill Carrico told The Herald Courier last Tuesday he plans to propose a budget amendment during the State Senate's January Session that would defund the governor's protective detail. 'A lot of the governor's power is deferred to the General Assembly at that point and I'll be getting with my colleagues to circumvent everything this governor has done on this point,' Carrico said. 'I have a budget amendment that I'm looking at to take away his executive protection unit. If he's so afraid of guns, then I'm not going to surround him with armed state policemen.'" (Herring is, of course, an idiot. His policy would only affect law-abiding citizens who would like to bring weapons into Virginia. Criminals, by nature, will pay no attention to his rule.) [85856, 85857, 85883, 85902, 85904]

Iraqi forces retake the city of Ramadi, defeating ISIS fighters. (The city of Mosul will be much more difficult to wrest from the control of ISIS, partly because its thousands of fighters are interspersed among the general population.) Meanwhile, the Taliban controls more territory in Afghanistan than it did in 2001. ("Retake Ramadi" means that major government buildings are now under Iraqi control. ISIS still holds some 40-45 percent of the city. The problem the Iraqi government faces is that it does not have enough troops to move against ISIS in Mosul and other cities while leaving enough behind to retain Ramadi and other areas. Iraq does not have enough troops to annihilate ISIS because

neighboring Sunni Arab nations are unwilling to offer support to its Shi'ite government. Had the Obama administration worked to help create an inclusive Iraqi government, rather than waste that State Department manpower on a terrible nuclear deal with Iran, an Iraqi-led coalition could be formed and easily defeat ISIS. In fact, had Secretary of State John Kerry spent as much time in Baghdad as he spent in Paris and Geneva there might not even have been an ISIS.) [85860, 85884, 85893, 85905, 85906]

Former CIA director James Woolsey observes that the action in Ramadi is “a good step. It’s a positive thing, and we shouldn’t denigrate it if the Iraqi Armed Forces are now getting organized enough that they don’t run at the sight of ISIS, but rather take them on and beat them. ...But we shouldn’t relax. ISIS is still going to come after us here in the United States, they’re going after more replays of Paris and Europe. We’ve got a long, hard sluff ahead of us.” [85906]

Paul Sperry writes at NYPost.com, “The cleric acting as spokesman for the San Bernardino mosque where terrorist Syed Rizwan Farook worshipped claims he barely knew Farook and didn’t know his terrorist wife at all. But phone records and other evidence uncovered by federal investigators cast doubt on his story. The FBI has questioned the cleric, Roshan Zamir Abbassi, about his phone communications with Farook—including a flurry of at least 38 messages over a two-week span in June, coinciding with the deadly Muslim terrorist attack on two military sites in Chattanooga, Tenn. ...Abbassi maintained at a press conference that he didn’t know Farook any better than he knew the reporters in the room. But members of the mosque say Farook was a fixture there. ...His other assertion that he never even saw Farook’s wife, Tashfeen Malik, also strains credulity.” [85862, 85863, 85867]

“...Asked if Farook was radicalized at the mosque, Abbassi snapped, ‘Never.’ He said the mosque teaches only peace, insisting no one has even an ‘extremist idea.’ ‘In Islam,’ he said, ‘we are against innocent killing.’” (Reporters neglect to ask, “What is your definition of ‘innocent?’” In Islam, non-followers are automatically considered not to be innocent.) “...Another person of interest is Abbassi’s brother, Mohammad Sabir Abbassi, a Muslim activist who serves as a trustee and English teacher at the San Diego mosque once headed by the late al Qaeda cleric Anwar al-Awlaki. FBI Agent Joel Anderson said in court filings that Farook indicated he was a big fan of Awlaki and listened to a series of sermons about jihad and martyrdom called ‘The Hereafter.’” [85862, 85863, 85867]

On *Fox News Sunday*, Congressman Peter King (R-NY) observes that “after 16 months of air attacks by the U.S. it’s had really minimal impact on ISIS considering how long those attacks have been going on. ...ISIS is stronger, I believe, than it was 16 months ago. They certainly have a larger land mass under their control.” [85875]

CNN.com reports, “During a National Security Council meeting held at the Pentagon on Dec. 14, ...Obama told top military officials and other officials he wanted to see a better job of having the so-called ‘narrative’ of the war on ISIS communicated to the American people, a senior defense official told CNN.” (Translation: “Even if we’re not winning, I want the public to think we’re winning.”) [85885, 85886]

On December 28 Carly Fiorina appears on *Fox & Friends* and says, “Of course Bill Clinton’s fair game. He’s a former president. And as I recall, Donald Trump threw George W. Bush under the bus way back in September. But you’re not going to beat Hillary Clinton by attacking Bill Clinton. You’re going to beat Hillary Clinton—I’m going to beat Hillary Clinton—by attacking her track record and her lack of trustworthiness. Of course she is going to play the woman card. That’s what she does. And the way to deal with the woman card is to attack her track record.” [85889]

On *Good Morning America*, reporter Mary Bruce comments, “Based on his latest mudslinging, [it] seems like Donald Trump is already looking ahead to a battle with Hillary Clinton. ... Trump [is] intensifying his war of words with the Democratic front-runner, targeting her husband’s history of alleged sexual misconduct.” (Bruce may be unaware of the meaning of the word “alleged.”) [85930, 86154]

The Media Research Center awards its annual “Obamagasm Award” to former CBS News producer Dick Meyer, now Washington Bureau Chief for Scripps, who wrote on July 16, “Americans are lucky to have Barack Obama as President and we should wake up and appreciate it while we can. ... Obama will go down in history as an extraordinary President, probably a great one... It would be a morale booster and a sign of civic maturity if more Americans appreciated what an exceptional President they have right now. It could be a long wait for the next one.” [85888]

MSNBC’s Chris Matthews is a runner-up, having said on July 22, “Instead of going and grubbing the money on Wall Street, he [Obama] went out to people and helped his community... He’s done everything right. He’s been immaculate in the presidency. Nobody has accused him of any corruption. His kids are perfect. His wife is perfect. He’s done everything that these right-wing, white conservatives say we’re supposed to be in this country. He’s done everything right. And this sleazy comment, that he has no class... He has plenty of class.” (No comment is necessary here.) [85888]

Another runner-up is MSNBC’s Lawrence O’Donnell, who said on February 3, “Long before he was running for President, [Obama] had written the answer [to questions about past drug use] in a book called *Dreams from My Father*. It stands today as the finest literary work ever authored by a President of the United States. The book doesn’t contain the whole truth of Barack Obama’s life. Books can’t do that, but it is, by far, the most honest and open book, and artful book, ever written by a President.” (O’Donnell, who pretends to be a journalist, declares that books cannot report the truth. He is perhaps subconsciously accepting that *Dreams From My Father* is more a work of fiction by William Ayers than an autobiography by Obama.) [85888]

Also on the runner-up list is MSNBC’s Rachel Maddow, who said on July 14, “We don’t know if the Iran deal is going to work. If it does, it will be the major foreign policy achievement, not only of this presidency, but of this American generation. At which point, people in the not-too-distant future will look back at this presidency, they’ll look back at [Obama] and they’ll say, ‘Oh, of course they gave him the Nobel Peace Prize. Of



course they did.’” (Maddow did not speculate on what people in the future will say if Iran drops a nuclear bomb on Tel Aviv.) [85888]

A December 17-21 CNN/ORC poll shows that “Americans are more likely to say that terrorists are winning the war against the United States than they have been at any point since the September 11 attacks... While less than half of Americans say the terrorists are winning, the current 40% who do believe that is 17 points above the previous high of 23% reached in August 2005. Another 40% say neither side has an advantage, and just 18% say today that the U.S. and its allies have the upper hand—10 points off the previous low for that measure, reached in January 2007.” [85873, 85874]

UnitedWithIsrael.org writes, “Israel is the only country in the world feared by the Islamic State (ISIS, IS) terror organization, said German reporter Jurgen Todenhöfer, the only Western journalist ever allowed access to the terrorists in Iraq, in an interview with the UK’s Jewish News on Sunday. Todenhöfer spent 10 days with ISIS in Iraq and Syria, accompanied by his son Frederic. He returned with frightening insights. ISIS is ‘preparing the largest religious cleansing in history,’ he said, adding that he has a ‘pessimistic’ view on what can be done to combat it. ‘The only country ISIS fears is Israel. They told me they know the Israeli army is too strong for them,’ he said. ...ISIS believes it can defeat allied troops on the ground. ‘They think they can defeat US and UK ground troops, who they say they have no experience in city guerrilla or terrorist strategies,’ Todenhöfer explained, ‘but they know the Israelis are very tough as far as fighting against guerrillas and terrorists.’ ‘They are not scared of the British and the Americans, they are scared of the Israelis, and told me the Israeli army is the real danger. We can’t defeat them with our current strategy. These people [the Israeli Defense Forces] can fight a guerrilla war,’ he said.” [85924]

In a national Rasmussen poll, “If the 2016 presidential election was held today, 37% of Likely U.S. Voters would vote for [Hillary] Clinton, while 36% would vote for [Donald] Trump. ...[A] sizable 22% would choose some other candidate, while five percent (5%) are undecided. ...Seventy-five percent (75%) of Democrats back Clinton, up five points from October. Trump draws support from 63% of Republicans, virtually unchanged from the previous survey. Unaffiliated voters prefer Trump 36% to 25%, but 29% of these voters like some other candidate.” [85890]

Howard Kurtz reports at FoxNews.com, “When Donald Trump and his team were planning his presidential campaign, they drew up a budget of \$25 million for television advertising in the third quarter of this year. They wound up spending zero for the rest of 2015. That is about to change. Sources in the Trump camp say they will soon launch a major ad blitz that could cost at least \$2 million a week, and possibly several times that. ...The original plan was to saturate the airwaves so that the real estate mogul could define himself before his GOP rivals did it for him. But Trump says he had no need to do that because he generated such saturation coverage, all of it free.” [85891]

Deborah C. Tyler writes at AmericanThinker.com, “The psychological processes which prevent people from facing facts when the unthinkable has become obvious can be

explained by the models of social psychology called cognitive dissonance theory. Cognitive dissonance is the mental stress and discomfort caused when important beliefs, attitudes or values, called cognitions, are inconsistent, conflicting or contradictory to each other. In the 1950s the psychologist Leon Festinger theorized that the mind spontaneously, continuously reduces cognitive dissonance to enable goal-directed functioning in a paradoxical, inconsistent, deceptive world. Festinger's discovery founded a rich tradition of research which has demonstrated how the mind resolves contradictions. It provides a powerful way to understand why people can't face what ...Obama is doing to America." [85892]

"...America is Barack Obama's prey. He is tearing America apart and feeding the pieces of her life to his foreign and domestic fellow travelers. He is not transforming the nation but terminating it. ...No president in American history has aided enemies, undermined the economy and derided the American people as the current commander-in-chief. The *immensity* of Obama's disloyalty is key to why people cannot face the truth about him. ... Obama is destroying America overtly and covertly. By promoting policies which are normalizing harmful drugs, undermining the natural family, and generally promoting moral chaos he slyly increases the number of subdissonant Americans, people too ill or distracted to care. He has brainwashed or bought off virtually the entire government including the Republican establishment. A noble people who years ago would have resolved dissonance by believing in America's goodness and standing firm against tyranny no longer do." [85892]

"The social psychologist Elliot Aronson advanced cognitive dissonance theory, further explaining why people can't face Obama's hatred and destruction. Aronson's self-concept model theorized the central purpose of dissonance reduction is to preserve positive self-image (I am a good person) and self-justification (I was right all along). Because so many Americans now have been convinced we are a racist nation, to maintain a positive self-image people cannot face the truth about Obama. The loss of opportunities and the diminishing of hopes which Obama's policies have inflicted create a monumental need for self-justification among his supporters. '[Obama] shows us America is still racist. We were right all along.' They have let go the truth that America is about freedom. No one knows how many still stand upon that truth, how many care, or if there are enough big lies left to elect Hillary." (For many Americans, it is easier to believe the United States is the evil and racist nation Obama portrays it to be than to admit that they were wrong to fall for his "hope and change" claptrap.) [85892]

According to a December 18-27 Clout Research telephone survey conducted for WND.com, "40 percent of blacks are lining up behind Trump, as are 45 percent of Hispanics, and even nearly 19 percent of Asians. Blacks and Hispanics, in fact, even support Trump at a higher level than whites. ...Only Dr. Ben Carson pulled more support from the black community than Trump, at 50 percent, and no one had more support from Hispanics than Trump. Among Asians, 37.5 percent supported Sen. Marco Rubio, with Sen. Ted Cruz matching Trump's 18.8 percent. Among whites, Trump was far and away the leader, with 37.7 percent of the respondents. Cruz was second at 25.1 percent." (Of course, Trump getting the support of 40 percent of blacks and 45 percent of Hispanics

who might vote in the GOP primaries may mean little inasmuch as most will be voting in the Democrat primaries.) [85900, 85912, 85952]

DailyCaller.com reports, “A Kansas City mosque owned by an Islamic umbrella organization with deep ties to the U.S. arm of the Muslim Brotherhood has received millions of dollars in federal grants over the past several years, according to a federal spending database. The Islamic Center of Greater Kansas City has received \$2,739,891 from the Department of Agriculture since 2010, a Daily Caller analysis has found. The money largely went to the mosque’s Crescent Clinic to provide services through the Women, Infant and Children nutrition program, known as WIC. ...Property records show the mosque is owned by the North American Islamic Trust (NAIT), which acts as a financial holding company for Islamic organizations. It offers sharia-compliant financial products to Muslim investors, operates Islamic schools and owns more than 300 other mosques throughout the U.S.” [85903]

At a campaign appearance in Nashua, New Hampshire, Donald Trump says, “I’m telling you this very strongly. First of all, she [Hillary Clinton] has committed a criminal act... What she did with the emails was criminal.” Of Benghazi, Trump says Clinton was “too lazy to answer phone calls” and send help to the Americans under attack. [85921]

On December 29 former Vermont governor Howard Dean, appearing on *Morning Joe*, says Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel (Obama’s former chief of staff) “is in deep trouble”—after the weekend shooting deaths of two blacks by Chicago police officers. “The Chicago Police Department is in a lot of trouble. They were running essentially off-the-record jails, incarcerating Chicagoans and nobody knew where they were. They wouldn’t tell their lawyers. This is completely out of control. Completely out of control. The city is out of control.” Al Sharpton adds, “I’ve never seen this kind of detachment in the years that I’ve been fighting, whether I got along with the mayor or not.” (Emanuel is vacationing in Cuba, but will cut his trip short to return to Chicago.) [85915, 85916, 85922, 86008]

Newsmax.com writes, “The mayor on his return will face renewed protests over police shootings after Bettie Jones, 55, and college student Quintonio LeGrier, 19, were killed early on Saturday [December 26]. Police said Jones was killed by accident during the altercation with LeGrier. The fatal police shootings on Saturday were the first in America’s third most populous city since it released a video in late November showing an October 2014 police shooting of a black teen that belied the official account he had lunged at police with a knife.” [85915, 85916]

Outside Emanuel’s Chicago home, several dozen protestors wait his return. One says, “You can go back to Cuba once you resign!” At least two demonstrators “accidentally” slip and fall on his snow-covered sidewalk—probably with plans to file lawsuits. [85923, 85933]

Former New York Governor George Pataki advises campaign staff he is dropping out of the presidential race. [85929, 85970]

Kia Absalom, the 21-year-old daughter of Attorney General Loretta Lynch, is arrested after she failed to pay Uber driver Hassan Almaweri the fare he was due. According to BizPacReview.com, “Absalom was placed in a holding cell but had her arrest voided” after her boyfriend arrives—along with her father, Stephen Hargrove, and FBI agent John Robison—to pay the driver. (Apparently an arrest can be “voided” if your mother is the Attorney General.) [86179]

*The Washington Post*'s Ruth Marcus writes, “Donald Trump is crude and vulgar. He’s every -ist in the book: racist, sexist, narcissist, for starters. His dis about Hillary Clinton getting ‘schlonged’ in the 2008 campaign and the accompanying tirade about her ‘disgusting’ bathroom break were weird and juvenile. But he has a point about Clinton playing the ‘woman’s card,’ and about the male behavior that’s more concerning: her husband’s. ...Clinton’s attempt at outsourced outrage has the air of a basketball player flopping on the floor for the benefit of the ref. ...[I]n the larger scheme of things, Bill Clinton’s conduct toward women is far worse than any of the multiple offensive things Trump has said. Trump has smeared women because of their looks. Clinton has preyed on them, and in a workplace setting where he was by far the superior. That is uncomfortable for Clinton supporters but it is unavoidably true. ...What happens inside a marriage is the couple’s business, no one else’s, even when both halves crave the presidency. But Hillary Clinton has made two moves that lead me, gulp, to agree with Trump on the fair game front. She is (smartly) using her husband as a campaign surrogate, and simultaneously (correctly) calling Trump sexist. These moves open a dangerous door. It should surprise no one that Trump has barged right through it.” [85907, 85908, 85909, 85925]

On NBC’s *Today* program, Savannah Guthrie interviews Donald Trump. She says, “You mention Monica Lewinsky. Are you saying an alleged extra-marital affair, that of course he has now admitted, is that fair game?” Trump replies, “Is it alleged? I don’t think that’s alleged.” Guthrie: “No, he’s admitted it, he’s admitted it.” Trump: “If he’s admitted it, you don’t have to use the word alleged.” Guthrie: “Right, exactly. Are you saying an extramarital affair by Bill Clinton is fair game, is something that you think should be in the campaign?” Trump: “If she’s [Hillary Clinton is] going to play the women card, because I’ll do more for women than Hillary Clinton is going to do for women, including the safety of our country, which is good for everybody, and if she’s going to play that game, and if he’s going to be out there campaigning, then he’s certainly fair game. I think just about everybody agrees with me on that.” [85910, 85911, 85914, 85930, 85941, 86154]

*National Review*'s Katherine Timpf blasts Hillary Clinton in a series of Twitter messages: “If u want to say what BILL did is irrelevant to Hillary, fine. But how SHE attacked those women IS — esp since she’s running as ‘feminist’” “She’s accused of threatening [Juanita] Broadrick. She called flowers [Gennifer Flowers] ‘trailer trash.’ Now calls herself a ‘feminist.’” “Hillary didn’t just not believe the women who accused Bill of assault. She attacked and shamed them until their lives were ruined.” “I will not stop

talking about this. I will not let Hillary run on being ‘pro-women’ when she’s destroyed so many for her benefit.” [85939, 85951]

DCWhispers.com writes that “some of the highest ranking White House and Pentagon officials” are “playing a game of chess that has most recently escalated to all-out political warfare pitting the Executive Branch of the U.S. government against military officials seemingly determined to see [Obama] defeated out of a sense of duty to the American people. Lt. Gen. Mike Flynn was, until 2014, Barack Obama’s Defense Intelligence Agency director. During his tenure working with the Obama administration, Flynn grew increasingly frustrated over the White House’s continued refusal to directly counter what Flynn perceived to be a growing Islamic militant threat both at home and abroad. As Flynn’s frustrations grew, so too did his willingness to more openly speak out against the administration to others, including then Secretary of Defense, Chuck Hagel. The Hagel-Flynn union become something of constant annoyance to White House Senior Adviser, Valerie Jarrett who herself became increasingly determined to see both men removed from their positions of authority.” [85913]

“General Flynn was first to go, forced to resign in April of 2014. He was joined by his equally frustrated deputy, David Shedd. The resignations were said to be intended as warning shots fired across the bow by Jarrett and aimed primarily at Defense Secretary Hagel and other Pentagon officials who dared to speak out against White House policy. Even in-house policy papers not readily available to the public or media were deemed acts of defiance. The Jarrett White House position was clear—there was to be NO critical feedback from anyone within the Obama/Jarrett government and certainly no such feedback was to reach the eyes and ears of the notoriously thin-skinned and defensive, Barack Obama. Valerie Jarrett had learned long ago that Obama is more easily manipulated when he is under the impression that all is well and most important, that he remains loved and adored. Criticism, however slight, tends to make him far more emotionally unstable and thus, unpredictable, both of which make Jarrett’s control over him that much more difficult to both maintain and coordinate. When Chuck Hagel then began to voice the same concerns/criticisms as General Flynn had a year earlier, he too was informed his tenure with the administration was over.” [85913]

“Since departing the Obama government, both General Flynn and Chuck Hagel have spoken out publicly regarding their views of the many potentially dangerous faults within the Obama-Jarrett policies. Flynn went so far as to liken those policies to a cancer that is spreading and thus making Americans less safe. The retired general has indicated the entirety of the Obama foreign policy is based upon a childish, ideological-based fantasy that ignores the reality that is radical Islam. General Flynn has also hinted at the war going on behind the scenes that is centered upon Valerie Jarrett and Barack Obama’s repeated demand that the GITMO detention center where some of the most dangerous Muslim terrorists are being detained, be closed: ‘We should be capturing, not releasing, more GITMO prisoners.’” [85913]

“Barack Obama is said to ‘obsessed’ by the Pentagon’s refusal to more quickly shut down GITMO. [Obama] is seemingly convinced high-ranking military officials’ refusal

to do so is based upon their desire to see him embarrassed and Valerie Jarrett has in recent months apparently fed that growing paranoia as a means of ensuring Obama moves forward with Executive Action on the issue. Pentagon officials have told the White House directly it cannot do so. Valerie Jarrett operatives are said to have responded with indications not only can they do so, but they WILL do so in 2016. It is a White House and an American Military at war with one another. One side hopes to continue keeping dangerous jihadists in prison. The other side demands those jihadists either be set free, transferred to nations far more supportive of their dangerous ideology, or brought into the United States where they would be afforded all the protections and benefits of U.S. citizens.” [85913]

Reuters reports on Pentagon efforts to thwart Obama’s goal of closing the detainee center at Guantanamo: “To slow prisoner transfers, Pentagon officials have refused to provide photographs, complete medical records and other basic documentation to foreign governments willing to take detainees, administration officials said. They have made it increasingly difficult for foreign delegations to visit Guantanamo, limited the time foreign officials can interview detainees and barred delegations from spending the night at Guantanamo. ...When Obama took office, the prison held 242 detainees, down from a peak of about 680 in 2003. Today, with little more than a year remaining in his presidency, it still holds 107 detainees. ...Pentagon officials denied any intentional effort to slow transfers.” [85919, 85920]

“...Military officials ...continue to make transfers more difficult and protracted than necessary, administration officials said. In particular, they cite General John F. Kelly, in charge of the U.S. Southern Command, which includes Guantanamo. They said that Kelly, whose son was killed fighting the Taliban in Afghanistan, opposes [Obama’s] policy of closing Guantanamo, and that he and his command have created obstacles for visiting delegations. Kelly denied that he or his command has limited delegation visits.” (Virtually all Americans would be outraged if Obama attempts to release from Guantanamo Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the mastermind of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. KSM will almost certainly still be at Guantanamo when Obama leaves office.) [85919, 85920]

WJS.com writes that Obama “announced two years ago he would curtail eavesdropping on friendly heads of state after the world learned the reach of long-secret U.S. surveillance programs. But behind the scenes, the White House decided to keep certain allies under close watch, current and former U.S. officials said. Topping the list was Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. The U.S., pursuing a nuclear arms agreement with Iran at the time, captured communications between Mr. Netanyahu and his aides that inflamed mistrust between the two countries and planted a political minefield at home when Mr. Netanyahu later took his campaign against the deal to Capitol Hill. The National Security Agency’s targeting of Israeli leaders and officials also swept up the contents of some of their private conversations with U.S. lawmakers and American-Jewish groups. That raised fears—an ‘Oh-s— moment,’ one senior U.S. official said—that the executive branch would be accused of spying on Congress.” (Of course, the administration was spying on Congress and Israel—mostly to prevent its

nuclear deal with Iran from unraveling. Obama was not spying on Netanyahu in order to protect the United States; he was spying on Netanyahu in order to protect his political legacy. That is a gross misuse of power and warrants Obama's removal from office.) [85937, 85938, 85940, 85942, 85944, 85949]

Planned Parenthood tweets before it thinks, sending a message declaring that “extremists have gone so far out on a limb on abortion, they won't be able to crawl back.” [85965, 85966]

At a campaign event in New Hampshire, Hillary Clinton calls on a young boy who complains that his mother “is working more harder than my father and she deserves to have more money—like get more money than my father. I don't think it's fair.” Clinton responds, “Oh, that is really so sweet. You have a great future as an advocate. I think we still have problems and if you deny those problems, you are denying the fastest way to increase incomes in America and that is to make sure women are paid what they deserve in the job that they do.” (Clinton chooses not to suggest that the boy attend a better school—one that would teach him not to say “more harder.” She also chooses not to address the cause of the wage gap in the boy's family: The father is an engineer and the mother is a teacher. The law of supply results in engineers generally being paid more than teachers because engineers are in short supply and teachers are the proverbial “dime a dozen.” It is easy to find someone to fill an open teacher position, but far more difficult to find qualified engineers. If the boy's mother wanted a more lucrative career she should have chosen something other than teaching. Of course, engineers do not get summers off and spring and Christmas vacations.) [85967, 85968]

On December 30 aging actor and comedian Bill Cosby is arraigned on charges of sexual assault. (Bill Clinton is not.) [85935, 85953, 85971]

DailyCaller.com notes that during her eight-year tenure as a U.S. Senator, Hillary Clinton managed to get three bills passed into law: “The first piece of legislation S.3145, designated a portion of U.S. Route 20A, located in Orchard Park, N.Y., as the ‘Timothy J. Russert Highway,’ after the former ‘Meet the Press’ host. The second piece of legislation S. 3613, renamed the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2951 New York Highway 43 in Averill Park, New York, as the ‘Major George Quamo Post Office Building.’ The third piece, S. 1241 made the brick house of 19th century female union leader Kate Mullany a national historic site.” [85972]

In an interview with *The Conway Daily Sun*, Clinton is asked about UFOs. She tells the New Hampshire newspaper, “Yes, I'm going to get to the bottom of it. ...I think we may have been [visited by aliens already]. We don't know for sure.” [86086, 86089, 86117]

Confronted with the fact that the families of the Benghazi victims have said she told them the cause of the attack was a YouTube video, Sun columnist Tom McLaughlin asks, “Somebody is lying. Who is it?” Clinton responds, “Not me, that's all I can tell you.” (Clinton is calling the family members liars.) [86087, 86088]

While Obama plays golf in Hawaii, Russia conducts air strikes against ISIS leaders and an ammunition depot in Raqqa, Syria. [85945, 85946, 85947]

Enrique Marquez, who sold to Syed Farook the rifles he and his wife Tashfeen Malik used in the San Bernardino massacre, is indicted on terrorism-related charges—along with one count of marriage fraud and one count of making a false statement on immigration paperwork. [85956, 85957]

The FBI offers a \$5,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of a man who put bacon on the door handles of a mosque in Las Vegas. (No reward has been offered for information related to the identification of anyone who may have assisted the San Bernardino terrorists.) [86012, 86013, 86063]

On December 31 25-year-old Emanuel Lutchman, who converted to Islam while in prison for robbery, is arrested for supporting ISIS and planning a New Year's Eve attack in Rochester, New York. [85960, 85991, 85999, 86018]

In Belgium, an arrest warrant is issued for “Ayoub B.,” a 10th person believed to be involved in the November 13 terrorist attacks in Paris. The Belgian national lived in the Molenbeek neighborhood of Brussels, an area with a large Muslim population. [86001, 86002]

Brussels cancels its New Year's Eve fireworks program. [86001, 86002, 86010]

Hoping everyone will be too busy celebrating to notice, the State Department releases several thousand more Hillary Clinton emails. [85962, 85963, 85974]

One of the emails reveals that billionaire George Soros expressed regret over supporting Obama over Hillary Clinton in 2008. According to TheHill.com, “Center for American Progress President Neera Tanden said in a May 2012 email to Clinton that Soros made the admission to her during a dinner. ‘I told him I worked for you in the primaries and he said he’s been impressed that he can always call/meet with you on an issue of policy and said he hasn’t met with [Obama] ever (though I thought he had),’ Tanden wrote. ‘He then said he regretted his decision in the primary—he likes to admit mistakes when he makes them and that was one of them,’ she added. ‘He then extolled his work with you from your time as First Lady on. You probably have heard this all before but on the off chance you haven’t, I thought I should let you know. Thanks again for doing the video!’ she wrote.” [85992]

Also according to TheHill.com, “Sydney Blumenthal sent Clinton a memo on Sept. 30, 2009 with background information on John Kornblum, who was at the time taking over as Germany’s foreign minister. ‘Kornblum strongly suggests you try to develop your personal relationship with [German Chancellor Angela] Merkel as you can,’ Blumenthal writes. ‘He says she dislikes the atmospherics surrounding the Obama phenomenon, that it’s contrary to her whole idea of politics and how to conduct oneself in general. She would welcome a more conversational relationship with you.’” (It has been clear from the



start of Obama's tenure in the White House that Merkel dislikes Obama, as do former French president Nicolas Sarkozy and Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu.) [85993]

Twitchy.com notes that in the newly-released emails, "Bloomberg Politics correspondent Jennifer Epstein found something a bit more disturbing to those who still consider Benghazi a big deal, even if it happened a long time ago... The names of some emailers are redacted, but a string of mails between members of Clinton's staff shows how they attempted to kill a New York Times story being written by Eric Schmitt, who covers terrorism and national security issues, regarding the CIA and its annex in Libya. The email first describes the staff's 'intervention with Eric last night and the Bureau Chief an hour or so ago' which 'did not bring closure.' A follow-up email from a redacted sender to Tommy Vietor reads, 'I am just not optimistic about this at all. NYT has an obligation to its readers, you know. But we should all remember that if this goes [sic] forward we are in a no comment/no confirmation mode.'" [86003]

A March 26, 2012 email from pollster Mark Penn to Hillary Clinton comments on Obama's open-microphone remark by Obama to Russian President Dmitry Medvedev, "This is my last election. After my election, I have more flexibility." Penn writes, "This could be about the stupidest thing ever said by a president in foreign policy. To explicitly say that he is laying low on nuclear defense policies because of his election right now and tell your opponent that is to politicize all foreign policy, evidence weakness that can be exploited by others, and undermine the administration's credibility. This is one I'm glad I don't have to figure out how to retract but you will surely be asked if your decisions and positions are part of the election campaign and bat that down definitively. Or even consider resigning if it's the case—American foreign and strategic nuclear policy can't be one way before an election and another after it—and certainly you can't tell your opponents that or from al Qaeda on down they will figure out how to use that. They are going to have to walk this back somehow and you need to affirm that it's only good policy that drives State. Maybe I'm overreacting but this turns etch a sketch into child's play." (Interestingly, Clinton is confused by Penn's message, sends it on to staffer Jacob Sullivan, and asks, "What is this referring to?" Obama's remark came earlier in the day and was the hot topic in the news, and yet Clinton seemed to know nothing about it.) [86028, 86029]

TheHornNews.com writes, "[R]eporters seem to be giving a free pass to major health issues surrounding Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign. Clinton has a history of potentially serious blood clots—and is currently taking one of the most unpredictable prescription drugs on the market today. Health questions have swirled around Clinton since a December 2012 fall that caused a concussion and led to a subsequent diagnosis of a blood clot near her brain. Clinton was knocked so hard she was seeing double for months—and had to wear glasses with special lines in them just so she could see straight. ... Over the summer, Clinton tried to dismiss the persistent questions about her health by releasing a statement from her doctor that concludes: 'She is in excellent physical condition and fit to serve as President of the United States.' But the letter, which runs nearly two pages, could lead voters to draw the opposite conclusion—because it raises

more issues than it answers, especially about Clinton’s clot history and the fact that she’s taking one of the most dangerous medications on the planet. It’s a blood thinner called Coumadin (warfarin)...” [86094, 86095, 86096]

“In humans, anyone taking it, even a president—especially a president—requires constant supervision, including regular tests to ensure the blood doesn’t get too thin. When it does, you could literally bleed to death. ...Even more concerning, this drug’s side effects include severe headaches, fainting, coughing up blood, confusion, slurred speech and more. Clinton appears to be prone to clots, which can lead to a stroke—something the media has talked little about. Her own doctor admitted that she suffered at least three clots (that we know of) in recent years. This included deep vein thrombosis in 1998 and 2009 (which usually occurs in the legs), and the third clot in 2012 that affected a vein that drains blood from the brain. That clot could have led to a potentially fatal brain hemorrhage or stroke, doctors say.” According to The New York Times, Clinton “regularly takes thyroid hormone to bring her levels to normal as well as the anticoagulant drug Coumadin to help prevent new blood clots... Mrs. Clinton also takes antihistamine drugs for seasonal pollen allergies and vitamin B-12.” [86094, 86095, 86096]

DenverPost.com reports, “About 190 workers, most of them immigrants from Somalia, have been fired from a meat packing and distribution plant on Colorado’s Eastern Plains for walking off the job to protest a workplace prayer dispute. Ten days ago more than 200 workers walked off their jobs at Cargill Meat Solutions in Fort Morgan. Some workers later returned, but the majority stayed away as representatives of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) negotiated on their behalf. On Tuesday Cargill, through its attorneys, fired the workers who were holding out, said Jaylani Hussein, a spokesman and executive director of CAIR. ...Cargill could not be reached for comment Wednesday night. Last week, Mike Martin, director of communications for Cargill, told the Greeley Tribune that employees of all faiths are allowed to use a reflection area, but that because employees work on an assembly line only one or two at a time can use the area, to avoid slowing production. ...There has been a desire among some employees to go in larger groups of people to pray. We just can’t accommodate that. It backs up the flow of all the production.” [86016, 86026, 86150]

JihadWatch’s Robert Spencer points out, “In reality, Muslims can make up missed prayers at later times, which makes it clear (as does the involvement of Hamas-linked CAIR) that this is simply an Islamic supremacist endeavor to secure special privileges for Muslims, such as we have seen on many other occasions. The objective is to reinforce the principle that wherever Islamic law and practice conflict with American law and practice, it is the latter that must give way.” [86017]

The year ends with 81,611 pages of new rules and regulations having been added to the Federal Register. According to the Competitive Enterprise Institute, those pages cover 2,334 rules and 3,378 regulations. [85961]

One of the new regulations comes from the Department of Homeland Security. According to Breitbart.com, “The 181-page rule focuses primarily on giving work-permits to foreign college-grads who will compete against Americans for white collar jobs, despite the large number of American graduates now stuck in lower-wage positions and struggling to pay off college debts. The rule will also make each foreign graduate much cheaper for U.S. employers to hire than many U.S.-born college grads.” Immigration lawyer John Miano comments, “Obama has gone the Full Monty to bust the immigration system. What is going on is he is effectively giving Green Cards to people on H-1B visas who are unable to get Green Cards due to the [annual] quotas... it could be over 100,000.” Astoundingly, the new rule will also “automatically provide updated work-permits to 15 categories of migrants who are appealing judges’ deportation orders.” [85975, 85976, 85977, 85979, 85989]

While the Obama family continues its vacation in Hawaii, Investors.com reports that their 2009-2015 vacations have cost the taxpayers almost \$71 million. ...The Obamas have traveled more than any other first family, often with Mrs. Obama’s mother and her friends. By the summer of 2014 the Obamas had taken 31 international trips lasting 119 days. At the same point in his presidency, Ronald Reagan had taken 14 such trips over 73 days. ...Last year when Mrs. Obama, her mother and two daughters toured China, they stayed in a Beijing hotel suite costing \$8,400 per night.” [85964]

Aissa Wayne, daughter of screen legend John Wayne, endorses Donald Trump. She writes, “My dad, I am sure, would be very proud of Mr. Trump and the goal to Make America Great Again! I want to thank Mr. Trump for the tireless work he is doing for this country. The average American citizen is mad as hell that our country is being sold down the river. Mr Trump has finally given the people of America a voice for which I am so grateful. Please know that I am in your corner, and I am certain that my dad would have been a big supporter of Mr. Trump. If there is anything I can do to assist in the campaign, I am humbly at your service.” [85969, 85986]

The Department of Labor reports that claims for first-time unemployment benefits in the week ending December 26 increased by 20,000 to 287,000—the highest amount since July. [85973, 85978]

Obama appears in a pre-recorded episode of a Jerry Seinfeld television program called *Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee*. Asked by Seinfeld, “How many world leaders, [do] you think, are just completely out of their mind?” Obama replies, “A pretty sizable percentage. Some of these people, you must meet them—you’ll just be chatting—and you look in the eyes and go, ‘Oh, this guy’s gone.’” [85984, 85985, 86005]

For the 55th time in 2015, Obama plays golf. According to CBS’ Mark Knoller, Obama has played 269 rounds of golf since entering the White House. [85987, 85988]

A massive fire causes significant damage to a 63-story hotel in Dubai. [86006]

FoxNews.com reports, “Two Munich train stations were evacuated Thursday due to an ‘imminent threat’ of a terror attack just minutes before New Years celebrations were set to hit the German city. But even after midnight in Munich passed without an attack, German police still urged the nation to be vigilant. ‘We have serious information and different tips about an imminent attack,’ police spokesman Werner Kraus said. ‘After evaluating the situation, we started evacuating the train stations and also asked partygoers to stay away from big crowds outside.’ Munich police said earlier on Facebook that according to ‘serious information, there will be an attack tonight’ and later revealed that authorities were working off of two different ‘concrete’ tips. Officials did not elaborate on the nature of the threat or who had warned them.” [85994, 85996, 85997]

At PamelaGeller.com Nonie Darwish comments on Obama’s legacy. Among her points: “Under the Obama presidency, Muslims, and in particular, the Muslim Brotherhood, were able to accomplish their dream of reestablishing the caliphate. Only a person familiar with Arab culture can see how much Obama’s behavior is in tune with Arab aspirations. Like Arab propaganda, Obama believes that America’s foreign policy was standing in the way of accomplishing Islamic unity under one State, even if he doesn’t endorse the budding caliphate himself.” “Most Americans believe that Obama’s withdrawal from the Middle East was done for the purpose of avoiding war, but his withdrawal was also to get out of the way of Muslims who wanted to create their Islamic state. Egypt was the first attempt for the Islamic state, but when the Brotherhood failed in 2013, Syria quickly became the second choice.” [85998]

Former Congressman Joe Walsh (R-IL) tweets, “On Monday, Obama, on his own, to go after guns. It’s war. Defy his executive actions. Time for Civil disobedience.” (On January 4, or soon thereafter, Obama is expected to announce an executive order related to gun control.) [86007]

*Poqari News* writes that Grønland, a district of Oslo, Norway, “is only two subway stops from the Parliament, and one from the Central Station, fairly close to the government offices that were bombed by Breivik. It looks like Karachi, Basra, and Mogadishu all rolled into one. People sell drugs openly just next to the Grønland subway station. It’s not Norway or Europe anymore, except when there is welfare money to be collected. The police have largely given up. Early in 2010 *Aftenposten* stated that there are sharia patrols in this area, and gay couples are assaulted and chased away. ‘Immigrant Fatima Tetouani says that ‘Grønland is more Muslim than Morocco.’ Readers should remember that *Aftenposten*, which is the largest newspaper in the Oslo region, is normally pro-Islamic and very Multicultural. ...In just the past ten years more than 4,000 people have been robbed in the town center and the area of the Grønland police station [an immigrant ghetto]. Most of them are young men. Sturla Nøstvik is robbery-victim [number] 351 from Grønland just from this year, the same period in which around fifty assault-rapes have been reported in Oslo. The robbers play on fear, violence, and severe threats that leave a mark on the victims. Police superintendent Inge Sundeng in Grønland describes them as the ‘somewhat-forgotten victims.’ The police visited Sturla Nøstvik in the emergency room after the robbery. They told Nøstvik that a gang of robbers had committed many similar robberies in Grünerløkka and surrounding areas in the past

weeks. They told him that everybody should have the right to feel safe, but that they had no way of halting the robberies. ‘We have lost the city,’ they said...” [86103, 86106]

In and around Cologne, Germany’s train station, a group of as many as 1,000 “men whose appearance indicated they were of ‘Arab or North African origin’” rob and harass hundreds of young women, ripping off stockings and underwear. One victim says, “They were with their hands really everywhere. This is something I’ve never experienced. When we called for help, they laughed.” Another says, “I had fingers on every orifice.” [86066, 86067, 86085, 86107, 86149, 86151, 86157, 86158, 86185, 86230, 86399]

In France, uncivilized young men (mostly Muslims) continue their New Year’s Eve “tradition” of setting cars on fire. (This year the count of destroyed vehicles is 804.) [86034, 86035]