

## *The Complete Obama Timeline*

*February 2015*

On February 1 Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC) appears on *Face the Nation*, and says, “When it comes to Supreme Court justices, if I get to be president, I would nominate [Congressman] Trey Gowdy [R-SC], and I would expect Democrats to vote for him because he’s a qualified person.” Graham, who is considering running for president, also says, “[W]hen it comes to national security and understanding the threats our nation faces, I believe I’m the best qualified of anybody on our [Republican] side of the aisle to offer an alternative to a failed foreign policy of Barack Obama. My organization is called Security Through Strength. We will never have peace with radical Islam, but we can have security. ... An aerial campaign will not destroy them [ISIS]. You’re going to need boots on the ground, not only in Iraq, but Syria. And there’s got to be some regional force formed with an American component, somewhere around 10,000, I think, American soldiers to align with the Arab armies in the region and go in to Syria and take back territory from ISIL. That is what will make it stop.” [71036]

Obama is asked by CNN’s Fareed Zakarias why he doesn’t use the term “Islamic radicalism.” Obama replies that he doesn’t “quibble with labels.” He also claims, “I think that for us to be successful in fighting this scourge, it’s very important for us to align ourselves with the 99.9 percent of Muslims who are looking for the same thing we’re looking for order, peace, prosperity.” Obama does not cite a source for his claim, but if there are an estimated 1.4 billion Muslims in the world, even if 99.9 percent are not violent jihadists, that leaves about 1.4 million who *are*. Further, according to a Pew Research Center poll, 26 percent of American Muslims believe suicide bombings against non-Muslims “can be justified.” British Muslims, 35 percent; French Muslims, 42 percent; German Muslims, 22 percent; Spanish Muslims, 29 percent. (In Cardiff, Wales, a Muslim woman beats her 7-year-old to death for not memorizing the Quran. Whether Obama believes she is among the 99.9 percent of peaceful Muslims is not known.) Obama also tells Zakarias, “I’m proud of saving the economy.” (More than 90 million working age Americans are not working.) [70999, 71010, 71050, 71067, 71625, 71626, 76479]

In a statement he may regret making, Obama tells Zakarias that Russian President Vladimir Putin “made this decision around Crimea and, uh, Ukraine, not because of some grand strategy but essentially because he was caught, uh, off balance by, uh, the protests in the Maidan and, uh, [then-president of Ukraine Viktor] Yanukovich then fleeing after we had brokered a deal, uh, to transition power in Ukraine.” (Obama is essentially admitting that his administration had interfered with the government of Ukraine. He then has the audacity to criticize Putin for objecting to that interference, calling them false charges.) [71094]

Pamela Geller writes, “President Dawah is out there dissembling, proselytizing and spreading Islam as the global jihad rages on. The idea that Obama would pull a number—

‘99.9% of all Muslims’—out of a hat speaks to what a dangerous dissembler this infiltrator is. As if saying something so outlandish would make it so. According to a [Pew Research] poll, 75% of Muslims worldwide want sharia for the family issues including divorce and property disputes. 75% also want amputation and death for apostates in places like South Asia. 94% of Muslims in Afghanistan want sharia, 70% of Egyptians and 76% of ‘Palestinians’ want stoning and hand chopping, etc. 40% of Muslims in the UK want sharia and 25% of Muslims in the USA think suicide bombing is okay. While the jihad rages in the cause of Islam across Africa, the Middle East, Europe, Russia and China, Obama insists, ‘a rose is not a rose’ or ‘Islam is not Islamic.’ President Taqiyya. The thing is, this isn’t 2001, and the people aren’t buying it. We’ve had 14 years of endless war, whining and whacking. It is what it is. Jihad.” [71005]

Also on CNN, former Arkansas governor and likely 2016 presidential candidate Mike Huckabee says, “People can be my friends who have lifestyles that are not necessarily my lifestyle. I don’t shut people out of my circle or out of my life because they have a different point of view. I don’t drink alcohol but, gosh, a lot of my friends—maybe most of them—do. I don’t use profanity but believe me I’ve got a lot of friends who do. Some people really like classical music and ballet and opera, it’s not my cup of tea. I’d like to think there’s room in America for people to have different points of view without screaming, shouting and wanting to shut their businesses down.” The leftist media reports Huckabee’s remarks with headlines like, “Mike Huckabee compares being gay to drinking, cursing,” “Huckabee compares being gay to using alcohol, profanity,” and “Mike Huckabee: Gay marriage is like drinking.” Obama told YouTube “star” GloZell Green, “Even if you disagree with their lifestyle choice, the fact of the matter is they aren’t bothering you.” Huckabee is widely criticized; Obama was not. [70603, 71018]

In a Superbowl Sunday interview, Obama tells NBC’s Savannah Guthrie, “We make beer. [I am the] First president since George Washington ta, ta, [sic; to] make some booze in the White House.” (Washington, of course, never lived in the White House. In 1800, John Adams was the first president to live in the building, which was not completed until after Washington had left office—and had died.) In his on-air sip, Obama extends his little finger as he raises the glass—which quickly results in pinky finger/gay ridicule on Twitter. (Whether Obama also uses a knife and fork to eat pizza or sits down to urinate is not known.) Obama also says, “One of the things I’ve learned over the last six years is that when I tell the American people very clearly what direction I think the country should go in, sometimes people change their minds and even Republicans occasionally start agreeing with me.” (In other words, “I am always right, and Republicans might as well cave in to my demands because I am unwilling to compromise one iota.”) [70996, 70998, 71027, 71033, 71034, 71058, 61060]

To Guthrie’s credit, she does make Obama uncomfortable with a few questions. Guthrie asks, “You said in your State of the Union [address] that American leadership is helping to stop the advance of ISIS in Syria and Iraq. But your critics say that is delusional, that in fact they’ve gained more territory since the air strikes have begun.” The thin-skinned Obama responds, “That’s not accurate. In Iraq what we’ve seen is the Iraqi security forces and Kurdish forces continue to push back against ISIL. And those same critics that

you suggest I imagine would have us redeploy tens of thousands of U.S. troops—” Guthrie interrupts, “But isn’t that kind of a straw man [argument]? You often say that—” Obama interrupts, “Hold on, Savannah, let me—it’s not a straw man. Let me finish what I’m saying. It is entirely possible for us to deploy 200 or 300,000 U.S. troops. If we don’t have inside of Iraq or inside of Syria or inside of Afghanistan both the capacity and the will of people to fight for themselves, then any gains that are made eventually dissipate. So this takes longer, but it’s the right way to do things.” [71061, 71306]

Guthrie: “But aren’t there things you could be doing right now, short of a huge presence of ground troops inside Syria or Iraq, that would help this goal of what you say is to defeat ISIS happen more quickly? Couldn’t we be doing more?” Obama: “Anything that we’re doing—anything that we could be doing, Savannah, we are doing.” Guthrie: “The criticism that I hear a lot of you [sic], even from your political allies, is you came into office, you were... going to end the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and that you are so focused on doing that and not getting the U.S. entangled in another war that you are sometimes slow to react, that you’re passive.” Obama says, “Savannah, you’ve repeated that comment three different ways...” and (in a “blame Bush” remark) slams those “who want us to shoot first and aim later” and “typically get this country into really bad situations.” [71061, 71306]

Asked by Guthrie why Obama is bothering to present proposals like tax increase that will go nowhere in Congress, Obama replies, “Savannah, my job is to present the right ideas. And if the Republicans think they have a better idea, they should present them.” Obama then presents another straw man argument: “But my job is not to trim my sails and not tell the American people what we should be doing, pretending somehow that we don’t need better roads or we don’t need more affordable college.” (Republicans have not, of course, claimed the nation cannot use better roads. They have questioned how the taxpayers can afford to pay for everything Obama wants. Additionally, Obama’s “free community college” scheme does not make education “more affordable.” It merely shifts the cost from one person to another; the cost of education will not be reduced. The scheme is also an initial step in an effort to eliminate private schools.) [71061, 71306]

Pamela Geller comments, “So Obama won’t meet with Bibi Netanyahu as the Middle East region teeters on war. He won’t address the ‘JV team’ that is taking over Iraq and Syria, with eyes on Lebanon, Jordan, Gaza, Egypt and beyond. Obama can’t get to Paris to stand with all other world leaders in defense of freedom of speech and against jihad. But he can do a cooking segment with an NBC moron pre-game Superbowl. He’s a national disgrace and an international joke.” (On May 1, 2009, NBC’s Guthrie was at a press briefing by then-White House press secretary Robert Gibbs, when Obama unexpectedly entered the room. Guthrie gave anchor Norah McDonnell her reaction after “being in the same room” with Obama. “Shocked is more like it, Norah. I felt a little bit like I was having a dream sequence minus the pink unicorn. I have to say, we attend those briefings [with Gibbs] every day; they are rarely so exciting.” When it appeared obvious that Republican Scott Brown was going to defeat Democrat Martha Coakley in the Massachusetts Senate race in January 2010, Guthrie declared to viewers, “This is bad.” When Obama posted his alleged long-form birth certificate on the Internet, Guthrie

claimed, “I saw the certified copy of long-form POTUS birth certificate today, felt the raised seal, snapped this pic.” Guthrie’s first husband was Mark Orchard, producer and editor for Al Jazeera. She then married Michael Feldman, a former Al Gore aide who runs a business that “promotes strategic communication.” Guthrie once worked for the law firm Akin Gump Strauss Hauer and Feld, whose senior counsel is Vernon Jordan, the grand-uncle of Obama’s closest advisor and the “de facto president,” Valerie Jarrett.) [2717, 8120, 21389, 32676, 71005, 71006]

For some unknown reason the White House decides to note half-time during the Superbowl game by tweeting a photo of Obama holding a football and petting his dog, Bo. [70997]

The United Steelworkers Union calls for oil refinery workers to go on strike after their contract expires. According to FoxNew.com, “This is the biggest strike for the union since 1980. An all-out work stoppage would impact 64 percent of oil production in the U.S.” On *Sunday Morning Futures*, Congressman Tom Price (R-GA) says the workers are “upset about an administration that doesn’t recognize that more energy and more jobs for this country are good things. That’s what we want to do. We want the American people, we call on the American people to let [Obama] know that the kinds of policies that the House and Senate are pushing through right now in a bipartisan way [such as the Keystone XL pipeline] are the kinds of things that’ll get this country back on track and get this economy rolling in a healthy way.” [71012, 71013]

On February 2 Obama delivers his proposed \$3.999 trillion budget to Congress for fiscal year 2016 (October 2015 through September 2016). It calls for a 6.4 percent increase in federal spending and continued massive deficit spending—despite \$1.5 trillion in tax increases (including hikes in capital gains, inheritance, and cigarette taxes). Obama claims, “These proposals are practical, not partisan,” and says he will not accept a budget from Congress that does not reverse the “sequestration” cuts. House Speaker John Boehner responds, “Today ...Obama laid out a plan for more taxes, more spending, and more of the Washington gridlock that has failed middle class families. This plan never balances—ever.” According to the Associated Press, “[T]he cost of financing the government’s debt [under Obama’s proposal] would spiral as the [national] debt grows to more than \$25 trillion by 2025 and interest rates rise. ...Interest costs would jump from \$229 billion this year to \$785 billion in 2025.” (The taxpayers would be paying \$785 billion *per year* in *interest alone* on the national debt—without reducing the debt one dime.) As usual, Obama’s budget proposal includes smoke-and-mirrors accounting, such as claiming “\$1.8 trillion in deficit savings over 10 years [while] taking liberties such as ignoring the cost of preventing Medicare cuts to doctors’ fees and extending refundable tax credits for the working poor and couples with children that expire in 2017.” (That is, Obama’s budget laughably assumes Medicare payments to physicians and hospitals will be slashed and tax credits for poor families with children will not be extended.) [71019, 71028, 71029, 71030, 71032, 71038, 71039, 71052, 71068, 71121]

Obama’s budget proposal calls for an immediate tax of 14 percent on profits earned overseas by U.S. corporations with foreign operations. That tax would be on top of the

corporate tax that is already paid to the governments of the countries where those profits were earned. Economist Peter Morici writes, “The United States is virtually alone [in] taxing the overseas profits of its multinationals when those are repatriated. This has encouraged U.S. firms to invest nearly \$2.1 trillion of their earnings abroad, instead of bringing some of that money home to create jobs in America. ...Much of the \$2.1 trillion in non-repatriated corporate overseas profits is not parked in foreign bank accounts. Rather, it is already invested by firms like GE and Procter and Gamble in countries where cost considerations, trade barriers and government-managed exchange rates require American companies to produce locally to sell in those markets. Those investments cannot be readily liquidated to pony up... new taxes. Instead, CEOs would siphon off cash needed for new projects here in the United States, and the new levies would severely damage the finances of firms like General Motors and Microsoft. All this would curtail R&D and new product rollouts needed to maintain the jobs Americans already have—never mind destroying prospects for adding millions of new jobs. ...S&P 500 companies represent about 80 percent of publicly traded companies and earn about half their profits abroad. Imposing U.S. taxes on top of the foreign taxes they already pay will push down dividends and stock prices for companies like GE, Ford and Procter and Gamble. Those are well represented in many Americans’ retirement portfolios—and [Obama’s] proposal would thereby impose a stealth tax on the elderly.” [71053]

With most Americans believing the government is too big to function efficiently or properly, Obama’s nevertheless calls for 100,000 more federal workers in his budget. According to WashingtonTimes.com, Obama has added 124,000 federal employees since 2009. [71059]

Obama brags, “Since I took office, we have cut our deficits by about two thirds. I’m going to repeat that, as I always do when I mention this fact, because the public oftentimes, if you ask them, thinks that the deficit has shot up. Since I took office, we have cut our deficits by about two thirds. That’s the fastest period of sustained deficit reduction since after the demobilization at the end of World War II.” (Obama neglects to mention that he first *tripled* the deficit before it started to go down. He cannot blame George W. Bush for his failed \$787 billion stimulus legislation. Taking credit for reducing the deficit after first tripling it is hardly admirable. It is like a teenager tripling his or her cell phone bill from \$50 to \$150, getting yelled at by parents, and then expecting praise for cutting it to \$75.) “So,” continues Obama, “we can afford to make these investments while remaining fiscally responsible. And, in fact, we cannot afford, we, we would be making a critical error if we avoided making these investments. We can’t afford not to.” (Obama is careful to use the word “investment” when the correct term is “more deficit spending.”) “When the economy’s going well, we’re making investments. And when we’re growing, that’s part of what keeps deficits low, because the economy is doing well. We’ve just got to be smarter about how we pay for our priorities, and that’s what my budget does.” (That statement is total nonsense. First, the economy is not “going well,” as there are tens of millions of unemployed Americans. While a growing *private economy* can boost tax revenue and help reduce the deficit, a growing *government* certainly increases the deficit. His budget is hardly “smart.” It merely taxes more, spends more, and calls for increasing deficits overt time.) [71064]

While Obama also brags that he has been reducing the deficit, his budget proposal estimates a \$583 billion deficit in fiscal year 2015—up from \$485 billion in 2014. [71126]

According to Politico.com, Obama’s budget document reveals that the federal government’s “student loan program had a \$21.8 billion shortfall last year, apparently the largest ever recorded for any government credit program. The main cause of the shortfall was ...Obama’s recent efforts to provide relief for borrowers drowning in student debt, reforms that have already begun to reduce loan payments to the government. For more than two decades, budget analysts have recalculated the projected costs of about 120 credit programs every year, but they have never lowered their expectations of repayments this dramatically. The \$21.8 billion revision—larger than the annual budget for NASA, or the Interior Department and EPA combined—will be tacked onto the federal deficit. ...The 40 million Americans with student loans are now saddled with more than \$1.2 trillion in outstanding debt.” [71169]

HotAir.com’s Ed Morrissey writes, “Recall that Obama insisted on a government takeover of the student-loan industry because banks weren’t lending generously enough for Obama’s tastes and were profiting too much off of government guarantees. In FY2008, the budget for the Direct [student] Loan program was \$500 million. Now that the DLP is the only game in town, the annual shortfall in DLP is 430 times the annual budget in FY2008. Think about that for a moment. This is why lending programs work best when the stakeholders can’t just print their own money. This comes up at a very bad time for the next Obama giveaway, ‘free’ community college education. The White House tried to claim that the program would ‘only’ cost \$60 billion over the next decade, while serving 9 million students. However, the average tuition for 9 million students would put the actual cost at \$34 billion *each year*, and that’s assuming that the flood of government subsidies doesn’t push demand and price up significantly, just as the student-loan takeover did. Oh, and that \$22 billion will go directly against the deficit, and Congress can’t do anything about it, as it’s structured as an entitlement.” [71172, 71395]

Townhall.com’s Katie Pavlich reminds readers, “[I]t’s important to note just how far-left the vast majority of [Obama’s] budget proposals have been over the years, which is exactly why only one of them has passed and the rest have been roundly defeated, often unanimously, by Democrats and Republicans. In 2012, Obama’s budget was defeated by the Democrat-controlled Senate 97-0. In 2013, his budget was defeated 99-0. When [Obama] fear mongers over Republicans blocking his \$4 trillion spending plan and when he accuses the GOP of being unwilling to compromise, keep in mind he was never willing to come half way on any of the issues in the first place, this time or in the past.” [71041]

While Obama pushes higher taxes and an increased minimum wage (somehow believing that would be good for the economy), businesses in San Francisco face a phased-in mandated minimum wage of \$15.00 per hour. The city’s Borderlands Books announces it is closing its doors “no later than March 31.” The store’s Web site explains, “Borderlands

Books as it exists is not a financially viable business if subject to that minimum wage. ...The change in minimum wage will mean our payroll will increase roughly 39%. That increase will in turn bring up our total operating expenses by 18%. To make up for that expense, we would need to increase our sales by a minimum of 20%. We do not believe that is a realistic possibility for a bookstore in San Francisco at this time.” [71074, 71075, 71078]

DailySignal.com lists “5 More Reasons to Completely Repeal Obamacare in 2015.” “1. Obamacare’s tax credits are overly complicated. The premium tax credits used to offset the cost of coverage in the law’s exchanges vary not only according to income, but also according to family size and the cost of the second-lowest cost silver plan in a recipient’s geographic area. Thus, anytime there is a change in one or more of those three variables, the recipient’s tax credit has to be recalculated. This design is far more complicated than any other health care tax credit proposal offered in Congress before, or since, Obamacare. Furthermore, relative to alternative approaches, the added complexity of the Obamacare tax credit makes it much more likely to be inaccurately calculated, and to cause taxpayers to owe substantial repayments to the Internal Revenue Service when they file their annual tax returns.” “2. Limited insurer competition and consumer choice...” “3. Expansion of the broken Medicaid program...” “4. Millions remain uninsured...” “5. Payment cuts in Medicare harm seniors...” [71076]

CNSNews.com reports, “According to the Homeland Security Department (DHS), 36,007 criminal aliens were released from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) custody in Fiscal Year 2013, and of that total, 1,000 have since been convicted of new crimes, ranging from assault with a deadly weapon and lewd acts with a child to aggravated assault, robbery, and hit-and-run.” [71037]

Adam Kredo reports at FreeBeacon.com, “Anti-Israel activists at the University of California, Davis heckled Jewish students and shouted ‘Allahu Akbar’ at them during a vote last week on a resolution endorsing a boycott of the Jewish state... The commotion erupted late Thursday evening [January 29] as pro-Israel students attempted to counter a student government resolution to divest from Israel as part of the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement. Activists waving Palestinian flags shouted at the Jewish and pro-Israel students as they left the meeting room ahead of an eight to two vote in favor of the divestment resolution, which is part of a larger movement by anti-Israel groups to attack Israel and pro-Israel students on campus. ...Following the vote, which was championed by the pro-Hamas group Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP), unknown vandals spray-painted swastikas on a fraternity house belonging to the Jewish AEPi organization.” (Obama has no comment.) [71089, 71090]

NationalReview.com reports, “More than 5.46 million foreign nationals have received work permits from the federal government since 2009, according to a new report from the Center for Immigration Studies. Data uncovered from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services agency reveal that approximately 982,000 work permits were given to illegal immigrants and other foreign nationals unqualified for admission, most of whom crossed the border without inspection.” [71040]

A China foreign ministry spokesman says, “China is opposed to any nation or government using the Tibet issue to interfere in China’s domestic affairs, and opposed to any country’s leader meeting with the Dalai Lama in any manner. China hopes the U.S. side abides by its promises on the Tibet issue, and proceeds to appropriately handle the issue on the basis of the overall condition of bilateral relations.” (Reuters reports, “The White House said last week that Obama would deliver remarks at a Feb. 5 prayer breakfast in Washington about the importance of religious freedom. The Dalai Lama is due to attend.”) [71031]

Former Hewlett-Packard CEO Carly Fiorina, a possible 2016 Republican presidential candidate, appears on *The Kelly File*, and says, “Like Mrs. Clinton I too have traveled hundreds of thousands of miles but flying and traveling is an activity, it’s not an accomplishment and unfortunately she didn’t accomplish anything as Secretary of State. Unlike Mrs. Clinton, I know there is a huge difference between terrorists purposely attacking our embassy in Libya on the anniversary of September 11, murdering an ambassador and three other Americans and a demonstration goes bad. And here we have only one person arrested more than a year later and it sends a signal to every terrorist around this world and all of our enemies, which is we’re weak and it’s open season.” Of her presidential ambitions, Fiorina says, “There are a lot of people out there who know that politics is desperately important but who also feel as though politicians stopped talking to them a long time ago and who believe as I do that our federal government really needs fundamental reform now, and that perhaps citizens and leaders can make that happen. We have a broad, well-qualified slate of candidates that are considering this and I think that’s a very good thing because I think we must win in 2016. Our country is at a point where we need to make serious changes. I don’t think this country can endure four years of Hillary Clinton or [Senator] Elizabeth Warren [D-MA] and so I think primary voters, with whom this decision is placed, primary voters need to look at the field very carefully and very seriously consider all of the candidates.” [71016]

On *America’s Forum*, former New York police commissioner Bernie Kerik says, “If you go back in history, Hitler was not as forthright... as Iran is today in what they intend to do. They want to blow Israel off the map, they want the demise of the Israeli people. [Iran is] funding Hamas and Hezbollah and these other major terrorist organizations. There is no negotiating with a bully. You don’t put that bully on the world stage especially in this position, and that’s what we’ve done, that’s what we continue to do. The threat is increasing, has increased substantially since 2006-2007 when I was writing about this years ago, and it’s only getting worse and if we don’t stop it now... in the years to come it’s going to be far, far worse. ...I strongly believe that you don’t need that today, you don’t need four planes flying into buildings. If you had an attack like you had in Paris here, not one, but if you had four attacks like you had in Paris in different [U.S.] cities at the same time on the same day—in a school, in a hospital, in a tourist location—I can assure you that’s going to be a spectacular event. It’s going to create major fear and things like that, which is what these guys try to instill. Is that possible? Yes it’s possible and our intelligence capabilities, our intelligence ability, is what we have to depend on right now to make sure that that stuff doesn’t happen.” [71045]



Appearing in the same program with Kerik, Harvard law professor Alan Dershowitz calls Obama's negotiations with Iran a joke: "All it stops them from doing, or it requires them to go underground to do it, is their centrifuges, and it allows them to remain a threshold nuclear power and it has a sunset provision. After a few years, the number has not been explicitly stated, they can go on and do whatever they please. This is a very bad deal, a bad deal for the United States, a bad deal for the international community. ...My fear is that whether it's this year or next year or 10 years from now, Barack Obama is going to go down in history as the [former British Prime Minister] Neville Chamberlain of the 21st century, if Iran ever does develop nuclear weapons. We will point to this point in history and say, this was the turning point. This was the point where [Obama] could've recognized the greatest threat to the world in the 21st century and, like Chamberlain in the 20th century, he failed to do it. That will be his legacy if Iran develops nuclear weapons and the capacity to deliver them." [71045]

On February 3 Townhall.com political editor Guy Benson notes the mainstream media's double-standards, as new stories about children with measles make the headlines. New Jersey Governor Chris Christie "detonated a political landmine" for saying he and his think vaccinations are "an important part of being sure we protect [our children's] health and the public health... [but] I understand that parents need to have some measure of choice in things as well, so that's the balance that the government has to decide." In the past, Obama has stated that "people should evaluate this for themselves..." While the leftist media and Democrat politicians label Republicans 'anti-science,' they ignore Obama's past statement on a possible link between vaccinations and autism: "We've seen just [sic] a skyrocketing autism rate. Some people are suspicious that it's connected to the vaccines. This person included. The science right now is inconclusive, but we have to research it." Hillary Clinton has commented, "I am committed to make investments to find the causes of autism, including possible environmental causes like vaccines." Benson writes, "It's almost as if identical positions can be simultaneously cast as dangerously anti-science (R), and no big deal (D)." [70603, 71017, 71018, 71046, 71063, 71065, 71107, 71108, 71146, 71190, 71203, 71273, 71295, 71401, 72059]

According to AutismSpeaks.org, "In the last two decades, autism prevalence as reported in the scientific literature has increased by more than 600%. In 2009, the latest estimate of autism prevalence in the United States, as reported by the Centers for Disease Control was 1 in 110 children." In 1975, the rate was about one in 5,000. While few children now get measles, increasing numbers of children are autistic. Whether vaccinations are related to that increase is not known, but ridiculing people for worrying about a possible link is certainly unjustified. It is worth noting that in October 1988 the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program was established "to ensure an adequate supply of vaccines, stabilize vaccine costs, and establish and maintain an accessible and efficient forum for individuals found to be injured by certain vaccines. The VICP is a no-fault alternative to the traditional tort system for resolving vaccine injury claims that provides compensation to people found to be injured by certain vaccines. The U. S. Court of Federal Claims decides who will be paid." If vaccines were perfectly safe, there would be no need for a National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program. WND.com notes, "Centers for Disease

Control records reveal a startling truth—while no one has died of measles in the U.S. in the last 12 years, 108 have died as a result of the adverse effects of the vaccine in that same time period.” [71190, 71295, 71296, 71311, 71401]

DailyCaller.com notes, “[A] January YouGov poll found that young people are actually more likely to hold anti-vaccine views than older people. Specifically, 43 percent of people under 30 believe that vaccinating children for the measles, mumps or whooping cough should be at the parents’ discretion and 21 percent of them think vaccines cause autism. ... The journalist Alex Berezow crunched the numbers and found that the states with the highest exemption rates from vaccines mostly voted for Obama in the last presidential election. Oregon was the most anti-vaccine, the Republican states of the Deep South generally the most pro-vaccine.” (This *Timeline* believes that the greater health threat to American children is certainly not a small percentage who are not vaccinated, but illegal immigrants crossing the border who have little or no health screening. To use legitimate scientific disputes about the dangers vaccines may pose to a small segment of the population as an excuse to call political opponents “anti-science” is absurd—especially when those hurling the insults have been allowing hundreds of thousands of immigrants to enter the United States with few limits.) [71047, 71051, 71096, 71007, 71008]

It is worth noting that many on the political left who believe that the government most certainly should force parents to have their children vaccinated against various diseases and illnesses vociferously opposed Ebola quarantines for immigrants from West Africa or doctors returning from outbreak areas. (Allowing unrestricted travel from nations suffering from an Ebola outbreak would seem far riskier than an occasional child without a measles vaccination going to school. Measles, after all, is not particularly dangerous to anyone with a normal, unimpaired immune system.) Additionally, most leftists are “pro-choice” when it comes to abortion, yet few are “pro-choice” when it comes to vaccinating children. (For them, “big brother” knows best, except when it is inconvenient.) [71122]

Reporters ask White House press secretary Josh Earnest if the Obama administration supports vaccination mandates. Earnest repeatedly dodges the questions, saying parents should “act responsibly.” Earnest ultimately says, “It’s [Obama’s] position here that we shouldn’t need a federal law; people should just use common sense”—which is essentially the position of several Republicans who have been beaten up by the media on the issue. [71129]

Ben Barrack writes at Shoebat.com, “According to a three-part series published by the Washington Times, it was Hillary Clinton who was insisting that the U.S. remove Libya’s Muammar Gadhafi in 2011 while pushing false narratives to do so. These reports have allegedly caught the attention of the House Select Committee on Benghazi. What must be included in this analysis is just how influential Clinton’s most trusted adviser Huma Abedin was and is. If anyone had a vested interest in removing Gadhafi from power to benefit Libya’s Muslim Brotherhood rebels, it was Huma’s Muslim Brotherhood family. ... The timeline of events as they unfolded in Libya starts in early 2011. By July of that year, the positions of the State Department, led by Hillary at the time, were apparently so

ridiculous that someone from the Pentagon went to the Gadhafi regime to tell them so. Using lies to justify regime change in Libya reflected a very pro-Muslim Brotherhood stance. ...The second Washington Times article indicated that Hillary was so invested in Gadhafi's removal and that her justification for it (Gadhafi's plans for genocide) was based on lies and speculative arguments. Again, keep in mind that Hillary's position was supported by the Muslim Brotherhood, the same Brotherhood that Abedin was deeply connected to through her family." [70892, 70934, 71199, 71200, 71201]

"...In the wake of [Congresswoman Michele] Bachmann's letter to the State Department in 2012 [highlighting questions about the contradictions], Republican Senator John McCain inexplicably stood by Abedin and denounced Bachmann from the floor of the Senate; it made no sense and McCain ignored ALL of Bachmann's most legitimate concerns as he railed against her... There were two other Republican members of Congress who inexplicably defended Abedin in response to Bachmann's concerns as well. Both had to have been quite privy to what was really going on in Libya a year earlier—House Speaker John Boehner [R-OH] and House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (HSPCI) Chairman Mike Rogers [R-MI]. Either these two men knew or they were left out of the loop entirely, which would have been an impeachable offense committed by ...Obama. The silence on this issue from Boehner and Rogers speaks volumes. If it was done without their knowledge, they should have been up in arms. Both men praised Abedin and derided Bachmann, who sat on the same HPSCI that Rogers chaired. Rogers referred to Abedin as 'an American patriot' and Boehner said she was a woman with 'sterling character' after being asked about Bachmann's concerns..."[70892, 70934, 71199, 71200, 71201]

"In 2011, as Hillary was making unsubstantiated claims that Gadhafi's removal was necessary to prevent genocide, Rogers' wife Kristi Rogers sat on the Board of Aegis, a company that was doing work in Libya that year. As Shoebat.com has reported, former deputy undersecretary of defense to international technology security John Shaw indicated that Aegis was ultimately responsible for the outsourcing of diplomatic security at the Special Mission Compound (SMC) in Benghazi that contributed to the murder of four Americans. According to Shaw, a string of downstream outsourcing decisions led to Muslim Brotherhood terrorists being hired to protect U.S. Ambassador Christopher Stevens. Moreover, in the third Washington Times article, it is learned that 'key members of Congress' knew full well what was going on relative to arming terrorists, thanks to a lengthy intelligence report. ...As Hillary was getting her way in Libya, Boehner would spend more than a year putting the brakes on the Fast and Furious investigation. Even when Congress was on the brink of holding Holder in contempt, it was reported that House Leadership was reluctant to do it." [70892, 70934, 71199, 71200, 71201]

DCClothesline.com reports on various claims in Egyptian newspapers that Obama is a supporter of, heavily involved in, or a member of the Muslim Brotherhood. At the very least, of course, Obama has shown some sympathies toward the Muslim Brotherhood, and his administration has had more than a few members or supporters. "These alleged people are; Arif Alkhan, Mohammed Elibiary, Rashad Hussain, Salam al-Marayatl [leader of the Muslim Public Affairs Council, who has argued that Israel is "on the

suspect list” for the 9/11 attacks], Imam Mohamed Magid, and Elboo Patel, all members of or affiliated with the Muslim Brotherhood in some form or another.” Huma Abedin, Hillary Clinton’s closest aide when she was Secretary of State, can also be included on the list. [71202, 71855, 71995]

TheHill.com reports that ISIS/ISIL “has apparently burned alive a Jordanian pilot captured by the militant group in December. ISIS released a video purportedly showing the execution on Tuesday. The video shows a man who appears to be Muath al-Kasasbeh locked in a cage and being lit on fire.” National Security Council spokesperson Bernadette Meeha says, “The United States strongly condemns ISIL’s actions and we call for the immediate release of all those held captive by ISIL. We stand in solidarity with the government of Jordan and the Jordanian people.” The *New York Daily News*—which found Charlie Hebdo cartoons too tasteless to publish—posts photos of the pilot being burned alive. Reuters reports that Jordan will execute bombing terrorist Sajida al-Rashawi in retaliation for the killing of al-Kasasbeh. (ISIS had sought a trade of the pilot for al-Rashawi—while conveniently neglecting to mention that it had already killed al-Kasasbeh.) [71022, 71023, 71024, 71025, 71026, 71072, 71073, 71086, 71087]

Obama, with smirking advisor Valerie Jarrett sitting beside him at a health care meeting, says, “Uh, you know, I just got word of, uh, the video [of the Jordanian pilot set on fire] that had been released, uh, I don’t know the details of, uh, the confirmations, but should, in fact, this video be authentic it’s just one more indication of the viciousness and, uh, barbarity of this organization [ISIS], and, uh, it, I think we’ll redouble the vigilance and determination on the part of a global coalition, uh, to make sure that they are degraded and ultimately defeated, uh, and it also just indicates the degree to which, uh, whatever, uh, ideology they’re operating off of, uh, it’s bankrupt. Uh, we’re here to talk about how ta [sic; to] make people healthier and make their lives better, uh, and this organization appears only interested in, uh, death and destruction.” (To Obama, ISIS is merely an “organization,” like the Boy Scouts or AARP, and they have some sort of “ideology,” but he has no idea what that may be. He says efforts to fight ISIS have to be “redoubled,” when just a few days earlier he told NBC’s Savannah Guthrie, “Anything that we’re doing—anything that we could be doing, Savannah, we are doing.” If everything that can be done is being done, how can it be redoubled?) [71061, 71082, 71111]

Pamela Geller writes, “Whatever ideology they are operating under is ‘bankrupt.’ Whatever ideology? That’s his default narrative in the wake of jihadi attacks. Scrubbing, whitewashing and sanitizing Islam. As for ‘bankrupt,’ the Islamic State is the richest Islamic terrorist group in the world. And their daily oil revenues are in the millions. The Islamic State was quoting quran chapter and verse, and that’s all Obama can come up with? ‘Whatever ideology.’ He is evil. He didn’t want to talk about the pilot being set afire. He wanted to ‘talk about how to make people healthier and make their lives better.’ Well, how about protecting them from jihad? That’s a ‘healthy strategy.’ They will make a lot of people’s ‘lives better.’ Did FDR and Churchill sit around and flap their tongues about Germans who weren’t members of the Nazi party, or the Japanese who weren’t Shintos? OT [off topic] but related: Valerie Jarrett sitting to the left of Obama in the video with that Cheshire smile on her face is contemptible.” [71082, 71104]

Obama also issues a statement: “Today, we join the people of Jordan in grieving the loss of one of their own, First Lieutenant Moaz al-Kasasbeh, cruelly and brutally killed by ISIL terrorists. On behalf of the American people, I offer my deepest condolences to Lieutenant al-Kasasbeh’s family and loved ones, to the brave men and women of the Jordan Armed Forces, and to King Abdullah II and the people of Jordan. Lieutenant al-Kasasbeh will forever personify the bravery of a true son of Jordan, one who honored his family and country by his seven years of military service. Along with his compatriots and other Arab and international members of the coalition, Lieutenant al-Kasasbeh was in the vanguard of the effort to degrade and defeat the threat posed by ISIL. Lieutenant al-Kasasbeh’s dedication, courage, and service to his country and family represent universal human values that stand in opposition to the cowardice and depravity of ISIL, which has been so broadly rejected around the globe. As we grieve together, we must stand united, respectful of his sacrifice to defeat this scourge. Today, the coalition fights for everyone who has suffered from ISIL’s inhumanity. It is their memory that invests us and our coalition partners with the undeterred resolve to see ISIL and its hateful ideology banished to the recesses of history.” [71099]

King Abdullah II of Jordan meets with members of the House Armed Services Committee. According to WashingtonExaminer.com, “In a private session with lawmakers, the king showed an extraordinary measure of anger—anger which he expressed by citing American movie icon Clint Eastwood. ‘He said there is going to be retribution like ISIS hasn’t seen,’ said Republican Rep. Duncan Hunter Jr., a Marine Corps veteran of two tours in Iraq and one in Afghanistan, who was in the meeting with the king. ‘He mentioned ‘Unforgiven’ and he mentioned Clint Eastwood, and he actually quoted a part of the movie.’ Hunter would not say which part of ‘Unforgiven’ the king quoted, but noted it was where Eastwood’s character describes how he is going to deliver his retribution. There is a scene in the picture in which Eastwood’s character, William Munny, says, ‘Any man I see out there, I’m gonna kill him. Any son of a bitch takes a shot at me, I’m not only going to kill him, I’m going to kill his wife and all his friends and burn his damn house down.’ ‘He’s angry,’ Hunter said of King Abdullah. ‘They’re starting more sorties [air attacks against ISIS] tomorrow than they’ve ever had. They’re starting tomorrow. And he said, ‘The only problem we’re going to have is running out of fuel and bullets.’” [71077, 71092, 71133, 71162, 71163]

Jordanian Army spokesman Colonel Mamdouh al Ameri states, “The revenge [against ISIS] will be as big as the calamity that has hit Jordan.” (It is worth noting that, for several years, radical jihadists have been allowed to travel through Jordan to enter Syria. Jordan seemed not to mind terrorism until it affected one of its own pilots.) [71086]

MemriTV.org translates a statement from Egyptian television host Ibrahim Issa: “Whenever ISIS carries out an act of barbarity, such as decapitations, throat slitting, or the burning of a person alive, as they did today, various sheiks tell you—if they even bother to say anything—that this has nothing to do with Islam, that Islam is not to blame, and whatever. But when the people of ISIS perpetrate slaughter, murder, rape, immolation, and all those barbaric crimes, they say that they are relying on the sharia.

They say that this is based on a certain Hadith, on a certain Quranic chapter, on a certain saying of Ibn Taymiyyah, or on some historical event. To tell the truth, everything that ISIS says is correct. This should not come as a surprise to anyone, and nobody should be shocked by what I am saying. All the evidence and references that ISIS provides to justify its crimes, its barbarity, and its horrifying, criminal, and despicable violence... All the evidence and references that ISIS provides, claiming that they can be found in the books of history, jurisprudence, and law, are, indeed, to be found there, and anyone who says otherwise is lying. ...None of those [clerics] who purport to be moderate, and who were told by [Egypt's] President Al-Sisi to change the religious discourse, have the courage—not a single grain of courage—to admit that these things are indeed to be found [in Islamic sources] and are [morally] wrong.” (It can be assumed that Obama has not been made aware of Issa's statement.) [71472, 71473]

Lieutenant General Vincent Stewart, director of the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), tells the House Armed Services Committee, “We continue to look at monitoring the number of sources that will tell us when these individuals [who have been released from Guantanamo] have gone back into business. Directly, though, besides notifying folks that these terrorists have gone back into business, there's very little at this point the DIA could do besides warning of their continued operations.” [71149]

Boris Johnson, the mayor of London, warns that there are 3,000-4,000 jihadists in Great Britain “who do present some measure of potential risk.” He calls them “porn-driven losers” and “literally wankers” (masturbators). [71088]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, “A top adviser to Libya's prime minister warned Tuesday that the Obama administration and the U.S. intelligence community have dramatically underestimated the Islamic State's expansion into his nation—a development that could have been avoided had Washington led a more aggressive counterterrorism strategy after Moammar Gadhafi's ouster in 2011. Aref Ali Nayed, the nation's ambassador to the United Arab Emirates and a top adviser on security policy to Libyan Prime Minister Abdullah al-Thinn, states, “If help had been coming for the last four years, we wouldn't have this problem. ...After Chris Stevens' death, instead of being re-energized to not let him die in vain, there's been a reluctance to have anything to do with Libya.” [71140, 71141]

At NationalReview.com Victor Davis Hanson argues that although many perceive Obama's foreign policy as “chaotic,” it is actually “consistent and logical” once you see what Obama is trying to accomplish. Obama's foreign policy is “based on four pillars of belief. **1. Readjustments in the global order are long overdue.**” That is, Obama believes the United States has had too much power, the world is not “fair and just,” and “is thus in need of major recalibration.” (Obama wants to take the United States down a few—or more—notches.) “**2. All nations and interests act rationally—if given a chance.** ...To the degree that evil is absolute and not a relative construct, it is a transient condition and a curable symptom of poverty and absence of education. ...[I]f we reduce our military profile and show other nations that what we are really interested in is fundamentally transforming U.S. society into a more equitable and fair place, our

erstwhile enemies will begin to appreciate that we too are human and thus share their common aspirations. *Ideals, persuasion, feelings, and intent are now the stuff of foreign policy, not archaic and polarizing rules of deterrence, balance of power, military readiness, and alliances.*” [71339]

**“3. Do abroad as we try to do at home.** ...Nobel Laureate Obama logically sees that history’s positive verdict on his tenure must come from abroad. [As an example,] He will normalize relations with Castro’s Cuba and let others worry whether there is any reciprocity on issues of longstanding disagreement. History will record the fact of normalization, not transient details concerning human rights. ...[T]he world at large and the Left in particular will acknowledge and appreciate that Obama sought to flip the U.S. from being the bulwark of the established global order to being a protester with the masses at the barricades...” **“4. Don’t sweat the details.** Obama himself is a prophet, not a bureaucrat. The details of his grand vision will be left to younger, fresher functionaries who can sort out the confusions of implementation—why terrorism and Islamism are taboo words, or why trading terrorists for the deserter Bowe Bergdahl was a wise idea, or why nothing really happened at Benghazi, or why pulling all our troops out of Iraq had no effect on the creation of ISIS, or why setting timetables for withdrawal from Afghanistan does not encourage the Taliban, which is not a terrorist organization, and so on. ...Once-in-a-lifetime emissaries of change do not stoop to [minutiae]. Who would have asked [Nelson] Mandela what was his position on NATO? Who wonders about [Mahatma] Gandhi’s attitude toward Israel? Prophets are not like us and have no responsibility to articulate details or insist on logical consistency, much less to worry about how others of less talent implement their grand visions.” [71339]

“Keep these themes in mind,” writes Hanson, “and the last six years will make better sense. The Middle East is not a mess, but a place in a needed stage of transition as it frees itself from Western domination and a new order slowly emerges. To the degree that we need a large military, it is preferable to envision it as an executive agency for enacting social change without the clumsy impediment of Congress, especially in terms of race, women’s issues, and gender preferences. It can do the best work for stability abroad by shrinking itself. Terrorism is in the eye of the beholder and always a relative concept that Westerners pathologically insist is absolute...” [71339]

The House of Representatives votes 239-186 to fully repeal ObamaCare. All Democrats and three Republicans vote against the measure. A similar measure in the Senate would fail because of a Democrat filibuster—unless the GOP uses the “budget reconciliation” process that can result in approval of the legislation with only 51 votes. (The Democrats used the same process to pass the legislation in 2010.) If the repeal passes in the Senate, it will of course be vetoed by Obama. But the GOP will have forced Democrat Senators to take a position that could possibly be used against them in their 2016 reelection campaigns. [71042, 71057, 71066, 71101]

At a hearing of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, various inspectors general testify about the Obama administration’s lack of transparency and stonewalling of investigations. [71043]

Gallup chairman and CEO Jim Clifton reports what long-time *Timeline* readers already know: “The official unemployment rate, as reported by the U.S. Department of Labor, is extremely misleading. Right now, we’re hearing much celebrating from the media, the White House and Wall Street about how unemployment is ‘down’ to 5.6%. The cheerleading for this number is deafening. The media loves a comeback story, the White House wants to score political points and Wall Street would like you to stay in the market. None of them will tell you this: If you, a family member or anyone is unemployed and has subsequently given up on finding a job—if you are so hopelessly out of work that you’ve stopped looking over the past four weeks—the Department of Labor doesn’t count you as unemployed. While you are as unemployed as one can possibly be, and tragically may never find work again, you are not counted in the figure we see relentlessly in the news—currently 5.6%. Right now, as many as 30 million Americans are either out of work or severely underemployed. ... Yet another figure of importance that doesn’t get much press: those working part time but wanting full-time work. If you have a degree in chemistry or math and are working 10 hours part time because it is all you can find—in other words, you are severely underemployed—the government doesn’t count you in the 5.6%. Few Americans know this. There’s no other way to say this. The official unemployment rate, which cruelly overlooks the suffering of the long-term and often permanently unemployed as well as the depressingly underemployed, amounts to a Big Lie.” (People on welfare are also not counted in the unemployment figures, although they are not employed.) [71044, 71113, 71187, 71340, 71410]

Senate Democrats block a \$39.7 billion funding bill for the Department of Homeland Security because it contains provisions to roll back Obama’s illegal amnesty actions. (Democrats would apparently rather not fund border agent salaries than stop Obama’s amnesty scheme.) [71071]

NYDailyNews.com reports that in an upcoming book by former Obama campaign guru David Axelrod, Obama is described as “unsmiling” and “slightly irritated” during a concession call from Mitt Romney on election night in November 2012. Axelrod (whose father Joseph Axelrod was a card-carrying member of the Communist Party USA) writes that Obama “hung up and said Romney admitted he was surprised at his own loss.” Obama was annoyed that Romney said something like, “You really did a great job of getting the vote out in places like Cleveland and Milwaukee”—which Obama interpreted as a racist remark. (The thin-skinned Obama has a history of viewing many things through a racial prism, even when there is no cause to do so. To compliment Obama on getting out the big-city Democrat vote is not racist. Had Romney won and Obama complimented him on getting out the rural vote and the suburban vote, that would also not be considered racist.) Garrett Jackson, Romney’s personal aid in 2012, tells CBS, “I just hope this lie is the work of David Axelrod and not [Obama]. It’s ridiculous. I was very disappointed they would make that up.” According to Jackson, Romney told Obama in his phone call, “I want to congratulate you and your team on a hard-fought race and your victory... There are a lot of tough issues facing the country... and I hope you tackle those tough issues.” “I know for a fact,” says Jackson, that there was no mention of



Cleveland or Milwaukee or any other local election results by Romney. [71118, 71119, 71152, 71153, 72000, 72001]

Axelrod's book also claims that Obama considered appointing Hillary Clinton to the Supreme Court, before deciding to give her the Secretary of State position. Additionally, according to NYDailyNews.com, before Obama won the nomination in 2008 "Hillary Clinton offered former Sen. John Edwards the position of attorney general if he got out of the race and endorsed her in the 2008 Democratic primary, according to [Axelrod's] new book." At HotAir.com Noah Rothman writes, "This is a problem for Clinton. In the alternate universe in which Clinton secured Edwards' endorsement, she is soon forced to explain to voters—particularly all those women whom she purported to represent—why her backer, whose support she enthusiastically accepted, had an extramarital affair while his wife was dying of cancer. Not only that, but that he had fathered a child out of wedlock with his mistress and lied about it to the voters. ... While Edwards is not a convicted criminal, he is a confessed liar and a philanderer. That Hillary Clinton planned to reward a political rival for loyalty rather than competence speaks volumes about her priorities, and that is a lapse in judgment that she should have to answer for. But what might be most important to the tabloid press, and not to mention the low information voter who is not entirely clear on what an attorney general does, is why the candidate who is vying to represent all women by ascending to the Oval Office was predisposed to reward an adulterous lecher with such a high office. Of course, this scenario hinges on the unlikely event that the media bothers to press the issue when they finally get the opportunity to ask Clinton why she is running for president. Who knows if they will have time." [71173, 71174, 71175]

Outgoing Attorney General Eric Holder, perhaps the most partisan person ever to hold that position, insists at a news conference, "There's been no politicization of this Justice Department. ... I'm proud of the historic things we have done. I hope the American people would not fall prey to interesting sound bites that are simply not consistent with facts." (Holder is defensively reacting to questions and comments at the confirmation hearing of his likely successor, Loretta Lynch—many of which expressed a hope that she would be far less partisan than Holder.) [71120]

Treasury Secretary Jack Lew repeatedly ducks questions from the House Ways and Means Committee about administration plans to deal with the possibility that the Supreme Court may rule in favor of the plaintiffs in *King v. Burwell*. (The case revolves around the fact that the ObamaCare legislation calls for federal health insurance subsidies *only* for Americans who purchase ObamaCare policies via state-run exchanges. The IRS and the administration have, however, given taxpayer-funded subsidies to people in all 50 states. If the court rules in favor of the plaintiffs—as it arguably should—ObamaCare collapses.) The next day, reports CNSNews.com, Secretary of Health and human Services Sylvia Burwell—the Burwell in *King v. Burwell*—also repeatedly dodges the question of whether her agency has a contingency plan if the court rules against the administration. [71124, 71125]

According to *The Jerusalem Post*, “European diplomats have told Israeli officials in recent days that the United States and Iran are moving closer to an agreement that would allow the Islamic Republic to keep a large number of centrifuges in return for guaranteeing regional stability, Army Radio is reporting on Tuesday. According to EU [European Union] officials, US Secretary of State John Kerry and his Iranian counterpart, Mohammad Javad Zarif, have discussed increasing the number of centrifuges which Iran would be permitted to keep. In exchange, the Iranians would undertake an obligation to bring their influence to bear in order to ensure quiet in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Syria. European diplomats are quoted by Israeli officials as saying that the US in recent weeks has made significant concessions in its talks with Iran, so much so that it is willing to permit Tehran to operate 6,500 centrifuges while lifting sanctions that have hurt its economy this past decade. The Europeans have told the Israelis that these concessions were offered in exchange for Iranian promises to maintain regional stability. According to Army Radio, the EU is opposed to the proposed linkage between the nuclear issue and other geopolitical matters. In fact, the Europeans suspect that Washington is operating behind Brussels’ back and that Kerry has not bothered to keep them in the loop in his talks with Zarif. Israel is concerned that the Obama administration’s willingness to allow Iran to keep centrifuges would in effect render Tehran a ‘nuclear threshold state,’ enabling it to assemble a nuclear bomb within months if it so chooses. Such a scenario is unacceptable to the Israelis.” (Why Obama and Kerry are so desperate to finalize a deal with Iran is not clear—especially when it appears the result will benefit only Iran, while placing Israel in even greater danger of annihilation.) [71105, 71106, 71109]

According to the Associated Press, the U.S.-Iran compromise “would let Iran keep much of its uranium-enriching technology but reduce its potential to make nuclear weapons... Such a compromise could break the decade-long deadlock on attempts to limit Iranian activities that could be used to make such arms: Tehran refuses to meet U.S.-led demands for deep cuts in the number of centrifuges it uses to enrich uranium, a process that can create material for anything from chemotherapy to the core of an atomic bomb. Experts warn that any reduction in centrifuge efficiency is reversible more quickly than a straight decrease in the number of machines, an argument that could be seized upon by powerful critics of the talks in the U.S. Congress. ...According to the diplomats, the proposal could leave running most of the nearly 10,000 centrifuges Iran is operating but reconfigure them to reduce the amount of enriched uranium they produce.” [71110]

HotAir.com’s Ed Morrissey writes, “So what’s the solution that [Secretary of State John] Kerry’s offering? A pledge from Iran to, er, not spin the centrifuges really fast. No, that’s actually what this compromise is. Both the Guardian and the AP note that any change in either centrifuge speed or stocking of uranium hexafluoride gas would be immediately reported by the IAEA to the rest of the world. That, however, ignores the fact that Iran kept its nuclear-weapons program hidden successfully from the IAEA [International Atomic Energy Agency] for most of a decade. Pardon us for not exactly considering that a fail-safe. It also assumes that such a violation would return us to the status quo ante. It wouldn’t, on two levels. First, such a violation would occur when Iran builds its bomb, so by the time word got out, the bomb would almost certainly exist. Second, the current coalition would be very unlikely to reform to oppose Iran’s nuclear-weapons ambitions.

It's fraying at the edges already, or was until oil prices collapsed, and pressures in Ukraine have all but severed Russia from any interest in assisting the West. Cutting a bad deal now would end the effective opposition to Iranian nukes, and Iran knows it. ... This deal is a surrender, not just in Iran but throughout the entire region. The only thing missing is the little piece of paper and the declaration of *peace in our time*." [71109, 71110]

DailyCaller.com notes that "Jonathan Gruber, long credited as the architect of Obamacare, once discussed the necessity of taxing fat people by body weight in order to fight obesity. 'Ultimately, what may be needed to address the obesity problem are direct taxes on body weight,' Gruber wrote in an essay for the National Institute for Health Care Management in April 2010, just months after helping design Obamacare with [Obama] in the Oval Office and during the period in which he was under contract as an Obama administration consultant." [71123]

According to TheGatewayPundit.com, Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Jeh Johnson has threatened U.S. sheriffs with the loss of federal grant money if the Republicans in Congress block Obama's illegal immigrant amnesty scheme. Larimer County, Colorado Sheriff Justin Smith writes on Facebook that Jeh's letter "made it clear that if Congress didn't send ... Obama the DHS funding bill that he wanted (rubberstamping [Obama's] executive amnesty), local and state public safety agencies would not receive federal grants they were counting on because [Obama] would veto the DHS funding bill. Let me get this straight—[Obama] believes he has the authority to nullify federal laws that don't serve his personal agenda, but if Congress dares to exercise it's responsibility of controlling the purse strings, he will willingly hold public safety grants hostage just to get his way? Mr. [Obama], you don't have to love the Congress we elected, but you do have to respect their role as established under the Constitution—and Mr. Johnson, please show some integrity and stop with the threats. Sheriffs don't take kindly to them." [71079, 71080, 71081, 71231]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, "IRS Commissioner John Koskinen confirmed Tuesday that illegal immigrants granted amnesty from deportation under ... Obama's new policies would be able to get extra refunds from the IRS for money they earned while working illegally, as long as they filed returns during those years. Illegal immigrants who are granted the amnesty will be given official Social Security numbers, which means they can go back and amend up to three years of previous tax forms to claim the Earned Income Tax Credit, potentially claiming billions of dollars in additional payments they were ineligible for before the amnesty. Mr. Koskinen said they will have to have already filed returns for those back-years, and there's a statute of limitations that governs how far they can go back, but said the agency's current interpretation of laws would allow them to claim the EITC credit retroactively." (Many illegal immigrants will not owe back taxes because they have large families and their earnings were insufficient to trigger taxes. Yet they would still be eligible to receive the EITC. Those who argue that the illegal immigrants must "pay their taxes" neglect to mention that vast numbers of them will be receiving money from the IRS—at the expense of citizen taxpayers who have followed the laws.) [71103]

The Department of Commerce reports, “New orders for manufactured goods in December, down five consecutive months, decreased \$16.4 billion or 3.4 percent to \$471.5 billion...” [71114, 71115]

Politico.com reports, “Vice President Joe Biden won’t commit to attending Benjamin Netanyahu’s speech to a joint meeting of Congress next month. He’s not the only one. Dozens of House Democrats are privately threatening to skip the March 3 address, according to lawmakers and aides, in what’s become the lowest point of a relationship between the Israeli prime minister and ...Obama that’s never been good.” (The leftist Israeli newspaper *Haaretz* writes, “Netanyahu is said to be ‘toast’ as far as Obama is concerned. An Israeli official said the strong words he heard American officials use against Netanyahu convinced him that even if Netanyahu is elected on March 17 for another term, Obama wouldn’t meet him before he leaves the White House in a little less than three years.” Obama may very well order U.S. ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power *not* to issue a Security Council veto upon the next attempt by the Palestinians to declare statehood. That is, the psychopathic Obama’s hatred for Netanyahu is so great that he will throw the entire nation of Israel under the bus in retaliation for a speech in Congress in which Netanyahu will warn of the dangers of a nuclear Iran.) [71116, 71117]

ABC’s *World News Tonight* reports that Obama’s budget proposal includes a \$50 million cut to a federal immunization program. According to ABC, “The government budgeted \$611 million in 2015 for the federal purchase and distribution of vaccines for uninsured children and adults, which is authorized by Section 317 of the Public Health Service Act. The proposed cut for 2016 is relatively modest, but would reduce the number of immunizations provided free of charge at local, state and national levels.” (ABC does not charge Obama with being anti-science.) [71054, 71055]

Appearing on *Hannity*, retired Lieutenant Colonel Ralph Peters says the film of the Jordanian pilot being killed by ISIS “was a brilliant recruiting video. ... Those guys who burned that young man alive, they’re having the time of their lives. This kind of violence is captivating, exhilarating, thrilling to these guys. It’s never going to get better for them than this. They have power now. They can exert their will over others. ... This is better than the best sex they’ve ever had and it’s easier on the goats.” [71127]

On February 4 Jordan hangs terrorists Sajida al-Rashawi and Ziad al-Karbouli, who was a top aide to the former leader of al Qaeda in Iraq, Abu Musab al-Zarqawi. (ISIS beheads an American and Obama responds with a brief statement and a return to the golf course; ISIS beheads a Jordanian, and the king of Jordan responds by executing two terrorists who were on death row.) [71069, 71072, 71077, 71091, 71102]

Actor James Woods mocks outrage over “waterboarding,” tweeting, “If we ever capture the ISIS thug who burned a heroic pilot alive, let’s pray we don’t pour a cup of water on his face. That would be cruel.” [71097, 71098]

On *CBS This Morning*, former CIA deputy director Mike Morell says, “What can be done in response to ISIS? Not much, unless the coalition is willing to put more ground troops into Iraq and possibly into Syria, there is very little we can do to respond. ...I think it would take 100,000 [ground troops], and that will simply does not exist here [in the United States], and it doesn’t exist in the other coalition countries [in Western Europe].” [71177]

According to Breitbart.com, “four Islamic Tribunal ‘lawyers’ in Dallas do not appear to be licensed to practice law in Texas.” Complaints have been lodged with the Supreme Court of Texas’ Unlicensed Practice of Law Committee. [71209]

Congressman Elijah Cummings (D-MD), addressing the Legislative Conference of the National Treasury Employees Union, says, “People do not seem to understand that so many people come to government knowing that they are not going to make the kind of money that they would make in the private sector but they come to government to feed their souls. ...That’s why I co-sponsored... the FAIR Act, which would raise pay up to 3.8 percent—even that’s too low.” (Cummings’ claim is ridiculous. CNSNews.com notes, “A December 2014 Cato Institute report on federal and private sector worker pay finds, ‘In 2013 federal civilian workers had an average wage of \$81,076, according to data from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. By comparison, the average wage of the nation’s 107 million private-sector workers was \$55,424.’ When benefits like health care and pensions are included, ‘federal worker compensation averaged \$115,524, or 74 percent more than the private-sector average of \$66,357.’”) [71446]

Fox News’ Ed Henry asks White House press secretary Josh Earnest why the administration has no reaction to Jordan’s execution of two terrorists. Earnest responds, “Well, uh, Ed, it is certainly possible for us to continue to support and stand with the people of Jordan at this very difficult time. Uh, you know, clearly their, their nation, in the same way we all are, is shocked and appalled, uh, at this terrible act of violence that was captured on video by ISIL, uh, and released to the world, and the United States stands with our friends in Jordan as they confront, uh, this, uh, this awful barbaric act. Uh, but as it relates to decisions that are carried out by the Jordanian justice system, uh, I’d refer you to them. I just, I, I, I don’t have the, the working knowledge of the Jordanian justice system to render an opinion on that.” [71112]

The White House announces that senior Obama advisor Dan Pfeiffer will leave his position by the end of the month. Obama states, “Dan has been beside me every step of this incredible journey, starting with those earliest days of the campaign in 2007, and through it all he’s been smart, steady, tireless and true to the values we started with.” Jennifer Palmieri, Obama’s communications director, and advisor John Podesta will also be leaving their White House jobs, to work on Hillary Clinton’s presidential campaign. (At WhiteHosueDossier.com, Keith Koffler observes, “The departure of Obama senior advisor Dan Pfeiffer next month would leave [Valerie] Jarrett as the last remaining White House official who has been part of Obama’s inner circle since the start,” something that “could further augment” her already significant—and arguably misused—power.) [71128, 71132, 71167, 71247]

At Townhall.com Conn Carroll reports, “If you take the entire Troubled Asset Relief Program bailout into account, taxpayers spent a total of \$79.7 billion on the auto bailout, received only \$63.1 billion back, for a total loss of \$16.6 billion. According to the most recent quarterly TARP Special Inspector General report, released January 28, the Treasury Department sold its final 54.9 million shares of Ally Financial stock at \$23.25 a share on December 19, 2014. With that sale, taxpayers were able to bring their final Ally Financial bailout recovery to \$14.7 billion, which is still \$2.5 billion less than the \$17.2 billion that taxpayers initially spent bailing out the company. In addition to the \$2.5 billion taxpayers lost on Ally Financial, they also lost \$11.2 billion on the GM bailout and \$2.9 billion on the Chrysler bailout.” (Obama has claimed, “We’ve now repaid taxpayers every dime and more of what my administration committed”—a statement which deceptively ignores the billions paid to General Motors and Chrysler in December 2008, before he entered the White House, but which still came from the TARP legislation he voted for while in the Senate.) [71130]

WashingtonExaminer.com reports, “The Federal Communications Commission will vote Feb. 26 on reclassifying the Internet as a public utility, a move that would introduce an unprecedented layer of government regulation to the broadband Internet industry that has the full backing of the Obama administration. ...[The agency’s] move was expected and comes at the urging of ...Obama, who said government regulation is necessary to ensure ‘a free and open Internet.’ If the five-member commission endorses [the] recommendation it would give the FCC the same regulatory power it wields over the big phone companies and other utilities.” FCC chairman Tom Wheeler, one of three Democrats on the five member commission, says of the 332-page document, “...my proposal includes a general conduct rule that can be used to stop new and novel threats to the internet. This means the action we take will...establish ground rules for the as yet unimagined.” (Under a best case scenario, the regulations will mean increased costs for Internet users, via federal and states taxes and fees—like those already seen by consumers on their telephone bills. At worst, the regulations will lead to censorship.) [71170, 71223, 71390, 72351, 73170]

Congresswoman Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) says of the proposed “net neutrality” rules (which some have ridiculed as “net brutality”), “What the FCC wants to do is to get into this queue so they actually precede your ISP [internet service provider] in governance of the Internet. What that will allow them to do, in addition to regulating and taxing, is to assign priority and value to all content. This is another way that this administration thinks they can go about and control your access to information. They don’t have any business going there. The Internet is not broken. They need to leave it alone.” [71390]

In a message from the White House, Obama encourages illegal immigrants to take advantage of his amnesty program. He says, “And to all the DREAMers who are out there and all those who qualify for my executive action moving forward, I want you to know that I am confident in my ability to implement this program over the next two years, and I’m confident that the next president and the next Congress and the American people will ultimately recognize why this is the right thing to do, so I’m going to want all

of you to get information so you can sign up if you qualify as well. All right?” [71171, 71180]

Obama also greets six illegal immigrant youths at the White House, and says, “I don’t think there’s anybody in America who’s had a chance to talk to these six young people... or the young DREAMers all across the country, who wouldn’t find it in their heart to say these kids are Americans just like us, and they belong here and we want to do right by them.” (They are *not*, of course, Americans. They are citizens of foreign countries whose parents brought them into the United States illegally.) Obama continues, “I want to be as clear as possible: I will veto any legislation that got [sic; comes] to my desk that took [sic; takes] away the chance of these young people who grew up here and who are prepared to contribute to this country that would prevent them from doing so. And I am confident that I can uphold that veto.” [71181]

It is reported that Jordan’s King Abdullah II, who is an experienced helicopter pilot, may fly combat missions against ISIS targets. (Whether Obama will monitor the progress of the missions from a golf course remains to be seen.) [71131, 71133, 71192, 71220]

Jordanian air strikes kill an estimated 55 ISIS fighters, including a leader known as the “Prince of Nineveh.” [71164, 71168]

At a hearing to discuss Obama’s budget proposal, Congresswoman Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) questions Shaun Donovan, director of the Office of Management and Budget. She repeatedly asks, “Do you support balancing the budget within 10 years?” but is unable to get a direct answer from Donovan, who responds with statements like, “I think what we’re proposing in this budget is that we work in a bipartisan way to build on the recent success we’ve had... to increase discretionary spending but more than fully offset it as our budget does, with reductions on the mandatory side, and with revenues.” Blackburn: “Are you okay with the \$22 trillion [national debt] number by 2025?” Donovan: “What I think the focus of a budget needs to be is, are we investing in American families, in our economy? Those are the most critical tests of a budget along with the fiscal sustainability that I’ve talked about.” Congressman Rod Blum (R-IA) gets Donovan to (reluctantly) admit that Obama’s budget proposal projects GDP growth of only 2.5 percent per years over the next 10 years, which is lower than the 3.3 percent average of the last 50 years. [71184]

Donovan also addresses a possible increase in the federal gasoline tax, saying, “it just has not seemed like there’s an ability politically to get any consensus around the gas tax. ... We’re not going to take anything off the table, but also we’re open to a range of solutions, and hope we get into serious discussions about that.” [71225]

Obama meets with “Muslim leaders” in the White House, but refuses to release the names of the people with whom he met. (Pamela Geller writes, “I can assure you that Obama is not going to ask them to rebuke the quranic texts and teachings that command jihad. Obama is not going to ask them to condemn the jihadic doctrine behind those savage Islamic wars. They will talk about ‘islamophobia’ and what can be done to silence

the few of us who are still brave enough to talk candidly about Islam.”) [71134, 71135, 71165, 71248]

At Townhall.com Victor Davis Hanson writes, “The word ‘appeasement’ long ago became pejorative for giving in to bullies. One side was aggressive and undemocratic; the other consensual and eager to avoid trouble through supposedly reasonable concessions. But appeasement usually weakened the democratic side and empowered the extremist one. The architect of appeasement—for example, Neville Chamberlain, former prime minister of Great Britain—was predictably a narcissist. Chamberlain believed that his own powers of oratory, his insights into reason and his undeniably superior morality would sway even a thug like Adolf Hitler. ...Obama currently is convinced that his singular charisma and rare insight into human nature will convince the Taliban to peacefully participate in Afghan politics. Obama will supposedly also win over the Iranian theocracy and show it how [nuclear weapons] nonproliferation is really to everyone’s advantage. ‘Reset’ diplomacy with Putin was supposed to lessen tensions—if, after the 2012 election, Putin just had more exposure to a flexible statesman of Obama’s wisdom. Throughout history, without the vanity of the conceiver, there would never have been appeasement.” [71148]

“...Obama sees a deal with Iran as a way to cement his legacy as a breakthrough statesman. In comparison, the long-term consequences of a nuclear Iran on the security of tiny Israel or on the stability of the largely Sunni Arab Middle East are future and more abstract concerns for others. ...In truth, appeasement, not deterrence, is the more reckless path. With serial concessions, democratic leaders convince aggressors that they must be stronger than they actually are. Those fantasies increase the likelihood that weaker dictators and terrorists will miscalculate and set off a deadly confrontation down the road. Yet the public often prefers appeasement. Military preparedness and investment are too costly. Backing up threats seems too scary. Churchills and Reagans sound shrill. Alliances, deterrence and balance of power sound so old-fashioned. Evil and good are derided as too simplistic. Defusing a crisis now is preferable to ensuring one down the road. Appeasement continues not because it works, but because it serves the pretensions of narcissists.” [71148]

Michael Steinbach, head of the FBI’s counterterrorism division, warns about radical Islamists recruiting young people in the West. He tells CNN, “I’m worried about individuals that we don’t know about that have training. We know what we know. But there is a number that’s greater than that that we don’t know. ...Once you get to Europe, you can easily get down to Turkey and into Syria.” CNN: “When asked if there are ISIS cells in the U.S., Steinbach said ‘there are individuals that have been in communication with groups like ISIL who have a desire to conduct an attack’ and those people are living in the U.S. right now, but he says the term ‘ sleeper cells ’ is too simplistic, because the threat is much more complicated and diffuse. In the U.S., the FBI has seen children as young as 15 recruited by ISIS and Steinbach said he ‘can’t speak with 100% certainty that individuals of that age group have not gotten over there successfully.’ In some cases, Steinbach said parents even encourage their children to be involved with terror groups. ‘There are individuals out there who are inspired by the message of terrorist groups and



they encourage family members, including their children, to follow that path,' he said, adding in those cases, the FBI holds the parents responsible. ...He also said ISIS is aggressively pursuing women on social media. 'The recruitment of women by ISIS is much more than we've ever seen by a terrorist organization,' he said. 'We have seen everything from a female fighter—dedicated groups of women fighters—and those who have come over to support foreign fighters by marrying them.'" [71138, 71139, 71142]

On *The Kelly File*, Megyn Kelly reports that the United Arab Emirates stopped flying combat missions against ISIS in December because of a lack of U.S. military back-up for the rescue of downed pilots, yet the White House and Pentagon have continued to mislead the public into believing the UAE was an active coalition partner. (U.S. airstrikes against ISIS have been minimal, averaging fewer than 10 per day. When Saddam Hussein's regime was being attacked in Operation Desert Storm, there were as many as 1,100 airstrikes per day.) [71144, 71145, 71338]

On February 5 Obama attends the National Prayer Breakfast and *defends* radical Islam, taking moral equivalency to an atrocious new level. Arrogantly speaking from his own very high horse, he says, "Humanity's been grappling with these questions throughout human history, and lest we get on our high horse and think this is unique to some other place, remember that during the Crusades and the Inquisition, people committed terrible deeds in the name of Christ. In our home country, slavery and Jim Crow all too often was [sic; were] justified in the name of Christ. So this is not unique to one group or one religion. There is a tendency in us, a sinful tendency that can pervert and distort our faith. In today's world, when hate groups have their own Twitter accounts and bigotry can fester in hidden places in cyberspace, it can be even harder to counteract such intolerance." [71151, 71157, 71158, 71159, 71180, 71213, 71215, 71232, 71243]

Obama's statement is absurd. Radical Islam most certainly *is* unique to "some other place": the Muslim world. Additionally, *nine centuries* have passed since the start of the Crusades. For Obama to equate atrocities committed by Christians almost one thousand years ago with barbaric acts committed by Muslims in the 21st century is shameless. It is his Muslim-pandering way of saying, "Christians can be evil too!" But, unlike today's radical Islamists, Christians are no longer uncivilized. Of course, Obama neglects to note—or perhaps does not even know—that the Crusades could be described as a defensive war to retake territory captured by Muslims in earlier holy wars. The Crusades were a *response* to previous Islamist jihad. Obama also neglects to note that the Crusades ended, the Renaissance began, and there was a Reformation of the Catholic church. Islam has yet to undergo a Renaissance or a Reformation. Further, acts of evil committed in the name of Christ are *in conflict with* his teachings, while many of the acts of evil done in the name of Mohammed are *consistent with* his teachings. A cold-blooded killer who claims to be a Christian is *not* following his religion; radical Islamists killing infidels *are* following their religion. Arguably, it is the "moderate" Muslims who have not engaged in killing sprees who are *not* following their religion. [71151, 71157, 71158, 71159, 71180, 71213, 71297, 71403]

Frank Turek later writes at Townhall.com, “[C]ontrary to [Obama’s] assertions, ... *Islam is not being ‘hijacked’—it is being obeyed.* The terrorists are following the teachings of the Qur’an and the example of Muhammad. ... I realize not all Muslims agree with violent Jihad. The problem is that ... Obama acts as if no Muslims agree with violent Jihad! ... We shouldn’t judge a religion by its abuse, but by its truths. Jesus said, ‘Love your enemies.’ Muhammad said, ‘Kill them.’ In Islam, your son dies for God. In Christianity, God’s son dies for you. With all due respect, why can’t [Obama] see the difference?” [71322]

The Inquisition’s victims, over a period of about 500 years, probably numbered approximately 6,000—*fewer than Boko Haram killed in 2014 alone.* Islam had its own inquisitions as well, in the 9th and 12th centuries. (Arguably, the ongoing Sunni versus Shi’ite conflicts in the Middle East can be classified as a form of inquisition.) Slavery and “Jim Crow” laws were certainly not perpetrated “in the name of Christ”; they were perpetrated—largely by southern Democrats—through the power of abusive governments. Further, much, if not most, of the opposition against slavery was *led by Christian abolitionists.* While the ill-educated Obama does not hesitate to state that atrocities were *once* committed in the name of Christ, he lacks the honesty and courage to state that Muslims are *now* committing atrocities in the name of Mohammed. Obama has no problem criticizing the world’s Christians, but dares not say one word to offend Muslims. (Obama’s statements prove he is a danger to the nation, and perhaps even that he is in need of psychiatric counseling.) [71151, 71157, 71158, 71159, 71180, 71213, 71297, 71391, 71650]

Obama’s reference to the Crusades is also laughably inconsistent with his game of pretending that ISIS and other jihadist terrorist groups have nothing to do with Islam. It is ridiculous to use the Crusades to illustrate that “Christians did bad things in the name of their religion too” when he has repeatedly argued that the terrorists have *not* been acting in the name of their religion. (It is tantamount to claiming that company X is not guilty of false advertising and then pointing to company Y’s false advertising to demonstrate that all companies engage in the practice.) Obama also does Americans no favors by emphasizing the Crusade. That is arguably a propaganda coup for the jihadists—who have long called their fight a war against the crusaders.

At CatholicCulture.org medieval scholar Thomas F. Madden writes, “Misconceptions about the Crusades are all too common. The Crusades are generally portrayed as a series of holy wars against Islam led by power-mad popes and fought by religious fanatics. They are supposed to have been the epitome of self-righteousness and intolerance, a black stain on the history of the Catholic Church in particular and Western civilization in general. ... [But] the Crusades to the East were in every way defensive wars. They were a direct response to Muslim aggression—an attempt to turn back or defend against Muslim conquests of Christian lands. Christians in the eleventh century were not paranoid fanatics. Muslims really were gunning for them. While Muslims can be peaceful, Islam was born in war and grew the same way. From the time of Mohammed, the means of Muslim expansion was always the sword. Muslim thought divides the world into two spheres, the Abode of Islam and the Abode of War. Christianity—and for that matter any

other non-Muslim religion—has no abode. Christians and Jews can be tolerated within a Muslim state under Muslim rule. But, in traditional Islam, Christian and Jewish states must be destroyed and their lands conquered.” [71255]

“When Mohammed was waging war against Mecca in the seventh century, Christianity was the dominant religion of power and wealth. As the faith of the Roman Empire, it spanned the entire Mediterranean, including the Middle East, where it was born. The Christian world, therefore, was a prime target for the earliest caliphs, and it would remain so for Muslim leaders for the next thousand years. ...That is what gave birth to the Crusades. They were not the brainchild of an ambitious pope or rapacious knights but a response to more than four centuries of conquests in which Muslims had already captured two-thirds of the old Christian world. At some point, Christianity as a faith and a culture had to defend itself or be subsumed by Islam. The Crusades were that defense. ...It is often assumed that the central goal of the Crusades was forced conversion of the Muslim world. Nothing could be further from the truth. From the perspective of medieval Christians, Muslims were the enemies of Christ and His Church. It was the Crusaders’ task to defeat and defend against them. That was all. Muslims who lived in Crusader-won territories were generally allowed to retain their property and livelihood, and always their religion.” [71255]

“...The Crusades were wars, so it would be a mistake to characterize them as nothing but piety and good intentions. Like all warfare, the violence was brutal (although not as brutal as modern wars). There were mishaps, blunders, and crimes. ...From the safe distance of many centuries, it is easy enough to scowl in disgust at the Crusades. Religion, after all, is nothing to fight wars over. But we should be mindful that our medieval ancestors would have been equally disgusted by our infinitely more destructive wars fought in the name of political ideologies. And yet, both the medieval and the modern soldier fight ultimately for their own world and all that makes it up. Both are willing to suffer enormous sacrifice, provided that it is in the service of something they hold dear, something greater than themselves. Whether we admire the Crusaders or not, it is a fact that the world we know today would not exist without their efforts. The ancient faith of Christianity, with its respect for women and antipathy toward slavery, not only survived but flourished.” [71255]

Madden tells ABC News, “I don’t think [Obama] knows very much about the crusades. He seems to be casting them as an example of a distortion of Christianity and trying to compare that to what he sees as a distortion of Islam in the actions of ISIS. The initial goal of the Crusades was to give back lands to Christians that been conquered, due to Muslim conquests.” [71271]

Pamela Geller writes, “Obama insists that ‘the future does not belong to those that slander the prophet of Islam,’ but insulting Jesus Christ? He’s all in.” Jonah Goldberg writes, “When Obama alludes to the evils of medieval Christianity, he fails to acknowledge the key word: ‘medieval.’ What made medieval Christianity backward wasn’t Christianity but medievalism. It is perverse that Obama feels compelled to lecture the West about not getting too judgmental on our ‘high horse’ about radical Islam’s

medieval barbarism in 2015 because of Christianity's medieval barbarism in 1215. ... We are all descended from cavemen who broke the skulls of their enemies with rocks for fun or profit. But that hardly mitigates the crimes of a man who does the same thing today. I see no problem judging the behavior of the Islamic State and its apologists from the vantage point of the West's high horse, because we've earned the right to sit in that saddle." [71213, 71219]

It is worth noting that when Obama addressed the United Nations in September 2012 and said, "The future must not belong to those who slander the prophet of Islam," he was actually insulting *every human being on earth who is not a Muslim*. Muslims, for example, consider devotion to Christ a slander of their prophet, Muhammed. That is, it is not possible to be a Christian and *not* be considered a slanderer of Muhammed. The same is true of Judaism, Buddhism, Hinduism, agnosticism, and atheism. To a Muslim, anyone who does not follow Islam *necessarily* slanders Muhammed simply by *not* following Islam. Obama was therefore saying, *there is no future for non-Muslims*. [37574, 37575, 37596, 37600, 37607]

Roger L. Simon writes at PJMedia.com, "[F]rankly I was appalled by what Obama said. Many faiths could be cited, including communism, obviously, also a kind of religion that was responsible for exponentially more deaths—via Stalin's Gulag, Mao's Cultural Revolution and Great Leap Forward, the killing fields of Cambodia, etc.—than all other belief systems combined, although none of them are doing it now. Right now it's Islamic radicalism that just the other day placed a human being in a cage and burned him alive, an act not, to my knowledge, even performed by Dr. Mengele. And it was done in the name of Allah. And yet Obama saw fit to lecture his audience on the Crusades and slavery, done 'in the name of Christ,' subjects of which his audience was undoubtedly well aware and, needless to say, did not approve in the slightest. Yet still [Obama] felt he had to hector them. Why? ... The reason is not complicated. Obama is not a religious person. He rarely appears in church, except for political purposes. He is titularly a Christian, but identifies emotionally, from his youth in Indonesian madrassas and from his ideological predisposition, with Third World Muslims." [71333]

"But now he is confronted with those same Muslims behaving like barbarians across Africa and the Middle East and sometimes into Europe and America. What would be his reaction to that? Pretty much what it is for most throughout the Islamic world—shame. As many have noted, Islam is a shame culture (the kind of society that will go berserk over cartoons) and, like it or not, [Obama] is part of it culturally. That does not mean he is stoning adulterers or cutting off the hands of thieves or treating women like chattel, but it does mean he is genuinely and quite deeply ashamed of the religion he, in part, came from. He cannot adjust to or accept the calamities it is causing. Unlike the president of Egypt, he cannot name it. This also explains Obama's determination to whitewash the behavior of Iran and make a deal with the Islamic Republic that will jeopardize the entire world. It also helps make more clear his ambivalent (at best) relationship to the state of Israel and its leaders. It grieves me much to write this, because it is a horrible situation. Obama is not a Manchurian candidate and never was. He never had to be. He is just

absolutely the wrong human being to be leading the West at this point in history. Heaven help us.” [71243]

Less noted at the prayer breakfast is Obama’s statement, “We are summoned to push back against those who would distort our religion for their nihilistic ends.” Robert Spencer writes at JihadWatch.org, “Wait, what? He said, ‘our religion’? Back in 2008, when he referred to ‘my Muslim faith,’ it was dismissed as a slip of the tongue. But now, if this AP report is accurate in quoting him, this is two ‘slips of the tongue’ in the same direction—along with six years of foreign and domestic policies that aid and enable the advance of jihad and Islamic supremacism. Of course, what Obama is really doing here is not saying that he is a Muslim, but making a moral equivalence claim that all religions are equally capable of inciting their adherents to violence. That is a dogma that is nearly universally held these days, and is designed to stymie resistance to jihad and Islamic supremacism.” [71196, 71197, 71198]

Obama also says during his speech, “[P]art of humility is also recognizing in modern, complicated, diverse societies, the functioning of these [free speech] rights, the concern for the protection of these rights calls for each of us to exercise civility and restraint and judgment. And if, in fact, we defend the legal right of a person to insult another’s religion, we’re equally obligated to use our free speech to condemn such insults and stand shoulder-to-shoulder with religious communities, particularly religious minorities who are the targets of such attacks. Just because you have the right to say something doesn’t mean the rest of us shouldn’t question those who would insult others in the name of free speech. Because we know that our nations are stronger when people of all faiths feel that they are welcome, that they, too, are full and equal members of our countries.” (Obama is mistaken. No one is *equally obligated* to condemn religious insults, although they should certainly be free to do so and may open themselves up to criticism if they do not. Nor is anyone obligated to “stand shoulder-to-shoulder with religious communities, or “exercise civility and restraint and judgment,” even if those actions may be commendable and reasonable. [71252, 71253]

The First Amendment exists to protect controversial speech, opinions, and ideas, *not* to ensure that everyone exercises civility. The First Amendment permits a person, for example, to excoriate Islam and “obligates” *no one* to defend it. Obligations imply force and force is clearly incompatible with free speech. Further, Obama is hardly the one to be lecturing anyone about coming to the defense of religions that are being insulted, as he has said next to nothing about the persecution of Jews and Christians by Muslims, while eagerly defending Islam from criticism. Obama has also shown no interest in helping to ensure that “people of all faiths are welcome” in every nation. Nor is that even a valid goal. There is no reason why there cannot be Muslim nations and Christian nations and Jewish nations. Freedom does not require that *everyone* mix together in one place. Freedom allows people to voluntarily gather with those who share the same religion, ideology, culture, and language.) [71252, 71253]

Columnist Star Parker, who attended the National Prayer Breakfast, writes, “When Obama equated Christianity with ISIS—which is exactly what he did—he sucked the air

out of the room. I was lucky to be seated where I could observe the entire room. There were many muslims there and when Obama compared Christianity with terrorism, the muslims DID NOT applaud. They DID NOT stand up. They were disappointed, just as I was, because they know this is not a comparison that should be shared at an event that promotes unity. ...King Abdullah from Jordan was supposed to speak. But after one of his country's pilots was burned alive in a metal cage by terrorists, he needed to return to his country. In his place, a representative read his speech. After hearing it, I knew it was written from someone who knows the difference between good and evil. Someone who stands with Israel and Christians in the Middle East. And someone who yearned for a response from the world's only superpower, only to be told by [Obama] that Christians are just as evil as terrorists." [71257]

Obama's ignorance of history is not limited to the Crusades, of course. In June 2014 Obama justified his exchange of five Taliban leaders for Bowe Bergdahl, saying, "This is what happens at the end of wars. That was true for George Washington; that was true for Abraham Lincoln; that was true for FDR [Franklin D. Roosevelt]; that's been true of every combat situation—that at some point, you make sure that you try to get your folks back. And that's the right thing to do." TheBlackSphere.net has noted, "George Washington did not become president until six years after the Revolutionary War ended in 1783. By 1789 there were no longer any prisoners for him to exchange. Abraham Lincoln was assassinated in mid April of 1865. The Civil War ended the following month. He was still dead at that time. No deals were made to exchange prisoners after the war. All prisoners were simply freed. FDR died of a stroke before the end of WWII. Like Lincoln, he stayed dead after the war so he couldn't do what this jerk [Obama] says he did. You'll recall that Harry S. Truman made the decision to drop two nuclear bombs on Japan, ending World War II. He made no deals for prisoners. We went in and released them when necessary. None of the Presidents that Obama noted were in office at the ends of those wars, making it impossible for them to make any sort of prisoner swaps, let alone the 5 for 1, plus unspecified cash, for a deserter and traitor by our '57 States' [Obama]." [72050, 72051]

While Obama pretends that jihadists have nothing to do with Islam, radical Islamists from Nigeria's Boko Haram cross the border into Cameroon to shoot and burn to death at least 91 innocent people. As many as 500 others are wounded. IsraelNationalNews.com reports, "Around 800 jihadists of the terror group that has been waging a five-year Islamist insurgency in Nigeria crossed the border to take part in the massacre, in which they 'burned churches, mosques and villages and slaughtered youth who resisted joining them to fight Cameroon forces,' Information Minister Issa Tchiroma Bakari told the [Associated Press] news agency. ...Cameroon's military spokesperson Col. Didier Badjeck revealed that even though reinforcements have reached the town, the combat is still bogged down due to the fact that the terrorists are using civilians as human shields. ...Boko Haram has been steadily stepping up its killing spree, murdering around 10,000 people last year as compared to 2,000 in the first four years of their insurgency in Nigeria, reports the Council on Foreign Relations." [71281, 71282]

*The Washington Post* editorial board writes, “As the Obama administration pushes to complete a nuclear accord with Iran, numerous members of Congress, former secretaries of state and officials of allied governments are expressing concern about the contours of the emerging deal. Though we have long supported negotiations with Iran as well as the interim agreement the United States and its allies struck with Tehran, we share several of those concerns and believe they deserve more debate now—before negotiators present the world with a *fait accompli*. The problems raised by authorities ranging from Henry Kissinger, the country’s most senior former secretary of state, to Sen. Timothy M. Kaine, Virginia’s junior senator, can be summed up in three points:

First, a process that began with the goal of eliminating Iran’s potential to produce nuclear weapons has evolved into a plan to tolerate and temporarily restrict that capability.

Second, in the course of the negotiations, the Obama administration has declined to counter increasingly aggressive efforts by Iran to extend its influence across the Middle East and seems ready to concede Tehran a place as a regional power at the expense of Israel and other U.S. allies.

Finally, the Obama administration is signaling that it will seek to implement any deal it strikes with Iran—including the suspension of sanctions that were originally imposed by Congress—without a vote by either chamber. Instead, an accord that would have far-reaching implications for nuclear proliferation and U.S. national security would be imposed unilaterally by a president with less than two years left in his term.

...It’s hard to escape the conclusion that Mr. Obama wishes to avoid congressional review because he suspects a bipartisan majority would oppose the deal he is prepared to make. If so, the right response to the questions now being raised is to seek better terms from Iran—or convince the doubters that an accord blessing and preserving Iran’s nuclear potential is better than the alternatives.” [71662]

At a hearing of the Senate Armed Services Committee to discuss the Guantanamo detention facility, Senator Tom Cotton (R-AR) grills the Defense Department’s Brian McKeon and the National Counterterrorism Center’s Nicholas Rasmussen. Addressing the claim that GITMO is a “recruiting tool” for jihadists, Cotton asks, “How many detainees were at Guantanamo Bay on September 11, 2001?” (There were, of course, none.) “Islamic terrorists don’t need an excuse to attack the United States,” says Cotton. “They don’t attack us for what we do, they attack us for who we are. [Closing Guantanamo] is a political decision based on a promise [Obama] made on his campaign. To say that it is a security decision based on propaganda value that our enemies get from it is a pretext to justify a political decision. In my opinion, the only problem with Guantanamo Bay is there are too many empty beds and cells there right now. We should be sending more terrorists there for further interrogation to keep this country safe. As far as I’m concerned, every last one of them can rot in Hell, but as long as they don’t do that they can rot in Guantanamo Bay.” [71155, 71156]

The argument of Obama and many of his supporters that keeping terrorists locked up at Guantanamo only encourages more terrorism is, of course, absurd. It is like arguing that wife-killer Scott Peterson should be released from prison because keeping him there only encourages other men to kill their wives.

During the hearing, demonstrators from the leftist group Code Pink yell, "Rights for GITMO detainees." Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) tells them the terrorists lost their rights when they attacked the United States. [71156]

The committee also questions Ashton Carter, Obama's nominee to replace Chuck Hagel as Secretary of Defense. Senator John McCain (R-AZ) asks Carter what Obama's strategy is for dealing with ISIS. Carter replies, "The strategy connects ends and means, and our ends with respect to ISIL needs to be its lasting defeat. I say lasting, because it's important that when they get defeated, they stay defeated, and that is why it's important that we have those on the ground there who will ensure that they stay defeated once defeated. It's different on the two sides of the border [between Iraq and Syria]." McCain responds, "It doesn't sound like a strategy to me, but maybe we can flesh out your goals. It sounds like a series of goals to me." [71185]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, "The Obama administration this year turned down a request from Jordan for Predator spy drones that would help it locate targets in the war against the Islamic State. The refusal, disclosed by a House Armed Services Committee member, has gained attention since Jordan has emerged as a critical player in a U.S.-led coalition to destroy the Islamist terrorist group in the days after it released a video of its execution by fire of a captured Jordanian military pilot. ...Members of Congress are calling on the White House to approve a list of weapons for King Abdullah II, a strong U.S. ally." [71237, 71392]

Sami Al-Arian, a supporter of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, is deported from the United States and flown to Turkey. According to InvestigativeProject.org, in 2006 Al-Arian "...pleaded guilty to conspiring to provide goods and services to the terrorist group. But even then, he never acknowledged his leadership role or his commitment to violent jihad that was captured on video and documents seized by federal investigators. ...He was a well-regarded computer science professor at the University of South Florida. But he also took over a mosque in Tampa and named it for Ezzedin al-Qassam, the founding martyr of violent Palestinian nationalism. He created a charity and think tank that included three other PIJ Shura members. During a 1991 fundraiser in Cleveland, Al-Arian [sat] passively as the local imam, Fawaz Damra, introduce[d] him as the head of 'the active arm of the Islamic Jihad Movement in Palestine,' which is called the Islamic Committee for Palestine in the United States 'for security reasons.'" (The Al-Qassam Mosque is also known as the Islamic Community of Tampa. It is affiliated with the Islamic Society of North America. Some Sam's Club customers express outrage that the Brandon, Florida store donated \$2,500 to the radical mosque.) [71207, 71208, 71402]



French authorities investigate the possibility that a camouflage-clad, weapon-brandishing woman who appears in a recent ISIS video may be Hayat Boumedienne, the wife or girlfriend of Paris supermarket killer Amedy Coulibaly. [71212]

The Heritage Foundation lists “106 Budget Cuts Congress Could Make Right Now.” They include eliminating Department of Energy loans and loan guarantees (e.g., the Solyndra loan), slashing subsidies to various United Nations programs, ending Universal Service Subsidies (“Obamaphones”), and reducing fraud in the Earned Income Tax Credit. [71160]

While media leftists fall all over themselves declaring that Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu’s decision to speak to a joint session of Congress is a political blunder of massive proportions, HotAir.com’s Noah Rothman writes, “If all of these assertions that Netanyahu had shot himself in the foot sounds like wishful thinking, it should. The proof that Netanyahu’s decision to speak before Congress might still be a success for him is evident in the bind in which his American adversaries in the Democratic Party find themselves. In a display of petulance, a disturbingly frequent occurrence from [the White House], Barack Obama has declined to meet with his Israeli counterpart while he is in Washington. Secretary of State John Kerry, too, will shun Netanyahu, and Vice President Joe Biden will not commit to attending his speech. This has forced Democrats to choose between their loyalty to the head of their party in the White House and their support for the state of Israel. ...All the while, Netanyahu and his party are surging in polls of Israeli voters. If this is what a political blunder looks like, I’d love to see what the Beltway class considers deftness.” (Despite many media reports to the contrary, Netanyahu did not agree to speak to Congress until *after* the White House learned of the invitation from House Speaker John Boehner.) [71178, 71238, 71239, 71240]

In a *Foreign Policy* magazine survey of 1,615 international relations scholars from 1,375 U.S. colleges, Henry Kissinger is ranked the most effective Secretary of State in the last 50 years. John Kerry takes last place. [71166]

Radio Shack files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy and will sell as many as 2,400 stores. How many jobs will be lost is not known. (Where people will now be able to buy alligator clips is also not known.) [71189]

MSNBC.com reports, “Prominent immigration advocates have all but conceded that federal judge Andrew Hanen—a staunch critic of the Obama administration’s immigration policies—will block [Obama’s] executive actions just weeks before the measures are slated to kick in. Advocacy groups are bracing for Hanen, a U.S. district court judge, to decide this week on a lawsuit that could unravel [Obama’s] unilateral measures to shield as many as 5 million undocumented immigrants from deportation. Texas is leading the charge against the looming immigration actions, bringing together 25 other states in a lawsuit arguing that [Obama’s] actions place a heavy burden on local governments. While scores of experts have said that the states’ legal arguments don’t hold water, it’s the conservative, Bush-appointed judge that has advocates nervous.

...Hanan did not mince words in a scathing court opinion in 2013 when he accused the Department of Homeland Security of engaging in a 'criminal conspiracy' for reuniting an undocumented child to her mother in the U.S. after she was brought across the southwest border by smugglers. 'The DHS, instead of enforcing our border security laws, actually assisted the criminal conspiracy in achieving its illegal goals,' Hanan wrote. 'In summary, instead of enforcing the laws of the United States, the government took direct steps to help the individuals who violated it.' If Hanan decides against the Obama administration, he could block the implementation of the executive measures, which are scheduled to kick in Feb. 18. If that were to happen, the Department of Justice would almost certainly appeal the decision, which would then go to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals—yet another conservative-leaning court." [71242, 71996]

Adam Kredo reports at FreeBeacon.com, "Mohammad Reza Naghdi, the commander of the Basij, a paramilitary group operating under the wing of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corp (IRGC), recently claimed that the 'Americans are begging us for a deal on the negotiation table,' according to comments published in Persian and independently translated for the Washington Free Beacon. Naghdi added that American officials routinely 'plea[d]' with Iran in talks and that the United States is negotiating from a position of weakness, according to his comments, which follow earlier reports claiming that Iran's leading negotiator 'frequently shouts' at U.S. officials. The military leader's remarks appear to jibe with new reports that the United States is conceding ground to Iran in talks and will now allow it to 'keep much of its uranium-enriching technology,' according to the Associated Press. ...Regional experts say that the Iranians feel that they are in a position of power in the talks and believe that the Obama administration is desperate to ink a deal. 'Iran feels the administration needs the deal, and this belief is supported by the way the administration is acting,' said Saeed Ghasseminejad, an Iranian dissident and associate fellow at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies. ...Iran feels as long as the negotiation is going on, it has a green light to do whatever it wants in the region, so why should they bother to sign a deal?" [71210, 71211, 71214, 71727, 71728]

According to a Pew Research Center poll, "About two-thirds of investigative journalists surveyed (64%) believe that the U.S. government has probably collected data about their phone calls, emails or online communications, and eight-in-ten believe that being a journalist increases the likelihood that their data will be collected." (Pamela Geller comments, "And still they polish his [Obama's] knob, kiss his ass, scrub and whitewash his unending failures. They will sacrifice themselves to take down this country. Stockholm syndrome on an industry-wide scale. ...[Obama], the worst, most destructive, most abusive executive America has ever suffered, is given a free pass. It is astonishing.") [71204, 71205, 71206]

According to Newsbusters.org, "the 'big three' of ABC, CBS, and NBC all ignored [Obama's] critique of Christianity during the Thursday evening newscasts with only ABC's *World News Tonight* with David Muir even mentioning that the event took place earlier in the day." (Obama insulting the intelligence and religion of about 70 percent of the nation's citizens is apparently not considered newsworthy by the mainstream media.) [71245]

At HotAir.com Noah Rothman writes, “They [Democrats] insist that, had Republicans informed the White House of their desire to invite [Binyamin] Netanyahu to address Congress before submitting it to the Israeli leader, Democrats would have had few objections to the speech. Well, congressional Republicans decided to test that theory. On Thursday [February 5], House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH) revealed that Pope Francis accepted a request from congressional leadership to address a joint session of Congress in September. ‘Boehner’s office says it did not coordinate with the White House when the speaker invited the pope last year,’ Politico reported. ‘It told the administration of the visit only this morning—which is also when Boehner told reporters.’ In marked contrast from Netanyahu’s visit to Congress, the news that the Pope would address a joint session of the federal legislature for the first time in history was met with bipartisan acclaim. ...It’s so silly that it’s simply embarrassing. House Republican leadership has cleverly demonstrated that the White House’s only objection to Netanyahu speaking before Congress were [sic; was] his political differences with ...Obama. It was petty, it was childish, and its vindictive nature has been exposed. In the meantime, however, Obama did his party no favors.” (Vice President Joe Biden will be present for the Pope’s address but will miss Netanyahu’s due to sudden new travel plans. His office states, “We are not ready to announce details of his trip yet”—probably because Biden has not yet chosen his escape destination.) [71254, 71261, 71264]

According to the *Daily Mail*, “Two prominent black Democrats in the House of Representatives are vowing to skip Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's speech to Congress next month, a move that a White House insider says was put in motion by the Obama administration. John Lewis of Georgia and G.K. Butterfield of North Carolina both said Friday that they disapproved when House Speaker John Boehner invited the Israeli leader to address a joint session of Congress on March 3 without consulting ...Obama first. That disapproval apparently was orchestrated, or at least strongly encouraged, by the White House through communications with lawmakers connected to the Congressional Black Caucus. ‘I’m not saying [Obama] called anyone personally,’ a current White House staffer told Daily Mail Online. ‘But yeah, the White House sent a message to some at the CBC that they should suddenly be very upset about the speech.’” [71269]

On *Hannity*, Charles Krauthammer comments on Obama’s National Prayer Breakfast remarks: “I was stunned that [Obama] could say something so, I mean, at once, banal and offensive. Here we are two days away from an act of shocking barbarism, the burning alive of a prisoner of war, and Obama’s message is that we should remember the Crusades and the Inquisition. I mean, for him to say that all of us have sinned, all religions have transgressed is, you know, is adolescent stuff, everyone knows that. What’s important is what’s happening now. Christianity no longer goes on crusades, and it gave up the Inquisition a while ago. The Book of Joshua is knee deep in blood. That story is over too. The story of today, of our generation, is the fact that the overwhelming volume of the violence and the barbarism that we are seeing in the world, from Nigeria to Paris all the way to Pakistan and even to the Philippines, the island of Mindanao in the Philippines, is coming from one source, and that’s from inside Islam. It is not the

prevalent idea of Islam. But it is coming from Islam, as many Islamic leaders including the president of Egypt and many others have admitted, and there needs to be a change in Islam. It is not a coincidence that all of these attacks on other religions are happening. All over the world, in a dozen countries, two dozen countries, all in the name of one religion. It's not a coincidence. And for [Obama] to be lecturing us and to say we shouldn't get on our high horse and to not remember our own path is ridiculous. The present issue is Muslim radicalism and how to attack it. A lot of people are dying." [71194, 71235]

"From Obama's first speech at West Point in December 2009, ironically announcing the surge in Afghanistan, you could tell that his heart has never been in this fight. Never. He's the commander-in-chief and yet he announces one sentence after he talks about the surge, he talks about the day of withdrawal. Everyone in the region knows that. Everyone in the Middle East knows that he took on the fight on ISIS only because of the public reaction to the video of the beheading of the two Americans. He never would have lifted a finger otherwise. He hasn't helped the rebels in Syria. He has not given the weapons that Jordan needs. The Kurds, who are actually able, courageous and well-committed to the fight against ISIS still cannot get direct arms from the United States. The world knows this. Our enemies know it, and our friends know it." [71994, 71235]

Also appearing on *Hannity* is author, attorney, and radio talk show host Mark Levin. Levin says Obama "is a nihilist and a narcissist and an extremist. And I would like to suggest that, Mr. Obama, here's a suggestion for you as the leader of the United States. This weekend, rather than going off and campaigning or going on vacation, why don't you go across the Potomac River into Arlington National Cemetery? Why don't you walk the rows and rows and rows of the dead heroes who liberated peoples who were facing genocide and tyranny of all kinds... Those young men, if you look at those headstones, the overwhelming majority—all religions—but the overwhelming majority, Mr. Obama, are Christians. Why didn't you speak to them today, Mr. Obama? ...What Obama is saying and doing is the lowest of the low now. He really is not a leader of a great people. He's not a leader of a great nation. He is stuck in his own ideology. He's stubborn and ignorant at the same time. There are black Christians and black Muslims in Africa who are being slaughtered—they don't want to hear about the Jim Crow laws! There are Christians, there are other Muslims being slaughtered in the Middle East—they don't need a lecture from Obama about Christianity! The fact of the matter is Obama is not doing anything effective or substantive to stop genocide in our time." [71315]

Levin explains that Obama can make a brief statement about a beheading and then immediately go back to his golf game "because he's not the man of compassion and empathy that he claims to be. Obama has a very high tolerance for misery—not his own, but for everybody else's. And he's turning the world inside out. He's not only fundamentally transforming America; but by his actions and his inactions, he's fundamentally transforming the world. And what we now have is tyranny on the rise, genocide on the rise, our allies are looking over their shoulders, they do not trust us to back them up and they are right. At the same time our enemies are on the rise, we are gutting our military and our borders are open. It's exactly what I said: we're dealing with

nihilism, we're dealing with narcissism, and we're dealing with extremism and that equals Obama." [71315]

"...The whole world, the free world, is praying to God we can get through the next two years and get through this. ...Obama's speech today sent two messages: one, to our enemies that this is not a serious man, they are gut-laughing, and one to all those people who are suffering, whose families are being slaughtered, that they cannot count on [Obama] for help. ...The fact of the matter is, for all his talk that he thinks is in defense of Muslims, [Obama], because of the way he left Iraq, this vice president, his failure to get a status of forces agreement, they have, in my humble opinion, lots and lots of blood on their hands. Many, many Muslims, Christians and others have died as a result of their actions. He can give as many speeches, as many bumper stickers as he wants. And here's the other point. *We are going to get hit if we do not hit this enemy where this enemy is. We are going to get hit again.*" [71315]

On February 6 Newsmax.com reports, "ISIS militants on Friday said an American woman hostage it was holding in Syria had been killed when Jordanian fighter jets bombed a building where she was being held, the SITE monitoring group said. In Washington, U.S. officials said they could not confirm that the woman, who has been identified as 26-year-old aid worker Kayla Mueller of Prescott, Arizona, had been killed. Mueller was the last-known American hostage held by Islamic State, which controls wide areas of Syria and Iraq and has executed five British and American aid workers and journalists in recent months. ...State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf told reporters during a briefing in Washington, 'I cannot confirm those reports in any way.' ... Islamic State, in a message monitored by SITE, said Mueller died when the building in which she was being held outside Raqqa, a major stronghold of the group, collapsed in a Jordanian air strike on Friday. ...Mueller was taken hostage while leaving a hospital in the northern Syrian city of Aleppo in August 2013. She had a long record of volunteering abroad and was moved by the plight of civilians in Syria's civil war." (It is, of course, entirely possible—if not likely—that ISIS executed Mueller and claimed she was killed by a Jordanian airstrike in order to reduce the likelihood of Obama being forced by outraged Americans to respond with a "shock and awe"-style attack.) [71218, 71258, 71263, 71270, 71277, 71845]

On *Morning Joe*, Joe Scarborough comments on Obama's "Christians are evil too!" remarks from the National Prayer Breakfast: "[Obama] having to go back, 700, 800, 900 years? You see this when you have people that somehow want to paint a broad brush... 'Yes, uh, radical Islam's bad, but look what Christianity does.' ...Why does he feel the need to go back 800 years? This stupid, left-wing moral equivalency. Sometimes you can just say, 'Hey, hey, you know what, there's [sic; there are] some really, really bad Muslim extremists.'" [71259, 71316]

On *Fox & Friends*, the founder of StandAmerica, Bishop E. W. Jackson, says, "I have a message for [Obama], with all due respect to him and to the office: Mr. [Obama], if you don't want to give terrorists a recruitment's tool, instead of closing Guantanamo Bay, frankly sir, you ought to close your mouth. Because you just gave them a gigantic

propaganda tool. They called us ‘crusaders’ and you just confirmed it. ...Mr. [Obama], we’re not on our ‘high horse.’ What we are is on high alert. And the American people would like for once, to know that you are willing to defend Christianity and defend America instead of defending Islam. ...[Obama] does everything he possibly can to defend Islam and does almost nothing to defend the honor of this country. And yes, once again, he’s giving them exactly what they want. And you know, ...they’re laughing at us because all they see it as, is a sign of weakness. And America needs to operate from strength. ...Pray for [Obama]. I think he’s deeply misguided and confused. Pray for our country. We need leaders who will defend the integrity of our nation.” [71314, 71396]

At FrontPageMag.com Middle East and Islam expert Raymond Ibrahim comments on Obama’s Crusades remarks, “There is so much to be said here. First, the obvious: the wide gulf between violence and hate ‘justified in the name of Christ’ and violence and hate ‘justified in the name of Muhammad’ is that Christ *never justified it*, while Muhammad *continuously did*. This is not just a theoretic point; it is the very reason that Muslims are still committing savage atrocities. Every evil act IS [ISIS] commits—whether beheading, crucifying, raping, enslaving, or immolating humans—has precedents in the deeds of Muhammad, that most ‘perfect’ and ‘moral’ man, per Koran 33:21 and 68:4... Does Obama know something about Christ—who eschewed violence and told people to love and forgive their enemies—that we don’t? ...[D]oes Obama know of some secret document in the halls of the Vatican that calls for amputating, beheading or immolating enemies of Christ to support his religious relativism? As for the much maligned Crusades, Obama naturally follows the mainstream academic narrative that anachronistically portrays the crusaders as greedy, white, Christian imperialists who decided to conquer peace-loving Muslims in the Middle East. Again, familiarity with the true sources and causes behind the Crusades shows that they were a response to the very same atrocities being committed by the Islamic State today.” [71293, 71294]

“...If the crusaders left their own lands and families to come to the aid of persecuted Christians and to liberate Jerusalem, here is Obama portraying them as no better than the Islamic State—which isn’t surprising considering that, far from helping persecuted Christians, Obama’s policies have significantly worsened their plight. According to primary historical texts... Muslim persecution of Christians was indeed a primary impetus for the Crusades. ...Obama’s claim that there will always be people willing to ‘hijack religion for their own murderous ends’ is patently false when applied to the Islamic State and like organizations and individuals. Muhammad himself called for the murder of his enemies; he permitted Muslims to feign friendship to his enemies in order to assassinate them; he incited his followers to conquer and plunder non-believers, promising them a sexual paradise if they were martyred; he kept sex slaves and practiced pedophilia with his ‘child-bride,’ Aisha. He, the prophet of Islam, did everything the Islamic State is doing. If Muslims are supposed to follow the sunna, or example, of Muhammad, and if Muhammad engaged in and justified every barbarity being committed by the Islamic State and other Muslims—how, exactly, are they ‘hijacking’ Islam? Such is the simple logic Obama fails to grasp. Or else he does grasp it—but hopes most Americans don’t.” [71293, 71294]

On Hugh Hewitt's radio program columnist Charles Krauthammer comments on Obama's "high horse" and Crusades remarks: "This is a combination of the banal and the repulsive. The banal is the adolescent who discovers that, well, man is fallen and many religions have abused their faith and used it as a weapon. This is what you discover when you're 12 or 17 and what you discuss in the Columbia dorm room. He's now bringing it to the world as a kind of revelation. And he does it two days after the world is still in shock by the video of the burning alive of the Jordanian pilot, as a way of saying: Hey, what about Joan of Arc?" Noting Obama's charges of India's "acts of intolerance that would have shocked" Gandhi, Krauthammer says, "Here he is essentially insulting [India], and it's because it's a Hindu country. It's not Muslim. I mean, he'll say [people committed terrible deeds] in the name of Christ. He won't say in the name of Muhammad and in the name of Allah. He won't use those words. And then he goes after India, which is probably our strongest, most stable, most remarkable, democratic ally on the planet, considering all the languages and religions that it harbors. It has the second-largest Muslim population on Earth. And yet he goes after it as a way of saying hey, everybody here is at fault. They are not at fault." [71398]

Shoebat.com reports, "In addition to Barack Obama comparing ISIS terrorists to righteous Crusaders at the National Prayer Breakfast, seated near him was Ali Ahmed Karti, the foreign minister of Sudan. Sudan is a country that has been listed as an official State Sponsor of Terrorism since 1993. One of the reasons for this is that five Sudanese nationals were found to have been involved in the first attack on the World Trade Center and in the subsequent plot to bomb New York City landmarks. ...The desire of the Obama administration to normalize relations with Sudan is not new. In fact, it's something that each U.S. special envoy to that country has worked toward, beginning with Scott Gration in 2009. In testimony before Congress, Gration—an Obama appointee—said there was 'no evidence' to justify keeping Sudan on the State Sponsor of Terrorism list, as Shoebat.com reported. Gration's successor Princeton Lyman expressed similar sentiment, writing that the U.S. wants to normalize relations with Sudan. ...That each one of Obama's special envoys to Sudan has expressed similar sentiment in this regard, it's safe to say that Obama himself very much wants Sudan off the terrorism list. Perhaps the primary reason for this has to do with Obama's [half-] brother Malik Obama, who in 2010, was in Khartoum at the 23rd Conference of the Islamic Da'wa Organization (IDO), which was presided over by President al-Bashir." [71268, 73594, 73595]

As noted previously in this *Timeline*, former IRS official Lois Lerner retroactively and illegally approved tax-exempt status for the multiple-wived Malik "Roy" Obama's sham "charity," the Barack H. Obama Foundation. Scott Gration, Obama's "Sudan czar," once said, "We've got to think about giving out cookies. Kids, countries, they react to gold stars, smiley faces, handshakes, agreements, talk, engagement." On April 29, 2008 Obama stated, "I will make ending the genocide in Darfur a priority from day one." Those who are still alive in that region of Sudan are still waiting for Obama to keep his promise. Obama's National Security Advisor, Susan Rice, worked with Richard Clark to persuade then-president 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. [356, 360, 569, 590, 628, 831, 1282, 1377, 1679, 1680, 1681, 2197, 2467, 2505, 3528, 5476, 7052, 10556, 14196, 14766, 15222, 15550, 15551, 17282, 20539, 20540, 20541, 20603, 20604, 20631, 22205, 24176, 24582, 24583, 43006, 44795, 44976, 45068, 45086, 45316, 45397, 45402, 47440, 47441, 47521, 47536, 47617, 47976, 51058, 51059, 51064, 51066, 52750, 54208, 54068, 54252, 54411, 54813, 54830, 56016, 56028, 56053, 56061, 56078, 57615, 61581, 71268, 73594, 73595]

At a law enforcement conference in Mississippi, FBI director James Comey says, “Mississippi is a great state, but like all 50 states it has troubled souls that might look to find meaning in this sick, misguided way [following radical jihad]. The challenge that we face in law enforcement is that they may be getting exposed to that poison [on the Internet] and that training in their basement. They’re sitting there consuming and may emerge from the basement to kill people of any sort, which is the call of ISIL, just kill somebody. ...Ordinary folks should listen to the hair on the back of their neck. We’ve gone back through every homegrown violent extremist case in the United States and studied it. In every single case, someone saw something online, at a religious institution, in a family setting, at a school, that was weird, that was out of place, this person was acting in a way that didn’t make sense. ...We are focused keenly on who would be looking to travel to join this band of murderers [ISIS] who will have come back from Iraq and Syria and to the United States. We have opened cases all over the place focused on this threat, so it is not ...a Washington thing—it is something we focus on throughout the FBI.” (According to Comey, the FBI has ISIS cases in 49 states, all but Alaska.) [71362, 71363]

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, only 257,000 jobs were added in January. Those jobs, coupled with the number of Americans who dropped out of the work force during the month, increases the unemployment rate from 5.6 to 5.7 percent. The unemployment rate is 11.3 percent if people who are only working at part-time jobs because they cannot find full-time employment are counted as unemployed. The labor force participation rate is 62.9 percent, meaning that only 62.9 percent of working-age Americans are actually working. The true unemployment rate is therefore about 37.1 percent, when one takes into account everyone who is unemployed, on welfare, relying on family members for support, disabled and unable to work, etc. (That a person is unable to work or chooses not to work certainly does not make him any less unemployed, yet those people are not counted as unemployed by the government.) The average number of hours worked per week in January was 34.6. Average hourly earnings rose by \$0.07 to \$20.80. [71221, 71250, 71262, 71321]

Breitbart.com reports, “In the months and years since the recession began in December 2007, foreign-born workers have experienced a net increase in employment, while native-born Americans have experienced a net loss. The Bureau of Labor Statistics released updated employment data Friday. The new BLS figures reveal that since the start of the recession in 2007—which is said to have ended in June 2009—the number of foreign



workers employed in the United States rose by 1.7 million. In December 2007 the number of foreign-born workers was 22,810,000 by January 2009 the number has increased to 24,553,000. Meanwhile the number of American-born workers employed decreased by 1.5 million, from 123,524,000 to 121,999,000.” [71266]

In a report to the United Nations High Commissioner on Human Rights, the State Department brags that in fiscal year 2014 “we invested more than \$103 billion in domestic food assistance programs, serving one in four Americans during the year.” (The Obama administration is apparently proud of the fact that 46.5 million people in the United States receive food stamp benefits, when it should be embarrassed.) [71519]

Obama’s National Security Advisor, Susan Rice, speaks at the Brookings Institution to discuss the White House’s foreign policy, delivering a mushy speech full of clichés and broad generalizations that strangely swerve to the unrelated issues of climate change, transgender rights, and equality for homosexuals—which she declares are threats to U.S. security. Rice tells people to relax: “What’s missing here in Washington is a sense of perspective. ... While the dangers we face may be more numerous and varied, they are not of the existential nature we confronted during World War II or the Cold War. ... We can’t afford to be buffeted by alarmism and an instantaneous news cycle.” (Lord Christopher Monckton, former science advisor to the late British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, has observed, “Let’s not forget, it was Hitler who first founded the green movement and first used the environmental movement, not for the basis for genuine concern about the environment, but as a basis for getting control over every detail over people lives so they couldn’t argue back. That’s what this is really all about. ... I get criticized all the time as to why I don’t just stick to the science. I say somebody has to tell the truth, not only about the science, but also about the politics.”) [71222, 71236, 71249, 71373, 71621]

According to ForeignPolicy.com, “the White House insisted the United States is leading the global effort to confront challenges in a deliberate manner described as ‘strategic patience.’ The National Security Strategy, required by U.S. law, is intended to set the direction for the administration and communicate American intent to lawmakers, the public, and the world. It is Obama’s second such strategy, and likely last, before he leaves office in early 2017. ... A White House summary of the strategy, released in tandem with the overall plan, repeatedly highlights the administration’s intent to lead—in partnerships, with military power, and ‘with a long-term perspective, influencing the trajectory of major shifts in the security landscape today in order to secure our national interests in the future.’ That is a clear pushback to lawmakers, policy experts, and prominent U.S. journalists who have lambasted the White House for ‘leading from behind’—a catchphrase that the administration itself once used to describe the U.S. role in a 2011 coalition bombing campaign in Libya, but has since become shorthand for being too passive in global crises.” (Widespread ridicule of the term “strategic patience” can be expected.) [71222, 71236, 71249]

At DailySignal.com Nile Gardiner comments on the Obama administration’s new national security strategy, calling it “poorly suited to the challenges faced by the world’s superpower, which are mounting in the Middle East, Europe, Asia and Africa. At a time

when American global leadership is increasingly being challenged by an array of adversaries, the new national security strategy sends a weak-kneed message on the world stage. Far from presenting a coherent foreign and national security strategy, the Obama administration has merely offered a reheated and unconvincing version of its 'leading from behind' approach, couched in the veneer of 'smart power,' a phrase coined by former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. ...The document steadfastly refuses to identify the ideological nature of the foe the United States is confronting, a brutal and vicious adversary that has made huge gains in Iraq and Syria under Obama's watch, and is attracting tens of thousands of self-styled Jihadists from across the world, including several thousand from Europe. Nor does the document outline a concrete strategy for defeating Islamist terrorism, from Iraq to Nigeria and Pakistan to Yemen. Any real strategic thinking is also notably absent from the White House's approach toward Iran and Russia." [71265]

"The harsh reality is that... Obama ...has no clear plan to halt Iran's nuclear program or Russia's imperialist agenda in Eastern Europe. On Iran, Obama has pursued a policy of appeasement in the guise of nuclear negotiations with a tyrannical regime that has no intention of giving up its nuclear ambitions. On Russia, [Obama] has acted like a deer in the headlights while Putin's tanks have rolled into Crimea, and his troops have marched into Eastern Ukraine in their thousands in support of Moscow-funded separatists. Obama has paid lip service to the NATO alliance while doing nothing to strengthen it. ...The American people deserve a strategy that ensures the United States is kept safe, while its enemies are weakened and its allies strengthened. The new national security strategy, unfortunately, fails on all counts." [71265]

Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC) states, "I doubt ISIL, the Iranian mullahs, or Vladimir Putin will be intimidated by ...Obama's strategy of 'strategic patience.' From their point of view, the more 'patience' ...Obama practices the stronger they become. The Obama Doctrine, or 'strategic patience,' has led to a world in chaos. ...Applying more 'patience' to ...Obama's failed foreign policy just prolongs failure." [71267]

According to CBN.com, "A group of Muslims in northern Texas has created what may be the first official Shariah law system in the United States. The new Shariah tribunal in Irving, Texas, is trying to assure Americans they're not planning to follow the type of Shariah law practiced in Muslim countries. But critics aren't convinced. Dr. Frank Gaffney, who leads the Center for Security Policy [CSP] in Washington, D.C., has studied what happens when Shariah law enters into state court decisions. 'I think what we will see is a coercion of Muslims to participate in this program,' he said. ...CSP has found that at least 146 cases have been identified where the U.S. court system has allowed a Shariah court to judicate [sic; adjudicate]. 'In about 20 percent of those cases the court agreed to use Shariah instead of American laws with our constitutional guarantees [sic; guarantees] respected,' Gaffney said. ...Imam Bakhach and three other Muslim judges are planning to bypass the traditional legal system of Texas to handle civil cases on their own. They plan to start by administering their own rulings for cases like divorce and business disputes. But critics caution that allowing Shariah tribunals to

operate in the U.S. essentially allows Islamic law to replace U.S. law, and will undermine the established U.S. rights of some of the victims.” [71318, 71319]

Although many people ridicule warnings about the imposition of Shari’ah law in the United States, there are more than a few examples of how things are trending in that direction. Pamela Geller notes, “Back in July 2010, a Muslim husband raped his wife, and the judge determined that no sexual assault occurred because Islam forbids wives to refuse sex on demand from their husbands. Luckily, the appellate court overturned this decision, and a Sharia ruling by an American court was not allowed to stand—this time. But there have been over a hundred cases of Sharia jurisprudence in the US, and Jeffery Mittman of the ACLU has testified that ‘all have been overturned by a higher courts, therefore there is no problem since the American constitutional system worked.’ Of course, this begs the question of why should this have happened in the first place. Secondly, it is simply not true that all cases have been overturned. In fact, there are cases in CAL and MD in which trial courts were overturned by appellate courts, the latter of which turned the blind eye to the threat from shariah.” [71405]

“There are also ongoing initiatives to compel businesses to adopt Sharia norms. In March 2007, Target stores in Minneapolis shifted Muslim cashiers who refused to check out pork products to other jobs in the stores. The J. B. Swift meat packing plant in Greeley, Colorado in September 2008 fired Muslim workers who turned violent and walked off their jobs when denied special break periods to end the Ramadan fast at the appointed time. The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, however, sided with the Muslim workers and forced Swift to reinstate them. Ultimately, Swift added footbaths and bidets to its plant for the Muslim workers. Cab drivers in the Minneapolis airport several years ago tried to stipulate that they wouldn’t carry passengers who had alcohol with them—passengers had to conform to Sharia law or not get a cab. In November 2008, a federal judge ordered Gold’n Plump, Inc., a chicken processing plant, to pay \$365,000 to Somali Muslim workers for firing them for walking off the job to pray, and for making new hires sign a form acknowledging that they may have to handle pork on the job. And in February 2010, a group of Muslims in Colorado sued Wal-Mart, claiming that they were fired in order to provide jobs for local non-Muslims, and that they had been denied prayer breaks while on the job. Mind you, it is not necessary for a Muslim to pray at a certain time if necessity makes it impossible to do so. These actions are merely devices in which to impose Islam on non-believers. Prayer is not absolutely required on a strict schedule, and Muslim prayers are commonly ‘made up’ after work or school. This is true even in Muslim countries, i.e., Iran. The irony is that the ACLU would oppose a law that seeks to prevent foreign laws from undermining fundamental constitutional liberties.” (In addition, it is estimated that as many as 500,000 women and girls in the United States have undergone or are at risk of the Muslim practice of female genital mutilation.) [71405, 71408, 71409]

Obama addresses an audience at Ivy Tech Community College. When he says, “a lot of families are saving a lot of money at the gas pump, which is putting some smiles on folks’ faces,” one ignorant woman yells out, “Thank you.” Obama—who had absolutely nothing to do with the lower prices—replies, “You’re welcome.” [71224]

USAToday.com reports, “TurboTax turned off the ability of its software to e-file state tax returns across the USA on Thursday [February 5] after the company found ‘an increase in suspicious filings,’ the company said Friday. The tax-preparation software company has found an increase in criminal activity where stolen personal data is used to file fake state returns with state authorities. This illegal act allows fraudsters to claim tax refunds from state governments. An internal TurboTax investigation has found the breaches are not due to a problem with its own systems, but criminals digging up the personal information elsewhere. The company said the investigation is ongoing. Intuit says it’s working with state tax officials to get the e-filing security back to where it needs to be to turn it back on. ...The e-filing halt only affects state returns. Federal tax returns can still be filed electronically, says TurboTax and confirmed by Anthony Burkes, spokesman at the IRS.” [71226]

In Yemen, Shi’ite, Iran-backed Houthi rebels fully take over the government and dissolve its parliament. (Pamela Geller—as usual—pulls no punches, writing, “And Obama keeps groveling to the Iranian savages. Yemen was a key counter-terror partner in the Middle East. Obama’s ‘strategy’ appears to be to hand the region over to the world’s number one state sponsor of terror, and to see that [they] have a nuclear weapons program to boot. When the history books are written in fifty to a hundred years, ...Obama’s name will be synonymous with Benedict Arnold. Worse. No matter how much scrubbing and censoring the Brian Williams and Scott Pelleys and all the other Ellsworth Tooheys do. We have no parallel traitor in American history who has done such incalculable damage. Jimmy Carter was damaging (i.e. Iran), but Obama takes betrayal to a whole other level. The great irony is that America elected this racist to show the world that we weren’t racist.”) [71227, 71228, 71283, 71284, 71292]

Haaretz.com reports, “Uruguay expelled a senior diplomat in Iran’s embassy in Montevideo two weeks ago, following suspicions that he was involved in placing an explosive device near the Israeli embassy in early January, according to senior sources in Jerusalem. Investigations carried out by Uruguay’s intelligence services after the discovery of the device yielded information pointing to a possible involvement of someone at the Iranian embassy. The Uruguayan government turned to Iran’s government for information and after consultations between the two, it was decided to expel one of the senior diplomats at Iran’s embassy.” [71230]

FoxNews.com reports that Obama “is expected to formally ask Congress to authorize the use of military force against the Islamic State terror group in the coming days, even as lawmakers said crafting and passing such a measure would be a challenge. The U.S. has been carrying out airstrikes against the terrorists, most commonly known as ISIS, in Iraq and Syria since August and September, respectively. In doing so, Obama has been relying on congressional authorizations that President George W. Bush used to justify military action after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. Critics have called the White House’s use of post-9/11 congressional authorizations a legal stretch, though Obama has previously argued that a new authorization isn’t legally necessary.” [71241]

At ThePostEmail.com editor Sharon Rondeau reports, “Tracy A. Fair of Sykesville, MD has petitioned the U.S. Supreme Court for a Writ of Certiorari in a case in which she asks the court to define the meaning of ‘natural born citizen,’ a term of art found in Article II of the U.S. constitution applying solely to the presidency. As reported on her website, on January 26, 2012, Fair filed a complaint of perjury against Barack Hussein Obama for allegedly swearing that he was eligible to serve as president when he was ineligible for lack of being a ‘natural born citizen.’” (Fair argues, as does this *Timeline*, that the term natural born citizen means birth on U.S. soil to two U.S. citizen parents. That is the historical meaning of the term, as understood by the Founding Fathers, and as confirmed by Congressman John Bingham, the “father” of the Fourteenth Amendment.) [71256]

NationalReview.com’s Jonah Goldberg writes, “I simply find it amazing—and amazingly pathetic—that [Obama] felt the need to chide a room full of religiously literate people about how they shouldn’t get too judgey [sic; judgmental] about what the Islamic State is doing right now because Christians did bad things almost 1,000 years ago. Every single thing about this is ridiculous, and it would still be ridiculous if all of Obama’s assumptions about the Crusades, the Inquisition, slavery, and Christianity were accurate (they’re not). I feel like Obama went out and talked at length about a ten-horned unicorn and I’m forced to explain that (1) unicorns only have one horn, what you’re talking about would be a decicorn and (2) *unicorns don’t frick’n exist either*. The Islamic State is crucifying people right now. Romans crucified people over 2,000 years ago. Does this mean that Italians can’t criticize them? How is it that the sins of Christianity are eternal but the sins of Muslim fanatics right now aren’t even *Muslim*? The Islamic State is enslaving people *right now*. America had slaves 150 years ago.”

“...Obama can’t help himself. He just can’t give a full-throated denunciation of Islamic extremism, or even a tepid one, without doing his creased-pants Niehbur [Reinhold Niebuhr] schtick. But look: This isn’t complicated. It’s really not. If you have to clear your throat for five minutes about the skeletons in our closet before you can feel comfortable denouncing barbarians who bury little boys alive and then go on to rape their little sisters, that’s is your hang-up, man. I’ve got my faults, all reasonable people can agree, but I don’t feel compelled to list them before I denounce rapists and murderers; ‘Hey man, I know, I drink too much scotch and I’m sometimes needlessly sarcastic, but you really shouldn’t rape little girls or set people on fire.’ That would be only half as crazy as what Obama is claiming here. Because in the above analogy, they’re *my* faults. Meanwhile, Obama is checking-off crimes from nearly 1,000 years ago to make it clear he’s not on a high horse. The more apposite analogy would be ‘Hey man, I know, my great, great, great, great, great grandfather was a real prick, so I’m not being preachy. But you really shouldn’t crucify people.’”

Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal states, “It was nice of [Obama] to give us a history lesson at the Prayer breakfast. Today, however, the issue right in front of his nose, in the here and now, is the terrorism of Radical Islam, the assassination of journalists, the beheading and burning alive of captives. We will be happy to keep an eye out for runaway Christians, but it would be nice if he would face the reality of the situation

today. The Medieval Christian threat is under control Mr. [Obama]. Please deal with the Radical Islamic threat today.” [71286, 71287, 71289]

On *America’s Newsroom* former New York City mayor Rudy Giuliani says, Obama “is as weak a historian” as he is a leader, “and as weak a theologian. ... We’re not doing to them [radical Islamists], what they’re doing to us. ... They’re knocking down our twin towers and killing 3,000 people. ... [ISIS is] stoning women for adultery. ... They’re killing Christians, they’re trying to wipe out Christians. It isn’t a reaction to what we’re doing. We’re not doing the same thing to them. ... When is [Obama] going to start standing up for us, for our Western values that have civilized the world? ... [Obama] leaves me frightened. We need somebody to defend us, to protect us. [Obama] has to be tough. ... It isn’t bad if our enemies are afraid... It isn’t bad if the people who want to come here and kill us are afraid of [Obama]. Do you think any of them are afraid of him?” [71303]

To the surprise of perhaps no one, the Council on American-Islamic Relations issues a statement thanking Obama “for clearly separating the brutal actions of ISIS from the faith of Islam, and for reminding us all that violence and injustice are not part of any faith.” At *TheBlaze.com*, one reader translates CAIR’s message: “Thank you for bashing Christians and Christianity; stop on by for a pat on the back and a free membership to our mosque.” (Obama is either a fool who played into CAIR’s hands with his National Prayer Breakfast remarks, or he agrees with its radical agenda. In either case, he is a danger to the security of the United States.) [71310]

White House deputy press secretary Eric Schultz attempts to explain Obama’s Crusades comment from the National Prayer Breakfast, telling reporters, “[W]hat I think [Obama] was trying to say is, over the course of human history there are times where extremists pervert their own religion to justify violence. And that’s what [Obama] was trying to talk about yesterday,” and that “when we fall short” of “equality, tolerance, fairness, civil rights ... we need to be honest with ourselves and look inward, and hold ourselves accountable.” (Why 21st century Americans need to hold themselves accountable for the Crusades in Europe and the Middle East almost 1,000 years ago is not clear. The issue is atrocities perpetrated by radical Islamic jihadists *today*, not wars that began in the year 1095. It is not Christians who have been burning innocent people alive. The last such incident in the United States occurred when then-Attorney General Janet Reno, her deputy Eric Holder, and Fort Hood commander Wesley Clark ordered the 1993 attack on the Branch Davidian compound in Waco, Texas that resulted in the deaths of 81 people—many of them children.) [71288, 71290, 71302]

At *WND.com* Jerome Corsi reports, “Attorney general nominee Loretta Lynch could be facing new confirmation problems in the U.S. Senate after being tied to the world’s biggest banking scandal, involving HSBC, which used its power to temporarily shut down *WND.com* as the news site was breaking a series of stories on the mega-bank’s money-laundering practices—practices that resulted in more than \$1.2 billion in fines. According to court papers filed Wednesday [February 4], Eric Holder’s Department of Justice appears to be stonewalling the release of documents that could implicate Lynch in

a massive cover-up of Obama administration involvement in international money-laundering of Mexican cartel drug money. In 2012, Lynch, as the U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of New York, oversaw the investigation of drug-related international money laundering allegations against London-based HSBC Holdings LLC. ...The federal government's unwillingness to prosecute HSBC was exposed by a former HSBC vice president and relationship manager in New York, John Cruz, who called the bank a 'criminal enterprise.' Cruz was ignored by law enforcement authorities until he brought to WND 1,000 pages of customer account records that document his claims." [71260, 71344, 71345, 71487, 71488, 71510, 71651, 71890]

According to TheGuardian.com, "The charitable foundation run by Hillary Clinton and her family has received as much as \$81m from wealthy international donors who were clients of HSBC's controversial Swiss bank. Leaked files from HSBC's Swiss banking division reveal the identities of seven donors to the Bill, Hillary and Chelsea Clinton Foundation with accounts in Geneva. ...Hillary Clinton has expressed concern over growing economic inequality in the US and is expected to make the issue a cornerstone of her widely anticipated presidential campaign in 2016. However, political observers are increasingly asking whether the former secretary of state's focus on wealth inequality sits uncomfortably with the close relationships she and her husband have nurtured with some of the world's richest individuals. ...[One] Clinton foundation donor who had a HSBC account in the tax haven is Jeffrey Epstein, the hedge fund manager and convicted sex offender who once flew the former president on his private jet for charity events in Africa. ...Another client of HSBC Geneva to donate to the Clinton foundation is Denise Rich, the ex-wife of the late billionaire and commodities trader Marc Rich, who fled to Switzerland in 1983 after being indicted by US authorities for tax evasion, fraud and racketeering. Mark Rich was controversially granted a presidential pardon by Bill Clinton just hours before the former president left office in 2001. Denise Rich contributed as much as \$500,000 to the Clinton foundation. Now 70, she is reported to have recently renounced her US citizenship, becoming tax-resident in Austria." [71510, 71511, 71651, 71890, 72363]

The Army announces that victims of the November 2009 Fort Hood terrorist attack by Nidal Malik Hasan will be awarded Purple Hearts. Secretary of the Army John McHugh states, "The Purple Heart's strict eligibility criteria had prevented us from awarding it to victims of the horrific attack at Fort Hood. Now that Congress has changed the criteria, we believe there is sufficient reason to allow these men and women to be awarded and recognized. It's an appropriate recognition of their service and sacrifice." (Congress changed the award criteria in order to get around the Obama administrations' decision to call the killings mere "workplace violence," which made the victims ineligible for Purple Hearts (or the Defense of Freedom medal for injured civilians).) [71279, 71280, 71304]

ABC News reports, "First daughter Malia Obama may be eyeing a move to the Big Apple for college. The 16-year old high school junior was spotted touring colleges in New York City today with her mother, Michelle Obama. The two checked out NYU and were later seen near Columbia University, [Barack Obama's] alma mater. According to bwog.com, a Columbia student blog, the Obamas dined at the nearby 'Community' restaurant and

then toured the campus...” Meanwhile, Malia’s supposedly erudite father—obviously speaking without a teleprompter—tells an audience, “Malia’s now at the age where she’s starting to look at colleges, and I said, ‘You know, these days I hear everybody’s looking for fancy gyms and gourmet food, and, you know, really spiffy dorms, and let me tell you, when I was in college, you know, the college I started at, Occidental College, you know, it did have a gym, but, but like, the weight room was, you know, it was like a medicine ball, and, you know, you had, you had like, I mean it wasn’t fancy.’” [71272]

FoxNews.com reports, “The special congressional committee investigating the response to the 2012 Benghazi terror attacks plans to interview a host of current and former officials from ...Obama’s and Hillary Clinton’s inner circles, according to a letter obtained Friday by Fox News.” Congressman Trey Gowdy (R-SC), chairman of the committee, made the names public in a letter to the committee’s top Democrat, Congressman Elijah Cummings (D-MD). Gowdy stated “that as early as April, he plans to start interviewing a range of figures including former White House Press Secretary Jay Carney and current Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Gen. Martin Dempsey. The list also includes: National Security Adviser Susan Rice; Deputy National Security Adviser Ben Rhodes; former Defense Secretary Leon Panetta; former CIA Director David Petraeus; former National Security Adviser Tom Donilon; former CIA Deputy Director Mike Morell; and key State Department officials.” Gowdy also writes, “The majority and minority would like to schedule the appearance of Secretary Hillary Clinton as soon as possible. We also set a deadline for the production of emails, documents or other materials in the possession of the State Department, which would be needed to constructively ask questions of Secretary Clinton and serve as a reference for the secretary before and during the hearing.” [71335, 71336]

After pressure from journalists, the White House releases the names of Muslim leaders who met with Obama on February 4. According to WashingtonTimes.com the guests included Imam Mohamed Magid, “who has advised the administration on formulating responses to incidents that Islamists consider offensive,” Imam Magid, “a representative of the Adams Center, a large mosque in Sterling, Virginia [and a Muslim Brotherhood front organization]. He has also served as president of the [Hamis-funding] Islamic Society of North America [the largest Muslim Brotherhood organization in the United States], according to the group’s website.” “The other attendees were Bilqis ‘Qisi’ Abdul-Qadir, director of women’s basketball operations at Indiana State University; Arshia Wajid, founder of American Muslim Health Professionals; comedian Dean Obeidallah; Kameelah Rashad, founder of Muslim Wellness Foundation and Muslim chaplain at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia [who pushed the New York City Police Department to stop surveilling Muslim groups]; Diego Arancibia, board member and associate director of the Ta’leef Collective; Farhan Latif, chief operating officer and director of policy impact at the Institute of Policy and Understanding; Sherman Jackson, professor of religion and American Studies and Ethnicity at the University of Southern California; Azhar Azeez, president of the Islamic Society of North America; Farhana Khera, president of Muslim Advocates; Rahat Hussain, president of the Universal Muslim Association of America; Hoda Hawa, national policy adviser of the Muslim Public Affairs Council; Maya Berry, executive director of the Arab American Institute



and Haroon Mokhtarzada, CEO of Webs. Also at the meeting were Mr. Obama's senior adviser Valerie Jarrett, National Security Adviser Susan E. Rice and Deputy National Security Adviser Ben Rhodes." [71274, 71275, 71291, 71855]

According to Discover the Networks, "In response to pressure from Magid and his fellow lobbyists, DHS [Department of Homeland Security] carefully erased from its 'Countering Violent Extremism' curriculum any suggestion that Muslim terrorism drew its inspiration from the laws and doctrines of Islam. In 2012, the FBI purged some 700 documents and 300 presentations from its training materials and lesson plans." The Islamic Society of North America was, as has often been noted in this *Timeline*, named an unindicted co-conspirator in the Holy Land Foundation terrorist funding trial. Why narrow-minded comedian Dean Obeidallah is considered a "Muslim leader" is not clear, but he is hardly one to give advice on bigotry and the treatment of minorities. On MSNBC, he once ridiculed a photo of the Romney family because Mitt Romney was holding his black grandchild, Kieran Romney. At TheDailyBeast.com Dean Obeidallah wrote, 'Attention members of the media: Kindly stop referring to the Nigerian terrorist group Boko Haram as 'Islamic terrorists,' 'Islamists' or anything else involving the word 'Islam.'" But while Obeidallah does not want to call Boko Haram a terrorist group, he has claimed that "42 percent of terror attacks" in the United States between 1980 and 2005 "were carried out by Latino-related groups." (He has not defined "Latino-related groups." According to David Cole at Takimag.com, Obeidallah conveniently counted Puerto Rican separatist group violence as Latino terrorism in the United States.) [58677, 58678, 71274, 71276, 71448]

CBSNews.com reports, "Six Bosnian immigrants have been charged in the U.S. for allegedly supporting the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), the Department of Justice said Friday. The suspects, five of whom were arrested in the U.S., are all charged with providing material support to terrorists and conspiring to provide material support and resources to terrorists, the DOJ said in a statement. They were identified as Ramiz Zijad Hodzic, 40, his wife Sedina Unkic Hodzic, 35, and Armin Harcevic, 37, who live in St. Louis County, Missouri; Nihad Rosic, 26, of Utica, New York; Mediha Medy Salkicevic, 34 of Schiller Park, Illinois; and Jasminka Ramic, 42, of Rockford, Illinois. The suspects immigrated from Bosnia, the Justice Department said. Three of them became naturalized U.S. citizens and the others have legal resident of refugee status. According to an indictment unsealed Friday, the defendants sent weapons, U.S. military uniforms and tactical equipment to a man named Abdullah Ramo Pazara, a Bosnian who traveled from St. Louis to Syria in 2013 to join ISIS. They also used Western Union and PayPal to transfer money to Turkey and Saudi Arabia, where third parties sent it to Syria and Iraq. Some of the equipment was also transferred through intermediaries." [71285]

According to MilitaryTimes.com, "The U.S. military is moving additional troops and aircraft into Iraq to prepare for combat search-and-rescue missions, a defense official said Friday. The move comes amid heightened concern about the risks to U.S. and coalition partner pilots flying over Iraq and Syria. Army Col. Steve Warren, a Pentagon spokesman, said some aircraft were recently deployed into northern Iraq as a precaution. 'It increases our ability to respond rapidly,' Warren said." (The move is clearly intended

to reduce the odds that any pilot shot down will be captured and killed by ISIS. Obama does not want video of a U.S. pilot being burned alive turning up on the Internet. The action also prompts the United Arab Emirates to rejoin the air campaign against ISIS.) [71323, 71324, 71325]

On *The O'Reilly Factor*, retired Lieutenant Colonel Ralph Peters comments on National Security Advisor Susan Rice's address outlining Obama's foreign policy and security strategy: "Secure, expand, defend, leverage—her four points. Bill, that's not a strategy, that's a bumper sticker. It was mush. The yogurt I had for breakfast had more intellectual structure. ...There's no there there. ...And my barf factor soared when, toward the end, Susan Rice, speaking of the administration, said, calling it, 'our unparalleled leadership.' This was not a strategy; America deserves better. ...They didn't mention the destruction of 2,000 years of Christian civilization. They didn't mention the burying [of] little boys alive, the destruction of other minorities, the slaughter of Muslims, beheading children for watching soccer matches. They don't care! They don't care!" Retired Colonel David Hunt adds, "I think anytime you give a speech that spends as much time on transgender issues as it does on terrorism, and it's a national security speech, you've got a real problem." [71305]

On February 7 NBC's Brian "mis-reporter in the Quarter" Williams releases a "personal note" in which he states, "In the midst of a career spent covering and consuming news, it has become painfully apparent to me that I am presently too much a part of the news, due to my actions. As Managing Editor of NBC Nightly News, I have decided to take myself off of my daily broadcast for the next several days, and Lester Holt has kindly agreed to sit in for me to allow us to adequately deal with this issue. Upon my return, I will continue my career-long effort to be worthy of the trust of those who place their trust in us." Williams also cancels a February 12 appearance on David Letterman's program. (More than a few media observers suspect Williams will not be returning to the *Nightly News* anchor desk, after revelations that he lied about being fired upon in Iraq, seeing a body floating down the street from his French Quarter hotel during Hurricane Katrina, and reported other "embellished" tales about his experiences.) Katie Couric, who has worked for both NBC and CBS, likely smells blood—as do a few dozen other talking heads who would kill for Williams' job. [71298, 71299, 71300, 71301, 71320, 71326, 71334, 71385]

Meanwhile, Breitbart.com reports, "Completely separate from the 2003 Iraq helicopter incident Brian Williams confessed to lying about this week, thanks to a Twitter user who alerted Ace Of Spades, we now have a 2007 video of Williams claiming he was involved in a hairy wartime incident involving a different helicopter during a different war. According to the NBC Nightly News anchor, during 'the war with Hezbollah in Israel, a few years back ...there were Katyusha rockets passing just beneath the helicopter I was riding in.' ...Neither the video or written report reference anything close to rockets passing 'just beneath' his chopper." According to BostonHerald.com, on September 30, 2006 Williams had agreed to be the master of ceremonies for a Congressional Medal of Honor Society event—and then abruptly left to instead appear on *Saturday Night Live*. [71312, 71313]

At NYTimes.com Maureen Dowd writes, “NBC executives were warned a year ago that Brian Williams was constantly inflating his biography. They were flummoxed over why the leading network anchor felt that he needed Hemingwayesque, bullets-whizzing-by flourishes to puff himself up, sometimes to the point where it was a joke in the news division. But the caustic media big shots who once roamed the land were gone, and ‘there was no one around to pull his chain when he got too over-the-top,’ as one NBC News reporter put it. ...Williams told friends last week that he felt anguished, coming under fire for his false story of coming under fire.” (Former CBS anchor Dan Rather, who was fired for reporting a falsified story about George W. Bush, has come to Williams’ defense—which is arguably like William Ayers praising Obama’s writing skills in *Dreams From My Father*.) [71307]

Williams, who celebrated 10 years as the NBC *Nightly News* anchor in December 2014, has a history of overinflated rhetoric, exaggerated descriptions, Obama worship, and softball questions when interviewing Obama. Newsbusters.org quotes Williams: “Tonight, the overnight sensation surrounding a Senator with real star power may have changed everything for the Democrats in the run for the White House... Illinois Democratic Senator Barack Obama wrapped up a weeklong book tour on NBC’s *Meet the Press* yesterday morning with remarks that rocked the political world.” (October 23, 2006) “On the bus ride along the snowy road to Lebanon, New Hampshire, I showed him this week’s *Newsweek*, hot off the presses. [To Obama] How does this feel, of all the honors that have come your way, all the publicity? ...Who does it make you think of? Is there, is there a loved one?” (January 7, 2008) “Here in Berlin today, not far from where the wall once stood, the man from Chicago, Illinois, the first ever African-American running as presumptive nominee of the Democratic Party, brought throngs of people into the center of Berlin, streaming into this city, surging to get close to him, to hear his message... I heard one American reporter tonight say it’s hard to come up with a list of others who could draw such a crowd, but then again it’s hard to know what we witnessed here today.” (July 24, 2008) [71379, 71380]

To Obama, Williams said, “When an American politician comes to Berlin, we’ve had some iconic utterances in the past. We’ve had ‘Ich bin ein [Berliner].’ We’ve had, ‘Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall’ ...Is the phraseology that you would like remembered: ‘People of Berlin, people of the world, this is our moment, this is our time’?” (July 24, 2008) “This nation woke up this morning changed. As one columnist put it, America matured in 2008 by choosing Barack Obama.” (November 5, 2008) “For a public event, it [the January 2009 inauguration] was absolutely stunning. People with tears in their eyes, ...people lining up, and this is something I just can’t wrap my arms around, to buy merchandise with any depiction [of Obama]—this is a guy we just elected... It’s not a rock star or an athlete or an actor. ...To see people, whatever your politics, that excited about our new chief executive after a line of what the ordinary voter would maybe describe as bad choices or choices of evils, for years, generations, it is unbelievable to me.” (January 26, 2009) [71379, 71380]

“The very idea of this man, this product of Kenya and Kansas by way of Hawaii and Asia, as our 44th president is still so very new. And he is so different from all the men who’ve gone before him. People react strongly to this president. We’ve seen people moved to tears after just the briefest encounter with him... [To Obama] Now it is First Family time and time for us to say goodnight. Mr. [Obama] that’s your elevator. Thank you sir, have a good evening [Williams bows to Obama].” (June 2009) “Finally, I’m hoping to find you in a reflective mood on a cloudy day. We’re the first to speak to you coming off your summer vacation. How does it re-charge you? What do you think about? What do you see? What do you read about? How are you thinking about your job these days?” (August 29, 2010) To Michelle Obama: “In your job you get to listen to all of the psychiatrists analyze your husband. Peter Baker, this morning’s *New York Times*: He’s ‘a proud yet humbled President, a confident yet scarred President, a dreamer mugged by reality.’ Does that resemble the man you know?” (September 6, 2012) [71379, 71380]

Referring to Michelle Obama and Hillary Clinton: “Leading ladies. A power duo in Washington today teaming up to honor women of courage around the world... [Barack] Obama won the presidency promising change. There was more evidence of that in Washington today. His wife, now First Lady, Michelle Obama, and his former rival, now Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton, a former First Lady herself, joining arms, joining forces. A study in style, substance and power, really.” (March 11, 2009) Commenting on Arizona Governor Jan Brewer confronting Obama: “Finger pointing—that photo everybody was talking about today. Who have you ever seen talking to the President like this? ...The governor of Arizona with her finger in the face of [Obama]. You don’t see that often or maybe ever...” (January 26, 2012; Williams himself jabbed his index finger at George W. Bush in an August 2006 interview.) To Michelle Obama: “What of the attacks has busted through to you? What makes you angriest at John McCain, the Republicans? What’s being said about your husband that you want to shout from the mountain tops is not true?” (August 27, 2008) [71379, 71380]

At NYPost.com Michael Goodwin writes, “A liberal friend pained over the rampant failures of liberal government makes an observation: ‘Barack Obama and [New York City mayor] Bill de Blasio are both learning to shave on our whiskers.’ The image is priceless, the insight wise. Their lack of experience in how the world works, and their ignorance of such basic knowledge as meeting a payroll, are proving to be fatal flaws for [Obama] and [our] mayor. It is no coincidence they share a message of transformational change. Both are guided by ideological faith and are excellent campaigners, but show no operational ability to turn words into deeds. Neither man can negotiate effectively, opting either to completely cave in or simply refuse to bargain. Obama gives Iran everything it wants on the march to nuclear weapons and invites the murderous Muslim Brotherhood to the White House, but won’t meet with Republicans or the prime minister of Israel.” [71342]

JPost.com reports, “Failure to clinch a multilateral agreement over Tehran’s nuclear program will undermine the leadership of President Hassan Rouhani, considered a pragmatist relative to Iran’s political spectrum, the Islamic Republic’s foreign minister [Mohammad Javad Zarif] warned US Secretary of State John Kerry on Saturday. At a

security conference in Munich, the two leaders met to discuss ongoing negotiations over the nuclear program—and that program only, according to American officials. ...[R]eports began surfacing last week that the Obama administration is offering Iran technical concessions on its nuclear infrastructure in exchange for Iran's use of its leverage to tamper regional turmoil. After meeting for more than two hours with Kerry, Zarif said that discussions focused on how sanctions would be lifted how many uranium-enriching centrifuges would remain." (The Iranians are playing Kerry and Obama for fools. Rouhani is not a "pragmatist." He is as ideologically dangerous as his predecessor, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad—but he has enough sense to *appear* much more moderate, and has fooled many into believing that he is. Iran's negotiators are essentially saying, "The United States had better give Rouhani a deal soon, because he might be replaced by the ayatollahs with someone worse!" If Kerry and Obama fall for that and give Iran concessions, they will be placing the United States, Israel, and the entire Middle East at risk of nuclear blackmail. Obama foolishly believes he can allow Iran to become a nuclear power and his personality and charm will somehow be enough to keep the regime from using that power. If Obama believes the terrorism-sponsoring Iran will help stabilize the region in exchange for a place on the nuclear stage, he is delusional—or complicit in a scheme to destroy Israel.) [71308, 71309]

At NationalReview.com Andrew C. McCarthy warns, "We know from experience that when jihadists have safe havens, they attack the United States. They now have more safe havens than they've ever had before—not just because of what the Islamic State has accomplished in what used to be Syria and Iraq (the map of the Middle East needs updating) but because of what al-Qaeda has done there and in North Africa, what the Taliban and al-Qaeda are doing in Afghanistan, and so on. If we understand, as we by now should, what these safe havens portend, then we must grasp that the Islamic State, al-Qaeda, and the global jihad constitute a threat to *American national security*. That they also (and more immediately) threaten Arab Islamic countries is true, but it is not close to being our top concern. Ensuring our security is a concern that could not be responsibly delegated to other countries even if they had formidable armed forces—which the 'coalition' countries do not. The Islamic State and al-Qaeda are *our problem*." [72148]

Although the Obama administration criticized House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH) for inviting Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu to address Congress to speak just two weeks before the elections in that country, Vice President Joe Biden and Secretary of State John Kerry meet with one of Netanyahu's leftist opponents, Isaac Herzog, at a security conference in Germany. (The hypocrisy is stunning. Obama objects to Netanyahu addressing Congress about the threat of a nuclear Iran, while Biden and Kerry embrace Netanyahu's political opponent.) [71341]

At PJMedia.com, Patrick Poole points out that Obama's drone strikes have killed more people than the Spanish Inquisition. [71382, 71650]

Diane Foley, whose son James Foley was beheaded by ISIS, tells ABC News, "[ISIS victim] Kayla [Mueller], along with our son and others were held for nearly two years and there were many opportunities along the way: several times when the captors reached

out, several times when returning hostages brought sensitive information. And yet nothing was done to save our young Americans. So that's the part that deeply concerns me. ... We were always told to trust that Jim was the highest priority and that our government was doing all it could and I really found no evidence of that. Instead we were kind of told just to trust and that did not work out well... I shouldn't have trusted. We regret not having done more privately ourselves." [71367, 71665, 71671]

In *The Telegraph*, Christopher Booker writes, "When future generations look back on the global-warming scare of the past 30 years, nothing will shock them more than the extent to which the official temperature records—on which the entire panic ultimately rested—were systematically 'adjusted' to show the Earth as having warmed much more than the actual data justified." As an example, the "published temperature graphs for three weather stations in Paraguay" were checked "against the temperatures that had originally been recorded. In each instance, the actual trend of 60 years of data had been dramatically reversed, so that a cooling trend was changed to one that showed a marked warming. This was only the latest of many examples of a practice long recognised by expert observers around the world—one that raises an ever larger question mark over the entire official surface-temperature record." [71365, 71470]

On *Justice with Judge Jeanine*, Jeanine Pirro says, "I've been watching [Obama] for six years, and after this week's prayer breakfast, it all came together. He finally made sense to me. Barack Obama is comfortable with extremism. He's okay with it. He's nonplussed. It's part of what happens. It explains why he goes golfing within minutes of announcing the beheading of an American. It explains why he didn't join 40 world leaders in France to denounce Islamic terrorism. It explains why he doesn't attend certain funerals, why he does nothing about the wholesale slaughter of Christians in the Middle East, or the raping, beheading, crucifying, and burying alive of children there, why he doesn't get excited about people who cross his red line, and it explains why he so easily pivots to health care after announcing the burning alive of a coalition pilot." Addressing Obama, Pirro says, "...I believe you are so comfortable with extremism that you've lost an understanding of the danger to Americans. You boast a security policy of 'Strategic Patience.' What are you waiting for? While you wait, they keep winning, and Iran gets closer to nuclear enrichment, all the while you open your borders, reduce our military and criticize Americans and America at the U.N. and in Cairo." [71333, 71346]

On February 8 Secretary of State John Kerry appears on *Meet the Press* and says he won't rule out running for president in 2016: "Nobody never says never." He also claims the U.S. strategy to defeat ISIS is effective and the coalition is "on the road" to defeating the terrorists. Kerry says, "Twenty-two percent of the populated areas that they held have been taken back already, and that's without launching what we would call a major offensive. It's with the efforts of the Iraqi army as it's being retrained and standing up again to reclaim some territory as they begin to probe. We have taken out a significant proportion of the top leadership of ISIS. They no longer can communicate the way they were, as openly. They no longer travel in convoys the way they were as openly, or where they do, they're at great risk." [71327, 71328, 71347, 71348, 71374, 71375]

Also on *Meet the Press*, even Obama-apologist Andrea Mitchell criticizes his Crusades reference: “[T]he week after a pilot is burned alive in a video shown [sic], you don’t lean over backwards to be philosophical about the sins of the fathers. You have to deal with the issue that’s in front of you or don’t deal with it at all. Talk about faith. ...[Y]ou can’t really go back to 1095.” Program host Chuck Todd comments, “I have my own theory. [Obama’s] not a big fan of the Prayer Breakfast ...and I think he almost enjoys creating a rhetorical debate.” *New York Times* columnist David Brooks, the newspaper’s “token Republican” (who often sounds like a Democrat), defends Obama’s statements: “Well, I’m pro-Obama. I’m totally pro-Obama on this. I think he said the right thing. Listen, it was a gospel of humility. ...I think he was right. He gave the race speech. It was a beautiful speech. He’s given a whole series of great speeches, Trayvon Martin. I think this was utterly fine. This is exactly the moment you want to say this. We’re at the most moral danger to ourselves when we’re caught up in a righteous fervor against an evil foe which is what we have. And so, while we exercise hard power we have to take morally hazardous action, or we can be prone to get caught up in our own self-righteousness. This is exactly the moment.” (To Brooks, opposing terrorists who behead, crucify, and burn people alive risks being “caught up in a righteous fervor.”) [71343, 71364, 71366, 71368, 71378]

On *Face the Nation*, host Bob Schieffer comments on National Security Advisor Susan Rice’s downplaying of the ISIS threat during her speech at the Brookings Institution: “I don’t think this has anything close to the evil the Nazis represented, and obviously this is not the Cold War with the Soviet Union, but it seems to me this is something that I’m still not sure this administration is galvanized to fight this fight and do what’s necessary to do it [sic].” [71375]

On ABC’s *This Week*, recently retired General John Allen states, “ISIL [ISIS] looks like a criminal gangs in so many ways. ISIL is beginning to eat itself; the increasing numbers of reports of ISIL executing foreign fighters who have come from long distances to be part of this, and some of our trying to go home and they’re getting their own heads chopped off as a direct result of that. ...[But] ISIL is at an entirely different level than al-Qaeda was. It’s better organized, and its command and control is better. It’s situational awareness of a broader battle space across the entire region is better. And while al-Qaeda was in many cases relatively isolated in the pockets in which it operated, ISIL has a broader, more comprehensive command and control process. ...We don’t have a partner in Syria as we do in Iraq. And the net context—our intent of course is to work with the Syrian political opposition, the so called SOC in the interim government. And I’ve met with representatives of those organizations, and they’re Syrian patriots, and they want what we want. And that is that there be a political process that ultimately creates a government in Damascus. That is the will of the Syrian people, and that that government doesn’t include Bashar al-Assad. And by the way, that’s the American policy here and that hasn’t changed. Bashar al-Assad has to go. ...Until the conditions are ultimately created both inside Syria and the broader international community for that process to occur, that won’t change—our policy won’t change.” [71386]

On *Fox News Sunday* former Defense Intelligence Agency chief Michael Flynn is more blunt than Allen. He states, “[T]he strategy that we’ve had is not working, I mean it’s clearly not working.” [71386]

Also on *Fox News Sunday*, Bob Woodward says the Obama administration has “not sat down and said [to the military], ‘This is where we want to go and this is how we want to do it.’ And the measure of that—when you get in the weeds here—people from the White House are micromanaging the tactical situation on a daily and weekly basis. That’s not their job. ... They’ve got all these people in the White House—you talk to people in the military who were there and they say, ‘We are being micromanaged, and we’re not given a real plan to say what are we going to do here. It’s not the way to run a war or try to win a war.’” (The suspicion is that National Security Adviser Susan Rice is calling many of the shots, rather than the generals—or perhaps, even worse, Valerie Jarrett.) [71394]

On MSNBC, outgoing Attorney General Eric Holder says “the single failure” of his six years at the Department of Justice was his inability to enact gun control legislation. HotAir.com asks, “How exactly does the Attorney General of the United States feel that the passage of (or failure to pass) any given piece of legislation is the failure of his office? Is Eric Holder aware that his job is to uphold the laws of the land, not to pass them? Legislation is the purview of the Legislative branch (there’s a clue right there in the name, sport) and the only person in the Executive branch who needs to get directly involved is the President when he signs or vetoes bills. ... In an ideal world the Attorney General wouldn’t even have an opinion on any of the laws, say nothing of viewing himself as somehow having his fingers in the legislative pie. At most, the AG should be involved in suggesting the prioritizing of assets to best deploy limited law enforcement resources, but the laws are the laws. They are all passed by the elected representatives of the voters and his job is to enforce them whether he cares for them or not. (His boss could probably use a refresher course in that particular lesson as well.)” [71383, 71384]

NBCNews.com reports, “ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi is running scared as a result of an intensified bombing campaign brought on by the murder of a Jordanian pilot, the head of the country's air force said. ‘He is frightened by what we did in the last three days,’ Maj. Gen. Mansour al-Jabour told NBC News on Sunday. ‘We will not hesitate’ to kill al-Baghdadi, he said. ‘He is going to be on top of our list.’” (It is worth noting that al-Baghdadi has never expressed a fear of Obama.) [71423, 71424]

Obama issues a statement “for immediate release” on the death of college basketball coach Dean Smith, at age 83. (The statement expresses more concern than shown by Obama after the beheadings of two Americans.) [71330, 71331]

Newsmax.com reports that since Obama entered the White House, “the U.S. government has issued 5.46 million new work permits to immigrants, including nearly 1 million to illegal aliens. That is in addition to the 1.1 million legal immigrants and 700,000 guest workers admitted to the country each year. The immigrants receiving the new work permits form ‘a huge parallel immigrant work authorization system outside the limits set by Congress that inevitably impacts opportunities for U.S. workers, damages the integrity



of the immigration system, and encourages illegal immigration,' according to the Center for Immigration Studies. ...About 982,000 new work permits were issued during the Obama administration to illegal aliens or aliens unqualified for admission, including 957,000 aliens who crossed the border illegally and were listed as Entered Without Inspection. Some 12,000 permits were issued to aliens who were denied asylum, were suspected of using fraudulent documents, were stowaways, or were refused at a port of entry. Work permits are gateway documents to driver's licenses and other benefits, the CIS noted. ...Jessica Vaughan, director of policy studies for CIS, said in a statement: 'I was astonished at the huge number of work permits that are being issued by the Obama administration outside the legal immigration system through executive discretion, especially at a time of high unemployment and stagnant wages. Besides the effect on the American worker, it encourages and rewards more illegal immigration.'" [71332, 71337]

Newsmax.com also reports, "In Canada, which has the single-payer healthcare system many American liberals clamor for, the average wait time to see a specialist is more than four months. The latest annual report from the Fraser Institute, 'Waiting Your Turn,' shows that the median length of time Canadians wait for necessary medical treatment after being referred by a general practitioner is 18.2 weeks, up from 9.3 weeks in 1993." [71242]

At JihadWatch.org Robert Spencer asks, "If the Islamic State has nothing to do with Islam, why do only Muslims join it? If it has nothing to do with Islam, why does it have such appeal among so many Muslims who leave their homes to join it?" [71349]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, "The Homeland Security Department has set up hotlines for illegal immigrants who believe their rights under ...Obama's amnesty policy have been violated. In a memo announcing the customer complaint line, U.S. Customs and Border Protection asked illegal immigrants to 'please tell us about your experience' if they believe they were treated 'contrary to the new DHS enforcement priorities.'" [71370]

AFP reports, "Jordan announced it has carried out dozens of air strikes on the Islamic State group, as a top US envoy said Iraqi troops would begin a major ground offensive against the jihadists in the weeks ahead. Jordanian air force chief Major General Mansour al-Jobour said Sunday the kingdom had launched 56 air raids since Thursday [February 5] as part of an international assault against IS [ISIS] that Washington says is beginning to bite." [71376]

At PJMedia.com Roger L. Simon writes, "Unlike Nixon and Clinton, who lied in self-defense, Obama lies proactively, which is decidedly more dangerous. He will say practically anything to achieve his goals without regard to the truth. The repeated assertion about keeping your doctor and your health insurance under the Affordable Care Act is just one famous example. But only a few days ago on Fared Zakaria's show [Obama] made a statement that dwarfed his claims about Obamacare. When asked if we were in a war with radical Islam, [Obama] replied: '...I reject a notion that somehow that creates a religious war because the overwhelming majority of Muslims reject that

interpretation of Islam. They don't even recognize it as being Islam, and I think that for us to be successful in fighting this scourge, it's very important for us to align ourselves with the 99.9 percent of Muslims who are looking for the same thing we're looking for—order, peace, prosperity.' 99.9 percent?! I will bypass for the moment Obama's rather self-serving definition of Islam and focus on that outrageous number, which is absurd on the face of it and not remotely supported by any of the numerous polls on the subject.” [71381]

“So why did Obama lie and what does that mean? To begin with, he is a moral narcissist. That means because he knows he's right and knows what we should do, he's free to say anything he wishes that he believes will achieve those goals, especially if he thinks he can get away with it. ...If all this reminds you of the ends justify the means, it's not accidental. [Karl] Marx was a moral narcissist too—one of the greatest. Now let's get back to Obama and Islam. Is he a Muslim? Not really. He's not religious, but he does have an Islamic childhood with which he identifies, undoubtedly on a more profound level than he does with Christianity, which he joined for expedient reasons. Therefore, he can't acknowledge to himself and others that Islam is severely sick and in need of serious reformation. No talk from Obama ever about all the extreme misogyny and homophobia that pervades Islam, nor of Shariah law. Nothing like this ever passes his lips—at least I've never heard it. To do so would be to say there is something wrong with him. So he says that 99.9% of Muslims reject the Islamists, which is literally impossible because if it were so, the Islamists wouldn't be wreaking havoc everywhere from Sydney to Sanaa. Complicating this psychological disturbance on the part of our president is his overweening desire to make a deal with Iran, almost at all costs. Bizarre as it sounds, a deal with Iran would prove to Obama that Islam—at least in its Iranian shiite [Shi'ite] form—is capable of modernity. To the rest of us, it means they're capable of nuclear war. (I guess that's sort of modernity.) In any case, Obama's greatest lie is designed to include Iran and its leaders in the good 99.9%. I can't imagine a scarier thought.” [71381]

For unknown reasons, Congresswomen Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX) and Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL) attend the 57th Annual Grammy Awards show. (Whether taxpayers are paying for their trips is not known.) [71329, 71369]

A pre-recorded message from Obama is played at the Grammy Awards. He says, “Together we can change our culture for the better, by ending violence against women and girls. Right now, nearly one in five women in America has [sic; have] been a victim of rape or attempted rape. And more than one in four women has [sic; have] experienced some form of domestic violence. It's not okay, and it has to stop. Artists have a unique power to change minds and attitudes, and get us thinking and talking about what matters. And all of us, in our own lives, have the power to set an example. Join our campaign to stop this violence. Go to Itsonus.org, and take a pledge. And to the artists at the Grammys tonight I ask you to ask your fans to do it too. It's on us. All of us. To create culture where violence isn't tolerated. Where survivors are supported. And where all our young people, men and women, can go as far as their talents and their dreams will take 'em [sic; them]. Thanks.” [71356, 71372]

Obama's claim that one in five women in America have been raped has been oft-repeated—and also thoroughly discredited. Obama even conflates that false claim that one in five college co-eds have been raped to one in five women across the nation. In fact, according to Department of Justice, about 6.1 per 1,000 female college students have been raped—which is about 0.0305 in five. For non-students, the rate is .038 in five. Although one rape is too many, lying about the statistics serves no purpose—other than for Obama to continue to suggest that the Democrat Party is the “good” party while the Republicans are engaging in a “war on women.” (Of course, the Grammy Awards may be a good place to discuss the issue, considering that Grammy nominee Chris Brown has been convicted of felony assault, “rapper” R. Kelly was accused of having sex with a 15-year-old girl, the lyrics of one song by Beyonce Knowles includes the lyric, “Bow down, bitches,” and more than a few “rap” songs endorse rape and violence against women.) [71356, 71357, 71358, 71359, 71360]

On February 9, on the *Today* show, NBC's Savannah Guthrie asks former Obama political consultant David Axelrod “whether racism animated some of [Obama's] critics.” Newsbusters.org writes, “Guthrie lobbed another slow pitch to Axelrod: ‘[House] Speaker [John] Boehner invited [Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin] Netanyahu to address the Congress to argue for more sanctions [against Iran], something that [Obama] doesn't agree with. Does that feel like a diss to you?. ...Guthrie failed to point out that a former top Obama campaign aide has been working for Netanyahu's political opponents ahead of the upcoming Israeli election.” [71427]

Obama meets with German Chancellor Angela Merkel at the White House to discuss Russia's incursion in to Ukraine. At the joint press conference, he says, “The possibility of lethal defense [that is, giving weapons to Ukraine] is one of those options that's being examined, but I have not made a decision about that yet.” (Merkel is opposed to arming Ukraine.) “...The prospect for a military solution to this problem, has always been low. Russia obviously has an extraordinarily powerful military. Expecting that if Russia is determined, that Ukraine can fully rebuff a Russian army, has always been unlikely. But what we have said is that the international community, working together, can ratchet up the cost for the violation of the core principle of sovereignty and territorial integrity. And that is exactly what we've done. ...We are not looking for Russia to fail. We are not looking for Russia to be surrounded and contained and weakened.” (Some might argue that Obama's message to Russian President Vladimir Putin is essentially, “Go ahead and finish taking Ukraine, because we are not going to stop you.”) [71350, 71351, 71377]

During the joint news conference, a German Press Agency reporter asks Obama, “You said you have not yet made a decision as to whether weapons ought to be delivered to Ukraine. What would be your red line? What would be the red line that needs to be crossed for you to decide ...an armament of the Ukrainian army? And what do you think will this hold by way of a promise, because the chancellor said it will make matters worse? And what can the Nobel Laureate Obama do more to defuse this conflict?” She extends the question, asking also whether the NSA's spying on Merkel “played a role” in their differences on how to deal with Russia. Obama sighs, turns to Merkel, and asks,

“Uh, do you want to take this one?” (Obama is apparently willing to let Merkel decide where he should draw his red lines.) [71397, 71439, 71440]

Obama also says, “As much as I love Angela [Merkel], if her election were two weeks away, she probably would not have received an invitation to the White House, and she probably wouldn’t have asked for one.” (Obama most certainly does not love Merkel, and she is not fond of him. His well-planned remark is meant to insult House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH) for inviting Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu to address Congress, and Netanyahu for accepting.) [71399]

With regard to imposing additional sanctions on Iran, Obama says, “What the rush? Unless your view is that it’s not possible to get a deal with Iran and it shouldn’t even be tested. And that I cannot agree with, because... I’m looking at what the options are if we don’t get a diplomatic resolution. And those options are narrow, and they’re not attractive. And from the perspective of U.S. interests, and I believe from the perspective of Israel’s interests—although, I can’t speak, obviously, for the Israeli government—it is far better if we can get a diplomatic solution.” (The concern is not that a deal cannot be made with Iran. The concern is that Obama is negotiating a very bad and very dangerous deal. To claim that some believe a deal should “not even be tested” is a straw man argument. Obama has been working on a deal for more than a year, and Iran has taken advantage of him every step of the way. His “I can’t speak for the Israeli government” remark is Obama’s way of suggesting that Israel does not want a diplomatic solution or even *wants* war with Iran—which is absurd. Israel simply doesn’t want Obama giving away the nuclear store to a nation that has threatened to wipe the Jewish state off the face of the earth.) [71399, 71429]

Obama also says, “The issues [with Iran] now are sufficiently narrowed and sufficiently clarified where we’re at a point where they need to make a decision. We are presenting to them in a unified fashion, the P5+1 supported by a coalition of countries around the world, are presenting to them a deal that allows them to have peaceful nuclear power but gives us the absolute assurance that is verifiable that they are not pursuing a nuclear weapon. And if in fact what they claim is true, which is they have no aspiration to get a nuclear weapon, that in fact, according to their Supreme Leader, it would be contrary to their faith to obtain a nuclear weapon, if that is true, there should be the possibility of getting a deal. They should be able to get to yes. But we don’t know if that’s going to happen.” (The claim that there is a religious “fatwa” against nuclear weapons is nonsense. Iran does not have an intercontinental ballistics missile program for the purpose of firing prayer rugs at its enemies. Pamela Geller writes, “There he goes again, Imam Obama proselytizing, dissembling and disarming the kuffar in the cause of Islam. In his remarks today on Iran’s nuclear weapons program, Obama assigns good faith to the world’s leading sponsor of terrorism. As for Iran’s nuclear fatwa, [as Lee Smith wrote at TabletMag.com,] ‘Unfortunately, no one can find the fatwa. And even if it did exist, it would appear that it is nothing more than a ploy to sow confusion among Iranian adversaries—especially the United States.’”) [71463, 71464, 71465, 71466, 71471, 71491]

Political activist (and former chess Grandmaster) Garry Kasparov tweets, “Obama & Merkel sounded delusional on Ukraine. Putin is attacking & taking European territory by military force. What diplomatic solution?” “Obama & Merkel have given Putin every incentive to grab as much Ukrainian territory as he can, as fast as he can. No deterrence.” “Until West realizes that what is bad for Russia has little to do with what is bad for Putin & act accordingly, this war will continue.” “The ‘realists’ seem happy to condemn millions of Ukrainians to life as prisoners in occupied territory. In Europe in the 21st century.” “Any comment from Bill Clinton yet? He signed the paper promising Ukraine security for its nuclear arsenal in 1994. He pushed for it.” [71361]

In an interview with Germany’s *Spiegel*, Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi disputes the claim that he gained office because of a coup: “Your characterization of the situation is not clear and hence your understanding is inaccurate. You judge our experiences from your own cultural, civilizational and developmental vantage point and you cannot remove yourselves from this context. You need to understand what happened in Egypt in light of the circumstances, challenges and threats faced by Egypt. ...What you refer to as a coup was our second revolution. What if half of the population of Germany, France or Great Britain took to the streets to demand the overthrow of the government? If these governments were to plan the use of force and there was then no intervention... then even these countries would slide into civil war. If we had not intervened, we would not have fulfilled our historical and moral responsibility. ...The Muslim Brotherhood had two options for dealing with us, and we had two alternatives for dealing with them. They could either rule us or kill us. And we could either kill them or bring them before the courts. We chose to put them on trial, which was the harder of the two options. ...We are a partner in this battle, but we are waging it here in Egypt. We had already begun our fight one and a half years before the formation of the coalition. If we fail in this fight against terrorism, the entire region will be embroiled in turmoil for the next 50 years. Europe will also be threatened with attacks by the extremists. I already told my European friends this, one and a half years ago. ...They [ISIS and the Muslim Brotherhood] both share the same ideology. But the Muslim Brotherhood is the origin of all of it. All these other extremists emanated from them.” [71467, 71468]

Cornell University follows the lead of ObamaCare’s forced mandate, imposing a \$350 fee on students who do not buy the school’s health insurance. According to CampusReform.org, “The new fee will go into effect for students for the 2015-2016 school year. Students who bought into Cornell’s health care option for the 2014-2015 academic year paid \$2,352, according to the *Cornell Review*.” Cornell president David Skorton states, was “for the common good” and will be a “reliable revenue stream.” (Stephen Green writes at PJMedia.com, “One way or another, you will be brought into compliance, Comrade Student.”) [71499, 71500, 71617]

According to TheHill.com, “In an interview with Cooking Light magazine to mark the fifth anniversary of her Let’s Move initiative, [Michelle Obama] says that she sees the effort as ‘generational.’ Eventually, Obama argues, schools will be filled with children who never knew meals that did not conform to new nutritional standards. ‘We’re really thinking about the kids who are kindergartners today,’ Obama said. ‘If all they know are

whole grains and vegetables, by the time they're graduating from high school, this will be their norm; they won't know anything different.'" (In other words, "If propaganda and indoctrination are started early enough, there will be little or no resistance from the peasants.") Mrs. Obama also says, "It's just making sure people understand that the most powerful thing that they can do for their overall health is feed their bodies good nutritious food. If you don't like the doctor, if you don't like government, if you don't like folks messing with your life, the best thing to do is make sure you're healthy. Because that's going to increase your odds for making sure that you don't have to deal with the system." ("Just follow Big Brother's orders and he won't hassle you so much.") [71352, 71432]

Michelle Obama also tells *Cooking Light*, "[W]e stopped eating macaroni and cheese out of a box [i.e., Kraft Macaroni & Cheese] because cheese dust is not food." (Michelle Malkin writes, "Hey, Michelle Antoinette: Shunning convenience foods is easy when you've got a taxpayer-subsidized cooking staff whipping up four-course feasts every night. Those boxed meals you spit upon are affordable and easy to store, and last a long time. For someone who pretends to be sympathetic to working-class and middle-class families, Her Royal Highness sure has a funny way of showing it. Let's move? How about let's remember, shall we? In June 2005, a few months after her husband was elected to the U.S. Senate, Mrs. Obama snagged a seat on the corporate board of directors of TreeHouse Foods Inc. Currying favor, the food-processing company put her on its audit and nominating and corporate governance committees despite her complete lack of experience or expertise. For her on-the-job training and the privilege of putting her name and face on their literature, the company forked over \$45,000 in 2005 and \$51,200 in 2006 to Mrs. Obama—as well as 7,500 TreeHouse stock options worth more than \$72,000 for each year. Mrs. Obama raked in that easy money thanks to the worldwide conglomerate's popular product line of powdered non-dairy creamers and sweeteners, hot and cold cereals, evil macaroni and cheese, skillet dinners, powdered gravy and sauce mixes, powdered drink mixes, powdered soup, and puddings. She certainly didn't look down her nose at milk dust, cheese dust, juice dust, oatmeal dust or broth dust when it came mixed with a healthy paycheck.") [71476]

According to the Obama administration, the average ObamaCare policy purchaser is paying only 28 percent of the premiums, with the taxpayers subsidizing the remaining 72 percent. (ObamaCare has not made health insurance more affordable; it has merely shifted the cost of it from one person to another.) [71431]

According to FreeBeacon.com, "Top officials at the U.S. embassy in Tel Aviv met in late January with one of the main progressive groups working to tip the upcoming Israeli elections against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and helped facilitate the organization's visit to the United States this week to learn political organizing techniques. The State Department helped the nonprofit group Givat Haviva secure last-minute visas for a delegation of Arab-Israeli mayors, which is in the United States this week meeting with civic leaders and attending discussions on voter outreach and community organizing. The delegation arrived on Feb. 4 and is in Washington, D.C., through Wednesday. Givat Haviva is part of a coalition of U.S.-funded progressive groups working to influence the Israeli elections, the *Washington Free Beacon* reported last

week. The organization, which has chapters in both the United States and Israel, is leading an effort to increase voter turnout among Arab Israelis, who traditionally oppose right-leaning parties such as Netanyahu's Likud." (While the Obama administration is slamming House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH) for inviting Netanyahu to address Congress, calling it a violation of protocol, the White House is working to help Netanyahu's political opponents.) [71433]

WashingtonPost.com reports on continued efforts by activist to give voting rights to non-citizen residents of the United States. There are a reported 12 million people nationwide "who have been granted green cards that allow them to remain in the United States permanently. Most are sponsored by relatives or employers. They pay taxes and serve in the armed forces. Yet in all but a handful of localities, they have no voting rights." (That, of course, is because they are *not* U.S. citizens. Leftists seek to give legal immigrants voting rights because they believe most will tend to vote for Democrat candidates.) [71434]

ABC reports that in Alabama, as many as 51 of 67 counties are refusing to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples, in defiance of a federal court ruling. (Although the U.S. Supreme Court has not yet ruled on the issue, it has also refused to halt the granting of licenses until its ruling.) [71435, 71436, 71444, 71445]

At Vox.com Matthew Yglesias reports on his recent "conversation" with Obama: "Over the course of the 45-minute interview—which ranged from big questions of international relations theory to small details of budget policy—he articulated a foreign policy vision guided by a striking principle or, as he put it, a 'strong belief that we don't have military solutions to every problem in the 21st century.'" (The easily impressed Yglesias believes not addressing every problem with military force is a "striking principle." Most people would call it "common sense.") "Obama says he wants to seriously rethink how America allocates its resources and defines its national security challenges. He talks about climate change as a foreign policy priority, and says we should think of consolidating spending on foreign assistance and the Pentagon—and shift the balance in favor of the former." (That is, Obama wants more foreign aid and fewer soldiers and weapons.) Obama tells Yglesias, "If you look at our foreign assistance as a tool in our national security portfolio, as opposed to charity, and you combined our defense budget with our diplomatic budget and our foreign assistance budget, then in that mix there's a lot more that we ought to be doing." (In other words, foreign aid is not charity, it is bribery or protection money.) [71353, 71557]

Yglesias complains that Obama "could order the Marines into El Salvador or dispatch UAVs [unmanned aerial vehicles, or drones] to bomb it. But he can't send in the flotilla of forensic scientists, psychologists, police trainers, infrastructure engineers, and agricultural scientists that the country really needs. This creates a strong temptation to respond to every urgent crisis with the tool available—military force—or to define as most urgent those problems that most plausibly could be addressed with military tools." (Yglesias apparently does not understand the role of the military or the proper responsibilities of the U.S. government. It is the role of the military to protect the citizens

of the United States, and nothing more. Obama cannot send flotillas of social workers or community activists or anyone else to other nations because that is not the job of the U.S. government, and it is not a duty given to Obama by the U.S. Constitution.) “One of Obama’s primary jobs,” writes Yglesias, “is to avoid those pressures, and focus instead of ‘future threats like cybersecurity or climate change’ or regions beyond the Middle East that are at risk of suffering from neglect.” (No one is pressuring Obama to send psychologists or agricultural scientists to other countries. It is Obama who believes the U.S. military should be used to treat Ebola victims in West Africa, not the average American. Combatting “climate change” is also not in Obama’s job description.) [71353, 71557]

As the fawning interview continues, Yglesias asks Obama, “Do you think the media sometimes overstates this, sort of, level of alarm people should have about terrorism and, and this kind of chaos as opposed to [sic; to] a longer term problem of climate change and epidemic disease?” Obama responds, “Absolutely. And, uh, you know, I don’t blame the media for that. It, it, it, uh, uh, what’s the famous saying about, uh, local newscasts, right, if it, if it, if it bleeds it leads. Right? You show crime stories and you show fires. ‘Cause [sic; because] that’s what folks watch. It’s all, uh, about ratings, and, the, the problems of terrorism and dysfunction, and, and chaos, uh, along with plane crashes and, uh, a few other things, that’s, that’s the equivalent when it comes to covering international affairs. There’s just not gonna [sic; going to] be a lot of interest, uh, in a headline story that we have cut, uh, infant mortality, you know, by really significant amounts over the last 20 years, or that, uh, extreme poverty has been slashed, uh, or that, you know, there’s been enormous progress with a program we set up when I first came into office to help poor farmers, uh, increase productivity and yields. It’s not a sexy story. Um, and climate change is one that is, is, is happening at such a broad scale, it’s such a complex system that it’s a hard story for, uh, I think the media to tell on a day-to-day basis.” [71354, 71355, 71404, 71406, 71422, 71438, 71557]

Obama is arguing that the media over-covers terrorist acts and does not pay enough attention to his accomplishments—as if the average American should care more about increases in crop yields than the beheadings of journalists and the massacre of thousands of Muslims, Christians, and Jews in the Middle East. Apparently he believes the media should report on “climate change” every day, but cannot because the average American is, in his opinion, too stupid to understand such a “complex system.”

Obama continues, “Look, the, the point is this: my first job is to protect the American people. It is entirely legitimate for, uh, the American people to be deeply concerned when you’ve got a bunch a [sic; of], uh, violent, vicious zealots, uh, who behead people or randomly shoot, uh, a bunch of folks, uh, in a, in a deli [sic; Kosher supermarket] in Paris. Uh, and we devote enormous resources to that, and it is right and appropriate for us to be vigilant and aggressive in trying to deal with that—the same way that a big city mayor’s gotta [sic; got to] cut the crime rate down, uh, if he wants that city to thrive. But we also have to attend to a lotta [sic; lot of] other issues, and we gotta [sic; we’ve got to] make sure that we’re right-sizing, uh, our approach, uh, so that what we do isn’t counterproductive.” (The terrorist in Paris did not “randomly shoot a bunch of folks in a



deli.” Amedy Coulibaly *intended to kill Jews*; he said so; and he did so. Similarly, the Nazis did not gas “a bunch of folks.” They specifically targeted Jews and other groups. How one “right-sizes our approach” is not clear, but it may mean that, to Obama, killing “a bunch of folks” is acceptable, as long as it is not too big a “bunch.” Yglesias and Obama apparently believe that having one’s head cut off or being crucified for refusing to accept Islam is nowhere near as terrible as the earth warming by one-tenth of degree or a child getting measles. On the plus side, Obama stops short of calling the executions “workplace violence.” [71354, 71355, 71404, 71406, 71426, 71437, 71492, 71557]

Yglesias writes, “Obama’s approach time and again has been to try to enough force that an issue is being addressed [sic], without going over a tipping point that would imply deeper and deeper involvement.” (That sounds suspiciously like, “Do as little as possible; enough to blunt some of the criticism, but not so much as to risk failure.”) “Avoid the intense pressure to overreact and keep focusing on the big picture. It genuinely doesn’t make for a great bumper sticker, and like any administration he hasn’t always entirely lived up to it. But it seems like a pretty good idea.” (More than a few observers might argue that Obama has also failed at “focusing on the big picture.”) [71353]

Yglesias asks Obama if the nation is “in a place long-term where redistribution [of income] becomes, in a sense, a positive good in and of itself?” Obama replies, “That’s always been the case.” (For Obama, confiscating wealth from those who earned to redistribute to those who did not has “always” been a positive action.) Breitbart.com notes, “From there, Obama went back into his ‘you didn’t build that’ narrative where government is the key to all prosperity and the business sector is an evil that needs to have its freedom seriously curtailed by the iron boot heel of government.” [71371]

At CanadaFreePress.com Timothy Birdnow wonders why it took so long for the lies of NBC anchor Brian Williams to be made public: “It’s not as if the executives at NBC were unaware of the problem. But for some strange reason nobody bothered to check on this matter—until the military publication Stars and Stripes broke the story. This makes no sense. Over a decade of consistent lying by Williams and now people are coming forward, and more importantly, the media is covering this. The mainstream media does not work that way; they would not throw one of their own overboard lightly. In short, there is a hidden agenda here. It is interesting that this incident comes up at the start of the Presidential election cycle. Why? Because there is a candidate, the unquestioned frontrunner in the Democratic Party, who has made a very similar false claim. Hillary Clinton is on record with a claim that, in 1996, she came under sniper fire while flying into Bosnia. It was an exciting tale, one that certainly inflated the ‘street creds’ of Mrs. Clinton, who needed some drama in her pathetically slim political resume. Only one problem; CBS correspondent Sharyl Attkisson [sic; Attkisson] was with Mrs. Clinton on that trip to Bosnia. It never happened.” [71387, 71388]

“So, NBC’s chief anchor is being driven out because he lied about an incident involving sniper fire and the Democratic frontrunner has told a very similar lie. Curiouser and curiouser. And the story about Williams was broken by Stars and Stripes, an admittedly independent journal that is nevertheless inside the DOD. That is a very interesting

coincidence. Who is in charge of the Department of Defense? When last I checked the Commander-in-Chief was also the head of the Democratic Party. ...Barack Obama is not running for re-election. But does that really matter? There was and is an ongoing battle between the Chicago crowd and the Clinton Dixie Syndicate, and I wonder if this business with Brian Williams isn't a political move to get Hillary out of the way. Obama himself may not be sticking around, but who says the Chicago mobsters are planning to leave any time soon?" (Birdnow is suggesting that Obama may be trying to finagle a "third term," but it may be simpler than that. Obama, who hates the Clintons, may be trying to discredit Hillary Clinton so that his fellow traveler, Elizabeth Warren, can capture the 2016 Democrat nomination. Or Williams' lies may simply have caught up with him. There are, after all, others in the industry who would love to get his job.) [71387, 71388]

Illinois' new Republican governor, Bruce Rauner, signs an executive order allowing state employees to stop paying union dues if they do not support the public employee unions. Rauner states, "Forced union dues are a critical cog in the corrupt bargain that is crushing taxpayers. Government union bargaining and government union political activity are inexorably linked. An employee who is forced to pay unfair share dues is being forced to fund political activity with which they disagree. That is a clear violation of First Amendment rights—and something that, as governor, I am duty-bound to correct." According to DailySignal.com, "State employees in Illinois make 26 percent more than comparable private sector workers. They enjoy particularly generous retirement benefits. Unfortunately these benefits have crippled the states' finances. Illinois has the most underfunded pension system in the entire country. Bloomberg estimates Illinois has set aside less than two-fifths of the money necessary to pay its pension obligations. Taxpayers foot this bill for this generosity. Illinois already has the second-highest property taxes in America. In 2011, the legislature increased state income tax rates by two-thirds and business taxes by nearly half to pay for government union benefits." (On February 13, the Associated Press reports, "The Illinois comptroller will not follow an executive order by Gov. Bruce Rauner to hold up so-called 'fair-share' union dues from non-union members.") [71390, 71489, 71523, 71673]

The Middle East Media Research Institute reports, "On January 21, 2015, in a speech at a meeting of the Parliamentary Union of OIC Member States (PUIC) in Istanbul, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan attacked the West, accusing it of plotting against the Islamic world and of causing Muslims to kill one another. Muslim blood is being shed, he said, urging Muslim countries to 'unite and defeat the successors of Lawrence of Arabia who seek to disrupt the Middle East.' He also warned the West of the 'great danger' of Islamophobia." (Erdogan is Obama's closest friend among foreign leaders.) [71393]

Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu states he will most certainly address Congress. He says, "While some are busy with protocol or politics, a bad deal with Iran is taking shape. ...From the day Israel was established to this day, there have been essential differences between Israel and the U.S., and relations remained sound—this will be the case this time as well. This is not a political issue or a party issue, neither here nor there. This is an existential issue, and I approach it with the fullest responsibility." [71399]

D. W. Ulsterman writes, “Matt Drudge commented on [Obama’s] appearance last night [in his taped anti-violence message at the Grammy Awards program], and frankly, it’s as bad as Mr. Drudge indicated. A very sweaty, glassy-eyed Barack Obama verbally stumbles through a prepared message about violence against women, his voice cracking and hoarse. You would have thought [Obama’s] handlers wouldn’t have allowed him to send out a public message looking like this. ...I would also note that just the other day Barack Obama declared those that wanted to call out Islamic terrorists for the atrocities they are committing around the world as people who should not ‘get on their high horse.’ So it is ok to call out violence against women in America, but not ok to call out violence/death/murder/mutilation against women, children and other innocents being slaughtered by Muslims throughout the world? Hmmm...” (Drudge had tweeted, “Greasy Obama in Grammy vid[eo]. Hoarse, watery eyes. Like he knows something terrible coming. Very unsettling..” It may be that Obama “knows something terrible is coming,” but it is more likely that drugs are causing him problems. This *Timeline* believes Obama still takes illegal drugs, that one of Valerie Jarrett’s tasks is to monitor him—and that she sometimes fails at her job.) [71400, 71618, 71619]

On *Special Report*, Charles Krauthammer suggests that Obama says the media is overhyping the threat of terrorism “Because he believes it, and that’s what is the scariest of all. If he was just being cynical as a way to dismiss this because of the failure of his own policies, that would be one thing. *I think he believes this*. At the end of his presidency he is now liberated to actually say what he believes. We complain he doesn’t have a strategy in the war on radical Islam—the reason he doesn’t have a strategy is because he thinks there is no need for a strategy because it is random violence. People shoot up delis, people go around in other places and do stuff, they attach an ideology afterwards as a way to make it look legitimate—he thinks, and he says it openly, this is like the fighting of crime in the city. There is no unifying ideology of the criminals of a city. You go after one after another, you use a drone on one, you arrest another, you shoot a third—but you don’t have to have a strategy, you don’t have to understand who they are, because one thing after another. And that has been the reason Obama has no strategy. He thinks, ‘I kill a few people here with a drone, I tamp it down, it will go away.’ Or, people will ignore it, especially if the press would not hype it. This is what is so terrifying about the commander in chief of a country, essentially a civilization, under attack.” [71426]

On February 10 Jordan reportedly deploys thousands of ground troops to its border with Iraq to keep ISIS fighters from entering. [71442, 71449]

WashingtonPost.com reports, “The Obama administration is considering slowing its planned withdrawal from Afghanistan for the second time, according to U.S. officials, a sign of the significant security challenges that remain despite an end to the U.S. and NATO combat mission there. Under the still-evolving plans, Army Gen. John F. Campbell, the commander of U.S. and NATO forces in Afghanistan, could be given greater latitude to determine the pace of the drawdown in 2015 as foreign forces scramble

to ensure Afghan troops are capable of battling Taliban insurgents on their own, the officials said.” [71501, 71502]

Ajit Pai, one of the two Republicans on the five member Federal Communications Commission, holds a press conference and calls upcoming Internet regulations “worse than I imagined” and says, “The American people are being misled about ...Obama’s plan to regulate the Internet.” According to DailyCaller.com, the proposal “won’t be released to the public until after the agency votes on it later this month. ...In a fact sheet distributed by Pai’s office Tuesday, the commissioner said the plan has the potential to eliminate popular consumer benefits like uncapped data plans and ‘contemplates’ establishing billions in new taxes on broadband, ‘including fees to support the multi-billion-dollar Universal Service Fund and the Telecommunications Relay Service Fund.’ ‘These taxes will increase the prices American consumers will have to pay for broadband,’ Pai’s office wrote. According to Pai the way the plan tackles ‘usage-based pricing’ means consumers using less data could end up paying to subsidize consumers who use more, and explicitly states ‘all rates charged by broadband providers will be subject to FCC regulation’ based on ‘just and reasonable’ criteria. The requirement will apply to both consumers and content creators like Netflix, Google YouTube, Amazon, etc. ‘The claim that ...Obama’s plan to regulate the Internet does not include rate regulation is flat-out false,’ Pai said Tuesday. ‘The plan clearly states that the FCC can regulate the rates that Internet service providers charge for broadband Internet access, for interconnection, for transit—in short, for the core aspects of Internet services.’” [71407]

White House press secretary Josh Earnest attempts to defend Obama’s description of the Paris kosher supermarket victims as having been being “randomly” shot by “vicious zealots.” Earnest tells reporters, “The adverb that [Obama] chose, uh, was used to indicate that the individuals who were killed in that terrible, tragic incident were killed, not because of who they were, but because of where they randomly happened to be. ...These individuals were not targeted by name. ...There were people other than Jews who were in that deli.” State Department spokeswoman Jennifer Psaki is asked, “Does the administration believe that this was an anti-Jewish attack on the Jewish community in Paris?” Psaki replies, “I don’t think we’re gonna [sic; going to] speak on behalf of French authorities and what they believe was... the situation at point here.” (The responses by Earnest and Psaki would be laughable if they were not so enraging. Obama eagerly assumes that white police officers are out to kill blacks, but argues that Jews are mere “random” victims of jihadists.) [71411, 71412, 71447, 71452, 71490]

Asked if Obama really believes climate change is a greater threat than terrorism, Earnest responds, “The point that [Obama] is making is that there are many more people on an annual basis who have to confront the impact—the direct impact—on their lives of climate change or on the spread of disease than on terrorism. ...I think even the Department of Defense has spoken to the significant threat that climate change poses to our national security interests, principally because of the impact that it can have on countries with less well developed infrastructure than we have.” (Even if the earth’s average temperature has risen by a fraction of a degree because of man’s impact, that is

hardly a greater threat than terrorism. Losing an inch of beach sand is far easier to deal with than losing one's head to a terrorist's scimitar.) [71517]

DailyCaller.com's DC Trawler writes, "Orwell was an amateur. ...Just because that Islamic terrorist said he killed those people because they were Jews, and just because they *were* Jews, that doesn't mean he killed them because they were Jews. Why, he didn't even know their names!" [71475]

In Paris, a man is arrested for painting "Juif" ("Jew") on at least 20 cars in a Jewish neighborhood. (There is no word on whether Obama, Josh Earnest, or Jennifer Psaki believe the vandalism was "random.") Meanwhile, 100,000 Muslims in the United Kingdom sign a meditation demanding that freedom of speech be restricted. [71459, 71460, 71461, 71462]

Debra Burlingame, whose brother Charles, the American Airlines Flight 77 pilot who was killed in the September 11, 2001 attacks, addresses the Defeat Jihad Summit by the Center for Security Policy, and responds to Obama's Vox.com interview remark that the media is overhyping the threat of terrorism: "It was at that point that I knew that we were really on our own in this fight, that [Obama] is not going to help us, and in fact, it confirmed for me what I've felt for very many years now that he is working against us." [71605]

The Associated Press reports, "Foreign fighters are streaming into Syria and Iraq in unprecedented numbers to join the Islamic State or other extremist groups, including at least 3,400 from Western nations among 20,000 from around the world, U.S. intelligence officials say in an updated estimate of a top terrorism concern. ...Nick Rasmussen, chief of the National Counterterrorism Center, said the rate of foreign fighter travel to Syria is without precedent, far exceeding the rate of foreigners who went to wage jihad in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq, Yemen or Somalia at any other point in the past 20 years. U.S. officials fear that some of the foreign fighters will return undetected to their homes in Europe or the U.S. to mount terrorist attacks. At least one of the men responsible for the attack on a satirical magazine in Paris [*Charlie Hebdo*] had spent time with Islamic extremists in Yemen." (Whether Obama and Josh Earnest believe the foreign fighters have "randomly" chosen ISIS, rather than the French Foreign Legion or Greenpeace, is not known.) [71413]

Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu states, "A dangerous agreement with Iran is taking shape in Munich which would risk Israel's existence. Therefore, I'm determined to travel to Washington and present Israel's position before Congress and the American people." [71414]

WhiteHouseDossier.com's Keith Koffler writes that the Democrats "are playing with political fire by refusing to attend the scheduled March 3 address by Benjamin Netanyahu to Congress. Their absence will give Republicans a chance to showcase that which has become undeniably true but which may still be poorly understood by many American Jews: The best friends Israel has in America today are Republicans, not Democrats. The

traditional Jewish backing of Democrats is already eroding. Gallup polling shows a steady decline in Jewish support for Democrats and a corresponding increase in their support for Republicans. In just six years, identification with Democrats among Jews has dropped ten points, to 61 percent. ...I don't begrudge Democrats objecting to Netanyahu's appearance. They have a right to their opinion. But to turn their back on an ally whose country is threatened with obliteration is not, shall we say, kosher. And it may well not be kosher with Jewish voters, who may come to understand what I have experienced constantly: The sincere, abiding and even emotional commitment to Israel on the part of conservatives." [71498]

The "Embassy of the State of Palestine" opens in Stockholm, Sweden, the first such embassy in Western Europe. (Palestine, of course, is not a sovereign state, but Sweden apparently believes it is. According to RT.com, Palestine Authority president Mahmoud Abbas says, "Your recognition... should push forward negotiations in the peace process.") [71620]

The White House and the family of slain aid worker Kayla Mueller confirm her death. (ISIS reportedly sent the Mueller family photos of Kayla.) In a written statement, Obama says in part, "No matter how long it takes, the United States will find and bring to justice the terrorists who are responsible for Kayla's captivity and death." (Some might argue that while Mueller was well-intentioned, she was incredibly naive, believing she could go to the Middle East and make a difference. Others are less charitable. DebbieSchlussel.com writes, "Mueller was a Jew-hating, anti-Israel piece of crap who worked with HAMAS and helped Palestinians harass Israeli soldiers and block them from doing their job of keeping Islamic terrorists out of Israel. She also worked to prevent Israel from tearing down terrorists' 'houses,' which the Palestinian terrorists used to smuggle weapons from and to HAMAS in order to perpetrate terrorist attacks. And she wrote several lying, anti-Israel blog posts. ...Mueller also praised Palestinians who attacked Israelis with rocks and said she marched 'arm in arm' with them and supported their violence. So, it's poetic justice that Mueller spent her last months as a hostage of the Islamic terrorists with whom she thought she had some sort of kinship and sisterhood. And that she died in their hands." The anti-Israel International Solidarity Movement (ISM) writes, "Kayla came to Palestine to stand in solidarity with us. She marched with us and faced the military that occupies our land side by side with us. For this, Kayla will always live in our hearts. We send all our support to her family and will continue, like Kayla, to work against injustice wherever it is.") [71415, 71416, 71419, 71454, 71455, 71533, 71535, 71554, 71845]

According to IsraelNationalNews.com, Mueller sided with Palestinians in riots against the Israelis in Bi'ilin, and wrote, "The smell and taste of tear gas has lodged itself in the pores of my throat and the skin around my nose, mouth and eyes. It still burns when I close them. It still hangs in the air like invisible fire burning the oxygen I breathe. When I cry tears for this land, my eyes still sting. This land that is beautiful as the poetry of the mystics. This land with the people who's [sic; whose] hearts are more expansive than any wall that any man could ever build. Yes, the wall will fall. The nature of impermanence is our greatest ally and soon the rules will change, the tide will turn and just as the moon

waxes and wanes over this land so too the cycles of life here will continue. One day the cycle will once again return to freedom.” (Regardless of how much Mueller hated Jews, it is clear that being sympathetic to Muslim causes—and writing propaganda for the ISM—did not guarantee her safety in the Middle East. Note that the ISM is the same group in which Rachel Corrie was involved.) [71533, 71554, 71555, 71845]

At PJMedia.com Ron Radosh writes, “The ISM placed Corrie in a dangerous situation, and falsely told the world that Israel’s IDF had purposefully killed her in order to scare off foreigners coming to aid the Palestinian people. The ISM, as anyone can easily find out, supports Israel’s enemies, including Hamas, Hezbollah, and those in the Palestinian Authority who work for Israel’s destruction. Like Corrie, Ms. Mueller’s work in the Middle East was not that of a humanitarian and non-partisan aid person, but rather, as the ISM statement put it, she ‘worked with Palestinians nonviolently resisting the confiscation and demolitions of their homes and lands.’ She bragged in her internet posts of working in anti-Israel demonstrations in East Jerusalem, in an area which an Israeli court decision recognized as one in which Israelis had a legal right to build homes in. She also supported the throwing of rocks by Palestinians at Israelis, viewing that as a just tactic of the oppressed. She bought into the narrative that the Israelis were the oppressors and the Palestinians and others who opposed them, the heroes.” [71554, 71555]

“...So, as Israeli writer and activist against the ISM Lee Kaplan accurately writes: ‘This is another Rachel Corrie propaganda story in the making, and the western media is falling for it again, or embracing it on purpose.’ Thus Ms. Mueller died not only at the hands of ISIS, but by her own work in the region on behalf of a terrorist support group that regularly put her in harm’s way. Her work was on behalf of the supporters of Hamas, and it is not surprising to find that she wrote propaganda against Israel on the ISM’s website. ...One of her letters claimed that the IDF used phosphorous along with tear gas that poisoned one woman’s lungs, a victim who shortly died at home from asphyxiation. That the IDF does not use phosphorous is simply a fact that did not get in the way of her hateful propaganda. ...The tragedy of Kayla Mueller’s life is that out of an idealistic urge to do good, she went to work on behalf of supporters of terrorism and violence who believe openly in a revolutionary route to salvation. Like so many others, back in the United States she fell prey to the overtures of leftist revolutionaries, who are adept at using the aims of young and innocent students who yearn only to build a better world. In taking that path, she died on behalf of those who believe in violence and world-wide revolution, beginning with the destruction of Israel.” [71554, 71555]

The State Department closes the U.S. embassy in Yemen. Ambassador Matthew Tueller will return to the United States. The U.S. Marines stationed at the embassy were reportedly ordered by the State Department to destroy their weapons or render them inoperative before leaving the country on a non-military flight. Rebels also seized more than 20 U.S. vehicles. (U.S. military Central Command officials are reported to be furious. Marines are trained to *never* leave their weapons behind, and the military had the ability to remove the Marines by helicopter.) Meanwhile, State Department spokeswoman Jennifer Psaki naively tells reporters she “expects” the Houthi rebels to safeguard the embassy until U.S. officials can return. (The statement is absurd. The

Houthis took over the country *on behalf of Iran*, and Yemen will soon be an Iranian-controlled satellite full of well-armed, Hizbullah-like terrorists—despite Obama having said just a few months earlier that Yemen was an example of his counterterrorism successes.) France, Great Britain, Saudi Arabia, Italy, and Germany also abandon their embassies in Yemen. On PBS' *Newshour*, *New York Times* reporter Rod Nordland says the Houthis seized U.S. vehicles for “safekeeping,” “want to be friends with the United States” and their “Death to America!” slogan is not meant literally. [71417, 71418, 71458, 71496, 71507, 71524, 71638, 71541, 71546, 71550, 71575, 71580, 71585, 71593, 71594]

*Newsweek's* Twitter feed is hacked by “CyberCaliphate,” which tweets, “Bloody Valentine’s Day Michelle Obama! We’re watching you, you [sic; your] girls and your husband!” [71420, 71421, 71469]

According to TheHill.com, “The Obama administration is refusing to publicly release more than 500 documents on the IRS’s targeting of Tea Party groups. Twenty months after the IRS scandal broke, there are still many unanswered questions about who was spearheading the agency’s scrutiny of conservative-leaning organizations. The Hill sought access to government documents that might provide a glimpse of the decision-making through a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request.” Congressman Jim Jordan (R-OH) “notes that eight months after [IRS official Lois] Lerner was held in contempt of Congress for not testifying at two hearings, the matter has not yet been referred to a grand jury. The contempt citation is in the hands of Ronald Machen, the U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia who was appointed by ...Obama.” [71428, 71441]

TheHill.com also reports, “State legislators around the country have introduced more than 200 bills aiming to nullify regulations and laws coming out of Washington, D.C., as they look to rein in the federal government. The legislative onslaught, which includes bills targeting federal restrictions on firearms, experimental treatments and hemp, reflects growing discord between the states and Washington, state officials say. ‘You have a choice,’ said Kentucky state Rep. Diane St. Onge (R). ‘To sit back and not do anything or say anything and let overregulation continue—or you have the alternative choice to speak up about it and say, ‘We know what you are doing or intend to do and we do not think that it is constitutional and we as a state are not going to stand for it.’” [71430]

NBC anchor “Lyin’ Brian Williams” is suspended without pay for six months. (It can be assumed that Williams will not return, and that his temporary replacement Lester Holt will quickly be jettisoned if ratings do not improve. One of the biggest losers in the fiasco is Obama, who will no longer get softball questions in interviews with the sycophantic Williams. But he may be replaced by the equally sycophantic Savannah Guthrie or Matt Lauer. NBC would be playing with fire, however, if it gives Guthrie the anchor spot. As *Timeline* readers know, Guthrie claimed to have not only seen Obama’s long-form birth certificate, she said she “felt the raised seal.” Of course, the “document” was forged, the online image appeared to show no raised seal, and NBC will find itself in an embarrassing position if Guthrie is in the anchor chair if and when Sheriff Joe Arpaio’s “cold case posse” concludes its investigation and holds a press conference to expose



Obama's fraud to the world. Whether Guthrie was in on the fraud or was duped is irrelevant. Her credibility, and that of her network, may be destroyed. According to Examiner.com, "Attorney Orly Taitz filed a Demand for Investigation on February 9, 2015, with Richard Esposito, Sr. Executive Producer, ...asking for an investigation of the [Guthrie birth certificate] report. Taitz requested that her complaint be investigated along with the current Brian Williams' investigation.") [71443, 71451, 71453, 71508, 71545, 71552, 71553]

Reuters reports that Obama "will designate part of Chicago's Pullman neighborhood, a site famous in the history of urban planning, labor and the civil rights movement, as a national monument, the White House said on Tuesday." According to DailyCaller.com, Obama will also designate Browns Canyon National Monument in Colorado and Honouliuli National Monument in Hawaii. [71450, 71843]

DailyCaller.com reports, "The United States has accepted two new immigrants for each additional job created since 2000, according to federal data. The data shows that 18 million legal and illegal immigrants settled in the United States from 2000 to 2015, while only 9.3 million additional jobs were created, according to the Center for Immigration Studies, which favors a reduced level of immigration." [71474]

At NationalReview.com Victor Davis Hanson comments on Obama's frequent use of "snark." "Snarkiness can manifest itself as adolescent cheap shots, snide condescension, or simple ad hominem patronizing—a sort of 'I know you are, but what am I?' schoolyard name-calling. Its incessant use is typically connected with a peevishness born out of juvenile insecurity, and sometimes fed by an embarrassing envy. All politicians are snarky at times; but few obsessively so, given the wages of monotony and insecurity that the snark earns. ...Obama is well known both for ad hominem dismissals of his supposed enemies—everyone from Fox News to the Tea Party to Rush Limbaugh and Sean Hannity—and for his evocations of nefarious straw men who, he claims, if left unchecked, would uninsure the poor, pollute the environment, hurt the illegal immigrant, and wage perpetual war abroad. But Obama's snarky putdowns and condescending afterthoughts are a particularly disturbing subset of these rhetorical devices, used by him in the grand world of diplomacy as well as in often petty domestic contexts. ...Snarkers also don't discriminate in their targets. Sometimes Obama's snark has been directed at his own Democratic rivals. Hillary Clinton was not just someone Obama ran against and beat in the primaries, but comes off as a frumpy nice girl in his famous quip, 'You're likeable enough, Hillary.' Note the 'enough.' ...In the months before the Crimea and Ukraine crises, [Mitt] Romney presciently reminded Obama that Putin's Russia in 2012 was America's chief worry. Obama snarked back, 'The 1980s—they're now calling to ask for their foreign policy back because, you know, the Cold War's been over for 20 years.' ...Critics used to say they opposed Obama's redistributionist programs, but conceded that he must be a pleasant guy. Supporters lamented Obama's frequent inattention to detail but reminded everyone how charismatic the president was. Both diagnoses are probably mistaken. Snarkery is a character flaw of thin-skinned insecurity and juvenile mean-spiritedness—and embarrassing in a president." [71456]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, “The government expects so many applications for ...Obama’s new deportation amnesty that it’s seeking a contractor just to open the new mail and enter the forms into the system, with plans to operate two shifts from 6 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. every workday to keep up with the anticipated workload. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services [USCIS], the agency charged with approving the applications, expects more than 800,000 applications in just the first two and a half months, or a 70 percent surge compared to last year’s total intake for the entire agency. Over the first 18 or so months, the agency will process more than 4 million pieces of mail related to the larger part of the new amnesty, according to contracting documents. ...But one former USCIS executive testified to Congress last week that the agency is going to be overwhelmed by the volume of applications and the truncated approval process. ‘It’s going to be hard to tell how much fraud there is,’ said Luke Bellocchi, a former deputy ombudsman for USCIS, as he testified to the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee last week.” [71494]

At WhiteHouseDossier.com Keith Koffler writes, “In one of the most shameful and startling moments I’ve ever viewed in 17 years covering the White House, White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest Tuesday casually acknowledged that ...Obama had been lying all along when he said as a candidate in 2008 and [after his election] that he opposed gay marriage. Obama, as you probably remember, publicly announced his support for gay marriage in 2012—and then only after Vice President Biden had announced his. For years he had said he opposed it, but since early in [his years in the White House] he had claimed his views were ‘evolving.’ The revelation of deceit was made by David Axelrod in his new book, as first reported by Time. Earnest said Axelrod’s characterization of the nakedly political lie ‘is not one that I would disagree with or quibble with.’ Doubling down, Earnest even tried to portray Obama as courageous on the issue: ‘When [Obama] made his first public comments indicating his support for gay couples to marry, that was viewed as a pretty controversial political stand,’ Earnest said. I guess maybe shameful is the wrong word. Because there is no shame anymore.” [71495, 71503]

Former Obama campaign guru Axelrod writes in his book, “Opposition to gay marriage was particularly strong in the black church, and as he ran for higher office, he grudgingly accepted the counsel of more pragmatic folks like me, and modified his position to support civil unions rather than marriage, which he would term a ‘sacred union’ ....If Obama’s views were ‘evolving’ publicly, they were fully evolved behind closed doors. [He] was champing at the bit to announce his support for the right of gay and lesbian couples to wed—and having watched him struggle with this issue for years, I was ready, too.” [71495]

Koffler adds, “Remember, Obama didn’t just say he opposed gay marriage. He invoked God and Christianity as the rationale. ‘I believe that marriage is the union between a man and a woman,’ Obama told Pastor Rick Warren in 2008, in Warren’s church. ‘Now, for me as a Christian—for me—for me as a Christian, it is also a sacred union. God’s in the mix,’ Obama said. Of course, we all knew he was lying. ...But to hear it so blandly admitted is very chilling. This republic was founded on the assumption that men of honor

could be found to lead it. It can't just survive on written rules and laws. ...None of our leaders who did this type of thing in the past ever acted like it didn't matter. That's what we have now. A new low, and a new precedent has been set. It is a very frightening thing." [71495, 71512]

Obama then disputes Axelrod's account, telling BuzzFeed.com his former advisor was "mixing up my personal feelings with my position on the issue. ...I always felt that same-sex couples should be able to enjoy the same rights, legally, as anybody else and so it was frustrating to me not to, I think, be able to square that with what were a whole bunch of religious sensitivities out there. ...I think the notion that somehow I was always in favor of marriage per se isn't quite accurate." (By "religious sensitivities," Obama is perhaps suggesting that too many American Neanderthals "cling to their religion.") [71503, 71504]

HotAir.com comments, "As attempted denials go, this one is about as lame as they come. It's hard to even know where to begin here, but [Obama's] own words indicate the depths he's having to sink to after Axelrod painted him into this corner. First of all, how can someone mix up your personal feelings with your position on an issue? Does this mean that you take positions which are contrary to your personal feelings? And more to the point, you apparently do so without letting the rest of us in on this internal conflict? That's nonsensical. Second, Obama seems to let the cat out of the bag in the next comments he makes. If those were his own deeply held feelings (pre-evolution) which he was expressing, why would he talk about *a whole bunch of religious sensitivities out there*? Why were the religious sensitivities 'out there' instead of in his own heart? If this were a game of poker, that comment would be a tell. And finally, how stupid does the man think we are when he says that he had to 'learn over time' that gay couples *felt they were stigmatized by a lack of ability to marry*? Why did he think there was a huge debate going on over *gay marriage*? Someone running for President really shouldn't have been allowed on the debate stage if they honestly thought that all those gay couples with their rainbow flags were marching in the streets hoping that somebody would just send them a referral to a good lawyer who could draw up a property division contract for them. [Obama] knew what this debate was about and he knew what the activists wanted. He just didn't want to come out in favor of what he actually believed because he knew it would cost him some votes." [71503]

In his BuzzFeed interview, Obama also complains that many companies are limiting the working hours of their part-time employees to avoid triggering ObamaCare's requirement that they be provided with health insurance. He specifically mentions Staples, saying, "I haven't looked at Staples stock lately or what the compensation of the CEO is, but I suspect that they could well afford to treat their workers favorably and give them some basic financial security and if they can't, then they should be willing to allow those workers to get the Affordable Care Act without cutting wages. It's one thing when you've got a mom-and-pop store who can't afford to provide paid sick leave or health insurance or minimum wage to workers—even though a large percentage of those small businesses do it because they know it's the right thing to do, but when I hear large corporations that make billions of dollars in profits trying to blame our interest in

providing health insurance as an excuse for cutting back workers' wages, shame on them." [71520, 71521, 71551]

Obama, of course, singled out Staples because Mitt Romney used to sit on its board of directors, its founder Tom Stemberg supported Romney, and the company was what Bloomberg.com calls "a Bain Capital success story." Contrary to Obama's claim, Staples does not make "billions of dollars in profit." It's 2014 profit, according to Bloomberg.com, was \$620 million. (The company has 85,000 employees. If each employee was covered by a \$10,000-per-year health insurance policy, the total cost to the company would be \$850 million.) [71522]

TheBlaze.com reports the response from Staples spokesman Jack Cautela: "We are very proud of our associates and offer competitive wages and benefits. Staples is a leader in helping associates build a secure future. In fact, we were recently recognized by U.S. Treasury Secretary Jack Lew for our leadership in helping associates plan for a secure retirement. Staples also offers many opportunities for hourly associates to advance into full-time and management positions. It's unfortunate that [Obama] is attacking a company that provides more than 85,000 jobs and is a major tax payer." [71520, 71551]

Obama also appears in a bizarre BuzzFeed.com video in which he makes faces into a mirror, has trouble fitting a cookie into a glass of milk, and takes photos of himself with a "selfie stick," plays "air basketball," and says, "yolo" ("you only live once"). (For some reason, the White House believes the video will get people to enroll in ObamaCare. More than likely it will make them embarrassed to be Americans. If nothing else, White House timing is terrible and Obama should know better. After James Foley was beheaded, Obama made a brief statement and immediately returned to the golf course—then later admitted that the "optics" were bad. But on the same day the White House confirmed the killing of Kayla Mueller by ISIS, Obama makes a fool of himself in a childish BuzzFeed video. If Americans are not embarrassed, they should be.) [71527, 71623, 71648, 71657]

ISIS releases video of 17 captured Kurdish fighters being paraded through the streets of Kirkuk in cages on pick-up trucks. (The suggestion is that the soldiers will be burned alive, as ISIS did to Jordanian pilot Muath al-Kaseasbeh.) Obama has no comment. [71663, 71670, 72007]

Senator Jeff Flake (R-AZ) sides with the Democrats and encourages his fellow Republicans not to block Obama's illegal immigrant amnesty scheme by defunding the operation. Flake states, "I want to say from the outset that I don't think [Obama] did the right thing by taking this unilateral action. I think he's made it more difficult to pass immigration reform in this body. Having said that, to attempt to use a spending bill in order to try to poke a finger in [Obama's] eye is not a good move in my view." Senator Mark Kirk (R-IL) also caves in, saying, "I generally agree with the Democratic position here. I think we should have never fought this battle on DHS funding. ...I think it's the wrong battle for us at the wrong time." (Kirk, who does not say when the "right time" may be, apparently failed to notice that the GOP won the Senate partly because of opposition to Obama's amnesty scheme. Flake and Kirk are apparently too stupid to

realize that if the GOP caves in and funds Obama's scheme, there is no need for "immigration reform," *because Obama will simply do whatever he wants whenever he wants*. Further, while Flake may not want to "poke a finger in Obama's eye," Obama has shown no reluctance to poke a finger in the eye of the American people. Kirk is also too stupid to realize that he just lost his 2016 re-election bid. Democrats will not vote for him because he is a Republican, and many Republicans will now not vote for him because he votes like a Democrat.) [71547, 71576]

Obama's Secretary of Veterans Affairs, former Proctor & Gamble CEO Robert McDonald, is questioned by a House committee. According to TheBlaze.com, Congressman Mike Coffman (R-CO) "asked him questions about huge cost overruns at a Denver VA hospital, which prompted McDonald to blame Congress for those problems and then imply that Coffman isn't qualified to debate the issue. At the end of a few minutes of sniping, McDonald ended by barking at Coffman, 'I've run a large company, sir. What have you done?' As it turns out, Coffman is a combat veteran who started his own company, and is the only member of Congress to have served in both Iraq wars. The comments from McDonald... were later described by Coffman's office as 'obnoxious.'" (Coffman served in the Marines for 22 years.) McDonald also dances around questions about the "Choice Cards" program, which allows veterans to seek care outside the delay-plagued VA system. Newsmax.com notes, "Obama's budget tries to snatch the \$10 billion allocated for the Choice program and allow it to be spent however VA top administrators want." 71548, 71590, 71708, 71883]

In Chapel Hill, North Carolina, a middle-aged white man (a left-wing, atheist, "progressive" fan of MSNBC's Rachel Maddow) named Craig Stephen Hicks is arrested after allegedly shooting a newlywed couple and the sister of the wife. All three were students at the University of North Carolina and were Muslims. NYTimes.com reports, "The victims' families described it as a hate crime. The police said that the shooting appeared to be motivated by 'an ongoing neighbor dispute over parking,' but that they were investigating whether religious hatred contributed to the killing. ...The Chapel Hill police quickly attempted to tamp down the fears, releasing a... statement that identified parking as the cause of the dispute... The police chief, Chris Blue, added, 'We understand the concerns about the possibility that this was hate-motivated and we will exhaust every lead to determine if that is the case.' ...Ripley Rand, the United States attorney for the region, also said the shooting appeared to be 'an isolated incident,' and was 'not part of a targeted campaign against Muslims.'" Hicks' wife Karen states, "I can say with absolute belief that this incident had nothing to do with religion of the victims' faith, but it was related to a longstanding parking dispute that my husband had with the neighbors." Interestingly, the Council on American-Islamic Relations demands that the killings be classified as a "hate crime," despite the fact that Hicks supported the construction of the proposed "Ground Zero mosque" in lower Manhattan. His Facebook "likes" read like an almanac of anti-religious, anti-Christian, and pro-atheism Web sites and leftist media personalities. [71480, 71482, 71506, 71536, 71542, 71544, 71624]

It is worth noting that while Hicks opposes all religions, one of his three victims, Deah Barakat, had more than his share of anti-Semitic, anti-white, and anti-Israel thoughts.

According to BareNakedIslam.com, Barakat “tweeted over 8,000 times. Some of them are about sports. Many of them are hateful. Barakat retweeted anti-semitic cartoons all the time. He retweeted and backed 9-11 conspiracy theories and compared the treatment of the Palestinians to that of Jews during the Holocaust.” One of his tweets: “Israel has no legitimacy.” Another: “Bush did 9/11.” Still another: “Next time I ever tweet #LiveFromSyria, I’m going to be tweeting without using a proxy.” (In other words, Barakat may have been planning to travel to Syria.) Hicks is also not an “Islamophobe,” as some in the media suggest. In fact, he wrote, “Beyond that though after being in D.C. for a decade and knowing several dozen Muslims for most of that time I can say that they aren’t what most think of them. In fact, I’d prefer them to most Christians as I was never coerced in any way by the Muslims to follow their religion, which I cannot say about many Christians. While the terrorists who did the 9/11 attacks were Muslims, they were extremists in that faith which isn’t common...” [71599, 71624, 71627]

On February 11 Iranians celebrate the 36th anniversary of their revolution—the overthrow of the Shah of Iran—by hanging Obama in effigy in Tehran. The Revolution Day crowd chants, “Death to America” and “Death to Israel.” [72176]

Politico.com writes, “In the weeks leading up to Kayla Mueller’s death the Pentagon had no plans to save her, in large part because U.S. officials had lost sight of the hostage’s whereabouts since a failed rescue attempt by special operations troops last July, government officials told POLITICO on Tuesday. Even so, a Mueller family spokesman said the 26-year-old aid worker’s family was ‘reassured’ right up until the end that the Obama administration was working on the case. According to Rep. Paul Gosar (R-Ariz.), whose district includes the Mueller home, the family had been told that negotiations were underway with the Islamic State to exchange Mueller for the woman sometimes known as ‘Lady Al Qaeda,’ Aafia Siddiqui, a 42-year-old neuroscientist sentenced to 86 years in prison in a Manhattan federal court in 2010 for trying to murder American soldiers. Another negotiation, possibly a second one, involved money, said Steven Smith, a spokesman for Gosar. ...A U.S. official confirmed that Islamic State negotiators had proposed a swap for Siddiqui, but they had previously made a similar proposal for James Foley and Steven Sotloff, two American journalists who were later beheaded after talks failed, and on Tuesday [Obama] reiterated his policy of not paying ransom to hostage-takers.” [71457]

In Libya, 40 severed heads are “found in a training camp that the Libyan regular army took back from islamists militias,” according to Ansamed.info. JihadWatch’s Robert Spencer Qur’an 47:4: “When you meet the unbelievers, strike the necks...” and writes, “These people may have been beheaded for fighting against this militia, and hence in the militia’s eyes making themselves into heretics or apostates—unbelievers.” (Radical Islamists have taken over much of Libya since Obama decided to help oust Moammar Gaddafi—with the rationale that he was avoiding bloodshed. Although removing Gaddafi from power was a reasonable goal, doing so *without regard for who would replace him* made the action unreasonable.) [71573, 71574]

At Townhall.com Ben Shapiro writes, “Obama defends radical Islam because he does not think in terms of ideology, but in terms of power dynamics. If radical Muslims commit terror, it is because they feel helpless and hopeless. If they feel helpless and hopeless, it is because Westerners made them feel that way. If Westerners made them feel that way, it is because Western ideology must be exploitative and evil. In other words, Obama cites the Crusades as justification for shutting Christians up because the Crusades caused all of this. If Christians had just kept their pieholes shut several thousand years ago, none of this would have happened. Obama’s ignorant and bigoted gloss on Christian history isn’t a throwaway line: it’s the centerpiece of his philosophy. Radical Islam isn’t the problem because Christianity is. And we know that Christianity is the problem because radical Islam is violent. In this skewed version of reality, modern Christianity’s fantastic record is a direct outgrowth of its disreputable past. Obama extends this bizarre philosophy to every part of life. Those who murder Jews in Israel aren’t motivated by radical Islam: They were exploited by those evil, non-murdering Jews. Those who riot in Ferguson aren’t motivated by a corrupt ideology of victimhood: They were exploited long ago by those who cower in their stores, trying to prevent the looting. Those who sire children they abandon, drop out of school and refuse to hold down jobs aren’t predictable refuse of a broken philosophy: They are victims of those who get married, stay in school and hold down jobs. Success is the ultimate indicator that your philosophy is evil. Failure is the ultimate indicator that you are a victim, regardless of your ideology. Obama’s philosophy is the philosophy of failure. No wonder radical Islam holds a cherished place in his heart, while Judeo-Christian religion find itself in his doghouse.” [71477]

Obama asks Congress for an “Authorization for Use of Military Force (AUMF) against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant.” Obama’s letter states, “The so-called Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) poses a threat to the people and stability of Iraq, Syria, and the broader Middle East, and to U.S. national security. Although existing statutes provide me with the authority I need to take these actions, I have repeatedly expressed my commitment to working with the Congress to pass a bipartisan authorization for the use of military force (AUMF) against ISIL.” (Although Obama states that “existing statutes” give him the authority to fight ISIS, he nevertheless asks for a new authorization—even if he only half-heartedly plans to use the force, and even though the new AUMF will give him *less* flexibility to fight terrorism than the prior AUMF. His “I have repeatedly expressed” remark is clearly meant to insult Congress, especially when his administration has repeatedly expressed its opinion that authorization was not necessary. He now wants additional Congressional approval in order to cover his backside, so that the House and the Senate can share part of the blame if American lives are lost in the fight against ISIS.) Obama also states, “I do not believe America’s interests are served by endless war.” He does not explain the strategy that should be followed if the enemy chooses to fight an endless war—which it very well may inasmuch as Obama’s request (in a dig at George W. Bush) calls for a ban on “enduring offensive ground operations.” (At the start of World War II, Germany and Japan would have been more than happy had the United States declared a limited war on them that would end on a specific date.) [71478, 71481, 71493, 71497, 71505, 71509, 71516, 71549, 71630]

White House press secretary Josh Earnest tells reporters, “The... reason this [fight against ISIS] is going to take awhile is that [Obama] does not believe it is in the interest of the United States for us to commit all of our military resources to going in and solving this problem for the Iraqi people or for the Syrian people. The United States has the bravest most well equipped best trained fighting force in the world. It is a logical assumption that if U.S. military resources were committed and we were going to go in there and do this on our own, that the timeline would be shorter.” (The “problem,” of course, does not solely belong to the Iraqis and the Syrians. ISIS is spreading across several countries, and has encouraged its supporters living in Europe and the United States to attack Western targets. Obama is not concerned about the “best interests of the United States.” He is concerned with getting through the next two years without committing more than a handful of ground troops in order to keep U.S. military losses to a minimum. He is more than happy to let his Oval Office successor deal with the problem in 2017—at which point it may be far more significant. Obama wants history to show that the greatest number of U.S. casualties came before and after his tenure in the White House. He cares about his legacy more than he cares about the safety of the nation and the world.) [71479]

Earnest also comments on the action to take away the trophy and championship title of a Little League baseball team in Chicago, the Jackie Robinson All Stars, because the team had fielded ineligible players who lived outside the area. Earnest tells reporters Obama “is proud of the way that they represented their city and the way they represented the country. The fact is, you know, some dirty dealing by some adults doesn’t take anything away from the accomplishments of those young men.” (The players themselves were also “dirty dealing,” unless they were too stupid to know their own addresses. The team’s players are black—which naturally prompts race hustler Jesse Jackson to come to their defense and charge racism. Jackson apparently believes that cheating is permissible if the cheaters have dark skin. According to DNAinfo.com, “The Evergreen Park man [Chris Janes] who blew the whistle on Jackie Robinson West has been called a racist, received death threats and been told by his boss not to come to work because of safety concerns in the 24 hours since Little League International stripped the South Side team’s U.S. title.” Janes states, “At the end of the day... it wasn’t until Jackie Robinson West’s sister leagues who are comprised of largely black folks stood up and complained as well. Patrick Wilson, who runs the Little League World Series, is African-American. He was in on the decision. This has nothing to do with race.” To Jackson, however, everything has something to do with race.) [71638, 71639, 71640, 71641]

Retired Admiral James Lyons observes that White House “strategy should now be clear to all Americans. It is embedded in the Barack Obama-Valerie Jarrett strategy to ‘transform America.’ It is an anti-American and anti-Western, but a pro-Islam, pro-Iran and pro-Muslim Brotherhood strategy.” [71528, 71848]

Seth Mandel writes at CommentaryMagazine.com, “In the wake of the controversy over President Obama’s offensive labeling of anti-Semitic violence as ‘random,’ it became clear that regardless of whether he chose his words carefully, he certainly chose his audience carefully. He was not challenged by his interviewer at Vox for his undeniably



false characterization of the Paris attacks. And now, having given an interview to BuzzFeed's Ben Smith, he has continued exposing his own ignorance in the hope that he would continue *not* to be called on it by his interviewers. He was in luck yet again. ...The problem is that Obama tends to make mistakes that stem from a worldview often at odds with reality. Russia is a good example. Does it matter that Obama doesn't know the basics of Vladimir Putin's biography and the transition of post-Soviet state security? Yes, it does, because Obama's habit of misreading Putin has been at the center of his administration's failed Russia policy. And it matters with regard not only to Russia but to his broader foreign policy because Obama has a habit of not listening to anyone not named Jarrett. ... Obama has also run into some trouble with history in the Middle East, where history is both exceedingly important and practically weaponized. ...Obama has learned nothing from the history of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, a fact which was reflected quite clearly in his disastrous mishandling of the negotiations and their bloody aftermath. He didn't understand Palestinian intentions, Israeli political reality, or the lessons from when the U.S. has played a beneficial role in the conflict in the past. [Obama] can simply move on, but Israelis and Palestinians have to pay the price for his learning curve." [71607]

Mandel continues, "...Yet it's not just the history of Islam and of anti-Semitism that [Obama] gets wrong when trying to spin away the threat of Islamist terror. He also created a firestorm with his faux history of the Crusades in order to draw a false moral equivalence that only obscures the threat. In other words, it's a comprehensive historical ignorance. And on matters of great significance—the major world religions, the Middle East, Russia. And [Obama's] unwillingness to grasp the past certainly gives reason for concern with Iran as well—a country whose government has used the façade of negotiations to its own anti-American ends for long enough to see the pattern. They're not just minor gaffes or verbal blunders. They serve as a window into the mind of a [person] who acts as if a history of the world before yesterday could fit on a postcard. We talk a lot about the defects of [Obama's] ideology, but not about his ignorance. The two are related, but the latter is lately the one causing a disproportionate amount of damage." [71607]

D. W. Ulsterman adds, "Almost as troubling as Barack Obama's ignorance is that of his staff—namely one Valerie Jarrett. It is Jarrett who outlines the agenda, approves the words to be put into the teleprompter, and instructs the White House sycophants on what can and cannot be communicated to [Obama]. The troubling ignorance of Barack Obama is a direct result of not only his own laziness in all things beyond self promotion and golf, but also is the effect of Jarrett's manipulation. The less he knows, the more he depends on her, and the easier he is to then control. White House staff who have attempted to break this ignorance-inducing back and forth between Jarrett's second floor White House office and [Obama's] private second floor study just a short walk away have found themselves promptly removed from the administration. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel was the most recent to discover that even the slightest suggestion to [Obama] that counters the view of Valerie Jarrett is met with immediate and lasting response. After a series of administrative memos on the subject, Hagel suggested during a rare in-person meeting with [Obama], almost sheepishly by some accounts, that it would be unwise to close

GITMO at a time when Islamic terrorism is raging throughout the world and the chances of those freed prisoners rejoining that fight are considerable. Hagel's views on the subject were supported by various military officials who took to whispering in his ear so as to avoid having to take their concerns to the overly politicized Joint Chiefs. Barack Obama is said to have 'pursed his lips' and then looked to Jarrett who promptly indicated the meeting was over. Hagel was escorted out of the Oval Office and three months later was announcing a resignation that is said to have been 'strongly suggested' by the White House itself which is simply another way of saying, Valerie Jarrett." [71608]

"Alternative opinions are quickly killed off within the Obama administration. Susan Rice has excelled at this requirement, and been richly rewarded beyond her capabilities even as the stink of the Benghazi scandal permeated around her. She remained loyal, she always supports the Jarrett agenda, and says very little of substance to [Obama] himself. That is the basic operating system of this White House... Today Barack Obama has flown off in Air Force One to the California Coast. There he will give a teleprompted speech, make a brief roundtable appearance with some Left Coast tech business leaders, and then make his way to a high cost DNC fundraiser at the home of a San Francisco billionaire. That is the kind of schedule that make the simplistic Barack Obama most happy. And Valerie Jarrett will be with him every perpetually ignorant step of the way..." [71608]

McClatchyDC.com reports, "The federal government can read any emails that are more than six months old without a warrant. Little known to most Americans, ambiguous language in a communications law passed in 1986 extends Fourth Amendment protections against unreasonable search and seizure only to electronic communications sent or received fewer than 180 days ago. The language, known as the '180-day rule,' allows government officials to treat any emails, text messages or documents stored on remote servers—popularly known as the cloud—as 'abandoned' and therefore accessible using administrative subpoena power, a tactic that critics say circumvents due process. As you rush to purge your Gmail and Dropbox accounts, however, be forewarned that even deleted files still could be fair game as long as copies exist on a third-party server somewhere." [71534]

CNSNews.com reports, "The Federal Election Commission (FEC) is holding a hearing today to receive public feedback on whether it should create new rules regulating political speech, including political speech on the Internet that one commissioner warned could affect blogs, YouTube videos and even websites like the *Drudge Report*. The hearing is a response to the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in *McCutcheon v. FEC* last year, which struck down the FEC's previous cap on aggregate campaign contributions from a single donor in an election cycle. Before the decision, individuals were limited to a combined total of \$46,200 in contributions to all federal candidates, and \$70,800 to federal political action committees and parties. Individuals are no longer restricted by aggregate limits, which Chief Justice John Roberts said 'intrude without justification on a citizen's ability to exercise 'the most fundamental First Amendment activities.'" (There remains a \$2,600-per-federal candidate limit. One cannot, for example, donate more than

\$2,600 to a Congressional candidate, but one can donate \$2,600 to each of 100 different candidates.) [71514]

WashingtonExaminer.com adds, “[A] former Republican FEC chairman [Bradley Smith] said in his testimony that if the agency moves to regulate the Internet, including news voices like the Drudge Report as GOP commissioners have warned, many thousands more comments will flood in in opposition of regulation. ...Democratic [FEC] Chairwoman Ann Ravel, who called the hearing, has said she wants to regulate politicking on the Internet, though she has pulled back amid a public outcry, especially among conservatives who see her move as a bid to silence center-right websites and Internet based conservative groups and news sites.” [71540]

Pamela Geller comments on the FEC’s scheme, “Claiming that thousands of public comments condemning ‘dark money’ in politics can’t be ignored, the Obama administration and the Democrats mean to regulate the Internet, including news voices like mine. Do not be fooled by the concern over commenters—they are mostly leftist operatives, or as we call them, ‘trolls.’ No, if the Obama administration gave a fig about what the American people thought or wanted, Obamacare would never have seen the light of day. Millions of Americans protested, went to town halls, ‘commented,’ voted out Congress, and the Obama administration and his media minions shrugged and called them racists or tea baggers, etc. No, this is not about comments. It’s about shutting down the last vestige of truth, investigative journalism and freedom. But I can tell you one thing, if they try to pull this, they will have a revolution on their hands.” [71539]

Two polls show Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) leading Hillary Clinton in Iowa and New Hampshire for the 2016 Democrat presidential nomination. WashingtonExaminer.com notes, “Warren has said she doesn’t plan to challenge Clinton, though several others have indicated that they are looking at a bid, including Vice President Joe Biden and [socialist] Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT). The poll of 400 conducted Jan. 30 to Feb. 5 put Warren ahead of Clinton in Iowa, 31 percent to 24 percent. In New Hampshire, her lead is 30 percent to 27 percent. The groups cautioned that the poll mostly shows that voters are extremely open to her candidacy rather than her being a Clinton killer. They hope to use the poll to encourage Warren to change her position and get into the race.” [71515]

Pentagon press secretary Read Admiral John Kirby tells reporters that U.S. forces in Afghanistan killed former Taliban commander Abdul Rauf Khadim and seven of his fellow terrorists. (Khadim was released from Guantanamo by the Bush administration in 2007.) [71518]

CBS’ Mark Knoller reports that Obama will travel to San Francisco for a “cybersecurity summit,” and then spend the weekend in Palm Springs (where he will likely combat ISIS and climate change by playing golf). [71485]

CNSNews.com reports, “For the first time ever, real federal tax revenues topped \$1 trillion in the first four months of the fiscal year—October through January—according

to data released Wednesday by the U.S Treasury. ...[B]ut the federal government still ran a \$194,209,000,000 deficit during that time.” [71559, 71669]

On February 12 Democrats announce they have chosen Philadelphia as the site of their 2016 national convention, the week of July 25. (Rush Limbaugh notes, “Philadelphia is where the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were written, debated, refined and approved. And especially the Constitution,” and quips, “What in the world are the Democrats going to the site of the creation of the constitution for their convention. It’s like ISIS having their convention in Bethlehem.”) The Republican National Convention will be in Cleveland. [71484, 71532, 71557]

Departing Obama advisor Dan Pfeiffer tweets, “Perhaps the greatest trick Obama ever pulled off was a successful foreign trip as a candidate, luring countless GOPers into trying the same.” (Twitchy.com comments, “As a presidential candidate in 2008, Barack Obama made an extensive trip overseas where he met with world leaders and delivered speeches. Team Obama’s message about the trip at the time was that Obama was attempting to demonstrate his ability to ‘rehabilitate’ America’s image around the world. Republicans said Obama was just trying to keep up with Sen. McCain’s advantage on foreign policy. These days, Obama adviser Dan Pfeiffer says the trip still has residual effects on Republicans and provides even more evidence of Obama’s brilliance.” Some might argue that Pfeiffer is merely conforming that Obama is a talented con man, whose talents appeared greater because of willing media sycophants.) [71483]

Even Samantha Power, Obama’s U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, admits that ground forces will be needed to defeat ISIS. On *Morning Joe*, she says, “There has to be a fight on the ground. You can’t do this by air. Everybody acknowledges that.” But she does not go so far as to say U.S. troops will be needed. But she adds, “I think ...Obama really does believe, given what we’ve been through as a country and given what we need the Iraqis to do, that it’s important to signal that this is not the Iraq war of old and we’re not moving in that direction.” (In other words, “We need ground troops, but they won’t be U.S. ground troops.” That is another way of saying ISIS won’t be stopped for quite a while—perhaps not until it becomes so large and dangerous that the United States will have no choice but to confront them.) [71592, 71603]

According to Reporters Without Borders, the United States has fallen to 49th place in the World Press Freedom ranking of 180 nations. [71486]

By a vote of 93-5 the Senate confirms Ashton Carter to replace Chuck Hagel as Secretary of Defense. [71513]

At a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing, Senator David Vitter (R-LA) questions why no one went to jail over the HSBC Holdings scheme to launder Mexican drug money, and calls for the confirmation of Obama’s attorney general nominee, Loretta Lynch, be held up until questions have been answered. (Lynch oversaw the investigation of HSBC, which resulted in fines *but no criminal convictions*, despite the severity of the law-breaking.) [71589, 71591, 71651, 71890]

Obama praises departing Ebola czar Ron Klain, stating, “I have known him to be nothing less than an effective, dedicated, and tireless manager and leader. And those traits have been on full display since October, as Ron has helped marshal our whole-of-government approach to tackle Ebola at the source in West Africa and to fortify our preparedness here at home. The results of that effort speak for themselves, so much so that we can now turn our focus to our ultimate goal of getting to zero cases in West Africa, which might have seemed unthinkable last fall. As Ron finishes his tenure and returns to private life, I extend my gratitude for his service. He took on a challenge that many called insurmountable, and, in leading the team responsible for the tremendous progress, helped remind the world what makes America so exceptional.” (Exactly what Klain did is not known, beyond pressuring the media not to report Ebola stories.) [71525, 71526]

Senator Orrin Hatch (R-UT) blasts Obama’s “plan” for dealing with ISIS, calling his proposal “utterly stupid.” “And he’s binding the next president also with really stupid language. ...He’s asking for a limited authorization, with strict constraints on our own use of force—restrictions that the Islamic State can use to its advantage. If we’re saying up front that we will not use ground forces, will they not tailor their strategy around that fact? ...Why would we not only unilaterally impose limitations as to which types of tools and tactics our service members can use but then also broadcast these limitations to the enemy?” [71571]

Meanwhile, CNN’s Dana Bash writes, “Bipartisan criticism of ...Obama’s proposed authorization of force against ISIS mostly has to do with the use of U.S. troops and limits on the commander-in-chief. But one Republican lawmaker noticed something else that he calls quite troubling—omission of the word ‘Jews.’” Congressman Lee Zeldin (R-NY) “says it immediately leapt off the page that [Obama’s] proposed resolution specifically singles out several ethnic groups threatened by ISIS: Iraqi Christians, Yazidis and Turkmen, but says nothing about Jews.” Zeldin says, “I see an understanding, a recognition in the resolution with regards to ISIS attacks on Muslims, on Christians and others, and I didn’t see a reference to Jews, and one of the efforts I’ve been involved in is trying to raise awareness for the rising tide of anti-semitism. ...I think that when the White House is drafting a resolution for the authorization of force, that every single word, every phrase in there is done deliberately—it has to be. Jews should have been included by the White House.” [71572, 71696]

By a vote of 270-152 the House of Representatives passes a bill approving construction of the Keystone XL pipeline; 29 Democrats voted for the measure, which was passed by the Senate in January. Congressman Rob Bishop (R-UT) states, “The Hesitator in Chief has lost his last alibi. ...Obama must either sign this bipartisan legislation or look the American people in the eye and sink the thousands of construction and manufacturing jobs that would flow from approving the Keystone XL.” [71531]

ISIS takes control of the town of al-Baghdadi in Iraq as several hundred U.S. Marines train Iraqi forces at nearby Al-Asad Air Base. Reuters reports, “‘Ninety percent of al-Baghdadi district has fallen under the control of the insurgents,’ district manager Naji Arak told

Reuters by phone. Militants attacked al-Baghdadi from two directions earlier in the day and then advanced on the town, intelligence sources and officials in the Jazeera and Badiya operations commands said. The officials said another group of insurgents then attacked the heavily-guarded Ain al-Asad air base five km southwest of the town, but were unable to break into it. About 320 U.S. Marines are training members of the Iraqi 7th Division at the base...” There are conflicting reports of attacks on the air base. Former CIA officer Robert Baer observes, “I think what we’re seeing here is mission creep. The Iraqi army is not up to the task [of defeating ISIS]. And without the United States Air Force and the military on the ground, a lot of these... bases would be overrun.” (Whether Obama will send additional troops to reinforce the Marines or simply withdraws them, giving up the base to ISIS, remains to be seen.) [71529, 71530, 71595, 71602, 71631, 71647, 71656]

CNSNews.com reports, “As a deadline draws nearer for a nuclear deal with Iran, a leading nonproliferation and security think tank reports that new satellite imagery of a military facility near Tehran shows evidence of activity likely designed to conceal past banned nuclear-related activity. The facility in question is Parchin, a location where the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) suspects Iran conducted experiments in the past on nuclear detonators. Despite its repeated denials that it has ever sought to develop nuclear weapons, Iran has for years refused to allow IAEA inspectors to visit Parchin.” [71604]

Pamela Geller announces that her American Freedom Defense Initiative (AFDI) “will be holding a contest for cartoons of Muhammad, and an exhibit of Muhammad cartoons this May in Garland, Texas. The contest will be online, with entries posted at the AFDI website. The winning cartoon will be announced at the May 3 cartoon exhibit in Garland. The winning cartoonist will be awarded a \$10,000 prize. The cartoon exhibit will feature images of Islam’s prophet, both historic and contemporary, and speeches by leading voices of freedom and internationally renowned free speech advocates. Also speaking will be brave artists who are unbowed by violent threats and determined to stand for the freedom of speech. The exhibit will be held at the Curtis Culwell Center in Garland on Sunday, May 3. This was the site of a Muslim conference denouncing ‘Islamophobia’ — an obscene stand for them to take after the Charlie Hebdo massacre – and our massive Free Speech Rally outside that event. The Muslim event was held in a hall owned by the local school district. When asked why they allowed that event on their premises, they answered that their hall was open to anyone who wished to rent it. So we are renting it for our Muhammad Cartoon Exhibit.” (The AFDI is being forced to pay \$10,000 for police presence at the event. Geller asks, “Did the Islamic supremacists who organized the ‘Stand With the Prophet’ conference against free speech, held in the same venue as our event in Garland, Texas, have to pay \$10,000 for the extra security provided?”) [71537, 71543, 71686, 71804, 71805]

At a hearing of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, Ohio Secretary of State John Husted warns, “I want to bring to your attention my concern that [Obama’s] recent Immigration Accountability Executive Actions will make it more difficult for elections officials to determine if all voters meet the primary standard for voting—U.S.

citizenship. ...I am here to emphatically say that we cannot follow both the federal law and the executive action and ensure the integrity of the elections process without further assistance from Congress and the Obama administration. For an estimated four to five million non-citizens, [Obama's] executive actions provide access to Social Security numbers and driver's licenses. These are the same documents that federal law requires the states to recognize as valid forms of identification for voter registration. Under federal law, anyone with a valid Social Security number or driver's license number can register to vote, provided they attest that they are a U.S. citizen. However, *there is no way for us to validate this citizenship statement* [italics added], since under the executive actions previously undocumented non-citizens will have access to the same documents as U.S. citizens. The issue becomes especially complicated in states like Ohio where millions of dollars are spent on third-party voter registration drives where no election official would be present to make clear the eligibility requirements for voting. ...Acknowledging that I do not expect this to be a systemic or widespread problem [Husted is likely wrong about that], we also cannot ignore that there are real electoral consequences. Presidential elections get the most attention, but every year there are thousands of state and local elections in Ohio, and in the last 15 months alone, 70 elections were decided by one vote or tie." [71579]

Kansas Secretary of State Kobach adds, "The problem of aliens registering to vote is a massive one, nationwide. And I have seen it firsthand in Kansas. Because there is no way of scanning a state's voter rolls and identifying which of the registered voters are aliens, determining the exact number of aliens on the voter rolls is virtually impossible. But we know that the number is significant, because specific election episodes present evidence of aliens voting and because we gain some information by matching driver's license databases against voter rolls. Based on the empirical evidence that I have seen as the Kansas Secretary of State, it is a certainty that the Administration's executive actions will result in a large number of additional aliens registering to vote throughout the country, in violation of state and federal law. These are irreversible consequences, because once an alien registers to vote, it is virtually impossible to detect him and remove him from the list of registered voters." [71579]

Townhall.com's Katie Pavlich notes, "A Cooperative Congressional Election Study released in October 2014 found, 'more than 14 percent of non-citizens in both the 2008 and 2010 samples indicated that they were registered to vote. Furthermore, some of these non-citizens voted. Our best guess, based upon extrapolations from the portion of the sample with a verified vote, is that 6.4 percent of non-citizens voted in 2008 and 2.2 percent of non-citizens voted in 2010.' Lawmakers on Capitol Hill have vowed to further look into this problem as they try to find ways to defund ...Obama's executive amnesty." [71579]

According to various news reports, the White House may have known the location where hostage James Foley, Kayla Mueller, and others were held for as long as seven weeks before launching rescue attempts. (Foley was eventually beheaded by ISIS. How and when Mueller was killed has not been made public). HotAir.com writes, "We already knew they'd dragged their feet in greenlighting a rescue mission for the hostages. After

James Foley was murdered last summer, a defense source told [*The Sunday Times*'] Toby Harden that he'd heard the White House had waited nearly 30 days to say okay after special ops told them they were ready. The rescue team finally made their move on July 4th, only to find that the hostages were gone. Per [Fox News'] Catherine Herridge's sources, the full span of the delay was actually seven weeks—despite the fact that U.S. spies had intelligence pinpointing the specific building where Mueller, Foley, and the others were being held.” [71558]

Examiner.com reports, “Republican lawmakers on Thursday blasted ...Obama and his administration, saying their actions were ‘shameful’ when they assisted a Cuban spy to artificially inseminate his wife so that he could become a father even while he served life sentences in a U.S. prison, according to a House of Representatives press statement. ...The Cuban spy, Gerardo Hernandez, is one of the five Cuban prisoners the Obama administration ‘did not trade’ for the American prisoner Alan Gross, but rationalized as a bid to normalize U.S. relations with the Cuban dictatorship. In a shocking part of their negotiations with the Cubans, Obama’s White House ordered Hernandez’s sperm to be ‘collected’ from him while in prison and then shipped to his wife’s physician in Havana so she could be impregnated. Hernandez is currently in federal prison serving two life sentences for conspiring with the Cuban government to shoot down planes carrying American humanitarian workers. ...The letter [from lawmakers] slams the Obama administration for overlooking the facts of Hernandez’s case, and allowing him to have a family while ‘some of [his] victims were prevented from having families of their own.’” [71570]

Gawker.com reports that when Obama and his wife attended the wedding of White House chef Sam Kass and MSNBC’s Alex Wagner, other guests included former Weather Underground terrorist and fugitives from justice William “I don’t regret setting bombs” Ayers and Bernardine Dohrn. Gawker notes, “Ayers, Dohrn, Kass, and Wagner did not acknowledge multiple requests for comment. The White House and MSNBC were similarly reticent. ‘It was a private event and we are not going to comment any further,’ an MSNBC spokesperson told Gawker via email. White House spokesperson Jennifer Friedman declined to comment...” (The event was swarming with reporters, *but none bothered to report that the controversial Ayers and Dohrn were present*—until Gawker.com learned of their attendance. As longtime *Timeline* readers know, the Obama-Ayers relationship pre-dates and goes far beyond what the mainstream media has reported.) [71562, 71596]

HotAir.com writes, “Basic wedding etiquette requires that you not ask guests if they’ve ever tried to blow up American soldiers at a dance, so any awkward moments between the commander-in-chief and the former Weatherman (assuming they spoke at all) were presumably avoided. ...With Obama and Ayers, you’ve got the... commander-in-chief of the armed forces shrugging off his friendship with a guy who belonged to a group accused of targeting soldiers for death. If Ted Cruz was unrepentant palsies with someone who tried to bomb an abortion clinic, would it be sufficient to say ‘Senator Cruz doesn’t agree with those tactics?’ ...In ways very, very large (ahem) and very, very small (ahem), Obama’s entered the WGAF [who gives a fuck] stage... There’s no way he’d have



chanced encountering Ayers when his own ass was on the line electorally in 2008 and 2012; I'm amazed, actually, that he'd have chanced it last summer with the midterms just months away and Democrats desperate not to be hit with more bad news. But then Obama's always cared much more about Barack Obama's political viability than he has about the Democratic Party's. In fact, the news about him running into Ayers last year is a bit like [David] Axelrod admitting that O privately supported gay marriage in 2008 even while he was telling voters otherwise. In both cases, O was willing to show his true feelings only after he'd calculated that the political risk to him had dissipated. With gay marriage, that meant lying about his faith; with Ayers, it meant pretending that 'palling around' with a terrorist was an innocent mistake he'd made in the past, an artifact of moving in similar social circles in Chicago. Anyway. When's the big Oval Office reunion with Reverend Wright?" [71597, 71598]

According to USA Today.com, "Chelsea Manning, the convicted national-security secrets leaker, has been approved for hormone therapy for transition to a woman at the Army's Fort Leavenworth prison... Formerly named Bradley Manning, the soldier was convicted of sending classified documents to anti-secrecy website WikiLeaks. Manning is serving a 35-year prison sentence and is eligible for parole in about seven years. ...Manning sued the federal government for access to the treatment." (Manning now wants to be called "Chelsea.") Mara Keisling, executive director of the National Center for Transgender Equality, says it would be "cruel and unusual punishment" to deny Manning sex-change treatment. "If she has a heart attack, they have to treat that, too. This is no different." It is worth noting that the Army has never approved sex-change treatment for active duty soldiers, and transgender individuals are not accepted into the Army. (So far Manning has only claimed to be a woman trapped in a man's body. Whether he may claim to be a U.S. president trapped in the body of a private first class remains to be seen.) [71563, 71564, 71601]

With Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker's political star rising along with the likelihood that he may enter the Republican primaries in 2016, *The Washington Post* quickly begins researching his past in an effort to find something to disqualify him. The *Post's* hit piece notes "lingering questions" about Walker's past, including his failure to do well in French class and the loss of a student election in his sophomore year. (Apparently not speaking French and losing a student election disqualifies one from entering the White House.) Real estate tycoon Donald Trump asks Breitbart.com, "Why didn't they send a reporter over to Occidental [College] and to Columbia [University] and to the various Obama schools? There's never been a reporter over there. Nobody's ever found anything. There's [sic; there are] no records available. Why didn't they send a reporter over to talk to the people from the schools he went to? It seems like a terrible double standard. ...They have nothing. They have nothing. They don't even have any records at all. They have no record of names. They have no record he went there. And of course [Obama] spent \$3.2 million to make sure they don't have any records." [71569, 71578, 71610]

Obama has made sure that his own school records have been sealed. But despite his successes in life, Walker is being scrutinized by the media because he attended yet did not finish college. That is irrelevant, of course, or—at the very least—less significant

than the fact that Obama is hiding something about his college years. Some speculate that Obama's grades were poor and that he only got into Harvard Law School because "strings were pulled." Others, including this *Timeline*, also suspect that Obama was registered as a foreign student from Indonesia when he attended Occidental College. That would mean he either became a citizen of Indonesia and therefore is not a U.S. citizen eligible to serve as president, or he lied about foreign citizenship in order to receive special treatment. Either would be something Obama would have a reason to hide. (Obama's campaign guru, David Axelrod, is asked by Hugh Hewitt why Obama's school records have never been released. He replies, "You know, honestly—I've got to—I'm not fundamentally focused on that. It's not something that I wrote about. And I'm not sure how relevant it is." For leftists, Walker's school records are important, but Obama's are not relevant.) [71616, 71695]

On MSNBC's *Morning Joe*, former Vermont Governor Howard Dean suggests Walker is unqualified to serve as president because he did not finish college. Dean says, "Scott Walker, were he to become president, would be the first president in many generations who did not have a college degree. ... The issue is, how well-educated is this guy?" DailySignal.com comments, "No, Walker never made it as a barista in Brooklyn—which seems to be the ideal job for college grads these days—but nothing he's done demonstrates a lack of education or aptitude. Nor is he alone in opting to drop out of college. The late Steve Jobs of Apple and Pixar, Bill Gates of Microsoft, Mark Zuckerberg of Facebook, John Mackey of Whole Foods all dropped out of college. Clearly, there are more ways to climb the ladder of economic opportunity than college alone." (Some might argue that Walker was wise: he did not burden himself with sky-high student loans he would need decades to pay off.) [71588]

At the American Enterprise Institute, Congressman Mike McCaul (R-TX) states, "I believe we are now entering the defining struggle of our generation and beyond. [Obama's] reluctance to lead [in the fight against Islamist terrorists] has invited danger to our doorstep. ... We didn't take the words of Adolph Hitler seriously until the foot soldiers of the Third Reich marched across Europe. We didn't take the words of Vladimir Lenin seriously until Communism spread across the globe. And unfortunately the president didn't take the words of groups like ISIS seriously until they established a sweeping self-proclaimed Islamic Caliphate." McCaul observes that Obama is "wrestling internally with his campaign narrative. It's almost like he's not attending briefings, or if he is, he's being deceptive to the American people. ... What we really need is urgent action" and accepting the "weighty responsibilities that belong to a great nation. The free world, when confronted with such a persistent threat to its basic values cannot retreat from this. We must act." (After World War II and the holocaust, millions of people said, "Never again." In fact, it *is* happening again, with hundreds of thousands of innocent Muslims, Christian, and Jews persecuted by radical Islamists throughout the world. Tens of thousands have been shot to death, crucified, beheaded, buried alive, burned alive, and sold into slavery. If the United States does not act against the menace, no one else will. Millions of Americans may not want to place more "boots on the ground" in the Middle East, but it is arguably a moral imperative that significant action be taken. If it is not, the phrase "never again" should never again be used.) [71568]

On *The Kelly File*, Megyn Kelly addresses syndicated columnist Charles Krauthammer: “The one strongest ally we have in this region is Israel. Obviously, Jordan’s another one, but Israel’s the strongest ally to the United States and strongest military. And yet with respect to that ally, it seems to be acrimony and confrontation [from the White House] and poking the bear and affronts to Benjamin Netanyahu. Why?” Krauthammer replies, “Well, what do you think I am a psychiatrist? [In fact, Krauthammer is a psychiatrist.] I can’t quite work that one out. But I will point out that Barack Obama has foresworn regime change in the region. Remember when we had the Iranian revolution under Obama’s watch in 2009, when there was a chance to get rid of the most anti-American regime in the region? He didn’t lift a finger, even rhetorically. No regime change. He said that’s Bush stuff. That is not what we should—except in one place: the one place he’s actively trying to change the regime is in Israel. He’s doing everything he can to outmaneuver, to humiliate, to insult, to give the back of the hand to Bibi Netanyahu, knowing that for any Israeli Prime Minister, jeopardizing the U.S.-Israeli relationship could be fatal at the polls and that’s exactly what Obama’s doing.” [71577, 71606]

Krauthammer is partly correct. Although Obama did not want regime change in Iran, he was perfectly happy to help oust Hosni Mubarak in Egypt and Moammar Gaddafi in Libya. Obama preferred that the Iranian regime *not* be replaced by a freedom-seeking democracy, but *was* eager to see the Muslim Brotherhood take over in Egypt and jihadists take control in Libya. [71848]

CBS journalist Bob Simon is killed in an accident in New York City. According to the *Daily Mail*, “The cab driver in the crash... had his license suspended at least half a dozen times prior to the fatal accident and had two traffic convictions, the NYPD confirmed... Reshad Abdul Fedahi, 44, of Queens, New York, had multiple cleared suspensions and was driving on a probationary license. ...Holding a probationary license means that the driver has been behind the wheel for less than a year. ...A preliminary investigation into the Manhattan crash which killed the 73-year-old also suggested that a combination of speed, an inexperienced driver and the fact the reporter wasn’t wearing a seatbelt could be responsible, according to police sources. The driver may have also hit the gas pedal instead of the brake hitting the other car according to authorities.” Vdare.com later adds, “Now we learn that the taxi driver is an Afghan immigrant, Abdul Reshad Fedahi, who lives in a homeless shelter and has a long list of license suspensions. And one of his arms doesn’t work. [His arm was rendered inoperative in a suicide attempt years earlier.] How does a man like that get a job where he is responsible for the safety of the public? Was Fedahi given a pass because he is a foreigner?” According to NYPost.com, “Fedahi suffered two broken legs and a broken arm. He was treated for a possible heart attack at the crash scene, but sources said it did not appear that he suffered one. ...Fedahi has not been charged in the crash.” [71658, 71659, 71660]

On February 13 an early-morning fire at an Islamic center in Houston destroys one building. LATimes.com reports, “About 25 firefighters responded and extinguished the fire within an hour, according to Kenyatta Parker, a spokesman for Houston Fire Department, who said arson investigators were still trying to determine the cause of the

fire late Friday. Institute officials said investigators told them the fire was intentionally set. ...Worshippers said the fire was particularly troubling after an attack in Chapel Hill, N.C., on Tuesday that left three Muslims dead.” (If the fire was set intentionally, it may have been done for reasons other than “Islamophobia.” Further, it would not be out of the question for Muslims to have set the fire for the purpose of “playing the victim card.” That tactic is often used by the Palestinians against Israel.) [71584]

In Izmir, Turkey, police use water cannons to disperse demonstrators protesting against the increasing Islamization of schools. Reuters reports, “Parts of some regular schools have been requisitioned to create more places for students in Imam Hatip religious schools championed by [Turkish president Recep Tayyip Erdogan], where girls and boys are taught separately. Almost a million students are enrolled in those schools, up from 65,000 when Erdogan’s AKP [political party] came to power in 2002.” (Erdogan is Obama’s favorite foreign leader.) [71687]

Addressing the House Armed Services Committee, William Braniff, executive director of the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START) at the University of Maryland, states, “When START releases the full Global Terrorism Database dataset for 2014, we anticipate it will include over 15,000 terrorist attacks—a vast increase from 2013, which was already the most lethal and active year for global terrorism in the dataset, which dates back to 1970. ...According to preliminary data from the first nine months of 2014, seven of the 10 most lethal terrorist groups include ISIL, Boko Haram, the Taliban, alShabaab, al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, TehrikiTaliban Pakistan, and Jabhat al-Nusra. Given this reality, it is even more alarming to note that ISIL conducted more attacks than any other terrorist group, including all other groups associated with AQAM in the first nine months of 2014.” [71724]

Former New York City mayor Rudi Giuliani crushes Obama’s policies in an address at the “Countering Islamic Fundamentalism and a Nuclear-Armed Iran” conference in Arizona. Giuliani says, “[W]hat we’re trying to get the American people to understand, what we’re trying to get the people of Arizona to understand, is happening. And this is very, very difficult, because we’re trying to break through an administration and a media that refuses to tell this message. I have never seen anything like this, and I’ve been in public office a good deal of my life and involved in public affairs all my life. I have never seen anything like this, the inability to get this story across. ...[Innocent people] have been murdered, they have been slaughtered, they have been raped, they have been tortured, they have been beheaded, they have been burned by a movement that [Obama] will not recognize. What is wrong with him? Is there no passion? Is there no passion for the lives of these innocent people? Is there no caring for them? Do you know what the slaughter at Fort Hood was described as? Workplace violence. Workplace violence. This is a captain in the United States Army who had become a jihadist two years before, who was communicating with Afghanistan and Pakistan and Yemen. [It] Doesn’t take a genius to figure out the cause for which he was murdering. He told us, “Allahu Akbar.” But [Obama] doesn’t see the connection. Just the other day he called the slaughter of those Jewish people in France a random act. Mr. [Obama], wake up! Come off the golf

course. Come back on earth. These people have all been murdered by a movement.” [72047, 72048, 72049]

“I agree it’s diverse. I agree it has many forms. Al Qaeda, ISIS, Al Qaeda in Yemen, self-generated Jihadists like the Boston Marathon killers. But it’s connected, it’s connected by two things. It’s connected by a common ideology, which is the misuse of the Islamic religion for the purpose of defending the slaughter and desecration of human beings. And it’s united by one other thing, money and support from the regime of Iran. Those are the two things that connect it. And [Obama] is sitting down and negotiating with the regime of Iran. Iran has probably been responsible for more American deaths than any singular terrorist group. It is indisputably the largest supporter of terrorism in the world. It just—once again we found out [Iran] was responsible for the murder of all of those Jewish people in Argentina back in 1994. We will never forget the American hostages that were held by the Iranians [in 1979-1980]. It seems to me ...Obama has forgotten it. I haven’t forgotten it. I remember every day of it. And I remember... they were held for months and months and days and days and weeks and weeks, as they looked into the eyes of a weak president, Jimmy Carter. And they were never released. And the moment they looked into Ronald Reagan’s eyes, the moment he put his hand on the Bible and put his hand up they released them. Well, once again they are looking into weak eyes, the eyes of [Obama], begging for an agreement with Iran at all cost.” [72047, 72048, 72049]

“So let’s review the agreement, because this is really what’s at stake here. And then one other thing that’s so important. Iran wants, it says, the peaceful use of nuclear power. Iran has 300 years of natural gas and oil reserves and they haven’t [even] started fracking or hydraulic drilling yet. They may have 1,000 years of reserves. ...Iran does not need a nuclear power plant for power. They [have] got plenty of energy, plenty of energy to export to the rest of the world. There is no reason in the world for them to have the peaceful use of nuclear power. Maybe France needs it. Maybe countries without natural resources need it, but Iran doesn’t need it. So why have they been doing this? They’ve been doing this because they want to become a nuclear power. Not only that, they have written that, they have said that, they have described that. The president ‘reformer’ who runs Iran, [Hassan] Rouhani, in ’03 and ’05 continued to enrich uranium while they had a standstill agreement with us. He did it secretly and bragged about it, and we’re negotiating with them. This is like playing poker with a guy who cheated you twice before. You know who does that? A moron [that is, Obama]. An agreement with Iran with regard to nuclear power should be very simple. Iran should not be allowed to have any form of nuclear power.” [72047, 72048, 72049]

“Most of us, maybe not all of us in this room, went through the Cold War. Those of us in the Reagan administration certainly remember it. General [Henry Hugh] Shelton fought it, the Cold War, because it wasn’t always a cold war. And the big fear during the Cold War was that a madman would come along and be able to get his finger on the button in the U.S. or Russia, and all of a sudden we could destroy the world. We saw movies about that, we saw Broadway plays about that, we saw comedies about that, and we read books about that. And we were afraid of that. And it never happened, thank God. These people in Iran, the Ayatollah and the mullahs, have already told us they are insane. They have

already described to us in words and deeds the actions of insane people. I didn't say irrational, I said insane. I believe the Ayatollah is truly insane. He lives in a different world than the real world in which we live, which is probably the best definition of insanity you can have. He's like the guy walking around Bellevue Hospital thinking he's George Washington. He's a madman. He's announced that he wants to destroy the state of Israel. And we are upset that Prime Minister Netanyahu wants to come here and defend his country? When someone who is a few hundred miles away wants nuclear weapons and has threatened to destroy his country of six or seven million people? It's smaller than New York City. Believe me, when I was Mayor of New York, if someone threatened to destroy New York City I would go anywhere, any place, any time, and I wouldn't give a damn what the President of the United States thought, to defend my country. That is a patriot. That's a man who loves his people. That's a man who protects his people. That's a man who fights for his people. Unlike [Obama]. Twelve red lines to [Syria]. Twelve red lines, they all turned pink, and the last one turned yellow. He backed down to Assad 12 times. You don't think that had a connection to what Putin did in Crimea? If you don't, you don't understand world history, you don't understand world diplomacy, and you don't understand power politics. Putin looked one time at Obama and he said, 'I can take advantage of this man, because he is weak.'" [72047, 72048, 72049]

"So we are here to appeal to you. We know your senators, particularly Senator [John] McCain understands this as well or better than I do. [Obama] should not be allowed to reach an agreement with Iran without presenting it to the United States Congress. This is not, this is not a dictatorship. This is not a country run by one man. This is not a country run by one branch of the government. The Congress of the United States speaks for the people of the United States. This agreement is too important to be imposed on us the way ...Obama has ignored the laws in so many other ways, and gotten away with it because he has a press who defends him no matter what he does." [72047, 72048, 72049]

"...It must be stopped. It has to be stopped. Our last resort is our Congress. But you know something, our Congress is always our last resort because it is our Congress which represents our people. And I implore our Congress to stop [Obama] for doing things that will be so difficult to reverse that even if the next president were a Ronald Reagan it might be difficult to reverse. After all, we are never going to bring Kayla Mueller back to life and we are never going to bring those people there back to life. And I am never going to have my ten close friends that I lost on September 11th who were killed by Islamic extremist terrorists, I'm never going to have them ever again. and I'm never going to have my 343 firefighters. Never going to have them ever again. We can't bring them back, but we can make sure there aren't more of them. [But Obama] isn't doing it. [Obama] is moving us in a much worse and really frightening direction. And Congress must stop it, and the people must stand up and say, no, no, no, we will not sell out to Iran the way [Neville] Chamberlain sold out to Hitler. No!" [72047, 72048, 72049, 72055]

The CBS affiliate in San Francisco reports that Covered California, the state's ObamaCare exchange, mailed more than one million 1095-A forms even though it knew about 100,000 contained errors. They were sent anyway, "to beat the February 2nd deadline" for mailing. ...[C]orrected forms should be going out at the end of the month.

But if those forms have additional errors, enrollees will have to file a dispute and wait another 60 days for a response, putting them well past April 15 and in some cases resulting in extended filing fees or interest on taxes owed.” (It is worth noting that tax preparer H&R Block, which supported ObamaCare’s passage, will make a fortune as a result of its complexity. According to DailyCaller.com, the company “is well positioned to earn more than \$100 million in additional fees from low-income Obamacare enrollees as they face the daunting challenge to properly file this year’s complicated health-related tax forms. ...H&R Block’s decision to seek windfall profits from the Obamacare law also has riled some of its competitors, which are instead providing free help to low-income enrollees in filling out the complex tax forms. ...It appears H&R Block was the only tax-preparation company to lobby for the Democrats’ health reform push, according to lobbying reports.” The company spent about \$2 million on lobbying efforts in 2010, the year ObamaCare was passed into law—an amount that it will consider well-spent if it results in an additional \$100 million in new revenue.) [71717, 72123]

DailyCaller.com reports that Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA), while framing herself as against big business and corporate cronyism, “apparently has a very tight relationship with defense contractors in her home state. Soon after she was elected to the Senate in 2012, Warren found herself sending letters to then-Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel and Secretary of the Army John M. McHugh. She was advocating for the Warfighter Information Network-Tactical, which was engineered by General Dynamics in Massachusetts, despite the Government Accountability Office pointing out its cost breaches and poor performance, Politico reports. Warren also went to the plate for General Dynamics a second time when she stated that Army Manpack radios were a technological success. But just last month, the chief weapons tester at the Pentagon stated that the radios, designed to provide voice and data communications in the field, were neither operationally suitable nor operationally effective, according to Defense News. The Manpack is 35 pounds and soldiers complained of the heat radiating off the device. ...Warren has supported targeted cuts in other states, saying she won’t let the budget come down hard on the Westover Air Reserve Base in Massachusetts. On her way to the Capitol on Friday morning, Warren refused to respond to questions from Politico about her close ties to the Massachusetts defense industry.” [71565, 71566, 71567]

At Townhall.com Conn Carroll warns that “Obama’s amnesty isn’t temporary.” “The Department of Homeland Security confirmed... that thousands of illegal immigrants granted temporary amnesty through ...Obama’s Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals [DACA] program will also get permanent U.S. citizenship thanks to how DHS is administering the program. When Obama first announced his DACA program back in June 2012, he told the American people, ‘Now, let’s be clear—this is not amnesty, this is not immunity, this is not a path to citizenship.’ However, as the Center for Immigration Studies pointed out just months after Obama’s announcement, a loophole in immigration law created the possibility that DHS could use the DACA program to put thousands of DACA recipients on a path to citizenship.” [71581]

“Here is how the loophole works: Once an illegal immigrant has been given deferred action status through Obama’s DACA program, he or she can then apply for ‘advance

parole' status, a status normally given to lawful immigrants who have a pending green card application but can also show a pressing need to travel abroad that 'serves the public interest.' All a DACA recipient needs to do is invent a reason to travel back home (perhaps an ailing grandmother), apply for advance parole, and then reenter the country legally. Once they have reentered the country legally with their new advance parole status they are no longer an illegal immigrant and can now begin a path to citizenship just like any legal immigrant. The DHS confirmed in a conference call with House Judiciary Committee staff Thursday that 4,566 DACA recipients have been granted advance parole status out of the 6,400 that have applied. That is an 88 percent success rate. More troubling, when the Obama administration begins implementing their new DACA expansion program this year, they will allow DACA applicants to apply for advance parole status at the same time. House Judiciary Committee Chairman Bob Goodlatte sent a letter to DHS Secretary Jeh Johnson Friday demanding that DHS stop granting advance parole to all DACA recipients." [71581]

Commenting on the killing of three Muslims in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, Obama states, "No one in the United States of America should ever be targeted because of who they are, what they look like, or how they worship." (There is no evidence that the three victims were targeted because of any of those things; the killings reportedly arose out of a dispute over parking spaces. Obama's statement shows, without evidence, that he considers the killings a "hate crime." Sky.com reports that the killer, Craig Stephen Hicks, "turned himself in and is in custody on first-degree murder charges. The accused, a paralegal student at a local community college, had confronted other residents about parking and noise. Neighbour Samantha Maness, 25, said Hicks was known in the apartment complex as someone with a short temper. She described him as displaying 'equal opportunity anger towards the residents here.' Hicks' ex-wife told the Associated Press he was obsessed with *Falling Down*, the 1993 movie about a jobless divorcee who goes berserk. She said he showed 'no compassion at all.'") [71628, 71629, 71664]

Oregon's scandal-ridden governor, John Kitzhaber, resigns—and blames the media for his troubles. More than a few news outlets neglect to mention that he is a Democrat—or that hedge fund millionaire Tom Steyer, who bankrolls Democrat candidates, and a terribly-run state ObamaCare exchange are linked to the scandals. *The New York Times* skips "Democrat" in its headline, and laughably writes, "A shared passion for a low-carbon energy future eventually led to a personal relationship, a blizzard of inquiries, and finally a governor's resignation." (Among other abuses of his office, Kitzhaber used his influence to get \$118,000 in "green energy" fees for his fiancée, Cylvia Hayes—who is 20 years younger than him.) [71582, 71583, 71622, 71691, 71692, 71698, 71716, 71881, 72198]

CNN national security correspondent Jim Sciutto reports that U.S. helicopter gunships have been deployed to engage ISIS near the Iraqi city of al-Baghdadi. [71586, 71587, 71602]

At Takimag.com Pat Buchanan writes, "North of Syria, along 500 miles of border, sits a Turkish army of half a million with 3,000 tanks that could cross over and annihilate ISIS



in a month. Former Secretary of State James Baker suggests that the U.S. offer air, logistics and intelligence support, if the Turks will go in and snuff out ISIS. But not only have the Turks not done so, for a time they looked the other way as jihadists crossed their border to join ISIS. ... There are reports that the Saudis and the Gulf Arabs would be more willing to participate in a war on ISIS if we would first effect the ouster of [Syria's] Bashar Assad. ... Everyone in the Middle East, it appears, wants the United States to fight their wars for them. But as they look out for their interests first, it is time we started looking out for ours first. ... But it is the Sunni Arabs, the royals on the Arabian Peninsula and the sheiks on the Gulf, to whom this should be a fire bell in the night. For ISIS is out to dethrone these perceived royal puppets of a detested America and to reclaim... custody of Mecca and Medina." [71609]

DailySignal.com writes, "What happens to pay when companies unionize? A new study by a Massachusetts Institute of Technology-trained economist comes to a surprising conclusion: Wages fall. Dr. Brigham Frandsen compared companies whose workers narrowly voted to unionize with those whose employees voted narrowly to stay non-union. He found that average wages at the narrowly unionized companies fell 2-4 percent relative to those that narrowly rejected unionization. Unions attempt to raise wages. Why would unionizing cause them to fall? Frandsen found a straightforward explanation. Average wages did not change for workers who stayed with their company. But many of the most productive—and highly paid—workers quit after their companies unionized and took jobs with non-union firms. Their replacements tended to have lower wages, so the exodus of talent pulled down the average. Top employees leave because union contracts set pay ceilings. Unionized companies may not pay individual workers more than the union rate without the union's permission, and unions rarely give that permission. They typically insist on seniority systems that award raises based solely on time served, not individual effort. Unionizing typically reduces the pay of high-performing workers. No matter how hard they work, they cannot earn more than the seniority system permits. Consequently, they choose to leave and take jobs at non-union companies." [71613]

At Townhall.com Conn Carroll reports that Obama "signed an executive order Friday directing the Department of Homeland Security to create new cybersecurity organizations that would make it easier for the federal government to get private sector data. Formally announced by Obama at a White House Cybersecurity Summit at Stanford University in Palo Alto, California, the order directs the Department of Homeland Security to create a new entity in charge of making rules for how private sector companies share cybersecurity information with each other and the government. The order also makes it easier for DHS's lead cybersecurity agency, the National Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Center, to share information, including classified information, with the new cybersecurity organizations, officially called Information Sharing and Analysis Organizations." The White House is also "pushing legislation... that would give companies sharing information with the federal government protection from lawsuits by consumers who believed their privacy has been violated. ... But Silicon Valley CEOs are resisting Obama's policies. Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg, Yahoo's Marissa Mayer, and Google's Larry Page and Eric Schmidt were all invited to the summit but declined to attend. Not only are these tech companies still wary of trusting the federal

government in the wake of the Edward Snowden revelations, but they also object to the NSA's policy of withholding known cybersecurity flaws in private sector hardware and software. The NSA stockpiles these security bugs so they can exploit them for their own purposes in the future. Tech companies would prefer the NSA just alert them to the flaws as they are found so they can be fixed and better protect American consumers." [71611, 71614, 71649]

During a local newscast in San Diego, anchorwoman Kathleen Bade says, "The only suspect in a sex assault at SDSU will not be charged..." As she reads her report, a photograph of Obama is inadvertently displayed on the screen, accompanied by the words, "No Charges." (The station later apologizes.) [71705, 71706, 71709]

At a fundraiser in San Francisco, Obama says, "Part of my goal [in the next two years] is to restore a sense of possibility in politics and government. ...I intend to run through the tape and work really hard and squeeze every last little bit of change and improvement... that I can." (After a night in San Francisco, Obama will head to Palm Springs for a weekend of golf.) [71612]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, "Islamic State militants clad in Iraqi fighter uniforms and suicide vests launched a sophisticated attack Friday on the second-largest U.S. air base in Iraq, creating havoc at the site of a U.S.-led training operation. Defense Department spokesman Rear Adm. John Kirby said during a Friday briefing at the Pentagon that 20 to 25 militants—most of them wearing the uniforms of the U.S. partner nation—rushed the Ain al-Asad base near the western Iraq town of al-Baghdadi and were able to breach the base perimeter. Some of the militants detonated their suicide vests, though it is unknown how far into the base the militants were able to get before members of the Iraq army were able to quash the attack, Adm. Kirby told reporters. 'I can't sit here and tell you the degree to which the perimeter was breached,' he said. 'I just don't have that level of detail. But they certainly did arrive at the perimeter of the base.'" (There is no report of U.S. casualties at the time of this writing.) [71615]

On February 14 DCClothesline.com reports, "The Senate has put a hold on Loretta Lynch's nomination to take over for the ethically challenged Eric Holder. Interestingly enough, the GOP overlooked Lynch's involvement with a con man who turned state's evidence. Lynch allowed the con man to keep 40 million he stole from clients and did not notify the victims that a plea bargain had been reached, which is required by law. The thing that's holding up Lynch's nomination is the settlement with HSBC for money laundering. It seems they were money laundering for Mexican drug cartels, terrorist organizations and Medicare fraudsters. Even though it was their third violation of US laws in less than ten years, Lynch did not prosecute any of the officers of the bank. Had any been convicted, that would have set into motion the eviction of HSBC from the American banking scene. Instead, they paid nearly 2 billion [dollars] in fines. ...Democrats could have confirmed Lynch during the lame duck session, but chose not to, which leads me to believe they had doubts about her and decided to let the republicans do the heavy lifting so they could then blame them for rejecting a 'highly qualified

minority and woman.’ They could then play the race card and republican war on women at the same time.” [71654, 71890]

One day before the deadline for 2015 ObamaCare enrollment, the Healthcare.gov web site encounters problems that prevent many last-minute users from signing up. [71762]

After a report by NBC correspondent Richard Engel about the abduction and rape of children by ISIS, State Department spokesperson Jennifer Psaki tells Andrea Mitchell, “Andrea, first I really want to thank you and thank Richard for bringing light to these types of stories. It is something we don’t talk about enough: the horrific atrocities that women and children are becoming victims of at the hands of ISIL. This is an untold story about what’s happening in Syria, what’s happening in Iraq and something that we really all need to be talking about. It’s something we’re very focused on here at the State Department. We have a whole office on international women and girls. They talk about this frequently but we should all be screaming about how terrible this is.” (Pat Dollard writes at his blog, “This is the modern version of watching Auschwitz go down live on TV and Roosevelt says we should chat about it but by all means not attack Germany. With Boko Haram it was a hashtag, with ISIS it is talk. This is how Obama fights [or rather, does not fight] the modern Nazis and their holocaust of horrors.”) [72386]

A gunman opens fire at a freedom of speech event at the Krudttonden cultural center in Copenhagen, Denmark, killing 55-year-old filmmaker Finn Noergaard (*Boomerang Boy, Le Le*). According to ABC News, the event was sponsored by Lars Vilks, a Swedish artist who has been threatened by Muslims for his satirical depictions of “the Prophet Muhammed.” Vilks, who once drew a cartoon of Muhammad as a dog, is not injured in the attack, but three police officers are wounded by the automatic weapon-yielding gunman, who flees the scene. Several hours later, a gunman opens fire at two police officers outside a synagogue in downtown Copenhagen, wounding them. A Jewish civilian, Dan Uzan, is killed by the gunman, who escapes on foot. One witness tells CNN he thought he heard the gunman yell something in Arabic. [71632, 71633, 71635, 71653, 71655, 71826, 72607]

California drought notwithstanding, Obama practices his “strategic patience” policy on a well-watered Sunnylands Annenberg Estate golf course in Palm Springs. (While Obama golfs in California, his wife and daughters spend the weekend skiing in Aspen, Colorado. One estimate of the taxpayer cost for the two separate weekend trips is at least \$2.5 million) [71646, 71720, 71771, 71776, 71871]

Vice President Joe Biden appears in a Valentine’s Day YouTube video. He says, “Your health and well-being is the best gift you can give your parents or anyone else who loves you out there, so go check out HealthCare.gov, and pick a plan that’s best fit for you. ...I think you’re going to find that it’s more affordable than your cell phone bill.” (Cell phone bills would also be more affordable if the users could get the government to force the taxpayers to subsidize their use—but that does not make doing so a good idea.) [71652]

GotNews.com's controversial Charles C. Johnson sends a number of Twitter messages, including, "Have you ever seen a photo of a pregnant Michelle Obama? If not why not?" "Why does Sasha Obama look like Jesse Jackson Jr.? Could it be because she was conceived when Michelle Obama filed divorce papers?" "Why don't we know Sasha Obama's middle name?" (Sasha's name is actually Natasha; this *Timeline* does not know if she has a middle name. Her sister Malia's middle name is Ann.) "Why do we know more about Scott Walker's educational record than about the Obamas' divorce filings?" "One of the things that I dislike about the birthers is how they've poisoned legitimate research into Obama's past." "I long for a world where we can publish the truth about our public figures." "I have a large private collection of things that Barack Obama wrote. No way did he write Dreams From My Father." "Isn't it odd if Obama wrote to his 'father' for years that the Obamas don't have any record of those letters?" "We missed our window to stop Obama. I won't let that happen with Hillary." "I once interviewed Mark Obama [Obama's alleged Kenyan half-brother] & he claimed that his father did not go to Hawaii in 1971. So explain these photos [of Obama, Sr. with Obama, Jr. and Stanley Ann Dunham]." "The birthers are right about the birth certificate being fake. But they are wrong as to why..." "I'm not a birther. I think he was born in Hawaii." "Why is Barack Obama in Frank Marshall Davis's back yard as a toddler [in a photo]?" "If Obama was so close to his Kenyan 'relatives' why did he only spend 30 minutes with his grandma in Kenya?" "I spent a few weeks in Jakarta tracking down stuff about Obama. He did not give up American citizenship but he also was listed as Indonesian." "Obama was born in Hawaii. He is eligible to be president but what about this Frank Marshall Davis guy?" "Okay I have said too much truthful stuff tonight. Bye." (This *Timeline* challenges Johnson to come forward with the evidence of Obama's past he claims to have. Death threats are not a reason not to proceed; the *Timeline* author has received more than a few death threats and has not stopped researching and writing.) [71719, 72003]

In Bryan, Texas, local police officers, sheriff's officer, Texas Rangers, and FBI agents storm a meeting of a secessionist group called "The Republic of Texas." According to MySanAntonio.com, "at least 20 officers corralled, searched and fingerprinted all 60 meeting attendees, before seizing all cellphones and recording equipment in a Valentine's Day 2015 raid on the Texas separatist group." The group's president, John Jarnecke, says, "We had no idea what was going on. We knew of nothing that would warrant such an action. ...[Y]es, we are still making every attempt to get independence for Texas and we're doing it in a lawful international manner. ...I'm positive we will get our independence back at some point in time. Now we're just trying to nip things in the bud ahead of time to make sure the people are the ones that have the power when it happens, not the government." (The First Amendment, of course, allows U.S. citizens to meet and discuss the possibility of their state seceding from the union. Abraham Lincoln stated, "This country, with its institutions, belongs to the people who inhabit it. Whenever they shall grow weary of the existing government, they can exercise their constitutional right of amending it, or exercise their revolutionary right to overthrow it." On the other hand, Lincoln also stated, "...my opinion is that no state can, in any way lawfully, get out of the Union, without the consent of the others; and that it is the duty of the President, and other government functionaries to run the machine as it is." In other words, "You can overthrow an unjust government, but not *my* unjust government." Many would argue that

the current U.S. government is far more unjust than that of King George III.) [72129, 72130, 72131, 72132]

On February 15 police kill the Copenhagen terrorist, Omar Abdel Hamid El-Hussein, in a shoot-out at a train station. (Danish Muslims then *honor the killer* by placing flowers and notes at the site of his killing.) FoxNews.com reports, “Copenhagen police said the 22-year-old man was born in Denmark and had a criminal record, including violence and weapons offenses. They didn’t release his name. Police said they had found an automatic weapon that may have been the one the gunman used in an attack on a cultural center hosting a free speech event. Danish police killed the man early Sunday, who is suspected of carrying out attacks at the free speech event and at a Copenhagen synagogue that left two men dead and five police officers wounded. Officials said it is possible he was imitating the terror attacks that took place in Paris last month carried out by Islamic radicals at the Charlie Hebdo newsroom and at a kosher grocery store that left 17 dead.” Danish Prime Minister Helle Thorning-Schmidt states, “Denmark has been hit by terror. We do not know the motive for the alleged perpetrator” actions, but we know that there are forces that want to hurt Denmark. They want to rebuke our freedom of speech.” She also says, “We feel certain now that it was a politically motivated attack, and thereby it was a terrorist attack.” (It was not politically motivated; it was motivated by the religion and ideology of Islam.) [71634, 71636, 71637, 71653, 71678, 71688, 71689, 71690, 71697, 71735, 71736, 71826]

British Prime Minister David Cameron tweets, “I condemn the shootings in Copenhagen. Free speech must always be protected.” (This is the same David Cameron whose government has prohibited Pamela Geller and Robert Spencer from speaking in Great Britain about the dangers of Islam—because he does not want to offend Muslims.) [71666, 71683]

Carefully avoiding the use of the term “terrorist,” National Security Council spokesperson Bernadette Meehan states, “The United States condemns today’s deplorable shooting in Copenhagen. We offer our condolences to the loved ones of the deceased victim, and our thoughts are with those wounded in this attack. We have been in close contact with our Danish counterparts and stand ready to lend any assistance necessary to the investigation.” (Interestingly, the statement comes not from Obama, the White House, Secretary of State John Kerry, or National Security Advisor Susan Rice, but from an NSC spokesperson.) [71672]

According to *The Telegraph*, Copenhagen killer Omar el-Hussein “had reportedly been released from prison two weeks ago after serving a two-year sentence for grievous bodily harm.” [71678, 71679, 71690]

NYTimes.com uses the headline, “Terror Attacks by a Native Son Rock Denmark.” (The 22-year-old killer, Omar Abdel Hamid El-Hussein, may have been born in Denmark, but most Danes would not likely call him a “native son.” The *Times* is clearly bending over backward to not offend someone. In doing so, of course, it is offending many others.) [71699, 71700, 71738]

Pamela Geller later notes, “Hajj Saeed, Imam of the Al-Faruq Mosque in Copenhagen, Denmark, rejected interfaith dialogue in a Friday sermon delivered on February 13, one day before the Copenhagen terror attacks. Imam Saeed explained that the Prophet Muhammad waged war against his Jewish neighbors in Al-Madina rather than engage in dialogue with them.” Saeed told his followers, “The people responsible for interfaith dialogue want to make all religion equal. They want to equate Truth and Falsehood, between heresy and deception, between the religion of the Prophet Muhammad and man-made laws, legislated by these criminals in order to rule the world. ...The notion of interfaith dialogue is nothing new. This is a malignant idea of which we must be aware, in order to avoid falling into the traps of Satan and his followers, who advocate such dialogue. Our Prophet Muhammad had Jewish neighbors in Al-Madina. Did he call for closer relations, harmony, and dialogue with them, in the manner of the UN and of those who call to reconciliation Truth and Falsehood? Or did he call upon them to worship Allah? When they violated their pledge and did not accept this call—well, you know what he did to them. It appears in his Sira. He waged war against the Jews. Do you know what interfaith dialogue means? Simply put, it is the creation of a new religion and of new concepts that will be shared by religions considered to be monotheistic. The purpose is to draw the Muslims away from their true religion. ...All people are called to convert to Islam, and anyone who refrains from doing so, after having been presented with evidence, is an infidel, without a doubt.” [71854, 71860]

ISIS beheads 21 Egyptian Coptic Christians in Libya... for being Coptic Christians. (After World War II and the Holocaust, millions of people the world over said, “Never again!” Regrettably, mass executions of innocent people because of their religion *are* happening again—and the world does not act. While politicians follow the polls to see if the voters support stopping ISIS, or defend inaction on the basis of budget restraint, tens of thousands of innocent people worldwide are being slaughtered. This *Timeline* believes there is a *moral* obligation to stop ISIS, and that those who disagree should never again use the words “never again.”) [71642, 71643, 71668, 71675, 71680, 71819]

In its video of the beheadings of the 21 Coptic Christians, ISIS warns, “You have seen us in Syria, now we’re right here, just south of Rome...” IrishTimes.com notes, “Prior to the threat, the Italian government had already warned Italians not to travel to Libya. The foreign office had organised a ship to evacuate Italian expatriates living or working in Libya. ...Libya is a former colony of Italy, particularly during the Fascist regime [under] Benito Mussolini and modern Italian governments tend to be watchful of the North African country. Speaking to Italian state TV on Saturday, Prime Minister Matteo Renzi expressed his concern, saying: ‘We’ve already said to the EU and to the international community that it is time to stop sleeping, that something very serious is happening in Libya and that just because we are the closest ones, the guys who pick up the boat people, don’t think you can leave all the problems to us.’” Italy subsequently places 5,000 soldiers on patrol in the streets, to “guard sensitive sites and targets.” (Pamela Geller asks, “Think this [ISIS in Rome] can’t happen? Think again. Did you imagine in 2008, before Obama took power, that Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Libya, Mali and towns and cities would fall into the hands of jihadists?”) [71737, 71786, 71812, 71852, 71853, 71958]

*The New York Times* buries the beheading story on page A6, when most reasonable people would expect it to be a first page headline. [71701]

Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi responds to the beheadings by stating he will use “necessary means and timing to avenge the criminal killings.” [71675, 71703, 71707]

While Obama plays golf in Palm Springs, the White House responds to the beheadings by tweeting a photograph of Obama playing basketball, with the message, “The shot clock’s winding down: Today’s your last chance to #GetCovered → [#NBAAllStarNYC.](http://healthcare.gov)” [71667]

White House press secretary Josh Earnest issues a statement: “The United States condemns the despicable and cowardly murder of twenty-one Egyptian citizens in Libya by ISIL-affiliated terrorists. We offer our condolences to the families of the victims and our support to the Egyptian government and people as they grieve for their fellow citizens. ISIL’s barbarity knows no bounds. It is unconstrained by faith, sect, or ethnicity. This wanton killing of innocents is just the most recent of the many vicious acts perpetrated by ISIL-affiliated terrorists against the people of the region, including the murders of dozens of Egyptian soldiers in the Sinai, which only further galvanizes the international community to unite against ISIL. This heinous act once again underscores the urgent need for a political resolution to the conflict in Libya, the continuation of which only benefits terrorist groups, including ISIL. We call on all Libyans to strongly reject this and all acts of terrorism and to unite in the face of this shared and growing threat. We continue to strongly support the efforts of the United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary-General Bernardino Leon to facilitate formation of a national unity government and help foster a political solution in Libya.” [71739, 71755, 71773]

While it is true that the 21 beheaded victims are “Egyptian citizens,” that is certainly not why they were targeted. ISIS executed them because they were Christians—but Earnest is careful not to suggest that religion had anything to do with the savagery. Instead of calling for the killing of ISIS soldiers, he foolishly calls for a “political solution.” [71673]

Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper states, “I am outraged and saddened by the beheadings of Egyptian Coptic Orthodox Christians in Libya by groups linked to ISIL. Coming soon after the savage burning of Royal Jordanian Air Force pilot Moaz al-Kasasbeh, the threat posed by ISIL could not be clearer. On behalf of all Canadians, I offer my deepest condolences to the families and friends of those killed and to the Coptic community here in Canada, who will feel the loss especially grievously. Canada is proud to stand with its coalition partners in the fight against ISIL. We will continue to stand firmly together against these terrorists who threaten the peace and freedom we hold so dear at home and that we wish for those abroad. Barbaric acts such as this do not shake our resolve but, rather, confirm the rightness of our cause and the vital necessity of our mission against ISIL. We will not be intimidated.” [71739, 71740]

TheRightScoop.com comments, “The differences are striking. Harper even offers his condolences to the Coptic community in Canada. The White House didn’t even bother to mention the Coptic community here in the U.S. But then they would have had to acknowledge that these were Christians, something they clearly refused to do even though [Obama] is supposed to be ‘Christian.’” [71739]

British Prime Minister David Cameron states, “I am appalled by the murder of Christians in Libya, a simply barbaric and inhumane act. My thoughts are with the families of those killed and the UK stands united with the Egyptian people during this period of mourning. Our efforts to defeat the monstrosity of Islamist extremism must not waver.” (Cameron could start by allowing people like Pamela Geller and Robert Spencer to make public speeches in Great Britain about the threat of radical Islam. Censoring reality is no way to “defeat a monstrosity.”) [71757]

A carnival parade in Braunschweig, Germany is canceled 90 minutes before it is scheduled to begin because of the threat of an Islamist attack. [71644, 71645, 71681]

The Associated Press reports, “Hundreds of graves have been vandalized at a Jewish cemetery in eastern France, in what the president [Francois Hollande] called an ‘odious and barbaric’ anti-Semitic act against French values. The vandalism comes at a time of growing insecurity among French Jews and amid general religious tensions in Europe, after Islamic radicals attacked a kosher market and a satirical newspaper in Paris last month and similar attacks hit Denmark this weekend.” (The Associated Press is apparently unaware of the word “desecrate.” The cemetery was not “vandalized”; the graves were desecrated.) [71742, 71743, 71757]

At PamelaGeller.com Paul Schnee writes, “Seldom in American history has the United States and her allies been in such lethal danger as they are in now. ...Obama’s agreement with Iran, if concluded, will leave the Iranian mullahs with most of their centrifuges spinning away with the ability to become a nuclear power within a matter of months. The terms of the agreement are so bad that they are forcing Democrats to choose between safeguarding America’s vital security interests or remaining loyal to a president whose ardent and determined pursuit of his anti-West ideology has placed the country he is supposed to be leading upon a trap-door which could be sprung by Iran almost at any moment. For her very survival this will leave Israel with little choice but to destroy Iran’s nuclear facilities in order to secure not only her own safety but also, ironically enough, the safety of America and the West. At that point Israel will face ferocious attacks from Hamas and Hezbollah and perhaps from the Palestinian Authority’s militia. Israel will suffer a tremendous loss of life. Iran may then unleash its terrorist cells already operating within the United States murdering many of our citizens and the cry you will hear from Iran will be, ‘Look what the Jews made us do!!’ However, it will be Obama’s suicidal policies which precipitated this disaster placing us teetering on the brink of World War III.” [71661]

While Obama welcomes Syrian Muslims to the United States, Israel announces a plan to take in Jews fleeing Europe from persecution. NTEB reports, “The Israeli cabinet on



Sunday approved a \$46 million plan to finance the arrival of thousands of Jewish people expected to immigrate from Europe, following a number of anti-Semitic attacks on the continent in recent months.” (Al-Monitor.com reports, “US Assistant Secretary of State for Population, Refugees, and Migration Anne Richard says the United States will dramatically increase the number of Syrian refugees allowed to resettle permanently in the United States from about 350 this year to close to 10,000 annually as the crisis grinds on into its fifth year.”) [71676, 71677, 71710, 71846, 71856, 71857, 71858]

On *Face the Nation*, White House chief of staff Denis McDonough is asked by Bob Schieffer, “ISIS is committing and continuing to commit these heinous crimes—four Americans have been killed—Washington responds by saying we need to have a debate. ...I don’t this is a correct perception, but [Obama’s] critics say, and others say, there’s a perception out there that *we don’t care*, that we’re taking these things in stride.” McDonough responds, “We have now flown, uh, more than, uh—conducted more than 2,400 strikes against ISIS targets in Iraq and in Syria. Those strikes are having a very dramatic impact. We’ve seen, uh, ISIS’s, uh, progress blunted in Iraq; we’re making good progress in Syria, but I don’t want to overstate it because this is gonna [sic] be something that will take some time.” (It would take less if the U.S. conducted 2,400 air strikes per week, rather than 2,400 over several months. During the Gulf War there were often as many as 1,200 air strikes per day.) McDonough adds, “We are scheduling a summit late in the week, a three-day summit at the State Department on countering violent extremism. ...We’ve obviously made clear that we abhor this and will not let these kinds of attacks stand.” (Yet another summit, of course, will not stop Islamist terrorists. Only force can counter force.) [71682, 71712]

Schieffer says, “We have another American hostage [Kayla Mueller] killed and Congress, and [Obama] ...goes off to California to do a fundraiser and some other stuff, and the Congress goes on vacation and they say, ‘Yeah, we’ll debate what to do about all of this. But we’re going to do it as long as it fits into the schedule, there’s no reason to do anything out of the ordinary.’” [71694]

Vox.com’s Matt Yglesias and BuzzFeed.com’s John Stanton appear on CNN’s *State of the Union*, where, not surprisingly, they defend Obama’s controversial Vox.com interview and BuzzFeed.com video. [71781]

On *Fox News Sunday*, House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH) tells host Chris Wallace, “Remember... [Obama] said 22 times that he did not have the authority to do what he eventually did [with his illegal immigrant amnesty actions]. The Congress just can’t sit by and let [Obama] defy the Constitution and defy his own oath of office. ...The Senate Democrats are blocking the ability to even debate the [Homeland Security funding] bill. ...The House has acted. We’ve done our job. Senate Democrats are the ones putting us in this precarious position. And it’s up to Senate Democrats to get their act together.” If Homeland Security funding runs out, “then Senate Democrats should be to blame.” (The legislation funds border patrol customs agents, Coast Guard employees, TSA employees, etc. It does not cover all the funding for Obama’s amnesty scheme. If Senate Democrats continue to block the legislation, or if it is vetoed by Obama, the blame for not funding

the Department of Homeland Security will lie solely with them. The mainstream media will most certainly blame the Republicans, but the Democrats may be playing a risky game by betting that the American people are stupid. Who will blink first remains to be seen.) [71704]

Also on *Fox News Sunday*, columnist George Will comments on Obama's BuzzFeed video: "What's different... about this is, it's long been known that if narcissism were oil, [Obama] would be Saudi Arabia. And therefore, the picture of [Obama] taking pictures of himself reinforces a not flattering narrative." [71722]

The United Kingdom's *Daily Star* reports, "The elite [Special Air Service] troops have been ordered to 'fight to the last man' rather than face being taken prisoner by the Islamic State militants. The soldiers have also been told 'save the last bullet for yourselves' if they are 'surrounded and without hope of being rescued.' The orders follow the murder of a Jordanian jet pilot who was burned to death after his plane was shot down. SAS commanders have told their troops it would be virtually impossible to rescue them because the militants move prisoners daily. Their capture would be a major prize for the jihadis, who would inflict weeks of torture before executing them. One source said last night: 'The SAS have been told that if they are captured they can expect to be tortured before being beheaded, disemboweled or burned alive. They know there is virtually no chance of being rescued. 'Everyone taking part in the Iraq mission knows the risks.' 'Most of the guys would never let themselves be taken prisoner—not by Islamic State (IS).' The source said if SAS soldiers were captured they would expect the British Government to do the 'honourable thing' and order an airstrike on the compound where they were being held." [71684, 71685, 71741]

On February 16 a fire is set at the New Shiloh Christian Center in Melbourne, Florida, and "Allahu Akbar" is spray-painted on one of its storage facilities, along with the words "We See U" within a swastika. (Meanwhile, claims of a "hate crime" are ruled out in a February 13 fire at an Islamic center warehouse in Houston. Darryl Ferguson tells police he was just trying to keep warm. According to ABC13 News, Ferguson has a criminal history for credit card abuse, trespassing, possession of a controlled substance, and prostitution.) [71810, 71811, 71815]

Egypt conducts air strikes against ISIS in Darna, Libya. (Egypt's foreign policy apparently does not include "strategic patience.") The Associated Press reports, "Egypt bombed Islamic State militants in neighboring Libya on Monday and called on the United States and Europe to join an international military intervention in the chaotic North African state after extremists beheaded a group of Egyptian Christians. ...Libya is where the Islamic State group has built up its strongest presence outside Syria and Iraq. Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi is lobbying Europe and the United States for a coordinated international response similar to the coalition air campaign in those countries. 'What is happening in Libya is a threat to international peace and security,' said El-Sissi." [71702, 71703, 71707, 71711, 71713, 71725, 71813, 71814]

Reverend Franklin Graham writes on Facebook, “The militant Islamic terrorist group ISIS has released a video called A MESSAGE SIGNED WITH BLOOD TO THE NATION OF THE CROSS showing the beheadings of 21 Egyptian Christians who had been kidnapped in Libya. Can you imagine the outcry if 21 Muslims had been beheaded by Christians? Where is the universal condemnation by Muslim leaders around the world? As we mourn with the families of those 21 martyrs, we’d better take this warning seriously as these acts of terror will only spread throughout Europe and the United States. If this concerns you like it does me, share this. The storm is coming.” [71728, 71729]

In its propaganda magazine *Dabiq*, ISIS writes, “[It is] important for Muslims everywhere to know that there is no doubt in the great reward to be found on Judgment Day for those who spill the blood of these Coptic crusaders wherever they may be found...” (the Obama administration continues to claim that ISIS has nothing to do with Islam.) [71729]

On MSNBC’s *Morning Joe*, Joe Scarborough says radical Islamists are like “ultrafundamentalist [sic] Christians who believe every single word of the Bible has to be interpreted in the exact ways which could also lead to some violence.” (Scarborough’s claim displays a basic ignorance of the two religions. A Christian who commits murder is acting *against* the teachings of Christ, while an Islamist terrorist who kills a non-Muslim does so *in accordance with* the Qu’ran.) [71744]

Rufus Gifford, the U.S. ambassador to Denmark appears on the program. Newsbusters.org notes that Gifford “was the Finance Director of ...Obama’s 2012 campaign,” and writes, “Following the lead of the [person] who appointed him, Gifford, when asked by Mark Halperin who the enemy is, couldn’t bring himself to mention Islam in any form. Instead, he spoke only of the threat of ‘radicalization’ and ‘extremism.’ For good measure, the oh-so-diplomatic Gifford referred to the man who murdered two people in Copenhagen yesterday and injured others as the ‘gentleman.’ In addition to being an Obama fundraiser, Gifford’s ambassadorial credentials consist of having worked for Davis Entertainment, an independent film production company whose oeuvre includes such immortal works as *Little Monsters* and *Aliens vs. Predator*. Come to think of it, perhaps that was some relevant experience.” [71744, 71745, 71746]

Obama celebrates himself on Presidents Day by playing golf at Porcupine Creek in Rancho Mirage. [71775]

Katie Pavlich reports at Townhall.com, “In its never ending goal to ban modern sporting rifles, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms [ATF] has proposed new regulations banning common AR-15 ammunition, arguing it’s necessary to protect the safety of law enforcement officers. ...The new proposal will allow Attorney General Eric Holder to determine if the ammunition in question qualifies under the broad definition of ‘sporting purposes.’ Current law gives ATF unfettered justification or power to decide what is and what is not ‘sporting’ and therefore regulated or banned.” (Unable to ban weapons, the Obama administration is instead trying to ban ammunition.) [71693]

A *New York Times* effort to discredit Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker before the Republican can gain too much traction in the polls backfires after its hit piece is shown to have been based on a falsehood. The Gail Collins article, titled “Scott Walker Needs An Erase,” whines about a Wisconsin teacher who lost her job as result of layoffs “that happened because Walker cut state aid to education.” *The Weekly Standard’s* John McCormack points out that “Collins is talking about teacher layoffs that occurred in 2010. Walker did not become governor until 2011.” (The *Times* then issues a “correction,” which of course ruins the premise of Collin’s article—that Walker is a Republican meanie who hates teachers.) [71695, 71714]

Meanwhile, hundreds of leftist and labor union opponents of Scott Walker demonstrate outside the home of *his parents*—apparently believing that harassing and frightening a governor’s elderly parents is a good way to put a stop to his presidential ambitions. [71726, 71732, 71831]

WashingtonExaminer.com reports, “According to a Brookings Institution survey of American Political Science Association scholars, they put Obama on the worst, not best, list by a margin of nearly three-to-one. Here’s how Brookings wrote it: ‘Those who view Obama as one of the worst American presidents outnumber those who view him as one of the best by nearly a 3-1 margin.’ And, the [left-leaning] friendly think tank added, ‘nearly twice as many respondents view Obama as over-rated than do those who consider him under-rated.’ Overall, Brookings said, ‘Few think of Obama as an excellent president, while many more rate his presidency quite low, with the bulk of experts appearing to give him a passing grade but not one that would get him on the Dean’s list.’ The survey was sent to 391 members of the American Political Science Association’s Presidents & Executive Politics section, the premier organization of experts of the American presidency...” [71721]

CNSNews.com reports, “Speaking at the U.S. Vote Foundation’s Voting and Elections Summit earlier this month,” Congressman Keith Ellison (D-MN), a Muslim socialist, “said ‘we need to make voting easier,’ and ‘I’ve often asked myself why you should have to register to vote.’” Ellison also asks, “[W]hy do we need those photo I.D. laws?” Ellison whines, “You can’t necessarily register to vote on Election Day.” (He apparently cannot comprehend that same-day registration increases vote fraud—or he supports that vote fraud.) [71723, 71756]

State Department deputy spokesperson Marie Harf appears on *Hardball* with Chris Matthews and says, “We’re killing a lot of them [ISIS fighters] and we’re going to keep killing more of them, so are the Egyptians, so are the Jordanians they’re in this fight with us, but we cannot win this war by killing them, we cannot kill our way out of this war.” (Some might call Harf’s “We cannot kill our way out of this war” a “Yogi Berra-ism.”) “We need, in the longer term, medium and longer term, to go after the root causes that leads people to join these groups, whether it’s lack of opportunity for jobs. There is no easy solution in the long-term to preventing and combating violent extremism, but if we can help countries work at the root causes of this, what makes these 17-year-old kids pick up an AK-47 instead of try to start a business? Maybe we can try to chip away at this

problem, while at the same time going after the threat, taking on ISIL in Iraq, in Syria, and helping our partners around the world.” (In other words, “If ISIS members had good jobs they wouldn’t be beheading Christians.”) [71752, 71760, 71763, 71782, 71807, 71820]

Harf apparently believes that World War II could have been dramatically shortened if we had only provided the Japanese soldiers and the Nazis with jobs that paid a “living wage.”) Matthews responds, “This sounds like we’re going to get rid of juvenile delinquency in America over time by erasing poverty, improving education. Sure, over time, but the American people, I think, are getting humiliated morally by this... What are the American people supposed to do about this?” Harf: “They should know that the United States military is taking direct action in Iraq and in Syria. We’re taking their leaders out. We’re taking out their financing. We’re taking out their training camps. This is a long fight. But I also think, not to take it to politics for a second, they [they American people] should tell their elected leaders to support the AUMF that we sent to Congress.” (It is worth noting that, according to DailyCaller.com, Harf’s college thesis was on “how conservative evangelical support for Israel complicates U.S. foreign policy.” Pamela Geller observes, “How do you get ahead in the Obama administration? Make the ‘intellectual’ case for Jew hatred. Out of diapers? No problem. Thin resume? So what? Obama had no resume. Just make the case against the Jews and lie, lie, lie and you’ll go far, sons and daughters.”) [71752, 71760, 71763, 71782, 71807, 71820, 71938, 71939, 71940, 71947]

Matthews addresses his television audience: “Like many of you, I live in conflict over this horror for the Mideast. These 21 beheadings of Coptic Christians is an ancient horror that’s been carried out before our eyes, purposely so. Why else is the indecency so well videotaped? So well produced to hit every screen in our state of the art possession? They’re using people over there, the death of people, to demonstrate their devotion, their ruthlessness, their power. They are killing people in the most disrespectful way so they can be seen doing it by the people they want to recruit, by the people they want to kill. They want to stir up recruitment by showing their willingness to go all of the way, to stir up anger by doing what the hell they decide to do to the people they are committed to destroy: other religions, other countries, other Muslims. And what can we do? Can we do nothing? Can we just look at the pictures, ask, ‘What’s for supper? What’s on TV tonight? What’s the weather like tomorrow morning?’ and go on with our lives, warding off the knowledge that these people are being killed in demonstration against us. How about this: can we content ourselves by doing something which we know right now will not be enough to stop this horror? I know, we all know we need a plan. We need a root that takes us to destroying ISIS, because the alternative is too sick, too un-American, too un-human. We can’t see people killed like this in our face and simply flip to the sports page or the financial news or what’s at the movies or who’s gonna win the Oscars and act like America, our country, is not being morally humiliated, because it is, and with the lives of at least some of these people, who must, in their last minutes, have to be wondering if there’s any chance the people in the United States could be coming to their rescue, because that’s how they were rightly taught that we conduct ourselves. We don’t leave people behind.” [71747, 71782]

Breitbart.com reports, “As Republicans work to overcome a Democratic filibuster of a House-passed Department of Homeland Security bill that blocks ...Obama’s executive amnesty, Senator Jeff Sessions (R-AL) is highlighting the Obama administration’s long history of dismantling immigration laws. In a lengthy timeline released Monday, Sessions—the chairman of the Subcommittee on Immigration and the National Interest—lists every instance of the Obama administration ignoring, rewriting, delaying and breaking the nation’s immigration laws. The timeline begins in January 2009 with the administration ending worksite enforcement actions and, 50 pages later, ends on February 13, 2015 with the House Judiciary Committee’s revelation that the administration included a ‘sneaky’ avenue for illegal immigrants granted deferred status to be placed on a pathway to citizenship.” [71784]

In Texas, U.S. District Judge Andrew S. Hanen issues a temporary restraining order blocking the implementation of Obama’s illegal immigrant amnesty orders. Hanen asks, “The ultimate question before the Court is: Do the laws of the United States, including the Constitution, give the Secretary of Homeland Security the power to take the action at issue in this case?” and answers, “Exercising prosecutorial discretion and/or refusing to enforce a statute does not also entail bestowing benefits. Non-enforcement is just that—not enforcing the law. Nonenforcement does not entail refusing to remove these individuals as required by the law and then providing three years of immunity from that law, legal presence status, plus any benefits that may accompany legal presence under current regulations. This Court seriously doubts that the Supreme Court, in holding non-enforcement decisions to be presumptively unreviewable, anticipated that such ‘non-enforcement’ decisions would include the affirmative act of bestowing multiple, otherwise unobtainable benefits upon an individual. ...The Government has pointed this Court to no law that gives the DHS such wide-reaching discretion to turn 4.3 million individuals from one day being illegally in the country to the next day having lawful presence. ...[N]o statute gives the DHS the discretion it is trying to exercise here.” (Adding insult to injury, Hanen uses some of Obama’s own words against him in his ruling. Obama’s statement to an audience, “I just took an action to change the law,” came back to haunt him—along with several other statements.) [71730, 71731, 71754, 71758, 71769, 71772, 71777, 71778, 71779, 71785, 71833]

LegalInsurrection.com writes, “From a political perspective, if Obama is enjoined from enforcing his immigration executive action, how can Congress fund an illegal act? Or if it were funded, thereby relieving the current continuing resolution stalemate, Obama could not enforce it. Either way, this may provide Congress a way out of the jam just days before the funding deadline. What this allows Republicans to do, is pass a 30 day spending bill without any limitations on the argument that the immigration plan cannot be acted upon anyway, and wait and see how the courts rule. IF the courts refuse to put the injunction on hold, or if the courts uphold the injunction on the merits, then there is no need to worry about defunding the executive action. If an appeals court reverses, then the Republican leadership can say that it has already been upheld as lawful so there is no legal basis for the claim it is unconstitutional. This could be a victory at least to get over the current impasse, although it may not be a long term solution.” [71730, 71731, 71780]

On February 17 Obama writes in the *Los Angeles Times*, “The United States has made significant gains against terrorism. We’ve decimated the core al Qaeda leadership, strengthened homeland security and worked to prevent another large-scale attack like 9/11. At the same time, the threat has evolved. The al Qaeda affiliate in Yemen actively plots against us. Since 9/11, terrorists have murdered U.S. citizens overseas, including in the attacks in Benghazi, Libya. Here in the United States, Americans have been killed at Ft. Hood and during the Boston Marathon. In Syria and Iraq, the terrorist group we call ISIL has slaughtered innocent civilians and murdered hostages, including Americans, and has spread its barbarism to Libya with the murder of Egyptian Christians. In recent months, we’ve seen deadly attacks in Ottawa, Sydney, Paris and Copenhagen. Elsewhere, the Pakistan Taliban massacred more than 100 schoolchildren and their teachers. From Somalia, al-Shabaab has launched attacks across East Africa. In Nigeria and neighboring countries, Boko Haram kills and kidnaps men, women and children. In the face of this challenge, we must stand united internationally and here at home. We know that military force alone cannot solve this problem. Nor can we simply take out terrorists who kill innocent civilians. We also have to confront the violent extremists—the propagandists, recruiters and enablers—who may not directly engage in terrorist acts themselves, but who radicalize, recruit and incite others to do so.” [71825]

“This week, we’ll take an important step forward as governments, civil society groups and community leaders from more than 60 nations gather in Washington for a global summit on countering violent extremism. Our focus will be on empowering local communities. Groups like al Qaeda and ISIL promote a twisted interpretation of religion that is rejected by the overwhelming majority of the world’s Muslims. The world must continue to lift up the voices of Muslim clerics and scholars who teach the true peaceful nature of Islam. We can echo the testimonies of former extremists who know how terrorists betray Islam. We can help Muslim entrepreneurs and youths work with the private sector to develop social media tools to counter extremist narratives on the Internet. We know from experience that the best way to protect people, especially young people, from falling into the grip of violent extremists is the support of their family, friends, teachers and faith leaders. At this week’s summit, community leaders from Los Angeles, Minneapolis and Boston will highlight innovative partnerships in their cities that are helping empower communities to protect their loved ones from extremist ideologies.” [71825]

“More broadly, groups like al Qaeda and ISIL exploit the anger that festers when people feel that injustice and corruption leave them with no chance of improving their lives. The world has to offer today’s youth something better. Governments that deny human rights play into the hands of extremists who claim that violence is the only way to achieve change. Efforts to counter violent extremism will only succeed if citizens can address legitimate grievances through the democratic process and express themselves through strong civil societies. Those efforts must be matched by economic, educational and entrepreneurial development so people have hope for a life of dignity. Finally—with al Qaeda and ISIL peddling the lie that the United States is at war with Islam—all of us have a role to play by upholding the pluralistic values that define us as Americans. This

week, we'll be joined by people of many faiths, including Muslim Americans who make extraordinary contributions to our country every day. It's a reminder that America is successful because we welcome people of all faiths and backgrounds." [71825]

"That pluralism has at times been threatened by hateful ideologies and individuals from various religions. We've seen tragic killings at a Sikh temple in Wisconsin in 2012 and at a Jewish community center in Kansas last year. We do not yet know why three young people, who were Muslim Americans, were brutally killed in Chapel Hill, N.C. But we know that many Muslim Americans across our country are worried and afraid. Americans of all faiths and backgrounds must continue to stand united with a community in mourning and insist that no one should ever be targeted because of who they are, what they look like, or how they worship. Our campaign to prevent people around the world from being radicalized to violence is ultimately a battle for hearts and minds. With this week's summit, we'll show once more that—unlike terrorists who only offer misery and death—it is our free societies and diverse communities that offer the true path to opportunity, justice and dignity." [71825, 71860]

To be blunt, what Obama wrote is unadulterated drivel. He begins by stating, "The United States has made significant gains against terrorism." Although there have been some welcome gains against terrorism in the past, ISIS is growing in strength. That "core" al-Qaeda leadership may have been temporarily "decimated" is irrelevant because ISIS is gaining every day far more fighters than al-Qaeda may have lost. Tens of thousands of loyal foot soldiers willing to be martyrs for a religious and ideological cause more than makes up for the killing of a few leaders in a drone strike.

Tellingly, Obama refers to the Islamic State/ISIS as "the terrorist group we call ISIL." Arguably, it is mostly Obama and members of his administration who use the term ISIL—partly because Obama is reluctant to label it simply an "Islamic State" and support the connection to Islam. Some argue that Obama uses ISIL because ISIS means the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria, and he prefers not to call attention to the fact that his Iraq and Syria policies have been failures. However, the L in ISISL stands for the "Levant," which represents a wider area that includes Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, parts of Turkey, and Israel. Some might argue that Obama's insistence on using the term ISIL is a signal to the radical Islamists that he accepts the inclusion of Israel in their Caliphate. Obama nonchalantly lists a handful of terrorist atrocities "in recent months" as if they were few and far between: "In Nigeria and neighboring countries, Boko Haram kills and kidnaps men, women and children." In fact, Boko Haram has brutally killed *thousands* of innocent people. "In the face of this challenge," states Obama, "we must stand united internationally and here at home." But stopping the viciousness of ISIS, al-Qaeda, Boko Haram, and other such groups is far more than a "challenge." It is a *moral imperative*.

"We know that military force alone cannot solve this problem," writes Obama—although no one is making that claim. Reasonable and thinking people, however, understand that overwhelming military force should be used to defeat the advancing enemy before worrying about addressing root causes of Islamist jihad. When one's house is burning down, putting out the flames takes precedence over determining the cause of the fire. But



while the world's terrorist fires burn, Obama keeps busy insisting there is a non-Islamic accelerant. He wants to "confront" the terrorist recruiters, propagandists, and "enablers." No, Mr. Obama, they should not be *confronted*. They should be *eradicated*, and eradicating their recruits on the battlefield should take priority.

Laughably, Obama's "important step" in combatting terrorism is a summit that will "focus... on empowering local communities." (The United States defeated Nazi Germany by bombing Dresden and Berlin, not by engaging in dialogue with German-Americans in Milwaukee Biergartens.) Predictably, Obama maintains, "Groups like al Qaeda and ISIL promote a twisted interpretation of religion that is rejected by the overwhelming majority of the world's Muslims." Some might argue that the jihadists are not *misinterpreting* Islam; they are following it *to the letter*. That, however, is largely irrelevant. The terrorist armies must be defeated, regardless of the purity of the color of their ideological uniforms. Obama calls on the world to "lift up the voices of Muslim clerics and scholars who teach the true peaceful nature of Islam." But Obama himself seems unable to find such clerics and scholars, inasmuch as he surrounds himself with and seeks advice from supporters of the radical Muslim Brotherhood—which he naively (or deceptively) claims is "moderate."

Note that Obama has named Rashad Hussain, an Arabic-speaking Muslim, to head the State Department's Center for Strategic Counterterrorism Communications. Hussain has spoken out on behalf of Sami al-Arian, a Florida professor and activist who pleaded guilty and who was convicted of conspiring to aid the Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ). Former Attorney General John Ashcroft once called the PIJ "one of the most violent terrorist organizations in the world." Walid Shoebat has called Hussain "an infiltrator whose allegiances lie with the OIC [Organization of Islamic Conference], not the U.S. Constitution he swore an oath to uphold," and "...Hussain was at the fourth annual 'Istanbul Process' summit, held in Doha, Qatar. During his speech, he actually boasted about working with a confirmed Muslim Brotherhood front group that seeks the destruction of the United States from within." [71904, 71920]

Obama continues with more insanity: "We can help Muslim entrepreneurs and youths work with the private sector to develop social media tools to counter extremist narratives on the Internet." Obama apparently believes the right Facebook message will persuade jihadists to throw away their suicide vests and put down their AK-47s so they can open "Prayer Rugs R Us" stores in al-Baghdadi. He goes on: "We know from experience that the best way to protect people, especially young people, from falling into the grip of violent extremists is the support of their family, friends, teachers and faith leaders." He "knows" that? What evidence does he have that they have been successfully keeping young people from being brainwashed by radical Islam? On the contrary, many young ISIS recruits have been lured into the war by extremist friends, family members, madrassa teachers, and faith leaders. Many mosques are, in fact, hot-beds of recruiting activity. Obama thinks "community leaders" with "innovative partnerships in their cities" will "empower communities to protect their loved ones from extremist ideologies." Where is the evidence of that? It is not "innovative partnerships" that are needed. What is needed is the arrest, conviction, and imprisonment of the men and women who plot to

take down Western civilization—or killing them on the battlefield if they get that far. Obama believes “The world has to offer today’s youth something better” in order to keep them from becoming terrorists. The world already *does* offer them something better. *It is called Western Civilization.*

Obama absurdly argues, “Governments that deny human rights play into the hands of extremists who claim that violence is the only way to achieve change”—as if radical jihadists will go away if only Saudi Arabia would permit gay marriage and give women drivers licenses. Obama fails to recognize the obvious: the extremists do not seek *more* human rights; they seek to *limit* human rights. More claptrap: “Efforts to counter violent extremism will only succeed if citizens can address legitimate grievances through the democratic process and express themselves through strong civil societies.” What are the “legitimate grievances” of the radical Islamists? That gays are allowed to live? That Jews, Christians, Buddhists, Hindus, and atheists have not been eradicated from the face of the earth? That music has not been outlawed world wide? That the Kardashians expose too much skin? The simple truth is that the radical jihadists have no legitimate grievances. Nor did Adolph Hitler, Joseph Stalin, Mao Tse-Tung, John Wayne Gacy, Jeffrey Dahmer, or Charles Manson. *Evil must be eradicated, not given therapy sessions.* Obama’s solution to terrorism is to provide “economic, educational and entrepreneurial development so people have hope for a life of dignity.” Was Major Nidal Malik Hasan denied any of those things? Is Obama claiming that if the Fort Hood command had been more concerned with “Soldier of Allah” Hasan’s “entrepreneurial development” perhaps he would not have taken the lives of 14 people in a shooting spree? (Yes, I am counting in that total the unborn child of his pregnant victim.)

Obama states that al-Qaeda and ISIL are “peddling the lie that the United States is at war with Islam.” But he refuses to accept that radical Islam is at war with the United States—and all of Western civilization. The United States *should* be at war, not with all Muslims, of course, but with the radical Islamists. Reasonable people can differentiate between peaceful Muslims and Muslim terrorists. (During World War II, the U.S. military certainly did not seek to kill all Germans and Japanese; it attacked those who sought our destruction.) That Obama refuses to accept or state that there even *are* radical Islamists who seek to destroy all who disagree with them is the problem—not a lack of after-school programs for young people.

With radical Islamists now killing tens of thousands of innocent people every year, Obama reaches back to 2012 to note “killings at a Sikh temple in Wisconsin” and “at a Jewish community center in Kansas last year.” He apparently got the message that bringing up the Crusades was preposterous, yet he could not resist again preaching—albeit at a smaller scale—that “Christians can be evil too!” Obama further declares that “many Muslim Americans across our country are worried and afraid.” He does not explain why—beyond implying that the recent terrible North Carolina shootings over a parking space dispute were motivated by religion. But there has been no widespread discrimination against Muslims. Jews face far more persecution and violent acts in the United States (and especially in Europe) than do Muslims. In fact, Americans seem to bend over backwards *not* to offend Muslims, because being labeled an “Islamophobe” is

fast becoming as objectionable as being called a racist. “Americans of all faiths and backgrounds,” writes Obama, “must continue to stand united with a community in mourning and insist that no one should ever be targeted because of who they are, what they look like, or how they worship.” Perhaps Obama should be delivering *that* message to terrorists, rather than worrying that the unemployment rate in Copenhagen might be pushing Muslims toward jihad.

Obama concludes, “Our campaign to prevent people around the world from being radicalized to violence is ultimately a battle for hearts and minds. With this week’s summit, we’ll show once more that—unlike terrorists who only offer misery and death—it is our free societies and diverse communities that offer the true path to opportunity, justice and dignity.” Obama is blissfully unaware that the radical Islamists *do not want* “free societies and diverse communities.” They want strict Sharia law and communities *without* diversity. Further, the “battle for hearts and minds” is necessarily secondary to killing the savages who would just as eagerly cut out the heart of his enemy as behead him. Obama is not only putting the cart before the horse, he seems uninclined to ever bother harnessing the horse.

While the generals in command of our military beg to be free of the burdens of political correctness and free to unleash the terror of U.S. weaponry and manpower against ISIS, al-Qaeda, and Boko Haram, Obama works to staff an army of Twitter and Facebook nerds to “offer opportunity, justice and dignity” to crazed lunatics whose evil ideology has been drummed into their heads since they were old enough to sneeze. “If only we had more Marie Harfs with hashtags” Obama may be thinking.

While we conducted as many as 1,100 air strikes per day against Saddam Hussein, Obama’s “strategic patience” doctrine seems to allow only 7-10 per day against ISIS. What the battle needs is not 140 characters per tweet, but 140 rounds per second. What the war needs is a leader, one who will speak forcefully and drop some bunker busters, not one who endlessly preaches sophomoric drivel when not carrying a nine-iron. What the nation needs is be reminded that when “Never again!” was said after World War II, the message did not pertain only to Zyklon B; it also pertained to beheadings, crucifixions, and burning and burying people alive. The United States has a *moral obligation* to defeat radical Islamists. If we do not do it, no one else will. That Barack Hussein Obama refuses to lead is certainly a shameful hindrance, but it should not prevent this nation from doing what it needs to do to restore sanity and civility to the world. All civilized people must *demand* action. If we fail to do so, we should never again dare utter the words, “Never again!”

The White House prepares for a three-day “Countering Violent Extremism” summit. Pamela Geller ridicules the name, writing, “That’s like calling America’s involvement in WWII countering U-boats or kamikaze pilots. Absurd. And still not good enough. Even before the summit, UAE-designated terrorist groups like CAIR attacked the initiative: ‘CAIR’s national office issued a statement ahead of the summit questioning the effectiveness of programs closely tied to a government that many Muslims don’t trust.’ Imagine how the victims feel, you savages.” (According to DailyCaller.com, FBI director

James Comey is not invited to the event. But “his Russian counterpart, Aleksandr V. Bortnikov, the director of the Russian Federal Security Service, the successor to the Soviet KGB,” will be there.) [71733, 71734, 71761, 71817, 71918, 71994]

ABC’s Jonathan Karl later asks White House press secretary why FBI director Comey was not invited to the event. Earnest replies, “We wanted to make sure that there wasn’t a perception that this conference was overly focused on law enforcement tactics. Certainly law enforcement is a very important role to play. That’s why we had the nation’s top law enforcement in attendance. That’s why we had police chiefs and other law enforcement officials from communities across the country in attendance, but the focus here is on the broader set of tools that are available to communities all across the country to protect vulnerable people who could be susceptible to violent extremist ideology that’s propagated on social media. The nation’s top law enforcement official Attorney General Eric Holder attended, we also had local enforcement officials from across the country who could talk about their own experience in working with community leaders to counter violent extremism in their communities.” [71960]

Karl: “So in terms of countering violent extremism, is it the FBI director, the head of the agency that is on the front line of doing exactly that? You’re having a summit, a three-day meeting, on countering violent extremism, and you don’t invite the lead official in charge of countering violent extremism?” Earnest: “That’s right. We just invited his boss.” Karl: “And then so you invite the attorney general. You don’t have the FBI director, but you did have the head of the Russian security service there. How does that look?” Earnest: “Hopefully, he was listening carefully when the president was talking about the importance of governments respecting and protecting universal human rights.” Karl: “You don’t think that sends a strange message to have the head of the Russian FSB, the successor to the KGB at this meeting and not the FBI director?” Earnest: “To be clear about the Russian official who attended. The United States issued an invitation to the country, and Russia, in this case, made the decision about which official from their government would represent them. So it wasn’t as if there was an invitation that was sent specifically to this official. This is the official that the Russian government chose to represent them at the summit.” Karl: “Was there any hesitation of having that official there from Russia, given that he is on the European Union’s sanctions list related to the Russian invasion of Ukraine?” Earnest: “Not that I’m aware of.” [71960]

NYPPost.com reports, “The White House will kick off a three-day summit Tuesday on combating violent extremism on social media—but the administration won’t focus on Islamic extremism and won’t even mention the term. ‘You can call them what you want; we’re calling them terrorists,’ a senior Obama administration official said Monday. The determination not to mention Islam or Muslims comes as ISIS continues its murderous spree in the name of Islam, most recently beheading 21 Egyptian Christians in Libya.” The head-in-the-sand official also says, “There is absolutely no justification for any of these attacks in any religion, and that’s the view of the vast majority of Muslims who have suffered huge casualties from the likes of [ISIS] or al Qaeda. We are not treating these people as part of a religion. We’re treating them as terrorists.” [71774, 71818]

TampaBay.com reports, “A man was shot and killed at the Obama Express Food Market on 18th Avenue S overnight, police said Tuesday. The store hires private security guards, and they shot Jhai-quel Rai-Tez Black, 23, according to the St. Petersburg Police Department. ...Black had been arguing with another man when he entered the store about 3:30 a.m., police said. At some point, according to authorities, Black, of St. Petersburg, waved a gun around. [The guards] confronted him and opened fire, police said.” [71748, 71749]

DailyCaller.com reports on a Mardi Gras parade float in Mobile, Alabama, which includes a drawing of Michelle Obama with the caption: “Keystone XL, Obama refuses to lay pipe! No wonder Michelle is so grumpy!” [71750]

WSJ.com reports, “The Clinton Foundation has dropped its self-imposed ban on collecting funds from foreign governments and is winning contributions at an accelerating rate, raising ethical questions as Hillary Clinton ramps up her expected bid for the presidency. Recent donors include the United Arab Emirates, [terrorist funding-] Saudi Arabia, Oman, Australia, Germany and a Canadian government agency promoting the Keystone XL pipeline. In 2009, the Clinton Foundation stopped raising money from foreign governments after Mrs. Clinton became secretary of state. Former President Bill Clinton, who ran the foundation while his wife was at the State Department, agreed to the gift ban at the behest of the Obama administration, which worried about a secretary of state’s husband raising millions while she represented U.S. interests abroad. ...The donations come as Mrs. Clinton prepares for an expected run for the Democratic nomination for president, and they raise many of the same ethical quandaries. Since leaving the State Department in early 2013, Mrs. Clinton officially joined the foundation, which changed its name to the Bill, Hillary & Chelsea Clinton Foundation, and has become a prodigious fundraiser as the foundation launched a \$250 million endowment campaign, officials said.” [71863, 71864, 72363]

Vice President Joe Biden causes embarrassment again, this time at the swearing in ceremony for new Secretary of Defense Ashton Carter. DailyCaller.com writes, “Biden got all touchy feely with Carter’s wife, Stephanie. From the pictures, it looks like he’s whispering sweet nothings into her right ear. He’s also getting a good whiff of her shampoo. Biden also took a firm grip on the woman’s shoulders.” [71751, 71788, 71796, 71836, 71865]

Biden says of Carter, “If anyone was made for this job, if there was a job description made for a person, this is a person who fits the job description. Dr. Carter, as you take leadership of this greatest military in the history of mankind, [you] do so with the confidence of everyone in your building, confidence of the United States Senate, confidence of ...Obama and me.” (Unstated is why, if Carter was “made for this job,” he was not placed in the position sooner. Carter is Obama’s fourth Secretary of Defense in six years.) Carter says, “Starting today, I want to make three commitments. The first is to help [Obama] make the best possible decisions about our security and the security of the world. And then to ensure that our department executes those decisions with its long accustomed competence and effectiveness. My second commitment is to the men and

women of the defense department, whom I will lead, to reflect in everything I do and to honor the commitment and dedication that brought them into service. To protect their dignity, their safety, their wellbeing. To make decisions about sending them into harm's way with the greatest reflection and care. And third, [I am committed] to building a force for our future. That involves not only securing the resources we need but making sure we make the best use of the taxpayers' dollar. [We must] embrace change so that years from now, decades from now, we continue to be a place where America's finest want to serve, and a place that is a beacon to the rest of the world." (Regrettably for Americans, defeating radical jihadist groups does not make Carter's top three list.) [71823]

Hours later Biden, noting the large population of Somalis in Minneapolis, says, "I have great relationships with them because there's [sic; there are] an awful lot driving cabs [in Delaware] and [they are] are friends of mine." (According to WashingtonPost.com, "More than 75,000 Somali refugees have settled in the United States since 2004, according to the Office of Refugee Settlement. But the detailed annual reports show that since 2000, exactly zero have arrived to live in Delaware. ...In fact, in the last 15 years, Delaware accepted only a total of 269 refugees—and most were from West Africa, not East Africa.") [71768, 71794, 71877]

TheHill.com reports, "The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is suspending ...Obama's executive actions on immigration, slamming the brakes on an expansion of deportation deferrals after an order from a federal judge. DHS Secretary Jeh Johnson said he 'strongly' disagrees with the move by U.S. District Judge Andrew Hanen to temporarily block the new programs, some of which were slated to begin Wednesday, but said the administration will let the legal process play out. 'The Department of Justice will appeal that temporary injunction; in the meantime, we recognize we must comply with it,' Johnson said. The administration will not accept new applications for the expanded program as of Wednesday, when it had planned to begin processing those applications. The DHS will also not release plans to accept applications for what is known as Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA)." [71753]

Obama says, "I disagree with it [the court's ruling on his amnesty scheme]. I think the law is on our side and history is on our side." Obama relies on yet another of his false choice arguments, saying his policy should be followed because the nation is not about to deport 11 million people: "I think the American people overwhelmingly recognize that to pretend we're going to ship them off is not realistic and not who we are." (Few are arguing that all 11-20 million illegal immigrants must be deported. Obama consistently argues that the choice is only between accommodating the illegal immigrants or deporting and making them citizens or deporting all of them. There are, of course, other alternatives—such as neither deporting them nor allowing them to become citizens.) Obama adds, "We're not going to disregard this federal court ruling. The law is the law in this country, and we take things a step at a time." (Had Obama consistently followed the law, there would not have been a court case.) [71754, 71764]

Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) states, "The Texas court decision reached last night is a major turning point in the fight to stop Obama's lawless amnesty. [Texas] Gov. [Gregg] Abbott

and Attorney General [Ken] Paxton are leading a coalition of 26 states to block the illegal executive actions and to protect our states, cities, and communities. This is a major victory for the rule of law; the District Court's ruling states that ...Obama must now stop implementing these policies in 'any and all aspects.' Last summer we saw a humanitarian crisis on our southern border that was a direct consequence of Obama's previous amnesty. Republicans are now standing together to try to ensure that it never happens again. The Senate Democrats who are filibustering Department of Homeland Security funding should look hard at this ruling. At a time when we face grave national security threats, at home and abroad, it is the height of irresponsibility for the Democrats to block this funding in an extreme attempt to save Obama's amnesty, which a federal judge has just declared illegal." [71759]

At the National Press Club, Attorney General Eric Holder is asked about the propriety of reporters revealing national security information. Holder responds, "I'll use an extreme example, perhaps unfair. In World War II, if a reporter had found out about the existence of the Manhattan Project, is that something that should have been disclosed? Now we're not at a time of war, I understand, and I said, it's an extreme example. But I think there is a question that members of the press should ask, about whether or not the disclosure of the information has a negative impact on the national security of the nation." (That the nation is not at war may surprise members of the U.S. Armed Forces who are in Afghanistan and Iraq. It may also surprise those who believe Obama's request for an updated Authorization to Use Military Force against ISIS means engaging in war tactics.) [71765, 71766]

Asked why the administration avoids discussing Islamic terrorism, Holder says, "We spend more time, more time talking about what do you call it as opposed to what do you do about it. If Fox [News] didn't talk about this, they would have nothing else to talk about, it seems to me. 'Radical Islam,' 'Islamic extremism,' I'm not sure an awful lot is gained by saying that. It doesn't have any impact on our military posture; it doesn't have any impact on what we call it, on the policies that we put in place. What we have to do is defined not by the terms that we use, but by the facts on the ground. [Note to Holder: the identity of the enemy is one of those facts.] So I don't worry an awful lot about what the appropriate terminology ought to be. I think that people need to actually think about that, and think about will we be having this conversation about words as opposed to what our actions ought to be. This is a difficult problem. This is going to be an ongoing issue. This is something that requires us to think as a nation how we are going to deal with the domestic issues that I was describing... and how are we going to deal with the foreign policy consequences of some very, very serious problems that our allies face, and that we face, particularly in a particular part of the world. The terminology, it seems to me [has] little to no impact on what ultimately we have to do. ...Whenever you're getting criticized by both sides, it probably means you're probably getting it right." (Pamela Geller: "Uh, no, it probably means you are getting it wrong. Very, very wrong.") [71801, 71802, 71803, 71824, 71870]

Shoebat.com reports, "ISIS took 45 people and burned them to death. According [to] Col Qasim al-Obeidi [the al-Baghdadi police director] a number of the victims were Iraqi

security forces. Al-Obeidi is now exhorting the government, and the international community to provide help, since now ISIS is surrounding the western Iraqi town of al-Baghdadi where the families of security officials are living, and if they are caught by ISIS, they will be suffer a most horrible death. He has pleaded for help from the government and international community and said the compound, which houses the families of security personnel and local officials, was now under attack. ...The Baghdadi police director stated that ISIS has executed 100 people, including police officers and tribal fighters in the area where the burning of 45 occurred. ISIS still controls a residential neighborhood that holds 1,200 families. These are members of the security forces and ISIS also besieged the headquarters of Brigade 27 of the Army adjacent to the neighborhood and cut off the road to their base. ...He pointed out that ‘the power of the security forces and their ability to deal with the enemy is zero percent, compared to the strongly equipped terrorists who are besieging the families in the neighborhood.’” [71767, 71787, 71789, 71790, 71791]

In Libya, ISIS reportedly kidnaps at least 35 Egyptians—mostly farm workers—in response to Egypt’s airstrikes in Darna. [71783, 71808, 71809]

Responding to a mountain of criticism over her remark, “We cannot win this war by killing them,” State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf goes on CNN to defend herself. She says, “I’m not the first person to say something like this. Military commanders that we’ve had throughout many years here fighting this war on terrorism have said the exact same thing. We cannot kill every terrorist around the world, nor should we try. How do you get at the root causes of this? It might be too nuanced an argument for some, like I’ve seen over the last 24 hours some of the commentary out there, but it’s really the smart way that Democrats, Republicans, our partners in the Arab world think we need to combat it.” (Some might argue that Harf only made the situation worse.) [71830, 71832, 71835]

On Newsmax TV, Dr. Ben Carson, a possible 2016 Republican presidential candidate suggests that Congressional Republicans “break the funding for Homeland Security up into parcels. Don’t present it as a whole bill. That makes it much more difficult for him [Obama] to stand in the way. And, if he does stand in the way, particularly with things that are vital to the security of this country, then I think we can start talking about treason. ...If things are done that are contrary to the security of this country, whoever does them is guilty of treason.” [71793]

David Axelrod, Obama’s former campaign advisor, tells an audience, “...I’m proud of the fact that basically you have had an administration in this place for six years in which there hasn’t been a major scandal. And I think that says a lot about the ethical strictures of this administration.” (Axelrod apparently has never heard of Operation Fast and Furious, Benghazi, Healthcare.gov, IRS treatment of conservative groups, Lois Lerner, Jonathan Gruber, lobbyist waivers, Solyndra, the Veterans Administration scandal, NSA spying on U.S. citizens, the firing of Inspectors General, etc.) [71834, 71883]



*The Telegraph* reports, “Two of the Islamist gunmen behind separate terrorist strikes in France met the night before the Charlie Hebdo attack, according to leaked details of a police inquiry. Phone records appear to show that Cherif Kouachi and Amedy Coulibaly met ten hours before launching their three-day killing spree in and around Paris on January 7 in which 17 people died. They are thought to have met in Gennevilliers, the town near Paris where Kouachi lived, according to details of a police inquiry seen by *Le Monde* newspaper. ...Coulibaly had already told French media during the hostage taking that he had ‘synchronised’ the attacks with the Kouachi brothers, without providing details.” (Meanwhile, some politicians continue to describe the incidents as “lone wolf” attacks that have nothing to do with Islam.”) [71806]

IranAware.com reports, “A Detroit man [Terrence Lavaron Thomas] stabbed two people at a suburban bus stop after asking his victims whether or not they were Muslim, according to police. Federal authorities are now looking at the case as a potential hate crime, police said... Both victims are in their early 50’s [sic; 50s]. One was stabbed five times in the attack. The other was stabbed in the hand as he tried to stop the attack, Hawkins said. Both were released from the hospital with ‘non-life threatening injuries.’” (Thomas is not being charged with a hate crime.) *WashingtonPost.com*’s original headline, “Police: Man stabs two after asking if they are Muslim,” is changed to, “Police: Muslim man stabs two after discussion about religious beliefs.” *HotAir.com*’s Noah Rothman writes, “Yes, of course. An edifying and enlightening theological debate was cut short when one of the interchange’s participants got a little stabby. It could happen to anyone. Suggesting that this attack was inspired by some form of discussion is like claiming the 21 Copts beheaded by ISIS militants in Egypt were simply on the losing end of an ecumenical colloquium. It does not explain or convey the details of what occurred in Detroit; it obscures them and misleads the reader, which was a result that seems deliberate. Finally, after several hours, *The Post* settled on a final version of this story’s headline. ‘Police: Man stabs two after asking about religious beliefs.’ Because the real problem here was identifying that there was a Muslim involved in this altercation at all. That’s what really needed to be addressed.” (Whether the *Post* will change the headline again, to “Two Intolerant Christians Surround Muslim, Forcing Him to Act in Self-Defense!” is not known.) *Atlanta’s Journal-Constitution* uses the headline, “Attacker allegedly targeted Muslims”—which is the exact opposite of the truth. [71797, 71798, 71799, 71800, 71816, 71861, 71862, 71952, 71953, 72005, 72006]

*DailyCaller.com* reports, “A Republican candidate is suing a Democratic congresswoman and the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee for defamation for doctoring his statements in campaign ads. Veteran actor and Republican Chris Mitchum, son of Hollywood icon Robert Mitchum, lost a tight race to Democratic Rep. Lois Capps this past November in California’s 24th congressional district. But he only lost after Capps and her campaign committee (both defendants in the suit) fabricated a Mitchum quote in ads paid for by the Washington, D.C.-based DCCC [Democrat Congressional Campaign Committee].” Mitchum had stated, “I do not intend to go to Washington to represent the 24th district to bring back baseball fields. That’s not why I’m going.” The Capps campaign released an ad that edited Mitchum’s statement, in order to suggest that he said only, “I do not intend to go to Washington to represent the 24th district.” [71828, 71829]

FoxNews.com reports, “The international community’s loss of interest in Libya after the fall of former ruler Muammar Qaddafi created the vacuum that allowed ISIS ‘to get strong, its ambassador to the United Nations told Fox News Tuesday, following the release of an ISIS video in which 21 Egyptian Coptic Christians were beheaded on Libyan beaches. Ibrahim Dabbashi also expressed skepticism that the international community has the will to militarily get involved again in Libya. ...But in the meantime, the ‘most important thing right now is to lift the arms embargo on Libya so that the national army has the means to battle Daesh (the Arabic name for ISIS/Islamic State),’ Dabbashi told Fox News.” (Just as George W. Bush was criticized for ousting Saddam Hussein without thinking through who or what would replace him, Obama made the same mistake. He acted to get rid of Gaddafi, which resulted in an even worse situation. “Better the devil you know than the devil you don’t know” is a well-known idiom for a good reason.) [71795]

On *Special Report*, George Will, noting the Obama administration’s plan to use “social media” (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) to fight ISIS ideology and recruiting, quips that Obama won’t put “boots on the ground” but will rely on a “digital footprint.” (According to NYTimes.com, “The Obama administration is revamping its effort to counter the Islamic State’s propaganda machine, acknowledging that the terrorist group has been far more effective in attracting new recruits, financing and global notoriety than the United States and its allies have been in thwarting it. At the heart of the plan is expanding a tiny State Department agency, the Center for Strategic Counterterrorism Communications, to harness all the existing attempts at countermessaging [sic] by much larger federal departments, including the Pentagon, Homeland Security and intelligence agencies. ...The online messaging has aimed to create a competing narrative that strikes an emotional chord with potential militants weighing whether to join a violent extremist group. One online image two years ago, for instance, showed photographs of three American men who traveled to Somalia and died there, including Omar Hammami, a young man from Alabama who became an infamous Islamist militant. The accompanying message reads, ‘They came for jihad but were murdered by Al Shabab.’ Another image showed a young man weeping over a coffin. The message read, ‘How can slaughtering the innocent be the right path?’ Each of the online posts carried a warning: ‘Think again. Turn away.’” Some might argue that while 140 characters on Twitter are less expensive than 140 rounds of ammunition, the bullets are more effective.) [71770]

On *On the Record*, Reverend Franklin Graham observes, “We have to understand who we’re dealing with and you have to deal with it accordingly. [Obama] is ignoring the fact that these are Islamic extremists, these are terrorists, and ISIS is a terrorist organization and they are bent on destroying the West. They’ve already said they want the flag of Islam to fly over the White House. [Obama], his entire life, his whole influence has been Islam. His mother was married to a Muslim. His father’s a Muslim. Then she married a [Muslim] man from Indonesia. [Obama] was raised in Indonesia. He went to Islamic schools. ...So, his whole life experiences have been surrounded by Islam. He only knows Islam. And he’s given a pass to Islam. He’s refusing to accept and understand the evil that is in front of him.” [71837]

On *The Kelly File*, Judge Andrew Napolitano calls the ruling against Obama's illegal immigrant amnesty action by judge Andrew Hanen "devastating for the administration." Napolitano says Obama's scheme is "absolutely dead." [71842]

On February 18 Daniel Greenfield, writing at FrontPageMag.com, comments on the Obama administration's plan to defeat ISIS by out-Tweeting them. According to *The New York Times*, "The Obama administration is revamping its efforts to combat Islamic State (ISIS or ISIL) propaganda. ISIS and its supporters produce 'as many as 90,000 tweets and other social media responses every day,' reports *The New York Times*." Quips Greenfield, "We'll tweet against them on the beaches. We'll curate content against them on the landing grounds." According to the *Times*, Rashad Hussain will head the Center for Strategic Counterterrorism Communications, a component of the U.S. State Department, and "spearhead the new campaign to fight the ISIS propaganda machine." Greenfield: "So a terrorist supporter will head up our counterterrorism messaging. Why not just turn over the whole operation officially to the Muslim Brotherhood. Then the groups of Jihadists can debate each other on Twitter and we won't have to pay for it. Or become corrupted by their messaging." [71821, 71855, 71904]

One of the State Department's "anti-terrorism" tweets reads, "#ISIS raises taxes for poor [telephone] service delivery in Raqqa; false myth of 'utopia' once again revealed as propaganda." (The Obama administration apparently believes reminding Raqqa residents of their \$2.75 per month phone tax is enough to prompt them to drive out ISIS. For the record, Americans pay far more than \$2.75 per month in telephone taxes yet they do not seem overwhelmingly eager to overthrow their government.) [71986]

As noted previously in this *Timeline*, Hussain has been Obama's "special envoy" to the Organization of the Islamic Conference. Hussain was recruited for the position by Cassandra Butts, former Obama classmate at Harvard Law School who worked for George Soros' far-left think tank, the Center for American Progress. Hussain has spoken out on behalf of Sami al-Arian, a Florida professor and activist who pleaded guilty and who was convicted of conspiring to aid the Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ). Former Attorney General John Ashcroft called the PIJ "one of the most violent terrorist organizations in the world." AtlasShrugs.com quotes Bat Ye'or, author of *Eurabia: The Euro-Arab Axis*; *Islam and Dhimmitude: Where Civilizations Collide*; and *The Decline of Eastern Christianity Under Islam: From Jihad to Dhimmitude*: "The OIC is one of the largest intergovernmental organizations in the world. ... The organization has numerous subsidiary institutions collaborating at the highest levels with international organizations in order to implement its political objectives worldwide. Its main working bodies are the Islamic Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), which seeks to impose on the West the Islamic perception of history and civilization; the Observatory of Islamophobia, which puts pressure on Western governments and international bodies to adopt laws punishing 'Islamophobia' and blasphemy; and the newly created Islamic International Court of Justice. As stated in its 1990 Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam, the OIC is strictly tied to the principles of the Koran, the Sunnah, and the sharia. In a word, the OIC seeks to become the reincarnation of the Caliphate." Walid Shoebat

has called Hussain “an infiltrator whose allegiances lie with the OIC, not the U.S. Constitution he swore an oath to uphold. As such, Hussain’s agenda is one that ultimately seeks the criminalization of criticism of Islam. ...Hussain was at the fourth annual ‘Istanbul Process’ summit, held in Doha, Qatar. During his speech, he actually boasted about working with a confirmed Muslim Brotherhood front group that seeks the destruction of the United States from within.” (Obama, of course, chose Hussain to head the Center for Strategic Counterterrorism Communications.) [716, 805, 827, 8910, 8928, 8929, 8954, 8985, 9109, 9110, 9258, 9259, 23443, 23444, 23445, 23532, 23837, 23840, 25674, 25675, 25678, 25709, 27318, 27333, 27428 27429, 35407, 35487, 35489, 35497, 36940, 37190, 37193, 37196, 37231, 37243, 37245, 37490, 37574, 37575, 37596, 37600, 37607, 37695, 37696, 37697, 37698, 43356, 43357, 43381, 43556, 44238, 60147, 60148, 60149, 60270, 71821, 71855, 71904]

JihadWatch’s Robert Spencer writes, “Rashad Hussain is an apposite choice for this position, since several years ago he defended a notorious U.S.-based leader of a jihad terrorist group. But someone doesn’t want you to know that, and made a clumsy attempt to cover it up. In 2004, Rashad Hussain, then a Yale law student, declared that the investigation and prosecution of University of South Florida professor Sami al-Arian, who ultimately pled guilty to charges involving his activities as a leader of the terror group Palestinian Islamic Jihad and was recently deported, was a ‘politically motivated persecution’ designed ‘to squash dissent.’ Hussain’s remarks in support of Al-Arian were published in the jihad-enabling *Washington Report on Middle East Affairs* in November 2004. But now all that has gone down the memory hole. The *Washington Report’s* archived version of this November 2004 article lacks two paragraphs that were included in the original version: the ones quoting Rashad Hussain. Otherwise the article is unchanged. The *Washington Report* editors, caught red-handed, decided to brazen it out, and blame their accusers—a tried-and-true tactic that is also frequently employed by jihadists in the West. They insist that there was no cover-up, and anyone who thinks otherwise is a venomous Islamophobe: according to CNS News, ‘WRMEA news editor and executive director Delinda Hanley denied there was a ‘cover-up,’ and implied that anti-Muslim discrimination was behind the fact this was now being raised.’ Sure. It’s just ‘anti-Muslim discrimination’ to be concerned about Rashad Hussain’s support for Al-Arian, a vicious suicide-bombing supporter who chanted ‘Death to America’ and ‘Death to Israel,’ and clearly meant it. When two Islamic Jihad suicide bombers killed eighteen people in Israel in 1995, Al-Arian called them ‘two mujahidin martyred for the sake of God.’” [71904]

Michelle Malkin writes, “At the White House Summit on Extremism That Shall Remain Unspecified Because Violent Followers Belonging To Unnamed Extremist Movement Might Take Extreme Offense And Act Extremely, the feds are touting a groundbreaking new strategy to fight terrorists. Just kidding. It’s actually the same old futile strategy that big-government liberals use to cure everything: mo’ money, mo’ money, mo’ money. Instead of killing jihadists, keeping them off of our soil, locking up their poisonous spiritual agitators and shutting off their terror-funding pipelines, ...Obama called on America and the world to ‘invest’ in unnamed immigrant ‘communities’ vulnerable to unnamed extremism. Some of the most generous welfare states on the planet have

suffered horrific jihad attacks this year. Liberal Denmark's soft-on-jihad rehab program has been a disaster. But that hasn't stopped State Department spokes-babbler Marie Harf from mewling incessantly about 'combating poverty' to combat ISIS. ... White House senior aides spoke generically about terrorists of 'all shapes and sizes,' as they studiously avoided the precise nature and identity of the perpetrators of evil that precipitated the meeting. Screw that. Muslim jihadists chopped off the heads of 21 Egyptian Coptic Christians in Libya this weekend. ... The solution, the Obama administration wants 60 nations to [come to] D.C. to learn, is a super-sized community organizing campaign. It's Jobs for Jihad Delinquents! ... Social justice warriors are united: Less 'marginalization.' More midnight basketball." [71822]

"... The 'root cause' of their evildoing is not a lack of employment, education, community centers, iftar dinners at the White House or publicly funded 'opportunities.' When will these fools in high office learn that you can't bribe these adherents of Stone Age ideology to behave? They don't want jobs. They want blood. Revenge. Islamist dominance. Ruthless extermination of Jews, gays, Coptic Christians, Christian aid workers, cartoonists, journalists, apostates and infidels of all shapes and sizes. The M\*\*\*\*m j\*\*\*\*\*s [Muslim jihadists] are not victims of Islamophobic intolerance and Western callousness. We are the victims of our own leaders' bleeding-heart overindulgence and reckless refusal to deal with reality." [71822]

Secretary of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson says, "We in the administration and the government should give voice to the plight of Muslims living in this country and the discrimination that they face. And so I personally have committed to speak out about the situation that very often people in the Muslim community in this country face. The fact that there are 1.6 billion Muslims in the world and the Islamic faith is one about peace and brotherhood [sic]." [71899, 71900]

The White House announces that Joe Clancy, the former head of Obama's security detail, will be the permanent new head of the Secret Service. (Clancy has been acting director since the departure of Julia Pierson.) WhiteHouseDossier.com adds, "A panel of experts assembled by the administration itself last year recommended bringing in someone from the outside. No matter, Obama chose someone he is comfortable with. ... Clancy does not have significant managerial experience and he is from within the agency. On the other hand, he has acted boldly in removing senior people who were part of the problem and has impressed some members of Congress. Hopefully, Obama is doing the right thing." [71838, 71876]

WashingtonExaminer.com reports that Rear Admiral John Kirby, the Pentagon's press secretary, "will step down and be replaced by a civilian in the first personnel move made by Ashton Carter, who started his job as Defense secretary this week. Mr. Carter would prefer to have a civilian speak to the press on a daily basis, administrative officials told The New York Times, which first broke the news. Adm. Kirby was told he'd be replaced with Mr. Carter's new pick for the job a few weeks ago. Adm. Kirby will stay on to help with the transition. His successor has yet to be named." [71841]

Investors.com reports, “[T]he findings of a study show that global warming skeptics score better on climate science questions than those who believe man is causing the planet to warm through the combustion of fossil fuels. A paper that will appear in the journal *Advances in Political Psychology* says that, on average, skeptics got 4.5 questions right while the followers of the faith averaged four correct answers. This doesn’t mean skeptics are more informed; it just means they’re not poorly informed, which is what alarmists want us all to believe.” [72162, 72163]

IndiaToday.in reports, “A tree sapling planted by ...Obama at the memorial of Mahatma Gandhi at Raj Ghat in New Delhi during his recent visit to India is apparently on the verge of ‘dying,’ probably due to lack of proper care. A photograph of the site shows the sapling in a dilapidated state, devoid of any leaves.” [71839, 71840]

At WND.com Jerome Corsi reports, “The Senate Judiciary Committee on Wednesday conducted a two-hour session with HSBC whistleblower John Cruz in its investigation of attorney general nominee Loretta Lynch’s role in the Obama administration’s decision not to prosecute the banking giant for laundering funds for Mexican drug cartels and Middle Eastern terrorists... The staff of the Senate Judiciary Committee focused Wednesday on Cruz’s allegations, first reported by WND Feb. 6, that Lynch, acting then in her capacity as the U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of New York, engaged in a Department of Justice cover-up. Obama’s attorney general nominee allowed HSBC to enter into a ‘deferred prosecution’ settlement in which the bank agreed to pay a \$1.9 billion fine and admit ‘willful criminal conduct’ in exchange for dropping criminal investigations and prosecutions of HSBC directors or employees.” [71844, 71890]

NYPost.com reports, “A top Iraqi diplomat told world leaders that ISIS is harvesting the organs of its victims to fund its murderous operations, the latest charge of barbarity in a list that already includes mass beheadings, burning people alive, crucifying children and throwing people off buildings. The shocking new claim was presented by the Iraqi ambassador to the United Nations, who said bodies have turned up in mass graves bearing surgical incisions and missing organs such as kidneys. Ambassador Mohamed Alhakim leveled the charge as he asked the Security Council to investigate whether ISIS is harvesting and selling the organs of those it executes. The claim followed an unconfirmed report late Tuesday that as many as 45 people captured by the Islamic State in the Anbar province town of al-Baghdadi had been rounded up and burned alive. ‘We have bodies,’ Alhakim told his international counterparts. ‘Come and examine them. It is clear they are missing certain parts.’ Alhakim, who said a dozen doctors have been executed in Mosul for refusing to participate in organ harvesting, briefed the council on the overall situation in Iraq and accused the Islamic State group of ‘crimes of genocide’ in targeting certain ethnic groups.” [71849, 71882]

The *Post* also reports, “The masked jihadi who led the executions of 21 Egyptian Christians in Libya over the weekend could be an American recruited by ISIS, a US official told The Post... Intelligence experts are currently analyzing the facial features

and speech patterns of the unidentified extremist seen in gruesome video released by the Islamic State on Sunday. ‘They are analyzing the video now, using facial recognition and they continue to analyze his speech patterns,’ said an official who requested to not be named. ‘He sounds American to me.’ Professor Erik Thomas—a linguistics expert at North Carolina State University—added that based on distinctive word pronunciations, he also believes the unidentified man in camouflage ‘sounds like an American’ with some Arabic influence mixed in, according to ABC News.” [71850, 71851]

At FoxNews.com Catherine Herridge reports, “Internal State Department emails reviewed by Fox News reveal that as security unraveled in Yemen, U.S. personnel were scrambling to finalize their exit plan and were so uncertain about what would happen that procedures for safeguarding sensitive information were bypassed—with permission from Washington. The unclassified emails reveal staff on the ground in Yemen, as well as senior department executives in Washington, were concerned the evacuation might go bad and left a communication network running at the embassy in case staff had to return. The emails point to uncertainty on the ground amid fast-moving developments, even as the Obama administration downplayed any irregularities. ‘It wasn’t hasty,’ State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki insisted on Fox News’ ‘The Kelly File’ on Feb. 12, a day after the evacuation. But one email reviewed by Fox News showed genuine concern—even panic—in Washington, that an unclassified system exposing emails and day-to-day operations was left up and running at the embassy in Sanaa. ‘We need to quickly think about the plan for destroying/sanitizing the OpenNet data that is still in Sanaa,’ the email from a supervisor said. ‘I am a little worried it is still out there.’” [71877]

Obama addresses attendees of the White House Summit on Countering Violent Extremism, expressing more concern for Muslims who might feel they are discriminated against than the victims of terrorism. Among his statements: “In the face of horrific acts of violence—at a Sikh temple near Milwaukee, or at a Jewish community center outside Kansas City—we reaffirmed our commitment to pluralism and to freedom, repulsed by the notion that anyone should ever be targeted because of who they are, or what they look like, or how they worship. Most recently, with the brutal murders in Chapel Hill of three young Muslim Americans, many Muslim Americans are worried and afraid. And I want to be as clear as I can be: As Americans, all faiths and backgrounds, we stand with you in your grief and we offer our love and we offer our support. My point is this: As Americans, we are strong and we are resilient. And when tragedy strikes, when we take a hit, we pull together, and we draw on what’s best in our character—our optimism, our commitment to each other, our commitment to our values, our respect for one another. We stand up, and we rebuild, and we recover, and we emerge stronger than before. That’s who we are.” [71869, 71872, 71873, 71874, 71894]

“And I say all this because we face genuine challenges to our security today, just as we have throughout our history. Challenges to our security are not new. They didn’t happen yesterday or a week ago or a year ago. We’ve always faced challenges. One of those challenges is the terrorist threat from groups like al Qaeda and ISIL. But this isn’t our

challenge alone. It's a challenge for the world. ISIL is terrorizing the people of Syria and Iraq, beheads and burns human beings in unfathomable acts of cruelty. We've seen deadly attacks in Ottawa and Sydney and, Paris, and now Copenhagen. So, in the face of this challenge, we have marshalled [sic; marshaled] the full force of the United States government, and we're working with allies and partners to dismantle terrorist organizations and protect the American people. Given the complexities of the challenge and the nature of the enemy—which is not a traditional army—this work takes time, and will require vigilance and resilience and perspective. But I'm confident that, just as we have for more than two centuries, we will ultimately prevail." [71869, 71872, 71873, 71874, 71894]

"...By 'violent extremism,' we don't just mean the terrorists who are killing innocent people. We also mean the ideologies, the infrastructure of extremists—the propagandists, the recruiters, the funders who radicalize and recruit or incite people to violence. We all know there is no one profile of a violent extremist or terrorist, so there's no way to predict who will become radicalized. Around the world, and here in the United States, inexcusable acts of violence have been committed against people of different faiths, by people of different faiths—which is, of course, a betrayal of all our faiths. It's not unique to one group, or to one geography, or one period of time. But we are here at this summit because of the urgent threat from groups like al Qaeda and ISIL. And this week we are focused on prevention—preventing these groups from radicalizing, recruiting or inspiring others to violence in the first place. I've called upon governments to come to the United Nations this fall with concrete steps that we can take together." [71869, 71872, 71873, 71874, 71894]

"[W]e have to confront squarely and honestly the twisted ideologies that these terrorist groups use to incite people to violence. ...Al Qaeda and ISIL and groups like it are desperate for legitimacy. They try to portray themselves as religious leaders—holy warriors in defense of Islam. That's why ISIL presumes to declare itself the 'Islamic State.' And they propagate the notion that America—and the West, generally—is at war with Islam. That's how they recruit. That's how they try to radicalize young people. We must never accept the premise that they put forward, because it is a lie. Nor should we grant these terrorists the religious legitimacy that they seek. They are not religious leaders—they're terrorists. And we are not at war with Islam. We are at war with people who have perverted Islam. ...Of course, the terrorists do not speak for over a billion Muslims who reject their hateful ideology. They no more represent Islam than any madman who kills innocents in the name of God represents Christianity or Judaism or Buddhism or Hinduism. No religion is responsible for terrorism. People are responsible for violence and terrorism." [71869, 71872, 71873, 71874, 71894, 71903]

As evidence of the perversion of Islam, Obama notes that the Quran says, "Whoever kills an innocent, it is as if he has killed all mankind." But Obama ignores the fact that the average Westerner's definition of "an innocent" is *not* the same as that of a strict Muslim—who considers anyone who does not follow Islam to *not* be an innocent. To an American, a good-natured, polite, charitable, and kind Christian, Jew, Buddhist, Hindu,



or atheist who would never harm a fly might very well be considered “an innocent,” but a radical Islamist considers such a person to be a blasphemer for not revering Muhammed and an enemy for not following Islam. (If Obama does not know any better, his ignorance is significant. If he knows better but will not state reality, he is a liar who is putting the nation at risk.) At NationalReview.com Andrew C. McCarthy writes, “The Koran does indeed say that, in Sura 5:32. Yet, in the very next verse, conveniently omitted by Obama (5:33), it goes on to say: ‘The punishment of those who wage war against Allah and His Messenger, and strive with might and main for mischief through the land, is: execution, or crucifixion, or the cutting off of hands and feet from opposite sides, or exile from the land: That is their disgrace in this world, and a heavy punishment is theirs in the hereafter.’ That puts a somewhat different cast on the whole ‘whoever kills an innocent’ theme, wouldn’t you say?” (Again, definitions are important. What is meant by those who “strive... for mischief in the land?” To many Muslims, simply following something other than Islam is creating mischief.) [71994]

Almost at the very close of his speech, Obama reluctantly admits, “There will be a military component to this. There are savage cruelties going on out there that have to be stopped. ISIL is killing Muslims at a rate that is many multiples the rate that they’re killing non-Muslims. Everybody has a stake in stopping them, and there will be an element of us just stopping them in their tracks with force. But to eliminate the soil out of which they grew, to make sure that we are giving a brighter future to everyone and a lasting sense of security, then we’re going to have to make it clear to all of our children... that you have a place. You have a place here in America. You have a place in those countries where you live. You have a future.’ [71869, 71872, 71873, 71874, 71894]

At a fundraiser in Manhattan, former New York City mayor Rudy Giuliani says, “I do not believe, and I know this is a horrible thing to say, but I do not believe that [Obama] loves America. He doesn’t love you. And he doesn’t love me. He wasn’t brought up the way you were brought up and I was brought up through love of this country. ...[W]ith all our flaws we’re the most exceptional country in the world. I’m looking for a presidential candidate [for 2016] who can express that, do that and carry it out. And if it’s you Scott [Walker], I’ll endorse you, and if it’s somebody else, I’ll support somebody else.” Giuliani later says, “What country has left so many young men and women dead abroad to save other countries without taking land? This is not the colonial empire that somehow [Obama] has in his head. I’ve never felt that from him. I felt that from [George] W. [Bush]. I felt that from [Bill] Clinton. I felt that from every American president, including ones I disagreed with, including [Jimmy] Carter. I don’t feel that from ...Obama. ...I thought the Crown Heights riots were a pogrom because you’re going out trying to kill Jews. Why is this man [Obama] incapable of saying that? You’ve got to be able to criticize Islam for the parts of Islam that are wrong. You criticize Christianity for the part of Christianity that is wrong. I’m not sure how wrong the Crusades are. The Crusades were kind of an equal battle between two groups of barbarians. The Muslims and the crusading barbarians. What the hell? What’s wrong with this man that he can’t stand up and say there’s a part of Islam that’s sick?” (*The Obama Timeline* agrees with Giuliani. Obama may love America’s golf course and the millions of mushy minds on its college campuses, but he does not love America. The evidence to back up Giuliani’s claims are

in the 10,000+ pages of this *Timeline*.) [71878, 71889, 71912, 71915, 71922, 71927, 71937, 71988, 72018, 72042]

After the expected mainstream media uproar about Giuliani's comments, and leftist demands that all Republicans denounce them, Senator Mario Rubio responds, "I don't feel like I'm in a position to have to answer to everyone in my party who makes a claim. Democrats aren't asked to answer every time Joe Biden says something embarrassing. So I don't know why I should answer every time a Republican does. So I will suffice to say I believe [Obama] loves America. His ideas are bad." (Stephen Miller tweets, "Rubio hammering media, Biden and Obama in one statement is my favorite thing of the week.") It is worth noting that in 2008 then-candidate Obama accused George W. Bush of being "unpatriotic" because he allowed the national debt to increase dramatically. Since then, of course, Obama has allowed it to increase far more dramatically. [71911, 71914, 71956, 71992, 71998]

White House press secretary Josh Earnest defends Obama against Giuliani's charge, saying that when Obama said, "God bless this country" at the end of his State of the Union address it proved he loved the country. Earnest adds, "The fact is, I think what people are feeling is sorry for Rudy Giuliani." Reminded that Obama questioned George W. Bush's patriotism, Earnest responds, "I think what [Obama] was doing was questioning the wisdom of that decision [to allow the national debt to increase]." [71962, 71998]

On *The Kelly File*, Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) calls Obama "an apologist for radical Islamic terrorists. ...ISIS is the face of evil, and these latest atrocities ...our heart breaks. And to see 21 Coptic Christians murdered, beheaded by radical Islamic terrorists, to see 45 people lit on fire ...this is horrific and it is deliberate and it is targeted at Christians. It is targeted at Jews. It's targeted at Muslims in the region who do not accede to the radical Islamist view." Cruz comments on State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf's claim that terrorism has to be fought with jobs programs: "Now, with respect, that is idiocy. The solution here is not expanded Medicaid. The solution is the full force of U.S. military power to destroy the leaders of ISIS. They have declared war ...jihad on the United States. Jihad is another word [Obama] doesn't say." Cruz says of Obama's Crusades remark: "Now last I checked, the Crusades began a millennia ago, and I don't think it's too much to ask [Obama] to stay in the current millennium." [71879]

On February 19 the *New York Post's* cover features a photograph of Obama wearing a blindfold, with the caption, "Islamic terror? I just don't see it." [71886, 71983]

While Obama is ridiculed for not seeing radical Islam when it is right in front of him, Naij.com reports, "ISIS morality Police have attacked a young Syrian woman dressed in a full burqa and face veil because they thought her eyes were sexy and too exposed. ...[T]he woman was arrested and maltreated in Albuhamal, east of the country, along with two men who tried to defend her. Women who live in ISIS controlled areas are being beaten with iron rods when they offend the militant group's strict dress code.

[71981, 79182]

At Investors.com Paul Sperry writes, “France, Belgium and now even liberal Denmark regret letting in so many immigrants from Muslim countries. Their swelling Islamic communities have become breeding grounds for terrorists. So why is the U.S. opening the floodgates to foreign Muslims? The threat Muslim immigrants pose to homeland security was not addressed during the White House’s three-day summit on terrorism. Instead, Vice President Joe Biden assured Muslim groups gathered during one session that the ‘wave’ of Muslim immigration is ‘not going to stop.’ Wave? More like a tsunami. Between 2010 and 2013, the Obama administration imported almost 300,000 new immigrants from Muslim nations—more immigrants than the U.S. let in from Central America and Mexico combined over that period. This is a sea change in immigration flows, and it threatens national security. Many of the recent Muslim immigrants are from terrorist hot spots like Iraq, where the Islamic State operates. From 2010–2013, Obama ushered in 41,094 Iraqi nationals from there. Now the State Department says it will quadruple the number of refugees brought here from Syria, where IS [ISIS] is headquartered. The U.S. will admit as many as 2,000 Syrian nationals by the end of fiscal year 2015, up from 525 since fiscal 2011. ...Top U.S. counterterror officials say terrorists could easily slip into the country from Iraq and Syria, in spite of promised screening procedures for such refugees. ‘It’s clearly a population of concern,’ National Counterterrorism Center Director Nicholas Rasmussen testified this week. House Homeland Security Committee Chairman Mike McCaul [R-TX] called the new policy ‘a federally sanctioned welcome party to potential terrorists.’” [72394, 72395]

The Associated Press reports, “State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki will become ...Obama’s new communications director... She replaces veteran Democratic media strategist Jennifer Palmieri, who is leaving the White House to join Hillary Rodham Clinton’s likely presidential campaign. Psaki will step into her new role April 1.” (Deputy spokeswoman Marie Harf reportedly will not get Psaki’s old position.) [71866, 71885, 71917, 71926]

Walmart announces, “Beginning in April, Walmart U.S. will increase its starting rate to \$9 an hour or higher. By February 2016, all current associates will make \$10 an hour or higher. Additionally, Walmart is piloting an onboarding [sic] and training program that will create clear career paths for associates so they know what is expected of them in order to move from entry level positions to jobs with more responsibility and pay \$15 an hour or more.” [71867, 71891]

*Time* magazine senior writer Jeffrey Kluger calls on Facebook to prohibit users from posting anti-vaccine comments. Kluger writes, “Facebook is equal parts town square, medium of communication and commercial bazaar—complete with ads. And it does all of those jobs well. What the site shouldn’t be is a vector for lies—especially lies that can harm children. Free speech is not in play here. This should be an easy call.” [72030, 72031]

Meteorologist Joe d'Aleo states, "Great Lakes ice is now running ahead of last year and ice will increase with more brutal cold coming. We are likely to have the most ice since records began. By the end of February the entire country east of the Rockies will have averaged below normal. Boston will have either the coldest or second coldest month in their history. It is nearly 13F below normal in Cleveland and all points east for February. Boston has the second most snow for the season and is very likely to be the snowiest ever by the end of the winter. They blew away the all time monthly snow record by 18 inches and could end up with 6 feet if models are right in 1 month. Ice has clogged Delaware Bay and New York and Boston Harbors. Ice is seen as far south as off the New Jersey Coast and will likely clog Boston and New York Harbor in the brutal cold of the next 10 days. Freezing spray warnings are in effect in the waters around NYC this morning." [71929, 71930]

At Townhall.com Conn Carroll reports, "Voters in three key swing states that ...Obama won twice not [Colorado, Iowa, and Virginia] only widely disapprove of Obama's job [performance], but they give him no credit for the improving economy and overwhelmingly want to 'change direction' from Obama's policies. 'By margins of 24 points or higher, voters say they want the next president to change direction and not follow ...Obama's policies,' Quinnipiac Poll assistant director Peter Brown said in a release." [71868]

Just five days before the mayoral election in Chicago, Obama visits the city to announce the designation of its south side Pullman neighborhood a National Monument. (NBCChicago.com notes, "Pullman Historic District, between 103rd and 115th streets, was founded by railroad car manufacturer, engineer and industrialist George Pullman in 1880. Pullman built the picturesque company town on 4,000 acres before it became home to porters, factory workers, managers and their families in a time where most laborers lived in very poor conditions." Obama no doubt timed the taxpayer-funded trip in order to help boost Mayor Rahm Emanuel's chances for reelection.) At the event, Emanuel and Chicago Federation of Labor President Jorge Ramirez shared the stage with Obama—who petulantly and childishly kept Governor Bruce Rauner, a Republican, at a distance with a rope line. (WashingtonPost.com observes, "There's little doubt that Emanuel will finish well ahead of [Jesus] Garcia and three other challengers in Tuesday's election. But polls show him at risk of falling short of a majority and being forced into a six-week runoff campaign, probably against Garcia. Liberal activists are relishing the opportunity to extend the race.") [71892, 71893, 71898, 71916]

At the White House summit on "countering violent extremism," Secretary of State John Kerry blames everything but Islam for terrorism. According to CNSNews.com, "Among some of the likely motivations [Kerry] listed were deprivation, a desire to avenge the death of a loved one, a response to 'acts of discrimination or repression,' the desire to belong to a group, and 'rebellion against anonymity.' Absent from the list was any belief—misguided or otherwise—that joining a terrorist group was an Islamic duty or demonstration of religious zeal." Laughably, Kerry says, "[Y]ou cannot defeat what you don't understand." "Poisonous ideas," warns Kerry, "might grow from pictures seen on

the nightly news or from acts of discrimination or repression that you don't think much about on the day of occurrence, but which come back to haunt. It could come from the desire to avenge the death of a loved one. In some cases, they may come from a lost job or from the contrast between one family's empty dinner plate and a fancy restaurant's lavish menu. The poison might even come from within, in the form of rebellion against anonymity, the desire to belong to a group, people who want a moment of visibility and identity, or the hunger for black-and-white answers to problems that are very complex in a remarkably more complicated world." (Whether Kerry will call for legislation demanding that fancy restaurants be replaced with soup kitchens is not known, but he may want to review Michelle Obama's school lunch menus to see if they might be causing hungry students to become radicalized.) [71931, 71948]

HotAir.com reports that subprime loans for automobiles, credit cards, and personal borrowing are at their highest levels since 2008. "Outside of mortgages and student loans (which are handled by the federal government now), though, the percentage of lending to riskier borrowers went up to \$189.3 billion in 2014, not far off from 2008's total in the low \$200 million range. Loosening up credit can help boost economic development and growth, but it can also lead to more bubbles and the potential for collapse, depending on how that credit is structured and whether the resources to back it are solid." [71925]

FreeBeacon.com reports, "Iran's foreign minister and lead negotiator in nuclear talks with the United States has been ordered by the Islamic Republic's Supreme Leader to stop shouting and yelling at Secretary of State John Kerry during negotiating sessions." [71875]

At HotAir.com Noah Rothman writes, "On Wednesday, Obama gave the nation exactly what it never knew it needed: Another self-indulgent, pedagogical lecture from the president on the roots of religious violence. ...Obama meandered aimlessly all over the theistic and sociological map, touching on a number subjects or theories popular in the faculty lounge but never for so long as to fully articulate a comprehensive philosophy. If that verdict sounds harsh, it should. There was no reason to engage in this solipsistic example of streaming consciousness but for [Obama] to flatter himself, bare his inner professor, and indulge in what he apparently believes are his superior intellectual faculties. In the process, he might have made things worse. [Obama's] refusal to acknowledge that the epidemic of violence spreading across the world today has its roots in a dangerous strain of Islam has been conspicuous. In fact, he seems inclined to go out of his way in order to assure the public that no self-described Islamic terrorist is representative of Islam. That's a fine sentiment; it is [also] one that has been said many times in the past by a variety of political actors from across the ideological spectrum." [71880]

"...But Obama went on to make another comment that is less innocuous. 'We are not at war with Islam,' Obama insisted, a statement that has become a constant refrain from American political leaders over the last 13 years. But he added a novel twist on that old phrase: 'We are at war with people who have perverted Islam.' There it was. This was the

culmination of Obama's colloquiums on religious violence, his op-eds in major urban newspapers expounding on the phenomenon, and a rambling speech on the subject before a rapt audience of supporters. It just so happens that ISIS would say precisely the same thing. ...ISIS, too, would contend theirs is a war against those who pervert Islam. If [Obama] has determined that this organization is itself a perverter of the Muslim faith, we've now entered a rhetorical realm where we can contend that the West and ISIS are in a war over the only valid interpretation of Islam. That surely was not [Obama's] intention, but that would serve ISIS's propagandistic purposes quite nicely." [71880]

"Whether or not that interpretation of Obama's comments sounds right to you, it is undeniable that the United States is not in a more advantageous position today as a result of Obama's sybaritic speech. It is unlikely that America stands on more strategic ground in the global war against Islamic radicalism because of Obama's tortured attempts to obscure the precise nature of the enemy. Now, he has given America's adversaries a brand new propagandistic tool. The world and the nation might be better served if [Obama] stopped talking and instead focused on his responsibilities as commander-in-chief." [71880]

Aaron Klein writes at WND.com, "ISIS is planning to use Libya as a 'gateway' to Europe and has raised the possibility of storming southern European cities to cause 'pandemonium' or closing international shipping lines in the Mediterranean Sea. This according to documents released by ISIS supporters and propagandists and obtained by the Quilliam Foundation, a Britain-based think tank that focuses on counter-extremism. ...The documents indicate ISIS views Libya as not just fertile ground for a headquarters but as a staging base to infiltrate Europe by boat along with the hundreds of migrants who daily attempt to flee to Italy. One ISIS document recognized Libya has a 'long coastline' that 'looks upon the southern Crusader states, which can be reached with ease by even a rudimentary boat.' The document noted 'the number of 'illegal immigration' trips from this coast is massive, estimated to be as high as 500 people a day, as a low estimate.'" The *Daily Mail* reports, "Transcripts of telephone intercepts published in Italy claim to provide evidence that ISIS is threatening to send 500,000 migrants simultaneously out to sea in hundreds of boats in a 'psychological weapon' against Europe if there is military intervention against them in Libya. Many would be at risk of drowning with rescue services unable to cope. But authorities fear that if numbers on this scale arrived, European cities could witness riots. Separately, the militants hope to cement their control of Libya then cross the Mediterranean disguised as refugees, according to letters seen by Quilliam the anti-terror group, reported by the Telegraph." [71884, 71896, 71897]

Meanwhile, the *Daily Mail* notes that Libya's deposed leader, Moammar Gaddafi, warned shortly before he was brutally murdered, "If, instead of a stable government that guarantees security, these militias linked to [Osama] Bin Laden take control, the Africans will move en mass towards Europe. The Mediterranean will become a sea of chaos." [71887, 71888]

CNSNews.com reports, A Muslim prayer was recited at the start of the second day of the

White House summit on ‘Countering Violent Extremism,’ but no other religious text was presented during the portion of the event that was open to the press. Imam Sheikh Sa’ad Mussa Roble, president of the World Peace Organization in Minneapolis, Minn., recited a ‘verse from the Quran’ following remarks by Obama administration officials and Democratic members of Congress.” [71895]

On CNN, former CIA director James Woolsey observes that Obama “is a sort of world champion of political correctness, and I think that he’s let it really run too far here. It might be different if he were taking a really stern position with respect to those groups in the Middle East and elsewhere that are causing huge problems. The Russians are running a foreign policy very much the way Hitler did from 1933 to 1939. The Chinese are trying to take over the South China Sea. The ISIS is doing what it is doing, murdering people, burning them alive and trying to expand into a caliphate that covers—has a state that covers much in the Middle East, and beyond, in a way, the way it happened in Mohammed’s time.” Program host Don Lemon interjects, “[Obama] said that we have to address the root causes of radicalism, poverty, lack of education...” Woolsey: “You need to address the root causes as well under these circumstances as let people know that you can fight. And you have to fight effectively, and he is not doing that. He didn’t do it with Syria. He didn’t—and he is not do anything to ship weapons that are needed to Ukrainians who are dealing with the Russians. He is not dealing with Iran on anything but a very weak basis in the negotiations over the Iranian nuclear weapons. ...Russia taking over as much as it is in the process of doing of central and eastern Europe and perhaps back into Central Asia, in Kazakhstan is a very serious problem for that part of that world, and others that border on it. ISIS is a huge problem for stability not only in the Middle East, but we may start seeing some of these terrible actions occurring not only in Europe as they have begun to, but in the United States, and then of course, you have the Iranians, and there are a various instrumentalities such as Hezbollah running things in a very rough in their part of the world. ...And if he were taking a firm stand on these, if he were helping arm the Ukrainians... then he might have a bit more flexibility in the way he termed it. But basically he looks scared. ...He looks as if he’s afraid of using the adjective Islamic to describe the terrorists. ...And that doesn’t mean that all terrorists are Muslims and it doesn’t mean that all Muslims are terrorists, that’s nuts.” [71902]

Apparently eager to help ISIS defend itself against coalition forces, the Obama administration makes public the military’s plans to take back Mosul. WND.com reports, “The United States has laid out a battle plan to retake the Iraqi city of Mosul in an April-to-May time frame, using some 20,000 to 25,000 Iraqi troops who currently are being trained, a highly unusual disclosure that one intelligence source told WND is ‘pure lunacy.’ In a teleconference with reporters at the Pentagon, a U.S. Central Command official said brigades of Iraqis along with Kurdish peshmerga forces and Sunni militia will seek to take back Iraq’s second largest city from ISIS, which has held it since June. The half-hour briefing attended by WND and other media outlets was given on condition that the official could not be identified. The disclosure surprised many on the call who wondered why details would be released months ahead of the planned offensive. An intelligence source who spoke to WND also on condition that his identity not be revealed called the disclosure ‘pure lunacy.’ The source referred to previous disclosures in

advance of an attack that gave enemy forces in Iraq time to set up improvised explosive devices.” [71905, 71919, 71923, 71933]

On *The Kelly File*, Senator Tom Cotton (R-AR) reacts: “It’s very mystifying why this administration would reveal potential plans to retake Mosul. If a private in Iraq had revealed this kind of planning inadvertently by leaving a plan in the chow hall or the gym, he might have faced a court marshal but it’s now become a matter of policy that this administration is going to announce war plans in advance. It only increases the risk. We are aiding and abetting the enemy. I do not understand why [Obama] and the administration want to aid and abet the enemy. Retired Lieutenant General Tom McInerney adds, “It’s absolutely bewildering. We are aiding and abetting the enemy. ...It’s going to expose our forces to risk.” [71906, 71913, 71919]

On HBO’s *Real Time*, Bill Maher notes Obama’s February 18 statement, “No religion is responsible for religion; *people* are responsible for violence and terrorism,” and comments, “That sounds a lot like the NRA’s slogan.” (Although it is not the NRA “slogan,” Maher no doubt means the oft-repeated phrase, “Guns don’t kill people; people kill people.”) “But this idea that we cannot even call it Islamic terrorism seems Orwellian to me. It seems like we’re paying a very high price for this which is we can’t discuss it even rationally. Can’t we at least say that there are a number of factors that are involved? And the religion is certainly one of that. [Obama] presented this idea that it’s poverty and education. It is poverty and education, also. But why are they impoverished and uneducated? It’s mostly because of the religion. That’s mostly why. The U.N. did a study in 2002, they found out that only 300 books had been translated into Arabic that year. In madrassas they only teach one book—I don’t have to tell you which one.” [71970]

On February 20 Townhall.com’s Katie Pavlich comments to the Pentagon’s release of Mosul strategy: “Out: Defeating the enemy In: Sending the enemy our war plans, including troop levels and timing, in advance. Unbelievable.” [71906]

WhiteHouseDossier.com’s Keith Koffler writes, “Prime Minister [sic] Netanyahu’s trip to address Congress early next month, and his open defiance of ...Obama, is not the result of some kind of personality conflict between the two leaders, as the sensitive, egoistic Obama probably suspects. It is, rather, a last-ditch effort by Netanyahu to try to save his country. And ours. Netanyahu has apparently come to the conclusion that there is little value left in trying to appease Obama, because [he] is about to enter into a deal with Iran that is unacceptable to Israel. The only thing Netanyahu can do is make his case to Congress and the American people. In this regard, the controversy surrounding his visit actually helps, rather than hinders, his cause, because it will drum up inkwells of press coverage and publicity. ...Netanyahu came to the conclusion last month that Obama’s deal would allow Iran to keep thousands of centrifuges spinning. And the agreement would be good for no more than a dozen years, which is nothing for countries like both Iran and Israel, which think in terms of millennia. Iran... now thinks of itself as a superpower and will not easily drop its nuclear weapons aspirations.” [72036]



At the Democrat National Committee winter meeting, Obama says, “So I, look, I think, I think the shift in rhetoric that they’re [the Republicans are] engaging in is good, if it actually leads them to take different actions. If it doesn’t, then it’s just spin. If it doesn’t, if you’re just tryin’ [sic] to repackage the same top-down economics and use the words ‘middle-class’ attached to it, if you’re just gonna [sic] keep on cuttin’ [sic] taxes at the top and not raise minimum wages for folks who are struggling, then it’s just spin, [to] try to bamboozle folks. [Obama here borrows Malcolm X’s frequent line, to “bamboozle folks.”] And lookin’ backward is not the answer. We, we’ve gotta [sic] look forward. All of us, as Americans. And Democrats, we’ve gotta [sic] be the party that recognizes and responds to what Americans really face in a 21st century economy. Our brand of middle-class economics is very specific. We detail it. Here’s what we are going to do. We can show you how it’s gonna help middle-class families and folks strivin’ [sic] to get into the middle class.” (Some might argue that the terms “bamboozled” and “spin” could be applied to, “If you like your plan, you can keep your plan,” “If you like your doctor, you can keep your doctor,” “My plan will pay for itself,” and “The average family will save \$2,500 per year.”) [71901]

Obama also says, “We’ve got to be the party that believes nobody should be treated like a second-class [pause] person... no matter where you come from.” (DailyCaller.com observes, “That deliberate use of the word ‘person,’ in place of ‘American’ or ‘citizen,’ was a dog-whistle to the Democrats’ effort to win support from immigrant populations, both legal and illegal.”) Obama adds, Republicans should “stop trying to deport millions of striving young kids who just want to earn their shot at the American dream like the rest of us.” (Obama’s claim is false. To oppose Obama’s illegal amnesty scheme is *not* the same as demanding that all illegal immigrants be deported. To object to treating illegal immigrants better than legal immigrants is *not* the same as calling for deportation of all illegals. Obama repeatedly uses the false choice argument, distorting the position of his opponents and suggesting there are only two options: his way or that distortion.) [71941]

The Obama administration states that it mailed about 800,000 incorrect ObamaCare tax forms—or about one-fifth of the total mailing. According to FoxNews.com, the 1095-A forms “are like a W-2 for health care. They provided a month-by-month accounting of the subsidies consumers received to help pay their premiums. That information is then used to make sure everybody got the right amount, not too much, or too little.” The Healthcare.gov web site states, “Most people received a correct Form 1095-A. However, **if we contact you because your Form 1095-A is incorrect, here's why. Some forms included the monthly premium amount of the second lowest cost Silver plan for 2015 instead of 2014, which needs to be corrected. The incorrect amount is listed in Part III, Column B of the Form 1095-A.** We’re working quickly to resolve this and **any other issues with the 1095-A forms.** This does not mean that your tax credit was incorrect; this is purely an error in what was printed on the form.” [71907, 71908, 71921, 71937]

Even if their 1095-A forms are correct, however, many Americans will be shocked when they file their taxes—because they will be expected to pay back to the government any

ObamaCare subsidizes to which they were not entitled. As an example, CNN reports the story of Janice Riddle, who “got a nasty surprise when she filled out her tax return this year. The Los Angeles resident had applied for Obamacare in late 2013, when she was unemployed. She qualified for a hefty subsidy of \$470 a month, leaving her with a monthly premium of \$1 for the cheapest plan available. Riddle landed a job in early 2014 at a life insurance agency, but since her new employer didn’t offer health benefits, she kept her Obamacare plan. However, she didn’t update her income with the California exchange, which she acknowledges was her mistake. Now, she has to pay back the entire subsidy, which is forcing her to dip into her savings. ...Like Riddle, many Americans on the exchange will likely have to pay back some or all of their subsidies. Between 4.5 million and 7.5 million taxpayers received subsidies for insurance premiums when they signed up for coverage on Obamacare exchanges, federal officials said. These folks had to forecast their 2014 income when they applied. Those who underestimated their earnings either will receive smaller tax refunds or will owe the IRS money. ...Early data is in from some tax preparers. Some 53% of Jackson Hewitt clients who received subsidies have to repay part or all of it, with the largest being \$12,000, said Mark Steber, chief tax officer.” (Riddle no doubt loved ObamaCare when it cost her only \$1 per month and the taxpayers were paying the rest of her premium. Now that she has become a working taxpayer, she likely feels differently.) [71909, 71924, 71928]

White House press secretary Josh Earnest tells reporters, “The Department of Justice has made a decision to file a stay in this case [in which a judge halted the implementation of Obama’s illegal immigrant amnesty executive order]. I would anticipate that they will file documents at the district court level on Monday at the latest.” [71910, 71932, 71957, 71959]

A report in Politico.com about the possibility of Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL) running for the U.S. Senate notes, “Throughout her time as chair [of the Democrat National Committee], Wasserman Schultz has turned off colleagues, other top Democrats and current and former staff for a management style that strikes many as self-centered—even for a politician—and often at the expense of the DNC or individual candidates or campaigns. Many top Democrats, including some she counts as supporters and friends, privately complain about her trying to use the DNC as a vehicle for her own personal promotion, and letting her own ambition get in the way of larger goals. Wasserman Schultz has a different sense of herself. According to people who spoke with her, when she sensed Obama was considering replacing her as chair in 2013, she began to line up supporters to suggest the move was both anti-woman and anti-Semitic. Under fire last fall for her leadership, she took Obama’s decision not to remove her then as evidence of renewed strength and said she was confident no one could get her out of the DNC before her term is over at the beginning of 2017, according to sources who’ve spoken with her. She’s also been known to joke around the office about how having a vacation home in New Hampshire might one day be helpful in a presidential run.” (Just as Obama eagerly plays the “race card,” Wasserman Schultz apparently would be billing to play the “female card” and the “Jewish card” if her job is threatened.) [72023, 72024, 72035, 72100]

In Denmark, more than 500 Muslim men attend the funeral of the Copenhagen killer, Omar Abdel Hamid El-Hussein. Many reportedly make the index-finger sign in support of ISIS. (The “lone wolf” apparently belonged to a very large pack.) [71934, 71945, 71946, 71950, 71951]

ABCNews.com reports, “In what is becoming an increasingly nasty grudge match, the White House is mulling ways to undercut Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s upcoming trip to Washington and blunt his message that a potential nuclear deal with Iran is bad for Israel and the world. There are limits. Administration officials have discarded the idea of ...Obama himself giving an Iran-related address to rebut the two speeches Netanyahu is to deliver during his early March visit. But other options remain on the table. Among them: [an Obama] interview with a prominent journalist known for coverage of the rift between Obama and Netanyahu, multiple Sunday show television appearances by senior national security aides and a pointed snub of America’s leading pro-Israel lobby, which is holding its annual meeting while Netanyahu is in Washington, according to the officials.” (The stunning childishness and vindictiveness of the White House is bewildering, and taxpayers should be alarmed that Obama staffers are wasting their time coming up with ways to “get even” with a world leader who is a stalwart U.S. ally.) [71935, 71990]

According to CNN.com, “A new intelligence assessment, circulated by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) this month and reviewed by CNN, focuses on the domestic terror threat from right-wing sovereign citizen extremists and comes as the Obama administration holds a White House conference to focus efforts to fight violent extremism. Some federal and local law enforcement groups view the domestic terror threat from sovereign citizen groups as equal to—and in some cases greater than—the threat from foreign Islamic terror groups, such as ISIS, that garner more public attention.” (Worldwide, there have been more than 25,000 terrorist attacks by radical Islamists since September 11, 2001—and the Obama administration is worried about a few crackpot domestic groups.) Michelle Malkin later notes that CNN’s “fear-mongering piece featured a huge map of 24 alleged acts of ‘violence by sovereign citizen extremists since 2010.’ CNN’s Evan Perez and Wes Bruer prominently quoted Mark Potok of the widely disgraced propaganda outfit the Southern Poverty Law Center. Potok claimed that ‘there are as many as 300,000 people involved in some way with sovereign citizen extremism.’ This is the same SPLC that was forced to apologize to famed neurosurgeon Dr. Ben Carson just last week for categorizing him as an ‘extremist’ because he supports the traditional definition of marriage.” Both CNN and DHS have refused to provide Malkin with a copy of the report; the public has no way of knowing what those 24 acts of violence were. [71942, 71949, 71984, 72041, 72138]

At Breitbart.com Pamela Geller writes, “The one big takeaway from Obama’s speech on the Muslim world’s ‘legitimate’ grievances with the West is simply this. He is on their side. Obama has made us weak, vulnerable and ripe for attack. The next two years will be brutal. Obama’s closing remarks at his absurdly titled ‘Countering Violent Extremism’ summit put his denial and obfuscation of the truth once again on display. It’s jihad—just

say it. His speech wasn't about countering Islamic terror, it was about countering 'Islamophobia' (a thought crushing device designed to silence criticism of Islam—sharia enforcement). Obama can insist that these jihadists are not Islamic all he likes. But they believe they are. They believe they are righteous and devout Muslims, and that's all that matters, not what Obama wants us to believe they are. ...His big idea for fighting against violent extremism? 'As part of this summit, we're announcing that we're going to increase our outreach to communities, including Muslim Americans. We're going to step up our efforts to engage with partners and raise awareness so more communities understand how to protect their loved ones from becoming radicalized. We've got to devote more resources to these efforts.' ...And 'outreach' is not going to end the jihad. It is just a device, a distraction—the appearance of doing something without actually doing anything. Police and FBI agents go to a mosque and have a chat with the imam. They don't investigate. Then they go away, and all that comes of it is that the imam knows he is dealing with weak people who are more interested in making sure he likes them than in stopping jihad." [71976, 71977]

"He claims that Muslims join the jihad because they're poor... Obama attributes jihad to poverty, illiteracy, culture—anything but its true origins. State Department Spokesteenager Marie Harf said yesterday that the Islamic State jihadists just need jobs. She was rightly ridiculed for it. But Obama has now said the same thing. He added: 'Terrorist groups like al Qaeda and ISIL deliberately target their propaganda in the hopes of reaching and brainwashing young Muslims, especially those who may be disillusioned or wrestling with their identity. That's the truth. The high-quality videos, the online magazines, the use of social media, terrorist Twitter accounts—it's all designed to target today's young people online, in cyberspace.' How does that turn someone into a savage? ...No amount of slick video and online magazines would move me to betray my country, leave my home and slaughter, maim, rape in the cause of my religion. ...[H]ow did this misunderstanding of Islam become so widespread if it weren't Islamic? Why are so many more American, British, European, Canadian Muslims joining the Islamic State? And while Muslims in the US condemn the Islamic State, where are they teaching against the ideology that gave rise to it? Right now, nothing is being done to stop jihad recruiting in US mosques, even as several hundred young Muslims from the US have gone to wage jihad for the Islamic State. And his marshmallow summit of 'Islamophobia' myths and lies does not address that." [71976, 71978]

Memri.org reports, "The Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood (MB) has recently escalated its statements and activity against the Egyptian regime, to the extent of explicitly calling for using terrorism and violence against it, and even for assassinating President [Abdel Fattah] Al-Sisi. These calls included an MB communiqué calling on movement activists to prepare for a lengthy and uncompromising jihad and to hunger for a martyr's death; clear incitement to violence on MB TV channels broadcasting from Turkey; and an ultimatum also on a Turkey-based MB channel, to foreign workers to leave Egypt by February 20, 2015 and to foreign diplomats by February 28, 2015 or else be targeted for attack. Furthermore, there is an upsurge in reports of violent movements in Egypt that could be tied to the MB, the most prominent of which is the Revolutionary Retribution Movement. This movement, which emerged in advance of the fourth anniversary of

Egypt's January 25 revolution and now has branches in provinces across Egypt, calls for armed revolution against the Al-Sisi regime and has taken credit for a large number of attacks and violent incidents in Egypt carried out in the last week of January 2015; Egyptian authorities have attributed these attacks to the MB. While the MB has denied any connection to the movement, pro-MB television channels and social media indicate the existence of such a link." (The Muslim Brotherhood is calling for the execution of Egypt's president, not long after several of its leaders met at the U.S. State Department; several Muslim Brotherhood members work within the Obama administration; and Obama's closest foreign leader pal, Turkish president Recep Tayyip Erdogan, allows the radical MB to broadcast propaganda. Some may wonder where Obama's allegiances lie.) [71202, 71274, 71275, 71291, 71855, 71985]

Kevin D. Williamson writes at NationalReview.com, "Does Barack Obama love his country? Call me a rube for saying so, but it's a fair question. To ask the question is not the same as venting the familiar swamp gasses: that he's a foreigner, at heart if not in fact; that he's a Manchurian candidate sent to undermine the republic; that he's a secret Marxist or secret jihadist sympathizer; etc. Put it this way: Why would anybody who sees the world the way Barack Obama does love America? For the progressive, there is very little to love about the United States. Washington, Jefferson, Madison? A bunch of rotten slaveholders, hypocrites, and cowards even when their hearts were in the right places. The Declaration of Independence? A manifesto for the propertied classes. The Constitution? An artifact of sexism and white supremacy. The sacrifices in the great wars of the 20th century? Feeding the poor and the disenfranchised into the meat-grinder of imperialism. The gifts of Carnegie, Rockefeller, Vanderbilt, Morgan, Astor? Blood money from self-aggrandizing robber barons." [71997]

"There is a personality type common among the Left's partisans, and it has a name: [J.D. Salinger's *Catcher in the Rye* character] Holden Caulfield. He is adolescent, perpetually disappointed, and ever on the lookout for phoniness and hypocrisy. His is the sort of personality inclined to believe in his heart the declaration that 'behind every great fortune there is a great crime.' ... He believes with Elizabeth Warren that the economy is a rigged game based on exploitation and deceit rather than on innovation, productivity, and competition. He believes with Barack Obama that the only reason (e.g.) Staples does not pay its part-time associates more or schedule them for more hours is so that it can pad its executive pay and protect its 'billions' in annual profits. (He believes that Staples, whose financials he has not read, makes 'billions,' when in fact it does no such thing.) Say an admiring word about Steve Jobs and he'll swear that there are four-year-olds working 169 hours a week in Chinese sweatshops producing iPods at the point of a bayonet. He believes that most people get into Harvard and Yale because they have influential parents (that's the University of Texas, unfortunately), that rich Americans mostly inherit their money (in reality, about 15 percent of their assets are inherited, less than for middle-class families), that the U.S. goes to war abroad to enrich contractors at home, and that the entire history of Latin America must be understood through the prism of the United Fruit Company's maneuverings in 1954. Give Holden Caulfield a television show and you've got [MSNBC's] Chris Hayes. Barack Obama has a great, big, heaping dose of Holden Caulfield in him. That and chutzpah. ... There is very little that a man with Barack

Obama's views and proclivities should love about the country, beyond the fact that its people are so vulnerable to insipid sentimentality that they twice elected him..." [71997]

According to a Rasmussen survey, "43% of Democrats believe [Obama] should have the right to ignore the courts. Only 35% of voters in ...Obama's party disagree, compared to 81% of Republicans and 67% of voters not affiliated with either major party. ...Women and younger voters feel more strongly than men and those 40 and older that [Obama] should have the right to ignore federal court rulings. Black voters believe that more than whites and other minority voters do." [71943]

According to HollywoodReporter.com, security for the February 22 Academy Awards presentations will include "Sharpshooters... positioned atop buildings" and "close to 600 uniformed cops surround[ing] the perimeter in a daunting show of force." (Apparently the *American Sniper*-hating leftist celebrities occasional believe in snipers.) [72002]

The State Department tweets, "We want your input. Share solutions you think are critical to countering violent extremism. <http://go.usa.gov/33MTJ>" The tweet includes a graphic that reads, "The Solution to Violent Extremism Begins in your Community," and shows the words "Engage," "Educate," "Mentor," "Support," "Partner," and "Communicate." [71944 ,71961]

On *On the Record*, columnist Charles Krauthammer says, "I don't know what's going to happen [with the Department of Homeland Security funding legislation], but I know what should happen. ...I would advocate to the GOP, the thing that they're looking at is a surrender on this. They're going to get the blame if Homeland Security is shut down, even though it will largely operate nonetheless. So if you're going to get the blame I think what they ought to do is abolish the filibuster and actually pass the budget for Homeland Security, which leaves out any of the funding in the immigration service for [Obama's] unlawful, illegal executive amnesty... and then send it on to [Obama]. Remember, the Democrats are the ones who attacked the filibuster. They partially dismantled it again on a very party-line vote two years ago, and I think having begun the demolition, the Democrats have, the Republicans ought to finish it. Abolish the filibuster, take control of the Senate, pass the House bill, and send it on to [Obama]. ...[I]t's going to make his choice a tough one because it will change the narrative. Right now the narrative is, 'radical Republicans will not pass Homeland Security budget, jeopardizing American security while terrorism is rising.' If you send it on to [Obama] and he has to [issue] a veto, a public act where he vetoes the funding for the department, the narrative will be that [Obama]—in order to protect an unlawful action on immigration that is extremely unpopular anyway—is risking the security of the country. That's a better narrative, and I think it puts pressure on [Obama] to come to a compromise or to cave on this, which I think is what the Republicans should want. [71971]

On February 21 the cover of the *New York Daily News* reads, "Shocking new Rudy [Giuliani] spin: Obama grew up a Communist." Giuliani tells the *New York Post*, "From the time [Obama] was 9 years old, he was influenced by Frank Marshall Davis, who was

a communist.” “He spent 17 years in the church of Jeremiah Wright, and this is the guy who said ‘God damn America, not God bless America.’” “He doesn’t talk about America the way John Kennedy and Ronald Reagan did, about America’s greatness and exceptionalism.” “He was educated by people who were critics of the US. And he has not been able to overcome those influences.” “Somebody has to raise these issues with [Obama]. Somebody has to have the courage to stand up.” [71963, 71964, 71983, 71993, 72109]

Giuliani tells CNN his office has received death threats as a result of his remarks about Obama, but most telephone calls have been supportive. [71968]

Giuliani is, of course, not the first prominent person to cast doubt on Obama’s past or religion. On March 2, 2008 Hillary Clinton appeared on *60 Minutes* and was asked by Steve Kroft, “You don’t believe that Senator Obama’s a Muslim?” Clinton replies, “Of course not. I mean that’s, you know, that, there is no basis for that. You know, I take him on the basis of what he says, and, you know, there isn’t any reason to doubt that.” Kroft: “You said you take Senator Obama at his word that he’s not a Muslim...” Clinton: “Right, right...” Kroft: “You don’t believe that he’s a Muslim.” Clinton: “No, no, why would I? There’s nothing to base that on. As far as I know.” (“On the basis of what he says” and “as far as I know” are obvious ways of casting doubt on the issue.) Also in 2008, two Clinton campaign workers in Iowa circulated an email that read, “Let us all remain alert concerning Obama’s expected presidential Candidacy. Please forward to everyone you know. The Muslims have said they Plan on destroying the US from the inside out, what better way to start than at The highest level [sic].” (The campaign workers were forced to resign.) [71974, 71975, 72026]

Former Congresswoman Michele Bachmann (R-MN) states in a letter to her supporters, “I’m sure you’ve heard the leftist liberal media slamming Rudy Giuliani for his critical comments about ...Obama. It is certainly understandable why a mayor of the largest city in America, who suffered the worst terror attack in the history of our country, and who was ultimately responsible for managing and dealing with the mass death and chaotic destruction caused by radical Islamic terrorists is so immensely concerned. And with the erroneous and miscalculated lack of leadership from our White House, those concerns are more than justified. I share Rudy’s fear and concern. It is very unlikely that ISIS will simply go away without America leading the effort to stop them. We must identify this enemy for exactly who they are and robustly destroy them. ...There is no question in my mind that we must show our patriotic love and devotion for America by demanding safety and security for our citizens.” [71969]

Democrat Party hack Donna Brazile tweets, “Today, the DNC [Democrat National Committee] will vote to petition Congress for a Constitutional Amendment that will give every eligible citizen the right to vote.” (Brazile and her fellow Democrats are apparently unaware that all U.S. citizen already have the right to vote, and the Fifteenth Amendment—ratified on February 3, 1913—states, “The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on

account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude... The Congress shall have the power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.”) [71954, 71955]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, “A government watchdog says the Obama administration is continuing to award multi-million-dollar contracts to firms to quickly process millions of illegal immigrants, despite a federal court’s decision to put a stay on [Obama’s] amnesty order. A Request for Proposal was recently posted in the government’s official database for federal contracts and comes from the Department of Homeland Security agency charged with processing visa and naturalization petitions, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). The complex contract is being pushed at a ‘full-throttle pace,’ a government source told Judicial Watch on Friday.” [71966]

WashingtonExaminer.com reports, “The White House excluded members of a prominent group of reformist Muslims from its terror summit this week, apparently because ...Obama rejects their argument that such groups as Islamic State of Iraq and Syria are actually motivated by Islam. A group of 23 prominent Muslim reformers signed a full-page ad in the Sunday New York Times on Jan. 11 asking ‘What can Muslims do to reclaim their ‘beautiful religion’?’ But Obama and officials throughout his administration deny any connection between Islam and the terrorists beheading and burning their victims in a reign of terror in the Middle East. Muslim reformers say the administration is ignoring them because they disagree with Obama’s refusal to acknowledge the Islamic roots of the extremists’ ideology. Some of the most prominent reformers have argued for years that the ideological and theological roots of Islamist extremism must be addressed, but administration officials carefully avoided exactly that subject during Obama’s three-day summit.” [72112]

Newsmax.com reports, “The United States is considering slowing its military exit from Afghanistan by keeping a larger-than-planned troop presence this year and next because the new Afghan government is proving to be a more reliable partner, U.S. Defense Secretary [Ashton] Carter said Saturday. Carter, on his first overseas trip since starting the Pentagon job Tuesday, also said the Obama administration is ‘rethinking’ the counterterrorism mission in Afghanistan, although he did not elaborate. No decisions have been made, but ...Obama will discuss a range of options for slowing the U.S. military withdrawal when Afghan president Ashraf Ghani visits the White House next month, Carter said at a news conference with Ghani. ...Carter did not say Obama was considering keeping U.S. troops in Afghanistan beyond 2016, only that [Obama] was rethinking the pace of troop withdrawals for 2015 and 2016.” [71967]

Investigate journalist James O’Keefe tweets, “We have a story we’re going to release this coming week and I’ve never thought about this before but I am afraid for my life on this one.” [71989, 72089]

Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker, asked by reporters if he believes Obama is a Christian, responds, “I don’t know. I’ve actually never talked about it or I haven’t read about that. I’ve never asked him that. You’ve asked me to make statements about people



that I haven't had a conversation with about that [sic]. How [could] I say if I know either of you are a Christian? ...To me, this is a classic example of why people hate Washington and, increasingly, they dislike the press. The things they care about don't even remotely come close to what you're asking about. ...I would defy you to come to Wisconsin. You could ask 100 people, and not one of them would say that this is a significant issue." Walker notes a 2011 Obama rally attended by International Brotherhood of Teamsters union president Jimmy Hoffa, Jr.: "Was it Jimmy Hoffa that [sic; who] ripped on the tea party and called them unpatriotic, and [Obama] was standing there and nobody asked him that? To me, it seems I've had multiple days of an incredible double standard. They don't ask [Obama] about people like Jimmy Hoffa, they don't ask Hillary Clinton about others out there. My focus isn't on what the mayor [Rudy Giuliani] said. My focus is on why I believe, should I choose to get in this [2016] election, why I believe we need a fighter." [71972, 71991, 72022, 72025, 72201]

This *Timeline* believes Obama is, as was his mother, an atheist. But the family of his alleged Kenyan father was Sunni Muslim, his Indonesian step-father was Sunni Muslim, and he was exposed to Islam at an Islamic school growing up in Jakarta, Indonesia. That likely explains why he is incredibly sympathetic to Muslims—especially the Sunni sect. Obama also attended the radical Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago—probably inconsistently, and probably only to get “street cred” to help boost his political career. Since entering the White House, his visits to church have been few and far between—and seemingly only for political “image” purposes. In 2009 Obama said, “I didn't become a Christian until ...I moved to the South Side of Chicago after college.” Even if that is true, it does not answer the question, “What religion did Obama follow before he moved to Chicago?” [71972, 71991, 72022, 72025, 72201]

Many reporters, of course, seem to take Obama at his word when he claims to be a Christian—forgetting that he seems not to even have a problem lying to a pastor while in church. In an August 2008 appearance at Saddleback Church, Obama told pastor Rick Warren, “I believe that marriage, uh, is the union between a man and a woman. Now for me as a Christian, for me, for me as a Christian, it's also a sacred union, uh, you know, God's in, in the mix...” [72091]

FoxNews.com reports, “An Obama administration plan to allow Syrian refugees into the United States is raising concerns within the intelligence community and on Capitol Hill—with one GOP House leader [Congressman Michael McCaul (R-TX)] calling it a ‘federally sanctioned welcome party’ to potential terrorists. The State Department has defended the plan to welcome refugees from the war-ravaged western Asia [sic; Middle Eastern] country, saying the U.S. was founded on the principles of helping such people. [The United States was most certainly not founded on the principle of helping refugees. It was founded on the principles of individual liberty and limited government.] However, House Republicans are concerned about members of The [sic; the] Islamic State, whose de facto headquarters is in Syria, infiltrating the refugee system and getting on American soil.” (It would be virtually impossible to ensure that ISIS or al-Qaeda terrorists would not be among Syrian refugees allowed into the United States. There is no “database” of

terrorists for immigration officials to check. It is clear that the Obama administration was never able to tell the “good guys” from the “bad guys” fighting in Syria, yet it somehow expects everyone to believe it will be able to sort them out when they enter the United States as refugees.) [71973]

Obama’s arguments that poverty leads people to terrorism notwithstanding, some of the most prominent among them were not poor. At Breitbart.com Wynton Hall summarizes information from CNN national security analyst Peter Bergen. “Osama bin Laden: son of a Saudi construction magnate who attended Saudi Arabia’s top high school and best university. Mohamed Atta: ringleader of the 9-11 terrorist attacks and the son of an Egyptian lawyer. Atta worked on his doctorate at a German university. Ayman al Zawahiri: Present leader of al Qaeda and a ‘surgeon who comes from a leading Egyptian family that counts ambassadors, politicians and prominent clerics amongst its ranks.’ Nidal Hasan: the Fort Hood terrorist who ‘was not only an officer in the U.S. Army and a psychiatrist, but is also from a comfortably middle-class family in Virginia.’ Faisal Shahzad: the terrorist who tried to blow [up] Times Square on May 1, 2010. ‘He had obtained an MBA in the United States and had worked as a financial analyst for the Elizabeth Arden cosmetics company. His father was one of the top officers in the Pakistani military.’ Anwar al-Awlaki: ‘The late leader of al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, who tasked the underwear bomber to blow up an American plane over an American city, was studying for his Ph.D. at George Washington University before he took up arms with al Qaeda. Awlaki’s father was a Cabinet minister in Yemen.’ Umar Abdulmuttalab: the so-called ‘underwear bomber’ who tried to detonate ‘a bomb on a U.S. passenger jet flying over Detroit on Christmas Day 2009, is the son of one of the richest men in Africa and attended University College London.’” [71978, 71979, 71980]

Investigative journalist Sharyl Attkisson writes, “The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) terms the current measles outbreak in the U.S. as ‘large multi-state outbreak’... Yet commiserate attention has not been paid to a much more widespread and mysterious infectious disease outbreak in the U.S.: one that also originated in California. In contrast to the measles outbreak, which so far has no associated deaths, *this* outbreak has claimed 14 lives: Most of them children. What is the outbreak that has failed to make headlines, despite its reach and fatality rate? It’s the polio-like enterovirus EV-D68 that can cause severe respiratory illness. It has also been potentially linked to dozens of debilitating cases of paralysis. CDC and medical experts state that measles is very dangerous: for every 1,000 cases of measles there will be approximately 2 deaths. But the death risk among serious cases of EV-D68 may be several fold greater: at least 14 associated deaths reported among 1,153 cases. The CDC says it cannot explain why this particular form of enterovirus has surged to such an unusual degree in the U.S. The CDC also states that it has been unable to pinpoint its origin. ... If the measles outbreak is “large,” then the size and impact of the much larger EV-D68/paralysis outbreak would seemingly merit a great deal of attention. It leads to the question: why isn’t it being addressed with the same interest and vigor? To date, the CDC has not responded properly to a Freedom of Information (FOI) request filed on December 14, 2014 about the EV-D68 outbreak. (Federal FOI law requires a response within the 20 business days).” [71987]

At NationalReview.com Andrew C. McCarthy writes that Obama “and his underlings somehow reason that the answer to the barbarity of ISIS and al-Qaeda is to ‘empower local communities’ here and abroad. Apparently, if the community organizers rouse the rabble to demand that government address ‘injustice’ and Muslim ‘grievances,’ the alienation that purportedly drives young Muslims into the jihadists’ arms will abate. This is the strategic political aspect of the Left’s denial of terrorism’s ideological roots: If terrorism is not caused by Islamic supremacism, then it must be caused by something else ...and that something somehow always manages to be a government policy opposed by the Left: insufficient income redistribution, running Gitmo, our alliance with Israel, surveillance of radical mosques, etc. Smearing your political opponents as the root cause of mass-murder attacks—it’s a very nice weapon to have in one’s demagogic arsenal. ...[W]hether the Islam of the jihadists is ‘true’ or ‘false’ is irrelevant to us. What matters about sharia supremacism is that many millions of Muslims believe in it. It is a mainstream interpretation of Islam that has undeniable scriptural roots and inevitably breeds violent jihadists. We must protect the United States regardless of whether they are right and regardless of how Islam’s internal strife is resolved—if it ever is.” [71994]

On February 22 al-Qaeda’s branch in Somalia, the Shabaab al-Mujahideen Movement, releases a video warning of terrorist attacks on malls, including West Edmonton Mall in Canada, the Oxford Street shopping area of London, and the Mall of America in Bloomington, Minnesota. (As a result of ill-advised State Department relocation efforts, the Minneapolis area has a large population of Somali immigrants; one area is even referred to as “Little Mogadishu.” More than 30,000 Somalis live in Minnesota, a state known for its generous welfare programs.) Shabaab spokesman Ali Mahmoud Ragi says in the video, “The war has not really started yet, and between us is a long account still to be settled. Westgate [Mall in Nairobi, which was attacked in September 2013] is just a drop in the ocean compared to what you have inflicted upon our Muslim brothers in Mombasa, Garissa, and Jilib. The attacks and raids will continue and, by the will of Allah, they will not stop until you change your oppressive practices against our brothers and restore their rights in full. What awaits you is far more grievous and more bitter by the permission of Allah.” [72008, 72009, 72012, 72015, 72019, 72046]

On *Meet the Press*, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) secretary Jeh Johnson says “there needs to be an awareness.” On *This Week*, Johnson says, “The video that was released by al-Shabaab reflects what I believe is the new phase we’ve evolved in terms of the global terrorist threat and what we need to do in terms of counter-terrorism [sic]. Groups like ISIL, al-Shabaab, AQAP, are now publicly calling for attacks, either through the Internet, through videos, through publications, which means that we need to respond militarily, but we also have to have a whole government approach through law enforcement, Homeland Security, and, frankly, countering violent extremism efforts here in the homeland, in communities, so I’ve been personally out there, uh, in places like Minneapolis, Chicago, Columbus Ohio, L.A., Boston, meeting with community leaders, talking about the importance of public participation in our efforts. We’re in a new phase now, and I, I, I’m afraid that this most recent video release reflects that.” (Johnson is mistaken. Terrorist groups “publicly calling for attacks” is certainly not a “new phase,” and “talking about the importance of public participation” is not going to stop a devout

Islamist who is not afraid to blow himself up from bombing a mall if he has the opportunity. “Talking” will not do anything. Arresting and deporting the radicals will help make Americans safer—not Johnson making the rounds of the Sunday talk shows.) [72008, 72009, 72032]

Asked by host George Stephanopoulos why the Obama administration avoids using the terms Islamic terrorism or Islamic extremism, Johnson responds, “Well, I have two responses. First, whether it’s called Islamic extremism or violent extremism, groups like ISIL, ISIL in particular, represents a very dangerous terrorist organization and a serious potential threat to homeland security and we’re responding militarily as well as doing a number of other things. Now I have to say, when I travel around the country and meet with Muslim leaders in this country in these engagements that I have, they all tend to say pretty much the same thing, which is that ‘ISIL has hijacked my religion.’ And so, in my view, if we start referring to ISIL as occupying any form of the Islamic theology, we’re pretty much dignifying them as occupying some form of, of, of that faith, and I know that Muslim leaders in this country, uh, push back hard on that, and it seems to me, it’s, it’s going to a, a, a place where ISIL would very much like us to go, in that we’re dignifying them as occupying some form of Islam. They, they don’t. Islam is about peace and brotherhood. There’re 1.6 billion Muslims in this world, and the true Islamic faith has nothing to do with what ISIL represents. And so, to, to start labeling them as ‘Islam’ or as ‘Islamic State’ in any respect, I think gives them far more dignity than they deserve. And so do a lot of Muslims believe that, too, by the way.” (Johnson’s response is hogwash. It is Johnson and everyone else in the Obama administration who are “dignifying” ISIS by treating it as something other than a collection of savages. Islam is not about “peace and brotherhood.” It is about turning the entire world into Muslims and killing those who refuse to submit. In fact, the word Islam comes from “al-silm,” which means submission; “al-salaam” means peace.) [72009, 72010, 72011]

On CNN’s *State of the Union*, Johnson says, “I would say that if anyone is planning to go to the Mall of America today, they’ve got to be particularly careful.” (Inasmuch as the mall is a “gun free zone,” shoppers probably should be wary of terrorists who ignore the gun laws.) Meanwhile, the U.S. government continues to allow thousands of Muslims from Somali into the country. About 9,000 emigrated to the United States in 2014, and the pace has increased in 2015. None of them are likely to tell immigration officials, “I am a terrorist.” (Johnson is likely exaggerating the shopping mall threat in order to sway public opinion as Republicans attempt to extend Department of Homeland Security funding without including money to implement Obama’s amnesty scheme.) [72012, 72013, 72014, 72029, 72032]

Jeh Johnson also shows up on *Fox News Sunday*, where he repeats, “The thing I hear from leaders in the Muslim community in this country is, ‘ISIL is attempting to hijack my religion.’” (This is essentially an admission that the Obama administration is tailoring its message to placate Muslims in the United States, rather than being honest with the American people.) [72017]

Also on *This Week*, a pre-taped segment promotes Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT), a possible challenger to Hillary Clinton in the 2016 Democrat presidential primaries. Reporter David Wright calls Sanders “unabashedly progressive,” and someone who “rails against the corrupting influence of money in politics. He stands for economic justice.” (Sanders does not stand for economic justice. He is a self-admitted, unabashed socialist—which means he stands for economic tyranny.) [72028]

On *Face the Nation*, Texas Governor Greg Abbott states, “We all saw what happened on the Texas border last summer, but we need to understand that the problem is not going away. Already this calendar year, since January 1, we have had more than 20,000 people come across the border, apprehended, unauthorized. And so we have an ongoing problem on the border that Congress must step up and solve.” Host Bob Schieffer responds, “You don’t have enough buses to send them back to Mexico, and I don’t expect you can put all of them in jail. What are you going to do with them?” Abbott: “Well, two things. One is, [Obama] himself said as these people were coming across the border that he would repatriate them as soon as possible. So, we need to see whether or not [he] is going to live up to the commitment that he made.” Secondly, states Abbott, “[W]e need Congress to have the latitude to fulfill its responsibility to solve the problem. ...The first step that has to be taken in this whole process is to secure the border. ...[W]hat Congress must do is to continue to ensure that the rule of law and the United States Constitution as constructed are fulfilled. And that means it’s the Congress, not [Obama], that establishes what our immigration laws are.” [72040]

Also on *Face the Nation*, former Obama campaign guru David Axelrod is asked by Schieffer why Obama had trouble relating to members of Congress, Republicans and Democrats alike. Axelrod responds, in part, “[S]ometimes there’s an air of moral superiority that creeps in because he feels like we have a responsibility to do big things, ‘Why don’t you see it the way I see it?’” (That is, “Obama is arrogant and believes he knows better than everyone else.”) [72169]

In an interview with Ginni Thomas at DailyCaller.com, national security expert and author Stephen Coughlin observes that the “entire world, friend and foe alike, understands, that starting with the Bush administration and accelerating in the Obama administration, that our foreign policy community is absolutely incoherent and completely vulnerable. These people have lost the ability to think. ...This country is in serious trouble. The people who hate us—and it’s not just radical Islam, it’s the Chinese, it’s the Russians, it’s the Iranians—they know that our leaders don’t know what they’re doing, because they’ve been kicking the tires.” Coughlin warns that “we may be put to sleep, like the frog that boils to death, mired in the pollution of our own politically correct narratives that has created a complete inability for us to understand and further the truth, so much so, that we have to treat the truth as propaganda just to be heard.” [71999]

Charles C. Johnson writes, “We at Gotnews.com do know that Obama isn’t a Christian. Or, at least in so far as someone who has actually researched the topic, can. ...It’s highly likely Obama never actually heard... anti-American sermons from the Reverend Jeremiah

Wright because he rarely attended church. Instead, he joined the church for political cover. Obama always had trouble with the black community because they didn't perceive the Hawaii-born, Harvard-educated as one of their own. Add to that the persistent rumors of his homosexuality—rumors which I absolutely believe [and] will be the subject of a future post—and Obama wasn't going to be winning the black vote anytime soon. ...The nadir of Jeremiah Wright's political influence came after Barack Obama was soundly defeated in 2000 by former Black Panther Bobby Rush in a [Congressional] race that Michelle Obama told him not to enter. Obama was supposed to use that congressional office as a springboard for winning the mayoralty. ...It didn't happen. ...Michelle, who grew up on the South Side, filed for divorce. Interestingly she filed for divorce around the same time that she got pregnant with Sasha Obama and was seen around Chicago dating." [72004]

Johnson continues, "There will be a lot of people who say that Barack Obama is a Muslim. I agree but only sort of. Indeed his school records which I photographed at the Catholic school he attended in Jakarta indicate he was one of just a few Muslims who actually attended the school. He was also raised Muslim and has used his affinity with the Muslim world throughout his past. His likely boyfriend, Hasan Chandoo, was Muslim [and] Obama traveled throughout Pakistan with him. But this is not the sort of Muslim that you think about when you think of the jihadis. Think of it as a sort of Islamic friendly rather than outwardly decapitate the infidel approach. These ties explain why Obama, who was friendly with Khaled Mansour [Khalid al-Mansour, a pal of William Ayers who was previously known as Donald Warden], was able to afford going to Harvard Law School. (The year before Obama was admitted the Saudis gave a huge gift to Harvard.) Mansour... was the point person for the Saudis and various Arab interests in America. In particular he ran a sort of influence operation for Arab interests in the U.S. that looked for black Muslims who would be susceptible to the Third World unity movement then in vogue in the '70s and '80s. You don't have to take my word for it. Mansour actually brags about it in his books. ...I don't detect a real world view other than the typical leftist one from Obama. From all my years of researching him, Obama seems more of a political opportunist lying about being born in Kenya, for instance, or making up whole sections of his ghost written book. His professed Christianity is par for the course. It's a lie but then why stop lying if the press continues to give you a pass and you can use their love of your blackness as the means to push your agenda through?" Johnson, noting that Obama and his family rarely attend church, asks, "Why do we have to pretend the Obama family is Christian if they won't?" (HBO's Bill Maher once called Obama "a drop-dead atheist" who joined Wright's church "because it was politically necessary.") [72004, 72016]

Breitbart.com reports, "The weekend's feel-good story about a Muslim 'ring of peace' formed to 'protect' Jews at an Oslo synagogue turned out to be a complete fabrication by the mainstream media, according to an eyewitness report, local officials, and attendees' photos. According to a local eyewitness, only about 20 or so Muslims formed the 'ring of peace' around the Oslo synagogue. In fact, pictures from multiple angles show that there wasn't [sic; weren't] enough people to form a ring, so the locals instead formed a horizontal line in front of the synagogue. ...Multiple news outlets, including wire

services for hundreds of news sites, ran with the false narrative that 1,000 or more people—sometimes all of them Muslim—formed the ring of peace outside of the Oslo synagogue. The AP incorrectly reported, ‘More than 1,000 people have formed a ‘ring of peace’ outside Oslo’s main synagogue at the initiative of a group of young Muslims.’ ...In even worse news, it appears as if the organizer of the Muslim ‘peace ring’ is a virulent anti-Semite, 9/11 truther, a gay-basher, and an Israel-hater. Ali Chishti, who helped to organize the event, said bluntly in 2008, ‘I hate Jews and how they operate...’” (Pamela Geller writes, “Knowing what we know about how vicious the Jew hatred is in Oslo, this story evokes Goebbels-style journalism. It’s an outrage.”) [72061, 72062]

The Blazing Car Fur blog reports that French soldiers guarding 722 Jewish schools and synagogues have come under attack 371 times since January 15. “The army noted that ‘reconnoitering, the taking of snapshots and films’ by jihadists preparing future attacks had been going on. ‘Fourteen serious attacks, with a knife, laser, even blows with heavy sticks,’ were reported. One jihadist tried to grab the rifle of a soldier on patrol at Trocadéro (Paris) before being caught (and probably released). In Étampes, a Muslim was spotted several times by the soldiers: when he was identified, the police services realized he was a member of a band of three individuals back from Yemen and free to do as they pleased. In Savigny-sur-Orge, a car rammed into the barriers protecting a Jewish community center. In Nice three soldiers on guard in front of a community center were attacked with a weapon by one Moussa Coulibaly. One of the men is disfigured for life...” [72065]

At the (expectedly) tedious and unentertaining Academy Awards presentation ceremony, Oscar winner Patricia Arquette (apparently unaware that there is something called the Equal Pat Act of 1963), says, “To every woman who gave birth to every taxpayer and citizen in this nation: We have fought for everybody else’s equal rights. It’s our time to have wage equality in the U.S.” (Arquette’s net worth is an estimated \$24 million.) Arquette’s comments annoy many blacks, who do not like the “rights issue” being taken over by women and gays. (In a post-Oscar interview, Arquette angers some blacks when she says, “And it’s time for all the women in America and all the men that love women, and all the gay people, and all the people of colour that we’ve all fought for to fight for us now.”) Singer John Legend (who apparently believes it is unreasonable to require citizens to prove who they are before being allowed to vote) complains, “We know that the Voting Rights Act that they fought for 50 years ago is being compromised right now in this country.” (He is perhaps unaware that most blacks support photo ID rules for voting.) Legend also says, “We live in the most incarcerated country in the world. There are more black men under correctional control today than were under slavery in 1850.” (He stops short of suggesting that all black criminals be released from prison.) One Oscar winner arouses sympathy by saying he tried to take his own life at age 16. The movie *American Sniper*, which has earned more than \$300 million in ticket sales, loses the Best Picture award to *Birdman*, a movie that almost no one has seen. *Citizenfour*, a movie about NSA whistleblower/traitor (depending on one’s viewpoint) Edward Snowden, wins the Best Documentary award. Actress Elaine Stritch and comedienne, actress, and screenwriter Joan Rivers—among others—are notably absent from the evening’s tribute to celebrities who died in the previous year. (Some might suspect the omission of Rivers was

intentional because she once joked that Obama is “the first gay president” and his wife Michelle is a “tranny” (transsexual.) [72037, 72038, 72039, 72043, 72044, 72066, 72098, 72274]

On February 23 Mika Brzezinski defends Obama from criticism by Rudi Giuliani, saying on MSNBC’s *Morning Joe*, “I question the patriotism of someone who questions [Obama’s] patriotism...” Joe Scarborough agrees that Giuliani’s remarks were “off the hook too, but adds, “If Democrats are gonna [sic] beat their chests in self-righteous indignation—I’m sorry, how many times have Democrats called George W. Bush and Republicans unpatriotic over the past 10, 15 years?” [72033, 72199]

Chelsea Clinton tweets, “Loved @PattyArquette’s speech at the #Oscars last night & all the attention it’s given to #EqualPay: <http://bit.ly/1JD4p1C> #NoCeilings.” (Chelsea Clinton, who had zero journalism experience, was paid a reported \$600,000 by NBC for a handful of “human interest” stories. If she is worried about gender pay inequity, she should give some of her salary to the many male employees of NBC who are paid far less than \$600,000 and who have far more experience.) [72058]

Federal Communications Commission chairman Tom Wheeler (a former telecommunications lobbyist who raised more than \$700,000 for Obama’s campaigns) refuses to make public the proposed “net neutrality” rules before the agency votes on them. Congressman Jason Chaffetz (R-UT) notes that in 2007 then-Senator Obama “submitted a statement that he ‘strongly requested’ the FCC ‘put out any changes that they intend to vote on in a new notice of proposed rulemaking.’” Now that Obama is in the White House and the proposed Internet rules face opposition, he wants the information kept secret. (Apparently the FCC “has to approve the rule before Internet users can find out what it is.”) DailyCaller.com points out, “...FCC Title II regulation authorizes the imposition of billions of dollars in new federal and state taxes and fees in direct conflict with Congress’ longstanding Internet tax moratorium. Higher FCC broadband taxes and fees make broadband less affordable, prompting the need for more universal service taxes and subsidies, which in turn again makes broadband less affordable, fueling an ongoing perverse tax and fee increase spiral. ...Concerning innovation, FCC Title II regulation is inherently hostile to the Internet’s ‘innovation without permission’ dynamic, because it centralizes innovation approval authority with the FCC to decide if any new contested IP communications product or service is ‘just or reasonable.’ ...The United States government position, that there should be no government or UN control of the Internet’s political governance process, is in complete conflict with ...Obama’s call in November for the FCC to impose the ‘strongest possible’ economic control of America’s Internet via Title II utility regulation.” [72054, 72070, 72073, 72241, 73170]

Secretary of State John Kerry says, “I could not be more proud to announce Randy Berry as the first-ever Special Envoy for the Human Rights of LGBT Persons.” SperfoForum.com asks, “Where did the creation of this position come from? It turns out that Senator Ed Markey (D-MA) and Congressman Alan Lowenthal (D-CA) had



introduced legislation in the last Congress to create such a position, but the bill died. The bill was reintroduced in the new Congress, with zero chances of passage. As we know, the Obama administration is not deterred by Congress' failure to act or outright opposition, so it is simply created the position by executive fiat. This has the added advantage of not requiring Congressional confirmation of the openly-gay Mr. Berry in the new position. It simply becomes an executive branch appointment. But what exactly is Mr. Berry supposed to do 'for the Human Rights of LGBT Persons' in foreign countries? Well, it turns out, according to Secretary Kerry that, 'Too often, in too many countries, LGBT persons are threatened, jailed, and prosecuted because of who they are or who [sic; whom] they love.'" (Exactly what Berry will do in exchange for his paycheck is not clear. It seems unlikely that he will head to Muslims countries and demand that they legalize homosexuality, bisexuality, or bestiality.) [72238]

The Department of Justice files an emergency expedited motion calling for a Texas judge to allow Obama's illegal immigrant amnesty program to proceed. The motion states, "A stay pending appeal is necessary to ensure that the [Department of Homeland Security] is able to most effectively protect national security, public safety, and the integrity of the border. Absent a stay, DHS will sustain irreparable harm, harm that would not be cured, even if Defendants ultimately prevail on that appeal." The claim is absurd. Implementing Obama's scheme does not "protect national security" or "the integrity of the border." It does precisely the opposite. Additionally, there is no "emergency." Obama has been in the White House more than six years, and delaying his plan while it goes through the court process does no harm to anyone. If any action was critical to the security of the nation, he should have done it in 2009. [72020, 72021]

White House press secretary Josh Earnest tells reporters, "To put it bluntly, the Department of Homeland Security was ready last week to begin taking the steps that would bring millions of people out of the shadows. These are individuals who have been in this country for a substantial period of time and have family connections inside the country. These are individuals who would begin paying taxes. These are individuals who would submit to a background check. So every day that goes by we have individuals who will continue to be in the shadows, who will continue to not pay taxes, and who will continue to not have gone undergone a background check which means that they could pose a threat to public safety." At Townhall.com Katie Pavlich writes, "Earnest did not explain why or when exactly the 11 million illegal immigrants currently living in the United States suddenly became so much of a national security threat that the Department of Homeland Security had to give them all background checks. Earnest also did not explain how giving background checks only to those who qualify for Obama's amnesty would somehow protect Americans from all the illegal immigrants that won't come out of the shadows since they know they would fail a background check." [72020, 72021]

Congressman Luis Gutierrez (D-IL) addresses the City Club of Chicago, where, according to CNSNews.com, he brags about law-breaking: "On immigration, I want to let everybody know, the city of Chicago is the friendliest immigrant city in the nation and [Mayor] Rahm Emanuel had a lot to do with that. He made sure that we no longer

cooperate with immigration authorities when it comes to the deportation and separation of our families by using city structures. Nobody can be asked when you enroll your kid in a school or seek out care because you're injured what your immigration status is and that's the law in the city of Chicago." [72543, 72544]

On YouTube.com, a 12-year-old (who happens to be black) eloquently excoriates Obama in a three minute response to Rudy Giuliani's charge that he does not love America. The well-spoken young man says, "Hi. My name is C. J. Pearson and today I wanted to just applaud Mayor Rudy Giuliani for his comments about ...Obama. [Mr.] Obama you don't love America. If you really did love America, you would call ISIS what it really is, an assault on Christianity, an assault on America and downright hate for the American values that our country holds. Freedom of speech, freedom of religion and every single thing that our country stands for." Pamela Geller writes, "Let's groom this guy for the presidency, the way the enemies of America groomed the enemy in the White House." (On February 27 Facebook locks Pearson's account, for "suspicious activity." According to Examiner.com, Pearson "He jumped through all of Facebook's hoops, but wasn't able to recover his account. So he created a new profile to take its place. His public page was not affected, he said, however, he can no longer administer the page. Fortunately, he said, a friend is helping post links to that page. As is so often the case in these situations, Facebook did not respond to his requests for help. Nor would they tell him what the alleged suspicious activity was. ...As we have reported many times, Facebook has banned conservatives for clicking 'like' or simply saying 'thank you.' Conservative pages have also been targeted and shut down for questionable reasons while other pages have been allowed to flourish. As we reported last May, articles mentioning Islam were falsely flagged as 'unsafe' and pages critical of Islam have been removed over false claims of inappropriate material." Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg is an Obama fan and donor.) [72027, 72045, 72060, 72365, 72366]

Senate Democrats block legislation to fund the Department of Homeland Security because it does not include funds to implement Obama's amnesty scheme. Meanwhile, Obama meets with the nation's governors and tells them he won't ask the Senate Democrats to end their filibuster of the homeland security budget. (In other words, Obama *wants* a budget impasse, so that he can blame it on the Republicans. He is placing his amnesty scheme ahead of the nation's security—believing the mainstream media will slant its stories in his direction.) Obama also insists he will now allow the Keystone XL pipeline to be built. South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley later states, "This is now my fifth year, going and meeting with [Obama], and I think I'm frustrated. I continue to be frustrated. And the reason is I [thought] he was genuine in saying that 'we want to work with the governors, the governors are the ones that get things done, they're the ones that really want to move the ball.' But every time we try and move the ball with him, he says no." [72034, 72056, 72057, 72078]

Fifty-one House Republicans sign a letter to the Senate Judiciary Committee asking that Loretta Lynch be blocked from succeeding Eric Holder as the next Attorney General. The letter states, "We appreciate Ms. Lynch for her many years of outstanding service to our

nation. Nonetheless, having observed her nomination hearing testimony, we can only conclude that she has no intention of departing in any meaningful way from the policies of Attorney General Eric Holder, who has politicized the Department of Justice and done considerable harm to the administration of justice. Our larger concern is with Ms. Lynch's apparent unwillingness to stand up to [Obama] and his unconstitutional efforts to circumvent Congress and enlarge the powers of his office." [72075, 72101]

Smarmy Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL) states, "As we approach 50th anniversary of Selma, Republicans should be more sensitive about how they treat this woman." (Durbin apparently believes Lynch should be given a "free pass" simply because she is a black woman. Some blacks might call Durbin's remark insulting.) Senator Tim Scott (R-SC), who happens to be black, states, "I think the vote for the attorney general is a vote for the attorney general. One beautiful thing that history has taught us is that we want to judge people by the content of their character and not the color of their skin. So for this to somehow be a racial conversation seems to be wrong—this is a conversation about competence, and qualifications. This is a question about who's best to serve our country. Whether that's in May or Christmas time, it's important for us to move forward and do the right thing." (HotAir.com notes that Durbin once objected to George W. Bush judicial nominee Miguel A. Estrada, saying he was "especially dangerous" because "he is a Latino.") [72155]

DailyCaller.com reports, "A federal judge has ordered the federal government to grant U.S. civil rights to illegals who are caught at the border, and to release all migrants except for those who may endanger Americans. The migrants 'may have legitimate claims to asylum ...[and] their presence here may become permanent ...[so] that they are entitled to the protection of the Due Process Clause, especially when it comes to deprivations of liberty,' said the judge, who was nominated by ...Obama. Under current rules, border-crossers who are released are also allowed to compete against Americans for jobs, and to attend U.S. schools and to receive welfare, until their cases are decided by immigration judges. But immigration courts are already so clogged with asylum-seekers that many cases aren't decided for several years. The slow process gives migrants many opportunities to find other legal avenues to become citizens, and full access to U.S. anti-poverty programs for themselves, their parents and their children. Unless reversed, the decision opens a huge hole in U.S. border security, and likely will dramatically increase illegal immigration and competition for jobs, partly because immigration enforcement has already been greatly reduced by ...Obama. ...The decision was issued late Friday, Feb. 20, by Judge James Boasberg of D.C.-based Federal District Court for the District of Columbia. Boasberg was nominated by Obama, and was confirmed in 2011." (According to the U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952, asylum applies only to persons who face persecution in their home country based on race, religion, nationality, or membership in a particular social group having opposing political opinions. Entering the United States simply because one is poor and hopes to have a better life is *not* a legal justification for the granting of asylum.) [72052]

DailyCaller.com also reports, "If you're over 65 and you like your financial adviser,

there's a good chance you won't be able to keep your adviser. ...Obama will announce new regulations from his Department of Labor, which will set new rules governing financial managers and advisers. The White House said that it wants to abolish 'hidden fees that hurt consumers and back-door payments that help Wall Street brokers.' But the financial lobby is freaking out, claiming that Obama's new rules... will take a huge toll on financial planners and affect millions of retirees. A financial planner trade organization told The Daily Caller that the new rules come with a catch: they will effectively prohibit retired persons from keeping their trusted financial advisers if they make new investments during retirement. 'The rule will say that if you're an adviser with a 401(k) helping participants, and you want to look at a lifetime income option [for your client] then you as an adviser would be effectively blocked from working with that participant if there's any fee difference,' Brian Graff, executive director of the National Association of Plan Advisors, told TheDC, citing insider talk and a past Obama administration attempt in 2010 to push through similar rules. If the fee you pay your financial adviser in retirement—for products like annuities—is even slightly higher than the fee you were paying your adviser when you were working and just had a 401(k) plan, then you will have to pay a 15 percent tax penalty on your total account value, Graff said, citing insider talk." [72053]

“So if your 401(k) is worth \$100,000, then you'll have to pay a \$15,000 penalty if you want to make new investments that would lead you to pay your adviser even one dollar more. Seniors might have to drop the advisers who help them with their 401(k) rollover. 'They have this view that you should always keep your money in the [401k] plan,' Graff said of the Obama administration. 'We think that's a dumb idea. An adviser you trust shouldn't be blocked from working with you.' ... 'In the zeal to try to protect people they're preventing people from being able to do what they want,' Graff added, noting that the potential rule is a 'huge deal' in the financial industry.” This *Timeline* believes that this is the first step in another Obama scheme: he wants to make it difficult for people to transfer money out of their 401(k) accounts, and will then “protect” those accounts by demanding that a portion of the assets be invested in “safe” government securities. In other words, he wants savers to finance his federal deficits.) [72053]

Prime Minister Tony Abbott announces that his government will attempt to revoke the citizenship of any Australian with dual citizenship who travels overseas to engage in jihad. Abbott states, “The Islam-ist death-cult has declared war on the world. We cannot allow bad people to use our good nature against us.” According to the *Daily Mail*, “The government is also exploring taking away some of the rights of jihadists who are sole Australian citizens. That could include restricting their access to welfare payments, to consular help and their ability to leave or return to Australia.” (Obama, who is unlikely to follow Abbott's lead, has no comment.) [72063, 72064, 72067, 72266]

While Obama and State Department valley girl Marie Harf argue that creating jobs for jihadists is the best, long-term way to fight terrorism, the *Daily Mail* reports that the Swedish government has “shut down an assimilation guide service after discovering that several aides may have been trying to recruit newly arrived immigrants to ISIS. The

assimilation guides, a service provided by the Swedish state job agency, have been accused of taking bribes from migrant job-seekers and making ‘recruitment attempts to militant fighting groups.’ ...A spokesman for the state job agency said Saturday that the alleged recruitment drive might be linked to the Islamic State.” [72068]

Iraqi defense minister Khaled Obeidi criticizes the Obama administration for releasing information about a future military operation to re-take Mosul: “A military official should not disclose the date and time of an attack. The timing is up to [our Iraqi] military commanders. Where this American official got his information from, I don’t know.” [72114]

HuffingtonPost.com reports, “Robert McDonald, the secretary of veterans affairs, wrongly claimed in a videotaped comment earlier this year that he served in the Army’s elite special forces, when his military service of five years was in fact spent almost entirely with the 82nd Airborne Division during the late 1970s.” (McDonald’s relationship with NBC’s Brian Williams is not known.) [72069, 72077]

DailyCaller.com reports, “Jonathan Gruber, the MIT health economist known as one of the architects of Obamacare, is under fire in Vermont after the state’s auditor [Doug Hoffer] found inconsistencies in invoices he submitted for work on the state’s health care model. ...Hoffer noted two invoices Gruber submitted in September and October, in which the economist claimed to have worked 100 hours at a rate of \$500 per hour while his research assistants worked for 500 hours at a rate of \$100 per hour. But only one research assistant worked on the project, Hoffer reported, making it ‘unlikely’ that Gruber’s invoice was accurate.” [72074, 72097, 72220]

Even the White House Easter Egg Roll is not safe from health Nazi Michelle Obama, according to TheHill.com: “The theme for the April 6 egg-filled shindig is ‘#GimmeFive,’ the White House announced Monday. The campaign launched as part of ‘Let’s Move!’ to celebrate the initiative’s fifth anniversary. ‘I’m going to be challenging all of you to give me five things that you’re doing to lead a healthier life,’ Michelle Obama explained in a promotional video. The Roll will include five souvenir eggs: four bearing the signatures of ...Obama and the first lady on the back, and a fifth dubbed the ‘Bo and Sunny’ egg that also features the ‘paw prints’ of the presidential pooches.” (Whether brussel sprouts or broccoli will be hidden inside any plastic eggs is not known.) [72094]

WashingtonTimes.com writes, “Team Barack started strong, but Team Bibi is showing it knows how to finish, as supporters of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu pick up steam against those urging a boycott of his speech next week before Congress. About 20 House and Senate Democrats announced early on that they would not attend the March 3 speech, which is being cast as a rebuke to ...Obama, but since then only a handful have joined them as pro-Netanyahu advocates counter by hinting at political consequences for the no-shows. Christians United for Israel, for example, sent out an action alert a few weeks ago urging its members to contact their representatives in support of the

Netanyahu speech. The result was a blast of more than 30,000 emails asking lawmakers not to let ‘partisan politics and petty excuses keep you from fulfilling the most basic of responsibilities of your office.’” [72090]

The Associated Press reports, “Edging toward a historic compromise, the U.S. and Iran reported progress Monday on a deal that would clamp down on Tehran’s nuclear activities for at least 10 years but then slowly ease restrictions on programs that could be used to make atomic arms.” (In other words, the Obama administration is caving in. Iran will have nuclear weapons, but probably not until after Obama leaves office and washes his hands of the entire matter.) “...Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is expected to strongly criticize the deal in an address before Congress next week.” Laughably, the AP writes, “[A] comprehensive pact could ease 35 years of U.S-Iranian enmity—and seems within reach for the first time in more than a decade of negotiations.” (The statement is utter nonsense. The Iranian regime will still hate the United States, and it will consider it spineless as well.) In public, Secretary of State John Kerry says, “We made progress.” (In private, Iranian negotiators are probably snickering over Kerry’s gullibility.) [72092, 72093, 72099, 72117]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, “The Pentagon let slip that one of its training camps to help fight Islamic State terrorists is in Jordan—information the pro-U.S. kingdom had specifically requested be kept private, and the latest gaffe in a series of sensitive leaks coming out of the Department of Defense. In order to hide its flub, which was first announced to reporters during a briefing last week, the Pentagon has scrubbed its public transcripts of any mention of the training camp. ...Security analysts are befuddled by the high-level operational ‘screw-up.’ ‘Either the official made a mistake or is deliberately leaking information to put the administration’s plans for Syria in a better light in an attempt to defuse criticism that the administration has bungled efforts to aid Syrian rebels,’ said James Phillips, a national security analyst at The Heritage Foundation. ... ‘I was really surprised by that briefing,’ said Kenneth Pollack, a scholar on Middle Eastern political-military affairs and senior fellow at the Brookings Institution. ‘It went way beyond what I expected any uniformed military officer to say. I was in Iraq last month. I got ‘backgrounded’ by the U.S. military and Iraqi military, and they told me most of that—not all of that, but most of it. And they swore me to secrecy.’” [72123, 72124]

Investigative journalist Doug Hagmann interviews Mia Marie Pope, who knew Obama in Hawaii during the summers of 1977-1979. Pope describes Obama—who called himself Barry Soetoro when she knew him—as a “chameleon-type character” who “put on a show” when he wanted others to see him as something he was not. “In real life,” says Pope, “Barry is absolutely *nothing* like... what the mainstream media portrays him to be.” Pope says Obama has “narcissistic personality disorder,” “criminally insane,” and “far too close to the buttons for my comfort.” Pope states that among her Hawaiian friends “it was common knowledge that [Obama] was gay, and, um, did drugs. ...To possess powdered cocaine [at that time in Hawaii]... it was a little bit of a status symbol. It implied that you had money. ...Barry [Obama] was getting his drugs...from his male suppliers, one of which [sic; whom] was... named ‘Gay Ray.’ His real name was

Raymond Boyer, but his street name was ‘Gay Ray,’ and we all knew him. ...He wound up getting murdered by his gay lover [Andrew Devere] back in ’87 [sic; 1986]. ...Barry always struck me as an individual that [sic; who] was just 100 percent full of bull. I mean, I never bought his stuff for a minute. ...One of the things with Barry is that he appears to—it’s like he has this other, like a movie playing in his head, or a loop that’s playing in his head, that has nothing to do with reality. ...You can tell that the guy’s ‘Looney Tunes.’ ...There’s no empathy there, there’s no passion there.” (It is worth noting that in his high school yearbook Obama wrote, “Thanks, Tut [Obama’s grandmother, Madelyn Payne Dunham], Gramps [Obama’s grandfather, Stanley Armour Dunham], Choom Gang [Obama’s drug-using pals], and Ray [“Gay Ray”] for all the good times.”) [72178, 72179, 72180, 72297]

Pope states, “I actually never was present in the same room while Barry was free-basing coke [cocaine], but Barry used to tell us that he free-based coke. ...When Barry would smoke his cocaine his lips would get dark, and it was kind of like, uh, you know, a funny little thing where it’s like Barry wore a sign on his face when he was, uh, using the cocaine.” Pope speculates, “...Barry is [today] run by his handlers. Barry is not the brains of any operation. Nothing of the sort. Barry follows instructions. ...[Former White House staffers] say that Barry has this little room, that he likes to stay in all the time, and it’s got big screen TVs and he watches ESPN all day, and that is where it’s speculated that he continues to get high.” Getting back to Obama’s high school years in Hawaii, Pope says, “The ‘choom gang’ is just, in other words, you know, guys that would get together and smoke weed. ...[Obama] not only smoked marijuana, but he, in the summers at least, ...he was into cocaine, and that was via Gay Ray, his drug dealer, [for] which he had to perform sexual favors to get the cocaine. Gay Ray was not passing out cocaine to people for free. You had to do something for Gay Ray for him to give you drugs. And Barry was broke. Barry had no money. ...He was the type of guy, ‘Can I borrow five dollars? I’ll pay you on Wednesday’—bye bye, five dollars. You’ll never see that five dollars again. You know, he was a mooch. ...Barry was performing oral sex, or bending over, for Gay Ray in order to get drugs. I mean, the guy was a coke whore. ...This speaks to Barry’s character. ...He has no ability to care about you.” [72178, 72179, 72180, 72297]

Pope argues that Obama’s “whole rationale, his M.O. [modus operandi], is, he feeds off of his narcissistic supply. ...He’s not trying to please you, or do *you* any favors, when he tries to rope you in to whatever scheme or scam—it’s him requiring that narcissistic supply. And so, any apparatus will do. If it wasn’t marijuana smoking to sort of rope you in to—‘Gee Barry, you’re so great, woo boy!’ ...In other words, he’s always looking for a customer. ...He really looked for people to throw it down for him. That’s what he gets off on. ...If he can rope you in a little bit, now he’s gonna take that next move with you, and he’ll use, abuse, and exploit you to whatever degree you will allow him to. That’s his m.o.” Pope claims that Obama “told everybody that he was a foreign student. ...I remember that term [Mombasa] floating around [before she knew it was a city in Kenya]... so there was that conversation going around. ...We all basically assumed that how he got in there [Punahou school] was [by virtue of] being a foreign student. There was kind of a waiver, or some sort of exception or exemption for being a foreign student.” [72178, 72179, 72180, 72297]

“For people who think Barry is an intellectual—please, do not think that. ...If Barry was an intellectual, or if he had the capability of buckling down and actually being a good student... then why the...bribes to get him into a school. ...If the guy’s an intellectual he should be able to carry his own weight, right? The fact that all of this money had to change hands for Barry to be able to get into a school tells you that the guy’s a bum. He doesn’t possess the self-discipline, he doesn’t do the work, he’s not an intellectual... Barry is not an intellectual. He’s full of bull, yeah, but he’s not... an intellectual. ...He’s a prolific liar, and that’s what he does for a living.” According to Pope, Obama “had no car. He was always in somebody else’s car. And he lived in this real shabby little walk-up. ...The idea was, ‘You live *there*? And you go to *Punahou* [school]?’ Because only the rich kids went to Punahou. ’Cause we did notice that. Yeah, this shabby little walk-up. ...The grandmother supposedly worked for the Bank of Hawaii. Well, I used to work for the Bank of Hawaii. I was a systems analyst... and I will tell you that banks are notorious for paying you peanuts. ...So there’s no way that this grandmother who was supposedly a V.P. in some department... was pulling down the kind of money that it would take to get Barry through that school. Forget about it. No way. ...Obviously there was some other money coming into the scene to get Barry in that place.” [72178, 72179, 72180, 72297]

Pope’s reference to Obama’s home in Hawaii is revealing. That he lived in a “real shabby little walk-up” suggests he was living with his communist mentor (and possible father), Frank Marshall Davis. In the late 70s, when Pope knew “Barry,” his mother, Stanley Ann Dunham, had been out of his life for years—having dumped him on her parents in Hawaii while she remained in Jakarta with her husband, Lolo Soetoro. Obama’s paternal grandparents, Madelyn Payne Dunham and Stanley Armour Dunham, lived in a 10th floor condominium. The building was hardly “shabby” and was most certainly not a “walk-up.” In fact, in *Dreams From My Father* Obama wrote that when he played basketball at the building he would often look up to see his grandmother watching from far above. It may be that Obama lived with his grandparents during the school year, but lived with Davis during the summers—when Pope spent time with the group of fellow teen-agers. (Additionally, Obama’s alleged long-form birth certificate lists the address of his parents, Stanley Ann Dunham and Barack Hussein Obama, Sr., as 6085 Kalaniana’ole Highway in Honolulu. But that house was owned by Orland Scott Lefforge and his wife Thelma Young. Lefforge, a university professor, bought the house in 1958 and lived there for decades. Why that address is listed as the residence of Obama’s parents is not known.) [4227, 4228, 4229, 4330, 4349, 72293, 72294, 72295, 72296, 72297]

Pope observes, “If [Barry] had any friends, he burned them off very quickly because of the usury. ...He might have baffled them for a minute, but after Barry got through using them for a while, they got tired of him. ...He burned through people. ...All he wants to do is take, take, take. ...Barry is a compartmentalizing, chameleon-like character, and he will size you up and take inventory about what your capabilities are...” Pope tells Hagmann that she never heard the name Obama at that time. “If he did use Obama, I never heard that. I only remember Soetoro. ’Cause they used to call him—in Pidgin [Hawaiian Pidgin English], a black guy is—they call him ‘popolo.’ And I remember



‘Popolo Soetoro.’ That’s what they used to call him, Popolo Soetoro. It’s not even a derogatory term per se... it’s a descriptive term. So I never heard ‘Obama’ before.” [72178, 72179, 72180, 72245, 72246, 72297]

“Barry is a coward,” says Pope. “I will tell you this... If you confront Barry... If you go toe-to-toe with him, and you hold your position, like, double-down on him, he runs away. He is an absolute coward. ...If we double-down on Barry, he’ll run for the bunker. ...Don’t think for a second that the other heads of state don’t know this. ...I have a huge amount of respect for the *office*, itself, of the president, but I don’t have any respect for any old criminal in it.” Pope states that she saw no evidence of Obama being a Muslim when she knew him in Hawaii, but notes that he does wear a ring inscribed “there is no god except Allah” which he “tries to play off like it’s a wedding band,” but “he’s been wearing that ring since he was about 18 or 19 years old... Obviously he has some kind of hook into this Muslim thing, and I believe it’s because they’re funding him. ...In other words, it’s a business deal. ...Don’t think for a second that Barry ‘prays to Allah’ five times a day. ...He’s too mentally ill to be *any* religion, because it requires a level of sincerity... You have to have the mental capacity to be sincere. Barry does not possess the mental capacity to be sincere. ...Now, he’s got deals. Like he’s in bed with the Muslim Brotherhood, he’s in bed with all kinds of things, but [he’s] not a legitimate Muslim, no.” [72178, 72179, 72180, 72250, 72251, 72252, 72297]

Pope claims that Obama had “zero” involvement with girls when she knew him. ...Barry had even almost a, maybe like a little bit of disdain for females. So, he was definitely not interested in women, or girls...definitely not. ...You can tell. Only the ladies will know what I’m talking about, but we can tell.” Pope states that Obama has obviously had extensive dental work (crowns, etc.) since the 1970s. Although he was thin when she knew him, he appeared healthy in his high school years—as opposed to his dangerously thin look at the present time. She asks, “If drugs are *not* [now] involved—which I think they are—but if they’re not involved then why does Barry look like a junkie. ’Cause he sure does look like a junkie.” (This *Timeline* cannot verify every statement made by Mia Marie Pope, although her comments are not inconsistent with the known past of Obama. The reader can come to his or her own conclusions as to whether Obama’s personality has changed much since the 1970s.) [72178, 72179, 72180, 72297]

On February 24 the Chicago *Sun-Times* reports, “Jeri L. Wright, the daughter of ...Obama’s controversial former pastor [Jeremiah Wright], was headed to jail Monday after a judge revoked a deal that allowed her to remain free as she awaits sentencing on a money-laundering conviction. U.S. District Judge Sue E. Myerscough ruled there was probable cause to believe Wright committed a separate theft while on bail, thereby violating terms of her supervised release, according to Sharon Paul, a spokeswoman for the U.S. attorney’s office in the Central District of Illinois. The judge ordered Wright, who appeared in court in Springfield, to be taken into custody by U.S. marshals. ...Last March, Jeri Wright was found guilty of money-laundering, lying to federal investigators and lying to a grand jury over her role in a state grant-fraud scheme orchestrated by one of her childhood friends, former Country Club Hills Police Chief Regina Evans.

Prosecutors now say Wright was taking part in another scheme—this one involving ghost payroll— even as she was standing trial.” [72071, 72072, 72113]

On *Morning Joe*, NBC’s Richard Engel comments on claims that ISIS is “back on their heels,” responding: “Um, I would not be overly optimistic that they are ‘back on their heels,’ frankly. There’s [sic; there have] been some advances in Baghdadi that the government is talking about; the Kurds, uh, who took that strategic supply route, uh, a couple of weeks ago, uh, are still advancing, and there is a Shi’ite militia massing on the edge of Tikrit. I don’t know if you consider that, uh, progress, or the opposite. But ISIS still controls the main cities of Raqqa and Mosul, and ISIS just broke out into Libya. It is effectively taking over a new country, so if that is defeat, uh, of ISIS, or ISIS on the road to defeat, uh, I’d hate to see what success would look like.” (Some might argue that if Obama had not been so eager to get rid of Moammar Gaddafi, ISIS might never have gotten a foothold in Libya. Gaddafi was no Mother Teresa, of course, but ISIS is far worse than Gaddafi.) [72156, 72157]

Coptic Christians wearing orange jumpsuits march at the White House, chanting, “Obama, Obama, did you see? Christian blood in the sea.” [72302]

At Townhall.com Katie Pavlich writes, “Despite the hysterical rhetoric, the Department of Homeland Security is not shutting down and America won’t be less safe if Republicans and Democrats don’t get a deal at the end of the week. And no, there will be no ‘undermining of the security of America,’ because essential Homeland Security operations will continue to function. ...If there isn’t a deal by Friday night only nonessential Homeland Security employees, which is around 14-15 percent of DHS, will be off-the-clock. That leaves at least 85 percent of DHS employees at work. ...If a deal isn’t reached by Friday, essential Homeland Security functions will continue to operate. This isn’t the crisis the media and Obama amnesty supporters have made it out to be. In fact, it’s not even close. What’s really happening here? Democrats and ...Obama are willing to force our federal law enforcement agents, who work under DHS, to go without pay for the sake of saving Obama’s executive amnesty for millions of illegal immigrants, which was put on hold by a federal judge last week. It’s clear where their priorities have been placed. I’m sure Border Patrol and ICE agents in particular are thrilled about *that*.” [72076]

Pavlich’s assurances notwithstanding, Senate Democrats continue to refuse to fund the Department of Homeland Security if it does not include funds to implement Obama’s amnesty plans. Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV), acting as if he is still the majority leader (and probably acting under orders from Obama), says, “I’m waiting to hear from the Speaker [House Speaker John Boehner]. ...We’re willing to debate anything they [the Republicans] want dealing with immigration, after we fund homeland security.” (In other words, “After the Republicans give us everything we want, we’re willing to talk about everything we won’t give them.”) Senator Dick “Eddie Haskell” Durbin (D-IL) says, “If we are going to avoid a government shutdown on the Department of Homeland Security, we need a commitment from Speaker Boehner that we have a

bipartisan, bicameral approval to end this deadlock.” (In other words, “If House Republicans don’t cave in, we’ll stop DHS funding and rely on the mainstream media to blame the GOP.”) Meanwhile, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) acts as if he is still the minority leader. McConnell proposes passing one bill that funds DHS—and Obama’s amnesty programs—though the end of the fiscal year, and have a separate vote on whether the Senate approves of Obama’s programs. (That is, McConnell would give Obama funding for his scheme, and then stupidly ask his colleagues to vote on whether doing so was a good idea.) [72087, 72088, 72096, 72104, 72134]

As media leftists mock Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker for suggesting that he seeks guidance from God on the issue of running for president, TheFederalist.com’s co-founder Sean Davis asks why the media didn’t “‘poke fun’ when Obama admitted he sought God’s guidance via prayer?” at the National Prayer Breakfast. (Obama told the audience that he “sought His guidance not just in my own life but in the life of our nation.”) The answer to Davis’ question, of course, is that media leftists know Obama was lying and they know Walker was not. Leftists will accept a lie in furtherance of their political cause before they will accept the possibility that God exists. [72079, 72080, 72081]

At Kent State University, anti-military vandals set fire to two Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) vans. According to FreeBeacon.com, “ROTC Lt. Col. Matthew Fox... has ordered cadets to wear civilian clothing while on campus.” (Obama has no comment.) [72186]

In Iraq, ISIS terrorists burn the library in Mosul, destroying more than 8,000 rare books and manuscripts; they also destroy priceless antiquities at a museum. Pamela Geller writes, “Fourteen years after the Taliban blew up the Buddhas of Bamiyan, another historical landmark is threatened. The savages just keep advancing, while the world makes excuses for them and denies that they really believe what they say they believe. Until the world comes to grips with the root causes of this savagery in Islamic texts and teachings, it can say goodbye to its archaeological treasures that are under Muslim control.” [72982, 72095, 72102, 72120, 72127, 72182, 72222, 72265, 72367]

Meanwhile, ISIS fighters abduct as many as 150 Christians in northeastern Syria; some place the number at more than 400. (Robert Spencer writes at JihadWatch.org, “Kidnapping infidels and releasing them for ransom or enslaving them, as well as killing them if that option is deemed most advantageous for the Muslims, is fully sanctioned in Islamic law: ‘As for the captives, the amir [ruler] has the choice of taking the most beneficial action of four possibilities: the first to put them to death by cutting their necks; the second, to enslave them and apply the laws of slavery regarding their sale and manumission; the third, to ransom them in exchange for goods or prisoners; and fourth, to show favor to them and pardon them. Allah, may he be exalted, says, ‘When you encounter those [infidels] who deny [the Truth=Islam] then strike [their] necks’ (Qur’an sura 47, verse 4)...”) [72982, 72095, 72102, 72120, 72127, 72182, 72222, 72265, 72367]

While his country provides weapons and ammunition to ISIS, Qatar's Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani meets with a smiling Obama at the White House. GatestoneInstitute.org writes, "Many Arabs and Muslims see the meeting between Obama and Qatar's al-Thani as a gift to Qatar for its continued support of Islamic radical groups across the Middle East, including Iraq, Syria, Egypt, Lebanon and the Gaza Strip. On the eve of Obama's meeting, Egyptian sources revealed that Qatar was providing weapons and ammunition to members of the Islamic State in Libya. The sources said that 35 Qatari aircraft were involved in transferring munitions. ... Qatar is also one of the biggest funders of Hamas, whose leader, Khaled Mashaal, is based in Qatar's capital, Doha. ... By the time Obama leaves the White House, Iran will most likely be in control of more Arab countries, and Qatari-backed terror groups will be much stronger." "The Egyptians are furious with ... Obama for meeting in the White House" with al-Thani. "They say that the Obama Administration has once again turned its back on moderate Arabs and Muslims by endorsing those who support and fund Islamic terror groups." Obama laughably claims, "Qatar is a strong partner in our coalition to degrade and ultimately defeat ISIL. We are both committed to making sure that ISIL [ISIS/Islamic State] is defeated, to making sure that in Iraq there is an opportunity for all people to live together in peace." (Pamela Geller writes, "Obama is unequivocally aligned with the jihad force. The media's deliberate silence on what is de facto treason and this stealth jihad has left the American people blind, deaf and dumb to the coming catastrophes.") [72255, 72256, 72257, 72258, 72259]

Obama vetoes legislation calling for the construction of the Keystone XL pipeline. Obama states that veto power "is one I take seriously. But I also take seriously my responsibility to the American people. And because this act of Congress conflicts with established executive branch procedures and cuts short thorough consideration of issues that could bear on our national interest—including our national security, safety and environment—it has earned my veto." (The "thorough consideration" of the pipeline has taken six years, which is apparently not enough to satisfy Obama.) Congressman Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) states, "... Obama has rejected our attempt to work together. His veto is overtly political. He can no longer hide behind talk that he wants to work with Congress while vetoing a bipartisan bill that will create 40,000 jobs in order to appease the radical left wing of his party." (Obama's action on Keystone may represent his main non-golfing activity over his remaining time in office: vetoing legislation passed by a Republican Congress.) [72083, 72084, 72105, 72159]

CBS' Mark Knoller asks White House press secretary Josh Earnest, "Does ... Obama believe that 2300 days is a reasonable length of time for the State Department to conduct an evaluation [of the Keystone pipeline]?" To laughter, Earnest replies, "Well, I think it's certainly fair, that, uh, to suggest that the State Department is conducting an in-depth review." Knoller asks Earnest, "Could you imagine what [Obama] would say if he gave you an assignment and you said, 'I'll get back to you in 2300 days?'" Earnest: "Uh, I can't, I can't." (Several Obama critics correctly point out that the Manhattan Project took less time to develop the first atomic bomb than the Obama administration has taken to review the pipeline project. No pipeline in the history of pipelines has taken so long to obtain approval. According to Pipeline101.com, "America depends on a network of more

than 185,000 miles of liquid petroleum pipelines, nearly 320,000 miles of gas transmission pipelines, and more than 2 million miles of gas distribution pipelines to safely and efficiently move energy and raw materials to fuel our nation's economic engine." Without those pipelines, America's economy would grind to a halt, and millions of people would freeze to death during the winter.) [72115, 72139]

The Department of Justice announces it will not file federal charges against George Zimmerman, who shot and killed Trayvon Martin during an altercation in Sanford, Florida in 2012. (Although Martin was large, strong, and 17 years old at the time of the incident, ABC—apparently still attempting to stoke racist fires—includes with its story a photograph of Martin when he was much younger and innocent looking.) [72085, 72106, 72158]

WABC television in New York reports that a Muslim man named Jean Camera is suing his employer, Costco, for "religious discrimination" because he was ordered to retrieve shopping carts from the parking lot after he refused to touch pork or alcohol products purchased by customers. Camera says, "Just because you have a different belief, that doesn't give anybody the right to treat you different [sic; differently]." (Technically, it was Camera who was discriminating against non-Muslim customers by refusing to serve them. If photographers and bakers can be forced to service gay weddings, Muslim cashiers can be forced to touch pork and alcohol.) [72396, 72397, 72465, 72508]

Secretary of State John Kerry tells the Senate Appropriations Committee, "Russia is engaged in a rather remarkable period of the most overt and extensive propaganda exercise that I've seen since the very height of the Cold War. And they have been persisting in their misrepresentations—lies, whatever you want to call them—about their activities there to my face, to the face of others on many different occasions." (Why it took Kerry 71 years to conclude that Soviet and Russian leaders lie is not clear. Why he thinks the propaganda was reduced after the Cold War is also not clear.) [72086]

Investigative journalist James O'Keefe releases a video exposing the shady tactics of Obama's race hustler pal, Al Sharpton. BizPacReview.com writes, "'When you have a fuse that's already lit, you don't need to add no more fire to it,' Bishop Calvin Scott of Ferguson, Mo., said about Sharpton. 'Knowing their history, it's about money.' With these words, O'Keefe begins his latest video. His reporters interview friends, associates and family members of Trayvon Martin, Michael Brown and Eric Garner to learn what they can about Sharpton. Despite the 'reverend' title, O'Keefe concludes, Sharpton is 'more sinner than saint.' O'Keefe has been doing this for a long time—ever since he took down ACORN with his 2009 video. ...[O'Keefe] reveals that Sharpton's organization, National Action Network, often pays for victims' funerals in order to give Sharpton center stage. After getting their loved ones' funerals and other costs paid for, the victims' families are told to toe the line. ... Erica Snipes, daughter of Eric Gardner, told Project Veritas that Sharpton and NAN have tried to control her actions and profit from her father's death. Snipes said that Cynthia Davis, project director for NAN, 'started attacking' her because Gardner distributed flyers about her father that didn't have NAN's

logo on it. ‘You think Al Sharpton is kind of like a crook in a sense?’ the reporter asked Snipes. ‘He’s about this,’ she replied, rubbing her fingers together. ‘He’s about money with you?’ ‘Yeah,’ Snipes confirmed. Project Veritas has now confirmed what everyone has long suspected—with Sharpton, the first rule is, ‘Show me the money.’” [72089, 72317]

CNSNews.com reports, “The homeownership rate in the United States dropped to a 20-year low of 64.5 percent in 2014, according to new data released by the Census Bureau.” [72103]

Columbus, Ohio resident Abdirahman S. Mohamud is indicted on charges of assisting terrorists and money laundering. [72121, 72122]

According to a Rasmussen poll, 35 percent of likely voters agree with former New York City mayor Rudy Giuliani’s statement, “I do not believe that [Obama] loves America. He doesn’t love you. And he doesn’t love me. He wasn’t brought up the way you were brought up and I was brought up through love of this country.” Fifty-one percent disagree with the statement, and 14 percent are not sure. [72108]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, “The U.S. military is shedding so many troops and weapons it is only ‘marginally able’ to defend the nation and falls short of the Obama administration’s national security strategy, according to a new report by The Heritage Foundation on Tuesday. ‘The U.S. military itself is aging. It’s shrinking in size,’ said Dakota Wood, a Heritage analyst. ‘And it’s quickly becoming problematic in terms of being able to address more than one major conflict.’ ... ‘The U.S. military is rapidly approaching a one-war-capable force,’ said Mr. Wood, a former Marine Corps officer and strategic planner. ‘So [it is] able to handle a major war and then having just a bit of residual capability to handle other minor crises that might pop up. ... But it is a far cry from being a two-war force.’” [72110]

While the mainstream media rails against Rudy Giuliani for suggesting Obama does not love America, Rich Lowry writes at NationalReview.com: “The survey data are clear: There is a patriotism differential between the Right and the Left. ... A Pew Research survey last year found that 46 percent of ‘steadfast conservatives’ believed that the U.S. stands above all other countries; only 11 percent of ‘solid liberals’ believed the same. Seventy-two percent of steadfast conservatives said they often feel proud to be an American; only 40 percent of solid liberals said they do. Gallup headlined its write-up of a 2010 survey ‘One in Three Americans ‘Extremely Patriotic’: Republicans, conservatives, and seniors most likely to say so.’ According to Gallup, 52 percent of Republicans and 48 percent of conservatives called themselves extremely patriotic; only 20 percent of Democrats and 19 percent of liberals did. ... None of this means that questioning any particular politician’s patriotism will ever be considered in bounds—it smacks of questioning motives that are ultimately unknowable. But if Giuliani had stood up before that room of conservatives and said that liberals don’t feel about this country the way we do, he would have been on unassailable ground, and had the data to prove it.”

[72111]

According to Politico.com, “A tense debate broke out during a closed-door meeting of Senate Republicans on Tuesday, a sign of the serious hurdles GOP leaders face ahead of a critical funding deadline for the nation’s chief domestic anti-terrorism agency. According to four senators at the lunch session, a frustrated Sen. Jeff Sessions [R-AL] angrily dismissed Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell’s [R-KY] plan, arguing that his party should be prepared for an all-out battle with Democrats to ratchet up public pressure and force ...Obama to drop his immigration policies. But Sen. Kelly Ayotte, a New Hampshire Republican who could face a tough reelection next year, sharply countered that McConnell’s plan was the only option to not hamper law enforcement agencies that rely on money from the Department of Homeland Security. ...McConnell has been quiet for weeks about his next steps. But his new proposal on Tuesday— to extend DHS funding through September while advancing a separate plan to block a portion of Obama’s immigration proposal—signaled that he’s nervous a shutdown could damage his party politically. Twenty-four GOP senators are up for reelection next year. Boehner is in an even tighter jam: Any sense that he is caving to the White House could further erode confidence in his leadership among the far right, which is furious at Obama’s immigration push. Boehner has not directly addressed whether he’d put a stand-alone funding bill on the floor, and several Republican leadership sources say they favor several short-term measures to try to keep the heat on the White House.” (Politicians being politicians, most of them appear to be worried more about their jobs than the U.S. Constitution or stopping Obama from violating it.) [72116]

Congressman Mick Mulvaney (R-SC) tells DailySignal.com he opposes McConnell’s plan: “I have no interest in doing that or supporting that. It’s more smoke and mirrors, isn’t it? It’s more designed to be able to look like you’re doing something to the folks back home when you know you are doing absolutely nothing. ...I don’t know how you tell people back home that elections have consequences if we pass a clean Homeland Security bill. If we do, folks back home have the right to ask the question, ‘Would this have been different if Democrats were still in charge of the Senate?’ And I think the answer apparently is no, that elections don’t have consequences in the United States Senate. I think that’s unacceptable to the folks back home and it’s unacceptable to me. I have spent too much time and money trying to help Republicans get elected to the Senate to be told that it doesn’t make a difference. ...I have told Senators privately and publically I am willing to vote for something less than what the House sent over. I am still prepared to compromise. I don’t want to make it look like I am one of those guys who is ‘my way or the highway.’ But I will not support a clean [amnesty-inclusive] Homeland Security bill. If he [McConnell] has the votes for that, God bless him. But I think he should count on folks willing to call it like it is, which is a ruse.” Congressman Louie Gohmert (R-TX) states, “Regarding the reported new Senate plan to have a ‘clean’ DHS funding bill separate from a vote on stopping the new royal amnesty decree, there is nothing ‘clean’ about allowing an illegal, despotic action in direct defiance of the U.S. Constitution, so I can’t support it.” [72146]

Senate Majority Leader Mitch “Eunuch” McConnell (R-KY), apparently trying to prove he is either a Democrat or an idiot, states, “I don’t know what’s not to like about this. This is an approach that respects both points of view.” (McConnell’s “approach” gives Obama and his fellow Democrats what they want: funding of their amnesty scheme. It in no way “respects” the other point of view, that Obama’s action is unconstitutional and an insult to every reasonable, law-abiding U.S. citizen.) [72146]

Tristan Daedalus, spokesman for Congressman Matt Salmon (R-AZ), comments, “What McConnell has isn’t a plan but a cop out. The whole point of restricting funds from being used for unconstitutional orders inside the funding bill for the Department of Homeland Security is to exercise the power of the purse. By divorcing these two pieces of the bill, the Majority Leader is showing that he is more concerned with acquiescing to the ridiculous demands of the Democratic Caucus than for standing up for the institution of Congress.” [72146, 72152, 72161]

NBCNews.com reports, “Drones were spotted flying over Paris landmarks for a second night running, officials said Wednesday. French media said there were five sightings of small unmanned aircraft near the Eiffel Tower, the Bastille and the military museum at Les Invalides [where Napoleon is buried]. ...It was unclear if the five sightings, reported between 11 p.m. Tuesday and 2 a.m. Wednesday... involved different drones or the same aircraft spotted Monday night over the U.S. Embassy, the Place de la Concorde and the Eiffel Tower. French officials have not been able to identify the operator of the drones, nor find out why they were flying. Police said they had never experienced so many sightings in one night.” [72118, 72119]

At FrontPageMag.com Robert Spencer writes, “Only Obama knows what he may be thinking... but a few conclusions seem obvious: he is afraid that speaking honestly about the jihadis’ motives and goals will alienate actual and potential Muslim allies. Since he believes Islam to be a peaceful religion, he doesn’t accept the idea that Muslims become jihadis because the Qur’an and Sunnah exhort them to do so. That leaves only the grievances that Islamic advocacy groups (and jihad groups) endlessly retail as the fundamental engine of the ‘radicalization’ of Muslims—so Obama apparently sees redressing those grievances as the primary means of preventing Muslims from becoming terrorists. This has led to foreign and domestic policies of accommodation and appeasement, along with an ominously cavalier stance at best toward the First Amendment’s protection of the freedom of speech. Coupled with a dogmatic refusal to identify properly those who have vowed to destroy the United States and address their belief system and ideology, Obama’s stance toward Islam is a recipe for catastrophe. The United States is weaker and more vulnerable for it.” [72125, 72126]

At WND.com Judge Andrew Napolitano comments on Obama’s plan to regulate the Internet: “People don’t know the danger that is coming. The danger that is coming is a gaggle of bureaucrats here—three Democrats and two Republicans, the Republicans will probably dissent—claiming they have the power to regulate the Internet. ...They claim that the purpose of their regulation is to prevent the Internet from affording priority and



faster service to certain preferred users. Would we all like to have fast service? Yes. Do we all know how to get fast service? Yes, we do. Might that cost us something? Yes, it might, but at the present time it is free from government regulation. ...If the government regulates the Internet and tells providers how fast they can move information, we will soon see the government regulating the cost of the Internet. We will eventually, just like with broadcast television, see the government regulating the content of the Internet. ...Right now, the Internet is the freest marketplace of ideas and transfers of information that the world has ever known. At least in the United States, it is utterly and totally—there are some minor exceptions—unregulated. Once these federal bureaucrats get their hands on it, give them a couple of years. It'll look like broadcast television, a watered-down version of what we now have.” [72128]

At PoliticalWire.com, Taegen Goddard ridicules Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker for saying his decision to run for president will involve prayer. Goddard writes mockingly, “[Walker] was recently asked under public records laws to provide call [sic] ‘a copy/transcript of all communications with God, the Lord, Christ, Jesus or any other form of deity.’ Walker’s office responded that no such records exist.” (At the National Prayer Breakfast, Obama said that God “certainly strengthened me ‘with the power through his Spirit,’ as I’ve sought His guidance not just in my own life but in the life of our nation.” Goddard has not ridiculed Obama for that statement.) [72135, 72136, 72137]

The White House “a final rule that will allow spouses of certain high-skilled workers to contribute to the economy while they wait to obtain lawful permanent residence status (or a ‘green card’) through their employer. America needs a 21st century immigration system that lives up to our heritage as a nation of laws and a nation of immigrants—and that grows our economy. This change, as well as the other actions announced by [Obama] this past November, will do just that. ...DHS estimates that in the first year, there may be nearly 180,000 spouses eligible to apply for employment authorization under this rule, with as many as 55,000 eligible annually in following years. These women and men are Americans-in-waiting, whose families are often stuck for years in lengthy green card backlogs as a result of our broken immigration system. Allowing them to put their skills to use will reduce the strain on their families during that waiting time, and will yield significant benefits for our economy as well.” (Spouses of immigrant workers are no longer spouse of immigrants. Instead, they are now “Americans-in-waiting,” with 180,000 of them now able to apply for the jobs existing Americans desperately need.) [72145]

Senators Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) and Dick Durbin (D-IL) invite Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu to a closed-door meeting with Democrats. Netanyahu responds, “Though I greatly appreciate your kind invitation to meet with Democratic Senators, I believe that doing so at this time could compound the misperception of partisanship regarding my upcoming visit.” [72154, 72200]

CNSNews.com reports, “Health and Human Service’s Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) has confirmed to CNSNews.com that abortion is one of the emergency medical services that must be made available by federally funded caregivers of illegal alien

unaccompanied minors (Unaccompanied Children or UC) who have been sexually assaulted and become pregnant.” [72164]

DailyCaller.com reports, “The Obama administration re-defined the word ‘spouse’ Tuesday to include gay couples. The Department of Labor quietly issued a new 52-page regulation, to be published in the Federal Register Wednesday, updating the term ‘spouse’ to include gay couples so that gays now get job-protected leave from work to care for their gay partner or partner’s children or parents under the Family and Medical Leave Act. The new definition applies to all gay couples who were legally married in states where gay marriage is legal, regardless of whether or not they now live in states where gay marriage is not legal.” [72618]

A Texas jury finds Eddie Ray Routh guilty of murder in the killings of Chris (“American Sniper”) Kyle and Chad Littlefield. Routh is sentenced to life in prison with no possibility of parole. (The prosecution did not seek the death penalty.) [72147, 72148, 72151]

In the Chicago mayoral election, former Obama chief of staff Rahm Emanuel fails to win the 50 percent needed to guarantee a second term. The run-off election will be held in April. Emanuel tells his supporters, “We have a little bit farther to go.” (It is worth noting that Obama made a special trip to Chicago to help boost support for Emanuel. That visit did no more good than Obama’s 2014 campaign trip to help then-Governor Pat Quinn, who lost to Republican Bruce Rauner.) Emanuel’s failure to win 50 percent of the vote is the result of far left Democrats deserting him. That may be a bad sign for Hillary Clinton, who may have the same problem in her presidential run. Many Democrats are disappointed that Obama did not move far enough to the left, and they may expect Clinton to be even less likely to do so. [72107, 72140, 72177]

On February 25 three Brooklyn men are arrested for allegedly plotting to travel to Syria to join ISIS. According to NBCNewYork.com, the three “posted online messages about planting a bomb on Coney Island and shooting police officers were taken into custody during FBI terror raids Wednesday, authorities said. The men, 24- and 30-year-old Uzbekistan citizens and a 19-year-old Kazakhstan citizen who all lived in Brooklyn, allegedly planned to return to New York to commit a domestic act of terror if they failed to join the group overseas, law enforcement officials said. ...Law enforcement officials say any potential homegrown threat was aspirational, not operational, but authorities moved in because they believed the suspects’ plans to travel abroad were imminent and their alleged intent to join ISIS real. Agents had been tracking the men for about 18 months.” In an Internet posting, one of the three men wrote, “I am in USA now ...But is it possible to commit ourselves as dedicated martyrs anyway while here? What I’m saying is, to shoot Obama and then get shot ourselves, will it do? That will strike fear in the hearts of infidels.” (At JihadWatch.org Robert Spencer asks, “Where did they get the idea to ‘strike fear in the hearts of infidels?’ Everyone knows that this has nothing to do with Islam and all, but could it be from the Qur’an? ‘Against them make ready your strength to the utmost of your power, including steeds of war, to strike terror into the enemies of Allah and your enemies’ (Qur’an 8:60).”) [72141, 72142, 72191, 72194]

Iran broadcasts a video of its navy using a barge made to look like a U.S. aircraft carrier for target practice. (Pamela Geller writes, “Iran has warned that US carriers will be targeted. Obama legitimized these savages and turned over billions of dollars. In addition to the carrier attack, the drill included the Guard shooting down a drone and planting mines at sea. Obama’s response it to has been to aggressively go after Israel. Like all thugs and autocrats, he targets the victim. No matter how much Iran publicly humiliates and mocks Obama (and by proxy us, of course), Obama is on a jihad to broker a nuclear deal with these savages. What does he expect will happen when Iran gets nukes?”) [72189, 72190]

SputnikNews.com reports, “Saudi Arabia has now offered to let Israeli fighter jets use its airspace to attack Iran when necessary, in exchange for Israel making progress in the peace talks with Palestinians, a senior European source told Israeli Channel 2. ‘The Saudi authorities are completely coordinated with Israel on all matters related to Iran,’ the European official in Brussels said. Using Saudi airspace means that Israeli Defense Forces could strike Tehran at a shorter distance, without having to fly around the Persian Gulf. The Channel 2 report also highlights shared intelligence between the Jewish state and the Arab nation on Iran’s nuclear program, both worried about the outcome of the Geneva talks currently underway. Although Jerusalem and Riyadh do not have diplomatic ties, there have been many unconfirmed reports about a possible coordination between them against Iran.” [72352]

Large posters of Federal Communications Commission chairman Tom Wheeler with the words, “Boot Licker” and “Obama’s Bitch” appear around Washington, D.C. as he prepares to impose “net neutrality” rules on Internet service providers and users. Stop signs have stickers added that make the signs read, “STOP Wheeler. Don’t brake the Internet.” (Insulting the American people and the U.S. Constitution, Wheeler has refused to testify before Congress and provide details of Obama’s “ObamaNet” Internet regulations. It is clear the White House is pressuring Wheeler into implementing the rules.) [72181, 72185, 73170]

GotNews.com’s Charles C. Johnson tweets, “Why did Obama join the gay club at Occidental College upon entrance in 1979?” (Johnson offers no evidence that Obama joined such a club, but it would not be inconsistent with what is known about Obama’s past.) “How [many] days did Obama really spend in Pakistan when he was younger?” “Why has no one ever profiled Obama’s gay [Columbia University] roommate Sohale Siddiqi?” “Why did Obama’s mother live in Pakistan during the ’80s & Indonesia in the ’60s?” “Why has no one ever found any of the black women whose ‘hearts’ Obama says he broke in ‘his’ book?” “Is there any real evidence that Barack Obama the first [that is, Obama’s alleged Kenyan father] ever came to Hawaii in 1971?” (There is one photograph of an alleged meeting at the airport in Honolulu, but it appears to have been faked.) “Why did Obama’s [maternal] grandfather have an FBI file?” (Some have claimed that Obama’s maternal grandmother also had an FBI file.) “Is there anyone in Hawaii who remembers Obama’s ‘father’ coming to his school in 1971?” “Should I

publish who really funded Barack Obama the first's education in Hawaii?" FreedomOutpost.com (as does this *Timeline*) asks, "Well, one does wonder if people like Charles Johnson have the goods on these questions, why are they not putting forth the evidence?" (DCClothesline.com reminds readers that Obama "was raised by a gay, transvestite nanny for two years" when he lived in Indonesia. According to *The New York Times*, Obama's nanny "was an openly gay man who, in keeping with Indonesia's relaxed attitudes toward homosexuality, carried on an affair with a local butcher, longtime residents said. The nanny later joined a group of transvestites called Fantastic Dolls, who, like the many transvestites who remain fixtures of Jakarta's streetscape, entertained people by dancing and playing volleyball.") [72340, 72347, 72388, 72389]

HotAir.com comments on Obama's "Christianity": "Obama's beliefs are textbook Ivory Tower liberalism in nearly every way but one, and that one conveniently happens to be a prerequisite to holding higher office in a heavily Christian country. Obama being a devout Christian is a bit like your local gender studies professor being really into guns. It's possible, but ...come on. ...[T]he media, which strongly favors Democrats and itself includes many people who identify with smart-set liberalism, understands this and lets them slide on it. That's why, as Davis says, Obama's been given a total pass for claiming in 2008 that he opposed gay marriage as a matter of faith. They didn't take his position seriously because they don't take his faith seriously. He'd 'evolve' when it was safe to do so, they thought, and they were right. When forced to choose between Christian orthodoxy and left-wing orthodoxy, he'd choose the latter every time. That's a Christianity they can respect. In the end, as long as Obama's faith continues to lead him to the doctrinaire liberal position on virtually every policy choice, it's academic whether Obama sincerely believes or not. A Christianity that's a handmaiden to the progressive agenda in all respects is a faith, maybe the only faith, worth respecting. That's why they stay away from hard questions for Democrats about when life begins and whether Christian grandmas should have their businesses shut down for refusing to cater gay weddings. If Christianity is useful only to the extent that it serves progressivism, why would you highlight contradictions between the two? ...[Wisconsin Governor Scott] Walker insisting he's not sure what Obama really believes, despite the fact that *the media clearly isn't sure either*, is a grievous offense. When they start to care that Obama lied transparently about what his supposedly deeply held faith required him to believe about gay marriage six years ago, then I'll care about Scott Walker not taking Obama at his word." [72227]

Daniel Rosen, director of counterterrorism programs and policy at the State Department, is arrested and charged with soliciting sex with a minor. State Department spokesperson Jen Psaki tells reporters, "His security clearance will be suspended and he will be put on administrative leave while this proceeds to its end through any judicial process." [72143, 72149, 72153]

State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki comments on ISIS' abduction of 150 or more Christians in Syria: "ISIL's latest targeting of a religious minority is only further testament to its brutal and inhumane treatment of all those who disagree with its divisive

goals and toxic beliefs. ISIL continues to exact its evil upon innocents of all faiths and the majority of its victims have been Muslims.” (Adding “the majority of its victims have been Muslims” is the Obama administration’s way of claiming that ISIS has nothing to do with Islam, even though it calls itself the Islamic State and follows the Quran to the letter. The Muslims being killed by ISIS are not being killed because they follow Islam, but because they do not follow it the way ISIS wants it to be followed.) [72182, 72183, 72184]

Pamela Geller writes, “Obama’s State Department called the kidnapping of 150 Christian women and children an act of ‘evil,’ but pointed out that most terror victims have been Muslims. They. just. can’t. stop.” Geller quotes Ayn Rand: “Dropping below the level of a savage, who believes that the magic words he utters have the power to alter reality, they believe that reality can be altered by the power of the words they do not utter—and their magic tool is the blank-out, the pretense that nothing can come into existence past the voodoo of their refusal to identify it.” She continues, “The Islamic State has been slaughtering Christians because they are Christians. Whether it is on a beach in Libya or a town in Nigeria or the CAR, Chad, Niger, Iraq, the Philippines, Thailand—they are following the religious imperative to ‘*Slay the unbelievers wherever you find them*’ (Quran 2:191). State Department spokesperson Jen Psaki is either clueless or complicit, but in any case, she is utterly wrong. According to the Islamic State and Islamic law, ISIS are not killing ‘Muslims.’ The Sunni group does not consider Shia Muslims to be true Muslims—they are heretics, much the same way that secular Muslims or Ahmadiyya Muslims are. Under the sharia (Islamic law), the crimes of heresy and apostasy are punishable by death. ISIS is purifying the Islamic State in these bloody purges. All of this blood and carnage is in the cause of Islam.” [72182, 72183, 72184]

Jonathan Gruber and three others are fired from their jobs with the Massachusetts Health Connector board, which is responsible for implementing ObamaCare in the state. (Apparently one of the law’s architects cannot be trusted to implement it.) [72144, 72220]

TheGatewayPundit.com reports that “Black Caucus Democrats are planning to walk out during [Prime Minister Binyamin] Netanyahu’s [March 3] speech on the security of Israel. The move was reportedly planned after communications with the Obama White House.” [72187, 72188]

At a House Judiciary Committee hearing, Congressman Trey Gowdy (R-SC) states, “Attempts to undermine the law, via executive fiat, regardless of motivation, are detrimental to the foundation of a democracy. ...Obama, after the November mid-term elections I hasten to add, announced one of the largest extra-constitutional acts ever by a chief executive. He declared unilaterally, almost five million undocumented aliens would receive deferred action under some new-fangled definition of prosecutorial discretion. Moreover, in addition to using prosecutorial discretion as a license to re-write the law, he also conferred benefits on those same people. You may like the policy. You may wish the policy were the law. But one person does not make law in a republic. If you enjoy a

single person making law you should investigate living in another country. ...In 2011 Obama said this... ‘The notion that I could just suspend deportations through executive order, that’s just not the case.’ He told us time and time again... that he was not a king. His position may have changed, but the Constitution has not.” Addressing Democrats in particular, Gowdy says, “You may benefit from [Obama’s] failure to enforce the law today, but I’ll make you this promise: There will come a day where you will cry out for the enforcement of the law. There will come a day when you long for the law to be the foundation of this republic. So you be careful what you do with the law today, because if you weaken it today, you weaken it forever.” [72166, 72171, 72217]

Addressing the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Secretary of State John Kerry says, “This is counter-intuitive, but it’s true. Our citizens, our world today, is actually, despite ISIL, despite the visible killings that you see and how horrific they are, we are actually living in a period of less daily threat to Americans and to people in the world than normally, less deaths, less violent deaths today, than through the last century. Uh, and so even the concept of state war has changed in many people’s minds, and we’re seeing now more asymmetrical kinds of struggles. So I would say to you that I, I see encouragement as I travel the world.” Setting aside the question of what Kerry means by “visible killings”—What might “invisible killings” be?—his claim is arguably false. The world may be safer that it was during the world wars, but it is certainly not safer than in any of the preceding 100 years. In Syria alone, more than 190,000 people have been killed between March 2011 and April 2014, according to the United Nations. In Nigeria, Boko Haram killed about 7,000 people between July 2013 and June 2014. Peak years for worldwide war deaths after World War II were 1949, 1971, 1973, 1981, and 1988. Although the first decade of the 21st century has certainly seen fewer war deaths than previous decades, 2014 was not the “safest” year. There were about 22,000 war deaths in 2007, for example, which made it a “safer” year than 2014. Kerry is correct, however, that the *general trend* has been toward fewer total war deaths from decade to decade. But over the last few years the war death counts have been increasing. (Of course, general trends mean nothing to the victims of ISIS, al-Qaeda, and Boko Haram.) [72172, 72173, 72174, 72175]

Addressing the Senator Foreign Relations Committee, Kerry says, “I don’t think there ought to be a formal approval process” in the Senate for any nuclear deal worked out with Iran. “You [Senators] certainly have a right to have whatever hearings and whatever further examinations you want to have, if a deal is struck. I mean, that’s your prerogative at any point in time. And ours is to respond to you.” (To the extent that any deal is considered a treaty, the U.S. Constitution *requires* the approval of two-thirds of the Senators. Kerry and Obama should re-read the document.) [72230]

FBI Director James Comey says, “We have investigations of people in various stages of [Islamist] radicalizing in all 50 states. This isn’t a New York phenomenon or a Washington phenomenon. This is all 50 states and in ways that are very hard to see. ...ISIL in particular is putting out a siren song with their slick propaganda through social media. ‘Troubled soul, come to the caliphate, you will live a life of glory, these are the

apocalyptic end times, you will find a life of meaning here, fighting for our so-called caliphate. And if you can't come, kill somebody where you are." That message, says Comey, "resonates with troubled souls, people seeking meaning in some horribly misguided way. Those people exist in every state." [72225, 72226, 72229]

The Senate votes 98-2 to proceed with legislation funding the Department of Homeland Security—including funds for Obama's amnesty program. (The two Republican Senators voting with American citizens and in support of the U.S. Constitution are James Inhofe (R-OK) and Jeff Sessions (R-AL).) According to TheBlaze.com, "Democrats agreed to allow a House-passed DHS bill to advance, based on promises that Republicans would bring up one amendment that gets rid of language defunding Obama's immigration plan." That amendment, of course, will be blocked by the Democrats. House Republicans, however, are not about to cave in as did Mitch McConnell, so the entire exercise does nothing but waste another day and help Obama and the Democrats. [72150]

Townhall.com political editor Guy Benson writes, "[Mitch] McConnell relented, and [Harry] Reid (effectively acting as the majority leader) decided to rub Republicans' noses in it by holding out and issuing further demands of House Republicans. Reid eventually backed away from this astoundingly obnoxious posture, but he'd already made his point. Senate Democrats' obstructionism worked, allowing the pressure to shift back to the House of Representatives, which did its job weeks ago. And thus, a story about Democrats threatening a national security-related shutdown in order to protect a widely-opposed Obama policy is shifting into a story about those 'extreme' House Republicans again. This is the dynamic that Democrats repeatedly exploited between 2011 and 2015, with the press happily along for the 'blame-Republicans' ride. When the GOP took control of the Senate in January, Democrats' playbook theoretically became obsolete: At long last, they'd be the ones resorting to procedural tactics (and vetoes) to block bills and avoid debate. They'd finally be on the uncomfortable end of certain political pressure points." [72165]

"A functional, strategic Republican majority would have called up votes on the House DHS bill every single day, creating a ticker counting the number of times Democrats 'filibustered national security funding.' They'd have spoken with one voice in the media, decrying their opponents' nihilistic and hypocritical shutdown zeal, and demanding that Harry Reid 'at least allow debate to commence on this critical legislation.' They'd have honed in on Democrats' weak links with targeted blitzes against red and purple-state Senators, correctly casting them as stooges who were 'placing Obama's divisive amnesty above national security.' In fairness, many Republicans attempted this messaging strategy, but a lack of unity and fortitude doomed their effort to failure. Before you pin the blame on Mitch McConnell, remember that his options were gutted by people like [Senators] John McCain [R-AZ] and Lindsey Graham [-SC], who practically recited White House talking points on DHS funding every single day. ('Leave it to the courts,' they say, breezily abandoning their Constitutional role as elected members of the legislative branch). Democrats predictably applauded, and the media dutifully quoted them with prominence. Also remember that some members of McConnell's caucus were

telegraphing eventual capitulation from the very beginning. That's the crew McConnell's trying to lead. The offending Senators' commitment to national security isn't in question; their judgment and ability to grasp middle and long-term strategy most certainly is. Hopeless." [72165]

“Perhaps most egregious of all, Senate Republicans somehow timed their cave job to align perfectly with ...Obama's Keystone veto—the ludicrous rationale for which is truly jaw-dropping in its audacity. Here we had [Obama] openly exposing his rhetoric about pragmatism and unity as an utter fraud, serving up a wet kiss to wealthy special interests (offering another chance to highlight his hypocrisy). He nixed a massively popular, job creating infrastructure project that garnered 332 bipartisan votes in Congress—and would cost taxpayers zero dollars. This veto was nothing less a sharp stick in the eye of bipartisanship, job creation, ‘middle class economics,’ and all the ideals and platitudes Obama loves to spout. And on that day, of all days, Republicans decided it was time to back down and free Obama and Democrats from their self-made shutdown/amnesty trap. Bravo. By the way, the second half of McConnell's ‘compromise’ involves bringing up a separate bill that forbids Obama's unilateral immigration orders from moving forward. Sen. Joe Manchin (D-WV) has announced that he'll vote with Republicans when the time comes. Others may, too. But so what? Republicans relinquished their leverage, as well as the opportunity to draw ‘shutdown’ blood—all while sending a message about future budget skirmishes. Instead, they're handing Reid and Obama what they want (the ‘clean’ DHS bill) and furnishing moderate Democrats with a handy opportunity to cast a meaningless vote ‘against’ Obama's amnesty. Even if the GOP were to break an inevitable filibuster on the stand-alone, anti-amnesty bill with Democratic help, Obama would instantly veto the resulting measure the moment it reaches his desk. He's made it abundantly clear that he doesn't give a rip about Congress' will; plus, that veto would be far less embarrassing and politically painful than one that, say, prolonged a controversial Democrat-caused shutdown. Luckily for him, he won't have to think about such unpleasantness.” [72165]

“The resulting outcome is a total victory for Democrats. Obama gets a win on a day that should have been reserved for non-stop, richly-earned Keystone bashing. Reid's ‘hostage taking’ and Orwellian propaganda prevails, and Democrats' stubborn discipline is reinforced as effective. John Boehner is thrust back into the horrible position of figuring out what to do next, with the clock ticking and a turn-key ‘blame-Republicans’ script written against him... helpfully provided by fellow Republicans, no less. And vulnerable Democrats get to tell the folks back home that they avoided a Homeland Security shutdown and ‘stood up to’ the administration via empty, Republican-supplied show votes. Even an immigration ‘squish’ and infamous RINO like yours truly has no choice but to call this what it is: A comprehensive strategic catastrophe.” [72165]

There is, however, one scenario that could possibly play out with the DHS funding bill. The Senate can send the approved bill to the House, at which point the Republicans could offer amendments—which could include removing the funding for Obama's amnesty programs. The bill would then go back to the Senate, for similar votes on amendments.



*But the filibuster cannot be used to block votes on those amendments.* Senate Republicans would then need only 51 votes to pass the legislation. They would *not* need 60 votes to block a filibuster. The approved bill would then go to Obama for his signature. If Obama vetoes the legislation, it would be *him*, not the Republicans, who would be shutting down the Department of Homeland Security. (Whether the Republicans are capable of such a scheme remains to be seen. The Democrats, of course, used a similar process to get ObamaCare passed, avoiding a certain filibuster.)

WashingtonPost.com reports, “The Clinton Foundation accepted millions of dollars from seven foreign governments during Hillary Rodham Clinton’s tenure as secretary of state, including one donation that violated its ethics agreement with the Obama administration, foundation officials disclosed Wednesday. ...In one instance, foundation officials acknowledged they should have sought approval in 2010 from the State Department ethics office, as required by the agreement for new government donors, before accepting a \$500,000 donation from the Algerian government. ...While the foundation has disclosed foreign-government donors for years, it has not previously detailed the donations that were accepted during Clinton’s four-year stint at the State Department. ...[T]he foundation, begun by former president Bill Clinton, has raised nearly \$2 billion since its creation in 2001. Foreign governments and individuals are prohibited from giving money to U.S. political candidates, to prevent outside influence over national leaders. But the foundation has given donors a way to potentially gain favor with the Clintons outside the traditional political limits. In a presidential campaign, Hillary Clinton would be likely to showcase her foreign-policy expertise, yet the foundation’s ongoing reliance on foreign governments’ support opens a potential line of attack for Republicans eager to question her independence as secretary of state and as a possible president.” (Among other donations from foreigners, the Clinton Foundation received more than \$25 million from Oman, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Australia, Saudi Arabia, and Norway.) [72219, 72221, 72363]

It is worth noting Article I, Section 9, Clause 8 of the U.S. Constitution: “No Title of Nobility shall be granted by the United States: And no Person holding any Office of Profit or Trust under them, shall, without the Consent of the Congress, accept of any present, Emolument, Office, or Title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State.” [72468]

If Hillary Clinton were a Republican, her presidential ambitions would now be destroyed. But the mainstream media may give her a pass—unless it decides to push a Democrat further to the political left, such as Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA). Morning Jolt’s Jim Geraghty writes, “No, this woman cannot be president. ...Sorry. This is disqualifying. The Secretary of State cannot take money from foreign governments while allegedly representing our interests in negotiations with that government. It’s bribery... The claim is that all of the money went to good charitable causes. But Algeria could donate to Haitian relief funds, or any other charity, directly. There’s an obvious incentive to give money—even with the allegedly best intentions—to the Clinton Foundation: access and goodwill to the Clintons.”

Obama's National Security Advisor, Susan Rice, says having Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu address Congress in early March is "destructive of the fabric of the relationship" between Israel and the United States. (Some may wonder whether Rice would have objected to British Prime Minister addressing the U.S. Congress during World War II.) "It's always been bipartisan," says Rice. "We need to keep it that way. We want it that way. I think Israel wants it that way. The American people want it that way. And when it becomes injected or infused with politics, that's a problem." (There is nothing "partisan" about Netanyahu addressing Congress about the dangers of a nuclear Iran. What is "partisan" is the Obama administration doing its best to try to cause Netanyahu to lose his upcoming election.) [72160, 72192, 72193, 72344]

Rice is most assuredly acting on an Obama order to criticize Israel and Netanyahu. So is Secretary of State John Kerry, who tells the House Foreign Affairs Committee, "The prime minister was profoundly forward-leaning and outspoken about the importance of invading Iraq under George W. Bush. We all know what happened with that decision." (Of course, then-Senator Kerry voted to approve military action against Saddam Hussein—as did Joe Biden and Hillary Clinton.) U.S.-Israeli relations have soured dramatically because of Obama's hatred for the Jewish state, yet Obama has—up until recently—pretended things were just fine. He has now removed his mask and is trashing Israel and Netanyahu whenever he gets the chance. Obama does not want Netanyahu addressing Congress because he will be speaking about the dangers of a nuclear Iran—just as Obama is nearing a deal that will allow Iran to continue enriching uranium for use in nuclear weapons. Obama is trying to create a "legacy," while Netanyahu is trying to save his country. Obama sees Netanyahu as interfering with his planned legacy. Netanyahu sees Obama as a man more concerned with how he looks in history books than the lives of six million Jews in Israel—and a possible nuclear weapons race in the Middle East. [72160, 72192, 72193, 72196]

TheBlaze.com reports, "Jamiel Shaw, whose son was murdered by an illegal immigrant in 2008, blasted the Obama administration's immigration policies during a House Oversight and Government Reform subcommittee hearing on Wednesday. 'My son, Jamiel Andre Shaw II, was murdered by a DREAMer, a DACA recipient, a child brought to this country by no fault of his own,' Shaw began. 'My family's peace and freedom was stolen by an illegal alien from Mexico. He was brought here by his illegal alien parents and allowed to grow up as a wild animal.' He continued: 'Some people believe that if you are brought over by no fault of your own that it makes you a good person. They want you to believe that DREAM Act kids don't murder. I am here to debunk that myth.' ... 'My son, Jamiel Shaw II, was murdered while walking on his own street, three houses down from his home. An illegal alien on his first gun charge was visiting a neighbor when my son was coming home,' he said. 'He shot my son in the stomach and then in the head, killing him.' 'Do black lives really matter? Or does it matter only if you are shot by a white person or a white policeman?' Shaw asked. He later revealed that the 'illegal alien dreamer that murdered my son only served four months of an eight month sentence for assault with a deadly weapon and battery on a police officer.' 'He was released from the county jail the day before he executed my son. Why was this violent illegal alien allowed

to walk the streets of America instead of being deported?’ he added.” [72167, 72170]

Meanwhile, WashingtonTimes.com reports, “The administration this year hasn’t been able to find enough illegal immigrants to fill the 34,000 detention beds the law requires, as ...Obama’s new policies kick in and agents spend more time and money going after each immigrant they do detain. But even as beds go empty, some illegal immigrants who were set free by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement or approved under Mr. Obama’s 2012 amnesty have gone on to commit horrific crimes, including murder. ...As of Jan. 25, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was averaging only slightly more than 27,000 detainees a day for fiscal year 2015, which began Oct. 1. That means more than 20 percent of its 34,000-bed capacity was going unused so far this year.” The Center for Immigration Studies’ Jessica Vaughan “said the detention beds are a major issue since it means ICE is releasing some illegal immigrants to be out in the community even as they are awaiting deportation, giving them a chance to abscond—and often to commit crimes while out on the streets. Congress has mandated that ICE have an average daily population, or ADP, of 34,000 beds available on any day to hold illegal immigrants, but Ms. Vaughan said the administration has shown an ‘unwillingness’ to follow through on actually keeping them.” [72170]

WND.com reports, “A Washington-based think tank focused on national security has released a dossier on Muslim U.S. Rep. Andre Carson (D-IN), charging his association with radical Islamic groups warrants his removal from the House Intelligence Committee. The Center for Security Policy, in its report, called for a ‘rigorous assessment of the potential risks associated with Rep. Carson’s vulnerabilities to recruitment, blackmail or suborning.’ ...Carson received a \$5,000 campaign contribution in 2008 from the Council on American-Islamic Relations, or CAIR, an unindicted co-conspirator in a terror-financing trial in which the federal judge found ‘ample evidence’ of CAIR’s links to Hamas. Carson received another \$1,000 from CAIR in 2014. Carson, however, has an even larger relationship with another radical group, the Islamic Society of North America, or ISNA, which was listed by the Muslim Brotherhood as a ‘likeminded’ organization that shares the goal of making the U.S. an Islamic nation. The congressman received more than \$30,000 in campaign contributions ‘from individuals associated with CAIR and with the Islamic Society of North America, which was also named an unindicted co-conspirator in the Holy Land Foundation case,’ the Daily Caller reported.” [72195, 72608, 72609]

At a Telemundo-sponsored town hall meeting with an audience full of legal and illegal immigrants, Obama is asked how to keep Immigrations and Customs Enforcement officials from deporting people. Obama replies, “Let me—I-I-I-I-look, the, the bottom line is that if somebody’s working for ICE and there’s a policy and they don’t follow the policy there are gonna [sic; going to] be consequences to it.” (Obama, who refuses to enforce existing immigration laws, has the audacity to warn about the consequences of ICE employees *following the law* rather than his unconstitutional amnesty policy.) Obama also says, “We’re a nation of laws, but we’re also respecting the fact that we’re a nation of immigrants.” (The Media Research Center’s Dan Gainor tweets, “When you say

‘we’re a nation of laws, but,’ you’ve lost the argument and belong in jail.”) The meeting is broadcast on MSNBC—to terrible ratings. *The O’Reilly Factor*, on the Fox News Channel, has more than three times as many viewers as Obama’s event. [72197, 72218, 72223, 72243, 72430]

Obama says, “So in the short term, if Mr. [Mitch] McConnell [R-KY], the leader of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House, John Boehner [R-OH], want to have a vote on whether what I’m doing [with my amnesty plans] is legal or not, they can have that vote. I will veto that vote, because I’m absolutely confident that what we’re doing is the right thing to do. ... What we’ve done is we’ve expanded my authorities under executive action and prosecutorial discretion as far as we can legally under the existing statute, the existing law. And so now the question is, how can we get a law passed.” (On at least 22 occasions, Obama himself argued that he did not have the power to do what he did with his amnesty executive orders. Interestingly, he says “*we’re* doing the right thing”—but there is no “we” involved. He is acting alone, against the will of Congress and the American people.) “So we’re going to have to keep on with the political process on a separate track. But in the meantime, we’re going to do everything that we can to make sure that we implement executive actions as we’ve discussed.” [72249]

On February 26 the Senate Judiciary Committee (apparently fearful of being labeled racists or sexists) votes 12-8 to approve Attorney General nominee Loretta Lynch. The full Senate must still confirm (or reject) her confirmation before she replaces Eric Holder. Republican Senators Orrin Hatch (R-UT), Jeff Flake (R-AZ), and Lindsey Graham (R-SC) vote with the Democrats. (Katie Pavlich reminds Townhall.com readers that during her confirmation hearing, Lynch declared that everyone living in the United States has the right to work—even though the law prohibits businesses from hiring illegal immigrants. Thus, the most powerful law enforcement job in the nation may soon be filled by someone who believes it is acceptable to violate the law.) [72202, 72228, 72314]

WashingtonExaminer.com reports, “The U.S. Treasury Department has rebuffed a request by House Ways and Means Chairman [Congressman] Paul Ryan [R-WI] to explain \$3 billion in payments that were made to health insurers even though Congress never authorized the spending through annual appropriations. At issue are payments to insurers known as cost-sharing subsidies. These payments come about because ... Obama’s healthcare law forces insurers to limit out-of-pocket costs for certain low income individuals by capping consumer expenses, such as deductibles and co-payments, in insurance policies. In exchange for capping these charges, insurers are supposed to receive compensation. What’s tricky is that Congress never authorized any money to make such payments to insurers in its annual appropriations, but the Department of Health and Human Services, with the cooperation of the U.S. Treasury, made them anyway. ... Over the next decade, cost-sharing payments to insurers are projected by the Congressional Budget Office to cost taxpayers nearly \$150 billion.” (The Obama administration asked Congress for the funds, Congress said no, and the administration then paid the insurance companies anyway. HotAir.com reminds readers, “It’s right there

in the Constitution: ‘No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law; and a regular Statement and Account of the Receipts and Expenditures of all public Money shall be published from time to time.’”) [72312, 72313]

The Federal Communications Commission votes 3-2 (three Democrats to two Republicans) to approve Obama’s Internet regulations, which are laughably referred to as “Net Neutrality” rules—and which earned the label “socialism for broadband” from Townhall.com’s Michael Schaus. Outrageously, FCC chairman Tom Wheeler says, “Today is a red letter day for Internet freedom.” The impact of the regulations will not be immediate, but consumers can expect inferior Internet service, the imposition of Internet taxes, and some form of federal censorship over Internet content. Among those thrilled that the FCC passed the regulations is Congressman Keith Ellison (D-MN), a Muslim socialist—who perhaps believes the FCC will outlaw criticism of socialism and Islam. (One of the three Democrats on the commission is Mignon Clyburn, daughter of Congressman James Clyburn (D-SC). According to Cynthia J. Quinn at AmericaC2C.com, Clyburn’s campaign contributors include National Cable & Telecommunications Assn, Honeywell International, Verizon Communications, Google, Inc., AT&T, Microsoft, Time Warner Cable and Comcast.) [72185, 72207, 72212, 72213, 72232, 72234, 72241, 72242, 72244, 72260, 72262, 72275, 72298, 72315, 72320, 72322, 72338, 72351]

Author Brad Thor tweets, “So, the same administration that can’t build a web site, just took over the Internet...” [72214]

Pamela Geller posts a letter from one outraged reader: “As an attorney, I’m dumbfounded by the fact that the Federal Administrative Rules are not being followed. Any Agency [including the FCC] is obligated to publish proposed Rules and hold publicized hearings regarding those Rules where testimony for and against is given and recorded. Yet, we find ‘secret’ rules being adopted without those requirements being fulfilled. Not only the FCC but other agencies as well. Where’s the outrage? It doesn’t take the DOJ to stop this. Any citizen or group can file suit to block this malfeasance. I would but can’t afford the expense. Where’s the conservative groups that constantly whine about this stuff but do nothing about it?” [72261]

Congresswoman Marsha Blackburn (R-TN), vice chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, remarks, “This is the day the ObamaNet was born. The Internet is not broken. It does not need the FCC’s help and assistance in order to be productive or profitable. ...The FCC will now reclassify broadband services from an information service to a telecommunications service. They will do this under a 1930s-era law, the Telecommunications Act. They will thereby subject the Internet to taxes, regulation, international considerations that are now put on our wire-lined phones. So this is a step backward; it is not a step forward. ...It’s a sad day when you see the Federal Communications Commission coming in and preceding your Internet service provider, your ISP, in the governance of the Internet. Basically, what you’re going to see is the FCC will now be able to assign priority and value to content because they will be in

charge of controlling pricing and fees. ...[A]t this point, I think it's 'pick a number,' but everybody agrees the cost is going to go up because of taxes and fees. ...Whether it is packaging and pricing or the availability of broadband, you now have given the control over this to the FCC to decide what areas of the country get what speeds, what type of businesses get access to what speeds. It allows the FCC to now begin picking winners and losers." [72338]

Michael E. Glover, Verizon senior vice president, public and government policy affairs, states, "Today's decision by the FCC to encumber broadband Internet services with badly antiquated regulations is a radical step that presages a time of uncertainty for consumers, innovators and investors. Over the past two decades a bipartisan, light-touch policy approach unleashed unprecedented investment and enabled the broadband Internet age consumers now enjoy. The FCC today chose to change the way the commercial Internet has operated since its creation. Changing a platform that has been so successful should be done, if at all, only after careful policy analysis, full transparency, and by the legislature, which is constitutionally charged with determining policy. As a result, it is likely that history will judge today's action as misguided. The FCC's move is especially regrettable because it is wholly unnecessary. The FCC had targeted tools available to preserve an open Internet, but instead chose to use this order as an excuse to adopt 300-plus pages of broad and open-ended regulatory arcana that will have unintended negative consequences for consumers and various parts of the Internet ecosystem for years to come. What has been and will remain constant before, during and after the existence of any regulations is Verizon's commitment to an open Internet that provides consumers with competitive broadband choices and Internet access when, where, and how they want." [72269, 72270]

The three-day 2015 Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC) begins. Speakers will include former Hewlett-Packard CEO Carly Fiorina, Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX), former Senator Rick Santorum, Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal, former Alaska Governor Sarah Palin, New Jersey Governor Chris Christie, Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker, Senator Rand Paul (R-KY), Indiana Governor Mike Pence, former Florida Governor Jeb Bush, Senator Tim Scott (R-SC), Senator Rand Paul (R-KY), Dr. Ben Carson, former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations John Bolton, Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL), former Texas Governor Rick Perry, conservative activist Matt Schlapp, Congresswoman Marsha Blackburn (R-TN), real estate magnate Donald Trump, former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs K. T. McFarland, Media Research Center founder Brent Bozell, and talk show hosts Laura Ingraham, Sean Hannity, and Mark Levin. [72204, 72271]

At CPAC, Bobby Jindal calls for the repeal of "every single word of ObamaCare" and the removal of Common Core materials "from every classroom." He also says, "Obama has disqualified himself as capable of being our commander in chief," and "We need a war on the evil that is radical Islamic terrorism." Sarah Palin delivers a well-received speech about the treatment of veterans, and says, "Just because one guy at the top [of the Veterans Administration] resigned doesn't mean that the problems resigned." Scott Walker delivers his remarks without a Teleprompter. They include, "Independence from

the government, not dependence on the government. *That's the American way!*" When an opponent of "right to work" laws heckles him from the audience, Walker receives a standing ovation when he responds that protester voices cannot drown out those who stand up for hard-working Americans. Ted Cruz tells the audience, "We could have had Hillary here, but we couldn't find a foreign nation to foot the bill." Marco Rubio quips, "Imagine if we had a president that [sic; who] wasn't bad-mouthing us abroad—after all that's the U.N.'s job." [72209, 72210, 72211, 72215, 72237, 72271, 72272, 72303, 72305, 72308]

Carly Fiorina slams Hillary Clinton, saying, "Like Mrs. Clinton, I too have traveled the globe. Unlike Mrs. Clinton, I know that flying is an activity, not an accomplishment. Mrs. Clinton, name an accomplishment. And in the meantime, please explain why we should accept that the millions and millions of dollars that have flowed into the Clinton Foundation from foreign governments don't represent a conflict of interest. ...I have met Vladimir Putin, and I know that his ambition will not be deterred by a gimmicky red reset button." Hillary Clinton "tweets about women's rights in this country and takes money from governments that deny women the most basic human rights. She tweets about equal pay for women but won't answer basic questions about her own offices' pay standards—and neither will [Obama]. Hillary likes hashtags. But she doesn't know what leadership means." With regard to Israel, Fiorina says, "I know [Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin] Netanyahu. As I sat in his office five years ago, he spoke then of the dangers posed by Iran. He travels here next week not to offend [Obama], but to warn the American people that [Obama's] insistence on a deal with Iran at all costs is a danger to the world." [72271, 72289, 72363]

Fiorina also delivers an impressive foreign policy address in which she bluntly describes the danger of Russian president Vladimir Putin. Fiorina says, "The Obama administration has, far too successfully, unfortunately, presented this narrative that says, 'If you don't want boots on the ground there is nothing we can do.' It's either boots on the ground or nothing. And of course that's silly, there are many things we could be doing besides putting boots on the ground..." [72752]

Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) tells reporters, "The next 20 months are going to be very dangerous. They are going to be dangerous at home. ...Obama has reacted to this last election in a way that's unprecedented. You know, prior presidents have been repudiated [and] they've reacted with contrition. ...Obama, instead, reacted with anger and defiance. I believe the next 20 months we are going to see a degree of lawlessness that will exceed anything we've seen in the previous six years. I think we're going to see executive order after executive order. I think we're going to see the abuse of regulations in a way that crushes small businesses, destroys jobs. I think we are going to see the continued weaponization of the IRS in the federal government, and it is going to be dangerous. ...And I'll tell you, as dangerous as it's going to be at home, it's going to be even more dangerous abroad. Every bad actor on the face of the globe, from Putin to Khomeini in Iran to ISIS, has every incentive possible to do as much damage as they can in [the next] 20 months... [because] the tyrants of the world believe there is no credible threat or

deterrent from [Obama].” [72273]

According to ThePostEmail.com, during a CPAC interview, Fox News’ Sean Hannity asks Cruz, “Alright, I want to warn everybody. I am asking this question because I know the liberal media will. So [I] might as well get it out of the way for them. That’s my job; I get paid to do that.” Cruz quips, “No, I have not stopped beating my wife.” Hannity: “Okay, your mother was an American citizen, you talked about your dad coming from Cuba. You were born in Canada. You had dual citizenship. There are a bunch of liberal ‘birthers’ out there that [sic; who] would try to make the case that you’re not eligible. Just a quick, short answer.” Cruz: Look, I was born in Calgary [, Canada], my mother was an American citizen by birth. Under federal law, that made me an American citizen by birth. The Constitution requires that you be a natural born citizen.” (Hannity probably knows that Cruz is not a natural born citizen—which historically has meant birth on U.S. soil to two U.S. citizen parents—but having covered for Obama for years he can hardly be expected to be forthright now. Interestingly, Cruz makes truthful statements, while avoiding the issue. It is correct that his mother was a U.S. citizen. It is correct that he was a U.S. citizen by birth—but it is also correct that he was born with dual citizenship. It is correct that the Constitution requires that presidents be natural born citizens, *but Cruz does not actually claim that he is a natural born citizen*. He claims only that he is an American citizen—which is *not* the same thing. It is like stating, “I am a plant” and “All presidents must be trees.” Even if both statements were true, they do *not* mean, “I am a tree.” Just as all trees are plants, but not all plants are trees, all natural born citizens are citizens but not all citizens are natural born citizens. *If they meant the same thing there would be no need for two terms.*) [72356]

One day after Secretary of State John Kerry declared the world is the safest it has been in the last 100 years, Director of National Intelligence James Clapper addresses the Senate Armed Services Committee and says, “When the final accounting is done, 2014 will have been the most lethal year for global terrorism in the 45 years such data has been compiled.” (In June 2014 Obama said, “The world is less violent than it has ever been.” At Townhall.com Katie Pavlich notes, “According to an NBC/WSJ survey released in September 2014, 47 percent of Americans now feel less safe than they did before 9/11.”) [72204, 72205]

“Jihadi John,” the name given to the masked man who has appeared in several hostage beheading videos, is identified. WashingtonPost.com reports, “[H]is real name, according to friends and others familiar with his case, is Mohammed Emwazi, a Briton from a well-to-do family who grew up in West London and graduated from college with a degree in computer programming. He is believed to have traveled to Syria around 2012 and to have later joined the Islamic State, the group whose barbarity he has come to symbolize. ...The Kuwaiti-born Emwazi, in his mid-20s, appears to have left little trail on social media or elsewhere online. Those who knew him say he was polite and had a penchant for wearing stylish clothes while adhering to the tenets of his Islamic faith. He had a beard and was mindful of making eye contact with women, friends said. He was raised in a middle-class neighborhood in London and on occasion prayed at a mosque in



Greenwich.” (Whether the State Department’s Marie Harf believes a better job in England might have prompted Emwazi to remain part of the civilized world is not known.) [72206, 72224, 72253, 72263, 72264, 72513]

Asim Qureshi, a Brit who says he knew Mohammed Emwazi, tells reporters the ISIS terrorist was “extremely kind, extremely gentle, extremely soft-spoken. [He] was the most humble young person that [sic; who] I, I knew.” Qureshi claims Emwazi is “beautiful” and “wouldn’t hurt a fly.” “When are we going to finally learn that when we treat people as if they’re outsiders, they are going to feel like outsiders and they will look for belonging elsewhere.” as if they’re outsiders, they are going to feel like outsiders and they will look for belonging elsewhere.” (Large numbers of Muslims refuse to integrate and assimilate into the cultures of the Europeans nations where they live, and Qureshi blames the Europeans for treating them, like outsiders. But to the extent they are treated like outsiders it is largely because they *act* like outsiders.) Qureshi is no more gentle than Emwazi. In a 2006 video taken at an Islamist rally, Qureshi said, “When we see the example of our brothers and sisters fighting in Chechnya, Iraq, Palestine, Kashmir, Afghanistan, then we know where the example lies. When we see Hezbollah defeating the armies of Israel, we know where the solution is and where the victory lies. We know that it is incumbent upon all of us, to support the jihad of our brothers and sisters in these countries when they are facing the oppression of the West.” (Although Qureshi may not have done any beheading himself, he apparently supports the tactic.) [72253, 72390, 72391, 72447]

In Bangladesh, writer Avijit Roy, a naturalized U.S. citizen who opposed radical Islam, is hacked to death. His wife is injured by the attackers—who some might presume to be Muslims. [72208, 72254]

Tax scofflaw Al Sharpton visits the White House—again—this time for an African American History Month reception. Obama says, “Today, on the third anniversary of Trayvon Martin’s death, showing all of our kids—all of them—every single day that their lives matter, that’s part of our task.” [72216, 72309, 72319]

CNSNews.com asks Secretary of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson, “A federal court in Texas v. United States has said giving an illegal alien a Social Security Number is not an act of prosecutorial discretion. What specific law gives [Obama] the authority to give a Social Security Number to a foreign national in the country illegally?” Johnson, not having a responsive answer, says, “Well, that’s a case that’s on appeal right now. We disagree with the district court’s decision but that’s what appellate courts are for. We’ve appealed the decision. We’re asking for a stay of the injunction. We went to the district judge first and the matter will be resolved in a few days. So that’s in litigation. I believe that the injunction will be reversed in a matter of time.” [72307]

In a unanimous vote, the Senate passes a resolution endorsing Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu’s upcoming visit to Congress for a speech about the dangers of a nuclear Iran—even though some Democrats plan on boycotting the address. Senator John

Cornyn (R-TX) states, “During this time of such great instability and danger in the Middle East, the United States should be unequivocal about our commitment to one of our closest and most important allies. I hope all my colleagues will join me in welcoming Prime Minister Netanyahu to Washington so we can continue to work together to advance our common security interests.” [72321, 72372]

WashingtonExaminer.com writes, “It’s starting. As promised, ...Obama is using executive actions to impose gun control on the nation, targeting the top-selling rifle in the country, the AR-15 style semi-automatic, with a ban on one of the most-used AR bullets by sportsmen and target shooters. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives this month revealed that it is proposing to put the ban on 5.56 mm ammo on a fast track, immediately driving up the price of the bullets and prompting retailers, including the huge outdoors company Cabela’s, to urge sportsmen to urge Congress to stop [Obama].” Chris W. Cox, executive director of the NRA-ILA, states, “The Obama administration was unable to ban America’s most popular sporting rifle through the legislative process, so now it’s trying to ban commonly owned and used ammunition through regulation.” [72231, 72267, 72299, 72304]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, “The IRS’s inspector general confirmed Thursday it is conducting a criminal investigation into how Lois G. Lerner’s emails disappeared, saying it took only two weeks for investigators to find hundreds of tapes the agency’s chief had told Congress were irretrievably destroyed. Investigators have already scoured 744 backup tapes and gleaned 32,774 unique emails, but just two weeks ago they found an additional 424 tapes that could contain even more Lerner emails, Deputy Inspector General Timothy P. Camus told the House Oversight Committee in a rare late-night hearing meant to look into the status of the investigation. ‘There is potential criminal activity,’ Mr. Camus said. ... ‘To date we have found 32,744 unique emails that were backed up from Lois Lerner’s email box. We are in the process of comparing these emails to what the IRS has already produced to Congress to determine if we did in fact recover any new emails,’ Mr. Camus said.” (IRS commissioner John Koskinen lied when he told Congress that Lerner’s emails had been destroyed and were not recoverable. In fact, notes DailyCaller.com, “nobody at the IRS even asked for Lerner’s backup email tapes from the people in New Martinsville, West Virginia who had them.” One email from Lerner to fellow IRS employees David Fish and Nikole Flax, dated June 29, 2011, reads, “No one will ever believe that both your hard drive and mine crashed within a week of each other.”) [72233, 72268, 72276, 72301, 72311]

WND.com reports, “State Department emails released through a lawsuit by Judicial Watch show then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton knew while the Sept. 11, 2012, attack on the U.S. compound in Benghazi was under way that it was being carried out by terrorists. Clinton blamed the attack on ‘rage and violence over an awful Internet video’ when she spoke at a ceremony at Andrews Air Force Base on Sept. 14, 2014, as the remains of the four Americans, including Ambassador Christopher Stevens, were returned to the United States. The emails were made public Thursday by the Washington, D.C., legal watchdog group. ‘These emails leave no doubt that Hillary Clinton’s closest

advisers knew the truth about the Benghazi attack from almost the moment it happened,’ said Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton. ‘And it is inescapable that Secretary of State Hillary Clinton knowingly lied when she planted the false story about ‘inflammatory’ material being posted on the Internet,’ Fitton said. He said the ‘contempt for the public’s right to know is evidenced not only in these documents, but also in the fact that we had to file a lawsuit in federal court to obtain them.’ ‘The Obama gang’s cover-up continues to unravel, despite its unlawful secrecy and continued slow-rolling of information,’ Fitton said. ‘Congress, if it ever decides to do its job, cannot act soon enough to put Hillary Clinton, [Clinton chief of staff] Cheryl Mills and every other official in these emails under oath.’” [72235, 72236, 72318]

At 1776Channel.com Alan Jones writes, “Hawaii State Registrar of Vital Statistics Alvin Takashi Onaka Ph.D. and Eleanor C. Nordyke, the woman who claimed to have been in a Honolulu maternity ward pregnant with twin daughters on the same evening Stanley Ann Dunham was there and said that she could recall the exact moment Barack Obama was born, are both connected to a U.S. government eugenics think tank at the East-West Center, an institution tied to the Obama family for over 50 years. The pair are both published demography researchers. Dr. Onaka and Nordyke have been connected since the 1970s with the East-West Population Institute, the eugenics think tank at the East-West Center. Nordyke is connected to Dunham through the East-West Center. ‘Nordyke was a population research fellow at the East-West Center while Dunham was there. And Nordyke later met Madelyn Dunham—Ann Dunham’s mother and Obama’s grandmother—during a cruise to Tahiti in 2002’ reported the Honolulu Advertiser. Dr. Onaka... 68, is not only the Hawaii state registrar: He is also a former US Department of State/USAID official. While at USAID in the 1970s Dr. Onaka managed the Ford Foundation-funded POPLAB population and census programs which were administered in Indonesia, Kenya and several other developing nations.” [72239, 72332, 72333, 72499]

“...Dr. Onaka is the only Hawaii Department of Health official reported to have access to a dual combination-key lock safe inside the Hawaii Department of Health vault that allegedly holds ...Obama’s original birth records. ...The connection between Dr. Onaka and Nordyke by way of their shared interest in eugenics research and the ties both had during the 1970s to the East-West Population Institute is startling. It exponentially increases the probability that conspiracy and collusion was perpetrated in order to effect a Hawaii Department of Health Barack Obama birth records cover-up. ...Eleanor Nordyke died on January 17, 2014 at the age of 86. The East-West Center, also known as the Center for Cultural and Technical Interchange Between East and West, is located in Honolulu adjacent to the University of Hawaii at Manoa campus. The Center was established by the U.S. government in 1960 as an Asian-Pacific cultural and educational exchange. Since the time of its founding, The East-West Center has maintained deep connections with the U.S. Department of State. The original campus building construction was funded with nearly \$10 million that was allocated through the Department of State Appropriation Act of 1961. ...Dr. Jerome Corsi, author of ‘Where’s the Birth Certificate? The Case that Barack Obama is not Eligible to be President,’ published an article at WND highlighting a numerical discrepancy visible in the images

of the Nordyke ‘Certificates of Live Birth’ which were published by the Honolulu Advertiser. ‘A close examination of the birth certificates issued by Kapi’olani to the Nordyke twins shows the registration number precedes the number given Obama, even though [Obama] was born a day earlier’ Dr. Corsi noted. ...Nordyke also founded Planned Parenthood of Hawaii in the 1970s.” [72239, 72332, 72333]

“...According to Frank Scotton, an alumnus of American University’s College of International Relations and a former recipient of an East-West Center University of Hawaii graduate assistantship, the East-West Center was sponsored by the CIA. ‘It was a cover for a training program in which Southeast Asians were brought to Hawaii and trained to go back to Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos to create agent nets.’ Scotton is quoted as saying in the book ‘The Phoenix Program,’ by Douglas Valentine. ...Former US Navy Lieutenant and NSA contractor Wayne Madsen has written extensively about Ann Dunham Soetoro, who worked in remote villages in Indonesia, theorizing that she used a number of CIA non-officials and official covers, including positions at USAID, a posting as a Ford Foundation officer, and her fellowship at the East-West Center. This theory remains difficult to prove without access to classified CIA personnel records which routinely remain top secret even after death to protect the larger network of officers and assets. ...Wayne Madsen believes that Stanley Ann Dunham and [her second husband] Lolo Soetoro provided CIA assistance to the Suharto regime [in Indonesia]. The move by Ann Dunham, Lolo Soetoro and young Barack Obama to Indonesia came shortly after the Indonesian killings of 1965-66, an anti-communist purge that left over half a million people dead, following a failed military coup on October 1, 1965, the downfall of President Sukarno and the installation of his replacement President Suharto, one of Sukarno’s generals. It remains unclear if USAID provided cover for CIA activities in Indonesia.” [72239, 72332, 72333]

Outgoing Attorney General Eric “nation of cowards” Holder is interviewed by Politico.com, CNN, ABC, CBS, and NBC—but refuses to be interviewed by Fox News. (*Media Buzz* host Howard Kurtz asks, “Is the nation’s top law enforcement officer really afraid of [Fox News’] Bret Baer?”) Holder whines to Politico that it is too difficult to indict people on charges of civil rights violations: “I think some serious consideration needs to be given to the standard of proof that has to be met before federal involvement is appropriate, and that’s something that I am going to be talking about before I leave office.” (In other words, “I wanted to nail the police officer who shot Michael Brown and I wanted to nail George Zimmerman for shooting Trayvon Martin, but the law regrettably requires evidence.”) To further prove that his every waking thought is linked to race, Holder also suggests every American should read *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*. [72325, 72353, 72429]

In *The Washington Post*, Charles Krauthammer writes, “The news from the nuclear talks with Iran was already troubling. Iran was being granted the ‘right to enrich.’ It would be allowed to retain and spin thousands of centrifuges. It could continue construction of the Arak plutonium reactor. Yet so thoroughly was Iran stonewalling International Atomic Energy Agency inspectors that just last Thursday the IAEA reported its concern ‘about

the possible existence in Iran of undisclosed ...development of a nuclear payload for a missile.’ Bad enough. Then it got worse: News leaked Monday of the elements of a ‘sunset clause.’ ...Obama had accepted the Iranian demand that any restrictions on its program be time-limited. After which, the mullahs can crank up their nuclear program at will and produce as much enriched uranium as they want. Sanctions lifted. Restrictions gone. Nuclear development legitimized. Iran would reenter the international community, as Obama suggested in an interview in December, as ‘a very successful regional power.’ A few years... of good behavior and Iran would be home free. The agreement thus would provide a predictable path to an Iranian bomb. Indeed, a flourishing path, with trade resumed, oil pumping and foreign investment pouring into a restored economy.” [72240]

“Meanwhile, Iran’s intercontinental ballistic missile program is subject to no restrictions at all. It’s not even part of these negotiations. Why is Iran building them? You don’t build ICBMs in order to deliver sticks of dynamite. Their only purpose is to carry nuclear warheads. Nor does Iran need an ICBM to hit Riyadh or Tel Aviv. Intercontinental missiles are for reaching, well, other continents. North America, for example. ...True, there are no good choices, but Obama’s prospective deal is the worst possible. Not only does Iran get a clear path to the bomb but it gets sanctions lifted, all pressure removed and international legitimacy. There is a third choice [other than appeasement or war]. If you are not stopping Iran’s program, don’t give away the store. Keep the pressure, keep the sanctions. Indeed, increase them. After all, previous sanctions brought Iran to its knees and to the negotiating table in the first place. And that was before the collapse of oil prices, which would now vastly magnify the economic effect of heightened sanctions. ...We are on the cusp of an epic capitulation. History will not be kind.” [72240]

Radio talk show host Mark Levin interviews WCBM’s Sue Payne, who—without White House knowledge—listened in on three Obama administration conference calls related to Obama’s November 21, 2014 memorandum “Creating Welcoming Communities and Fully Integrating Immigrants and Refugees” and a “task force” to advance Obama’s illegal immigrant amnesty scheme. Payne later writes, “During the three listening sessions, it was disclosed that representatives of the White House and all cabinet members as well as immigrant groups would share information... Some of the information exchanged was: Immigrants should be viewed as seedlings to be planted in fertile soil to grow. The fertile soil was equated to the ‘receiving communities’ which would be those communities the illegal aliens are now living in, but once out of the shadows, these communities become welcoming or receiving communities. Others commented that these same communities would be viewed as ‘emergent immigrant communities.’ As a listener on the call, it was easy to logically see how these communities would welcome immigrants out of the shadows, but also, it could be construed that the host community members might well be relegated into the shadows. In essence, the seedlings consume the host and what was once the original community is transformed.” [72348, 72349, 72350, 72382, 72433]

“One comment cautioned against assuming these ‘New Americans’ would want to assimilate. The interest was in navigation, not assimilation, and the navigation was

through the system, focused on [immigrants obtaining government] benefits. Another commented that not all the New Americans would want work permits; rather many of the immigrant women wanted to be home with their children and not work, provided taxpayer benefits [are] secured for them and their children. Another suggestion indicated that the Task Force consider these New Americans as refugees or asylum seekers, and as such considered for cash, medical, educational, and housing benefits. This wave of New Americans will include many elderly and these older and unskilled immigrants need help to age successfully, i.e. getting into Social Security benefits as soon as possible. In closing, there was a suggestion that another Executive Order declaring Thanksgiving be renamed Celebrate Immigrants Day.” [72348, 72349, 72350, 72382, 72433]

February 27 marks the 22nd anniversary of the bombing of the World Trade Center, which caused the death of six and injured more than one thousand. History.com notes, “At the time, it was one of the worst terrorist attacks ever to occur on U.S. soil. But it would soon be overshadowed by the events of September 11, 2001, when Al Qaeda operatives crashed hijacked airplanes into the towers and brought them down.” [72247, 72248]

Radio talk show host Peter Boyles interviews retired Lieutenant Colonel Terry Lakin, who was imprisoned for questioning Obama’s eligibility to serve as commander-in-chief. ThePostEmail.com’s Sharon Rondeau writes, “Lakin said his refusal to deploy a second time to Afghanistan was made after he had questioned his military commanders in writing about Obama’s eligibility, and, receiving no response, then went to members of Congress. ‘I met with them; I said, ‘I don’t know who my commander-in-chief is,’ and the answers I got were, ‘We don’t either; the media never went over this and we don’t know what to do about it.’” At is court martial, “...Lakin was not allowed to present a defense or obtain discovery on Obama after Col. Denise Lind stated that the release id Obama’s birth certificate could be an embarrassment’ to Obama.” [72355]

Townhall.com reports, “House and Senate Budget Committee Chairmen Tom Price (R-GA) and Mike Enzi (R-WY) announced today that Mercatus Center Senior Fellow Keith Hall will be the next director of the Congressional Budget Office. Hall, who was appointed to be commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics by President Bush, will replace the current director Doug Elmendorf, who served at the left-leaning Brookings Institution before coming to CBO.” [72279]

Russian opposition leader and critic of Vladimir Putin, Boris Nemtsov, is shot and killed. (Nemtsov had expressed fears that Vladimir Putin would have him killed, but there is no evidence that Putin was responsible. Some suspect a “CIA false flag operation.” Whose purpose Nemtsov’s death serves is not clear. He is a minor political figure who lost an election, and his political party has little support.) [72280, 72286, 72331, 72334, 72392]

To the surprise of absolutely no one, Obama marks the death of *Star Trek* actor Leonard Nimoy by tweeting a picture of himself, with the caption, “The spirit of Spock will live long and prosper.” [72281, 72282]

Obama tears up at another ceremony for departing Attorney General Eric Holder, who Obama calls “one of our finest.” Guests at the event include singer Aretha Franklin. [72370, 72371, 72381]

At CPAC, a substantial number of people in the audience get up and leave as Jeb Bush speaks. (The exodus would have been greater had Bush not bused in supporters.) [72283, 72290, 72316, 72326, 72329, 72330, 72354]

The American Conservative Union’s Mark Levin addresses CPAC: “Let me say this to you, Mr. Obama. You may have a pen and you may have a phone—no doubt an ObamaPhone—but we have the Constitution of the United States. And *we*, not you, we own that Constitution, we own this country, and you, Mr. Obama, do not have any legitimate authority to fundamentally transform what does not belong to you. ...Mr. Obama, you have violated the separation of powers, which is the core of our constitutional system, to empower yourself and impose your radical agenda by fiat and regulation, in defiance of free elections, and against the will of the people. Mr. Obama, you have seized unto yourself legislative power granted to Congress alone, by ignoring laws, rewriting laws, and making laws, and then boasting about your usurpations. Mr. Obama, you have unilaterally appropriated monies to fund your radical agenda, in violation of Congress’ power of the purse. Mr. Obama, you have contravened Congress’ authority over immigration and naturalization, eviscerating existing immigration laws and American sovereignty, endangering the well-being of the American people, in blatant pursuit of self-serving political agendas. And may I add here, we are not a nation of immigrants, we are a nation of citizens.” [72358, 72364]

“Mr. Obama, you repeatedly defied the Senate’s confirmation power over your appointments, requiring intervention by the Supreme Court to stop you. Mr. Obama, in coordination with the previous Senate Majority Leader, you have poisoned the independence of the judiciary, by appointing scores of radical activists, to lifetime judicial appointments, at the district and circuit court levels, to ensure your unconstitutional actions are everlasting. Mr. Obama, you have repeatedly evaded the Senate’s role in the adoption of treaties, which require two-thirds approval, by refusing to submit such arrangements for consideration, calling them executive agreements. Mr. Obama, you show nothing but contempt for the Bill of Rights, including the First, Second, Fourth, Fifth, Ninth, and Tenth Amendments. Mr. Obama, you’ve shown nothing but contempt for private property and free market capitalism, evidenced by, among other things, your nationalizing the Internet, the banks, the student loan industry, without any constitutional authority. Mr. Obama, you have nationalized and destroyed the greatest private health care system on the face of the earth, to the great detriment of tens of millions of American citizens. Mr. Obama, you have recklessly destroyed the fiscal well-being of this nation with wild spending schemes, driving up the federal operating debt to \$18.5 trillion, and unfunded liabilities to over \$100 trillion, thereby threatening the liberty and prosperity of future generations, and the survivability of this country.” [72358, 72364]

“Mr. Obama, you have directed federal departments and agencies, such as the EPA, to unleash thousands of regulations, which you concealed until after both of your presidential elections, which have driven millions of Americans out of work, shuttered thousands of businesses, and you have pursued economic policies that have driven the median of Americans down, and forced millions of people onto food stamps, Medicaid, and disability insurance. Mr. Obama, you’ve used the office of the presidency in language and actions to divide and Balkanize the American people on race, gender, age and income, and excite jealousies, animosities, and hatred for political advantage. Mr. Obama, while massively increasing domestic spending, you have shown contempt in pursuit of policies which undermine our military personnel and readiness, and the security of this nation. And Mr. Obama, you have failed to take the necessary effective steps to confront Islamic Nazism and increasingly belligerent regimes in communist China and fascist Russia, and you have undermined our friend Israel to the detriment of our security... while appeas[ing] our enemy in Iran. Now, there’s a lot more, but my time is limited—I need a few minutes for the Republicans.” [72358, 72364]

“...I’m not running for office; I don’t have to put smiley faces on tyranny, and in the face of this growing tyranny, is it too much to ask the Republican Party, its leaders, its chairman, its operatives, and its consultants to defend us, defend the Constitution, and the republic? Is it too much to ask the Republican Party to embrace conservatism, Reaganism, capitalism, and constitutionalism? Is it too much to ask the Republican Party to reject crony capitalists and the statist media? Is it too much to ask the Republican Party to offer an alternative to big, centralized, iron-fisted government? It’s time to remove the old pols and bring in the patriots. No more excuses, no more whining, no more lying to the electorate to get elected, no more crony deals with the U.S. Chamber of Crony Capitalism [the Chamber of Commerce]—it’s time to represent the people. Ronald Reagan spoke at CPAC several times. In fact, CPAC was founded to promote Reagan and his presidency... President Reagan was not accepted by the GOP establishment. ...In fact, Reagan was opposed by a prominent family [the Bush family] who seeks to occupy the White House a third time. The only dynasty I like is the *Duck Dynasty*. Reagan was an outsider, and he argued in front of CPAC, for a new Republican Party. He saw that the establishment had lost its way, that it was not connecting with the American people, that it could not be counted on to promote and defend our fundamental principles. He took on a sitting Republican president of the United States and the establishment was furious. ...In fact, George Will referred to the conservatives who backed Ronald Reagan as kamikazes. Well, George, the kamikazes are back.” [72358, 72364]

“...The Republicans said if we gave them the Senate, along with the House, they’ll do great things. They’ve done nothing. They do their fan dances; they think we’re entertained by them. We’re not. Obama, and the loathsome Harry Reid, run circles around them. Harry Reid, one of the most despicable, dumbest men ever to be leader of the Senate, running circles around the Republicans. That’s what happens when you have no principles, no strategy, and no guts. It’s time for the Republican Party to reinvent itself. ...A conservative party, a party that offers the American people and stands for individual liberty. A party that stands for family and community. A party that stands for



growth, success, and opportunity. A party that stands for security—national security and border security. A party that stands for the rule of law, and not the rule of men. A party that takes the Constitution, including the Bill of Rights, seriously. A party that takes our principles and message to the American people.” [72358, 72364]

Also at CPAC, former Texas Governor Rick Perry tells the crowd, “We survived a civil war, two world wars, the great depression and Jimmy Carter. We will survive Barack Obama!” Ben Carson says, “I’m not interested in getting rid of the [welfare] safety net; I’m interested in getting rid of dependency.” Republican National Committee chairman Reince Priebus tells reporters, “I don’t know how Hillary Clinton is going to take a 3 a.m. call from a leader in Yemen or Algeria or Saudi Arabia when she was willing to have her foundation take potentially millions of dollars from those governments.” New Jersey Governor Chris Christie tells the audience he was going to give up *The New York Times* for Lent, but his priest told him he has to give up something he would actually miss. [72284, 72289]

Donald Trump tells his CPAC audience, “Hillary Clinton wanted to see Obama’s birth certificate [in 2007]; she was the first ‘birther.’ Then [John] McCain tried really hard and really viciously to get Obama’s birth certificate. I’m not a sitting senator, not a sitting anything—I’m a good businessman—but I was able to get the White House to produce Obama’s birth certificate. John McCain failed. Couldn’t get it. But Trump comes along and said ‘birth certificate’ and Obama gave the birth certificate. ...So, Hillary Clinton wanted to see Obama’s birth certificate, John McCain wanted it and I wanted it. Obama didn’t produce the birth certificate for them, but he did it for me. I certainly wanted it. Now all we have to do is find out whether or not it is real.” Trump calls Obama “incompetent,” and then jumps from topic to topic, saying, “I guarantee you that Congress will continue to spend, even though ...Obama broke the law declaring amnesty. We’re going to have people flooding into this country worse than it’s ever been. They’re coming across the borders now by the thousands and it’s only going to get worse. ...The Republicans are going to have to toughen up. Republicans are going to have to toughen up on the IRS, on Benghazi, on immigration, on ObamaCare—a total lie and a total and complete disaster. ...Nobody would be tougher on ISIS than me. ...You have to hit ISIS hard, and you have to hit them now. But instead, [we] take [deserter Bowe] Bergdahl, we made a deal for five terrorists who are out there right now trying to kill us. ...We need strong borders. We need a wall. I can tell you that if I run for president, the king of building buildings, the king of building walls, will build a wall on the border. That I can assure you. We will have an executive order. We have to knock it out fast. ...Common Core is bad, but the Second Amendment is good. Now Obama is going to take away the bullets. They can’t get the guns, so now they’re going to take away the bullets. ...I came down very hard on Mitt Romney because he let us down; he really let us down. That should have been an election that was won. That was an easy election to win, probably easier than the next one in 2016.” [72327]

Commenting on the revelation that the Clinton Foundation took money from foreign governments while Hillary Clinton was Secretary of State (including \$500,000 from

Algeria in 2010), former House Speaker Newt Gingrich tells CPAC attendees, “The Clinton Foundation is going to have to lay out every foreign dollar they’ve gotten—period. As a historian and former Speaker of the House, I really am worried that our news media is incapable of distinguishing trivia from national security. This isn’t just one of those standard political stories. This isn’t just ‘gotcha.’ This is a mortal threat to the freedom of the United States, the integrity of the American system, our capacity of protect ourselves, our ability to have an honest conversation.” [72328, 72337, 72363]

ISIS releases video showing a gay man being thrown off a roof and then being stoned to death. DailyMail.com reports, “Following a trial in an Islamic State court, the man was taken to the roof of the building and thrown to his death in front a large crowd below. The horrific act was carried out in Tel Abiad in the Islamic State capital of Raqqa in Syria. he man is described as a ‘child of Lot’ and accused of committing acts of sodomy.” ISIS also reportedly kills 15 of the Christians it abducted in northeastern Syria, and beheads a woman. [72341, 72342]

Senior Iranian cleric Ali Shirazi states, “we will raise the flag of Islam over the White House.” (Pamela Geller writes, “They keep telling us over and over what they mean to do. Why doesn’t anyone in the hallowed halls of DC and the European capitals believe them?”) [72375, 72376, 72714, 72715]

By a vote of 68-31, the Senate passes legislation funding the Department of Homeland Security through the end of September with no provisions blocking Obama’s amnesty programs.

The Senate fails to advance legislation from Senator Susan Collins (R-ME) that would overturn Obama’s illegal immigration schemes.

Senator Jeff Sessions (R-AL) states, “We cannot let this Congress go down in the history books as the Congress that established a new precedent that we will fund any imperial decree that violates established American laws. Is this to be the new normal? Congress must provide [a] president with the funds he wants, for any project he dreams up, no matter how illegal and unconstitutional? Is the power of the purse now a historical concept, never to be used again when it is needed most? There is no more basic application of congressional power than to establish where funds may and may not be spent; indeed, that is the very definition of an appropriations bill. And there could never be a more important time to exercise such a power than when our Republican heritage itself is at stake. ...I cannot vote for any legislation that funds this illegal amnesty. There must be a line in the sand, a moment where people say: this is where it stops. That is why I will oppose this legislation if the amnesty restrictions are removed, and urge my colleagues to do the same. ...Six Senate Democrats are standing in the way of the interests of 300 million Americans. Six Senate Democrats are keeping us from protecting American workers and American borders. ...It is an explosive violation. It threatens our very sovereignty. Essential to any sovereign nation is the enforcement of its borders, the application of uniform rules for exit and entry, and the delivery of consequences for any

who violate those rules. But [Obama] has suspended those borders, erased those rules, and replaced consequences with rewards. He has arrogated for himself the sole and absolute power to decide who comes to the United States, who lives in the United States, and who works in the United States. ...[I]t is not a question of if [Obama] will suspend more immigration laws, but only how many he will suspend.” [72310]

House Speaker John Boehner fails to secure passage of legislation funding the Department of Homeland Security—and Obama’s amnesty scheme—for three weeks. The measure fails by a vote of 203-224, with 52 Republicans voting against the bill. Townhall.com’s Conn Carroll notes, “Earlier in the day, the Senate passed a DHS funding that fully funds both of ...Obama’s executive immigration programs through the end of September. ...The House is now currently in recess while Boehner’s team figures out their [sic; its] next move. But the most likely outcome is a House vote on the Senate DHS bill which would most likely pass with unanimous Democratic support.” Congressman Mo Brooks (R-AL) states, “I am not going to vote under any circumstances to fund [Obama’s] illegal conduct. It does not make any difference whether the funding is for three weeks, three months or a full fiscal year. If it’s illegal, it’s illegal.” [72277, 72278, 72285, 72288, 72300, 72306, 72336, 72361, 72379]

Arguing against Obama’s illegal amnesty actions, Congressman Louie Gohmert (R-TX) says on the floor of the House, “[Obama] didn’t even have the gumption to write an executive order and sign it. He spoke his new amnesty law into being, and then [Department of Homeland Security Secretary] Jeh Johnson did a memo. ...That took the power of Congress away from us. So the question on acting responsibly is, do we make that message clear: we’re not having laws spoken into being in this country, and having some bureaucrat, unelected, come around with a memo that undoes laws by different Congresses all these years, signed by different presidents. With a memo?! Come on!” (Gohmert is correct. Obama never actually issued an executive order implementing his amnesty scheme. He merely asked DHS to issue memoranda putting his plans into action. That was likely Obama’s way of avoiding responsibility in the event the actions are deemed unconstitutional—or are even considered an impeachable offense—because there will be nothing with his signature ordering anyone to do anything. Obama ensured that he “left no DNA on any blue dress.”) [72335]

The Senate unanimously passes a seven-day funding bill for the Department of Homeland Security. The House votes 357-60 to pass the funding extension, giving Congress one more week to play partisan games. Obama signs the extension. (That House Democrats decided to reverse their positions and back the measure suggests to some that a backroom deal was made by House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) and House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH). Had the Democrats let the measure fail, DHS funding would have ended and the mainstream media would have sided with Obama and the Democrats in blaming the GOP.) [72291, 72292, 72323, 72339, 72357, 72361, 72378]

On February 28 Gary North writes at LewRockwell.com, “Any time that you read that the FCC is about to take over the Internet, keep things in perspective. ...[T]hink of the

FCC as the Post Office. It can announce new rules. These rules will apply in the United States. There are 196 nations. The FCC has zero authority in 195 of them. Each nation has different rules. Anyone can set up a website in most of them. Anyone can select the best legal location for his website. You can't set up in North Korea. Cuba is off limits, but not for long. But if anyone wants to set up a website, he can find a server somewhere. There are no significant international regulations. Web search engines can find any site, anywhere. These days, they have indexed over 4.5 billion pages. The FCC will be able to control almost none of them. The number of pages will rise. To enforce its rules, the FCC must prosecute a violator in an American court. How many cases can its staff prosecute? How many convictions can it get? How many precedents will survive? Not many. ...It takes an estimated 100,000 employees in China to regulate the Internet. But Chinese citizens can still gain access to forbidden sites. The United States is not China. The FCC is not in a position to hire 100,000 bureaucrats. ...The Internet has stayed ahead of all regulators. It will continue to do so. The best and the brightest are developing new programs, new solutions. They are doing this all over the world. The tenured and the tired are planning to regulate this process from Washington. Some kid in India comes up with a new technology. What is the FCC going to do about it? Pass a new rule? Some kid in China will have a work-around a month later." [72343]

At CPAC, Senator Mike Lee (R-UT) responds to a question about Obama's abuse of executive power: "I'm going to make a lot of people unhappy with what I'm about to say in response to that question, but almost all of it is Congress's fault. We're kidding ourselves if we think we can come up with a system of laws that delegates all of this lawmaking power to the executive branch. We're kidding ourselves if we don't think presidents, Democrats and Republicans alike, are going to abuse that. We're kidding ourselves if we don't think that's going to result in an erosion of not only our constitutional order, but also liberty itself. So, yeah, this is Congress's fault, it is overwhelmingly Congress's fault and we've got to turn it back. ...We cannot allow [Obama] to act as though he were a government of one. He is not. We have a Constitution, that Constitution puts the legislative power, the power to make law, in the hands of Congress. And if [Obama] doesn't like our current immigration laws he needs to go through Congress, he can't just decree it." [72415]

Lee is correct that the fault lies with Congress. Obama would not be able to abuse his power had Congress not given it to him. The Environmental Protection Agency is an example. The EPA can issue absurd, job-killing rules and regulations only because Congress gave the agency broad powers to do so. Obama is implementing an amnesty program on his own because Congress has given his office the power to use prosecutorial discretion when enforcing immigration laws. Obama is abusing that power, of course, but Congress lacks the courage to impeach him—which only encourages him to abuse his power even more. (As another example, the U.S. Constitution gives presidents the power to grant pardons of lawmakers. Some presidents, notably Bill Clinton, have abused that power for political—and fundraising—purposes. If Congress wants to stop Obama's abuse of power, it must pass veto-proof legislation limiting the power of agencies like the EPA to make up rules and regulations that bypass Congress.)

With 26 percent of the vote, Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) wins the (relatively meaningless) presidential straw poll at the Conservative Political Action Conference. Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker wins second place with 21 percent. Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) takes third with 12 percent, followed by Ben Carson (11 percent), and Jeb Bush (8 percent). [72346, 72362, 72378]

At Townhall. Kevin Glass writes, “The Obama White House has spent weeks in panic over Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s appearance before Congress this coming week. Yesterday the New York Times reported that White House officials are attempting to ‘rebut’ Netanyahu’s speech four days before it is actually going to happen. Netanyahu is expected to criticize any deal-making with the Iranian regime. ... The Obama White House might see a deal with Iran over ‘inspections’ and their nuclear arms program as a major milestone—even a ‘legacy’ issue—so they want Congress to be in line. But Netanyahu obviously has a lot of concerns over dealing with the Iranian regime.” [72345]

Senator John McCain (R-AZ) is among those Republicans who rolled over and caved in to Obama’s amnesty-funding demands. He states, “I just think we ought to move on to other things. I’m not sure how it helps for the American people to have the perception that Republicans in the Senate and Republicans in the House are at odds with each other. We have a lot of initiatives I think we could show the American people we can work together on.” (It is not a “perception.” “Establishment” Republicans in the Senate are “at odds” with conservative members of the House.) Senator Jeff Flake (R-AZ) also displays a defeatist attitude: “Why don’t we just look at the court decision in Texas, declare victory and move on?” (The court decision, of course, is being appealed and there is no guarantee Obama will lose in the long run. In the mean time, he will continue setting up the amnesty process for illegal immigrants.) Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC) says, “When the judge ruled, that was the way I wanted to end it.” (In other words, “Rather than use the power of the purse given to Congress, I will take the coward’s way out and hope the courts do our jobs for us.”) Senator Mark Kirk (D-IL), who fears losing his job in the November 2016 elections, says, “I think the feeling of most people is this is the fight that we should have not fought. We really, as a governing party, we’ve got to fund DHS and say to the House, ‘Here’s a straw so you can suck it up.’” (In other words, “I’d rather protect my job than defend the U.S. Constitution and the American taxpayers.) Gutless Senator Tom Cole (R-OK) says, “I think the decisive arena is the courts. I think this is about holding our own ground and it’s also a message to the Senate.” (The Republicans have not “held their ground.” They have surrendered it.) [72359, 72360]

TimesofIsrael.com reports, “A bipartisan group of senators [led by Bob Menendez (D-NJ) and Bob Corker (R-TN)] unveiled legislation Friday that would require a congressional review of any deal the Obama administration and other western powers strike with Iran on its nuclear program. The measure would mandate that ... Obama submit the text of any pact to Congress and bar the administration from suspending congressional sanctions on Iran for 60 days. In that time, Congress would hold hearings and have a chance to approve, disapprove or take no action on the agreement. The

legislation is a fresh challenge to Obama's authority as the United States and other nations engage in negotiations with Iran over its nuclear capability. It is likely to draw a veto threat." Corker states, "There are few national security priorities for our country more important than preventing Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon and any agreement that seeks to do this must include Congress having a say on the front end." [72373, 72374]