

## *The Complete Obama Timeline*

### *May 2015*

On May 1 International Workers Day is celebrated around the world, and increasingly by labor unions and socialists in the United States. May Day protesters in New York City demand “the unconditional surrender of arms by the NYPD and police departments nationwide.” [75138, 75139, 75143]

Politico.com reports, “Chicago will be the home of the Obama presidential library, according to numerous local reports. CBS’ Chicago affiliate, citing unnamed sources, reported that the White House confirmed its choice last Friday during a telephone call from Obama to Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel and state Democratic leaders, including Illinois House Speaker Michael Madigan and Senate President John Cullerton. Obama reportedly thanked them for recently passing a law that would allow his library to be built on parkland.” (In other words, “Obama thanked them for giving him free land at taxpayer expense.”) According to CBS 2 Chicago’s Jay Levine, the library “will rise either in Washington Park at [Martin Luther] King Drive and Garfield Boulevard or at the other site proposed by the University of Chicago, in Jackson Park, south of the Museum of Science and Industry, near 60th and Stony Island. ... The estimated price tag for the library and museum is a whopping \$500 million. It is expected to create 1,900 permanent jobs in a community that has struggled. An estimated \$220 million in economic activity would be generated annually.” (How a library can possibly create 1,900 permanent jobs is not explained. Their salaries alone would likely exceed \$100 million per year.) [75254, 75255, 75256, 75257]

In Frankfurt, Germany, a professional cycling race known as the Frankfurt Grand Prix is canceled amid fears of a terrorist attack. *The Telegraph* reports, “A married couple living nearby were arrested overnight, after police found a pipe bomb, assault rifle and ammunition for a bazooka inside their home. The arrested couple have been identified only as Halil D, 35, and Senay D, 34, under strict German privacy laws. Halil D, a German citizen of Turkish origin is known to have ties to Islamist extremist groups, according to the police. His wife is believed to be a Turkish citizen. The couple’s home was raided after Halil D had purchased large quantities of chemicals commonly used in bombs. Also, Halil D was spotted hanging around car parks and repeatedly walking the route of the annual Eschborn-Frankfurt City Loop race where it runs through woodland.” [75171, 75172, 75175, 76377]

Pamela Geller post signs in an “upper middle class neighborhood in a suburb outside of Denver” announcing enrollment for a new elementary school being built by the Colorado Muslim Society. The signs are posted in English, Spanish, and Arabic. [75173]

Caroline Glick, noting the Iranian boarding of the Maersk Tigris cargo ship, writes, “If the administration continues to stand by in the face of Iran’s aggression, the strategic implications will radiate far beyond the US’s bilateral ties with the Marshall Islands. If

the US allows Iran to get away with unlawfully seizing a Marshall Islands flagged ship it is treaty bound to protect, it will reinforce the growing assessment of its Middle Eastern allies that its security guarantees are worthless. ...But ...Obama apparently won't allow a bit of Iranian naval piracy to rain on his parade. This week Obama indicated that he feels very good about where his policy on Iran now stands. And he has every reason to be satisfied. With each day that passes, the chance diminishes that his nuclear deal with the mullahs will be scuppered. On the one hand, the Iranians are signaling that they are willing to sign a deal with the Great Satan. And this makes sense. For them the deal has no downside. ...At home as well, Obama no longer faces serious opposition to his Iran policy. The Iranian Nuclear Agreement Review Act, the bill now being debated on the Senate floor, ensures that Congress will have no ability to stand in the way of the deal. In contrast to the provisions of the US Constitution that require a two-third Senate majority to approve an international treaty, the Senate bill requires a two-third majority of senators to block the implementation of Obama's nuclear deal with the greatest state sponsor of terrorism. Obama has successfully bullied centrist Democrat senators into abandoning their concern for US national security and supporting his deal. They in turn have convinced centrist Republicans—and AIPAC—to push forward the legislation and so turn Congress into partner in Obama's nuclear gambit.” [75174, 75176]

“Obama's confidence that his deal will go through has freed him up to mark the next target of his foreign policy in what he recently referred to as the 'fourth quarter' of his presidency: Israel. According to a report in Foreign Policy, the administration is now seeking to delay anti-Israel resolutions at the UN Security Council—including a French draft resolution that would require Israel to surrender all of Judea and Samaria and northern, southern and eastern Jerusalem to the Palestinians—until after the deal with Iran is concluded at the end of June. According to the report, the administration doesn't want to upset pro-Israel Democrats while it still needs them to approve the deal with Iran. But Obama has no problem with marking the target. And so, on Monday, Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs Wendy Sherman did just that. In an address before Reform Jews, Sherman issued a direct threat against Israel. In her words, 'If the new Israeli government is seen to be stepping back from its commitment to a two-state solution, that will make our job in the international arena much tougher... it will be harder for us to prevent internationalizing the conflict.' ...[O]n Wednesday US Ambassador Dan Shapiro gave an interview to Army Radio. ...Shapiro signaled that the Obama administration expects Israel to make significant concessions to the Palestinians in return [for] nothing, in the absence of negotiations. And if we [Israelis] fail to make such unreciprocated concessions, we will have no legitimacy and the US will have no choice but to act against Israel at the UN.” [75174, 75176]

“There is a thread that runs between Obama's policy toward Iran and his policy toward Israel. That common thread is mendacity. Obama's actual goals in both have little to do with his stated ones. Obama claims that he wishes to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons. But as we see from his willingness to allow Iran to become a nuclear threshold state while running wild in the Straits of Hormuz, committing mass slaughter in Syria, building an empire that includes Iraq, Syria, Lebanon and Yemen, and threatening its Arab neighbors and Israel, the purpose of the administration's negotiations with Iran is

not to prevent Iran from becoming a nuclear power. The purpose of the negotiations is to build an American-Iranian alliance on Iran's terms. ...Three days after a ship sailing under their flag was seized by Iran's Revolutionary Guards, citizens of the Marshall Islands discovered that their decision to place their security in America's hands is no longer the safe bet they thought it was 29 years ago. Anyone who entertains the belief that Israel will gain diplomatic acceptance or even a respite from American pressure if it makes concessions to the Palestinians is similarly making a high risk gamble." [75174, 75176]

In Baltimore, Maryland State's Attorney Marilyn Mosby announces that one police officer will be charged with murder, three will be charged with manslaughter, and two will be charged with assault in the death of Freddie Gray. According to FoxNews.com, the police union "requested a special prosecutor in the case, saying Mosby had conflicts of interest including a friendship with the Gray family's lawyer, Billy Murphy, who contributed to her campaign. Murphy was among Mosby's biggest campaign contributors last year, donating the maximum individual amount allowed, \$4,000, in June. Murphy also served on Mosby's transition team after the election. ...Gray suffered a broken neck, apparently while riding in the back of the Baltimore police van. While Mosby said Friday the medical examiner had ruled the death a homicide, police sources have said his injuries may have been caused by his head hitting a bolt inside the vehicle, according to local reports." (Three of the police officers charged are white and three are black.) [75130, 75144, 75165, 75178, 75187]

BaltimoreSun.com reports, "A Fraternal Order of Police lodge is asking Baltimore State's Attorney Marilyn Mosby to appoint a special prosecutor to the Freddie Gray investigation because of her personal connection to the Gray family's attorney, William H. 'Billy' Murphy Jr., and her marriage to a city councilman. The letter from Gene Ryan, president of Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 3, also states that none of the six officers involved in Gray's arrest and death were responsible for the 25-year-old West Baltimore man's death that spurred protests and unrest, including rioting and looting on Monday. The letter was released just minutes before Mosby announced charges against the officers. 'Not one of the officers involved in this tragic situation left home in the morning with the anticipation that someone with whom they interacted would not go home that night,' the letter states. 'As tragic as this situation is, none of the officers involved are responsible for the death of Mr. Gray.' ...Murphy supported Mosby during her campaign last year. He donated \$5,000 to her campaign and served on her transition committee." [75166]

Townhall notes a 2014 poverty profile from the Maryland Alliance for the Poor. "According to the report, the 2012 median income in Baltimore was \$39,788. ...Baltimore is No. 1 in the child poverty rate. In 2012, '36.5 percent of children in Baltimore city lie below the poverty line—\$23,492 for a family of four,' the Alliance for the Poor noted. Baltimore is also No. 1 in Maryland for the number of senior citizens below the poverty line. It is also No. 1 in 'individuals living below 200 percent of poverty.' About 46 percent of people in Baltimore hit that mark. The city is No. 2 in unemployment. Again, from the Alliance for the Poor, '9.7 percent of residents of

Baltimore City are unemployed.’ Baltimore ranks No. 1 in Maryland for ‘residents receiving temporary cash assistance,’ No. 1 for ‘children receiving temporary cash assistance,’ No. 1 in ‘percent of population participating in food supplement program,’ No. 8 in ‘adults receiving temporary disability assistance,’ No. 1 in ‘percent of children who participate in the free and reduced price meal program... In other words, Baltimore City residents are being taken care of by the American taxpayer. ...The War on Poverty in the United States has done vastly more damage than good. It has created a culture of entitlement and dependency. It has aided the collapse of the American family. It has been deeply destructive in black homes. We have spent trillions of dollars to subsidize the poor, not elevate people out of poverty. ...Baltimore does not need a government spending-spree. It needs a change of culture within families.” [75127]

Milwaukee County Sheriff David Clarke calls the six police officers charged in Baltimore “political prisoners.” Clarke tells Fox News’ Neil Cavuto, “This neophyte prosecutor [Marilyn Mosby] stood up there and made a political statement, Neil, and I say that because she’s chanting or voicing some of the chants [‘no justice, no peace’] from this angry mob. Her job is to tune that out. She said, ‘I hear the voices.’ She is not supposed to hear anything as she reviews this case that is not consistent with the rule of law and our system of justice. ...There’s no way I have ever gotten a criminal charge within 24 hours after taking over all the reports and evidence to a prosecutor. A prosecutor who is thorough needs several days to sift through hundreds of pages of reports. They usually want to interview some of the witnesses themselves in person, and they have to sift through all of the evidence, piece by piece, and they have to wait for some of the forensic evidence to conclude to come back. She just got this case yesterday... This is political activism. She’ll never prove this beyond a reasonable doubt, and I’m not going to silently stand by and watch my brother officers offered up as human sacrifices, thrown like red meat to an angry mob, just to appease this angry mob.” (Despite having been on the job for only a few months, it is clear that Mosby has aspirations for higher public office. She apparently believes that pandering to mobs will help her succeed.) [75142, 75188]

DailyCaller.com reports, “Charges filed against the six Baltimore police officers for their involvement in the death of Freddie Grey will be dismissed, a George Washington University law professor predicted in an interview with The Daily Caller. John Banzhaf, who teaches public interest law, says that the charges announced by Baltimore state’s attorney Marilyn Mosby on Friday ‘go too far.’ ‘I think a prosecutor is going to have a hard time proving that the actions did in fact cause death, since they seem to have no theory as to how it occurred. ...I think it is very difficult to pin responsibility on one person when you have four or five or six each doing a variety of things—or not doing a variety of things—which in some generalized way contributes to the overall outcome. ...Again, you have to prove beyond a reasonable doubt, that each of the individuals—Officer X, Officer Y, Officer Z—what he did or didn’t do was a direct cause of what happened.’” [75169]

On Newsmax TV, civil rights lawyer Alan Dershowitz observes, “This is a very sad day for justice... Today had nothing to do with justice. Today was crowd control. Everything

was motivated by a threat of riots and a desire to prevent riots. The mayor outrageously said we're going to get justice for the victim, the family and people of Baltimore, never mentioning the defendants. Under our Constitution, the only people who are entitled to justice are the defendants. They are presumed innocent, they need due process of law, and the mayor and the state attorney have made it virtually impossible for these defendants to get a fair trial. They have been presumed guilty. ...I understand why the mayor and state's attorney want to prevent riots... but that's not the job of the justice system... You cannot allow police officers or any other defendants to become scapegoats for crowds demanding a continuation of rioting. ...There's no plausible, hypothetical, conceivable case for murder under the facts that we now know them. You might say that conceivably there's a case for manslaughter. [But] Nobody wanted this guy to die, nobody set out to kill him, and nobody intentionally murdered him. The worst-case scenario is a case for involuntary manslaughter or some kind of reckless disregard, but the idea of without further investigation coming down with murder indictments... This is a show trial. This is designed to please the crowd. It's designed to lower the temperature. ...My prediction? They've overplayed their hand, it's unlikely they'll get any convictions in this case as a result of this, and if they do, there's a good possibility it'll be reversed on appeal and will just postpone the riots for months ahead." [75192, 75220, 75262]

In Austin, Texas, protesters march while chanting, "This racist violence has to stop. Execute those killer cops." [75179, 75180]

*Washington Post* contributor Sally Kohn tweets, "As Baltimore burned, what did Republicans do? Propose cuts to urban development while increasing Pentagon budget!" (Kohn is absurdly implying that riots that already took place are the fault of a proposed federal budget, ignoring that fact that her fellow "progressives" have been running Baltimore for almost 50 years.) [75129]

WND.com reports, "A leading conservative is asking why the Obama State Department is barring a persecuted Iraqi nun from entry into the United States to share her message about the brutal treatment of Christians in her country. Nina Shea of the Hudson Institute's Center for Religious Freedom, writes in a *National Review* op-ed that Sister Diana Momeka is 'an internationally respected and leading representative of the Nineveh Christians who have been killed and deported by ISIS.' Yet this nun is being 'barred from coming to Washington to testify about this catastrophe?' Sister Diana was the only Christian in the delegation and the only member blocked from the trip, the *Washington Times* reported, leading some of her American supporters to question why she was singled out. ...Shea states that the State Department officials made the determination that the Catholic nun 'could be falsely asserting that she intends to visit Washington when secretly she could be intending to stay. That would constitute illegal immigration, and that, of course, is strictly forbidden. Once here, she could also be at risk for claiming political asylum, and the U.S. seems determined to deny ISIS's Christian victims that status.'" (The Obama administration has allowed hundreds of thousands of illegal immigrants into the United States and Obama has issued executive orders to make it possible for them to stay—yet the administration will not allow a Catholic nun to spend

one week in the United States to talk about the persecution of Christians in the Middle East.) [75167, 75671]

Former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich comments, “Congress has to investigate and find out who made this decision and what is the State Department going to do about it. This is an administration which never seems to find a good enough excuse to help Christians, but always finds an excuse to apologize for terrorists... I hope that as it gets attention that Secretary [of State John] Kerry will reverse it. If he doesn’t, Congress has to investigate, and the person who made this decision ought to be fired. The idea that a nun who has the kind of endorsement she had from very serious people... who has not been given permission to come here and say and tell the truth about the war against Christianity is just totally wrong.” [75186]

After State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf criticizes the brutality of the police in Turkey, Ankara Mayor Melih Gokcek slams her in a series of tweets. Noting the violence in Baltimore and the death of Freddie Gray while in police custody, Gokcek writes, “You were saying the Turkish police is using disproportionate force; where are you now, dumb blonde?” The U.S. ambassador to Turkey, John Bass, childishly responds via Instagram, “American diplomats: we’re all blonde.” [75136, 75137]

Socialist presidential candidate Bernie Sanders tells *The Washington Post*, “Not only is climate change real and caused by human activity, but it is already causing devastating problems in America and around the world. In terms of the kind of planet we are going to leave our kids and grandchildren, the scientists tell us that if we do not get our act together, this planet may be five to 10 degrees Fahrenheit warmer by the end of this century. Just think of all the cataclysmic impacts that will mean. It is not only supporting what [Obama] done; it is saying we’ve got to lead the world.” Sanders calls for “a tax on carbon.” “a massive investment in solar, wind, geothermal,” “making sure that every home and building in this country is properly winterized,” and “putting substantial money into rail, both passenger and cargo, so we can move towards breaking our dependency on automobiles.” (“Vote for me and I will tax the heck out of gasoline and force you onto trains” is arguably not a winning platform on which to run for president.) [75140, 75141, 75155]

Politico.com reports, “The Obama administration has imposed tougher safety regulations for trains carrying crude oil and ethanol, responding to growing alarm about the spread of oil-by-rail traffic and a series of fiery derailments across the U.S. and Canada. The rules, which inspired more than a year of furious lobbying by the railroad and energy industries, include stiffer construction standards for rail tank cars made after Oct. 1, requirements for phasing out older cars as soon as January 2018, mandates for advanced braking systems, and permanent versions of the speed limits that DOT announced last year.” [75156]

NationalReview.com’s Jonah Goldberg comments on the Clinton Foundation: “Sure, the foundation spends a few pennies on the dollar for latrines and textbooks. But its real purpose is to serve as a super–super PAC with better branding. ...Many people thought

that Bill Clinton created his foundation in an effort to repair his reputation. And that's probably true. But that's just part of what makes Bill Clinton such a spectacular sleaze-ball. He created a foundation to restore his good name and then used the foundation to do precisely the kind of things that gave him a bad name. It's like Tony Soprano doing volunteer work at an old-age home just so he can rob money from little old ladies while they're at bingo. Win-win! But where is the sense of betrayal from liberals? Sure, a few people have been noticeably embarrassed, but for the most part they are acting like Clinton deserves the benefit of the doubt or *that the appearance of impropriety is a fair standard to apply to every politician except ones named Clinton*. It's like having an addict in the family... Everyone agrees in principle that you shouldn't enable bad behavior, but no one has the stomach to actually live by that principle. The Clintons left the White House having used up every second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth chance they had. *And their behavior never changed!* Only their public-relations strategy changed. ...I don't think Hillary Clinton will be the next president of the United States, but if she is, her enablers will have no right to be shocked by any of the inevitable embarrassing scandals that will follow. Heck, they lost that right a long time ago." [75168]

FoxNews.com reports that Obama's leftist billionaire supporter George Soros "may soon face a monumental tax bill—of nearly \$7 billion—after years of playing hard-to-get with the IRS. Despite Soros having advocated for higher taxes on the wealthy, the liberal billionaire reportedly has delayed paying his own for years thanks to a loophole in U.S. law. That loophole was closed by Congress in 2008. But before that, Bloomberg reports, Soros used it to defer taxes on client fees. Instead, he reinvested them in his own fund, and they grew tax-free. Bloomberg, citing Irish regulatory filings, reported that Soros has made \$13.3 billion in this way. Factoring in the various tax rates that would apply, one tax expert estimated this would leave Soros with a roughly \$6.7 billion bill." [75184, 75338]

TheEconomicCollapseBlog.com writes, "If the U.S. economy really is improving, then why are big U.S. retailers permanently shutting down thousands of stores?" (The blog refers to a list of coming store closings that was updated on April 12 by About.com. Businesses closing some of their stores include Office Depot/Office Max, Barnes & Noble, Pep Boys, Staples, Golf Galaxy, JCPenney, Walgreens, American Eagle Outfitters, Gymboree, Chico's, Pier One, Macy's, Sears, and Ruby Tuesday.) [75221, 75222, 75263]

Leftists in Seattle celebrate May Day with vandalism and rioting. [75185, 75191]

On May 2 ISIS reportedly executes 600 Yazidi hostages in northern Iraq. [75196, 75197]

Malik Shabazz, national president of Black Lawyers for Justice and former national chairman of the New Black Panther Party, leads a rally in Baltimore. He says, "Those kids throwing rocks & bottles are the greatest youth of our generation... they are revolutionaries!" (This is the same Malik "Zulu" Shabazz who avoided jail because Obama's Department of Justice dropped charges against him for brandishing a billy club

and threatening white voters at a Philadelphia polling place on election day 2008.) [2948, 2961, 2962, 2983, 3076, 3110, 75181]

Brian Moore, a 105th precinct police officer in Queens, New York City is shot in the head and chest and is in critical condition. The killer, an ex-con with a violent history named, Demetrius Blackwell, is later arrested at his home. (Moore dies on May 4.) [75182, 75183, 75194, 75214, 75217, 75234, 75235, 75236, 75237]

At RealClearPolitics.com Rich Lowry writes that Obama “doesn’t have the slightest idea how to fix Baltimore. His solutions fall back on liberal bromides going back 50 years. Dating back to the [Otto] Kerner Commission [National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders] after the riots of the 1960s, the left’s go-to solution to urban problems has been more social programs. Since then, we’ve gotten more social programs—and just as many urban problems. Exhibit A is Baltimore itself. The city hasn’t been ‘neglected.’ It has been misgoverned into the ground. It is a Great Society city that bought fully into the big-government vision of the 1960s, and the bitter fruit has been corruption, violence and despair. We don’t know all the facts surrounding Freddie Gray’s tragic death. But as a general matter, it is easy to believe that the Baltimore police are corrupt, dysfunctional and unaccountable—because most of the Baltimore government is that way.” [75189, 75190]

“...The city has been shedding jobs and people for decades, including in the 1990s when the rest of the country was booming. Baltimore is a high-tax city, with malice aforethought. ‘Officials raised property taxes 21 times between 1950 and 1985,’ Steve Hanke and Stephen Walters of Johns Hopkins University write in The Wall Street Journal, ‘channeling the proceeds to favored voting blocs and causing many homeowners and entrepreneurs—disproportionately Republicans—to flee. It was brilliant politics, as Democrats now enjoy an eight-to-one voter registration advantage.’ ...The schools, predictably, are a disaster, run by and for the teachers unions. On top of all this, two-thirds of births in the city are out-of-wedlock. ...What is Obama offering in response to this deep, decades-long decline? Among other things, more pre-K education and job training, even though these programs have a long history of ineffectiveness. The imperative in Baltimore should be to think and act anew. But the left’s takeaway will be that there’s an urgent need for more of the same, as Baltimore and places like it continue to rot.” [75189, 75190]

An attorney for New York City’s Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA), argues that the agency has the right to ban all political ads. (The MTA decided to ban all political ads after it unsuccessfully attempted to ban anti-jihad ads from Pamela Geller’s American Freedom Defense Initiative.) Geller later writes, “[T]he MTA and AFDI lawyer David Yerushalmi argued before Manhattan federal Judge John Koeltl, who ruled in our favor not a week ago. MTA lawyer Peter Siström insisted... that the ban against our ads was not against us per se, but against political ads. Nonsense. They never fought the anti-Jewish ads or anti-Israel ads, they only banned only our ads—ads exposing the ideology behind the jihad against Israel and America. ...Judge Koeltl railed against Siström for 45



minutes. It was gorgeous. ...Imagine in post 9/11 NYC, with scores of Islamic attacks thwarted in the subway, the Holland Tunnel, NY Stock Exchange, the Federal Reserve Building, Times Square, etc., and NYC is banning criticism of jihad and sharia.” [75198, 75199]

FoxNews.com reports, “Leading Persian Gulf states want major new weapons systems and security guarantees from the White House in exchange for backing a nuclear agreement with Iran, according to U.S. and Arab officials. The leaders of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council, including Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar, plan to use a high-stakes meeting with ...Obama later this month to request additional fighter jets, missile batteries and surveillance equipment. They also intend to pressure Obama for new defense agreements between the U.S. and the Gulf nations that would outline terms and scenarios under which Washington would intervene if they are threatened by Iran, according to these officials.” [75193]

Fox News also reports, “The State Department has reportedly deemed any mission to rescue U.S. government assets in war-torn Yemen too risky. ...Instead, State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf has pointed to an online system where Americans stranded in Yemen can register to receive updates on opportunities to leave the country. The department has also talked to other countries about Americans joining their rescue missions, she said. ...[T]he U.S. [usually] evacuates citizens when commercial methods of transport are cut off. However, the State Department made clear that no such operation was in the works for Yemen, where airports have been bombed and seaports are closed to commercial traffic. The Yemen crisis has been building for quite a while. The State Department has warned travelers for decades not to travel to the country. The U.S. Embassy in the capital closed in February. Despite warnings, Americans have kept coming and going.” [75200]

On May 3 Mike Shedlock reports at Townhall.com, “Economists have been overly optimistic on the majority of economic reports for going on six months. Today the Bloomberg Consensus estimate for construction spending [in March] was for a 0.4% gain. The actual result was a decline of 0.6%.” [75206]

Those who believe America’s universities are bastions of free thought and open-mindedness may be surprised to learn that, according to an analysis of political contributions, 96 percent of donations from Harvard University faculty members over the last three years went to Democrats. Georgetown law professor Nicholas Quinn Rosenkranz tells Fox News, “It is a shame that our greatest universities have become ideologically monolithic. At many of these schools, including Georgetown Law School, most students will graduate without ever laying eyes on a single Republican professor. Ideally these universities would expose students to the most powerful arguments on both sides of the great issues, rather than indoctrinating them with the ideology of the far left.” (That universities are mostly staffed by leftists is not surprising. Decades ago the political left made a conscious effort to infiltrate higher education as a means of turning the nation toward socialism. Revolutionaries like William Ayers went into education for a reason:

bombing the Pentagon landed them in jail, while brainwashing America's youth was not only illegal, it was a well-paid endeavor.) [75207]

Maryland Governor Larry Hogan tells reporters, "Monday night [April 17] we lost 200 businesses." (Most were minority-owned and few had insurance.) [75215, 75216]

On *This Week*, Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT), a socialist running for president as a Democrat, defends his ideology: "Well, so long as we know what democratic socialism is, and if we know that in countries in Scandinavia, like Denmark, Norway, Sweden—they are very democratic countries, obviously. The voter turnout is a lot higher than it is in the United States. In those countries, health care is the right of all people. And in those countries, college education, graduate school is free. ...And what's wrong with that? What's wrong when you have more income and wealth equality? What's wrong when they have a stronger middle class in many ways than we do, higher minimum wage than we do, and they are stronger on the environment than we do?" (Sanders neglects to note that what is "free" in Scandinavia is not actually "free." In Sweden, for example, taxes are astronomically high. An income tax of 32 percent is withheld from worker paychecks, and the employer pays an additional 31.42 percent on top of that—for an effective tax rate of about 38.8 percent. Additionally, a 25 percent Value Added Tax is added to most purchases. Not surprisingly, prices are also sky-high in Sweden.) [75244, 75245, 75246, 75251]

On *Meet the Press*, Chuck Todd interviews House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH) and argues that millions more Americans have insurance because of ObamaCare. Boehner responds, "You know why there are more people insured? Because a lot more people are on Medicaid. And giving—you know, we expanded Medicaid in a big way—and giving people Medicaid insurance is almost like giving them nothing. Because there aren't—you can't find a doctor that [sic; who] will see Medicaid patients. And so where do they end up? The same place they used to end up, in the emergency room." [75266, 75347]

Boehner is correct. The next day, WashingtonExaminer.com reports, "Three in four emergency room doctors said patient visits have increased since the Affordable Care Act's requirement to have health insurance went into effect, in an email survey released Monday by the American College of Emergency Physicians. That's not the news some healthcare advocates had hoped for. The thought was that by expanding health coverage to more people, they would get their ailments treated earlier by primary care doctors and could avoid visiting emergency rooms, which already struggle with an overload of patients. ...Getting insurance to more people is one thing the 2010 healthcare law has accomplished. An estimated 16 million previously uninsured people are now covered, some through Medicaid and others with private plans bought via online marketplaces. But instead of pulling back on emergency room care, the newly insured now have a plan to pay for those visits so they're not responsible for the entire bill. And that seems to be driving the change in patient load, at least for now. ...Much of that is likely driven by low-income Americans who have become newly eligible for Medicaid in states that chose to expand it." [75253, 75393]

On *Fox News Sunday*, Congresswoman Donna Edwards (D-MD) is asked by Chris Wallace, “A lot of people, frankly conservatives, have pointed out that Baltimore has not had a Republican mayor in 50 years. Is it unfair to say that liberal policies have failed Baltimore?” Edwards replies, “No, I think it’s been unfairly spread. Just prior to the Freddie Gray incident [the] mayor was actually prevailing upon our Republican governor to release money for school funding.” Wallace: “Baltimore was already spending plenty for public schools and the schools were still lousy.” (The Baltimore school system spends more than \$17,000 per student per year, which should be more than enough to provide each student with quality education inasmuch as many schools do an excellent job with half the resources. In any event, for Edwards to blame decades of decline in Baltimore to a failure to boost school spending in 2015 is absurd. Maryland’s new governor, Larry Hogan, has been on the job for only a few months—but because he is a Republican, Edwards eagerly blames him for Baltimore’s problems.) [75243, 75250, 75259, 75267]

On *Reliable Sources*, former CNN anchor Soledad O’Brien calls for people to stop using the word “thug” and claims she “can’t think of a situation where there’s ever been a headline or someone has called a white young person who is in the middle of a violent protest demonstration, whatever, a thug. We use it all the time when we’re talking about people in the inner city.” She “explains,” “You should use words very specifically. So, I think you say, these are protesters who are now throwing cement blocks at blah, blah, blah. These are people who are now doing this. Look at this picture. That group right there is doing this. ...I can only comment on how I think journalists should think about a word that actually doesn’t have a lot of nuance and isn’t specific, but somehow seems to be used a lot when you’re talking about African-Americans. So me personally, I wouldn’t call someone a thug. I think it’s not a descriptive term. The journalist’s job, and I think what’s been sorely lacking in this story, frankly, is context, right, description and context.” (The word “thug” is, of course, descriptive and specific. It has nothing to do with race; it has to do with behavior.) [75252, 75279]

At NYPost.com Kyle Smith writes, “The Clintons have been playing the political press for idiots. Revealing what they’ve been up to took a little bit of work. It wasn’t obvious. While Bill Clinton was giving a speech about fighting AIDS in Africa, or about educating girls in Asia, reporters simply regurgitated the press release. They didn’t ask: Who’s that shady guy standing next to Bill? What are his interests? How much money has he given to, or raised for, Bill, Hillary and their foundation? And what favorable treatment did the shady guy subsequently receive from Hillary? ...Thank goodness, then, for Peter Schweizer and his blockbuster expose ‘Clinton Cash: The Untold Story of How and Why Foreign Governments and Businesses Helped Make Bill and Hillary Rich.’ (Very rich: The pair have made at least \$136.5 million since 2001). ...Clinton’s supporters argue that no quid pro quo has been proven. We know that Bill and the Foundation received huge amounts of money from foreign entities seeking political favors. We know that those entities got those favors from Hillary. But we don’t have a video of Bill or Hillary saying, ‘Give us this, and we will give you that.’ So what? Disgraced Virginia Gov. Bob McDonnell and his wife are going to prison (both are free on appeal) for taking large gifts from donors seeking favors. No evidence exists that either McDonnell told the donors,

‘Give us this and we will give you that.’ ...Coca-Cola, which gave the [Clinton] foundation \$5 million to \$10 million, received help from [the] State [Department] in lifting sanctions on Burma, where Coke just announced a \$200 million investment.” [75223]

“...The Clinton favor bank started doing business while President Clinton was still in the White House: a bankruptcy lawyer pledged \$1 million to the Clinton Library in 1993 while he was being investigated by the Justice Department. The check was cashed, and three months later DOJ said ‘prosecution is not warranted.’ Anheuser-Busch gave the Clinton Library \$1 million weeks after Clinton’s FTC dropped a plan to regulate any beer advertising that it determined to be aimed at minors. Marc and Denise Rich poured nearly \$2 million into the library, Hillary’s Senate campaign and the Democratic Party before the president pardoned Rich, who had skipped bail and fled to Switzerland while facing trial for numerous financial crimes. Revealing as it is, Schweizer’s book is necessarily incomplete. An outfit that is brazen enough to hide its emails from public scrutiny, then delete 30,000 of them, has many other safeguards to keep its favor-banking secret. But virtually every chapter Schweizer wrote provides a tantalizing set of leads—curious characters to be interviewed, complex deals to be explored, connections to be untangled. ‘Clinton Cash’ is the blueprint to a tower of important questions about the ex-president and the president in waiting. The press is eager to go back on gaffe patrol—this book shouldn’t let them.” [75223]

WashingtonExaminer.com notes that on her final official trip as Secretary of State on December 7, 2012, “Hillary Clinton was honored with a major award by a Clinton Foundation donor at a ceremony promoted by controversial consulting firm Teneo Strategies... At the former first lady’s side during the... event in Belfast, Northern Ireland was Huma Abedin, Clinton’s deputy chief of staff at the State Department and senior adviser at Teneo. Abedin’s simultaneous roles at the Clinton Foundation, Teneo and the State Department have sparked controversy in the past. Senator Charles Grassley (D-IA) has written multiple letters to Secretary of State John Kerry demanding to know how and why Abedin was allowed to work for Teneo while serving in the State Department. ...The host of the Belfast lunch, a philanthropy network called the Ireland Funds, gave heavily to the Clinton Foundation the year it attracted Hillary Clinton to attend its ceremony. One of its charities, the American Ireland Fund, gave \$100,000 to the William J. Clinton Foundation and \$20,000 to the Clinton Global Initiative in 2012, the group’s tax forms show. ...The organization presented [Hillary] Clinton with a ‘Lifetime Achievement Award.’ Teneo was involved in promoting the event, records suggest.” [75490, 75491]

DCClothesline.com reports, “In an interview with film maker Joel Gilbert, [Barack Obama’s] half-brother Malik Obama said [Barack] Obama’s ‘genes and behaviours were not from their family’ and therefore [Barack] could not be the son of Malik’s dad, Barack Obama Sr. Note: Malik Obama is the son of Barack Obama, Sr. and his first wife, Kezia. Barack and Malik met for the first time in 1985 in Washington, D.C., and were best men at each other’s weddings. Malik accused [Barack] Obama of being ‘an imposter’ and that

Frank Marshall Davis, Barack's childhood mentor and known member of the American Communist Party, could be the real dad. Malik said Barack's mother, Stanley Ann Dunham, might have slept with Davis because Barack does not at all resemble Obama Sr., but 'looks just like' Davis. Malik said, '[Barack] Obama resembles ... Frank [Marshall Davis] in many ways and is just a liar and mean like him. It is possible his mother messed around to give birth to him because he is definitely not the son of my father, Barack Obama senior—they have nothing in common.' *The Kenyan Daily Post* says 'Malik and his family have waged war against [Barack Obama,] accusing him of being so cruel and mean to them. He regretted being Obama's brother, saying [Barack] was just using his Kenyan family for political expediency.'" [75404]

At DailySignal.com economist Stephen Moore, noting the dismal 0.2 percent GDP growth rate in the first quarter, writes, "[T]his is a long-term pattern under Obama, not a seasonal blip. Back in 2009, Vice President [Joe] Biden promised us a 'Summer of Recovery' and nearly six years later we are all still eagerly waiting for it. The tepid growth rate so far in 2015 merely extends the track record of the 23 quarter post-Great Recession recovery. The annualized growth rate of 2.24 percent dead last compared to the six other recoveries since 1960, which averaged 3.97 percent after 23 quarters. This translates into nearly \$1.7 trillion (in constant 2009 dollars) in absent economic growth. But the more amazing comparison is that of the Reagan [administration]—which trounces this current so-called recovery. That recovery's sizzling 4.8 percent annualized growth through 23 quarters was more than twice the rate of the current recovery. In other words, for every \$1 of economic growth experienced during the present time, the Reagan recovery produced more than \$2. As a result, the Reagan recovery gap now stands at a record \$2.48 trillion of real annual GDP (in 2009 dollars). The economy is now more than 15 percent smaller than it would have been with Reagan style growth. This didn't happen by accident. The Obama policies (as well as those in the final months of the George W. Bush administration) were, almost without exception, costly and counterproductive. ... Bad ideas have bad consequences. What is especially demoralizing is that after this flurry of program spending in Washington, all we have to show for it is \$7.5 trillion more debt." [75242]

At Georgetown University, Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL) proposes raising the federal tobacco tax by \$1.00—from the current \$1.01 per package to \$2.01—to fund additional spending by the National Institutes of Health. (The Obama administration raised the tax by 62 cents to its current \$1.01 level in April 2009.) Durbin also calls for legislation to combat "climate change." [75258]

A shooting outside a building hosting a "draw the Prophet Muhammad" contest in Texas prompts a lockdown. WashingtonTimes.com reports, "An officer dressed in SWAT gear took the stage toward the end of the event at the Curtis Culwell Center in Garland and told attendees, including an Associated Press reporter, that a shooting had occurred. He said one officer and two suspects were shot. It wasn't immediately clear if the shooting was related to the event. Garland Police Department spokesman Joe Harn declined to confirm the SWAT officer's statements and said he had no details. Attendees were taken

to another room. Authorities said around 8 p.m. Sunday that the group would be moved to a nearby high school. The New York-based American Freedom Defense Initiative, led by conservative anti-sharia activist Pamela Gellar, was hosting a contest that would award \$10,000 for the best cartoon depicting Muhammad at the venue. ...Ms. Gellar said that she planned the Sunday event to make a stand for free speech in response to the outcries and violence over drawings of Muhammad.” (According to Townhall.com’s Katie Pavlich, “There were 200 people at the event, 350 submissions were made from all over the world. The winner of the contest is a former Muslim and was awarded \$10,000.”) [75203, 75204, 75205, 75208, 75209, 75210, 75211, 75212, 75213, 75224, 75225, 75227, 75228, 75229, 75231, 75240, 75249, 75261, 75273, 75274, 75275, 75278]

WND.com’s Art Moore reports, “[An off-duty] police officer who was part of the heavy security for a free-speech event called the ‘Muhammad Art Exhibit and Cartoon Contest’ featuring Dutch politician Geert Wilders was shot shortly after the event ended at approximately 7 p.m. Central Time. A SWAT officer told WND two suspects ‘are down,’ but law-enforcement officers have put a perimeter around them, fearing they may have explosive devices. Attendees, including this reporter, have been moved to a secure location at the Curtis Culwell Center in suburban Dallas. Wilders left the building with members of his permanent Dutch security detail before the shooting. The condition of the officer is unknown. [The guard suffers a leg wound and is later released from the hospital.] On Thursday [April 30], a Twitter account purporting to belong to Mohamed Abdullahi Hassan, an American jihadi [from Minnesota, also known as Muhajid Miski] reportedly [now] fighting in Somalia, called for attacks to be carried out in the United States similar to those on Charlie Hebdo. The following message accompanied a link to a story about the event in Garland Sunday night: ‘The brothers from the Charlie hebdo [sic] attack did their part. It’s time for brothers in the #US to do their part.’ ...There was massive security at the Texas event Sunday, including a SWAT team, a portable police tower, metal detectors inside and blockades outside.” After they wound a security guard, two suspects are reportedly shot dead by police. [75203, 75204, 75205, 75208, 75209, 75210, 75211, 75212, 75213, 75224, 75225, 75227, 75228, 75229, 75231, 75240, 75249, 75261, 75357, 75500]

One of the two body-armored attackers is identified as Elton Simpson. According to the *Daily Mail*, Simpson, “who was previously the subject of a terror investigation, and his roommate were armed with assault rifles when they were killed by a quick-thinking traffic officer after opening fire... Simpson, identified in court papers as an American Muslim, had been convicted of lying to federal agents about his plans to travel to Somalia five years ago, but a judge ultimately ruled it could not be proved that he was heading there to join a terror group. He was placed on probation. The second gunman has not been named but KPNX-TV reported that the two shared an apartment at the Autumn Ridge complex in Phoenix.” The second attacker is identified as Nadir Soofi, Simpson’s roommate. Both Simpson and Soofi were members of the Islamic Community Center of Phoenix (ICCP) mosque. Mosque president Usama Shami had known Soofi for about 10 years. (There are conflicting reports of Soofi’s allegiance to the mosque, but it posted a \$100,000 cash bond in a 2010 terrorism case in which he was convicted and sentenced to three years’ probation.) Soofi’s mother, Sharon Soofi, tells the *Los Angeles Times* her

son “was outgoing, he was intelligent, he did well in school; he just had a normal American upbringing. He lived in nice neighborhoods. ...He really wasn’t denied anything.” Soofi’s father, Azam Soofi, states that his son “lived a real privileged life all his life. He was a very humble, soft-spoken person. Never said no to me.” [75225, 75239, 75241, 75249, 75261, 75294, 75330, 75368, 75369, 75370, 75413, 75414, 75477]

At PJMedia.com, Patrick Poole later notes that “...Simpson and Soofi were not the only two terrorists spawned from ICCP. Two other previous ICCP mosque attendees—Hassan Abu-Jihaad and Derrick Shareef—are currently in federal prison on terrorism-related charges. There are remarkable parallels with Simpson and Soofi, including that Abu-Jihaad and Shareef were also roommates. Further, [mosque president] Usama Shami attempted to downplay their association with ICCP as well. He told the Arizona Republic he never saw the pair—despite court records in both their cases stating they had attended the mosque. Abu-Jihaad [a former U.S. Navy signalman] is currently serving a 10-year federal prison sentence for passing classified information to a UK-based al-Qaeda webmaster.” [75477, 75478]

“...The FBI established a direct tie between Abu-Jihaad and Simpson according to court documents in the latter’s 2010 trial, as Simpson was first questioned by the FBI in 2006 when authorities believed he might be part of a terror cell. ...undoubtedly, what launched that 2006 investigation was the activity of Abu-Jihaad’s former roommate, Derrick Shareef. Shareef was arrested in 2006 for his role in a plot to set off hand grenades at a Rockford, Illinois shopping mall during the holiday season. He later pled guilty on a charge of attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction, and was sentenced to 35 years in prison. ...The mosque also came under scrutiny in March 2008, when a large group of men from ICCP began firing semi-automatic weapons in an open area frequented by runners and bikers near a residential area... Needless to say, the usual suspects claimed the men were being targeted because of their Islamic faith, rather than their firing rifles in a prohibited area that endangered others. ICCP officials would most likely claim that the case of the “Draw Muhammad” terrorists coming out of their mosque, as had a traitor betraying classified military secrets to al-Qaeda, and a man planning a terror attack on a shopping mall during the holidays, is a matter of bad luck.” [75477, 75478]

In its report of the shooting, the *Daily Mail* edits photographs of the scene, blacking out the images of Muhammed being judged at the event. (Jihad Watch’s Robert Spencer writes, “This is the cowardice and pusillanimity that rule the day. The Daily Mail is generally clueless, but this is much, much worse than that. This only shows the jihadis that violent intimidation works. Threats and murder work. To kowtow to that is the opposite of journalism and what journalism is supposed to be. If there were still a substantial number of free people in Britain, this would be the end of the Daily Mail. It would be losing readers by the thousands. But it won’t be.”) [75226]

Rukmini Callimachi, a foreign correspondent for *The New York Times*, tweets, “Free speech aside, why would anyone do something as provocative as hosting a ‘Muhammad

drawing contest?” (Some might argue that a person who writes, “Free speech aside” has absolutely no business being a journalist.) [75269]

On May 4, in his hometown of Detroit, pediatric neurosurgeon Dr. Ben Carson announces his candidacy for the presidency. WashingtonTimes.com writes, “Mr. Carson plans to immediately shake up a race that so far has lacked much substantive policy talk by embracing specific policy prescriptions, including a proposed \$2 trillion economic stimulus funded entirely by repatriated American profits overseas, a flat tax system for all Americans, and a plan to eliminate the U.S. budget deficit quickly and to eliminate U.S. debt within a decade.” [75230, 75247, 75301]

Obama’s former campaign advisor David Axelrod tweets, “I suspect Dr. Ben Carson is about to learn that running for President of the United States is not brain surgery.” (Matt Dole tweets in response, “He’s been watching your guy play ‘operation’ badly for 6 years. He knows.”) [75238]

Former Hewlett-Packard CEO Carly Fiorina announces her candidacy for the presidency. On her web site, Fiorina states, “Only in the United States of America can a young woman start as a secretary and work to become Chief Executive of one of the largest technology companies in the world. It’s time to put a citizen leader in the White House.” In her announcement video, Fiorina says, “We know the only way to re-imagine our government is to re-imagine who is leading it. I’m Carly Fiorina and I’m running for president.” Fiorina’s book, *Rising to the Challenge: My Leadership Journey*, is published. (Proceeds from the book will be donated to charity.) [75232, 75248, 75298, 75301, 75336, 75436, 75697, 75698]

On *Good Morning America*, the straight-shooting Fiorina says, “...I understand how the economy actually works, I understand the world, who’s in it, how the world works, I understand bureaucracies, and that’s what our federal government has become—a giant bloated, unaccountable, corrupt bureaucracy. I understand technology, which is a tool—both to re-imagine government and to re-engage citizens in the process of government, and I understand executive decision-making, which is making a tough call in a tough time with high stakes for which you’re prepared to be held accountable. I don’t think you read about that—you learn it by doing it. ...This is a pivotal point for our nation, and so I think it’s totally reasonable to look outside the political class that’s been in Washington for a really long time.” [75248, 75298]

Michelle Obama, at the opening of the Whitney Museum in New York City, says, “You see, there are so many kids in this country who look at places like museums and concert halls and other cultural centers and they think to themselves, well, that’s not a place for me, for someone who looks like me, for someone who comes from my neighborhood. In fact, I guarantee you that right now, there are kids living less than a mile from here who would never in a million years dream that they would be welcome in this museum. And growing up on the South Side of Chicago, I was one of those kids myself. So I know that feeling of not belonging in a place like this. ...Museums and concert halls just don’t



welcome non-white visitors—especially children—the way they welcome whites. ...And with this inaugural exhibition, the Whitney is really sending the same message to young people and to people of every background across this country. You're telling them that their story is part of the American story, and that they deserve to be seen. And you're sending that message not just with the art you display, but with the educational programming you run here. You're reaching out to kids from all backgrounds, exposing them to the arts, showing them that they have something to contribute. ...And in the end, that's why I'm here today, and I know that's why we're all here today. I'm here because I believe so strongly in that mission, and because I think that every cultural institution in this country should be doing this kind of outreach and engagement with our young people every single day." (Where Mrs. Obama got the absurd idea that non-whites are not welcome at museums and concert halls is not clear. Why she never felt like she belonged at them is also not clear.) [75288, 75289, 75311, 75361, 75380, 75961]

DailySignal.com reports, "After expanding to do business on the Affordable Care Act's exchanges last year, a Wisconsin-based health insurance company founded in 1892 has announced it will close its doors. Assurant Inc. announced last week one of its subsidiaries, Assurant Health, an insurance company, will either be sold or shuttered after losing tens of millions of dollars this year. The decision comes 18 months after the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, and industry watchers argue Assurant Health's end can be attributed to the new health care law. ...In a letter to its shareholders, Assurant Health said it lost money because of a reduction in recoveries under Obamacare's risk mitigation programs and increased claims on the health care law's 2015 policies. ...Before Obamacare's implementation, Assurant Health would underwrite its customer's policies, which gave the company a competitive edge. The process involves adjusting the cost of a consumer's premium based on factors such as medical history and age. The Affordable Care Act, though, prohibited medical underwriting..." [75290]

NBCDWF.com reports that Garland, Texas shooter Simpson "had his passport revoked and has been known to the FBI since 2005 and on a terror watch list since 2011. ...Court document show a man with the same name is an American Muslim who became the subject of a criminal investigation in 2006 because of his association 'with an individual whom the FBI believed was attempting to set up a terrorist cell in Arizona,' U.S. District Judge Mary H. Murgia said in her order convicting Simpson. Prosecutors alleged that the false statement involved terrorism, but Murgia's order said prosecutors hadn't proved that part of the allegation. Another federal judge later sentenced Simpson to three years of probation." [75240]

Radical Muslim cleric Anjem Choudary tweets, "we must learn the lessons from [Salman] Rushdie, [Ayaan] Hirsi Ali, Theo Van Gogh & Chalie [sic; Charlie; Hebdo] not to insult the Messenger Muhammad..." [75241]

The Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR) issues a statement: "We condemn yesterday's attack on an anti-Islam event in Garland, Texas, without reservation. We also reiterate our view that violence in response to anti-Islam programs like the one in Garland

is more insulting to our faith than any cartoon, however defamatory. Bigoted speech can never be an excuse for violence. Muslims in North Texas and across the nation are shocked and saddened by this inexcusable attack and pray for the speedy recovery of the officer injured by the attackers. We thank the Garland Police Department for its swift actions to ensure public safety. Unfortunately, human history shows us that hatred breeds more hatred and extremism leads to more extremism. Pamela Geller, Robert Spencer, Geert Wilders and the perpetrators of yesterday's attack all seek to provoke a downward spiral of mutual hostility and mistrust in America and around the world. People of good will must work together to ensure that extremists of all faiths and backgrounds do not accomplish that malevolent goal. We reiterate the American Muslim community's support for freedom of speech—even bigoted speech—and its repudiation of terrorism in any form.” (Katie Pavlich provides a translation: “We Condemn The Terror Attack In Texas, But Pamela Geller Totally Had It Coming.”) [75265]

John Szmer, an associate professor of political science and a constitutional law expert at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, tells McClatchyDC.com, “Fighting words is the idea that you are saying something that is so offensive that it will lead to an immediate breach of the peace. In other words, you are saying something and you should expect a violent reaction by other people. ...I don't think it is unreasonable to expect what they were doing [at the 'draw Mohammed' contest in Garland, Texas] would incite a violent reaction.” But “fighting words can contradict the basic values that underlie freedom of speech. The views being expressed at the conference could be seen as social commentary. Political and social speech should be protected. You are arguably talking about social commentary.” [75271, 75272, 75353]

Robert Spencer, whose JihadWatch.org is one of the most hacker-attacked web sites on the Internet, writes, “You knew this was coming. It was inevitable. We have seen it before. ...And now, Lindsay Wise and Jonathan S. Landay of McClatchy wish that Pamela Geller and I could be prosecuted for standing for free speech against violent intimidation, and describe completely wrongly the concept of 'fighting words,' which is actually about words spoken in an actual fight situation, not about an innocuous activity that others find so provocative as to commit murder. The free world is going quietly. ...I have offered to have a public discussion or debate with virtually every significant Muslim leader on the scene. They have all contemptuously refused. They don't want to fight speech with more speech. They don't want to confront our ideas. They want to smear us, defame us, marginalize us, and destroy us utterly. That is how the Left and the Islamic supremacists work these days.” [75272, 75526, 75533]

Bill Clinton tells NBC News' Cynthia McFadden he will keep accepting \$500,000 per speech because “I gotta [sic; have to] pay our bills.” He also excuses the shady dealings of the Clinton Foundation, saying, “There is no doubt in my mind that we have never done anything knowingly inappropriate in terms of taking money to influence any kind of American government policy. That just hasn't happened.” (Clinton's response is like answering, “No, I've never been *convicted*” to the question, “Have you ever been *arrested*?”) McFadden asks, “Do you understand though that the perception itself is a

problem?” Clinton replies, “No. I’m not responsible for anybody else’s perception.” [75260, 75264]

According to WashingtonTimes.com, “The Obama Justice Department turned down a request five years ago to help the Baltimore Police Department save a training program widely credited for improving the department’s relations with the city’s crime-ridden and minority neighborhoods and reducing homicides and police-involved shootings. The department was seeking \$200,000 in federal funding to help extend the Diamond Standard training program. It was discontinued in 2012 when Justice declined to act on the request and the city’s new administration decided it no longer could afford it, according to interviews. The key organizer of the training told The Washington Times that he was floored when he later learned the same Justice program whose help he sought instead gave money to the company that produced the children’s PBS series ‘Mr. Rogers’ Neighborhood.’” [75276]

According to FreeBeacon.com, “The city of Baltimore received over \$1.8 billion from ...Obama’s [2009] stimulus law, including \$467.1 million to invest in education and \$26.5 million for crime prevention. ...Obama claimed last Tuesday that if the Republican-controlled Congress would implement his policies to make ‘massive investments in urban communities,’ they could ‘make a difference right now’ in the city, currently in upheaval following the death of Freddie Gray. (Baltimore has about 622,000 residents. The \$1.8 billion in stimulus funds therefore represented about \$2,900 per resident. Of course, it was not meant to be distributed equally across the city; it was supposed to create jobs—yet the average unemployment rate in Baltimore in 2010 was higher than it was in 2009.) [75387, 75388, 75389]

Obama travels to New York City for a speaking engagement at a My Brother’s Keeper Alliance event at Lehman College, followed by an appearance on *The Late Show* with David Letterman—and two Democrat National Committee events. Obama tells the My Brother’s Keeper audience that assisting young men of color will “remain a mission for me and for Michelle not just for the rest of my presidency, but for the rest of my life. And the reason is simple... we see ourselves in these young men. I grew up without a dad. I grew up lost sometimes and adrift, not having a sense of a clear path. And the only difference between me and a lot of other young men in this neighborhood and all across the country is that I grew up in an environment that was a little more forgiving.” [75233, 75296, 75319]

*The Washington Post* gives House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) “three Pinocchios” for claiming the House budget proposal “turns a cold shoulder to our veterans and ignores our crumbling infrastructure. In terms of our veterans, you see yesterday, Republicans sought to advance their appropriations bill under the level set by their new budget, which may or may not come to the floor today. But yesterday, the MilCon—military construction veterans bill—that cuts \$1.4 billion below ...Obama’s budget... and then it cuts \$690 million from veterans’ medical care alone, the equivalent of 70,000 fewer veterans receiving V.A. medical care in one year.” The *Post* points out,

“The House passed a \$171 billion VA and military construction bill, which was a funding increase for both programs over fiscal 2015 levels. That included \$163 billion for VA’s fiscal 2016 budget—a \$4 billion increase over the fiscal 2015 enacted budget... Discretionary funding for VA totaled \$69.7 billion—a nearly six percent increase over fiscal 2015. It included funding for treatment of 6.9 million patients and 770 new staff members to address the claims backlog. ...For the medical-services portion of the veterans’ health budget, [Obama’s] budget requested \$1.1 billion over what already was enacted for fiscal 2016. The appropriations bill agreed to 86 percent of that additional request.” (As usual, a politician—in this case Pelosi—claims that a budget *increase* is a *cut*, simply because the increase is less than what some desired. If a worker is hoping for a six percent salary increase but gets an increase of only four percent, he certainly has *not* seen his salary go down two percent—yet that is the logic Pelosi is using.) [75304, 75305]

Hillary Clinton’s lawyer, David Kendall, tells the Select Benghazi Committee she will refuse to testify twice, as requested by the committee. (The committee wants one private hearing and one public hearing.) Clinton is apparently willing to appear only once, at a public hearing—where she knows she can rely on theatrics to portray herself as a victim. Kendall also insists Clinton has turned over all emails—that *she* considers relevant. Whether Clinton will wear an earpiece for the hearing (no pun intended) is not known. (Some have suggested that Clinton wears an earpiece at public appearances so that staffers can feed her answers.) [75268, 75277, 75297]

DCWhispers.com writes, “During much of 2014 there were consistent rumors that Hillary Clinton’s health might prevent her from running for the presidency in 2016. She had fallen and injured herself more than once in recent years, was absent from public for long stretches of time, but then re-emerged most recently to declare her intention to seek the Democratic Party nomination. Despite that announcement, rumors persist from Inside the Beltway that Mrs. Clinton’s health is of far greater concern to the campaign than is widely realized, and that some in the media already know but are purposely keeping the secret hidden from the public. The specific nature of the 67-year old Mrs. Clinton’s health issues remain speculative, though most whispers suggest it is hampering the former Secretary of State’s neurological abilities. She is said to continue struggling with occasional dizzy spells and at times, near debilitating fatigue as well as bouts of especially poor eyesight.” [75318]

“Her days apparently include a rather large regimen of medications to alleviate her symptoms and keep her focused. At times, that focus still suffers greatly, glimpses of which have already been spotted despite a Clinton campaign that remains highly guarded. To date, nearly every statement she has uttered in public has been prepackaged, as can be seen in this public forum in Iowa just two weeks earlier which shows her repeatedly looking down at her notes while speaking. It has also been indicated Mrs. Clinton often wears a small ear piece (said to normally be placed in her right ear) that allows an aide placed off camera to assist her in answering even the most basic of questions if it appears she is getting mentally fatigued which apparently happens often due either to her

medications, her overall health issues, or possibly both. Concern over Hillary Clinton's ability to perform during a long and arduous campaign are such that a number of the largest political donors have made personal inquiries into the former First Lady's condition. To date it appears the response to these concerns from campaign staffers is that all is well and the campaign will proceed as planned." [75318]

Bosch Fawstin, the winner of the "draw Muhammed" contest in Garland, Texas, tells Fox News' Greta Van Susteren, "We can't be cowed by this [threat of violence] because once this goes, once free speech goes, it's over. I've been drawing Muhammed for years and I heard about the contest and I took it upon myself to take part in it. I think it's an important thing. It's about freedom of speech, which is deadly important, especially right now. It's under siege by the enemy, the Islamic enemy, by the left, by some on the right and it is a constant attack. We are being told that we 'shouldn't do this' or we 'shouldn't do that,' [but] we have the right to do that and we need express that right especially right now. I understand the threat that we face and that's why I do what I do. I don't refuse to do it because of the threat, I do it because we're being threatened. This has to be fought head on." (Fawstin later tells *The Wall Street Journal*, "I don't want to say where [I live]. There are Muslims out there who want to kill me.") [75285, 75291, 75328, 75329, 75332]

At PJMedia.com Helen Smith asks, "Is Pam Geller the Bravest Woman in the U.S.?" and writes, "Love her or hate her, you have to admit that what she is doing is brave. How many women in this country (or men for that matter) would fight the good fight for free speech and do it at the risk of his or her life? How many Americans anymore really believe Patrick Henry's famous words: 'Give me liberty or give me death?' Ms. Geller has shown by her words and actions that she believes these words and believes in her freedom and that of her fellow Americans to address what they see as the concerns of the day. In these cowardly times, her actions put her head and shoulders above the mainstream press and others who believe that there is only one politically correct way to address those who wish to harm Jews and others. What might have happened in the 1930s if other Jews had spoken up like Geller? It might have changed history. Thank you, Pam, for your bravery and your love of liberty." (This *Timeline* suggests that the top three bravest women in America are Geller, True the Vote's Catherine Engelbrecht, and journalist Sharyl Attkisson.) [75300]

On MSNBC, Andrea Mitchell calls Pamela Geller's American Freedom Defense Initiative (AFDI) is "hateful" and "bizarre." Ayman Mohyeldin tells Mitchell the AFDI is "a group considered by the Southern Poverty Law Center [SPLC] and elsewhere around the world as a hate group." (Newsbusters.org points out that Mohyeldin "is the same reporter who sneered that Chris Kyle, the real-life 'American Sniper,' was a 'racist' who went on 'killing sprees.'" The SPLC is hardly an impartial source of anything. It is a far left organization that has falsely labeled all sorts of groups "hate groups." It has defamed and smeared tax protesters, conservatives, supporters of the U.S. Constitution, the Family Research Council, Jihad Watch, Glenn Beck, actor Chuck Norris, former

Congresswoman Michele Bachmann (R-MN), and Dr. Ben Carson as dangerous.) [5010, 55510, 71942, 71949, 71984, 72041, 72138, 75302, 75522]

On May 5 Hillary Clinton uses the Cinco de Mayo occasion to announce that she supports Obama's illegal immigrant amnesty executive orders and a "pathway to citizenship" for illegal immigrants. She says, "If Congress refuses to act, as president I would do everything possible under the law to go even further [than Obama has]. I will fight to stop the partisan attacks on [Obama's] executive actions." Not surprisingly Clinton relies on the traditional false choice argument for the issue, saying it would be "absurd" to deport 11 million illegal immigrants. Amnesty supporters almost always use that argument, falsely suggesting that the only two policy options available are deporting all illegal immigrants or making them all voting citizens. It is, of course, possible to do neither. Clinton complains that those who call merely for "legal status" are using "code for second-class citizen." She is mistaken. They would not be second-class citizens; they would not even be citizens—and there is arguably nothing wrong with that. (For example, foreigners living in the United States with work visas have legal status but are not citizens.) While some argue that the GOP should also engage in "Hispandering" to win a larger share of the Hispanic vote, others argue that would be a waste of time because the states with large Hispanic populations already routinely vote Democrat and are not about to change. [75354, 75359, 75362, 75373, 75420]

On John Gambling's radio program in February 2003, Hillary Clinton said, "We've gotta [sic] do several things and I am, you know, adamantly against illegal immigrants. I made this exception basically on humanitarian grounds because of the individual stories but certainly we've gotta [sic] do more at our borders, and people have to stop employing illegal immigrants. Come up to Westchester, go to Suffolk and Nassau counties, stand in the street corners on, in Brooklyn or the Bronx—you're gonna [sic] to see loads of people waiting to get picked up to go do yard work and construction work and domestic work..." [75379, 75442]

Senate Republicans fail to gather enough votes to override an Obama veto of legislation that would have stopped what WashingtonExaminer.com refers to as the National Labor Relations Board's (NLRB) "ambush" rule. "The 'ambush' election rule took effect on April 14, and with this ruling, union bosses—desperate to save their declining membership—now have valuable new tools to coerce and intimidate workers into joining their ranks. The new rule will significantly shorten the window of time in which an election to unionize can be held—from an average of 38 days now to as few as 11 days after a petition has been filed. Shorter election times mean a much greater likelihood of unionization. Data from the NLRB show that from 2004 to 2014, unions won 60 percent of elections that took place between 36 and 42 days, but 86 percent of elections that took place under 21 days. American small businesses, which often lack the infrastructure and support staff to ensure compliance with new and complex changes, will be acutely affected by the ruling. Employees now have much less time to educate themselves about unionization, while employers will be forced to submit a formal statement of position

within seven days and will not be able to amend their statement before a representation hearing.” [75713]

“The new rules also eliminate an employer’s automatic right to a post-election review. Instead, employers are left to trust that the results are accurate and fair. Union organizers can now approach any employee for their vote in unionizing the workplace without verifying that they are even eligible to vote. Incredibly, eligibility won’t be decided until after an election takes place. These new NLRB policies also represent a serious violation of worker privacy. Union bosses now have blanket access to employees’ personal information, including phone numbers and email address, job classifications, shift schedules, work locations and home addresses. Employers can no longer protect personal employee information, and there’s no reason to think labor organizers will be shy about using it. In some instances, labor organizers have been known to camp out in front of workers’ homes to attempt to bully them into joining the union. On the brink of irrelevance, labor unions bankrolled ...Obama’s election and re-election campaigns, and now the administration is doing everything in its power to pay back its labor benefactors.” [75713]

FoxNews.com reports, “The Islamic State terror group (ISIS) Tuesday issued a claim of responsibility for Sunday’s attack on a Texas cartoon contest featuring images of the Muslim prophet Muhammad. The claim was made in an audio message on the group’s Al Bayan radio station, based in the Syria[n] city of Raqqa, which ISIS has proclaimed to be the capital of its self-proclaimed caliphate. It is the first time ISIS has taken credit for an attack on U.S. soil, though it was not immediately clear whether the group’s claim was an opportunistic co-opting of a so-called ‘lone wolf’ attack as its own.” (ISIS’ claim notwithstanding, the attackers may only have been inspired, rather than orchestrated, by ISIS—not that it makes much difference.) [75280, 75281, 75293, 75292, 75331]

WashingtonPost.com’s headline reads: “Event organizer offers no apology after thwarted attack in Texas.” (The article is written by the newspaper’s “social change reporter,” who apparently wants Pamela Geller to apologize for a terrorist attack against the free speech event she held. Whether the *Post* will start demanding that rape victims apologize for wearing short dresses remains to be seen. Geller suggests other *Post* headlines: “Abraham Lincoln offers no apology after John Wilkes Booth lodges a bullet in his brain.” “Julius Caesar offers no apology after Cassius and Brutus stab him to death.” “Jews offer no apology after Nazis kill six million.” Hypocritical media leftists condemn Geller for engaging in nothing more than speaking and displaying drawings and paintings, while trying to justify rioting in Baltimore by claiming that burning down a CVS pharmacy is somehow a legitimate expression of free speech. HotAir.com comments, “The media is so, so angry at Pam Geller for putting them in a position where they have to side with her (sort of). They already despised her. Now that she’s made them unwilling allies in defending her right to mock Mohammed, they’ll never forgive her.”) [75287, 75333, 75352]

*The Dallas Morning News* proclaims in its headline that “Pamela Geller and company went looking for trouble.” Accompanying the story is a photograph of Muslims holding a banner praising Texas attackers Nadir Soofi. (Geller writes, “It’s telling: when the mainstream media condemns me, they’re carrying water for the jihad killers.”) [75324, 75325, 75326]

Amazingly, before the Garland, Texas event the FBI issued a bulletin declaring that it was “unlikely” to provoke violence. At PJMedia.com Patrick Poole notes that online chatter about the event “began when news broke that two Muslim congressmen, Keith Ellison [D-MN] and Andre Carson [IN], had appealed to Secretary of State John Kerry to deny entry into the U.S. for Dutch parliamentarian Geert Wilders. Wilders was scheduled to be the featured speaker at Sunday’s cartoon contest. One law enforcement source who was monitoring potential threats to the event told PJ Media the following: ‘[Ellison and Carson] clearly set things off. Nothing was being said until that news story came out, and then the usual suspects began to talk about it. By the time the weekend rolled around, there were clear and identifiable incitements calling for an attack on the event.’  
...According to those close to the investigation, the real heroes who quickly eliminated the threat on Sunday were the Texas Department of Public Safety, who took the online threats seriously. The threats included inciting tweets from known foreign Islamic State operatives overseas (namely, IS cybercaliphate chief Junaid Hussain), leading them to deploy a ‘massive’ presence at the cartoon contest event. The response from the FBI and DHS following yet another intelligence failure remains to be seen.” [75340]

At IsraelNationalNews.com New York City novelist Jack Engelhard writes, “Pamela Geller made a mistake. She tested the First Amendment and the First Amendment lost. This fighter for Israel, this battler against Radical Islam can seem to find no friends after what she did. She tried to prove that America is not France, where 11 were murdered by Islamists for printing Mohammad cartoons, nor are we the Netherlands, where Ayaan Hirsi Ali’s partner, Director Theo van Gogh was murdered for his documentary *Submission*, which exposed Islamist mistreatment of women. This cannot happen in America, assumed Miss Geller, here in the land of the free, home of the brave, and she was wrong. It can happen here, and it did... in part. Together with Robert Spencer, Geller organized a Mohammad Cartoon Contest in Garland, Texas; obviously as a means to illustrate that America will not be intimidated. Two apparent Jihadists (with possible links to ISIS) tried to storm the event, but were killed by local police. After that came the denunciations. No, not against the Islamic fanatics. But against Geller. ...There was a time, among journalists especially, when Americans were unafraid and quick to speak their minds. We saw this from last week’s PBS program about Vietnam, which featured reporters going after LBJ and Nixon with a vengeance. Compare that to today’s reporters who remain putty in the hands of Obama. Seems that we have trained ourselves to be compliant, passive, easily cowed and entirely too close to being cowards. If freedom of speech is not worth fighting for—what will we give up next?” [75327]

Blogger Ace of Spades comments on the media’s attacks on Pamela Geller for daring to engage in free speech: “This is about class. This is all about class. This is about,



specifically, the careerist, cowardly, go-along-to-get-along mores of the Upper Middle Class, the class of people whose parents were all college educated, and of course are college educated themselves; the class that dominates our thought-transmitting institutions (because non-college educated people are more or less shut out of this industry). It is a class which is deathly afraid of social stigma, and lives in class-based fear being *grouped with the wrong people*, and which is more interested in Career, quite frankly, than in the actual tradecraft of that Career, which is clarity of thought and clarity of expression. ...Ms. Gellar is fearless. Ms. Gellar, for whatever reason, is utterly immune to the thuggish enforcements of conformity imposed by the Social Justice Warrior and their publicity department, which we know as the legacy media. ...[W]hen many of us—and here I include myself—chose to stop talking so much about the Islamist threat, not because the Islamist threat had receded, but because *the social tolerance for talking about the Islamist threat receded into almost nothing*, Pam Gellar soldiered on, unbowed.” [75371, 75372]

“Now, as a personal matter, I have had sharp differences with Ms. Gellar. We do not get along. ***But this is entirely besides the point.*** Americans, acting under the influence of America, were fucking ***shot at*** by crazed religious cultists seeking to impose a cancerous religious lunacy on America. One does not ‘support’ someone’s right to free speech by name-calling them and advertising how far one believes they fall outside the smug Upper Middle Class (leftist-dominated) Consensus. ***One supports free speech by supporting those who speak freely.*** I am so disgusted by how so many alleged *thinkers* seem to care more about social positioning than actual *thought*. ...Are we here to talk about ideas and principles, or are we here to secure position and advantage? A woman spoke. Men with guns shot at her for speaking. Do we really need to take an ‘on the one hand, on the other hand’ approach here. And we need not talk about ‘tone’ or whether Ms. Gellar speaks for us on all things. One does not award Style Points on a battlefield. This is why we have no actual conservative movement worth a damn: Because our political officers and our thought leaders *are all drawn from, and aspire to advance in, the same Upper Middle Class Northeast-and-California cultural consensus of ‘respectability.’* ...I believe that far too many ideas we have are non-ideas, things we’ve never actually thought through, but are simply Class Assumptions, and that we are all too afraid to go against our herd, our tribe, and start questioning some goddamned Class Assumptions.” [75371, 75372]

At BloombergView.com Noah Feldman, a professor of constitutional and international law at Harvard University who seems unfamiliar with the U.S. Constitution, writes that it is “easy to be distracted by the First Amendment. ...One goal of the provokers in Texas seems to have been sending a message to Muslims that their faith may be criticized with impunity. ...It’s hard to escape the suspicion that part of her [Pamela Geller] hoped to provoke a violent response.” (The First Amendment, of course, protects Feldman’s right to make idiotic statements—even if he does believe that Islam should be protected from all criticism.) [75376]

In Texas, Nadia Irsan appears in court over the “honor killing” murder of her brother-in-law by her father. According to NYDailyNews.com, Nadia Irsan “stalked her sister for

months and delivered a chilling warning to her brother-in-law shortly before his murder, authorities said. ‘I cannot wait until my dad puts a bullet between your eyes,’ Nadia Irsan allegedly told her sister’s husband. ...Irsan’s hardline Muslim father was furious when her sister, Nesreen Irsan, married a Christian man without his approval... The irate dad, 57-year-old Ali Mahwood-Awad Irsan, first gunned down his daughter’s friend, Iranian activist Galareh Bagherzadeh, who he believed led her astray from her fundamentalist upbringing, according to prosecutors. The father threatened his daughter after Bagherzadeh’s January 2012 death. ‘I killed that b---h, and you’re next,’ Ali Mahwood-Awad Irsan is accused of saying, according to the Houston Chronicle. Then he came for her husband, Coty Beavers, shooting him to death in November 2012 in the couple’s home, authorities said. The dad was charged with murder in the dual homicides. His wife and 21-year-old son also face charges in the case. Nadia Irsan hasn’t been charged with murder in either of the deaths, but that could change, authorities said. She’s accused of tailing her sister, even slipping a GPS device onto the estranged sibling’s car in the lead-up to Beaver’s killing, according to prosecutors. Investigators later discovered the GPS buried in the Irsan’s yard.” (Those who hurl charges of “Islamophobia” against those who warn about the Islamization of America should recognize that the Irsan case is not unique. Shari’ah law justified honor killings are becoming increasingly common in the United States. Pamela Geller writes, “No one is enraged about this. This isn’t on any TV shows, no one is writing indignant editorials about it, no one is condemning it, no one is taking any notice at all. No, the problem is Muhammad cartoons and Pamela Geller. Not Sharia blasphemy laws, or Islamic honor killing, or any jihad attack. The problem is me.”) [75502, 75503, 75508]

Former Arkansas governor Mike Huckabee announces his candidacy for the presidency. (On his radio program, Glenn Beck suggests, “I think he’s being put in as a spoiler. I think that’s the only thing. I really do. I think he’s there because he’ll pull religious votes away from [Senator] Ted Cruz [R-TX]. And that’s the one that big government progressives are afraid of. The establishment is afraid of Ted Cruz and [Senator] Rand Paul [R-KY]. They’re going to do everything they can to make sure those two are nowhere to be seen when it comes to Election Day. And so if you want to take care of Ted Cruz, you go after the religious base. And you split the religious base. And that’s what Mike Huckabee is doing.” (Huckabee is religious, but he is also a strong supporter of big government. Regardless of Huckabee’s intentions, of course, the GOP establishment will be more than pleased to see the anti-Jeb Bush vote divided because that will help enable Bush to win the nomination. The Republican establishment most assuredly does not want Cruz or Paul to capture the nomination.) [75306, 75317]

Asked what Iran will do with billions of dollars of assets once they are released in exchange for a finalized nuclear agreement, White House press secretary Josh Earnest tells reporters, “...I think it’s the hope of the Iranian people that the influx of resources will be devoted to meeting the needs of the population there and to strengthening the economy that has taken a terrible toll on the daily lives of millions of Iranians. We’ve talked before about how the significant pressure that our sanctions regime has placed on Iran has had a negative impact on their economy and that poorly performing economy has added to some pressure inside of Iran for the Iranian leadership to consider a change in

policy and we're gratified by that because it's created an important diplomatic opportunity for us to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon. But the fact is, there are two things I would point out. Even while these sanctions have been in place we have not seen Iran significantly scale back their support for terrorism or their destabilization activities in the region. The second thing is the pressure that they are feeling is not primarily rooted in the idea that they need to get rid of the sanctions or at least get the international community to relax these sanctions so that they can invest additional resources in those activities. I wouldn't be in a position to predict exactly what the Iranian reaction will be and I'm certainly not going to be in a position to mandate what kinds of economic decisions they'll make. A common sense analysis would be that they would use those additional resources to try and relieve that economic pressure that they're feeling [rather than fund terrorism]. But again, I'm not going to make any predictions about what they're going to do and certainly I'm not going to be in a position to prescribe what they should do. This is a sovereign country that will make their own decisions." (Translation: "Yes, Iran will continue to be a state sponsor of terror even after sanctions are lifted and Obama will do nothing about it.") [75282, 75283, 75335]

Earnest grits his teeth to comment on the Garland, Texas attack: "There is no act of expression, even if it's an offensive expression, that can justify an act of terrorism or even an act of violence. There is no room in our society, and it certainly doesn't reflect a commitment to universal human rights, to try to use an act of expression to justify an act of terrorism. There is no justification for an act of violence and an attempted act of terrorism like the one that we saw." (It was not an "attempted" act of terrorism; it was an act of terrorism. In any case, it is likely that no one in the White House supports Pamela Geller—*especially* Obama, who in September 2010 said at the United Nations, "The future must not belong to those who slander the prophet of Islam." Earnest defends Geller only because he has to, not because he wants to.) [37574, 37575, 37596, 37600, 37607, 75284]

On the issue of the economy, Earnest tells reporters Obama has, "for the last six and a half years... scratched and clawed to protect the interests of middle-class families all across the country." (At WhiteHouseDossier.com, Keith Koffler points out how Obama's policies have mostly benefited the poor and the wealthy: "These things he scratches and claws for. Not private sector expansion and business-friendly policies that would promote middle class expansion. And the results speak for themselves.") [75396]

Bridget Johnson reports at PJMedia.com, "A new warning from a purported American jihadist details specific levels of ISIS fighters in the U.S.—as well as targeted states—in the wake of the attack in Garland, Texas." The message states, "The attack by the Islamic State in America [in Garland, Texas] is only the beginning of our efforts to establish a wiliyah [province] in the heart of our enemy. Our aim was the khanzeer [swine] Pamela Geller and to show her that we don't care what land she hides in or what sky shields her; we will send all our Lions to achieve her slaughter. This will heal the hearts of our brothers and disperse the ones behind her. To those who protect her: this will be your only warning of housing this woman and her circus show. Everyone who houses her

events, gives her a platform to spill her filth are legitimate targets. We have been watching closely who was present at this event and the shooter of our brothers. We knew that the target was protected. Our intention was to show how easy we give our lives for the Sake of Allah. ...Out of the 71 trained soldiers 23 have signed up for missions like Sunday, We are increasing in number bithnillah [‘with the permission of Allah,’ or ‘Allah willing’]. Of the 15 states, 5 we will name... Virginia, Maryland, Illinois, California, and Michigan. The disbelievers who shot our brothers think that you killed someone untrained, nay, they gave you their bodies in plain view because we were watching. The next six months will be interesting, To our Amir Al Mu’mineen [ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi] make dua [invocation] for us and continue your reign, May Allah enoble [sic; ennoble] your face.” [75320, 75323, 75360, 75458]

At BaltimoreSun.com, veteran prosecutor Page Croyder writes, “Baltimore State’s Attorney Marilyn Mosby’s ‘quick’ and ‘decisive’ action in charging six Baltimore police officers a mere two weeks after the death of Freddie Gray reflects either incompetence or an unethical recklessness. ...John Banzahf, a George Washington University law professor, predicted the eventual dismissal of most if not all the charges. The breadth of the charges, Ms. Mosby’s overreaching, is all-too-obvious. Any prosecutor interested in the truth and in justice would have used all the tools at her disposal to find them. Ms. Mosby ignored them. She has one of the most experienced homicide prosecutors in the state of Maryland as chief of her homicide unit, but did not ask him to investigate. She had the police report all of one day before filing charges, her mind already made up. And she failed to make use of the grand jury to gather, probe and test the evidence before a group of average citizens. ...She had no time to evaluate the crucial autopsy report, or consult with experts about its implications. In her haste to step into the national limelight, she circumvented normal charging procedures by grabbing a member of the sheriff’s office to swear to their truth and file them for her. She calculated her actions for surprise and maximum effect, and she got it. ...In the long run, Ms. Mosby may be undermining the cause of justice rather than promoting it. She has created an expectation of guilt and conviction. If that does not happen, many will blame the system as unfair or unjust, when it may have been Ms. Mosby’s own lack of competence and/or arrogance in bringing charges so quickly. ...If I were a Baltimore police officer, I’d be looking for another job immediately. And as a Baltimore citizen, I may start looking for someplace else to live. When the police cannot depend upon the state’s attorney to be as thorough, competent, non-political and fair with them as she is supposed to be with all citizens, none of us will be safe.” [75286, 75292]

At Spectator.org Ben Stein states what Obama lacks the courage (or the intelligence) to state: “...Marilyn Mosby should not be allowed to be a law clerk, let alone a state’s attorney/prosecutor. To prosecute police officers EXPLICITLY to please a mob (‘I have heard your cries about ‘no justice, no peace’ ...’) is exactly the opposite of what a prosecutor should do. That is, to prosecute only when the facts and law demand it. To press charges because a gang of thugs loots liquor stores and promises to loot more liquor stores if charges are not pressed is exactly lynch mob justice. It has nothing to do with the sacred rule of ‘innocent until proven guilty.’ Usually prosecutors will show at least hint of impartiality in an important case. Ms. Mosby went straight for the jugular and

basically said, 'The thugs are my bosses and I answer to them and not to the Constitution.' This is a dangerous woman. She bears watching." [75312, 75313]

"...Mrs. Clinton and the *New York Times* talk about 'one and a half million missing black men...' They are not missing. We know where they are. They are in jail or prison for committing crimes. They haven't been taken away by space aliens. They're here, in prison. When they learn to work and participate in the labor force in an honest way, they won't be missing anymore. ...I was uplifted by many of the men and women of the poor parts of Baltimore. They were sensible. They were prayerful. They didn't play games around calling a thug a thug. Impressive. The 'leaders' are morally far behind the rank and file. Next, I turn to the greatest cure all for the problems of Baltimore and Ferguson. WORK. People with honest jobs are not robbing liquor stores. People who work all day long are too tired to loot. The people who get ahead in every society are not the ones who throw Molotov cocktails. They are the ones who actually work, study, add to their human capital and make a life for themselves and their families. Have you ever seen Vietnamese immigrants rioting? Or Chinese immigrants? No, because they are working. There is a lesson here about idle hands and the devil's playthings. The Asians' kids will be at Harvard. The rioters' kids will be 'missing.' Meanwhile, the media should be ashamed for using their power to kowtow to the mob, to tell young thugs that if you throw bricks at cops we will not call you thugs, and we will make you stars on TV. Shame. Turn off the cameras, lock up the vodka, and we will see how many turn out for 'political protest.'" [75312, 75313]

Not only might Mosby "bear watching," she is also incompetent. Two of her six arrest warrants contained errors in names, addresses, and drivers license numbers that prompted harassment of two innocent people by reporters and social media user. (An attorney for Alicia White, a cafeteria manager who is not the Baltimore police officer involved in the arrest of Freddie Gray, tells *The Baltimore Sun*, "Her life has been a living hell the past four days." Mosby also listed the wrong information for officer Brian Rice, instead identifying a plumber with the same name.) [75315, 75316, 75321, 75339]

Additionally, Mosby charged that the officers made a false arrest of Freddie Gray when, in fact, he was reportedly in possession of a knife with an illegal, spring-loaded blade. An attorney for one of the charged officers has asked that the knife be produced to demonstrate that the arrest was proper. Mosby responds, "While the evidence we have obtained through our independent investigation does substantiate the elements of the charges filed, I refuse to litigate this case through the media. The evidence we have collected cannot ethically be disclosed, relayed or released to the public before trial. As I've previously indicated, I strongly condemn anyone in law enforcement with access to trial evidence, who has or continues to leak information prior to the resolution of this case. These unethical disclosures are only damaging our ability to conduct a fair and impartial process for all parties involved." (Laughably, Mosby will litigate her side of the case through the media, but will not allow the officer she has charged to present their case in the same manner.) [75341]

Former prosecutor Andrew C. McCarthy comments on Mosby's actions: "At best, it is amateur hour. ...The chief prosecutor, in what can only be described as a gift to defense lawyers, proclaimed that she'd brought the charges to show not only 'the people of Baltimore' but also 'the demonstrators across America' that 'I heard your call for 'no justice, no peace.'" ...Competent prosecutors charge crimes only when there is evidence sufficient to prove that specific laws have been broken. A government lawyer who publicly asserts that her case was brought for the purpose of dousing inflamed passions, satisfying political agitators, or even easing real suffering undermines the prosecution. It's not just the wrong thing to do; it's the dumb thing to do. At the eventual trial, Ms. Mosby's main audience is not going to be fawning journalists and anti-police activists. There are going to be experienced defense lawyers sowing doubt into the record, and a judge who instructs a jury that the case rises or falls on the strength of the evidence, not the 'call for 'no justice, no peace.'" [75342]

"...It appears that Ms. Mosby filed charges as soon as the medical examiner (ME) determined that Mr. Gray's death was a homicide. But as I explained in connection with the death of Eric Garner after an altercation with police on Staten Island, an ME's conclusion that homicide occurred is not a judgment that murder or even some lesser form of culpable killing occurred. Homicide simply means death was caused by some course of conduct—conduct that could, in theory, be innocent. A competent prosecutor knows it is a long way from the ME's pronouncement of homicide to a compelling case that murder has been committed. ...A competent prosecutor does not charge first and investigate later. That inevitably leads to gaps in the proof. Worse, it leads to inconsistencies in the charges filed. Those are a defense lawyer's dream. ...You can hear the defense lawyers now: 'If the prosecutor herself cannot figure out what happened here, how can you fair-minded ladies and gentlemen of the jury possibly conclude, unanimously, that there is proof beyond a reasonable doubt supporting a murder conviction?'" [75342]

McCarthy notes that Mosby charged the driver of the police van with second-degree murder *and* involuntary manslaughter. Under the former, the act was intentional. Under the latter, the act was unintentional. It clearly cannot be both, yet Mosby charged the officer with both—along with vehicular manslaughter by gross negligence and vehicular manslaughter by criminal negligence. McCarthy writes, "...Ms. Mosby has thrown against the wall several different homicide charges with all their internal distinctions that will force trial prosecutors to make contradictory arguments about the police officers' actions and states of mind. She's obviously hoping that something will stick." At the trial, "one hopefully suspects, the case will no longer be about 'social justice.' It will be about real justice: a careful examination of the state's charges and the evidence offered in support of them. When that day comes, the prosecutor better have more to say than 'no justice, no peace.'" [75342]

House and Senate Democrats push legislation calling for a \$12 per hour minimum wage. The bill will never get passed—because it will destroy jobs—but the goal of the Democrats is not to get it passed. Their goal is to portray Republicans as mean-spirited

and anti-worker. (The problems Republicans have is that even their supporters falsely believe increasing the minimum wage is a good idea. Republican legislators would be wise to continually ask the Democrats, “Why is being unemployed at \$12.00 per hour better than being employed at \$7.25 per hour?”) [75299]

The Senate passes the House budget plan by a vote of 51-48. Senators Ted Cruz (R-TX) and Rand Paul (R-KY) join all Democrats in voting against the budget. Reuters notes, “The non-binding resolution does not go to Obama’s desk to be signed into law. Instead, it helps guide Congress’ consideration of government agency spending bills and serves as a Republican fiscal policy manifesto that will influence 2016 election campaigns. The blueprint would slash spending on the social safety net, education, infrastructure and other domestic programs by \$5.3 trillion over 10 years with no tax increases. At the same time, it boosts defense spending next year by adding about \$38 billion to an off-budget war operations account. ... While Obama is certain to veto any Republican bill to repeal his biggest domestic policy achievement, he may be more willing to compromise on changes to ‘Obamacare’ if the U.S. Supreme Court in June strikes down the law’s health insurance subsidy mechanism in many states.” (Between 2010 and 2015 the Senate, then controlled by the Democrats, never passed a regular-order budget.) [75346, 75349]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, “The IRS doled out more than \$5 billion in potentially bogus college aid payments in 2012 under an Obama stimulus tax credit, according to a report Tuesday from the agency’s inspector general that said the administration still doesn’t have a good handle on how to root out erroneous claims. Nearly 4 million students had questionable claims, totaling more than \$5.6 billion in that one year alone, the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration said. At least half of the students never provided tuition statements showing what they paid, while others attended schools that didn’t qualify them for the tax credit. Other students claimed the credit for more than four years, which should have automatically earned a rejection, the investigators said.” [75303]

CNSNews.com reports, “Iran will never give international inspectors access to its military facilities under a negotiated nuclear accord, the country’s military chief declared at the weekend, underlining the regime’s rejection of what the Obama administration portrays as a core element of a proposed agreement. ‘Iranian military officials are not allowed to let the foreigners go through the country’s security-defense shield and fence,’ Major General Hassan Firouzabadi, commander of Iran’s armed forces, wrote in a message to Iran’s nuclear negotiators. ... In Iran’s military hierarchy, Firouzabadi is second only to [Ayatollah] Khamenei, the commander-in-chief, who has himself already declared military sites off-limits to foreign inspectors.” (Obama continues to insist that routine inspections will be used to verify that Iran is complying with any nuclear agreement.) [75307]

At TheBlaze.com author Wayne Allyn Root (*The Murder of the Middle Class*), who believes he was unfairly targeted by the IRS for his anti-Obama views, provides documentation that suggests he is correct. [75308]

At Breitbart.com Alex Swoyer reports, “The U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals judge who previously dismissed terror charges against one of the Garland, Texas shooters has a connection to the controversial activist group, National Council of La Raza. Judge Mary Murguia, appointed by President Clinton and considered a potential nominee to the Supreme Court by ...Obama, was the judge who dismissed government charges against Elton Simpson for suspected terrorism in 2011. On Sunday, Simpson attacked a free speech event in Garland, Texas depicting the Prophet Muhammad in cartoons. ...Judge Murguria’s twin sister Janet Murguia leads a controversial group known as National Council of La Raza, which has been criticized as a racist hate group. It is the nation’s largest Latino civil rights activist organization. La Raza is closely linked to the Obama Administration’s amnesty efforts. Human Events, a conservative blog, previously reported that the mainstream media views La Raza ‘no more than a Hispanic Rotary Club.’ But La Raza collected roughly \$15.2 million in federal grants in 2005. Human Events also reported that undisclosed amounts of that money were used in ‘get-out-the-vote efforts supporting La Raza political positions.’ ...Moreover, Judge Murguria’s brother, Carlos Murguria, helped coordinate the Immigration Amnesty Program prior to Clinton nominating him also for a judgeship, according to Front Page Magazine.” [75309]

At Townhall.com Cortney O’Brien reports that Virginia will “expand” abortion services by not implementing health regulations for abortion clinics passed in 2013. O’Brien writes, “The law, SB 924, required clinics to be held to the same standards as hospitals... Yet, despite the progress the law has made in protecting women from unsafe or unsanitary abortion centers, Attorney General Mark Herring has just declared that the state Board of Health need no longer enforce the regulations, insisting they are ‘medically inappropriate.’ ...Unfortunately, Governor McAuliffe (D-VA) sides with Herring in putting abortion rights over safety standards. ...McAuliffe [a close pal of Bill and Hillary Clinton] and Herring’s rejection of Cuccinelli’s urgent advice puts the women of Virginia in danger. Instead of protecting them, the reversal of these regulations will permit women to walk into clinics that lack oversight and are left to operate under substandard conditions.” [75310]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, “The emails of Huma Abedin, the top personal aide to former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, are now facing a disclosure lawsuit after the State Department failed to turn them over in response to an open-records request. Judicial Watch, a conservative public interest law firm that uses open-records laws to pry information loose, had filed a request to get a look at Ms. Abedin’s emails during her four years at the State Department. News outlets have reported that Ms. Abedin also used the private email server Mrs. Clinton set up to handle government business, but the status of her messages is unclear. It’s one of a number of open-records requests Judicial Watch filed after the email scandal broke, and Tom Fitton, president of the organization, said they’ve been stonewalled on all of them, so now they’re turning to the courts.” [75314]



The site also reports, “The Obama administration is quietly pushing Sunni Arab allies in the Persian Gulf to create an advanced missile defense system, and is preparing to ramp up sophisticated weapons sales to Saudi Arabia in an effort to ease regional fears over a potential nuclear deal with Iran. With Secretary of State John F. Kerry set to visit Saudi Arabia Wednesday and Thursday, officials privately say the administration is weighing whether to offer Riyadh—already a major buyer of American and European weaponry—GBU-28 bunker buster bombs Washington has so far only been willing to provide to Israel. The discussions are taking place under a cloak of secrecy. The officials who spoke with *The Washington Times* did so on condition of anonymity only, and the Saudi Embassy declined to comment.” (Some might wonder if Obama is anticipating a Saudi use of the weapons against Israel in the future.) Meanwhile, according to the BBC, “The Saudi-led coalition carrying out air strikes in Yemen has used US-supplied cluster bombs banned by much of the world, a rights group has said. Human Rights Watch (HRW) said it had evidence that the bombs were used at least twice against Houthi rebels. There were no reports of casualties. Cluster bombs spread small bombs over a wide area and can leave unexploded munitions buried in the ground. They are banned under a treaty signed by 116 countries, but not Saudi Arabia.” (The United States is also not signatory to the treaty.) [75334, 75337]

At least four Florida companies are licensed by the government to operate ferry services between the United States and Cuba. According to AFP, “That adds to the charter air services that had been permitted until now, focused on enabling Cuban-Americans to visit their families. The ferries will also be allowed to carry cargo to the communist island of 11 million, which sits just 150 kilometers (90 miles) off the southern tip of Florida. ... Whether by plane or ferry, American travelers to Cuba still have to come under one of 12 categories permitted in the landmark easing of US sanctions announced by the White House in December—including family visits, official government business, humanitarian projects and sports gatherings.” [75343]

The Democrat National Committee announces it will sanction only six primary debates. The move is certainly designed to help Hilary Clinton—and is immediately criticized by a spokeswoman for former Maryland governor Martin O’Malley. [75348]

On *Hardball*, Chris Matthews suggests that Carly Fiorina “can get away with even scurrilous attacks on Secretary Clinton because she is a female.” (To leftist Matthews—who does not specify which of Fiorina’s statements he believes are “scurrilous”—a male cannot attack Hillary Clinton because that would be sexist, but for a woman to attack Clinton is to hide behind one’s skirt. Matthews is the bigot he accuses others of being.) [75390]

With a record-breaking 80.1 percent, voters in Michigan crush a state constitutional amendment that would have increased sales taxes for road funding. According to *The Detroit News*, “This year’s thumping occurred even though the measure was backed by Gov. Rick Snyder as well as the Republican and Democratic legislative leaders from last year’s Michigan House and Senate. The Safe Roads Yes campaign ended up amassing

about \$9.5 million, 27 times as much money as the roughly \$350,000 the three opposition campaigns had combined. The result was a 4-1 defeat of the ballot proposal lawmakers cobbled together a week before Christmas.” [75528, 75529]

On May 6 Obama’s schedule contains only two tasks: receive his daily briefing and have lunch with Vice President Joe Biden. [75344]

FreeBeacon.com reports, “An Iranian naval fleet chased a U.S. warship and military planes through the waters off the southern coast of Yemen late Monday in yet another provocative encounter between the two nations, according to Iranian state media reports. A U.S. warship and several planes reportedly ‘changed their direction’ on Monday after encountering an Iranian naval fleet during a patrol in the Gulf of Aden near Yemen, Iranian state media revealed. The U.S. military assets fled ‘after they came close to an Iranian naval fleet and were warned to move away,’ Iran’s state-controlled Fars News Agency reported. Iran also released video of the incident. The run-in between the United States and Iranian militaries is just the latest in several tense confrontations between the countries near Yemen, where Iran is believed to be smuggling weapons to opposition forces.” (The Pentagon refutes the claim.) [75345]

WND.com reports, “In an extraordinary move that could mean billions lost to the American economy, Gulf monarchs meeting Tuesday in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, took a closed-door decision to potentially withhold investments from U.S. military firms if the terms of any final agreement with Iran causes significant harm to the Sunni Arab states. The meeting of the Gulf Cooperation Council brought together leaders from Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. All of those countries, aside from Oman, participated in the Saudi-led strikes targeting Iranian-backed rebels in Yemen. According to a source who took part in the discussions, the Gulf countries talked about the possibility of providing a future advantage in weapons deals to European firms, particularly those based in France, Germany and Britain, along with companies in China. The move would take place pending the outcome of any final deal between Iran, the Obama administration and Western powers. ... ‘This is kind of the start of financial sanctions on the USA in case a bad agreement is signed,’ the source said. ‘It could develop beyond military spending.’” [75447]

DailyCaller.com reports, “The State Department’s chief freedom of information officer admitted during testimony at a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing Wednesday that it is ‘not acceptable’ for employees at the agency to use private email accounts and private servers in the way that former Secretary Hillary Clinton did. The official, Joyce Barr, also agreed that ‘in theory’ she would be concerned about any official that set up such a system in a ‘premeditated and deliberate’ attempt to avoid complying with laws and regulations.” [75363]

On Twitter, CNN’s not-so-bright Chris Cuomo (who has a plum media job only because his father was former New York governor Mario Cuomo, and whose brother Andrew is the current governor for the same reason) falsely claims that “hate speech is excluded

from [First Amendment] protection,” and challenges those who believe otherwise to read the Constitution. (It does not take longer for Twitters users more knowledgeable than Cuomo to point out his error.) HotAir.com comments, “This guy is a professional journalist. And a Yale grad. *And a law-school grad.* But let’s be fair. If you polled the media, how many of them would agree? Don’t stomp Cuomo just because he’s bold enough to say what the rest are thinking [even though all are incorrect].” [75391, 75400, 75423, 75441, 75445]

PJMedia.com writes, “A pro-ISIS hacker, who goes by the names Abu Hussain al-Britani, has been linked to Sunday’s attack on the Garland, Texas, ‘Draw Mohammed’ contest, and may have played a role in inspiring the gunmen, CNN reported Wednesday. On Tuesday, the day after the attack, someone from a Twitter account believed to be al-Britani’s tweeted, ‘you ain’t seen nothing yet #QaribanQariba.’” [75392]

TheHill.com reports that Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake “has asked the Department of Justice to investigate whether the city’s police department had engaged in discrimination.” (The likelihood is that new Attorney General Loretta Lynch “asked to be asked.”) Baltimore’s police union responds, “[W]e welcome the involvement of the Department of Justice and look forward to working with their representatives to heal the wounds of our city, and to improve the relationship between the community and our Department. Additionally, we suggest that, as a part of the comprehensive examination, the Department of Justice also consider expanding the scope of their review to include the practices and policies of the Mayor of Baltimore, Stephanie Rawlings-Blake.” [75386, 75425, 75426, 75444]

Investors.com notes, “Just two months ago, ... Obama held up the Baltimore police force as a model of unbiased community policing. Now he’s investigating it for civil-rights violations. What’s changed? In a March White House report on police reforms, Obama and his Task Force on 21st Century Policing praised Baltimore’s force and its black chief for ‘implementing national best practices for policies and training,’ including ‘use of force’ reforms. His task force even quoted Baltimore Police Commissioner Anthony Batts, who said he changed ‘outdated procedures’ that ‘put officers at odds with the community.’ Yet now the Obama Justice Department is investigating the Baltimore police for a ‘pattern or practice of discriminating’ against the black community in ‘arrests, traffic stops and other operations.’ The federal probe is separate from an ongoing federal inquiry into the death of Freddie Gray, which focuses on the alleged misconduct of six Baltimore cops involved in his arrest, half of whom are black. ... FBI crime data over the past decade show that African-Americans commit a disproportionately high 40% of all cop-killings—more than three times their representation in the population—yet this administration is forcing local police to lower their guard when dealing with blacks in crime-infested urban areas.” [75468]

WashingtonExaminer.com reports, “Internal Revenue Service officials rewarded more than 100 employees who cheated on their taxes, a government watchdog reported Wednesday. Nearly 1,600 IRS employees from 2003 to 2014 were caught intentionally

violating tax law, the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration found. Only a quarter of those employees were fired, while another 108 either received promotions or bonuses. ‘Given its critical role in Federal tax administration, the IRS must ensure that its employees comply with the tax law in order to maintain the public’s confidence,’ Inspector General J. Russell George said in a statement. ‘Willful violation of the law by IRS employees should not be taken lightly.’ Nearly one-third of the employees from 2008 to 2013 caught cheating on their taxes received at least one bonus or raise within a year of being disciplined, investigators reported. These rewards include nearly \$145,000 in bonuses, almost 900 hours of time-off awards and 30 temporary and permanent promotions. Of 1,580 cases, IRS officials couldn’t explain why 960 employees received disciplinary action less than a firing, such as a suspension. Another 220 resigned or retired before disciplinary action could be taken, the inspector general found.” [75397]

*The New York Times* posts the first of what will likely be continuing columns devoted to listing the questions its reporters would ask Hillary Clinton if she would ever answer questions. [75366, 75367]

Radio host Hugh Hewitt asks Carly Fiorina, “So if you could have any question asked of the former secretary of state [Hillary Clinton] by a reporter, if she comes out like, you know, the groundhog on February 2nd, what would that question be?” Fiorina responds, “Oh, wow, that’s a great question, Hugh. I have to think about this. But I guess my question would be why is it that you knew the right thing to do was to disclose these donations while you were secretary of state and simply failed to do it? And the second question I would ask is why were you willing to peddle a fiction about Benghazi starting as you stood over the bodies of four murdered Americans and for a month after that? Why were you willing to do that?” Hewitt: “Those are great questions, and she’s agreed to six debates. And I don’t believe either of those will be asked in any of those six debates.” [75381]

On *Hannity*, Imam Anjem Choudary appears via satellite from England to state that Pamela Geller deserves the death penalty for offending Islam. He says, “The fact is you insulted the Prophet Muhammed, peace be upon him, and you knew the consequences.” Geller, in the studio with Sean Hannity, responds, “What do you mean I knew the consequences? I live in America. I live in America. There are no consequences.” (Choudary is allowed to spew his vile throughout England, yet Geller has been prohibited from entering the country to give speeches in defense of Western civilization. What was once the British Empire may soon be an Islamic Shari’ah state.) [75377, 75383, 75394, 75443]

The *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* reports, “Dorian Johnson, the man who was with Michael Brown when Brown was fatally shot by a Ferguson police officer last summer, has been arrested on suspicion of drug charges and resisting arrest, a St. Louis police source said Wednesday.” [75384, 75385]

On May 7 Iran releases the Maersk Tigris cargo ship it seized the previous week. [75382]

Terrorist Omar Khadr is released from a prison in Canada, albeit with restrictions on his movement and speech. In Afghanistan in 2002, the Canadian-born but mostly Pakistani-raised Khadr threw a hand grenade and killed Delta Force Sergeant Chris Speer, a combat medic who, just weeks before his death, was awarded a medal for risking his life to save two Afghan children who were trapped in a minefield. Although the military sentenced Khadr to 40 years, it was reduced by the Obama administration to eight years. In 2012, Obama officials Samantha Power, Michael Posner, and Harold Koh then worked to get Khadr transferred from U.S. custody in Guantanamo to Canada. Khadr's father, Ahmed Said Khadr, was a senior lieutenant of Osama bin Laden. The Khadr family moved back and forth between Canada and Pakistan. Khadr's sister is the ex-wife of Canadian Joshua Boyle who, with his second wife, American Caitlin Coleman, are held by the Taliban. They were captured when "hiking" in an unsafe area. Khadr once bragged that the proudest moment of his life was constructing and planting explosive devices to kill Americans. [9470, 9471, 9627, 9628, 10998, 11092, 11093, 15618, 31475, 31476, 31477, 37756, 37757, 37758, 59817, 59942, 75417, 75418, 75434, 75462]

Michelle Malkin writes, "Gloating over the Alberta judge's decision to let Khadr loose, his radical leftwing lawyer railed against Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper as a 'bigot.' His fan club thinks he deserves a medal. No, really. A Toronto Sun columnist argued... that the jihadist 'deserves some kind of recognition' along the lines of the country's 'Order of Canada' for 'the dignity and stoicism with which he's borne the mingy behaviour of Canada's governments.' Disgusting. This deification of an al-Qaida-trained murderer is a slap in the face to every American soldier and every military family that has sacrificed to combat Islamic jihad." [75418]

A federal appeals court in New York rules illegal the National Security Agency's bulk collection of telephone records of U.S. citizens, arguing it is not authorized by the Patriot Act. The illegal provision expires at the end of May. How Congress responds remains to be seen, but the Court states, "We do so comfortably in the full understanding that if Congress chooses to authorize such a far-reaching and unprecedented program, it has every opportunity to do so, and to do so unambiguously." (Of all the 2016 presidential candidates, both announced and unannounced, only Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) seems to support the U.S. Constitution on the issue. Judge Andrew Napolitano later writes, "It is none of the government's business, [Paul] argues, what we say on our phone calls. If the NSA wants to hear us, let them present probable cause to a judge identifying the person they want to hear and seek a search warrant.") [75395, 75459, 75621]

At Townhall.com Todd Starnes reports that the Fairfax County (Virginia) Public Schools system (FCPS) is preparing to modify its "nondiscrimination" policy to "allow boys who identify as girls to use the locker rooms and bathrooms of their choice—as well as participate on athletic teams of their choosing." According to Deputy Superintendent Steven Lockard, "The Office of Civil Rights [OCR] of the U.S. Department of Education is requiring that school divisions revise their non-discrimination policies to include gender identity. ...If FCPS refuses to amend its policy, OCR has the right to recommend

the termination of federal funding to FCPS.” (In other words, the Obama administration is threatening schools with the loss of federal funding if they do not cater to allegedly gender-confused students.) School board member Elizabeth Schultz tells Starnes, “While the underlying issue is somewhat sensational, it is the gravitas in overreach of the federal government and the implications thereof that is so very chilling. It could have implications for every public school district in the nation. If they’re going to come for us, they’re going to come to them next. ... We are imperiling our federal education monies if we don’t comply with the law. If they can do this, what can’t they do? It’s limitless.” Andrea Lafferty, the president of the Washington, D.C.-based Traditional Values Coalition, states, “This is a beating into submission of the American people and the taxpayers by the Obama Administration and those willfully going along with it. They are going to say if you don’t comply, we’re going to take away your lunch money—your federal funding.” [75419]

Starnes notes, “In 2014 the Title IX civil rights law was updated to address sex discrimination ‘based on gender identity or failure to conform to stereotypical notions of masculinity or femininity’ and protect students ‘who do not conform to sex stereotypes.’ And while bathrooms and locker rooms prove to be a concern—some parents also fear they will not be able to remove their children from classes led by transgender teachers. ‘Children in lower grades are still developing who they are—it’s very confusing,’ Lafferty said. ‘Parents should have a right to decide when and where and how to talk about it. ... This should be a concern to everybody. The Obama administration thinks they can do whatever they darn well please. The Constitution doesn’t matter. The rights of parents don’t matter. God Almighty doesn’t matter to this administration.’” [75419]

According to ADP Research Institute estimates, the economy added only 169,000 jobs in April, down from 175,000 in March. The bulk of the new jobs are in the low-paying service-providing sector. (During May and June, tens of thousands of students will graduate from colleges and universities and 169,000 jobs per month will not be enough to meet the demand—even if they were willing to work in the low-paying service industry, while burdened with an average of \$33,000 in school loan debt.) [75398, 75399, 75403]

DCWhispers.com writes, “There were the former president’s on-the-record remarks, and then his alleged off-the-record remarks that are of course far more revealing. Bill Clinton appears to be increasingly annoyed at his wife’s political operatives, (some who used to be HIS political operatives) urging him to, ‘please think before you speak.’ ... Mr. Clinton’s latest outburst is said to have followed a call from Karen Finney or someone associated with her who voiced concerns over a series of media stories detailing Bill Clinton’s most recent high-priced Clinton Foundation event held in Marrakesh, Morocco which, according to these same media reports, was funded by the Moroccan government via its state-run mining company known as OCP [Office Chérifien des Phosphates]. ... It was during his stay at the Moroccan fundraising event that Bill Clinton dismissed media questions regarding the billions the Clinton Foundation has collected in recent years, much of it from dubious sources including governments long noted for human rights

violations, with a shrug and a declaration he didn't know much about it because, 'I just work here.'" [75401, 75408, 75712]

"Apparently within a few hours of that performance Mr. Clinton received a call from a member of Hillary's campaign staff attempting to suggest to him how he might better prepare for such questions. He fired back, complaining that the campaign's biggest issue wasn't him, or what he says, but rather that 'She's (Hillary) not me. She's NOT ME and that's your problem.' The former president then went on to complain about the conversation with the Hillary campaign staffer to others around him for the remainder of the day. As for Hillary herself, she was out in California meeting with potential Super Pac donors just a week after publicly declaring her intention to campaign against 'unaccountable money' in politics. Apparently she's decided the best way to fight unaccountable money is simply take it from those willing to give it. Sounds very much like what Bill Clinton was just doing in Morocco..." [75401, 75712]

By a vote of 98-1 the Senate approves legislation calling for Congress to review (and possibly reject) a nuclear deal with Iran. The House is expected to take up the proposal next week. (The legislation is laughable. The Constitution requires that treaties be approved by a two-thirds vote of the Senate. Instead, the legislation gives Obama an easy way around that requirement. If the Senate ultimately votes to reject his agreement with Iran, Obama will simply veto that bill, and it will not be able to overturn his veto without 67 votes. Thus, instead of 34 Republicans being able to block the treaty, they will instead need at least 14 Democrat votes to override the veto. The Republican blunder is monumental.) [75402, 75696]

To the surprise of no one, the State Department says it will not review Hillary Clinton's violations of the ethics agreement she signed when she became Secretary of State. Spokesman Jeff Rathke tells reporters, "The State Department has not, and does not intend to initiate a formal review or to make a retroactive judgment about items that were not submitted during Secretary Clinton's tenure." The Associated Press' Matt Lee responds, "It seems like you're not aware of anything—and there may not be anything there, but the reason that you're not aware of anything is because, and not you personally, but the reason you are not aware of anything is because the building [the State Department] is refusing to go back and look at it to see if there is anything that might raise a flag." Rathke: "Again, these private donations were—there was never any expectation that they would be reviewed..." Lee: "But there was an expectation that they [donations to the Clinton Foundation] would be made public and so that you could go and look... then they weren't made public and so, now that they are being made public, wouldn't it make sense to go back and take a look at them and see whether there's any questions raised and any red flag that might get raised? I don't understand why you would just close your eyes to it because they've admitted that they didn't live up to their end of the M.O.U. [memorandum of understanding] on this. ...[Y]ou're not going and looking at what they've done to address that to see if it brought them into compliance. It's almost as if they had an agreement that they didn't follow through on but since she is no longer the Secretary of State you're saying—well, that doesn't apply anymore and so

it just doesn't matter. You don't know if it doesn't matter or not because you're not looking into it." [75424, 75432, 75435]

Reports suggest that a drone strike has killed Yemeni-born Nasser bin Ali al-Ansi, a top leader of al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP). [75406]

FBI Director James Comey warns that there may be thousands of ISIS supporters in the United States, and tells reporters, "I know there are other Elton Simpsons out there. ...It's almost as if there is a devil sitting on the shoulder saying, 'Kill, kill, kill, kill' all day long. [They are] recruiting and tasking at the same time. ...In a way, the old paradigm between 'inspired' and 'directed' breaks down here. ...Where are they on the pathway from 'talker' to 'doer'? And that's really hard [to determine]. Comey also states that the FBI alerted Garland, Texas police about Simpson three hours before his attack at the draw Mohammed event, although it did not have information suggesting he was on his way there. Comey says, "We didn't have reason to believe that he was going to attack the event." [75409, 75410, 75411, 75412, 75416]

At NationalReview.com David French writes, "[T]he fury against Pamela Geller is motivated mostly by fear—by the understanding that there are indeed many, many Muslims who believe that blasphemy should be punished with death, and who put that belief into practice. It's motivated by the fear that our alliances with even 'friendly' Muslim states and 'allied' Muslim militias are so fragile that something so insignificant as a cartoon would drive them either to neutrality or straight into the arms of ISIS. That's why even the military brass will do something so unusual as call a fringe pastor of a tiny little church to beg him not to post a YouTube video. That's why [Obama]—ostensibly the most powerful man in the world—will personally appeal to that same pastor not to burn a Koran. They know that hundreds of millions of Muslims are not 'moderate' by any reasonable definition of that word, and they will, in fact, allow themselves to be provoked by even the most insignificant and small-scale act of religious satire or defiance. After all, there are Muslim communities that will gladly burn Christians alive to punish even rumored blasphemy. ...Unable or unwilling to formulate a strategy to comprehensively defeat jihad or even to adequately defend our nation, our elites adopt a strategy of cultural appeasement that only strengthens our enemy. Millions in the Muslim world are drawn to the 'strong horse' (to use Osama bin Laden's phrase), and when jihadists intimidate the West into silence and conformity, the jihadists show themselves strong." [75476]

In a sane world, our national elites would not only rally unequivocally around free speech, they would point to the events of Garland, Texas, as perfectly symbolic of the way we handle threats against our Constitution and our culture — by defeating our enemies and defending our liberty. Instead, they express fears that provocative speech not only threatens our troops abroad but our cities here at home. Geller's critics should spare us all the high-minded rhetoric about tolerance and liberty and 'democratic values.' In a continent-sized nation of more than 300 million souls, 'offensive' speech is always happening. Geller's speech is different not because it's uniquely insensitive or even uniquely 'hateful.' Her speech is different because it makes people afraid. There is



nothing inherently wrong with feeling fear—especially when that fear is grounded in the reality of the enemy we face. Fear is a natural human response to a savage and bloodthirsty enemy. But there’s everything wrong with appeasement—especially when appeasement is concealed behind a façade of self-righteousness. Islam has a serious problem. Silencing Pamela Geller isn’t the solution.” [75476]

On *Hannity*, Pamela Geller states that she has not been contacted by the FBI or the Department of Homeland Security despite the fatwa issued against her by Muslims. [75415]

*The Times of Israel* reports, “Hundreds of people from Iran and around the world have submitted art for a ‘Holocaust cartoon contest,’ an official from the competition said Monday. Secretary Masud Shojaei-Tabatabaai told Iran’s semi-official Fars news agency that 839 works had been submitted to the Second International Holocaust Cartoon Contest, a cynical sequel to a much derided 2006 competition making light of the slaughter of 6 million Jews in Europe during World War II. ...The contest was announced in January in response to international support for French satirical weekly Charlie Hebdo following an attack on the magazine’s offices by Islamists apparently incensed by the magazine’s depiction of Mohammed.” [75470, 75471]

FoxNews.com reports, “The exit poll in Britain’s general election predicted late Thursday that the Conservative Party will win 316 seats, just short of a majority in the House of Commons, meaning that David Cameron will likely remain prime minister. The surprise poll results were in contrast to polls leading up to the election that suggested Cameron’s party would not come close to a majority, and would be locked in a much tighter race with the opposition Labour Party, led by Ed Miliband—predicted to gain 239 seats in the exit poll. ...If the exit poll is accurate, the Conservative Party would be in a commanding position to form the next government by seeking coalition partners from smaller parties. The Liberal Democrats—Cameron’s coalition partner—were predicted to see their support collapse and their seat tally drop from 56 to 10. ...If the poll is accurate, it would be a huge defeat for Miliband’s Labour Party, which was predicted by many bookmakers to be most likely to form a government, possibly with the support of the Scottish National Party. The predicted result of 239 seats would be down from the 256 they won in 2010, despite Cameron’s government engaging in painful austerity measures. It would also mean Labour would be wiped out in Scotland, an area in which it has traditionally been the dominant force.” (Cameron is not a conservative in the American sense, but he is certainly more conservative than the leftist Miliband. Miliband courted the large Muslim vote in England, but because his ancestry is Jewish he may not have had much support from those voters.) [75405, 75407]

At a fundraiser in Portland, Oregon, Obama says, “We still got [sic; have] to make sure we get comprehensive immigration reform passed in this country. I couldn’t be prouder of the work that we’ve done through executive actions to make sure that our young DREAMers—young people who were brought here as children and are Americans just like our kids, except they don’t have the right documents—the notion that we would be

keeping them in the shadows made no sense. But we've got to solve that larger problem, and only Congress can do that, and you've got some great members of Congress who understand that. Now, we've got to get all members of Congress to understand that—and we've got to get that thing passed. It's the right thing to do. It's good for our economy—and it upholds our tradition as a nation of laws and a nation of immigrants.” (Illegal immigrants are most certainly not Americans; forgiving law-breaking does not uphold the nation's tradition of laws; and a nation of legal immigrants is not the same as a nation of illegal immigrants.) [76027]

On May 8 the Associated Press reports, “After years of sharing power, David Cameron pulled off an unexpected election triumph that gave the Conservative prime minister a second term with an outright majority Friday and dealt a stinging defeat to his three main rivals. ...The election ushers in a new era in British politics, with veteran lawmakers ousted by a public that made clear it had lost trust in its political leaders. The victors included a 20-year-old Scottish nationalist who beat out a senior Labour Party leader in Scotland. ...By the time Cameron met [with Queen Elizabeth] all three of his major rivals had resigned: Ed Miliband of the Labour Party, Nick Clegg of the Liberal Democrats and Nigel Farage of the U.K. Independence Party. ...With the Conservatives winning an outright majority in the 650-seat House of Commons, the result looked to be far better for Cameron than even his own party had foreseen. With all the votes counted, the Conservatives had 331 seats to Labour's 232.” (Obama is likely not pleased with the results, especially if it means Great Britain might vote to leave the European Union.) [75421, 75422, 75440, 75449, 75452, 75453, 75486, 75511, 75723]

The *Daily Mail* writes, “...Obama's campaign mastermind suffered a humiliating end to his political career today as the British Labour party he was paid almost \$500,000 to help to victory plunged to a catastrophic defeat. David Axelrod had been touted as the man to get Labour's Ed Miliband into—and the Conservative prime minister David Cameron out of—Downing Street. Instead he slunk out of Britain early, as his former Obama campaign colleague Jim Messina, who advised the winning Conservatives, crowed over a victory which had 'stunned the world.' Axelrod had already vowed that he was 'done with campaigns' after complaining bitterly about the British media and saying: 'Anyone who underestimates Ed Miliband does so at their own peril.' In fact he appeared to have dramatically over-estimated the Labour leader, who quit this morning saying he took responsibility for the defeat. Today [Axelrod] tweeted that polling was to blame, saying on Twitter: 'In all my years as journalist & strategist, I've never seen as stark a failure of polling as in UK. Huge project ahead to unravel it.' And the famed pollster Nathan Silver was also humiliated by the British election, with his forecast for the result, like every other opinion poll, completely wrong.” [75465, 75466, 75467]

At JihadWatch.org Robert Spencer writes, “David Cameron and the Tories have won an upset victory over the man who was supposed to be Britain's next Prime Minister, Ed Miliband of Labour. How wonderful! Britain has rejected Miliband, who said that he would criminalize 'Islamophobia,' and chosen to re-elect Cameron, the dhimmi appeaser who banned Pamela Geller and me from Britain the week after his government admitted

Saudi Sheikh Mohammed al-Arefe, who said: ‘Devotion to jihad for the sake of Allah, and the desire to shed blood, to smash skulls, and to sever limbs for the sake of Allah and in defense of His religion, is, undoubtedly, an honor for the believer. Allah said that if a man fights the infidels, the infidels will be unable to prepare to fight.’ The UK has rejected the authoritarian fascist Miliband and chosen the bemused Cameron, who has said that the Islamic State has ‘nothing to do with the great religion of Islam, a religion of peace’ and declared: ‘I want London to stand alongside Dubai as one of the great capitals of Islamic finance anywhere in the world.’ In other words, Britain has chosen slow rather than immediate suicide. Break out the Veuve Clicquot [champagne]!” [75461]

Rather than commemorate the 70th anniversary of VE Day (Victory in Europe) and honor surviving veterans of World War II, Obama visits Nike “to speak on why his trade deal would benefit U.S. workers.” (White House aides may have neglected to tell Obama that Nike’s shoes are made outside the United States.) [75427, 75428, 75469, 75536]

Obama also visits the Lake Area Technical Institute in Watertown, South Dakota—his first visit to the state since entering the White House. [75450]

The day after being roundly criticized for tweeting, “Pamela Geller ‘Has No Regrets’ About ‘Cartoon Contest That Ended in 2 Deaths’” the Associated Press tweets, “Geller says no regrets about Prophet Muhammad cartoon contest that ended in gunfire (clarifies earlier tweets).” (Why the AP believes the latter is any less offensive to supporters of free speech is not clear.) [75429, 75430, 75431, 75433, 75446, 75448, 75458]

The Department of Labor estimates that 223,000 jobs were created in April—below the monthly average of 260,000 in 2014. March figures are adjusted downward to a mere 85,000 jobs. The unemployment rate is 5.4 percent, down from 5.5 percent in March—mostly because of the many Americans who dropped out of the work force and are no longer counted in the calculations. (The number of Americans working in April actually declined. *There were still fewer people working in early 2015 than there were in January 2008, despite the growth in population.*) ZeroHedge.com writes, “In what was an ‘unambiguously’ unpleasant April jobs payrolls report, with a March revision dragging that month’s job gain to the lowest level since June of 2012, the fact that the number of Americans not in the labor force rose once again, this time to 93,194K (that is, 93.194 million) from 93,175K (93.175 million), with the result being a participation rate of 69.45 or just above the lowest percentage since 1977, will merely catalyze even more upside to the so called ‘market’ which continues to reflect nothing but central bank liquidity, and thus—the accelerating deterioration of the broader economy. End result: with the civilian employment to population ratio unchanged from last month at 59.3%, one can easily [see] ... why there will be no broad wage growth any time soon, which will merely allow the Fed to engage in its failed policies for a long, long time.” [75438, 75439, 75474, 75506, 75538]

Breitbart.com reports, “Immigrants in the U.S. have experienced vastly more job growth than native-born Americans since the beginning of the recession, according to not

seasonally adjusted data [data that has not been seasonally adjusted] released Friday by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Since the beginning of the recession in December of 2007—said to have ended in June 2009—the foreign-born population has seen a much greater net employment growth than native-born Americans. In December 2007 the number of foreign-born workers was 22,810,000. By April 2015, the number had increased to 24,819,000 or a net job growth of more than 2 million. For native-born workers that number in December 2007 was 123,524,000 by April of this year the number of employed native-born Americans was 123,769,000 or a net job growth of 245,000. The month of April marks the first month since the end of the recession where native-born Americans had more jobs than they did prior to the recession.” [75451]

AFP reports, “[Australian] Prime Minister Tony Abbott’s top business adviser on Friday claimed climate change was a ruse encouraged by the United Nations to create a new authoritarian world order under its control. Maurice Newman, chairman of the Prime Minister’s Business Advisory Council, said the real agenda was ‘concentrated political authority. Global warming is the hook.’ In a column for The Australian newspaper to coincide with a visit by U.N. climate chief Christiana Figueres, he added that the world had been ‘subjected to extravagance from climate catastrophists for close to 50 years. It’s a well-kept secret, but 95 percent of the climate models we are told prove the link between human CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and catastrophic global warming have been found, after nearly two decades of temperature stasis, to be in error. ...Figueres is on record saying democracy is a poor political system for fighting global warming. Communist China, she says, is the best model. This is not about facts or logic. It’s about a new world order under the control of the U.N. It is opposed to capitalism and freedom and has made environmental catastrophism a household topic to achieve its objective.” [75437]

After considerable public outrage, the State Department reverses a decision to deny Sister Diana Momeka, an Iraqi Catholic nun, a visa to enter the United States to testify before Congress about religious persecution by ISIS. FoxNews.com reports that Momeka “is a leading representative of the Nineveh Christians who have been killed and chased from their homes in and around Mosul by ISIS. Momeka, who has been likened to Mother Teresa for her work with the poor and persecuted, was turned down, she said, because she was ‘internally displaced’ in Iraq, and deemed a risk to stay in the U.S., where she once lived and studied for six years. Ironically, her displacement came at the hands of ISIS, and is the very subject she hopes to discuss during her trip. ...Now that her visit is back on, Sister Diana plans to come to Washington later this month to meet with the Senate and House foreign-relations committees, the State Department, USAID and various NGOs to describe the atrocities in her area.” [75167, 75454, 75464, 75671]

RightWingNews.com points out that although Obama sent three White House officials to the Baltimore funeral of Freddie Gray, he sent no one to the funeral of murdered New York City police officer Brian Moore. (Obama also sent no one to the funerals of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Navy SEAL sniper Chris Kyle—but had representatives at the funerals of Trayvon Martin and Michael Brown.) [75472, 75473, 75488]

With shootings and murders up dramatically in Baltimore since the rioting in late April, *The Baltimore Sun* reports, “As the number of shootings and homicides has surged in Baltimore, some police officers say they feel hesitant on the job under intense public scrutiny and in the wake of criminal charges against six officers in the Freddie Gray case. ... ‘In 29 years, I’ve gone through some bad times, but I’ve never seen it this bad,’ said Lt. Kenneth Butler, president of the Vanguard Justice Society, a group for black Baltimore police officers. Officers ‘feel as though the state’s attorney [Marilyn Mosby] will hang them out to dry.’ Several officers said in interviews they are concerned crime could spike as officers are hesitant to do their jobs, and criminals sense opportunity. Butler, a shift commander in the Southern District, said his officers are expressing reluctance to go after crime. ‘I’m hearing it from guys who were go-getters, who would go out here and get the guns and the bad guys and drugs. They’re hands-off now,’ Butler said. ‘I’ve never seen so many dejected faces.’” (On May 10 Mosby, demonstrating that she is nowhere close to having the impartiality her position requires, appears on stage with entertainer Prince, as he sings about “no justice, no peace.”) [75509, 75510, 75534]

Judge Reggie B. Walton agrees to reopen a lawsuit filed by Judicial Watch seeking access to Hillary Clinton’s emails. FoxNews.com notes, “Previously, the court dismissed Judicial Watch’s request, on the grounds that the documents did not exist.” Since then, of course, Clinton’s efforts to hide and even destroy her emails has been reported by the news media. Walton’s action is bad news for Clinton. Although the Select Benghazi Committee does not have the power to subpoena Clinton’s documents, the court does—and Walton is known as a non-nonsense judge. On Fox News, Judge Andrew Napolitano explains that Walton “can order her husband, the former president of the United States, to deliver the server to him. And he, a federal judge, can hire experts to examine the server. This is authority that Congressman [Trey] Gowdy’s [R-SC] committee lacks.” [75557, 75558]

On May 9 jihadists from Yemen capture the port city of Jazan in southwestern Saudi Arabia. Jazan has a population of about 1.5 million. Examiner.com reports, “Senior Yemeni military sources said on Saturday that the country’s tribal fighters won control over the city of Ahad al-Masareha in Jazan after exchanging fire with the Saudi forces for only about 3 hours. The tribesmen have also captured more than 60 Saudi soldiers and police officers after taking control of that major city, the sources added. ... Upon invading the Saudi city and driving out the Saudi military, the Yemeni invaders looted and plundered the city for what they said was their ‘share of the spoils.’ The tribal forces also commandeered upwards of 20 U.S.-built Hummer vehicles, 17 armor-plated Jeeps, a huge number of arms and an even larger amount of ammunition in the operation.” [75494]

FoxNews.com reports, “North Korea boasted Saturday it had test-fired a secret new ballistic missile from a submarine and declared the firing a success. North Korean leader Kim Jong Un personally directed the test launching, the Wall Street Journal said, citing the official Korean Central News Agency. The Journal said Kim called the missile a

‘world-level strategic weapon’ and an ‘eye-opening success.’ Hours after the announcement, South Korean officials said the Kim government fired three anti-ship cruise missiles into the sea off its east coast, escalating tensions between the two countries. A State Department spokesman told Fox News Saturday the U.S. was aware of the reported firing of the submarine ballistic missile. ‘Launches using ballistic missile technology are a clear violation of multiple UN Security Council resolutions,’ the spokesman said. The official added, ‘We call on North Korea to refrain from actions that further raise tensions in the region and focus instead on taking concrete steps toward fulfilling its international commitments and obligations.’” [75732]

The *Daily Mail* reports, “The FBI has put more American terror suspects under constant surveillance following the attack deadly on a ‘Draw Muhammad’ competition.” The actions of gunmen Elton Simpson and Nadir Soofi “have prompted the agency to keep a closer eye on ‘marginal’ or ‘borderline’ suspects in a bid to stop potential threats.” [75456]

At Townhall.com Christine Rousselle reports, “Following Thursday’s unexpected massive Conservative victory in the United Kingdom’s general election, with the Conservatives winning an outright majority for the first time since 1992, some citizens of the UK have been taking the news better than others. Today, riots and protests broke out outside of 10 Downing Street, the Prime Minister’s residence, demanding that the Tories be thrown out of office.” [75463]

In *The Telegraph*, Janet Daley, who predicted the conservative victory in the British election, writes, “[A]ll that expertise, all those hours spent questioning and analysing enormous piles of data which was designed to the most foolproof standards—and it was all wrong. It is very important to examine how this terrible error came about because the reason is not methodological, it is political. And the political reason is fundamental to an understanding of what is going wrong with our public discourse. ... I am as sure of this as I was of the eventual election result: the four in 10 poll respondents who said they had not yet made up their minds who to vote for (a figure that remained remarkably consistent right to the end) did not, as one Labour spokesman claimed, suddenly decide ‘when they had the pencils in their hands’ that they were going to support the Tories. Most of them knew all along that they were going to do that—but they were not willing to say so. Somehow we have arrived at a point where the conscientiously held beliefs and values of the majority of the population have become a matter for secret shame. The desire to do as well as you can in life, to develop your potential and expect to be rewarded for it, to provide your family with the greatest possible opportunity for self-improvement and to do that on your own without being dependent on the state—these are the assumptions that seem to have become so unacceptable that identifying with them is beyond the pale, or at least so socially outrageous that it is not worth the ignominy of admitting to them.” [75489]

“The Left has so dominated the conversation and so noisily traduced the ‘petit bourgeois’ values that guide the lives of what used to be called the ‘respectable working class’ that,

ironically, it is only the most socially confident who can openly embrace them. ...So they prevaricate and evade when asked how they will vote because they are intimidated by the condemnation of the Left-wing mob, or else they just are not self-assured enough to make the moral case (even in their own minds) for their choice. But when they reach the sacred solitude of the voting booth, they do what they know must be done for the sake of their own futures, and that of their families, and even of those the Left insists are being disadvantaged—because they genuinely believe that dependency is a bad thing and that self-determination is a social good. In the end, what does the Left (and its army of media friends) accomplish by all this activist pressure on public opinion? In a circle of mutually congratulatory agreement, the liberal establishment may demonise the social attitudes of the majority until they are blue in the face. They may succeed—as indeed they obviously have – in making ordinary people afraid to utter their real views. But there is a dreadful price to be paid: if you browbeat people into withdrawing from the debate, then you will never know how robust their convictions are—until it is too late and you have catastrophically lost an election, or staked your professional credibility on unsound predictions.” (Perhaps as an example, Labour’s Ed Miliband promised to “outlaw Islamophobia.” The average Brit may have been reluctant to express outrage at that promise in public, but in the voting booth that outrage surfaced.) [75489]

Although Daley is writing about the political situation in Great Britain, her comments well apply to the United States. The leftist media has not only made it “unfashionable” to be conservative, it has made it something many people are unwilling to admit. The absurd political correctness in the United States has made people afraid to stand up for traditional values. They still hold those values, but are afraid to admit it. As a result, even media personalities who many might consider somewhat moderate or even conservative attacked Pamela Geller—not because they support radical Islamist jihad, but because they are afraid to be thought of as “Islamophobic” by the “cocktail party crowd.” Similarly, leftists seem to have no problem allowing millions of illegal immigrants into the country, but they most certainly do not want them living next door to them. Hollywood leftists support gun control—while enjoying the protection of 24x7 armed security guards. The average Brit may have said “enough is enough” in the voting booth, even if he has been unwilling to say it in public. Political correctness may keep Americans from expressing their true opinion of Barack Obama, but they voted in a Republican House in November 2010 and a Republican Senate in November 2014. Many Americans may tell a pollster it’s time for a female president, but in the voting booth in November 2016 they may declare, “Not *that* female.” Hillary Clinton and the rest of the Democrat Party would be wise to take the election results in Great Britain seriously.

At LewRockwell.com Euro Pacific Capital’s Peter Schiff comments on the Federal Reserve’s history of incorrect predictions of economic growth: “In the eight years that the Fed has issued GDP forecasts in the prior Fall, only once, in 2010, did the actual economic performance come in the range of its expectations (referred to as its ‘central tendency.’) And even in that year, Fed forecasters did not manage to put the ball through the goal posts. Instead it just hit the upright (the low end of its range: 2.5% in actual growth vs. a central tendency of 2.5% to 3.5%). In all other years the Fed missed the mark completely on the downside. ...So what do we make of this? Are Fed economists

just horrible forecasters? And if so, why not hire others who more competent? ...A more sinister possibility is that the Fed is not really forecasting at all but cheerleading. The fact that all its forecasts have missed on the high side reveals that its misses may not be random. If the Fed were just wrong, one would expect some of its forecasts to be too low. An obvious explanation is that the Fed may be using its 'forecast' to talk up the economy. By forecasting strong growth, the Fed may be hoping to engender optimism, with more spending and hiring hopefully to follow. Kind of like a field of dreams recovery—if the Fed forecasts it; it will come. Plus the Fed may be hesitant to issue a somber assessment of future growth even if it expects it, fearful that its forecasts become self-fulfilling as businesses and consumers cut back to reflect that forecast. If so, its economics 'forecasts' would be in actuality just another policy arrow in its quiver, and should never be taken seriously. ...Based on what we have seen thus far in the year, fantasies about a 2015 recovery should be evaporating. [75460]

Responding to criticism from Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) of the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal he is pushing, Obama says, "I'd have to be pretty stupid [to take her position] and it doesn't make any sense. ...This is pure speculation. She and I both taught law school and one of the things you do as a law professor is you spin out hypotheticals and this is all hypothetical, speculative. ...You know the truth of the matter is ... Elizabeth is a politician just like everybody else, and she has a voice that she wants to get out there and I understand that, and on most issues she and I deeply agree. On this one, though, her arguments don't stand the test of fact and scrutiny." (Obama is facing criticism from both the political right and the left over the trade proposal. Whether referring to Warren as "pretty stupid" will help or hurt Obama's chances of gaining approval of the trade deal remains to be seen.) [75475, 75520, 75525, 75536, 75556, 75592]

Former Florida governor Jeb Bush delivers a commencement address at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia. Bush slams the Obama administration's actions to restrict religious freedoms. He says, "Federal authorities are demanding obedience, in complete disregard of religious conscience—and in a free society, the answer is no. ...The mistake is to confuse points of theology with moral principles that are knowable to reason as well as by faith, and this confusion is all part of a false narrative that casts religious Americans as intolerant scolds, running around trying to impose their views on everyone. ...Our friends on the left like to view themselves as the agents of change and reform, and you and I are supposed to just get with the program. ...I'm betting that when it comes to doing the right and good thing, the Little Sisters of the Poor know better than the regulators at the Department of Health and Human Services. From the standpoint of religious freedom, you might even say it's a choice between the Little Sisters and Big Brother—and I'm going with the Little Sisters....Somebody here is being small-minded and intolerant, and it sure isn't the nuns, ministers, and laymen and women who ask only to live and practice their faith. ...How strange, in our own time, to hear Christianity spoken as some sort of backward and oppressive force. Your generation is bringing the Christian voice to where it always is needed, and sometimes isn't heard enough." [75479, 75480]



Michelle Obama addresses graduates at Alabama's Tuskegee University and, in an angry speech, whines about how difficult it is for her to be her, and the expectations she encountered while campaigning in 2008: "What kind of First Lady would I be? What kinds of issues would I take on?" ...The truth is, those same questions would have been posed to any candidate's spouse, but, as potentially the first African-American First Lady, I was also the focus of another set of questions and speculations; conversations sometimes rooted in the fears and misperceptions of others. Was I too loud, or too angry, or too emasculating? Or was I too soft, too much of a mom, not enough of a career woman?" She complains that people "will make assumptions about who they think you are based on their limited notion of the world. My husband and I know how frustrating that experience can be. We've both felt the sting of those daily slights throughout our entire lives. ...And all of that is going to be a heavy burden to carry." Michelle Malkin writes, "Obama's resurrected bitter half inspired the graduates by complaining about people complaining about her. She complained about the 'sting' of 'daily slights' throughout her life and her poor, beleaguered husband's. And then she complained. And complained. And complained some more." [75492, 75493, 75515, 75575, 75599, 75654, 76158, 76421]

Mrs. Obama may perhaps be the wealthiest and most privileged person at the event, but she wants the graduates to know how tough her life has been. (How that information is supposed to encourage them as they begin their post-university careers is not known.) Perhaps to the surprise of few, some in the mainstream media fail to observe the rage and bitterness in her speech and instead shower her with praise. Newsbusters.org reports, "Hailing the speech as 'candid reflections on life in the spotlight,' *CBS Evening News* anchor Scott Pelley gushed that Obama revealed 'some remarkable insight' into what it's been like to be the first African-American First Lady and that 'it sounded a lot like a valedictory [address].' Correspondent Jan Crawford reported that: 'The speech was deeply personal as Michelle Obama recounted criticism and pressure she felt as the nation's first African-American First Lady.' Later, Crawford added that the First Lady told graduates how 'she tuned out the critics by focusing on issues she cares about,' ranging from gardening to hula-hooping at the White House to, in the words of the CBS correspondent, 'working to fight obesity and helping military families.' Over on *NBC Nightly News*, the coverage appeared even giddier as interim anchor Lester Holt gushed over the course of two teases that Obama offered a 'powerful message' and spoke 'like we have rarely heard before' in that she was '[d]eeply candid about race and the private pain she's endured.' Introducing senior White House correspondent Chris Jansing's segment, Holt explained that Obama's commencement address has been 'getting a lot of attention' and described it as 'candid, personal, heartfelt, [and] even blunt on the issue of race.'" [75549, 75550, 76421]

At the Freedom Summit in Greenville, South Carolina, Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) says, "We saw the ugly face of radical Islam in Garland, Texas, recently. Thankfully, one police officer helped those terrorists meet their virgins. ... We can't win a war against radical Islamic terrorism with a president who won't utter the words 'radical Islamic terrorism.' This nation is in crisis. If we don't pull our country back from the brink, we

risk losing the greatest country in the history of the world. ... We must defend our constitutional rights—all of them.” [75501]

In Hattiesburg, Mississippi, police officers Benjamin Deen, 34, and Liquori Tate, 25, are shot and killed during a traffic stop. After a manhunt, Joanie Calloway and brothers Marvin and Curtis Banks are arrested. [75481, 75487]

On May 10 GOP presidential candidate Carly Fiorina appears on *Meet the Press*. She tells moderator Chuck Todd that she purchased the domain name ChuckTodd.org—which now redirects users to CarlyforPresident.com. (Townhall.com notes, “After it was revealed that someone not-so-fond of Fiorina had purchased CarlyFiorina.org, Fiorina absolutely schooled Seth Meyers by revealing that she had purchased SethMeyers.org and redirected the domain to her official campaign site.”) [75482, 75483, 75484, 75485, 75514]

Also appearing on *Meet the Press* is *The Washington Post*'s Kathleen Parker, who observes that Fiorina “acquitted herself very well with you. And she does that repeatedly. Every time I've seen her speak it's been with great conviction. She is not afraid of the facts. Her campaign will tell you, she answered 200 questions just last week and Hillary Clinton answered seven in the entire scope of her campaign thus far. I'm not saying [Fiorina] is going to be the president. I'm saying she is a viable candidate. She will get better and better as people know her.” *The Post*'s Ruth Marcus argues, “I don't think we would be taking her seriously at all if she weren't a woman.” (Many might say the same thing about Hillary Clinton, of course.) [75516, 75518]

In the *London Review of Books*, respected journalist Seymour Hersh reports that the Obama administration account of the killing of Osama bin Laden contains more than a few falsehoods. The Pulitzer Prize-winning Hersh writes, “The most blatant lie was that Pakistan's two most senior military leaders—General Ashfaq Parvez Kayani, chief of the army staff, and General Ahmed Shuja Pasha, director general of the ISI—were never informed of the US mission. ... The major US source for the account that follows is a retired senior intelligence official who was knowledgeable about the initial intelligence about bin Laden's presence in Abbottabad. He also was privy to many aspects of the Seals' training for the raid, and to the various after-action reports. Two other US sources, who had access to corroborating information, have been longtime consultants to the Special Operations Command. I also received information from inside Pakistan about widespread dismay among the senior ISI and military leadership... over Obama's decision to go public immediately with news of bin Laden's death. The White House did not respond to requests for comment.” [75495, 75496, 75497, 75499, 75521, 75551, 75586, 75643]

After the mission, “...Obama's speech was put together in a rush, the retired official said, and was viewed by his advisers as a political document, not a message that needed to be submitted for clearance to the national security bureaucracy. This series of self-serving and inaccurate statements would create chaos in the weeks following. ...Obama also

praised ‘a small team of Americans’ for their care in avoiding civilian deaths and said: ‘After a firefight, they killed Osama bin Laden and took custody of his body.’ Two more details now had to be supplied for the cover story: a description of the firefight that never happened, and a story about what happened to the corpse. ...[Defense Secretary Robert] Gates wasn’t the only official who was distressed by Obama’s decision to speak without clearing his remarks in advance, the retired official said, ‘but he was the only one protesting. Obama didn’t just double-cross Gates, he double-crossed everyone. This was not the fog of war. The fact that there was an agreement with the Pakistanis and no contingency analysis of what was to be disclosed if something went wrong—that wasn’t even discussed. And once it went wrong, they had to make up a new cover story on the fly.’ ...The next day John Brennan, then Obama’s senior adviser for counterterrorism, had the task of talking up Obama’s valour while trying to smooth over the misstatements in his speech. ...Obama, he said, ‘made what I believe was one of the gutsiest calls of any president in recent memory.’” [75495, 75496, 75497, 75499, 75521, 75551, 75586, 75643]

“...None of the Seals thought that Obama was going to get on national TV and announce the raid. The Special Forces command was apoplectic. They prided themselves on keeping operational security.’ There was fear in Special Operations, the retired official said, that ‘if the true story of the missions leaked out, the White House bureaucracy was going to blame it on the Seals.’ The White House’s solution was to silence the Seals. On 5 May, every member of the Seal hit team—they had returned to their base in southern Virginia—and some members of the Joint Special Operations Command leadership were presented with a nondisclosure form drafted by the White House’s legal office; it promised civil penalties and a lawsuit for anyone who discussed the mission, in public or private. ‘The Seals were not happy,’ the retired official said. But most of them kept quiet, as did Admiral William McRaven, who was then in charge of JSOC. ‘McRaven was apoplectic. He knew he was fucked by the White House, but he’s a dyed-in-the-wool Seal, and not then a political operator, and he knew there’s no glory in blowing the whistle on the president. When Obama went public with bin Laden’s death, everyone had to scramble around for a new story that made sense, and the planners were stuck holding the bag.’” [75495, 75496, 75497, 75499, 75521, 75551, 75586, 75643]

Hersh continues, “One lie that has endured is that the Seals had to fight their way to their target. Only two Seals have made any public statement: *No Easy Day*, a first-hand account of the raid by Matt Bissonnette, was published in September 2012; and two years later Rob O’Neill was interviewed by Fox News. Both men had resigned from the navy; both had fired at bin Laden. Their accounts contradicted each other on many details, but their stories generally supported the White House version, especially when it came to the need to kill or be killed as the Seals fought their way to bin Laden. O’Neill even told Fox News that he and his fellow Seals thought ‘We were going to die.’ ‘The more we trained on it, the more we realised ...this is going to be a one-way mission.’ But the retired official told me that in their initial debriefings the Seals made no mention of a firefight, or indeed of any opposition. The drama and danger portrayed by Bissonnette and O’Neill met a deep-seated need, the retired official said: ‘Seals cannot live with the fact that they killed bin Laden totally unopposed, and so there has to be an account of their courage in

the face of danger. The guys are going to sit around the bar and say it was an easy day? That's not going to happen.” [75495, 75496, 75497, 75499, 75521, 75551, 75586, 75643]

According to Hersh's sources, the claims that the Seals retrieved a large collection of videotapes and 15 computers from the bin Laden compound “were fabrications: there wasn't much activity for bin Laden to exercise command and control over. The retired intelligence official said that the CIA's internal reporting shows that since bin Laden moved to Abbottabad in 2006 only a handful of terrorist attacks could be linked to the remnants of bin Laden's al-Qaida. ‘We were told at first,’ the retired official said, ‘that the Seals produced garbage bags of stuff and that the community is generating daily intelligence reports out of this stuff. And then we were told that the community is gathering everything together and needs to translate it. But nothing has come of it. Every single thing they have created turns out not to be true. It's a great hoax—like the Piltown man.’ ... ‘Why create the treasure trove story?’ the retired official said. ‘The White House had to give the impression that bin Laden was still operationally important. Otherwise, why kill him? A cover story was created—that there was a network of couriers coming and going with memory sticks and instructions. All to show that bin Laden remained important.’” [75495, 75496, 75497, 75499, 75521, 75551, 75586, 75643]

“...In his address announcing the raid, Obama said that after killing bin Laden the Seals ‘took custody of his body.’ The statement created a problem. In the initial plan it was to be announced a week or so after the fact that bin Laden was killed in a drone strike somewhere in the mountains on the Pakistan/Afghanistan border and that his remains had been identified by DNA testing. But with Obama's announcement of his killing by the Seals everyone now expected a body to be produced. Instead, reporters were told that bin Laden's body had been flown by the Seals to an American military airfield in Jalalabad, Afghanistan, and then straight to the USS *Carl Vinson*, a supercarrier on routine patrol in the North Arabian Sea. Bin Laden had then been buried at sea, just hours after his death. ... Within weeks of the raid, I had been told by two longtime consultants to Special Operations Command, who have access to current intelligence, that the funeral aboard the *Carl Vinson* didn't take place. One consultant told me that bin Laden's remains were photographed and identified after being flown back to Afghanistan. The consultant added: ‘At that point, the CIA took control of the body. The cover story was that it had been flown to the *Carl Vinson*.’ The second consultant agreed that there had been ‘no burial at sea’. He added that ‘the killing of bin Laden was political theatre designed to burnish Obama's military credentials ... The Seals should have expected the political grandstanding.’ [75495, 75496, 75497, 75499, 75521, 75551, 75586, 75643]

“...The retired official said there had been another complication: some members of the Seal team had bragged to colleagues and others that they had torn bin Laden's body to pieces with rifle fire. The remains, including his head, which had only a few bullet holes in it, were thrown into a body bag and, during the helicopter flight back to Jalalabad, some body parts were tossed out over the Hindu Kush mountains – or so the Seals

claimed. At the time, the retired official said, the Seals did not think their mission would be made public by Obama within a few hours... It was inevitable that the Obama administration's lies, misstatements and betrayals would create a backlash. 'We've had a four-year lapse in co-operation,' the retired official said. 'It's taken that long for the Pakistanis to trust us again in the military-to-military counterterrorism relationship— while terrorism was rising all over the world ... They felt Obama sold them down the river. They're just now coming back because the threat from Isis, which is now showing up there, is a lot greater and the bin Laden event is far enough away to enable someone like General [Asad] Durrani to come out and talk about it.'" [75495, 75496, 75497, 75499, 75521, 75551, 75586, 75643]

As noted previously in this *Timeline*, on January 28, 2002 CBS reported that Osama bin Laden was likely on dialysis for failing kidneys. If that story was correct, it is highly unlikely that he would have lived another 9 years. At LewRockwell.com, Linh Dinh reminds readers that on July 11, 2002 journalist Amir Taheri reported in *The New York Times* that bin Laden was dead: "The news first came from sources in Afghanistan and Pakistan almost six months ago: the fugitive died in December and was buried in the mountains of southeast Afghanistan." On November 2, 2007 former Prime Minister of Pakistan Benazir Bhutto told journalist David Frost that bin Laden was already dead. (Bhutto was assassinated a short time later). Hersh's report notwithstanding, the true story of Osama bin Laden's demise may never be known. (Needless to state, Hersh's article is immediately criticized by Obama supporters, as well as by some who are not so fond of Obama.) [20257, 20258, 20259, 20269, 20273, 20274, 20275, 20290, 20325, 24122, 24495, 32480, 75725, 75759, 75760]

If there was no firefight, some might ask why Osama bin Laden was killed inasmuch as he would be more valuable alive than dead because he could provide information. At LewRockwell.com Michael S. Rozeff later writes that Obama "made a decision to murder bin Laden, rather than capture him. This was first and foremost a political decision, a matter of power. It controverted justice. It had nothing to do with bringing about justice. Obtaining information on terrorists through bin Laden's capture that might have saved lives also was ranked lower as a consideration. Both justice and the war on terror were dominated by other values. The central question is what were these values. ... We have suggestions of the political considerations that may have resulted in Obama's decision. They revolve around relations among the U.S. and portions of Pakistan's and Saudi Arabia's governments. Pakistan has close relations with Saudi Arabia. Pakistan is a nuclear power. The U.S. is always interested in assuring that its nuclear weapons are never used. Saudi Arabia has oil that the U.S. is always interested in securing. A living, captured and talking bin Laden, out to defend himself, could have led into what are called 'sensitive' areas and relationships among these three governments." [75667]

FoxNews.com reports, "Saudi Arabia's King Salman will not attend a Camp David summit of U.S. and allied Arab leaders, his foreign minister, Adel al-Jubeir, said Sunday. In a statement, al-Jubeir said the summit Thursday coincides with a humanitarian cease-fire in the conflict in Yemen, where a Saudi-led coalition is fighting Shiite rebels known as Houthis. He said Crown Prince Mohammed bin Nayef, who is also interior minister,

would lead the Saudi delegation and the king's son, Deputy Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, who is defense minister, will also attend. ...Obama had planned to meet Salman one-on-one a day before the gathering of leaders at the presidential retreat but the White House did not take his decision to skip the summit as a sign of any substantial disagreement with the U.S." Several other Arab leaders will not attend Obama's summit, and are instead snubbing him by sending representatives. Columnist Charles Krauthammer comments, "This isn't about geriatric travel problems [of an aging king]. This is a loud statement from the gulf states. You don't have to be an expert. You have to be about 11 or older to understand what this statement is. And it's not about Yemen. This is a rejection of the agreement that the United States is about to embark in with Iran by the states who are going to be very badly affected by and who strongly object to it." [75498, 75507, 75517, 75561]

Pamela Geller endorses Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) for president. Geller writes, "The media is going to try to use this against him. But they have been thoroughly discredited in the past week. They are aligned with our enemies. Get behind Cruz. I know it's early—but the truth is, it's late in the fight. I have been considering this for some time and will write a more comprehensive post when time permits, but Cruz is the best candidate in the field. Bar none. The conquered media is viciously enforcing the sharia in their attacks on me. But I believe it does more to expose them than damage our fight for freedom. My email box is crashing with emails of support—tens of thousands of letters. The media has been outed. If we had a responsible media, they would report more of the positive developments in light of the terror attack. The jihadists were the end of the line. By drawing them out, we exposed their network. We were able to expose the network without getting anyone killed. The FBI are now going after the sources. They are gleaning intel from their computers as we speak. We smoked out a terror structure. The FBI has put more American terror suspects under constant surveillance following the deadly attack. Every city across US had 'subjects of concern.' The military is taking the threat seriously enough to raise the threat level to one of the highest levels it has reached since 911. Get behind Cruz." [75501]

InsuranceNewsNet.com reports, "The Hawaii Health Connector has prepared a contingency plan to shut down operations by Sept. 30 after lawmakers failed to pass legislation to keep the state's troubled Obamacare insurance exchange afloat. ...The Connector was awarded \$204.3 million in federal grants to build and operate the online marketplace. All but about \$70 million of the federal grant money has been spent. The federal government's restriction on the remaining funds is affecting the Connector's ability to improve its technology, which has been a problem for users since its inception in October 2013." (Hawaii is not the only state with significant ObamaCare exchange problems.) [75546, 75672]

On May 11 Obama has only two tasks on his schedule: the daily briefing, and delivering "remarks recognizing emerging global entrepreneurs." [75519]

By a vote of 90-0 the U.S. Senate passes a meaningless resolution calling on Iran to release four Americans held in Iranian prisons: Saeed Abedini, Amir Hekmati, Jason Rezaian, and Robert Levinson. (If the Senators had any courage, they would have declared that there would be no approval of Obama's nuclear agreement with Iran without the prisoner release.) [75552]

*Newsweek* tweets, "George Zimmerman, who was acquitted in the death of Trayvon Martin was involved in another shooting." (*Newsweek's* tweet is—perhaps intentionally—misleading. Zimmerman was shot at; he did not shoot anyone. *Newsweek's* headline is tantamount to: "Jews involved in concentration camp atrocities" or "President Lincoln provokes actor at Ford Theater event.") [75512, 75513]

On MSNBC's *The Ed Show*, Reverend Jamal Bryant says, "The focal point of the uprising in Baltimore has been one store, a CVS store. Whereas in those riots in 1968 or the uprising that happened in Los Angeles in 1992, you're talking about blocks [of businesses]. And so really, comparatively, it's a very small number. But it's been blown grossly out of proportion. What it really says to is how much disenfranchisement is taking place, that they could only find one anchor store in that neighborhood, and in that community. And that's what the community is crying out, almost like Freddie Gray did in the back of that police vehicle to no aid, no assistance. ... We need jobs, we need business, we need opportunities." (Some might interpret Bryant statement as a complaint that there were not more and better stores to loot.) [75591]

According to the FBI, "Preliminary statistics... show that 51 law enforcement officers were feloniously killed in the line of duty in 2014. This is an increase of almost 89 percent when compared to the 27 officers killed in 2013. [75523, 75537]

A woman from Glen Allen, Virginia is sentenced to four and a half years in prison for encouraging a man to join ISIS. According to Richmond.com, "Heather Elizabeth Coffman, 30, was arrested in November. With credit for time served, she will spend roughly four years behind bars under the sentence imposed by U.S. District Judge John A. Gibney Jr. ... In pleading guilty in February to making a false statement involving international terrorism, Coffman admitted that last year she used Facebook accounts under different names to show her support for ISIS. ... Coffman, the mother of a boy, 7, who now lives with his father, served briefly in the U.S. Army. At the time of her misconduct, she was living with her parents and sister in Henrico County." [75531, 75532]

ABC's Chicago affiliate reports, "Eleven weeks after his failed run for Chicago mayor, multi-millionaire businessman Willie Wilson has set his sights on the White House. He has filed papers to form an exploratory committee to run for the nation's highest office. ... Wilson, who has never held public office, finished third in the first round vote for mayor. He says leading a successful worldwide medical supply company proves he can run the government and deal with foreigners. ... Wilson says that while he is running as a Democrat, he represents the people as opposed to the party. He called that the biggest

difference between himself and Democratic front-runner Hillary Clinton.” (Wilson is black. Although some in the mainstream media were quick to label as racists Republicans who did not support Obama in 2008, it is unlikely that Democrats will be called racist for opposing Wilson.) [75524]

On *Your World With Neil Cavuto*, retired General Jack Keane comments on the decision by leaders of several Middle East nations to send surrogates to Obama’s May 14 “summit.” Keane says, “Well, this is actually a reflection of this administration’s policies in the Middle East, and the arrogance of those policies and the naive-ness [sic]. The arrogance is this—our closest ally is Israel, has laid out for this administration what the problems are with Iran and the dangers that are involved. Our closest Arab allies have done very much the same thing, time and time again, yet the administration ignores it. That is arrogance. The naive-ness is, after 35 years, Iran has been using proxies to run roughshod over the Middle East and kill close to 2,000 Americans in those years. The reality is that you think you can have a détente with Iran as a result of a nuclear framework deal and they will join the community of nations, which is what the overriding goal of the administration is, is extraordinarily naive. And that’s at the bottom of the frustration of the four leaders who are not coming. It is those two factors, and they’re tired of participating in what is a charade. In other words, a photo op here that somehow they’re all cooperating in some fashion with the administration as it moves towards this very dangerous deal with Iran. They’re not going to put up with it.” [75547]

On May 12, one month after Hillary Clinton announced her candidacy for the presidency, she has yet to grant an interview with anyone in the media. (Republican candidate Carly Fiorina has answered more than 300 media questions. Fiorina also bought the domain [www.hillaryclinton.net](http://www.hillaryclinton.net); it takes Internet users to [www.carlyforpresident.com](http://www.carlyforpresident.com).) [75555]

TruthRevolt.org reports, “The Obama administration apologized Monday [May 11] to the United Nation’s Human Rights Council for American law enforcement personnel whom it described as ‘willfully us[ing] excessive force,’ at times with racist motivation. In its defense of its handling of the issue, the administration touts prosecuting over 400 law-enforcement officials and committing itself to take down those found guilty in the future. The Associated Press reports that the U.N. human rights council—which includes dozens of countries with deplorable human rights records—voiced ‘widespread concern’ about unjust practices by American police. The Obama administration responded by vowing to ‘rededicate’ itself to ensuring that ‘our civil-rights laws live up to their promise’ and touting its punishment of out-of-control personnel.” (Among the current members of the Human Rights Council are Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Qatar and Cuba.) [75721, 75722]

Eight days after the jihadist attack in Garland, Texas, [WhiteHouseDossier.com](http://WhiteHouseDossier.com)’s Keith Koffler notes there has still “been no condemnation” from Obama. “What exactly does this lack of seriousness about the attack say to those planning future assaults against U.S. targets and free speech? The White House response should have been sure, bold, and unequivocal, even if ...Obama didn’t like the message of the group that was attacked. ...One cannot help but think that were a group Obama were in sympathy with attacked in



this way, we would have heard from [him]. Imagine if two white supremacists sought to shoot up a meeting of the NAACP. [Obama] would be all over it, leading all of us in an expression of outrage and intolerance of future such attacks. Free speech is free speech, and terrorism is terrorism. [Obama] ought to be on it, no matter his personal feelings.” [75595]

Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) and New York City’s mayor, Bill “the Red” de Blasio, appear at the National Press Club to announce a leftist “contract with America.” The “progressive agenda” contract includes paid sick leave, free daycare before and after school, no free trade, a \$15 per hour minimum wage, immigration reform with a “pathway to citizenship”—and, of course, higher taxes. (The goal of the contract is to push Hillary Clinton further to the political left. The net effect of the contract, if implemented, would be to further bankrupt the federal government and destroy the private economy. Supporting the agenda is billionaire George Soros, who has donated more than \$550 million to leftist and socialist causes, organizations, and political candidates.) WND.com notes that Dan Cantor is a supporter of the leftist contract. Cantor is the executive director of the Working Families Party, and “also was a founder of the socialist-oriented New Party. [Cantor’s co-founder was Joel Rogers, who worked with Obama’s communist “green jobs” czar, Van Jones, at the radical Apollo Alliance—which helped draft Obama’s stimulus legislation.] De Blasio once served as executive director of the New York branch of the New Party.” Obama was a member of the socialist New Party when he first ran for state senator in Illinois. As a candidate, Obama received the support of the Democratic Socialists of America (DSA). Obama was then an associate of the DSA’s Chicago branch. [72, 239, 243, 244, 253, 422, 431, 432, 1280, 1281, 1282, 1362, 10896, 75527, 75600, 75601, 75711, 75758, 75869]

At LewRockwell.com ZeroHedge.com’s Tyler Durden reviews Seymour Hersh’s account of the lies told to cover up the truth about the killing of Osama bin Laden: “In a nutshell, and one really needs to read Hersh’s magnum opus as no amount of abbreviation will do it justice, Hersh accuses Obama of not only taking credit for the al Qaeda leader’s death, but fabricating the story that resulted from what has been widely reported to have been a Navy SEAL incursion into bin Laden’s Abbottabad compound in Pakistan. As a result the military and intelligence communities were forced to scramble and then corroborate [Obama’s] version of events. ...Among the many allegations of Hersh’s report are that: bin Laden had been a prisoner of the Pakistan intelligence at the Abbottabad compound since 2006; that the two most senior Pakistani military leaders knew of the raid in advance and had made sure that the two helicopters delivering the SEALs to Abbottabad could cross Pakistani airspace without triggering any alarms; that the CIA did not learn of bin Laden’s whereabouts by tracking his couriers, as the White House has claimed since May 2011, but from a former senior Pakistani intelligence officer who betrayed the secret in return for much of the \$25 million reward offered by the US; and that, while Obama did order the raid and the SEAL team did carry it out, many other aspects of the administration’s account were false. Hersh notes that the Obama administration originally agreed to announce bin Laden had been killed in a drone strike rather than shot during an active special operations mission. ...At the end bin Laden was murdered, plain and simple [there was no ‘fire fight’ and there never was any intention of taking him alive].

...No, Obama is not facing re-election. Unfortunately, the person under whose watch the bin Laden 'raid' took place, Hillary Clinton, is facing election. And sadly for America, once she takes over Obama's throne, the surge in high-level lying, secret prisons, drone attacks, immunity from checks and balances and forced silencing of all naysayers, no matter the cost, will truly show the world what happens when a former superpower enters its terminal decline phase." [75530]

The Barack Obama Foundation announces that Obama's presidential library will be built in Chicago. According to Politico.com, "The University of Chicago doesn't actually own the land it wants to use—one of two city parks—and citizens groups have objected to taking away local green space. It took the personal intervention of Mayor Rahm Emanuel, Obama's former chief of staff, to broker a deal to transfer the park land over." (After the completion of the library, copies of *The Complete Obama Timeline* will be donated by this author. Whether the library will accept them remains to be seen.) [75535]

In the *Chicago Tribune*, John Kass has some suggestions for Obama library exhibits: "Like the... mommy jeans he wore when throwing out the first pitch at an MLB All-Star Game. Or an interactive exhibit where visitors determine how many days Obama was in office before he was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. And a map of all the 57 states he said he visited during his 2008 campaign. Also, what about an animatronic interactive Obama Bowling Game, to see if you, too, can bow your head low like [Obama], or maybe just some obsequious peasant, groveling before the king of Saudi Arabia or the emperor of Japan." [75548]

Politico.com writes, "On the campaign trail eight years ago, candidate Barack Obama was delighted to tweak rival Hillary Clinton by highlighting how unfettered fundraising for her husband's presidential library could undermine trust in government. Now, Obama faces his own daunting task, trying to raise \$500 million or more to build his own presidential library on the south side of Chicago, while keeping his promise to make detailed disclosures and avoid ethical issues that arise when public officials take large donations for personal causes. ...In its first year, the [Obama library] foundation has accepted contributions from 13 donors—couples, individuals or nonprofits. The top givers—listed at between \$500,000 and \$1 million—are Chicago-based, including publisher Fred Eychaner and hedge fund manager Michael Sacks, along with his wife, Cari. ...As long as Obama is in office, his foundation has pledged not to take money from foreign nationals, foreign agents, registered federal lobbyists or corporations. Many corporations make charitable gifts through foundations, but an Obama spokesperson did not address Tuesday whether such funding is being accepted now or will be in the future." [75573]

On C-SPAN, Robert Woodson, founder and president of the Center for Neighborhood Enterprise, states, "You always have to begin with a solution in mind. I tell people, what is your solution? If all whites tomorrow were to move to Canada and Europe, tell me how it would affect the black on black crime rate, how would it affect the out-of-wedlock births, how would it affect the spread of AIDS? How would it affect those issues? What

I'm saying to black America, we must stop victimization. We must stop complaining about what white folks have done to us in the past. We must go into ourselves, as Dr. [Martin Luther] King [Jr.] said, and find indelible ink—our own emancipation proclamation. ... When you bring people together where you are motivated by solutions and not complaining about what others have done, it is amazing how much entrepreneurial energy exists within these high-crime neighborhoods. Young men who have been to prison... if they can drive, it means they can drive taxicabs in high-crime areas. My point is, we should be using all of our energy to try and promote innovative approaches to poverty rather than just trying to find excuses. There's nothing more lethal than a good excuse for failure—institutional racism, whatever that means. We need to just stop it, and we need to begin to concentrate on what we can do to elevate and lift ourselves, regardless of the resistance that other people may impose on us." (Woodson is black.) [75562]

The Lawyers Chapter of the Phoenix Federalist Society holds a luncheon to honor Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia. Retired Commander Charles F. Kerchner (*Kerchner v. Obama*) relates that a "Patriotic Citizen" in attendance purchased a copy of Scalia's 2010 book (*Reading Law: The Interpretation of Legal Texts*), "stood in line to have Scalia autograph it, and then seized on the opportunity to ask, 'U.S. Constitution, Article 2, Section 1, Clause 5: Is it your understanding a 'natural born Citizen' is a person born in the U.S. to two US-citizen parents?' Scalia then responded, "Uhh... Umm... Ahh... I have to research that." Kerchner addresses Scalia: "Your feigning lack of knowledge of the meaning of 'natural born Citizen' to the Patriotic Citizen who asked you that question, which is obvious by your hesitating response, is not fooling anyone. I have seen you cite the writings of Emer de Vattel in cases at the U.S. Supreme Court. As a self proclaimed 'originalist' I believe you already know the original intent, true meaning, and understanding of who a 'natural born Citizen' was and is per the founders and framers, i.e., a person born in the country to parents who are both citizens. You know the writings of Vattel inside and out and his influence on the founders and framers. But if you need a refresher course 'to research that,' visit the site [reference number 75616]. ... You people at the U.S. Supreme Court need to stop 'evading that question' and do your constitutional job." [75613, 75614, 75615, 75616]

In the Senate, Obama fails to get approval for "fast track authority" on the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal. Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) has led the effort to block Obama. The vote is 52-45, with 60 votes needed for passage. Meanwhile, Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) suggests Obama was disrespectful of Warren for having called her "just another politician" and for calling her by her first name. Says Brown, "I'm not going to get into more details. I think referring to her as first name, when he might not have done that for a male senator, perhaps? I've said enough." (As noted previously in this *Timeline*, during the 2008 campaign Obama blew off a female reporter, WXYZ's Peggy Agar, by ignoring her question and calling her "Sweetie." Obama has used the term with women on other occasions as well.) [353, 842 p. 331; 75539, 75540, 75563, 75572, 75577, 75598]

At Georgetown University, Obama addresses the “Overcoming Poverty at the Catholic-Evangelical Leadership Summit.” He whines that “on a regular basis” Fox News portrays poor people as “people who just want a free ObamaPhone, or whatever” and complains that too many “kids start going to private schools, kids start working out at private clubs” instead of using public facilities. (For the record, Obama attended expensive, private schools throughout his life, sends his two daughters to an expensive—\$37,750 per year per student—private school, and routinely plays golf at expensive, private country clubs.) [75541, 75542, 75543, 75544, 75545, 75565, 75571, 75576, 75588, 75589, 75597, 75609, 75625]

Alarming, Obama says, “[A]nd so, if we’re gonna [sic] change how [House Speaker] John Boehner and [Senate Majority Leader] Mitch McConnell think, we’re gonna [sic] to have to change how our body politics [sic; body politic] thinks, which means we’re gonna [sic] have to change how the media reports on these issues, and how people’s impressions of what, what it’s like to struggle in this economy looks like, and how budgets connect to that, and that’s a hard process because that requires a much broader conversation than typically we have on the nightly news.” (Obama is not concerned with *facts* and using them to persuade people to change their minds; he is eager to *change and manipulate how people think*. At Townhall.com Matt Barber writes, “How Kim Jong-un of him. In sum: Goal 1) Control thought by, Goal 2) Controlling the media.”) [75745, 75746]

Obama also complains, “The top 25 hedge fund managers made more than all of the kindergarten teachers in the country. So, when I say that, I’m not saying that because I dislike hedge fund managers, or I think they are evil, I’m saying that you’re paying a lower [tax] rate than a lot of folks who are making \$300,000 a year. You pretty much have more than you’ll ever be able to use in your family will ever be able to use. There’s a fairness issue involved here. And by the way, if we were able to close that loophole, I could now invest in early childhood education to make a difference. That’s where the rubber hits the road. That’s ...where the question of compassion and ‘I’m my brother’s keeper’ comes into play. And if we can’t ask from society’s lottery winners to just make that modest investment, then really this conversation [on poverty] is for show.” (Thomas Sowell later observes, “Despite pious rhetoric on the left about ‘asking’ the more fortunate for more money, the government does not ‘ask’ anything. It seizes what it wants by force. If you don’t pay up, it can take not only your paycheck, it can seize your bank account, put a lien on your home and/or put you in federal prison. So please don’t insult our intelligence by talking piously about ‘asking.’”) [75567, 75801, 75855]

Even if Obama is correct that the top 25 hedge fund managers earn more than the combined salaries of all kindergarten teachers, that is irrelevant. Hedge fund managers earn a fortune because they earn fortunes for their clients. Their fortune-producing skills enables them to also earn fortunes. That hedge fund managers (or Oprah Winfrey, Bill Gates, Warren Buffet, and virtually every Hollywood star) may earn more than their families can spend is also irrelevant. Obama’s statements are intended only to encourage envy and resentment. Further, hedge fund managers who are paid salaries most certainly

do not pay a lower tax rate than “folks who are making \$300,000 a year.” They would all be in the 39.6 percent tax bracket. Granted, hedge fund managers and others whose income comes from capital gains pay a lower rate, but that lower rate is intended to encourage investment—and that investment is what creates job. The snide remark about “society’s lottery winners” is also meant to encourage class envy; it is pure Karl Marx. Obama is suggesting that wealthy Americans did not earn their wealth; they merely got lucky. While that is true for a small portion of wealthy people, their good fortune hardly justifies Obama condemning everyone who has worked hard and succeeded.

With regard to Obama’s “brother’s keeper” remark, the Bible story relates that after Cain killed Abel, God asked him about his whereabouts. Cain sarcastically replied, “Am I my brother’s keeper?” The point of the Bible verse is God’s condemnation of Cain for killing his brother. It has nothing to do with one group of people expecting or demanding that others provide for them. (Obama, of course, is certainly not the only person who misuses that Old Testament story to defend reliance on government programs.) Lastly, studies have shown that early childhood education programs like Head Start are a waste of money. They are glorified day care programs, but Obama believes hedge fund managers should be responsible for paying the child-rearing expenses of others. [75568, 75569, 75570]

Not content to attack only Fox News and the wealthy, Obama criticizes Christian churches. He says, “I think it would be powerful for our faith-based organizations to speak out on this [fighting poverty] in a more forceful fashion. ... There is great caring and great concern, but when it comes to what are you really going to the mat for, what’s the defining issue ... this is often times viewed as a ‘nice to have’ relative to an issue like abortion.” (In other words, Christians should stop resisting gay marriage and abortion.) [75593]

Obama lectures, “The stereotype is that you’ve got folks on the left who just want to pour more money into social programs, and don’t care anything about culture or parenting or family structures, and that’s one stereotype. And then you’ve got cold-hearted, free market, capitalist types who are reading Ayn Rand and think everybody are moochers [sic]. And I think the truth is more complicated. I think that there are those on the conservative spectrum who deeply care about the least of these, deeply care about the poor; exhibit that through their churches, through community groups, through philanthropic efforts, but are suspicious of what government can do. And then there are those on the left who I think are in the trenches every day and see how important parenting is and how important family structures are, and the connective tissue that holds communities together and recognize that that contributes to poverty when those structures fray, but also believe that government and resources can make a difference in creating an environment in which young people can succeed despite great odds.” (Obama is eager to promote government and excoriate capitalism, but he fails to recognize that the government’s 50-year “war on poverty” has failed, while capitalism has provided more wealth for more people than any other system in the history of the world.) [75594]

The Associated Press reports, “State Department officials gave speedy and sometimes only cursory consideration to potential conflicts of interest when approving former President Bill Clinton’s lucrative speeches to global companies and foreign governments during Hillary Rodham Clinton’s tenure as secretary of state, an Associated Press investigation has found. Again and again, the ethics office responsible for vetting his appearances hurriedly signed off on them, even in cases where questions had been raised about the behavior of organizations hiring Bill Clinton to appear. It approved at least 330 requests for the former president’s appearance at speeches, dinners and events. More than 220 of those were paid events that earned the family nearly \$50 million, according to AP’s review of State Department documents and Hillary Clinton’s financial disclosure forms. The ethics office’s standard response: ‘We have no objection.’ Now, as Hillary Clinton moves forward with her presidential campaign, the ease with which her husband was repeatedly cleared to address companies and governments around the world highlights potential ethical complications that are likely to intensify in her campaign and if she becomes president.” HotAir.com notes, “Bill Clinton took \$200,000 from HSBC while the British bank was under investigation for money laundering, a rather ironic happenstance to be sure. That pales in comparison to the \$840,000 UBS paid Bill for five events just two years after UBS admitted to ‘a massive tax evasion scheme aiding American clients and paid \$780 million in penalties.’” [75553, 75554]

Obama calls for a rewriting of the Patriot Act, which is set to expire on May 31. (It is absurd to expect a total rewrite of a law just weeks before it is set to expire. Obama and Congress should have addressed the issue months earlier.) [75560]

The Department of Health and Human Services announces stricter birth control regulations for insurers, which must now offer for free 18 forms of contraception, “including the ring, the patch and intrauterine devices,” as well as “morning after” abortifacients. [75564]

CNSNews.com reports, “Inflation-adjusted federal tax revenues hit a record \$1,891,601,000,000 [\$1.892 trillion] for the first seven months of the fiscal year this April, but the federal government still ran a \$282,766,000,000 [\$283 billion] deficit during that time, according to the latest Monthly Treasury Statement.” Government spending during those seven months was \$2.174 trillion. [75606]

At FoxNews.com, Todd Starnes reports that a strict interpretation of federal “non-discrimination” rules (Title IX) has forced the removal of a storage shed that was donated to Arbor View High School in Las Vegas for the baseball booster club—because an equal shed was not also built for the female students. The booster club and school have spent \$21,000 to remove the shed—which cost nothing. [75574]

On Hugh Hewitt’s radio program, syndicated columnist Charles Krauthammer comments on Obama’s most recent diatribe against Fox News: “He said, ‘if you watch it all the time,’ so I’m glad to know that he’s joined this vast audience that Fox commands. Look, this is sort of pathological Obama where he picks up these memes. He doesn’t know a

damn thing about what's on Fox. The idea that Fox is constantly showing sponges and leeches and never shows, you know, the waitress trying to make it—it's just sort of the mythological world he lives in, or he may be cynical. I mean, he may know it's all nonsense. I mean, I can't tell. After all, you probably need a psychiatrist to figure that out. But he's either cynical or hopelessly delusional on this. I would prefer to think he's cynical because I'd like somebody in the White House who's not delusional. And this is the usual Obama cynicism; 'It's the media, it's the press. They're underreporting liberal successes. I mean, look, the fact is a war on poverty, the billions poured into helping the poor, which in my 20s I rather supported until in my 30s, the empirical social science evidence began to come out that not only was money poured down the drain, but it was undermining the traditional structures of even the poorest neighborhoods and leading to real terrible pathologies, including helping to accelerate the breakdown of the family. So these are, there's just the empirical social science refuting the liberal nostrums about how to help the poor. But [Obama] never engages in an argument. It's all ad hominem [attacks].'" [75610, 75642, 75645]

At least 10 cars of an Amtrak train en route from Washington, D.C. to New York City derails in Philadelphia. At least eight passengers are killed and more than 100 are hospitalized. (Regardless of the cause of the accident, media leftists and some members of Congress—as well as the White House—will almost certainly call for more infrastructure spending.) [75559, 75578, 75587, 75604, 75617, 75629, 75641, 75673, 75710]

On May 13 White House press secretary Josh Earnest says Obama expects an apology from Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) for suggesting Obama was sexist (for his having referred to Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) as “just another politician” and for calling her by her first name). Earnest states, “I’m confident after he has gotten a chance to take a look at the comments he made yesterday that he’ll find a way to apologize.” (Obama may also have to demand an apology from Terry O’Neill, president of the National Organization for Women, who tells TheHill.com that Obama’s comment “is sexist. ...I think [Obama] was trying to build up his own trustworthiness on this issue by convincing us that Senator Warren’s concerns are not to be taken seriously. But he did it in a sexist way.” The “clear subtext” of Obama’s remark, states O’Neill, “is that the little lady just doesn’t know what she’s talking about.”) [75585, 75590, 75598, 75652]

Earnest also predictably tells reporters, “We’ve been very clear about what we think is the appropriate level of funding for Amtrak and [Obama’s] budget is I think what’s nearly a billion dollar increase in funding for Amtrak. There are extensive infrastructure upgrades that could be made that would benefit the traveling public, it would be good for our economy and that’s why we’ve long advocated for those kinds of investments. Republicans unfortunately are currently considering legislation at the Committee level that would actually cut funding from Amtrak’s budget by I believe a quarter of a billion dollars a year. That certainly is not consistent with the kinds of priorities that [Obama] has advocated and sought to advance.” [75579]

Philly.com reports, “Investigators of Tuesday’s deadly Amtrak derailment say they are focusing on reports that the train was traveling more than twice the 50-mile-an-hour speed limit when it entered a sharp curve in Frankford. ... The train’s engineer, who has not been identified, declined to give a statement to police investigators and left the East Detectives Division with an attorney, police commissioner Charles H. Ramsey said Wednesday. The train’s conductor, also unidentified, was at Einstein Hospital with a skull fracture, Ramsey said.” According to the National Transportation Safety Board, the train was traveling at 106 miles per hour when the engineer applied the brakes. [75584, 75611, 75612, 75693]

Townhall.com’s Katie Pavlich observes, “It is important to point out that the reason for last night’s crash wasn’t a lack of funding, but instead because the train was going 100 mph in a 50 mph zone. Despite being funded by taxpayers at \$1.4 billion per year (and by \$50 billion over the course of its implementation 40 years ago) in addition to customers purchasing expensive tickets, Amtrak loses close to \$1 billion annually. The rail system has been called a ‘massive failure’ by one of its founders. But sure, let’s throw more money at a system that is completely inefficient and non-profitable despite massive, heavy subsidies and over-priced ticket purchases from hard working Americans.” (Instead of increasing Amtrak funding, the government should sell it to the highest bidder.) [75579, 75581, 75583, 75724]

New York City’s leftist mayor, Bill de Blasio, tweets, “Congress must increase the federal transportation infrastructure investment to keep us safe.” Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) states, “We should be investing, redoubling our commitment to the quality and reliability of tracks and... other kinds of safety and reliability equipment.” Congressman Chaka Fattah (D-PA) says, “While it’s too early to speculate on the cause of last night’s derailment, ensuring safety and reliability on our railways requires substantial investment in Amtrak.” Congressman David Price (D-NC) says, “Yesterday’s tragedy in Philadelphia should be a wake-up call to this [House Appropriations] committee—we must provide sufficient funding for Amtrak’s critical infrastructure projects to ensure a safer transportation system.” [75582, 75641]

At Politico.com Rich Lowry calls Michelle Obama’s commencement address at Tuskegee University “a ringing call for the graduates not to be discouraged by her whining. Much of the first lady’s speech was what is right and proper for a Tuskegee commencement, drawing on the story of the determination and skill of the Tuskegee Airmen. But she devoted a long passage to her own struggles that was off key and characteristically self-pitying. Few women in modern America have been the focus of as much adulation as Michelle Obama, a Princeton University and Harvard Law School graduate who was making almost \$270,000 by the time her husband was elected senator. She is routinely lionized for her beauty and her public spiritedness. Yet, the first lady often strikes an aggrieved note when talking about her experience in America (her notorious comment in 2008 was that ‘for the first time in my adult lifetime I’m really proud of my country’). ... After all the outrageous slings and arrows she suffered in the 2008 campaign... she managed to recover when it came to magazine covers, posing for



the March 2009 Vogue, looking resplendent on a cover with the lines, ‘Michelle Obama: The First Lady the World’s Been Waiting For.’ ...Michelle Obama doesn’t seem to fully realize that the narrative arc of being the wife of a political candidate celebrated by nearly every organ of elite culture on his way to a landslide victory in a presidential election, to becoming a ‘fully-formed first lady,’ isn’t exactly that of the ‘Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass.’ But the logic of the microaggression increasingly defines the Democratic Party, because identity politics needs the oxygen of perpetual offense. Democrats can’t even have a debate among themselves about trade policy without ...Obama himself getting accused of sexism (for referring to Sen. Elizabeth Warren by her first name). As channeled by Michelle Obama, the party’s animating sentiment is we shall overcome—every insult real or imagined.” [75654]

Sister Diana Momeka of the Dominican Sisters of Saint Catherine of Siena, who used to live in Mosul, Iraq, addresses the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Katie Pavlich relates the nun’s testimony: “Christians of Iraq are the first people of the land. You read about us in the Old Testament of the Bible. Christianity came to Iraq from the very earliest days through the preaching and witness of St Thomas and others of the Apostles and Church Elders. While our ancestors experienced all kinds of persecution, they stayed in their land, building a culture that has served humanity for the ages. We, as Christians, do not want, or deserve to leave or be forced out of our country any more than you would want to leave or be forced out of yours. But the current persecution that our community is facing is the most brutal in our history. ...On June 10, 2014, the so-called Islamic State in Iraq and Syria or ISIS, invaded the Nineveh Plain, which is where Qaraqosh is located. Starting with the city of Mosul, ISIS overran one city and town after another, giving the Christians of the region three choices: convert to Islam, pay a tribute to ISIS, or leave their cities with nothing more than the clothes on their back. As this horror spread throughout the Nineveh Plain, by August 6, 2014, Nineveh was emptied of Christians, and sadly, for the first time since the seventh century AD, no church bells rang for Mass in the Plain of Nineveh. From June 2014 forward, more than a hundred and twenty thousand people found themselves displaced and homeless in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, leaving behind their heritage and all they had worked for over the centuries. This uprooting, this theft of everything that the Christians owned, displaced them body and soul, stripping away their humanity and dignity.” Momeka says, “This is cultural and human genocide. The only Christians that remain in the Plain of Nineveh are those who are held as hostages.” [75580, 75640, 75671]

Reuters reports, “The Czech Republic blocked an attempted purchase by Iran this year of a large shipment of sensitive technology useable for nuclear enrichment after false documentation raised suspicions, U.N. experts and Western sources said. The incident could [that is, will most certainly] add to Western concerns about whether Tehran can be trusted to adhere to a nuclear deal being negotiated with world powers under which it would curb sensitive nuclear work in exchange for sanctions relief.” [75675, 75676]

Russia’s ambassador to the United Nations, Vitaly Churkin, tells Bloomberg.com “There can be no automaticity, none whatsoever” of re-imposing sanctions on Iran if they are

removed after a nuclear agreement—despite Obama’s claim that they will be easily “snapped back.” [75705]

TheBlaze.com reports, “Both the New York Times and NBC News are backing up parts of the recent story by Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Seymour Hersh that accuses ...Obama of lying about the killing of Osama bin Laden. The key assertion of the Hersh piece... is that the Pakistani government knew the whereabouts of the world’s most wanted terrorist. The White House strongly denied the story, calling it filled with ‘inaccuracies and baseless assertions.’ However, a New York Times correspondent Carlotta Gall wrote in a first-person account that some of Hersh’s reporting checks out... Separately, NBC News reported that sources confirmed to them that Pakistani intelligence officials were aware of bin Laden’s whereabouts...” [75602, 75608]

ChicagoBusiness.com relates the story of a six-unit condominium association in Chicago that has been fined \$200 for violating a garbage ordinance. “The notice indicated that a city inspector had paid a visit to the premises in November, half a year earlier, and noticed refuse in the alley ‘improperly stacked against, piled (on) or overflowing from the dumpster or reform container.’ Proof would be provided if the defendant appeared at a hearing before a city administrative law judge, the notice added. If an appearance wasn’t made, the \$200 fine had to be paid within seven days or it would jump to \$500. ...But it got worse. Added the city’s notice, in tiny print, ‘Please note that if respondent named above is a corporation or legal entity other than an individual, the respondent must be represented by an attorney at all administrative hearing appearances.’ In other words, spend a grand or two to hire a lawyer, or pay up. ...[Y]ou may wonder how Chicago got a system in which, just to challenge a \$200 fine, you have to blow a wad on a lawyer. The answer, from the appellate ruling: ‘The underlying statute establishing in-house administrative adjudication, and raising their judgments to the dignity of court judgments, was the result of Public Act 90-516, sponsored by then-state Sen. Barack Obama.’” (This *Timeline*, of course, has no problem with a city full of rats expecting lids of garbage dumpsters to be kept closed. But requiring that a six-unit condominium association hire a lawyer just to argue that it is people who do not live in the building who are improperly using the dumpster is extreme. This is an example of typical “generate income for lawyers” legislation, in this case pushed by former lawyer Obama.) [75603]

The White House threatens a veto of the 2016 National Defense Authorization Act if, according to CNSNews.com, it “places restrictions on the administration’s ability to release or transfer terror suspects from Guantanamo Bay, blocks funding for military base closures, and seeks to bypass the Iraqi government in providing arms directly to Kurdish and Sunni fighters...” [75605]

The House votes 242-184 to approve the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act—legislation banning abortions after the fetus is 20 weeks old. Pro-abortion leftists immediately condemn the action. Congresswoman Louise Slaughter (D-NY) calls the legislation “disgustingly cruel”—despite the fact that the vast majority of Americans

object to late-term abortions. The White House threatens a veto of the bill by the pro-abortion Obama if it passes the Senate (which is unlikely). [75623, 75624, 75651, 75658]

Hillary Clinton criticizes the 20-week abortion ban, through policy advisor Maya Harris: “Politicians should not interfere with personal medical decisions, which should be left to a woman, her family and her faith, in consultation with her doctor or health care provider. This bill is a direct challenge to *Roe v. Wade*, which has protected a woman’s constitutional right to privacy for over forty years. The bill puts women’s health and rights at risk, undermines the role doctors play in health care decisions, burdens survivors of sexual assault, and is not based on sound science.” Clinton tweets, “When it comes to women’s health, there are two kinds of experts: women and their doctors. True 40+ years ago, true today.” (Clinton apparently supports abortion *at any time during a pregnancy*, despite the fact that most Americans do not hold that position. In fact, women oppose late-term abortions more than men.) [75638, 75646]

Cecile Richards, head of the abortion mill Planned Parenthood, says the legislation lacks “compassion” and “respect.” (Some might argue that prohibiting an abortionist from vacuuming out the brain of a 20-week old fetus demonstrates considerable compassion. Others might ask Richards how aborting a baby the day before its due date demonstrates “respect.”) [75639]

In a new treaty, the Vatican officially recognizes the “state of Palestine,” even though there is no such state. Vatican spokesman Rev. Federico Lombardi says, “Yes, it’s a recognition that the state exists.” Israel’s foreign ministry responds, “This move does not promote the peace process and distances the Palestinian leadership from returning to direct and bilateral negotiations. Israel will study the agreement and will consider its steps accordingly.” [75622, 75650, 75656]

DCClothesline.com posts several early photographs of Barack Obama and Michelle Robinson Obama, and raises questions about their authenticity. [75607]

WND.com reports on “a video of a U.S. Department of Homeland Security bus pulling into a Shell station in Victorville [California], on the night of May 7” that contained “Somalis and other Africans who had crossed the southern border... A man who appeared to be a Customs and Border Patrol agent was filmed at the gas station at 10:30 p.m.” Questioned by Anita Fuentes of OpenYourEyesPeople.com, the agent replied, “Well, they’re coming in asking for asylum.” Fuentes: “That’s what it is, that special key word, huh? That’s a password now?” Agent: “That’s what the password is now.” WND.com’s Leo Hohmann writes, “A Customs and Border Patrol agent, who asked not to be identified, told WND that many more Africans and Middle Easterners are likely crossing over the Mexican border than what DHS is willing to admit. ‘You’re not going to get an honest number, because they all want to look good and get promotions from the people in D.C.,’ the border agent told WND. ‘I’m absolutely confident that is happening.’ That’s why the video is raising eyebrows, because the agent appears unfazed, as though transferring busloads of Somalis and Africans to detention facilities is a routine task.

Once at the detention facility, asylum seekers are often asked to fill out legal documents, given a court date and set free.” The agent warns, “[T]his administration’s done everything they can do to shut down ICE [Immigration and Customs Enforcement] from doing its job.” [75619, 75620]

On *Hardball*, Chris Matthews and several guests discuss the Amtrak derailment. Matthews asks, “Do we need to have a better right-of-way? Can we clear a straight line for this train?” (That is, “Why don’t we just eliminate curves?”) “...In Communist countries like China, they just draw a straight line, whether it goes through your house or not, it’s a straight line. We have this Amtrak, I’ve been taking it for a half a century, it doesn’t go in a straight line. In this case, it tried to make a turn and turned over! Because there’s so many turns on that route. How do you get rid of the turns?” (Matthews’ claim that Chinese rail lines have no curves is, of course, absurd. So is the suggestion that railroads could be built without them. They are usually necessary because of natural terrain, not houses.) [75644]

On May 14 Yahoo.com reports, “The engineer of the Amtrak train that crashed in Philadelphia ‘has absolutely no recollection of the incident or anything unusual’ and ‘no explanation’ for what caused the crash, his attorney told ABC News. The engineer, Brandon Bostian, 32, of Queens, New York, was ‘very distraught’ to learn that the crash killed at least seven people, the attorney, Robert Goggin, told ABC News. He added that Bostian voluntarily turned over a blood sample and his cell phone and is cooperating with authorities.” [75653]

According to GotNews.com, Bostian is “a 32-year-old gay activist... After a careful study of his social media we conclude that he is an exhibitionist who is interested in odd sex acts.” Bostian also apparently posted some strange questions and observations about operating trains at [www.trainorders.com](http://www.trainorders.com). [75662, 75663, 75664, 75753, 75754]

House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH) thrashes a reporter for suggesting the Amtrak crash was the result of funding cuts. Boehner says, “Are you really going to ask such a stupid question? Obviously it’s not about funding. The train was going twice the speed limit. ...It’s hard for me to imagine that people take the bait on some of the nonsense that gets spewed around here.” [75659]

Obama hosts an Arab summit at Camp David to discuss security and cooperation. (Four of the six invited leaders, including Saudi Arabia’s King Salman, send surrogates. Bahrain’s King Hamad bin Isa al-Khalifa attends the Windsor Horse Show with Queen Elizabeth II.) According to Politico.com, the meeting is not very successful: “Arab leaders who went to Camp David seeking a written security agreement with the United States are going home without one. ...Obama, who invited the Gulf allies to the presidential retreat in the hopes of getting more support for his opening to Iran, made only limited headway. ...Both sides agree it’s worth pursuing a comprehensive and verifiable nuclear deal with Iran, but whether they will define those terms the same way is an open question. Both sides may concur it’s important to bring calm to Syria, but the

details of how to achieve that peace are likely to stay a source of discord. Even Obama's reaffirmation of U.S. support is unlikely to keep the Arab countries from pursuing new military partners or asserting their independence in how to deal with their region's many troubles." [75674, 75689, 75695, 75714, 75831, 75832]

With Gulf leaders at his side, Obama tells reporters, "The United States will stand by our GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] partners against external attack and will deepen and extend cooperation that we have." [75787]

The White House issues a statement that reads in part, "The United States is prepared to work jointly with the GCC states to deter and confront an external threat to any GCC state's territorial integrity that is inconsistent with the UN Charter. In the event of such aggression or the threat of such aggression, the United States stands ready to work with our GCC partners to determine urgently what action may be appropriate, using the means at our collective disposal, including the potential use of military force, for the defense of our GCC partners. As with Operation Decisive Storm, GCC states will consult with the United States when planning to take military action beyond GCC borders, in particular when U.S. assistance is requested for such action. ... The United States and GCC member states strongly affirmed the necessity of resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on the basis of a just, lasting, comprehensive peace agreement that results in an independent and contiguous Palestinian state living side-by-side in peace and security with Israel. To that end, the United States and GCC member states underscored the enduring importance of the 2002 Arab Peace Initiative and the urgent need for the parties to demonstrate—through policies and actions—genuine advancement of a two-state solution, and decided to remain closely engaged moving forward." [75788]

Obama's words and the White House statement do not answer a key question, "Whose side would Obama take if there were a war between Israel and the GCC?" At PJMedia.com Susan L. M. Goldberg writes, "The reality of the language of this latest agreement is simple: It paves the way for a US-backed military war against Israel in order to create a Palestinian state. Whether or not that language will ever be realized will hopefully not be a story for another day." [75789]

While Obama reassures Arab state leaders that the United States "has their backs," five Iranian gunboats fire warning shots at a Singapore-flagged ship in the Persian Gulf. According to CNN's Barbara Starr, "At that point, there's a lot of drama here, the UAE [United Arab Emirates] sent three of its cargo vessels out to protect the ship that was now in its national waters, and the Iranian's turned back." [75706]

The leftist organization Missourians Organizing For Reform and Empowerment (MORE) faces protests from people who had been promised paychecks for demonstrating in Ferguson, Missouri. According to WeaselZippers.us, MORE is "an ACORN organization which had received funding through George Soros to fund the protests." Newsmax.com later reports, "At least some of the protesters who looted, rioted, burned buildings and overturned police cars... were promised payment of up to \$5,000 per month to join the protests. ... Millennial Activists United (MAU) posted a letter on their website stating,

‘On May 14, 2015 many individuals and organizations of the protest movement that began in Ferguson, Missouri, organized a sit-in in the office of Missourians Organizing for Reform and Empowerment (MORE).’ The demand was simple: Cut the checks. The protesters say they are unable to pay their bills after taking time to travel to Ferguson. ‘Questions have been raised as to how the movement is to sustain when white non-profits are hoarding monies collected off [sic; off of] black bodies? When we will [sic; will we] hold the industry of black suffering accountable? The people of the community are fed up and the accountability begins here and now.’” [75805, 75806, 75854, 75866, 76011]

It is revealed that ABC’s George Stephanopoulos never disclosed to the public or his network bosses that he donated \$75,000 to the Clinton Foundation—\$25,000 in 2012, and again in 2013 and 2014. FoxNews.com notes, “Even when he interviewed the author [Peter Schweizer] of ‘Clinton Cash’—the high-profile book examining potential conflicts of interest behind Clinton Foundation funding—on ABC’s ‘This Week,’ Stephanopoulos did not disclose his own contributions.” Clinton lackey Stephanopoulos states, “In retrospect, I probably shouldn’t have, even though I did it for the best reasons.” (By “best reasons,” Stephanopoulos wants viewers to think he means, “for charity.” What he really means is, “to stay in good graces with the Clintons.”) According to Politico.com, Stephanopoulos “said that he would not moderate ABC’s GOP debate, which is scheduled to take place in February in New Hampshire.” Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) “said... Stephanopoulos should be prohibited from moderating any debates during the 2016 presidential campaign.” (FreeBeacon.com’s Andrew Stiles questioned ABC on May 13 about Stephanopoulos’ actions. Rather than answer those questions, ABC gave the story to Politico.com—knowing Politico would be less critical in its report.) [75618, 75626, 75627, 75628, 75635, 75636, 75637, 75647, 75648, 75660, 75661, 75666, 75668, 75694, 75701, 75770]

Townhall.com political editor Guy Benson reminds readers that during Obama’s first term Stephanopoulos engaged in daily telephone calls with then-chief of staff Rahm Emanuel and political operatives James Carville and Paul Begala. (Needless to state, for an allegedly “objective” journalist to have daily conversations with the White House to coordinate talking points is beyond the pale. He did it anyway.) During one 2012 Republican primary debate, Stephanopoulos asked Mitt Romney, “Do you believe that states have the right to ban contraception, or is that trumped by a constitutional right to privacy?” Romney responded, “Uh, George, this is an unusual, uh, topic that you’re raising. States have a right to ban contraception? I can’t imagine a state banning contraception...” (The question was clearly orchestrated by Stephanopoulos and key Democrats, if not the White House, in an effort to push a “Republican war on women” meme. Stephanopoulos has proven on several occasions that “You can take a shameless political operative out of the White House but you can’t take the shameless political operations out of that operative.”) [75627, 75694]

Some leftist journalists immediately come to Stephanopoulos’ defense, arguing all he did was give money to a “charity.” The bigger problem, of course, is that Stephanopoulos

interviewed Schweizer without pushing too hard on the legitimacy of the Clinton Foundation's operations. (Had someone on Fox News donated \$75,000 to a questionable charity and then conducted a softball interview with a critic of that charity, media leftists who be screaming non-stop for days about the impropriety. Someone other than Stephanopoulos, who has close ties to the Clintons and even served in the White House with Bill Clinton, should have conducted the interview—even if Stephanopoulos had never given a dime to the Clinton Foundation.) Stephanopoulos interviewed Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT) on the May 3 broadcast of *This Week*, and defended Hillary Clinton and the Clinton Foundation from Sander's criticism—without telling viewers that he is a strong supporter of Clinton or that he donated \$75,000 to her family foundation. (Stephanopoulos has also attended meetings of the Clinton Global Initiative and has been both a moderator and featured speaker at its events.) [75630, 75631, 75632, 75633, 75634, 75635, 75661, 75666, 75747, 75752, 75770]

The next day Stephanopoulos issues an apology of sorts, telling *Good Morning America* viewers, "I want to address some news you may have seen about me. Over the last several years I've made substantial donations to dozens of charities including the Clinton Global Foundation. Those donations were a matter of public record but I should have made additional disclosures on air when we covered the foundation. And I now believe that directing personal donations to that foundation was a mistake. Even though I made them strictly to support work done to stop the spread of AIDS, help children, and protect the environment in poor countries, I should have gone the extra mile to avoid even the appearance of a conflict. I apologize to all of you for failing to do that." (Stephanopoulos does not tell viewers what his White House job will be if Hillary Clinton is elected president, but he may very well have one in mind.) [75675, 75700]

Townhall.com's Katie Pavlich comments, "Stephanopoulos wants the narrative during the fallout here to be this: If you criticize or question donations to the Clinton Foundation, you're basically against helping poor people, aids research and clean water. Further, he's apologized and regrets making the donations, so we should move on and stop questioning the ethics surrounding his decision not to disclose the donations while covering critical stories about the Foundation. Also, if you think non-disclosure of donations is more important than saving children, you're a terrible person. Here's the problem. This isn't about the donations being made in the first place, it's about hiding them from viewers while covering, and defending, the Clinton Foundation. ...Stephanopoulos didn't 'make a mistake' by donating [to] the Clinton Foundation or by failing to disclose the donations. They were both done deliberately as part of his role to shape narratives on behalf of the Left." [75675]

HotAir.com's Ed Morrissey comments that Stephanopoulos' weak apology "shows why he never should have conducted the interview with [author Peter] Schweizer in the first place. Stephanopoulos was already suspect, given his connections to the Clinton White House in the 1990s, on any topic that delves into potential scandal in Clintonland. ...[H]e admits that he went into that interview with the predetermined perspective that the foundation operates legitimately as a charity, a point which has come under heavy

scrutiny by watchdog groups such as Charity Navigator. The ‘interview’ was little more than a barely veiled attempt at spin control on behalf of the Clinton Foundation and the Clintons themselves, and now we know at least one reason why. [Politico.com] reports that ABC News is standing by Stephanopoulos, but one wonders for how long. What would they do with another reporter who failed to disclose a serious financial relationship between themselves and a story, especially one with the political consequences as this one? Because if they truly don’t think that’s a serious problem, then the smoking gun in this case points not just to the credibility of Stephanopoulos but to ABC News, too.” [75649, 75677]

Carly Fiorina’s campaign staff issues a statement: “Carly does interviews with Hillary apologists pretty often as you can see from our press coverage. So we’ll leave it to ABC to decide whether their viewers can still trust that George [Stephanopoulos] is telling them everything they need to know when it comes to his 2016 coverage or just the things that are about to leak in the conservative press.” [75701]

On CNBC, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY)—apparently more of an exert troller than people realize—says, “I want to compliment [Obama] on the way he took on the base, took on Elizabeth Warren, took on the labor unions.” At HotAir.com Mary Katherine Ham notes that Hillary Clinton “was for the trade bill while Secretary of State but is now too scared to stand up for it.” [75702]

While some complain that money should be spend on automating trains so that engineers will not run them more than 50 miles per hour over the speed limit, few comment on the much more important infrastructure need: protecting the nation’s electrical grid from an electromagnetic pulse (EMP) attack. Tara Copp writes at WashingtonExaminer.com, “An attack on the United States’ unprotected grid could leave the nation without electricity for months or even years, experts are warning the government. Because the U.S. and its utility companies have not hardened the 450,000 miles of commercial transmission lines or the critical 2,000 transformers nationwide, a significant attack could black out the grid long term, damaging all the infrastructure Americans rely on to have access to money, food and transportation for months or years, a panel of experts warned the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee Wednesday. An attack ‘could black out the national electric grid for months or years and collapse all the other critical infrastructures—communications, transportation, banking and finance, food and water—necessary to sustain modern society and the lives of 310 million Americans,’ warned panelist Peter Pry, executive director of the Task Force on National and Homeland Security for the Noah Group, a research organization.” [75655]

“A 2008 study on the long-term consequences of an electromagnetic pulse (EMP) attack found the U.S. so dependent upon electricity to access food, clean water and transportation that it concluded that if the U.S. was hit by a large-scale EMP attack, within 12 months of a nationwide blackout the after-effects would kill ‘nine of 10 Americans through starvation, disease and societal collapse.’ What maddens the experts is that the fixes that would greatly improve the United States’ resistance to an attack on



the grid—whether from a kinetic attack, a natural disaster or an EMP attack—aren't that expensive in relation to the amount of money spent on other types of national defense. It would cost only about \$30 billion to upgrade the whole thing, said George Baker, a professor at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Va., who testified before the committee.” (Eight people killed in a train crash is a terrible tragedy, but no words exist to describe the deaths of more than 200 million Americans from starvation, disease, and exposure.) [75655]

Congressman John Mica (R-FL) tells Newsmax.com, “We have Amtrak, which is a Soviet-style management company. It's a monopoly, a government monopoly—and it's time to open passenger rail to competition. Congress is not going to give Amtrak any more money. It's time to stop the Amtrak Soviet-style monopoly, open passenger rail to private-sector competition, improve those lines where we don't have curves and poorly-operated systems—and bring us into the 21st century of passenger rail.” [75708]

*Clinton Cash: The Untold Story of How and Why Foreign Governments and Businesses Helped Make Bill and Hillary Rich* debuts at number two on *The New York Times* bestseller list. [75657]

Former Senator Russ Feingold (R-WI) announces he will try in 2016 to win back his seat from Senator Ron Johnson (R-WI). [75703, 75736]

By a vote of 400-25 the House passes legislation, “allowing” Congress to review and possibly reject Obama's nuclear deal with Iran. (The legislation is absurd and unnecessary. The Constitution already requires the approval of two-thirds of the Senate for all treaties. Congress caved in to Obama on the issue, making it easier for him to let Iran get nuclear weapons.) [75696]

By a vote of 221-202 the House removes from the defense authorization bill language allowing illegal immigrants to serve in the U.S. military. (All Democrats and 20 Republicans vote against the removal.) Congressman Mo Brooks (R-AL) states, “As America's military downsizes, there are a limited number of enlistment opportunities for American citizens. Each time an illegal alien takes an enlistment opportunity, an American or lawful immigrant loses an enlistment opportunity. The ratio is one-to-one. Period. That is math.” (Additionally, of course, allowing illegal immigrants to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces gives pro-amnesty legislators an excuse to argue that it would be unfair not to allow their relatives to enter the United States. Volunteering to serve in the military for a few years could end up being a “pathway to citizenship” for an illegal immigrant's relatives.) [75688, 75691, 75699]

Former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations John Bolton announces his will not enter the 2016 presidential race. [75692, 75707]

Newsmax.com reports, “The chairman of the House committee investigating the 2012 attacks in Benghazi, Libya, said... he can’t set a date for Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton to testify before his panel because the State Department has been slow in producing needed documents. In a letter... to Secretary of State John Kerry, [Congressman] Trey Gowdy (R-SC) complained that the department has delayed providing emails and other documents involving Clinton, a former secretary of state. ‘Simply put, the committee must have the records of communication requested more than six months ago before the secretary’s appearance can be scheduled,’ Gowdy wrote.” [75665, 75704]

ISIS releases an audio message, allegedly from its leader, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. According to CBSNews.com, “The audio message posted on militant websites features a voice that sounds like al-Baghdadi’s exhorting all Muslims to take up arms and fight on behalf of the group’s self-styled caliphate. The speaker references the Saudi-led air campaign against Shiite rebels in Yemen, which began on March 26, and harshly criticizes the Saudi royal family. CBS News’ Khaled Wassef reports that in previous speeches, al-Baghdadi always called on Muslims to flock to the group’s self-styled caliphate and take up arms against the apostates and the Shiites. Here, for the first time, he seems to be giving his followers the choice to either join ISIS in Syria and Iraq, or just carry out attacks at home. ‘Islam was never a religion of peace. Islam is the religion of fighting,’ he said. ‘No one should believe that the war that we are waging is the war of the Islamic State. It is the war of all Muslims, but the Islamic State is spearheading it. It is the war of Muslims against infidels.’ ‘O Muslims go to war everywhere. It is the duty of every Muslim,’ the speaker said. It was not immediately possible to verify whether the voice was al-Baghdadi’s.” (Al-Baghdadi was purportedly severely injured or killed in an airstrike in November 2014.) [75669, 75670]

According to a May 9-12 Fox News poll conducted by Anderson Robbins Research and Shaw & Company Research, “Six in 10 voters think it is likely terrorists are living in their hometown (60 percent). That’s up from 48 percent who felt that way in 2007, the last time the question was asked, and back to about what it was nine months after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. ...Just over half of voters—53 percent—say the Obama administration has not been ‘competent and effective’ in managing the federal government. ...Obama’s job approval is about where it’s been for the last two years: 44 percent approve of his performance, while 51 percent disapprove. Last month it was 42-53 percent. A year ago it was 44-49 percent. ...Obama gets lower marks for his handling of ISIS. Only 32 percent of voters approve. A 55-percent majority disapproves. The poll finds a record-high 29 percent think it is ‘very’ likely terrorists are living in their area.” [75690]

On May 15 guitar and blues legend B. B. King dies at age 89. The White House acknowledges his passing by tweeting a video clip of Obama singing a few notes of *Sweet Home, Chicago* at a White House event. (Twitter user Weird Ralph tweets, “BB King died, but HEY, LOOK AT ME!!!”) [75678, 75679, 75680]

Obama and Attorney General Loretta Lynch attend a National Peace Officers Memorial Service in Washington, D.C. (Milwaukee County Sheriff David A Clarke tweets, “He doesn’t believe a word he said. Believes cops are racist.”) [75681, 75682, 75683, 75684, 75733]

After 14 hours of deliberation, a jury sentences Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev to death. (With appeals and legal wrangling of all kinds, it may be decades before Tsarnaev is put to death—if ever.) After hearing the sentencing Tsarnaev’s mother, Zubeidat Tsarnaeva, sends a message to a friend: “They think that they are killing us and they celebrate this, but we are the ones who will rejoice when Allah grants us the chance to behold them in the flames of an eternal and terrifying fire, an otherworldly flame.” [75685, 75686, 75687, 75716, 75734, 75762, 75865]

In New York City, Saudi Arabian Khalid al-Fawwaz, an aide to Osama bin Laden involved in the 1998 bombings of two U.S. embassies in Africa that killed 224 people, is sentenced to life in prison. [75740]

Turkey’s president, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, delivers a speech in which he says, “Unfortunately we the Muslims lost our aim to head towards Jerusalem. The water of our eyes froze making us blind, and our hearts that was [sic; were] destined to beat for Jerusalem is [sic; are] now instead conditioned for rivalry being in a state of war with each other.” (In other words, Obama’s favorite foreign leader is saying, “Let’s stop the Sunni versus Shi’ite fighting and instead attack Israel and capture Jerusalem.”) [75741]

In New York City, an anti-censorship play scheduled for July 14 is canceled because of fears it would offend Muslims. (Pamela Geller writes, “*Oh, the irony.* I am sure the ‘guardians’ of the right like Bill O’Reilly, Laura Ingraham and Greta Van Susteren will applaud this capitulation and adherence to the brutal sharia, but freedom-loving people are fed up. Who designated these spineless, gutless wonders as the gatekeepers of our freedoms? We are not Muslims. We do not adhere to the sharia. This is elemental. Like dominoes, one after another lies down and submits to the most brutal and extreme ideology on the face of the earth. We are living under boot of the left and we must push back. Hard. Once freedom of speech is no longer free, it’s over. Larry Flynt is a free speech hero to the left. Lenny Bruce, too. The more obscene, the more profane, the better. Any club the left can use to destroy Americanism, ethics, values—they have used. This time, they’ve jumped the shark.”) [75764, 75765]

By a vote of 269-151 the House passes a \$612 billion defense bill. Obama has threatened a veto. [75709]

Mediaite.com reports, “While ABC’s *This Week* moderator George Stephanopoulos is in hot water for failing to disclose his donations to the Clinton Foundation while reporting on the philanthropic organization, it turns out he was also once a member of the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI), a leadership arm of the foundation. And many other media stars

were as well. According to CGI, membership comes with a \$20,000 donation (some complimentary memberships are also available each year).” [75715]

According to an Associated Press source, Hillary and Bill Clinton have earned “more than \$25M from speeches since Jan 2014.” [75717]

In Iraq’s Anbar province, ISIS fighters take control of parts of Ramadi, and capture the main government headquarters. [75718, 75719, 75726]

Blogger David Burge points out that, according to Bureau of Labor Statistics data, from December 2007 through December 2014 Texas created 1,444,290 jobs, while the remaining 49 states lost 275,290 jobs. [75720]

In a radio interview with Hugh Hewitt, former Deputy CIA Director Michael Morell warns that foreign governments may very well have intercepted Hillary Clinton’s emails while she served as Secretary of State: “I think that foreign intelligence services, the good ones, have everything on any unclassified network that the government uses. ...I don’t think that was a very good judgment [of Clinton to use a private server]. I don’t know who gave her that advice, but it was not good advice. She’s paying a price for it now. It was not good.” [75730, 75731]

To raise more than \$1 million for the CharityVision organization, Mitt Romney (age 68) and Evander Holyfield (age 52) spar for two rounds in a boxing ring in Salt Lake City. (Before the event Romney jokes that he wants the fight to be “as clean as Hillary Clinton’s server.” Afterward he says, “I said listen please, please, Champ, don’t beat my brains out, because if you did, I’ve have to become a Democrat,” “I’m ready to take on Harry Reid’s exercise equipment now,” “I’m happy to fight anybody so long as Candy Crowley isn’t the referee,” and “I’ve fought people who fought different ways. Fighting Evander Holyfield was a little bit like fighting *The New York Times*—except Evander doesn’t hit below the belt.” [75727, 75728, 75729, 75737, 75738, 75748, 75777]

On May 16 the Pentagon reports that Delta Force commandos killed a senior ISIS leader Abu Sayyaf, in a raid in al-Amir, in eastern Syria. According to WashingtonTimes.com, “U.S. special operators also captured his wife, Umm Sayyaf, who is believed to be a member of the Islamic State and may have been complicit in the enslavement of a young Yezidi girl who was rescued in [the] raid, the statement said.” FoxNews.com reports, “A senior defense official told Fox News that while no Americans were injured or killed in the operation, some of the fighting was hand-to-hand and that Sayyaf used women and children as human shields. ‘It was a real firefight—a no kidding old school firefight,’ a senior defense official said. Ancient Assyrian texts and other priceless artifacts were recovered as well as what the defense official called a ‘treasure trove’ of intelligence materials, such as cell phones, laptops and documents.” [75735, 75739, 75742, 75744, 75782]

ISIS vows revenge for the killing: “If they took Abu Sayyaf, we will take Obama.” “If your goal is killing Abu Sayyaf then our goal is killing Obama and the worshipers of the cross. We have attacks coming against you.” [75742, 75743, 75766]

Obama commemorates Armed Forces Day by playing golf at Andrews Air Force Base—while ISIS gains ground in Ramadi. [75749, 75750, 75790]

*The Independent* reports, “An Egyptian court sentenced ousted President Mohammed Morsi and more than 100 others to death over a mass prison break during the 2011 uprising that toppled Hosni Mubarak and later brought Morsi’s Islamist movement to power. ...The prosecution alleged that foreign fighters from Gaza had entered Egypt, and coordinated a mass jailbreak from three prisons using heavy weapons. They argued that the fleeing prisoners looted and destroyed property as well as committed murder.” (Muslim Brotherhood leader Morsi might never have gained power had Obama not turned his back on Mubarak, a long-time U.S. ally.) [75950]

Wired.com reports, “A security researcher kicked off a United Airlines flight last month after tweeting about security vulnerabilities in its system had previously taken control of an airplane and caused it to briefly fly sideways, according to an application for a search warrant filed by an FBI agent. Chris Roberts, a security researcher with One World Labs, told the FBI agent during an interview in February that he had hacked the in-flight entertainment system, or IFE, on an airplane and overwrote code on the plane’s Thrust Management Computer while aboard the flight. He was able to issue a climb command and make the plane briefly change course, the document states. ...[Roberts] obtained physical access to the networks through the Seat Electronic Box, or SEB. These are installed two to a row, on each side of the aisle under passenger seats, on certain planes. After removing the cover to the SEB by ‘wiggling and Squeezing the box,’ Roberts told agents he attached a Cat6 ethernet cable, with a modified connector, to the box and to his laptop and then used default IDs and passwords to gain access to the in-flight entertainment system. Once on that network, he was able to gain access to other systems on the planes.” [75767]

Obama issues a statement: “Michelle and I join our fellow Americans and others around the world in commemorating the International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia tomorrow, May 17. We take this opportunity to reaffirm that lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) rights are human rights, to celebrate the dignity of every person, and to underscore that all people deserve to live free from fear, violence, and discrimination, regardless of who they are or whom they love. We work toward this goal every day. Here at home, we are working to end bias-motivated violence, combat discrimination in the workplace, and address the specific needs of transgender persons. Overseas, I am proud of the steps that the United States has taken to prioritize the protection and promotion of LGBT rights in our diplomacy and global outreach. There is much more to do, and this fight for equality will not be won in a day. But we will keep working, at home and abroad, and we will keep fighting, for however long it takes until we are all able to live free and equal in dignity and rights.” [75755, 75756]

David Stockman, former Congressman and director of the Office of Management and Budget, makes it clear that Amtrak will never make money, will always require taxpayer subsidies, and should be sold to the highest bidder. Stockman writes, “There is not even a remote case that subsidizing intercity rail travel is a proper or necessary function of the state. Amtrak accounts for well less than 1% of intercity passenger miles. On every one of its 44 routes there are bus and air travel alternatives, and that is to say nothing of automobile travel—whether in cars with drivers today or in the driverless kind tomorrow. Moreover, the evidence overwhelmingly shows that passenger trains will never be economically competitive outside of a handful of densely populated corridors. ...The cumulative taxpayer subsidy since 1972 totals more than \$75 billion in dollars of today’s purchasing power. During the span of nearly a half century, Amtrak has operated upwards of 40 routes that have never, ever made even an ‘operating profit.’” Stockman notes that Amtrak’s “capital consumption expense amounts to about 25 cents per passenger mile. ...The average airline fare in the US is about 15 cents per passenger mile and the average bus fare is about 11 cents per mile. Now how in the world does it make sense to operate a lumbering passenger rail system in which the true economic cost of its capital assets alone is 65% to 130% higher than the profitable fares charged by the perfectly adequate and available alternative modes of transportation?” [75724]

“...Amtrak’s current fare on [the Chicago-Los Angeles] route is about 15 cents per passenger mile and apparently it cannot go much higher if it wishes to remain competitive with air. Yet why in the world should bus drivers in Minneapolis pay Federal taxes in order to provide what amounts to a \$600 subsidy per ticket on the 180,000 tickets that are sold annually on the Chicago-Los Angeles route? And the latter is only typical of most of the other routes outside the northeast corridor. Obviously, there is no means test to get a \$600 subsidy from Amtrak, or any other plausible criterion of public need. Like so much else which emanates from Washington, these Amtrak subsidies are distributed willy-nilly—in this case to retirees with enough time and money to see the country at leisure or to people with fear of flying who don’t wish to drive. *So Amtrak is a white elephant as a matter of economics, but when it comes to public safety it is actually a wounded one.* That’s because when push comes to shove and Congress is faced with limited budget headroom, it always elects to short change the capital budget rather than reduce the scope of Amtrak’s far-flung operations and eliminate any of the 44 routes which crisscross the nation’s congressional district.” [75724]

“Whether this week’s disaster was human error or not, the larger certainty is that the system has been chronically starved of capital. But the solution is not for a bankrupt government in Washington to pour more money down the Amtrak rat hole in the name of ‘infrastructure investment,’ as the big spenders are now braying in the wake of this week’s disaster in Philadelphia. Instead, Amtrak should be put out of its misery once and for all. Otherwise its longstanding hazard to the taxpayers is likely to be compounded by even more public safety disasters like this week’s tragic event.” (A proposed 16-mile “Purple Line” expansion of the non-Amtrak D.C. metro system will reportedly cost \$2.45 billion, or more than \$15 million *per mile*—for a train averaging about 15 miles per hour.

There is no possible way passenger ticket sales will offset the staggering cost of the expansion, even if there are no cost overruns.) [75724, 75841]

According to BizPacReview.com, ABC's George Stephanopoulos is "not alone in violating basic conflicts of interest. A whole bevy of media organizations have also ponied up major cash to the foundation. The extensive list includes NBC Universal, News Corp., Turner Broadcasting and Thomson Reuters, according to Politico. Mass media groups like Comcast, Time Warner and Viacom are also on the list, as are Google and Twitter. It's safe to say that when it comes to the appearance of impropriety, the Clintons have sullied the entire American journalism community." (Stephanopoulos recently signed a seven-year, \$105 million contract with ABC. Why ABC believes he is worth \$15 million per year is not clear, but if the network is unable to use him for political coverage his value will plummet. At HotAir.com Ed Morrissey writes, "Here's a thought: perhaps the networks should pay less for news readers and more for, y'know, *actual reporters.*") [75751, 75752, 75842]

The *Daily Mail* reports, "Satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo has been accused of hypocrisy after it suspended a journalist who has received death threats for her articles attacking Islamic extremism. Zineb El Rhazoui, 33, was called to a preliminary dismissal hearing to remind her of her 'obligations' towards the French weekly following 'numerous incidents.' The French-Moroccan columnist accused her employers of trying to 'punish her' for speaking out about the direction of the magazine four months after the jihadist attack which left 12 dead. 'I am shocked and appalled that a management that has received so much support after the January attacks could show so little support for one of its employees, who is under pressure like everyone in the team and has faced threats,' she told *Le Monde*." Additionally, Renald Luzier, the only Charlie Hebdo cartoonist not to be shot in January because he was running late that day, is leaving the newspaper. [75768, 75769, 75838, 75839]

On May 17 Paul Sperry writes at NYPost.com, "If Congress really wants to get to the bottom of Hillary Clinton's missing Benghazi and pay-to-play emails, it should call her consigliere Cheryl D. Mills to testify—under oath, and under the klieg lights. A hearing featuring Clinton will be a wasted show trial with a lot of political grandstanding. But Mills, who served as the former secretary of state's chief of staff and counselor, knows where the bodies are buried. After all, Hillary tasked her with 'identifying and preserving all emails that could potentially be federal records.' And, presumably, deleting. Mills has a long track record of hiding Clinton documents. Since the 1990s, Mills has been at Hillary's side—first as a White House lawyer, then as her closest and most loyal adviser at the State Department, and now as a key member of the Clinton Foundation board, which is under fire for raking in hundreds of millions of dollars from dubious foreign sources in alleged influence-peddling deals. The job of damage control has fallen to Mills through a parade of scandals. Her lack of cooperation is legendary. In fact, she's been officially accused of both perjury and obstruction of justice. Sworn affidavits, depositions and court rulings, as well as congressional reports and testimony, paint a picture of, to put it charitably, a brazenly dishonest cover-up specialist." [75757, 75864]

On *Face the Nation*, Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker says Obama and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton left the world “in worse shape than they found it.. Just about everywhere that Hillary Clinton has played a role... under [Obama], that part of the world is largely a failure, a mess, because of what we’ve seen from Obama and Clinton.” [75761]

In Iraq, the city of Ramada falls to ISIS. Examiner.com reports, “Iraqi security forces retreated from their posts leaving thousands of civilians, including Christians and Shiites, in danger and defenseless, an Israeli police source told the Examiner on Sunday night. ...The Israeli source, who requested anonymity, told Examiner that the military units stationed in their headquarters pulled out leaving the jihadists to take complete control of the headquarters plus access to weapons and ammunition left behind. The ISIS fighters allegedly ‘clobbered Iraqi security forces and allied Sunni tribal militias’ in northern Ramadi on Sunday, and managed to take full control of the city after the troops withdrew from the headquarters. ISIS fighters also rounded up hundreds of families who would not or could not make their escape.” In the process of taking the city, ISIS fighters also capture U.S. weapons, ammunition, and military vehicles—including tanks, armored personnel carriers, and artillery. An ISIS message declares that Allah “has enabled the soldiers of the caliphate to cleanse all of Ramadi.” As civilians flee the city, ISIS releases inmates from a Ramadi prison. [75761, 75763, 75775, 75785, 75792, 75818, 75880, 75881]

It is worth noting that on February 11, 2015, Obama said, “[M]ake no mistake—this is a difficult mission, and it will remain difficult for some time. It’s going to take time to dislodge these terrorists, especially from urban areas. But our coalition is on the offensive, ISIL is on the defensive, and ISIL is going to lose. Its barbaric murders of so many people, including American hostages, are a desperate and revolting attempt to strike fear in the hearts of people it can never possibly win over by its ideas or its ideology—because it offers nothing but misery and death and destruction. And with vile groups like this, there is only one option: With our allies and partners, we are going to degrade and ultimately destroy this terrorist group.” [75784]

It is also worth noting that on May 14 Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Martin Dempsey, asked about the likely fall of Ramadi to ISIS, responded, “The city itself is, it’s not symbolic in any way. It’s not been declared, you know, part of the caliphate, on the one hand, or central to the future of Iraq. But we want to get it back. I mean, the issue here is not, is not brick and mortar. It’s about defeating ISIL. So, as I said, this, I, you know, I would much rather that Ramadi not fall, but it won’t be the end of the campaign should it fall. We [have] got to get it back. And that’s tragic for the people, as have, as we’ve seen along the way.” (It is also tragic for the U.S. soldiers and Marines who were killed or wounded taking Ramadi in 2006—and their families. For the parents of someone killed in Ramadi, it is an insult for Dempsey to say “it’s not symbolic in any way.” It most certainly is symbolic. It is symbolic of Obama’s total failure to preserve the U.S. successes in Iraq.) [75785, 75786]



Obama's U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Samantha Power, tweets, "From a wmn [woman] carrying a mattress on her campus to Afghanistan's Wmn's Nat Cycling Team, reaching true equality req [requires?] showing change is possible." Townhall.com's Katie Pavlich explains, "Power is referring to Emma Sulkowicz in this tweet. Sulkowicz is a young Columbia University student who carried around a mattress on her college campus as part of her own 'carry that weight campaign.' The goal was to show how heavy the burden of rape is on a woman. She said she had been raped and that she would follow her rapist with the mattress, the 'weight,' until he was brought to justice. There's just one problem: she made the rape up. ...Just a few short years ago Afghan women had no rights at all. For Power to compare a Columbia University student who lied about rape to get attention—to women in Afghanistan is absurd, an insult and completely out of touch with the realities of true injustice in the world." (The student falsely accused by Sulkowicz is suing the university for doing nothing to stop her harassment.) Power also mentions Sulkowicz in a brutally long commencement address at Barnard College, where tuition is \$62,741 per year. [75772, 75773, 75774, 75814, 75843, 75844, 76489]

With the media asking Republican presidential candidates if they would have supported the war in Iraq "if they knew then what they know now," Liz Cheney tweets, "When will the media ask Barack Obama & Hillary Clinton key question for 2016—Knowing what we know now, would you still have abandoned Iraq?" [75780, 75781]

In Waco, Texas, members of five (or more) rival motorcycle gangs engage in a fight in a restaurant that leads to a gunfight outside. Nine are killed. [75776, 75779]

On May 18 FoxNews.com reports, "Fox News has obtained documents which reveal what U.S. intelligence agencies knew about the Benghazi attack and weapons traveling from Libya to Syria back in 2012. Catherine Herridge reported this morning on 'America's Newsroom' that a Defense Intelligence Agency memo from Sept. 16, 2012, concluded that the Benghazi terror attack was planned at least 10 days in advance to coincide with 9/11 and was in retaliation for a drone strike that killed an al Qaeda strategist. The memo was copied to the National Security Council, the State Department and the CIA. 'The intention was to attack the consulate and to kill as many Americans as possible to seek revenge for the [U.S.] killing of Aboyahiye (Alaliby) in Pakistan and in memorial of the 11 September 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center buildings,' the memo said. Judicial Watch obtained the memos by suing in federal court. 'The Obama administration says it was a coincidence that [the Benghazi attack] occurred on 9/11. In fact, their intelligence said it wasn't a coincidence, and in fact, specifically the attack occurred because it was 9/11,' Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton said. Another 2012 DIA memo predicts the rise of ISIS and the establishment of a caliphate 17 months before ...Obama called ISIS 'jay-vee.' A third DIA memo, dated Oct. 5, 2012, leaves no doubt that U.S. intelligence agencies knew that weapons were moving from Libya to Syria before the attack that killed four Americans. Former CIA Director Mike Morell recently dodged questions about these weapons in an interview with Bret Baier. Baier

asked him: Were CIA officers tracking the movement of weapons from Libya to Syria? ‘Can’t talk about it,’ Morell said.” [75771, 75798]

WND.com adds that the documents “showed then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and other senior Obama officials were given reports within hours of the Sept. 11, 2012, attack. In those memos, the DOD [Department of Defense] described details of a plan 10 days in advance ‘to kill as many Americans as possible.’ The plans for attack had nothing to do with a provocative YouTube video by an obscure filmmaker, which the administration repeatedly blamed for the attacks. They had everything to do with terrorists from the ‘Brigades of the Captive Omar Abdul Rahman,’ the so-called ‘Blind Sheikh.’ Rahman is serving life in prison for his involvement in the 1993 World Trade Center bombing and other terrorist acts. The new documents also provide the first official confirmation that shows the U.S. government was aware of arms shipments from Benghazi to rebels trying to bring down the government of Bashar Assad in Syria. The documents also include an August 2012 analysis warning of the rise of ISIS and the predicted failure of the Obama policy of regime change in Syria. The memos show the Obama administration knew about ISIS plans to establish a caliphate in Iraq and Syria several months before the November 2012 election.” [75796, 75798]

Also at FoxNews.com, Catherine Herridge reports, “Seventeen months before ... Obama dismissed the Islamic State as a ‘JV team,’ a Defense Intelligence Agency [DIA] report predicted the rise of the terror group and likely establishment of a caliphate if its momentum was not reversed. While the report was circulated to the CIA, State Department and senior military leaders, among others, it’s not known whether Obama was ever briefed on the document. The DIA report, which was reviewed by Fox News, was obtained through a federal lawsuit by conservative watchdog Judicial Watch. Documents from the lawsuit also reveal a host of new details about events leading up to the 2012 Benghazi terror attack—and how the movement of weapons from Libya to Syria fueled the violence there. The report on the growing threat posed by what is now known as the Islamic State was sent on Aug. 5, 2012. The report warned the continued deterioration of security conditions would have ‘dire consequences on the Iraqi situation,’ and huge benefits for ISIS—which grew out of Al Qaeda in Iraq. ... Also among the documents is a heavily redacted DIA report that details weapons operations inside Libya before the 2012 terror attack in Benghazi. The Oct. 5, 2012 report leaves no doubt that U.S. intelligence agencies were fully aware that lethal weapons were being shipped from Benghazi to Syrian ports.” (While Obama and Clinton were spreading the lie that the attack in Benghazi was “spontaneous” and prompted by a YouTube video, the Defense Department was busy circulating the DIA intelligence report that indicated the attack had been planned more than one week in advance. It is almost impossible to believe that neither Obama nor Clinton knew about the report.) [75791, 75798]

FreeBeacon.com reports, “Big labor funneled millions of dollars in dues money to the Clinton Foundation, according to a new report. The National Institute for Labor Relations Research (NILRR), a union watchdog group, traced at least \$2 million in donations from multiple union organizations and affiliates. ‘U.S. Department of Labor’s union financial

disclosure reports reveal that Big Labor gave at least \$2,034,500 in union general treasury funds to Clinton Foundations. Union treasuries are funded mostly by compulsory union dues or fees collected from workers who would be fired for refusing to pay,' the NILRR report says. 'As Mrs. Clinton became closer to her current run for president, donations amounts appear to have increased.' The Clintons have turned their foundation into a lucrative 'slush fund,' according to one charity watchdog group, and have received hundreds of millions of dollars from notable businesses, media personalities, and political luminaries. The family has maintained that none of those donations influenced her decisions as secretary of state and that the money is strictly philanthropic. ... 'Some of these 'donations' are categorized by the unions as 'political' on their financial disclosure report' to the Labor Department, the report says." [75778, 75828]

As a result of a lawsuit, Judicial Watch obtains and releases formerly classified documents from the Department of Defense and the State Department. According to LevantReport.com, "Defense Intelligence Agency [DIA] documents circulated in 2012" show "that an 'Islamic State' is desired in Eastern Syria to effect the West's policies in the region. ... The DIA report, formerly classified 'SECRET//NOFORN' and dated August 12, 2012, was circulated widely among various government agencies, including CENTCOM, the CIA, FBI, DHS, NGA, State Dept., and many others. The document shows that as early as 2012, U.S. intelligence predicted the rise of the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL or ISIS), but instead of clearly delineating the group as an enemy, the report envisions the terror group as a U.S. strategic asset. ... [T]his is the highest level internal U.S. intelligence confirmation of the theory that western governments fundamentally see ISIS as their own tool for regime change in Syria. The document matter-of-factly states just that scenario." [75979]

Examiner.com adds that the documents confirm "suspicions that the United States and some of its so-called coalition partners had actually facilitated the rise of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) as an effective adversary against the government of the Syrian dictator President Bashar al-Assad. In addition, ISIS members were initially trained by members and contractors of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) at facilities in Jordan in 2012. The original goal was to weaken the Syrian government which had engaged in war crimes against their own people... The DIA report also predicted that ISIS would declare a caliphate through its affiliation with other terrorist organizations in Iraq and Syria, including members of what the Obama administration terms 'core al-Qaida' to differentiate it from offshoots such as al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula. The now declassified document appears to confirm that the U.S., the European Union and other nations viewed Muslim extremists in ISIS as 'a strategic asset toward regime change in Syria.' As a result parts of Iraq have been in chaos since ISIS began to cross the Syrian border in early June 2014." [76035]

Pamela Geller later comments, "This makes my blood run cold. It ought to make the hair on the back of every American's neck stand up. When I wrote as early as 2011 that it was al Qaeda and their proxies that Obama was aiding and abetting in Libya and Syria, it did not occur to me that he considered those bloody savages a 'strategic asset'—an ally. On

what planet would the United States of America share an esprit de corp with these monsters? ...This is catastrophic consequence of a foreign (and domestic) policy void of acknowledging and/or understanding the jihad threat. The denial of jihad religious and ideological motivation behind this terrible holy war on the West and secular or 'heretical' Muslims, has allowed to metastasize at breaking speed. Look at what Obama and his party of treason has unleashed on the world." [75980]

At Morning Jolt, *National Review's* Jim Geraghty reports that Democrats are pushing for Hillary Clinton to choose a Latino running mate in 2016—Julian Castro in particular. Castro is Obama's second Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. Castro, the vastly overrated former mayor of San Antonio, is of Mexican ancestry—but Clinton may not know that he does not speak Spanish. His mother has referred to the defenders of the Alamo "a bunch of drunks and crooks and slaveholding imperialists who conquered land that didn't belong to them." According to DailyCaller.com, Castro pushed through a \$596 million bond program in 2012 to finance various projects to "transform San Antonio into a world class city by the year 2020." With only 1.3 million residents, the program represented \$458 dollars for every man, woman, and child. Castro's plans included "doubling public and private funding for the arts," "reducing vehicle miles traveled per person by 10%," "increasing population growth in center city neighborhoods and downtown" by 15%, "increasing the ratio of urban core housing to suburban development by 35%," and, predictably, "green jobs." Kevin Wolff, a Bexar County Commissioner, told the *New York Daily News*, "I see a serious lack of leadership at the local level, like street drainage, safety and security, trash pickup. All of his concentration seems to be, 'How can I shine a better light on myself from a national perspective?'" While Castro was its mayor, San Antonio misused more than \$1 million in HUD funds. Castro is "the Latino Obama," but with even less experience than Obama had in 2008. [36510, 36511, 36537, 36539, 36557, 36579, 58563, 58967, 58968, 75783, 75804, 75829, 76029]

HotAir.com observes, "[I]t must make Secretary Castro feel particularly warm and fuzzy to hear that the only real choice is him *or some other Hispanic*. In other words, his particular qualifications for the job really don't have anything to do with it, much as is the case with the prospective President Hillary. It's all about diversity and making sure you check all the right boxes. We've had the First Black President and they are working on The First Female President. Lucky Julian has pulled the short straw to become The First Hispanic President, at least in the eyes of Democrat strategists. If you ran some boring old white male people might start asking questions about what they actually plan to do." [75829]

At a gathering at a private home in Mason City, Iowa, Hillary Clinton tries to have it both ways with ObamaCare. She says, "I will fight to protect the Affordable Care Act and I will work to make the changes that are required." (In other words, "Vote for me if you like ObamaCare, but vote for me if you want it changed.") She adds, "You know, one of the problems—and I heard about this in Iowa—is what happens when a 26-year-old becomes a 27-year-old and is no longer eligible to be on his or her parents' policy? That was one of the best changes in the Affordable Care Act. And the fact is that a lot of young people aren't making the income they need yet to be able to afford their own

health care. So we have to look out to see what we're going to be able to do to help them." (When Clinton believes children should be treated as responsible adults is not clear.) [75834]

On the John Catsimatidis radio program New York City police Commissioner Bill Bratton calls for at least 450 additional police officers to combat terrorist threats. He says, "We need to be very concerned about terrorism... The significantly increased threat from ISIS using social media to recruit people not only to go to Syria to fight, but encouraging people ...to attack police, to attack government officials, to basically brainwash them under their screwed-up ideology. That threat has expanded significantly in the now 16 months I've been police commissioner. ... We're treating that threat so seriously, I'm going to put another 450 police officers—if we get the approval to increase the size of the police force—and I need to do it very, very quickly—into our counterterrorism operations to increase the ability of our officers to protect critical sites around the city. Or, if we were to have an incident, so I'd have a lot more officers in the streets with the appropriate equipment to deal with active shooters or hostage situations. ... We are entering a new era where we cannot live in fear, but we have to live increasingly aware of our surroundings ... This crazy hijacking of the Muslim religion by these fanatics, twisting it into an ideology that's all about hate and murder and killing." According to JPUupdates.com, "Recently New York Mayor Bill de Blasio released a budget to increase resources for the NYPD, but he did not include any funding for additional police officers. The City Council has requested 1,000 new officers from the mayor, while Bratton has settled on a modest 450. Therefore, it seems Bratton and de Blasio will have to meet somewhere in the middle." [75802, 75803]

The Associated Press reports, "A federal appeals court panel should not have forced YouTube to take down an anti-Muslim film that sparked violence in the Middle East and death threats to actors, a larger group of judges ruled Monday in a victory for free speech advocates. The 11-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeal sided [10-1] with Google, which owns YouTube, saying the previous decision by a three-member panel of the same court gave 'short shrift' to the First Amendment and constituted prior restraint—a prohibition on free speech before it takes place. ... In a statement, YouTube said it has long believed the previous ruling was a misapplication of copyright law. It did not say whether the movie would go back up." (The video, *Innocence of Muslims*, was falsely claimed by the Obama administration to have sparked the Benghazi terrorist attack in which four Americans were killed.) [75799, 75800, 75819, 75827, 75840, 75872]

In Camden, New Jersey, Obama announces restrictions on supplying police departments with military equipment. He says, "You know, we've seen how militarized gear can sometimes give people a feeling like there's an occupying force as opposed to a force that's part of the community that's protecting them and serving them. It can alienate and intimidate local residents and send the wrong message. ... Now, there is other equipment that may be needed in certain cases but only with proper training. So we're going to ensure that departments have what they need but also that they have the training to use it." PJMedia.com Bridget Johnson notes, "On the banned list: .50 caliber weapons and

ammo, grenade launchers, tanks, bayonets and camouflage uniforms excluding woodland or desert patterns. Allowed with training protocols will be drones, manned aircraft, armored vehicles, explosives, battering rams and riot gear.” [75821]

HotAir.com writes, “This is a public relations stunt to show that [the Obama administration is] ‘on the side of the people’ against the evil, out of control cops. Unfortunately we still have areas in this country—generally in large urban centers or contested border regions in the southwest—where police work can border on combat zone scenarios. Everyone would prefer it to be otherwise, but if you’re living in the real world you need to bring the best tools available to the job you have in front of you. ...It sound like Pasco is concerned over the same distinctions I raised questions about yesterday. There are shades of gray in this discussion, because a grenade launcher is a fairly serious hammer to bring against any nail and the use of one in a riot situation could result in all sorts of collateral damage, particularly in the hands of someone without full military training in its use. But seeing batons, shield and helmets on the list of things which might even be questioned should have anyone’s hackles raised.” [75824, 75825]

James Pasco, executive director of the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), tells Politico.com he hopes to meet with the White House to express his concerns about Obama’s restrictions. He states, “The FOP is the most aggressive law enforcement advocacy group in Washington, and we will be at our most aggressive in asserting the need for officer safety and officer rights in any police changes that are to be effected. ... We need to only look back to Baltimore to see what happens when officers are sent out ill-equipped in a disturbance situation. Because you don’t like the optics, you can’t send police officers out to be hurt or killed.” [75823, 75824]

According to FirstLook.org, “...Hillary Clinton received nearly a quarter of a million dollars last year for a speaking engagement on behalf of Academic Partnerships, a for-profit education company in which Jeb Bush held an ownership stake and on whose board he served. Clinton’s newly filed personal financial disclosure shows that she was paid \$225,500 on March 24, 2014 by Academic Partnerships.” [75794, 75795]

The State Department announces that it will need until January 15, 2016 to review 55,000 pages of emails Hillary Clinton turned over to the government in December 2014, and will only then release “portions” of them. (Those 55,000 are separate from the 32,000 allegedly personal emails already deleted by Clinton staffers.) [75807, 75808, 75826]

According to NYPost.com, “Chelsea Clinton is so unpleasant to colleagues, she’s causing high turnover at the Bill, Hillary and Chelsea Clinton Foundation, sources say. Several top staffers have left the foundation since Chelsea came on board as vice chairman in 2011. ‘A lot of people left because she was there. A lot of people left because she didn’t want them there,’ an insider told me. ‘She is very difficult.’ ...None of this would surprise her former co-workers at McKinsey and NBC News. At both the management consulting firm and the network, co-workers allegedly were told they couldn’t approach Chelsea. A source at NBC, where Chelsea was paid \$600,000 a year, said, ‘If someone wanted to talk to Chelsea about something, they had to go through a producer.’ For Bill

Clinton loyalists who grew the foundation from nothing, the high turnover and the ethical questions over its funding are demoralizing. ‘It’s sad to see what’s happening. The operational planning has gone downhill,’ said a source. Instead of being something Hillary can point to with pride, the foundation has become a bloated slush fund that some critics say deserves an official investigation. And Chelsea’s fingerprints are all over it.” [75847, 75861]

At PJMedia.com Debra Heine notes massive ISIS convoys in Iraq’s Anbar Province, and asks why coalition forces are not bombing them. “Obama allegedly has [an alleged] coalition of 60 nations fighting ISIS with us and they only managed 19 airstrikes in a three-day period. During the Gulf War’s ‘Shock and Awe’ campaign, the U.S. rained down 300 to 400 cruise missiles a day on Iraq for two consecutive days. At the beginning of the Iraq War, the U.S. unleashed 800 cruise missiles in two days. After ISIS took over Ramadi, the Obama coalition of the willing could only squeak out a paltry 6.33 missiles a day at some buildings and vehicles. And they completely missed the huge convoy parading out in the open desert on the other side of the province. ...As the Islamic State takes over more territory and advances toward Baghdad, I’m afraid we’ll continue seeing more of this weak and ineffective air campaign.” [75820, 76235]

Secretary of State John Kerry says the campaign against ISIS is “going to take a long time. We’ve always said that. And particularly in Anbar [Province], where you don’t yet have the presence of the Iraqi Security Forces in the full numbers necessary to take the fight to Daesh [ISIS] everywhere yet—I underscore yet—there are targets of opportunity like or somewhere else where Daesh has the ability to inflict great damage. Notice what they’ve done. They’ve destroyed. They’ve sent in huge numbers of vehicle-borne IEDs, big trucks, massive amounts of explosion [sic], and they’ve destroyed the place. That’s hardly a future.” (In fact, ISIS fighters captured Ramadi despite being heavily outnumbered by Iraq forces—who largely gave up and ran away. Kerry’s argument that ISIS has only engaged in destruction means it is failing is absurd. He may as well argue that the U.S. Navy did not win the battle of Midway in World War II because it destroyed Japanese aircraft carriers.) [75836]

Kerry continues, “And I am convinced that as the forces are redeployed and as the days flow in the weeks ahead, that’s going to change, because overall in Iraq, Daesh has been driven back. As much as 30 to 30-plus percent of the area they once controlled they no longer control.” (Kerry is grossly mistaken. ISIS controls far more territory than it did a few months earlier.) “...And so it is possible to have the kind of attack we’ve seen in [Ramadi], but I am absolutely confident in the days ahead that will be reversed. Large numbers of Daesh were killed in the last few days and will be in the next days, because that seems to be the only thing they understand. There is no negotiation. There is no proposal whatsoever to educate a child or build a school or a hospital or do something positive. And I think the people of Iraq and the people of the region understand that, which is why every single country in the region, bar none, is opposed to Daesh and is engaged in fighting them.” (Simply put, Kerry is an idiot. It is a war, and he whines that ISIS isn’t stopping to build schools.) “But yes, there will be moments like yesterday in Ramadi and there will be some difficult challenges ahead. Part of the challenge is also

dealing with Anbar and the tribes, which need more resources, more training, more initial cover from the Iraq Security Forces. And that will be, I am sure, the subject of much conversation over the course of the next few days.” (While Kerry is “conversing,” ISIS fighters laugh at the U.S-led coalition which is engaging only a handful of airstrikes per day, rather than hundreds. While ISIS fighters kill anyone in their way, U.S. forces have to call and ask permission before they drop a bomb or fire a missile.) [75836, 75837, 76235]

On May 19 the *Daily Mail* reports, “ISIS militants have held a twisted victory parade after taking the key city of Ramadi in an orgy of violence and beheadings—and the extremists could march on the Iraqi capital Baghdad within the next month. Mutilated bodies scatter the streets of the ‘Gateway of Baghdad,’ where Islamic State slaughtered around 500 and forced nearly 25,000 to flee their homes over the last few days. Now ISIS has released images of militants celebrating, children wielding automatic weapons and a fleet of pick-up trucks carrying its jubilant fighters through the blood-stained streets of Ramadi.” [75851]

Jihad Watch’s Robert Spencer writes, “Iraq is bracing for the Battle of Baghdad, but no worries: John Kerry says all is well. And incidentally, where were the Obama airstrikes during [ISIS’] massive victory parade?” (A procession of ISIS vehicles drove through Ramadi, a perfect target—yet ignored—for the U.S. military.) [75850, 75852, 76235]

Obama, who has repeatedly bragged that he responsibly ended the war in Iraq, issues a statement to Congress declaring a “Continuation of the National Emergency with Respect to Iraq.” (The statement triggers a variety of statutory provisions allowing the United States to continue military operations in Iraq.) [75907, 75908]

NYTimes.com reports that Congressman Trey Gowdy (R-SC), chairman of the Select Benghazi Committee, “plans to subpoena” Hillary Clinton operative Sidney Blumenthal “for a private transcribed interview. Mr. Gowdy’s chief interest, according to people briefed on the inquiry, is a series of memos that Mr. Blumenthal—who was not an employee of the State Department—wrote to Mrs. Clinton about events unfolding in Libya before and after the death of Col. Muammar el-Qaddafi. According to emails obtained by The New York Times, Mrs. Clinton, who was secretary of state at the time, took Mr. Blumenthal’s advice seriously, forwarding his memos to senior diplomatic officials in Libya and Washington and at times asking them to respond. Mrs. Clinton continued to pass around his memos even after other senior diplomats concluded that Mr. Blumenthal’s assessments were often unreliable. ...While advising Mrs. Clinton on Libya, Mr. Blumenthal, who had been barred from a State Department job by aides to ...Obama, was also employed by her family’s philanthropy, the Clinton Foundation, to help with research, ‘message guidance’ and the planning of commemorative events, according to foundation officials. During the same period, he also worked on and off as a paid consultant to Media Matters and American Bridge, organizations that helped lay the groundwork for Mrs. Clinton’s 2016 campaign.” (According to Politico.com, Blumenthal was paid about \$10,000 by the Clinton Foundation, from 2009 until March 2013. Blumenthal was also on the payroll of the Hillary-pushing leftist organizations Media



Matters and American Bridge.) [75793, 75808, 75822, 75860, 75936, 75971, 76095, 76096, 76104, 76111]

Townhall.com political editor Guy Benson writes, “One ‘wow’ after another: Hillary used Blumenthal as an unapproved conduit for statecraft and intelligence-gathering, over the wishes of [Obama, who refused to let Clinton put Blumenthal on the State Department payroll], and the pair conducted their rogue business over unofficial, unsecure email systems—which now appear to have been hacked at both ends. The intel provided was shoddy at best, and was frequently furnished to him by business associates with heavy financial interests at stake, and who lacked relevant expertise. And that data, funneled through Blumenthal, was apparently viewed as credible by the American Secretary of State, who circulated it to top-level advisers. Previous reporting has suggested that Blumenthal also fed intelligence and requests for favors directly to Sec. Clinton from the pro-Kremlin opposition in Georgia. God only knows what else he was up to, and how much of it ended up directly in front of America’s top diplomat.” [75808]

“...The Obama administration made clear that they [sic; it] didn’t want Blumenthal influencing US foreign policy, yet Hillary used him as a surreptitious resource anyway, ingesting the unvetted intel he provided via buddies who were looking to turn a profit in Libya. The specifics in the *Times* piece were mined by a third party who hacked Blumenthal’s emails, which is how the communications between Sid and Hillary were unearthed. And that brings us to the new email lie: Back when questions about Hillary Clinton’s secret server first came to light, her lawyers stated unequivocally that with the exception of a few days at the very beginning of the first Obama administration, Secretary Clinton exclusively used one email account (‘hdr22’) throughout her tenure at State. In response to a records request from Congressional investigators, Hillary’s lawyer asserted that a separate email account (‘hrod17’) ‘is not an address that existed during Secretary Clinton’s tenure as Secretary of State.’ Thanks to the *Times* story and the Blumenthal hack, we now know that statement to be false. The RNC published the evidence on its website last evening, posting screen caps of email exchanges from Hillary Clinton using ‘hrod17’ in 2011 and 2012, prior to her departure from State in 2013. ...The email address did exist, and she personally used it. Her lawyer’s statement to [Congressman] Trey Gowdy [R-SC] was a lie.” [75808]

According to a Pew Research Center poll, Hillary Clinton’s favorability rating is at 49 percent—down from 66 percent in November 2009, and 58 percent in August 2014. Her unfavorable rating is 47 percent. [75964, 75965]

At LewRockwell.com Gary North writes, “China, meaning China’s central bank—the People’s Bank of China [PBOC]—started buying Treasury IOU’s again in March. It purchased \$36 billion worth. It now holds over \$1.2 trillion in Treasury IOU’s. China has now leaped ahead of Japan as the #1 foreign holder of U.S. government debt. Add Hong Kong to this: another \$180 billion. ...The PBOC buys dollars in order to raise the dollar-yuan exchange rate. This subsidizes Chinese exports to the USA. Americans can buy yuan cheaper. Then we can buy more goods: ‘Made in China.’ Meanwhile, the U.S. Treasury sells its debt to the Chinese central bank. ‘Suckers!’ This debt will never be paid

off. ...The Communist apparatchiks think that China's urban masses can be kept quiet by having the PBOC create yuan out of nothing—fiat money inflation—so that the PBOC can buy IOU's from the U.S. Treasury that pay almost no interest. Then Americans can buy Chinese-made goods that could otherwise have been sold to the Chinese people. In short, the Communists are subsidizing American consumers (cheap goods) and American politicians (low interest rates/more debt). The Chinese masses are paying for this: reduced wealth. Americans get this wealth. Communist politics + mercantilist economics = stupidity. It won't go on forever. Enjoy it while you can." [75797]

At an orchestrated public appearance in Iowa, Fox News' Ed Henry shouts out a question to Hillary Clinton, who arrogantly and smugly responds, "Just, wait, wait. ...Maybe when I finish talking to the people here [who are almost certainly hand-picked supporters]. How's that? I might. I'll have to ponder it. I, I, I will put it on my list, for due consideration." Townhall.com's Guy Benson writes, "The imperiousness and sense of entitlement was palpable as America's beleaguered, sneering, put-upon sweetheart contemptuously sniffed at members of the free press for attempting to do their jobs. Following her stilted Q&A with supporters... Mrs. Clinton generously accepted Henry's request and chose to submit to fleeting questioning from a waiting gaggle of journalists. Over the course of a few short answers, she affirmed that she's 'proud' of the Clinton Foundation, downplayed a query about the Sid Blumenthal scheme by lamely chalking her actions up to keeping in touch with 'old friends,' and urged the State Department to release her emails—dismissing timing concerns by asserting that those communications don't belong to her. And then, like a vapor in the wind, she was gone. The official Hillary Questions Clock was duly reset, and now the press is back to panting about when she might next interact with them. We've reached a point where a presumptive major party presidential nominee lowering herself to field two minutes' worth of questions from reporters somehow qualifies as a breaking news event." (Clinton limits her time with reporters to about five minutes—which allows her to give vague, general answers while allowing no follow-up questions.) [75810, 75811, 75815, 75820, 75867, 75873, 75902]

Clinton dodges and weaves when asked about the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade proposal, saying, "I've said I want to judge the final agreement. I've been for trade agreements, I've been against trade agreements." (Regrettably, almost no one knows what is in the trade agreement. At Politico.com Michael Wessel writes, "The public criticisms of the TPP have been vague. That's by design—anyone who has read the text of the agreement could be jailed for disclosing its contents. I've actually read the TPP text provided to the government's own advisors, and I've given [Obama] an earful about how this trade deal will damage this nation. But I can't share my criticisms with you. ... So-called 'cleared advisors' like me are prohibited from sharing publicly the criticisms we've lodged about specific proposals and approaches. The government has created a perfect Catch 22: The law prohibits us from talking about the specifics of what we've seen, allowing [Obama] to criticize us for not being specific. ...Senator [Elizabeth] Warren [D-MA] should be commended for her courage in standing up to [Obama], and [former] Secretary [Hillary] Clinton for raising a note of caution, and I encourage all elected officials to raise these important questions. Working Americans can't afford more failed trade agreements and trade policies.") [75816, 75848]

At TheFederalist.com Sean Davis writes, “You have to admire the sheer chutzpah of the Clinton media operation here. They know that their candidate is unlikable, that she has no charisma, and no ability to connect on a personal level with most voters. They know she is grating. They know she is no Bill Clinton. What she lacks in raw political ability she makes up for with raw political ambition. It is that animation, that desire for political power, that keeps the Hillary engine running, day after day. The Clinton operation knows this, and it’s why the campaign is so desperate to protect her from scrutiny and to avoid any and all opportunities for unscripted conversation.” [75811]

Davis offers advice the media will never take: “There’s a simple solution to this problem. There’s a very simple way to incentivize Hillary to do the unthinkable and \*gasp\* answer questions from those whose job it is to solicit information from candidates for public office: ignore her entirely. ...Hillary desperately needs coverage of her painfully scripted and obviously inauthentic campaign events with the kinds of normal people she goes out of her way to avoid when not seeking office. She knows that America wants to see a friendly grandmother, not a conniving, corrupt, cynical career cuckquean trying to claw her way into office. That image can only be portrayed via coverage of her official campaign events. So if reporters and their news bureaus and TV networks want her to start answering questions, they should institute an immediate blackout of all her campaign events. Pull the reporters off the plane and off the bus. No more TV cameras at her events. No more wire or pool coverage of her stilted campaign Q-and-A sessions. No more front-page stories about this or that Iowa event. No more cut-and-paste coverage of canned, calculated quotes. ...There’s no question that this tactic would force Hillary to start answering questions. The only question is whether the American political media establishment has any real desire to do so. Do they really want answers to the tough questions, or do they just want her to have the appearance of openness and accountability? Only time will tell.” [75811]

Asked about loss of Ramadi to ISIS, White House press secretary Josh Earnest ignores its overwhelming significance, asking reporters, “Are we going to light our hair on fire every time there’s a setback?” ABC’s Jonathan Karl asks, “On the overall track record of military operations of [Obama’s] strategy on this [fighting ISIS]... would you say that, overall, the strategy’s been a success?” Earnest replies, “Well, uh, Jon, uh, yeah, I mean I, overall, yes...” [75812, 75813, 75868, 75870, 75871, 75904]

Congressman Adam Schiff (D-CA), who serves on the House Intelligence Committee, tells reporters, “I don’t think we’re losing the war [with ISIS], but I don’t think we’re making tremendous progress either. ...I wouldn’t use the metrics of the number of sorties or bombs dropped or anything, and to the degree you hear administration officials use those metrics, alarm bells should be going off.” [75849]

Michelle Malkin’s latest book, *Who Built That: Awe-Inspiring Stories of American Tinkerpreneurs* is published. (Barack “You didn’t build that” Obama is unlikely to buy a copy.) [75817, 75853]

By a vote of 14-1 the Los Angeles City Council imposes a five-year phase-in of a \$15.00 per hour minimum wage. According to Breitbart.com, “Four in 10 employers surveyed in the eighth annual poll by the Los Angeles County Business Federation say they expect to hire more people this year, up 10 percent over last year. But the numbers of employers that say they intend to make the type of capital investments that eliminate jobs through automation doubled, to 59 percent. ...Tracy Rafter, founding Chief Executive of the Federation, commented on this year’s results, ‘Hiring, which it’s a bit better [sic], is not where things are growing—they’re growing in technology,’ because, ‘People cost so much more than technology over time.’” [75940, 75941, 75987]

House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH), commenting on the fall of Ramadi, states, “We have one commander-in-chief at a time. It’s [Obama’s] responsibility to wage this battle. And [Obama], in my view, is not taking this threat as seriously as [he] should. When a major city in Iraq, Ramadi, gets overrun by ISIL, and the administration says, ‘Well it’s just a temporary setback’—it’s 70 miles from Baghdad. It’s time for [Obama] to get serious about this threat to Americans and our allies all around the world. ...[Obama’s] request for an Authorization for Use of Military Force calls for less authority than he has today. I just think, given the fight that we’re in, it’s irresponsible.” [75833]

U.S. District Court Judge Rudolph Contreras informs the State Department it cannot delay the release of Hillary Clinton’s emails until January 2016—and gives it one week to come up with an acceptable schedule. [75835]

DailyCaller.com reports, “Weather agencies in Australia, Paraguay and Switzerland may be manipulating temperature data to create a sharper warming trend than is present in the raw data—a practice that has come under scrutiny in recent months. Most recently, Dr. H. Sterling Burnett with the Heartland Institute detailed how the Swiss Meteorological Service adjusted its climate data ‘to show greater warming than actually measured by its temperature instruments.’ ...But even with the data tampering, Sterling noted that ‘there has been an 18-year-pause in rising temperatures, even with data- tampering.’” [75846]

On May 20 Iran’s “supreme leader,” Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, states, “We have already said that we will not allow any inspections of military sites by foreigners. They also say that we must allow interviews with nuclear scientists. This is interrogation. I will not allow foreigners to come and talk to scientists who have advanced the science to this level.” (How Obama and Secretary of State John Kerry expect to finalize a nuclear agreement with Iran by the end of June with Iran saying it will not allow inspection of nuclear sites remains to be seen. Townhall.com’s Guy Benson observes, “If Iran manages to secure an agreement that entails unconditional sanctions relief *and* limits inspections to pre-approved, designated sites, the accord would no longer be a bad deal. It would be an abject capitulation. ...It’s almost as if events and actions are vindicating virtually every major fear raised by opponents of the deal. But ephemeral ‘legacy’ enhancements are more important than realities to some people, it seems.”) [75858, 75859, 75887, 75903]

Walid Shoebat writes, “When it comes to U.S. media, using the ‘N’ word, is rightfully considered a vile epithet. But this is not the case throughout the Arab Muslim world,

especially when it comes to ...Obama who escalated the race wars and complained about being racially profiled here in the U.S. If one searched Obama with the N' word in mainstream U.S. media, it is either embedded by racists in the comment section or it is instantly condemned by any media host. In the Arab world, from Palestine, the state which Obama champions, all the way to Saudi Arabia and Egypt, Obama is portrayed in the worst racist vile term as 'Nigger Obama.' And this is not just some small time blogs, but in prominent Middle Eastern media and newspapers. ...So popular is this title, that it is given to Obama in Egypt, which the Jerusalem *Al-Quds* circulated, that in one mainstream national television program, *Al-Rasd*, it did not condemn or censor one interview on the streets of Egypt calling Obama even worse terms than just the 'N' word. The scene with posters of [President Abdel Fattah] Al-Sisi in full view of the camera, one woman says that having a military man like Al-Sisi in Egypt is best since he can be a terror to *Al-Kalb, El-A'bd Obama*, in English: 'Obama the Dog the Nigger.' One would think that the interviewer would condemn the woman and cut her off, not so, and the clip went viral and was circulated by most major media outlets with little condemnation and mostly support." Obama is also referred to as "*Jild Al-Hantour Obama*, Arabic for 'brown skinned carriage mule.'" [75913]

Obama addresses graduating cadets of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut—and focuses on "climate change." He arrogantly announces, "I am here to say that climate change constitutes a serious threat to global security, an immediate risk to our national security. ...Denying it or refusing to deal with it undermines our national security. Make no mistake, it will impact how our military defends our country. We need to act and we need to act now." Obama says it is "indisputable" that mankind is causing global warming. He also says, "I understand climate change did not cause the conflicts we see around the world, yet what we also know is that severe drought helped to create the instability in Nigeria that was exploited by the terrorist group Boko Haram. It's now believed that drought and crop failures and high food prices helped fuel the early unrest in Syria, which descended into civil war in the heart of the Middle East." (Obama's claim is total nonsense. Meteorologist Joe Bastardi notes that the average temperature in Nigeria has not increased over the last 10 years. In fact, it has had more rainfall than is typical. Congressman Mac Thornberry (R-TX) comments, "Our adversaries are not motivated by the weather; they are emboldened by America's withdrawal from the world.") [75856, 75890, 76236]

While Obama worries about climate change, the Central Intelligence Agency ends a climate change research program. According to MotherJones.com, "Under the program, known as Medea, the CIA had allowed civilian scientists to access classified data—such as ocean temperature and tidal readings gathered by Navy submarines and topography data collected by spy satellites—in an effort to glean insights about how global warming could create security threats around the world. In theory, the program benefited both sides: Scientists could study environmental data that was much higher-resolution than they would normally have access to, and the CIA received research insights about climate-related threats. But now, the program has come to a close." [75953, 75954, 75989]

ISIS takes the ancient Syrian town of Palmyra (also known as Tadmur), slaughtering hundreds of women and children in the process., and lining up bodies in the streets as a warning to those who would offer resistance. [75879, 75918, 75998]

YNetNews.com reports, “Two attempts by Islamic State in Syria to take up positions along the Golan Heights border with Israel have been thwarted in the past two weeks. The two groups of IS-affiliated militants were threatening to expand the radical organization's sphere of influence close to the border with Israel.” At JihadWatch.com, Robert Spencer writes, “Prediction: if the Islamic State gets into a position to threaten Israel in any serious way, we will start seeing the mainstream media grow markedly sympathetic to it, with a spate of articles hailing the new ‘maturity’ and ‘moderation’ of the Islamic State.” [75923, 75924, 75925]

The *Daily Mail* reports, “ISIS is sending the ‘prettiest virgins’ they capture to slave markets in the Syrian city of Raqqa, where they are sold as sexual objects to the highest bidder, the United Nation’s Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict has said. After the depraved militants attack their villages, they strip the girls naked, conduct virginity tests, evaluate their bodies and send them to twisted auctions, Zainab Bangura claims. She discovered the gruesome extent of Islamic State’s sexual crimes against young women—particularly from Iraq’s Yazidi minority community—after collecting information from Syria, Iraq, Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan.” [75919, 75981]

Zainab Bangura, head of a United Nations sex crimes investigation team tells MiddleEastEye.net, “After attacking a village, IS [the Islamic State, or ISIS] splits women from men and executes boys and men aged 14 and over. The women and mothers are separated; girls are stripped naked, tested for virginity and examined for breast size and prettiness. The youngest, and those considered the prettiest virgins fetch higher prices and are sent to Raqqa, the IS stronghold. There is a hierarchy: sheikhs get first choice, then emirs, then fighters. They often take three or four girls each and keep them for a month or so, until they grow tired of a girl, when she goes back to market. At slave auctions, buyers haggle fiercely, driving down prices by disparaging girls as flat-chested or unattractive. We heard about one girl who was traded 22 times, and another, who had escaped, told us that the sheikh who had captured her wrote his name on the back of her hand to show that she was his ‘property.’” Members of ISIS “commit rape, sexual slavery, forced prostitution and other acts of extreme brutality. We heard one case of a 20-year-old girl who was burned alive because she refused to perform an extreme sex act. We learned of many other sadistic sexual acts. We struggled to understand the mentality of people who commit such crimes. ...When IS discovered girls used their headscarves to hang themselves, they forced them to remove them. I learned of three girls who tried to commit suicide by drinking rat poison, which had been left in a room. They started vomiting and were rushed to hospital and washed out. When they came back, they were brutally attacked.” [75982, 76003]

At Townhall.com Guy Benson notes that not only have Bill and Hillary Clinton made at least \$30 million for speeches over the last 16 months, and more than \$125 million since leaving the White House, both of them have received six-figure payments for delivering

speeches via satellite. Benson writes, “To the extent that they’ve taken advantage of what the free market will fetch, their financial success ought to be greeted with applause by conservatives. Capitalists have no quarrel with people making lots of money in exchange for in-demand goods and services. On the other hand, to the extent that Bill and Hillary’s financial fortune has been amassed via quid pro quo influence peddling, they should (at least) pay a heavy political price. Is it a coincidence, for instance, that Bill’s foreign speeches and paychecks appear to have spiked while his wife was running America’s foreign policy? Potential improprieties abound, involving both the Clintons personally, and their cash cow, not-quite-charity ‘slush fund.’ Corruption is one caveat; hypocrisy is another.” [75857]

The State Department’s Marie Harf tells CNN’s Wolf Blitzer, “The Iraqi security forces have held their lines on the outside of the city.” (The absurdity of Harf’s statement is colossal. The Iraqi forces greatly *outnumbered* ISIS fighters, but turned tail and ran, allowing ISIS to take control of Ramadi. The Iraqis are not “holding their lines” outside Ramadi. They are cowering. Arguably, that Obama and Secretary of State John Kerry keep Harf on the State Department payroll reveals more about Obama and Kerry than Harf.) [75862, 75863, 75898]

As part of her “Let’s Move” campaign, Michelle Obama posts a video of her working out in a gym. BizPacReview.com writes, “Leave aside for the moment the fact that the first lady’s faux cause has proven to be far more trouble than it’s worth—an inedible, expensive school lunch program that’s been a joke for five years—and grant that she does appear to be in fine physical shape. Was America really crying out to see what [Obama’s] wife looks like in workout clothes doing bench squats? (Imagining Michelle O. grunting is not the most pleasant mental exercise.) There was a time in America—and not so long ago—when the question would have been too absurd to ask. ...But you can’t teach class.” [75869, 75894]

TheHill.com reports, “One-quarter of people with healthcare coverage are paying so much for deductibles and out-of-pocket expenses that they are considered underinsured, according to a new study. An estimated 31 million insured people are not adequately protected against high medical costs, a figure that has doubled since 2003, according to the 2014 national health insurance survey by the Commonwealth Fund. Rising deductibles—even under ObamaCare—are the biggest problem for most people who are considered underinsured, according to the 22-page report. ...The data is an early warning sign for the Obama administration, which has promised that the millions of people who gained insurance under [Obama’s] law would have affordable access to healthcare. The survey found that millions of people are paying into the insurance system but are largely unable to reap the benefits. People who purchase the lowest-quality health insurance are also less likely to see a doctor when they are ill or injured because they fear their high out-of-pocket costs.” [75874, 75875]

TheHill.com also reports, “House Republicans are threatening to shut down part of the State Department if the Obama administration doesn’t cough up more documents related to Hillary Clinton’s helming of the agency during the Benghazi attacks. Frustrated

Republicans believe using the power of the purse could force the administration to hand over documents related to the 2012 assault on a U.S. compound in Libya that killed Ambassador Christopher Stevens and three other Americans.” [75878]

The Office of the Director of National Intelligence releases 100 declassified documents obtained in the raid on Osama bin Laden’s compound on May 2, 2011. There is nothing of much significance in the documents, and 100 out of tens of thousands is next to meaningless, but the release takes the focus off the fall of Ramadi and is meant to remind Americans that “Obama got Osama.” [75885]

At DailySignal.com Veronique de Rugy writes, “The charter of the Export-Import Bank is set to expire on June 30 unless it is reauthorized by Congress. Scare tactics of bank supporters aside, the end of Ex-Im would not mean the loss of thousands of American jobs. Economists have long understood that subsidies doled out by government credit agencies such as the Ex-Im Bank are not only unnecessary, but that they can actually harm the economy. Yet in their quest to keep the subsidies flowing, proponents of the bank are claiming that failure to reauthorize its charter would lead to massive job loss. This blatant fear-mongering has caused concern among some lawmakers. House Speaker John Boehner [R-OH] only made matters worse on April 30, when he asserted that ‘there are thousands of jobs on the line that would disappear pretty quickly if the Ex-Im Bank were to disappear.’ First, and fundamentally, export subsidies do not ‘create’ or ‘support’ jobs—they redistribute them from unsubsidized firms to subsidized ones. Second, the job numbers touted by bank officials are dubious, at best, and have been roundly criticized as misleading by the Government Accountability Office, among others.” De Rugy notes that companies like Boeing, General Electric, and Caterpillar “all have billions of dollars of backorders that will keep workers busy for years to come” and do not need the Export-Import Bank lending money to foreign countries to subsidize additional orders. [75883, 76033]

The Export-Import Bank has provided foreign purchasers of Boeing planes with tens of billions of dollars to fund those purchases. The argument that those loans “create jobs at Boeing” is nonsensical, because other American jobs are destroyed by taking those billions from the U.S. economy. The government cannot lend \$10 billion to a foreign country to buy Boeing planes without first taking that \$10 billion from the taxpayers. Thus, every Boeing job created is more or less matched by a job lost somewhere else. Further, those foreign countries would buy Boeing, General Electric, and Caterpillar products even without the loans. The Export-Import Bank essentially declares that jobs at those companies are more important than other American jobs. Those decisions should be made by the free market, not government bureaucrats. Additionally, the government does not even have the cash it gives to the Export-Import Bank to lend to other countries. Because the U.S. government is operating at a deficit, the government must first borrow the money from China (or others) to lend. The taxpayers are then stuck with the bill for interest on those loans from China. The entire premise of the Export-Import Bank is flawed. The government could just as easily skip the pretense of lending cash to another country so that it can buy Boeing planes, and simply give the cash directly to the Boeing workers and tell them to not bother going to work. (Hillary Clinton is a strong supporter



of the Export-Import bank—perhaps because Boeing and General Electric have donated to the Clinton Foundation. Clinton has even stated, “I’d like to put the Ex-Im bank on steroids.” *Morning Jolt*’s Jim Geraghty notes, “It might also help that Ex-Im’s chairman, Fred Hochberg, was bundler for Hillary in her failed 2008 presidential run.”) [76775, 76776]

Bib Fyfe, owner of Payless Furniture in Lawrence, Kansas, close his business and posts a huge sign that reads, “Lawrence: Commie and Candy Ass Capitol [sic; capital] of Kansas. Goodbye Obamaville.” Fyfe calls Obama a “liar, lawbreaker, hardcore Marxist dictator, pro-Muslim, anti-Jew, anti-Christian race divider.” [75899]

Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) launches a filibuster against the renewal of the Patriot Act because of the National Security Agency’s programs for collecting telephone data of all Americans. In his opening statement, Paul says, “There comes a time in the history of nations when fear and complacency allow power to accumulate and liberty and privacy to suffer. That time is now, and I will not let the Patriot Act, the most unpatriotic of acts, go unchallenged.” (Paul lasts more than 10 hours.) [75876, 75877, 75882, 75884, 75895, 75896, 75897]

Addressing a crowd of Republicans at the Palm Beach County Convention Center, GOP hopeful Carly Fiorina says, “Hillary Clinton cannot be president of the United States. Not because she is a woman. Hillary Clinton cannot be president of the United States because she is not trustworthy. ... We need a nominee who can take a punch and who can throw a punch. We need a nominee who can win this job. But we also need someone who can do this job.” [75900]

On May 21 NYPost.com reports, “New emails show Hillary Clinton got early warning that the deadly Sept. 11, 2012, attacks in Benghazi were premeditated terrorism and not a spontaneous response to an anti-Muslim video. Sidney Blumenthal, Clinton’s longtime trusted friend and former campaign adviser, sent an intelligence assessment to the secretary of state’s personal account on Sept. 13, 2012—two days after four Americans were killed at the Benghazi outpost. Citing sensitive sources, Blumenthal wrote Clinton that the attacks ‘had been planned for approximately one month’ and carried out by ‘well-trained, hardened killers’ from Ansar al-Sharia, the Libyan terrorist group. The emails, obtained by The New York Times, says the attackers wanted to use protests as cover for the siege. This was a change from his sources’ assessment a day earlier—which he also shared with Clinton—that the attacks were a reaction to a US video that defamed the Prophet Muhammad. The Obama administration insisted in the week following Benghazi that the video was linked to the attacks that killed Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans. UN Ambassador Susan Rice reiterated on Sunday talk shows that the attack began ‘spontaneously’ as a reaction to the video. ‘We do not have information at present that leads us to conclude that this was premeditated or preplanned,’ Rice said Sept. 16, 2012, on CBS’s ‘Face the Nation.’” (It is worth noting that the Clinton emails released so far are among those that *she has allowed* to be released. There are thousands she has refused to release—and may even have deleted. It is also worth noting that Sidney Blumenthal is the father of far-left journalist Max Blumenthal.) [75928, 76101]

At JihadWatch.com, Robert Spencer writes, “This is proof: Hillary Clinton is an enemy of the freedom of speech. She is also an unscrupulous liar and destroyer of lives, as she said, ‘We’re going to have that filmmaker arrested,’ and did so, even while fully knowing that his video had nothing to do with the Benghazi jihad attack. She has no business being President of the United States, and if she is elected, her presidency will be a disaster for this country. And what about Susan Rice and all the other Obama Administration officials who knowingly lied to the American people along with Hillary, and gave the impression that our freedom of speech in daring to criticize Muhammad was what was at fault? What about Obama himself, who intoned at the UN, ‘The future must not belong to those who slander the prophet of Islam,’ even while knowing that the Benghazi jihad attack did not come from slander of the prophet of Islam? Why no impeachment proceedings?” [75927]

With ISIS on the march and in control of half of Iraq, White House press secretary Josh Earnest is asked if ISIS is succeeding in establishing a caliphate. He replies, “No I don’t believe that at all.” [75888, 75889]

Obama tells *The Atlantic*, “No, I don’t think we’re losing [to ISIS]. ... There’s no doubt there was a tactical setback, although Ramadi had been vulnerable for a very long time, primarily because these are not Iraqi security forces that we have trained or reinforced. ... [T]he training of Iraqi security forces, the fortifications, the command-and-control systems are not happening fast enough in Anbar, in the Sunni parts of the country. ... If the Iraqis themselves are not willing or capable to arrive at the political accommodations necessary to govern, if they are not willing to fight for the security of their country, we cannot do that for them.” ISIS controls about half of Syria, half of Iraq, and is gaining strength in Libya and elsewhere. [75891, 75892, 75901]

Asked in the interview how the United States can negotiate with people who “are captive to a conspiratorial anti-Semitic worldview” and “hold ridiculous views,” Obama replies, “Well the fact that you are anti-Semitic, or racist, doesn’t preclude you from being interested in survival. It doesn’t preclude you from being rational about the need to keep your economy afloat; it doesn’t preclude you from making strategic decisions about how you stay in power; and so the fact that the [Iranian] supreme leader is anti-Semitic doesn’t mean that this overrides all of his other considerations. You know, if you look at the history of anti-Semitism... there were a whole lot of European leaders—and there were deep strains of anti-Semitism in this country... They [leaders] may make irrational decisions with respect to discrimination, with respect to trying to use anti-Semitic rhetoric as an organizing tool. At the margins, where the costs are low, they may pursue policies based on hatred as opposed to self-interest. But the costs here are not low, and what we’ve been very clear [about] to the Iranian regime over the past six years is that we will continue to ratchet up the costs, not simply for their anti-Semitism, but also for whatever expansionist ambitions they may have. That’s what the sanctions represent. That’s what the military option I’ve made clear I preserve represents. And so I think it is not at all contradictory to say that there are deep strains of anti-Semitism in the core regime, but that they also are interested in maintaining power, having some semblance of

legitimacy inside their own country, which requires that they get themselves out of what is a deep economic rut that we've put them in, and on that basis they are then willing and prepared potentially to strike an agreement on their nuclear program." [75892]

Obama's response shows him to be delusional. His administration has most certainly not done anything to impose costs for Iran's anti-Semitism. If anything, Obama's anti-Israel statements and actions have demonstrated that he is on the side of the anti-Semites. Further, for Obama to claim that Iran's leaders are rational is absurd; he may as well have argued that Adolph Hitler was rational. The cost of Hitler's irrationality was not only not low, it was monumental—yet it did not stop him from taking actions that led to the deaths of tens of millions of people across Europe and in the Soviet Union. As insane as Hitler may have been, he at least expected to win the war and rule over what he thought would be a glorious Third Reich. Obama seems blissfully unaware that, unlike Hitler, the radical jihadists, and even the Iranian leaders, do not necessarily expect to win all their battles on earth; they are perfectly willing to sacrifice themselves—and the entire nation of Iran—if that means a “victory for Allah” that they can celebrate in the afterlife. Obama believes his “Play nice with other nations and the world will respect you” advice will be taken seriously by Iran's leaders. In fact, they are laughing at him.

Pamela Geller comments, “Either Obama is evil or he needs a psychiatric intervention—yesterday. ... We are less safe every day. With each win, the Islamic State becomes more powerful and draws jihad sympathizers here and abroad to join the holy war.” Robert Spencer comments at JihadWatch.com, “[Obama] won't name the enemy. He won't allow his intelligence services to study its ideology. His Pentagon releases falsified maps that obscure the enemy's gains. The enemy captures a city that has been called the key to controlling all of Iraq (Ramadi) and an renowned archaeological treasure (Palmyra in Syria) in a single week, and he insists we are not losing.” [75917, 75926]

Reuters reports that ISIS “has seized the last border crossing between Syria and Iraq controlled by the Syrian government after security forces withdrew, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights monitoring group said on Thursday. Iraqi officials said Iraqi security forces had also withdrawn from their side of the crossing known as al-Waleed in Iraq and al-Tanf in Syria. The crossing is in Syria's Homs province, where Islamic State on Wednesday seized the historic city of Palmyra from government forces. ... [The] Islamic State has declared a cross-border ‘caliphate’ in the territory it controls in Syria and Iraq.” [75916, 75917, 75922]

With journalists eagerly asking Republican presidential candidates, “Knowing what you know now, do you believe it was a good idea to invade Iraq in 2003?”, Senator Tom Cotton (R-AR) tells WashingtonExaminer.com, “Knowing what we know now, I absolutely would have sent the Pacific Fleet out of Pearl Harbor on December 4 to intercept the Japanese Fleet. I say that to highlight how foolish the question is. You don't get to live life in reverse. What a leader has to do is make a decision, at the moment of decision, based on the best information he has. George Bush did that in 2002 and 2003 and he was supported by Hillary Clinton and Joe Biden and John Kerry and every western country's intelligence agency. ... There are lessons we can learn from the early

days of the Iraq war. One is that we clearly should be more critically analytical about our approach to intelligence assessments.” (Journalists should ask Hillary Clinton, “Knowing what you know now about ISIS, would you still support Obama’s decision to pull U.S. troops out of Iraq?”) [75893, 75915]

Fourteen Democrat Senators write Obama a letter, asking that he “take action to significantly increase the number of Syrian refugees who are resettled in the United States [by 65,000]. Our nation’s founders came to our shores to escape religious persecution and the United States has a long tradition of providing safe haven to refugees.” (The Obama administration has primarily been allowing Muslims from Syria into the United States—not the Christians who are the primary targets of persecution. Nothing in the letter suggests that policy be changed. Additionally, JihadWatch.org notes that “FBI counter-terrorism experts... have openly admitted it is virtually impossible to screen Syrian refugees.” There is, therefore, no way of knowing how many terrorists are among the Syrians Obama has already welcomed into the United States.) [76039, 76040, 76041, 76087]

*The Washington Post* reports, “The Clinton Foundation reported Thursday that it has received as much as \$26.4 million in previously undisclosed payments from major corporations, universities, foreign sources and other groups. The disclosure came as the foundation faced questions over whether it fully complied with a 2008 ethics agreement to reveal its donors and whether any of its funding sources present conflicts of interest for Hillary Rodham Clinton as she begins her presidential campaign. The money was paid as fees for speeches by Bill, Hillary and Chelsea Clinton.” [75929]

Katie Pavlich reports at Townhall.com, “Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee Chuck Grassley [R-IA] has sent a letter to Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson demanding to know why an illegal alien who was working as a camp counselor, charged with child molestation and with distributing nearly 1000 images of child pornography, may have avoided deportation under ...Obama’s deferred action program (DACA). ...According to Grassley and cited whistleblowers, [Edgar] Covarrubias-Padilla was scheduled for deportation but approved for DACA and a work permit in October 2012. Further, it seems DHS was aware his heinous behavior and allowed him to stay in the country anyway, jeopardizing the safety and well being of the children he was working with. ...Over the past two months, Grassley has written two letters to Secretary Johnson with inquiries about other criminal illegal aliens. Emanuel Rangel-Hernandez, who was charged with four counts of first-degree murder in North Carolina, and Jose Bojorquez who was recently charged with second degree murder. Rangel-Hernandez and Bojorquez were both scheduled for deportation but were able to staying in the United States thanks to, again, ...Obama’s DACA program.” [75886]

Senator James Inhofe (R-OK) comments on Obama’s focus on “climate change” in his address to Coast Guard graduates: “It shows that [he is] getting more and more desperate. He’s trying to resurrect the issue of global warming. This has got to be the most desperate statement that he’s made because it’s one that no one’s going to believe. It is kind of humorous, the desperation that [Obama] goes to in trying to bring this issue back.”

Secretary of State John Kerry is “getting equally desperate. He’s been in on the very beginning of this with Al Gore and others. It has not panned out. The public knows it. The polling is now against them. He will say anything in order to fortify or resurrect the issue. ... We all know that climate changes all the time, but it’s not a result of man-made gases. They’ve lost the argument. I can remember 10 years ago, it was polling as the number one or number two environmental issue. It’s now number 13 or 14. ... North Korea has just announced they have a miniaturized nuclear weapon. ISIS has already taken control of Ramadi. ISIS has 60 percent of Syria right now. They’re beheading Americans. We’re not responding. [Obama’s] timing could not have been worse to make a statement like that to a group like that, right after the declaration by everyone including James Clapper, the director of national intelligence and others that this is the most threatening time in the history of this country. ... At a time when our enemies don’t fear us, our allies don’t respect us, they know [Obama] has drawn the line in the sand many times as he’s done in Syria and other places and then backed away from it. These people at the [Coast Guard] academy know. They’re really tuned into the threat that is out there because they are trained to meet that threat.” [75912, 75914]

*The Independent* reports, “Google has apologised for offence caused by vandalism of its Maps tools that meant that users searching for racist terms are being sent White House. In what appears to be a result of Google bombing—where vandals flood a certain keyword with links to a place, meaning that the two will become associated in Google’s results—users forced searches for ‘nigger house’ and ‘nigger king’ to redirect to the White House.” [75994]

By a vote of 62-38 the Senate votes to proceed with legislation giving Obama “fast-track” trade authority, giving the White House a victory—and the power to more quickly consummate trade deals. [75905]

According to the Department of Labor, first-time claims for unemployment benefits increased by about 10,000 to 274,000 for the week ending May 16. [75906]

Retired U.S. Army General Jack Keane testifies before the Senate Armed Services Committee. He states, “While there has been some progress and some success [in the fight against ISIS and the support of Iraq], looking at this strategy today, we know now that the conceptual plan is fundamentally flawed. The resources provided to support Iraq are far from adequate. The timing and urgency to provide arms, equipment, and training is insufficient. And as such we are not only failing, we are losing this war. Moreover, I can say with certainty that this strategy will not defeat ISIS. ... We have no strategy to defeat ISIS in Syria. We have no ground force which is [necessary to defeat ISIS]. Yes we have air power, but air power will not defeat ISIS. It has not been able to deny ISIS freedom of maneuver or the ability to attack at will. Syria is ISIS’ sanctuary. We cannot succeed in Iraq if ISIS is allowed to maintain that sanctuary in Syria. ... ISIS is expanding beyond Iraq and Syria into Sinai, Yemen, Libya and Afghanistan. They are also inspiring and motivating radical sympathizers throughout the world. Yet there is no strategy with our allies to counter that expansion. I would go farther to say that there is no strategy to counter the destabilization of the Middle East.” [75909]

Also at the Senate hearing, Dr. Frederick Kagan (who Townhall.com notes “is perhaps most famous for helping devise President George W. Bush’s ‘surge’ strategy), observes, “This [ISIS] is not a terrorist organization. This is an army that is conducting military maneuvers on an operational level with a great deal of skill. It is not an accident that Ramadi fell over the weekend and Palmyra fell yesterday. This was a coherent campaign plan and a very intelligent one—very well executed. What I can’t discern from the daily operations, let alone from the statements from the administration, is any coherent American strategy to respond to this threat. . . .ISIS is one of the most evil organizations that has ever existed in the world. We really have to reckon with that. This is not a minor annoyance. This is not a group that we can maybe negotiate with down the road someday. This is a group that is committed to the destruction of everything decent in the world. This is a group that sells captives into slavery—it’s a major source of financing for them. This is a group that engages in mass rape. This is a group that conducts mass murder. And this is a group that is calling for and condoning and supporting and encouraging lone wolf attacks—and it will soon, I think, not be just lone wolf attacks—in the United States and the West. This is a group of unfathomable evil, and unfortunately they are extremely effective. And they have a degree of military capability, not terrorist capability, that we have not seen before in an al Qaeda organization. This is not something where we should be spectators.” [75909]

Australia moves to revoke the citizenship of citizens who leave the country to fight for ISIS. The Associated Press reports, “The government wants to change the Citizenship Act to make fighting for ISIS a reason for losing citizenship, Immigration Minister Peter Dutton said. The government also wants to adopt the British legal model by revoking the citizenship of extremists who are Australian-born children of immigrants or an immigrant, forcing them to take up citizenship in the birth country of their parents, or parent, Dutton said. It also would apply to dual citizens. ‘The principle for us, which is very important, is that we don’t render people stateless,’ Dutton told Sydney Radio 2GB. Australia can currently only revoke citizenship in cases of fraud in the citizenship application or where an Australian citizen joins the armed forces of another country to fight Australia. Because the Islamic State movement is not recognized as a state, membership is not a ground for losing Australian citizenship, Dutton said.” [75920, 75921, 76427]

According to a May 8-11 YouGov poll, 51 percent of surveyed Democrats support making “hate speech” a crime. (That is, they oppose the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.) Remarkably, 37 percent of Republicans feel the same way, and 35 percent of independent voters. [75910, 75911, 75945, 75946]

At WashingtonExaminer.com Philip Klein reports, “In recent weeks, large insurers selling coverage through Obamacare have proposed massive rate increases for 2016—even exceeding 40 percent—because they haven’t been able to sign up enough young and healthy customers. This is an ominous sign for the future of Obamacare, because two federal programs that were supposed to act as training wheels for insurers in the early years of Obamacare by absorbing excess risk are set to expire after 2016. If insurers don’t

do a better job of attracting a healthier risk pool, 2017 promises to be a rocky year for insurance markets, regardless of which party is in control of the White House. ...Now that insurers have had more time to look at the claims coming in from those enrolling from Obamacare, they're finding that the pool of customers is older and sicker than originally projected, driving up medical costs. ...BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee asked for an average increase of 36.3 percent. In South Dakota, Wellmark proposed a 42.9 percent average increase." [75932, 76240, 76242]

On *Special Report*, Charles Krauthammer comments, "The [Obama] administration is sounding like 'Baghdad Bob' during the invasion of Iraq. They're losing, everybody understands that. ISIS—it wasn't only that it took over in Iraq, but it took over ...the city of Palmyra in Syria, which gives them control of half of Syria, and later in the day today, they took over a crucial crossing point between Syria and Iraq, essentially erasing the frontier and making it easier to resupply Ramadi. These are huge strategic gains. They are not mere tactical defeats. ...This is nuts. The idea is, if you're going to have success, you have to have training and you have to have will. The idea that what the Iraqis are lacking is training is ridiculous. We've been training them for 15 years. If the troops haven't got their heart in the battle, it will not succeed, and that's what happened in Mosul when they ran away and that's what happened in Ramadi when they ran away." [75935, 75939]

On May 22 the State Department releases 296 Hillary Clinton emails (out of tens of thousands). According to FoxNews.com, the emails show that Clinton "received detailed information indicating the [Benghazi] strike was planned by well-trained fighters, yet her office continued to push the narrative days later that it began 'spontaneously.' ...As previously reported, confidant Sidney Blumenthal fired off two memos in the two days after the attack. But the full email release shows he gave a highly detailed picture of what 'sources' said had happened that night. Initially, on Sept. 12, he sent Clinton an email linking the attacks to anger over an anti-Islam Internet video which had triggered protests across the region. But the next day, he sent Clinton an email with very different information, saying officials believed the attackers were with the Islamist militia Ansar al-Sharia. He wrote that officials thought the attackers 'prepared' for the strike and 'took advantage of the cover' from demonstrations over the video. Further, he cited sources saying roughly 21 fighters left from a base in East Benghazi and 'infiltrated the crowd' and began opening fire on the U.S. consulate. Libyan officers, he wrote, said the attacks were 'planned' for roughly one month. ...Despite the guidance, then-U.N. Ambassador Susan Rice went on several television programs Sept. 16 to claim the attacks were 'spontaneous,' and not premeditated, and link them to protests over the anti-Islam video. The department appeared to back her. In an email sent that day from top department official Jake Sullivan to Clinton, he said Rice had made clear 'our view' that 'this started spontaneously and then evolved.'" [75930, 75931, 75938]

The Associated Press reports, "Former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton received information on her private email server about the deadly attack on U.S. diplomatic facilities in Benghazi that has now been classified. The email in question, forwarded to Clinton by her deputy chief of staff, Jake Sullivan, relates to reports of arrests in Libya of possible suspects in the attack. ...Friday's redaction shows that

Clinton received information considered sensitive on her unsecured personal server, which came to light just as she was beginning her presidential campaign.” [75933]

In Oklahoma, former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations John Bolton addresses the Southern Republican Leadership Conference. He states, “I think the most telling information that we have seen in this limited number of emails is that there are repeated examples of Secretary of State Clinton being told in 2011 and 2012 that the security situation of our personnel in Tripoli and Benghazi was very precarious. The country’s government had fallen apart—that the threat from terrorist attacks was high and that our people were very concerned about it. Now you’ll recall in her limited public appearances to date that she has said, ‘You know, I don’t get involved in that security stuff, you know, I have people that do that.’ Well, I have to say when I heard that I was stunned. I’ve worked for six different secretaries of state, everyone of them coming from very different backgrounds, every one of them cared about the safety of the Americans who worked for them in the State Department. And not one of them would have missed the danger that our diplomats in Libya faced. And this was called to her attention repeatedly and she didn’t do anything about it. So when we ask the question, who is responsible for the tragedy of the murder of U.S. Ambassador Christopher Stevens and three other Americans in Benghazi, there is a very clear answer. It was Hillary Clinton. She said she didn’t know the security situation in Libya, these documents alone, these are the first documents, it’s only going to get worse after this, after the other documents come out, but these documents alone, we know she was advised repeatedly about how dangerous it was.” [75967, 75973]

Obama speaks at the Adas Israel Congregation in Washington, D.C. (May is Jewish American Heritage Month.) Obama pushes support for his nuclear deal with Iran, saying, “This deal will have my name on it. Nobody has a bigger personal stake in making sure that it delivers on its promise. I’m interested in a deal that blocks every single one of Iran’s paths to a nuclear weapon. ...I can’t stand here today and guarantee an agreement will be reached. We’re working hard. [But] the people of Israel must always know, America has its back and America will always have its back. ...[N]o administration has done more to ensure that Israel can protect itself than this one.” (Arguably, no administration has done more to *make it necessary* for Israel to worry about protecting itself.) [75942, 75943, 75944, 75949, 75966, 75975]

Obama also calls for the creation of a Palestinian state, pleasing some Jews and angering others. The leftist “J Street” lobby states, “...Obama’s speech was notable because it laid out the fundamental principle that supporting Israel does not require blind support for every policy adopted by its government. ...We believe it is a view shared by the overwhelming majority of American Jews who love and support Israel but are dismayed by the stated positions of so many in the new Netanyahu government.” Matt Brooks, executive director of the Republican Jewish Coalition states, “...Obama is not a friend to American Jews or Israel. Despite his best efforts, [Obama’s] push to rewrite history and paper over the insults of the past will fail. ...Obama and his administration have attempted to isolate Israel by badgering and berating its democratically-elected Prime Minister in public. At the same time, they appease Islamist Iran—on its way to a nuclear



arsenal—and threaten retribution for those who oppose these efforts. One speech will not change this.” [75942, 75943, 75944, 75949, 75966, 75975]

Ed Lasky later notes at AmericanThinker.com, “It turns out the synagogue has some very liberal members including the left-wing journalists Jeffrey Goldberg (The Atlantic) and Franklin Foer (formerly of the New Republic). Goldberg is one of Obama’s favorite Jewish journalists and is one of Obama’s emissaries to the Jewish community. He repeatedly grants one-on-one interviews with Goldberg who, in turn, routinely touts Obama’s pro-Israel bona-fides. Obama rarely grants interviews but will do so when he knows there will be no gotcha questions and he has a ‘friendly’ journalist who will serve his own purposes. Furthermore, the rabbi who praised Obama is Rabbi Gil Steinlauf. The rabbi made news a few years ago when he declared he was gay, even though he had been married for 20 years, Understandably, gay marriage is an important issue for him so he must be very appreciative for Obama’s changed stance on gay marriage. Rabbi Steinlauf has made it very easy to view his priorities by having his blog. The blog is heavily populated with postings focusing on gay marriage and attacks on the religious right. Perusing the blog, I don’t see any entries concerning the explosion of anti-Semitism in America and the world-let alone violence perpetrated on Jews as Jews. He agrees with Obama’s scathing criticism of Prime Minister of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu. Other posts are titled ‘Slavery lives in our attitudes’ and ‘A Rabbi on the Economy & The Great Gatsby’—a critique of capitalism and free enterprise. Did any of the media outlets’ actually drill down to why this particular synagogue would be so welcoming to Obama’s speech? Did any journalist bother to point out this synagogue and its congregants are not reflective of anything other than Obama’s political strategy to con American Jews into accepting a deal with Iran that will ineluctably lead to its becoming a nuclear armed terror state?” [75975]

DailyCaller.com reports, “Global temperature change observed over the last hundred years or so is well within the natural variability of the last 8,000 years, according to a new paper by a former Intergovernmental Panel On Climate Change (IPCC) lead author. Dr. Philip Lloyd, a South Africa-based physicist and climate researcher, examined ice core-based temperature data going back 8,000 years to gain perspective on the magnitude of global temperature changes over the 20th Century. What Lloyd found was that the standard deviation of the temperature over the last 8,000 years was about 0.98 degrees Celsius—higher than the 0.85 degrees climate scientists say the world has warmed over the last century. ‘This suggests that while some portion of the temperature change observed in the 20th century was probably caused by greenhouse gases, there is a strong likelihood that the major portion was due to natural variations,’ Lloyd wrote in his study. ...If Lloyd’s results hold, the IPCC may have to revise how much warming it attributes to mankind. In any case, the IPCC’s estimate of man-made and natural warming (0.85 degrees) is still below the standard deviation for the last 8,000, according to Lloyd’s results. This means that warming is not very significant within the context of the Earth’s recent climate history.” [75934, 75937]

According to the *Daily Mail*, “ISIS has released a chilling document in which it justifies the kidnapping and rape of slave girls—and brands Michelle Obama a prostitute whose

‘price won’t even exceed a third of a dinar.’ These shocking admissions are made by a jihadi bride in the ninth edition of its propaganda magazine Dabiq, in a feature entitled: ‘Slave girls or prostitutes.’” [75948, 75960, 75962, 75963]

The Senate votes to approve give “fast-track” authority to negotiate trade agreements. According to Politico.com, “The bill allows the White House to send trade agreements to Congress for straight up-or-down votes without any amendments, a procedure critics say is undemocratic but proponents say is needed to ensure other countries put their best offers on the table.” (The legislation will face resistance in the House.)

The Democrat National Committee issues a Tweet showing a June 2014 photograph of Obama eating an ice cream cone while surrounded by adoring members of the media, and the caption, “Happy Memorial Day weekend, everyone!” (What Obama eating ice cream has to do with honoring the memory of members of the military who gave their lives to secure the freedoms enjoyed by all Americans is not clear.) [75951, 75952, 75957, 75984]

On *Special Report*, Charles Krauthammer comments on the release of a few hundred of Hillary Clinton’s emails: “This is an echo of what her own press secretary said, ... ‘There isn’t a shred of evidence.’ And as I’ve said again and again, there isn’t a shred of evidence because she shredded the evidence. This whole release is a farce. What is being released now, as [Congressman Trey] Gowdy [R-SC] indicates, is stuff that was scrubbed and cleansed and decided upon, chosen by her own people, acting in her own interests, rather than, as should happen, as the law requires to happen... the choosing ought to be done by people with an obligation to the public. So we are getting the cleaned-up version. And I think they are succeeding, the Clinton people, because everybody is hungrily looking through stuff pre-scrubbed. They are not going to find anything. The Clintons are secretive and deceptive, but they are not stupid. Whatever is there, whatever is embarrassing, whatever is indicting has been scrubbed and removed, so we are going to have this long saga of the release. She will take the credit for, ‘I asked for it to be released, I wanted it to be released.’ But it’s the wrong stuff. And when people attack her later in the campaign, she will say, ‘It’s all been released, the press has looked at it, spent weeks and months examining it, so I’m clean, it’s old news.’ That’s the script, and we are all falling into it.” [75958, 76378]

On May 23 the Senate votes to block the USA Freedom Act, legislation to reauthorize the Patriot Act *without* the National Security Administration’s bulk phone record surveillance program. The House, in conflict with the Senate, passed the legislation by a vote of 338-88 earlier in the month. [75959]

Obama says in a video, “Hi, everybody! This weekend is Memorial Day, a time to pay tribute to all our men and women in uniform who’ve ever given their lives so that we could live in the [sic] freedom and security. This year, the holiday is especially meaningful. It’s the first Memorial Day since our war ended in Afghanistan...” (Obama’s demeanor is especially cheery, which is odd for a statement about fallen members of the

armed forces. Additionally, of course, the war in Afghanistan has not ended.) [76017, 76018, 76068]

At LewRockwell.com former director of the Office of Management and Budget David Stockman notes that in December 2007 the Bureau of Labor Statistics “reported 138.4 million payroll jobs. Last month the number was just 141.4 million, meaning that only 3 million net jobs have been created over the last 88 months. Again, that compares to 6 million new jobs in the comparable period after the 2000 peak and 13 million in the seven years after 1990. ...[T]he US economy has actually shed 2 million full-time, higher paying ‘breadwinner’ [jobs] since December 2007—down from 72 million to just 70 million in the April report. Accordingly, the net 3 million gain in the total payroll count is entirely attributable to a 2 million pickup in the part time economy—restaurant’s [sic], bars, retail and personal services—and a 3 million gain in the fiscally dependent HES Complex (health, education and social services).” [75947]

BizPacReview.com reports, “Protesters took to the streets and the Department of Justice promised an investigation after a judge on Saturday acquitted a Cleveland patrolman of manslaughter in the 2012 killing of a black couple suspected of firing at police. A Democrat congresswoman [Marcia Fudge, (D-OH)] called the verdict in the case against Officer Michael Brelo a ‘miscarriage of justice,’ but the judge in the case said he refused to ‘sacrifice’ Brelo to the nation’s current hysteria over police use of force. According to Fox News, Brelo jumped on the hood of a car containing Timothy Russell and Malissa Williams and fired after a November, 2012, chase that started when Russell’s car backfired when it was passing the Cleveland police headquarters. Thinking someone in the car had fired a weapon, police began a pursuit that turned into a high-speed chase. Police never determined why Russell didn’t stop at some point during the 22-mile pursuit. The chase ended only after he rammed a police car in a middle school parking lot, according to CNN.” [75968, 75972]

Meanwhile, violent crime is on the increase in Baltimore, perhaps partly because police officers are reluctant to respond to emergency calls without first getting back-up. Police Commissioner Anthony Batts tells *The Baltimore Sun*, “Officers tell me and their supervisors, any time they pull up to respond to a call, they have 30 to 50 people surrounding them. We have to send in multiple units just to do basic police work, which says we have to work on community engagement.” [75969, 75970, 76100]

Byron Allen, CEO of Entertainment Studios, tells TMZ “...Obama is, at this point, a white president in black face. Black America would have done much better with a white president. You have let us down tremendously.” Allen, who is black, says he is “disappointed that ...Obama called those young men out there in Baltimore ‘thugs.’ I’m not condoning violence, but I don’t think we should call them thugs because we’ve positioned them to fail, and the system has failed them. I say to ...Obama, ‘You have to remember who you are. Don’t forget who you are.’ Check the numbers. Black people have fallen further behind under ...Obama. We’re being murdered in the streets, we’re being murdered in the courtroom, we’re being murdered in the boardroom. It’s okay to be the president of the United States and also be a black man.” (Allen’s understanding of the

situation is mistaken. Black Americans are not suffering because Obama is following a “white man’s agenda,” but because he is following a far-left, socialist agenda. The fight is not between black and white, it is between big government run amok and the protection of individual liberties.) [76008, 76009, 76013, 76024]

On May 24 Defense Secretary Ashton Carter appears on CNN’s *State of the Union* and says, “What apparently happened [in Ramadi] is the Iraqi forces just showed no will to fight. They were not outnumbered; in fact, they vastly outnumbered the opposing force. That says to me, and I think to most of us, that we have an issue with the will of the Iraqis to fight ISIL [ISIS] and defend themselves.” (General Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, has stated that the Iraqi Security Forces were “not driven out of Ramadi. They drove out of Ramadi.”) [75955, 75956, 75988, 75990, 76002, 76010, 76021]

On *Fox News Sunday*, veteran journalist Bob Woodward comments, “Well, I mean, Iraq is a symbol and you certainly can make a persuasive argument it was a mistake but there’s is a kind of line going along that [George W.] Bush and the other people lied about this. I spent 18 months looking at how Bush decided to invade Iraq [in 2003] and, lots of mistakes, but it was Bush telling George Tenet, the CIA director, don’t let anyone stretch the case on WMD [weapons of mass destruction]. And he [Bush] was the one who was skeptical, and if you try to summarize why we went into Iraq, it was momentum. The war plan kept getting better and easier, and finally at the end, people were saying, ‘Hey, look, it will only take a week or two.’ Early on it looked like it was going to take a year or 18 months, and, so Bush pulled the trigger. A mistake certainly can be argued, and there is an abundance of evidence. But there was no lie in this that I could find... Look, Obama does not like war, but as you look back on this the [2011] argument from the military was let’s keep 10, 15 thousand troops there as an insurance policy. And we all know insurance policies make sense. We have 30,000 troops or more in South Korea sixty-five years or so after the war. When you’re a super power you have to buy these insurance policies and [Obama] didn’t in this case. I don’t think you can say everything [wrong in Iraq now] is because of that decision but [it is] clearly a factor.” [75974, 75983, 75993, 76016]

Via Instagram, Michelle Obama promotes her May 25 address at Oberlin College. In her message, she writes, “‘The arch of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice.’ —Martin Luther King, Jr. at @OberlinCollege 50 years ago.” (As noted previously in this *Timeline*, both Barack Obama and Michelle Obama seem overly fond of that phrase. They sometimes credit King and sometimes do not, but it was not written by King. He lifted it from Unitarian minister Theodore Parker, who penned it in 1853. In 1850 Parker wrote, “A democracy—that is a government of all the people, by all the people, for all the people”—which was later borrowed by Abraham Lincoln.) [14208, 14209, 14240, 14288, 14296, 75991, 75992]

Via a Twitter message, Mrs. Obama also promotes a “Strawberry S’mores” graham cracker treat, with strawberries and low fat yogurt replacing the traditional chocolate and marshmallows. (America’s children are not amused.) [76165]

On May 25 Obama issues a delusional Memorial Day message via Twitter: “For many of us, this Memorial Day is especially meaningful—it is the first since our war in Afghanistan came to an end.” (Obama may have forgotten that about 10,000 U.S. troops are still in Afghanistan.) [76007, 76012]

At Arlington National Cemetery, Obama says, “For 147 years, our nation has set aside this day to pay solemn tribute to patriots who gave their last full measure of devotion for this country that we love, and while the nature of war has changed over that time, the values that drive our brave men and women in uniform remain constant: Honor, courage, selflessness. Those values lived in the hearts of everyday heroes who risked everything for us in every American war—men and women who now rest forever in these quiet fields and across our land. The Americans who rest beneath these beautiful hills, and in sacred ground across our country and around the world, they are why our nation endures. Each simple stone marker, arranged in perfect military precision, signifies the cost of our blessings. It is a debt we can never fully repay, but it is a debt we will never stop trying to fully repay. By remaining a nation worthy of their sacrifice. By living our own lives the way the fallen lived theirs—a testament that ‘Greater love has no other than this, than to lay down your life for your friends.’ We are so grateful for them. We are so grateful for the families of our fallen. May God bless our fallen heroes and their families, and all who serve. And may He continue to bless the United States of America.” (The words, “last full measure of devotion” come, of course, from Abraham Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address.) [76025, 76026]

BizPacReview.com reports, “Information obtained from her emails released by the State Department Friday revealed that [Hillary] Clinton missed ...Obama’s first daily intel briefing after the 2012 terrorist attacks on Benghazi. ‘I just woke up,’ the former secretary of state wrote at 10:43 a.m. on Sept 15, 2012.” [75985, 75986, 75995]

Political analyst and former Bill Clinton advisor Dick Morris writes, “What is holding Hillary [Clinton] up? With all the negatives piling up at her door, why is she still dominant among Democratic voters? Do the erased emails, the mounting evidence that she lied about Benghazi, the mountains of cash that have poured into the Clintons’ pockets make no difference? Have our Democrat cousins lost their collective mind? Does nothing matter to them but having a woman as president? Is it enough to protect the social programs on which they subsist? Does character count for nothing? Is blatant lying and covering up OK? What do they need to see the truth about Hillary? Or do they already know the truth but it doesn’t matter? A simple fact accounts for Hillary’s elevated ratings in the polls: There are no other candidates. To Democrats, politics is not a spectator sport. Their party has become a coalition of the needy who survive through government entitlements. Politics is, for them, literally a life-and-death matter. With about one-third of Americans dependent on means-tested entitlements, it seems that nothing matters but that a Democrat wins, regardless of what her record has been. So, as long as there is no other Democrat actively running for president, the wrongs Hillary does do not bring her down. But, the flip side is that when other Democrats emerge in the 2016 race, they will rise quickly and acquire broad support. The negatives on Hillary,

accumulating for month, will suddenly count, and voters will take a real look at their alternatives. ...Is 2016 to be a replay of 1968? Back then, a minor candidate who couldn't win—Minnesota Sen. Eugene McCarthy—so effectively challenged President Lyndon Johnson for the Democratic Party nomination that Sen. Robert F. Kennedy—who had repeatedly disavowed any intention to run—jumped into the race on the heels of McCarthy's triumphs. Until then, the media ignored McCarthy and took Kennedy's disinterest as truthful. Then it all changed. And so it might in 2016." [75996]

Breitbart.com reports, "In a recent survey conducted by AlJazeera.net, the website for the Al Jazeera Arabic television channel, respondents overwhelmingly support the Islamic State terrorist group, with 81% voting "YES" on whether they approved of ISIS's conquests in the region. The poll, which asked in Arabic, 'Do you support the organizing victories of the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS)?' has generated over 38,000 responses thus far, with only 19% of respondents voting 'NO' to supporting ISIS. Al Jazeera Arabic's television audience is largely made up of Sunni Muslims living in the Arab world. Its biggest viewership numbers come from Egypt and Saudi Arabia, along with a large amount of satellite television viewers in the United States, according to research estimates." (Meanwhile, Muslims in Antwerp, Belgium threaten to kill Mayor Bart De Wever if he does not convert to Islam, the "religion of peace.") [75997, 75999, 76000, 76001]

In an address at Oberlin College, the polarizing Michelle Obama tells graduates, "You might find yourself a little dismayed by the clamor outside these walls—the name-calling, the negative ads, the folks yelling at each other on TV. After being surrounded by people who are so dedicated to serving others and making the world a better place, you might feel a little discouraged by the polarization and gridlock that too often characterize our politics and civic life. And in the face of all of that clamor, you might have an overwhelming instinct to just run the other way as fast as you can. You might be tempted to just recreate what you had here at Oberlin—to find a community of like-minded folks and work with them on causes you care about, and just tune out all of the noise. And that's completely understandable. In fact, I sometimes have that instinct myself—[to] run. But today, graduates, I want to urge you to do just the opposite. Today, I want to suggest that if you truly wish to carry on the Oberlin legacy of service and social justice, then you need to run to, and not away from, the noise. Today, I want to urge you to actively seek out the most contentious, polarized, gridlocked places you can find. Because so often, throughout our history, those have been the places where progress really happens—the places where minds are changed, lives transformed, where our great American story unfolds." (The college does not issue a pre-speech "trigger warning" to students advising them that Mrs. Obama would be encouraging them to leave their "safe spaces.") [76015, 76022, 76023, 76051, 76092, 76108, 76158]

On May 26 *International Business Times* reports that while Hillary Clinton was Secretary of State, "the State Department approved \$165 billion worth of commercial arms sales to 20 nations whose governments have given money to the Clinton Foundation, according to an IBTimes analysis of State Department and foundation data. [The nations included Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Oman and Qatar.] That [\$165

billion] figure—derived from the three full fiscal years of Clinton’s term as Secretary of State (from October 2010 to September 2012)—represented nearly double the value of American arms sales made to the those countries and approved by the State Department during the same period of President George W. Bush’s second term. The Clinton-led State Department also authorized \$151 billion of separate Pentagon-brokered deals for 16 of the countries that donated to the Clinton Foundation, resulting in a 143 percent increase in completed sales to those nations over the same time frame during the Bush administration. ...American defense contractors also donated to the Clinton Foundation while Hillary Clinton was secretary of state and in some cases made personal payments to Bill Clinton for speaking engagements. Such firms and their subsidiaries were listed as contractors in \$163 billion worth of Pentagon-negotiated deals that were authorized by the Clinton State Department between 2009 and 2012.” [76004, 76005, 76020, 76037, 76086]

DCWhispers.com adds that “...Saudi Arabia donated some 10 million dollars to the Clinton Foundation. A year later the House of Saud was rewarded with an astonishingly large arms deal of nearly \$30 BILLION dollars. Boeing also played a role, donating almost a million dollars to the Clinton Foundation before then becoming the primary supplier of jet fighters included in the \$30 billion Saudi arms deal. ...In 2010, Algeria was condemned by a Hillary Clinton State Department report for its human rights violations. Soon after, Algeria then donated a half million dollars to the Clinton Foundation. In 2011, just a year later, the Clinton State Department rewarded the Algerian government with an arms deal package that included, ‘toxicological agents, including chemical agents, biological agents and associated equipment.’ During her time as Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton oversaw a 300% INCREASE in military aid to Algeria—though it was an increase that did not begin until AFTER the Algerian government donated to the Clinton Foundation. The IBT report indicated General Electric was among the most “generous” of Clinton Foundation donors during Hillary’s tenure there. This was at the same time that NBC (then owned by GE) gave Chelsea Clinton a quite lucrative ‘contributor’ contract with the network that reportedly paid her over \$26,000 PER MINUTE of actual air time.” [76020]

The Associated Press reports the existence of a Clinton “shell company” called WJC, LLC (William Jefferson Clinton, Limited Liability Company). Because the company (which was formed just two days after Hillary Clinton was picked by Obama to be his Secretary of State) “has no financial assets, Hillary Clinton’s campaign was not obligated to report its existence in her recent financial disclosure report, officials with Bill Clinton’s private office and the Clinton campaign said. ...The officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to provide private details of the former president’s finances on the record, said the entity was a ‘pass-through’ company designed to channel payments to the former president.” (The AP’s innocuous headline: “Bill Clinton company shows complexity of family finances,” rather than “Clintons engaged in money laundering.”) [76043, 76044, 76065, 76067, 76103]

According to WashingtonTimes.com, “In public, the military leadership says it is squarely behind the [Obama] strategy of limited U.S.-led airstrikes coinciding with the

rebuilding of the Iraq army for all the ground fighting. But a... spot check of department officials and people who interact with the Pentagon reveals deep-seated doubts. ...A former official who is frequently in the Pentagon said, 'The building is very guarded about what they say, but clearly the White House is running the campaign, which has them furious.' This source said combat pilots can loiter over a target for hours before approval comes to strike it. Sometimes approval never comes. 'The targeting requires immaculate rules of engagement, which means they cannot drop if there is a possibility of collateral damage [civilian deaths],' the former official said. U.S. Central Command's list of airstrikes around Ramadi showed a smattering of tactical strikes, not concentrated air power. ...[A]s Islamic State fighters were taking control of Ramadi, eight airstrikes hit targets near the city. They were three tactical units, eight buildings, two armored vehicles, two mortars, an ammunition storage area and a command center. 'This is worse than pathetic,' the former official said. ...The former official said a commitment of U.S. special operations forces and some infantry 'could defeat the Islamic State in weeks.' 'But then what?' the source asked, noting that the Shiite-dominated government has badly mismanaged the post-U.S. environment. 'I have never seen such disgruntlement before,' the source said of the mood in the Pentagon. Another official said a constant theme inside the Pentagon is that the White House does not seem committed to winning. The frequent public relations spin is that this will be a long process to take down the Islamic State when, in fact, officers say, it does not have to be." (Rather than hundreds of bombing runs per day, the Air Force typically conducts only about one dozen.) [76042, 76102, 76235]

*The Baltimore Sun* reports, "The recent rioting and unrest in Baltimore will cost the city an estimated \$20 million, officials said Tuesday. The expenses—which go before the city's spending board for approval Wednesday—include overtime for police and firefighters, damage to city-owned property and repaying other jurisdictions for police and other assistance. Henry J. Raymond, Baltimore's finance director, said the city can temporarily cover the costs from its rainy day fund while seeking reimbursement for up to 75 percent from Federal Emergency Management Agency. ...Both Gov. Larry Hogan and Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake have requested federal aid." (Protesters damaged the city because the police were ordered to "stand down," with Rawlings-Burke giving the looters and arsonists "space to destroy," and city and state officials want taxpayers from outside the area to cover 75 percent of the costs of their own failures.) [76142]

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit rules two-to-one in favor of Texas and against the administration by upholding Judge Andrew S. Hanan's injunction against the implementation of Obama's executive order regarding the deportation of illegal immigrants. The court states, "The public interest favors maintenance of the injunction." (The next day the Department of Justice states it will not submit an emergency request to the Supreme Court to reverse the injunction.) [76006, 76028, 76030, 76031, 76069, 76078, 76097]

Judge Andrew Napolitano comments on the Fifth Circuit Court ruling, telling Fox News' Neil Cavuto, "I cannot tell you how rare this is in American history. For a succession of federal judges to stop the president of the United States from doing what he says he has



the authority to do—we saw it happen, today. ...What’s the remedy when the president doesn’t do what he took an oath to do? It’s a congressional remedy. It’s the ‘I’ word nobody wants to talk about. It’s impeachment.” [76059]

At NationalReview.com Victor Davis Hanson writes, “Things are starting to collapse, abroad and at home. We all sense it, even as we bicker over who caused it and why. ISIS took Ramadi last week. That city once was a Bastogne to the brave Americans who surged to save it in 2007 and 2008. ISIS, once known at the White House as the ‘Jayvees,’ were certainly ‘on the run’—right into the middle of that strategically important city. On a smaller scale, ISIS is doing to the surge cities of Iraq what Hitler did to his neighbors between 1939 and 1941, and what Putin is perhaps doing now on the periphery of Russia. ...What is unique about American foreign policy today is not just that it is rudderless, but how quickly and completely the 70-year postwar order seems to have disintegrated — and how little interest the American people take in the collapse, thanks to the administration’s apparent redeeming message, which translates, ‘It’s their misfortune and none of our own.’ As long as we are not involved at the center of foreign affairs and there is no perceptible short-term danger to our security, few seem to care much that western North Africa is a no-man’s-land. Hillary Clinton’s ‘lead from behind’ created a replay of Somalia in Libya. The problem with Turkey’s Recep Erdogan is not that he is no longer Obama’s ‘special friend,’ but that he was ever considered a friend at all, as he pressed forward with his plan to destroy Turkish democracy in the long march to theocracy.” [76014]

“...Meanwhile, the Obama administration has it in for Israel. Why, no one quite knows, given that the Jewish state is the only democratic and liberal society in the Middle East. Perhaps it resembles the United States too closely, and thus earns the reflected hypercriticism that so many leftists cultivate for their own civilization. Theocratic Iran has won more sympathy from the Obama administration. No neutral observer believes that the current policy of lifting sanctions and conducting negotiations will not lead to an Iranian bomb; it is hoped only that this will be unveiled on the watch of another president, who will be castigated as a warmonger if he is forced to preempt its rollout. The current American foreign policy toward Iran is baffling. Does Obama see the theocracy as a valuable counterweight to the Sunni monarchies? Is it more authentic in the revolutionary sense than the geriatric hereditary kingdoms in the Gulf? Or is the inexplicable policy simply a matter of [Secretary of State] John Kerry’s gambit for a Nobel Peace Prize or some sort of Obama legacy in the eleventh hour, a retake of pulling all U.S. peacekeepers home from a once-quiet Iraq so that Obama could claim he had ‘ended the war in Iraq?’” [76014]

“...[N]o one seems to much care that between 2009 and 2017, we will have borrowed 8 trillion more dollars. Yet for all that stimulus, the U.S. economy still has staggering labor non-participation rates, flat GDP growth, and stagnant household income. As long as zero interest rates continue, the rich make lots of money in the stock market, and the debt can grow by \$500 billion a year and still be serviced. Financial sobriety is now defined as higher taxes bringing in record revenues to service half-trillion-dollar annual additions to an \$18 trillion debt. ...Always there is the administration’s populist anthem of ‘You

didn't build that'; instead, you must have won the lottery from ...Obama. If his economic programs are not working, there is always the finger pointing at those who are too well off. Michelle Obama lectured a couple of weeks ago on museum elitism and prior neglect of the inner city, in between recounting some slights and micro-aggressions that she has endured, presumably on jumbo-jet jaunts to Costa del Sol and Aspen. I think her point is that it is still worse to be rich, powerful, and black than, say, poor, ignored, and non-black." [76014]

"...The center of this culture is not holding. Even a few Democrats are worried that Hillary Clinton's mendacities are unsustainable. More Americans privately confess that American foreign policy is dangerously adrift. They would agree that the U.S. no longer has a southern border, and will have to spend decades and billions of dollars coping with millions of new illegal aliens. Some Americans are starting to fear that the reckless borrowing under Obama will wreck the country if not stopped. Racial tensions, all concede, are reaching dangerous levels, and Americans do not know what is scarier: inner-city relations between blacks and the police, the increasing anger of the black underclass at establishment America—or the even greater backlash at out-of-control violent black crime and the constant scapegoating and dog whistles of racism. Whatever liberalism is, it is not working. Our country's policies overseas are falling apart, while at home our society stagnates and turns tribal—with a growing and embittered underclass, a shrinking and angry middle class, and a plutocratic and apartheid elite who, as absolution for their privilege, are desperate to praise in the abstract what they so studiously avoid in the concrete." [76014]

According to the *Chicago Tribune*, weekend shootings in Chicago took the lives of 12 people and injured 44. In Baltimore, there were 28 weekend shootings that resulted in nine deaths. White House press secretary Josh Earnest tells reporters, "Obviously there's [sic; there are] some common sense things we could do—certainly passage of some gun safety laws in Congress that could keep guns out of the hands of criminals would be one thing that we could do to try to limit the violence." (Chicago and Maryland already have very strict gun laws. Needless to say, there are also laws against murder. Why Earnest believes criminals would obey more of the former when they are already ignoring the latter is not clear.) It is worth noting that, although shootings and crime may be at alarming levels in places like Chicago and Baltimore, according to the FBI violent crimes and homicides have, nationwide, actually decreased over the last 20 years. Although Baltimore's population has significantly decreased, violent crime has increased over the last decade. [76019, 76054, 76060, 76070, 76076, 76100, 76107, 76162, 76210]

CNSNews.com reports, "Randy Berry, the State Department's first envoy for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) persons, said on Tuesday he is leaving on a 15-country, five-week trip to encourage foreign governments to include protection for homosexuals in their constitutions." (Depending on which countries he plans to visit, Berry would be wise to maintain a low profile.) [76071]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, "Thieves managed to steal information on more than 100,000 taxpayers from the IRS, Commissioner John Koskinen said Tuesday—though he

insisted the breach didn't affect most average taxpayers and the information they file in their annual returns. Thousands of fraudulent returns were filed under the attack, and final details about the amount the criminals stole is not available, though Mr. Koskinen predicted it will be less than \$50 million. 'This is not a security breach. Our basic information is secure,' Mr. Koskinen insisted in a call with reporters to discuss the theft, which he said came from online access by fraudsters, who he described as part of an organized crime syndicate. The IRS is sending out notices to those they have determined were affected by the breach, and has opened a criminal investigation into the operation." (Americans are supposed to believe there was no "security breach," while at the same time being advised that more than 100,000 people affected by the breach are being notified.) Senator Orrin Hatch (R-UT) responds, "That the IRS—home to highly sensitive information on every single American and every single company doing business here at home—was vulnerable to this attack is simply unacceptable." [76032, 76058, 76066]

AFP reports, "A Kenyan lawyer has offered ...Obama 50 cows and other assorted livestock in exchange for his 16-year old daughter Malia's hand in marriage... Felix Kiprono said he was willing to pay 50 cows, 70 sheep and 30 goats in order to fulfil his dream of marrying the first daughter. 'I got interested in her in 2008,' Kiprono said, in an interview with The Nairobi newspaper. At that time ...Obama was running for office for the first time and Malia was a 10-year-old. 'As a matter of fact, I haven't dated anyone since and promise to be faithful to her. I have shared this with my family and they are willing to help me raise the bride price,' he said. ...Kiprono said that as a couple he and the young Obama would lead 'a simple life.' 'I will teach Malia how to milk a cow, cook ugali (maize porridge) and prepare mursik like any other Kalenjin woman,' he said." [76034, 76053]

At TheBurningPlatform.com Jim Quinn explains why the stock market will crash. Quinn writes, "When the herd is convinced progress and never-ending gains are the norm, the apparent stability and normality always degenerates into instability and extreme anxiety. As many honest analysts have proven, with unequivocal facts and proven valuation measurements, the stock market is as overvalued as it was in 1929, 2000, and 2007. ...If central bankers were really omniscient and low interest rates guaranteed endless stock market gains, then why did the stock market crash in 2000 and 2008? The Federal Reserve's monetary policies created the bubbles in 2000, 2007 and today. ...The Federal Reserve has simultaneously blown bubbles in the stock, bond, and real estate markets by keeping interest rates at 0% for the last six years, three rounds of QE ['Qualitative Easing'] money printing that created \$3.6 trillion out of thin air to prop up the insolvent Wall Street banks, and unending jawboning about inflation being too low as real middle class wages stagnate at 1989 levels. There isn't a question about whether the bubbles exist, only about how much bigger they will become before bursting again. ...The combination of fraudulent accounting, zero interest rates and round after round of QE money printing has propelled... mal-investment mania to epic proportions. Total stock market valuation of \$36 trillion now exceeds 200% of GDP [Gross Domestic Product]." [76036]

Quinn points out that corporate profits as a percentage of GDP are far above the six-decade average. “Corporate profits as a percentage of GDP have averaged 6.3% over the last six decades. They deviate wildly above and below this mean, with peaks attained near stock market highs and valleys at stock market lows. The current level of 8.7% is two standard deviations above the 6.3% long-term average, meaning it is above 95% of all instances in history. Based on history, what are the odds of corporate profits rising to three standard deviations above the mean (99.7% above all instances)? Not good. They have already fallen from the 10.1% high in 2012. ...Over the last six decades, when corporate profits edged above 6.3% of GDP, competition from new companies taking advantage of the high profits would result in price drops and eventually lower profits. It was called capitalism. The Great Deformation created by the Federal Reserve Politburo dictates and monetary machinations have disconnected corporate profits and stock market gains from the real world of everyday Americans. The propping up of insolvent banks and allowing poorly run corporations... to survive by refinancing debts at insanely non-risk adjusted interest rates, has delayed the creative destruction that is part an parcel of a capitalist system.” [76036]

Crony capitalism rewards connected corporations and damages the small businesses which are the true jobs creators. Large corporations don't create jobs, they ship them overseas. More small businesses are closing than opening for the first time in modern U.S. history. Thank the Fed, the feckless politicians in Washington DC who are about to put a final nail in the small business/American jobs coffin with passage of TPP, mega-corporation CEOs, and the billionaire oligarchs pulling the strings behind the curtain, for destroying a once healthy, job creating economic system. The game is up. The accounting games are over. There are no loan loss reserves left to relieve. Americans with no wage growth are running out of money they don't have. Corporate revenues are flat or falling. The Fed liquidity machine has been shutdown. Interest rates are likely to rise sometime this year. A global recession is in progress. It's only a matter of time before Greece officially defaults. Inflation in healthcare costs, food, rent, and other daily living expenses have sapped the vitality from a deteriorating US economy. ...Anyone using logic, reason, historical precedent, facts, and utilizing basic mathematics is declared a doomer in today's world. The sheep would rather follow assertive idiots than an introspective wise person. We are awash in assertive idiots in control of Congress, government agencies, Wall Street, mainstream media, and the corporate world. The psychopathic lemmings will meet their demise in due time. It will be obvious after the fact.” [76036]

Meanwhile, Donald Lambro notes at Townhall.com, “Factory orders for big ticket, durable goods fell last month. Retail sales have been lackluster as Americans kept a tight grip on their wallets. Job growth continues to be tepid in what has increasingly become a part time, low paying economy, where too many college grads can't find work commensurate with their educational levels, and are forced to take counter jobs and move back home with their parents. The underemployment rate for college graduates forced to take jobs below their skill levels now stands at nearly 45 percent, according to an analysis by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. As for the overall economy, the Commerce Department reported that the nation's gross domestic product, or GDP, barely grew by 0.2 percent. In other words, it had for all practical purposes stopped growing. But a

revised first quarter GDP report which will come out Friday was expected to show that the economy did even worse than first reported, and actually shrank in the first three months of this year, according to top economic forecasters.” [76045]

Socialist Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT) tells CNBC’s John Harwood he supports a top income tax rate of 90 percent, and also whines, “You don’t necessarily need a choice of 23 underarm spray deodorants or of 18 different pairs of sneakers when children are hungry in this country.” (Why having fewer companies offering fewer choices to consumers would help feed children goes unexplained.) [76046, 76061]

The State Department announces that, effective June 1, hapless spokeswoman Marie Harf will be the new hapless “Advisor for Strategic Communications to Secretary of State John Kerry.” [76052]

With the Senate still enjoying its Memorial Day recess, Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) tells his supporters in an email, “Five days. That’s how long you and I have until the U.S. Senate meets in a rare Sunday session on May 31st where surveillance state apologists will do everything they can to RAM through an extension of the so-called ‘PATRIOT Act’s’ ILLEGAL and unconstitutional domestic spying programs. I’m not backing down. I’m not going to compromise. I’m going to stand and fight until the very last moment—regardless of the smears and attacks I face.” [76062]

Meanwhile, Obama states, “The House of Representatives did its work and came up with what they’ve called the USA Freedom Act, which strikes an appropriate balance; our intelligence communities are confident that they can work with the authorities that are provided in that act; it passed on a bipartisan basis and overwhelmingly. It was then sent to the Senate. The Senate did not act.” The USA Freedom Act does not “strike an appropriate balance.” It merely requires that telephone companies, rather than the National Security Agency retain bulk telephone history data. The NSA will still be able to access and review that data without a warrant.) [76062]

On May 27 NationalReview.com reports that Senator Elizabeth “Liawatha” Warren (D-MA), who writes in her 2006 book, *All Your Worth*, that a “top myth” is “you can make big money buying houses and flipping them quickly,” in fact “bought and sold at least five properties for profit at a different time in her life, before the cratering economy and a political career made her a star.” In 1993, for example, Warren bought an Oklahoma City house “and quickly obtained permits to do plumbing and electrical work, selling it five months later for a 383 percent gain. ...In her 2014 autobiography, Warren wrote of the events that precipitated the financial crisis that ‘everyone seemed to have a story about someone they knew who was getting rich by flipping houses.’ She omitted a crucial one.” (There is, of course, nothing improper about buying houses, improving them a bit, and then selling them for a quick profit. But it is hypocritical for Warren to scold others for profiting from someone else’s foreclosure losses while having done it herself.) [76038, 76048]

Labor unions, which have been pushing hard for an increase in the minimum wage, ask the Los Angeles City Council to exempt union companies from its new \$15 per hour mandate. (Organized labor has a propensity for not wanting to follow laws and rules it supports. Labor unions also attempted to gain an exemption from ObamaCare's "Cadillac tax" on high-cost health insurance plans—which many of their members enjoy. They succeeded in delaying the tax until 2018. What few people realize is that the Cadillac tax is not indexed to inflation. As a result, every year increasing numbers of Americans will fall under the tax as their insurance premiums increase. If the law is not changed, at some point *all* health care plans will be subject to the tax.) [7964, 7965, 8003, 8009, 8016, 43867, 47181, 47515, 47545, 47560, 50888, 50889, 62815, 68011, 76047, 76057, 76105]

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration predicts below-normal hurricane activity for the coming season. [76050]

Obama travels to Miami, Florida to attend to Democrat National Committee fundraisers. Obama has lunch with Joseph Falk who, notes D. W. Ulsterman, is "a millionaire mortgage broker who pushed for increased government subsidization of the mortgage industry in 2000 and 2001 and who was also a member of the Fannie Mae National Advisory Council. Falk, who is openly gay, is also among Florida's most outspoken LGBT advocates and has been officially applauded by the Obama administration for his efforts among the LGBT community. (Though only after Mr. Falk helped raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for the Obama campaign.) Falk's sexual preference should not matter one way or the other. What SHOULD matter is that he was among the architects of the 2008 financial collapse and yet has been repeatedly rewarded by the current administration simply because he raised money for Democrats and/or he is useful for the manufactured LGBT 'civil rights' issue that is being played out 24/7 via the Mainstream Media. Most Americans don't really care what people are doing in the privacy of their bedrooms. What we DO care about is being played, manipulated, and repeatedly ripped off by politicians like Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton who speak out both sides of their mouths depending on how they might benefit politically." [76049, 76083, 76099]

Ulsterman continues, "For years Barack Obama has accused mortgage lenders of predatory policies that took advantage of unsuspecting home buyers and home owners. It was a simple ruse that found a happy audience among his far left supporters. And yet today we see him as a guest for a \$33,400 per person fundraiser at the private residence of a man who is a prominent member of that very class of mortgage brokers [Obama] railed against so often when campaigning. Joseph Falk is on record testifying before Congress in 2001 the need for further subsidization of little or no down loan programs—an advocacy Democrats in Congress embraced and Republicans warned about. Those warnings were then charged to be racist by Democrats who accused Republicans of not wanting minorities to own homes. The end result was a concerted effort by the Democratically-controlled Congress to greatly expand the efforts of the Community Reinvestment Act that created millions of mortgages that should never have been allowed, and the near-collapse of the entire housing industry in America that many homeowners are still attempting to crawl their way back from. Mortgage brokers like Joseph Falk made millions off of the government-subsidized CRA program, and then

turned around and helped to raise millions more in political donations for the Democrats who made them rich.” [76083]

FoxNews.com notes, “The one-year travel ban is expiring for five senior Taliban leaders who were exchanged for Army Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl last year, raising the possibility that they can move freely around the world as early as Monday. Under the terms of the May 2014 exchange, the five detainees were sent to Qatar, where officials there agreed to track their activities and prevent them from traveling out of the country. In return, Bergdahl was released to the U.S. military after being held captive by the Taliban for nearly five years after he walked away from his post in Afghanistan.” [76055, 76172, 76173]

On MSNBC Andrea Mitchell ask GOP presidential candidate Carly Fiorina what she would do about ISIS. Fiorina responds, “I would do very specific things. First, instead of having a Camp David conference to talk our Arab allies into a bad deal with Iran [as Obama did], I would have had a Camp David conference to talk with our Arab allies about how we can support them to fight ISIS. Let me give you very specific examples. The Kurds have been asking us to arm them for three years, we still have not. The Jordanians have been asking us to provide them with bombs and materiel. We know King Abdullah of Jordan, I’ve known him for many years. He took the appropriate leadership steps when a Jordanian pilot was burned alive. He was here in this country asking us for bombs and materiel, we haven’t provided him with any of them; he’s now looking to China for that. The Egyptian president, a very brave and pious Muslim, who has said there is a cancer in the heart of Islam, has asked us to share intelligence. We are not. The Turks have asked us to help them topple Bashar al-Assad, we are not. There are a whole set of things that we’ve been asked to do by our allies who know this is their fight, and we’re not doing any of them. So I would hold a summit and talk with them about that.” [76114, 76146]

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) imposes new regulations that critics charge gives the federal government power over virtually every body of water in the nation, including small ponds on farms. Politico.com writes, “On its face, the Waters of the United States rule is largely a technical document, defining which rivers, streams, lakes and marshes fall under the jurisdiction of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Army Corps of Engineers. But opponents condemn it as a massive power grab by Washington, saying it will give bureaucrats carte blanche to swoop in and penalize landowners every time a cow walks through a ditch. And it comes amid years of complaints from Republicans about ...Obama’s regulatory agenda, which has encompassed everything from power plants and health insurers to Internet providers and for-profit colleges. Critics are already fighting back: The House voted earlier this month to block the rule, with support from both Republicans and some farm- and energy-state Democrats, and similar legislation is moving through the Senate.” [76056, 76074, 76106, 76109]

WashingtonExaminer.com writes, “To mollify critics [of the new water regulation rules], the EPA invited public comments, as agencies must do in the regulatory process. Later, its administrator, Gina McCarthy, would boast that it received nearly 1 million comments

on the rule—nearly 90 percent of which were in favor. ‘The input helped us understand the genuine concerns and interests of a wide range of stakeholders and think through options to address them,’ McCarthy recently wrote on her blog. What McCarthy did not mention, and what was reported last week in *The New York Times*, is that the EPA used government resources to coordinate with environmentalist groups in order to achieve this 90 percent support. Through an intense effort in what is known as ‘grassroots lobbying,’ the government worked to encourage people on one side of the debate to make their voices heard, so as to skew perceptions of public opinion. In addition to meeting behind closed doors with environmentalist leaders supportive of the rule, the agency used a social media tool called Thunderclap. It is like Kickstarter, but users donate social media shares instead of money. By getting just under 1,000 left-wing activists to sign on, the EPA was able to urge 1.8 million people in their political circles, all at once, to comment favorably on the proposed rule. This helped generate levels of support for the rule more appropriate to Saddam Hussein’s re-election results than to any serious issue discussed in a democracy. The agency’s rigging of the result made a sham of the entire comment process. And it may have even been against federal laws that forbid government agencies from lobbying.” [76081]

The Associated Press reports, “The U.S. government launched a corruption attack on soccer’s global governing body Wednesday, pulling FIFA [Fédération Internationale de Football Association] executives out of a luxury Zurich hotel to face racketeering charges and raiding regional offices in Miami. Swiss officials also invaded FIFA headquarters, seizing records and computers to investigate whether the decisions to award World Cups to Russia [2018] and Qatar were rigged [2022].” In New York City, Attorney General Loretta Lynch tells reporters, “Beginning in 1991, two generations of soccer officials ...used their positions of trust within their respective organizations to solicit bribes from sports marketers in exchange for the commercial rights to their soccer tournaments. They did this over and over, year after year, tournament after tournament.” (HotAir.com’s Ed Morrissey writes, “Honestly, though, how difficult was this to figure out? The World Cup is usually played in summer, which in Qatar would be around 50 degrees Celsius, or 122 degrees Fahrenheit, and in high humidity to boot. Who in their right mind would send the league’s top stars to play in that, or their fans to watch it, without a ton of cash to convince them?”) It is worth noting that FIFA donated between \$50,000 and \$100,000 to the Clinton Foundation. [76063, 76064, 76077, 76084, 76085]

CNSNews.com reports, “The National Institutes of Health through its National Institute of Mental Health has awarded \$52,293 in taxpayer funding to the Toronto-based Centre for Addiction and Mental Health to study how to reduce discrimination of lesbian, gay and transgender people with schizophrenia by members of the community they are in frequent contact with, like the ‘convenience store clerk.’” [76072]

Freedom Watch files a racketeering lawsuit against the Clinton Foundation. WashingtonExaminer.com reports, “The lawsuit... includes a legal request to have the Florida judge seize the private server on which Hillary Clinton and her aides hosted their emails while she served as secretary of state. [The group’s Larry] Klayman has filed dozens of lawsuits against the Clintons and other prominent politicians. The racketeering,



influenced and corrupt organizations, or RICO, case alleges the former first couple and their family philanthropy traded political favors for donations or generous speaking fees for Bill Clinton while his wife was the nation's chief diplomat. ...Klayman pushed the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida to order a 'neutral forensic expert ...to take custody and control of the private email server and reconstruct and preserve the official U.S. Government records relating to the conduct of U.S. foreign policy during Defendant Secretary Clinton's term as Secretary of State.'" Klayman says, "It's a perfect RICO case, it fits completely. Our Congress doesn't even have the guts to subpoena her documents. They'd rather get on Fox News. So we felt had to bring that case. Somebody's got to do it." [76073, 76160]

Judge Rudolph Contreras gives the State Department until the end of January 2016 to released the 30,000 or more Hillary Clinton emails it as been shielding. According to WashingtonTimes.com, "By June 30, the department must release 7 percent of the emails, totaling 2,100 messages, then release 2,400 more by the end of July, 3,000 more in August, 3,600 in September, 4,200 in October, 4,500 in November, 4,800 in December and the final 5,400 or so in January." Contreras rules, "Defendant shall provide a status report informing the court of the number of pages of emails produced. If, in any given month, the defendant fails to meet the above-referenced production goal, it shall explain in detail in its status report how it intends to catch up with the schedule by adding resources or otherwise." (The State Department had wanted an additional year to produce the emails, although it is not clear why. Clinton staffers have almost certainly deleted the emails that would most damage her reputation and her presidential campaign.) [76075]

The Pentagon discloses that anthrax was inadvertently from a Utah laboratory to as many as nine states. FoxNews.com reports, "Pentagon spokesman Col. Steve Warren assured 'there is no known risk to the general public' and said an investigation is under way. But precautions are being taken for potentially exposed workers in labs where the samples were sent. A U.S. official told Fox News that four people in three companies are being treated for 'post-exposure' and being prescribed prophylaxis. All samples are in the process of being collected by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The material in question was prepared at Dugway Proving Ground, Utah, as part of what was described as a 'routine' research process. It was then sent out to Defense Department and commercial labs in nine states—the shipments were supposed to include only inactive, or dead, anthrax when they were transferred." [76080, 76098]

At WND.com Jerome Corsi writes, "More than 100 pages of previously classified Department of Defense and Department of State documents implicate the Obama administration in a cover-up to obscure the role Hillary Clinton and the State Department played in the rise of ISIS. The documents were obtained in a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit filed by the Washington watchdog Judicial Watch. They confirm WND reporting over the past three years of evidence that U.S. Ambassador Christopher Stevens was involved in shipping weapons from Benghazi to support the al-Qaida-affiliated militias fighting the Bashar al-Assad regime in Syria, effectively arming the Sunni jihadists who morphed into ISIS. The documents further confirm WND reporting that the goal of the terrorists behind the Benghazi attack that killed Stevens was to force the release of Omar

Abdul Rahman, the ‘blind sheik’ in U.S. prison serving a life sentence for his involvement in the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center, and to avenge death of a prominent Libyan al-Qaida leader killed by a U.S. drone strike in Pakistan.” [76082]

“‘These documents are jaw-dropping,’ said Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton. ‘No wonder we had to file more FOIA lawsuits and wait over two years for them.’ ... ‘If the American people had known the truth—that Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton and other top administration officials knew that the Benghazi attack was an al-Qaida terrorist attack from the get-go—and yet lied and covered this fact up—Mitt Romney might very well be president,’ Fitton observed. ‘These documents also point to connection between the collapse in Libya and the ISIS war—and confirm that the U.S. knew remarkable details about the transfer of arms from Benghazi to Syrian jihadists,’ Fitton stated. He said the documents ‘show that the Benghazi cover-up has continued for years and is only unraveling through our independent lawsuits.’ ‘The Benghazi scandal just got a whole lot worse for Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton,’ Fitton said.” [76082]

DailyCaller.com reports that far-left journalist Max Blumenthal “helped craft” Hillary Clinton’s YouTube video explanation for the attack in Benghazi. “...Max Blumenthal pushed his conspiratorial theories onto the secretary of state in the hours after Ambassador Chris Stevens and three others were killed. ...Clinton first mentioned the video publicly on the morning of Sept. 13, 2012. Obama’s White House speechwriter Ben Rhodes, an NYU-educated fiction writer who was initially blamed for crafting the talking points, didn’t mention the video until Sept. 14, when he sent around a memo preparing Susan Rice and others for Sunday-show appearances to discuss the attack. Now we know that Hillary became aware of the video on Sept. 12, the day after the attack, through her political adviser Sidney Blumenthal—Max Blumenthal’s father. ...In the hours after the deadly terrorist attack on Clinton’s consulate, Sidney Blumenthal rushed political guidance to the secretary. ...At 2:11 p.m. on Sept. 12, Hillary Clinton personally forwarded a link to an article about ‘Innocence of Muslims’ to a colleague. That article was posted on MaxBlumenthal.com, and was written by Sidney Blumenthal’s son Max, who is now the senior writer for the far-left website AlterNet. Max Blumenthal’s article was entitled ‘Meet the Right-Wing Extremist Behind Anti-Muslim Film That Sparked Deadly Riots.’ In the piece, he implicated anti-Muslim activist Steve Klein as a consultant on the Hollywood-produced film. ‘Pls print,’ Hillary Clinton wrote to her colleague, referring to Max Blumenthal’s article. Where did Hillary get the link from originally? That part is redacted. Max Blumenthal spent that day feverishly promoting the obscure film’s role in the Benghazi violence.” [76101]

At PJMedia.com Patrick Poole reports that “the number of U.S.-based individuals involved in international terror-related cases this year” is now up to 41. “At the current pace, by the end of June—halfway through 2015—the number of cases will exceed the number from the past two years combined (48).” [76090, 76091]

Former Senator Rick Santorum (R-PA) announces he is (again) running for president. [76079]

On May 28 former New York governor George Pataki enters the increasingly crowded Republican field and announces he is running for president. [76145]

*The New York Times*, which lacked the courage to publish Charlie Hebdo cartoons that Muslims found offensive, publishes an image of “The Holy Virgin Mary” oil painting, an “eight-foot-high depiction of a black Virgin Mary, encrusted with a lump of elephant dung and collaged bottoms from pornographic magazines.” [76166, 76167]

According to TimesofIsrael.com, “A UN Security Council report focused on al-Qaeda has highlighted the growing threat of foreign fighters, saying that up to 22,000 recruits from over 100 countries around the world are on the ground in war-torn Syria and Iraq. ... While the report was intended to focus on foreign resources of al-Qaeda, the authors also address the Islamic State group, which has eclipsed al-Qaeda in popularity and declared a caliphate spanning large swaths of Syria and Iraq. Several countries are now home to 1,000 or more returned fighters, according to the report, including Tunisia, Morocco, Saudi Arabia and even France. Israel has been the source of a few dozen, according to scattered reports.” [76088, 76089]

Obama visits the National Hurricane Center and warns about “climate change.” [76093, 76094]

Newsmax.com reports that U.S. District Judge Rosemary Collyer “blasted the Obama administration’s motion to dismiss a lawsuit brought by Republicans in the U.S. House of Representatives over the implementation of [ObamaCare]. Republicans in the House filed a lawsuit in November, saying administration officials unlawfully bypassed Congress. At issue are executive changes authorizing Treasury payments to healthcare insurers without the funding being agreed by Congress and delaying implementation of the law’s employer mandate, which required employers with more than 50 employees to provide healthcare coverage.” Collyer “repeatedly interrupted U.S. Justice Department lawyer Joel McElvain during the hearing in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. Justice Department lawyers argue that the House lacks standing to sue, citing a section of U.S. law that means the House would have to prove it has been directly harmed. ‘So it is your position that if the House of Representatives affirmatively voted not to fund something... then that vote can be ignored by the administration, because after all, no one can sue them?’ she asked. McElvain argued that the merits of the case were not being discussed at the hearing, and that any perceived injury was ‘abstract.’ ‘I’m not asking you to give me your brief. I want you to explain... why it’s not an insult to the Constitution?’” Collyer said. [76110, 76125, 76131, 76156, 76169]

DailySignal.com explains that the lawsuit challenges Obama’s “changes to the health care law—namely his delay of the employer mandate and the authorization of payments from the Treasury Department to insurance providers. Congress, the House of Representatives contends, did not appropriate funds for those payments, which will cost taxpayers more than \$175 billion over the next 10 years. The House and its lawyer, George Washington University law professor Jonathan Turley, argue these changes to the law violate the Constitution and are suing the Departments of Treasury and Health and

Human Services.” (Obama has promised insurance companies they will be given federal funds for losses they incur because of ObamaCare, but Congress has not authorized the expenditure of those funds. Nor has Congress authorized the delays in implementing certain ObamaCare regulations beyond the dates stated in the ObamaCare legislation.) [76131]

Charles Krauthammer writes that increasing numbers of physicians are leaving the medical profession because of ObamaCare: “I hear this everywhere. Virtually every doctor and doctors’ group I speak to cites the same litany, with particular bitterness about the EHR ‘electronic health records] mandate. As another [former] classmate [of mine] wrote, ‘The introduction of the electronic medical record into our office has created so much more need for documentation that I can only see about three-quarters of the patients I could before and has prompted me to seriously consider leaving for the first time.’ You may have zero sympathy for doctors, but think about the extraordinary loss to society—and maybe to you, one day—of driving away 40 years of irreplaceable clinical experience.” [76139]

J. P. Morgan Chase announces it is cutting more than 5,000 jobs. [76112, 76113]

Reuters reports, “Islamic State sympathizers may have been behind more than a dozen threats in the last two days to international flights using US airports or flying over American airspace, US law enforcement and security officials said on Wednesday. ...The officials said that after 11 threats were received by US law enforcement officers on Monday, at least four more were phoned in late on Tuesday [May 26]. The threats were all similar and the caller claimed the flights were carrying some form of chemical weapons, the officials said, adding that some investigators’ leading theory was that sympathizers of Islamic State were responsible.” [76115, 76116]

BloombergView.com’s Eli Lake reports, “The U.S. watched Islamic State fighters, vehicles and heavy equipment gather on the outskirts of Ramadi before the group retook the city in mid-May. But the U.S. did not order airstrikes against the convoys before the battle started. It left the fighting to Iraqi troops, who ultimately abandoned their positions. U.S. intelligence and military officials told me recently, on the condition of anonymity, that the U.S. had significant intelligence about the pending Islamic State offensive in Ramadi. For the U.S. military, it was an open secret even at the time. The Islamic State had been contesting territory in and around Ramadi for more than a year and had spoken of the importance of recapturing the city. The U.S. intelligence community had good warning that the Islamic State intended a new and bolder offensive on Ramadi because it was able to identify the convoys of heavy artillery, vehicle bombs and reinforcements through overhead imagery and eavesdropping on chatter from local Islamic State commanders. It surprised no one, one U.S. intelligence official told me.” (Robert Spencer asks at JihadWatch.org, “Did they want the Iraqis to win a great victory over the Islamic State all by themselves? Or did they want the Islamic State to take Ramadi? We need answers, but almost certainly aren’t going to get them from a press that covers for Obama at every turn.”) [76119, 76120]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, “A think tank with ties to Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton issued strong criticisms Thursday of the Obama administration’s strategy to combat the Islamic State, with analysts writing that the U.S. is ‘failing’ and needs to change course. Two former Obama national security aides broke with [Obama] by urging the deployment of American ground troops to directly help the disheveled Iraqi army. One used the word ‘failing’ to describe how the administration is arming the Baghdad military. Mrs. Clinton helped launched the Center for a New American Security (CNAS) with a keynote speech in 2007. The center is directed by Michele Flournoy, the former undersecretary of defense for policy for ...Obama, and who is viewed as a candidate for defense secretary in a Clinton administration.” [76122]

Rather than run anti-jihad ads from the American Freedom Defense Initiative the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority decides it will simply not run any ads that are political in nature. The AFDI’s Pamela Geller calls the decision “an end run around the First Amendment.” (HotAir.com comments, “Imagine being a D.C. bus driver and finding out you’ll be spending the next few weeks joined at the hip to a giant Mohammed cartoon for eight hours a day. [Philadelphia] authorities also acknowledged fears of terrorism when they opposed Geller’s ad; in fact, they said at the time that drivers who objected to being behind the wheel of a bus with it on the side would be ‘given a level of understanding that would be different than in other situations.’ Those acknowledgments are a minor victory for Geller even if her ad, and everyone else’s ads, ends up being cashiered. She’s forcing the state to admit that the threat of violence is so great that, as a matter of pure public safety, they’d rather give up easy revenue than take the chance of insulting ‘the prophet.’ And, thanks to D.C.’s new policy, she’s gotten the state to spread the cost of censorship to other would-be issue-advertisers, which drives home the point to the wider public that the slippery slope on ‘hate speech’ might be more slippery than the lefties who disdain her tend to assume.”) [76117, 76118, 76121, 76134, 76147, 76159]

On May 29 the Department of Commerce announces it has revised its estimate of first quarter Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth from a positive 0.2 percent to a *negative* 0.7 percent annualized rate. (If the second quarter GDP figure is also negative, the economy will officially be considered to be in a recession. For the years 2010 through 2015, first quarter GDP growth has been a mere 0.4 percent.) [76128, 76129, 76144, 76150]

ISIS fighters take control of the airport in Sirte, Libya. [76192, 76193, 76197]

Iran-backed Houthi rebels in Yemen take four Americans hostage, according to U.S. officials. According to *The Washington Post*, “The Americans are believed to be held at a prison in Sanaa, the Yemeni capital, which has been bombed repeatedly as part of an air campaign led by Saudi Arabia aimed at dislodging the Houthis from power. The United States has provided intelligence support to that operation. ...U.S. officials said three of the prisoners worked in private-sector [sic; private sector] jobs and that a fourth, whose occupation is unknown, has dual U.S.-Yemeni citizenship. The officials said none of the four were employees of the U.S. government.” [76198, 76199, 76200]

Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney (D-NY) introduces legislation that would require all gun owners to buy liability insurance, and impose a \$10,000 fine for anyone who does not comply. (At FrontPageMag.com Daniel Greenfield writes, “Stop shootings with gun insurance. It’s a plan so stupid it can only come from a career Democrat. So Maloney’s theory is that the gang members, who are responsible for most of the shootings, will have to buy gun insurance before they shoot someone? Of course their guns are usually illegal anyway... So this plan makes about as much sense as complaining that rioters burning down businesses need jobs. Instead this is yet another bout of trolling and petty harassment aimed at gun owners by a frustrated left irritated because it hasn’t been able to get its own way in its long battle with the Bill of Rights.”) [76455]

Sharyl Attkisson reports, “The House Oversight Committee today issued a subpoena to compel the testimony of a public IRS official. That after the IRS failed to voluntarily allow the official, the Director of Privacy, Government Liaison and Disclosure, to confirm she would appear at a hearing next week examining federal agencies’ failure to follow Freedom of Information Act law. In theory, the Freedom of Information Act entitles members of the public and the press to obtain access to public information from federal agencies within 20 business day. In reality, federal agencies routinely ignore, delay and obfuscate such requests with impunity.” [76161]

At Townhall.com S. E. Cupp reports, “Just this week, legislators introduced a bill that would encourage drug companies to apply to sell contraceptives without a prescription. ...Planned Parenthood president Cecile Richards said the bill is a ‘sham and an insult to women.’ ...Beneath the fear-mongering lies the more likely reason for the change of heart on the left. The bill was simply introduced by the wrong party. If Democrats cede this issue to Republicans, they lose a major chit in their ‘war on women’ narrative. For years, pro-choice groups have been peddling the charge that Republicans are against access to birth control. But it’s utterly (and provably) false.” Cupp notes, “Just last year, far-left women's groups Planned Parenthood and Emily’s List also thought making birth control available OTC was a great idea.” At NationalReview.com Jillian Kay Melchior notes, “Planned Parenthood alone makes around \$1.2 billion each year from contraceptive services.” [76123, 76320]

Also at Townhall.com Katie Pavlich writes, “According to a new report from Fox News’ Catherine Herridge, teammates of Army Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl were asked to sign non-disclosure agreements years ago after discussing his desertion with the Joint Chiefs Chairman in Afghanistan. According to Herridge’s reporting and General Bob Scales, asking soldiers to sign non-disclosure agreements is unprecedented. ‘I can’t remember, ever, [having] an enlisted soldier sign a non-disclosure agreement for anything. This is completely unprecedented,’ Scales said. ‘These non-disclosure agreements have got nothing to do with military justice.’ Further, new information shows Bergdahl not only deserted, but started planning for his departure by sleeping on the floor and prepared himself for life outside of the military. Earlier this week, General Stanley McChrystal admitted he knew Bergdahl had deserted immediately after leaving his post in June 2009. The White House maintains officials weren’t and still aren’t sure about the circumstances

surrounding his capture by the Taliban. Bergdahl will stand trial at Ft. Sam Houston later this year.” [76124]

According to a Rasmussen poll, “...one-out-of-three Likely U.S. Voters (35%) now believes that illegal immigrants should be allowed to vote if they can prove they live in this country and pay taxes. Sixty percent (60%) disagree, while five percent (5%) are undecided. ...Fifty-three percent (53%) of Democrats think tax-paying illegal immigrants should have the right to vote. Twenty-one percent (21%) of Republicans and 30% of voters not affiliated with either major political party agree.” [76126, 76127]

The Obama administration removes Cuba from its list of State Sponsors of Terrorism. (Whether that means Cuba will now be contributing to the Clinton Foundation remains to be seen.) [76130]

Political analyst Dick Morris writes, “As negatives pile up on Hillary’s doorstep, the Democratic left is flocking to Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders. According to Quinnipiac, Sanders has gone from 4% of the Democratic primary vote in April to 8% in April to 15% in their May 28 survey. While Hillary still has 57% of the primary vote (down from 60% last month), Sanders is moving up fast. The Vermont Senator is eclipsing former Maryland governor Martin O’Malley, former Virginia senator Jim Webb, and former Rhode Island governor Lincoln Chaffee, each of whom gets only 1% of the vote. Among self-described ‘very liberal Democrats,’ Hillary leads Sanders by only 61-28.” O’Malley, Webb, and Chaffee have not yet officially declared their candidacies. (The Rasmussen survey was conducted before news surfaced of a 1972 essay by Sanders in which he wrote, “A man goes home and masturbates his typical fantasy. A woman on her knees, a woman tied up, a woman abused. A woman enjoys intercourse with her man—as she fantasizes being raped by 3 men simultaneously.” The leftist Salon.com comes to Sanders’ defense—no doubt because he is a socialist. Sanders campaign spokesman Michael Briggs says Sanders’ essay was merely a “dumb attempt at dark satire in an alternative publication” that “in no way reflects his views or record on women.”) [76132, 76135, 76136, 76137, 76138, 76151]

At WashingtonExaminer.com Sarah Westwood provides a long list of instances in which “Countries and companies that donated to the Clinton Foundation or paid Bill Clinton heavy fees for speeches saw an increase in State Department activity while Hillary Clinton served as secretary of state. ...For example, months after Bill Clinton delivered a speech in Riyadh for a price of \$300,000, State Department funding for projects and activities in Saudi Arabia spiked. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has also donated between \$10 million and \$25 million to the Clinton Foundation, donor records show. State Department funding for its diplomatic operations and projects in the country jumped from more than \$18 million in 2011 to \$67.75 million in 2012, the year after Bill Clinton delivered his speech at the Saudi Investment Authority, according to USASpending.gov.” [76216]

FoxNews.com reports, “The Obama administration disclosed plans Thursday [May 28] to preserve the habitat of the imperiled greater sage grouse in 10 Western states that would

include placing limits on oil and natural gas drilling. The proposal would be the federal government's biggest land-planning effort to date for conservation of a single species. The regulations would require oil and gas wells to be clustered in groups of a half-dozen or more to avoid scattering them across habitat of the greater sage grouse. Drilling near breeding areas would be prohibited during mating season, and power lines would be moved away from prime habitat to avoid serving as perches for raptors that eat sage grouse. The new measures would apply to federal lands in California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming." (Some claim the sage grouse tastes like passenger pigeon.) [76133]

Hundreds attend a Freedom of Speech rally outside the Islamic Community Center in Phoenix—the mosque attended by the two terrorists who attacked the Draw Mohammed contest in Garland, Texas. The rally's organizer is former U.S. Marine Jon Ritzheimer. (The event is peaceful because jihadists who had threatened to kill people at the event never showed up—probably because they knew many of the demonstrators would be armed.) [76140, 76141, 76164, 76174, 76179]

The IRS is under fire for spending \$1,000 per hour on outside attorneys to audit Microsoft—an action that gives people who are not IRS employees access to confidential taxpayer information. According to DailyCaller.com, "[T]he Obama administration quickly re-wrote the rules shortly after hiring [the law firm] Quinn Emanuel." The Senate Finance Committee is questioning whether the administration has the authority to rewrite the rules. [76143]

TruthCensored.net posts figures that "reveal the extent of Obama's fleecing taxpayers on lavish vacation." (As an example, "The outbound flight to Honolulu for the Obamas' 2012-13 Christmas vacation cost taxpayers \$2,214,393.60. The return flight to Washington cost \$1,871,961.60. Flight expenditures alone came to \$4,086,355.20.") [76168]

TheHill.com reports, "Thousands of websites are blocking Congress's access to their sites in a show of force to protest the Patriot Act. Led by the online activist group Fight for the Future, more than 10,000 sites have added code that redirects any visitors from Internet protocol (IP) addresses from Congress away from their site and towards a protest page. 'Congress: This is a blackout,' the site reads. 'We are blocking your access until you end mass surveillance laws.' ...Unless the Senate acts by Sunday at midnight [May 31], three parts of the Patriot Act—including the controversial Section 215, which the National Security Agency (NSA) has used to collect millions of Americans' phone records—will die. Most lawmakers have been scrambling to prevent that from happening, but so far they have been unable to reach a deal that has the support of the 60 senators necessary to overcome procedural hurdles." [76170]

On *PBS NewsHour*, *The New York Times*' David Brooks makes the absurd claim that Obama "has run an amazingly scandal-free administration, not only he himself, but the people around him. He's chosen people who have been pretty scandal-free. And so there



are people in Washington who do set a standard of integrity, who do seem to attract people of quality. And I think that's probably true of the current group." [76191]

On May 30 Democrat Martin O'Malley, former mayor of Baltimore and former governor of Maryland, announces he is running for president. At the announcement even, one speaker praises O'Malley for having "fearlessly led our state through the Great Depression." (The Great Depression ended more than two decades before O'Malley was born.) O'Malley tells his audience, "We must put Americans first and we cannot and will not rebuild the American Dream here at home though by catering to the voices of the privileged and the powerful. Let's be honest, they were the ones who turned our economy upside down in the first place. And they are the only ones who are benefiting from that. We need to prosecute cheats, we need to reinstate [the] Glass-Steagall [Act], and if a bank is too big to fail without wrecking our nation's economy, then we need to break it up before it breaks us again. ...Goldman Sachs is one of the biggest repeat investment banks in America. Recently, the CEO of Goldman Sachs let his employees know that he'd be just fine with either [Jeb] Bush or [Hillary] Clinton. I bet he would. Well, I've got news for the bullies of Wall Street, the presidency is not a crown to be passed back and forth by you between two royal families. It is a sacred trust, to be earned from the American people, and exercised on behalf of the people of these United States." [76152, 76154, 76171, 76208, 76266]

According to WashingtonExaminer.com, "Maryland was hit by 40 tax hikes costing \$9.5 billion during O'Malley's eight years in office, from 2007-14. Tax-weary Marylanders made Republican Larry Hogan governor in 2014, bucking O'Malley's lieutenant governor, Anthony Brown, who was the Democratic candidate. Less-patient Marylanders voted with their feet and simply fled the state: Almost 72,000 people left Maryland from mid-2007 to mid-2014, according to Census Bureau data." [76178]

O'Malley also tells the crowd of supporters, "Today, the American dream seems for so many of us to be hanging by a thread. We must save our country now. ...Tell me how it is that you can get pulled over for a broken taillight in our country, but if you wreck the nation's economy, you are untouchable." Columnist Cal Thomas writes, "Who is he blaming for 'wrecking' the economy? Big banks and Wall Street, not the Obama administration, which has presided over slow economic growth, an increase in the number of Americans who want to work but can't find jobs and more than 46 million people on food stamps. Last month, the Commerce Department reported the economy contracted 0.7 percent in the first quarter of 2015. Wasn't ...Obama elected to fix all this? When he promised to 'fundamentally change' the country, I doubt most Obama worshippers had this kind of country in mind." [76241]

Former Obama campaign guru David Axelrod tweets, "Bernie Sanders isn't going to be POTUS. But he has something prized & rare in politics—authenticity—which will earn him a following in '16." (Whether Axelrod realizes he is suggesting that Hillary Clinton and Martin O'Malley are not authentic is not clear.) [76153, 76157]

Star-Telegram.com reports that Texas State Representative Giovanni Capriglione has “asked the Legislature to create a Texas Bullion Depository, where Texas could store its gold, which is now in New York, and where others could keep their precious metals. The Southlake Republican must have the golden touch, because the House and the Senate have signed off on his plan and his bill appears headed to Gov. Greg Abbott for consideration. ...House Bill 483 would let the Texas comptroller’s office establish the state’s first bullion depository at a location yet to be determined. ...The goal is to create a secure facility that would allow the state to bring home more than \$1 billion in gold bars that are owned by the University of Texas Investment Management Co. and are now housed at the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank in New York.” (Tyler Durden later writes at ZeroHedge.com, “Perhaps the fact that Texas doesn’t trust New York suggests the unitedness of the states is starting to quake and surely ‘the idiocy of the political cycle’ has only got worse... [It] Sounds like Texas—just like Austria, Germany, Russia, and China to name just four—no longer trusts the status quo.”) [76725, 76726]

In Palmyra, Syria, ISIS performs public executions in an amphitheatre built by the Romans about 2,000 years ago. [76194, 76195]

In Gaza, Hamas works on paving a new road near the Israeli border, in order “to create... convenient opportunities to attack the Zionist enemy.” [76201, 76202]

The Associated Press reports, “The new head of the FBI’s wide-ranging Cincinnati division says the threat of homegrown terrorists in her native state is surprising and scary.” Angela Byers states, “It’s scary. And it’s scary to us. I’m not sure the general public quite gets the gravity of it. ...It seems like once we get one guy, another guy pops up high on the radar. We just keep moving from one to the next.” [76203, 76204, 76231]

In his Saturday Internet address, Obama says, “[M]y greatest responsibility is the safety of the American people. And in our fight against terrorists, we need to use every effective tool at our disposal—both to defend our security and to protect the freedoms and civil liberties enshrined in our Constitution. But tomorrow—Sunday, at midnight—some important tools we use against terrorists will expire. That’s because Congress has not renewed them, and because legislation that would—the USA Freedom Act—is stuck in the Senate. I want to be very clear about what this means. ...The USA Freedom Act also accomplishes something I called for a year and a half ago: it ends the bulk metadata program—the bulk collection of phone records—as it currently exists and puts in place new reforms. The government will no longer hold these records; telephone providers will.” (The bulk metadata program is not ended at all. It merely changes the location of the storage of the phone records of all Americans, which will still be available for government review.) [76155]

“...So what’s the problem? A small group of senators is standing in the way. And, unfortunately, some folks are trying to use this debate to score political points. But this shouldn’t and can’t be about politics. This is a matter of national security. Terrorists like al-Qaeda and ISIL [ISIS] aren’t suddenly going to stop plotting against us at midnight tomorrow. And we shouldn’t surrender the tools that help keep us safe. It would be

irresponsible. It would be reckless. And we shouldn't allow it to happen. So today, I'm calling on Americans to join me in speaking with one voice to the Senate. Put the politics aside. Put our national security first. Pass the USA Freedom Act—now. And let's protect the security and civil liberties of every American. Thanks very much.” (Everything Obama does is about politics; for him to complain about others doing so is laughable. Of course, the Senators who oppose the continuance of the telephone spying program are not doing it for politics—they are being roundly criticized by establishment politicians on both sides of the political aisle. Additionally, the expiration of the program puts no Americans at risk because the telephone companies will continue to keep records and turn them over when presented with a valid court order.) [76155]

Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) states that he will not consent to any efforts to pass an extension of the NSA's telephone spying procedures or the USA Freedom Act. “So tomorrow,” says Paul, “I will force the expiration of the NSA illegal spy program.” (The Senate will be in session on Sunday, May 31, in an attempt to pass the legislation.)

Beau Biden, age 46, former Delaware Attorney General and son of Vice President Joe Biden, dies after a struggle with brain cancer. (In June 2008 then-Attorney General Beau Biden had Larry Sinclair arrested moments after he concluded a press conference in which he stated that he had shared cocaine and homosexual activities with Obama in Chicago and in Gurnee, Illinois in November 1999. Additionally, Obama campaign strategist David Axelrod purportedly paid \$750,000 to Dan Parisi, a porno web site operator, to discredit Sinclair.) [842 pp. 358-359; 1991, 76163]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, “A fighter with the Islamic State group in a new online video was trained in counterterrorism tactics in the U.S., the State Department confirmed. Col. Gulmurod Khalimov, a former police commander from Tajikistan, is shown in black garb worn by the Islamic State group and holding a sniper rifle and a bandolier of ammunition in the terror group's new video. He claims that he participated in training programs on U.S. soil three times, one of which was in Louisiana, CNN reported Friday [May 29]. ‘From 2003-2014 Colonel Khalimov participated in five counterterrorism training courses in the United States and in Tajikistan, through the Department of State's Diplomatic Security/Anti-Terrorism Assistance program,’ Pooja Jhunjunwala, a spokeswoman for the State Department, told CNN.” [76175]

While Obama plays 27 holes of golf, ISIS fighters attack and bomb a military prison in Palmyra, Syria and take control of Syrian intelligence headquarters in the city. [76180, 76181, 76185]

According to TheHill.com, the Department of Justice “plans to move forward this year with more than a dozen new gun-related regulations, according to list of rules the agency has proposed to enact before the end of the Obama administration. The regulations range from new restrictions on high-powered pistols to gun storage requirements. Chief among them is a renewed effort to keep guns out of the hands of people who are mentally unstable or have been convicted of domestic abuse. ...But the gun lobby contends that such a sweeping ban would unfairly root out a number of prospective gun owners who

are not a danger to society. ...As proposed, [one] regulation makes it illegal for someone who [Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms] has been convicted of a misdemeanor domestic violence offense to own a gun. The ATF plans to finalize the rule by November, according to the Unified Agenda. But gun rights advocates are concerned the Obama administration will use this rule to unfairly target certain gun owners. 'That could be a person who spanked his kid, or yelled at his wife, or slapped her husband,' warned Michael Hammond, legislative counsel for the Gun Owners of America." [76182, 76183, 76207]

"...The ATF is also looking to prohibit the mentally ill from owning firearms, which is attracting even more criticism from gun rights groups. 'The Obama administration is trying very hard to disqualify people from owning a gun on the basis that they are seeing a psychologist,' Hammond argued. The NRA contends that many people who are mentally ill may not necessarily pose a danger to society—or as the gun lobby puts it, the policy 'snares masses of mostly harmless individuals.' ... 'A person who experienced a temporary reaction to a traumatic event or who has trouble handling household finances may well be treated the same as a violent psychopath,' the NRA wrote. 'Not only is this unjust and stigmatizing, it creates disincentives for those who need mental health treatment to seek it, increasing whatever risks are associated with untreated mental illness,' it added. ... 'The Obama administration hates the Second Amendment, and it's clear that every place where it can push, it will,' said Hammond. 'This is an indication of an anti-gun administration trying to annoy us in any way it can.'" [76182, 76183]

On May 31 ISIS fighters blow up a natural gas pipeline near el-Arish in Egypt's Sinai Peninsula. [76237, 76238]

Author and frequent Obama critic Dinesh D'Souza, completes his sentence for violating campaign contribution rules. [76212]

Obama again plays golf, along with Halliburton board member Milton Carroll, Houston Astro owner Jim Crane, and private equity investor Glenn Hutchins. [76224, 76225]

Secretary of State John Kerry returns from nuclear talks in Switzerland after falling off a bicycle and breaking his leg. (The State Department insists the nuclear talks with Iran will maintain the "exact same timetable as before his accident." The nuclear deal deadline is June 30.) [76176, 76177, 76215, 76223, 76331]

The Senate votes 77-17 to consider the USA Freedom Act, exceeding the 60 votes needed to stop a filibuster. Politico.com notes, "However, three key Patriot Act provisions are still set to lapse at midnight after Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) again blocked short-term extensions." Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) "hopes to pass the House bill, with modest alterations, as soon as possible, viewing it as the only viable option given the time constraint. That could take until the middle of the week." On the floor of the Senate, Paul says, "I'm not going to take it anymore. I don't think the American people are going to take it anymore. ... This is a debate over the Bill of Rights. This is a debate over the Fourth Amendment. This is a debate over your right to be left

alone.” (The Senate then adjourns, leaving the three Patriot Act provisions to expire. On June 2 the Senate will likely approve the USA Freedom Act, which the House had already passed.) [76188, 76211, 76213]

Paul has more reverence for the U.S. Constitution and the Fourth Amendment than most in the House and the Senate—and the White House. The amendment states, “The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.” (Some argue that the NSA’s collection of telephone “metadata” does not violate the Fourth Amendment because that information is owned by the telephone companies, not the telephone company customers. Of course, that argument ignores the fact that the Fourth Amendment also applies to telephone companies. In addition, it must be remembered that the Director of National Intelligence, James Clapper, lied to Congress about what intelligence agencies were collecting and they were doing with the information.) [76214]

At WND.com Joe Kovacs writes, “Kathleen Willey, the former White House aide who claims President Bill Clinton sexually assaulted her in 1993 during his first term, now suspects the former president suffers from dementia, and calls Hillary Clinton a ‘money-hungry’ hypocrite who looks ‘awfully haggard’ and is the ‘worst role mother for a wife and a mother and a politician.’ Willey, author of the book ‘Target: Caught in the Crosshairs of Bill and Hillary Clinton,’ made her scathing comments in an interview airing tonight on Aaron Klein Investigative Radio, broadcast on New York’s AM 970 and Philadelphia 990 AM, as well as online. She is now seriously questioning the mental health of both of the Clintons.” Willey: “After watching [Bill’s] performance with [NBC News’ Cynthia] McFadden, when he said that I’ve gotta pay my bills, I think he’s showing early signs of dementia or something. He’s not the old Bill Clinton that we all remember. I mean, he was all over the place. Now you’re seeing clips of [Hillary] talking to herself all the time. I think that I want somebody in there who knows what they’re doing, and money isn’t the number one issue for them. They have enough money. They made \$30 million ...in the last 15 months on speaking engagements. Isn’t that enough?” [76184, 76253]

In the understatement of the month, retiring *Face the Nation* host Bob Schieffer admits to media reporter Howard Kurtz, “Maybe we [in the mainstream media] were not skeptical enough” of Obama when he came to national prominence. [76186, 76267]

FoxNews.com reports, “Qatar has agreed to temporarily extend travel bans on five senior Taliban leaders released last year from the prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, in exchange for Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl, a State Department official confirmed to Fox News Sunday. The official said the ban would remain in place until diplomatic talks for a longer-term solution are completed. The restrictions had been due to expire on Monday under a May 2014 exchange for Bergdahl. U.S. officials said Friday the Obama administration was closing in on an agreement with Qatar to extend the restrictions for six months that could

be announced this weekend. It was not immediately clear why that agreement had not been finalized.” [76187, 76209]

At ThePostEmail.com Paul R. Hollrah writes, “Obama’s paternal grandmother has stated repeatedly that, On August 4, 1961, she and Obama’s parents attended a Muslim festival in Mombasa [Kenya]... his mother having been denied access to airplanes because she was nine months pregnant. Leaving the festival, the Obamas went to the beach to cool off, and while there [Obama’s] mother [Stanley Ann Dunham] began to experience labor pains. She was rushed to the Coast Provincial General Hospital where she gave birth a few hours later, at 7:24 PM. Then, four days later, the Obamas allegedly flew back to Hawaii where they registered his birth with the Department of Health... Recent attempts to verify whether or not the Obama family returned to U.S. soil on August 9th or August 10, 1961, have proven fruitless because all microfilm records of flights originating in Mombasa and entering the U.S.... in the National Archives and Records Administration... covering the periods July 28, 1961 and... August 12, 1961... are strangely missing. All Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) records prior to July 28, 1961, and subsequent to August 12, 1961 are still available.” [76189]

Hollrah continues, “Images of Obama’s Kenyan birth certificate have circulated on the Internet and elsewhere for more than six years. Yet, in all that time, neither Obama nor any of his many supporters have been able to disprove its authenticity. Nor have they been able to establish the authenticity of his purported long-form U.S. birth certificate [which] has been examined and evaluated by some of the country’s top electronic documents examiners... All have found the document to be a complete forgery.” Hollrah reminds readers that the most recent of the several Social Security Numbers used by Obama, 042-68-4425, was “assigned to a person who was a resident of Connecticut” where Obama never lived or worked. Another number used by Obama, 282-80-XXX, “an Ohio SSN, is associated with his name and former office address in the Hart Senate Office Building in Washington.” Additionally, Obama’s Selective Service registration form is a forgery.” [76189]

Iraqi Prime Minister Haider a-Abadi states, “In the collapse of Mosul, we lost a lot of weapons. We lost 2,300 Humvees in Mosul alone.” [76190, 76196, 76387, 76388]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, “Nearly 75 percent of U.S. bombing runs targeting the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria returned to base without firing any weapons in the first four months of 2015, holding their fire mainly because of a lack of ground intelligence and raising questions about ...Obama’s key tactic in pushing back an enemy that continues to expand its territory in the war zone. Key lawmakers are growing increasingly frustrated by the slow rate of U.S. bombing sorties, a frustration shared by a former Navy pilot who said in an interview that U.S. forces are clearly needed on the ground in Iraq to help provide targets for these pilots to hit.” [76206, 76235]

At WND.com Aaron Klein reports, “A full review of Hillary Clinton’s personal emails released last Friday by the State Department finds Clinton’s senior aide, Huma Abedin, was exposed to highly sensitive U.S. government information. It was Abedin who

forwarded to Clinton's personal email address details about the initial establishment of the U.S. special mission in Benghazi, updates about security threats to both the mission and Ambassador Chris Stevens, intelligence on the growing terrorist threat in Libya and insider information on the Sept. 11, 2012 attack in Benghazi. Abedin was privy to emails that contained the exact movements of Stevens while he was stationed in arguably one of the most dangerous zones in the world for any American diplomat. WND previously reported on Abedin's personal and family ties to the Muslim Brotherhood and other to Islamic supremacists. The connections not only extend to her mother and father, who are both deeply tied to al-Qaida fronts, but to Abedin herself..." [76205]