

*The Obama Timeline – Part II*

*The Doomed Presidency*

*September 2012*

On September 1 Obama campaigns—again—in Iowa. (Obama won the state, which has only 6 electoral votes, by more than 9 points in 2008. That he has spent so much time there in 2012 suggests he is far from certain he can win it again.) Keith Radig, an Iowa City councilman, tells RadioIowa.com, “You could kind of describe Obama as a fair weathered friend—he’s one that’s only there when he needs something from you. But when we needed his leadership, he was nowhere to be found. In the Midwest we are hardworking and determined. We are tired of struggling due to the Obama policies.” (Obama ignored the state’s requests for help during massive Missouri River flooding in 2011, but he visits the state for votes and campaign cash.) [36390, 36404, 36405, 36406]

In Urbandale, Iowa Obama—who supposedly did not watch the Republican convention—comments on it anyway: “It was something to behold. Despite all the challenges that we face ... what they offered over those three days was more often than not an agenda that was better suited for the last century. It was a re-run. We’ve seen it before. You might as well have watched it on a black-and-white TV. If you didn’t DVR it, let me recap it for you. Everything’s bad. It’s Obama’s fault. And Governor Romney is the only one who knows the secret to creating jobs and growing the economy. There was a lot of talk about hard truths and bold choices but nobody ever bothered to tell you what they were. And when Gov. Romney had a chance to let you in on his secret, he did not offer a single new idea. Just retreads of the same old policies that have been sticking it to the middle class for years.” [36498]

In Cincinnati, Ohio Mitt Romney tells a crowd, “One of the promises that he made was that he was going to create more jobs and today 23 million people are out of work or have stopped looking for work or are under employed. Let me tell you, if you have a coach that is zero and 23 million, you say it’s time to get a new coach. It’s time for America to see a winning season again and we’re going to bring it to them.” The crowd numbers in the thousands. According to *The New York Times*, “A line of people that stretched for five city blocks awaited Mr. Romney as his motorcade pulled into the Union Terminal. Inside there were so many people that the campaign had to redirect a few hundred of them into a small overflow room, where they crammed in shoulder to shoulder.” [36390, 36407]

Heavy rains in Charlotte, North Carolina damage a huge sand sculpture of Obama erected for the Democrat National Convention. WashingtonTimes.com calls it “an ominous beginning to what many fear is a plagued convention. Workers were trying Saturday afternoon to reform the base of the sculpture, built from sand brought in from Myrtle Beach, S.C....” (It is unclear why the state’s own sand was not good enough for the sculpture. Labor unions were angered by the choice of a right-to-work states for the

convention, and there will likely be protestors during the three-day event. When the event was scheduled Obama and the Democrats believed North Carolina was a state he could win on November 6. That dream has since faded. Additionally, the state's Democrat governor is incredibly popular, unemployment remains high, and more than a few demonstrations will be staged by members of the political left who do not think Obama has delivered on his promises. Protests are expected from Occupy Charlotte, AFL-CIO, Southern Workers Assembly, Farm Labor Organizing Committee, ActionNC, Greenpeace, and the pro-immigrant amnesty group "No Papers No Fears.") [36392, 36393, 36396]

JewishPress.com reports that Egypt has forced the closure of the nation's only Jewish temple, based on "security reasons." Levana Zamir, head of the International Association of Egyptian Jews in Israel, states, "It seems this is really the end of Jewish life in Egypt. The authorities have found a way to take over the last Jewish bastion, since all the remaining synagogues are already archaeological and tourist sites. It is very sad." (Although Christians and Muslims are free to worship in Israel, the Arab world has been steadily persecuting Christians and Jews, especially since Obama took office. Obama's abandonment of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in favor of the radical Muslim Brotherhood signaled the beginning of the end for all non-Muslims in Egypt. It is worth noting that members of the Muslim Brotherhood, like the Saudi Arabians, are Sunni Muslims, as opposed to Shia Muslims. Kenyans and Indonesians are Sunni Muslims, as was Malcolm X. If Obama has any natural affinity toward Muslims, he would likely support the Sunnis over the Shi'ites.) [36397, 36398]

TheHill.com reports, "Team Obama promises it will fill every one of the seats in Charlotte's mammoth football stadium Thursday night when President Obama closes the Democratic National Convention with a speech accepting his party's nomination. For weeks, Democrats have been concerned about filling Bank of America Stadium, home to the NFL's Carolina Panthers. They feared a devastating image of an enthusiasm gap if Obama spoke to empty upper decks at the venue. But the Obama campaign says it's got it covered, and that all 73,778 of the stadium's seats will be spoken for. The campaign also insists this success will showcase a ground operation that will help Obama win North Carolina for a second cycle in a row this November." GOP strategist Ken Lundberg comments, "The rule is standing-room-only. The campaign knows that, and there's no question they will fill the stadium. If they have to bus union groups from Miami, New York and Kalamazoo into Charlotte, that's what they'll do. ...People at the closing speech are [Obama's] strongest supporters; if their enthusiasm is anything short of the night Obama first won the office, that's a clear sign of trouble." (Whether the Obama campaign will have to pay people to attend the event is not known, but it is almost a certainty that, barring massive voter fraud, Obama will lose the state on November 6. According to one report, tickets to Obama's acceptance speech are being handed out in bars in Atlanta, Georgia.) [36399, 36459, 36460]

Breitbart.com reports, "Organizers at the Bureau of Indigenous Muslim Affairs anticipated crowds at yesterday's 'Jumah at the DNC' event in Charlotte, North Carolina would reach 20,000. Instead, only 300 Muslims showed up for the open air prayer

ceremony. The event had been listed on the schedule of events that were part of the officially sanctioned DNC/Charlotte in 2012 Host Committee's website. But less than 24 hours before 'Jumah at the DNC' was held, nervous officials at the Host Committee quietly removed it from the list of officially sanctioned DNC pre-convention events." (It is worth noting that while the Democrats claim the Republicans are waging a "war on women," they seem to have no problem with how Muslim men treat women. At the jumah event the Muslim women are forced to pray behind and separate from the men.) At the event, speaker Jibril Hough absurdly claims, "Muslims visited America prior to Columbus. It was a Muslim who guided Columbus on his voyage to the new world." [36400, 36411]

Rasmussen reports, "After falling for two straight months, the number of Americans who consider themselves Republicans jumped nearly three points in August. During August, 37.6% of Americans considered themselves Republicans. That's up from 34.9% in July and 35.4% in June. It's also the largest number of Republicans ever recorded by Rasmussen Report since monthly tracking began in November 2002. The previous peak for the GOP was 37.3% in September 2004." Democrats had a 5.7 percent advantage in 2008. Those who identify themselves as Republicans [now] outnumber Democrats by four percent (37.6 versus 33.3 percent), yet many polls continue to over-sample Democrats in their D/R/I weighting. Breitbart.com observes, "The 4.3 margin in favor of the GOP is the biggest gap ever between the parties. In November 2010, when the GOP won a landslide in the mid-term elections, their advantage was just 1.3 points." (The actual voter turnout percentages in November 2010 were 35/35/30. Gallup had predicted 31/26/41, while Rasmussen had predicted 35/36/29.) [36401, 36408, 36445, 36532]

At Breitbart.com Kurt Schlichter writes, "The mainstream media elite hated Ronald Reagan, and it is now starting to hate Clint Eastwood. That's no shock. ...[T]he media and the rest of America's liberal elite have nothing but contempt for its elders. In fact, undercutting prior generations and de-legitimizing their values and traditions is key to the progressive project. The old must be out of touch, they must be irrelevant, they must, most of all, be un-cool. If not, someone might actually listen to their wisdom, and wisdom is penicillin to the infection that is progressivism. Eastwood is, always was, and always will be, cool. And devastating. He was devastating because Eastwood, unlike hate-filled Hollywood punch lines such as pastryophile Jason Biggs and father-of-the-year Alec Baldwin, understands real Americans. ...Eastwood gets real Americans, and he likes them—he famously does not live in La La Land but up the rugged California central coast where, when he wasn't making wildly popular movies on his own terms, he ran an inn. Eastwood built that. He is a businessman. He gets it. So, when Eastwood observes, more in sorrow than anger, that when a nice guy just isn't performing, you have to let him go, millions of regular Americans nod in agreement. It's just common sense. The greatest screen legend since the Duke [John Wayne] just gave America permission to hand Barack Obama his walking papers. ...Clint doesn't believe in politics. He believes in the American spirit. And right now he believes that America needs a businessman with a proven track record of success creating jobs instead of a callow amateur whose only record of success is in creating excuses." [36430, 36475]

Mitt Romney leads Obama 47–44 percent in the Rasmussen three-day rolling average poll. [36402, 36403]

Liberal actor John Cusack pulls no punches at Truth-Out.org. He writes, “Mr. Obama, the Christian ... with the Muslim-sounding name, would heed the admonitions of neither religion’s prophets about making war and do what no empire or leader, including Alexander the Great, could do: he would, he assured us ‘get the job done in Afghanistan.’ And so we have [Obama] receiving the Nobel Peace Prize as he sends 30,000 more troops to a ten-year-old conflict in a country that’s been war-torn for 5,000 years. Why? We’ll never fully know. Instead, we got a speech that was stone bullshit and an insult to the very idea of peace. We can’t have it both ways. Hope means endless war? Obama has metaphorically pushed all in with the usual international and institutional killers; and in the case of war and peace, literally. To sum it up: more war. So thousands die or are maimed; generations of families and veterans are damaged beyond imagination; sons and daughters come home in rubber bags. But he and his satellites get their four more years. ... Under Obama do we continue to call the thousands of mercenaries in Afghanistan ‘general contractors’ now that Bush is gone? No, we don’t talk about them... not a story anymore. Do we prosecute felonies like torture or spying on Americans? No, time to ‘move on’... Now chaos is the norm and though the chaos is complicated, the answer is still simple. We can’t afford this morally, financially, or physically. Or in a language the financial community can digest: the wars are ideologically and spiritually bankrupt. No need to get a score from the CBO. ... One is forced to asked the question: Is [Obama] just another Ivy League Asshole shredding civil liberties and due process and sending people to die in some shithole for purely political reasons? There will be a historical record. ‘Change we can believe in’ is not using the other guys’ mob to clean up your own tracks while continuing to feed at the trough. Human nature is human nature, and when people find out they’re being hustled, they will seek revenge, sooner or later, and it will be ugly and savage. In a country with desperation growing everywhere, everyday—despite the ‘Oh, things are getting better’ press releases—how could one think otherwise?” [36457, 36458]

Clint Eastwood’s empty chair prop for his GOP convention appearance prompts nationwide ridicule of Obama—at least among conservatives. Various photos of unoccupied chairs are shared on Facebook and Twitter, and an “I’m Just a Chair” parody song is posted at YouTube.com. [36462, 36464, 36475]

On September 2 Rasmussen reports that Romney has increased his lead over Obama to 48–44. An August 20–22 Gallup poll shows that 44 percent of Americans have a favorable view of the Republican party and 50 percent have an unfavorable view. The favorable/unfavorable percentages for the Democrat party are 43–52. [36414, 36433]

The national debt stands at \$15.997 trillion, and will likely reach \$16 trillion on the first day of the Democrat National Convention. [36418, 36419]

In a *New York Times* article about Obama’s competitive spirit, Jodi Kantor ends up demonstrating—perhaps inadvertently—that he is instead an arrogant yet insecure

individual who has to win at all costs. Kantor writes, “As Election Day approaches, ...Obama is sharing a few important things about himself. He has mentioned more than once in recent weeks that he cooks ‘a really mean chili.’ He has impressive musical pitch, he told an Iowa audience. [Kantor does not mention that Obama hired a vocal coach so that he could sing better for a few seconds at an Al Green concert. What that coach cost the taxpayers is not known.] He is ‘a surprisingly good pool player,’ he informed an interviewer—not to mention (though he does) a doodler of unusual skill. All in all, he joked at a recent New York fund-raiser with several famous basketball players in attendance, ‘it is very rare that I come to an event where I’m like the fifth or sixth most interesting person.’ ...[E]ven those loyal to Mr. Obama say that his quest for excellence can bleed into cockiness and that he tends to overestimate his capabilities. The cloistered nature of the White House amplifies those tendencies, said Matthew Dowd, a former adviser to President George W. Bush, adding that the same thing happened to his former boss. ‘There’s a reinforcing quality,’ he said, a tendency for presidents to think, I’m the best at this. ...For someone dealing with the world’s weightiest matters, Mr. Obama spends surprising energy perfecting even less consequential pursuits. He has played golf 104 times since [entering the White House], according to Mark Knoller of CBS News, who monitors his outings, and he asks superior players for tips that have helped lower his scores. ...His idea of birthday relaxation is competing in an Olympic-style athletic tournament with friends, keeping close score. The 2009 version ended with a bowling event. Guess who won, despite his history of embarrassingly low scores? [Obama], it turned out, had been practicing in the White House alley. When he reads a book to children at the annual White House Easter Egg Roll, Mr. Obama seems incapable of just flipping open a volume and reading. In 2010, he began by announcing that he would perform ‘the best rendition ever’ of ‘Green Eggs and Ham,’ ripping into his Sam-I-Ams with unusual conviction.” [36501]

Kantor continues, “...Mr. Obama’s fixation on prowess can get him into trouble. Not everyone wants to be graded by him, certainly not Republicans. Mr. Dowd, the former Bush adviser, said he admired Mr. Obama, but added, ‘Nobody likes to be in the room with someone who thinks they’re the smartest person in the room.’ Even some Democrats in Washington say they have been irritated by his tips on topics ranging from the best way to shake hands on the trail (really look voters in the eye, he has instructed) to writing well (‘You have to think three or four sentences ahead,’ he told one reluctant pupil). For another, he may not always be as good at everything as he thinks, including politics. While Mr. Obama has given himself high grades for his tenure in the White House — including a ‘solid B-plus’ for his first year—many voters don’t agree, citing everything from his handling of the economy to his unfulfilled pledge that he would be able to unite Washington to his claim that he would achieve Israeli-Palestinian peace. Those were not the only times Mr. Obama may have overestimated himself: he has also had a habit of warning new hires that he would be able to do their jobs better than they could. ‘I think that I’m a better speechwriter than my speechwriters,’ Mr. Obama told Patrick Gaspard, his political director, at the start of the 2008 campaign, according to *The New Yorker*. ‘I know more about policies on any particular issue than my policy directors. And I’ll tell you right now that I’m going to think I’m a better political director than my political director.’ ...[Obama] is just as competitive in private, when there is little or nothing at

stake. At one of his farewell meetings for White House interns, Mr. Obama dispensed some life advice. ‘When you all have kids, it’s important to let them win,’ he said with a smile. ‘Until they’re a year old. Then start winning.’” [36501]

On *Fox News Sunday*, Obama campaign strategist David Axelrod predictably calls the Republican a “terrible failure” and charges that Mitt Romney offered no “real ideas” to help the nation. (Whether Obama will offer any at his convention remains to be seen, but the odds are that all he suggest is higher taxes on the wealthy, more “green” energy, and more money lavished on teachers and unionized government workers.) Axelrod remarks, “We don’t have the problems that the other party has. We’re not divided. We don’t have to worry about what people are saying on the side, or about their affection for [Obama]. We don’t have those problems. We don’t have the reinvention convention. We’re a unified party.” (Scores of prominent Democrats are, in fact, avoiding the convention because they do not want to be associated with Obama as they head into the final weeks of their reelection campaigns.) Asked if Americans are better off than they were four years ago, Axelrod avoids the question and engages in Bush-bashing. Pressed again by host Chris Wallace, Axelrod responds, “Chris, I, as I said to you before the average American recognizes that it took years to create, uh, the crisis that erupted in 2008 and peaked in January of 2009 and it’s gonna take, uh, some time to work, uh, through...” (In other words, “Don’t expect miracles from Obama this time, even though he promised miracles last time.”) [36421, 36446]

Campaigning in York, Pennsylvania, Joe Biden attempts to frighten voters away from Mitt Romney by charging that he is eager to start wars with Iran and Syria. Biden says, “[Romney] said it was a mistake to end the war in Iraq and bring all of our warriors home. He said it was a mistake to set an end date for our warriors in Afghanistan and bring them home. He implies by the speech that he’s ready to go to war in Syria and Iran.” (Romney has not stated that it was a mistake to set troop withdrawal dates; he has stated that it was a mistake to make the dates public so that the enemy knows U.S. military plans. Romney has not implied that he is “ready to go to war;” he has stated that Obama has done next to nothing to assist the reformers in Iran and Syria.) The Romney campaign responds, “It’s not surprising that a politician [Biden] who has been wrong about every major foreign policy question over the last 30 years is wrong on every count about Gov. Romney’s strategy to restore America’s leadership role in the world. ...Obama has undermined the pillars of American strength abroad with his failure to get our economy going, his devastating defense cuts, and his shameful failure to defend our values. In no region of the world is our influence greater than it was 4 years ago.” [36422]

Campaigning in Colorado, Obama says, “We are bringing our troops home from Afghanistan. And I’ve set a timetable. We will have them all out of there by 2014.” (To many, that sounds like there will be *no* U.S. troops in Afghanistan after December 31, 2013. White House press secretary Jay Carney is forced to tell reporters, “He never said that *all* the troops would be out.” (Obama did, in fact, use the word “all.”) “What we’ve said, as we did in Iraq—and I think this is a good way to look at it—is in Iraq [sic], there were steps of, sort of milestones where troops began to come home, more and more

authorities transferred over to Iraqi security forces. The U.S. forces that remained as that process took place moved out of the cities and onto bases. And then the full transfer took place and combat mission ended, after which remaining U.S. forces eventually came home and the last U.S. soldier left, with the exception obviously of those who are at the embassy. ...I understand you're trying to engage in a clever game of gotcha. Everyone understands what [Obama's] policy is, which is, a full transition to Afghan security lead by 2014. We have been abundantly clear about the stages of the implementation of that policy and as in Iraq, that means that while not all US troops will have withdrawn necessarily by then, the Afghan security forces will be in full security transition, will be in full security lead and U.S. forces will continue to be drawn down." (In other words, "You reporters ought to know better; Obama just doesn't want the voters to know better.") [36456]

In an interview with a Colorado Springs television station, Obama is asked, "Your party says you inherited a bad situation; you've had three-and-a-half years to fix it. What grade would you give yourself so far for doing that?" Obama relies on his usual answer to that question: "You know, uh, I, I would say 'incomplete.' But, uh, what I would say is, the steps that we've taken, in saving the auto industry, in making sure that college is more affordable, in investing in clean energy, in science, in technology and research, those are all the things that we're gonna need to grow over the long term." (General Motors faces another bankruptcy; Chrysler Corporation is now owned by Italy's Fiat; college has become more expensive and is certainly *not* more affordable; Obama's string of clean energy failures include Solyndra; and whatever the taxpayers spent on science, technology, and research has not helped 23 million Americans find jobs.) ABC's Jake Tapper later asks Obama deputy campaign manager Stephanie Cutter if the "incomplete" answer "cuts it" after four years in office. She responds, "Nuh, uh, it... yeah, it does, because, you know, once again I'll remind you of what life was like when he took office. 800,000 jobs were lost in that month alone. 3.5 million in the 6 months prior. Um, and, you know, pretty quickly he was able to turn job loss into job growth. But when he's saying incomplete, it means a number of different things. One: we're on a path forward. You know, we're on our way up. And there's a lot more that he wants to get done. He's not done yet." [36469, 36476, 36479]

In an attempt to give himself an excuse for his dismal economic record, Obama adds, "Historically after these big financial crises, where a lot of people are dealing with debt or a collapse of a housing market you know that creates a bigger challenges [sic] and we're seeing this not just in the United States but around the world. I mean Europe is going through a difficult time, parts of Asia, even China are going through a difficult time right now." (At Townhall.com John Ransom later writes, "Even China? Nothing displays the disconnect between Obama and most of the country than the phrase 'even China.' At what point did China become the measure of all things American? ...This is not the first time that Obama has mentioned China wistfully, either. As the New York Times reported in March of 2011: 'Mr. Obama has told people that it would be so much easier to be the president of China. As one official put it, 'No one is scrutinizing Hu Jintao's words in Tahrir Square.'" Yeah, it would be so much easier if Obama didn't have to self-censor his comments either. That way, he could just be himself and let it all hang

out. Instead he thinks things that we will likely never know. ...And as usual Obama has the equation all wrong. China lives—as does the rest of the world—off the engine of the American economy, not the other way around.”) [36759]

*Face the Nation* host Bob Schieffer asks Maryland Governor Martin O’Malley, a Democrat, if he can “honestly say that people are better off today than they were four years ago?” O’Malley responds, “No, but that’s not the question of this election. Without a doubt, we are not as well off as we were before George Bush brought us the Bush job losses, the Bush recessions, the Bush deficits, the series of desert wars, charged for the first time to credit cards—the national credit card.” On CNN’s *State of the Union*, former White House press secretary Robert Gibbs says voters must “understand that we have been through a traumatic economic experience in the country, unlike anything that we have ever seen.” (In other words, the “blame Bush” theme is not going away.) Gibbs also admits that the enthusiasm voters had for Obama in 2008 is no longer present: “Nobody is sitting up here saying this is 2008. What has happened since the election in 2008 and right now, again, is this huge economic calamity caused by a series of bad decisions that were made before the president ever got there.” (Somehow Gibbs manages to blame Bush for a lack of voter passion in 2012.) [36425, 36441, 36443]

On ABC’s *This Week*, George Will says, “I think [Obama] runs at his opponents now [at the Democrat convention]. He’s got the opponents he says he wants. He’s presented himself as the first president in history ever to inherit from his predecessor an imperfect world, so he has this kind of comprehensive alibi. I think, judging by his campaign to date and his list of convention speakers, I think he’s going to make six arguments for a second term. ...They’re very quick. First is ‘Mitt Romney’s rich.’ Second, ‘We need a serious vice president’—Joe Biden instead of Paul Ryan. Third, ‘Republicans hate women.’ Fourth, the only woman they don’t hate is Ayn Rand and she’s dead and she wrote bad novels. [Fifth], something must be done to prevent Sandra Fluke from paying for her own contraception and all will be well. Sixth—and finally—‘All will be well if I can raise by 4.64 points the top income rate on fewer than 3 percent of American people.’ That’s it so far as I can tell. ...[Obama’s] fundamental approach is backward-looking. ...The Democrats’ idea is that programs 77 and 47 years old—Social Security and Medicare—don’t need to change at all, ever. The world has changed. Our demography has changed [but] we can’t end any of them ‘as we know it.’ I think what Mr. Romney has do is say that they have a fundamentally reactionary liberalism party, and we will change to suit a changed country.” [36427]

At NewYorker.com Ryan Lizza reviews the relationship—or lack thereof—between Obama and Bill Clinton. Lizza writes that “...Obama and Bill Clinton have never been close. Some of their advisers concede that the two men don’t really like each other. They have openly disagreed on policy issues and political strategy, and the acrimony generated during the 2008 Democratic primaries, when Hillary Clinton ran against Obama for the nomination, has yet to fully dissipate. ...As the 2008 Presidential campaign took shape, Obama emerged as the leader of a new, anti-Clinton wing. ...Obama soon added a harsher note to the argument: that Hillary, perhaps like her finger-wagging husband, was untrustworthy. On November 10, 2007, Obama’s advisers, in a private memo before a



pivotal speech in Iowa, laid out the strategy. ‘Clinton,’ they argued, ‘can’t be trusted or believed when it comes to change,’ because ‘she’s driven by political calculation, not conviction.’ ...The Clinton circle blames Obama’s decision to go negative for the subsequent nastiness of the 2008 Democratic primaries. Bill Clinton fumed that the press failed to call out Obama for running on a message of hope and change while attacking Hillary as untrustworthy. In New Hampshire, on January 7th, he made his most famous remarks of the race, calling Obama’s record on Iraq ‘the biggest fairy tale I’ve ever seen!’ He added, ‘The idea that one of these campaigns is positive and the other is negative, when I know the reverse is true and I have seen it and I have been blistered by it for months, is a little tough to take.’ Clinton urged Hillary’s campaign to fire back, and, when it wouldn’t, at least to his satisfaction, he did so on his own.” [36428]

Rizza continues, “Tim Russert told me that, according to his sources, Bill Clinton, in an effort to secure an endorsement for Hillary from Ted Kennedy [in 2008], said to Kennedy, ‘A few years ago, this guy would have been carrying our bags.’ Clinton’s role in the campaign rattled Obama. He told ABC News in an interview that Clinton ‘has taken his advocacy on behalf of his wife to a level that I think is pretty troubling.’ ...Obama’s victory in the primaries was hard for Bill Clinton to absorb. For the remainder of the 2008 election, contact between him and Obama was minimal: a quick phone call on the night Hillary conceded, a private meeting in Harlem, and a joint campaign rally in Florida to excite Democratic voters. In August, on the eve of the Convention, in Denver, Clinton gave an interview to ABC in which he refused to say whether he thought Obama was prepared to be Commander-in-Chief. ...Regardless of Bill Clinton’s personal feelings about Obama, it didn’t take him long to see the advantages of an Obama Presidency. More than anyone, he pushed Hillary to take the job of Secretary of State. ...Throughout 2008 and 2009, Obama rarely contacted Clinton, a decision that the Clinton circle attributes to Obama’s loner personality. A Democrat deeply familiar with the relationship complained that the press has often made it seem that Clinton harbored ‘lingering resentments’ from the primary battle: ‘It’s always sort of implied that it’s Clinton’s fault.’ The truth, he added, ‘is that Obama doesn’t really like very many people.’ He ticked off the names of some of Obama’s longtime friends: the Whitakers, the Nesbitts, Valerie Jarrett. ‘And he likes to talk about sports. But other than that he just doesn’t like very many people. Unfortunately, it extends to people who used to have his job.’” [36428]

Rizza notes that Bill Clinton has done some campaigning for Obama, but “There was a price for Clinton’s general involvement. At the end of 2011, Hillary Clinton still had a quarter of a million dollars in campaign debt left from 2008. Obama had agreed to retire it, in order to secure her endorsement after the primary contest ended; he had to make good on that promise. Eventually, Matthew Barzun, Obama’s national finance chair and a former Ambassador to Sweden, raised the money, but it was a scramble—‘a logistical challenge,’ one Democrat told me—to drum up donors amid the Obama campaign’s own efforts to raise money. ...The quasi-friendship between Clinton and Obama resembles the transactional relationship between most living Presidents. People in Clinton’s orbit portray his campaign work for Obama as that of a man going through the motions—speeches, photographs, rope lines. ...For Clinton, the politics are more complicated. His

associates take it as a given that he would like nothing more than to see his wife become President. Hillary Clinton will step down as Secretary of State after the campaign and begin the process of deciding whether she will run in 2016. By some measures, a defeat for Obama in November would leave Hillary the undisputed leader of her party and propel her toward the Oval Office that much faster. At least one of Clinton's closest advisers seems to be backing that strategy. According to two people with direct knowledge, Douglas Band has said that he will vote for Romney. Band declined to comment." [36428, 36485, 36499]

Despite the intense dislike Clinton and Obama may have for each other, Clinton will nevertheless deliver a convention speech on September 5. Clinton has allegedly refused to give a draft to the Obama team for "vetting" or pre-approval, which may be Clinton's way of making Obama sweat. Obama desperately needs Clinton's help and cannot very well tell him not to bother showing up. But because the speech will be competing with a National Football League game—Dallas Cowboys at New York Giants—Clinton's audience may be minimal. [36499, 36500, 36502]

While the Obama administration files lawsuits against states with new photo ID laws for voters, claiming there is almost no vote fraud, CharlotteObserver.com reports, "A Raleigh-based group devoted to reducing the potential for voter fraud presented the N.C. Board of Elections on Friday with a list of nearly 30,000 names of dead people statewide who are still registered to vote. The Voter Integrity Project compiled the list after obtaining death records from the state Department of Public Health from 2002 to March 31 and comparing them to the voter rolls." (According to the National Center for Public Policy Research, charges have been filed against 38 felons who illegally registered to vote. In Troy, New York, Committeeman Anthony Renna "admitted to forging absentee ballot applications." In Colorado, "...a state study found nearly 12,000 people registered to vote... were not citizens and were therefore not legally eligible to vote. Of those, the state believes that perhaps as many as 5,000 voted in the 2010 general election." in New Mexico, "the secretary of state recently identified over 64,000 instances—or nearly 10% of those who voted—of voter irregularities sent to the state police for investigation.") [36429, 37620]

HillBuzz.org contributes more to its August 31 story that Obama is allegedly seeking an expensive oceanfront mansion in Hawaii—and needs it by January 2013: "The woman who is organizing the funding of the Obama's post-presidential estate is Penny Pritzker... who is also in charge of raising the donations for Obama's presidential library and museum. The two are more or less the same project, with the priority being to get the \$35 million together to fund the purchase of the Obamas' new home. It appears that Pritzker herself may contribute up to half of the total purchase price, making up the difference from whatever the Obamas could not afford and the fundraising wouldn't cover. ...The wealthiest families in Chicago are being leaned on heavily to contribute with Penny aggressively guilted them with 'appeals of you don't want [the Obamas] to be homeless in January, do you?' That's more or less an exact quote from Penny, if my source within her social group is not paraphrasing. Fundraising has been lackluster, though, as there is not much interest in helping to fund either the presidential library or the Obama's new

home since Chicagoans are feeling stabbed in the back that the Obamas are abandoning Illinois for the warmer clime of Hawaii; the general consensus is that Chicagoans are waking up to the fact that the Obamas have gotten everything they could out of Chicago and are now moving on to bigger and greener pastures. Kailua [a suburb of Honolulu] offers them all the fancy restaurants, the shopping, the golf, and other amenities they like plus the sunny weather they love and it's closer to the Pacific and Middle East where Obama believes he'll command the highest speaking fees as an ex-US president who'll happily denounce America for years to come for paying foreign crowds, in much the way that Jimmy Carter has earned his living since 1981." (The HillBuzz.org story suggests that Obama had planned to buy vacant land in Hawaii and build a house to move into in January 2016. But his "You didn't build that" comment may seal his fate on November 6 and move his relocation date up four years. He will not only not have time to build that new house, if Pritzker and her pals fund the purchase of an existing estate, Obama's critics can rightfully say, "You didn't buy that!") [36364, 36431, 36432]

On September 3 Democrats arriving in Charlotte, North Carolina for their national convention are greeted by the local *News & Observer* headline: "As DNC begins, Romney gains in N.C." [36434]

The Obama campaign sends an email to supporters announcing, "Summer's almost over" and offering 25 percent off all Obama items "on all purchases of \$10 or more." (Some prices are lowered even further. The \$30 Obama baseball cap is slashed to \$15.) [36436]

In Cincinnati, Fox 19 reporter Ben Swann refers to the "kill list" and asks Obama, "How do you ...utilize that power to assassinate ...U.S. citizens?" Obama responds, "You're basing this on reports in the news that have never been confirmed by me, and I don't talk about our national security decisions in that way." (Although Obama never personally confirmed the list, his former chief of staff William Daley and others in the administration have.) [36598]

Obama tells a Toledo, Ohio crowd, "[Ohio Governor] John Kasich stood up there [at the Republican convention] and told everybody that Ohio is now number one in the Midwest in job creation, fourth best in America—which got folks kind of confused, because if it's all Obama's fault and nothing is going right, what's going on in Ohio? Now, I guess the theory was that it's all the governor's doing. But I think we need to refresh his memory—because a lot of those jobs are autoworker jobs like yours." (HotAir.com notes that according to Bureau of Labor Statistics "data for auto manufacturing and auto-parts manufacturing... In January 2011, Ohio had 19,200 auto manufacturing jobs; as of July (the latest data), there are 17,800, for a decrease of 1400 jobs. In auto parts manufacturing, Ohio had 56,000 jobs in January 2011, and only 54,200 now, for another decrease of 1800 jobs—a grand total of a net loss of 3200 jobs in this sector." In other words, job growth in Ohio has *not* been in the auto industry.) [36904]

After a brief campaign stop in Ohio, Obama visits Louisiana—shamed into changing his plans by Mitt Romney's visit to the storm-ravaged region on August 31. Unable to resist criticizing George W. Bush, Obama says, "I want to particularly thank FEMA and the

state and local authorities, because sometimes in the past we haven't seen the kind of coordination that is necessary in response to these kinds of disasters. This time we've seen it. We made sure that we had the disaster declarations happen quickly so that we weren't behind the eight ball. We've approved individual assistance for this area, which means that these folks, if they've suffered additional losses beyond what they're insured for, that they are potentially eligible for some help. We're going to be providing St. John's the Baptist Parish with help in debris removal, in some of the other losses that have been suffered." [36453, 36455]

DailyCaller.com reports that Obama "was a pioneering contributor to the national subprime real estate bubble, and roughly half of the 186 African-American clients in his landmark 1995 mortgage discrimination lawsuit against Citibank [*Buycks-Roberson v. Citibank Fed. Sav. Bank*] have since gone bankrupt or received foreclosure notices. As few as 19 of those 186 clients still own homes with clean credit ratings, following a decade in which Obama and other progressives pushed banks to provide mortgages to poor African Americans. ...Obama's lawsuit was one element of a national 'anti-redlining' campaign led by Chicago's progressive groups, who argued that banks unfairly refused to lend money to people living within so-called 'redlines' around African-American communities. The campaign was powered by progressives' moral claim that their expertise could boost home ownership among the United States' most disadvantaged minority, African-Americans. Progressive activists' ambition instead contributed greatly to a housing bubble that burst in 2007, crashed the nation's economy in 2008, wiped out at least \$4 trillion in equity, kept unemployment above 8 percent for four years, and damaged the intended beneficiaries of looser mortgage lending standards. ...Plaintiffs' attorneys took home nearly \$1 million in Barack Obama's 1995 class-action discrimination lawsuit against Citibank, but 183 of the 186 plaintiffs did not get a dime." [36437, 36438, 36439]

Campaigning in Detroit, Michigan Joe Biden says in a Labor Day speech, "America is better off today than they left us when they left. [sic] And if it weren't so hot I'd go into detail why..." Biden's strangely-worded statement is an attempt to avoid a direct answer to the question, "Are you better off than you were four years ago?" (Prior to Biden's arrival in the city, thieves stole a U-Haul truck loaded with Secret Service security equipment, including metal detectors. Authorities later recover the truck, but only some of its contents. Whether Biden considers the theft "a big f\*\*king deal" is not known.) [36440, 36463, 36466, 36483, 36495]

Campaigning in Las Vegas, Obama says, "I'm here to say to all of you and to say to the people of Nevada and the people of Las Vegas, we can't wait for an increasingly dysfunctional Congress to do its job. Where they won't act, I will. I've told my administration to keep looking every single day for actions we can take without Congress, steps that can save consumers money, make government more efficient and responsive, and help heal the economy. And we're going to be announcing these executive actions on a regular basis." [36472]

Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley, who the day before appeared on *Face the Nation* and said Americans are not better off than they were four years ago, appears on CNN's *Starting Point* and says, "We are clearly better off as a country because we're now creating jobs rather than losing them. But we have not recovered all that we lost in the Bush recession. That's why we need to continue to move forward." (HotAir.com observes, "That is, of course, an absurd point. *Some* jobs were going to be created regardless of government policy... Since the June 2009 recovery, we've added less than 66,000 jobs a month on average, about half of what's needed just to keep up with population growth. That's why the civilian population participation rate has dropped since June 2009 from 65.7% to 63.7% and hit a 30-year low in April at 63.6%.") On NBC's *Today*, Obama deputy campaign manager Stephanie Cutter says, "By any measure the country has moved forward over the last four years. It might not be as fast as people hoped. [Obama] agrees with that. He knows we need to do more. That's what this week is about, laying out a road map of how we can continue this progress, how we can continue moving the country forward." (It can be assumed that the Obama campaign read O'Malley the riot act after his *Face the Nation* appearance and told him what "the message" should be.) [36441]

The price of gold reaches \$1,697 per ounce, an indication of the declining value of the U.S. dollar and the belief that the Federal Reserve is about to—again—expand the money supply in an effort to artificially boost the economy. [36514]

FoxNews.com reports, "College students from across North Carolina will arrive in Charlotte by the busload. Same with members of predominantly black churches in neighboring South Carolina. Their goal: help fill a 74,000-seat outdoor stadium to capacity when ...Obama accepts the Democratic nomination Thursday night. Anything short of a full house on the final night of the Democratic Party's national convention will be instant fodder for Republicans eager to use empty seats as symbols of waning voter enthusiasm for Obama. Democrats have been fretting for months over whether the president can draw a capacity crowd at Bank of America Stadium. Polls show voter enthusiasm is down, as are Obama's crowds for his battleground state campaign rallies. ...Convention organizers in Charlotte may have more control over the crowds than their other big concern: the weather. Heavy evening rains doused Charlotte over the weekend, and thunderstorms are in the forecast for Thursday. Officials say the outdoor event will go on rain or shine, except if there is severe weather." [36447, 36448]

Despite increasing violence and murders in Chicago—several near Obama's south side home—ABC reports that about 50 of the city's police officers will be in Charlotte, North Carolina to help provide security for the Democrat National Convention. The officers will be paid "through a special federal grant of \$50 million for convention security." (Chicago did not provide police assistance for the GOP convention in Tampa, Florida.) Chicago's CBS affiliate reports that Mayor Rahm Emanuel is cutting short his trip to the convention, returning home on Wednesday rather than Friday. A spokesman says his change of schedule "doesn't have anything to do" with a possible teacher strike or the 31 percent increase in the murder rate over the prior year. [36449, 36450, 36517]

DailyCaller.com reports, “To stand or not to stand—that is the question that CNN’s Wolf Blitzer and Piers Morgan struggled with for all of the presentation of the colors, the Pledge of Allegiance and half of ‘The Star-Spangled Banner’ on the closing night of last week’s Republican National Convention. A recently uploaded YouTube video shows ‘The Situation Room’ anchor and the host of ‘Piers Morgan Tonight’ sitting throughout those events, as they were jeered and heckled by attendees at the convention to stand, initially waving off those calls until finally standing at the halfway point of the anthem.” [36451]

Paul Ryan campaigns in Greenville, North Carolina and says, “Every president since the Great Depression could run on a record saying you are better off than you were four years ago... except for Jimmy Carter and Barack Obama. ... We’re going to hear a lot of words from [Democrats at their convention in ] Charlotte. We’re not going to hear evidence and facts about how people are better off. [Obama] cannot tell you that you’re better off. And if we want to improve things, then how would rehiring the same administration do that? It wouldn’t.” [36452]

At NationalReview.com John Fund reports, “I can’t speak for the delegates or the foreign dignitaries, but many of the journalists I have spoken with here are appalled at the accommodations in Charlotte to which they were assigned by the DNC. National Review was assigned to two Knights Inn properties. Everyone who saw them fled immediately across state lines to an available Marriott in South Carolina rather than stay there. As one of our political correspondents reported: ‘The Knights Inn was the worst hotel I have ever seen, and I’ve stayed in many bad motels in my life. Two guys were dealing drugs in the room next to me, and a prostitute was working out of the parking lot. And this was in the early afternoon. The room itself was dirty, full of other people’s stuff, etc. I have never requested a hotel change in 3 years at NR. This was the first time I felt absolutely compelled.’ It’s not as if the DNC couldn’t have figured out something was wrong with the properties. TripAdvisor had these recent comments on one of the Knights Inn properties: ‘wouldn’t recommend it to my worst enemy,’ ‘scared to death,’ and ‘pimps and prostitutes at night.’ Nor was National Review singled out [because it is conservative]. Staff members from Politico and The Hill abandoned their assigned hotels, too. ... Tucker Carlson, editor of The Daily Caller, told me that the Quality Inn his staff was assigned to was ‘the worst hotel you can imagine.’ TripAdvisor carried these recent reviews: ‘barely a Bates Motel,’ ‘scary area and parking lot,’ and ‘the worst.’” According to WashingtonTimes.com, bedbug infestations have been reported at nine of the hotels being used by convention attendees. [36454, 36487]

WND.com reports, “A former U.S. Justice Department attorney who founded the government watchdog Judicial Watch and later Freedom Watch has warned a key Barack Obama attorney that Democrat Party or state elections officials certifying Obama’s eligibility for the 2012 election could become the targets of election-fraud charges. The letter from Larry Klayman explains that’s because those officials simply cannot know Obama’s eligibility for sure, and the law doesn’t allow them to make assumptions. In his letter to Robert Bauer, general counsel to the Democratic National Committee, Klayman explained that the evidence shows no one knows for sure about Obama’s eligibility, so

letters from the DNC to states about Obama's 2012 candidacy may be problematic. "There is therefore no longer any state or national official in the Democratic Party who can escape legal responsibility for ignoring the proof herein provided, and a plea of ignorance of the facts will no longer be possible, especially under the informed legal counsel provided by you (and your state counterparts), Mr. Bauer," Klayman wrote. "At the same time that you are receiving this legal analysis, each DNC Executive Committee member—as well as each state Democratic Party chair, secretary of state, and state attorney general—is receiving a certified letter advising them of the legal jeopardy in which they place themselves should they proceed—in light of the facts herein presented—to certify to state or national election officials that Barack Hussein Obama is the constitutionally and legally qualified Democratic candidate for president of the United States." (Klayman is warning Bauer that if Obama is proven not to be a natural born citizen and is therefore ineligible to serve as president, any official wrongly certifying that Obama is eligible would be guilty of perjury.) [36461]

Breitbart.com reports, "Ahead of the DNC gathering in Charlotte, a number of organizations are out today with new polls on the race in North Carolina. PPP [Public Policy Polling] has the race in the Tarheel State tied, although they use a D+13 sample to get there. High Point University uses a D+8 sample and shows Romney with a 3 point lead." (Obama won North Carolina by only 14,000 votes in 2008, out of about 4.2 million cast. It is absurd for a poll in that state to count 13 percent more Democrats than Republicans. The left-leaning pollsters, like PPP, rig the polls in that fashion in order to influence people who only read the headlines and not the details. Most voters have no idea how D/R/I weightings impact poll result, if they have ever even heard the term.) "Elon University and the Charlotte Observer have a poll with a D+6 sample and show Romney with a 4 point lead. Do you sense a pattern here? The most interesting finding is in the Elon University poll. The poll was conducted from over 1,000 likely voters. Almost half, 48%, named the 'economy and jobs' as the most important issue this November. Among those likely voters, Mitt Romney has a massive 18 point edge over Obama, leading 55–37. Among all voters Romney leads by 13 on the question of which candidate would better handle the economy." [36465]

As the national debt of the U.S. government approaches \$16 trillion, WashingtonPost.com reports that the Obama administration "is nearing an agreement with Egypt's new government to eliminate a significant portion of the \$3.2 billion owed by the economically struggling nation, U.S. officials said Monday. The discussions are the first major negotiation between the Obama administration and Egypt's new democratically elected [radical Muslim Brotherhood] leaders. U.S. officials have been in Cairo since last week hammering out the details of the debt relief package, which could approach \$1 billion, a goal previously announced by the Obama administration. A final announcement is expected this month, according to a U.S. official speaking on the condition of anonymity because the agreement is not finalized." (Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi is also attempting to borrow \$4.8 billion from the International Monetary Fund—which gets much of its cash from the U.S. taxpayers.) [36473]

Politico writes, “[A]s the Democratic National Convention gets under way in Charlotte, major media outlets are sending ... Obama through the spin cycle, lobbing five high-profile bombs at the incumbent in a single holiday weekend. The New York Times ran a front-page piece Monday with the unmistakable subtext that Obama is a hyper-competitive egotist who often is not as good as he thinks he is at endeavors ranging from politics to poker. The Washington Post noted the continued controversy over Obama’s “you didn’t build that” line, and how the clumsy remark continues to leave him vulnerable to criticism that he doesn’t understand free enterprise. The Huffington Post argued that, for all his promises of a new kind of politics, Obama has ‘played the same old game.’ The Wall Street Journal weighed in with a piece that portrayed Obama as stingy with fundraising—and vocal support—for fellow Democratic candidates. ‘We really do believe a high tide raises all boats,’ Obama campaign manager Jim Messina told the Journal, explaining how Obama’s success would help others win. And Politico landed with an against-the-grain portrait of Obama as a conventional president—‘relentlessly familiar’ in his governing style, politically uncreative and culturally uninspiring.” [36494]

The appearance of any mainstream media criticism of Obama is welcomed by Republicans, but they assume it is an aberration. GOP strategist Susan Del Percio tells Politico, “I doubt that the collective press has decided to turn on [Obama]. But they have to mention the problems he has faced going into the convention, since most of their convention coverage will be about the positive speeches, etc. Do not expect the media outlets mentioned to do an about face on [Obama] or start a Governor Romney love-fest.” Obama campaign press secretary Ben LaBolt laughably tells Politico, “[I]t’s a myth that we enjoyed some sort of honeymoon wave of coverage in 2008. If we did, I’m still waiting for my Mai Tai. We’ve never been in the business of whining about tough coverage—that’s what you should expect when you’re running for president.” (LaBolt is delusional if he believes Obama received “tough coverage” in 2008.) Politico notes, “The New Times’ Jodi Kantor writes that Obama has ‘turned out to be a voraciously competitive perfectionist’ whose ‘quest for excellence can bleed into cockiness,’ and adds that ‘he tends to overestimate his capabilities.’” (One can hardly call Kantor’s “he’s so exceptional he sometimes annoys people” criticism biting, and some might suggest that Obama is not a “competitive perfectionist” but an overrated, arrogant jerk.) [36494]

On September 4 the Democrat National Convention convenes in Charlotte, North Carolina’s Time Warner Cable Arena. Despite Democrat charges that requiring photo ID to vote is discriminatory, entrance to the event requires the presentation of photo ID. (Outside the arena, Planned Parenthood activists wear pink t-shirts reading, “Yes We Plan!” Some might argue that being the nation’s number one abortion provider means an awful lot of its customers are not doing any planning whatsoever.) [36470, 36471, 36480]

Although key Democrats continue to refer to Charlotte’s Bank of America Stadium as “Panther Stadium” to hide Obama’s ties to Wall Street, HotAir.com reports that Bank of America and Wells Fargo alone contributed \$20 million to help fund the event—despite initial reports that corporate cash was not going to be accepted. Other donors include:



AT&T Inc., US Airways Group Inc., Duke Energy Corp., and the law/lobbying firm McGuireWoods LLP. [36477]

At Townhall.com political editor provides an updated list of speakers for the Democrat National Convention, and predicts that former Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords will be a surprise speaker. (Giffords is a “twofer,” as she is both a woman and a victim of a shooting. Regardless of what she says, her presence will be used to “send a message” to voters that Republicans are violent woman-haters.) Others speculate that actress Betty White will be the Democrats’ Clint Eastwood speaker. [36468]

The *Daily Mail* reports, “Democrats are poised to avoid the danger of ...Obama accepting his party’s nomination before a partially-empty stadium by shifting his speech to an indoor arena and citing ‘severe weather.’ The Obama campaign have been working desperately to ensure that the 74,000-seater Bank of America stadium in Charlotte would be filled. Buses for students from across North Carolina and even members of black churches in neighboring South Carolina have been arranged. Footage of rows of empty seats at the stadium, home of the Carolina Panthers, as Obama speaks on Thursday night would be politically disastrous—an enduring image of the contrast between his campaign of ‘hope’ and ‘change’ in 2008 and his dour, negative struggle for re-election in 2012. Now, it looks like the weather has come to [Obama’s] rescue. As officials prepare to open the Democratic convention this afternoon, there are strong indications that the speech will be moved to Time Warner Cable Arena, which has a capacity of just over 20,000.” (The issue is less likely the “weather” than it is “whether” the Obama team can round up 74,000 people to fill the stadium. By September 5 a local meteorologist states that the day of Obama’s speech will be the best weather of the week. In other words, the Democrats cannot round up 74,000 warm bodies to fill the stadium.) [36474, 36520, 36568, 36569, 36573, 36607]

Paul Ryan appears on *This Morning* and tells host Charlie Rose, “Four years into a presidency and [Obama gives himself a grade of] incomplete? [Obama] is asking people just to be patient with him. Look, Charlie, [with] the kind of recession we had, we should be bouncing out of it creating jobs. We’re not creating jobs at near the pace we could. That’s why we’re offering big solutions to the big problems we have today and I would just say, if you take a look at [Obama’s] policies, he calls them ‘investments.’ It’s borrowing money and spending money through Washington, picking winners and losers, spending money on favorite[s] ...like Solyndra or Fisker. Picking winners and losers in the economy through spending, through tax breaks, through regulations does not work. If that kind of economics worked, we would be entering a golden age along with Greece. That doesn’t work, so I think the ‘incomplete’ [grade] speaks for itself, that is why I think we are going to win this and get this country back on the right track because we’re offering bold solutions.” [36489]

According to a September 2 Pulse Opinion Research poll of likely voters conducted for TheHill.com, “A majority of voters believe the country is worse off today than it was four years ago and that ...Obama does not deserve reelection... Fifty-two percent of likely voters say the nation is in ‘worse condition’ now than in September 2008, while 54

percent say Obama does not deserve reelection based solely on his job performance. ...The poll found 46 percent of voters believe Romney will win the Nov. 6 election, compared to 43 percent who said they expect Obama to win.” [36481, 36497]

Michelle Obama tells *Parade* magazine that if her husband wins a second term her goal will be to “impact the nature of food in grocery stores” and have manufacturers cut sugar, fat, and salt content in their products. “[W]e need to keep educating families about how to structure a life that is healthy in a society where TV is rampant and communities don’t have enough resources in terms of sports and activities.” (Rush Limbaugh asks if she will ask, “Are you eating better today than you were four years ago?” in her convention speech.) [36482, 36496]

Bloomberg reports that food stamps were used by 46.7 million people in June—a new record. [36488]

Antonio Villaraigosa, mayor of Los Angeles, tells reporters, “I give [Obama] an ‘A’ for effort. I give him, uh, an ‘A’ for, uh, making sure that Americans are better off today than they were four years ago. Uh, I think he’s being humble, uh, when he says that. Uh, I do believe that we need four more years [of Obama].” [36490]

Appearing on ABC, U.S. Senate candidate in Massachusetts Elizabeth Warren is asked if “the Medicare argument by the Republicans [that Obama cut \$716 billion from the program to help fund ObamaCare] is starting to take hold with voters at all? Are you worried about that?” Warren responds, “I don’t see how it can take hold with voters because it’s just not true.” (It is, in fact, true.) “I mean, the, the basics is [sic] that right now what [Obama] has done is he has strengthened Medicare and what he’s really done is he’s given seniors better protection.” [36491]

Newsmax.com reports, “Republicans on Tuesday were quick to jump on the Democrats’ 2012 platform for dropping calls for the recognition of Jerusalem as Israel’s capital and for putting more emphasis on climate change than the economy. Backing for gay marriage, abortion rights, and the closure of the prison camp at Guantanamo Bay were also seen as easy targets for the GOP, which believes the platform could rebound on ...Obama at the ballot box. George W. Bush’s White House press secretary Ari Fleischer made it clear he could not understand the Democrats’ decision to abandon the commitment to Jerusalem as Israel’s capital. ‘Given O’s troubles w[ith] Israel and Jewish vote, why on earth did Ds drop Jerusalem as capital from their platform?’ he tweeted. The Republican Jewish Coalition went further, calling the platform ‘the most radically unsupportive statement of policy on Israel by a major U.S. party since [its] founding,’ in a tweet.” The 2012 Democrat platform also removes 2008 language: “The United States and its ...partners should continue to isolate Hamas until it renounces terrorism, recognizes Israel’s right to exist, and abides by past agreements.” (Apparently the Democrats no longer condemn the terrorist group Hamas. Asked to justify the changes, the Democrat National Committee quickly blamed the White House, saying they were only following Obama administration policies.) Harvard Law Professor Alan Dershowitz, a liberal, tells DailyCaller.com, “As soon as I hang up with you, I will call people I know

in the White House and in the Democratic Party and find out what's going on. But believe me this is not the last the Democrats will have heard about this issue. They will hear from me on this one." [36504, 36508, 36509, 36521, 36522, 36541]

LifeNews.com reports, "Democrats have removed any mention of God from their party platform, dropping language from the 2008 version that at least had a passing reference to the Creator whom the founders of the nation explained grants the rights we enjoy." The 2008 platform stated, "We need a government that stands up for the hopes, values, and interests of working people, and gives everyone willing to work hard the chance to make the most of their God-given potential." The 2012 version reads, "We gather to reclaim the basic bargain that built the largest middle class and the most prosperous nation on Earth—the simple principle that in America, hard work should pay off, responsibility should be rewarded, and each one of us should be able to go as far as our talent and drive take us." (Throughout the first day of the convention, politicians—including a defensive Senator Dick "Eddie Haskell" Durbin of Illinois, either duck questions from reporters about the change in wording. Durbin tells Bret Baier, "I'm just telling you that you are harping on a trifle.") The Republican platform mentions God 12 times, including the statements, "...Reaffirm that our rights come from God, are protected by government, and that the only just government is one that truly governs with the consent of the governed..." and "...May God continue to shed his grace on the United States of America." (The Democrat platform also expresses opposition to photo ID laws for voting.) [36516, 36519, 36540, 36618]

Asked about the record number of Americans receiving food stamp assistance, Jesse Jackson tells a DailyCaller.com reporter, "The people who would have been malnourished will get assistance. It means that farmers will benefit. The grocers will benefit, and it's a humane thing to do and as our employment numbers go up, the food stamp numbers will come down and we've had an interesting dynamic here where we engaged it two wars, off budget, and the [Bush-era] tax cuts." (If farmers and grocers benefit from food stamps—as well as the banks that process them—Jackson should explain why it is not a good idea to put all 300+ million Americans into the welfare program.) [36542]

Obama will be less than thrilled to learn that retired General Wesley Clark, a Democrat, spoke at the Echo Foundation in Charlotte, North Carolina and said, "You've got 8-plus percent unemployed, and if you go beyond that and look at who wants to work and is not working, working part-time, wants to work full time, sends out resumes, is consulted but not really employed, you might run it up to 15 or 20 percent unemployed." [36492]

Obama will also be annoyed to hear that, according to *The Wall Street Journal*, the Romney campaign likely raised at least \$100 million in August, "marking the third straight month the Republican's money effort has crossed the nine-figure threshold." At FoxNews.com Ed Henry adds, "[T]he Obama team is privately saying they believe the final days of the presidential race are now shaping up as a dramatic battle between money and demographics, with ...Obama's advisers fearful that Romney will use his war chest to unleash a bombardment of television ads and ground game to turn out more white,

working-class voters. Nevertheless, the Obama team is saying in these private meetings they are still confident that they can win by exploiting their demographic edge with Hispanic, African-American and female voters, among others.” [36549, 36550, 36551]

CNBC reports, “U.S. manufacturing shrank at its sharpest clip in more than three years in August while U.S. construction spending in July fell by the most in a year, new reports showed on Tuesday. The Institute for Supply Management said its index of national factory activity fell to 49.6 in August from 49.8 in July. The reading fell shy of the 50.0 median estimate in a Reuters poll of economists. A reading below 50 indicates contraction in the sector.” [36562]

At NationalJournal.com Major Garrett observes, “The easiest way to trip up a Democrat in Charlotte for the national convention is to ask him to answer this question: What is Obama’s vision for a second term? The placeholder answer, of course, is ‘creating an economy built to last.’ But this talking point has, even to Democrats, begun to wear thin. It’s often repeated, but lacks definition. ‘Nobody really knows what that means,’ said Joe Trippi, a Democratic strategist who handled Jerry Brown’s gubernatorial campaign in 2010. So even though Obama’s reelection slogan is ‘Forward,’ there’s not much talk—at least not yet—of what the country would move forward toward, or of the specific policies that Obama would enact to propel the nation up and out of the current low-wattage economic recovery.” [36563]

Depending on which source one believes, the national debt reaches \$16 trillion a few hours before the evening speeches at the Democrat National Convention, or about \$136,260 for every U.S. family—a 50 percent increase since Obama took office. FreeBeacon.com quickly labels Obama—who promised in 2009 to cut the deficit in half during his first term in office—“The \$16 Trillion Man.” Senator Jeff Sessions (R-AL) observes, “This is a grim landmark for the United States. The gross debt of our federal government will, for the first time, surpass \$16 trillion. That’s more government debt per person than Portugal, Italy, Spain, or Greece. Yet [Obama] seems strangely unconcerned.” (In addition to the \$16 trillion owed by the federal government, the 50 state governments collectively owe \$4 trillion. The \$20 trillion total does *not* include the unfunded liabilities of Social Security, Medicare, and federal employee pensions.) [36493, 36507, 36523, 36524, 36545, 36560, 36566, 36736]

ABC.com reports, “The Obama campaign rolled out the red carpet this week for a former top Energy Department official who was at the center of the ill-fated government loan to Solyndra, a California solar panel firm that wound up in bankruptcy. Steven J. Spinner joined other top fundraisers for a VIP tour of the Democratic National Convention floor in Charlotte Monday evening, posing and waving for a photographer while standing behind the podium. When he saw ABC News cameras, however, he ran for the exit.” (In exchange for raising at least \$500,000 for Obama in 2008, he was given the job of handling Obama’s energy loans. Spinner’s wife Allison works for the law firm Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, which received \$2.4 million in federal funds for legal fees related to the Solyndra loan guarantee. Steven Spinner now works for the George Soros-funded Center for American Progress—the far left organization that is the last refuge for

former Obama administration escapees. While working on the Solyndra deal, Spinner wrote one email that asked, “How hard is this? What is he waiting for? I have OVP [Office of the Vice President] and WH [the White House] breathing down my neck on this.” Spinner handled the Solyndra loan despite signing “a three-page ethics agreement in which he pledged he would ‘not participate in any discussion regarding any application involving Wilson [Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati].’” [24590, 24591, 24934, 24935, 25008, 25087, 25227, 25228, 25231, 25250, 36547, 36548]

MSNBC’s Toure Neblitt sends a Twitter message: “Girls, get your abortions NOW in case the Republicans win.” (At NationalReview.com Kathryn Jean Lopez writes, “This is a long way from ‘safe, legal, and rare.’ This is an enthusiasm for radicalism. This is a sick culture where life itself has lost its value.”) [36503, 36561]

FreeBeacon.com reports, “Israel’s ambassador to the United States rejected the claim made yesterday by the head of the Democratic National Committee that he described the Republican party as ‘dangerous for Israel.’ In an emailed statement, Amb. Michael Oren said ‘I categorically deny that I ever characterized Republican policies as harmful to Israel. Bipartisan support is a paramount national interest for Israel, and we have great friends on both sides of the aisle.’ In a speech at the Democratic National Convention yesterday, Debbie Wasserman Schultz claimed, ‘We know, and I’ve heard no less than Ambassador Michael Oren say this, that what the Republicans are doing is dangerous for Israel.’” On Fox News, Wasserman Schultz lies and states, “I didn’t say he [Oren] said that, and unfortunately, that comment was reported by a conservative newspaper. It’s not surprising they would deliberately misquote me.” At its web site, the newspaper then posts a recording of Wasserman Schultz saying exactly what she denies having said. [36525, 36526, 36527, 36553]

With the presidential campaign in full swing, a quote from Democrat political operative James Carville gets new life by being passed around the Internet: “Ideologies aren’t all that important. What’s important is psychology. The Democratic constituency is just like a herd of cows. All you have to do is lay out enough silage and they come running. That’s why I became an operative working with Democrats. With Democrats all you have to do is make a lot of noise, lay out the hay, and be ready to use the ole cattle prod in case a few want to bolt the herd. Eighty percent of the people who call themselves Democrats don’t have a clue as to political reality. What amazes me is that you could take a group of people who are hard workers and convince them that they should support social programs that were the exact opposite of their own personal convictions. Put a little fear here and there and you can get people to vote any way you want. The voter is basically dumb and lazy. The reason I became a Democratic operative instead of a Republican was because there were more Democrats that didn’t have a clue than there were Republicans. Truth is relative. Truth is what you can make the voter believe is the truth. If you’re smart enough, truth is what you make the voter think it is. That’s why I’m a Democrat. I can make the Democratic voters think whatever I want them to.” [36505]

ABC.com reports that Obama “approaches his nomination for a second term with the lowest pre-convention personal popularity of an incumbent president in ABC

News/Washington Post polls since the 1980s. He's also at his lowest of the year among registered voters, with trouble among women. Just 47 percent of registered voters in the latest ABC News/Washington Post poll see Obama favorably overall, down 7 percentage points from his recent peak in April, while 49 percent rate him unfavorably. He's numerically underwater in this group for the first time since February. The decline has occurred entirely among women registered voters—from 57–39 percent favorable-unfavorable in April to a numerically negative 46–50 percent now. That's Obama's lowest score among women voters—a focus of recent political positioning—in ABC/Post polls since he took office. Unusually, his rating among men, 50–47 percent favorable-unfavorable, is numerically better than it is among women, albeit not by a significant margin. The result is not the only sign of the work ahead for Obama among women. In a separate ABC/Post poll last week, he led Romney among women registered voters in vote preference by just 6 points, 49–43 percent. In 2008, Obama won women by 13 points, 56–43 percent. ...[Mitt] Romney notched a slight 7-point gain in favorability among women from last week to this, to 41–48 percent, favorable-unfavorable.” [36505]

Among the videos shown at the Democrat convention is one stressing the importance of government. It includes one man saying, “Government's the only thing that we all belong to.” Mitt Romney quickly Tweets, “We don't belong to government, the government belongs to us.” (At HotAir.com Allahpundit writes, “How psychologically impoverished must you be to find validation in ‘belonging’ to a government? You're forced to ‘join,’ your ‘dues’ are typically squandered on stupid, wasteful projects, half of the other members are perpetually at your throat, and the whole thing is shot through with corruption at every level. ...This rhetoric is pure communitarian garbage, designed to inculcate some perverse civic pride in the ideas that (a) government will continue to grow and usurp your choices and, more importantly, (b) you need to pay more ‘dues,’ even though government's already so big that realistically there's no amount you could pay to make it sustainable. Loathsome.”) [36559]

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) addresses the convention and calls on Mitt Romney to release 12 years of tax returns. (The confused Reid has previously claimed that Romney has not paid taxes for the last 10 years, which would mean he has no tax returns to release.)

A film tribute to Senator Edward Kennedy is shown at the convention. (There is no mention of Mary Jo Kopechne or how the Republican “war on women” caused her death when a drunken Kennedy drove his car off a bridge on July 18, 1969. Some might argue that Kennedy was simply following the Democrat/socialist theme, “Forward.” But “Reverse” is often a wise choice.) [36543, 36558]

Celebrity speakers include actors John Leguizamo, Tony Shalhoub, and Kalpesh Suresh Modi, a gay actor known by most as Kal Penn. (Penn briefly worked in the Obama administration—in a position created solely for him. Some have suggested that Penn's White House “duties” were similar to those of Obama's “body man,” Reggie Love.) [1241, 10867, 11584, 11585, 11633, 11664, 11676, 26111, 26114, 27184, 27185, 32225, 32227, 32235, 32245, 32254, 32256, 32259, 32272, 32273, 32300]

Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley—famous for raising taxes that have driven tens of thousands of taxpayers out of his state—addresses the Democrat National Convention and repeatedly claims Obama's policies will move the country "forward, not back." (Like most of the evening's speakers, O'Malley calls for increased federal spending, no program cuts, and higher taxes. The venerable socialist theme "forward" is followed by many speakers, who stress how everyone is dependent on the government's roads, bridges, and schools. The speakers all avoid the word "spend" and replace it with "invest." More than a few of the speakers repeat key lines—as if the viewers are too stupid to get the message the first time. Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel covers a topic, follows it with, 'That was the change we believed in, that was the change we fought for, that was the change ...Obama delivered"—then does the same for successive topics. The *Chicago Tribune's* John Kass asks, "Who wrote this childlike stuff? It sounds more like the perpetually cheery Kenneth character on '30 Rock' than the realistic and ruthless mayor of Chicago. And that's scary, thinking of Kenneth as White House chief of staff. No wonder Vladimir Putin became so bold.") [36512, 36513]

Julian Castro, the mayor of San Antonio (whose mother detests the Battle of the Alamo and everything it stands for, and called the mission's defenders "a bunch of drunks and crooks and slaveholding imperialists who conquered land that didn't belong to them."), delivers the keynote address. Although he does not speak Spanish, Castro repeats "Que dios los bendiga" ("God bless you") a few times during his address to give the impression that he does. CNN emphasizes that Castro "may be the next governor of Texas" or "the Hispanic Barack Obama"—but does not mention that the unaccomplished Castro has been an ineffective mayor. Of course, when Obama delivered the keynote address in 2004 he was also unaccomplished. (According to DailyCaller.com, Castro pushed through a \$596 million bond program in 2012 to finance various projects to "transform San Antonio into a world class city by the year 2020." With only 1.3 million residents, the program represents \$458 dollars for every man, woman, and child. Castro's plans include "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, tells the *New York Daily News*, "I see a serious lack of leadership at the local level, like street drainage, safety and security, trash pickup. All of his concentration seems to be, 'How can I shine a better light on myself from a national perspective?'" [36510, 36511, 36537, 36539, 36557, 36579]

On CNN, Wolf Blitzer does not ask why the Democrats are partying while people are suffering in Louisiana from Hurricane Isaac.

Michelle Obama (wearing a strange dress that seems to have a swimsuit top and a skirt bottom) addresses the convention, delivering essentially the same bromide-laden "stump speech" she delivers across the country. It is well delivered and will certainly impress Democrats. Mrs. Obama emphasizes support for gay marriage and abortion—which will not be well received by some viewers. ("And he believes that women are more than

capable of making our own choices about our bodies and our health care. That's what my husband stands for." Mrs. Obama—herself a supporter of partial birth abortion—does not mention that her husband also stands for leaving to die unattended a child that survives an abortion.) Discussing her background and her husband's she makes it clear that they were raised in poverty while Mitt Romney was not (although she does not mention him by name). Several of her comments are questionable. She relates that their monthly education loan payment exceeded their mortgage payment, which might lead some to question how they got their mortgage approved in the first place. She states that before they moved into the White House her daughters had only lived in one other home; they lived in two. She also states that her husband's grandmother hit a "glass ceiling" working at a bank in Hawaii; in fact, Madeline Dunham became vice president of the bank and left Obama more than \$500,000 in bank stocks when she died. She suggests that both she and her husband were raised in poverty, but he attended the most expensive private school in Honolulu, and the incredibly expensive Occidental College, Columbia University, and Harvard Law School. She states that on her first date with Barack Obama, the car was so rusted out that she could see the pavement through the floor; yet when they met they both worked at a law firm—that certainly paid attorneys enough to buy decent cars. The main "message" of Michelle Obama's speech is, "The Obamas are poor and the Romneys are wealthy, so we can relate more to middle-class Americans." Whether that message can persuade voters who may be thinking, "What have you done for me lately?" or "Where are the jobs you promised?" remains to be seen. [36518, 36534, 36572, 36587]

HotAir.com notes, "In her lengthy speech, Mrs. Obama only devoted two sentences to jobs—and one of those was talking about how her husband gave up a good-paying job to be a community organizer. The word 'economy' only appeared twice, in the middle of the speech. 'Debt' only gets mentioned twice as well, and only in the context of student-loan debt. As the spouse of a candidate, it's Mrs. Obama's job to humanize her husband, just as Ann Romney did for hers, and that puts these speeches into a different category than those of the politicians who take the dais. But shouldn't the First Lady have humanized her husband by emphasizing that he's focused on the same issues as voters in this election—the economy, jobs, the federal deficit? After all, unlike Mitt Romney, Obama's been in office for four years of saturation coverage, and humanizing him on family life after nearly five years of intense media adulation on that front is a bit redundant." [36554]

On C-Span, Politico's Jim VandeHei says, "We just posted an item about the media's reaction. Not a shocker here, Wolf Blitzer saying it was a grand slam; Chuck Todd saying that Michelle Obama owned this convention in a way no speaker owned the convention in Tampa, and David Gergen on CNN said if they have two more nights like this they could probably break this race open." With the understatement of the year, VandeHei adds, "The mainstream media tends to be quite smitten with the Obamas so I don't know if we should over interpret it but there's no doubt that's sort of how all the taste-makers in media as we talk what it does have a way shaping certainly the coverage in the morning. So I think you can anticipate that tomorrow is going to be quite glowing." [36555, 36556]



On MSNBC Chuck Todd swoons over Michelle Obama's speech, saying, "You could watch the emotional connection from the delegates to the first lady. It was very powerful to watch, and it's got to be something the Democrats have to feel good about the way just how much passion there is for [Obama] here. In Tampa, the passion on the floor when you saw it was never for Mitt Romney. It was always against [Obama]." (What Todd may not realize is that the passion against Obama may very well be enough to elect Mitt Romney president.) [36570]

Columnist Charles Krauthammer later writes, "As [Michelle Obama] told it in the convention's most brilliantly cynical speech, her husband is not just profoundly compassionate but near-Gandhiesque in feelings. Others spoke about what Obama had done. Michelle's job was to provide the why: because he cares. Her talk was a syllogism: Barack loves his wife, he loves his children, he loves his family—therefore, he loves you. I have no doubt about the first three propositions, but the fourth is a complete non sequitur. We were assured, nonetheless, that [Obama] is a saintly man, dispensing succor—health care (with free contraceptives), auto bailouts, fairness lawsuits—to his people. The flood of tears in the hall testified to the power of this spousal paean. Its brilliance lay in Michelle's success in draining from Obama any hint of ideological or personal motivation. The problem with swallowing the 'he cares, therefore he does' line is that it so plainly contradicts what we've seen over the last four years. Barack Obama is a deeply committed social democrat who laid out an unashamedly left-liberal agenda at the very beginning of his presidency and then proceeded to try to enact it. ...I didn't buy a word of it, but as a speech, Michelle's was very effective. After all, what else do you say when you're running for reelection in a land — as described so chillingly the next night by Elizabeth Warren—wracked with misery and despair?" [36698]

At the end of the first day of the convention, the themes are clear: everyone needs government and it dare not be cut; taxes should be raised on wealthy Republicans; the Obamas are not as wealthy as the Romneys; Democrats enthusiastically support gay marriage and abortion; more money should be sent on education; and Obama understands what it is like to struggle. What was not discussed was: how the deficit can be reduced and how jobs can be created.

Oklahoma Governor Mary Fallin says that if, like Obama, she gave herself an "incomplete" grade for her performance in office the votes would "kick me out." [36529]

Fox News senior political analyst Brit Hume comments on some of the missteps of the Democrat convention, such as removing a reference to God from the party platform, the failure to refer to Jerusalem as the capital of Israel ("both of which have been in previous platforms"), the inability of Democrats to give a good answer to the question, "Are you better off than you were four years ago," and Obama giving himself an "incomplete" grade on his four years in the White House. Hume comments, "That was a terrible answer. ...The answer you give to a question like that is either you give yourself a better grade than that... or you say something like, 'Look, it's not for me to grade myself, it's for the voters... [Obama's] people were having a hard time saying, 'You're better off.' Then they spent the next day saying, 'Yes, you are better off.' Well, if you are better off

the [Obama] grade should be better than 'incomplete.' ...And finally, there's one more thing, Bill [O'Reilly] that is kind of interesting. This [convention] hall is quite a bit smaller than the hall that the Republicans used in Tampa. And the result is that the noise that you hear from the delegates is much magnified, naturally. In addition to that, the Democratic planners here have cranked the volume on the sound system up to the absolute max, so that when you're in the hall, and a number of the network anchor booths are open to the hall, the sound from the floor and the platform is absolutely deafening. And the result was that there is network news programming, on our network and on other networks, that's being drowned out. An outcome I'm sure that was not intended by the way this was organized. Now, there's a lot being said about it, there are complaints being lodged, they may turn it down. Once again, a small thing, but a suggestion that they don't quite have their act together." [36516]

On Fox News, columnist Charles Krauthammer comments on the first night of convention speeches: "Well, let me say from the beginning that I'm with Brit [Hume of Fox News], that if I hear one more story of people walking eight miles in the snow, without shoes, uphill both ways, I'm going to start longing for a little Clint Eastwood spontaneity out here. I mean, it's not only scripted in the sense of having speeches all arranged, having the video, but the stories are all the same. Except that sometimes it has a Hispanic tinge, African-American, the tinge-of-Kansas slant to it, but that's what everybody expects and that's what you give. Nonetheless I would say that within that, and despite the repetition of that theme, Michelle Obama's speech was, I thought, a brilliant speech, brilliantly delivered. I've read a few of those, I've written a couple of those myself, and I thought what was so smart about it... you start with all that personal stuff, very affecting stuff, her side of the family, his side of the family. And then it evolves into a speech about why Obama does what he does. All the other speakers will talk about what Obama does, the achievements, and the legislation, whatever, and the political implications. Her whole task was to say why. And her answer was, 'Why? Because essentially he's a saint. Because of his upbringing and because of his emotions and because of his humanity. He does of this because he cares.' And the brilliance of it is this: It drained Obama of any, either, ideological motivation, or any having to do with self interest or ambition, which I think is sort of a more plausible explanation. He's a man highly who is liked and highly ideological. A man of the left who sees the role of the government as ordering, reordering society in a way to make it more just, as he understands it. Also, extremely ambitious, a self made man who makes himself out of nothing, rises out of nowhere. But all of that, in her telling, doesn't even exist. The only reason he does what he does, 'he cares about women, he cares about immigrants, he cares about the poor, he cares about the unemployed—he cares, he cares, he cares.' She told the story of a Gandhi. And, you know, looking at the scene, looking at how he's conducted himself in the presidency and particularly in the campaign, with ruthlessness and determination and drive, it's not quite a plausible story. I'm sure in the arena, it was a plausible story. I saw the tears—but I'm afraid, I thought it was a great speech, but I didn't buy a line of it." [36515, 36535]

Asked by co-anchor Megyn Kelly if, in their speeches, the Democrats succeeded in overcoming Obama's "You didn't build that" remark, Krauthammer responds, "No, I'm

not sure they'll ever be able to effectively give a rebuttal because what Obama said, from his words, openly, straightforwardly, and without equivocation. 'You didn't build it, it's all the work, essentially the credit all belongs to government, to the collective, etc. I think they tried to, and you heard [San Antonio] mayor Castro speak about 'investment in opportunity as producing prosperity.' That was the theme of his entire speech. 'Investment' is the liberal, Democratic word for 'spending.' They spoke *endlessly* of spending on this, spending on that, the government doing X, the government doing Y, as a way to achieve what they think needs to be achieved. The idea that there's any individual behind it was completely lost in their explanations. I think, if anything, it reinforced the notion that they are completely government-centered in their understanding of society." [36515]

On PBS, *New York Times* columnist David Brooks comments, "The one cavil I will have ... is this [Michelle Obama] speech has—[it] reinforces something we've heard all night, which was how much the crowd goes crazy and how passionate they are about abortion and gay marriage and the social issues. And tonight has been about that. And to me it should have been a lot more about economics, growth, and debt. And that's [sic] better be the job of day two and day three because they did not do it here." [36538, 36554]

An August 31–September 3 CNN/ORC poll of likely voters shows Mitt Romney tied 48–48 with Obama, with Romney leading by 10 points among independents, 52/42. Romney's favorable/unfavorable ratings are 53/43; Obama's are 51/48. (Romney was at 50/46 prior to the Republican convention.) Among independents, Romney's favorable/unfavorable ratings are 60/32; Obama's are 46/53. (If the White House is not worried by those numbers, it should be.) [36528, 36546]

On September 5 the Government Accountability Office (GAO) states that Obama's Executive Order changing the welfare work requirement requires that Congress rule on the issue. Townhall.com's Kevin Glass writes "While Democrats have been crying foul over Republicans' attacks, the GAO has found that an attempt to institute this waiver process without Congressional review would be an illegal power grab. This will at least put a small bump in the road for the Obama Administration's attempt to relax one of the key components of welfare reform. This doesn't mean that it would be easy for Congress to block Obama's welfare waiver plan, though. Under the rule that the GAO cited, all that's required is that the Administration submit the proposed plan in writing to Congress, not that it requires a vote to be implemented. As FDL reported, Congress would have to submit a joint resolution to 'review' the regulation, and that might require 60 votes in the Senate. However, House Republicans can still make a lot of noise to try to raise awareness about these new welfare work requirement waivers and possibly force an uncomfortable vote in the Senate." [36531, 36599]

IsraelNational.News.com reports, "Just days after a report that the U.S. was sharply cutting its participation in a military exercise scheduled with Israel, U.S. planes landed in Egypt Tuesday for a joint exercise, the first since the fall of Hosni Mubarak. Code-named 'Eagle Arena 2012,' the exercise will include air and naval forays by US and Egyptian planes and boats, over the country, Sinai, and the Red Sea. ... The exercise is one of a

series of steps the U.S. has undertaken in recent weeks to build ties with the regime of the Muslim Brotherhood's Mohammed Morsi, the new President of Egypt. According to U.S. reports, Washington is set to forgive a billion dollars of Egyptian debt as part of its international assistance program for Egypt. The debt will be dumped in the laps of U.S. taxpayers. Egypt currently owes the U.S. some \$3 billion." [36922]

Emails obtained by DailyCaller.com "show that former senior Treasury Department officials who orchestrated the 2009 auto industry bailout enriched their former employers and likely made personal financial gains from parts of the deal they negotiated. At issue is the termination of pension plans belonging to 20,000 non-union salaried retirees from Delphi Corporation. Such self-dealing while an appointed member of a White House task force would violate federal law as well as an Ethics Pledge that an executive order from ...Obama said would apply to all appointees in the executive branch of the federal government from the date of his inauguration." Specifically, members of Obama's auto bailout team saw to it that salaried employees of GM's Delphi division (illegally) lost their pensions, while the benefits of union workers were protected. "The New York Post has reported that the hedge funds Silver Point Capital and Elliott Capital Management earned a combined \$1.3 billion on the Delphi deal. Those profits came in late 2011 when Delphi emerged from government-mandated bankruptcy and launched its initial public offering. Silver Point Capital's ties to [Obama team members Harry] Wilson and [Matt] Feldman may indicate something beyond a successful hedge fund investment." [36536]

TheHill.com reports, "Mitt Romney's campaign issued a statement Wednesday demanding Democratic officials 'cease and desist from comparing those with whom they disagree to Nazis' after the chairman of the South Carolina Democratic Party compared Gov. Nikki Haley (R-S.C.) to Adolf Hitler mistress Eva Braun. 'The latest offender is Dick Harpootlian, the South Carolina Democratic Party chairman, whose outrageous words I will not repeat,' said former Sen. Norm Coleman (Minn.) in a statement released by the Romney campaign. 'In recent days, we've seen similarly disgraceful statements from a top Kansas Democratic delegate and from the chairman of the California Democratic Party. ...Obama has called for civility in American politics. If his call is to be taken seriously, it's time for [him] to rein in those of his supporters and allies who are trivializing Nazism while also shamelessly trampling on the most basic rules of American political discourse.'" (In recent weeks at least three public statements have been made by prominent Democrats that referred to Republicans as Nazis.) [36709, 36710]

Jonah Goldberg writes at Townhall.com, "They [Obama and the Democrats] got their stimulus. They were wrong. They say in their defense that's because the downturn was so much worse than anyone realized. OK, but that just demonstrates the folly of their confidence in the first place. If I jump off a building because I am sure I can fly ('I wrote a study that proves it!'), it's of little solace, and even less of an excuse, if I sputter out my last words from the bloodied pavement, 'The pull of gravity was so much worse than I realized.' Obama similarly self-defenestrated his own credibility, but he's still insisting he knows exactly what to do. Now he argues that if we just do what Bill Clinton did—raise taxes on the top earners plus pass the so-called Buffett rule, which would raise taxes on investment income—we can have the economy Clinton had. The Buffett rule would pay

for 11 hours of government spending in 2013, as Mitt Romney correctly observed—or 18 hours, according to Democratic reckoning. Anyone believe that would make the economy roar to life?” [36530]

At *National Review's* Morning Jolt, Jim Geraghty writes, “It does feel like there’s now a paint-by-numbers formula for giving a speech that garners media raves: My parents/grandparents/great-uncle Iggy came from humble beginnings. They struggled to give me a better life. Here is my focus-group-tested anecdote of my childhood. From this humorous event, my elderly, or preferably deceased relative/mentor figure, who will be played by Morgan Freeman in the movie, told me this valuable lesson: Only in America can you find opportunities like this. Only in America can you find opportunities like the ones I, and millions of other Americans, enjoyed! These opportunities are endangered by the policies of our opponent. But they are strengthened by the policies of our nominee! And I will not give up upon this majestic dream of a better future that is America! I will not give up and neither will you! We will do this together! Si se puede! Thank you! God bless America!”

DailyCaller.com reports that free birth control activist Sandra Fluke, who is scheduled to speak at the Democrat convention, wrote “an academic article published last year” that “made the case that private health insurers should be required to pay for sex change operations.” [36533]

Rush Limbaugh comments on Michelle Obama’s speech: “Masterfully given speech. Look, as a performer and judging it as a performance, it was exceptional. It was, as a performance, Michelle Obama’s speech was perfection. Looked at through the prism of what she intended it to accomplish. It was flawlessly executed. It could not have been better in terms of performance. But it was all lies. She didn’t believe any of it. She didn’t believe anything that she said in that speech. ...Another thing that struck me. Her husband has been [in the White House] for four years, and she had to tell us who he is last night. Stop and think about this. Stop and consider that. Four years ago, empty canvas. He was the Messiah, the One, whatever anybody wanted him to be. But now she had to tell us about him. She had to tell us who he is. After four years, it just struck me as strange...” [36574]

CNN reports that “at least 64,000 North Carolina college students—roughly a third of those enrolled in the state’s 17 public universities—should expect to see ‘substantial’ increases in health coverage costs for the 2012–2013 academic year.” Tom Ross, president of the University of North Carolina, explains, “Based on more than three semesters of actual claims experience, as well as the new provisions of the Affordable Care Act [ObamaCare], we are facing large increases in premiums for our students.” According to CNN, “Students who purchase insurance plans from North Carolina public universities this fall will be shelling out \$709 per semester. That’s up significantly from a cost of \$460 per semester last year.” [36575]

FactCheck.org posts some of the exaggerations and lies from speakers at the first day of the Democrat National Convention. Among them: Romney will raise taxes on the middle

class (he has stated he will extend the Bush tax rates); Obama has created 4.5 million jobs (there are fewer Americans employed in 212 than when Obama took office in 2009); Romney-Ryan will “gut” Pell grants (they have called only for a reduction in the program’s growth rate); and Romney left Massachusetts in 47th place in job creation (it went from 50 to 28 during his four years as governor). [36544, 36564, 36565]

Julia Rodriguez, a Democrat convention delegate from New York who retains a heavy Puerto Rican accent, says on camera, “Romney will destroy this country completely. ...If I see him, I would like to kill him!” [36871, 36872]

Michelle Obama sends a fundraising email asking supporters to give up a restaurant meal and instead send the money to her husband’s campaign. The message reads: “I know your life is full—with work, or school, or family—and yet you still find the time to help out when you can. You may have a tight budget, but you give what you can afford. A woman recently told the campaign her family skipped a pizza dinner at their favorite place so that they could make a difference in this election. That is the commitment that drives this campaign. If you can support Barack with a donation today, please know it makes a huge difference. If we win, it will be because of what you did at moments like this. Thanks, Michelle.” (It is not known how many restaurants would go out of business if tens of millions of Americans were to heed the advice. “Let them eat cake” has apparently been replaced with, “Let them eat nothing.”) [36725, 36797]

IsraelNationalNews.com reports, “Knesset [Israeli parliament] Speaker Reuven Rivlin criticized on Wednesday the removal of a section declaring Jerusalem as the capital of Israel from the Democratic Party platform, and said: ‘I’m less worried about the U.S.-Israel relations regarding Iran, and more concerned about ...Obama’s withdrawal from the principle that Jerusalem is Israel’s capital.’ The omission ‘has far-reaching significance, which reflect a complete lack of understanding by the Obama administration about the roots of the conflict and the events in the Middle East. In my opinion, it is shameful that the Democratic Party renounced its commitment to the principle of Jerusalem as Israel’s capital. Anyone who thinks that the division of Jerusalem will bring peace in the Middle East is badly mistaken. Division of sovereignty in Jerusalem is a recipe for continued conflict and instability in the region.’” [36571]

The Orthodox Union’s Nathan Diament states, “At a time when Arab leaders persistently assert falsehoods about Jerusalem’s history, and deny the ancient Jewish connection to our holy city, the decision of national leaders of the Democratic Party to go silent on this issue is extremely disappointing. Facts are facts; Jerusalem is Israel’s capital, and America’s national leaders do no service to the people of the Mideast or the world by refusing to acknowledge these crucial facts.” [36639]

Faced with immediate and harsh criticism over not mentioning God and not recognizing Jerusalem as the capitol of Israel in the party platform, Democrats amend the document on day two of the convention—via a voice vote that sounds to many as though the change does *not* garner the requisite two-thirds majority. (The convention chairman’s affirmative ruling is met by a chorus of boos—presumably from atheist and Israel-hating delegates.)

The mainstream media quickly claims that Obama “personally intervened” to insert the wording, even though earlier reports stated that he was responsible for its removal. (Townhall.com political editor Guy Benson quips, “Let’s call it a ‘you must adopt this platform to find out what is in it’ approach.”) Republicans would be wise to produce an ad showing Democrats booing God and Israel, with the line, “The Democrats were against God and Jerusalem before they were for them.” (According to a Gallup poll, Obama leads Romney 69–23 percent among atheists and other non-religious voters.) [36552, 36580, 36585, 36586, 36588, 36612, 36613, 36614, 36615, 36621, 36625, 36666, 36680]

Author and radio talk show host Michael Savage tells his audience, “This is a big moment. America is disgusted with this party of atheists and America haters. ... Can you imagine, a nation founded on the principles of God is being taken over by a party that despises God, denies God’s existence and wants to stab Israel in the back in order to support the Islamists who would kill the Jews and drive them out of the Middle East?” [36592]

Deadline.com reports that NBC’s television ratings for the first night of the Democrat convention are down 24 percent from their 2008 event; ABC was down 36 percent; CBS was down 45 percent. Collectively, the three major networks had only about 11 million viewers. [36567]

Newsmax.com reports, “The Secret Service says it’s investigating the reported theft of copies of Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney’s federal tax records before 2010 [sic; that is, his pre-2010 tax returns]. A letter sent anonymously to Tennessee political and newspaper offices demanded \$1 million to prevent their disclosure. Romney’s accounting firm, PricewaterhouseCoopers, said there is no evidence any Romney tax files were stolen. The letter said the returns were stolen in late August during a Watergate-style break-in at the company’s accounting offices in Franklin, Tenn. A Tennessee Republican official, Jean Barwick, confirmed she received the letter and an encrypted flash drive, and said she turned them over to the Secret Service. She was not able to confirm that copies of any tax returns were stored on the flash drive. Secret Service spokesman Edwin Donovan confirmed the agency is investigating.” (The more cynical might smell the scent of Obama’s hatchet man, David Axelrod.) [36603]

Politico reports, “Democratic National Committee chiefs Debbie Wasserman Schultz and Patrick Gaspard cancelled interviews with local media outlets tonight, amid controversy surrounding the party’s decision to reintroduce ‘God’ and ‘Jerusalem’ to the platform. Jon Ralston, host of the Las Vegas-based ‘Face To Face’ news program, told POLITICO that he was sitting in the chair waiting for a 2:45 p.m. PT (5:45 p.m. ET) interview with Gaspard when he was told that his guest had cancelled, without explanation. Blair Miller of WSOC TV, ABC’s Charlotte, N.C., affiliate, also tweeted that Wasserman Schultz cancelled her interview with him, without explanation.” (After an earlier interview on CNN in which Wasserman Schultz placed a spin on the issue that few could believe, the network’s Anderson Cooper describes her as being in an “alternate universe.”) The Republican Party platform reasonably states, “We support Israel’s right to exist as a

Jewish state with secure, defensible borders; and we envision two democratic states—Israel with Jerusalem as its capital and Palestine—living in peace and security. For that to happen, the Palestinian people must support leaders who reject terror, embrace the institutions and ethos of democracy, and respect the rule of law.” (Why the Democrats should find it so difficult to include such language is a question Jewish voters should be asking.) [36576, 36577, 36589, 36590, 36591, 36639]

Yahoo.com posts a photograph of a campaign button on the hat of a convention delegate: “Once you vote black you never go back—Obama 2012.” [36633, 36634]

ABC.com reports that Bob Woodward’s new book, *The Price of Politics*, “shows how close [Obama] and the House speaker [John Boehner] were to defying Washington odds and establishing a spending framework that included both new revenues and major changes to long-sacred entitlement programs. But at a critical juncture, with an agreement tantalizingly close, Obama pressed Boehner for additional taxes as part of a final deal—a miscalculation, in retrospect, given how far the House speaker felt he’d already gone.” The \$4 trillion deal reportedly included both spending cuts and \$800 billion in additional taxes, but after the deal had essentially been reached Obama demanded an additional \$400 billion in taxes—and Boehner said no. Obama “called three times to speak with Boehner about his latest offer, according to Woodward. But the speaker didn’t return the ... phone call for most of an agonizing day, in what Woodward calls a ‘monumental communications lapse’ between two of the most powerful men in the country. When Boehner finally did call back, he jettisoned the entire deal. Obama lost his famous cool, according to Woodward, with a ‘flash of pure fury’ coming from [Obama]; one staffer in the room said Obama gripped the phone so tightly he thought he would break it. ‘He was spewing coals,’ Boehner told Woodward, in what is described as a borderline ‘presidential tirade.’ ‘He was pissed...He wasn’t going to get a damn dime more out of me. He knew how far out on a limb I was. But he was hot. It was clear to me that coming to an agreement with him was not going to happen, and that I had to go to Plan B.” The book, to be released on September 11, shows Obama in a less than flattering light: “It was increasingly clear that no one was running Washington. That was trouble for everyone, but especially for Obama.” The eventual temporary budget deal “ultimately exclude[d]” Obama “from most of the key negotiations.” Woodward writes that Obama was “voted off the island” by leaders of both parties who believed they could work better without him. Woodward also relates that when the stimulus legislation was being debated in early 2009, Obama and chief of staff Rahm Emanuel chose to forego bipartisanship. Emanuel remarked, “We have the votes. Fuck ‘em [the Republicans].” [36581, 36626, 36630, 36699, 36727, 36776]

In *The Price of Politics*, Woodward reveals that Obama was chewed out by Senate majority Leader Harry Reid’s chief of staff, David Krone, for not having a back-up plan to deal with the debt negotiations. Krone reportedly told Obama, “...I am sorry—with all due respect—that we are in this situation that we’re in, but we got handed this football on Friday night. And I didn’t create this situation. The first thing that baffles me is, from my private-sector experience, the first rule that I’ve always been taught is to have a Plan B. And it is really disheartening that you, that this White House did not have a Plan B.”



According to Woodward, “Several jaws dropped as the Hill staffer blasted [Obama] to his face.” (HotAir.com observes, “This administration has *never* had a Plan B. Obama has never run any organization of consequence, certainly not any in the private sector, where executives have to constantly adapt to changing conditions and prepare backup strategies in case projects fail. Obama comes from Academia, where all of his policies work in theory, and so failure means insisting on sticking with the failed policies because they’ll *eventually* work. That’s why Obama won’t produce a second-term agenda. It’s the same failed policies as his first, because Obama never has a Plan B. And that is disheartening indeed, as long as he’s in office.” [36779])

Convention speakers include a leftist nun who claims Republican budget cuts would hurt the poor, various Democrat legislators from around the country, several workers who lost their jobs after Bain Capital invested in their companies, Cecile Richards, president of the Planned Parenthood Action Fund, and Bob King, head of the United Auto Workers union. (If the Republicans had the leaders of two special interest groups speak at their convention the mainstream media’s criticism would have been relentless.) ABC later reports that David Foster, one of the speakers who criticized Romney for causing him to lose his job at GST Steel, *never even worked for the company*. He was, in fact, a regional union director for the United Steelworkers of America. FreeBeacon.com reports that Randy Johnson, another “Bain victim” who addressed the convention, “earned \$104,974 from United Steelworkers union in 2011” and “has been living in the lap of luxury courtesy of the DNC for months, according to reports. The DNC has paid for Johnson’s airfare to various partisan events across the country and had footed the bill for his hotel rooms, according to the *New York Observer*. Johnson has even forced the DNC staffer who constantly shadows him to pay for his meals and highway tolls, the *Observer* noted.” (Johnson once worked for Ampad, a company purchased by Bain Capital and shut down in response to a strike by union workers. He and his co-workers essentially caused the loss of their own jobs.) [36632, 36717, 36718, 36733]

“Professional student” Sandra Fluke addresses the convention, delivering a totally predictable, sophomoric, and cliché-filled “we need big government” speech. Among Fluke’s wild claims: “[a Romney-Ryan administration] would be an America in which you have a new vice president who co-sponsored a bill that would allow pregnant women to die preventable deaths in our emergency rooms.” (The “Protect Life Act” to which Fluke refers would ban the use of federal funds for abortions, require any federally-affiliated health care plan that covers abortions to also offer an otherwise identical one that does not cover abortions, and prohibit the government from discriminating against health care providers that refuse to perform abortions. The proposed legislation certainly does *not* call for allowing pregnant women to die.) [36597, 36616, 36617, 36619, 36624]

In *The Wall Street Journal* Peggy Noonan later writes of Fluke’s appearance and the convention’s priorities: “The sheer strangeness of all the talk about abortion, abortion, contraception, contraception. I am old enough to know a wedge issue when I see one, but I’ve never seen a great party build its entire public persona around one. Big speeches from the heads of Planned Parenthood and NARAL, HHS Secretary and abortion enthusiast Kathleen Sebelius and, of course, Sandra Fluke. ‘Republicans shut me out of a

hearing on contraception,’ Ms. Fluke said. But why would anyone have included a Georgetown law student who never worked her way onto the national stage until she was plucked, by the left, as a personable victim? What a fabulously confident and ingenuous-seeming political narcissist Ms. Fluke is. She really does think—and her party apparently thinks—that in a spending crisis with trillions in debt and many in need, in a nation in existential doubt as to its standing and purpose, in a time when parents struggle to buy the good sneakers for the kids so they’re not embarrassed at school... that in that nation the great issue of the day, and the appropriate focus of our concern, is making other people pay for her birth-control pills. That’s not a stand, it’s a non sequitur. She is not, as Rush Limbaugh oafishly, bullyingly said, a slut. She is a ninny, a narcissist and a fool. And she was one of the great faces of the party in Charlotte. That is extreme. Childish, too.” [36674]

Elizabeth Warren, the U.S. Senate candidate from Massachusetts—who lied about Native American ancestry to obtain special job treatment and who preceded Obama in delivering a “You didn’t build that” speech—outlines all the terrible things about the United States she believes Obama will fix if he is elected. She declares, “Our middle class has been chipped, squeezed, and hammered. Talk to the construction worker I met from Malden, Massachusetts, who went nine months without finding work. Talk to the head of a manufacturing company in Franklin trying to protect jobs but worried about rising costs. Talk to the student in Worcester who worked hard to finish his college degree, and now he’s drowning in debt.” (Warren apparently does not realize that Obama is the incumbent, not the challenger.) Ben Stein writes, “I was primed to like Elizabeth Warren, the [according to her and her alone] Native American woman who is running for Senate as a Democrat in Massachusetts. She is a big critic of abuses on Wall Street, as I have been all of my life. But what a shock when she actually came on. She is a rambling kamikaze of a politician, aiming to blow up everything in her path. She simply made up a bunch of abuses by the GOP, then said she would make them all better. But she never said how. And there is no ‘how’ anyway.” [36619, 36620, 36629, 36640]

Bill Clinton addresses the convention—for 48 minutes—saying, “In Tampa, the Republican argument against [Obama’s] reelection was actually pretty simple. Pretty snappy. It went something like this: ‘We left him a total mess; he hadn’t cleaned it up fast enough so fire him and put us back in.’ Now, but, but they did it well. They looked good, they sounded good, they convinced me... that they all love their families, their children, were grateful they’d been born in America and... really, I’m not being... they did. And, this is important, they convinced me they were honorable people who believed what they said and they’re gonna keep every commitment they’d made. We just gotta make sure the American people know what those commitments are.” Clinton does not claim that the Republican commitments are wrong or unreasonable. He tells the “Reagan Democrats” that they can trust Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan, that they are not evil people, that they are not racists, and that the election is simply about issues and competence. Clinton’s message is essentially, “It’s okay to vote against Obama, and that does not make you a racist.” (Whether Clinton’s “born in America” is a subtle reference to Obama’s origins will never be known.) Clinton also praises Obama’s economic plan—a surprising claim

inasmuch as no Obama economic plan exists. [36578, 36584, 36593, 36600, 36601, 36602, 36609, 36619, 36622, 36623, 36627, 36638, 36700]

Media pundits do not—initially, at least—realize that Clinton may have hurt Obama with his comments. By repeating many of the Republican attacks on Obama in order to then knock them down, Clinton *emphasizes* those attacks for those viewers who may not previously have heard them. As an example, Clinton briefly ridicules Paul Ryan’s budget for relying on the same \$716 billion in Medicare budget cuts that Obama used to help offset the cost of ObamaCare. But Clinton first confirms—in much greater detail and using far more time—that Obama did, in fact, cut \$716 billion from Medicare. Clinton therefore makes it *impossible* for Obama or any other Democrats to now claim that Medicare funds are not being used to fund ObamaCare. (If DNC head Debbie Wasserman Schultz appears on Sunday talk shows to say, “No, that’s not true, Obama did not cut Medicare” she will be immediately confronted with, “But even Bill Clinton said...” Viewers are more likely to believe Bill Clinton than her.) By telling viewers that if they believe it is good to allow immigrants into the country so they can better their lives they should vote for Obama, Clinton is *also* telling viewers who oppose loose borders that they should *not* vote for Obama. (Watching Clinton defend Obama is arguably like watching Johnny Cochran defend O.J. They both know their client is guilty but hope the jury contains a majority of idiots.) [36578, 36584, 36593, 36600, 36601, 36602, 36609, 36619, 36622, 36623, 36627, 36638, 36700]

During his speech Clinton inadvertently refers to Job Biden as “President O’Biden.” At the conclusion of Clinton’s speech, Obama appears onstage to give him a *very* awkward hug. [36582, 36583]

On Fox News, syndicated columnist Charles Krauthammer comments on Clinton’s speech: “I think it was a giant swing and a miss. Mighty Casey—and Bill Clinton is a natural—he struck out on this. I don’t think it would move the needle whatsoever. Look, it had all the classic Clinton elements: it was engaging, it was humorous. In some cases, it was generous—I think there were more mentions of the Bushes than I heard in three days in Tampa. But on the other hand it was also vintage Clinton in that it was sprawling, undisciplined and truly self-indulgent. This is one of the strangest nomination speeches, I think, ever given. It was a kind of an amalgam between a State of the Union address, a policy wonk seminar and what sounded to me like a campaign speech for a third Clinton term. Obama was sort of incidental. He’d be shoved in every once in a while in the speech as a way to say, ‘well, he thinks as I do.’ ...One last point: It is true that he made a lot of detailed rebuttals—than handle all of that in 10 minutes in his debate. So I think it was a wasted opportunity of what could have been a great, stirring, rousing endorsement of Obama.” [36596]

Ben Stein comments on Clinton’s speech, “This cracker snake oil salesman, as my pal John Coyne calls him, immediately began to lecture the Republicans about how immoral they are. Yes!!!! This man, who had a college intern give him oral sex in the Oval Office while he was on the phone with a Congressional Committee Chair, who inserted cigars into this woman’s private parts in the Oval Office, then smoked them, then lied about it

all, who was impeached, is lecturing the GOP about morality. It is art. This man, credibly accused of something very like sexual assault, is cheered to the rafters by the women at the DNC. It is fantastic. This is not grist for the political analyst. It is grist for the psychoanalyst. The speech went on forever, but the best parts of it were when Mr. Clinton basically said, ‘Those vicious scumbag lying, heartless vampire, murdering Republicans... we try to be kind to them and love them and they still are the same lying murdering thieving scumbags they always were. See how mightily nice we are to these bastards and still they don't want to work with us.’ The delegates cheered lustily.” On the two conventions, Stein observes, “I could not help notice how utterly different the people at the DNC looked from the ones at the RNC. One group was blond, happy looking, contented looking. The others looked as if they could not wait for the tumbrels, an entire convention of Mesdames Defarge. There are different tribes in America. Some are happy. Some are furious. I want the ones who are happy to run things.” [36620]

At WashingtonTimes.com Jeffery T. Kuhner writes, “As usual, he was peddling snake oil. His speech was vintage Clinton: dishonest, self-indulgent, cynical, wonky, pretentious and disconnected from reality. The fact is the 1990s was a disastrous decade, which America is still paying for. It was not just a holiday from history—dominated by an orgy of consumer spending and the coarsening of our culture—but something more pernicious: the squandering of our power and wealth. Mr. Clinton did not preside over America’s boom. Rather, he played a pivotal role in triggering our national decline.

On September 6 Obama campaign strategist David Axelrod and close advisor Valerie Jarrett appear together on CBS’s *This Morning* and unconvincingly attempt to convince host Charlie Rose that Obama knew nothing about the “God and Jerusalem” Democrat platform omissions but insisted they be restored. (Previous reports stated that Obama read and approved the platform. Others claimed it was Obama himself who wanted the references to God and Jerusalem removed. Obama’s “insistence” that they be restored is his throwing the Democrat National Committee under the bus to protect his own political hide.) [36588, 36591, 36604]

On *Good Morning America*, White House senior adviser David Plouffe plays the “lower the expectations” game, saying “This is a very tight race. We’ve always believed that there’s very little elasticity in the election. I don’t think you should expect a big [convention] bounce [in the polls for Obama]. I think this is a race where we’ve got a small but important lead in some battleground states. It’s going to be very, very close all the way out.” [36628]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, “The Obama administration is making it easier for bureaucrats to take away guns without offering the accused any realistic due process. In a final rule published last week, the Justice Department granted the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) authority to ‘seize and administratively forfeit property involved in controlled-substance abuses.’ That means government can grab firearms and other property from someone who has never been convicted or even charged with any crime. It’s a dangerous extension of the civil-forfeiture doctrine, a surreal legal fiction in which the seized property—not a person—is put on trial. This allows

prosecutors to dispense with pesky constitutional rights, which conveniently don't apply to inanimate objects. In this looking-glass world, the owner is effectively guilty until proved innocent and has the burden of proving otherwise. Anyone falsely accused will never see his property again unless he succeeds in an expensive uphill legal battle. [37172, 37173]

DailyCaller.com reports, "On Wednesday, Cause of Action, a government watchdog group, released documents involving two supervisors at the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) who may have told employees how to vote in order to keep their job in violation of federal law. CoA revealed that John J. Hickey, deputy associate administrator for aviation safety at the FAA, told employees at a May 23 staff meeting at the Seattle Flight Standards Division Office that 'if the Republicans win office our jobs may be effected (furloughs) ...if the Democrats win office then our jobs would not be effected [sic],' according to one e-mail." House Aviation Subcommittee Chairman Tom Petri (R-WI) states, "If what has been reported is true, it is a clear violation of the Hatch Act, and the guilty parties should suffer the consequences. It is totally inappropriate for federal workers to engage in partisan politics on the job. Also, what [was] allegedly said happens to be untrue. No matter who wins in November, the FAA will continue to serve a necessary function keeping the skies safe." [36595]

The Elder of Zion blog reports, "Dr. Abdul Hamid al-Atrash, the head of the Fatwa Committee of Al Azhar in Egypt, has issued a ruling that Arabs may ban Jews from visiting their holy sites in Arab lands. He was asked the question by the El Balad newspaper. Al-Atrash says that as long as Muslims cannot travel to Jerusalem while it is in Jewish hands, then Muslims have the right to bar Jews from visiting their own holy places, under the Islamic concept of 'reciprocity.' Therefore, he says, Egyptian authorities have the right to ban Jews from going to the Alexandria synagogue on Rosh Hashanah." (Muslims are not prohibited from traveling to Jerusalem, and more than 200,000 Muslims live in East Jerusalem. AtlasShrugs.com reminds readers that Obama "made his infamous submission speech to the Muslim world at Al Azhar University back in June 2009. ...Obama invited the then-banned Muslim Brotherhood to hear his speech. Obama described Al-Azhar University this way: 'For over a thousand years, Al-Azhar has stood as a beacon of Islamic learning, and for over a century, Cairo University has been a source of Egypt's advancement.'" It can be assumed that Obama will not speak out against actions against Jews in Egypt. He has already shown indifference to the persecution of Coptic Christians in Egypt.) [36751, 36752, 36753]

At the Seattle Town Hall, Salt Lake City attorney Jesse Trentadue discusses the 1995 murder of his brother, Kenneth, and the cover-up by then-Assistant Attorney General Eric Holder and the Department of Justice. (It is believed that Kenneth Trentadue was mistaken for an individual connected to the Oklahoma City bombing. He was arrested and beaten to death, and the "official" government story was that he committed suicide. Some believe the Oklahoma City bombing was a government operation, part of the secret "PATCON," or "Patriot Conspiracy" program, that was possibly related to Ruby Ridge, Waco, and Operation Fast and Furious. The connections have been verified through various emails, documents, and the testimony of whistleblowers. In late 2011 *Newsweek*

magazine had planned to expose PATCON in a major story, but the “meat” was removed before publication. Obama and Holder, of course, cannot afford to let it be widely known that the FBI was involved in Operation Fast and Furious—let alone allow disclosure of the program’s connections between the Department of Justice, ATF, ICE, DEA, DHS, and the State Department. According to CoachIsRight.com, documents obtained by Jesse Trentadue via a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit show that Eric Holder “authorized members of the FBI to provide explosives to Oklahoma City bombing criminals Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols immediately prior to the April, 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah building. ...As Jesse Trentadue describes it, ‘PATCON was designed to infiltrate and incite... militia[s] and evangelical Christians to violence so that the Department of Justice could crush them.’ Both Waco and Ruby Ridge are now known to have been PATCON inspired, Department of Justice plots.” [26633, 26798, 26799, 27518, 27550, 37738, 42183]

Speakers for the final evening of the Democrat National Convention include Caroline “valley girl” Kennedy; actress Eva “Latina” Longoria; political opportunist Charlie Crist (of Crist, who switched political parties just in time to deliver a Democrat convention speech, Florida GOP strategist Todd Harris says, “Charlie Crist no more believes all of the liberal things he’s saying today than he believed the conservative things he was saying in his gubernatorial and senate primaries. The only thing he believes in is himself”); Senator John “ketchup” Kerry (D-MA); Vice President Joe “chains” Biden; and the man who promised to slow the rise of the oceans but has been unable to lower the unemployment rate, Barack Obama. [36605, 36643, 36660]

Benita Veliz, an illegal immigrant who lives in San Antonio, Texas, addresses the convention. She says, “Like so many Americans, of all races and backgrounds, I was brought here as a child. ...I know I have something to contribute to my economy and my country. I feel just as American as any of my friends or neighbors. But I’ve had to live almost my whole life knowing I could be deported just because of the way I came here. ...Obama fought for the Dream Act to help people like me, and when Congress refused to pass it he didn’t give up. Instead, he took action so that people like me can apply to stay in our country and contribute.” (Veliz is certainly not “like so many Americans.” She is a citizen of Mexico or another country. It is insulting to those who entered the country legally and passed the citizenship test to be told she is “just like them.” She is not. She is a lawbreaker. It is true that Veliz could be deported “just because of the way [she] came here”—and other young people can be arrested and jailed “just for the way they stole an old woman’s purse” or “just for the way they robbed a liquor store at gunpoint.” Breaking the law has—or should have—consequences. But the fact that the Obama administration chooses to enforce only *some* laws is not a distinction CNN wants to make obvious: the network cuts away to avoid showing Veliz’s speech.) [36703, 36704]

Singer James Taylor performs *You’ve Got a Friend* for the convention audience. (It is arguably not the best song choice for an event meant to nominate an arguably failed president in the midst of a terrible economy: “When you’re down and troubled, And you need a helping hand, And nothing, whoa, nothing is going right...”) [36691]

Michigan's disastrous former governor, Jennifer Granholm, riles up the convention crowd with praise for Obama's rescue of the auto industry. (Whether she is under the influence of alcohol or simply another white Democrat doing her best to sound like a black preacher is not clear. Granholm also delivered an "exuberant" performance on the television program *The Dating Game* in 1978.) [36681, 36735, 37230]

Congressman John Lewis (D-GA) addresses the convention and warns that the election of Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan will cause the reversal of decades of civil rights progress. Lewis, who is black, says, "I've seen this before, I lived this before. We were met by an angry mob that beat us and left us lying in a pool of blood. Brothers and sisters, do you want to go back? Or do you want to keep America moving forward? ...Too many people struggled and died ...we have come to far together to ever turn back. We must not be silent. ...We must march to the polls like never ever before." (Lewis' goal was no doubt to encourage black voters to support Obama on election day rather than stay home, but he also probably succeeded in moving a few undecided white viewers who are sick of the "race card" to support Mitt Romney.) [36661]

TheSmokingGun.com reports, "A North Carolina man was arrested yesterday for threatening to kill ...Obama in a series of Twitter messages [sic], one of which warned that [sic], 'Ima hit president Obama with that Lee Harvey Oswald swag.' Donte Jamar Sims, 21, is charged in a felony criminal complaint accusing him of threatening [Obama's] life in five tweets published September 3. Sims... is locked up in advance of a federal detention hearing scheduled for next Tuesday. In an interview with Secret Service agents yesterday at his Charlotte home, Sims admitted to posting the threats because 'he hated ...Obama,' according to a U.S. District Court filing. While Sims 'asserted he was high on marijuana when he made the threats,' he acknowledged that he 'understood what he was doing and that it was wrong,' investigators reported. Sims' tweets, which were discovered by a Secret Service intelligence specialist, were published over a 15-minute period early Monday morning. One post warned that [sic], 'Well Ima Assassinate president Obama this evening !...Gotta get this monkey off my chest while he's in town - \_-.' Another message claimed that the Secret Service 'is gonna be defenseless once I aim the Assault Rifle at Barack's Forehead... F\* the #DNC.'" [36606]

Gallup reports, "U.S. unemployment, as measured by Gallup without seasonal adjustment, is 8.1% for the month of August, down slightly from 8.3% measured in mid-August and 8.2% for the month of July. Gallup's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for August is also 8.1%, a slight uptick from 8.0% at the end of July. ...Gallup's slight increase in seasonally adjusted unemployment indicates that the unemployment rate the Bureau of Labor Statistics releases on Friday [September 7] will likely remain flat and possibly increase by a tenth of a point." [36608, 36635]

FoxNews.com reports that the Romney campaign "will launch an enormous media offensive on Friday, the day after ...Obama accepts the Democratic Party's nomination for a second term. The push will include ad buys in several states that will cost tens of millions of dollars. Aides said more than a dozen new ads, each tailored to different regions and segments of the electorate, will begin airing Friday, aimed at dramatically

shifting the dynamics of a contest that Romney-Ryan aides acknowledge, in terms of the hard realities of the electoral map, have until now favored the Obama-Biden ticket. ...Former New Hampshire Governor John Sununu, an adviser to the Romney campaign, said this week that its strategy going forward will be to ‘carpet bomb’” Obama and Biden. “Romney-Ryan officials did not repudiate such talk; indeed, one official, in speaking to Fox News, likened the offensive that will begin Thursday to the ‘daisy cutter’ bombs used in the Iraq war.” [36610]

Republican strategist Bradley A. Blakeman tells Newsmax.com it is not weather that forced the Democrats to move Obama’s acceptance speech from a 74,000-seat outdoor stadium to the indoor convention hall: “It’s not going to rain. [It did not.] It’s going to be crystal clear. Back in 2008 the Obama supporters would have stood in a torrent of rain for the anointed one. [He] was messianic. Does that mean that nobody plays football, nobody plays baseball? Why do we have open-air events? If there’s even a hint of rain we don’t play baseball? We don’t play football? We don’t play soccer? ...I would have had a backup venue like they did, and I would have pulled the plug probably this morning. But not just [for] drizzle. It would have to be something substantial. ...He wasn’t going to fill the arena. I’ve been told college students were not taking tickets, that they were trying to give people tickets in bars. Then they demanded that the unions come. ...The unions said ‘we’re not going to come and save the day. We’re not going to come and pour union workers into a place that wasn’t built with union labor.’” (North Carolina is a right-to-work state.) “...Absolutely, [the change of venue] breaks morale. He’s now disappointed his hardcore supporters just as much as he’s disappointed everyone else. These are the hardcore people they were counting on to get out the vote, stuff campaign literature, make phone calls. You need the grassroots support beyond just their vote to motivate people in the base. And I think there are a lot of people who have been disenfranchised but they weigh that against the embarrassment of having 25,000 people at most in a 70,000-person stadium, especially when the unions said to them, ‘hey we’re not showing up.’ ...I’ve done this many, many times. If you want a crowd of 10,000 people, you give out 30,000 tickets. They’re not going to show up if it’s free and people have the hassle of coming and parking. So 65,000 tickets generated may only get you a crowd of 20,000 people—25,000 people. It’s different if people have to pay for something. They’re more likely to show up. ...The Democratic Convention has been rife with mismanagement and incompetence—whether it’s the platform, whether it’s this decision, the tone of the Democratic convention or Bill Clinton looking like the rich father who shows up at school to get his kid out of a jam. It’s been one misstep after another.” [36669, 36691]

Newsmax.com also reports, “Former Vice President Al Gore boycotted the Democratic National Convention in a rift ...over [Obama]’s failure to push harder for laws that would force Americans to use fewer fossil fuels, according to news reports. Gore was covering the convention, in Charlotte, N.C., from New York for his struggling Current TV channel, The Daily reports. ‘Gore was not treated respectfully by the Obama team,’ a Democratic fundraiser told The Daily. ‘He’s snubbing them, because they snubbed him. He’s been missing in action. It’s not just the convention. Gore hasn’t made any speeches for Obama, or campaign appearances, or fundraising solicitations—nothing.” [36670]



WeeklyStandard.com reports, “The State Department today again refused to name the capital of Israel, even after being questioned by the press and even after the Democratic party ...voted yesterday to add language to its platform stating that Jerusalem is the capital of Israel.” Asked by a reporter which city does the U.S. Government recognize as the capital Israel, State Department press secretary Patrick Ventrell replies, “Well, as you know, longstanding Administration policy, both in this Administration and in previous administrations across both parties, is that the status of Jerusalem is an issue that should be resolved in final status negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians. So that’s longstanding Administration policy and continues to be so.” [36636]

Newsmax.com reports, “Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu blew up at the U.S. ambassador [Dan Shapiro] last month because he was ‘at wit’s end’ over what he sees as the Obama administration’s lack of clarity on Iran’s nuclear program, a U.S. congressman who was at the meeting said. House Intelligence Committee Chairman Mike Rogers, a Republican, made his first public comments about the late August meeting in Israel in an interview with Michigan’s WJR radio on Tuesday.” Rogers said, “Right now the Israelis don’t believe that this administration is serious when they say all options are on the table, and more importantly neither do the Iranians. That’s why the [nuclear weapons] program is progressing. ...If I were betting my house today, I would guess that they [Israel] probably will do it [strike Iran’s nuclear facilities] if we don’t have a change in more clear red lines from the United States.” [36668, 36672]

Obama leads Mitt Romney by a mere 7 points, 51–44, in a Quinnipiac poll of likely New Jersey voters. (Obama won the state by more than 14 points in 2008. The Obama campaign is likely very worried that he has lost so much ground.) [36653, 36910]

A Joe Biden Twitter message about “5 key points” in the Democrat platform includes a graphic with six-fingered hands. (Some may be reminded of Biden’s infamous comment about an important “three-letter word: J-O-B-S.”) [36663, 36664]

On MSNBC, far-left commentator Chris Matthews says, “Look, the only people who haven’t had it tough the last four years are the rich. They’ve had it easy, and I think that’s obvious. And now they’re afraid they might get somebody in the next four years who might start winning battles. By the way, the best way to beat the right-wing is to beat them. If he [Obama] beats them in this election, they’re finished. And I think that’s the point. And the moderates will come back. And Jeb Bush will come back. And the people like [Charlie Crist] will come back. The moderates will retake the party if you smash the right. ...I am talking what [Obama] believes because he’s told people that, that he thinks he can win this election and break these people on the right, the moderates will come back and they’ll be able to negotiate and the [Senate Minority Leader] Mitch McConnell will be shut up for a while.” (That is, Matthews believes that if Obama wins the Republicans will cave in, give Obama everything he wants, and legislate like Democrats. Matthews is likely assuming the Democrats will still hold the Senate. If the Republicans control both the Senate and the House but Obama wins reelection, they will certainly not give in to his demands. They will pass legislation and dare him to veto it. If he signs the

legislation, the GOP wins. If Obama vetoes legislation and the economy remains stagnant, he gets the blame.) [36662]

Politicker.com reports, “Members of the media have apparently been using ‘fake’ names to buy official Obama gear and contribute to the Obama campaign inside the Time Warner Cable Arena... During our travels around the arena, Politicker spotted a souvenir stand in one of the press stands selling T-shirts and buttons supporting ...Obama, ‘Democrats Are Hot’ bumper stickers and other official Obama merchandise. ...The woman working at the souvenir stand told us she hadn’t been ‘too busy’ during the day, but had seen business pick up in the past half hour or so. She then asked us whether we wanted to buy anything. When we informed her that our status as a reporter means we don’t buy campaign gear, she suggested a strategy other members of the media have apparently used to pick up their Obama swag. ‘Have you ever thought of making up a fake name? That’s what the other guys do,’ she said.” [36646]

The big-government tone of the Democrat convention is illustrated by former New Jersey secretary of state Regina Thomas, who says in her speech, “I have a 23-year-old son, and if it wasn’t for [Obama’s] making sure that my son could stay on my insurance until he—I don’t know how I would have been able to make ends meet, and I’m not doing bad. But to try to attempt to pay for his education, his books, and everything else that he needs, plus make sure that my mother, with health not so good, is taken care of, I don’t know what I would have done. So I owe [Obama] everything that I have because he saved me.” (To many Democrats, the government exists not to protect their individual liberties but to provide for them. For more than 230 years the nation survived quite well without forcing insurance companies to cover “children” as old as age 26 on the policies of their parents. Given four more years, Obama may work to change that 26 to 35.) [36642]

Senator John Kerry (D-MA), one of Washington’s greatest flip-floppers, delivers a convention speech in which he accuses Mitt Romney of flip-flopping. Kerry—who was for Syria’s murderous president Bashar al-Assad before he was against him—predictably excoriates Romney for his lack of foreign policy experience, forgetting that Obama also had no foreign policy experience when he ran for president in 2008. (In his brief tenure in the U.S. Senate Obama was chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on Europe, but he never bothered to hold a meeting. He merely wanted the title on his resume.) [114, 36641, 36657, 36659]

Jill Biden, introducing her husband Joe Biden, stresses proper respect for and treatment of veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan, and support for their families. Like virtually everyone else at the Democrat convention, she emphasizes the need for big government programs. She says, “I want you all to know that all of us—me, Michelle, Joe, and Barack—we couldn’t have gotten through school without school loans and grants, so we understand what many of you are facing. So that’s one of the things that this administration has focused on, by trying to keep college more affordable, by keeping the student-loan interest [rates] low, and by doubling the Pell Grants.” (Keeping interest rates artificially low and handing out Pell Grants actually causes college costs to increase,

because the schools respond by raising their tuition rates to absorb the additional cash. Additionally, doubling Pell grants does something else” it doubles the cost of the program for the taxpayers who fund it.. Giving away one’s own money to a needy student may be admirable, but giving away someone else’s is not virtuous; it is theft. And doing so with money borrowed from China hardly improves the process.) [36642]

Vice President Joe Biden addresses the Democrat National Convention. Biden’s exaggeration-filled, lie-laden speech is arguably laughable. In relating the story of how Obama “saved” the auto industry, Biden claims that Obama was the *only one* who understood that the issue was not cars, but the jobs of real people. Biden notes Obama’s “bravery” in making the decision to go after Osama bin Laden—as if any president would tell the generals, “Naw, don’t bother. Just leave the guy alone.” Biden also repeats the lie that Obama’s cancer-stricken mother had to fight with her insurance company over her hospital bills. Biden talks about moving the nation from “doubt and downturn” to “promise and prosperity,” which Townhall.com’s Guy Benson notes is “a tacit admission that we’re still in the former stage of that equation after four years of this administration’s stewardship.” Predictably, Biden repeats his line, “Osama bin Laden is dead and General Motors is alive,” but does not mention that GM is still on life support and owes the taxpayers tens of billions of dollars. [36652, 36656]

The *New York Post*’s John Podhoretz writes, “Remember that upon listening to Biden speak in the Senate, Obama wrote a note that said ‘Shoot. Me. Now.’” [36665]

In a biographical video played prior to Obama’s speech, he says, “When my mother got cancer, she wasn’t a wealthy woman and it pretty much drained all her resources.” Two nights earlier, Michelle Obama claimed, “Barack had to sit at the end of his mom’s hospital bed and watch her fight cancer and insurance companies at the same time. ...Watching your mother die of something that could have been prevented—that’s a tough thing to deal with.” (In fact, Obama did not visit his mother when she was in the hospital. According to author David Marannis and other researchers, Obama arrived in Hawaii, traveling from Chicago, after she had already died. Additionally, Stanley Ann Dunham’s salary was \$82,500—a significant sum in 2012, and even more so in 1995. She also had employer-paid health insurance and housing and car allowances. Her hospital billed her insurance company directly. What was left unpaid by her insurance amounted to only a few hundred dollars per month. Michelle Obama’s line, “that could have been prevented,” implied that Stanley Ann Dunham died because of “nasty insurance companies” and not ovarian cancer. There is no evidence to suggest that anyone acted to deny coverage or treatment.) [36656]

Obama criticizes the Republicans for offering no detailed plans for economic recovery—and then offers no detailed plans of his own. Obama—who in 2009 promised to cut the deficit in half in his first term and said if he could not solve the nation’s economic problem it would be “a one-term deal”—asked for four more years in the White House. He states, “And the truth is, it will take more than a few years for us to solve challenges that have built up over decades. It will require common effort, shared responsibility, and the kind of bold, persistent experimentation that Franklin Roosevelt pursued during the

only crisis worse than this one.” (By “shared responsibility” Obama means “higher taxes.” By “persistent experimentation” he means more Solyndra-like loans and unconstitutional executive orders when Congress does not give him what he wants.) Obama avoids a review of his record, knowing he will lose an election that is a referendum. Instead, he says, “On every issue, the choice you face won’t be just between two candidates or two parties. It will be a choice between two different paths for America. A choice between two fundamentally different visions for the future.” Ignoring his 2008 promises, Obama claims, “I won’t pretend the path I’m offering is quick or easy. I never have. You didn’t elect me to tell you what you wanted to hear. You elected me to tell you the truth. And the truth is, it will take more than a few years for us to solve challenges that have built up over decades. ...But know this, America: Our problems can be solved. Our challenges can be met. The path we offer may be harder, but it leads to a better place. I’m asking you to chose that future. And I’m asking you to choose that future. I’m asking you to rally around a set of goals for your country—goals in manufacturing, energy, education, national security, and the deficit; a real, achievable plan that will lead to new jobs, more opportunity, and rebuild this economy on a stronger foundation. That’s what we can do in the next four years, and that’s why I’m running for a second term as President of the United States.” [36644, 36654, 36655, 36723]

At MyWay.com, Tom Raum and Calvin Woodward point out some of the misleading promises Obama made in his speech but will be unable to keep. They include: “I’ll use the money we’re no longer spending on war to pay down our debt and put more people back to work—rebuilding roads and bridges, schools and runways. After two wars that have cost us thousands of lives and over a trillion dollars, it’s time to do some nation-building right here at home.” (The spending on Iraq and Afghanistan already comes from borrowed money, so reducing that spending only results in slightly reduced borrowing. There are no “leftover dollars” to use for “paying down the debt” or building roads, bridges, schools, or runways. If a person borrows \$120 from his neighbor one week and \$100 the following week, that certainly does not mean he has an extra \$20 to “pay down his debt”—he simply has \$220 in debt rather than \$240 in debt. The federal government’s annual deficit is about \$1.2 trillion. It is impossible to pay down one cent of the national debt without first reducing that \$1.2 trillion deficit to zero—and that is not accomplished by spending tens of billions of dollars on new projects and programs.) [36647]

Obama states, “We will reform and strengthen Medicare for the long haul, but we’ll do it by reducing the cost of health care, not by asking seniors to pay thousands of dollars more.” (MyWay.com notes, “Some of the proposals the Obama administration has floated in budget negotiations with Congress would ask Medicare beneficiaries to pay more. Among them: revamping co-payments and deductibles in ways that could raise costs for retirees and increasing premiums for certain beneficiaries. Obama even indicated a willingness to consider raising the eligibility age, currently 65, to 67. As word of some of the proposals leaked out, [Obama] faced a backlash from fellow Democrats.”) [36647]

Obama states, “I’m still eager to reach an agreement based on the principles of my bipartisan debt commission. No party has a monopoly on wisdom. No democracy works

without compromise.” After emphasizing the importance of compromise, he immediately lists a several issues on which he refuses to compromise: tax cuts, modifying income tax deduction rules, reducing student grants, or changing the basic structure of Social Security or Medicare. [36683]

Obama claims, “We can help big factories and small businesses double their exports, and if we choose this path, we can create a million new manufacturing jobs in the next four years.” (MyWay.com: “Obama has claimed an increase of some 500,000 manufacturing jobs over the past 29 months. But this is cherry picking by [Obama]. From the beginning of Obama’s term 3 1/2 years ago, manufacturing jobs have declined by more than 500,000, according to the Labor Department’s Bureau of Labor Statistics. Manufacturing jobs have been on a steady decline for nearly two decades. Even though there has been a modest uptick in manufacturing jobs this year, unless there is a major turnaround, it seems unlikely that Obama’s goal of 1 million new manufacturing jobs can be reached by his target date of 2016.” Obama’s plan for doubling exports is essentially to devalue the dollar so that exports are cheaper in relation to foreign currencies. Although devaluing the dollar can boost exports, it also means price inflation for all the goods and services purchased by American consumers.) [36647]

Unfortunately for the voters, Obama offers only goals—with no plans on how to achieve them. Although the wording is different, the themes and messages of Obama’s speech are essentially a rehash of his 2008 acceptance speech. He sets up the usual straw men and false choices to portray the Republicans as teacher-firing, senior-killing, budget-slashing disciples of the devil. (If scientists could find a way to convert Obama’s straw man arguments into ethanol the nation’s energy problems would be over.) The *Daily Mail* remarks, “Judging by the reaction of the crowd, Obama’s speech paled into insignificance compared to the rollicking address by former President Bill Clinton on Wednesday night and the emotional, affecting speech by his wife Michelle on Tuesday. It was also not as rousing as Vice President Joe Biden’s speech just beforehand.” [36644]

During his speech Obama does not use the words “Obamacare,” “stimulus,” or “Affordable Care Act.” (Obama also talks about having more goods labeled “Made in America.” Obama has made that same mistake in the past. Knowing nothing about business, Obama is unaware that U.S. exports are labeled “Made in USA” or “Product of USA”—*not* “Made in America.”) [36655, 36764]

Within minutes of the end of his speech, the Obama campaigns sends an email: “It’s because you’ve got my back that I’m here. And if we win this, it will be because of you, too. Can you pitch in \$3 or more right now? <https://donate.barackobama.com/Tonight>. I can’t tell you how grateful I am. Barack; P.S. -- This is my last campaign, and knowing you’re with me means everything. I can’t do this without you.”

On Fox News, columnist Charles Krauthammer comments, “I was stunned. This is a man who gave one of the great speeches of our time in 2004, and he gave [tonight] one of the emptiest speeches I have ever heard on a national stage. Yes, it had cadence, and yes, there were deceptions in it, but that’s not what’s so striking about it. There was nothing in

it. This is a man who believes that government can and should do a lot. There is nothing in here that tells us how he's going to go from today to tomorrow. For any of the so called goals and what government is going to do, what is he going to enact? At least Romney had a five point plan. What we heard from Obama was a vision. And he pulls numbers out of a hat: 100,000 new math and science teachers. He's got 600,000 more people working in natural gas. He's got two million more trainees. He doesn't say how we get from A to B. It's a vision. I have a vision of an America where there's no disease and everybody has a private airplane, but unless I tell you how we get there, I've said nothing. And what is so surprising, is that—all he had left—he clearly can't speak about his record on the economy, it's not a good one. As we heard earlier, he didn't even speak about achievements, the ones that liberals like, ObamaCare, stimulus, etc. because they're unpopular. So, at least he would talk about the future, and what he's going to do. There was nothing there. I'm simply amazed that he was—it was like this is a guy who is the A student in the class who turns in a paper that's clearly a C, and the teacher is astonished and says, 'How could you do this? Why did you mail it in?'" [36648, 36658]

"I felt the Biden speech was infinitely better, because it was empathic and carried a message, but the Obama speech, I thought was flat and had no content in it. [sarcastically] Otherwise, I loved it, really... [The role of government] is the heart of the debate with Republicans and Romney. It's the heart of the debate between left and right since the French Revolution. The individual or community, and he [Obama] stands for the community, which he translates as government. So at that abstract level it's the old argument. But that's not what you're talking about in an acceptance speech, when you've been in power for the four years. People expect you to say I'm going to do X, Y, and Z, and we didn't hear any of that. So, as a philosophical issue, yes, but without any of that meat on the bone, I think it rings quite hollow. I think [Obama's speech] does [affect Independents] and I think it's a negative. If you're an independent and you're still undecided and you aren't a committed person on the left or right, and you were sort of a pragmatist, and you're listening and [Obama] offers you numbers out of a hat, he wants a lot of this, a lot of that. He mentioned again and again wind and solar and algae—he didn't use the word, he used biofuels—and you say to yourself, 'I've heard all this, there's nothing new. This is what he's tried, he talked about. Where is the meat to make me think that I should have hope and faith? That we will achieve anything?' And that's what I think he's lacking. I think for independents, undecideds, it will actually send him somewhat backwards." [36648, 36658]

Fox News senior political analyst Britt Hume remarks that Obama's speech "...probably didn't have it in more than the usual quotient of dishonesty for a political speech of this kind but it had its share. Just to give you an example, just to cite a few things. He says, 'Over and over, we've been told by our opponents that bigger tax cuts and fewer regulations are the only way, that since government can't do everything it should do almost nothing.' I've never heard anyone say that, in either party about anything. He went on to talk about, you know, 'We honor the strivers, the dreamers, the risk-takers who have always been the driving force behind our free enterprise system, the greatest engine of growth and prosperity the world has ever known.' Well, there are an awful lot of businessmen and women out there who don't think he honors those things and all. And

it's quite remarkable to hear him say that. He also said, you know, 'We'll keep the promise of Social Security by taking responsible steps to strengthen it, not by turning it over Wall Street. Who now is proposing that? So, there was certainly a significant number of straw men and criticism of proposals that nobody is making that he made a part of the speech, but that is one of the things you do in politics.' [36649]

On MSNBC, fiery leftist Ed Schultz says, "I thought [Obama] tonight had one of the strongest finishes, very passionate. But, tonight, [he] went after where he has been attacked and mocked by the right-wing about hope and change. He specifically pointed out what is different in this country under his leadership—the health care; the education; the immigration; and the don't ask, don't tell. And he is—was referring back to the people who had spoken previously in this convention, very well-coordinated convention, very well-coordinated message. And about the hope, he put it on the American people. He made me feel good tonight. He made the American people feel good tonight and he gave us confidence. He pointed out what we've been through, what we can get through and where we're going. It was a very visionary speech and it was vintage Barack Obama." [36650]

As the party-of-abortion convention ends, Cardinal Timothy Dolan delivers the benediction. The prayer includes these words: "Thus do we praise you for the gift of life. Grant us the courage to defend it, life, without which no other rights are secure. We ask your benediction on those waiting to be born, that they may be welcomed and protected. Strengthen our sick and our elders waiting to see your holy face at life's end, that they may be accompanied by true compassion and cherished with the dignity due those who are infirm and fragile." [36688]

While Democrats re-nominate Obama in North Carolina, actor Robert Duvall hosts a fundraiser for Mitt Romney at his Virginia farm and raises \$800,000. [36712, 36713]

Meanwhile, aging pop performer Madonna performs at a New York City concert with a fake "OBAMA" tattoo on her lower back. She tells the crowd, "Tonight I'm not going to show my ass. I'm going to show my feelings. How's that for living dangerously?" (It is hardly "dangerous" for a known leftist to profess her support for a leftist politician.) Madonna also says she realizes "how lucky I am to be living here in America" (In fact, she lives in London) and adds, "Thank God for Michelle Obama and her good-looking husband too." (Journalist Bernard Goldberg warns that the Madonna endorsement of Obama is a death knell for Mitt Romney, "Because no candidate in the past 200 years has won the White House without the all-important 'Women-Over-50-Who-Dress-Like-13-year old-Sluts' vote.") [36740, 36745, 37660]

On September 7 the Department of Labor reports that a mere 96,000 jobs were created in August. (At the rate of 96,000 jobs per month it would take 20 years for 23 million unemployed and underemployed Americans to become fully employed—provided that during those 20 years no additional workers emigrated to the United States and no high school or college graduates entered the workforce. More than a few disheartened Americans suggest that the 96,000 new jobs represent 32,000 people each working three

part-time jobs.) The unemployment rate falls from 8.3 to 8.1 percent—because 368,000 Americans who stopped looking for work are no longer counted as being part of the workforce. (during August, for every job created there were about four people who dropped out of the workforce. The unemployment rate would be 11.6 percent if the government were still counting all the workers who have exhausted their unemployment benefits and given up.) Regardless of the unemployment rate, since October 2009 the employment-to-population ratio has remained at about 58 percent, roughly 5 points lower than when the recession began. The difference is due to Americans dropping out of the workforce. Bloomberg reports, “Stocks, Treasuries and gold all rose on bets the figures make it more likely Fed policy makers will expand record monetary stimulus next week after Chairman Ben S. Bernanke called unemployment a ‘grave concern.’ The report also dealt a blow to ...Obama one day after he accepted the Democratic Party’s nomination for a second term.” (Many expect the Federal Reserve to expand the money supply in an effort to give the economy and artificial boost. The ultimate result will be higher prices for all goods and services.) [36637, 36651, 36671, 36679, 36692, 36706, 36746]

The Department of Labor also revises downward its June and July figures: June job creation was 45,000 (not 64,000), and July’s count is lowered to 141,000 (from 163,000). [36679]

CNSNews.com adds additional employment information: “The number of Americans whom the U.S. Department of Labor counted as ‘not in the civilian labor force’ in August hit a record high of 88,921,000. The Labor Department counts a person as not in the civilian labor force if they are at least 16 years old, are not in the military or an institution such as a prison, mental hospital or nursing home, and have not actively looked for a job in the last four weeks. The department counts a person as in ‘the civilian labor force’ if they are at least 16, are not in the military or an institution such as a prison, mental hospital or nursing home, and either do have a job or have actively looked for one in the last four weeks. In July, there were 155,013,000 in the U.S. civilian labor force. In August that dropped to 154,645,000—meaning that on net 368,000 people simply dropped out of the labor force last month and did not even look for a job. There were also 119,000 fewer Americans employed in August than there were in July. In July, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, there were 142,220,000 Americans working. But, in August, there were only 142,101,000 Americans working.” Strangely, therefore, the unemployment rate fell from 8.3 to 8.1 percent even though there are 119,000 fewer people working—because the government stopped counting 368,000 people entirely. At Yahoo.com Jeff Macke writes that dropping out of the workforce “...could mean going on disability, going into the grey market (read: getting paid cash for odd jobs), doing something illicit, or begging. Whatever they’re doing instead of working or looking for legitimate jobs, 368,000 Americans gave up on participating in the economy in August alone. What would it take to make you just give up entirely? That’s what hundreds of thousands of your fellow Americans went through last month. Think about that if anyone tries to tell you a drop in the headline rate is anything but more evidence of an ongoing national disgrace.” [36684, 36685]



In *The Wall Street Journal*, Mort Zuckerman writes, “How many people are out of work but not counted as unemployed because they hadn’t sought work in the past four weeks? Eight million. This is the sort of distressing number that turns up when you look beyond the headline number. ... The alarming numbers proliferate the deeper you look: 40.7% of the people counted as unemployed have been out of work for 27 weeks or more—that’s 5.2 million ‘long-term’ unemployed. Fewer Americans are at work today than in April 2000, even though the population since then has grown by 31 million. We are still almost five million payrolls shy of where we were at the end of 2007, when the recession began. Think about that when you hear the Obama administration’s talk of an economic recovery. The key indicator of our employment health, in all the statistics, is what the government calls U-6. This is the number who have applied for work in the past six months and includes people who are involuntary part-time workers—government-speak for those individuals whose jobs have been cut back to two or three days a week. They are working part-time only because they’ve been unable to find full-time work. This involuntary army of what’s called ‘underutilized labor’ has been hovering for months at about 15% of the workforce. Include the eight million who have simply given up looking, and the real unemployment rate is closer to 19%.” [36707]

Of course, the “official” unemployment rate of 8.1 percent is a meaningless figure because the “U.3” statistic does not count everyone who is unemployed. That an individual has given up looking for work and has exhausted his unemployment benefits does not make him any less unemployed. Millions of people on welfare are also unemployed, yet they are also not counted in the unemployment rate. At LewRockwell.com Paul Craig Roberts later points out, “The government produces another unemployment measure, U.6, which includes people who have been discouraged by the inability to find a job and have been out of the work force for less than a year. This measure of unemployment is 14.7%, a number that would get attention if reported. When the long-term (more than one year) discouraged workers are included, the US unemployment rate is about 22%. In other words, the real US rate of unemployment is almost three times higher than the reported–headline rate–of 8.1%. What is the purpose of reporting an unemployment rate that is about one-third the real unemployment rate? The only answer is deception through Happy News.” Additionally, “According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), 28,300 of the 96,000 jobs or 29% are waitresses and bartenders. Health care and social services, primarily ambulatory health care services and home health care services, provided 21,700 jobs or 22.6% of the jobs. So, 52% of the new jobs created by the American superpower are lowly paid waitresses, bartenders, practical nurses, and hospital orderlies. Highly paid manufacturing jobs declined by 15,000. The incomes lost by these jobs most likely exceed the income gains from the waitresses, bartenders, and hospital orderlies jobs.” (Just as the government manipulates the unemployment rate so as not to frighten the masses, it also manipulates the inflation rate. Readers may wish to peruse the site [www.shadowstats.com](http://www.shadowstats.com) for additional information.) [36746, 36747]

Campaigning in New Hampshire, Obama responds to the grim economic news by saying, “After losing around 800,000 jobs a month when I took office, business once again added jobs for the 30th month in a row, a total of more than 4.6 million jobs. But, but that’s not

good enough. We know it's not good enough. We need to create more jobs faster.” MSNBC's Andrea Mitchell comments, “That is not a great bumper sticker, ‘It's not good enough.’ You know, you have to make the argument, he has to make the argument that the recovery is happening, people have to feel good about it.” [36678]

Mitt Romney responds to the job numbers: “If last night was the [Obama convention] party, this morning is the hangover. For every net new job created, nearly four Americans gave up looking for work entirely. This is more of the same for middle class families who are suffering through the worst economic recovery since the Great Depression. After 43 straight months of unemployment above 8 percent, it is clear that ...Obama just hasn't lived up to his promises and his policies haven't worked. [Americans] aren't better off than they were four years ago.” [36696]

*Chicago Tribune* columnist John Kass writes, “Once it was all about ‘hope and change.’ Now it's ‘we hope he changes.’ Barack Obama was marketed in 2008 as some kind of messianic political god, leaving the enraptured throngs unshaken in their faith that every word from his mouth was pure gold. And now the multitudes are out of work. Reality trumps rhetoric. ...I still think he'll win re-election. But at bottom he remains a man of rhetoric. And Americans can't use rhetoric to pay their bills. ...Under Obama's watch, the national debt has ballooned, passing into the trillions and trillions, numbers inconceivable only a decade ago. And China holds our paper. Yet there he was, offering more government, not less, while parading that savage icon of massive federal spending and authority, Franklin Roosevelt. Obama's message Thursday was that he's not in the White House to sing soothingly to us, but rather, he's been put here to tell us hard truths, even as he offered muffled code words like ‘shared responsibility’ (more taxes) and ‘persistent experimentation’ (more government). ...Obama did have an opportunity, after his party lost the House in 2010, to pivot and change political course like a Chicago version of Bill Clinton, but he remains, stubbornly, a man of the left, and government is the hammer in his hand. Hope may remain, but with Obama, change seems impossible.” [36645]

Guy Benson, political editor at Townhall.com, calls Obama's speech remarkably “flat and mediocre. We've heard iterations of that speech many times before, but this one felt phoned in from start to finish. The audience was ready to explode, but they never really had the chance. I kept waiting for it to pick up, but it never did. This hall was much louder and more engaged during President Clinton's address last night. [Obama] again talked about hope and how times have changed. He essentially urged voters to ‘stay the course,’ even as a large majority of voters believe our current course is badly awry. He served up a series of warmed-over promises, even as scores of already-issued ones lie unfulfilled. We were told he'd discuss entitlement reform with some specificity. He did not. He took a few shots at Republicans, but most of those seemed dialed back. He battled against the same straw-men he's been knocking down for years, to little effect. ...Almost entirely absent from the speech was significant mention of the jobs crisis, voters' top concern. He also mostly ignored Obamacare and the stimulus, his two signature first term agenda items. Where was his plan for another term? More teachers, increased energy independence and green jobs? That's it? I eagerly anticipate the

inevitable RNC video comparing this speech with Obama's refrains from 2008. It'll underscore the more-of-the-sameness that filled this building tonight, and dropped with a thud. The most memorable line for me was 'I'm no longer just a candidate. I'm the President.' You could have fooled many of us, Mr. President, given your constant campaigning and fundraising." [36652]

Benson continues, "...Press row is morose. Reporters are trying to reassure each other that the speech 'wasn't that bad.' MSNBC is subdued. On CNN, James Carville allows that this wasn't Obama's best speech. On Fox, Charles Krauthammer calls the speech the 'emptiest' in recent memory. A woman in the concourse half-shouts, 'fired up!' No one replies. This election will be hard-fought and close, no doubt. Obama could very well win. But tonight was a major swing and a miss for a guy known for his homerun speeches. Does anyone who watched that speech have a clear idea of what's next, or what his plan is to achieve this mysterious 'forward' vision? Meanwhile, 23 million Americans are out of work or underemployed. The debt is at \$16 Trillion and counting. Poverty and food stamp usage are at all-time highs. Middle class incomes are down. Obama wants four more years, but why? This now looms even larger." [36652]

The Media Research Center notes some of the major media reactions to Obama's speech. "On Friday's *Today* show, Chuck Todd glumly conceded, 'Look, aides acknowledge this wasn't his most poetic speech, not on par with his previous convention speeches and maybe not even the best convention speech of the week.'" "Over on *Good Morning America*, George Stephanopoulos actually refrained from his normally effusive praise of [Obama]. The host acknowledged, 'A different kind of convention speech from ...Obama last night. More sober, a little more humble.'" "On CBS *This Morning*, Nancy Cordes delicately explained, '[Obama] acknowledged that his vision of hope and change had been battered a bit by the vagaries of politics. But he didn't necessarily lay out a roadmap for how he planned to achieve [energy or education] goals or how he would work with Congress more effectively in a second term.'" "In an interview with Robert Gibbs, co-host Norah O'Donnell seemed underwhelmed, wondering, 'Was it small, though, for a convention speech, which is usually kind of about bigger, more visionary things to sort of level such an attack [against Romney] like that?'" [36667, 36673]

Other comments, from CNN's Wolf Blitzer: "I thought there would be more specifics. There were a lot of goals expressed, generalities, a lot of stuff we've heard before. I didn't hear any specific new initiative that [Obama] unveiled." From Bob Schieffer at CBS: "But this was not the kind of speech that Bill Clinton made last night. It just didn't have that spark." NBC's Savannah Guthrie: "I think some people who have been at both conventions think there was something of an excitement gap. There may have been an excitement gap between [Obama's] speech and Bill Clinton's last night." CNN's Brianna Keilar: "Don't Think I'm Going Out On A Limb To Say Clinton Was Wayyyyyyy Better Than Obama." NBC's Andrea Mitchell: "There wasn't a whole lot of new policy except on education, but certainly this was a way to rally the troops." CNN's Anderson Cooper: "Although, it certainly wasn't a speech full of soaring rhetoric like some of his speeches four years ago. Some of it comparing it [sic] sort of to a State Of The Union, almost, in terms of kind of going down a checklist." Associated Press: "Once the candidate of hope,

Obama's message was hang in there." University Of Virginia's Larry Sabato: "It Was Purgatorial. I see the usual suspects ...are either praising Obama's talk to high heaven, or damning it to hell. No, it was purgatorial." [36667, 36673]

In *The Wall Street Journal* Peggy Noonan writes, "Barack Obama is deeply overexposed and often boring. He never seems to be saying what he's thinking. His speech Thursday was weirdly anticlimactic. There's too much buildup, the crowd was tired, it all felt flat. He was somber, and his message was essentially banal: We've done better than you think. Who are you going to believe, me or your lying eyes? There were many straw men. There were phrases like 'the shadow of a shuttered steel mill,' which he considers writerly. But they sound empty and practiced now, like something you've heard in a commercial or an advertising campaign. It was stale and empty. He's out of juice. ...All three days [of the convention] were marked by a kind of soft, distracted extremism. It was unshowy and unobnoxious but also unsettling. There was the relentless emphasis on Government as Community, as the thing that gives us spirit and makes us whole. But government isn't what you love if you're American, America is what you love. Government is what you have, need and hire. Its most essential duties—especially when it is bankrupt—involve defending rights and safety, not imposing views and values. We already have values. ...Something else, and it had to do with tone. I remember the Republicans in Tampa bashing the president, hard, but not the entire Democratic Party. In Charlotte they bashed Mitt Romney, but they bashed the Republican Party harder. If this doesn't strike you as somewhat unsettling, then you must want another four years of all war all the time between the parties. I don't think the American people want that. Because, actually, they're not extreme. [36674]

TheDailyBeast.com reports that before the convention, Obama's speech was actually tested before focus groups that gave it positive marks. "[T]hey extensively tested the president's speech in dial groups, a type of focus group where voters twist dials to register approval or disapproval of specific passages, and say it tested off the charts. The reaction, they say, was more positive than to Obama's 2008 acceptance speech in Denver." HotAir.com comments, "Yeah, the problem with this embarrassingly feeble bit of spin is that, per Charles Cooke [at NationalReview.com], O really only has one speech left in his repertoire. Whether the focus group loved it or not, that's what America was going to get last night. He can't do sweeping vistas and uplift anymore because literally no one outside the hardest-core Obama-bots takes it seriously. The delusion of Hopenchange is now a punchline... So he's forced to run through his 'things could have been worse' shtick, replete with the same old policy wish list that's starting to bore even Andrea Mitchell. Just the thought of them holding actual focus groups on last night's gutterball is funny, in fact. First question: 'Did you enjoy this speech more now or the first thousand times you heard it?'" [36675, 36676]

On MSNBC Krystal Ball observes, "I think [Obama's] speech last night is representative of his entire first administration in that the expectations for him in this speech were so high. There was no way that anyone, I mean, people, I think, expected him to rotate the planets. There was no way he could meet those expectations. And I think in a lot of ways his first term has been a reckoning between the fact that here's this guy, [who had] such

an improbable rise, so rapid, so meteoric that people really sort of ascribed to him supernatural abilities that were just totally unrealistic. So his entire first term, there's been a reckoning between what a person can actually do in this office versus the supernatural vision of him during the election. And this speech is representative, too. ...I think it was a very good speech. I think there were incredibly solid moments. I think it accomplished what he needed to accomplish, but there was no way he could meet the expectations that people have for him." [36677]

In an interview with *The Carmel Pine Cone*, actor Clint Eastwood comments on his appearance at the Republican National Convention. Eastwood calls Obama "the greatest hoax ever perpetrated on the American people. Romney and Ryan would do a much better job running the country, and that's what everybody needs to know. I may have irritated a lot of the lefties, but I was aiming for people in the middle. ...I had three points I wanted to make: that not everybody in Hollywood is on the left, that Obama has broken a lot of the promises he made when he took office, and that the people should feel free to get rid of any politician who's not doing a good job. But I didn't make up my mind exactly what I was going to say until I said it. It was supposed to be a contrast with all the scripted speeches, because I'm Joe Citizen. I'm a movie maker, but I have the same feelings as the average guy out there. ...Even people on the liberal side are starting to worry about [the nation] going off a fiscal cliff. ...The audience was super enthusiastic, and it's always great when they're with you instead of against you. ...They've got this crazy actor who's 82 years old up there in a suit. I was a mayor [of Carmel, California], and they're probably thinking I know how to give a speech, but even when I was mayor I never gave speeches. I gave talks." Eastwood notes that most of the critics of his speech "are obviously on the left," but "A lot of people are realizing they had the wool pulled over their eyes by Obama." [36682, 36687, 36693]

The Ulsterman Report interviews the White House insider, who says, "Bill [Clinton] was great. Everyone else just ok. Obama fell flat. ...What Clinton did was a clever Lloyd Bentsen rehash. Kind of in reverse. Or first person take on it. And it was brilliant. ...The 'I knew JFK and you're no JFK' part. That is what Bill did this week. A version of it. Reminded everyone of what was but what hasn't been these last four years. Trust me. Don't buy the liberal spin. That is what he did. [That is, Clinton intentionally reminded everyone, "Obama is no Bill Clinton."] And by the end of that speech, Obama knew it. Things were pretty icy backstage. ...Bill's speech was double the time they gave him. Had Obama waiting. Kept [him] waiting for almost an hour. Handlers not happy. [Valerie] Jarrett pissed. They do that little shake at the end when Obama walks out. Backstage, Bill says something like, 'He wanted to break my hand.' He's laughing it off. Knows what he wanted to do was done. Obama storms off. The two were all smiles onstage. Backstage, they parted. Bill's getting congratulated and Obama is gone. [I was] Told somebody, [it] was a woman so assume Jarrett but didn't ask for clarification, took Bill aside and was shaking her finger in his face for a moment. Bill leaned down and whispered something to her and she walks off. He goes back to smiling and the handshakes. Classic Clinton. The smiling assassin. And what is the feedback today? That Obama's speech was not as good as Clinton's. That he isn't Clinton. Look up the Bentsen reference. That's what we saw Clinton pull off this week." [36686]

The insider says that Clinton will fundraise for Obama, but only “In a limited amount. Has to keep the party bosses happy. For ’16. He won’t help Obama much. As little as possible to keep others he might need later happy. ...It’s Clinton. ...Politics. ...He is what he is.” The insider confirms the coming Romney avalanche of anti-Obama advertising. “Ad blitz. Tens of millions. Gonna bury [Obama]. ...The Romney team is running a good campaign. Very professional. Not perfect. And they are gonna need some more help. But so far so good.” The insider refuses to state whether he (a Democrat) is now assisting the Romney campaign. He says to “Watch for DOJ-related”—meaning Department of Justice and Attorney General Eric Holder. [36686, 36690, 36721, 36758]

Contrasting the two political conventions, Rush Limbaugh tells his radio audience, “One week ago last night at the Republican convention we had all those testimonials to the character and the life of Mitt Romney from average people. People that, before the Republican convention, nobody ever heard of: The family with the 14-year-old boy with cancer, the family with the sick little girl in the hospital. All these people were character witnesses and they were many and numerous. Who were the character witnesses for Barack Obama during this convention? There were three. There was Bill Clinton. [chuckles] That’s big. When you got Clinton as a character witness, you’re in there. Number two character witness was Michelle Obama. And the third one, who was the third character witness? Joe Bite Me [Biden] last night. Joe Bite Me. ...That was it, folks. That was the sum total of character witnesses, and that was the reason to vote for Obama. He cares and Biden has seen enough to know that he’s a great guy. There wasn’t a word about his charitable acts. There wasn’t a word about Obama’s interaction with people that he’s inspired. There was none of this. You know, [columnist Charles] Krauthammer used the word ‘empty’ to describe Obama’s speech last night. I think the whole convention ended up (because of the way it ended) being that way.” [36692]

Limbaugh suggests that if key Democrats and the media leftists “think they’re gonna lose, they will start making sure that people understand it was Obama who blew it, not liberalism that was rejected. Not big government that was rejected, not spending that was rejected, not debt. Not all the things that equal liberalism. None of that was rejected. Nope, it was Obama. They’re gonna have to, because the ideology comes first. ...Within the bowels of the Democrat Party, there is a rising number of people—an increasing number of people—who think this is over. Their fears were confirmed after Obama’s speech last night, and that number is going to increase. If it weren’t for a bunch of mitigating factors, Obama would be down 15 or 20 [points in the polls]—and ought to be. ...That speech, when you boil it all down, was the latest bit of evidence of what a failure Obama is and what a failure his ideas are, what a failure liberalism is, what a failure statism is. It was all wrapped up in that speech last night. Again, for a simple reason, folks: There was nothing he could have said that would change what he’s done. ...And that’s why he went back to the liberal boilerplate. Shore up the base. That’s why he went back to the 30-, 50-year-old playbook. ...He went back to the basics. That’s all he’s got is to shore up the base, because there’s nothing he could have said that would have made himself look like a success. I’m telling you, there’s nothing he could have said that could change what he’s done. There’s nothing he could have said that would have changed

what he's caused. There's nothing he could have said to make the 89 million people out of work think that that's good." [36692, 36695]

Limbaugh points out similarities between Obama's speech and Jimmy Carter's 1980 convention speech, among them: "The choice you face won't just be between two candidates or two parties. It will be a choice between two different paths for America, a choice between two fundamentally different visions for the future." (Obama) "This election is a stark choice between two men, two parties, two sharply different pictures of what America is and what the world is, but it's more than that. It's a choice between two futures." (Carter) [36694]

In Chicago, Mayor Rahm Emanuel faces the threat of a teacher strike. Reuters reports, "Nearly 30,000 public school teachers and support staff represented by the Chicago Teachers Union have vowed to walk off the job starting at 12:01 a.m. ...on Monday if an impasse in contract talks with the city is not broken. Earlier this year, [Emanuel] pushed through a longer school day, but the union is opposed to other proposed reforms, including tougher teacher evaluations tied to student test scores and giving principals wide latitude in hiring. The union also wants more than the 8 percent pay raise over four years that Chicago is offering. The school district says it cannot afford concessions as it is running a large budget deficit and major credit rating agencies have downgraded its debt rating. The threatened walkout, the first in Chicago in 25 years and one of the largest labor actions nationwide in recent years, comes at an awkward time for Emanuel's former boss, ...Obama, who spent much of his adult life in Chicago and owns a house in the city." (The union may believe that Emanuel will cave in at the last minute, rather than risk a strike that may work against Obama. Obama does not need thousands of angry union teachers refusing to engage in get-out-the-vote activities on election day.) [36701]

TheHill.com reports, "The White House on Friday said it will miss the legal deadline for delivering a report to Congress on the spending cuts from sequestration that are scheduled to take effect in 2013. ...Under the terms of the Sequestration Transparency Act signed in August, ...Obama was to tell Congress by Friday how the administration plans to implement the \$109 billion in automatic cuts mandated by the Budget Control Act. The Office of Management and Budget has repeatedly failed to make legal deadlines. It delivered its presidential budget proposals and mid-session updates late both this year and last year." [36702]

Bloomberg reports, "The Obama administration's plan to tighten regulation of hydraulic fracturing for natural gas on public land may cost more than 20 times U.S. estimates, energy companies and local governments said. EOG Resources Inc., the top oil producer in a Texas shale formation, and officials from Wyoming and Utah cite a study by John Dunham and Associates that said it will cost \$253,839 per well to meet the proposal for disclosing chemicals being used and certifying the well is isolated to avoid leaks. The Bureau of Land Management estimated costs at \$11,833 per well." Eric Dille, government affairs director for EOG, states, "The proposed rule is unnecessary, excessive and requires actions that no state currently regulating oil and natural gas production deems necessary. The proposed rule will also place undue economic burdens and time

delays on independent oil and natural gas producers that will inevitably drive many smaller companies away from exploring for oil and natural gas on federal lands.” [36796]

Author Mark Steyn (*After America*) comments on Sandra Fluke’s address to the Democrat convention: “So this is America’s best and brightest—or, at any rate, most expensively credentialed. Sandra Fluke has been blessed with a quarter-million dollars of elite education, and, on the evidence of Wednesday night, is entirely incapable of making a coherent argument. She has enjoyed the leisurely decade-long varsity once reserved for the minor sons of Mitteleuropean grand dukes, and she has concluded that the most urgent need facing the Brokest Nation in History is for someone else to pay for the contraception of 30-year old children. She says the choice facing America is whether to be ‘a country where we mean it when we talk about personal freedom, or one where that freedom doesn’t apply to our bodies and our voices’—and, even as the words fall leaden from her lips, she doesn’t seem to comprehend that Catholic institutions think their ‘voices’ ought to have freedom, too, or that ObamaCare seizes jurisdiction over ‘our bodies’ and has 16,000 new IRS agents ready to fine us for not making arrangements for ‘our’ pancreases and ‘our’ bladders that meet the approval of the commissars. Sexual liberty, even as every other liberty withers, is all that matters: A middle-school girl is free to get an abortion without parental consent, but if she puts a lemonade stand on her lawn she’ll be fined. What a bleak and reductive concept of ‘personal freedom.’ America is so broketastically broke-broke that one day, in the grim future that could be, society may even be forced to consider whether there is any meaningful return on investment for paying a quarter-million bucks to send the scions of wealth and privilege to school until early middle-age to study Reproductive Justice. ... We’ll see in a couple of months whether taking up with Sandra works out for King Barack. But what’s strange is that so many people don’t find it strange at all—that at a critical moment in the affairs of the republic the ruling party should assemble to listen to a complacent 31-year old child of privilege peddling the lazy cobwebbed assumptions of myopic narcissism.” [36705]

In Ohio, licensed private investigator Susan Daniels files a sworn affidavit asking that *criminal* charges be filed against Obama for identity theft via the use of someone else’s Social Security number. In the complaint Daniels notes that Obama has been using Social Security number 042-68-4425, a number issued in 1977 from Connecticut—even though Obama never lived or worked in that state and was a teenager in Honolulu at the time. (It is believed that Obama has used other Social Security numbers as well.) Judge David Fuhry later dismisses a related *civil* action, arguing, “[N]o where [sic] is it clear that use of an improper social security number is a ground for the [Ohio] Secretary of State to reject the candidacy of ... Obama, or any other candidate for office. Thus, Count One of the Complaint should be dismissed for failure to state a claim.” [36726, 36738]

Bloomberg reports that the Democrats “ended their convention in Charlotte \$5 million short of their budget even after being forced to draw down a \$10 million line of credit from Duke Energy Corp., according to a Democratic Party fundraiser. That will leave a \$15 million bill that eventually will have to be paid by ... Obama’s campaign or the Democratic National Committee, according to the fundraiser, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss internal deliberations. The Charlotte Host Committee ended the



convention with more than \$5 million in immediate obligations and may require a direct cash infusion from the Obama campaign to pay vendors, said the fundraiser.” [36734]

On September 8 attorney Orly Taitz announces that court hearings are scheduled for September 24 in Mississippi and September 26 in Indiana for her legal challenges to Obama’s name appearing on the ballots in those states. (Taitz charges that Obama is not eligible to serve as president because he is not a natural born citizen, and laws in those states prohibit the inclusion of his name on the ballot. Although Obama is not likely to win either of those states on November 6, if a judge rules in favor of Taitz and Obama does not appear on the ballot the controversy could force a nationwide examination of the issue—and Obama’s shady past.) [36707]

Meanwhile, Obama is playing hardball in the state of Washington, where the attorney general’s office is pressuring plaintiff Linda Jordan from appealing her ballot challenge. Deputy Solicitor General Jeffrey T. Even threatens Jordan with sanctions for filing a frivolous appeal. [36708]

Newsmax.com reports, “Six Republican senators are asking Secretary of Defense Leon E. Panetta personally to intervene to ensure that U.S. troops stationed away from home get the chance to register and vote in the upcoming election. They say Pentagon officials are ignoring a 2009 law that ordered the military to set up a special voting-assistance office at every U.S. base around the world, to make sure troops can negotiate the confusing patchwork of 50 different sets of state registration and absentee voting requirements, and get their ballots mailed in time.” (It is in Obama’s best interests to suppress the military vote because it will almost certainly favor Mitt Romney.) [36711, 36728]

During a campaign appearance in Zanesville, Ohio, Vice President Joe Biden dares the media to “fact check” his convention speech: “I say to the press, fact check me.” According to Fox News, “The Romney Campaign took up the challenge within hours. ...The Romney campaign released a statement with fact-checks on statements Biden made relating to Romney’s tax and Medicare plans, and claims from Biden that Romney shipped jobs overseas. Biden and ...Obama made other statements in their convention speeches on such topics as unemployment and Medicare that fact-checkers said also appear to be inaccurate or at least misleading. Among the questionable remarks were Biden’s argument that ‘after the worst job loss since the Great Depression we created 4.5 million private sector jobs in the past 29 months’—a frequent response by the Obama campaign when questioned about the slow economic recovery. The Associated Press and others point out that statement is misleading because it counts jobs from the recession’s lowest point to where employment began to grow again—excluding jobs lost earlier in Obama’s term and masking that overall unemployment has increased over that period. ...The Associated Press also points out that Obama said in his speech that he wants to use money saved by ending the wars to build highways, schools and bridges. However, the wars were largely financed by borrowing ‘so there is no ready pile of cash to be diverted to anything else,’ the wire service writes. The group FactCheck.org listed eight instances in which either Biden or Obama ‘spun’ facts during their speeches Thursday night in Charlotte, N.C. ...Other examples include [Obama] saying U.S. auto makers are back on

top of the world. ‘Nope,’ writes FactCheck, pointing out that General Motors has slipped back to No. 2 and is headed for third place in global sales this year behind Toyota and Volkswagen. The group said Biden misquoted Mitt Romney when he said the GOP presidential nominee ‘believes it’s OK to raise taxes on middle classes by \$2,000.’ Romney in fact promises to lower middle-class taxes, FactCheck points out.” [36714]

Obama campaigns in St. Petersburg, Florida—again choosing an audience of college students. He says, “If you give up the idea that your voice can make a difference, then other folks are going to fill the void: the lobbyists, the special interests, the people who are writing \$10 million checks, the folks who are trying to keep people from voting.” At an Orlando campaign stop, Obama meets a young boy who says he was born in Hawaii, Obama asks him, “You were born in Hawaii? [Do] You have a birth certificate?” (Obama believes he can joke about where he was born, but it is racist for anyone else to do so. Obama believes he can mention his own his middle name, but it is racist for anyone else to do so.) Mitt Romney campaigns at the Military Aviation Museum in Virginia Beach, Virginia, and later in the day at a NASCAR race in Richmond, Virginia. [36715, 36722, 36724, 36731]

In Kissimmee, Florida, Obama says, “We can create a million new manufacturing jobs in the next four years, because we’re selling goods around the world stamped with three proud words: Made in the USA. Made in the USA. Made in the USA. That’s part one of our plan, making it here in the United States of America.” Obama may have been taught to count by Joe Biden, who once referred to “jobs” as a three-letter word.) [36764, 36778, 36787]

FoxNews.com reports, “Mexican federal police announced ...that they have arrested a suspect in the killing of U.S. Border Patrol agent Brian Terry, the slaying at the center of the scandal over the botched U.S. gun-smuggling probe known as Operation Fast and Furious. Jesus Leonel Sanchez Meza is one of the five men charged with killing Terry in December 2010 during a shootout in Arizona near the Mexico border. One is on trial in Arizona and the other three remain fugitives. Sanchez was arrested Thursday in Sonora state. Two guns found at the scene were bought by a member of a gun-smuggling ring that was being monitored in the Fast and Furious investigation.” [36716, 36769]

Gateway Pundit posts a 30-minute video illustrating how the administration has actively worked against Israel since Obama took office in January 2009. [36719, 36720]

CNBC.com, noting that gun sales are up dramatically for the year, writes, “Speculation has focused on fears of a coming regulatory crackdown on gun ownership. Liberal administrations tend to be anti-gun and so, the thinking goes, an Obama re-election would set the stage for stricter gun purchasing requirements. Hence, people are buying now in anticipation of difficulty later.” More than 10 million guns were sold in 2011, and sales for 2012 will be even greater, reports Mac Slavo at LewRockwell.com.) Ruger president and CEO Mile Fifer states, “It took us nearly all of 2011 to build one million firearms, but in 2012 we accomplished it on August 15th.” One New Jersey gun dealer comments, “I should put Obama’s picture on the wall up there. I’d name him salesman of

the month!” (Rather than invest in Solyndra, Obama should have invested in Smith & Wesson.) [36729, 36748, 36780]

The editors of Takimag.com comment on the Democrat convention: “The Democratic Ministry of Truth informs us that ‘Government’s the only thing we all belong to,’ whether we choose to or not. ...Speedy Gonzalez’s cousin delivered a heart-wrenching speech about the DREAM Act. Then the Frito Bandito’s mother spoke movingly about how she swam the Rio Grande with her small son hidden safely beneath one of her sagging breasts. ... This year’s DNC was so gay that Freddie Mercury cried pink tears from heaven. ...A young man named Zack Wahls gave a speech about being raised by lesbian parents, which is one of the most dire and pressing issues currently facing this country. Barney Frank slobbered all over the mic[rophone] about his gay marriage because gay marriage affects all of us, even though it doesn’t really affect many of us at all. ...Sandra Fluke ...spoke ominously of the Wicked War on Women’s Wombs. Several other women spoke about being women and how women’s issues affect all women and how women need to focus on being women and how they’re not at all maybe a tiny bit narcissistically fixated on being women and therefore unwittingly reinforcing negative stereotypes about women. ...[A] possibly sloshed Jennifer Granholm screamed at conventioners like a transsexual Howard Dean. ...Vice President Joe Biden literally misused the word ‘literally’ at least five times, at which point we stopped counting. ... His ears spread wide, a haggard Barack Obama took the stage looking as if he’d lost roughly 50 pounds of mojo since 2008. Openly groping for the female vote, he acknowledged his love for his steroidal wife Michelle and his adorable daughters, Bulimia and Sausage. He spoke of hope, and of moving forward, and of moving forward hopefully, claiming that he wasn’t merely peddling ‘blind optimism or wishful thinking.’” [36732]

On September 9 former House Speaker Newt Gingrich appears on CNN’s State of the Union and remarks, “I actually thought parts of the [Bill] Clinton [convention] speech were eerily anti-Obama, if you just listened to the subtext. I mean, here is Clinton saying, ‘I reformed welfare because I worked with the Republicans; you didn’t, Mr. Obama.’ He didn’t say it that way, but think about it. ‘I had the longest period of economic growth in history; you didn’t, Mr. Obama. I got to four balanced budgets by working with Republicans; you didn’t, Mr. Obama. ...I think what it does is it actually shrinks Obama. I mean, you have a real president and then you have this guy who is a pretender.” [36730, 36750, 36770]

NBC’s *Meet the Press* broadcasts a wide-ranging interview with Mitt Romney. Host David Gregory’s questions are relatively non-confrontational and weak, but he does try to force a wedge between Romney and conservative voters—to get them discouraged so they will stay home on election day. Gregory asks, “Are you prepared to cut a deal with Democrats that would cause conservatives to revolt? Is it that important to get a deal to get us away from this fiscal cliff?” (In other words, “Are you willing to agree to tax increases?”) When Romney refuses to take the bait, Gregory presses again, “But are you going to... will you cut a deal to compromise even if it risks a conservative revolt?” Romney responds, “There’s nothing wrong with the term compromise but there is

something very wrong with the term abandoning one's principles. And I'm standing by my principles and that is, I am not going to raise taxes on the American people. The problem in our country is not that we're not paying enough taxes, it is that we are spending too much money and the economy is not growing as it could and should..." [36737, 36771, 36785, 36807]

In the *Meet the Press* interview Romney states, "Well, I'm not getting rid of all of healthcare reform [even though I will repeal ObamaCare if elected]. Of course, there are a number of things that I like in health care reform that I'm going to put in place. One is to make sure that those with pre-existing conditions can get coverage. Two is to assure that the marketplace allows for individuals to have policies that cover their—their family up to whatever age they might like. I also want individuals to be able to buy insurance, health insurance, on their own as opposed to only being able to get it on a tax-advantage basis through their company." Romney responds to charges that he plans to lower taxes on the wealthy and raise taxes on the middle class: "We're not going to have high income people pay less of the tax burden than they pay today. That's not what's going to happen. I do want to bring taxes down for middle income people. In particular, I want middle income Americans not to have to pay taxes on interest and dividends and capital gains.. ...And if we limit or eliminate some of the loopholes and deductions at the high end, we keep the current progressivity of the [tax] code and we get the same revenue coming into the government. And one marvelous thing we get is more growth of the economy. ...I'm very concerned that we have 23 million people that are out of work or stopped looking for work or under-employed. And so everything I want to do with regards to taxation follows simple principles, which is bring our rates down to encourage growth, keep revenue up by limiting deductions and exemptions and make sure we don't put any bigger burden on middle income people. In fact, I want to lower the burden on middle income people. ...And I want to make sure people understand, despite what the Democrats said at their convention, I am not reducing taxes on high income taxpayers. I'm bringing down the rate of taxation, but also bringing down deductions and exemptions at the high end so the revenues stay the same, the taxes people pay stay the same. Middle income people are going to get a break. But at the high end, the tax [revenue] coming in stays the same. But we encourage small business, because small business is able to keep more of what it makes and therefore hire more people, which is my priority." [36782, 36783, 36785, 36807]

On ABC's *This Week* columnist George Will states that taking any reference to God out of the Democrat platform "may have been an act of omission. God will take care of [Himself]. But removing the capital of Israel was an act of commission. You go out on the street of any American city—you go out in Newark, stop someone and say, 'What is the capital of Delaware, Vermont and Israel?' Some people are going to know, Dover. Some people are going to know Montpelier. Everyone except the [Obama administration's] State Department knows that the capital of Israel is Jerusalem." [36767]

*Hustler* magazine pornographer Larry Flynt runs an ad in *The Washington Post* offering \$1 million for Mitt Romney's tax returns. (Flynt does not offer a reward for Obama's original birth certificate, passport records, or school transcripts.) [36774]

A September 3–6 *Albuquerque Journal* poll shows Obama leading Mitt Romney by only 5 points in New Mexico, 45–40. Eight percent are undecided and 7 percent support Libertarian Gary Johnson. Romney leads 48–26 among white voters; Obama leads 56–39 among Hispanics. (Obama won the state by 14 points in 2008.) [36741, 36742, 36743]

In Melbourne, Florida Obama ignores the bad economic news and jobs and attacks Mitt Romney by frightening senior citizens, charging that if Romney is elected their Medicare costs “would rise by the thousands and the insurance companies' profits would rise by the billions.” Romney spokesman Ryan Williams responds, “Only one candidate in this race has robbed today’s Medicare of \$716 billion to pay for ObamaCare—Barack Obama. He has done nothing to reform Medicare for the long haul and prevent it from going bankrupt. [Obama’s] decision to use discredited studies and outright falsehoods to attack Mitt Romney is an admission that he can’t talk about his record of crushing the middle class and failing to turn the economy around.” [36744]

During Obama’s Florida visit, a police officer from the town of Jupiter, Bruce St. Laurent, is struck and killed by a pick-up truck as he blocks traffic for the advancing motorcade. Obama does not witness the accident. White House press secretary Jay Carney tells reporters, “our thoughts and prayers are with the officer’s family.” [36749, 36802]

At Port St. Lucie, Florida, Obama plans a “photo op” telephone call in front of news cameras to thank campaign volunteers. *WashingtonTimes.com* reports, “But when White House trip director Marvin Nicholson handed [Obama] his personal iPhone, ...Obama couldn’t get it to work. A reporter who witnessed the scene said [he] looked ‘befuddled.’ ‘It’s not clear he knows how to dial on an iPhone,’ the reporter wrote in a [media] pool report. Finally, ...Obama said, ‘Oh, I got to dial it in. Hold on, hold on. I can do this. See, I still have a BlackBerry.’ [Obama] then ‘had a little more trouble dialing,’ the pool report said. [Obama] then has more trouble dialing. When the call didn’t go through, he blamed Mr. Nicholson for having an insufficient cell phone plan.” [36789, 36795, 36835]

*YNetNews.com* reports that Iran’s president, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, will address the United Nations General Assembly “on the Jewish holy day of Yom Kippur.” (Obama and Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu will deliver addresses on other days.) At *AtlasShrugs.com* Pamela Geller writes, “Tell me again how 9/11/01 was not a victory for Islam?” [36754, 36755]

*WND.com* reports, “Malik Zulu Shabazz, national chairman of the New Black Panther Party, stated today in a radio interview that his controversial group may deploy at voting booths in the November presidential elections, claiming such a move is needed to ensure there is no ‘intimidation against our people.’” (In early 2009 the Obama administration dropped charges against three militant members of the New Black Panthers—Malik Shabazz, Samir Shabazz, and Jerry Jackson—who were accused of threatening voters at a Philadelphia polling place on election day in November 2008. “Minister King Samir Shabazz” held a nightstick or Billy club that he pointed at and menacingly tapped as

people arrived to vote. The federal government won the case against the three in April, but the administration chose to drop the charges. Poll watcher Bartle Bull, a former civil rights lawyer and campaign manager for Robert F. Kennedy, said in his affidavit, “I watched the two uniformed men confront voters and attempt to intimidate voters. They were positioned in a location that forced every voter to pass in close proximity to them. The weapon was openly displayed and brandished in plain sight of voters.” The three men interfered with poll observers, and said to one white worker, “You are about to be ruled by the black man, cracker.” Jackson had been issued an official poll “Watcher’s Certificate” by the county; the document stated that Jackson was given credentials by the Democrat Party. It can be assumed that had three white thugs intimidated black voters, the Obama administration would not have dropped the charges. Former Justice Department voting rights attorney J. Christian Adams has charged that “after the case was dismissed, instructions were given that no more cases against racial minorities like the Black Panther case would be brought by the Voting Section.” That is, whites can be charged for actions against blacks and Hispanics, but the Obama administration will ignore cases of discrimination against whites.) [2948, 2961, 2962, 2983, 3076, 3110, 12352, 12460, 12499, 36756]

Yahoo.com reports that the film *2016 Obama’s America* has grossed \$26.2 million, to become the second highest-earning documentary of all time—beating four of leftist propagandist Michael Moore’s five documentaries. (Moore’s *Fahrenheit 9/11* remains the number one documentary.) [36805, 37532]

60 Minutes air a segment on the Navy SEAL raid on Osama bin Laden’s compound in Afghanistan. CBS’s Scott Pelley interviews SEAL Mark Owen, author of *No Easy Day*. (Owen is a pseudonym; his face and voice are disguised for the interview.) [36739, 36773]

On September 10, while 23 million Americans are unemployed or working only part-time because they cannot find full-time jobs, 26,000 unionized teachers and support staff go on strike in Chicago. According to CBS’s Rebecca Jarvis, the average teacher salary is \$76,000—for nine months of work and not counting generous health and retirement benefits. The teachers, who pay an mere 3 percent of the health insurance premiums, want a 19 wage percent increase over four years—and don’t want tougher performance evaluations that might cost the less effective teachers their jobs. (The schools are so bad that roughly one-third of the teachers send their own children to private schools.) Illinois Governor Pat Quinn has warned, “by 2016 the state will spend more on pension contributions than education funding.” Townhall.com’s Katie Pavlich writes, “The good news is [mayor Rahm] Emanuel [Obama’s former chief of staff] has at least said he is ‘disappointed’ with the strike and that it is ‘unnecessary,’ but we’ll see if he actually has the nerve to fire them all ‘for the kids.’ Emanuel clearly has a situation to deal with. Maybe he should make a phone call to Scott Walker next door in Wisconsin or across the country to Chris Christie in New Jersey for some helpful and effective advice.” High school teacher Jay Rehak tells the Chicago Tribune, “We know a strike is really going to be painful. People will be hurt on both sides. But in the end, it’s like saying, ‘I’ll be bloodied and you’ll be bloodied, but at least you’ll know not to bully me again.’” (By

“bullied” Rahak means being offered a 16 percent wage increase rather than the 19 percent demanded—when the school system faces a \$700 million operating deficit.) [36761, 36762, 36766, 36772, 36775, 36784, 36794, 36798, 36809, 36812, 36813, 36814, 36822, 36826, 36827, 36832]

Rush Limbaugh suggests that the strike is a “perfect setup” for Obama. “Let’s just see how long this thing goes on, and let’s see how it gets solved. Anybody want to bet against me that Obama’s the one that gets credit for this, in a few short days? ...He and Rahm [Emanuel] will figure this out so they get credit for solving it. Because, I tell you: There is no union that is gonna go on strike right now for the express purpose of harming Barack Obama. ...And Obama, I’m not predicting it, but I wouldn’t be surprised if Obama inserts himself in the mix here somehow to bring reason and compassion. Not to the point that Rahm is hurt. It’ll not happen in a way that makes Rahm look incompetent. No, no, no. They will do it working together.” (One Instapundit reader writes, “It MAY be ALL coincidental, but within the last couple of weeks, my cousin told me about a truly diabolical plan for election ‘optics.’ He is a Longshoreman in Texas. His union was considering going on strike for the sole purpose of allowing BHO to intervene and settle the labor dispute and look like either a uniter or maybe even tough on unions. So, when I saw that Rahm’s teachers went on strike in spite of a 16% pay raise offer, my mind went places that logic would never take it, but modern day politics do. Worth watching anyway. Also, to protect my cousin from retribution from union thugs, I suppose it would be best to avoid attribution here.” *Morning Jolt* responds with a quote from Robert Heinlein: “You have attributed conditions to villainy that simply result from stupidity”) [36761, 36762, 36766, 36772, 36775, 36784, 36794, 36798, 36809, 36812, 36813, 36814, 36822, 36826, 36827, 36828, 36852]

Mitt Romney issues a statement criticizing the Chicago teachers union for “turn[ing] its back on not only a city negotiating in good faith but also the hundreds of thousands of children relying on the city’s public schools. Teachers unions have too often made plain that their interests conflict with those of our children, and today we are seeing one of the clearest examples yet. ...Obama has chosen his side in this fight [the union]. I choose to side with the parents and students depending on public schools to give them the skills to succeed, and my plan for education reform will do exactly that.” Paul Ryan states, “I’ve known Rahm Emanuel for years. He’s a former colleague of mine. Rahm and I have not agreed on every issue or on a lot of issues, but Mayor Emanuel is right today in saying that this teacher’s union strike is unnecessary and wrong. We know that Rahm is not going to support our campaign, but on this issue and this day we stand with Mayor Rahm Emanuel. We stand with the children and we stand with the families and the parents of Chicago because education reform, that’s a bipartisan issue. This does not have to divide the two parties. And so, we were going to ask, where does ...Obama stand? Does he stand with his former Chief of Staff Mayor Rahm Emanuel, with the children and the parents, or does he stand with the union? On issues like this, we need to speak out and be really clear. In a Romney-Ryan administration we will not be ambiguous, we will stand with education reform, we will champion bipartisan education reforms. This is a critical linchpin to the future of our country, to our economy, to make sure that our children go to the best possible school, and that education reforms revolve around the parents and the

child, not the special interest group. This is something that's critical for all of us.” [36799, 36800, 36822, 36839]

White House press secretary Jay Carney plays defense for Obama on the Chicago teachers strike, telling reporters, “Well, I’m sure he’s aware of it—I know he’s aware of it—but, I haven’t spoken with him about it, so I can’t speak for his reaction. I can tell you that, more broadly, that our principle concern is for the students, and his principle concern is for the students and families who are affected by this situation. And we hope that both sides are able to come together to settle this quickly, and in the best interest of Chicago’s students, but beyond that, I haven’t got a specific reaction from [Obama].” (In other words, “Obama supports the union but he cannot admit that because the taxpayers think the teachers are greedy, so he will only say that he is ‘for the children’—and the union will understand the deception.”) [36811]

PJMedia.com reports, “Jihadi groups in Egypt, including Islamic Jihad, the Sunni Group, and Al Gamaa Al Islamiyya have issued a statement threatening to burn the U.S. Embassy in Cairo to the ground. According to El Fagr, they are calling for the immediate release of the Islamic jihadis who are imprisonment [sic] and in detention centers in the U.S. including Guantanamo Bay: ‘The group, which consists of many members from al-Qaeda, called [especially] for the quick release of the jihadi [mujahid] sheikh, Omar Abdul Rahman [the ‘Blind Sheikh’], whom they described as a scholar and jihadi who sacrificed his life for the Egyptian Umma, who was ignored by the Mubarak regime, and [President] Morsi is refusing to intervene on his behalf and release him, despite promising that he would. The Islamic Group has threatened to burn the U.S. Embassy in Cairo with those in it, and taking hostage those who remain [alive], unless the Blind Sheikh is immediately released.’” [37071]

Reuters reports that General Motors “is still losing as much as \$49,000 on each [Chevrolet] Volt it builds, according to estimates provided to Reuters by industry analysts and manufacturing experts. GM on Monday issued a statement disputing the estimates [but not providing actual loss figures]. Cheap Volt lease offers meant to drive more customers to Chevy showrooms this summer may have pushed that loss even higher. There are some Americans paying just \$5,050 to drive around for two years in a vehicle that cost as much as \$89,000 to produce. ...GM’s quandary is how to increase sales volume so that it can spread its estimated \$1.2-billion investment in the Volt over more vehicles while reducing manufacturing and component costs—which will be difficult to bring down until sales increase.” (The Obama administration plans to boost Volt sales with an order for 1,500 of the vehicles for the Department of Defense. If reelected, Obama plans to increase the buyer “immediate tax credit” for the Volt from \$7,500 to \$10,000. That is, taxpayers who have enough sense not to buy a Volt will be shelling out \$10,000 to anyone who wants a “green status symbol” in his or her garage.) [36757, 36867, 36908, 36943]

Blogger Debbie Schlussel reports, “Well, Obama is finally doing something to fix the economy. The Obama administration sent representatives of major U.S. corporations to jump start it. The problem is, it’s not our economy. It’s the jihadist one in Egypt.



Corporate execs were sent to prop up Muslim Brotherhood rule over Egypt. Sadly, Coca-Cola, Exxon, and Pfizer, were part of the group and plan to do business with pro-HAMAS Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi.” According to *The Wall Street Journal*, “A delegation of more than 100 American business leaders is touring Cairo this week, part of a White House-led effort to burnish Egypt’s image as an investment destination and help restore the country’s flagging economy. The delegation forms the crux of a wider U.S.-led effort to prevent the economy of Egypt—which Washington sees as an important security ally—from becoming more destabilized. Washington and Cairo are in the midst of negotiating the terms for about \$1 billion in debt relief and U.S. diplomats have said they are nudging the International Monetary Fund toward extending a \$4.8 billion loan to Egypt’s government.” [36980]

On MSNBC Jeremy Scahill—a liberal at the very liberal *The Nation*—slams the media’s soft coverage of Democrats at their national convention: “Many of the media discussions, including here at MSNBC, about foreign policy during the convention felt like we were watching an ‘Obama for America’ meet-up, not an actual serious critique of [Obama’s] most egregious aspects of his foreign policy, where you do see that of the Republicans. There’s all of this going after Romney and I think it’s completely legitimate, but the core issues of [Obama’s] national security policy are not being debated and, I’m sorry, but watching John Kerry and Joesph Biden criticizing the war in Iraq—they both voted for the war in Iraq. Joe Biden was the chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and shut down [Senate] debate about Iraq when it was being debated in this country.” [36840]

“The numbers are in,” reports Katie Pavlich at Townhall.com, “and they’re huge. Team Romney raised \$111.6 million in August. The Romney campaign, RNC and state party participants now have \$168 million cash on hand with 57 days to go before Election Day 2012. ...The vast majority of donations aren’t coming from big time donors as the Obama campaign has charged, they’re coming from everyday Americans. [94.11% of all donations received in August were \$250 or less.] It turns out Paul Ryan was an excellent choice for Romney as his vice presidential nominee, not to mention a cash cow, too.” [36760]

The Obama campaign reports it raised \$114 million in August. (The Romney campaign has more cash on hand, however, because it has not been spending more than it has taken in—as the Obama campaign has done. [36777, 36803]

On her radio talk show conservative Laura Ingraham comments, “If you can’t beat Barack Obama with this record, then shut down the [Republican] party. Shut it down, start new, with new people, because this is a give-me election, or at least it should be. And the millions of dollars—I keep going back to the million and millions and millions of dollars that are paid to these political consultants election after election. We hire people who have lost previous campaigns, who’ve run campaigns that have failed, who have message campaigns where the message fell flat—and they keep getting rehired. I don’t understand that. I don’t know why those are the people you hire. ...If I’m hiring messaging people... I’m finding out for instance who did the original GEICO gecko

commercial? Because that guy or gal who did that actually knows how to brand something. So I'm going for the best branders and I'm going for the people who have been successful against the Alinsky crowd in the past. That's it. And if you're Mitt Romney with all of your expertise and all of your knowledge about how the economy works and you're in this—you have one shot. This is going to be the first line of your obituary. You won, or you lost. It's all on the line for the country and it's all on the line for you. You know, saying that, 'Well the [job] numbers are disappointing'—yeah the numbers are disappointing. ...The numbers that came out on Friday show once again that there it not only no recovery, but the real unemployment rate is around 12 percent. People have abandoned all hope of getting a job. We have 400,000 people almost who quit looking for work [in August alone]. That's hope?" [36765, 36786, 36838]

Dailycaller.com reports that the Obama administration is “negotiating a \$1 billion aid package with Egypt’s new Islamist government, even as Egypt’s cash-strapped military revealed that it is trying to buy \$1 billion worth of German submarines that could threat Israel’s fast-growing offshore energy projects. The German government has pointedly declined to deny the incendiary revelation about Egypt’s request to buy the two submarines.” [36768]

The Ulsterman Report writes, “A couple days ago ...Obama staged an appearance at a [Fort Pierce] Florida pizza shop where he received a bear hug from the owner. That same owner now fears customers will stop buying his pizza due to his support of ‘You didn’t build that’ Obama. The week before that now infamous bear hug, First Lady Michelle Obama asked supporters to skip pizza in favor of donating to the Obama campaign. Only in the Age of Obama can a political campaign do so much harm to one of the country’s most beloved of foods...” Owner Scott Van Duzer says, “People are saying a lot of bad things and boycotting my restaurant.” (The event was staged, and *The New York Times* reports that permission was granted in advance for the embrace. Gateway Pundit reports that Van Duzer visited the White House in June and comments, “Yup. Either the Secret Service guys were sound asleep on this or it was carefully planned and scheduled in advance.”) [36815, 36817, 36818, 36836, 36837]

On ABC ‘s evening news broadcast, author Bob Woodward (*The Price of Politics*) relates some of the details of the 2011 debt crisis negotiations—some of which portray Obama in a less than favorable light. Woodward notes that Obama has expressed regret that he excoriated Paul Ryan during an April 13, 2011 budget address at George Washington University: “I’ll go ahead and say it—I think that I was not aware when I gave that speech that Jack [sic; Obama meant Paul] Ryan was going to be sitting right there.” Obama lied to Woodward, and certainly knew Ryan would be in attendance. According to Ryan spokesman Conor Sweeney, the Congressman was invited by the White House, responded to the RSVP, and sat in the seat assigned by the administration. (The supposed great reporter Woodward simply took Obama’s statement that he did not know Ryan would be there at face value.) Obama’s speech was roundly criticized, and not just for its rudeness. At Politico, Roger Simon called it a “reelection speech” in which Obama “told liberals he still shares their goals and Democrats he is still one of them.” Obama said, “In the last decade, the average income of the bottom 90 percent of all working Americans

actually declined. Meanwhile, the top 1 percent saw their income rise by an average of more than a quarter of a million dollars each. That's who needs to pay less taxes? That's not right, and it's not going to happen as long as I'm president!" (Of course, it *did* happen, because Obama had, in 2010, signed legislation extending the Bush tax rates for two more years.) With Ryan sitting in the front row, Obama slammed his budget proposal, saying, "I will not allow Medicare to become a voucher program that leaves seniors at the mercy of the insurance industry. I will not tell families with children who have disabilities that they have to fend for themselves. We will reform these programs, but we will not abandon the fundamental commitment this country has kept for generations." (Needless to say, Ryan's budget proposal does none of those things.) [19643, 19650, 19662. 196679, 19689, 19693, 19745, 36781, 36841]

ABC's Diane Sawyer, beside herself that Woodward would dare reveal something negative about Obama, says, "Here, in an election year, there are going to be people who are going to say you're delivering some ammunition to his opposition." Woodward responds, "I am not delivering ammunition. I am trying to describe what happened." [36858]

After the 2011 speech, syndicated columnist Charles Krauthammer said, "I thought it was a disgrace. ...I've rarely heard a speech by a president so shallow, so hyper-partisan and so intellectually dishonest, outside the last couple of weeks of a presidential election where you are allowed to call your opponent anything short of a traitor. But, we're a year-and-a-half away from Election Day and it was supposed to be a speech about policy. He didn't even get to his own alternative until more than halfway through the speech. And when he did, he threw out numbers suspended in mid-air with nothing under them with all kinds of goals and guidelines and triggers which mean absolutely nothing. The speech was really about and entirely an attack on the [Congressman Paul] Ryan plan. ...It was a speech that was quite remarkable in how demagogic it was and I say that with all due respect." Author and columnist Mark Steyn wrote, "There's something sad about a man so carelessly revealing himself as entirely inadequate to the moment. Government spending is an existential threat to the United States. Whether or not anyone at the White House knows this, the viziers decided to shove the sultan [Obama] out on stage with a pitifully unserious speech retreating to all his lamest tropes—the usual whiny, petty, and unpresidential partisan snippiness, and the ponderous demolition of straw men even he barely bothered to pretend he believed in." [19643, 19650, 19662. 196679, 19689, 19693, 19745, 36781, 36841]

At WashingtonPost.com the American Enterprise Institute's Marc A. Thiessen writes, "...Obama is touting his foreign policy experience on the campaign trail, but startling new statistics suggest that national security has not necessarily been the personal priority [he] makes it out to be. It turns out that more than half the time, [Obama] does not attend his daily intelligence meeting. The Government Accountability Institute, a new conservative investigative research organization, examined ...Obama's schedule from the day he took office until mid-June 2012, to see how often he attended his Presidential Daily Brief (PDB)—the meeting at which he is briefed on the most critical intelligence threats to the country. During his first 1,225 days in office, Obama attended his PDB just

536 times—or 43.8 percent of the time. During 2011 and the first half of 2012, his attendance became even less frequent—falling to just over 38 percent. By contrast, Obama’s predecessor, George W. Bush almost never missed his daily intelligence meeting.” Former Vice President Dick Cheney comments, “If ...Obama were participating in his intelligence briefings on a regular basis then perhaps he would understand why people are so offended at his efforts to take sole credit for the killing of Osama bin Laden. Those who deserve the credit are the men and women in our military and intelligence communities who worked for many years to track him down. They are the ones who deserve the thanks of a grateful nation.” [36788, 36829]

An alleged “convention bounce” gives Obama a 49–44 lead over Mitt Romney in a Gallup poll. (Some Republicans take consolation in the fact that Jimmy Carter led Ronald Reagan by 4 points in September 1980 and by 8 points in November 1980, Michael Dukakis led George H.W. Bush by 17 points after the 1988 convention, and John McCain led Obama 50–46 in a September 2008 *USA Today* poll—and Carter, Dukakis, and McCain all lost by wide margins. But Mitt Romney is not as talented as Ronald Reagan, Obama is not as unskilled at politics as Michael Dukakis, and, like McCain, Romney is also carrying the burden of George W. Bush. It is worth noting that the mainstream media is engaged in a full-court press to discourage Republicans from voting. The goal of the leftist reporters and commentators is to get millions of voters to believe that Obama is guaranteed a victory and cannot be stopped. If that were true, of course, Obama would not be campaigning non-stop in states like Florida, Iowa, and Ohio—or attending fundraisers when he is not campaigning. Obama’s “bounce” is likely only a national bounce. That is, the convention made Obama more popular in the liberal and welfare states he is already guaranteed to win, such as California, Illinois, and New York. But the convention barely moved the needle for Obama in the critical swing states.) [36790, 36791, 36792, 36801, 36804]

According to a September 6 poll conducted for TheHill.com by Pulse opinion Research, “Forty-one percent [of likely voters] said they have a ‘much worse’ view of Obama now than in 2008; 11 percent said their opinion is ‘slightly worse,’ while 38 percent overall said their view of him had improved. (Obama will have a difficult time winning reelection if 52 percent of the likely voters think less of him than they did in 2008. Obama himself certainly does not think he is guaranteed victory. That is why he is spending more time campaigning and fundraising than working.) [36793]

University of Virginia political analyst Larry Sabato tells *Newsmax* that Obama’s increase in the poll “...was the convention, basically. This is a classic polling bounce. It’s a modest bounce historically and probably will fade in a couple of weeks’ time. Most of them do. The question isn’t why Obama got this bounce. The question really is why didn’t Mitt Romney get a bounce out of his convention. Frankly, we’re going to be studying that one because it’s not abundantly clear.” [36806]

FoxNew.com reports that Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) “is threatening to hold up Senate business until lawmakers address the case of jailed Pakistani doctor Shakil Afridi, after Afridi detailed in an exclusive jail-cell interview how the same spy-service interrogators

who tortured him also revealed they consider Americans to be their ‘worst enemies.’ Afridi, the doctor who helped the CIA track Osama bin Laden, described brutal torture at the hands of Pakistan’s Inter-Service Intelligence. He said, in an interview with Fox News, that they told him ‘the Americans are our worst enemies, worse than the Indians.’ Afridi said the country’s claims of cooperation with the U.S. are a sham to ‘extract’ billions in U.S. aid. Paul, after reading the account, on Monday renewed his months-long effort to compel a vote on a bill to freeze U.S. aid to Pakistan unless Afridi is released—even if it means stalling the Obama administration’s nominee to be the next ambassador to Islamabad. ‘Because of the urgency of seeing that Dr. Afridi is freed, I am prepared to pursue any and all means to secure a vote on my bill immediately, including objecting to other Senate business and recessing the Senate for the election,’ Paul wrote in a letter Monday to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid.” (Some charge that White House leaks of information relating to the Osama bin Laden operation led to Afridi’s arrest.) [36808]

Mitt Romney campaigns at PR Machine Works in Mansfield, Ohio, where he tells an enthusiastic, cheering crowd, “‘Forward’ is [Obama’s] campaign slogan. I think ‘forewarned’ is a better term. We know what would happen if he were reelected, we’d see more years of high unemployment. We’d see more year of massive deficits. We’d see more years of almost no wage growth in this country. We’d see more years of a nation on the cusp of the kind of crisis you’ve seen in Europe. We’re forewarned and that’s why we’re not going to re-elect this man.” [36810, 36851]

The unnamed White House insider provides The Ulsterman Report with an update: “Go look up the latest Public Policy poll. It’s on Ohio. Obama has to have Ohio. Critical. Biden has been sent out there about four times this past week alone. Romney has just started the ad blitz in that state so this poll won’t even reflect that push. I am going to use this poll to show how we read this stuff. How somebody like me, really pulls the facts from the bullshit of those polls. Their side is doing this. Our side is doing this. They put out a headline, we ignore that headline. We know the facts. And they know we know the facts. From there the messaging is formed. If we don’t like the perception we spend millions changing that perception. They are doing the same thing. Difference is, they don’t have me. So back to the PPP data. Now Public Policy is left leaning. Keep that in mind. And that poll comes out right after the DNC. That was no accident. It’s an attempt to form the perception I just told you about. Try and counter the internal data. There’s the kicker here. Obama spent money in Ohio. They ran at least three internals over the last few weeks that I know of. Each time they came back showing Ohio leaning for Romney. Tight but leaning. And that’s after the Obama campaign has spent a ton of money there. And the unions working double time to help out Obama as well. Obama’s numbers are stuck in Ohio. They won’t budge. Romney’s numbers keep creeping up. So the campaign is sh-tting itself trying to figure out what to do. Like I said, Obama has to have Ohio. And Ohio isn’t the state that jumped over to Romney I told you about before. That state is looking to be wrapped up for Romney. An early night earthquake on Election Night. Ohio is a major front for the campaign war. Romney has Obama spending big \$\$\$\$ that they didn’t think they would have to. And while Obama’s donations are leveling off or dropping off, Romney’s donations keep pouring in.” [36816]

The insider continues, “So the PPP headline for Ohio is this: ‘Obama’s lead up to 5 in Ohio.’ I get the poll sent my way. I laugh it off. You see, I also seen [sic] the Obama internals from two weeks ago. I didn’t get my hands on the last one, but I got the last two before that one and I heard they weren’t happy about that last one and all three of those internals came back badly for Obama. Sure as hell no 5 point lead. No way. So the PPP is an attempt to change reality. Shift perception so that revision becomes the new reality. Hope I’m making sense to you here. You asked how this stuff works so that’s what I’m trying to give you. So the Obama team has three bad news internals in Ohio right? What they need then is a public poll to come out favorably for them to shift that reality. Make people think Obama is doing better than he is, and people want to be part of the winning team. That is a fundamental part of politics. There are groups of voters who will vote for the candidate they think is going to win. That may sound crazy, dumb, whatever, but that’s a certain segment of voters. They aren’t bright. They just want to be on the winning team. In a close election, that segment can be the difference between winning and losing for a campaign. So they are panicked about the internals in Ohio and push for the PPP data to come out right after the DNC. Get a positive headline. Change the perception which can then change the reality. ‘Obama up by 5 in Ohio.’” [36816]

“But we take that headline and we call the bluff. Rip into the data. Cross reference it. And now we got them by the nuts. You see, that PP poll was taken from a +4 Democrat sample. Right there the poll is hurting credibility wise. But dig a little deeper. That poll was also +9 for women sampled. That’s a huge gap for Ohio. +9 women polled over men? Cross check that data. You realize in Ohio women make up 51.2% of the population. This PP poll tries to alter that number so that it reflects women make up nearly 60% of Ohio population. Which is way off and totally breaks apart the poll’s credibility. Why would they do that? Because Obama is polling better with women and Romney is polling better [with] men. So cook the poll right off with a nearly 10 point advantage of women polled. That alone would give Obama another 3–4% advantage in the final approval numbers. So you got a +4 Democrat sample. And a heavily lopsided women sample that together accounts for about +8 favoring Barack Obama. So compare that to the headline they used for the poll: ‘Obama up by 5 in Ohio.’ In a polling sample that favored Barack Obama by nearly 10 points, the best he can do is a 5 point advantage. Bluff called. ...But there’s more bad news for Obama with this PPP data. In the poll 5% of voters indicated they were still undecided. Pretty big number this late in the game in a state that has been hammered by advertising and political appearances from both campaigns but especially the Obama team. Those undecideds know Barack Obama. If they liked him they would already be indicating plans to vote for him. Campaign 101 is that the undecideds break AWAY from the incumbent and FOR the challenger by about 2 to 1. So with that in mind, there’s another 2 or even 3 point advantage for Romney in Ohio with just the undecideds alone. You want to know the headline Obama’s own internals are giving them in Ohio? Want to know what the headline would read if it was published by a non-partisan slant? ‘Romney holds 3 point advantage in Ohio.’ Now add another couple points advantage for the undecideds and the Election Night headline for Ohio is looking like this: ‘Romney wins Ohio by 5.’ We got a long ways to go before we get that headline though. But for now, the reality and not the perception that is being attempted by the media, is looking much better for Romney than it is for Obama. The

debates are going to be huge for us. Both sides know the debates may be the difference on Election Night. And so does the media. And that has me very concerned. The pro Obama spin is going to be huge.” [38618]

HotAir.com’s Ed Morrissey comments on the Public Policy Polling survey in Ohio: “The sample has a D/R/I split of 41/37/22. The 37% that Republicans get in this survey matches their 2010 midterm turnout, which had a D/R/I of 36/37/28. The 41% for Democrats significantly exceeds that turnout, and also exceeds the 2008 election’s 39/31/30 exit polling that produced the five-point margin of Obama victory in the election. The big drop in independents from the sample is well worth noting, because Obama won Ohio independents by eight points in 2008, 52/44—greater than his five-point margin of victory. If Romney is up by two in this demographic, that’s a ten-point swing among what had been 28-30% of the turnout in Ohio elections. Nothing in this poll suggests that Ohio has suddenly become a lot more Democratic except the sample itself; even in this sample, Obama’s job approval is only 48/48 (only 51/44 among women), and a -14 among independents, 40/54. Ohio looks deadlocked if one considers the modeling used, and even perhaps edging toward Romney when looking at the independents. I’d wait on hitting panic buttons here until seeing something with a better likely-voter model.” (In other words, the White House insider is not the only one who considers the PPP survey results suspect.) [36842]

Examiner.com reports, “The latest CNN/ORC poll released today shows a wider lead for ...Obama than the previous CNN/ORC poll but it is doubly skewed. It massively under-samples independents while it also over-samples Democratic voters. The CNN/Opinion Research Corp. poll official reports Obama at 52 to percent and Mitt Romney at 46 percent. Unskewed, the data reveals a 53 percent to 45 percent lead for Romney. This new CNN/ORC survey ...not only over-samples Democratic voters, but also massively under-samples independent voters, to produce a result more favorable to Barack Obama. This survey’s sample includes 397 registered Republicans and 441 registered Democrats. But the survey included a total of 822 registered voters, leaving only 37 independent voters at most. The survey clearly under-sampled independent and Republican voters. ...The sample for the CNN/ORC poll includes 50.4 percent Democrats and 45.4 percent Republicans and appears to have only 4.2 percent independents. This means independents are under-sampled 25 percent while Democrats are over-sampled 12.1 percent. Both of those are larger variations in sampling than seen in most polls that are likewise skewed by such sampling variations. Rasmussen Reports’ recent reporting of partisan trends among voters, based on tens of thousands of voters surveyed, showed the voting electorate made up of 35.4 percent Republicans, 34.0 percent Democrats and 30.5 percent ‘Unaffiliated’ or independent voters. Clearly 6.5 percent of a sample as independents is a large under-sampling of those voters compared to 30.5 percent. Unskewing this data to make up for the likely 25 percent under-sampling of independent voters shows the results are quite different. With the weightings of independents, Democrats and Republicans conducted by the Rasmussen numbers, this poll's data would indicate a Romney lead over Obama of 53 percent to 45 percent. That is almost exactly the reverse of the 52 percent to 46 percent lead it reports in favor of Obama. The sampling skew of this poll actually reverses the result that should be shown by the data.” [36821, 36854]

Like Examiner.com, Breitbart notes the bias in the CNN/ORC poll. Mike Flynn writes, “First, this being a media poll, it has an obvious skew towards Democrats. The partisan breakdown is (D/R/I) 50/45/5. It perhaps isn’t surprising that Obama is leading a D+5 poll by 6 points. Throughout the campaign season, Obama’s margin usually is very close to the partisan skew in the sample. It is surprising, though, that Independents make up only 5% of the sample. Tellingly, Romney leads this group by 14 points. I’ve seen others suggest that CNN pushes voters to identify with one party or the other, which may account for this. ... There is another, more serious concern, however, The second question of the poll asks Obama and Romney voters whether their vote is ‘for’ their candidate or ‘against’ the other candidate. The sample size for this question is reported to be...” 351 likely Obama voters and 340 likely Romney voters. “Those numbers didn’t look right to me, considering the headline number reported in the poll. There were 709 Likely Voters in the sample. The 351 votes for Obama is 49.5%. The 340 votes for Romney is 47.9%. In other words, a 50–48 match-up. That’s a lot different than the 52–46 reported in the headlines. ... What could be happening here is that these are the raw counts from the poll interviews, which CNN then ‘weighted’ to reflect certain demographics, etc. Pollsters do this often, but it usually results in very minor changes to the overall numbers. ... But if the weighting produces this big of a swing in the final results, you really ought to show your work. CNN doesn’t release its internal demos, but it absolutely needs to in this case. If they don’t, then they’ve just been caught with their thumb on the scale.” [36855]

WND.com reports, “Israel Science and Technology, the national database and directory of science and technology-related websites in Israel, has published an article asserting the long-form birth certificate released by the White House is a forged document. ... The website says the publication “of such a blatantly fake document about something so basic as the birthplace of Mr. Obama, should raise great concern about the suitability of the person who is holding the reigns on the most powerful country of the World.” (Within two days of the WND report the Israeli article is scrubbed from the Internet. It remains available via a web cache.) [36824, 36938, 36994]

CNSNews.com reports, “Over the past three years, the bound edition of the Code of Federal Regulations has increased by 11,327 pages—a 7.4 percent increase from Jan. 1, 2009 to Dec. 31, 2011. In 2009, the increase in the number of pages was the most over the last decade—3.4 percent or 5,359 pages. Over the past decade, the federal government has issued almost 38,000 new final rules, according to the draft of the 2011 annual report to Congress on federal regulations by the Office of Management and Budget. That brought the total at the end of 2011 to 169,301 pages.” (Businesses spend hundreds of billions of dollars per year complying with the regulations, many of which are onerous and counterproductive.) [36845]

Investment guru Jim Rogers tells *The Economic Times* the Federal Reserve will expand the money supply because that is all it knows how to do: “I do not know if they will announce it [QE3]. I know they are going to print more money. They already are. If you look at their balance sheets, you will see that something is happening, assets are building on their balance sheets and they are not coming from the tooth fairy. So I do not know



whether they will announce it or not. They are a little bit embarrassed because they announced QE1 and QE2, and it did not work. So they may try to discuss it. They may just continue to do it without getting egg on their face again, but they are going to print money, they are all going to print money. It is the wrong thing to do, but that is all they know to do. ... Worst may be behind us for this week but no, there are going to be more problems coming out of Europe. You have got countries that are essentially bankrupt. Nobody is dealing with the problems in Europe. You look at everyone out there. They all have higher debts and all of their projections, maybe Bulgaria and one or two more countries do not have higher debts in their projections, but everybody has got increasing debt. The solution to too much debt is not more debt. So now you are going to have plenty more problems coming out of Europe.” Rogers also recently warned, “I am very worried about 2013–2014” because “we shot all our bullets. What more can they do? Can they quadruple the debt again? can they print even more money? So, there will be serious problems in 2013–2104 and it may be partially because the euro starts to fall apart. You should be very worried about 2013–2014.” If Obama wins reelection, he and Federal Reserve chairman Ben Bernanke will likely respond by doing all the wrong things—as they have done for four years. If Romney wins the White House, he may end up wishing he had not.) [36819, 36820]

Politico reports, “Major defense contractors have confirmed they’ll send tens of thousands of employee layoff warnings shortly before Election Day, according to correspondence released Monday by Arizona Sen. John McCain. McCain, the top Republican on the Senate Armed Services Committee, wants to jump-start congressional action to avert automatic, across-the-board budget restrictions set to take effect early next year. Hawks and defense vendors hope the threat of mass layoff warnings in late October will light a fire under a deadlocked Congress. Already, they point out the mere threat of the year-end ‘sequester’ is hurting the defense industry and the broader national economy.” (Federal law requires that notices be sent to employees at least 60 days before anticipated layoffs. Obama had asked defense contractors to ignore the law—in order to avoid angering tens of thousands of workers just a few days before the election.) [36831]

At AmericanThinker.com Jack Cashill (*Deconstructing Obama; First Strike*) discusses private investigator Susan Daniels’ work exposing Obama’s use of a stolen Social Security number issued in Connecticut in 1971. Cashill writes, “On July 2 of this year, Daniels filed [a civil] suit in Geauga County (Ohio) Common Pleas Court demanding that Jon Husted, Ohio secretary of state, remove Obama’s name from the ballot until Obama can prove the validity of his Social Security number. Husted has responded by seeking to dismiss Daniels’ complaint, claiming that it has no basis in law. Daniels fired back that ... Obama has violated Ohio’s identity theft statute that ‘expressly prohibits the use of another’s ‘personal identifying information’ and expressly lists the use of another’s ‘Social Security number’ as prohibited.’ She did not expect much out of Husted, and her expectations appear to have been met. Friday, Daniels took another tack. She filed a sworn affidavit under Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 2935.09, which allows a private citizen ‘having knowledge of the facts’ to request prosecution or arrest of an individual who has committed a crime. The affidavit makes the [criminal] case clearly. I would strongly recommend that readers forward this to conservatives of influence and demand that they

take it seriously.” (“Conservatives of influence” should also be made aware of *The Obama Timeline*. It is impossible to read the *Timeline* in its entirety and not come to the conclusion that Obama is, in the words of Clint Eastwood, “the greatest hoax ever perpetrated on the American people.”) [36682, 36687, 36693, 36848]

WashingtonExaminer.com reports that a new 18-page IRS regulation defines a “full-time employee” as an employee who works an average of at least 30 hours per week—not 40. The regulation will come as a surprise to many businesses who have been assuming they will not be forced to buy health insurance for part-time employees, who most people assume are those who work fewer than 40 hours per week. WashingtonExaminer.com notes, “The IRS rule is key because companies with more than 50 full-time employees must provide health insurance under Obamacare, or be fined. Business groups have been warning that small companies might try to replace full-time workers with part-time help to avoid being forced to offer health insurance in 2014, but the 30-hour full-time definition is likely to undermine those plans.” [36860]

On September 11 the Obama and Romney campaigns do not run political ads, out of respect for the memory of the 2001 terrorist attacks. Romney’s Twitter statement: “On this most somber day, America is united under God in the quest for peace and freedom at home and across the world.” Obama’s Twitter statement: “the election is in 8 weeks. Sign up to volunteer: [Internet address link].” (Media leftists use the anniversary of the terrorist attacks to emphasize that “Obama killed Osama.” Remembering the victims is, to them, far less important than the reelection of Obama.) [36825, 36853]

Obama “commemorates” the September 11 terrorist attacks by appearing on a Miami radio program hosted by “Dj Laz”—who is known locally as “the pimp with the limp.” Obama says, “I’m the one who should be humbled. You’re big time. You’ve got Pitbull and Flo Rida and all these guys just beating a path to your door. And so I’m hoping I can get a little of that magic from you in this interview.” (Some may wonder whether Obama is more familiar with rap “singers” than the members of his national security team.) [36895, 36985]

Breitbart.com reports, “Not only is ...Obama violating his pledge not to campaign on 9/11, but he is also using the day to issue greetings to the Arab Forum on Asset Recovery, seemingly oblivious to the importance and solemnity of the day, as well as the context of his message. Obama offers thanks to the Emir of Qatar—showboating some rather halting Arabic skills in addressing ‘His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani’—and praising the inspiring democratic example of the Arab Spring, which happened to leave the absolute monarchy of Qatar untouched. He also offers support for his envoys, including Attorney General Eric Holder, who is attending the Arab Forum conference as the chief U.S. representative. The Arab Forum’s goal is to recover assets stolen by formerly autocratic regimes, including Tunisia, Egypt, and Libya. (But not Qatar.) The video, posted on the White House YouTube channel today, makes no mention of 9/11, the rise of the Muslim Brotherhood, or the role of Qatar-based Al Jazeera in broadcasting radical anti-American propaganda. And while offering support for democratic change, Obama neglects to ask the Emir to step aside.” [37001]

Author Bob Woodward appears on ABC's *Good Morning America* to promote his book, *The Price of Politics*. Woodward argues that Obama has been unable to "work his will," as have presidents in the past. "...This isn't a budget issue or a credit rating issue. This is: 'Is the government going to have money to pay its bills?' And, in the end, that's [Obama's] job. Yes, it's Congress' job, too, but there's such a thing as presidential leadership. Look, it's quite obvious that Obama has a distance from these people. He doesn't spend the time. He hasn't built the relationships. And those human relationships matter. This book is a warning document. We are right back in the problem, and this can affect everyone in a very serious way." George Stephanopoulos says, "As you know, a lot of your critics have said [Obama] was facing an implacable foe, the Republicans, on a crusade," and whines, "We already see Speaker Boehner using your book as a sign that voters should turn away from ...Obama. What should voters take away? We're only 56 days away [from the election]." Woodward replies, "People have read it the other way and said, 'Look, the Republicans are a brick wall,' which they are, 'and it's really hard to get around them. But, you know, World War II was hard to win, but President Roosevelt made sure that we won it.'" (In other words, successful presidents get things done regardless of the difficulties. Obama has failed.) [36858, 36912]

Vice President Joe Biden attends a memorial service in Shanksville, Pennsylvania for the victims of the terrorist attack who died when their plane crashed in a field near the town. Biden says, "And its an honor, a genuine honor to be back here today but like all of the families, we wish we weren't here. We wish we didn't have to be here. We wish we didn't have to commemorate any of this. It is a bittersweet moment for the entire nation, for all of the country, particularly for those family members gathered here today." (More than a few criticize Biden's use of the word "bittersweet." Certainly there was nothing good about the 9/11 attacks. But Biden is no doubt referring to the friendships of the assembled survivors and the support they provide each other.) [36856, 36857]

In Jakarta, Indonesia—where Obama spent part of his youth studying the Qu'ran at a Muslim school—demonstrators march in support of the 9/11 terrorists. *The International News* reports, "Demonstrators carried posters and banners, one declaring 'We are all Osama' under a picture of the late Al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden, as dozens of policemen stood guard before the [U.S] embassy. Other banners read, 'It is time for Islamic revolution,' and 'Democracy brings oppression.'" One poster reads, "You lost the war" and depicts Obama with bruises and scars on his face. Muhammad Fachry, spokesman of the Sharia for Indonesia group, says, "They [the 9/11 terrorists] sacrificed their lives to defend fellow Muslims in Palestine. What they did was a reminder to the American government to stop oppression against Muslims and support for the Israeli government." [36951, 36952]

The *New York Post* runs a full-page ad for filmmaker Joel Gilbert's DVD, *Dreams From My Real Father*, which claims Obama's real father is not the drunken Kenyan socialist but Frank Marshall Davis, Obama's communist mentor in Honolulu. (The ad will also run on September 16. The video can be seen at: <http://www.ourcommunistcommanderinchief.com>.) [36823, 37506]

Breitbart.com reports that Obama, who has no time to meet with Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, will travel to New York City to tape an appearance of *The David Letterman Show* the week of September 17. [36992]

A September 7–9 Washington Post/ABC News poll of likely voters shows Obama got no significant convention “bounce.” He has a statistically irrelevant (within the poll’s margin of error) 49–48 percent lead over Mitt Romney, with the results “virtually unchanged from a poll taken just before the conventions.” Obama’s job approval/disapproval rating is 48/50. “Also stubbornly unchanged is the negativity around [Obama’s] handling of the economy: Most voters—53 percent—disapprove of his stewardship of the economy, and strongly negative views are almost twice as common as strongly positive ones. ...A plurality of voters, 43 percent, say the nation’s economy has gotten worse since Obama took office, while fewer, 32 percent, say it has improved. The rest say it has stayed about the same.” (The poll’s D/R/I is 33/27/36, while the 2010 mid-term election turnout was 35/35/30. HotAir.com’s Ed Morrissey points out, “A GOP turnout of 27% would be among the worst ever in a presidential race, if not a record. Since enthusiasm measures in other surveys, notably Gallup’s, show an enthusiasm gap favoring Republicans, I’m not inclined to buy this poll’s likely-voter split as a model for this election. ...Romney’s beating Obama among likely independent voters by eleven points, 54/43. Obama won independents by eight in 2008 on his way to a seven point victory overall. That’s a 19-point swing among independents. In other words, the convention had no real impact at all on the race.”) [36830, 36834]

House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH), asked if he is confident Congress and Obama can reach an agreement on avoiding a fiscal crisis in January when tax cuts expire and defense cuts kick in, responds, “I’m not confident at all. Listen, the House has done its job, on both the sequester and the looming tax hikes that will cost our economy some 700,000 jobs. The Senate at some point has to act. And on both of these, where’s [Obama]? Where’s the leadership? Absent without leave.” Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) predictably says all will be well if the Republicans would only agree to increase taxes: “I was disappointed when my friend John Boehner said today that he has no confidence on a budget deal. I think we have to look at the glass being half full and not half empty all the time. I’m confident that we will reach some kind of arrangement.” (HotAir.com’s Erika Johnsen comments, “...For what feels like the zillionth time, hiking taxes on families making more than 250k a year is not a solution to our debt problem. It’s a populist balm that makes people feel better by channeling their resentment toward the wealthy and making them participate in ‘shared sacrifice’ or whatever, but it’s a balm that will come at the price of jobs, stability, and economic growth. ...Obama has been steadily touring the country, focusing his campaign around this one faux-point, and trying to convince Americans that he can’t get anything done now because of those darn obstructionist Republicans but that his hitherto unknown leadership skills will magically materialize on a second term. ...Why do I still feel so skeptical?”) [36833]

Teachers enter the second day of their strike in Chicago. Some carry picket signs that read, “Obama, we are under attack!! Was this your plan when you sent Rahm back?”

CBSLocal.com reports, “Chicago Board of Education President David Vitale ...and the mayor [Rahm Emanuel] have both said there are only two serious sticking points: the new teacher evaluations, and the guidelines for re-hiring teachers that have been laid off. The two sides appear to be close to agreement on compensation. ...The union has been resisting the district’s push to implement a new teacher evaluation system that was part of a state law passed in 2010. Lewis called the evaluation system the district wants ‘extremely, extremely untested.’ Teachers do not want the evaluation system to rely heavily on students’ standardized test scores.” Teachers union president Karen Lewis says, “We want an evaluation system that gives us the opportunity to actually develop and grow as teachers. That is extraordinarily important to us. ...But this system is not the one.” (In other words, “We don’t want bad teachers fired; we want them to become better teachers.” In the interim, of course, the students will suffer.) [36862, 36863]

While teachers strike in Chicago, CNSNews.com reports, “Over the past four years, the Chicago public schools have churned through total revenues of approximately \$20.27 billion and about \$4.26 billion of that revenue—or almost 21 percent of it—has come from the federal government.” (The average salary of a Chicago teacher is reportedly \$76,000—and they are demanding a 19 percent increase over four years. The average American makes nowhere near that much. Thus, taxpayers across the country are paying higher taxes to provide the Chicago public schools with approximately \$1 billion in annual subsidies. There are about 400,000 public school students in Chicago. The taxpayers are not getting their money’s worth: “Seventy-nine percent of the 8th graders in the Chicago Public Schools are not grade-level proficient in reading, according to the U.S. Department of Education, and 80 percent are not grade-level proficient in math.”) The children of Mayor Rahm Emanuel attend a \$26,520-per-pupil private school. Obama’s daughters attend the Sidwell Friends private school, where tuition is \$34,268 per student—hot lunch included. [36843, 36844, 36846]

According to the Congressional Budget Office, the deficit for the 11 months of fiscal year 2012 was \$1.17 trillion. (The government’s fiscal year runs from October 1 through September 30.) In August 2012 alone the deficit was \$192 billion, or \$6.194 billion per day, or \$20 *per day* for every man, woman, and child in the United States.) [36847]

The success of the film *2016: Obama’s America* prompts a response from the thin-skinned Obama. Instead of ignoring the movie, his web site criticizes director and author Dinesh D’Souza as someone with a “long history of attempting to add a veneer of intellectual respectability to fringe theories, conspiratorial fear-mongering and flat-out falsehoods.” Among the site’s criticisms of the film: “D’Souza falsely claimed that ...Obama said he didn’t believe in American Exceptionalism.” (In fact, in a visit to Strasbourg, France, Obama stated, “I believe in American exceptionalism, just as I suspect that the Brits believe in British exceptionalism and the Greeks believe in Greek exceptionalism.” In other words, Obama does *not* believe America is exceptional, it is just one nation among many and isn’t all that special. To argue, “Everyone believes their country is exceptional” is to argue that the concept is meaningless. D’Souza is correct.) The site argues, “D’Souza falsely asserted that ...Obama funded \$2 billion in Brazilian oil exploration even though numerous fact checkers and reporters have noted that

...Obama had nothing to do with the loan.” (Not only did the federal government’s Export-Import Bank lend \$2 billion to Brazil’s state-owned Petrobras, while on a visit to Brazil Obama told President Dilma Rousseff, “The oil you recently discovered off the shores of Brazil—we want to be one of your best customers.”) “D’Souza falsely charged that ...Obama backed Scotland’s release of the Lockerbie bomber only weeks after the Obama administration had put out a statement opposing Scotland’s decision.” (Great Britain’s *Daily Mail* reported that both Obama and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton were informed of the release of the terrorist in advance. An aide to then-Prime Minister Gordon Brown stated, “The U.S. was kept fully in touch about everything that was going on with regard to Britain’s discussions with Libya in recent years and about Ali el-Megrahi. We would never do anything about Lockerbie without discussing it with the U.S. It is disingenuous of them to act as though Megrahi’s return was out of the blue. They knew about our prisoner transfer agreement with Libya... The Obama administration knew about the planned release months in advance, according to British officials, and greatly misjudged the reaction by the American public when it was announced. Former U.S. ambassador to the U.N. John Bolton asked, “Why was [Obama] so diplomatically reticent—or so obviously ineffective—in opposing Megrahi’s release? Prompt, public and thorough Senate hearings would surely uncover the real answer. Until then, we can only speculate that Obama just didn’t think keeping this mass murderer in prison was worth much effort or political capital.”) [3279, 3280, 4611, 4612, 4710, 19098, 19266, 36849]

Dinesh D’Souza reacts to the Obama team’s attack on his film. He tells Deadline.com, “I welcome Obama’s critique of the film. He has probably figured out that he cannot ignore it any longer. Obama’s response is a characteristic mix of name calling and false allegations. Some of the claims he makes refer to things that are not even in the film. Elsewhere Obama just gets it wrong. For example, he disputes that he funded \$2 billion in Brazilian oil exploration. In reality, Obama has given billions of dollars not only to Brazil but also to Colombia and Mexico to drill for oil. On March 19, 2011, Obama gave a speech in Brazil in which he deplored the legacy of colonialism, promised technology and support for Brazilian energy development, and concluded ‘when you are ready to start selling we want to be one of your best customers.’ The facts in the film stand up very well to the closest scrutiny. I think people should see 2016 and make up their own minds. ...The criticism of the film actually bothers me less than the neglect of the film. If I were Michael Moore and I were to make a film that was the No. 2 political documentary of all time, I would be on every network. I would be on *Meet The Press*, and I would be profiled in *The New York Times*, and I would be all over MSNBC. Instead large sectors of the press are refusing to cover the film. They are just pretending it doesn’t exist. ...That even though the left says it’s propaganda, it’s a risky attack on the film because when people go to see it, they actually see whether they agree or disagree that it is not propaganda. Whatever your politics, you are going to come away from this film saying at least, ‘Hey, I do know a whole bunch of things about Obama I didn’t know 90 minutes ago.’” [36870]

D’Souza continues, “Look, what I say is it’s not that Obama hates America. It’s not that he’s a traitor, that he’s a secret Muslim, that he’s a Manchurian Candidate. He simply

subscribes to an ideology that thinks it would be good for America to have a diminished economy and a diminished role in the world. In other words, Obama is all about what he perceives as global justice. And global justice to him means a redistribution of wealth and power away from America and towards the rest of the world. That's his ideology. He thinks it would be good for America to have a humbler role in the world. He thinks it would be good for America not to be No. 1 but to be No. 18 or No. 34 in the world. It's part of his vision of global justice. Nowhere do I question his motives or say that he is a bad guy. Rather what I'm saying is these are his beliefs, this is his ideology. ...I've been pleasantly surprised and thrilled by its [the film's] success which I attribute to the deep hunger on the part of people for factual information about Obama, combined with a sense that the full story about Obama is not out there, combined with an intuitive sense that the mainstream media has not been doing its job in fully vetting Obama. So when people watch the film there is a powerful sense of 'Wow, I didn't know all this stuff' and 'Why didn't I know all this stuff because this information is really valuable in helping me think about Obama and the future of this country?' I also attribute it to the riveting Obama story. Obama has a fascinating story. I think there's almost an element of Greek drama here of a boy who is left, abandoned by his father and goes on an odyssey to find his father and to find himself. I think it's the storytelling element of the film that is part of what makes it so effective. I wanted to make a film that didn't look like a TV documentary but looked more like *Out Of Africa*. A beautifully shot film that would take you from Hawaii to Chicago to Indonesia to Kenya to tell the Obama story. So I feel very good about the quality of the film." [36870]

Former Department of Justice (DOJ) official J. Christian Adams reports, "PJ Media has learned that a team of career lawyers, expert analysts, and supervisors in the Justice Department Voting Section recommended that South Carolina's photo voter identification law be precleared under the Voting Rights Act as non-discriminatory. Presidential appointees in the Justice Department then disregarded the career recommendation and an objection followed, blocking South Carolina's voter ID law. South Carolina filed suit in federal court, and a trial concluded a few weeks ago. The parties are briefing the case and a decision is expected shortly. This information directly contradicts a central theme of Attorney General Eric Holder's civil rights enforcement—that career civil servants have been placed back in charge of Voting Rights Act enforcement. It also raises questions about political interference during an election year that has resulted in hundreds of thousands of dollars in costs from a federal court lawsuit to defend the decision by political appointees to overrule the career recommendation. Had voter ID been precleared, South Carolina would not have needed to sue Eric Holder for approval in court. ...This revelation is ...damning because it means there is extensive DOJ documentation supporting South Carolina's lawsuit. DOJ lawyers did not reveal to the three-judge federal panel the internal preclearance recommendation stating that the law did not discriminate. Nor did the Justice Department provide these documents to South Carolina in discovery." (In other words, veteran legal experts at the Department of Justice stated there was no problem with South Carolina's voter photo ID legislation—but Obama appointees ordered that it be objected to anyway, forcing a lawsuit by the state. To make matters worse, the DOJ then withheld that information from the judge and South Carolina officials.) [36920]

CNSNews.com reports, “According to the most recent official estimate by the federal Bureau of Economic Analysis, the Gross Domestic Product for 2012 will be \$15.6061 trillion—or about \$440.5 billion less than the \$16.0466 in debt that the federal government had accumulated as of the close of business on Monday.” [36917]

Tony Perkins, president of the Family Research Council, comments on the three voice votes at the Democrat National Convention relating to references to God and Jerusalem in the party platform: “I can recall another time in history where someone denied God three times.” (Perkins is referring to the apostle Peter’s three denials of Jesus in the Bible’s New Testament Gospels.) [36919]

Obama declines a request from Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu to meet at the White House when he arrives in the United States for the annual meeting of the United Nations General Assembly. Haaretz.com writes, “The White House’s response marks a new low in relations between Netanyahu and Obama, underscored by the fact that this is the first time Netanyahu will visit the U.S. as prime minister without meeting Obama.” Netanyahu will instead meet with Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. Former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations John Bolton states, “I’m astounded that [Obama] cannot find the time [to meet with Netanyahu]. I don’t see it so much as a snub as a horrible, substantive mistake in American foreign policy.” (Obama’s dislike of Netanyahu—and Jews and Israel—is no secret to those who pay attention to his actions, rather than his words. Obama hopes that Jewish voters are not paying attention.) In a direct criticism of Obama—who is fearful that an Israeli attack on Iran’s nuclear facilities will negatively impact his reelection chances—Netanyahu recently stated, “The world tells Israel ‘wait, there’s still time.’ And I say, ‘Wait for what? Wait until when?’ Those in the international community who refuse to put red lines before Iran don’t have a moral right to place a red light before Israel. ...If Iran knows that there is no ‘deadline,’ what will it do? Exactly what it’s doing. It’s continuing, without any interference, towards obtaining a nuclear weapons capability and from there, nuclear bombs... So far we can say with certainty that diplomacy and sanctions haven’t worked. The sanctions have hurt the Iranian economy but they haven’t stopped the Iranian nuclear program. That’s a fact. And the fact is that every day that passes, Iran gets closer and closer to nuclear bombs.” [36850, 36859, 36861, 36865, 36877]

FoxNews.com reports, “A movie attacking Islam’s prophet Muhammad sparked assaults on U.S. diplomatic missions in Libya and Egypt on Tuesday. [It is unlikely that the film sparked the violence. The film was used as an excuse for the violence—which was obviously planned for the 11th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. Protesters in Cairo shout, “We’re all Osamas, Obama” and “Obama, Obama, there are still a billion Osamas”—meaning, “You may have killed Osama bin Laden, but there are millions more of us just like him.”] A Libyan security official reported an American was shot to death as protesters burned the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, and in Cairo, protesters scaled the walls of the U.S. embassy walls and replaced an American flag with an Islamic banner.” (*The Wall Street Journal* states that the film, reportedly produced with the assistance of Egyptian Coptic Christians, portrays Muslim prophet Muhammed as a



“womanizer, pedophile and fraud”—which he arguably was.) Fox later reports that U.S. Ambassador J. Christopher Stevens and three other diplomats or staffers were killed in the attack in Benghazi, Libya. Stevens’ body is carried through the streets, a la Somalia in 1993. Obama issues a statement calling the attack “outrageous” and “senseless.” Secretary of State Hillary Clinton calls it “an attack that should shock the conscience of people of all faiths.” Both Obama and Clinton are incorrect: Muslims will not consider the attack senseless or shocking. Reuters reports, “In the Cairo incident, the American flag, which was flying at half mast to mark the 9/11 attacks, was replaced by an Islamist banner.” (Reuters conveniently neglects to identify the “Islamist banner” as the flag of al-Qaeda.) [36864, 36873, 36874, 36875, 36876, 36892, 36893, 36913, 36930, 36932, 36933]

In Cairo, Muslim cleric Abu Islam rips apart and burns a Bible in front of a crowd of thousands. He states, “Next time I will urinate on it.” [37333, 37336]

The U.S. Embassy in Cairo, Egypt issues a statement apologizing for the film that incensed Muslims, saying it “...condemns the continuing efforts by misguided individuals to hurt the religious feelings of Muslims—as we condemn efforts to offend believers of all religions. Today, the 11th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States, Americans are honoring our patriots and those who serve our nation as the fitting response to the enemies of democracy. Respect for religious beliefs is a cornerstone of American democracy. We firmly reject the actions by those who abuse the universal right of free speech to hurt the religious beliefs of others.” Americac2c.com asks, “Could there be a more visible example of the insufferable ineptitude of ...Obama? In the same city, Cairo, Egypt, where ...Obama delivered his first international ‘big stage’ apology speech, the U.S. Embassy comes under attack. One embassy official killed, the US compound compromised, the Stars and Stripes torn to shreds and the flag of al-Qaeda hoisted in triumphant declaration.” (The embassy statement is stunning in its repudiation of the right of free speech that is protected by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Only government can “abuse” the right of free speech: by *denying* it. The statement suggests that free speech is permitted only if it is politically correct. U.S. citizens have every right to criticize Islam—or anything or anyone—and do not need permission from Obama’s State Department lackeys. “Free speech” does *not* mean “Speech that is not offensive to Muslims.”) [36875, 36876]

Mahmoud Gozlan, a spokesman for the Muslim Brotherhood, faults the United States for not protecting Islam: “It isn’t a matter of freedom of speech. It’s a matter of a holy Islamic symbol.” (Thanks to Obama’s refusal to support U.S. ally President Hosni Mubarak, the radical Muslim Brotherhood controls Egypt. It is not unreasonable to assume that the attacks on the embassies in Egypt and Libya were coordinated.) [36875]

The White House subsequently disavows its embassy apology, stating, “The statement by Embassy Cairo was not cleared by Washington and does not reflect the views of the United States government.” Secretary of State Hillary Clinton then issues a statement that essentially repeats the apology: “Some have sought to justify this vicious behavior as a response to inflammatory material posted on the Internet [the film]. The United States

deplores any intentional effort to denigrate the religious beliefs of others. Our commitment to religious tolerance goes back to the very beginning of our nation. But let me be clear: There is never any justification for violent acts of this kind.” Mitt Romney states, “I’m outraged by the attacks on American diplomatic missions in Libya and Egypt and by the death of an American consulate worker in Benghazi. It’s disgraceful that the Obama administration’s first response was not to condemn attacks on our diplomatic missions, but to sympathize with those who waged the attacks.” (Romney takes questions from reporters after his statement..) [36875, 36876, 36888, 36905]

With the administration apologizing for a movie, rather than protecting U.S. embassy officials, it is worth recalling Obama’s response to the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, as noted previously in this *Timeline*: In the Hyde Park Herald of September 19, 2001, Obama wrote, “We must ...engage in the more difficult task of understanding the sources of such madness. The essence of this tragedy, it seems to me, derives from a fundamental absence of empathy on the part of the attackers; an inability to imagine, or connect with, the humanity and suffering of others.” (Obama was wrong. The terrorists most certainly imagined the suffering of others—*that was what they sought to accomplish.*) “Such a failure of empathy, such numbness to the pain of a child or the desperation of a parent, is not innate; nor, history tells us, is it unique to a particular culture, religion, or ethnicity. It may find expression in a particular brand of violence, and may be channeled by particular demagogues or fanatics. Most often, though, it grows out of a climate of poverty and ignorance, helplessness and despair.” (This is the typical liberal mindset in action: There are no evil people, just people who turn to violence because they are poor. Osama bin Laden was far from poor. In fact, he was quite wealthy.) “We will have to make sure, despite our rage, that any U.S. military action takes into account the lives of innocent civilians abroad. We will have to be unwavering in opposing bigotry or discrimination directed against neighbors and friends of Middle Eastern descent. Finally, we will have to devote far more attention to the monumental task of raising the hopes and prospects of embittered children across the globe—children not just in the Middle East, but also in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Eastern Europe and within our shores.” (From Obama’s perspective, the United States was attacked because the nation did not do enough to alleviate poverty around the rest of the world.) [23899]

On *Special Report*, columnist Charles Krauthammer states, “That statement [from the U.S. embassy in Egypt] is an embarrassment. That’s a hostage statement. That’s a mob of al-Qaeda sympathizers in Egypt forcing the United States into making a statement, essentially an apology, on 9/11 of all days for something for which we are not responsible. I would issue a statement saying to the mob, ‘Go to Hell. The way America works, the way democracy works is that everybody has a right to express themselves; we don’t police our speech, and you ought to apologize to the United States for storming an embassy and the violation of the ultimate sacred principle of democracy,’ which is protecting embassies and missions abroad. For the U.S to issue what is essentially a veiled apology is disgraceful.” (Some might argue that if Obama were to spend less time playing golf, attending fundraisers, and campaigning and more time attending daily security and intelligence briefings he might have known that Libya and Egypt had become less than safe for Americans and done something to better protect them.) The

attack on the embassy in Cairo may very well have sunk Obama's request for \$2 billion in debt relief and loans for Egypt, as few in Congress may be willing to vote for such aid—especially in an election year. [36878, 36883, 36889, 36894]

At PJMedia.com the PJTatler writes, “I am stunned. Stunned that our government would betray its own Constitution to side with our enemies. Stunned that they did this on 9/11, of all days. Stunned that a culture remains so backward in the 21st century that an embarrassingly amateurish home movie actually poses a threat to their fragile worldview. And most of all stunned that our government's betrayal of its own nation isn't dominating the news and the public consciousness. ...Muslim preachers chose today, 9/11, to incite the faithful to storm the U.S. embassy in Cairo; for the first time ever, Islamic protesters breached the fortress-like walls of the embassy, tore down the American flag, and replaced it with an al-Qaeda flag. And what was the American government's response to this? To condemn the Christians who made the [amateurish anti-Islam] film [almost no one will see] and to reject the principles of the First Amendment:

**‘The Embassy of the United States in Cairo condemns the continuing efforts by misguided individuals to hurt the religious feelings of Muslims—as we condemn efforts to offend believers of all religions. Today, the 11th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States, Americans are honoring our patriots and those who serve our nation as the fitting response to the enemies of democracy. Respect for religious beliefs is a cornerstone of American democracy. We firmly reject the actions by those who abuse the universal right of free speech to hurt the religious beliefs of others.’**

Twice in the official statement [and in the headline, “U.S. Embassy Condemns Religious Incitement”] the State Department criticizes the Christians who made the film—*not* the people who committed an act of war against us by invading U.S. sovereign territory (the embassy). This is simply beyond the pale. I thought we had resolved this issue years ago: The concept of “freedom of speech” is absolute, and if you start restricting speech based on political considerations, or because someone takes offense, then it is not free at all. The very point behind guaranteeing free speech is to protect *controversial* speech. One doesn't need a constitution to protect people's right to say ‘Have a nice day.’ And yet here is our own government granting a bullies' veto to our sworn enemies. And it's no laughing matter when our government says it ‘condemns’ and ‘firmly rejects’ something; it has the power to enforce those opinions. It's one thing for an essentially powerless private individual to say he doesn't like something; it's quite another for that opinion to be backed by the full force of the government. Needless to say, if I were president, the State Department would have issued a press release saying, ‘Aw, did the little movie-wovie hurt your wittle feelings? Go suck an egg. P.S. We are now in a state of war with Egypt, as your armed forces facilitated an invasion of our sovereign territory.’” [36921]

PJTatler continues, “...It's all so counter-intuitive that the average person likely cannot grasp what is happening at this moment: **The United States is switching sides.** We are joining forces with a nation of people that hates us and everything we stand for [Egypt] while simultaneously turning our backs on a nation of people that love us [Israel]. And

we are agreeing with those who do not even grasp the bedrock of our political system, much less approve of it. In other words: Our government has become overtly anti-American. We are aiding our enemies. We apologize when they attack us, and agree with their reasoning. We discard our own Constitution if our enemies take offense at it. We are committing suicide. Correction: *We* are not committing suicide. The Obama administration is committing nation-cide on us, an act of euthanasia on the United States. A mercy killing of our way of life. Forget about the economy, the campaign, the polls, the partisan jabs: Today's events all by themselves are more than reason enough why Obama needs to be removed from power as quickly as possible. The mask is completely removed. If he remains in office, by 2016 the United States will be fully allied with Islamic regimes, will be in a state of undeclared hostilities against Israel and our former allies, will clamp down on any speech that criticizes Islam and (eventually) any other politically protected ideology or belief. The First Amendment, and by extension all the amendments that follow, will be in tatters. Today is the second 9/11. On the first 9/11, back in 2001, we suffered a major attack, but that attack unified us. The people joined together with each other and with the government. Today, in 2012, we suffered a very small attack, but the response was the exact opposite of what happened eleven years ago: **This time around, our very own government sided with those who attacked us.** This would have seemed inconceivable eleven years ago. But it has now happened. Thanks entirely to Obama, our government is now our enemy. If you value anything about this nation: Vote." [36921]

Not content to issue an official apology for American having dared to exercise their right of free speech, Obama's State Department sends a Twitter message: "We consistently stand up for Muslims around the world and talk about how Islam is a wonderful religion." (To some observers it may appear as though naive adolescents are running the U.S. government—or at least the State Department.) [36921, 36924]

It is worth noting that in his book *The Audacity of Hope* Obama wrote, "In the wake of 9/11, my meetings with Arab and Pakistani Americans ...have a more urgent quality, for the stories of detentions and FBI questioning and hard stares from neighbors have shaken their sense of security and belonging. They have been reminded that the history of immigration in this country has a dark underbelly; they need specific assurances that their citizenship really means something, that America has learned the right lessons from the Japanese internments during World War II, and that I will stand with them should the political winds shift in an ugly direction." [2645]

Sarah Palin writes, "Apparently ...Obama can't see Egypt and Libya from his house. On the anniversary of the worst terrorist attacks ever perpetrated on America, our embassy in Cairo and our consulate in Benghazi were attacked by violent Islamic mobs. In Cairo, they scaled the walls of our embassy, destroyed our flag, and replaced it with a black Islamic banner. In Benghazi, the armed gunmen set fire to our consulate and killed an American staff member. The Islamic radicals claim that these attacks are in protest to some film criticizing Islam. In response to this, the U.S. embassy in Cairo issued a statement that was so outrageous many of us thought it must be a satire. The embassy actually apologized to the violent mob attacking us, and it even went so far as to chastise

those who use free speech to ‘hurt the religious feelings of Muslims.’ (Funny, the current administration has no problem hurting the ‘religious feelings’ of Catholics.) But where is [Obama’s] statement about this? These countries represent his much touted ‘Arab Spring.’ How’s that Arab Spring working out for us now? Have we received an apology yet from our ‘friends’ in the Muslim Brotherhood for the assault on our embassy? It’s about time [Obama] stood up for America and condemned these Islamic extremists. I realize there must be a lot on his mind these days—what with our economy’s abysmal jobless numbers and Moody’s new warning about yet another downgrade to our nation’s credit rating due to the current administration’s failure to come up with a credible deficit reduction plan. And, of course, he has a busy schedule—with all those rounds of golf, softball interviews with the ‘Pimp with the Limp,’ and fundraising dinners with his corporate cronies. But our nation’s security should be of utmost importance to our Commander-in-chief. America can’t afford any more ‘leading from behind’ in such a dangerous world. We already know that ...Obama likes to ‘speak softly’ to our enemies. If he doesn’t have a ‘big stick’ to carry, maybe it’s time for him to grow one.” [36896]

Harvard law professor Alan Dershowitz tells *Newsmax* that Obama’s snub of Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu will not sit well with Jewish voters. “I think that the Democrats are in danger of losing even at this point a majority of the Jewish voters. What matters is how many votes they get in Florida. And I think they are putting Florida at substantial risk.” Obama’s refusal to meet with Netanyahu “...suggests that the United States will permit the development of nuclear weapons and will not take military action, notwithstanding that [Obama] has said that containment is off the table and that no military option is off the table. This sends a very confusing message to the Iranians and thus also to the Israelis. The people of Israel will say ‘look, if [Obama] won’t even meet with the prime minister at a time like this how can Israel count on the United States to keep its promise not to allow Iran to develop nuclear weapons? ...It’s really not the election that’s the factor. It’s the seasons and the timing, the winter months, when it’s appropriate to take military action from a military point of view. I think the dynamics have now changed, and I think the odds on Israel taking action between now and the winter season have gone up somewhat. ...What the United States has to do is send a clear message to Iran that they will not be able to develop nuclear weapons. Why endure the difficulty of sanctions if they are not going to be able to develop nuclear weapons anyway? [Obama] has to say in no uncertain terms that no matter what happens [the Iranians] will not be permitted to develop nuclear weapons. One hopes that they will be stopped non-militarily but if it takes military action to stop them from developing nuclear weapons then that military action has to take place. [Obama] has to make that as clear as could be. It’s absolutely essential that that message be sent, and that the two audiences for that message are both the mullahs in Iran and the leadership in Israel. ...A combination of the fiasco that occurred involving the [Democrat convention] platform and how it was handled and the refusal, if it’s true, to meet with Netanyahu, and the refusal to send the clearest possible message to Iran I think will make it more difficult, not only for Jewish voters by the way, but for very many non-Jewish, pro-Israel voters.” [36897]

On *The O'Reilly Factor*, Sarah Palin states that Republicans are “not explaining to the rest of America, who thinks that they’re going to get a bunch of free stuff from Obama, that you have a choice. You either get free stuff or you get freedom. You cannot have both, and you need to make a choice. And if we could explain and get that message through to people that ‘there ain’t no such thing as a free lunch’ and that we are an insolvent nation when you consider us being \$16 trillion in debt, we’re broke. We can’t keep continuing down this path. We’re in a world of hurt if we can’t get that explanation to the public, to the voters regarding what the choices are. ...It’s possible that we are so far down that road ...that, yes, a majority of Americans could potentially vote to continue that nonsense. ...What they have to do is, they have to lay out the choice for the American public. They have to tell us, are you for empowering the individual or are you for this nonsense of Barack Obama’s of growing this dysfunctional debt-ridden, \$16 trillion-in-debt, this government—which one do you want, people?” [36918]

Congressman Allen West (R-FL) appears on *On the Record* and says, “I think it’s an absolutely horrible thing, because what you have to understand—here we are on 9/11, remembering the attacks ...and now we have had another attack on sovereign American soil, which is what a consulate and an embassy is. Our flag was torn down, it was burned, the radical Islamists’ flag was raised, and we have an American official that lost their life. And the first thing that comes out is that we’re going to apologize for something that a Christian, Coptic individual posted in a video on his Facebook site. So now, if we’re going to start eschewing our freedom of speech rights to apologize to people for these type of attacks, Greta [Van Susteren], you’re only get even more of this. This is rewarding bad behavior, and I think you’re going to see this dovetail into other countries. ...I think it’s a horrific response that we’re apologizing. We’re accepting the blame for this which means you’re going to feel more of this response...” [36906]

Moody’s Investor Service warns it may reduce the U.S. government’s credit rating from AAA to Aa1 if the year ends with yet another failure by Obama and Congress to deal with budget and deficit issues. [36866]

WND.com reports, “A prominent member of Chicago’s homosexual community claims Barack Obama’s participation in the ‘gay’ bar and bathhouse scene was so well known that many who were aware of his lifestyle were shocked when he ran for president and finally won the White House. ‘It was preposterous to the people I knew then to think Obama was going to keep his gay life secret,’ said Kevin DuJan, who was a gossip columnist in Chicago for various blogs when Obama was living in the city as a community organizer and later a state senator. ‘Nobody who knew Obama in the gay bar scene thought he could possibly be president,’ said DuJan. DuJan, founder and editor of the Hillary Clinton-supporting website HillBuzz.com, told WND he has first-hand information from two different sources that ‘Obama was personally involved in the gay bar scene. If you just hang out at these bars, the older guys who have been frequenting these gay bars for 25 years will tell you these stories,’ DuJan said. ‘Obama used to go to the gay bars during the week, most often on Wednesday, and they said he was very much into older white guys.’ Obama, DuJan said, is ‘not heterosexual and he’s not bisexual. He’s homosexual.’ ...WND also spoke with a member of the East Bank Club in Chicago,

who confirmed Obama was a member there and was known to be a homosexual. The upscale fitness club says it has some 10,000 members, but it's one of a number of places identified by the Chicago homosexual community as a 'gay gym.'" [36868]

At HillBuzz.org Kevin DuJan writes, "I've always been surprised that no reporter has ever bothered to take the time to come to Chicago and camp out in the gay bars here to get the scoop on [Obama]—and by 'camp out' I don't mean dress up in drag and be boisterous, but rather to spend a couple of weeks becoming 'a regular' in these kinds of places, chatting up the locals, and generously tipping the bartenders until everyone knows your name (the one you choose to give them, at least) and they let down their guard and start telling you tales of Barack's bathhouse adventures... I really believe the 'reporters' out there just don't want to know the truth about this man. Writers on the conservative side of things probably just don't want to spend that much time in gay bars. But, you'd be amazed by the scoops you can get just sitting quietly in a corner in these places and listening to whatever the locals are talking about. You can easily nurse a drink for a while and eventually steer the conversation toward 'the good old days' and hear about what various bars were like many years ago... say, from the mid-90s through 2004 when Barack Obama was sexually active with men in Chicago. The way I've always heard it has been that Obama enjoyed being with older white men (the more grandfatherly the better) and liked only for them to do things to him (no recip, in the slang). This was most common at Man's Country Bathhouse where that establishment's current clientele now jokingly refer to rooms there as 'presidential suites' or 'Oral Offices' because [Obama] used to haunt the place back when he was a random Illinois state senator that no one had ever heard of or cared about. All of this changed when Obama ran for the US Senate and someone in his PR team [no doubt David Axelrod] made him stop going to Man's Country. From then on he'd only have sex with older white men in the steam room or sauna at the East Bank Club, which is a very exclusive and expensive fitness center/social club where Chicago's well-to-do essentially have the same bathhouse experience found at Man's Country while paying thousands of dollars more for it." DuJan describes several gay hang-outs in Chicago and observes, "If Obama was a Republican, I have no doubt that all five of these places would be chock full of reporters digging up the dirt on him. Hell, Anderson Cooper would have moved to Chicago and volunteered to live in 'The Hole' 24/7 until he scooped all the scoop that was fit to scoop. But, Barack Obama is a Democrat so 'nothing to see here, folks.' Someday, all of this is going to be as public knowledge as JFK's affair with Marilyn Monroe and the other women he cavorted with while married to Jackie. Someday, in the next 10–20 years, everyone will know all about Man's Country and the place will no doubt get a plaque of some kind commemorating the times that [Obama] 'slept there.' You're just getting the scoop early because a gay guy in Chicago has broken ranks and told you all about it." [36869]

On September 12, the day after Islamist attacks on two U.S. embassies which resulted in the deaths of one ambassador and three other Americans, Obama skips his daily intelligence briefing. He does offer a brief—and incredibly unemotional—statement to reporters: "The United States condemns in the strongest terms this outrageous and shocking attack." (Obama reads his outrage-free statement as though he is doing nothing more than report the weather.) "We're working with the government of Libya to secure

our diplomats. I've also directed my administration to increase our security at diplomatic posts around the world. And make no mistake—we will work with the Libyan government to bring to justice the killers who attacked our people. Since our founding, the United States has been a nation that accepts all faiths. We reject all efforts to denigrate the religious beliefs of others. But there is absolutely no justification to this type of senseless violence—none.” (Whether Obama supports another “type” of senseless violence is not made clear.) “The world must stand together to unequivocally reject these brutal acts. Many Libyans have joined us in doing so. ...[T]his attack will not break the bonds between the United States and Libya. ...No acts of terror will ever shake the resolve of this great nation, alter that character or eclipse the light of the values that we stand for. Today we mourn four more American who represent the very best of the United States of America. We will not waver in our commitment to see that justice is done for this terrible act, and make no mistake—justice will be done. But we also know that the lives these Americans led stand in stark contrast with those of their attackers. These four Americans stood up for freedom and human dignity. They should give every American great pride in the country that they served and the hope that the flag represents to people around the globe who also yearn to live in freedom and with dignity.” As Obama turns to leave, he ignores a reporter who asks, “Is this an act of war?” (Michelle Malkin later writes, “Detached, diffident, aloof and resigned, America and the world saw a eulogizer in chief, not a commander in chief.”) [36885, 36886, 36915, 36961, 37032]

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton asks, “How can this happen in a country [Libya] we helped liberate, in a city [Benghazi] we helped save from destruction?” (Clinton’s premise is incorrect. Obama’s policies did not liberate Libya; it merely released its citizens from the grip of Moammar Gaddafi and gave that power to al-Qaeda and other radical Islamists.) [36916]

After his White House remarks, Obama briefly visits the State Department before heading back on the campaign trail. WeeklyStandard.com reports the details as related by others: “Obama spoke for about 15 minutes to a large crowd gathered in the courtyard in the middle of the State Department Building. There were at least a couple of hundred people gathered for [Obama’s] remarks, some people watching from the windows. He talked about how important the foreign service is and what a great job it does representing the U.S. abroad. He also had a line about how he understands the value of the foreign service because he spent so much time as a kid growing up abroad. He also spoke highly of the Ambassador Chris Stevens and the other officials who died in the attack. He concluded his visit by shaking dozens of hands and talking one-on-one with people, who seemed very appreciative for the visit. The official said it seemed as if Obama was speaking off the cuff, not from prepared remarks. When he turned to leave, he got a huge round of applause when he waved to say goodbye and he appeared to be saying thank you to individual people.” (As usual, even in the midst of a tragedy Obama manages to make his remarks about himself. Grief-stricken workers do not need to be reminded that Obama briefly lived in Indonesia—a childhood experience that certainly gave him no insight into foreign service and diplomatic duties. Some might argue that Obama’s constant obsession with himself is a sign of mental instability.) [36926]



Former deputy national security adviser Elliot Abrams tells DailyCaller.com, “[I]nstead of a protest the embassy has responded with a statement that says nothing about this failure by the government of Egypt to protect our people and property. Instead it criticized those who say mean things about Islam, when in fact in Egypt today it is non-Muslims, and Christians in particular, who feel threatened. So I find the embassy statement untimely on 9/11, bizarre and unacceptable. ...First, the United States embassy ought to be protesting the lack of police protection. The demonstration was planned, and known in advance. Why did police not protect the embassy? Why did they permit protesters to scale the walls?” Middle East scholar Barry Rubin states, “The [Obama administration] response to an attack on the U.S. embassy by several revolutionary Islamist groups—one of which is the Egyptian affiliate of al-Qaida—is to apologize for hurting Muslim feelings! Yet the problem is not the production of some obscure film that no American knows anything about but the political program of the jihadists, Salafists, and Muslim Brotherhood to destroy U.S interests in the region. And the administration doesn’t seem to notice that the new regime’s media and institutions are promoting anti-American incitement despite all the nice things Obama is doing for it [such as giving it millions of dollars in aid]. And all this on the anniversary of September 11!” [36887]

At WSJ.com Liz Cheney, chairman of Keep America Safe, writes, “In response to the attack in Cairo, [U.S.] diplomats there condemned not the attackers but those who ‘hurt the religious feelings of Muslims.’ [Obama] appeared in the Rose Garden less than 24 hours later to condemn the Libya assault and failed even to mention the attack in Egypt. The message sent to radicals throughout the region: If you assault an American embassy but don’t kill anyone, [Obama] won’t complain. ...[Obama] wrapped up his 2009 world tour with a speech at the United Nations, where he explained: ‘No world order that elevates one nation or group of people over another will succeed.’ He has worked hard these past three years to ensure that the U.S. is not ‘elevated’ above others, and he has succeeded. In too many parts of the world, America is no longer viewed as a reliable ally or an enemy to be feared. Don’t take my word for it. Ask Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Even as his country faces an existential threat from Iran, he can’t get a meeting with ...Obama. Ask the Poles and Czechs, two allies we abandoned when we canceled missile-defense systems that [Obama] feared would offend the Russians. Ask the Iranian people who took to the streets to fight for their freedom, only to find ...Obama standing silently with the mullahs. Nor do our adversaries any longer fear us. Ask the mobs in Cairo who attacked our embassy, or the Libyan mobs who killed our diplomats at the U.S. consulate in Benghazi. Ask the Iranians, who make unhindered daily progress toward obtaining a nuclear weapon. ...If you really want to know whether our adversaries fear us, ask the Russians, whose thuggish President Putin essentially endorsed ...Obama recently. Perhaps Mr. Putin is banking on the missile defense ‘flexibility’ ...Obama promised he would have after the election. ...Apologizing for America, appeasing our enemies, abandoning our allies and slashing our military are the hallmarks of ...Obama’s foreign policy. The Obama economy, with its high unemployment, massive debt and out-of-control spending, has rightly demanded our attention. As we head to the polls in November, we cannot ignore what is an even more dismal national-security record. An America already weakened by four years of an Obama presidency will be unrecognizable after eight.” [37010, 37057]

On Fox News, retired Lieutenant Colonel Ralph Peters accuses Obama of knowing Islamists were planning attacks on the embassies and deliberately chose not to strengthen security on September 11. Peters says, “The Obama administration let its guard down. ...These attacks obviously were planned. We knew the one in Cairo was coming because we evacuated the embassy, sent people home. The [Egyptian] government knew it was coming and didn’t stop it...” Peters notes that in his Rose Garden remarks Obama talked about the Libyan attack but “never mentioned Egypt because he wants to shift away from the administration’s failed Egyptian policy. ...This is a series of carefully planned attacks, staged, resulting in the brutal murder of our ambassador and three other embassy personnel. I don’t blame the Libyan government. They’re weak, they’re under threat... The Egyptian government, [to] which we give billions of dollars a year, refused to protect our embassy. Now, the Obama administration needs to forget that there’s an election in two months, get serious about protecting Americans, protecting our embassies, and about our foreign policy.” [36993]

Michelle Obama appears on the *Dr. Oz* television program, where she agrees with Dr. Mehmet Oz that obesity is “absolutely” the “number one greatest national security threat.” (The program was recorded earlier and she could not have anticipated attacks on U.S. embassies in Cairo and Benghazi. Nevertheless, she has made similar statements in the past. In 2010 she said, “Childhood obesity isn’t just a public health issue, it’s not just an economic threat, it’s a national security threat as well.” Obesity is certainly a significant problem in the United States, and the military no doubt rejects a substantial number of fat young adults who try to enlist, but that does not make it the “number one” national security threat.) [37058, 37059, 37070]

U.S. District Court Judge Katherine B. Forrest makes permanent an injunction against Section 1021 of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). The provision would have allowed the arrest and indefinite detention of U.S. citizens without due process of law if the federal government merely believes they may be involved in terrorist activities or on “suspicion of providing substantial support” to anyone hostile to the United States. According to WND.com, “The Obama administration then took only hours to file an appeal... and attorneys also asked her to halt enforcement of her order.” (After Obama signed the NDAA into law on December 31, 2011 he stated he would not abuse Section 1021. Some might argue that his eagerness to appeal Forrest’s ruling suggests otherwise. The First, Fifth, and Fourteenth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution apparently get in Obama’s way.) Forrest writes that the law “impermissibly impinges on guaranteed First Amendment rights and lacks sufficient definitional structure and protection to meet the requirements of due process. This court rejects the government’s suggestion that American citizens can be placed in military detention indefinitely, for acts they could not predict might subject them to detention, and have as their sole remedy a habeas petition adjudicated by a single decision-maker (a judge versus a jury), by a ‘preponderance of the evidence’ standard. That scenario dispenses with a number of guaranteed rights.” [37082, 37083]

Rasmussen reports that Obama's convention bounce quickly faded. He leads Romney 46–45 percent, but “When ‘leaners’ are included, it’s Romney 48% and Obama 47%. Leaners are those who initially indicate no preference for either candidate but express a preference for one of them in a follow-up question.” In the IBD/TIPP poll, Obama's 7-point August lead is down to 2; he leads Romney 46–44. The Washington Post/ABC News poll shows Obama leading 49–48 (in a survey with a D/R/I weighting of 33/27/36). According to an August Rasmussen poll, 37.6 percent of Americans consider themselves Republicans; 33 percent Democrat; and 29.2 percent Independent. A national poll that surveys 6 percent more Democrats than Republicans is arguably absurd.) [36879, 36880, 36881, 37317, 37318]

Gerald Molen, producer of *2016: Obama's America* (as well as *Schindler's List* and other films), writes, “It deeply offends me to read reviews labeling me and my fellow filmmakers as racists or bigots or comparing us to Nazis. Their obvious hatred and bias seemingly overwhelms their ability to write a negative review without resorting to the lowest of degrading observations. It raises the question ‘why are some on the left of the political spectrum so indoctrinated by their masters that they lose all sense of decency and/or intelligent reasoning?’ This is such a loss for journalism. An example of this is the recent article in Entertainment Weekly that informed its readers that our film ‘2016: Obama's America’ is ‘fundamentally racist.’ Really? And this editorial judgment is made by whom? It really speaks highly as to the quality of people making decisions that affect all of us, doesn't it?” (Revenues for the film drop over the September 22–23 weekend, partly because fewer theaters show the film, but mostly because a copy is illegally posted on YouTube.com and rumors spread that Fox News will air the movie. Filmmaker Dinesh D'Souza states, “The reports of the movie appearing on Fox before the election are completely untrue, and we strongly suspect that they are the result of dirty tricks by our opponents who spread this rumor in order to confuse the general public and keep them from going to their local theaters. We urge all Americans to ignore these efforts and go to their local theater and enjoy the movie on the big screen. ... We have not been approached by any television network to air the film.” The DVD goes on sale October 16.) [36882, 37571, 37717]

University of Chicago law professor Richard Epstein confirms for DailyCaller.com what readers of this *Timeline* have always known: that Obama was a lecturer, not a professor, and was never offered tenure—as falsely claimed by *New York Times* reporter Jodi Kantor in her book, *The Obamas*. Epstein states, “I have no idea where Jodi got her story. Tenure offers require votes from faculties approved by the provost, and need a scholarly output. He was approached with the possibility of an entry level position without tenure, but it never got to the faculty for want of interest on his side. ... I wish I still had my email to Jodi, because I wrote Jodi Kantor in no uncertain terms that the matter had never come to the faculty, and that under no circumstances would an offer to Obama be tenured. Indeed I was completely taken aback by [her] story. ... The thought that the law school could have made a tenure offer to a person with no academic writing was out of the question, as far as I was concerned, and I took a lot of heat from people who kept saying that Chicago had abandoned its scholarly standards by [even] contemplating that offer.” Epstein, who once served as dean of the law school, states that Obama basically

taught “public interest law,” rather than strict “constitutional law,” which discussed “institutional racism in American society.” As noted previously in this *Timeline*, Obama taught a class titled, “Current Issues in Racism and the Law.” Among the topics Obama covered was slavery reparations, with questions such as, “Do such proposals have any realistic chance of working their way through the political system?” and “Would there be any legal impediments to such a broadly-conceived reparations policy?” [842 pp. 67–68; 935, 936, 1085, 1362, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 9084, 9426, 36884, 37392]

Howard Koh, assistant secretary for health at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, announces a “Tobacco-Free College Campus Initiative” with the goal of banning smoking on all college campuses. [36890]

DailyCaller.com reports, “The Democratic National Convention’s final night included a stirring tribute to America’s veterans from a retired naval four-star admiral, complete with a backdrop of jets flying over a row of proud warships. But convention organizers may soon regret it. Norman Polmar, author of ‘The Naval Institute Guide to the Soviet Navy’ and other military handbooks, told the Navy Times on Tuesday that the ships in the photographs were Russian vessels.” (It is later reported that the F-5 fighter planes in the photos were from the Turkish air force.) [36891, 36898, 36899, 37224]

As the result of an “open microphone,” several reporters are caught coordinating questions for Mitt Romney before the meet with him in order to insure that they stress the tone and timing of his comments about the embassy attacks, rather than their substance. TheRightScoop.com posts the conversation: A CBS reporter says, “Yeah that’s the question. I would just say [to Romney], ‘Do you regret your question?’” Another reporter: “Your question? Your statement?” CBS reporter: “I mean your statement. Not even the tone, because then he can go off on...” Other reporter: “And then if he does, if we can just follow up and say ‘but this morning your answer is continuing to sound...” CBS reporter: “You can’t say that.” ...CBS reporter: “I’m just trying to make sure that we’re just talking about, no matter who he calls on we’re covered on the one question.” Other reporter: “Do you stand by your statement or regret your statement?” HotAir.com explains, “In other words, knowing that they’ll have a select few opportunities to press Romney this morning, the press might have huddled to make sure that different angles of the story would be covered in the Q&A—one person asks him how he’d alter current U.S. policy on Egypt and Libya, one person asks him how to balance free-speech principles with concerns about provocations, etc, etc. Instead he got five sub-moronic questions about the tone and timing of his statement last night, which was issued before anyone even knew that Chris Stevens had been killed in Libya. This latest iteration of the media’s ‘WHAT ABOUT YOUR GAFFES?’ idiocy towards Romney is transparently a bit of concern-trolling designed to change the subject from Obama dropping the ball on security for the consulate in Libya—and that’s precisely what they seem to be coordinating on in the audio clip. They’re huddling to make sure that someone asks him the concern-troll question about the optics of his statement, because evidently that’s the one topic America needed him to address this morning, you see.” [36900, 36901]

Although Obama-supporting reporters do their best to persuade Mitt Romney to “walk back” his criticism of the Obama administration’s initial statement on the embassy attacks, he stands firm and says it “was wrong to stand by a statement sympathizing with those who had breached our embassy in Egypt instead of condemning their actions.” [36906]

In Egypt, the Muslim Brotherhood calls for nationwide demonstrations on September 14 to protest the anti-Mohammed film that was used as an excuse to attack U.S. embassies in Cairo and Libya. [36903]

In an interview to be aired on *60 Minutes* on September 13, Obama says, “There’s a broader lesson to be learned here, and I, I, I, you know, Governor Romney seems to have a tendency to, uh, shoot first and aim later. Uh, and, [in the White House]...one of the things I’ve learned is you can’t do that. Uh, that, uh, you know it’s important for you ta, uh, make sure the statements that you make are backed up by the facts and that you’ve thought through the ramifications before you make ’em.” (It is worth noting that during the 1980 presidential race Jimmy Carter made a “shoot first and ask questions later” criticism of Ronald Reagan. A caller to Rush Limbaugh’s radio program asks, “You know, if the *60 Minutes* reporter was any kind of self-respecting journalist, he would have asked Obama, you know, talk about shooting before aiming, ‘Weren’t you the one who was supporting dissidents in Egypt and helping with getting rid of Mubarak without knowing who they were there? And in Libya?’”) Steve Kroft tosses Obama a softball: “Do you think it was irresponsible [for Romney to criticize you]?” Obama responds predictably: “Uh, that’s up to the American people to decide.” With a U.S. ambassador and three other Americans murdered in Libya, the U.S. embassy stormed in Cairo, and radicals set to demonstrate against the United States in Egypt in two days, Obama attacks Romney for criticizing his foreign policy failures—and heads to Las Vegas to campaign. While Obama campaigns in Nevada—where the event is moved indoors because enough supporters could not be found to fill an outdoor venue—riots continue at and near the U.S. embassy in Cairo. (RedState.com observes, “Had George Bush gone to Vegas for a fundraiser on a day like today, the national political press would be in an uproar.”) [36907, 36914, 36931, 36934, 36958, 36982, 37005]

In the CBS interview also states, “We believe in the First Amendment. It is one of the hallmarks of our Constitution that I’m sworn to uphold, and so we are always going to uphold the rights for individuals to speak their mind.” (Romney’s criticism of the atrocious State Department message from the U.S. embassy in Cairo forces Obama to address the issue of his administration’s seeming abandonment of the First Amendment protection of the right of free speech. Some might consider Obama’s use of the word “hallmark” disturbing, used as though he is describing an optional “feature” of a new cell phone. The protection of the right to free speech is not a “hallmark;” it is *the* fundamental obligation of any legitimate government.) Obama gives himself an excuse, saying the Cairo statement “didn’t come from me, it didn’t come from Secretary Clinton; it came from folks on the ground who are potentially in danger.” (Whether Obama realizes it or not, his statement supports Romney’s criticism that the embassy statement was both ill-advised and unjustifiable.) Obama and Clinton are, of course, responsible for the actions

of all embassy officials, who are supposed to act and speak as one in accord with American principles and the U.S. Constitution. The buck does not stop 20 levels lower than Obama; it stops at Obama's desk. [36963, 36987]

On MSNBC, Chris Matthews remarks, "The tragedy in Benghazi that cost Ambassador Stevens his life has been overshadowed by the desperate reach by Mitt Romney." (There was, of course, no "desperate reach" by Romney. He stated what many Americans were thinking, that the Obama administration was more eager to apologize for an anti-Islam movie that to condemn a mob that killed four Americans.) [36907, 36909]

At Breitbart.com Michael Patrick Leahy writes, "Security at the consulate [in Benghazi, Libya] was apparently provided by Libyan nationals hired by the United States. While security for American embassies is typically provided by our own Marines, the two Marines reported killed in yesterday's attacks appear not to have been stationed at the embassy, but were sent there from another unknown location as the violence erupted. There is also no indication if these two Marines were the only American military personnel on site at the time of Ambassador Stevens' death. All reports indicate that the security forces at the consulate were overwhelmed by the size of the militant crowds and offered no resistance as they stormed the building, looted it, and killed the four Americans. As the facts surrounding the destruction of the American consulate and death of Ambassador Stevens become known, investigators will focus on these questions: Did the State Department provide adequate security for our embassy staff there? If not, why not? And finally, the most important question of all: Where were the Marines?" [36902]

At HotAir.com AllahPundit writes, "Go figure that a jihadist group that had targeted the consulate before might try something on 9/11, just as the leader of Al Qaeda was putting out a message eulogizing one of AQ's Libyan capos. The signs were there; one of the Marines at the consulate apparently even saw Libyan 'security' taking photos of the compound beforehand. What did the State Department do to prepare? Why are Marines only being sent now, after the fact, to beef up security? Why was there no evacuation plan in place? Why, apparently, didn't Obama attend any of his daily intel briefings this week with the anniversary of 9/11 bearing down? Why did his campaign move more quickly to condemn Romney for his statement than the White House did to condemn the mob activity in Cairo and Benghazi? Why do these questions only seem to get asked of presidents from the party disfavored by the concern trolls we call reporters?" [36907, 36936]

At Spectator.org Ross Kaminsky writes, "These radicals [who attacked the U.S. embassies in Cairo and Benghazi] are made that much braver by the obvious timidity and pro-Muslim bias of Barack Hussein Obama. Can you imagine what the Islamic world is thinking after we react to attacks on our embassies with soft words and apologies on the same day that it is reported that Barack Obama won't meet with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu because it's just too inconvenient for Obama's campaign schedule? (I'll bet you dollars to doughnuts that Obama's campaign advisers, desperate to win Florida in November, find a way to make the meeting happen.) None of this is an accident or coincidence. It is our enemies testing us and finding us weak. And it is the

surest way to embolden Islamofascists to test us further with more aggressive and more deadly attacks on American interests in the Islamic world, not least because the local police and military forces were unwilling or unable (most likely the former) to defend our embassy. Indeed, a CBS News report on Wednesday details a Libyan government official as saying that Libyan security forces seem to have told the terrorists where to find the Ambassador after he and other embassy staff had moved to another building ‘deemed safer.’ It is only the Obama administration that doesn't not realize that we are at war with ‘radical’ Islam. Not only do the ‘protesters’ know it, but the President of Egypt knows it; after all, he is just one of them in a more expensive suit.” (Although Obama has refused to meet with Netanyahu, he plans to greet Egypt’s president, Mohamed Morsi, before the end of the month. He has no time for the prime minister of Israel, but he has time to campaign, attend fundraisers, and welcome a member of the radical Muslim Brotherhood—whose affiliates stormed the U.S. embassy in Cairo.) [36923, 36959]

The Ulsterman Report hears from the *Wall Street* insider, who states, “You receive this message as you likely look over the latest reports coming from the crisis that is now truly engulfing the Middle East. What symbolism to be found in such tragic events for America taking place yesterday, September 11th? As we all remember with a mixture of sadness, horror, and righteous anger those events of 2001, we are then greeted with yet more tragedy yesterday from the very same hatred that flew those planes into those buildings not so long ago. And as you so rightly put it yourself, the man calling himself Obama has indeed built this crisis. Built it with his own arrogance, his own ignorance, and his own evil intent to destroy America as it exists and replace it with something far less strong, far less capable, and far more prone to defeat. Many months ago I shared with you information pertaining to a growing rift between Israel and the Obama government. It was a rift born directly from the anti-Jewish policies of those closest to the false president. A manifestation of biases found deeply rooted in such figures as Valerie Jarrett, a figure our mutual friend has of course spoken of often and with such frightening accuracy. She, Iranian-born, who long ago embraced the patronage and radicalism of the Muslim Brotherhood, that institution who now controls Egypt, much of Libya, and intends to spread like an aggressive cancer across the Middle East. Even the Royal Family of Saudi Arabia is not safe within the confines of their collective trillions. They helped to create this monster, but as the story so often goes, the monster inevitably turns against its master. So it now is with the Muslim Brotherhood.” [36925]

The insider continues, “What then of Israel? Alone in this wilderness of vile hatred and violence, surrounded by the most vile of extremism that would like nothing better than to snuff it out of existence. Netanyahu has been treated by this Obama regime as a dog. Kicked and cornered, rebuked and reprimanded. And now, on the eve of action, the Man Calling Himself Obama, does so yet again with even more sinister intent. You have likely read the reports of screaming matches between officials of both governments. Those are most certainly true, and tell less than the whole regarding just how fractured the relationship has been. But what of Netanyahu and Obama themselves? Do you recall something I hinted at before—how Obama himself demanded of Israel? How this false president threatened the only true ally America has in that troubled part of the world? Since then you have often asked what it was that was told to the Prime Minister. For my

own reasons, both personal and professional, I did not comply with your requests. I will do so now. And please note, what I tell you is absolutely accurate. This information was delivered to me from sources at the highest levels of the Israeli government. Prime Minister Netanyahu, when last at the White House and during an extended period of private conversation with ‘Obama,’ implored [him] to be far more forceful in his public comments regarding the United States’ devotion to Israel’s safety and protection and its very right to exist. Netanyahu warned [Obama] that his administration’s half-hearted gestures of friendship to Israel were in fact emboldening the more radicalized elements in the Middle East and thus endangering not only Israeli lives, but the lives of everyone in that part of the world. And then he also remarked this condition would further endanger American citizens within the United States as well, that the capitulation policies of the American government in the 1990s were instrumental in forming the attack of September 11th, 2001.” [36925]

“Obama’s reaction to these words were, ‘agitation followed by derision.’ [Obama] then leaned toward the Prime Minister and said: ‘You have just as much blood on your hands as they do. They got a right to exist as well. Everybody does. And I don’t want this thing... this back and forth... you and them... I don’t want this turning into an election issue for me, right? I can’t be telling those people how to treat your country any more than you want me telling you how to treat them, right? You see where I’m at in this? Don’t you turn this into something that might take away Jewish votes for me. That’s what you got going here—I know what you’re up to. Don’t do it. This thing... Iran... don’t try... don’t hurt me politically with it. You need us. We don’t need you.’ Now I must put that statement by Obama further into context to ensure you realize the stunning implications of what he was communicating to the Israeli Prime Minister. Netanyahu had spent considerable effort attempting to detail to Obama what Israeli intelligence had gathered regarding Iran’s nuclear capabilities. He had also warned of the very real and serious threat of nuclear materials being handed over to terrorists both capable and willing of detonation in other parts of the world, including inside the United States. The Prime Minister indicated his own government was unwilling to take that risk, and was preparing to take very specific measures to try and ensure Iran was not given that option to do so. And to that Obama, this man so tragically elected president, to that he replied to Netanyahu to not make this an election issue for him? To not make it something that might take away Jewish votes from him?” [36925]

“Imagine you are sitting in a room with a man who oversees the most powerful military in the world. The most powerful military in the history of humankind. And you are communicating earnestly, based upon knowledge you have from your own considerable intelligence sources, that not only is the Middle East in danger, but citizens living inside the United States as well, and these concerns are met with a self-serving plea not to harm an election. To in essence, simply shut up about it so as to not influence voters? How horrifying that must have been for a man so honorable as Benjamin Netanyahu. How frightening to know that the government of the United States was now being represented by the likes of ‘Obama’ and Iranian-born Valerie Jarrett, two creatures so detached from the rich and proud history of the United States, who view that history with disdain and a desire to punish. That is not simple ignorance friend. What that is, so willfully exhibited



by this man calling himself Obama, what that is, is outright evil. Look now on what Obama, as you describe, has built in the Middle East. American embassies being overtaken. Ambassadors and citizens murdered. Their bodies dragged through the streets. And what does the Obama administration do during all of this but apologize and promise billions more to the very people who are committing these atrocities against us. What of the fact that during their own recent political convention, these Democrats stood below a massive photo depicting Russian naval vessels? The Russian military! The very same Russian government Obama promised to be more accommodating to ‘after the election.’ Or their purposely removing God from their own platform, and the public denunciation of Israel that occurred by over half of the delegates on their own convention floor?” [36925]

The Wall Street insider concludes, “Sadly, Every Concern About This Man Calling Himself Obama Has Proven True—And Far Worse Is Yet To Come. My work to help defeat this threat continues, as most certainly does your own and so many others who have realized the dangers now facing all of us who love this country that was blessed since its inception by the Divine. There are now fewer than two months to Election Day. And then fewer than five months to Inauguration Day. I pray God deems me worthy enough to share with all of you in that moment. You and your many wonderfully intelligent and patriotic readers. If I had only come to know what they already knew so much earlier in my own life. Better late than never.” [36925]

In Jacksonville, Florida Mitt Romney states, “Americans woke up this morning with tragic news and felt heavy hearts as they considered that individuals who have served in our diplomatic corps were brutally murdered across the world. This attack on American individuals and embassies is outrageous, it’s disgusting, it breaks the hearts of all of us who think of these people who have served during their lives the cause of freedom and justice and honor. We mourn their loss and join together in prayer that the spirit of the Almighty might comfort the families of those who have been so brutally slain. Four diplomats lost their life, including the U.S. ambassador, J. Christopher Stevens, in the attack on our embassy at Benghazi, Libya. And of course with these words I extend my condolences to the grieving loved ones who have left behind, as a result of these who have lost their lives in the service of our nation. And I know that the people across America are grateful for their service. And we mourn their sacrifice. America will not tolerate attacks against our citizens and against our embassies. We’ll defend also our constitutional rights of speech and assembly and religion. We have confidence in our cause in America. We respect our Constitution. We stand for the principles our Constitution protects. We encourage other nations to understand and respect the principles of our Constitution, because we recognize that these principles are the ultimate source of freedom for individuals around the world.” [36927, 36928, 37308]

“I also believe the administration was wrong to stand by a statement sympathizing with those who had breached our embassy in Egypt, instead of condemning their actions. It’s never too early for the United States government to condemn attacks on Americans and to defend our values. The White House distanced itself last night from the statement, saying it wasn’t cleared by Washington. That reflects the mixed signals they’re sending to the world. The attacks in Libya and Egypt underscore that the world remains a

dangerous place and that American leadership is still sorely needed. In the face of this violence, America cannot shrink from the responsibility to lead. American leadership is necessary to ensure that events in the region don't spin out of control. We cannot hesitate to use our influence in the region to support those who share our values and our interests. Over the last several years, we've stood witness to an Arab spring that presents an opportunity for a more peaceful and prosperous, but also poses the potential for peril if the forces of extremism and violence are allowed to control the course of events. We must strive to ensure that the Arab spring does not become an Arab winter. With that, I'm happy to take any questions you may have." [36927, 36928]

Asked if he was being premature in criticizing the administration's response, Romney replies, "The embassy in Cairo put out a statement after their grounds had been breached. Protesters were inside the grounds. They reiterated that statement after the breach. I think it's a terrible course to—for America to—to stand in apology for our values. That instead, when our grounds are being attacked and being breached, that the first response of the United States must be outrage at the breach of the sovereignty of our nation. An apology for America's values is never the right course." Romney is asked, "Governor Romney, do you think, though, coming so soon after the event really has unfolded overnight was appropriate, to be weighing in on this as this crisis is unfolding in real time?" Romney responds, "The White House also issued a statement saying it tried to distance itself from those comments and said they were not reflective of their views. I had the exact same reaction. These views were inappropriate. They were the wrong course to take when our embassy has been breached by protesters. The first response should not be to say, 'Yes, we stand by our comments that—that suggest that there's something wrong with the right of free speech.'" Asked what the White House did wring, Romney states, "It's their administration. Their administration spoke. [Obama] takes responsibility not just for the words that come from his mouth, but also from the words that come from his ambassadors from his administration, from his embassies, from his State Department. They clearly sent mixed messages to the world and the statement that came from the administration and the embassy is the administration. The statement that came from the administration was -- was a statement which is akin to apology and I think was a severe miscalculation." [36927, 36928]

Reporters ignore the issue of the attacks themselves and continue to focus on Romney's criticism of Obama. Romney says, "We are having... we have a campaign for presidency of the United States that are speaking about the different courses we would each take with regards to the challenges that the world faces. [Obama] and I, for instance, have differences of opinion with regards to Israel and our policies there; with regards to Iran; with regards to Afghanistan; with regards to Syria. We have many places of distinction and differences. We join together in the condemnation of the attacks on American embassies and the loss of American life, and join in the sympathy for these people. But it's also important for me, just as it was for the White House last night, by the way, to say that the statements were inappropriate, and in my—in my view, a disgraceful statement on the part of our administration to apologize for American values." Another reporter asks if Romney was too eager to fault Obama: "Governor, some people have said that you jumped the gun a little in putting that statement out last night, and that you should

have waited until more details were available. Do you regret having that statement come out so early before we learned about all the things that were happening?” Romney: “I don’t think we [should] ever hesitate when we see something which is a violation of our principles. We express immediately when we feel that the president and his administration have done something which is inconsistent with the principles of America. Simply put, having an embassy which is... has been breached and has protesters on its grounds, having violated the sovereignty of the United States, having that embassy reiterate a statement effectively apologizing for the right of free speech is not the right course for an administration.” [36927, 36928]

Romney continues, “I think ...Obama has demonstrated a lack of clarity as to a foreign policy. My foreign policy has three fundamental branches. First, confidence in our cause, a recognition that the principles America was based upon are something we shrink from or apologize for; that we stand for that principles. The second is clarity in our purpose, which is that when we have a foreign policy objective, we describe it honestly and clearly to the American people, to Congress and to the people of the world. And number three, is resolve in our might: that in those rare circumstances—those rare circumstances where we decide it’s essential for us to apply military might, that we do so with overwhelming force, that we do so in the clarity of a mission, understanding the nature of the U.S. interest involved, understanding when the mission will be complete, what will be left when it is—what will be left behind us when that mission has been terminated. These elements I believe are essential to our foreign policy and I haven’t seen them from [Obama]. As I’ve watched over the past three and a half years, [Obama] has had some successes. He’s had some failures. It’s a hit-or-miss approach, but it has not been based upon sound foreign policy.” Reporter: “How specifically, Go...Obama? You spoke out before midnight when all the facts were known. How would you have handled this differently than [Obama] did?” Romney: “I spoke out when the key fact that I referred to was known, which was that the Embassy of the United States issued what appeared to be an apology for American principles. That was a mistake. And I believe that when a mistake is made of that significance, you speak out.” [36927, 36928]

Rush Limbaugh observes, “Obama’s first instinct was to sympathize with the attackers. And when I say Obama, I’m talking about the embassy, Embassy Cairo. You can’t separate Barack Obama from any of our embassies. He staffs them. They have like-minded thinkers in there. Barack Obama’s in charge of the Foreign Service, he and Hillary Clinton. Their first instinct was to sympathize with the attackers with that statement. Romney was dead right pointing that out. First instinct, sympathize with the attackers. Where does that come from? It comes from, just like Dinesh D’Souza says, it comes from the idea that Obama thinks this country has been too big for its britches for too long and it’s time this country finds out what it has been like to be victimized by this country in the rest of the world. It’s time this country finds out what it’s like to be Egypt and have a big, bad United States breathing down your neck. That’s what Obama is. That’s where he’s coming from. It’s true foreign policy; it’s true economically. Barack Obama doesn’t think this country should be number one. If it were number 35 it’d be fine with him. We haven’t deserved to be number one. We’ve stolen it. We’ve cheated people out of it. We are unjust and immoral in our superpower status, and it’s time. So his

instinct is to sympathize with the attackers, just like Reverend Wright said: ‘9/11, America’s chickens coming home to roost.’ That’s exactly it. Sympathize with the attackers, and all these Obama defenders know it, and that’s why they’re out there attacking Romney.” [36929]

Freebeacon.com reports, “Department of Health and Human Services [HHS] Secretary Kathleen Sebelius violated the federal law prohibiting federal employees from partisan activities, the Office of Special Counsel (OSC) reported Wednesday. ...The Hatch Act prohibits federal employees from trying to influence the outcome of an election while using their official authority or using their official title or when speaking about agency business.” According to DailyCaller.com, “Sebelius violated the law, the office said, when she publicly endorsed ...Obama’s re-election during a taxpayer-funded public event on Feb. 25, 2012.” Dan Epstein, president of Cause of Action, states, “This is the most high profile example of a Hatch Act violation since the Act was passed in 1939. Never before has a member of the President’s Cabinet been found to have committed a Hatch Act violation. President Obama should immediately fire HHS Secretary Sebelius for her violation of federal law. Additionally, the Justice Department should begin an investigation into any potential election crimes the Secretary may have committed through her then-taxpayer funded comments on February 25, 2012.” (Although violators of the Hatch Act are typically fired, few expect Obama to take any action beyond issuing a statement that he “reminded her” of her responsibilities under the law.) [36935, 36937, 36950, 36977, 37257]

White House spokesman Eric Schultz later tells the Associated Press, “These were extemporaneous remarks. ...The U.S. Treasury has been reimbursed [for the official trip that was illegally used for campaign purposes], and Secretary Sebelius has met with ethics experts to ensure this never happens again.” (In other words, “Federal law does not apply to Obama appointees—because Obama said so and the end justifies all means.”) Congressman Joe Walsh (R-IL) states, “As [someone] who said he had ‘put in place the toughest ethics laws and toughest transparency rules of any administration in history,’ I would expect nothing less than for [Obama] to quickly dismiss Ms. Sebelius. Her actions were not just a violation of the Hatch Act—they were a violation of the people’s trust who believe that their tax payer dollars are not being spent to help promote party politics.” (According to LifeNews.com, Sebelius has a history of abuse of power. As governor of Kansas, in 2007 “...Sebelius hosted a party at the official Governor’s Mansion at tax-payer expense for late-term abortionist George Tiller and his entire abortion clinic staff of about 25 people. Tiller donated heavily to Sebelius’ political campaigns and to the campaigns of those hand-picked by her.” During her Senate confirmation hearings, Sebelius stated Tiller had donated \$12,450 to her campaign; the amount was actually \$38,450.) [36964, 37041, 37257, 37533]

DailyCaller.com reports, “The House Education and Workforce Committee is renewing its previous demands for [the Obama] administration to turn over documents related to the scandal surrounding the termination of 20,000 Delphi nonunion retirees. Congressman John Kline (R-MN) states, “It’s past time for the Obama administration to stop hiding the facts and start cooperating with congressional oversight. For more than

three years, Delphi's non-union workers have been demanding answers about decisions made in secret that weakened their retirement security. They deserve to know who in the administration helped pick winners and losers and why." [36965]

A SurveyUSA poll in Florida gives Obama a 4-point lead over Romney. "Romney leads among Florida's white voters, but that lead is erased by Florida's minorities: Obama leads by 16 points among Cubans, by 36 points among non-Cuban Hispanics, and by 67 points among African Americans. Romney leads by 5 points among men, but that is trumped by Obama's 12 point lead among women. ... Compared to a SurveyUSA poll 8 weeks ago, conducted at a time when Obama attack ads about Bain Capital were airing unanswered, there is effectively no change in the race. Then, Obama led by 5 points. Now, Obama leads by 4 points, a nominal 1-point difference." (In other words, Obama received no lasting "convention bounce" in Florida.) The poll's D/R/I is 41/36/23, which favors Obama slightly. (The 2010 mid-term turnout was 36/36/29 in Florida.) The poll also arguably oversamples younger voters—in a state where the age 18–29 vote was only 15 percent of the total vote.) [36991]

At NationalReview.com Victor Davis Hanson points out, "One of the Egyptian demonstration's organizers was Mohamed al-Zawahiri, the brother of the top deputy to Osama bin Laden, and a planner of the 9/11 attacks, which were led by Mohamed Atta, an Egyptian citizen. In Libya, the sick violence is reminding the world that the problem in the Middle East is not dictators propped up by the U.S.—Qaddafi was an archenemy of the U.S.—but the proverbial Arab Street that can blame everything and everyone, from a cartoon to a video, for the wages of its own self-induced pathologies. So far, all the Arab Spring is accomplishing is removing the dictatorial props and authoritarian excuses for grass roots Middle East madness. Egypt is currently a beneficiary of more than \$1 billion in annual American aid, and its new Muslim Brotherhood-led government is negotiating to have much of its sizable U.S. debt forgiven. Libya, remember, was the recipient of the Obama administration's 'lead from behind' intervention that led to the removal of Moammar Qaddafi—and apparently gave the present demonstrators the freedom to kill Americans. This is all called 'smart' diplomacy." With regard to the apologetic statement from the U.S. embassy in Cairo, Hanson writes, "The author of this American diplomatic statement should be fired immediately—as well as any diplomatic personnel who approved it. Obviously our official representatives overseas do not understand, or have not read, the U.S. Constitution. And if the administration claims the embassy that issued the appeasing statement did so without authority, then we have a larger problem with freelancing diplomats who across the globe weigh in with statements that supposedly do not reflect official policy." [36939]

Hanson warns, "Expect more violence. The Libyan murderers are now empowered, and, like the infamous Iranian hostage-takers, feel their government either supports them or can't stop them. The crowd in Egypt knew what it was doing when it chanted Obama's name juxtaposed to Osama's. Obama's effort to appease Islam is an utter failure, as we see in various polls that show no change in anti-American attitudes in the Middle East... At some point, someone in the administration is going to fathom that the more one seeks to appease radical Islam, the more the latter despises the appeaser. These terrible attacks

on the anniversary of 9/11 are extremely significant. They come right at a time when we are considering an aggregate \$1 trillion cutback in defense over the next decade. They should give make us cautious about proposed intervention in Syria. They leave our Arab Spring policy in tatters, and the whole ‘reset’ approach to the Middle East incoherent. They embarrass any who continue to contextualize radical Islamic violence. The juxtaposed chants of ‘Osama’ and ‘Obama’ in Egypt make a mockery of the recent ‘We killed Osama’ spiking the football at the Democratic convention. And they remind us why 2012 is sadly looking a lot like 1980—when in a similar election year, in a similarly minded administration, the proverbial chickens of four years of ‘smart’ diplomacy tragically came home to roost.” [36939]

Also at NationalReview.com, Andrew C. McCarthy writes, “The coordinated violence against American installations in the Middle East on the eleventh anniversary of 9/11 was caused by one thing: Islamic supremacism. Contrary to the knowing lies government officials and opinion elites have been feeding the American people for 20 years, Islamic supremacism is not the fringe ideology of the terrorists; it is the predominant Islam of the Middle East. ...Under sharia, as construed by Islamic supremacists (i.e., at least two-thirds of Middle East Muslims), any negative criticism of Islam or its prophet, no matter how trifling, is deemed to be blasphemy and warrants violent reprisals—including death. These Muslims—hundreds of millions of them—consider this to be a divine ordinance and thus to be imposed on Muslims and non-Muslims alike. Understand that Islam, particularly as Islamic supremacists interpret it, is not merely a religion; it is a totalitarian ideology that has some spiritual principles, which make up a small subset of the belief system. Blasphemy is not applied only to the spiritual principles—say, to the oneness of Allah, and the like. The speech prohibition applies across the board to all Islamic doctrine. You’ve got a problem with a woman’s court testimony being worth only half of a man’s? Blasphemy! You’ve got a problem with needing four male witnesses to prove rape? Blasphemy! You’ve got a problem with the death penalty for homosexuals? With stoning for adulterers? With scourging for the consumption of alcohol? Blasphemy, blasphemy, blasphemy! *That’s* what causes the rioting and murder. The ‘blasphemers’ are only a pretext. What causes this is the indoctrination of Muslim populations in an evil ideology that justifies savagery over nonsense. That’s the proximate cause.” [36940]

Illustrating McCarthy’s point, RadicalIslam.org reports that “Muslim immigrants in [Spain’s] Palma de Mallorca ...have succeeded in forcing the expulsion of all female parking meter enforcement officers from a city neighborhood that is home to a growing Muslim population. The move reflects the increasing assertiveness of Spain’s Muslim community, which in recent years, has sought to impose its will over Spanish society on a variety of issues deemed offensive to Islam. Female parking enforcement officers patrolling the streets near a mosque situated on the Plaza de Pere Garau in downtown Palma have been subjected to a systematic campaign of harassment and humiliation by Muslims who insist that only male officers should be allowed to work in the area. In recent weeks the tensions have escalated to the point where female parking officers have been verbally abused and spit upon by Muslim immigrants seeking to force the women out of the neighborhood. Amid a growing concern for their physical safety, female employees have now been withdrawn from the area and replaced with an exclusively

male workforce.” (As Muslim populations grow in what had traditionally been non-Muslim cities around the world, the Muslims attempt to impose their Islamic standards and Shari’ah law—in the name of “religious freedom.” When more Muslims join the communities, the demands increase—and mayors and city councils cave in to those demands out of fear of rioting. Obama’s “extend a hand of friendship” foreign policy does little but send a signal to radical Islamists that the United States is weak and will do nothing. Stating, “I’m sorry if a low-budget movie offended you!” does nothing but encourage the Muslim belief that Islam is destined to take over the world.) [36941]

At AtlasShrugs.com Pamela Geller writes, “Lethal fantasy. Reality blows up Obama’s fantasist foreign policy. And Ambassador Stevens was a fellow traveler in this delusional religion-of-peace fantasist policy. You can avoid reality, but you cannot avoid the consequences of avoiding reality. Back in March 2011 I warned that Obama was aiding and abetting al-Qaeda in Libya. Obama owns Libya. This is all his. He can’t blame Bush and he can’t blame Bibi [Binyamin Netanyahu].” [36953]

While a group of House Republicans calls for foreign aid to Libya and Egypt to be removed from pending spending legislation, the European Union—which does not have the money to bail out Greece, Italy, or Spain—considers giving Egypt several billion dollars to boost its economy. Congressman Jeff Landry (R-LA) states, “In light of the recent developments, if [Obama] were to come back and demand that the amount of money that’s in that CR [continuing resolution] for Libya and Egypt be stripped out, that would be tremendous leadership because, remember, the regimes that are in place in those two countries came under his policies—he built that, okay.” [36988, 36998]

WND.com posts an ITN news video of Obama campaigning for Muslim socialist presidential candidate Raila Odinga in Kenya on August 26, 2006. In the video, Obama tells the crowd, “I’m so proud to come back home and see all you people are here.” (As noted in Part I of *The Obama Timeline*, Odinga had ties to both al-Qaeda and Libya’s Muammar Qaddafi, was educated in communist East Germany, and hopes to get Shari’ah Muslim law established in Kenya. Odinga is a cousin of Obama; Odinga’s mother is the sister of Obama’s father. Odinga named his first son Fidel after Fidel Castro. During his Kenya visit, Obama also delivered a speech to university students in Nairobi. In the speech Obama criticized the existing pro-American Kenyan government, rallied the students against it, and spoke of the need for change. Obama’s actions were logically seen as an endorsement of Odinga, the existing Kenyan president’s opponent. By making his speech, supporting Odinga, and standing beside Odinga at rallies, Obama violated the stated conditions of his Official Government Visa: “to nurture relations between the (African) Continent and the United States.” The Kenyan government lodged an official protest of Obama’s passport abuse and misconduct, and Obama’s actions were denounced by the U.S. State Department as being in direct opposition to U. S. National Security. After Odinga lost the election, his Muslim followers burned Christian women and children alive in a church where they had sought refuge. More than 1,500 people were ultimately killed in riots, and Odinga was reluctantly given the position of prime minister to placate his radical supporters and stop further bloodshed. In support of Odinga, Obama raised approximately \$950,000. The cash for Odinga came from private meetings in 2006

arranged for Odinga by Mark Lippert, a foreign policy advisor on Obama's staff. Odinga visited Obama during three separate trips to Washington in 2004, 2005, and 2006. Odinga promised his supporters in Kenya that he would "re-write the Constitution of Kenya to recognize Shari'ah as the only true law sanctioned by the Holy Quran for Muslim declared religion." In early 2006, Lippert was sent by Obama to Kenya, at taxpayer expense, on a "fact-finding" mission, and to do advance work for Obama's later visit. [126, 127, 207, 208, 271, 293, 294, 313, 329, 452, 1449, 36942]

In an interview with *Telemundo*, Obama says, "I don't think that we would consider them [Egypt] an ally, but we don't consider them an enemy. They're a new government that is trying to find its way. They were democratically elected. I think that we are going to have to see how they respond to this [embassy attack] incident." ForeignPolicy.com responds, "That comment had Egypt watchers scratching their heads, especially since technically, Egypt was designated as a Major Non-NATO Ally in 1989 when Congress first passed the law creating that status, which gives them special privileges in cooperating with the United States, especially in the security and technology arenas." (Egypt has been an ally of the United States—albeit a weak one—for decades. If that situation has changed it is because Obama refused to support President Hosni Mubarak and allowed the radical Muslim Brotherhood to take control of the country.) Pressured by reporters to state whether Egypt is an ally, State Department spokesperson Victoria Nuland ultimately states, "Yes"—but also refuses to say Obama is mistaken, saying, "I'm going to refer you to the White House for the parsing on this. ...I am not going to parse [Obama's] words." [36946, 36961, 37023, 37024, 37026]

At a campaign and fundraising event in Las Vegas, Nevada, Obama whines that it had been "a tough day" for him. (It was certainly not as tough as it was for the families of four Americans killed by rioting thugs in Libya.) Obama also states, "And obviously [our] hearts are broken for the families but I wanted to encourage those folks at the State Dept. that they were making a difference. The sacrifices that our troops and our diplomats make are obviously very different from the challenges that we face here domestically but like them, you guys are Americans who sense that we can do better than we're doing. ...I'm just really proud of you. ...I had a chance to go to the State Dept. to comfort some of the friends and co-workers of the folks who had fallen and I reminded them that as hard as things are sometimes, as difficult as change is that if we're resolute, if we don't give up, if we don't give in, if we don't become cynical, if we continue to be realistic about how hard change is but also keep in our hearts that sense of idealism and sense of purpose then over time good things happen." (Amazingly, Obama compares campaign volunteers who push for free birth control pills and student loan forgiveness to career diplomats and U.S. marines who risk their lives for their country. Additionally, Obama brags that his visit to the State Department was a "comfort" to the employees—a judgment that certainly is theirs to make, not his.) [36949, 37025, 37027]

While Obama begs for votes and campaign cash and votes in Las Vegas, violent protests continue outside the U.S. embassy in Cairo. [36955]



Protests also erupt at the U.S. embassy in Tunisia. IrishTimes.com reports, “Tunisian police fired teargas and rubber bullets into the air today to disperse a protest over a US-made film depicting the Prophet Mohammad near the US Embassy in the capital Tunis, reporters said. Around 200 protesters, many of whom with long beards and wearing robes, threw rocks at the police, burned US flags and chanted slogans such as ‘Obama, Obama, we are here for the triumph of Islam’ and ‘Mohammad is the master of creation.’ Police chased the protesters away while Tunisian army soldiers guarded the embassy building. There were no immediate reports of casualties.” Afghan President Hamid Karzai condemns the movie that virtually no one has seen, but fails to condemn the killers of four Americans in Libya. “Iran’s foreign ministry spokesman Ramin Mehmanparast also denounced the film while making no mention of the embassy attacks. The United States has a ‘direct moral responsibility’ to stop insults against holy Muslim figures, Iran’s Mehr news agency quoted him as saying.” [36956, 36957, 36983]

The deaths of four Americans in Libya are the result of Obama’s ill-advised decision to intervene in that country’s internal affairs—when there were no vital U.S. interests at stake. Author and radio talk show host Michael Savage faults Obama for listening to the wrong-headed advice of Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Ambassador to the United Nations Susan Rice, and Special Assistant to the President Samantha Power. Both Rice and Power are strongly anti-Semitic (Clinton somewhat less so), and have frequently spoken out against Israel. Along with Richard Clark, Rice, an assistant secretary of state under Bill Clinton, persuaded Clinton *not* to accept Sudan’s offer to hand over Osama bin Laden to the United States. Power once publicly discussed the possibility of invading Israel to help create a Palestinian state. (Power is married to Obama’s former regulatory czar, socialist Cass Sunstein, who believes animals should be allowed to file lawsuits against humans.) Power is connected to a George Soros organization, the International Crisis Group, that promotes a doctrine called “Responsibility to Protect,” under which any state’s sovereignty can be overrun if the “international community” decides it should act. (Under that doctrine, if the United Nations thinks the Second Amendment represents a threat, others have the responsibility to enter the United States to confiscate weapons.) Clinton, Rice, and Power all pushed for military action in Libya; Obama cannot blame it on George W. Bush. [233, 234, 235, 236, 356, 360, 831, 819, 1282, 1311, 2467, 2505, 2618, 6246, 18877, 18878, 18879, 18974, 19028, 19060, 19061, 19062, 19217, 36960]

Politico reports, “The consulate where the American ambassador to Libya was killed on Tuesday is an “interim facility” not protected by the contingent of Marines that safeguards embassies, Politico has learned. Ambassador Chris Stevens was killed with three other Americans in an attack on the U.S. consulate in the city of Benghazi, where Libyan rebels ousted strongman Moammar Qadhafi last year. Marine Corps spokeswoman Capt. Kendra Motz said that Marines were not posted to the consulate, unlike the embassy in the capital, Tripoli. ...The Benghazi consulate had ‘lock-and-key’ security [that is, no security at all], not the same level of defenses as a formal embassy, an intelligence source told Politico. That means it had no bulletproof glass, reinforced doors or other features common to embassies. The intelligence source contrasted it with the American embassy in Cairo, Egypt—‘a permanent facility, which is a lot easier to defend.’” (Even before the fall of the regime, Benghazi was a haven for al-Qaeda

operatives and other radical Islamists. For the Obama administration to think the city was safe for an ambassador in an unprotected facility is stunning.) Ace of Spades writes, “*Now* [Obama is] sending in ships and helicopters and Marines. I guess to secure the dead bodies. But remember, the real story of the day is ‘Mitt Romney criticizes Obama and the Cairo Embassy and the media doesn’t like it one bit.’ No Reason To Worry About Benghazi... Except for the State Department [on August 27] warning people about violence and kidnappings and assassinations in Benghazi. By the way, there was also an IED attack on the office in June. I guess those locks held at that point. So, they probably got overconfident about their door-locks.” [36970, 36971, 36972, 36973, 36974]

Columnist Caroline Glick writes, “The attack in Libya was well planned and executed. It wasn’t about a spontaneous protest against some ridiculous internet movie of Muhammad. The assailants came armed to the teeth, with among other things, RPG 7s. They knew that the US Ambassador was in Benghazi rather than Tripoli. They knew how to track his movements, and were able to strike against him after he and his colleagues left the consulate building and tried to flee in a car. ... Then there is the attack in Cairo. They were led by Mohammad Zawahiri—Ayman Zawahiri’s brother. According to Thomas Joselyn in the *Weekly Standard*, the US media has been idiotically presenting him as some sort of moderate despite the fact that in an interview with Al Jazeera he said, ‘We in al Qaeda...’ Egypt’s US supported Muslim Brotherhood President Mohamed Morsi recently released Zawahiri from Egyptian prison. The same Barack Obama who has no time in his schedule to meet with Prime Minister Netanyahu next week in New York, is scheduled to meet Morsi. The Egyptian government has not condemned the attack on the US Embassy in Cairo. But Morsi is demanding that the US government prosecute the film’s creator. You may be wondering how some movie no one’s heard of has caused such a hullabaloo. Well, as it turns out, the film was screened on an Egyptian Salafist television channel. Obviously the Salafists—many of whom, like Zawahiri were released from prison by Morsi, wanted to stir up anti-US violence on the eve of 9/11. So if the film is responsible for the violence, a finger needs to be pointed to its chief distributor—Al Qaeda’s Egyptian friends and members. With these facts in hand, it is clear that the attempts to present these acts of war against the US as the consequence of some stupid nothing movie are obscene attempts to deflect the blame for these unwarranted attacks onto their victims and away from their perpetrators.” [36978]

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Martin Dempsey telephones Pastor Terry Jones to ask that he stop supporting the amateurish film about the Muslim prophet Muhammed that radical Islamists are using as an excuse for violence. NationalReview.com’s Mario Loyola comments, “Nobody in the U.S. government, least of all the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff acting in his official capacity, should be calling Terry Jones or any other American citizen about the Mohammed spoof. Not only does that elevate Jones to some sort of semi-official status, but spoofs of deities are entirely within our rights and absolutely no business of the government’s. The U.S. government should not be taking an official position on the Mohammed spoof. It is entirely outside the official competence of United States military to be calling private citizens asking them be quiet, especially when they are exercising a constitutional right. Offending people is not an incitement to violence. Otherwise I could get everyone who

wears a Che Guevara t-shirt brought up on charges of incitement. ...[M]embers of Congress should formally protest General Dempsey's phone call to Terry Jones. I know [General David] Petraeus did it when Terry Jones was going to burn some Korans, but he was wrong then and General Dempsey is wrong now. In their private capacity they can make whatever phone calls they want. In their official capacity they have no business making phone calls like this." [36989, 36990, 37097, 37242, 37394]

It would be difficult to believe that Dempsey acted on his own; Obama may have asked him to do so. In any event, it is a despicable act of intimidation against a private citizen by the U.S. military—possibly ordered by Obama. U.S. citizens have the right to ridicule and insult Islam, just as Hollywood has the right to mock Judaism and Christianity in its films. That millions of people find such expressions of free speech objectionable is irrelevant. At PJMedia.com Victor Davis Hanson later writes, "Terry Jones is only as crude as ["artist"] Andres Serrano and his Piss Christ [a crucifix in a bottle of urine], which I don't recall warranted a personal call from the chairman of the Joint Chiefs to the artist to cool it, much less a federal effort to detain a Coptic filmmaker. Sometimes Muslims will rage at a [Salman] Rushdie novel, sometimes at a papal reference to a Byzantine letter, and at other times at a supposedly flushed or torched Koran. Or maybe a grainy amateurish video will set them off to kill a nun, blow up a priest, burn down an embassy, or assassinate a Western ambassador. There are three-hundred-million-plus free-thinking Americans, and thus at least that many possible 'slights'—if you choose to go down that road of blaming free expression rather than the primeval mind that objects to it." (One can assume that *The Obama Timeline* might easily be found offensive by many Muslims, but that does not justify this author's decapitation by a crazed musloid jihadist—the operative word being crazed, of course.) [36989, 36990, 37097, 37242]

On *Special Report* columnist Charles Krauthammer comments, "It looks as if the administration has no idea what it thinks about what has just happened. We had that statement coming out of the embassy in Cairo, which was a disgraceful apology, and Romney attacks it and then, the White House hadn't said anything, but after the Romney attack [the] State Department ...disavows it, the White House does, and then of course everybody jumps on Romney because he criticized it. He was absolutely right in attacking it. And now when we heard from Secretary of State Clinton she basically repeated the apology. 'I oppose all this; we don't have any sympathy with; we deplore.' I find it disgusting. ...And then she has—I thought the worst line in the clip you showed was this where she said there are different views around the world about the outer limits of free speech. Why is she engaging in a disquisition on free speech with the mob? The implication here [is] that, perhaps the mob is right, that we ought to be suppressing anything that offends Islam. This is a nation that where somebody puts a crucifix in bottle of urine and it ends up in a museum. We allow all kinds of expression. But perhaps we ought to make an exception in the case of Islam? This is absurd. She ought to be speaking to the heads of state, to the State Department equivalents in the other states and saying 'You speak to your mob and you talk to them and defend the embassy.' I find this is a return to statement a few days ago. I think they are totally in meltdown over at the State Department." [37013, 37043]

On *Hannity*, author and columnist Michelle Malkin tells Sean Hannity, “Obama won’t say those words [radical Islamist extremists]; he won’t acknowledge the coddling that this administration is responsible for, and the subsidizing with taxpayer dollars of the kind of Islamic violent agitation that we are now seeing. Keep in mind that the political arm of the Muslim Brotherhood, the so-called ‘Freedom and Justice’ party, is the one that’s instigating now all of these so-called ‘peaceful’ protests that are going to erupt from now through Friday, through next Friday and every Friday—because every Friday in the jihad world is ‘riot Friday’ against anything Western. ‘Pre-text’ is the word of the day, the word of the century here, because any conceived insult that can be exploited to castigate, to demonize, and to provoke violence against the West is the agenda of this group, Muslim Brotherhood and all of its affiliates. ‘Jihad is our way’ is part of their official slogan. ‘Death for the sake of Allah’ is what they strive for, and the network of Wahhabi-subsidized groups that have been offshoots of the Muslim Brotherhood across this country—it’s very important that people understand that. What was 9/11 about? It’s not about, ‘Will we ever forget?’ it’s ‘Will we ever learn?’ It’s the Muslim Student Association, it’s the ISNA, it’s the Muslim American Society, it’s all of the groups that the Bush Justice Department helped prosecute then, but, of course, whether it’s a Republican State Department or a Democratic State Department you’ve got this attitude of dhimmitude that is killing Americans abroad and threatening us here at home.” [36954]

A passionate Malkin continues, “It’s willful and deliberate whitewashing of the civilizational threats that face us... and ‘these optics suck’ White House... we have four Americans who are dead, who were butchered and slaughtered because this administration did not have the foresight to fortify these embassies on the 11th anniversary of 9/11, and there he [Obama] is with all of his fan-boys and fan-girls in Vegas raising money while they scream, ‘I love you!’ in the middle of an international crisis. And how about his statement this afternoon in the Rose Garden? He couldn’t muster up a single flash of anger or outrage that these Americans are dead now? ‘Tough day.’ ‘Woe is me.’ The bloodlessness of his statement makes my blood boil and it should make every American’s blood boil, especially in this week, which was a tough week for all of the 3,000 families who died on 9/11. ...And then we have this feckless lapdog media that’s conspiring to make this all about Romney instead of about Obama. It’s on his hands. ‘The buck stops with you, buddy.’” [36954]

On September 13 the Federal Reserve announces it will buy \$40 billion mortgage-backed securities per month, in a dangerous, open-ended effort to boost the economy. Chairman Ben Bernanke states, “To support a stronger economic recovery and to help ensure that inflation, over time, is at the rate most consistent with its dual mandate, the Committee agreed today to increase policy accommodation by purchasing additional agency mortgage-backed securities at a pace of \$40 billion per month.” (Bernanke is hoping that sellers of the securities will lend the cash to businesses to create jobs, but they are more likely to simply invest in the stock market and commodities—whose prices will go up because of the inflated money supply. The “dual mandate” noted by Bernanke is to promote job growth and keep inflation in check. His money-printing scheme will fail to do either. It will *temporarily* boost the stock market and make some voters *think* the

economy is improving—which Bernanke and Obama hope will enable them to keep their jobs beyond January 20, 2013. Bernanke also believes that his action will lower interest rates and encourage homeowners with fixed-rate mortgages to refinance with temporarily cheaper adjustable-rate mortgages. The money they save will then—he and Obama hope—be spent, boosting the economy. But homeowners have been growing wiser and more reluctant to expose themselves to the risk of adjustable-rate mortgages.) The immediate reaction to Bernanke’s scheme is a sell-off of Treasury debt, a drop in the value of the dollar, and an increase in commodities prices—including gold (which increases to \$1,777 per ounce on September 14). Many investors realize the “Fed game” is over and inflation is on the way. [36945, 37003, 37062, 37267]

It is worth noting that Bernanke’s announcement follows by only one day a ruling by Germany’s top constitutional court rejecting an attempt to block a new European bailout fund, as though the Federal Reserve was simply waiting for a go-ahead signal for both Europe and the United States to begin another round of money printing. (Gold analyst Clive Maund later writes, “This means that the dollar and euro are going to go down in value pretty much in lockstep, so we are going to have to take this into account when looking at dollar index charts, which have a very heavy euro weighting, as going forward the dollar index chart may partially mask the ensuing dollar collapse. ...[E]verybody is going to be in on the game and the fiat race to the bottom will intensify, fuelling accelerating global inflation even as economies shrivel. ...[I]t should be obvious that with the starting gun having been fired ...on the fiat endgame, where wave of wave of money creation drives the value of fiat lower and lower, not just in the US and Europe, but around the world, the price of anything with real or intrinsic value is going to go up and up and up—the most obvious beneficiaries being gold and silver.”) [37203, 37329]

The mainstream media spin on Bernanke’s announcement is immediate—and as absurd as it is predictable. Josh Barro, who apparently missed the fact that QE1 and QE2 were colossal failures, writes at Bloomberg.com, “Today’s Federal Reserve announcement is a big deal. We’re not just getting another round of quantitative easing, but an open-ended one that will continue until the labor market improves... This is great news for the labor market and the economy... The great thing about good policy is that it is a positive-sum game. A Fed that credibly promises to ease until unemployment falls will both put people back to work and grow the economy faster, driving up stock prices. That’s a win for capital, a win for labor and, if he gets credit for an accelerated recovery, a win for Ben Bernanke.” (Yes, printing money drives up stock prices—in the short run. It also drives up prices on *everything*—in the long run. The question is not whether consumers will be hit with massive price increases; the question is when. When those increases start destroying the standard of living of all Americans, jobs will be lost. That is certainly not “a win for labor.” Nor will it be “a win for Ben Bernanke.” He will be regarded—rightly—as an imbecile.) [37204]

Congressman Ron Paul (R-TX), who clearly has wisdom Bloomberg’s Josh Barro lacks, states, “No one is surprised by the Fed’s action today to inject even more money into the economy through additional asset purchases. The Fed’s only solution for every problem is to print more money and provide more liquidity. Mr. Bernanke and Fed governors

appear not to understand that our current economic malaise resulted directly because of the excessive credit the Fed already pumped into the system. ...For all of its vaunted policy tools, the Fed now finds itself repeating the same basic action over and over in an attempt to prime the economy with more debt and credit. But this latest decision to provide more quantitative easing will only prolong our economic stagnation, corrupt market signals, and encourage even more misallocation and mal-investment of resources. Rather than stimulating a real recovery by focusing on a strong dollar and market interest rates, the Fed's announcement today shows a disastrous detachment from reality on the part of our central bank. Any further quantitative easing from the Fed, in whatever form, will only make our next economic crash that much more serious." [37031]

Author and CEO of Euro Pacific Capital Peter Schiff states, "The U.S. economy is addicted to QE [qualitative easing]. But if the Fed had any backbone it wouldn't supply the heroin anymore. It would let the market restructure without QE, which is what we need. ...The Fed can engender a phony recovery with QE, but it won't last. That's what's happening now, because QE2 is wearing off. ...All this is counterproductive. It's exacerbating the fundamental and structural imbalances that underlie the economy. ...[A]s long as the Fed is doing QE, this recession, and I call it a depression, is going to get worse and worse and worse." [36999]

The Romney campaign issues a statement: "The Federal Reserve's announcement of a third round of quantitative easing is further confirmation that ...Obama's policies have not worked. After four years of stagnant growth, falling incomes, rising costs, and persistently high unemployment, the American economy doesn't need more artificial and ineffective measures. We should be creating wealth, not printing dollars. As president, Mitt Romney will enact bold, pro-growth policies that lead to robust job creation, higher take-home pay and a true economic recovery." [37003, 37004]

In an interview with USAWatchdog.com John Williams of Shadowstats.com states, "Once the Fed [Federal Reserve] starts monetizing the [Department of Treasury] debt you're ...likely going to see a very heavy sell-off in the dollar and a big spike ...the very beginning of the major inflation problem that should evolve into ...hyperinflation. ...[T]he Fed's primary function in life is to keep the banking system solvent, so that the various quantitative easings that we've seen ...have basically been aimed at trying to prop up the banking system. They've done it under the cover of trying to stimulate the economy but there's nothing they're doing here that will stimulate the economy. ...Hyperinflation [with, for example, toilet paper costing \$100 per roll] is virtually assured because the Fed doesn't have any options left." [36947, 36948]

Donald Trump tells CNBC, "From a stock standpoint, [Ben Bernanke is] creating basically false numbers. You're devaluing the dollar, and as Ronald Reagan would say, 'here we go again.' That's exactly what's happening. The numbers are false. They're being created. People like me may benefit, but it's not ultimately good for the economy. ...Mortgage rates are very low, but the banks aren't lending, so it doesn't make any difference [if interest rates decline slightly because of the Federal Reserve's action]. The mortgage rates are already at record-low numbers. I'm seeing numbers that I've never

seen before, but banks don't lend to people, even with good credit. They're not loaning money. [Nevertheless] ...I think it's a great time to buy a house, and I've been saying that for a long time now. Try buying [a foreclosed] house [directly] from a bank, because if you buy it from a bank, they'll loan you the money to buy it because they want to get it off their books, so it's a great time to buy a house. Pick a beautiful house, enjoy yourselves and try buying it from a bank." [37045]

At NYPost.com Charles Gasparino writes, "The scary thing about the [Federal Reserve] move (known as QE 3, after Quantitative Easing 1 and QE 2) is that people who know Bernanke tell me he harbors no illusions that it will actually result in stronger economic growth anytime soon. Instead, they say, Bernanke is just trying to stave off economic disaster—a severe recession that many recent economic numbers suggest is a very real possibility—because the economic policy offered by the Obama White House has been such an utter disaster. ...[T]he only card Bernanke has left is printing money—that's what 'quantitative easing' means. The Fed does it by buying bonds from the big banks (in this case, \$40 billion a month of mortgage bonds). That drives down interest rates, and the banks, flush with cash, are supposed to lend out the money to businesses so the economy grows. But this is QE 3—and the stunt didn't do much the first two times. Maybe it kept things from getting worse, but nothing much has happened in terms of significant, sustained growth. The problem: Many of the businesses that have the good credit to borrow more aren't, because they're afraid of what to expect from [Obama] who almost brags about plans to raise their taxes, no matter how lousy the economy. And banks aren't so quick to lend no matter how much the Fed pumps in for the same reason: They're scared about what the future of Obamanomics has in store for them. Yes, the stock market loves the move — the Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 200 points yesterday. But that's only because Bernanke also signaled yesterday that he'll continue to keep short-term interest at just about 0 percent—which keeps bond returns so low that investors are almost forced to buy stocks." (Investors are putting their money in the stock market because, risky as that may be, they have nowhere else to put it without losing to inflation.) [37099]

According to the Department of Labor, initial claims for state unemployment benefits for the week ending September 8 rose 15,000 to a seasonally adjusted 382,000, the highest in two months. [37007]

Illinois resident Michael D. Jackson and two others file a ballot challenge claiming that Obama is not a natural born citizen and his name cannot therefore be placed on the state's November 6 ballot. [37175]

Prominent Libertarian Wayne Allyn Root announces he is supporting Mitt Romney for president, rather than the Libertarian Party's nominee. Root writes at PersonalLiberty.com, "If Obama is re-elected on Nov. 6, America and capitalism both face grave danger. I believe America as we know it and love it, the America of our Founding Fathers, the America that embraces capitalism and offers the famous American Dream, the America represented by the U.S. Constitution, the America of freedom, the America that allows the pursuit of happiness—that America is finished. Gone. In the

rearview mirror. I don't believe we [can] ever recover from another four years of Barack Obama. As Obama's college classmate at Columbia University, I've reported for four years now on his plan to overwhelm the U.S. economy and wipe out capitalism. It's based on the strategy of two Columbia University professors, Cloward and Piven. Obama is following it to perfection. But he has only just begun. He's actually tried to be reasonable for his first four years because his goal was to be re-elected, so he could finish the job. So he had to be moderate to hold his powder. To hold back from his true radical self. If Obama is re-elected on Nov. 6, you haven't seen anything yet. His gloves will be off. He will be free to be his real radical self. Without ever having to face voters again, Obama will truly wreck this economy from sea to shining sea—just as Saul Alinsky, Cloward and Piven, Barack Obama Sr., Frank Marshall [Davis], Reverend Jeremiah Wright, Bill Ayers, and a host of other radical, Marxist, American-haters taught him. We will face a final economic Armageddon: the total collapse of the U.S. economy and our monetary system. Obama unleashed will send the IRS to crush his political opposition. He will appoint a majority of Supreme Court and Federal judges, so none of his violations of the Constitution will ever again be challenged. His policies will encourage radical Islamic and terrorist rogue states to threaten and eventually destroy Israel. He will finish his destruction—actually, extinction—of our domestic oil, coal, even natural gas industries, so we'll become more dependent on these rogue terrorist nations who sell us their oil. And he will continue to weaken the U.S. military, so we will be unable to prevent it all from happening.” [37240]

“Do I agree with Mitt and the GOP on every issue? Of course not. No one ever agrees 100 percent on everything. But I'm willing to put my differences aside to set an example in order to take back our country from the grips of socialism and the abyss of economic ruin. There is no other choice. Our back is to the wall, and Obama's defeat is that important to the survival of our country, our economy, our freedoms, our children's future and, ultimately, capitalism itself. It's time for a coalition of Republicans, conservatives, Tea Party activists, Libertarians, Ron Paul supporters, small-business owners, homeowners, investors, patriots, Christians, Jews and Israel supporters to join together and support Mitt Romney now. ...Because of my general agreement with Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan on important economic issues (not total agreement, but general agreement); and because the Tea Party will hold the GOP to their promises or we will start a firestorm and make their lives miserable and then in the next election, throw the bums out; and because of my deep understanding of what Obama intends to do to this economy and this country in a 2nd term, I am now all in. I will do everything in my power to help elect Mitt Romney as the next President of the United States.” [37240]

Michelle Obama campaigns in Fredericksburg, Virginia, where she provides her own version of her husband's “You didn't build that” comment. She says, “We learned that the truth matters, so you don't take shortcuts, you don't game the system, you don't play by your own set of rules. And we learned that no one gets where they are on their own; that each of us has a community of people who are lifting us up—from the teachers who inspire us to the janitors who keep our schools clean. And we were taught to treat everyone with value, and everyone with respect. We learned about citizenship and service, that we're all part of something bigger than ourselves; that with our freedoms



come obligations, and with our blessings come a duty to give back to others who have less. See, these are the values that make Barack such an extraordinary husband and partner to me, but more importantly, such a phenomenal father to our girls.” [37247, 37248]

NBC’s Chuck Todd asks foreign correspondent Richard Engel, “I just want to get your first reaction, before you give me a report, of [Obama] saying Egypt was not an ally or an enemy.” Engel responds, “Yeah, I almost had to sit down when I heard that. For the last 40 years, the United States has had two main Arab allies in the Middle East, Saudi Arabia and Egypt, the other ally in the Middle East being Israel. For [Obama] to come out and say, well, he’s not exactly sure if Egypt is an ally any more but it’s not an enemy, that is a significant change in the perspective of Washington toward this country, the biggest country in the Arab world. It makes one wonder, well, was it worth it? Was it worth supporting the Arab Spring, supporting the demonstrations here in Tahrir Square, when now in Tahrir Square there are clashes going on behind me right in front of the U.S. embassy? And you can see now teargas coming, teargas being fired into a crowd of demonstrators who are trying to get close to the embassy, which is at the end of the street, and throw rocks at the US embassy. A very different scene here, a very different Egypt before, when the United States, ...Obama, was supporting the demonstrators, President [Hosni] Mubarak was in power, and Egypt was very much an ally. [Obama] doesn’t seem to be sure if Egypt is an ally any more, and some demonstrators who the Arab Spring helped give a voice to are trying to attack the U.S. embassy.” [37002, 37060]

FreeBeacon.com reports, “U.S. Marines defending the American embassy in Egypt were not permitted by the State Department to carry live ammunition, limiting their ability to respond to attacks like those this week on the U.S. consulate in Cairo. Ambassador to Egypt Anne Patterson ‘did not permit U.S. Marine guards to carry live ammunition,’ according to multiple reports on U.S. Marine Corps blogs spotted by Nightwatch. ‘She neutralized any U.S. military capability that was dedicated to preserve her and protect the US Embassy.’ U.S. officials have yet to confirm or comment on the reports. *Time* magazine’s Battleland blog reported Thursday ‘Senior U.S. officials late Wednesday declined to discuss in detail the security at either Cairo or Benghazi, so answers may be slow in coming.’” [36944, 37000]

ABCNews.com reports, “A U.S. intelligence bulletin warned today that the violent outrage aimed at U.S. embassies spawned by a movie mocking the Prophet Mohammed could be spread to America by extremist groups eager to ‘exploit anger.’ The Joint Intelligence Bulletin issued by the FBI and the Department of Homeland Security said ‘the risk of violence could increase both at home and abroad as the film continues to gain attention. First responders should remain aware of the potential for spontaneous large crowds and protests that could overwhelm resources and should be vigilant for possible efforts to encourage peaceful protesters to commit acts of violence.’” [37114, 37115]

McClatchyDC.com reports, “A Libyan security guard who said he was at the U.S. consulate here when it was attacked Tuesday night has provided new evidence that the assault on the compound that left four Americans dead, including the U.S. ambassador to

Libya, was a planned attack by armed Islamists and not the outgrowth of a protest over an online video that mocks Islam and its founder, the Prophet Muhammad. The guard, interviewed Thursday in the hospital where he is being treated for five shrapnel wounds in one leg and two bullet wounds in the other, said that the consulate area was quiet— ‘there wasn’t a single ant outside,’ he said—until about 9:35 p.m., when as many as 125 armed men descended on the compound from all directions. The men lobbed grenades into the compound, wounding the guard and knocking him to the ground, then stormed through the facility’s main gate, shouting ‘God is great’ and moving to one of the many villas that make up the consulate compound. He said there had been no warning that an attack was imminent.” [37255]

Mitt Romney leads Obama 47–46 in the daily national Rasmussen poll. Romney leads 49–47 when counting “leaners.” (Undecideds typically choose the challenger as the election gets closer. Pollsters sometimes persuade the undecideds to “pick one if you have to.” Those votes will likely favor Romney on election day.) On the issue of job creation, Romney also leads 47–46. [36962, 36996]

According to a Wall Street Journal/NBC poll, Obama leads Mitt Romney by five points in both Virginia and Florida, and by seven in Ohio. (As usual, the D/R/I weightings are suspect. The D/R/I in Virginia is 31/26/43, which dramatically oversamples independents and undersamples Republicans compared to 2008. In Ohio, the D/R/I is 38/28/32, which gives Democrats two points more of an edge than they had in 2008. The Florida D/R/I is 35/33/30, which is relatively close to the 2008 turnout. Although Romney may be behind in all three states, few people believe Obama will be able to draw anywhere near the “hope and change” turnout he got in 2008.) [37056]

Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), responding to an Environmental Protection Agency email sent to all employees, issues a statement: “I am aghast and upset that a federal agency would send an email depicting el Che Guevara in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month. This Administration just doesn’t seem to get it. The image of Che is an insult to countless people who lost family members because of his evil and twisted acts. El Che was a blood thirsty, vengeful, cowardly, sadistic, two bit delinquent who used his position as enforcer in chief of the Castro brothers to send countless innocent persons before the firing squads. His role in the early part of the disastrous calamity that befell the Cuban nation known as the Castro Revolution is well documented and those who ignore it do so willingly so as not to tarnish their love affair with the dictatorship of the Castro brothers. Surely, the EPA could have chosen the image of a Hispanic person who really possessed the attributes that showcase our proud Hispanic heritage. This sad and unnecessary episode encompasses all that is wrong with this Administration: Their priorities are backwards and their allegiances border on the fringe of society with a leftist fanatical slant that is worrisome and not descriptive of our great nation.” (The EPA thinks so little of Hispanics that it did not even bother to write its own message; it simply copied two-year-old text from a site called buzzle.com and passed it off as its own.) [37014, 37015, 37016, 37017]

Michroneonline.com reports, “Kansas officials plan to hold a hearing Thursday afternoon to weigh whether ...Obama is a citizen and should appear on the state’s November ballot. The Kansas Objections Board will be considering a challenge filed by Joe Montgomery, a Manhattan resident, who Monday objected to Obama being on the ballot. He claims [Obama] is not an American citizen since his father was a citizen of the United Kingdom and Kenya. The all-Republican board—which consists of Secretary of State Kris Kobach, Lt. Gov. Jeff Colyer and Attorney General Derek Schmidt—has the power to remove Obama from the ballot in his mother’s home state.” (The article is inaccurate; Montgomery claims that Obama is not a *natural born citizen*—an individual born on U.S. soil to two U.S. citizen parents.) *The Topeka Capital-Journal* later reports, “Three of the states top elected Republicans on Thursday determined they lacked sufficient evidence of ...Obama’s birth records to decide whether to remove the Democratic nominee from the November ballot in Kansas. The State Objections Board ...postponed until Monday [September 17] action on a complaint filed by a Manhattan resident pending review of a copy of Obama’s birth certificate from Hawaii.” Kobach states, “I don’t think it’s a frivolous objection. I do think the factual record could be supplemented.” [37019, 37020]

In Morocco, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton takes the hint from Mitt Romney and remembers that Americans have the right to free speech (including the right to criticize Islam and make bad movies). She states, “Our country does have a long tradition of free expression, which is enshrined in our Constitution and in our law. We do not stop individual citizens from expressing their views no matter how distasteful they may be. ...I know it is hard for some people to understand why the United States cannot or does not just prevent these kinds of reprehensible videos from ever seeing the light of day. Let me state very clearly—and I hope it is obvious — that the United States government had absolutely nothing to do with this video. We absolutely reject its content and message. America’s commitment to religious tolerance goes back to the very beginning of our nation.” (Clinton’s sophomoric defense of the First Amendment is even weaker than Obama’s. Free speech is *not* a “tradition”—it is a fundamental *right*. That she does not understand that, or is afraid to state it unequivocally, is shameful. Clinton’s statement is also useless. She is addressing Muslims, not Americans. Americans do not need to be taught about First Amendment rights; and Muslims cannot be persuaded to understand or care if those rights in any way conflict with their ideology.) [36967]

Radio talk show host Laura Ingraham says, “[Obama] goes to Vegas! How do you go to Vegas for a fundraising trip [in the middle of a national security crisis]? And they’re talking about Mitt Romney as the problem here? Mitt Romney’s response on Tuesday night was the problem? Mitt Romney did what he needed to do: He needed to train the public’s focus, at that point, on what will change if he is president of the United States: ‘We will not be engaging in a perpetual apology tour in our foreign policy. The way we deal with other countries when they commit these heinous acts against us, if they ever thought they could—they will be destroyed. Anyone who breaches our security perimeter at our embassies or consulates should be taken out.’ ...So [Obama] feels comfortable running to the slots and running to the roulette wheel and running to the ...craps tables, when the rest of us feel like we’re gambling away our prestige in the world, any respect

we have left among our allies and among those who should fear us. We're gambling away our financial security. We're gambling away our stability and our school systems with this ridiculous hostage crisis we have in Chicago with these unions. And Mitt Romney's the problem? No intelligence meetings—for how long? ...He's touting his foreign policy experience on the campaign trail, trying to be Mr. Tough Guy. We're sending in the ships, we're sending in the drone attacks. ...You got the elliptical trainer, you know, you've got your golf games to fit in. You have your fundraising trips, and you can't keep [singer] Beyoncé [Knowles] waiting!" [36966, 37044]

White House press secretary Jay Carney tells reporters the Obama administration has no intention of cutting aid to Egypt, despite the jihadist attack on the U.S. embassy in Cairo. "It's important to note," Carney adds, "...we appreciate the public statements that President [Mohamed] Morsi has made condemning acts of violence." (It took Morsi more than 24 hours to issue an incredibly weak statement—one that certainly does not require thanks from the White House or the American people. Morsi called the attack on the embassy "regrettable," but condemned "the people who have produced this radical" anti-Islam movie.) Asked to clarify Obama's statement that Egypt is neither an ally or an enemy, Carney states, "No, [Obama], in diplomatic and legal terms, was speaking correctly. As I said, we do not have a mutual defense treaty with Egypt, like we do, for example, with our NATO allies. But as [Obama] has said, Egypt is a long-standing and close partner of the United States and we have built on that foundation in supporting Egypt's transition to democracy and working with the new government." (No reporter bothers to ask Carney, "If Egypt is not an ally, why does Obama want to give it billions of dollars in aid and debt forgiveness?") [36968]

Muslims storm the U.S. embassy in Yemen. According to Boston.com, "hundreds of protesters angered by an anti-Islam film stormed the U.S. Embassy compound in Yemen's capital and burned the American flag," while chanting "death to America" and "death to Israel." Photographs show people looting the embassy, taking computers and printers. (Looting also took place at the consulate in Benghazi, Libya on September 11. It should be assumed that sensitive intelligence information was obtained, as personnel likely had no time to destroy documents.) Because there is no U.S. embassy in Iran, protesters in Tehran have to settle for demonstrating outside the Swiss embassy. Demonstrations also take place in Iraq, Afghanistan, Tunisia, Morocco, Gaza, and Kashmir. [36969, 36979, 36983, 36984, 37022, 37028]

For the third consecutive day, anti-American protests continue in Cairo, Egypt. Canada temporarily closes its embassy in Cairo. [36983, 36986, 37022, 37030]

Fathi Baja, "a political science professor and one of the leaders of Libya's rebel government during last year's revolution," tells *Time* magazine he warned ambassador Christopher Stevens the security at the consulate "was not enough. You have to add to the number of people, bring Americans here to guard it, because the Libyans are not trained." Although "U.S. officials told reporters on Wednesday that the Benghazi consulate had 'a robust American security presence, including a strong component of regional security officers,' but Baja paints a different picture. Baja states that on the morning of September

11 “The consulate was very calm, with video [surveillance] cameras outside. But inside there were only four security guards, all Libyans—four!—and with only Kalashnikovs on their backs. I said, ‘Chris, this is the most powerful country in the world. Other countries all have more guards than the U.S.’” Baja notes, “This country is still in transition, and everybody knows the extremists are out there.” (“Everybody but our State Department,” observes Roger Simon at PJMedia.com. Simon speculates that the anti-Islam video whose origin is mysterious was actually produced by Iranians with the intention of fomenting unrest throughout the Muslim world.) [36975, 36976, 36995]

On a Fox News panel discussion hosted by Megyn Kelly, Democrat consultant and Daily Beast columnist Kirsten Powers tears into Obama over his handling of the embassy attacks and the mainstream media’s overblown criticism of Mitt Romney for daring to point out administration failures. She states, “It’s still the media narrative. And the thing is, the outrage that has been expressed over the fact that Mitt Romney put out this statement has even overshadowed any kind of outrage that you would see over the fact that you have Islamic flags being hoisted over American embassies, the fact that an American ambassador is dead. You just are not seeing the same level of outrage over just the process of what time he put the statement out. It is just absolutely, utterly insane the way that they have elevated this. And even if we stipulated, Megyn, let’s just stipulate that, for the sake of argument, Romney shouldn’t have done it. I don’t agree with that. It still would not explain the obsession with Romney’s statement over these horrific events that are unfolding. ...[Media coverage] would have been completely radically different [had it been George W. Bush]. Like I said, even if you agree that Mitt Romney did something wrong, okay, look at that, but then let’s also look at the Obama administration. It was just radio silence. They allowed that statement to stay up on an embassy website, which is taken as the official position of the U.S. government. Someone was tweeting from the official account, and they didn’t come out and say a word. So, what’s that about? Why didn’t they know that these attacks were coming? Was Obama getting his intelligence briefings?” [36986, 37048, 37102, 37220]

“These are the issues,” says Powers, “that should be being asked and would be being asked if this had happened on George Bush’s watch. ...One of the things that a lot of liberals are complaining about is they’re saying that Mitt Romney attacked Obama, basically saying this was his statement, which of course, we all thought it was the Obama administration’s statement because it was on the embassy web site. But even if it wasn’t, what has he said that’s any different than that? You know, I mean he hasn’t used that exact phrasing, but we could not have had a weaker response to this if we just sat around and tried to think of like, what’s the weakest thing we could do? And that initial statement was weak, and now we have a continued—the administration coming out and condemning this movie as if the movie caused this attack. The fanatics attacked the embassy. They’re going to attack us whether there’s a movie or there’s not a movie. And they are continuing to do—the sentiment in that original statement continues to be the sentiment of the Obama administration.” [36986, 37048, 37102, 37220]

Various Mideast news outlets report that ambassador Christopher Stevens “not only was tortured (suffocated), killed, and had his body dragged through the streets of Benghazi,

Libya, ...his murderers raped him before killing him.” Sources said that Stevens “was killed and [treated] in a manner similar to what happened with Gaddafi.” (Whether the Libyans who sodomized and tortured Stevens knew he was believed to be gay is not known.) [36997, 37081, 37148, 37251, 37261]

Middle East expert Walid Phares tells Newsmax.tv, “The administration needs to explain to the American public that the war with the Jihadists is on, even if we withdraw from Iraq, even if we withdraw from Afghanistan. The jihadists are not withdrawing. So it is a unilateral withdrawal from the confrontation on behalf of the Obama administration. And we do need to, if not expect, but at least project, that as long as this enemy—these terrorists—have any intention of harming us, the whole world is a battlefield, not just Iraq and Afghanistan. They hit in Libya. They could hit in any other place. So the American public should be prepared, better prepared, by its administration. This is an attack against our diplomats in a country with which we’ve had good relations since the rebels took over and took down Gadhafi. But this is also indicative on the strategic level. ...Obama said that after bin Laden, al-Qaida is going down—and this is evidence that al-Qaida is spreading in areas where it was not operational, such as Libya and, of course, Somalia, Northern Mali, Syria, Iraq.” The Obama administration “needs to review its own assessment of the strength of al-Qaida and its response to al-Qaida. It also needs to review its policy with regard to the Arab Spring because, unfortunately, the administration partnered—politically partnered—with the Muslim Brotherhood, giving a lot of visibility to those movements. And, of course, al-Qaida took advantage of it. ...The administration must address the American public with a clear explanation of what the assessment of the jihadi movement is—what the assessment is of al-Qaida—because what we hear from the administration is that we are winning this confrontation. What we see on the ground, not just in Libya with this dramatic development, but also in Afghanistan, is that the Taliban and their allies are making inroads, and al-Qaida is pushing in Somalia and many other places.” [37006]

“...Governor Romney was right on target in his important press release and press conference. He was clear in stating that the Obama administration failed in dealing with the Arab Spring. It’s failed in reaching out to the moderates, to the seculars, to the civil societies, which, by the way, began the Arab Spring. Governor Romney has believed that they are part of the forces in the Arab Spring since the beginning, but he blames the Obama administration for allowing the extremists, the Muslim Brotherhood, to take over. Governor Romney wants to ally himself and the United States with civil societies, and the Obama administration wants to ally itself with the Islamists. That’s a huge difference between both. ...If we continue with this policy of disengagement, of withdrawal and of non-confrontation with forces that are growing in the region, unfortunately, Washington is looking at the Iranian regime still as a potential partner despite the sanctions. It’s penetrating Iraq and is giving a lot of trouble to our allies in the Gulf like the Saudis and the Kuwaitis and others. The policy needs to change here in Washington so that we can have a different strategy in dealing even with an Iranian threat, not just al-Qaida.” [37006]

At Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, Jimmy Carter contradicts Obama and states, “Egypt is an ally of the U.S.; we know Egypt well.” [37954]

During a visit to a YMCA in Virginia, Michelle Obama is asked by a child where she will live if Obama loses the election. She responds they will “figure that out later.” [37074]

The editors at NationalReview.com write, “Americans are murdered by Islamists, and sovereign American soil is violated, on the anniversary of September 11, and the first word from the administration to reach the world is an apology. So naturally, the mainstream media are focusing on what they in their considered wisdom have determined is Mitt Romney’s crass and ill-timed response to the crisis, even as the Obama campaign found itself in a foot race with the Obama administration to see whether the former could condemn Romney before the latter condemned the terrorists. But Romney was right to call the Cairo embassy’s obsequiousness ‘disgraceful,’ which is why the White House eventually followed Romney’s lead in disavowing it. Romney was also right to defend his statement against charges that he had ‘jumped the gun,’ saying it is ‘never too early ...to condemn attacks on Americans and to defend our values.’ Although the press acted as if Romney’s performance at the press conference was laughably unpresidential, what he said was appropriate and true: ‘It breaks the hearts of all of us who think of these people who have served during their lives for the cause of freedom and justice and honor,’ and ‘the attacks in Libya and Egypt underscore that the world remains a dangerous place, and that American leadership is still sorely needed.’” [37009]

“Above the political fray and campaign hay, there is also the question of what to do next. There are reports that elite Marine counterterrorism units are even now en route to Libya, and we understand that the president has ordered increased security at U.S. diplomatic facilities. These are both to the good, and we should not be hamstrung by diplomatic niceties or, indeed, by these governments’ demonstrably weak sovereignties in bringing the terrorists to justice. But the question remains why Stevens and embassy staff were not effectively protected in the first place, on either side of the embassy walls. If ...Obama is to meet with the Egyptian leader, Mohamed Morsi, the embassy breach should be the first item on the agenda. If we are to follow through on the provision of aid to Egypt, for instance, the money should change hands only after guarantees are made and concrete steps are taken to protect our missions. Notably, while the Libyan government has already formally apologized for the outrages on its soil, the Egyptian government has not. Its prime minister, Hisham Kandil, merely called the breach ‘regrettable’—immediately before calling on the United States to ‘criminalize acts that stir strife on the basis of race, color, or religion.’ That is, Egypt’s new government wants the United States to repeal the First Amendment. But when it comes to Islamists who seize American soil or kill American citizens, we prefer solutions rooted in the amendment just after it.” [37009]

At WeeklyStandard.com Thomas Joscelyn suggests that the embassy attacks and other Mideast demonstrations are less about an anti-Islam movie and more about a call for the release of Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman, the “Blind Sheikh” who masterminded the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center. “Rahman is a widely revered character in jihadist circles, having issued fatwas that repeatedly led to terrorism. Osama bin Laden credited

Rahman, a long-time friend and ally of al Qaeda's deceased master, with issuing the fatwa that condoned the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Rahman is serving a life sentence in an American prison for his role in 1993 World Trade Center bombing, which prefigured 9/11, and a follow-on plot against New York City landmarks. Rahman's spiritual guidance directed those terrorists. ...According to *USA Today*, the protest outside of the U.S. Embassy in Cairo was initially planned by Gamaa Islamiya (known as the IG), in which Sheikh Rahman was a top leader. ...It is certainly curious that there is a possible connection to the Blind Sheikh in both the Egyptian and Libyan attacks. It is worth remembering that al Qaeda isn't alone in calling for the Blind Sheikh's release. After being sworn into office in June, Egyptian president Mohamed Morsi, a longtime member of the Muslim Brotherhood, promised to work for the Blind Sheikh's release. Also in June, a member of Rahman's terrorist organization visited Washington in an attempt, he said, to demand the sheikh's freedom. We will surely learn more over time, including if there is anything more to this. At a minimum, we know that various forces have been increasingly agitating for Rahman's release in recent months." [37029]

At HillBuzz.org Kevin DuJan states, "Prominent members of Chicago's black community" claim "those closest to Obama know there is no second term coming." A "group of influential black Chicagoans" known as "The Think Squad" is the "polar opposite" of race-baiting rabble-rousers like Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton. "These are good people," writes DuJan, "who openly talk about how terrible the Democrat community has been for black people for the last four or five decades and how Obama and his acolytes have made a great many things worse for blacks since he took office. The Think Squad is not happy about the amnesty efforts for criminal Hispanics who broke American laws but are now able to push blacks out of work because of Obama's intention to allow these people to become job-seekers in this dreadful economy. As one person at the table noted by waiving her hand at the scene out the window, 'What the Hell has gotten any better since he became president. Where's all that hope and change? All I see is crime and trash.'" Another "Think Squader" tells DuJan, "Listen bud, there's no second term nothing and they know as much. All this is for show. [Obama campaign strategist David] Axelrod has already moved on but no one knows what to do and they're kind of just limping around without a plan hoping those Romney people mess up or the media drags them across the finish line. But ain't nobody in that top tier who thinks he's going to win. It's just not happening because they can't fool people a second time." [37012]

DuJan continues, "The Think Squad confirmed what I've been hearing through friends whose families know Marion Robinson, the current 'First Grandmother' and Michelle's mother: the Obamas and those close to them are preparing to decamp to Honolulu, Hawaii and live out his post-presidency in the post suburb of Kailua. This is Hawaii's Beverly Hills. The Think Squad ...regaled me with all the things Marion's been 'bragging-on' about the house she expects to live in come January when the Obamas depart the White House and Marion comes with them. They'll still have servants, Secret Service guards, a chef, and almost all of the amenities they enjoy now. But it will be a permanent vacation mode instead of the short bursts of paradise these people experienced on their many jaunts to Hawaii over the last four years before their usual return to



Washington. But now, they won't ever have to go back to DC and Marion is especially gleeful that they won't be coming back to Chicago ever, either." [37012]

"The general consensus is that black people will keep voting Democrat in droves because that's 'just what we do' but that there is nowhere near the excitement levels of 2008. 'People will not be lining up to do nothing for him in November 'cause he didn't do nothing for us for four years,' an angry Think Squader told me... The mood indicated that black turnout would not be anywhere in the realm of 2008 and would instead sink down to more normal participation rates... People are over Obama, like he's a rapper who has not had a big hit in a while or a singer whose last few albums have bombed. You still see people peddling the Obama tee shirts on the south side, 'but you ain't see nobody BUYING them, do you?' ...A good number of the Think Squaders don't see too long of a post-presidency for Obama. Some think he's sick (with Parkinson's, as we've talked about on this site for years) and others think he might even have HIV (due to his inexplicable weight loss). 'He's got the Slims and it shows.' ...'The Slims' is slang in Chicago's black community for HIV/AIDS. One in five black men in Chicago have HIV who engage in any sort of homosexual activity [sic]; this includes guys who are married and still fool around with men but don't consider themselves bisexuals or 'punks,' which is black slang for a gay man of color." [37012]

"There was no doubt [among the Truth Squaders] that Barack Obama is gay and has been part of the 'down low club' that's incredibly common in big cities like Chicago where gay black men desperately seek to avoid being labeled as 'punks' by taking a wife and creating a public sham of a marriage. Normally, the woman in these relationships is somehow undesirable and difficult to deal with, which is why a straight man would not want to touch her. ...All of them either married or have a long-term relationship with a gay black man (a 'punk') but who enjoy the benefits of having this man on their arm... Some in the Think Squad believe that Obama will just come out [of the closet] when he ascends to that international stage in his post-presidency but others think he'll never do that for fear of retaliation from Muslims. It's common practice for Muslim men to continue having relations with other males while [appearing outwardly] heterosexual and married, especially if the wife in question is mannish and overbearing much like Michelle. 'If you can't see it just by looking at him, then you're stupid' said one of my [Truth Squad] lunch mates today. I 100% agree with that and will never understand how any of this is a mystery to Americans. I guess they just don't want to see Obama for who he really is and maybe never will." [Note: The article's author, Kevin DuJan, is gay.] [37012]

DuJan concludes that "black people are not going to riot when Barack Obama loses" and that although "there's not a snowball's chance in Hell that blacks will vote Republican this year ...they will NOT vote against Obama. They will instead sit home. 'He didn't help me, so I ain't helping him!' is the motto this year. Count on black turnout to be at 2004 levels, not 2008 numbers the way the corrupt media is baking into all those polls that get conservatives worked up where they show Obama leading. Without blacks voting at 2008 numbers, Obama loses Ohio, Florida, North Carolina, and Virginia [and has] no hope of making up those numbers with other groups. It's as simple as that." (*The Obama*

*Timeline* has not confirmed the details of DuJan's story. Although the *Timeline* ignores stories of the totally outrageous, supermarket tabloid nature—"Obama is from Mars!"—those that may be credible are presented here for readers to accept or reject.) [37012]

On Hugh Hewitt's radio program, author Mark Steyn says, "I thought that thing last night with [Obama] saying he had 'a tough day' and comparing the dead Americans in Libya to campaign supporters, which he did, I thought was one of the most disgraceful, inept and embarrassing performances by a head of state or government that I have ever seen. Every American should be ashamed of [Obama]. ...He didn't script his remarks. I mean, this is a man, for example, who doesn't have, I think, great empathetic qualities at the best of times. But to slough it off in that bloodless language—you know, when he says, now I believe this is a direct quote, 'Obviously, our hearts are broken today.' If you say 'obviously' before it, your heart is not broken. He said, 'Oh, it's a tough day.' It's not a tough day [for him]. It's a tough day for the families of the four people who were killed. Why can't you—you're spending \$4 trillion a year, and you've got these 12-year-old speechwriters you're so proud of, and you're the king of the [tele]prompter, why couldn't you on Air Force One, you're the only head of state in any major country who has a plane to fly him around his own country, and a 40-car motorcade—while you were on the stupid plane, why can't you actually take the trouble to learn some words that would mean something and are appropriate to the occasion? If you think of Reagan, after the space shuttle [disaster], if you think of what Mrs. Thatcher said after the Brighton bombing that killed cabinet colleagues of hers—it's horrible, it's disgraceful. Nobody, no novelist would attempt to do anything so crass after this man is dragged through the streets—after he is killed, dragged through the streets of Libya, God knows what's happened to him if you believe some of the worst stories out there. And then the guy goes to Vegas. Why not just do it at Caesar's Palace with a bunch of showgirls? Every American who's watching, regardless of whether you're Democrat or Republican, if you're not embarrassed by the buffoon who's serving as President of the United States after that performance last night, there's something wrong with you." [37042, 37101]

Steyn says that Obama reminds him "of these occasional viceroys you find in dusty British colonies, slumming it on the edge of the map and giving the impression they're far too grand for the job. [Obama] gives off the whiff he's just doing it until something more commensurate with his talents comes along. So I have a slightly different view from [author and filmmaker] Dinesh D'Souza. But what I think is at the heart of it is he is all too typical of a kind of complacent pampered and cosseted elite of no achievement. ...I'm a believer in elites, and I'm a believer in achievement. But the idea that a guy has a million bucks worth of education at Occidental, Columbia, Harvard Law, and he becomes a community organizer. He becomes a constitutional scholar who doesn't actually teach anything. He has this charmed life. He's just wafted upwards until a combination of circumstances gives him the ultimate waft in 2008, and becomes president. And he's someone who, to use an old [Donald] Rumsfeld line, doesn't know what he doesn't know. ...He has this kind of invincible ignorance, so that when something happens, he goes off and he flies in to Cairo and gives his usual speech, and he thinks 'Okay, that's it, that's the Muslim world taken care of... Next.' And then when it all explodes and blows up in his face, he's not even interested enough to try and find out what's going on here.

And I think it's that perfect pampered, cosseted, invincible ignorance. And if you've ever been on an American college campus and just tried to plant a new thought in this sort of indestructible faculty-lounge group think, you'll be very familiar with the way Obama approaches these things." [37449]

The Associated Press reports, "Federal authorities have identified a southern California man once convicted of financial crimes as the key figure behind the anti-Muslim film that ignited mob violence against U.S. embassies across the Mideast, a U.S. law enforcement official said Thursday. Attorney General Eric Holder said that Justice Department officials had opened a criminal investigation into the deaths of the U.S. ambassador to Libya and three other diplomats killed during an attack on the American mission in Benghazi. It was not immediately clear whether authorities were focusing on the California filmmaker as part of that probe." Shamelessly, a federal law enforcement official, "who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to discuss an ongoing investigation," leaked the name of the individual to the media. (According to TheSmokingGun.com, the filmmaker, who served time in prison for a check-kiting scheme, "became a government informant after his 2009 arrest for bank fraud. [He] provided investigators with a detailed account of the fraud operation and fingered the man who allegedly headed the operation, according to comments made by his lawyer at sentencing. [He] identified the ring's leader as Eiad Salameh, a notorious fraudster who has been tracked for more than a decade by state and federal investigators.") [37063, 37064, 37105, 37135, 37140, 37162, 37181]

It is assumed that the filmmaker has committed no crime. The federal government has no business investigating him. It certainly has no business whatsoever giving his name to the media. The man, his wife, and his children have essentially had targets placed on their backs by the Obama administration. *The Obama Timeline* assumes the leak was *intentional*, and done so that the media will continue to focus on the anti-Muslim movie, rather than Obama's failed foreign policies. The Obama administration has unnecessarily apologized to Muslims for the movie; essentially expressed embarrassment for the First Amendment; reluctantly defended that First Amendment only after being shamed into doing so by Mitt Romney; and now attempts to strip a filmmaker of his First Amendment rights by telling the world who he is and where to find him. If the shameful incidents of September 11–14 do not result in Obama being thrown out of office by the voters, there is little hope for the future of the nation. Pamela Geller writes at AtlasShrugs.com, "If [the] filmmaker ... is sent to jail, on whatever pretense, he will be a political prisoner. He will not be in prison for fraud or some probation violation, but for blasphemy. This is sharia enforcement in America. ... This is Obama sharia enforcement. If he hadn't made the video, he wouldn't be in jail. These are trumped up charges. The AP (Associated Press) outed the Muhammad filmmaker after tracing his cell phone. The film maker was hunted down like an animal and now may face jail on trumped-up charges in an act of submission and surrender to Islamic law. This is a complete abridgement of our rights of freedom of speech and freedom of conscience under the law. Jailing the filmmaker is more sharia enforcement in America." [37063, 37064, 37105, 37135, 37140, 37162]

On *Special Report* Charles Krauthammer states, “What we are seeing ... is the meltdown, the collapse of the Obama policy on the Muslim world. The irony is that it began in Cairo, in the same place where the speech he made in the beginning of his presidency in which he said, you wanted a new beginning with mutual respect—implying that under the other presidents, particularly Bush, there was a lack of mutual respect. Which was an insult to the United States, which had gone to war six times in the last 20 years on behalf of oppressed Muslims, in Kuwait, in Kosovo, Bosnia, Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere. So to imply that we somehow had mistreated Muslims, which was the premise of his speech and how the Iraq War had inflamed the Arab world against us, well there was no storming of the U.S. embassy in Cairo in those days. What we’re seeing now is al-Qaedaistan developing in Libya, meltdown of our relations with Egypt, you’ve got riots in Yemen, attacks on our embassy in Tunisia. This entire premise that we want to be loved and respected, we’re going to apologize, has now yielded all of these results and these are the fruits of apology and retreat and lack of confidence in our own principles.” [37100]

On September 14 Mitt Romney moves to a 48–45 percent lead in Rasmussen’s Daily Presidential Tracking Poll; 2 percent prefer some other candidate; and 5 percent remain undecided. “In Ohio Obama leads by a point. In Florida, [Obama] is up two. Romney has edged back into the lead in Missouri and now earns 51% of the vote in North Carolina.” [37008]

In an ABC interview, George Stephanopoulos asks Mitt Romney, “Is \$100,000 middle income?” Romney replies, “No, middle income is \$200,000 to \$250,000 and less. So number one, don’t reduce—or excuse me, don’t raise taxes on middle-income people, lower them. Number two, don’t reduce the share of taxes paid by the wealthiest. The top 5% will still pay the same share of taxes they pay today. That’s principle one, principle two. Principle three is create incentives for growth, make it easier for businesses to start and to add jobs. And finally, simplify the code, make it easier for people to pay their taxes than the way they have to now.” (The Associated Press’ Steve Peoples reports on the interview, quoting Romney as stating, “middle income is \$200,000 to \$250,000.” Peoples intentionally deletes Romney’s two important words, “and less.” PJMedia’s Tom Blumer points out the egregious omission, writing, “Peoples’ dispatch went to the AP’s thousands of print, online, and broadcast subscribers, and officially stood unaltered long enough for leftist bloggers and other commentators to spread the cut-off ‘Romney’s out of touch’ quote far and wide, while center-right commentators like the *Wall Street Journal’s* James Taranto played catch-up with the truth. The AP copped to Peoples’ error later Friday morning, but almost invisibly and without apology. ... A look at even a small sample of Steve Peoples’ body of work provides ample support for the notion that he is not a reporter of events, but one who opportunistically pushes the envelope to discredit conservatives and protect liberals.) [37372, 37373]

*The New York Times* reports that in addition to setting up an ObamaCare health benefit exchange, the state of California “has an initial \$900,000 contract” with “the global marketing powerhouse Ogilvy Public Relations Worldwide” to promote them. ... The Ogilvy plan includes ideas for reaching an uninsured population that speaks dozens of

languages and is scattered through 11 media markets: advertising on coffee cup sleeves at community colleges to reach adult students, for example, and at professional soccer matches to reach young Hispanic men. . . . Plans are being discussed to pitch a reality television show about ‘the trials and tribulations of families living without medical coverage,’ according to the Ogilvy plan. The exchange will also seek to have prime-time television shows, like ‘Modern Family,’ ‘Grey’s Anatomy’ and Univision telenovelas, weave the health care law into their plots.” (Hollywood producers and writers are free to push any socialist themes they want in their television programs and movies—but the line should be drawn when taxpayer dollars are used for that promotion.) [37200, 37201, 37202]

NBC reports that Libyan authorities arrested four people allegedly involved in the attack on the consulate in Benghazi that resulted in the deaths of four Americans. The officials believe the killers used the rioting as a cover for their planned operation. (If accurate, that report works against Obama—who prefers that the voters believe the riots were the spontaneous reaction to an anti-Muslim video, rather than an indication that his efforts to oust Moammar Gaddafi resulted in a less stable Libya overrun with terrorists and al-Qaeda operatives.) [37053]

Protesters burn U.S. and Israeli flags outside the U.S. embassy in London. According to Al Jazeera, “Palestinians have joined anti-U.S. protests against anti-Islam film with thousands gathering in Gaza and hundreds in Jerusalem.” (Obama continues to campaign.) [37034]

Anti-U.S. protest demonstrations continue or erupt in Egypt, Libya, Tunisia, Germany, Great Britain, France, Belgium, Morocco, Yemen, Afghanistan, Sudan, Gaza, Lebanon, Bangladesh, Qatar, Kuwait, India, Israel, Jordan, Bahrain, Malaysia, Nigeria, Syria, Lebanon, Indonesia, Australia, and Iraq. Rioters in Khartoum, Sudan set fire to the German embassy and raise an Islamist flag; they also attack the British embassy. In Tunisia, protesters enter the grounds of the U.S. embassy and start fires. In Tunis, Tunisia an American school is set on fire and the U.S. embassy is attacked. The U.S. embassy is attacked in Yemen; Marines are sent to reinforce existing security. [37039, 37049, 37104, 37106, 37107, 37108, 37109, 37113, 37120, 37124, 37136, 37137, 37138, 37158, 37159, 37160, 37163]

Even prior to afternoon Islamic prayers, thousands protest in Cairo’s Tahrir Square and clash with police. Demonstrators carry Osama bin Laden posters, and one wall is spray-painted with the words, “Take care America, we have 1.5 billion bin Ladens.” [37035]

Two U.S. Marines are killed and five aircraft are damaged in an attack on Camp Bastion in Afghanistan, where Great Britain’s Prince Harry is stationed. According to Newsmax.com, “The attack involved rocket-propelled grenades, mortars and small-arms fire, with insurgents breaching the perimeter of Camp Bastion in volatile Helmand province. . . . Earlier this week, the Afghan Taliban said they were doing everything in their power to either kill or kidnap Queen Elizabeth’s grandson in what they dubbed their ‘Harry Operations.’” (IndianExpress.com later reports, “A Taliban spokesman has

claimed that thousands of British-born Muslim attackers are prepared to give their lives for prophet Mohammed and slay Prince Harry. Qari Yousef Ahmadi, a spokesman for Taliban, has said hundreds of young men are leaving their loved ones in the UK to train with the Taliban in Afghanistan.”) [37127, 37684]

Breitbart.com reports, “Today, ... Obama released the long-awaited ‘sequestration report,’ detailing the cuts the White House would make to the budget under last year’s Budget Control Act if no deal is reached in Congress. And there, buried on page 136, is the White House’s proposed cuts to ‘Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance.’ \$129 million. That’s a full 8.2 percent of the possible sequestrable [sic] amount. It’s a massive slash of the budget for our embassies, consulates, and security abroad. ... In the aftermath of worldwide attacks and assaults on our embassies and consulates, it certainly looks incredible for [Obama] to insist on deep slashes to our embassy security budget, let alone our overall defense budget. But that’s what this administration is all about: cutting defense, and leaving America and her emissaries more vulnerable.” [37672]

The University of Texas at Austin and North Dakota State University in Fargo evacuate students after bomb threats. (No bombs are found.) [37111, 37112]

In Chicago, 18-year-old Adel Daoud, a student at the Islamic Foundation School, is arrested for plotting to blow up a car bomb outside a bar. “The very next day,” reports AtlasShrugs.com, “Illinois Congressional candidate Tammy Duckworth went to speak at the Islamic cultural center in Villa Park, the same place where jihad killer wannabe Adel Daoud went to school. Did she tell the Muslims there that they needed to cooperate with anti-terror efforts and teach against the passages in the quran that call for killing and subjugating infidels? Did she tell them that the elements of sharia that deny the freedom of speech, and the freedom of conscience, and the equality of rights of all people would never be acceptable here, and would have to be discarded by Muslims in America? No. Tammy Duckworth put on a hijab, and talked about how the growing minority population makes the white community uncomfortable, and how the whites would have to overcome their ‘racism.’ The executive director of the Chicago chapter of Hamas-CAIR, Ahmed Rehab, introduced her. That’s how compromised our politicians are.” [37335]

While the U.S. media busies itself attacking Mitt Romney for criticizing Obama, the British media reveals additional information about the assassination of ambassador Christopher Stevens. According to *The Independent*, “American officials believe the attack was planned, but Chris Stevens had been back in the country only a short while and the details of his visit to Benghazi, where he and his staff died, were meant to be confidential. The US administration is now facing a crisis in Libya. Sensitive documents have gone missing from the consulate in Benghazi and the supposedly secret location of the ‘safe house’ in the city, where the staff had retreated, came under sustained mortar attack. Other such refuges across the country are no longer deemed ‘safe.’ Some of the missing papers from the consulate are said to list names of Libyans who are working with Americans, putting them potentially at risk from extremist groups, while some of the other documents are said to relate to oil contracts.” (Blogger Ace of Spades quips, “The Independent also reports lists of Libyans friendly to America were stolen from the safe

house. Or, as the mainstream media calls it, ‘another Romney gaffe.’”) [37011, 3702, 37036]

“According to senior diplomatic sources, the US State Department had credible information 48 hours before mobs charged the consulate in Benghazi, and the embassy in Cairo, that American missions may be targeted, but no warnings were given for diplomats to go on high alert and ‘lockdown,’ under which movement is severely restricted. ...Senior officials are increasingly convinced, however, that the ferocious nature of the Benghazi attack, in which rocket-propelled grenades were used, indicated it was not the result of spontaneous anger due to the video, called *Innocence of Muslims*. Patrick Kennedy, Under-Secretary at the State Department, said he was convinced the assault was planned due to its extensive nature and the proliferation of weapons. There is growing belief that the attack was in revenge for the killing in a drone strike in Pakistan of Mohammed Hassan Qaed, an al-Qa’ida operative who was, as his nom-de-guerre Abu Yahya al-Libi suggests, from Libya, and timed for the anniversary of the 11 September attacks. ...According to security sources the consulate had been given a ‘health check’ in preparation for any violence connected to the 9/11 anniversary. In the event, the perimeter was breached within 15 minutes of an angry crowd starting to attack it at around 10pm on Tuesday night. There was, according to witnesses, little defence put up by the 30 or more local guards meant to protect the staff. Ali Fetori, a 59-year-old accountant who lives near by, said: ‘The security people just all ran away and the people in charge were the young men with guns and bombs.’” (There is one unconfirmed report that all security personnel vanished before the start of the demonstrations. That is, they were “tipped off” of what was about to take place.) [37011, 37055, 37061]

The *Richmond Times-Dispatch* reports, “First Lady Michelle Obama had sought to speak at a Chesterfield County elementary school during her campaign swing through Virginia today, but county school leaders rejected her request, citing school policy, a Chesterfield supervisor has confirmed” (School policy prohibits the school-day use of facilities for political purposes.) The Obama campaign states, “Any time the campaign looks at venues for events, we consider a range of options. The school was only one of several options being considered in the greater Richmond area, and CenterStage theater was ultimately determined to be the best fit for this event.” [37018]

At the daily press briefing White House press secretary Jay Carney is asked, “On the Libya attacks, was there any intelligence in advance that some kind of attack would take place, especially because some of the embassies were taking precautions because of [the anniversary of] 9/11? Was there any advance warning at all?” Carney responds, “I have seen that report and the story is absolutely wrong. We were not aware of any, uh, actionable intelligence indicating that an attack on the U.S. mission in Benghazi was planned or imminent. Uh, that report is false.” Carney laughably insists—several times—that the attack was “not a response to the administration, to the American people,” but only “to a film.” (In other words, don’t blame Obama or his policies for anything; blame George W. Bush or the Jews or Christians who made the anti-Islam movie.) Carney states, “The cause of the unrest was a video. The reason there is unrest is because of the film.” (That is absurd. The movie is an *excuse* for the violence, not its *cause*.) ABC’s

Jake Tapper asks, “Wouldn’t it seem logical that the anniversary of 9/11 would be a time that you would want to have extra security around diplomats and military posts?” Carney replies “Well, as you know, there... we, uh, are very, uh, vigilant around, uh, anniversaries like 9/11. [Obama] is always, uh, uh, briefed and brought up to speed on all the, uh, precautions being taken. But, but, but, ...let’s be clear. These protests were in reaction to a video that had spread to the region... we have no reason to suggest that it was a pre-planned, uh, attack. The unrest we’ve seen around the region has been in reaction to, uh, a video that, um, Muslims, many Muslims find offensive. And while the violence is, uh, reprehensible and unjustified, it is not a reaction to the 9/11 anniversary, that we know of, or to U.S. policy.” (No reporter asks Carney if Obama will condemn comedian Bill Maher’s film, *Religulous*, which ridicules Judaism, Christianity, and Islam—or if Obama will return the \$1 million Maher donated to his political action committee.) [37033, 37055, 37086, 37087, 37088, 37089, 37090, 37091, 37092, 37093, 37094, 37095, 37096, 37110, 37182, 37379]

It is worth noting that a December 2010 poll by the Pew Research Center found that 84 percent of Egyptians favor the *death penalty* for those who leave Islam; the percentages are 86 percent in Jordan and 76 percent in Pakistan. When such high percentages of Muslims believe in killing anyone who converts to another religion, it is clear that far less than an anti-Islam movie is needed to stir up passions. [37149]

In an interview with Breitbart News, Democrat pollster Pat Caddell observes that close Obama advisor Valerie Jarrett “seems to have a 24 hour, around the clock detail, with five or six agents full time. The media has been completely uninterested in that abuse of taxpayer dollars]. We don’t provide security for our ambassador in Libya, but she needs a full Secret Service security detail. And nobody thinks there’s anything wrong with this. And nobody in the press will ask. What kind of slavish stoogery are they perpetrating here? This country has reached the point of absurdity. There are people dead because we don’t have security details for them. But she’s privileged to have a full Secret Service detail on vacation? ... We’ve just finished two polls coming out in the field today, but we already know that people feel strongly about Iran; they feel strongly about the administration’s policy with regard to Islamic extremists. They don’t like the Obama administration’s handling of these issues. And this election won’t only be about the economy. The American people aren’t stupid. They can walk and chew gum at the same time. ... When three-quarters of the American people believe Iran will give nuclear weapons to terrorists, you can see that Americans care about this issue. And people overwhelmingly believe that Obama’s sanctions policies will not work. The pronounced minority who disagree with those positions seem to be centered in the mainstream media—and ground zero seems to be at NBC and MSNBC.” [37038]

Breitbart.com posts a November 21, 2007 New Hampshire Public Radio interview in which Obama states, “Well, uh, I truly believe that the day I’m inaugurated, not only does the country look at itself differently but the world looks at America differently. Uh, if I’m reaching out to the Muslim world, uh, they understand that I’ve lived in a Muslim country and I may be a Christian but I also understand their point of view. ... I’m intimately concerned with what happens in these countries and the cultures and the



perspectives that these folks have. And those are powerful tools for us to be able to reach out, uh, to the world and when you combine that with my work on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on everything from nuclear proliferation, uh, to, uh, issues of genocide, then I think that the world will have confidence that, uh, I am listening to them, and, and that, uh, that our future and our security is tied up with our ability to work with other countries in the world. That will ultimately make us safer, uh, and that's something that this [Bush] administration has failed to understand." (Obama chaired the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on European Affairs—and never held a meeting.) [37037]

DailyCaller.com reports, "A top official at a liberal super PAC with the goal of eradicating tea partiers from Congress is telling activists that it's more effective to label Republicans as racists than criticize their policies. ...Matthew 'Mudcat' Arnold, the national campaign manager of the liberal CREDO super PAC, told a gathering of supporters in Aurora, Colo., on Sept. 8 that they've realized 'policy did not move voters. He used Iowa Republican Rep. Steve King as an example. 'When we said that Steve King ...is pro-life and believes in cutting Social Security and voted for the Ryan budget, no one cared. When we said Steve King's a racist, Steve King believes that immigrants ought to be put in electric fences, people moved.'" (Why Arnold did not learn in 2008 that playing the race card is effective is not known.) [37040, 37052]

The bodies of the four Americans killed in Libya on September 11 arrive at Andrews Air Force Base. Both Obama and Hillary Clinton are present. Clinton, standing near the coffins, states, "We've seen rage and violence directed at American embassies as a result of an awful internet video that we had nothing to do with." (With families mourning their loved ones, Clinton's concern is to ensure that she shifts the blame for the deaths from the administration's failure to anticipate violence on the anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.) Obama states, "The United States of America will never retreat from the world. We will never stop working for the dignity and freedom that every person deserves." (Some might argue that the murderers of the four victims deserve neither dignity nor freedom.) [37046, 37047, 37068, 37069, 37077]

CNBC.com reports, "Ratings firm Egan-Jones cut its credit rating on the U.S. government to 'AA-' from 'AA,' citing its opinion that quantitative easing from the Federal Reserve would hurt the U.S. economy and the country's credit quality. ...In its downgrade, the firm said that issuing more currency and depressing interest rates through purchasing mortgage-backed securities does little to raise the U.S.'s real gross domestic product, but reduces the value of the dollar." (That is, "The game is over" and printing more money isn't fooling anyone anymore.") Egan-Jones states, "From 2006 to present, the US's debt to GDP [ratio] rose from 66% to 104% and will probably rise to 110% a year from today under current circumstances; the annual budget deficit is 8%. In comparison, Spain has a debt to GDP of 68.5% and an annual budget deficit of 8.5%." (In other words, the United States can no longer be considered a good credit risk when it's fiscal problems are worse than Spain's.) HotAir.com writes that voters can expect to see a Romney campaign ad highlighting Obama's past statement, "We've always been, and always will be, a AAA country." [37050, 37051, 37072]

FoxNews.com reports, "U.S. official says an elite Marine rapid response team is headed to Sudan in the wake of violence and protests against the embassy in Khartoum. The deployment comes as Sudanese police opened fire on protesters trying to climb the walls of the U.S. Embassy." [37076]

Spiegel Online (*Der Spiegel*) posts comments about the week's events from several German publications. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*: "The deeply held American belief that all you have to do is liberate people from serfdom and dictatorship, and then democracy and a market economy will develop more or less on their own, burned to ash in the trial by fire of Iraq. A fact that academics and historically informed diplomats have always known can now be observed throughout the Arab world: Deeply ingrained cultural attitudes do not change simply because one political regime replaces another. In the long process of building a democratic society, it is not possible to simply skip stages." [37065]

*Berliner Zeitung*: "If [the embassy attacks] turn out to be uncoordinated actions by angry believers, then they are an expression of a frightening ignorance. A crazy individual US citizen has uploaded a movie onto the Internet which denigrates the Prophet Muhammad. The US government can not be held responsible for that. But that clearly does not help US President Barack Obama very much. He has to bear the political consequences of the recent events by himself. Four years ago, Obama pledged to seek reconciliation with the Muslim world. Now, it is doubtful whether he has succeeded. The US and its European allies now have to ask themselves how much support they still enjoy in the countries of the Arab Spring." [37065]

*Die Welt*: "...Obama's Middle East policy is in ruins. ...[H]e must accept the fact that he has snubbed old close allies such as Israel, Saudi Arabia and the Egyptian military. And now parts of the freed societies are turning against the country which helped bring them into being. Anti-Americanism in the Arab world has even increased to levels greater than in the Bush era. It's a bitter outcome for Obama. Obama was naive to believe that one only needed to adopt a new tone and show more respect in order to dispel deep-seated reservations about the free world. In practice, the policies of the Obama administration in the region were not as naive as they may have seemed at times, and the Americans have always been much more involved in the Middle East than the passive Europeans. But Washington has provided the image of a distracted superpower in the process of decline to the societies there. This image of weakness is being exploited by Salafists and al-Qaida, who are active in North Africa from Somalia to Mali. One thing is clear: If jihadists believe they can attack American installations and kill an ambassador on the anniversary of Sept. 11, then America's deterrent power has declined considerably. For a superpower, it is not enough just to want to be loved. You have to scare the bad guys to keep them in check." [37065]

*Bild*: "Naked hatred is raging against a country that many people in the world regard as a symbol of freedom. When US flags burn, embassies are vandalized, and diplomats are murdered, it is an attack on the West, and not just America! We rooted for the

demonstrators at Tahrir Square, and many of us have longed to see democracy in the Arab nations. But democracy includes honoring the lives of fellow humans. The turmoil in Libya, Cairo, and Bangladesh is a return to the Middle Ages, when people were beheaded and stoned to death. No pathetic anti-Islam film can justify hate-filled murder. The West must be tough on terrorism. And it must show that it can differentiate between rabble-rousers and peaceful Muslims.” [37065]

At the Values Voters Summit, Paul Ryan states, “It is true that ...Obama, he had a lot of problems not of his own making. But he also came in with one-party rule and the chance to do everything of his own choosing. The Obama economic agenda failed not because it was stopped, but because it was passed.” “We know who America is dealing with in these [terrorist] attacks. They are extremists who operate by violence and intimidation, and the least equivocation or mixed signal only makes them bolder. Look across that region today, and what do we see? The slaughter of brave dissidents in Syria. Mobs storming American embassies in consulates. Iran four years closer to gaining a nuclear weapon. Israel, our best ally in the region, treated with indifference bordering on contempt by the Obama administration.” “You say things like this, and our opponents will quickly accuse you of being anti-government. ...Obama frames the debate this way. Because here again, it’s the only kind of debate he can win, against straw man arguments. No politician is more skilled at striking heroic poses against imaginary adversaries. Nobody is better at rebuking nonexistent opinions. Barack Obama does this all the time. And in this campaign, we are gonna call him on it.” [37066, 37067, 37073, 37249]

Ryan also says, “[Obama] is given to lectures on all that we owe to government, as if anyone who opposes his reckless expansion of federal power is guilty of ingratitude and rank individualism. He treats private enterprise as little more than a revenue source for government. He views government as the redistributor and allocator of opportunity. Well, the results are in for that, too. Here we are, after four years of economic stewardship under these self-proclaimed advocates of the poor, and what do they have to show for it? More people in poverty, and less upward mobility wherever you look. After four years of dividing people up with the bogus rhetoric of class warfare, just about every segment of society is worse off... In [Obama’s] telling, government is a big, benevolent presence—gently guiding our steps at every turn. In reality, when government enters the picture, private institutions are so often brushed aside with suspicion or even contempt. This is what happened to the Catholic Church and Catholic Charities this past January, when the new mandates of ObamaCare started coming. Never mind your own conscience, they were basically told, from now on you’re going to do things the government’s way. Ladies and gentlemen, you would be hard pressed to find another group in America that does more to serve the health of women and their babies than the Catholic Church and Catholic Charities. And now, suddenly, we have ObamaCare bureaucrats presuming to dictate how they will do it. As Governor Romney has said, this mandate is not a threat and insult to one religious group—it is a threat and insult to every religious group. He and I are honored to stand with you—people of faith and concerned citizens—in defense of religious liberty.” [37066, 37067, 37073, 37249]

Ryan warns, “If Barack Obama’s promises weren’t good [in 2008], what good are they now? If we renew the contract, we’re going to get the same deal. If we renew the contract, we’ll get the same deal, with only one difference—in a second term, he will never answer to you again. In so many ways, starting with ObamaCare, re-electing [Obama] would set in motion things that can never be called back. It would be a choice to give up so many other choices. When all the mandates of government-run health care come down, the last thing the regulators will want to hear is your opinion. When the Obama tax increases start coming, nobody in Washington is going to ask whether you can afford them or not. When all the new borrowing brings our national debt to \$20 trillion and then \$25 trillion, nobody’s going to ask you about the debt crisis or even help you prepare for it. But we the people need to think ahead—even if [Obama] will not—in order to avoid the crisis while it there is still time.” [37066, 37067, 37073, 37249]

Congresswoman Michele Bachmann (R-MN) also addresses the Values Voters Summit. She states that during the week’s events in the Middle East, “the response of this administration has communicated both weakness and lack of resolve to the world. ...[T]op officials seem incredulously convinced that the only way to curtail this crisis is to put a full frontal attack on the free speech rights of American citizens. ...This isn’t just about a movie. This was an intentional act ...by radical Islamists who seek to impose their set of beliefs on the rest of the world and we will not stand for it. ...What we’re watching develop before our eyes today are the direct consequences of this administration’s policy of apology and appeasement across the globe, and the supposed success of [Obama’s] foreign policy genius hailed by the media even last week is now exposed for what it really is. And so now you see this media doing absolutely everything they can to scramble, to make sure that their guy doesn’t get the blame for what’s going down this week.” Bachmann calls on Congress to end foreign aid to Egypt if it does not adequately protect the U.S. embassy. She calls on Obama to cancel his White House meeting with Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi and the planned joint military exercises with the Egyptian armed forces. “Obama needs to get his priorities straight,” says Bachmann. “What he needs to do is cancel his interview with David Letterman, cancel his meeting with Beyoncé [Knowles], cancel his meeting with [“rapper”] Jay-Z, and instead agree to meet with the Prime Minister of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu.” [37125, 37246]

Arizona Governor Jan Brewer address the Values Voters Summit and says, “On November 6th, Americans will make a choice about what’s right and what’s wrong. Wrong is ...Obama accumulating more debt than [anyone] in our history. Wrong is the fact that millions of Americans are unemployed. Wrong is supporting a change in the longstanding definition of marriage. Wrong is appointing federal judges who fail to protect life and the unborn. Wrong is [Obama] apologizing for America when he travels abroad. Wrong is not supporting Israel 100 percent as our ally in the Middle East. And finally, wrong is his claiming greatness by blaming others for his failure. Right is calling a terrorist—yes, a terrorist. Right is calling a Christmas tree a Christmas tree. Right is not being afraid to salute the flag, wear a flag pin, say the Pledge of Allegiance—and sing the National Anthem, unashamed, with a tear in Right is not being afraid to say those—to say to those who are here illegally, you deserve no favoritism. Right is looking ...Obama

square in the eye, as I did, and saying, ‘...do your job. Secure our border.’” What should bother Americans most, says Brewer, is that Obama “suggests that America is not an exceptional nation. What other country has sent its finest young men and women to fight on distant battlefields for justice and peace? What other nation ever rose to such strength... yet did not rise to conquer, but to protect? What other nation has acted not to dominate, but to liberate? We are an exceptional nation, all right. That’s just a fact, written in blood and sacrifice of American patriots and their families.” [37250]

Former House Speaker newt Gingrich comments, “This concept of ‘senseless violence’ is at the heart of the left’s refusal to confront the reality of radical Islamists. These are not acts of senseless violence. These are acts of war. ...It is tragic that [Obama] is so committed to a leftist world view that he cannot allow himself to face these facts. ...[T]he left is desperate to deal with each new [terrorist] incident as though it is occurring in isolation. ...Because of congressionally-imposed limitations and administrative and bureaucratic timidity, the fact is we know remarkably little about our enemies. ...The policies of Obama have made our intellectual incoherence and strategic incompetence even worse. It is no accident that the embassy in Cairo issued a groveling statement, apologizing to the haters for having inconvenienced them with American freedom of speech. ...The Obama administration is waging war on the Catholic Church while appeasing the most extreme elements of Islam. This is the bizarre situation we now find ourselves in.” [37075]

At FoxNews.com Christian Whiton, a former State Department senior advisor, writes, “Madam secretary [of State Hillary Clinton], it is time for you and your boss to wake up and smell the global jihad. There are people in this world—and not a small number of them—who share the vision [Osama] bin Laden had and have the will and means to act. No amount of apologizing for America, embracing our adversaries or mistreating our allies will change that. It is worth recalling that Cairo, the city where a mob entered the US embassy compound and burned an American flag, was the epicenter of what critics call Obama’s ‘apology tour.’ It was there that he apologized for critical steps American officials took in the Middle East to defend against the Soviets eight years before Obama was born. It was there that he criticized his own nation’s response to 9/11. That was the reason US diplomats in Cairo instinctively put out an apologetic condemnation of those who ‘hurt the religious feelings of Muslims.’ They were simply channeling the Obama view of the world. ...The American people have instinctively understood this [jihadist] threat since Islamists took over Iran and took our diplomats hostage there in 1979. Our political class never has never understood this. ...If we killed everyone in Al Qaeda tomorrow, we would still have a problem that Obama, Hillary and the Washington foreign policy establishment refuse to recognize. There is a tyrannical political force in the world that is waging war on us wherever it can—both politically and militarily.” [37078]

At NationalReview.com Victor Davis Hanson writes, “No one in this administration seems to fathom what the attacks on our diplomatic missions on the anniversary of 9/11 were all about. Instead in adolescent fashion, [Obama], our ambassadors, and, most culpably, the secretary of state remain sort of stunned that reset, the Cairo speech, the al

Arabiya interview, the euphemisms, the ad nauseam ‘we are not Bush’ apologies—all that and more—did not prevent the assassination of a U.S. ambassador, the sacking of a consulate, and the attempted storming of a U.S. embassy. ...[R]adical Islamists continue to act out [their] crack-pot fantasies in deadly fashion because they believe it works, and that the U.S. will grant concessions, both material and psychological, at the slightest provocation—as we saw with the embarrassing apologetic communiqués, with each clarification even more embarrassing than the last. ...[W]e can quite quietly revoke travel, visas, foreign aid, diplomatic exchanges—in the manner we have done with Iran—sending the message that those who kill U.S. diplomats and storm our embassies do not deserve U.S. friendship. ...Otherwise, we are back to the 1979 kabuki dance with Iran, as Carter swallowed whole hog the Iranians’ claim that the students, zealots, etc. and not necessarily the government were responsible on any given day. We should accept that Ground Zero of Sunni anti-Americanism in the Middle East is now Cairo. In addition, this administration—and particularly [Obama] himself—needs to stop spiking the ball about killing bin Laden, releasing details of the Special Forces raid, spilling the beans of Cyber warring against Iran, ...joking about the Predator-drone program, etc. All that comes across as empty braggadocio, *and serves to incite our enemies without awing them*. ...Finally, the notion that we not would fully tap vast new finds of North American oil and gas on public lands in the present climate is abject insanity.” [37079]

WND.com reports, “A state board in Kansas that had planned a hearing Monday to examine evidence of Barack Obama’s eligibility for the Oval Office was left in limbo today when the plaintiff, citing ‘animosity and intimidation,’ abruptly withdrew his complaint.” Claimant Joe Montgomery tells state officials, “There has been a great deal of animosity and intimidation directed not only at me, but at people around me. I don’t wish to burden anyone with more of this negative reaction.” (Attorney Orly Taitz, who has filed several lawsuits challenging Obama’s eligibility to serve as president, will attend the September 17 hearing in Topeka, Kansas.) [37080, 37084, 37085, 37174]

DailyCaller.com reports that Obama “has bowed to the Muslim Brotherhood’s demand that the federal government suppress a satirical video of Islam’s prophet, Muhammad. But Youtube denied the request late Sept. 14. Tommy Vietor, a spokesman for the National Security Council, told the Washington Post midday that the White House has ‘reached out to YouTube to call the video to their attention and ask them to review whether it violates their terms of use.’ Youtube’s executives shut down videos that they deem ‘hate speech.’ A YouTube spokesperson said Sept. 12 that the video ‘is clearly within our guidelines and so will stay on YouTube,’ and repeated that message late Sept. 14, so rejecting Obama’s unprecedented request.” (Obama has not asked YouTube.com to remove Bill Maher’s film, *Religulous*, which ridicules Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.) At AtlasShrugs.com Pamela Geller writes, “This is horrible. Horrible. Obama is enforcing the shari’a. He is unfit to serve. The establishment clause prohibits the establishment of a national religion by Congress and the preference by the U.S. government of one religion over another. Obama is preferring Islam over all others. ...He cannot encroach upon, amend, or restrict our unalienable rights guaranteed to all Americans by the first amendment and our Constitution. This is an impeachable offense.

What is Obama going to do now? Create a sharia czar and Department of Sharia compliance to review all content on the web?” [37098, 37103, 37126]

Legal scholar Jonathan Turley tells DailyCaller.com, “This is the latest triumph of politics over principle by the Obama administration. The position of the White House is rather transparent. It does not want to be seen as limiting free speech. This request was couched as a review. [That is, the White House did not demand that the video be removed. Instead, it essentially asked, “Can you review the video and please, please find that it violates your guideline? Pretty please? Pretty please with sugar?”] The film was simply an act of free speech. The position of the United States should be clear. Violence was not caused by any film. Free speech is not a characteristic of America. It defines being an American. ... YouTube has been very successful in creating a platform for global dialogue. It is a mistake for the company to yield to extremism and intolerance.” [37192]

WND.com reports, “An Egyptian security official speaking to WND today said there is information about large-scale infiltration by al-Qaida and its affiliated Jihadia Salafiya groups within the Libyan security apparatus. The claim comes amid speculation about how Islamists who targeted the U.S. mission in Libya seemed to have inside information about the movement of the American diplomats in the country as well as the location of a supposedly secret U.S. safe-house in Libya.” (In Obama’s eagerness to assist the rebels who were fighting Libyan leader Moammar Gaddafi, he neglected to learn who those rebels were—or that they were infiltrated by al-Qaeda or Ansar al-Shariah, which represents al-Qaida in Yemen and Libya.) [37116]

The State Department tells reporters to stop asking questions about the attack on U.S. consulate office in Benghazi, Libya until an “investigation” has been concluded. (The more cynical may assume the investigation will not be concluded until after the November 6 election.) State Department spokeswoman Victorian Nuland says, “I’m going to frustrate all of you, infinitely, by telling you that now that we have an open FBI investigation on the death of these four Americans, we are not going to be in a position to talk at all about what the U.S. government may or may not be learning about how any of this happened—not who they were, not how it happened, not what happened to Ambassador Stevens, not any of it—until the Justice Department is ready to talk about the investigation that it’s got. So I’m going to send to the FBI for those kinds of questions and they’re probably not going to talk to you about it.” According to ForeignPolicy.com, “All aspects of the attack, including what led up to it, its causes, the identity of the perpetrators, and the circumstances surrounding the death of Amb. Chris Stevens and the other three Americans, are off limits for reporters. The new policy leaves many questions about the Benghazi attack unanswered, potentially for a long time, such as the identity of the attackers, whether they were connected to protests earlier in the day in Cairo, what were the exact circumstances and cause of Stevens’ death, whether the administration had indications of the threat beforehand, and whether the consulate’s security was adequate or not. Many of these questions are sure to be asked by lawmakers, beginning with the leaders of the Senate Homeland Security Committee, who called today for an

investigation into the security procedures at the Benghazi consulate before and during the attack.” [37117, 37118, 37139, 37191]

Shoebat.com reports, “Two days after an act of war was committed against the United States in both Egypt and Libya, on sovereign American territory, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton was in the Ben Franklin Room in Washington, D.C., celebrating the end of Ramadan (Eid Mubarak). With her was Ali Sulaiman Aujali, Libya’s Ambassador to the United States, who resigned from that position under Gadhafi in early 2011 but became Libya’s Ambassador to the U.S. again in August of that year.” Clinton told her audience: “Good evening, and although I am many weeks overdue in saying it: Eid Mubarak. No matter how belated we are honoring Eid and the end of Ramadan, this is a cherished tradition here at the State Department. And I would like to thank all of you for being here, including the many members of the Diplomatic Corps.” (In Aujali supported the release of Lockerbie bomber Abdel Baset al-Megrahi from a prison in Scotland.) [37128, 37129]

In a CBS interview, Scott Pelley lobs softball questions to Obama, such as, “The folks at home are so concerned about Washington’s apparent inability to get big things done. How can you assure the American people that you are willing to go halfway and make a compromise with these people that you have apparently such acrimony with?” Obama replies, “Scott, I’ve got to tell you, there may be acrimony directed towards me but, you know what? That’s not unique... I’m willing to go more than halfway. And I’ve displayed that. I think that throughout my political career I’ve shown not only an instinct but a desire to find common ground. What I’m not willing to do is to slash education spending or, you know, health care for poor and needy children. And the reason I’m not willing to do that is because it’s not going to help the economy grow. Independent economists who have looked at it have said this would actually slow down the recovery, it wouldn’t speed it up so it wouldn’t increase jobs right now. It wouldn’t reduce the deficit. My entire interest is to deliver for middle-class families out there that are struggling everyday. And they are working hard and—you know, one of the things that you learn after you’ve been in this office for a while is the pomp, the circumstance, the title, the Air Force One, all that stuff probably isn’t worth the sacrifice with respect to the time lost from your family, the inability to just take a walk and go out for a drive. What makes it worth it is when you meet some couple that says, ‘you know what? Our kid was able to stay on our health insurance plan and it turns out they were just diagnosed with a curable cancer but if they hadn’t stayed on our plan we would haven’t caught it.’ That’s what makes it worth it and any ideas that are out there—Republican, Democrat, wherever it’s coming from—if it can help deliver on that, then I’m going to be right there ready to go.” (In his introduction, Pelley tells viewers calls it “a remarkable moment of candor ... when [Obama] told us the sacrifices he makes... wouldn’t be worth it except for one thing.” To Pelley, patting oneself on the back and claiming you are responsible for saving the lives of innocent children is “a remarkable moment of candor,” rather than blatant political horse droppings. Pelley may be trying to out-do MSNBC’s Chris Matthews in his Obama-adoration—or perhaps auditioning for White House press secretary should Obama win a second term.) [37226]



On *Hannity*, Charles Krauthammer says that to claim the Middle East violence “‘has nothing to do with us or our policies, it’s about a video,’ is either willfully obtuse or simply clueless. What’s happened is, as you [Sean Hannity] pointed out, beginning with the Cairo speech, Obama changed American policy on the theory that the reason that people hated us was because we were tough. They hated us because of Iraq. They hated us because of Guantanamo. They hated us because of the torture—he [Obama] used the word, he accuses his own country abroad of torturing. And he was now apologizing and promising to change course. We would no longer be tough. We would be loved. We would show compassion. And we would get out of Iraq. He sets a deadline for Afghanistan. He doesn’t support the Green Revolution in Iran. He shows the Ayatollahs tremendous respect. He essentially protects them when they are under attack. He gets nowhere on the Iran nuclear issue. He is equivocal, uncertain during the Arab Spring. He leads from behind in Libya. The theory was if we go soft, if we are very nice, if we say ‘Assalamu alaikum,’ enough times, everything will be all right. And what he decided is, the way to do that, the theory and therefore the practice is going to be, retreat and withdraw. Remember the line he uses? ‘The tide of war is receding.’ Well, that means the tide of American power is receding. And the reason that American interests, embassies, schools, businesses are aflame throughout the Middle East from Tunis all the way to South Asia is because things don’t happen in a vacuum. And when you withdraw the power and the influence of the strongest country on earth from a region, the vacuum will be filled. What we’re seeing now is the Salafists, the Islamists, understanding this is their opening, America is in retreat. The tide of America is retreating in the region. And they are now going to fill the gap. That’s why all of this is happening.” [37194]

Sean Hannity asks Krauthammer why the United States should give foreign aid to Egypt. Krauthammer responds, “Look, I don’t think the issue right now is foreign aid. If [Mohamed] Morsi, the president of Egypt, doesn’t cooperate, doesn’t support our embassies, protect our embassies, and doesn’t honor the peace treaty with Israel, there is already trouble in the Sinai [Peninsula]. Then I think you withdraw the aid. You’ve got to be very careful, now. The vacuum has already been created. The trouble is already at hand. American enemies are right on the move, everywhere as we can see. Right now, our hand is very much weakened because of the three years of Obama policy. At this point, you don’t want to make it worse by, you know, a move that is reactive and too fast. You withdraw all of our aid today, and we have no leverage. What you do is you portion it out depending on how they act. But the problem is this: pro-American elements in the region, look around, there is no America anymore. I will give you one example. Does anybody care about what we think about Syria, the major country in Mesopotamia? Does anybody ask, ‘What’s Obama’s view?’ No. They want to know what the Russians are doing, the Iranians and Hezbollah. These are the active players. And that’s what happens when America withdraws its power and its influence. We’ve become irrelevant.” [37194]

On September 15 *The New York Times* writes, “After days of anti-American violence across the Muslim world, the White House is girding itself for an extended period of turmoil that will test the security of American diplomatic missions and ...Obama’s ability to shape the forces of change in the Arab world. Although the tumult subsided Saturday, senior administration officials said they had concluded that the sometimes violent

protests in Muslim countries may presage a sustained crisis with unpredictable diplomatic and political consequences. While pressing Arab leaders to tamp down the unrest, ...Obama and his advisers are left to consider whether to scale back diplomatic activities in the region. The unrest has suddenly become ...Obama's most serious foreign policy crisis of the election season, and analysts say it is calling into question central tenets of his Middle East policy. Did he do enough throughout the Arab Spring to help the transition to democracy from autocracy? Has he drawn a hard enough line against Islamic extremists? Did his administration fail to address security concerns? Has his outreach to the Muslim world yielded any lasting benefits?" The American Enterprise Institute's Michael Rubin states, "After Obama's success in killing Osama bin Laden, in killing [Moammar] Qaddafi and in not blowing up Iraq, I think Obama and his aides figured, 'We've got this box pretty well taken care of.' Now that gets thrown up into the air. Instead of Obama being the successful guy that got Bin Laden, we're talking about Obama as the second coming of Jimmy Carter, and that's not something the campaign wants to see." [37119, 37120]

Australia's *Daily Telegraph* reports, "Al-Qaeda said the deadly attack on the US consulate in Benghazi, Libya was in revenge for the killing of the network's number two Sheikh Abu Yahya al-Libi, SITE Intelligence Group reported. 'The killing of Sheikh Abu Yahya only increased the enthusiasm and determination of the sons of (Libyan independence hero) Omar al-Mokhtar to take revenge upon those who attack our Prophet,' al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula said in a statement, quoted by the US-based monitoring group." [37121]

Reuters reports, "The Yemen-based branch of al Qaeda urged Muslims to step up protests and kill more U.S. diplomats in Muslim countries after a U.S.-made film mocking the Prophet Mohammad which it said was another chapter in the 'crusader wars' against Islam. 'Whoever comes across America's ambassadors or emissaries should follow the example of Omar al-Mukhtar's descendants (Libyans), who killed the American ambassador,' the group said, referring to Tuesday's attack on the U.S. consulate in the Libyan city of Benghazi. 'Let the step of kicking out the embassies be a step towards liberating Muslim countries from the American hegemony,' a statement posted on an Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) website on Saturday said." [37122, 37161]

An astute reader of *The Obama Timeline* notes a June 18, 2009 CBSNews.com article about Obama that states an Occidental College student named Vanai Thummalapally "lived with Obama the summer of 1980. The two ran together daily, three miles in the early morning, often chatting about their dreams." Obama's Selective Service registration form was purportedly signed by Obama on July 30, 1980 at a post office in Honolulu, Hawaii. The reader's question: "If Obama was jogging with Thummalapally in Los Angeles on a daily basis in "the summer of 1980," how could he also been filling out a form in Hawaii on July 30?" [37123]

At FoxNew.com Katherine Herridge reports, "While the Obama administration says there was no 'actionable intelligence' foreshadowing the attack on the U.S. Consulate in Libya, there were at least four attacks on diplomatic and western targets in Benghazi leading up

to the murder of the U.S. ambassador. ...On June 6, an IED [improvised explosive device] was thrown at the perimeter of the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi. On June 11, the British ambassador's motorcade came under attack by a rocket-propelled grenade, or RPG. Two security personnel were injured. Seven days later, on June 18, armed gunmen attacked the Tunisian consulate and burned its flag. And on Aug. 5, five weeks before the assault on the U.S. Consulate, the International Committee of the Red Cross building in Benghazi was also struck by RPGs." Congressman Mike Rogers (R-MI) states, "This (the U.S. Consulate) was a place that was targeted months before with an IED. It's clearly a target that they wanted to hit and they wanted to cause casualties. ...It's just too many coincidences here." (Additionally, *The Guardian* notes that in April "a United Nations convoy carrying the envoy Ian Martin was bombed..." Considering how important symbolism is to Islamic terrorists, it is absurd that the Obama administration in general and Hillary Clinton's State Department in particular did not anticipate how dangerous the 11th anniversary of the September 11 attacks might be. During the 2008 Democrat primaries Clinton ran a campaign ad asking if Obama would be ready if an international crisis led to a telephone call at 3 a.m. Events since then have proven that neither is prepared. In March 2008 Susan Rice, now Obama's U.N. ambassador, stated, "[Hillary] Clinton hasn't had to answer the phone at three o'clock in the morning and yet she attacked Barack Obama for not being ready. They're both not ready to have that 3 a.m. phone call.") [37131, 37142, 37143, 37276]

It is worth noting the press briefing that took place *on June 6, 2012*, after the IED incident at the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya. A reporter asks State Department spokesman Mark C. Toner, "Is there—was there any damage done? And do you expect—or do you think that this was in any way retaliation for al-Libi's death? [Al-Qaeda operative Mohammed Hassan Qaed, also known as Abu Yahya al-Libi, was killed in a drone strike in Pakistan.] Did—have you asked for security to be tightened? And if you have done that, when did you do it? Did you do it before this bombing, after the confirmation of al-Libi's death?" Toner responds, "[W]e deplore the attack on our diplomatic mission in Benghazi. Fortunately, no one was injured in the attack. And we've also requested the Libyan Ministry of Interior to increase its security around U.S. facilities. In answer to your specific question, Matt, I'm not sure of the timing. I believe it was following the attack. If that's different, I'll let you guys know. ...And I do want to note that local—it was the local [Libyan] guard force that really did an exemplary job in seeing this as it happened and notifying the rest of the mission, so they were able to reach safety. But the bomb attack was actually on an outside or a perimeter wall of the facility." Reporter: "But do you have any concern that this may be—may bode very ill for the future security of Libya? I mean, there seems to be a breakdown in security on all levels." Toner: "On the contrary. As I said, our local guard force acted in exemplary fashion. We believe they were very vigilant in seeing this attack as it was taking place and sounding a warning for our mission staff to seek cover. And as I said, we've requested additional security. As to whether this bodes ill or well for—on a larger scale, clearly Libya is in transition. It's grappling with many different issues, important issues right now. Security is a concern, but one we're addressing, working productively with the Libyan Government." [37144, 37209]

Also at FoxNews.com Kirsten Powers, a Democrat, writes that for Obama, “the harshest language was: ‘I strongly condemn the outrageous attack.’ For [Hillary] Clinton it was that the US is heartbroken and she condemned ‘this senseless act of violence.’ But ‘disgusting and reprehensible’ and ‘truly abhorrent’ were reserved for an amateurish and silly film by someone nobody has ever heard of. In fact, what is ‘disgusting and reprehensible’ is that there are people in the world who think they are justified in attacking and killing people because someone hurt their feelings or offended their sensibilities. The US government should not act as a validator or enabler of this upside down worldview, which is exactly what the Obama administration has done repeatedly as they have responded to these abhorrent attacks against the United States. ...[O]ur leaders shouldn’t let our enemies know that when they kill our people and attack our embassies that the US Government will act like a battered wife making excuses for her psychotic husband. Wake up: we weren’t attacked because of a movie made by an American. We were attacked because there are crazy religious fanatics who hate the United States. We didn’t ask for it.” [37132]

Powers continues, “Egypt’s President Morsi reportedly asked Obama ‘to put an end to such behavior’—presumably freedom, constitutional rights and the like—as it led to the making of, in his eyes, the offensive movie. Obama has no legal recourse but [he] seems to be acquiescing to Morsi’s request by trying to silence the movie-maker through verbal intimidation, including a call from Chairman of the Joint Chiefs General Dempsey who asked Pastor Terry Jones to withdraw his support for the film. Additionally, The Hollywood Reporter reveals that the FBI was dispatched to Hollywood to uncover the identity of the filmmaker. (Don’t they have real terrorists to catch? I’ll be looking for the administration’s condemnations next for the selling of the DVD of ‘The Da Vinci Code,’ the blockbuster American movie that claims Jesus had sex with Mary Magdalene.) ...Apparently our foreign policy is now being run by Dr. Phil. Someone needs to explain to the White House that our Constitution protects freedom of religion from government interference, not the protection from people who say mean, critical or offensive things about one’s religion. ...The [Obama administration’s] condemnations are paired in with claims about respecting religious beliefs, which is implicit sympathy for the claims of some of the attackers and rioters. It’s time for the Obama administration to stop blaming the victim.” [37132]

Retired Colonel David Hunt tells Breitbart News, “The State Department just allowed our guys to get killed. If you approve no bullets in guns for the mission security guards and an outhouse for a mission, you’re inviting it. ...The American mission at Benghazi was like a cardboard building, there wasn’t even bullet proof glass.” “Hunt told Breitbart News that the new State Department Rules of Engagement for Libya, approved and signed by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton since the 2011 fall of Khadafi’s regime, severely compromised the safety and security of murdered Ambassador Stevens and all American diplomatic staff in Libya. He also stated that the decision not to staff Benghazi with Marines was made by Secretary of State Clinton when she attached her signature to the State Department Rules of Engagement for Libya document. Breitbart News has subsequently learned that under those rules of engagement, Secretary Clinton prohibited Marines from providing security at any American diplomatic installation in Libya. Hunt

told Breitbart News that ‘the rules of engagement have been changing drastically over the last 10 years. ...The reason the surge in Iraq worked was we had another 40,000 soldiers and the rules of engagement were changed to allow our guys to shoot. What’s happened in Libya is the final straw of political correctness. We allowed a contractor to hire local nationals as security guards, but said they can’t have bullets. This was all part of the point of not having a high profile in Libya.’ [37133, 37134, 37171]

Hunt continues, “The policy of the Obama administration led to this. It was the policy of the Obama administration to have a low profile in Libya. That’s why the rules of engagement were approved by the Secretary of State to have no Marines at Benghazi, and to have an American contractor hire Libyan nationals to provide security there. The rules were they couldn’t have ammunition. Obama may not have known the details of the State Department Rules of Engagement for Libya, but his Chief of Staff and National Security Advisor would have. The Secretary of State absolutely would have. The Department of State Security are the people in charge of diplomatic security. They enforce the rules of engagement, which are set at Clinton’s level at State. The Department of Defense was told we’re not going to have Marines at Benghazi. Whether it goes higher than the Secretary of State to [Obama], I don’t know. ...There should be a document with Hillary’s signature and the Secretary of Defense’s specific to Libya. It was signed after Khadafi fell from power. You’ll have to ask the State Department to get the document. They might claim it’s classified, but it shouldn’t be. The State Department has rules of engagement documents that are different for different countries. In our embassies in London and Paris, for instance, it’s always a mystery if the Marines at the embassies have ammunition in their weapons. ...The recent political conventions had more security than Ambassador Stevens had in Benghazi. If you carried a sharp stick within a mile of the conventions at Tampa or Charlotte you got arrested, yet you don’t give bullets to the guards of our Ambassador to Libya. It wouldn’t surprise me if Al-Qaeda bought off some of the Libyan nationals hired to guard our ambassador at Benghazi.” [37133, 37134, 37171]

Gateway Pundit reports, “On Wednesday September 12, 2012 blogger Speak With Authority discovered that five days before 9-11, the US State Department sent out a memo announcing no credible security threats against the United States on the anniversary of 9-11. The Overseas Security Advisory Council, who posted the memo, is part of the Bureau of Diplomatic Security under the U.S. Department of State. ...But now it’s gone. The State Department scrubbed the letter from its OSAC website.” [37141]

The State Department urges U.S. citizens in Tunisia and Sudan to leave for their own protection. Canada temporarily closes its embassies in Sudan, Libya, and Egypt. [37150, 37157]

With tongue in cheek, John Nolte writes at Breitbart.com, “[I]f the poorly produced and laughably bad trailer for ‘The Innocence of Muslims’ results in chaos, murder, and the burning of foreign outposts all throughout the Middle East, how much rioting and mayhem is a big-budgeted, slickly produced, Oscar-bait blockbuster celebrating the death of the leader of al-Qaeda going to cause? Moreover, an excuse Secretary of State Hillary

Clinton will not be able to use in the case of ‘Zero Dark Thirty’ (as she did with ‘Innocence of Muslims’) is the cowardly and self-righteous claim that the federal government and the Obama White House had nothing to do with ‘Zero Dark Thirty.’ Because the federal government and the Obama White House had everything to do with ‘Zero Dark Thirty.’ ...[I]t was the Obama Administration that gave the filmmakers tons of encouragement and a troubling amount of access to all kinds of classified material. ...But this very same Obama Administration has since learned that it wasn’t the Obama Doctrine of disengaging with the Middle East and embracing the Muslim Brotherhood that caused all this mayhem and murder last week. It was a movie. This means that the only responsible thing for the Obama Administration to do is to get proactive and, in the interest of national security and to help ensure the safety of Americans overseas, put as much pressure as they can on Sony to stop the distribution of ‘Zero Dark Thirty.’ ...And I’m certain no one in Hollywood would be alarmed if the government were to pressure Sony not to release its film. Why would they if they won’t stand up for the ‘Innocence of Muslims’ filmmaker being persecuted by our government and media overlords today? You know, because movies create terrorism.” [37151]

Daniel Greenfield reports at FrontPageMag.com that support for Obama among Jewish voters is down to 59 percent. “You have to go all the way back to Jimmy Carter in 1980 to find a Democratic candidate who’s polling worse among Jews than Obama is. ...Obama reportedly scored 76 percent of the Jewish vote in 2008. ...No Democrat has ever won the White House with that low a share [59 percent] of the vote. ...The Jewish vote does not determine elections, but it is a sign of the loss of support. Romney is taking a Reagan sized bite of the Catholic vote and is within 4 percent of matching Reagan’s numbers among Jews.” (Many wonder why even 59 percent of American Jews support Obama, whose record on Israel has been abysmal.) [37152]

The Obama campaign schedules a national “Yard Sale for Obama” for September 22–23. YardSaleForObama.com encourages sellers to donate proceeds to the Obama campaign. [37153, 37154, 37155]

The timing of several Obama campaign Twitter messages prompts criticism. FoxNews.com notes that on September 11, as most Americans were remembering the terrorist attacks of 2001, Obama tweeted, “The election is in eight weeks. Sign up to volunteer.” On September 14, as the bodies of four Americans murdered in Libya were arriving at Andrews Air Force base, Obama tweeted, “Winter is coming, but these [Obama campaign] sweatshirts are perfect for fall.” [37186]

*The Telegraph* reports, “An armada of US and British naval power is massing in the Persian Gulf in the belief that Israel is considering a pre-emptive strike against Iran’s covert nuclear weapons programme. Battleships, aircraft carriers, minesweepers and submarines from 25 nations are converging on the strategically important Strait of Hormuz in an unprecedented show of force as Israel and Iran move towards the brink of war. Western leaders are convinced that Iran will retaliate to any attack by attempting to mine or blockade the shipping lane through which passes around 18 million barrels of oil every day, approximately 35 per cent of the world’s petroleum traded by sea. A blockade

would have a catastrophic effect on the fragile economies of Britain, Europe the United States and Japan, all of which rely heavily on oil and gas supplies from the Gulf.” [37156]

At NationalReview.com former terrorist prosecutor Andrew C. McCarthy writes, “Here is the important part, however, the part not to be missed, no matter how determined [Obama’s] media shysters are to cover it up: The disgraceful embassy statement was a completely accurate articulation of longstanding Obama policy. As Obama struggled to put daylight between himself and his record, the press was duly pathetic. [Obama], Politico was quick to cavil, had nothing to do with ‘the statement by Embassy Cairo.’ An administration official declaimed that it ‘was not cleared by Washington and does not reflect the views of the United States government.’ You are to believe the Obama White House exists in a galaxy separate from the Obama State Department, which itself inhabits a frontier distant and detached from the U.S. embassy in Cairo—except, one supposes, for the \$38,000 in taxpayer funds the embassy spent on Obama autobiographies, apparently thought to be craved by Egyptians, at least when they’re not ever-so-moderately chanting ‘Obama, Obama, there are still a billion Osamas.’” (In October 2011 *The Washington Times* reported that the U.S. embassy in Cairo had ordered more than \$37,000 worth of copies of Obama’s book, *Dreams From My Father*. State Department spokesman Noel Clay stated, “We often use books to engage key audiences in discussions of foreign policy.” Some might argue that the \$37,000 should have been spent on weapons and ammunition.) [37176, 37177]

According to McCarthy, “In 2009, the Obama State Department ceremoniously joined with Muslim governments to propose a United Nations resolution that, as legal commentator Stuart Taylor observed, was ‘all-too-friendly to censoring speech that some religions and races find offensive.’ Titled ‘Freedom of Opinion and Expression’—a name only an Alinskyite or a Muslim Brotherhood tactician could love—the resolution was the latest salvo in a years-long campaign by the 57-government Organization of the Islamic Conference (now renamed the ‘Organization of Islamic Cooperation’). The OIC’s explicit goal is to coerce the West into adopting sharia [law], particularly its ‘defamation’ standards. Sharia severely penalizes any insult to Islam or its prophet, no matter how slight. Death is a common punishment. And although navel-gazing apologists blubber about how ‘moderate Islamist’ governments will surely ameliorate enforcement of this monstrous law, the world well knows that the ‘Muslim street’ usually takes matters into its own hands—with encouragement from their influential sheikhs and imams. In its obsession with propitiating Islamic supremacists, the Obama administration has endorsed this license to mutilate. In the United States, the First Amendment prohibits sharia restrictions on speech about religion. As any Catholic or Jew can tell you, everyone’s belief system is subject to critical discussion. One would think that would apply doubly to Islam. ...If it is now ‘blasphemy’ to assert that it is obscene to impose capital punishment on homosexuals and apostates, to take just two of the many examples of sharia oppression, then we might as well hang an ‘Out of Business’ sign on our Constitution.” [37177]

“Mind you,” continues McCarthy, “what is playing out in Egypt—as well as Libya, Yemen, and Tunisia—is a charade. It has nothing to do with the dopey movie. There is as much or more agitation to release the Blind Sheikh—which the Obama administration has also encouraged by its embrace of Islamists, including the Blind Sheikh’s terrorist organization. The latest round of marauding is about power. Islamic supremacists see themselves in a civilizational war with us. When we submit on a major point, we grow weaker and they grow stronger. They win a big round in the jihad. ...Obama’s anti-constitutional policy—the one he lacked the courage to stand by when, shall we say, the ‘chickens came home to roost’—has made speech suppression low-hanging fruit. The Islamists are going for it. In a situation that called for a president who would actually defend the Constitution, Mitt Romney rose to the occasion. The administration’s performance was, as he asserted, ‘disgraceful.’ Further, Romney admonished, ‘America will not tolerate attacks against our citizens and against our embassies. We’ll defend also our constitutional rights of speech, and assembly, and religion. We have confidence in our cause in America. We respect our Constitution. We stand for the principles our constitution protects. We encourage other nations to understand and respect the principles of our constitution, because we recognize that these principles are the ultimate source of freedom for individuals around the world.’ Can you imagine the current incumbent, the guy sworn to defend the Constitution, ever saying such a thing—or, better, saying it and actually meaning it? Me neither. It will be remembered as the moment the race for president finally became about the real job of a president. It will be remembered as the moment Romney won.” [37177]

Unapologetic conservative Ann Barnhardt writes, “I demand to be arrested for blasphemy. Now. The Obama regime is going after the people who made the cheesy mohammed movie that the musloids are blaming the riots on. They are ‘suggesting’ that YouTube ‘review’ the content of the clip of the movie they have posted, and are also now looking to jail one of the filmmakers. In addition, the Obama propaganda arm operating known as the L.A. Times has posted pictures and explicit location descriptions of the home of one of the filmmakers, clearly an effort to intimidate the filmmakers and to pass tactical intel to the muslim brotherhood—which is why you always publicize your personal info right off the bat like I did. In doing so you claim a massive tactical advantage and utterly deprive the enemy of his MAIN WEAPON, which is intimidation and fear. Ladies and gentlemen, what you are witnessing is the establishment of the Sharia, specifically ‘islamic blasphemy’ laws, right here in what used to be called the United States of America. Well, I have a little something to say about all of this. I have done what many consider to be the most hard-core, serious koran burning to date. I bookmarked the filthy damn thing with strips of raw bacon, and then I burned the satanic screed page by page after reading the demonic filth therein contained. What many of you may not know is that very soon after my koran burning went viral, a group of Coptic Christians in Egypt translated it—every word—subtitled it in Arabic, and then posted that version on YouTube. How humbling. Please understand that there is a very good chance that some of the Copts involved in that effort have since been killed in the Christian genocide that has been raging in Egypt, and all throughout the musloid-infected world since early 2011.” [37179]



Barnhardt continues, "...[I]f this nation is now under the Sharia, I DEMAND to be arrested for not only 'blasphemy' but also as an accessory to murder as recommended by both Mike Barnicle and Donny Deutsch on MSNBC earlier this week. Any time you bastards want to get real about this, I'm your flippin' huckleberry. Come and get me, and then WATCH WHAT HAPPENS. ...The only way you fight and destroy this evil is by RIDING OUT TO MEET IT. No capitulation. No compromise. No appeasement. No apologies. No negotiation. And then you lay down the righteous assbeating to end all assbeatings, and you do not stop until the evil is totally, completely and utterly destroyed. Anything less is a sin against God and your fellow man. You can come after me if you want, boys. You come after me. That's fine. I have no problem laying down my life: for my fellow Americans, for my fellow human beings, and for the Church. I have no problem with that. Come and get it. But I'm not going to lay down. That is not what Christ commands. There are times when we have to fight. We fight evil. We fight the evil in the world, and this crap is EVIL. My name is Ann Barnhardt. I'm at 9175 Kornbrust Circle, 80124, in Lone Tree, Colorado. Anybody who wants a piece of me is more than welcome to come and get it. That goes for Lindsey Graham, anyone in the government who thinks that this is a crime, or any muslims who would like to come and get a piece of me. I've had enough of this crap. I am not going to bow. I am not going to submit to islam, ever. EVER. I meant it then, and I mean it now. Enough of this horses\*\*\*. Enough." [37179]

DailyCaller.com reports, "Arab governments are stepping up their demands for regulation of American media to ensure Islam gets more favorable coverage in the United States, while ...Obama used his weekend message to again condemn criticism of Islam and to reassure Americans worried war in the Arab region. Egypt's Prime Minister Hisham Qandil said Sept. 15 that he expected changes in U.S. law and media practice following the release of a 14-minute anti-Islam YouTube video and a week of ongoing unrest in the Middle East. ...The United States should 'take the necessary measures to ensure insulting billions of people—one and a half billion people—and their beliefs does not happen, and people pay for what they do, and at the same time make sure that the reflections of the true Egyptian and Muslims is well [represented] in Western media,' Qandil added, according to the English-language site of Egypt's main newspaper, Al Ahram. But Qandil's statement also hinted at more violence if the Islamists' demands were not met. 'I think we need to work out something around this because we cannot wait and see this happen again,' Qandil said. ...In Saudi Arabia, the government's senior religious leader 'called on the international community to take steps to criminalize any act of abusing great prophets and messengers such as Abraham, Moses, Jesus and Muhammad...' according to a report in the government-controlled English-language paper Arab News." Meanwhile, "Pakistan Interior Minister Rehman Malik wrote in a series of tweets that he has spoken with and written to the Secretary General of Interpol about enacting an international law to stop all anti-Islam propaganda online." (Obama is in a bind. If the Muslim world continues to press the issue of censorship of criticism of Islam and Obama does not act, anti-U.S. demonstrations and rioting may continue. But, of course, he *cannot* act because a failure to defend the First Amendment and the U.S. Constitution could lead to a decisive defeat in the election—and even calls for impeachment. Obama cannot very well ask Congress to pass legislation making criticism or ridicule of Islam a

crime, but that is what many Muslims demand. Obama is therefore being forced to choose sides—and his usual avoidance skills are likely not going to be up to the task. He cannot simply vote “present” and let others lead.) [37190, 37193, 37196, 37243, 37245]

On September 16 blogger David Burge (IowaHawk) Tweets: “When you stop and think about it, that guy couldn’t have made his crappy anti-Islam video without government roads and bridges.” [37145]

In *The New York Times* Steven Rattner, Obama’s former “car czar,” writes, “We need death panels. Well, maybe not death panels, exactly, but unless we start allocating health care resources more prudently—rationing, by its proper name—the exploding cost of Medicare will swamp the federal budget. ... Medicare needs to take a cue from Willie Sutton, who reportedly said he robbed banks because that’s where the money was. The big money in Medicare is not to be found in [Paul] Ryan’s competition or ... Obama’s innovation, but in reducing the cost of treating people in the last year of life, which consumes more than a quarter of the program’s budget. No one wants to lose an aging parent. And with price out of the equation, it’s natural for patients and their families to try every treatment, regardless of expense or efficacy. But that imposes an enormous societal cost that few other nations have been willing to bear. Many countries whose health care systems are regularly extolled—including Canada, Australia and New Zealand—have systems for rationing care. Take Britain, which provides universal coverage with spending at proportionately almost half of American levels. Its National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence uses a complex quality-adjusted life year system to put an explicit value (up to about \$48,000 per year) on a treatment’s ability to extend life. [In other words, if the patient is not expected to live at least one more year, it is not worth spending \$48,000 to care for him. If the treatment will cost \$150,000, it will be denied if the life expectancy is not at least three years. If an 86-year-old grandmother breaks her hip, she’ll have to live with the pain until she dies.] At the least, the Independent Payment Advisory Board should be allowed to offer changes in services and costs. We may shrink from such stomach-wrenching choices, but they are inescapable.” (A caller to Rush Limbaugh’s radio program remarks, “So they’ll give you [free cell] phones, they’ll give you food stamps, but they won’t give you life.”) [37731]

On CNN’s *State of the Union*, host Candy Crowley asks Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu why he is so focused on Iran’s nuclear program when “there are legitimate peaceful purposes for enriching this uranium.” Netanyahu responds, “You think so? You think so, Candy? ... It’s not legitimate. This is a country that denies the Holocaust, promises to wipe out Israel, is engaging in terror throughout the world. It’s like [Murrah Federal Building bomber] Timothy McVeigh walking into a shop in Oklahoma City and saying, ‘I’d like to tend [to] my garden; I’d like to buy some fertilizer.’ ‘How much do you want?’ ‘Oh, I don’t know, 20,000 pounds.’ C’mon, we know that they are working toward a weapon... we know that. ... We have absolute certainty about that.” (Many might who argue, “Well, what’s the harm in Iran having *one* nuclear bomb? If they dared use it against Israel there would be immediate retaliation from the United States.” But that assumes Iran’s intent is to strike Israel. The far more dangerous threat would be a missile launched high above the United States from a nearby ship, with a single nuclear

blast in the atmosphere that could destroy the power grid and electronic equipment. Such an electromagnetic pulse, or EMP, attack would be devastating and would result in the deaths of tens of millions of Americans—not from an immediate “explosion,” but from months without electricity and electronics.) [37199, 37212, 37265, 37266]

On *Meet the Press*, host David Gregory criticizes Netanyahu for calling for a “red line” to be drawn by the Obama administration. Netanyahu responds, “...If you’re determined to prevent Iran from getting nuclear weapons it means you act *before* they get nuclear weapons. I just think that it’s important to communicate to Iran that there is a line that they won’t cross. I think a red line in this case works to reduce the chances of the need for military action, because once the Iranians understand that there’s a line that they can’t cross, they’re not likely to cross it.” Asked by Gregory if Iran has crossed Israel’s red line, Netanyahu states, “They’re in the red zone. They’re in the last 20 yards and you can’t let them cross that goal line. You can’t let them score a touchdown.” Gregory tries to goad his guest into making a political gaffe that would help Obama, asking, “In your view, would Governor Mitt Romney, as President Romney, make Israel safer? Would he take a harder line against Iran than ...Obama in your judgment?” Netanyahu refuses to take the bait, and replies, “...I’m not going to be drawn into the American election, and what’s guiding my statements is not the American political calendar but the Iranian nuclear calendar.” [37212]

Gregory naively asks, “Why can’t [a nuclear] Iran be contained just as the Soviet Union was?” Netanyahu answers, “I think Iran is very different. They put their zealotry above their survival. ...I wouldn’t rely on their rationality. ...Iran is guided by a leadership with an unbelievable fanaticism. It’s the same fanaticism that you see storming your embassies today. Do you want these fanatics to have nuclear weapons?:” Gregory returns to the topic of the U.S. election, asking Netanyahu if he agrees with Romney’s statement that Obama “has thrown allies like Israel under the bus.” Netanyahu again deflects a headline-seeking question: “You’re trying to get me into the American election and I’m not going to do that.” Gregory keeps pressing, charging that by not defending Obama Netanyahu is endorsing Romney’s statement. Netanyahu responds, “No, there you go again David, you’re trying to draw me into something that is simply not the case and it’s not my position. My position is we have strong cooperation, we’ll continue to cooperate, we’re the best of allies, and Israel is the one reliable ally of the United States in the region... There’s no bus and we’re not going to get into that discussion. ...The only bus that is really important is the Iranian nuclear bus. That’s the one that we have to derail.” (Gregory’s goal during the interview is not to seek answers to questions, but to trick Netanyahu into saying something that will hurt Romney.) [37212]

In a *Meet the Press* panel discussion, the consensus—in defense of Obama—is that no one could have prevented the anti-American demonstrations in the Middle East. *The Atlantic*’s Jeff Goldberg says, “There are some very, very deep and troubling things going on in, in the Middle East that have very little to do with what a president does or doesn’t do, so to blame [Obama] for, for an attack on, on these embassies, I think, is a bit much.” NBC’s Andrea Mitchell says, “[T]he Arab Spring has been a much greater, much broader troubling issue that arguably not any American president could handle very

effectively.” *The Washington Post’s* Bob Woodward adds, “I just don’t think the charge of weakness will stick. I mean, Obama’s been tough on these things. Let’s be realistic. The extremists in the Middle East who are causing all of this trouble are extremists. And no Republican, no Democratic president is going to be able to control them.” (In 2008 the mainstream media argued that Obama’s Muslim background and childhood in Indonesia would significantly improve U.S.-Muslim relations. His April 2009 Cairo “apology” speech prompted similar expressions. In 2008 and 2009 “Obama could do anything.” The 2012 tune is suddenly, “No one can do anything.”) [37293]

On ABC’s *This Week*, Obama’s ambassador to the United Nations, Susan Rice—who is married to the program’s producer, Ian Cameron—is asked by Jake Tapper, “Why does the U.S. seem so impotent? And why is the U.S. even less popular today in some of these Muslim and Arab countries than it was four years ago?” Rice replies, “Jake, we are not impotent. We’re not even less popular, to challenge that assessment. I don’t know what basis you make that judgment.” (Some might argue that Tapper’s judgment might reasonably be based on Iran continuing its development on nuclear weapons, anti-U.S. demonstrations in at least 20 countries, and a recent IBOPE-Zogby poll showing that the United States is less popular in major Arab countries, including Egypt, than it was when George W. Bush was president. After almost four years of distancing the United States from Israel, in an effort to appease the Muslim world, Obama has succeeded only in angering Israelis and worsening relations with Arab nations.) “First of all, let’s be clear about what transpired here. What happened this week in Cairo, in Benghazi, in many other parts of the region was a direct result of a heinous and offensive video that was widely disseminated that the U.S. government had nothing to do with, which we have made clear is reprehensible and disgusting.” (The video has not been “widely disseminated.”) [37146, 37167, 37170, 37188, 37225, 37244]

Rice continues, “We also have been very clear in saying that there’s no excuse for violence. We have condemned it in the strongest possible terms. We have said that there’s no excuse for violence. But let’s look at what’s happened. It is quite the opposite of being impotent. We have worked with the governments in Egypt. ...Obama picked up the phone and talked to [Egyptian President Mohamed] Morsi. And as soon as he did that, the security provided to our personnel and our embassies dramatically increased. President Morsi has been out repeatedly and said that he condemns this violence. He’s called off—his people called off any further demonstrations and has made very clear that this has to stop.” (Obama did not telephone Morsi until many hours *after* the embassies were attacked. Obama or Hillary Clinton should have called Morsi *immediately*—as soon as the crowds gathered and embassy officials started sending apologetic messages about a movie virtually no one had seen. Obama did not bother to call Morsi until long after Mitt Romney issued a statement questioning the administration’s weak response to the events, and his administration waited 15 hours before making any comment on the embassy statement of which Romney was critical.) [37146, 37167, 37170, 37188, 37207, 37225, 37244]

Rice laughably states, “Frankly, in Tunisia, in Yemen, and of course in Libya, where the government has gone out of its way to try to step up security and express the deepest

remorse—we're quite popular in Libya, as you might expect, having been a major part in their revolution. What transpired outside of our consulate in Benghazi wasn't an expression of deep-seated anti-American sentiment. Quite the contrary. The counter-demonstrations, the outpouring of sympathy and support for Ambassador [Christopher] Stevens and for the United States, the government of Libya, and the people on the streets saying, how pained they are about this, is much more reflective of the sentiment toward the United States than a small handful of heavily armed mobsters." Rice's statements contradict those of the Libyan government. President Mohammed Magarief tells NPR, "The idea that this criminal and cowardly act was a spontaneous protest that just spun out of control is completely unfounded and preposterous. We firmly believe that this was a pre-calculated, pre-planned attack that was carried out specifically to attack the U.S. Consulate." (Gateway Pundit notes, "The attack included over 150 Islamists equipped with rocket propelled grenades and assault rifles. Al Qaeda already admitted the attack was revenge for its leader's death earlier this year. In fact there is no evidence that a protest even occurred before the consulate came under attack." At PowerLineBlog.com, Scott Johnson writes, "It's not a good sign when the president of Libya speaks far more credibly on the murders of four Americans at the American consulate than an administration spokesman.") [37146, 37165, 37167, 37188, 37222, 37225, 37227, 37228, 37244]

Rice also states, "Two of the four Americans who were killed were there providing security. That was their function. And indeed, there were many other colleagues who were doing the same with them." (Rice's statement is incorrect. WashingtonGuardian.com later reports, "The two former SEALs, Tyrone Woods, 41, and Glen Doherty, 42, were not employed by the State Department diplomatic security office and instead were what is known as personal service contractors who had other duties related to security, the officials said. They stepped into action, however, when Stevens became separated from the small security detail normally assigned to protect him when he traveled from the more fortified embassy in Tripoli to Benghazi, the officials said. The two ex-Seals and others engaged in a lengthy firefight with the extremists who attacked the compound, a fight that stretched from the inner area of the consulate to an outside annex and a nearby safe house -- a location that the insurgents appeared to know about, the officials said. The officials provided the information to the *Washington Guardian*, saying they feared the Obama administration's scant description of the episode left a misimpression that the two ex-Navy SEALs might have been responsible for the ambassador's personal safety or become separated from him.") [37385]

Also on *This Week*, George Will slams the Federal Reserve's announcement of "QE3," stating, "Quantitative easing is the government printing money. It's part of not mission creep, but mission gallop on part of the Fed, which is on its way to becoming the fourth branch of government—accountable to no one and restrained by nothing, as far as I can tell, in exercising both monetary and fiscal policy. [The Fed] used to have one mandate: protect the currency as a store of value, prevent inflation. Then we added a second mandate: maximize employment. Now we have forgotten the first and concentrated solely on the second to produce trickle-down economics. The whole point is to drive people out of bonds and into riskier assets such as equities. [That has a] Great effect on

the stock market, where the equities are owned by a tiny portion of the American people in the hope that the wealth effect, as the stock market goes up, will cause wealthy Americans to spend and invest. And the result will, guess what, trickle down to the rest of us. Now, banks have \$1.5 trillion in reserves. Companies have \$2 trillion of cash sitting on the sidelines. Who in America is not buying a house because of 30-year mortgage at 3.5 percent is too high? Who is not hiring workers because lending is too expensive now?" [37210]

Libyan President Mohamed Magarief appears on CBS's *Face the Nation*. He tells host Bob Schieffer the consulate attack "was planned, definitely, it was planned by foreigners, by people who entered the country a few months ago, and they were planning this criminal act since their arrival. We don't know what are the real intentions of these perpetrators. They entered Libya from different directions, some of them definitely from Mali and Algeria." He states that the "ugly deeds, criminal deeds... do not resemble any way, in any sense, the aspirations, the feelings of Libyans towards the United States and its citizens." Obama lackey Susan Rice also appears, and says, "We do not have information at present that leads us to conclude that this was premeditated or preplanned" and the Obama administration will "want to see the results of that investigation to draw any definitive conclusions." Rice claims that "spontaneous protests" began outside the U.S. consulate and "It looks like extremists elements [then] joined in that effort with heavy weapons... and it spun from there into something much, much more violent." [37169, 37185, 37205]

Senator John McCain (R-AZ) tells Schieffer, "Most people don't bring rocket-propelled grenades and heavy weapons to a demonstration. That was an act of terror, and for anyone to disagree with that fundamental fact is, I think, ignoring the facts. Now, how long it was planned and who was involved... there's no doubt there's extremists and there's no doubt they were using heavy weapons, and they used pretty good tactics, indirect fire, direct fire, and obviously they were successful." (In other words, Susan Rice is an idiot if she believes what she says. Rice is married to ABC News producer Ian Cameron. During the Clinton administration she encouraged him to do nothing to stop the genocide in Rwanda and persuaded Clinton not to accept Sudan's offer to turn over Osama bin Laden. Former Clinton staffer Mansoor Ijaz has stated that efforts to capture or kill Osama bin Laden were "overruled every single time by the State Department, by Susan Rice and her cronies, who were Hell-bent on destroying the Sudan." Rice, along with Richard Clark, authored the controversial and naive Presidential Decision Directive 25, which led to the 1993 Somalia fiasco—the "Blackhawk Down" incident—in which American troops were killed and dragged through the streets by an angry mob. Rice is considered "wildly incompetent" by more than a few Washington insiders, and one critic who has worked with her stated, "She doesn't know what she doesn't know. And she doesn't tolerate dissenters. To have her head the U.S. mission to the U.N. is a mind-boggling decision. It is frightening.") [356, 360, 569, 590, 628, 831, 1282, 1377, 1680, 2197, 2467, 2505, 10556, 17282, 37169, 37178, 37184, 37205]

At Townhall.com Derek Hunter writes, "Americans were targeted and murdered by radical monsters around the globe. [Obama] did nothing about it. The White House had at

least a 48-hour advance warning this was coming. It told no one. It didn't warn the diplomats or increase security at the embassies. It didn't warn the complicit governments—and they are as involved in this as the mobs and murderers themselves—of potential consequences. And when the attacks were over? [Obama] took all of one hour out of his busy fundraising/campaign schedule to address this matter. Then, it was off to Las Vegas and back to his rich friends to shake the money maker. Let me be clear, every drop of blood spilled by Americans as a result of the actions of these monsters drips through the hands of this administration before it hits the ground. ...That [Obama's] campaign attacked Romney for standing up for American values a full 8 hours before the President condemned the attacks on and murder of Americans isn't a story. Until a better word is invented, disgusting will have to do. ...Within 48 hours of the first attacks the Justice Department had tracked down the filmmaker and leaked his name to the media. The media dutifully reported it as if they'd found an escaped Nazi. ...[The media] made little mention of how the Justice Department found and outed the anonymous American supposedly 'responsible' for all this in just two days but, after looking for two years, still can't find out who authorized [Operation] Fast And Furious within their own ranks. ...Now, the violence is spreading, and [Obama] has no idea how to react. He's sinking in concrete, campaigning and fundraising while the Middle East burns. But he thinks Mitt Romney spoke too soon? That's it somehow a gaffe that Romney grasped the implications and the outrage of the situation a full workday before [Obama] could be bothered even to release a statement? That's somehow a Romney gaffe, but [Obama] being uncertain if Egypt is our ally or not barely registers? ...Obama has learned well from great propagandists in the past: When the chips are down, invent a phony outrage to distract the public. ...But those events didn't have smoke, fire, video and a body count the world can't easily ignore. The media's spin will work on idiots, but the rape of reality can't and won't work on anyone with more IQ points than teeth." [37164, 37223]

Also at Townhall.com, Carol Platt Liebau sums up "what we now know" about the attack on the U.S. consulate office in Benghazi: "(1) A local security official in Benghazi says he warned Americans three days before the 9/11/12 attacks that the security situation was deteriorating... (2) Heavy machine guns and rocket propelled grenades were used to attack the consulate from three sides simultaneously (hardly the indicia of a spontaneous anti-movie protest)... (3) The information about an American "safe house" in Benghazi was known to the attackers—indicating, again, that the attack was coordinated and that security information has been seriously compromised... (4) The administration is not being straight with the American people... (5) The Obama administration's response is a sad joke. Susan Rice's insistence on ABC ...that 'we're not impotent, we're not even less popular' is the most embarrassing denial since President Clinton's insistence that 'I did not have sex with that woman.'... (5) Some in the press will do anything to obscure the facts for the sake of reelecting ...Obama." [37166, 37168, 37169]

NBCChicago.com reports, "Kids may not be going back to school on Monday after all. Reports of Union infighting could lead teachers back to the picket line instead of the classroom. ...[T]here is concern from inside the Chicago Teachers Union that delegates will not approve the tentative agreement to end the week old strike, according to a source close to the union. A faction of the union sees it as a 'back room deal' that does not have

unified support, the source said.” (Reuters previously reported that there had been a tentative agreement, and that Mayor Rahm Emanuel “retreated from some of his proposed reforms, although details of what he has agreed to with the union have not been made public.”) [37147, 37180, 37187]

The Associated Press reports, “Chicago teachers uncomfortable with a tentative contract offer decided Sunday to remain on strike, insisting they needed more time to consider whether to end an acrimonious standoff with Mayor Rahm Emanuel that will keep 350,000 students out of class for at least a few more days. Emanuel fired back Sunday night by instructing city attorneys to seek a court order forcing Chicago Teachers Union members back into the classroom. ‘This was a strike of choice and is now a delay of choice that is wrong for our children,’ he said in a statement.” (Teachers may strike over pay and benefits, but state law prohibits them from striking over non-economic issues such as teacher evaluations, layoffs, and recall rights. But those issues are primarily the focus of the strikers.) [37195, 37211, 37219]

According to Newsmax.com, Obama’s new Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards, which force automakers to boost miles-per-gallon to 35.5 in 2016 and to 54.5 miles-per-gallon in 2025, “will eventually cost Americans as much as \$11,000 more per car.” Obama claims the standards will “reduce our dependence on foreign oil,” but saving several thousands of dollars on gasoline means little if those savings are offset by a much higher vehicle purchase price. (Attaining the 54.5 mpg standard will likely require smaller, lighter—and less safe—cars.) [37183]

The Obama campaign pitches another “Dinner with Barack” raffle. An email from deputy campaign manager Julianna Smoot states, “Of course, saying you’ve had dinner with [Obama] makes a great story. But it’s also a really good time—can’t you just picture yourself there? ... You can learn a lot: His dad taught him to love jazz, his girls get crazy-embarrassed when he dances or sings in public, his dream job is starting point guard for the Chicago Bulls—and he really looks forward to sharing these meals with supporters like you. Give \$5 or whatever you can, and you’ll be automatically entered to win two seats (for you and your guest) at this election’s next—and final—Dinner with Barack.” (Smoot does not explain how Obama’s father “taught him to love jazz”—an interesting feat inasmuch as the Kenyan deserted Stanley Ann Dunham even before the birth of their child and returned from Africa to visit his son in Hawaii only once. It is perhaps significant that Frank Marshall Davis, Obama’s communist mentor when he was a teenager in Honolulu, was a jazz fan and wrote columns about it—when he was not writing about communism. More than a few people believe Davis was Obama’s real father. It may be that on various occasions Obama said, “My father taught me about jazz,” surreptitiously referring to Davis, rather than to Barack Hussein Obama, Sr.) [37505]

On *Fox News Sunday*, senior political analyst Brit Hume says, “I think what [Romney] said [about the U.S. embassy statement] was correct but it was clumsy. And it opened him up to charges that he made a terrible mistake. We had an almost ludicrous overreaction in a lot of the media about it in which what he did became the big story



rather than what was happening over there, which was not a great moment for the national media, I'm sad to say. You know, he could have waited, it might have been better if he had. But look, what [Romney] was criticizing there was a statement ... which is the administration's emphasis on this video and attacking it and reiterating that—the Cairo embassy not only said that, but it reiterated it later after these events had unfolded. So they doubled down on it. Now, eventually the White House walked it back and so on. But the next thing you know the White House is saying the same thing—that it is all about the video. So, my sense is that he was on the mark. He might have timed it better or said it better.” [37189]

U.N. ambassador Susan Rice also appears on *Fox News Sunday*, where she repeats her claim that the Middle East unrest is due solely to an anti-Islam video and has nothing to do with Obama administration policies. Host Chris Wallace responds that word of the film “...may have sparked it but your critics say that the outpouring of outrage against the U.S. has everything to do with the U.S. policies. That we are disengaging from that part of the world that we pulled out of Iraq, we are pulling out of Afghanistan, that Iran is continuing on with its nuclear program and they say our critics is that our allies no longer trust us and our enemies no longer fear us.” Rice responds, “Well, Chris, that is just false. Let's be plain. Our partners and allies ... responded effectively and promptly when we have asked them to protect our facilities and our people.” (The Obama administration arguably should have Secretary of State Hillary Clinton or an intelligence community official appearing to state its case on the Sunday talk shows. As ambassador to the United Nation, Rice has nothing to do with embassies or their security. She was likely chosen to put out the “movie hysteria gone awry” narrative so that if it backfires Rice can be thrown under the bus, rather than Clinton.) [37239]

In Melbourne, Florida assistant professor Sharon Sweet creates an uproar by passing out “Gotta Vote” bookmarks to her students at Brevard Community College. The bookmarks read, “I pledge to vote for ... Obama and Democrats up and down the ticket. Get the facts you need to make your voice heard in this election.” (Arguably, one does not need to get any facts if first made to pledge to vote for Obama and all Democrats. The facts then become irrelevant.) According to WatchDogWire.com, one student “reported that Sweet has repeatedly stated her personal political views in support of ... Obama in [mathematics] class. The student noted, ‘There is an older gentleman in the class that will argue with her but he said most of the students did not.’ ...GottaVote.org is a site paid for by the Obama-Biden campaign to urge Floridians to register and vote. The website is targeted at young voters. It appears Sweet may have violated the College's harassment policy by handing out the Gotta Vote pledge.” (Sweet's activities also violated Florida State Law 110.233, which states that no public employee may “Use the authority of his or her position to secure support for, or oppose, any candidate, party, or issue in a partisan election or affect the results thereof.” Sweet is placed on a “leave of absence” while the issue is investigated.) [37197, 37198, 37256, 37286]

Campaigning in Cleveland, Ohio, Obama tells an audience his economic plan “would get rid of pet projects and government boondoggles and bridges to nowhere.” The crowd laughs—an indication that it does not believe him. (At NationalReview.com Charles

C.W. Cooke later notes, “Likewise, last year at a DNC fundraiser, Obama told the assembled crowd that, ‘over the last 15 months, we’ve created over 2.1 million private-sector jobs,’ an observation that was deemed sufficiently risible to elicit knowing laughter. The regrettable optics (or acoustics?) of this did not escape the notice of the powers that be, who were quick to recast the audience reaction in the official White House transcript from ‘laughter’ to ‘applause.’”) [37252]

On the Internet, cell phone video surfaces of angry Muslims dragging Ambassador Christopher Stevens out of the “safe house” in Benghazi to which he fled, contradicting the Obama administration and media story that he died of “smoke inhalation” at the consulate office. At PowerLineBlog.com John Hinderaker writes, “The main threat to the administration’s cover-up has never been American reporters, almost all of whom are desperately trying to get Obama re-elected. Rather, the danger is that more of the cell phone pictures and movies that were taken by Libyans of events in Benghazi and, in particular, of Ambassador Stevens, inevitably will surface, and will disrupt the administration’s narrative.” [37206]

NBCNews.com reports, “Four U.S. soldiers fighting with the NATO-led alliance were killed in an apparent insider shooting in southern Afghanistan on Sunday, the Pentagon confirmed. A Pentagon spokesman did not have further details, including which branch of services the Americans belonged to, Reuters reported. The shooting took place in Zabol, a southern province where U.S. forces are based, and came a day after two British soldiers were shot dead by an Afghan policeman while returning from a patrol in southern Helmand province — a stronghold of the Taliban-led insurgency. ... One attacker who was wearing an Afghan National Police uniform (ANP) was also killed in the fighting, a source told Reuters. At least 51 foreign military personnel have been killed in “insider” attacks this year, attacks which have put a heavy strain on trust between the coalition and Afghanistan as they move towards handing security responsibility to Afghan forces by the end of 2014.” [37208]

On Fox News, Congressman Allen West (R-FL) states, “When I listened to the U.N. ambassador Susan Rice today several words came to mind: asinine, naive, inept, incompetent, and borderline ignorant, because when you understand that the Egyptian government, their intelligence services, put out a letter talking about a potential threat of ... attacks, and uprising a bout a week before this—it was even printed in the *Jerusalem Post* on 9/11—and anyhow I can tell you, having been in a combat zone after 9/11, we were always on a higher state of security and alertness on 9/11 [anniversaries]. It should have been the exact same thing here. And for Susan Rice to say this is not a well-coordinated attack, first of all, I’d have to ask her what is her line of expertise, and understand what a well-coordinated attack is. Because this was not happenstance. It was not coincidence. This was well-planned, well-coordinated, and the president there in Libya confirms that. ... [The administration] is outright distorting the truth and with the help of the complicit mainstream media... This can be an incredible Jimmy Carter moment for... Obama, especially when you go back and look at what he said in 2009 at the University of Cairo, we have consistently showed a policy of appeasement, we have not stood up and had a very clear and defined Middle East policy, we have emboldened

our enemies, and really confused our allies... So I think this really does come down to an issue for them [the Obama team]. They see the failures of their domestic economic policies; the last thing they can not afford to have is also to be seen as weak on foreign policy.” [37213]

In Oldsmar, Florida Paul Ryan criticizes the Federal Reserve’s announcement of “QE3,” the next round of money-supply expansion in a desperate attempt to boost the economy. Ryan says, “We don’t need synthetic money creation. We need economic growth. We want wealth creation. We don’t want to print money. We want opportunity and growth.” [37238]

CNN reports—via a shameless Twitter message *directing people to an Obama donation page*—that Obama will campaign in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on September 22. (Obama won the state by almost 14 points in 2008. That he needs to campaign there at all in 2012 suggests he is worried the state is not the guaranteed victory he thought it would be.) [37253]

Protesters attempt to storm the U.S. consulate in Karachi, Pakistan. One is killed in the unsuccessful attack. Demonstrator signs include, “O Obama, we are all Osama,” and “Blasphemy is not freedom of expression, and its sentence is death.” (HotAir.com observes, “The message from Karachi, Iran, and the burning embassies in Arab nations is that radical Islamists reject freedom of speech and religious expression entirely. They want to impose *dhimmitude* on the rest of the world, just like they did in 1988 when [Salman] Rushdie’s novel was published, just like they did on 9/11, and just like they always have. Pretty speeches in Cairo won’t change that, and sending out messages condemning the ‘denigration’ of religious belief as an ‘abuse’ of free speech won’t change it, either. In fact, it just encourages more of this response in the long run.”) [37235]

Expatica.com reports, “France’s interior minister said Sunday he will prevent any further anti-US demonstrations sparked by an anti-Islam film that has triggered sometimes deadly protests across the globe. The warning came a day after police in Paris detained around 150 people for taking part in an unauthorised, impromptu protest near the US embassy that saw three officers slightly hurt after a number of clashes. ‘I have issued instructions so that this does not happen again,’ Interior Minister Manuel Valls told France 2 television. ‘These protests are forbidden. Any incitement to hatred must be fought with the greatest firmness.’” [37272]

On September 17 a mere 300 demonstrators gather in New York City for the one year anniversary of the Occupy Wall Street movement. (The “99 percent” turns out to be about 0.0001 percent.) [37237]

Obama advisors hold a “press gaggle” on Air Force One en route to a campaign event. Remarkably, the softball questions relate to trade with China, whether Obama is preparing for debates with Mitt Romney, and Afghanistan. According to DailyCaller.com, “Only two questions referred to the administration’s reaction to the

Islamist protests and attacks in Egypt, Libya, Sudan, Tunisia and several other countries. No reporter asked about the White House's Sept. 14 request to Google, asking the company to remove from YouTube's servers a video that [Obama] does not like. And no reporter asked about [Obama's] silence while Islamist governments in Egypt, Turkey and Iran demand curbs on Americans' free speech. No journalist asked White House officials about the Sept. 11, 2012 jihadi strike on the Benghazi consulate that killed four officials including the ambassador, despite startling news from Libya suggesting that the embassy was almost defenseless. [There were] no questions about the Benghazi attack even though his administration's explanation for that assault—that protesters angered by the video had gone berserk—was contradicted over the weekend by Libyan government officials and by local witnesses, as well as by video showing an attacker carrying a rocket launcher." Questions included: "It was a beautiful weekend for golf and [Obama] wasn't out on the course. Is it safe to assume maybe he was doing some preparation [for the debates] at the White House?" "Can you give us any guidance or insight into how [Obama] is monitoring the situation in Afghanistan?" and "Did [Obama] see the new SNL [Saturday Night Live] impression of him? And does he have any reaction to it?" Deputy press secretary Josh Earnest tells reporters Obama missed SNL but "watched a lot of football" over the weekend. (Apparently it does not occur to even one reporter to ask, "Statements by U.N. ambassador Susan Rice about the consulate attack have been contradicted by the Libyan president. Which one is telling the truth?") [37214, 37215, 37287]

Obama campaigns in Cincinnati and Columbus, Ohio. Forced to address the issue because of a Romney attack ad, Obama criticizes the Chinese government for subsidizing its auto manufacturers and auto parts producers, saying, "Those subsidies directly harm working men and women on the assembly line in Ohio and Michigan and across the Midwest. It's not right; it's against the rules; and we will not let it stand." (Obama does not explain why it is wrong for China to subsidize its auto industry and other industries, while his administration subsidized General Motors and Chrysler to the tune of about \$85 billion. Meanwhile, MarketWatch.com reports that the administration is "resisting General Motors' push for the government to sell off its stake" in the company. The company believes the government's ownership of 500 million shares of GM stock "hurts the company's reputation and its ability to attract top talent due to pay restrictions." Many car shoppers refuse to buy a car from "Government Motors," but Obama is afraid to sell the government's GM stock at a significant loss—knowing that Mitt Romney will use the failed "investment" as an example of Obama's incompetence.) Obama brags, "And my experience has been waking up every single day doing everything I can to give American workers a fair shot in the global economy. When other countries don't play by the rules, we've done something about it." [37216, 37217, 37218, 37236, 37254, 37302, 37303]

Obama also states, "I'm not going to let oil companies write this country's energy plan. And I'm not going to let them keep on collecting four billion dollars in taxpayer-funded corporate welfare. We've got a better plan. We'll keep on investing in wind and solar, clean coal technology. We'll invest to help farmers and scientists harness new biofuels to power our cars and our trucks." (In other words, "I am opposed to corporate welfare...")

except when I support corporate welfare [e.g., Solyndra].” HotAir.com notes, “...Solyndra cost taxpayers \$520 million in corporate welfare when it went bankrupt. That’s one-eighth of everything that oil companies get, according to Obama, but at least the oil companies *actually produce energy.*”) [37297, 37298]

Obama says, “The only thing they [Republicans] can do is keep trying to bluff their way through until November, and hope that you won’t call them on it. But understand Cincinnati, look, I want to work with them to reduce the deficit. I’ve said if the Republicans need more love, if they want me to walk the dog or wash their car, I’m happy to do it. You know, I genuinely believe that most Americans, Democrats or Republicans, they just want us to solve problems. So I’m ready and willing to work. But I refuse to ask middle-class families to pay over \$2,000 more so that millionaires and billionaires can pay less.” (The statements are laughable. Obama has shown almost no willingness to cooperate with Republicans over almost four years, and uses every issue to make blatant partisan points. His repeated claim that Mitt Romney would raise taxes on middle-class families by \$2,000 is a lie. Romney has proposed reducing the tax rate for all income levels.) [32306]

“While he [Romney] wants to spend more money on military programs our joint chiefs say won’t keep us safer,” claims Obama, “I’ll use that money that we’re no longer spending on war to pay down our debt and to put more people back to work, rebuilding some of these bridges around Cincinnati, rebuilding schools and runways. After a decade of war, it’s time to do some nation building here at home. So, Cincinnati, that’s the choice you face. That’s what this election comes down to. Fifty days and you’ll start making that choice.” [37307]

At Townhall.com Mike Shedlock reports that falling sales of petroleum products ‘hint at [a coming] recession.’ James Beck, lead analyst, Weekly Petroleum Supply Team for the Energy Information Administration, writes, “Demand for gasoline continues to be below 2002 levels and the lowest level for April–June since 2001... Distillate demand... continues to show weakness. For the period of April–June, it is down nearly 4.5% from last year. At 3.729 million barrels per day, it is at its lowest level since 2002. The concern I have is the year-over-year decline this year. Since diesel demand is a very good proxy for the health of the economy (all shipping uses diesel—trucking, rail, barge, etc.), this weakening from last year continues to be a source of concern for the economy. Demand for jet fuel has also fallen dramatically from 2007/08... The 2012 level is the second lowest for this three-month period since 1995. ...These numbers do not tell me that we are in a recovery. ...The decline year-over-year in these three core transportation indicators suggest a slowing in the economy if not a recession.” [37221]

In Topeka, the Secretary of State decides to allow Obama’s name on the November 6 ballot in Kansas despite the filing of a legal objection that he is not a natural born citizen. A similar ballot challenge is overruled by the Illinois State Board of Elections. [37289, 37290]

Demonstrators in Jakarta, Indonesia throw rocks and Molotov cocktails at the U.S. embassy. According to WashingtonPost.com, “Eleven police officers were hospitalized after being pelted with rocks and attacked with bamboo sticks... [Protesters] also tried to torch a fire engine parked outside the embassy, ripping a hose from the vehicle and igniting it, which sent plumes of black smoke billowing skyward.” One demonstrator, apparently unaware that the 2008 election of Obama—who spent several years of his childhood in the world’s most populous Muslim country—was supposed to improve relations with the United States, yells, “We will destroy America like this flag. We will chase away the American ambassador from the country.” [37229]

In another sign that the economy is not recovering, Reuters reports that “Factory activity in New York state contracted for a second month in a row in September, falling to its lowest level in nearly 3-1/2 years as new orders shrank further...” *The New York Times* reports, “Giants like FedEx and Intel, two bellwethers of the global economy, are warning of lower quarterly profits because of weakness in worldwide demand.” [37232, 37233, 37234]

The government watchdog group Cause of Action calls on Obama to fire Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius, or at least suspend her for 30 days without pay, for violating the Hatch Act by campaigning for Obama while on a taxpayer-funded business trip. According to DailyCaller.com, “The standard penalty for violating the Hatch Act is termination. But, the White House has suggested that Obama will offer Sebelius special treatment and let her keep her job. ...Cause of Action also found that Sebelius violated ...Obama’s ‘Ethics Pledge,’ which the group says Obama’s political appointees were required to sign ‘concerning lobbying activities while also seeking consensus from his political appointees that they understood the federal ethics rules.’ ...At least one member of Congress—Illinois Republican Rep. Joe Walsh—has called on President Obama to treat Sebelius the same as all other Hatch Act violators and terminate her employment immediately.” (It is almost a certainty that Obama will do nothing. The mainstream media has essentially ignored the story, and no reporter has asked White House press secretary Jay Carney about Sebelius’ illegal activity.) [37288, 37381]

At AmericanThinker.com Michael Filozof notes the hypocrisy of Obama’s State Department, which condemned Russia for prosecuting “Pussy Riot” singers Nadezhda Tolokonnikova and Yekaterina Samutsevich for desecrating a Russian Orthodox Cathedral, yet condemns the producer of an anti-Islam movie. On August 17 the State Department stated, “The United States is concerned about both the verdict and the disproportionate sentences handed down by a Moscow court in the case against the members of the band Pussy Riot and the negative impact on freedom of expression in Russia. We urge Russian authorities to review this case and ensure that the right to freedom of expression is upheld.” On September 14 Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said, “The United States government... absolutely reject[s the] content and message [of the video]... to us, to me personally, this video is disgusting and reprehensible. It appears to have a deeply cynical purpose: to denigrate a great religion and to provoke rage.” (From the Obama administration’s perspective, two people who physically damage the

alter of a church should not be punished but a moviemaker should, and freedom of speech should protect those who mock Christianity but not those who ridicule Islam.) [37241]

Pamela Geller writes at AtlasShrugs.com, “According to breaking news at FOX, there was not one anti-freedom protest at the embassy in Libya. Not one. Which means that Ambassador [Susan] Rice was lying through her teeth yesterday when she said that the attack on the embassy was a spontaneous action that inadvertently led to the death of a US ambassador on 9/11. It means that the Muslim attack on the embassy was premeditated on 9/11, and the administration knows this, and they are lying to people on behalf of Islam.” [37271]

Senator Jon Kyl (R-AZ) says of the Obama administration’s response to the embassy attacks, “It’s like the judge telling the woman who got raped, ‘You asked for it because of the way you dressed.’” (That is, “It’s America’s own fault it was attacked because it protects free speech.”) [37251]

On CNN, Obama-sycophant Soledad O’Brien hassles Congressman Peter King (R-NY) about his criticism of Obama’s 2009 “apology tour,“ saying he never actually used the words “apology” or “I’m sorry.” O’Brien says, “Never once in that speech, as you know, which I have the speech right here [sic]. So that was back—he never once used the word apology. He never once said I’m sorry.” King replies, “[In] Any common sense interpretation of those speeches, [Obama] is apologizing for the American position. If I go over and say that the U.S. has violated its principles, that the United States has not shown respect for Islam, that’s an apology.” O’Brien claims, “plenty of people are interpreting it as a nuanced approach to diplomacy.” [37291]

Americac2c.com reports, “The U.S. State Department is currently in negotiations with the Egyptian government for the transfer of custody of Omar Abdel-Rahman, also known as ‘the Blind Sheikh,’ for humanitarian and health reasons, a source close to the Obama administration told TheBlaze. The Department of Justice, however, told TheBlaze that Rahman is serving a life sentence and is not considered for possible release. Previous calls to the State Department were referred to the Department of Justice and so far, the State Department has neither confirmed nor denied the report.” The demonstrations at the U.S. embassy in Cairo likely had more to do with Abdel-Rahman than an anti-Islam movie almost no one has seen. News.Gather.com notes, “The release of terrorist Sheikh Omar Abdel Rahman has been a goal of newly elected Muslim Brotherhood Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi, who has publicly vowed to ensure his freedom from prison. *The Wall Street Journal* reported that ‘His [Rahman] detention has become a cause célèbre among hard-line Salafi Islamists.’ Apparently, the brother of al-Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri, Mohamed al-Zawahiri, tweeted that people should go to the embassy and ‘defend the prophet’ on Monday. Not so ironically, al-Zawahiri was imprisoned for his role in the assassination of Anwar Sadat. He has also been in the news lately promoting a ‘peace plan.’ This plan includes ‘U.S. to release all Islamist prisoners.’ Another demand for the faux peace plan is the interestingly worded: ‘U.S. to end the war on Islam.’” (On the surface, any report that the sheikh would be released would seem impossible to believe. Abdel-Rahman was the mastermind of the 1993 World Trade

Center bombing and is serving a life sentence. There is no doubt that many in the Muslim world want him released, but it would be political suicide for Obama to do so—at least before the November 6 election.) [37258, 37259, 37300, 37340]

Despite information coming to light that suggests the attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya was planned, the Obama administration continues to claim it was “spontaneous” exhibition of anger over a movie. FoxNews.com writes, “Fear that the deadly attack on the U.S. Consulate in Libya that left four Americans dead could damage ... Obama’s foreign policy credentials just 50 days before the election may be driving the administration’s insistence that the attack was a spontaneous act, analysts said Monday.” Jim Phillips, senior research fellow on Middle East issues at The Heritage Foundation, observes, “It would be an inconvenient truth if it turned out Al Qaeda was behind this attack, because the administration has painted Libya as a victory for its foreign policy.” (At the Democrat convention the message was essentially, “Obama killed Osama, so Americans are now safe.” But that message does not play so well if al-Qaeda or its affiliates planned and executed the attack in Benghazi. Obama is therefore playing defense on the issue. He has no other choice but to use an anti-Islam movie as his cover: “Don’t blame me! Blame that filmmaker!”) [37262, 37263]

A September 11–13 Fox News poll shows Obama leading Mitt Romney 60–30 percent among Hispanic voters. (Although those results may discourage some Romney supporters, a previous poll gave Obama a 70–20 lead. Romney may be able to defeat Obama with 30 percent of the Latino vote.) [37264]

Campaigning for her husband at the University of Florida in Gainesville, Michelle Obama says, “The economy was losing 800,000 jobs every month [in early 2009], and a lot of folks wondered whether we were headed for another great depression. Now this is what Barack faced on day one [in the White House]. That’s what awaited him, but instead of pointing fingers and placing blame, Barack got to work, because he was thinking about folks like my dad, like his grandmother. Since the day he took office, on issue after issue, crisis after crisis, that’s what I’ve seen, that’s what we’ve all seen in my husband. We’ve seen his values at work. We’ve seen his vision unfold. We’ve seen the depths of his character, courage, and convictions. Here’s proof: Think back to when Barack first took office, and our economy was on the brink of collapse.” (Apparently Michelle Obama has never heard her husband utter the name “George W. Bush” or the word, “I inherited.”) One student, with a ticket to the event *at the public university*, is denied entrance because of his “Gators for [John] McCain” t-shirt. A campaign worker tells the student only Obama supporters are allowed inside. [37305, 37327]

At the U.S. embassy in Beirut, Lebanon, diplomats begin destroying documents to keep them from falling into the hands of Islamist terrorists. According to the Associated Press, “A State Department status report... said the Beirut embassy had ‘reviewed its emergency procedures and is beginning to destroy classified holdings.’ It also said that local Lebanese employees were sent home early due to protests by the militant Shiite group Hezbollah. ... After Tuesday’s [September 11, 2012] incidents, the State Department ordered all U.S. embassies and consulates around the world to review their



security postures. As a result, a number of missions decided to destroy classified material, the official said. It was not immediately clear which other missions besides the one in Beirut had taken that step.” (At AtlasShrugs.com Pamela Geller writes, “Obama administration is in panic mode—*America, are you embarrassed yet?*”) [37268, 37269]

Radical Islamists issue a “death fatwa” for *Newsweek* magazine for its “Muslim Rage” cover and story by Ayaan Hirsi Ali, “How I Survived It, How We Can End It.” She writes, “The Muslim men and women (and yes, there are plenty of women) who support—whether actively or passively—the idea that blasphemers deserve to suffer punishment are not a fringe group. On the contrary, they represent the mainstream of contemporary Islam.” (Ayaan Hirsi Ali is the author of *Infidel, Nomad: From Islam to America: A Personal Journey Through the Clash of Civilizations*; and *The Caged Virgin*.) [37270]

Media leftists spend the evening discussing and writing about a hidden camera video from a fundraiser at which Mitt Romney stated, “There are 47 percent of the people who will vote for [Obama] no matter what. All right, there are 47 percent who are with him, who are dependent upon government, who believe that they are victims, who believe the government has a responsibility to care for them, who believe that they are entitled to health care, to food, to housing, to you-name-it. That that’s an entitlement. And the government should give it to them. And they will vote for [Obama] no matter what... And I mean [Obama] starts off with 47 percent, 48, 49—he starts off with a huge number. These are people who pay no income tax. 47 percent of Americans pay no income tax. So our message of low taxes doesn’t connect. So he’ll be out there talking about tax cuts for the rich. I mean, that’s what they sell every four years. And so my job is not to worry about these people. I’ll never convince them they should take personal responsibility and care for their lives. What I have to do is to convince the five to ten percent in the center that are independents, that are thoughtful, that look at voting one way or the other depending upon, in some cases, emotion, whether they like the guy or not.” [37273, 37274, 37282, 37283, 37284, 37292, 37296, 37301]

Liberals automatically assume the remarks are damaging and will help sink the Romney campaign. But a quick (non-scientific) poll shows that 75 percent of voters *support* his statement. In explaining his remarks on the video, Romney states, “Frankly, my discussion about lowering taxes isn’t as attractive to them and therefore I’m not likely to draw them into my campaign as those in the middle. This is really more about the political process of winning the election and of course I want to help all Americans have a bright and prosperous future and I’m convinced that [Obama’s] approach has not done that and will not do that.” The leftist response is predictably, “How dare Romney say such things.” But the average American responds, “What did he say that is not true?” Obama campaign manager James Messina states, “It’s shocking that a candidate for president of the United States would go behind closed doors and declare to a group of wealthy donors that half the American people view themselves as ‘victims.’ It’s hard to serve as president for all Americans when you’ve disdainfully written off half the nation.” (Obama, of course, has done the same. His campaign is focusing on “getting out the Democrat base” of blacks, Hispanics, single women, young voters, liberal college professors, and gays. Obama has essentially written off the blue-collar white vote—

which is no less cynical than Romney's remarks. If Romney portrays the race as parasites versus producers, Romney arguably gets the producer vote and Obama gets the parasite vote. But Romney may *also* get the votes of the parasites who don't realize or won't admit they are parasites.) [37273, 37274, 37282, 37283, 37284, 37292, 37296, 37301]

Immediately hounded by reporters about his comments, Romney stands his ground and says, "My campaign is about helping people take more responsibility and becoming employed again, particularly those who don't have work. [The election] is ultimately a question about direction for the country; Do you believe in a government-centered society that provides more and more benefits or do you believe instead in a free enterprise society where people are able to pursue their dreams?" [37284]

Some in the media report that the Romney video was found online by former President Jimmy Carter's grandson, Jimmy Carter IV, who is unemployed—and who apparently has a lot of time on his hands. Carter then brought the clip to the attention of *Mother Jones* magazine. (In fact, Twitter and Facebook users have been aware of the video for weeks.) [37285, 37316]

The media also excoriates Romney for saying in the fundraiser clip, "I'm torn by two perspectives [about the Israel/Palestinian conflict] in this regard. One is the one which I've had for some time, which is that the Palestinians have no interest whatsoever in establishing peace, and that the pathway to peace is almost unthinkable to accomplish. Now why do I say that? Some might say, well, let's let the Palestinians have the West Bank, and have security, and set up a separate nation for the Palestinians. And then come a couple of thorny questions. ...I look at the Palestinians not wanting to see peace anyway, for political purposes, committed to the destruction and elimination of Israel, and these thorny issues, and I say, 'There's just no way.'" Reporters interpret that as, "Romney refuses to seek peace" and "Romney rejects a two-state solution," when, in fact," Romney is merely recognizing reality. NationalJournal.com calls Romney's remarks "embarrassing." HotAir.com's Ed Morrissey asks, "What exactly is supposed to be 'embarrassing' about this? It's a more honest assessment of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict than we've seen in decades from presidential-level politics, from either party. Barack Obama promised that his leadership would lead to a breakthrough in the impasse, but he set the process back several decades by fumbling the question of construction in Jerusalem, which Mahmoud Abbas hadn't raised as a deal-stopper until Obama handed him the issue. *That's* embarrassing. I'd rather hear an American President talk straight about the impasse and the actual problem rather than provide us another Lucy-and-the-football promise for something over which we have little actual control." [37294, 37295]

Further, the mainstream media *neglects* to report what Romney said *after* "There's just no way." He says, "...The idea of pushing on the Israelis to give something up to get the Palestinians to act is the worst idea in the world. We've done that time, and time, and time again. It does not work. So, the only answer is, show strength—American strength, American resolve, and if the Palestinians someday reach a point where they want peace more than we're trying to force peace on them, then it's worth having the discussions. But until then it's just wishful thinking." (Romney's full statement is essentially, "When

the Palestinians demonstrate that they want peace, rather than the destruction of Israel, we'll sit down and talk. Until then, little can get done." That is, of course, not a controversial statement.) [37531]

Romney's fundraiser comments may actually help him win votes, despite the media furor raised over them. His remarks are notably more conservative than his routine campaign speeches, which should encourage some conservatives who might have planned on sitting out the election to vote for him. They are also reflective of what most Americans believe: too many people are dependent on government, and the Palestinians do not want peace—they want to kill every Jew in Israel. What Romney said may not sit well with media leftists, but they find a receptive audience among voters seeking another Ronald Reagan. At university faculty lounges, professors may be saying to each other, "Romney is so extreme!" but around water coolers and at loading docks across the country people may be saying, "Mitt finally said what I've been thinking!" (Ann Coulter later writes, "A friend of mine who spent time in Russia during the '70s told me that whenever a Russian would bring up the extensive coverage of Watergate, he'd sigh, thinking he'd have to explain that the American political system was not as corrupt as the commissars would have it. But all they ever wanted to ask him was: 'Do all Americans have such nice shoes?' The lesson is: You can't always control what the audience notices. Thanks to the myopia of our one-party media, most journalists are firmly convinced that voters will be appalled by Romney's description of 47 percent of Americans as supporting Obama because they pay no income tax. (Yes, head-up-their-butts journalists in the charming little burg of Manhattan are complaining that Romney isn't connecting with ordinary people.") [37348]

In the fundraiser video Romney also says that Obama believes "his magnetism and his charm and his persuasiveness [are] so compelling that he can sit down with people like [Vladimir] Putin and [Hugo] Chavez and [Mahmoud] Ahmadinejad, and that they'll find that we're such wonderful people that they'll go on with us, and they'll stop doing bad things. It's an extraordinarily naive perception." (The mainstream media pays far less attention to that statement than to Romney's other comments.) [37370]

NBC Nightly News reports that Obama's U.N. ambassador, Susan Rice, was mistaken when she claimed on *Meet the Press* that there was a "significant number" of security personnel at the U.S. consulate in Benghazi. In fact, security consisted of nothin more than "a U.S. regional security officer and a local [Libyan] militia." There were no U.S. Marines guarding the consulate or ambassador Christopher Stevens. Retired Colonel Jack Jacobs, a Medal of Honor recipient, tells NBC, "The level of security in Libya, particularly in Benghazi, was woefully low. As a matter of fact, I'd characterize it as no security whatsoever. Shocking and irresponsible." [37275]

A record 8,786,049 Americans collect Social Security disability benefits., an increase of 18,108 over the prior month. CNSNews.com reports, "In August 1967, 74,767,000 Americans were working (according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics) and 1,152,861 were taking federal disability insurance (according to the Social Security Administration). That means that at that time there were about 65 Americans working for

each worker collecting disability. In August 2012, 142,101,000 Americans were working and 8,767,941 were on disability—meaning there were only 16.2 people working for each person collecting disability.” (The stunning change in the ratios is due partly to the fact that the government has become far more generous in granting disability benefits. Many of the people receiving benefits in 2012 would not have qualified in 1967, and would have been told, “So, you have a bad back. Go back to work and stop complaining. there is nothing wrong with you.” Another factor is that individuals in their mid-to-late 50s who lose their jobs have so much difficulty finding work they simply give up and apply for disability benefits, even though they may prefer working. Their “bad backs” or other “spurious” ailments seem suddenly more serious when there are no “Help Wanted” signs.) [37304]

Reuters reports, “A U.S. intelligence cable warned the American Embassy in Cairo of possible violence in response to Arabic-language broadcasts of clips from an anti-Muslim film, U.S. government sources said on Monday. The cable, dispatched from Washington on September 10, the day before protests erupted, advised the embassy the broadcasts could provoke violence. It did not direct specific measures to upgrade security, said the sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity. ...Copies of the cable were *not* sent to other U.S. outposts in the region, including the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya, where violence took the life of U.S. Ambassador Christopher Stevens and three other Americans [emphasis added].” HotAir.com comments, “The reason they didn’t send the cable to other American missions across the region was, supposedly, because clips from the movie were broadcast on a cleric’s show in Egypt and therefore the possibility of violence was somehow ‘specific to Egypt.’ I sure hope that’s a government lie, because if they seriously believed ...that this would be contained to a single country—on the anniversary of 9/11—we’re in deeper trouble than I thought.” [37275, 37277, 37278]

On September 18 Townhall.com posts an audio clip of Obama speaking at Chicago’s Loyola University on October 19, 1998, in which he states, “...I think the trick is figuring out how do we structure government systems that pool resources and hence facilitate some redistribution because I actually believe in redistribution, uh, at least at a certain level to make sure that everybody’s got a shot.” Mitt Romney quickly pounces on the recording, telling Neil Cavuto on Fox News, “I know some believe the government should take from some to give to the others. I think [Obama] makes it clear in the tape that was released today that that’s what he believes. I think that’s an entirely foreign concept. ...Frankly, we have two very different views about America. [Obama’s] view is one of a larger government. There’s a tape that just came out today [with Obama] saying he likes redistribution. I disagree. I think a society based upon a government-centered nation where government plays a larger and larger role, redistributes money, that’s the wrong course for America. ...The right course for America is to create growth, create wealth.” (On MSNBC, Andrea Mitchell says the audio clip will not be aired “because we have not independently at NBC news and MSNBC authenticated it.” Anyone listening to the recording can certainly tell it is Obama speaking.) [37279, 37299, 37323, 37359, 37362, 37366, 37367, 37410, 37543]

On MSNBC's *Now*, several leftist journalists express amazement at the negative reaction to Obama's redistribution statement. According to TheBlaze.com, *Chicago Sun-Times* columnist Lynn Sweet says the "redistribution word... I'm sure is intended to befuddle people because it's not a word that real people use. By using this word—I think it's a bit coded, first of all. But why don't we call it 'Robin Hood-ism?'" (The fictional character Robin Hood did not "steal from the rich to give to the poor," as many Democrats seem to believe. He retrieved from the king the wealth his tax-payers had illegally stolen from the poor and returned it to them.) "I think," continues Sweet, "that Romney goes into this argument at his own peril because you're not necessarily saying, 'redistribute—bad.'" (That is, Sweet believes redistribution is good.) *New York Times* reporter Nicholas Confessore remarks, "I'm confused. I assume they [Republicans] have some focus group data that tells them this word is a hot button for some voters that they want to reach. But the fact is that this concept is baked into American government." (Confessore is apparently unable to comprehend that most Americans do not like the idea of government taking the money they earned and giving it to someone else.) *New York Times* reporter Hugo Lindgren adds, "Lynn said the word is a 'bit coded,' and I think it's a lot coded. It's meant to, sort of, confuse people and create this complicated concept that government is doing something sort of devious that you didn't think they were doing, or that is going to, kind of, double-cross you." Richard Wolffe says, "If you don't believe in redistribution, then you don't believe in any public services at all." (Wolffe's comment is absurd. Paying taxes in exchange for government services, such as defense, border patrol, roads, courts, etc. is certainly not the same as paying for someone else to sit home and watch television while eating a lunch paid for with food stamps.) The panel discussion clearly illustrates why the mainstream media favors Obama. They *believe* in a government that redistributes wealth from producers to parasites, from taxpayers to Solyndra owners, and from middle class families to Planned Parenthood. [37472]

Alpha Natural Resources announces it is cutting coal production by 16 million tons and eliminating 1,200 jobs—almost 10 percent of the company's 13,000 employees. Eight mines will be closed in Virginia, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania. Chief Executive Officer Kevin Crutchfield blames competition from natural gas and "a regulatory environment that's aggressively aimed at constraining the use of coal." (The actions will likely have a negative impact on the Obama campaign if affected workers blame his overzealous Environmental Protection Agency for costing them their jobs.) [37376]

Actor and author Ben Stein tells Politico, "I think there's been a very, very serious breach of decorum by [Hillary] Clinton in not offering to resign over failure to protect her diplomats adequately. She's in charge of the ambassadors, she's in charge of the foreign service. She absolutely should not have let those people go to Benghazi, which she knew was in a state of extreme unrest, without having adequate protections. That was a very serious mistake that cost several people their lives, and she's responsible." [37447]

DailyCaller.com reports it has obtained emails showing that "Attorney General Eric Holder's communications staff has collaborated with the left-wing advocacy group Media Matters for America in an attempt to quell news stories about scandals plaguing Holder and America's top law enforcement agency. Dozens of pages of emails between DOJ

Office of Public Affairs Director Tracy Schmalzer and Media Matters staffers show Schmalzer, Holder's top press defender, working with Media Matters to attack reporters covering DOJ scandals. TheDC obtained the emails through a Freedom of Information Act request." Fox News anchor John Scott tells viewers, "We have reached out to the Justice Department for some comment on this. Officially, they are not commenting about it—'no comment'—although they are essentially saying, off the record, that it is not a big deal." [37280, 37309, 37354]

In Vermont, H. Brooke Paige files a 40-page lawsuit claiming Obama is ineligible to serve as president and demanding that his name be removed from the state's ballot. [37310, 37311, 37312]

Muslims continue to riot and stage anti-U.S. demonstrations in Indonesia, Thailand, Kashmir, India, Afghanistan, and elsewhere around the world. In Medan, Indonesia protesters carry "Go to hell America" signs. In Makassar, Indonesia, protesters demand the death of the "Innocence of Muslims" filmmakers. [37334, 37337, 37338]

Mitt Romney leads Obama 47–45 in the Rasmussen Daily Presidential Tracking Poll. Obama leads 47–46 in the Gallup poll. (Obama has gone from a 7-point lead to a 1-point lead in the Gallup poll in only one week.) [37313, 37315, 37324]

Rush Limbaugh comments on the release of the Romney fundraiser recording: "This Romney tape from the fundraiser in Boca Raton, when was that? May 17th. Now, I don't know how long Jimmy Carter's grandkid has had that tape, but I will bet you they've been sitting on that tape. I'll bet this tape was not intended to be released right now. I will bet you that this Romney tape might have been intended as an October Surprise, not September. Like I said, I don't know if they've had it since May 17th when Romney made the comments, but they've certainly had it longer than yesterday. So the fact that they have released it now... see, I think it's Obama who's in trouble. Obama is the guy with the record. Obama is the guy whose policies are having a detrimental effect on practically everything he touches. It's Barack Obama who cannot extricate himself from the realities of where this country is and where it is headed. Romney hasn't had a thing to do with anything that's happened, and what is happening has been devastating to this country. And try as hard as they can, try as hard as they might, the left wing, the media, the Democrats cannot find Romney fingerprints on any of this. Every fingerprint is Barack Obama's, Joe Biden's, Nancy Pelosi's, Harry Reid's, Barney Frank's, you name it, Eric Holder. Everything that is happening—and none of it good—is traced nowhere to Mitt Romney. They needed this distraction this week from the implosion of U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East and the continuing slide of the United States economy. Folks, I'm just trying to tell you, there are so many ways to see this positively. There are so many ways to see this and seize this as an opportunity." [37316]

AtlasShrugs.com's Pamela Geller—and The Obama Timeline—agree with Limbaugh that the Romney video was an "October surprise" that the Obama team was forced to release in September in order to distract voters from the events in Libya and Egypt. Geller writes, "This [Romney] fundraiser was months ago. They [Obama's political

henchmen] were sitting on it for October. But Obama is going down hence ...the September surprise. Desperation. I think this will backfire. I liked everything Romney said. And I think a lot of fed-up Americans will. Especially his pro-Israel remarks.” [37339]

WashingtonExaminer.com reports, “A week after small businesses warned that Obamacare taxes will eat up to half of their profits, a new government report reveals that simply complying with the new tax rules in the health care act will cost American families and businesses nearly 80 million hours—essentially a whole new tax. Based on Internal Revenue Service figures, the House Committee on Ways and Means has compiled an estimate of the total amount of hours it will take to comply with the tax rules. The bottom line: 79,229,503 hours, most of which will fall on small businesses.” [37319]

Newsmax.com reports, “Chicago Cubs owner Joe Ricketts will spend \$10 million on television ads and voter-outreach efforts to help Republican challenger Mitt Romney defeat President Barack Obama, aides to Ricketts said today.” [37320]

ABCNews.com reports, “A French satirical magazine is set to publish several cartoons of the Prophet Mohammed on Wednesday, a move that is likely to inflame the Islamic faithful and militants who have already rioted in more than 20 countries over a movie mocking the prophet. Depictions of the prophet are strictly prohibited and considered blasphemous by Muslims. ...The magazine ‘Charlie Hebdo’ has confirmed that it will publish the cartoons, but has not revealed what they will depict. French newspaper ‘Le Monde’ reports that some of the cartoons show the prophet in ‘particularly explicit poses,’ without providing any further detail.” (Approximately 4 million Muslims live in France. The French government temporarily closes its embassies and schools in 20 Muslim countries.) [37272, 37321, 37365]

At WND.com Jerome Corsi reports, “Mike Zullo, the lead investigator in Arizona Sheriff Joe Arpaio’s investigation of Barack Obama’s eligibility to be president, says he has returned from a second trip to Hawaii with additional evidence the state’s Department of Health is maintaining a cover-up of Obama’s 1961 birth records. ...In Honolulu, Zullo worked closely with local contacts, including Duncan Sunahara, the brother of Virginia Sunahara, an infant child born in Hawaii Aug. 4, 1961, the same day Obama was born, and died the next day. ...Virginia Sunahara entered as a figure in the Obama birth controversy because no birth certificate for her had been located, leading to speculation her birth certificate could have been the source of Obama’s. Duncan Sunahara has tried to obtain a copy of his sister’s original birth certificate but has been denied.” Zullo states, “I was shocked by the lengths the Hawaii Department of Health has gone to deny the family of Virginia Sunahara a copy of the original long-form birth certificate that the family is lawfully entitled to request and obtain. I had to ask the question why this little girl’s 1961 long-form birth certificate was so disconcerting to the Hawaii Department of Health?” [37322]

Corsi continues, “Zullo obtained from Duncan Sunahara a copy of proceedings in the Hawaii Circuit Court of the First Circuit in which Hawaii Deputy Attorney General Jill Nagamine appeared before Judge Rhonda Nishimura on March 8, 2012, to argue Duncan Sunahara was not entitled under Hawaii statutes to observe or obtain a copy of his sister’s original 1961 long-form birth certificate. During the proceeding, Nagamine argued that Duncan Sunahara’s request did not derive from a true interest to examine or obtain a copy of his sister’s original birth records, to which he was entitled under Hawaii law. Nagamine insisted his underlying interest was to produce evidence in Obama’s birth controversy, to which he was not entitled under Hawaii law.” (Nagamine’s argument is ludicrous. If Obama has done nothing suspicious, fraudulent, or illegal, the birth certificate requested by Duncan Sunahara would prove nothing beyond his sister Virginia’s birth. If there is nothing to hide, why is Hawaii hiding it?) “Nagamine argued that the original 1961 birth certificate records were delicate and needed protection, and accessing them was burdensome. ...Zullo was quick to point out that in the court proceedings Nagamine admitted the entire volume of birth certificates containing not only Virginia Sunahara’s long-form certificate, but also those of the Nordyke twins and Barack Obama, has been moved to a special secure location with very limited access.” Zullo states, “The point apparently is to hide away Obama’s original birth certificate, if it exists and then deny anyone access to see the document on the premise it’s too fragile to examine. What purpose did the Hawaii Department of Health have in preserving these records if it was not to show them when requested to family members and others who have a legal interest in seeing the documents?” [37322]

It is worth noting that Hawaii’s refusal to release Virginia Sunahara’s birth certificate to her own brother may suggest *more* than a forged Obama birth certificate. One might speculate that Obama had someone find a deceased person whose birth certificate he could use. Virginia did not live 24 hours, and would obviously therefore never request her *own* document. But what were the odds of finding someone born on the same day as Obama who had already died? It must also be considered, therefore, that Obama was *not* born on August 4. Rather, he needed a dead person’s birth certificate to modify and use as his own. Virginia happened to be the ideal candidate, so August 4 “became” Obama’s birth date. (In other words, had Virginia Sunahara been born on July 31 and died within a few days, Obama would have “chosen” July 31 as his birth date. His “birthday” may be August 4 only because that happened to be the day of a dead Hawaiian’s birth.) Many have speculated that Obama is hiding his school records because they show he was enrolled as a foreign student. *It may also be that they show a birth date other than August 4, 1961.*

In Arizona, U.S. District Judge Susan Bolton rules that the police can start enforcing the state’s immigration that calls for them to check the immigration status of suspicious persons. Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio comments, “I am mulling [over] what I will do if they [immigration officials] don’t respond. I don’t feel comfortable letting the illegal alien back on the street.” Supporters of the legislation suspect that when illegal immigrants are apprehended, the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents will simply refuse to accept them—under orders from Obama and Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano, who opposed the legislation and fought it in court.



FoxNews.com reports, “Federal officials said they will check people's immigration status when officers call. But they'll only send an agent to arrest someone if it fits with their priorities, such as catching repeat violators and those who are a threat to public safety and national security.” [37325]

In Chicago, striking teachers agree to return to work on September 19. FoxNews.com reports, “Mayor Rahm Emanuel called the settlement ‘an honest compromise’ that ‘means a new day and a new direction for the Chicago public schools.’ He said the talks achieved goals that had eluded the district for more than a decade, including an extension of the [5.5 hour] school day [by hiring more teachers, not by making existing teachers teach longer hours] ... Union leaders pointed to concessions by the city on how closely teacher evaluations would be tied to student test scores and to better opportunities for teachers to retain their jobs if schools are closed by budget cuts.” (The agreement is largely seen as a victory for the teachers, who will receive an average 4.4 percent annual pay increase over the four-year agreement. Additionally, a retiring 30-year teacher can expect a pension of \$77,400 per year for life—which helps explain why the system is operating with a multi-million dollar annual deficit. According to the Heritage Foundation, “The union also thwarted a merit pay proposal Mayor Rahm Emanuel ... was seeking, which would have rewarded the best teachers for improving the academic outcomes of students. ... Finally, teachers who are laid off due to school closures enter a ‘hiring pool’—a provision secured by the union—which means they are the first to access openings at other Chicago public schools.” In other words, it remains close to impossible to fire terrible teachers. Meanwhile, large numbers of Chicago parents do their best to get their children out of the city’s into the much more productive charter schools. Unanswered in media reports is the question of how the school district, which is already operating at a large deficit, can afford to give teachers salary increases and hire even more.) [37326, 37397, 37398, 37470]

On Sean Hannity’s radio program, guest Mark Levin, author of *Ameritopia: The Unmaking of America*, states, “Let me tell you something—I have argued and I will continue to argue as Alexis de Tocqueville did. ... We are in a soft tyranny right now. You may own a house, but you can’t do what you want to with the house, even if it’s reasonable. You may want a particular toilet in your house. You can’t have that toilet in your house ... I’m just saying, you don’t need to flush 14 times? Same with the shower head. You can’t have the kind of automobile you want. I mean, I could go on and on and on. What’s happening is the circle of liberty, as I put it around every individual is getting tighter and tighter and tighter and tighter. ... But I look at it this way—if we all step back, this really isn’t an election between two men. This is an election between two ideas. One is the American dream and one is a massive welfare stare—a welfare state that is expanding and collapsing at the same time.” Levin agrees with Hannity that an Obama victory means the point of no return: “In my mind, it is probably, yes. And I’m going to tell you something—that doesn’t mean I’m not going to fight the rest of my life. I’m not going to curl up in a fetal position and leave my family exposed to this. But it’s going to make the battle a thousand times more difficult. We have a man [in the White House who] does not feel constrained by the Constitution—has nothing but contempt for it. We have a Congress that seems incapable of responding to it. They’re utterly timid and

cowardly. We have a Supreme Court, even if you look at John Roberts that gives its imprimatur to the most outrageous power grab to the federal government in our lifetime. So basically, rather than checks and balances of the federal government, we have collusion in the branches of government against the individual and the states. Keep in mind, the states gave birth to the federal government. The federal government was supposed to be relatively innocuous. Now the states are impotent to a large extent. They gave birth to the federal government. Now they live at its behest. It's not a constitutional republic. It's not a federal republic. I'm not sure what it is. That's why I call it 'Ameritopia.' I just know the Constitution in so many respects is not adhered to anymore and that's the fight." [37357]

In Washington, Linda Jordan appeals her Obama eligibility ballot challenge to the state's supreme court. [37328]

Ahmad Fouad Ashoush, an imam in Egypt, issues a "fatwa" calling for the deaths of anyone involved in the production of the movie "Innocence of Muslims." He states, "I issue a fatwa and call on the Muslim youth in America and Europe to do this duty, which is to kill the director, the producer and the actors and everyone who helped and promoted the film. So, hurry, hurry, O Muslim youth in America and Europe, and teach those filthy lowly ones a lesson that all the monkeys and pigs in America and Europe will understand. May Allah guide you and grant you success." [37330, 37331, 37332]

A USA Today/Gallup poll shows Obama with a mere one-point lead nationally, 47–46 percent. The lead is 48–46 in 12 "swing states." (The poll has a four-point margin of error, meaning either candidate may be leading.) [37349, 37350, 37375]

Obama's approval rating on foreign policy drops to 49 percent in an NBC/WSJ poll, down from 54 percent in the August poll. Among independent voters, the fall is from 53 to 41 percent. [37352, 37353, 37369]

On Greta Van Susteren's *On the Record*, author (*Suicide of a Superpower: Will America Survive to 2025?*) and former presidential candidate Pat Buchanan says, "This is the great conflict of our time Are we going down the road? Barack Obama, in my judgment, is a Fabian socialist. You saw the 'redistribution,' and by that I mean he's not [Socialist Vermont Senator] Bernie Sanders, who is right out in the open and honest about it, but [Obama is] a Fabian socialist who wants to move through gradualism and reform, step by step, until a majority of Americans are dependent upon government. When that happens, the party of government wins every election. ...Read FDR, about [welfare] relief being 'a narcotic,' a 'subtle destroyer of the human spirit. 'We got to get off this welfare,' is what he said. In that sense if it's a narcotic, Barack Obama is a drug dealer of welfare. He wants permanent dependency, in my judgment, of all these folks on the federal [dole] somehow getting benefits, benefits, benefits, and paying no taxes. Now I think you've got it—Governor Romney is the complete opposite: We believe in temporary help for anybody that's in trouble. You should have a floor of decency underneath every family. Unemployment should be temporary—unemployment benefits should be. Food stamps

should be temporary. What are we doing with 47 million people permanently hav[ing] to be fed by the government?” [37358]

At PJMedia.com Bridget Johnson reports, “Democratic senators are urging ... Obama to quickly issue an executive order to put into effect cybersecurity legislation killed by a GOP filibuster last month. ... The bill would have given the government three tools that advocates say are needed to beat back cyberattackers: a focus on protecting infrastructure such as water and power grids, new information sharing on threats between the government and private industry, and new Homeland Security powers to guide the federal cybersecurity strategy.” [37374]

Obama attends a \$40,000-per-person fundraiser in New York City. The event is held at the “40/40” nightclub. Among the niceties: an 18-foot high tower made up of 350 gold bottles of champagne—costing \$800 per bottle. Guests include Al Sharpton, singer Beyonce Knowles, and ‘Rapper’ Jay-Z. Obama says, “Let me just begin by saying to Jay and Bey, thank you so much for your friendship. We are so grateful. Michelle and Malia and Sasha are mad at me because they are not here. That doesn’t usually happen. Usually they’re like, we’re glad you’re going—we don’t need to go. But every time they get a chance to see these two they are thrilled, partly because they are just both so generous, particularly to my kids. And Malia and Sasha just love both of them.” (It is unclear which Jay-Z rap “songs” Obama allows his children to hear. The lyrics of “Dead Presidents II” include, “I’m out for presidents to represent me... Get money! I’m out for dead fuckin presidents to represent me ... Spill three quarts of my blood into the street, let alone the heat... Fuck em, we hate a nigga lovin this life... In all possible ways, know the Feds is buggin my life.” Or perhaps Obama’s daughters listen to “Ain’t No Nigga,” with the lyrics, “I keep it fresher than the next bitch... no need for you to ever sweat the next bitch... with speed, I make the best bitch see the exit. ... I got more black chicks between my sheets than Essence ... they say sex is a weapon, so when I shoot meet your death in less than 8 seconds...” It is also unclear whether Obama is aware that at age 12 Jay-Z shot his own brother, sold crack at age 13, and pled guilty to stabbing someone in 1999.) Obama adds, “And the good thing about so many of us here—and I know I speak for Jay and Bey—is we remember what it’s like not having anything. (Obama hardly went without during his lifetime. He most certainly did not grow up in poverty, and attended expensive private schools most of his life.) [37355, 37382, 37383, 37384, 37396, 38113, 38114]

Appearing on *The David Letterman Show* and responding to softball questions from the adoring leftist host, Obama criticizes Mitt Romney for his remarks about the 47 percent of Americans who pay no income taxes: “My expectation is that if you want to be president, you have to work for everyone, not just for some. ... One thing I’ve never tried to do is—and I think none of us can do in public office—is suggest that because somebody doesn’t agree with me that they’re victims, or they’re unpatriotic, or they don’t, uh, have a sense of responsibility.” (In 2008, of course, Obama called President Bush “unpatriotic” for adding \$4 trillion to the national debt.) [37323, 37351, 37355, 37552]

Letterman expresses concern over the “\$10 trillion” national debt and Obama makes no effort to correct him. Rather than confirm that the amount is in excess of *\$16 trillion*, Obama says he doesn’t remember the “precise” number—after blaming George W. Bush for increasing the debt and implying that it was zero when Clinton left office. Obama then tells Letterman, “[W]e don’t have to worry about [the deficit] short term. A lot of it we owe to ourselves. Because if you invest in a treasury bill or something like that then essentially you’re loaning the government money. In fact, the majority of it is held by folks who live here, but we don’t have to worry about it short term. Right now interest rates are low because people still consider the United States the safest and greatest country on earth, rightfully so, but it is a problem long term and even medium-term. And so we’re going to have to take care of this debt and deficit, but we’ve got to do it in a balanced way.” (Obama’s response is asinine and irresponsible. Despite the fact that interest rates are low, the government still pays more than *\$200 billion per year* in interest on the debt. Even if interest rates were to never rise—which is impossible to expect—the taxpayers are still on the hook for \$200 billion per year in interest charges, and because the government continues to run annual deficits, it has to borrow still more money just to pay that interest. Interest rates can rise incredibly quickly, and can be influenced by a war, the debt crisis in Europe, or lenders simply deciding they no longer trust the government to cut spending or realize that Federal Reserve Board chairman Ben Bernanke’s only skill is inflating the money supply. Obama may soon discover that “short term” is not so short.) [37361, 37409]

On September 19 Politico reports, “The videos of Mitt Romney’s remarks at a May fundraiser, released in full by Mother Jones yesterday, omit ‘one to two minutes’ of the candidates [sic] remarks, the journalist who obtained the video told Politico. The omission comes between parts one and two of the video, following Romney’s now famous remark that ‘there are 47 percent who are with [...Obama], who are dependent upon government, who believe that they are victims’ and who would never vote for him. Part one ends with Romney discussing the ‘47 percent,’ part two picks up with him talking about China.” Guy Benson, political editor at Townhall.com, comments, “Ah, it was an innocent device malfunction that ‘inadvertently’ cut out a minute or two of Romney’s remarks. Sure. Incidentally, why should we believe that ‘at most, one to two minutes [of Romney’s comments] were missed.’ Is there any proof of that assertion? David Corn—the *Mother Jones* journalist who received the tape from a source we now know to be Jimmy Carter’s grandson (the Carters can always be counted on for seamless competence)—now says he ‘anticipated’ the missing segment of the tape would stir up controversy. ... This new wrinkle casts doubt on the credibility of those who recorded, leaked and promoted the tape. We have no idea if Romney cleaned up or clarified his controversial statements at the time because the recording ‘accidentally’ shut off for an undetermined period of time.” [37341, 37342]

Joel B. Pollak writes at Breitbart.com, “Earlier on Tuesday, new media pioneer James O’Keefe pointed out the hypocrisy of the mainstream media in accepting, without question, a snippet of a video recording that aimed to portray a Republican in a bad light, while conservatives are still doubted even after providing full video or audio, as O’Keefe did with his famous ACORN tapes. Whether Romney is right or wrong about the ‘47

percent' of Americans he says have become dependent on government—he stood by his May remarks on Monday evening—he may have been taken out of context. Mother Jones has failed a basic test and broken its promise to its readers and the public. There is now reason to doubt that it provided Romney's full remarks—not just the context, but the remarks themselves. And there is new reason to suspect manipulation. Corn promised the complete version of Romney's remarks. Instead, he provided a version that is missing a large portion of video at the critical moment. Mother Jones' entire story now deserves to be treated with suspicion, if not contempt." [37343]

The editing of the Romney recording is obvious. He states, "We do all these polls—I find it amazing. We poll all these people to see where you stand in the polls but 45 percent of the people vote for the Republicans and 48 or 49..." At that point the clip ends. The next segment posted by the media begins, "...about twice as much as China, not 10 times as much like is reported. And we have responsibility for the whole world, they're only focused on one little area of the world, the South China Sea." Clearly Romney said something in between those two remarks. The media excuse is that there was a technical problem with the recording device, but it may be that the media does not want the voters to know what Romney said. [37387]

The media also ignores Romney's fundraiser comments about the Federal Reserve. He said, "Yeah, it's interesting... the former head of Goldman Sachs, John Whitehead, was also the former head of the New York Federal Reserve. And I met with him, and he said as soon as the Fed stops buying all the debt that we're issuing—which they've been doing, the Fed's buying like three-quarters of the debt that America issues. He said, once that's over, he said we're going to have a failed Treasury auction, interest rates are going to have to go up. We're living in this borrowed fantasy world, where the government keeps on borrowing money. You know, we borrow this extra trillion a year, we wonder who's loaning us the trillion? The Chinese aren't loaning us anymore. The Russians aren't loaning it to us anymore. So who's giving us the trillion? And the answer is we're just making it up. The Federal Reserve is just taking it and saying, 'Here, we're giving it.' It's just made up money, and this does not augur well for our economic future." (Romney is correct. The Federal Reserve has been creating money out of thin air to buy the Treasury debt that China and others are no longer willing to buy. Only two things can happen: interest rates have to rise to encourage buyers of U.S. debt, or Ben Bernanke will keep printing money—which will result in hyperinflation.) 37427, 37428]

The Department of Justice's Office of Inspector General releases a report on its 19-month investigation of Operation Fast and Furious. At Townhall.com Katie Pavlich notes, "Current IG Michael Horowitz will present key findings in the report tomorrow during a Congressional Oversight hearing on Capitol Hill. Horowitz took over the IG position in March when former IG Cynthia Schnedar stepped down. Schnedar, who did the bulk of the work in the report, is a long time friend of Attorney General Eric Holder and worked for him during his time as U.S. Attorney in Washington D.C." Congressman Darrell Issa (R-CA), chairman of the House Oversight Committee, responds, "The Inspector General's report confirms findings by Congress's investigation of a near total disregard for public safety in Operation Fast and Furious. Contrary to the denials of the Attorney

General and his political defenders in Congress, the investigation found that information in wiretap applications approved by senior Justice Department officials in Washington did contain red flags showing reckless tactics and faults Attorney General Eric Holder's inner circle for their conduct. Former Deputy Attorney General Gary Grindler, Assistant Attorney General Lanny Breuer who heads the Criminal Division, Deputy Assistant Attorney General Jason Weinstein, Arizona U.S. Attorney Dennis Burke, and Holder's own Deputy Chief of Staff Monty Wilkinson are all singled out for criticism in the report. It's time for ...Obama to step in and provide accountability for officials at both the Department of Justice and ATF who failed to do their jobs. Attorney General Holder has clearly known about these unacceptable failures yet has failed to take appropriate action for over a year and a half." [37344, 37345, 37442]

Pavlich adds that "...Holder is 'spiking the football' with the release of the ...report...[which] essentially lets Holder off the hook while blaming everyone else, including his second hand man Assistant Attorney General Lanny Breuer, for the failed and lethal operation." Among other things, the report concludes that Holder did not know of Operation Fast and Furious until early 2011 and earlier memoranda addressed to him—including 11 weekly reports that mentioned the scheme—never reached his desk. "Now that the DOJ investigation of the DOJ is complete, will Holder release the remaining 74,000 Fast and Furious documents to Congress? In the name of transparency, the answer should be yes. Parting thought: If Holder's hands really are clean in this, why is the executive privilege necessary?" (The report hardly exonerates Holder. It states, "We found it troubling that a case of this magnitude and that affected Mexico so significantly was not directly briefed to the Attorney General. We would usually expect such information to come to the Attorney General through the Office of the Deputy Attorney General... [Holder] was not told in December 2010 about the connection between the firearms found at the scene of the shooting and Operation Fast and Furious. Both Acting Deputy Attorney General Grindler and Counsel to the Attorney General and Deputy Chief of Staff Wilkinson were aware of this significant and troubling information by December 17, 2010, but did not believe the information was sufficiently important to alert the Attorney General about it or to make any further inquiry regarding this development." In other words, if Holder did not know about Operation Fast and Furious, he is an incredibly inept manager—or "non-manager"—of the Department of Justice. The more likely explanation is that DOJ officials lied to the Inspector General to cover for Holder and Obama.) [37344, 37345, 37442]

As a result of the report on the Operation Fast and Furious investigation, Deputy Assistant Attorney General Jason Weinstein submits his resignation and former ATF Acting Director Kenneth Melson retires. Pavlich notes, "Both Weinstein and Melson are part of 14 officials referred by name for discipline in the OIG report. Issa called for the resignation of the 14 officials held responsible in the report." Issa states, "We expect that all 14 would find a way to find appropriate new occupations—ones in which their poor judgment or lack of dedication or unwillingness to actually read documents they were required to read would not be held accountable." [37442]

According to CNSNews.com, “The report on Operation Fast and Furious released today by the Justice Department’s Office of Inspector General says a member of the White House National Security staff declined to be interviewed for the inspector general’s investigation and that the White House itself did not produce internal documents for the investigation because the White House said it was ‘beyond the purview’ of the inspector general.” The 19-month investigation therefore uncovered no improper actions by the White House not because there were none, but because the Inspector General *was not allowed to look for any*. (At a September 20 hearing, Inspector General Michael Horowitz tells Congressman Blake Farenthold (R-TX), “Well, as we noted in the report, and as you know, congressman, we did not get internal communications from the White House and [National Security Council’s Kevin] O’Reilly’s unwillingness to speak to us made it impossible for us to pursue that angle of the case and the question that had been raised. ... Well, certainly we have sought to pursue every lead we could. So, I can tell you, from our standpoint it was a lead we wanted to [but could not] follow.”) [37416, 37464]

According to new estimates from the Congressional Budget Office, six million Americans will likely be hit with the ObamaCare tax—about \$8 billion per year—for not carrying health insurance. As many as 30 million will not have insurance, but 24 million of them will avoid the tax because of low income levels. (Obama promised in 2008 that he would not raise taxes on any families earning less than \$250,000, and in 2010 pledged that ObamaCare would leave no American uninsured.) [37346, 37347]

American Airlines sends layoff notices to more than 11,000 employees. The company expects about 4,400 of the 11,000 to lose their jobs in November and December. Reuters notes, “The layoff notices were required under the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act, which requires employees to be informed 60 days before major layoffs or plant closures.” About 1,200 of the notices are being sent to workers in Miami, which will not help Obama’s chances of winning Florida in the November 6 election. [37377]

Khalid al-Mansour appears on BlogTalkRadio’s “The National and International Roundtable.” Jack Cashill later writes at WND.com, “In his introduction, the host openly acknowledged that al-Mansour ‘made news in 2008 when it was revealed that he had been a patron of ... Obama and had recommended him for admission to Harvard Law School.’ The host goes on to describe al-Mansour as ‘co-founder of the International law firm of al-Waleed, al-Talal and al-Mansour and special adviser to Saudi Arabian prince, his royal highness Prince Al Waleed bin Talal bin Abdulazziz.’ This meshed completely with what [attorney Percy] Sutton had said in 2008. According to Sutton, al-Mansour had asked him to ‘please write a letter in support of [Obama] ... young man that has applied to Harvard.’ Sutton had friends at Harvard and gladly did so. ... Ben Smith, then of Politico, took the lead in killing the story. Shortly after the story broke, Smith ran the disclaimer that ‘Barack Obama’s campaign is flatly denying a story told by former Manhattan Borough President Percy Sutton.’ The Obama camp, in fact, denied that Obama even knew al-Mansour. Smith then talked to al-Mansour. At first, al-Mansour avoided contradicting Sutton’s story out of respect for Sutton, ‘a dear friend.’ When

pressed, however, al-Mansour disowned Sutton's story. 'The scenario as it related to me did not happen,' he reportedly told Smith." [37534, 37535]

As noted previously in *The Obama Timeline*, Khalid al-Mansour was born Donald Warden. Warden/al-Mansour has been a close associate of Nation of Islam (NOI) leader Louis Farrakhan and of Malcolm X, whose attorney was Percy Sutton. Sutton stated that al-Mansour had been "raising money" for Obama. Obama denied knowing al-Mansour, but al-Mansour, in an interview with *Newsmax* reporter Kenneth Timmerman, admitted he had spoken with Obama and told him he would keep a "low profile" during the [2008] campaign in order to avoid embarrassing him. It was possibly William Ayers who persuaded al-Mansour to raise funds for Obama's Harvard tuition. Ayers associated with al-Mansour when he was still known as Donald Warden. Warden, a lawyer, was also an advisor to the Black Panther Party—whose offices were next door to his. Warden, Ayers, Bernardine Dohrn, and others once hid from the FBI at a marina in San Francisco, from which they plotted the overthrow of the United States. A Harvard letter of recommendation for Obama was also written by John McKnight, who served on the Gamaliel Foundation's Board of Directors as well as the board of National People's Action (NPA), yet another Saul Alinsky-inspired activist group. The NPA consisted of thugs and agitators who picketed the homes of business and government leaders, demanding more welfare benefits and government handouts and chanting, "Who's on your hit list, NPA? Who's on your hit list of today?" [56, 259, 264, 315, 380, 408, 524, 526, 1095, 2271, 37534, 37535, 38700]

Author and columnist Ann Coulter writes, "The Obama administration insisted that [in his criticism of embassy statement] Romney had his 'facts' wrong: Obama had absolutely nothing to do with the statement—the embassy staff was freelancing—and, even if the White House had approved it, it was a good statement because the riots were caused by the movie trailer, and furthermore, the embassy statement was issued before the riots even began. This is known as an argument in the alternative: 'I didn't break into that house, and if I did, I didn't steal the silver, and if I did, I only got twenty bucks for it.' If the statement were issued before our embassy in Cairo was attacked, then what was the administration responding to? Does the White House make it a practice to put out statements condemning random, barely viewed YouTube videos?" Coulter moves on: "Now, a week later, Romney has said something, again. (Damn him!) This provoked another round of hysterical denunciations from the media. At a private gathering, Romney told donors that Obama had a lock on the 47 percent of voters 'who pay no income tax' and 'believe the government has a responsibility to care for them.' This was deeply offensive to people who pay no income tax and believe the government has a responsibility to care for them. ...But the only people shocked by Romney's statement of fact are those who would never vote Republican under any circumstances. Everyone else is saying, 'Is it really as high as 47 percent?'—as the media impotently shouts, 'No, you idiot! That's not the point!'" [37348]

The White House apparently does not like freedom of speech in France any more than it likes it in the United States, based on press secretary Jay Carney's condemnation of cartoons ridiculing Muslim prophet Mohammed that appeared in a French magazine.



Carney tells reporters, “We are aware that a French magazine published cartoons featuring a figure resembling the prophet Mohammed, and obviously we have questions about the judgment of publishing something like this. We know these images will be deeply offensive to many and have the potential be inflammatory.” [37356]

Meanwhile, United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon tells reporters, “Freedoms of expression should be and must be guaranteed and protected, when they are used for common justice, common purpose. When some people use this freedom of expression to provoke or humiliate some others' values and beliefs, then this cannot be protected in such a way.” (In other words, he opposes free speech.) [37407]

Philip Klein writes at WashingtonExaminer.com, “Obama administration officials have insisted that their decision to grant states waivers to redefine work requirements for welfare recipients would not ‘gut’ the landmark 1996 welfare reform law. But a new report from the Congressional Research Service obtained by the Washington Examiner suggests that the administration’s suspension of a separate welfare work requirement has already helped explode the number of able-bodied Americans on food stamps. In addition to the broader work requirement that has become a contentious issue in the presidential race, the 1996 welfare reform law included a separate rule encouraging able-bodied adults without dependents to work by limiting the amount of time they could receive food stamps. ...Obama suspended that rule when he signed his economic stimulus legislation into law, and the number of these adults on food stamps doubled, from 1.9 million in 2008 to 3.9 million in 2010, according to the CRS report... Under the rule adopted in 1996, food stamps for able-bodied adults without dependents were limited to three months in a 36-month period unless the participant in the program ‘works at least 20 hours a week; participates in an employment and training program for at least 20 hours per week; or participates in a ... ‘workfare’ program for at least 20 hours per week.’ Obama’s economic stimulus legislation suspended the rule for all states starting April 2009.” [37360]

Michigan’s secretary of state, Ruth Johnson, states there are an estimated 4,000 non-citizens illegally on the voter registration lists. DetroitNews.com reports, “The estimate is based on the state’s access to citizenship information for one-fifth of the population, Johnson said, adding the federal government won’t give her access to more citizenship data. ...A group of voting rights advocates, labor unions and citizens sued Johnson in federal court Monday, challenging her authority to ask voters to affirm their citizenship after Gov. Rick Snyder vetoed legislation adding the question to absentee and in-person voting applications. ...Johnson, a Republican, also implied ...Obama and Democratic county and city clerks are obstructing her efforts to root out noncitizen voters. She specifically noted her office found 80 noncitizens registered to vote in Macomb County, where County Clerk Carmella Sabaugh, a Democrat, has said she won’t let the citizenship question appear on applications to vote.” [37363, 37395]

Obama leads Mitt Romney 47–46 in an AP/GfK poll of likely voters. Obama leads among women, 55–39; Romney leads among men, 53–40. (The poll’s D/R/I is an astounding 50/37/7. No reasonable person would expect that fully half of the voters to be

Democrats, that their turnout will exceed Republican turnout by 13 percent, and that only 7 percent of the voters will be independents. Yet even with the survey's sampling gives Democrats a 13-point edge, Obama still trails Romney by one point.) Obama leads among voters under age 45, 54–41; Romney leads 52–41 among senior citizens. (Political analyst Dick Morris observes, “There is no gender gap. There is a marriage gap. A Sept. 13 poll I conducted ...found that while married white women back Romney by 55 to 40 percent, unmarried white women back Obama by 60-32! Since unmarried white women are 45 percent of all white women, this marriage gap poses a huge problem for Romney—the central problem.”) [37361, 37371, 37380]

Mitt Romney leads Obama 48–45 in a Rasmussen poll in New Hampshire. [37368]

In CBS/NYT polls Obama leads Mitt Romney by four points in Virginia and five points in Wisconsin. But, the Virginia poll's D/R/I has a +11 pro-Democrat tilt, and the Wisconsin poll favors Democrats by 8 percentage points. (Even in “hope and change” 2008 Democrat turnout in Virginia was only +6. In Wisconsin it was also +6. It is unreasonable to believe the turnout for Obama in 2012 will be far greater than it was in 2008.) [37414]

Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) tells radio talk show host Hugh Hewitt, “You know, I think I'm in the minority here, but I think the election is over. I think that Romney has already won. The people really are tired of the debt, they're tired of irresponsible leadership. I think they're tired of having 23 million people out of work. So I think you'll find, and this is my prediction, and of course, I could be wrong. I am fallible. But you remember when Reagan just pulled away from Carter at the end? I think that's what we're going to see, is people coalesce and find that the country's just not headed in the right direction with all this unemployment and economic stagnation, and that they want somebody who's been in business, somebody who's run successful businesses and created jobs. I think that's the way it's going to break down, simply on that issue, is which way do we take the country—with someone who likes American business, or someone who can't wait to sort of punish, regulate and tax American business?” [37446]

WND.com reports that, in addition to refusing to meet with Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu while he is in the United States for General Assembly meetings at the United Nations, Obama is also refusing to meet with Deputy Prime Minister/Defense Minister Ehud Barak. [37388]

FoxNews.com reports it “has obtained a three-page intelligence report showing that two days before the deadly attack on the U.S. Consulate in Libya, a statement incited ‘sons of Egypt’ to pressure America to release the so-called blind sheikh ‘even if it requires burning the embassy down with everyone in it.’ The web statement, apparently posted on Sept. 9, was in reference to the embassy in Egypt. It preceded a throng of demonstrators breaching the U.S. Embassy wall in Cairo, supposedly in protest over an anti-Islam film. Obama administration officials claim that attackers in Libya then took their cue from Cairo and seized the opportunity to attack the consulate in Benghazi. Though the administration's version of events is still evolving, the three-page Department of

Homeland Security intelligence report further highlights potential threats that were being picked up before last week's attack." [37418]

Clare Lopez, Senior Fellow at the Center for Security Policy, speculates that the original intention of the terrorist attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya was not to kill ambassador Christopher Stevens, but to kidnap and use him to negotiate for the release of the "Blind Sheikh," Omar Abdul Rahman. Rahman is serving a life sentence in a U.S. prison for planning the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center. Lopez asks, "What if Ambassador Steven's death was not actually the intended outcome of their assault, in spite of the childish emotional celebrations as his dead body was dragged all over the place? If this scenario is true, then al-Qaida and the Muslim Brotherhood are still out there looking for an American to kidnap and hold as a bargaining chip to trade for the Blind Sheikh. Remember that this administration has refused to even admit the Benghazi attack was coordinated, planned, rehearsed. Their refusal to admit that is reprehensible because it leaves American diplomats and others unprepared for the likelihood that they remain targets for kidnapping by al-Qaida and the Muslim Brotherhood? ... You'll recall that the Obama White House and National Security Council received Hani Nour Eldin, a top Gama'a Islamiyya operative at the White House in June 2012. Gama'a Islamiyya is on the State Department Foreign Terrorist Organization list, so Eldin wasn't eligible to receive a visa to come to the United States unless he got a waiver. Here's the question: Why, if they knew ahead of time that he was coming to ask for the release of the Blind Sheikh, and that they were going to say no, would they give him a visa, receive him so openly, and talk to him at all? Why bring him over at all if, as the Department of Justice now says, they'd decided to refuse his request?" [37389]

At the daily White House press briefing ABC's Jake Tapper asks press secretary Jay Carney, "In the wake of the attacks on Benghazi, the Pentagon and the State Department both made statements that they then had to correct, the Pentagon involving whether or not there were Marines at the embassy in Tripoli—there were not—and the State Department regarding the presence of security firms at the Benghazi compound. Why was there such confusion and is the White House conducting any sort of internal investigation as to what went wrong?" Carney responds, "Well, there is an ongoing investigation as to what happened in Benghazi that's being led by the FBI..." Tapper: "I'm not talking about the criminal act. I'm talking about the—obviously there wasn't adequate security along the lines of what went wrong—about what the administration could have done better." Carney: "I think I would refer you for questions about security at the Benghazi diplomatic facility and broadly speaking at diplomatic facilities, consulates, and embassies around the world to the State Department." Tapper: "Who made the decision that there should not be any Marines at our diplomatic posts in Libya? More than half of our diplomatic posts have Marines. I understand they're not there to protect people. They're there to protect classified data but it doesn't hurt to have them there. Who made the decision?" Carney: "I think security at diplomatic facilities is overseen by and run by the State Department, so I'd refer you to them about how decisions are made and what the allocation of resources was in Benghazi and elsewhere. I think they're the best people to answer that question." (Carney knows full well that the State Department has already

told reporters not to ask questions about the consulate attack until after the FBI completes its investigation—which will conveniently go beyond election day.) [37417]

A Republican National Committee campaign ad hits Obama for his 1998 statement at Loyola University that he supports a forced redistribution of wealth. The ad includes Obama saying, “I actually believe in redistribution,” “If, if you’ve been successful you, you didn’t get there on your own,” “If you’ve got a business, that, you didn’t build that; somebody else made that happen.” Also included is a video clip of CBS reporter Steve Kroft saying, “People will say this is the socialist Obama that’s come out of the closet,” with Obama responding with a wide grin. A Romney statement concludes the ad: “Is it any wonder that someone who attacks success has led the worst economic recovery since the Great Depression? In America we celebrate success, we don’t apologize for success.” [37378, 37415]

On *The Tonight Show* Jay Leno quips, “MSNBC reports the economy has bottomed out. There’s an Obama slogan: ‘It Can’t Get Any Worse Than This.’” [37452]

On September 20 FoxNews.com reports, “Intelligence sources [state] they are convinced the deadly attack on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi, Libya, was directly tied to Al Qaeda—with a former Guantanamo detainee involved. That revelation comes on the same day a top Obama administration official called last week’s deadly assault a ‘terrorist attack’—the first time the attack has been described that way by the administration after claims it had been a ‘spontaneous’ act. ‘Yes, they were killed in the course of a terrorist attack on our embassy,’ Matt Olsen, director of the National Counterterrorism Center, said during a Senate hearing Wednesday. Olsen echoed administration colleagues in saying U.S. officials have no specific intelligence about ‘significant advanced planning or coordination’ for the attack. However, his statement goes beyond White House Press Secretary Jay Carney and Susan Rice, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, saying the Sept. 11 attack on the consulate was spontaneous. He is the first top administration official to call the strike an act of terrorism. Sufyan Ben Qumu [Abu Sufian Ibrahim Ahmed Hamuda Bin Qumu] is thought to have been involved and even may have led the attack, Fox News’ intelligence sources said. Qumu, a Libyan, was released from the U.S. prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, in 2007 and transferred into Libyan custody on the condition he be kept in jail. He was released by the Qaddafi regime as part of its reconciliation effort with Islamists in 2008.” [37386]

On CBS, correspondent Margaret Brennan reports, “Witnesses tell CBS News that there was *never* an anti-American protest outside of the consulate [in Benghazi]. Instead, they say it came under planned attack. *That* is in direct contradiction to the administration’s account of the incident. It comes at a time when there are calls for more information from Capitol Hill and complaints that the administration has not been forthright. ... Now, under law [the Department of] State must establish a panel to investigate the attack [and] report to Congress within 60 days. Today, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton will outline [for Congress behind closed doors] what she is and is not willing to share. What’s clear... is that the public won’t get a detailed account of what happened until after the presidential election.” [37390]

Matthew Olsen, director of the National Counterterrorism Center, tells the Senate Homeland Security Committee, “Yes, they [ambassador Christopher Stevens and three other Americans] were killed in the course of a terrorist attack on our embassy. We are looking at indications that individuals involved in the attack may have had connections to al-Qaida or al-Qaida’s affiliates; in particular, al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb. ...What we don’t have, at this point, is specific intelligence that there was a significant advanced planning or coordination for this attack.” Olsen’s testimony contradicts White House claims that the attack was the result of an anti-movie demonstration that went out of control. (On September 19 press secretary Jay Carney told reporters, “Based on the information that we had at the time and have to this day, we do not have evidence that it was premeditated.” If Carney was not lying, Olsen learned a lot in less than 24 hours. Stevens himself reportedly believed his name was on an al-Qaeda hit list, according to CNN.) At the hearing, Senator Susan Collins (R-ME) states, “I’m just stunned and appalled that there wasn’t better security for all of the American personnel at that consulate given the high-threat environment.” [37390, 37391, 37393, 37399, 37408]

In a “Meet the Candidate” forum in Coral Gables, Florida Obama is asked by Univision network anchors, “Why wasn’t the administration better prepared with more security at our embassies on September 11.” Obama gives a long-winded, meandering response that avoids answering the question. Asked to name his greatest failure, Obama says, “My biggest failure so far is we haven’t gotten comprehensive immigration reform done. [What bothers Obama is not four years of 8 percent unemployment or having added \$5 trillion to the national debt, but not getting amnesty legislation passed. Arguably, Obama never tried to get it passed—but Univision is a Spanish language network and he must pander to its audience.] Uh, so, we’re gonna be continuing the work on that. Um, but it’s not for lack of trying or desire, and, and, I’m confident we’re gonna, uh, uh, accomplish that. Uh, you know what, I, I, I... obviously, uh, the fact that, uh, we haven’t been able to change the tone in Washington is disappointing. Uh, we know now that as soon as I came into office you already had meetings among some of our Republican colleagues, uh, saying, you know, how do we figure out how to beat [me], and, uh, well, I think that, um, I’ve learned some lessons over the last four years, uh, and the most important lesson I’ve learned is that, uh, you can’t change Washington from the inside. You can only change it from the outside.” (HotAir.com comments, “Okay, hold the phone—[Obama] is powerless to influence Washington’s inner workings? I thought that was supposed to be the entire point of America electing him?” Of course, many Americans would be happy to evict him from the White House so that he can try to change things from the outside.) [37400, 37401, 37411, 37425, 37450, 37631]

Univision’s Jorge Ramos: “I want to ask you something that is known as the ‘Obama promise.’ On May 28th, 2008, we had a conversation in Denver, Colorado, and you told me the following—and I’m going to quote you: ‘But I can guarantee that we will have, in the first year, an immigration bill that I strongly support.’ I want to emphasize ‘the first year.’ At the beginning of your governing, you had control of both chambers of Congress, and yet you did not introduce immigration reform. And before I continue, I want for you to acknowledge that you did not keep your promise. ...I don’t want it to get

lost in translation. You promised that, and a promise is a promise... and with all due respect, you didn't keep that promise." Obama replies, "Well, uh, here... here's what I would say, Jorge... is, is that, uh, and we've had this conversation before. Uh, there's the thinking that the president, uh, is, uh, somebody who is all powerful and can get everything done. In our branch of government—uh, in, in our system of government, uh, I am the head of the executive branch. I'm not the head of the legislature, I'm not the head of the judiciary. We have to have cooperation from all these sources in order to get something done. Uh, and, so I am happy to take responsibility for the fact that we didn't get it done but I did not make a promise that I would get everything done, 100 percent when I was elected..." (Of course, Obama campaigned in 2008 and made promises as though he *could* get everything done. The judicial branch of government cannot be used as an excuse by Obama, as it neither writes nor signs laws. It merely rules in their constitutionality, and unless and until "comprehensive immigration legislation" is passed by Congress and challenged in a lawsuit, the court system is irrelevant to the argument. Lastly, the Democrats controlled both the House and the Senate for Obama's first two years. If he cannot get legislation passed with his party in control of Congress and the White House, he is a colossal failure who certainly cannot be expected to accomplish anything in a second term—in which his party may lose control of the Senate.) [37441, 37450, 37469]

A defensive Obama does not fare well when Ramos asks about Operation Fast and Furious: "You told me during an interview that you and Mr. Holder did not authorize the Fast and Furious operation that allowed 2,000 weapons from the United States into Mexico and they were in the drug trafficking [cartels'] hands. I think that up to 100 [300 is more accurate] Mexicans might have died and also American agent Brian Terry. There's a report that 14 agents were responsible for the operation but shouldn't the attorney general, Eric Holder, he should have known about that and if he didn't, should you fire him?" Obama responds with his administration's year-old talking points: "Well, first of all, I think it's important to understand that the Fast and Furious program was a field-initiated program, begun under the previous administration. [Operation Fast and Furious commenced in November 2009, *not* under George W. Bush.] When Eric Holder found out about it, he discontinued it. [Holder did *not* immediately discontinue the program. It was not until after Border Agent Brian Terry was killed that it was stopped—and the cover-up then began in earnest.] We assigned an inspector general to do a thorough report that was just issued—confirming that in fact Eric Holder did not know about this, that he took prompt action and that the people who did initiate this were held accountable. [They have not, in fact, been held accountable. No federal employee has been fired or prosecuted.] But, what I think is most important is recognizing that we've got a challenge in terms of weapons flowing south, and the strategy that was pursued out of Arizona, obviously, was completely wrongheaded. Those folks who were responsible have been held accountable. The question now is, how do we move forward with a strategy that will actually work? We are going to have to work with Mexican law enforcement to accomplish this, but I will tell you that Eric Holder has my complete confidence, because he has shown himself to be willing to hold accountable those who took these actions and is passionate about making sure that we're preventing guns from getting into the wrong hands." Ramos: "But if you have nothing to hide, then why are

you not releasing papers to the.” Obama: “The truth is we’ve released thousands of papers.” Ramos: “But not all of them.” [37429, 37437, 37443, 37450]

Obama replies with a lie: “We’ve released almost all of them. [Obama is lying. Thousands of documents have *not* been released.] The ones that we don’t release, typically, relate to internal communications that were not related to the actual Fast and Furious operation. The challenge that we have is that, at any given moment in the federal government, there may be people who do dumb things, and I’ve seen it, I promise. Ultimately, I’m responsible and my key managers, including the attorney general, are responsible for holding those people accountable, for making sure that they are fired if they do dumb things and then fixing the system to ensure that it doesn’t happen again, and I’m very confident that you will not see any kinds of actions like this in the future, but what I don’t like to see is these kinds of issues becoming political circuses or ways to score political points in Congress partly because it becomes a distraction from us doing the business that we need to do for the American people.” Maria Elena Salinas asks, “Let’s have an independent investigation, because at the end of the day, this is the Justice Department investigating its boss and is saying they say is not at fault? Why don’t we have, very briefly, an independent investigation that is not done by the Justice Department?” Obama: “Well, understand that, not only have we had multiple hearings in Congress, but the inspector general is put in place specifically to be independent from the attorney general. This attorney [sic] general’s report was not a whitewash in any way. I mean, it was tough on the Justice Department, and it indicated that, potentially, more supervision was needed, people should have known in some cases, even if they didn’t actually know. So, it was, I think, independent, honest, it was a clear assessment of what had gone wrong in that situation. And we are happy to continue to provide the information that is relevant to this, but one of the things that happens in Washington is, very quickly, these issues become political distractions as opposed to us actually solving the problems that we need to solve,” Obama continued. “And, this issue of guns flowing south is a hard issue to solve, because this country respects the Second Amendment, we want to protect the rights of gun owners and those who are seeking to purchase firearms, but oftentimes that’s exploited as well. And so we’ve got to make sure we’re properly balancing the rights of U.S. citizens but making sure that we’re also interdicting those arms that would get into the hands of criminals.” [37429, 37443, 37450]

A college student in the Univision audience says, “I am a student at the journalism school at UM. This is my question to you [Obama]. What would you recommend to Latina women such as I in order to be successful in my search for employment in the United States?” WeeklyStandard.com reports, “Obama first lavished praise on the journalists hosting the forum and then admitted that the economy has not been doing well for the last four years.: ‘The economy has been very tough for the last four years,’ Obama said. ‘And so there are a lot of young people out there who graduated, who have a great education, but have still had trouble getting work.’ [Obama] then said the best thing the college student could do to get a job is to get an education.” (In other words, “The economy is so bad that even with a degree you’ll have trouble getting a job, but you should get a degree anyway—because at least then you are not counted in the unemployment statistics.”) [37432, 37450, 37469]

The Univision hosts put Obama on the spot with most of their questions, keeping him on the defensive. (Questions included: “Why wasn’t your administration better prepared with more security at our embassies on September 11?” “Do you have information indicating that it was Iran, or al Qaeda, who was behind organizing the protests?” “... You have ... made the largest number of deportations in history, more than 1.5 million so far. You’ve separated many families.” “Some of your critics say that it [promising immigration reform] was just only to win the Hispanic vote. Why didn’t you do that earlier during your [first two years]?” “You have supported [Mexican] President Calderon’s policy against drug trafficking. Do you think that after 65,000 deaths it’s time to change the strategy? Can you consider the 65,000 a failure and the policy should change?” “How many more people have to die?”) Hispanics watching the program will clearly get the impression that Obama has made promises he did not keep and took their Democrat votes for granted. Many Hispanics who voted for Obama in 2008 may be inclined not to in 2012. They may not vote for Mitt Romney, but they may stay home on election day. [37469]

Obama’s appearance on Univision draws about 2.7 million viewers. (One day earlier, Mitt Romney’s visit drew an audience of 2.8 million.) Author Ann Coulter, noting Univision’s questions to Obama, Tweets: “Best argumnt 4 amnesty: @jorgeramosnews & @Univision asked Obama his 1st tough Qs. Need immigrants to do job US journalists just won’t do.” [37485]

Responding to Obama’s “you can’t change Washington from the inside” remark, HotAir.com reminds readers that Jerry Kelman, who hired Obama as a communist activist in the 1980s, was told by Obama that such work would never be enough for him “to make major changes in poverty or discrimination,” and to do that “you either had to be an elected official or be influential with elected officials.” So Obama chose to go to law school and enter politics so he could work from the inside, rather than from the outside. HotAir.com: “He had to become an insider so that he could run for president as an outsider and then discover that you can’t change Washington from the inside. Got it? ... All newbie candidates spout this platitude as a rejoinder to charges that they don’t have enough government experience. The difference with O is that ‘change’ was less a promise in his case than the foundation of a messianic myth; to hear him admit that he’s learned hard lessons about how difficult it would be to achieve is like hearing FDR say in 1935, ‘Maybe Washington’s not ready for a New Deal after all.’” [37460, 37461, 37478]

A “high-ranking” Secret Service official tells Fox News that the April prostitution scandal involving agents in Cartagena, Columbia also involved White House staffers. According to the official, “Three U.S. delegation members that stayed at the Hilton brought prostitutes back as overnight guests. One of them was ours [Secret Service] and the other two were White House staffers. We knew very early that White House staffers were involved.” (The Senate Homeland Security Committee is still waiting for a report from the Inspector General.) [37402, 37403, 37476]



Complaints arise over the Obama campaign's sale of a \$35 "limited edition... hand-numbered..." flag print with the Obama logo replacing the 50 stars. A Twitter message from Obama reads, "There are no red states or blue states, just the United States." (The campaign later removes the flag image from the Twitter message.) [37404, 37405, 37406, 37426, 37561]

The Associated Press reports, "U.S. Embassy advertisements condemning an anti-Islam video appeared on Pakistani television on Thursday in an attempt to undercut anger against the United States, where the film was produced. ...State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland said the ad was produced by the embassy, which spent \$70,000 to air the 30-second spot on seven Pakistani television stations." Both Obama and Clinton appear in the ad. Clinton says, "The United States government had absolutely nothing to do with this video." (Arguably, the U.S. government was very much responsible for the movie if Obama's "You didn't build that" philosophy applies to motion pictures as well as other businesses. After all, the filmmakers used public roads and bridges, learned how to read and write at government schools, and worked at a studio protected by police officers and firefighters.) HotAir.com comments, "It's a hostage video, with American diplomats in Pakistan and American soldiers in Afghanistan as the hostages. And, as always when the government strains to show respect for Islam, there's nothing genuinely respectful about it. The thought of Hillary cutting a video like this for the Israeli market in response to some U.S. citizen's anti-semitic propaganda because she 'respects' Judaism is unimaginable. The motive here is fear, not respect. And bizarrely, the embassy seems proud enough of it that it's willing to advertise this clip on its own Facebook page." [37412, 37413, 37424, 37436, 37468]

The Ulsterman Report interviews the White House insider, who says that the Republicans have "what they need to push him [Attorney General Eric Holder] out... they can do it if they're willin' to get just a little bloody. Don't know if they will though. Some of them... some of the Republicans are willin'—that I know. But they ain't leadership. They can move a committee vote on somethin' ...but they can't bring it to the floor all by themselves. And then you got the Senate blocking everything... not the Senate. [Majority Leader] Harry Reid. What they got or what they promised that old motherf-cker... nothing [is] gettin' by him. ...I don't want put all the blame on [Speaker John] Boehner [in the House]... he's seeing how even if the House were to put [out] something strong... hell... they already done good on some of that, right? Even pushing a legal challenge. But that takes a lot of time... and none of that will ever see the light of day until after the election. Might make for a brutal second term for Obama if he wins... but as for real justice? The truth? They [Democrats] are runnin' out the clock. And yeah—Republicans are dragging their feet too. Scared of a fight. A real fight. Thing that's got me... well... more than a little pissed off about this is the real potential behind the DOJ investigation. You see, Fast and Furious... the gunrunning bullsh\*t. It ties into a whole pile of no good around Obama and Jarrett... there's political stuff there of course. Gun control and all that. None of that has really come out like it should. I promised that memo... said there was a memo on the gun control thing, remember that? Nobody said nothing about it—and then it came out. And I thought 'here we go—now it starts.' Then nothin'. Media buried it. Deep. Congress hardly touched it." [37419]

“...They wanted things to get f-cked up. They wanted those drug lords killing off each other and if some poor innocent bastards get blown away in the crossfire, all the better, right? Make Americans... make enough of them, hate the idea of guns. Make them willing to give some of those guns back. Make them... the Dems would need just another 10 percent or so of the voters, maybe not even that much... and gun rights in America would be transformed forever. Be lucky to get a water gun out there after they done with it. And I ain't talking exaggerations here. The Democrats—ones who control the party now... taking guns away is right at the top of their priorities list. Way up there. ...It all comes back to control with these people. Soviet Union style control. Where you live. What you eat. What you read. How you work. They want to control all of that. 'Course they go on living however they like. Government becomes the elite class. And we ain't far off from that already. Obama, [Valerie] Jarrett... they want that so bad... they want to control the rest of us because... well we are all just too damn dumb to take care of ourselves, right? It's all for our good, right? ...Republicans have been given what they need [to attack Holder]. They just gotta get in the ring now and start swinging away. Hit something for f-ck's sake. HARD.” Ulsterman asks why some of the insider's Democrat friends don't help. The insider replies, “I don't have any of 'my Democrats.' They are all dead and gone or sittin' back home wondering... same as I wonder... how in the hell it got so bad so fast. Democratic Party is dead. Gone. We hung ourselves in 2008. Obama was the rope. Snapped our necks and gave us that sh-t for brains grin while he done it.” [37419]

“...And if there was a Republican Party with just a little more balls... this thing woulda been wrapped up by now. Holder [would have] been gone and gone a long time ago. And back to Chicago with it. They got that—they know the deal there. Investigate that DOJ—investigate those wire taps. Investigate that prosecutor. The guys dyin'. Thing I told you about Vegas... how long ago? Here's the deal—it's all f-cking there. One by one by one... it's a hell of a mess but if they had the nuts to go after it... they could get it done. Media would have to take it on. ...But I'm just an old has-been, see? When bodies start showing up... courage leaves the room real fast. Nobody wants to risk anything on principle. Doin' the right thing is doin' the dead thing—that's what back to Chicago is in all of this. Fast and Furious... as bad as that is... that thing was just to get the ball rolling. Get Holder gone, peel away the DOJ onion... and see the real ugly inside. ...This thing got dragged out so long though... and Jarrett put [Tony] West in there [Department of Justice] ...he's hangin' real close to Holder now... sh-t, they probably got a real solid contingency in place by now. This thing took too f-cking long to get on. ...Don't wanna think on that anymore—see what the Republicans do with it this week. F-ck 'em. All of 'em. Democrats. Republicans. It's all bullsh-t. Circle-jerkin' mother-f-ckers. Not a real man in the bunch these days. John f\*cking Wayne has left the building, man—and he slammed the door behind him.” [37419]

On the Middle East situation, the insider tells Ulsterman, “It will—it IS hurting him [Obama]. Not as much as it should—media is in 24/7 protect mode. That whole thing stinks... not just [Obama's] reaction to it. Not just the lying by the administration... but the fella who was killed... that ambassador. Now this is me—this is just me thinkin' here.

What my gut is tellin' me on this... that guy was no ambassador. Officially yeah—but off the books. He was CIA. Had to have been. You made a comment in one of your stories... 'bout how it was like Fast and Furious except in the Middle East. Somethin' like that.” Ulsterman: “That if Obama was willing to arm Mexican drug lords, why not Muslim extremists? Insider: “Right, somethin' like that. Think you might a nailed it there without knowing it. You meant it as... like a bit of sarcasm there at the end of what you wrote—but you actually said what the real deal is. Obama sent a sh-tload of weapons into Libya during the Gaddafi thing. Had no idea who they were going to... just... tens of millions of dollars worth of high grade weaponry. Now you think folks like al Qaeda and other militant groups won't notice? It was a take what you need weapons supermarket courtesy of the Obama government for them! Not much different than what happened in Egypt. ... You got Egypt. You got Libya. Both of them were run by... basically they guys running the show were non-practicing Muslims, right? Mubarak—he couldn't stand the Muslim hardliners and he beat the sh-t out of them every chance he got. Him and his military cronies. So he kept the peace that way. He kept business open to American and European interests. Things weren't perfect, but a hell of a lot better than, say, Iran. He could tell Iran to shut the f-ck up, and Iran had to consider it because Egypt had some real muscle. It had a military, and it had the backing of the West.” [37419]

The insider continues, “Now, Libya... Gaddafi was a real sh\*t. Sick bastard. But like Mubarak—he didn't like the Muslim hardliners in Libya either. Especially if they were gonna cause trouble for him. So he would intimidate the sh-t out of them too. At least over the last decade or so. Gaddafi had two coming to God moments in his life. The first was when Reagan bombed the hell out of his palace. He knew he coulda died then. He knew the West could come in and take his life if it wanted. So he moderated. Then there was 9-11. And when Bush went into Iraq and did his thing—they found Hussein and put him on trial and hung the bastard... that scared the hell out of Gaddafi. Really got inside his head. So he moderated some more. He was actually... my understanding... he was actually becoming a regular contributor to our Intel. By that time he couldn't stand al Qaeda anymore than we could. Maybe less so because they posed an even more direct threat to him. And what happens? The dumbest pile of sh-t that has ever sat in that White House helps to force Mubarak and Gaddafi out—and we got no real plan for the aftermath. All kinds of people are telling the administration the Muslim Brotherhood could take over Egypt. Could take over Libya. They either ignored those warning or that is EXACTLY what they wanted to happen.” [37419]

“They are warned that Gaddafi's departure will create more chaos in Libya and there are a sh-tload of weapons that will be unaccounted for. That is exactly what happens. Obama doesn't give a sh-t. Too busy golfing. Doing the talk shows. Right? Telling Israel to go f-ck themselves. Dancing around Iran instead of punching them right in their f-cking face. Jarrett is Iranian. Jarrett has long ties to the Muslim Brotherhood. You would think, maybe for one f-cking second, enough people in the media would think maybe—just maybe—we should take a closer look at all this. What if that ambassador fella... what if he was killed by weapons sent there by Barack Obama? Just like you said in that off-handed way. And what if there are tens of thousands of those weapons being used by al Qaeda right now? Maybe on their way to the Israeli border? And not just guns 'cause

that's not all we were sending into Libya you know. We're talking some high powered take down an airliner kinda stuff. And take it a bit further. We did that. And we did it knowingly. We did it willingly. The Obama White House. Their hand-picked stooges in the military, in State [Department]. They did that. Now let me go one little step more here. What if that ambassador... well... let's say he came across certain information... damaging to the administration. Why is he flying into that consulate in Benghazi? Cover of night. No security precautions. Anti-Western sentiment reaching critical levels. It's almost like he was trying to keep his whereabouts unknown to his own government. Right? And that bullsh-t little YouTube video thing? It had been out for... what... months? Nobody gave a sh-t about it. NOBODY." [37419]

"But then it is being used as the spark to start the fire? Who did that? Who would want to get those... get those people are riled up like that? And the administration—they are saying it was that video right out of the gate, right? Like it was a packaged excuse ready to go. Packaged means it was part of something bigger. A bigger plan, right?" [The insider pauses to note that he is speculating and has no proof of his allegations.] So, like I said... the video thing... it's part of a packaged plan. They are running that excuse HARD. Libyans are saying it's bullsh-t. London media... they got a sh-tload of people in Libya too who know—there is stuff going on between us and the Brits—they ain't happy with Obama. Not all of them. So basically everyone BUT the Obama administration is saying the Benghazi attack was pre-planned, right? Terrorist attack. And what is Barack Obama doing right at that time? He's flying to Vegas. He's doing goofy interviews. His White House just keeps repeating the video excuse over and over again. So is this all just a pile of incompetent sh-t by the Obama administration? By Clinton? Did you notice how Defense said very little? And the CIA... Petraeus... has said nothing? In this town, some times the ones speaking the loudest are the ones not saying a word. ...Obama was starting to take on just a little bit of heat on the Middle East sh-t and that [Romney fundraiser] tape comes out. That thing wasn't meant to come out this early. Late October, maybe—certainly not now. But they are so spooked and confused over the polling data, they released it sooner. That means the Middle East situation has them afraid. People are actually asking some questions now. Sniffing around the situation just a bit. And if they get somebody in the military... somebody like that... to go on the record with this... with whatever had that ambassador acting so strangely right before he was killed... well, well, well. ...That was no accidental killing of the ambassador. And it wasn't just al-Qaeda acting alone. They had approval. From somebody linked with our side of the fence. ...Just me [speculating] on this... just me thinking on Barack Obama—the Butcher of Benghazi." [37419]

Ulsterman interjects, "Even if we win this election [and] Obama is defeated. Is there still time to save this country? Or are we too far gone?" The insider answers, "You been talking to the Old Man [Wall Street insider]? 'Cause that's EXACTLY how he put it to me a few days back. Too far gone. Somethin' about... he went on about muni bonds. How that Ponzi scheme... how he didn't think they could stop the collapse. I don't understand all that sh-t. ...He's... how'd he put it? Closing shop? Already has the family out you know. Like he said he would. Now he's getting ready... even with his health... he's considering going himself. Not sure how he'd manage his treatments... He's about

as paranoid as I've ever seen him... and that goes back a while. ...I don't wanna talk for him—shouldn't even be talking this much about him. He said this though... he said... and maybe this is why he isn't including you. For some kind of protection. Doesn't want you involved. He seems determined about something. Not sure what he's got planned—but he's up to somethin'. ...Said people have forgotten that there is both a loving god and a righteous god and that it's gonna be a righteous god America is about to meet up with. ...It means something—he don't talk to talk. But who knows? He's lookin' to meet up with God soon enough I suppose. ...That's how he put it [the situation is 'too far gone']. Word for word. That's why I thought you talked with him recently. ...[But] Hell son... I ain't never gonna give up on this old girl [the United States of America]. Her and I... it's been a lifelong love affair. She's a tired and cranky b-tch... but so am I. Semper Fi motherf-cker. ...I don't quit." (Note that *The Obama Timeline* has no way of confirming the White House insider's speculations—but his prior statements and predictions have turned out to be accurate. *Timeline* readers are urged to draw their own conclusions.) [37419]

GulagBound.com reports, “One of the four Americans murdered in Benghazi was Sean Smith... He and Ambassador Stevens, as well as the two other special operators from Wind Zero, were executing a CIA and State Department mission to track not only Qaddafi's weapons, but to trace any and all weapons trafficking in the regions. Smith was the information officer at the Benghazi mission and likely was too close to having uncovered intelligence that pinpointed key players both in and outside of Libya. Intelligence was shared with the CIA, which does enforce the drone program, whether inside Libya, stemming from the mission to remove Qaddafi, or in other hot-spots in the Middle East. The single Obama regime method of processing the ‘kill list’ is to use drone strikes and having proven intelligence as provided by Sean Smith and the two retired SEALs via Wind Zero connecting the dots of weapons, money, and names, led to the violent event and their deaths in Benghazi. It was never about a video. That pretense was concocted as cover and the State Department, as well as radical Muslims had their hand in disseminating that disinformation. Ambassador Stevens spoke Arabic and French. He was a foreign service officer all his life and had spent significant time in Syria. Likely, he was drawn to the mission and to the high salary and benefits for taking this job. Very likely, the fact of the homosexual U.S. Ambassador's presence among the weapons hunting American operatives was icing on the cake. As reported in numerous venues, the four murdered Americans were found in an apartment, not a recognized consulate, in the Jihadi rich city of Benghazi.” [37431, 37475]

An American Jewish Community poll shows Obama with a 69–25 percent lead over Mitt Romney in Florida—down from the 76 percent support he had in 2008. [37420]

While many media leftists are eagerly declaring that the race is over for Mitt Romney, Gallup shows him in a 47–47 tie with Obama. [37421, 37462]

A Marist poll shows Obama with an 8-point lead over Mitt Romney in Iowa. That contradicts other polls showing a tie or a slight Romney lead. At Breitbart.com Tony Lee points out, “Marist says the breakdown of likely voters in its poll Iowa is 36% Democrat,

31% Republican, and 33% independent. Democrats only had a one-point advantage in 2008, when enthusiasm for Obama was at its peak. But when among those 33% who are independent are broken down even further, 12% leaned Democrat and 10% leaned Republican, giving Democrats a two-point advantage among independents Marist polled. This means Democrats actually have a seven-point advantage in the poll. In 2008, Democrats only had a one-point advantage over Republicans on election night in Iowa. Democrats made up 34% of Iowans who voted in the presidential election in 2008. Republicans made up 33%. Independents made up 33%.” (Once again, a poll’s unrealistic D/R/I weighting gives an unjustified advantage to Obama. If the Democrat/Republican split in Iowa in 2008 was 34/33, it is highly unlikely that the split will be greater in 2012—a year in which the “hope and change” enthusiasm level is nowhere near what it was four years earlier. The polls are often intentionally slanted in order to gin up campaign donations for one candidate while depressing enthusiasm for his opponent. A Rasmussen poll of likely voters in Iowa shows Romney leading Obama 47–44.) [37439, 37462]

A Marist poll in Colorado gives Obama a 50–45 lead. (The poll’s D/R/I is 34/32/32. In 2008 the turnout was 30/31/39. With four years of high unemployment and dismal economic growth, and voter registration for Republicans up in key counties in the state, Marist nevertheless assumes turnout for Democrats will be three points higher in 2012 than it was in 2008.) [36440]

*The Wall Street Journal* reports that Bank of America plans to cut 16,000 jobs by the end of 2012. [37422]

Mitt Romney tells an audience in Sarasota, Florida, “Now, the country faces major challenges. You know that we face massive debt, trillion dollar deficits, we face a Washington that’s broken that can’t get the job done. [Obama] today threw in the white flag of surrender again. He said he can’t change Washington from inside. He can only change it from outside. Well, we’re going to give him that chance in November—he’s going outside. I can change Washington. I will change Washington. We’ll get the job done from the inside. Republicans and Democrats will come together. He can’t do it. His slogan was, ‘Yes we can.’ His slogan now is, ‘No, I can’t.’ This is time for a new president.” [37423, 37425, 37457, 37459, 37469]

The “Let Freedom Ring” organization releases an ad slamming Obama for inviting radical Muslim Brotherhood leaders to the White House and giving Egypt \$1.5 billion in aid. USNews.com reports, “The group was planning on airing the ads next month, but shifted course after Muslims attacked the Egyptian embassy and killed four Americans in Libya, including Ambassador Christopher Stevens. Egypt’s new president, Mohammed Morsi, belongs to the Muslim Brotherhood, considered a terrorist organization by some. ... The one-minute ad is part of a \$7 million online campaign, which is being launched in Wisconsin, Virginia, and Pennsylvania with less than 50 days until the election.” [37430]

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton meets with several key members of Congress to discuss the consulate attack in Libya. ForeignPolicy.com reports, “Several high-level GOP

senators emerged from Thursday afternoon's classified briefing with top administration officials incensed that Obama team had offered them no new information and answered none of their questions about the Sept. 11 attack... 'That was the most useless, worthless briefing that I have attended in a long time. Believe me, there is more written in every major and minor publication in America about what happened.' said Senate Foreign Relations Committee member Bob Corker (R-TN), emerging from the all-senators briefing that included Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Deputy Secretary of Defense Ash Carter, Director of National Intelligence James Clapper, and Joint Chiefs Vice Chairman Adm. Sandy Winnefeld. Corker states, "It was like a one-hour filibuster with absolutely not one single bit of new information being brought forth... very disappointing. ...[The briefing], if anything, built far greater distrust about what's happening than just answering questions. It was pretty unbelievable. In every event, when a serious question was asked, the answer was, 'It's under investigation.' If I were them I would not have come to the Hill. ...I think it is going to cause folks to push for something different, because it was received so poorly." Senator John McCain (R-AZ) comments, "I learned nothing in that briefing that I hadn't seen or read in the media. They still are blaming the video and they have a fundamental misunderstanding. It's not the video; it's the Islamists that are pushing this video throughout the world to inflame passions on the part of people of the Muslim faith. ...It's very likely that there is a terrorist organization, affiliated with al-Qaeda, that at least had some role in this attack, which had mortars, heavy equipment, and rocket propelled grenades—not exactly a spontaneous demonstration." Congressman Bill Flores (R-TX) remarks, "They're trying to cover their behinds." [37433, 38263]

Joel B. Pollak reports that "Breitbart News is doubling its reward—to \$100,000—for one of the missing pieces of Barack Obama's past, which may be the key to understanding his collapsing Middle East policy: the 'Khalidi tape,' a video kept under wraps by the *Los Angeles Times* since April 2008. The Khalidi tape shows Obama at a 2003 farewell party for radical Palestinian academic and activist Rashid Khalidi, and reportedly features vitriolic anti-Israel rhetoric." (Khalidi is a former PLO operative. Obama has consistently denied a close relationship with Khalidi, even though the Obamas have dined more than once at the home of Khalidi and his wife, Mona, and used them as occasional baby-sitters. At the dinner, Obama reportedly praised Khalidi. William Ayers also attended the dinner, and both Ayers and Obama signed Khalidi's guest book. The event was sponsored by the Arab American Action Network, to which Obama had funneled cash several times while serving on the board of the Woods Fund. One speaker at the dinner said that if Palestinians cannot secure a return of their land, Israel "will never see a day of peace." The *Los Angeles Times* has a videotape of the Khalidi dinner but refuses to make it public. It is assumed the tape's contents are damaging to Obama, likely because the event includes anti-Semitic sentiments and Obama heaping praise on Khalidi. Further, appearing as entertainment at the dinner was a children's dance group, the Sanabel AlQuds Dabka troupe. The Milwaukee-based Muslim children's dance group typically performs the "debka," a Middle-Eastern dance. The group's performances have been known to include simulated beheadings with fake swords, and stomping on American, Israeli, and British flags. It has been alleged that, in his speech at the Khalidi dinner, Obama stated "Israel has no God-given right to occupy Palestine," and there has been

“genocide against the Palestinian people by Israelis.” Release of the tape would most certainly cost Obama Jewish votes.) [384, 387, 395, 418, 419, 438, 439, 440, 37438, 37554]

According to the Middle East Media Research Institute, “Sheikh Abu Mundhir Al-Shinqiti issued a fatwa in which he approved of the killing of the U.S. ambassador and other U.S. diplomats, and refuted religious arguments raised by some Islamic scholars against such actions.” [37444, 37445]

DailyCaller.com reports, “A coalition of golf lovers are asking Republicans to stop making so many jokes about ...Obama’s love for the golf course, saying such comments are bad for the golf industry. ...The Daily Caller has learned that Tony Podesta, a well-known Democratic lobbyist with strong ties to the Obama White House, is behind the We Are Golf coalition of golfing organizations that has sent letters to Republicans such as Florida Sen. Marco Rubio asking them to cut out the criticism of Obama’s golfing habits.” (Tony Podesta, head of the lobbying firm Podesta Group, is the brother of John Podesta—who led Obama’s transition team in 2008. John Podesta also heads the far left, George Soros-funded Center for American Progress, which informally advises Obama. Obama’s former “green jobs czar,” communist Van Jones, works for the Center for American Progress.) [37448, 37458]

Liz Cheney, co-founder of Keep America Safe, tells *Newsmax*, “Under [Obama], you’ve seen a weakening of the United States across the board. You’ve got Islamic extremism on the rise across North Africa. You’ve got al-Qaida resurgent in North Africa and the Arabian Peninsula—and you talk to people in the Arab world and they’ll say, ‘America’s made itself irrelevant.’ President Romney would not have made America irrelevant. He understands how important it is that we lead from a position of strength, which is something that ...Obama has not done, has not attempted to do. [Obama] would like the American people to believe that the killing of Osama bin Laden sort of put an end to the threat that we face and, although we need to give him credit for ordering that operation—any American president would have ordered it—what we’ve seen is al-Qaida that is resurgent. When you look at what happens when America retreats, when you look of the pictures of a TV screen—and then you remember that when [Obama] appeared in the Rose Garden 24 hours after our embassy was attacked, our flag was torn down, it was burned, the al-Qaida flag was hung in its place and [Obama] said nothing about it. He didn’t comment at all. And today, you’re seeing the attacks on the embassy in Pakistan.” [37453]

Cheney continues, “[Obama] sent a very clear message to radicals across the region that you can attack an American embassy and you won’t be condemned by Barack Obama. ...[Mitt Romney] was right to go out and say: ‘Wait a second. We don’t blame ourselves when you’ve got attackers coming over the walls of the embassy.’ The embassy’s response there was very much in keeping with what we’ve seen from ...Obama over the course of this administration. You can go back to his words in 2009 to see repeated apologies for the United States, blaming America. ...What Ambassador [Susan] Rice said on Sunday was inaccurate and was misleading. I don’t know why she chose to be



misleading but, clearly, going out that soon after the attacks and asserting that they were caused by the film we now know was inaccurate and, at minimum, she should have said, 'We don't know what the cause was here.' But when you've got mortars being fired into the consulate in Benghazi, you've got [rocket-propelled grenades] being fired in, when you've got a firefight that reportedly lasted four hours, when you've got an ambassador and three other Americans dead—to claim this was simply because of a film was highly irresponsible and preposterous. ... We should immediately rescind the \$1 billion loan forgiveness that had been planned for the Egyptians. We need to take a very close look at the economic assistance. The Egyptians need to understand that legality about whether you're an ally or not has to be met with action—and right now, they're not acting like an ally. It's important that the military assistance continue. We need to make sure we've got close relationships with the Egyptian military. At the end of the day, the U.S. taxpayer understandably won't stand by and allow their money to be used to fund a Muslim Brotherhood government that is acting in every way conceivable at this point as though it's working against American interests." [37453]

At AmericanThinker.com Lee DeCovnick reports that the Department of Homeland Security's purchase of ammunition over the last six months has reached 1.4 *billion* rounds. "This includes 450 million rounds of .40 hollow point, 200 million rounds of .223 rifle ammunition, and 176,000 rounds of .308 168-grain hollow point boat tail (HPBT) that is used almost exclusively as ammo for sniper rifles. ... It takes over 1,200 18-wheel trucks to move that much ammunition. That's the equivalent to a line of single trailer trucks, parked end to end, almost 14 miles long. There are 314 million Americans, men, women and children living in the United States this morning. ... Why did DHS purchase 28,000 tons of ammunition? Why did DHS purchase almost half a billion rounds of hollow point ammunition, banned by the Hague Convention of 1899 for use in international warfare...?" (Whether any of the 1.4 billion rounds will be given to U.S. Marines to guard embassies and consulates is not known.) [37497]

On *Hannity*, former Alaska governor Sarah Palin comments on the Obama administration's handling of the anti-American demonstrations and embassy attacks in the Middle East: "If our fearless leaders insist on waving the white flag like this, they may need to bring our troops home from the Middle East. ... [Obama] is contradicting what we believe our troops' mission is, and that is to protect freedom. ... I believe that other countries are looking at America today as a paper tiger, that we are not going to follow-through on threats or sanctions, or those things that we need to do in order to... help create a safer, more peaceful world." Palin calls Obama "a politician" who is "succeeding in weakening America. ... We need to be protecting all those things that we have believed that our troops are in war zones for. Otherwise, we are wasting U.S. blood and treasure, and I say, 'No more.'" [37474]

On September 21 CNN broadcasts an interview with AtlasShrugs.com's Pamela Geller—but omits the last third, when Geller begins discussing the Council on American-Islamic Relations, its support of terrorist groups like Hamas, the fact that it was an unindicted co-conspirator in the Holy Land Foundation trial, and the anti-American and anti-Israel

goals listed in its charter. (CNN later posts the full interview on YouTube.com.) [37434, 37435, 37487]

Al-Monitor.com reports that Christians in the Egyptian towns of Rafah and Al-Arish have “received leaflets containing messages threatening to blow up their property if they do not leave within 48 hours.” (With the radical Muslim Brotherhood in control of Egypt, Muslims feel free to persecute Egypt’s Christian population. That is another consequence of Obama having abandoned ally Hosni Mubarak.) [37567, 37754, 37755]

The Obama/Clinton “apology ad” aired on television in Pakistan is followed by... anti-American rioting in Pakistan. (The Pakistani government does its part to promote the demonstrations by declaring it a national holiday. Additional fuel is added to the fire by a Pakistani cabinet member’s offer of \$100,000 for the death of the filmmaker who produced the laughable *Innocence of Muslims*.) Pamela Geller writes at AtlasShrugs.com, “What did Obama achieve by running apology pro-sharia campaign ads in Pakistan? He sanctioned the motive. He sanctioned the brutal, anti-human blasphemy laws under the sharia. The more he fails... the more he fails. There will be catastrophic consequences to [Obama’s] disastrous foreign policy failures...” (In his infamous Cairo speech on June 4, 2009, Obama stated, “Islam has a proud tradition of tolerance.”) [37510, 37511, 37512]

The House of Representatives votes 233–175 to pass the “Stop the War on Coal Act of 2012,” which takes away some of the Environmental Protection Agency’s regulatory over “greenhouse gases.” Congressman Doc Hastings (R-WA) states, “Since taking office, the Obama Administration has waged a multi-front war on coal—on coal jobs, on the small businesses in the mining supply chain, and on the low-cost energy that millions of Americans rely upon.” (Even if the Democrat-controlled Senate were to pass the legislation, Obama has threatened a veto.) DailyCaller.com notes, “It has been a rough year for the coal industry starting off in January with an announcement by FirstEnergy of the early retirement of six plants in Ohio, Pennsylvania and Maryland because of costs and uncertainty over new EPA regulations. In February, GenOn announced it was shuttering 13 percent of its generating capacity by 2015 due to new environmental regulations. Over the summer, OhioAmerican Energy Inc., a subsidiary of Murray Energy Corp., announced layoffs in Ohio after five years of operation and that about 50 employees would be affected. PBS Coals Inc. and its affiliate, RoxCoal Inc., laid off 225 workers working in deep and surface mines in July, citing low demand and aggressive regulations. Patriot Coal recently announced it was going to cut coal production by 85,000 tons per month for 60 days, which will impact 250 jobs across three mine complexes in Southern West Virginia—the latest in a series of cutbacks in recent months. Earlier this week, coal company Alpha Natural Resources announced it would be laying off 1,200 workers and closing eight coal mines to face two new challenges: cheap natural gas and ‘a regulatory environment that’s aggressively aimed at constraining the use of coal.’” (According to the American Coalition for Clean Coal Electricity, EPA policies have played a role in the closures of 241 coal generators in 30 states, reducing the nation’s electrical output by 36,000 megawatts.) [37451, 37498]

At WeeklyStandard.com Jay Cost writes, “Obama is weaker than previous incumbents who went on to victory. When we are looking through history, the only poll we can really utilize is Gallup if we want an apples-to-apples comparison. For better or worse, Gallup is the only polling organization consistently doing polling of registered voters since 1952. Even media outlets that have been polling a long time have changed pollsters over the years, so Gallup is the only game in town when we are investigating history. ...Through 2004 every incumbent who was above 50 percent at this point won, and every incumbent who was under 50 percent at this point lost. As of today, Obama is under 50 percent. Additionally, most incumbents [who do win] end up winning by a smaller margin (or losing by a larger one) than they are sporting in the Gallup poll at this point. ...On average, the margin moves by 3.7 percent in favor of the challenger between the mid-September Gallup registered voter poll and the Election Day results.” [37559]

The Heritage Foundation notes five ways the report of the investigation of Operation Fast and Furious “tarnishes” the Department of Justice and Attorney General Eric Holder: “The report singles out [14] top Department of Justice officials for wrongdoing.” “The report appears to contradict sworn testimony by Attorney General Eric Holder.” “The report faults top Justice Department leadership with failing to adequately respond to the murder of an American border patrol agent.” “The White House refused to disclose any internal communications to the inspector general.” and “The report fails to consider evidence that a top DOJ official knew the department misled Congress.” [37454]

Mitt Romney releases copies of his 2012 income returns. The campaign posts a verification from the accounting firm PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP stating, “In 2011, the Romneys paid \$1,935,708 in taxes on \$13,696,951 in mostly investment income. The Romneys’ effective tax rate for 2011 was 14.1%. The Romneys donated \$4,020,772 to charity in 2011, amounting to nearly 30% of their income. The Romneys claimed a deduction for \$2.25 million of those charitable contributions. The Romneys’ generous charitable donations in 2011 would have significantly reduced their tax obligation for the year. The Romneys thus limited their deduction of charitable contributions to conform to the Governor’s statement in August, based upon the January estimate of income, that he paid at least 13% in income taxes in each of the last 10 years.” (In other words, Romney and his wife overpaid their taxes by intentionally deducting only a portion of their charitable contributions.) The verification also notes, “In each year during the entire 20-year period, the Romneys owed both state and federal income taxes. Over the entire 20-year period, the average annual effective federal tax rate was 20.20%. Over the entire 20-year period, the lowest annual effective federal personal tax rate was 13.66%. Over the entire 20-year period, the Romneys gave to charity an average of 13.45% of their adjusted gross income. Over the entire 20-year period, the total federal and state taxes owed plus the total charitable donations deducted represented 38.49% of total AGI.” [37456, 37463, 37466, 37473, 37477]

Remarkably, the Obama campaign immediately pounces on Romney for paying *too much* in taxes, asking, “Had he not limited his [charitable] deductions... what would Gov. Romney’s effective tax rate have been? ...Gov. Romney has stated he did not pay less than [a] 13% tax rate in previous years. Did he have to revise other returns to get to that

rate? ...Has Gov. Romney voluntarily given up the use of certain charitable deductions before?” (In other words, the Obama campaign is ludicrously “charging” that Romney *intentionally overpaid* his income taxes over the years so that he would not be criticized for paying too little in taxes.) Whether Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) will apologize to Romney for charging that he has not paid taxes for the last 10 years remains to be seen. (Reid has never released his own tax returns. Dave Buell, chairman of the Washoe County Republican party in Mr. Reid’s political backyard of Nevada, sends an email: “Senator, make our day and release your 2011 tax return.”) [37466, 37467, 37471, 37508]

HotAir.com comments on the tax information provided by Romney: “So, let’s just take a second here to process this. Mitt Romney, who is ostensibly uncaring, out-of-touch, and disdainful of poor people, gave more than 13 percent of his income (amounting to millions and millions of dollars) over twenty years to charity, and didn’t even always take the full tax deduction. (The bastard!) By at least one count, the average effective federal tax rate for Americans is 11 percent—and Romney’s average annual rate was 20 percent, also amounting to millions and millions of dollars that went into the federal government’s coffers. He has done nothing wrong or shady, unless you consider being a wildly excellent businessman to be a vice, and the finger-pointers now look pretty darn dumb. If this isn’t it, can somebody please explain to me exactly what it is that a ‘fair share’ is supposed to look like? Are we supposed to detest rich people, or should we admire them? Will the real Barack Obama please stand up?” [37455]

Media commentators and reporters also state that Romney paid a lower tax rate than most middle-class Americans. That is incorrect, because the application of deductions and exemptions lowers the tax burden of most Americans. According to the Tax Policy Center (a liberal organization), more than 90 percent of taxpayers with adjusted gross incomes of \$50,000–\$100,000 pay an effective tax rate *less* than 15 percent. More than 40 percent of them pay an effective rate of only 5–10 percent, and about 4.6 percent pay no federal income tax. [37665]

Various leftist web sites, including HuffingtonPost.com, report accusations that Romney “darkened his skin” for his “Meet the Candidate” appearance on Univision. The network’s make-up artist, Lazz Rodriguez, states, “When he walked in, I remember thinking, ‘Wow this is tanner than I thought he was,’ but I think he’s just been outside a lot lately for his campaign. It was definitely a real tan. ...What they [bloggers and commentators] have done is all a bit sad to me. ...I also don’t want this to jeopardize a career I’ve worked so hard to build in this field. He was tan from being out in the sun on the campaign trail—that’s the only possible explanation.” (To leftists, Mitt Romney’s tan is apparently an indication of “racism” and “phoniness, while Joe Biden’s hair plugs and Obama’s padded suits and capped teeth are not worth mentioning.) [37493, 37494]

While the media focuses on Mitt Romney’s tax returns, anti-American riots and demonstrations continue in various Muslim countries; 19 die in Pakistan. [37488, 37489]

House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH) tells reports, "...Obama's excuse is, well, you can't change Washington from the inside. Well, you actually can change Washington from the inside—it takes courage, it takes determination and it takes sincerity. And it's called leadership. I've been here for 22 years. I've been involved in changing a lot of things in this town. My days as a member of the gang of seven, closing the House bank, trying to get Congress to run more efficiently and more professionally. And how about the issue of earmarks? Nobody thought we could ever get rid of it. I spent five years working to eliminate earmarks, over the last couple of years we've had no earmarks. So, you can't tell me that you can't fix Washington from the inside. I have this belief and frankly believe it's troubling that [Obama] doesn't share my optimism about fixing this town." [37465]

DailyCaller.com reports, "Vice President Joe Biden may have stuck his foot in his mouth again on Friday, using an awkward off-the-cuff phrase to compliment high school cheerleaders during a campaign stop. According to a pool report from Biden's stop at Newport High School in Newport, N.H., the vice president arrived to talk to 'about 100 students in their sports uniforms waiting for him in a semi-circle. He cradled a football under his arm as he spoke... He began by asking which teams were represented—football, soccer, lacrosse and cross-country. 'Any others?' he asked. 'Cheerleaders,' a group of girls shouted." Biden then said, "Guess what, the cheerleaders in college are the best athletes in college. You think I'm joking, they're almost all gymnasts, the stuff they do on hard wood, it blows my mind." [37479]

In Concord, New Hampshire, Joe Biden attacks Mitt Romney on his "47 percent" comment: "By the way, those dependent people he refers to, those 47 percent, they include the 650,000 troops still left in Afghanistan who, because they are in combat, being shot at, injured, they do not have to pay any federal income tax on their salary. I don't call that dependency. I call that ingratitude to not recognize they are a part of that 47 percent." (There are about 68,000 U.S. troops in Afghanistan, not 650,000.) [37501, 37502]

The Edward Tyler Nahem Gallery in Manhattan on displays the controversial 1989 "artwork" called "Piss Christ"—a crucifix in a jar of urine. FoxNews.com reports, "Religious groups and some lawmakers have already started sounding off—and making comparisons to the controversy over a recent anti-Muslim film." New York State Representative Michael Grimm states, "The Obama administration's hypocrisy and utter lack of respect for the religious beliefs of Americans has reached an all-time high. I call on ...Obama to stand up for America's values and beliefs and denounce the 'Piss Christ' that has offended Christians at home and abroad." [37480, 37481]

Obama campaigns in Woodbridge, Virginia, and is then interviewed on WKYS radio. He says, "This is gonna be a close election. The other side is spending more money than we've ever seen on negative ads, and I think, mischaracterizing my record. And the only way we fight back against that is to make sure that every single person who is out there and has a big stake in this thing is making sure to turn out." Asked if his wife would consider running for president, Obama replies, "She definitely *could* be the president, but

she'll never run for the presidency... 'cause she's got too much sense. She's an incredible person and an incredible talent. Politics is not her thing." [37482, 37483]

In a Gallup poll, Obama's approval/disapproval rating plunges to 46/48 percent, after reaching 52/42 percent following the Democrat National Convention. [37484]

Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) succeeds in getting Senate Democrats to agree to a debate and vote on S.B. 3576, legislation he drafted that calls for a prohibition of U.S. aid to Egypt, Libya, and Pakistan contingent upon the release to U.S. authorities the aggressors who attacked our embassy and consulate in Egypt and Libya, and the release of Dr. Shakil Afridi, currently held by the Pakistani government." (Afridi assisted the United States in locating Osama bin Laden. White House intelligence leaks reportedly exposed Afridi, who was then sentenced to 33 years in prison.) [32637, 32638, 32644, 32651, 32673, 36808, 37486]

Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erodgan, one of Obama's closest friends among foreign leaders, calls for international laws making criticism of Islam a crime. [37490]

At TheAtlantic.com, Andrew Cohen, the magazine's contributing editor and a legal analyst for *60 Minutes*, writes, "In the end, the much-heralded, much-maligned Office of the Inspector General's report on the 'Fast and Furious' gun scandal tells us what we already know: Attorney General Eric Holder should resign if ... Obama wins another term. Even viewing the documents and investigation in a light most favorable to the current head of the Justice Department, even discounting the conspiracy theories offered by the Administration's most ardent critics, the Inspector General's report tells us that Holder ultimately failed to do what he absolutely had to do at Justice when he succeeded caretaker Attorney General Michael Mukasey in early 2009. ... [I]t was Holder's responsibility... to ensure that the Department, at a minimum, no longer did anything patently stupid. That's not a high standard. And yet Holder's Justice Department in this regard has failed to meet it. ... When Holder took the job, he promised rigorous attention to detail, and fealty to candor within the Department, and the reemergence of integrity in all things. By each of those standards, the Justice Department has failed here." [37499, 37500]

Breitbart.com reports, "The Muslim Brotherhood's Mohammed Morsi, the recently elected president of Egypt, will be a featured participant at the eighth annual meeting of Bill Clinton's Clinton Global Initiative in New York next week. Morsi is a prominent figure in the Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood, the most important of the world's Islamist organizations and ideological progenitor of al Qaeda and nearly every jihadist terrorist group in the world. Its slogan reads, 'Allah is our objective; the Quran is our law, the Prophet is our leader; Jihad is our way; and death for the sake of Allah is the highest of our aspirations.'" [37507]

Author Mark Steyn (*After America*) writes at ORegister.com, "I see the Obama campaign has redesigned the American flag, and very attractive it is, too. Replacing the 50 stars of a federal republic is the single 'O' logo symbolizing the great gaping maw of

spendaholic centralization. And where the stripes used to be are a handful of red daubs, eerily mimicking the bloody finger streaks left on the pillars of the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi as its staff were dragged out by a mob of savages to be tortured and killed. What better symbol could one have of American foreign policy? Who says the slick, hollow, vapid marketing of the Obama campaign doesn't occasionally intersect with reality? On the latter point, after a week and a half of peddling an utterly false narrative of what happened in Libya, the United States government is apparently beginning to discern that there are limits to what even Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton and Susan Rice can say with a straight face. ...The more that U.S. government officials talk about the so-called film 'Innocence Of Muslims' (which is actually merely a YouTube trailer) the more they confirm the mob's belief that works of 'art' are the proper responsibility of government. Obama and Clinton are currently starring as the Siskel & Ebert of Pakistani TV, giving two thumbs-down to 'Innocence Of Muslims' in hopes that it will dissuade local movie-goers from giving two heads-off to consular officials." [37530]

According to TheGatewayPundit.com, "Barack Obama knew about the Benghazi Consulate terror attacks 90 minutes after they began on 9-11. The attack in Benghazi took place in two waves at the consulate and lasted several hours. Libyan 'looters' found the body of Ambassador Chris Stevens hours after the attack began. ...Obama went to bed without knowing the status of the US Ambassador." [37555]

On *The O'Reilly Factor*, host Bill O'Reilly asks guest Dennis Miller if he saw Obama's appearance on *The David Letterman Show*. Miller replies, "Well, I didn't watch Letterman; I watched [Jay] Leno. Jay had Neville Chamberlain on. ...I thought I'd go with the original form rather than the latest permutation." [37539]

On September 22 the U.S. Senate votes 81 to 10 to defeat legislation that would have suspended foreign aid to Pakistan, Egypt, and Libya. (The 10 votes in favor of ending the aid were all Republicans, including Senator Ran Paul of Kentucky, Pat Toomey of Pennsylvania, James DeMint of South Carolina, and Mike Lee of Utah. Republicans voting with the Democrats in opposition to the bill include John McCain of Arizona and Lindsey Graham of South Carolina.) [37524]

A poll of likely voters conducted for the Tribune-Review in Pennsylvania shows Obama leading Mitt Romney 47-45. (The two-point difference is within the poll's margin of error.) TribLive.com reports, "Romney leads Obama, 48 percent to 44 percent, on the question of who would create jobs to speed up the recovery." (Pennsylvania voters must now present photo IDs to cast their ballots—if a court does not block the law. Some argue that Obama will be harmed by the requirement, and that it may cost him the state.) [37570, 37624, 37733]

At Forbes.com Avik Roy explains why the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) lobbied so heavily in favor of ObamaCare and against "Medigap" reforms. AARP's primary source of income, points out Roy, is not membership dues but royalties from selling Medigap health insurance. "Medigap plans are private insurance plans that seniors buy to cover the things that traditional, government-run Medicare doesn't, like

catastrophic coverage. Medigap plans also help seniors eliminate the co-pays and deductibles that are designed to restrain wasteful Medicare spending. ...Adding catastrophic coverage to Medicare, while restraining the ability of Medigap plans to waste money, is a key to Medicare reform, one that has been a big part of bipartisan plans in the past.” But AARP successfully “blocked Medigap reforms, saving the group \$1.8 billion” over 10 years. “Not only did AARP succeed in getting Democrats to balk at Medigap reform,” writes Roy, “Obamacare’s cuts to Medicare Advantage will drive many seniors out of that program, and into traditional government-run Medicare, which will increase the number of people who need Medigap insurance. That means more royalty profits for the AARP.” [38971]

Congress adjourns until after the election. The Associated Press reports, “Lawmakers will return in about seven weeks and face a crowded list of must-do items, topped by avoiding what’s become known as the fiscal cliff: the combination of expiring George W. Bush-era tax [rates] and automatic spending cuts that could drive the country back into recession. ...In the early morning hours Saturday, the Senate cleared and sent Obama a bill to keep the government running for another six months. The temporary measure is a reflection of lawmakers’ failure to complete any of the 12 spending bills by the Oct. 1 start of the fiscal year.” Obama states, “Without much fanfare, members of the House of Representatives banged a gavel, turned out the lights, and rushed home, declaring their work finished for now. If that frustrates you, it should—because their work isn’t finished.” (The Democrat-controlled Senate also “banged a gavel, turned out the lights, and rushed home”—but Obama ignores that reality.) [37495]

Rasmussen reports that Obama and Mitt Romney are tied, 46–46. (The national poll of likely voters was conducted September 19–21, after the September 18 media stories about the supposedly damaging video of Romney discussing the 47 percent of Americans who pay no income taxes.) [37491, 37492]

On Bloomberg Television’s *Surveillance*, Howard Davidowitz, chairman of Davidowitz & Associates Inc., is asked, “How will the American consumer react to the unlimited punch bowl [of the Federal Reserve’s newly-created money]?” Davidowitz replies, “Zero [impact]. ...This is not going to effect the American consumer. [Ben] Bernanke has consistently been wrong. All the sugar bowls [QE1 and QE2] have consistently been wrong. GDP is going nowhere. Consumer wealth, median family income [is] down 10 percent over four years. Family wealth [is] down 40 percent. Unemployment is totally in the crapper. We’ve spent 5.4 trillion, we have nothing for it, that’s where we are. ...The only way you fix anything is pain. ...Look at Canada. That’s the real example I look at in the 90s. ...[Canada] *brilliantly* cut 10 points off the size of government over a 10-year period. Now we’re talking. [They] fixed the Canadian economy. They didn’t have a banking crisis. They didn’t provide all the sugar [inflated money supply]. ...I’ve always thought that Bernanke is certifiably nuts. His record speaks for itself.” [37496]

DailyCaller.com reports, “Children and parents across the country are fed up with the restrictive new school meal regulations implemented by the Department of Agriculture under the ‘Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010,’ which has long been touted by



...Michelle Obama. The standards—which cap meal calories at 650 for students in kindergarten through fifth grade, at 700 calories for middle school students and 850 for high school students—also dictate the number of breads, proteins, vegetables and fruits children are allowed per meal.” Children complain that they are hungry by mid-afternoon, and high school athletes are suffering the most. Increasing numbers of students are bringing “brown bag” lunches to school with them because they find the low-calorie meals both unappetizing and unsatisfying. PJMedia.com reports that, according to Livestrong.com, “teenagers need between 2,000 and 3,000 calories per day to be healthy, and athletes can need as many as 5,000 calories. But the new regulations limit the intake to just 750-850 calories on the tray. Which, if the food is unpalatable, means the students may not be getting even that much.” Congressmen Tim Huelskamp (R-KS) and Steve King (R-IA) sponsor the “No Hungry Kids Act” to repeal the 2010 legislation. (Huelskamp later calls on the Department of Agriculture to practice what it preaches, saying, “If the USDA demands that 100,000 school districts change their menus and justifies this mandate because schools receive federal money for lunches, then taxpayers should demand that the USDA cafeteria meet the same standards, as USDA operates in taxpayer-funded buildings. Let’s see if they eat enough to function. Let’s see if they like having choices taken away from them.”) [37503, 37516, 37572, 37573, 37598. 37614, 37864]

Obama campaigns in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where the Romney campaign is sponsoring billboard ads to greet him. The billboards note that “in the 220 days” since Obama last visited the state, “Our national debt has increased \$617 billion. 23 million Americans are struggling for work. Wisconsin can do better.” Obama tells his audience, “From the day I ran for this office last year—er, four years ago, it seems like just last year—I’ve always said change takes more than one term, one president, one party.” In fact, Obama has not “always said” he would need more than one term. In early 2009 he said he would cut the deficit in half during his first term in office, and he infamously told NBC’s Matt Lauer, “If I don’t have this done in three years, then there’s gonna be a one term proposition.” “We’ve got what it takes to succeed, but what’s preventing us from realizing that potential is the politics in Washington. Part of what this election is about is giving people the voice to break that deadlock. It may be harder but it leads to the better place.” Obama—who has spent four years blaming George W. Bush for all of his troubles—says, “I don’t want to spend all our time blaming somebody else—blaming unions or blaming immigrants or blaming gay people or blaming some other group for our trouble.” [37504, 37513, 37514, 37557]

Obama’s Wisconsin event is held at Milwaukee’s BMO Harris Pavilion. (Politico eagerly repeats the Obama campaign’s crowd estimate of 18,000—a dubious claim, considering the pavilion was not full and has only 2,500 seats and room for 2,500 more on benches.) [37521, 37522]

Dov Hikind, a Democrat in the new York State Assembly, tells the Fox News Channel’s Neil Cavuto, “Let’s get this straight, for all Democrats across America, [Obama] does not like the Prime Minister of the state of Israel. That is a fact that you cannot deny. ...Prime Minister Netanyahu, [from] the only democracy in the Middle East, he was elected by the

people. But Obama has had a problem with him for years. ...Israel is the country that is being threatened—it's very survival. This is not some politics; their survival is in jeopardy. You have Iran saying, 'We are going to wipe you off the face of the earth.' ...Netanyahu wants to meet with [Obama]. [Obama] should *want* to meet with the prime minister. ...When [Obama] said he has Israel's back, I became very, very concerned. The bottom line is, I do not trust [Obama] with regard to the security of the state of Israel." Cavuto asks Hikind why so many Jewish voters support Democrats and Obama. He responds, "It's a disease. It has to be dealt with. It's unfortunate. ...But there are a great number of Jews—and some of the latest polls indicate, clearly, that Jews are moving away from [Obama]. And I can't understand how anyone who cares about the democracy in the Middle East called Israel—I can't understand how anyone would take a chance of giving Obama four more years in the White House." [37509]

Breitbart.com reports that the Obama administration "is about to release or transfer 55 Gitmo prisoners, despite reports that the Libyan believed to be behind the killing of US Ambassador Christopher Stevens was a former Guantanamo inmate transferred to Libyan custody. The large percentage of those scheduled to be released are Yemeni, according to a list made public by the Obama administration. ...A release or transfer of 55 inmates means Obama is moving out one third of the prisoners at Guantanamo. And while it doesn't represent a shutdown of the facility, it's certainly indicative of a move toward that end. Could it be that Obama is trying to set himself up to campaign as the man who is taking steps to finally close Gitmo, just as he recently reversed the Afghanistan surge in order to campaign as the man who's winding down the war in the Afghanistan?" (Among those scheduled to be released is Idris Ahmad Abdu Qadir Idris—one of Osama bin Laden's bodyguards, and a member of al-Qaeda. According to DailyCaller.com, "The Defense Department considers Idris a 'high risk' if released from custody, meaning that he is 'likely to pose a threat to the US, its interests and allies.'" The Obama administration, however, wants him released.) [37525, 37526, 37546]

Michelle Obama address a Congressional Black Caucus dinner and trots out the race card, lambasting photo ID laws for voting. She calls the issue "...the march of our time... this is the sit-in of our time," and states, "We cannot let anyone discourage us from casting our ballots [or] make us feel unwelcome in the voting booth." (Even being dead should not prevent someone from casting a vote, according to Mrs. Obama—who seems ignorant of the fact that black voters and white voters support photo ID requirements by large majorities. Her comments might be construed as a sign of desperation by the Obama campaign. A need to "gin up the base" with race-mongering suggests Obama knows he cannot win if any blacks stay home on election day.) [37518]

NBC's *Saturday Night Live* presents a segment with comedian Jay Pharaoh as Obama in which the terrible economy is acknowledged. (HotAir.com quips, "'SNL' may now be the most reliable source of economic news on NBC.") [37718, 37753]

On September 23 Townhall.com reports that the Bureau of Labor Statistics report of new jobless claims filed in the week ending September 15 "...indicates that the pace of layoffs in the United States is accelerating at the fastest pace since the 2007 recession began. At

present, the average rate of increase in the number of initial unemployment insurance benefit claims filed each week since the most recent trend began on 7 July 2012 has reached 2,800 per week. That figure is greater than the average rate of increase of 1,641 layoffs per week that was recorded as the U.S. entered into recession in December 2007. That figure held through 26 July 2008, when high oil and gasoline prices accelerated the recession into high gear, increasing the rate of new layoffs in the U.S. to 7,599 per week.” [37515]

A series of emails between BuzzFeed correspondent Michael Hastings and Philippe Reines, a longtime aide to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, ends with Reines writing, “I now understand why the official investigation by the Department of the Defense as reported by The Army Times [and] The Washington Post concluded beyond a doubt that you’re an unmitigated asshole. How’s that for a non-bullshit response? Now that we’ve gotten that out of our systems, have a good day. And by good day, I mean Fuck Off.” (Reines was less than eager to respond to questions from Hastings, which included, “Why didn’t the State Department search the consulate and find [ambassador Christopher] Steven’s [sic] diary first? What other potential valuable intelligence was left behind that could have been picked up by apparently anyone searching the grounds? Was any classified or top secret material also left? Do you still feel that there was adequate security at the compound, considering it was not only overrun but sensitive personal effects and possibly other intelligence remained out for anyone passing through to pick up? Your statement on CNN sounded pretty defensive—do you think it’s the media’s responsibility to help secure State Department assets overseas after they’ve been attacked?”) [37542, 37579]

Congressman Mike Rogers (R-MI), chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, appears on CNN’s *State of the Union* and says of the Obama/Clinton “apology ad” in Pakistan, “I think it was a horrible idea. It gave credibility and it gave a permission slip to al-Qaeda, to Pakistani officials. I don’t know who gave them the advice. It was horrible advice. It has exacerbated the situation.” [37517]

HuffingtonPost.com reports, “The State Department blasted CNN ...for the network’s handling of a personal journal belonging to late U.S. Ambassador to Libya Christopher Stevens, which was removed from the site of the deadly Sept. 11 consulate attack. ...CNN had found the journal four days after the attack ‘on the floor of the largely unsecured consulate compound where [Stevens] was fatally wounded.’ The CNN.com story noted that the network notified Stevens’ family ‘within hours after it was discovered,’ that the personal journal was only used for news ‘tips’ later corroborated by other sources, and that it was then provided to a third party to return to his family. ...CNN issued a second statement in its defense, arguing that the network ‘felt there were issues raised in the journal which required full reporting, which we did,’ and that ‘the public had a right to know what CNN had learned from multiple sources about the fears and warnings of a terror threat before the Benghazi attack which are now raising questions about why the State Department didn’t do more to protect Ambassador Stevens and other US personnel. ...Perhaps the real question here is why is the State Department now attacking the messenger,’ read the CNN statement.” (Some might argue that the

Obama administration is only upset that the journal shows there were concerns about inadequate security, and that had it included pages of condemnations of George W. Bush there would have been no criticism of CNN. Others might question why CNN was able to find a journal in the consulate rubble a full three days after the killing of Stevens and three other Americans. The site was apparently no better protected after the attack than before.) [37519, 37520, 37529]

On *Fox News Sunday*, Obama adviser Robert Gibbs stumbles through a response to host Chris Wallace's question: "[Obama] has blocked out time [on his schedule] to appear on *The View* on Tuesday [September 25], so he has time for Whoopi Goldberg but he doesn't have time for world leaders?" Among Gibbs' excuses: "They have telephones in the White House... We don't need a meeting in Washington just to confer with leaders." (More than 120 leaders will be in New York City for the annual meeting of the United Nations General Assembly. Obama will deliver a speech and meet briefly with Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi. The other 119 will have to hope that Whoopi Goldberg, Joy Behar, and Barbara Walters address their issues.) [37523, 37527, 37538]

The Romney campaign releases an ad that states, "Bob Woodward, the *Washington Post* reporter who broke [the] Watergate [story], recently wrote that during stimulus negotiations ...Obama called his Democratic leadership team, Harry Reid, Nancy Pelosi. And as ...Obama spoke, Nancy Pelosi hit the mute button. Went on with their meeting, ignoring [Obama]. Not even listening to what he had to say. If he cannot lead his own party, how can he lead America?" (Pelosi denies the report by Woodward, which was confirmed by others in the room.) [37553]

Attendees at the General Assembly meeting will include Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who will be traveling to the United States with about 140 Iranian officials. (Apparently Obama's sanctions against Iran do not extend to U.S. travel visas for Iranians. The cost to U.S. taxpayers for security for those officials is not known.) [37528]

In a *60 Minutes* interview, Obama makes several statements that prompt subsequent criticism. Steve Kroft asks, "Have the events that took place in the Middle East, the recent events in the Middle East given you any pause about your support for the governments that have come to power following the Arab Spring?" Obama responds, "Well, uh, I said even at the time that this is going to be a rocky path. Uh, the... the question presumes that somehow we could have stopped this wave of change. I think it was absolutely the right thing for us to do to align ourselves with democracy, universal rights, uh, a notion that, uh, people have, uh, have to be to participate in, in, in, uh, their own governance. Uh, but I, I, I was pretty certain and continue to be pretty certain that, uh, there're going to be bumps in the road because, uh, you know, in a lot of these places, uh, the one organizing principle, uh, has been Islam. Uh, the one part of society that hasn't been controlled completely by the government. ...There are strains of extremism, uh, and anti-Americanism, and anti-Western sentiment. And, you know, can be tapped into by demagogues. There will probably be some times where we bump up, uh, against some of these countries and have strong disagreements, but, uh, I do think that over the long term, uh, we are more likely to get, uh, a Middle East and North Africa that

is more peaceful, more prosperous and more aligned, uh, with our interests.” (The killing of four Americans is a mere “bump in the road.” At HotAir.com Ed Morrissey writes, “Obama gives a you-gotta-break-a-few-eggs-to-make-an-omelet response that’s pretty inappropriate, considering the outcome in Benghazi.) [37536, 37547, 37548, 37549]

Kroft asks Obama, “How much pressure have you been getting from Prime Minister Netanyahu to make up your mind to use military force in Iran?” Obama replies, “Well, look, I have conversations with Prime Minister Netanyahu all the time. And I understand and share Prime Minister Netanyahu’s insistence that Iran should not obtain a nuclear weapon, because it would threaten us, it would threaten Israel, and it would threaten the world and kick off a, a nuclear arms race.” Kroft: “You’re saying, you don’t feel any pressure from Prime Minister Netanyahu in the middle of a campaign to try and get you to change your policy and draw a line in the sand? You don’t feel any pressure?” Obama: “When it comes to our national security decisions, uh, any pressure that I feel is simply to do what’s right for the American people. And I am gonna block out, uh, any noise that’s out there. ...Now, I feel an obligation, not pressure, but obligation, to make sure that we’re in close consultation with the Israelis, uh, on these issues because it affects them deeply; they’re one of our closest allies in the region, and we’ve got a, a, an Iranian regime that has said horrible things that directly threaten, uh, Israel’s existence.” (Israel’s concerns or being annihilated by a nuclear strike are just “noise” and Israel is not America’s closest Middle East ally but only “one of them.” Kroft does not ask Obama to list America’s other “closest allies” in the Middle East.) [37536, 37547, 37548, 37551]

Asked about the dramatic increase in the national debt since he took office, Obama gives interviewer Kroft an answer that many Americans, having heard it so often, may have memorized: “Well, first, first of all, Steve, when I came into office, I inherited the biggest deficit in our history. And over the last four years, the deficit has gone up, but 90 percent of that is as a consequence of two wars that weren’t paid for, as a consequence of tax cuts that weren’t paid for, a prescription drug plan that was not paid for, and then the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression.” (Obama is, of course, lying. More than \$800 billion of his \$5 trillion in deficits comes solely from his “stimulus” legislation. Obama’s spending has also increased federal spending to almost 25 percent of the nation’s GDP—up from a 60-year average of 18–20 percent. Obama is also not addressing the question, which was about the national *debt*, not Bush’s final annual *deficit*. HotAir.com observes, “Obama talks to Kroft as if he had no input into policy at all, but was simply a victim of a federal government left on a Bushian autopilot. Obama’s party had large legislative majorities in both the House and the Senate the first two years of his term. Obama could have done practically anything he wanted about deficits and debt during that time. Instead, he spent his time passing ObamaCare and Dodd-Frank. Speaking of legislative majorities, which party controlled Congress the two years previous to Obama’s election...? Why, it was the Democrats. Who passed that budget that Obama ‘inherited?’ The Democrat-controlled House and Senate—including a Senator named Barack Obama. And [who] signed it into force with an omnibus spending bill in March 2009? Obama did, which means he inherited the budget and its deficit *from himself*.” Further, even *The Washington Post* gives “four Pinocchios” to Obama’s claim that 90 percent of the deficit was Bush’s fault.) [37590, 37591, 37592, 37613, 37639]

Obama also says, “Look, nobody’s more concerned about the employment situation than I am. The problem we have was the hole was so deep when we got in. We lost 9 million jobs. We’ve created 4.6 [million]. We’ve still got a long way to go. Now I’ve put forward very specific plans that we know would create jobs. And that’s not my opinion. That’s the opinion of independent economists. My JOBS Act that I presented to Congress over a year ago—we said, ‘Let’s help put folks back to work. Let’s make sure that we are getting construction workers on the job, rebuilding our infrastructure. It’s estimated that would create an additional million jobs right now. But we haven’t seen full implementation of that plan.’” (Obama’s proposal is essentially “Stimulus II”—and would be just as ineffective as his 2009 stimulus legislation.) Obama brags, “We passed historic legislation that strengthened our financial regulations. We passed legislation that will not only provide 30 million more people coverage, but also insures, you know, that kids can stay on their parents’ health insurance plans until they are 26 and seniors have lower prescription drugs. And so change has happened, and positive change for the American people. ...I’m the first one to confess that the spirit that I brought to Washington, that I wanted to see instituted, where we weren’t constantly in a political slugfest, but were focused more on problem solving that, you know, I haven’t fully accomplished that. Haven’t even come close in some cases. And you know, if you ask me what’s my biggest disappointment is that we haven’t changed the tone in Washington as much as I would have liked.” (Earlier in the week Obama said in a Univision interview that his biggest disappointment was not passing amnesty legislation. In May, Obama told CBS’s Charlie Rose his greatest failure was “thinking that this job was just about getting the policy right.”) [37544, 37631]

Obama also brags, “Taxes are lower on families than they’ve been, probably, in the last 50 years. So I haven’t raised taxes. I’ve cut taxes for middle class families by an average of \$3,600 per typical family.” (That income taxes are “lower than they’ve been” is the result of tax cuts during the Reagan and Bush administrations—tax cuts Obama has consistently derided. Obama’s claim of \$3,600 in tax cuts is ludicrous. The temporary two percent reduction in Social Security taxes certainly does not amount to \$3,600. With an income of \$50,000, the two percent reduction amounts to \$1,000 per year. Further, that tax cut will result in lower Social Security benefits upon retirement, because benefits are based on taxes paid into the system.) “When it comes to regulations, I’ve issued fewer regulations than my predecessor George Bush did during that same period in office. So it’s kind of hard to argue that we’ve overregulated. Now, I don’t make any apologies for putting in place regulations to make sure banks don’t make reckless bets and then expect taxpayers to bail them out. I don’t make any apologies for regulating insurance companies, so that they can’t drop a family’s coverage, just when somebody in their family needs it most.” (Obama does not mention that he has signed more than 900 Executive Orders, many of which require regulations to be written. DailyCaller.com notes, “But thirty second later, after suggesting Bush instituted more regulations than he did during an equivalent time in office, ...Obama warned that Bush’s strategy of rolling back regulations wasn’t something to be emulated.) “And, you know, the problem that Governor Romney has is that he seems to only have one note: tax cuts for the wealthy and rolling back regulations as a recipe for success. Well, we tried that vigorously

between 2001 and 2008. And it didn't work out so well." (Obama is lying. Romney has proposed income tax cuts for all income levels, not just the wealthy. Historically, income tax rate reductions have resulted in increased tax revenue because people are given an incentive to be more productive. Romney proposes cutting back regulations that negatively impact job creation, which is, in fact, a "recipe for success." It is simply not true that the government "vigorously" rolled back regulations between 2001 and 2008. Regulations increased dramatically during those years.) [37545, 37591, 37623]

Obama also comments, "...I bear responsibility for everything, to some degree, and one of the things I've realized over the last two years is that that only happens if I'm enlisting the American people much more aggressively than I did the first two years." (Obama's "to some degree" disclaimer prompts a response from TheDC Morning: "Let's see how this might play elsewhere in history. 'We shall never surrender,' Churchill said, 'to some degree.' Or: 'Tear down this wall,' Reagan demanded, 'to some degree.' Or possibly: 'I'm the decider,' George W. Bush said, 'to some degree.' Or how about another formulation: 'We shall return!' General MacArthur declared, 'perhaps.' Somehow these statements no longer sound as strong." Rush Limbaugh comments, "What does that mean? 'Enlisting?'" See, this is the kind of talk that the left-wing cocktail party circuit swoons over. This is the kind of talk that they think means really superior intelligence. 'Yeah, Steve, uh, I need to do a better job of changing the tone in Washington. The biggest disappointment I've had is I've been unable to change the tone.' You mean when you accuse doctors of doing unnecessary surgery? You mean when you called Romney a felon and maybe a murderer?") [37544, 37556, 37558, 37597]

CBS does not air all of Obama's comments in the interview, which was recorded earlier in the week. Among the omitted remarks: Obama admitting that his campaign had gone "overboard" in some of its Romney attack ads. (The full interview appears on the CBS web site.) [37540, 37541, 37578]

Romney spokesperson Andrea Saul responds to Obama's CBS interview: "Tonight on *60 Minutes*, ...*Obama* called Israel's legitimate concern about the impact of an Iran armed with nuclear weapons 'noise' and referred to Israel as merely 'one of our closest allies in the region.' This is just the latest evidence of his chronic disregard for the security of our closest ally in the Middle East. Governor Romney's views stand in sharp contrast to [Obama's]. Governor Romney strongly believes that Israel is our most important ally in the Middle East and that support for Israel is essential to extending freedom, peace and democracy throughout the region. As president, Governor Romney will restore and protect the close alliance between our nation and the state of Israel." [37551]

*60 Minutes* also interviews Mitt Romney, who states, "[Obama's] vision is one of a larger and larger government, with trillion dollar deficits, that promises everything to everyone. That's the course that he has laid out. His policy for the economy is more stimulus, more government spending." [37560]

At the annual Emmy Awards program, host Jimmy Kimmel asks if any members of the audience are voting for Mitt Romney. After some respectable applause for Romney,

Kimmel remarks, “All right, there’s [sic] 40 Republicans and the rest, godless, liberal homosexuals.” (Although the applause was from a minority of the audience, it was clearly from far more than 40 people. Had the 2008 program host asked who was voting for John McCain, no one would have had the courage to applaud. If Obama has lost a fair percentage of the Hollywood crowd, he has most certainly lost large numbers of voters elsewhere. It is worth noting that Romney garnered \$6 million at a Hollywood fundraiser the day before the Emmy Awards, proving that not everyone in town is a liberal.) [37537, 37612]

On September 24 White House press secretary Jay Carney is asked about Obama’s *60 Minutes* statements. Carney responds, “[Obama] was making clear that in this historic transformation that’s taking place in the region that progress won’t come in a straight line, that there will be challenges. ... This transformation will not happen overnight and we will certainly encounter challenges. ... [Obama] as you know is not minimizing what we recognize as historic transformations taking place and [Obama] is certainly not minimizing the challenges. ... That assertion [Obama callin the four murders “bumps in the road”] is both desperate and offensive. ... There is a certain desperate attempt to grasp at words for political advantage here and once again, that’s offensive.” [37536, 37549]

Mitt Romney tells ABC: “Well I think [Obama’s] comments on *60 Minutes* last night were quite revealing. His indication that developments in the middle east represent bumps in the road is a very different view than I have. [Obama], uh, I can’t imagine saying something like the assassination of ambassadors is a bump in the road, when you look at the entire context, The assassination, the Muslim Brotherhood president being elected in Egypt, 20,000 people killed in Syria, Iran close to becoming a nuclear nation—these are far from being bumps in the road. They represent events that are spinning out of the kind of influence we’d like to have. We’re at the mercy of events rather than shaping the events in the Middle East. and [Obama] doesn’t have time to actually spend time with leaders of these nations, particularly [Binyamin] Netanyahu, I find that very troubling. And a suggestion that the course America is on is not the right course in the Middle East. And of course also on *60 Minutes* he laid out his economic agenda saying things are going just fine. Tell that to the 23 million people who are struggling to find a good job or to the people who have no job or having a hard time making ends meet. This is a tough time for the country and the status quo is not going to cut it.” [37549, 37550]

Romney tells NBC, “There are extraordinary events going on in the Middle East and considering those events, either one of them or all of them collectively, as bumps in the road shows a person who has a very different perspective about world affairs [than] the perspective I have.” In Pueblo, Colorado, Romney tells an audience, “These are not bumps in the road, these are human lives.” [37549]

HotAir.com reports on a *Minneapolis/Star Tribune* poll that gives Obama a 48–40 lead over Mitt Romney in Minnesota. Amazingly, the poll’s D/R/I is 41/28/31. “The pollsters... would have you believe that there will be 13% more Democrats than Republicans at the polls this fall. But recent elections reveal this as madness...” In the 2008 election, the partisan split was 39/33/28. In the 2010 mid-terms it was 38/34/26.



Although Obama may very well win Minnesota, it is ridiculous to believe that he is more popular in 2012 than he was in 2008 or that the Democrats somehow moved from a 6-point to a 13-point advantage over Republicans in just four years. (Clearly, the poll is being used to discourage Republican voter turnout. The voter who thinks his candidate does not have a chance may simply stay home on election day—not realizing that the 8-point race is closer to a 2-point race.) [37593]

ObamaCare remains unpopular with Americans, with a nationwide Rasmussen poll showing 52 percent favor its repeal and 41 percent opposing repeal of the health care legislation. [37681]

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announces it will distribute \$1.33 billion to Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers “who believe they have faced discriminatory practices from the USDA” and who “file a claim by March 25, 2013. ...The opening of this claims process is part of USDA’s ongoing efforts to correct the wrongs of the past and ensure fair treatment to all current and future customers.” (DailyCaller.com notes, “This is the third settlement to interest groups the USDA is believed to have discriminated against during the Obama administration. ...The \$1.25 billion Pigford II settlement—which covered black farmers who charged that the USDA had discriminated against them when applying for loans from 1981 to 1996 but missed the filing deadline in the original 1999 Pigford settlement—made headlines in 2011 for the allegations of fraud in the program. The Pigford case involved black farmers who claimed the USDA discriminated against them. The number of blacks who received payouts under the settlement will likely exceed the 26,785 black farmers who were considered to even be operating in 1999. There were more 86,000 claims filed—meaning that ineligible farmers and even non-farmers filed claims to cash in on the class-action settlements, just as pedestrians sometimes quickly hop onto a bus after it has been involved in a traffic accident in order to claim injuries. The Pigford settlement was one of Obama’s “wealth redistribution” schemes.) [13059, 13060, 13084, 13193, 13194, 13227, 13228, 13377, 37582]

WND.com reports, “James Grinols, one of 10 presidential electors chosen by the Republican Party of Minnesota, is asking GOP presidential candidate Mitt Romney and vice presidential candidate Rep. Paul Ryan to provide his legal counsel, Mario Apuzzo [attorney for the plaintiff in *Kerchner v. Obama*], with their ‘paper, full form official certificate of birth with raised seal from the place of your birth.’ Grinols told WND that if Romney and Ryan were to win his state, but they ignore his request to provide verification of their eligibility, he might not vote for the Republican candidates in the Electoral College.” Grinols states, “I may be idealistic, but it seems my only available option is to help the Republicans lead by example.” (If electors in many states demand and receive Romney’s original birth certificate, there would be pressure for Obama to do the same. It will not happen, but at least one of the 538 electors understands the responsibility he has been given.) [37569]

Obama deputy campaign manager Stephanie Cutter states, “We’ll continue doing what we have been doing, trying to get [Obama’s] message out on the ground. Whether it’s in

the suburban areas of Northern Virginia, or Denver, Ohio, to talk about what [Obama] wants to do in the future. That's the other thing that you find most often with women. They're not really concerned about what's happened over the last four years, they really want to know what's going to happen in the next four years." (Translation: "We don't want women voters judging Obama on the past four years or he will lose.") On Blaze TV's *The War Room*, columnist S. E. Cupp comments, "The message that Stephanie Cutter unwittingly put out there is actually incredibly insulting to ...describe women as a single group, with a single interest, [and] as a lock for him [Obama]. ...Basically, what she is saying is. 'They're not going to think, they're just going to vote for us.' And worse, they're not going to consider what happened over the past four year, to their homes, their families, their checkbooks, gas prices, their jobs—they're not going to make those calculations. Women are this single-minded, and also kind of thoughtless, that we're just going to be hook, line, and sinker [for Obama]. ...It's really insulting." [37566, 37578, 37622, 37664]

At the United Nations, the Israeli delegation walks out during Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's address to the General Assembly. (He calls for "the international community" to "unanimously hold occupiers accountable and make efforts to return the occupied territories to their rightful owners." That is, Ahmadinejad calls for the United Nations to demand that Jews be evicted from Israel and the land to be given to "Palestinians.") The U.S. delegation remains seated. (In 2010 and 2011 the Americans joined Israel in walking out on Ahmadinejad's speech. It can be assumed that the decision not to join the Israelis in 2012 was meant to send a signal to both countries. The possible message to Israel: "The U.S. does not necessarily 'have your back.'" The possible message to Iran: "Don't blame us if Israel strikes your nuclear facilities.") [37563, 37619, 37646]

At the daily press briefing, reporters pound White House press secretary Jay Carney on Obama's finding time to appear on *The View* but not to meet with world leaders. (His responses satisfy no one.) [37602]

Obama cancels his White House meeting with Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi. (According to *The New York Times*, "Morsi dropped his request" for the meeting. Others believe it was Obama who canceled the meeting because of the political fallout from his refusal to meet with Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu.) [37568]

On *Special Report*, Charles Krauthammer observes, "If Romney had said the death of our ambassador, the attack on our embassy, the death of three other Americans, the hoisting of the black al-Qaeda flag over four U.S. embassies, and demonstrations all over the Middle East, all the way to Indonesia, including a burning in effigy of Obama in Sri Lanka, of all places, is a 'bump in the road' it would be a three-day headline. [But because Obama said it and the media supports him] You hardly hear about it at all..." [37595]

On CNN, Anderson Cooper and several guests discuss the network's use of slain ambassador Christopher Stevens' journal to confirm that he had expressed concerns over

poor security at the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya. Cooper notes that the consulate “was operating under an exemption from established security protocols.” (According to CNN.com, “The mission was a rented villa and considered a temporary facility by the agency, which allowed a waiver that permitted fewer guards and security measures than a standard embassy or consulate... Allowing a waiver would have been a decision made with input from Washington, Libyan officials and the ambassador, according to diplomatic security experts.”) Both CNN security analyst Fran Townsend and former CIA case officer Robert Baer are highly critical of the Obama administration’s disregard for security and its efforts to hide the truth. Robert Baer claims that “no embassy has been compromised to this extent since Teheran in 1979,” and expresses concern that if a CNN employee could walk in and obtain a journal, there is no way to know what sensitive information may now be in the hands of America’s enemies. (As an example, the consulate likely had lists of intelligence contacts—people whose lives may now be in danger if the terrorists learn the identities of Libyans who have been cooperating with the United States. *The New York Times* quotes one official: “It’s a catastrophic intelligence loss. We got our eyes poked out.”) [37579, 37580, 37584, 37585, 37586]

The Ulsterman Report hears from the Wall Street insider, who comments on recent remarks by the White House insider: “Let me simply state that I have given absolutely no consideration to quitting this fight against the man calling himself Obama. Such a possibility has never been voiced by myself to anyone involved in this effort of ours. What I did indicate, very briefly, was my decision to re-allocate needed resources from the internal battles within the FED [Federal Reserve], to more direct involvement in certain swing state education efforts of voters. As the saying goes, one cannot be in all places at once, and myself and those I trust to carry forth certain directives, must exist within that reality. So with that said, any mention of ‘closing shop’ had to do with efforts pertaining to [Ben] Bernanke and QE3, of which I had warned you of some time ago. There was considerable conflict behind the scenes regarding that situation, as the FED minutes will likely disclose. I remain convinced [International Monetary Fund head Christine] Lagarde is playing perhaps the most influential role in twisting the arm of Bernanke in relation to his seemingly suicidal [money printing] action. Please note the latest news coming from Europe, namely Germany. [Chancellor Angela] Merkel continues to wage a battle of epic proportions. She is, at this time, among the very few world leaders I would consider legitimate toward the cause of financial reason and freedoms. Perhaps the only one presently of any significance to successfully slow the still rising tide of Lagarde’s purposeful intent to finalize centralized global governance. As for what plans I may have initiated regarding my own family, [the White House insider] knows better than to share that which I should decide upon. Making such a thing public to you was both unwise and disrespectful to both of us as it placed you in a the middle of what is now what I shall simply call a much needed ‘re-adjustment’ of our mutual friend’s present understanding of their own place in all of this.” [37599]

“And therein we come back to this American election of 2012. I wish to warn you of something rumored from the 2008 campaign, a rumor I will leave for you to decide whether or not to confirm. I made no such attempt to confirm myself as at the time, the political machinations of this or any other country held little interest to me so long as the

prepaid outcome was ultimately finalized. It is my understanding that during the first [2008 presidential] debate between ‘Barack Obama’ and Senator [John] McCain, the Obama campaign was successful in implementing a planned question and answer segment within the debate format. By that I mean to say they cheated. This rumor first came to my attention approximately three days prior to the debate. There were communications, plural not singular, between an operative from the Obama campaign and an associate or associates for that first televised presidential debate in 2008. The Obama campaign wanted to make certain of a very particular question and answer segment in relation to the economic conditions of that time and the still ongoing attempts by the Bush campaign to deal with those challenges. This segment would then finalize the view of McCain’s incompetence and ‘Barack Obama’s’ own brilliance. There was to be a line used by the man calling himself Obama, ‘orgy of deficits’ that would pin Senator McCain to the Bush administration, which of course was at that time reviled by most of the electorate. The timing of this line’s use was to be signaled by the moderator himself to candidate Obama. I did not watch that first debate in 2008. I have not verified this well-sourced rumor. I simply recall now what was told to me then with the growing concern a similar attempt will be made by the Obama administration yet again during this first debate to inflict harm to Mitt Romney as they did so to John McCain.” [37599]

“It should be simple enough for you to go back and find the use of that line by Obama from 2008. From there, I would urge you to ask our mutual friend about it. Ask them who among the Obama operatives of 2008 would be responsible for prepping the media for future appearances by the then-Democratic candidate? Did such a thing occur—outright collusion between the Obama campaign and the architects of that first presidential debate in 2008? And how heavy the hearts of those responsible for orchestrating such a thing if they now look back upon Obama’s victory as such a dangerous mistake for America. Ask our friend of this. I will be very interested to see if they provide any meaningful answers to you, though regardless, they most certainly will have already provided those answers to me, whether they intend to or not.” (Few would be surprised if the moderators of the 2012 debates between Obama and Mitt Romney ask questions that have been “pre-approved” or even written by the Obama campaign.) [37599]

Aging pop star Madonna tells a Washington, D.C. audience, “Y’all better vote for fucking Obama, okay? For better or for worse, all right? We have a black Muslim in the White House. Now that is some shit. That’s some amazing shit. It means there is hope in this country. And Obama is fighting for gay rights, okay, so support the man, God damn it.” [37604, 37605, 37606]

On September 25 Obama, trolling for female votes, appears with his wife on ABC’s *The View*. When it is noted that he is the only man in the group, Obama says, “I told folks I’m just supposed to be eye candy here for you guys.” (Not all voters will be pleased that Obama thought appearing on the program is more important than meeting with any of the world leaders who are in New York City for the United Nations General Assembly meeting.) Obama addresses the terrorist attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, which he refuses to call a terrorist attack: “There’s no doubt that the kind of weapons that were used, the ongoing assault, that it wasn’t just a mob action. What’s clear is that, around the

world, there are still a lot of threats out there. The overwhelming majority of Muslims, they want the same things that families here want. They want opportunity, kids want an education, they want jobs, they want peace. But there are extremist strains that are there. There's never an excuse for violence. The best way to marginalize that kind of speech [in the anti-Islam movie] is to ignore it. You don't make yourself bigger by putting other people down.'" (Obama then "ignores" the movie by mentioning it six times in his address to the United Nations.) [37562, 37564, 37574, 37587, 37588, 37594, 37822]

On CNN, a guest on *Early Start* says "it looked a little foolish" for Obama to be "talking ...on *The View* with the girls on the couch" while Secretary of State Hillary Clinton was meeting with world leaders at the United Nations. One co-host, in full Obama defense mode, asks, "But how significant are these meetings? Are there any big accomplishments that really come out of these meetings?" [37564]

A *Washington Post* poll shows Obama leading Mitt Romney 52–44 in Ohio. HotAir.com reviews the details and writes, "Among likely voters in the Ohio sample, the D/R/I is 37/30/30. That's a far cry from the midterm 36/37/28—but it's not that far off from 2008's 39/31/30. The question, then, is what kind of turnout should we expect in Ohio—one that looks more like 2008 or 2010? ...Let's look at a couple of other demos in Ohio. Romney actually has a one-point edge over Obama among likely-voter independents, 47/46. In 2008, Obama won them by eight points, 52/44, on his way to winning the state by five. However, Obama wins women by seventeen points while losing men by 1 for a +16 gender gap. In 2008, that was just +11 (+3 men, +8 women). If there's a difference, it's in that gender gap rather than independents." [37565]

Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan campaign together in Vandalia, Ohio. After Ryan speaks, he hands the microphone to Romney, who says, "What about that Paul Ryan?" The crowd starts chanting, "Romney! Romney!" Romney tells the audience, " 'Let's try this, 'Romney/Ryan! Romney/Ryan! I like that better!'" (MSNBC later broadcasts the clip, adjusting the volume so that it is difficult to hear the crowd. The hosts on *Morning Joe* then claim the crowd had only been chanting Ryan's name and that Romney insisted on making sure his own name was included. Rather than allow the clip to portray Romney as magnanimous, MSNBC maliciously portrays Romney as jealous of any attention Ryan was getting. TheBlazae.com confirms that reports from WHIOTV.com and *The New York Times* confirm that the crowd was, in fact, chanting Romney's name. The *Times* writes, "After Mr. Ryan whooped up the crowd in Vandalia on Tuesday, Mr. Romney moved to the front of the stage. As the crowd began chanting 'Romney! Romney!' he cut them off. 'Wait a second,' Mr. Romney said, instructing the audience to cheer for 'Romney-Ryan! Romney-Ryan!' They did. 'There we go,' he said, pleased." Apparently MSNBC and *The New York Times* have different reporting standards.) [37705, 37706, 37707]

Obama addresses the United Nations, first noting the killing of ambassador Christopher Stevens. He says, "Chris went to Benghazi in the early days of the Libyan revolution, arriving on a cargo ship. As America's representative, he helped the Libyan people as they coped with violent conflict, cared for the wounded, and crafted a vision for a future in which the rights of all Libyans would be respected. After the revolution, he supported

the birth of a new democracy, as Libyans held elections, built new institutions, and began to move forward after decades of dictatorship.” (It is not the job of a U.S. ambassador to help another nation “craft a vision for its future.” It is to represent the United States on foreign soil and provide services for Americans who live and work there. Additionally, there may not have been any “violent conflict” had Obama not insisted on intervening in Libya. Judge Andrew Napolitano points out that “...Obama unlawfully, deceptively and unconstitutionally bombed Libya in an effort either to kill Col. Gadhafi, its former strongman and American ally, or to weaken his defenses until he surrendered. It was unlawful because he used the CIA to fight a war. It was deceptive because he lied about no boots on the ground (‘boots’ referring to troops, rather than intelligence agents with military hardware). It was unconstitutional because under the Constitution, only Congress may declare war on another country.” Stevens and three other Americans were killed not just because Obama chose not to adequately defend them, but because he interfered in Libya in the first place.) [37653, 37654]

Obama says, “Understand that America will never retreat from the world. We will bring justice to those who harm our citizens and our friends. We will stand with our allies and are willing to partner with countries to deepen ties of trade and investment; science and technology; energy and development—efforts that can spark economic growth for all of our people, and stabilize democratic change. But such efforts depend upon a spirit of mutual interest and mutual respect. No government or company; no school or NGO will be confident working in a country where its people are endangered. For partnership to be effective, our citizens must be secure and our efforts must be welcomed.” (The remark, “Our efforts must be welcomed,” goes unnoticed by the media. It sounds very much like George W. Bush, suggesting that the United States will impose democracy and American values on other nations whether they like it or not, and regardless of how many people have to die to do so. Some nations do not want American involvement, and certainly do not want to be told by Obama that U.S. embassies, consulates, and interference “must be welcomed.”) [37653]

In his address, Obama goes to great lengths to appease Muslims, saying, “In every country, there are those who find different religious beliefs threatening; in every culture, those who love freedom for themselves must ask how much they are willing to tolerate freedom for others. That is what we saw play out the last two weeks, as a crude and disgusting video sparked outrage throughout the Muslim world. I have made it clear that the United States government had nothing to do with this video, and I believe its message must be rejected by all who respect our common humanity. It is an insult not only to Muslims, but to America as well—for as the city outside these walls makes clear, we are a country that has welcomed people of every race and religion. We are home to Muslims who worship across our country. We not only respect the freedom of religion—we have laws that protect individuals from being harmed because of how they look or what they believe. We understand why people take offense to this video because millions of our citizens are among them. ...I know that not all countries in this body share this particular understanding of the protection of free speech. We recognize that. But in 2012, at a time when anyone with a cell phone can spread offensive views around the world with a click of a button, the notion that we can control the flow of information is obsolete.” (Obama’s

remark suggests he wishes he *could* “control the flow of information”—which should make voters in the United States who support the First Amendment nervous.) Obama says, “...The future must not belong to those who slander the prophet of Islam”—a statement which will no doubt receive a fair amount of attention and attempts at interpretation. (Has anyone suggested that the future *does* belong to those who slander Mohammed?) “The future must not belong to those corrupt few who steal a country’s resources—it must be won by the students and entrepreneurs; workers and business owners who seek a broader prosperity for all people.” (Obama’s statement is pure Marxism. He *means* that the future belongs to the students and the workers; entrepreneurs and business owners were added only to disguise his message: the power belongs to the proletariat.) Congressman Allen West (R-FL) responds to Obama’s words, “The future does not belong to those who attack our Embassies and Consulates and kill our Ambassadors.” [37574, 37575, 37596, 37600, 37607]

Former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations John Bolton comments on Obama’s speech: “I’d give it about a C [grade]. It was like a great big, warm, fuzzy blanket. [Obama] comes out in favor of tolerance. There’s your breaking news. The problem with the speech was that it was infused with the fallacy of moral equivalency. That there’s sort of extremism and intolerance everywhere and it’s all the same, and the best example, the Israelis and the Palestinians, is that [from Obama’s [perspective] they’ve both got problems that they’ve got to put behind them, as if terrorist attacks on the one hand and legitimate self-defense on the other are equivalent. And it’s that moral equivalency that I think running throughout the speech is a very good idea of Barack Obama’s view of the world, and one where America’s place in it is not where most Americans think it should be. ...And there was one very interesting addition to the speech, not in the prepared text. After [Obama] gave what I thought actually was a very good defense of the First Amendment—certainly the best we’ve heard from the administration in this last two weeks—he then said we understand that there are many nations that don’t share our view of the First Amendment or share our view of freedom of expression, and then he added this, that was not in his prepared text. He said, ‘We accept that,’ which is a way of saying to these regimes, ‘Well, go ahead and repress speech and allow this kind of riotous activity we’ve seen.’ I thought that was a statement about an unwillingness of America to assert its interests, that gives license to those who would take advantage of it.” Bolton states that the anti-islam video “is not the cause of this unrest in the Middle East and the continuous repetition of that as the reason for the assassination of our ambassador, the assaults on our embassy, I think simply convinces people that [Obama] doesn’t understand what’s at stake here. I think there were other revealing passages as well, that are consistent with the theme of declining American influence. He said, for example, that ‘We will end our war in Afghanistan in 2014,’ which is what he would do if he were reelected. ‘We will end our war.’ That’s very true. Unfortunately, al-Qaeda and the Taliban are not gong to end their war, and therein lies the problem. I think in various parts of the broader Middle Eats and around the world people will see this as another piece of evidence of [Obama’s] unwillingness to assert American interests around the world.” [37596]

In an interview with Politico, former Green Party presidential candidate Ralph Nader calls Obama a “war criminal.” Nader says, “He’s gone beyond George W. Bush in [the use of] drones, for example. He thinks the world is his plate, that national sovereignties mean nothing, drones can go anywhere. They can kill anybody that he suspects and every Tuesday he makes the call on who lives and who dies, supposed suspects in places like Yemen and Pakistan and Afghanistan, and that is a war crime and he ought to be held to account. ...[Obama is] below average because he raised expectation levels. What expectation level did George W. Bush raise? ...He’s below average because he’s above average in his intellect and his knowledge of legality, which he is violating with abandon. I don’t know whether George W. Bush ever read the Constitution. This man [Obama] *taught* the Constitution, and [yet] this is what we got.” [37682]

Planned Parenthood, the nation’s number one abortion provider, starts running political ads attacking Mitt Romney as part of a \$3.2 million effort to help reelect Obama—an keep its gravy train running. (Planned Parenthood receives about \$300 million per year in taxpayer funds.) [37576, 37577]

DailyCaller.com reports, “An open letter from a 9/11 survivor to ...Obama requesting that [he] cease invoking the death of Osama bin Laden as a re-election tool has been answered with a completely unrelated form response from the White House.” Army Major David King, who was wounded when the terrorists flew a hijacked plane into the Pentagon, receives from the White House a form letter that states, “Each day, I hear from concerned men and women who are struggling in this economy. ...For more information on jobs, health benefits, housing assistance, and other public resources, you may also call 1-800-FEDINFO or visit [www.USA.gov](http://www.USA.gov).” (King suffered burns over 70 percent of his body. Two of his officemates were killed in the attack.) [37581]

Judicial Watch files a lawsuit to obtain information related to the cost of Secret Service protection for Malia Obama during her spring break trip to Mexico. The Secret Service has refused to comply with a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). (The process has become routine: the watchdog group Judicial Watch requests information via FOIA; the Obama administration refuses to provide the information; Judicial Watch files a lawsuit; and a judge orders the administration to turn over the documents.) [37583, 37737]

Judge Henry Wingate presides over an Obama ballot challenge hearing in Mississippi. [37589]

Mitt Romney addresses the Clinton Global Initiative. He states, “Free enterprise, as we know, has done more to bless humanity than any other economic system, not only because it’s the only system that creates a prosperous middle class, but also because it’s the only system where the individual enjoys the freedom to guide and build his or her life. Free enterprise cannot only make us better off financially, it can make us better people. ...Work—that has to be at the heart of our effort to help people build economies that can create jobs for young and old alike. Work builds self-esteem. It transforms minds from fantasy and fanaticism to reality and grounding. Work does not long tolerate



corruption, nor will it quietly endure the brazen theft by government from hardworking men and women.” [37601]

Hillary Clinton also addresses the Clinton Global Initiative, giving her own version of Obama’s “You didn’t build that” remark: “One of the issues I have been preaching about around the world is collecting taxes in an equitable manner, especially from the elites in every country. It is a fact that around the world the elites of every country are making money. There are rich people everywhere, and yet they do not contribute to the growth of their own countries. They don’t invest in public schools, public hospitals, in other kinds of development internally.” (The “elites,” of course, pay hundreds of millions of dollars in federal, state, and local taxes each year to fund public schools and hospitals. They also invest their private capital in thousands of “other kinds of development” that create jobs for Americans. In Clinton’s view, Trump Tower was apparently not built by Donald Trump, but by skid row bums and welfare recipients. Some might wonder if she has ever visited a hospital and noticed that the various additions are typically named after the “elites” who donated millions of dollars for their construction, or wondered who Carnegie Hall, the Field Museum, Wrigley Field were named after. From Clinton’s perspective, wealth apparently falls from the sky into the hands of undeserving elites, who hide it under their mattresses and never put it to use.) [37608]

Political strategist and former Bill Clinton advisor Dick Morris argues that Mitt Romney has pulled ahead of Obama in the race for the White House. Morris writes that many polls mistakenly assume the 2012 turnout of black, Hispanic, and young voters will be as string as it was in 2008. He notes, “[W]ith Obama below 50% of the vote in most swing states, he is hitting up against a glass ceiling in the high 40s. He can’t get past it except in heavily Democratic states like New York or California. The first time Obama breaks 50 will not be on Election Day. Either he consistently polls above 50% of the vote or he won’t ever get there in the actual vote.” Romney will comfortably win all the states John McCain win in 2008; that gives Romney 173 electoral votes of the 270 he needs to defeat Obama. Romney will also easily win Indiana, giving him 11 more electoral votes. Morris believes Romney is ahead and will win in Iowa, North Carolina, Colorado, and New Hampshire. Their 34 votes brings Romney’s total to 218. In a number of states Obama leads Romney by a point or two, but has been unable to reach the 50 percent threshold. Obama leads 47–46 in Ohio, for example, according to Morris. But the undecideds tend to go overwhelmingly for the challenger on elections day, which favors Romney. In states where Obama has consistently been below 50 percent, it is difficult to believe that the undecideds will suddenly break toward Obama in the final weeks of the campaign—absent an “October surprise” that helps Obama or a significant blunder by Romney. (Of course, for every strategist like Dick Morris who believes Romney has the numbers in his favor, there is a Democrat strategist who believes Obama has the edge. *The Obama Timeline* believes Obama’s campaign trip to Wisconsin on September 22 was telling. Obama won that state by almost 14 points in 2008. He would not spend time and money in Wisconsin if he believed he had the state locked up—and if he has lost most of a 14-point advantage in Wisconsin, he has almost certainly lost quite a lot of support in the other 49 states. as well.) [37603]

The White House insider gives The Ulsterman Report an update on polls. He states, "Forget the media reports, this is where the race really stands. The governor [Romney] has work to do, but it's a lot closer than what people are being told:

Virginia: EVEN (This is not being reflected in media polling. Internals say otherwise. A very close race. I give slight edge to the governor.)

North Carolina: +4 Romney (Romney will win NC and Obama campaign knows it. Their latest internal reportedly showed +5 advantage for the governor.)

Florida: +1 Romney (Close, but Jewish vote over last two internals now show trending against Obama. Could prove difference.)

Ohio: +1 Obama (My gut says this is EVEN, but latest internal showing slight advantage to Obama. See what #s do after ad blitz and first debate performance.)

Wisconsin: +3 Obama (Obama PACs dumping more \$\$\$ into Wisconsin than they thought they would have to. Romney has never led, but governor's team believes a 5% undecided segment could break overwhelmingly in his favor making this state far more competitive on Election Night than national polling now showing. I agree 100%. Wisconsin absolutely in play for us.)

Iowa: Romney +2 (Media polling results way off. Obama campaign internals telling them far different. Romney internals confirm what Obama knows. Governor holding to slim margin but again, looking to see undecideds break for Romney on Election Day.)

Colorado: EVEN (This one too close to call. Internal #s hardly budged over the last six weeks. First debate will likely give momentum to one candidate or the other but right now, I give any EVEN state to Romney. Undecideds break against incumbent by 2 to 1.)

Nevada: Obama +2 (Again, Obama lead not nearly as strong as national media indicating and there is to be a significant advertising push here in the next couple of weeks by Romney campaign. I know personally of the SEIU influence here though. Difficult to overcome.)

Oregon: Obama +3 (Nobody talking about Oregon. It is on the table competitive. Large undecided segment showing up similar to Wisconsin. Could be a late left coast grab for the governor on Election Night. Hoping we won't need it, but it is in play so worth mentioning.)

Pennsylvania: Obama +4 (Saved this for last. I am convinced Romney can pull this one out and here's why. Getting very interesting #s in counties like Allegheny, Chester, Berks, Luzerne, and most importantly, Philadelphia. Governor won't take Philly, not even close. What the internals are showing though is support near the 30% mark and that would be almost double what McCain did in 2008 and that, combined with those other

leaner counties, puts a hell of a lot of votes into the Romney column. Would be a huge upset, but it is competitive and it's forcing Obama to spend money in a state he should not have to and in a right race, that can be a real tactical advantage. A win here will take a lot of work and a lot of money in the last few weeks but if successful, totally worth the effort.)

The insider concludes, "I will put Virginia in the got-to-win side for the governor. If we get Virginia, and steal Pennsylvania, Election Night is over and Obama is one and done. If we take Virginia, lose Pennsylvania, but also win Florida, then we just need Wisconsin and I think we pull out the win. First debate coming up [is] HUGE. Cannot emphasize enough on that. Have to go all the way back to 1980 to find similar scenario. If the governor doesn't show up, we are all f-cked. No pressure, right? As for everybody else who gives a sh-t, the country needs all of them. Every last one of them to push, pull, and drag Mitt Romney into the White House and Obama out of the White House. Right now is when the nitty meets the gritty in a campaign and if the governor is going to win, he needs a whole lot of help from a whole lot of people all across the country to get it done. The internals are showing the race is very competitive. If we are going to turn competitive into victory we need all of you out there to help out in whatever way you can. For the love of God if you aren't doing something to help make Obama one and done now is the time you have to start. If you love America this is the real deal. Right here. Right now." [Note: *The Obama Timeline* has long believed that Oregon will be in play; the insider is the first person to support that argument. The *Timeline* agrees that Wisconsin is also in play. If it were not, Obama would not have campaigned there on September 22. Also working in Romney's favor are new photo ID laws in several states, including Pennsylvania.) [37610]

WND.com reports that Christopher Monckton Brenchley, a former adviser to British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, has calculated that the odds of Obama being a legitimate president are one in 62.5 quintillion (or one in 62,500,000,000,000,000). Lord Monckton performs the calculation by estimating the odds against each of the various anomalies in Obama's alleged long-form birth certificate and other significant issues, and the multiplying them together to obtain the true odds of legitimacy. For example, the birth certificate number on Obama's document is out of sequence. Lord Monckton estimates the likelihood of that to be the result of human error as one in 25. The use of the improper term "African" as Obama's father's race, rather than Negro or black, is also estimated to be one in 25. The odds of getting Obama's father's age wrong on the document are 40 to one. The odds of Obama having a Connecticut-issued Social Security number even though he never lived or worked in that state are 100 to one. Those and various other anomalies and errors, when combined, result in the improbable odds of only one in 62.5 quadrillion that Obama's documents are legitimate. (In other words, although one might be able to accept any one of those discrepancies as a fluke or the result of human error, the likelihood that *all of them* occurred for Obama is so minimal that they simply cannot be believed when taken together.) [37611]

Lord Monckton states, "There are many other errors, but these suffice. Defenders of Mr. Community Organizer say each error could have just happened by accident. I mean, it's

government form-filling, right? But here's where the math comes in. If each error is a genuine accident, the errors are independent events, so the probabilities of each error are multiplied together to determine the probability that all occurred in one document. Thus the odds against all of these errors occurring in a single document except by design are 1 in  $100 \times 100 \times 10 \times 10 \times 25 \times 40 \times 25 \times 25 \times 10 \times 100 \times 100 \times 100 \times 100$ . Accordingly, the probability that Mr. Obama's birth narrative is in substance true is no better than 1 in 62,500,000,000,000,000,000, or 0.0000000000000000000016. Don't be misled by the simplicity of the method. It's simple but sound." (As suggested in the introduction to *The Obama Timeline*, each discrepancy in Obama's life is a piece of circumstantial evidence. No item may, by itself, be damning or without a logical explanation. But all of them taken together build up a case that cannot help but convince a jury that the accused is guilty—even if the body has yet to be found.) [37611]

Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan, campaigning together in Ohio, are interviewed by Fox News. Romney states, "Look, we expect candor from [Obama] and transparency, and he continues to refuse what is said by the other members of his administration: This was a terrorist attack [on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi]. We were attacked apparently by Al Qaeda and it is a very troubling development. ...I think they want to do their very best to keep the people of America from understanding exactly what happened." Ryan says, "When the director of the Counterterrorism Center comes to Congress and testifies and says that this is a terrorist attack... I think you would want to ask that question of [Obama], why he is not on the same page with his own administration officials who are saying that this is a terrorist attack? We'll leave it up to you to decide whether it's a cover-up or not." (Obama is reluctant to use the words "terrorist attack" because he had led the nation to believe that the killing of Osama bin Laden had eliminated the problem, and that he was keeping Americans safe.) [37615, 37626, 37627, 37642]

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) tells reporters that Mitt Romney "is not the face of Mormonism" and he has "sullied" the religion—apparently by stating at a fundraiser that 47 percent of Americans who pay no income taxes are inclined to vote for Obama. (Why stating a fact sullies one's religion is not clear.) [37616]

An organization called "True the Vote" charges that more than 1,700 people registered to vote in New York are also registered to vote in Florida, thus allowing them to vote twice: once in person in their home state and by absentee ballot in the other state. (The group has already identified 31 individuals who did vote twice. The 1,700 were identified by matching Florida registrations against only 10 percent of New York's—meaning that the 1,700 may be only a small fraction of the total population of potential double voters.) [37617]

In a letter to Obama's U.N. ambassador Susan Rice, several Republican Senators ask why she publicly stated that the attack on the consulate in Benghazi was nothing more than an anti-video demonstration that became violent when it was clear that the attack was planned in advance. [37643]

Breitbart.com reports, “The Federal Voting Assistance Program website published an incorrect deadline for the return of returning military ballots in Wisconsin. Had this error not been corrected, thousands of Wisconsin servicemen and women could have been disenfranchised in this key swing state this November.” (Whether the incorrect date was an error or an intentional effort to discount military votes is not known. Military voters will clearly favor Mitt Romney over Obama.) [37618]

Barry W. Lynn, executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State, sends an intimidating letter to religious leaders warning them that the IRS can revoke the tax-exempt status of their church or synagogue if it endorses a political candidate. (It is unclear how many letters were mailed or to whom they were sent, but it can be assumed that Lynn, a leftist, turns a blind eye to congregations that actively support Obama.) [37621]

DailyCaller.com reports, “The author of a new nonpartisan Congressional Research Service (CRS) report concluding that tax cuts for upper-income earners in America don’t spur economic growth is a frequent donor to the Democratic Party and ...Obama, political donation records show. Thomas Hungerford authored ‘Taxes and the Economy: An Economic Analysis of the Top Tax Rates Since 1945’ for CRS. The report, published Sept. 14, came to a conclusion that supports Obama’s tax policy. Hungerford’s LinkedIn profile shows he has worked at CRS since 2005. In 2008, political donation records published by the Center for Responsive Politics show Hungerford donated \$3,500 to Obama’s campaign. He gave [Obama] another \$500 in August 2012. Since 2009, Hungerford has also donated \$2,450 to Democratic Party organizations such as the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, the Democratic National Committee and the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee. In October 2000, when he worked as an economist for the Social Security Administration, Hungerford donated \$500 to Democratic presidential candidate Vice President Al Gore.” (In other words, the “non-partisan” CRS is not non-partisan.) [37632]

MoneyNews.com reports, “Costs for people with employer-sponsored insurance plans jumped 4.6 percent in 2011, more than the government’s 3.9 percent estimate for the entire health system,” according to the Health Care Cost Institute. “Health-care costs for 40 million workers covered by UnitedHealth, Aetna and Humana—three of the four largest U.S. health insurers by revenue—increased to \$4,547 a person, from \$4,349 a year earlier, according to the institute.” Additionally, “A study by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found the number of people without insurance climbed 1.7 percent in the first quarter of 2012.” (Obama claimed that his health care legislation would result in annual health care premiums declining by \$2,500.) [37638]

Special Operations for America strikes back at Obama’s “bump in the road” remark, issuing a statement: “[Obama] refuses to admit that his policy of appeasement and apology has failed. The murder of our Ambassador and two former Navy SEALs [Tyrone S. Woods and Glen A. Doherty] is more than a ‘bump in the road,’ it is a global catastrophe where America is seen as being weak and vulnerable by our enemies. [Obama] has failed to establish a red line for Iran’s nuclear ambitions and has failed to

recognize the scale and implications of the attacks against us. Reagan had it right: don't negotiate with terrorists and recognize the clear and present danger of not being willing to act or lead from the front." [37628, 37629]

Senators Bob Corker (R-TN) and Johnny Isaakson (R-GA), both members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, call on Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to provide them with diplomatic cables and other correspondence from slain ambassador Christopher Stevens. The Senators write, "While we appreciate the sensitivities associated with this ongoing investigation, we must insist on more timely information regarding the attacks and the events leading up to the attacks. To that end, we request that you transmit to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee all communications between the U.S. Mission to Libya and the State Department relevant to the security situation in Benghazi in the period leading up to the attacks, including, but not limited to, cables sent from Ambassador Stevens." Congressman Buck McKeon (R-CA), chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, comments, "We are getting close to an election, and all I can think of is they're just trying to keep the facts unknown until after the election. The way they're handling this is so incompetent." [37649, 37650]

CNSNews.com reports, "The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) gave \$258,654 to four different organizations in Chicago to set up and increase awareness of farmers' markets for low-income consumers. ...According to the list of 2012 grantees released on Sept. 21, the Farmers' Market Promotion Program distributed over \$9 million in grants this year alone and more than \$32 million since 2006. Many of the grants will establish and promote farmers' markets in low-income areas of cities such as New York, Chicago, Atlanta and Washington, D.C. Other uses of grant money include setting up public assistance and food stamp ...terminals at farmers' markets, as well as putting on cooking demonstrations to educate low-income consumers on how to prepare healthy meals." (Low income Americans apparently do not know where to buy fresh food or how to cook.) [37645]

At The American Interest, Walter Russell Mead writes, "Right up until September 11, 2012, ...Obama benefited hugely from a largely friendly press that rarely asked the toughest questions about his Middle East policy. In a second term he will face a much more skeptical MSM [mainstream media]." (In other words, no matter how disastrous Obama's foreign policies are regardless of how incompetent he was with the consulate attack in Libya, the media will continue to give him a pass until after the election results are in.) [37701]

According to a report from Sentier Research, median household incomes fell 1.1 percent in August, to \$50, 678. Investors.com notes, "Since the economic recovery started in June 2009, household incomes are down 5.7%, the Sentier data show, and they are down more than 8% since Obama took office." (WeeklyStandard.com observes, "Amazingly, incomes have dropped even more during the 'recovery,' than they did during the recession. In fact, they've dropped more than twice as much as they did during the recession. From the start to the end of the recession, the real median income of American households fell \$1,413, or 2.6 percent. From the end of the recession to the present day, it

has dropped \$3,040, or 5.7 percent. This begs the question: What kind of ‘recovery’ compares unfavorably with the recession from which it’s ostensibly recovering?”) [37648, 37722, 37723]

On Greta Van Susteren’s *On the Record*, former House Speaker Newt Gingrich comments on Obama’s appearance on television programs like *The View* while not finding time to meet with world leaders: “I’m assuming there’s some rhythm to Barack Obama that the rest of us don’t understand—whether he needs large amounts of rest, whether he needs to go play basketball for awhile. I don’t watch ESPN—I don’t quite know what his rhythms are. But this is a guy who is a brilliant performer as an orator who may well get reelected at the present date. And who, frankly, happens to be a partial, part-time president. I mean he really is a lot like the substitute referees [in the NFL] in the sense that he’s not a real president.” Van Susteren notes that Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has been meeting with world leaders in place of Obama. Gingrich responds, “Hillary Clinton gets up every day thinking about public policy; Barack Obama gets up every day thinking about Barack Obama.” [37644]

On September 26 Eli Lake reports at The Daily Beast, “Within 24 hours of the 9-11 anniversary attack on the United States consulate in Benghazi, U.S. intelligence agencies had strong indications al Qaeda–affiliated operatives were behind the attack, and had even pinpointed the location of one of those attackers. Three separate U.S. intelligence officials who spoke to The Daily Beast said the early information was enough to show that the attack was planned and the work of al Qaeda affiliates operating in Eastern Libya. Nonetheless, it took until late last week for the White House and the administration to formally acknowledge that the Benghazi assault was a terrorist attack. ...The intelligence officials who spoke to The Daily Beast did so anonymously because they weren’t authorized to speak to the press. They said U.S. intelligence agencies developed leads on four of the participants of the attacks within 24 hours of the fire fight that took place mainly at an annex near the Benghazi consulate.” Despite knowing the truth, Obama, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, and U.N ambassador Susan Rice continued to claim that it was not a terrorist attack and merely a demonstration against an Internet video that got out of control. [37625, 37626, 37640, 37719]

Libyan President Mohammed Magarief appears on NBC’s *Today* program and insists the attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi was well-planned and had “nothing to do” with an Internet video or movie. (Townhall.com’s Guy Benson writes, “Perhaps Obama could have learned something if he’d bothered to meet with Magarief at the UN earlier this week, rather than grinning and waving for *The View*’s cameras. The lethal raid that led to the murders of four American diplomats, including a sitting ambassador, was a carefully-planned terrorist attack timed to take place on a conspicuously symbolic date. The administration claimed for days that this was not the case, even though they had intelligence to the contrary. Our consulate had comprehensively inadequate security and our safe house was compromised. The administration has not explained why, apart from noting that the diplomatic mission was granted a waiver (!) from minimum security requirements. Our ambassador’s private journal, discovered several days after the attack

by journalists at the unsecured compound, made clear that he was worried about terrorist threats—which the administration has said did not exist..”) [37626, 37634, 37641]

MiamiHerald.com reports, “...Obama appointed Cheryl Saban, wife of the owner of Univision, as U.S. representative to the United Nations, according to reports from various news blogs. According to the Politico blog, Haim Saban, owner of the television network, backed Hillary Clinton in 2008, but during the summer donated \$1 million to groups supporting the campaigns of Democrats. And according to another blog in Spanish of Yahoo, the appointment of Cheryl Saban to the diplomatic post was made last Wednesday, the day before Obama appeared at a forum at the University of Miami hosted by Univision. Haim Saban, a billionaire businessman, took control of Univision in 2006 topping a bid made by media conglomerate Televisa of Mexico.” (If Obama thought giving Saban a plum position would help ensure softball questions in his Univision interview, he was wrong.) [38092]

Some might argue that the course of the election was changed by Jorge Ramos, Maria Elena Salinas, and Jim Lehrer. Ramos and Salinas asked Obama tough questions in a September 20 interview on the Spanish language network Univision—questions for which he was clearly unprepared. (Not that it is easy to prepare for, “You didn’t keep that promise” “Why have you not fired Eric Holder?” and

Townhall.com political editor Guy Benson comments on Obama’s statement at the United Nations: “The future must not belong to those who slander the prophet of Islam.” Benson writes, “This is an unsettling sentiment coming from the leader of the free world. What does he mean, exactly? The future doesn’t ‘belong’ to people who choose to mock or criticize or insult a major religious figure? Actually, the future must belong to free people who exercise the right to express themselves in a host of ways—including through unseemly speech, such as blasphemy. The future must not belong to those who would fly into a rage over real or perceived religious slights, then menace or harm those whose speech offended them. ...Obama undermined his own statement of principle regarding the sanctity of free speech when he qualified that message by asserting that certain speakers are not proper heirs to our nebulous shared future. He went even further later, stating that this latest piece of online gutter satire [the anti-Islam video] ‘must be rejected by all who respect our common humanity.’ Really? ‘Must’ we also reject those responsible for the Mohammad cartoons? And what about author and provocateur Salman Rushdie, or others like him? These works have also precipitated riots, threats and death across the Islamic world. Do those who refuse rebuke controversial forms of speech also violate our ‘common humanity,’ and if not, where is the line—and who gets to draw it?” [37630]

“But the most disquieting element of Obama’s address,” writes Benson, “has largely been overlooked: ‘Let us condemn incitement against Sufi Muslims, and Shia pilgrims. It is time to heed the words of Gandhi: ‘Intolerance is itself a form of violence and an obstacle to the growth of a true democratic spirit.’” This is deeply pernicious, especially considering the current backdrop of world events. ...Both Gandhi and Obama are wrong: ‘Intolerance’ is not a form of violence, even if it frequently manifests itself in wrong and



immoral ways. By approvingly citing this quotation, Obama constructs a dangerous moral equivalency and advances an insidious mixed message. Earlier in his remarks, Obama sharply—and rightly—abjured violence. But by equating unproductive words to violence, he casually ceded the moral high ground. If (some? all?) Islam-diminishing words are intolerant, and intolerance is ‘a form of violence,’ then extremists’ riots and bloodshed merely represent one species of violence reacting to another. This is unacceptable. ...Blurring the distinction between free expression and violent behavior is a significant moral pronouncement, whether Obama realizes it or not. And he should realize it. Obama is, after all, famous for cribbing another politician’s soliloquy on why words matter. In this case, his words matter because some radicals may interpret them as an American leader’s backdoor justification for their actions—not that they seek permission for wreaking destruction in the first place. They also matter because some ‘liberal’ Westerners are now counseling the civilized world to attempt to appease the barbarians by further limiting or even criminalizing certain forms of free expression, elevating ‘the need for order’ above bedrock rights. Throwing around words like ‘slander’ and offering false equivalencies only serves to encourage and validate these decidedly illiberal impulses.” [37630]

A September 21–22 poll of likely voters by Gravis Marketing shows Obama with a 45–44 lead over Mitt Romney. The poll’s margin of error is 4.3 percent, meaning the contest is a toss-up. However, the poll’s D/R/I weighting was a remarkable 41/31/27. (The survey gave Democrats a +10 edge yet still resulted in a lead of only one point for Obama. The Ohio turnout in the November 2010 election was 36/37/28. In 2008 it was 39/31/30. The survey therefore assumes that Democrat turnout in Ohio will be greater in 2012 than it was in 2008. That is hardly a reasonable assumption.) [37633]

Mitt Romney campaigns in Bedford, Ohio. On hand to support him is Mike Rowe, of the Discovery Channel’s *Dirty Jobs*. (In a letter to Romney, Rowe wrote that many of America’s employment problems are “...in fact symptoms of something more fundamental—a change in the way Americans viewed hard work and skilled labor. That’s the essence of what I’ve heard from the hundreds of men and women I’ve worked with on *Dirty Jobs*. Pig farmers, electricians, plumbers, bridge painters, jam makers, blacksmiths, brewers, coal miners, carpenters, crab fisherman, oil drillers... they all tell me the same thing over and over, again and again—our country has become emotionally disconnected from an essential part of our workforce. We are no longer impressed with cheap electricity, paved roads, and indoor plumbing. We take our infrastructure for granted, and the people who build it. Today, we can see the consequences of this disconnect in any number of areas, but none is more obvious than the growing skills gap. Even as unemployment remains sky high, a whole category of vital occupations has fallen out of favor, and companies struggle to find workers with the necessary skills. The causes seem clear. We have embraced a ridiculously narrow view of education. Any kind of training or study that does not come with a four-year degree is now deemed ‘alternative.’ Many viable careers once aspired to are now seen as ‘vocational consolation prizes,’ and many of the jobs this current administration has tried to ‘create’ over the last four years are the same jobs that parents and teachers actively discourage kids from pursuing. (I always thought there was something ill-fated about the promise of three

million ‘shovel ready jobs’ made to a society that no longer encourages people to pick up a shovel.)” [37635, 37636, 37637]

Outside the Romney event, Obama supporters protest his appearance. A reporter asks one woman why she supports Obama. She replies, “Everybody in Cleveland, low minority [sic], got Obama phone [sic]. Keep Obama in president [sic], you know, he gave us a phone. He gonna do more [sic].” Asked by the reporter how she got a free cell phone, the woman—who may or not be one of the protesters paid \$11 per hour by the SEIU to picket Romney events—answers, “You sign up. If you on food stamps [sic], you on Social Security [sic], you got low income [sic], you disability [sic].” Asked what’s wrong with Romney, she replies, “Romney? He sucks. Bad.” (The woman may not know how to speak English properly, but she has Internet access and was able to find ObamaPhone.net to get a free cell phone. More than 12 million Americans have the free phones, along with 250 minutes of air time—with additional bonus minutes as a reward for getting others to sign up. The taxpayers pay for the phones and service, but Obama gets the credit.) [37687, 37688, 37715]

In the Rasmussen Daily Presidential Tracking Poll Obama and Mitt Romney are tied 46–46. Romney leads 48–46 when “leaners” are counted. [37647]

Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation announces the elimination of 570 jobs in upstate New York as a result of defense spending cuts. (The company makes the Black Hawk helicopter.) Defense contractor Northrop Grumman is cutting 600 jobs. [37651]

Asked about complaints that new Michelle Obama-inspired, calorie-limited school lunch guidelines are leaving students hungry, Obama’s Secretary of Agriculture, Tom Vilsack, tells ABC, “It’s not surprising that some youngsters will in the middle of the day be hungry. I remember my two boys when they came back from school they were always hungry, we always had snacks prepared for them.” (“Let them eat cake” is now apparently, “Let them eat after school snacks.”) [37711, 37712, 37714, 37716]

Attorney Orly Taitz appears in an Indiana court for an Obama ballot challenge. According to Taitz, Sherry Reid tells her, “I believe you have a strong case. I believe in your argument. I would have given you an injunction, but I need evidence.” Meanwhile, ThePostEmail.com reports that Judge Larry D. Hendricks is willing to hear witnesses in Taitz’s ballot challenge in Kansas. (Taitz is hoping to have both Sheriff Joe Arpaio and investigator Mike Zullo testify at the Kansas hearing. Arpaio’s “cold case posse” investigation has concluded that Obama’s long-form birth certificate is a forgery.) Although Obama has no chance of winning either Indiana or Kansas on November 6, if Taitz is successful in getting his name removed from the ballot of either state it will be impossible for the mainstream media to ignore the issue of the forged birth certificate and the definition of the term “natural born citizen.” [37652]

WND.com reports, “It took only hours after the posting of a pro-Israel slogan in New York City for opponents to launch a violent spray-paint attack against the message and for a religious adviser to Barack Obama to use the conflict to try to raise money for his

own campaign. At the center of the ruckus is an attempt by New York transit authorities to censor the message ‘In Any War Between the Civilized Man and the Savage, Support the Civilized Man. Support Israel. Defeat Jihad.’ The message, which authorities call ‘demeaning,’ is being promoted by the American Freedom Defense Initiative and its executive directors Pamela Geller and Robert Spencer. Lawyers with the American Freedom Law Center have been working with them to overcome anti-Israel activism that has deterred and delayed the posting of the ads.” (Anti-Israel ads have been frequent in New York City and other cities across the United States. Many Americans no doubt find them offensive, but do not deface them. But ads stating opposition to jihad are quickly attacked and defaced—and Obama religious adviser Jim Wallis, of the left-leaning *Sojourners* publication, quickly steps in to support jihad.)” [37656, 37657, 37658, 37659, 37663, 37677]

AtlasShrugs.com’s Pamela Geller comments on the ad controversy: “One anti-jihad poster goes up, and it’s defaced within an hour, while its creator faces defamation, smears and libel. Mona Eltahawy, a Muslim writer who was herself assaulted in Egypt by people she called ‘beasts’ took a can of spray paint to our ad and assaulted a pro-freedom blogger, Pamela Hall, who tried to stop her. Islamic supremacists and leftist thugs criminally defaced these ads within an hour. This is a physical manifestation of the way the entire conversation, or lack thereof, always goes: anyone who speaks about jihad and Shariah is attacked, defamed, destroyed—just like these ads. This is exactly what’s happening in the media regarding jihad coverage in general. Anti-American, anti-Israel, pro-Shariah hate is all over the airwaves, but anyone who dares to speak the truth about Islam and jihad in the media is immediately smeared and defamed. You can’t have this conversation in the media, any more than I can present these pro-Israel ads, and receive any semblance of fair treatment.” (Eltahawy—a leftist Muslim, occasional guest on CNN and MSNBC, and former Reuters employee—is stunned when she is arrested, apparently unable to comprehend that the right to free speech does not include defacing public and private property or spray-painting the clothing of someone who asks her to stop.) [37656, 37657, 37658, 37659, 37663, 37677, 37739, 37740, 37741]

EgyptIndependent.com later reports that Egypt’s president, the Muslim Brotherhood’s Mohamed Morsi, has asked its consul general in New York City “to closely follow the case” of Eltahawy—whose attorney Stanley Cohen, notes Geller, has also represented the terrorist group Hamas, “members of the Peruvian terror group Shining Path; the cop-killer and leftist icon Mumia Abu-Jamal; a militant Muslim charged with torching a New York synagogue; Moataz Al-Hallak, an imam from Texas with suspected ties to al-Qaeda; Imam Kariye, a black Muslim suspected of terrorism; Hazem Ragab, who co-founded the Global Relief Foundation and was named as a co-conspirator to the 9/11 attacks; and Abdelhaleem Ashqar and Ismail Elbarasse, both of whom refused to testify before a grand jury investigating allegations of money laundering in support of Hamas. ...Immediately following the 9/11 terrorist attacks, Cohen told the Village Voice, ‘If Osama bin Laden arrived in the United States today and asked me to represent him, sure I’d represent him.’” Quips Geller, “Mona Eltahawy will have to do for now.” [37656, 37657, 37658, 37659, 37663, 37677, 37739, 37740, 37741]

DailyCaller.com reports, “Taxpayers spent \$1.4 billion dollars on everything from staffing, housing, flying and entertaining ...Obama and his family last year, according to the author of a new book [*Presidential Perks Gone Royal*] on taxpayer-funded presidential perks. In comparison, British taxpayers spent just \$57.8 million on the royal family.” Author John F. Groom provides a breakdown of the \$1.4 billion:

[Obama’s] salary and allowance: \$450,000  
White House building operating expenses: \$14,658,000  
White House Grounds: \$6,057,000  
Vacations: \$20,000,000  
Health care for the first family, including traveling medical staff and equipment: \$7,000,000  
Campaign expenses not reimbursed to government: \$311,000,000  
White House staff: \$7,985,420  
Office of Administration budget: \$14,481,000  
Special missions including White House Communications Agency: \$161,252,000  
Military salary costs: \$153,441,360  
Salary costs for presidential airlift squadron: \$75,000,000  
Presidential plane fleet: \$44,000,000  
Presidential helicopter fleet: \$300,000,000  
Ground transportation: \$2,200,000  
Transportation total: \$346,200,000  
Secret Service: \$259,152,884”  
[37671, 37678, 38168]

At Breitbart.com Mike Flynn writes, “Quinnipiac University may have found an absurd number of Democrats for its CBS/NYT’s commissioned poll of three swing states, but that can’t hide an unmistakable [sic] fact; Obama is losing Independents. Even Quinnipiac’s juiced poll shows Obama losing independents to Romney in Ohio and Florida. The poll, unhelpfully, doesn’t break down the numbers for Pennsylvania, but virtually every poll conducted this season finds Obama losing Independents. It’s a dramatic swing from 2008. In 2008, Obama won Independents by eight points nationally. On Monday, Politico released a poll showing Romney with a three point lead nationally among Independents. This is an 11 point swing away from Obama since 2008. This swing is consistent with that found in today’s Quinnipiac poll. In 2008, Obama won Florida independents by seven points. Today he trails by three, a 10 point swing. In Ohio, he won Independents by eight, yet trails today by one. My colleague John Nolte noted this morning that Quinnipiac’s poll is implying a massive Democrat turnout, surpassing not only 2008, but anything seen in modern history.” (Many of the polls are “cooking the books” for Obama by over-sampling Democrats and unmarried women and under-sampling Republicans and independents.) [37673]

Flynn continues, “In recent days, pollsters, under fire for heavy Democrat sampling, have responded that they are just reflecting the state of the current electorate. People are just simply identifying as Democrat because they support Obama. If a Democrat wave were

really building, though, ought it not be reflected in some way in the Independent vote? Can an Obama wave really be building against a 10 point swing away from him among Independents? A further problem for Quinnipiac is that there are far fewer Democrat voters in the three states today than there were in 2008. A recent report from the liberal group Third Way found a more than 200k decrease in Democrats and a 20K increase in Republicans in Florida since 2008. How can there be a massive increase in Democrats turning out if there are fewer of them? Democrats outnumbered GOP voters in FL by 800k in 2008. Today? About 400k. In PA both parties lost voters, but the Democrat decrease was twice the GOP loss. Democrats have lost almost 350k voters since '08 and the GOP has lost around 160k. Their registration advantage over the GOP has narrowed by about 200k voters. Ohio doesn't register by party, but the state has lost over 500k voters since 2008. The overwhelming amount of the loss was in Democrat-heavy Cuyahoga County. It stands to reason that the GOP's position is better than it was in 2008." [37673]

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad again addresses the United Nations general Assembly (UNGA), and the Israeli delegation again walks out—this time joined by the U.S. delegation. At AmericanThinker.com Leo Rennert notes the Obama administration's "perplexing" explanation: "Over the last couple of days, we've seen Mr. Ahmadinejad once again use his trip to the U.N. not to address the legitimate aspirations of the Iranian people but to instead spout paranoid theories and repulsive slurs against Israel. ...It's particularly unfortunate that Mr. Ahmadinejad will have the platform of the UNGA on Yom Kippur, which is why the United States decided not to attend." Rennert comments, "It turns out that the reason for the U.S. boycott wasn't due to Ahmadinejad's lengthy history of genocidal threats to eliminate the Jewish state, which one might assume prompted other diplomats, including the Canadian and Israeli delegations, to boycott his speech. No, the Americans kept away not because of Ahmadinejad's repulsive record, but because the Obama administration didn't want to offend Jews on Yom Kippur, Judaism's holiest date. But this in turn suggests that it might not have boycotted the Iranian leader if he spoke at the U.N. on any other day. Say, the day before or the day after Yom Kippur. And this is more than a mere supposition about some presumably innocent slip. Team Obama is well known for its reverence of the U.N. and its determination to 'engage' in diplomacy some of the world's worst tyrants, usually getting nothing in return. Given this predilection, it's not really a great surprise that only Yom Kippur stood in the way of the administration turning its back on Ahmadinejad. On any other day, it could or would have been different. Or in other words, plain and simple, it wasn't Ahmadinejad who prompted the U.S. boycott—it was the Jews. The boycott came with an apology to Tehran on Yom Kippur—the day of Repentance. How fitting." [37690]

On September 27 the Department of Commerce's Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that gross domestic product (GDP) increased at an annual rate of only 1.3 percent in the second quarter of 2012, down from an earlier estimate of 1.7 percent and down from 2.0 percent in the first quarter. Additionally, the Census Bureau reports, "New orders for manufactured durable goods in August decreased \$30.1 billion or 13.2 percent to \$198.5 billion... This decrease, down following three consecutive monthly increases, was the largest decrease since January 2009... Excluding transportation, new orders decreased

1.6 percent. Excluding defense, new orders decreased 12.4 percent. Transportation equipment, down following four consecutive monthly increases, had the largest decrease, \$27.8 billion or 34.9 percent to \$51.9 billion. Nondefense new orders for capital goods in August decreased \$18.5 billion or 24.3 percent to \$57.7 billion. Shipments decreased \$1.2 billion or 1.7 percent to \$69.5 billion. Unfilled orders decreased \$11.9 billion or 2.0 percent to \$580.5 billion. Inventories increased \$1.5 billion or 0.9 percent to \$171.9 billion. Defense new orders for capital goods in August decreased \$4.1 billion or 40.1 percent to \$6.1 billion. Shipments decreased \$0.1 billion or 1.7 percent to \$8.1 billion. Unfilled orders decreased \$2.0 billion or 1.2 percent to \$165.6 billion. Inventories increased \$0.4 billion or 1.8 percent to \$21.4 billion.” (A decrease in unfilled orders, coupled with an increase in inventories, is a sign of a shrinking economy. On CNBC, analyst Rick Santelli calls the numbers “depressingly weak.” Meanwhile, more than 3 million people are unemployed in France, Spain’s Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy considers asking for bailout cash, and tens of thousands protest and riot in Greece over “austerity measures.”) [37661, 37662, 37666, 37667, 37668, 37669, 37670, 37674, 37675, 37676, 37683, 37685, 37710, 37713]

Breitbart.com reports, “A survey of U.S. chief executives shows a sharp drop in the number of large companies that plan to add jobs or hire more workers. The Business Roundtable said Wednesday that only 29 percent of its member CEOs plan to increase hiring over the next six months. That’s down from 36 percent in June, when the group last released its quarterly survey. It’s also much lower than the 52 percent of CEOs in early 2011 who said they planned to boost hiring, the highest percentage since the survey began in 2002. ...Only 30 percent of CEOs expect to increase their investment in capital goods such as machinery, computers or other equipment. Companies usually buy such goods when they are expanding. That’s down sharply from 43 percent three months ago.” [37686]

Senator John McCain (R-AZ) appears on CBS’s *This Morning* and says, “It was just unbelievable that ambassador [Susan] Rice and Secretary [of State Hillary] Clinton and White House spokesmen and others would say ...that this was a spontaneous attack [on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi]. ‘Yeah, c’mon, honey, bring your mortars, we’re going to a spontaneous demonstration.’ It was obvious; it was obvious that this was a planned attack... they carried heavy weapons, mortars, RPGs, and clearly it was not a demonstration, nor was it a result of a hateful video.” Charlie Rose asks, “If it was obvious, why doesn’t the administration say that?” McCain replies, “I don’t know. Some allege that maybe it’s because they’re trying to convey to the American people that al-Qaeda is no longer a threat, and that when Osama bin Laden left that was the case, but the reality is that al-Qaeda is well and thriving ins some places, including Iraq, including in Syria... and it’s just disgraceful that we would say an attack such as this, on its face, is the result of a demonstration.” Obama-sympathizing co-host Norah O’Donnell objects to McCain’s use of the word “disgraceful,” and asks, “How can you say that you know; the investigation hasn’t even been completed?” McCain responds, “How can you say, when there’s an attack with mortars, with heavy weapons... anybody who understand warfare, anybody who has a fundamental understanding of warfare knows that that’s not a

spontaneous demonstration. That's how, Norah. ...It's also incredible naiveté to blame it on a video; it's not the video, it's the Islamists using the video, Norah." [37725]

With Obama too busy campaigning to deal with Middle East issues, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton meets with Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu. (Greta Van Susteren asks at her blog, "Is Hillary Clinton really the president?") Netanyahu also addresses the United Nations Security Council, stating, "The red line must be drawn on Iran's nuclear enrichment program. I believe that, faced with a clear red line, Iran will back down. Red lines don't lead to war, red lines prevent war. Nothing could imperil the world more than a nuclear-armed Iran. ...Imagine their long-range missiles tipped with nuclear warheads, their terror networks armed with atomic bombs—who among you would feel safe in the Middle East?" [37679, 37692, 37703, 37704, 37726]

Neither Obama nor—shamelessly—his U.N. ambassador Susan Rice are present for Netanyahu's speech. (Former U.N. ambassador John Bolton calls Rice's action of disrespect a reflection of "a course of conduct by the Obama administration for three-and-a-half years of just utter disdain for both Prime Minister Netanyahu and the state of Israel, and it's simply one more brick in the wall of the case that [Obama is] perfectly prepared to isolate Israel and that he does not hold the U.S.-Israel relationship in the same high regard as every other president going back to Harry Truman.") [37726]

According to a national Rasmussen poll, "34% of Likely U.S. Voters think the economy is likely to get better if ...Obama is reelected and Democrats regain full control of Congress, marking little change from early July when the two sides ran nearly even. By comparison, 43% now believe the economy is likely to improve if Romney wins and the GOP is in charge of Congress. That's up seven points from 36% in the previous survey." (The results of the poll conflict with those of other polling companies, which claim Obama has a strong lead. An Obama lead makes no sense if the voters believe the economy will do better under Romney. Rasmussen shows Romney and Obama tied at 46–46 in its Daily Presidential Tracking Poll.) [37680]

According to a Fox News poll, "A large majority of likely voters believes all Americans should pay some federal income tax—even if it is as little as one percent of what they make. Seventy-nine percent say everyone should pay something... That includes 85 percent of Republicans, 83 percent of independents and 71 percent of Democrats." (The poll's results suggest that voters may not be too upset at all by Mitt Romney's fundraiser comments about the 47 percent who pay no income taxes. Although the Obama campaign has been pounding Romney for his remarks, the net effect may be to make even more voters aware that 47 percent receive government services and benefits at no cost. Obama's criticism of Romney may actually be helping Romney.) [37693]

According to the Media Research Center, ABC, CBS, and NBC gave 88 minutes on stories about Mitt Romney's "47 percent" remarks, and less than 7 minutes reporting on the 1998 interview in which Obama said, "I actually believe in redistribution." [37694]

Defense Secretary Leon Panetta tells reporters, “As we determined the details of what took place there [in Benghazi] and how that attack took place, it became clear that there were terrorists who had planned that attack.” ABC’s Jake Tapper reports, “Even before Defense Secretary Leon Panetta contradicted the initial story about the attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya ...Obama administration officials told ABC News they were concerned after the White House began pushing the line that the attack was spontaneous and not the work of terrorists. Events were too uncertain, and suspicions had been aroused, officials said. ...White House officials acknowledge that assessments have changed over time as intelligence has been confirmed, but they insist that no information was given in bad faith and there was no attempt to downplay the attack. But sources told ABC News that intelligence officials on the ground immediately suspected the attack was not tied to the movie at all. The attackers knew where to get Ambassador Stevens after he’d fled to a so-called safe house half a mile away. That building was hit with insurgent mortars—suggesting the terrorists knew what they were doing. ...Obama has repeatedly said the investigation is on to find the killers and bring them to justice. But as first reported by CNN, ABC news has learned that the FBI—which has been dispatched to Libya to take the lead in the investigation—has not even reached Benghazi yet.” (HotAir.com writes, “Former CIA analyst Bob Baer ...thinks the Libyans are being uncooperative, and says he can’t remember a case where the FBI’s been barred from the scene of an attack since Iran 1979. ...The alternative explanation, that they want to let the feds in but simply can’t reliably secure the area with so many militias running around, is actually worse because it underscores just how perilous the situation was for Chris Stevens and the consulate without a serious American security detail.”) Meanwhile, Obama campaigns in Virginia Beach and says, “Al Qaeda’s on the path to defeat. Bin Laden is dead.” [37689, 37724]

Congressman Mac Thornberry (R-TX), a member of the House Intelligence Committee, is one of many in Congress who have questions about the Obama administration’s statements after the consulate attack in Libya. Thornberry tells Fox News, “If there was information a day after [the attack] that was to the contrary [of what the administration stated], I think Congress was misled. But ...it’s even more serious than that. It means that we have a real problem in not being able to face up to the national security challenges our country faces.” Senator Bob Corker (R-TN), who has called a briefing by Hillary Clinton and other officials “worthless,” says, “This has now turned into a very bipartisan concern. There has to be something that they’re trying to hide or cover up. ...This is just not the norm. This is way out of the norm, what is happening in this case.” [37691]

WashingtonTimes.com reports, “Since 2010, Congress cut \$296 million from the State Department’s spending request for embassy security and construction, with additional cuts in other State Department security accounts, according to an analysis by a former appropriations committee staffer.” [37699]

The Associated Press reports, “The California man behind a crudely produced anti-Islamic video that has inflamed parts of the Middle East was arrested Thursday for violating terms of his probation, authorities said. Nakoula Basseley Nakoula, 55, has been on probation for a 2010 federal check fraud conviction that brought a 21-month prison



sentence. Under terms of his probation, he was not to use computers or the Internet for five years without approval from his probation officer.” The judge orders the filmmaker held without bail, claiming he poses a danger to society. [37695, 37696, 37697, 37698]

Jihad Watch responds, “Nakoula Basseley Nakoula apparently deceived many people in order to get his crude movie made. It has even been suggested that he is a jihadist who made the movie in order to provide a provocation that Islamic supremacists could use to push for destruction of the freedom of speech. But no matter who he really is, no matter how terrible of a man he may be, no matter how checkered his past or present or both may be, make no mistake: he is a political prisoner. He has been arrested not for the technicality of the probation violation, but for insulting Muhammad. His arrest is a symbol of America’s capitulation to the Sharia. The protests are not about the film. The protests are to intimidate the U.S. into criminalizing criticism of Islam. Nakoula Basseley Nakoula is nothing more than the fall guy who became the first offender against the new federal crime of blasphemy against Islam.” AtlasShrugs.com’s Pamela Geller writes, “This is Obama sharia enforcement in America. Obama brought down the gavel on free speech at the UN when he said, ‘the future must not belong to those who slander the prophet of Islam.’ If he hadn’t made the video, he wouldn’t be in jail. The filmmaker was hunted down like an animal, and he’s now in jail on trumped-up charges in an act of submission and surrender to Islamic law. This is a complete abridgement of our rights of freedom of speech and freedom of conscience under the law.” [37695, 37696, 37697, 37698]

CBSNews.com posts a timeline of the White House response to the attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya, which suggests either that the Obama administration is incompetent or engaged in a cover-up. [37700]

Democrats join Republicans in seeking more information about the Obama administration’s handling of the consulate attack in Libya. WashingtonExaminer.com reports, “The Senate Foreign Relations Committee, chaired by Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., circulated a bipartisan letter addressed to Deputy Secretary of State Thomas Nides, asking for an ‘accounting of the attacks against U.S. missions in Egypt, Libya and Yemen.’ ... The lawmakers are also demanding to know whether the administration had any advance warnings of the Libyan attack and, if so, whether it had shared that information with U.S. personnel on the ground. ... A Kerry aide confirmed that the committee intended to enlist the support of Republicans and Democrats and said the letter would likely be sent Friday [September 28]. Another aide told The Examiner that the panel’s 10 Democrats and nine Republicans plan to sign it.” [37702, 37721]

Janet Napolitano, Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, announces in a letter to House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) that same-sex relationships will be considered “family relationships” when determining whether an illegal immigrant should be deported. BuzzFeed.com writes, “The move is the most tangible proof yet that the Department is taking action urging field offices not to pursue deportation cases against a foreign same-sex partner of an American citizen who would be able to obtain a green card if in an opposite-sex relationship.” [37748, 37749]

RedState.com reports that requests for absentee ballots from Ohio Republicans are slightly up from 2008 (by about 1,200), while requests from Ohio Democrats are way down—by 111,000. (These are not counts of votes, or “turned in” ballot; they are counts of requests for absentee ballots from registered voters in the state. Nevertheless, they may be an indication of voter enthusiasm that continues through election day. If that is the case, Obama might not have a pleasant November 6.) Additionally, FoxNews.com reports, “Voter registration in the Buckeye State is down by 490,000 people from four years ago. Of that reduction, 44 percent is in Cleveland and surrounding Cuyahoga County, where Democrats outnumber Republicans more than two to one. ...An August study by the left-leaning think tank Third Way showed that the Democratic voter registration decline in eight key swing states outnumbered the Republican decline by a 10-to-one ratio. In Florida, Democratic registration is down 4.9 percent, in Iowa down 9.5 percent. And in New Hampshire, it’s down 19.7 percent.” (Fewer people are registering as Democrats, more people are registering as independents, Mitt Romney is polling better than Obama among independents, requests by Democrats for absentee ballots in Ohio are down substantially from 2008—and the mainstream media expects turnout for Obama to be greater in 2012 than it was in 2008.) [37727, 37742, 37743]

Racist actor Samuel L. Jackson appears in an Internet campaign ad for Obama in which he encourages voters to “Wake the fuck up.” [37729, 37730]

According to USNews.com, “[A] group calling itself Catholics for Obama [has] been making push poll phone calls in support of [Obama’s] re-election bid. Among the questions being asked, he said, was ‘How can you support a ‘Mormon’ who does not believe in Jesus Christ?’ The phone banker making the call... reportedly also asserted that ‘...Obama did not support abortion’ and that Planned Parenthood ‘helps children get healthcare and prenatal care and does not promote abortion.’ In fact, the group is one of the nation’s largest abortion providers. [Planned Parenthood is, in fact, the nation’s number one provider of abortions.] All this amounts to a whispering campaign that is both dishonest about [Obama’s] record on abortion and deviously attempts to divide the Catholic electorate on the issue of GOP presidential nominee Mitt Romney’s religion—something the Obama campaign has repeatedly promised it would not do. With the election getting closer, the comments and attacks are getting nastier. Some people, apparently, will do anything to hold on to power.” (The official name of the Mormon church is “The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.” Members believe in Jesus Christ, and are baptized, confirmed, and take communion.) [37809, 37814]

Congressman Darrell Issa (R-CA) and Senator Charles Grassley (R-IA) again attempt to arrange testimony about Operation Fast and Furious from Kevin O’Reilly. O’Reilly, a White House National security staffer who had regular communications with the ATF agent in charge of the gun-walking scheme, was conveniently transferred by the Obama administration to Iraq in July 2011—just as the investigation of the operation was heating up. According to CNSNews.com, “Since then, the White House has declined to allow O’Reilly to be interviewed either by the committee or by Justice Department Inspector General Michael Horowitz, who conducted the administration’s internal investigation of

Fast and Furious. The White House also refused to give the inspector general access to internal White House communications relating to Fast and Furious.” [37834, 37835]

On September 28 Townhall.com’s Katie Pavlich points out an “ecard” at barackobama.com that reads, “Dear Mom, Mitt Romney says he would repeal the Affordable Care Act. So here’s a quick question: Can I borrow \$18,000 to help pay for my birth control? Thanks!” (The fictitious note to a mom is obviously intended to appeal to young women voters. Why any young woman would ask her mother to pay for her birth control is unclear; most young men certainly do not ask their fathers to buy condoms for them. According to Pavlich, the \$18,000 figure comes from Planned Parenthood and is based on a \$50 birth control co-pay per month for 30 years. The numbers are absurd. Assuming a 20 percent co-pay for prescription medications, Planned Parenthood assumes \$250 per month in birth control pills, or \$90,000 over 30 years.) [37708, 37709, 37720]

The Obama administration issues a “Presidential Determination” related to the Child Soldiers Prevention Act of 2008, which prohibits aid to nations that use child soldiers. Obama’s order issues a “waiver” for Libya, South Sudan, and Yemen, to allow aid to flow despite their use of children on the battlefield. (AllAmericanBlogger.com writes, “It wasn’t enough to allow thousands of weapons to travel across the border so they could be used by drug cartels. Now [Obama] is giving money to countries with child soldiers.” [37854, 37855, 37856]

The Associated Press reports that the Department of Labor has “found” 386,000 more jobs created between April 2011 and March 2012—conveniently making it possible for Obama to claim that there are now more Americans employed than when he took office in 2009. (On the other hand, in the last four years millions of young people have graduated from high school and college and millions of immigrants have entered the United States—all of whom have helped keep the unemployment rate higher than it was in January 2009. There may be more people working, but there are also more people unemployed—because the population is growing faster than jobs are being created.) [37728]

Obama, unable to find time to meet with world leaders, finds time to attend three fundraisers in Washington, D.C. [37732]

Shawn Turner, a spokesman for Director of National Intelligence James Clapper, releases a statement: “As we learned more about the attack [on the consulate in Libya on September 11], we revised our initial assessment to reflect new information indicating that it was a deliberate and organized terrorist attack carried out by extremists. It remains unclear if any group or person exercised overall command and control of the attack, and if extremist group leaders directed their members to participate. However, we do assess that some of those involved were linked to groups affiliated with or sympathetic to Al Qaeda. In the immediate aftermath, there was information that led us to assess that the attack began spontaneously following protests earlier that day at our embassy in Cairo. We provided that initial assessment to Executive Branch officials and members of

Congress, who used that information to discuss the attack publicly and provide updates as they became available. Throughout our investigation we continued to emphasize that information gathered was preliminary and evolving.” (The statement is an attempt by the Obama administration to cover its tracks by throwing the intelligence community under the bus. Accused of being either incompetent or covering up the truth, Obama’s response is essentially to claim, “It’s not my fault. We only reported what we were told by the intelligence agents. Blame Clapper, not me. The buck stops at his desk.”) [37734, 37745]

FoxNews.com reports that solar energy company SoloPower, which received a federal loan for \$197 million, has skeptics claiming it will be the next Solyndra. The Competitive Enterprise Institute’s William Yeatman says, “It looks like it will fail for the same reasons as Solyndra.” Andrew Soare, of Lux Research, says, “It’s questionable at this point. It’s uncertain if solar power will be able to produce efficiently and economically at scale. It’s something that has not been done yet, and it’s still risky.” The Cascade Policy Institute’s John Charles call the government loan “a terrible risk. This is a [government] program that should not even exist, even if the risk was low. It is not a proper function of government to be a venture capital fund.” [37735]

Congresswoman Kay Granger (R-TX), chairwoman of the House Appropriations Committee’s subcommittee on foreign operations, blocks \$450 million in foreign aid the Obama administration wants for Egypt. Granger states, “This proposal comes to Congress at a point when the U.S.-Egypt relationship has never been under more scrutiny, and rightly so. I am not convinced of the urgent need for this assistance and I cannot support it at this time. ...I have placed a hold on these funds.” [37736, 37807, 37833]

Congressman Peter King (R-NY), chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, calls for the resignation of Obama’s U.N. ambassador, Susan Rice for misleading the American public by repeatedly stating the consulate attack in Libya was the result of an anti-movie demonstration when she and the Obama administration knew there was no demonstration and the attack was planned by radical Islamists [37750]

A desperate White House issues another letter telling defense contractors to ignore the WARN Act, which requires they give workers 60-day notices of impending lay-offs. (Because of the scheduled January “sequestration” cuts Obama demanded be put into the 2011 budget delay, contractors are set to issue tens of thousands of lay-off notices just days before the November 6 election.) TheHill.com reports, “But the [new] guidance from the Office of Management and Budget raised the stakes in the dispute, telling contractors that they would be compensated for legal costs if layoffs occur due to contract cancellations under sequestration—but only if the contractors follow the Labor guidance. The guidance said that if plant closings or mass layoffs occur under sequestration, then ‘employee compensation costs for [Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification] WARN act liability as determined by a court’ would be paid for covered by the contracting federal agency [sic]. Senate Republicans, who accused the White House of trying to hide job losses after the first guidance, said Friday that the new OMB statement ‘puts politics ahead of American workers.’” (Essentially, the Obama administration is

*passing onto the taxpayers* the cost of any penalties imposed on employers, such as Lockheed Martin, if they do not issue lay-off notices and the employees are, in fact, laid off.) Senators John McCain (R-AZ, Lindsey Graham (R-SC), and Kelly Ayotte (R-NH) issue a statement: “The Obama Administration is cynically trying to skirt the WARN Act to keep the American people in the dark about this looming national security and fiscal crisis. [Obama] should insist that companies act in accordance with the clearly stated law and move forward with the layoff notices.” [37746, 37747, 37751, 37760, 37767]

*Marine Corps Times* reports, “Additional weapons that Navy SEALs and Green Berets desperately need to defend themselves in far-flung outposts in Afghanistan apparently are being delayed, according to documents and officials familiar with the equipment. At issue is a mortar system that uses a computer to drop explosives quickly and accurately on enemy fighters who assault small forts. Insurgents with rocket-propelled grenades can outgun American special operations forces there. An urgent plea for 20 of the mortar systems was approved by the Joint Chiefs of Staff in January, yet no new weapons have been sent as of late September. The Pentagon says it is ‘in the process of acquiring and fielding the additional numbers.’” [37763]

In St. Louis, Missouri 18-year-old Anthony Jamal Lee is charged with two drive-by shootings. Lee is a member of the gang “Obama Boyz.” [37762, 47507]

Employees are evacuated from the U.S. consulate in Kolkata (Calcutta), India, when 50,000 Muslims gather for anti-American demonstrations. According to *Hindu Existence*, protesters carry signs reading, “Death of Barack Obama” and “Immediate Removal of American bases form Islamic Countries.” The following day, thousands of Muslims riot in Bangladesh. According to CBS, the protesters, “angry over an alleged derogatory photo of the Islamic holy book Quran on Facebook set fires in at least 10 Buddhist temples and 40 homes near the southern border with Myanmar...” [37779, 37780, 37786, 37787]

In a meeting with Arab leaders in New York City, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton calls for fewer regulations on small business because “too many people” in the Middle East “still can’t find jobs.” (Clinton does not endorse cutting regulations to create more jobs in the United States.) [37802]

At *TheDailyBeast.com*, Kirsten Powers writes, “Nothing about the constantly evolving tale the Obama administration has been weaving about the attacks in the Middle East makes sense, unless it is seen as a deliberate attempt to mislead Americans into believing al Qaeda has been decimated, as ...Obama has been known to assert. After dancing on Osama bin Laden’s grave for a week in Charlotte [at the Democrat National Convention], the administration was faced with the reality that the war on terror is still quite on. ...While most of the media herd was fretting that Mitt Romney paid too much in taxes, The Daily Beast’s Eli Lake discovered that the administration had known within 24 hours that al Qaeda was behind the attack in Benghazi. One official said, according to a Fox News report, ‘No one ...believed that the mortars, indirect and direct fire, and the RPGs were just the work of a mob—no one.’ When I asked the White House and State

Department whether they had such information in the hours following the attack, they refused to answer on the record. Suddenly the people who released endless and specific details about the killing of Osama bin Laden find it unreasonable that one would expect them to discuss intelligence matters.” [37797]

Numerous web sites post a November 1979 article written by Vernon Jarrett. (Jarrett was a close friend of Obama’s communist mentor, Frank Marshall Davis, with whom he had worked at *the Chicago Defender*—a leftist newspaper that advocated the radicalism of the Communist Party. Jarrett later wrote for the *Chicago Tribune* and the *Chicago Sun-Times*, and was the father-in-law of Valerie Jarrett, Obama’s closest advisor.) In the 1979 article Jarrett wrote, “What about those rumored billions of dollars the oil-rich Arab nations are supposed to unload on American black leaders and minority institutions? ‘It’s not just a rumor. Aid will come from the Arab states,’ predicted a black San Francisco lawyer who has close ties to the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).” (Jarrett was referring to Khalid Abdullah Tariq A-Mansour, who was previously known as Donald Warden when he, William Ayers, and Bernardine Dohrn hid from the FBI at a San Francisco marina. It is believed that Warden/al-Mansour arranged Arab funding for Obama’s Harvard education, and a letter of recommendation from his friend Percy Sutton, who was Malcolm X’s attorney. Obama denies knowing al-Mansour, but al-Mansour, in an interview with *Newsmax* reporter Kenneth Timmerman, admitted he had spoken with Obama and told him he would keep a ‘low profile’ during the 2008 campaign in order to avoid embarrassing the candidate. *The Obama Timeline* suspects that Obama’s student loans came, not from banks, but from al-Mansour and Saudi prince Al-Waleed bin Talal, to be paid back with future political favors—such as supporting the Palestinians over Israel. Radical Islamists have chosen to focus their attention on blacks in the United States, believing they can more easily be persuaded to convert to Islam than most Americans. Prison populations, in particular, are at the center of recruitment efforts.) [41, 43, 56, 211, 259, 264, 315, 380, 381, 382, 408, 524, 526, 558, 1095, 2668, 2669, 2271, 6788, 7510, 11575, 37808]

On PBS’s *Inside Washington*, the outnumbered Charles Krauthammer hits the liberals on the panel: “I just want to respond to my liberal pals over here. I can’t believe you guys are covering for the administration on the [U.N. ambassador] Susan Rice thing when they themselves said five days later it was obviously a terror attack. Obviously—everybody could see it. So why for a week did the administration pretend that it was a demonstration?” NPR leftist Nina Totenberg responds, “Well, it wouldn’t be a very good plan if they were pretending and then saying something different later.” Krauthammer replies, “It’s a good plan because the longer you draw it out, the less that the media and the country will care about it. It’s an issue—you seize of the issue right away, and it’s worked. Who talks about it other than—” Host Gordon Peterson: “Well, we’re talking about it [right now].” Krauthammer: “[In] the third PBS segment of the show. Come on, give me a break.” Peterson: “Now you’re insulting your audience, the people who are still with us.” Krauthammer: “No, these are the nine people in America who really care about stuff. What about all the others?” [37800]

On September 29 Joe Biden campaigns in Fort Meyers, Florida, where he relates that he and Obama were stunned by the deficit they inherited. According to Biden, Obama said, “But I haven’t done anything yet!” (Obama spent the 2008 campaign complaining about the financial mess the country was in, and then was allegedly surprised to learn that there actually was a mess.) [37744]

In his weekly radio/Internet address, Obama scolds Congress for adjourning to campaign rather than remain in Washington to approve mortgage refinancing legislation he is pushing. (HotAir.com notes, “It was just three weeks ago when the first American ambassador was killed in the line of duty in 33 years, in the first successful terrorist attack on an American diplomatic facility in 14 years. Congress was in session at that time. Did [Obama] rush back to Washington to do his job? Er, not exactly. He blew off a national security briefing so that he could go to Las Vegas ...because he was more worried about his campaign. The hypocrisy is simply breathtaking.”) [37799]

DailyCaller.com reports, “Spanish-language television network Univision plans to air a television special [on September 30] that it said reveals more violence than previously known, as well as the stories of how many more Operation Fast and Furious victims were killed, the network announced in a Friday release.” The network states, “The consequences of the controversial ‘Fast and Furious’ undercover operation put in place by the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) in 2009 have been deadlier than what has been made public to date. The exclusive, in-depth investigation by Univision News’ award-winning Investigative Unit—Univision Investiga—has found that the guns that crossed the border as part of Operation Fast and Furious caused dozens of deaths inside Mexico.” (The Univision report is not good news for Obama, who stands to lose Hispanic votes as more Mexican-Americans understand that Operation Fast and Furious has resulted in the deaths of more than 300 Mexicans—with the administration seemingly unconcerned until U.S. Border Agent Brian Terry was killed and whistleblowers came forward to expose the scheme.) [37752]

The Obama administration releases terrorist Omar Khadr from the detainee center at Guantanamo, sending him home to his native Canada. According to AtlasShrugs.com, “...Obama cut his sentence down from 40 years to 8 years, and then asked the Canadian government to take Khadr. Khadr killed Sergeant First Class (SFC) Christopher James Speer (September 9, 1973 – August 6, 2002). Speer was a combat medic with a Delta Force. Speer was awarded the Soldier’s Medal for risking his life to save two Afghan children who were trapped in a minefield on July 21, 2002, two weeks before his death. The Obama administration was angry when Canada’s Public Safety Minister Vic Toews failed to act on Khadr’s application for transfer. Senior Obama administration officials told the Star last week that Washington’s patience with Ottawa was wearing thin and the Khadr case was jeopardizing future relations between the countries. Khadr killed an American soldier—and Obama freed him.” (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.) [37756, 37757, 37758]

At Patriots for America, Paul R. Hollrah, a contributing editor for the *National Writers Syndicate* and the *New Media Journal*, writes, “More and more, it appears as if we are fighting a war [in Afghanistan], not for some grand ideal, and not in support of family and flag, but just for the sake of fighting a war and to keep Democrats from being branded as ‘soft on Islamic fundamentalism.’ Far too many people, in and out of government, in and out of the military, fear that if we were to pack up and leave we would look like losers after spending so much blood and treasure there with no identifiable ‘victory.’ There is nothing to be gained by our continued presence in Afghanistan and it’s time to bring our troops home. If we have not learned by now that the people of Islam are a tribal culture, still living in the 7th century, then we may never learn it. ... While human life is valued in every culture in the civilized world, in Islam it is not. And while the Christian Bible and the Jewish Torah dictate that ‘thou shalt not kill,’ the Muslim Quran commands Muslims to kill all non-Muslims. Ultimately, the only choice for Christians, Jews, and others is to either convert to Islam, or die. ... In Libya, ... we have had an American ambassador and three other diplomats brutally murdered by Islamic fundamentalists. At the same time, American embassies and consulates across the Islamic world are attacked and our flag desecrated. Should we not be questioning whether or not it is even possible to conduct normal diplomatic relations with such savages? And while Barack Obama goes before the United Nations General Assembly to speak of the ‘common humanity’ shared by Islam and the Christian world, the Turkish Prime Minister uses the very same podium to demand that the world body declare ‘Islamophobia’ to be a ‘crime against humanity.’ ... Our only reason for being in Afghanistan today is to allow Barack Obama to prove his manhood. As a strategic rationale, Obama’s manhood is not worth a superficial scratch on the ass of a single American soldier or Marine.” [37761]

On September 30 New Jersey Governor Chris Christie appears on NBC’s *Meet the Press*, where host David Gregory asks for details from Mitt Romney’s tax system proposals. Christie responds, “David, I wish you guys were just as tough on [Obama]. [He] says he’s going to create a million new manufacturing jobs. He doesn’t say how. He says he’s going to reduce the long-term debt and deficit by \$4 trillion. Doesn’t say how he’s going to do it. I mean, let’s be fair here. Governor Romney has laid out a direction and a vision for the direction of this country. He’s not an accountant. He is not going to go line-by-line—as much as you would like him to do—through the budget. But let’s hold [Obama] to the same standard and criticize him as well, because how does he create a million new manufacturing jobs, David? He hasn’t told anybody the specifics of that. How is he going to reduce \$4 trillion in debt? We’re still waiting to hear what he thinks about Simpson-Bowles, which he commissioned. I mean, he’s been [in the White House] and hasn’t given us specifics [about his plans for the next four years]. So, let’s be fair, here.” [37774]

Obama’s approval/disapproval rating drops to 46/46 in the Gallup poll for September 27–29, after a temporary bump to 50/44 after the Democrat National Convention. [37764]

On *Fox News Sunday* Paul Ryan says, “We owe the country a very clear choice of a different future. We can either have a dynamic, growing economy that produces opportunity, or we can have a stagnant economy that fosters dependency. We can stick



with the failed policies of the four last years ...or we can get a brighter future. ...We're going to win this race." Asked by Chris Wallace if there is media bias in favor of Obama, Ryan responds, "I think it kind of goes without saying that there is definitely a media bias. Look, I'm a conservative, Chris. I'm used to media bias. We expected media bias going into this. That's why we're trying to cut through and go straight to people. That's why when in Washington you hear people complain about media bias, come out into these states with us and attend our town hall meetings. ...I'm not going into a tit-for-tat or litigate this thing, but as a conservative, I've long believed, long felt that there is inherent media bias, and I think anybody with objectivity would believe that is the case. I think most people in the mainstream media are left-of-center. And, therefore, they want a very left-of-center president versus a conservative president, like Mitt Romney. ...We're offering conservative reforms that are proven ideas to grow the economy. We want to reapply our nation's founding principles to fix those problems. I would argue [that Obama] is replacing our founding principles." [37765, 37775]

Democratic National Committee spokesman Brad Woodhouse plays the "lowered expectations" game, telling Fox News that Mitt Romney will likely win the first presidential debate because Obama "has not debated in the past four years," is "not known for sound bites. And these are 60 second, 90 second responses," and is so busy that he will be "lucky to ...devote three consecutive hours to debate preparation." (Obama is engaging in debate practice, with Senator John Kerry (D-MA) playing the role of Romney. Romney is practicing with Senator Rob Portman (R-OH) as Obama.) Interestingly the Democrats are suggesting that Obama, whose greatest talent seems to be talking, should not be expected to do well in the debates—which involve nothing more than talking. [37766]

Venezuela's socialist president, Hugo Chavez, endorses Obama for president. Chavez states, "I hope this doesn't harm Obama, but if I was from the United States, I'd vote for Obama. ...Obama is a good guy ...I think that if Obama was from Barlovento [a Venezuelan slum] or some Caracas neighborhood, he'd vote for Chavez. ...After our triumph [Chavez is also running for reelection] and the supposed, probable triumph of ...Obama, with the extreme right defeated here and there, I hope we could start a new period of normal relations with the United States. Obama recently said something very rational and fair ...that Venezuela is no threat to the interests of the United States." [37768, 37769]

Obama also wins the endorsement of the terrorist group Hamas. Ahmed Yousef states, "We like Mr. Obama. We hope he will [win] the election and I do believe he is like John Kennedy, [a] great man with great principles." Obama campaign strategist David Axelrod responds, "...We all agree that John Kennedy was a great president, and it's flattering when anybody says that Barack Obama would follow in his footsteps." [37770, 37771, 37772, 37773]

Congressman Paul Ryan (R-WI) joins Mitt Romney and others in calling for the resignation of Attorney General Eric Holder. Ryan spokesman Brendan Buck tells DailyCaller.com, "The congressman agrees with the governor." In December 2011

Romney stated, “Either Mr. Holder himself should resign, or [Obama] should ask for his resignation or remove him. It’s unacceptable for him to continue in that position now given the fact that he has misled Congress and entirely botched the investigation of the Fast and Furious program.” [37777]

FoxNews.com reports, “An Afghan soldier turned his gun on American troops at a checkpoint in the country’s east, killing two Americans and at least two fellow members of Afghanistan’s army in a shooting that marked both the continuance of a disturbing trend of insider attacks and the 2,000th U.S. troop death in the long-running war.” General John Allen, the commander of U.S. troops in Afghanistan, later states, “You know, we’re willing to sacrifice a lot for this campaign. But we’re not willing to be murdered for it. The enemy recognizes this is a vulnerability. You know, in Iraq, the signature weapon system that we hadn’t seen before was the IED [improvised explosive device]. We had to adjust to that. Here, I think the signature attack that we’re beginning to see ...is going to be the insider attack.” A Taliban commander tells CBS reporter Lara Logan, “These are Taliban attacks. This is part of our new military strategy. We have our people in the Afghan police and the army. And the orders come from the top. We can’t do this without them [al-Qaeda]. They are masters of everything. For example, making IEDs, something we don’t know how to do. But they are teaching us. They are also master engineers and good with all weapons. When our weapons break, they are the ones who repair them. We can’t do this without them.” (More than two-thirds of the U.S. casualties in Afghanistan have occurred since Obama entered the White House.) [37781, 37782, 37783, 37784, 37785, 37801]

DailyCaller.com reports, “As a freshman at Columbia University in 1970, future Attorney General Eric Holder participated in a five-day occupation of an abandoned Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) headquarters with a group of black students later described by the university’s Black Students’ Organization as ‘armed.’ ...Holder was then among the leaders of the Student Afro-American Society (SAAS), which demanded that the former ROTC office be renamed the ‘Malcolm X Lounge.’ The change, the group insisted, was to be made ‘in honor of a man who recognized the importance of territory as a basis for nationhood.’” [37793, 37937]

The Spanish-language network Univision airs a report of Operation Fast and Furious on its *Aqui y Ahora (Here and Now)* program. Townhall.com’s Katie Pavlich writes, “The report by Univision couldn’t come at a worse time for the Obama administration. If the issues of transparency and Mexico come up (which they will) in the presidential debates between Mitt Romney and Barack Obama starting next week, Obama will have some serious explaining to do. The trust with Mexico has been severely damaged as a result of this program and Univision’s report tonight will further show this to be true. Univision reporter Jorge Ramos asked ...Obama last week why he hadn’t fired Attorney General Eric Holder. Obama responded by saying he had full faith in confidence in his attorney general even after Fast and Furious. Obama was also caught lying about the program in an effort to distract away [sic] from its lethal consequences and effect on the Hispanic community.” [37759, 37794, 37796, 37803, 37817, 37818]

The Univision report informs viewers, “On January 30, 2010, a commando of at least 20 hit men parked themselves outside a birthday party of high school and college students in Villas de Salvarcar, Ciudad Juarez. Near midnight, the assassins, later identified as hired guns for the Mexican cartel La Linea, broke into a one-story house and opened fire on a gathering of nearly 60 teenagers. Outside, lookouts gunned down a screaming neighbor and several students who had managed to escape. Fourteen young men and women were killed, and 12 more were wounded before the hit men finally fled. ... Three of the high caliber weapons fired that night in Villas de Salvarcar were linked to a gun tracing operation run by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). ... Univision News identified a total of 57 more previously unreported firearms that were bought by straw purchasers monitored by ATF during Operation Fast and Furious, and then recovered in Mexico in sites related to murders, kidnappings, and at least one other massacre.” The program also describes a September 2, 2009 massacre in which 18 young Mexicans were killed by weapons from Operation Fast and Furious. DailyCaller.com notes, “Univision held nothing back in its broadcast, airing images and video of bloodied, dead bodies. The network showed the faces of the dead and walked viewers through how cartel operatives hunted their victims down with the weapons ... Obama’s administration allowed straw buyers to traffick [sic] to them.” [37759, 37794, 37796, 37803, 37817, 37818]