

the five men dated November 4 saying they planned to stop filing legal motions and “to announce our confessions to plea in full.”

They were pleading guilty. We got the transcript. Khalid Sheikh Mohammed admitted guilt. He admitted. He confessed to all kinds of heinous kinds.

Then this administration, President Obama and Eric Holder announced they want a New York City show trial that would have endangered New York yet again, as if they hadn't had enough trauma, and would have put a trial in there. Immediately these guys withdraw their plea. We're not going to plead guilty, we can get a show trial in New York. These guys who are running things here don't know what they're doing. What a disaster that would have been.

As far as the great contribution, the great work that's being done in Afghanistan, we took a war where we were making progress, and here are the actual DOD numbers. You see that under Commander in Chief Bush there were 625 Americans, our precious, priceless men and women, who were killed from October of 2001 to the end of 2008, 625 precious lives.

Bush goes out, President Obama comes in, January of 2009, and by the end of August there had been a subtotal of 1,474 additional American men and women killed under Commander Obama. Not only that, 14,817 people had been wounded, Americans had been wounded, lose arms, lose legs, disastrous disabilities, under Commander Obama as compared to the 2,638 terrible wounds that were inflicted on Americans under Commander Bush.

Our President has been in command of 70 percent of the deaths in Afghanistan, though he has been commanding half the time, and has 84 percent of the wounds.

The parents of one of the SEAL Team 6 that was killed on the Chinook August 6 of 2011, they were in the briefing. They have said this publicly, that's why I will say it again. One of the parents asked, “If this was so terrible, this was such a hotbed, you knew it was a hotbed, a lot of aircraft, American aircraft have been fired on recently, why would you allow this Chinook to go in? Why wouldn't you send in a drone?”

The answer from the general who was doing the briefing, they said was, because we're trying to win the hearts and minds in Afghanistan. You're letting our SEAL team be killed when you are trying to win the hearts and minds? That's not the job of the military. The military's job is to go in, defeat an enemy, and come out, and we've got to get back to that.

This President has presided over 70 percent of the deaths in Afghanistan, a disastrous job. It's time to bring the President home, as well as bringing our military home. We could just say what President Bush did in October of 2001. We are going to provide embedded troops. We are going to let the enemy of our enemy be our friend. Not to this administration; they are the enemy.

The enemy of our enemy is our enemy to Obama. But I have met with them a couple of times this year. They are our friends.

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They're Muslim. They're our friends. They don't want to live under the tyrannical rule of the Taliban. And they're willing to fight, as they have, and die with Americans for that freedom. And so we don't let a renegade group like the Taliban that wants to destroy America be out.

Make no mistake, the Blind Sheikh was the object of release by a candidate named Morsi in Egypt. He said, I want the Blind Sheikh released. When I'm elected president, I'm going to demand and I'm going to get it.

Just a day before 9/11 this year, last week, you had the brother of the al Qaeda leader, Zawahiri, saying he was ready to broker a deal that would prevent lots of violence. He also knew the day before that there was an obscure video nobody had ever seen and wasn't going to inflame anybody, but he knew that his buddies, the Muslim Brotherhood, the Egyptian Government, the Egyptian television stations would convert that, translate that into a language that they would inflame people that they would do violence in the Middle East. And they did. The second day of that broadcasting here is Zawahiri saying, Hey, I can broker a deal. Just release the Blind Sheikh, some other murdering thugs, and we'll work a deal out.

This administration has offered to release other murdering thugs of the Taliban and to buy them an office in Qatar if they'll just sit down and talk. That's not the way you do foreign diplomacy. You reward our friends so others want to be our friends and you punish our enemies so they don't want to be our enemies. This President has it backwards. He said, They'll look at me different because I'm the first President to have ever grown up in a Muslim country—the years he spent in Indonesia. Well, I wonder if that might be true. Maybe they will. Maybe they'll want to be friends.

Well, the proof is in. The approval rating of the United States in those Muslim countries where we've been was 33 percent—which was terrible—under President Bush in 2008. And now under this President we see a report it's now 15 percent, under this guy who was going to be our President and the Muslim countries would love us. They don't. Because in Muslim countries the real people, the people that we really need to reach out to, not the leaders that hate us and want to destroy us but the real people, they respect a country who understands who's their enemy and who's their friend. They have no respect for a country that tries to do what would be the equivalent of a child—and I've been there on the schoolyard, picked on by bullies. I was little growing up. But I can tell you, I had my nose bloodied many a time.

You don't win respect nor love from a bully by giving him your lunch money or begging him to be nice to you. Not only do they not love you, not respect you; they gain even more contempt for you. And that's what we're seeing happen.

This President is trying to buy affection from people who were bullies, who are radical Islamists that want to destroy us. You're not going to get love and affection. You get contempt. It helps other people join in the fight against us. This President is doing great damage to us. And it's time to bring his Presidency to a peaceful, law-abiding end with the election.

Things look tragic around the world unless we have a new Commander in Chief and a new leader who wants to rein in the spending. And one thing I'll promise my colleagues across the aisle, if you want to go back to that runaway spending that was too much in 2008, that Speaker PELOSI presided over and HARRY REID had in the Senate and that ended in the last day of September, you want to go right back to that total amount being spent, I'm with you. I'll vote. I'll do it bipartisan and I'll bring a bunch of people with us and we'll bring down a trillion dollars a year in spending. How about that? That's pretty bipartisan, isn't it? Go back to a Democratic budget of 2008. Well, I offer that. Let's see how many Democrats are bipartisan enough to take us up on it.

I yield back the balance of my time.

RHETORIC VERSUS REALITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FRANKS) for 30 minutes.

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, nearly 4 years ago, Barack Obama was swept into office by the strength of his rhetoric; but the profound difference between Mr. Obama's rhetoric and the reality Americans have actually lived under in his Presidency is something every American has a profound responsibility to understand.

Mr. Obama's rhetoric on jobs and the economy 4 years ago was:

We have to have a President who understands that the essence of the American Dream is a good job.

But the reality under Mr. Obama's Presidency is the highest sustained unemployment since the Great Depression. The percentage of people participating in America's labor market under this Presidency has fallen to 63.5 percent. That is the lowest rate since Jimmy Carter was President 31 years ago. Manufacturing unemployment has fallen to its lowest levels since 1941. The number of unemployed Americans eclipsed 15 million for the first time in history. The number of people forced to work part-time for economic reasons eclipsed 8 million for the first time in history.

Under Mr. Obama's Presidency, the average time it takes Americans to find a job reached the highest total in the history of the statistics being measured. And for the first time in history, Mr. Speaker, over 4 million Americans have stopped looking for work altogether.

Mr. Obama's rhetoric on government spending and debt 4 years ago was:

America has a debt problem and a failure of leadership. That's irresponsible. That's unpatriotic.

But the reality under Mr. Obama's Presidency is that he had in the first year he was in office the first \$1 trillion deficit in history. He's done that 4 years in a row now. Mr. Obama always loves to blame his predecessor. However, the deficit for all of 2007 was \$161 billion, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Obama increased the debt by that much in just 1 month. In 2007, America's debt to GDP ratio was 62 percent. According to IMF, it will hit 100 percent this year.

Mr. Obama spent nearly \$1 trillion on a failed stimulus bill shortly after being reelected and then shoved a government takeover of our health care industry down the throats of the American people, which is now projected to cost well over \$2 trillion. He spent \$3 billion on a Cash for Clunkers program that went bankrupt the first week. He spent \$29 million to bail out Bear Stearns, \$300 to bail out Citigroup, \$85 to bail out AIG, \$10 billion to bail out union pension plans, and \$50 billion to bail out General Motors.

Mr. Speaker, under the budgets Barack Obama has already submitted to the Congress, he will add more to America's debt than all of the outstanding debt of all of the other 43 Presidents in American history combined. Mr. Speaker, I wonder if we all understand where America is headed under this President.

Mr. Obama's rhetoric on health care 4 years ago was:

We'll work with your employer to lower your premiums by \$24,500 per family, per year.

But the reality under Mr. Obama's Presidency was that the cost of American family health insurance per year has gone from \$12,680 per year to over \$20,000 per year in 2012. And that's before the enormous increases Americans will inevitably see under ObamaCare.

Mr. Speaker, the European socialist health care system is a nightmare, a bureaucracy, rationing, and substandard health care. Yet it is Mr. Obama's model for America.

Mr. Obama's rhetoric on energy 4 years ago was:

Creating a new energy economy isn't just a challenge to me, it's an opportunity to seize—an opportunity that will create new businesses, new industries, and millions of new jobs.

That sounded good, but the reality under Mr. Obama's Presidency is that his much-touted green jobs economy never materialized. The administration forced through a \$535 million loan for Solyndra, a solar company backed by a

major Obama supporter and praised by Mr. Obama himself. The company filed for bankruptcy 15 months later, after the administration intervened on the company's behalf, leaving taxpayers on the hook.

But far from learning his lesson, a few months later the administration was again doling out billions more in loan guarantees to more solar companies, many of which later held massive layoffs and went bankrupt.

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All told, of the \$9 billion the President has spent so far on green jobs, 910 new, long-term jobs have been created. That's \$9.8 million per job charged to the American taxpayer, Mr. Speaker. So much for his millions of green jobs.

Meanwhile, the President has opposed actual progress in the energy sector, including his continued efforts to block new domestic drilling, the administration's seizure and closing of millions of acres of uranium-rich land in my own district and the Keystone Pipeline project that would have immediately created 20,000 jobs, in addition to attracting billions of dollars in new investments to a struggling Obama economy.

Perhaps none of this should be surprising coming from a President whose own Energy Secretary said:

Somehow, we have to figure out how to boost the price of gasoline to the levels of Europe.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Obama's rhetoric on poverty 4 years ago was:

Poverty is not an issue I just discovered for the purposes of a campaign. It is the cause that led me to a life of public service for almost 25 years.

But the reality under Mr. Obama's Presidency is that the income gap between rich and poor reached its highest level in over 40 years. In 2008, just before the President took office, there were about 39.8 million Americans living in poverty. Today, that number is nearly 50 million. Under Mr. Obama's policies, the American poverty rate hit the highest level in the 52-year history of the statistic being measured.

According to a report in the Washington Examiner, the number of able-bodied adults on food stamps doubled since Mr. Obama suspended the work requirement. More than 46 million Americans are now receiving food stamps. That's an increase of 44 percent since January of 2009. And it is higher than at any other time in American history.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Obama seems to believe that a dependent population will also be an obedient population. And so dependency and deception have become the core essence of his Presidency.

President Obama's rhetoric on foreign policy and national security 4 years ago was many different things, but the reality, under Mr. Obama, was that he has broken promises to trusted allies and told the Kremlin that he will have more "flexibility" to do what they want him to do after he's reelected, after the election.

Iran publicly proclaims their anxiousness to share the nuclear technology that they are so rapidly working to develop. If Iran successfully gains nuclear weapons, they will give them to terrorists the world over, Mr. Speaker, and you and I and our children, and perhaps our children's children, will live in the shadow of nuclear terrorism. Yet President Obama is actively working against efforts to secure even America's porous southern border, which is currently an incredibly inviting target for terrorists looking to smuggle a weapon of mass destruction into the United States.

Mr. Obama pledged "unshakeable commitment" to Israel's security. Yet he turned down a meeting with the Prime Minister of Israel to appear instead on David Letterman, and he refuses to even acknowledge Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

Mahmoud Ahmadinejad recently said Israel's existence is "an insult to all humanity," and Iran's Ayatollah Khamenei has called Israel a "cancerous tumor" that must be wiped out. Yet Mr. Obama has expressed more open rebuke toward Israel for building houses in their own capital city than he has toward Iran for building nuclear weapons with which to threaten the entire human family.

Mr. Speaker, I literally don't have time to thoroughly cover all of this administration's broken promises.

He promised to hold televised debate forums over ObamaCare. That never happened. He promised lobbyists "won't find a job in my White House," but that happened at least a dozen times within the first month of his administration. He appointed more czars in his administration in America than all of the czars that ever existed in the history of Imperial Russia.

He promised to eliminate income taxes for seniors making less than \$50,000. He never even tried.

He promised he wouldn't "sign any nonemergency bill without giving the American public an opportunity to review and comment on the White House Web site for 5 days." A little over a month into his term, that section of the White House Web site was completely removed.

Mr. Obama said the Federal Government was "not living up to its own responsibilities," while his own campaign has actually sued to make it more difficult for our men and women in uniform to even vote.

Mr. Obama gave lip service to enforcing immigration laws, and then sued my State of Arizona for enforcing immigration laws his administration refused to enforce.

While forcing through government loans to failed green energy companies led by his friends like Solyndra, he has stood in the way of domestic energy production, seizing hundreds of thousands of acres of resource-rich land and blocking domestic drilling for oil, including in areas that were already open to drilling.

The day he took office, a gallon of gas was \$1.89. It is almost \$4 a gallon today.

Mr. Speaker, if America produced its own energy and did not buy so much oil from the Middle Eastern countries, terrorists wouldn't have enough money to buy a box of sparklers to hurt this country.

Mr. Speaker, I have tried to lay out the difference between the rhetoric and the reality of this administration.

You know, I've often heard it said in recent days that America faces a crossroads in the approaching election, but I'm afraid that's no longer the case, Mr. Speaker. No, I'm afraid America took the wrong fork in the road back when we elected Barack Obama 4 years ago, and we are now heading rapidly and precisely the wrong direction.

He has nominated judges who contemptuously ignore the Constitution. He has proudly served as the most pro-abortion President in history. He has forced government-run healthcare down the throats of unwilling Americans. He oversaw the first downgrade of America's AAA credit rating. He has increased unemployment, increased the number of Americans on food stamps. He has thrown hundreds of billions of dollars at failed programs. He has weakened our military. He has blatantly attacked religious freedoms in America. He has allowed Iran to advance their nuclear weapons program; and while abroad, he has continually apologized for America, betrayed our friends, and emboldened our enemies. I'm afraid we see the results of some of that even in these recent days.

I would suggest to you that his promise to fundamentally transform America was no bluff, Mr. Speaker. If this is what Mr. Obama has done in his first 4 years, how much more radical will his agenda be if he secures a second term and no longer has to worry about re-election?

Mr. Speaker, for the sake of our children and our children's children, and for all of America's most noble dreams and ideals, it is absolutely vital that we elect a President who will stand up and arrest this national freefall into which Mr. Obama and his radical leftist ideology have hurled America.

May God give us all the wisdom and the courage to remember who we are as Americans and that there is still hope and time to be all that we were called by God to be as a Nation.

We must not fail, Mr. Speaker.

I yield back the balance of my time.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

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AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 4 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BERMAN (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of attending a funeral.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. on Tuesday next.

There was no objection.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 11 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Tuesday, September 25, 2012, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

7963. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Flumioxazin; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0593; FRL-9358-3] received September 20, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7964. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Cyazofamid; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0906; FRL-9361-8] received September 20, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7965. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Didecyl Dimethyl Ammonium Carbonate and Didecyl Dimethyl Ammonium Bicarbonate; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0950; FRL-9359-5] received August 21, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7966. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Pesticide Tolerance Crop Grouping Program III; Revisions to General Tolerance Regulations [EPA-HQ-OPP-2006-0766; FRL-9354-3] (RIN: 2070-AJ28) received August 21, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7967. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Housing Administration (FHA): Section 232 Healthcare Facility Insurance Program-Strengthening Accountability and Regulatory Revisions Update [Docket No.: FR-5465 F-02] (RIN: 2502-AJ05) received September 18, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

7968. A letter from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Consumer Product Safety Commission, trans-

mitting the Commission's final rule — Revisions of Safety Standards for Durable Infant or Toddler Products: Infant Bath Seats and Full-Size Cribs received September 18, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7969. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — protection of Stratospheric Ozone: Listing Substitutes for Ozone-Depleting Substances — Fire Suppression and Explosion Protection [EPA-HQ-OAR-2011-0111; FRL-9729-5] received September 18, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7970. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Missouri [EPA-R07-OAR-2012-0596; FRL-9731-3] received September 18, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7971. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Revisions to the Nevada State Implementation Plan; Stationary Source Permits [EPA-R09-OAR-2012-0141; FRL-9728-6] received September 18, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7972. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Mississippi: New Source Review-Prevention of Significant Deterioration; Fine Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5}) [EPA-R04-2012-0081; FRL-9728-2] received September 18, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7973. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Arizona; Nogales PM₁₀ Nonattainment Area Plan [EPA-R09-OAR-2012-0458; FRL-9730-8] received September 18, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7974. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; New Mexico; Albuquerque/Bernalillo County: Infrastructure and Interstate Transport Requirements for the 1997 and 2008 Ozone and the 1997 and 2006 PM_{2.5} NAAQS [EPA-R06-OAR-2009-0648- FRL-9728-7] received September 18, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7975. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland- Revision for the Control of Volatile Organic Compounds Emissions from Vehicle Refinishing [EPA-R03-OAR-2012-0468; FRL-9731-7] received September 20, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7976. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; Section 110(a)(2) Infrastructure Requirements for the 1997 8-Hour Ozone and the 1997 and 2006 Fine Particulate Matter National Ambient Air Quality Standards [EPA-R03-OAR-2010-0159; FRL-