



The Phyllis Schlafly Report

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Trump Separates the Wheat from the Chaff

By agreeing to a surprise, temporary budget deal in September with “Chuck and Nancy,” the Democratic minority leaders of the Senate and House, President Trump served notice that he is losing patience with leaders of the do-nothing Republican Congress. At the close of the fiscal year on September 30, Congressional Republicans had failed to deliver on their promises to repeal Obamacare, defund Planned Parenthood, and enact fundamental reforms to federal taxes and entitlement spending.

The temporary budget deal produced a spike in the president’s public approval, which is below 40 percent in most polls. But Trump still beats Hillary Clinton, whose approval rating has sunk to 30 percent, and public approval of Congress has fallen to a new low of 10 percent.

The Republican Congress includes many members of both Houses who never supported Trump, and some bragged they didn’t even vote for him. They don’t understand Trump’s appeal and never believed he could carry Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan and Pennsylvania — states that no Republican presidential candidate has won in nearly 30 years.

Exhibit A is Representative Charlie Dent, a liberal Republican who represents a Pennsylvania district that Trump won by a wide margin. After a rally in Allentown by hundreds of angry constituents demanding that he support the president, Dent announced he will not seek another term in Congress. A similar battle is shaping up in Arizona where anti-Trump Senator Jeff Flake, whose job approval rating is an abysmal 18 percent, faces a strong challenge in the primary.

The battle is illustrated by two veteran Missouri Republicans, both now 81 years old and retired. One is John Danforth, the Ralston Purina heir who became an ordained Episcopal minister before serving as state attorney general and U.S. Senator.

Senator Danforth has such a reputation for sanctimony that he’s often referred to as Saint Jack. He issued a scathing attack on the President, which the liberal *Washington Post* and *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* were only too happy to publish.

Danforth claimed that “Trump isn’t a Republican” because “he stands in opposition to the founding principle of our party: that of a united country” as reflected in our national motto, *e pluribus unum* (out of many, one). Danforth concluded that “for the sake of our nation, we Republicans must dissociate ourselves from Trump by clearly and strongly insisting that he does not represent what it means to be a Republican.”

The other Republican, Gene McNary, was the longtime prosecuting attorney and county executive in Missouri’s richest and most populous county, Saint Louis. McNary released a cogent response to Danforth, but the liberal media weren’t interested in publishing it. As McNary correctly noted, “It isn’t the President who is dividing this great Nation, it is the liberal left, the media, and obstructionist Democrats. They can’t get over the fact that the American people elected Donald Trump.”

While Danforth complained that “Trump is eager to tell people they don’t belong here, whether it’s Mexicans, Muslims, the transgendered or another group,” McNary responded: “Is it wrong to tell Mexicans and others to come into the U.S. legally? Is it right for sanctuary cities to flout the law and harbor those who are in the U.S. unlawfully?”

As the former commissioner of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) before those functions were transferred to the new Department of Homeland Security, McNary patiently explained why Danforth was “patently wrong” to say that Trump’s travel ban is anti-Muslim. People who can produce reliable documents from countries with stable governments are not prevented from coming into the U.S. merely because they are Muslim.

Danforth also took the opportunity to blast the so-called Christian right for being “unfriendly to gay Americans,” to which McNary replied: “I haven’t heard a negative word from the President with regard to individuals who identify as transgender. As one who served in the Army, I can see the rationale for keeping these individuals out of the barracks.”

Many Americans have been stunned by the speed at which the transgender issue has reached the point where even our armed forces may be forced to accommodate a tiny sliver of troubled individuals. At the Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, county fair, a 71-year-old lifelong Democrat who voted for Trump changed his voter registration, saying, "There are two parties: one party of Americans, and another party trying to put men in women's bathrooms and perform sex changes on people at my expense!"

Gene McNary concluded his response to Senator Danforth by observing, "Trump broadened the base by appealing to industrial and trade workers who felt that the Democratic Party had deserted them. I like that. I like Trump. He is my kind of Republican."

Never-Trumpers' Violence Goes Unpunished

Donald J. Trump was elected almost a full year ago. Yet like a few Japanese soldiers after World War II, there are still pockets of holdouts who refuse to accept Trump's leadership.

Some holdouts can be found among professors on college campuses, where the feminist culture remains scornful of President Trump. Other holdouts are holed up within the federal bureaucracy, where workers continue to block the agenda that Trump was elected to implement.

Pop psychologists say there are five stages of grief. First there is denial, and then anger or resistance, and beyond that there is acceptance, reconstruction and hope.

Democrats and Republican Never-Trumpers have long been in the stage of denial, as displayed by the books of Hillary Clinton, Donna Brazile, Jeff Flake, and the Bushes. Sen. Jeff Flake, facing a certain landslide defeat in his own primary due to his continuing denial of Trump, seemed finally to accept reality when he decided not to seek reelection, despite being one of the youngest senators.

The peaceful deniers do not pose a threat to our Republic, but the violent objectors do. This began on Inauguration Day, when hundreds of anarchists rioted in downtown Washington, D.C., smashing windows at McDonalds, Starbucks, and Bank of America.

The media have failed to sharply criticize the anti-Trump violence, and the Department of Justice has been slow in prosecuting it. It seems that crimes against almost anyone other than Trump supporters qualify as hate crimes, while authorities turn the other way to allow Leftists to commit violence against those on the side of our President.

When a burly man rushed toward President Trump from behind during a rally at an airport hangar in Ohio last year, as captured on national television, he was merely charged with a misdemeanor and ultimately fined

only \$250. His slap-on-the-wrist punishment of one-year probation was lifted before he served even half of it.

Hate-filled acts of violence by the Left have dominated the headlines for much of this year. In June a Bernie Sanders supporter shot up a baseball practice by Republican Congressmen, nearly killing Representative Steve Scalise and injuring five others. In September a refugee from Sudan gunned down church attendees in Tennessee, killing one worshiper and injuring six others.

When a Leftist goes on a shooting rampage and then kills himself, or is killed by a bystander, then there may not be much to prosecute. But a frightening assault against a leading conservative in the U.S. Senate, Rand Paul, has left much to prosecute in order to deter future attacks like it.

The brutal attack by an outspoken liberal against Sen. Paul was cowardly, to put it mildly. Senator Paul had been peacefully mowing his own lawn while wearing sound protectors, when his assailant sneaked up from behind him, hitting him so hard that it broke six of Senator Paul's ribs and caused lung contusions. It bloodied Senator Paul's face, too, which suggests that the assailant did not merely "tackle" Senator Paul as initial media reports described. Instead, the substantial injuries suggest that this was a calculated attempt to inflict pain on the conservative senator.

Senator Paul's assailant was a wealthy middle-aged man who, like the murderer Stephen Paddock in Las Vegas, apparently had lots of free time on his hands. Rene Boucher, aged 59, is listed by a Kentucky government website as being a retired physician who no longer practices medicine.

Like most of the other perpetrators of recent violence, Boucher is a registered Democrat who has posted rants against President Donald Trump. Boucher has advocated for gun control but apparently was just fine with an ambush of a U.S. Senator that injured him with physical violence. Boucher's attorney quickly insisted that the attack has nothing to do with politics, but the assailant has not yet publicly provided a real apology or plausible explanation for his violent ambush.

The Department of Justice spends many millions searching for non-existent crimes by supporters of Donald Trump. Meanwhile, the U.S. Senate will be without one of its finest members for some time due to this attack on him by a Democrat.

This was the second time that Senator Paul was subjected to an ambush, the first being the shooting on the ballfield near D.C. where the unarmed conservative Representative Steve Scalise was gunned down in that politically motivated ambush. Yet the Department of Justice has apparently done little to protect Trump supporters since.

Imagine the outrage if any of the above acts had been by a registered Republican against a liberal politician. There would be deafening calls for prosecution of such conduct as a hate crime, and a flurry of immediate activity at the Justice Department to deter repetition of such a crime.

Trump Wins with Transparency on JFK

President Trump wins more kudos for allowing the release of the JFK assassination files. Proving again why he is a welcome alternative to the Establishment, Trump has stood up for the American people in ending more than 50 years of government cover-up of these documents.

Lee Harvey Oswald was a radical communist who described himself as a “Marxist” during his post-assassination interrogation. It was widely known then that Oswald hated America so much that he defected to the communist Soviet Union, where he he even tried to renounce his American citizenship.

What is not yet known is who allowed Oswald back into the United States to pass out pro-Fidel Castro literature months before he assassinated President Kennedy on November 22, 1963. Why would the federal government allow the known America-hater to immigrate back to our country from Russia after he attempted to renounce his American citizenship?

If that question sounds familiar, then it is because the practice of letting America-haters into our country, or back into our country, has continued until recently when President Trump issued his so-called travel ban to stop the influx. Trump’s travel ban is designed to cut off the immigration of people from areas hostile to the United States, despite the fact that federal courts have worked overtime to block these sensible executive orders.

Five years ago the federal government let Boston Marathon bomber Tamerlan Tsarnaev back into the United States despite being put on full notice of how much he hated our country. To this day government withholds information about the likely participation by Tsarnaev in the brutal murder of three Jewish acquaintances in Waltham, Massachusetts on Sept. 11, 2011.

Obvious clues linking Tsarnaev to the 9/11 anniversary killings were ignored by law enforcement, just as the risks posed by Lee Harvey Oswald were downplayed. After more anti-American training in foreign countries Tsarnaev was let back into the United States to carry out his bombing at the Boston Marathon in spring 2013, just as Oswald was let back in to hurt America.

Even the Warren Commission had to admit that Oswald tried to murder the outspokenly anti-communist Major General Edwin A. Walker in Dallas in April 1963, less than nine months before his assassination of JFK.

The bullet that narrowly missed General Walker in his home was traced to the same make of rifle Oswald used against JFK, and Oswald’s wife admitted to her husband’s attempted murder of General Walker.

The narratives preferred by liberals about the JFK assassination are that Oswald was “a 24-year-old loser who was mad at the world and wanted to make a name for himself,” in the words of Minnesota federal judge Jack Tunheim, who reviewed these soon-to-be-released documents as Chairman of the Assassination Records Review Commission. But an angry-at-the-world 24-year-old merely seeking to make a name for himself does not stalk to kill a little-known anti-communist general. Similarly, Tsarnaev was not merely angry at the world or merely trying to make a name for himself when he bombed the Boston Marathon.

Judge Tunheim, after reviewing the documents, conceded that the federal government destroyed some documents after the JFK assassination, preventing the public from ever seeing them. Whether that destruction was ideological or simply to avoid institutional embarrassment may forever remain a mystery. Of course, liberals sought to downplay its significance, anxious to smear anyone who analyzes them as a “conspiracy theorist.” Yet liberals are currently wasting millions of taxpayer dollars on their wacky theory that there was a Russian conspiracy that somehow interfered with the 2016 presidential election.

Wikileaks is popular because for eight years the Obama Administration did conceal information or lie about it. Despite numerous laws like the Freedom of Information Act that require the government to be transparent, Clinton and Obama routinely hid and withheld information from the public.

For example, the federal government continues to hide evidence about other potential crimes even older than the JFK assassination. More than 200 years ago Meriwether Lewis died of a gunshot wound, either by murder or suicide, after having led the marvelous Lewis and Clark expedition to explore the Northwest.

Lewis is buried in a national park owned by the federal government, and President Bill Clinton refused requests by historians and Lewis’s descendants to exhume his body, probably because Clinton did not want to set a precedent that might result in the exhumation of his deceased Commerce Secretary Ron Brown, sought around the same time. The Bush Administration later approved an exhumation of Lewis in 2008, but then the Obama Administration blocked it without any reasonable justification, presumably as a favor to the Clintons.

Government will hide information as long as the public allows it. Fortunately, President Trump is siding with the public.

Bannon Promotes Trump's Economic Nationalism

Steve Bannon may be gone from the White House, but the agenda he championed is moving forward on many fronts. “If there’s any confusion out there,” Bannon told Bloomberg News, “let me clear it up: I’m leaving the White House and going to war for Trump against his opponents — on Capitol Hill, in the media, and in corporate America.”

In a series of recent interviews, the strategist who spent 12 months at Donald Trump’s right hand laid out the case for putting America first. Bannon said the Republican establishment, including House Speaker Paul Ryan and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, simply “do not want Donald Trump’s populist, economic nationalist agenda to be implemented. It’s very obvious.”

On *60 Minutes*, Bannon gave Charlie Rose a history lesson that children rarely learn. “Economic nationalism is what this country was built on. What built America is called the American system — a system of protection of our manufacturing, a financial system that lends to manufacturers, and the control of our borders.” The idea of controlling our borders seemed to offend Charlie Rose, who complained, “We’re all immigrants, except the Native Americans. It’s what people respect America for.” Bannon replied, “You couldn’t be more dead wrong. America was built on her citizens.”

In response to another tired question, “You want a trade war with China?” Bannon pointed out that “China is at economic war with us. Through forced technology transfer and through stealing our technology, China is cutting out the beating heart of American innovation.”

“The forced technology transfer of American innovation to China is the single biggest economic and business issue of our time,” Bannon told Bloomberg Businessweek. “Until we sort that out, they will continue to appropriate our innovation to their own system and leave us as a colony — a tributary state.”

Bannon’s view is supported by Robert Lighthizer who remains inside the White House as U.S. Trade Representative. “CEOs come in to see me continuously,” Lighthizer said recently, “and almost every CEO of a major company will say they’re having a problem with China forcing them into joint ventures, turning over intellectual property, having to license their intellectual property at less than market value.”

Those CEOs won’t complain publicly for fear of Chinese retaliation, so Lighthizer has opened a formal investigation under Section 301 of the Trade Act. That law authorizes the President to penalize countries that violate the rules of fair trade, as China does. “Expect change,” Lighthizer said. “The sheer scale of [China’s] coordinated efforts to subsidize, to create national champions, to force

technology transfer, and to distort markets throughout the world, is a threat to the world trading system that is unprecedented.”

In his executive memorandum authorizing the use of Section 301, President Trump condemned Chinese policies that “encourage or require the transfer of American technology and intellectual property to enterprises in China.” China’s conduct, Trump said, could “deprive United States citizens of fair remuneration for their innovations, divert American jobs to workers in China, contribute to our trade deficit with China, and otherwise undermine American manufacturing, services, and innovation.”

As Steve Bannon told Charlie Rose, “Donald Trump, for 30 years, has singled out China as the biggest single problem we have on the world stage.” Lighthizer agreed: “While some politicians can be accused of changing to populist positions to get votes, this cannot be said of the President. If you go back 10, 20, 30 years, or even longer, you see a remarkable consistency. He has been a critic of so-called free trade deals and of their effects on workers.”

In an interview with Bloomberg, Bannon said, “the heart of the economic-nationalist movement is standing up to China.” He explained that China requires American companies to give “tribute” to that country by sharing our technology secrets. “That’s what it takes to enter their market,” Bannon observes, and they’ve taken “\$3.5 trillion worth over the last 10 years — the essence of American capitalism: our innovation.

When he spoke to the annual CPAC conference last February, Bannon said that the president’s goal is “deconstruction of the administrative state” consisting of the bureaucrats who set policy no matter which party is elected. “If you think they’re going to give you your country back without a fight, you are sadly mistaken,” Bannon said in reference to the media and opposition forces. “Every day, it is going to be a fight.”

The “corporatist, globalist media are adamantly opposed to an economic nationalist agenda like Donald Trump has,” Bannon said. Contrary to the globalist ideology, Bannon told CPAC, “we’re a nation with an economy — not an economy just in some global marketplace with open borders, but we are a nation with a culture and a reason for being.”

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