

Peace, Security and Civil Rights: An Open Letter to President Barack Obama

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Region: [USA](#)

Theme: [Police State & Civil Rights](#), [Poverty & Social Inequality](#)

Do you know how many of us cried with joy when you were elected that heady day, in January 2008, when you held the goodwill and hopes of most everyone, everywhere throughout the United States and Europe – and even in Moscow and Beijing? It seemed like the long overdue beginning of a New Age with an imposing, young, erudite, black JFK.

Do you realise what a profound liability you have since become? A tragic disappointment to both Americans and Europeans, Republicans and Democrats, Christians and Jews, Hindus and Muslims, black and white, to those rich and poor, well or sick?

Do you know the bitterness that now abounds amongst those who trusted you to act for peace, security and civil rights but whom you have failed so spectacularly? Do you know of the millions of Palestinians now left abandoned and dispossessed?

Are you not aware of a dangerously destabilised Middle East and an Israel now more threatened than at any time since 1948 plus North Africa with its valuable oil deposits in the grip of insurgents?

Do you know of the black Americans still being harassed, and sometimes killed, by renegade, racist state police up and down America? Do you even realise the ridicule heaped upon a White House made impotent by a congress that despises your lack of leadership?

Do you appreciate that you have shattered the image of the once powerful American ship of state that now flounders in the shallows amongst dangerous rocks when it needed an experienced captain and crew to chart a well-planned and secure course so as to arrive at its destination with its valuable cargo for the people of the world, on time and in good order?

Instead, America and the world has now to try to deal with a slow-motion shipwreck ... and the international community continues to suffer from having you still on board the bridge as captain, but in name only. A captain who never has been a naval officer capable of commanding a great, trans-oceanic vessel!

A tragically wasted presidency that could have achieved so much but, in nearly seven years, gained nothing for anyone, at any time, anywhere. Your sole achievement – if it be that – was the locating and elimination of one man, Osama bin Laden, in his Pakistani hideout. Now even your role in that is being questioned.

There has been, sadly, nothing else of interest during your overlong presidency. We now live in a world with little or no advance in either human or civil rights nor even in the field of sound economic governance.

A resignation could now be your only legacy of any value and I would be the first to wish you well in your early retirement.

God Bless America!

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