

## The "Beatification" of Barack Obama. The "Good Guy" Storyline is Set...

By <u>Kit</u>
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"With Barack Obama's exit the US is losing a saint." <u>writes Simon Jenkins</u> in the Guardian, whilst <u>Ann Perkins praises</u> his "grace, decency and defence of democracy". Lola Okolosie <u>rhapsodises on his legacy</u> of "warmth, love, resilience".

Already the storyline is set – Obama was a good man, who tried to do great things, but was undone by a Republican senate, and his own "sharp intelligence".

These people, as much as anybody, reflect the cognitive dissonance of the modern press. "Liberals", to use their own tortured self-descriptor, now assign the roles of good guy and bad guy based purely on aesthetics, convenience and fuel for their vanity. Actions and consequences are immaterial.

For the sake of balance, here is a list of Saint Obama's unique achievements:

- Obama is the first President in American history to be at war for <u>every single day</u> of an 8 year presidency.
- Obama has carried out 10x more drone strikes than Bush ever did. Every Tuesday a military aide presents Obama with a "kill list", and the "decent, gracious" Obama picks a few names off a list...and kills them. And their families. And their neighbours. These illegal acts of state-sanctioned murder have killed hundreds of civilians in 5 different countries in 2016 alone. The only reason that number isn't higher, is that the Obama administration re-classified all males over 18 as combatants, regardless of occupation.
- After declaring he wanted to <u>build a "nuclear free world"</u>, Obama committed to spending \$1 TRILLION dollars on <u>rebuilding America's nuclear weapons</u>.
- Under Obama, the NSA et al. were able to spy on, essentially, the whole world. When this was revealed, not a single intelligence officer or government official was prosecuted. Instead...
- Obama's administration declared a "war on whistleblowers", enacting new laws and initiating what they call the "Insider Threat Program". Manning was prosecuted, Snowden sent into exile and Assange was set-up, discredited and (they hoped) extradited. It has never been more dangerous to be a government whistle-blower, than under Barack Obama
- In terms of foreign policy, despite his press-created and non-sensical reputation as a non-interventionist, American Special Forces are currently operating in over 70% of the world's 195 countries. The great lie is that, where Bush was a warmonger, Obama has sought to avoid conflict. The truth is that Obama, in the grand tradition of the CIA and American Imperial power, has simply turned all

America's wars into covert wars.

- Before Obama came into office, Libya was the richest and most developed nation in Africa. It is now a hell-hole. Destroyed by war, hollowed-out by corruption. The "liberal" press allow him to agonise over this as his "greatest mistake", and then gently pardon him for his good intentions. The truth is that Libya was not a mistake, or a misjudgment, or an unforeseen consequence. Libya is exactly what America wanted it to become. A failed state where everything is for sale, a base to pour illegal CIA weapons south into Africa and east into the ME. When war is your economy, chaos is good for business. When secrecy is your weapon, anarchy is ammunition. Libya went according to plan. A brutal plan that killed 100,000s and destroyed the lives of millions more. Libya, like Iraq, is a neocon success story. Syria on the other hand...
- Syria, probably the word that will follow Obama out of office as "Iraq" did his predecessor, is a total failure. Both of stated intent and covert goals. Where the press will mourn Obama's "indecisive nature" and wish he'd "used his big stick", the real story is one of evil incompetence, so great that it would be almost comical...if it hadn't destroyed an ancient seat of civilisation and killed 100,000s of people. Syria (along with Libya, Iraq, Somalia, Iran and Sudan) was on the list of the 7 countries America intended to destroy, famously "leaked" by General Wesley Clark. After the fall of Libya, Syria was (essentially) surrounded by American military on all sides. Iraq, Israel, Turkey and America operating out of Libya could pour "freedom fighters" into Syria to bring down "the regime". When that didn't work they deployed the trusty "WMD" method, to demand "humanitarian intervention"...the Russians saw that off. Then "ISIS" was created by the CIA, as al-Qaida were before them, and their manufactured barbarism was used as a pretext for invasion. The Russians, again, saw to it that this would not happen.
- Perhaps in the hope of distracting Russia from the ME, or perhaps merely as a short-sighted punitive measure, the Obama's administration next foreign policy target was Ukraine. Victoria Nuland's own voice proves how much that "color revolution" was an American creation. Ukraine is broke, even more broke than it was, its people starve and freeze through the winter. The new "democratic government" has shelled 10,000 people to death in the East of the country....using American weapons.
- In Yemen, the poorest country in the ME is being bombed to shreds by the richest....again, using American (and British) weapons. Obama's "defense of democracy" doesn't extend to criticising, or even discussing, the abhorrent Human Rights record of America's Saudi Arabian allies, and in an act of brazen hypocrisy, even supported their chairing of the Human Rights Council of the UN.

This is the world Saint Obama has created. Guantanamo is still open, and terrorist "suspects" are still held there without trial or charge (they are probably still tortured). Other "suspects" can be simply declared guilty, and unilaterally executed...anywhere in the world. The NSA and CIA are illegally monitoring the communications of half the world. If any other leader in the world claimed even 1% of this power, they would be decried as "autocratic", and their country denounced as a "pariah state".

The Middle-East is ablaze from Libya to Afghanistan, and from Yemen to Turkey. Relations with Russia are as precarious as at any time since WWII, thanks to America's efforts to break

Russia economically and shatter their global influence. There is no sign that America intends to back-down (see the recent red-scare style hysteria in the American press). Likewise America has positioned itself to have a massive conflict with China in the South China Sea. Obama is, in terms of influence, nothing more than a used-car salesman. His job is not to create policy, but to sell neocon ideas to the general public, but his lack of agency cannot excuse his lack of vision or morals. Under Obama's notional leadership the world has moved to the very brink of self-immolation in the name of protecting American hegemony. Domestically America still crumbles.

He had a nice smile, and a good turn of phrase. He was witty, and cool, and looked good in a suit...but that doesn't mean he wasn't just more of the same. He could say the right things, and sound like he meant them, but he was still a monster. As he moves out to pasture, the press will try to spit-shine Obama's tarnished halo, to try to convince us that he was a good man at heart and that, as politicians go, we can't do any better.

But yes, we can.

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