The Chairman's Action Report

Religious Freedom Coalition

June 3, 2009

THE PRESIDENCY

BEATING NAPOLITANO'S RIGHTWING REPORT - When the Department of Homeland Security released its now infamous "Rightwing Extremist Report" to law enforcement officials around the country, Janet Napolitano said she stood 100% behind it. Then, she apologized to the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) for a portion of the report that identified veterans returning from Afghanistan and Iraq as potential extremists and threats to national security. But, she still maintained that she stood behind the rest of the report.

Then at Congressional hearings in May, Napolitano said the report was not authorized by her, was not properly "vetted," had been "withdrawn," and was "no longer available." She told Congress, "Some things in my initial days have gone very well at the department, some things have not. And that was probably the worst thing. It was not authorized to be distributed. It had not even completed its vetting process within the department. It has been taken off of the intel websites and the lexicon that went along with it was similarly withdrawn. Neither were authorized products, and we have now put in place processes. And it turned out there were really no procedures to govern what went out and what didn't before, and now there are."

Either Napolitano (1) does not have control of the Department of Homeland Security or (2) she lied when the report came out or (3) she is lying now. Regardless of whichever is the truth, she should be forced to resign.

The fact that the report has been "withdrawn" is a tremendous victory. It is also the first victory against the radical leftist Obama Administration since they took office in January. The victory was won not by the Republican Party, but by social conservative groups such as the Religious Freedom Coalition who would not give up. The color ads we ran in newspapers made the point that the Department of Homeland Security should not label as terrorists those of us who are pro-life and hold traditional conservative beliefs. This caused such concern in the Obama camp that the "rightwing" report had to be withdrawn.

Other conservatives should learn a lesson from this victory: Take on one of the evils coming from Washington at a time, concentrate on it, and don't give up until there is victory no matter how long it takes. Too many groups are taking on the "cause of the week," which in the long run allows the social liberals with their anti-family gay agenda to win battle after battle. To win, we must stay focused.

OBAMA'S NOTRE DAME MOMENT - A lot of people were arrested this month for "trespassing" on campus to protest the honorary degree that was given by Notre Dame, a Catholic university to Barack Obama. One pro-life group hired an airplane to fly over the campus during the day with a pro- life banner. The protests were centered on the pro-life issue and the declaration of the Pope that Catholics should not support politicians who promote abortion. President Obama supports abortion right up to the minute a woman is in labor. He is extreme on the issue. The protesters, almost all of them Catholic, were outraged by the wording on the honorary law degree issued by the Catholic university.

The degree certificate stated that it was being awarded to Obama in part because, "...he is inspiring this nation to heal its divisions of religion, culture, race and politics in the audacious hope for a brighter tomorrow." What was "audacious" was the inscription on the degree. Far from bringing people together, he has excluded whole classes of people. Remember his demeaning remark about traditional working class people who are losing their jobs: "They get bitter, they cling to guns or religion or antipathy to people who aren't like them...." He has chosen appointees (not only Napolitano but many others) based on his biases toward people of faith. He even appointed Harry Knox, a gay activist who has made bigoted anti-Catholic remarks to his "faith based advisory council." One pro-life leader said "This degree hovers between juvenile adoration and the spirit shown by a teenage girl who is about to throw away her honor with an abusive predator." This spirit will come back to haunt Notre Dame.

YOUR TAX DOLLARS TO ITALY? – I don't normally write about economic issues, but what is going on with Chrysler really startled me. Since I have worked around and on Capitol Hill for decades, it takes a lot to startle me.

I love Italy. It is a great nation and one of the wealthiest capitalist nations in the world. I know that some Republicans talk about "socialist Europe," but that is just no longer true. In reality most European nations are robust capitalist societies just like Italy. The nation of Italy has a strong manufacturing base that includes famous auto makers such as Alfa Romeo, Ferrari, Maserati and Lamborghini. Unlike the United States Italy has not driven most of its manufacturing jobs to China; they are mostly still in Italy.

Why then, is the Obama Administration using the tax dollars of Americans to take over Chrysler, an American car company, and give control of it to the Italian company Fiat for not a single dollar in return? Fiat gets a percentage of Chrysler in return for "technology," but does not put in one dime of capital. All the money to save Chrysler and merge it with Fiat comes from taxpayers like you and me.

Most Americans were willing to "save" American jobs with tax dollars, but to give the assets of Chrysler to a European company goes one step too far. Meanwhile, the Obama Administration has asked for nothing from the wealthy hedge fund that owned Chrysler when it went into bankruptcy. If all this weren't enough, the Obama Administration turned its back on the auto workers union and approved moving the plant that makes Chrysler motors to Mexico! What circus was hired to run this show for the Obama Administration?

INTERNATIONAL

In the last two Chairman's Reports I reported on the slaughter of pigs in Egypt. The Egyptians claimed they killed every pig belonging to Christian farmers because of swine flu; however, there is still not a case of the flu in all of Egypt. I also mentioned that although it is called the swine flu, it is not passed from pigs to humans. Humans can only get the swine flu from other human beings. Egypt killed the pigs simple because they belong to Christians. Muslims do not eat pork, nor do they use it in any other products. Pigs are only used and traded by Christians, most of whom in Egypt are poor.

There was not much reporting of the slaughter of the pigs in the United States other than to say it was for health reasons. About the only accurate report that mentioned Christians at all was in the Wall Street Journal. However, an Egyptian cleric was kind enough to give justification for the killing of the pigs by the government.

The reason given by the cleric for killing the pigs: *They are the descendants of Jews*.

The following is the transcript from Al-Moheet Arab News Network reporting on the Fatwa issued by the Egyptian imam:

"CAIRO -- Sheikh Ahmed Ali Othman, supervisor of the Da'awa [Islamic Indoctrination] of the Egyptian Waqf [Islamic Holy places], has issued a Religious Ruling (Fatwa) that pigs in our time have their origins in Jews who angered Allah, such that He turned them into monkeys, pigs, and Satan-worshippers, and it is obligatory to kill and slaughter them [the pigs].

Othman based his ruling on the respected Quranic verse, 'Say [to the People of the Book - Jews and Christians], Come and I shall make known to you who receives the worst retribution of all from Allah: those whom Allah has cursed and upon whom He has poured His wrath, whom He has made into monkeys and pigs, and who have served abominations. Their place is worst of all, and their deviation is the greatest of all...' (Quran, sura 5, verse 60)

Now you know the real logic behind the killing of the pigs belonging to Christian farmers in Egypt. The pigs were killed because they were Jewish! This is the kind of logic that comes from leaders of the "religion of peace," yet Barack Obama (like George W. Bush before him) actually thinks he can reason with such people. Can you just imagine what the Muslim leaders say to each other when they see a woman, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, coming to negotiate? Oddly, I bet she thinks she is respected by them. Will the secularists who run this nation ever learn? We can only pray they will.

FINALLY THE MEDIA TELLS THE TRUTH - For at least the last six years the mass media, particularly in the United States, has refused to face the reality of the persecution of Christians in the Middle East. The media's failure to report the Christian exodus from Iraq has allowed the last two American administrations to do nothing in the face of the persecution. Finally that is changing. In mid-May the Associated Press (AP) issued a long story to its member newspapers on the exodus of Christians from Iraq. The report, titled "In Iraq; an Exodus of Christians," and written by Paul Schemm, was widely distributed and carried by numerous newspapers around the country. Not only did Schemm detail the brutality toward Christians, he also gave real numbers about the exodus. The 1987 census showed 1.4 million Christians. Now, that number is officially 550,000 and could be as low as 400,000.

Network TV news is also beginning to report the persecution. However, the situation is even worse than what is now being reported. A five year old Christian boy was kidnapped and murdered in Baghdad just two weeks ago. Christians are reluctant to talk to media about their persecution, for fear of reprisals against themselves or their families.

HELPING IRAQI CHRISTIANS – We are still conducting a petition drive asking Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to formulate a policy to stop the persecution of Christians in Iraq and to aid those Iraqi Christians who have been forced to flee.

If you have not signed the paper version of the petition, please consider signing the online version at: www. iraqichristianrefugees.org. We also have a Facebook site that has almost 600 members. We are getting the word out about Iraqi Christians while helping them as best we can with medical supplies and food distribution in Amman, Jordan.

COURTS, CONGRESS AND CULTURE

MORE ON THOUGHT CRIMES – Here is the reality ... homosexuals want the same censorship of Christians in the United States that is currently being pushed by the leftwing president of Brazil. The Brazilian government plans to add warning labels to Christian TV and radio programming it regards as "homophobic," according to reports from one of Brazil's largest newspapers, *Folha de Sao Paulo*.

According to *Folha*, any media program critical of homosexuality in any way will be forced to display a warning label that reads, "not recommended for people under the age of 18." The newspaper said the policy stems from a plan for the "promotion of the citizenship of LGBT" (lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transvestites, and transsexuals). Brazil's Secretary of Justice reportedly told *Folha* that "homophobic" programming would be restricted to after 11 pm so as not to be viewed by children but, "the ideal is that they not be shown at any time."

AMERICA'S RELIGIOUS HERITAGE – In the last issue of the Chairman's Report I mentioned how Congressman Randy Forbes formed the Congressional Prayer Caucus from a small group of congressmen who met each day to pray in room 219 of the Capitol. The meeting gave birth to the Room 219 movement and the founding of the Congressional Prayer Caucus Foundation.

I have worked hard to help get Congress to vote on HR 397, a resolution reaffirming America's Religious heritage which was authored by Congressman Forbes. Just last week I talked to Congressman Tom Price who is the chairman of the powerful Republican Study Committee about the America's Religious Heritage resolution. He agreed to add his name as a co-sponsor and to urge members of the Republican Study Committee to also co-sponsor the resolution. His signature has helped in recruiting several other congressmen as co-sponsors.

GALLUP CONFIRMS PEW RESEARCH POLL - A new Gallup Poll conducted in May finds that 51% of Americans consider themselves "pro-life" on the issue of abortion, with just 42% being "pro-choice." Gallup began asking the question in 1995, and this is the first time that the majority has responded as being pro-life.

The results validate a PEW Research poll I wrote about in the last issue, which also shows a big swing during the last year. One year ago, in May 2008, the majority of people declared they were "pro-choice." Now, a majority of Americans believe that abortion should either be outlawed completely or limited in some way. Why? Perhaps as the radical agenda of Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi gets closer to reality, fewer people want to be identified with her and her pro-abortion, anti-family, homosexual allies.

Political battles may have been lost in the last few years, but we are winning the hearts and the minds of many Americans as they see the damage that will be done to their own families by those politicians who plan to force a radical social agenda on Americans.

William J. Murray, Chairman