

August 26, 2014

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In following through, Obama demonstrated three things: the effectiveness of even limited U.S. power, the vulnerability of the Islamic State and, crucially, his own seriousness, however tentative.

The last of these is the most important. Obama had said that there is no American military solution to the conflict. This may be true, but there is a local military solution. (There must be: There is no negotiating with Islamic State barbarism.) And that solution requires U.S. air support.

It can work. The Islamic State is overstretched. It's a thin force of perhaps 15,000 trying to control a territory four times the size of Israel. Its supply lines, operating in open country, are not just extended but exposed and highly vulnerable to air power.

Stopping the Islamic State's momentum creates a major shift in psychology. Guerrilla armies thrive on a sense of inevitability. The Islamic State has grown in size, demoralized its enemies and attracted recruits from all over the world because it seemed unstoppable, a real caliphate in the making. ...

John Fund starts out a look at Ferguson, Missouri.

America is a land of makeovers, but there should be limits. This week I had to rub my eyes in disbelief when I saw Malik Zulu Shabazz, the former radical head of the New Black Panther Party, on TV amid the rioting in Ferguson, Mo.

Shabazz is now head of something called Black Lawyers for Justice, and he has set himself up as a "peacemaker" in Ferguson. Last weekend, he hijacked the news conference of Missouri Highway Patrol captain Ron Johnson to take credit for keeping things under control: "My group and — thanks to you — my organizers, along with the New Black Panther Party and the Nation of Islam, we are the ones who put those men in the streets, and we controlled the flow of traffic." Johnson agreed that Shabazz and his group had indeed helped out.

But that doesn't mean we shouldn't be asking a lot of questions about Shabazz's presence in Ferguson. On the one hand, Shabazz blames "intentional provocateurs" and "outside infiltrators" for the violence in Ferguson. On the other hand, in the past it has been Shabazz and his ilk who have been the "outside infiltrators" creating chaos and stirring up hatred. Jesse Jackson is in Ferguson calling the Brown shooting a "state execution." The egregious Al Sharpton is speaking

at Michael Brown's funeral. During the Trayvon Martin case, Sharpton called the acquittal of George Zimmerman an "atrocious." Hashim Nzinga, the New Black Panther Party's current leader, put a bounty on George Zimmerman's head. He is now in Ferguson whipping up the crowds against what he calls President Obama's weak reaction to Brown's death: "He need to go back to his roots and stop people from killing Africans in the streets."

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Linda Chavez writes on Eric Holder.

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"I understand that mistrust. I am the attorney general of the United States. But I am also a black man," he told an audience in Ferguson.

Holder then met privately with the family of Mike Brown, the man shot, and later held a news conference in which he reiterated racial grievance:

"This shooting incident has brought to the surface underlying tensions that have existed for many years. There is a history to these tensions, and that history simmers in more communities than just Ferguson."

Such words inflame racial mistrust — and, even more importantly, undermine justice.

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David Harsanyi on Al Sharpton.

The persistent whitewashing of Al Sharpton's revolting past will always be a mystery to me. But if we're to trust [Politico's reporting today](#), Sharpton has emerged as the go-to civil rights guru for the Obama administration. "If anything," writes Glenn Thrush, "the Ferguson crisis has underscored Sharpton's role as the national black leader Obama leans on most, a remarkable personal and political transformation for a man once regarded with suspicion and disdain by many in his own party."

Draw whatever conclusions you like from this development. But if the point of the piece is to detail the revival of a once-reviled public figure, offering a single purified paragraph detailing the events that first made the man famous seems a bit disingenuous. Perhaps a little more context is necessary for those who didn't live through his violent circus.

So let's revisit. ...

Ann Coulter sums up the mess.

It's important to remember that, in police shooting cases like the one in Ferguson, Missouri, the initial facts are often wrong. You don't want to end up looking like Rich Lowry, National Review editor, whose March 23, 2012, column on the Trayvon Martin shooting was titled, "Al Sharpton Is Right."

Early accounts are especially unreliable when reporters think they have a white racism story. Stirring up racial hatred is how journalists make up for sending their own kids to lily-white private schools.

As detailed in my book Mugged: Racial Demagoguery from the Seventies to Obama, the old media's standard for any police shooting of a black person is: "Racist until proved innocent." We got three-alarm racism stories for the shootings of Jose (Kiko) Garcia, Eleanor Bumpurs, Michael Stewart and Edmund Perry.

And then it turned out Garcia was a drugged-up coke dealer who pulled a gun on the cop, Bumpurs was a psychotic who came at the cops with a machete, Stewart fought the cops so violently he gave himself a heart attack, and Perry mugged an undercover cop.

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It later turned out that Garcia was a convicted felon. He had a gun the night of the shooting. ...

Washington Post

[Stopping the worst people on Earth](#)

by Charles Krauthammer

Baghdad called President Obama's bluff and he came through. He had refused to provide air support to Iraqi government forces until the Iraqis got rid of their divisive sectarian prime minister.

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People follow the [strong horse over the weak horse, taught Osama bin Laden](#). These jihadis came out of nowhere and shocked the world [by capturing Mosul](#), Tikrit and the approaches to Kurdistan, heretofore assumed to be impregnable.

Now that has begun to be reversed.

Obama was slow to bring American power to bear. And [slower still to arm the Kurds](#). But he was right to wait until Baghdad had gotten rid of Nouri al-Maliki, lest the U.S. serve as a Shiite air force. We don't know how successful Haider al-Abadi will be in forming a more national government. But Obama has for now wisely taken advantage of the Abadi opening.

The problem is that the new policy has outgrown the rationale. [Our reason for returning to Iraq, explained Obama](#), is twofold: preventing genocide and protecting U.S. personnel.

[According to Obama's own assertions](#), however, the recent Kurdish/Iraqi advances have averted the threat of genocide. As for the threat to U.S. personnel at the consulate in Irbil, it, too, is reduced.

It was a flimsy rationale to begin with. To protect Americans in an outpost, you don't need an air war. A simple evacuation would do.

Besides, what does the recapture of the Mosul dam, the most significant gain thus far, have to do with either rationale? There are no Christians or Yazidis sheltering there. Nor any American diplomats. [So Obama tried this](#): If the dam is breached, the wall of water could swamp our embassy in Baghdad.

Quite a reach. An air war to prevent flooding at an embassy 200 miles downstream? Well, yes, but why not say the real reason? Everyone knows it: The dam is a priceless strategic asset, possession of which alters the balance of power in this war.

And why not state the real objective of the U.S. air campaign? Stopping, containing, degrading the Islamic State.

For now, Obama can get away with stretching the existing rationale, but not if he is to conduct a sustained campaign. For this you must make the larger case that we simply cannot abide a growing jihadist state in the heart of the Middle East, fueled by oil, advanced weaponry and a deranged fanaticism.

These are the worst people on earth. They openly, proudly crucify enemies, [enslave women](#) and murder men en masse. These are not the usual bad guys out for land, plunder or power. These are primitive cultists who celebrate slaughter, glory in bloodlust and slit the throats of innocents as a kind of sacrament.

We have now seen what air cover for Kurdish/Iraqi boots on the ground can achieve. But for a serious rollback campaign, Obama will need public support. He has to explain the stakes and the larger strategy. His weak and [passive rhetorical reaction](#) to the beheading of American journalist James Foley was a discouragingly missed opportunity.

“People like this ultimately fail,” Obama said of Foley’s murderers. Perhaps. But “ultimately” can be a long way — and thousands of dead — away. The role of a great power, as Churchill and Roosevelt understood, is to bring that day closer.

National Review

[Dubious ‘Peacemakers’ in Ferguson](#)

The New Black Panthers, Sharpton, Jackson, and the DOJ do not inspire confidence.

By John Fund

America is a land of makeovers, but there should be limits. This week I had to rub my eyes in disbelief when I saw Malik Zulu Shabazz, the former radical head of the New Black Panther Party, on TV amid the rioting in Ferguson, Mo.

Shabazz is now head of something called Black Lawyers for Justice, and he has set himself up as a “peacemaker” in Ferguson. Last weekend, he hijacked the news conference of Missouri Highway Patrol captain Ron Johnson to [take credit](#) for keeping things under control: “My group and — thanks to you — my organizers, along with the New Black Panther Party and the Nation of Islam, we are the ones who put those men in the streets, and we controlled the flow of traffic.” Johnson agreed that Shabazz and his group had indeed helped out.

But that doesn’t mean we shouldn’t be asking a lot of questions about Shabazz’s presence in Ferguson. On the one hand, Shabazz blames “intentional provocateurs” and “outside infiltrators” for the violence in Ferguson. On the other hand, in the past it has been Shabazz and his ilk who have been the “outside infiltrators” creating chaos and stirring up hatred. Jesse Jackson is in Ferguson calling the Brown shooting a “state execution.” The egregious Al Sharpton is speaking at Michael Brown’s funeral. During the Trayvon Martin case, Sharpton called the acquittal of

George Zimmerman an “atrocious.” Hashim Nzinga, the New Black Panther Party’s current leader, put a bounty on George Zimmerman’s head. He is now in Ferguson whipping up the crowds against what he calls President Obama’s weak reaction to Brown’s death: “He need to go back to his roots and stop people from killing Africans in the streets.”

In Ferguson, the New Black Panthers are apparently playing a double game. At some points they join with their former leader Shabazz to help direct traffic, but at others they fuel the flames of violence. Marie Chappelle-Nadal, a Democratic member of the Missouri Senate, has denounced “anarchists from the New Black Panther party” who are inciting protesters to attack the police. Indeed, the *Independent Journal Review* reported that Shabazz himself was in the streets last Saturday leading a crowd in a chant for the death of Darren Wilson, the police officer who shot Michael Brown: “What do we want?” “Darren Wilson!” “How do we want him?” “Dead!”

The New Black Panther Party and its past and present leaders are the same old kind of cats they’ve always been: purveyors of hate. The Anti-Defamation League describes them as “the largest organized anti-Semitic and racist black militant group in America.”

Attorney General Eric Holder traveled to Ferguson this week to help direct the dozens of Justice Department personnel on the ground there. I’d like to think some of those agents will be probing the “outside infiltrators” that Senator Chappelle-Nadal says are stoking the violence there. But I have my doubts.

Eric Holder’s Justice Department has frequently enforced civil-rights laws on a racial basis, most notoriously when the department dropped a case it had already won against New Black Panther Party members who intimidated voters in front of a Philadelphia polling place in 2008. Instead of sending the message that racial intolerance from either whites or blacks is unacceptable, the DOJ squelched the case. Bartle Bull, a former civil-rights lawyer and former publisher of the proudly left-wing *Village Voice*, called the 2008 New Black Panther incident “the most blatant form of voter intimidation I’ve ever seen.” A federal-district-court judge later found that internal Justice Department documents about the New Black Panther case contradicted sworn testimony that no political leadership at DOJ was involved in the decision to dismiss the case.

Furthermore, when the U.S. Civil Rights Commission subpoenaed DOJ lawyers to obtain their testimony in its investigation of the improper dismissal of the New Black Panther case, DOJ didn’t just refuse to enforce the subpoenas — the lawyers were instructed to *ignore* the subpoenas and not comply with them.

Everyone should want justice in Ferguson and a peaceful resolution of the conflict. And legitimate grievances — such as the skewed timing by which majority-black Ferguson holds its local elections — must be addressed. Holding elections in the spring guarantees a very low voter turnout and helps keep Ferguson’s old, white power structure in office.

But the Justice Department’s heavy footprint in Ferguson comes with some baggage. In the past, it hasn’t been an honest broker on civil-rights issues, and indeed in the New Black Panther case, it sent signals that outrageous conduct on the part of certain racially favored groups would be tolerated. That’s not an approach that is likely to calm things down in Ferguson. The situation calls for a more even-handed approach that holds both the local police and the protesters accountable for their behavior.

Words matter — and never more so than when race is involved. For more than a week, we have been repeatedly told that a white police officer shot and killed an “unarmed black teenager” on a street in Ferguson, Mo.

The words conjure the image of a kid gunned down because of the color of his skin by a trigger-happy white cop.

And now we have the highest law-enforcement official in the nation reinforcing this narrative.

After visiting Ferguson this week to initiate a federal civil-rights investigation into the shooting, Attorney General Eric Holder declared that he understands the distrust of police that many blacks feel.

“I understand that mistrust. I am the attorney general of the United States. But I am also a black man,” he told an audience in Ferguson.

Holder then met privately with the family of Mike Brown, the man shot, and later held a news conference in which he reiterated racial grievance:

“This shooting incident has brought to the surface underlying tensions that have existed for many years. There is a history to these tensions, and that history simmers in more communities than just Ferguson.”

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We don’t yet know exactly what happened minutes later when Police Officer Darren Wilson encountered Brown and a companion walking down the middle of a street.

Brown’s companion, Dorian Johnson, who had been with Brown during the earlier strong-arm robbery, told his version of what took place on St. Louis TV station KSDK on Aug. 13.

Wilson’s arm, Johnson said, “extended out the window [and] grabbed my friend around the neck.

[Wilson] didn’t say ‘step back’ or anything like that. He started to pull my friend into the window. So the officer’s trying to pull him in, and he’s pulling away from the officer. He never once attempted to grab for this officer’s weapon. He’s still holding my friend with one arm.

“And now, with the other hand, he’s pointing his weapon. The second time he says ‘I’ll shoot,’ it wasn’t even a second later before the gun just went off, and the officer let go, and that’s how we were able to run at the same time.”

But is Johnson’s version of events plausible? Johnson’s veracity is important, and he’s told multiple, sometimes conflicting, versions of his story.

Moreover, in 2011, Johnson pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of filing a false police report and is still wanted on an outstanding warrant for failing to appear on theft charges in Jefferson City, Mo.

But even without such questions about Johnson’s trustworthiness as a witness, other questions about the account arise.

Publicly available videos and still photos of Brown and Wilson show significant size differences between the two men, with Brown looking to have a height advantage over Wilson and outweighing the officer by about 100 pounds.

How is it even possible from a sitting position inside a car for a smaller man to reach out and grab someone much larger with one hand and pull him into the vehicle?

Accepting Johnson’s version depends heavily on the image of that “unarmed black teenager” minding his own business when confronted by a white cop bent on venting racial animus.

Officer Wilson’s version of events has yet to be publicly recounted.

Nonetheless, bits and drabs have leaked out, including assertions that Brown blocked Wilson’s ability to exit the police cruiser (a fact Johnson concedes but says was caused because Wilson pulled his car up too close to the two men).

Sources claiming to be familiar with Wilson’s account contend that Brown leaned into the police cruiser, punched Wilson in the face and struggled for control of Wilson’s gun, which discharged.

Multiple sources allege that Wilson was treated at a hospital for facial wounds, perhaps even a fracture to his eye socket.

A grand jury will hear all accounts of what happened. But Holder’s rush to judgment by ordering a full-scale civil-rights investigation before the grand jury even reaches its conclusion undermines the criminal-justice system and fans the very racial tensions Holder says he wants to calm.

The Federalist

Al Sharpton. Mr. Respectable.

Reintroduce yourself to one of the president's most trusted advisers

by David Harsanyi

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the Obama administration. “If anything,” writes Glenn Thrush, “the Ferguson crisis has underscored Sharpton’s role as the national black leader Obama leans on most, a remarkable personal and political transformation for a man once regarded with suspicion and disdain by many in his own party.”

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So let’s revisit.

Three decades ago, the overweight, track-suited, medallion-bedecked Sharpton led a rally against a white-owned clothing store in Harlem that was subsequently burned to the ground by a deranged black protester, killing eight people.

No, Sharpton didn’t simply show up at “a rally,” he was the host of radio show in New York where for weeks [he personally stoked racial animosity](#) over what amounted to a dispute regarding rent. On that show, Sharpton allowed an array of shameless racists and anti-Semites to exacerbate the situation with their own ugly violent language. The venomous protests, fueled in part by his show and presence, soon began to resemble a mob. And Roland Smith Jr. – the deranged murderer – [didn’t simply burn down Freddie’s](#). He went in with a gun and asked all the black patrons to leave and then killed everyone else. So, in the end, the “white interloper,” as Sharpton predicted, “did not expand his business in Harlem.”

Around that time, he was convicted of defaming a white upstate New York prosecutor he falsely accused of raping black teenager Tawana Brawley in the 1980s, an infamous case that made him famous as the caricature of an inflammatory inner-city preacher immortalized by Tom Wolfe in *Bonfire of the Vanities*. adviser

Sharpton makes Reginald Bacon look like a cherished saint. Sharpton didn’t only accuse Steven Pagonis of abduction and rape and destroy his career, he perhaps destroyed a teenager’s life, and generated more racial tension in an already-tense city. When he was successfully sued for defamation, it should also be mentioned, he never paid the \$345,000 in damages – allowing others to do it for him. [Last we heard, he still claimed that Brawley was right](#). So who better to offer sage advice to the president of the United States?

Sharpton often, regrettably, played to type: During the 1991 Crown Heights riots in Brooklyn, Sharpton stoked black rage after a Hasidic Jewish driver killed a young boy with his car. At the child’s funeral, Sharpton railed against Jewish “diamond merchants” who bought their wares from apartheid South Africa, then ran down black kids in Brooklyn.

Why “regrettably”? Sharpton doesn’t regret it, why do you. He wasn’t playing to type, as anyone who was in New York in the 80s and 90s could tell you, he was the type. During Crown Heights riots, after helping provoke black rioters and looters, who beat up a couple of religious Jews (“diamond merchants”) and murdered Yankel Rosenbaum to the chants of “kill the Jew”, the president’s top civil rights adviser and tough guy, helped quell the violence by saying: “If the Jews want to get it on, tell them to pin their yarmulkes back and come over to my house.”

Through all these events Sharpton fancied himself the preeminent leader of New York City’s African-American community, but then always denied his actions had anything to do with the

events that transpired. Thrush imagines that Sharpton's mere presence remains an irritant to many "white conservatives" (like [Larry Elder](#) and [Jason Riley](#)), but you have wonder why he isn't an irritant to any decent person.

Human Events

No facts, no peace

by Ann Coulter



It's important to remember that, in police shooting cases like the one in Ferguson, Missouri, the initial facts are often wrong. You don't want to end up looking like Rich Lowry, *National Review* editor, whose March 23, 2012, column on the Trayvon Martin shooting was titled, "Al Sharpton Is Right."

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As detailed in my book [Mugged: Racial Demagoguery from the Seventies to Obama](#), the old media's standard for any police shooting of a black person is: "Racist until proved innocent." We got three-alarm racism stories for the shootings of Jose (Kiko) Garcia, Eleanor Bumpurs, Michael Stewart and Edmund Perry.

And then it turned out Garcia was a drugged-up coke dealer who pulled a gun on the cop, Bumpurs was a psychotic who came at the cops with a machete, Stewart fought the cops so violently he gave himself a heart attack, and Perry mugged an undercover cop.

Witness statements aren't always 100 percent accurate. In Garcia's case, innumerable neighbors gave the media florid accounts of Officer Michael O'Keefe beating and kicking Garcia, before repeatedly shooting the unarmed man in the back as he lay facedown on the floor. The Garcia family lawyer assured The New York Times that "this kid never was arrested; he wasn't a drug dealer."

It later turned out that Garcia was a convicted felon. He had a gun the night of the shooting.

The autopsy proved he was not shot in the back, nor was he beaten.

The only eyewitnesses against Officer O'Keefe were drug dealers — for whom Garcia worked — who could not possibly have seen anything from their vantage point, as confirmed with a laser pointer used by the Garcia family lawyer.

The first headlines in the Edmund Perry case were:

The New York Post: "COP KILLS HARLEM HONOR STUDENT"

The New York Times: "HONOR STUDENT, 17, IS KILLED BY POLICEMAN ON WEST SIDE."

The Los Angeles Times: "SAYS VICTIM ATTACKED HIM, MOTHER CHARGES RACISM: OFFICER KILLS TOP STUDENT, SETS OFF FUROR."

Two dozen witnesses — many of them black — established that Perry had mugged the cop and was stomping on him when the officer shot him. Those witnesses were the heroes, not elite news anchors, who leave their doorman buildings to rail against "racism" from well-guarded studios or brief reporting forays to black neighborhoods.

Follow-up stories admitting that some sensational racist crime turned out to be false are never a high priority with the press.

After all the media's hysteria about the Kiko Garcia shooting (New York Newsday: "COP SHOOTING VICTIM: HE WAS SHOT IN THE BACK") the story just faded away.

That incident provoked riots that resulted in one person dead, 90 injured, 53 policemen hospitalized, 121 vehicles torched, 11 police cars damaged, and dozens of businesses burned or looted. But when the early accounts turned out to be lies, the media whispered the ending and tiptoed out of the room, as if reading a bedtime story to a child.

The old media just love creating huge racist hoaxes — which has done so much to improve the lives of ordinary black people!

Luckily for America, especially African-Americans, the advent of alternative media has reduced the Non-Fox Media's ability to stir up urban riots. Today, it's possible to get information that never would have seen the light of day in the 1980s.

In less than two weeks, the original version of the racist police execution of Michael Brown — or “Big Mike” — has already undergone major revisions. We were told:

– Big Mike was the sweetest kid, he’d never hurt a flea.

Then we got the store surveillance video of him robbing a liquor store and manhandling the clerk. Perhaps Big Mike committed his first-ever crime 11 minutes before his encounter with Officer Darren Wilson, but it doesn’t look good.

– He was shot in the back.

At least two autopsies now establish Big Mike was not shot in the back.

– He didn’t touch the police officer.

This week, we saw the X-ray of Officer Wilson’s fractured eye socket.

– He was holding his arms up surrendering when Officer Wilson shot him.

That’s at least in doubt now that a video of a Big Mike supporter has emerged, capturing the private conversation of an eyewitness confirming the officer’s claim that Big Mike was running at him.

On the tape, one black man tells another:

“Him and the police was both in the truck, then he ran — the police got out and ran after him ... Then the next thing I know he comes back toward the truck ’cause — the police had his gun drawn already on him. The police kept dumping on him, and I’m thinking that the police missing ... but he kept coming toward him.”

Some would say a private conversation, unintentionally recorded immediately after an event, is more credible than alleged eyewitness accounts by people who know they’re talking to the press.

But if MSNBC can spend six months on a bridge closure in Fort Lee, New Jersey, they can probably do at least a year on a police shooting in Ferguson, Missouri

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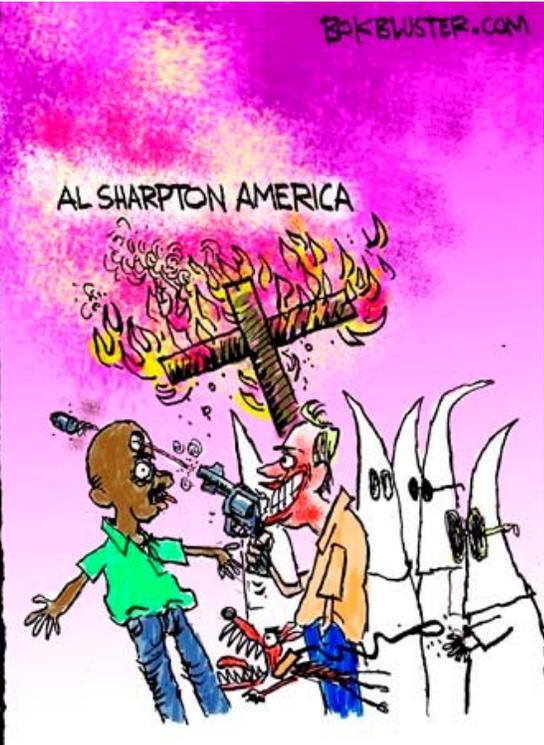


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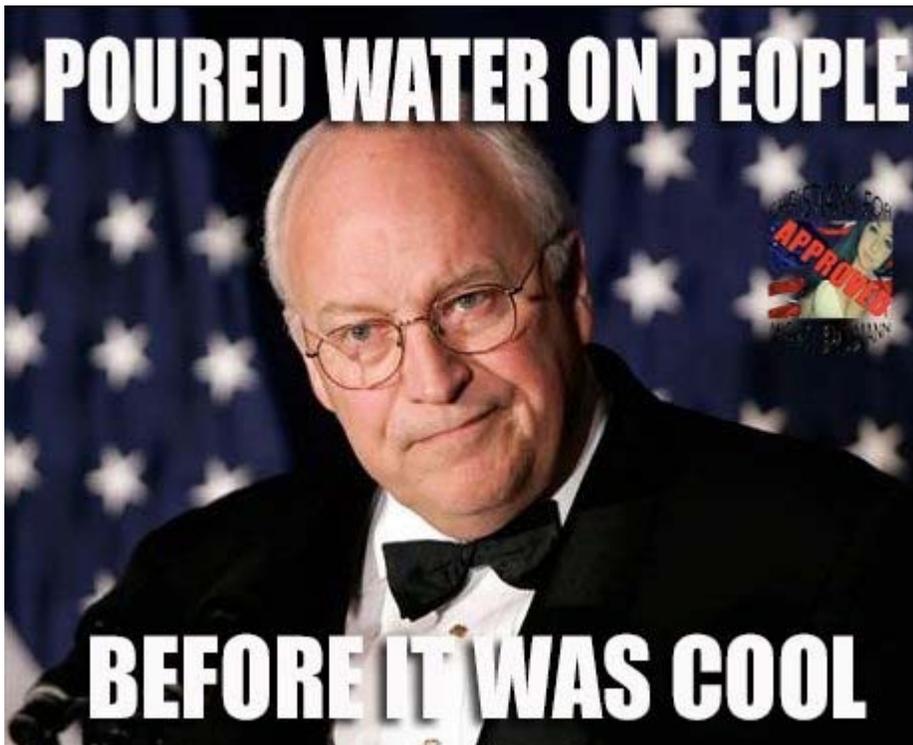




"Society's needs come before
the individual's needs."
-Adolph Hitler



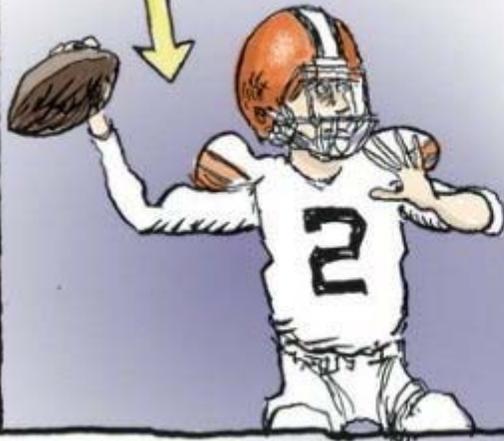
"We must stop thinking of the
individual and start thinking
about what is best for society."
- Hillary Clinton



THE JOHNNY FOOTBALL STORY SO FAR

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