

 **LETTER TO THE EDITOR**  
**WOULD YOU RISK THE  
SECURITY OF THE U.S.  
ON .....**  
**A DOSE OF  
PEPTO O-BISMOL?**

By Stephen L. Bakke  September 14, 2014



*Here's what provoked me:*

*An opinion writer on Sunday brought the message that rather than being disengaged, Obama is really the cool, calm and collected "adult in the room." He implies the President is taking the best path to success while looking lazy and making the job look easy! Nay sayeth I! And I also had the following comments to add in one more "letter to the editor."*

*Here's my response:*

**Would you risk the security of the U.S. on ..... a dose of Pepto O-Bismol?**

Opinion writer Diamond uses soothing words to describe President Obama's demeanor in the face of the crises cropping up ("Obama shows calm in the face of a crisis" – 9-13-14). He even conjures up quotes from Rudyard Kipling to describe Obama's coolness under pressure – as if he's somehow super-human in his accomplishments. According to Diamond, Obama's accomplishments in the economy, boarder security, and national defense are wondrous, even while he appears to be loafing and making the job look easy.



What Mr. Diamond is attempting is to balance the optics with a plausible (but foolish) explanation. Is he sure Obama's disengagement doesn't give comfort and encouragement to ISIL and other faces of evil? Is he sure the President's calm demeanor isn't reflecting at least some uncertainty, confusion, denial, or a simple lack of concern? Is he absolutely sure Obama is the adult in the room?



Is Mr. Diamond sure Obama's icy stare puts a chill in the hearts of our evil enemies? That icy stare also recalls a "deer in the headlights"! Or is he sure that look isn't just a sign of Obama's own stomach acid? Would he risk U.S. national security on a swig of Pepto Bismol – or should I say "Pepto O-Bismol"? Please reconsider, Mr. Diamond!