

P-BOB's EXCEPTIONAL ABSENCE

Stephen L. Bakke – November 10, 2009

(Please review the **GLOSSARY of GOVSPEAK** near the end of this report.)

Twenty years ago on November 9, 1989 an incredible event occurred. The Berlin Wall ceased being a barrier between oppression and freedom. For several decades, the U.S. led the defense of the isolated city of West Berlin. It started with U.S. sponsored airlifts and eventually significant numbers of our troops were present to defend the portion of West Berlin which was isolated from the rest of West Germany by the fortress-wall erected by the soviet sponsored government of East Germany. Well over 100 East Germans were shot down attempting to sprint that distance between the wall and freedom in West Berlin.

But why was the wall eventually removed? There are many reasons but no credible analysis will omit the most significant contribution of all – that of the pressure exerted by the United States and the exceptionally risky and heroic statements made by our leader at that time, President Ronald Reagan.

“As I looked out a moment ago from the Reichstag, that embodiment of German unity, I noticed words crudely spray-painted upon the wall, perhaps by a young Berliner: ‘This wall will fall. Beliefs become reality.’ Yes, across Europe, this wall will fall. For it cannot withstand faith; it cannot withstand truth. The wall cannot withstand freedomGeneral Secretary Gorbachev, if you seek peace, if you seek prosperity for the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, if you seek liberalization: Come here to this gate! Mr. Gorbachev, open this gate! Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!”

Those statements were made by President Ronald Reagan on June 12, 1987. And a little more than two years later the wall was torn down. Our president's leadership was a primary reason for this, one of the most profound expansions of freedom in memory.

Yesterday, at the site of the first opening of the wall, there was an international celebration. And who wasn't there? P-BOB of course! His schedule was described as being too crowded, of course, and he begged off. **Seriously, he did!** I believe that an appearance at this commemoration and celebration would conflict with his downplaying of American exceptionalism and (past) world leadership. We were instrumental first in defending West Germany and West Berlin, and later created the situation whereby East Germany was liberated and the countries once again were joined under a single democratic government.

He should have been there! Who did he think he would offend by appearing there? Russia? Gorbachev was there to receive accolades from Chancellor Merkel of Germany. “Gorby” was available to receive Ms. Merkel's thanks for making this all happen. Of

course you have to give “Gorby” credit for being a pragmatic reformist (and not stupid, considering Reagan’s superior negotiating strength), but nowhere was either the U.S. or Ronald Reagan mentioned. At least not in the reports I have read so far (AP, et al). Even our press hasn’t mentioned President Reagan’s role in this liberating event – certainly one of the most significant contributions to freedom in the last century. And there has been virtually no mention of P-BOB’s absence! I understand that Hillary was there, but I have no evidence she was even asked to address the commemoration and celebration.

Who’s snubbing who? Perhaps P-BOB’s obvious minimizing of the significance of this event caused the conservative leaning Chancellor Merkel to say – “OK, he doesn’t want to give the U.S. credit for their role in our freedom – so we won’t.” Or perhaps it could be an intentionally subtle and backhanded reaction by Europe and Merkel to P-BOB’s recent regrettable actions which effectively threw our allies “under the bus” in terms of our commitment to their defense.

This was a most important opportunity for P-BOB to truly wave the banner of good things the U.S. has done for the world. And he fumbled the ball. When has he ever turned down an opportunity to do his familiar FA-FLITTER up to the TOTUS and exhort the world to embark on some grand journey?

The problem was, this would not have been an occasion of praising him or his vision – rather, it would have been an occasion reminding the world of America’s exceptional performance in freeing Germany, and Ronald Reagan’s most heroic efforts leading the process. **P-BOB just couldn’t have that! He wouldn’t have been the focus of attention.** After all, Reagan wasn’t that big a deal – he didn’t even win the Nobel Peace Prize. Anyway, according to P-BOB, America is NOT exceptional. He has expressed his view that the U.S. is just one of many countries, each with visions of being exceptional.

Our president lives on a different planet than I do! I just don’t get it! I am, almost for the first time, not just disgusted or in disagreement, but truly embarrassed by this administration. To me this is a really big deal and a big mistake!

GLOSSARY of GOVSPEAK (Language of our Government)

Da’ Prez

P-BOB – President **B**arack **O**abama
MESSIAH – Another name for P-BOB
POTUS – President **O**f **T**he United States
POTUS(-I) – Same as W
SILLY – Short for former POTUS “**S**lick **W**illy”
THE ONE – One more name for P-BOB
W – Former POTUS, George **W**. Bush

Da’ Rest

A’DEM – Democrat or **A** **DEM**ocrat
A’REP – Republican or **A** **REP**ublican
A’GOTUS – **A**ttorney **G**eneral **O**f **T**he United States (say: “a goat t’us)
BIPPY – That place that many in STYMIED sometimes put their brain containers
CHA-FED – **CHA**irman of the **FED**eral Reserve
COS-E – Chief **O**f Staff (Rahm) **E**manuel (pronounced “cozy”)

COTUS – Congress **O**f **T**he **U**nited **S**tates
DA'DEMS – Democrats
DA'REPS - Republicans
DA'VEEP – Vice President Joe Biden
DA'VEEP(-1) – Prior Vice President Dick Cheney
DA'VEEP(-2) – Al Gore
DO-P-OTUS – **D**aughters **O**f the **P**resident **O**f **T**he **U**nited **S**tates (say: “dopy Otis”)
FA-FLITTER – P-BOB ‘flits’/prances like **F**red **A**staire(**FA**)(separated at birth?)(say: fay-flitter)
FIDO-TUS – **F**irst **D**Og of **T**he **U**nited **S**tates – FFOTUS’s pet (say: “fido t’us”)
FFOTUS – **F**irst **F**amily **O**f **T**he **U**nited **S**tates (pronounced with an opening “flutter”)
FLOTUS – **F**irst **L**ady **O**f **T**he **U**nited **S**tates
GITMO – That place that P-BOB just don’t ‘git’
HE-SING’N – Describes P-BOB’s “head swiveling” while at the TOTUS (pronounced “he singin”)
HORTUS – **H**ouse **O**f **R**epresentatives of **T**he **U**nited **S**tates (pronounced “whore t’us”)
HUGS – Conveys P-BOB’s **H**U**G**e **S**mile
J-SECOTUS – **J**oint **S**ESSION of **C**ongress **O**f **T**he **U**nited **S**tates (say: jay secotus)
J-STRAPS – Another name for P-BOB’s “supporters” (you know how to pronounce it)
KSM – **K**halid **S**heikh **M**ohammed – the senior terrorist enjoying time at GITMO (say: “kiss ’im)
FL-M-Ob – **F**irst **L**ady **M**ichelle **O**Bama (pronounced just like it’s spelled)
MAJHORTUS – **H**ORTUS **M**AJORITY Leader, Maryland’s Steny Hoyer
MALSOTUS – The dynamic **S**OTUS **M**AORITY Leader, Nevada’s Harry Reid (seniority got him the job)
MILHORTUS – **H**ORTUS **M**INORITY Leader, Ohio’s John Boehner
MILSOTUS – **S**OTUS **M**INORITY Leader, Kentucky’s Mitch McConnell (also must have relied on seniority)
PATOTUS – P-BOB’s **P**osition **A**t the **T**eleprompter **O**f **T**he **U**nited **S**tates
PEP – **P**recipitous **E**nvironmental **P**rograms (pronounced “pep”)
PORK – Refers to any absurdly expensive aspect of P-BOB’s **O**verdone **R**ecovery **K**it (spend on everything)
P-PPPPP – P-BOB’s **P**enchant for **P**ushing **P**recipitous and **P**eculiar **P**rograms (say: “pee pep”)
PRESOTUS – **P**REsident of **S**OTUS – Same as DA’VEEP
SCOTUS – **S**upreme **C**ourt **O**f the **U**nited **S**tates
SECS – **S**E**C**retary of **S**tate (would that be Hillary?) (pronounced “sex”)
SHORTUS – The (Loud) **S**peaker of **H**ORTUS, Nancy P
SOTUS – **S**enate **O**f **T**he **U**nited **S**tates
STYMIED – **S**Table of the ‘**Y**’ncredibly **M**isinform**E**D (all of P-BOB’s “folks”)
TOTUS – **T**eleprompter **O**f **T**he **U**nited **S**tates
T-SEC – **T**reasury **S**E**C**retary what’s his name
T-SEC(+1) – Whoever replaces the T-SEC
T-SEC(-1) – The former T-SEC
WB – Popularly known as “**W**ater**B**oarding” – the technique P-BOB just don’t ‘git’
WH – P-BOB’s current residence (the **W**hite **H**ouse)

I extend thanks, as always, to the many writers, commentators, researchers, and others, from all political extremes, whose hard work helps me greatly. They gather details and present much information. About all I do is gather, organize, summarize, and attempt to fill in with comments – commonly referred to as my frequent “**RANTS**”.

More comments will follow on important topics and personal thoughts as our President battles through tough territory. I want to join other conservatives in recognizing and respecting our new President – and supporting him when we should. But when we oppose our President’s policies, we should act in accordance with values of decency – but that doesn’t preclude a healthy dose of sarcasm and satire, which are valuable tools for political commentary.