

Pressure Builds on Obama and Holder

by William F. Wertz, Jr.

Oct. 8—Over the past week, a dramatic shift has occurred in which the removal of President Barack Obama from office, either through impeachment or by means of Section 4 of the 25th Amendment to the Constitution, has become an imminent possibility.

In a reflection of desperation, Obama, who learned practically everything he knows from convicted felon Tony Rezko, leapt to the defense of his Attorney General Eric Holder, on Oct. 6; and Eric Holder, undoubtedly mindful of the fate of Nixon Attorney General John Mitchell (convicted and imprisoned in connection with the Watergate affair), in a letter to Congress on Oct. 6, lashed out at Rep. Paul Gosar (R-Ariz.), who on the previous day, said of Operation Fast and Furious: “When you facilitate that, and a murder or a felony occurs, you’re called an accessory.”

Obama’s own speech was a bit reminiscent of Nixon’s “I am not a crook” comment, only in this case the unspoken message was, “I am not a murderer.”

Murder, of course, is not something new to Obama, as Anwar al-Awlaki would undoubtedly tell us if he were still alive. In this case, over 2,000 guns were allowed to walk into the hands of the Sinaloa Mexican drug cartel by agencies of the Obama Administration, knowing in advance that they would be used to kill people. If that is not accessory to murder, what is?

The grounds for Obama’s impeachment are multiplying daily. He continues to be in violation of the Constitution and the War Powers Act by conducting an ongoing war in Libya without Congressional authorization. He ordered and took credit for the assassination of two U.S. citizens in Yemen in violation of the First and Fifth Amendments to the Constitution.

At the same time, there are two Congressional investigations which threaten to topple Holder and thus weaken Obama. The investigations of those two cases—Operation Fast and Furious and Solyndra—are moving forward at a breathtaking speed.

Obama, whose political career was facilitated by convicted felon Tony Rezko, a man who has yet to be sentenced more than three years after his conviction, may soon suffer the same fate as his mentor, as his multiple crimes rapidly unravel. The only difference between Rezko and Obama is that Rezko has never murdered anyone, that we know of.

Fast and Furious

As we have previously reported, on Oct. 4, House Judiciary Committee chairman Lamar Smith (R-Tex.) called on President Obama to appoint a special counsel to investigate whether Holder lied to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee about his knowledge of the Fast and Furious gunrunning operation, that put high-powered weapons in the hands of the Mexican Sinaloa drug cartel and resulted in the death of at least one U.S. Border Patrol agent, Brian Terry. Rep. Darrell Issa (R-Calif.), chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, also stated that he believes a special prosecutor may be necessary.

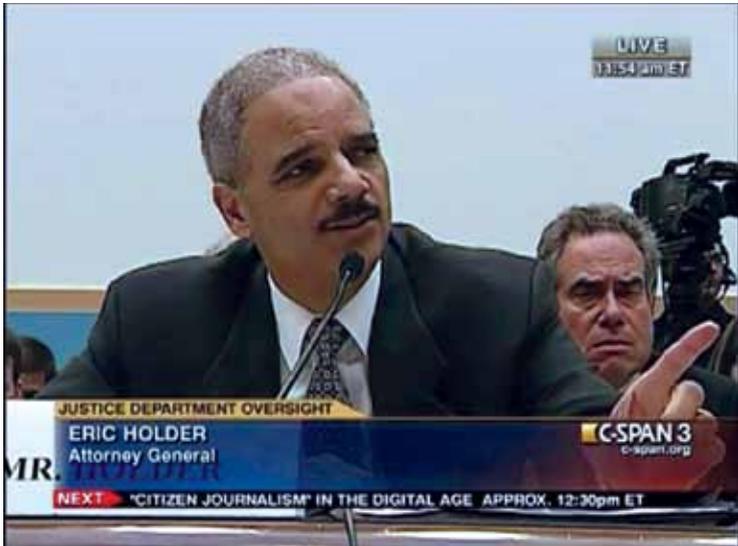
At issue is the fact that at a May 3 hearing, when asked when he first learned of the Fast and Furious program, Holder responded, “I’m not sure of the exact date, but I probably heard about Fast and Furious for the first time over the last few weeks.”

However, documents recently supplied to the committee reveal that Gary Grindler, the Deputy Attorney General during Fast and Furious, was briefed on the program in a meeting in March of 2010, and made handwritten notes on briefing materials. Grindler is now Holder’s chief of staff.

Documents also reveal that Holder was receiving National Drug Intelligence Center (NDIC) weekly updates in July 2010 that mentioned the program by name and gave information about the guns being trafficked to Mexico.

A series of e-mails written in October 2010 between Jason Weinstein, the Deputy Assistant Attorney General of DOJ’s Criminal Division, and James Trusty, the acting chief of the DOJ’s organized crime and gang section, reveals knowledge of the operation.

Additionally, a memo from November 2010 to Holder from Lanny Breuer, Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division, discussed the program. Breuer is also the DOJ official who played a prominent role in settling the case of Wachovia Bank with a slap on the wrist, after it was revealed that the Sinaloa cartel laundered drug money through Wachovia, with which it



CSPAN

Attorney General Eric Holder is now faced with two Congressional investigations, and calls for a special counsel to determine whether he lied to Congress. He is shown here testifying to a House Judiciary Committee hearing on Fast and Furious, May 3, 2011.

purchased airplanes and weapons.

Sen. Charles Grassley (R-Iowa), the ranking member of the Senate Judiciary Committee who has spearheaded the investigation along with Issa, pointed out that on Jan. 31, 2011, he personally handed Holder two letters about Fast and Furious. “Now, to find out he knew some pretty detailed information about the operation back in the summer of 2010, is troubling. In addition, the documents released last night showed several other people very high up in the Justice Department knew a great deal of information about Fast and Furious, including that guns were being walked.”

Sheriffs, Congress Demand Action

As a result, demands for an independent investigation are proliferating. On Oct. 7, ten Arizona sheriffs demanded an independent investigation of Fast and Furious, in a news conference in Phoenix. Noting that state law enforcement was never warned or included, despite the fact that the operation took place in their state, the sheriffs called for a special counsel to conduct an independent investigation outside the Department of Justice. The ten sheriffs include five Democrats and five Republicans, one of whom is the President of the Arizona Sheriffs Association.

Two Republican Congressmen, Idaho Rep. Raul Labrador and Texas Rep. Blake Farenthold, have called on Holder to quit. Farenthold said that resignation is

“the only honorable thing” for Holder. “There are two options: He was lying or he was not doing his job, keeping up with what the Justice Department was doing. I would probably resign if that came out, if I had done that.”

Labrador said that Holder has “lost all credibility and should step down immediately. He cannot avoid responsibility for his involvement with a government program that directly led to the tragic death of a decorated U.S. Border Patrol agent. The question now is if Mr. Holder is only protecting himself, or is he also protecting others—perhaps all the way to the top of the administration?”

Also, Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) told Fox News that he has been talking with other members of the Arizona Congressional delegation, including Sen. Jon Kyl (R), about Smith’s call for a special prosecutor. McCain said: “We are talking about it, and we will reach a decision in the next day or two. But frankly, I don’t get what part of the Congressman’s question that Eric Holder didn’t get when he said, ‘When did you first find out about this?’”

From Bush League to Obama

At stake in this case is not merely a burglary, as in the case of Watergate. It now emerges that Operation Fast and Furious, which began in 2009, was preceded by another gun-running operation known as Operation Wide Receiver, launched in 2006. The two operations, run by U.S. government agencies under DOJ supervision, have been supplying high-powered weapons to the Mexican Sinaloa drug cartel from at least 2006, first under President George Bush and now under President Obama.

As in the war against terror, it would appear that Obama has merely taken the work of his predecessor one step further.

On Oct. 5, Issa said, in response to calls by Democrats to investigate the Bush Administration: “We will in fact get to the bottom of whether or not this practice might have begun, in a smaller way, under the Bush watch. We’re not putting it past any administration and giving anyone a pass.”

The existence of these two programs, which provided weapons to the Sinaloa cartel for at least five years, tends to confirm the charges made in pretrial motions by Jesus Vicente Zambada Niebla, the son of



White House video

The Solyndra scandal, involving questionable loans to the solar-panel manufacturing plant, is also threatening to engulf the Obama Administration. Here, President Obama visits the plant in Fremont, Calif., May 25, 2011.

the second-in-command of the cartel, who is now in jail in Chicago, the hometown of Obama and Rezko. His court filings raise the question of whether Operations Wide Receiver and Fast and Furious may be part of a broader plan, which no one on the Issa Committee has yet raised publicly. Zambada Niebla, who was the head of logistics for the cartel, claims that the cartel leadership was given immunity by U.S. government agencies in exchange for information about other Mexican cartels, and that Fast and Furious was part of the agreement.

The U.S. government has denied that he was granted immunity as a U.S. informant, but has admitted that the lawyer for the cartel, Humberto Loya Castro, has had a cooperation agreement with the U.S. government since 1998, and that an indictment against him in San Diego was dismissed as part of the agreement.

Now the U.S. government is attempting to block Zambada Niebla from gaining access to any government documents which might prove that he was a government agent. In a court submission on Oct. 3, the government argued:

“Even if an intelligence official had done so [offered Zambada Niebla immunity] officials of the CIA or any other intelligence agency of the United States do not have the authority to authorize conduct which would violate the Constitution or statutes of the United States, including federal narcotics laws. . . . Because all U.S. intelligence agencies lacked the authority to grant defen-

dant immunity or public authority to traffic enormous volumes of cocaine and heroin into the United States, defendant cannot support his allegations of being granted immunity with discovery evidence from such agencies. . . .”

Obviously, such an agreement would be illegal, but it would not be the first time that the Obama Administration has violated the Constitution, or laws against premeditated murder, as evidenced by the military action against Libya, or the execution of U.S. citizen Anwar al-Awlaki.

In the Fast and Furious case alone, the guns provided to the Sinaloa cartel have been found at no fewer than 11 crime scenes in the U.S. Hundreds, if not thousands, of Mexicans have been killed with these weapons, in addition to U.S. Border Patrol agent Brian Terry.

CBS reporter Sharyl Attkisson reported that the gun-walking policy of the Obama Administration is not limited to Arizona: “We have found allegations of gun-walking in at least 10 cities in five states, so this apparently was not isolated in Arizona.”

The Obama Administration cover-up of this operation not only involves the Attorney General and other DOJ officials, but also the White House itself. On Sept. 31, e-mails were also provided to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, which relate the involvement of White House staff in Fast and Furious. The committee wanted to question former White House National Security Advisor Kevin O’Reilly, who received e-mails from ATF special agent William Newell on Fast and Furious, but he was sent out of the country on a State Department mission to Iraq before that could be done.

Issa has indicated there will soon be a joint hearing of the House Judiciary Committee and the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, and that among the witnesses to be called will be Eric Holder, Lanny Breuer, and former U.S. Attorney in Arizona, Dennis Burke.

Solyndra Scandal Escalating

The Obama Administration's problems are not, however, limited to Operation Fast and Furious. At the same time, the Solyndra scandal, involving a solar panel manufacturing plant in Fremont, Calif., which had received loans from the Obama Administration, and then went bankrupt, is also escalating, and the targets are ultimately the same—Barack Obama and Eric Holder.

- On Oct. 5, the House Energy Committee wrote to the White House asking for all White House e-mails, including the President's e-mails related to Solyndra. This is the first time Presidential e-mails have ever been requested by Congress. "Nearly eight months into our investigation, documents provided to the Committee last Friday confirm those closest to the President—top advisors like Valerie Jarrett, Larry Summers, and Ron Klain—had direct involvement in the Solyndra mess," said Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee chairman Cliff Stearns (R-Fla.).

- An assistant Treasury secretary said her agency warned DOE that its lawyers believed that, in the case of Solyndra's bankruptcy, the law prohibits putting tax-

payers behind any other creditors. "In February we requested in writing that DOE seek the Department of Justice's approval of any proposed restructuring," Mary Miller, assistant secretary, wrote in an Aug. 17, 2011, memo to Office of Management and Budget deputy chief Jeffrey Zients. "To our knowledge that never happened." This would indicate that the law was explicitly broken, either through an act of omission or commission on the part of Holder's Justice Department.

- Records also show that Steve Spinner, a DOE loan program advisor who had served as an Obama fundraiser in 2008, violated an ethics agreement in promoting the Solyndra loan under pressure from Obama. Spinner was married to a partner at the law firm of Wilson Sonsini, which was representing Solyndra. He signed an ethics agreement in which he said he would not engage in negotiations about the loan or loan terms for the company. Days after the signing the ethics agreement, he sent e-mails saying: "I have the Office of the Vice President and the White House breathing down my neck on this." He also corresponded directly with Solyndra's vice president of marketing and business development.

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1. FORCED RESIGNATION OF BARACK OBAMA & IMMEDIATE PASSAGE OF GLASS-STEAGALL



3. FOR LACK OF REAL ASSETS REMAINING, ISSUE HAMILTONIAN CREDIT FOR NATIONAL PROJECTS



5. IMMEDIATE NATIONAL MOBILIZATION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NAWAPA PROJECT



6. ENGAGE LATENT LABOR FORCE FOR SUBSIDIARY PROJECTS SUCH AS TRANSPORT AND NUCLEAR



2. DIVISION OF FICTITIOUS FROM REAL LIABILITIES ACCORDING TO GLASS-STEAGALL STANDARD



4. THE ONLY BAILOUTS WILL BE HONEST BAILOUTS FOR THE BANKRUPT CITIES AND THE STATES



7. EXTEND COOPERATION INTERNATIONALLY TO MEXICO, CANADA, RUSSIA, CHINA AND OTHERS