

PATH AND PARADOX

AT HIS INAUGURAL, PRESIDENT OBAMA REMINDED US, “AMERICANS ARE GREATER THAN BIRTH AND WEALTH, A TIME TO REAFFIRM OUR SPIRIT, THE RULE OF LAW, RIGHTS OF MAN, AND THE BLOOD THAT WAS LET; HOPE AND VIRTUE WHEN ALL SEEMED LOST AND THE TRIP BY WASHINGTON ON THE DELAWARE, OUR OPEN HAND VERSUS THE ‘CLOSED FIST’(OF TERROR), AND THAT IN THIS WAR WE WILL PREVAIL.” LIKE JOHN KENNEDY BEFORE HIM WHOSE AURA, EXCITEMENT, PURPOSE AND A HIGH LEVEL OF CULTURE BESPOKE OF CAMELOT SEEMED DESTINED FOR OBAMA AS WELL.

LIKE BILL O’RILEY, I FIND BARACK OBAMA INTELLIGENT, ARTICULATE, AND DEDICATED AND WANT HIM TO SUCCEED. I HAVE BEEN IMPRESSED BY HIS PROGRAMS YET LIKE JOHN PODHORETZ IN THE COMMENTARY MAGAZINE ‘STILL FIND HIM AN ENIGMA, CULTURALLY, POLITICALLY AND IDEOLOGICALLY. YES, THERE IS KENNEDY, SOME OF ROOSEVELT AND PERHAPS A LEGACY OF FREDERICK DOUGLASS, BOOKER WASHINGTON, AND W.E.B. DUBOIS ALL SYMBOLS OF BLACK PROGRESS, COLLECTIVELY PART OF THE OBAMA MYSTIQUE. WHAT WILL BE HIS PATH, THE OBAMA DOCTRINE, AND WHAT IS HIS IDEOLOGY ALREADY A MYRIAD OF THINGS, IDEAS ALMOST PARADOXICAL –BESET WITH CONTRADICTORY OR INCONSISTENT QUALITIES.

IS OBAMA A CHRISTIAN, A MUSLIM, DEIST, THEIST, OR NONE OF THE ABOVE, OR ALL OF THE ABOVE. OBAMAS HAVING TROUBLE SELECTING A CHURCH, AND THAT A DAY OF PRAYER WILL BE DISCARDED IN VIEW OF THOSE WHO DO NOT PRAY. WE RECALL HE HAD MUCH DIFFICULTY WHEN ASKED ABOUT BELIEF IN GOD BY RICK.....ONE WHO SEEMS INTELLECTUALLY TROUBLED BY GOD. IS OBAMA A CONSERVATIVE, LIBERAL, A SOCIALIST, OR PERHAPS ONE WHO EVEN CONSIDERED COMMUNISM AS HAVING SOME VIRTUE? THE PROFESSOR SEEMS TO OCCASIONALLY TRUMP THE PRESIDENT—PERHAPS IN THE SILENCE OF HIS LONELY ROOM. A BIT OF EACH?

MONEY SEEMS TO BE PLENTIFUL WHETHER IT IS USED TO BAIL-OUT COMPANIES, TO STIMULATE A SAGGING

ECONOMY, TO PROVIDE A MODUS-VIVIENDE OF DEFICIT SPENDING IN THE GUISE OF KEYNES, A THEORETICAL HAND BY GEITHNER OF TREASURY TO CONTROL EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION, AND OVERSEE STRESS TEST RATIONAL FOR BANKS SO AS JUMP START CREDIT AND INSURE BANK CREDITABILITY AND PERHAPS THE INVISIBLE HAND OF GOVERNMENTAL CONTROL IN EXECUTIVE COMPETENCE AND OPERATION, AND THE PLAN TO NATIONALIZE HEALTH CARE. A MOUNTAIN OF DEBT IS GROWING, AND THE TAX MAN COMETH TO ASSUAGE THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT. MONEY IS THE ANSWER INSTEAD OF THE ROOT OF EVIL. THE PARTY OF DR NO(REPUBLICANS)OFFER NO RECOMPENSE IN THE AGE OF THE OBAMA MONEY TRAIN ON A TRACK PERHAPS TO NOWHERE. OR PROSPERITY?

ADD TO THIS THE NEW STRATEGY AND 'WAR' AS AFGHANISTAN-PAKISTAN GROW AND IRAQ PREPARES FOR THE DRAW-DOWN OF US AND COALITION FORCES AND A NEW OPERATIONAL CONCEPT AND TRANSITION TO COMPLETE IRAQI CONTROL. THE SHADOW OF A NUCLEAR-ARMED IRAN AND THE RESTART OF NUCLEAR ARMS IN NORTH KOREA ADD TO THE 'AGE OF OBAMA' AND HIS RESPONSIBILITY. AND NO ONE SEES A PALESTINIAN SOLUTION WITH A TWO STATE PROPOSITION FOR ISRAEL AND PALESTINE. MILITANT ISLAM'S MANY FACES SHOW IN AL-QAEDA AND THE TALIBAN IN AFGHANISTAN-PAKISTAN—AND THE ON-GOING ATTEMPT BY THE PAKISTANIS TO RID THEIR LAND FROM THE SCOURGE OF TALIBAN.

TO ASSUAGE THE PROBLEM THIS OLD SOLDIER IS PURSUING TWO STUDIES WHICH SHOULD BE PART OF THE OBAMA LIBRARY: 'CONFESSIONS OF A MULLAH WARRIOR' BY MASOOD FARIVAR, -A STORY OF THE JOURNEY OF A YOUNG AFGHAN FROM THE ISLAM WORLD, TO HARVARD AND BACK HOME AGAIN; 'DEADLY SCENARIOS'—A MILITARY FUTURIST EXPLORES WAR IN THE 21ST CENTURY: (ANDREW KREPINEVICH, GRADUATE OF WEST POINT AND A SCHOLAR EXPERT IN MOST LIKELY COMING WAR EVENTS.

THE THRUST IN A SERIES OF ARTICLES WILL SHOW THE DEPTH OF ISLAMIC FANATICISM AND COMMITMENT AND A CHANCE FOR REPRIEVE WHILE THE OTHER REVEALS THE SYMMETRICAL BALANCE (OR HARMONY)BETWEEN ELE

MENTS AS APPLIED TO CONVENTIONAL MILITARY OPERATIONS VERSUS A LACK OF SYMMETRY IN UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE. KREPINEVICH PORTRAYS LIKELY SCENARIOS.