

[October 25, 2017]

Create a "crisis" to rile up the base. Double and triple-down as the media hops on board with patented self-righteous indignation. Then when it blows up in your face, ignore the "crisis", insist that it's "old news", and move on to the next shiny object.. Repeat.

The latest "crisis" began on the 16th as Trump was making chummy with Turtle Man Mitch McConnell in the Rose Garden and was asked why he had yet to comment on the deaths of 4 soldiers killed in Niger in an ambush by Islamic militants on the 4th:

"I've written them personal letters... I will, at some point... call the parents and the families, because I have done that traditionally... So the traditional way, if you look at Obama and other presidents, most of them didn't make calls. A lot of them didn't make calls. I like to call when it's appropriate, when I think I am able to do it. They have made the ultimate sacrifice. So generally I would say that I like to call."

After 28 months (and counting) of being pummeled 24/7, you'd think that, maybe, Trump wouldn't have been dumb enough to give the media yet another excuse to bust his chops. Had he not mentioned their lord and god, he MAY have gotten away with it. But nope, Chump said The Anointed One never called the families of fallen servicemen and that was unforgivable: not running guns to the cartels, which was used to kill over 300 Mexican civilians and a border patrol agent; not swapping deserter Bowe Bergdahl for 5 of Gitmo's "finest", each of whom resumed killing Americans; not blaming the attack on our embassy in Benghazi which left 4 Americans dead on an innocent man, whose life he then destroyed; not his Justice Department approving a deal to give a Russian firm 20% of our uranium production capacity in exchange for money funneled into his Secretary of State's "foundation" AND allowing the firm to ship yellow-cake to Canada without a permit; but Chump saying The Anointed One never called the families of fallen servicemen!

My Spidey-Sense was screaming: "Set-Up"!

Sure enough, minutes after Trump called the widow of Sgt. La David Johnson, one of the 4 men killed in Niger, Congresswoman Frederica Wilson - who was in a limousine with her aide en route to the airport to meet Sgt. Johnson's casket, along with Mrs. Johnson and her two small children, a couple misidentified initially by the media as Sgt. Johnson's parents (Cowanda Jones-Johnson and Richard Johnson are Sgt. Johnson's aunt and uncle who raised him after his mother died), and the Army master sergeant assigned to Mrs. Johnson - told WTVJ [Miami] that Trump had dissed them:

"He was saying that he was sorry, that she had his sympathy. But he was hoping that even though her husband gave his life for his country, sarcastically he said, 'But you know he must have known what he signed up for.' How could you say that to a grieving widow? I couldn't believe. And he said it more than once. I said this man has no feelings for anyone. This is a young woman with child who is grieved to her soul. Everyone knows when you go to war, you could possibly not come back alive, but you don't remind a grieving widow of that. That's so insensitive."

Then Wilson told CNN's Don Lemon:

"I asked them to give me the phone, because I wanted to speak with him. And I was going to curse him out. That was my reaction at that time. I was livid. But they would not give me the phone".

Then she trotted out Mrs. Jones-Johnson to the Associated Press via Facebook:

"I was in the car and I heard the full conversation. President Trump did disrespect my son and my daughter and also me and my husband."

So... why didn't the other three families come forward with how Trump dissed them?

Oh, I get it -- because the other three families are white!

Seriously, does anyone with a working brain cell actually buy that Trump called Mrs. Johnson to trash her and her late husband because he's a racist?

Can you say: "Set-Up"?

Forget that The Anointed One sent troops to Africa. Forget that Fabulous Frederica voted "nay" on all but one bill regarding the military. Forget that Trump somehow managed not to diss the African-American widow of Sgt. Mark De Alencar, killed in Afghanistan on April 8th -- he is Hitler 2.0! Or as The Fabulous One told CNN on the 18th after Trump tweeted that she "totally fabricated" her account:

"This man is a sick man. He's cold-hearted and he feels no pity or sympathy for anyone... He doesn't even know how to sympathize with people. We're grieving -- this is a grieving community trying to do the very best we can holding up our family, who has paid the ultimate sacrifice. It is disgraceful for him to even tweet about this. And as I say, this gentleman has a brain disorder and he needs to be checked out."

Either Trump ordered Chief of Staff John Kelly (who lost a son in Afghanistan) to straighten this mess out or Kelly (who was Obama's senior military advisor) decided to go rouge. At any rate, he took to the White House press room on the 19th to take Fabulous Frederica to task:

"And a congresswoman [Wilson] stood up [at the dedication ceremony for the FBI Miramar, Florida field office], and in the long tradition of empty barrels making the most noise, stood up there and all of that and talked about how she was instrumental in getting the funding for that building, and how she took care of her constituents because she got the money, and she just called up President Obama, and on that phone call he gave the money - the \$20 million - to build the building. And she sat down and we were stunned. Stunned that she had done it. Even for someone that is that empty a barrel, we were stunned."

Well, I was stunned - stunned! - by how quickly the media dug up a video of Empty Barrel speaking at the ceremony, which proved Kelly wrong. Yet, I was not stunned - stunned! - by how quickly the media called Kelly a liar. As Wilson whined to CNN, she wasn't even in Congress when the \$196 million for the building (you read that right) was secured.

However, what cred Empty Barrel scored over Kelly's oops, she then blew -- with both barrels! Not having the class, much less decency, to quit while she was ahead, she unloaded on Kelly while chatting with her new BFF, MSNBC's Joy Reid -- with both barrels:

"John Kelly is almost, I guess you could say he was a puppet of the president and what he was trying to do was divert the attention away from the president on to me, and he basically just lied on me. I don't appreciate people lying on me. And that's what he did... I have been lied on before, but the character assassination that he went through to call me out of my name, an empty barrel, and all the work that I've done in this community, not only does he owe me an apology, but he owes an apology to the American people, because when he lied on me, he lied to them."

One must have character to be a victim of character assassination. But, I digress...

When her latest salvo - declaring to *The New York Times*: "The White House is full of white supremacists!" - went wide, Empty Barrel whipped out the BIG GUN! On "Good Morning America", ex-Clinton flunky George Stephanopoulos guided Myeshia Johnson through a slicker-than-Slick Willie presentation designed to leave America bawling like a baby.

For someone who had just suffered such a catastrophic loss, Mrs. Johnson was the very picture of composure. She did not shed a single tear, and even flashed a mouth full of braces. Indeed, she was strangely-calm, cool, collected -- and coached:

"The president said that he knew what he signed up for, but it hurts anyways. I was very angry at the tone of his voice and how he said it. He couldn't remember my husband's name. The only way he remembered my husband's name because he told me he had my husband's report in front of him. And that's when he actually said 'La David'. I heard him stumbling on trying to remember my husband's name. And that's what hurt me the most. Because if my husband is out here fighting for our country, and he risked his life for our country, why can't you remember his name?"

She then took a page out of the playbook of the friend she called "Miss Wilson":

"The questions that I have, that I need answered, is I want to know why it took them 48 hours to find my husband? Why couldn't I see my husband? Every time I asked to see my husband, they wouldn't let me. I need to see him so I will know that that is my husband. I don't know what's in that box. It could be empty for all I know."

Does anyone with a working brain cell actually buy that the Army couldn't locate Sgt. Johnson - or be bothered to look for him at all - because the higher-ups are racists?

She later asked rhetorically: "Why would we fabricate something like that?"

Better question: Why would Trump fabricate something like that?

Oh, that's right -- because he's a racist!

As for her "anger" at Trump's now-infamous "he knew what he signed up for" blurb, Mrs. Johnson posted a blurb of her own on her Facebook which was downright bizarre:

"Months before my husband passed away, one of his wishes were to NEVER put his face on an R.I.P. shirt. If you are dear true friends and family of my husband you will respect his wish and refrain from coming to his viewing or funeral with his face on a shirt."

Make of THAT what you will.

As condolence calls from the president are arranged, and the family may elect to accept or decline, it is abundantly-clear what REALLY happened: Far-from being the hapless victim of "Miss Wilson"'s machinations, Mrs. Johnson has been an eager participant!

We know nothing of Sgt. and Mrs. Johnson's life together; what problems, if any, they were having. But speculation has been running rampant. More than a few posters I have come across while plowing through the reams of comments about this sorry episode even opined that Sgt. Johnson is not the father of Mrs. Johnson's unborn baby.

What we do know is that everyone in that limousine on that sad day - save for, perhaps, the children and the master sergeant - despise Trump and recognized a golden opportunity to smear him in the most-vile way possible. And, because the media despises Trump even-more, they would have gotten away with this Race Card Kabuki stunt had Empty Barrel not overplayed her hand.

Put it another way: Would any of them have ever claimed that President Hillary Clinton had dissed them? I rest my case.

Just as with the Kahns (see my essay "Khan Job"), the Left has ZERO use for Gold Star families unless they can use them to further their agenda. The same clowns who had no problem with Obama and Mrs. Clinton lying to the Benghazi families slammed Trump for not contacting the Niger families, chop-chop, then slammed him when he did! By the way, the GoFundMe account Empty Barrel's 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project ("to intervene in the lives of at-risk boys, in order to provide them with alternatives that will lead them away from a life of crime and violence") opened on the 16th for Mrs. Johnson and her children is due to hit its goal of \$1 million on Sunday.

Just saying.