

# Woodward Challenges Obama's Contempt for Congress—and Truth

by Nancy Spannaus

March 5—“We’ve come to a point where Obama is now being put to the test, and he may not make it,” declared Lyndon LaRouche in his webcast on March 1 ([www.larouchepac.com](http://www.larouchepac.com)). Obama is losing his nerve, and journalist Bob Woodward has put him to the test—by calling him out on his blatant lies on sequestration, and then on his threats against those who challenge him.

“We’re going to have to not jump to conclusions,” LaRouche added, “except to notice that *all is not well*” in Obama’s camp, and this also puts us to the test.

For if the American population and its Congress continue to tolerate Obama’s violations of the Constitution, the President will lead the country into destruction, most likely by nuclear war. The President’s blatant contempt for Congress’s policy role, and for Constitutional and international law, in the midst of the ongoing economic and financial breakdown crisis, is a giant step toward dictatorship, which must be challenged now, or never.

Back in 1974, the U.S. Congress recognized the mortal threat to the Constitution from President Richard Nixon, and forced him to resign, rather than face inevitable impeachment. As many, from across many political divides, have pointed out, Barack Obama’s crimes are much worse than those of Nixon, even to date. The challenge to Obama by Woodward, a key player in bringing down Nixon, has raised the question of Obama suffering the same fate.

But, are there still enough patriots with the determination and power to remove Obama Constitutionally from office?

## The Woodward Challenge

Woodward’s challenge to Obama had two key aspects. The first was his daring to declare Obama a liar, when the President claimed it was the Republicans who came up with the sequestration scheme. The second was his decision to go public about the Obama Admin-

istration’s reaction—first a screaming fit of abuse, and then an e-mail, both from White House official Gene Sperling, telling the renowned senior reporter that he would “regret” taking the position he had against the Obama line.

As Woodward was quick to note, a more vulnerable, less established reporter could easily be intimidated by such behavior—and undoubtedly some have been. [Daily comic strips portray Obama threatening drone strikes against his critics.] Indeed, Woodward’s speaking out immediately prompted two other reporters to reveal that they too, or their publications, had been subject to threats from the Obama Administration for publishing stories contradicting Obama.

While of course the White House denied it was threatening anyone, its defensiveness could not be missed. National Economic Council director Sperling was sent out to appear on three Sunday TV talk shows March 3, and every attempt has been made to say that fences are being mended with Woodward. But the fact remains that Obama is exposed as a liar—Woodward has not backed down—and a very thin-skinned one at that. As LaRouche pointed out, Obama is not even acting as the effective dictator he was groomed by his British sponsors to be.

At the same time, the aura of the Nixon precedent is not going away.

## Contempt

*Washington Post* columnist Kathleen Parker took up the comparison in a much-reprinted March 3 column, in which she concluded: “This is no tempest in a teapot, but rather is the leak in the dike. Drip by drip, the Obama administration has demonstrated its intolerance for dissent and its contempt for any who stray from the White House script. Yes, all administrations are sensitive to criticism and all push back when such criticism is deemed unfair or inaccurate. But no president since Richard Nixon has demonstrated such overt contempt.”

Parker’s charge of contempt by Obama could be documented in many ways. Contempt for the Constitution in going to war without Congressional approval; declaring Congress out of session (when it was not) in order to make recess appointments; refusing to comply with requests for documents necessary for Congressional oversight and the Senate’s role in advice and consent on Cabinet nominations. And that’s just for starters.

At present, only a handful of Senators and Con-

gressmen have challenged Obama's dictatorial habits. Most notable is Rep. Walter Jones (R-N.C.), who has introduced a House Concurrent Resolution (HCR 3), co-sponsored by Rep. Dan Benishek (R-Mich.), reiterating any President's obligation to follow the Constitution on declaring war—or face impeachment. The full House vote to hold Attorney General Eric Holder in contempt, for withholding documents under Executive privilege, is also an ongoing challenge.

On the Senate side, the issue is more immediate. The White House has shamelessly stonewalled on demands for documents on what actually happened in the Benghazi killings of Sept. 11, 2012, and on releasing documents requested by members of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, related to the Justice Department's decisions authorizing Obama's killer drone strikes, including against American citizens. Yet, the White House demands a vote approving its nominee for CIA Director, current Counterterrorism Advisor John Brennan, without having given the Senators the information they have demanded.

In this case, some of the opposition to the President is bipartisan. Senators Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) and Rand

Paul (R-Ky.) have both drawn a line in the sand with their demand for a release of the criteria on which the Obama Administration believes it can kill American citizens. Senator Paul has repeatedly indicated that he will do "everything" in his power to delay the confirmation of Brennan on this issue. Senator Wyden, who is on the committee that is scheduled to vote on Brennan imminently, has been joined by other Democrats in his demand for information on the drone killings—although others, like Committee chairwoman Dianne Feinstein, are clearly prepared to submit to Obama's demand for confirmation.

As for the Benghazi documents, the leading opponents are outside the Select Committee. Both Senators John McCain (R-Ariz.) and Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) appeared on the Face the Nation TV show March 3, to stress that, contrary to the Constitution, the President and Brennan have not answered the relevant questions on Benghazi (and in McCain's case, on torture policy), and therefore should not be confirmed without White House compliance with Senate demands.

## Who Will Abandon Party Politics?

Democratic consultant Pat Caddell raised the relevant question in an opinion piece published March 4 by Fox News: Will any Democrats "be willing to publicly put the country ahead of Barack Obama's White House?"

Caddell said that in his own experience of 40 years in politics, only Obama rivals Nixon for "fundamental disingenuousness." Caddell wrote, "While Barack Obama may not share the Nixon pedigree, he and his White House are the closest thing to the Nixon regime of any that we have seen since then—both in the extent of their paranoia and their willingness to suppress the truth and push the boundaries of law."

Without mentioning the word impeachment, Caddell pushes Democrats to show some conscience, saying, "During Watergate, there were a number of Republicans who were willing to stand against the President of their party in defense of the United States of America. Sadly, as a Democrat, I must confess that today there is no Democratic Senator or member of the House who appears to be willing to publicly put the country ahead of Barack Obama's White House."

LaRouche, characteristically, was more forthright. "Obama is a person who should be impeached," he said in his March 4 discussion with the LaRouche Policy Committee. And the nation is running out of time to do it.



**Sam Vaknin**, author of *Malignant Self-Love*, is interviewed in a 46-minute LPAC-TV video, on President Obama's narcissistic personality disorder, a condition which Vaknin says is increasingly controlling the President's mental outlook. Agreeing with Lyndon

LaRouche, Vaknin believes that Obama poses a grave danger to the United States and the world, unless he is immediately removed from office.

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