



EDITORIAL

by Monsignor William J. Linder

PRESIDENT'S CRITICS GRASPING AT STRAWS

The killing of Osama bin Laden was by far one of the biggest feats ever pulled off by the U.S. military. Unfortunately, it still was not enough to silence the President's critics. Some of them even went so far as to paint bin Laden as a victim because reports indicated he was unarmed when confronted by U.S. Navy Seals in the compound where he had been living right under the nose of the Pakistani military. Despite the difficult and thoughtful decision-making that led the U.S. to finding the mastermind behind the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, President Barack Obama can expect criticism to intensify as the 2012 presidential election nears. This is especially the case since many of his critics will no longer be able to play the 'soft on national security' card now that he has successfully eliminated the world's most renowned terrorist.

Releasing his long-form birth certificate to prove he was born in Hawaii, something the President never should have felt compelled to do, has already dealt a serious blow to the whole "Birther" movement. Still, there are some—including a New Jersey author—who have been attempting to gain traction by continuing to raise questions about Obama's citizenship. Such nonsense proved to be the beginning of the end for Donald Trump, who recently brought his self-promotional non-candidacy to a screeching halt.

To Obama's credit, he has continued to focus on the important issues of the day, even as his detractors scramble to find something—anything-- to stir the pot. Take Princeton professor Cornel West. An African-American, West is apparently still miffed because he didn't receive a ticket to Obama's inauguration. He recently joined the line-up of Obama critics when he labeled the President "a black mascot of Wall Street oligarchs and a black puppet of corporate plutocrats." To West, the mixed-race Obama, who by the way was elected to represent all the people of the United States, has simply not been black enough when it comes to his agenda. Professor, we've heard that one before too.