Imagined In One Picture : Serial Plagiarist Senator Rand Paul Delivers A Tear-Jerking Apology

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Michael Matthew Bloomer, November 1, 2013

Plagiarist Senator Rand Paul's Heartwarming Apology Concludes On A Poignant Note

"We got a message from Union Station in Baltimore, saying they had a package for us. We went down to get it. You know what it was? It was a little cocker spaniel dog in a crate that he'd sent all the way from Texas, black and white, spotted. And our little girl Tricia, the six year old, named it 'Checkers.' And you know, the kids, like all kids, love the dog, and I just want to say this, right now, that regardless of what they say about it, we're gonna keep it."

Who? . . . . . Me?

Somehow, I survived 24 years on Capitol Hill during the "Conservative Download" between Presidents Reagan and George W. Bush. My HQ during this error-riddled era was Congress's own Congressional Research Service (CRS), a tax-funded legislative branch agency in the belly of the Library of Congress. CRS's only "client" is the U.S. Congress. CRS minions (like I was) respond to thousands of weekly requests for information, reports, in-depth studies, seminars, briefings, and memos from members and their office minions, and all must comply with a founding principle of nonpartisanship, which renegades sometimes circumvent.

While there from 1984 till mid-2008, my HQ was in CRS's American Law Division, and I arrived having just completed a Master's Degree in Legal Studies from Antioch University. So I was put to work as a legislative policy and research specialist. I covered many issue areas as the years passed, everything from abortion law to "entitlement" programs, from environmental matters to Middle East war(s), from soup to nuts, *i.e.*, I had a request once for a study of a federal district court case involving 103 cases of asparagus, or thereabouts. Memory fades . . .

Now retired, I'm freed from CRS nonpartisanship, and "came out" as an aggressive progressive, as a contributing writer for Nation of Change. Also, when I retired in 2008, I started writing this blog, a place where we examine and often skewer GOP Congressloons, Senadorks, Me Partiers, zombie economists and others wandering with that herd. Stop by often for a sometimes serious, sometimes funny, and always aggressively progressive POV, and with plenty of fun graphics to boot!

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Oh, I have a book in progress. A sad tale of political humor about the 2012 GOP primary exploration to a land called ludicrous. The material's all collected. Swaths of text exist. Really. I don't just *hope* to complete it. Despite many deadlines that died, I now have moved from hope to finish to "plan to finish." Perhaps by next March. Yes, next March! Indeed.

You may wonder, why did I say "perhaps by next March"? That doesn't sound very "planny." I don't know why either. Obviously, I must rededicate myself. I shall. I do! Indeed.