

The 2006 and 2008 National Elections

The 2006 U.S. Congressional Election

“Our Opportunity Partially Claimed”

Again, my compliments on the high voter turn-out and to those states that succeeded in voting out-of-office some of their own state’s Congressional incumbents. You have set the example for the rest of us to follow.

In the 2006 Congressional Election the Republican Party rightfully experienced their loss of the majority in both houses of Congress, although they retained the numbers to uphold the veto of any legislation that Bush II doesn’t like, if they so choose.

I also want to acknowledge that in many other states in the 2006 vote like Virginia, the incumbents that won saw vote counts closer than they had ever seen. I consider the 2006 vote our Second Revolution’s Battle of Bunker Hill of 1774 in that it occurred two years before the 1776 Declaration of Independence, just as We are building up *our declaration* in 2008.

The Republicans lost due to the fact that they and Bush II have allowed Special Interests to have their way with our economy and the National System. And that the Bush II White House landed us in a fully orchestrated and optional Iraq War and has been obstinately determined to keep our troops in harm’s way. The momentum toward the probable Democratic takeover of the White House and a working majority in both houses of Congress in 2008 will only grows as the months go by.

What bothered me and so many other Americans about the Republicans the most in the final months before the 2006 election was their overriding concern about *losing control* of Congress — the fear of the loss of Political Power. At the end that was all that they talked about and tried to scare people with. It let us know where their true concerns are. The conversation never moved to the “radical idea” that they would want to keep control of Congress in order to do the Peoples work and actually resolve our common problems. That was and is never mentioned. It apparently is not their primary concern.

Some will be screaming that all this is Republican bashing and in fact it absolutely is! Be assured that if the Party roles were reversed over the last few decades I would be writing about the Democrats instead. However, it is the Republicans (and the Special Interest money that props them up) that deserves to be punished because of their dismal performance — *they have earned it!*

The 2008 U.S. “Congressional” Election

“Our Opportunity to be Seized”

Changing the Face of the 2008 National Election Campaign

The Republican Party through 2008 have been in control of the White House for 20 of the last 28 years, and going on the last 8 years they and their Special Interest operatives have displayed their *Truest Colors*. Our biggest concern must be how much more damage they will inflict during Bush II's remaining year.

If We are truly bold enough to take deliberate *political action* at the polls on that momentous day this November it will undoubtedly prove to be the start of *our* Second and Final American Revolution — just as the *Declaration of Independence* started *theirs*. And this time it will upwards of sixty (60) million American citizens figuratively signing the document.

We the People, can calmly, deliberately, and without firing a shot retake Political Control of our government by calling the U.S. Congress and various business and industry “special interests” to Civil Responsibility in the Common Interest of the American people and the nation.

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The patriotic intent is for We the People to have an agreed upon National Agenda that will serve us as a working blueprint as the tedious, yet fully necessary Changes are made working toward our common National Vision. And We are not only talking a long term Vision – it starts with a national awakening during the 2008 National campaign that carries us boldly into 2009.

We – America — can no longer tolerate the Parties trying to redefine themselves and our country every two or four or eight years. In 2008, We the People demand a National Vision of a future designed for our Common Good, and the bold and solution oriented National Leadership required to lead us there.

Our 2008 U.S. “Congressional” Decision

In the previous piece We reviewed the radical, yet common sense rationale for the wholesale replacement of 435 members of the House of Representatives and the 33 Senators up for re-election this November, with the possible exception of the “new” House members elected in 2006. I will not recount any of that logic here.

The Bottom Line – At the End of the Day

The time has come for the U.S. Congress to reclaim their Rightful share of the Balance of Power in our Three Branches of government. For too many decades the members of Congress allowed more and more of their collective Power to be given or taken away. They have allowed their Responsibility for the direction of the country, as well as problem solution development — to reside within the Executive Branch and the occupant of the White House. Giving away Power and shifting Legislative Authority from 535 to 1. And that does not even sound good on paper!

Today, the current members of the U.S. Congress are apparently incapable or uninterested in reclaiming their Constitutional authority. Thus, they have of the collective free will, rejected their sworn Responsibility to Serve and Protect the People.

If We are bold enough **to consider taking** that deliberate political action at the polls, and **clearly let those 468 know it** – it will radically and positively change the face, conduct, and content of the 2008 Congressional campaign. It will give the challengers in those 468 races real hope that they could all accomplish what now seems to most of them an impossible dream — to *win* a seat in the U.S. Congress, representing their home state. Regardless of their Party affiliation they would begin to take *great interest* in the contents and purpose of An American Agenda, as the Electorate would be telling them to do.

If We are bold enough **to actually take** that deliberate political action at the polls, it will forever and positively change the face, conduct, and content of all future National Elections, as well. This November 4th election will be first of many more to come. A truly, new and inspired U.S. Congress will be sworn in this coming January and the American Press can finally have positive things to be reporting to us.

We the People, can do these things and so much more.

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The Historic 2008 U.S. Presidential Election

***“We the People,
in Order to Maintain a More Perfect Union”***

There are some advantages to the multi-month delay I experienced in early 2007 that has caused me to be finishing this last piece of CS2 just after the Super Tuesday Primary Event of February 5th. For one thing it cleared the field of all but three (3) candidates – two (2) democrats and one (1) Republican. I was wondering if with so many primaries moved (jammed) into early February that possibly the final nominee of both Parties might be determined. Close, but not quite.

This campaign season that needlessly started many months too soon, has also demonstrated to the public that the candidates on both sides are still not talking about our underlying problems and real solutions to them! After you have read An American Agenda listening to their generalized rhetoric could become difficult. They keep talking about how someone voted years ago, about the war they have not attempted to end as We clearly told them (the Congress) to do in 2006, and about access to health care for ALL that they could have done six (6) or many more years ago.

And they each stand there and proudly declare that they are the Change candidate. It is a long time until November 4th and along the way they will need challenged by the Electorate to be talking more specifics on our real issues.

Setting the Stage — The Republicans Expect to Lose

Yes, the Party has expected to lose the 2008 Presidential election for at least a few years now, as well as more seats in both houses of Congress. It is something strangely similar to 1996 when President Clinton was up for re-election. The Republican Party knew that as much as they politically hated Clinton that he was doing a fine job from the general public’s point-of-view and would get re-elected. So, they really did not have any rational expectation of winning and therefore did not put much into the election process. No offense or disrespect of any kind toward Bob Dole, a very fine American.

The Democratic Candidates

As of today February 8, 2008 the selection of the Democratic Presidential nominee is still up for grabs! I must say that it was unfortunate that John Edwards did not have a more successful run. He was a sincere candidate, raised some hard issues, and I believe would have been a good president, but he ran into two competitors that each have the ability to make American political history.

Unfortunately, it was the wrong political timing for him.

Hillary Clinton Could be the First Women President

Hillary Clinton (Clinton) is the first American-White woman to have a real opportunity to become President of the United States.

It has been my somewhat objective opinion, looking at the entire field of Democratic and Republican candidates that Hillary Rodham Clinton is functionally the “best of the bunch”. That observation has not changed with the arrival of Barack Obama.

Senator Clinton has the experience of 35-plus years, of a political career at the state level, in the U.S. Senate, and eight (8) years with President Bill Clinton, one of the best political minds since Lyndon Johnson walked the halls of Congress. And uniquely she has had the first-hand experience of being crushed by the Medical and Pharmaceutical Industries when more than twelve (12) years ago she had the nerve to try and get Health Care for us peasants.

So if Clinton becomes president, such Industries could have more than a little trouble dealing with her. Further, she has worked over her long political career to actually help those that need it.

From the Republicans viewpoint, as much as their “base” dislikes her for whatever reasons, they have known for a long time she would beat them at the polls. Because, if came down to a choice between her and any Republican, in the final analysis the women of America would put her in the White House.

Barack Obama Could be the First American-Black President

Barack Obama (Obama) is the first American-Black man to have a real opportunity to become President of the United States.

At First the Republicans Were Pleased

“Back” in 2007 when there were least ten (10) Democratic candidates running around and Obama first shot up the popularity charts prior to the Iowa Caucus the Republicans were encouraged. Then the Republican Party would have loved it if he became the Democratic nominee for president rather the Hillary Clinton that they know they had little chance against.

Frankly, they figured they would have a better chance of beating him because of his overall inexperience in national politics and because he is an American-Black! I said this was a reality based book, with no sugar-coating

added. I never write to be offensive, only truthful and realistic. And even though he was attracting many donations even my expectation was that he would probably fade when the actual voting began.

But, then Obama kept talking! And, he is without a doubt is the best, most patriot, public speaker to hit the American political landscape since Ronald Reagan. I will admit the I have been very pleased and surprised with the voter's acceptance of Obama the first American-Black to have a reasonable chance at winning the White House. When he won the Iowa Caucus in a state that is 95% American-White it was awesome. And he has done very well in other states with American-White voters. It speaks volumes on the progress our society has made over the last fifty (50) years – real progress that so many other countries with their own racial, ethnic, or religious differences have not begun to make.

It is something wonderful to be said about the Power of our Democratic form of government. Excellent!

To return to the Republicans and Obama, they are probably not feeling as good about running against him as they were prior to his showing in the primaries through Super Tuesday!

The Problem that They Both Have

It does look like they will be fighting it out for a while in the campaign and maybe clear through to the convention. Which ever one of them is the eventual Democratic nominee is not of concern to me in CS2, they could even wind up on the same ticket!

However, what is of concern and has all to do with traditional Party politics of the last few decades and their Party platform. As I once heard Clinton put it pretty well at one of the campaign stops shown on television, “what we need in the White House is a problem-solver”.

If you read part or all of An American Agenda you have some idea what problem solving at the national level really requires. And for the most part neither Party offers a platform that really seeks to confront hard issues, as they are addressed in An American Agenda – proposals aimed at resolving our Common Problems.

For example, speaking of Immigration! This is a growing sore under the saddle of the majority of the American public, and not just from the well-publicized Central and South American countries – they come from everywhere in the world and all the time. If they are not walking causally across Bush II's Open Southern border, they are landing at our airports and vanishing into the country.

Both Clinton and Obama are dancing around some form of amnesty with

different labels on it. This is a bone-marrow issue with the Electorate and could actually hurt them in the National Election. It is the wrong policy and they need to start listening to the Majority of the People not their campaign donors. As I wrote before, the Democrats must all wake-up and remember they are sworn in to serve Americans and our society. Not any miscellaneous person or group that of their own freewill violated (as in trespassed) of our nation's borders and then screams for services and citizenship.

Their only hope on this issue is that McCain is also trying sell out to the Illegal Occupant, Special Interest lobbies.

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My one wish would be that the Democratic Party would read An American Agenda, study it, and then embrace it as their own. It could very well prove to be the long lost Party Platform that they have been searching for.

They might also consider using me as a Domestic and possibly Foreign policy advisor, as well.

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The Republican Party

Again, there is no logical, rational, common sense, or publicly justifiable reason why the Republican candidate for President should be elected this November. No matter whom it is — period end of statement! The Democrats would need to shot themselves in both feet to mess this one up.

And while they know that, it does not mean they will not do whatever it would take to sneak back in the White House if the Democrats give them an opening — that undeniable *lust* for political Power.

Considering what the Bush II White House, a Republican majority in the Congress for six (6) years and the continued Republican veto hold on Congress even after the 2006 mid-term election — has done to our nation since January 2001 – to give them the White House again in 2008 would be an epic tragedy for the nation, continue the wreckage of our struggling economy, and make the Electorate (us) look like absolute fool's to the rest of the world. And We already are looking pretty bad that way for having re-elected Bush II in 2004. Seriously, I was standing on the beach at Cape Hatteras, NC in 2006 and a lady from Germany asked me how we could have re-elected Bush II. What could I say?

It does not matter what issues are or are not discussed over the remaining long

months of primaries; or what the general election campaign brings to the public; or if God forbid we have a terrorist attack; or what their totally probable nominee John McCain may talk about – their upset victory in November would result in 4 to 8 more years of the same old Special Interest lobbyist controlled Congress **and** White House. And most of you know as well as I do that We the People and the National System – cannot – take it anymore.

John McCain Gets His Opportunity

Unless something really unexpected occurs, John McCain will be the Republican Presidential candidate for 2008. He is good man, a patriotic American to say the least, was a great soldier, has been reasonable as Senators go, and he has tended to aggravate his own Party at times making him a bit independent minded.

“The Party Bosses” have never liked McCain. Bush II even trashed him in the 2000 primaries. He thinks for himself at times and does not follow the Party line as they like their Presidents to do. Strangely he only disagrees with them once on a while, but it is enough to have the “Republican Right” (right in their case does not mean correct) upset with him even as their probable candidate. So for the last few days since Super Tuesday he has been making nice with them at the Conservative Political Action Committee (CPAC) Convention, trying to get their support. These are the same people that so loved Bush II and some still do!

Mitt Romney that was running a distant second to McCain after Super Tuesday dropped out on Thursday making his announcement at the CPAC Convention.

And then there is Mike Huckabee. McCain is being pushed by some Conservatives to have Huckabee as his running mate. All I will say about that entire situation is at this point the Democrats are probably pulling for Huckabee to be on the ticket!

Not much else to say about McCain or the Republicans. For the good of the nation, let’s just pray the Democrats don’t start shooting their feet.

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Go Where the Journey Leads You

These are the last few pages I will write in CS2. It is 11:35pm on Friday February 8th. The book will be completed in the morning. In a few weeks it will be on the Internet for Print-on-Demand sale and published! Amen...

My attention will now turn to finding a volume publisher and getting CS2 in the bookstores as soon as possible. It is a far easier sell when you have already published a book and have the new one finished, in hand, and already on sale.

I will start promoting the book and raising funds to get the grassroots group I mentioned in Proposal 14 – Local Pride and Accountability. It is called the Common Interest Civil Responsibilities Union or CICRU (sigh-crew). I will work to start the first CICRU Local Chapter (LCC) in the Yorktown, VA area where I have lived since March 2007.

It is somewhat fitting to start the Second American Revolution in the same town that the first one ended!

What is Likely to Will Happen Next

It has now been 32 months since I earnestly began this book project for my country. And it has been 62 months since I left my Information Technology career to finish my first book on our nation's viable and publicly acceptable solution to our decades old War on Drugs. In an email to several hundred of my co-workers at CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield in Washington, DC and Owings Mills, MD – I said that I was leaving to finish a book and “whatever projects” followed that effort.

This is my free will, now all-in project for America. And it has been far more than I could have ever expected. I have worked harder and pushed myself more than ever before. Those 34 years of IT project experience prepared me for these challenges. I have loved my project for America.

From this point the acceptance of CS2 and its appeal to the public and Press will tell if it has the hoped for impact on this years Presidential and Congressional campaigns. I pray that it will because that is the first intent of this book project.

CS2 could first impact the campaigns when people that read it take questions on the proposals to the candidates for national, state, and local offices. That will be tremendous.

There is of course very limited possibility that Clinton or Obama will pick it up and use it without heavy prompting from the public or maybe the Press.

Miracles do happen and there is a real need for such content during the campaign. The serious and sad thing is that the public issues and problems addressed in CS2 are not going to go away. If nothing happens this year, CS2 will still apply in 2009. I believe that CS2 will find popularity with the public in due time – and the sooner the better for the good of the nation.

When the right publisher is connected with, a national book tour would be highly desirable. That will be the best way to get the word out on its contents, start building the network CICRU network, and get its message into the media. I believe the Press, as well as the public could use some optimistic news for a change.

Those are the logical follow-on scenarios to CS2's publication. And don't forget that Fourth Estate Plus List in Part 3, with those 350 entries! They are for good reasons.

Now for the Wishful Possibilities

You may have thought something like this was coming earlier, but I have intentionally hesitated to go there either to distract the reader from the message of CS2 or to be thought of as a dreamer or worse.

If I had my preference, I would be very interested in being an Independent Presidential candidate in 2008.

I expect that it is probably easier for the reader to consider that bold statement after having read CS2 than if I would have announced it in the Introduction to Part 1!

I will simply acknowledge the fact that I absolutely interested in being the next President, elected as an Independent candidate this November. I am not at all intimidated by the office. I believe that I would bring valuable skills and abilities to the office and the country. There is no better place for a professional problem-solver, that is committed to the Common Good of our citizens and the nation to be in 2009.

If that granted remote prospect would not materialize or if I did run and the subsequent campaign was not successful, I would consider it to have been very successful. Even in such a loss the message, concepts, and proposals offered in CS2 would obtain national attention and that is the goal. For as many of the American public know about CS2 and its positive message them and the nation.

I honestly can tell you that when I sat down in July 2005 to begin this book, that was not the plan or a hidden objective — quite the opposite.

As previously mentioned, the driving concern I had when starting was that We as a nation and society did not and still do not have a Game Plan! We do not share a National Vision on where our nation should at least be trying to go. The concepts and proposals in *The Second Coming of Common Sense* are my objective attempt to present a National Vision designed for the Common Good of our citizens and nation. And believe me, there is a lot more ideas where those came from. CS2 is a presentation for my fellow Americans to critique, refine, and hopefully in due time declare their Common Agreement upon.

I would only become an official Independent candidate for that office if the general public responds to the writing in CS2 and begins the process within their respective state to put me on the ballot as an Independent — a possible side benefit of CICRU Chapters forming around the country.

For what I remember from my amateur, but fully official campaign for President in 2003 – the state of Texas has the earliest cut-off date in July, for filing someone as an Independent of president on the National ballot. Papers must be filled and a specific number of signatures must be properly collected and submitted. The same goes for most states, although for some it is only a simple filing fee.

Looking back I had not wanted to write another book right away, if at all. I had done my Independent campaign for president and had finished the book, *Common Interest* at the end of 2004. I was tired and burned out from the last 18-plus months of the intense campaign and book preparation activities. My campaign experience was extremely educational, but that was enough of that.

When I began this my second book it was due to my continued frustration that there was still no one in the country really trying to solve our hard problems, and the unfortunate start of Bush II's second term. The Oil companies were having a field day, the retail industry was struggling, still no Health Care, and so on. The Status Quo not in our favor had won the election and We were in store for *four more years* of the dynamic Bush II and Cheney Show. We lost that time.

However, We are far from finished.

And in the End

This ends my personal observations on the State of Our Union. On the causes of our Common Problems, as well as what I and many people that I have shared these contents with over the years, believe to be practical approaches and publicly acceptable solutions to many of our long-standing national issues.

My only regret is to say to my fellow Americans as I write through these tears, that I could have said as much or even more in fewer words and pages. I am personally grateful to those of you that have read *The Second Coming of Common Sense* in its entirety. It has been my personal pleasure to prepare it for your review.

We the People deserve nothing, but to win and I believe that is now only a matter of time.

Thanks, A J