

# AXIS OF WEASELS

by

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with the  
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**EXCERPT**

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## CAMPAIGN '04

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hair and say, "Who's John Kerry?"

### **Kerry: Americans Don't Need High Incomes**

(2004-02-16) – Democrat presidential frontrunner John Forbes Kerry, who favors raising taxes on families that earn more than \$200,000 annually, said today that "ordinary American families don't need that kind of loot."

"There's no legitimate reason why a commoner needs that much cash," said the multimillionaire senator who married the heiress of the Heinz food fortune. "Joe and Sally Sixpack would just waste the money on bland food, mall-store clothing, cookie-cutter homes, tacky decorative items and education for their mediocre spawn."

Mr. Kerry said that raising taxes on anyone who crosses the \$200,000 threshold would "disincentify common folks from earning too much," thus reducing the demand for "crass products."

"Higher taxes on such people will help prevent the debasing of our culture, and put us on the road to becoming more like Europe," he said.

### **Kerry Unveils Dispassionate Liberalism Agenda**

(2004-03-28) – After enduring criticism for his failure to make his mark on the Democrat Party, or even have a blueprint for his own presidential campaign, John Forbes Kerry today unveiled a platform he called “Dispassionate Liberalism: An Agenda for America.”

Taking his lead from President Bush’s successful “compassionate conservatism” platform in the 2000 campaign, Mr. Kerry said his “dispassionate liberalism” similarly blunts the usual assaults on Democrats.

“Just like Bush reversed conventional wisdom by proclaiming that Republicans actually care about people,” said Mr. Kerry, “my agenda declares that it’s okay to be a bleeding-heart liberal without the bleeding heart part.”

Democrat National Committee Chairman Terry McAuliffe said it’s all part of the “New Aloofness,” a Democrat sensibility that says “It’s okay to be for big government and higher taxes without having to justify it by claiming to care about people who are many rungs below you on the economic ladder.”

“It’s really a very liberating philosophy,” said Mr. McAuliffe. “We can be millionaires, seek to extend the reach of government into the personal lives of Americans, and not even have to pretend to relate to the ordinary proletarians.”

### **Kerry Gets Permission to Drive “Family” SUV**

(2004-04-22) – Just hours after telling reporters that he doesn’t own an SUV but his family does, Sen. John Forbes Kerry announced today that he had gained permission from his wife, Teresa Heinz Kerry, to drive the family’s Chevy Suburban on brief trips to the grocery store or dry cleaner.

“I didn’t ask to take it on the campaign trail because it gets lousy gas mileage, which is bad for the environment,” said Mr. Kerry. “But I was excited when Teresa told me that I could run out to the Piggly-Wiggly in the big rig.”

Mr. Kerry's spokesman later explained that "the family calls the SUV 'the big rig,' not Sen. Kerry, because it's not his vehicle, so he doesn't need a nickname for it. The SUV belongs to someone else in the family – in this case, his wife, but not the senator."

President Bush could not be reached for comment because, according to his spokesman, "he's out hauling some lumber in his Ford F-250 Super Duty four-door pickup truck."

### **LEAK: Text of Bush Remarks About Clinton**

(2004-06-15) – As controversy swirls around the President George Bush's unusually complimentary remarks yesterday toward former president Bill Clinton, a White House staffer has leaked the manuscript of the speech Mr. Bush was supposed to give at the unveiling of the official portrait of Mr. Clinton.

"The president changed the speech," said the unnamed administration source. "He was editing on the fly – extemporaneously. For some reason he didn't feel comfortable delivering what the speechwriter gave him."

Here is the leaked text of the speech Mr. Bush was supposed to give in welcoming the former president.

THE PRESIDENT:

Good morning. I appreciate you all coming. President Clinton and Co-president Rodham Clinton, welcome home. (*Applause.*) All who live here are temporary residents; a thought which brought constant comfort to our nation during the years of your presidency. The portraits that are presented today will be held permanently in the White House collection, in order to protect the vast majority of children who will never walk through this hall. And so, beginning today, the likenesses of President William Jefferson Clinton and First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton will take their place in a line that began with George and Martha Washington, and veered wildly off course in late 1992. (*Applause.*)

Laura and I are pleased to welcome members of the Clinton

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and Rodham family, the only group that we have invited to pass through the metal detectors on their way *out* of the White House.

It's good to see so many who served our nation so ably in the Clinton administration. We're still trying to find a supplier for all the "W" keys you pried off of our computer keyboards in January 2001. If you'll just mail them to us, I'll declare a general amnesty from prosecution.

As you might know, my father and I have decided to call each other by numbers. (*Laughter.*) He's 41, I'm 43. It's a great honor to – it's a great pleasure to honor the man we used to call Number 2, or words to that effect.

The years have done a lot to clarify the strengths of this man. As a candidate for any office, whether it be the state attorney general or the president, Bill Clinton showed incredible energy and great personal appeal and an insatiable lust for life and various bipedal life-forms.

As chief executive, he showed a deep and far-ranging knowledge of public policy, a great compassion for people in need, and the forward-looking spirit that Americans like in a president. He could always see a better day ahead – and Americans knew he was working hard to bring that day closer. Wait a minute...excuse me, but that part was supposed to be in my eulogy for President Reagan.

Over eight years, it was clear that Bill Clinton loved the job of the presidency. He filled this house with energy and joy, as well as discarded pizza boxes and interns. He's a man of enthusiasm and warmth, who could make a compelling case and effectively advance the causes that drew him to public service. But his most enduring legacy will be the gracious way he ushered in the era of Republican control of Congress and the White House.

People in Bill Clinton's life have always expected him to succeed – and, more than that, they wanted him to succeed, especially his Chinese Communist friends. And meeting those expectations took more than charm and intellect – it took hard work and drive and optimism, and a considerable amount of premeditated dissembling.

He's the first man in his party since Franklin Roosevelt to win a second term in the White House, shattering a great American tradition of discarding Democrats while we still had a shred of hope for our future.

And I could tell you more of his story, but it's available in fine bookstores all over America in a book called *Losing Bin Laden: How Bill Clinton's Failures Unleashed Global Terror*, by Richard Minter. (*Laughter and applause.*)

### **LEAK: Planned Bush Speech to NAACP Revealed**

(2004-07-13) – Before President George Bush made his final decision not to speak at this week's convention of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), he and his speech-writing staff prepared a draft of an address that he would have delivered if pressure from the media had become so intense that he had no other choice.

Here is a partial transcript of that speech, which was accidentally emailed to 1.5 million GOP supporters last night.

**PRESIDENT BUSH:**

My fellow Americans, members of the NAACP, Senator Boxer. It's an honor to be with you tonight representing the political party that introduced the 1957 Civil Rights Act – which at the time was the first civil rights legislation in 82 years. Although Senator Lyndon Johnson, the Democrat from my home state, and Senator John F. Kennedy, the Democrat from my opponent's home state, both worked to prevent the full implementation of the 1957 Act, it formed the foundation upon which the 1964 Civil Rights Act and the 1965 Voter Rights Act still stand.

I also represent the political party whose congressional delegation voted overwhelmingly for the Civil Rights Act of 1964 – 82 percent of Republican senators voted “yes” and 80 percent of Republican House members approved – helping to overcome the weak support by the opposition party where only 69 percent of Democrat senators and 61 percent of Democrat House members voted for the Act.

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I'm also delighted to come as an ambassador from the party of Abraham Lincoln, whose Emancipation Proclamation officially put an end to slavery in America.

I bring greetings from Secretary of State Colin Powell and National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice, who would be here tonight if they weren't so busy working to ensure peace and freedom for the oppressed people of the world. I also come to you on behalf of the thousands of men and women of color who defend freedom worldwide every day as part of our United States Armed Forces.

I have come tonight to declare a new emancipation for people of color. By the authority vested in me as president of all the people of the United States, I declare that all Americans are free to work for a living, free to seek education, free to worship God, free to live under the same laws to which we all submit as a peace-loving people.

The new emancipation proclamation also states that all Americans are free to be lazy, ignorant and godless without expecting the government to come to their aid. All Americans are also free to violate our laws – after which they will receive the just consequences of their exercise of that freedom.

The new emancipation proclamation hereby sets free those who have been held in captivity by the vain hope that government is their beneficent master. It breaks the chains that have bound men, women and children in a cycle of dependency that leads to despair.

I declare that all Americans are free from the tyranny of special-interest bosses who have become wealthy by telling others that they can't succeed in our free society. From this day forth, let every American exercise his freedom from politicians who profit by trading men's votes for men's souls, and who become rich and powerful by creating programs which keep legions of our citizens poor and powerless.

Thank you for allowing me to address this august society of freedom-loving people tonight. I know that you join me in celebrating this new birth of freedom. God bless you, and God bless the United States of America.

### Bush Ads Disenfranchise Florida Voters

(2004-07-16) – The Bush-Cheney 2004 campaign today launched broadcast ads which give Florida residents incorrect instructions that could result in thousands of disenfranchised voters in November, according to a spokesman for the Democrat National Committee.

The ads come just a day after Democrat presidential hopeful John Forbes Kerry told the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) that vast numbers of African American voters in Florida were disenfranchised in 2000 because they didn't vote, or they spoiled their ballots.

The new Bush-Cheney ads start with the president saying, "I'm George W. Bush, and I approve of this message." The following is the script for one ad, which is running on TV and radio stations that target black listeners.

"John Kerry says you need to register to vote and show up at the polls on November 2nd. But do you really want to take orders from *the man* – a rich white Yankee politician? The truth is: November 3rd is a long time away. Relax. Don't let a prep-school millionaire push you around. Then, if you really want to vote, just show up at any public building on November 4th. What right does *the man* have to tell you where to vote? Once you get in the voting booth, don't waste half your day poking at a piece of paper just because a guy who rides a \$9,000 bicycle tells you to. It's your ballot, so just hurry through it, lightly punching numerous holes to create interesting patterns. Don't worry – local election officials can figure out who you meant to vote for. After all, they're your public servants. So, don't let John Forbes Kerry take away your civil right to stay home on November 5th. And don't let anyone force you to follow ballot instructions written by rich white people. On November 6th, be creative, be empowered, be free."

### **Kerry Dropped From Convention Speaker List**

(2004-07-27) – In an effort to halt his decline in the polls, presumptive Democrat presidential nominee John Forbes Kerry has been dropped from the speaker list at the Democrat National Convention.

“We can’t afford to let 30 million Americans actually see and hear John Kerry speak on primetime television,” said an unnamed DNC official. “His recent increase in public appearances has dragged his polling numbers down far enough. We’re dropping him to stop the bleeding.”

The polls show that Americans have doubts about John Forbes Kerry’s positions on the issues and don’t realize that he has served in the U.S. Senate for 16 years as an actual senator.

“Most people think that he’s still overseas, fighting in Vietnam,” the anonymous DNC source said. “The goal of the Democrat Convention is to tell the John Kerry story in the third-person. People love the Clintons, Jimmy Carter, Al Gore and Michael Moore. We’re putting them front-and-center to talk about Kerry so that their mojo will migrate to the nominee.”

### **Heinz Kerry Speech Gives Campaign a Shove**

(2004-07-27) – When asked by a reporter what she hoped to do for her husband’s presidential candidacy during her speech at the Democrat convention tonight, Teresa Heinz Kerry said, “Shove it.”

Indeed, experts agree that, with flagging poll numbers, John Forbes Kerry’s campaign could use a shove.

According to DNC Chairman Terry McAuliffe, Ms. Heinz Kerry’s “totally unscripted, candid, improvised, shoot-from-the-hip remarks” will be the highlight of the convention and should boost the TV audience to levels comparable to “some of your better home shopping programs and C-SPAN events.”

“With a personality like Teresa at his side, John Kerry doesn’t even need one of his own,” said Mr. McAuliffe. “She demon-

strates the kind of attitude which the Heinz Kerry White House will use to restore the bonds of friendship and civility between the U.S. and the rest of the United Nations.”

The party chairman added, “America loves a first lady who always says the first thing that comes to her mind, often before that thing even arrives.”

### **Bush Threatens Destruction of Democrat Party**

(2004-07-28) – President George Bush today threatened to destroy the Democrat Party with “endless waves of exploding Republican martyrs in order to cleanse the earth of the poisonous evil of liberalism.”

The statement from the Bush-Cheney reelection campaign confirmed what Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-MA, told delegates last night at the Democrat convention in Boston: “The only thing we have to fear is four more years of George Bush.”

“There is no greater terrorist in this world,” said Mr. Kennedy, “than the fundamentalist religious zealot who has hijacked the White House and would welcome even death if it resulted in the obliteration of our Democrat way of life.”

The senior senator from Massachusetts said the Bush threat should make Democrats ponder the question, “Why do they hate us?”

“If we retaliate against George Bush, we’ll only help his recruiting,” said Mr. Kennedy. “But if we, with the United Nations, begin to give the GOP everything it wants, its members will stop being angry at us and the threat will cease.”

### **Kerry Injured in Boat Accident, May Cancel Speech**

(2004-07-28) – John Forbes Kerry, the presumptive Democrat presidential nominee, was reportedly injured this morning while reenacting his Vietnam-era role as a Navy swiftboat commander in Boston Harbor. A campaign spokesman said the injury may

prevent the candidate from delivering his acceptance speech at the Democrat convention tomorrow night.

“We’re just taking a wait-and-see approach right now,” said the unnamed source. “John Kerry is a fighter, and when you take it to the enemy like he does, you can get hurt. He has three Purple Hearts to prove it...and now this.”

An emergency medical technician (EMT) on the scene said Mr. Kerry, who is also a U.S. senator, reported snagging a fingernail on the festive bunting that draped his landing craft – a water taxi called the *Lulu E*.

“Although no one witnessed the incident,” the unnamed EMT said, “Sen. Kerry did show me the fingernail, which was lacerated near the end and bent to the left at an odd angle. I could only imagine how much it must have hurt, but he barely flinched when I surgically removed the partially severed body part.”

### **Kerry Eager to Meet Candidate Edwards Described**

(2004-07-29) – John Forbes Kerry said that he’s eager to meet the man John Edwards described in his speech last night to the Democrat convention.

“I look forward to shaking hands with the strong, decisive leader that Senator Edwards talked about,” said Mr. Kerry from the living room of his Boston home. “I didn’t catch his name, but his character reminds me of a young John Kerry – the kind of man I was in Vietnam.”

Mr. Edwards, who delivered a stirring emotional speech on populist themes, insisted that he spoke of Mr. Kerry himself, despite the latter’s image as a stoic, aloof elitist.

After hearing the speech, Mr. Kerry said, “Edwards almost had me believing that ‘hope is on the way.’ He gave me that warm, Clintonesque feeling all over again. I nearly smiled.”

Mr. Kerry and Mr. Edwards are also U.S. senators.

### **Kerry to Tell Undecided Voters: "I'm One of You"**

(2004-07-29) – In a leaked excerpt of the nomination acceptance speech John Forbes Kerry will deliver tonight at the Democrat convention, the presidential candidate will tell undecided voters: "I'm one of you."

Political strategists agree the message should resonate with the independent and undecided Americans whom Democrats and Republicans alike view as their most valued constituency.

"If you don't know for whom you should vote, or how you stand on the important issues of our day," Mr. Kerry will say, "you have a brother in John Kerry. I'm one of you."

The Democrat National Committee has already produced thousands of red, white and blue placards that delegates will wave during the speech which read: "Undecided for Kerry."

### **Edwards: Kerry Will Help Struggling "1st America"**

(2004-07-29) – Responding to the release of new data from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), which shows that the wealthiest families have suffered a sharp decline in income, Democrat vice presidential candidate John Edwards today said the Kerry-Edwards White House would institute massive government reforms to help the struggling "first America."

"There are two Americas," said Mr. Edwards, "and the first America – those who earn most of the money, invest the most in our economy and pay most of the taxes – are hurting right now. *It doesn't have to be that way. We can be one America.*"

According to the IRS, income for Americans who earn between \$200,000 and \$10 million per year have been hit hardest during the past two years, despite the fact that they pay the highest tax rate.

Mr. Edwards said the Kerry administration would reduce income taxes on beleaguered "first Americans," cut the capital gains tax and eliminate the so-called death tax, which unfairly

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punish those who have worked hardest to achieve the American dream.

“John Kerry will be president for all Americans,” said Mr. Edwards, “not just for those low-income ‘second Americans’ who contribute little to our economy, drain the most resources and hardly pay any taxes.”