

**The  
BLACK  
C o m m e n t a t o r**  
Commentary, analysis and investigations  
on issues affecting African Americans  
www.blackcommentator.com

**March 19 , 2009 - Issue 316**

[Contents of Issue Menu](#)

Click Here

[Home](#)

**AIG, Corporate Greed, and Obama's Economic Bait & Switch Tactics  
Keeping it Real  
By Larry Pinkney  
BlackCommentator.com Editorial Board**

Click on the back button of your browser to return to non printer friendly page of this article

[Click here](#) to get helpful hints for viewing and printing this printer friendly plain text page

There is perhaps nothing more pathetic than those who *know* they are being conned but refuse to stop and expose the con artist for fear of offending him.

In recent days, there has been somewhat muted outcry, begrudgingly and limited, made by the corporate media concerning the \$165 million in *bonuses* that the AIG insurance corporation giant is attempting to pay its *executives*, even *after* having been "bailed-out" (for a second time) of its financial melt down (with *the people's money*) by none other than the U.S. Government, and with the enthusiastic support of the Obama administration.

With his usual opportunistic, chameleon flare, Obama has *feigned* a blistering attack upon AIG for its "recklessness and greed" in the matter of the above mentioned executive bonuses, while conveniently neglecting to mention that AIG is in fact over 79% owned by the U.S. Government. Truly, Barack Obama continues to demonstrate that he is the consummate con artist.

The fact is that Obama, contrary to his misleading assertion that he would simply "try" to "block" these bonuses, knows full well that he already has the executive / governmental mandate to make these AIG blood bonuses null and void. It must be *reiterated* that the AIG corporation is over 79% owned by the U.S. Government. In other words, the very fact that AIG would *even dare* to pay at least 165 million dollars of the people's money to its executives indicates a callous arrogance towards the everyday suffering of Black, White, Brown, Red and Yellow peoples of this nation and/or that this is a trial balloon for Barack Obama to take opportunistic advantage of

claiming an *underserved and fake* concern for the struggling peoples of this nation. Think about it. The very fact that AIG boldly took such an openly despicable action in the first place, *says it all*.

Yet again, the people of this nation are being politically hustled by the cynical actions and opportunism of Barack Obama and his de facto corporate backers. These *bait and switch* tactics can and should be expected to continue, in view of the fact that said tactics have served the Obama regime well thus far with regard to both *domestic and foreign* affairs.

This is not merely about AIG. This is about the cynical opportunism of the Obama regime. This is about the fact that the wars in both Iraq and Afghanistan are still raging with no *real* end in sight. This is about the smoke and mirror tactics and ongoing misleading rhetoric of a morally and politically bankrupt government whose leaders seek to play the people of this nation and world like emperor Nero is said to have played the fiddle as Rome burned and its peoples died.

We must *break* this cycle of cynical opportunism and corporate blood-sucking of the everyday people, unending war, and empire. This must be done by the day-to-day *organizing* from the bottom up for *systemic, not mere cosmetic* change. The bait and switch tactics of Obama and his elite avaricious corporate / military supporters must be made to boomerang upon its authors. The name of the current emperor is irrelevant. It is the empire itself that must be changed.

This remains our task and responsibility. This remains our best hope for humanity in these times of increasing national and global economic and social insecurity and instability.

Onward then. Forward ever...

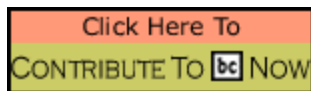
[Click here to comment on any article  
in this issue or see what others are saying in the  
The BlackCommentator Readers' Corner Blog](#)

**BlackCommentator.com** Editorial Board Member, Larry Pinkney, is a veteran of the Black Panther Party, the former Minister of Interior of the Republic of New Africa, a former political prisoner and the only American to have successfully self-authored his civil/political rights case to the United Nations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. In connection with his political organizing activities in opposition to voter suppression, etc., Pinkney was interviewed in 1988 on the nationally televised PBS NewsHour, formerly known as The MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour. For more about Larry Pinkney see the book, [Saying No to Power: Autobiography of a 20th Century Activist and Thinker](#), by William Mandel [Introduction by Howard Zinn]. (Click [here](#) to read excerpts from the book). Click [here](#) to contact Mr. Pinkney.

[Contents of Issue Menu](#)

Click Here

[Home](#)



Your comments are always welcome.

### **e-Mail re-print notice**

If you send us an e-Mail message we may publish all or part of it, unless you tell us it is not for publication. You may also request that we withhold your name.

Thank you very much for your readership.

Website Design and Hosting provided by



Copyright © 2002-2009  
www.BlackCommentator.com  
All Rights Reserved