

## Inspector General Chides IRS Management

WASHINGTON (AP) — A government watchdog is blaming ineffective management at the Internal Revenue Service for allowing agents to improperly target tea party groups for extra scrutiny when they applied for tax exempt status.

In an upcoming report, the Treasury inspector general for tax administration says lax management allowed the practice to go on for 18 months. The Associated Press obtained a copy of the report ahead of its release.

The IRS on Friday apologized for targeting tea party as well as other conservative groups.

The report said that when asked by investigators, IRS supervisors said the criteria they used to decide which groups they examined were not influenced by people or organizations outside the IRS.

## US Diplomat Is Ordered To Leave Russia

MOSCOW (AP) — A U.S. diplomat was ordered Tuesday to leave the country after the Kremlin's security services said he tried to recruit a Russian agent, and they displayed tradecraft tools that seemed straight from a cheap spy thriller: wigs, packets of cash, a knife, map and compass, and a letter promising millions for "long-term cooperation."

The FSB, the successor agency to the Soviet-era KGB, identified the diplomat as Ryan Fogle, a third secretary at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, detaining him briefly overnight.

It alleged Fogle was a CIA officer trying to recruit a Russian counterterrorism officer who specializes in the volatile Caucasus region in southern Russia, where the two Boston Marathon bombing suspects had their ethnic roots.

Fogle was handed over to U.S. Embassy officials, declared persona non grata and ordered to leave Russia immediately. He has diplomatic immunity, which protects him from arrest.

The State Department would only confirm that Fogle worked as an embassy employee, but wouldn't give any details about his employment record or responsibilities in Russia. Some officials also referred inquiries to the CIA, which declined comment.

## Holder: I Had No Role In Review Of Records

WASHINGTON (AP) — Attorney General Eric Holder on Tuesday defended the Justice Department's secret examination of Associated Press phone records though he declared he had played no role in it, justifying the effort as part of an investigation into what he called a grave national security leak.

The government's wide-ranging information gathering from the news cooperative has created a bipartisan political headache for President Barack Obama, with prominent Republicans and Democrats on Capitol Hill expressing outrage, along with press freedom groups.

The government obtained the records from April and May of 2012 for more than 20 separate telephone lines assigned to AP and its journalists, including main offices. AP's top executive called the action a massive and unprecedented intrusion into how news organizations do their work.

Federal investigators are trying to hunt down the sources of information for a May 7, 2012, AP story that disclosed details of a CIA operation in Yemen to stop an airliner bomb plot around the anniversary of the killing of Osama bin Laden. The probe is being run out of the U.S. Attorney's office in the District of Columbia.

Asked about it at a news conference on a separate topic, Holder said he removed himself from the leaked-information probe because he himself had been interviewed by FBI agents as part of the investigation. He said he wanted to ensure that the probe was independently run and to avoid any potential appearance of a conflict of interest. It was the Justice Department's No. 2 official, Deputy Attorney General James Cole, who made the decision to seek news media phone records, the department said.

## Convicted Abortion Doc Spared Death Penalty

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A Philadelphia abortion doctor convicted of killing three babies born alive at his grimy clinic was spared a possible death sentence Tuesday in a deal with prosecutors.

Dr. Kermit Gosnell gave up his right to appeal and in return will spend life in prison. Gosnell, 72, was found guilty Monday of first-degree murder in a case that became a flashpoint in the nation's abortion debate.

Former clinic employees testified that Gosnell routinely performed illegal abortions past Pennsylvania's 24-week limit, that he delivered babies who were still moving, whimpering or breathing, and that he and his assistants dispatched the newborns by "snipping" their spines, as he referred to it.

Prosecutors had sought the death penalty because Gosnell killed more than one person, and his victims were especially vulnerable given their age. But Gosnell's own advanced age had made it unlikely he would ever be executed before his appeals ran out.

# Trio Of Issues Dogs Obama

## Benghazi, IRS And Seized Records Cloud Second-Term Agenda

BY CHARLES BABINGTON  
 AND JULIE PACE  
 Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama seemed to lose control of his second-term agenda even before he was sworn in, when a school massacre led him to lift gun control to the fore. Now, as he tries to pivot from a stinging defeat on that issue and push forward on others, the president finds himself rocked by multiple controversies that are demoralizing his allies, emboldening his political foes and posing huge distractions for all.

It's unclear how long he will be dogged by inquiries into last year's deadly attack in Libya, the IRS targeting of tea party groups and now the seizure of Associated Press phone records in a leak investigation. But if nothing else, these episodes give new confidence and swagger to Republicans who were discouraged by Obama's re-election and their inability to block tax hikes as part of the Jan. 1 "fiscal cliff" deal.

Taken together, these matters will make it harder for the administration to focus on its priorities — racking up a few more accomplishments before next year's national elections.

"It's a torrential downpour, and it's happening at the worst possible time, because the window is closing" on opportunities to accomplish things before the 2014 campaigns, said Matt Bennett, who worked in the Clinton White House. From here on, he said, "it's going to be very, very difficult."

So far, there's no evidence that Obama knew about — let alone was involved in — the government ac-



OLIVIER DOULIERY/ABACA PRESS/MCT  
 President Barack Obama is shown speaking during a joint news conference with British Prime Minister David Cameron in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington Monday.

tions in question. But a president usually is held accountable for his administration's actions, and Republicans now have material to fuel accusations and congressional hearings that they hope will embarrass him, erode his credibility and bolster their argument that his government is overreaching. Even some of his Democratic allies are publicly expressing dismay at the AP phone records seizure.

Obama advisers on Tuesday cast the trio of controversies as matters that flare up in an institution as complex as the U.S. government, and they questioned the impact of them. The one exception, advisers said, was the brewing scandal at the Internal Revenue Service, which they see as the issue most likely to strike a chord with Americans.

The IRS has apologized for what

it calls "inappropriate" targeting of conservative political groups, including tea party affiliates, that were seeking tax-exempt status in recent years. A Treasury Department inspector general's report released Tuesday concluded that ineffective management led to the targeting, and Attorney General Eric Holder said he had ordered a Justice Department investigation.

But he distanced himself from the decision to subpoena the AP records, saying he'd had no part in it, stepping aside because he had been interviewed in a government investigation into who provided information for a news story that disclosed details of a CIA operation in Yemen.

The press case sparked bipartisan outcry, with several GOP and Democratic officials questioning Holder's department's actions in

the matter. Republican National Committee Chairman Reince Priebus said the attorney general should resign over the issue, adding: "Freedom of the press is an essential right in a free society."

Connecticut Sens. Richard Blumenthal and Chris Murphy, both Democrats, called on the Justice Department to explain the records seizure. And Rep. Steny Hoyer of Maryland, the House's second-ranking Democratic leader, said, "This is activity that should not have happened and must be checked from happening again."

As the press and IRS issues boiled over Tuesday, many conservative activists stayed focused on the attack last September in Benghazi, Libya, that killed four Americans, including Ambassador Christopher Stevens. Republicans have spent the past eight months accusing the Obama administration of ignoring security needs before the attack, and of revising subsequent "talking points" to play down the role of Islamic terrorists in the assault, which occurred at the height of Obama's re-election campaign.

Hillary Rodham Clinton — the secretary of state at the time, and a possible presidential candidate in 2016 — is the target of many GOP accusations.

Despite the noisy controversies, White House advisers tapped down suggestions that Obama would make any sudden moves, such as firing top officials or shaking up his team. In a Tuesday night statement on the inspector general's IRS report, Obama said he expected those responsible to be held "accountable" though he did not specify what that should entail.

## Heads Of Benghazi Board Say They'll Testify

WASHINGTON (AP) — The leaders of the panel that independently reviewed last year's deadly attack on the U.S. diplomatic mission in Benghazi, Libya, said Tuesday they were prepared to testify publicly before Congress to counter what they consider unfounded criticism of their work.

In a letter to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, veteran diplomat Thomas Pickering said he and former Joint Chiefs Chairman Adm. Mike Mullen would answer any questions lawmakers have. Rep. Darrell Issa, R-Calif., chairman of the panel, is pressing for the two men to agree to an interview with staff investigators prior to a public hearing.

The work of the Accountability Review Board is the latest focus of a broader Republican inquest into their claims that the Obama administration misled Congress and the American people after the Sept. 11,

2012, attack that killed Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans.

The blistering report released in December by Pickering, Mullen and three other reviewers found that "systematic failures and leadership and management deficiencies at senior levels" of the State Department meant security was "inadequate for Benghazi and grossly inadequate to deal with the attack that took place."

Pickering, however, noted how recently "some have called into question the integrity of the board and its work."

"We believe that such criticisms are unfounded and, if left unad-

ressed, undermine the essential work that the board has done," he wrote. "It is therefore important that we be afforded the opportunity to appear at a public hearing before the committee and answer directly questions regarding the board's procedures, findings and recommendations."

Republicans believe the report was flawed, and they want to know why top officials like Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton weren't interviewed. The panel absolved Clinton of any wrongdoing, faulting lower level State Department officials. Four were given paid suspensions.

On Monday, Issa asked Pickering

and Mullen to meet privately with committee staff investigators to answer questions about their review. Democrats countered that if lawmakers wanted to talk to them, Issa should hold a full open hearing.

Pickering said the board "conducted a thorough review and produced a report that included detailed findings and frank and often highly critical assessments." It issued 29 recommendations for improving security at diplomatic facilities worldwide, and Pickering insisted that the board "fulfilled its role in identifying the lessons that must be learned and acted upon from Benghazi."

With *Fondest Memories*

We remember those who have passed away and are especially dear to us.

On Saturday, May 25th we will publish in print and online at Yankton.net a Memorial Day section devoted to those who are gone but not forgotten.

**Aneta Burrows**  
 Dec. 30, 1960-Nov. 8, 2002

Your courage and bravery still inspire us all, and the memory of your smile fills us with joy and laughter.

Dan, Ann & Sarah

Select one of the verses below to accompany your tribute.

1. We hold you in our thoughts and memories forever.
2. May God cradle you in his arms, now and forever.
3. Forever missed, never forgotten. May God hold you in the palm of His hand.
4. Thank you for the wonderful days we shared together. My prayers will be with you until we meet again.
5. The days we shared were sweet. I long to see you again in Gods heavenly glory.
6. Your courage and bravery still inspire us all, and the memory of your smile fills us with joy and laughter.
7. Though out of sight, you'll forever be in my heart and mind.
8. May the light of peace shine on your face for eternity.
9. May God's angels guide you and protect you throughout time.
10. You were a light in our life that burns forever in our hearts.
11. May God's graces shine over you for all time.
12. You are in our thoughts and prayers from morning to night and from year to year.
13. We send this message with a loving kiss for eternal rest and happiness.
14. May the Lord bless you with His graces and warm, loving heart.
15. I have written my own message and it is included.

To remember your loved one in this special way, send \$12.00 per listing, up to 25 word verse and \$5 for photo.

Fill out the form below and mail to:

Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan/With Fondest Memories

319 Walnut Street, Yankton, SD 57078

**Deadline: Tuesday, May 21, 2013**

Name of deceased \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_ Date of passing \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of selected verse \_\_\_\_\_ OR Personal message (25 word limit) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Print your name here \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Address/City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**HyVee** EMPLOYEE OWNED  
 2100 Broadway • Yankton  
**665-3412**

**RIB - LICIOUS!**

IT IS NATIONAL BBQ MONTH  
 The perfect time to enjoy Dave's Famous finger-lickin' barbecue!

**Thursday 4-8 pm**  
**Friday 4-8 pm**  
**Saturday 11am-4pm**

Full Rack of Ribs.....\$15 each  
 Half Rack.....\$8 each  
 Pulled Pork.....\$6 pint

Take Home some Smoked Beans!  
**\$3.00** pint

Rib Dinners  
 1/3 rack of ribs, beans, chips & pop **\$6.50**

Pulled Pork Sandwich Meal  
 Sandwich, beans, chips & pop **\$5.00**

**Build a Better Burger Contest**  
 Submit your favorite burger recipe for your chance to win:  
**1st Place- Green Egg Grill**  
**2nd Place- \$50 Meat Bundle**  
**3rd Place- \$25 Meat Bundle**

**Top 3 Burgers will be featured in our meat case all summer long!**

Hurry- return entries to meat dept. by May 22nd!