

Bush administration's antipathy for Iraq, and eventually, when the facts finally came out, made the FBI look feckless, incompetent, and easily manipulated by outside political pressure.

"More from Cannon, recounting how messed up the attempt to convict Steven Hatfill for a crime he didn't commit was:

"In truth, Hatfill was an implausible suspect from the outset. He was a virologist who never handled anthrax, which is a bacterium. Ivins, by contrast, shared ownership of anthrax patents, was diagnosed as having paranoid personality disorder, and had a habit of stalking and threatening people with anonymous letters—including the woman who provided the long-ignored tip to the FBI. So what evidence did the FBI have against Hatfill? There was none, so the agency did a Hail Mary, importing two bloodhounds from California whose handlers claimed could sniff the scent of the killer on the anthrax-tainted letters. These dogs were shown to Hatfill, who promptly petted them. When the dogs responded favorably, their handlers told the FBI that they had 'alerted' on Hatfill and that he must be the killer.

"When Bush administration officials were worried about the quality of the case Mueller and Comey had, the two men assured them. 'Comey was "absolutely certain" that it was Hatfill,' Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz said.

"Such certitude seems to be Comey's default position in his professional life," Cannon wrote. He shouldn't have been certain in this case. After the six years the FBI spent destroying his life, they settled a \$4.6 million lawsuit he filed and officially exonerated him."

Good work, James Comey and Bob Mueller. You ruined the life of a man with no evidence at all, but told the Bush administration, oh, we are absolutely certain this is the guy.

What about Scooter Libby, and Judith Miller? I didn't remember this: "After pressuring John Ashcroft—I am reading through the article—"After pressuring John Ashcroft to recuse himself from the responsibility on the grounds of potential conflicts of interest, Comey gave Patrick Fitzgerald, his close personal friend and godfather to one of his children, the role of special counsel into the investigation of the leak of Valerie Plame's identity as a CIA employee. Some conflicts of interest are more important to Comey than others, apparently.

"Fitzgerald immediately discovered that Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage was the leaker. Of course, the FBI and Department of Justice had known that all along, so Comey's push for a special counsel is . . . intriguing."

There was no reason for a special counsel. The FBI knew it. The Department of Justice knew it. They pushed for one anyway. Comey was at the middle of it.

Mueller, you know, his close friend, of course, but Fitzgerald was the god-

father of one of his children, for heaven's sake.

"The 3-year investigation was a cloud over the Bush administration"—which didn't seem to bother Comey at all, oh, of course not—"and resulted in nothing but the jailing of a journalist"—who was protecting a source, even though they didn't need it. Wow, how mean-spirited—" . . . and a dubious prosecution of Scooter Libby for, wait for it, obstruction of justice. Comey was unconcerned about the jailing of journalists and never threatened to resign over this infringement on First Amendment freedoms."

And it talks about Hillary Clinton in this article, but I am telling you, Mr. Speaker, this is a scary time in America.

You have this article from John Hinderaker, June 10, Power Line, quoting Senator WARNER:

"And so, in all of your experience"—he is talking to Director Comey—"this was the only President that you felt like, in every meeting, you needed to document, because at some point, using your words, he might put out a non-truthful representation of that meeting?"

Comey says: "That's right, Senator."

He goes on: ". . . I had a one-on-one meeting with President Bush about a very important and difficult national security matter.

"I didn't write a memo documenting that conversation either—sent a quick email to my staff to let them know there was something going on, but I didn't feel, with President Bush, the need to document it in that way, again, because of—the combination of those factors just wasn't present with either President Bush or Obama."

This article goes on to point out that is simply not true. That was a lie.

And whoever remembered that a book named "Angler" was written by Barton Gellman, with Comey as his big chief source, went so far as to be able to quote the conversation after working with Comey, and in the footnotes from the "Angler," it says: "Quotations from the Bush-Comey conversations are taken verbatim from unclassified notes describing Comey's report of the meeting shortly afterward."

But Comey's email that he says he just let them know that there was something going on, here is what he said in his email, because it was printed in "Angler."

"The President just took me into his private office for a 15-minute, one-on-one talk. Told him he was being misled and poorly served. We had a very full and frank exchange. Don't know that either of us can see a way out. He promised he would shut down 5/6 if Congress didn't fix FISA. Told him Mueller was about to resign. He just pulled Bob into his office."

Yeah, he didn't just say something was going on. He told him what happened. He memorialized that visit with a note, and then in the book, it is word-for-word, according to Mr. Comey,

what was said, and it makes him to be out all American, clean, honest, up-standing, fine law enforcement officer, when it turns out he was anything but that.

"The real pattern," as it says here at the end of the article is that, "Comey is a snake in the grass who creates tententious, self-serving memos that can later be used to cover his own rear end or to discredit presidents, but only if they are Republicans."

Gellman's phrasing was clumsy in the article, but this is serious stuff that it turns out, oh, four members of Mueller's team have donated to Democrats. Well, isn't that cozy? Comey closely coordinated with Mueller on Trump testimony. We heard from the FBI Director that he actually did collude with other members at the Justice Department.

It is so clear. There are people at the Justice Department out to get President Trump, out to get Attorney General Sessions. They are out to get every one of them, and just the way they did, the man they said there was no question was the culprit in killing people with anthrax, that was a lie.

And they don't care who gets hurt. It is time to dismiss the special prosecutor; see if we really need one because now we know that Comey manipulated the system exactly the way he manipulated it when he told John Ashcroft he should recuse himself so he could appoint Patrick Fitzgerald, give him the appointment, that is.

Enough is enough of Comey, of Mueller. It is time to drain the swamp, and they will go down the drain when we do.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. CURBELO of Florida (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today on account of his flight being canceled.

Mr. POE of Texas (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today on account of personal reasons.

Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today through June 16.

#### SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION REFERRED

A joint resolution of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S.J. Res. 45. Joint resolution condemning the deadly attack on May 26, 2017, in Portland, Oregon, expressing deepest condolences to the families and friends of the victims, and supporting efforts to overcome hatred, bigotry, and violence; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.