

## **Republican Perspective**

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### **Three Gratuitous Whoppers**

As you read this, Hillary Rodham Clinton is being coronated in Philadelphia as the Democrat nominee for President of the United States.

In his Jan. 6, 1996 essay "Blizzard of Lies," William Safire wrote: "Americans of all political persuasions are coming to the realization that our First Lady...is a congenital liar."

On a trip to Nepal in April 1995, Hillary Clinton told reporters she had been named in honor of Sir Edmund Hillary. Sir Edmund, along with Tenzing Norgay, became the first to climb to the summit of Mount Everest---"the top of the world." Clinton was born in 1947, but Sir Edmund conquered Everest in 1953. Before that, he was unknown in the United States. So the only possible way that Clinton's claim could be true would be if Dorothy Rodham had, at the time of her daughter's birth, foreseen Sir Edmund's six-years-in-the-future achievement.

In a March 17, 2008 speech at George Washington University, Clinton described her March 25, 1996 trip to Bosnia. "I remember landing under sniper fire. There was supposed to be some kind of a greeting ceremony at the airport, but instead we just ran with our heads down to get into the vehicles to get to our base." (Shades of Brian Williams, removed from his anchor position at NBC for a similar concoction.) Soon after, video emerged showing Clinton and 16-year old Chelsea walking calmly from the airplane and stopping to chat with greeters including an eight year old girl who presented a poem. In fact, the Bosnian war had been over for three months, the Dayton Peace Accords having been signed in December 1995. Clinton was accompanied on the trip by the singer Sheryl Crow and the entertainer Sinbad. The Washington Post awarded her "four Pinocchios" for this one.

In the third Democrat primary election debate, on Dec. 19, 2015 at St. Anselm College, Clinton offered this: "He is becoming ISIS' best recruiter. They are going to people showing videos of Donald Trump insulting Islam and Muslims in order to recruit more radical jihadists." Assessing various claims made during the debate, the website FactCheck.org said "there is no evidence that the Islamic State group has used videos of Trump as a recruiting tool..." although they still might do so in the future. In an odd twist, ISIS did in fact release a four-minute recruiting video (in English) the month before the third debate. That video showed images of U.S. politicians, including Bill Clinton, who the video labels "the fornicator." Busy lying about Trump, Mrs. Clinton forgot to mention that.

The odd thing about these three whoppers is that they were so unnecessary. Unlike "I did not email any classified material to anyone on my email," or "I did not have sex with that woman," these three whoppers were totally gratuitous. They weren't used to cover up anything, or to wiggle out of a tight spot. They were just made up---period.

Describing a certain politician, General Douglas MacArthur said "he never told the truth when a lie would suffice." MacArthur could have been describing the future First Lady, who Safire later labeled "a congenital liar."