

# Time Out!



*Please take  
our survey...*



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2005

## NY Times Gets It Wrong: Bush Waited Till Wednesday Before Ending Vacation

by Michael in New York on [9/12/2005 02:42:00 AM](#)

The New York Times has a [good, lengthy Katrina roundup](#) recounting some of the devastating details of the hurricane and the even more devastating details of the inept and incompetent response -- especially from the White House. One terrible detail about the convention center:

Before the last people were evacuated that Saturday, several bodies were dumped near a door, and **two or three babies died of dehydration**, emergency medics have said.

There's also a [good timeline detailing who did what and when](#). But the New York Times makes [one big mistake on Bush's timeline](#). It says that on Tuesday August 30 Bush "cuts his vacation short."

That is wrong, wrong, wrong. On Tuesday, Bush ANNOUNCED he would cut his vacation short. On Tuesday, Bush was in California at a political rally and -- instead of heading straight to DC so he could FINALLY start to focus on this crisis first thing Wednesday -- Bush went BACK to Crawford, Texas for another night's vacation. He arrived back in DC on Wednesday, August 31.

This is not splitting hairs. If Bush announced he would shorten his record-setting five week vacation by one day, would you state he "cut his vacation short" on the day that announcement was made (even if it was day two of the 35+ days of vacation) or on the day he actually ended it? Naturally, it would be on the day he actually ended it. Bush does not deserve to have it recorded he ended his absurdly long vacation on Tuesday when he actually delayed going back to work till Wednesday.

The first few hours and days of a crisis are crucial and during those first three days after the hurricane struck, when the entire country was glued to its TVs and watching in horror as the Gulf region and especially New Orleans sank into despair, Bush stayed on vacation.

The timeline -- which lists the activities of The Gov. of Louisiana, the mayor of New Orleans, Bush, Chertoff and Brown -- does NOT include Republican Governor Haley Barbour, Secretary of State Condi Rice or most importantly Vice President Dick Cheney. The NYT presumably didn't list Cheney because it would be so damning and "political" to state the fact that during this crisis the Vice President STAYED ON VACATION for six days.

I remain astonished at how the MSM ignores the elephant in the room. Never in our nation's history has a natural or man-made disaster struck the country -- not Pearl Harbor or 9-11 or the San Francisco earthquake (in which gov't responders arrived in two days) -- quite simply NEVER has a nationwide crisis occurred with so many of our top leaders staying or going on vacation.

Here's the letter I would write to the New York Times:

Your hurricane Katrina timeline contains a crucial mistake. President Bush ended his record-setting five week vacation on Wednesday, August 31, not a day earlier. (He merely announced it on Tuesday.) After a jaunt to California on Tuesday, Bush returned to Crawford, Texas for one more night's rest while flood waters were rising and potentially

JOHN'S PHOTOS



## HOT OFF THE WIRE

### Daily Kos

Open Thread and Diary Rescue - \*Tonight's crew of Rescue Rangers were vcmv02, grog, dopper0189, shayera, and joyful. In the meantime, dadanation looked editorial. Oh yeah, a big shout ...  
14 minutes ago

### HuffPost Politics

Mark Joseph: Nice Try Mr. President; Hold The Beer & Get The Tape - So, President Obama wants the Prof and the Cop to come to the White House, have a beer and make nice? Not so fast. One...  
23 minutes ago

### Think Progress

Report: Cheney wanted to illegally deploy American troops in U.S. cities. - The New York Times reports that in 2002, Vice President Cheney and his administration allies urged President Bush to deploy American troops into the suburb...  
34 minutes ago

### Crooks and Liars

Open Thread - Andy K here blogging about Andy Kaufman (no relation), who's on the same stage with Wolfman Jack? Whelp, there goes that theory. h/t to Ben Folds (yes, ...  
1 hour ago

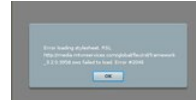
### Eschaton

Late Night Thread - Enjoy  
1 hour ago

Show All

---

AMERICABLOG TV



**Southern Poverty Law Center calls on CNN to**



**A two minute explanation of the warped and cynical**



**The economy is better. But...**



**Judge order San Diego to get rid of the seals**



**Massive brawl in South Korean parliament**



**Mormons may have secretly baptized**

Next 6

I collect with  vodpod

[see all 329 videos >](#)

[Visit our AMERICAblog TV site.](#)

---

GAY POLITICS




Visit our new gay politics section, [AMERICAblog Gay](#).

FEEDS

-  [Blog RSS](#)
-  [1,487 readers](#)
- BY FEEDBURNER
-  [AMERICAblog TV RSS](#)
-  [Twitter RSS](#)
- [Twitter Feed](#)
-  [Mobile Version](#)
-  [Google](#)

Get the blog by email:

[Subscribe me!](#)



**We're  
Listening!**

**Take this quick  
survey and help  
us help you.**

[TAKE SURVEY](#)

**Top Ad**

[Advertise in this spot.](#)

HEALTH CARE REFORM

**Ezra Klein**

Tab Dump  
5 hours ago

**Wonk Room**

F-22 Killed By  
Seven-Meme Voltron  
5 hours ago

**NYCeve**

Huge victories: Maloney  
& Pingree - Health Care  
Heroes, Clyburn  
receives petition - video  
5 hours ago

SEARCH

AMERICAblog
  Web

**Search**

SEND US TIPS & COMMENTS

americablog@starpower.net

BLOG ARCHIVE

**Blog Archive**

SITES WE LIKE

- [Air America Radio](#)
- [Alan Colmes' blog](#)
- [Ari Melber \(The Nation\)](#)
- [Ben Smith](#)
- [BicycleMark's blog & podcast](#)
- [Bilerico](#)
- [BradBlog](#)
- [Bring It On](#)
- [Carrie Fisher](#)
- [Crooks and Liars](#)
- [DailyKos](#)
- [Dan Savage's "Slog"](#)
- [Daou Report](#)
- [Democratic Underground](#)
- [Eschaton](#)
- [Ezra Klein](#)
- [Fire Dog Lake](#)
- [FiveThirtyEight.com](#)
- [Freeway Blogger](#)
- [The Gavel \(Speaker Pelosi's blog\)](#)
- [Good As You](#)
- [Glenn Greenwald](#)
- [Holy Bullies and Headless Monsters](#)
- [Huffington Post](#)
- [Hullabaloo \(Digby\)](#)
- [Jack and Jill Politics](#)
- [Jed Report](#)
- [Jesus' General](#)
- [Kenneth in the 212](#)
- [Margaret and Helen](#)
- [Matthew Gross](#)
- [Media Matters](#)
- [Mike Signorile's "The Gist"](#)
- [Mudflats](#)
- [MyDD](#)
- [Open Left](#)
- [Plum Line](#)
- [Political Punch \(Jake Tapper\)](#)
- [Political Wire](#)
- [Politics 1](#)
- [Pop Surfing](#)
- [Progressive Blog Digest](#)
- [Queers United](#)
- [RawStory](#)
- [Rex Wockner](#)
- [Rude Pundit](#)
- [Smirking Chimp](#)
- [Talk Left](#)
- [Tapped](#)
- [Taylor Marsh](#)
- [Think Progress](#)
- [TowleRoad](#)
- [VetVoice.com](#)
- [Washington Note](#)
- [WayneBesen.com](#)
- [Wonkette](#)
- [Worth Repeating](#)



NEWS LINKS

- [US](#)
- [Washington Post](#)

PLEASE SUPPORT AMERICABLOG

One-time donation

\$

**Donate**

---

Recurring monthly donation

\$

**Donate**

Donations are not tax-deductible.

LABELS

Select a label

LAST 100 VISITORS

Recent Visitors

[Click to Get FEEDJIT](#)

ABOUT AMERICABLOG

**Why AMERICAblog?**

Because a great nation deserves the truth.

**What issues do you cover?**

US politics overall with a particular focus on the Obama Administration, the radical right, and civil rights.

**Who are you?**

**John Aravosis**  
 Editor  
 Washington, DC

**Joe Sudbay**  
 Deputy Editor  
 Washington, DC

**Chris Ryan**  
 Associate Editor  
 Paris, France

**Robert Arena**  
 Contributing Editor  
 Baltimore, Maryland

**Jacki Schechner**  
 Contributing Editor  
 Washington, DC

