



MONDAY, JULY 25, 2005

# **Republican Senator: Covert Agents Are Fair**

by Michael in New York on 7/25/2005 02:50:00 PM

Sorry, but I just have to keep talking about the article John posted below. He was rightly aghast that Sen. Roberts of Kansas is laughing off national security and treating the covert status of agents as a joke. But what really astonished me was the context of his comments: as threader acanadianreader pointed out, Roberts is mocking Valerie Plame's status as a covert agent who risked execution if caught overseas (no diplomatic immunity) and made contacts around the world whose lives have also been endangered by her outing.

The Senate Intelligence Committee will conduct hearings on American spy agencies' use of cover to protect the identities of intelligence officers, the committee chairman said on Sunday....

Larry C. Johnson, a former C.I.A. analyst who organized the letter, said in an interview that "there are lives on the line" in the leak of an operative's identity, because foreigners known to have met with the operative may come under suspicion.

But another former C.I.A. officer, Reuel Marc Gerecht, called Ms. Wilson's cover "very, very soft" and said cover "is the Achilles' heel of the agency." He said cover is too often easily penetrated by foreign intelligence agencies.

It hardly needs to be penetrated by foreign intelligence when Rove leaks the info to the press.

Message? Joe Wilson's mission was a joke because his wife sent him. And Valerie Plame wasn't "really" a covert agent, just a glorified desk

I assume Roberts also thinks classifications like Secret and Not for Foreign are a joke as well. This administration is declaring open war on the CIA. Why doesn't the head go on talk shows and denounce this dangerous attack on national security and the men and women who risk their lives defending it?











DISQUS COMMENTS

#### JOHN'S PHOTOS



# HOT SOFF THE WIRE

### Eschaton

Pretty Much - I think this encapsulates nicely our modern media environment.

#### 1 hour ago

H HuffPost Politics Huckabee's Huck Pac In Turmoil With Staff Turnover, Mounting Debts - Former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee's political action committee, Huck Pac, is undergoing a "restructuring," Executive Director Sarah Huckabee said Wednesday.... 1 hour ago

Going small - My story tonight: President Barack Obama came alive about 50 minutes into Wednesday night's news conference - when somebo 2 hours ago

# Firedoglake

Late Late Night FDL: What Eclipse? - A new video from Fatoumata Diawara, and and oldie from Bob. 2 hours ago

### **Z** Daily Kos

Open Thread and Diary Rescue - \*Today, srkp23 (pulling a double shift), ybruti, taylormattd, ItsJessMe and vcmvo2 combed through hundreds of diaries to find this powerful list. Today's. 3 hours ago

Show All

## AMERICABLOG TV



Next 6

1 of 5







Ads by Google

7/23/09 3:47 AM











I collect with  $\{ \}$  vodpod Visit our see all 322 videos > AMERICAblog TV site.

2 of 5 7/23/09 3:47 AM



AmoLatino.com Ads by Google

FREE PREVIEW

#### Top Ad

Advertise in this spot.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

## The Treatment

Obama Has a Grown-Up Talk With America (Gulp) 3 hours ago

**Ezra Klein** Tab Dump 7 hours ago

## **Wonk Room**

Sen. Byron Dorgan: The 'Trade' In Cap-And-Trade 'Makes No Sense To Me'

3 of 5 7/23/09 3:47 AM

# SEARCH Search SEND US TIPS & COMMENTS americablog@starpower.net BLOG ARCHIVE **Blog Archive**

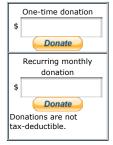
SITES WE LIKE Air America Radio Alan Colmes' blog Ari Melber (The Nation) Ben Smith BicycleMark's blog & podcast Bilerico BradBlog Bring It On Carrie Fisher Crooks and Liars DailyKos Dan Savage's "Slog" Daou Report Democratic Underground Ezra Klein Fire Dog Lake FiveThirtyEight.com Freeway Blogger The 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 Wachington Boot

# PLEASE SUPPORT AMERICABLOG



#### LABELS



#### 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

7/23/09 3:47 AM 4 of 5

© 2009 - John Aravosis | Design maintenance by Jason Rosenbaum

Send me your tips: americablog@starpower.net

5 of 5 7/23/09 3:47 AM