



YET ANOTHER CZAR!

Obama Has Appointed More Czars in 5 Months Than Ruled Russia In 300 Years

Today, The White House Appointed "Compensation Czar." "The Obama administration on Wednesday appointed a compensation czar who will have broad discretion to set the pay for 175 top executives at seven of the nation's largest companies, which received hundreds of billions of dollars in federal assistance to survive. The mandate given to the new compensation official, Kenneth R. Feinberg, a well-known Washington lawyer, reflects the federal government's increasingly intrusive role in the corporate affairs of deeply troubled companies." (Stephen Labaton, "White House Appoints Czar To Oversee Executive Pay," *The New York Times*, 6/10/09)

OBAMA VS. RUSSIAN EMPIRE

Obama Now Has "Upward of 20" Czars: "Name a top issue and President Barack Obama has probably got a 'czar' responsible for tackling it ... There are upward of 20 such top officials, all with lengthy official titles but known in the media as czars ... Linda Fowler, a professor of government at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire, said presidents often appoint czars in a symbolic move to show they care about an issue." (Steve Holland, "Obama Fashions A Government of Many Czars," *Reuters*, 5/29/09)

- **This List Is Only Conservative Estimate:** "In addition to [border czar Alan] Bersin, we have energy czar Carol Browner, urban czar Adolfo Carrion, Jr., infotech czar Vivek Kundra, faith-based czar Joshua DuBois, health reform czar Nancy-Ann DeParle, new TARP czar Herb Allison, stimulus accountability czar Earl Devaney, non-proliferation czar Gary Samore, terrorism czar John Brennan, regulatory czar Cass Sunstein, drug czar Gil Kerlikowske, and Guantanamo closure czar Daniel Fried. We also have a host of special envoys that fall into the czar category including AfPak special envoy Richard Holbrooke, Mideast peace envoy George Mitchell, special advisor for the Persian Gulf and Southwest Asia Dennis Ross, Sudan special envoy J. Scott Gration and climate special envoy Todd Stern. That's 18. This is a very conservative estimate, however ... [Y]ou could count de facto car czar Steve Rattner ... You could count National Director of Intelligence Dennis Blair, often referred to as the intelligence czar ... I'm not going to count Paul Volcker who was referred to as Obama's economic czar." (David J. Rothkopf, "It's Official: Obama Creates More Czars Than The Romanovs," *Foreign Policy*, 4/16/09)

Russia's Romanov Dynasty Only Had 18 Czars In Over 300 Years. "[T]he Obama administration has by any reasonable reckoning passed the Romanov Dynasty in the production of czars. The Romanovs ruled Russia from 1613 with the ascension of Michael I through the abdication of Czar Nicholas II in 1917. During that time, they produced 18 czars. While it is harder to exactly count the number of Obama administration czars, with yesterday's appointment it seems fair to say it is now certainly in excess of 18." (David J. Rothkopf, "It's Official: Obama Creates More Czars Than The Romanovs," *Foreign Policy*, 4/16/09)

RISKY BUSINESS: MORE CZARS MEAN MORE CONFUSION, LESS ACCOUNTABILITY

Former Clinton Administration Official: More Czars Means "Risky Business." "Personally, I think from a purely process standpoint all this czarism is a risky business that ends up producing bureaucratic bottlenecks, tensions and inefficiency when not managed extremely carefully." (David J. Rothkopf, "It's Official: Obama Creates More Czars Than the Romanovs," *Foreign Policy*, 4/16/09)

American University Governance Expert Warned Czars Create Less Accountable, More "Incomprehensible" System. "This scenario lends credence to the concern that czars will add a layer of opaqueness and unaccountability to a rule-making system that's largely incomprehensible to the outside world and a puzzle even to seasoned pros representing industry groups, companies and the public. 'Every time you add another variable, you will have trouble sorting out what had influence on a rulemaking,' said Cornelius Kerwin, president of American University in Washington who wrote the book, 'Rulemaking: How Government Agencies Write Law and Make Policy.' 'It's not like legislative or judicial decisions.'" (Cindy Skrzycki, "Obama's Czars Breed Chain-Of-Command Confusion," *Bloomberg*, 3/17/09)

Sen. Robert Byrd (D-WV): Czars Are "Slick Way Of Governing Without Having To Answer To Congress." "Czardom does not sit well with Sen. Robert Byrd. Though slowed by age, the West Virginia Democrat remains vigorous in his defense of the powers ceded to the Congress by the Constitution. He said he believes czars are a slick way of governing without having to answer to Congress." (Brian Wilson, "Obama's Czars Spark Concerns Among Some Lawmakers," *FOX News*, 4/17/09)

- **In Letter To The White House, Byrd Warned:** "The rapid and easy accumulation of power by White House staff can threaten the constitutional system of checks and balances." (Cindy Skrzycki, "Obama's Czars Breed Chain-Of-Command Confusion," *Bloomberg*, 3/17/09)

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