

# Political Penguin

By Duane Plank

So the venerable United Nations recently allowed Libyan madman Moamar “Daffy” Kadhafi to address its members. The perceived loon spoke to General Assembly members right after President Obama had addressed the same group.

He droned on for more than 90 minutes, did the Libyan leader, reportedly boring the daylights out of many of the assembled folks, some who wandered away before the 67-year-old began his rant, and some departing during the oratory. As some of the diplomats yawned or gazed around the room, Kadhafi beseeched the folks to, “Please pay attention!”

Among other comments, Kadhafi praised Mr. Obama, which can’t be a good thing for the Prez as he tries to win support, which some say has been dwindling, for his massive healthcare reform plan. Said Kadhafi: “We are content and happy if Obama can stay forever as the President of the United States.” There is a vote of support that we probably won’t see pasted on Obama placards during his 2012 reelection campaign. Can just see it now: Side-by-side photos of the two world leaders, smiling triumphantly. Opposition fodder, for sure.

Think that Mr. Obama was oh-so-pleased to receive the support of the crazy man? Before departing, Kadhafi also called for the reopening of the investigations into the deaths of JFK, Lee Harvey Oswald and Martin Luther King, among others. Like that’s going to happen.

Kadhafi, remember, is the guy who helped orchestrate the hero’s welcome that greeted the convicted Pan Am Flight 103 mass murderer Abdul Baset Al-Meghari when the scumbag was allowed to return to Libya recently, released from prison because he had a terminal disease. Poor baby!

As I mentioned, Mr. Obama preceded Kadhafi at the U.N. podium, also appearing before the group for the first time. He noted that it was about time that the rest of the world starts chipping in a little more to help solve some of the small dilemmas facing the world community. Little things like nuclear proliferation and that Al Gore problem, global warming.

Thought Gore had that one under control. After all, he created the Internet, right? Wonder if he patented the invention? Do you remember the flap that occurred back in 1999, when in an interview with a bearded dude from CNN, Gore was quoted as saying, “During my service in the United States Congress, I took the initiative in creating the Internet.”

Don’t believe that is a true statement, because I had always heard that the Internet was the brainchild of some of the smart guys in the Defense Department in the 70s, allowing the brainiacs with the pocket protectors to communicate with each other. That’s not a shot at all you smart guys out there, by the way. I have always respected and revered you big idea folks. This comes from a guy who still has problems answering his cell phone and still can’t figure out how to hook up a DVR.

The Bush camp ran with the Gore quote during the 2000 election campaign, poking fun at the Vice President. Gore may have mis-spoken, probably meaning to say something to the effect that he was a proponent and supporter of the Internet, and not its creator. Now he is working on that global warming thing. Good for you, Mr. Gore.

Back to Mr. Obama’s star turn at the U.N. As I said, he spoke prior to the ringing endorsement that he received from the Libyan loon. Can’t see that he had too many kind words for Kadhafi in his speech, by the

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# Dear Carol



Dear Carol,

I just returned from a miserable cross country flight. Airlines have cut back so much that they provide little or no comfort for passengers. The people on the plane were really inconsiderate too. I asked the flight attendant for a blanket and pillow and was told there were none. It was so cold that I shivered for 3,000 miles. To make matters worse the person in front of me put their seat all the way back for the whole flight. He and his companion had their iPods turned up so loud they were shouting to each other and I had to listen to their obnoxious music too. What happened to consideration and courtesy?

Mary

Dear Mary,

I agree it is hard to adjust to the changes airlines have made in order to stay financially afloat. Passengers today need to be prepared by bringing a jacket or shawl for warmth, an inflatable pillow for overnight flights and their own food for extended flights. We’re packing lighter in order to avoid having to pay \$15 or more to check luggage and most bring their own entertainment because in-flight movies

have disappeared from all but cross-country journeys. There is less leg-room than ever before and it is inconsiderate to lean a seat back more than an inch or two unless it is a night flight when most people are trying to sleep. Passengers can request consideration from others because no one knows what we want unless we tell them. You can politely request someone to raise their seat, turn down their music, and lower their voices. Often people do not realize their behavior is an annoyance to others. A request that begins, “You probably don’t realize...” will often get a positive response. If not, at least you expressed yourself and a flight attendant may be able to negotiate some relief.

Dear Carol,

I think there must be something wrong with me. I was married to the man of my dreams three months ago. We are very happy together, everything is going well and I burst into tears at odd moments for no reason at all. I can’t explain it to my husband or to myself. Maybe I should go to the doctor to see if my hormones are unbalanced. What do you think?

Boo Hoo Bride

Dear Bride,

Here is a little known fact. Brides will burst into tears at any time for no reason at all for the first year of marriage. I can’t give an explanation for this, it is just true. It is common; it is fine, it is normal. The tears may be an adjustment to a new life style. Whatever the reason, accept it and don’t worry about it unless it continues for much more than a year or becomes a constant occurrence. Then a doctor’s visit may be in order.

Send questions to askcarolnow@gmail.com or mail to Herald Publications.

Carol is a Life Coach available for private consultation in person or on the phone. •

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