

Sen. Lindsey Graham Offers a Missile for Your Thoughts

“Drones!”

And what about here in the States? Graham's statement that he wouldn't "call a judge" — presumably for a warrant — suggests that he was thinking — or well, okay, maybe "joking" — about human targets here in the homeland, which, according to Graham, is part of the battlefield in the war on terror. No point arresting someone who might be "thinkin' about" or conspiring to make war against the United States, and then trying that person for treason in a fair and open court, as the Constitution requires.



Written by [Jack Kenny](#) on May 20, 2015

Shucks, no! Just zap 'im with a missile from a drone and be done with the terror-lovin' low-life.

A joke? Recall that it took a filibuster by Senator Rand Paul (R-Ky.), holding up a vote on a new CIA director, to get then-Attorney General Eric Holder to finally concede that the president of the United States has no constitutional power to authorize drone strikes on American citizens here in "the homeland." No one should be on the president's "kill list" if he stays home right here in the good ol' U.S. of A. Traveling abroad is another story.

"I want to catch terrorists, but I also want to protect the Constitution," said Senator Paul, another of the GOP presidential hopefuls who spoke at the Lincoln Day Dinner. If Graham has any scruples about violating the Constitution, he keeps them well hidden. He told the Concord City Republican Committee in New Hampshire in March how he as president [would respond](#) to cuts by Congress to spending on the military and on intelligence operations:

I wouldn't let Congress leave town until we fix this. I would literally use the military to keep them in if I had to. We're not leaving town until we restore these defense cuts. We're not leaving town until we restore the intel cuts.

Another "joke"? Surely, a U.S. senator knows that under our Constitution the power of the purse belongs to Congress. And if Graham had any respect for and appreciation of the separation of powers, he would no more speak of the president using the military to keep Congress in session until it approves more spending than he would suggest that Congress might hold the president hostage in the White House until he signs a bill Congress wants enacted. Or keep the Supreme Court justices locked in their chambers until they reach the "right" decision on a crucial case.

But Graham clearly has no more respect for the Constitution than he has for the truth about recent history. "If you fought in Iraq it's not your fault it's going to hell. It's Obama's fault," he [said](#) Saturday night. "The person I blame is Barack Obama, not George W. Bush."

For all the jokes about political dinners on the "rubber-chicken circuit," that statement might have been the hardest thing to swallow, even at a solidly Republican event. There are plenty of things to blame on Obama without an attempt to rewrite history in a way that insults the intelligence of anyone over the age of 12. It was George W. Bush who invaded Iraq on a false pretext, disbanded the Iraqi security forces, and created the power vacuum that opened the door to al-Qaeda and the Islamic State. It was George W. Bush who sowed the winds of war, and we will be reaping the whirlwind for years, even decades to come.

"The more you drink, the better I sound, so keep drinking," Graham, the great entertainer, told the Iowa Republicans. Drink until Graham sounds better? Now that had to be a joke. No one could possibly drink *that* much.



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