# Biden's Gaffes Harm Obama's Crafted Image

Contributed by Tom McGregor
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President Barack Obama's vaunted political machine has been placed in grave danger due to the increasing regularity of Vice President Joe Biden Jr., whose verbal misteps since the beginning of the administration have causes embarrasment at home and abroad.

The Washington Times reports that, "Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton was forced Sunday to correct publicly Mr. Biden's charecterization of Russia as a crumbling country, a description that infuriated Russian officials and contradicted President Obama's efforts to 'reset' relations with the world power."

Tobi Gati, a former top adviser to Russia to President Clinton from Moscow, is quoted as saying, "this isn't likely to help convince the Russians we really want to work with them on the foreign policy issues that matter to us."

Mrs. Clinton on Sunday emphatically stated that the United States perceives Russia as "a great power" after Mr. Biden, during a tour of the former Soviet republic of Georgia, said that Russia has "a shrinking population base."

The vice president added, "thy have a withering economy. They have a banking sector and structure that is not likely to be able to withstand the next 15 years."

Such remarks from Mr. Biden have become an increasing irritation to Mr. Obama.

According to the Washington Times, "the vice president has said that he did not want his family travelling on public transportation because of the swine flu, that the administration knows that some of the $787 billion in economic stimulus dollars are going to be 'wasted' and that Mr. Obama and his advisers 'misread the economy.' He also implied the United States would not stop Israel from attacking Iran if the Jewish state felt Tehran was an 'existential threat.'"

As revealed by the Associated Press, Russian newspapers printedn Mr. Biden's most recent gaffe on their front pages Monday, with at least one paper editorializing that his comments prove that the Obama administration is remarkably similar to the Bush administration.

To read the entire article from the Washington Times, link here:

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