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Idiot Jew Rahm Emanuel's Knuckle Cracking Habit and his Brown Finger Puppet

By: Crack_Smoke_Republican on: 16.03.2009 [01:26] (257 reads)

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Obama's Partisan, Profane Confidant Reins It In

Times Topics: Rahm Emanuel

Jim Young/Reuters

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WASHINGTON — Early this month, Barack Obama was meeting with the House speaker, Nancy Pelosi, and other lawmakers when Rahm Emanuel, his chief of staff, began nervously cracking a knuckle.

Mr. Obama then turned to complain to Mr. Emanuel about his noisy habit.

At which point, Mr. Emanuel held the offending knuckle up to Mr. Obama's left ear and, like an annoying little brother, snapped off a few special cracks.

The episode, confirmed by Mr. Emanuel's office, underscores some essential truths about Mr. Emanuel: He is brash, has a deep comfort level with his new boss, and has been ever-present at Mr. Obama's side of late, in meetings, on podiums and in photographs.

There he was, standing at President Obama's desk in one of the first Oval Office pictures; and again, playfully thumbing his nose at his former House colleagues during the inauguration; there he was, accompanying the president to a meeting with Congressional leaders on Friday.

Mr. Emanuel is arguably the second most powerful man in the country and, just a few days into his tenure, already one of the highest-profile chiefs of staff in recent memory. He starred in his own Mad magazine cartoon, won the "Your New Obama Hottie" contest on Gawker.com and has become something of a paparazzi icon around Washington.

In recent months, he has played a crucial role in the selection and courtship of nearly every cabinet member and key White House staff member.

Renowned as a fierce partisan, he has been an ardent ambassador to Republicans, including Mr. Obama's defeated rival, Senator John McCain of Arizona. He has exerted influence on countless decisions; in meetings, administration officials say, Mr. Obama often allows him to speak first and last.

"You can see how he listens and reacts to Rahm," said Ron Klain, the chief of staff to Vice President Joseph R. Biden Jr. "You can see that his opinion is being shaped."

A reason Mr. Emanuel, 49, has drawn so much attention is that he seems to be in a kind of recalibration mode.

How will the feisty, bombastic and at times impulsive former congressman blend with the cool, collegial and deliberate culture of Obama World? And one that is trying to foster bipartisanship? This is someone who once wrote in Campaign and Elections magazine that "the untainted Republican has not yet been invented" and who two years ago — according to a book about Mr. Emanuel ("The Thumpin' " by

Naftali Bendavid) — announced to his staff that Republicans are “bad people who deserve a two-by-four upside their heads.”

Efforts at a New Aura

It is clear to friends and colleagues that Mr. Emanuel is trying to rein himself in, lower his voice, even cut down on his use of profanity.

“As chief of staff, you take on the aura and image and, in some instance, the political values of the person you work for,” said former Representative Ray LaHood, an Illinois Republican who is now transportation secretary. “I think he’s beginning to morph himself into the Obama image.”

Mr. Emanuel acknowledged in an interview Friday that a stereotype of him as a relentless hothead has some factual basis. But it is an exaggerated or outdated picture, he said.

“I’m not yelling at people; I’m not jumping on tables,” he said. “That’s a campaign. Being the chief of staff of a government is different. You have different tools in your toolbox.”

Still, his high profile and temperament are at odds with that of some past White House chiefs of staff: they were often low-key types who put the “staff” part of their job titles before “chief” — as Andrew H. Card Jr., the longtime chief of staff to former President George W. Bush, suggested to Mr. Emanuel last month.

Mr. Emanuel, who had hopes of becoming House speaker, has stepped into a job characterized by short tenures — just under two and a half years, on average — high burnout rates and the need to subjugate personal ambitions to the service of the president.

He is not accustomed to fading discreetly into the background. As a staff member in the Clinton White House, a three-term House member from Chicago and the chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, he was viewed by many as a consummate purveyor of a crass, kneecapping brand of politics.

Mr. Obama acknowledged as much at a 2005 roast for Mr. Emanuel, who is a former ballet dancer, during which Mr. Obama credited him with being “the first to adapt Machiavelli’s ‘The Prince’ for dance” (a number that included “a lot of kicks below the waist”). When Mr. Emanuel lost part of his middle finger while cutting meat at an Arby’s as a teenager, Mr. Obama joked, the accident “rendered him practically mute.”

The video of that roast has become a recent sensation on the Internet and buttressed a view among some Republicans that Mr. Emanuel’s appointment was, in the words of the House minority leader, Representative John A. Boehner of Ohio, “an ironic choice for a president-elect who has promised to change Washington, make politics more civil.”

While acknowledging that he can be something of a showman, friends say Mr. Emanuel has calmed considerably.

“He’s more temperate now,” said David Axelrod, a senior White House adviser and longtime Emanuel friend who dismissed much of his flamboyant reputation as “pure myth.” Mr. Axelrod added, “A lot of it is a reputation he earned as a younger guy.”

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/01/25/us/politics/25emanuel.html?ref=politics>

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What would you expect

by BravoTango on 16.03.2009 [12:27]

from an Israeli? Cracking his fingers near Obama's ear? Obama should thank his lucky stars it was not Rahm's knuckles.

not knuckle cracking

by carlostx on 16.03.2009 [13: 35]

idiot obama he is snapping his fingers for you to do something

Rahm Emmanuel's father is Israeli

by DarkStar on 16.03.2009 [17: 11]

and he publicly says that arabs are just good to sweep floors.

He better not upset the Russians

by FreePapuaMovement on 16.03.2009 [21: 19]

or he'll meet the same fate as the Mossad chief in Amman.

he is a jew, but not an idiot

by antecesivo on 17.03.2009 [04: 34]

that guy is an asshole all right, but an idiot he is not. the last idiot to be in position of power was bush, and he's gone.

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