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#### Driving the Conversation:

**1) "Never as a country have we asked so few to do so much for so long."\* What must we do for our troops?**

**2)What's with Sarah Palin?**

**July 3-4, 2009**

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**Roger Pilon**, Vice President for Legal Affairs, Cato Institute:

The unrelenting, vicious, and often gratuitous attacks on Governor Palin, many here at Politico Arena, mark one of the more unseemly recent episodes in our too often unseemly politics of personality. That she was less than well qualified to serve as vice president put her among a good many who have actually served in that office, to say nothing of the presidency. (Are we to believe that the current holder of the office – who garnered, what, less than one percent of the vote during the primaries – is well qualified to be vice president?)

But her selection was the doing of John McCain, who continues as a darling of the Sunday morning talk show circuit, even as his minions cast aspersions on the woman he himself selected as his running mate, who at least brought some life to an otherwise uninspiring and rudderless ticket. It's time to get off Sarah Palin's back and temper the politics of personality with a strong dose of the politics of principle. And what better time than on the Fourth of July.

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