



Valerie Jarrett touts Obama admin's clean record on spying. Sharyl Attkisson has something to say about that

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Two weeks ago Attorney General William Barr testified to Congress that he believes the Obama administration had spied on President Donald Trump campaign during the 2016 presidential election.

This announcement triggered recriminations from congressional Democrats and their media allies, as the AG's assertion stood in stark contrast to the claims of the Obama administration, which of course Democrats and their medias have invariably chosen to automatically believe.

In light of these claims, renowned investigative journalist Sharyl Attkisson decided this week to highlight to the public just how often the Obama administration lied and continues to lie.

She accomplished this by retweeting a post uploaded by Obama-era White House adviser Valerie Jarrett in 2017. In the post, Jarrett had proudly shared a quote from former President Barack Hussein Obama's spokesperson, Kevin Lewis, and then cockily added in her own words, "Enough said."

Look:

Check out statement from Kevin Lewis, spokesperson to former President Obama. Enough said. pic.twitter.com/OTEQiVOHvh

— Valerie Jarrett (@ValerieJarrett) March 4, 2017

"A cardinal rule of the Obama administration was that no White House official ever interfered with any independent investigation led by the Department of Justice," Lewis had said in a statement around the time that Trump had first accused Obama of spying on his campaign.

"As part of that practice, neither President Obama nor any White House official ever ordered surveillance on any U.S. citizen. Any suggestion otherwise is simply false."

As noted by Attkisson, the quote Jarrett chose to share was likely a whopper of a clever lie.

Look:

“Ordered”?

“Authorized”?

“Knew about”?

This may be true.

On the other hand, secretly issued presidential directives (by any president) can be classified and come with cover stories and permission to lie about the truth if discovered. <https://t.co/weyJZvlXe8> <https://t.co/Aw0C3EeuaB>

— Sharyl Attkisson  (@SharylAttkisson) [April 25, 2019](#)

Her point was that while it “may be true” that Obama never *publicly* “ordered,” “authorized” or “knew about” any surveillance operations, there’s a chance he had ordered, authorized and known about a covert surveillance operation that was conducted out of the public eye. In fact, the evidence suggests that Obama had ordered, authorized and known several such operations.

In 2015, for instance, *The Guardian* [reported](#) that as Obama was publicly vowing to sign a new law to prohibit the National Security Agency from collecting the phone records of millions of Americans, behind the scenes the then-president’s lawyers were asking “a secret surveillance court to ignore a federal court that” had found that the administration’s former surveillance operations were illegal.

Now flash-back to 2013, when then-CIA employee and contractor Edward Snowden went rogue and revealed publicly that the NSA was operating numerous global surveillance programs.

Though Obama claimed at the time that “I welcome this debate” on surveillance, behind the scenes “his administration was hunting down the whistleblower who started it and preparing to hit him with 30 years of Espionage Act charges,” according to the [Cato Institute](#).

It was that around this same time that it was learned that the Obama administration had sought to spy on then-Fox News’ Washington, D.C. correspondent, James Rosen.

Speaking on Fox News four years later about his ordeal, Rosen revealed that the Obama administration had designated him a “criminal co-conspirator and a flight risk” because of both Obama then-Attorney General Eric Holder’s concerns about his reports on North Korea.

“What happened to me was that the attorney general, Eric Holder, under Barack Obama as president, secretly designated me a criminal co-conspirator and a flight risk and thereby had a federal judge give the government permission to rifle through all my emails,” he said.

“They could read the emails. And then also to get all the phone records associated with it. About 20 phones that I used at the time in my reporting. All of those phone lines were 202 or 703, which are the area codes associated with Washington and the Pentagon, Northern Virginia area. One of those 20 phone lines was 718, and that referred to my parents’ house on Staten Island at that time.”

Listen to him below:

According to the Washington Free Beacon, the Obama administration had pursued Rosen because it'd disliked his in-depth reporting about the administration's North Korea policies:

“The administration had designated Rosen a ‘criminal co-conspirator and a flight risk’ ... because of stories he published on North Korea that contained sensitive information. Rosen recounted how both Obama and Holder were upset with his reporting after the fact.”

The administration also reportedly spied on the Associated Press.

And according to Attkisson, she too was once spied upon: “When I was doing a lot of coverage of the Obama administration that they didn't like and were trying to stop, a [government] source approached me and told me I was likely being surveilled,” she revealed two years ago.

She then hired computer specialists to examine her computer.

“There have now been four forensic exams that have confirmed there was software proprietary to a federal government agency in my computer,” she explained, adding that she'd filed a federal lawsuit to find out exactly who in the administration had spied on her. “We just want them to tell us who had control and access of the government-owned IP address that's been found forensically in my computer.”

Given this shady history, the idea that Obama may have purposefully spied on Trump's campaign doesn't seem unreasonable or conspiratorial, as the media would have you believe.

As for Lewis's claim — the one touted by Jarrett — that Obama never personally involved himself in any of his administration's disputable spying, that seems like nothing but “hooy,” as Obama would say.