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# The Arena

## Will Obama wither on Libya?

David Boaz - 10/22/2012

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At this debate, even more than the others, we will miss Gov. Gary Johnson, the Libertarian candidate. In his absence, neither candidate will challenge our current policy of global interventionism and a welfare-warfare state.

Both Obama and Romney want to continue America's longest war - in Afghanistan - for years to come. Both support maintaining the world's largest "embassy" - with 15,000 employees - in Iraq. Both think it's worth threatening war to prevent Iran from getting a nuclear weapon. Both believe - in defiance of the Constitution and its authors - that the president can launch wars without the authorization of Congress.

President Bush declared that the president can arrest and incarcerate an American citizen on American soil without access to a lawyer or a judge, and President Obama added that he has the power to assassinate American citizens - on the basis of a secret legal memo that he won't release; and Romney hasn't challenged any of these unprecedented claims of presidential power.

Tonight, the presidential candidates will debate before the American people a range of foreign policy ideas running from A to B.