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On Donald Trump and the rule of law, cont'd

David Post

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According to a story in the New York Times that just appeared, Trump has said that he actually hopes the Russian government *has* hacked into Hillary Clinton's private email server.

"Russia, if you're listening, I hope you're able to find the 30,000 emails that are missing," Mr. Trump said, staring directly into the cameras. "I think you will probably be rewarded mightily by our press."

Surely this is the first time a major presidential candidate has actively encouraged a foreign power to conduct espionage against a political opponent who had been a high-ranking official of the U.S. government.

I know we're supposed to ignore all the crazy ramblings that this guy comes up with, but really . . . is there anything he can say that is beyond the pale? First a nasty and racially tinged attack on a sitting federal judge hearing a case in which he (Trump) is involved, then the appalling comments that Clinton is "guilty as hell" and "has to go to jail" (for crimes for which she has not even been charged, let alone tried and convicted or received any of that messy "due process" stuff), and now this. Even if this were meant as a joke, what kind of lunatic would say something like this? Encouraging unlawful activity by a foreign government against a former government official — and not just any foreign government, but one that is suspected of having recently directed the cyberattack against the Democratic National Committee's email servers?

Is it really too late for the Republicans to find someone else for this job? WHERE ARE THE SENSIBLE, SERIOUS, LEVEL-HEADED, REASONABLE REPUBLICANS, AND WHEN ARE THEY GOING TO STAND UP AND SAY "ENOUGH IS ENOUGH"? Ronald Reagan — not to mention Dwight Eisenhower, Theodore Roosevelt, Abraham Lincoln and every great Republican leader this country has ever had — are turning over in their graves.

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