Have We Ever Had A President Like This Before?

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I&I Editorial

Some believe that Woodrow Wilson's wife Edith ran the federal executive branch after the president had a stroke in October 1919. Even the Obama White House said she "functionally" was in charge of the administration "for the remainder of Wilson's second term." At least Wilson started his presidency in a sentient state. Not sure the same can be said of Joe Biden.

It's clear that the 46th president of the United States is impaired. He has yet to face the media, waiting longer to hold his first press conference than any president in the <u>last 100 years</u>.

Biden's team has finally scheduled a news conference, announcing Tuesday he'd be up for it on – March 25. Why the long run-up? Will it take his handlers that long to ensure that he doesn't have a blowout while talking to the press? There's a transparency problem, as Trump press secretary Kayleigh McEnany has pointed out. Biden aides are doing nothing to inspire the country's confidence in the man.

But then again, there's not much to be confident about. Some recent evidence of note:

- "Bubble Biden clearly not up for tough questions or the job," says the New York Post headline of Michael Goodwin's March 16 column. Goodwin reminds readers that after "Biden's lone interview since taking office," the White House was forced to clean up his comments about Donald Trump receiving intelligence briefings, the \$15 minimum wage campaign, and Iran's nuclear program.
- In late February, Biden famously rambled on about losing track of his thoughts and wondering where he was.
- On Tuesday he claimed he'd arranged an \$800 billion aid package for Central American countries in 2014 (actual amount was around \$750 million). And on Thursday, Biden referred to "President Harris."
- Earlier this month, the bumbling president called Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin "the guy who runs that outfit."
- Biden ended his session at the House Democrats 2021 Issues Conference saying "I'm happy to take questions if that's what you want me to do," at which point he was given the modern-day version of the Vaudeville hook to, obviously, prevent him from making yet another public spectacle of himself.
- Former White House stenographer Mike McCormick, who spent six years at "Biden's side as he met with world leaders, delivered speeches and interacted with members of the news media," told one-time Trump aide Steve Bannon in January that he estimated the president's cognitive abilities have fallen by half in recent years.

• McCormick told the Washington Free Beacon last September that the Democratic candidate is "<u>not the same Joe Biden</u>," and that "he's lost a step and he doesn't seem to have the same mental acuity as he did four years ago."

Given how evident Biden's troubles are, we have to wonder, almost two months into his presidency, why aren't the left-wing networks bringing mental health professionals to analyze Biden and declare him erratic, dangerous, and unfit, to scare the country, as they did Donald Trump?

Actually, we don't wonder. We know: As Bob Dylan and Jacques Levy wrote in "Hurricane," the media "all went along for the ride."

Earlier in our history, with no television, no internet, it would have been easy to cover up a president's deficiencies. But not today. Biden's fading faculties are obvious, even as his aides try to hide them by limiting his exposure.

So who is running things at the White House? Is First Lady Jill Biden playing the role of Edith Wilson? After all, she has often been at her husband's side when the cameras have been on, sometimes helping him with his comments and responses. But she wasn't on the ballot. Voters didn't choose her.

No matter who is in charge, if it isn't Biden, then his presidency is a fraud. To answer our own question, we're convinced that we've never had a president like this before, possibly dishonestly elected, and certainly insufficient in his abilities. We're embarrassed for our country.

— Written by the <u>I&I Editorial Board</u>