

"Drill, Barack, Drill" – An American Fairy Tale

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Once upon a time in a land faraway known as Washington DC, President Obama found an old lantern stashed away in secret hiding spot in the White House basement. It had been left behind after the White House was burned down by the English in the War of 1812. Curiously he picked up the magic lantern and rubbed the ornate copper bottom to read its inscription.



Much to his surprise an English Fop looking genie jumped out of the top and said in very thick English accent "Cheerio Barack, I have been waiting a long time for this opportunity to meet the new US President. Each one of them eventually searched for me as previous Presidents passed along the spot of my secret hiding place".

The Genie continued: "It took you over three years to find me but I have been busy in the basement and have already granted you two of your three wishes I gave each of your previous Presidents."

President Obama surprised and asked "But what were those first two wishes you granted me?"

The genie responded 'Your first wish was for the US State Department to continue the permitting process for the Keystone XL pipeline so you would not have to make that decision until after the November Presidential election".

President Obama reluctantly agreed he had made that first wish. Still puzzled, but not ready to give up, he asked the Genie "Then what was my second wish?" The genie said "Now think hard about it. Did you not ask the Israeli Prime Minister "Bibi" Netanyahu to wait until after this year to attack the Iranian nuclear installations to help your re-election?"

President Obama grunted but once again agreed. "OK that was my second wish but don't I have a still have a third wish?" The genie responded: "Be careful since I will only grant wishes others will have to perform for you. Remember after all I have been in Washington D.C. for 200 years and know how things work in this land of politicians."

President Obama said: "Well, I made the first two wishes because I want to be re-elected President for a second term. My third wish has to do with that evil Newt Gingrich going around the country promising people \$2.50 per gallon gasoline."

The genie chuckled and said: "That's an easy one but are you sure since I cannot change it once you tell me it is your final wish? Think it over very carefully." President Obama paused for a few minutes, sighed and finally said: "I want the price of gasoline to go below \$2 per gallon before the election this year. It is my final wish and I know it will get me re-elected".

The genie pulled out his magic wand and after waving it around the dusty basement a few times intoned: "Drill, Barack, Drill!"

About the author: Bob van der Valk lives in Terry, Montana and is a petroleum industry analyst. He reports on fuel-related trends and events. You can reach him by e-mail: tridemoil@aol.com or on the Internet at: <http://www.4vqp.com/ourconsultants/thegasguy.html> .