

# Marines at Biden's Anti-MAGA Speech

## Politicize Military

By Patrick Houck

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You might have a problem when CNN's Brianna Keilar and a prominent Democratic Party official — and Iraq War vet — call out President Joe Biden for needlessly politicizing the military in last week's primetime address denouncing the vast majority of Republicans.

Presidents in both parties have used troops and military hardware as a backdrop for speeches, and yet, Biden's address in front of Independence Hall crossed the Rubicon. Standing alongside the commander-in-chief were two U.S. Marines, adorned in their dress blues and bathed in an ominous red light.

The White House argues that the Marines' presence was intended as a sign of respect. However, the United States Armed Forces has long sought to discourage the politicization of the military by elected officials and promote the idea that they are an apolitical organization committed to defending all Americans.

Nevertheless, Biden's team deliberately chose to have Marines on both sides of his podium, sending a signal to tens of millions of Americans who the president called out for either directly threatening the "very foundations of our republic" or implicitly condoning such activity by virtue of their political views.

CNN has more on the controversy:

*"We need to make sure that our military is as removed from politics as possible and it's not right if a Democrat uses the military as a political pawn and it's not right if the Republican Party does it as well. None of our politicians or elected leaders should do that," Allison Jaslow, a former executive director of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, told CNN's Brianna Keilar on "New Day."*

*Biden on Thursday warned that former President **Donald Trump** and his Republican followers represent “an extremism that threatens the very foundations of our Republic” and that their attempts to undermine democracy could devolve into violence. Biden called on his audience to vote in November, backed by traditionally apolitical symbols like the United States Marine Band and two Marines positioned where they were seen on camera throughout the speech.*

*White House officials pushed back on criticism that the President’s speech was political, telling CNN’s Jeff Zeleny that “democracy is not a partisan or political issue.”*

*Jaslow, however, said “it’s very clear that a political message was being elevated through this event.”*

While he agreed with the president’s message, Jaslow argued that having the Marines as “window dressing” was unacceptable, adding “If you don’t want the so-called MAGA Republicans or any Republicans to be politicizing the military, of which many administrations have done, then you shouldn’t do it yourself.”

*The opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the positions of **American Liberty News**.*