

Rock Creek Free Press

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.



America Inaugurates First Black President

By MICHAEL SAUL / DAILY NEWS Barack Obama will take the oath of office using the same Bible that Abraham Lincoln was sworn in on at his first inauguration, marking the President-elect’s latest symbolic gesture to follow in the foot steps of the nation’s 16th president. Obama, who will become the first African-American president when he is sworn in January 20, will be the first president to use the Lincoln Bible since its initial use in 1861. “President-elect Obama is deeply honored that the Library of Congress has made the Lincoln Bible available for use during his

swearing-in,” Emmett Beliveau, executive director of the presidential inaugural committee, said in a statement. Obama launched his presidential campaign in February 2007 at the Historic Old State Capitol building in Springfield, Illinois, where Lincoln gave a famous speech condemning slavery. During the speech, Obama said that “divided we are bound to fail. But the life of a tall, gangly, self-made Springfield lawyer tells us that a different future is possible. He tells us that there is power in words. He tells us that there is power in conviction, that beneath all

the differences of race and religion, faith and station, we are one people.” The theme for Obama’s inaugural ceremony; “A New Birth of Freedom” is taken from Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address. Earlier this year, when asked which book, aside from *The Bible*, he would find essential in the Oval Office, Obama said, *Team of Rivals*, Doris Kearns Goodwin’s 2005 bestseller about how Lincoln surrounded himself with advisers who coveted the president’s job. For the inauguration, Obama plans to take a train trip from Philadelphia to Washington, evoking Lincoln’s inaugural trek.

The Eternal Struggle What Happened on the Way to the Inauguration?

By TIMOTHY G. HERMACH / COUNTERPUNCH The transition to a new administration held the promise of a change in leadership and direction for our foundering economy and deeply stupefied and polarized population. Running on a platform of hope and change, Barack Obama promised a new direction for America. Now, the change we were counting on seems a remote possibility at best, and at worst, a nasty deception that was foisted on a public starved for a chance to create the lives we as Americans have been led to believe were available to us. President-elect Obama has chosen a cabinet, most from President Clinton’s right-of-center team. Many of these Clinton retreads have even drifted farther into the pockets of Wall Street since their time in the White House. He has traded former Chevron board member Condi Rice for current Chevron Board member Jim Jones. He has chosen financial sector power player and former Clinton staffer Rahm

Emmanuel as his chief of staff. His pick to head the Department of the Interior is a big oil and coal proponent and his Agriculture pick is a supporter of GMO’s and the fantasy of corn ethanol. This is not change; this is the status quo on steroids. During the campaign, the dogmatic Democrats and the liberal folks hoping and praying for change continually espoused the line “we have to get him elected, then we will hold his feet to the fire.” A huge groundswell of folk put their hearts and souls into what became a unique and unstoppable campaign. Unprecedented fundraising and internet organizing combined with the collapse of the economy carried Barack Obama to victory in an electoral landslide. Now Obama’s blueprint is coming into focus and all those who were so sure that change was at hand should be screaming bloody murder. “I see in the near future a crisis approaching that unnerves me and causes me to tremble for see STRUGGLE p.2

The Difficulty of Being an Informed American

By PAUL CRAIG ROBERTS The American print and TV media has never been very good. These days it is horrible. If a person intends to be informed, he must turn to foreign news broadcasts, to Internet sites, to foreign newspapers available on the Internet, or to alternative newspapers that are springing up in various cities. A person who sits in front of Murdoch’s Fox “News” or CNN or who reads *The New York Times* is simply being brainwashed with propaganda. Before conservatives nod their heads in agreement, I’m not referring to “the liberal media.” I mean the propaganda that issues

from the US government and the Israel Lobby. It was neoconservative Bush regime propaganda fed to America through Judith Miller and *The New York Times* and through Murdoch’s Fox “News” that convinced Americans that they were in danger from a small secular Arab country half way around the globe called Iraq. It was the American media that convinced Americans that getting rid of dangerous “weapons of mass destruction,” weapons that did not exist in Iraq, would be a cakewalk paid for by Iraqi oil revenues. It is the same propagandistic American print and TV media that has rationalized Bush’s illegal invasion of Iraq and Afghanistan based on seven years of lies and deception. It is the same media that today provides only Israeli propaganda as “coverage” of the Israeli war crimes in Gaza.

It was *The New York Times* that spiked for one year, the leaked information from the National Security Agency that the Bush regime, in violation of US law, was illegally spying on Americans without warrants. The “*liberal*” *New York Times* agreed to suppress the story so that Bush would not face reelection under the cloud of his outlaw behavior. Conservatives think *The Washington Post* is “*liberal media*” despite the fact that the editorial and commentary pages are controlled by neocons and their sympathizers. During the run-up to wars and during wars, the American media has always been a propagandist for the government. The only exceptions occurred during the Vietnam war and the Contra-Sandinista conflict in Central America. Karen de Young and some others tried to honestly cover the Contras and Sandinistas and were demonized by “*patriots*” taken in by the see PROPAGANDA p.2

The Wall Street Ponzi Scheme Called Fractional Reserve Banking

By ELLEN BROWN Bernie Madoff showed us how it was done: you induce many investors to invest their money, promising steady above-market returns; and you deliver – at least on paper. When your clients check their accounts, they see that their investments have indeed increased by the promised amount. Anyone who opts to pull out of the game is paid promptly and in full. You can afford to pay because most players stay in, and new players are constantly coming in to replace those who drop out. The players who drop out are simply paid with the money

coming in from new recruits. The scheme works until the market turns and many players want their money back at once. Then it’s game over: you have to admit that you don’t have the funds, and you are probably looking at jail time. A Ponzi scheme is a form of pyramid scheme in which earlier investors are paid with the money of later investors rather than from real profits. The perpetuation of the scheme requires an ever-increasing flow of money from investors in order to keep it going. Charles Ponzi was an engaging Boston ex-convict who defrauded investors out of \$6 million in the

1920s by promising them a 400 percent return on redeemed postal reply coupons. When he finally could not pay, the scam earned him ten years in jail; and Bernie Madoff is likely to wind up there as well. Most people are not involved in illegal Ponzi schemes, but we do keep our money in accounts that are tallied on computer screens rather than in stacks of coins or paper bills. How do we know that when we demand our money from our bank or broker that the funds will be there? The fact that banks are subject to “runs” (recall Northern Rock, Indymac see PONZI p.7

Republican IT Expert Dies in Suspicious Plane Crash

RAWSTORY — A top level Republican Information Technology consultant who was set to testify in a case alleging GOP election tampering in Ohio died in a plane crash late Friday, December 19, 2008. Michael Connell, founder of Ohio-based New Media Communications, which created campaign Web sites for George W. Bush and John McCain, died instantly after his single-prop, private aircraft smashed into a vacant home in suburban Lake Township, Ohio. “The plane was attempting to land around 6pm Friday at Akron-Canton Airport when it

crashed about three miles short of the runway,” reports the *Akron Beacon Journal*. Connell’s exploits as a top GOP IT ‘guru’ have been well documented by RAW STORY’s investigative team. The interest in Mike Connell stems from his association with a firm called GovTech, which he had spun off from his own New Media Communications under his wife Heather Connell’s name. GovTech was hired by Ohio Secretary of State Kenneth Blackwell to set up an official election website at election.sos.state.oh.us to present the 2004

presidential returns as they came in. Connell is a long-time GOP operative, whose New Media Communications provided web services for the Bush-Cheney 04 Campaign, the US Chamber of Commerce, the Republican National Committee and many Republican candidates. This in itself might have raised questions about his involvement in creating Ohio’s official state election website. However, the alternative media group ePlubibus Media further discovered in November 2006 that election.sos.state.oh.us see CONNELL p.8

Top Scientists Ask Journal Science To Retract Original AIDS Papers

By SHEILA CASEY / RCFP Thirty-seven doctors, senior researchers and attorneys have asked the journal *Science* to retract four articles published in 1984 that supposedly established that HIV was the cause of AIDS. The articles, by a group led by Dr. Robert Gallo, have drawn criticism for some time. An investigation in the early 90s by the US Department of Health and Human Services concluded that the lead paper was “fraught with false and erroneous statements.”

A Congressional Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations produced a staff report on the papers which contains scathing criticisms of their integrity. Now, new analysis of the documentation behind the papers has revealed even more reason to doubt Gallo’s findings. The letter refers to “recent revelation of an astonishing number of previously unreported deletions and unjustified alterations made by Gallo...” Dr. Mikulas Popovic wrote the manuscripts

while Gallo was in Europe, but Gallo made handwritten changes to the manuscripts upon his return. Popovic wrote: “Despite intensive research efforts, the causative agent of AIDS has not yet been identified.” This sentence was deleted and replaced by a statement that the findings suggest that HIV is the cause of AIDS. Gallo submitted micrographs to *Science* that were identified as containing the HIV virus. But just four days before he submitted see AIDS p.2

US Military NORTHCOM Prepares for Domestic Economic Unrest

By DIANA WASHINGTON VALDEZ / EL PASO TIMES A US Army War College report warns that an economic crisis in the United States could lead to massive civil unrest and the need to call on the military to restore order. Retired Army Lt. Col. Nathan Freir wrote the report “Known Unknowns: Unconventional Strategic Shocks in Defense Strategy Development,” which the Army think tank in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, recently released. “Widespread civil violence inside the United States would force the defense establishment to reorient priorities ... to defend basic domestic order and human security,” the report said,

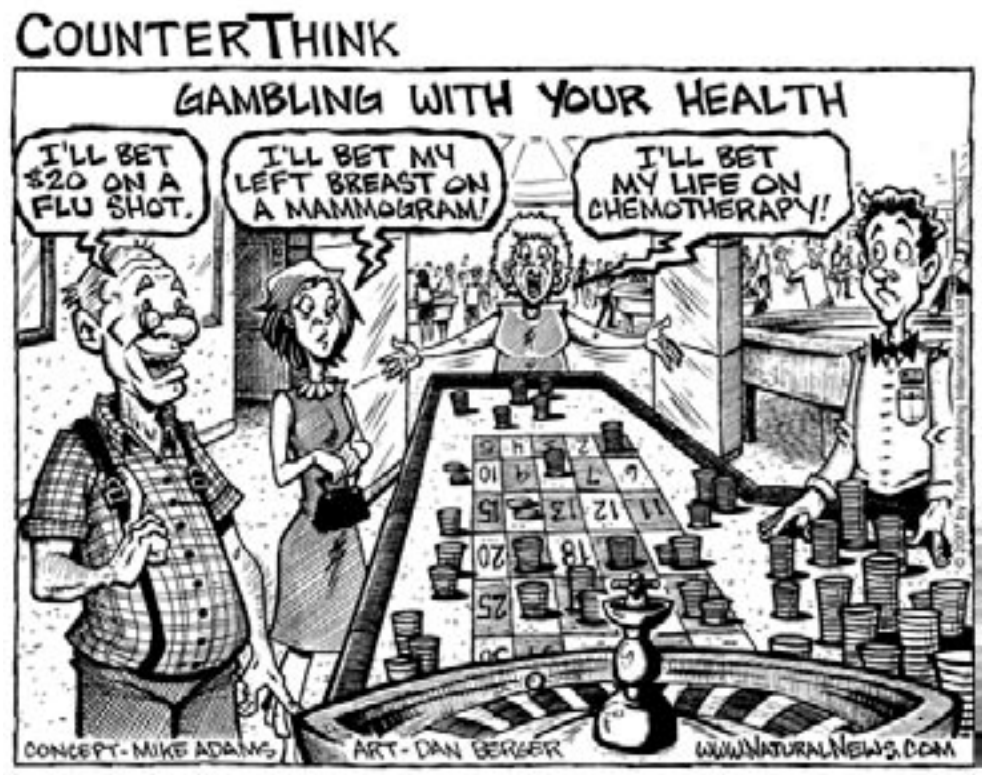
in case of “unforeseen economic collapse,” “pervasive public health emergencies,” and “catastrophic natural and human disasters,” among other possible crises. The report also suggests the new [Barack Obama] administration could face a “strategic shock” within the first eight months in office. Fort Bliss spokeswoman Jean Offutt said the Army post is not involved in any recent talks about a potential military response to civil unrest. The report become a hot Internet item after Phoenix police told the *Phoenix Business Journal* that they’re prepared to deal with such

an event, and the International Monetary Fund’s managing director, Dominique Strauss-Khan, said social unrest could spread to advanced countries if the global economic crisis worsens. Javier Sambrano, spokesman for the El Paso Police Department, said city police have trained for years so they can address any contingency, but not with the military. “The police (department) trains on an ongoing basis as part of its Mobile Field Force Training,” Sambrano said. “As a result, the police will be able to respond to emergency situations, such as looting or a big civil unrest. see NORTHCOM p.5

Rock Creek Free Press
5512 Huntington Parkway
Bethesda, MD 20814

\$20/yr to subscribe. Visit our web site:
RockCreekFreePress.com
or send payment to address above.

Subscribe to
The Creek



Hormone Replacement Therapy Doubles Risk of Breast Cancer

Women warned to stop taking HRT drugs

By MIKE ADAMS / NATURALNEWS
Drug companies can no longer deny the science: Breast cancer risk is doubled for women who take conventional Hormone Replacement Therapy (HRT) drugs.

That's the conclusion of a new study conducted at Georgetown University's Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center. There, researchers discovered that even though HRT drugs double a woman's risk of breast cancer, that risk drops rapidly once she stops using the HRT drugs.

Notably, these increased cancer risk findings only apply to synthetic HRT drugs produced by Big Pharma. They do not apply to bio-identical hormones offered by compounding pharmacies and naturopathic physicians.

But bio-identical hormones are under assault by the FDA, which recently tried to outlaw them by threatening compounding pharmacies that were selling them as an alternative to conventional HRT drugs. Care to guess who was behind the FDA's effort to crush the alternative hormones market? Wyeth, of course: The maker of Prempro, the conventional HRT drug. Wyeth petitioned the FDA to go after bio-identical hormones, and the FDA quickly obliged.

But it gets even more interesting: Wyeth was also recently caught directing the ghostwriting of medical journal articles even while refusing to disclose its own role in creating those articles. An investigation by Charles Grassley's (R-IA) office revealed damning documentation showing the drug company was engaged in highly unethical and deceptive practices regarding medical journal articles. Can you guess what drug those ghost-written medical journal articles were promoting? Prempro, of course, the HRT drug.

THE HRT CONSPIRACY UNVEILED
So let's put the pieces of this puzzle together. We have a drug company, Wyeth, that sells a synthetic HRT drug known to double the risk of breast cancer. But instead of pulling the drug off the market, Wyeth files a petition with the FDA to eliminate the competition (bio-identical hormones).

At the same time, Wyeth organizes a campaign of ghost-written articles to be submitted to medical journals, touting the many benefits of HRT drugs and ignoring the 2002 research showing them to be correlated with higher risks of breast cancer. To deceive the scientific community, Wyeth purposely withholds any information about its own role in those papers, making readers believe they were authored by independent academics.

Are you starting to get the picture here?
My question is simple: How many women have died of breast cancer because of the actions of Wyeth? How many more women will

suffer the ravages of chemotherapy or radiation therapy as a result of a disease that may have been accelerated by Big Pharma's HRT drugs? And how long will this nation continue to tolerate the fraud of Big Pharma before cracking down on the corruption and crime taking place in this industry right now?

Women should be up in arms over this. They were lied to by yet another drug company, and the very government agency that was supposed to protect them (the FDA) sold them out and actually took aggressive action to eliminate natural alternatives, thereby contributing to the needless deaths of women from breast cancer.

These are not innocent administrative mistakes, folks: In my opinion, these are well-planned conspiracies between Big Pharma and the FDA that seek to maximize corporate profits at the expense of human lives. These are crimes against women, committed by some of the most powerful and insidious white-collar criminals this world has ever seen. And unlike Wall Street criminals who may cost you your savings, these Big Pharma / FDA criminals engage in actions that may cost you your life!

Why does the FDA continue to allow these HRT drugs to be sold if they double the risk of cancer? Can you imagine the outcry if a nutritional supplement were found to double the risk of cancer? It would be immediately banned, and the FDA would announce how it was outlawing the herb in order to "protect consumers." But when it's a drug that doubles cancer risk, the FDA does nothing.

Why do medical criminals go free while Wall Street criminals go to jail? Why has Big Pharma been allowed to operate with such deceptions for so long?

Because it makes so much easy money, that's why. The drug companies have proven again and again that ethics will never stand in the way of profits.

NaturalNews is once again warning women to get off all synthetic HRT drugs. Always do so under the supervision of a naturopathic physician, of course, and if necessary, consider bio-identical hormones as a replacement. Do not subject yourself to the increased cancer risk of conventional HRT drugs. If you do, you may literally pay for it with your life.

Mike Adams is an author, investigative journalist and educator. He is the founder of the website Health Ranger (www.healthranger.org) which strives to educate people on how to achieve and maintain peak human health. He founded NaturalNews.com, an online news source covering all areas of personal and planetary wellness from nutrition to renewable energy. He's written thousands of articles and a book chronicling his pursuit of peak health, Grocery Warning.



The Reflecting Pool

www.reflectingpoolfilm.com

Add the first narrative film to your 9/11 documentary collection!

Single DVD - \$15
5-Pack - \$67.50
10-Pack - \$110
plus shipping & handling

Subscribe to
The Creek

Get Home Delivery
Just \$20/year

Subscribe online at:
www.RockCreekFreePress.com
-or-
Send your name and address to:

Rock Creek Free Press
5512 Huntington Parkway
Bethesda, MD 20814

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, ST ZIP: _____

Mercury Dental Fillings Are Toxic After All

Despite past denials, FDA now admits dental amalgams have neurotoxic effects

By DAVID GUTIERREZ / NATURAL NEWS

For the first time, the FDA has issued a warning that the mercury contained in silver dental fillings may pose neurological risks to children and pregnant women.

"Dental amalgams contain mercury, which may have neurotoxic effects on the nervous systems of developing children and fetuses," reads a statement that has been added to the agency's website. "Pregnant women and persons who may have a health condition that makes them more sensitive to mercury exposure, including individuals with existing high levels of mercury bioburden, should not avoid seeking dental care, but should discuss options with their health practitioner."

The warning was one of the conditions that the FDA agreed to in settling a lawsuit filed by several consumer health groups.

"Gone, gone, gone are all of FDA's claims that no science exists that amalgam is unsafe," said Charles Brown, a lawyer for Consumers for Dental Choice, one of the plaintiffs.

"It's a watershed moment," said Michael Bender of the Mercury Policy Project, another plaintiff.

Mercury is a well-known neurotoxin that can cause cognitive and developmental problems, especially in fetuses and children. It can also cause brain and kidney damage in adults.

So-called dental amalgams, or fillings made with a mix of mercury and other metals, have been used since the 1800s. Although it is known that small amounts of mercury are vaporized (and can be inhaled) when the fillings are used to chew food, and though Canada, France and Sweden have all placed restrictions on the use of mercury fillings, the FDA has always insisted that amalgams are safe.

Dental amalgams are considered medical devices, regulated by the FDA.

Even the FDA's new warning stops short of admitting that dental amalgams are dangerous for the general population. Instead, it focuses on the same population that has already

been warned to limit mercury exposure by consuming less seafood: children and pregnant women. The FDA says it does not recommend that those who already have mercury fillings get them removed.

Millions of people have received amalgam fillings, although their popularity has dropped off in recent years. Currently, only 30 percent of dental fillings contain mercury - the rest are tooth-colored resin composites made from glass, cement and porcelain. These alternative fillings are more expensive and less durable than amalgam, however.

In 2002, the FDA began a regulatory review of amalgam that was expected to be complete within a few years. In 2006, with the review still incomplete, an independent FDA advisory panel of doctors and dentists rejected the agency's position that there is no reason for concern about the use of amalgam. While the panel agreed that the majority of people receiving such fillings would not be harmed, panel members expressed concern for the health of certain sensitive populations, including children under the age of six.

The panel recommended that the FDA

conduct further studies on the risks to children from dental amalgam, and that it consider a policy of informed consent for children and pregnant women: that is, warning them of the risks associated with the fillings before installing them.

Part of the lawsuit centered on the FDA's failure to respond to these recommendations in a timely fashion.

"This is your classic failure to act," federal judge Ellen Segal Huvelle told the agency.

As part of the lawsuit settlement, the FDA must reach a final decision on the regulation of amalgam by July 28, 2009.

"This court settlement signals the death knell for mercury fillings," Brown predicted.

But J.P. Morgan Securities analyst Ipsita Smolinski disagreed, saying that the FDA is unlikely to ban amalgam entirely

"We do believe that the agency will ask for the label to indicate that mercury is an ingredient in the filling, and that special populations should be exempt from such fillings, such as: nursing women, pregnant women, young children, and immunocompromised individuals," Smolinski said.

Top Scientists Ask Journal Science To Retract Original AIDS Papers

AIDS from p.1

them, Dr. Matthew A. Gonda, then head of the Electron Microscopy Laboratory at the National Cancer Institute, wrote a letter to Gallo and Popovic stating that he "does not believe" that the micrographs contain images of HIV. The micrographs were published in *Science* on May 4, 1984 and identified as containing HIV.

These developments add to the mounting

body of evidence that the original conclusion that HIV causes AIDS is deeply flawed.

Thus far there has been no response from *Science* regarding the request for retraction.

Sheila Casey is a DC-based journalist. Her work has appeared in The Denver Post, Reuters, Chicago Sun-Times, Dissident Voice, Common Dreams and the Rock Creek Free Press. She blogs at SheilaCasey.com

What Happened on the Way to the Inauguration?

STRUGGLE from p.1

the safety of my country... Corporations have been enthroned, an era of corruption in high places will follow, and the money-power of the country will endeavor to prolong its reign by working upon the prejudices of the people until the wealth is aggregated in a few hands and the Republic is destroyed." This quote by Abraham Lincoln provides an insight into what has happened to our country. The moneyed interests that have extracted most of the wealth from the middle class and fomented a divisive and polarized condition in our society have used their ad agencies, corporate media and wealth to create an illusion of change while keeping the same players in power. When it came time to hold the president-elect's feet to the fire, it was done, but not by the forward looking folks who put this man in office, but rather by the ruling class who control all things political, who handed him his cabinet picks. Industry and big business are cheering "his" choices.

Obama has backed off his promise to implement a windfall profits tax on big oil. He has decided not to eliminate the tax breaks for the richest among us. He has decided not to leave Iraq on the schedule he promised. He has supported what has now become an \$8.5 trillion dollar give-away to the same people responsible for crashing the largest and most productive economy on Earth. He is talking

about a massive expansion of the already bloated military.

If you're wondering what happened, look no farther than the talking points used by the conservative pundits during the election process. They said Obama had the most liberal record in the Senate. They said he would bring socialism to America. They created a climate of fear in their base about what would happen to our country if this "Socialist" were elected. They had us believing we were truly looking at a change.

A close look at his policy proposals showed that his positions on the issues were not "far left" as stated. The recurring dialog of the faithful said that when he was elected he would swing gently left and bring real change to our nation. It now appears that the swing was hard to the right and the folks who counted on being heard during this transition will be looking for real change for at least another four years.

Again, Abraham Lincoln: "It is the eternal struggle between two principles, right and wrong. Throughout the world it is the same spirit that says you toil and work and earn bread and I'll eat it." Today, the corporations and their minions in Washington are eating your bread.

While it is still possible that Mr. Obama will somehow lead the powerful cabinet personalities he has selected and create an

Obama administration that will do good for our country, with each pick of an entrenched Washington insider, that outcome becomes less likely. If he does not do this, how can our nation survive? Quoting Lincoln again, "This country, with its institutions, belongs to the people who inhabit it. Whenever they shall grow weary of the existing government, they can exercise their constitutional right of amending it, or exercise their revolutionary right to overthrow it." The last election was an exercise of our constitutional right to amend the government. It does not appear that we were diligent enough in vetting the choices and it now appears who we chose will not manifest the change we were so desperately seeking.

Mr. Obama seems to have decided not to value and regard nature as anything but a savings account to be liquidated or a grocery store to be plundered. All for the benefit of those entrenched powers that are the masters of Wall Street. How much more of this can our nation take? If the incoming administration continues, the failed environmental, economic, social, military, and foreign policies we have endured for decades, it may be time to look at Mr. Lincoln's second option and start over.

Timothy G. Hermach is director of the Native Forest Council in Eugene, Oregon. He can be reached at: zerocut1@forestcouncil.org

The Difficulty Of Being An Informed American

PROPAGANDA from p.1

government's lies.

Conservatives still blame the "liberal" media for losing the Vietnam War, when in fact all the media did was to provide some truthful reports that opened some American eyes.

When the truth cuts against the position of the US government, conservatives see it as "liberal."

When propaganda supports the government's lies, conservatives see it as "patriotic."

However, any resemblance to independent reporting disappeared from the American media when the Democratic regime of President Clinton allowed Murdoch and a small handful of moguls to concentrate the American media in a few corporate hands. That was the end of American reporting.

Journalists disappeared from media management and were replaced by corporate advertising executives with an eye not to offend any source of advertising revenue, and certainly not to offend the government, which controls the broadcast licenses that comprise the value of the mega-companies. Today reporters write the stories that their masters want to hear, or they are out. The function of editors is to make certain that no uncomfortable information reaches the public.

The public is slowly catching on, and the print media is slowly dying. *The New York Times*, *Chicago Tribune*, and *Los Angeles Times* are all on the ropes to one extent or the other.

Americans are still subjected to Fox "News" and CNN propaganda piped into airport waiting rooms, doctors' offices, and exercise centers. It is very much the situation that George Orwell describes in *1984*.

People ask me where they can get reliable information. I tell them that their goal cannot be reached without their commitment of time.

People who have access to television services that provide English language foreign broadcasts, such as Iran's *Press TV*, *Russia Today*, or *Al Jazeera*, can get news and insights from those parts of the world demonized by the US media.

The *BBC World Service* still reports facts while covering itself by providing the views of the US, UK, and Israeli governments.

Both the *Asia Times* and Israeli newspapers, such as *Haaretz* can be read online in English. There are other such newspapers, and all of them provide information that Americans will never see in their own media. Any American newspaper that was as truthful about the Israeli government as *Haaretz* would be closed down.

The only US print media with which I am familiar in which some honest reporting can be found on a regular basis is the *McClatchy Papers*.

Americans addicted to print media must turn to alternative newspapers, which tend to be weekly or bi-weekly. However, the news

and commentary provided are often superb.

I have made no study of alternative newspapers and know very few. The *Rock Creek Free Press* is terrific. After reading one issue, you will waste no more time on the "mainstream media." The *Rock Creek Free Press* is likely to rescue even the dullest mind from its brainwashed state.

Other alternative newspapers, such as *The LibertyVoice* lift your spirit as well as inform.

Alternative newspapers are often the children of people motivated by a sense of justice and the love of truth. Such people have become an endangered species in the American "mainstream media." The free press Americans have today is online and in the alternative media.

The function of the "mainstream media" is to sell products and to brainwash the audience for the government and interest groups. By subscribing to it, Americans support their own brainwashing.

Paul Craig Roberts was Assistant Secretary of the Treasury during President Reagan's first term. He was Associate Editor of The Wall Street Journal. He has held numerous academic appointments, including the William E. Simon Chair, Center for Strategic and International Studies, Georgetown University, and Senior Research Fellow, Hoover Institution, Stanford University. He is the co-author with Lawrence M. Stratton of The Tyranny of Good Intentions : How Prosecutors and Bureaucrats Are Trampling the Constitution in the Name of Justice.

Rock Creek Free Press

A FIERCELY INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Memo to Obama: National Health Insurance is the Only Solution

By JOHN GEYMAN, MD
First off, congratulations to you and your party on your sweeping election results!

Together with a sizable majority of Americans, I am again hopeful for the future of our country. My special concern, however, is for our failing health care system and how it is pricing health care beyond the reach of ordinary Americans. Our system has come to the point where none of the many incremental reforms will work. The business model of insurance has failed, and we need to rebuild the system on a social insurance model.

Let me be direct. Although we have many dedicated health professionals, an abundance of the latest technologies, and many fine hospitals, health care has become just another commodity to be bought and sold in a deregulated market based on ability to pay, not medical need. As you well know, industry profits handsomely from the status quo, raking in money through insurance, pharmaceuticals, medical devices, and so on. Industry has a war chest to defend itself and demonstrates its political power each time any new reform is brought up.

But the situation has become dire. There is no end in sight in controlling health care costs as they soar upwards at three or four times the cost of living and family incomes. We have had three decades of incremental attempts to rein in costs, including managed care and consumer-directed health care. None has worked. We have a solution in plain sight - single-payer National Health Insurance (NHI). Market stakeholders are fighting it fiercely, but it's the only real reform that has a chance to work.

Most of your advisers will likely caution you that NHI is too radical for Americans to accept, that you need to be more centrist, and that it is not politically feasible. But therein lies your trap. You will be persuaded to add one more incremental attempt to fix things, which will not work, will cost more than ever, will delay real reform, and will add to the pain of so many along the way. Your moment of opportunity will have been lost.

Beyond ideology, these facts support NHI as the treatment of choice in 2009.

- Premiums alone for private health insurance have grown by more than 100 percent since 2000, and are projected to consume all of average household income by 2025, clearly an impossibility way before then.
- According to the Milliman Medical Index, the typical American family of four spent \$15,600 on total health care costs in 2008, fully one-quarter of the typical combined family income of \$60,000. Most consider 10 percent of family income to be the threshold of underinsurance.
- The administrative overhead of private insurers is five to nine times higher than not-for-profit Medicare (average for commercial carriers, 19.9 percent; investor-owned Blues, 26.5 percent; Medicare, 3 percent).
- The inefficiency and bureaucracy of our 1,300 private insurers are not sustainable (e.g., according to the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association, there are 17,000 different health plans in Chicago).
- Private insurers offer much less choice than traditional Medicare. There are near-monopolies in 95

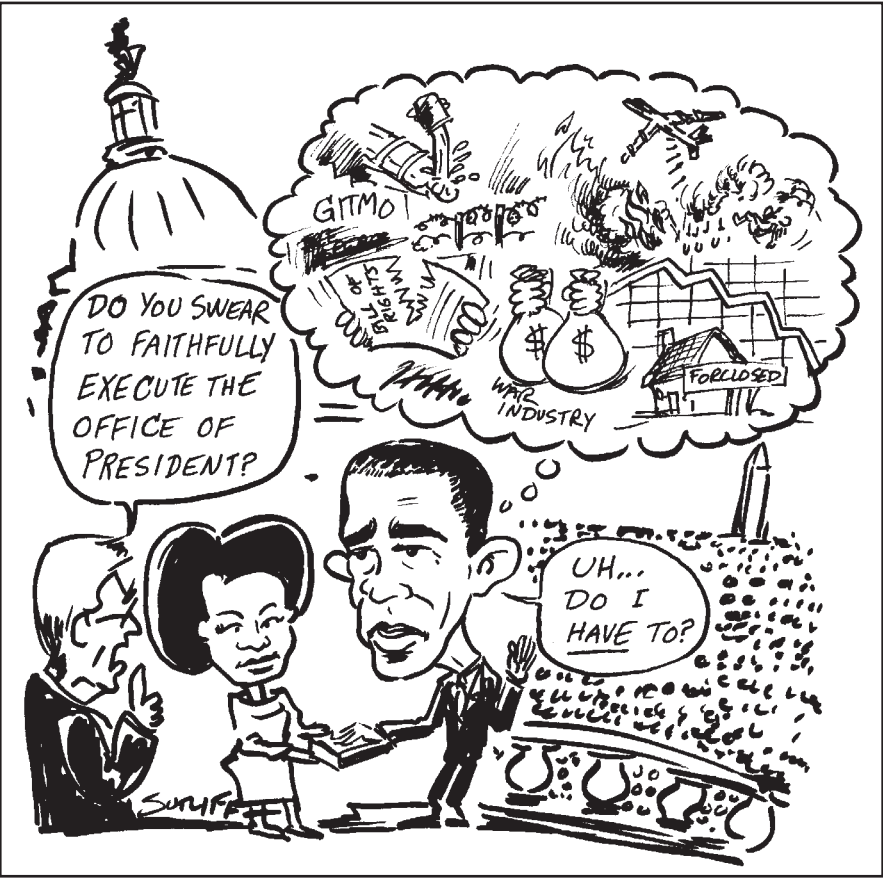
percent of HMO/PPO metropolitan markets, enough to trigger anti-trust concerns by the United States Department of Justice.

- Because of costs, about 75 million Americans are either uninsured or underinsured, with large segments of the population forgoing necessary care and having worse health care outcomes. The United States now ranks nineteenth among nineteen industrialized countries in reducing preventable deaths from amenable causes.
- Wall Street is already questioning the future prospects of the private insurance industry. As of November 18, 2008, the average share prices of the top five private insurers were down by between 60 percent and 77 percent, compared to the Standard and Poor's 42 percent.

I expect that none of this is news to you, but what is neglected by almost all economists, "experts" and pundits is that there is already plenty of money in the system, that we waste about one-third of our health care dollar on our inefficient multi-payer financing system and on unnecessary care, and that NHI will save money, not cost more. NHI is the most fiscally responsible thing we can do now about health care. The Conyers bill in the House (H.R. 676) will be financed by payroll and progressive income taxes that will be less than what individuals and employers now pay. The health insurance industry is being propped up by government subsidies to the employer-based system and to privatized public programs. NHI can save some \$350 billion through administrative simplification, while offering coverage for all necessary care, full choice of provider and hospital, and mechanisms for cost containment through bulk purchasing, negotiated fees, and global budgets.

NHI by itself will not solve all of our health care problems, but it will provide a structure (as no incremental approach can) to enable other necessary steps. These include acceptance of health care as a right, transition to a not-for-profit system, reimbursement reform, rebuilding of primary care, evidence-based technology assessment, and quality improvement. None of this will be possible by using reforms that leave an obsolete private insurance industry in place, as is more fully discussed in my recent book *Do Not Resuscitate: Why the Health Insurance Industry is Dying, and How We Must Replace It*. FDR almost went for NHI in the mid-1930s, but he backed off, mainly due to the AMA's opposition. Today, the AMA is marginalized with a membership of no more than 30 percent of physicians, and a majority of American physicians now support NHI. Implementing NHI in your presidency can be your FDR-size legacy. It has become an economic, moral, and social imperative. Overnight NHI can bind us together as one society, all of us in the same boat. We can afford it. Yes, we can!

John P. Geyman, M.D., is professor emeritus of family medicine at the University of Washington, and past president of Physicians for a National Health Program. He is a member of the Institute of Medicine.



Rock Creek Free Press

5512 Huntington Parkway
Bethesda, MD 20814

A Community Supported Newspaper

This newspaper is not funded by advertisers. We are supported by our readers and subscribers. Subscribe on-line at www.RockCreekFreePress.com or send your subscription to the address above. Home delivery is just \$20/year.

Managing Editor: Matt Sullivan
Health Editor: Elaine Sullivan
Associate Editor: Louis Wolf
Staff Writer: Sheila Casey

We had help this month from: Joe Sutliff, Betsy Harmon, Joe Azar, Greg Boyd, Jeff Long, Lydia Riley, Khalid Rosenbaum

Circulation: 20,000 (approximately 13,000 issues distributed in Washington, DC and the remainder distributed to every state of the union and abroad.)

The Purloined Constitution

Or How to Look Only Forward and Still Look Like an Ass

By DAVID SWANSON

The wonderful thing about big lies is their kettle logic. The term, of course, derives from the story of the man who offered several mutually incompatible excuses for returning his friend's kettle in damaged condition: "It broke too easily." "It was like that when I got it." "I improved it for you." "I never borrowed the thing." Et cetera. A big lie is not just a beautiful creation because the bigger you make it the more firmly people believe in it, but also because you can tell other big lies to make the same point and the lies don't have to make any sense in combination.

One big lie in circulation at the moment is that we don't know whether Bush, Cheney, Rummy, et alia, committed any actual crimes. Some people believe this, but they believe it in the sense in which one "believes in" a big lie, as one "believes in" a religion. If people actually believed it as an ordinary fact, then they would have to either advocate investigating the topic or determine that it

simply didn't matter whether the Cheney-Bush gang had committed crimes or not. Here's Barack Obama: "Now, if I found out that there were high officials who knowingly, consciously broke existing laws, engaged in coverups of those crimes with knowledge forefront, then I think a basic principle of our Constitution is nobody above the law — and I think that's roughly how I would look at it." He believes in the idea that there is doubt, but he's not ready to either pursue the matter or to claim it's unimportant.

A second big lie is that the toughest deterrence possible against future crimes is produced by simply learning the facts about past crimes. This lie has been spread by countless sources. Here's Joe Biden's version: "Personally I would like to know exactly what happened because — more of a past is prologue kind of thing. I would like to make sure that it doesn't happen again. Torture is going to be a major issue. Torture is going to be a major issue. ... And so all that's going to be reviewed." If people believed

this in the ordinary sense of belief, they would have to support replacing all police, prosecutors, and jailers with videographers and reporters. And they would have to advocate investigating any crimes they didn't already know about but leaving alone any crimes they already knew about — the ones they'd already determined they didn't want to see happen again. Because you can't very well want to deter the repetition of something until you've already learned what it was.

A third big lie is that the appropriate way to handle crises created by criminal activity is to ignore the criminality and focus on solving the crises. This is described by thousands of its advocates as "looking forward." Here's Obama: "I would not want my first term consumed by what was perceived on the part of Republicans as a partisan witch hunt because I think we've got too many problems we've got to solve." And here's Biden: "The questions of whether or not a

see PURLOINED p.7

Wall Street Bailout Exceeds Cost of All US Wars Combined

And you can throw in the New Deal, Marshal Plan and Moon Shots as well

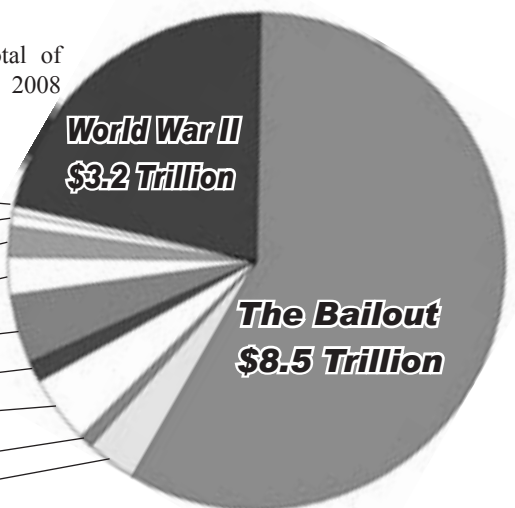
Casey Research, of Vermont, has analyzed the costs of the government bailouts of the housing crisis, the credit crisis and others and has concluded that the total is \$8.5 trillion, which is more than the cost of all US wars, the Louisiana Purchase, the New Deal, the Marshall Plan and the NASA Space Program combined.

According to CRS, the Congressional Research Service, all major US wars (including such events as the American Revolution, the War of 1812, the Civil War, the Spanish American War, World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan, the invasion of Panama, the Kosovo War and numerous

other small conflicts), cost a total of \$7.5 trillion in inflation-adjusted 2008 dollars.

- Civil War (both sides), \$81 billion
- Persian Gulf War, \$94 billion
- Korean War, \$295 billion
- World War I, \$364 billion
- Vietnam War, \$670 billion
- Afghanistan, \$171 billion.
- Iraq war, \$648 billion
- The Marshall Plan, \$125 billion
- The New Deal, \$500 billion

Too small to see: American Revolution, Louisiana Purchase, NASA, War of 1812 and others.



It's Not About Them...It's About Us: Why We Must Prosecute Bush And His Administration For War Crimes

By MIKE FERNER

During the rush to get the Nuremberg Tribunals underway, the Soviet delegation wanted the tribunal's historic decisions to have legitimacy only for the Nazis. US Supreme Court Justice Robert Jackson, serving as the chief prosecutor for the Allies, strong-armed the Soviets until the very beginning of the tribunal before changing their mind.

In his opening statement Jackson very purposely stipulated, "...Let me make clear that while this law is first applied against German aggressors, the law includes, and if it is to serve a useful purpose it must condemn aggression by any other nations, including those which sit here now in judgment."

Can there be a better reason for prosecuting George Bush and his administration for war crimes than those words from the chief prosecutor of the Nazis, a US Supreme Court Justice, with the full support of the US government? Robert Jackson's words and the values this nation claims to stand for provide sufficient moral basis for putting Bush and Cheney, their underlings who implemented their policies and who perverted legal minds who justified them all in the dock. If those are not sufficient reasons, there is a long list of binding law and treaties — written in black and white in surprisingly plain English.

Bush imagined, and his attorneys advised, that he could simply wave

aside these laws with "they don't apply." Imagine how a judge would treat even a simple traffic court defendant who brazenly stated the law was only a quaint notion, just "words on paper?"

Masses of people and an embarrassingly small number of their elected representatives in this country read the law for themselves and demanded otherwise, only to be silenced by the Guardians of Reality in the corporate news media.

But it's all there, where it has been for 220 years, the Constitution's "supremacy clause," Article II, section 4, and in the War Crimes Act of 1996 (18 USC §2441). They provide the authority to make additional treaties legally binding — no matter how much former White House lawyers David Addington and John Yoo may object.

Those additional treaties include among others, the Geneva Conventions, the Nuremberg rulings, the Laws and Customs of War on Land and UN General Assembly Resolution 3314. To give just a snapshot of how serious these laws are, consider this portion of 18 USC 2441 which defines a war crime as "...a grave breach in any of the international conventions signed at Geneva 12 August 1949, or any protocol to such convention to which the United States is a party..." The guilty can be "...fined under this title or imprisoned for life or any term of years, or both, and if death results to the

victim, shall also be subject to the penalty of death."

Here, Justice Jackson answers another question about war crimes — who bears the greater responsibility: those who committed barbaric acts in the field or those who created the conditions for barbarism?

The case as presented by the United States will be concerned with the brains and authority back of all the crimes. These defendants were men of a station and rank which does not soil its own hands with blood. They were men who knew how to use lesser folk as tools. We want to reach the planners and designers, the inciters and leaders without whose evil architecture the world would not have been for so long scourged with the violence and lawlessness, and wracked with the agonies and convulsions, of this terrible war.

And yet it is not just because Bush violated the Constitution and federal law that he and his lieutenants must be prosecuted.

At Nuremberg, the foremost crime identified was starting a "war of aggression," later codified by UN Resolution 3314, Art. 5, as "a crime against international peace." Launching a war of aggression, as Hitler did against Poland, is considered so monstrous that the nation responsible can then be charged with "war crimes" and "crimes

seeWAR CRIMES p.7

Who Benefits from a Divided Iraq?

By KHALID ROSENBAUM

The Iraq War is slowly winding down as power is transferred back to Iraqis. George W. Bush left office and our new President plans to shift the conflict from Iraq to Afghanistan.

As we leave Iraq, how will the history be written for this war? The critics of Bush claim that the destabilization of Iraq was a predictable outcome of removing Saddam Hussein. The Bush view is that we came to liberate Iraqis and spread democracy, and we are succeeding.

Both these views are hiding the truth: the US invaded Iraq to divide and conquer, and the "unintended" violence was very much intended as part of the plan to reshape the Middle East. "It is time for a new Middle East," Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said in the *Associated Press* July 25, 2006. "It is time to say to those that don't want a different kind of Middle East that we will prevail."

Many think centuries of history explain the current violence in Iraq. Yet if the Irish and Italian Americans started sectarian fighting in New York City today, Americans would investigate rather than simply accept past history as an explanation. Only a lack of understanding is allowing Americans to accept this perception of an Iraq civil war.

Iraq has been united until recently, with ethnically mixed neighborhoods. It was the West who suggested dividing Iraq, not the Iraqis. L. H. Gelb, a high ranking Council on Foreign Relations member and contributor to *The New York Times* pushed hard for the "Three-State Solution" in an article dated November 25, 2003. He claims that a unified Iraq has been "possible in the past only by the application of overwhelming and brutal force." In May 2006 Senator Joe Biden, now Vice President, also suggested dividing Iraq into three states.

But let's discuss the real sectarian history of Iraq, starting in 10,000 BC in Ancient Mesopotamia where modern day Iraq was the world's first civilization. Trade, capitalism, and basic civil rule began here and flourished for the first time in human history. Cities and empires came and went, but civilization persisted here. Eventually, Iraq was ruled by the British after the Turks, and was a prized oil possession for the Anglo-Iranian

Oil Company (now BP). Iraq won independence and unity in 1958 after a long fight against colonialism.

The Prime Minister of Iraq in 1958, Abdel-Karim Qasim, had a Sunni father and a Shiite mother who was also part Kurd. Diverse ethnicities and secular principles were the norm in Iraq until the US placed Saddam Hussein in power. Saddam was recruited by the CIA in the US Embassy in Cairo after his exile from Iraq in 1960. The CIA helped Saddam come to power with its support for the 1968 coup. Yet even under Saddam the various Iraqi sects lived together relatively peacefully in the same neighborhoods until the 2003 US invasion.

The Iraq Study Group Report released December 6, 2006 by James Baker and Lee Hamilton claims Iraq cannot be sectioned because "Iraq's population is not neatly separated, regional boundaries cannot be easily drawn. All eighteen Iraqi provinces have mixed populations, as do Baghdad and most other major cities in Iraq" (page 31). According to an NPR April 9, 2007 story, "Four years after the American invasion, sectarian tensions have turned formerly mixed neighborhoods into exclusively Sunni or Shiite enclaves." Mixed families and mixed marriages were once normal, according to NPR's "All Things Considered," July 7, 2008. Ms. Ekhlal Ali, now divorced, says, "He was a Sunni and I'm Shiite. It was 1992, we married and we lived a very nice life for more than 15 years." Then what happened?

Nothing exposes American misunderstanding of Iraqi violence better than the February 2006 bombing of the Samarra shrine, the event our media claimed most escalated sectarian tensions. *The Washington Post* headline reads: "Attack on Shiite Shrine Sets Off Protests, Violence." Then later, a CNN article describing retaliations for the mosque attack reads: "Sunni mosques hit after blast at Samarra shrine."

For Westerners this story might make sense, but Iraqis know that this Samarra "Shiite" Shrine was in reality a Sunni shrine. According to an Iraqi, Raed Jarrar, on air on February 24, 2006 on "Democracy Now," "The shrine that is in Samarra...was actually controlled by Sunnis and claimed by Sunnis. The people who run the shrine are Sunnis." Why would

see DIVIDED IRAQ p.8

Special Report: The Siege of Gaza

Background of the Conflict

By ROCK CREEK FREE PRESS STAFF
The small strip of land along the Mediterranean coast between Egypt and Israel known as the Gaza Strip has been fought over since the 1940s. Egypt controlled Gaza from the first Arab-Israeli war in 1949 until it was captured by Israel in the 1967 war.

In the 1980s the Palestinian resistance movement known as the Intifada began in Gaza and led ultimately to the 1993 Oslo Accords which ceded control of the Gaza Strip back to the Palestinian Authority.

In the summer of 2005 Israel removed the last of the controversial Jewish settlements from Gaza but a low level conflict has persisted with regular exchanges of fire. Massively out-gunned, Gaza’s principal weapon is a home-made rocket called Qassam. Israel, on the other hand, has US made F-16s and other advanced weapons systems. Qassams are very primitive missiles and their main effect on Israelis in the area is psychological. 783 rockets were fired at Israel in 2007, killing two people.

In February 2008, Israeli ground forces entered Gaza, killing nearly 100 people. Israel also halted the transfer of electricity, fuel, and other supplies into Gaza, effectively sealing off the 1.4 million Palestinians.

A six-month truce between Hamas and Israel ended on December 19, 2008, after Hamas blamed Israel for not lifting the Gaza Strip blockade and for continuing raids in Gaza, and Israel blamed Hamas for the rocket and mortar attacks directed at its southern cities.

Israeli newspaper *Haaretz* reports that Defense Minister Ehud Barak instructed the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) to prepare for the current operation over six months ago, even as Israel was beginning to negotiate a ceasefire agreement with Hamas.

Israeli PM Olmert and Defense Minister Ehud Barak made the decision to launch the operation in the week prior to the invasion.



ONGOING INVASION: OPERATION CAST LEAD

On December 27, 2008, Israeli forces launched a major air attack on Gaza.

Early reports indicate that between 200 and 300 Palestinians were killed on the first day of the attacks. Hamas forces responded with Qassam and Katyusha rocket attacks, with some of the longer-range rockets reaching the Israeli cities of Ashkelon and Ashod.

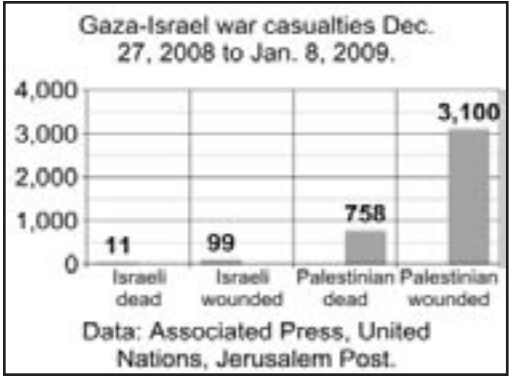


On January 3, thousands of Israeli troops, in three brigade-size formations, backed by tanks and attack helicopters, launched the expected ground invasion of the Gaza Strip in what Israel calls the “second stage of Operation Cast Lead.”



On January 5, 2009, three people died in a strike on the UN-run Asma Elementary school.

On January 6, at least 40 people were killed and 55 injured when Israeli artillery shells landed outside a United Nations-run school in Gaza. A number of children were among those who died when the al-Fakhura school in the Jabaliya refugee camp was hit. At least 350 Palestinians were sheltered in the al-Fakhura school seeking refuge from fighting. Israel said its soldiers had come under fire from militants inside the school but the UN confirms that there were no militants in the compound. About one third of Gazans killed and injured so far are children.



On January 9, the US House and Senate passed watered down resolutions affirming Israel’s right to self defense but decrying the excessive loss of innocent life.



The Invasion of Gaza: “Operation Cast Lead,” Part of a Broader Israeli Military-Intelligence Agenda

By MICHEL CHOSSUDOVSKY / GLOBAL RESEARCH
The aerial bombings and the ongoing ground invasion of Gaza by Israeli ground forces must be analyzed in a historical context. “Operation Cast Lead” is a carefully planned undertaking, which is part of a broader military-intelligence agenda first formulated by the government of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon in 2001:

“Sources in the defense establishment said Defense Minister Ehud Barak instructed the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) to prepare for the operation over six months ago, even as Israel was beginning to negotiate a ceasefire agreement with Hamas.” (Barak Ravid, “Operation Cast Lead: Israeli Air Force Strike Followed Months of Planning,” *Haaretz*, December 27, 2008).

It was Israel which broke the truce on the day of the US presidential elections, November 4:

“Israel used this distraction to break the ceasefire between itself and Hamas by bombing the Gaza strip. Israel claimed this violation of the ceasefire was to prevent Hamas from digging tunnels into Israeli territory.

The very next day, Israel launched a terrorizing siege of Gaza, cutting off food, fuel, medical supplies and other necessities in an attempt to “subdue” the Palestinians while at the same time engaging in armed incursions.

In response, Hamas and others in Gaza again resorted to firing crude, homemade, and mainly inaccurate rockets into Israel. During the past seven years, these rockets have been responsible for the deaths of seventeen Israelis. Over the same time span, Israeli Blitzkrieg assaults have killed thousands of Palestinians, drawing worldwide protest but falling on deaf ears at the UN.” (Shamus Cooke, “The Massacre in Palestine and the Threat of a Wider War,” *Global Research*, December 2008)

PLANNED HUMANITARIAN DISASTER

On December 8, US Deputy Secretary of State John Negroponte was in Tel Aviv for discussions with his Israeli counterparts including the director of Mossad, Meir Dagan.

“Operation Cast Lead” was initiated two days after Christmas. It was coupled with a carefully designed international Public Relations campaign under the auspices of Israel’s Foreign Ministry.

Hamas’ military targets are not the main objective. “Operation Cast Lead” is intended, quite deliberately, to trigger civilian casualties.

What we are dealing with is a “planned humanitarian disaster” in Gaza in a densely populated urban area. (See map.)

The long-term objective of this plan, as formulated by Israeli policy makers, is the expulsion of Palestinians from Palestinian lands:

“Terrorize the civilian population, assuring maximal destruction of property and cultural resources... The daily life of the Palestinians must be rendered unbearable! They should be locked up in cities and towns, prevented

from exercising normal economic life, cut off from workplaces, schools and hospitals. This will encourage emigration and weaken the resistance to future expulsions” Ur Shlonsky, quoted by Ghali Hassan, “Gaza: The World’s Largest Prison,” *Global Research*, 2005)

OPERATION JUSTIFIED VENGEANCE

A turning point has been reached. “Operation Cast Lead” is part of the broader military-intelligence operation initiated at the outset of the Ariel Sharon government in 2001. It was under Sharon’s “Operation Justified Vengeance” that F-16 fighter planes were initially used to bomb Palestinian cities.

“Operation Justified Vengeance” was presented in July 2001 to the Israeli government of Ariel Sharon by IDF chief of staff Shaul Mofaz, under the title “The Destruction of the Palestinian Authority and Disarmament of All Armed Forces.”

“A contingency plan, codenamed “Operation Justified Vengeance,” was drawn up last June [2001] to reoccupy all of the West Bank and possibly the Gaza Strip at a likely cost of hundreds of Israeli casualties.” (*Washington Times*, 19 March 2002).

According to *Jane’s Foreign Report* (July 12, 2001) the Israeli army under Sharon had updated its plans for an “all-out assault to smash the Palestinian Authority, force out leader Yasser Arafat and kill or detain its army.”

BLOODSHED JUSTIFICATION

The “Bloodshed Justification” was an essential component of the military-intelligence agenda. The killing of Palestinian civilians was justified on “humanitarian grounds.” Israeli military operations were carefully timed to coincide with the suicide attacks:

The assault would be launched, at the Government’s discretion, after a big suicide bomb attack in Israel, causing widespread deaths and injuries, citing the bloodshed as justification. (Tanya Reinhart, “Evil Unleashed, Israel’s move to destroy the Palestinian Authority is a calculated plan, long in the making,” *Global Research*, December 2001)

THE DAGAN PLAN

“Operation Justified Vengeance” was also referred to as the “Dagan Plan,” named after General (ret.) Meir Dagan, who currently heads Mossad, Israel’s intelligence agency.

Reserve General Meir Dagan was Sharon’s national security adviser during the 2000 election campaign. The plan was apparently drawn up prior to Sharon’s election as Prime Minister in February 2001. “According to Alex Fishman writing in *Yediot Aharonot*, the “Dagan Plan” consisted of destroying the Palestinian Authority and putting Yasser Arafat ‘out of the game.’” (Ellis Shulman, *Operation Justified Vengeance: a Secret Plan to Destroy the Palestinian Authority*, March 2001):

“As reported in *Jane’s Foreign Report* and disclosed locally by *Ma’ariv*, Israel’s invasion plan — reportedly dubbed “Justified Vengeance” — would be launched immediately following the next high-casualty

suicide bombing, would last about a month and is expected to result in the death of hundreds of Israelis and thousands of Palestinians.

The “Dagan Plan” envisaged the so-called “cantonization” of the Palestinian territories whereby the West Bank and Gaza would be totally cut off from one other, with separate “governments” in each of the territories. Under this scenario, already envisaged in 2001, Israel would:

“...negotiate separately with Palestinian forces that are dominant in each territory- Palestinian forces responsible for security, intelligence, and even for the Tanzim (Fatah).” The plan thus closely resembles the idea of “cantonization” of Palestinian territories, put forth by a number of ministers.” Sylvain Cypel, “The infamous ‘Dagan Plan’ Sharon’s plan for getting rid of Arafat,” *Le Monde*, December 17, 2001)

The “Dagan Plan” has established continuity in the military-intelligence agenda. In the wake of the 2000 elections, Meir Dagan was assigned a key role. “He became Sharon’s “go-between” in security issues with President’s Bush’s special envoys Zinni and Mitchell.” He was subsequently appointed Director of the Mossad by Prime Minister Ariel Sharon in August 2002. In the post-Sharon period, he remained head of Mossad. He was reconfirmed in his position as Director of Israeli Intelligence by Prime Minister Ehud Olmert in June 2008.

Meir Dagan, in coordination with his US counterparts, has been in charge of various military-intelligence operations. It is worth noting that Meir Dagan as a young Colonel had worked closely with Defense Minister Ariel Sharon in the raids on Palestinian settlements in Beirut in 1982. The 2009 ground invasion of Gaza, in many regards, bear a canny resemblance to the 1982 military operation led by Sharon and Dagan.

It is important to focus on a number of key events which have led up to the killings in Gaza under “Operation Cast Lead”:

1. The assassination in November 2004 of Yaser Arafat. This assassination had been on the drawing board since 1996 under “Operation Fields of Thorns.” According to an October 2000 document “prepared by the security services, at the request of then Prime Minister Ehud Barak, stated that ‘Arafat, the person, is a severe threat to the security of the state [of Israel] and the damage which will result from his disappearance is less than the damage caused by his existence.’” (Tanya Reinhart, “Evil Unleashed, Israel’s move to destroy the Palestinian Authority is a calculated plan, long in the making,” *Global Research*, December 2001. Details of the document were published in *Ma’ariv*, July 6, 2001).

Arafat’s assassination was ordered in 2003 by the Israeli cabinet. It was approved by the US, which vetoed a United Nations Security Resolution condemning the 2003 Israeli Cabinet decision. Reacting to increased Palestinian attacks, in August 2003, Israeli Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz declared “all out war” on the militants whom he vowed

were “marked for death.”

“In mid-September, Israel’s government passed a law to get rid of Arafat. Israel’s cabinet for political security affairs declared it “a decision to remove Arafat as an obstacle to peace.” Mofaz threatened “we will choose the right way and the right time to kill Arafat.” Palestinian Minister Saeb Erekat told CNN he thought Arafat was the next target. CNN asked Sharon spokesman Ra’anan Gissan if the vote meant expulsion of Arafat. Gissan clarified “It doesn’t mean that. The Cabinet has today resolved to remove this obstacle. The time, the method, the ways by which this will take place will be decided separately, and the security services will monitor the situation and make the recommendation about proper action.” (Trish Shuh, “Road Map for a Decease Plan,” *www.mehrnews.com* November 9 2005.)

The assassination of Arafat was part of the 2001 Dagan Plan. In all likelihood, it was carried out by Israeli Intelligence. It was intended to destroy the Palestinian Authority, foment divisions within Fatah as well as between Fatah and Hamas. Mahmoud Abbas is a Palestinian quisling. He was installed as leader of Fatah, with the approval of Israel and the US, which finance the Palestinian Authority’s paramilitary and security forces.

2. The removal, under the orders of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon in 2005, of all Jewish settlements in Gaza. A Jewish population of over 7,000 was relocated.

“It is my intention [Sharon] to carry out an evacuation — sorry, a relocation — of settlements that cause us problems and of places that we will not hold onto anyway in a final settlement, like the Gaza settlements... I am working on the assumption that in the future there will be no Jews in Gaza,” Sharon said.” (CBC, March 2004)

The issue of the settlements in Gaza was presented as part of Washington’s “road map to peace.” Celebrated by the Palestinians as a “victory,” this measure was not directed against the Jewish settlers. Quite the opposite: It was part of the overall covert operation, which consisted in transforming Gaza into a concentration camp. As long as Jewish settlers were living inside Gaza, the objective of sustaining a large barricaded prison territory could not be achieved. The implementation of “Operation Cast Lead” required “no Jews in Gaza.”

3. The building of the infamous Apartheid Wall was decided upon at the beginning of the Sharon government.

4. The next phase was the Hamas election victory in January 2006. Without Arafat, the Israeli military-intelligence architects knew that Fatah, under Mahmoud Abbas, would loose the elections. This was part of the scenario, which had been envisaged and analyzed well in advance.

With Hamas in charge of the Palestinian Authority, using the pretext that Hamas is a terrorist organization, Israel would carry out the process of “cantonization” as formulated under the “Dagan Plan.” Fatah, under Mahmoud Abbas, would remain formally in charge of the West Bank. The duly elected Hamas government would be confined to the Gaza strip.

GROUND ATTACK

On January 3, Israeli tanks and infantry entered Gaza in an all out ground offensive:

“The ground operation was preceded by several hours of heavy artillery fire after dark, igniting targets in flames that burst into the night sky. Machine gun fire rattled as bright tracer rounds flashed through the darkness and the crash of hundreds of shells sent up streaks of fire. (*Associated Press*, January 3, 2009)

Israeli sources have pointed to a lengthy drawn out military operation. It “won’t be easy and it won’t be short,” said Defense Minister Ehud Barak in a TV address.

Israel is not seeking to oblige Hamas “to cooperate.” What we are dealing with is the implementation of the “Dagan Plan” as initially formulated in 2001, which called for:

“...an invasion of Palestinian-controlled territory by some 30,000 Israeli soldiers, with the clearly defined mission of destroying the infrastructure of the Palestinian leadership and collecting weaponry currently possessed by the various Palestinian forces, and expelling or killing its military leadership. (Ellis Shulman, *Operation Justified Vengeance: a Secret Plan to Destroy the Palestinian Authority*, March 2001)

The broader question is whether Israel, in consultation with Washington, is intent upon triggering a wider war.

Mass expulsion could occur at some later stage of the ground invasion were the Israelis to open up Gaza’s borders to allow for an exodus of population. Expulsion was referred to by Ariel Sharon as the “a 1948 style solution.” For Sharon “it is only necessary to find another state for the Palestinians. — ‘Jordan is Palestine’ — was the phrase that Sharon coined.” (Tanya Reinhart, “Evil Unleashed, Israel’s move to destroy the Palestinian Authority is a calculated plan, long in the making,” *Global Research*, December 2001.)

Michel Chossudovsky reports from Canada for GlobalResearch.ca

Israeli Warship Rams Cynthia McKinney’s Boat Off Gaza Coast



By CYNTHIA MCKINNEY
January 1, 2009 - Yesterday, we met with the President of Lebanon, the Chief of the Military, and the Interior Minister who all thanked us for responding and risking our lives on a mission of mercy; we profusely thanked them for rescuing us.

What would we have done, stranded out at sea, prohibited from reaching our destination, low on fuel, with a badly damaged boat if Lebanon had not accepted us? Lebanon sent their ships to find us. Lebanon rescued us. Lebanon welcomed us. And we are truly thankful.

It’s official now. We’ve been told that the sturdy, wood construction of our boat, *Dignity*, is the reason we are still alive. Fiberglass would probably not have withstood the impact of the Israeli attack and under different circumstances, we might not be here to tell the story. Even at that, the report that came to us yesterday after the Captain and First Mate went back to Sour (Tyre) Lebanon, to inspect the boat was that it was sinking, the damage is extensive, and the boat will take, in their estimation, at least one month to repair. Tomorrow, we will bring the *Dignity* from Sour to Beirut. And now, we must decide what to do and from where we will do it and how we are to get back to wherever that might be.

My personal, and I know the group’s, thanks must go to Al Jazeera, who allowed three of their reporters to be onboard with us on our voyage. As a result, Al Jazeera carried the story of the *Dignity* live, from castoff in Cyprus when our spirits were high, right up through the manacng maneuvers of the huge, super fast Israeli ships before they rammed us; through the Israeli calls on the ship phone after the ramming calling us terrorists and subversives and telling us to return to Cyprus (even though the Israelis later claimed that they didn’t know who we were, they knew enough about us to tell where we had come from, and the fact that we didn’t have enough fuel to follow their instructions);

right up to their threat to fire at us if we didn’t turn around, and ending with our beaten-up boat limping into Sour harbor in Lebanon. Al Jazeera carried our story as “breaking news” and performed a real service to its audience and to us. Al Jazeera called the Israelis to inquire about the incident right as it was happening and I am sure the Israelis were prepared to leave none to tell the story. Al Jazeera told the story and documented it as it was happening.

One of those Al Jazeera reporters with us was Sami El-Haj, who was detained in Guantanamo by the United States for six incredibly long years. What an honor to even exchange glances with such a humble man who had endured so much pain at the hands of the US government. I apologized to him that my tax dollars were being used in such a despicable way. And Sami’s crime according to the US? Born in Sudan, and reporting for Al Jazeera in Afghanistan, Sami was the wrong color, the wrong nationality, the wrong religion, reporting for the wrong news outfit, telling us the truth about a wrong war. And for that he survived incarceration for six long years. Sami El-Haj, Guantanamo prisoner number 345.

Another incredibly committed journalist who was with us was CNN’s Karl Penhaul. Karl reported the truth even when his own station was repeating Israeli disinformation. The fact that we were traveling with these alert journalists added to the flat-footedness and obvious crudeness of the Israeli response. Sadly, Israel has changed its story too many times to count, and that’s because they are not telling the truth.

We lived to tell the story. Karl’s incredible reporting, just a portion of our story, can be seen on the CNN website where there’s also video and a photo of our damaged boat. This video and the photos of Karl’s report is particularly interesting given that Israel claims that our boat was only scratched and that, in actuality, our captain, while trying to outmaneuver them, damaged their warship.

I’m told that CNN only played my full statement once — and that’s the time that it

aired live. Of course, they cut the reference to the *USS Liberty*. What are they afraid of?

Last night I was on PressTV.com, along with others who were on the *Dignity*, and we debated a representative from WINEP, the Washington Institute for Near East Policy. I reminded the audience that the Palestinians don’t have nuclear weapons, depleted uranium munitions, white phosphorous, or F-16s, but the Israelis do. The facts, however, tend to get garbled after being processed by the “Grand Wurlitzer” organ of state-sponsored disinformation utilizing the world’s press.

With the truth clearly on our side, Israel has been reduced to releasing the ridiculous bombast below, given to me by a reporter who came to our hotel in Beirut for a visit. With their multiple, conflicting stories, it is clear that the Israelis did not expect us to live to tell the truth.

On the drive from Sour through Saida to Beirut, we were welcomed like heroes because our ordeal had been seen by everyone on Al Jazeera. The mayor of Sour came to welcome us. The mayor of Saida insisted that we stop there, on our way to Beirut, for a special



ceremony. But there was something else that was visible along our drive, and that is the devastation that Lebanon, itself, has received as a result of the Israeli war machine. The scars of the war are still evident everywhere. I will write more on that tomorrow.

And one final note, President-elect Obama roared like a mighty lion onto the political scene, but now he is as silent as a lamb in the face of the death and destruction that is happening in Gaza. As we approach the birthday celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. let us remember what Dr. King said:

“In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.”

And after five days of aerial bombardment by Israel, the carnage in Gaza continues.

Cynthia McKinney is a former congresswoman from Georgia and Green Party candidate for President 2008.

Worldwide Condemnation



Washington, DC protests against Israel’s Gaza Invasion

photo - William Hughes

By WAYNE MADSEN
As one pro-Israel speaker after another spoke of the terrorist threats of Hamas, Hezbollah, and Iran at the January 8 “Passing the Baton” seminar sponsored by the heavily neocon-influenced US Institute of Peace in Washington, wire services are reporting that protests against Israel’s genocide in Gaza are continuing around the world.

The South African Press Association (SAPA) reported that protesters at the South African parliament in Cape Town demanded that South Africa expel Israel’s ambassador.

Thousands also protested Israel’s actions in Gaza in a demonstration in Srinigar, the capital of Indian-controlled Kashmir.

In Sudan, protesters threw rocks at the US embassy and thousands gathered in Martyrs’ Square in Khartoum.

A mass student movement against Israeli atrocities in Gaza began to take shape in Malaysia with government support. Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said Israel should be subjected to international sanctions.

Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh strongly criticized Israel’s assault on Gaza.

Ecuador’s Foreign Minister Foreign Minister Fander Falconi condemned Israel’s actions as Ecuadorian grassroots movements continued to demonstrate outside the Israeli embassy in Quito.

A large protest was held outside the Israeli embassy on Avenida de Mayo and Chacabuco in Buenos Aires

Protesters in the town of Nardaran, outside of Baku, Azerbaijan, burnt US and Israeli flags over the Gaza genocide.

Here in Washington DC small protests have

taken place every day with larger rallies are planned to take place at Lafayette Park across from the White House.

Protesters gathered in front of the Israeli embassy in Montevideo, Uruguay and demanded that the Uruguayan government cut diplomatic ties with Israel and condemned Israel’s genocide against the people of Gaza.

Another in a series of anti-Israeli protests was held outside the Azerbaijani capital of Baku.

Iranians held a pro-Venezuelan rally outside the Venezuelan embassy in Tehran to thank Venezuela’s President Hugo Chavez for supporting the Gazan people and expelling the Israeli ambassador in Caracas.

Kenyan Muslim demonstrators attempted to deliver a note of protest to the Israeli embassy in Nairobi, but were thwarted by police.

Anti-Israel protests were scheduled today at the Faculty of Economics in Sarajevo, Bosnia and in the town of Gorazde.

It was reported that cyber-protesters hacked into the websites of the Israeli Defense Ministry and Mossad.

There was a small protest outside of the Israeli Economic and Cultural Office (ISECO) Taipei, Taiwan. There was another small protest in Prague that followed one last week in front of the Israeli embassy in the Czech capital.

A dozen Slovenian intellectuals sent a letter to parliament asking it to condemn the Israeli actions in Gaza. Parliament Speaker Pavel Gantar condemned Israel’s actions in Gaza on January 9.

An anti-Israel demonstration by predominantly Muslims was held after Friday prayers in Hong Kong.

Nobel Peace Laureate Calls for War Crimes Tribunal for Israel

SOUTH NEWS JANUARY 4, 2009
Nobel Peace Laureate Mairead Maguire has today written to the UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-Moon, and Father Miguel D’Escoto, President of the United Nations General Assembly, adding her voice to those of international jurists, human rights organizations and individuals, for the UN General Assembly to establish an International Criminal Tribunal for Israel (ICTI) to hold Israel accountable for its atrocities against the people of Gaza.

An ICTI can be established by the UN General Assembly as a subsidiary organ under aArticle 22 of the UN Charter. The charter states that the UN may establish the subsidiary organs it needs to perform its functions. The purpose of the ICTI would be to investigate and prosecute Israeli war criminals for offenses against the Palestinians.

Maguire said: “In November 2008 I visited Gaza and was shocked at the suffering of its people, being under siege as they have been for over two years. This collective punishment by the Israeli government has led to a great humanitarian crisis. Collective punishment of civilians breaks the Geneva Convention,

is illegal, is a war crime and a crime against humanity.

“Instead of protecting the civilian community of Gaza and relieving their suffering by lifting the “siege,” the Israeli military has carried out seven days of consecutive bombing of civilians, from both sea and air. Bombing unarmed civilians, including many women and children, and destroying mosques, hospitals, homes and infrastructure, is illegal and constitutes war crimes. Over 600 people are now dead in Gaza, with over 2,500 injured - including many women and children. The infrastructure of Gaza has been destroyed, and its people, including journalists, are cut off from the world. Humanitarian workers are locked out of Gaza and are unable to go to the aid of those who desperately need their help.

“The UN must help uphold human rights and justice for the Palestinians, by establishing an international criminal tribunal for Israel, to hold Israel accountable for war crimes.”

Mairead Maguire received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1976 for her work in Northern Ireland. www.peacepeople.com

NORTHCOM Prepares for Domestic Economic Unrest

NORTHCOM from p.1

The police (department) does not train with soldiers.”

Earlier this year, Pentagon officials said as many as 20,000 soldiers under the US Northern Command (NORTHCOM) will be trained within the next three years to work with civilian law enforcement in homeland security.

Joint Task Force-North, a joint command at Biggs Army Airfield, which conducts surveillance and intelligence along the border, comes under NORTHCOM. No one was available at JTF-North to comment on the Army War College’s report. NORTHCOM was created after the 9/11 attacks to coordinate homeland security efforts.

Soldiers under the former Joint Task Force-6 (now JTF-North) supported the Border Patrol in El Paso with its drug-interdiction operations.

In case civilian authorities request help or

become overwhelmed, El Paso has several National Guard and military reserve units that can be called on. In 1992, National Guard and active Marine and Army units were deployed to help police control riots and looting in Los Angeles.

Charles Boehmer, political science professor at the University of Texas at El Paso, was skeptical about the Army War College report.

“The military was not called out during the Great Depression, and I don’t think our economic problems are as bad as they were then,” he said. “The military always has contingency plans. It’s a think tank’s job to come up with scenarios, but that doesn’t mean it represents an active interest on the part of the Pentagon.”

Diana Washington Valdez may be reached at dvaldez@elpasotimes.com

Israel Using White Phosphorus Shells In Gaza

LONDON, JANUARY 5 (ANI)
To screen its assault on the heavily populated Gaza Strip, Israel is believed to be using controversial white phosphorus shells, whose use is banned under the Geneva conventions as an offensive weapon against civilians, but its use as a smokescreen is not prohibited by international law.

The weapon, used by British and US forces in Iraq, can cause horrific burns but is not illegal if used as a smokescreen, *The Times* reported.

As the Israeli army stormed to the edges of Gaza City and the Palestinian death toll topped 500, the shells could be seen spreading tentacles of thick white smoke to cover the troops’ advance.



“These explosions are fantastic looking, and produce a great deal of smoke that blinds the enemy so that our forces can move in,” said one Israeli security expert.



Burning blobs of phosphorus would cause severe injuries to anyone caught beneath them and force would-be snipers or operators of remote-controlled booby traps to take cover. Israel admitted using white phosphorus during its 2006 war with Lebanon.

The use of the weapon in the Gaza Strip, one of the world’s mostly densely populated areas, is likely to ignite yet more controversy over Israel’s offensive, in which more than 2,300 Palestinians have been wounded, the paper reported.

The Geneva Treaty of 1980 stipulates that white phosphorus should not be used as a weapon of war in civilian areas, but there is no blanket ban under international law on its use as a smokescreen or for illumination.

The Israeli military last night denied using phosphorus, but refused to say what had been deployed.

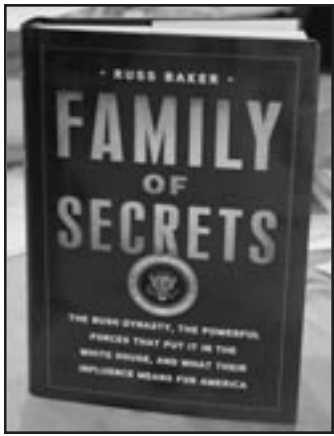


The Israeli army also suffered its first fatality of the offensive when one of its soldiers was killed by mortar fire. Mortars, mines and sniper fire wounded more than 30 soldiers.



Book Review

Did Bush Sr. Kill Kennedy and Frame Nixon?



REVIEW BY DAVID SWANSON
Russ Baker’s new book presents an account of the US government that is both remarkably new and extensively documented. According to this account, George H. W. Bush, the father of the current president, devoted his career to secret intelligence work with the CIA many years before he became the CIA director, and the network of spies and petroleum plutocrats he began working with early on has played a powerful but hidden role in determining the direction of the US government up to the current day.

New research and newly highlighted information assembled by Baker presents at least the strong possibility that Bush was involved in assassinating President Kennedy, and that Bush was involved in staging the Watergate break-in (and the break-in at Dan Ellsberg’s psychiatrist’s) with the purpose of having these break-ins exposed and the blame placed on President Nixon. In this account, those in on the get-Nixon plot included John Dean and Bob Woodward. While this retelling of history would make a certain Robert Redford movie look really, really silly, it would — on the other hand — make Woodward’s performance during Watergate fit more coherently with everything he’s known to have done before and since. It would also give new meaning to Dean’s recent book title *Conservatives Without a Conscience*. I would love to see either of these men’s response to Baker’s book.

Many readers of this review may now be rushing off to declare Baker either profoundly insane or (probably in fewer cases) indisputably correct in his views regarding the removal of Kennedy and Nixon from the White House, but I would strongly urge reading the book before doing so. It’s called *Family of Secrets: The Bush Dynasty, the Powerful Forces That Put It In The White House, And What Their Influence Means for America*.

Those of us who have pushed for years now to have Bush Jr. impeached or prosecuted have heard all imaginable excuses and then some. One has been this: “Punishing the figurehead puppet president would amount to excusing the real powers behind the throne.” And, of course, some of us have never doubted that such powers existed, but have considered letting Bush and Cheney walk free as a surer way to protect other guilty parties than punishing them would be. There are guilty parties in Congress too, of course, but how the pervasiveness of guilt justifies letting everyone off the hook has always escaped me. The arrests have to begin somewhere. In any case, I bring up the image of presidents as puppets because Baker provides a new variation on that theme. In his account, Bush Jr. is indeed not the driving force, but a clique centered around his father is.

Baker does not focus on Bush Jr.’s grandfather, Prescott Bush, and does not even mention his role in the plot to overthrow President Roosevelt in 1933 (<http://davidswanson.org/node/1337>). Baker’s focus is on Poppy, although Prescott and his anger toward Kennedy are in the background. It is not a completely new idea to suppose that Kennedy was killed because he angered the CIA and powerful Americans with business interests in Cuba. It is, as far as I know, new to show, as Baker extensively documents and then summarizes, that:

“Poppy Bush was closely tied to key members of the intelligence community including the deposed CIA head with a known grudge against JFK; he was also tied to Texas oligarchs who hated Kennedy’s politics and whose wealth was directly threatened by Kennedy; this network was part of the military/intelligence elite with a history of using assassination as an instrument of policy.

Family of Secrets:

The Bush Dynasty, The Powerful Forces That Put it in The White House, and What Their Influence Means for America

by
Russ Baker

“Poppy Bush was in Dallas on November 21 and most likely the morning of November 22. He hid that fact, he lied about knowing where he was, then he created an alibi based on a lead he knew was false. And he never acknowledged the closeness of his relationship with Oswald’s handler George de Mohrenschildt.

“Poppy’s business partner Thomas Devine met with de Mohrenschildt during that period, on behalf of the CIA.

“Poppy’s eventual Texas running mate in the 1964 election, Jack Crichton, was connected to the military intelligence figures who led Kennedy’s motorcade.

“Crichton and D. Harold Byrd, owner of the Texas School Book Depository building, were both connected to de Mohrenschildt — and directly to each other through oil-business dealings.

“Byrd brought in the tenant that hired Oswald shortly before the assassination.

“Oswald got his job in the building through a friend of de Mohrenschildt’s with her own intelligence connections — including family ties to Allen Dulles.”

You start to get a taste of the sort of case Baker builds. It’s persuasive, but not conclusive. If you buy into the basic outlines of it, you come up against a history of American politics in which our top “elected” officials are not just chosen through a process openly corrupted by money and media and parties, but are also chosen through a process of covert ops. Kennedy was replaced by Johnson because he was more obedient to Texas oilmen. Nixon was replaced by Ford for similar reasons. Bush Sr. made a deal with Iran not to release American hostages until Reagan defeated Carter. (Baker recounts but adds nothing new to this story, already reported elsewhere.) Bush Sr. and Jr. ran election campaigns that employed CIA-like techniques. It’s a compelling narrative with probably a great deal of truth to it, and the viciousness of Republican attacks on President Clinton fits into it. So does the reluctance of Carter, Clinton, Obama, and others to stray too far from positions acceptable to those (like Robert Gates) with places in the more permanent power structure. So does the possibility that Michael Connell was murdered last week.

The interesting thing about Baker’s claims regarding Kennedy and Nixon is that they would suggest that the CIA actually succeeded at something, that -- in fact -- the CIA or members thereof managed to keep major secrets for decades. Of course, they were morally reprehensible secrets and provide further rationale for eliminating the CIA and all secret government agencies, rather than any sort of justification for keeping them going.

While Nixon and Kennedy appear in this account almost exclusively in the role of victims, we should remember that their failures to please a certain powerful group do not absolve them of their own sins, even if that group may have done them in. While Kennedy may have courted the wrath of certain powers by refusing to do to Cuba what Dubya later did to Iraq, Nixon’s failing was not any deficiency in the area of war criminality. While part of what Nixon was covering up may have been staged to frame him, his most serious offenses — those involving the mass slaughter of human beings — have been marginalized in all accounts, old and new, of our attempts to hold him accountable. And Nixon himself secretly derailed a possible peace agreement in order to get himself into the same White House that he was later chased out of in disgrace.

David Swanson is a Washington peace activist and founder of After Downing Street, a nonpartisan coalition working to expose the lies that create and sustain wars and occupations and to hold accountable those responsible.

History’s Lessons

Intelligence And Blackmail Of US Politicians

By WAYNE MADSEN / WAYNE MADSEN REPORT
It was a story that surfaced at the same time that the first major Congressional page sex scandal embroiled members of the Senate, House of Representatives, their staffs, and congressional employees. The year was 1982 and among those implicated in the page sex scandal was then-Idaho Republican Representative Larry Craig, who later, as a Senator, was convicted of soliciting sex from an undercover policeman in a men’s room at Minneapolis Airport.

While the congressional page sex scandal of 1982 caught the attention of ABC and NBC News, another, more serious child sex scandal that hit the newspapers and the now-defunct Independent Network News (INN), broadcast from WPIX-TV in New York, quickly faded from view.

The story about Washington, DC’s politically-powerful and the underage male prostitutes, some as young as 12 years old, broke about the same time that the FBI identified a key kingpin in child pornography production and distribution in Chicago who admitted under questioning by FBI agents that his network of pedophiles included a US naval officer and other influential government employees. It was later discovered that the naval officer was the Commanding Officer of the US Naval Facility in Coos Head, Oregon.

The Naval Investigative Service (NIS) was called in and the Operations Officer at the Oregon naval installation was requested by the FBI and NIS to participate as the lead temporary special agent in a carefully-prepared sting of the base commander to obtain evidence and the identities of co-conspirators.

On September 14, 1982, UPI filed the following report from Coos Bay, Oregon:

“The commander of the Coos Head Naval Facility was relieved of duty and jailed on charges he promoted an obscene sexual performance by a child.

Lt. Cmdr. Larry William Frawley, 38, was arrested Saturday and accused of promoting an obscene sexual performance by a child and using a child in an obscene sexual performance. Both are felony charges.

Police Sgt. Jack Bushmaker said Frawley was lodged in the Coos County Corrections Facility on \$10,000 bail.

Frawley’s alleged role will not be made known until the investigation is completed, Lt. Cmdr. John Marchi, public affairs officer for the naval base in Seattle, said. He said details will not be at present since the investigation is pending, he said.

Lt. Cmdr. Marney Finch, executive officer at the Coos Head station, is now the interim commanding officer, Marchi said.

Frawley had been at the station since 1980.

Officials declined to say how many children were involved in the case or whether additional arrests were expected.”

During the sting operation, Frawley admitted that his network of pedophiles included senior naval officers, clerics, lawyers, politicians, and judges.

The FBI had an additional problem in Chicago: two veteran Chicago police officers were later charged with producing child pornography. Critical photographic evidence was destroyed by the Chicago cops before it could fall into the hands of the FBI and Cook County state’s attorney’s office. The case against the officers soon fell apart.

Three Chicago North Side residents were convicted of running a “sex club” using teenagers between May 1982 and August 1983, the height of the call boy scandal in Washington and other cities.

In 1993, Chicago’s Roman Catholic Archbishop Cardinal Joseph Bernardin was sued by a former student who accused him of sexual abuse while he was an adolescent. Bernardin was Archbishop of Cincinnati from 1972 to 1982.

But federal investigators faced another major problem in their investigation of child prostitution. A shadowy Washington DC communal group called “The Finders,” which had significant Chicago links, was suspected of engaging in the sexual abuse of children, some as young as 2 years old, and performing Satanic rituals involving children. And there was one other problem for investigators: the Finders were believed to have connections to the CIA.

The involvement of intelligence agencies was advanced by New York Detective Dale Smith who conducted a five-year investigation on behalf of the New York state Senate Select Committee on Crime. The investigation was spurred by New York Republican Senator Ralph J. Marino. Marino became Majority Leader of the New York Senate in 1988 but was ousted during the Thanksgiving holiday in 1994 by conservative GOP allies of Republican Governor-elect George Pataki. Marino was replaced by Joseph Bruno. Bruno later tangled with New York Democratic Governor Eliot Spitzer, who was brought down in a prostitution scandal involving adult women. Marino died in 2002 from tongue cancer. He was 74.



Smith testified that Robert Kohler, an accountant for five call boy services, told him the services sold information about their clients to foreign intelligence services. The clients were reported to be US government officials. Smith revealed that the foreign intelligence involved were those of Israel, the Soviet Union, and Great Britain. However, British intelligence has an unwritten understanding with the CIA not to operate on US soil without the knowledge of the CIA. Smith said that a Soviet intelligence agent told him that the KGB bought information on the clients of the call boy services. Mossad’s involvement was not detailed but such blackmail activities by Israeli intelligence have been and are endemic in hostile intelligence activity in the United States.

In addition to working for the New York Senate Committee, Smith also worked with the Washington, DC and Arlington, Virginia police in investigating the call boy ring over a three year period.

The Mossad is known to keep extensive files on embarrassing information to use later to blackmail individuals. WMR has learned from a former high-level Jewish official of the Clinton administration who has extensive contacts with the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) that the number two Mossad chief responsible for the United States and Canada is Illinois Representative Rahm Emanuel, the prospective Chief of Staff for Barack Obama. With Mossad’s files at his disposal, Emanuel is in a position to blackmail politicians involved in Mossad’s past “honey trap” operations, including the 1982 call boy network, which saw Israeli intelligence agents buying information from the pedophile prostitution services.

Smith revealed information on the intelligence blackmail operations involving US government officials during a two-day New York Senate hearing in July 1982 at which Smith described how boys between the ages of 13 and 16 were shuttled between various cities to have sex with clients for fees between \$50 and \$250. The younger boys commanded the higher fees. Smith also testified about child pornography being produced by the call services. Smith also stated that the call boy service was connected to “organized crime” in New York City but he was not specific about the ethnicity of the syndicate.

Smith told *The Washington Post* that he posed as someone “interested in starting a male prostitution service in the Washington area.” Smith said the sale of client lists posed a national security problem for the United States and that is why he decided to make public the intelligence angle involving Israeli, Soviet, and British intelligence public..

However, Washington Metropolitan Police detective Carl Shoffler’s testimony provided some clues to the identities of the criminal syndicate involved. Shoffler said, “Call service operations in Washington have some connection with organized crime in New York and that a separate investigation by the Washington Metropolitan Police revealed that “information pertaining to organized crime involvement generally led to corporations and individuals in New York.” Smith testified that profits from the call boy services were re-invested in real estate. The corporate angle is significant. The female prostitution ring that enmeshed New York Governor Spitzer was linked to the Israeli Mafia in the New York City area. Interlocking corporations were used to launder the money made by the prostitution ring.

Most of the boys were said to be runaways and the call boy services operated behind such fronts as modeling agencies, photo studios or book stores. Shoffler said that the call boy prostitution clients were often the victims of extortion. Shoffler added, “most of the victims, you can tell from their professions and all, wouldn’t be complainants.”

Smith stated that among the centers for the call boy trysts were Dallas Bar, the Haymarket, and the Follies Theater in New York and Cinema Follies in Washington and Best of Both Worlds in Pittsburgh.

Jeremiah McKenna, general counsel for the New York Senate committee told the Associated Press that “They’re making more money selling information than on the prostitution itself.”

Washington, DC Metropolitan Police detective Anne Fisher told the committee that

the cities involved with the call boy services were Los Angeles, San Francisco, New Orleans, New York, Washington and Houston and that some clients paid for sex with boys with credit card. Yet with such prima facie paper trail evidence, an investigation by the FBI was never pursued. Fisher testified, “You could call a number in Houston from Washington and have a young boy brought to your room in Washington.” Fisher said the boys used were as young as 12. Smith said a weekend of sex with boys would cost \$450 and that limousines transported the young prostitutes.

Special Agent Charles Koczka of the US Customs Service office in New York testified that 60 percent of pornography entering the United States from overseas involved children between the ages of 12 months to 13 years of age. The Soviets especially used child pornography to blackmail western intelligence agents. Government Communications Headquarters employee Geoffrey Prime, a Russian linguist with a Top Secret Byeman clearance for US spy satellite information, was arrested by British police in 1982. Prime was a member of a British pedophile group, information that was obviously used by the Soviet KGB to blackmail him into passing classified material to the Soviets. Prime was actually a member of the Pedophile Information Exchange, a pedophile organization in Britain.

Fisher said the call boy pimps used the boys for production of pornography.

With all the information compiled by law enforcement in three states and the Customs Service, the FBI did not see fit to further investigate the foreign intelligence angle to the call boy ring. The FBI told *The Washington Post* that “the bureau has no information to confirm that Soviets or agents from other foreign governments have purchased customer lists from male prostitution services.” However, there were reports that the FBI had requested the C&P Telephone Company to turn over phone call records of suspected call boy clients in the Washington, DC area. Washington and Arlington police raided two call boy salons in March 1982 and a list of 1000 clients was sized. The Washington Post reported that a mid-level State Department employee resigned after his name turned up o the client list.

As was the case with the later George H. W. Bush administration, which saw congressional pages and call boys given midnight tours of the White House by GOP officials, the Reagan administration tolerated child prostitution. One result of the 1982 Coos Bay Navy-FBI investigation was the realization that pedophiles involved in the ring and covering it up extended “all the way into the White House.” The information on the Reagan White House connection came from the NIS resident agents in Portland and Seattle. Representative Austin Murphy (D-PA) was outraged by the Reagan administration’s lackadaisical approach to the child prostitution in its midst. Murphy told a House labor and education subcommittee that the Reagan administration was “getting big government off the backs of the pimps.” After hearing testimony that child prostitution rings used children as young as five, Murphy said, “Are we willing to lend a helping hand to American children who are alone in the streets for filth peddlers to prey upon? The answer from the White House seems to be ‘no’.”

[Post script: The Coos Bay navy facility operations officer who was the FBI and NIS temporary special agent who led the government “sting” against the Commanding Officer in 1982 was this editor. The FBI and NIS confided that the perpetrator had likely been “turned” by the Soviet KGB during a previous and unauthorized trip to the Soviet Union after knowledge of his pederasty became known to Soviet agents during a clandestine hotel check of his room and luggage.

A cover-up of the Navy case was launched by then-Secretary of the Navy John Lehman, later named as a member of the 9/11 Commission. Lehman was also a member of the Project for the New American Century and is a member of the neocon Committee on the Present Danger. Lehman was considered an odds-on favorite to have been named CIA director or Director of National Intelligence had John McCain won the presidency.

This editor’s Navy career was a casualty of participation in the FBI/NIS investigation of the national pedophile ring. Attempts to correct retaliatory fitness reports were rebuffed by the Navy Department and Lehman’s Judge Advocate General told this editor that the “needs of the Navy outweighed the career of one individual.”

Further attempts to have details of the story publicized by *Navy Times* and the *Eugene (OR) Register-Guard* were met with threats against the newspapers editors and publishers by top Navy and Defense Department officials.]

Wayne Madsen is a Washington based investigative journalist. www.WayneMadsenReport.com

The Real News Radio

Bringing the truth to the people...

Saturdays 10:00 AM
streaming at WSICweb.com
www.therealnewsradio.com



ONE DOLLAR DVD PROJECT

Quality DVDs in bulk - Zietgeist, Ron Paul, Alex Jones and more - one dollar dvd project .com (817)776-5475

Why We Must Prosecute Bush And His Administration For War Crimes

WAR CRIMES from p.3

against humanity,” spelled out in detail in the Geneva Conventions. As Tom Paine said long before the UN formalized the definition of aggression, “He who is the author of a war lets loose the whole contagion of Hell and opens a vein that bleeds a nation to death.”

A small sampling of the contagion of Hell let loose by Bush includes illegally invading a sovereign state, using banned weapons such as white phosphorous and napalm, bombing hospitals and civilian infrastructure, withholding aid and medical supplies, terrorizing and knowingly killing civilians, torturing prisoners, killing a million people and displacing four million more in Iraq alone.

Following World War II, humanity resolved that wars do more than spark a series of loathsome, individual crimes. Leaders responsible for a war actually commit crimes against the entirety of humanity. They inflict harm on every human being, something that must be put right before humanity can be restored.

There is a final reason why we must prosecute Bush and Co. It is not what some argue, although they point to a serious danger: that Bush trashed the law and usurped powers, encouraging future presidents to expand where he left off. Such reasons are about George Bush

and those who hold the office after him, but in the final analysis this is about us.

We are complicit in the horrors of this administration. We can claim neither ignorance nor innocence. We are complicit by the very fact that we are citizens of the United States, more so because we paid for the war, and even more so for this reason. Listen to a village sheik I met in Iraq describe it better than I ever could.

I met this man in a small farming village one afternoon in early 2004.

He described how he and a dozen others were swept up in a raid by the US Army and detained on a bare patch of ground surrounded by concertina wire. They had no shelter and but six blankets. They dug a hole with their hands for a toilet. They had to beg for water until one time it rained for three days straight and they remained on that open ground. He somehow found the graciousness to say he understood there was a difference between the American people and our government. Then through his tears he added, “But you say you live in a democracy. How can this be happening to us?”

Do we? Whether or not we bring our own government officials to justice their crimes will determine the answer.

Mike Ferner is a writer from Ohio and author of Inside the Red Zone: A Veteran For Peace Reports from Iraq. This article appeared on AfterDowningStreet.org

The Purloined Constitution

PURLOINED from p.3

criminal act has been committed...is something the Justice Department decides....That’s a decision I’d look to the Justice Department to make.” While stating he was “not ruling it in and not ruling it out,” Biden underscored that he and Obama are “focusing on the future.” “I think we should be looking forward, not backwards.” If this passed the smell test, people would smash store windows, calmly make off with expensive goods and coolly advise the cops to focus on the future replacement of the window glass.

A fourth big lie is so huge that it’s buried invisibly in the preceding paragraph. It is the claim that Democrats need to work with Republicans. The Democrats are an overwhelming majority in terms of public support with significant majorities in both houses of Congress and possession of the White House. If Democrats did not want Republican senators to be able to filibuster any bills, they would take one or more of the following steps: change the number of votes required for a filibuster, appoint one or more Republican senators from states with Democratic governors to cabinet positions or ambassadorships (aside from the Secretary of Labor nominee, it’s not as if they could be much worse than the current cabinet selections), or give Washington, D.C., voting representation in both houses of Congress.

Edgar Allen Poe told of a purloined letter effectively hidden by conspicuously placing it in plain sight. Our Constitution and the very idea of the rule of law now find themselves in a similar situation. There are variations, of course, on the idea of the rule of law. Often the judicial and penal systems are viewed as purely backward looking. For example, many people favor the death penalty in full awareness that it lowers, rather than increasing, deterrence of future crimes and eliminates the possibility of restitution or restoration. But an ethical system of criminal punishment, which indeed looks forward, still deals in every single case with crimes that have happened in the past. To ignore crimes that are in the past is to ignore all crimes, and therefore to permit all crimes in the future.

The corporate punditocracy puts on a

show of wondering whether crimes have been committed, while Bush and Cheney are on videotape confessing to authorizing torture, Bush is on videotape confessing to violating FISA, Bush is on videotape being warned about Hurricane Katrina and on videotape swearing he was not, the evidence that Bush and Cheney lied the nation into an illegal war is already public and beyond dispute, and at the same time that great minds ponder whether the water torture is really torture the common Bush-Cheney technique of beating the shit out of someone and breaking their bones is being employed against a guy who threw his shoes at the president.

The purloinedness of Bush’s violations of law was developed in a manner that would have astounded Poe when Bush ordered the creation of “legal opinions” supporting the violation of laws, such as those against torture, engaged in torturing, signed into law new bills redundantly recriminalizing torture, wrote “signing statements” erasing the new laws as just signed, and went right on torturing without anyone’s gaze drifting for an instant from a sharp focus on the latest bread and circuses. If Bush now takes the unprecedented step of pardoning the crimes he authorized, the big lie that this is neither unprecedented nor in conflict with maintaining any system of laws will seize us in its death grip .

But the bigger the lies, the harder they fall. The idea that there is some sort of doubt about Bush and Cheney’s criminal records is collapsing rapidly. Support for the idea of actually enforcing laws is spreading as swiftly as at any time since Moses came off the mountaintop. And our next president is going to run hard up against the fact that failure to prosecute violations of treaties is itself a criminal violation of those same treaties. Protecting a predecessor is going to mean endangering, not protecting, yourself. Paradoxical but true, and only the truth has a chance of setting us free.

David Swanson is the author of the upcoming book Daybreak: Undoing the Imperial Presidency and Forming a More Perfect Union and of the introduction to The 35 Articles of Impeachment and the Case for Prosecuting George W. Bush. Swanson is Co-Founder of AfterDowningStreet.org.

The Wall Street Ponzi Scheme Called Fractional Reserve Banking

PONZI from p.1

and Washington Mutual) suggests that all may not be as it seems on our online screens. Banks themselves are involved in a sort of Ponzi scheme, one that has been perpetuated for hundreds of years. What distinguishes the legal scheme known as “fractional reserve” lending from the illegal schemes of Bernie Madoff and his ilk is that the bankers’ scheme is protected by government charter and backstopped with government funds. At last count, the Federal Reserve and the US Treasury had committed \$8.5 trillion to bailing out the banks from their follies.¹ By comparison, M2, the largest measure of the money supply now reported by the Federal Reserve, was just under \$8 trillion in December 2008.² The sheer size of the bailout efforts indicates that the banking scheme has reached its mathematical limits and needs to be superseded by something more sustainable.

PENETRATING THE BANKERS’ PONZI SCHEME

What fractional reserve lending is and how it works is summed up in Wikipedia as follows:

“Fractional-reserve banking is the banking practice in which banks keep only a fraction of their deposits in reserve (as cash and other liquid assets) with the choice of lending out the remainder, while maintaining the simultaneous obligation to redeem all deposits immediately upon demand. This practice is universal in modern banking. . . .The nature of fractional-reserve banking is that there is only a fraction of cash reserves available at the bank needed to repay all of the demand deposits and banknotes issued. . . . When Fractional-reserve banking works, it works because:

“1. Over any typical period of time, redemption demands are largely or wholly offset by new deposits or issues of notes. The bank thus needs only to satisfy the excess amount of redemptions.

“2. Only a minority of people will actually choose to withdraw their demand deposits or present their notes for payment at any given time.

“3. People usually keep their funds in the bank for a prolonged period of time.

“4. There are usually enough cash reserves in the bank to handle net redemptions.

“If the net redemption demands are unusually large, the bank will run low on reserves and will be forced to raise new funds from additional borrowings (e.g. by borrowing from the money market or using lines of credit held with other banks), and/or sell assets, to avoid running out of reserves and defaulting on its obligations. If creditors are afraid that the bank is running out of cash, they have an incentive to redeem their deposits as soon as possible, triggering a bank run.”

Like in other Ponzi schemes, bank runs result because the bank does not actually have the funds necessary to meet all its obligations. Peter’s money has been lent to Paul, with the interest income going to the bank. As Elgin Groseclose, Director of the Institute for International Monetary Research, wryly observed in 1934:

“A warehouseman, taking goods deposited with him and devoting them to his own profit, either by use or by loan to another, is guilty of a tort, a conversion of goods for which he is liable in civil, if not in criminal, law. By a casuistry which is now elevated into an economic principle, but which has no defenders outside the realm of banking, a warehouseman who deals in money is subject to a diviner law: the banker is free to use for his private interest and profit the money left in trust. . . . He may even go further. He may create fictitious deposits on his books, which shall rank equally and ratably with actual deposits in any division of assets in case of liquidation.”³

How did the perpetrators of this scheme come to acquire government protection for what might otherwise have landed them in jail? A short history of the evolution of modern-day banking may be instructive.

THE EVOLUTION OF A GOVERNMENT-SANCTIONED PONZI SCHEME

What came to be known as fractional reserve lending dates back to the seventeenth century, when trade was conducted primarily in gold and silver coins. How it evolved was described by the Chicago Federal Reserve in a revealing booklet called “Modern Money Mechanics” like this:

“It started with goldsmiths. As early bankers, they initially provided safekeeping services, making a profit from vault storage fees for gold and coins deposited with them. People would redeem their “deposit receipts” whenever they needed gold or coins to purchase something, and physically take the gold or coins to the seller who, in turn, would deposit them for safekeeping, often with the same banker. Everyone soon found that it was a lot easier simply to use the deposit receipts directly as a means of payment. These receipts, which became known as notes, were acceptable as money since whoever held them could go to the banker and exchange them for metallic money.

“Then, bankers discovered that they could make loans merely by giving their promises to pay, or bank notes, to borrowers. In this way, banks began to create money. More notes could be issued than the gold and coin on hand because only a portion of the notes outstanding would be presented for payment at any one time. Enough metallic money had to be kept on hand, of course, to redeem whatever volume of notes was presented for payment.

“Transaction deposits are the modern counterpart of bank notes. It was a small step from printing notes to making book entries crediting deposits of borrowers, which the borrowers in turn could ‘spend’ by writing checks, thereby ‘printing’ their own money.”

If a landlord had rented the same house to five people at one time and pocketed the money, he would quickly have been jailed for fraud. But the bankers had devised a system in which they traded, not things of value, but paper receipts for them. It

was called “fractional reserve” lending because the gold held in reserve was a mere fraction of the banknotes it supported. The scheme worked as long as only a few people came for their gold at one time; but investors would periodically get suspicious and all demand their gold back at once. There would then be a run on the bank and it would have to close its doors. This cycle of booms and busts went on throughout the nineteenth century, culminating in a particularly bad bank panic in 1907. The public became convinced that the country needed a central banking system to stop future panics, overcoming strong congressional opposition to any bill allowing the nation’s money to be issued by a private central bank controlled by Wall Street. The Federal Reserve Act creating such a “bankers’ bank” was passed in 1913. Robert Owens, a co-author of the Act, later testified before Congress that the banking industry had conspired to create a series of financial panics in order to rouse the people to demand “reforms” that served the interests of the financiers.⁴

Despite this powerful official backstop, however, the greatest bank run in history occurred only twenty years later, in 1933. President Roosevelt then took the dollar off the gold standard domestically, and Federal Reserve officials resolved to prevent further bank runs after that by flooding the banking system with “liquidity” (money created as debt to banks) whenever the banking Ponzi scheme came up short.

“TOO BIG TO FAIL”: THE GOVERNMENT PROVIDES THE ULTIMATE BACKSTOP

When these steps too proved insufficient to keep the banking scheme going, the government itself stepped up to the plate, providing bailout money directly from the taxpayers. The concept that some banks were “too big to fail” came in at the end of the 1980s, when the Savings and Loans collapsed and Citibank lost 50 percent of its share price. Negotiations were conducted behind closed doors, and “too big to fail” became standard policy. Bank risk was effectively nationalized: banks were now protected by the government from loss regardless of risk-taking or bad management.

There are limits, however, to the amount of support even the government’s deep pocket can provide. In the past two decades, the bankers’ lending scheme has been kept going by an even more speculative scheme known as “derivatives.” This is a complex subject that has been explored in other articles, but the bottom line is that more dollars are now owed in the derivatives casino than exist on the planet. (See Ellen Brown, “It’s the Derivatives, Stupid!” and “Credit Default Swaps: Derivative Disaster Du Jour,” www.webofdebt.com/articles.) Attempting to fill the derivatives black hole with taxpayer money must inevitably be at the expense of other essential programs, such as Social Security and Medicare.

Interestingly, Social Security and Medicare themselves are in some sense Ponzi schemes, since earlier retirees collect their benefits from the contributions of later workers. These programs, too, may soon be facing bankruptcy, in this case because their mathematical models failed to account for a huge wave of Baby Boomers who would linger longer than previous generations and demand expensive drugs and care through their senior years, and because the fund money has been drawn on by the government for other purposes. The question here is, should the government be backstopping private banks that have mismanaged their investment portfolios at the expense of workers contractually entitled to a decent retirement from a fund they have paid into all their working lives? The answer, of course, is no; but there may be a way that the government could do both. If it were to nationalize the banking system completely – if the government were to assume not just the banks’ losses but their profits, oversight and control – it might have the funds both to maintain Social Security and Medicare and to provide a sustainable credit mechanism for the whole economy.

REPLACING PRIVATE WITH PUBLIC CREDIT

Readily available credit has made America “the land of opportunity” ever since the days of the American colonists. What has transformed this credit system into a Ponzi scheme that must continually be propped up with bailout money is that the credit power has been turned over to private parties who always require more money back than they create in the first place. Benjamin Franklin reportedly explained this defect in the eighteenth century. When the directors of the Bank of England asked what was responsible for the booming economy of the young colonies, Franklin explained that the colonial governments issued their own money, which they both lent and spent into the economy:

“In the Colonies, we issue our own paper money. It is called ‘Colonial Scrip.’ We issue it in proper proportion to make the goods pass easily from the producers to the consumers. In this manner, creating ourselves our own paper money, we control its purchasing power and we have no interest to pay to no one. You see, a legitimate government can both spend and lend money into circulation, while banks can only lend significant amounts of their promissory bank notes, for they can neither give away nor spend but a tiny fraction of the money the people need. Thus, when your bankers here in England place money in circulation, there is always a debt principal to be returned and usury to be paid. The result is that you have always too little credit in circulation to give the workers full employment. You do not have too many workers, you have too little money in circulation, and that which circulates, all bears the endless burden of unpayable debt and usury.”

In an article titled “A Monetary System for the New Millennium,” Canadian money reform advocate Roger Langrick explains his concept in contemporary terms. He begins by illustrating the

mathematical impossibility inherent in a system of bank-created money lent at interest:

“[I]magine the first bank which prints and lends out \$100. For its efforts it asks for the borrower to return \$110 in one year; that is it asks for 10% interest. Unwittingly, or maybe wittingly, the bank has created a mathematically impossible situation. The only way in which the borrower can return \$110 of the bank’s notes is if the bank prints, and lends, \$10 more at 10% interest... The result of creating \$100 and demanding \$110 in return, is that the collective borrowers of a nation are forever chasing a phantom which can never be caught; the mythical \$10 that were never created. The debt in fact is unrepayable. Each time \$100 is created for the nation, the nation’s overall indebtedness to the system is increased to \$110. The only solution at present is increased borrowing to cover the principal plus the interest on what has been borrowed.”

The better solution, says Langrick, is to allow the government to issue enough new debt-free dollars to cover the interest charges not created by the banks as loans:

“Instead of taxes, government would be empowered to create money for its own expenses up to the balance of the debt shortfall. Thus, if the banking industry created \$100 in a year, the government would create \$10 which it would use for its own expenses. Abraham Lincoln used this successfully when he created \$500 million of ‘greenbacks’ to fight the Civil War.”

NATIONAL CREDIT FROM A TRULY NATIONAL BANKING SYSTEM

In Langrick’s example, a private banking industry pockets the interest, which must be replaced every year by a 10 percent issue of new Greenbacks; but there is another possibility. The loans could be advanced by the government itself. The interest would then return to the government and could be spent back into the economy in a circular flow, without the need to continually issue more money to cover the interest shortfall.

The fractional reserve Ponzi scheme is bankrupt, and the banks engaged in it, rather than being bailed out by its victims, need to be put into a bankruptcy reorganization under the FDIC. The FDIC then has the recognized option of wiping their books clean and taking the banks’ stock in return for getting them up and running again. This would make them truly “national” banks, which could dispense “the full faith and credit of the United States” as a public utility. A truly national banking system could revive the economy with the sort of money only governments can issue – debt-free legal tender. The money would be debt-free to the government, while for the private sector, it would be freely available for borrowing at a modest interest by qualified applicants. A government-owned bank would not need to rob from Peter to advance credit to Paul. “Credit” is just an accounting tool – an advance against future profits, or the “monetization” (turning into cash) of the borrower’s promise to repay. As British commentator Ron Morrison observed in a provocative 2004 article titled “Keynes Without Debt”:

“[Today] bank credit supplies virtually all our everyday means of exchange, and this brings into sharp focus the simple fact that modern money is no longer constrained by outmoded intrinsic values. It is pure fiat [enforced by law] and simply a glorified accounting system. . . . Modern monetary reform is about displacing the current economic paradigm of ‘what can be afforded’ with ‘what we have the capacity to undertake.’”⁵

The objection to government-issued money has always been that it would be inflationary, but today some “reflating” of the economy could be a good thing. Just in the last year, more than \$7 trillion in purchasing power has disappeared from the money supply, including wealth destruction in real estate, stocks, mutual fund shares, life insurance and pension fund reserves.⁶ Money is evaporating because old loans are defaulting and new loans are not being made to replace them.

Fortunately, as Martin Wolf noted in the December 16 *Financial Times*, “Curing deflation is child’s play in a ‘fiat money’ — a man-made money — system.” The central banks just need to get money flowing into the economy again. Among other ways they could do this, says Wolf, is that “they might finance the government on any scale they think necessary.”⁷

Rather than throwing money at a failed private banking system, public credit could be redirected into infrastructure and other projects that would get the wheels of production turning again. The Ponzi scheme in which debt is just shuffled around, borrowing from one player to pay another without actually producing anything of real value, could be replaced by a system in which the “national credit card” became an engine for true productivity and growth. Increased “demand” (money) would come from earned wages and salaries that would increase “supply” (goods and services) rather than merely servicing a perpetually increasing debt. When supply keeps up with demand, the money supply can be increased without inflating prices. In this way the paradigm of “what we can afford” could indeed be superseded by “what we have the capacity to undertake.”

1. Kathleen Pender, “Government Bailout Hits \$8.5 Trillion,” *San Francisco Chronicle* (November 26, 2008).

2. “Federal Reserve Statistical Release H.6, Money Stock Measures,” www.federalreserve.gov (December 18, 2008).

3. Robert de Fremery, “Arguments Are Fallacious for World Central Bank,” *The Commercial and Financial Chronicle* (September 26, 1963), citing E. Groseclose, *Money: The Human Conflict*, pages 178-79.

4. Robert Owen, The Federal Reserve Act (1919); “Who Was Philander Knox?”, www.worldnewsstand.net/history/PhilanderKnox.htm. (1999).

5. Ron Morrison, “Keynes Without Debt,” www.prosperityuk.com/prosperity/articles/keynes.html (April 2004).

6. Martin Weiss, “Biggest Sea Change of Our Lifetime,” *Money and Markets* (December 22, 2008).

7. Martin Wolf, “Helicopter Ben! Confronts the Challenge of a Lifetime,” *Financial Times* (December 16, 2008).

Ellen Brown is the author of eleven books including Web of Debt, Forbidden Medicine, Nature’s Pharmacy (co-authored with Dr. Lynne Walker), and The Key to Ultimate Health (co-authored with Dr. Richard Hansen). Her websites are www.webofdebt.com and www.ellenbrown.com.

9/11 Truth Resources
for Fundraising & Visibility!

IN A TIME OF UNIVERSAL DECEIT
TELLING THE TRUTH
IS A REVOLUTIONARY ACT

9/11=INSIDE JOB

Postcards, T-shirts, Buttons
Stickers, DVDs, Posters & More!

911SharetheTruth.com

Call for Free DVD & Catalog - 707-442-5579

911

WAS AN INSIDE JOB

Create the World You Want to See

Since 1982 we have been assisting grassroots groups with their fundraising and awareness building efforts. We have over 700 buttons, 400 stickers, educational DVDs, T-shirts, rubberstamps, books and much more. Please call or write for a catalog or visit our website.

PEACE RESOURCE PROJECT

P.O.Box 1122
Arcata, CA 95518
707 268 1106

www.peaceproject.com

Defend Our Freedoms - Defend The Bill of Rights

9/11 Truth DVD Project

www.911dvdproject.com

Get the truth out
with DVDs from the 911 DVD Project.
Low cost DVDs of popular 911truth titles.

To place an order, send an e-mail to order911dvs@yahoo.com.
or call in your request for DVDs - (870) 866-3664

Republican IT Expert Dies in Suspicious Plane Crash

CONNELL from p.1

was hosted on the servers of a company in Chattanooga, Tennessee called SmarTech, which also provided hosting for a long list of Republican Internet domains.

Since early this decade, top Internet gurus in Ohio have been coordinating web services with their GOP counterparts in Chattanooga, wiring up a major hub that in 2004; first served as a conduit for Ohio’s live election night results, researchers at ePluribus Media wrote.

A few months after this revelation, when a scandal erupted surrounding the firing of US Attorneys for reasons of White House policy, other researchers found that the gwb43 domain used by members of the White House staff to evade Freedom of Information laws by sending emails outside of official White House channels was hosted on those same SmarTech servers.

Given that the Bush White House used SmarTech servers to send and receive email, the use of one of those servers in tabulating Ohio’s election returns has raised eyebrows. Ohio gave Bush the decisive margin in the Electoral College to secure his reelection in 2004.

IT expert Stephen Spoonamore says the SmartTech server could have functioned as a routing point for malicious activity and remains a weakness in electronic voting tabulation.

“...I have reason to believe that the alternate accounts were used to communicate with US Attorneys involved in political prosecutions, like that of Don Siegelman,” said RAW STORY’s Investigative News Editor, Larisa Alexandrovna, on her personal blog. “This is what I have been working on to prove for

over a year. In fact, it was through following the Siegelman-Rove trail that I found evidence leading to Connell. That is how I became aware of him. Mike was getting ready to talk. He was frightened.

“He has flown his private plane for years without incident. I know he was going to DC last night, but I don’t know why. He apparently ran out of gas, something I find hard to believe. I am not saying that this was a hit nor am I resigned to this being simply an accident either. I am no expert on aviation and cannot provide an opinion on the matter. What I am saying, however, is that given the context, this event needs to be examined carefully.

“Mr. Connell has confided that he was being threatened, something that his attorneys also told the judge in the Ohio election fraud case,” concluded Alexandrovna.

An FAA investigation into the causes of Connell’s plane crash is under way, but no results are expected for several weeks.

[Editors Note: The fireball reported by witnesses and the fuel fire visible in YouTube video of the crash scene would seem to rule out the possibility that Connell’s plane ran out of gas. Just three days before the crash, on Dec. 16, Wayne Madsen was reporting that Democratic party insiders in Ohio were confident that Connell’s testimony would put Karl Rove behind bars for the massive fraud and election theft in Ohio in 2004. In July 2008 Connell’s attorneys sent a letter to the DOJ requesting protection for Michael Connell and his family based on credible threats. Karl Rove had allegedly threatened that if Connell would not “take the fall” for election theft in Ohio they would go after Connell’s wife Heather for lobby law violations. A copy of the letter is available at WayneMadsenReport.com]

Who Benefits from a Divided Iraq?

DIVIDED IRAQ from p.3

Sunnis bomb their own shrine, and then receive retaliation for the attack? Iraqis are fully aware that reporting of these events is a lie because they know who controls their famous shrines. But for those ignorant of Iraqi culture, this is a plausible story.

Joost Hilterman, the Middle East Project Director of International Crisis Group, on the February 27, 2006 “Diane Rehm Show” said on air, “There’s a widespread conspiracy theory inside Iraq, among Iraqis of all kinds, that in fact from the beginning the United States wanted them to break up.” Minutes later, another guest, A. Heather Coyne of the Center for Mediation and Conflict Resolution said, “The Iraqis, when I first got to Iraq three years ago, liked to talk about themselves as Iraqis first. They did not think of themselves as Sunni and Shiite. Over the last year, that’s become a more acceptable part of the political dialogue....reality has started to set in.”

But whose reality? Who benefited? Iraqis don’t benefit from blowing up their own mosques and markets, but terrorism has helped strengthen support for the US occupation. One Iraqi claimed on the September 4, 2008 NPR “Morning Edition” show, “When my country became occupied, I exercised my legal and legitimate right to fight the occupiers.” Shihab says, “When al Qaeda started killing innocent people in this country, I turned against them and began working with the Americans.”

US General Myers in September 2004 said, “There’s not much evidence to support Iraqis involved in suicide operations. It’s counter to their culture. They have a relatively secular society.... This doesn’t compute.” But what can explain the anomalous violence? “US trainers of the 1980s El Salvador death squads are now training squads in Iraq” (*Newsweek*, 1/14/05). An article in *The Guardian* on September 19, 2005 claimed “two British soldiers, allegedly dressed as Arabs, opened fire on a police patrol killing one officer and wounding another.” In the British *Sunday Times* of March 19, 2006, a British agent reveals M15 detonators purchased in America used in Northern Ireland are the origin of the Iraq roadside bombs. Referring to the terrorism in Iraq, Iran’s Ayatollah said in August 2005, “There are some signs who point to the spy services of the US.” What’s the role of Al Qaeda? The front page of *The Washington Post* on April 10, 2006 stated, “The US military is conducting a propaganda campaign to magnify the role of the leader of al-Qaeda in Iraq, according to internal military documents and officers familiar with the program.”

The Western empires have a history of fomenting new divisions, such as the creation of Pakistan in India, and the sponsoring of African tribal wars. “The question is who is committing these crimes. It’s an attempt to make us assume that the Sunnis are committing these crimes, but it is not,” an Iraqi government advisor said in a May 17, 2005 CNN article. Kubba continues, “We know it is a very small group that specifically wants to provoke that

sectarian strife.” And of course to find the culprits we should always follow the money. “Money given out by coalition forces to fund rebuilding projects in Iraq is instead being used to finance resistance attacks” says *The London Telegraph*, July, 12, 2003. Is US funding, arming, and training of terrorists a result of military incompetence? Is it a coincidence that these series of controlled blunders resemble the divide and conquer strategy of European empires?

And what of the suicide bombers, who often when captured seem drugged and brainwashed? Many “al Qaeda” operatives are the results of policies at Guantanamo Bay. According to *The New York Times* article on July 2, 2008, titled “China Inspired Interrogations at Guantanamo,” the US interrogation techniques used “reduces [the] prisoner to ‘animal level’ concerns” where they are “brainwashed.” Is it possible to use torture and coercion to create a suicide bomber? Even mainstream critics of Guantanamo Bay claim these oppressive detention tactics are creating more enemies.

So the only question is: incompetence or by design? According to a June 17, 2008 article of the *McClatchy Newspapers* titled, “Militants found recruits among Guantanamo’s wrongly detained,” one former detainee asked “if you torture someone without any reason, what do you expect?” But according to the article, Jihad recruitment was happening inside of the Guantanamo prison right under our watchful eye. One detainee with no terror ties when captured in 2002 became a well-known militant after he was released in 2003. Is this incompetence or by design?

After the Iraq invasion, the Guantanamo-type torture methods expanded tremendously, and in the same proportion as did terrorism in Iraq. Opportunities to expand the terrorism recruitment program during the war were vast. Referring to US prison facilities in Iraq, US Marine General Douglas said in an April 28, 2008 CNN article, “It most assuredly was a jihadist university.” General Douglas cleaned up two major facilities in May 2007, coincidentally one month before “The Surge” had been fully implemented. A major reduction in the violence in Iraq was caused by shutting down the US “Al Qaeda Universities” in addition to the cleric Muqtada al-Sadr US ceasefire. Was “The Surge” timed to allow the US to take credit for the reduction in violence, or is it just another coincidence?

Our enemy is of our own creation, but will Obama end the farcical War on Terror? Now, according to a June 2, 2008 *Guardian* article, “the United States is operating ‘floating prisons’ to house those arrested in its war on terror, according to human rights lawyers, who claim there has been an attempt to conceal the numbers and whereabouts of detainees.”


Where will we fight terrorists next? Probably where these prison ships dock.

Khalid Rosenbaum is an historian and school administrator in Maryland.

VISIBILITY 9/11

WITH

MICHAEL WOLSEY



www.VISIBILITY911.com

VISIBILITY 9/11

with **Michael Wolsey**

The Podcast of the 9/11 truth movement. A weekly conversation about the events of 9/11 and what they mean for America. New guests every week.

Listen to VISIBILITY 9/11 on your computer, or any MP3 player.

Change Needs Truth

President Obama, help America learn the truth about 9/11

The following are some of the many aspects of 9/11 that demonstrate the need for a new, independent investigation of that event.

The 9/11 Commission

“I don’t believe for a minute that we got everything right....

[W]e were set up to fail.”

— Lee Hamilton, Co-Chair, 9/11 Commission, in CBC News interview, 8/21/2006

- Despite pleas from the victims’ families, the Bush White House refused for more than a year to appoint a 9/11 commission, and Bush and Cheney had each privately asked Senate Majority Leader Daschle to “limit the congressional investigation.”¹ They agreed only to be questioned together, behind closed doors, off the record and not under oath.²
- Before any hearings had begun, staff director Philip Zelikow, a White House insider, secretly outlined in detail all conclusions for the report, alarming 9/11 Commission staff.³ It was later revealed that Zelikow had already drafted the “Bush Doctrine” used to justify preemptive war.⁴
- The Commissioners were shocked that FAA, NORAD, and Pentagon officials gave testimony that “was just so far from the truth.”⁵ They reported it for possible criminal referral to the Justice Department. The co-chairs later accused the CIA of obstruction for covering up and destroying detainee interrogation videotapes.⁶ To date, no one has been prosecuted.

Air Defense

“It was hard to figure out how they had failed to shoot down at least one of the planes.”

— Thomas Kean and Lee Hamilton, Co-Chairs, Without Precedent: The Inside Story of the 9/11 Commission (2006), p. 259

- Air Force fighter jets that routinely intercept hijacked planes within minutes were not deployed “in accord with preexisting training and protocols.”⁷ Ironically, multiple “war games” simulating plane hijackings were being conducted that morning, causing confusion during the attacks.⁸
- On 9/11, US air defenses were under the command of Vice President Cheney,⁹ and there is sworn testimony contradicting the shoot-down orders he claims to have given.¹⁰

The Hijackers

“At the top of my list [of unanswered questions] is, I could never figure out why these nineteen fellas did what they did... they were apparently happy, well-adjusted, not particularly religious....”

— Lee Hamilton, Co-Chair, 9/11 Commission CBC News interview, 8/21/2006

- FBI field agents who reported suspicious Arabs in flight schools were ordered by their superiors not to investigate.¹¹ Of the 19 Arab hijackers named, six were reported still alive after 9/11;¹² others had been under the watch of FBI agents and had trained at CIA-operated flight schools.¹³
- Ringleader Mohammed Atta’s lifestyle grossly violated Islamic law, and his known movements were oddly inconsistent with the purported 9/11 mission.¹⁴ In August 2001, he received \$100,000 via Pakistani intelligence, our allies at the time.¹⁵
- Alleged Flight 77 hijacker Hani Hanjour, who “had trouble controlling and landing [a] single-engine Cessna,”¹⁶ supposedly flew a 757 jumbo jet into the Pentagon in “a pivot so tight that it reminded observers of a fighter jet maneuver.”¹⁷
- Investigators wondered why the target chosen was the relatively empty side of the Pentagon that was being renovated, rather than the easier, more direct approach into the offices of then Defense Secretary Rumsfeld and top military brass.¹⁸



Hope
28 1/2" x 30 1/8"
pigmented print
ext. 50
© Elly Simmons 2006

REPRESENTING
Elly Simmons Shiri Mordechai Brian Moore Paul Gibson D Truthsayer
Manny Fabergass Samanta Telle Ryan Trumpler T. Joseph Enos

BID ONLINE
www.pigmangallery.org

415 546 3921

FREE DELIVERY AND INSTALLATION TO THE WASHINGTON AREA



The South Tower falls just 56 minutes after being struck by a plane.

The Destruction

“Floor by floor, it started popping out...all the way down... It was as if they had detonated it, planned to take down... the building, boom-boom-boom-boom-boom-boom-boom...”

— Eyewitness firefighters, 9/11, Naudet documentary film

- In the Twin Towers, 118 eyewitness firefighters reported hearing and seeing a series of loud explosions or bombs.¹⁹
- The 47 massive steel core columns should have remained standing. “Engineers and other experts have been struggling to answer...how the buildings, designed to sustain a jet impact, completely collapsed.” Pieces of steel “melted and vaporized... but no fire in any of the buildings was believed to be hot enough to melt steel outright.”²⁰
- A third steel-framed skyscraper, WTC 7, which was not even hit by a plane, “also collapsed for unknown reasons” in a 7-second free-fall, and its steel beams likewise mysteriously melted. “Sulfur released during the fires — no one knows from where—” rapidly accelerated the melting.²¹
- FEMA scientists found “evidence of severe high temperature corrosion attack on the steel, including oxidation and sulfidation,” calling it “a very unusual event” with “no clear explanation for the source of the sulfur.”²² Sulfur is used in thermate, a military-grade demolition compound that instantly cuts through steel, but NIST rejected outright any hypothesis of a controlled demolition.²³
- An executive at Underwriters Laboratories (UL), which had certified the WTC steel, was fired after he wrote to NIST that its conclusion of low-temperature fires softening the steel “just does not add up.”²⁴ NIST’s final report on WTC 7 in August 2008 ignored all physical evidence, using only computer simulations to support its conclusion.²⁵

The Blame

“The Justice Department [has decided], so far, to not seek formal criminal charges against Bin Laden.”

— The Washington Post, 8/28/2006, A13

- Osama Bin Laden has denied any involvement.²⁶ The translation of the December 2001 “confession” video has been found to be “inaccurate” and “manipulative.”²⁷ Bin Laden tapes released later were proven to be faked.²⁸
- The post-9/11 anthrax attacks, disguised as acts of Arab terrorism, were traced to an American “with high-ranking military intelligence connections.”²⁹ Targeted senators had opposed the USA PATRIOT Act. Many do not believe the FBI’s theory blaming a lone scientist who committed suicide,³⁰ yet the investigation ended.

Exposing the 9/11 cover-up is the only way to bring about real change in America.

Evidence shows that the 9/11 attacks and anthrax murders provided the “new Pearl Harbor” prescribed by Neocon-servatives³¹ to win immediate public support for previously planned security legislation (USA PATRIOT Act, Homeland Security Dept.) and their desired wars and occupation in the Middle East, so as to control the region and its resources. The attacks could not have occurred without high-level complicity from inside the US government.³² Similar “false flag” operations have been used by powerful interests throughout history to take a nation to war, including by our own government, according to recent declassified documents.³³ Facing this reality, however difficult, is critical to changing the disastrous course set for our country eight years ago.

“Let us never tolerate outrageous conspiracy theories concerning the attacks of September the 11th; malicious lies that attempt to shift the blame away from the terrorists themselves, away from the guilty.”

— George W. Bush at the UN, November 10, 2001

Justice Demands Accountability.

To our fellow concerned citizens: For the sake of the 9/11 victims and their families and for the safety, freedom and honor of every American, learn the truth and tell others. Challenge the media to stop repeating the lies and the cover-up. Urge your senators and representatives to open a new, truly independent investigation—wherever it may lead. Join the steadily growing nonpartisan 9/11 Truth movement, and demand justice.

Some are guilty; all are responsible.

—Rabbi Abraham Heschel (1907-1972)

1. “Bush asks Daschle to limit Sept. 11 probes,” CNN.com, 1/29/2002
2. “Bush, Cheney meet with 9/11 panel,” CNN.com, 4/30/2004
3. Philip Shenon, The Commission: The Uncensored History of the 9/11 Investigation, p. 389
4. “A Lack of Intelligence,” The New York Times, 4/13/2008
5. “9/11 Panel Suspected Deception by Pentagon,” The Washington Post, 8/22/06, A03
6. Kean and Hamilton, “Stonewalled by the C.I.A.,” The New York Times, Op-Ed, 1/2/2008
7. The 9/11 Commission Report, p. 31
8. “How Government Officials Reacted to Sept. 11 Attacks,” ABC News, 9/14/2002; “NORAD had drills of jets as weapons,” USA Today, 4/19/2004
9. “Cheney recalls taking charge from bunker,” CNN.com, 9/11/2002
10. “Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta, 9/11 Commission hearings, 5/23/2003; also on YouTube.com
11. “The Bombshell Memo,” Colleen Rowley’s 13-page letter to FBI Director, Time, 5/21/2002
12. “Hijack ‘suspects’ alive and well,” BBC News, 9/23/2001 (modified by BBC editors on 10/27/2006)
13. “Alleged Hijackers May Have Trained at US Bases,” Newsweek, 9/15/2001; “Exclusive: The Informant Who Lived With The Hijackers,” Newsweek, 9/16/2002
14. “Terrorists lasted lusty lifestyle they so despised,” USAToday.com, 9/25/2001; The 9/11 Commission Report, p. 451, n.1
15. “India helped FBI trace ISI-terrorist links,” The Times of India, 10/9/2001
16. “Tracing Trail of Hijackers,” Newsday, 9/23/2001
17. “The Washington Post, 9/12/2001, A01; ‘A Trainee Noted for Incompetence,’ The New York Times, 5/4/2002
18. “Pentagon, a Vulnerable Building, Hit in Least Vulnerable Spot,” Los Angeles Times, 9/16/2001
19. 9/11 Oral Histories, The New York Times, 8/12/2005; Evidence, firefightersfo r911truth.org
20. “A Search for Clues in Towers’ Collapse; Engineers Volunteer to Examine Steel Debris Taken to Scrapyards,” The New York Times, 2/22/2002
21. Ibid., The New York Times, 2/22/2002
22. FEMA 403, WTC Building Performance Study, Appendix C, Sept. 2002
23. “Physicist says heat substance felled WTC,” Deseret (Utah) News, 4/10/2006
24. See 11/11/2004 email from Kevin Ryan (Underwriters Laboratories, Inc.) to Frank Gayle at NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology)
25. Kevin Ryan (UL), “The NIST WTC 7 Report: Bush Science reaches its peak,” 9/11Truth.org, 9/11/2008
26. “Bin Laden says he wasn’t behind attacks,” CNN.com, 9/17/2001
27. “Mistranslated Osama bin Laden Video - the German Press Investigates,” www.fpp.co.uk, 12/23/2001
28. “Bin Laden tape a fake, Swiss lab says,” Associated Press, 11/28/2002; “Duke Professor Skeptical of bin Laden Tape,” ABC11 News (Raleigh, NC), 1/19/2006
29. “Anthrax killer ‘is US defence insider,’” BBC News, 8/18/2002
30. “Senator, Target of Anthrax Letter, Challenges F.B.I. Finding,” The New York Times, 9/17/2008
31. “Rebuilding America’s Defenses” (Sept. 2000), Project for the New American Century.
32. Most of the signatories held key positions in the Bush administration. See “PNAC,” wikipedia.org
33. Dr. Robert M. Bowman, Lt. Col., USAF, ret., former combat/intercept pilot, Director of SDI programs under Presidents Ford and Carter, at American Scholars Symposium: 9/11+ the Neo-Con Agenda, 6/25/2006, YouTube.com, C-SPANArchives.org. See also the article at us
33. Operation Northwoods, ABCNews.com, 5/1/2001; gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/news/20010430; Gulf of Tonkin evidence “deliberately skewed,” The New York Times, 12/2/2005; nsa.gov/vietnam/index.cfm; See also “false flag” and “COINTELPRO,” wikipedia.org

dc **911** truth.org

killed

“Your government failed you.”

INAUGURATE YOURSELF!

THE NATIONWIDE CARAVAN OF PEACE AND TRUTH

Counter-Inauguration Party

Jan 20, 6:00pm Arlington, VA

Inaugurate yourself under the banner of peace, nonviolence, and government transparency.

\$15 * 6-10 PM at Lyon Park Community Center
414 N. Fillmore St., Arlington, VA

Special Guests:

Webster Tarpley: author of *Obama: The Postmodern Coup: The Making of a Manchurian Candidate*

Sander Hicks: founder of Vox Pop and author of *The Big Wedding, 9/11, the Whistle-Blowers, and the Cover-Up.*

Matt Sullivan: founder and editor of the *Rock Creek Free Press*