



LEAKED MEMO PROVES BUSH LIED ON IRAQ

By Greg Szymanski

An explosive memo sent to Britain's prime minister and others by a former foreign policy aide clearly shows President Bush "doctored" intelligence reports prior to the Iraqi invasion in order to justify war based on weapons of mass destruction.

The potentially damaging memo was leaked to the London press this week, revealing an internal memo sent on July 23, 2002, by Matthew Rycroft, a former defense policy aide. Rycroft addressed his concerns about America's deceptive "rush to war" to Britain's heads of state, including the prime minister, defense secretary, foreign secretary and attorney general.

Since the United States invaded Iraq based on an imminent threat of weapons of mass destruction, the Bush administration has stood firm on its decision to topple Saddam Hussein, claiming it should not now be blamed for faulty intelligence reports. To date no WMDs have ever been uncovered in Iraq, and serious questions have been raised about America's "rush to judgment" in attacking Iraq.

The memo, which has been verified as "Secret and Personal—For UK Eyes Only," clearly shows the Bush administration lied to the American people about its basis for going to war in Iraq. To date over 1,600 American troops have been killed in the fighting, and approximately 100,000

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BILDERBERG EXPOSED

World Shadow Government Uncovered by AFP Again

By James P. Tucker Jr.

What kind of a world does the elite plan for you? Since 1954, the Bilderberg group, with the collaboration of the mainstream media, has been meeting in secret, behind closed and heavily guarded doors, to make decisions affecting virtually everyone on Earth. This year, Bilderberg was exposed at a posh resort in a tiny village 40 miles from Munich.

Bilderberg has roughly 120 participants, including international financiers, heads of state and other high officials from Europe and North America. U.S. luminaries include David Rockefeller and Henry Kissinger.

All recent presidents, except the current George W. Bush, have been linked, either directly or by involvement with Bilderberg's brother group, the Trilateral Commission. The two groups have interlocking leadership and a common agenda. Here are some past presidents who have been connected:

Jerry Ford, Bilderberg; Jimmy Carter, Trilateral; Ronald Reagan, a critic of the Trilateralists until entering the White House, where he held a reception for them; Bush the Elder, Trilateral; and Bill Clinton, Bilderberg.

The White House and the departments of state,



BANKING ON IT: Above, incoming World Bank director Paul Wolfowitz (right) talks with Etienne Davignon, the powerful globalist banker who was behind getting Europe to accept the euro.

defense and treasury are always represented at Bilderberg, along with other high officials. They lie and say they are attending no such meeting. The ritzy resort that Bilderberg takes over, banishing all other guests, also lies and says no such meeting is taking place.

See this week's center spread for the full report on this year's meeting of the shadowy Bilderberg group. ★

Soldier With Conscience Gets Break

By Mark Anderson

Amilitary judge presiding over the case of a U.S. soldier who was charged with desertion for refusing to return to Iraq has issued an unusual ruling that surprised everyone in the courtroom—including the attorneys for both sides.

Lawyers for U.S. Army Sgt. Kevin Benderman had argued that the military investigation into charges that Benderman is a deserter was biased against him from the start. The judge agreed, and tossed out the investigation.

For now, the judge's decision had ended the court-martial. But it hasn't ended there, as the charges of desertion

still remain against Benderman. With a possible second court-martial, a final decision could take weeks.

Previously Benderman had been dealt a setback in his

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BILDERBERG 2005 REPORT INSIDE!

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PERSONAL

From the Editor

THE BIG NEWS FOR THE PAST FEW WEEKS has been Bilderberg, and, as AFP's senior editor James P. Tucker Jr. witnessed May 6 through May 8, this year's secretive confab was truly a spectacle. At that time, the world's elites gathered behind locked doors and heavily armed guards near Munich in a five-star resort to discuss critical issues of the day. As Jim reports, the topics of discussion this year included furthering free trade, a tax on oil, Middle East peace, the war in Iraq and talk of an attack on Iran.

Of course, these were secret meetings and were never reported in the mainstream media. Despite the fact that the publisher of *The Washington Post* attended along with a host of international reporters and editors, *American Free Press* remains the only national newspaper in the United States that reports on Bilderberg.

Americans need to realize that this is not what our Founding Fathers intended with this great republican experiment; in fact, it is the antithesis. As you read our coverage in this issue, ask yourself: Who do you trust for the unvarnished truth in this day—a mainstream press that covers up for self-serving business elites, power brokers and policymakers? Or *American Free Press*, the nation's last uncensored, non-corporate national newspaper? We think the answer is obvious. Only by exposing the shadowy machinations of groups like Bilderberg and their enablers can we hope to take our country back. Please order extra copies of this issue and pass them out to friends and family members. Call AFP's Circulation Department for more information, or see the advertisement on page B4.



Christopher Petherick
Managing Editor



Europeans Not Wolfowitz Fans; Neocon Feared

A member of the European Parliament is attempting to block the appointment of the Bilderberg group's Paul Wolfowitz as president of the World Bank. Caroline Lucas of the Green Party has drafted a written declaration and asked other members to sign on. If half of the 732 members sign, it will become the Parliament's official position. "As a leader of the neo-con movement, his belief in unfettered free markets and a philosophy that [what is] in the U.S. [read Israel] interest is thereby [in] the interest of the entire world spells disaster for many countries in the developing world," Miss Lucas said.

Best Friend to the End

James Gonzales said he was able to escape a fire in his third-floor apartment because his 16-year-old dog, Otis, died leading him to safety. As blinding smoke filled his apartment, he said, he followed the sounds of Otis's barking toward the door. Gonzales escaped with second-degree burns to his arms and a cut on his head caused by falling debris. Otis "succumbed to the smoke and heat," the Providence, R.I., fire marshal said. Gonzales had adopted Otis as a puppy.

More Medical Madness

A memo from drug maker Merck & Co. shows that its executives were concerned about high levels of mercury in children's vaccinations nearly eight years before federal health officials disclosed the threat, *The Los Angeles Times* reports. Six-month-old children who received the shots could get a mercury dose up to 89



Scalia Scolds Colleagues

Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia scolded judicial colleagues who do not follow the original meaning of the Constitution in a speech at Texas A&M University, Reuters reports. Scalia ridiculed the popular notion among judges today who view the Constitution as "a living document" to be interpreted in the context of the times. "I'm trying to sell you a dead Constitution," Scalia joked. "No, I can package it better than that—the enduring Constitution."

times higher than the guidelines for maximum daily consumption of mercury from fish, according to the March, 1991 memo obtained by the *Times*.

Poisoning Young Minds

When energetic children used to get rowdy, they were told to sit down and be quiet. Now they are given

medications such as Adderall to calm their "attention deficit disorder." But, Associated Press reports, some of these prescription medications are addictive. As they grow older and no longer hyperactive, the children find they have become addicted.

Crowded Solar System

"Schoolchildren of 2030 will be taught that our quaint view of a nine-planet [solar] system was myopic, for technology will ultimately reveal that our system has many more planets than we could have ever dreamed of," writes scientist Alan Stern in *Discover* magazine.

Missed Goals

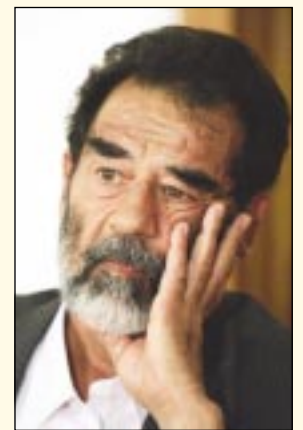
In April, the Army missed its recruiting goal for the third month in a row, short by nearly 2,800 recruits, or 42 percent off its target. And for the first time in 10 years, the Marine Corps missed its recruiting goal for four months in a row.

Is It Drafty in Here?

According to the Associated Press, more than 40 percent of the ground troops currently operating in Iraq have been from the Army's National Guard or Reserve. Guard officials warn that by the end of this year they're going to run out of additional troops. Can you say "draft"?

Terrorist Arrested

An ex-Israeli army soldier living in Queens, New York, has been arrested for plotting to buy a half-dozen hand grenades, reports Associated Press. Police searching his apartment found an Uzzi machine gun and ammunition. Police told Associated Press that 57-year-old Joshua Hedvat had made threats against a judge, a rabbi and Sen. Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.).



Saddam Offered His Freedom?

Several months ago, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld reportedly paid a secret visit to Saddam Hussein and offered him freedom and a possible return to public life if he made a televised request to resistance groups for a ceasefire with allied forces, according to the London Arabic daily *Al-Quds al-Arabi*. Saddam promptly rejected the offer, the paper said.

Prison for Your Thoughts

Israel's national legislature, the Knesset, has unanimously passed legislation, on first reading, that would make questioning details about the Jewish holocaust of World War II anywhere in the world an offense under Israeli jurisdiction. If a student or historian in America, for example, publicly disputed controversial aspects of the holocaust he could be kidnapped, brought to Israel and thrown in jail.

Illegals Demand ID

Maryland is one of the few states that will pass out drivers licenses to illegal aliens and require no proof of legal residence. So it was in a Maryland suburb of Washington where they held a rally for immigration rights. Michael Graham, who hosts a radio talkie and opposes illegal immigration, arrived to cover the rally. He was denied entry—because he lacked ID, organizers said.

Cloudy Cover

On April 27, President George W. Bush was rushed into the fortified bunker under the White House and Vice President Dick Cheney was whisked away to an undisclosed location following a report that an unidentified object was flying toward Washington at the speed of a helicopter, reports *The Washington Post*. As an anti-aircraft missile battery on the roof of a nearby building was raised to the fire position, a helicopter was scrambled to take a look, but saw nothing except a few clouds, one of which turned out to be the culprit.

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Editorial: Caesar's Demise

THIS ISSUE, AS IN THE PAST, *American Free Press* is proud to bring subscribers exclusive, vastly important news about the gang of would-be world government bosses—conspirators who like to think of themselves as architects of the New World Order.

Patriots of all nations need to be alert to the scheming of these outlaws because indeed, that is exactly what they are, just as our Jim Tucker makes clear.

This year, Jim has outdone himself with his report. As veteran readers know, Jim has been following the spoor of Bilderberg for over 20 years, starting with the onetime newspaper of Liberty Lobby, *The Spotlight*, until that venerable and highly respected institution was closed down by two purposeful change agents masquerading as judges.

Can it really be true? Is the entire news media in America and indeed the western world engaged in a conspiracy to suppress important news—news that directly affects all consumers, taxpayers and voters? The answer to this question is totally against everything we have been taught and everything that we, as citizens of an allegedly free nation, are supposed to believe. But here is the undeniable proof—proof that American voters in reality have about as much to say in the operation of “their” government as mannequins in a department store window.

At this point, we must congratulate a few courageous publications in Germany and elsewhere that are striving to expose the Bilderberg conspiracy, such as *Matrix*, *Deutsche Geschichte* and *Zeiten Schrift*.

It is clear from our report that the secret forces relentlessly pushing people into a world government they certainly do not want feel themselves to be an irresistible force, and this will prove to be the case unless a sufficient number of good people resolve to stop them.

This brings to mind the famous question from Cassius in Shakespeare's play *Julius Caesar*: “Upon what meat doth this Caesar feed that he is grown so great?” Caesar soon lay bloody on the floor. These would-be Caesars should take his example to heart. The force of informed public opinion is always greater than that of pompous fools inflated with their self-importance and it is up to us to be sure that they fail in their criminal conspiracy.

You can be sure that we will do our part to confront and combat these conspirators and the rest is up to you. We are printing a lot of extra copies of this issue of AFP so you can distribute as many as possible. This is where you come in. Please respond with the order coupon on page B-4. ★

Israeli Higher-Up Questioned in Probe

By Richard Walker

FOLLOWING the recent arrest and indictment of top Pentagon official, Lawrence Franklin, on espionage charges, evidence is beginning to emerge of a widening of the FBI probe into his links to Israel.

Franklin was charged in a Virginia court with disclosing “top secret” intelligence related to the U.S. military in Iraq to two unnamed men whom some reports have identified as executives of the powerful Washington-based Israeli lobby group, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC).

Now it appears the FBI has expanded its focus beyond AIPAC and has interviewed figures such as Uzi Arad, an Israeli defense expert and head of his country's Institute for Policy and Strategy.

In 2003 and 2004, Franklin attended conferences at the institute which is based at Herzliya and met Arad. Arad's career has included roles in the Israeli intelligence service, Mossad, and in the cabinet of former prime minister and political hawk, Benjamin Netanyahu.

According to Arad, he told the FBI he met Franklin at Herzliya and later had coffee with him at the Pentagon.

But, aside from those meetings, the FBI wanted Arad to explain Franklin's connection to

another Israeli, Eran Lerman. Arad told the Feds that Lerman, a member of the American Jewish Committee who had once served as an intelligence officer in the Israeli Defense Forces, was a speaker at a conference Franklin attended in Herzliya in 2004. Lerman's role at the conference was to deliver a paper, commissioned by Arad's institute, on the state of strategic relations between Israel and America. Lerman believed the strategic relationship between the two countries had been weakened and needed a new infusion of commitment by both sides.

In a search of Franklin's home, the FBI found a copy of Lerman's research paper, and they asked Arad why he had personally sent it to Franklin. Arad replied that it had not been sent as a personal copy but was one of scores later mailed to people like Franklin who had attended the conference at which Lerman delivered the paper.

Arad has publicly confirmed that the FBI interviewed him about all these matters but has stressed that the interview was brief and took place in Washington while he was *en route* to catch a flight to Israel.

Some insiders contend that extensive FBI interviews point to the agency's interest in Franklin's connections to people with links to the highest levels of policymaking, intelligence and military affairs in Israel. ★



UZI ARAD

Editorial: War Is a Racket & Our Sons & Daughters Pay Price

AMERICAN FREE PRESS IS A NATIONALIST, not a pacifist, newspaper. We believe in a strong national defense and that it is vital to Defend America First. We respect our men and women in uniform and support them wholeheartedly.

However, we do have serious questions about the political, religious and ideological motivations of armchair civilian warhawks who are dictating the policies of our government today. Our philosophy echoes that of the original America First Committee—chaired by General Robert Wood—which described its philosophy as follows:

DEFEND with all the might, skill, means and resources that make America the greatest nation on Earth. With sanity and unselfish efficiency and concentration on our own preparedness now, we can smash any nation which is foolish enough to think it can launch a 3,000 mile blitzkrieg.

AMERICA is the one hope and our first allegiance. Our fathers built it and it is up to us to see that it is not dragged back into the ancient hate and strife which they left Europe to escape.

FIRST we must make ourselves strong. America needs every ship and every plane it can make. As long as we are



BUTLER

Major General Smedley Darlington Butler (1881-1940), the highly decorated U.S. Marine Corps hero (and winner of two Congressional Medals of Honor), who said, forthrightly, that “War is a Racket.” Here's a portion of what Butler had to say in 1933 about his own wartime experiences. It is worth pondering as America ventures abroad in search of enemies near and far:

War is just a racket—something that is not what it seems to the majority of people. Only a small inside group knows what it is about. It is conducted for the benefit of the very few at the expense of the masses. I believe in adequate defense at the coastline and nothing else. If a nation comes over here to fight, then we'll fight. I

unprepared it is suicide to talk of giving what little we have to another nation. After we have built a two-fisted defense for America, then and only then can we afford to put sympathy beside patriotism.

In that spirit, *American Free Press* opposes U.S. meddling abroad—reckless imperial intervention that only makes America enemies, brings vast profits to international banking houses and arms manufacturers, and racks up vast national debt that enchains America's consumers, taxpayers and voters.

wouldn't go to war again as I have done to protect some lousy investment of the bankers.

There are only two things we should fight for. One is the defense of our homes and the other is the Bill of Rights. War for any other reason is simply a racket.

In the spirit of unabashed American patriotism, *American Free Press* is proud to put forth this special Memorial Day tribute to those who died in foreign wars and a plea that, in the future, the only wars that American men and women must fight will be those that are fought to DEFEND AMERICA FIRST. ★

For more on what other America-First populist patriots had to say about the horrors or unnecessary war and how the U.S. public has been manipulated by warmongers, industrialists, arms manufacturers and our own leaders, we suggest you purchase multiple copies of AFP's *Defend America First Memorial Day Supplement*. It includes thoughts from Thomas Jefferson, populist thinker Lawrence Dennis, more from Smedley Butler and commentaries from AFP's Vince Ryan and John Tiffany. There is no better way to support our troops than to get them home. Handing out copies of this report just might help convince a few people that, yes, war is a racket, and U.S. soldiers are merely tools of the plutocratic elite used to make the most money from this despicable con. One copy is \$2; six copies are \$4; 40 or more are just 40¢ each.

WTC Owner Sued Over \$7.2 Billion Payout

California Man Isn't Buying Fed's WTC 7 Collapse Scenario; Files Grievance

By Greg Szymanski

A shareholder has filed a grievance against one of the world's largest insurers, charging company bigwigs with failing to investigate possible insurance fraud in relation to a \$7.2 billion payout being litigated over the 9-11 attacks.

John Leonard of California claims that management of the Allianz Group, the German-based company that carried a significant portion of the insurance coverage on the WTC, relied on faulty government 9-11 reports and then negligently failed to mount any significant fraud investigation to protect stockholder interests against future excessive payouts.

"The managing and supervisory boards have taken a passive attitude toward the insurance claims and the suspicious aspects of the WTC insurance loss," said Leonard, whose grievance was heard at a May 4 stockholders' meeting.

No official word from the company has yet been released.

He added, "The WTC catastrophe was doubtless one of the biggest insurance incidents in history. The investigation of insurance losses and insurance damage claims against the company is naturally one of the chief duties of the management of every insurance firm. The suspicious irregularities of the WTC attack just have not been addressed."

After the attack, Silverstein Properties and Westfield America, the partnership that leased the WTC just months prior to the attacks, commenced litigation against its insurers, including Allianz, one of the major policyholders.

Leading partner Larry Silverstein boldly asserted he was entitled to twice the insurance policy value because, according to a spokesman for Silverstein, "The two hijacked airliners that struck the 110-story twin towers Sept. 11 were separate 'occurrences' for insurance purposes, entitling him to collect twice on the \$3.6 billion collective worth of the policies."

The ensuing legal battle between the insurers and leaseholders then began one month after the attacks, ending with a favorable ruling for Silverstein by U.S. District Judge John S. Martin in December 2004.

By agreeing with Silverstein that the two planes that hit the WTC were actually two separate occurrences for insurance purposes, the judge doubled Silverstein's possible future recovery from \$3.6 billion to \$7.2 billion.

The case is now on appeal, and in order to protect against any adverse ruling against Allianz, Leonard has attempted to instigate management to initiate fraud investigations with his shareholder grievance.

In his proposal, the California native and a publisher of books on 9-11, pointed to reports that WTC Building 7 apparently collapsed due to demolition, as well as many other irregularities.



HUGE PROFITS. A sign is posted on a statue near the wreckage of the World Trade Center Sept. 13, 2001, in New York City, two days after the twin towers collapsed, leveling them in an alleged terrorist attack. Some people managed to capitalize on the terrible tragedy, profiting off suspicious Stock Market trades and huge insurance claims. For example, the company that was the primary lease holder of the World Trade Towers complex managed to cash in twice on 9-11, claiming that the twin towers were felled in two separate attacks—resulting in two times the insurance payout. After a long and drawn-out legal battle, a court ruled in favor of the payee. However, a shareholder of one of the insurance companies has recently filed suit charging that evidence points to a global conspiracy and that suspicious irregularities of the attack have not been addressed.

"Numerous observers and researchers find the WTC case very suspicious. For example, in a public opinion survey, 49.3 percent of respondents in New York City agreed that 'some of our leaders knew in advance that attacks were planned on or around Sept. 11, 2001, and that they consciously failed to act,'" wrote Leonard in his grievance.

"When this belief is so widespread among unrelated parties, haven't the affected insurance companies ever asked whether perhaps the U.S. government instead of the insurers is responsible for the damages, or whether the possibility of insurance fraud has been investigated?"

"From reports in the media about the trial in New York between the insurers and the insured WTC leaseholder, no sign of such motions has been made public. The dispute has been mainly over the question whether to pay out \$7 billion or 'only' \$3 billion, whereby the

shareholders are supposed to be relieved at the latter sum as . . . the lesser of two evils."

In his shareholder grievance, Leonard lastly called management to pay strict attention to the strange collapse of WTC Building No. 7.

"WTC 7, as is well known, was never struck by airplanes, and photographs of it show only insignificant fires. Nevertheless, the 47-story building (WTC 7) suddenly collapsed at around 5:28 p.m. on 9-11. This fact, however, was not even mentioned in the report of the official 9-11 commission."

Besides the enormity of the possible insurance payouts, independent 9-11 investigators have also called attention to the peculiar timing and control of ownership made by Silverstein only months before the WTC attacks.

The WTC came under the control of the private ownership of Silverstein for the first time on April 26, 2001, having been built and managed by the Port Authority as a public resource since its creation.

Silverstein then acquired a handsome insurance policy for the complex, including a strange clause that would prove extremely valuable in the not-too-distant future. The clause specifically read that "in the event of a terrorist attack, the partnership could collect the insured value of the property, and be released from their obligations under the 99-year lease."

Don Paul, in his 2002 book that investigated the nature of the Silverstein transaction, provided some interesting background information highlighting the incredible deal and low bidding price the new owner was able to negotiate with friendly New York government officials.

"Silverstein's winning bid was \$3.2 billion for holdings estimated to be worth more than \$8 billion. JP Morgan Chase, a prestigious investment bank that's the flagship firm of its kind for

Rockefeller family interests, advised the Port Authority, another body long influenced by banker and builder David Rockefeller, his age then 85, in the negotiations," Paul wrote.

"The lead partner and spokesperson for the winning bidders, Larry Silverstein, age 70, already controlled more than 8 million square feet of New York City real estate. WTC 7 and the nearby Equitable Building were prime among these prior holdings. Silverstein also owned Runway 69, a nightclub in Queens, that was alleged nine years ago to be laundering money made through sales of Laotian heroin." ★

Greg Szymanski is a freelance investigative journalist and feature writer based in Ventura, California. A law school graduate from Glendale University College of Law, he also specializes in constitutional issues and judicial injustice. Visit Szymanski's news web site at arcticbeacon.citymaker.com. See an ad for AFP's 9-11 report on page 10.



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9-11 Pentagon 'Cookie Cutter' Theory May Be Half-Baked, According to Engineer

By Christopher Bollyn

On Sept. 11, 2001, Robert S. Mueller III, the brand-new director of the FBI, had only been in his position for a week. Director Mueller reported to Attorney General John D. Ashcroft and Michael Chertoff, then assistant attorney general in charge of the Department of Justice's Criminal Division.



BOLLYN

The report from the engineers who inspected the damaged Pentagon, the Pentagon Building Performance Report (BPR), indicates that these officials and agencies are responsible for hiding crucial evidence—and concealing the truth of what really happened on 9-11.

Brig. Gen. Benton K. Partin (USAF, ret.), former director of the U.S. Air Force Armaments Technology Laboratory, recently told *American Free Press* that the Boeing 757-200 aircraft was traveling "one and a half times the speed of a bullet—a pistol bullet," as it pierced the limestone clad exterior and bored through nine feet of reinforced concrete walls and many columns in three rings of the Pentagon, ending at the charred 12-foot hole in the wall of Ring C.

Partin's estimation of the speed originated with the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), which informed engineers that the 757 had been traveling 460 knots, or 530 miles per hour, supposedly based on data from the black box found at the crash site.

"Like a cookie cutter cutting through dough," is how Partin explained what he says the aluminum fuselage did to

the structure of the Pentagon when American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into the ground floor of the Pentagon at 530 miles per hour.

"If you look at the frontal mass cross-section of the plane, you see a cylinder of aluminum skin with stringers," Partin says. "When it impacts with the exterior wall at 700 to 800 feet per second, much of the kinetic energy of the plane converts to thermal energy, and much of the aluminum converts to vapor, burning to aluminum oxide.

"The aluminum cylinder—the plane fuselage—is acting

The lead engineer of the BPR said he was "skeptical" of the cookie cutter theory. "An avalanche of debris" is what punched out the heavily charred hole in Ring C.

like a shaped charge penetrating a steel plate. It keeps penetrating until it is consumed," Partin said. "The Boeing 757 is over 150 feet long, so it's going to penetrate quite a ways before it's spent."

According to the BPR, sponsored by the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), something bored a narrow path through 310 feet of the Pentagon before leaving the 12-foot hole in the wall of Ring C. The report, however, does not explain how and the engineers disagree on what caused the hole.

"There was a hole in the east wall of Ring C, emerging into AE Drive, between column lines 5 and 7 in Wedge 2," is all the BPR says. "The wall failure was approximately 310 feet from where the fuselage of the aircraft entered the west wall of the building. The path of the aircraft debris passed approximately 225 feet diagonally through Wedge 1 and approximately 85 feet diagonally through a portion of Ring C in Wedge 2.

"Columns and beams along the path of the debris and within the fire area were damaged to varying degrees. Some columns and beams were missing entirely, while others nearby sometimes appeared unscathed," the report says. "Impact damage to the structure above the second-floor slab did not extend more than approximately 50 feet into the building. This shows that the aircraft slid between the first-floor slab on grade and the second-floor slab for most of its distance of travel after striking the building."

Paul F. Mlakar, the lead engineer of the BPR, told AFP that he was "skeptical" of the cookie cutter theory. "An avalanche of debris" is what he thinks punched out the heavily charred hole in Ring C.

"I cannot subscribe to this cookie cutter theory," BPR engineer Mete A. Sozen of Purdue University told AFP: "The skin of the aircraft is like the skin of a sausage. . . . My hypothesis is that the hole was caused by the landing gear."

Sozen and Mlakar both participated in a similar assessment of the bomb damage at the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City.

One problem with the "cookie cutter" theory is that there are relatively undamaged columns that suffered "no significant impairment in function," and remained stand-

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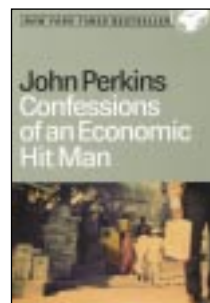
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ing despite being in the path of the fuselage, according to the BPR. Obviously, these columns should have been destroyed.

This is clearly seen in Ring C, where a force or object left the 12-foot hole at ground level. If the "cookie cutter" fuselage passed through Ring C, it did so without hitting at least two columns that stood directly in its path. Along the path from its entry at Column 14 AA to its exit in Ring C, the force demolished the first five columns, that are missing, knocked down the next two, but apparently left the last two intact. Several columns along the path are bowed outwards.

How do the engineers explain this? They don't.

The BRP, which examined the damaged columns, has very little data about the columns near the hole in Ring C of Wedge 2. All data on these columns was provided by the FBI. Furthermore, these are the only columns that were not photographed for the report. Clearly the engineers were not allowed to inspect this part of Ring C.

A BPR engineer, Donald Dusenberry, told AFP that the entire inspection of the Pentagon site consisted of one four-hour visit by eight engineers on Oct. 4, 2001.

All the debris had been removed, he said. "The site had been cleaned up."

Dusenberry inspected part of Ring C with another engineer. "We rapidly walked around in teams of two," he said. "We took a bunch of photos."

Asked about the lack of data or photos from the area where the hole was, Dusenberry said, "There was a plywood barrier there with a separate entrance."

"It could be that we didn't go into Wedge 2," Dusenberry said. "Apparently we did not take photos."

"There were areas that were not accessible," Mlakar said. "The plywood barriers were because of the progress of the demolition and reconstruction."

"The fuselage did not stay whole," Dusenberry said about Partin's theory. "I cannot envision it staying whole 300 feet into the building. There is no way a fuselage could have gotten through there."

"We would have wanted to have more time," Dusenberry said. "We had a limited window because they wanted to get on to the renovation."



EXPERT CHALLENGED: Above, FBI agents, firefighters, rescue workers and engineers work at the Pentagon crash site on September 14, 2001, after something slammed into the building on September 11, causing extensive damage to the west face of the building. Gen Ben Partin, long a friend to patriots for his outstanding work on the Oklahoma City bombing and an expert on such matters, is being challenged by conflicting reports from engineers who disagree about key evidence obtained from the Pentagon crash site.

Asked who set the time limit, Dusenberry said, "I don't know. Whoever was in control set our time limit."

The 9-11 Commission Report says, "Since it was a terrorist attack, the Department of Justice was the lead federal agency in charge with authority delegated to the FBI for operational response."

Asked about the chain of command at the Pentagon site, FBI spokesman Edwin Cogswell said Mueller reported to Ashcroft. Asked if Chertoff had directed FBI operations, Cogswell said, "He was involved in it."

One of the first things the FBI did was confiscate video recordings from cameras that overlooked the crash site. This included footage from security cameras at a nearby gas station and hotel. This footage has never been publicly seen.

Were the engineers prevented from examining the columns of Ring C because the evidence would reveal that a 757 had not made the hole?

Even the BPR photograph of the exit hole was provided by the FBI. There is no photograph from the inside of the hole. Why didn't the investigators poke around inside of that hole and show Americans what the inside of ring "C" looks like? Evidently the authorities at the site did not allow them.

An appendix to the BPR has photographs of all of the columns in the impact zone, except the eight from Ring C, Wedge 2. The only photo said to be from this area incorrectly shows a similarly numbered column from Wedge 1.

The BPR says the aircraft traveled at ground level, then banked slightly to the left as it impacted the Pentagon "at column line 14 . . . at or slightly below the second-story slab." The first floor height was 14 feet, one inch. Photos from the crash site taken immediately after impact, and shown in the BPR, reveal several large spools of cable that should have been directly impacted by the aircraft.

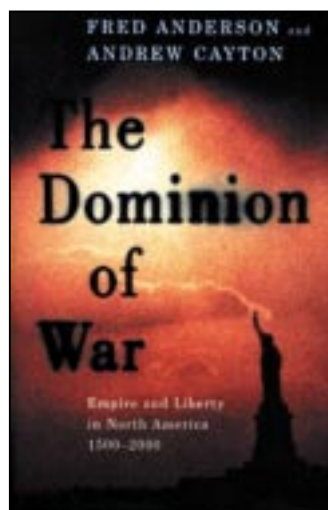
The BPR engineers, however, cannot explain the seven-foot spools standing in the path of the ground-hugging 757.

"I don't know about those spools," Dusenberry said. "Perhaps the plane scooped them up and moved them there."

"Maybe the plane hit them and spread them all over the place," Sozen said. ★

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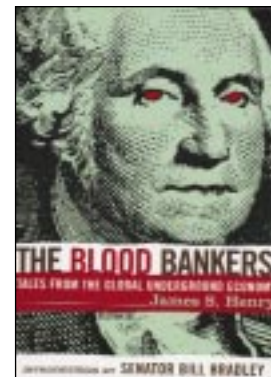


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Double-Edged Sword

Some measures welcome, others raise privacy concerns

A unanimous Senate vote sent the supplementary defense spending bill to the president's desk with border-control provisions intact. The most controversial provision, first known as the REAL ID Act, makes it more difficult for illegal aliens to obtain drivers licenses that could be used as identification for boarding airplanes, banking or other purposes. Of the 19 alleged hijackers on 9-11, 14 used drivers licenses as ID to board the planes they turned into guided missiles.

Elected officials believed that they had the power to pass the drivers license provision under the interstate commerce clause and the Tenth Amendment because all drivers drive out of state and make purchases from time to time, and because protecting the nation is a federal responsibility.

To obtain a drivers license, applicants will be required to prove they are citizens or reside here legally. They would be issued a card saying they are allowed to drive, but it would not be a valid ID. States are not required to comply, but their citizens would be greatly inconvenienced if they refused.

Americans will need an authentic copy of their birth certificate to apply for a drivers license or a renewal, which means the number of illegal aliens with standard drivers licenses will shrink in the years ahead.

REAL ID also creates more obstacles for immigrants seeking asylum and gives the Department of Homeland Security unprecedented authority to supercede environmental laws in completing a three-mile stretch of fence at the Mexican border with San Diego.

Critics say DHS Secretary Michael Chertoff may be able to assert that new authority at other border spots.

The bill also:

- Includes \$550 million to hire more Border Patrol agents and create more detention space for illegal-alien detainees, paid for with \$450 million in new funds and another \$100 million cut from other parts of homeland security.

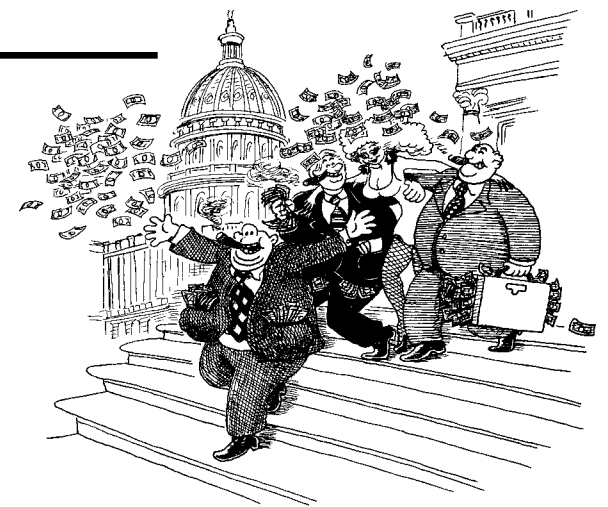
- Raises the death gratuity paid to troops killed in combat zones from slightly above \$12,000 to \$100,000 and

increases the maximum survivors benefit from service members' life insurance from \$250,000 to \$400,000.

- Allocates a total of \$907 million to aid victims of December's tsunami in South Asia.

The \$82 billion bill brings the total U.S. spending on the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq since 9-11 to about \$300 billion.

"This legislation guarantees that our military personnel will have the equipment and resources they need to get the job done and that our State Department personnel are able to conduct our foreign policy effectively," said Senate



shipped to the Army, encountered hundreds of backlogged shipments and spent millions of dollars in fees to lease or replace storage containers because of backlogged or lost shipments.

"Every extra dollar that DoD spends on business systems is one less dollar for our war fighters," said Sen. Daniel Akaka (D-Ha.) during a hearing.

Lawmakers are thinking of creating a chief management officer position. Legislation introduced in the Senate would establish the position to oversee all aspects of management, including developing and maintaining a department-wide strategic plan for business reform.

The Office of Management and Budget, in an unusual partnership with the GAO, is soon to present Congress with a plan to create a seamless flow of supplies to deployed troops.

"Until DoD drops its cultural resistance to change and addresses the lack of sustained leadership within the department, we will continue to see DoD occupying the bulk of the high-risk list," Akaka told the periodical *Federal Times*.

But, predictably, the Pentagon is resisting change.

"I believe this proposed deputy secretary would just be adding layers and players to an already burdened organization," Michael Wynne, defense undersecretary for acquisition, told a Senate committee.

But the administration's top management official, Clay Johnson, backed the new position at another hearing.

"In the end, somebody's got to be responsible and accountable, and somebody's got to be there long enough to be able to increase the likelihood of success," said David Walker, who heads the GAO.

Pork Chokes Military Spending Bill

The final supplemental defense spending bill to emerge was, predictably, choking on pork.

House conferees slipped into the bill a provision that keeps the *USS Kennedy* from being retired until at least early next year. The administration and the Pentagon want to decommission one of the oldest aircraft carriers in the U.S. fleet.

Included in the measure is \$10 million for a road project in Mississippi, \$5 million for the Fort Peck Fish Factory in Montana, \$2 million for an upgrade of chemistry laboratories at Dew University in New Jersey, and \$1 million for the Woody Island and historic structures in Philadelphia.

How these payoffs benefit combat troops is unclear. "Congress should be ashamed of itself for loading up the [bill] with unrequested money and unnecessary pork," David Williams of Citizens Against Government Waste told *The Washington Times*. "Congress has once again failed the American taxpayer." ★



Majority leader Bill Frist (R-Tenn.). "It also includes valuable provisions that will ensure our homeland remains safe and secure against outside threats."

But not all senators supported the immigration-security provisions, which first passed the House as the REAL ID Act in February. These REAL ID provisions were attached to the House's defense spending bill and survived a conference with the Senate.

"I'm outraged that the Republican leadership, first in the House and now, unfortunately, in the Senate, would put this seriously flawed measure into this emergency supplemental act," said Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-N.Y.).

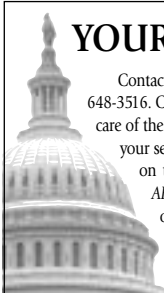
The bill gives the Defense Department nearly \$76 billion on top of \$25 billion already appropriated mainly for Iraq for fiscal year 2005 that ends Sept. 30. It also contained \$5 billion for foreign policy efforts, including \$2.28 billion to construct and operate a U.S. embassy in Baghdad.

But while giving President Bush virtually everything he asked for in defense spending, Congress is cracking down on waste at Donald Rumsfeld's Pentagon.

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) reports that in the first month of major combat two years ago, the Defense Department lost track of \$1.2 billion in materials

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National ID Cards a Dangerous Invasion of Privacy

REAL ID Legislation Won't Stop Terrorism Or Illegal Immigration

The U.S. House of Representatives passed a spending bill last week that contains provisions establishing a national ID card, and the Senate is poised to approve the measure in the next few days. This week marks the American public's last chance to convince their senators they don't want to live in a nation that demands papers from its citizens as they go about their lives.



Absent a political miracle in the Senate, within two years every American will need a conforming national ID card to participate in ordinary activities. This REAL ID Act establishes a massive, centrally coordinated database of highly personal information about American citizens: at a minimum their name, date of birth, place of residence, Social Security number and physical characteristics. The legislation also grants open-ended authority to the Secretary of Homeland Security to require biometric information on IDs in the future. This means your harmless looking drivers license could contain a retina scan, fingerprints, DNA information or radio frequency technology.

Think this sounds farfetched? Read the REAL ID Act, H.R. 418, for yourself. Its text is available on the Library of Congress web site. A careful reading also reveals that states will be required to participate in the "Drivers License Agreement," which was crafted by DMV lobbyists years ago. This agreement creates a massive database of sensitive information on American citizens that can be shared with Canada and Mexico.

Terrorism is the excuse given for virtually every new power grab by the federal government, and the national ID



WILLIAM THOMAS CAMGETTY IMAGES

OUR FUTURE? Above, Melinda Morris of Datastrip holds a DSVerify2D device. DSVerify2D is the first fully integrated two-dimensional code, smartcard and passport reader that features a fingerprint biometric verification device. The DSVerify2D is specifically designed to decode codes found on identification documents such as national ID cards, drivers licenses, passports, access control cards and health cards. DSVerify2D can perform "on the spot" identity verification.

is no exception. But federal agencies have tried to create a national ID for years, long before the 9-11 attacks.

In fact, a 1996 bill sought to do exactly what the REAL

ID Act does: transform state drivers licenses into *de facto* national ID cards. At the time, Congress was flooded with calls by angry constituents and the bill ultimately died.

Proponents of the REAL ID Act continue to make the preposterous claim that the bill does not establish a national ID card. This is dangerous and insulting nonsense.

Let's get the facts straight: The REAL ID Act transforms state motor vehicle departments into agents of the federal government. Nationalizing standards for drivers licenses and birth certificates in a federal bill creates a national ID system, pure and simple. Having the name of your particular state on the ID is meaningless window dressing.

Federally imposed standards for drivers license and birth certificates make a mockery of federalism and the 10th amendment. While states technically are not forced to accept the federal standards, any refusal to comply would mean their residents could not get a job, receive Social Security or travel by plane. So rather than imposing a direct mandate on the states, the federal government is blackmailing them into complying with federal dictates.

One overriding point has been forgotten: Criminals don't obey laws. As with gun control, national ID cards will only affect law-abiding citizens. Do we really believe a terrorist bent on murder is going to dutifully obtain a federal ID card? Do we believe that people who openly flout our immigration laws will nonetheless respect our ID requirements?

Any ID card can be forged; any federal agency or state DMV is susceptible to corruption. Criminals can and will obtain national ID cards, or operate without them. National ID cards will be used to track the law-abiding masses, not criminals. ★

Ron Paul is a Republican member of the U.S. Congress who represents the 14th District of Texas. He often refuses to support policies contrary to traditional constitutional principles. Paul was the Libertarian Party presidential candidate in 1984. Call his office at 1-888-322-1414 toll free or you may visit his website at www.ronpaul.org.

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White House and CIA in a Pickle Over Anti-Castro Terrorist in U.S.

By Fred Lingel

The White House, the Homeland Security Department, the CIA and FBI may all soon have to make hard choices about what to do about Luis Posada Carriles, a Cuban exile believed to be in hiding in Florida. Posada, who has made no secret of the fact that, while working for the CIA, he orchestrated a violent campaign against the Castro regime over decades. Today, Posada remains a prime suspect in the blowing up of a Cuban airliner in 1976 that killed 73 innocent people.

Last year, in a feature article on Posada, *American Free Press* explained how he was arrested in Panama in 2000 and linked to a plot to blow up Castro while the Cuban leader was on a state visit to that country.

He, and two associates, were caught in possession of C4 plastic explosives but claimed they were set up. Posada was jailed for eight years but was mysteriously pardoned in April 2004 by the outgoing Panamanian president, Mireya Moscoso.

It was later revealed that Mrs. Moscoso had links to Florida and to leading Cuban exiles who live there and see Posada as a legendary figure.

After his release, he entered Honduras under a false passport but the media there quickly detected his presence. That led to him being publicly denounced by the country's president, a fact that forced him to flee.

Since then he has been on the run, with no Latin American country prepared to take him in.

Now 77, and believed to be ill, he is said to have found sanctuary in the powerful Cuban community around Miami—the same community that has thrown its considerable political weight behind President Bush and his brother, "Jeb," the Florida governor.

For decades the FBI has kept a thick file on Posada, who is famous for being one of the few Cold War warriors prepared to frequently boast about his exploits and his dealings with the CIA.

Seven years ago, he gave an interview to *The New York Times* in which he admitted responsibility for plotting attacks against tourist facilities in Havana in which an Italian tourist was murdered.

In contrast, he denied involvement in the plane bombing even though he was told the FBI had evidence he was present at two meetings where bringing down the Cuban

plane was discussed.

His connections to the CIA over the years, and to many of its covert operations in Latin America, make him a person with a wealth of knowledge of the agency's dirty campaigns of the Cold War. According to documents obtained under the Freedom of Information Act, he was a CIA asset from 1961 to 1967, a period that included the failed Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba ordered by President John F. Kennedy.

He maintained his links to Langley when he joined Venezuelan intelligence in 1969, a position he remained in for approximately five years before setting up an investigative agency in the country's capital, Caracas. All the time he was in Venezuela, he used his roles as an intelligence officer and as a private investigator to covertly plan anti-Castro activities.

A change in government in Venezuela led to his arrest in 1978 when he was charged with complicity in the plane bombing. He subsequently remained in legal limbo, languishing in a Venezuelan jail without being formally charged. That episode ended when he mysteriously vanished from jail in 1985. It was later said that a leading Miami-based Cuban exile paid a massive bribe to Venezuelan prison guards.

His freedom conveniently coincided with the CIA's ongoing covert campaign of using drug profits to purchase weapons to arm Contra rebels in Nicaragua. So, Posada made his way to El Salvador where he worked behind the scenes as a CIA asset until the Contra affair, and its architect, Col. Oliver North, were exposed in 1986.

Like so many other episodes in Posada's life, he moved on and settled in Guatemala where he worked for that country's internal intelligence agency.

For anyone watching his career, it was obvious he had friends in high places in the United States. He was able, not only to move freely in many Latin American countries, but also to operate with intelligence agencies that maintained close ties to the CIA.

Despite his travels throughout Latin America, the FBI kept its file on him and never lost interest in a belief that he was also linked to an assassination on the streets of Washington on Sept. 21, 1976. The target in that act of terror was Orlando Letelier, a former Chilean foreign minister. Letelier and his American assistant, Ronnie Moffitt, were killed when a bomb exploded under their car.

Posada's ability to remain at large in Latin America



INFIDELITY: The U.S. is the only country in the world that has been condemned by the World Court for international terrorism. The words they used were "unlawful use of force" (in the war against Nicaragua). There were two Security Council resolutions supporting that judgment. The U.S. of course vetoed them. In addition, the U.S. had made numerous attempts to assassinate Fidel Castro (above) and other world leaders.

recently came to an end because of new political realities. First, Cuban and Venezuelan intelligence agencies have teams of agents constantly searching for him. More importantly, Hugo Chavez, the president of oil-rich Venezuela, wants him returned to Venezuela to face charges for the airliner bombing.

Chavez is not only a friend of Castro but he has strong support in many neighboring countries, including Brazil.

For the Bush administration, the presence of Posada on American soil is not only an embarrassment but also a significant political issue. If he is allowed to remain in Florida, that could call into question the Bush campaign against terrorism and its central tenet that terrorists should have no sanctuary. ★

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German Security Was the Toughest Ever, But AFP Still Got You Inside ...

Bilderberg 2005

Bilderberg May Make U.S. Pay For Unsanctioned War Against Iraq

By James P. Tucker Jr.

ROTTACH-EGERN, Germany—Will the price of oil reach \$150 a barrel in two years? Henry Kissinger made this prediction to Richard Holbrooke, according to two friendly sources inside the secret Bilderberg meeting.

"It should not be long," Kissinger told Holbrooke, vice chairman of Perseus LLC and longtime Bilderberg luminary. Kissinger said the demand for oil has far exceeded the supply. Oil, and who gets it, is part of the bitter Bilderberg dispute over Middle East policy.

One source said James Baker had made the same prediction while representing the Carlyle Group at an earlier business conference, saying "look for \$150 a barrel."

Baker represented the White House at Bilderberg meetings under former Presidents Ronald Reagan and George Bush the Elder, where he served as chief of staff and treasury secretary, respectively.

The economic impact of tripling already-high oil prices would be staggering. Inflation would soar, because transportation—from raw material to finished product to marketplace—has a significant impact on virtually everything you buy—from neckties to houses.

Bilderberg hunkered down here May 5-8 to decide how the world should deal with European-American relations, the Middle East powder keg, the Iraq war, the global economy and potential war in Iran.

The first appearance of Virginia Gov. Mark Warner (D) indicates Bilderberg considers him a presidential contender.

The absence of former Sen. John Edwards (N.C.), John Kerry's presidential running mate in 2004, indicates the Sun has set on his political career. Last year was Edwards's first appearance and, like most of the "fringe" invitees, he has been cast aside like an old shoe.

European hostility toward Americans for the invasion of Iraq was rekindled by reports in the European press that British Prime Minister Tony Blair had secretly agreed with President Bush to go to war months in advance of the U.S. invasion.

The Guardian of London, among other newspapers, carried detailed accounts of a transcript of conversations between Blair and President Bush three months before the March 2002 invasion. The transcript clearly shows.



ROCKY ROAD: Above, David Rockefeller walks in front of the German hotel in which the Bilderberg meeting was held this year. Rockefeller, an ever-present Bilderberg attendee, is showing his age. Just how many more of these meetings he will make is a subject of discussion among those who are watching his health closely. But so far, advanced age hasn't stopped this powerbroker from exploiting this opportunity to affect world policy, make the poor poorer and himself and other plutocrats richer.

Blair promising, in advance, to join the United States in the war on Iraq.

This prompted hostile comments while Kissinger was presiding over a panel discussion on the meaning of "peace." Europeans demanded to know if "Iran is next," and "when does it end?" America was repeatedly warned not to "rush to war with Iran."

But history demonstrates that Americans are no more the "war party" than the European Bilderbergers. Europeans joined in supporting the 1991 invasion of Iraq by President Bush the Elder, celebrating the end of "America's Vietnam syndrome." Europeans also supported former President Bill Clinton's invasion of Yugoslavia, bringing NATO into the operation. The first shot ever

See ISRAELIS HAVE, Page B-2

Jim Tucker Plays Cat and Mouse At Yet Another Bilderberg Confab

It's an annual ritual: AFP's Jim Tucker, for the record, asks the same female Bilderberg staffer for a list of participants and the agenda but is refused. At the same moment, this time, she screamed at freelance photographer Danny Estulin to stop taking pictures. He obligingly took her arm-waving photo.

But the fun continued.

As a huge luxury bus unloaded platoons of Bilderberg security—dark suits and ties—a young man dressed like a college boy on vacation approached Tucker and identified himself as "U.S. security." He said he was not allowed to give his name or agency.

COMMITTING CRIMINAL ACTS

Tucker, doing his duty as a citizen, explained that public officials from the United States who participate in secret meetings with private citizens to make public policy are committing criminal acts.

He pointed out that then-first lady Hillary Clinton gathered a group of federal bureaucrats and "experts" from the private sector behind closed doors to develop a plan to reform the nation's

See CRIMINAL FINE, Page B-3



BILDERBERG HOUND: Above, AFP's appointed Bilderberg hound, James P. Tucker Jr., scowls at the camera as he begins another day stalking the global elite at a meeting that most of the world's press denies and ignores—by design. Media outlets like *The Washington Post*—whose own publisher, Donald Graham, attended—deny the meeting is anything more than a tea party for the super-rich, yet they annually agree to a news blackout of the event. Again, Tucker got you inside and with the help of photographer Estulin, captured many of the participants on film.



FIAT MONEY: Above, Lapo Elkann of Fiat Motors chats with U.S. lawyer Vernon Jordan. We know why Elkann is there—he is one of Europe's richest men. But how does Jordan swing an invitation every year? Perhaps Jordan is still being rewarded for bringing then-Gov. Bill Clinton to the Bilderberg meeting in 1991 where Clinton was pre-anointed president of the United States by the Bilderberg cabal. Was Clinton being controlled through blackmail to do Bilderberg's bidding? Your guess is as good as ours.

Photographer Repeatedly Harassed

Danny Estulin, a widely known photo-journalist now operating out of Madrid, who has collaborated with *American Free Press* in pursuing Bilderberg for years, was seized by officials and held for two hours after getting off a plane in Milan en route to Rottach-Egern.

Italian and Interpol police downloaded Estulin's computer and seized two widely-read magazines that featured a two-part series on Bilderberg, with his photos and extensive stories beginning on the cover of both issues. Fortunately, Estulin had another set hidden elsewhere in his luggage.

Estulin was questioned for two hours in an attempt to intimidate him. Officials correctly suspected he was pursuing Bilderbergers, who are outraged at the attention he has lavished upon them. They failed: Estulin filed stories to several publications that retained him to cover Bilderberg.

It is Estulin's Bilderberg photos that appear in AFP.

While taking photos outside Bilderberg's posh Dorint Sofital, on a public sidewalk, Estulin was seized by nine cops—four plainclothes and five in uniform. They seized his passport and Spanish residency card. They demanded to know if he could pay his hotel bill—not at the hotel's request. Estulin showed cash and credit card. They said they would return his passport when he leaves Germany and warned him not to break the law.

Estulin continued taking photos and filing stories for the duration. But he was careful to avoid jaywalking.



WOLFENSOHN IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING: Paul Wolfensohn of the World Bank was at Bilderberg 2005, shown outside the Seehotel Uberfahrt as he arrived.

A year ago, Italian police held AFP's Jim Tucker for several hours. He arrived unscathed this year, although Estulin heard three Secret Service men say they had observed Tucker on his flight to Munich.

And several years ago, security officers shackled AFP's Christopher Bollyn and transported him miles from the Bilderberg venue site, dropping him and several other journalists in the middle of nowhere in hopes of deterring coverage. It did not work. ★

Israelis Had Strong Presence at this Bilderberg Meeting

Continued from Page B-1

fired in anger by NATO troops were in Yugoslavia. Bilderberg had made NATO, effectively, the UN's standing army.

The British election results pleased Europeans, who grudgingly supported Blair because of his commitment to the European Constitution (EC). Britons will vote in 2006 on ratifying the EC. But they are happy that Blair's Labor Party's majority in Parliament shrank from 160 to 60 and he will likely be replaced as prime minister within two years.

To address the Mideast issue, Bilderberg brought together Eival Gilady and Natan Sharansky of Israel and Palestinian Ziad Abu-Amr.

Gilady is strategic adviser to Prime Minister Ariel Sharon. Sharansky is a former minister for Jerusalem and diaspora affairs. Abu-Amr is a member of the Palestinian Legislative Council, president of the Palestinian Council on Foreign Relations and professor of political science at Birzeit University.

The Council on Foreign Relations, always richly represented at Bilderberg, serves as Bilderberg's propaganda ministry. Scholarly "white papers" advocating Bilderberg policies routinely follow the secret sessions.

This year, Bilderberg ordered Israel to keep its promise to withdraw from some settlements in the West Bank and Gaza. Also, they noted that Palestinians must be grateful for the portion of their territory they get back and not insist on pre-1967 borders. Israel seized these lands in a surprise attack in 1967.

"We must get along, despite our harsh differences, because we now live in an interdependent, global economy," said a lanky, gray-haired European in a discussion of "trans-Atlantic Relations." Poverty in Africa or South America "or wherever" is a "threat to all of us, anywhere



WHERE'S JIMMY LEE?

Jimmy Lee Hoagland (shown left), associate editor of *The Washington Post*, has been a regular at meetings of the Trilateral Commission and Bilderberg for years. This year, he was absent at both. Has he fallen from favor? We will find out next year and report if Hoagland's string of Bilderberg meetings is in fact at an unceremonious end.

in the world," he said.

Again, the United States was denounced for "not providing a fair share" of economic aid to poor countries. Again, Kissinger and David Rockefeller, among other Americans, beamed and nodded approval. Bilderberg argues that, as a percentage of gross national product, Americans are "stingy."

There was discussion of timing for a vote in the United Nations on establishing a direct global tax by imposing a 10-cents-a-barrel levy on oil at the well-head. This is important to the Bilderberg goal of establishing the UN as a formal world government. Such a direct tax on individuals is symbolically important.

Bilderberg's global tax proposal has been pending

before the UN for three years but the issue has been blacked out by the Bilderberg-controlled U.S. media.

Said one Bilderberger of the pending UN tax:

"Let the tax pass the UN with absolutely no publicity. Talk with the (news) boys in advance and warn them about triggering right-wing hysteria. People won't even notice that fraction of a penny per gallon. When people do become aware, perhaps in three years, they'll simply say 'ain't that sumphin'."

Other topics of discussion this year included "China and energy," "Russia's role in the world," "economic liberation," and U.S. Social Security "reform." Bilderberg's interest in how the United States deals with Social Security remains unclear. China's demand for oil has increased dramatically in recent years, contributing to the current \$50 price per barrel. Bilderbergers debated whether a proposed pipeline should move oil to Japan or China from Russia.

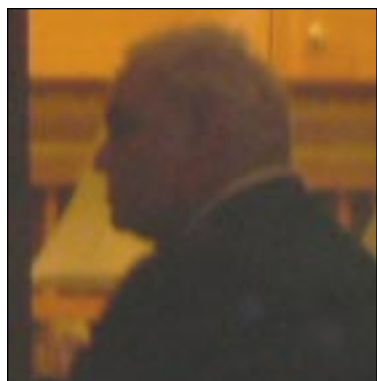
Bilderbergers were downcast when word came that some Senate Democrats, who had voted for "free" trade bills in the past, were threatening to kill the Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) because of insufficient worker protections. CAFTA is a crucial step in expanding NAFTA into the Free Trade Area of the Americas, which is to include the entire Western Hemisphere except for Cuba until Fidel Castro is gone.

Kenneth Clarke, Conservative member of Parliament and a former chancellor of the exchequer in Britain, a long-time Bilderberg luminary, once told this journalist that the goal is to establish an "American Union" similar to the European Union with the dollar as the common currency. The "Asia-Pacific Union" is also emerging, which will complete the division of the Earth into three great regions for the administrative convenience of the planned world government. ★



High-Powered Americans Show Up

This year's Bilderberg meeting drew a number of high profile Americans, including prominent neo-conservative power brokers, executives, Democrats, Republicans and other plutocrats. (Clockwise from left) Jessica Mathews, president of the Carnegie Endowment for Peace; neocon Dennis Ross, the director of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy; *Washington Post* publisher Donald Graham; Richard Holbrooke, former U.S. ambassador to the UN and the vice chairman of Perseus LLC, defense advisor Richard Perle and Richard Haass, the president of the Council on Foreign Relations.



Criminal Fine

Continued from Page B-1

health system. U.S. District Judge Royce Lamberth denounced Mrs. Clinton, saying she had violated the law, and levied a criminal fine.

The security man said he remembers the case but lacks jurisdiction to arrest U.S. officials in Germany.

"I understand," Tucker said. "But you could have arrested Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld and others three years ago when Bilderberg met in Chantilly, Va. I will tell you the next time Bilderberg meets in the United States and I'll carry your handcuffs."

The officer smiled. He was unable to identify himself but AFP can: He is Special Agent Robert Harvey of the Protective Services unit of the Army's Criminal Investigation Command at Ft. Belvoir, Va.

Security was massive. After the platoons of Bilderberg necktied security men unloaded, and with numerous uniformed local police already on patrol, five buses filled with German police in riot gear arrived. Most disappeared inside the Dorint, never to be seen again.

In addition to U.S. Secret Service, the Mossad was also on hand, according to a report by a German official. ★



VIOLATORS: It is a violation of U.S. law for federal officials to attend secret meetings with private citizens to develop public policies. Get out the handcuffs for these criminals: Alan Hubbard, assistant to the president for economic policy and director of the National Economic Council; William Luti, deputy under secretary of defense; Donald Graham, publisher of *The Washington Post*, and Paul Wolfowitz, deputy secretary of state and incoming president of the World Bank (above).



Bilderbergers' Lies Prove Futile

Never has Bilderberg lied so elaborately, but with help from the fearless owner of a small hotel, truth prevailed. For years, Bilderberg has had its host hotels flatly lie and deny that a group called "Bilderberg" would meet at its "filled up" facility. At Chantilly, Va., it was "four big weddings." In Stresa, Italy, it was "several business conferences." But, for the first time, the big lie was published innocently in a local newspaper.

The *Tegernseer Zeitung* had been bombarded with calls from readers in Rottach-Egern asking about streams of black cars rolling into the heavily guarded Dorint. Bilderberg told the paper it was a "doctor's conference." The result was, on May 6, a phony photo and lengthy story about a "doctor's conference" at the Dorint.

Advised of Bilderberg's big lie and shown its agenda and list of participants, reporter Tanja Bitterer was shocked and outraged. But the paper, thoroughly intimidated, ran no follow-up or correction. In such cases, newspapers would normally run a detailed, outraged story explaining the fabrication. Challenged by phone the next day, Bilderberg organizer Marion Strobel refused to take the call. A nameless female flunky said "it is up to you to decide if it [the newspaper story] is true."

Meanwhile, from the day AFP's Tucker and Estulin arrived at the tiny, six-room Walter's Hof Hotel, owner Walter Eichel had become curious about the drama at the huge, luxurious Dorint about three football fields up an incline. Eichel called a friend who is an executive at the Dorint but was told "I can't tell you."

When three plainclothes security men checked into Walter's Hof to stalk Estulin and Tucker, collaboration began between reporters and Eichel. Traditionally, Bilderberg has planted a phony story in a local paper to reassure the natives.

But this time no such story could be found, even by helpful natives who, of course, are fluent in German. Eichel uncovered the cover-up. He found the story about a "doctors' conference", complete with numerous non-Bilderberg names and a photo of non-Bilderberg "doctors"—meeting at the Dorint on the precise dates Bilderberg was there. ★

Above, The Hotel Überfahrt and Bilderberg security went to great lengths to hide the 2005 meeting. But locals disliked being lied to and helped expose the goings-on at the posh hotel.

Rogue's Gallery of the World's Rich & Powerful



PRINCE PHILIPPE DAVIGNON MYKLEBUST HANSEN



MONTI TILMANT SUTHERLAND COUCHEVIN

Strumpet Journalists

Following is a partial list of "journalists" who attended the Bilderberg meeting on their vow of secrecy. To promise secrecy to this gang of international manipulators violates all journalistic ethics. If 130 film stars met secretly for three days, their newspapers would try hard to report what transpires. But when 130 of the world's major manipulators in finance and politics meet secretly, these "journalists" are collaborators. They are:

Nicolas Beytout, editor-in-chief, *Figaro*; Oscar Bronner, publisher and editor, *Der Standard*; Donald Graham, chairman of *The Washington Post*; Matthias Nass, deputy editor, *Die Zeit*; Norman Pearlstine, editor-in-chief, *Time*; Cuneyt Ulsever, columnist for the *Hurriyet*; John Vinocur, senior correspondent, *International Herald Tribune*; Martin Wolf, associate editor, *Financial Times*; Fareed Zakaria, editor, *Newsweek International*; Klaus Zumwinkel, chairman, *Deutsche Post*; John Micklethwait, U.S. editor, *The Economist*, and Adrian Wooldridge, foreign correspondent, *The Economist*.

Here's a Partial List of the 2005 Attendees

Honorary Chairman—Davignon, Etienne—Belgium
 Honorary Secretary Gen.—Taylor, J. Martin—Britain
 Aartsen, Jozias J. van—NL, Parliamentary Leader
 Abu-Amr, Ziad—President of the Palestinian CFR
 Ackermann, Josef—Germany, Chairman, Deutsche Bank
 Alogoskoufis, George—GR, Minister of Economy
 Babacan, Ali—TR, Minister of Economic Affairs
 Balsemao, Francisco Pinto—Portugal, Former PM
 Barroso, Jose M. Durao—INT, President, Euro. Comm.
 Belfrage, Erik—S, Senior Vice President, SEB
 Bernabe, Franco—I, Vice Chairman, Rothschild Europe
 Bronner, Oscar—A, Publisher and Editor, *Der Standard*
 Browne, John—GB, Group Chief Executive, BP
 Byrne, David—IRL, Former Commissioner, Euro Comm.
 Camus, Philippe—F, CEO, EADS
 Castries, Henri de—F, Chairman of the Board, AXA
 Cebrian, Juan Luis—E, CEO, PRISA
 Collins, Timothy C.—USA, CEO, Ripplewood Holdings
 Collomb, Bertrand—F, Chairman, Lafarge
 Couchevin, Pascal—CH, Head, Dept. of Home Affairs
 David, George A.—GR, Chairman at Coca-Cola
 Delpech, Therese—F, Director, Atomic Energy Comm.
 Diamantopoulou, Anna—GR, Member of Parliament
 Dopfner, Mathias—D, CEO, Axel Springer AG
 Eldrup, Anders—DK, President, DONG A/S
 Elkann, John—I, Vice Chairman, Fiat S.P.A.
 Feldstein, Martin S.—USA, President/CEO
 Ford, Jr., William C.—USA, CEO, Ford Motor Co.
 Geithner, Timothy F.—USA, President, Fed. Res. of NY
 Gilady, Eival—ISR, Advisor to PM Ariel Sharon
 Gleeson, Dermot—IRL, Chairman at AIB Group
 Graham, Donald E.—USA, CEO, Washington Post Co.
 Grydeland, Bjrn T.—N, Ambassador to the EU
 Guterres, Antonio—P, Former PM
 Haass, Richard N.—USA, President of the CFR
 Hansen, Jean-Pierre—B, CEO, Suez-Tractebel, S.A.
 Haselsteiner, Hans Peter—A, CEO, Bauholding Strabag
 Hedegaard, Connie—DK, Minister for the Environment
 Holbrooke, Richard C.—USA, Vice Chairman, Perseus
 Hoop Scheffer, Jaap G. de—INT, Sec. Gen., NATO
 Hubbard, Allan B.—USA, Assistant to the President
 Huyghebaert, Jan—B, Board Chairman of KBC Group
 Johnson, James A.—USA, Vice Chairman, Perseus
 Jones, James L.—INT, Supreme Allied Cmdr. Europe
 Jordan, Jr., Vernon E.—USA, Lazard Freres & Co.
 Keane, John M.—USA, General, U.S. Army, Retired
 Kerr, John—GB, Director, Shell
 Kissinger, Henry A.—USA, Chairman, Kissinger Assoc.
 Kleinfeld, Klaus—D, President and CEO, Siemens AG
 Kopper, Hilmar—D, Chairman at DaimlerChrysler AG
 Kravis, Marie-Josée—USA, Hudson Institute
 Kroes, Neelie—INT, Commissioner, Euro. Comm.
 Kudelski, Andre—CH, CEO, Kudelski Group
 Lamy, Pascal—F, President, Notre Europe
 Ledeen, Michael A.—USA, American Enterprise Institute
 Liikanen, Erkki—FIN, Board Chairman, Bank of Finland
 Lundestad, Geir—N, Norwegian Nobel Committee
 Luti, William J.—USA, Deputy Under Sec. of Defense
 Lykketoft, Mogens—DK, Social Democratic Party

Manji, Irshad—CDN, Author/Founder of "Project Iftihad"
 Mathews, Jessica T.—USA, President, Carnegie Endow.
 McKenna, Frank—CDN, Ambassador to the U.S.
 Mehlmán, Kenneth B.—USA, Chairman, RNC
 Miklos, Ivan—SVK, Deputy PM and Minister of Finance
 Montbrial, Thierry de—F, President of IFR
 Monti, Mario—INT, President, Bocconi University
 Munroe-Blum, Heather—Vice Chancellor, McGill Univ.
 Myklebust, Egil—N, Chairman of the Board, SAS
 Nass, Matthias—D, Deputy Editor, *Die Zeit*
 Netherlands, H.M. The Queen of the Netherlands
 Ollila, Jorma—FIN, CEO, Nokia Corporation
 Padoa-Schioppa, Tommaso—INT, European Cent. Bank
 Palacio, Loyola de—E, President, CFR, Partido Popular
 Papandreou, George A.—GR, President PASOK
 Pearl, Frank H.—USA, Chairman/CEO, Perseus
 Pearlstine, Norman—USA, Editor-in-Chief, *Time Inc.*
 Pentikainen, Mikael—FIN, President, Sanoma Corp.
 Perle, Richard N.—USA, Institute for Public Policy Res.
 Pfluger, Friedbert—D, Member of Parliament
 Philippe H.R.H. Prince—Belgium
 Prichard J. Robert S.—CDN, President, Torstar Media
 Rato y Figaredo, Rodrigo de—INT, Managing Dir., IMF
 Reisman, Heather—CDN, President Indigo Books
 Rockefeller, David—USA, JP Morgan Int'l Council
 Rodin, Judith—USA, President, Rockefeller Foundation
 Rodriguez Inclarte, Matias—E, Vice Chair, Grupo Santander
 Ross, Dennis B.—USA, Dir., Wash. Inst. for Near East Pol.
 Roy, Olivier—F, Senior Researcher, CNRS
 Sarmiento, Nuno Morais—P, Member of Parliament
 Scaroni, Paolo—I, CEO, Enel S.P.A.
 Schily, Otto—D, Minister of the Interior
 Scholten, Rudolf—A, Oesterreichische Kontrollbank AG
 Schrempf, Jurgen E.—D, A COB at Daimler Chrysler AG
 Schulz, Ekkehard D.—D, COB at, ThyssenKrupp AG
 Sebastian Gascon, Miguel—E, Chief Econ. Advisor to PM
 Sharansky, Natan—ISR, Advisor to Ariel Sharon
 Siniscalco, Domenico—I, Minister for Econ. and Finance
 Skidelsky, Robert—GB Professor, Warwick University
 Spain, H.M. The Queen of—E
 Sutherland, Peter D.—IRL, Chairman, Goldman Sachs
 Szwajkowski, Jacek—PL CEO, Polska Grupa Farmaceutyczna
 Tiilikainen, Teija H.—FIN, Director, University of Helsinki
 Tilmant, Michel—NL, Chairman, Ing N.V.
 Trichet, Jean-Claude—INT, Governor, European Central Bank
 Ulsever, Cuneyt—TR, Columnist, *Hurriyet*
 Vasella, Daniel L.—CH, Chairman and CEO, Novartis AG
 Veer, Jeroen van der—NL, Chairman, Royal Dutch/Shell Group
 Vinocur, John—USA, Senior Corr., *International Herald Tribune*
 Wallenberg, Jacob—S, Vice-Chairman, SEB
 Warner, Mark R.—USA, Governor of Virginia
 Weinberg, Peter—GB, CEO, Goldman Sachs International
 Wissmann, Matthias—D, Member of Parliament
 Wolf, Martin H.—GB, Associate Editor and Economics Commentator, *The Financial Times*
 Wolfensohn, James D.—INT/USA, President, The World Bank
 Wolfowitz, Paul—USA, President designate, The World Bank
 Zakaria, Fareed—USA, Editor, *Newsweek International*
 Zumwinkel, Klaus—D, Chairman of the Board of Management.

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GORBY A 'NO SHOW'

Local townspeople said, and the collaborating hotel owner confirmed, that former Soviet Prime Minister Mikhail Gorbachev owns a house in the German town that was host to this year's Bilderberg meetings. But he was not on Bilderberg's guest list nor was he otherwise identified entering the Dorint. But Bilderberg's list is never complete. This year German leader Gerhard Schroeder was positively identified but was not on the list.

Penn & Teller Afraid to Deal With Painful Questions

By Christopher Bollyn

A recent cable television program about “conspiracy theories” provides insight about who is most interested in covering up the truth of 9-11. *The Penn & Teller* program shown on the Showtime cable channel on May 9 dealt with the Sept. 11 attacks and other conspiracy theories. The 30-minute program was vile and abusive, but it provides insight into who is behind covering up the truth of 9-11 and other conspiracies.

Penn & Teller are the stage names of two Las Vegas magicians. Their cable program on Showtime is produced by Star Price and Mark Wolper, son of the Hollywood producer David L. Wolper.

The May 9 program addressed three conspiracy theories: the terror attacks of 9-11, the NASA moon landings and the murder of President John F. Kennedy. Without discussing the evidence, the program sought to debunk conspiracy researchers using extreme verbal abuse.

Jodie Dean, a professor from Hobart and William Smith Colleges, was used as a voice of reason to discredit conspiracy theories without actually knowing which theories were being discussed.

“We talked about conspiracy in the abstract,” Dean told AFP. “When they asked about the JFK assassination I told them I wouldn’t go there because there is too much evidence of a conspiracy.”

In the case of Eric Hufschmid, author of *Painful Questions: An Analysis of the September 11th Attack*, the abuse actually incited violence against those who read his book.

The camera zooms in on *Painful Questions* as Teller says: “If you ever see anyone with this book—push them down a flight of stairs.”

The program also shows Rudy Matchinga, the art director for the program, desecrating the Bible by drilling a large hole through it.

American Free Press contacted Wolper and Price to ask why invective and violent speech runs throughout the program. Both refused to answer any questions.

When Matchinga was asked why the show had included the gratuitous desecration of the Bible, he refused to answer



WORKING FOR WHOM? Above, magicians “Penn & Teller” who were behind a recent smear attack on a book exposing factual inconsistencies about the Sept. 11 attacks in New York. This is the second major propaganda attack on this book, written by researcher Eric Hufschmid. Is Hufschmid on to something?

and responded with profanity over the phone.

“There was absolutely no reason to show that,” 9-11 researcher Phil Jayhan told AFP. “It is incongruent. They are doing it to show their hatred for the truth.”

Teller also hurled invective at Jimmy Walter, who is sponsoring a series of 9-11 events in Europe and ads for the “truth movement.”

Since 9-11, the most vociferous critics of independent researchers have been individuals tied to Zionist organizations. The Anti-Defamation League of B’nai B’rith attacked this writer in November 2001 for writing about eyewitness reports of explosions in the World Trade Center and Alan Colmes of Rupert Murdoch’s Fox Network also tried to smear me as an anti-Semite.

The Penn & Teller show follows this pattern.

Wolper, the executive producer, comes from a family with ties to organized crime and the Zionist movement.

His father, David L. Wolper, in his autobiography, *Producer*, reveals how he got into the film business through his uncle, David J. Wolper, a lawyer and front man for the notorious Jewish gangster Benjamin “Bugsy” Siegel.

“The closest anyone in my family came to show business was my uncle,” he wrote. “He was an attorney, and among his clients was gangster Mickey Cohen’s glamorous moll, Virginia Hill. To settle a 1942 bill, Virginia Hill gave my uncle, the lawyer, the famed Hurricane nightclub on Broadway.

“Which is how the Wolper family first got into the entertainment business,” he wrote.

David J. Wolper served the gangsters as the legal owner of their Hurricane Club on Broadway in the 1940s and 1950s. He also served as the president of the B’nai B’rith of Florida.

Bugsy’s Baby: The Secret Life of Mob Queen Virginia Hill reveals who really owned the Hurricane:

“As part of their trade accord with New York, the Chicago gang was allowed to invest in a nightclub called the Hurricane Club, at 1619 Broadway in New York. It had all the promise of a money maker and could provide a great way to launder money as well. The Chicago mob was, of course, a silent partner, and the names of the backers were not to appear in any legal registers. Virginia was ordered to act as the front and travel to New York to work the deal.

“Depending on who told the story, Virginia put down anywhere from \$6,000 to \$60,000 cash, but for some unexplained reason her name never appeared on the license as an owner.” David J. Wolper was the registered owner.

“We named our company Flamingo Films after Bugsy Siegel’s Las Vegas hotel,” his nephew wrote in *Producer*.

Mark Wolper refused to answer questions about his family’s ties to organized crime. ★

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Retiring General, Joint Chiefs Chairman Admits U.S. Forces in Weakened State

General Myers Comes Clean; Says Military May Not Be Able to Respond to Emergency

By Mike Blair

As he prepares to leave office, Gen. Richard B. Myers, who will soon be retiring from duty as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, has leveled with Congress in a classified report concerning the diminished strength of the U.S. Armed Forces. Myers explicitly cited the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan as the main reason.



Marine Corps chief, Gen. Peter Pace, has also admitted to Congress that there is a risk that the diminished U.S. military would be unable to prevent an attack, including a surprise attack. Pace said it was "moderate, but trending toward significant."

The retiring Air Force general said he fears that U.S. forces "may be unable to meet expectations for speed or precision as detailed in our current plans."

He warned that additional combat operations, beyond current operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, "may result in significantly extended campaign timelines, and achieving campaign objectives may result in higher casualty rates and collateral damage."

NOT SO ROSY

In issuing his report to Congress the general appears to have broken with the White House and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, who paint a far rosier picture

of America's current military strength.

In a recent news conference President Bush said that the number of American troops in Iraq would not limit Washington's military options elsewhere.

Numerous military experts pointedly disagree with the president on this point, noting that U.S. bases around the world could be dragged into burgeoning crises such as a Chinese assault on Taiwan, an attack on South Korea from North Korea or a widening war in the Middle East.

Bush's pronouncements sharply conflicted with Myers's conclusions about U.S. military capabilities when he said he had asked the general, "Do you feel that we've limited our capacity to deal with other problems because of our troop levels in Iraq?"

"The [general's] answer is no, he didn't feel a bit limited. It feels like we got plenty of capacity."

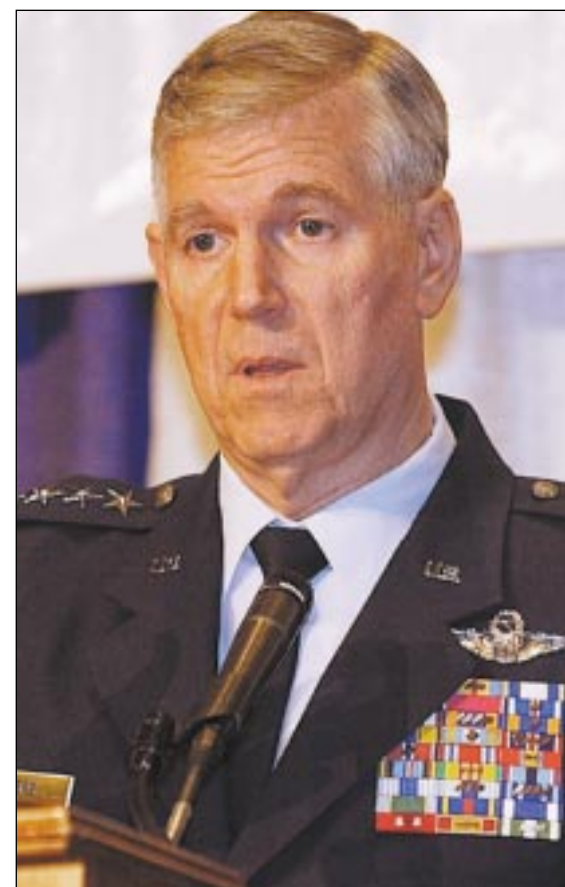
SAME MIND

Many career military officers are of the same mind as Myers, realizing that all active duty troops have been depleted due to deployments. National Guard and Reserve forces have been drawn down to the point where middle-aged soldiers are being asked to don uniforms and be sent to Iraq.

Myers also told Congress about reduced stockpiles of precision weapons, such as guided cruise missiles and laser-guided bombs.

As far as conditions in Iraq are concerned Myers disagrees with the Bush administration's claims, saying U.S. forces are operating at "a higher level of risk" than a year ago.

With the military currently being so overdrawn and utilized for extended periods in Iraq, one senior Pentagon official said that the United States would ultimately win a new conflict "but it may not be as pretty,"



BOGGED DOWN: Air Force Gen. Richard Myers, who will be retiring soon, gave reporters as candid an account of the weakened state of U.S. forces as you would expect from a top military man. The main reason, according to Myers, is the fact that the military is bogged down in Iraq and Afghanistan, a dangerous—and expensive—proposition for the United States.

predicting larger numbers of casualties and higher cost in dollars.

Currently, the Pentagon is adjusting and reorganizing active and reserve units.

This will eventually correct shortfalls, "but this will take several more years to complete," Myers concluded.

Is a draft in the future? ★

Best known for his ground-breaking work exposing the U.S. government's abandonment of American POWs and MIAs in Korea and Vietnam, Mike Blair specializes in military affairs and gunowners' rights. Blair was cited by Project Censored for having uncovered the top "most censored" story of 1990—a scheme to scuttle the Bill of Rights in the name of "fighting crime."

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Deceptive Strategy Used by Warhawks

Continued from Page 1

innocent Iraqi civilians have also perished.

The London press claims to have verified the authenticity of the memo before publication, also blaming its own government for following America to war even though it had solid evidence no WMDs existed in Iraq.

Rycroft, who was privy to highly classified U.S. intelligence reports, reveals that, just prior to the U.S. invasion, a deceptive strategy was used on the part of the Bush administration to topple Saddam. Rycroft wrote:

“As reported in recent talks in Washington, there was a perceptible shift in attitude. Military action was now seen as inevitable. Bush wanted to remove Saddam, through military action, justified by the conjunction of terrorism and WMDs.

“But the intelligence and facts were being fixed around the policy. The [National Security Council] had no patience with the UN route, and no enthusiasm for publishing material on the Iraqi regime’s record. There was little discussion in Washington of the aftermath after military action.”

Regarding the memo, the Bush administration refused comment, saying it was unaware of the specific allegations. Critics claim this memo clearly refutes the justification for war, resulting in a clear violation of international law.

The memo goes on to warn all recipients that it should remain “secret” to all others in light of the highly sensitive content.

“This record is extremely sensitive. No further copies should be made. It should be shown only to those with a genuine need to know its contents,” writes Rycroft to the prime minister.

He further added that, “The defense secretary said that the U.S. had already begun ‘spikes of activity’ to put pressure on the regime. No decisions had been taken, but he thought the most likely timing in U.S. minds for military



DEFENSE SECRETARY DONALD RUMSFELD
Pressured regime.

action to begin was January, with the timeline beginning 30 days before the U.S. congressional elections.”

Critics of the Bush administration war strategy claim this shows Bush clearly “lied to the American people and should be held accountable.” ★

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Military Judge Says Investigation Is Biased

Continued from Page 1

battle with the Army when his application for conscientious objector (CO) status was denied by his command during the last week of April.

But Benderman, who appears to have become a "soldier of conscience" over military actions in Iraq that he found to be highly immoral, appealed this decision. And, Benderman, who served in the Army for the past 10 years, attended his court-martial hearing on May 11. The trial began at Fort Stewart in Hinesville, Ga.

Benderman, a Baptist, applied for CO status after having already served one combat tour in Iraq—during which his captain allegedly ordered personnel in the unit to fire on Iraqi children throwing rocks.

"This was one of many incidents during his deployment that Benderman said convinced him that war is immoral and it is his duty to refuse to kill," wrote Robert S. Finnegan, managing editor of *Southeast Asia News*.

According to information on the web site BendermanDefense.org, which was set up to explain Benderman's situation and generate support for him, Benderman's record has been honorable. He received "two Army Commendation medals for his service during a combat tour in Iraq, four Army Achievement medals, three Good Conduct medals, and having been recognized as outstanding leader and 1st Sgt. of his class out of 400 students in his primary leadership development class."

Reportedly, Benderman also was recognized as being worthy of promotion to the rank of staff sergeant by his current command. He received the highest number of points possible by the promotion board, as stated on his web site.

Back in March of 2003, when the words "shock and awe" were prattled by pundits to describe the massive coalition bombing campaign that foreshadowed a ground invasion of Iraq by U.S. forces—enforcing United Nations Security Council Resolution 1441, among other measures—Benderman was deployed to Iraq with the 1-10 Cav, 4th Infantry Division (ID) from Ft. Hood, Texas.

"His unit followed the trail of the 3rd ID from Kuwait through Baghdad and into Tikrit just two weeks after the initial invasion of Iraq. Benderman witnessed many situations that caused him to reconsider his beliefs on war and the destruction it brings. He returned after his combat tour with the 4th ID to transfer to Ft. Stewart and become part of the 2-7th Inf., 3rd ID in Georgia," as explained on his web site.

It was during the next year at Ft. Stewart that Benderman, upon first becoming acquainted with his new unit, began training for what, at the time, was stated to be a "potential"

second deployment to Iraq. At this point in time he had an opportunity to assess all that he had experienced during his tour of duty in Iraq. He further evaluated his beliefs on war.

Benderman said he witnessed many disturbing things in Iraq. He said he saw a young girl standing on the side of the road with her mother. He said the girl's left arm was burned black from her hand to her shoulder. She was crying in pain, with no one willing to stop and help her.

According to Benderman, there were mass graves filled with bodies of young children, old men and women. One thankless task, said Benderman, was having to chase dogs from eating the remains, and having to repeatedly remind

Benderman said he witnessed many disturbing things in Iraq. He said he saw a young girl whose arm was burned black from her hand to her shoulder. She was crying in pain. No one stopped to help her.

his young troops that they were in a war zone and to keep their heads down and be on guard for incoming rounds.

"Sgt. Benderman saw what war does to humanity. He saw the destruction; he felt what he had to become in order to be part of that, and once he had time to recall everything about his experience, he knew that he could not return to this again," states a passage in one of many articles posted on his web site.

Amid uncertainty over which Army units would be returning to Iraq, Benderman made his decision, with only one year left in his enlistment, to simply depart the Army "on his scheduled ETS date and pursue other endeavors that would not involve the killing and destruction in which he felt he no longer could participate," the web site account notes.

The situation seemed resolved, but it wasn't. Just as he began the process of doing the preliminary paperwork, Benderman was "stop-lossed" for another year of service after his enlistment should have been complete.

After much soul-searching, Benderman remained firm in

his commitment that he could not return to the war in Iraq, which, broadly speaking, was not entered into under a constitutionally required declaration of war by Congress, nor was a clear exit strategy ever announced.

CONGRESS BYPASSED

Congress, ever since the start of the Korean conflict, has abdicated this constitutional responsibility, leaving the decision-making process in the hands of the Executive Branch and the United Nations Security Council, with Congress relegated to the function of merely "authorizing the use of force." This has amounted to a virtually meaningless rubber-stamping of executive ambitions and UN resolutions. Consequently, U.S. troops are sent into open-ended conflicts that involve occupation.

Benderman reportedly began seeking advice for the status of CO, calling the GI Rights Hotline and asking other veterans organizations for help in learning what he could do to legally separate from the Army and retain the honor that he had earned.

He made the final decision that he would complete his CO application and submit it to his command.

Beginning in November 2004, he had several email conversations with his battalion's chaplain, who suggested that Benderman meet with him to discuss his concerns.

But Benderman said that when he called upon this chaplain to arrange that meeting, the chaplain would not commit. From that point on, the chaplain was not available.

Benderman says he went up the chain of command seeking a superior officer who would accept his application, as Army regulations require, and, for a time, not one officer would comply.

"Two called him a coward, and all said that they would not do anything to help Sgt. Benderman initiate the process," states the lengthy account on the web site.

Eventually, however, Benderman managed to move the process forward, though it has not been an easy battle. He was charged with deserting his unit.

As the web site notes, Benderman, his wife, Monica and other family and friends "remain steadfast and hopeful that the process will eventually reveal that he is guilty of nothing more than exercising his legal right to assert his heartfelt opposition to war." ★

For more information, contact the Kevin Benderman Defense Committee at 512 Westminster Ave. Apt #1 Venice, Calif. 90291, (310) 392-0113 or visit the web site, BendermanDefense.org. AFP correspondent Mark Anderson can be contacted at truthorelse@msn.com.

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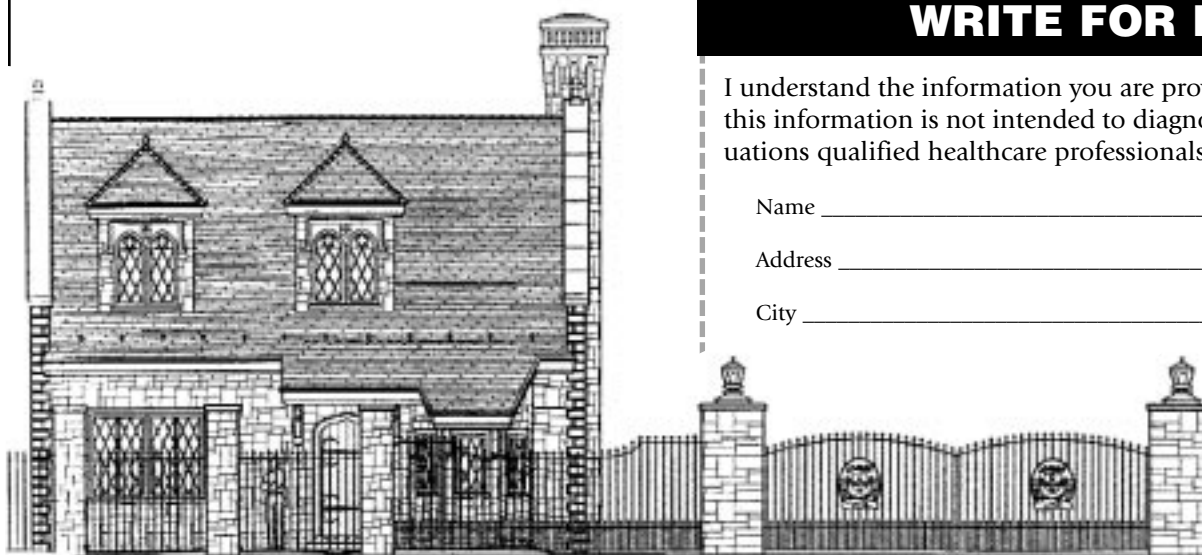
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EMPIRE BUILDING: Repeating Mistakes of the Past

America Must Abandon Dangerous Path Others Have Already Traveled

Humans have the capacity to create and to destroy. It seems to me that if we do not rein in our destructive capacity, bugs will one day inherit an otherwise empty and barren planet.



It's no use assigning blame. The urge to destroy resides in every human heart. Violence is all too often the problem-solving method of choice. The 20th century differed from the preceding ones only in the scale of the violence unleashed. Between wars and dictators, well over 200 million people died before their natural time.

Human history can be reduced to children's games. Adolf Hitler wanted more living space, so, like a bullying child wanting somebody else's toys, he took it. The British had spent 300 years trying to make sure no one country dominated the continent and threatened their commercial dominance. They went to war in 1939 not to liberate the Poles, as they claimed, but to make sure the continent remained divided. By the time it was over, 55 million people were dead, and the survivors were burdened with billions, now trillions, of dollars of debt.

I recognize there are evil people. Both Hitler and Josef Stalin were paranoid psychopaths. Stalin was by far the

more bloodthirsty. In fact, one of the last things Hitler said in his bunker was reportedly, "I should have been more like Stalin." It was Stalin, not Saladin, whom Saddam Hussein most admired and studied.

And imagine what worms crawled around in the brain of Pol Pot, who decided that anybody in Cambodia with more than a third-grade education had to die to make way for his new society.

Mao Tse-tung, a third-rate poet but a first-rate killer, had the blood of 60 million Chinese on his hands.

So, Rule No. 1 for the 21st century is to never allow psychopaths and insane people to get their hands on power. Some immature people like a cocky strongman to tell them what to do. We should take their voter-registration cards away from them and send them to a shrink or a priest for lessons in maturation.

Rule No. 2 is to never vote for or support anybody who fails to demonstrate conclusively compassion for human beings. It was said years ago that Sen. Ed Muskie lost his bid for the presidential nomination because he cried in public. It is far better to have a man who can cry than one who can only snarl. That was the year, I believe, we ended up with Richard Nixon.

Rule No. 3 is that most problems or conflicts can be resolved by negotiation and diplomacy, and when one comes along that can't be, then walk away.

It is none of our business what kind of government other people have in their own countries. Communism is an unrealistic ideology that has screwed up every country it's been tried in, but if the Cuban, Chinese and North Korean people want to put up with it, so be it. It's their problem, not ours.

It is stupid in the extreme for two nations to go to war, since war produces only death, taxes and debt. However, as long as they don't shoot at us, that, too, is none of our business. For decades, the proponents of empire have been ridiculing what they call an isolationist foreign policy, but that is the only sane, rational and moral policy to follow.

Imagine what would happen if you ran up and down the streets in your neighborhood telling people what they must eat, how they must raise their children and how they must keep their yards. You'd be in a continuing state of conflict and turmoil. Well, the same is true of nations. Look at us, spending half a trillion dollars a year on defense and \$40 billion on intelligence. No American youth should ever die in uniform except in defense of his own country. We've had more than 100,000 deaths in military combat since the end of World War II, and not one of them was in defense of the United States.

It's time to wise up. War, as Maj. Gen. Smedley Butler said, is a racket. Young men die, and old men rake in the profits.

We have a lovely country, and we and our children can live in peace and prosperity, provided we mind our own business, kick the imperialists out of power and get rid of the lobbyists representing foreign governments.

Otherwise, we will suffer the fate of every other empire—dissolution and bankruptcy. ★

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Charley Reese is a nationally syndicated columnist whose no-holds-barred style has won him a host of devoted followers. Long associated with *The Orlando Sentinel*, Reese was formerly active in a variety of state, local and national political endeavors.

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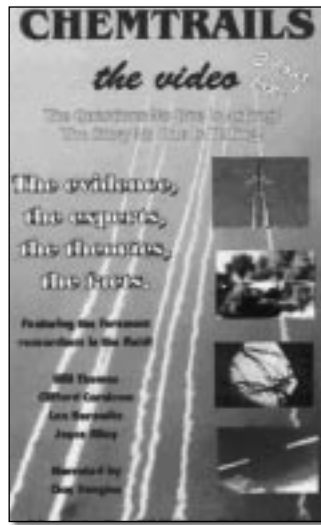

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Letters

Inaction of U.S. Treasury Secretary Snowballing on U.S. Economy

AFP's article on outsourcing in the May 2 edition was excellent. Every member of Congress should read it. It cites a survey by the University of California that 14.1 million jobs will be lost to outsourcing in the next decade. Based on an average salary of \$70,000 a year, a conservative 3-to-one ripple effect and the prevailing 50 percent tax rate this works out to \$3 trillion in lost national income.

The current federal debt of \$8 trillion is increasing at over \$600 billion a year, due almost entirely to trade deficits of \$650 billion a year. With no policies in place to reduce deficits and bring tax-generating production back to America (Bush would make it worse with CAFTA and FTAA), the federal debt would soar to over \$14 trillion in 10 years, not allowing for inflation. An American earning \$70,000 a year would pay over \$10,000 in income and payroll taxes.

Workers in India and China don't pay taxes in America. Therefore, outsourcing is tax evasion, plain and simple.

Should Treasury Secretary Snow be sent to

prison for aiding and abetting tax evasion and found guilty of dereliction of his duty to guard the federal treasury?

GUS STELZER
Mill Creek, Washington

Covering Bilderberg

Jim Tucker has earned the thanks of all for his good work covering the Bilderbergers. Being a Christian, I understand the nature of the forces working to destroy civilization and enslave us. We need divine protection, and we need help beyond the greatest armies. I wish I could do more.

D. LISLE
United Kingdom

Can You Believe It?

Bush is the world's most dangerous terrorist. If you don't believe it, there are hundreds of millions of people around the world who do.

CARLOS EMDY
Atwater, California



Crime Against Humanity

Regarding Charley Reese's article in the May 9 issue, Mr. Reese is to be commended for recognizing the reality that the U.S. government is perpetrating a major crime with its military presence in Iraq, making for massive loss of U.S. and other nationals' lives, not to mention the waste of hundreds of billions of dollars.

I differ from you as to Japan being guilty of the same underhanded conduct (starting with an attack upon Pearl Harbor). Japan was insulted and maneuvered by the U.S. government into the disastrous World War II.

FDR had planned a sneak attack against Japan; the Joint Board 355 document outlined a plot for a bomber attack on Japan on July 25, 1941, which was called off when it was learned that Japan was on the verge of attacking America (Pearl). That would be much better politically for FDR and his mentors. *Day of Deceit* by Robert B. Stinnett cites the U.S. intelligence data that kept FDR and his cohorts apprised of the impending Japanese attack.

There was no call for the Iraqi wars, just as there was no call for America to become involved in either world war.

NAME WITHHELD
Memphis, Tennessee

Trial of Saddam

When are we going to hear something about the trial of Saddam Hussein? Isn't it against international convention—never mind laws of civil rights and common sense—to hold a man indefinitely like this?

Perhaps officials are waiting until later in the president's second term before they pull this off. After all, there were no weapons of mass destruction. If they're waiting for a more firmly established Iraqi government, it may be sometime after hell freezes over.

Either way the man cannot have a fair trial unless tried in the international court, and I don't suppose that will happen. Since George W. Bush and company seem to be able to get away with anything they please, I suppose it will take place when they get good and ready.

HAROLD R. JOHNSON
Big Rapids, Michigan

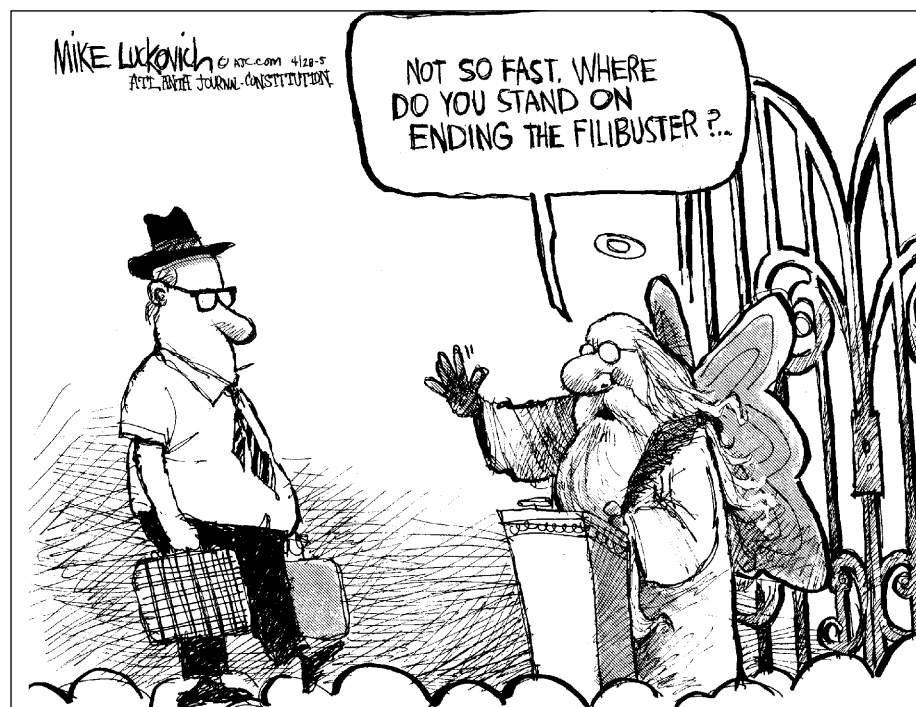
Controlled Opposition

With respect to the media disinformation described by Christopher Bollyn in AFP's May 9 issue it doesn't surprise me in the least that the John Birch Society (JBS) publication *New American* would try to discredit the findings of independent researchers concerning 9-11. Years



Ultimate Sacrifice

HONORING THE FALLEN: Rodney Nightingale, (left) and his wife, Towina Nightingale, of Highland, Indiana embrace after seeing their son's portrait among the "Faces of the Fallen: America's Artists Honor America's Heroes" at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia. The exhibit opened to members of the news media and friends and families of some of the more than 1,600 soldiers killed in the Afghanistan and Iraq wars whose portraits are displayed. According to the exhibit catalog, "Nearly 200 American artists are working from published photographs using a variety of media, including drawing, painting, carving, relief, collage, photo-based print, clay, glass and textiles." Each piece is six inches by eight inches. The art will be on display at the memorial from March 23 to September 5, 2005.



Did They Really Say That?

EVERYONE'S DOING IT. "[Iraqi prisoners in Abu Ghraib] had been stripped and handcuffed and they were then placed in a pyramid pile by [reservist Charles] Graner. . . . There were seven. . . . I thought it was odd, kind of weird, but, it was kind of like, if everyone else is doing it, you know, you're doing it," said Private Lynnndie England, the female U.S. army reservist who posed for the now infamous Abu Ghraib photos, in a recent interview with the BBC.

★ ★ ★

WHOSE DEMOCRACY? "We are trying to promote democracy worldwide. I don't see how you can do that and run a place like Guantanamo Bay. This is now a rallying cry to the Muslim world. . . ." Erik Saar told London's *The Observer*. Saar arrived at Guantanamo Bay in December 2002, and worked there until June 2003. He first worked as a translator in the prisoners' cages, but was then transferred to the interrogation teams. Saar's book, *Inside the Wire*, provides the first detailed look inside the U.S. concentration camp at Guantanamo Bay. In another interview with a U.S. television station, Saar said: "I think the harm we are doing there far outweighs the good, and I believe it's inconsistent with American values. In fact, I think it's fair to say that it's the moral antithesis of what we want to stand for as a country"

★ ★ ★

DISARMAMENT. At a press gathering during a month-long conference on the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, former chief UN weapons inspector Hans Blix said, there is "a great deal of concern" about North Korea and Iran building nuclear weapons. But "that feeling of concern is somewhat muted by the feeling that the United States in particular, and perhaps some other nuclear weapons states, are not taking the common bargain [of disarmament] as seriously as they had committed themselves to do in the past."

ago I was a very dedicated member of JBS, and I had a very bad experience with them, in fact, one might say, a horror story, which in my opinion was unbelievable.

While I am sure there are and were many fine people who are Birchers, the John Birch Society is very suspect in my opinion. There is a saying,

"Control your opposition," and I think the JBS is a containment organization and working for the other side.

Please publish more on the John Birch Society in future issues.

BARTOW VANNESS
Deal Island, Maryland



AFP's Letter of the Week

Confusion Over Social Security Continues

IN THE "NEWS YOU MAY HAVE MISSED" section in the April 25 issue of *American Free Press*, the item on Social Security noted that "The trust fund holds \$1.7 trillion in U.S. government bonds." This was intended to counter President Bush's statement, "There is no trust fund, just IOUs."

The confusion over the issue of Social Security—and whether the government maintains IOUs in the so-called trust fund—stems from President Roosevelt's original message to Congress urging passage of the Social Security Act (SSA). Roosevelt said:

Three principles should be observed in legislation on this subject. In the first place, the system adopted, except for the money necessary to initiate it, should be self-sustaining in the sense that funds for the payment of insurance benefits should not come from the proceeds of general taxation. Second, excepting in old-age insurance, actual management should be left to the states subject to standards established by the federal government. Third, sound financial management of the funds and the reserves, and protection of the credit structure of the nation should be assured by retaining federal control over all funds through trustees in the Treasury of the United States.

However, 45 years later, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled:

The design of the system requires support by mandatory contributions from covered employers and employees. This mandatory participation is indispensable to the fiscal vitality of the Social Security system.

The obligation to pay the Social Security tax initially is not fundamentally different from the obligation to pay income taxes; the difference—in theory at least—is that the Social Security tax revenues are segregated for use only in furtherance of the statutory program. There is no principled way, however, for purposes of this case to distinguish between general taxes and those imposed under the Social Security Act.

Mandatory contributions? FDR's "insurance benefits," which he suggested "should not come from the proceeds of general taxation," are just malarkey.

The fact is, Social Security taxes are not insurance premiums, are not contributions and have never been set aside for SSA benefits.

The U.S. government bonds in the "trust fund" are non-negotiable. They are not invested or owned by anyone, or anything, that draws or pays interest. They do not increase in value. They just sit there.

It's all smoke and mirrors. Those bonds are simply pieces of paper with numbers on them that reflect the SSA income taxes that Congress spent for other purposes. Lawfully, they are not even IOUs. That is, Congress is under no lawful obligation to redeem them.

JAMES HARROLD SR.
Springdale, Arizona

Still Time for the Euro-American Festival in New Orleans

I join the 400 or so patriots who will gather in New Orleans, eager to hear AFP writers Michael Collins Piper and Willis Carto speak this weekend, May 20-22 at the European American Conference. Thanks to AFP, and writers like Piper, Carto, Christopher Bollyn and others, we have a national newspaper that reports the truth that America's armed forces are stationed on the Euphrates instead of the Rio Grande, where they should be guarding America against the worst demographic invasion in history rather than serving their necon Zionist masters. I hope that the attendees who don't already subscribe to AFP will do so during our Friday (6 pm) to Sunday (4 pm) event that also features Don Black, Nick Griffin, Lady Michele Renouf, Paul Fromm, Kevin Strom, Dr. Edward Fields, Markus Haverkamp, Vavra Suk and Bob Whitaker. Patriots who want to join us can call James Kelso at 985-626-7714 and visit www.davidduke.com for more information on the hotel and travel bargains still available for you.

DAVID DUKE
Mandeville, Louisiana



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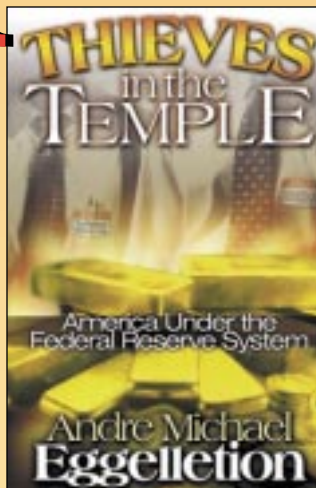
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