

Rock Creek Free Press

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

Vol. 2, No. 1 January 2008

A FIERCELY INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Washington, D.C.

Liberty Dollar Company Raided by Feds

Jacob G. Hornberger

It would be difficult to find a better example of federal heavy-handedness than the recent six-hour federal raid on NORFED, the National Organization for the Repeal of the Federal Reserve and Internal Revenue Code. In fact, it would be virtually impossible to distinguish the NORFED raid from similar raids conducted by Soviet and Chinese communist officials against private businesses operating in those countries.

After all, by confiscating all the assets of the company, including its coins, computers, records, and equipment, the feds have totally shut down the NORFED operation. But where is the court order authorizing them to shut down this privately owned business? The answer: There is no such court order. All federal agents had was a search warrant issued by a federal magistrate.

Here's what the feds did that enabled them to engage in their frontal attack on NORFED. Unlike the system that existed in the Soviet Union and that still exists in China, the US government is precluded by law from simply closing down businesses it doesn't like or that it feels are violating the law. If the government wishes to have a business shut down, the law provides a remedy called an injunction, which is a formal order issued by a judge that requires a person or business to cease and desist from engaging in a certain operation.

In order to secure a federal injunction, the petitioner files an application for the injunction



with a federal district judge. The judge sets a date for the hearing on the application and gives notice to the respondent of the application and the hearing. What is significant about the hearing on the temporary injunction is that the respondent has the right to be present to defend his side of things. He can have his lawyer present, cross-examine witnesses, present witnesses, introduce evidence, file motions and briefs, and make legal arguments to the judge.

At the conclusion of the temporary-injunction hearing, the judge can either grant or deny the request for a temporary injunction. If he grants it, he sets a bond as a prerequisite to the issuance of the injunction, in order to protect the respondent from damages suffered if it later turns out that the injunction was wrongfully issued. The respondent has the right to appeal the grant of the injunction to the federal court of appeals, which ordinarily grants priority to such cases because of their importance and urgency. Unless the court of appeals vacates the temporary injunction, it remains in effect until a trial on the merits is later held, which may be a trial by jury. At that time, it is determined whether to make the temporary injunction permanent.

see Liberty Dollar p. 2



Italian Ex-President: Intel Agencies All Know 9/11 Was An Inside Job

Paul Joseph Watson

Former Italian President and the man who revealed the existence of Operation Gladio Francesco Cossiga has gone public on 9/11, telling Italy's most respected newspaper that the attacks were run by the CIA and Mossad and that this was common knowledge amongst global intelligence agencies.

Cossiga was elected President of the Italian Senate in July 1983 before winning a landslide 1985 election to become President of the country in 1985.

Cossiga gained respect from opposition parties as one of a rare breed - an honest politician - and led the country for seven years until April 1992.

Cossiga's tendency to be outspoken upset the Italian political establishment and he was forced to resign after revealing the existence of, and his part in setting up, Operation Gladio - a rogue intelligence network under NATO auspices that carried out bombings across

Europe in the 60s, 70s and 80s.

Gladio's specialty was to carry out what they coined "false flag operations," terror attacks that were blamed on their domestic and geopolitical opposition.

Cossiga's revelations contributed to an Italian parliamentary investigation of Gladio in 2000, during which evidence was unearthed that the attacks were being overseen by the US intelligence apparatus.

In March 2001, Gladio agent Vincenzo Vinciguerra stated, in sworn testimony, "You had to attack civilians, the people, women, children, innocent people, unknown people far removed from any political game. The reason was quite simple: to force ... the public to turn to the state to ask for greater security."

Cossiga's new revelations appeared late November in Italy's oldest and most widely read newspaper, *Corriere della Sera*.

see Italian President p. 2

International Regulation of Dietary Supplements Looms

Elaine Sullivan

Over 100,000 Americans die every year from adverse reactions to prescription drugs. Contrast this with 10 deaths in 20 years due to adverse reactions of vitamins.

We, of course, have governmental and world agencies to help protect us from such tragedies. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is an agency of the US Department of Health and Human Services and is responsible for the safety regulation of most types of foods, dietary supplements, drugs, vaccines, biological medical products, blood products, medical devices, radiation-emitting devices, veterinary products, and cosmetics.

The Codex Alimentarius Commission, (Codex Alimentarius is Latin for "Food Code")

based in Rome, Italy, and created in 1963, is an international organization jointly run by the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) of the United Nations. One of its 27 committees, the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Use (CCNFSDU) is responsible for Dietary Supplements and Special Foods. The CCNFSDU meets yearly in Germany. Codex's published goals are to develop and adopt uniform food standards for its member countries and to promote the free and unhindered international flow of food goods, thereby eliminating trade barriers to food and providing food safety. This is called "harmonizing". The 29th session of the CCNFSDU (CAC) met in Bad Neuenahr-

see Health p. 4

US Claims Right to Kidnap British Citizens

David Leppard

America has told Britain that it can "kidnap" British citizens if they are wanted for crimes in the United States.

A senior lawyer for the American government has told the Court of Appeal in London that kidnapping foreign citizens is permissible under American law because the US Supreme Court has sanctioned it.

The admission will alarm the British business community after the case of the so-called NatWest Three, bankers who were extradited to America on fraud charges. More than a dozen other British executives, including senior managers at British Airways and BAE Systems, are under investigation by the US authorities and could face criminal charges in America.

Until now it was commonly assumed that US law permitted kidnapping only in the "extraordinary rendition" of terrorist suspects.

The American government has for the first time made it clear in a British court that the

law applies to anyone, British or otherwise, suspected of a crime by Washington.

Legal experts confirmed this weekend that America viewed extradition as just one way of getting foreign suspects back to face trial. Rendition, or kidnapping, dates back to 19th-century bounty hunting and Washington believes it is still legitimate.

The US government's view emerged during a hearing involving Stanley Tollman, a former director of Chelsea football club and a friend of Baroness Thatcher, and his wife Beatrice.

The Tollmans, who control the Red Carnation hotel group and are resident in London, are wanted in America for bank fraud and tax evasion. They have been fighting extradition through the British courts.

During a hearing last month Lord Justice Moses, one of the Court of Appeal judges, asked Alun Jones QC, representing the US government, about its treatment of Gavin,

see Kidnap p. 2

CIA Hides Torture Tapes

Which lie should we believe when the CIA admits it destroyed evidence it said didn't exist?

Nicholas Levis

The CIA claims it destroyed videotapes of interrogations central to the official story of September 11th. Writing in *TIME* magazine, former CIA official and occasional "conspiracy theory" debunker, Robert Baer concedes that 9/11 skeptics seem all the more credible in the aftermath.

The most important document in the official mythology of September 11th, The 9/11 Commission Report, is based largely on the reported statements of three prisoners: Khalid Shaikh Mohamed, Ramzi Binalshibh, and Abu Zubaydah. The Report describes these men as high-ranking members of Al Qaeda. US authorities announced the captures of the three in the course of separate raids in 2002 and 2003. According to the CIA and US military, they have been held ever since at "undisclosed locations," and have had contacts only with a handful of interrogators. No US agency has ever produced any of them in a public proceeding, or even provided photographs of them in captivity.

Khalid Shaikh Mohamed (see entries in

the "Complete 9/11 Timeline") was originally reported as killed during an attempt to capture him in Pakistan on September 10, 2002. He apparently survived, for he was reported as captured alive in March 2003. Until 2004, it was considered a security breach for a US government source even to mention his name, although he was publicly identified as the "9/11 mastermind" in 2002.

The 9/11 Commission asked to see Mohamed and other prisoners, and was denied. The CIA instead provided English-language transcripts of interrogations supposedly held at the Guantanamo prison, and told the Commission no videotapes of such interrogations existed. The Commission made no fuss about this denial of access, although its report portrays Mohamed in particular as the most important planner of the September 11th plot.

The Report cites Mohamed, Binalshibh and Zubaydah uncritically as primary sources, without expressing a shred of doubt that the transcripts constitute the mens' words, that the words are genuine and unedited, or that the prisoners really are who the CIA says they are.

see CIA Torture Tapes p. 8

NIE Exposes War Party Attempt to Start Another Unjustified War

Sherwood Ross

So, just how much are the American people supposed to take? Here we've got a president who lied us into making war on Iraq and who, despite a new National Intelligence Estimate (NIE), is stubbornly trying to lie us into another war against Iran.

President Bush today is telling Iran to "come clean" when he's nose deep in what comes out of the hind end of a Texas Longhorn.

Our commander-in-chief is so fanatical for war against Iran that, as investigative reporter Seymour Hersh wrote earlier this year in *The New Yorker*, there's a special planning group under the Joint Chiefs of Staff organized to plot one. Hersh quotes a former intelligence official stating the group is "charged with creating a contingency bombing plan for Iran that can be implemented upon orders from the President,

within 24 hours."

So it's clear why Bush pushed Congress last September for his warmongering Iran resolution that Senator Jim Webb (D-Va.) and former Secretary of the Navy, labeled "a de facto authorization for use of military force against Iran." Bush is rarin' to attack! The wonder is why the Senate would give this liar anything but the boot?

Despite the new NIE estimate, Bush continues to insist Iran is the warmonger. This only further strengthens the case for impeachment against him and for criminal prosecution of those responsible for the Iraq war, including former Secretary of State Colin Powell and his successor, Condoleezza ("Mushroom Cloud") Rice.

see War Party p.4

Two Brothers and Two Scandals

Dave Lindorff

The State Department's top internal investigator, Inspector General Howard "Cookie" Krongard, revealed in a House Oversight and Government Reform Committee hearing, that his brother, Alvin "Buzzy" Krongard, was a member of the advisory board of Blackwater, the very private mercenary company whose bloody, murderous behavior the IG office was supposed to be investigating.

Unmentioned in reports on this tainted relationship was the fact that Alvin "Buzzy" Krongard, the former third-ranking leader of the CIA from 2001-2004, has also been the subject of some speculation regarding possible foreknowledge of the 9/11 attacks by some within the intelligence establishment.

Alvin "Buzzy" Krongard joined the CIA in 1998, leaving a post at Bankers Trust, which, in 1997 acquired the venerable investment-banking house of Alex Brown. Prior to the acquisition, Krongard had been CEO and chairman of the board of Alex Brown. In the merged firm, he became head of private banking for Bankers Trust, where he was responsible for the bank's relations with extremely wealthy (and extremely private) clients.

What makes this history of particular interest is that Alex Brown was the investment bank that handled most of the suspicious short-selling "puts" that were placed on the stocks of four companies—United Airlines, American Airlines, Morgan Stanley Dean Witter and Merrill Lynch—that were pummeled by the 9/11 attacks.

As has been reported in Bloomberg Financial News Service reports, in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and in the British newspaper *The Independent*, in the several days preceding September 11, 2001, unidentified investors placed an unusual

number of "puts" on the stocks of the two airlines whose planes were hijacked that day, as well as on the two investment banks, one of which occupied 22 floors of one of the World Trade Center towers and the other of which owned a building directly across the street which was significantly damaged and forced to close down.



Alvin "Buzzy" Krongard

Howard "Cookie" Krongard

see Krongard p. 2

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Thousands Illegally Rendered By Bush Administration for Interrogation/Torture In Violation of International and US Law

MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL OF LAW
Andover, Massachusetts

Thousands of alleged terrorists have been victims of "extraordinary rendition" by the Bush Administration since 9/11, two legal scholars say. "Instead of working to bring those committing crimes against the United States to justice in US courts, the Bush Administration seems intent on doing exactly the opposite--- keeping such individuals away from US courts, hidden in a web of secret prisons, underground interrogation cells, and in the hands of cooperative governments," writes Margaret Satterthwaite and Angela Fisher. Satterthwaite is an assistant professor of clinical law at NYU School of Law and Fisher served as assistant research scholar with the Center for Human Rights and Global Justice.

"Extraordinary renditions, whether originating in territories under US control (actual or effective) or merely carried out by US agents, are unlawful and in violation of international treaties to which the United States is a party," the authors write. "Despite this clear prohibition, the Bush Administration continues to engage in this practice, using it to transfer detainees out of the reach of US courts and into the realm of secret detentions and brutal interrogations."

"Having altered the procedure from a transfer sanctioned by US courts to a transfer that is extrajudicial, this Administration completed the transformation of extraordinary rendition from transfer to justice to transfer out of the justice system," the authorities contend in an article titled "Tortured Logic: Renditions

to Justice, Extraordinary Rendition, and Human Rights Law" published in *The Long Term View*, a journal of informed opinion published by the Massachusetts School of Law at Andover (Volume 6, No. 4).

The authors explain that extraordinary rendition is an updated form of "rendition to justice," first secretly authorized in 1986 by President Reagan in National Security Decision Directive 207, which formalized US policy to fight terrorism. It came into being, they say, because the US in the 1980s did not have valid extradition treaties with countries that commonly housed terrorists or because those nations refused to give the suspects up. Under Reagan, they write, "it has never been suggested that the purpose of the program was to subject the detainees to torture or cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment. Once in the United States, the rendered individual would be treated like any other federal detainee awaiting trial."

Satterthwaite and Fisher said President George H. W. Bush authorized specific procedures for renditions in 1993 through National Security Directive 77. President Clinton, they noted, went further "emphasizing rendition as a key counter-terrorism strategy" and signing Presidential Decision Directive PDD-39 on June 21, 1995, which stated, in part, "Return of suspects by force may be effected without the cooperation of the host government..."

One outcome of the Clinton policy, the scholars write, was the rendition of Tal'at Fu'ad Qassim, an Egyptian national that had

been granted asylum in Denmark and seized by the US in Bosnia and transported to Egypt, where he was reportedly executed---the first known rendition by the US of a victim to a third country with a record of torture. Former CIA Director George Tenet testified before Congress that there had been more than 80 renditions prior to September 11, 2001. Since 9/11, the scholars wrote, renditions have been used not to obtain jurisdiction over the suspects in order to prosecute "but instead to get an individual to talk." Previous renditions that required approval by an inter-agency group that included the Departments of Justice and State, were now placed in the hands of the CIA, which could render suspects "without consultation."

Satterthwaite and Fisher write that extraordinary rendition is prohibited by a number of international human rights treaties the US has signed, including the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT), and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR, or "the Covenant").

Both prohibit the refoulement, or transfer, of an individual to another state where the person faces the risk of torture. Both treaties require ratifying states to institute domestic laws penalizing torture and CAT specifically requires states to criminalize conspiracy and aiding and abetting in torture.



(Further Information, Jeff Demers, Massachusetts School of Law, (978) 681-0800 or demers@msslaw.edu)

Italian President from p. 1

The following is a rough translation of Former Italian President Cossiga's remarks to *Corriere della Sera*:

"As I've been told that tomorrow or the day after tomorrow the most important newspaper chain in the country will give proof, with an exceptional scoop, that the video in which appear Osama, leader of "the great and powerful movement of Islamic revenge, Al Qaeda" - God bless him! - and in which are formulated threats to our ex-president Berlusconi, is nothing more than a fake realized inside Mediaset studios (the huge television group owned by Berlusconi) in Milan and sent to Arabic television Al Jazeera.

The trap was organized to create solidarity for Berlusconi, who is having lot of problems because of the tangle between RAI (Italian State Television) and Mediaset. From sources near to Palazzo Chigi, the nerve center of Italian intelligence, we know that the video is fake because in it Osama admits that he was the mastermind behind the attacks against the twin towers, while all the democratic groups in Europe and USA know very well that the attack was organized by CIA and Mossad, with the help of the Zionist world, just to blame Arab countries and provide a reason for the invasion of both Iraq and Afghanistan. That is why nobody in parliament gave solidarity to Berlusconi, who is the author of the fake video."

Cossiga first expressed his doubts about 9/11 in 2001, and is quoted in Webster Tarpley's book, *Synthetic Terror: Made in the USA*, as stating that "The mastermind of the attack must have been a sophisticated mind, provided with ample means not only to recruit fanatic kamikazes, but also highly specialized personnel. I add one thing: it could not be accomplished without infiltrations in the radar and flight security personnel."

Coming from a widely respected former head of state, Cossiga's assertion that the

9/11 attacks were an inside job and that this is common knowledge amongst global intelligence agencies is highly unlikely to be mentioned by any establishment media outlets, because like the hundreds of other sober ex-government, military, air force professionals, allied to hundreds more professors and intellectuals - he can't be sidelined as a crackpot conspiracy theorist.



(www.PrisonPlanet.com)

Krongard from p. 1

According to news reports, between Sept. 6 and Sept. 9, some 4,744 put orders were placed on United Airlines, compared to just 393 calls (bets that the stock would rise). On September 10, 4,516 puts were placed for American Airlines stock, vs. only 748 calls. These orders were six times the normal volume for those firms. Moreover, there were no such puts placed on any other airlines, and there was no news justifying such orders at the time. In the three days prior to 9/11, 2,151 puts were placed on Morgan Stanley shares, and 12,115 puts on Merrill Lynch, companies that also were not at the time the subjects of any negative news.

The stocks of those four companies, following the attacks and the collapse of the Twin Towers, subsequently tanked, making the combined puts worth about \$16 million.

According to the *San Francisco Chronicle*, no one collected the \$2.5 million in profits from the puts placed on United Airlines. The identities of the investors in the put orders have never been disclosed by Alex Brown.

Incredibly, there was never any serious investigation of these peculiar and suspicious investments, though they clearly suggest that someone knew something was going to happen that would make those four companies' stocks plunge in value.

The US corporate news media has never pursued this story or in many cases even reported it, nor was it seriously investigated by the FBI or the 9/11 commission.

Could Krongard, in his role as executive director of the CIA, have had inside information that an attack on the World Trade Center, involving the hijacking of planes operated by United Airlines and American Airlines, was imminent? Could he have supplied that information to clients of Bankers Trust and its subsidiary Alex Brown, so that the put investments could be made? If so, who else in the federal government knew?

We can't know, because, amazingly, nobody's dragged Krongard or officials of the bank before a congressional panel and demanded answers under oath.

So now we see that the Krongard brothers have a level of integrity that is down in the sewer, with one working for a murderous mercenary outfit that has been slaughtering innocent Iraqis in the course of providing "protection" to State Department officials in Iraq, and the other pretending to investigate the activities of that private firm, never mentioning the grotesque conflict of interest of having his brother working for the very firm he's supposedly investigating.

Maybe, given this sorry picture, House Oversight Committee Chair Rep. Henry Waxman (D-CA) will finally see fit to call Alvin Krongard and other witnesses in to question them under oath about whether he also had a conflict of interest in serving as a top ranking CIA executive while perhaps maintaining links with Alex Brown, and whether he had anything to do with those peculiar puts.



Liberty Dollar Company Raided by Feds

from p. 1

What makes the injunction process fair and just is that it permits both sides to be heard. It also protects the respondent by requiring the petitioner to file a bond in an amount intended to compensate him for damages suffered during the pendency of the injunction, including claims filed by irate customers. (Among the assets the feds seized were coins that had been purchased and paid for by NORFED's customers.)

So, did the FBI and Justice Department employ the injunction process to close down the NORFED operation? Did they ask a judge for a temporary injunction to shut down the operation? Did a federal judge enter an order enjoining NORFED from continuing to operate its business?

The answer is "No" to all of those questions. Instead, what the feds did was engage in a sneaky, back-handed, perhaps even fraudulent, trick of using a search warrant to accomplish the same thing that an injunction accomplishes, but without the procedural due-process protections provided by the injunction process.

A search warrant and an injunction involve two completely different procedures, and each serves a distinct function. For one thing, a search warrant is used in criminal cases while injunctions are used in civil proceedings. The search warrant is used when law-enforcement officers suspect that there is evidence of criminal activity inside a particular location. An officer will appear before a federal magistrate, which is a position lower than a federal district judge, and ask for permission to search the particular locale. In support of the application for a search warrant, the officer must file an affidavit (i.e., a statement under oath) describing with specificity the evidence, the suspected crime, and why he believes the evidence is located in that place.

For example, suppose the cops receive information that a gun used in a murder is located inside a person's home. They are not permitted to simply drive up to the home, enter it, and begin searching. Instead, they must apply for a warrant. If the warrant is issued, they go to the home, enter it, and search for the weapon. If they find it, they can seize it as evidence.

That's the purpose of a search warrant --- to seek evidence in a criminal case, not to shut down a person's privately run business. After all, it's not as if selling coins is akin to selling drugs --- just ask the Franklin Mint or any coin dealer.

When the FBI went to the magistrate in the NORFED case, its affidavit alleged that NORFED was engaged in illegal activity, primarily violating the government's monopoly over the issuance of money.

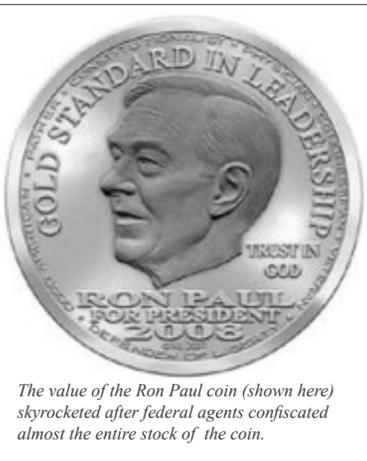
One problem, however, is that NORFED denies that it has broken the law in any respect. It contends that the issuance of its coins is not

illegal, a position that is at least inferentially substantiated by the fact that the feds have taken no action to seek injunctive relief for the several years that NORFED has been in business, not even in the context of a federal lawsuit that NORFED has filed seeking



that its activities are legal, a suit that is still pending in federal district court. Indeed, while the feds have known of NORFED's operation for years and have even had agents secretly infiltrate the organization, they have never secured a criminal indictment against the operation.

Moreover, even if the government is correct



The value of the Ron Paul coin (shown here) skyrocketed after federal agents confiscated almost the entire stock of the coin.

in its allegation that NORFED is violating the government's money monopoly, as an American business NORFED nonetheless has the right to argue and show that the government's money monopoly is unconstitutional. While NORFED would have had the opportunity of presenting its constitutional arguments in a temporary

injunction hearing, the government's Soviet-style search-warrant ruse prevented NORFED from doing so prior to its business being shut down and its assets confiscated and carted away.

Did the FBI and the Justice Department have sufficient time and opportunity to seek injunctive relief instead of using the sneaky search-warrant procedure that enabled them to mount their raid? Absolutely. For one thing, federal judges are a dime a dozen in Washington, D.C. The feds could have sought an injunction from any of them, including the federal judge who is presiding in the pending litigation between NORFED and the feds. That of course would have permitted NORFED to be heard and to present its case before a federal district judge, something that the FBI and the Justice Department obviously feared or abhorred. At such a hearing, the government would have had the burden of proving that NORFED had truly been violating some federal law with its coin business. NORFED, for its part would have had the opportunity of showing the contrary or of showing that such a law is unconstitutional. But who needs some stinking injunction before a federal judge, where the victim has notice and the opportunity to be heard, when one can simply use the sneaky device of a criminal search warrant to shut down someone's private business?

Consider a comparable example. Suppose someone opens a postal delivery business to compete against the US Postal Service in the delivery of first-class mail. Can the FBI legally send its gendarmes out and conduct a raid on the business, as it has done with NORFED? No. Instead, the government must go to federal court and secure an injunction requiring the privately owned business to cease and desist its competitive ways. In fact, that is exactly what happens whenever someone has the audacity to compete against the U.S. Postal Service in the delivery of first-class mail.

But here we have the feds using Soviet-style tactics to raid and shut down a privately owned business without providing the victim advance notice or opportunity to be heard. Even worse, in order to deceptively preserve the appearance of legal process to cover up its behavior, government officials abuse the criminal process, perhaps even with the fraudulent failure to disclose their real intentions to the federal magistrate who issued the search warrant.

In a civilized country based on the rule of law, people cannot have their lives, liberty, and property taken away from them without notice, hearing, opportunity to be heard, and other fundamental aspects of procedural due process. Unfortunately, in the post-9/11 world in which we now live, anything goes as far as federal power is concerned. The heavy-handed, perhaps even fraudulent, Soviet-style attack on NORFED is proof-positive of that.



Jacob Hornberger is founder and president of The Future of Freedom Foundation.

Kidnap from p. 1

Tollman's nephew, Gavin Tollman was the subject of an attempted abduction during a visit to Canada in 2005.

Jones replied that it was acceptable under American law to kidnap people if they were wanted for offenses in America. "The United States does have a view about procuring people to its own shores which is not shared," he said.

He said that if a person was kidnapped by the US authorities in another country and was brought back to face charges in America, no US court could rule that the abduction was illegal and free him: "If you kidnap a person outside the United States and you bring him there, the court has no jurisdiction to refuse --- it goes back to bounty hunting days in the 1860s."

Mr Justice Ouseley, a second judge, challenged Jones to be "honest about [his] position".

Jones replied: "That is United States law."

He cited the case of Humberto Alvarez Machain, a suspect who was abducted by the US government at his medical office in Guadalajara, Mexico, in 1990. He was flown by Drug Enforcement Administration agents to Texas for criminal prosecution.

Although there was an extradition treaty in place between America and Mexico at the time --- as there currently is between the United States and Britain --- the Supreme Court ruled in 1992 that the Mexican had no legal remedy because of his abduction.

In 2005, Gavin Tollman, the head of Trafalgar Tours, a holiday company, had arrived in Toronto by plane when he was arrested by Canadian immigration authorities.

An American prosecutor, who had tried and failed to extradite him from Britain, persuaded Canadian officials to detain him. He wanted the Canadians to drive Tollman to the border to be handed over. Tollman was escorted in handcuffs from the aircraft in Toronto, taken to prison and held for 10 days.

A Canadian judge ordered his release, ruling that the US Justice Department had set a "sinister trap" and wrongly bypassed extradition rules. Tollman returned to Britain.

Legal sources said that under traditional American justice, rendition meant capturing wanted people abroad and bringing them to the United States. The term "extraordinary rendition" was coined in the 1990s for the kidnapping of terror suspects from one foreign country to another for interrogation.

There was concern this weekend from Patrick Mercer, the Tory MP, who said: "The very idea of kidnapping is repugnant to us and we must handle these cases with extreme caution and a thorough understanding of the implications in American law."

Shami Chakrabarti, director of the human rights group Liberty, said: "This law may date back to bounty hunting days, but they should sort it out if they claim to be a civilised nation."

The US Justice Department declined to comment.



Rock Creek Free Press

A FIERCELY INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Paul Craig Roberts

Goodbye to America

Pat Buchanan is too patriotic to come right out and say it, but the message of his new book, *Day of Reckoning*, is that America as we have known her is finished. Moreover, Naomi Wolf agrees with him. These two writers of different political persuasions arrive at America's demise from different directions.

Buchanan explains how hubris, ideology and greed have torn America apart. A neoconservative cabal with an alien agenda captured the Bush administration and committed American blood, energy and money to aggression against Muslim countries in the Middle East, while permitting America's domestic borders to be overrun by immigrants and exporting the jobs that had made the United States an opportunity society. War and offshoring have taken a savage economic toll, while open borders and diversity have created social and political division.

In her new book, *End of America: Letter of Warning to a Young Patriot*, Wolf explains America's demise in terms of the erosion of freedoms. She writes that the 10 classic steps that are used to close open societies are currently being taken in the United States. Martial law is only a declaration away.

The Bush administration responded to Sept. 11 by initiating military aggression in the Middle East and by using fear and the "war on terror" to implement police state measures at home with legislation, presidential directives and executive orders.

Overnight, the United States became a tyranny in which people could be arrested and incarcerated on the basis of unsubstantiated accusation. Both US citizens and non-citizens were denied habeas corpus, due process, and access to attorneys and courts. Congress gave Bush legislation establishing military tribunals, the procedures of which permit people to be condemned to death on the basis of secret evidence, hearsay and confessions extracted by torture. Nothing of the like has ever been seen before in the United States.

The cancer might have metastasized if the Guantanamo detainees had actually been the dangerous terrorists and enemy combatants that the Bush regime declared them to be. Had the administration actually possessed evidence against the detainees, the Bush regime might have succeeded in dispensing with the Constitution. Conviction of the detainees could have led to what Wolf calls a "fascist expansion." Following the exercise of its new powers, the regime could have broadened the definition of terrorist to include the regime's critics, thus pulling citizens in general into tribunals devoid of civil liberty protections.

It could still turn out this way in the event of another 9/11 attack, whether real or orchestrated.

But momentarily, the drive toward tyranny has been blunted because the vast majority of detainees turned out to be hapless individuals sold into American captivity by warlords responding to the bounty the United States paid for "terrorists." Any unprotected

individual was vulnerable to being captured by Afghan and Pakistani warlords and sold as a "terrorist." The Americans needed to show results, and the Bush regime needed "terrorists" in order to feed the fear its propaganda had generated.

In Stalinist Russia or Nazi Germany, the absence of evidence would not have mattered, as the judicial system produced the results demanded by the tyrants. However, the US military had not been sufficiently corrupted for the Bush regime's Guantanamo agenda to succeed.

Honorable officers, such as Lt. Col. Stephen Abraham, were able to discern that the US government had no information on the detainees and used interrogations in order to rubber stamp the a priori determination that a detainee was a terrorist or enemy combatant. Military officers made these revelations known to real courts before the tribunal process could establish itself.

Andy Worthington's recently published book, *The Guantanamo Files: The Stories of the 759 Detainees in America's Illegal Prison*, proves that the regime's claim that it had hundreds of dangerous terrorists at Guantanamo was just another Bush administration lie.

Currently, support for Bush, Cheney and the neoconservative agenda is low. However, Congress, the press and elections have proven to be feeble opponents of the Bush regime's drive toward war and tyranny. It remains to be seen whether the regime has sufficient credibility or audacity to initiate war with Iran or a false flag attack that would revive the fascist expansion of which Wolf warns.

The Bush administration has been a catastrophe. Its failures are unprecedented. Energy prices are at all-time highs. The United States is deeply in debt and dependent on foreign creditors. The dollar has lost 60 percent of its value against other tradable currencies, and its reserve currency status, the basis of American power, is in doubt.

The United States has lost millions of middle-class jobs, which have been replaced with low-paid domestic service jobs. Except for the very rich, Americans have experienced no gains in real income in the 21st century.

As the ladders of upward mobility are dismantled and the middle class struggles and fails, America is left with a few rich and many poor. America's reputation and credibility are damaged perhaps beyond repair. Congress and the press have enabled the executive branch's disregard of the Constitution and civil liberty. The United States is mired in two lost wars, which are pushing Lebanon and nuclear-armed Pakistan into deepening political crises.

As Buchanan concludes, "Our day of reckoning is at hand."

Iraq Version 3.0

Sheldon Richman

One gets the feeling that even the White House realizes the mess it's made of Iraq. The other day the newspapers reported that the Bush administration has scaled back its objectives rather substantially. We might call it Iraq 3.0. First the plan was to create a democratic paradise which, domino-like, would spread freedom throughout the Middle East. When that didn't work, the administration shifted to simply bringing some kind of order to Iraq, reconciling the three largest groups — Shi'a, Sunni, and Kurd.

That hasn't gone too well either. The nearly two dozen political objectives that the military "surge" was intended to accomplish have largely gone unachieved. The violence level may have fallen (one never knows how temporary such things are), but there are many possible explanations for that. One horrifying explanation is that enough ethnic cleansing of neighborhoods and emigration have occurred that less violence is "necessary" in the eyes of the various militias. That presumably is not the sort of peace President Bush had in mind.

So now the strategists in Washington have retooled. *The New York Times* says, "The Bush administration has lowered its expectations of quickly achieving major steps toward unifying the country, including passage of a long-stymied plan to share oil revenue and holding regional elections. Instead, administration officials say they are focusing their immediate efforts on several more limited but achievable goals in the hope of convincing Iraqis, foreign governments and Americans that some progress is being made toward the political breakthroughs that the intensified military campaign of the past 10 months was supposed to promote."

Stage magicians call this "misdirection." If you can't have the audience look here, you must do something to make them look over there. Voilà!

Apparently item No. 1 on the new and improved American agenda for Iraq is approval of that country's \$48 billion budget. You read that right. The US government is maintaining an occupation of a foreign country to help its government pass the budget!

The Times says the Iraqis claim to be doing this

already, but no matter. When that budget is passed, presumably the White House will be hanging "Mission Accomplished" signs again and declaring victory. I can see the ticker-tape parade down Wall Street already.

But that's not all. Other goals include getting the UN to renew the mandate that countenances the occupation. Now this one takes some thought. An objective of the occupation is to reauthorize the occupation. The boys in the US Department of Logic must have worked overtime on that one.

Finally, the 3.0 agenda aims to get a law passed to let Ba'ath Party members back into government jobs. "This last goal was described by a senior Bush administration official as largely symbolic, since rehiring has been quietly taking place already without a law," *the Times* reports.

There you have it: an agenda that can be accomplished. Every American should be proud of this can-do attitude. Never mind that armed Americans are patrolling other people's country, entering homes, stopping them at check points — and are ready to shoot to kill if they can't divine the intentions of the persons approaching them. It's for their own good.

The other shoe has already dropped. The White House itself admits it is not meeting its goals in Afghanistan. The US military may be beating the resurgent Taliban in individual battles, but it is losing the larger war.

It's amazing how little you can get for \$10 billion (or more) a month.

And where is the allegedly anti-war party these days? Who knows? The Democratic leadership, which has the power to cut off money for this madness, refuses to do it. The likely Democratic presidential nominee, Hillary Clinton, sees US troops in Iraq far into the future. The American people want out, but the politicians don't listen.

This is the system Bush wants to bring to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Sheldon Richman is senior fellow at The Future of Freedom Foundation, and editor of The Freeman magazine and author of "Ancient History": US Conduct in the Middle East since World War II and the Folly of Intervention.



Newspaper Marks First Anniversary

The Rock Creek Free Press marks its one year anniversary with this edition. We distributed our first issue on January 23, 2007 at the great anti-war rally on the Mall in Washington. We distributed about 5,000 copies of the paper among the roughly 300,000 in attendance that day.

The first year saw just 5 issues go to press; most for special events like the anti-war rally and the September 11 anniversary commemoration.

Next year we will publish monthly, for our growing list of subscribers and to distribute, free of charge, in honor boxes all over Washington, DC.

To all the loyal readers, subscribers, contributors, writers, artists and friends whose efforts make this paper possible; Thank you.

Matt Sullivan - editor

Kurt Vonnegut's Dying Words to Us

"Do unto others what you would have them do unto you." A lot of people think Jesus said that, because it is so much the sort of thing Jesus liked to say. But it was actually said by Confucius, a Chinese philosopher, five hundred years before there was that greatest and most humane of human beings, named Jesus Christ.

The Chinese also gave us, via Marco Polo, pasta and the formula for gunpowder. The Chinese were so dumb they only used gunpowder for fireworks. And everybody was so dumb back then that nobody in either hemisphere even knew that there was another one.

We've sure come a long way since then. Sometimes I wish we hadn't. I hate H-bombs and the Jerry Springer Show.

But back to people like Confucius and Jesus and my son the doctor, Mark, each of whom have said in their own way how we could behave more humanely and maybe make the world a less painful

place. One of my favourite humans is Eugene Debs, from Terre Haute in my native state of Indiana.

Get a load of this. Eugene Debs, who died back in 1926, when I was not yet four, ran five times as the Socialist party candidate for president, winning 900,000 votes, almost 6 percent of the popular vote, in 1912, if you can imagine such a ballot. He had this to say while campaigning:

"As long as there is a lower class, I am in it.

"As long as there is a criminal element, I am of it.

"As long as there is a soul in prison, I am not free."

Doesn't anything socialistic make you want to throw up? Like great public schools, or health insurance for all?

When you get out of bed each morning, with the roosters crowing,

wouldn't you like to say. "As long as there is a lower class, I am in it. As long as there is a criminal element, I am of it. As long as there is a soul in prison, I am not free."

How about Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, the Beatitudes?

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the Earth.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.

And so on.

Not exactly planks in a Republican platform. Not exactly George W. Bush, Dick Cheney, or Donald Rumsfeld stuff.

For some reason, the most vocal Christians among us never mention the Beatitudes. But, often with tears in their eyes, they demand that the Ten see Vonnegut p. 4

Am I a Terrorist?

Scott Creighton

I woke up with the strangest thought. Are the views that I hold "extremist"? Are they dangerous to America? Am I a terrorist?

Now, normally I would simply attribute thoughts of this nature to way too much free time and simply take the dog for a walk and then go play tennis, and these improper thoughts would simply melt away into where the day takes me. Normally.

But we live in different times; by no means normal. After all, everything changed on 9/11, or haven't you heard?

Let's face it; the Executive Branch is no longer our own. Republican or democrat it really doesn't matter. When standing in the way of the Unitary Executive's agenda, we are all truly equal in the eyes of the law.

And since we are all pretty much in

agreement as to what is going to happen when the Senate finally considers S.1959 and the formation of the "Center for Excellence", lets just go ahead and start getting ready for that inevitability.

So, with that eternally optimistic view in mind, I thought it would be a good idea for me to go ahead with a little pre-emptive strike of my own; some unilateral sucking-up to the "Center's" members by easing their collective burden a bit (shit. That didn't sound too Socialist, did it?)... by interrogating myself!

That's right; they are going to find my name on one (or more) of their suspicious "conspiracy theory sites" soon enough, so in the true vein of Kent Brockman of the Simpson's, when, upon learning that a Master Race of Ants had hijacked the Space Shuttle and were speeding toward their inevitable overthrow of all humanity here on Earth, Kent uttered the

now classic line "And let me be the first to Welcome our new Ant Overlords! Hail Ants!"

So, I have mustered up the purest self-serving, sycophantic, and self-centered plan that I could think of in order to prove to the members of "The Center" that I really am a Freidman Capitalist, and therefore a true American! Hail Stocks!

To that end, I will interrogate myself, nay, I will waterboard myself to see if I am that violently radicalized homegrown terrorist you will be looking for.

After all, it will save you the time and the trouble of doing it yourselves, and since you are a government agency (or soon will be), that will just save valuable tax dollars that could be better spent on a new no-bid Halliburton contract, right? (that didn't help.)

So let's get to it. Am I a terrorist?

see Am I a Terrorist? p. 7

CARTER SAYS U.S. POLITICIANS CAN SHOW NO SYMPATHY FOR PALESTINIANS

Sherwood Ross

Former President Jimmy Carter said in a published interview it is "almost inconceivable" for an American presidential candidate "to make the statements that I've made concerning the plight of the Palestinians or Israel withdrawing to its 1967 borders with modifications, or things of that kind."

Carter said his 2006 book *Palestine Peace Not Apartheid* presented "a point of view that the American media rarely have a chance to cover" as no politician will discuss it. "It would be amazing for me to hear any candidate for President even mention it---even begin to address these issues in a serious way."

Carter made his remarks in an interview published in the December 3rd issue of *The Nation*, a weekly magazine reflecting liberal opinion.

The former president, credited with arranging the 1979 peace treaty



between Israel and Egypt, said he sees "a complete dearth of any sort of substantive debate" in the U.S. about resolution of the troubles involving Israel and its neighbors. Carter added, "For six years, now seven years, there hasn't been

a single day of substantive negotiations between Israel and either Syria or the Palestinians."

"I wanted to precipitate some movement on the peace process and also bring the issue to the forefront. In other countries, by the way---I've been to Ireland and England and other countries in Europe lately---there is a pretty intense debate. But over here, zero."

Asked by interviewer John Nichols if there is any way the issue can become part of the 2008 election year debate, Carter replied: "I don't think it's possible for candidates to talk about it. But it may be that some of the facts and some of the issues will sink into the consciousness of whoever is going to be in the White House beginning in 2009, and that they will see some responsibility and some way, some path toward a peace process."

(*Sherwood Ross is an American reporter. Contact: sherwoodr1@yahoo.com*)

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Health from p. 1

Ahrweiler, Germany, November 12-16, 2007.

In 1994, President Clinton signed the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act. The DSHEA acknowledges that millions of consumers believe dietary supplements may help to augment daily diets and provide health benefits. Congress's intent in enacting the DSHEA was to meet the concerns of consumers and manufacturers to help ensure that safe and appropriately labeled products remain available to those who want to use them. In the findings associated with the DSHEA, Congress stated that there may be a positive relationship between sound dietary practice and good health, and that, although further scientific research is needed, there may be a connection between dietary supplement use, reduced health-care expenses, and disease prevention.

The DSHEA established a formal definition of "dietary supplement" using several criteria. A dietary supplement:

- is a product (other than tobacco) that is intended to supplement the diet that bears or contains one or more of the following dietary ingredients: a vitamin, a mineral, an herb or other botanical, an amino acid, a dietary substance for use by man to supplement the diet by increasing the total daily intake, or a concentrate, metabolite, constituent, extract, or combinations of these ingredients.
- is intended for ingestion in pill, capsule, tablet, or liquid form.
- is not represented for use as a conventional food or as the sole item of a meal or diet.
- is labeled as a "dietary supplement."
- includes products such as an approved new drug, certified antibiotic, or licensed biologic that was marketed as a dietary supplement or food before approval, certification, or license (unless the Secretary of Health and Human Services waives this provision).

The DSHEA was supposed to ensure uniform labeling of supplements, make sure that the amount of ingredients and potency listed on labels is what is actually in the supplement, and that pesticides, contaminants, etc., are not in your supplements. However, the DSHEA also limits what a dietary supplement can put on its label regarding any actual health benefit claim.

The FDA, FAO, WHO and the FTC, as well as, other governmental agencies are very cautious about letting the consumer decide whether or not to take supplements and how much you can take. Every year these groups gather together as a part of the Codex Alimentarius Commission to discuss and decide on these matters, as well as others. What can we expect under Codex? To give you an idea, here are some important points:

- Dietary supplements could not be sold for preventive (prophylactic) or therapeutic use.
- Potencies would be limited to extremely low dosages. Only the drug companies and the big phytopharmaceutical companies would have the right to produce and sell the higher potency products (at inflated prices).
- Prescriptions would be required for anything above the extremely low doses allowed (such as 35 mg. on niacin).
- No dietary supplement sold as a food can exceed potency (dosage) levels set by the commission; common foods such as garlic and peppermint would be classified as drugs or a third category (neither food nor drugs) that only big pharmaceutical companies could regulate and sell. Any food with any therapeutic effect can be considered a drug.
- Codex regulations for dietary supplements would become binding (escape clauses would be eliminated). Codex standards for dietary supplements would become the reference international standard under GATT, and a reference international standard under NAFTA.
- All new dietary supplements would be banned unless they go through Codex testing and approval.
- Genetically altered food would be sold worldwide without labeling.

The Codex Alimentarius proposals already exist as law in Norway and Germany where the entire health food industry has literally been taken over by the drug companies.

The current trend is for countries to adopt the international standards either individually or in regional compacts. If that happened in the US, all new dietary supplements would automatically be banned unless they conform to Codex standards- (which would require going through a very expensive drug like approval process.) The Delaney clause, which used to protect us against carcinogens in our food supply, has already been "harmonized" to a Codex standard which favors pesticide manufacturers, and not a single member of Congress protested against this.

"WTO is using what is known as the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) to further restrict the free use of nutritional supplements within the United States and worldwide. Specifically, the CAC is setting

'Guidelines for Vitamin and Mineral Food Supplements.' These guidelines are more restrictive and will supercede current US regulations by dictating to the US which nutrients are safe, the maximum and minimum amounts allowed in a product, and related packaging and labeling requirements."

The Drug Company Influence on Your Health, Shane Ellison M. Sc., December 5, 2007. This is all part of the "harmonizing" efforts of the Codex.

Certainly it is important to ensure consumers have safe products and there are regulations and standards for prescription drugs also. But it is interesting to look at how differently dietary supplements are treated compared to pharmaceuticals.

Let's contrast the way the FDA treated ephedrine with the way it treats prescription drugs. In 1999, an estimated 12 million Americans used the supplement, ephedra which was banned in 2003 as an "unsafe risk". According to the FDA, "No dosage of dietary supplements containing ephedrine alkaloids is safe and the sale of these products in the United States is illegal and subject to FDA enforcement action." What is ephedra? "Ephedra (also known as Ma huang, Chinese Ephedra and ephedron) is one of the world's oldest medicines. The Chinese discovered ephedra more than 5000 years ago. Research has shown that ephedra increases metabolism and helps promote weight loss, relaxes the air passages in the lungs to help treat asthma and cough, promotes perspiration to help a person recover from a minor cold and helps promote urination to help relieve edema." (www.ephedra.com) Native Americans and Mormon pioneers drank a tea brewed from ephedra called Mormon tea.

According to JAMA, prescription drugs kill 100,000 Americans each year and injure more than two million. There are more deaths and injuries caused each year by pharmaceuticals than in any US conflict since WWII.

5000 years of usage and NOW we think it's unsafe at any dosage? Public Citizen, a consumer advocacy group, says more than 150 deaths occurred between 1995 and 2004 that were "linked" to ephedra. 12 million people over 8 years and 150 deaths - that's a pretty low risk factor and some of the deaths that were "linked" to ephedra may have had other causes. Ephedra has been used by people on a regular basis for millennia!

In contrast, between 1999 and 2006 as many as 140,000 injuries and 60,000 deaths in the US were caused by patients taking either Vioxx or Bextra. Vioxx, Bextra and Celebrax are in a class of drugs known as NSAIDs (Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug). NSAIDs are drugs with analgesic, antipyretic and anti-inflammatory effects - they reduce pain, fever and inflammation and are used for a variety of ailments. Certain NSAIDs, including ibuprofen and aspirin, have become accepted as relatively safe and are available over-the-counter without prescription. And yet, according to the American Association of Poison Control Centers (AAPCC) 2005 database, there were 25 deaths due to ibuprofen alone in 2005 and only 1 death due to all dietary supplements combined. The report shows that analgesics are the substances most frequently involved in human poisonings. Twenty-five deaths a year over 8 years would be 200 deaths by ibuprofen alone.

Seven years and 60,000 deaths; are NSAIDs found to be "unsafe at any dosage" and banned? No. Vioxx, Bextra, and Celebrex were temporarily pulled from the market because of major heart attack risks. Vioxx was withdrawn from the US market in 2004, Bextra was withdrawn in 2005. Celebrex is still available by prescription.

The deaths occurred because of FDA failure to protect the public. Clinical trials of Vioxx began in 1998. Study "090" conducted by Merck revealed serious cardiovascular problems as compared to patients not taking Vioxx. This study was never published; Merck insisted that it was not large enough to provide definitive data. The FDA approved Vioxx in 1999.

Pfizer first acknowledged cardiovascular risks associated with Bextra in October of 2004. The American Heart Association soon after was presented with a report indicating patients using Bextra while recovering from heart surgery were 2.19 times more likely to suffer a stroke or heart attack than those taking placebos.

On April 7, 2005, Pfizer withdrew Bextra from the US market on recommendation by the FDA, citing an increased risk of heart attack and stroke and also the risk of a serious, sometimes fatal, skin reaction.

So let's recap: a dietary supplement that's been around for 5000 years and is reportedly "linked" to 150 deaths in an 8 year period gets banned while; a manufactured drug, NSAIDs, that have been around for less than 10 years and reportedly causes 60,000 deaths in a 7 year period are not. Even our little bottle of Motrin kills 200 people in a similar time frame. Consumers must feel secure knowing that the Codex is working to keep us safe from dangerous supplements.

Vonnegut from p. 3

Commandments be posted in public buildings. And of course that's Moses, not Jesus. I haven't heard one of them demand that the Sermon on the Mount, the Beatitudes, be posted anywhere.

"Blessed are the merciful" in a courtroom? "Blessed are the peacemakers" in the Pentagon? Give me a break!

It so happens that idealism enough for anyone is not made of perfumed pink clouds. It is the law! It is the US Constitution.

But I myself feel that our country, for whose Constitution I fought in a just war, might as well have been invaded by Martians and body snatchers. Sometimes I wish it had been. What has happened instead is that it was taken over by means of the sleaziest, low-comedy, Keystone Cops-style coup d'état imaginable.

I was once asked if I had any ideas for a really scary reality TV show. I have one reality show that would really make your hair stand on end: "C-Students from Yale".

George W. Bush has gathered around him upper-crust C-students who know no history or geography, plus not-so-closeted white supremacists, aka Christians, and plus, most frighteningly, psychopathic personalities, or PPs, the medical term for smart, personable people who have no consciences.

To say somebody is a PP is to make a perfectly respectable diagnosis, like saying he or she has appendicitis or athlete's foot. The classic medical text on PPs is *The Mask of Sanity* by Dr Hervey Cleckley, a clinical professor of psychiatry at the Medical College of Georgia, published in 1941. Read it!

Some people are born deaf, some are born blind or whatever, and this book is about congenitally defective human beings of a sort that is making this whole country and many other parts of the planet go completely haywire nowadays. These were people born without consciences, and suddenly they are taking charge of everything.

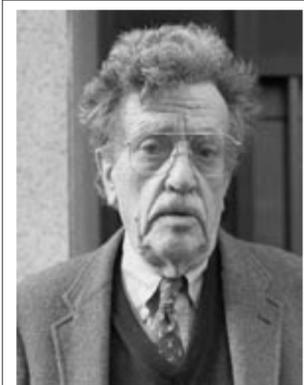
PPs are presentable, they know full well the suffering their actions may cause others, but they do not care. They cannot care because they are nuts. They have a screw loose!

And what syndrome better describes so many executives at Enron and WorldCom and on and on, who have enriched themselves while ruining their employees and investors and country and who still feel as pure as the driven snow, no matter what anybody may say to or about them? And they are waging a war that is making billionaires out of millionaires, and trillionaires out of billionaires, and they own television, and they bankroll George Bush, and not because he's against gay marriage.

So many of these heartless PPs now hold big jobs in our federal government, as though they were leaders instead of sick. They have taken charge. They have taken charge of communications and the schools, so we might as well be Poland under occupation.

They might have felt that taking our country

into an endless war was simply something decisive to do. What has allowed so many PPs to rise so high in corporations, and now in government, is that they are so decisive. They are going to do something every fuckin' day and they are not afraid. Unlike normal people, they are never filled with doubts, for the simple reason that they don't give a fuck what happens next. Simply can't. Do this! Do that! Mobilise the reserves! Privatise the public schools! Attack Iraq! Cut health care! Tap everybody's telephone! Cut taxes on the rich! Build a trillion-dollar missile shield! Fuck habeas corpus and the Sierra Club and *In These Times*, and kiss my ass!



Kurt Vonnegut (1922-2007), as an American POW survived the firebombing of Dresden in WWII and went on to write about it in "Slaughterhouse Five" and other novels.

There is a tragic flaw in our precious Constitution, and I don't know what can be done to fix it. This is it: only nut cases want to be president. This was true even in high school. Only clearly disturbed people ran for class president.

The title of Michael Moore's *Fahrenheit 9/11* is a parody of the title of Ray Bradbury's great science-fiction novel *Fahrenheit 451*. Four hundred and fifty-one degrees Fahrenheit is the combustion point, incidentally, of paper, of which books are composed. The hero of Bradbury's novel is a municipal worker whose job is burning books.

While on the subject of burning books, I want to congratulate librarians, not famous for their physical strength, who, all over this country, have staunchly resisted anti-democratic bullies who have tried to remove certain books from their shelves, and destroyed records rather than have to reveal to thought police the names of persons who have checked out those titles.

So the America I loved still exists, if not in the White House, the Supreme Court, the Senate, the House of Representatives, or the media. The America I loved still exists at the front desks of our public libraries.

And still on the subject of books: our daily news sources, newspapers and TV, are now so craven, so unvigilant on behalf of the American

War Party from p. 1

As John Prados points out in his book *Hoodwinked* (The New Press), Vice President Richard Cheney also "played a key role in getting Iraq to the top of the Bush agenda and keeping it there...and falsely implicated Iraq in Al Qaeda terrorism," and much, much more. Maybe we need a refresher course in Bush's lies.

As Prados recalled: "An alleged chemical storage area at one facility turned out to be an Olympic-size swimming pool, a production plant had actually been a distillery making whiskey, another chemical storage site was a plant making car license plates, a cache of documents on chemical weapons a graduate student's master's thesis."

The WMD lie was so preposterous, the *Weekly World News* joked in its August 19, 2003, issue that Saddam had smuggled 3,600 killer dinosaur eggs into the US that would hatch to turn America into a new "Jurassic Park."

To date, Bush's war has cost the American people 4,000 lives and 30,000 wounded and a trillion dollars of wasted tax dollars. And it has cost the people of Iraq a million killed, perhaps another million wounded, untold billions in destroyed property and commerce, four million driven from their homes, and two million forced to quit the country!

The UN calls this exodus a "humanitarian

crisis" but believe me, those are just words unless it is your family, your children, and your loved ones driven into the streets! Unless it is you that gets the call to come down to the morgue to identify a body thought to be your kid. And what for? What did the people of Iraq ever do to us?

Still worse, commander-in-chief Bush has allowed the Pentagon to fire irradiated ammunition (banned by the Geneva Convention) all over Iraq as though it is some kind of paintball playland, radiation that is likely causing cancers, radiation that will poison that unfortunate country perhaps for thousands of years to come -- a crime against humanity.

Are we, the people, so blind, have we so lost our moral perspective, that we will believe a president when he tells us that Iran, a country with an annual military budget of 5 billion bucks, poses a threat to USofA with our total military spending of \$800 billion? That Iran, which doesn't have the beginning of a nuclear bomb, poses a threat to this country with our arsenal of 10,000 tethered nukes at the fingertips of (shudder) you-know-who? That Iran is rare to take on our missile-armed frigates and aircraft carriers, ships at this very moment plowing the waters of the Persian Gulf off the Iranian coast with enough atomic punch to destroy the planet?

Well, millions of us believed Bush when he and his top aides told us Iraq had "horrible

people, so uninformative, that only in books do we learn what's really going on.

I will cite an example: *House of Saud*, *House of Saud* by Craig Unger, published in early 2004, that humiliating, shameful, blood-soaked year.

In case you haven't noticed, as the result of a shamelessly rigged election in Florida, in which thousands of African-Americans were arbitrarily disenfranchised, we now present ourselves to the rest of the world as proud, grinning, jut-jawed, pitiless war-lovers with appallingly powerful weaponry - who stand unopposed.

In case you haven't noticed, we are now as feared and hated all over the world as Nazis once were.

And with good reason.

In case you haven't noticed, our unelected leaders have dehumanised millions and millions of human beings simply because of their religion and race. We wound 'em and kill 'em and torture 'em and imprison 'em all we want.

Piece of cake.

In case you haven't noticed, we also dehumanised our own soldiers, not because of their religion or race, but because of their low social class.

Send 'em anywhere. Make 'em do anything.

Piece of cake.

The O'Reilly Factor.

So I am a man without a country, except for the librarians and a Chicago paper called *In These Times*.

Before we attacked Iraq, the majestic *New York Times* guaranteed there were weapons of mass destruction there.

Albert Einstein and Mark Twain gave up on the human race at the end of their lives, even though Twain hadn't even seen the first world war. War is now a form of TV entertainment, and what made the first world war so particularly entertaining were two American inventions, barbed wire and the machine gun.

Shrapnel was invented by an Englishman of the same name. Don't you wish you could have something named after you?

Like my distinct betters Einstein and Twain, I now give up on people, too. I am a veteran of the second world war and I have to say this is not the first time I have surrendered to a pitiless war machine.

My last words? "Life is no way to treat an animal, not even a mouse."

Napalm came from Harvard. Veritas.

Our president is a Christian? So was Adolf Hitler. What can be said to our young people, now that psychopathic personalities, which is to say persons without consciences, without senses of pity or shame, have taken all the money in the treasuries of our government and corporations, and made it all their own?



The Guardian Saturday January 21, 2006

poisons and diseases and gases and atomic weapons." Shakespeare's Puck must have foreseen Americans were coming when he cried, "What fools these mortals be."

Just before this nation was born, one observer said the British Crown dispatched its Redcoats to invade the colonies because "their crime was property."

Today, it may be seen the "crime" of Iran, like Iraq, is oil and our very own King George has his eye on it. The former Texas oil man in the Oval Office and his former oil man vice president have led us into a war for oil, creating a destabilization in the market that has doubled the price of oil to \$3.20 a gallon since they took office and showered oil companies ExxonMobil and the others with fabulous profits. That's the bottom line.

Americans are paying for this war with their taxes and they're paying for it at the pumps and in their home heating bills and in higher prices for food at the supermarkets.

So, I repeat, just how much are the American people supposed to take? At least, out of pity for the agony of the people of Iraq, the public must urge Congress to impeach and prosecute President Bush. Bluntly, we've got to stop him before he kills more.



Sherwood Ross is a Miami-based columnist who covers military and political affairs. Reach him at sherwoodr1@yahoo.com



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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Loose Change - Second Edition Everybody's Gotta Learn Sometime-First Ed.. What's the Truth? Who Killed John O'Neill? Terror Storm Confronting the Evidence BYU Professor Steven Jones, Utah Valley State College February 6, 2006 9/11 Revisited Freechannel 911 -- compilation DVD Evidence to the Contrary: compilation DVD 9/11 Made in the USA | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Great Illusion - DVD 9/11 Mysteries (only available on a multi-pack DVD) 9/11: The Road To Tyranny 9/11 and the Neo-Con Agenda David Ray Griffin's '9-11 and the American Empire' Combo DVD: TerrorStorm & 911: the Road to Tyranny (edited) Combo DVD: TerrorStorm & 911 Mysteries 9/11: Painful Deceptions (NOW available) |
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The Wheels Are Coming Off the Government's 9/11 Myth

George Washington

The 9/11 Commission Report states:

"[This report relies] heavily on information obtained from captured al-Qaeda members ... Our access to them has been limited to the review of intelligence reports ... We submitted questions for use in the interrogations, but had no control over whether, when, or how questions of particular interest would be asked. Nor were we allowed to talk to the interrogators so that we could better judge the credibility of the detainees and clarify ambiguities in the reporting."

One of the primary architects of the 9/11 Commission Report, Ernest May, said in May 2005:

"The only point on which I fault Kean, Hamilton, and the other commissioners is their reluctance ever to challenge the CIA's walling off Al Qaeda detainees. The agency gave us all interrogation reports bearing on September 11. It even put to the detainees some questions sent them by commission staff. But the CIA refused to permit any direct access either to the detainees or to the interrogators and their interpreters. We never had full confidence in the interrogation reports

as historical sources."

Given that the Commission could not even speak with the interrogators about what the alleged detainees said, let alone the detainees themselves, it is not surprising that even the Commissioners did not have confidence in the veracity of the interrogation reports.

Now that the CIA has revealed that it did film videos of the interrogations, but lied to the Commission about the existence of videotapes, and that it destroyed the tapes, even the co-chairs of the Commission, Kean and Hamilton, admit that the whole thing was a farce, and that the government obstructed justice.

"Did they obstruct our inquiry? The answer is clearly yes," says Lee Hamilton, who co-chaired the 9/11 Commission, in the wake of reports the CIA destroyed videotapes of interrogations of two al-Qaeda suspects. "Whether that amounts to a crime, others will have to judge," adds Hamilton.

Chairman Thomas Kean said the CIA's destruction of the videotapes "hampered the panel's investigation into the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington". He also said "They told us we had everything they had on

the detainees You don't expect not to be told the truth, but we weren't told the truth."

As previously reported, the Commission's executive director said that the Commission had requested interrogation videos, and the Commission's general counsel said that destruction of the tapes amounted to obstruction of justice.

While the mainstream media is studiously ignoring the deeper issues raised by the destruction of the tapes, there are signs that truth may be slowly rising to the surface after having been held underwater for a long time.

For example, while ignoring the real players behind 9/11, even Huffington Post and Digg -- which normally avoid any story questioning 9/11 -- have picked up on the possibility that the tapes were destroyed because they showed that people other than a guy on dialysis living in a cave and his 19 pals were behind the 9/11 attacks.

Are the wheels coming off the government's 9/11 myth?

(From GeorgeWashington's blog: georgewashington.blogspot.com)

CNN: Mystery 9/11 Aircraft Filmed over Capitol was Military 'Doomsday Plane'

David Edwards and Muriel Kane

Shortly before 10am on the morning of September 11, 2001, amid rumors of a fourth hijacked plane headed for Washington, DC, a mystery aircraft appeared in restricted airspace over the White House. There has never been an official explanation for this incident, which has provided abundant fuel for 9/11 conspiracy theories.



above: Plane filmed over Capitol on 9/11 below: US Air Force E-4B

CNN has now learned from two government sources that the mystery plane was a military aircraft and has determined that the blurry image on video appears to match photos of the Air Force's E-4B, a specially modified Boeing 747 with a communications pod behind the cockpit.

"The E-4B is a state of the art flying command post," CNN explained, "built and equipped for one reason -- to keep the government running no matter what, even in the event of a nuclear war, the reason it was nicknamed the 'doomsday plane' during the Cold War."

9/11 Commission co-chair Lee Hamilton told CNN he was aware of the incident and that it had simply never seemed important enough to make it into the commission's report. He called conspiracy theories involving government complicity in 9/11 "ludicrous."

The plane was previously identified as the E-4B a year ago by one researcher on a forum associated with the 9/11 conspiracy film, *Loose Change*.

CNN acknowledges that, despite its identification, the absence of the aircraft from official investigations, together with the Pentagon's denial that it was a military plane and the insistence by the Pentagon, Secret Service, and FAA that they have no explanation for the incident, may continue to raise suspicions.

Doomsday Seed Vault in the Arctic

Bill Gates, Rockefeller and the GMO giants know something we don't

F. William Engdahl

One thing Microsoft founder Bill Gates can't be accused of is sloth. He was already programming at 14, founded Microsoft at age 20 while still a student at Harvard. By 1995 he had been listed by Forbes as the world's richest man from being the largest shareholder in his Microsoft, a company which his relentless drive built into a de facto monopoly in software systems for personal computers.

In 2006 when most people in such a situation might think of retiring to a quiet Pacific island, Bill Gates decided to devote his energies to his Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the world's largest 'transparent' private foundation as it says, with a whopping \$34.6 billion endowment and a legal necessity to spend \$1.5 billion a year on charitable projects around the world to maintain its tax free charitable status. A gift from friend and business associate, mega-investor Warren Buffett in 2006, of some \$30 billion worth of shares in Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway put the Gates' foundation into the league where it spends almost the amount of the entire annual budget of the United Nations' World Health Organization.

So when Bill Gates decides (through the Gates Foundation) to invest some \$30 million of their hard earned money in a project, it is worth looking at.

No project is more interesting at the moment than a curious project in one of the world's most remote spots, Svalbard. Bill Gates is investing millions in a seed bank on the Barents Sea near the Arctic Ocean, some 1,100 kilometers from the North Pole. Svalbard is a barren piece of rock claimed by Norway and ceded in 1925 by international treaty (see map).



Seeds will be specially wrapped to exclude moisture. There will be no full-time staff, but the vault's relative inaccessibility will facilitate monitoring any possible human activity.

Did we miss something here? Their press release stated, "so that crop diversity can be conserved for the future." What future do the seed bank's sponsors foresee that would threaten the global availability of current seeds, almost all of which are already well protected in designated seed banks around the world?

Any time Bill Gates, the Rockefeller Foundation, Monsanto and Syngenta get together on a common project, it's worth digging a bit deeper behind the rocks on Spitsbergen. When we do we find some fascinating things.

The first notable point is who is sponsoring the doomsday seed vault. Here joining the Norwegians are, as noted, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; the US agribusiness giant DuPont/Pioneer Hi-Bred, one of the world's largest owners of patented genetically-modified (GMO) plant seeds and related agrichemicals; Syngenta, the Swiss-based major GMO seed and agrichemicals company through its Syngenta Foundation; the Rockefeller Foundation, the private group who created the "gene revolution with over \$100 million of seed money since the 1970s; CGIAR, the global network created by the Rockefeller Foundation to promote its ideal of genetic purity through agriculture change.

CGIAR and 'The Project'

As I detailed my the book, *Seeds of Destruction*, in 1960, the Rockefeller Foundation, John D. Rockefeller III's Agriculture Development Council, and the Ford Foundation joined forces to create the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) in Los Baños, the Philippines. By 1971, the Rockefeller Foundation's IRRI, along with their Mexico-based International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center and two other Rockefeller and Ford Foundation-created international research centers the IITA for tropical agriculture, Nigeria, and IRRI for rice, Philippines combined to form a global Consultative Group on International Agriculture Research (CGIAR).

CGIAR was shaped at a series of private conferences held at the Rockefeller Foundation's conference center in Bellagio, Italy. Key participants at the Bellagio talks were the Rockefeller Foundation's George Harrar, Ford Foundation's Forrest Hill, Robert McNamara of the World Bank and Maurice

Strong, the Rockefeller family's international environmental organizer, who, as a Rockefeller Foundation Trustee, organized the UN Earth Summit in Stockholm in 1972. It was part of the foundation's decades long focus to turn science to the service of eugenics, a hideous version of racial purity, what has been called The Project.

To ensure maximum impact, CGIAR drew in the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization, the UN Development Program and the World Bank. Thus, through a carefully-planned leverage of its initial funds, the Rockefeller Foundation by the beginning of the 1970s was in a position to shape global agriculture policy. And shape it did.

Financed by generous Rockefeller and Ford Foundation study grants, CGIAR saw to it that leading Third World agriculture scientists and agronomists were brought to the US to 'master' the concepts of modern agribusiness production, in order to carry it back to their homeland. In the process they created an invaluable network of influence for US agribusiness promotion in those countries, most especially promotion of the GMO 'Gene Revolution' in developing countries, all in the name of science and efficient, free market agriculture.

Now the Svalbard Seed Bank begins to become interesting. But it gets better. 'The Project' I referred to is the project of the Rockefeller Foundation and powerful financial interests since the 1920s to use eugenics, later renamed genetics, to justify creation of a genetically-engineered Master Race. Hitler and the Nazis called it the Aryan Master Race.

The eugenics of Hitler were financed to a major extent by the same Rockefeller Foundation which today is building a doomsday seed vault to preserve samples of every seed on our planet. Now this is getting really intriguing. The same Rockefeller Foundation who funded the discipline of molecular biology in their relentless pursuit of reducing human life down to the 'defining gene sequence' which, they hoped, could then be modified in order to change human traits at will. Hitler's eugenics scientists, many of whom were quietly brought to the United States after the War to continue their biological eugenics research, laid much of the groundwork of genetic engineering of various life forms, much of it supported openly until well into the Third Reich by Rockefeller Foundation generous grants.

The same Rockefeller Foundation created the so-called Green Revolution, out of a trip

to Mexico in 1946 by Nelson Rockefeller and former New Deal Secretary of Agriculture and founder of the Pioneer Hi-Bred Seed Company, Henry Wallace.

The Green Revolution purported to solve the world hunger problem to a major degree in Mexico, India and other select countries where Rockefeller worked. Rockefeller Foundation agronomist, Norman Borlaug, won a Nobel Peace Prize for his work, hardly something to boast about with the likes of Henry Kissinger sharing the same.

In reality, as it years later emerged, the Green Revolution was a brilliant Rockefeller family scheme to develop a globalized agribusiness which they then could monopolize just as they had done in the world oil industry beginning a half century before. As Henry Kissinger declared in the 1970s, 'if you control the oil you control the country; if you control food, you control the population.'

Agribusiness and the Rockefeller Green Revolution went hand-in-hand. They were part of a grand strategy which included Rockefeller Foundation financing of research for the development of genetic engineering of plants and animals a few years later.

John H. Davis had been Assistant Agriculture Secretary under President Dwight Eisenhower in the early 1950s. He left Washington in 1955 and went to the Harvard Graduate School of Business, an unusual place for an agriculture expert in those days. He had a clear strategy. In 1956, Davis wrote an article in the Harvard Business Review in which he declared that "the only way to solve the so-called farm problem once and for all, and avoid cumbersome government programs, is to progress from agriculture to agribusiness." He knew precisely what he had in mind, though few others had a clue back then-- a revolution in agriculture production that would concentrate control of the food chain in corporate multinational hands, away from the traditional family farmer.

A crucial aspect driving the interest of the Rockefeller Foundation and US agribusiness companies was the fact that the Green Revolution was based on proliferation of new hybrid seeds in developing markets. One vital aspect of hybrid seeds was their lack of reproductive capacity. Hybrids had a built in protection against multiplication. Unlike normal open pollinated species whose seed gave yields similar to its parents, the yield of the seed borne by hybrid plants was significantly lower than that of the first generation.

That declining yield characteristic of hybrids meant farmers must normally buy seed every year in order to obtain high yields. Moreover, the lower yield of the second generation eliminated the trade in seed that was often done by seed producers without the breeder's authorization. It prevented the redistribution of the commercial crop seed by middlemen.

If the large multinational seed companies were able to control the parental seed lines in house, no competitor or farmer would be able to produce the hybrid. The global concentration of hybrid seed patents into a handful of giant seed companies, led by DuPont's Pioneer Hi-Bred and Monsanto's Dekalb laid the ground for the later GMO seed revolution.

In effect, the introduction of modern American agricultural technology, chemical fertilizers and commercial hybrid seeds all made local farmers in developing countries, particularly the larger more established ones, dependent on foreign, mostly US agribusiness and petro-chemical company inputs. It was a first step in what was to be a decades-long, carefully planned process.

Under the Green Revolution Agribusiness was making major inroads into markets which were previously of limited access to US exporters. The trend was later dubbed "market-oriented agriculture." In reality it was agribusiness-controlled agriculture.

Through the Green Revolution, the Rockefeller Foundation and later Ford Foundation worked hand-in-hand shaping and supporting the foreign policy goals of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and of the CIA.

One major effect of the Green Revolution was to depopulate the countryside of peasants who were forced to flee into shantytown slums around the cities in desperate search for work. That was no accident; it was part of the plan to create cheap labor pools for forthcoming US multinational manufactures, the 'globalization' of recent years.

When the self-promotion around the Green Revolution died down, the results were quite different from what had been promised. Problems had arisen from indiscriminate use of the new chemical pesticides, often with serious health consequences. The monoculture cultivation of new hybrid seed varieties decreased soil fertility and yields over time. The first results were impressive: double or even triple yields for some crops such as wheat and later corn in Mexico. That soon faded.

The Green Revolution was typically accompanied by large irrigation projects which often included World Bank loans to construct huge new dams, and flood previously settled areas and fertile farmland in the process. Also, super-wheat produced greater yields by saturating the soil with huge amounts of fertilizer per acre, the fertilizer being the product of nitrates and petroleum, commodities controlled by the Rockefeller-dominated Seven Sisters major oil companies.

Huge quantities of herbicides and pesticides were also used, creating additional markets for the oil and chemical giants. As one analyst put it, in effect, the Green Revolution was merely a chemical revolution. At no point could developing nations pay for the huge amounts of chemical fertilizers and pesticides. They would get the credit courtesy of the World Bank and special loans by Chase Bank and other large New York banks, backed by US Government guarantees.

Applied in a large number of developing countries, those loans went mostly to the large landowners. For the smaller peasants the situation worked differently. Small peasant farmers could not afford the chemical and other modern inputs and had to borrow money.

Initially various government programs tried to provide some loans to farmers so that they could purchase seeds and fertilizers. Farmers who could not participate in this kind of program had to borrow from the private sector. Because of the exorbitant interest rates for informal loans, many small farmers did not even get the benefits of the initial higher yields. After harvest, they had to sell most if not all of their produce to pay off loans and interest. They became dependent on money-lenders and traders and often lost their land. Even with soft loans from government agencies, growing subsistence crops gave way to the production of cash crops.

For decades the same interests including the Rockefeller Foundation which backed the initial Green Revolution, have worked to promote a second 'Gene Revolution' as Rockefeller Foundation President Gordon Conway termed it several years ago, the spread of industrial agriculture and commercial inputs including GMO patented seeds.

see Seed Vault pg. 7



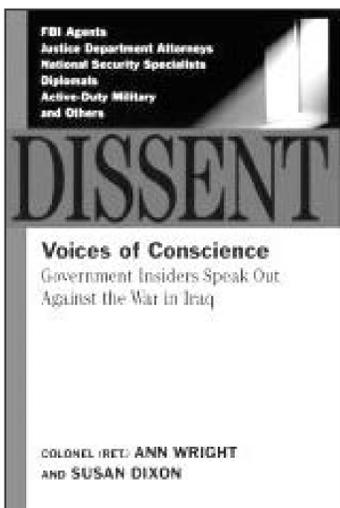
On this God-forsaken island Bill Gates is investing tens of his millions along with the Rockefeller Foundation, Monsanto Corporation, Syngenta Foundation and the Government of Norway, among others, in what is called the 'doomsday seed bank.' Officially the project is named the Svalbard Global Seed Vault on the Norwegian island of Spitsbergen, part of the Svalbard island group.

Doomsday Seed Vault

The seed bank is being built inside a mountain on Spitsbergen Island near the small village of Longyearbyen. It's almost ready for 'business' according to their releases. The bank will have dual blast-proof doors with motion sensors, two airlocks, and walls of steel-reinforced concrete one meter thick. It will contain up to three million different varieties of seeds from the entire world, 'so that crop diversity can be conserved for the future,' according to the Norwegian government.

Book Review

Voices of the Iraq War Dissenters Ring Out



William Hughes

"One's first obligation is to the moral truth buried deep inside our own souls." - Ex-Private First Class Joshua Key, US Army.

From soldiers in the US Army, who refused to be deployed to Iraq; to diplomats who resigned their offices rather than endorse an illegal war; to courageous whistleblowers inside the US and British governments, who put themselves at risk to tell the truth about the lies that took their countries to war; this book has it all, and more. Entitled: *Dissent: Voices of Conscience*, it is co-authored by Colonel (Ret.) Ann Wright and Susan Dixon. Susan Dixon is a college professor. Colonel Wright was a high-ranking State Department diplomat, who objected to the Bush-Cheney Gang's dastardly scheme to attack Iraq. Faithful to her duty to the US Constitution, she resigned from her post rather than endorse policies that she didn't "believe in" and could not "defend."

John Brady Kiesling, along with John Brown, are two other US diplomats, who submitted their resignations over the issue of the Iraq War. The poignant letters that they wrote to the then-US Secretary of State, Colin Powell, are reprinted in full in the book. Mr. Kiesling criticized Powell: "Your loyalty to the President goes too far. We are straining beyond its limits an international system we built with such toil and treasure, a web of laws, treaties, organizations, and shared values that set limits on our foes far more effectively than it ever constrained America's ability to defend its interests." Mr. Brown wrote prophetically: "Throughout the globe, the US is becoming associated with the unjustified use of force. The President's disregard for views in other nations, borne out by his neglect of public diplomacy, is giving birth to an 'anti-American century'. I joined the Foreign Service because I love our country...I'm now bringing this calling to a close, with a heavy heart for the same reason that I embraced it."

Besides spotlighting some of the heroic voices of dissent, this book documents many of the damnable lies and flagrant half-truths that took America into Iraq in the first place. To paraphrase that literary light, the late Mary McCarthy, just about every reason the Bush-Cheney Gang concocted to justify its pre-emptive strike on Iraq was a falsehood, including the "and's, the's and but's." Bush's White House, literally, just made the crap up as it was going along. The book focuses on Powell's badly-flawed presentation at the UN on Feb. 5, 2003, as just one of the prime examples of that egregious campaign of duplicity.

The authors focus on many of the prewar deceptions of the Bush-Cheney Gang, both in this country, and in the UK, too, since Bush's poodle, the then-UK Prime Minister, Tony Blair, was one of the prime co-conspirators in launching this conflict. To that end, the infamous "Downing Street Memos," a/k/a the DSM, are part of the book's Appendix. They show how the warmongering duo had intended to "use force [against Iraq] and then 'fix the intelligence' to support [the] decision." The DSM were leaked to the *London Times*, in 2003. V.P. Dick Cheney's role as one of the "chief architects" of the war is also highlighted, along with his then-chief-of-staff, Irv "Scooter" Libby, a convicted, but pardoned felon; and Libby's mentor, the then-Deputy Sec. of Defense, Paul Wolfowitz.

Covered also in the book are the riveting stories of government insiders who managed to get the truth out about the "machinations of our leaders" which led to the Iraq War. Six of them are British: Katharine Gun, Robin Cook, Elizabeth Wilmschurst, Clare Short, Carne Ross, and Craig Murray. Denmark's Frank Grevil and Australia's Andrew Wilkie are two more whose truth-telling led them to resign their government positions. Wilkie believed the US, UK and Australian governments "very deliberately distorted the intelligence in order to make uncertainty about the threat that Iraq posed seem certain."

This book underscored how Wilkie was "vilified by his government for speaking out and even received death threats from his fellow citizens."

Another important document found in the book's Appendix is the notorious "Congressional Resolution of Oct. 2, 2002." It unlawfully granted Bush the power to launch his criminal war of aggression against Iraq. I say that because I'm convinced, relying on James Madison, that "only" the Congress alone can declare war. It had no power to delegate that prerogative to anyone else. See, Art. I, Sec. 8. In any event, the fingerprints of the hawkish Sen. Joseph I. Lieberman (IND-CT) and Rep. Tom Lantos (D-CA) are all over this instrument of mass death and mayhem. And you talk about lies, this Go-To-Endless-War Resolution is full of them. It accuses Saddam Hussein's Iraq of possessing WMD, supporting terrorist organizations, and having ties to the 9/11 tragedy. All of which have been proven to be absolutely false!

Seven brave US-based whistleblowers and/or dissenters' stories are presented, too, in the book. They are: Bunnatine Greenhouse, Jessely Radack, Mary Ryan, Sibel Edmonds, Coleen Rowley, ex-US Ambassador Joe Wilson, and Russell Tice. Their accounts all make for compelling reading. They worked for agencies, like the FBI, the office of Consular Affairs at the State Department, the Justice Department, and the Army Corps of Engineers. Mr. Tice, for example, labored for a total of 18 years for the National Security Agency (NSA) and the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA). In 2004, he leaked to the *NY Times* the fact that the Bush-Cheney Gang was engaged in widespread eavesdropping on US citizens without any court-approved warrants. On April 18, 2005, he explained to the Congress why he chose his particular course of action. Mr. Tice wrote: "The freedom of the American people cannot be protected when our constitutional liberties are ignored and our nation has decayed into a police state."

I would be remiss if I failed to say something about the horrific costs of the Iraq War that these wonderful individuals of conscience tried to stop. As I write, an estimated 1.2 million Iraqis are dead, 3,883 US troops are in their grave and over 29,000 have been seriously wounded, while 4.2 million Iraqis have been displaced and the US taxpayers are stuck with a bill for the war that may exceed \$3.5 trillion. What price the other members of the Allied Coalition have paid must be added to this summary.

The authors also advanced an historical overview about what may have driven the Bush-Cheney Gang to seek "regime change in Iraq." This led them, in part, to the Neocon-infested "Project for a New American Century" (PNAC). This "think tank" had long advocated a "military strategy and logistics for a war to topple Saddam Hussein." One of the key ideologues in that ultra-hawkish clique was Richard Perle. He has had very close ties over the years to Israel's hard right regimes; whether headed by Ariel Sharon, Benjamin Netanyahu or Ehud Olmert.

Finally, this carefully crafted tome, *Dissent: Voices of Conscience*, is fully sourced with tons of footnotes and an excellent bibliography. It is due for release on January, 15, 2008. In it, you will also find the authors' call to action for budding peace movement and whistleblower activists. It's labeled: "Resources for Action and Education." I've only covered some of the important information found in the book. There is plenty more, along with an insightful chapter on the opposition to the war "in the military," both in the US and the UK. What is clear from reading this splendid work is that the Iraq conflict was a "war of choice" for its cunning perpetrators; that it was based on deliberate lies; and that some stouthearted individuals--in the US, the UK, Denmark and Australia--did stand up, bravely, to resist it.

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History's Lessons

Bankers Extended WWI By Three Years

Henry Makow, PhD

"World events do not occur by accident. They are made to happen...most of them are staged and managed by those who hold the purse strings." Denis Healey, former British Defence Minister.

On Oct 12, 1915, Edith Cavell, 50, a British nurse and head of a teaching hospital in Belgium, was shot by a German firing squad. Her death inflamed anti-German feeling in the US and caused enlistment in England to double.

She had helped some British POW's escape. Normally her crime would have been punished by three months imprisonment. Why was she killed?

According to Eustace Mullins, Edith Cavell had stumbled upon some damaging information. On April 15, 1915, "The Nursing Mirror" in London published her letter revealing that the Allied "Belgian Relief Commission" (charged with feeding Belgium) was in fact channelling thousands of tons of supplies to Germany.

Sir William Wiseman, head of British Intelligence and a partner in the banking firm Kuhn Loeb, demanded the Germans execute Cavell as a spy. Wiseman believed that "the continuance of the war was at stake." The Germans reluctantly agreed, thus creating "one of the principal martyrs of the First World War." (*The Secrets of the Federal Reserve*, pp. 72-73)

Pretty cynical you say? No more cynical than demolishing the World Trade Center, murdering over 3000 Americans to start a "War on Terror".

This example of cooperation between belligerents was accomplished because Wiseman worked closely with the head of the US Federal Reserve, Paul Warburg. Warburg's brother Max was Chief of German Intelligence and a close friend of Kaiser Wilhelm.

The London-based central bankers use wars to weaken nations and colonize the world (incl., UK, US Israel etc.). The difficulty executing WWI was that they had already bankrupted the European states by selling them battleships and other armaments. Europe couldn't afford a war!

The introduction of the US Federal Reserve and the Income Tax Act in 1913 solved this problem. US government loans financed World War One. The American people were on the hook for both sides of the conflict.

This is how it works: The bankers created money from thin air based on the credit of the US government. Every dollar they "loaned" the US government was a new dollar in their pocket.

No nation is free if it cannot control its own credit, i.e. print its own currency at will. We are not free. The central banking cartel controls us by threatening to withdraw our credit (i.e. currency) causing economic turmoil.

Another obstacle to war was the fact that Germany and her allies did not have the resources to fight for more than a year.

As Edith Cavell's discovery suggests, the bankers solved this problem by trading with "neutral" states: Switzerland, Belgium, Holland, Denmark, Norway and Sweden. Thus, the bankers allowed essential resources from England, the US and the British Empire to reach Germany indirectly.

The whole thing is documented in a book entitled, *The Triumph of Unarmed Forces 1914-1918* (1923) by Rear Admiral M.W.W.P. Consett, who was British Naval Attache in Scandinavia. His job was to keep track of the movement of supplies ("unarmed forces") necessary for the continuation of the conflict.

For example, Scandinavia was completely dependent on British coal. So the Swedish iron ore that became German submarines that sank

Allied shipping reached Germany on vessels powered by British coal.

Germany needed glycerin (animal fat) for the manufacture of explosives. England had no trouble securing this substance because it controlled the seas. After the war began, the demand for these products from neutral countries "exploded." The British continued to fill these orders. They could have restricted them.

The same applies to copper, zinc, nickel, tin, and many other essential products. Consett believes that had they been embargoed, the war would have been over by 1915.

The trade of tea, coffee and cocoa to neutral countries also increased dramatically but these products often weren't available there. They all went to Germany for huge profit.

Consett's protests fell on deaf ears. The Minister of Blockade was Robert Cecil, a member of the Round Table (i.e. central banker) cabal.

Similarly, the central bankers financed the German side through their Scandinavian banks to the tune of 45 million pounds sterling. (p. 146.)

The Allied nations became the bankers' debt slaves: "Despite the huge revenues

They ensured that Palestine would become a "Jewish" state under their control. Israel would be a perennial source of new conflict.

But more importantly, thanks to bloodbaths such as Verdun (800,000 dead), the optimistic spirit of Christian Western Civilization, Faith in Man and God, was dealt a mortal blow. The flower of the new generation was slaughtered. (See *The Testament of Youth* by Vera Brittain for a moving first-hand account.)

After a grueling economic deflation and another World War, mankind was sufficiently demoralized to accept the banker-run "world government" dictatorship.

The broad sweep of history reveals the pattern. The murder of the Austrian heir Arch Duke Ferdinand by the Masonic "Black Hand" group (which began WWI) was a staged event, an "excuse", i.e., the equivalent of Sept. 11, 2001.

The bankers also supported the Nazis in World War Two as Charles Higham documents in his remarkable book, *Trading with the Enemy* (1983). For example, Rockefeller's Standard Oil supplied petroleum to the Nazis.

Modern history is the account of how the central banking cartel converts its monopoly of credit into a monopoly of power. This entails destroying our connection with nation, religion



raised from taxation, the British national debt rose tenfold. The government failed to use its bargaining power as the only really massive borrower in wartime to get money at low rates of interest. The French national debt rose from 28 billion to 151 billion francs..." (Davies, *The History of Money*) The US debt soared from one billion to \$25 billion.

According to *The Merchants of Death*, World War I was waged by 27 nations; it mobilized 66,103,164 men, of whom 37,494,186 became casualties (about 7 million dead.) Its direct costs are estimated at \$208,000,000,000; its indirect costs at \$151,000,000,000. And these figures do not include the additional billions in interest payments, veterans' care and pensions, and similar expenses..."

As mysteriously as it began, the war ended. In Dec. 1918, the German Empire suddenly "collapsed." You can guess what happened. The bankers had achieved their aims and shut off the spigot. (Hence, the natural sense of betrayal felt in Germany, exacerbated by the onerous reparations dictated by the bankers at Versailles.)

What were the bankers' aims? The Old Order was destroyed. Four empires (Russian, German, Austro-Hungarian and Ottoman) lay in ruins.

The bankers had set up their Bolshevik go-fers in Russia. (They sponsor many "revolutionary" movements as a way to gain total control of all property themselves.)

(God), race and family. It means substituting objective truth (God, nature) with their Dictat (political correctness, etc.)

It takes courage and clarity to understand we are mice in their lab experiment. We have been sold out by our "leaders", dumbed down by our media and education and spoiled stupid by the welfare state. (Everyone can be bought.) We can't even recognize what is happening, let alone act.

For now, we have prosperity and think we are free. As Aldous Huxley said:

"A really efficient totalitarian state would be one in which the all powerful executive of political bosses and their army of managers control a population of slaves WHO DO NOT HAVE TO BE COERCED, because they love their servitude. To make them love it is the task assigned, in present day totalitarian states, to ministries of propaganda, newspaper editors and schoolteachers." [*Brave New World*]

On the bright side, the knowledge that our society is built on fraud is strangely liberating. No longer do we genuflect to its plastic gods. "The truth **does** make you free!"

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This article was originally posted June 16, 2006

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WWII soldier's letter on the non-necessity of nuking Japan

Nuclear bomb drops were purely a political decision.

The media recently carried the story of the death of Paul Tibbets who flew the Enola Gay and dropped the first nuclear bomb on the city of Hiroshima, Japan, on Aug. 6, 1945. Paul Tibbets acknowledged that he "murdered 80,000 people" but believed the myth that "it was necessary in order to avoid the invasion of Japan to end the war."

It may be in vain, but it is time once more to speak out against one of the greatest fictions of our time. Facts are stubborn things.

On Aug. 5, 1945, the war was almost over. The Japanese had been chased out of every last Pacific outpost, atoll, island, etc. Gen. Joseph Stillwell was at last successful in routing them out of Burma and southeast Asia. The Chinese were then running the Japanese out of mainland China. The Russians were storming down Manchuria like wildfire.

More importantly, the Japanese generals were at the table negotiating the terms of surrender. There was only a slight delay while the status of the Emperor of Japan was determined. The end was at hand. I was stationed in the Philippines, and there were no preparations underway for an invasion of Japan.

To say, therefore, that dropping the atom bomb was necessary to forestall even greater casualties from an invasion is to give credence to a fairy tale manufactured in Washington, DC, to escape criticism for such a dastardly act. The decision to drop the bomb was not motivated by military necessity.

It was purely a political decision to forestall the possibility of Russian participation in Japan's downfall. It was the first blow in the Cold War against the perceived threat of a communist-dominated world.

The fiction of an avoided invasion serves

to cover up one of history's most atrocious, conscienceless slaughters. Not since we killed off so many American Indians in the previous century have we had so much to be ashamed of. We didn't "murder 80,000 people" as Tibbets said. We cremated in five minutes more than 140,000 human beings in Hiroshima -- the young, the old, the helpless, the sick, the lame, the women, the elderly, ad nauseum. We then repeated almost the same record at Nagasaki.

It's time to stop waving the flag and feeling virtuous. We perpetrated a holocaust of our own in Japan. No excuses. No forgiveness.

Milton J. Marovich

Kalamazoo

Am I A Terrorist from p. 3

Well, I have been known to suggest that a new investigation is needed for the events of 9/11. That is true.

But, to my own defense I would offer many, many reasons to support the idea that the official story does not hold water. And what would be my rationale for holding this "radical belief system"? Well, the foundation documents of the official story itself; the NIST Report, the FEMA Report and the 9/11 Commission Report.

Let's just take one, of the many questionable issues; the collapse of Building 7.

Now the FEMA report tries to explain what happened to cause that building to collapse symmetrically into its own footprint on 9/11/2001, but what they come up with they themselves suggest "has a low probability of occurrence". What kind of scientific evaluation is that?

The NIST report promised a thorough and detailed explanation for Building 7's demise... nearly three years ago.... And we are still waiting to see it.

The 9/11 Commission Report put them both to shame by showing us how to deal with Building 7 and any questions that have really difficult answers.... They ignored it. They never even mentioned its collapse.

So, with regard to my association with the "conspiracy theory sites", I have to say that I wanted so desperately to hang onto the official stories (there have been a few now), but alas, in the end, I made the mistake of reading them. And so, quite naturally, I began to question their validity as scientific studies.

Yes, I know; evaluating the evidence that supports the most important attack on American soil in history, can be considered an extreme view by some (hail Ants!). So, it looks like I am off to a bad start...

Let's get down to it. Are my views "extremist" because I:

Don't believe we should be importing goods from China that are made by forced prison labor and not subject to quality controls like we impose on those made here?

Believe that every vote must count and that the Supreme Court has no right to call an election while there is one left that hasn't been?

Believe that our right to collective bargaining will improve the quality of life for most Americans, and that is, in the end what is best for all Americans?

Believe that health care should never be subject to profit and loss analysis and is a birth-right to all citizens of a civilized country?

Believe that elected officials should stay the hell out of the pockets of the lobbyists in order for a true representative Republic to work?

Believe that a President who has clearly sold us out to corporate and foreign interests should be impeached and tried for treason?

Believe that the Constitution is the core of our very society and must be protected from a rogue administration?

Believe that our involvement with Iraq, that was initially based purely on lies, must

end without our forcing permanent military bases and a hydrocarbon law upon the people of Iraq?

Because I do not believe that nation building or conquering is in the best interests of America?

Because I do believe that the billions of tax dollars lost or misappropriated should be investigated and returned?

Because I do not think the founding fathers meant for the leaders of this country to be serving the best interests of corporations at the detriment of its civilian population.

Because I agree with Franklin D. Roosevelt's statement:

"The first truth is that the liberty of a democracy is not safe if the people tolerate the growth of private power to a point where it becomes stronger than their democratic state itself. That, in its essence, is fascism—ownership of government by an individual, by a group, or by any other controlling private power."

Because I agree with John F. Kennedy's statement:

"The very word 'secrecy' is repugnant in a free and open society. And we are, as a people, inherently and historically opposed to secret societies, to secret oaths and to secret proceedings. We decided long ago, that the dangers of excessive and unwarranted concealment of pertinent facts far outweighed the dangers which are cited to justify it."

And, finally because I agree with Martin Luther King's statements:

"Perhaps a new spirit is rising among us. If it is, let us trace its movements and pray that our own inner being may be sensitive to its guidance, for we are deeply in need of a new way beyond the darkness that seems so close around us."

"And some of us who have already begun to break the silence of the night have found that the calling to speak is often a vocation of agony, but we must speak. We must speak with all the humility that is appropriate to our limited vision, but we must speak."

Am I a terrorist with extreme beliefs because I remember a time when Americans reached out to pull each other up for the betterment of us all? Am I a terrorist because I can still hear these historical speeches resounding in my mind, each time George Bush lies about WMDs?

Am I a terrorist because I know the difference between a great leader and a shill?

Well, if those be the determining factors, then yes, you will find my beliefs a bit extreme. I still believe in the America of King and Lincoln and Kennedy and even of Roosevelt. I believe we stand for more than just "our interests in the region" or some Wall Street guru on CNBC screaming and crying for the Federal Reserve to drop the Prime once again to bail out the investment class profit machines.

So if that extreme belief system is what determines a "terrorist" in America these days then I will save you the time and effort; I am a terrorist.

And I am Spartacus.

Seed Vault from p. 5

With the true background of the 1950s Rockefeller Foundation Green Revolution clear in mind, it becomes especially curious that the same Rockefeller Foundation along with the Gates Foundation which are now investing millions of dollars in preserving every seed against a possible "doomsday" scenario are also investing millions in a project called The Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa.

AGRA, as it calls itself, is an alliance again with the same Rockefeller Foundation which created the "Gene Revolution." A look at the AGRA Board of Directors confirms this.

It includes none other than former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan as chairman. In his acceptance speech in a World Economic Forum event in Cape Town South Africa in June 2007, Kofi Annan stated, 'I accept this challenge with gratitude to the Rockefeller Foundation, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and all others who support our African campaign.'

While to date they are keeping a low profile, Monsanto and the major GMO agribusiness giants are believed at the heart of using Kofi Annan's AGRA to spread their patented GMO seeds across Africa under the deceptive label, 'bio-technology,' the new euphemism for genetically engineered patented seeds. To date South Africa is the only African country permitting legal planting of GMO crops. In 2003 Burkina Faso authorized GMO trials. In 2005 Kofi Annan's Ghana drafted bio-safety legislation and key officials expressed their intentions to pursue research into GMO crops.

Africa is the next target in the US-government campaign to spread GMO worldwide. Its rich soils make it an ideal candidate. Not surprisingly many African governments suspect the worst from the GMO sponsors as a multitude of genetic engineering and biosafety projects have been initiated in Africa, with the aim of introducing GMOs into Africa's agricultural systems. These include sponsorships offered by the US government to train African scientists in genetic engineering in the US, biosafety projects funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the World Bank; GMO research involving African indigenous food crops.

The Rockefeller Foundation has been working for years to promote, largely without success, projects to introduce GMOs into the fields of Africa. They have backed research that supports the applicability of GMO cotton in the Makhathini Flats in South Africa.

Monsanto, who has a strong foothold in South Africa's seed industry, both GMO and hybrid, has conceived of an ingenious smallholders' program known as the 'Seeds of Hope' Campaign, which is introducing a green revolution package to small scale poor farmers, followed, of course, by Monsanto's patented GMO seeds.

Syngenta AG of Switzerland, one of the 'Four Horsemen of the GMO Apocalypse' is pouring millions of dollars into a new greenhouse facility in Nairobi, to develop GMO insect resistant maize. Syngenta is a part of CGIAR as well.

Move on to Svalbard

Now is it simply philosophical sloppiness? What leads the Gates and Rockefeller foundations to at one and the same time to back proliferation of patented and soon-to-be Terminator patented seeds across Africa, a process which, as it has in every other place on earth, destroys the plant seed varieties as monoculture industrialized agribusiness is introduced? At the same time, they invest tens of millions of dollars to preserve every seed variety known in a bomb-proof doomsday vault near the remote Arctic Circle 'so that crop diversity can be conserved for the future' to restate their official release?

It is no accident that the Rockefeller and Gates foundations are teaming up to push a GMO-style Green Revolution in Africa at the same time they are quietly financing the 'doomsday seed vault' on Svalbard. The GMO agribusiness giants are up to their ears in the Svalbard project.

The Svalbard project will be run by an organization called the Global Crop Diversity Trust (GCDDT). Who are they to hold such an awesome trust over the planet's entire seed varieties? The GCDDT was founded by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and Bioversity International (formerly the International Plant Genetic Research Institute), an offshoot of the CGIAR.

The Global Crop Diversity Trust is based in Rome. Its Board is chaired by Margaret Catley-Carlson a Canadian also on the advisory board of Group Suez Lyonnaise des Eaux, one of the world's largest private water companies. Catley-Carlson was also president until 1998

of the New York-based Population Council, John D. Rockefeller's population reduction organization, set up in 1952 to advance the Rockefeller family's eugenics program under the cover of promoting "family planning," birth control devices, sterilization and "population control" in developing countries.

Global Crop Diversity Trust Donors or financial angels include as well, in the words of the Humphrey Bogart Casablanca classic, 'all the usual suspects.' As well as the Rockefeller and Gates Foundations, the Donors include GMO giants DuPont-Pioneer Hi-Bred, Syngenta of Basle Switzerland, CGIAR and the State Department's energetically pro-GMO agency for development aid, USAID. Indeed it seems we have the GMO and population reduction foxes guarding the hen-house of mankind, the global seed diversity store in Svalbard.

Why now Svalbard?

We can legitimately ask why Bill Gates and the Rockefeller Foundation along with the major genetic engineering agribusiness giants such as DuPont and Syngenta, along with CGIAR are building the Doomsday Seed Vault in the Arctic.

Who uses such a seed bank in the first place? Plant breeders and researchers are the major users of gene banks. Today's largest plant breeders are Monsanto, DuPont, Syngenta and Dow Chemical, the global plant-patenting GMO giants. Since early in 2007, Monsanto holds world patent rights together with the United States Government for plant so-called 'Terminator' or Genetic Use Restriction Technology (GURT). Terminator is an ominous technology by which a patented commercial seed commits 'suicide' after one harvest. Control by private seed companies is total. Such control and power over the food chain has never before in the history of mankind existed.

This clever genetically engineered terminator trait forces farmers to return every year to Monsanto or other GMO seed suppliers to get new seeds for rice, soybeans, corn, wheat whatever major crops they need to feed their population. If broadly introduced around the world, it could within perhaps a decade or so make the world's majority of food producers new feudal serfs in bondage to three or four giant seed companies such as Monsanto or DuPont or Dow Chemical.

That, of course, could also open the door to have those private companies, perhaps under orders from their host government, Washington, deny seeds to one or another developing country whose politics happened to go against Washington's. Those who say 'It can't happen here' should look more closely at current global events. The mere existence of that concentration of power in three or four private US-based agribusiness giants is grounds for legally banning all GMO crops even were their harvest gains real, which they manifestly are not.

These private companies, Monsanto, DuPont, Dow Chemical hardly have an unsullied record in terms of stewardship of human life. They developed and proliferated such innovations as dioxin, PCBs, Agent Orange. They covered up for decades clear evidence of carcinogenic and other severe human health consequences of use of the toxic chemicals. They have buried serious scientific reports that the world's most widespread herbicide, glyphosate, the essential ingredient in Monsanto's Round-up herbicide that is tied to purchase of most Monsanto genetically engineered seeds, is toxic when it seeps into drinking water. Denmark banned glyphosate in 2003 when it confirmed it has contaminated the country's groundwater.

The diversity stored in seed gene banks is the raw material for plant breeding and for a great deal of basic biological research. Several hundred thousand samples are distributed annually for such purposes. The UN's FAO lists some 1400 seed banks around the world, the largest being held by the United States Government. Other large banks are held by China, Russia, Japan, India, South Korea, Germany and Canada in descending order of size. In addition, CGIAR operates a chain of seed banks in select centers around the world.

CGIAR, set up in 1972 by the Rockefeller Foundation and Ford Foundation to spread their Green Revolution agribusiness model, controls most of the private seed banks from the Philippines to Syria to Kenya. In all these present seed banks hold more than six and a half million seed varieties, almost two million of which are 'distinct.' Svalbard's Doomsday Vault will have a capacity to house four and a half million different seeds.

GMO as a weapon of biowarfare?

Now we come to the heart of the danger and the potential for misuse inherent in the Svalbard project of Bill Gates and the Rockefeller Foundation. Can the development of patented seeds for most of the world's major

sustenance crops such as rice, corn, wheat, and feed grains such as soybeans ultimately be used in a horrible form of biological warfare?

The explicit aim of the eugenics lobby funded by wealthy elite families such as Rockefeller, Carnegie, Harriman and others since the 1920s, has embodied what they termed 'negative eugenics,' the systematic killing off of undesired bloodlines. Margaret Sanger, a rapid eugenicist, the founder of Planned Parenthood International and an intimate of the Rockefeller family, created something called The Negro Project in 1939, based in Harlem, which as she confided in a letter to a friend, was all about the fact that, as she put it, 'we want to exterminate the Negro population.'

A small California biotech company, Epicyte, in 2001 announced the development of genetically engineered corn which contained a spermicide which made the semen of men who ate it sterile. At the time Epicyte had a joint venture agreement to spread its technology with DuPont and Syngenta, two of the sponsors of the Svalbard Doomsday Seed Vault. Epicyte was since acquired by a North Carolina biotech company. Astonishing to learn was that Epicyte had developed its spermicidal GMO corn with research funds from the US Department of Agriculture, the same USDA which, despite worldwide opposition, continued to finance the development of Terminator technology, now held by Monsanto.

In the 1990s the UN's World Health Organization launched a campaign to vaccinate millions of women in Nicaragua, Mexico and the Philippines between the ages of 15 and 45, allegedly against Tetanus, a sickness arising from such things as stepping on a rusty nail. The vaccine was not given to men or boys, despite the fact they are presumably equally liable to step on rusty nails as women.

Because of that curious anomaly, Comite Pro Vida de Mexico, a Roman Catholic lay organization became suspicious and had vaccine samples tested. The tests revealed that the Tetanus vaccine being spread by the WHO only to women of child-bearing age contained human Chorionic Gonadotrophin or hCG, a natural hormone which when combined with a tetanus toxoid carrier, stimulated antibodies rendering a woman incapable of maintaining a pregnancy. None of the women vaccinated were told.

It later came out that the Rockefeller Foundation along with the Rockefeller's Population Council, the World Bank (home to CGIAR), and the United States' National Institutes of Health had been involved in a 20-year-long project begun in 1972 to develop the concealed abortion vaccine with a tetanus carrier for WHO. In addition, the Government of Norway, the host to the Svalbard Doomsday Seed Vault, donated \$41 million to develop the special abortive Tetanus vaccine.

Is it a coincidence that these same organizations, from Norway to the Rockefeller Foundation to the World Bank are also involved in the Svalbard seed bank project? According to Prof. Francis Boyle who drafted the Biological Weapons Anti-Terrorism Act of 1989 enacted by the US Congress, the Pentagon is 'now gearing up to fight and win biological warfare' as part of two Bush national strategy directives adopted, he notes, 'without public knowledge and review' in 2002. Boyle adds that in 2001-2004 alone the US Federal Government spent \$14.5 billion for civilian bio-warfare-related work, a staggering sum.

Rutgers University biologist Richard Ebricht estimates that over 300 scientific institutions and some 12,000 individuals in the USA today have access to pathogens suitable for biowarfare. Alone there are 497 US Government National Institutes of Health grants for research into infectious diseases with biowarfare potential. Of course this is being justified under the rubric of defending against possible terror attack as so much is today.

Many of the US Government dollars spent on biowarfare research involve genetic engineering. MIT biology professor Jonathan King says that the 'growing bio-terror programs represent a significant emerging danger to our own population.' King adds, 'while such programs are always called defensive, with biological weapons, defensive and offensive programs overlap almost completely.'

Time will tell whether, God Forbid, the Svalbard Doomsday Seed Bank of Bill Gates and the Rockefeller Foundation is part of another Final Solution, this involving the extinction of the Late, Great Planet Earth.

F. William Engdahl is the author of *Seeds of Destruction, the Hidden Agenda of Genetic Manipulation* just released by Toronto-based Global Research. He also the author of *A Century of War: Anglo-American Oil Politics and the New World Order*, Pluto Press Ltd.. To contact by e-mail: info@engdahl.oilgeopolitics.net.

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Pentagon Appears Poised to Resume Open-Air Testing of Biological Weapons

but says it has received no Presidential Directive to break moratorium

Sherwood Ross

(ANS) --- The Pentagon has denied President Bush issued a directive for it to resume open-air testing of chemical and biological warfare (CBW) agents that were halted by President Richard Nixon in 1969. Yet, the Pentagon's stated preparations make it appear it is poised to do just that.

Spokesperson Chris Isleib did not respond to a request for comment on a passage from the Defense Department's annual report sent to Congress last April that suggests the Pentagon is gearing up to resume the tests.

Resumption of open-air testing would reverse a long-standing moratorium adopted after a public outcry against them following accidents in the Sixties.

The Pentagon's annual report apparently calls for both the developmental and operational "field testing of (CBW) full systems," not just simulations.

The Pentagon's report to Congress contains the following passage: "More than thirty years have passed since outdoor live-agent chemical tests were banned in the United States and the last outdoor test with live chemical agent was performed, so much of the infrastructure for the field testing of chemical detectors no longer exists or is seriously outdated. The currently budgeted improvements in the T&E (testing and evaluation) infrastructure will greatly enhance both the developmental and operational field testing of full systems, with better simulated representation of threats and characterization of system response."

"Either the military has resumed open-air testing already or they are preparing to do so," said Francis Boyle, a University of Illinois Professor of International Law who authored the implementing legislation for the US Biological Weapons Convention signed into law by President George Bush, Sr. and who has tracked subsequent developments closely.

"I am stunned by the nature of this development," Boyle said. "This is a major reversal of policy." The 1972 treaty against germ warfare, which the US signed, forbids developing weapons that spread disease, such

as anthrax, a pathogen that is regarded by the military as "ideal" for conducting germ warfare.

"The Pentagon is fully prepared to launch biological warfare by means of anthrax," Boyle charged. "All the equipment has been acquired and all the training conducted and most combat-ready members of US armed forces have been given protective equipment and vaccines that allegedly would protect them from that agent."

Open-air testing takes research into deadly agents out of the laboratories in order to study their effectiveness, including their aerial dispersion patterns and whether they actually infect and kill in field trials. Since the anthrax attacks on Congress in October, 2001, the Bush administration has funded a vast biological research expansion at hundreds of private and university laboratories in the US and abroad involving anthrax and other deadly pathogens.

The anthrax attacks killed five people, including two postal workers; injured 17 others; and temporarily shut down the operations of the US Congress, Supreme Court, and other Federal entities.

Although a Federal statute permits the president to authorize open-air testing of CBW agents, Boyle said this "does not solve the compliance problem that it might violate the international Chemical Weapons Convention and the Biological Weapons Convention as well as their related domestic implementing legislation making such violations crimes."

Boyle charged the US is already "in breach" of both conventions and also of US domestic criminal law implementing them. In February, 2003, for example, the US granted itself a patent on an illegal, long-range biological-weapons grenade, evidently for offensive purposes.

Boyle said the development of anthrax for possible offensive purposes is underscored by the government's efforts "to try to stockpile anthrax vaccines and antibiotics for 25-million plus Americans to protect the civilian population in the event there is any 'blowback' from the use of anthrax in biowarfare abroad

by the Pentagon."

"In theory," Boyle added, "you cannot wage biowarfare abroad unless you can protect your civilian population from either retaliation in kind, or blowback, or both." Under Project BioShield, Homeland Security is spending \$5.6 billion to stockpile vaccines and drugs to fight anthrax, smallpox, and other bioterror agents. The project had been marked by delays and operational problems and on December 12th last year Congress passed legislation to pump another \$1 billion into BioShield to fund three years of additional research by the private sector.

Boyle said evidence the US has super-weapons-grade anthrax was demonstrated in the October, 2001, anthrax mail attacks on Senators Thomas Daschle (D-S.D.) and Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) The strain of highly sophisticated anthrax employed has allegedly been traced back to the primary US Army biological warfare campus at Ft. Detrick, Md. The attacks killed five persons and sickened 17 others. A current effort to expand Ft. Detrick has sparked widespread community opposition, according to a report in the Baltimore Sun.

"Obviously, someone working for the United States government has a stockpile of super-weapons grade anthrax that can be used again domestically for the purposes of political terrorism or abroad to wage offensive warfare," Boyle said.

The Associated Press has reported the US Army is replacing its Military Institute of Infectious Diseases at Ft. Detrick "with a new laboratory that would be a component of a biodefense campus operated by several agencies." The Army told AP the laboratory is intended to continue research solely for defense against biological threats.

Undercutting the argument US research is for "defensive" purposes is the fact government scientists have been creating new strains of pathogens for which there is no known cure. Richard Novick, a professor of microbiology at New York University, has stated, "I cannot envision any imaginable justification for changing the antigenicity of

anthrax as a defensive measure." Changing a pathogen's antigenicity means altering its basic structure so that existing vaccines will prove ineffective against it.

Biological warfare involves the use of living organisms for military purposes. Such weapons can be viral, bacterial, and fungal, among other forms, and can be spread over a large geographic terrain by wind, water, insect, animal, or human transmission, according to Jeremy Rifkin, author of "The Biotech Century" (Penguin).

Boyle said the Federal government has been plowing money into upgrading Ft. Detrick, Md., and other CBW facilities where such pathogens are studied, developed, tested, and stored. By some estimates, the US since 2002 has invested some \$43 billion in hundreds of government, commercial, and university laboratories in the US for the study of pathogens that might be used for biological warfare.

According to Rutgers University molecular biologist Richard Ebricht, more than 300 scientific institutions and 12,000 individuals have access to pathogens suitable for biowarfare and terrorism. Ebricht found that the Number of National Institute of Health grants to research infectious diseases with biowarfare potential shot up from 33 in the 1995-2000 period to 497 by 2006. Ebricht has stated the government's tenfold expansion of Biosafety Level-4 laboratories, such as those at Fort Detrick, raises the risk of accidents and the diversion of dangerous organisms. "If a worker in one of these facilities removes a single viral particle or a single cell, which cannot be detected or prevented, that single particle or cell can form the basis of an outbreak."

During the Cold War era, notably in the Fifties and Sixties, various Government agencies engaged in open-air CBW testing on US soil and on naval vessels at sea to study the effects of weaponized pathogens. US cities, including New York, Chicago, and San Francisco, were among the targets and sickness and even a number of deaths were reported as a result.

According to an article titled "Lethal Breeze" by Lee Davidson in the Deseret News of Salt Lake City of June 5, 1994, "In decades of secret chemical arms tests, the Army released into Utah winds more than a half million pounds of deadly nerve agents." Among them, he said, was VX, a pinhead-sized drop of which can be lethal. The tests were conducted at Dugway Proving Ground but Davidson said the evidence suggests "some (agents) may have escaped with the wind."

Pentagon documents obtained by the News listed 1,635 field trials or demonstrations with nerve agents VX, GA and GB between 1951 and 1969, "when the Army discontinued use of actual nerve agents in open-air tests after escaped nerve gas apparently killed 6,000 sheep in Skull Valley," Davidson wrote. The Skull Valley strike also sickened a rancher and members of his family.

Boyle has previously charged the Pentagon with "gearing up to fight and 'win' biological warfare" pursuant to two Bush national strategy directives adopted in 2002 "without public knowledge and review." He contends the Pentagon's Chemical and Biological Defense program was revised in 2003 to implement those directives, endorsing "first-use" strike of chemical and biological weapons in war.

The implementing legislation Boyle wrote that was enacted unanimously by Congress was known as the Biological Weapons Anti-Terrorism Act of 1989. Boyle has written extensively on the subject. Among his published works are "Biowarfare and Terrorism" and "Destroying World Order: US Imperialism in the Middle East Before and After September 11th," both from Clarity Press.

(Sherwood Ross is a free-lance writer and public relations consultant. He was host of a radio talk show in Washington, D.C., reported for the Chicago Daily News and worked as a regular columnist for several wire services. Reach him at sherwoodr1@yahoo.com The Anti-War News Service is operated by Sherwood Ross. Donations and grants to help continue this work appreciated.)

Mobile Labs to Target Iraqis for Death

Robert Parry

US forces in Iraq soon will be equipped with high-tech equipment that will let them process an Iraqi's biometric data in minutes and help American soldiers decide whether they should execute the person or not, according to its inventor.

"A war fighter needs to know one of three things: Do I let him go? Keep him? Or shoot him on the spot?" Pentagon weapons designer Anh Duong told the *Washington Post* for a feature on how this 47-year-old former Vietnamese refugee and mother of four rose to become a top US bomb-maker.

Though Duong is best known for designing high-explosives used to destroy hardened targets, she also supervised the Joint Expeditionary Forensics Facilities project, known as a "lab in a box" for analyzing biometric data, such as iris scans and fingerprints, that have been collected on more than one million Iraqis.

The labs -- collapsible, 20-by-20-foot units each with a generator and a satellite link to a biometric data base in West Virginia -- will let US forces cross-check data in the field against information collected previously that can be used to identify insurgents. These labs are expected to be deployed across Iraq in early 2008.

Duong said the next step will be to shrink the lab to the size of a "backpack" so soldiers who encounter a suspect "could find out within minutes" if he's on a terrorist watch list and should be killed.

Duong justified this biometric-data program as a humanitarian way of singling out "bad guys" for elimination while sparing innocent civilians.

"I don't want My Lai in Iraq," Duong said. "The biggest difficulty in the global war on terror -- just like in Vietnam -- is to know who the bad guys are. How do we make sure we don't kill innocents?"

In Iraq and Afghanistan, US military units already are operating under loose rules of engagement that allow them to kill individuals who are identified as suspected terrorists or who show the slightest evidence of being insurgents. American forces also have rounded up tens of thousands of Iraqi military-age males, or MAMs, for detention.

During a summer 2007 trip to Iraq, Anthony Cordesman, a military analyst at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, was briefed on US plans to expand the number of Iraqis in American detention by the end of 2008.

"The detainees have risen to over 18,000 and are projected to hit 30,000 (by the US command) by the end of the year and 50,000

by the end of 2008," Cordesman wrote in his trip report.

The sweeps have enabled the US military to collect biometric data for future use if and when the Iraqis are released back into the general population.

Test Tube

In effect, the Bush administration is transforming Iraq into a test tube for modern techniques of repression, which already include use of night-vision optics on drone aircraft, heat resonance imaging, and firepower that is both deadly and precise.

The new techniques represent a modernization of tactics used in other counterinsurgencies, such as in Vietnam in the 1960s and in Central America in the 1980s.

In Vietnam, US forces planted sensors along infiltration routes for targeting bombing runs against North Vietnamese troops. In Guatemala, security forces were equipped with early laptop computers for use in identifying suspected subversives who would be dragged off buses and summarily executed.

Now, modern technologies are updating these strategies for the 21st century's "war on terror."

The US news media mostly has reacted to these developments with gee-whiz enthusiasm, like the *Post* story about Duong, which breezily depicts her complicated life as a devoted mom whose personal history as a Vietnamese refugee led her to a career developing sophisticated weapons for the US government.

The *Post* feature article expressed no alarm and no criticism of Duong's comment about shooting Iraqi suspects "on the spot." [Washington Post, Dec. 1, 2007]

Similarly, US newspapers have consigned stories about US troops engaging in extrajudicial killings of suspects mostly to pages deep inside the newspapers or have covered the news sympathetically. While some harsh criticism has fallen on trigger-happy Blackwater "security contractors," US troops have been given largely a free pass.

For instance, no furor arose this fall when the US military, in effect, endorsed claims by members of elite Army sniper units that they have been granted broad discretion in killing any Iraqi who crosses the path of their rifle scopes.

On Nov. 8, a US military jury at Camp Liberty in Iraq acquitted the leader of an Army sniper team in the killings of three Iraqi men south of Baghdad during the early days of the troop "surge" this year.

Staff Sgt. Michael Hensley was found not guilty of murder, though he was convicted of lesser charges that he had planted an AK-47

rifle on one of the dead men and had shown disrespect to a superior officer.

In an e-mail interview with the *New York Times*, Hensley complained that he should not have even faced a court martial because he was following guidance from two superior officers who wanted him to boost the unit's kill count.

"Every last man we killed was a confirmed terrorist," Hensley wrote. "We were praised when bad guys died. We were upbraided when bad guys did not die." [NYT, Nov. 9, 2007]

Asymmetric Warfare

The case of Army sniper Jorge G. Sandoval Jr., who served under Hensley, also revealed a classified program in which the Pentagon's Asymmetric Warfare Group encouraged US military snipers in Iraq to drop "bait" -- such as electrical cords and ammunition -- and then shoot Iraqis who pick up the items, according to evidence in the Sandoval case. [Washington Post, Sept. 24, 2007]

(Like Hensley, Sandoval was acquitted of murder but convicted of a lesser charge, the planting of copper wire on one of the slain Iraqis to make it look as if the dead man were involved in making explosive devices.)

Another case of a targeted killing of a suspected insurgent surfaced at a military court hearing at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, in mid-September. Two US Special Forces soldiers took part in the execution of an Afghani who was suspected of heading an insurgent group.

As described at the hearing, Staffel and Anderson were leading a team of Afghan soldiers when an informant told them where a suspected insurgent leader was hiding. The US-led contingent found a man believed to be Nawab Buntangyar walking outside his compound near the village of Hasan Kheyli.

While the Americans kept their distance out of fear the suspect might be wearing a suicide vest, the man was questioned about his name and the Americans checked his description against a list from the Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force Afghanistan, known as "the kill-or-capture list."

Concluding that the man was insurgent leader Nawab Buntangyar, Staffel gave the order to shoot, and Anderson -- from a distance of about 100 yards away -- fired a bullet through the man's head, killing him instantly.

The soldiers viewed the killing as "a textbook example of a classified mission completed in accordance with the American rules of engagement," the *International Herald Tribune* reported. "The men said such rules allowed them to kill Buntangyar, whom the American military had designated a terrorist cell leader, once they positively identified him." [IHT, Sept. 17, 2007]

CIA Torture Tapes from p.1

This is despite the fact that Ernest May, one of the architects of the Report, admitted in a May 2005 memoir that the Commission "never had full confidence in the interrogation reports as historical sources." One top CIA official throws out an estimate that as much as 90 percent of information gleaned from Mohamed is unreliable.

We learned this week that CIA videotapes of at least some of these supposed interrogations -- tapes which were previously said not to have existed! -- are now said to have been destroyed in 2005. So far the CIA has admitted to destroying hundreds of hours of tapes of Abu Zubaydah and of Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri, also identified as an Al Qaeda leader (captured in 2002, never produced in public).

The CIA claims -- bizarrely -- that this was done to protect the identities of the interrogators (apparently the Agency's 19th-century video technology is incapable of blurring out faces or distorting voices on a tape). The corporate media floated the idea that the motive was to cover up the use of torture, possibly waterboarding. But as the "evidence" from which the official 9/11 fable derives disappears further into a black box, naturally any breathing skeptic must wonder to what extent the tapes, or even the prisoners, existed in the first place. And granting that the tapes existed, was the motive behind their destruction to hide torture, or to hide evidence? Even a defender of the official story like former CIA officer Robert Baer knows this latest twist only adds to the stink of obstruction and fakery in everything the intelligence community says about 9/11.

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