

Like most Americans, we were shocked and saddened by the events of September 11, 2001. To all the victims of terrorism, we extend our deepest sympathy.

In April 2001, we were deeply sorry to learn that our friend Ron Bonds, 48, had passed away from complications following food poisoning. Our sympathies go out to Ron's family, friends and co-workers at IllumiNet Press.

Ron made it a point to advertise IllumiNet's varied book titles with a full page inside cover ad in every issue. We truly appreciated Ron's support over these many years.

Ron Bonds leaves a legacy of opened minds, and the echoes of alternative voices that but for him may have gone unheard.

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conspiracy a matter of generations

“Three hundred men, each of whom knows the other, rule the destiny of the European continent and choose their successors from among their closest advisors.”

— E. Von Rathenau, 1912



he label “conspiracy theorist” is one which our society slaps onto anyone who dares question the possibility that there might be something underhanded taking place at the highest levels of the government, the military, the world financial institutions and, of course, the world’s religions. The belief in a global conspiracy, regardless of the amount of evidence accumulated in its favor, must be stifled in order to maintain a perception of a lawful and orderly society in which people can go to work, mow their lawns and pay their taxes without question.

The current interest in conspiracies might lead many to believe that we are dealing with a phenomenon no older than some forty or fifty years, when in fact our distant ancestors dealt with secret cabals of their own.

by Scott Corrales

Freixedo's Conspiracy Flowchart

Before embarking upon a voyage in quest of the forces who pull the strings from behind the scenes, it would be wise to examine the forces we can actually see and experience in our everyday lives.

In his book *La Granja Humana (The Human Farm)*, Spanish paranormalist Salvador Freixedo plays the role of conspiracy theorist when dealing with "the visible rulers of the world," prior to launching into a disquisition on the world's "invisible" rulers. Freixedo condenses the main points of belief in conspiracy into the following categories:

1. *Politicians.* This category of visible ruler despises physical violence and weaponry, but loves being consulted, loved or even feared. Freixedo suggests that many elected officials have psychopathic personalities and, feeling the lack of something within themselves, find a suitable replacement by being engulfed in crowds of people.

2. *Military.* This segment of the power structure varies in importance from country to country (ranging from countries lacking armies, such as Costa Rica and San Marino, to military dictatorships such as Iraq). Freixedo theorizes that the military was created to defend countries from external threats, but once such threats have vanished the military soon turns upon their own countries in search of internal enemies. In some countries, it is accepted practice for a civilian government to turn the reins of power over to the military when financial, social and political ruin is imminent.

3. *Banks.* Freixedo gives us a taste of the "International Bankers" conspiracy, which is still prevalent in our times. In his opinion, "money maniacs" have less actual power and contribute indirectly to the prevailing tribulations by a fevered urge to increase the amount of money available to them, whether it bankrupts their countries or not. He observes that many politicians have sought safe haven in the banking world to mend their shattered political careers.

4. *Clergy.* Nothing has caused more dissension on earth than religions, observes Freixedo. The clergy maintains its power by gathering masses and conditioning them to follow a specific belief, while at the same time telling them that others not sharing this belief are "the enemy."

These four tiers of the power structure rule the visible world. As if their vast power wasn't enough, we now turn to those other powers who also hold sway over our lives.

On the Way to the Forum

While it is perhaps possible to go farther back into the historic record, the Roman Empire gives us our best example of the fear generated among the average person, and within certain reaches of the government, that conspiracies are afoot.

The historian Suetonius, in his *Lives of the Twelve Caesars*, gives us a surprising parallel to our contemporary belief that Hitler escaped the bunker to live in South America, that JFK is alive and well in Switzerland, and that Elvis never died: A pervasive belief around 70 A.D. was that the emperor Nero, who had allegedly committed suicide, had in fact escaped alive and was a guest of the Parthian monarchy. A clever impostor, indubitably milking the Parthians for all they

had, probably led to this particular belief.

Roman emperors feared any kind of dissension within their far-flung empire, and this gave rise to the belief that the nascent religion of Christianity was a conspiracy to destroy the empire. Bloody persecutions over a period of three hundred years killed thousands of alleged "subversives." Adherents of Judaism didn't escape persecution either, since there was the belief that Jewish scholars, under the protection of the Parthian king, were plotting the overthrow of Rome from a safe distance in retaliation for the destruction of Jerusalem.

Roman authorities were also fearful of individuals with unusual powers and intelligence, such as Apollonius of Tiana, who claimed to have visited a "City of the Gods" in the Himalayas after a long trek from Nineveh in modern Iraq. The story tells that the "Gods" who controlled human activity lived in a world vastly different from our own, were served by automatons and possessed artificial light generated by "luminous stones." Apollonius learned much in this place before returning to Rome, where he became a trusted advisor to emperors Vespasian and Titus. The latter of these monarchs is supposed to have said: "I conquered Jerusalem, but Apollonius of Tyana has conquered me!"

As Roman power waned, beliefs in hidden forces took a turn for the more magical and sorcerous. It was believed that the Huns—whose leader Attila exacted tribute from the weakened empire—were the offspring of demons and the prostitutes in the rearguard of the Visigothic armies.

Medieval Woes

The Middle Ages, a period of European history racked by turmoil and disease, held in a mental straightjacket by the Church and prone to invasions by barbarian peoples, held many beliefs which could be considered conspiracies.

Charlemagne, the most enlightened and energetic monarch of this period, felt that his kingdom was beset by Sylphs—nonhuman creatures whose magical powers affected the weather and caused the loss of crops. Many reams of paper

have been written about the Sylphs and their mythical land of "Magonia" by a number of authors who have linked them to the UFO phenomenon. Most readers of this publication will remember Jacques Vallée's account of St. Agobard rushing to the rescue of three peasants who were about to be lynched by a frightened mob after having been deposited on earth by a "sky-ship" hailing from this eldritch realm. Belief in the Sylphs persisted well into recent times: a Parisian bookseller of the turn of the century claimed to be in contact with a particular Sylph who would find rare volumes for him.

Earlier Medieval beliefs held that inanimate objects were also engaged in a little conspiracy of their own. According to Gregory of Tours, church bells could be seen flying off into the sky, concluding that bells were flying off the belfries to go to Rome, "since the Pope was there." So much for early UFO reports.

The Medieval world was a theocratic state ruled by the Papacy. Simplistic maps showed a flat world composed of three continents and centered in Jerusalem. In later centuries, rumor would have it that a great monarch lived beyond the lands of the marauding Saracens. This was "Prester John," who lived in a realm of amazing wonders and was the most powerful Christian king in the world. If only he could be contacted, argued the chroniclers of the time, he could attack the infidel from the rearguard while brave European knights led charges against the forces of Islam. Belief in Prester John, *rex Armenia et Indae* (King of Armenia and India) had a protean quality: when it had been established that there was no such kingdom in Asia, it was quickly relocated in the popular imagination of the time to Africa, where it would endure well into the Renaissance.

The Knights Templar

In the year 1118, barely two decades after the conquest of Jerusalem by the Crusaders, a French knight named Hugh de Payens approached the patriarch of the

Holy City with an idea: a military order that would live in strict accordance to a religious rule, much like the Benedictines or other monastic groups, but devoted to patrolling the dusty roads of Palestine and protecting the flow of pilgrims and trade. King Baldwin of Jerusalem, who was in desperate need of experienced men-at-arms, also welcomed this idea. One of the greatest downfalls of the Crusader realm was that as soon as the liberation of the holy places had been achieved,

Roman emperors feared any kind of dissension within their far-flung empire, and this gave rise to the belief that the nascent religion of Christianity was a conspiracy to destroy the empire.

the crusading European noblemen often wished to return to their own fiefdoms rather than settling in the newly acquired territories. To this end, the monarch allowed Hugh de Payens to base his fledgling Order on the ruins of the Solomon's Temple, which would give the warrior-monks their name: The Knights of the Temple, better known as the Knights Templar.

The service provided by the Templars was apparently worthwhile. By the year 1127, notable figures in European history, ranging from Bernard of Clairvaux to Pope Honorius II and the Count of Champagne, had thrown their full support behind the Order. Land grants, money, and supplies were heaped upon the knights, who would put them all to the best use possible—supporting their endeavors in the Near East. The land grants, which were numerous, were carefully husbanded and made to yield their maximum. The Templars were quickly on their way to becoming the wealthiest and most formidable fighting force Europe had known since the days of the Roman legions.

Then the accusations began pouring in. Ecclesiastical authorities charged the Templars with heresy and blasphemy. Rumor had it that initiation into the Order called for stamping and spitting upon the Cross, proclaiming: "I renounce Jesus!" The new adept was stripped naked and received kisses upon different parts of his body before being led to the presence of Baphomet. Other chronicles stated that the idol worshipped was a statue of a dog or a cat—perhaps the statue of the Egyptian goddess Bastet, which the Templars had acquired during the Crusader incursions into that country. It was also claimed that the

remains of another effigy, known as the Goat, were confiscated by the Inquisition. In the opinion of author Rollo Ahmed, these tokens were meant to represent the pantheistic concept of the Absolute: "The animal head, usually that of a goat with a torch between the horns, represented the responsibility of matter and the expiation of sin in the body; the human hands of the figure, betokening the sanctity of labor, were pointed above and below to two crescents, the upper white and the lower black, corresponding to good and evil, mercy and justice."

A substantial number of books written in the past hundred years point to the "black legend" surrounding the Templars and their works—a legend centered mainly around a belief that there was a hidden, special group within the Order that ad-

hered to unchristian beliefs, such as satanism, homosexuality, child sacrifice, and other abominations. Less extreme versions declare that the "inner circle" was in charge of forgotten occult lore, and likely candidates were initiated into these "mysteries" when the time was right.

The Templar's seal, depicting two knights riding on the same war charger, which symbolized the Order's vows of poverty and modesty, has been reinterpreted by researcher Juan G. Atienza as a visible manifestation of the Knights Templar's understanding of the Kabbala and Kabbalistic instruction, which stated that "only two men united in meditation over the word of God can create a living being." Gnostic dualism, the understanding of the teachings of Eastern philosophies, would play a crucial role in the Order's development. In a way, the Inquisition had been correct in its assessment of the Templars as heretics: they had embraced Gnostic principles (probably through contact with the Islamic Ophites) and probably denied the divinity of Jesus, while holding him in high esteem as a prophet or avatar.

More importantly, did the Knights Templar find the Ark of the Covenant, then ship it to France for safekeeping once the Crusader Kingdoms in the Near East crumbled before the advance of the Mamelukes? Perhaps they could have saved Indiana Jones a trip to Egypt.

The Ark of the Covenant

A legend closely associated with the Templars has it that Yolande, wife of Baldwin of Jerusalem, was greatly intrigued by these stern-

visaged knights whose headquarters were located over the ruins of Solomon's Temple. Entering their building by stealth, the queen found her way to a crypt, where she watched in amazement as six knights stood in silent meditation around an object that could only have been the Ark.

The available evidence suggests that the Templars' choice of the ruins of Solomon's Temple was far from random, and that excavations began almost immediately in an effort to find something in particular that had been concealed centuries before the inception of the Order. Before dismissing this possibility, it is perhaps worth pointing out that the oft-mentioned "Copper scroll," which forms part of the Dead Sea

Scrolls, describes an assortment of treasures and religious items allegedly interred beneath Solomon's Temple. Could the Templars have been aware of a similar source?

A little history becomes necessary at this point. When the Roman legions of Titus sacked Jerusalem in 70 A.D., they took with them all the treasures of the Temple, including the sacred menorah, a golden table, and other items. These treasures were transported to Carthage after the Vandals sacked Rome, and were later shipped to Constantinople when the Byzantine army of Belisarius put an end to the Vandal kingdom. The superstitious emperor Justinian, fearing that the captured "treasure of the Jews" would spell the ruin of Constantinople, had the treasures sent to Jerusalem in 555 A.D. At this point, the treasure trove vanishes from history, so it is safe to assume that this hoard remained in the City of David and was never taken by the marauding Arabs who conquered Palestine a century later.

It is bold to suggest that the Ark of the



The Seal of the Knights Templar

Covenant was part of this lost treasure, but the great secrecy surrounding the Templars at this point suggests that the magnitude of their findings inspired awe within the Order itself. The enigmatic “find” was sent back to Europe, possibly to the vicinity of Rennes-le-Chateau, which was ringed with Templar fortifications and concealed in a chamber hidden beneath the hill, upon which stood Castle Hautpoul and the surrounding village.

Was this the mystery at the heart of the Templar riddle? Did the Order possess knowledge that the Ark was lost somewhere in the catacombs of the ruined temple, over which the Al-Aqsa Mosque had been built? Initiation into this secret would surely be as awesome and terrible as even the Templars themselves hinted, and knowledge of the custody of this holy and perhaps nonhuman item would have constituted a powerful source of élan, aside from other “powers” that may have been derived from it. This legend is connected to a host of others which have been handed down to our time.

Rennes-le-Chateau

According to Michael Baigent and Richard Leigh, authors of *Holy Blood, Holy Grail* and *The Messianic Legacy*, the Knights Templar merely constituted the physical arm of a larger order that remained secret, and which went by a number of other names, including the “Priory of Sion.” This line of speculation and serious research opens the door to one of the most perplexing mysteries of our time—the enigma of the small French town of Rennes-le-Chateau, the nexus for a series of interlocking mysteries which have never been solved even after intensive research by American and European researchers. One of these, Lionel Fanthorpe, expressed this sentiment when he stated that investigating Rennes was comparable to the peeling of an onion, except that the researcher is within the onion, working from a smaller layer to a larger one.

Fanthorpe states that the sleepy village has earned a reputation as a repository of arcane knowledge and mystical treasures, such as the Emerald Tablets of Hermes Trismegistus, alchemical treatises, the lost treasure of the Cathar sect, which was brutally annihilated in the mid-1200’s during a papal crusade, and other rare and

mystical periapts. History tells us that while the Templars did not occupy the castle at Rennes, they surrounded the area with other massive fortifications, and it can be logically concluded that Rennes was part of their holdings. Centuries later, Bernard Sauniere, the parish priest, made a discovery at Rennes which made him wealthy. Could he have found the resting place of the Ark of the Covenant? Was he richly rewarded by an unknown, interested party, perhaps even the Catholic Church? An unsubstantiated and uninvestigated rumor has it that the Ark’s final resting place is in the Vatican.

Authors Baigent and Leigh’s suggestion of the “Priory of Sion,” followed up with brilliant detective work, proves that this secretive, politically active European association inherited the Templar legacy, perhaps even exact knowledge of the resting place of the Lost Ark. In 1979, during an interview with Pierre Plantard de St.Clair, putative “grand master” of the Priory, the researchers were told that the treasures taken from Jerusalem would be returned to the Israeli government “when the time was right.”

**Templar leader
Jacques DeMolay
was burned at the
stake by the
Catholic Church.**



A Cabal of Scientists?

Narciso Genovese, an Italian scientist living in Mexico, was interviewed in the 1970's by Professor Mario Rojas of the CEI with regard to a perplexing conspiracy—is our world run by a conspiracy of scientists?

According to Genovese, a council of ninety-eight scientists from all nations and all branches of scientific knowledge—physics, chemistry, mathematics, astronomy and electronics—have pursued research into hidden avenues of knowledge, under the supreme commandment of never revealing a single iota of this knowledge to any of the world's governments. The "Council of the 98," to give it a name, has a doctrine based on three main points:

- ◆ There is only one religion: the belief in a wise, omnipotent God.
- ◆ There is only one country: the planet Earth.
- ◆ There is a single purpose: to bring forth peace through science on our world and create an alliance between humans and the inhabitants of other worlds in the universe.

Genovese's startling "scientocracy" was allegedly established in 1938, shortly after the death of Guglielmo Marconi, who refused to turn over his notes and discoveries to Italian dictator Benito Mussolini. Inspired by this courageous act, the "Council of the 98" has pursued its secretive work in the hopes of establishing a one-world government aided by secret technological developments. Yet, perhaps this scientific conspiracy is much older than we think...

The Immortal Alchemists

The alchemists, those protoscientists whose quest for knowledge was coupled with a profound esoteric philosophy, have captured the imagination of writers for the past two centuries. Traditionally, we have been told that alchemists sought to transmute base elements such as lead into noble elements like gold. Many authors contend that this goal merely served the alchemists to receive funding from greedy feudal lords hoping to replenish their cash-starved estates. Some chronicles even tell us that small amounts of lead were turned into gold just to keep impatient patrons happy, but that the real quest of the alchemists was immortality.

This has led many conspiracy theorists to suggest that perhaps some of the alchemists were successful in this endeavor, and that human history may perhaps be controlled by a hidden council of alchemists who appear to us at critical moments to change the course of human history.

While the idea is laughable at first blush, our history books are certainly filled with enough strange encounters between important personages and unknown characters to add considerable weight to the argument. The most prevalent of these enigmatic characters is the Count of St. Germain, who has been described as everything from an angel or "ascended master" to a time traveler or even a vampire. The legend of St. Germain has him appearing in the mid-1700's in the Austrian capital, Vienna, and at subsequent moments in that century right through Napoleonic times, never looking a day older.

During his last recorded apparition, the Count told an onlooker that he was leaving to prepare the way for an invention that we would come to know as the railroad. While many authors have dismissed this personage as merely another 18th century adventurer, like Alessandro Cagliostro, many have been convinced that St. Germain was in fact an immortal alchemist. Other strange characters, like the "Red Man" who persistently appeared to Napoleon Bonaparte at moments in his life, could also be members of this bizarre "Order of Immortals."

The closest evidence we have in our times for this fascinating belief is yet another controversy—the one surrounding the legendary alchemist Fulcanelli and his two 20th century disciples, Eugene Canseliet and Jean Julien Champagne.

Fulcanelli is the only alchemist to have books in print to the present day: *The Mystery of the Cathedrals* and *The Philosopher's Dwellings*. The first book was published in 1926 in Paris and the second in 1930. In the preface to the work, Canseliet observes that, "it is a thankless and onerous task for a student to write a preface for a book written by a master [...] it is thanks to him that the Gothic cathedrals have yielded their mystery ... All the truth, all philosophy and all religion rests upon this unique, sacred stone. Many, filled with presumption, feel qualified to imitate it, yet how few are the Chosen whose modesty, wisdom and skill enables them to do so!"

The two books were the rage of pre-war French occultist circles, who believed that acquisition of the "Philosopher's Stone"—the Holy Grail of alchemy—was close at hand. Yet many occultists refused to believe that Fulcanelli ever existed, and Canseliet himself declared that Fulcanelli had "ceased to be," suggesting that the alchemist had not only uncovered the Philosopher's Stone but acquired immortality as a result.

Fulcanelli was allegedly seen in 1954, living in Milan. Others saw him in Spain, where he stayed near the Andalusian city of Seville. Gérard Heym, another alchemist, claims that Fulcanelli's physical appearance as an immortal was entirely androgynous—one of the side effects of having ingested the Elixir of Immortality.

The Black Order

The belief in "hidden manipulators" of the reality surrounding us continues unabated, and new conspiracies join the ranks of older established ones every few years.

In 1982, a strange little book appeared in French bookstores entitled *The Book of Secret Companions: The*

Secret Teachings of General De Gaulle. Authored by Martin Couderc, it revealed the existence of a secret society known as the "Order of the 45," which was reputedly established by soldier/statesman Charles De Gaulle. A sequel appeared some time later, dealing with revelations about the author's struggle in Canada against the group of hidden controllers now calling itself the Black Order. According to Couderc, the Black Order had relocated to remote Tierra del Fuego, on the southernmost tip of South America.

While it is tempting to dismiss these tracts as nonsense, Couderc bases his "forbidden" knowledge on a series of letters left behind by De Gaulle himself, which exhorted members of the "Order of the 45" to fight for the restoration of France's greatness. This effort is associated with the coming of power of a "great king" prophesied by Nostradamus in his *Centuries*. The Black Order seeks to create a one-world government (another conspiracy chestnut) by instating this "great king" by means involving ritual magic and hidden technology.

Other sects, secret societies and lodges have emerged in recent times. Some of them are decidedly religious in nature and involve only the top leaders of certain countries. To wit, the little-known Order of the Holy Sepulchre, created during Crusader times but still active, is run by Italy's Prince Lanchelotti and Count Senni, who occupy, respectively, the posts of Grand Master and Governor General of the Order. The "knights" of the Order are financiers, industrialists and political figures from all over Western Europe, sworn to defend Catholicism throughout the world. It is believed that the Order of the Holy Sepulchre has some two thousand members worldwide.

The Secret City of Damanhur

Some secret societies are not quite so public and will go to great lengths to protect their anonymity, as was the case with the nameless group of Italian esotericists who created the amazing subterranean community of Damanhur.

Bruno Tinti, district attorney of the northern Italian city of Ivrea, scoffed initially at reports of a lost and magical city in the Piedmont foothills. In a country racked by extremist terrorism, Tinti took no chances: he promptly dispatched a regiment of *Carabinieri*, who would later confirm the city's existence. Not far from the town of Baldissero Canavese, near the city of Turin, a secret entrance leads to the 30-meter depth where the occult community of Damanhur thrives.

Tucked away in a seemingly endless maze of temples, labyrinths and meeting halls, decorated with Egyptian and esoteric symbols, Daman-

The Order of the Holy Sepulchre is run by Italy's Prince Lanchelotti and Count Senni... The "knights" of the Order are financiers, industrialists and political figures from all over Western Europe.

hur boasts inordinate wealth: the floors and walls of its chambers are covered in marble, gold, mosaics and mirrors worthy of the grandest European palaces.

Founded in 1975 by Oberto Airuldi, the activities which led to the creation of the subterranean city of Damanhur were financed by the 300 members of Damanhur's "Council of Elders"—captains of industry and commerce whose activities net them a combined income of over \$8 million dollars a year. Damanhur is a fully independent state, with its own government, constitution and minted coinage. Although its inhabitants resented the intrusion of the police authorities, the residents of the subterranean city of Damanhur are reportedly secretly pleased that word of their hidden city has reached the outside world.♦

©2001 Scott Corrales. First Serial Rights to *Paranoia: The Conspiracy Reader*. Scott Corrales is a writer and translator of UFO and paranormal subjects in Latin America and Spain. His work has appeared in magazines in the U.S., U.K., Japan, Spain and Italy. Corrales is also the author of *Chupacabras and Other Mysteries* (Greenleaf, 1997), *Flashpoint: High Strangeness in Puerto Rico* (Amarna, 1998) and *Forbidden Mexico* (1999). He lives in Pennsylvania, where he edits *Inexplicata: The Journal of Hispanic Ufology*. He may be reached by email at lornis1@juno.com

Richard Nixon *and* Conspiracy *in the* Kent State Shootings

In the midst of the Vietnam conflict, President Richard Nixon appeared on national television on April 30, 1970 to announce the expansion of the Vietnam War by an invasion into Cambodia. On May 4, 1970, the Ohio National Guard opened fire on unarmed students at Kent State University who were protesting the presence of the National Guard on their campus. The shootings left four dead and nine wounded. This tragedy, now known as 'Kent State,' is no more than a blip on the screen of our collective memory; an event so fleeting it no longer seems to matter. Yet the political and psychological agendas it exposed are still with us and are relevant today.



by Katie Klemenich

'Kent State' was a public execution and a secret ceremony in the sense that its deeper meaning lie hidden to most observers. 'Kent State' did not happen in a vacuum—it was part of a series of events planned around certain days to elicit certain responses and reactions. Those who remember the events of May 1970 and who were against the war in Vietnam are quick to blame Nixon for the shootings; indeed, his abuses at Watergate and efforts to cover up earlier abuses are cited as evidence that he was responsible. If we delve deeper into the facts of 'Kent State' as well as Nixon's background, what will we find?

Sacrificed as an Example

Nixon said when he was elected President in 1968 that he had a secret plan to end the war in Vietnam. He also may have had a secret plan to end the rioting taking place on college campuses nationwide.

The popular and oft repeated words used to describe what happened that spring day at Kent State University are that, "It was a tragic accident." This article will show that Kent State wasn't an accident at all. Four young people were killed as in a sacrifice of war at Kent State that day—two protesters and two passersby: Allison Krause, Jeffery Miller, Sandra Scheuer and William Schroeder. Why were they sacrificed?

The shootings provided a solution to the anti-war protests, sometimes violent, that were rocking the nation's campuses and confounding the Nixon Administration's efforts to cope with them. The ultimate goal of the Kent State shootings was to safeguard the expanding Vietnam War—another kind of sacrifice—and its accompanying commercial interests.

Having student protesters shot publicly served an ancient sacrificial purpose—bloodletting must accompany 'magical' solutions. The seeking of magical ritual solutions is a typical group fantasy pursued by leaders, sometimes timed to coincide with important satanic festivals, or even astrologically timed, as Ronald Reagan did when he employed psychics. Psycho historian Daniel Dervin writes in his book *Enactments: American Models and Psychohistorical Models*: "[The] group fantasy delegate becomes embroiled in sacrificial agendas as the hunt for magical solutions is turned up." The 'magical' solution that was chosen to end student unrest and violent protest on the nation's college campuses was the ritualized killing of some students to set an example for the rest of the nation.

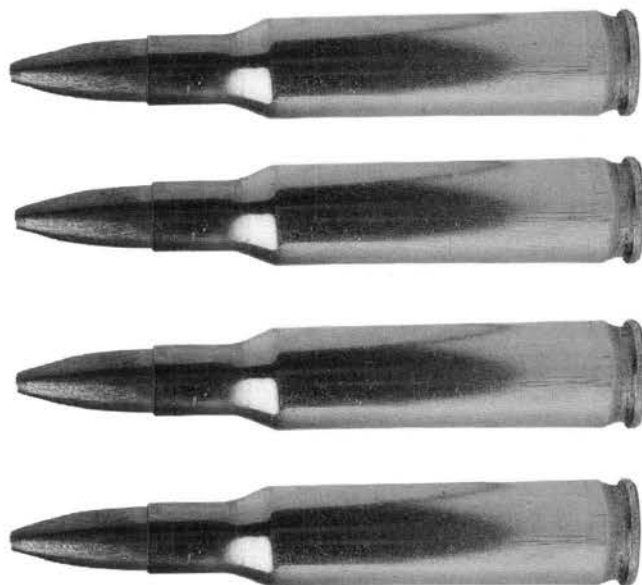
New Haven's Near Miss

Nixon was bombing Cambodia for months before he announced it on national TV on April 30, 1970—a carefully staged manipulation planned to coincide with the demonstrations against the Black Panther trials in New Haven, Connecticut. According to Edwin Hoyt in *The Nixons: An American Family*, what happened at Kent State was purportedly originally to have occurred in New Haven, Connecticut, a hotbed of radical activity and a natural choice considering Nixon's disdain for his enemy, the 'Eastern establishment,' which had rejected him for law school and failed to hire him as a lawyer after graduation. Former New Haven Police Chief James Ahern writes in *Police in Trouble*, "Nixon... knew he would be announcing the invasion of Cambodia at the very time that thousands of radicals were converging on New Haven ... his advisors fully expected this combination of events to explode into 'war' in New Haven."

Had Nixon's original plan succeeded, protesters in New Haven would have been killed by gunfire on May 1, 1970. Ahern continues, "We may wonder whether there are forces moving behind history that make certain events necessary ... we may wonder whether it was inevitable that sometime in the spring of 1970 ... the surging of the student protest movement would finally be halted by a hail of bullets." What kind of plans did the Nixon Administration have for New Haven?

The President had a strike force of 3,500 infantry and paratroopers that would serve as a threat and a provocation to the demonstrators gathered on New Haven's famous patch of green.

The ultimate goal of the Kent State shootings was to safeguard the expanding Vietnam War—another kind of sacrifice—and its accompanying commercial interests.



In Washington, Pentagon civilian officials studied blow-up maps of the streets of New Haven. Intelligence pinpointed the whereabouts of high profile radicals like Bobby Seale. According to Ahern, "there was a persistent rumor among radicals that the government had hatched a grand plot to trap every extreme leftist in the country on the New Haven Green and 'mow them down.'"

William Ruckelshaus of the Nixon strike force and Assistant Attorney General, who was present in New Haven at the time, said in an interview, "We hoped the situation would explode ... Cambodia added fuel to the fire." "Nixon and Agnew wanted to have one University blow, so the country would turn against the Universities... and they wanted it to be Yale," according to Republican Yale alumni in Washington. There was a bombing that May Day weekend at Yale's Ingall's skating rink that almost killed hundreds of people. Police Chief Ahern was sure the Nixon administration had something to do with it.

Hillary Rodham, future first lady and Yale law student, was out on the New Haven Green during those tense days, coordinating marshals and helping the demonstrators avoid being gassed. If Nixon and the establishment's original plan had succeeded, Hillary Rodham, by a simple twist of fate, could have been cut down in the prime of her life by the sadistically aimed shots that claimed the lives of her fellows just a few days later. Due to the noble leadership of Police Chief James Ahern and Connecticut Governor Dempsey, the strike force, the need for which was fueled by wild rumors and innuendo from the White House, was called off 36 hours before May Day, May 1st.

Violators at Kent State

Survivors of extreme abuse describe three main elements: the spell, the rite, and the condition of the performer, according to psycho-historical writer Gail Carr Feldman. The "spell" includes incantations or chanting, using special words in a prescribed way. At Kent State, the spell was the chanting of cadence by the National Guard. The "rite" means practicing the magic in a formal and defined ritual situation. At Kent State the rite was the riot control maneuvers of the National Guard, which included the use of tear gas and marching. The "condition of the performer" involves purification rites and taboos in order to invest the ceremony with sanctity and holiness, including bloodletting in a ritual sacrifice. At Kent State the condition of the performer was effected by the killing of four students in front of onlookers, recorded and displayed publicly by the world media.

"Throughout history, adults have used masks, corpses, and public executions to terrorize children, deter them, and keep them in line," says *Journal of Psychohistory* editor Lloyd de Mause. The events of May 1-4 1970 in Kent, Ohio share common features with ritual abuse: The street rioting and bonfires by students and agent provocateurs in downtown Kent; the burning ROTC building; the otherworldly (monster-looking) gas masks worn by National Guardsmen; the photographed sneak attack on unsuspecting students and multiple simultaneous perpetrators—young or less powerful victims; the ritualistic marching in circles by National Guardsmen after the killing; the code of silence by the guardsmen; the use of rumor, innuendo and slander to fan the flames of hate; and the blame and vilification of the victims, as reported by James Michener.

Nixon may have found an all-too-willing accomplice to realize his villainous deed in the person of Governor James Rhodes of Ohio. Rhodes, who according to *Life* magazine (2 May, 1969) had connections to

organized crime and the Mafia, was almost chosen as Nixon's running mate in 1968. Rhodes had "a history of doing dirty work for Nixon," according to Hal Dorland, Washington insider and former member of the Committee to Investigate Assassinations. Governor Rhodes gave an inflammatory, hate-filled press conference at Kent the day after the burning of ROTC (3 May 1970), one day before the shootings, when he prophesied that the National Guard would "eradicate" and "get rid" of the bad elements on the campus, using "every weapon possible" against those he referred to as "worse than the brown shirts, night riders and vigilantes." (Yale Archives)

Seabury Ford, chairman of the Republican Party in Portage County, Ohio (coincidentally an ex-member of Company G, the guard unit who did the firing), declared that the National Guard "should have shot all troublemakers." According to I.F. Stone in *The Killings at Kent State*, on May 7, 1970, shortly after the killings, Nixon's closest aide H.R. Haldeman wrote: "We're in a war now. When people don't shape up they've got to go. Our people have no fear—someone must be made an example ... even Kent State showed people are fed [up] to the teeth with rioting kids."

Nixon Acts Out His Rage

Young Richard Nixon was often the victim of his father Frank's hot temper. On one occasion Frank [Nixon] took offense at the actions of a crowd and threatened to "paste" [kill] somebody. (Hoyt) When Nixon referred to the 'great silent majority' in his speech on November 3, 1969, according to Nixon biographer Herbert Parmet, he was referring to his status in his own childhood home, where he was not allowed to express his feelings and was thus regulated to the status of a non-person. Hannah Nixon, Richard's mother, considered the very expression of strong emotions to be illegitimate. "She would retreat into a closet to pray. [Nixon] was scared stiff to talk about the past because it ran against the Quaker religion," reports Dr. Hutschnecker, Nixon's

psychiatrist.

The support Nixon claimed he received from the 'silent majority' was in itself a fabrication and a lie. Alexander Butterfield, who first revealed the existence of the White House taping system, recently testified that the thousands of telegrams and phone calls to the Nixon White House said to have been received from the 'silent majority' in support of the Vietnam War was another lie. Nixon's so-called silent majority remained silent, until they were able to symbolically act out their feelings by supporting the Kent State shootings. So Nixon unleashed his rage on the 'bums'—student protesters—just as his father had unleashed his anger at him and his brothers in a passive-aggressive way. Just as he encouraged America in his Inaugural speech to "lower our voices," the violent silent majority, themselves children of violent homes, acted in conscious and unconscious collusion and approval to the shootings.

Nixon may have identified with the young people he referred to as 'bums'—for that is what his father used to call him and his brothers when in a rage, explains Nixon biographer Dr. David Abrahamsen. "Nixon's constant preoccupation with subversives was really a striving towards discovering his own unconscious mind with its subversive, anti-social and criminal tendencies," writes Abrahamsen. Nixon's father, Frank Nixon, writes Jonathon Aitken, was like the student protesters Nixon hated so much—a noisy, anti-establishment agitator, a "rabble-rouser" and union organizer in Columbus, Ohio.

Nixon may have associated the protesters with his father and acted out his rage upon the projected targets. As Aitken writes, "The destruction of these enemies was an effort to destroy the enemy deep within himself." For Nixon, the domestic political enemies were a personification of the 'enemy within'—i.e. himself. Jeb Magruder

of Nixon's staff said that the administration's willingness to engage in illegal acts was directly related to the illegal actions of radicals and anti-war demonstrators, with whom Nixon secretly identified. Nixon attached himself to the ways he learned at home: the use of terror and intimidation to control others. The culmination of these actions led Nixon to Watergate and his demise as President.

According to Nixon biographer Fawn Brodie, the basic emotional issues that run through Nixon's life are the impact of death, the delight in punishment, the failure to love, and the theme of fratricide. Nixon did not want the United States to be a "helpless, pitiful giant," as he stated in his Cambodia invasion speech of April 30, 1970. Nixon also did not want to be a helpless giant, personally, in relation to the anti-war protesters. Nixon's famous two-handed 'V' sign purportedly meant not 'peace' but the earlier WWII connotation, victory over enemies. This time the enemies were in his own country: the Vietnam war protesters.

Nixon's Cambodia invasion speech is riddled with "I" statements, and with the repeated use of the words "humiliation" and "defeat"—revealing that the invasion of Cambodia was as much about his own personal issues as it was about foreign policy. "Nixon's announcement of the Cambodian invasion was not only intended to create the outrage that it did on the nation's campuses, it was intended to create a violent confrontation with the anti-war movement," claims Thomas Lough, former faculty member at Kent State. Nixon might have eliminated all bellicosity from the Cambodia speech and stuck to a straightforward low-key description of the operation. Instead, he made it seem like a decision equivalent to Caesar's crossing the Rubicon.

What did Nixon expect would be the outcome of his announcement? According to Lough, Nixon stated on April 29, 1970, "The campuses are really going to blow after this speech"; and he requested his daughter Julie

The evidence points to the government as provocateur and arsonist in the burning of the ROTC building at Kent State ... FBI agents with two-way radios were seen and heard saying, "The kids are having a hard time getting the shack on fire."

to come home from college. The expected result—chaos and alarm—was played out at Kent State and around the country as young people poured into the streets to register their protest at the invasion.

On May 1, 1970, after a briefing at the Pentagon the morning after his Cambodia invasion speech, Nixon lashed out at the “bums” who were “blowing up campuses and burning books.” “The screaming and loud demonstrating of the protesters triggered his pent-up rage at a father who shouted so loud at his sons that he could be heard throughout the whole neighborhood,” writes Brodie. Brodie writes that Nixon’s father punished his sons savagely, in the heat of ill temper. “The son when grown, punished too, but coldly, calculatingly, often secretly, and always ... through the agency of someone else.”

“You had to be pretty sneaky to avoid punishment,” said Nixon of himself as a child. The loud yelling of student protesters may have triggered Nixon’s rage at a father who screamed at him and his brothers, making him feel defeated, humiliated, and silenced. When asked by the press shortly after the Kent State shootings how best to open up meaningful communication with the college-age generation, Nixon replied, “It is not easy. Sometimes they, as you know, talk so loudly that it is difficult to be heard...”

The Orthogonian Society

Nixon’s propensity for strange and illegal activities is shown in his behavior at college. At Whittier College in 1929, Nixon founded an alternative men’s society called the Orthogonian Society, along with Dr. Albert Upton. The Orthogonians, or ‘straight shooters’ as they were known, had as their mascot a wild boar—favorite hunting game of the British. College fraternity initiation rites also included shackled hands and blindfolded victims being subjected to extreme deprivation and fear—common torture tactics done in the name of fun. According to Haldeman, young Nixon created the initiation ceremony, which involved digging up the corpse of a dead boar and eating its raw meat on the spot.

Also found in Nixon’s past are the illegal acts of burglary and wiretapping. According to Brodie, in June 1936, Nixon joined in a break-in of the Dean’s office at Duke University to take a look at the grades.

Government as Agitator and Arsonist

There was a gap of 24 hours between calling off the strike force in New Haven and calling the National Guard to Kent State, the second of three fallback positions pinpointed. That was enough time for Ohio to ready for action. “Kent State was chosen as the site on very short notice ... this would mean that an FBI man would have been flown up to Kent State just before the shooting,” says Hal Dorland. The evidence points to the government as provocateur and arsonist in the burning of the ROTC building at Kent State University on May 2, 1970.

On the evening of May 1, rioting ensued in the town of Kent and the National Guard was called. This riot may have been aided in part by government provocateurs—some of those arrested either worked for the FBI and police, or subsequently identified others who were later arrested. One student who incited to riot from the rooftop of a house on Main Street was the son of a policeman. According to William Gordon in *Four Dead in Ohio*, there were at least two people

involved in the rioting known to have worked for the government, one of whose name was the same as the President of the United States: Richard Nixon.

The National Guard was called Friday, May 1st, onto the Kent State campus due to the rioting in downtown Kent Friday night; yet, the burning of the ROTC building on campus Saturday, May 2nd is given as the official reason the National Guard was called. To complete the scenario, the ROTC building needed to burn.

On May 1, 1970, Nixon made his famous reference to student protesters as ‘bums and arsonists’ at a Pentagon briefing. His complaint became a prophecy fulfilled; the ROTC building at Kent State burned down the next day. “There had to be Pentagon approval for the government to burn its own [ROTC] building,” says Richard Jaworski, former high school teacher of slain student Allison Krause. Jaworski surmises that burning the ROTC was one of the topics at that Pentagon meeting, and that was why the topic of arson was on Nixon’s mind. He was telling the public that those who burn buildings are bums, and he was building his case against the ‘bums’ in case any were shot.

On the Kent State campus on Saturday, May 2, various persons tried to set the ROTC shack on fire but were unable to do so. “Someone said they tried to light the curtains on fire with a ‘Zippo’ lighter,” says Ruth Gibson, a campus radical who was at the scene. “It didn’t work.” According to Charles Thomas in *Kent Four*, FBI agents with two-way radios were seen and heard in the darkness saying, “The kids are having a hard time getting the shack on fire.” Kent State campus police finally drove the protesters away and surrounded the building. After protester Ruth Gibson and others fled to the other side of campus, they were shocked to see the ROTC building engulfed in flames in the distance. According to witnesses, it was a professional-looking job with flames shooting up through the middle of the building.

The burning of the ROTC building at Kent State remains an official enigma; no one was ever convicted for its destruction. Students reported seeing many new faces on campus that day; people who looked

like students asking for directions to various dormitories. The appearance of unknown people, 'outside agitators,' on the campus that day lends credence to the theory that the agitators were government provocateurs who had entered the campus to help riot and ensure the ROTC building would burn.

Storm Troopers of the Right

By Friday, May 8, 1970, the country seemed to be on the verge of a civil war. The student movement, inflamed by the slayings at Kent State, went on its last rampage; demonstrations occurred at half of all colleges and universities in the country, twenty-six of which were marked by brutal clashes between students and police. Julie Nixon, unable to empathize with her peers, and perhaps planning her own consolidation of power, predicted on May 4, 1970 that because of the student rebellion the "right wing will take over." (National Archives) "Julie [Nixon] was totally devoted to her father, she was like a boy—a cold fish," according to Dr. Hutschnecker.

Julie's eerie prophecy was fulfilled when Nixon's own 'storm troopers of the New Order,' the construction workers—came out to do his bidding. May 8, 1970 in New York City has been compared to Germany's 'Night of the Broken Glass' in 1933, when Hitler's storm troopers attacked the Jews. The "hard-hats" surged onto Broadway Avenue in Manhattan and attacked anyone who looked "subversive" to them. (*Newsweek*, 25 May 1970) The "hard-hats" disrupted city-sponsored memorial activities for the four students killed by the National Guard at Kent State. Seventy persons were clubbed, punched, and beaten. An elderly woman shouted at a hard-hat to stop attacking someone. She was knocked to

the ground and spat on by a hard-hat. Police looked the other way.

Nixon, photographed wearing a hard hat, congratulated the organizer of the riot, William Brennan, inviting him and other 'hard hats' to the White House on May 26, 1970 for their "very successful parade" in New York, which Nixon said had been "for the country." (National Archives: The Nixon Papers)

The Loss of a Sanctuary

The phrase "denial to the enemy of access to a sanctuary" was one of Nixon's key stated goals in Cambodia. According to Frank Mankiewicz in *Perfectly Clear*, "Denial of access to a sanctuary" came to mean not only enemy strongholds of soldiers, but came to include destroying homes of civilians. The goal of clearing out *all the sanctuaries* also came to mean for Nixon destroying the concept of the university campus as a sanctuary. College campuses had previously been considered off limits to a state agency such as the National Guard,



The Tear Gas Explodes. Photo Courtesy Kent State University Libraries, Department of Special Collections and Archives.

and especially off-limits as regards shooting weapons at civilians.

The recurring theme of denying sanctuary was repeated in a press conference given by Ohio Governor James Rhodes in Kent, Ohio on May 3, 1970, the day before the shootings. "There is no place, there is *no sanctuary*, no place off limits ... it is overwith in the State of Ohio." In comparison, in the White House's Summary of the President's Report on Cambodia, one result of the Cambodian bombing operation was that: "...we have destroyed the psychological security of his sanctuaries forever; we have damaged his armies and destroyed his plans—and we have not a damn thing to apologize for."

Speaking of his planned raid on Cambodia, Nixon asked of his advisors, "Could we take out *all* the sanctuaries?" In his *Memoirs*, Nixon wrote, "Knock them all out so that they can't be used against us again. *Ever.*" The Cambodia invasion was termed 'Operation Total Victory' [emphasis added] by H.R. Haldeman, Nixon's closest aid. Haldeman wrote in his diary on May 3, 1970, the day before the Kent State shootings, indicating it was not just Cambodia on his mind but student protesters, "We've created division—drawn the sword, don't take it out—grind it hard...We *have* to go on [the] offensive against peaceniks." (National Archives)

The loss of a sanctuary was a familiar theme in Nixon's childhood, because he never felt safety or approval in his own family. "He begged for approval from his mother," states Dr. Hutschnecker, but he never got it. The reason Nixon came off so poorly on television was that the 'eye' of the camera represented, to him, the disapproving eye of his mother. After appearing on TV, his mother would tell him he did a "terrible job." Nixon grew up so deprived of love that he found displays of affection foreign and nauseating. He wrote of his mother, Hannah Nixon, "She never indulged in the present-day custom, which I find nauseating, of hugging and kissing her children or others for whom she had affection ... she could communicate far more than others could with a lot of sloppy talk and even more sloppy kissing and hugging. I can never remember her saying to any of us, 'I love you'—she didn't have to!"

As Chrystine Oksana writes in the ritual abuse recovery book, *Safe Passage to Healing*, "Violator's need for power may be insatiable. It likely stems from unmet emotional needs for security, which were denied them in childhood, probably by their own families.... Rage and hate are discharged through violence, sadistic attacks on a victim ... killings of animals, children, or adults."

When he was six or seven years old, young Richard was caught swimming in the irrigation ditch near his home, which his father had forbidden. As Brodie writes, Frank Nixon hurled Richard in the water again and again shouting "Do you like water? Have some more of it!" Nixon may well have thought his father was trying to drown him.

The onset of multiple personality disorder is between birth and eight years old and is the result of the prolonged stress of having one's life threatened. The use of near drowning has been used as a tactic for creating multiple personalities. Nixon's mother was not much help in protecting him. When in a rage, Frank Nixon would wield butcher's knives and cleavers, and even a gun. Hannah

Nixon would say to her husband Frank, "It's all right to use that to scare somebody with, but don't fire it at anybody."

Ohio Governor Rhodes went on to threaten more losses of sanctuaries. After the shootings of May 4, 1970, he went on the radio declaring that if there was any further trouble at Kent State, he would close down the University and turn the grounds into a mental institution. Yet the government took refuge behind the sanctuary of 'law and order,' and blamed the students for their own deaths.

Sexualized Rage of the Haters

Middle America both despised and envied the sexual freedom enjoyed by the young; proclivities they also practiced, but secretly and hypocritically. "The students ... have no one but themselves to blame for the tragedy of May 4th ... We, the people of Ohio saw with our own eyes, on television, the hordes of filthy hippies throwing rocks and shouting obscenities at the National Guardsmen ... we saw the stinking long-haired freaks bashing in downtown store windows and destroying the property of others," wrote an anonymous writer to the parents of a slain student signed only: "The People of Ohio." (Yale Archives, Kent State Collection) The hater's repressed sexuality is projected onto the "dirty" hippies, thus sexualizing the trauma reenactment. "They ought to be horse-whipped," was a common reaction in Kent, Ohio, especially of the women, to the lifestyle of the students.

Dr. Ronald Roskens, Vice President for Administration at Kent State University 1969-1970, served the Nixon Administration's propagandist purposes by appearing on television talk shows at the behest of John Ehrlichman and Jeb Magruder, members of Nixon's inner circle. (National Archives) Kent State University was aptly rewarded for its complicity in the shootings in the Fall of 1970 by receiving a \$20,000 federal justice study grant for a new law-enforcement center, and since 1970 many more foundation stones have been laid. Ron Roskens was later rewarded by the Republican Bush Administration by being appointed to head the Agency for International Development, a cover for CIA activities. Roskens received this post after having been fired as Chancellor of the University of Nebraska for inviting young men to his state home for alleged sexual purposes. On his board of "chancellor's advisory committee" was the infamous Larry King—tied to a child abuse,

Satanism, and ritual abuse cult that involved the upper echelon of Nebraskan society, according to former state Senator John W. DeCamp in his book *The Franklin Cover-up*.

Sex was the main topic on J. Edgar Hoover's mind when he met with top-ranking officials of the Justice Department to discuss a federal probe of the shootings at Kent State. "At its end, Hoover took over and talked about only one topic: his belief that one of the coeds had been sexually promiscuous." Hoover's own sexuality, which included sex with young males and secret transvestitism, was hidden to the outside world at the time.

Evidence of sexual abuse existed in the home Richard Nixon grew up in: Nixon's parents tried to raise his younger brother Arthur as a girl. They dressed him as a girl and gave him a girl's haircut. Cross-dressing a child or verbally denigrating a child's gender is 'gender attack'—a form of sexual abuse, according to sexual abuse author Wendy Maltz. Witnessing such abuse in the home would have made Nixon unsure of his masculinity, and caused him to prove it through extreme violence expressed in a secretive or deceptive way. Frank Nixon, (Nixon's father) was known to be sexually aggressive, jealous of his wife, and 'hot.' Writer Jessamyn West, who was a friend of the family, remembers visiting the Nixons as a small child and sleeping in the same bed as Hannah and Frank Nixon. "These were the days when families worried more about food and less about Freud," was the only comment biographer Edwin Hoyt gave to that arrangement.

Nixon exhibited several common characteristics of abuse survivors, among them:

high-risk-taking behavior, a lack of proper boundaries, living in a created fantasy world, being promiscuous or having an aversion to sex, suicidal tendencies, extreme rage, an inability to trust, solemnity, rigidly controlled body movements, and existing in a state of hypervigilance. (Roth)

'It Speaks as a Dragon'

The typical reaction of many Americans to the Kent State shootings was that 'they should have killed 400 instead of four.' At the same time, people insisted the incident was either an accident or self-defense. State officials in Columbus, Ohio, received 13,000 letters in the two months after the 'accidental' shootings, saying that more students should have been shot. Therefore, was it referred to as an *accident* simply to avoid responsibility for premeditated murder? If 400 should have been shot, would that be 400 *accidentally* shot? If the shooting was an 'accident,' why is it claimed that 400 *should* have been shot? Claiming two incompatible opinions simultaneously might indicate that the person making the claims is mentally splitting (a defense mechanism), is lying, or both. Splitting is "distorting truth because of a desire for order, closure, and control"—an evidence of immaturity.

Nixon requested daily reports of the FBI investigation into the shootings, and he could depend on



The Day After. Photo Courtesy Kent State University Libraries, Department of Special Collections and Archives.

America to view the shootings—through their ever-present lens of denial—as an *accident*. Four dead and nine wounded in a thirteen-second barrage of firepower are an awful lot for an accident. "Military personnel fire only upon command—especially in a riot control situation," states former Army Sergeant Leroy Howard. A command to fire would have been the most likely scenario to describe what happened at Kent State—when the National Guard wheeled in unison and at once all fired their weapons together. Immediately after the shootings, students spontaneously 'sat down' on the field in protest of the killings, and were threatened with

mass slaughter by a machine-gun mounted on a jeep if they did not disperse. Would the ensuing mass slaughter have been an accident as well?

Daniel Ellsberg, former special assistant to Assistant Secretary of Defense, claims that the American government has been lying about its civilian targets since WWII's bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, both of which were civilian centers labeled for the public as military targets. Americans extend their habit of mental dissociation, splitting, and denial to the dragon-like aspect of their government because it provides them with an idol to worship, and a never-ending source of material good things. American selective attention is also apparent in the fact that both Presidents Nixon and Johnson campaigned as 'peace candidates' yet escalated the Vietnam War once they took office.

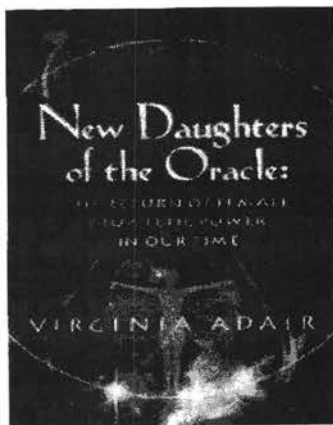
"[The conspiracy to kill students] went much higher—all the way to the top in New York City," claims Hal Dorland of the Kent State shootings. New York Governor Nelson Rockefeller paid an unpublicized condolence visit to the parents of slain Kent State student and New York native, Jeffrey Miller, on May 10, 1970. Jeff Miller's mother suspects Rockefeller was either feeling guilty for the deaths or was on a spying mission for Nixon. In addition, an individual with ties to the FBI offered a million dollar bribe, to be provided by the Rockefeller-funded Ford Foundation, to the parents of slain student Allison Krause to not pursue plans to have a major motion picture made about Kent State, because such a project would have sparked more inquiry into the shootings. •

To be continued.

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Clampdown in the Homeland

- A perpetual war that never ends. Allies that become enemies. Enemies that become allies. Massive government surveillance projects. Congressmen instructing us, as they did recently on PBS's *NewsHour*, to keep an eye on our neighbors and report anything odd or suspicious, no matter how minor. And a shadowy Osama bin Goldstein releasing subversive communiqués from parts unknown. Break out the Victory Gin, because it looks like George Orwell's *1984* finally began on September 11, 2001.

In an instant, dissent and debate—which had been generally accepted hallmarks of our democracy—have become “inappropriate,” especially any suggestion that US policies and practices in the Middle East may be motivating the world's radical Islamics. No, they just have an incomprehensible “hatred of freedom and democracy,” and that's the end of it. Meanwhile, the list of “terrorists” is expanding to include hackers (who could get life imprisonment without parole under the Justice Department's proposed Anti-Terrorism Act) and even MIT professor and political analyst Noam Chomsky.

Chomsky—along with several left-wing and anarchist groups—was named as a suggested target in the War on Terrorism in a September 18 press release by the Jewish lobbying organization Anti-Defamation League (ADL). *The Libertarian Socialist News* (www.overthrow.com) notes that the ADL's advice echoes an earlier statement made by then-FBI Director Louis Freeh in May 2001 Terrorism hearings, when he told Congress, “Anarchists and extremist socialist groups, many of which ... have an international presence ... represent a potential threat in the United States. For example, anarchists, operating individually and in groups, caused much of the damage during the Seattle World Trade meeting.”

As author George Monbiot (www.Monbiot.com) observed in the September 18 *Guardian* (U.K.), “Radical opposition has seldom been more necessary. But it has seldom been more vulnerable. The right is seizing the political space which has opened up where the twin towers of the World Trade Center once stood. Civil liberties are suddenly negotiable.”

Mass Murderer Pays Fine, Is Released

- In June 2001, S. Lee pled guilty in the deaths of 21 people, and the serious injury of 100 more. Amazingly, she paid a fine and was released. The reason? Sara Lee is a corporation, not a person. Sara Lee pled guilty to two misdemeanor counts in connection with a listeriosis outbreak that led to the deaths of at least 21 consumers who ate Ball Park Franks hot dogs and other meat products. The company paid a \$200,000 fine.

In December 1998, after the damage was done, Sara Lee ordered a recall of millions of pounds of hot dogs

and deli meats. According to the *Detroit Free Press*, beginning in July 1998, after the replacement of an old refrigeration unit, workers recorded a sharp increase in the presence of cold-loving bacteria, a class that includes the deadly *Listeria monocytogenes*. The number remained high until the company stopped performing tests in November 1998, a month before the Sara Lee recall.

“Sara Lee was doing testing of the environment in the plant for cold-loving bacteria,” said Caroline Smith DeWaal of the Center for Science in the Public Interest. “Then their tests started coming up positive, so they stopped testing. They knew they had a problem with bacteria in the plant. But instead of solving it, they chose to ignore it.” If the company knew that they had a *Listeria monocytogenes* problem and ignored it, they could have been charged with a felony. In an interview, U.S. Attorney Phillip Green said there was insufficient evidence to bring a felony charge.

Recently, when asked whether President Bush—a strong supporter of the death penalty for humans—supports the death penalty for corporate criminals (that is, revoking the charter of a corporation that has been convicted of a crime that has resulted in death), White House spokesman Ari Fleischer responded, “The President does not weigh in on those matters of justice. They should not be dictated by decisions made at the White House.” (“The Ball Park Franks Fiasco,” Russell Mokhiber and Robert Weissman, www.alternet.org)

Shampoos May Cause Cancer, Really

- Whitehall-Robins, the maker of Denorex shampoo, has settled a civil suit claiming that its dandruff shampoo contains unsafe amounts of coal tar, which happens to be a known carcinogen (cancer-causing agent). The company said Friday it will pay \$427,500 and will lower the amount of coal tar in its products by 72 percent. The suit was brought by San Francisco-based Occupational Knowledge International (OKI), a nonprofit organization that has similar suits pending against 20 other manufacturers of coal-tar shampoos, including T/Gel and Tegrin. Perry Gottesfeld, executive director of OKI, says, “These are very ubiquitous products that are available everywhere.” He adds, “They're also used by children and infants, who have very high absorption

PARANOIA

Compiled by
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Joan d'Arc

rates. Adults can also absorb it very easily.” Interestingly, at the same time this case was (barely) in the news, major news services and America Online were promoting articles about “Rumors and Myths” being spread on the Internet. One of the purported “Myths” was that “Shampoo Causes Breast Cancer.” These “news stories” were likely due to the efforts of corporate spinmeisters, and are an example of how PR flacks work behind the scenes to confuse the public and divert attention from damaging news stories. (*Associated Press*, September 7, 2001)

Department of Defense “Loses” \$1.1 Trillion

- With all the talk about increased funding for our impoverished military (Department of Defense (DoD) spending actually increased during the Clinton years, just not as much as some would have liked), we should take a moment to consider what happens to the billions upon billions of dollars currently being spent.

The General Accounting Office (GAO), the investigative arm of Congress, wrote in its January 2001 report, “DoD Major Management Challenges and Program Risks,” that the Pentagon “continues to confront pervasive and complex financial-management problems and has been on our list of high-risk areas vulnerable to waste, fraud, abuse and mismanagement” and that “to date, no major part of the department’s operations has passed the test of an independent financial audit.” The GAO report also found that the DoD had “an inability to reconcile an estimated \$7 billion difference between its available fund balances and the Treasury’s balance (in other words, the Pentagon can’t balance its checkbook, to the tune of \$7 billion dollars.)

It gets worse. In May 2001, In May, DoD Deputy Inspector General Robert Lieberman reported to Congress—in typical Bureaucratese—that “the extensive DoD efforts to compile and audit the FY [fiscal year] 2000 financial statements for the department as a whole ... could not overcome the impediments caused by poor systems and unreliable documentation of transactions and assets.” He then read an eight-page summary of DoD fiduciary failures. Lieberman admitted that \$4.4 trillion in “adjustments” to the Pentagon’s books had to be made to compile the required financial

statements, and that \$1.1 trillion of that amount “could not be supported by reliable information.” In other words, \$1.1 trillion dollars went somewhere to someone, but no one can account for it.

To put that amount in perspective, \$1.1 trillion dollars is more than the federal government collected in all individual and corporate tax revenue for 1999. Looked at another way, nearly 5.5 million Americans would have to work their entire lives to pay \$1.1 trillion in taxes. (“DoD Can’t Find \$1 Trillion,” August 15, 2001, www.insightmag.com)

Suspicious Stock Trading

- A subplot to the national tragedy of 9/11 emerged just days later when financial analyst Phil Erlanger noticed highly suspicious trading activity in airline and hotel stocks in the days and weeks leading up to the attack. As Erlanger notes on his website (www.erlangersqueezeplay.com), dramatic spikes in short selling (so-called “put” options) occurred in stocks of both American and United Airlines. “Puts” are bets that a particular stock or security is going to fall in value. The stocks of major hotel chains, including Marriott, also showed similar trading activity. An insurance firm, Marsh & McLennan, with offices at the top of the World Trade Center, showed a sharp increase in the buying of put options. Erlanger explains that these levels of trading have not been seen in years, and that this activity indicates foreknowledge of the attacks. Erlanger asks, “Was this direct manipulation by terrorist organizations looking to reap a quick windfall from their criminal acts?”

“Put” trading prior to assassination is an old trick. A similar sharp rise in “put” trading occurred on November 21, 1963, the day before John F. Kennedy was assassinated. According to Lincoln Lawrence in *Were We Controlled?*, a record short-selling spree swamped the New York Stock Exchange on this date, prompting a massive short-sell. “Someone” reaped \$500 million 1963 dollars, the equivalent of \$2 billion dollars today, when the market crashed on news of the assassination. (See *PARANOIA* Issue 9, “The Dan Rather Connection”)

Let the Roundup Begin

- In the wake of the 9/11 terror attacks in NYC, stocks of publicly traded prison companies have skyrocketed 300% in anticipation of a massive roundup of illegal aliens and other criminals. The crime rate is also expected to rise due to an expected recession. Corrections Corp. of America, the nation’s largest private prison company, was on the brink of bankruptcy a few months prior to the attacks. But with sudden “new business” after the attack its stock rose a whopping 308%. Prison security analyst James MacDonald is quoted as saying, “They got *immediate returns*, but it’s going to take a while for any new prisons to make their way into the market.” It shouldn’t take too long, however. The Federal Bureau of Prisons in early October requested bids to build two prisons to hold criminal aliens in Georgia. The Bureau will also be seeking bids early next year to build three more prisons in the southwestern desert area. In addition, according to the *New York Post*, private prison investors are “jubilant” about an expected U.S. Supreme court ruling that

would bar any inmate from suing a privately run prison for civil rights violations.

Networks Agree to Censorship

• In mid October, executives of the five major US television networks met and decided that there are some things it would be best for the American people not to know. This act of collective self-censorship was done at the request of National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice.

Self-censorship during wartime is sometimes necessary in order to protect US forces. For example, specific troop locations, movements, and tactics are often withheld from news reports. However, in this case the censorship had to do with ideas and viewpoints, albeit unpopular ones. The networks agreed to edit any videotaped statements by Osama bin Laden and his followers "so as not to give their more inflammatory statements air-time." A secondary concern, voiced by Ms. Rice, was that the terrorists might sneak coded messages into their tapes. (On this point, writer Susan Sontag recently observed, "Excuse me, but does anyone over the age of 6 really think that the way Osama bin Laden has to communicate with his agents is by posing in that Flintstone set of his and pulling on his left earlobe to send secret signals?")

The views of bin Laden are in fact newsworthy, because they provide insight into his motives and goals. The American people should be trusted to make a reasonable assessment of his statements, no matter how strange or ludicrous they might appear. We deserve an answer to the "Whys" that have echoed since September 11.

In a similar development, a group of major US print and electronic media, including the *New York Times* and the *Wall Street Journal*, has agreed to give up on an investigation they funded into the conduct of last November's election, the closest and most controversial in American history. Although they have already spent more than \$1 million to have an independent body analyze the Florida ballots, they claim that continuing the investigation would "waste resources" that now must be used to cover the War on Terrorism. (*Canadian Globe and Mail*, October 12, 2001)

Human Cloning Going Forward in Secret

• Dr. Severino Antinori has told a National Academy of Science panel in Washington DC that he will proceed with plans to provide cloned children for infertile couples in November of 2001. Dr. Brigitte Boisselier has also announced plans to begin making cloned babies, saying that "people have the right to use their genes the way they want." Dr. Boisselier is a Raelian Bishop, responsible for the cloning projects of the Raelians, a UFO group which claims 55,000 members worldwide (www.rael.org). In the early 90s, the Raelians founded a company called Clonaid in the Bahamas, the first company offering to clone human beings. Clonaid was subsequently closed down by the Bahamian government after pressure from the French media. According to their website (www.clonaid.com), Boisselier has founded another company in the US,

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which is now carrying out the Clonaid projects. The name and location of the company are being kept secret and hundreds of potential clients are on the waiting list. The company's website claims its first phase will subcontract existing laboratories to perform cloning, and that it may sponsor American laboratories working on human cloning whose government subsidies have been cut.

Bush Critic Commits Suicide in Arkansas

• The author of a book about George W. Bush has killed himself, police said. James Howard Hatfield, 43, wrote *Fortunate Son: George W. Bush and the Making of an American President* in 1999. The unauthorized biography accused Bush, among other things, of covering up a cocaine arrest. A hotel housekeeper discovered the body, Springdale, Arkansas police Detective Al Barrios said. Barrios said the man apparently overdosed on two kinds of prescription drugs. Police "don't suspect foul play." (*Associated Press*, July 20, 2001)

Tax Rebate Not a Rebate

• That Tax "Rebate" check you received is really an advance on your 2001 refund. In other words, your refund in April will be \$300 smaller than it would have been, or your tax bill will be \$300 higher. "I think people think what they're getting is a refund of taxes they paid in 2000," said Gary Dudley, the tax partner-in-charge at Deloitte & Touche's Denver office. "If they think their taxes are going to be lower April 15 (from this change), they're not." The IRS could have included a line at the end of next year's 1040 where you took the amount of the refund check and reduced your refund, or added that money to the tax bill you owe. Instead, the amount owed that you get from the tables at the back of the booklet will have this unpleasant fact

moving targets

The Real Strategies Behind the War on Terrorism

by Al Hidell

They were horrible acts that killed thousands of innocents, and the perpetrators must be brought to justice. That much is clear. Yet the tragic events of September 11, 2001—some six weeks old as this is being written—have a multitude of repercussions that have yet to emerge.

At this stage, it is likely that America's War on Terrorism will have many victims—both foreign and domestic—not the least of which may be our freedom.⁽¹⁾ To better understand the reasons and aims of this New War, we will need to look beyond the bloodlust and comic book-level analyses offered by most of our pundits and politicians.

Smaller Rubble

"Basically, we're going to bomb their rubble into smaller rubble." This is how an unnamed congressional staffer described the start of America's War on Terrorism, whose first military target is the impoverished and civil war-torn country of Afghanistan. The official reason is that the country's radical Islamic rulers, known as the Taliban, have harbored and supported the presumed mastermind of the September 11 attacks: Osama bin Laden.

The apparent goals of the War on Terrorism are the death or extradition of Osama bin Laden, and the neutralization of radical Islamic regimes and networks worldwide. Yet the capture or assassination of bin Laden—who has followed Carlos the Jackal and Abu Nidal as the latest personification of World Terrorism—would likely result in more terrorism, not less. Kill one Osama, it is said, and you create 100 more. Furthermore, the military attacks against Afghanistan increase the chances of radical Islamic take-

overs in countries that are supporting the US strikes, and for Pakistan you can add nukes to the scenario.

Moreover, the Taliban did not emerge in a vacuum. They were largely created and financed by Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates, countries that are now being sought by America as allies in the War on Terrorism. In fact, the United States gave Afghanistan \$124 million in aid in 2001, making it "the main sponsor of the Taliban," according to the May 22, 2001 *Los Angeles Times*. Indeed, the United States also trained and financed bin Laden himself and other radical Islamics when it served its interests.

This latter point deserves elaboration. Media commentators are now acknowledging that the United States made a "mistake" in the 1980s by supporting bin Laden and his fellow radical Islamics against the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. This

obscures the fact that the CIA flat-out created today's violent Islamic movement as a deliberate policy. Furthermore, this policy amounted to much more than supplying the mujahedeen with some Stinger missiles, which is the popular conception of events. As reported in a laudatory 1992 *Washington Post* article ("Anatomy of a Victory: The CIA's Covert Afghan War"), the United States invested more than \$2 billion and several thousand tons of weaponry and supplies in the project. The covert action involved everything from supplying copies of the Koran to constructing training camps—which we are now bombing—and teaching the future terrorists how to make bombs. All in all, this "mistake" was the single largest American covert action program since World War II.

If you think arming and supporting radical Muslims was just a tragic mistake of the past, think again. Osama bin Laden and an army of what the United States would otherwise label Islamic terrorists have been and are actively involved on the US-backed side in the fighting in Bosnia, Kosovo and—most recently—Macedonia. In Issue 27 of *PARANOIA* ("Bankers and Generals: The Economic Interests Behind the Yugoslavian Conflict," Fall, 1999), this writer quoted Ben Works, director of the Strategic Research Institute:

There's no doubt that bin Laden's people have been in Kosovo helping to arm, equip, and train the [Kosovo Liberation Army] ... The US Administration's policy in Kosovo is to help bin Laden. It almost seems as if the Clinton Administration's policy is to guarantee more terrorism.

In addition, there are nations that the US State Department has officially designated as "supporting terrorism"—Cuba, Iran, Libya, North Korea, and Syria—that have no known connection to Osama bin Laden. He does, however, maintain a residence in the posh London suburb of Wembley. In fact, on Nov. 20, 1999, the *London Daily Telegraph* admitted:

Britain is now an international center for Islamic militancy on a huge scale...and the capital is the home to a bewildering variety of radical Islamic fundamentalist movements, many of which make no secret of their commitment to violence and terrorism to achieve their goals. (2)

This is not meant to obscure the fact that the Taliban of Afghanistan is currently and has recently been bin Laden's main supporter and harbinger; it is just to point out that the supposedly worldwide War on Terrorism is at this point a highly selective affair.

Nevertheless, some argue that America has been forced to take action in response to the events of September 11. As we will see, America has other little-discussed reasons—that have nothing to do with 9/11—for wanting to control Afghanistan. Indeed, a former Pakistani diplomat told the BBC on September 18 that the US was planning military action against the Taliban well before the hijack attacks. Niaz Naik, a former Pakistani Foreign Secretary, says he was told by senior American officials in mid-July that military action against Afghanistan would take place by mid-October. The larger objective, according to Naik, is to topple the Taliban regime and install a transitional government of moderate (i.e. US-controlled) Afghans. The horrors of September 11, then, may have served as a convenient excuse to implement a preexisting Afghan war plan.

Under the Rubble

So, why Afghanistan? Although not widely discussed, the country has more than "rubble" to offer its controllers. In 1999, Afghanistan produced 75% of the world's opium, from which heroin is derived. It should be

noted that in February 2001, the fundamentalist Taliban destroyed the country's entire opium crop. While this unprecedented action was publicly applauded by the United States, it undoubtedly put the Taliban at the top of the enemies list of those elements within the United States and abroad that profit from the global drug trade.

Despite recent alarmist news stories about bin Laden and the Taliban "flooding the US with heroin," pre-September 11 coverage of the Afghan opium situation provides a more objective view. A February 16, 2001 Associated Press story was headlined, "Taliban virtually wipes out opium production in Afghanistan." It stated:

A 12-member team from the U.N. Drug Control Program spent two weeks searching most of the nation's largest opium-producing areas and found so few poppies that they do not expect any opium to come out of Afghanistan this year.

Of course, Taliban-controlled territory could begin to produce opium again. However, the earliest harvest date would be May, 2002. So British Prime Minister Tony Blair's recent vow to "bomb their poppy fields" neglects the fact that there are few if any poppy fields to bomb.

Regarding the addictive substances known as fossil fuels, the United States Department of Energy (DOE) estimates that Afghanistan has natural gas reserves of 4-5 trillion square feet, oil reserves of 95 million barrels, and significant coal reserves as well. Today, however, these riches remain unproven and untapped due to decades-long fighting and instability. The DOE says Afghanistan also has significance from an energy standpoint due to its geographical position as a potential transit route for oil and natural gas exports from Central Asia.

This potential would require multiple multi-billion-dollar oil and gas



export pipelines through Afghanistan. One of the largest is a proposed 890-mile, \$2 billion, 1.9 billion cubic-feet-per-day natural gas pipeline project led by the American energy firm Unocal. However, in December 1998, Unocal announced that it was withdrawing from the consortium, saying low oil prices and turmoil in Afghanistan made the pipeline project uneconomical and too risky. Today, there is growing pressure to begin a trans-Afghanistan pipeline, in order to preempt plans for a pipeline out of Turkmenistan via Iran.

Significantly, Unocal has stated that their pipeline project will proceed once an internationally recognized government is in place in Afghanistan. John Maresca, vice president for international relations of the Unocal Corporation, stated in an important February 12, 1998 Congressional hearing, "U.S. Interests In The Central Asian Republics,"(3): "From the outset, we have made it clear that construction of the pipeline we have proposed across Afghanistan could not begin until a recognized government is in place that has the confidence of governments, lenders, and our company."

At the same hearing, Robert W. Gee, the Clinton Administration's Assistant Secretary for Policy and International Affairs, Department of Energy, made no secret of the fact that "we have an interest in maximizing commercial opportunities for US firms." Or, as Vakhtang Kolbaia, deputy chairman of the Georgian parliament, has observed regarding his own country, "Western countries understandably require security for their investments."

Afghanistan also has geopolitical significance because it borders three Central Asian Republics of the former Soviet Union: Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and Tajikistan. Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan are thought to have oil reserves; Turkmenistan also has the world's fourth-largest natural gas reserves; and Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan border the region's most extensive oil reserves, in Kazakhstan.

So the Taliban has become a major problem for both Big Energy and Dope, Inc., in ways that have nothing to do with terrorism.

Beyond the Pipelines

Unocal's position on Afghanistan reflects the global energy cartel's broad desire to bring Western-dominated stability to the Caspian Sea region, as well as the Balkans. This will make it easier for the cartel to get down to the business of exploiting the region's considerable natural resources, which the US State Department has declared will be "crucial to the world energy balance over the next 25 years."

In addition to an interest in energy and drug pipelines, there may be a broader US geopolitical strategy at work, one directed at our old Cold War nemesis. The authors of "Why Washington Wants Afghanistan" (4) argue that Russia remains a significant threat and competitor to the United States. The authors consider US/NATO military actions in the former Yugoslavia (the Balkans region), and the current actions in Afghanistan, to be part of a larger plan:

Central Asia is strategic not only for oil, as we are often told, but more important for position. Were Washington to take control of these republics, NATO would have military bases in the following key areas: the Balkans, Turkey; and [the Central Asian] Republics. This would constitute a noose around Russia's neck. Add to that Washington's effective domination of the former Soviet Republics of Azerbaijan and Georgia, in the south, and the US would be positioned to launch externally instigated "rebellions" all over Russia.

"If the US can break up Russia and the other former Soviet Republics into weak territories," they surmise, "Washington would have a free hand." The War on Terrorism, these authors believe, is little more than a smokescreen. They believe that Washington, in fact, ordered Saudi Arabia and Pakistan to fund the Taliban "so the Taliban could do a job: consolidate control over Afghanistan and from there move to destabilize the former Soviet Central Asian Republics on its border."

They conclude that the tragedies of September 11 are being used by the Bush Administration "to create an international hysteria in order to drag NATO into the strategic occupation of Afghanistan and an intensified assault on the former Soviet Union." This, they warn, will move us closer to an all-out war with Russia.

For now, though, we know that Russian officials have charged that the Taliban aims to create "liberated zones" across Central Asia and Russia, and that they have linked their problems in Chechnya to the rise of Taliban fundamentalism (www.Indiareacts.com). These facts, along with some very positive public diplomacy that took place in mid-October, 2001, suggest that a common enemy (the Taliban) has brought Russia and the United States closer together. Some commentators have gone so far as to suggest that we are witnessing a major strategic realignment. They say relations between the two countries are the strongest since World War II, when we fought another common enemy, Nazism.

Nevertheless, Bradford University professor Paul Rogers in his book *Losing Control* has warned of "a near-endemic Russian perception that NATO expansion and US commercial interests in the Caspian basin are part of a strategic encroachment into Russia's historic sphere of influence." The key question, then, is what will happen to US/Russian relations after the Taliban is defeated, and the War on Terrorism moves beyond Afghanistan.

If one holds a darker view of Russia and its intentions, today's Afghanistan presents the 1980s with a twist. The country is again a Cold War-style battle-

ground, but this time the United States wants the Afghan rebels (the anti-Taliban, Russian- and Iranian-backed Northern Alliance) to lose. This would seem to conflict with the stated aims of the War on Terrorism. So, if there is a US/Russia proxy war going on in Afghanistan, it will certainly be interesting to see what becomes of the Northern Alliance.

Already, soon after the start of military action, American officials have begun to promote the idea of a "broad coalition government" for Afghanistan, while downplay-

The Taliban has become a major problem for both Big Energy and Dope, Inc., in ways that have nothing to do with terrorism.

ing the role of the Northern Alliance. In fact, Secretary of State Colin Powell recently in Pakistan had little to say about the Northern Alliance, but offered a place in the new Afghanistan government for "moderate" Taliban leaders. Before we make too much of this, it should be noted that the Northern Alliance is made up of Afghan ethnic minorities, and the US may have genuine concerns that the country's ethnic majority would never support a Northern Alliance-based government.

What About China?

A major regional player not considered in the above analysis is China, which has been using military force to keep order in its Xinjiang province, where Muslim Uighur separatists have been fighting for independence. At this point, the massive, nuclear-armed Communist state is providing mixed signals, with modest words of support for the War on Terrorism, and also some little-reported warnings against US military action. China has said it opposes any unilateral military action in Afghanistan, and wants the United Nations to authorize any attacks. Also, it may be significant that Afghanistan's U.N.-recognized government-in-exile is located in Beijing, China (*Reuters*, September 12, 2001).

On October 4, 2001, the *Washington Times* reported that China had placed its military forces in the western

part of the country on heightened alert and was moving troops to the border region near Afghanistan in anticipation of the US military strikes. *The Frontier Post*, an English-language newspaper published in Peshawar, Pakistan, reported October 1 that Chinese military forces had begun exercises near the Afghan border. Clearly, the intent is to suggest that China will enter the war on the side of the Taliban.

However, China would seem to have little motivation to support the Taliban. In fact, by coincidence two days after September 11, its 15-year struggle was rewarded when it was announced that China would be admitted into the World Trade Organization (WTO). China's recent successful campaign to host the Olympic Games is further evidence that the country wants to become part of the Western capitalist order, rather than destroy it. There is no doubt that there is already great economic interdependence between China and the United States, and that many US businesses are committed to strong economic relations with China.

On the other hand, September 11 was also the day China signed a memorandum of understanding with the Taliban for greater economic and technical cooperation. (*Washington Post*, September 13, 2001) Also, on October 18 the *Associated Press* made an unconfirmed report that

bin Laden Deputy Abu Baseer al-Masri was killed by a bomb in eastern Afghanistan, and that "two of his comrades, a Chinese Muslim and a Yemeni, were injured." It is quite a leap, though, to go from one Chinese Muslim to the "5,000 to 15,000" reported by Israeli intelligence site www.debka.com. However, if these numbers are ever confirmed, the Chinese Muslims must have at least the tacit approval of Beijing. If China believes that the strategic realignment between Russia and the United States referred to above is taking place, it may well feel threatened enough to take these kinds of actions.

Support From the Outside

It is strange that there has been relatively little domestic media attention given to the role of China in the War on Terrorism, as well as that of Russia and India. These three countries, after all, are by far the largest and most powerful states in the Afghan region, and all are members of the Nuclear Club. Iran, too, has been a major player in Afghanistan, and the two nations share a long border.

So why have these countries been missing in much of the mainstream discourse about the War on Terrorism? Perhaps the US government believes that these

follow the money:

the trail
of Bush
scandal
touches
bin laden

In a September 2001 address, George W. Bush roused the American people to a War on Terrorism, which was to consist of rooting out the financial sources of support for terrorist activities. Bush signed an executive order freezing the assets of a list of "front" charities for the al-Qaida network. According to a report by Christopher Byron dated 9/24/01 entitled "Terrorists, dollars and a tangled web" (www.msnbc.com/news), following this money trail would require investigators to "probe deep into the offshore activities of America's mightiest banks and the financial affairs of many of America's leading public figures," including George W. and George H.W. Bush. It all starts with the Bank for Credit & Commerce International, now infamous as the "BCCI Scandal."

The BCCI was engaged in widespread bribery of officials in Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas; its criminal activities touched nearly every country on Earth. BCCI operated via secrecy through various front organizations, and "penetrated the top-most echelons of American business, co-opting and exploiting many of the most visible and influential public figures in America." According to Byron, the BCCI "laundered money on a global scale, intimidated witnesses and law enforcement authorities, engaged in extortion and blackmail; supplied the financing for illegal arms trafficking and global terrorism; financed and facilitated income tax evasion, smuggling and prostitution."

The tentacles of BCCI began to touch George W. when he sold his struggling oil company to Harken

Energy. This, according to Byron, "set in motion a chain of events that wound up entangling Bush, briefly but awkwardly, in the affairs of not just BCCI but of the bin Laden family itself." What is the bin Laden connection? James Bath, one of Bush's original partners in his oil company, was named in a 1976 trust document as the business representative for Salem bin Laden, Osama bin Laden's half-brother, who was killed in a private plane crash in Texas in 1988. William White has claimed that Bath was involved in a secret conspiracy to funnel Saudi money into the U.S., and that since 1976—the year Bush Sr. became head of the CIA—Bath had worked as a CIA liaison to Saudi Arabia. White has made the claim, which Bath denies, that "Bath ran an aviation business and obtained several aircraft from the CIA."

countries will become players in a larger war. In that case, our leaders would likely prefer that the American public stay in the dark about such complexities, lest public support for the War on Terrorism erode. The more limited and straightforward goal of punishing those responsible for the September 11 attacks is a much easier sell.

Prior to September 11, such complexities were readily acknowledged. At the above referenced 1998 Congressional hearing ("U.S. Interests In The Central Asian Republics"), Rep. Dana Rohrabacher of California observed, "At this point, you have got the Pakistanis and the Saudis on one side, and you have got the Iranians on one side. Every little faction has somebody who is supporting them from the outside." Likewise, Committee Chairman Rep. Doug Bereuter of Nebraska noted that "Japan, Turkey, Iran, Western Europe, and China are all pursuing economic development opportunities and challenging Russian dominance in the region. It is essential that U.S. policymakers understand the stakes involved in Central Asia..."

Rep. Howard L. Berman of California defined the United States' major adversaries in the area as Iran and Russia, a sentiment that seemed to be shared by most of the Committee: "American interests in the region are

simply to ensure its progressive political and economic development and to prevent it from being under the thumb of any outside power, be it Iran or Russia."

This concern was echoed by the Department of Energy's Robert W. Gee:

Rep. Berman. [You have said] our support for this pipeline derives from our belief that it is not in the commercial interests of companies operating in the Caspian States nor in the strategic interest of the host States to rely on a single major competitor for transit rights. Who are you talking about?

Mr. Gee. We are talking specifically about Russia and Iran, which would be potentially the two dominant players where most of the transit routes [would be] situated.

If anyone missed the point, Assistant Secretary Gee then stated, "The US government's position is that we support multiple pipelines with the exception of the southern pipeline that would transit Iran." However, he was more conciliatory regarding Russia:

Our Caspian policy is not intended to bypass or to thwart Russia...We support continued Russian participation in Caspian production and transpor-

Indeed, Bath did run Skyway Aircraft Leasing Ltd., an aviation business based in the Cayman Islands, which was owned by Saudi banker Khalid bin Mahfouz. In 1977, bin Mahfouz joined up with Saudi front man for BCCI, Ghaith Pharaon, and became an investor in the Main Bank of Houston, in which Bath also held a stake.

When Harken Energy needed capital to expand, George W.—a member of Harken's board—assisted in obtaining a \$25 million loan from the Union Bank of Switzerland. According to Byron, "Bush would doubtless have been astonished to learn that he was being surrounded by people with ties to the biggest and most crime-infested bank in the history of world capitalism. Bush would also have been astonished to learn that Bath's Persian Gulf patron, Khalid bin Mahfouz, was a large investor in BCCI. He would also have been surprised to learn that the bank that cut the \$25 million check for Harken, the Banque de Commerce et

de Placements, was only half owned by Union Bank of Switzerland (UBS). The other half was owned by BCCI." Yet, are rumors of Bush's "surprise" greatly exaggerated?

According to Byron, once the Harken financing was completed, UBS sold its interest in Harken to Saudi real estate developer Abdullah Bakhsh, whom The Wall Street Journal has linked to BCCI figures Pharaon and bin Mahfouz. In connection with BCCI, bin Mahfouz was fined \$212 million and was barred from involvement in any American banking activity. Bin Mahfouz is now believed to have provided financing to a "charitable front" that raises money for Osama bin Laden and has been under house arrest in Saudi Arabia at the behest of U.S. authorities since at least March of 2000.

As Byron concludes: "These are the types of people Washington now needs to root out of the nation's—and the world's—financial systems if it is to cut off the flow of money to the terrorists who have attacked America.

But the tentacles now reach into just about every major bank in the country, and have even brushed up against the early business affairs of the very man who is now rallying America to the fight. In the end, getting the dirty money out of America may prove every bit as hard as pulling bin Laden from the mountains of Afghanistan."

Another Bush family connection was reported on 9/28/01 by the Wall Street Journal. George Bush Sr. has been in business with the bin Laden family via the Carlyle Group. The bin Laden family is a major investor in the Carlyle Group and Bush Sr. has met with the bin Laden family on at least two occasions. Osama bin Laden has supposedly been "disowned" by his family, but there is some indication that these reports are false. In March 2001, Judicial Watch—a public interest law firm that investigates government corruption—called for Bush Sr. to resign from the firm, claiming conflict of interest and potential foreign policy issues. Bush Sr. has not yet resigned. •

tation. We would also welcome their participation in the Eurasian corridor. US companies are working in partnership with Russian firms in the Caspian, and there will be future opportunities to expand that commercial cooperation.

The United States government clearly viewed Iran as the greatest threat in the region. This, despite the testimony of hearing witness Frederick Starr, Chairman of the Central Asia Institute at Johns Hopkins University. Mr. Starr noted that early Iranian efforts to “export” its radical Islamic revolution had completely failed:

In the early years after the independence of the Central Asian and Caspian States, Iran did indeed attempt quite vigorously to export its revolution and its ideology to the region. It pressed quite hard in some places, but without success. In fact, the uniformly secular regimes of Central Asia and the Caspian firmly told them, “No. We’re glad to trade with you, but keep your ideology at home.”

Furthermore, Mr. Starr declared that “none of our friends in the region agree” with the US position against economic engagement with Iran. He noted that French, Malaysian, and Russian firms were already investing in the construction of facilities in Iran, and that a pipeline was already being constructed across northern Iran from Turkmenistan. “The American [economic] quarantine of 1995-1996,” he advised, “is not holding.” Finally, Mr. Starr pointed out that Iran’s historic election of a moderate and at least somewhat pro-western leader, President Khatami, was making the US policy of sanctions much harder to defend.

Shifting Alliances

Of course, this Congressional hearing was conducted during the Clinton Administration, and we don’t know how much things have changed under the Bush Administration. There has, though, been an obvious shift away from President Clinton’s conciliatory and cooperative attitude towards China, into a more adversarial relationship. Similarly, the Clinton Administration’s strong tilt towards India at the expense of its bitter enemy Pakistan has been reversed by the Bush Administration’s embrace of Pakistan as its leading ally in the War On Terrorism.

However, despite continued conciliatory statements from President Khatami, it appears that the US government’s hard-line attitude towards Iran has remained unchanged. This is suggested by an October 18, 2001 report (www.worldtribune.com) that “the United States has rejected Iran’s offer to aid the US-led offensive against the ruling Taliban in Afghanistan.” The report says that US Secretary of State Colin Powell termed the offer by Iran—which has condemned the September 11 attacks, and which has long opposed the Taliban—as “not necessary.” This, from an administration that has gone out of its way to court allies of all stripes and shades in its War On Terrorism.

Of course, public rejections and a dearth of news stories may be masking behind-the-scenes cooperation between Washington and Iran, as well as with Russia and India. As early as June 26, 2001, an Indian public affairs web site (www.Indiareacts.com) was reporting that “India and Iran will ‘facilitate’ the planned

US-Russia hostilities against the Taliban.” (The American people, it seems, were the last to know about America’s New War.) The article reports that Secretary of State Powell laid the groundwork for this cooperation in meetings with his Russian and Indian counterparts. No mention is made of any US/Iranian meetings, although Iran is said to have participated in an unspecified “series of discussions” with Russia and India.

All in all, it seems that Russia, India, and Iran are supportive of the US military action against the Taliban, while China is—as is often the case—a question mark. All four countries are dealing with Taliban-supported fundamentalist Muslim insurgencies to one degree or another. If the War on Terrorism extends beyond Afghanistan, however, their continued support is far from certain.

The Strategic Triangle

Capitalism is about economic competition, and trade wars sometimes become shooting wars. Likewise, economic alliances often become military alliances. With this in mind, it may be instructive to consider recent developments involving China, Russia, India, and Iran, and see if the seeds of a wider conflict are present.

The *New Federalist* newspaper (www.larouchepub.com) is one of the few non-specialist publications to cover economic developments in the region. On June 25, 2001, it reported that Russia and China—along with Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan—had formed the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). Representing ¼ of the world’s population, the SCO is said to be based on a commitment to collaboration and cooperation in economic and security matters. Ironically, the SCO grew out of a 1999 agreement in which the countries vowed to work together to counter the threat of Islamic terrorism.

Regarding the Russia-China partnership, the *New Federalist* stated that relations between the two countries have been developing over the last three years; and that:

The outline of the concept of the Strategic Triangle—Russia, China, India—[proposed] by Russia’s former Prime Minister Yevgeni Primakov in 1998, has gradually been filled in, at least on the Russia-China leg of the triangle.

Furthermore, in July, 2001, Russia and China signed a “Good Neighborly Friendship Cooperation Treaty,” which promises extensive military and economic cooperation. The countries are also

united in their opposition to implementation of President Bush's National Missile Defense system, which they think will encourage the US to launch a nuclear first strike against them during a time of conflict.

In addition, on October 18, 2001 (www.worldtribune.com), it was reported that relations between India and Iran were advancing rapidly. Though not widely reported, for the first time, Iran and India have held strategic cooperation talks:

India's Foreign Secretary Chokila Iyer and Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister for Asia and Pacific Mohsen Aminzadeh discussed security and defense issues. The two officials also discussed international disarmament and security cooperation and the situation in Afghanistan.

In addition, *Middle East Newslite* (www.menewslite.com) has related a *Washington Times* report that China is currently building an air defense network along Iran's border with Afghanistan, and that "China is said to have accelerated strategic and military projects in Iran over the last year," including "help for Iran's intermediate- and long-range missile systems."

As stated previously, the *Washington Times* appears to be promoting the idea of a major Chinese threat. Yet it is quite plausible that China is helping Iran, especially in light of the ongoing US Iranian sanctions. India and Russia, too, are partnering with Iran on at least one major economic project, what *Indiareacts* has characterized as "a broad plan to supply oil and gas to south Asia and southeast Asian nations through India."

Furthermore, the London-based Arabic daily *Al Hayat* reported on October 9, 2001 that Iran's Defense Secretary would be visiting Russia within a week to sign a weapons deal that will include "anti-aircraft defense systems and tanks." Russian Defense Minister Sergei Ivanov was reported as stressing that Russia is interested in developing the "military, economic and scientific relations with its neighbor Iran." This relationship, according to an editorial in the March 5, 2001 *Guardian (UK)*, includes Russia providing Iran with "nuclear know-how."

Flashpoint

So, is Iran the flashpoint that could bring the Russian Strategic Triangle of Russia, China, and India together against the United States? This frightening prospect is supported by an October 18, 2001 item on *Middle East Newslite*:

Russian officials said Moscow would help Washington with the war on terrorism. But they said President Vladimir Putin would not allow the regime of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein or Iran to become a US target in such a war. Both Iran and Iraq are on the US State Department list of terrorist sponsors, [and] Moscow has indicated that this is where it would draw the line. Russia has emerged as an ally of both Baghdad and Teheran.

The article quotes Col. Sergei Goncharov, a leading Russian military analyst, as saying, "We can't allow the United States to wield its club the way it wants." He continues, "We are on good terms with Iran. We have tremendous economic investments in and expectations of Iraq. We can't afford to sever all these ties in one stroke. I foresee a major debate along these lines."

A debate, or a war? While Goncharov allowed for the possibility of limited air strikes against Iraq if there is proof that they are harboring terrorists, he made no such allowance regarding Iran. Regarding either country, the Russian Colonel warned, "If they want to start carpet bombings, like in Yugoslavia, and then see what happens, it can't be allowed."

World War III?

So, will the War on Terrorism become World War III? *Al Hayat* reported on October 9, 2001 that US tactical nuclear weapons are already in Afghanistan. Ranging in power from 2 to 10 kilotons, they are said to be considered a "last resort" by American military planners. So, there is certainly the potential for a dangerous escalation of hostilities.

Fears of a geographically-larger war were certainly not calmed by an October 21, 2001 *Reuters* report that Air Force Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, considered Afghanistan to be "only a 'small piece' of what he suggested might be the broadest campaign since World War Two, possibly lasting more than a lifetime." Myers, America's top military commander after the President, added, "I think this is going to be a long, hard-fought conflict, and it will be global in scale."

Similarly, on October 3, www.newsmax.com quoted General Jack Singlaub, former chief of staff for US forces in South Korea: "I think the war is going to broaden. I think that the president made it quite clear that this is a pure case of good vs. evil and those who want to live in peace must unite and eliminate those who want to kill one another." He added ominously, "We just have to recognize that it's going to develop into a larger war, and there [will be] lots of people and nations involved."

Endnotes

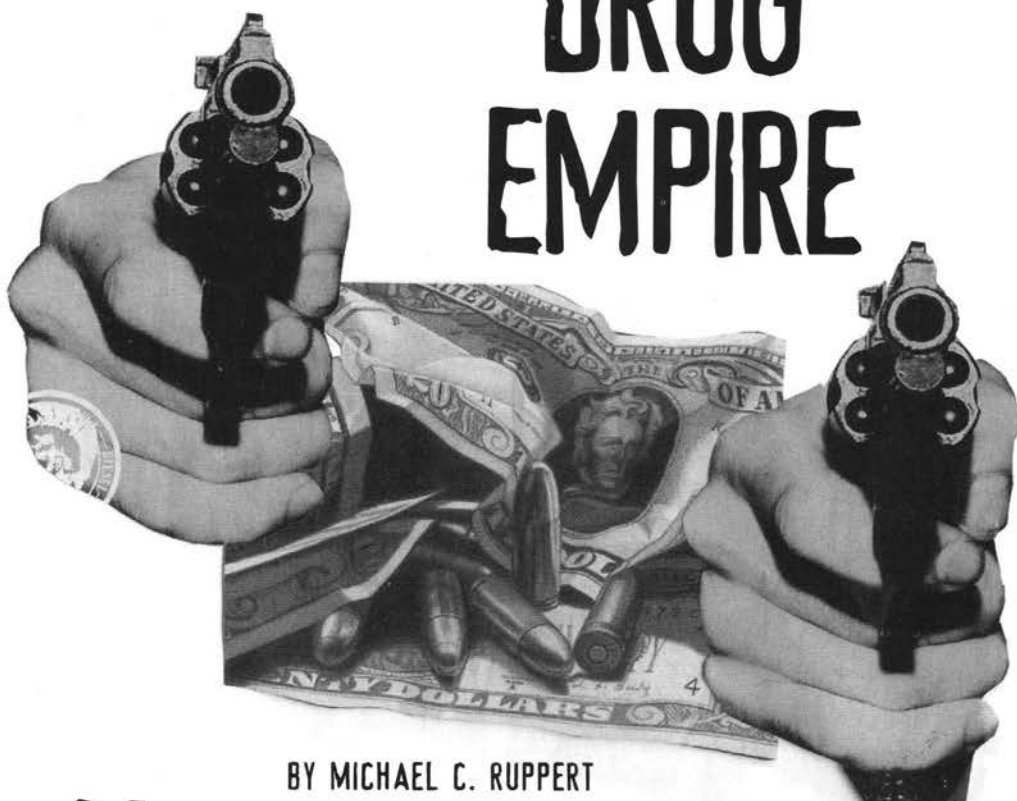
(1) The September 17, 2001 *USA Today* warned, "Israelis and Europeans are used to seeing machine gun-toting soldiers...stopping them at checkpoints. Soon, Americans may become accustomed to the sight also." Meanwhile, CNN has broadcast footage of National Guardsmen training at a mockup of a guard station with a road barrier and a sign that reads "Homeland Security Internal Checkpoint."

(2) For a surprising and detailed argument to "Put Britain on the List of States Sponsoring Terrorism," see www.larouchepub.com.

(3) http://commdocs.house.gov/committees/intrel/hfa48119.000/hfa48119_0.HTM

(4) Jared Israel, Rick Rozoff and Nico Varkevisser, "Why Washington Wants Afghanistan," posted September 18, 2001 to www.emperors-clothes.com.

THE BUSH-CHENEY DRUG EMPIRE



BY MICHAEL C. RUPPERT

Halliburton Corporation's Brown & Root is one of the major components of the Bush-Cheney Drug Empire. The success of Vice President Richard Cheney at leading Halliburton, Inc. to a five-year, \$3.8 billion

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"pig-out" on federal contracts and taxpayer-insured loans is only a partial indicator of what may happen now that the Bush-Cheney ticket is in the White House.

From Medellin To Moscow

A closer look at available research, including an August 2, 2000 report by the Center for Public Integrity (CPI) (www.public-i.org), suggests that drug money has played a role in the successes achieved by Halliburton under Cheney's tenure as CEO from 1995 to 2000. This is especially true for Halliburton's most famous subsidiary, heavy construction and oil giant Brown & Root. A deeper look into history reveals that Brown & Root's past—as well as the past of Dick Cheney himself—connects to the international drug trade on more than one occasion and in more than one way.

Last June, the lead Washington, DC attorney for a major Russian oil company connected in law enforcement reports to heroin smuggling, and also a beneficiary of US-backed loans to pay for Brown & Root contracts in Russia, held a \$2.2 million fundraiser to fill the already bulging coffers of presidential candidate George W. Bush. This is not the first time that Brown & Root has been connected to illegal drugs, and the fact is that this “poster child” of American industry may also be a key player in Wall Street's efforts to maintain domination of the half-trillion-dollar-a-year global drug trade and its profits. And Dick Cheney, who has also come closer to illegal drugs than most suspect, and who is also Halliburton's largest individual shareholder (\$45.5 million), has a vested interest in seeing to it that Brown & Root's successes continue.

Of all the American companies dealing directly with the US military and providing cover for CIA operations, few firms can match the global presence of this giant construction powerhouse, which employs 20,000 people in more than 100 countries. Through its sister companies or joint ventures, Brown & Root can build offshore oil rigs, drill wells and construct and operate everything from harbors and pipelines to highways and nuclear reactors. It can train and arm security forces and it can now also feed, supply and house armies. One key beacon of Brown & Root's overwhelming appeal to agencies like the CIA is that, as it proudly announces from its own corporate web page, it has received the contract to dismantle aging Russian nuclear-tipped ICBMs in their silos. Furthermore, the relationships between key institutions, players and the Bushes themselves suggest that under a George “W” Administration the Bush family and its allies, using Brown & Root as the operational interface, may well be able to control the drug trade all the way from Medellín to Moscow.

Originally formed as a heavy construction company to build dams, Brown & Root grew its operations via shrewd political contributions to Senate candidate Lyndon Johnson in 1948. Expanding into the building of oil platforms, military bases, ports, nuclear facilities, harbors and tunnels, Brown & Root virtually underwrote LBJ's political career. It prospered as a result, making billions on US Government contracts during the Vietnam War. *The Austin Chronicle*, in an August 28, 2000 Op-Ed piece entitled “The Candidate from Brown & Root,” labels Republican Cheney as the political dispenser of Brown & Root's largesse. According to political campaign records, during Cheney's five-year tenure at Halliburton, the company's political contributions more than doubled to \$1.2 million. Not surprisingly, most of that money went to Republican candidates.

Independent news service Newsmakingnews also describes how in 1998, with Cheney as Chairman, Halliburton spent \$8.1 billion to purchase oil industry equipment and drilling supplier Dresser Industries.

This made Halliburton a corporation that will have a presence in almost any future oil drilling operation anywhere in the world. And it also brought back into the family fold the company that had

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once (also in 1948) sent a plane to fetch the new Yale graduate George H.W. Bush to begin his career in the Texas oil business. Bush the elder's father, Prescott, served as a managing director for the firm that once owned Dresser: Brown Brothers Harriman.

Brown & Root's Special Operations

It is clear that everywhere there is oil there is Brown & Root. But increasingly, everywhere there is war or insurrection there is Brown & Root also. From Bosnia and Kosovo to Chechnya, Rwanda, Burma, Pakistan, Laos, Vietnam, Indonesia, Iran, Libya, Mexico and Colombia, Brown & Root's traditional operations have expanded from heavy construction to the provision of logistical support for the US military. Now, instead of US Army quartermasters, the

world is likely to see Brown & Root warehouses storing and managing everything from uniforms and rations to vehicles.

Dramatic expansion of Brown & Root's operations in Colombia also suggests Bush preparations for a war-inspired feeding frenzy as a part of "Plan Colombia." This is consistent with moves by former Bush Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady to open a joint Colombian-American investment partnership called Corfinsura for the financing of major construction projects with the Colombian Antioquia Syndicate, headquartered in Medellín (see *From The Wilderness*, June 2000).

And expectations of a ground war in Colombia may explain why Brown & Root, in a 2000 Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) filing, reported that in addition to owning more than 800,000 square feet of warehouse space in Colombia, it also leases another 122,000 square feet in that country. According to the Brown & Root Energy Services Group filing, the only other places where the company maintains warehouse space are in Mexico (525,000 square feet) and the United States (38,000 square feet).

According to the website of Colombia's Foreign Investment Promotion Agency, Brown & Root had no presence in that country until 1997. What does Brown & Root—which according to Associated Press (AP) has made more than \$2 billion supporting and supplying US troops—know about Colombia that the United States public does not? Why the need for almost a million square feet of warehouse space which can be transferred from one Brown & Root operation (energy services) to another (military support) with the stroke of a pen?

As described by AP, during the "Iran-Contra" era Congressman Dick Cheney of the House Intelligence Committee was a rabid supporter of Marine Lt Col. Oliver North, in spite of the fact that North had lied to Cheney in a private 1986 White House briefing. Oliver North's own diaries and subsequent investigations by the CIA Inspector-General have irrevocably tied him directly to cocaine smuggling during the 1980s and the opening of bank accounts for one firm moving four tons of cocaine a month. This, however, did not stop Cheney from actively supporting North's (unsuccessful) 1994 run for the US Senate from

Virginia—just a year before he took over the reins at Brown & Root's parent company, Dallas-based Halliburton, Inc., in 1995.

As the Bush Secretary of Defense during Desert Shield/Desert Storm (1990-91), Cheney also directed special operations involving Kurdish rebels in northern Iran. The Kurds' primary source of income for more than 50 years has been heroin smuggling from Afghanistan and Pakistan through Iran, Iraq and Turkey.

Having had some personal experience with Brown & Root, I noted carefully when *the Los Angeles Times* observed that on March 22, 1991 a group of gunmen burst into the Ankara, Turkey, offices of joint venture Vinnell, Brown & Root and assassinated retired Air Force Chief Master Sergeant John Gandy.

In March 1991, tens of thousands of Kurdish refugees, long-time assets of the CIA, were being massacred by Saddam Hussein in the wake of the Gulf War. Saddam, seeking to destroy any hopes of a successful Kurdish revolt, found it easy to kill thousands of the unwanted Kurds who had fled to the Turkish border seeking sanctuary. There, Turkish security forces—trained in part by the Vinnell, Brown & Root partnership—turned thousands of Kurds back into certain death.

Today, the Vinnell Corporation—a TRW company—is one of the three preeminent private mercenary corporations in the world, along with the firms MPRI and DynCorp (see *From the Wilderness* June 2000). It is also the dominant entity for the training of security forces throughout the Middle East.

Not surprisingly, the Turkish border regions in question were the primary transshipment points for heroin produced in Afghanistan and Pakistan, destined for the markets of Europe.

A confidential source with intelligence experience in the region subsequently told me that the Kurds "got some payback against the folks that used to help them move their drugs." He openly acknowledged that Brown & Root and the Vinnell Corporation both routinely provided NOC (non-official cover) for CIA officers. But I already knew that.

From 1994 to 1999, during US military intervention in the Balkans—where, according to *The Christian Science Monitor* and *Jane's Intelligence Review*, the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) controls 70 percent of the heroin entering Western Europe—Cheney's Brown & Root made billions of dollars supplying US troops from vast facilities in the region. Brown & Root support operations continue in Bosnia, Kosovo and Macedonia to this day.

Dick Cheney's footprints have come closer to drugs than one might suspect. The Center for Public Integrity's August 2000 report brought them even closer. It would be correct to say that there is a direct linkage of Brown & Root facilities—often set up in remote, hazardous regions—with every drug-producing region and every drug-consuming region in the world. These coincidences, in and of themselves, do not prove complicity in the trade. Other facts, however, lead inescapably in that direction.

A Direct Drug Link To Cheney

The CPI report entitled "Cheney Led Halliburton to Feast at Federal Trough," written by veteran journalists Knut Royce and Nathaniel Heller, describes how, under five years of Cheney's leadership, Halliburton, largely through subsidiary Brown & Root,

enjoyed \$3.8 billion in federal contracts and taxpayer-insured loans. The loans had been granted by the Export & Import Bank (EXIM) and the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC). According to Ralph McGehee's CIA Base, both institutions are heavily infiltrated by the CIA and routinely provide NOC (non-official cover) to its officers.

One of those loans, which went to Russian financial/banking conglomerate The Alfa Group of Companies, contained \$292 million to pay for Brown & Root's contract to refurbish a Siberian oil field owned by the Russian Tyumen Oil Company. The Alfa Group completed its 51 percent acquisition of Tyumen Oil in what was allegedly a rigged bidding process in 1998. An official Russian Government report claims that The Alfa Group's top executives, oligarchs Mikhail Fridman and Pyotr Aven, "allegedly participated in the transit of drugs from Southeast Asia through Russia and into Europe." These same executives, Fridman and Aven, who reportedly smuggled the heroin in connection with Russia's Solntsevo mob family, were the same ones who applied for the EXIM loans that Halliburton's lobbying later safely secured. As a result, Brown & Root's work in Alfa Tyumen oil fields could continue—and expand.

After describing how organized criminal interests in The Alfa Group had allegedly stolen the oil field by fraud, the CPI story—using official reports from the FSB (the Russian equivalent of the FBI), oil companies such as BP & Amoco, former CIA and KGB officers and press accounts—then established a solid link to Alfa Tyumen and the transportation of heroin. In 1995, sacks of heroin disguised as sugar had been stolen from a rail container leased by Alfa Eko and sold in the Siberian town of Khabarovsk. A problem arose when many residents of the town became "intoxicated" or "poisoned." The CPI story also stated:

The FSB report said that within days of the incident, Ministry of Internal Affairs (MVD) agents conducted raids of Alfa Eko buildings and found 'drugs and other compromising documentation.' ... Both reports claim that Alfa Bank has laundered drug funds from Russian and Colombian drug cartels. ... The FSB document claims that at the end of 1993, a top Alfa official met with Gilberto Rodriguez Orejuela, the now imprisoned financial mastermind of Colombia's notorious Cali cartel, 'to conclude an agreement about the transfer of money into the Alfa Bank from offshore zones such as the Bahamas, Gibraltar and others.' The plan was to insert it back into the Russian economy through the purchase of stock in Russian companies. ... He [the former KGB agent] reported that there was evidence 'regarding [Alfa Bank's] involvement with the money laundering of ... Latin American drug cartels.

It then becomes harder for Cheney and Halliburton to assert mere coincidence in all of this, as CPI reported that Tyumen's lead Washington attorney, James C. Langdon, Jr., at the firm of Aikin Gump, helped coordinate a \$2.2 million fundraiser for Bush in June 2000. He then agreed to help recruit 100 lawyers and lobbyists in the capital to raise \$25,000 each for George W's campaign.

The heroin mentioned in the CPI story originated in Laos, where longtime Bush allies and covert warriors Richard Armitage and

retired CIA ADDO (Associate Deputy Director of Operations) Ted Shackley have been repeatedly linked to the drug trade. It then made its way across Southeast Asia to Vietnam, probably the port of Haiphong. Then the heroin was shipped to Russia's Pacific port of Vladivostok, and was subsequently bounced across Siberia by rail and then by truck or rail

THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION STREAMLINED THE HEROIN PIPELINE IN THE BALKANS. THAT OPENED A DIRECT LINE FROM AFGHANISTAN TO WESTERN EUROPE—AND BROWN & ROOT WAS RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THAT, TOO.

to Europe, passing through the hands of Russian Mafia leaders in Chechnya and Azerbaijan. Chechnya and Azerbaijan are hotbeds of both armed conflict and oil exploration, and Brown & Root has operations all along this route.

As described in previous issues of *From the Wilderness*, this long, expensive and tortuous path was hastily established after President George Bush's personal envoy Richard Armitage, holding the rank of Ambassador, had traveled to the former Soviet Union to assist it with its "economic development" in 1989. The obstacles, then, to a more direct, profitable and efficient drug route from Afghanistan and Pakistan through Turkey into Europe were a cohesive Yugoslavian/Serbian Government controlling the Balkans and continuing instability in the Golden Crescent of Pakistan/Afghanistan. Also, there was no other way, using heroin from the Golden Triangle (Burma, Laos and Thailand), to deal with China and India but to go around them.

It is perhaps not by coincidence again that Cheney and Armitage share membership in the prestigious Aspen Institute, an exclusive bipartisan research think-tank, and also in the US and Azerbaijan Chamber of Commerce. In November 1999, in what may be a portent of things to come, Armitage played

WE CAN BE CERTAIN THAT THE SHIFTING ECONOMIC PRESSURE PLATES AROUND THE WORLD WILL REVEAL OUR NEXT DEMON SOON ENOUGH.

the role of Secretary of Defense in a practical exercise at the Council on Foreign Relations, of which he and Cheney are both members.

Many of the longest-serving and best Bush apparatchiks like Richard Armitage and CIA veteran Ted Shackley have heavy political baggage. Since governmental power is so evenly split after the long election as to appear contrived, it is unlikely that controversial nominees for cabinet positions like Armitage or Shackley will be placed before a 50/50 Senate, which is unlikely to confirm them. Armitage is more likely to appear as a quasi-official adviser in troubled European regions. This is similar to the roles he

performed for George Bush in 1989 in Russia and in 1992 in Albania. Armitage's travels presaged both the Chechen and Kosovar conflicts and the rampant expansion of the drug trade through those regions.

Drug Pipeline Streamlined

The Clinton Administration took care of all that wasted travel for heroin with the 1999 destruction of Serbia and Kosovo and the installation of the KLA as a regional power. That opened a direct line from Afghanistan to Western Europe—and Brown & Root was right in the middle of that, too.

The Clinton skill at streamlining drug operations was described in detail in the April 2000 issue of *From the Wilderness* in a story entitled "The Democratic Party's Presidential Drug Money Pipeline." That article has since been reprinted in three countries. The essence of the drug economic lesson was that by growing opium in Colombia, and by smuggling both cocaine and heroin from Colombia to New York City through the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico (a virtual straight line), traditional smuggling routes could be shortened or even eliminated. This reduced both risk and cost, increased profits and eliminated competition.

From The Wilderness suspects the hand of Medellín cartel co-founder Carlos Lehder in this process, and it is interesting to note that Lehder, released from prison under Clinton in 1995, is now active in both the Bahamas and South America. Lehder was known during the 1980s as "the genius of transportation." I can well imagine Dick Cheney, having witnessed the complete restructuring of the global drug trade in the last eight years, going to George W. and saying, "Look, I know how we can make it even better."

One thing is for certain. As quoted in the CPI article, one Halliburton vice-president noted that if the Bush-Cheney ticket were elected, "the company's government contracts would obviously go through the roof."

The World's Biggest Free Enterprise

If one is courageous enough to seek an "operating system" which theoretically explains what I have just described, one need look no further than a two-part article published in *Le Monde Diplomatique* in April 2000. The stories, focusing heavily on drug capital, are titled "Crime, The World's Biggest Free Enterprise." The brilliant and penetrating words of authors Christian de Brie and Jean de Maillard do a better job of explaining the actual world economic and political situation than anything I have ever read. De Brie writes:

By allowing capital to flow unchecked from one end of the world to the other, globalization and abandonment of sovereignty have together fostered the explosive growth of an outlaw financial market... It is a coherent system closely linked to the expansion of modern capitalism and based on an association of three partners: governments, transnational corporations and mafias. Business is business: financial crime is first and foremost a market, thriving and structured, ruled by supply and demand.

Big business complicity and political laissez faire is the only way that large-scale organized crime can launder and recycle the fabulous proceeds of its activities. And the transnationals need the support of governments and the neutrality of regulatory authorities in order to consolidate their positions, increase their profits, withstand and crush the competition, pull off the 'deal of the century' and finance their illicit operations. Politicians are directly involved and their ability to intervene depends on the backing and the funding that keep them in power. This collusion of interests is an essential part of the world economy, the oil that keeps the wheels of capitalism turning.

After confronting CIA Director John Deutch on world television on November 15, 1996, I was interviewed by the staff of both the Senate and House Intelligence Committees. I submitted written testimony for the Senate Intelligence Committee, although I was never called to testify. In every one of those interviews and in my written testimony and every lecture since that time, I have told the story of Brown & Root.

In God (Gold-Oil-Drugs) We Trust

Make no mistake about it. The United States is preparing for war. Events immediately following the 2000 US election debacle are ominous predictors for the Bush-Cheney Administration. While not all of the cabinet posts are yet filled, the key posts of Treasury, Defense, Justice and National Security Advisor point to the most militarized oil-and- big-business-friendly administration in 35 years.

So thorough is the plan for control of the government that the son of Secretary of State Colin Powell, in an appointment that has yet to

GETTING PERSONAL

In July 1977, this writer, then a Los Angeles Police officer, struggled to make sense of a world gone haywire. In a last-ditch effort to salvage a relationship with my fiancée, Nordica Theodora D'Orsay (Teddy), a CIA contract agent, I had traveled to New Orleans to find her. I had gone on my own, unofficially, to avoid the scrutiny of LAPD's Organized Crime Intelligence Division (OCID).

Teddy had wanted me to join her operations from within the ranks of LAPD, starting in the late spring of 1976. I had refused to get involved with drugs in any way, and everything she mentioned seemed to involve either heroin or cocaine, along with the guns that she was always moving out of the country. The Director of the CIA then was George Herbert Walker Bush.

Then Teddy disappeared. She left many people, including me, baffled and twisting in the breeze. The OCID detectives had been pressuring me hard for information about her and her activities. It was information I could not give them. Hoping against hope that I would find some way to understand her involvement with CIA, LAPD, the royal family of Iran, the Mafia and drugs, I set out alone into eight days of Dantean revelations which have determined the course of my life.

Arriving in New Orleans in early July 1977, I found Teddy living in an apartment across the river in Gretna. Equipped with scrambler phones and night vision devices, and working from sealed communiqués delivered by navy and air force personnel from nearby Belle Chasse Naval Air Station, she was involved in something truly ugly. Teddy was arranging for large quantities of weapons to be loaded onto ships leaving for Iran. At the same time, she was working with associates of New Orleans Mafia boss Carlos Marcello to coordinate the movement of service boats that were

bringing large quantities of heroin into the city. The boats arrived at Marcello-controlled docks, unmolested by even the New Orleans police she introduced me to, along with divers, military men, former Green Berets and CIA personnel. The service boats were retrieving the heroin from oil rigs in the Gulf of Mexico, in international waters—oil rigs built and serviced by Brown & Root.

The guns that Teddy monitored, apparently Vietnam-era surplus AK47s and M16s, were being loaded onto ships owned or leased by Brown & Root. And more than once during the eight days I spent in New Orleans, I met and ate at restaurants with Brown & Root employees who were boarding those ships and leaving for Iran within days. Once, while leaving a bar and apparently having asked the wrong question, I was shot at in an attempt to scare me off.

Disgusted and heartbroken at witnessing my fiancée and my government smuggling drugs, I ended the relationship. Returning home to LA, I made a clean break and reported all the activity I had seen, including the connections to Brown & Root, to LAPD intelligence officers. They promptly told me that I was crazy.

Forced out of LAPD under threat of death at the end of 1978, I made complaints to the LAPD's Internal Affairs Division and to the LA office of the FBI under the command of FBI SAC Ted Gunderson. My attorney and I wrote to politicians, the Department of Justice and the CIA, and contacted the *Los Angeles Times*. The FBI and the LAPD said that I was crazy.

A 1981 two-part news story in the *Los Angeles Herald Examiner* revealed that the FBI had taken Teddy into custody and then released her without further action. Former New Orleans Crime Commissioner Aaron

Cohen told reporter Randall Sullivan that he found my description of events perfectly plausible after his 30 years of studying Louisiana's organized crime operations. To this day, a CIA report prepared as a result of my complaint remains classified and exempt from release, pursuant to executive order of the President, in the interests of national security and because it would reveal the identities of CIA agents.

On October 26, 1981, in the basement of the West Wing of the White House, I reported on what I had seen in New Orleans to my friend and UCLA classmate, Craig Fuller. Fuller went on to become Chief of Staff to Vice-President Bush from 1981 to 1985. In 1982, then UCLA political science professor Paul Jabber filled in many of the pieces in my quest to understand what I had seen in New Orleans. He was qualified to do so because he had served as a CIA and State Department consultant to the Carter Administration.

Paul explained that, after a 1975 treaty between the Shah of Iran and Saddam Hussein of Iraq, the Shah had cut off all overt military support for Kurdish rebels fighting Saddam from the north of Iraq. In exchange, the Shah had gained access to the Shatt al' Arab waterway so that he could multiply his oil exports and income. Not wanting to lose a valuable long-term asset in the Kurds, the CIA had then used Brown & Root—which operated in both countries and maintained port facilities in the Persian Gulf and near Shatt al' Arab—to re-arm the Kurds. The whole operation had been financed with heroin. Paul was matter-of-fact about it. In 1983, Paul Jabber left UCLA to become a Vice-President of Banker's Trust and Chairman of the Middle East Department of the Council on Foreign Relations. •

Michael C. Ruppert

receive much notice, has been appointed the new Commissioner of the Federal Communications Commission. This is the body that monitors and polices all commercial broadcasting in the United States.

With Colin Powell as Secretary of State, Donald Rumsfeld as Secretary of Defense and Dick Cheney as Vice-President, the highest levels of the US Government now house two former Secretaries of Defense and the former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The new National Security Advisor, Condoleezza Rice, while African-American, has a long track record of service to Republican administrations and also sits on the board of directors of Chevron Oil, which has recently named an oil tanker after her. Her lackluster operational credentials indicate that she will probably serve as the designated messenger between Bush, Powell, Rumsfeld and Cheney, and as the African-American poster girl for coming military adventurism.

Of special interest as this story goes to press [October, 2000] is the strong rumor among my sources that current CIA Director George Tenet, appointed to the post by President Clinton in 1997, will remain in the new Bush Administration. [This indeed occurred. Tenet is the first CIA director in 28 years to remain in office after the White House switched occupants.-Ed.] Based upon this writer's study of CIA operations and history, this strongly suggests two things. Firstly, it implies that the CIA, as a non-partisan servant of Wall Street, feels that its interests have been—and will continue to be—well served by Tenet, who is well liked at Langley. Most importantly, however, it suggests that there are operations, both covert and otherwise, in motion under CIA control which are moving at a speed and with a force that will not accept a break in rhythm for a change in directors. Most critical among these would be the start of the planned conflict in Colombia.

Since the advent of the atomic bomb, the United States has always needed two kinds of enemies. On one level, it has needed a tactical enemy that it can go out and fight in the field in a shooting war. Since 1945, these enemies have been created and appeared as North Korea, North Vietnam, Grenada, El Salvador, Panama, Iraq and now Colombia. On another level, however, the US needs a strategic enemy that will justify outrageous expenditures of capital for strategic weapon systems like ICBMs, Trident submarines and "Star Wars" missile defense systems.

With the new Bush Administration already contemplating a policy change that would make Colombian rebels—as opposed to drug traffickers—the targets of US military aid, as has been reported by AP, there is no doubt where the next shooting war is going to be. And with the militarized Bush cabinet making a missile defense shield a priority, it looks as though either China or Russia will become the next big enemy of choice. In the end, profitability will decide. For the moment, the less-than-credible paper threat is from unspecified "rogue nations." We can be certain, however, that the shifting economic pressure plates around the world will reveal our next demon soon enough. Halliburton is uniquely placed to profit from either eventuality.

As it was in Vietnam, Central America and Kosovo, drugs continue to be a huge part of the financial plan for prolonged ground wars. As one cynic put it, "GOD" stands for "Gold, Oil and Drugs." We can be assured that an empire—as opposed to a republic—is emerging in the United States more quickly than many have expected. And the Bush Administration is already acting in a "godlike" manner. It is an empire that may have little need of even the pretence of democracy as American corporate fascism removes its mask in the wake of our election circus, the prostitu-

tion of our Supreme Court and the virtual destruction of American government as a servant of anything other than money, greed and power. •

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TROLL Cams

The All-Seeing Eyes of GOG (Global Occult Government)

By John Paul Jones

As the video cams we see in homes, airports, grocery stores, banks, convenience stores, gas stations, parking lots, and highways are connected to the internet as web cams, they will become, in effect, a vast matrix of government eyeballs—always awake and alert, 7 days a week, 24 hours a day, and placed almost everywhere we need to go.

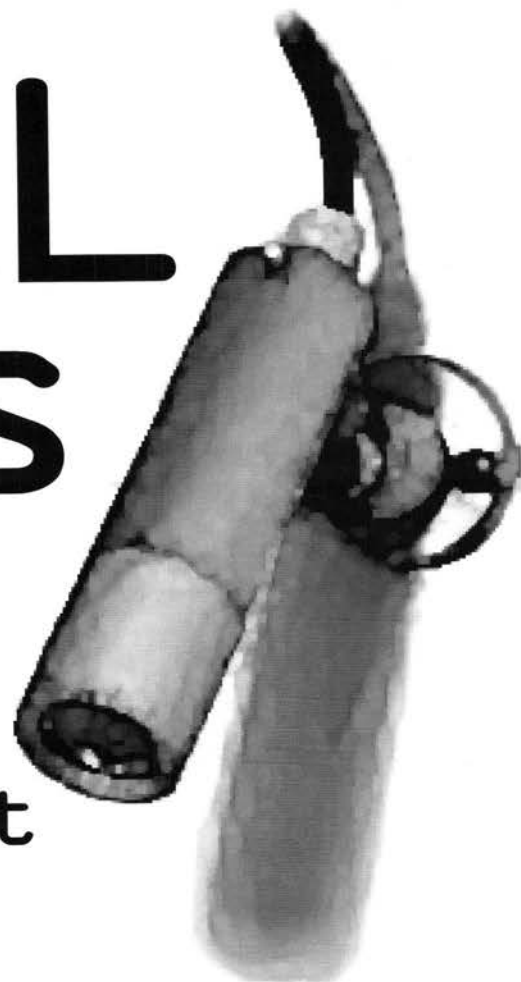
By intercepting internet traffic, either surgically at ISPs (as with “Carnivore”) or directly from the internet backbones (e.g., Menwith Hill), US intelligence agencies will be able to scan for any individual’s digital face print, using a system that will:

- T.** Tag: Tell the software who to look for
- R.** Recognize: Scan for target based on a digital face print
- O.** Observe: Collect images containing targeted person
- L.** Locate: Infer location & time of target’s appearance
- L.** Log: Record results for possible software analysis or human perusal.

Not only is the above technologically, politically and legally feasible, but the necessary components of this incredible surveillance system have already been developed, tested and partially implemented. Thanks in

large part to the Clinton administration, but thanks also to the rampant denial, deceit, and apathy which always grease the cogs of impending tyranny, the electronic and legal infrastructure is now established which could one day be used to implement a police state the likes of which would make Nazi Germany look like Camp Snoopy.

But why, it might be asked, should we assume that these cameras we see most everywhere will be linked to the internet? Well, suppose you owned a Las Vegas resort and you wanted to show off your wares? You might think of converting your surveillance cameras to world wide web cams so potential customers could take a look at your accommodations. Or suppose you owned some department stores. By linking all your surveillance cams to the internet, you could centralize your surveillance facilities at one location to reduce overhead. Or what if you owned a radio station and wanted your listeners



to feel like the DJ is their drinking buddy? You might put a web cam in the studio so your fans can see what antics the DJ is up to.

It's already started, but we ain't seen nothing yet. Already, according to the March 23, 2001 issue of the *Denver Post*, the Colorado Department of Transportation, in conjunction with Adesta Communications, launched a joint \$180 million public-private venture to place web cams along fiber-optic backbones extending along major highways through Colorado

The electronic and legal infrastructure is now in place to create a police state that would make Nazi Germany look like Camp Snoopy.

down to New Mexico, and crossing Kansas through Colorado to Utah.

This public-private dubiousity was made possible by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, which blurred the line between private corporations and government entities, allowing corporations and federal bloatocracies to join into amorphous mega-corporations like In-Q-Tel, a CIA taxpayer-financed communications com-

pany. The project, which began in the fall of 1999 and is expected to be completed in 2002, will likely provide the model for future endeavors to create "smart roads" across the country. Similar projects in Iowa and Minnesota are currently delayed due to lawsuits claiming highway departments will compete unfairly with private companies by using taxpayer money. These web cams will join the host of other surveillance cameras already posted on the nation's borders by the INS.

As detailed in *The Surveillance Society* by Grant Jeffries (pp 133-134), whenever you drive your car up to the Mexican or Canadian border, a sophisticated long-distance camera automatically scans your license plate, whereupon the computer system compares your plate number against a national registry of motor vehicle files, the customs search and seize list, and the national police and security files of the U.S., Canada, and Mexico.

By the time you drive up to the customs agent, the optical scanning system that reads your plate has already accessed the records of the Immigration, Customs, and State Department to retrieve your vehicle registration, driver's license, and police records. Each time you cross the border, that fact is recorded on the Custom and Immigration computers of the United States and Canada. Although the INS video cameras are not yet connected to the internet as far as I know, it's not unreasonable to suppose that, as the nation's intelligent highway system develops, they will be.

Digital Face Scanning

In addition to scanning for license plate numbers, these systems are capable of automatically zooming in and focusing to identify a driver by facial characteristics. Much of this information pertaining to the government's use of digital face scanning software can be verified by visiting www.viisage.com and www.visionics.com, the web sites of two companies involved in development and testing of facial recognition systems for the government.

As detailed on the Visionics Corp. web site and elsewhere, the digital face scanning systems are surprisingly sophisticated and not as easily fooled as might be expected. According to Joseph Atick, Visionics president and professor at the Computational Neuroscience Laboratory at Rockefeller University in New York, the "FaceIt" software uses a mathematical construction called local feature analysis (LFA) "to automatically derive a local topographic representation of any class of objects, such as human faces, from an ensemble of examples." FaceIt won the competition between face recognition systems conducted as part of the U.S. Advanced Research Project's FERET program conducted in 1996.

Superior to a previous technique called eigenfaces, which were global face representations, LFA entails local, feature by feature analysis that is not easily fooled by deformations in the face or changes of pose or lighting, according to Atick. LFA analyzes individual features, such as mouth, nose, cheek, jawline, etc., as if they were "Lego" blocks, which means that each feature can be analyzed independently of the whole face, thus avoiding a pixel by pixel analysis of an entire image.

The FaceIt technology combines LFA with "eigenheads," an older technique also developed by Visionics. Eigenheads is a low dimensional representation of the three-dimensional (3-D) human head, which is obtained from shading information in a two dimensional

(2-D) image. The eigenhead is not dependent upon pose or lighting. FaceIt software uses eigenheads to compensate for variations in lighting and pose, then feeds the information to the LFA code, which builds a unique "faceprint." This faceprint can then be matched to a database of digital images in real time, and can obtain images from either live video feeds or from static images.

It is no wonder, then, that a host of federal agencies, including the NSA, DARPA, INS, DoD, and the US Army Research Laboratory, plus almost a dozen state governments, invested large sums of taxpayer money to test, acquire, and implement this control and tracking technology in the last half of the 1990s. Research projects, such as FERET, Newham, and the SENTRI trial-run, have demonstrated the effectiveness, reliability, and unparalleled possibilities of facial recognition systems beyond any doubt, beyond belief, and beyond George Orwell's worst visions of dystopia unbound.

Granted, then, that the technology exists to implement TROLL cam surveillance on a national basis, and further granting the likelihood that most or many surveillance cams will soon be replaced with web cams, we are still left with a crucial component of the hypothetical TROLL cam surveillance system missing. Or are we?

Driver's "Privacy Protection" Act

In order to scan for and locate targeted individuals via these web cams, the government would need to possess a vast database of digital face prints. That is, before you can tell the software to look for somebody, the software needs some idea of what to look for. In the same vein, the Carnivore system presumably needs to be given an individual's e-mail address before it can tag transmissions containing the target's e-mail address. Likewise, TROLL cam surveillance would require a digitized photo of the people targeted for tracking before it could identify somebody via the world's web cams.

Not surprisingly, given the past history of the intelligence cults, the Feds went to great lengths to acquire just such a database of digital face prints—not just for known or suspected criminals but for almost every citizen of the United States. This was done under the guise of a grossly misnamed and insidious law enacted in 1994: the federal Driver's Privacy Protection Act (DPPA), which requires states to release private DMV records to a multitude of federal agencies under various federal programs. It also permits departments of motor vehicles to sell driver information, including names, social security numbers, addresses and digital photographs, to private third-party organizations. (see *Media Bypass*, March 2000, p 50)

Although the DPPA was attacked in court as unconstitutional because it arguably violated the 10th Amendment, the Supreme Court later reversed three lower court rulings from South Carolina, Colorado and Alabama, which held that the law was indeed unconstitutional; and so the DPPA joins a slew of other legislative monstrosities pushed through by the Clinton Administration with the backing of a few constitutionally-challenged alphabet soup agencies.

According to *Media Bypass*, "Under the DPPA, the federal government will take full control over all state-held driver and motor vehicle records. The sole purpose of this act was in fact to wrench away authority over these records from the states." Since motor vehicle records contain digital photos of most adult citizens in the United States, these provide the missing link in the evolution of police-state-America and a



The tragic September 11 attacks have become a grim sales tool for biometric technology advocates.

In fact, a lead purveyor of face-scanning systems believes his products might have prevented the September 11 attacks, if only those silly privacy advocates hadn't intimidated him. "This could have [made] a profound difference. It's clear that some of these [terrorist] suspects were in the FBI database," says Tom Colatosti, president of Massachusetts-based Visage Technology, which supplied face-scanning systems for the Super Bowl. "What has us frustrated is that we allowed ourselves to be intimidated by some of this privacy silliness. I carry guilt for not being able to make that point better." Richard Norton, executive director of the International Biometric Industry Association, is more circumspect. He says it would be "irresponsible to speculate on what could or could not have been done," to prevent the attacks. Nevertheless, he believes that biometrics technologies "have been tested in a number of environments and certainly could be a piece of the equation for diminishing the [terrorism] threat."•

vital component of the TROLL cam surveillance system.

Soon after the falsely named DPPA was adopted, a company called Image Data LLC of Nashua, New Hampshire was formed specifically to develop a huge database of driver records for use by retail outlets in verifying customer identity and reducing fraud. Image Data began purchasing records from several states based solely upon the newly granted authority under the DPPA.

The company intended to install small "image monitors" at retail outlets that used their service, which would display the customer's driver's license photo during transactions where identity needed to be authenticated. The equipment would have allowed stores to run credit cards through a reader, which

Motor vehicle records contain photos of most adults and provide the missing link in the evolution of the police state.

would then retrieve the “verifying” photos and other data through phone wire connections to Image Data’s database. Children’s photos taken from state-issued identity cards were also included in the database.

In a series of articles in late 1999, the *Washington Post* reported that the Secret Service provided the funding for the Image Data operation. Consequently, due to public outcry, the Image Data project was postponed, and three states, which had signed contracts to sell 22 million photographs to Image Data at about a penny per photo, cancelled their contracts with Image Data. Florida Gov. Jeb Bush canceled a contract to sell 14 million images, and Colorado Gov. Bill Owens halted the sale of 5 million photos. But as a

consequence of the Supreme Court ruling in 2000 upholding the DPPA, government and businesses could again begin building databases like the one first undertaken by Image Data.

That said, consider the components required to implement a TROLL cam surveillance system of U.S. citizens on a global basis:

- Super fast Digital Face Scanning Software.
- Federally-accessible database of digital photos of U.S. citizens.
- Downlink of internet traffic to federal computer sites.
- Web cams posted at key places throughout the U.S. and overseas.

Digital Telephony Act of 1994

There is good reason to believe that all components, except perhaps the last one, are either operational at this time or soon will be. As detailed above, it was no mere coincidence that these requirements fell into place just before the last prerequisite—web cams everywhere—seems about to happen. Nor was it a mere coincidence that the legal groundwork was laid down via the Digital Telephony Act of 1994, the DPPA, and the Telecommunications Act of 1996, not to mention the taxpayer-financed spread of web cams onto highways, public schools, Indian reservations and elsewhere.

Keep in mind that Carnivore, which some of us had already considered inevitable long before news of it hit mainstream media, came to us compliments of the Digital Telephony Act of 1994—a virtual nationalization of the

telecommunications industry, according to Simon Garfinkel, author of *PGP: Pretty Good Privacy*, a book on PGP encryption. This gives the Feds the legal authority to place surveillance equipment/software in the communications infrastructure, e.g., on ISP servers, internet backbones and NAPs (Network Access Points), etc., and corporations must comply or be severely penalized.

Thus, once the video cameras we see most everywhere metamorphose into web cams and proliferate, spawning a vast matrix of interconnected electronic eyeballs, the intelligence agencies need only intercept the traffic and download it to a central computer facility—like the NSA headquarters at Fort

Meade or the Menwith Hill site in the UK (located over the internet backbone carrying traffic to and from Europe). The web cam images can then be scanned with sophisticated digital face scanning software to identify and track targeted people using digi-photos, now available to the Feds thanks to the DPPA.

Voila! As if from some hoary midnight sci-fi flick, an instant infernal nightmare of Orwellian proportions will no longer be fiction but brute fact. Who will ultimately be financing this brave new world wide web of evil? Why, you, of course, the taxpayer, will have funded your own enslavement. So work hard. Big Brother depends on you, my virtual fellow cyberslaves of the New World Order. •

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Hubbard Was Against Mind Control

I work in the Media Relations department of Bridge Publications, Inc., the publisher for Mr. L. Ron Hubbard. I am writing to you because of two recent articles in your magazine that give mention to Mr. Hubbard. The first is *Aleister Crowley: The Midnight Messenger* by Mike Culkin, and the second is *Science Fiction as Manipulation* by Robert Guffey.

I know that as the magazine editor you have a responsibility to publish accurate and entertaining information to your subscribers and readers. Unfortunately, in these two articles you have printed information regarding L. Ron Hubbard and Dianetics that is not factual. I have no doubt that the aforementioned articles could have been just as educational and interesting—and maybe even more so—if you had printed the truth about L. Ron Hubbard's stance on mind-control and hypnotism techniques—techniques that he stood firmly against, both in his writings and with his actions. Moreover, Mr. Hubbard exposed—as a result of his research—very disturbing techniques of mind control, which he aptly labeled “pain-drug-hypnosis” or “PDH” (reference the book: *Science of Survival*, first published 1951).

It is clear from the bibliography of the articles that your writers were ill informed by some of their sources, and I can see how such materials have led them astray. The untruths which you have been subjected to can easily be brought to light with a document from Times Newspapers Limited (copy enclosed) in which they had printed similar comments as was published in your articles and later retracted them with a legal statement. In order to fix the two articles you published as mentioned above, I request that a correction statement or this letter be printed

in the next issue (hardcopy and online version) of your magazine.

Sincerely,
Blake Silber

Bridge Publications, Inc.

The Cosmic Web

To Wendy Wallace: At the end of your interesting thesis (“Desperation Science: The Hidden Agenda of Darwinian Evolutionism” (Issue 27), you make an assumption that all designed things require a designer. That goes along with our way of doing things which has evolved from you know when. May we suggest we agree with design but of a different type which has not been considered by you: re: the Cosmic Web in *NY Times* (8/14/01). From here their imprint, their constitution, are the 10 meridians: the first items which come before/with/at birth/conception of the fetus. The web is your designer. We call them the Merries. Acting, interacting, the web creates design, cause, evolvment and evolution of the existence we know, in which we evolve continually.

AHIMSA
R.B. Cutler

Creation not Creationism

I am responding to your article: “Desperation Science” (Issue 27). I thought it was well researched and while I agree that evolution is far from proved, I strongly disagree with the ‘young Earth’ hypothesis: that the six days of creation in Genesis refer to six twenty-four hour days. The attachment to the anti-evolution argument of the days of creation being 24 hours in length is what is termed “Creationism.” “Creationism” is not supported by the Bible, is not supported by the evidence, and greatly detracts from an otherwise strong Creation case. Genesis 1:1: says: “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” This statement does not attach any time period at all to the creation of heaven and earth.

The six creative days of Genesis refer to the *preparation* of the already existing Earth for life and the creating of life, human and animal. Each of the six creative days concludes with the

statement: “And there came to be evening and there came to be morning” a first, second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth day (Gen 1:5, 8, 13, 19, 23, 31). The seventh day, however, does not have this ending, indicating that this period, during which God has been resting from his creative works toward the Earth, continued on. At Hebrews 4:1-10 the apostle Paul indicated that God's rest (7th) day was still continuing in his day, and that was more than 4,000 years after that seventh-day rest period began. This shows that each creative day, or work period was at least thousands of years in length (See *Insight on the Scriptures Vol. 1*, “Day” published by Watchtower). That “day” can refer to varying periods of time is shown elsewhere in Genesis where the entire period of the creation of heavens and earth is referred to as one “day.” “This is the history of the heavens and the earth in the time of their being created, in the day that Jehovah God made earth and heaven” (Genesis 2:4). In Genesis, when it speaks of days according to God's view we should not assume a day according to our view. God does not live in our



LETTERS



Letters, *continued*

solar system or anywhere in our universe and so is not affected by its various cycles and orbits.

Under the subheading, "Oh, Those Billions of Years" the writer makes the point that evolutionists need billions of years in order to make their theory seem viable. It's true that the earth has been in existence for 4.5 billion years, but that does not mean that an unbroken period of 4.5 billion years was allowed for evolution to have occurred. There have been six mass extinctions on earth according to gaps in the geologic column. These gaps would have interrupted any evolution process. In fact, these extinction events narrow the window of opportunity for life to evolve down to just a couple of hundred million years. "This early bombardment would also have frustrated the development and evolution of early life, with the largest impacts having the capacity to effectively sterilize the surface of the globe" (http://gdcinfo.agg.nrcan.gc.ca/crater/paper/index_e.html).

One of these extinctions in the geologic record is highly correlated with the Chicxulub impact crater, estimated to be 65 millions years old. The dating is due, not just to radioactive techniques, but also to shocked lithic fragments—intensely disturbed and fragmented rocks at the flank of the crater that correspond with rock layers in the geologic column already found to be at least millions of years old (see below). In other craters rocks, which form a hill in the center of the crater, have also been correlated to ancient times in the geologic column.

If one measures the rate of sediment deposition on the earth, the typical rate is millimeters per decade. The average sediment accumulation rate remains very, very, low. In many sites around the globe, one

sees sequences of sedimentary rock exposed that are 10's of kilometers thick; and when you see that these stacks are on top of older stacks, and those stacks themselves are often made of reworked older sediments, there are 100's of km of sediment represented. At the bottom of these layers are the Pre-Cambrian rocks, which lie below the Cambrian rocks, more than 550 million years old. The Pre-Cambrian rocks comprise 87% of the total mass of the earth according to measurements made by earthquake waves. Adding up just the time needed to lay down these layers, not including the Pre-Cambrian mass, you get 100's of millions of years at a minimum, and billions of years, easily. There are at least 150 known large meteorite impact craters covering a period of 2.5 billion years, according to shocked lithic fragments and erosion evidence. For instance, at Carswell Lake in Canada, the formation of the central uplift in this crater underlies the Precambrian granite that had been raised several hundred feet above its normal position in the region. Another way of dating impact craters is to note that, for instance, craters discovered on the Canadian Shield had been subjected to glaciation and other kinds of erosion during vast geologic ages.

The fact that impacts were more numerous during older geologic periods than today correlates with the theory of the origin of the asteroid belt that now produces the meteorites. This theory is that an earth sized planet exploded approximately 2 billion years ago, perhaps due to a collision. One can reason that all the major pieces that could collide with something else have already done so: by now they should be used up except for pieces the size of a small house to fine dust. The average time it takes for a cycle of metamorphism of rocks is from tens of thousands to millions of years. At the Manicougan crater, which is estimated at 212 million years, the meteorite impact hit igneous and metamorphic rocks, rocks that had

already taken tens or hundreds of thousands of years to form before the meteorite hit.

Regarding the Pre-Cambrian rocks which comprise 87% of the earth's mass, it is estimated that the time it took for planet earth to accrete it's mass was about 100 million years. Star formation takes from 10,000 to ten million years; and in this period our Sun was forming and the earth and planets were all embedded in the solar nebula, a swirling mass of gas and dust. The fact that we can see star forming regions today, like the Eagle and Orion Nebula with the help of the Hubble Space Telescope argues that star formation is a process taking tens of thousands to millions of years—and against an instantaneous creation of stars.

Another line of evidence for an old earth is tree ring chronology. The longest continuous tree-ring chronology in the world is composed of many, many series of oak sequences that overlap back in time to more than 10,000 years (<http://www-sci.lib.uci.edu/SEP/CTS/TreeRing.html>). Some Creationists have tried to argue that the reason why the physical evidence from the earth yields billions of years of age is that the Creator has somehow sought to deceive observers with the evidence, i.e., that He has deliberately made things appear as though they are millions or billions of years old when they are in reality, only 6,000 years old. Deception is not in harmony with the Creator's personality. The Bible states, "It is impossible for God to lie" (Hebrews 6:18). There is simply no need, according to the Bible, to prove that the heavens and the earth are six thousand years old. The evidence, both written and physical, shows otherwise.

K. Klemenchich

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Symbolism of Nibiru, the Planet of the Cross(X)ing

by Andy Lloyd

This article will explore the implications of the existence of a tenth solar system planet, which the ancient Sumerians called Nibiru, including its symbolism within various powerful esoteric movements. (See previous article published in *PARANOIA*.) (1)

We live in an ever-changing world where scientific knowledge adapts to new, sometimes startling, discoveries. But our ability as a society to adapt to these new revelations is often below par. We have short lifetimes, and the strength of conviction that the 'facts' taught us in school are immutable is often overpowering. Sometimes this reflects a need to be fastened to a fundamental rock of truth; perhaps a religious doctrine or a political philosophy. But the world does not conform to these models or ideals, and the more the cracks appear the more it becomes clear that many of the truths we hold dear are as afloat on the sea of knowledge as we are.

Take, for example, what we think we know about the solar system. Having rid ourselves of the notion that the planets and the Sun circle the Earth, we have replaced this geocentric notion with another palliative. Because the planets circle the Sun in an amiable, orderly fashion, we take it as a truism that they have done so since the very beginning of the solar system. Inherent in this belief is the assumption that there cannot be another major body in the solar system interacting with the known planets in any kind of destabilizing manner. Otherwise, the planets would be chaotically arranged, and the solar system would be a desperately dangerous place.



To confront this assumption with a few uncomfortable facts is a difficult task, even for astronomers. We quickly embark upon a journey into the purely speculative as far as most scientists are concerned. With this in mind, I will ask the reader to grant me a little leeway within these pages as I consider a number of modern solar system discoveries and see where they take us. The ideas that I will promulgate will be speculative, but they explain a great deal and seem worthy of consideration.

Galactic Wanderers

The solar system is an arena that extends well beyond the planet Pluto. The area of influence of our Sun may

carry as far as the halfway point between us and the nearest star. It is likely, although not proven, that comets circle the Sun at extraordinary distances, perhaps 100,000 times the distance between the Earth and the Sun. It should not surprise us, then, that other much larger bodies may be similarly orbiting within the Sun's sphere of influence. There may be many large planetary bodies out there, dark and distant, that await discovery. What if there were? Any number of sizeable planets could exist in the Oort Cloud, but it would make precious little difference to our understanding of our place in the Cosmos. After all, such bodies would be frozen in the deep cold of interstellar space; existing as lifeless rocks gently circling a dim and remote star.

But as the size of a planet increases, so does its ability to warm itself. We can start to talk about failed stars, or

through a 'micro-lensing' effect as they passed in front of background stars, and some of these remote bodies have been dubbed 'sub-brown dwarfs'(4). We now know that there are dark planets, 'light-emitting planets'(5) and failed stars floating freely in interstellar space, and that they could pass through our solar system on a random basis.

The Late, Great Bombardment

Clearly, our notion of a planetary system hugging the Sun and safely cocooned from the dangers of the galactic environment is a fallacy. Looking at the action of passing stars and planets, Jack Hills ran computer simulations to predict the outcome of various scenarios(6). His results were illuminating. It is evident that a planetary body ten times the size of Jupiter could pass directly through the planetary solar system with-

As Nibiru approaches the inner solar system, it will be seen to grow immense, fiery wings, swept back from the Sun. This explains descriptions of the falcon god Horus flying toward the Sun as the Winged Disc.

brown dwarfs. These entities are likely to have been formed in the coalescing matter of emerging multiple star systems, and to have been ejected as the 'runts' of the litter during the gravitational struggles of the new stellar families (2). Brown dwarfs, or dark stars, tend to be found wandering the interstellar void; yet they were created within the celestial nests of stellar incubators. What is rarely discussed in scientific papers about brown dwarfs, however, is what might happen when one of these cosmic wanderers inadvertently finds itself passing through another star system. Given that it is statistically probable that regular stars have passed through the outer reaches of the solar system during the lifetime of the Sun (3), it seems more likely still that smaller bodies would similarly have encroached into the Sol's domain. Astrophysicist Jack Hills, of the Los Alamos National Laboratory, has calculated that stars pass within 3000 Astronomical Units of the Sun every 100 million years or so (an Astronomical Unit being equal to the Earth's average distance from the Sun)(3).

Our knowledge of dark bodies wandering independently through interstellar space is just beginning. These bodies are clearly very difficult to pinpoint, but the Hubble Space Telescope has inadvertently discovered some planetary bodies doing just that. They were detected

out causing major disruption to the known planets. It is also the case that, upon interacting gravitationally with the Sun and major planets, the wanderer could be captured into a highly eccentric orbit around the Sun. But instead of disrupting the orbits of the known planets chaotically, their orbital distances from the Sun would be subject to change. Since the 'binding energies' of the planets are linked, a major new planet going into orbit around the Sun would change these energy relationships.

Such an event would also trigger a short, but violent, period of cometary bombardment upon the planets(3). This might explain the extinction events during the history of the Earth, and also a remarkable event that occurred 3.9 billion years ago. Dubbed the 'late great bombardment' by scientists, this time witnessed a sudden barrage of cosmic debris against the Earth and Moon. Many thousands of impacts occurred, some of which were even greater than the impact that wiped out the dinosaurs. These impacts created 'continent-sized craters' and vaporized oceans(7). This bombardment appears to have lasted about 100 million years, but occurred too late and too violently to be a result of random asteroid collisions after the birth of the solar system 4.5 billion years ago.



The oldest depiction of the feathered winged disc, from India.

Scientists are struggling to explain this cataclysmic event in the solar system 3.9 billion years ago. But an interaction with a wandering celestial body would fit the bill well. It would likely mean that such a body remains in orbit around the Sun, undiscovered. Were it not for the lack of a discovered planet, this idea would most certainly be a prominent theory. Instead, mainstream astronomers and physicists have proposed the wildest and most speculative ideas about the induction of this monstrous cataclysm. However, their musings ignore an entire collection of further evidence about this wandering planet.

Ancient Knowledge

Many ancient religions and mythologies have involved the study of the stars and planets. The ancient cosmologies were understood in terms of the character and actions of deities, but they referred to heavenly bodies. For many of the ancients, there was no distinction to be made between deities and heavenly bodies, and there is much to learn about their understanding of the cosmos from their religious myths. The Egyptians, for instance, almost certainly worshipped stellar deities prior to the later domination of the Solar figurehead. Constellations, stars and planets represented gods and goddesses, and the Pharaohs expected their spirit bodies, or *kas*, to rise to the stars after their death. But where much of the ancient Egyptian material pertaining to such beliefs is symbolic in nature and is subject to differing interpretation, the religions of the early Mesopotamians are far more explicit. In particular, the texts of the ancient Sumerians, our planet's earliest known civilisation, describe cosmic events that leave us in no doubt about the origin of the late, great bombardment.

The Sumerians lived in modern Iraq and produced a relatively advanced society seemingly overnight, replacing the more primitive neolithic cultures prevalent in the area 6,000 years ago. Their own origin is mysterious, but they made it quite clear that they derived their knowledge and expertise from a race of super-human gods known as the Anunnaki. These extraterrestrial colonists on planet Earth created humans in their own image, put them to work in their mines and their 'gardens,' and then watched in horror as Mankind was almost entirely wiped out by a cataclysmic Deluge. Following this catastrophe, the Anunnaki allowed

humans to spread freely over the face of the Earth and, eventually, bequeathed them the knowledge necessary to advance to a state of civilization.

This version of the Sumerian account of history was first described by the scholar Zecharia Sitchin in 1976 (8). It goes without saying that his conclusion about the physical reality of the Anunnaki is not shared by mainstream Sumerologists, who prefer to interpret these myths in terms of psychological constructs of the primitive mind. Yet the Sumerian texts are complex in form and explicit in their declaration that they apply to a physical reality, not to allegory. Sitchin has since written a series of books to back up his initial claims, and to provide further evidence that this described origin of our species is based in reality. Other writers, taken with this new mode of thinking, have also pursued parallel research. They include Alan Alford (9), Lloyd Pye (10), Neil Freer (11) and Joan d'Arc (12). This school of thought has produced a wealth of scientific data and evidence to back up Sitchin's theory; yet the so-called '12th Planet Theory' remains on the very fringes of scientific speculation.

Nibiru: Planet X?

One particular aspect of Sitchin's writings that has interested me is the nature of the home world of the Anunnaki. In their text called *Enuma Elish*, the Babylonians derived a cosmology and story of the genesis of the solar system from the Sumerians (8). It is a remarkable account that recreates the solar system almost exactly as we now recognize it, but with a hidden extra planet. This planet is no normal planet, it seems, but is an enormous fiery realm with attendant moons. This planetary entity was known as Nibiru. Prior to Sitchin's first book, the nature of Nibiru was being argued by scholars, and remained "Planet X," an "unknown factor" (13).

Sitchin determined this celestial body to be an undiscovered tenth planet orbiting the Sun. Its orbit is a highly elongated ellipse, and it remains hidden from view. Like a comet, it becomes visible only at its closest approach to the Sun, during its relatively short-lived perihelion passage. The origin of this body was interstellar space, having been captured by the Sun when it wandered through the solar system. The resultant changes to the solar system were catastrophic, and

Sitchin indicated that this event, described in the *Enuma Elish*, occurred when the solar system was still young. The Earth was the battered result of multiple impacts, and had previously been a much larger planet whose oceans had been vaporized.

This description from a 4,500 year old creation myth sounds remarkably like the late, great bombardment. Nibiru's capture by the Sun into a highly elongated orbit also correlates well with the computer simulations conducted by Hills in 1985. We are now aware of planetary bodies in excess of the size of Jupiter that wander freely in interstellar space, many of whom are dark stars known as brown dwarfs. This substantiates the claims of the ancient Babylonians that a wandering fiery planet could encroach upon the family of planets

to propose the existence of a brown dwarf in the outer Oort Cloud in 1999(17,18).

Although the astronomical community continues to ignore the remarkable 'coincidence' between the ancient knowledge of the solar system and continuing scientific discoveries, if Nibiru is out there it is simply a matter of time before it is located. Meanwhile, the *symbolism* of this hidden celestial entity becomes the focus. Any expectations or implications which can be drawn from the existence of Nibiru can only be done through a rigorous study of its place within comparative religious thought and symbolism. It has become increasingly evident that Nibiru played a central role in many religions and cults through the ages, and its iconography is of the utmost significance.

The fiery wings of Nibiru become the Phoenix, reborn in the heavenly Duat. The deity associated with this anomalous planet would be linked with dying and rising symbolism, a god of heavenly resurrection.

that were formed with the Sun. It also consolidates my claims that the ancient descriptions of Nibiru are consistent with a small brown dwarf (1,14,15). But even though the scientific evidence continues to strengthen the case for the dark star and its contingent of habitable moons, the mainstream scientific community is simply going to ignore it.

There isn't any particular reason why they should do so, at least from a purely objective point of view. After all, the far reaches of the solar system remain very much uncharted territory. When an astrophysics group from Harvard released details of an anomalous Kuiper Belt Object known as 2000 CR105 one of the team, Matthew Holman, indicated that its bizarre orbit might be the result of a massive perturber in the comet clouds beyond the planetary zone. He went on record as saying that a Mars-sized body might 'easily' have evaded detection as close as 200 AU(16).

Nibiru is a substantially larger body, but it is also likely to reside a great deal further away than even this. So not only could Nibiru still have evaded detection, but its presence beyond our current range could explain the anomalous orbital behavior of known objects. It would also explain the *non-random* pattern of comets entering the planetary zone, which led two groups of researchers

Planet of the Cross(X)ing

The earliest symbol used to depict Nibiru, or the 'Planet of the Crossing,' was a Sumerian pictographic cross. [Strangely, if it's the same body, it is still being similarly depicted as 'Planet X'.] Sitchin notes that this cuneiform symbol also meant 'Anu' (the leader of the Anunnaki) and 'divine.' This symbol evolved in the Semitic languages to become the letter 'tav,' meaning 'the sign' (8). Nibiru means 'ferry' or 'ford,' and is applicable to a celestial phenomenon (13). The symbolism used to depict the 'Planet of the Crossing' became more complex and took the form of the Winged Disc. This important symbol was popular throughout early Mesopotamian cultures, and found its way into ancient Egypt, presumably as part of a general transfer of early Sumerian culture (19).

The Mesopotamian Winged Disc symbol took the form of a feathered cross, and the central disc often had the image of the supreme deity within it. The Persians depicted Ahura Mazda in the symbol, while the Assyrians showed the god Assur (20). The ancient Egyptians used the symbol to denote Horus Horakhti, synonymous with the Horus falcon. In the Egyptian texts references were made to Horus flying up to the Sun as a 'great winged disc,' clearly emphasizing that Horus the winged

disc and the Solar disc were not synonymous in the ancient teachings (21).

I consider it highly likely that the Christian image of a dying and rising godman depicted at the center of a cross owes much to this symbolic tradition, and denotes the Messianic Star as a celestial phenomenon. In this way, we can follow the evolution of symbolism from the Sumerians, through the ancient Egyptian culture and, via the Hellenistic Mystery schools, to the deification of Jesus the Nazarean. It may come as a shock to some, but the symbolism of a deity upon a cross is by no means unique to Christianity, and the earliest Mesopotamian examples were quite evidently of purely celestial significance.

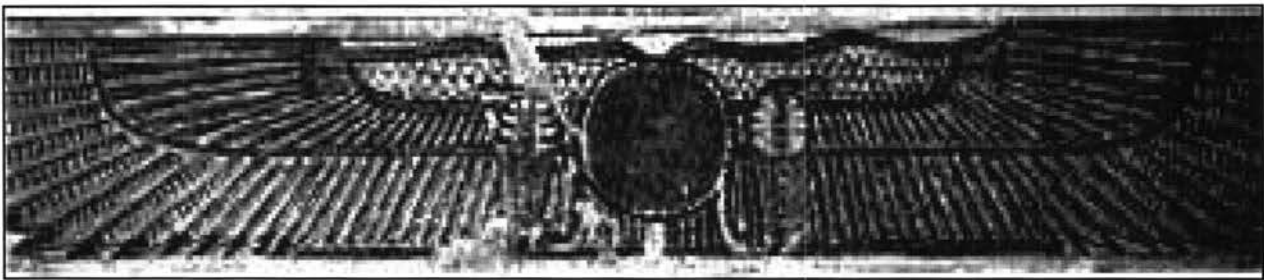
Nibiru's Appearance

Nibiru currently orbits the Sun in a similar way to a comet. But far from being an icy rock ejecting volatile

are also known to emit small solar flares, and have unpredictable periods of intense activity (24). Astronomers consider it probable that brown dwarfs in the vicinity of stars are likely to be more active than those free-floating in interstellar space. Therefore, we can conclude that Nibiru would become more active in the vicinity of the Sun during perihelion, throwing out solar flares and auroras in abundance.

Indeed, this heightened level of stellar activity is described in Mesopotamian accounts of Nibiru as it approached the primordial planet Tiamat (Earth):

*"In front of him he set the lightning,
with a blazing flame he filled his body;
He then made a net to enfold Tiamat therein...
A fearsome halo his head was turbaned,
He was wrapped with awesome terror as with a cloak." (25)*



gases as it is flung around the Sun at perihelion, Nibiru is a fiery world of immense proportions. The ejected gases from comets are blown back from the Sun by the solar wind, whether the comet is travelling towards the Sun or away from it (22). This display constitutes the famous cometary tail, a visible phenomenon of significant size that dwarfs the cometary core from which the volatile gases are driven off.

The planets with their own magnetic fields have a similarly shaped but invisible field around them known as their magnetosphere. Jupiter's magnetosphere is very substantial indeed, and it seems likely that the magnetosphere of a brown dwarf would be greater still. In recent times, evidence has emerged showing that the auroras of Jupiter are subject to deflection by the solar wind around the magnetic field of the gas giant. Dr. John Clarke, of the University of Michigan, notes that Jupiter's magnetosphere is "so vast that if it shined at wavelengths visible to the eye, it would appear from Earth to be two to three times wider than the disc of the Sun, even though it is more than four times as far away" (23).

Brown dwarfs may not shine like stars, but they still manage to "glimmer darkly forever," as Bo Reipurth of the University of Colorado has described (2). They

If Jupiter's aurora follows the magnetospheric field lines, then it seems equally likely that the coronal discharge of an excited brown dwarf will be similarly swept back from the Sun by the solar wind. Furthermore, the celestial 'halo' effect will be of truly awesome proportions, making Nibiru's size appear much greater than the Sun to viewers on Earth. As Nibiru approaches the inner solar system, it will be seen to grow immense, fiery wings, swept back from the Sun.

This explains the descriptions of the falcon god Horus flying toward the Sun as the Winged Disc. Not only that, but it allows us to recognize within this celestial image the symbolism of the 'fire-bird' so prevalent throughout the world's mythologies. Nibiru at perihelion becomes the cosmic Phoenix, reborn from glimmering embers of its exiled solitude in the comet clouds. I imagine it to be a truly awesome sight, one that remains the focus of countless mythologies and religions through the ages, despite Nibiru's millennia-long periods of absence.

Nibiru's Moons

According to the Sumerian texts, Nibiru entered the solar system with seven moons before engaging the primordial planet Tiamat in the Celestial Battle. Known in the creation myth as the 'seven winds,' the moons became an important focus of Nibiru's onslaught of Earth's

primordial mother planet (8). It is unclear how many moons Nibiru has, and how visible they are from Earth during its perihelion transit. Some depictions of the Winged Disc contain seven distinct discs in either the wings or the tail (26,27). Other motifs contain the image of two discs attached to the central disc by curved lines, and looking like the feet of the celestial bird (28). It may be that the number of moons is indeed seven, but that a variable number are visible from Earth, depending on their relative positions in

better environments for supporting life than even Jupiter's own moons, like Europa (30). These would be relatively dark worlds, perhaps lit only by dim red light, but the warmth of their environments would enable water to exist in liquid form, and I suspect the brown dwarf's radiation output would facilitate atmospheres, unlike the Galilean moons of Jupiter.

The question is whether the Sumerian claim that Nibiru itself is home to a god-like race of extraterrestrials, known as the Anunnaki, is plausible. Brown dwarfs themselves seem incapable of supporting life, but not so their moons. Conditions on the moons would make the establishment of intelligent life potentially viable there, and there would also be no constant bombardment of the kind of harmful solar radiation to which we are subject. This may facilitate longer life spans, reflecting the remarkable longevity claimed for the gods. This has to be a possibility, although it is also equally possible that the rare visible passage of Nibiru was sufficient in itself to engender several complex polytheistic mythologies.

Sitchin argues that our evolutionary development was subject to direct intervention, and he may well be correct. But the existence of Nibiru would not, in itself, *necessarily* indicate the presence of the Anunnaki. However, if a massive planet or failed star were found following a cometary orbit around the Sun, the chances of Sitchin being vindicated would be high. The

future discovery of this body would change our entire perception of who we are and of our place in the Cosmos.

Winged Disc: The Evolving Symbol

The bizarre orbit of Nibiru creates a unique characteristic for any deity associated with the 'Winged Planet.' Instead of being a cyclical visible phenomenon like the Sun, Moon and known planets, Nibiru's appearance is confined to a brief period of time every 3,600-3,800 years. Its appearance is sudden, and it quickly brightens to become a quite remarkable celestial event, before disappearing once again into the void. The fiery wings of Nibiru become the Phoenix, reborn in the heavenly Duat.

The deity associated with this anomalous planet would be linked with dying and rising symbolism, a god of heavenly resurrection. This polytheistic deification may have evolved into a different format in monotheistic

Demon Sun

In his 1985 book *Comet*, Carl Sagan discussed a mythological account that showed how astronomical events could tie in with mythological recollections of the ancients. This account ran as follows:

"The Sun has a Dark Sister. Long ago, before even great grandmother's time, the two suns danced together in the sky. But the Dark One was jealous that her sister was so much brighter, and in her rage she cursed us for not loving her, and loosed comets on the world. A terrible winter came, and darkness fell and bitter cold, and almost every living thing perished. After many seasons, the Bright Sister returned to her children, and it was warm and light once more, and life was renewed. But the Dark Sister is not dead. She is only hiding. One day she will return."

Sagan studied and wrote about the Sumerian accounts in similar terms in the 1960s.♦

their orbit around the brown dwarf. Perhaps two of the moons are sizeable bodies, similar in size to the terrestrial planets orbiting the Sun, while the rest constitute more elusive bodies.

The number seven is a holy number in many religions. In my manuscript I present a wealth of evidence about how ancient celestial symbols often involved seven stars or discs, often accompanied by a crescent (29). These range from Sumerian cylinder seals to Judaic and Christian symbols. It is evident that not only has the Nibiruan cross survived into modern times as an archetypal symbol, but the depiction of the dark star's attendant moons remains a powerful icon.

The moons of Nibiru perform another important role involving the incubation of life. Warmed by gravitational interaction and the considerable heat output of the dark star, these moons are potentially far

religion, taking the form of legends and myths regarding 'the lost king.' We can expect that the belief in the Nibiru archetype would have taken on a different guise during the purging of the Pagan religions in the first millennium after Christ. In a later installment I will explore the symbolism of some of the modern mystery cults to see how the Winged Disc has evolved, and will show that it is still venerated today in some of the more elusive mythologies of our time.

According to writers of antiquity, the extensive spread of the Pagan Mysteries originated in Egypt, and were modeled on the Mysteries of Osiris, Isis and Horus. The Mysteries traditionally include Dionysus in Greece, Mithras in Persia (and Rome), Adonis in Syria, Attis in Thrace, and there has lately been an argument to include early Christianity (31). The Osirian and Isian cults extend back to pre-Dynastic times, and there is a strong case for believing that early Egyptian civilization itself originated in Sumer (32).

This presents us with an alternative and parallel expansion of Sumerian knowledge, as described by Sitchin. The Sumerian religion was taken up by the Assyrians and Chaldeans, and expanded into Persia in the guise of Ahura Mazda. It also has resonance in the Ugaritic god Baal in Canaan (depicted within a trinity with the Sun and Moon), and Hittite dragons and lost gods (28).

Sitchin documents the importance of the Winged Disc in Egyptian culture and religious beliefs (33), and goes on to propose the migration of the Anunnaki culture to South and Meso-America (34). The later claim seems less likely to me, although there was evidently contact between the ancient world and the New World in the past, possibly through the Phoenicians and Vikings. I think it more likely that the evolution of beliefs about the Winged Disc took a different course; that it was retained in archaic Egyptian symbolism, and became embodied in the Pagan Mysteries—and eventually early Christianity.

The problem with such an assertion is that the nature of these mystery schools is secretive and closed, based on the rite of *Initiation*. It is difficult to chart the evolu-

tion of a particular religious tenet through schools of thought that remain closed to non-Initiates. But enough evidence now exists in the public domain to allow us a closer look at this private world. In another installment of *Paranoia*, I will be exploring a particular train of thought that encompasses Freemasonry, Rosicrucianism, Theosophy and Alchemy. •

Andy Lloyd is the author of *Winged Disc: The Dark Star Theory*. His web site is <http://www.darkstar1.co.uk/>. To purchase this remarkable 250-page manuscript, which includes 46 illustrations, please send US\$35 (international money order) to Andy Lloyd, P.O. Box 144, Gloucester, GL4 5YL, UK. Allow 28 days for delivery (shipping included).

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DeCLaRING waR ON the HuMaN SPiRit

The MeDia SPeCtaCLe vs. the COLLeCtive PSyChe

By Frank Berube and Joan d'Arc

Catastrophic events on the world stage are being met with overwhelming fear, weakening the foundations of personal integrity and undermining the ability to remain true to ourselves. Hoards of unconscious people are caught up in the whirlwind of technology: cell phone interactions, internet connections, video games and other virtual activities—lost in a world of their own making, scrambling for scraps of security in an evermore dangerous and uncertain world. Yet, how many of us are aware that global media conglomerates have helped to build this egomaniacal mad house called America?

In 1983, when Ben Bagdikian wrote the first edition of *Media Monopoly*, a mere 50 media corporations dominated the mass media. Now there are six: AOL Time Warner; Viacom; Walt Disney; News Corp (Rupert Murdoch); Vivendi Universal (#1 music company); and Bertelsmann (a private German conglomerate). In the 6th edition of his book, Bagdikian explains the problem this raises in a democratic society:

There was reason enough, even then, for concern that so small a number of dominant firms had such a disproportionate influence on American culture, commerce, and political power. That shrank the status of the individual and more personal groups as voices in society. But today there is an even smaller number of dominant firms—six—(even excluding the AOL-Time Warner deal), and those six have more communications power than all the combined fifty leading firms of sixteen years earlier. It is the overwhelming collective power of these firms, with their corporate interlocks and unified cultural and political values, that raises troubling questions about the individual's role in the American democracy.

As everything is falling apart all around us, no one but the most steadfastly oblivious could possibly be unaware of what is happening; yet, far too many people still do not realize what's really going on: We're in a media lockdown. Your mind is being trashed.

Should we censor points of view that we find “unpatriotic”? What if, under all the emotion they conjure, these opinions contain a kernel of “truth”? When it’s not possible to establish the truth about anything, that doesn’t mean we should surrender our autonomy to media authorities and give up on our own personal intuitions and perceptions. As Bagdikian explains:

As the dominant corporations’ increasing global scale enlarged their importance in the stock market, Wall Street analysts and leading investment houses became a factor in deciding how much and what kind of news and entertainment will reach the public. Wall Street lives and dies by daily stock levels, so pressure on media companies has increased not only to achieve ever-higher profits and stock levels, but also to do it rapidly.

In the frenetic race for attention, media companies adopt any means to freeze viewers’ eyes in order to prevent viewers from changing channels. Their pursuit of the huge commercial rewards for this instant fixation has produced significant social and political changes in the country’s culture and social values.

As most of us will agree, all eyes were indeed frozen on images of the World Trade Centers being struck by airplanes, images shown over and over again until our minds reeled with horror. How indelibly those images are now etched into our minds—forever. But, dare we open our mouths to ask this question: should these images be any more appalling than tens of thousands of Iraqi civilians being massacred or hundreds of thousands of fleeing Rawandans being slaughtered? At the very least the world has caught up with us. But how much of the *real* picture are we being allowed to see?

According to an article in the UK’s *Guardian* newspaper, the Pentagon spent millions of dollars to prevent western media from seeing highly detailed civilian satellite pictures of the effects of bombing raids in Afghani-

stan. According to the *Guardian*, “The extraordinary detail of the images already taken by the satellite includes a line of terrorist trainees marching between training camps at Jalalabad. At the same resolution, it would be possible to see bodies lying on the ground after last week’s bombing attacks.” But we aren’t seeing them. We are seeing carefully orchestrated imagery of what “they” want us to see. And we are hearing only the carefully worded propaganda “they” want us to hear. And by acts of Orwellian self-censorship, our views and opinions are calculated to fit in with the prevailing media opinions.



Since this war is being “brought to you by” the best Orwellian “Victory Gin”® money can buy, we won’t get to see who we are really dropping the bombs on.

Interestingly, under American law, the Defense Department has *legal* power to shut down US civilian satellites in order to prevent enemies using the images. But rather than issuing a shut down order, the Pentagon simply used *commercial* rather than *legal* powers. After reports of heavy civilian casualties from overnight bombing of training camps north-west of Jalalabad near Darunta, the Pentagon decided to shut down access to satellite images. Instead of invoking its legal

powers, the Pentagon simply *purchased* exclusive rights to all Ikonos satellite pictures of Afghanistan from Space Imaging, the company that runs the satellite. The reason for this? As the *Guardian* explains, if they had imposed legal powers, news organizations could have filed a lawsuit arguing “prior restraint censorship.” Instead, the Pentagon simply bought the images; end of story.

Debate is Not Dissent!

Luckily, the Thought Police don’t run the whole show yet, as much as they would like us to think they do. But we’re in danger. Self-censorship must go! Debate does *not* equal dissent. Dissent does *not* make you a traitor! Real “freedom loving people” should keep their eyes and mouths *open*, not shut! Talking about our dissenting opinions brings them out into the open where they can be examined and studied.

The cryptocreeps are sabotaging the collective psyche, giving them the psychic power to control individuals from within, without having to force people to conform and behave. But they still have to maintain a complex system of policing and surveillance to see that all goes as expected. Good thing we have “civil libertarian” Alan M. Dershowitz!

According to Dershowitz, the friendly National Identity Card will help stop racial profiling! Neat. As he points out, at many bridges and tunnels across the country, drivers already avoid long delays with “an unobtrusive device” located on the dashboard. In place of the old-fashioned dolt “fumbling for change,” the trendy driver is on his or her merry way in seconds and gets the bill in the mail later! Dershowitz calls it a “tradeoff between privacy and convenience.” Yes, “the toll-takers know more about you—when you entered and left Manhattan, for instance—but you save time and money.”

Dershowitz suggests that an “optional” National ID Card could be used in a similar way, “offering a similar kind of tradeoff: a little less anonymity for a lot more security.” As he explains, those who have the card could move “more expeditiously” through their day, zipping through airports or building security; and anyone who opts out would be “examined much more closely.” We’ve already got the ad line for this one: “Hey, there goes Bill, on his merry way already, and here I am spreading my cheeks. What gives?: The new National Identity Card. You won’t leave the airport without it.” Dershowitz claims he is “instinctively skeptical” of such tradeoffs, although he does support a national identity card with a “chip that can match the holder’s fingerprint.”

So, they’re already using the latest atrocity to “up the ante” against dissidents. This means that all of us in the conspiracy business have to rethink our strategies for the

future. What’s going to happen to us? Have they ratcheted their legal power up a notch and added other forms of pressure to hinder people who go against the grain? There’s no telling how far they will take the new police state: they could cart us all the way to the Gulag for all the American public could care. It’s no longer *paranoid* to think that another “terrorist attack” like this one would bring the FEMA-tons down on us “turncoats” like there’s no tomorrow.

What’s worse, this gives media-sedated people another excuse to dig in and hunker down. Forget trying to clue them in; they’re scared out of their minds and are ready to submit to whatever it takes to “solve the problem.” *Paranoia’s* believability rating just hit rock bottom. We’re not just crackpots on the fringe anymore—we’re “dupes of the terrorists”: spreading their message of overthrowing the government and letting loose the devil on the world. But it’s easy for the media to pull off these manipulations when the public mind is so dumbed down by television. As long as they can keep Americans in “short attention span theater,” we’re in mental lockdown. The cryptographers can rewrite history. They can do anything they want. As John MacArthur, publisher of *Harper’s*, has noted:

Americans live in a perpetual present. This is the country with the shortest attention span in the civil world, and it is a cultural problem. We don’t know anything that happened 6 months ago much less 20 years ago when we supported the Afghan resistance and bin Laden against the Soviet Union. No one remembers that we were Saddam’s ally and supporter during the Iran-Iraq war. Nobody remembers.

Does nobody remember because ‘somebody’ doesn’t want us to remember? A notable parallel from George Orwell’s *1984*:

For the moment he had shut his ears to the remoter noises and was listening to the stuff that streamed out of the telescreen. It appeared there had been demonstrations to thank Big Brother for raising the chocolate ration to 20 grams a week. And only yesterday it had been announced that the ration was to be *reduced* to 20 grams a week. Was it possible they could swallow that, after only 24 hours? ... The fabulous statistics continued to pour out of the telescreen.

We would be better able to react to this event if we knew how it came about and what aim it was intended to “achieve.” But instead, the cover story about bin Laden appears to be just that—a cover story—seen from the vantage point of how nicely the outcome of this gruesome act fits in with the precisely prepared steps to deal with “domestic terror.”

Eight days after the terrorist attacks in NYC and Washington, the Bush Administration unveiled its proposed Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA), which broadly amended current surveillance laws. In October, 2001, overreaching wiretap bills were rushed through Congress by the Bush Administration without hearings. The USA Act (USAA)

- ◆ reduces restrictions on domestic investigations under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA)

- ◆ permits grand juries to provide information to the US intelligence community

- ◆ permits the President to designate any



Television is the sacrificial altar upon which the blood ritual is performed daily, until these tragic events lose their power to shock and outrage us.

passed the Senate on October 11; the final legislation, called the USA Patriot Act, passed on October 26.

A major concern with the expansion of surveillance authority permitted by these bills is that authority is not limited to even a "broad definition" of terrorism. In addition, Congress moved too quickly on these measures in the heat of the moment. The ATA and USAA bills came after the Senate's hasty passage of the "Combating Terrorism Act" (CTA) (S.A. 1562), which was passed on September 13 after spending less than 30 minutes on the Senate floor. A similar bill, the Public Safety and Cyber Security Enhancement Act (PSCSEA), was drafted for introduction in the House, and appears to be a "backup plan" for S.A. 1562. This legislation includes the following:

- ◆ makes it possible to obtain e-mail message header information, Internet user web browsing patterns, and "stored" voicemail without a wiretap order

- ◆ removes controls on Title III roving wiretaps

- ◆ permits law enforcement to disclose information obtained through wiretaps to any employee of the Executive branch

"foreign-directed individual, group, or entity," including a US citizen or organization, as a target for FISA surveillance

- ◆ prevents people from providing "expert advice" to terrorists

- ◆ extends federal DNA database to every person convicted of a federal terrorism offense that involves low-level computer intrusions

According to the ACLU, law enforcement authorities already had sufficient legal power to investigate suspects in terrorist attacks, including wide authority to monitor both telephone and Internet communications. The scope of the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act (Sec. 1030(a)(5)(A)) has been described as "dangerously broad"; what's worse, the ATA would attempt to redefine violations of this section as "terrorism."

The ACLU has warned that the surveillance provisions of this legislation would 1) reduce or eliminate the role of judges in ensuring that law enforcement wiretapping is conducted legally and with proper justification; and 2) dangerously erode the distinction between domestic law enforcement and foreign intelligence.

gence collection, which protects Americans from being spied upon by their own intelligence agencies. In addition, "the definition of 'terrorism' is too broad, permitting the special surveillance powers granted in this legislation to be applied far beyond what is commonly thought of by the term." The ACLU has warned that under the proposed definition of terrorism, even acts of simple "civil disobedience" could lead organizations to become targets of "terrorist" investigations.

The ACLU has also argued that placing all "computer crime" under the umbrella of "terrorism" is heavy-handed. Under this section, even manufacturers of computer equipment could find themselves in legal hassles since the definition of "transmission" would include the design, manufacture, creation, distribution, sale, and marketing of floppy-disk controllers made faulty by defective microcode. Other such activities could eventually be held illegal under this statute—but it's a crap shoot. As Electronic Frontier Foundation Action Alert writes:

No one can predict at this early stage what will or will not be considered a violation of this provision. Yet the ATA would redefine all present and future violations as acts of terrorism, with violators subject to terrible penalties, up to and including *life in prison without possibility of parole*.

Additionally, these changes to the law would remove statutes of limitations and *become retroactive*. This means that any US-based computer security professional who, like many in this field, once upon a time began as a system cracker or other "black hat" hacker, potentially faces criminal prosecution under the ATA. ...

While it is obviously of vital national importance to respond effectively to terrorism, these bills recall the McCarthy era in the power they would give the government to scrutinize the *private lives* of American citizens. (emphasis added)

"Coded Messages" or Outright Censorship?

Propaganda is a tried and true tool of the state during times of national insecurity. You would have caught this one if you had your radar on, when right before our eyes the major television broadcast companies went along with government instructions to *not* air videotaped messages by men in turbans because they might contain "coded messages."

This is downright silly. As political writer Susan Sontag pointed out, "does anyone over the age of 6 really think that the way Osama bin Laden has to communicate with his agents abroad is by ... pulling on his left earlobe ... to send secret signals?" No. This was *not* the true intent of this military-state directive. The gov-

ernment simply didn't want the American public to hear the radical, anti-American views of Islamic culture. It was overt censorship of the media by the military, and they didn't even have to disguise it. All they had to do was put a turban on it.

The true intent of this censorship was made clear in late September (exact date undisclosed) when Pakistani newspaper *UMMAT* featured an interview with Osama bin Laden, which would have been censored by major media no matter *who* it was. Views such as the following are not "coded messages" but are simply *not* the views normally aired on major networks in America:

bin Laden: There are intelligence agencies in the US which require billions of dollars worth of funds from the Congress and the government every year. This [funding issue] was not a big problem till the existence of the former Soviet Union but after that the budget of these agencies has been in danger. They needed an enemy. So, they first started propaganda against Usama and Taleban and then this incident happened. You see, the Bush Administration approved a budget of 40 billion dollars.

Where will this huge amount go? It will be provided to the same agencies, which need huge funds and want to exert their importance. Now they will spend the money for their expansion and for increasing their importance. I will give you an example. Drug smugglers from all over the world are in contact with the US secret agencies. US secret agencies do not want to eradicate narcotics cultivation and trafficking because their importance will be diminished. The people in the US Drug Enforcement Department are encouraging drug trade so that they could show performance and get millions of dollars worth of budget.

General Noriega was made a drug baron by the CIA and, in need, he was made a scapegoat. In the same way, whether it is President Bush or any other US President, they cannot bring Israel to justice for its human rights abuses or to hold it accountable for such crimes. What is this? Is it not that there exists a government within the government in the United States? That secret government must be asked as to who carried out the attacks.

Yikes. Cover the children's ears!

The Humanitarian Cover

The media overseers are taking it upon themselves to use film and television to present to the public their private view of the way things ought to be. They know that no matter how much this picture may differ from what is really happening, the mind-controlling powers

of televisual imagery and film history will supersede other views and change the way these times will be looked on forever after. In his novel *1984*, George Orwell illustrated the mutability of the past using his concept of Newspeak. The main character, Winston Smith, worked at the Ministry of Truth where his job was to “rectify history.”

As in Orwell’s novel, all forms of media have been consolidated and standardized, delivering the same views and information to everyone in their homes and communities—setting the specifications for what is considered acceptable behavior and showing people *how* to play the game. Consider, for example, the stories of severe treatment of Afghan women under the Taliban regime—truly abhorrent and dehumanizing. But if the media can get us to react emotionally, forcing us to participate in our daily Two Minutes Hate, we won’t be capable of reading between the lines. That’s why the following is interesting as a media case study in emotional foreplay: During the week of 10/15/01, an “e-mail petition”

directed to the U.N. stated that the appalling treatment of Afghan women should not be tolerated and “deserves action by the United Nations.”

Yet, how would the petition’s author propose that the U.N. address this extremely complicated cultural and religious situation? Any suggestions? Increase the sanctions, perhaps, which would only hurt them worse? Drop some allied “smart” bombs, perhaps, that only hit men, being careful to avoid “innocent women and children” (why is it that men are never innocent?), thus killing the men on whom these women and their children are dependent for food?

But then the allies could drop delicious treats from the skies—mana from the gods! One news report that seemed to be squelched immediately was the report that the Afghans were burying these food rations out of fear

that America was trying to poison them. Whoops. Blew our humanitarian cover. Get rid of that story. Other reports were that these food rations were totally inadequate, consisting of biscuits and jam and peanut butter. There was also the danger of land mine explosions as Afghans ran into the deserts to grab up the rations. According to Sontag, “Afghanistan has more land mines per capita than any country in the world. ... humanitarianism is once again being used in this unholy war as a pretext for war.”



The “event” itself was horrific—the media coverage was stunning—but it was also a very effective way to bring everyone to their knees.

The humanitarian cover is propaganda at work. We need to see how it subtly manipulates our emotions. The treatment of women under Taliban rule is not a new story. Our government has known about it for *several* years; only now has it suddenly taken front position. We need to step back and see how complicated this situation is and rise above this one-dimensional image: the one where Uncle Sam takes care of all the needy and desperate in the world, while we ignore *how* the *humanitarian* deed was accomplished, if it ever actually was. As Sontag has argued, indeed the crimes against women in Afghanistan are unthinkable, but the government that would take over, the Northern Alliance, is certainly not known for its fair treatment of women either. Intense bombing will only increase Islamic militancy in the Middle East, making it even harder on these women.

The bombing campaigns have already sent refugees to the country's various borders where as many as a million may freeze or starve to death. As Sontag notes, "how you're going to dethrone the Taliban without causing further trouble in that part of the world is a very complicated question." And it's not going to be solved with bombs and peanut butter crackers.

Further, since this war is being "brought to you by" the best Orwellian "Victory Gin"® money can buy, we won't get to see who we are really dropping the bombs on. As Sontag points out, "there are not very many military targets in Afghanistan. We're talking about one of the poorest countries in the world. What they can do is bomb the soldiers, the camps ... And you can imagine who they are, it's a lot of kids." It was also reported on 10/16/01 that only "the poorest of the poor" were present in the city of Kabul during the air raids that week. Islam

The Manufactured Reality

As long as you don't make waves you won't get into trouble. The glue that holds everything together is the effect of the media on the subconscious minds of the masses. Without the information provided by alternative news sources and 'underground' publications, frightened egos have nothing to work with in questioning the Party Line, and they end up subconsciously going along with the gargantuan media monopoly—a huge blind octopus which only answers to money in its pockets.

The Internet has such enormous potential for inspired corporate capitalists that it must be *controlled*. In fact, the Internet was the only source of dissenting opinion throughout this macabre experience. Given its remarkable ability to remain a tool of the proles, what will be its future? Long range plan: get rid of the riff-raff?

Television is the sacrificial altar upon which the blood ritual is performed daily, until these tragic events lose their power to shock and outrage us. The mental effect of seeing countless scenes in the movies of horrendous catastrophes like this one makes all the horror and suffering seem utterly unreal, simply because it's happening on TV. Whatever the media spectacle of the moment, there is always the element of subliminal subversion embedded somewhere beneath the surface of events, ready to trick the distracted mind into making the manufactured view captured on film seem true to life.

Most people are too caught up in the frenzy of the moment to notice the totalitarian monster creeping up behind them.

Online reported that the terrified screams of women and children pierced the air as the bombs fell, killing that week about 400 civilians and making homeless hundreds more. In one air raid alone, at least 160 were killed, mainly women and children, when a missile fell in an area of traditional Afghan mud houses.

It's unpleasant to have to point out that these are the women that our e-mail petitioner wanted to help. It's not that Americans don't mean well; it's that we are being manipulated by our supposedly open and free democratic media. As Susan Sontag points out, "there's a great disconnect between reality and what people in government and media are saying of the reality. ... what is being peddled to the public is a fairy tale." As Sontag points out: "The atmosphere of intimidation [behind that] is quite extraordinary."

Don't forget that screen-viewing is an interactive process whereby we each play our part by co-creating the general impressions and standard responses that underlie the subversive character of the mass media—and with our subconscious participation the mind control circuit is complete.

To anyone that has tried to prepare themselves for this day it must seem like a scripted movie, because it's playing out according to the new world order's plans and heading us in the direction of total control. The "event" itself was horrific—the media coverage was stunning—but it was also a very effective way to bring everyone to their knees. When there is no other "authorized" way of getting information about what's happening, all people have to talk about is what they parrot from the news media. Downright fear prevents them from looking any deeper—scared to death of what they might find and be forced to deal with. Strangely, after much of this article was written, we read an interview with Osama bin Laden, in which he stated:

The Western media is unleashing such a baseless propaganda, which surprises us but it reflects on what is in their hearts and gradually they themselves become captive of this propaganda. They become afraid of it and begin to cause harm to themselves.

Terror is the most dreaded weapon in modern age and the Western media is mercilessly using it against its own people. It can add fear and helplessness in the psyche of the people of Europe and the United States. It means that what the enemies of the United States cannot do, its media is doing.

The mainstream media is a surreal stage where shocking and terrifying things happen on a daily basis. The apocalyptic scenario is playing itself out for all to see and react in the prescribed way. Knowing how the public reacted to the Gulf War and other atrocities of the past decade, it's clear that most people are too caught up in the frenzy of the moment to notice the totalitarian monster creeping up behind them.

the conceit that we may not be entitled to our profligate ways, consuming 25 percent of the world's resources with only 5 percent of its population? Have we awakened from the dream that we can do what we want, live how we wish, regardless of cost—without paying a heavy price? Have we awakened to a world where ... being conscious of our actions will take precedence over gorging on our pleasures?

Or will the ad men have their way? Will they use their enormous powers of influence and control of the media to lull us back to sleep?

To anyone that has tried to prepare themselves for this day it must seem like a scripted movie, because it's playing out according to the new world order's plans.

It's getting harder for ordinary people to withstand these mounting forces of inner chaos—our Spirits are weakening from being aware of so much needless suffering and death among animals and humans on this ailing planet. We ought not to believe that we are merely spectators in the grand theater of life, thinking ourselves innocent bystanders to all the death and destruction we see on the nightly news.

The mass media is getting more psycho-technological, and, combined with a growing anxiety about other potential terrorist events, fear has an increasingly stronger effect on our lives. We naturally want to close ranks and protect our families. It's hard to ask people to find the courage to search for the truth and try to set things right, when that would mean going up against the new world orderers and risking everything.

It's going to take something equivalent happening on the human spirit end that has a corresponding impact on our consciousness to balance the media saturation and hate-filled aftermath of this atrocious act of destruction. But how can anything positive gain a firm foothold when the media is run by the cryptocracy and most people are too scared to lift the curtain to see the great and powerful Oz behind it? Many have referred to these events as a "wake-up call." But what have we awakened from and to? As Al Krulick wrote in the *Orlando Weekly*:

Have we awakened from the notion that we are not alone in this world and that there are a lot of hurt, angry and desperate people out there? Have we awakened from

As we know only too well from looking back over the 20th century, the only way for evil to take root in the world is for good people to do nothing. As long as the *human* spirit survives in individuals, the forces of good are able to work through our everyday lives, which gives the world-soul the boost it needs to run those *inhuman* bastards out of morphogenetic city and give back the collective psyche to the people. •

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Maitreya: World Teacher Report

by Paul Cronin

There is a man currently traveling the world making quite a remarkable claim. Scottish painter and esotericist Benjamin Creme says there is a World Teacher, named Maitreya, living in London, who represents what Christians label the Christ, what Hindus refer to as Krishna, Buddhists as the Buddha, and Muslims as the Imam Mahdi. He is the leader of the hierarchy of masters who oversee the evolution of humanity on this planet.

Mr. Creme, who is schooled in Theosophy and the works of Alice Bailey, claims to be in constant telepathic contact with one of these masters and has some telepathic contact with Maitreya as well. He received communication from a master in 1959 to the effect that he could play an important role in the coming of Maitreya. He chose to accept the assignment and since 1977, when Maitreya came into the world in a self-created body, Mr. Creme has been speaking and writing about this 'reappearance of the Christ'. Meanwhile, Maitreya has been living in London as an ordinary man in the Pakistani community.



Don't Touch That Dial: Maitreya will reportedly appear on television after a global economic crash and will convey his world plan telepathically in every language. The plan will include a global redistribution of wealth under the U.N.

According to Mr. Creme, since his entry into the world Maitreya has secretly influenced world affairs, appearing to world leaders like Mikhail Gorbachev and Nelson Mandela, helping to bring about incredible world events like the end of apartheid in South Africa and the collapse of the

Soviet empire. In fact, Mr. Creme claims that Maitreya made predictions about these events before they

manifested. Creme claims this is all part of an inevitable evolution toward a more just and peaceful world under the guidance of the hierarchy of masters led by Maitreya.

Maitreya's Global Agenda

However, the road to utopia is not going to be totally smooth, according to Mr. Creme. Since 1988, Creme and his organization, Share International, have been predicting a worldwide stock market crash beginning in Japan. After the market crash, according to the scenario, there will be the Day of Declaration, when Maitreya will appear on television all over the world and will communicate telepathically to all the

world's inhabitants, to each in his own language. Then Maitreya will unveil a plan for a new world political and economic system of sharing and justice. Maitreya will not himself become a world ruler, but will merely advise and inspire world leaders in the implementation of his plans in such a way that no one's freedom of choice will be infringed upon.

To those who might have misgivings about merging the nation state into a more global world system, there is some cause for worry. The Share website states: "Share International Foundation is a non-profit, non-governmental organization (NGO) in association with the Department of Public Information at the United Nations." The political philosophy espoused by *Share Magazine* and presumably by Maitreya himself could be best described as left-wing globalism. There is a strong critique of the unequal distribution of wealth between rich and poor, between the industrialized nations and the Third World, and a deep concern for environmental issues, especially global warming. The solutions always point to the strengthening of the UN and other international agencies, like the International Court of Justice, at the expense of the traditional concerns of national sovereignty. *Share Magazine* supported NATO's intervention in Kosovo as a legitimate intrusion into the internal affairs of Serbia in the interest of humanitarian concerns. And there is a general call for the sharing of wealth under the auspices of international agencies.

One of the peculiarities about this particular 'holy man', Maitreya, is that his concerns seem preponderantly political rather than personal. Yes, Maitreya and *Share Magazine* often make general appeals for love and compassion and spiritual virtues and they often comment on personal ethical issues, but the main pitch involves the macro social realm of global politics. In fact, Mr. Creme says that the public debut of Maitreya, the so-called Day of Declaration, is contingent on an external world event: the predicted global economic crash. Also according to Mr. Creme, Maitreya is in some kind of contact with "space brothers," so that one might conjecture some tie-in between UFO activity and the coming of Maitreya.

The case for Maitreya is also buttressed by articles in *Share Magazine* by former Soviet Premier Mikhail Gorbachev, former Irish President and current UN Human Rights advocate Mary Robinson, former UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, former Prime Minister of Norway and current World Health Organization Director Gro Harlem Brundtland, and the founder of the World Bank Spiritual Unfoldment Society Richard Barrett. There is a disclaimer stating that "Contributors and those who have been interviewed or quoted do not necessarily endorse Benjamin Creme's statements about Maitreya the World Teacher, or the associated esoteric ideas." However, this impressive lineup of people at the minimum share the same concerns as the Share Foundation

The Signs and Wonders of Maitreya

The Maitreya phenomenon also has an impressive array of associated signs and wonders. *Share Magazine* is filled with stories of Maitreya-engendered crosses of light, weeping statues, healing waters, miraculous "angelic" interventions by Maitreya or one of the masters, and dramatic public appearances by Maitreya.

The most famous appearance took place on June 11, 1988 in Nairobi, Kenya at an open prayer/healing meeting presided over by Christian healer Mary Akasha. She allegedly received an intuitive message of the coming of an important visitor and then Maitreya appeared and addressed the crowd in fluent Swahili. The crowd instantly recognized him as the Christ. After his short talk he walked through the crowd, took a ride from someone, and then got out of the car and mysteriously disappeared.

Maitreya, the Anti-Christ?

One might think that with all this miracle-working in evidence there might be some suspicion that Maitreya is the biblically prophesied false Christ or Anti-Christ, who allegedly precedes the second coming of the true Christ and deceives the world with signs and wonders. In fact, Maitreya was fingered as the Anti-Christ by Christian lawyer Constance Cumbeys in her 1983 anti-new age book *The Hidden History of the Rainbow*. An Internet search on Maitreya will yield the pro-Maitreya material from Share International, along with other diatribes calling him the Anti-Christ.

Benjamin Creme has a complicated esoteric answer to these suspicions. On the late night Coast to Coast radio talk show, Creme was asked by host Art Bell what Catholic writer Fr. Malachi Martin would think of Maitreya. Creme's reply:

There is a total misunderstanding of what the antichrist is. Most Catholics ...most Orthodox Christians see the Antichrist as a man who will come before The Christ and could even be mistaken for The Christ ...or promise, you know, the moon to humanity but in fact he is really the devil incarnate. Nothing could be further from the truth. It is not a man. The Antichrist is an energy. A force. A destructive force which is deliberately released to break down the Old Order and prepare the way for the Christ. It's in the Revelation of Saint John as you know. The beast, 666, is unchained for a time and then chained down for a time, and half a time. This refers to what we call the Antichrist Energy. It is the destructive aspect of the first aspect of God, God the Father aspect of God, the will aspect in esoteric terminology... two phases, in its constructive positive phase it is the will to good. In its destructive phase it is what we call the Antichrist. It is deliberately released to break down that which precedes the advent of the Christ.

It was released in John's own day through the Emperor Nero to bring an end to the, uh, the Roman dispensation to prepare the way for Christendom. It was released again in our time through Hitler, a group around him in Nazi Germany together with a group of militarists in Japan and a further group around Mussolini in Italy. And these three powers, the Axis Powers in the war with the Allies, from 1939 to 45, embodied the energy we call The Antichrist. Not just their evil, but the evil of all humanity from the very beginning. By the defeat of the Axis powers, by the Allies, behind whom stood Maitreya and the forces of light; the virtual hierarchy of our planet and the Masters of Wisdom and Maitreya at the head, the forces of evil on this planet are defeated for the time being.

So the beast has been released, now it must be chained down for a time and half a time. That refers to the time, the Age of Aquarius as we call it, which will be the next 2350 to 500 years plus half the succeeding age: The Age of Capricorn, when the beast will be released once again. There will be another great war which will be fought on the mental planes and one day will end with the complete destruction of the forces of evil on this planet. Over the last 100,000 years that war has been going on in the Astral Planes. ... The true, GREAT Armageddon will not take place until the middle of the Age of Capricorn about 3,500 years from now.

Movers and Shakers Secretly Supporting Maitreya

Another Share spokesman on tour who, in my opinion, adds a new element of credibility to the claims about Maitreya is ex-American diplomat, Wayne Peterson. This former director of the Fulbright Scholarship program has written a book about his experiences with Maitreya and the masters called *Extraordinary Times, Extraordinary Beings*. In it, he describes initially hearing about Maitreya on the Merv Griffin talk show where Merv had as joint guests Benjamin Creme and author Gore Vidal. Peterson was impressed by Creme but also by the receptivity of Griffin and Vidal to his message. Shortly afterward, Peterson attended a local Washington DC talk by Benjamin Creme at which time he met a young fashionably dressed man who he later found out was Maitreya. Share spokesmen claim that Maitreya can appear in many different guises.

In an interview with *Spirit of Change* magazine, Peterson describes a meeting of high-level world leaders, most of whom were aware of Maitreya's message but afraid to go public with their knowledge. The one leader not afraid to be associated with Maitreya was Mikhail Gorbachev. Interestingly, Mikhail Gorbachev is very much in sync with the Share International agenda. The former leader of the Soviet Union is now reborn as an environmentalist, and is head of two foundations: the Gorbachev Foundation and Green Cross International, both generously funded by the movers and shakers of the Western world. Both foundations support the Share agenda of increased authority and control of all UN international agencies.

Peterson paints a picture of powerful, credible world leaders who are already on board the Maitreya bandwagon, who are only waiting for Maitreya to gain a little more credibility before they go public with their true beliefs. Personally, when the well-connected and powerful agree to get behind something, I tend to get uneasy. Creme and Peterson seem to be sincere idealists committed to causes of peace, justice, and sharing; yet they seem somewhat cavalier about how this new world system will be implemented. For instance, they insist that Maitreya and the masters will never violate anyone's free will. But what happens to those that resist the new system of mandatory sharing?

The great Russian writer Dostoevsky, in confronting this issue in his own time, said something like: "The Christian says, 'What I have is yours.' The communard says, 'What you have is mine.'" How a global redistribution of wealth can be implemented while maintaining the "consent of the governed" is one big problem, especially for the US, which in Creme's view seems to be the major villain hogging the world's resources and polluting the environment. Will American citizens voluntarily settle for a standard of living halfway between theirs and that of the Republic of China?

Perhaps this is just idle speculation and this entire scenario should not be taken seriously. Perhaps it is just a pipedream of a fringe cult group. Yet there is an intelligence and seriousness of tone evident in the Share International literature that sets it way above that of the Moonies and the Rashneshes. If Wayne Peterson is correct that the Maitreya phenomenon is being taken seriously by very important players on the global level, then we owe it to ourselves to give it some serious scrutiny. •

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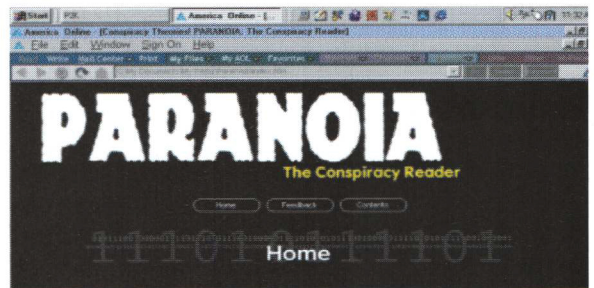
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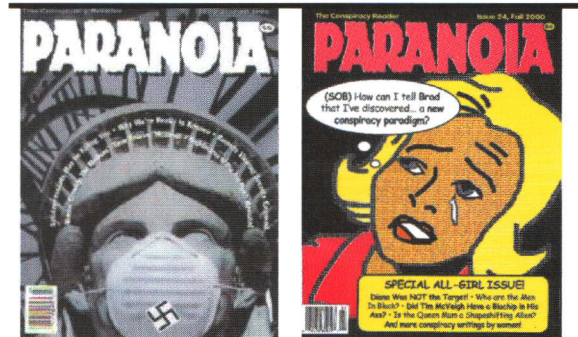
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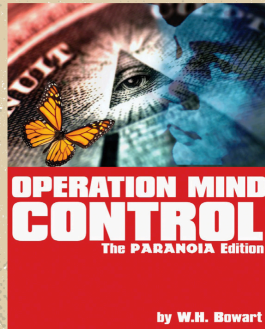
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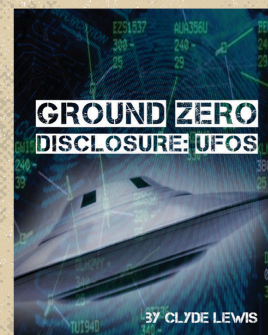
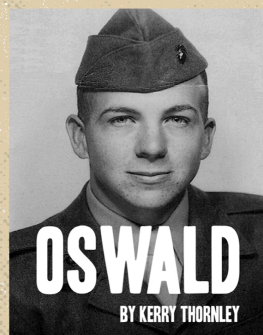
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