

# American Free Press

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## KILLING NAFTA

• Trump eyes process to end massive trade agreement

By Mark Anderson

Trade representatives from the U.S., Canada, and Mexico met in Mexico City, Nov. 17-21, to negotiate for the fifth time what will become of the infamous North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). From the start, the Trump administration has been firm in its intent is to pull the U.S. out of the job-robbing deal. Following the meeting, the option for the U.S. to withdraw from NAFTA is still on the table, though all possibilities will become clearer as 2018 arrives.

NAFTA is a widely reviled treaty signed into law in 1994 by President Bill Clinton after the pact's initiation by his fellow world-government architect, President George H. W. Bush.

Last spring, newly confirmed U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) Robert Lighthizer sent a notification letter to Congress about the Trump administration's intent to renegotiate NAFTA. With that notification, Lighthizer becomes the first USTR to renegotiate any major U.S. free-trade agreement.

Before his appointment to USTR, Lighthizer had been a fierce critic of unfettered free trade. Now, considering his legal background and the



pivotal status of the 2017 NAFTA talks under his direction, Lighthizer is well-positioned to upend the stubborn status quo surrounding trade policy. The deal may not hold sway against the nation's discernable populist revival—which the transnationalists in charge of the usurious, rigged monetary and trade systems cannot seem to extinguish.

“During these negotiating rounds, the United States has put forward . . . new text in 27 chapters of NAFTA. The Trump administration remains committed to moving expeditiously toward a deal for fair, reciprocal

trade for America's workers, farmers, ranchers, and businesses,” explained a USTR news bulletin released Nov. 17. Rather than “free” trade, it stressed “fair” trade, which is a more populist view and typically translates into calls for balanced trade. This means that imports and exports would equalize on a per-nation basis, thereby avoiding or minimizing trade deficits.

The White House's official statement on trade, posted on its website, reflects a tough stance on the president's part, while also reflecting the views of Lighthizer—whose credentials include his work at the noted Skadden law firm in Washington. He practiced international trade law there for more than 30 years, representing American workers and businesses (manufacturing, financial services, agriculture, and technology).

At Skadden, Lighthizer worked to expand markets for U.S. exports and defended U.S. industries from

### THE INSIDE SCOOP



Congress pressured to pass laws restricting freedom of speech.

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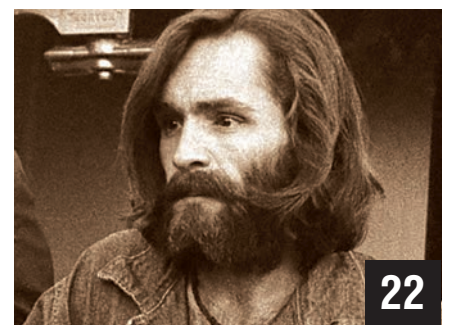
Hate labeling used to stifle all criticism of the state of Israel.

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Longtime JFK assassination scholar gets lifetime achievement award.

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Death of notorious cult leader opens door to new revelations.

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A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

# SHOULD PROFANITY-LACED SPEECH BE PROTECTED?

Since the founding of AMERICAN FREE PRESS in August 2001, we have been at the forefront of advancing free speech in the U.S. We want to be clear and on the record that we support 100% American citizens' right to think and speak freely without fear of reprisal. That includes not just reprisals from the federal government but from employers as well as communities.

American citizens should not be afraid of getting fired because in their personal lives they hold views outside the mainstream. Just as there shouldn't be retaliation for personally opposing President Donald Trump, we don't believe a person should be punished because they don't believe the "official history" of World War II or any other event.

Honestly, it's pretty simple. Today's narrative that free speech applies only to criticism of government is disingenuous at best. The fact is, many states have even stronger free-expression clauses in their state constitutions than what is laid out in the First Amendment. We also know that our founders wanted us to be free to criticize the government, politicians, royal families, companies—pretty much everything was fair game given what people of that time had faced prior to the formation of our democratic republic in 1776.

That being said, we want to clarify what is free expression, because a lot of what we see in comments on our website, on social media, and on the Internet should not, in our eyes, be protected speech.

We're talking here specifically about much of the crude, profanity-laced, often-violent postings that we see on the Internet and, in



some cases, even in commentaries penned by popular writers. Threatening harm to women—no matter who they are—is never acceptable speech. Punctuating comments with four-letter words isn't just vulgar, it's lazy.

We have always put pride in the fact that AMERICAN FREE PRESS is a family newspaper, believing that our subscribers should be able to put issues on their coffee table without fear or concern that a youngster may pick them up and start reading them. Even on our website, we have not bought into trends established by some people that it is acceptable to use the foulest of language while criticizing enemies because it's 2017 and many young people just talk that way now. To us, the concept of "troll armies" that mobilize on social media to attack people in the most disgusting ways conceivable just to be offensively trendy does nothing

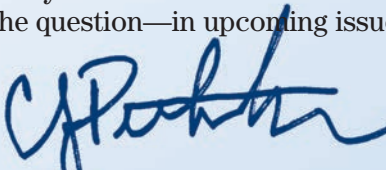
to advance the cause. What we are saying is, you can't call yourself a conservative and espouse a political philosophy that is based on personal responsibility, family, tradition, and social stability, and then threaten to rape a woman because she's a liberal and doesn't agree with you.

When Thomas Jefferson—a founding father who cherished the free discourse of ideas—said he'd rather be "exposed to the inconveniences attending too much liberty than those attending too small a degree of it," he certainly did not have in mind what all too often passes for discourse and debate on the Internet today.

The thing to remember here is that, when we consign ourselves to the lowest common denominator, it only hands ammunition to those who may disagree with us. In more common parlance—to paraphrase Mark Twain—when you lower yourself arguing with fools, onlookers won't be able to tell the difference.

We want to know what you think. Should vulgar language be protected speech? Should people fight fire with fire and go on the offensive with filthy words? Or should we look to the older days when even people who disagreed were at least civil to each other?

Write us a letter, give us a call, or send an email telling us where you are on this issue. We'll publish your comments—wherever you stand on the question—in upcoming issues.★

  
—CHRISTOPHER J. PETHERICK  
Executive Editor

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# News You May Have Missed

## 'Bunch of Sissies'

According to the Spanish television channel, Telemundo Amarillo, Dr. David Gonnella, pastor of Magnolia Springs Baptist Church in Theodore, Ala., says he stands by Senate candidate Judge Roy Moore despite recent allegations of sexual misconduct. Gonnella suggests a coordinated smear campaign is afoot. "Why was everyone, all of these people, silent for so many decades," only "to all come forth at the same time now?" he asks. "It's funny how the Republican Party is. What a bunch of sissies! The Democrats rally around their candidate even when" he or she is "guilty. Republicans want to throw" their candidate "under the bus on a minor accusation, without knowing whether they're guilty or not." President Trump has weighed in, in favor of Moore, adding that Moore's Democrat opponent is "bad on crime, bad on borders, bad with the military, bad for the Second Amendment."

## Afraid to Leave Homes

In some parts of Sweden, people are afraid to leave their homes thanks to the rise of criminals among the new immigrant communities that have come to the country, reports "Breitbart" news. A survey by the Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention found 48% of respondents who live in the Malmo suburbs feel the area is too dangerous to go out at night due to criminality. In the city of Ystad, 58% of those surveyed stated that they had deep anxiety over the crime rate there.

## AIDS on the Rise in Europe

The number of people newly diagnosed with HIV in Europe reached its highest recorded level ever in 2016, showing the region's epidemic growing "at an alarming pace," reports the World Health Organization (WHO). In that year alone, 160,000 people contracted the virus that causes AIDS in the 53 countries that make up WHO's European region. The greatest rise in new diagnoses was largely contained to Eastern Europe. While no ethnicities were mentioned, some people have speculated that the rise in HIV is related to mass immigration.

## Illegals Kill Border Guard

Border Patrol agent Rogilio Martinez, while tracking a group of illegal aliens on Nov. 19, was ambushed by them and killed when he was struck in the head multiple times with one or more rocks. According to agent Brandon Judd, another agent arrived on the scene a short time later and was also ambushed and struck in the head "with what is believed to have been a rock or rocks." Somehow the second agent survived and was reportedly hospitalized in serious condition.

## Deep State

Public interest legal firm American Center for Law and Justice (ACLJ) has declared war on the Deep State—entrenched bureaucrats who are using their power to undermine the president. Said ACLJ chief counsel Jay Sekulow: "First, the Trump transition team was caught up in surveillance conducted by the Obama administration. Second, someone in the Obama administration unmasked the names of those on the Trump transition team who were caught up in that surveillance. Third, in its final days the Obama administration changed the rules in order to widely disseminate this information. Fourth, the Deep State bureaucracy leaked this information to the media." It's looking more and more like an orchestrated conspiracy where the conspirators take their marching orders from the highest levels, he said.

## No Special Counsel

Rep. Trey Gowdy (R-S.C.), House Oversight and Government Reform Committee chair and member of the House Judiciary Committee, said on Fox News recently that he doesn't "think the threshold has been met for the appointment of special counsel" to investigate Hillary Clinton. If he has his way, though, he added, the investigation will proceed without one. Rep. Jim Jordan (R-Ohio) has issued a letter calling for a special counsel to investigate Hillary in regard to the "Uranium One" scandal along with other crimes involving the Clintons. Uranium One refers to a Russian company having made a major contribution to the Clinton

Foundation right before the company was shepherded through the approval process to purchase the rights to U.S. uranium production.

## 'Vastly Understated'

The Capitol Hill daily, *The Hill*, reports that a website set up by the Clinton Foundation to disclose details about certain donors "vastly understated support" that the organization received from APCO Worldwide, a firm that lobbied on behalf of Russia's state-owned nuclear company and was named in the recent uranium controversy. The site was supposed to detect conflicts of interest for Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and the family charity, but it only showed APCO donating between \$25,000 and \$50,000 over the last decade. According to internal documents reviewed by *The Hill*, however, APCO gave hundreds of thousands in pro-bono services and in-kind contributions to the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI) between 2008 and 2016—details never disclosed.

## U.S. Debt Trajectory

While Congress continues to wrestle with tax reform that some people claim will cause the government budget deficit to spike, Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen said she is concerned over the size of the national debt. "I am very worried about the sustainability of the U.S. debt trajectory," Ms. Yellen told reporters. The U.S. national debt is \$20.5 trillion.

## Creating Terrorists

A U.S. district court judge has ruled that "serious mental illness" and brain damage from an auto accident led Floridian James Medina, 41, to plot to attack a Jewish center in 2016. Medina accepted a deal to be hospitalized for psychiatric treatment and spend 25 years in prison after pleading guilty to a "religious hate crime and attempting to use a WMD"—which was actually a fake bomb provided by an FBI informant—telling the judge he'd made a "huge mistake" and needs psychiatric help. "This is one of those heartbreaking cases where there was an organic cause for the criminality," said Medina's attorney. FBI testimony re-

vealed a "confidential human source" recorded Medina saying he wanted to shoot up the center, but the informant instead offered him a bomb. Medina was arrested when he accepted the FBI's dummy bomb. Using paid informants to convince mentally ill people to plot terrorist attacks is not a new tactic for today's FBI. Former undercover agent Michael German stated, "They're manufacturing terrorism cases." In 2016, *The New York Times* estimated "67% of prosecutions involving suspected ISIS supporters include evidence from undercover operations."

## Slave Trade

You would think that it couldn't get any worse for Libya following the Western-backed overthrow of its stable government, led by Muammar Qaddafi, but the reality is life keeps getting harder for North Africans. While the slave trade is an open secret throughout Africa, Qaddafi had done quite a bit to improve conditions in Libya, turning the country into a functioning, healthy nearly First-World state. However, according to recent reports, open-air slave markets have popped up in Libya, where humans are sold at auction.

## Pistol-Packing Robots

The U.S. government has been accused of using its remote-controlled space plane to spy on China's space station, and Russia has responded by evidently sending a gun-slinging robot into space. The humanoid is called Final Experimental Demonstration Object Research robot (FEDOR). FEDOR can pump out bullets from two pistols, drive a car (or possibly a spaceship), perform army crawls, use tools, and operate autonomously.

## CORRECTION

Due to a formatting error, we dropped three lines at the end of the story on page 27 of Issue 47/48. The last paragraph should read: "Perhaps that's why the elitist Business Roundtable, according to its chairman Jamie Dimon, who is also CEO of JPMorgan Chase, is supporting the TCJA. In a prepared statement released Nov. 2, Dimon said: 'If we are serious about growing the economy, creating jobs, and increasing wages for all Americans, this country needs a modernized tax code. It is that simple.'"



# Congress Hears Testimony About the 'White Supremacist Threat'

• ADL, allies lobby to have free speech restricted at the federal level

By John Friend

In late November, *The New York Times* published a lengthy article profiling Tony Hovater, a recently married, 29-year-old man who lives in New Carlisle, Ohio. Hovater, a welder by trade who grew up in a typical middle-class American family, helped establish the Traditionalist Worker Party in 2015, a pro-white, pro-worker, up-and-coming political party led by Matthew Heimbach, a leading activist, organizer, and speaker for the burgeoning alt-right movement.

*The Times*'s profile of Hovater sparked outrage among many in the corporate-controlled mainstream news media, as well as among radical leftists and anti-white zombies across the country. Readers of *The Times* have been highly critical of the article, as have countless establishment pundits and left-leaning propagandists, prompting a lengthy response from the paper's national editor.

Critics have charged that the profile attempted to "normalize" a "Nazi sympathizer" and "white supremacist." The original article, written by *Times* reporter Richard Fausset, was designed "not to normalize anything but to describe the degree to which hate and extremism have become far more normal in American life than many of us want to think," Marc Lacey, the national editor of the establishment-serving "paper of record," explained in his response to criticism of the article.

In the profile, Hovater is portrayed as an average young man despite his controversial political, racial, and historical views. Hovater is a skeptic of the official Holocaust narrative specifically and a critic of the mainstream portrayal of the events of WWII more generally. His rightward shift is examined by the reporter, and Hovater notes that mainstream public discourse is "so toxic that there's no way to effectively lobby for interests that involve white people," a sentiment readers of this newspaper as well as millions of other Americans would agree with.

In the wake of the contentious article, some people have argued that in order to effectively deal with the supposed "threat" to society posed by people like Hovater, a political majority must be formed to pass federal or state regulations on "hate speech" and "far-right" views, similar to current laws in dozens of European countries that criminalize "Holocaust denial" and other forms of "hate." To be clear, no debate is underway about limiting speech on other genocides or crimes against humanity in modern history; only World War II history is cited.

Thankfully, that "workable political majority"



has not materialized—yet.

"In the U.S., there's no political majority capable of pushing through curbs on the freedom of speech, even in the name of fighting Nazis," Leonid Bershidsky, a leading pundit and columnist for Bloomberg, laments in a recent op-ed. "There is no serious movement for German-style hate speech laws or Nazi symbol bans making their way through Congress. There are no proposals to match this year's German law that requires social networks to remove hate speech or face steep fines."

While the push for legislation criminalizing or otherwise punishing personal beliefs and political perspectives has failed to gain traction in the U.S.—at least thus far—private companies, including social media platforms, online payment processors such as PayPal, and other organizations, have made it extremely difficult to publicly hold the views Hovater does. Indeed, shortly after the *Times* published its controversial profile of Hovater he was fired from his second job at a restaurant following a coordinated smear campaign launched by radical leftists and anti-white activists. His wife and his brother-in-law were also fired from their jobs in the same restaurant after radical activists complained to management.

Encouragingly, a fundraiser established for Hovater and his wife has raised over \$8,000 as AFP goes to press, well over its modest goal of \$1,000.

The controversy sparked by the *Times* article has led to broader questions about free speech and political expression in an increasingly interconnected world, a topic this paper has focused on extensively. Although no official federal or state-sanctioned laws have been passed criminalizing or otherwise punishing personal political



Tony Hovater, his wife, and his brother-in-law all lost their jobs because of an article in *The New York Times* detailing Hovater's political and historical views.

beliefs, countless organizations and individuals are lobbying the government to pass such laws.

In recent weeks, the Anti-Defamation League and other leading Jewish organizations have testified in Congress about the alleged "rising levels of anti-Semitism" on college campuses and in American society more generally. Jewish and pro-Israel groups have long been active in pushing for tighter controls on free speech in America in an attempt to legislatively combat "anti-Semitism" and "racism," weaponized slurs used to target, attack, and delegitimize opponents of political correctness and intellectual tyranny.

White nationalists and other conservative thinkers have been particularly targeted. Sen. Dick Durban (D-Ill.) recently introduced legislation "to address the growing threat of white supremacist groups and other violent domestic extremists," according to a press release from his office announcing the proposal.

"The Domestic Terrorism Prevention Act would enhance the federal government's efforts to prevent domestic terrorism by requiring federal law enforcement agencies to regularly assess those threats and provide training and resources to assist state, local, and tribal law enforcement in addressing these threats," the press release boldly declares.

Countless other right-wing political dissidents have been targeted over the course of the past few years, and many have been fired from their places of employment as a direct result of their personal political views. Many of the leading figures on the right have been "deplatformed" on social media sites and other leading tech companies, such as Facebook, Twitter, and PayPal. ★

John Friend is a writer who lives in California.



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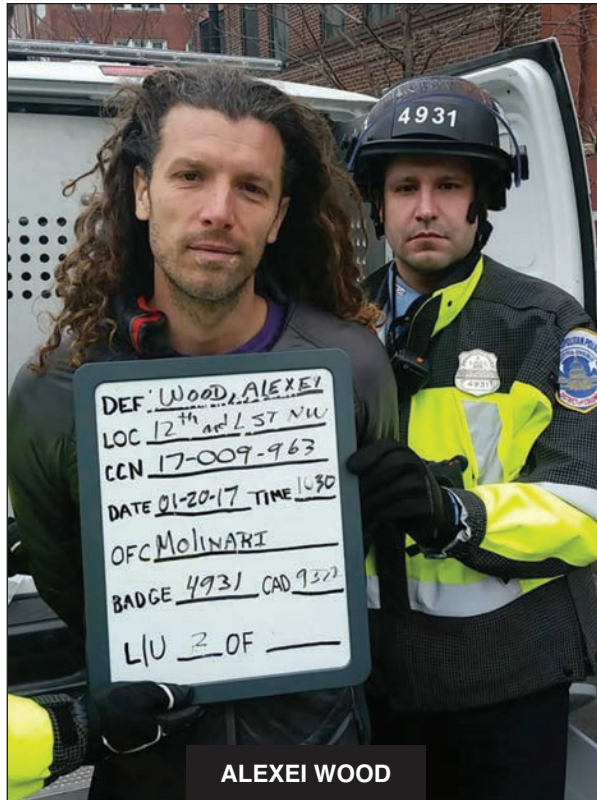
# Journalist Faces 61 Years in Prison for Covering Anti-Trump Protests

By John Friend

**N**ov. 27 marked the beginning of a trial being watched across the nation. Alexei Wood, a San Antonio-based freelance photojournalist and videographer, is facing multiple felony rioting and destruction of property charges stemming from his coverage of the chaotic and violent protests held in Washington, D.C. during President Donald Trump's inauguration ceremony. If convicted, Wood faces up to 61 years in prison, according to his lawyer.

Numerous groups protested against Trump's election on the day of the inauguration, and many more protests followed during the weekend. As this newspaper reported at the time, as many as 50 of the groups involved with organizing the protests, which turned violent, caused massive property damage, and created disruption and chaos in the nation's capital, were directly connected to the infamous plutocrat and top globalist George Soros. Soros has a history of financing radical, subversive protest groups around the world with the goal of undermining the established order in a truly Bolshevik-style fashion.

During the D.C. protests, vehicles were damaged, storefront windows were broken, and other private property was vandalized. Over 200 of the protesters, many of whom were affiliated with the DisruptJ20 activist organization—a radical, anarchistic group—were arrested for their par-



ALEXEI WOOD

ticipation in the violent chaos that consumed the nation's capital. Additionally, nine journalists, including Wood, were arrested along with the protesters.

Seven of the nine journalists have had all charges against them dropped by prosecutors in Washington, D.C. Charges against Wood and Aaron Cantu, a staff reporter at *The Santa Fe Re-*

Though AFP may disagree with Wood's politics, he has the right to attend and report on controversial events.

porter in New Mexico, were not dropped despite First Amendment concerns from some of the nation's leading journalism and free speech experts.

Wood has a history of covering protests, particularly during the heated 2016 presidential campaign. On his personal website, Wood notes his history of "documenting social justice issues and resistance movements," for which he appears to have sympathy.

Wood livestreamed his embedded coverage of the Inauguration Day protests and can be heard expressing what seems to be tacit approval of the actions of the protesters, which included breaking windows and spray-painting private property.

The Department of Justice, the entity pursuing the charges against Wood, has not commented on the case.

"The government has not informed me as to why Mr. Wood's case involved any greater degree of culpability than any of the other journalists who were ultimately not charged," Brett E. Cohen, Wood's attorney, explained to *The New York Times*. The indictment against Wood and 211 other defendants, originally filed on April 3, "does not single out Mr. Wood for anything arising from the demonstration," Cohen noted.

Lawyers and legal experts have questioned the indictment against Wood and other journalists, arguing that a journalist's political perspective and personal attitude toward an event they are covering is not relevant from a legal perspective.

"Obviously, journalists are not above the law—they can't break windows," Reed Brody, who has represented other journalists in controversial cases involving coverage of major protests, explained to the *Times*. "They can be sympathetic to the people that they cover, and they can draw attention to the people that they cover. But you can't arrest and you can't charge journalists for covering events."

At the end of Wood's livestream, police are seen moving in to confront and arrest many of the protesters. Wood identifies himself as a journalist and member of the media documenting the event, yet Washington Metropolitan Police appear to ignore him and eventually arrest and charge him with the same crimes as the radical, violent protesters he was covering.

Radical, violent protesters who commit crimes—whatever their political leanings or affiliations—deserve to be punished to the fullest extent of the law, and the federal prosecutors pursuing criminal charges against the radical extremists who targeted Washington, D.C. during Trump's inauguration should be applauded. However, journalists covering controversial events, regardless of their political leanings and affiliations, must be protected by the First Amendment. ★



San Antonio-based journalist Alexei Wood covers social justice movements and was exercising his constitutional right to report on the dangerous activities of DisruptJ20, a group of destructive anti-Trump anarchists. Rounded up by police while documenting the DisruptJ20 actions, Wood now faces five felony property destruction charges and three felony rioting charges. If found guilty on all the charges, he could serve 61 years in prison, though he neither rioted nor destroyed any personal property or real estate himself.



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A8

# Chances Are, You're an Anti-Semite

• Anti-Semitism charge being used effectively to muzzle critics of Israel, Zionism

By Philip Giraldi

**J**oe Sobran once quipped that “an anti-Semite used to mean a man who hated Jews. Now it means anyone who is hated by Jews.” To be sure, the label has been applied frequently to those commentators who have been guilty of criticizing the behavior of Jewish groups or individuals as well as, increasingly, anyone who does not endorse Israel or its policies. Denouncing anti-Semitism is the first-strike weapon intended to silence all opposition. Former Israeli government minister Shulamit Aloni even admitted publicly that it often has little connection with reality, stating that “It’s a trick. We always use it.”

Writing as I do on the Middle East from a perspective that finds Israel and its machinations to bring about endless war against what it perceives as its enemies, I often come across the use of the epithet “anti-Semite” by those who seek to deflect such criticism and discredit me personally. Recently, the push by the international Jewish community and its allies has been to make a case that the only reason anyone would condemn Israeli behavior is that he or she is anti-Semitic. Efforts to codify and even criminalize any and all criticism of Israel as *ipso facto* anti-Semitic and subject to consequences as “hate speech” have gained traction both in Europe and in the United States, with legislation pending in various parliaments to ban or even criminalize any attempts to either boycott or single out Israel.

Even given my exposure to the anti-Semitic tropes making the rounds, I was astonished recently to read an essay in an online publication that calls itself *The Arab Daily News*, which described “the new-Antisemitism.” The article was by Eileen Fleming, who is reported to be the site’s senior non-Arab correspondent. It is difficult to discern what exactly Fleming is seeking to say and she certainly has many positive credentials regarding objectionable behavior by Israel, but what is interesting in her article is her repeating what some prominent Jewish scholars are saying about the “new Anti-Semitism.”

Ms. Fleming cites Prof. Irwin Cotler of McGill University who “identified the following nine aspects of what he considers to constitute the ‘new anti-Semitism.’”

- Genocidal antisemitism: calling for the destruction of Israel and the Jewish people;
- Political antisemitism: denial of the Jewish people’s right to self-determination, delegitimization of Israel as a state, attributions to Israel of all the world’s evils;
- Ideological antisemitism: “Nazifying” Israel by comparing Zionism and racism;



- Theological antisemitism: Convergence of Islamic antisemitism and Christian “replacement” theology, drawing on the classical hatred of Jews;
- Cultural antisemitism: The emergence of anti-Israel attitudes, sentiments, and discourse of “fashionable” salon intellectuals;
- Economic antisemitism: BDS movements and the extraterritorial application of restrictive covenants against countries trading with Israel;
- Holocaust denial;
- Anti-Jewish racist terrorism; and
- International legal discrimination (“denial to Israel of equality before the law in the international arena”).

BDS refers to the growing Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions movement, which encourages individuals, organizations, and corporations to divest themselves of investments in Israel.

Cotler also has maintained that “classical anti-Semitism” discriminates against Jews as individuals while new anti-Semitism, “is anchored in discrimination against the Jews as a people—and the embodiment of that expression in Israel. In each instance, the essence of anti-Semitism is the same—an assault upon whatever is the core of Jewish self-definition at any moment in time.” Cotler believes that the world is “witnessing a new and escalating . . . and even lethal anti-Semitism focused on hatred of Israel.”

It does not take a genius to discern the core issue here, which is all about gatekeeping for Israel. Cotler throws out a bunch of red herrings and uses provocative language to demonize anyone who believes reasonably enough that Israel is the focus of such a high level of vitriol because it behaves so badly. Certainly, there are people who call for the destruction of Israel and the Jewish people, but they are hardly visible even in the alternative media while those seeking to delegitimize Israel do so because they object to an ethno-religious state that excludes a large block

of citizens from having equal rights and which operates as a brutal colonial power. And yes, Zionism is racism.

Cotler objects to putting pressure on Israel through non-violent economic means, and he doesn’t like “anti-Israel attitudes.” He includes “Holocaust denial,” which presumably incorporates any questioning of the standard narrative, something that many historians support but are fearful of going anywhere near because people like Cotler are waiting to pounce. And then there is the claim regarding “denial” of equality before the law for Israel, which is absurd, as it is generally speaking Israel that has used its access to U.S.

courts to wage a campaign of lawfare that denies legal rights and due process to victims of Israeli policies.

Running through Cotler’s list, I think I could make a compelling case that nearly everyone I know could be convicted of some aspect of this so-called “new Anti-Semitism.” If Jewish groups and prominent individuals are active in defending Israeli behavior, which they are, and are called out for it, that certainly would appear to qualify as “political antisemitism.” And comparing Israel’s genocidal behavior toward the Palestinians with the historical example of the Nazis, which is certainly possible, appears to be “ideological antisemitism.”

Cotler does not discuss the existence of groups, like the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), which operate on behalf of the Israeli government and intensively lobby both Congress and the media to maintain financial and political support for Benjamin Netanyahu’s racist government. Many Americans like myself object to AIPAC’s activities in the strongest terms, as the group is promoting a foreign interest ahead of the interests of the American people. Is that “ideological,” “cultural,” or “political”? Who cares, apparently, but the objective is to control or even limit any and all criticism of Israel by carefully wrapping such dissent in an academically derived laundry list outlining alleged anti-Semitic behavior.

Israel should be treated by Washington like any other country, based on U.S. national interests. The fact that it is not is, unfortunately, in part based on arguments like Cotler’s that it is somehow anti-Semitic to question everything America does for Israel. ★

Philip Giraldi is a former CIA counter-terrorism specialist and military intelligence officer and a columnist and television commentator. He is also the executive director of the Council for the National Interest. Giraldi also submits articles that can be found on the website of the Unz Review.



# Larry Silverstein Cashes in Again

By John Friend

**L**arry A. Silverstein, the developer of the World Trade Center complex in New York City, has won a \$95.2 million settlement against American Airlines Group Inc., United Continental Holdings Inc., and other defendants with ties to the aviation industry for losses sustained during the 9/11 attacks, it was recently reported.

Insurers for American and United Airlines will cover the multi-million-dollar settlement reached with Silverstein and his property management firm, Silverstein Properties.

According to the official account, American and United airliners were hijacked by radical Islamic terrorists connected to Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda network on 9/11 and flown into the iconic Twin Towers in New York City—the two largest buildings in the World Trade Center complex—causing their destruction that fateful day.

Silverstein became the primary leaseholder of the World Trade Center complex shortly before 9/11. It had previously been managed by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey but was transferred to private hands—Silverstein and his Silverstein Properties—in the weeks leading up to 9/11.

Skeptics of the official 9/11 tale maintain this move was designed to both facilitate the attacks and enrich a man deeply connected to the state of Israel, alleged by some to have played a key role in orchestrating the attacks.

Six weeks prior to 9/11, Silverstein won a 99-year lease on the World Trade Center complex with a minimal investment of roughly \$14 million. Almost immediately, Silverstein purchased an insurance policy on the complex that included acts of terrorism. Since 9/11, Silverstein has collected over \$4 billion in insurance settlement money as a result of the attack, a huge figure considering his original investment.

Silverstein has been a leading figure in the organized pro-Israel community for decades, and served as president of the United Jewish Appeal in New York. He also has intimate connections to the state of Israel, particularly its hardline, right-wing political factions, and major Zionist organizations around the world.

"Silverstein has been closely tied to two Likud mainstays—Ariel 'the Butcher' Sharon and former Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu," wrote legendary journalist Victor Thorn in his must-read book *9/11 Evil*, which is available from AFP BOOKSTORE. "Prior to 9/11, Netanyahu and Silverstein would speak on the phone every Sunday afternoon. [Netanyahu] becomes a key player in this scenario because he was the man who actually coined the term 'war on terrorism,' the official term for the never-ending, Israeli-induced war." ★

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# Rep. McCollum Invites Wrath of Israel

• Bill introduced to stop U.S. taxpayer funding for Israel's persecution of Palestinian children

By Dave Gahary

On the heels of an Oct. 25 report entitled “Unprotected: The Detention of Palestinian Teenagers in East Jerusalem” from Israeli human rights groups backed by the EU, one brave U.S. congresswoman has had enough of Israel's false code of “purity of arms,” which claims Israeli forces are the world's most moral.

Rep. Betty McCollum (D-Minn.) introduced H.R.4391, the first bill to address Palestinian human rights ever brought forward in Congress, despite nearly 70 years of official Israeli abuse of Palestinians.

The “Promoting Human Rights by Ending Israeli Military Detention of Palestinian Children Act” does not call for an outright reduction in the billions of dollars struggling American taxpayers hand over to Israel annually—despite the fact Israel is ranked the 38th wealthiest country in the world. It does, however, mandate the State Department certify none of that money goes toward abusive treatment of children, specifically including: torture or cruel, inhumane, or degrading treatment; physical violence, including restraint in stress positions; hooding, sensory deprivation, death threats, or other forms of psychological abuse; incommunicado detention or solitary confinement; administrative detention (detention without charge or trial under “secret evidence”); denial of access to parents or legal counsel during interrogations; and confessions obtained by force or coercion.

The “unprotected” report painfully details just this sort of “broad, systemic abuse by Israeli authorities against hundreds of Palestinian teens detained in occupied East Jerusalem” between May 2015 and Oct. 2016:

Palestinian teenagers from East Jerusalem are pulled out of bed in the middle of the night, unnecessarily handcuffed and interrogated without being given the opportunity to speak to a lawyer or their parents before the questioning begins and without being informed of their right to remain silent. They are then held under harsh conditions, repeatedly remanded to custodial detention for additional period of days and even weeks, even once their interrogation has ended. In some cases, all this is attended by verbal abuse or threats and physical abuse.

Although illegal under Israeli law and regulations, the investigation found that agents of the Israeli Security Agency, or *Shin Bet*, police, prison guards, and judges blatantly violated their own rules and protocols, which include arresting youth as a last resort, physical restraint only in exceptional cases, and prohibiting minors from being interrogated at night outside of exceptional



circumstances.

Nearly all the cases reviewed revealed teens were illegally snatched from the safety of their homes and beds, leaving their parents in indescribable misery, and then interrogated.

The report states “25% of the children interrogated said violence was used against them,” over 50% of the children said “interrogators screamed threats and verbal abuse at them,” and almost 25% “were not allowed to use the bathroom or were not given food when they asked.”

In fact, denying food and drink was one of the leading methods to get the teens to “confess,” “with 83% of the minors saying a big reason they signed confessions was because they were hungry.” Deceptively, “80% of the confession statements were in Hebrew, so the children could not read what they were signing,” a fact documented by the U.S. State Department in 2016.

The report concludes these tactics are “intentionally formed policy used by the state to pressure Palestinians in the city to leave, treating the population as people outside of the system.”

A main supporter of the bill, Defence of Children International (DCI), points out the illegal practice is widespread and rampant. DCI estimates 10,000 Palestinian minors ages 12 to 17 from the occupied West Bank have, since 2000, been subject to arrest, detention, interrogation, and/or imprisonment under military courts. *Ha'artez* reported in 2011 that “99.74% of all military court hearings end in convictions.”

H.R. 4391 references provisions of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child—signed but never ratified by the U.S., and signed and ratified

**The world's most moral army?** Israeli Border Police, or *magavnikim*, detain a Palestinian youngster in Jerusalem's Old City, earlier this year. Thousands of Palestinian children ages 17 and under have been arrested, interrogated and imprisoned.

AP PHOTO / MAHMOUD ILLEAN

by Israel. It requires that “no child shall be subject to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment as well as requiring arrests and detentions of minors be used as a last resort, that said detentions should be instituted for the shortest period of time possible,” and that children have access to fair and speedy trials.

As of this writing, H.R. 4391 has 15 cosponsors—all Democrats—as well as endorsement from 17 human-rights groups, including Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International USA.

The bill may signal a change in Congress's unquestioning support of the Zionist state. DCI notes, “These developments reflect a significant shift in American public opinion in recent years, away from unconditional support for Israel and toward growing support for Palestinian rights and freedom.”

The bill will undoubtedly apply much-needed pressure on Israel to end its heinous abuse of Palestinian children, and it's about time. A phone call to your representative and senators certainly can't hurt. ★

**Dave Gahary**, a former submariner in the U.S. Navy, prevailed in a suit brought by the New York Stock Exchange in an attempt to silence him. Dave is the producer of an upcoming film about the attack on the USS *Liberty*. See the website [erasingtheliberty.com](http://erasingtheliberty.com) or call (850) 677-0344 for more information.



# President Working to Protect Jobs for American Workers

Continued from page 1

unfair trading practices. His views are decidedly more pro-American and pro-tariff than any of his USTR predecessors, going back to the establishment of the USTR office in 1962.

"For too long," the White House trade-policy statement reads, "Americans have been forced to accept trade deals that put the interests of insiders and the Washington elite over the hard-working men and women of this country. As a result, blue-collar towns and cities have watched their factories close and good-paying jobs move overseas, while Americans face a mounting trade deficit and a devastated manufacturing base."

"[T]he President understands how critical it is to put American workers and businesses first when it comes to trade. With tough and fair agreements, international trade can be used to grow our economy, return millions of jobs to America's shores, and revitalize our nation's suffering communities."

## POPULIST LEANINGS

Lighthizer's support of Trump, tariffs, and fair trade—shunning the false mantra that free trade is a genuinely conservative ideology—goes back over six years, to when Trump first flirted with seeking high office.

Writing in *The Washington Times* on May 9, 2011, Lighthizer, a former deputy trade official under President Reagan, sounded almost as populist as the late trade expert Gus Stelzer, a friend of AFP who was a highly respected General Motors official.

Lighthizer wrote: "Mr. Trump's GOP opponents accuse him of wanting to get tough on China and of being a protectionist. Since when does that mean one is not a conservative? For most of its 157-year history, the Republican Party has been the party of building domestic industry by using trade policy to promote U.S. exports and fend off unfairly traded imports. American conservatives have had that view for even longer."

Lighthizer added: "When viewed in this context, the recent blind faith some Republicans have shown toward free trade actually represents more of an aberration than a hallmark of true American conservatism . . . . During the first half of the 19th century, pro-business politicians like Henry Clay were ardent supporters of an 'American system' that would use tariffs to promote American industry . . . . Every Republican president starting with Lincoln, and for almost 100 years thereafter, generally supported tariffs, while Democrats tended to promote free trade." ★

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# Defeat of ISIS a Victory for Truth

• Government needs to admit Obama, Hillary had no interest in defeating ISIS

By Dr. Kevin Barrett

**T**he mainstream media accuses President Donald Trump of playing fast and loose with the truth, but sometimes Trump tells more truth than the media does.

Case in point: During last year's presidential campaign, Trump repeatedly called Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton "the founder and co-founder of ISIS." Speaking of Obama, Trump said, "The way he got out of Iraq was that, that was the founding of ISIS, okay?"

The media was outraged. Self-appointed truth watchdogs like Politifact gave Trump's claim a "pants on fire" rating. Surely the Obama administration had been fighting ISIS, not founding it.

But Trump was right. Though there is no way to determine Obama's and Clinton's level of hands-on personal responsibility, the U.S. government clearly did create and sustain ISIS while Obama was commander-in-chief and Clinton was secretary of state.

Now that ISIS has been defeated—not by the United States and its allies but by Syria, Iran, Hezbollah, and Russia—the truth can no longer be denied. The U.S. government was only pretending to fight ISIS, while secretly arming and funding them.

Gen. Michael Hayden stated in 2015 that it would take 30 years to defeat ISIS. He was right. It would have taken the U.S. at least that long, because the U.S. "war on ISIS" involved dropping money, weapons, and Toyota trucks, not bombs, on the terror group. But once Russia, Iran, and Hezbollah called the Americans' bluff and launched a real war on ISIS, the *takfiri*\* terrorists were routed in two years, not 30.

ISIS, the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria, appeared in 2012, just in time to join the U.S.-instigated war on Syria. Previously it was known in the West as al Qaeda in Iraq, though its official name was ISI, the Islamic State in Iraq.

It's worth noting that there was never anything remotely "Islamic" about this mercenary terror group, whose leadership consisted mainly of U.S.-sponsored secularists from Saddam Hussein's Baath Party.

ISI, the precursor to ISIS, was an American death squad created in 2004 by people associated with newly appointed U.S. ambassador to Iraq John Negroponte. "Ambassador" Negroponte had earlier been the point man for American death squads in Central America.

The 2004 plan to turn Iraq into a killing field of sectarian death squads was openly called "the Salvador option." Writing of this plan to destroy Iraq with death squads, *The Times of London* reported:



**MICHAEL HAYDEN**  
30 years to defeat ISIS?



**BARACK OBAMA**  
Secretly arming ISIS.



**HILLARY CLINTON**  
Knew what was going on.



**ABU BAKR**  
Mind-control victim?



**Jon Ronson**, the author of several books detailing the hidden side of America's "war on terror," believes that U.S. occupation forces in Iraq included mind-control experts who brainwashed Iraqi prisoners.

"Nor is it clear who would take responsibility for such a program—the Pentagon or the Central Intelligence Agency. Such covert operations have traditionally been run by the CIA at arm's length from the administration in power, giving U.S. officials the ability to deny knowledge of it."

The following year, the *Financial Times* reported: "The appearance of death squads was first highlighted in May this year [2005] . . . dozens of bodies were found casually disposed of . . . in vacant areas around Baghdad. All of the victims had been handcuffed, blindfolded, and shot in the head, and many of them also showed signs of having been brutally tortured." This is exactly what Negroponte and his right-hand man, Col. James Steele, had done to Central Americans two decades earlier—only this time the pur-

pose was to stir up a sectarian civil war in order to divide and conquer Iraqis, who had previously been united in their rejection of U.S. occupation.

In early 2004, just as Negroponte and Steele were setting up shop in Baghdad, future ISIS "caliph" Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi was arrested and interned at Abu Ghraib and Camp Bucca. Though the former commander of Camp Bucca, Kenneth King (backed by other witnesses), insists al-Baghdadi was interned through 2009, for a total of nearly five years, the U.S. military is still lying and claiming that the notorious prisoner was only held for one year.

Why the lies? Apparently al-Baghdadi was being groomed for future leadership of ISIS in a secret program that may have involved mind control. In the book, *The Men Who Stare at Goats*, Jon Ronson explores evidence that U.S. occupation forces in Iraq included mind-control experts who were turned loose on Iraqi prisoners.

So Trump is right that Obama and Clinton presided over an Iraq "exit strategy," and then a war on Syria, the centerpiece of which was the creation of ISIS and other sectarian death squads. But just as Obama and Clinton inherited evil policies from the previous administration, so, too, did Trump—who is now threatening to vastly worsen the ongoing Middle East train wreck by green-lighting the Israeli-Saudi plan to start a war with Iran.

The truth is now obvious: There was never any American "war on ISIS." But will the Zionists who hijacked America on 9/11 admit defeat as their lies are exposed? Or will they drag us into an even bigger war—this time against the forces that really did defeat ISIS? ★

\*In Islamic law, *takfir* refers to the practice of excommunication, one Muslim declaring another Muslim as a *kafir* (non-believer). The act which precipitates *takfir* is termed the *mukaffir*. An ill-founded *takfir* accusation is a major forbidden act according to Wikipedia.

**Kevin Barrett, Ph.D.**, is an Arabist-Islamologist scholar and one of America's best-known critics of the War on Terror. From 1991 through 2006, Dr. Barrett taught at colleges and universities in San Francisco, Paris, and Wisconsin. In 2006, however, he was attacked by Republican state legislators who called for him to be fired from his job at the University of Wisconsin-Madison due to his political opinions. Since 2007, Dr. Barrett has been informally blacklisted from teaching in American colleges and universities. He currently works as a nonprofit organizer, public speaker, author, and talk radio host.



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**By John Ellis**

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Go to **JohnEllis.com** and scroll down to an Electrolysis Video (results explained below) proving the basic principles required to produce cheap electricity for future hurricane victims including surviving an EMP (Electromagnetic Pulse) attack that experts say will wipe out our electric grid for up to 18 months killing millions of Americans! It's all backed up with Videos at **JohnEllis.com**

In grade school Chemistry Class, using an Electrolysis kit, a young girl said: “Look at how much Hydrogen this water produces!”

**SHE HAD DISCOVERED HOW CHANGING WATER PROPERTIES (BY CONSTANTLY HEATING AND COOLING WATER) ALSO PRODUCES CHEAP ELECTRICITY!!** Her teacher brought our

home water machine to school to show the students how changes in environmental pressure and warm water (the way a hurricane gains energy) can produce HUGE amounts of energy each time the machine recycles (100's of times/gallon)!!

**THIS NEWLY DISCOVERED ENERGY EVEN STOPS THE SMELL OF DISEASE:** Watch the Municipal Letters Video at **JohnEllis.com** ... using the cooling water from our E5 machine also **PRODUCES 30 TIMES MORE ENERGY THAN ORDINARY WATER!**

**SINCE NO OTHER WATER CAN PRODUCE THESE RESULTS** (saving them \$10,000/day in State fines and millions to build a waste treatment plant), the Municipality received 14 phone calls the first hour the Video was posted! **THE REST IS HISTORY** with typical reports below. 13 International Patents, 332 FDA Tests

As a result, a wonderful lady who runs a major Foundation after buying dozens of our E5 machines, sent us a letter offering to finance production of our generator that produces Hydrogen on demand (no pressure tanks). However, her lawyer was concerned because Power and Water companies don't want anything that hurts their profits any more than a magazine selling health advice... in spite of the humanitarian benefits (a \$300 electric bill would drop



**John Ellis** and his forebears have been active in bettering the lives of men and women across North America for many decades. At left, his grandmother's “Nursing Sisters” tend to several ill patients. Today, John Ellis water is being used as far away as Africa!



**Act now to get your bottle of SOARING ENERGY SHOT®**  
**Only 20 DROPS produces 30 TIMES MORE ENERGY ... using our FREE water: 570 296-0214.**

to \$10)! She also paid for machines to be sent to Africa where EBOLA dropped like a rock!!

As a result, when a three-hospital chain in India placed an order they said: “You are known all over the world!” To stem the naysayers I offer this: **My college engineering professor Dr. John Weishampel gave me the only grade of 100% in 30 years of teaching!** Hurricane Victims Note: Dole Foods sent a seven-page contract because this water also destroys MOLD SPORES (spread as a result of flooding) after testing our cooling water on their banana plantations for nine months ... use in a humidifier or nebulizer with good COPD results!

## **THE HYDROGEN BOND ANGLE CAN BE CHANGED**

In my 88th year(a family effort), the pushback against this young girl for personal gain reminds me of my grandmother's famous Nursing Sisters and a woman's right to vote! With an **Engineering Degree** that includes Steam Plant Design, in college we were taught that ordinary distilled water with a **Hydrogen Bond Angle (HBA)** of only 101 degrees was worse than tap water with an HBA of 104.5 degrees. **My water property change to 114 degrees was confirmed to The Washington Times by the Los Alamos Nuclear Lab:** “He did change the hydrogen Bond Angle in water and we wish we owned his patents!” (See a video at **JohnEllis.com** created after a 1/27/92 *Washington Post* Investigative Article: “10,000 people a day said it cures anything, even cancer and diabetes.”

## **SOMETHING YOU CAN MEASURE**

That article also included an International Patent Description: “The **curative power** results from movements of water between two metal tanks,” producing **results confirmed** in another investigation by Guy Abraham, M.D. who taught at the UCLA Medical School doing In-

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dependent Blood Flow Studies on how to prevent a heart attack or stroke and **FLUSH OUT THE BLOOD STREAM** at the same time. He said, "You can't argue with something you can measure . . . the ability of blood (94% water) to go through a membrane into the cells to the extremities. Nothing is even close to your water. Your HBA is 114 degrees!" Watch the two videos at JohnEllis.com PROVING you are drinking the wrong water . . . The results have been duplicated THOUSANDS of times, proving this water provides "BODY ELECTRIC" energy that powers your heart (defibrillator to stop a heart attack, pacemaker) because it takes less energy for the body to split water into Hydrogen and Oxygen. (Examples below, 31 amps to only 1 amp!!)

### CONTROVERSY IS HEALTHY

Like **THOMAS PAINE** the author of *Common Sense*, **anyone not generating controversy isn't doing much of anything** . . . as true as God's accuracy revealed to me in the Power of a Perfect circle (360 degrees divided by Pi = 114 degrees almost exactly!).

Can atheists explain any of this?

Think about this:

- Eggs of each species always hatch at the same exact time divided by seven.
- Watermelons always have an even number of stripes.
- Oranges have an even number of segments
- Corn has an even number of rows.
- Waves of the sea roll 26 per min. in all weather.
- All grains have even numbers on the stalks.

The Lord specified: 30-, 60- and 100-fold—all even numbers!

### THE POWER OF POSITIVE THINKING

As I listened to **DR. NORMAN VINCENT PEALE** eulogize my father to an overflowing congregation in New Rochelle, I thought about increasing the lifespan of people like my Godfather, **DR. JAMES E. WEST**, Chief Boy



**NORMAN VINCENT PEALE**



**The Thomas Paine house** (above) in New Rochelle, N.Y.—near where John Ellis used to live as a boy. Some people didn't like Paine's revolutionary ideas and so they tried to kill him!

Scout Executive from 1907-37, who helped thousands of youngsters discover a positive direction in life along with Norman Rockwell, who we all knew and loved, hired by Dr. West for *Boy's Life Magazine* including friends that modeled for *Saturday Evening Post* covers with a humanitarian impact rarely seen today.

Dr. Peale always came to our family gatherings with his "Power of Positive Thinking" that has had a positive impact on millions of lives including Joel Osteen and President Donald Trump!

Like the Catholic Priest who saw the Cross at ground Zero 9/11, forget controversy and dwell on a positive outcome like the Olympic athletes I have known that imagined themselves competing using Dr. Peale's powerful message!

### WE'RE NOT NEW TO CONTROVERSY

**I am not new to controversy:** In 1957 I had the best discus throw in the World (*T&F News*, Vol. 10, No. 12) but gave it up because I knew Anabolic Steroids would cause users heart damage! All the top athletes were told they were safe by doctors. However, their inventor, John Ziegler M.D., said before he died at 63: "**I wish I had listened to [John Ellis]. I damaged my own heart!**"

Now, there is a long list of Olympic friends who are dead because they were "FDA Approved" (now banned). I was right then about anabolic steroids and I am right now about viruses and disease!

### SOARING ENERGY—NATURALLY!

**LIKE STEROIDS . . . THEY THOUGHT MORE WAS BETTER** including **VITAMINS** or **ENERGY SHOTS. BUT MORE ISN'T BETTER!!**

**WITH MY WATER, ONLY 20 DROPS are needed for "SOARING ENERGY"!**

### VIOLATING FARADAY'S LAW?

Here's what a man in Zurich said: "I have had your E5 Water Machine for only 24 hours. I had gross swelling in my legs and hadn't worn ordinary shoes in years. **Your water immediately destroyed the markers for elephantiasis in my blood stream!!** I lost all the water weight in my legs and I bought a pair of shoes size 10 ½. Also unlike ordinary DDW, using electrolysis (a battery and two thin pieces of stainless steel, anode and cathode, not a stack that negates power) **your water produces so much Hydrogen it violates Faraday's Law . . . producing the energy needed to stop disease!!**"

### AMAZING POWER PROPERTIES

A company that produces hydrogen generators for trucks found the required power slowly went down over 24 hours (a cascading effect that is immediate once it has been treated) from 31 amps to **less than 1 amp** making the same amount of hydrogen by adding only **20 drops** of this water to ordinary water in their hydrogen generator (another web-site video)! Using this technology, you can power your car, heat your home and produce electricity for pennies. Watch the Video that shows examples **PROVING** you are drinking the wrong water . . . just as food supplies energy, this water provides the "**BODY ELECTRIC**" energy that powers your heart (defibrillator to stop a heart attack, pacemaker)!

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# Financial Tyranny Waged on You

• We the People have become the new permanent underclass in America

By John W. Whitehead

Americans can no longer afford to get sick, and there's a reason why. That's because a growing number of Americans are struggling to stretch their dollars far enough to pay their bills, get out of debt, and ensure that if and when an illness arises, it doesn't bankrupt them.

This is a reality that no amount of partisan political bickering can deny.

Many Americans can no longer afford health insurance, drug costs, or hospital bills. They can't afford to pay rising healthcare premiums, out-of-pocket deductibles, and prescription drug bills. They can't afford to live, and now they can't afford to get sick or die, either.

It's a gamble any way you look at it, and the medical community is not helping.

Healthcare costs are rising, driven by medical, insurance, and pharmaceutical industries that are getting rich off the sick and dying.

Appallingly, Americans spend more than any developed country on healthcare and have less to show for it. While Obamacare (a.k.a. the Affordable Care Act) may have made health insurance more accessible to greater numbers of individuals, it has failed to make healthcare any more affordable.

Indeed, healthcare in America has become just another way of making corporations rich at consumer expense.

This is how the middle classes, who fuel the nation's economy and fund the government's pro-

“  
The only “us versus them”  
that matters anymore is  
“we the people” against  
the police state.

grams, get screwed repeatedly.

We're living a financial nightmare.

We have no real say in how the government runs, or how our taxpayer funds are used, but that doesn't prevent the government from fleecing us at every turn and forcing us to pay for endless wars that do more to fund the military-industrial complex than protect us, pork-barrel projects that produce little to nothing, and a police state that serves only to imprison us within its walls.

If you have no choice, no voice, and no real options when it comes to the government's claims on your property and your money, you're not free.

Consider: The government can seize your home and your car (which you've bought and paid for) over nonpayment of taxes. Government agents can freeze and seize your bank accounts and other valuables if they merely “suspect” wrongdoing. And the IRS insists on getting the



Since the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, U.S. taxpayers have been forced to pay more than \$5.6 trillion to fund the “war on terror,” a war that does nothing to improve the lives of Americans here at home.

first cut of your salary to pay for government programs over which you have no say.

Unsurprisingly, the government has used its tax powers under the 16th Amendment to the Constitution to advance its own imperialistic agendas and the courts have repeatedly upheld the government's power to penalize or jail those who refused to pay their taxes.

All the while the government continues to do whatever it likes—levy taxes, rack up debt, spend outrageously and irresponsibly—with little thought for the plight of its citizens.

If Americans managed their personal finances the way the government mismanages the nation's finances, we'd all be in debtors' prison by now.

Still, the government remains unrepentant, unfazed, and undeterred in its money grabs.

While we're struggling to get by, the police state is spending our hard-earned tax dollars to further entrench its powers and entrap its citizens.

For instance, American taxpayers have been forced to shell out \$5.6 trillion since 9/11 for the military-industrial complex's costly, endless so-called “war on terrorism.” The 16-year war in Afghanistan, which now stands as the longest and one of the most expensive wars in U.S. history, is about to get even longer and more costly, thanks to President Donald Trump's promise to send more troops over.

In this way, the military-industrial complex will get even richer, and the American taxpayer will be forced to shell out even more funds for programs that do little to enhance our lives, en-



**The problem with medical care in America** is not those people who cannot afford it (hardly anyone can whose employer does not pay for it), but the fact that medical care itself has become prohibitively expensive.



sure our happiness and well-being, or secure our freedoms. This is no way of life.

Yet it's not just the government's endless wars that are bleeding us dry.

We're also being forced to shell out money for surveillance systems to track our movements, money to further militarize our already militarized police, money to allow the government to raid our homes and bank accounts, money to fund schools where our kids learn nothing about freedom and everything about how to comply, and on and on.

Are you getting the picture yet?

The government isn't taking our money to make our lives better. Just take a look at the nation's failing infrastructure, and you'll see how little is being spent on programs that advance the common good.

We're being robbed blind so the governmental elite can get richer.

This is nothing less than financial tyranny. "We the people" have become the new, permanent underclass in America.

It's tempting to say that there's little we can do about it, except that's not quite accurate.

There are a few things we can do (demand transparency, reject cronyism and graft, insist on fair pricing and honest accounting methods, call a halt to incentive-driven government programs that prioritize profits over people), but it will require that "we the people" stop playing politics and stand united against the politicians and corporate interests who have turned our government and economy into a pay-to-play exercise.

We've become so invested in identity politics that label us based on our political leanings that we've lost sight of the one label that unites us: We're all Americans.

As I make clear in my book *Battlefield America: The War on the American People*,\* the powers-that-be want to pit us against one another. They want us to adopt an "us versus them" mindset that keeps us powerless and divided. Trust me: The only "us versus them" that matters anymore is "we the people" against the police state.

We're all in the same boat, folks, and there's only one real life preserver: That's the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

The Constitution starts with those three powerful words: "We the people." The message is this: There is power in our numbers.

That remains our greatest strength in the face of a governmental elite that continues to ride roughshod over the populace. It remains our greatest defense against a government that has claimed for itself unlimited power over the purse (taxpayer funds) and the sword (military might). As Patrick Henry declared in the last speech before his death, "United we stand, divided we fall."

This holds true whether you're talking about healthcare, war spending, or the American police state. ★

\*Constitutional attorney and author **John W. Whitehead** is founder and president of the Rutherford Institute. His books *Battlefield America* and *A Government of Wolves* are available from AMERICAN FREE PRESS BOOKSTORE. Call 1-888-699-NEWS toll free to order.

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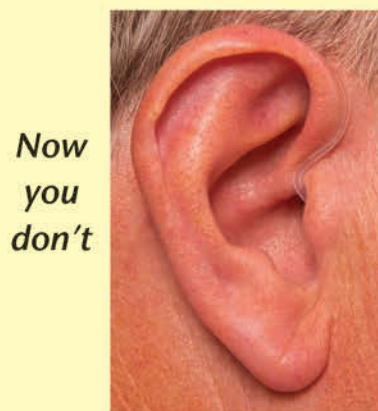
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It's not a hearing aid—those require trips to the audiologist, hearing tests and can cost as much as \$5,000. It's also not a cheap amplifier that just makes everything louder, making it virtually impossible to hear conversations. It's Perfect Choice HD Ultra™... and it may be the perfect solution for you.

Perfect Choice HD Ultra™ is the first PSAP that features Dynamic Speech Optimization (DSO). This technology enables the device to prioritize the spoken word over other sounds. These noises are generally in different frequencies than voices, but they can drown out the words and make conversations hard to understand. This invention targets the frequencies of the human voice and amplifies the words. It's even designed to diminish feedback even at higher volumes, so you can customize your hearing experience to meet your needs. Just imagine how great it will feel to be able to understand what people are saying... the first time they say it.

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# Will Uranium Deal Be the Scandal That Finally Brings Down Clintons?

By Printus LeBlanc

**T**he Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) will likely be the talk of D.C. after the Uranium One informant soon finishes his testimony. That informant has been named by Reuters as William Campbell, a former lobbyist for a Russian firm.

According to the Treasury Department, “CFIUS is an inter-agency committee authorized to review transactions that could result in control of a U.S. business by a foreign person (‘covered transactions’), in order to determine the effect of such transactions on the national security of the United States.” It is comprised of several principals from various government agencies, including the secretaries of treasury and state.

Uranium One is a uranium mining company with operations around the world. It is headquar-

tered in Ontario, Canada. The company runs two mines in Wyoming accounting for “20% of the currently licensed uranium recovery production capacity in the U.S.,” according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

In mid-2010, Uranium One announced it reached a deal that would result in a company called ARMZ acquiring a majority share in Uranium One. ARMZ is a subsidiary of Rosatom, the Russian state-owned regulatory body of the Russian nuclear industry. Due to the sensitive nature of uranium and its potential application in fostering nuclear weapons, the agreement would need the approval of CFIUS, which Secretary of State Hillary Clinton sat on.

Shortly after the deal was announced, former President Bill Clinton gave a speech to Renaissance Capital, a Kremlin-tied bank, for \$500,000, one of the biggest fees he ever earned. The bank was also pushing the stock of Uranium One calling it, “the best play in the uranium markets.”

Before the deal was even announced, there



How did a Russian company gain control of 20% of U.S. uranium production?

was an FBI investigation into an American subsidiary of Rosatom, Tenam USA. The FBI had an informant inside, detailing multiple felonies, including extortion, fraud, and money-laundering. The crimes would make critical players in the U.S. nuclear industry susceptible to blackmail by Moscow.

Despite felonies being investigated and an apparent conflict of interest with one of the committee members, the sale was still approved.

By 2013, Rosatom had ownership of Uranium One and 20% of U.S. uranium production.

Recently it was discovered that, despite the Obama administration’s promise the uranium would not be exported, the mineral was exported to Canada and then on to Europe and Asia. ★

Printus LeBlanc is a contributing editor at Americans for Limited Government.

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(Should email volume become too large, we will reply on a general site with the initials of the senders and nation—to be created later on.)



# JFK Researcher Honored in Dallas

• Man who saved Zapruder film from dustbin gets lifetime achievement award

By S.T. Patrick

At the recent 5th Annual JFK Assassination Conference in Dallas, veteran researcher Robert Groden—the man who single-handedly saved the famous Zapruder film from the dustbin of history—was given the Garrison-Lane Lifetime Achievement Award for JFK Research.

Groden is considered one of the leading first-generation researchers—researchers who began their work between the day of the assassination in 1963 and the end of the Lyndon Johnson administration in 1968. Groden turned 18 on the day President John F. Kennedy was shot in Dealey Plaza. His work began shortly thereafter.

“Within days, actually, before the [assassination] week was out,” Groden said, “I was already archiving everything I could find and reading everything I could find . . . being fascinated by the fact that the assassination itself had been filmed . . . not by one, not by two, but actually by five different people. I was intrigued as to why these films were all being hidden from public view.”

Groden would be the catalyst behind the effort to show the most famous film of the assassination to the public. As a photo-optics technician for a New York City motion picture processing lab, he was on staff when *Life* magazine contracted with the lab to convert the 26-second Zapruder film from 8mm to 35mm.

“As we did it, let’s just say an extra copy was made that *Life* didn’t know about,” Groden slyly stated. “It became the most important 26 seconds of history ever photographed.”

Fearing legal ramifications and attempts on his life, Groden kept the film private for several years. “There was a conspiracy to kill the president, and I was the only one who could prove it,” he said.

Groden, at the behest of the few researchers for whom he had screened the Zapruder film, showed the film at a Georgetown University symposium but to little national fanfare. Attending the next screening in Boston, however, was comedian-activist Dick Gregory, who urged Groden to show the film to the Rockefeller Commission in 1975. Groden and Steve Jaffe, one of Jim Garrison’s investigators, testified to the commission about CIA excesses and activities related to the JFK assassination. More importantly, Groden projected the Zapruder film for the commission.

While Groden was testifying in Washington, D.C., he received a call from Geraldo Rivera’s “Good Night America” staff. On March 6, 1975, Groden and Gregory appeared on Rivera’s ABC program to show the Zapruder film to the nation.

“

Groden wondered why the movies of five people who filmed the murder were being kept hidden.

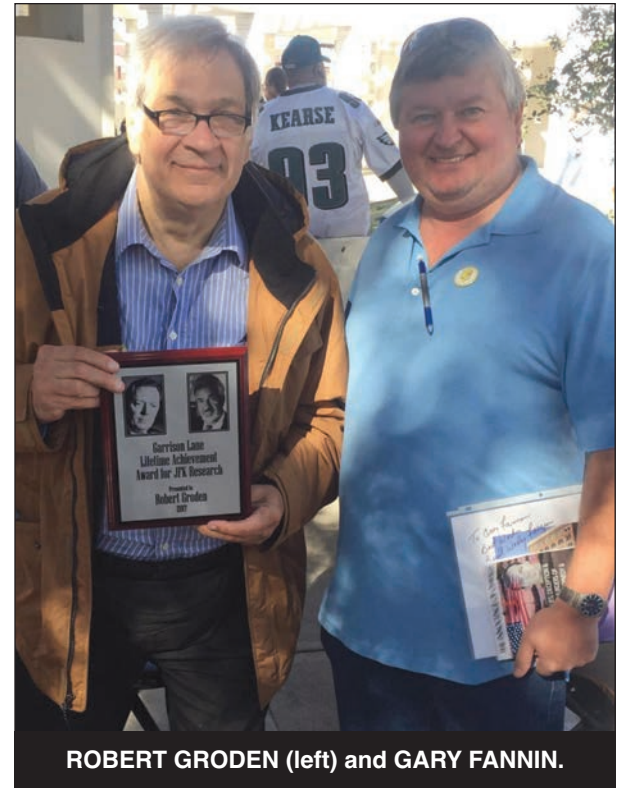
Within days, Groden was called to testify before the newly formed House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA). He served as a photographic consultant for the HSCA, who in 1978 issued their final report, which stated that Kennedy was probably murdered as a result of a conspiracy.

The award given to Groden was named after New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison and author and attorney Mark Lane. Garrison, whose case was dramatized in Oliver Stone’s 1991 film “JFK,” was the only government official to prosecute a case against those he believed were responsible for the murder. Lane, an attorney who also became one of the leading early researchers in the case, published a critical article in the *National Guardian* four weeks after the assassination. Lane was also instrumental in setting up *AMERICAN FREE PRESS* in August 2001, serving as the newspaper’s corporate attorney for years.

Garrison lost the case against New Orleans businessman Clay Shaw in 1969, but he wrote two seminal works on the case, *A Heritage of Stone* (1970) and *On the Trail of the Assassins* (1988). Lane’s 1966 book *Rush to Judgment* became the first widely popular work critical of the Warren Commission, the group set up by President Lyndon Johnson to create an official report on the Kennedy assassination.

Gary Fannin, the author of *The Innocence of Oswald* and member of the conference board that awarded Groden, called Garrison and Lane the “first two real heroes of the case.” Fannin also emphasized Groden’s importance, noting, “If it weren’t for Garrison, Lane, and Groden, a lot of [the assassination research] would never have been available.”

Lane is best known for his JFK assassination books, which also include *A Citizen’s Dissent* (1968), *Plausible Denial* (1991), and *Last Word* (2011), but Fannin pointed out that Lane should also be lauded for attempting, at the request of Marguerite Oswald, to represent Lee Harvey Oswald, her son, to the Warren Commission. It was



ROBERT GRODEN (left) and GARY FANNIN.

this representation that the Warren Commission rejected.

The original publishing of *Rush to Judgment* became legendary among JFK researchers. Sixteen publishers cancelled contracts with Lane to publish it. Lane had to take the book to Europe to be published and was only paid \$1,500 for writing what became a global phenomenon. *Rush to Judgment* became a No. 1 best seller that spent 29 weeks on the *New York Times* bestseller list.

Groden today can be found outside the Texas School Book Depository in Dealey Plaza on weekends. For 25 years, he has sold books, DVDs, and magazines that he has produced over the life of his research. He answers any and all questions from those researchers and assassination buffs who have made the trek to Dealey Plaza. At 72, he remains the most public and accessible of all the researchers. He also remains the most harassed by local Dallas officials. Groden has been ticketed 84 times for doing commerce in Dealey Plaza, all of which have been thrown out of court. He has been arrested and jailed twice.

“The lie pays more than the truth,” Fannin said.

For Groden, there were personal sacrifices and missed professional opportunities that continue to impact his life today. But like Garrison and Lane, Groden is a vital member of an elite group of JFK assassination research figures who have changed the way Americans view the case. ★

S.T. Patrick holds degrees in both journalism and social studies education. He spent ten years as an educator and now hosts the “Midnight Writer” News Show. His email is STPatrickAFP@gmail.com.



# NOAH, CREATIONISM & EVOLUTION

By Ed Sommerville

About 50 years ago I heard that a Dr. Dwayne Gish and Dr. Henry Morris were coming to Oshkosh to speak on Creationism verses Evolution. It was held at a Baptist Church that was formed from a church that split from the church I used to attend in Oshkosh, so I drove the 20 miles down there to see what they had to say. I can't really remember all the details they went into except they brought in the part where man's footprints were supposedly found along with those of dinosaurs and stressed the idea that the flood was worldwide. After their presentation they opened it up to Q & A. The first question was by an old man who popped up immediately. He wanted to know what this had to do with salvation. He is not alone, as there are many Baptists that feel that salvation is all the Bible is about. I then asked them, how old is the Earth, and without hesitation Dr. Morris replied, 6,000 years. When leaving, they had tables set up with many high quality books with full-color printing on expensive paper that promoted the ideas that they were taking about.

After going through this information, it brought up many questions in my mind that should also be going through the minds of any person with common sense or logic. At that time there were no wild animals north of the equator, such as the rhinoceros, the hippopotamus, the giraffe, as well as the monkeys and chimpanzees, along with many others. Then there are the kangaroos that were only found in Australia, thousands of miles away on another continent. There is no way that any of these animals could have been on the Ark. That then raises the question, were all these animals created after the flood?

To find out more about the flood and the Creationists, I went on the internet and found a 17-page document that was compiled by Charles Weisman, author of over a dozen books on the Bible. He goes into many details on the flood that are never mentioned by the Creationists. Since they take the Bible "literally" the flood would have to cover all the mountains in the world which would make the waters over four miles deep. The water pressure at the ocean floor would be so great that it would kill all the bottom feeders like the lobsters, crabs, shrimp etc along with the catfish and bullheads. It would have to rain heavily for hundreds of years to bring this about. Where would all this water come from? And most importantly, where would it abate to?

Much of the error taught today is the result of the translators who translated the Hebrew word "erecs" into the word "earth." Although the word *erecs* is translated Earth many times, it is also translated "country" 140 times, "land" 1,476 times and "ground" 96 times in the Old Testament. I doubt if many Christians are aware of this, as it is never brought to light by today's programmed



A rendering of the modern construction techniques used to create a massive ark at Noah's Theme Park in Kentucky.

pastors, as it does not conform to their theology or what is politically correct in today's world.

If by some miracle, Noah and his sons could have traveled the thousands of miles to dark Africa and Australia to bring back all the animals on Earth at that time not counting those in the Western Hemisphere, what would be the results? Weisman made a list of the people, animals including birds, insects and plants that would have had to be on the Ark. He then figured the space each of the animals would require. His partial list is the following: A rabbit would need about 3 cubic feet of space, an elephant would need 1,400 CF, a turkey about 9 CF, a 15-foot crocodile and a 600-lb. gorilla over 140 CF, a fox about 10 CF, a lion 120 CF and a 20-ft.-tall giraffe 900 CF, along with all the other thousands of animals. He then compiled the following chart.

Items on the Ark	Cubic feet of space needed
Eight people	80
Food for eight people	640
231 clean animals	2,310.000
Food for clean animals	18,480.000
334,000 unclean animals	3,340.000
Food for unclean animals	26,720.000
1.8 million insects	90,000
Food for insects	720,000

That brings the total cubic feet needed to 51,660,720. With only 1.2 million cubic feet available on the Ark, it would take dozens of Noah's size Arks to house them all for that length of time. Has anyone ever taken the time to think of how many animals it would take to feed the big carnivorous cats for that length of time? About 10

years go I called the Milwaukee Zoo and asked them how many people they had to feed and clean up after the animals, and they told me a number over 100. How would it be possible for just four men to accomplish this with thousands of more animals as the zoo? Another thing that is never mentioned, it would be an impossible task to capture two birds of the hundreds of species and put them in cages. With this small amount of evidence I have presented, it should be obvious that it had to be a regional flood that covered the whole land, and not the Earth. There is no way of knowing how large that region was or what the diameter was or how many square miles it covered. The Negroes in Africa nor the Chinese were affected by it along with other races beyond the flood.

The problem that exists in today's churches is, they are unaware of the reason for the flood. They are told that it was brought about for the sins of the people, but never told what that sin was. The reason is found in Genesis 6:1-2, "And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the Earth, and daughters were born of them, that the sons of God, [the descendants of Adam] saw the daughters of men [from a previous creation] that they were fair: and took the wives of all which they chose." In Genesis 6 you can see that God wanted Adam, the son of God, and his descendants to be a separated people above all the races and nations on Earth. Gen 7:22, "All [Adamites] in whose nostrils was the breath of life, all that was in the dry land died." It says that Noah (and his three sons) were perfect in their generation (race). As a result, all the Adamites/ Hebrews except Noah and his family were destroyed in the flood



along with many of the strangers in that area. God still abhors race mixing as possibly the worst sin, as there is no way of correcting it as it slowly mongrelizes and destroys his chosen race, Israel mine elect. Isa 45:4.

For some strange reason, our Christians have been led to believe that our God, the Creator, that has lived from the eternity past, did nothing in the last trillions of years until 6,000 years ago. He then decided to create the Earth in just a day and then a universe with billions of stars, some of them thousands of light years away in just another day or two. The churches have created a God that fits their time frame, and not His. He then Created male and female in the first chapter of Genesis and later in Genesis two, Adamic man, and Eve. The finite mind is incapable of understanding time and space. There is more than enough, true scientific and archaeological evidence, which I will not take the time to go into now, to prove that the Earth has been around for over a million years. It was in that time frame that the dinosaurs walked the Earth.

The Creationists have come up with the ridiculous idea that there were baby dinosaurs on the Ark. There are many very distinct and different dinosaurs species. How would you like the job of taking a baby dinosaur from his parents? There were no dinosaurs on this side of the flood, as they probably disappeared hundreds of thousands of years before the flood. Do you think that Noah had mixed feelings about putting rats, rattlesnakes and cobras etc in the Ark?

Scientists have come up with a way to determine the age of a particular area or material called carbon dating. The Creationists flatly reject it with no real proof other than it does not conform to their theology. I remember reading an article about 10 years ago that involved an ancient city mentioned in the Bible that had been buried for centuries and had just been discovered. They had the Biblical chronologists come up with the date according to the Bible. They then had the scientists check it with carbon dating. The date was approximately a little over 4,000 years ago if I remember correctly. The results were that the carbon dating and the Biblical scholars came within 100 years of each other.

They are now spending over \$100 million building a theme park in Kentucky with a replica of Noah's Ark, as they think it would look. Why would they be spending all this money to perpetuate the lie of a worldwide flood? This is being done to get the people to conform to the idea that all the races come from Adam, because there were no other people left on Earth after the flood but Noah and his family. The Creationists have come up with their own version of the origin of the races which is as unbelievable and groundless as the Evolutionists. They maintain that they were changed when their language was changed at the Tower of Babel. They were sent off in groups to different areas and gradually developed (evolved) into the different races in a rather short period of time, and then stopped developing as the Evolutionists claim. Of course none of them have been discovered in the process of development, the same as the Evolutionists. We are to believe that some of these intelligent and highly civilized peo-

ple turned into the blacks in Africa who could not build a house over one story or a boat that was seaworthy. They were also turned into the Hottentots, cannibals and headhunters. They would also have to have been sent to Australia so as to create the race of the Aborigines.

The one Bible verse that has been used by the Creationists to promote their doctrine of Universalism is found in Acts 17:26 where Paul said, "And have made of one blood, all the nations of men that dwell on all the face of the Earth." In the older Bibles the word blood was in italics, as it was added later. The newer Bibles no longer have it in italics so it makes it look like it was always there. By adding the word "blood" completely changes the meaning of the verse. Since there is no blood in the male sperm or the female egg, it is God's miracle of DNA that separates the races. The DNA remains in that race forever unless it is mixed with another. It should be very obvious to any one now that we are not all of one blood as there are several different blood types that can't be mixed with a patient in a blood transfusion. That's why we were told "to be ye separate." Why these men added the word "blood" is not for me to give a reason, but what the Bible says about them is quite portentous in Rev. 22:18, "I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophesy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues" that are written in this book. I feel that the ones promoting this lie are just as guilty as the men that added the word "blood."

About 15 years ago a woman came into my business to buy something and while talking to her for a while I asked her what she does. She told me she was a professor at Lawrence University, which is an expensive and prestigious university located in Appleton. When I asked her what she taught, she said, "anthropology." I then asked her about the origin of the races. She told me that the Negro race was here long before the White race, so in her opinion with her belief in Evolution, they have come to believe all races evolved from them, just as the Creationists believe all races came from Adam. The archeologists and the anthropologists both agree that the Negro race has been around much longer than the White race. Neither one, the Creationists nor the Evolutionists, entertain the thought that God created the different races for His purpose to be different from the Adamic race and their views have remained so for the last thousands of years. They were the people that heard His voice and followed Him for the last 2,000 years. We know from the story of Cain when he was driven out of Eden and went East to the land of Nod and dwelt among them and took wives from them. There were enough of them at that time to build a city, so they were here before Adam. No one is able to tell the times when the other races came into existence, but many could have been here long before Adam.

One thing that has helped bring about confusion in today's churches is that words have lost their original meanings, over the years. A good example of this is that very few millennials today know the original definition of the word gay. This is also prevalent in Biblical words. When it says,

"... and [Joseph] knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son," (Matt 1:25), the word "knew" did not mean the same as it does today. The word adultery means to adulterate something, as to add something strange or destructive to the original. Like adding the drug ecstasy to a drink that would make a young woman do something she would never do with a man she just met, or adding arsenic in small doses to kill someone over time. The Biblical meaning for the word for adultery was mixing the Holy seed with the profane, the very thing that brought about the flood. Another word that has taken on a whole new meaning is bastard. A bastard has nothing to do with the marital status of the parents as it is racial, and would not be passed on for generations as miscegenation is.

I think it's time for us to wake up and wonder why all the Zionist-controlled seminaries are promoting the false idea that the flood was worldwide as they know full well it was not. What is their motive for doing so? For a hundred years the secular world has been led to believe by the Evolutionists that all mankind came from one source, the Negro race, and we are all the same under the skin. Then about 60 years ago the Creationists, using the flood to stress the idea that all races came from Adam and we are all brothers, which enables white, European, Christians to intermarry with the heathen, with God's blessings. Some of them are even married in "Christian" churches. Until the middle of the 20th century mixed marriages were illegal in America. This damnable sin is not to be taken lightly as it was the sin that brought about the flood. Everything possible is being done to adulterate our race and bring about racial problems, race riots and revolution. I think it's time for the Christians to realize who these people are who heard His voice and followed Him for the last 2,000 years, as Christ said they would. John 11:27, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me."

Of all the things I have mentioned here along with many others I did not take the time to expound on, a Bible verse comes to mind in 1st Cor. 13:11 when Paul said, "When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things." The story now told about Noah's worldwide flood by the Creationists, and believed by many that pass as intelligent men, is a fairytale containing no more truth—when held up to the light of true science, evidence, reason and logic—than a child's belief in Santa Claus. ✦

Please email [sommerville76@msn.com](mailto:sommerville76@msn.com) or write me at Ed Sommerville, 291 Misty Meadows Lane, Menasha, WI 54952 if you care to discuss anything I have written in the ad, or want to learn more of what you haven't been told. I think it's time for our Christian patriots to wake up and see how cunningly so many of us were and continue to be deceived.

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# Manson Innocent of Murders?

• Recent death of imprisoned cult leader spurs new research refuting official story

By S.T. Patrick

**O**n Nov. 19, Charles Manson, 83, died in Bakersville, Calif. while serving a life sentence for first-degree murder and conspiracy to commit murder in the 1969 Tate-LaBianca killings. He was originally sentenced to death until California banned the death penalty in 1972 and his sentence was commuted.

The reaction to Manson's death has been both typical for and parallel to the mainstream mass media's coverage of Manson's case, biography, and personality since 1969. Hollywood has also reacted. Mia Farrow, a friend of murdered actress Sharon Tate, tweeted that her thoughts were with Tate and the rest of "Manson's victims."

One of the few undisputed facts of the Manson legal case was that he physically committed none of the Tate-LaBianca murders that rocked the Hollywood hills on Aug. 9 and 10, 1969. They were committed by those associated with Manson—Charles "Tex" Watson, Susan Atkins, Patricia Krenwinkel, and Leslie Van Houten. Linda Kasabian was given immunity for her testimony regarding the details of the killings.

After the prosecution rested in the 1970 trial, the defense filed a few formal dismissal motions before resting three days later. Much to the dis-



TEX WATSON



SUSAN ATKINS



PATRICIA KRENWINKEL



LINDA KASABIAN

may, anger, and surprise of Atkins, Krenwinkel, and Van Houten, no witnesses were called for the defense. Manson, in a 1989 interview, angrily said, "Had you let us put on a defense, we could have explained to you why it happened."

Legend and lore have since been attached to the Manson case by prosecuting attorney Vincent Bugliosi, who in 1974 co-wrote *Helter Skelter* about Manson and the case. It was *Helter Skelter* that perpetuated the story regarding the use of the Beatles song for which the book was named. Bugliosi argued that Manson, a failed musician, was obsessed with the Beatles and used the term to describe secret messages that signaled the chaos that would occur when a race war broke out across America. The senseless murders committed by "The Manson Family" would be the

spark that ignited that war. According to Bugliosi, the "Family" members were mesmerized, zombie-like followers who executed Manson's twisted, demented demands.

Nikolas Schreck, the author of *The Manson File: Myth and Reality of an Outlaw Shaman*, disagrees with what he calls "the Helter Skelter myth." The picture of Manson and those around him at the Spahn Ranch is very different than the one painted by Bugliosi and dramatized in multiple made-for-television movies. Schreck first wrote to Manson in 1985 and spent decades corresponding with Manson and his associates.

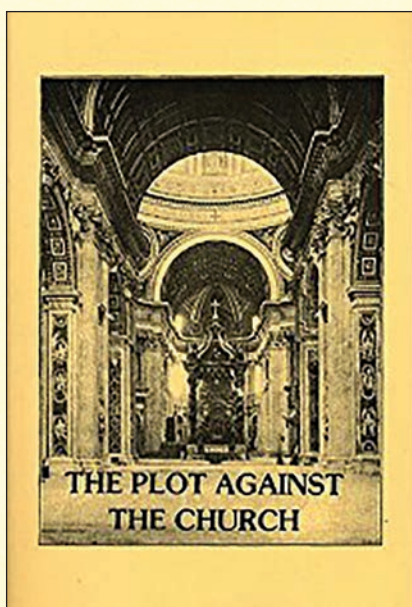
German-English actor Ferdinand Mayne gave Schreck his first breakthrough when he told Schreck it was a well-known secret around Hollywood that Manson and his associates had

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**M**aurice Pinay's book *The Plot Against the Church*, written in 1962, and translated into five languages, is a comprehensive review of the hate filled 2,000-year Jewish-inspired war against the Roman Catholic Church, and a warning of the dangers posed in the Vatican II Council. For centuries, the enemies of Christ have placed fifth columns into the Catholic Church in order to achieve their goals of worldwide Jewish imperialism.

During the Second Vatican Council, a small Masonic fifth column of Cardinals and Bishops, under the pain of excommunication, who were sympathetic to Communism and Zionism, controlled most of the proceedings and outcome of the Council. They, under misguided thinking, thought the Church would have a place in the New World Order when fully established.

For over 50 years the current conciliar Catholic Church has only appeared and posed as the real Roman Catholic Church, as it has gone



along with the promoters of Globalism and the New World Order war names for International Communism.

Because we have been warned, we are not without hope. The Blessed Mother of God in 1607 at Quito, Ecuador said, "In the second half of the 20th century the church will undergo a severe and frightful crisis." In 1846 at LaSalette, France, she said, "Rome will lose the Faith and become the seat of Anti-Christ." Finally, at Fatima, Portugal in 1917 she again said, "the Faith will disappear from many nations."

Generally speaking the modern-day Catholic Church has been serving for the past 50 years the forces of Anti-Christ and helping to prepare for his advent upon the world stage.

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CHARLES MANSON

known the victims personally.

Schreck dispels the myth of Manson as a spurned, untalented musician out to avenge his rock-and-roll failures. Manson was not a parasitic fame chaser, as outlined in the Helter Skelter myth. Rather, Beach Boys drummer Dennis Wilson was looking for a spiritual mentor at a time when he was lost and needed a cultural spark. Manson, Schreck argues, was that spark.

At over 1,000 pages, *The Manson File* goes into great depth in an attempt to correct the false narratives of the *dramatis personae* that surrounded Manson at Spahn Ranch and at trial.

Schreck describes Manson's circle as a "group marriage" in a polygamous commune, not a cult with a unified ideology. The women were known to peers as "Charlie's girls" and not "The Family," which was a title later assigned by the media.

The myth of Manson's brainwashing was first spread by Atkins, who had a well-known mafia lawyer, Richard Caballero. Schreck believes the financially "poor hippie girl" was given mafia representation to protect the mafia-drug ties that were the real reasons for the murders, a drug robbery that turned violent. Atkins's grisly prison

confessions then were attempts to build a reputation among the hardened inmates.

Van Houten's testimony also seemed guided, according to Schreck. He believes that Van Houten took part in the LaBianca murders in an effort to free her imprisoned boyfriend, Bobby Beausoleil, jailed for killing Gary Hinman. Van Houten believed that they could commit similar crimes that would make officials believe Beausoleil didn't actually kill Hinman. Schreck emphasizes that this was not a theory believed by Manson. Now portrayed as the most culpable of the women, *The Manson File* portrays Van Houten as having the most extreme ideological views of the girls charged in the murders.

Schreck characterizes Krenwinkel as the most violent of the women. He believes that the killings should actually be called the "Watson-Krenwinkel Murders."

Bugliosi puts a scared Kasabian at the scene only because she had a valid drivers license. Schreck believes she was, with Watson, a major instigator of the murders. Kasabian had already been arrested on drug charges, and Watson, on the day he met her, convinced her to steal \$5,000 from her husband. She had also attended drug parties next door to the LaBianca home. Kasabian lives as a free woman today.

Bugliosi, who died in 2015, did not end his career without controversy. Though the JFK assassination research community can often be fractured, there was unity in their disapproval of Bugliosi's 2007 work on the Kennedy assassination, *Reclaiming History*, in which he argued that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone.

Schreck doesn't defend Manson as a human being. Rather, he disagrees with the facts of the case as popularized by the prosecuting attorney with a legend to defend and a brand to build. ★

S.T. Patrick holds degrees in both journalism and social studies education. He spent ten years as an educator and now hosts the "Midnight Writer" News Show. His email is STPatrickAFP@gmail.com.



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# Facts About the Abortion Battle

• Texas politicians' ultimate goal is to put abortion industry out of business

By Mark Anderson

Over the last few years, Texas has measurably pushed back against the abortion industry—a racket that, via a complicit media, continually fools much of the population into approving ever-more tax dollars being pumped into the industry's coffers under the guise of upholding “a woman's right to choose.” But while the concept of choice implies more than one option, only one is pushed by this multi-billion-dollar industry.

The Lone Star State's most recent legislation to try and limit the actions of the abortion industry, SB 8, was passed in June and set to take effect Sept. 1. But Austin-based Judge Earl Leroy Yeakel III said part of the bill was unconstitutional and issued a temporary ban Aug. 31. Yeakel indefinitely extended the ban on Nov. 23, as the Associated Press noted in an article highly biased toward the abortion industry, per conventional media's entrenched tradition.

The Texas attorney general's office filed an immediate notice to the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans appealing the ruling by Yeakel, a George W. Bush appointee seated in the U.S. District Court in Texas's Western District in 2003.

When Texas Gov. Greg Abbott signed SB 8 into law in June, the chief goal was to ban a second-trimester abortion procedure called dilation and evacuation (D&E), a particularly violent action used after 16 weeks of gestation. In a D&E, the amniotic fluid that protects the child

“  
Were people to know the real horrors of abortion, there would be a growing public outcry against it.

in the womb is first sucked out. Then a clamp is inserted into the mother to pull the living baby's body apart piece by piece—a matter never sufficiently described in standard media reports.

SB 8 only permits the D&E procedure if the fetus already is deceased, meaning physicians would have to end the child's life prior to the procedure, according to an equally biased *Texas Tribune* report that heralded the fact that the Center for Reproductive Rights and Planned Parenthood in July sued Texas over SB 8. Every move Texas makes on abortion is met with unwavering media lies and lawsuits from tax-subsidized abortion mills.

Indeed, blatant media bias concerning abortion makes it difficult for the average person to ever get the unvarnished truth and arrive at an informed opinion about a law's validity or purpose, as well as the true impact of judicial decisions and the character and moral makeup of the nation's judges.

In *Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt*,

Yeakel weighed in against another Texas bill, HB 2, in the fall of 2013. The law sought to require abortion clinic doctors to have admitting privileges at local hospitals, to reduce the likelihood that freelance “physicians” with questionable reputations could perform abortions and risk harming women. Other provisions sought to ensure that substandard or unsterile facilities were not used for abortions.

“The admitting-privileges provision of House Bill 2 does not bear a rational relationship to the legitimate right of the state in preserving and promoting fetal life or a woman's health,” Yeakel opined, evidently with a straight face. “And [it] places a substantial obstacle in the path of a woman seeking an abortion of a nonviable fetus and is thus an undue burden to her.”

His order, however, was mostly overturned in New Orleans by the three-judge 5th Circuit Court of Appeals and the admitting-privileges provision was unanimously reinstated, though the Supreme Court eventually overruled the appellate court.

Dr. Tony Levatino, M.D., a former abortion provider, wrote on the website “PriestsForLife.org”:

A second trimester D&E abortion is a blind procedure. The baby can be in any orientation or position inside the uterus . . . At 20 weeks gestation, the uterus is thin and soft so be careful not to perforate or puncture the walls. Once you have grasped something inside [with the Sopher clamp], squeeze on the clamp to set the jaws and pull hard . . . You feel something let go and out pops a fully formed leg about 4 to 5 inches long . . . Reach in again and again with that clamp and tear out the spine, intestines, heart, and lungs.

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A coalition of politicians is trying to shut down the abortion racket in Texas, despite judicial pushback.

The aforementioned AP story added, “Republican Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton’s office has argued that ‘prohibiting this inhumane procedure does not impose any significant health risks or burdens on women.’”

Paxton perhaps understated the case. “A Woman’s Right to Know” (“awomansright.org”), an informational website affiliated with Oklahoma, lists D&E side effects. The most common are bleeding and cramping, with the following incomplete list defined as “less frequent” or “rare”: Heavy and prolonged bleeding; blood clots; cervix or uterine lining damage; infection caused by [a sexually transmitted disease] or [by] bacteria introduced to the uterus that can cause fever, pain, abdominal tenderness, and possibly scar tissue; Toxic Shock Syndrome; uterine hemorrhage; perforation of the uterus; tissue remaining in the uterus [incomplete abortion]; infertility due to infection or cervix damage; pulmonary embolism; amniotic fluid embolism; and death.

Among other measures, Texas also has tried

to deny Medicaid funding to abortion-providers in the wake of undercover videos that showed that the nation’s largest abortion provider, Planned Parenthood, is in the business of selling baby tissue. Still, the federal courts have ruled against even the commonsense principle that taxpayers should not be forced to subsidize a for-profit industry involved in such illicit activities, beyond the stark reality of what happens during abortions.

Federal courts also have blocked attempted D&E bans in Alabama, Kansas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma. Texas’s highly persistent efforts, though, have been beaten back especially hard by activist judges and their ideological allies in the press. Nevertheless, Texas, just by regulating abortion clinics in the manner set forth in HB 2, has managed to halve the number of its abortion clinics from 41 to 20 since 2012. Trends like that are what the lucrative abortion industry and its minions will not tolerate. ★

Mark Anderson is AFP’s roving editor.

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# Why Judge Roy Moore Matters

• Coming elections could decide future political bent of Supreme Court for decades

By Patrick J. Buchanan

Why would Christian conservatives in good conscience go to the polls Dec. 12 and vote for Judge Roy Moore, despite the charges of sexual misconduct with teenagers leveled against him? Answer: That Alabama Senate race could determine whether *Roe v. Wade* is overturned. The lives of millions of unborn may be the stakes.

Republicans now hold 52 Senate seats. If Democrats pick up the Alabama seat, they need only two more to recapture the Senate, and with it the power to kill any conservative court nominee, as they killed Robert Bork.

Today, the GOP, holding Congress and the White House, has a narrow path to capture the Third Branch, the Supreme Court, and to dominate the federal courts for a decade. For this historic opportunity, the party can thank two senators, one retired, the other still sitting.

The first is former Democratic Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada.

In 2013, Harry exercised the “nuclear option,” abolishing the filibuster for President Barack Obama’s judicial nominees. The Senate no longer needed 60 votes to confirm judges. Fifty-one Senate votes could cut off debate and confirm.

Iowa’s Chuck Grassley warned Harry against stripping the minority of its filibuster power. Such a move may come back to bite you, he told Harry. Grassley is now judiciary committee chairman.

And this year a GOP Senate voted to use the nuclear option to shut down a filibuster of Supreme Court nominee Neil Gorsuch, who was then confirmed with 55 votes.

Yet the Democratic minority still had one card to play to block President Trump’s nominees—

the “blue slip courtesy.”

If a senator from the state where a federal judicial nominee resides asks for a hold on proceedings, by not returning a blue slip, the judiciary committee has traditionally honored that request and not held hearings.

Sen. Al Franken of Minnesota used the blue slip to block the Trump nomination of David Stras of Minnesota to the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Franken calls Stras too ideological, too conservative.

But Grassley has now decided to reject the blue slip courtesy for appellate court judges, since their jurisdiction is not just over a single state like Minnesota, but over an entire region.

Thus have the skids been greased for a conservative recapture of the federal judiciary unseen since the early days of FDR.

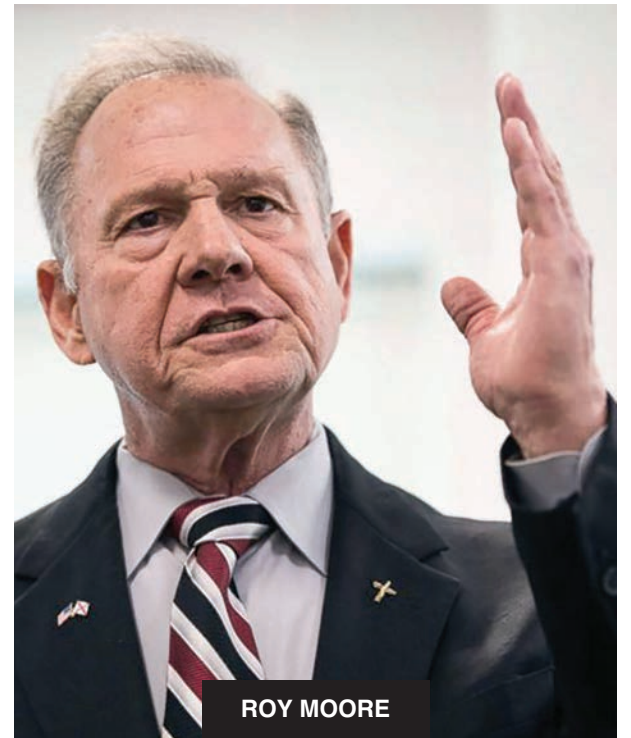
Eighteen of the 179 seats on the U.S. appellate courts and 119 of the 677 seats on federal district courts are already open. More will be opening up. No president in decades has seen the opportunity Trump has to remake the federal judiciary.

Not only are the federal court vacancies almost unprecedented, a GOP Senate and Trump are working in harness to fill them before January 2019, when a new Congress is sworn in.

If Republicans blow this opportunity, it is unlikely to come again. For the Supreme Court has seemed within Republican grasp before, only to have it slip away because of presidential errors.

Nixon had four nominees to the Supreme Court confirmed and Gerald Ford saw his nominee, John Paul Stevens, unanimously confirmed. But of those five justices confirmed from 1969 to 1976, Stevens and Harry Blackmun joined the liberal bloc, and Chief Justice Warren Burger and Lewis Powell voted for *Roe v. Wade*.

Of Reagan’s three Supreme Court nominees confirmed, Sandra Day O’Connor and Anthony Kennedy cast crucial votes in 5-4 decisions to



defeat the strict constructionists led by Antonin Scalia.

George H.W. Bush named Clarence Thomas to the court, but only after he had elevated David Souter, who also joined the liberal bloc.

Hence, both Trump, by whom he nominates, and a Republican Senate, with its power to confirm with 51 votes, are indispensable if we are to end judicial dictatorship in America.

And 2018 is the crucial year.

While Democrats, with 25 Senate seats at risk, would seem to be facing more certain losses than the GOP, with one-third as many seats at stake, history teaches that the first off-year election of Trump could prove a disaster.

Consider. Though Ike ended the Korean War in his first year, he lost both Houses of Congress in his second. Reagan enacted one of the great tax cuts in history in his first year, and then lost 26 seats in the House in his second.

Bill Clinton lost control of both the House and Senate in his first off-year election. Barack Obama in 2010 lost six Senate seats and 54 seats and control of the House. And both presidents were more popular than Trump is today.

This coming year may be a do-or-die year to recapture the third branch of government for conservatism. Which is why that Dec. 12 election in Alabama counts. ★

Pat Buchanan is a writer, political commentator and presidential candidate. He is the author of a new book, *Nixon’s White House Wars: The Battles That Made and Broke a President and Divided America Forever* and previous titles including *The Greatest Comeback: How Richard Nixon Rose From Defeat to Create the New Majority*. Both are available from the AFP Bookstore.

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# Pushing the Nuclear Button

• Who, exactly, has the authority to launch a U.S. atomic attack?

By Paul Craig Roberts

William Binney is the former National Security Agency (NSA) official who created NSA's mass surveillance program for digital information. He says that if the Russian government had conspired with Trump, hacked the Democratic National Committee's (DNC) computer, or in any way influenced the outcome of the last U.S. presidential election, the NSA would have the digital evidence. The fact that we have been listening to the unsubstantiated charges that comprise "Russiagate" for more than one year without being presented with a scrap of evidence is complete proof that Russiagate is entirely fake news.

The fake news originated with CIA Director John Brennan and FBI Director James Comey conspiring with the DNC in an effort to discredit and unseat President Donald Trump and at a minimum prevent him from damaging the vast power and profit of the military-security complex by normalizing relations with Russia.

Consider what this means. The directors of the CIA and FBI made up a totally false story about a newly elected president and fed the lies to the press and Congress. The press never asked for a drop of evidence and enlarged the Brennan-Comey lie with a claim that all 17 U.S. intelligence agencies had concluded that Russia had interfered. In actual fact, a handful of carefully selected people in three of the agencies had prepared, perhaps under duress, a conditional report that had no evidence behind it.

That it was fake news created to control Trump was completely obvious, but corrupt security officials, corrupt senators and representatives, a corrupt DNC, and corrupt media used constant repetition to turn a lie into truth.

Having shoved Trump into the militarist camp, his enemies have turned on Trump as an unstable, volatile person who might push the button. Sen. Bob Corker (R-Tenn.) and Sen. Chris Murphy (D-Conn.) are using the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to portray Trump as a quixotic person who shouldn't have his finger on the nuclear button. We have gone full circle, from Trump who wants to defuse nuclear tensions to Trump who might push the button.

If Corker and Murphy were really concerned and not just orchestrating a new way to attack Trump, they would bring out the fact that Russiagate is a hoax that has made nuclear war more likely. As I have pointed out, Washington has convinced Moscow that Washington is planning a surprise nuclear attack on Russia and also col-

“

The CIA and FBI colluded to make up the "Russiagate" story to discredit and unseat Trump to protect the Deep State elite.

lecting Russian DNA for a tailored Russian-specific bio-weapon. I cannot think of anything more likely to trigger nuclear war than the escalated tensions that Russiagate is preventing Trump from reducing.

For the record, contrary to the erroneous assertions of "nuclear experts," the president cannot simply order a nuclear attack. The president either has to accept a Joint Chiefs war plan and order a launch when the military is ready or he has to accept the advice of his national security adviser to launch in retaliation for incoming enemy ICBMs. If a president simply ordered a nuclear strike, he would be ignored.

If it is not the president who must make the nuclear decision, who is it to be? The military? We should be thankful that that was not the case when the Joint Chiefs pressured President John F. Kennedy to approve a nuclear attack on the Soviet Union.

The question who should have launch authority is an easy one to answer. No one.

If nuclear missiles are incoming, launching does not protect you. You are already going to be destroyed. Why destroy the other side of the world in an act of revenge? It is pointless. There is no such thing as a preemptive strike that prevents retaliation. Nuclear war is an act of insanity. Nothing can justify it.

The purpose of diplomacy is to prevent war. However, ever since the Clinton regime attacked Serbia, U.S. diplomacy has been used to cause wars. During the 16 years of George W. Bush and Barack Obama, the U.S. destroyed in whole or in part seven countries, killing and maiming millions of people and producing millions of refugees. Not a single one of these wars was justified. Every one of these wars was based in lies. The last U.S. government that showed any respect at all for truth was the George H. W. Bush administration.

Before launching each of these acts of unprovoked aggression, Washington demonized the leader of the country. To get rid of one person, Washington did not flinch at murdering large



Contrary to assertions of "nuclear experts," the president cannot simply order a nuclear attack. The president either has to accept a Joint Chiefs war plan and order a launch or he has to accept the advice of his national security adviser for a retaliatory launch.

numbers of people and destroying the infrastructure of the country. This tells you that Washington has no morality. Therefore, Washington is capable of launching a preemptive nuclear strike.

Back when nuclear weapons were puny by today's standards, Washington nuked two Japanese cities while Japan was trying to surrender. That was in 1945, a lifetime ago. Whatever bits of morality that still existed then are long gone.

Today a CNN editor-at-large named Chris Cillizza published an online article titled, "There's a massive moral vacuum in the country right now." At last, I thought, a prostitute has realized that Washington's constant nuclear threats against other countries show a complete disrespect for the life of the planet and indicates a moral vacuum. But no, the prostitute is talking about sexual harassment, especially that of Roy Moore in the 1970s. And it's all Trump's fault. How can he lead when he harasses women himself?

Trump intended to normalize relations with the other major nuclear power. He has been prevented from doing so by the military-security complex, the DNC, and the prostitutes.

Cillizza says sexual harassment is a "very big" consequence of Trump's election. I am left wondering if CNN's editor-at-large considers nuclear war to be as serious as sexual harassment. ★

Dr. Paul Craig Roberts was assistant secretary of the U.S. Treasury under President Ronald Reagan and was associate editor and columnist at *The Wall Street Journal*. He has been a professor of economics in six universities, and is the author of numerous books available at [www.AmericanFreePress.net](http://www.AmericanFreePress.net).



# How America Betrayed the Kurds

• Best Mideast military ally of United States sees dreams of independence fade

By Richard Walker

**T**he Kurds were once America's most reliable allies. An ethnic group that spans southeastern Turkey, northwestern Iran, northern Iraq, and northern Syria, the Kurds lost many fighters in the war against ISIS in Iraq and Syria, but their sacrifice has led to Washington abandoning them in favor of new political alignments in the Mideast.

It is now all but forgotten that lightly armed Kurdish Peshmerga fighters in northern Iraq in 2014 fought radical Islamic groups like ISIS at a time when the Iraqi army had proved to be a paper tiger, in many instances discarding their American weaponry and turning tail when faced with ISIS.

Back in 2014, the Kurds had more than ISIS on their minds. They were dreaming of an independent state in northern Iraq, adding the Province of Kirkuk and its oil fields to it. It was a dream opposed by the Iraqi government, Turkey, and Iran, but nothing came of it because everyone was focused on ISIS. The battle against ISIS would nevertheless see the Kurds adding Kirkuk to its territory of Kurdistan by kicking ISIS out of it.

The Kurds became the darlings of the West, and NATO secretly shipped arms to them from an East European airport via Greece. Even the EU gave them its backing. Suddenly, with powerful allies, Kurdish dreams of an oil-rich independent Kurdistan seemed achievable, especially after the Peshmerga seized Kirkuk. That gave the Kurds control of Kirkuk province and expanded their northern Iraq territory.

Their dreams were shattered in September 2017 after they voted for independence. The Iraqi government responded by sending tanks into Kirkuk. It was retaken without much opposition.

So what happened to reverse Kurdish fortunes and leave them without allies willing to support their demands for independence? And why is the quest for an independent Kurdistan now dead?

There are over 30 million Kurds spread across the Middle East, anxious to have a homeland in northern Iraq, with oil-rich Kirkuk at its center. The problem with that is the Iraqi Shiites don't want to cede Kirkuk province and its oil to the Kurds. Turkey and Iran, which have Kurdish minorities, do not want to see a grand Kurdish state next door.

The Kurds have suffered a lot, but in recent history they have seen the U.S. as their savior. They fought Saddam Hussein and were slaughtered in large numbers after President George H. W. Bush encouraged them to rise up and abandoned them when they did. Their plight was such that Wash-



**Kurdish Syrians chant pro-Peshmerga slogans** while holding an Iraqi Kurdish flag as they gather to receive a body of a Peshmerga fighter who died during the fighting with Iraqi forces on the borders between Iraq and Syria. Iraqi forces and Kurdish Peshmerga fighters reached an agreement on Friday to stop the fighting that has been raging between them in northern Iraq, according to the Kurdistan Regional Government. The Kurds did much of the bloody fighting for the U.S. in Iraq and now have been betrayed.

PHOTO: ASMAA WAGUIH / POLARIS

ington and its allies were forced to establish a no-fly zone in northern Iraq in 1991 to protect them from being wiped out by Saddam.

Independence was again uppermost in the minds of Kurds during the recent war against ISIS, but the Kurdish leadership was split on holding an independence referendum, fearing it might be opposed by the big powers. Nevertheless, Kurdish President Massoud Barzani went ahead and held one on Sept. 25, 2017. The Iraqi government responded by sending its forces to retake Kirkuk. The move effectively ruined any hopes of a future Kurdish state being self-sufficient. Stunningly, the Peshmerga did not oppose the Iraqi military takeover.

Barzani claimed he had been betrayed by a faction of the Kurdish leadership and that orders had been secretly given to the Peshmerga to leave Kirkuk and its oil fields. Was he right? He probably was. Someone had to issue an order to the Peshmerga to step down. But the bigger question is why Barzani felt confident about calling a referendum when he had to know the Iraqi government, Turkey, and Iran would oppose it.

Did someone convince Barzani that he would have Washington's backing for independence? The answer has to be yes, and the likely culprit was Israel, which has remained the Kurds' num-

ber one backer.

Israel has always wanted to see an independent Kurdistan as a buffer zone in the region.

According to a Russian diplomatic source who spoke to AFP on condition of anonymity, Barzani was misled, but so, too, was Israel, which believed the Trump administration would back Barzani just as Russia's Vladimir Putin had backed his ally, Assad.

The reality is that the Trump administration had already taken a back seat to many Middle East developments and was happy to support Turkey's opposition to Kurdish independence. Meanwhile, the Iraqi government, with help from Iran, is reasserting control over Iraq while Assad is doing the same in Syria with Russian help. Turkey for its part is clamping down on the Kurds within its borders.

This means the Kurds face a bleak future without allies, but that could prove troublesome because they have a history of insurrection. Their downfall conveys the message that Moscow, not Washington, is a reliable ally in the region. Barzani's response to Washington's betrayal was to resign. ★

Richard Walker is the *nom de plume* of a former New York mainstream news producer who grew tired of seeing his articles censored by his bosses.



# Can We Trust the Government to Run U.S. Healthcare System?

I would like to share the following thoughts on healthcare reform.

The government already receives substantial tax revenue from the healthcare industry, but it could receive even more money with a government-run (socialized) single-payer healthcare system. With such a monopoly, do you really think premiums won't increase and the quality of care won't decrease under a government-run healthcare system?

Disease-care is not healthcare. The common symptom in every disease is the loss of health, and the loss of health is the one symptom conventional healthcare consistently fails to treat. Socialized healthcare will likely still focus on treating symptoms with drugs or surgery rather than promoting health to prevent disease or restoring health in the face of disease. Long-term treatment with drugs increases the risk of drug side effects, which are usually treated with more drugs, thus extending the time and cost of treatment. Whether the healthcare system is independent or government-owned, it's still bad medicine to only treat symptoms and not promote health, and the cost of healthcare can only continue to increase because of this fact.

The stated intent of a government program is often later ignored. Social Security taxes were supposed to accrue in a trust account and be used only to pay benefits. Now money goes into the trust fund account, some of it goes to pay for current benefits, and the rest goes into

the general fund to pay for other government services. How can we be sure the same thing—using some of the healthcare taxes for purposes unrelated to healthcare—won't happen with socialized healthcare?

In a socialized healthcare system, the way you live your life is everyone's business because everyone's helping pay your premium. What's to keep the government from using healthcare to force lifestyle compliance with government standards by punishing with fines or denial of health benefits to smokers, or diabetics or obese patients who eat sugary or fatty foods? What's to keep the government from refusing care for the elderly unless they agree to euthanasia? What risks to health, freedom of choice, and privacy come with a socialized healthcare system?

Government-provided healthcare has the potential for abuse through absolute control over and regulation of anything that might negatively impact health. This might include foods containing wheat, soy, gluten, nuts, legumes, certain fruits, fructose, caffeine, salt, sugar or fats; fruit drinks or carbonated drinks; weight control/exercise products; tobacco; alcohol; firearms; child custody; childcare providers; workplace conditions; fibers used in clothing, carpeting or upholstery; limits to our "allowed" choices of types of eyeglasses, shoes, cars, personal care products, medications or dietary supplements; what TV programs and movies we can watch, what In-



ternet sites we can visit, what games children are allowed to play, what professional sports are allowed, what vaccinations people must have—decisions about which may be based more on popular conjecture than on hard scientific evidence.

In its efforts to reform healthcare, Congress must be careful we don't end up with a national system that is worse than what we have now—like a single-payer government monopoly over healthcare.

JOHN CARTMELL  
Via email

## Freedom Is All Our Business

Most of us are basically selfish, and do not support the constitutional rights of other people whose issues have nothing to do with us, in which we have no personal skin in the game and the issue does not hit us. At the end of the day, the Constitution is very relevant to each and every one of us. It is our business.

If the government gets away with violating the constitutional rights of some of us, how long will it be before it violates the constitutional rights of all of us? Both testaments of the Bible teach loving thy neighbor as thyself. This is the moral reason each and every one of us should take it upon ourselves to defend the legitimate constitutional rights of all Americans—whether or not the particular issue in question goes our favorite ox.

LAWRENCE K. MARSH  
Maryland

## Giving Thanks for Article

In regard to AFP's commentary on Thanksgiving in Issue 47&48, what a great piece of writing! It's so true that we need to use history accu-

ately when we can. We laughed out loud at the Walmart/Detroit Lions lines. Keep it up, S.T. My wife and I are loving the work you've done with AFP.

CHRISTOPHER KEARNEY  
Canada

## Politics of Personal Destruction

It seems quite unfortunate for the ordinary folk in our country that it is impossible for any person of high moral character to advance in politics. Every one of the up-and-coming legislators and judges must be seduced into some youthful dalliance that can be held against them so that they fall into the absolute control of the secret elite. Those who resist such control will be thrown under the bus.

The powers that be just cannot have someone in office who will shake things up. Only those who play their dirty game can stay at the table in this political casino. Only those who will bet the lives and resources of their constituents will win the jackpots of power in this elite oligarchy. The Republican establishment, including the Trump administration—showing its true colors—wants no true patriot voice on Capitol Hill. They'd rather have the bought-and-paid-for Democrat opponent.

ROGER LEMMER  
Minnesota

## SEND US YOUR COMMENTS!

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