

CONTACT

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SUCCESSFUL CHANGE REQUIRES ACTION



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IBC: Deadly Cancer Preying On Society

International Banking Cartel Creating Global Plantation Of Debt Slaves

GREATEST WEALTH TRANSFER EVER—
DEBTORS OF THE WORLD, UNITE!

By Hans Schicht, *gold-eagle.com* (Editorial), 6/13/03

Although I have the greatest respect for all the efforts made by a few courageous lance bearers fighting to free the precious-metal markets from manipulation—to get gold and silver reinstated as legal tender and rid us of the perfidious fiat currencies—I doubt that their frontal approach, specifically aimed at gold and silver, will succeed in forcing the hand of the Bankers in Power.

The behavior of the precious metals of late should be seen as an integral part, a segment, in the greater concept and financial set-up thought up in the 17th Century by a small Elite of very shrewd Bankers: the establishment of a Financial Empire founded on Debt. It is this very concept of Debt Banking which has to be clearly understood as a prerequisite to be able to follow the on-goings in the financial and the precious-metal

markets and what lies behind the actions. Once clarity is achieved, all details of the financial muddle we find ourselves in will start falling into place, including the gold and silver manipulations.

The suppression of the precious metal prices, as well as the creation and manipulation of currencies and interest rates and the control of the world's oil are all but tools used in the power game of global debt exploitation pursued by the Merchants of Debt. These tools are being played one against the other daily behind the scenes, either directly, or indirectly through the derivative markets, where manipulative ongoings are easy to hide and are difficult to follow and to perceive for outsiders. But whatever, the main and basic policy of the Merchant of Debt stays always the same: Create debt and see to it that the victims have no alternative to regain their financial strength and freedom.

Fantasy Debt creation has brought about the greatest wealth transfer ever seen in history. From the people, from the entrepreneurs, from the governments, all into the coffers of the Merchants of Debt, the Bankers.

20th Century the Banks presented less than an estimated 3% of GNP on a world average, today, at the beginning of the 21st Century, the Bankers have become the masters of the world. And only a handful of Top Bankers control it all. They control you and me, the governments and all the world's resources. Not only control, but also are keeping people and governments eternal hostages in their chains of debt. The Merchants of Debt have taken over the world and everybody has to dance to their purse strings, the people, enterprise and the governments.

Never before in history has there been such a transfer of wealth without a single shot being fired. And all was achieved through debt enslavement by stealth.

Debt and interest are the bread-and-butter of the Banker. The more debt outstanding, the greater the Bankers' debt empire and the more interest flowing into the Bankers' vaults, be it extracted from personal debt, business debt or government debt. It is Debt which has turned the whole world up-side-down. All the financial bubbles we have seen of late, the stock

Where at the beginning of the

(Continued on page 2)

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market bubbles, the real estate bubble, the derivative bubble, etc, are all but part of the papa debt bubble. The debt bubble is the lynchpin.

Debt has developed into a **deadly cancer preying on society**. It is a misconception that the Western financial system developed only consequent of the needs of economic growth. It is more so, that it was debt banking, from its earliest conception, which penetrated and then influenced the direction of Western economic development where it could, so as to serve the Bankers' interests best. Whereas before, down-to-earth entrepreneurs built and ran industry and business, today financial managers, appointed by the now majority share holders, the Bankers and their Wealth Transfer Machines, have replaced the old pioneers.

There are hundred thousands of ordinary people, thousands of companies and many Developing Countries which of late have come under severe duress and lost their freedom of action, or were driven into bankruptcy by the aggressive, unscrupulous credit pushing of the Merchants of Debt.

When whole populations are driven away from their birthplace by ethnic cleansing, the world speaks of crimes against humanity. When millions are slaving daily to pay tribute to the Banker—for loans created out of thin air which costs the Banker near to nothing—or millions are in jeopardy of losing their possessions and livelihood through unscrupulous financial manipulations and dubious practices, is that not the equivalent of financial crimes against humanity? Modern slaves are not in chains, they are in debt.

Today, Debt slavery exceeds by far all what physical slavery—till it was abolished—stood for. The U.S debt per family now exceeds \$ 100,000—plus interest due to the Bankers. But that is not all: of the tax dollars, paid in by the same families, about one third and more flows through the government's treasury straight back to the same Bankers and their cohorts to cover the interest due on government loans.

What we should be striving for is the abolition of debt slavery along the lines of the abolition of physical slavery one hundred and fifty years ago. The way to proceed and achieve such has been shown to us by the proven success of the Class Actions brought against the tobacco industry. The similarities of arguments which could be applied are striking: inducement by stealth to an action which might cause harm to the physical or financial health of the victim, the cognizance of such by the seducer, who nevertheless keeps proceeding. The danger of a developing addiction to nicotine or debt. The follow-up action by the seducer to impede that the victim could ever free himself from the physical or financial enslavement induced. Stealth cigarette advertising aimed at minors and credit cards sent to minors being the worst offenders. Peddling nicotine or debt, what is the difference? Both lead to misery.

Class Action proceedings against debt enslavement would find unquestionable support and sympathy from the millions of people, who are or feel directly involved and who would have no trouble understanding the arguments. Class Action would be far easier to conduct than all the intricate legal suits against the legality of fiat money and the Reserve Banks, against the suppression of gold and so on. The latter which only the intelligencia could and would be able to follow and understand, and which proceedings the controlled press would have no trouble distorting for public consumption.

Where are the hero lawyers who would and

could undertake a Class Action against debt? The time is ripe and a name could be made!

In its course, a Class Action of the kind would get to the heart of the intrigues of high finance. It would force "glasnost" in financial affairs and bring the whole dirty spider web of manipulation into the public eye. The role of the banks. Who stands behind them? The way fiat money and credit are created. Who is behind the suppression of the precious metals? The role, workings and ownership of the Reserve Bank and the Central Banks. And their relationships with the IMF and World Bank, etc.

On an international level, Developing Countries should unite and initiate legal action through the International Court of Justice in The Hague. Roughly, their case could be conducted along the following lines:

What was the original value and purpose of loans extended? Who were the decision-makers at the time? Who might have profited? How far were and are the markets for the exports of the Developing Countries free or controlled? Were the rates for the interest-due subject to change (could be manipulated)? By which means and by whom were the Developing Countries induced to take up loans? Were there any obstructions to repay? Or inducements to extend or expand the loans, resulting in eternal roll-overs and increases in the loan packages? Were there onerous loan conditions infringing on sovereignty or on the country's livelihood? Were there any attempts made to get control of the Developing Country's resources, enterprises and especially banks and financial institutions? And last but not least: How far might the manipulation and suppression of the gold price (as advanced by GATA) or any commodity price manipulation by the lenders or their cohorts have restricted the Developing Countries in repaying their loans?

The above may be a last chance for a legal and peaceful way to cut the cancer of debt out of our lives and right all that is wrong. The power of the Banker has to be cut down to size, now, before it is too late. Inaction or ignoring the dangers of the monstrous Debt Bubble exploding uncontrolled with millions of people all over the world suddenly becoming destitute—and that might be soon—will bring total disaster. Destitute people in rage, who have nothing to lose, are like a herd running wild, trampling and destroying all that's in their way. Storming the Banks, riots, blood running in the streets, revolution, even war. The prospects look grim.

There is still another way action might be taken when a real crisis unfolds, like what happened in Mexico:

A powerful movement "el Barzon" is an alliance of middle class, mainly agricultural people duped by banks recalling loans in unilaterally and prematurely in consequence of the tequila crisis. The Barzon sees this action by the banks as illegal and defends its members' rights where it can. So it happened in 1998 that in the town of Morelia a bank's debt collector, who came to foreclose on a property, was shaved bald, stripped naked, had paint thrown over him and was chased out of town. In Mexico City and many bigger towns there are regular Barzon demonstrations with trucks, tractors and even cattle driven into the center of town. The Barzon has made international connections.

The success of Class Action could reverse the tide and lead to a powerful Wealth Return Machine. Freeing people from financial slavery. Returning their assets. Giving people back their independence and dignity.


Restoring the sovereignty and resources of governments, so, with the treasuries replenished, taxes could be drastically lowered or even suspended for years to come. Re-installing positive money, nothing less than currencies 100% comprised of gold and silver. Rescinding all debt and fiat paper. Abolishing loans and interest. Making investment through share-holding the only way to participate in or support ventures. Bringing openness in the affairs of man by abolishing anonymity. Abolishing chain share-holdings where one company can hold shares in other companies. Establishing automated, manipulation proof, electronic markets. Obliging governments to run their bookkeeping on the Internet. Ad infinitum.

The reasoning behind the above is based on "natural economics". It holds that economic growth should always originate from grass roots and only be fomented at grass roots. The thesis is contrarian to present economic theories, which cannot keep from interfering from above. All developments endangering natural process will only lead to unbalanced concentrations of power, which have to be cut down to size before turning malignant. For instance, the spread of banking, now culminating in a totally misdirected globalization drive, forced upon us by the Merchants of Debt and to their sole benefit, is unacceptable. However, a very different people's globalization, developing from grass roots with the help of the Internet, would decisively be beneficial for the whole world.

The tragedy is that debt banking is so little understood. I only wish that the many—who are rightfully clamoring for monetary reform and the reinstatement of the precious metals as currency—would go still one step further and slay the debt dragon at the same time! If this is not done, people can forget about ever regaining full personal freedom and dignity.

The trouble, however, is that the cancer of debt banking has spread already so far that correction is going to be painful and the patient might not survive.

Orwellian Society is turning out to be much more sophisticated and refined than foreseen. Not by political force but by subtle debt chains, the people are being herded and exploited like IOUs, as the Merchant of Debt pleases.

For more on the subject please go to "The Wealth Transfer Machine" and "The Merchants of Debt" written for gold-eagle.com by the same author. 

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Benjamin Freedman Letter Of 10/10/54

GREAT AND THE DECEPTIONS SO INTENSE AND SO GREAT THAT IT IS INDEED DIFFICULT TO SEE TRUTH THROUGH THE BARRAGE OF BLOODSTAINED DRAPERY.

Let us please return to the *Journal* in penning.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Hatonn has asked us to run the Freedman letter to Goldstein, OFTEN (a letter from a Jew to a Jew covering information that is critical for *all* to know if we are to restore freedom to our dying world). It offers good information along with excellent reference material. HE FEELS IT URGENTLY NECESSARY TO KEEP CONSTANT REMINDERS BEFORE OUR READERS—AND THE JEWS—THAT WE ARE ONLY REPRINTING INFORMATION. THIS IS OUR KEY TO SURVIVAL AS A PAPER AND AS PEOPLE.

The letter is titled "Facts Are Facts". It is quite a comprehensive historical treatise on the history and behavior of the generally poorly understood Khazarian Zionist "Jews". It was written by Benjamin H. Freedman of New York City to Dr. David Goldstein of Boston and is dated October 10, 1954.

In this letter Mr. Freedman covers many topics, several of which are: Jesus Was Not A Jew; Some Of The History Of The Modern-Day Jew And His Origins; Some Of The History Of The *Talmud* [Some Very Important Quotes From It Including Permission For Sexual Attacks Upon Babies, Etc.]; The *Kol Nidre* Oath; The Very Harmful Influence The *Talmud* and *Kol Nidre* Writings Have Exerted On The Entire World For Centuries; The Jews Are *NOT* Any Part Of The "Lost Ten Tribes".

Some additional reference sources for this highly educational letter by Mr. Freedman are as follows: Phoenix Journal #25 *THE BITTER COMMUNION* (Chapter 1, page 7); Phoenix Journal #223 *BIRTHING THE PHOENIX*, Vol. 2 (Chapter 8, page 76); Phoenix Journal #233 *RISE OF ANTICHRIST*, Vol. 5 (Chapter 6, page 58)—or *CONTACT* November 29, 1994, pages 34-56 (Vol. 7, No. 5); January 20, 1998, pages 30-52 (Vol. 19, No. 9); March 17, 1998, pages 59-81 (Vol. 20, No.4).

PART 4

FACTS ARE FACTS

FROM ONE "JEW" TO ANOTHER
LONG BURIED TRUTH MUST BE REVEALED

2/18/91—#2 HATONN

TODAY'S WATCH

Briefly we will attend today's nonsense, for I wish to move forward with material which may save your souls—loss of your bodies is simply "collateral damage" as I believe your military and administration refer to death of "innocent civilians".

Several points to note and then we will move on. Firstly, note the involvement of the top Russian leaders with the Iraq "set-up". Then also note the exchanges of notes between countries. Then note the "sudden" discovery of massive gold deposits in the Soviet Union—which will "save the Soviet economy". Come

now, you can tell from the assay office pictures that the gold has long been known about and mined. YOUR WORLD IS BEING TOLD THAT RUSSIA IS VERY MUCH ALIVE AND WELL AND YOU HAVE BEEN DUPED INTO SENDING BILLIONS TO HER AID—BUT, THE GAME IS BEING PLAYED ACCORDING TO THE RULES OF THE ELITE. KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN!

One of the most IMPORTANT references today regarding Russia is the fact that "... the Russians are concerned about the gathering storm and anger of the 60 MILLION MOSLEMS within Russia who are on the march to uprising against the Middle East attack by the United States." It will take more than walking gently and carrying a big stick, America, when you add 60 million upset Moslems to the Millions and Millions of upset Moslems elsewhere and all the Millions of Islamics in the world. Then, you had better really watch the Chinese, for—even though they claim Communism as politics—they are Buddha followers for the most part and Buddha taught Christian commandments. This event is getting large indeed, and out of control, World!

You will have far more dramatics regarding the ground war or the propaganda won't be worth anything. I suggest you listen to your media "authorities" as they come forth on TV to "discuss the outlay of news". There is no earthly way you can tell a thing about the news outlay except that you CAN'T BELIEVE A WORD OF IT. The head of *CNN* has said that what is produced on the news is to simply get instant "coded messages" to one another and the REAL negotiations go on behind the scenes in absolute secrecy while allowing "leaks" as intended to distract. Do you know why you continue to watch the lies and believe them? Because you actually don't believe a thing anyone tells you, so you select that which pleases your own opinion—no more and no less. You simply, as does the UN councils and national leaders, parrot whatever is said, even unto the same terminology as handed out in the scripting prior to any "official statements".

Next—look at your President Bush today. He is dressed in black military-appearing garb and is carrying a very big stick during his "POWER WALK" as the press called it. This follows a day in Church wherein a citizen objects to Bush's massacre and the man is hauled out by police and arrested and charged with public disturbance. The man has a child in Saudi Arabia and is against the killing of innocent citizens—AND YOU ARREST HIM! YOU ARREST THE MAN WHO BELONGS TO THE GROUP, FOR SPEAKING OUT, AND ALLOW THE ONE WHO COMMITS GENOCIDE AND GLOBAL ANNIHILATION TO GO IN PROTECTION.

You had better further note that this "elderly man Bush" is acting in advance of an athlete in Olympic competition—he can out-jog any of his secret service men and at a "walk" can out-run all of the press. THIS IS THE STRATEGIC CLUE TO IDENTIFY A REPRODUCTION IN EFFORT TO HAVE HIM APPEAR SUPER-HUMAN. THE LIES ARE SO

CONTINUATION OF FREEDMAN'S LETTER TO GOLDSTEIN

Yes, you will note that the names are of Judean lineage—YOU WILL ALSO NOTE THAT ALMOST ALL OF THE ONES WHO SPEAK ON YOUR TV AND IN THE PRESS ARE OF "JEWISH" LABELS. IF YOU MISS THAT POINT, THEN YOU HAVE MISSED EVERYTHING. IT WILL BE YOU OF JUDEAN ROOTS WHO WILL PUT A STOP TO THE INSANITY OF THE ZIONISTS—OR YOU WILL BE TRAMPLED INTO THE EARTH BY THEIR IRON BOOTS. This is, of course, not easy, for the lies have been so massive and you of the heritage of the "holy lands" have sought so long and diligently for your roots. Yes, it shall be YOU of the REAL JUDEAN ROOTS WHO WILL BRING THIS TO A HALT OR IT SHALL NOT BE STOPPED. FOR YOU KNOW THE TRUTH OF WHAT IS BEING LAID BARE HEREIN.

[QUOTING CONTINUED:]

You will agree, my dear Dr. Goldstein, that Meir ben Samuel knew what he was doing. The wording of that altered version of the *Kol Nidre* (All Vows) prayer makes the recital of the prayer a release during the coming year from any obligation to respect any oath, vow or pledge made during the coming year. Like any one-year license obtained from the Federal, State or Municipal governments, the altered version of the *Kol Nidre* prayer is also a "license" for one year only. *Kol Nidre* (All Vows) prayer extends immunity in advance for one year from all obligations to observe the terms of oaths, vows and pledges made in the year following the date of the Day of Atonement when the prayer was recited. Each year however it becomes necessary to renew this "license" which automatically revokes in advance any oath, vow or pledge made during the next twelve months, by again appearing in a synagogue on the next Day of Atonement and reciting the *Kol Nidre* (All Vows) prayer again. Do you approve of this?

The passage in the *Talmud* referring to *Kol Nidre* (All Vows) prayer certifies to several serious situations. It certifies that *Kol Nidre* (All Vows) prayer was added as a prologue to the Day of Atonement religious services long *after* the completion of the *Talmud* between 500 A.D.-1000 A.D. by the statement, "as part of the ritual is later than the *Talmud*". It confirms that Meir ben Samuel who authored the present altered version of the *Kol Nidre* (All Vows) prayer lived in the 11th Century. Furthermore, the so-called or self-styled "Jews" in Eastern Europe believed it served their purpose better to keep secret from their Christian conquerors their attitude on oaths, vows and pledges, "the law of revocation in advance was not made public."

Without a complete and accurate knowledge of the origin and history of the so-called or self-styled "Jews" in Eastern Europe, my dear Dr. Goldstein, it is

quite impossible for yourself or for anybody to intelligently understand the harmful influence the *Talmud* has exerted for ten centuries, and the *Kol Nidre* (All Vows) prayer for seven centuries upon the course of world history. These two little-known factors are the hub and the spokes of the “big wheel” rolling merrily along the road to complete world domination in the not too distant future, without arousing suspicion, and wearing the innocent disguise of an alleged religious belief as their only defense mechanism. This insidious intrigue creates a most effective camouflage for the conspirators. The virility of their plot presents a problem in the defense of the political, economic, social and cultural ideologies developed under a Christian civilization.

[H: STOP—GO BACK AND READ THAT PARAGRAPH AGAIN, ALSO. THANK YOU.]

You will probably also be as astonished as the 150,000,000 Christians years ago when I electrified the nation with the first publication by me of the facts disclosed by my many years of research into the origin and the history of the so-called or self-styled “Jews” in Eastern Europe. My many years of intensive research established beyond any question of any doubt, contrary to the generally accepted belief held by Christians, that the SO-CALLED OR SELF-STYLED “JEWS” IN EASTERN EUROPE AT ANY TIME IN THEIR HISTORY IN EASTERN EUROPE WERE *NEVER* THE LEGENDARY “LOST TEN TRIBES” OF *BIBLE* LORE. THAT HISTORIC FACT IS INCONTROVERTIBLE.

[H: Please note that the above said “lost ten tribes”. This is why in referring to the Khazars (imitation Jews) we do refer to them as the Thirteenth—simply, furthermore, as designation and identification to separate them from the accepted myths. Remember, as we unfold this information, we are limited to that which is in your capability of receiving in understanding and the only means we have in printed or spoken material is through use of your own concepts and terminology. This is the mastery of the deceiver—to change meanings of terms and give you “readings” in secret authority and you know not the difference. YOU MUST LEARN THE DIFFERENCE, BROTHERS FOR YOU HAVE ALLOWED YOURSELVES TO BE VICTIMS UNTO YOUR VERY DOOM.]

Relentless research established as equally true that the so-called or self-styled “Jews” in Eastern Europe at no time in their history could be correctly regarded as the direct lineal descendants of the legendary “lost ten tribes” of *Bible* lore. The so-called or self-styled “Jews” in Eastern Europe in modern history cannot legitimately point to a single ancient ancestor who ever set even a foot on the soil of Palestine in the era of *Bible* history. Research also revealed that the so-called or self-styled “Jews” in Eastern Europe were never “Semites”, are not “Semites” now, nor can they ever be regarded as “Semites” at any future time by any stretch of the imagination. Exhaustive research also irrevocably rejects as a fantastic fabrication the generally accepted belief by Christians that the so-called or self-styled “Jews” in Eastern Europe are the legendary “Chosen People” so very vocally publicized by the Christian clergy from their pulpits.

Maybe you can explain to me, my dear Dr.

Goldstein, the reason why and just how the origin and the history of the Khazars and Khazar Kingdom was so well concealed from the world for so many centuries? What secret mysterious power has been able for countless generations to keep the origin and the history of the Khazars and Khazar Kingdom out of history textbooks and out of classroom courses in history throughout the world? The origin and history of the Khazars and Khazar Kingdom are certainly incontestable historic facts. These incontestable historic facts also establish beyond any question of doubt the origin and history of the so-called or self-styled “Jews” in Eastern Europe. The relationship to the origin and early history of the so-called or self-styled “Jews” in Eastern Europe was one of history’s best kept secrets until wide publicity was given in recent years on the subject. Do you not think, my dear Dr. Goldstein, that it is time the whole subject was dragged out of its hiding place?

In the year 1948 in the Pentagon in Washington I addressed a large assembly of the highest-ranking officers of the United States Army principally in the G2 branch of Military Intelligence on the highly explosive geopolitical situation in Eastern Europe and the Middle East. Then as now that area of the world was a potential threat to the peace of the world and to the security of this nation. I explained to them fully the origin of the Khazars and Khazar Kingdom. I felt then as I feel now that without a clear and comprehensive knowledge of that subject it is not possible to understand or to evaluate properly what has been taking place in the world since 1917, the year of the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia. It is the “key” to that problem.

Upon the conclusion of my talk a very alert Lieutenant Colonel present at the meeting informed me that he was the head of the history department of one of the largest and highest scholastic rated institutions of higher education in the United States. He had taught history there for 16 years. He had recently been called back to Washington for further military service. To my astonishment he informed me that he had never in all his career as a history teacher or otherwise heard the word “Khazar” before he heard me mention it there. That must give you some idea, my dear Dr. Goldstein, of how successful that mysterious secret power was with their plot to “black out” the origin and the history of the Khazars and Khazar Kingdom in order to conceal from the world and particularly Christians the true origin and history of the so-called or self-styled “Jews” in Eastern Europe.

The Russian conquest in the 10th-13th centuries of the little-known-to-history Khazars apparently ended the existence for all time of the little-known-to-history 800,000 square mile sovereign kingdom of the so-called or self-styled “Jews” in Eastern Europe, known then as the Khazar Kingdom. Historians and theologians now agree that this political development was the reason for the “IMPORTANT CHANGE IN THE WORDING OF THE *KOL NIDRE* by Meir ben Samuel in the 11th Century, and for the policy adopted by the so-called or self-styled “Jews” that “THE LAW OF REVOCATION IN ADVANCE WAS NOT MADE PUBLIC”. Will you be patient with me while I review here as briefly as I can the history of that political emergence and disappearance of a nation from the pages of history?

[Hatonn: For you readers of the *Journals*, please do not skip over this particular segment simply because we have covered it prior to this in a couple or three of the *Journals*. You are so misinformed that you need to hear it again and again until it comes into your consciousness as reality. These pieces of information being brought forth now are the most important documentations ever brought unto your planet and this is only the beginning of the outlay of “how it RE-ALLY is!” So please get the pieces in mental place so that you will be prepared for the facts yet to come forth.]

Prior to the 10th Century the Khazar Kingdom had already been reduced by Russian conquests to an area of about 800,000 square miles. (See enclosed copy of map [not included].) As you will observe on this map reproduced from the *Jewish Encyclopedia* the territory of the Khazar Kingdom in the 10th Century was still by far the largest of any nation in Europe. The population of the Khazar Kingdom was made up for the most part of Khazars with the addition of the remnants of the populations of the 25 peaceful agricultural nations which had inhabited this approximate 1,000,000 square miles before their conquest by the invading Khazars. In the 1st Century B.C. the Khazars had invaded Eastern Europe from their homeland in Asia. The Khazars invaded Eastern Europe via the land route between the north end of the Caspian Sea and the south end of the Ural Mountains.

The Khazars were not “Semites”. They were an Asiatic Mongoloid nation. They are classified by modern anthropologists as Turco-Finn racially. From time immemorial the homeland of the Khazars was in the heart of Asia. They were a very warlike nation. The Khazars were driven out of Asia finally by the nations in Asia with whom they were continually at war. The Khazars invaded Eastern Europe to escape further defeats in Asia. The very warlike Khazars did not find it difficult to subdue and conquer the 25 peaceful agricultural nations occupying approximately 1,000,000 square miles in Eastern Europe. In a comparatively short period the Khazars established the largest and most powerful kingdom in Europe, and probably the wealthiest also.

The Khazars were a pagan nation when they invaded Eastern Europe. Their religious worship was a mixture of phallic worship and other forms of idolatrous worship practiced in Asia by pagan nations. This form of worship continued until the 7th Century. The vile forms of sexual excesses indulged in by the Khazars as their form of religious worship produced a degree of moral degeneracy the Khazar’s king could not endure. In the 7th Century King Bulan, ruler at that time of the Khazar Kingdom, decided to abolish the practice of phallic worship and other forms of idolatrous worship and make one of the three monotheistic religions, about which he knew very little, the new state religion. After a historic session with representatives of the three monotheistic religions King Bulan decided against Christianity and Islam and selected as the future state religion of the Khazar Kingdom the religious worship then known as “Talmudism”, and now known and practiced as “Judaism”. This event is well documented in history.

King Bulan and his 4000 feudal nobles were promptly converted by rabbis imported from Babylonia

for the event. Phallic worship and other forms of idolatry were thereafter forbidden. The Khazar kings invited large numbers of rabbis to come and open synagogues and schools to instruct the population in the new form of religious worship. It was now the state religion. The converted Khazars were the first population of so-called or self-styled “Jews” in Eastern Europe. So-called or self-styled “Jews” in Eastern Europe after the conversion of the Khazars are the descendants of the Khazars converted to “Talmudism”, or as it is now known “Judaism”, by the 7th Century mass conversion of the Khazar population.

After the conversion of King Bulan none but a so-called or self-styled “Jew” could occupy the Khazar throne. The Khazar Kingdom became a virtual theocracy. The religious leaders were the civil administrators also. The religious leaders imposed the teachings of the *Talmud* upon the population as their guide to living. The ideologies of the *Talmud* became the axis of political, cultural, economic and social attitudes and activities throughout the Khazar kingdom. The *Talmud* provided civil and religious law.

It might be very interesting for you, my dear Dr. Goldstein, if you have the patience, to allow me to quote for you here from Volume IV, pages 1 to 5, of the *Jewish Encyclopedia*. The *Jewish Encyclopedia* refers to the Khazars as “Chazars”. The two spellings are optional according to the best authorities. The two are pronounced alike. Either Khazar or “Chazar” is pronounced like the first syllable of “costume” with the word “Czar” added onto it. It is correctly pronounced “cos(tume)Czar”. The *Jewish Encyclopedia* has five pages on the Khazars but I will skip through them:

“CHAZARS: A people of Turkish origin whose life and history are interwoven with THE VERY BEGINNINGS OF THE HISTORY OF THE JEWS OF RUSSIA... driven on by the nomadic tribes of the steppes and by THEIR OWN DESIRE FOR PLUNDER AND REVENGE... In the second half of the Sixth Century the Chazars moved westward... The kingdom of the Chazars was firmly established in MOST OF SOUTH RUSSIA LONG BEFORE THE FOUNDATION OF THE RUSSIAN MONARCHY BY THE VARANGIANS (855)... At this time the kingdom of the Chazars moved westward... The kingdom of the Chazars stood at the height of its power AND WAS CONSTANTLY AT WAR... At the end of the Eighth Century... the chagan (king) of the Chazars and his grandees, TOGETHER WITH A LARGE NUMBER OF HIS HEATHEN PEOPLE, EMBRACED THE JEWISH RELIGION... The Jewish population in the entire domain of the Chazars, in the period between the seventh and tenth centuries, MUST HAVE BEEN CONSIDERABLE... about the NINTH CENTURY, IT APPEARS AS IF ALL THE CHAZARS WERE JEWS AND THAT THEY HAD BEEN CONVERTED TO JUDAISM ONLY A SHORT TIME BEFORE... It was one of the successors of Bulan named Obadiah, who regenerated the kingdom and STRENGTHENED THE JEWISH RELIGION. He invited Jewish scholars to settle in his dominions, and founded SYNAGOGUES AND SCHOOLS. The people were instructed in the *Bible*, *Mishnah*, and the *TALMUD* and in the ‘divine service of the hazzanim’... In their writings the CHAZARS USED THE HEBREW LETTERS... THE CHAZAR LANGUAGES PREDOMINATED... Obadiah was

succeeded by his son Hezekiah; the latter by his son Manasseh; Manasseh by Hanukkah, a brother of Obadiah; Hanukkah by his son Isaac; Isaac by his son Moses (or Manasseh II); the latter by his son Nisi; and Nisi by his son Aaron II. King Joseph himself was a son of Aaron, AND ASCENDED THE THRONE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW OF THE CHAZARS RELATING TO SUCCESSION... The king had twenty-five wives, all of royal blood, and sixty concubines, all famous beauties. Each one slept in a separate tent and was watched by a eunuch... THIS SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN THE BEGINNING OF THE DOWNFALL OF THE CHAZAR KINGDOM... The Russian Varangians established themselves at Kiev... until the final conquest of the Chazars by the Russians... After a hard fight the Russians conquered the Chazars... Four years later the Russians conquered all the Chazarian territory east of the Azov... Many members of the Chazarian royal family emigrated to Spain... Some went to Hungary, BUT THE GREAT MASS OF THE PEOPLE REMAINED IN THEIR NATIVE COUNTRY.”

The greatest historian on the origin and the history of the so-called or self-styled “Jews” in Eastern Europe was Professor H. Graetz, himself a so-called or self-styled “Jew”. Professor H. Graetz points out in his famous *History of the Jews* that when so-called or self-styled “Jews” in other countries hear a rumor about so-called or self-styled “Jews” in the Khazar Kingdom they believe these converted Khazars to be the “lost ten tribes”.

These rumors were no doubt responsible for the legend which grew up that Palestine was the “homeland” of the converted Khazars. On page 141 in his *History of the Jews* Professor H. Graetz states:

“The Chazars professed a coarse religion, which was combined with sensuality and lewdness... After Obadiah came a long series of Jewish Chagans (kings), for ACCORDING TO A FUNDAMENTAL LAW OF THE STATE ONLY JEWISH RULERS WERE PERMITTED TO ASCEND THE THRONE... For some time THE JEWS OF OTHER COUNTRIES HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF THE CONVERSION OF THIS POWERFUL KINGDOM TO JUDAISM, and when at last a vague rumor to this effect reached them, THEY WERE OF THE OPINION THAT CHAZARIA WAS PEOPLED BY THE REMNANT OF THE FORMER TEN TRIBES.”

When the Khazars in the 1st Century B.C. invaded Eastern Europe their mother-tongue was an Asiatic language, referred to in the *Jewish Encyclopedia* as the “Khazar languages”. They were primitive Asiatic dialects without any alphabet or any written form.

When King Bulan was converted in the 7th Century he decreed that the Hebrew characters he saw in the *Talmud* and other Hebrew documents was thereupon to become the alphabet for the Khazar language. The Hebrew characters were adapted to the phonetics of the spoken Khazar language in order to provide a means for providing a written record of their speech. The adoption of the Hebrew characters had no racial, political or religious implication.

The Western European uncivilized nations which had no alphabet, for their spoken language adopted the alphabet of the Latin language under comparable circumstances. With the invasion of Western Europe by the Romans the civilization and the culture of the Romans was introduced into these uncivilized areas.

Thus the Latin alphabet was adopted for the language of the French, Spanish, English, Swedish and many other Western European languages.

These languages were completely foreign to each other yet they all used the same alphabet. The Romans brought their alphabet with their culture to these uncivilized nations exactly like the rabbis brought the Hebrew alphabet from Babylonia to the Khazars when they introduced writing to them in the form of the *Talmud*'s alphabet.

Since the conquest of the Khazars by the Russians and the disappearance of the Khazar Kingdom **the language of the Khazars is known as Yiddish.**

For about six centuries the so-called or self-styled “Jews” of Eastern Europe have referred to themselves while still resident in their native Eastern European countries as “Yiddish” by nationality. They identified themselves as “Yiddish” rather than as Russian, Polish, Galician, Lithuanian, Rumanian, Hungarian or by the nation of which they were citizens.

They also referred to the common language they all spoke as “Yiddish” also. There are today in New York City as you know, my dear Dr. Goldstein, many “Yiddish” newspapers, “Yiddish” theatres, and many other cultural organization of so-called or self-styled “Jews” from Eastern Europe which are identified publicly by the word “Yiddish” in their title.

[END OF QUOTING FOR THIS SEGMENT]

Dharma, allow us a rest please. We will take up with the “Yiddish” language when we return so please mark the *Journal*.

2/18/91—#3 HATONN

TODAY'S WATCH

Hatonn present in the light of Holy God, in service. We shall understand frustrations and denial, chelas, for how can Man know that which has been denied his eyes and ears? Further, we shall keep the humor in all circumstance, for it helps lend balance to a most unbalanced experience.

I shall respond to the young man in Saudi Arabia at a later time, for I must continue with our work at hand. In all instances you ones must look at the truth of words as they come forth; i.e. “I’ve skimmed through your articles...”. How can anyone come to any valid conclusions regarding anything by skimming, things totally out of context? But the great point we must have finally made is he says, “... and have come to the conclusion that you are from another planet.” This is the first person who has acknowledged that point so vehemently. I am honored, son, since I am the Commander of a Pleiadian vessel called the *Phoenix*.

My suggestion, however, is to allow that to cause you no discomfort, for you will be given to KNOW quite soon now exactly how things ARE.

Now, as the young man burning the *Journal Expresses* to warm himself at night and complaining about using up his matches and lighters—so be it. Man burned the holy books, Newton’s works and even burned up the people who brought the Truth—IT CHANGED NOT ONE IOTA OF THE TRUTH. Did the burning at the stake, Bruno, who pronounced and proved the Earth was not the center of the Universe, in conjunction with

Copernicus, make the Truth less valid? Did the destruction of the works and men who proved the world to be round make the world less round?

There is however, one point of troubling information in the material, the young man says he majored in Criminal Law, etc. His level of "education" however, indicates that there is even more wrong with your judicial system than even I would outline.

I am also very relieved for you nice Americans that this young man is in Saudi Arabia "defending America and all it stands for?" What does it stand for, son? Further, do you defend a group of citizens by going thousands of miles away to reseal a monarch with 80 wives while your own home and nation sits naked to any who should wish to attack? How is it that it has come to the point where if you object to the war in principle, that you "do not support the troops"? Is it not possible to support the troops and the nation and that for which it stands and still object to a distant war and murder? If I be brainwashed in this matter, I believe that I shall resort to staying cleansed, for I care not for the blood of anyone upon my soul. At least fifty children under the age of five years died in one bombing in Baghdad of a citizen shelter which is now admitted by the allies to have been non-military. Is this what you are defending? So be it—for I believe this young man might well be as misinformed as the majority of all ones on your globe.

This young man also said that God should decide and is the only one who knows what is to happen in these ending days! Ah, would ye not, then, think it possible God is sending his emissaries to assist HIS wondrous people from the "damnation of Hell" where the young man has judged me to be placed—without trial even by his "criminal justice system". Let me remind you of some most important data: "For God so loved the world that He sent his Son unto you—and ye crucified Him" and when He ascended unto The Father He said He would go forth and prepare a place for YOU—and HE has done so! Perhaps ones should not burn the documents, for in the ending the truth might have served better than the watching of a glowing ember or fragment of heat—but IT MOST CERTAINLY IS ONE SURE WAY NOT TO HAVE TO SEE TRUTH—JUST BURN IT! SO BE IT! My committed task it to get the Truth to you—YOU MAY DO ANYTHING YOU WISH WITH IT! I remain grateful that you have been touched by the words to the extent of bothering to respond—much the less with five pages of written material—that indicates to me that you were touched far more deeply by the "skimming" than thine words project! Life is a most wondrous gift to be not sure WHY ye lay it down! Do ye lay it down for your Mother and lover who weeps for you? Or do you lay it down for a man who takes his "POWER" walks with the big stick each morning and treats your blood as but nothing but a number in his "acceptable losses"? Ponder it, ye readers—most carefully indeed, for if this madness be stopped—it shall be ye who do of it!

Now, as to my stupidity and not admitting ever being "wrong", I would suggest that I certainly am first to admit incorrect perceptions—i.e., I thought YOU, SIR were mature, educated and humanitarian enough to understand efforts of love and compassion—I am obviously "wrong" for ye have outgrown any

need of further education or insight to possible misconceptions or historical information. I was not aware that the school-systems of this day so thoroughly covered historical and geographical subject materials so extensively that none need further input. Let me assure you, son, that it is the brilliant and educated man who will garner all possible information from what-ever comes into his searching hands, for he knows he cannot know it all—he does not burn it upon the sands of some desert of which he knew not the location prior to his participation in the "war to defend America".

[QUOTING CONTINUED:]

"YIDDISH"

Before it became known as the "Yiddish" language, the mother-tongue of the Khazars added many words to its limited ancient vocabulary as necessity required. These words were acquired from the languages of its neighboring nations with whom they had political, social or economic relations. Languages of all nations add to their vocabularies in the same way. The Khazars adapted words to their requirements from the German, the Slavonic and the Baltic languages. The Khazars adopted a great number of words from the German languages. The Germans had a much more advanced civilization than their Khazar neighbors and the Khazars sent their children to German schools and universities.

The "Yiddish" language is not a German dialect. Many people are led to believe so because "Yiddish" has borrowed so many words from the German language. If "Yiddish" is a German dialect acquired from the Germans, then what language did the Khazars speak for the 1000 years they existed in Eastern Europe before they acquired culture from the Germans? The Khazars must have spoken some language when they invaded Eastern Europe. What was that language? When did they discard it? How did the entire Khazar population discard one language and adopt another all of a sudden? The idea is too absurd to discuss. "Yiddish" is the modern name for the ancient mother-tongue of the Khazars with added German, Slavonic and Baltic adopted and adapted numerous words.

"Yiddish" must not be confused with "Hebrew" because they both use the same characters as their alphabets. There is not one word of "Yiddish" in ancient "Hebrew" nor is there one word of ancient "Hebrew" in "Yiddish". As I stated before, they are as totally different as Swedish and Spanish which both likewise use the same Latin characters for their alphabets. The "Yiddish" language is the cultural common denominator for all the so-called or self-styled "Jews" in or from Eastern Europe. To the so-called or self-styled "Jews" in and from Eastern Europe "Yiddish" serves them like the English language serves the populations of the 48 states of the United States. Their cultural common denominator throughout the 48 states is the English language, or wherever they may emigrate and resettle. The English language is the tie which binds them to each other. It is the same with the "Yiddish" language and so-called or self-styled "Jews" throughout the world.

"Yiddish" serves another very useful purpose for so-called or self-styled "Jews" throughout the world.

They possess in "Yiddish" what no other national, racial or religious group can claim. Approximately 90% of the world's so-called or self-styled "Jews" living in 42 different countries of the world today are either emigrants from Eastern Europe, or their parents emigrated from Eastern Europe. "Yiddish" is a language common to all of them as their first or second language according to where they were born. It is an "international" language to them. Regardless of what country in the world they may settle in they will always find co-religionists who also speak "Yiddish". "Yiddish" enjoys other international advantages too obvious to describe here. "Yiddish" is the modern language of a nation which has lost its existence as a nation. "Yiddish" never had a religious implication, although using Hebrew characters for its alphabet. It must not be confused with words like "Jewish". But it is very much.

Directly north of the Khazar Kingdom at the height of its power a small Slavic state was organized in 820 A.D. on the south shore of the Gulf of Finland where it flows into the Baltic Sea. This small state was organized by a small group of Varangians from the Scandanavian peninsula on the opposite shore of the Baltic Sea. The native population of this newly formed state consisted of nomad Slavs who had made their home in this area from earliest recorded history. This infant nation was even smaller than our state of Delaware. This newly born state however was the embryo which developed into the great Russian Empire. In less than 1000 years since 820 A.D. this synthetic nation expanded its borders by ceaseless conquests until it now includes more than 9,500,000 square miles in Europe and Asia, or more than three times the area of continental United States, and they have not stopped.

During the 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th centuries the rapidly expanding Russian nation gradually swallowed up the Khazar kingdom, its neighbor directly to the south. The conquest of the Khazar Kingdom by the Russians supplies history with the explanation for the presence after the 13th Century of the large number of so-called or self-styled "Jews" in Russia. The large number of so-called or self-styled "Jews" in Russia and in Eastern Europe after the destruction of the Khazar Kingdom were thereafter no longer known as Khazars but as the "Yiddish" populations of these many countries. They so refer to themselves today.

In the many wars with her neighbors in Europe after the 13th Century Russia was required to cede to her victors large areas which were originally part of the Khazar Kingdom. In this manner Poland, Lithuania, Galicia, Hungary, Rumania, and Austria acquired from Russia territory originally a part of the Khazar Kingdom. Together with this territory these nations acquired a segment of the population of so-called or self-styled "Jews" descended from the Khazars who once occupied the territory. These frequent boundary changes by the nations in Eastern Europe explains the presence today of the so-called or self-styled "Jews" in all these countries who all trace their ancestry back to the converted Khazars. Their common language, their common culture, their common religion, and their common racial characteristics classify them all beyond any question of doubt with the Khazars who invaded Eastern Europe in the 1st Century B.C. and were converted to "Talmudism" in the 7th Century.

[H: Interruption for comment. I am asked why these people are continually referred to by Freedman—and me for that matter—as “so-called” or “self-styled”? Because, dear ones, that is how they refer to themselves—“self-styled”—for they practice none of the original Judean practices but totally follow the Talmud.]

The so-called or self-styled “Jews” throughout the world today of Eastern European origin make up at least 90% of the world’s total present population of so-called or self-styled “Jews”. The conversion of King Bulan and the Khazar nations in the 7th Century accomplished for “Talmudism”, or for “Judaism” as “Talmudism” is called today, what the conversion of Constantine and the Western European nations accomplished for Christianity. Christianity was a small comparatively unimportant religious belief practiced principally in the eastern Mediterranean area until the conversion to the Christian faith of the large populations of the Western European pagan nations after the conversion of Constantine. “Talmudism”, or “Judaism” as “Talmudism” is known today, was given its greatest stimulus in all its history with the conversion of the large pagan Khazar population in the 7th Century. Without the conversion of the Khazar population it is doubtful if “Talmudism”, or “Judaism” as “Talmudism” is known today, could have survived. “Talmudism”, the civil and religious code of the Pharisees, most likely would have passed out of existence like the many other creeds and cults practiced by the peoples in that area before, during and after “Pharisaism” assumed its prominent position among these creeds and cults in the time of Jesus. “Talmudism”, as “Pharisaism” was called later, would have disappeared with all its contemporary creeds and cults but for the conversion of the Khazars to “Talmudism” in the 7th Century. At that time “Talmudism” was well on its way towards complete oblivion.

In the year 986 A.D. the ruler of Russia, Vladimir III, became a convert to the Christian faith in order to marry a Catholic Slavonic princess of a neighboring sovereign state. The marriage was otherwise impossible. Vladimir III thereupon also made his newly acquired Christian faith the state religion of Russia replacing the pagan worship formerly practiced in Russia since it was founded in 820 A.D. Vladimir III and his successors as the rulers of Russia attempted in vain to convert his so-called or self-styled “Jews”, now Russian subjects, to Russia’s Christian state religion, and to adopt the customs and culture of the numerically predominant Russian Christian population. The so-called or self-styled “Jews” in Russia refused and resisted this plan vigorously. They refused to adopt the Russian alphabet in place of the Hebrew characters used in writing their “Yiddish” language. They resisted the substitution of the Russian language for “Yiddish” as their mother-tongue. They opposed every attempt to bring about the complete assimilation of the former sovereign Khazar nation into the Russian nation. They resisted with every means at their disposal. The many forms of tension which resulted produced situations described by history as “massacres”, “pogroms”, “persecution”, discrimination, etc.

In Russia at that period in history it was the custom as in other Christian countries in Europe at that

time to take an oath, vow or pledge of loyalty to the rulers, the nobles, the feudal land-holders and others in the name of Jesus Christ. It was after that conquest of the Khazars by the Russians that the wording of the *Kol Nidre* (All Vows) prayer was altered. The new altered version of the *Kol Nidre* (All Vows) prayer is referred to in the *Talmud* as “the law of revocation in advance”. The *Kol Nidre* (All Vows) prayer was regarded as a “law”. The effect of this “LAW OF REVOCATION IN ADVANCE” obtained for all who recited it each year on the eve of the Day of Atonement was divine dispensation from all obligations acquired under “oaths, vows and pledges” to be made or taken in the COMING YEAR. The recital of the *Kol Nidre* (All Vows) prayer on the eve of the Day of Atonement released those so-called or self-styled “Jews” from any obligation under “oaths, vows or pledges” entered into during the NEXT TWELVE MONTHS. The “oaths, vows and pledges” made or taken by so-called or self-styled “Jews” were made or taken “with tongue in cheek”, for twelve months.

[H: Now I am barraged with, “... well, what about the Christians—were they so perfect?” No indeed—they certainly were NOT and now have taken up the slop-over of the “Talmudic” teachings and are calling it “New Teachings for a Modern Society”. However, my scribe can only type so fast and we can only do one thing at a time in your time and space limitations. Further, it does no good to say, “Go read the history books and save us this work,” for you won’t do so—you even “skim” that which we give you and pronounce judgment with practically no study what-so-ever. We have to take it according to the blueprint of God’s sequence projections—therefore, NOW, at this sitting we are speaking of Khazar Talmudists—now calling themselves Zionists!]

The altered version of the *Kol Nidre* (All Vows) prayer created serious difficulties for the so-called or self-styled “Jews” when its wording became public property. It apparently did not remain a secret very long, although the *Talmud* states “the law of revocation in advance was not made public”. The altered version of the *Kol Nidre* (All Vows) prayer soon became known as the “Jews Vow” and cast serious doubt upon “oaths, vows or pledges” given to Christians (or anyone else) by so-called or self-styled “Jews”. Christians soon believed that “oaths, vows or pledges” were quite worthless when given by so-called or self-styled “Jews”. This was the basis for so-called “discrimination” by governments, nobles, feudal landholders, and others who required oaths of allegiance and loyalty from those who entered their service.


An intelligent attempt was made to correct this situation by a group of German rabbis in 1844. In that year they called an international conference of rabbis in Brunswick, Germany. They attempted to have the *Kol Nidre* (All Vows) prayer completely eliminated from the Day of Atonement ceremonies, and entirely abolished from any religious service of their faith. They felt that this secular prologue to the Day of Atonement ceremonies was void of any spiritual implication and did not belong in any synagogue ritual. However the preponderant majority of the rabbis

attending that conference in Brunswick came from Eastern Europe. They insisted that the altered version of the *Kol Nidre* (All Vows) prayer be retained exactly as it was then recited on the Day of Atonement. They demanded that it be allowed to remain as it had been recited in Eastern Europe since the change by Meir ben Samuel six centuries earlier. It is today recited in exactly that form throughout the world by so-called or self-styled “Jews”. Will the 150,000,000 Christians in the United States react any differently when they become more aware of its insidious implications?

How genuine can the implications, inferences and innuendoes of the so-called “brotherhood” and “interfaith” movements be under these circumstances? These so-called movements are sweeping the nation like prairie fires. If the *Talmud* is the axis of the political, economic, cultural and social attitudes and activities of so-called or self-styled “Jews” participating in these two so-called movements, how genuine are the “oaths, vows or pledges” taken or given in connection with these so-called movements by so-called or self-styled “Jews”? It would be a superlative gesture of “brotherhood” or of “interfaith” if the National Conference of Christians and Jews succeeded in expunging from the *Talmud* all anti-Christ, anti-Christian, and anti-Christianity passages. At a cost of many millions of dollars the National Conference of Christians and Jews succeeded in expunging from the *New Testament* passages which so-called or self-styled “Jews” regarded as offensive to their faith. A great portion of the cost was supplied by so-called or self-styled “Jews”. Christians might now supply funds to expunge from the *Talmud* passages offensive to the Christian faith. Otherwise the so-called “brotherhood” and “interfaith” movements are merely mockeries.

[END QUOTING FOR THIS SEGMENT]

We would take another rest, please. I hope you can begin to understand what a tremendous wall of humanity you face when you march off on this ground war in the Middle East and if the Islamic and Moslem world rise against you. You see, **what you don’t understand is that the “Christ” teachings are a way of life—not A MAN. Christ is a “state of being”, not a Man’s name.** Whether or not the practice of “religion” of the Muslims and Moslems is valid or invalid makes no difference at all—you have “modernized” your “Christianity” to suit the Satanic input by “voting in” all sorts of forbidden practices against the commandments as given forth—and naming it “modernization”. The old world in the Middle East has not and they will rise up against you in the perception that YOU are the anti-Christ Satan. Right or wrong will cease to have any meaning as the blood begins to flow, for there will be no sitting to a table to disagree and produce documents to debate the point. Those ones in the Middle East of those stoic religions, right or wrong, KNOW THAT FOR WHICH THEY STAND—HOW MANY OF YOU KNOW ABSOLUTELY THAT FOR WHICH YOU STAND AND LAY DOWN AND FORFEIT THE LIVES OF YOUR CHILDREN? Tell me that for which you stand and I will show you that it is not that which is taking place in Saudi Arabia this day! Salu.

[Part 1 of this letter: 6/4/03 CONTACT, page 6; Part 2 (6/11/03, page 9); Part 3 (6/18/03 page 10)] 

The News Desk

By John & Jean Ray

A TRAIN ON A CIRCULAR TRACK

By Ghazi Hamad, Editor of Gaza's *al-Risala* newspaper,
Media Monitors Network, 06/06/03

Initially, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon declared repeatedly that the ROADMAP plan went against all Israeli security and national interests, and placed many conditions before he would consider accepting it. Only weeks later did Sharon acquiesce—under great pressure from the United States and because Israel was the only party who had yet to agree to the document. All the eyes of the world were watching Sharon, and in response he had to move forward to relieve that pressure.

In truth, the roadmap is not so bad for Israel. It allows for a very long period of discussion and does not talk about the serious issues before minor steps. All of the really important questions are postponed until an indefinite date. While Sharon could not escape acceptance of the roadmap, he is counting on escaping its implementation, and the roadmap's many weaknesses make it an easy wager that Sharon will succeed.

For its part, the Palestinian Authority has no other options. It has accepted all proposed solutions: from Oslo to the Hebron accords, Wye River, Mitchell and the Tenet work plan. The Palestinian Authority is traveling down a single track. It argues that Palestinians will accept the roadmap because they will get something from Israel in return: push the Israeli military back to the pre-intifada borders of September 28, 2000 or stop the growth of settlements, for example. The Palestinian Authority wants to put the train back on the negotiations track because it cannot go on fighting Israeli forces and is receiving little support from Arab countries. The leadership feels itself alone against the immense power and aggression of the Israeli occupation. In particular, Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas has always believed that Palestinians cannot gain by armed struggle against Israel and therefore, that we must return to the peace process at any price. ...

The mistake of the Palestine Liberation Organization from the beginning was that it agreed to comprehensive agreement and a partition of the solution. In other words, all problems should be settled, and afterwards the two sides would discuss the implementation stage by stage. Only after accepting the roadmap will we talk about solving Jerusalem, the refugees, the borders—all of the final issues. In order to resolve these complicated problems, we will need twenty or thirty years. It is a train on a circular track and eventually we will return to the very first station. ...

We are, as one Palestinian people, facing great troubles: Israeli occupation, aggression, home demolitions and assassination. We will not add more weight to our shoulders in the form of clashes between Hamas and the Palestinian Authority. These two parties have become wise in their disagreements and prefer to sit down and talk. Hamas has turned increasingly pragmatic and wants to give Abbas a chance, but it also has its conditions, which mean that Israel must stop at least some of its illegal and unacceptable aggression. If Israel does not concede, Hamas—or any other Palestinian faction, for that matter—will not remain silent.

While the coming days may see some easing of tensions, it is very difficult to imagine that the roadmap will endure. There are hundreds of obstacles before the parties, and the roadmap offers no path for navigating the most

sensitive and important issues. ... Prime Minister Abbas will be unable to continue along the roadmap if there is no pressure on Israel to evacuate settlements here in Gaza, for example, or declare the boundaries of a Palestinian state. (A Palestinian state surrounded by Israeli forces or full of settlements dividing Palestinian towns is not an acceptable state.) In this, Prime Minister Abbas is making the same mistake the PLO made in 1993 by agreeing to implement the small things now, and ignoring the big problems until later. Israel will force even the smallest negotiations to take much time, and then there will be something—killing, demolishing, assassinations—Palestinians will react and we will be back at that very first station: how to bring about a real and immediate end to the Israeli occupation.

[JR: The PLA has given, over the years, too much trust to the Western powers and has had little to show for it. The U.S., UN and other Arab nations have done little if anything to resolve the complicated Palestinian issue except to continue to make empty declarations which has allowed Israel to use the time to gain a greater advantage over the vanquished Palestinian people. It really does not matter if Sharon is in charge to lie or to retract his position on a peace agreement, because the building of the greater state of Israel is the prime objective and will always continue to be so. The cruel irony is that the world is made to believe otherwise.]

VIOLENCE, SETTLEMENTS AND PEACE

By Ali Abunimah, *electronicIntifada.net/Tribune*, 06/06/03

President Bush's summit with Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas in Aqaba, Jordan, ended this week on an upbeat note. But Sharon's announcement that Israel will dismantle "unauthorized" settler outposts as its contribution to implementing Phase 1 of the "road map", and his failure to announce a construction freeze in other settlements, is a sign that the initiative will quickly run aground unless Bush forcefully upholds his peace plan.

The "road map" requires Israel to stop all settlement construction immediately, and remove all new settlements built since March 2001. Israel's Peace Now movement puts the number of such new settlements at 60, dozens more than the handful of outposts that Sharon considers to be "unauthorized" by his government. ...

The day before the Aqaba meeting, Bush declared that, "Israel must make sure there is a continuous territory that the Palestinians can call home," and consequently "must deal with the settlements."

Such statements are simply too vague to persuade Israel's hard-line leaders to do more. After Bush's statement in Sharm el-Sheikh, *Ha'aretz* quoted Israeli Deputy Prime Minister Ehud Olmert ruling out evacuating even "tens of thousands" of the hundreds of thousands of settlers, and claming, "this is unrealistic, and I don't think the Americans are thinking of this."

On the ground, Israel is moving ahead with plans to build massive new settlements, despite its nominal acceptance of the road map. Using Israel's name for the occupied territories, Sharon's housing minister, Effie Eitam, declared on June 2 that, "Praise the Lord, there is large natural growth in Judea and Samaria—just this year alone there has been a 5.5 percent increase in settlers." Making clear that "natural growth" includes moving new

settlers in from Israel, Eitam promised, "we will build for them, and provide them roads and infrastructure."

And, just before the Aqaba summit, Israeli municipal authorities announced they are moving ahead with plans to build a new Jewish settlement in occupied East Jerusalem, to be called "**Kidmat Tziyon**" (meaning "**the progress of Zion**"). The plan calls for 230 Jewish-only housing units on 25 acres overlooking the future home of the Palestinian parliament.

Peace Now's Yariv Oppenheimer condemned the Jerusalem project as "another attempt at preventing any solution on the Jerusalem issue by making a return of land to the Palestinians impossible."

By defining a few of its smaller West Bank and Gaza settlements as "unauthorized" according to Israeli law, Israel hopes to distract attention from the major construction that is going ahead, and convey the impression that the vast majority of the settlements are somehow "legal" and therefore not a key issue.

In fact, for decades the international community has insisted that all of Israel's settlements are illegal. President Jimmy Carter, who remains to date the most successful peacemaker between Israelis and Arabs, declared in 1980, "Our position on the settlements is very clear. We do not think they are legal, and they are obviously an impediment to peace." The first President Bush understood this too, which is why in 1991 he successfully pressured Israel into negotiating with its Arab neighbors by threatening to withhold U.S. loan guarantees he feared would be used to build more settlements on Palestinian land.

The UN Security Council, in resolution 465 of 1979, determined "that the policy and practices of Israel in establishing settlements in the Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied since 1967 have no legal validity and constitute a serious obstruction to achieving a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East."

Despite universal recognition, even amongst a majority of Israel's population, that Israel cannot have peace and colonies, Sharon continues to play a double game.

It is no surprise that vast differences remain between Israelis and Palestinians after the Aqaba summit. But if the new peace process is to survive long enough to address those differences, the first phase of the road map must be implemented in full. This means that Palestinians must do their utmost to fulfill their commitment to do everything they can to stop attacks on Israelis. But full Palestinian cooperation without Israel stopping and reversing the settlements won't lead to peace, only to disillusionment and renewed conflict.

[JR: The dismantling of the "unauthorized" settlement outposts being offered by the leader of the fake Israelites' Sharon, is symbolic of the less than nothing concessions Israel is ready to make for a peace agreement with the Palestinians. These embryonic Jewish "settlements" are made up of land-grabbing zealots who infiltrate into Arab lands. They settle into makeshift shelters made up of shipping containers or trailers, and are then protected by the Israeli military. These illegal incursions are increasing at a rapid pace because the Zionists want to grab as much land as they can before any peace negotiations even begin. The confiscation of these Palestinian lands will forever be a major impediment to the peace process because the Jewish people have been propagandized to believe that there was never a land called Palestine because it always was just a territory which they can now claim as their own. They believe that their G-d has given them the land he promised in some ancient cycle of their history. The UN supposedly fulfilled this promise when Israel was made a state out of Arab lands in 1948. Now how can a just peace agreement be made with a group of fanatics who are so biased with their own vision/version of divine truth, which they have yet to be prove to the rest of the world?]

OFFICIALS SAY SABOTEURS
TARGET IRAQ'S OIL INDUSTRY

By Paul Salopek, *Tribune*, 06/08/03

BASRA, Iraq—In a significant escalation of political militancy against Iraq's interim authorities, saboteurs appear to be targeting the power grid of one of the country's largest cities with the aim of crippling a key oil refinery, local officials said Saturday.

A series of destructive attacks on carefully selected power lines around Basra in recent weeks have played havoc with the energy-hungry Basra Refinery, an important source of gasoline for the domestic market. ...

Vandals have felled several dozen of the 40-foot towers since May 15 by laboriously unscrewing the bolts fastening the towers to their concrete foundations, Ibrahim said. The chronic power cuts have wreaked havoc at the refinery, which takes many hours to restart.

"This is not a problem. It is a crisis," said Qasim Mohammed Ali, a representative of the Iraqi Oil Ministry in Basra. "It is harming the rebuilding of our country."

Ali said the perpetrators could include Baathists, who were dismissed from state jobs, including oil industry positions, after the coalition's announcement last month of a tough "de-Baathification" campaign.

The attacks are precise, the oil officials said. Three out of four feeder lines to the power plant that supplies the refinery have been cut. If the fourth is severed, the refinery will be paralyzed. Given the scale of the nation's reconstruction effort and the ongoing chaos, repairing these lines has been a low priority.

The reports of economic sabotage are cropping up as coalition troops struggle to boost security in Iraq's lawless oil fields by deploying hundreds of hastily trained Iraqis to fend off gangs of looters.

British troops responsible for policing the rich Rumailah and Az-Zubayr oil fields outside Basra handed over checkpoints and pumping stations to nearly 700 lightly armed Iraqi guards last week. The home-grown force is designed to free British soldiers for more active patrolling. ...

Iraqi oil engineers complain the coalition has done too little too late to safeguard Iraq's most strategic industry. In many places in the oil patch, there is little left to steal.

During the three months since major combat ended in Iraq, bands of heavily armed thieves have prowled the desert in trucks, ripping up generators, transformers, pumps and miles of copper wiring from already dilapidated oil facilities.

The theft has been so persistent at Az-Zubayr field near Basra that the Oil Ministry has hired local villagers to guard what's left of seven huge petroleum degassing stations. Men pace the sands around the empty buildings in their battered sandals.

Their only weapons: pipes and ax handles. ...

Many Iraqi oil experts wonder how, given the lack of security and continued plundering, Iraq will be able to export 1 million barrels a day by the end of the month—the ambitious goal set in May by the U.S.-appointed acting oil minister, Thamer Abbas Ghadban.

The pumps of Az-Zubayr field, for instance, disgorged 200,000 barrels of crude a day before the war in Iraq. Today, they dribble a tenth of that amount. ...

[JR: The ongoing delays in Iraqi oil production is not only affecting rebuilding efforts but is also depriving the Iraqi people the vital resources needed to pay the World Bankers and the foreign contractors to restore their country. The masterminds in the Pentagon war rooms thought that after our technical show of shock and awe and with our triumphant march into Iraq, instant law and order would follow us into the destroyed and devastated towns and cities of Iraq. All these nagging and ongoing problems are certainly putting a crimp in the Bush cartel's plans for easy profits and that is going to force them into a hardened stance

against the needs of the Iraqi people. The Iraqis like the Afghani dissidents are out to prove that our pre-emptive incursions into their countries will not be an easy success story. Freedom is proving to be a powerful incentive for people who do not fear our military might and power.]

STORMS ACROSS THE ATLANTIC

By Joe Ray (freelance writer, U.S. citizen living in Paris),
Tribune, 06/08/03

Place de la Concorde was choked with war protesters the day the bombs started falling on Iraq. Once things began to unravel at the United Nations Security Council, posters around town cropped up with the standing order to convene on the U.S. Embassy and Consulate at 6 p.m. on the day war broke out. Much earlier on the afternoon of March 20, however, people all over Paris had already taken to the streets.

In the middle of the route where Charles de Gaulle, flanked by jubilant U.S. troops and freshly liberated Gauls, symbolically retook France on Aug. 26, 1944, 80,000 French joined millions around the world in a protest against a U.S.-led war seen as unjust.

Was this just the typical French whine?

Rather than creating anything truly new, the imbroglia rekindled long-standing stereotypes that both sides seemed to do their best to live up to.

When French President Jacques Chirac and Foreign Minister Dominique de Villepin blindsided Secretary of State Colin Powell with the threat of a Security Council veto, pro-Bush America became decidedly anti-French. Some U.S. news media interpreted this as an anti-American stance, encouraged boycotts and breathed new life into Willie the Groundskeeper's phrase "cheese-eating surrender monkeys" on *The Simpsons*.

French-bashing became decidedly in again.

Then again, there were some other provocative behaviors from the Americans. They called those who had a profound influence on its Founding Fathers "old Europe". They held a prewar hawks-only peacekeeping summit in the Azores. They didn't refute claims that the U.S. National Security Agency spied on the five UN Security Council swing vote countries. All of that helped inflame anti-Americanism in Europe.

While the French do smirk at the self-immolating geniuses who converted to "freedom fries", boycott Au Bon Pain cafes and flush French's mustard down the toilet in protest (which is all ridiculous because none of the three has French connections), it's beneath this layer of things happening on the surface where things get tricky.

While the American contingent appears happy bashing all things with a French aura (someone should tell GWB he's been spotted wearing French cuffs), the French reserve the lion's share of their anti-American sentiment for George W. Bush and his foreign policy team. ...

At the UN, France saw Bush and Powell's performance akin to a cowboy-driven steamroller.

"Powell and Bush seemed to act as if the world needed to be governed, as if saying, 'If we are firm, the world will follow us,'" said Pierre Hassner, international relations professor emeritus at Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris. ...

Along with what is seen as a black and white worldview, Bush scares the French off by incorporating religious references and prayer into his presidential duties and speeches. Before the war, he appeared on several French magazine covers praying, which was seen as dangerous in a country that takes the separation of church and state to the letter.

"He's pushing the worst values forward: messianism, arrogance, and U.S. economy and foreign policy over everything. He gives the impression like he's the only person in the world," said Parisian political science student Anne Bory. "When you come from such a great and

prosperous country like the U.S., it's hard to understand how you project yourself because your horizon is so large."

Many of the French also are disgusted by what they see as Americans having lost some of their ability to keep a critical eye on their government.

"You now have to say and think patriotic things in the U.S.," said French photo editor Julien Jourdes, who has lived and worked in the U.S. "The critical side has gone out the window—Bush has kidnapped public opinion."

Jourdes, along with being married to an American, says he feels torn as a Frenchman. "Millions demonstrated around the world against the war, and it didn't change a thing. The U.S. did it because nobody could stop them."

France is also wary of how U.S. news media coverage contributes to blind patriotism.

"*CNN* and *Fox News* made a show out of the war that dehumanizes it to the point where it becomes like a cartoon," said Bory, citing backdrops of waving American flags and feature stories on "cool" gadgetry. ...

Returning to the U.S. for the first time in several months, I got to see how France looked from the U.S., to see whether *Fox News* was as lopsided as it was reputed to be, for example. I wasn't prepared, however, for the feeling that having lived in France would reflect badly on me.

Before I left France, some American friends told me I had no idea how bad the anti-French sentiment would be, even though others related better to the French stance than they did to the American one.

Due to what I hope was some misguided American anger, there were moments when I ended up feeling less comfortable in my hometown than the French one I live in.

Old friends gave the impression that I had been doing the McCarthy-era equivalent of sleeping with communists. Defending (or not defending) U.S. policy to Frenchmen is an everyday occurrence for an American in Paris, but in the U.S., before we even got to what I thought about the conflict, I was judged for simply living in the country that could say "non".

[JR: The French are right on target with the fact that Americans have lost their ability to keep a "critical eye" on their government. The truth is that most of us have taken to wearing blinders so that all we see and hear are the lies put out by the Bushkovites through our controlled media. We are no longer permitted to criticize or question the decisions made by our faux leaders who enjoy the support of zealous patriotic goons. We have been brainwashed to believe that we are surrounded by a world full of enemies (of our own making), who hate us and want to see us destroyed. Americans have become as paranoid as the Israelis. Our de facto government wields its power and control through our fears for our survival. Foreign visitors who come to our country are met at some of our airports (like Chicago's O'Hare) with unfriendliness, rudeness and disrespect. America has become a hostile environment even for Americans. Some aliens are now given—and have—more rights and freedoms than American citizens. Well why not. They don't know any better and still think that this is the land of opportunity, freedom and liberties.]

DISHONEST COMMUNICATIONS REFORM

By John C. Roberts, Dean emeritus and professor of law at DePaul University College of Law, teaches telecommunications regulation at the school and formerly was a Washington communications lawyer, 06/04/03

There is much to criticize in the new media ownership rules adopted by the Federal Communications Commission this week by a slim 3-2 vote. Perhaps the most disturbing thing about these sweeping changes is the blatantly disingenuous, if not dishonest, explanations being given by FCC Chairman Michael Powell and his supporters for their actions.

As in other areas of national policy—tax reform and environmental regulation come to mind—the Bush administration is pursuing radically conservative, business-oriented policies despite the fact that a majority of the American people apparently disagree with that course. In considering these new rules, the FCC received tens of thousands of comments from ordinary citizens, as well as many from consumer and communications watchdog groups, and virtually all opposed easing the rules. Yet the commission, supported only by the media conglomerates themselves, adopted new rules anyway—allowing one owner to reach 45 percent of the national television audience, own three television stations in the same city, and potentially to combine newspaper, TV, radio and cable properties in the same market.

In the face of overwhelming opposition to its proposed changes, Powell would now like us to believe that he actually supports rules against concentration of the media, but was forced to take these deregulatory actions by the Congress and the courts. These justifications are, to put it kindly, highly questionable.

In the 1996 Telecommunications Act, Congress set some new ownership rules. It allowed one company to own as many radio stations as it wanted, for example, a decision now widely viewed as a mistake. Congress also required the FCC to revisit all of its ownership rules every two years to ensure that they remain in the public interest in light of the rapid changes taking place in the industry. It did not order the FCC to deregulate further, and in the first two reviews the commission made modest changes while endorsing its traditional goals of diversity, competition and localism. Clearly the FCC has the power under the 1996 law to actually increase the restrictions on concentration should conditions in the media marketplace justify it. **Powell made it clear from his first day in office, however, that he was bent on a quite different goal—to abolish as many FCC restrictions as possible in the name of free-market capitalism.**

It is quite true, as Powell argues, that two conservative panels of the U.S. Court of Appeals last year struck down several of the FCC's rules and sent them back to the commission for further consideration. The courts did not, as Powell asserts, tell the commission to get rid of the rules. Rather it ordered the FCC to do a better job of explaining and justifying them based on up-to-date market facts. Even though these two decisions seem inconsistent with the attitude of the U.S. Supreme Court toward the FCC's ownership policies and its discretion under the 1996 Act, the FCC did not appeal them to the Supreme Court. Rather it disingenuously claimed that the decisions forced it to deregulate. In fact, the Supreme Court has always strongly supported the FCC's goals of localism, competition and diversity, and has deferred (in ways the Court of Appeals in the ownership cases did not) to the FCC's judgment and experience in this area. Had the FCC appealed, it might well have prevailed, but Powell preferred to comply with the lower court's mandate.

Make no mistake, then. The FCC is not some unwilling pawn of the Congress or the courts in deciding to loosen its rules and allow further consolidation of the media. Despite the clear evidence that Americans are extremely concerned about the consolidation they already see around them—combining station ownership, cable ownership and program production into a few hands—Powell is pursuing the Bush administration's deregulatory, pro-business agenda at all costs. The new rules appear to be legally vulnerable in some important respects, and opponents may well defeat them in the courts. Or Congress could conclude that the FCC has gone much further than was intended in 1996 and overturn the changes. If neither occurs, Americans will have to live with many fewer corporate voices in control of media outlets, and a significant loss in local control

of television stations, in a time when society desperately needs as many diverse points of view as possible.

[JR: The FCC under the surrogate leadership of Michael Powell (son of Sir Powell) is blatantly overriding the 1996 Telecommunications Act limiting ownership of America's air waves. The only "opposition" who can demand tighter restrictions are the people and they have already lost having a say with the latest FCC ruling that gives even more rights to the privileged ethnic few who now own and control more of everything we see and hear. The competition has been annihilated so that Big Brother is now in an even better position to manipulate our opinions on all vital issues. Americans will now be known as the most mindless and spineless people of the most powerful nation of the world. If we can't handle such greatness, how can the world?]

U.S. TO WITHDRAW TROOPS FROM KOREAN DMZ

USA TODAY, 06/05/03

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—The United States and South Korea agreed Thursday to withdraw U.S. troops from the tense Demilitarized Zone separating South Korea from communist North Korea.

The troops will be moved farther south, a joint statement said after two days of talks. The redeployment will remove U.S. military bases from the Korean front line for the first time since the end of the 1950-53 Korean War.

The statement gave no timetable for the withdrawal. Even after the redeployment, U.S. troops will continue to train north of Seoul and close to the DMZ, it said.

In April, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said U.S. troops stationed near the Korean DMZ could be shifted south, moved to other countries in the region or even brought home under a global realignment of U.S. troops.

For half a century, the U.S. presence near the DMZ has symbolized the U.S.-South Korean military alliance and Washington's commitment to deterring hostilities on the divided peninsula. Tension remains high because of North Korea's suspected development of nuclear weapons.

About 37,000 U.S. troops are stationed in South Korea, most of them between the DMZ and Seoul, which lies 37 miles south of the border and within artillery range of North Korea.

"When (the redeployment from the DMZ) is fulfilled requires further discussions," said South Korean Assistant Defense Minister for Policy Lt. Gen. Cha Young-koo. "But you can see a broad picture of where we are headed."...

On Tuesday, U.S. Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz said the Pentagon must modernize its troops to better counter a potential North Korean attack. He hinted that could mean smaller, more mobile forces working at greater distances from their opponents.

Rumsfeld's comments in April had spawned uneasiness in South Korea, which worries that reductions would put it at greater risk of a North Korean attack. President Bush and South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun met in May and reconfirmed their military alliance.

Last week, the U.S. military said it would spend an additional \$11 billion over the next three years to strengthen its forces in South Korea. The plan included improvements to intelligence collecting and weapons upgrades as well as deployment of special, swift-action forces.

North Korea condemned that plan as a preparation for war.

Washington also wants North Korea to scale down its massive deployments of conventional troops near the DMZ.

Thursday's statement said the United States and South Korea remained committed to "improve the combined defense," but wanted to structure "U.S. forces in a manner that further promotes regional stability."

The two sides will first consolidate U.S. troops near the DMZ into two major bases, Camp Casey and Camp Red Cloud, north of Seoul. That process could begin as early as this year.

In a second phase of realignment, the troops will move to "key hubs south of the Han River," which bisects Seoul, the statement said.

U.S. officials have worried that their troops may be too close to the border. That means in an attack by the North, the Americans would either be killed in large numbers or forced to withdraw south before regrouping for a counteroffensive.

The U.S. forces also are close to urban areas, causing tension with residents. In June 2002, two girls were hit and killed by a U.S. military vehicle near the border, and their deaths triggered large demonstrations. **[JR: The U.S. may be pulling away from the DMZ but will relocate to build an even stronger presence in South Korea. Our troops will be relocated to serve in more secured and strategic areas that will be equipped and have the latest high-tech surveillance technologies at a cost to us taxpayers of \$12 billion. I guess it's a cheap enough price to pay to maintain a foothold in South Asia. It also makes good sense to the two terminators WOLFowitz and Rumsfeld and is probably vital towards their big world plans. It also makes for some handsome profits for companies connected to the Pentagon's warlords. South Korean President Roh was using doublespeak when he claimed he wanted to work independently to open a dialogue with North Korea's Kim Jong. I guess cooperating with the U.S. to "improve the combined defense" is a more lucrative personal goal than working towards improving relations with Kim Jong for a united Korea. The imposed wedge that keeps Korea divided will continue for another 50 years until there are positive regime changes in both Koreas. People to people we can work to build a future based on a mutual caring and cooperation... but governments keep getting in our way.]**

CREDIBILITY GAP ANYONE?

THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT...

Analysis by Jim Lobe, *Inter Press Service*, 06/02/03

WASHINGTON (IPS)—When all three major U.S. newsweeklies—*Time*, *Newsweek* and *U.S. News & World Report*—run major features on the same day on possible government lying, you can bet you have the makings of a major scandal.

And when the two most important outlets of neo-conservative opinion—*The Weekly Standard* and *The Wall Street Journal*—come out on the same days with lead editorials spluttering outrage about suggestions of government lying, you can bet that things are going to get very hot as summer approaches in Washington.

The controversy over whether the administration of President George W. Bush either exaggerated or lied about evidence that it said it had about the existence of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) by Iraq before the U.S.-led invasion has mushroomed over the past week.

"This is potentially very serious," said one Congressional aide. "If it's shown we went to war because of intelligence that was 'cooked' by the administration, heads will have to roll, and not just little heads, big ones."

The administration was already on the defensive last week as the controversy took off in Europe, particularly in Britain where Prime Minister Tony Blair found himself assailed from all directions. Blair either wilfully exaggerating the intelligence himself or being "suckered", as his former foreign minister Robin Cook called it this weekend, by Washington's neo-conservative hawks, who started agitating for war even before the dust settled in lower Manhattan after the Sep. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

Matters took a turn for the worse when the London *Guardian* reported Saturday about the existence of a

transcript, obviously leaked from a senior British official, of an exchange at the Waldorf Hotel in New York between U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell and British Foreign Minister Jack Straw just before Powell's presentation of the evidence against Iraq before the United Nations Security Council Feb. 5.

It quotes Powell, whose forceful case to the Council was decisive in persuading U.S. public opinion that Baghdad represented a serious threat, as being "apprehensive" about the evidence presented to him by the intelligence agencies. He reportedly expressed the hope that the actual facts, when they came out, would not "explode in their faces". (At a Rome press conference Monday, Powell insisted that he considered the evidence "overwhelming" when he spoke before the Council.)

But it appears that Powell's musing was accurate, as, after almost two months in uncontested control of Iraq, U.S. troops and investigators have failed to come up with concrete evidence of an Iraqi WMD programme, let alone an actual weapon.

The scenario of an uneasy Powell received a major boost in the accounts of the three newsweeklies. *U.S. News* reported, for example, that, during a rehearsal of Powell's presentation at CIA headquarters Feb. 1, the normally mild-mannered retired general at one point "tossed several pages in the air. 'I'm not reading this', he declared. 'This is bull...'"

The same magazine also reported that the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) formally concluded that, "There is no reliable information on whether Iraq is producing and stockpiling chemical weapons" in September 2002, just as Pentagon chief Donald Rumsfeld was telling Congress that the Baghdad "regime has amassed large, clandestine stockpiles of chemical weapons, including VX, sarin, cyclosarin and mustard gas".

The accounts of *Newsweek* and *Time* accounts were similarly damning. One "informed military source", told *Newsweek* that when the U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) asked the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) for specific WMD targets that should be destroyed in the first stages of the invasion, the agency only complied reluctantly.

But what it provided "was crap", a CENTCOM planner told the magazine, consisting mainly of buildings that were bombed in the first Gulf War in 1991. And agency experts reportedly could not tell the war-planners what agents were located where.

If true, that contradicts a series of bald assertions by administration officials and their supporters over the last nine months. "Simply stated," Vice President Dick Cheney declared in the first call to arms last August, "there is no doubt that Saddam Hussein now has weapons of mass destruction."

"We know where (the WMD) are," declared Rumsfeld in a television interview Mar. 30, well into the first week of the war. "They're in the area around Tikrit and Baghdad and east, west, south and north somewhat."

He has since retreated from that certainty, suggesting last week that the Iraqis "may have had time to destroy them, and I don't know the answer".

There is also growing doubt about the evidence that Bush himself touted this weekend as proof—two truck trailers described by officials as mobile weapons-productions labs.

According to a CIA report noted in the *Slate* Internet magazine, key equipment for growing, sterilising and drying bacteria was not present in either trailer. Iraqi officials have said the trailers were used to produce hydrogen for artillery weather balloons. ...

Retired intelligence officials from both the CIA and the DIA are also coming out with ever-stronger statements accusing the intelligence community of twisting and exaggerating the evidence to justify war.

They say both agencies were intimidated by the political pressure exerted in particular by neo-conservative hawks under Cheney and Rumsfeld, who even established a special unit in the defense secretary's office to determine what intelligence was "missing".

Much of the evidence on which the WMD case was based came from defectors supplied by the Iraqi National Congress (INC), an exile group headed by Ahmed Chalabi that has been championed by the neo-conservatives—including Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz, Cheney chief of staff I. Lewis Libby and Defense Policy Board members Richard Perle, Kenneth Adelman, and James Woolsey—for more than a decade. ...

Both the CIA and State have long distrusted the INC and Chalabi, in particular, although he remains the Pentagon's favourite for leading an interim government in Baghdad.

All of this has outraged the administration, which insists the intelligence community was united in its assessment about the existence of WMD, and its neo-conservative defenders. The *'Wall Street Journal'* on Monday accused the "French and the European left" of trying to tarnish the U.S. victory and charged that discontent among CIA analysts was spurred by resentment of Rumsfeld.

But even the *Journal* appeared to be moving away from its previous position that Iraq's alleged WMD constituted a threat to the United States and its allies. "Whether or not WMD is found takes nothing away from the Iraq war victory," it said, citing the gains made in human rights by Saddam Hussein's demise. ...

[JR: This is really rich. For Time magazine and the other elitist magazines to accuse Dubya and company of lying is a little like accusing a baker of using flour to bake bread. (You know a politician is lying when his lips are moving.) If Time magazine is now after Dubya it is either because he is not "following the orders" of his handlers or the real power on Earth has decided that George is a one-term president. These elitist magazines now want us to believe they were duped like everyone else but they had to know; by the way they didn't press for real factual evidence. Cheney's aides wanted Powell to include in his presentation information that Iraq had purchased computer software that would allow it to plan an attack on the United States, an allegation that was not supported by the CIA, U.S. News reported. The White House also pressed Powell to include charges that the suspected leader of the September 11 hijackers, Mohammed Atta, had met in Prague with an Iraqi intelligence officer prior to the attacks, despite a refusal by U.S. and European intelligence agencies to confirm the meeting, the magazine said. The pressure forced Powell to appoint his own review team that met several times with Central Intelligence Agency Director George Tenet and National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice to prepare the speech, in which the Secretary of State accused Iraq of hiding tons of biological and chemical weapons. At that time, Powell was perceived as being fairly honest by the International community, while the others in the administration were expected to be deceitful. That's the reason Powell was selected to present the trumped-up charges against Iraq before the UN. Do you really believe the broad prewar-intelligence review being conducted by the CIA will actually shed some light on the misdeeds of the those neocons in the Pentagon and the administration? The only thing of importance to the neocons is ... to hell with what people think... the end justifies the means. Where is the outrage? Why isn't Pentagon chief Donald Rumsfeld brought up on charges of lying to Congress? Where is the outrage over the president lying to the American people? Remember what happened after Bush Senior said: "READ MY LIPS"? HE LOST THE NEXT ELECTION!]

WEAK KARZAI, U.S.
BEHIND FAILED GOVERNMENT: EXPERT

By Nadeem Shaker, *IslamOnline.net* 06/08/03

KABUL (*IOL*)—The failure of the interim Afghan government to honor its pledges to the Afghan people stems from the weak personality of President Hamid Karzai, his incapability of controlling provinces governors and the U.S. intervention in the country's internal affairs, Mohammad Attai, an expert at Afghan affairs, told *IslamOnline.net*.

"As days go by, the Afghan people have come to realize that Karzai's weak personality is the main reason behind the failure of his interim government.

"The different segments of the Afghan people are on board that Karzai failed as a president of the interim government in the war-scarred country," Attai told *IOL*.

Karzai does not "hold the characteristics of a successful leader, with a weak and dependent personality and inability to hold officials and culprits accountable," said the expert.

He recalled that the interim government had pledged to fight backwardness in the country, entrench democracy and freedom as well as improve living standards of the Afghan people.

"One year after the interim government had assumed power it stopped short of fulfilling its promises," Attai stressed.

"Afghan governors are acting as if their provinces were independent and had nothing to do with the central government," he noted.

Attai said Karzai himself had grumbled that the governors, without prior permission from the central government, hammer out agreements with other countries, establish military bases and pay the salaries of their employees.

He added that Karzai had also accused the governors of corruption and exploiting customs duties and taxes—estimated at \$550 million.

"The government is missing out on its natural resources and heavily depends on foreign aid, which goes directly to relief efforts instead of rebuilding the country's infrastructure and profitable projects," the Afghan expert asserted.

Attai further attributed the failure of the government to "disharmony" among its ranks and the power struggle between the three main coalition parties, namely, "Al-Mujahdeen (Northern Alliance), the Westerners (Afghans who lived in the West and got accustomed to its traditions and culture) and communist Afghans."

He also pointed to the bloody conflict between the Northern Alliance leaders, particularly Abdul Rashid Dostum and Atta Mohammad.

"Not to mention the opposition groups, which are scattered across Afghanistan and have served as a thorn in the side of the interim government and the ISAF (International Security Assistance Force)."

The U.S. interference, the expert added, into the country's internal affairs also contributed to the failure.

"The U.S. is acting like an independent government inside the central one," Attai said, adding that Pakistan and Iraq were also meddling in Afghanistan affairs. **[JR: Iraq??]**

He concluded that Karzai's government has achieved nothing but establishing the national council (*loya jirga*) and luring foreign aid.

[JR: As the three witches in Shakespeare's Macbeth lamented; "double, double toil and trouble; fire burn and cauldron bubble." A fair and honest assessment of America's failed attempts to rein in the factious rivalries in the still unsettled and troubled Afghanistan. We came, we saw and we have yet to conquer.]

UNFLATTERING IMAGE OF NASA EMERGES
COLUMBIA DISASTER REPORT
TO NOTE MANAGEMENT, BUDGET DEFICIENCIES

By Michael Cabbage, *Orlando Sentinel*, 06/06/03

HOUSTON —NASA's poor risk management, questionable policy decisions and constant budget battles were among the root causes of the shuttle *Columbia* accident, according to a draft outline of a report by the board investigating the mishap. ...

The report's outline suggests investigators will note a debris strike on the shuttle's left wing during launch Jan. 16 as the "probable cause" that triggered the disaster. However, as the 13-member board has pledged, the report goes far beyond an engineering analysis of *Columbia*'s final moments to examine the bigger institutional and historical issues that allowed the disaster to occur.

Some parts of the outline likely will change, but according to a May revision, major concerns include:

*How repeated debris strikes on the orbiters became an accepted risk over time.

*The system that NASA uses to identify, track and dispose of in-flight problems.

*Communication breakdowns and the performance of shuttle managers during *Columbia*'s flight.

*Scheduling pressures created by building and supplying the International Space Station.

*Management turmoil caused by flip-flopping shuttle program authority between the agency's headquarters in Washington and Johnson Space Center in Houston.

*NASA's indecision in recent years on whether to replace the fleet or upgrade it and concerns that the shuttle program was being "managed as if nearing its end".

*Budget pressures and the transfer of oversight responsibilities from NASA to private contractors and their affect on safety.

The planned 10-chapter report will include some recommendations. The study also will contain a section on general "conditions necessary for return to flight" that discusses items such as management reforms and checking of aging shuttle components to make sure they remain in good condition. ...

In recent weeks, the investigative board has adopted a scenario that says a breach in the protective heat armor on the leading edge of *Columbia*'s left wing allowed blowtorch-like gases to destroy the shuttle as it re-entered Earth's atmosphere. A chunk of foam estimated to weigh about 2 pounds broke off the ship's external fuel tank and smacked into the leading edge 82 seconds after liftoff Jan. 16.

So far, accident investigators have been reluctant to conclude publicly that the foam caused the breach. That could be changing.

A recent impact test at Southwest Research Institute in San Antonio appears to suggest the debris could have created an opening between the reinforced carbon-carbon panels that line the wing's leading edge. ...

A key part of the report is a chapter that discusses "the factors that combined to destroy *Columbia*" beyond the direct causes that tore the ship apart.

Those factors primarily are NASA decisions made before and during the 16-day mission. The beginning of the chapter deals with the Mission Management Team's performance and its quick dismissal of concerns about the debris strike.

Here, the report critiques engineers' questionable use of a computer database called Crater to predict *Columbia*'s damage. The section also recounts the internal e-mail debate among engineers on the foam impact's effect and their unsuccessful requests for images of *Columbia* in orbit using spy satellites or military telescopes.

This communication breakdown led the board to issue an interim recommendation on April 17 asking that NASA reach agreements with intelligence agencies to make such photos a standard requirement for future flights.

"What seems to have evolved is that higher-level decision-makers came to the conclusion that there wasn't a safety of flight issue, in part, based on an analysis done by analysts who sort of wanted the pictures," board member Steve Wallace said recently.

"It's a difficult and frustrating story to try to put together," he added. ...

[JR: So far, it reads a lot like a script from the movies where the incompetent top brass overrides the decisions of the hands-on engineers and analyst. Those doing their job may see a problem, report it or ask for additional data to better analyze the situation and the top decision-makers are more focused on cost and filled with their know-it-all self-importance deny the request of their subordinates. Then there is the alternative where there are too many rivals making critical decisions and confusion arises as to who actually has the authority to make decisions. In this case it seems both cases might apply. It may be called "The Shuttle Program", but that does not mean critical decisions are shuttled back and forth to the detriment or peril of the astronauts aboard these shuttles.]

ENRON FRAUD SMALL CHANGE NEXT TO U.S.
ACCOUNTING GIMMICKS

By Joseph J. DioGuardi, *World Tribune.com*, 05/04/03

Former congressman, CPA, puts scandal in perspective.

On May 1, federal prosecutors filed a superceding indictment against former Enron Chief Financial Officer Andrew Fastow, his wife, and other key executives in connection with the multibillion-dollar collapse of the Enron Corporation.

You do not have to be a Certified Public Accountant to see the merit of the charges against Fastow, but even many CPAs would be surprised to hear that the federal government is guilty of using fraudulent accounting gimmicks similar to those that brought down Enron. **But since the accounting principles and financial governance mandated by U.S. securities laws enforced by the Securities and Exchange Commission do not apply to the books and budgets of our federal government, what is considered fraud for officers of publicly-traded corporations is merely shrugged off as sloppy accounting or "off budget" in Washington.**

Our federal government's ability to manipulate its accounts and budgets is similar in many ways to what Fastow did at Enron to cook the books and manufacture earnings.

The new indictments added to the seventy-eight counts of financial fraud and conspiracy outlined in the original indictment on October 31, 2002. The prior financial fraud centered on a series of off-balance-sheet partnerships referred to as "Special Purpose Entities," or SPEs—structures set up to make Enron appear financially more attractive to Wall Street investment analysts and credit rating agencies. To no one's surprise, the losses uncovered fell squarely on the backs of the shareholders.

In fact, Fastow may have cloned Enron's SPEs from the federal government's "Government Sponsored Enterprises," or GSEs, which are also used to put major losses and debt off the federal government's books and budget in order to hide politically sensitive deficit spending. Although 1987 seems long ago, most of us vividly recall the Savings and Loan budget debacle, which then Comptroller General Charles Bowsher said was "a huge scandal that was allowed to grow because of the way this town [Washington] does business."

Basically the government's accounting scam went something like this. Congress created a new GSE called the Resolution Trust Corporation (RTC). It initially borrowed \$50 billion from the viable parts of the S&L industry. These funds were then used to cover depositors' losses from the bankrupt S&Ls. Since these government-backed RTC bonds were sold to the private sector, they were "off budget." While the Treasury Department paid the interest on the bonds "on budget," the payments from the RTC to cover the S&L losses through the Federal Savings and Loan

Insurance Corporation were deemed to be government revenue, which reduced the deficit. This helped Congress to artificially meet politically sensitive deficit reduction targets while at the same time increasing the national debt by the cost of the bailout, which ultimately amounted to hundreds of billions of dollars. Similarly, the U.S. government has provided trillions of dollars of off-budget loan guarantees for everything from student loans to home mortgages. These only show up on the government's books when there is a default, which happens regularly, and the government then passes the tab on to us, the taxpayers.

Lately, the federal government has done an admirable job in cracking down on virtually all accounting fraud except its own. Conveniently, the federal government is exempt from the "generally accepted accounting principles" and practices mandated for all entities that issue stock and/or debt instruments to the public. Yet, ironically, the U.S. government is the largest public issuer of notes and bonds in the world.

After Enron's collapse came other huge accounting frauds at WorldCom, Qwest, and Adelphia. This prompted some journalists to look at the way our federal government accounts for its activities, and articles began to appear with titles such as "U.S. Government Is Unrivaled Champion at Cooking Books", "Numbers and Double Standards", "Congress Cooks Own Books and Calls Kettle Black" and "Billions Lost by Feds". I think it is ironic that members of Congress made such a public fuss over the way fraudulent accounting affected the shareholders of Enron, while they have spent little time, if any, thinking about the improvements that are sorely needed in the accounting principles and practices used by the federal government. And I have not even mentioned the mother of all off-balance-sheet liabilities: trillions for Social Security!

An article that appeared in the *New York Times* on October 14, 2002, entitled "Auditors Say U.S. Agencies Lose Track of Billions", claims that the government's financial records are so badly flawed that virtually no federal agency (with the possible exception of the National Science Foundation) can be credibly audited. In 2000, auditors found \$1.1 trillion in unsubstantiated balance adjustments in the Defense Department alone—which was a huge improvement over 1999, when the figure was \$2.3 trillion! In a letter to Congress on October 7, 2000, Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), said that the federal government's accounts would "never be tolerated in the private sector."

As a CPA, former Congressman, shareholder, and taxpayer, I can only hope that the Enron debacle prompted by CFO Fastow's accounting shell game results in real systemic change, not only to protect the shareholders of all publicly-traded corporations, but also to protect taxpayers and their children, whose futures depend on the "full faith and credit" of a financially viable and properly accountable federal government.

[JR: Ever notice how those in Congress will go along with the corrupt system in Washington while in their official capacity and then put out these exposés only after they no longer benefit from "playing the game"? Wonder what his voting record was on the budget? As usual, the U.S. government makes laws that corporations, businesses and citizens must comply with or end up incarcerated and yet these same "officials" are not held accountable nor required to comply with "their" own laws and rules. Washington is so thoroughly corrupt to the core that some would say it would probably take a full-scale revolution to oust all those involved in the corruption at the federal level, not to mention state and local levels. It would require a massive purge to clean up Washington, but now that the entire government seems to be out of control, I certainly don't see them taking the self-initiative. This corruption would not exist if those "elected officials" really represented the people. We need what is being done in the new Iraqi government by the Bushwackers. No one who served in Saddam's Baath Party is allowed to be elected to the new government.]

PHILIPPINE PRESIDENT RENEWS HER PLEDGE OF LOYALTY IN WASHINGTON

By John Roberts, *WSWS*, 5/28/03

In the Nineteenth Century, at the height of the British Empire, a stream of potentates, maharajas and other assorted dignitaries made their way to London to pledge fealty to their colonial masters, to be awed by British power and to take home a handful of trinkets and the stamp of British approval.

A modern day version is taking place in Washington—the latest visit being that of Philippine President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo last week. In return for Arroyo's assurances of loyalty and cooperation, Bush lavished praise on the head of the former American colony and offered financial support to prop up her increasingly unpopular administration.

The Arroyo entourage was treated to the pomp and ceremony of a formal state visit complete with a state dinner and reception at the White House—only the third occasion during the Bush presidency that a visiting head of state has received such regal treatment. Bush has already announced that he intends to visit the Philippines later in the year—his first visit to South East Asia.

President George Bush was effusive in his praise of Arroyo as a national leader and her early support for the U.S. “war against terror” and its attack on Iraq. He took the opportunity to bestow the status of “major non-NATO ally” on the Philippines, granting the country greater access to U.S. military technology and equipment. Bush also praised Arroyo's fight against “terrorism” inside the Philippines—the pretext for the dispatch of U.S. troops to the country for the first time in nearly a decade.

Standing next to Bush at the White House, Arroyo signalled her complete support for Washington's open-ended and aggressive foreign policy, declaring: “We are with you in your leadership against terrorism, wherever it may be found.” Her administration has committed a small team of 175 military, police and civilian officials to join the U.S. military occupation of Iraq.

Speaking at a formal dinner of the U.S.-ASEAN Business Council, U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage indicated why the Bush administration attached such importance to Arroyo's visit. His speech strongly implied that any nation that wanted favourable economic treatment from Washington had to, like the Philippines, fully embrace and support its militarist foreign policy.

Armitage praised Arroyo for her “courageous stand on Iraq” as one of the first leaders to back the U.S.-led invasion and for providing “tangible military assets”. He went on to speak about “a broader truth about this war on terrorism, and that is the inseparable and intertwined nature of prosperity and security. I suspect that those of you from the business community have found in your own experience that you cannot have one without the other.”

In barely disguised terms, Armitage then urged his business audience to take advantage of the new vistas being opened up by the U.S. “war on terrorism”. “Just as the great threats of our day ... have no respect for lines on a map, the great opportunities of our time ... are unconstrained by geography as well. And so today, as we work with our allies in the Philippines and our friends around the world to meet the threats, we are also working to seize the opportunities.”

In South East Asia, Arroyo has been the staunchest supporter of the Bush administration's expansionist policies. While in Washington, Arroyo and Philippine Foreign Secretary Blas Ople agreed to deepen U.S. military involvement in the Philippines. In February, the two governments were forced to drop plans for open U.S. military involvement in operations against the Moro Islamic Liberation

Front (MILF) and the Abu Sayyaf Islamic separatists groups after widespread opposition erupted over its unconstitutional character and the violation of national sovereignty.

During the latest visit, however, alternatives for sidestepping the Philippine constitution were clearly discussed. A senior Defence Department official told the *Washington Post* that arrangements had been worked out for “an evolution” of last year's “training mission” that saw up to 1,200 troops, including advisers and U.S. aircraft, heavily involved in counterinsurgency operations in the country. According to the newspaper, Bush has committed an unspecified number of additional U.S. troops to join the 500 still in the Philippines.

Last November, the Arroyo administration signed a Military Logistics and Support Agreement (MLSA) allowing the U.S. to use the Philippines as a supply base for military operations throughout the region. According to *Washington Post*, the arrangement was exactly what the Pentagon was after. Rather than being committed to large permanent bases, as was previously the case at Subic Bay and Clark Airfield, the U.S. military wanted a more flexible agreement and closer relations with the Philippine armed forces chiefs.

Other economic agreements were signed during last week's visit. After leaving Washington, Arroyo boasted to an audience of Filipinos in San Francisco on May 22 that her trip had been worth \$4 billion to the Philippines. She referred to \$300 million in social and economic aid promised by Bush and access to hundreds of millions of dollars worth of U.S. military equipment and training.

Included in the total was a payoff to Arroyo for her support for the invasion of Iraq. Manila is to be allowed a small share in the plunder by supplying American companies involved in “rebuilding Iraq” with cheap Filipino labour. At a teleconference in the Waldorf Astoria in New York, Arroyo adviser Marita Jimenez declared that there were opportunities for 30,000 to 50,000 Filipino workers.

In addition, U.S. information technology companies plan to establish call centres in the Philippines to take advantage of English-speaking workers at low wages. Arroyo met the CEOs of Convergys Corporation, Western Wats, and Vision X which expect to employ up to 13,300 workers in the Philippines. The Prudential Group also expressed its intention of outsourcing business processing to the Philippines.

The Bush administration is also becoming more directly involved in the internal affairs of the Philippines. Foreign Minister Ople signed an agreement with the U.S. Agency for International Development to assist former fighters from the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF). The MNLF leadership signed an agreement with Manila to end hostilities in 1996. Washington also committed \$50 million to restart peace talks with the other major armed separatist group, the MILF.

Arroyo's visit to Washington coincided with a major military offensive against MILF areas in Mindanao. While the military insists that civilians are not being targeted, MILF spokesmen claim that the strikes have been indiscriminate. According to Philippine Senator Aquilino Pimentel, more than 300,000 civilians have been displaced by the government's offensives.

The U.S. has offered to broker a peace deal with the MILF; but there is no doubt that it has also fully backed the current military offensive. Armitage referred obliquely to the “legitimate aspirations and some grievances” of the poverty-stricken Muslim population of southern Mindanao but left no doubt that Washington supports Arroyo in the fight against “terrorist groups that hide in the shadows of the Philippines”.

Writing in the Manila-based *Sunday Times* last weekend, Toots Ople, chief of staff for the Department of Foreign Affairs, declared that Washington's political and military support was more important than the economic benefits of the U.S. alliance. “You cannot put a peso value on the initiative of the United States government to have the New Peoples Army and National Democratic Front included in the global list of foreign terrorist organisations,” she wrote.

The reference to Washington's branding of the New

Peoples Army and the National Democratic Front—both connected to the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP)—as terrorist organisations is significant. It reflects an understanding in ruling circles in Manila that the U.S. support for a war on “terrorism” in the Philippines is in fact an open-ended pledge to help suppress any political opposition, no matter how limited, to the deepening economic and social crisis in the country.

SC JUSTICE'S REVELATIONS PAVE WAY FOR ERAP'S RETURN: SAGUISAG

By Cheloy Garafil, *Malaya.com*, 6/01/03

The revelations of Supreme Court Associate Justice Artemio Panganiban in his book on how President Joseph Estrada was ousted in January 2001 should pave the way for his return to Malacañang, former Sen. Rene Saguisag said over the weekend.

In a 17-page letter to the justices of the Supreme Court, Saguisag, who served as Estrada's lawyer when he questioned the legality of President Arroyo's takeover of the presidency, called for the resignation Associate Justices Antonio Carpio and Renato Corona who Saguisag said were beneficiaries of Edsa 2.

“Justices Carpio and Corona may consider resigning. Any effort to bring in another Edsa 2 beneficiary to the Supreme Court should be resisted if we are truly to reform the judiciary,” he said.

Saguisag said Panganiban's own account of what transpired before the swearing in of Arroyo proved that Estrada's fall was the result of a conspiracy involving Arroyo and her supporters in the church, business and the so-called civil society, with the help of the Supreme Court led by Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr.

Saguisag said the legitimacy of the Arroyo presidency and the ouster of Estrada on Jan. 20, 2001 was decided by Davide and Panganiban, as the latter himself narrated in his book entitled *Reforming the Judiciary*.

“In any case, I have a newspaper column which I have used in quoting from the new book, beginning on Dec. 13, 2002 to show how the legitimacy cases were really decided by only two people, and not on the basis of the Constitution but the *Bible*,” Saguisag said.

Saguisag told the SC justices he wanted them to rethink their moral premises because the decision they laid down in Estrada vs. Arroyo created “not just bad law but dangerous law as well.”

“It is the lawyer's duty to help the people regain respect for constitutionalism. One step in this direction is to make those who usurp the powers of government face the illegitimacy of their acts at every turn. Except for the gravest of reasons, it would be egregious to forego such opportunity, one based on newly-discovered evidence the new book supplies in abundance,” he said.

Panganiban narrated on Pages 132-133 of his book that Edsa was “indeed a confluence of events planned in heaven”.

He admitted he proposed to Davide in the early morning of Jan. 20, 2001 that they swear in Arroyo as “acting” president “even when she had not yet requested it, and even when President Estrada was still in Malacañang”.

Panganiban said Davide “immediately” agreed to his proposal “even before prior consultation with other justices”.

The associate justice, an appointee of President Fidel Ramos, said Davide's immediate approval of the swearing in was brought about by his reading on the same day of the *Book of Isaiah* where it spoke of the “Restoration of Zion”, which Panganiban took to mean as bringing normalcy to the country which was then rocked by protests dubbed Edsa 2.

“Hence, when I called him up at 5:30 (a.m.), he (Davide) was spiritually and psychologically ready for my then

weird-sounding proposal,” Panganiban recounted.

Saguisag said: “In a matter of minutes the decision was reached to strip President Estrada of his hard-earned solemn, popular and overwhelming mandate of 1998. Later, the idea of constructive resignation seemingly carried the day, when in fact auroral biblical inspiration was behind it all.”

Saguisag said Panganiban’s own account of what happened on that day totally contradicted the justices’ earlier claim in a resolution en banc dated Jan. 22, 2001 stating that their decision to swear in Arroyo came after she communicated with them orally at 10 a.m. on Jan. 20, 2001 telling them that negotiations with Estrada had “bogged down”. Her request to be sworn in was confirmed in a supposed letter she sent shortly thereafter.

Panganiban, according to Saguisag, was also quoted as saying that when they saw Arroyo’s letter and seeing the phrase permanent disability as basis for the vacancy in the presidency, they all chorused “ok” and decided to swear her in.

Panganiban also admitted in his book that the justices were all transported to Edsa Shrine for the oath-taking on the arrangement of then Atty. Corona through a certain Ching Vargas.

“With the book’s candor, we now know that in seeming violation of the principle of separation of church and state, Justice Panganiban, at dawn of Jan. 20, 2001, persuaded the chief justice who, in turn, persuaded the others to swear in Vice President (Arroyo) as chief executive at noon. Then Atty. Carpio drafted the strange letter of the vice president which was hidden from the public view, for good reasons, until the hearing (of the legitimacy case) on Feb. 15, 2001,” Saguisag said.

With such revelations, he said, Estrada may well be considered still the president of the country considering that Davide agreed to swear in Arroyo, by Panganiban’s own accounts, only as “acting president”.

Another Estrada lawyer, Alan Paguia, said the justices’ decision to swear in Arroyo without requiring proof of permanent disability showed their partiality towards Arroyo.

This partiality, he said, effectively disqualified the justices from validly deciding on the legitimacy issue later on brought before the SC for their resolution.

Saguisag said he would file a petition to vacate the justices’ 13-0 decision to uphold the legitimacy of the Arroyo presidency.

“Looking back, and thanks to *Reforming the Judiciary*, I now could tell my family and students I did not lose 13-0 because of my misreading of the Constitution. Yet, everyone lost so much more because resorting to the *Bible* in matutinal or auroral reflection in judicial interposition to nullify a national vote and change a duly-elected president presents its own set of excruciating problems,” Saguisag said.

Sen. Aquilino Pimentel yesterday said the Supreme Court should respond to Panganiban’s revelations.

Pimentel said the SC should not delay in explaining the “arrangements” between the high court and allies of then Vice President Arroyo before she took her oath on Jan. 21, 2001.

“Mabigat ang mga revelation niya (Panganiban) sa kanyang aklat,” Pimentel said in his regular radio program “Pimentel Reports” over RMN-Manila.

Pimentel said the Supreme Court and Malacañang cannot simply brush aside the disclosures of Panganiban because the latter was privy to the goings-on in the high court at the height of the 2001 political turmoil.

“They should clarify specific issues that took place on Jan. 20, a day before Mrs. Arroyo was sworn in. Ano ba ang mga ginawa nila noon? At bakit sila nagpunta sa Edsa Shrine para ipa-oath si Mrs. Arroyo? These are some questions that the SC justices should answer,” Pimentel said.

He said it is vital for the SC to explain its side since Paguia is using the Panganiban book as basis for his claim that the Sandiganbayan has no jurisdiction over the plunder case filed against Estrada.

Paguia has told the Sandiganbayan that since Estrada was not impeached, did not resign or die or has any disability that renders him incapable of running the country, then he remains the legitimate leader of the country. (*—With Joan Dairo*)

RESTORING ZION:

THE EX-PRESIDENT WHO NEVER QUIT

By Ted Lerner, *Asia Times Online*, 6/13/03

MANILA—Just before noon on January 20, 2001, then Philippine senator Raul Roco stood amid a huge crowd gathered on a staging area at a Manila religious shrine, looking out over a gathering of several hundred thousand people. He had come, as had everyone else in attendance, to witness, in the next few moments, the swearing in of then vice president Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to the office of President of the Republic of the Philippines. It would be the culmination of several days of political turmoil in the country. The impeachment trial of president Joseph Estrada on charges of plunder, graft and corruption, had collapsed when the prosecutors walked out. The military had withdrawn their support from the president. And now, abandoned and alone, Estrada had resigned from the office he won handily only 18 months prior. Or had he?

Roco received a call on his mobile phone. It was the British Broadcasting Corp. on the other end. Roco was patched into a live broadcast being beamed around the world.

“Mr. Roco, has president Estrada resigned?” asked the BBC anchor.

“Yes,” Roco said above the din, “yes, he has resigned.”

“How do you know that he has resigned?” asked the anchor. “Have you seen a resignation letter?”

“No, no I haven’t seen a resignation letter. But I’ve been told that he resigned and that he has submitted his resignation letter.”

In the tumult of the moment, it seemed a trivial matter. Surely something as important as the resignation of a country’s leader would be properly and thoroughly documented and handled with utmost care and attention. After all, the world was watching and things would have to be done right. Sure enough, several moments later Arroyo was sworn in as the 14th president of the Republic of the Philippines.

But that seemingly insignificant detail of an actual resignation letter is proving, up to this day, to be quite a serious matter. For Roco, nor any other of Arroyo’s supporters, has yet to see or been able to produce a resignation letter from Joseph Estrada. That’s because one doesn’t exist.

So that can lead the rational mind to ponder the inevitable question: How is it that Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo was sworn into the office of president, when a vacancy didn’t exist? True, Estrada said he was taking a leave of absence from the office, as his two letters to Congress at the time indicated. Under law Arroyo would be only serving as “acting” president, with Estrada able to return to the office upon the date and time of his choosing.

But that’s not the way it played out. Two days after swearing in Arroyo, the Supreme Court produced a letter that was dated January 20, 2001, and purportedly written by then vice president Arroyo stating, in her words, that president Estrada was incapacitated and that he was no longer able to carry out the duties of his office. Thus, she wrote, she should be sworn in as the next president.

Incapacitation is one of the four legal ways a president can be replaced, but under Philippine law, it is the Congress that decides whether the president is incapacitated. This was never done. Obviously, a vice president cannot simply declare a sitting president to be incapacitated, as there is a serious conflict of interest.

Then, several months later, the Supreme Court forgot all about the incapacitation argument and ruled that Estrada had “constructively resigned”. The court completely ignored the two letters of Estrada and never even bothered to call him in to ask him whether or not he had resigned. Instead it based its decision on an unauthenticated diary written by Estrada’s former executive secretary and printed in a local newspaper—

it actually used news clippings—and claimed that it provided a window into the mind of Estrada, proving that he had “constructively resigned”. That was that. According to the Supreme Court, Arroyo was now the de facto president of the republic. Estrada was finished.

From his air-conditioned suite in Veteran’s Memorial Hospital in Manila, where he has been detained for more than two years while his trial on plunder charges continues, Joseph Estrada vehemently maintains that he never resigned the presidency. The man who was elected by the largest mandate in Philippine electoral history, in the cleanest election the country has ever seen, insists that the chief justice of the Supreme Court, Hilario Davide, along with several other justices from the high court, violated the constitution and broke the law by swearing in Arroyo to fill a position that was not vacant, and by later reaffirming her rise to power by claiming—erroneously, Estrada says—that he had indeed resigned.

Estrada has always insisted that he never resigned, but now, backed by some stunning new evidence, he has gone on the offensive. He has hired a new lawyer and directly challenged the jurisdiction of the anti-graft court, claiming that as the legitimate president, he is immune from suit. More important, his former lawyer and former senator Rene Saguisag has filed an impeachment complaint at the House of Representatives against the chief justice of the Supreme Court and at least six other justices “for culpable violation of the constitution and betrayal of public trust for swearing in an illegitimate successor, for denying Estrada his basic rights and for prejudging his case”.

Even though Arroyo is not mentioned in the complaint, the grounds cited have a clear and direct bearing on her legitimacy. For if the justices erred, that means Arroyo’s ascension to the presidency is null and void and that Estrada remains the true president of the Philippines.

Predictably, the presidential Malacañang Palace and its supporters laughed off the new challenge to their authority. They have claimed it’s a political ploy, a destabilization plot from the Estrada camp, or just a diversionary tactic because Estrada’s afraid of being convicted in his plunder case. They’ve also said that the issue of Arroyo’s legitimacy has been settled long ago by the Supreme Court.

But that begs the question. If there was no vacancy in the presidency, just what were the justices doing at the swearing-in of Arroyo? Wasn’t that a highly partisan political event? And how can they later rule on her legitimacy when they themselves were a party to her ascension to a post that wasn’t even vacant?

Estrada’s new-found confidence stems from a tell-all book written by one of the key players in his ouster more than two years ago, Supreme Court Justice Artemio Panganiban. In his book *Reforming the Judiciary*, Panganiban takes the reader back to those days of political turmoil. Estrada’s impeachment trial had collapsed when the prosecution walked out in frustration; the military had publicly withdrawn its support from Estrada, the duly elected commander-in-chief; hundreds of thousands of anti-Estrada partisans had gathered at the shrine. Panganiban says it was at that time that the justices acted to save “the constitutional system from collapse”. He actually states that he and the chief justice decided to swear in Arroyo even though they knew Estrada had not resigned.

“Let me articulate my faith that Edsa II [the name of the event that led to Estrada’s ouster] was indeed a confluence of events planned in heaven,” he writes. “I am still wondering up to now how I had summoned the courage to propose the oath-taking of Mrs. Arroyo even when President Estrada was still in Malacañang; and why Chief Justice Davide immediately agreed to it, even prior to consultation with other justices.”

Perhaps the most amazing passage out of the book comes when Panganiban talks about “restoring Zion”. He writes that both he and the chief justice have a daily

habit of consulting the *Bible*. Panganiban has a certain passage that he reads on particular days. Davide, though, prefers to cut the *Bible* at random, taking inspiration from whatever passage happens to appear.

Before dawn on the morning of January 20, 2001, Panganiban tells how he called up Davide, who related that he chanced upon a passage in *Isaiah, Chapter 62*, about "restoring Zion". It was then, Panganiban states, that Davide had his higher calling. Yes, that was the answer to the turmoil that was currently besetting the Philippines. The chief justice would have to "restore Zion".

But for the chief justice of the Supreme Court, who had been presiding over the now failed impeachment proceedings, "restoring Zion" did not, as one might think, entail going on radio and television and telling the crowds massing at the religious shrine that the constitution must be protected at all costs, that they should insist that the impeachment trial should continue to its conclusion, that no matter what the military generals had said, president Estrada was the legitimate and duly elected leader of the Philippines, that he was elected by the sovereign will of the electorate in the cleanest election in Philippine history and that to try and unseat him in ways other than legal ones would do more harm than good and merely succeed in turning the country into a banana republic. Yes, that would have been the logical meaning of "restoring Zion". But Justice Davide had a different interpretation.

To him "restoring Zion" meant swearing in then vice president Arroyo to the office of president, this despite the fact that he knew no vacancy existed in the position. Restoring Zion meant that they would legitimize a military withdrawal of support of the legal commander-in-chief, something that the constitution clearly prohibits. Instead of upholding the constitution and insisting that the impeachment trial continue, their actions have, some observers claim, legitimized mob rule.

"We need a ruling on whether the courts may rely on the *Bible* instead of the constitution," Saguisag said after filing his impeachment complaint. "We need a ruling on whether it is all right for justices to take part in partisan political exercises and then uphold themselves when obviously they could not be impartial as judges of their own cause."

"In my experience," said Estrada's new lawyer, Alan Paguia, "these [the justices] are just 15 lawyers. Can they change the will of 10 million voters?" Paguia said the justices, in voluntarily administering the oath to Arroyo, violated the "judicial ban against political partisanship".

As of this moment only a handful of congressmen have openly supported the impeachment complaints and, with Congress on a six-week recess, the matter won't be fully discussed until the beginning of August. Panganiban's book and Estrada's subsequent offensive, however, have seemed to generate renewed interest in the confusing and highly controversial events that took place back in January 2001. Supporters of Arroyo, once again on the defensive in the face of apparently strong legal grounds, have resorted to extolling the God-given virtues of that murky phenomenon known as "People Power".

"I could not see any partisan politics coming from the Supreme Court," responded Arroyo's justice secretary. "What took place [on January 20, 2001] was an event arising from the sovereign power of the people. All authority emanates from the people." Even Panganiban, whose book has suddenly disappeared from the market, claimed they did right because "the welfare and the will of the people is the supreme law".

How the "will of the people" in a democracy is measured in anything other than an election is anyone's guess. What is certain, though, is that the filing of an impeachment case against the Supreme Court justices promises more political fireworks to come and exposes the deep and gaping wounds that still afflict the Philippines more than two years on.

If only they could have produced that resignation letter.

NEVADA CORPORATIONS:

Lawful Avoidance Of Key IRS Designations

Budget's "Tip of the Week" #8:

Avoiding the IRS Designations of: "Personal Service Corporation", "Personal Holding Company" and "Controlled Group"

The tax advantages of properly operated Nevada corporate shelters may be secondary to the benefits of liability protection, asset protection and privacy but they are worth discussing all the same, especially since many tax professionals don't seem to "get it".

The IRS will tag a corporation as a "Personal Holding Company" and assess a surcharge of 39.6% on undistributed earnings in cases where more than 60% of the corporation's income is derived from "passive" sources such as dividends, interest and rental income. The IRS applies a designation of "Personal Services Corporation", assessing all income at a flat rate of 35%, in cases where a C corporation is engaged in the performance of personal services (consulting-type work) and where such services are performed by employee-owners. Yet another IRS designation is that of "Controlled Group", based on complicated rules for determining allowable cross-ownership of corporations, whereby the IRS seeks to lump all of the income into a single, consolidated return—resulting in the highest possible tax rate, of course.

Each of these designations is based on the corporation's OWNERSHIP. How very fortunate, then, that ownership of Nevada corporations is statutorily permitted to be very PRIVATE: It is not a matter of public record, only of the protected (by *NRS 78.257*) internal records of the corporation.

To be considered a "Personal Holding Company" a corporation must be owned by five or fewer stockholders. It is totally permissible for a corporation to earn 100% of its income from passive sources, as long as it is owned by six or more stockholders. It is similarly easy to avoid the designation of "Personal Services Corporation": Don't own the stock! "Controlled Group" status is also very easily avoided with Nevada corporations: Simply ensure that no entity owns 80% or more of any other entity and that in brother-sister corporate relationships there are six or more stockholders. As no liability is attached to stock ownership, surely you could find a trustworthy friend or six who wouldn't mind holding stock in the corporation? If not, give us a call—we know of hundreds of corporations in similar circumstances.

With regard to "Controlled Group" status, the IRS has from time to time invoked *Section 482* of the *Infernal Revenue Code*, which lumps together income from corporations if they APPEAR to act out of a unity of interest. To our knowledge, however, even this blanketing regulation is relatively easily overcome, as long as the corporations act in their own, separate, well-documented self-interest.

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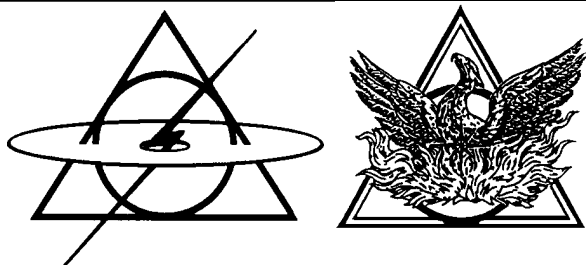
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WORDS OF WISDOM FROM HATONN

CONTACT OR SPECTRUM?

I want to briefly respond to a most unusual question from a totally "out of the blue" person: "It appears *Spectrum* will fail, possibly close, so will you go back to writing for *CONTACT* or what?"

I have never stopped writing for *CONTACT*—but I have NOT written, nor have my compatriots written for *Spectrum*. Tails wag a lot of dogs, my friends. Therefore, "or what" has no meaning.

January 6, 2001