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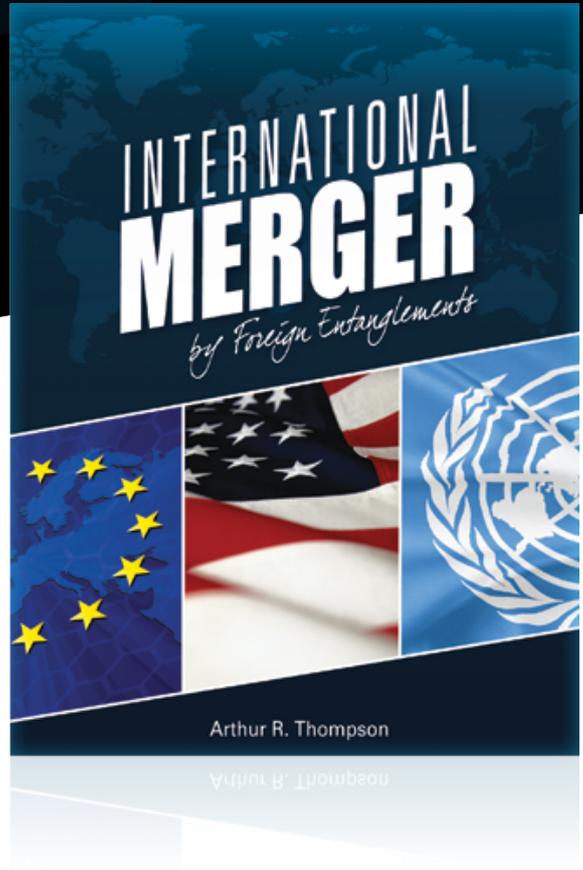
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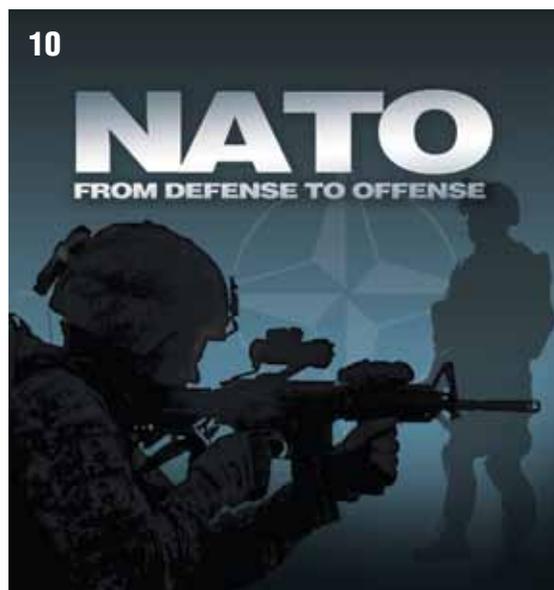
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America's Caesar

Jack Kenny's review of Mark Perry's book *The Most Dangerous Man in America* (September 8 issue) gave some perspectives of "America's Caesar" Douglas MacArthur and his relations with FDR and Truman, of which I was not aware.

I was there in Leyte Gulf on October 20, 1944 when he waded ashore and broadcast, "People of the Philippines, I have returned," ignoring the fact that there were hundreds of ships and thousands of sailors offshore that made his "return" possible. What you need to know about "Dug-out Doug" and FDR is he was in the Philippines because that was as far from Washington, D.C., as FDR could possibly send him.

General MacArthur had very little appreciation for air power until late 1942 when General George C. Kenney became his air force commander and demonstrated to him what a properly used air force could do.

At the time of Pearl Harbor, MacArthur "knew" aircraft could not sink battleships, just as FDR did. Eight hours after the Pearl Harbor attack, MacArthur's Philippine air force was destroyed on the ground. Being more culpable than General Short and Admiral Kimmel in Hawaii, he should have been court-martialed for allowing that to happen.

My old friend, the late Kemp Tolley, was born in Manilla while his father, an Army officer, was serving under General Arthur MacArthur — Douglas' father. He hated Douglas MacArthur and remembered him as the school bully in the American Military School he attended there.

Do not forget that General Douglas MacArthur served on the court-martial board that "convicted" General William "Billy" Mitchell — called the Father of the United States Air Force — of insubordination for pointing out Navy and War Department "incompetence and criminal negligence."

FRANK B. TURBERVILLE, JR.
Ex-CPO USNR 7th Fleet WWII
Milton, North Carolina

Gimpy Claims

Regarding your article "Harming the Disabled and the Budget With 'Kindness'" (September 22 issue) on the Social Security Administration's administrative law judges, I worked for Social Security for 13 years

as a claims representative, mainly dealing with SSI recipients and people filing for SSI disability payments. I would interview 40 or 50 people before encountering even one who showed any obvious sign of disability, like being in a wheelchair or even limping slightly. In case after case, the medical examiners could find either no impairment or only minor health problems, and the claims would be denied. Applicants would then file a request for reconsideration, and this would be denied as well. They would then file for a hearing, and almost always would be granted disability payments. Bear in mind also that many of these people were resident aliens and/or ex-convicts with long criminal records.

In one case, two Gypsy women came in, claiming to be mother and daughter. In a standard performance we had seen before, one did all the talking while the other was silent and acted as if she could barely walk or even sit in a chair. A few days later, the same pair came in again, and this time, reversed their roles — the talker was now the "vegetable," and vice versa. Of course, we cross-referenced their files, clearly verifying that this was an obvious scam. The claims were denied, as were their requests for reconsideration. Medical examiners could find no evidence of any impairment in either woman.

They filed for hearings, and, as usual, the law judge granted them a free ride at the taxpayers' expense.

WILLIAM B. STOECKER
Sent via e-mail

Another Impeachable Offense

Barry Soetero (a.k.a. Barack Obama) does not have the authority to change the law on immigration. All national laws must properly originate in the Congress.

So if he takes action on the issue that he is promising after the mid-term election in November, that will be a violation of the Constitution, and his executive order would thus be null and void (another impeachable offense).

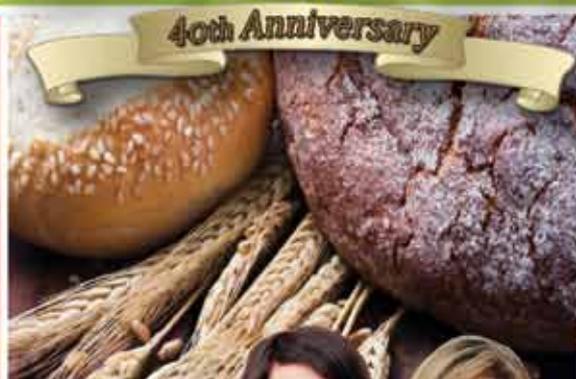
Where is Congress with their oversight and protection of vital checks and balances in our federal government?

JIM GREEN
Heber City, Utah

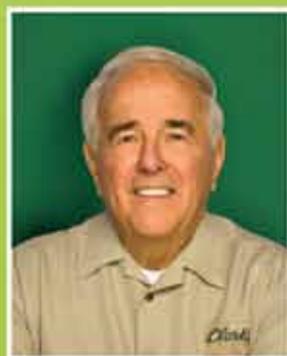
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Government Plan to Stop School Shootings: Monitor Homeschoolers

A government advisory commission assembled in the wake of the tragic Sandy Hook shooting has issued a proposal for preventing similar events: monitor certain homeschoolers.

The Sandy Hook Advisory Commission (SHAC), consisting of 16 educators, local and state officials, and “behavioral experts,” was created 18 months ago by Connecticut Governor Dannel Malloy after 20-year-old Adam Lanza committed the Connecticut mass shooting that transfixed the nation in December 2012. The commission is targeting homeschooling apparently because Lanza’s mother removed him from the government school system in 10th grade and taught him at home for one and a half years.

The SHAC’s “chief recommendation” — which is for “tighter scrutiny of homeschoolers” — would only apply to home-educated students labeled with “emotional, social, or behavioral

problems.” But observers worry this will be used as a pretext for gratuitous state intrusion into homeschooling families, as those with “problem” children “would have to file progress reports prepared by [government] special education program teams,” reported CTPost.com on September 23. Of special concern is the matter of who will determine what constitutes “emotional, social, or behavioral problems.”

This is especially relevant since anti-homeschooling forces have spread the notion that the practice stunts emotional, social, and behavioral development. For example, as Michael F. Haverluck reported at CBN News in 2007, “92 percent of [school] superintendents believe that home learners are emotionally unstable, deprived of proper social development and too judgmental of the world around them, according to a California study by researcher Dr. Brian Ray.”

Given the clash of the homeschooling and government-schooling worldviews, each of which considers the other abnormal, there’s good reason to fear that homeschooler status alone may often be enough to get one labeled “disordered.” After all, the two views disagree profoundly on what constitutes proper “socialization.” While homeschoolers are often believing Christians who seek to instill godly virtues in their children, “Education researcher Dr. Michael Mitchell found that being popular, aggressively competitive, materialistically driven and self-confident are traits promoted in conventional schools,” wrote Haverluck.



U.S. Immigrant Population Hits Record 41.3 Million

Data released recently by the U.S. Census Bureau from its American Community Survey (ACS) indicates that the nation’s immigrant population (legal and illegal) grew by 1.4 million from July 2010 to July 2013. This three-year growth brought the U.S. immigrant population to a record 41.3 million in July 2013. These figures were noted by the Center for Immigration Studies (CIS) in its report released in late September.

The 41.3 million immigrants amounted to double the immigrant population in 1990, almost triple the number reported in 1980, and more than quadruple the number in 1970, when it was 9.6 million.

Having reached these levels in 2013, immigrants (both legal and illegal) comprised 13.1 percent of the U.S. population, which is the highest percentage in 93 years. As recently as 1980, immigrants made up only 6.2 percent of population.

As might be expected, Mexicans comprised the largest immigrant group in the United States, with 11.6 million legal and illegal Mexican immigrants living in the United States in 2013. However, the number of Mexican immigrants in the United States declined one percent between 2010 and 2013.

However, despite the large amount of publicity regarding the surge of immigrants (including many unaccompanied children) from Central America, it is perhaps surprising to learn that the report shows the greatest number of immigrants come not from Latin America, but elsewhere. “The new data make clear that

while Latin America and the Caribbean are still a significant source of immigration, the growth is being driven in large part by immigration from Asia, the Middle East, and Africa,” said Steven Camarota, director of research at CIS and lead author of the report.

Most Americans are legitimately concerned about the massive rise in illegal immigration, which indicates a failure of our federal government to secure our borders and enforce our immigration laws. However, some may also worry that there is a limit to how many legal immigrants our country is capable of absorbing without suffering economic, political, and cultural consequences. The only type of “immigration reform” that will stem the tide is enforcement of our present immigration laws.



Iceland's Volcanic Pollution Dwarfs All of Europe's Human Emissions

“The sulfur dioxide (SO₂) emitted from the Holuhraun eruption has reached up to 60,000 tons per day and averaged close to 20,000 tons [per day] since it began,” notes Pall Stefanson in a September 25 report for Iceland Review Online. “For comparison, all the SO₂ pollution in Europe, from industries, energy production, traffic and house heating, etc., amounts to 14,000 tons per day.”

And the Holuhraun eruption, which began in late August, is but one of many active volcanic eruptions that Iceland has been experiencing lately. A few miles away, Iceland's Bardarbunga vol-

cano is also causing concern. A September 12 report for Iceland Review Online noted that SO₂ from the eruption was four times the previous record and that residents were complaining of sore throats, stinging eyes, and headaches from the sulfur pollution.

A report by the (U.K.) *Express* speculated that a major Bardarbunga eruption could bring on a mini ice age. “Icelandic volcano could trigger Britain's coldest winter EVER this year,” ran the *Express* headline for August 24, while the subtitle warned: “BRITAIN could freeze in YEARS of super-cold winters and miserable summers if the Bardarbunga volcano erupts, experts have warned.”

The newspaper's sensationalizing aside, Iceland's volcanic activity might serve to draw attention to the natural variables that dwarf the human impact on climate. Australian scientist Ian Plimer — geologist and volcano expert, professor of geology at the University of Adelaide, and professor emeritus of earth sciences at the University of Melbourne — noted in a 2011 video lecture at the University of Adelaide that the more than 10,000 earthquakes that occur each year release massive amounts of CO₂ that has been sequestered in various mineral formations. CO₂ is but one of many variables that affect the climate, and its effect is very slight, in comparison to many other factors. Moreover, man's contribution of CO₂, SO₂, and other greenhouse gases is relatively minor when compared to the contributions from natural sources.



AP Images

UN Approves Obama-sponsored “Terrorism” Regime

Under the guise of fighting “terrorism,” a controversial proposal by the Obama administration to create a new international travel regime controlling who can go where, and when, was adopted unanimously by the United Nations Security Council on September 24. Among other elements, the new UN regime purports to force national governments and dictators to adopt laws prohibiting travel abroad by anyone “suspected” of links to “terror,” which the UN has no definition for. In addition to boosting the UN's role in allegedly fighting nebulous notions of “terrorism” and “extremism,” the measure will also further empower the global outfit's fledgling self-styled “law enforcement” agency known as Interpol. While Obama and the UN claim their new regime is “binding” on humanity, it will not be presented to the U.S. Senate for the constitutionally required advice and consent needed for treaties.

The irony of Obama pushing a new UN regime ostensibly aimed at combating “terrorism” by Islamists, even while his administration is now openly supporting jihadist groups in Syria, did not go unnoticed. Indeed, the Obama administration and its “allies” in the supposed fight against the Islamic State (ISIS or ISIL) have been crucial to the emergence of the terror networks currently wreaking havoc across Syria, Iraq, Libya, and other nations in the region.

But the text of the resolution appears to state that Islamic ter-

rorists are not the focus. “Terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality or civilization,” reads the Security Council Resolution on Foreign Terrorist Fighters, also known as Resolution 2178. The Obama administration has also repeatedly pushed that mantra, making it perfectly clear whom the White House views as “potential terrorists” in government reports: everyday Americans with mainstream political views.

If the American people hope to remain free and independent, getting the U.S. government to defund and withdraw from the UN is crucial. Legislation in Congress right now, H.R. 75, would do precisely that. With the global outfit widely described as the “dictators' club” increasingly taking aim at the United States and its Constitution, the time to “Get U.S. Out” of the UN is now. ■



Grandstanding With an Offensive Statement

“Civilization as we know it today would be in jeopardy if Republicans win the Senate.”

Interviewed on the Real Time With Bill Maher TV program, leading Democrat Nancy Pelosi shocked her Democrat-favoring host with her over-the-top remark.



Nancy Pelosi

AP Images

She Says Her Country Embarrasses Her Because of Failure to Ratify the Radical United Nations CEDAW Treaty

“It’s embarrassing, I mean, really, it’s embarrassing.”

Speaking before a room full of international feminists and abortion advocates at the headquarters of the Ford Foundation in New York, potential presidential candidate Hillary Clinton did a superb job of embarrassing herself.

Military Equipment Supplied by the United States Has Fallen Into the Hands of ISIS Forces

“This is an American tank now in the possession of ISIS. This is a Humvee going to a parade. Now we want to arm Syrian rebels. Let’s see how that worked in the past.”

Showing large photos of U.S. equipment now in the hands of the Islamic militants, Congressman Ted Poe (R-Texas) noted that thousands of U.S.-made weapons given to Iraqi government forces are now being employed by ISIS revolutionaries.



AP Images

James Comey

FBI Says Some Americans Are Indeed Participating in ISIS Military Actions

“The figure I’ve been operating with is, ballparkish, a dozen still there fighting with the terrorist groups.”

FBI Director James Comey also claimed that more than 100 Americans have tried to go to Syria and were apprehended, or went there and returned of their own accord.

Federal Court OKs Wisconsin’s Photo Identification Voter Law

“It will be challenging, but I’m confident that for the vast majority of voters, this will not be an issue.”

The director of Wisconsin’s Government Accountability Board that oversees elections, Kevin J. Kennedy believes that the 2011 law requiring the showing of photo IDs in order to vote will not be a burden for election officials. The law has survived numerous challenges for three years and will be enforced in the 2014 elections.

Colorado Students Protest Being Encouraged to Be Patriotic

“The school board is insane. You can’t erase our history. It’s not patriotic. It’s stupid.”

A conservative school board in Arvada, Colorado, proposed promotion of patriotism, respect for authority, free enterprise, and the downplaying of educational materials that condone civil disorder.

Hundreds of students protested along with some parents and teachers. Griffin Guttormsson, a junior at Arvada High School, hopes to become a teacher and was especially outraged at the school board’s proposal.

It Would Have Been Better If Jeb Bush Never Went to North Carolina

“You should have made it clear that amnesty shouldn’t be on the table. [And] I’m not willing to settle just for a national standard if we think we can find things to set a new standard and the best practice.”

Aiming a comeback at the former Florida governor who was there to endorse him, U.S. Senate candidate Thom Tillis, a Republican, wasn’t helped when Jeb Bush spoke favorably about immigration overhaul and Common Core standards. Tillis, whose stand on those issues is at odds with what Bush had to say, faces incumbent Democrat Kay Hagan in the upcoming election. ■



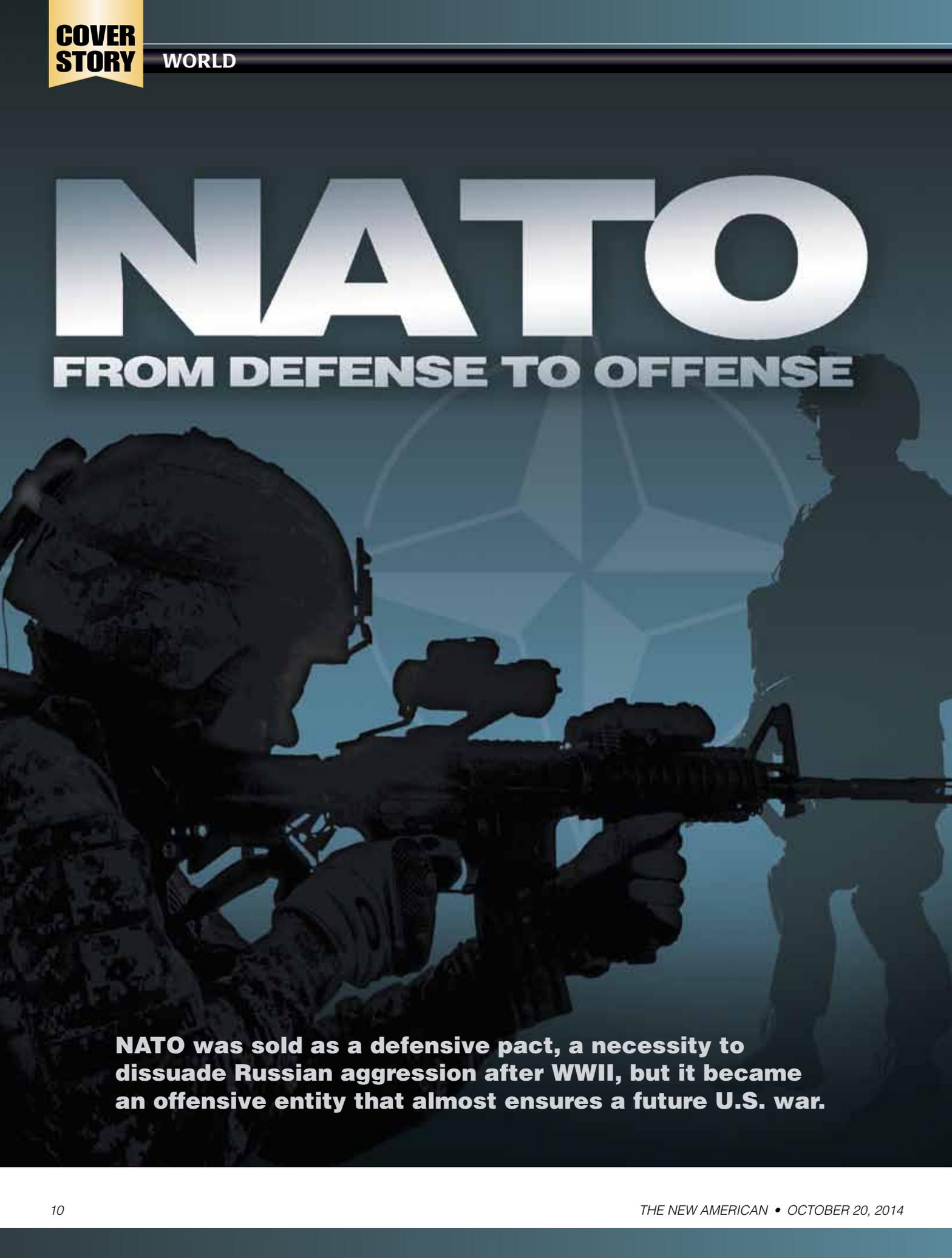
Thom Tillis

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NATO

FROM DEFENSE TO OFFENSE



NATO was sold as a defensive pact, a necessity to dissuade Russian aggression after WWII, but it became an offensive entity that almost ensures a future U.S. war.

by Jack Kenny

All America and much of the world had already heard President Barack Obama's pledge to not send U.S. combat units back into Iraq where up to 160,000 U.S. troops were engaged in combat during the Iraq War of 2003-2011. But to be sure we got the message, he said it again in his September 10 address to the nation on how he plans to deal with the jihadists known as the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria. While announcing the dispatch of an additional 475 U.S. military personnel to Iraq — bringing the total to about 1,600, the president emphasized his pledge.

"As I have said before, these American forces will not have a combat mission — we will not get dragged into another ground war in Iraq," he said. "But they are needed to support Iraqi and Kurdish forces with training, intelligence and equipment."

But during the debate that followed over whether the effort to, in the president's words, "degrade and ultimately destroy" the Islamic State can succeed without U.S. ground forces, what went largely overlooked was Obama's plan to commit American "boots on the ground" elsewhere. American troops will soon be in Estonia. And Latvia. And Lithuania. In a speech that received considerably less attention, Obama, in the Estonian capital Tallinn on September 3, spoke of plans for a new NATO readiness force to facilitate potential military interventions in the Baltic nations.

"Here in the Baltics, it would mean positioning more American equipment so it's ready if needed," Obama said. "It would mean more training and exercises between our militaries. And it would mean more U.S. forces — including American boots on the ground — continuously rotating through Estonia and Latvia and Lithuania."

Those independent states, formerly part of the Soviet Union, are now among the 28 member states of NATO, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization that began in 1949 with 12 member nations for the purpose of defending non-communist Europe against Soviet aggression. While political talk of America's many commitments around the globe often include mention of "mission creep," the United States and NATO went

According to the treaty commitment the president described so clearly, we will be there if need be for each and every one of our 24 other NATO partners we are pledged to defend.

on a mission gallop when the former satellite states of the Soviet Union were freed from ties to Moscow in the 1990s. What that means in terms of America's far-flung military commitments and war guarantees was spelled out clearly and emphatically by the U.S. president in his September 3 address in Tallinn, when he spoke of the crucial Article 5 of the NATO pact:

And I say to the people of Estonia and the people of the Baltics, today we are bound by our treaty Alliance. We have a solemn duty to each other. Article 5 is crystal clear: An attack on one is an attack on all. So if, in such a moment, you ever ask again, "who will come to help," you'll know the answer — the NATO Alliance, including the Armed Forces of the United States of America, "right here, [at] present, now!" We'll

be here for Estonia. We will be here for Latvia. We will be here for Lithuania. You lost your independence once before. With NATO, you will never lose it again.

And according to the treaty commitment the president described so clearly, we will be there if need be for each and every one of our 24 other NATO partners we are pledged to defend. It is seldom the topic of *New York Times* editorials or Sunday morning talk shows, so even reasonably well-informed Americans might not be aware that their sons and daughters may be called upon to die on battlefields in countries whose very existence might remain unknown to us until some real or artificially created crisis propels one or more of them onto the front pages of our daily newspapers and the lead stories on nightly newscasts. If President Obama, Vice President



Pushing comes to shoving: The Obama administration won't send troops to defend Ukraine from Russian incursions, as we did not send them to Georgia, because we don't want to fight Russia, yet we keep trying to add members to NATO in places where Russia might become involved.



AP Images

Moving and morphing: NATO consists of countries that have agreed to defend each other — they'll all fight when one is attacked. It was meant to defend the West from Soviet aggression, but now it has become an aggressor in Afghanistan and around the world, supposedly attacking terrorists.

Biden, and congressional war hawks such as John McCain have their way, NATO and its mutual defense commitments will be extended even further to take in still more members, including Ukraine, where a Russian separatist movement supported by Moscow has brought on U.S. and European economic sanctions against Russia, and the former Russian province of Georgia, where Russian and Georgian troops clashed over the status of South Ossetia in 2008. NATO plans for troop movements in Eastern Europe and the Balkans have already prompted Russian president Vladimir Putin to announce plans for development of a new generation of nuclear weapons to counter what he sees as a Western threat. Further NATO expansion could have American soldiers and Marines committed to fight and die to defend South Ossetia and Abkhazia, two provinces of Georgia illegally occupied by Russian troops, according to a declaration passed unanimously by the U.S. Sen-

ate this summer before Congress left town for a five-week vacation. When the United States is not plunging into international gang wars as the world's policeman, it is issuing citations as the planet's traffic cop.

“Worse Than Original Sin”

“I don't care if entangling alliances have been considered worse than original sin since George Washington's time,” John D. Hickerson, State Department director of European affairs, told his colleague, Theodore C. Achilles. “We've got to have a peacetime military alliance with Western Europe. And we've got to get it ratified.”

It was New Year's Eve, 1947, and much of the world was still in the early stages of recovery from the devastating effects of two world wars waged within a span of scarcely more than 30 years. Woodrow Wilson's League of Nations, created after World War I, failed, and much of the blame was attributed to the refusal of the

U.S. Senate to ratify the treaty and bring the United States, an emerging postwar power, into the world body. Franklin Roosevelt, who had served in the Wilson administration as assistant secretary of the Navy, was determined to succeed where his mentor had failed, and at the end of World War II, the United Nations won the approval of even alleged “diehard isolationists” in the Senate such as Robert Taft of Ohio and Arthur Vandenberg of Michigan. Vandenberg, in fact, played a key role in the creation of the new world organization he believed would eliminate the need for the type of competing military alliances that can turn regional conflicts into world wars. But the Soviet Union, a Western ally in the war against Hitler's Germany, moved quickly at war's end to consolidate its territorial gains in the war, bringing the Eastern European states of Poland, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia to join the Baltic states in the Soviet orbit. Fear of Soviet expansionism and aggression sparked a desire in the West for a defensive alliance to keep the Russian bear at bay. For American conservatives, the postwar arrangements for collective security pitted their anti-communist convictions against the long-held tradition of avoiding those “entangling alliances” that Hickerson had described dismissively as “worse than original sin.” It is a conflict with a history older than the nation itself.

Early inhabitants of the shining “city on a hill” in the New World treasured the isolation from the corrupt and perpetually warring governments of Europe. As the rivalry between England and France spread to the American colonies, the colonists appreciated the British war against the French in North America in the 1760s but were reluctant to pay taxes or supply troops to support the war. Ironically, the republic would heed Washington's and Jefferson's warnings against “entangling alliances” for its first century and a half, though the nation gained its independence with the help of an alliance with France against England. The Treaty of 1778 provided the colonists, deprived of their commercial ties with Britain, with new markets as well as a crucial military ally in France. France's bloody revolution of 1789 and the wars that followed cooled America's friendship with France and led to the Neutrality Acts of 1793 and 1794

NATO plans for troop movements in Eastern Europe and the Balkans have already prompted Russian president Vladimir Putin to announce plans for development of a new generation of nuclear weapons.

that kept the new American nation out of the war between France and England. The treaty with France was formally ended with the Convention of 1800. It would be nearly 150 years before the United States entered another treaty of military alliance with any of the nations of Europe.

Taft's Warning

In early 1948, a communist coup in Prague, as well as Soviet pressure on Norway to sign a non-aggression treaty with the communist bloc and the possibility of a communist victory in Italy's election, combined to heighten fears of Soviet expansion in a war-weakened Europe. Communist influence in France was yet another cause of anxiety among leaders of the Western nations, mindful as they were of British Field Marshal Bernard Montgomery's observation that all that kept the Soviet Union and its army of 25 million from marching to the English Channel was an inadequate supply of shoes. With encouragement from the U.S. State Department, Britain and France, along with Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg, signed a 50-year mutual defense treaty that promised an integration of their forces and a guarantee that an attack against one would be an attack against all. The Brussels-based alliance sought the added membership of the United States, which had emerged from the war as the world's foremost industrial and military power and had already become involved in the economic recovery and security of Western Europe with the Marshall Plan.

The ink was hardly dry on the Brussels pact when conversations about a North Atlantic security alliance were held with British and Canadian representatives at the Pentagon. The United States did not immediately join the Western union, however, due to internal political concerns. The country was climbing down from the extraordinary and unprecedented military buildup for World War II. There were concerns that the alliance would drain scarce resources from President Truman's shrinking military budget. Traditional non-interventionists such as Senator Vandenberg, by then actively involved in the United Nations, feared the new alliance would undermine the UN's mission. And there was Senator Robert A. Taft, the Senate majority leader, "Mr. Republican" and

a determined foe of efforts to draw the United States into Europe's wars.

Taft was also strongly anti-communist, however, and supported the concept of letting the Kremlin know that if Russia attacked Western Europe, "the United States would be in the war." But the NATO treaty when presented to the U.S. Senate in 1949 went beyond that, Taft argued. He compared it unfavorably to the Monroe Doctrine, proclaimed in the early days of the Republic, which served notice to European nations to stay out of conflicts in the Western Hemisphere.

"Under the Monroe Doctrine we could change our policy at any time," Taft said in explaining his vote against the NATO alliance. "We could judge whether perhaps one of the countries had given cause for the attack. Only Congress could declare a war in pursuance of the doctrine." The North Atlantic pact, on the other hand, "obligates us to go to war if at any time during the next 20 years anyone makes an armed attack on any of the 12 nations." What's more, under cover of the treaty obligation, "the President can take us into war without Congress." Arming all the member nations against the Soviet Union went beyond deterrence to provocation, Taft said. "It thus becomes an offensive and defensive mili-

tary alliance against Russia. I believe our foreign policy should be aimed primarily at security and peace, and I believe such an alliance is more likely to produce war than peace." The Russians, who came out of the Second World War with the world's largest army, might decide that war "might" better occur now rather than after the arming of Europe is completed," Taft warned. Arming nations on Russia's border would be especially provocative the Ohioan said, backing up that point with a question that might well be pondered by those now in Congress who are eager to send arms to Ukraine:

"How would we feel if Russia undertook to arm a country on our border; Mexico, for instance?"

Bankruptcy for "Security"?

Taft also raised an economic objection to NATO that is even more relevant today than it was in 1949. "Furthermore, can we afford this new project of foreign assistance?" he asked. "I think I am as much against Communist aggression as anyone, both at home and abroad; certainly more than a State Department which has let the Communists overrun all of China.... But we can't let them scare us into bankruptcy and the surrender of all liberty, or let them determine our foreign policies."



UN-NATO ties: UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon (right) meets with the Secretary-General of NATO, Anders Fogh Rasmussen, in September of 2013 at UN headquarters. NATO is a regional organization operating under the United Nations Charter.

For American conservatives, the postwar arrangements for collective security pitted their anti-communist convictions against the long-held tradition of avoiding those “entangling alliances.”

Taft’s objections to fiscal profligacy should be embarrassing to today’s solons, most of whom went to Congress claiming to be fiscal conservatives. “We are already spending \$15,000,000,000 on our armed forces and have the most powerful Air Force in the world and the only atomic bomb,” Taft said. “We are spending \$7,000,000,000 a year on economic aid to build up those countries to a condition of prosperity where communism cannot make internal progress. Shall we start another project whose cost is incalculable, at the very time when we have a deficit of 1,800,000,000 dollars and a prospective deficit of three to five billion? The one essential defense against communism is to keep this country financially and economically sound. If the President is unwilling to recommend more taxes for fear of creating a depression, then we must have reached the limit of our taxpaying ability and we ought not to start a new and unnecessary building project.”

Even allowing for inflation, which

Washington does all the time, the numbers cited by Taft as cause for concern about rising deficits are dwarfed by annual deficits of several hundreds of billions of dollars — indeed, in one recent year one *trillion dollars* — that are accepted as routine by Washington’s politicians and pundits who typically deplore the more than \$17 trillion national debt in one breath and cry in the next that the nation is not spending nearly enough for “defense.”

Today, when the European Union has a larger population and a greater Gross Domestic Product than the United States, the majority of NATO’s military spending is still being done by Washington. According to an August 29, 2014 report in the *Wall Street Journal*, “The U.S. accounts for about 73% of the roughly \$1 trillion in total military spending by NATO countries each year.” That’s about \$730 billion

Weight on our shoulders: Though the United States — the most militarily powerful member of NATO — has drastically cut back the number of planes and troops in Europe, it has been speculated that without U.S. cargo planes, Europe’s militaries couldn’t even function in war.

the United States is paying for the defense of 27 other nations as well as our own. Washington is citing the alleged “renewed threat from Russia” in its efforts to pressure member nations to increase their military “preparedness.”

“If a nation relies on the alliance as a bit of a whole-life insurance policy for security, you have to pay the premiums of that life insurance,” Douglas Lute, U.S. ambassador to NATO, told the *Journal*. But nations that have been relying for nearly 70 years on America’s armed forces and nuclear umbrella to shield them from danger are reluctant to pony up now.

Decade Without End

The treaty passed with bipartisan support, and for the next several decades, Taft’s worst fears did not come true. The United States did not go to war with Russia. But NATO’s size and mission have grown considerably and may still be growing. The 12 nations originally in the pact — Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, the United Kingdom, and the United States — became 14 in 1952 when Greece and Turkey joined.



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“Humanitarian intervention”: In 1999, NATO bombed Yugoslavia to aid Albanians. In the process, thousands of Serb civilians were killed and thousands of homes, schools, libraries, and hospitals were damaged or destroyed. NATO took sides in a regional conflict where both sides committed atrocities.

Germany joined in 1955. U.S. nuclear missiles near the Russian border in Turkey were regarded as a provocation by Moscow and their secret removal was part of the agreement that ended the crisis over missiles in Cuba in 1962. Spain joined NATO in 1982. Hungary, the Czech Republic, and Poland were added to the NATO roster in 1999 and nine more Eastern European countries were added by 2009, bringing the alliance to its current membership of 28 nations.

Despite military budget constraints, the United States not only provided arms for its NATO allies but began the post-World War II practice of stationing U.S. armed forces in NATO countries, a security arrangement widely believed to be temporary until our European allies were sufficiently recovered from the war to provide for their own defense. That, apparently, was the way general of the Army and future president Dwight D. Eisenhower saw it. Upon taking command of NATO in 1951, Eisenhower said, “If in ten years, all American troops stationed in Europe for national defense purposes have not been returned to the United States, then this whole project will have failed.”

Recalling that prediction, Pat Buchanan wrote in his 1999 book, *A Republic Not an Empire*, “True to his word, in 1961, Ike

urged John F. Kennedy to begin bringing the troops home.” But if actions speak louder than words, Eisenhower, who did not leave office until January 1961, might have begun bringing some of the troops home himself. “True to his word,” Ike urged the next guy to do it, just as he saved his warning about the military-industrial complex, as important as it was, for his farewell address.

NATO and the New World Order

It is, of course, possible Eisenhower did not at all mean what he said in 1951, but merely intended to allay the fears of Americans concerned with the prospect of the United States defending much of the world in perpetuity. Either way, NATO has, in fact, become as permanent a part of the geopolitical scene as the United Nations and is, in fact, a significant pillar of the UN. Indeed, the NATO treaty had references in almost every one of its articles to Article 53 of the UN Charter, which recognizes the right of nations to form regional defense coalitions. As James Perloff documented in *The Shadows of Power*, the influential Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) saw NATO as a needed first step toward achieving its long-term goal of a one-world government. In 1948, the year the Treaty of

Brussels was inked and one year prior to the signing of the NATO treaty, the CFR publication *Foreign Affairs* pointed out that a “regional organization of nations, formed to operate within the framework of the United Nations, can only strengthen that organization.” Shortly after the NATO treaty was ratified by the U.S. Senate, CFR member Elmo Roper wrote in a pamphlet entitled *The Goal Is Government of All the World*:

But the Atlantic Pact (NATO) need not be our last effort toward greater unity. It can be converted into one more sound and important step working for world peace. It can be one of the most positive moves in the direction of One World.

In short, Perloff observed, NATO was seen as a “halfway house” on the road to a new world order, in which the independence of once-sovereign nations would be, if not eliminated altogether, made subordinate to the dictates of international organizations with a monopoly on military power for “peacekeeping” purposes.

On the Offensive

Before President Clinton committed U.S. troops to a peacekeeping mission in Bosnia, he sent American pilots on a NATO bombing campaign against Serb targets in both Serbia and Kosovo in 1999 to stop a campaign of “ethnic cleansing” in Kosovo during the war that had broken out in the former Yugoslavia. The deaths of thousands, including an estimated 1,600 civilians, were attributed to the aerial assaults that went on for the better part of three months without authorization of Congress, verifying the warning Robert Taft issued half a century earlier. In fact, the House of Representatives voted three times against the intervention, but Clinton proceeded with it anyway in violation of both the U.S. Constitution and the War Powers Act of 1973. The 8,000 U.S. troops sent to Bosnia under the auspices of the United Nations were bearing arms in a land where Americans had never fought before and where no American interests were at stake. The warring factions were not NATO members, nor had they attacked or threatened NATO members. The action went far beyond the mis-



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Flags of fidelity: Though the United States provides the bulk of funding and expertise for NATO, U.S. soldiers not only fight alongside soldiers of other nations, they fight under the direction of officers of other nations.

sion of the supposedly defensive alliance. Madeleine Albright, Clinton's Secretary of State, declared NATO must extend its reach as a "force for peace from the Middle East to Central Africa."

President Obama showed a similar disregard for the Constitution and the defensive mission of the alliance in 2011 when he committed U.S. bombers to a months-long aerial assault on targets in Libya to rescue insurgent fighters in Benghazi and bring about the overthrow of the government led by Moammar Gadhafi. The result has been further chaos and bloodshed throughout Libya, the freeing up of jihadists to carry their war into Syria and Iraq, and the September 2012 assault by rebel forces on the U.S. outpost in Benghazi, killing the U.S. ambassador and three other Americans.

France recently joined the U.S. bombing campaign against Islamic State targets in Iraq in an air war that President Obama has since extended into Syria to deny the terrorists a safe haven. Meanwhile, the Obama administration is seeking cooperation in the war against the Islamic terrorists from Russia, even as the United States and the European Union ramp up economic sanctions against that same nation for supporting

the armed pro-Russian separatist movement in Ukraine — despite the fact that the U.S. State Department encouraged the February 2014 coup that drove out the Russian-friendly government of Viktor Yanukovich, to be replaced by the pro-Europe administration of Petro Poroshenko. After Russian troops moved into Crimea and the movement there to separate from Ukraine and join Russia was approved by a Crimean plebiscite and a vote of the Crimean parliament, the United States and European nations imposed financial sanctions and a travel ban on Russian authorities, despite the fact that Crimea had been a part of Russia going back to the 18th century.

Meanwhile, the United States and NATO continue to hold joint military exercises with Ukraine, which Russians might regard as a provocation, much as we might view Russian naval exercises off the coast of Puerto Rico, were they to occur. In 1963, John F. Kennedy told West Berliners, surrounded by a communist regime, that all free men were citizens

of Berlin. But Senator John McCain tried to stretch the doctrine of collective security to the point of absurdity during his ill-fated campaign for president in 2008. After Russia clashed with Georgia that summer over the status of South Ossetia, McCain had a message for Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili: "I know I speak for every American when I say to him today, we are all Georgians."

He didn't ask us, and one might guess the number of Americans who aspire to be Georgians in the sense that McCain meant it are few in number. In this still free and still independent country, the only Americans who call themselves Georgians hail from somewhere between Alabama and South Carolina. They, like most of us, prefer to remain Americans, regardless of the grand imperial vision of Senator John McCain and other war hawks of the new world order. ■



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Why Liberals Will Not Stop Destroying Civilization

Liberalism is not an ideology, rather it is a process of continual change, so it does not seek an idealized vision of the world. It seeks only to undo social norms, to our detriment.

by Selwyn Duke

If a person became convinced that there were no such things as the laws of human health and nutrition, the consequences would be far greater than just Dr. Oz being out of a job. Without such guidance for determining diet, the person would have no yardstick for deciding what to put in his mouth other than taste. Operating by the credo “If it seems good, eat it,” he’d likely gravitate toward junk food, whatever food happened to titillate the tongue at the moment. But moments change, and who knows where a palate ever seeking the next adventurous culinary thrill would lead? With the only limit on diet being that of human taste itself, sampling those colorful berries on that bush outside, or that fluid under the sink (as a little child might) may seem appealing. Whatever the case, having fallen victim to this culinary relativism, the person couldn’t even understand the link between caloric intake and obesity, or obesity and poor health. I mean, co-

pious consumption of cakes and confections may hurt you, but don’t impose your gastronomic values on me, hater.

Of course, such an approach could very well yield constant degradation of the body, but the process wouldn’t go on forever. Death would bring it to an end.

Being Compromised by Compromise

Many will say that for our government to work, “both sides” must compromise. Others, however, have noticed something: If our political “compromises” were written contracts, they wouldn’t be worth the paper they were printed on. If they became the doctrines of a church, she would be Our Lady of Perpetual Change. That is to say, we may talk (and complain) about liberal ideology, but is there such a thing, really?

Just consider our societal evolution — or, as some would say, devolution — during the last several decades. First, equality meant giving women and minorities equal treatment under the law, and then it meant giving them preferential treatment under it. One moment it meant equality of oppor-

tunity, and the next equality of outcome. At one time it meant that people of different races may marry, and then at another that people of the same sex may “marry.” Tolerance meant at one moment that Christianity must be purged from schools so that no child may be offended, and then the next that children must be taught about Islam to ensure they won’t give offense. At one moment it means sodomy must be legalized, and at another that those preaching chastity must be chastised. At one moment it means homosexual behavior shouldn’t be called a sin, and in the next that it must be thought a sin to not accept homosexual behavior. It means at one moment that smut and obscenity must be allowed in the name of freedom of speech, and in another that politically incorrect dissent must be disallowed in the name of hate speech. Compassion means at one moment that the poor are given free food so their children will not die, and in another that they are given free abortions so they may kill their children.

And so it goes, as we compromise our

In reality, neither liberalism nor conservatism is a good example of an “ism,” defined as a particular “doctrine, theory, system, or practice,” because there is nothing all that particular about it.

way to being truly compromised. Just consider, for instance, the matter of our great sexual heresy, whose largest front is the homosexual movement. In the initial major push for legally recognized same-sex couplings, many conservatives figured, “Hey, why not be reasonable and offer ‘domestic partnerships’? That will surely satisfy ‘both sides’ and make this problem go away.” But that is not how it worked out, is it? The change agents kept pushing, and now faux marriage is recognized in 19 states, with 18 of them “getting with the times” in just the last six years, and 14 within the last two alone. And when the last 31 dominoes fall, it will all be over.

Actually, no, it won’t.

Contrary to assurances it would never happen, the door has now been opened further to polygamy, with a federal judge striking down part of Utah’s ban on the practice a little more than a month ago. Even more striking, efforts to legitimize pedophilia and bestiality are afoot, are getting mainstream-media coverage, and are co-opting the arguments and language of the homosexual movement. For instance, on January 14 of last year, the *Los Angeles Times* ran an article with the subtitle, “Pedophilia once was thought to stem from psychological influences early in life. Now, many experts view it as a deep-rooted predisposition that does not change.” (Emphasis in original.) The piece quotes one pedophile as saying that his urges are “as intrinsic as the next person’s heterosexuality.” Then there was the *New York Times* review of the 1993 film *For a Lost Soldier* — the true story of a WWII-era relationship between a Canadian serviceman and a 13-year-old boy — which called pederasty “the love that dare not speak its name.” As for bestiality, a 2009 article in the *Broward Palm Beach New Times* called it an “orientation,” quoted one “zoophile” who termed it “a lifestyle,” another who said “God is more concerned with how we treat others than what sex we have,” and wrote how a researcher concluded that

bestiality is “an orientation they were born with.” And you don’t have to convince the Danes of this, by the way; they already have “animal bordellos.”

And as the sexual boundaries widen, those of liberty narrow. Every real or perceived problem today is met with a new law as a supposed cure, one usually worse than the disease. And since most all laws are removals of freedom — and since the total number of laws progressively increases — we ever become progressively less free. That is the only kind of consistent “progressivism” we see in civilization. What is going on here?

Conservative Curve

“The business of Progressives is to go on making mistakes. The business of Conservatives is to prevent mistakes from being corrected.” — G.K. Chesterton

As illustrated above, liberalism’s goals aren’t consistent from time to time, but

neither are they consistent from place to place. Corresponding to this is that “conservatism” varies as well. A conservative in Sweden and elsewhere in much of Europe typically accepts homosexual behavior, abortion, nationalized healthcare, and a level of taxation and statism anathema to American conservatives. While a 1950s American conservative would be ardently anti-Marxist, a conservative living at the time in the USSR *was* a Marxist; the liberals in that empire were those who aimed to overthrow the Soviet state. And a conservative in Iran wants to maintain the theocratic Muslim state, while our conservatives are often accused by our liberals of being “Islamophobic.” So is one man’s conservative another man’s liberal?

The problem is that our popular political terminology has only provisional meaning, relating to nothing unchanging. “Conservative” and “liberal” correspond to “Right” and “Left,” which as they relate to politics originated with the French Revolution in 1789, with “rightists” supporting the monarchy and “leftists” advocating its overthrow and the creation of a republic (ergo, the leftists were republicans!). So “liberal” and “conservative” would seem to have no consistent definitions — except one.

A conservative generally wants to



Greasing the slippery slope: As predicted, legitimizing faux marriage has advanced the polygamy movement, with a recent court ruling in favor of the practice. And with efforts already afoot to normalize pedophilia and bestiality, where might that slope’s bottom be?

maintain the status quo, while a liberal wants to change it.

This explains why different times and places have conservatives and liberals so different: As the status quo changes, so will the natures of those two groups. Now, here some wearing the label “conservative” may protest, saying their principles are not negotiable. I don’t question this; you may be steadfast and consistent in your doctrine. The point is that “conservatism” is not. Agree or disagree with Catholicism, the fact is that it is something real and unchanging, governed by dogma propounded in official documents. And Marxism is something evil, but there is no doubt it’s something definite, as laid out in the *Communist Manifesto*. But just as you have your definition of conservatism — just as we have neo, paleo, fiscal, social, cultural, and who knows what other variations of it — a thousand points of lightness have theirs. “Conservatism” has neither a Magisterium nor even a widely recognized founding manifesto. It has only conventions, ones touted and flouted and ever changing with the winds of time.

In reality, neither liberalism nor conservatism is a good example of an “ism,” defined as a particular “doctrine, theory, system, or practice,” because there is nothing all that particular about it. Liberalism is not an ideology so much as it is a *process*, one by which continual, directionless change is effected; conservatism is not an ideology so much as it is a process, one by which that change is resisted. It’s as if liberalism is the locomotive and conservatism the caboose. The locomotive is at times more or less powerful, the caboose at times lighter or heavier, so the movement may be faster or slower, but it is only the rate that changes. As political theorist Russell Kirk put it, “Strictly speaking, conservatism is not a political system, but rather a way of looking at the civil order. The conservative of Peru ... will differ greatly from those of Australia, for though they may share a preference for things established, the institutions and customs which they desire to preserve are not identical.”

The Process of Change

“All conservatism is based upon the idea that if you leave things alone you leave them as they are. But you do not. If you leave a thing alone you leave it to a torrent of change.” — Chesterton



What's in a name? The earliest liberals considered easy abortion intolerable. To today's zealously pro-abortion liberals, however, they'd seem like conservatives — but not European conservatives, who also tend to accept abortion.

The theory of entropy states that, when left to itself, everything tends toward greater and greater disorder. For instance, if you have a car and leave it alone, it will start to deteriorate as time wears on; this is only prevented by routine maintenance. As the website Religiously Incorrect puts it, “Both the creating of complex order, and the maintaining of complex order, always require huge amounts of intelligently applied energy, energy that must be continually re-applied if complex order is to be maintained.” This pertains, of course, to civilization as well. As to this, conservatives don’t leave things completely alone; they do fight political battles, but they never apply enough energy, intelligently enough, to forestall negative change. This brings us to a phenomenon I call “compromising our way to destruction,” and here is how it works: Liberals come to the bargaining table asking for a change. Conservatives don’t like it, but, convinced that reasonable people “compromise” and subject to pressure from millions who feel likewise, they give the liberals a percentage of what they want. Now, some think that the amount of capitulation matters, but over the long term it means little if the liberals get 50 percent, 35, 15, or even just two percent of what they want during

any given negotiation. For they will come back one, three, or five years later, again and again, asking for more change, and the conservatives will again give them another two slices here or a few crumbs there. And the process will continue until the liberals have the whole loaf. Of course, insofar as a status quo is evil — slavery is a good example — liberal change agents can do some good. The problem is that continual opposition to the status quo guarantees that you will throw out the baby with the bathwater. And this is how you go from a commonly accepted and culturally enforced definition of marriage, to the Defense of Marriage Act (1996) and civil unions, to faux-marriage firestorms in just 25 years.

This is why our civilization continually gravitates toward what we call the “Left,” toward what is actually just increasing moral disorder. It is why liberals ever triumph in the culture war, but, like our political terminology and values, “victory” here is a relative thing. Just consider a question: If today’s liberals successfully reshape the status quo so that it conforms to their aims and then defend their new normal, what have they become?

Defenders of the new status quo — tomorrow’s conservatives.

This is how you end up with Swedish conservatives who are comfortable statist, and today's American conservatives who generally accept what their forebear namesakes fought, such as Social Security, Medicare, hate-crime law, and all manner and form of unconstitutional federal bureaucracies.

As author Glenn Greenwald put it, "It's common to go from 'crashing the gate' to guarding it."

This is how you end up with Swedish conservatives who are comfortable statist, and today's American conservatives who generally accept what their forebear namesakes fought, such as Social Security, Medicare, hate-crime law, and all manner and form of unconstitutional federal bureaucracies. Generally speaking, today's conservatives are merely defending yesterday's liberals' victories. And, of course, the process that is liberalism will not only ensure that some of today's leftists will "evolve" into tomorrow's, but that a whole new generation of change-worshipping children will be spawned and fight "what is" simply because it's not new.

Without a Vision, We Wander

"Progress should mean that we are always changing the world to suit the vision. Progress does mean (just now) that we are always changing the vision." — Chesterton

It may be clear by now why liberals will never stop destroying civilization and why conservatives will never be equal to the task of stopping them. The problem lies in why we have divided ourselves into these two political groupings to begin with when they don't even begin to encompass every conceivable ideological orientation. Not that long ago, there were no such designations. In the political sense, "liberal" and "conservative" only date from, not surprisingly, shortly after the French Revolution. Rather, for most of Christendom's history, we separated matters into two all-encompassing categories: the true and the untrue. This meant that people weren't Right or Left but right or wrong — either orthodox or heterodox. Now, we may disagree on what the Truth is precisely, as the Arian Christians and Catholics did

in the fifth century or the Protestants and Catholics did in the 16th. But believing there is Truth is necessary to have a clear, unchanging vision. For the person with such a foundation seeks to discern Truth, asks, "What does it dictate for society?" and then sets out to effect that change. And he is consistent from age to age because the Truth is so. But what happens when someone ceases to believe in Truth?

He then falls victim to moral relativism, the notion that what we call morality is authored by man. Boiled down to its bare essence, this means there is no morality, only human preferences, feelings, tastes, masquerading as "values,"

which is lipstick on the pig of meaninglessness meant to lend it an air of credibility and seriousness. And this is where my opening food analogy is relevant. What would happen if we ceased believing in the laws governing man's health and nutrition is precisely what happens when we cease believing in the laws governing man. Without such guidance, we have no yardstick for behavior other than taste. Operating by the credo "If it feels good, do it," we gravitate toward the moral junk food called sin, toward whatever happens to titillate or satisfy at the moment. And with the only limit on behavior being that of human taste and imagination themselves, the envelope is pushed further and further, law after law, policy after policy, cultural change after cultural change, generation after generation as we, to quote Pope Benedict XVI, move "towards a dictatorship of relativism which does not recognize anything as certain and which has as its highest goal one's own ego and one's own desires."

To provide a concrete example of where governance by desire leads, again



Scouting and Gomorrah? Once unequivocal in their opposition to avowed homosexuality in the organization, the Boy Scouts now allow openly homosexual members. The troop pictured above even marched in the Seattle "Gay Pride Parade."

AP Images



Hope remains: Together for 80 years, the endurance of centenarians Maurice and Helen Kaye Couple's marriage reflects neither liberalism nor conservatism but eternal principles unshaken by the shifting sands of time.

consider marriage. If the majority of us still believed, as many churches do, that it is a sacred, divinely ordained institution, it would logically follow that "what God hath joined, let no man put asunder"; the vision for marriage would be clear and unchanging. But what if it's only joined by man? If marriage is a mere contract, invented by people, it follows that people can reinvent it. And it's irrelevant here whether or not we can *prove* marriage's divine bequeathal; the point is that the argument for its one man/one woman model would be airtight logically. As it stands now, however, many Americans can't even make the *claim* it's handed down from on high, as they believe it's authored by man; they have surrendered to marriage relativism. Thus is the homosexual lobby right about one thing: The attack on marriage didn't start with them. It began with millions of ordinary people who wanted justice-of-the-peace weddings and easy divorce.

So what can we say about our liberals, our progressives (and many "conservatives")? The same thing Chesterton did in his 1905 book *Heretics*:

As enunciated today, "progress" is simply a comparative of which we have not settled the superlative. We meet every ideal of religion, patriotism, beauty, or brute pleasure with

the alternative ideal of progress — that is to say, we meet every proposal of getting something that we know about, with an alternative proposal of getting a great deal more of nobody knows what. Progress, properly understood, has, indeed, a most dignified and legitimate meaning. But as used in opposition to precise moral ideals, it is ludicrous. So far from it being the truth that the ideal of progress is to be set against that of ethical or religious finality, the reverse is the truth. Nobody has any business to use the word "progress" unless he has a definite creed and a cast-iron code of morals. Nobody can be progressive without being doctrinal; I might almost say that nobody can be progressive without being infallible — at any rate, without believing in some infallibility. For progress by its very name indicates a direction; and the moment we are in the least doubtful about the direction, we become in the same degree doubtful about the progress.... It is not merely true that the age which has settled least what is progress is this "progressive" age. It is, moreover, true that the people who have settled least what is progress are the most "progressive" people in it.

The Online Etymology Dictionary tells us that "liberal" was used "as a term of reproach" in the 16th and 17th centuries with "the meaning 'free from restraint in speech or action.'" It occurs to me that this definition should be resurrected. Disconnected from Truth, our liberals embrace the credo of Dostoevsky's Ivan Karamazov: "If God does not exist, everything is permitted." Their sociopathic worldview allows for no guide other than human passion, other than taste. But to paraphrase Herb Stein, "If something can't go on, it won't." A civilization can't long be led by taste without ingesting a fatally seductive poison. This means we either end our love affairs with liberalism and conservatism — the locomotive and caboose of cultural collapse — or they will end us. For there is only the Truth and everything else. And everything else is nothing at all. ■

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Fukushima's Children Aren't Dying

Three years after a nuclear power plant accident, the Japanese suffer a thyroid cancer scare manufactured by major media.

by Rebecca Terrell

The latest news from Japan's Fukushima Prefecture sounds horrifying. "Thyroid Cancer in Children Surge in Fukushima Since Nuclear Meltdown," shrieked a recent EcoWatch headline. "More than 100 youngsters in Japan diagnosed with thyroid cancer after Fukushima nuclear meltdown," cried the *Mirror*. The gist of the stories is that, of the more than 350,000 youngsters exposed three years ago to radiation from a tsunami-ravaged nuclear power plant, 104 of them now have thyroid cancer. Both stories quoted Joseph Mangano of the Radiation and Public Health Project, who called the statistics "disturbing" and claimed that under normal circumstances only seven children in a population that size would be expected to develop the disease.

A closer look at the situation paints quite a different picture. In fact, current research indicates thyroid cancer rates in Fukushima may be lower than in other prefectures farther from the nuclear plant.

In August, the prefectural government published findings from its Fukushima Health Management Survey (FHMS), which conducted screenings of area residents who were age 18 or under when the accident occurred. They focused on this age group because children's thyroid glands are particularly susceptible to the carcinogenic effects of radioactive iodine (^{131}I), which escaped from the power plant during the accident. FHMS reported 57 definitive cases of thyroid cancer, one benign tumor, and 46 other suspicious cases. The latter involve tiny precancerous nodules which are very common. According to the Mayo Clinic, "One in three

Radiation or radiophobia? Frightened parents have their children screened for thyroid cancer in Fukushima, though government monitoring revealed dose rates too low to inflict harm.

people have a thyroid nodule," and these are rarely cancerous.

Government officials deny a link between these 104 young people and the 2011 nuclear accident, reported Japan's daily newspaper *The Asahi Shimbun*, reinforcing an ongoing coverup accusation by the media. EcoWatch opined, "It helps their denial that experts disagree on whether these cases of thyroid cancer can be traced back to the meltdown," without naming any challengers or their rationales. Perhaps the experts' reasons are too compelling for anti-nuclear propaganda outlets such as EcoWatch.

Writing for the *Wall Street Journal's* "Fukushima Watch" blog, journalist Jun Hongo provides a more balanced explanation. He says FHMS researchers could discern no regional difference in cancer rates. "The percentage of those found to

An iodine-rich seafood diet provides Japanese children with natural thyroid protection, whereas, according to Dr. Gerry Thomas, a specialist in thyroid cancer with the Imperial College London, the Russian diet tends toward iodine deficiency.

have thyroid cancer in the town of Okuma near the plant and the town of Inawashiro, located approximately 100 kilometers to the west, was 0.05% in each case,” writes Hongo. If power plant radiation were the cause, higher exposure areas closer to the facility would evince higher cancer rates.

Post Hoc Ergo Propter Hoc

Of course, the more important issue is how current rates compare to those prior to 2011. There’s the rub; no baseline exists, despite Manganò’s claim of expecting seven cancers in the population. Since the natural disaster, the Japanese government has screened the children of Fukushima Prefecture at an unprecedented rate, so no control group exists to which they can compare results. Only one study comes close: *Thyroid Ultrasound Findings in Children from Three Japanese Prefectures: Aomori, Yamanashi and Nagasaki*,

published last December in PLOS One, an international peer-reviewed online science publication. Researchers screened 4,365 children in these areas of north, central, and southern Japan respectively, using the same equipment, procedures, and methodology as the FHMS. Though their sample size was limited and therefore statistically weak, scientists found that “the frequency of thyroid cysts and nodules was relatively high in our study, when compared with the data presented in the Fukushima Health Management Survey (56.83% vs. 42.56% for cysts and 1.65% vs. 1.15% for nodules).” To clarify, the survey found that there were more cysts and nodules further away from Fukushima. Unlike FHMS, the three-prefecture study made no headlines outside of PLOS One, but that is understandable since drama-seeking sensationalists have no nuclear power plants to blame.

Cancer tests in the wake of the 1986 nuclear accident at Chernobyl do not serve as FHMS controls either, despite unscientific media comparisons. An iodine-rich seafood diet provides Japanese children with natural thyroid protection, whereas, according to Dr. Gerry Thomas, a specialist in thyroid cancer with the Imperial College London, the Russian diet tends toward iodine deficiency. This is important because a thyroid gland saturated with non-radioactive iodine resists absorption of ^{131}I and is effectively immune to its cancer-inducing effects.

Moreover, Japan has conducted meticulous health screenings using highly sensitive Thyroid Ultrasound Examinations (TUE) made possible by technology unavailable in the 20th century. The *Fukushima Voice* reports that TUEs can detect growths as small as a few millimeters in diameter. Because small thyroid cysts and nodules are so common and inconsequential, they were not recorded prior to the 2011 tsunami. In the past, cases of childhood thyroid cancer were detected based on symptoms, not screenings. In other words, if a child showed signs of pain or swelling in the neck, developed a hoarse voice, or had trouble breathing or swallowing, his doctor would check for thyroid cancer. Smaller cysts and nodules without manifest symptoms would go undetected. Currently, all Fukushima youth are screened for the disease, and even the smallest lesions are recorded.

However, an apples-to-apples comparison may be within reach of the FHMS investigators in the ironic form of their own data. The latest research provides a “pre-Fukushima” baseline because it takes longer than three years for children to develop the disease. Thomas explained, “Radiation induced thyroid cancer has a minimal latency of around 4 years, so the initial screening carried out in Japan within 3 years of the accident would be predicted to give a measure of the background incidence of thyroid cancer in this population.” CNN reported in August that the 58 FHMS children who had tumors have already had them removed and are now recovered or recovering from surgery, long before radiogenic cancers had time to develop. The fact that researchers found no regional differences in cancer rates strengthens the idea that current data provide a reliable baseline.



Life as a samosely: Samosely, or “self-settlers,” are illegal residents of the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone who refuse to leave their homes despite warnings of dire health consequences over the past 28 years.

AP Images

Past as Prelude

Most experts are hopeful for the future. In April the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR) published a study addressing concerns about thyroid cancer in Fukushima. The paper concluded, “No discernable increased incidence of radiation-related health effects are expected among exposed members of the public or their descendants.” UNSCEAR had reported this already in 2012 and re-confirmed it in their 2014 findings.

How could the committee make such a bold prediction? First, both the Japanese government and the U.S. Department of Energy measured radiation air dose rates in Fukushima following the accident, rates which ranged from one to 10 microsieverts (μSv) per hour. (A “sievert” is a measure of health effects of ionizing radiation, and a microsievert is one-millionth of a sievert.) By comparison, “If you stood at the gate of the plant for 10 hours at the highest dose-rate, you’d get as much radiation as from [a] total-body CT scan,” explained Jane Orient, M.D., executive director of the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons, writing for *THE NEW AMERICAN* in 2011. Of course, a CT scan takes a matter of minutes, not 10 hours, but none of the general public were anywhere near the gate even for a few seconds. The earthquake and tsunami had demolished the countryside, claiming 1,607 lives in Fukushima Prefecture alone. Radiation claimed none. Furthermore, “The Japanese authorities operated a strategy of evacuation and sheltering and combined this with a prompt severing of the food chain,” noted Thomas. “These actions will have limited exposure to radioiodine by inhalation and by ingestion,” making radiogenic thyroid cancer extremely unlikely. Indeed, thyroid monitoring of the region’s youth following the disaster revealed that no child received a hazardous dose.

UNSCEAR attributes the immediate rise in Japanese thyroid cancers to a classical screening effect; more cancers are found because more people are tested. The same phenomenon occurred after the 1986 Chernobyl meltdown. Former UNSCEAR chairman Dr. Zbigniew Jaworowski, writing in 2010 in the international journal *Dose-Response*, noted that the first rise in thyroid cancers occurred only one year



Fukushima stats: The prefecture’s 2011 tsunami death toll was 1,607, and another 1,656 people have died since then owing to forced evacuation from their homes. Radiation has claimed no lives.

later, in 1987. Rates peaked seven years after that in 1994 — a mere 0.027 percent. Researchers have recorded declines ever since, in a pattern completely uncharacteristic of radiogenic thyroid cancer. Jaworowski stated that, had radiation been the cause, the first upsurge would have been expected “about 5-10 years after irradiation exposure” and would have peaked between “15-29 years after exposure.”

Furthermore, repeated UN studies over the past decades have found no increase in the incidence of any other cancers as a result of the Chernobyl catastrophe. This should be particularly encouraging to the Japanese because total radioactive release from Fukushima was roughly 5.5 percent that of Chernobyl, according to 2012 estimates by the UN’s International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). It took 10 days for the fire at Chernobyl to burn out, during which time the entire core melted and vast amounts of radionuclides spewed into

the environment. In contrast, the reactor cores at Fukushima remained intact, and the only radioactive release came from spent fuel rods exposed to air. Despite the extremely adverse post-tsunami conditions, Japanese workers stabilized the situation within four days.

Regardless, popular opinion construes any radioactivity to be potentially lethal. Popular opinion fails to realize that everyone on the planet is exposed to radiation every day. Food, building materials, soil, cosmic energy, and even your own blood are some of the many sources of background radiation. Other activities such as medical procedures, watching TV, and taking jet flights add to exposure levels. Dr. T.D. Luckey, former chair of the biochemistry department at the University of Missouri School of Medicine, records the global average as 3 millisieverts (mSv; i.e. 0.003 sieverts) per year, a rate which varies considerably depending on location.

For example, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency records reveal that Florida suffers a radiation deficiency at 1.3 mSv per year, whereas South Dakota enjoys an annual average of 9.6 mSv. The state of New York comes in just under the global average at 2.8 mSv per year, but anyone spending a year at Grand Central Station would soak up a radiation dose of 5.25 mSv because of uranium and potassium in its granite structure.

This is nothing compared to other parts of the world. Areas with large amounts of thorium-rich monazite sands tip the scales when it comes to background radiation. Jaworowski reported residents of Ramsar, Iran, absorb up to 400 mSv per year, and annual doses in certain areas of Brazil and southwestern France top 700 mSv. These rates also dwarf doses to which “victims” of Chernobyl were exposed. The Soviet government ordered some 400,000 people to evacuate from areas where the total radiation dose exceeded 1.6 mSv in the year following the accident, prompting Jaworowski to ask, “Why don’t they evacuate Norway?” where the natural dose in some regions reaches 11 mSv per year. It is small wonder that there has never been recorded a single adverse health effect in the general population due to Chernobyl radiation.

On the contrary, Jaworowski observes that “in comparison with the general population of Russia, a 15% to 30% deficit of solid cancer mortality was found among the Russian emergency workers, and a 5% deficit solid cancer incidence” among people living in the most highly contaminated areas. Jaworowski quotes dozens of studies that repeatedly confirm no increase in solid tumors, leukemia, or genetic diseases, and in many cases record significant health *benefits*. Writing in the Summer 2014 *Journal of American Physicians and Surgeons*, Orient notes the mortality rate of Chernobyl emergency crews has been lower than the averages in Ukraine (where the power plant is located), and in neighboring Belarus and Russia. In 2000, UNSCEAR concluded that even the people who had received the highest radiation



Basking in radiation: Reputed healing qualities of Brazil’s thorium-rich beaches draw thousands of tourists, who absorb more than eight times more radiation than they’d get in Fukushima’s evacuation zone.

doses at Chernobyl “need not live in fear of serious health consequences” and forecasted “generally positive prospects for the future health of most individuals.”

LNT vs. Hormesis

Why, then, does Chernobyl remain the poster child of nuclear holocaust? Why has the 2,600 km² Chernobyl Exclusion Zone become a vast animal sanctuary dotted with ghost towns inhabited by a few hundred residents living there illegally? Why are Japanese officials following in the mistaken footsteps of Chernobyl over-reactionaries?

Nuclear experts blame a hypothesis known as “linear no-threshold” (LNT), the idea that radiation is unsafe at any dose. Orient calls it “implausible”; Jaworowski says it’s “absurd”; and in 1995, renowned Swedish radiobiologist Gunnar Walinder said, “The LNT hypothesis is a primitive, unscientific idea that cannot be justified by current scientific understanding. As practiced by the modern radiation protection community, the LNT hypothesis is one of the greatest scientific scandals of our time.”

Yet LNT has been shaping official policies worldwide since the International Commission on Radiological Pro-

tection (ICRP) first adopted it in the late 1950s as the basis of radiation protection standards. The change came “because of strong political pressure by scientists and other influential people to create a social fear of low radiation from a-bomb testing during the arms race and abhorrence of nuclear war,” writes Dr. Jerry Cuttler in the 2013 *Canadian Nuclear Society Bulletin*. Until then the internationally accepted “tolerance dose” — the dose that can be absorbed without harm — was 680 milligrays (mGy) per year. (A “gray” is a radiation absorption measure interchangeable with a sievert in terms of gamma and x-rays.) Since the discovery of radioactivity and x-rays in the late 19th century, lower exposures were known to produce beneficial health outcomes. Among these, Cuttler mentions rapid wound healing, infection cures, arthritis relief, and prevention or impairment of tumor growth.

Enter ICRP and its LNT assumption. Suddenly, “safe” levels of maximum annual occupational and public exposures were set at 50 and 5 mSv respectively, and later reduced to 20 and 1 mSv. Orient quips, “It raises the question of whether Denver and many other places should be evacuated immediately,” since both the global average and the average dose in Denver are 3 mSv per year.

Official reaction to both Chernobyl and Fukushima highlights the unscientific, political basis of LNT. Jaworowski offers

Repeated UN studies over the past decades have found no increase in the incidence of any other cancers as a result of the Chernobyl catastrophe.

the post-Chernobyl examples of Sweden, which allowed 30 times more radioactivity in imported vegetables than in domestic ones, and Israel, which placed higher limits on radiation in food imported from Eastern than from Western Europe. The Philippine limit for imported vegetables was 8,600 times as strict as that in the United Kingdom. Norway introduced a concentration limit in meat up to 200 times lower than the country's natural background radiation. Orient relates that Japan has lowered its post-Fukushima standards to the point that it has effectively banned bananas (which contain radioactive potassium) and Brazil nuts (which contain radium).

Arbitrary standards such as these ignore thousands of studies disproving LNT and demonstrating radiation's hormetic effect — the principle that “the poison is in the dose.” Hormesis applies to much of nature. Sunlight, food, and stress are a few examples; too little is just as bad as too much.

Hormesis applies to radiation, too. Jaworowski makes the impressive assertion that “no harmful health effects have ever been detected in high natural radiation background areas.” Compared to average-dose regions, rates of both cancer and congenital disease are consistently decreased rather than increased. In fact, every year thousands of tourists flock to beaches such as Guarapari, Brazil, where radioactive monazite sands, famous for their healing qualities, deliver almost 88 times the average background dose people receive in the United States. For centuries patients suffering chronic pain have found cures in radon mines such as Austria's celebrated spa, Gastein Heilstollen. (Unfortunately the United States boasts no monazite beaches, but Montana's Free Enterprise Radon Health Mine has been operating since 1952.)

Orient relates one of the most well-known hormesis experiments, made famous because it happened by accident. Residents living in an apartment building in Taiwan had no idea the structure contained highly radioactive cobalt. Dose rates these 10,000 people received during 20 years averaged 40 mSv per year, with a range of 18 to 525 mSv per year. LNT models predicted rampant cancers, but the opposite occurred. “Astonishingly, the cancer death rate for people living in these apartments steadily decreased until it was essentially zero,” writes Orient. Congenital defects nosedived

from an expected 46 to only three children of parents living in the apartments.

Should we be surprised that Chernobyl “victims” are experiencing improved health, and that thyroid cyst and nodule rates in Fukushima are lower than in other parts of Japan? In terms of radiation, preventing people from returning to their homes may well be harming rather than helping public health.

It is certain that the evacuations have inflicted immense political, economic, and health damage. They have buttressed an unwarranted fear of nuclear power in the public mind, a public more ready now than ever to accept increasing government restrictions on what Jaworowski calls “the cleanest, safest, and practically inexhaustible means to meet the world's energy needs.” Furthermore, Orient says that Japan, after nixing most of its nuclear energy, imports so much fuel that electricity prices have spiked more than 50 percent and Japan's 20-year record of trade surpluses flipped to “a \$204 billion trade deficit between March 2011 and the end of 2013.” Countries such as Germany, Italy, Switzerland, and Belgium have similar post-Fukushima stories to tell. In Ukraine alone, economic losses from Chernobyl reached \$148 billion by the year 2000.

Most tragic of all, the Fukushima evac-

uation has claimed more lives than the prefecture's tsunami death toll of 1,607. Earlier this year *Japan Today* reported that 1,656 people have died from stress and illness related to forced exile from their homes. Chernobyl's evacuation produced epidemics of physical and psychological disturbances, alcohol and drug abuse, and suicides, caused not by radiation but by radiophobia. Radiation claimed no lives yet is condemned in the mere mention of the names Chernobyl and Fukushima.

Anti-nuclear activists and nuclear disarmament proponents cling to the discredited LNT hypothesis, sacrificing lives and economies for the sake of an imprudent political agenda. The ICRP website admits that its International System of Radiologic Protection is based in part on “value judgments” that “take into account societal expectations, ethics and experience gained in application of the system.” They do not explain how it is ethical to mislead society with a disproven hypothesis, no matter their success in applying such propaganda over the past 50-plus years. Instead of frightening the public with nuclear science fiction, it is their responsibility to come clean about radiation hormesis so policymakers can form rational, scientifically based decisions about nuclear power. ■



A healthy dose of radon: Thousands flock annually to Montana's radon mines for relief from chronic ailments such as arthritis, lupus, and asthma, though the EPA calls this radioactive gas “extremely toxic.”

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America to Collaborate More **With Interpol**

With Obama's blessing, Interpol will coordinate tracking and deterring foreign fighters and terrorists, though Interpol does not have a good track record with human rights.



AP Images

Fighting the terror war? The self-styled global law-enforcement agency Interpol, once run by Nazis and still including almost all of the world's worst tyrants as members, will spearhead a controversial new terror-war regime.

by Alex Newman

Under the guise of fighting the terror war amid chaos in Iraq and Syria, the Obama administration is boosting its collaboration with the self-styled “law-enforcement partner” of the United Nations known as Interpol, despite Interpol’s contravening of U.S. laws, despite its unsavory and even criminal members, despite its history of human rights abuses, and despite its limited utility in fighting terrorism.

The Washington, D.C., arm of the deeply controversial outfit, formally dubbed the International Criminal Police Organization, will be “spearheading” an Obama-backed plan called the Foreign Terrorist Fighter Program, the U.S. Justice Department announced in a September 24 statement. The unveiling of the scheme followed the UN Security Council’s approval of a binding resolution sponsored by Obama to create a new global terrorism regime, complete with what amounts to a planetary no-fly list.

According to Interpol Washington,

which serves as the official representative for U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder to the France-based global outfit, the new terror-war program “leverages the unique resources Interpol utilizes to combat transnational crime,” allowing authorities to “monitor,” “interdict,” and “deter” foreign fighters at strategic entry points. Those resources include Interpol’s communications system, criminal and analytical databases, biometric information on targets, and a system of advisory notices aimed at tracking and apprehending individuals in governments’ cross hairs.

It was not immediately clear how somebody would be declared a “foreign terrorist fighter,” or how such a designation could be challenged in a court of law — if it is even possible. However, the Justice Department admitted in the statement that its scheming was also aimed at “those not charged with a particular offense.” Already hiding behind half-baked legal arguments put forward by Attorney General Holder wherein the Obama administration claims it can extra-judicially execute people around the world — including U.S. cit-

izens — without any formal charges, trial, or conviction, the administration obviously will now be profiling travelers, though in the past the administration has refused to profile Islamists as potential terrorists while at the same time patting down the aged, the disabled, and small children.

Despite the lack of attention from the establishment press surrounding the new Interpol scheme, senior U.S. officials were openly celebrating it. “Interpol provides critical leadership in advancing the Justice Department’s efforts to combat terrorism and ensure the safety of all Americans — offering cutting-edge resources, a structure for international cooperation, and strategic tools like Red, Blue and Green Notices for tracing, targeting and apprehending terror suspects,” explained outgoing Attorney General Holder, who, ironically, is currently in criminal contempt of Congress for his role in attempting to cover up the deadly Fast and Furious gun-running scandal.

“In a world that is increasingly interdependent and interconnected, Interpol helps to defend against a range of evolving challenges by disseminating information, combating crime, and identifying potential threats,” Holder continued in the statement. “And particularly today, with the emergence of groups like ISIL, and the knowledge that some Americans are attempting to travel to countries like Syria and Iraq to take part in ongoing conflicts, Interpol — as the world’s largest international police organization — has a vital role to play in safeguarding our homeland and protecting the American people.” The FBI says that about 12 Americans went to the Middle East to fight on behalf of the Islamic State, a terror group that has been one of the top beneficiaries of Obama’s “regime-change” machinations in Syria. It’s also ironic that Holder contends that we need Interpol to identify Americans who help ISIL when the government already screens all travelers using the Transportation Security Administration, the NSA monitors all electronic communications to and from Americans,

“We must be clear: to defeat the ideology of extremism we need to deal with all forms of extremism — *not just violent extremism*,” David Cameron explained, acknowledging that the machinations would not be entirely “compatible” with free speech and intellectual inquiry.

and it has such confidence in its own screening of Middle Easterners that it is letting large numbers of Muslim refugees of all stripes enter the country — all while the government allows U.S. borders to remain wide open.

Another outfit involved in the emerging Interpol terror regime is Obama’s Department of Homeland Security. A massive bureaucracy, DHS has attracted strong criticism, outrage, and ridicule for, among other absurdities, repeatedly claiming in official reports that mainstream political views held by tens of millions or even hundreds of millions of Americans could be indicators of “terrorism” and “extremism.” Returning U.S. veterans are considered a potential “terror” threat — along with pro-lifers, libertarians, Ron Paul supporters, liberty lovers, and countless others — the DHS claimed in a report citing a known hoax Internet site.

“The threat posed by foreign fighters is one that is persistent and requires the full cooperation and resources of the international law enforcement community to effectively combat,” claimed Obama’s Secretary of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson in a statement about the new scheme. “We are already working closely with European and other governments to build better information sharing, and we will continue to leverage our partnership with the Interpol, Department of Justice and other international partners to make enhanced and concerted efforts to track foreign fighters who come from or seek to enter the United States.” It’s a noble sentiment, aside from the fact that the TSA has yet to catch a single terrorist before he acted.

Aside from Interpol and Obama’s scandal-plagued DHS and DOJ, other participants in the new scheme include the National Security Council, which ad-

vises the president on national security matters and coordinates policies among government agencies. About 30 foreign governments are also involved, according to the official statement. It did not specify all of the national governments or dictatorships that would be participating, citing only a handful of European governments, along with Australia and New Zealand. One of the key players involved in the Interpol scheme, though, is the government of the United Kingdom, DOJ said, offering some insight into what Interpol and its allies have in mind vis-à-vis the new terror regime.

In a speech delivered to the UN General Assembly in late September, U.K. Prime Minister David Cameron suggested that the increasingly aggressive terror war was set to expand far beyond just terrorism. To “defeat” terrorist organizations, Cameron told the assembled UN member regimes, their “ideology” must be defeated in “all its forms.” As examples of ideas in the terror war’s cross hairs, the embattled U.K. leader pointed to theories about the 9/11 and 7/7 London terror attacks that do not conform to the widely questioned official government narratives. Religious prophecies Cameron called “nonsense” should also be disallowed, he added.

“We must be clear: to defeat the ideology of extremism we need to deal with all forms of extremism — *not just violent extremism*,” he explained, acknowledging that the machinations would not be entirely “compatible” with free speech and intellectual inquiry. (Emphasis added.) “For governments, there are some obvious ways we can do this.... We shouldn’t stand by and just allow any form of non-violent extremism. And we need the strongest possible international focus on tackling this ideology — which is why here at the United Nations, the United Kingdom is calling for a new Special Representative on extremism.”

Another participant listed in the DOJ announcement was the Islamist government of Turkey, which has come under strong criticism as one of the world’s leading persecutors of journalists. That is especially troubling in light of Interpol’s history and even recent developments, analysts say. Consider, for instance, that in 1938, Interpol was actually taken over by the National Socialist (Nazi) regime



AP Images

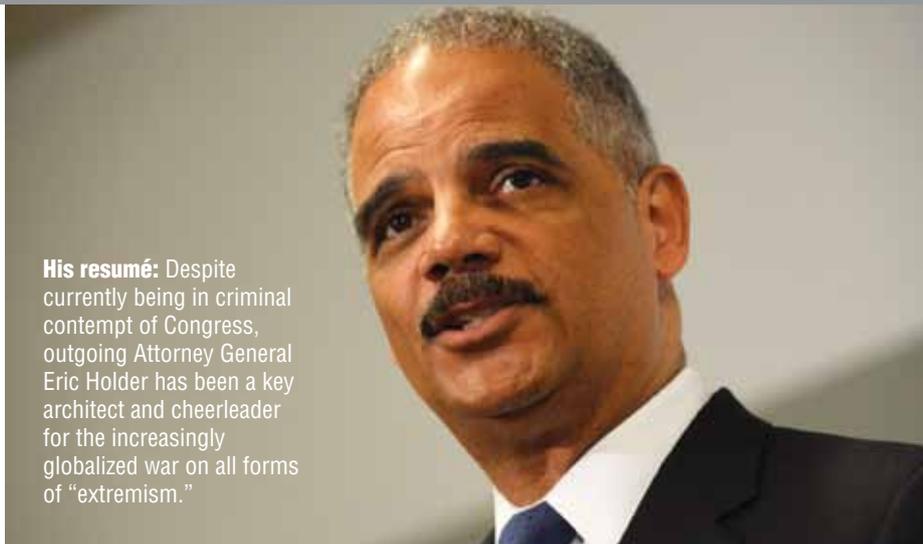
Who will tell who what to do? Chairing the UN Security Council in late September, Obama successfully pushed a purportedly “binding” new global terror-war regime supposedly aimed at reining in foreign fighters and extremists, but ripe for abuse.

in Germany, with the global outfit eventually being relocated to Berlin in 1942. Between 1938 and 1945, four Nazi SS generals served as presidents of Interpol, including Ernst Kaltenbrunner, the highest ranking Nazi officer to be executed after the Nuremberg trials. Maniacal murderers and dictators could, in theory, once again take over the institution.

More recently, Interpol has also come under heavy fire after reportedly using its systems to help Muslim dictatorships track down journalists and alleged “apostates” accused of “religious” crimes. In 2012, for example, Interpol came under fire worldwide after reportedly helping the Saudi Arabian regime search for a 28-year-old woman who allegedly committed the “crime” of converting to Christianity. Before that, Interpol also reportedly helped the Saudi monarchy track down and arrest a journalist who fled the kingdom after being accused of insulting Islam’s prophet — punishable by death in most Islamic-ruled nations. Interpol denied that it played a role in the arrest, despite an official statement by Malaysian authorities saying that Interpol had demanded the arrest.

Some 190 governments are members of Interpol, including an overwhelming majority of the most ruthless autocracies on the planet. Among its members are the brutal communist and socialist regimes ruling over Cuba, China, Vietnam, Zimbabwe, Laos, Belarus, Sudan, and many more. Virtually every Islamic dictatorship on Earth, including some identified by the U.S. State Department as sponsors of terrorism, are also members. Interpol’s charter supposedly prevents it from undertaking activities or interventions of a political, military, religious, or racial nature, but critics remain deeply concerned — especially after some of its more controversial machinations were reported in the Western press.

Despite the controversies, the Obama administration has been a fervent supporter of Interpol. In late 2009, Obama even signed an “executive order” purporting to provide immunity from taxes, searches, customs inspections, and more for the global outfit’s operatives in the United States. That same year, Interpol Secretary-General Ronald Noble, known as the “Enforcer” for his role in the infamous slaughter of civilians in Waco, Texas, boasted that when police



His resumé: Despite currently being in criminal contempt of Congress, outgoing Attorney General Eric Holder has been a key architect and cheerleader for the increasingly globalized war on all forms of “extremism.”

AP Images

stop someone, “they will be consulting global databases to determine who they are stopping.” Even the most unsavory Interpol member regimes can provide information for those “global databases.”

On the Obama DOJ website, meanwhile, the public is informed that “INTERPOL Washington’s mission is to coordinate U.S. law enforcement actions and responses, ensuring that they are consistent with ... INTERPOL policies, procedures, and regulations.” Interpol’s constitution, of course, is fundamentally at odds with the U.S. Constitution, so it was not clear why U.S. law enforcement would be expected to follow Interpol policies and regulations. Interpol and its governing documents rely on the UN’s “Universal Declaration of Human Rights” — a list of “duties” imposed on people, as well as revocable, government-granted privileges that according to Article 29, “may in no case be exercised contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.” The Bill of Rights, by contrast, protects individuals’ God-given rights from government infringement.

The UN, widely ridiculed as the “dictators club,” is also a very close ally of Interpol. When announcing an even deeper partnership between the two in 2009 under the guise of “boosting global security,” UN boss Ban Ki-moon claimed the outfits were “natural partners” in enforcing what he described as peace. “UN Police nurture faith in justice,” Ban also alleged in the statement, despite non-stop horror stories about atrocities, rapes, and murders of civilians perpetrated worldwide by the UN’s heavily armed “peace” forces. He contin-

ued: “They forge trust in uniformed men and women. They generate confidence that peace can succeed.”

With the “terror war” becoming increasingly globalized and focused on “ideology” and ideas rather than criminal activity, Americans who cherish their God-given rights ought to be concerned — especially considering the sordid track record of globalist organizations and the Obama administration’s obsessive focus on demonizing the views of hundreds of millions of everyday Americans as “extremism” and potential “terrorism.” Outfits such as the UN and Interpol are not needed to effectively fight crime or terrorism. Instead, they represent potentially dangerous tools with agendas completely at odds with the U.S. Constitution. And they are ripe for abuse, as the Nazi takeover and the Saudi persecution illustrate clearly.

Rather than building up globalist bureaucracies that are unrestrained by the U.S. Constitution, bilateral extradition treaties with foreign governments would be more than sufficient to deal with transnational crime and terror in a constitutional manner. Ending Obama’s arms shipments and training for jihadists in the Middle East, of course, would also help put a big dent in Islamist terrorism — as well as the purported justification for Interpol’s terror regime. Properly securing the U.S.-Mexico border would also aid in preventing terrorists from coming into the United States. It is past time for Congress to restrain the Obama administration and withdraw the U.S. government’s funding and participation from the UN, Interpol, and similar organizations. ■



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THE GOODNESS OF AMERICA

Crimestoppers

A thief in the Ohio City neighborhood of Cleveland was taken by surprise when a group of bystanders intervened after his theft of a cellphone, WKYC reported.

An Ohio City man was outside talking on his mobile phone on August 29 when 21-year-old Dejour Crawford rode past him on his bike and took the man's mobile phone. Seventeen-year-old Alex Forcht witnessed the incident while driving back to school after attending church services. Forcht elected to follow Crawford while the victim continued to trail Crawford on foot.

Meanwhile, a third witness began to chase the suspect as well.

Seemingly aware of the men trailing him, Crawford decided to discard the stolen phone, which was then retrieved by Forcht, who gave the phone back to its rightful owner.

While all of this was going on, another witness alerted the Cleveland police to the theft. Cleveland Detective David Santiago gathered witness descriptions and alerted officers of the situation. Moments later, Crawford was caught.

Police officials were impressed by the actions of the witnesses. Second District Police Commander Thomas Stacho posted the following message on the Cleveland Police Department's Facebook page:

Thank you to young Mr. Forcht who, without regard to his own safety, pursued the robbery suspect and ultimately recovered the victim's stolen property. Thank you to the unidentified female who immediately alerted Detective Santiago to the robbery and to the unidentified male who pursued the suspect on his bicycle. Thank you to all involved for helping make Ohio City safer.

Crawford was charged with robbery.

Fire Rescue

A Labor Day fire in Dekalb County, Georgia, could have turned tragic were it not for the heroics of Eddie Hamilton, who managed to rescue three children who

were trapped inside of their burning home, WSL10 reported.

The children's mother had escaped the fire and was screaming for help when Hamilton approached the scene and learned the woman's children were trapped inside. After breaking the window, Hamilton was able to pull out the two youngest children.

"They were at the window screaming when I knocked it out. I just told them to back up. I knocked it out and got them out," Hamilton recalled. That is when Hamilton learned that there was a third child trapped inside. "They kept hollering somebody else [is] in there. I jumped in the window and crawled across the floor until I found him and drug him to the window," Hamilton said. He recalled just how difficult it was, as the smoke had intensified by the time he went back for the teen. "Smoke was all the way down to the floor. You couldn't see anything you couldn't breathe inside," Hamilton recalled. "I went to the window twice, got air, crawled back in there again until I could find him."

Thankfully, Hamilton managed to drag the 17-year-old to the window. The teen was too big for Hamilton to get out through the window, but firefighters had arrived just in time to help.

The two youngest children suffered minor injuries, while the teen is in critical condition.

Gift of a Home

Star Little League player and Chicago native Jaheim Benton, 12, will now have a home thanks to the generosity of one donor. Benton had much to celebrate on the field, having helped take his team, Jackie Robinson West, to its second-place finish in the Little League World Series in August.

But behind the celebrations, Benton and his family struggled with a crisis: They were homeless. NBC 14 News reported, "Reports say the family was forced to split up and have been staying with family and friends since June after Benton's mother had her hours cut at work."

The Benton family became homeless during the team's pursuit for victory, and Benton's mother, Devona, did her best to

keep her son's spirits up. "It's been hard, but I just tell my baby to hold his head up," she said. "I told him to get out there and play ball, despite his knowing that we lost our home."

When local business owner Spencer Leak, Jr. heard of Benton's situation, he offered to pay the family's rent for an entire year. "He's a superstar, little Jaheim," Leak said. "And superstars ... and homeless don't go together so we had to do something for this little superstar."

Leak explained that he wanted to help the little boy who helped to unite his city. And Leak is hopeful that his donation will be long-term. "I would hope that this rent turns into a mortgage that turns into home ownership for them," he told the news station.

Heroic Intervention

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy Brandon Love was performing an arrest on August 15 at a Southern California mall when the suspect became violent. Were it not for the intervention of an unidentified bystander, the incident could have ended very differently.

CBS Los Angeles reported that Love was arresting suspect Frankie Estrada, 21, in a domestic-violence case when Estrada attacked Love, knocked him to the ground, and began to kick and stomp on his head and neck. It was then that a bystander stepped in and shoved Estrada away, which allowed other nearby deputies to grab hold of him and detain him. The bystander's name cannot be revealed as he will serve as a witness.

Love suffered significant injuries, but recovered enough to dictate a "thank you" note and record a short video for the man who intervened.

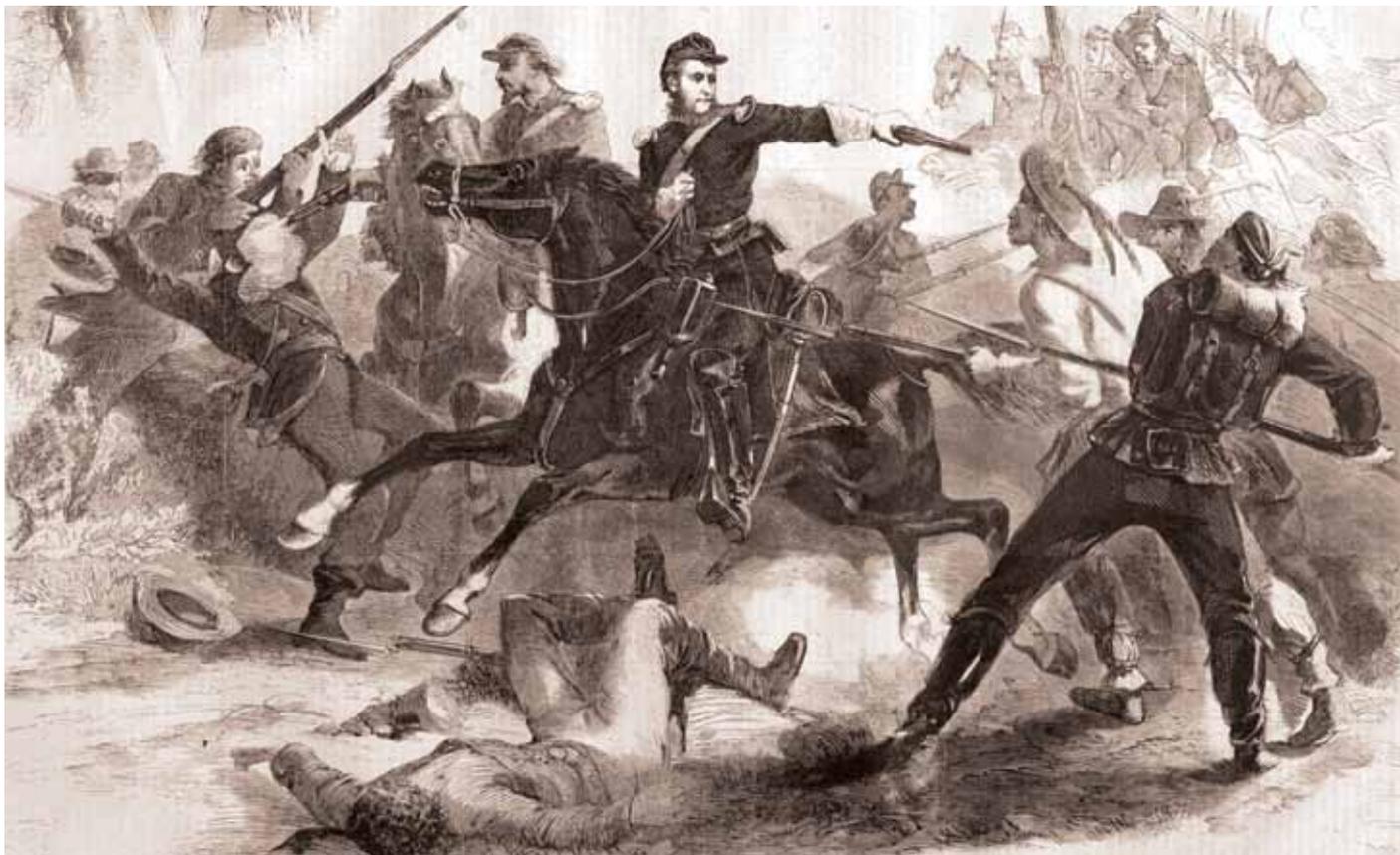
Love said, "I was told it was highly possible I would never walk again. A few days out, I am making progress and my hopes are high."

Love has since been moved to a rehabilitation facility and is "promising he will walk out of the hospital," according to a Facebook post by Lakewood sheriff's officials. ■

— RAVEN CLABOUGH

America's Civil War and the Advent of Total War

In modernity, scorched-earth total-war tactics — punishing and killing soldiers and civilians alike — began with the French, in the French Revolution, and continued in America.



War going forward: Cavalry commander General Hugh Kilpatrick charged his way into the world of total war by plotting war against Richmond's civilians, and then by burning his way across Georgia as part of General Sherman's March to the Sea.

by *Thomas R. Eddlem*

Union Colonel Ulric Dahlgren embarked upon a bold plan to end the three-year-long Civil War between the North and South in March 1864. The 21-year-old officer and his 500 men illegally donned Confederate garb and marched south over the James River to liberate a POW camp full of Union soldiers on Belle Isle. Backed by a cavalry force of 3,500 additional men commanded by Major General Hugh Kilpatrick, Dahlgren planned to use the liberated prisoners to assault and burn the lightly defended Confederate capital of Richmond and organize his commanders to assassinate

Confederate President Jefferson Davis and his Cabinet. Union cavalry officer George Armstrong Custer would provide a diversionary attack some 30 miles from Richmond. Printed orders found on Dahlgren — who was killed in the failed assault — stipulated: “The bridges once secured, and the prisoners loose and over the river, the bridges will be secured and the city destroyed. The men must keep together and well in hand, and once in the city it must be destroyed and Jeff. Davis and Cabinet killed.”

But the operation didn't go as planned. Dahlgren's force was delayed, and Kilpatrick's forces were forced to flee the staging area under pursuit by Confeder-

ate cavalry. Dahlgren eventually ran into the Virginia home guard and, cut off from his main force, most of the 100 men in his detachment were killed or captured. Dahlgren — the son of an active-duty Union admiral — was killed in the failed battle. Dahlgren's written orders — captured from his body by Confederate soldiers — were published widely across the South a few days later. Union leaders protested the documents were forgeries. After the war the original documents were transferred to Secretary of War Edwin Stanton and never seen again. Though the originals disappeared in an apparent coverup, lithographs of the originals survived.

The documents flatly contradicted Pres-



Backfire: Colonel Ulric Dahlgren and his men became the first initiates and casualties of total war in the United States. The Virginia home guard trapped his men and exposed Dahlgren's plan to burn Richmond and assassinate Confederate President Jefferson Davis and his Cabinet.

ident Lincoln's General Order No. 100 of the previous year, the so-called Lieber Code drafted by Prussian immigrant Dr. Franz Lieber. Article 148 of the Lieber code explicitly banned assassination as a policy tool, proclaiming: "Civilized nations look with horror upon offers of rewards for the assassination of enemies as relapses into barbarism." The Lieber Code also regarded the use of enemy uniforms as seriously illegal, pronouncing in Article 63: "Troops who fight in the uniform of their enemies, without any plain, striking, and uniform mark of distinction of their own, can expect no quarter." The Lieber Code had been the first attempt in the United States to draft a comprehensive list of just war principles, even more succinct and thorough than Hugo Grotius' *On the Laws of War and Peace*, published in 1625 in Europe.

The publication of Dahlgren's papers by Southern newspapers generated widespread anger, and Southern officers requested the execution of those prisoners who participated in the abortive assault on Richmond. But Confederate commander General Robert E. Lee quashed the request in a letter that read, in part, "I presume that the blood boils with indignation in the veins of every officer and man as they read the account of the barbarous and inhuman plot, and under the impulse of the moment many would counsel extreme measures. But I do not think that reason and reflection would justify such a course. I think it

better to do right, even if we suffer in so doing, than to incur the reproach of our consciences and posterity."

In essence, Lee determined that his forces would follow the principles of just war — even if his foes would not.

Regardless of whether Dahlgren, Kilpatrick, and Custer planned the assassination of the Confederate president and Cabinet as Confederates claimed, the plot to burn civilian Richmond was undoubtedly part of the Union plan. The spring and summer of 1864 marked the most desperate point of the Union cause, as the better-equipped and numerically superior Union forces had been completely outmaneuvered by the Confederacy's superior commanders at battles such as Manassas, Chancellorsville, and Fredericksburg. The Union had made some progress in the West under Generals Grant and Sherman, taking sole control of the Mississippi River and splitting the Confederacy in two. But even with the Confederate loss at Gettysburg, Lee's Army of Northern Virginia in the East had remained intact and had given little ground, and even in the spring of 1864 it still threatened the Union capital of Washington, D.C.

The "Dahlberg Affair," as it was called, became the point at which Union forces abandoned the Lieber Code entirely and engaged in an all-out war against Southern civilians. The Lieber Code was redundant on the necessity of banning attacks on private property. Article 22 of the Lieber

Code stipulated "that the unarmed citizen is to be spared in person, property, and honor as much as the exigencies of war will admit," while Article 37 stated, "The United States acknowledge and protect ... strictly private property" and "Offenses to the contrary shall be rigorously punished." Article 44 stated, "All robbery, all pillage or sacking ... are prohibited under the penalty of death, or such other severe punishment as may seem adequate for the gravity of the offense."

Though Kilpatrick had been fired from his position for the disastrous attack, his cavalry regiment was soon laying waste to a wide swath of Georgia farmland as part of General William T. Sherman's 1864 "March to the Sea." After taking Atlanta in July 1864, Sherman took 60,000 soldiers and divided them into two columns that burned a 60-mile-wide path through Georgia. Sherman's Special Field Order 120 on November 9, 1864 was explicit: "To corps commanders alone is intrusted the power to destroy mills, houses, cotton-gins, etc.; and for them this general principle is laid down: In districts and neighborhoods where the army is unmolested, no destruction of such property should be permitted; but should guerrillas or bushwhackers molest our march, or should the inhabitants burn bridges, obstruct roads, or otherwise manifest local hostility, then army commanders should order and enforce a devastation more or less relentless, according to the measure of such hostility."

"The Burning"

The path of General Philip Sheridan and his Third Division cavalry commander, George Armstrong Custer, in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley was even less discriminating between combatants and civilians. Lincoln's new commanding general, Ulysses S. Grant, ordered Sheridan on August 26, 1864, "Do all the damage to railroads and crops you can. Carry off stock of all descriptions and negroes, so as to prevent further planting. If the war is to last another year we want the Shenandoah Valley to remain a barren waste." Residents of the Shenandoah Valley simply called the fall campaign "The Burning."

Sheridan willingly complied, writing back to Grant, "When this is completed the Valley, from Winchester up

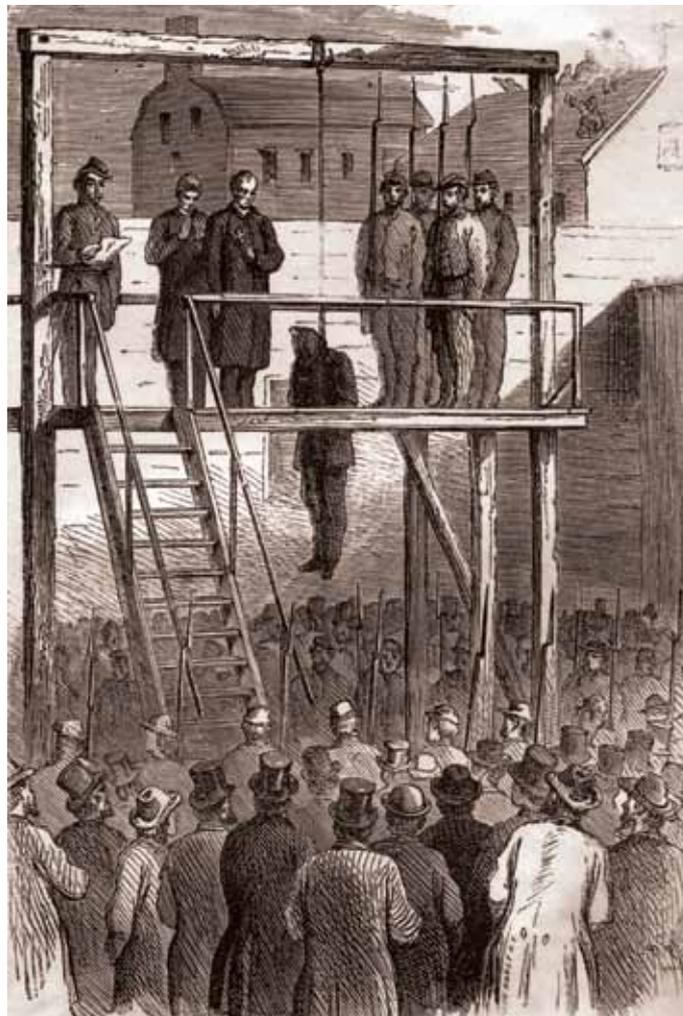
Regardless of whether Dahlgren, Kilpatrick, and Custer planned the assassination of the Confederate president and Cabinet as Confederates claimed, the plot to burn civilian Richmond was undoubtedly part of the Union plan.

to Staunton, ninety-two miles, will have but little in it for man or beast.” Nothing could have been a more open repeal of the Lieber Code’s Article 16, which stressed, “Military necessity does not admit of cruelty — that is, the infliction of suffering for the sake of suffering or for revenge.... It does not admit of ... the wanton devastation of a district.”

Sheridan and Custer’s brutality sometimes took on a personal tone. To avenge the shooting of his engineer Lieutenant John R. Meigs by a party of spies dressed in Union garb between the villages of Dayton and Harrisonburg, Sheridan boasted in his memoirs, “Determining to teach a lesson to these abettors of the foul deed — a lesson they would never forget — I ordered all the houses within an area of five miles to be burned. General Custer, who had succeeded to the command of the Third Cavalry division ... was charged with this duty, and the next morning proceeded to put the order into execution.”

Sheridan and Custer’s opposition included Confederate partisan commander Colonel John Singleton Mosby, who became known as the “Grey Ghost” for his force’s ability to move and strike quickly, then fade back into farm life. Sheridan wrote to Custer: “The families of most of Mosebys [sic] men are know[n] and can be collected. I think they should be taken and kept at Ft. McHenry or some secure place as hostages for good conduct of Mosby and his men. When any of them are caught with nothing to designate what they are hang them without trial.” After General Custer captured seven Shenandoah farmers in Loudon County,

Virginia, who he suspected were Mosby’s raiders and hanged them without trial, Mosby retaliated by creating a lottery to hang seven of Custer’s Union men being held as prisoners. In the end, three of the seven were killed, two survived a pistol shot to the head at point-blank range, and two escaped that night in the confusion of the resulting melee. Mosby left a note over the corpses: “These men have been hung in retaliation for an equal number of Colonel Mosby’s men hung by order of General Custer, at Front Royal. Measure for measure.” The retaliation served its purpose, and the Union forces subsequently refrained from murdering helpless Confederate prisoners for the duration of the campaign.



Origin of Just War Rules

Christian just war principles grew out of a mixture of the Roman Catholic Church’s just war principles and sanctuary movement. The first Christian king of England, Aethelbert, had already codified the sanctuary movement in England as early as the seventh century. The idea behind the sanctuary movement was to keep violence out of the churches, and it forbade soldiers and sheriffs from entering a church and removing someone by force unless they were stealing church property. A criminal could stay in a church for up to 30 days, after which he was required to leave.

Over in France, the movement caught on with the archbishop of Bordeaux, who proclaimed at the Synod of Charroux in 989, “Anathema against those who break into churches,” as well as those soldiers who rob the poor or assault a clergyman. The term became known as the *Pax Deus*, or “peace of God.” Over the next century, Catholic Church leaders across feudal Western Europe tried to foster rules on warfare, even trying to create a “truce of God” by crafting days in which fighting was prohibited in war entirely, with far less success.

A comprehensive application of Christian principles to warfare was not attempted in Western Europe until Hugo Grotius wrote *On the Laws of War and Peace* from his native Netherlands in 1625, but his influence was limited by the denominational squabbles at the height of the Protestant reformation.

Perhaps Christianity — especially feudal Europe’s Christianity — had little need for just war principles being written down. War rarely directly impacted the masses of nations, as they were primarily fought by an elite class of ennobled

Not the only war criminal: Captain Henry Wirz, commandant of the notorious Andersonville POW camp in Georgia, was the only man executed for war crimes during the Civil War. Union generals who waged war against civilians were not prosecuted because they were on the winning side of the war.



Sheridan's march to the "Burning": Union General Philip Sheridan was romanticized in the North — as in this *Harper's Weekly* illustration — but he carried with him in his march to the Shenandoah Valley orders from General Grant to burn the fertile valley into a wasteland. Sheridan ruthlessly complied with his orders.

knights. Feudal wars were largely about taking in larger rents in land through taxation; burning crops or killing civilians was bad for the business of governance. And with regard to prisoners of war, many of the nobles were distant relations of the king or prince. Most of the rest were soldiers of fortune — such as the Hessians of the American War for Independence — who could easily be bribed into changing allegiance after the defeat of the local king or lord.

The French Revolution: The Advent of Total War

In modernity, the idea of total war began in Europe during the Napoleonic wars, when all men in revolutionary France were first subject to conscription under the *levée en masse* of 1793, and further solidified by a law proposed by General Jean-Baptiste Jourdan in 1798. France had crossed a Rubicon that led to the slaughter of Catholic civilians in the French coastal region of Vendée who were rebelling against the anti-Christian Paris revolutionaries. Each Catholic farmer in the Vendée became a potential soldier against the regime best symbolized by the guillotine, and each farm in the district was potentially growing crops for the armies that may someday march against Paris. So a scorched-earth policy was followed, with houses and villages destroyed, crops burned, and civilians of all ages and both sexes killed. Napoleon Bonaparte reputedly stated that “an army marches upon its stomach” (though

the quote is also attributed to Frederick the Great), which perfectly represents the “total war” mentality.

By 1864, Europeans were meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, to draw up principles guaranteeing the protection of medical personnel in the battlefield, and to stop additional crimes against just war principles across the states of Europe. This Geneva meeting was the beginning of both the International Red Cross and the Geneva Conventions.

While France burned though Europe during the Napoleonic wars, the United States entered war against Britain. By default, America entered the war on the side of France in 1812. The American “warhawks,” eager to hand Britain a military drubbing, quickly found that their war was not going well. As in the War for Independence a generation earlier, America lost most of the battles in the War of 1812 against their technologically superior and more industrialized foe. America’s invasions of British Canada ended disastrously. British soldiers took and burned Washington, D.C., in the summer of 1814, the third year of what many foolhardy congressmen had expected to be a quick war. After the burning of Washington, the new secretary of war, James Monroe, recommended to Congress that military conscription be instituted and the French system be brought over to the United States.

Some congressmen argued that the

military draft was both unconstitutional and a badge of the total state that the U.S. Constitution was written to prevent. One such congressman was a young New Hampshire Whig named Daniel Webster, who spoke against Colonel Monroe’s proposal in a House of Representatives speech December 9, 1814:

Is this civil liberty? Is this the real character of our Constitution? No, sir, indeed it is not. The Constitution is libeled. The people of this country have not established for themselves such a fabric of despotism. They have not purchased at a vast expense of their own treasure and their own blood a Magna Carta to be slaves. Where is it written in the Constitution, in what article or section is it contained, that you may take children from their parents, and parents from their children, and compel them to fight the battles of any war in which the folly or the wickedness of government may engage it?

In the end, it may not have been Webster’s stunning oratory that killed Monroe’s proposal; the peace negotiations in Belgium were well under way, and the adversaries signed a peace agreement at the city of Ghent on Christmas Eve two weeks later.

While many Americans today argue that a military draft spreads the risk of war around to more voters and makes war less palatable to politicians, the reality is that

the military draft transforms every male American into a potential soldier. This was the lesson learned 50 years later in the War Between the States.

America's First Draft

The reticence of Congress in 1814 to enact a military draft was abandoned by both sides of the War Between the States 50 years later. Both the Union Congress and the Confederate Congress quickly passed laws mandating widespread conscription — even though the power had not been enumerated in either constitution. But with the onset of the total war mentality during the Civil War, Congress enacted the draft anyway. And generals increasingly viewed most civilians as potential enemies, and civilian farms as the food supply of the enemy. The result was the burning of the Shenandoah Valley and much of Georgia, and a famine in much of the South immediately after the war.

The irony of the American Civil War was that the Lieber Code — so flagrantly violated by Union commanders during that war — inspired Europeans to draw up the Geneva Conventions. The war criminals Sherman and Sheridan were lauded as war heroes in America, or at least they were in the North. Neither ever had to face a trial for their crimes.

Confederate Captain Henry Wirz, commandant of the notorious Andersonville prisoner-of-war camp in Georgia, was the only Confederate official hanged after the war for crimes of “murder, in violation of the laws and customs of war.” It is worth stressing that the death rate at Andersonville was only slightly higher than at the Union prison for Confederate soldiers in Elmira, New York — despite far more widely abundant supplies in the North — but the commanders of the Elmira prison never saw the inside of a military courtroom.

The practice of applying just war principles only to the losing side of a war has continued throughout American history in this era of total war. After the United States indiscriminately bombed the cities of Japan during the Second World War, some American statesmen wondered if they had gone too far. “Killing 50-90 percent of the people in 67 Japanese cities — and then bombing them with two nuclear bombs — is not proportional in



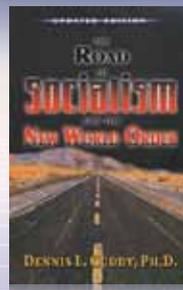
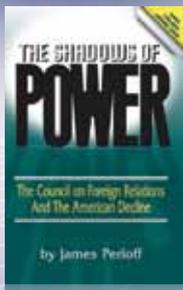
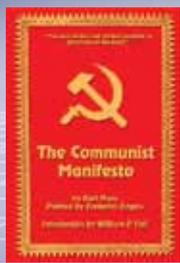
Making war “upon armed men only”: General Robert E. Lee insisted that his troops follow Christian just war principles, strictly protecting non-combatants, in stark contrast with several Union generals after the spring of 1864.

the minds of some people to the objectives we were trying to achieve,” former Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara observed in the movie *The Fog of War*. An Office of Statistical Control official during the Second World War advising the bombing campaign, McNamara continued, “Was there a rule then that said you shouldn’t bomb, shouldn’t kill, shouldn’t burn to death 100,000 civilians in a night? [Strategic Air Command General Curtis] LeMay said, if we’d lost the war, we’d all have been prosecuted as war criminals. And I think he’s right. He — and I’d say, I — were behaving as war criminals.” Likewise, both McNamara and LeMay continued in high public office after the war to the accolades of many citizens.

Against this tide of total war stands the Christian tradition of just war principles eloquently summarized by Robert E. Lee

during his Gettysburg campaign into Union territory. Lee issued orders from his Chambersburg headquarters on June 27, 1863 to his soldiers to leave civilians alone: “The commanding general considers that no greater disgrace could befall the army, and through it our whole people, than the perpetration of the barbarous outrages upon the unarmed, and defenceless [sic] and the wanton destruction of private property that have marked the course of the enemy in our own country.... It must be remembered that we make war only upon armed men, and that we cannot take vengeance for the wrongs our people have suffered without lowering ourselves in the eyes of all whose abhorrence has been excited by the atrocities of our enemies, and offending against Him to whom vengeance belongeth, without whose favor and support our efforts must all prove in vain.” ■

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1970s Soldier

The *Omaha World-Herald* reported on August 27 that a 73-year-old Vietnam veteran in Omaha, Nebraska, was forced to discharge a firearm against an intruder. James Jackson was upstairs with his family in his two-story house when he heard crashing sounds from downstairs, so he grabbed his registered .380 semiautomatic handgun and went downstairs to investigate. Jackson was only halfway down the stairs when he spotted an intruder entering through a broken front window. Jackson fired at the man, grazing his torso, and then yelled for the intruder to leave.

The intruder exited the house but remained on the front step until authorities arrived. The 29-year-old intruder was taken to a nearby medical center in critical condition but was later upgraded to fair condition. The investigation is ongoing, but Jackson believes the man may have been under the influence. "We're thinking drugs or something.... He had to have been on something. He was definitely inebriated," Jackson told the *Omaha World-Herald*. Jackson also stated this was the first time he fired any weapon since the 1970s.

Terrifying 911 Call

The *Arizona Republic* reported on September 3 about the terrifying details of a break-in that occurred in West Phoenix. The original incident occurred in May, but the 911 call was just recently released to the media, and the audio captures the event.

A 47-year-old Phoenix woman was home alone when a man began trying to break in to her house. The woman is a widow, but her husband taught her to handle a handgun before he passed away. The woman retrieved her firearm and huddled in her bathroom as she dialed 911. "I have a gun in my hands. I'm terrified," the woman is heard saying as she explains that she hears the sound of someone on her back porch pounding to get in. The recording became more tense when the person broke through the door and entered her house. "They just broke in," the woman said, as she began to talk in a whisper so as not to alert the home invader as to her location in the home. The dispatcher told

her that it was OK that she not talk and assured her that the dispatcher would stay on the line. Suddenly there was the sound of garbled screaming followed by a gunshot.

The intruder was then heard saying, "Ow! (Expletive.) What was that? What was that? What was that? (Expletive) did you do?"

The homeowner was heard responding, "Did you think you could beat me half to death?" as the wounded intruder began apologizing. The woman then continued her questioning of the injured suspect. "What did you come in my house for?"

After some more garbled dialogue, the dispatcher asked the woman if she shot the intruder, to which the woman responded, "Yes." The injured suspect could be heard talking in the background as the woman then yelled, "Don't get up or I'll shoot your (expletive) again!"

The woman would eventually explain that the intruder thought the house was abandoned and began beating her when he discovered her in the bathroom. The woman showed her toughness when she was heard saying to the injured attacker, "You bet you're sorry, you nasty thing." When the dispatcher asked the woman if she was injured, she said, "I don't know. My face is bleeding from some place, I don't know (garbled). I don't know. He was beating on me.... He was beating on me when he found out I was in here. That's why I dropped the phone and I almost dropped the gun but I ended up shooting." The dispatcher stayed on the line until officers arrived. The intruder would later plead guilty to second-degree burglary and aggravated assault.

Shot the Family Dog

SCNow.com reported on August 22 about a deadly burglary out of Darlington County, South Carolina. Sheriff Wayne Byrd of the Darlington County Sheriff's Office issued a press release that revealed that one suspect was dead, several victims were injured, and a beloved family dog was killed as well. The release stated that two men broke in to a house and violently pistol-whipped two women and an 11-year-old boy. The male homeowner, in a back room, was fast asleep but woke up at the sound of all the noise. "He was at the back

of the residence, came out [and] fired several shots at the intruders, and they fled the scene. And upon our officers arriving, they found one of the suspects dead in a field about 75 yards from the house," Sheriff Byrd wrote in the release. In the intense exchange of gunfire, it appears that one of the suspects fatally shot the family dog.

Byrd did say the homeowner would not be charged because the shootings appeared to be justified and the man acted in self-defense. "It's more a matter of defending yourself, defending your family. Providing for the protection of your own life and your own family's life. And their well-being." The surviving suspect was later apprehended and has been charged with criminal conspiracy, first degree burglary, and three counts of second degree assault and battery.

Everyone Get a Gun

KMTV News out of Omaha, Nebraska, reported on September 8 about a homeowner who was home with his young daughter when he was forced to use his gun in self-defense. The man told police that he went to answer the front door after someone rang the doorbell. Instead of opening his door to find out who was ringing, the homeowner instead encountered an intruder standing in the entranceway after having apparently kicked the door in. Authorities would later report that the intruder then ran at the homeowner. The homeowner feared for his life and fired at the intruder, fatally injuring him. The wounded suspect was taken to a nearby medical center but died later that same day. Neighbor Ann Gray told KMTV News, "I think everyone should have a gun and be ready to defend themselves, and if someone's in your house, I think you have every right to defend your home and your loved ones and shoot them if you have to."

WOWT 6 News later reported on September 9 that the Douglas County attorney ruled that the homeowner was justified in shooting and killing the intruder. The deceased suspect had just been released from prison in the past year after serving time in prison for charges ranging from theft to misdemeanor domestic assault. ■

— PATRICK KREY



GISS

Headline hunter: Gavin Schmidt, a climatologist for NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies, claimed that this past August was the warmest one on record. Reports didn't indicate that other NASA data refuted his claim or that his temperatures were "adjusted," or tell about other study flaws.

Hyping Bogus Global-warming Claims

ITEM: The month of August was the warmest since records began in 1881, the online Huffington Post reported on September 15, citing NASA climatologist Gavin Schmidt and his alleged "data." Going further, HuffPo quoted Schmidt as saying that a very hot August is just one piece of the data that "point[s] towards the long-term trends." The piece was headlined "The Planet Just Had Its Warmest August on Record."

Item: On September 17, the U.K. Daily Mail ran a headline declaring that "August was the hottest on record — and 2014 could be one of the warmest years since climate change began, say experts." In bullet points under the headline, the British paper claimed that August was 0.7 degrees Celsius above the 1951-1980 average. The Mail also cited NASA's Schmidt as the source of its claim, which was stated as unequivocal fact.

ITEM: The Hill reported on September 15 that the globe "just experienced its hottest recorded August, according to new data

released by NASA." It too cited Schmidt at NASA as the source of the frightening claim. "In the broader context, these continuing high ranked months and seasons confirm and add to the long-term trend in temperatures that have been seen in recent decades," Schmidt was quoted as saying.

CORRECTION: With no global warming for almost two decades and record-high levels of sea ice, not to mention the failure of all warmists' predictions and models, increasingly desperate climate alarmists have been frantically searching for something — anything! — to keep the hysteria from melting completely. That was especially important in mid-September, as the United Nations convened its member governments in New York to map out new taxes and a global "climate" regime for humanity under the guise of fighting warming.

On September 15, the Obama administration's scandal-plagued agencies NASA and NOAA, which have been repeatedly accused by experts of manipulating temperature data, offered just what the warmists were looking for. That is the day

NASA climatologist Gavin Schmidt told reporters that August had allegedly been (just barely) the "warmest on record."

The sensational doom-and-gloom headlines from the establishment press began immediately. Shortly after the "news" hit the headlines worldwide, however, climate researchers pointed out that NASA's own temperature data, ironically enough, showed that this August was not actually the "warmest on record."

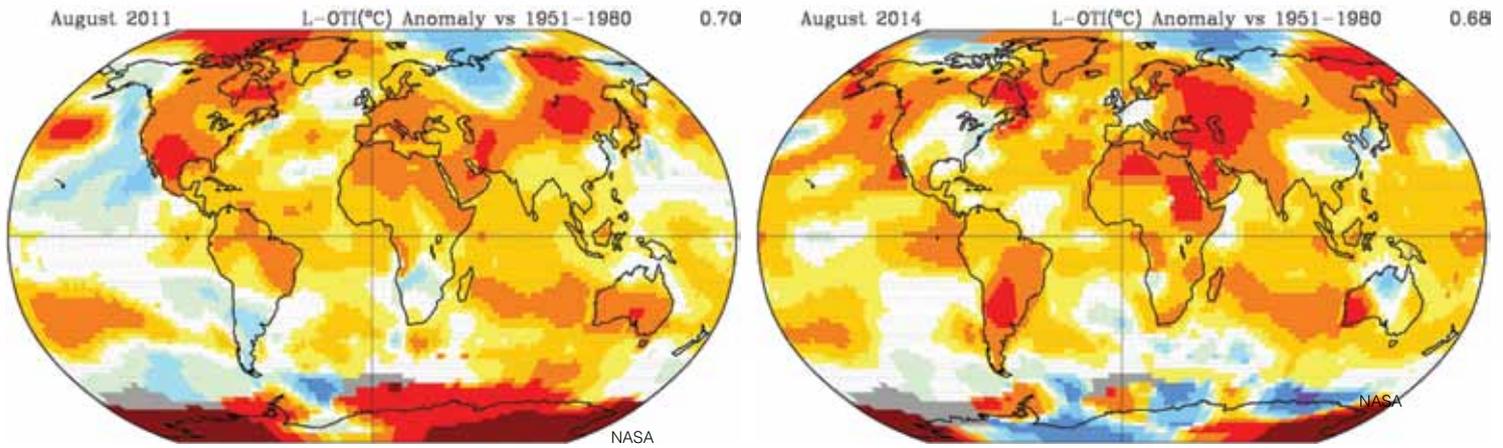
One of the key points involves which data set is actually used. NASA's own, far more reliable satellite data, for example, completely contradicted the "warmest on record" claim. Those measurements showed that August — far from being the warmest — was the coldest in five years and the second coldest over the last decade, analysts said, pointing to the information gathered by NASA's Remote Sensing Systems (RSS). The satellite data also showed that August of this year was below the 18-year average, continuing the ongoing "pause."

When asked about the inconvenient facts by THE NEW AMERICAN, Schmidt acknowledged that RSS data did not show this August as being the warmest on record. "It is a useful and complementary product for understanding climate change but has different properties and different problems," he told TNA in an e-mail about the satellite data. "Obviously the GISTEMP [Goddard Institute for Space Studies Temperature] analysis is independent of that and records or trends in its index stand alone." Not a single establishment media outlet that parroted the "warmest on record" hype informed its readers that other NASA data contradicted the claim.

Separately, the very same data Schmidt said backed up his "warmest" mantra also appears to contradict it. According to that data, August of 2014 was actually cooler than the same month in 2011 at the very least — assuming the agency's "adjusted" temperature data can be trusted. The GISTEMP maps posted on NASA's website for 2011 and 2014 still showed, as of September 23, that the August temperature



Correction, Please!



Large claims, small changes: The temperature anomalies at the top right of these maps from NASA's website show that even the data NASA claims demonstrated August 2014 as the warmest on record actually shows 2011 was warmer — .70 versus .68.

anomaly for 2011 was .70. Meanwhile, the one for 2014 was .68, meaning, in simple terms, that 2011 was warmer.

When questioned about whether the maps were wrong, Schmidt never said. Instead, he pointed to a “discussion” about the phenomenon on NASA’s website. “Basic issue is that the graphic average is not the same as the averaging process for our analysis,” he told TNA. “Differences are small but the values in the table are the official values.”

Whistleblower Tony Heller, who goes by the name Steven Goddard, the independent climate researcher behind the Real Science blog who worked on U.S. government contracts to create climate models, seems to have been the first to notice the discrepancies. “Yesterday, Gavin [Schmidt] told the Huffington Post that August was the hottest on record globally,” Goddard wrote, using NASA’s own maps and data to illustrate the alleged mistake (or deception, depending on one’s point of view). “He seems to have changed his mind since then, because today his map shows August was cooler than 2011 by 0.02 degrees. RSS [Remote Sensing Systems] shows that August was seventh coolest and below average since 1997.” Oops!

According to Goddard, who has played a key role in exposing numerous climate claims, the discrepancy stems largely from temperature data in Antarctica.

NASA’s Schmidt “extrapolated” warm temperature figures across a “huge area of below normal temperatures” and “massively skewed his global average anomaly using a large area of fake +6C anomaly.” Using another NASA map with temperature data, Goddard noted that “Gavin’s 1200 km extrapolations” were used “to smear the earth with non-existent warm data.”

“But it is much worse than it seems,” continued the independent climate researcher, who has degrees in geology and engineering. “None of those three stations actually have any temperature data during the 1951-1980 baseline period, so his since recanted (disproven by his own data) claim is a complete fraud. How can he know what the anomaly is, if there was no temperature data during the baseline period?... There are all kinds of other things he did wrong, including filling in Africa and South America with fake warm data, when RSS showed them cold. Problems with Australia too, which RSS showed cold.”

TNA also asked Schmidt whether he had indeed added a +6 degree anomaly over large swaths of Antarctica despite their being no data available to use as a baseline, and whether Africa and South America had been filled with “fake warm data.” He never denied it. “The analysis is as published and as coded,” Schmidt responded. “There is a validated procedure

for extrapolating sparse data that just deals with the station data that comes in without any regard to what the values happen to be. It is completely automated.” So he personally may not have added in the imagined warmth, but it was indeed added in.

Summarizing his findings, Goddard concluded that Schmidt’s claim of record heat in August “has since been disproven by his own data.” Goddard’s article contained numerous images pulled directly from NASA’s website to illustrate the problems.

Asked about Goddard’s analysis, Schmidt simply claimed — at least originally — that it was all wrong. “None of the claims in the article you mention are accurate, no adjustments have been made to the August numbers, and it remains the warmest August in the record,” he said. “I do not advise paying much attention to a single month though since rankings like this are relatively fragile, depending on exactly what interpolation, source data etc. are used. If you are interested in the bigger picture, you are better off focusing on the longer term trends.”

Aside from Goddard and even Schmidt, numerous independent scientists and experts were also urging global-warming theorists to cool down on their celebrations and fear-mongering surrounding the “warmest August on record” claim. Not only is the data deeply suspect, since



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the U.S. government has been repeatedly accused by experts of fudging the temperature record to show warming when none existed and to make the past seem colder than it was, both of the agencies in question have been forced to back down from similar "warmest on record" claims on multiple occasions in the past.

Even if it had, in fact, been the warmest August since records began, there are numerous potential explanations for such a development that have nothing to do with human emissions of the "gas of life" carbon dioxide or alleged "anthropogenic global warming." One such explanation highlighted by multiple experts, for instance, involves the re-emergence of the natural El Niño phenomenon in the Pacific, which involves an area of the ocean becoming warmer than normal.

Meanwhile, as THE NEW AMERICAN reported late last month, NOAA reported in its Daily Weather Records for August 23 that, during the three-week period of August 1-21, more than a thousand records were broken across the United States for "low maximum" temperatures. Essentially, a "Low Max" means that the highest temperature for the day was the lowest it has ever been. Over the 30 days preceding August 25, 2,104 "low max" records were set. By contrast, there were just 331 "high max" records. Going back a full year, there were about 13,000 High Max records, compared with well over 28,000 Low Max records.

With UN member governments meeting in New York in late September as part of their desperate last-ditch effort to secure a planetary anti-CO₂ regime, the evidence suggesting that the AGW theory is wrong continues piling up. However, that does not mean that alarmists and the establishment forces building up and exploiting the movement to centralize and expand their control over the planet have any intention of giving up. Instead, the propaganda and hysteria is being ratcheted up — even if it requires taxpayer-funded fabrications and establishment media deception to gin up unfounded fears. ■

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TISA, Yet Another Secret “Trade” Threat

“**T**ALKING TISA — The eighth round of Trade in Services Agreement negotiations kicked off Sunday in Geneva, with negotiators planning to delve into market access offers and rules on financial services, telecommunications, domestic regulation and transparency, the EU has announced.”

That opening sentence in a three-sentence blog item by Adam Behsudi at Politico.com on September 22 was virtually the only public notice announcing the latest round of secret negotiations for the



hugely important Trade in Services Agreement (TISA). The four-day TISA event took place September 22-25 at the Geneva, Switzerland, headquarters of the World Trade Organization. It was held in secret, behind closed doors, of course, the same as with the ongoing talks for the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) and Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP).

There was no outcry from the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *USA Today*, CNN, ABC, NBC, CBS, PBS, or Fox News about all the secrecy and the right of the public to know what’s going on. In fact, not even a mention that the TISA Geneva round was under way! No surprise there: We saw the same establishment media blackout in June, when WikiLeaks released the secret draft text of the TISA Financial Services Annex. Aside from the very substantive issues being negotiated (which we’ll get to in a moment), there was the very explosive revelation that the drafters intend for the text of the agreement to *remain secret for five years after the proposed TISA rules take effect!*

The very first page of the draft text states: “Declassify on: Five years from entry into force of the TISA agreement or, if no agreement enters into force, five years from the close of the negotiations.”

Moreover, it states: “This document must be protected from unauthorized disclosure.... It must be stored in a locked or secured building, room, or container.” Members of the U.S. Congress are not allowed to see the secret text; it will be presented to them, finally, in a high-pressure, no-debate vote, following a massive lobbying effort by the usual crony corporatists from the financial, insurance, and information technology sectors.

Incredibly (but as should be expected), the participants in and promoters of the TISA insist that they are all for transparency, openness, and due process. The U.S. Trade Representative’s website on TISA declares: “TISA will support the development of

strong, transparent, and effective regulatory policies, which are so important to enabling international commerce.”

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, which regularly betrays the interests of its hundreds of thousands of small and medium Main Street business members to push the one-world agenda of Wall Street, straight-facedly claims that TISA will advance the principles of “increased transparency and public participation.”

The Coalition of Services Industries (CSI), a high-powered business lobby, echoes the Chamber’s assertions,

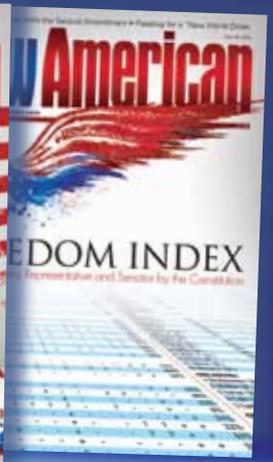
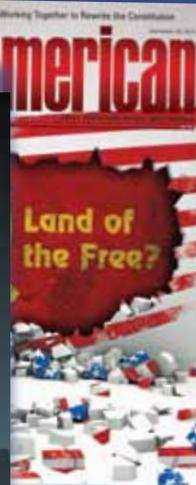
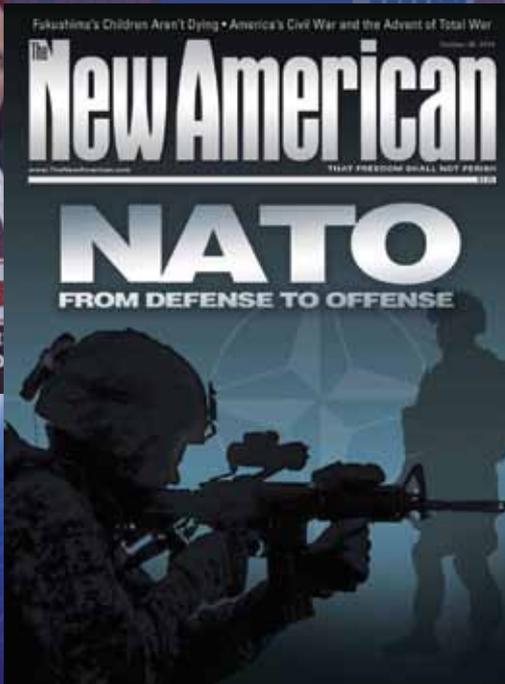
stating that TISA will address major trade barriers such as “lack of transparency and need for due process of law.” But, of course, in order to achieve “transparency” we’ll have to accept non-transparency (i.e., absolute secrecy) and lack of due process — for a period of time. CSI’s members include such heavyweights as 21st Century Fox, Aflac, AT&T, FedEx, Google, IBM, Microsoft, Oracle, Prudential, UPS, Verizon, and Walmart, as well as too-big-to-fail bailout kings such as AIG, Citigroup, and JPMorgan Chase. Exactly the type of folks known for transparency and business ethics, right?

The TISA negotiations are no small matter; they encompass an immense chunk of our economy and have the potential to eviscerate many of our constitutional checks and balances, as well as launch a new tidal wave of job outsourcing. The U.S. Trade Representative’s office says that services “account for three-quarters of U.S. GDP and 4 out of 5 jobs in the United States.” The targeted sectors include banking and financial services, legal services, accounting, insurance, engineering, software design, teaching, real estate, tourism, consulting, energy distribution, transportation, telecommunications, courier and postal services, and a great deal more.

Under our U.S. constitutional system, the national government in Washington, D.C., is restricted to the exercise of specific, delegated powers having to do primarily with national defense, diplomacy, postal service, etc. The individual states reserved to themselves the vast majority of powers concerning criminal and civil law, commercial relations, contracts, business regulation, professional standards and licensing, etc. Each of our 50 states enacts its own laws and regulations governing these matters. TISA would strip those powers from state and local governments and transfer them to regional tribunals and the WTO.

Have your senators, congressman, governor, and state legislators registered opposition to this assault on our national sovereignty, states’ rights, and service jobs? ■

Spread The Word



Defender of Christian Faith and Morality?
Though Vladimir Putin was head of the KGB, an organization that created misinformation and fear to promote totalitarianism, many conservatives believe he has become the protector of Christianity — despite all the contrary evidence. (October 6, 2014, 48pp), TNA141006

Minimum Wage: The Ups & Downs
Calls for raising the minimum wage are springing forth across the nation, under the guise of being “fair” and “reducing poverty.” But the numbers and facts refute the claims. (June 23, 2014, 48pp) TNA140623

NATO: From Defense to Offense
NATO was created to defend the West from Soviet aggression, but it has become an aggressor itself — both in its chase for terrorists and its touted quest to provide humanitarian relief for oppressed people. (October 20, 2014, 48pp) TNA141020

Land of the Free?
Karl Marx wrote the *Communist Manifesto* to illuminate his path to a radical socialist society, called communism. He’d be happy with the extent to which America is following his guidance. (September 22, 2014, 48pp) TNA140922

Freedom Index
Our third look at the 113th Congress shows how every member of the House and Senate voted on key issues, such as the debt limit, farm and food programs, indefinite military detention, and the minimum wage. (July 28, 2014, 48pp) TNA140728

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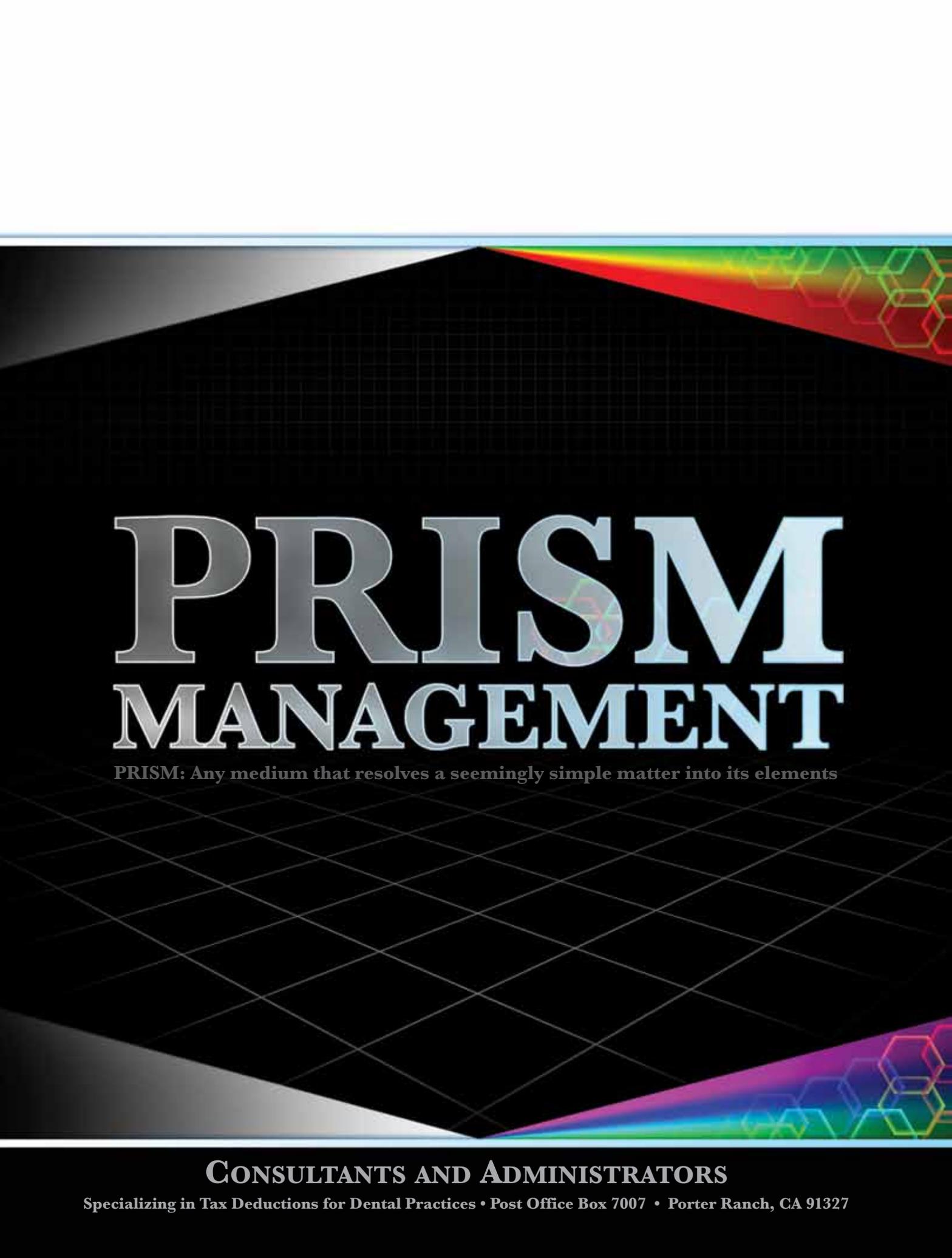
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