



Congress May Step Up to Plate & Reverse FCC Monopoly Ruling. P. 8.



AMERICA FIRST

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER: DO NOT DELAY—DATE MAILED: 6-13-03

Was Prominent Populist Politician "Suicided" By Enemies? Page 14.



American Free Press

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For Life & Liberty . . . Against the New World Order

VOLUME III

NUMBER 24

JUNE 23, 2003

www.americanfreepress.net

\$1.50 EACH

Report Says U.S. Did Target Media Outlets In Gulf War II

A newly released report notes that during the coalition air assault on Iraq, Central Command "authorized" bombing strikes against "media facilities" in which a number of journalists were killed and employed weapons that human rights groups want banned.

EXCLUSIVE TO AMERICAN FREE PRESS

By Christopher Bollyn

A detailed analysis of the coalition air campaign done by Michael Moseley of the U.S. Air Force says there were 10 authorized strikes against "media facilities," including the bombing of the Baghdad office of the Qatar-based *al Jazeera* Arabic television news network, according to an article in *The Age*, an Australian newspaper that obtained an unclassified version of the report.

In Baghdad three journalists were killed on April 8 when their offices were shelled or bombed by U.S. forces. Two journalists died when a tank shell struck the Reuters office in the Palestine Hotel and the third died when the offices of the Qatar-based *al Jazeera* were hit by a single missile fired from a U.S. aircraft. A third office belonging to a news network from Abu Dhabi was also hit on the same day.

Robert Fisk, a British journalist reporting from Baghdad for *The Independent*, said that U.S. claims made by Gen. Buford Blount that there had been sniper fire coming from the Palestine Hotel were false.

"I was between the tank and the hotel when the shell was fired," said Fisk. "There was no sniper fire—nor any rocket-propelled grenade fire, as the American officer claimed—at the time."

In a scathing article titled "Did the U.S. murder these journalists?" Fisk wrote that Mohamed Jassem al-Ali, managing director of *al Jazeera*, had written to Victoria Clark, assistant secretary of defense for public affairs, at the Pentagon on Feb. 24 informing her of the precise coordinates of *al Jazeera's* office in Baghdad. Al-Ali's letter informed the Pentagon of the location of the office and the fact that civilian journalists would be working in the building.

When *al Jazeera's* office was bombed on April 8, killing the station's reporter Tareq Ayoub, al-Ali

(See *UNJUSTIFIABLE*, Page 7)

ASHCROFT OPENS SECRET FILES

Attorney General Shows Personal Privacy a Thing of the Past

Federal officials are reopening secret files that have been kept on people over the years in a sweeping new program to try and round up those the government believes may want to commit terrorist acts in the future.

EXCLUSIVE TO AMERICAN FREE PRESS

By Mike Blair

The federal government's "anything goes" policy in regard to illegal immigration over the past years is now making work for the Justice Department.

So many illegals are now suspected of being potential terrorists that prosecutors are reviewing files going back at least 25 years that include sensitive telephone and email wiretaps. They are attempting to determine if there are any violations which they believe warrant prosecution.

Senior federal prosecutors from across the country met June 3 in Washington with Attorney General John Ashcroft, who ordered the review of more than 4,500 intelligence files to help in what Ashcroft believes is the pursuit of "hundreds and hundreds" of suspected terrorists in America.

The wiretaps and clandestine searches of people's homes, businesses and records were performed during the past 25 years on suspected spies and terrorists under authority of the 1978 Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act.

The searches and surveillance were authorized by a

(See *SEARCHES*, Page 10)



JOHN ASHCROFT
Will American citizens be next?

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Your weekly newspaper from Washington, D.C.

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American Free Press (USPS 020-383) is published weekly except for two issues combined into one at the beginning of the year for \$59 per year by National News Reporting Company at 1433 Pennsylvania Avenue SE, Washington, D.C. 20003.

Periodicals postage paid at Washington, D.C. and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *American Free Press*, 1433 Pennsylvania Avenue SE, Washington, D.C. 20003.

American Free Press

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Newsstand price: \$1.50. Copies of the same issue in bulk: 1-9, \$1.15 each; 10-49, \$1 each; 50 or more, 90¢ each.

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(A compilation of news items that failed to appear in most of the nation's press.)

★ ★ ★ ★

IRAQ INQUIRY NIXED. Republicans blocked a move in Congress calling for a public investigation to events leading up to the recent month-long war in Iraq and charges that the Bush administration had exaggerated the threat posed by Saddam Hussein, reports Associated Press. The chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, Sen. Pat Roberts (R-Kan.), the chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Sen. John Warner (R-Va.) and the chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, Rep. Porter Goss (R-Fla.), led the offensive to reject the formal inquiry, which had been requested by Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) and Sen. John Rockefeller (D-W.Va.). Instead, the Republicans said members of their committees would conduct a closed-door review of U.S. intelligence reports.

★ ★ ★ ★

TROUBLE'S A BREWING. The Bush administration has suppressed a report compiled by the Treasury Department showing that the United States is facing future federal budget deficits totaling the unbelievable amount of at least \$44 trillion. The study is being hailed as the most comprehensive assessment to date of how the country is at risk from health and financial crises resulting from everything from war spending frenzies to aging baby boomers.

★ ★ ★ ★

VA BAD FOR THE HEART. The Department of Veterans Affairs says it's not as good at caring for veterans with heart problems as it thinks it is or should be. Heart patients treated at VA hospitals have consistently higher mortality than patients of similar age and health problems treated elsewhere. A larger portion of veterans die in the first month after a heart attack and a larger proportion of survivors die over the next three years.

★ ★ ★ ★

REPLACEMENT TROOP. A Marine gave birth aboard the *USS Boxer* in the Persian Gulf in May, marking what the Pentagon believes to be the first time an active-duty woman soldier delivered a baby on a combat ship in a war zone. The replacement trooper is a boy.

★ ★ ★ ★

PROBLEM WITH SHARON. Exchanges between President Bush and Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon at the peace summit in Aqaba, Jordan, "may hint at a certain shift in the American stance, from the Israeli to the Pales-



DON'T MESS WITH DAD

Actor Mel Gibson says he plans to sue the the Anti-Defamation League and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops for their criticism of his movie, *The Passion*, depicting the crucifixion of Jesus Christ which he finished in May. Gibson said his private life, his bank records, charitable donations, friends, business associates and family members have all come under scrutiny as a result of the movie. "Whenever you take up a subject like [the Crucifixion] it brings out enemies," Gibson told Fox News. "I can take care of myself, but when you start messing around with my 85-year-old father, watch out." Gibson's father, Hutton, is scheduled to speak at the upcoming conference on authentic history, real news and free speech sponsored by AFP.

tinian side," reports *Ha'aretz*, an Israeli daily. A source told the newspaper that Bush was overheard telling National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice, "I see that we have a problem with Sharon." Later, when the Israeli Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz criticized a U.S. presentation, saying: "[The Palestinians] won't be getting any help from us; they have their own security service," Bush angrily said: "But you have destroyed their security service." Mofaz responded: "I do

A Message from the Editor

This week AFP is focusing on efforts by the Justice Department to broaden its power to investigate people in the United States for links to nationalist and revolutionary groups in other countries. While it's been charged that one of these foreign groups brought its war to the United States with the Sept. 11 attack on New York and Washington, Attorney General John Ashcroft wants Congress to give him the authority to peruse secret files on people living in the United States, arrest them, imprison them and even strip an American of his citizenship if it is found that he supports foreign revolutionary groups.

Many groups characterized by the United States as "terrorist" have never even attacked the United States. But Ashcroft would like to have the authority to go after supporters of a broad range of revolutionaries who have nothing to do with America such as those resisting the Israeli occupation of Palestine.

We have to wonder, were Ashcroft confronted by early American revolutionaries, like such troublemakers as George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Nathanael Greene and Francis Marion, would the attorney general look to lock them up for their efforts to liberate our great country?

Amidst reports of human rights violations right here in the United States, it appears that Congress is resisting Ashcroft's power grab. That's certainly a positive sign. But don't count on Ashcroft to give up that easy. In these difficult times, you can count on AFP to keep a close eye on the ever-expanding police state. Look for more on this in upcoming issues.

News

You May Have Missed

not think that we can help them," to which Bush said: "Oh, but I think that you can. And I think that you will."

VIOLENCE AND NAFTA. Violence and poverty are nothing new to many poor Mexicans. However, the recent kidnapping and murder of a nine-year-old boy in Juarez, a once small town just across the U.S. border from Texas which grew dramatically in size as a result of NAFTA, has many people shocked. As more and more factories moved to the town, the population exploded. According to experts, along with the surge in people came the so-called "twin evils" of a breakdown in social values and drugs. Since NAFTA was passed, nearly 100 women have been killed, many it is believed to sell their organs on the black market. And, recently, the Mexican army was sent into Juarez to raid hundreds of small-scale cocaine and heroin shops that have sprung up in the town.

★ ★ ★ ★

SICK AIDS THERAPY. Taxpayers give \$700,000 annually to the Stop AIDS Project in San Francisco. Now Congress wants to know why this money is spent on seminars entitled "Dirty Thoughts," which include an "Erotic Writing Workshop" and a lecture on "In Our Prime: Men for Hire" which provide tips on "friendly relations with escorts," meaning male prostitutes. The House Government Reform Committee has asked for an explanation of how "promoting erotic writing and sex with prostitutes" can reduce infections by the virus that causes AIDS.

★ ★ ★ ★

BUMPER POPPY CROP. Afghan officials predict a bumper crop of opium this year, exceeding 4,000 tons. Under the Taliban, production had fallen to less than 200 tons. This is despite two decrees by Afghan President Hamid Karzai banning the cultivation of opium.

★ ★ ★ ★

GOOD GUN CONTROL. Alfred Thompson, 89, was watching TV early one morning when he heard someone break in through a side door. Thompson saw the man's silhouette in the darkened kitchen door and fired twice, killing him, reports the *Democrat and Chronicle* of Rochester, N.Y.

★ ★ ★ ★

GUNS SAFER THAN DOCTORS. Government figures show that there are 700,000 physicians and the rate of accidental deaths by doctors is 120,000. The number of U.S. gun owners is 80 million and the number of accidental gun deaths in all age groups is 1,500. Statistically, physicians are 9,000 times more dangerous than gun owners.

★ ★ ★ ★

DANGEROUS DRUG. People taking new antidepressant and serotonergic antipsychotic drugs, such as Zyprexa, Risperal and Seroquel, are 68 times more likely to commit suicide than those who take no medicine, according to research presented to the National Institutes of Health. "Mass murder by prescription is the only expression that fits," said Dr. Ann Blake.

★ ★ ★ ★

FATAL APPETITE. Pygmy leaders have asked the UN to set up an international tribunal to put government and rebel fighters from the Democratic Republic of Congo on trial for cannibalism. Humans are "hunted down as though they were game animals . . . people have been eaten" by fighters on both sides of the civil war, Sinafasi Makelo, a representative of Mbuti pygmies, told the UN's Indigenous People's Forum.

'Abortion Bomber' Gets 'McVeigh Treatment'

Serious questions are being raised about the validity of the evidence against Eric Robert Rudolph in the bombing of an abortion clinic—and these questions have a historic ring.

EXCLUSIVE TO AMERICAN FREE PRESS

By Pat Shannan

Is the evidence against Eric Robert Rudolph, accused of murder in the bombing of an abortion clinic, strong enough for a conviction? Serious doubts have been raised.

On Jan. 29, 1998, a bomb exploded at an Alabama abortion clinic, killing an off-duty policeman and critically injuring a nurse.

Rudolph is facing the death penalty for that bombing. But affidavits by federal agents in a Birmingham federal court about the attack on the clinic constitute hearsay and are inadmissible, his court-appointed lawyer contends.

Rudolph is also accused of the Atlanta Centennial Olympic Park bombing in the 1996 Olympics and that of a homosexual nightclub, also in Atlanta, in 1997.

Rudolph's truck was found abandoned near Murphy, N.C. a week after the Birmingham bombing when the FBI and BATF raided his mobile home.

The documents say that ethylene glycol dinitrate (EGDN)—the primary explosive ingredient in nitroglycerin-based dynamite—was found on a towel taped to the doorway bottom in Rudolph's master bedroom. The affidavits also say that EGDN was discovered on a turquoise-and-black baseball bat found on a dresser and on a cushion from a rocking chair in that room of his rented mobile home.

The affidavits claim that EGDN traces were also found on the steering wheel cover of his pickup truck and on a brown Bi-Lo shopping bag in the truck bed.

His court-appointed defense attorney, Richard Jaffe, has publicly stated that the affidavits "... are by nature hearsay and inadmissible in court," but this will not prevent the prosecutor from calling the agents forward to give their direct testimony from the witness stand.

However, all of the evidence allegedly incriminating Rudolph, according to some legal experts, is circumstantial at best, and the only way he was tied to the Birmingham crime was by an eyewitness who noticed a young white male walking away from the explosion when the crowd was running toward it.

The witness followed the disguised man to a pickup truck whose North Carolina license plate was later discovered to be registered to Rudolph.

IS THE EVIDENCE LEGIT?

Then there is the notoriety gained in recent years of the FBI to contrive "evidence" that must be considered.

Dr. Fred Whitehurst was the chief examiner in the FBI's lab in Washington until he became a whistle-blower in 1996.

Whitehurst had performed the tests on Tim McVeigh's clothing in April 1995 and found no evidence of ANFO residue, the materials allegedly used to construct the bomb that blew up the Murrah building in Oklahoma City.

But the following week the FBI leaked to the press that "laboratory tests showed ANFO residue on Tim McVeigh's shirt." This widely distributed media lie destroyed McVeigh's chances of obtaining a fair trial.

When Whitehurst finally had enough of the bureau's public deception and became a whistle-blower the following year, citing the OKC case and many others, he was promptly fired.

He sued and won a reported \$2.7 million and now enjoys his retirement in luxury.

The Rudolph "evidence" seems to reek of much the



Eric Robert Rudolph is escorted from the Cherokee County jail in Murphy, N.C. by law enforcement. The case may not be as ironclad as you have heard in the mainstream media.

same and is likely to exude a response from the defense team of "So what!"

The federal forces in Alabama have experience, too, in using the type of deception exposed by Whitehurst—as recently as the Bobby Cherry murder trial of 2002.

In the 1960s, the FBI used an informant named Gary Thomas Rowe to infiltrate the Ku Klux Klan. Following the infamous case of the Birmingham church bombing where four little black girls were killed, Rowe was called before a Senate committee to testify under oath about his involvement in this and many other atrocities of the era.

Not only did Rowe never mention Cherry's name among all the others in his testimony but he also swore that he had given, shortly after the fact, the names of those responsible for the church bombing to the FBI.

But by trial time, the FBI said that they had no such record from Rowe, who was then deceased. The trial judge did not allow the jury to see the Rowe testimony transcripts from the Senate hearings. Cherry was convicted and is serving a life sentence.

This report was never seen in your local or national news.

Even Establishment insider, Murray Rothbard, has written: "The fact that the highest levels of the U.S. government are all too capable of lying to the public, should have been clear since Watergate and Iran-Contra... For in a day when the moderate left to moderate right constitute an increasingly monolithic Establishment, with only nuanced variations among them, we can only get the truth from people outside the Establishment, either on the far right or far left, or even from the highly non-respectable supermarket tabloids."

And prominent columnist from a generation ago, Walter Lippmann, told us: "The news and truth are not the same thing." ★

Pin Stripes to Prison Stripes CEO Gets Seven Years

Another robber baron has joined the parade of men who shed their pin-striped suits for prison stripes.

By the Staff of American Free Press

Samuel D. Waksal, co-founder and former CEO of ImClone Systems, was sentenced to seven years in prison June 10 on fraud and other charges.

Last year, Waksal pleaded guilty to securities fraud, obstruction of justice and perjury stemming from his attempt to dump shares of his pharmaceutical company, ImClone, in December 2001—one day before bad news caused the value of the company's stock to "tank."

U.S. District Judge William Pauley rejected pleas from Waksal and his lawyers for less jail time, saying the damage Waksal had done to his family, his company and public confidence in the financial markets was "incalculable."

"You abused your position of trust as the chief executive officer of a major corporation and undermined the public's confidence in the integrity of the capital markets," Pauley said. "Then you tried to lie your way out of it, showing a complete disregard for the fair administration of justice."

"These crimes are emblematic of lawlessness and arrogance from your own self-described short-term cash-flow needs," Paul said.

Waksal is the first former CEO to receive jail time in the wave of corporate scandals that began 20 months ago with Enron. He was also ordered to pay fines and tax restitution of \$4.3 million. He will report to prison on July 2. Until then, a federal judge has ordered that Waksal remain in his Manhattan apartment under constant electronic surveillance. ★

Don't Get Bullish on Market Yet; Grin & Bear It

COMMENTARY

There is strong evidence that America's economic trends and outlook may be far more serious than has been generally reported in the national media. Prudent investors need to be on the lookout.

By Bill Fox

It is likely the market will continue to significantly decline over the next couple of years or longer. A lot of this still needs to be uncovered and sorted out. Among other things, the country needs to motivate American business leaders to get a bit more interested in generating business income to benefit American workers rather than investing in sweat shop operations run by active duty military officers of the communist Chinese army.

Debt is at historic highs and keeps growing while credit quality is deteriorating.

According to Doug Noland, author of *Credit Bubble Bulletin*, total indebtedness (corporate, personal, and government) is currently about three times gross domestic product (GDP) compared to 2.6 times during the Great Depression. Corporate and individual bankruptcies are at record highs. Consumer spending, which comprises about 75 percent of GDP, now appears to be slowing down as a result of higher debt levels eating into discretionary funds, while credit creation by government supported enterprises such as Fannie Mae, GNMA, and Freddie Mac outside the banking system continues to grow by as much as 20 percent a year.

The national strategy of outsourcing manufacturing and emphasizing services through a very liberal approach to "free trade" has distorted our economy in both directions.

The mortgage refinance boom has been an important element to provide consumers with liquidity and keep the economy going, but this cannot last forever.

Consumer sentiment is low, production is in a slump, and hiring is at its worst point in 25 years. The U.S. personal savings rate has dropped to nearly zero.

The balance of trade deficit is over the 5 percent of GDP "danger zone" and keeps growing.

The United States has gone from being the net creditor of the world to the world's greatest debtor nation. In the recent past, foreigners have used their excess dollars generated by the balance of trade deficits to buy around

15 percent of America's stocks and about 40 percent of its treasuries. America consumes 6 percent of the world's savings to finance its deficit.

The dollar has lost about 20 percent of its value against the euro in the last year, and looks likely to continue sliding much further. Normally a dollar slide could be simply a cyclic corrective process that will make exports cheaper and imports more expensive, decreasing imports and increasing exports to bring things back in balance.

Bears fear that something more ominous has taken place; that is, America has exported so many jobs and facilities overseas that it has seriously hollowed out its manufacturing base and does not offer enough quality products to eliminate its trade deficit problem even at lower prices.

In classical economics, over the long run, a strengthening currency is a good sign that a country is increasing its manufacturing base, productivity, innovativeness, standard of living and quality of its products—from this viewpoint, a unit of currency is roughly like holding a share of stock in an entire country.

Countries such as Argentina that went from being a First World country at the beginning of the 20th century to a Third World country by its end suffer from continuing currency slide problems.

A sliding dollar tends to scare foreign investors, encouraging sell-offs of their shares in the U.S. equity markets and their holdings of U.S. bonds. If the dollar continues to slide, the Fed may need to raise interest rates to attract foreign investors to help finance America's burgeoning deficits. Rising interest rates can crimp business recovery and reduce stock values further.

Analysts continue, as they have since 2000, to revise earnings growth estimates downward from initial rosy projections such as a 20 percent growth rate looking forward a year to well below 8 percent as the projected time periods arrive. High-tech companies complain again

It is likely the market will continue to significantly decline over the next couple of years or longer. The country needs to motivate U.S. business leaders to get more interested in generating business income to benefit American workers rather than investing in sweat shop operations run by the communist Chinese.

that inventory channels are backing up.

There is no major advanced industrial nation around to act as a "global economic engine." Japan and Europe are both in recession. If the Japanese economy becomes more distressed and the Japanese start pulling investment funds out of the United States, that could hurt the dollar and U.S. markets further.

China has the world's fastest growing major economy with a large balance of trade and currency surplus, and the national media usually portrays this as wonderful news. But there is an important dark side to the "free trade" miracle of China that American business magazines and business school professors rarely mention in their discussions about free trade.

On the benefits side, the libertarian idea is that if all nations focus on their comparative advantage through free trade, a global version of the division of labor concept will supposedly make all nations wealthier, and wealthier peoples tend to be happier and friendlier to one another.

The Chinese work force is effectively engaged in a labor price war with American, Japanese, and European workers, working long hours for almost nothing to gain global manufacturing market share. India is trying to play the same game as China but is not nearly as significant.

9/11: The Great Illusion

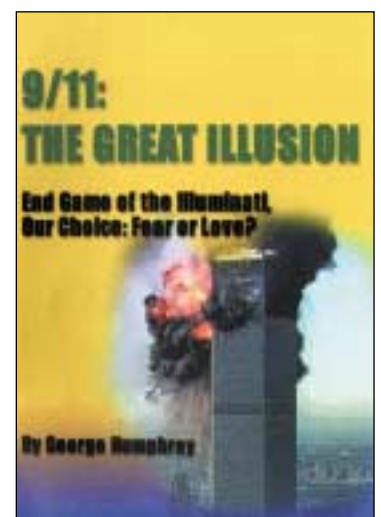
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In one sense, this really is a "war," that is, rather than operate in muddy trenches while sacrificing their lives, the contestants work grueling hours under sub-standard conditions with low paychecks to achieve the same ultimate goal as in most shooting wars. They want to gain market share or command of natural resources that translate into enhanced national economic, military, and political power.

Most prolonged bull markets have been followed by bear markets that are proportional to them. From 1982 to 2000 the United States had the longest bull market in its history, capped by the greatest mania in history from 1995 to 2000. We are only two and a half years on the backside of all this. Also, Bill Gross, head strategist of PIMCO Funds, thinks the Dow must drop below 5000 before it is positioned to offer reasonable risk-adjusted returns.

The stock market decline has hurt business and government.

A further downward market spiral could threaten to increase the "negative wealth effect" in which eroding portfolio values reduce consumer confidence and consumer spending. The "negative wealth effect" is already impacting corporations, for example IBM now has to devote 20 percent of its cash flow for the last year to bringing its pension plan back up.

Lack of capital gains tax revenue and recession are now causing about half the states in America to talk about raising taxes. This could threaten to choke off business profits and capital investment required to create jobs and sustain economic recovery.

Interest rates are at historic lows and seem to have no way to go but back up.

So far dramatic drops in interest rates by the Fed have been "pushing on a string" to revive the economy. The problem is that if interest rates start moving back up, rising debt service could help push America into a liquidity trap. Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan voiced concerns about reaching a "point of no return" in his recent congressional testimony.

America's money supply is growing at a torrid pace threatening to ignite serious inflation.

According to Jim Puplava, the money supply grew at 16 percent in the fourth quarter of 2002. Its growth has averaged at least two to three times the officially reported inflation rate of 2-3 percent over the last five years.

Historically, inflation runs parallel to money supply growth. From 1995 to 2000 the United States was able



PHOTO BY SPENCER PLATT/GETTY IMAGES

Investors: Don't be fooled. Just because the Standard & Poor's is up, doesn't necessarily mean we're headed for a bull market. Analysts contend that the nation's ballooning debt, a dollar slipping in value and the export of vital jobs signal that a lasting rebound is unlikely.

to ramp up the money supply and run balance of trade deficits and get away with it, largely because foreigners were willing to sop up excess dollars as a global reserve currency or invest their dollars in America's roaring stock market. Now the global demand for dollars is holding constant or even reversing, and meanwhile the money pump keeps going.

Russians have started dumping dollars for euros, and many Islamic countries plan to dump dollars for a revival of the ancient Arab gold coin, the dinar, as a reserve currency.

Dollars washing back at the United States would encourage inflation. Critics voice concern that by ramping up the money supply to stave off the impact of the Asian crisis beginning in late 1997, followed by similar actions regarding the Russian default in 1998, followed

by the Y2K concerns of 1999, followed by efforts to stave off a U.S. market and economic collapse since 2000, the Fed has created additional bubbles in the economy besides the stock market bubble, such as bubbles in consumer finance, the bond market and the mortgage finance/real estate market.

America still has ample natural resources and in terms of demographics the equivalent of Germany, Britain, France and Scandinavia inside its borders, so I do not see us necessarily turning into Argentina or Brazil within the next five to 10 years.

Once the bad debts get liquidated and the middle class gets "unconfused"—perhaps after a period of crisis and cynicism to finally figure out how badly they have been misled—we will finally have the basis for a viable rebound. ★

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Bill Fox is VP/Investment Strategist for American First Trust Financial Services. Bill welcomes phone calls and responses to this article. His address is VP, America First Trust Financial Services, Registered Rep., Sammons Securities Co., LLC P.O. Box 820669, Vancouver, WA 98682, telephone: 360-882-5369, toll free: 866-945-5369 (866-WILL FOX), email: wfox@sammonsrep.com. Securities offered through Sammons Securities Co LLC, member NASD and SIPC.

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Former NAFTA Supporters Begging for Bigtime Bailouts

Big manufacturers championed NAFTA. Many are now asking for a taxpayer bailout because of their stupidity.

By James P. Tucker Jr.

The National Association of Manufacturers is calling for taxpayers to bail out its industries because of the predictable job losses under NAFTA—which it loudly supported.

"The loss of 2.3 million manufacturing jobs poses a real and present threat to the American middle class," Thomas Dammrich, president of the National Marine Manufacturers Association, told a Washington news conference June 10.

"These are among the best-paying jobs in our country and almost all of them offer a full range of benefits, including health insurance," Dammrich said. "Every lost manufacturing job is a tragedy for someone's family."

He released a study showing the massive job losses commissioned by the Council of Manufacturing Associations, which is funded by the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM). NAM has more than 200 manufacturing trade association members.

"If the U.S. manufacturing base continues to shrink at the present rate, and the critical mass is lost, the manufacturing innovation process will shift to other global centers," said the study, *Securing America's Future: The Case for a Strong Manufacturing Base*.

"America's industrial leadership is being squeezed between unprecedented foreign competition based on predatory trade practices that make it impossible to raise prices, rising costs due to health care costs, soaring runaway litigation and excessive regulation," said Jerry Jasinowski, president of NAM.

"The result is a dramatic decline in manufacturing cash flow that forces firms to cut back on R&D [research and development] and capital investment and to reduce

employment," Jasinowski said. "The U.S. manufacturing base is receding—and with it the all-important renovation process that is the seedbed of our industrial strength and competitive edge."

It is essential that government policymakers "hike spending on R&D activities, enact a permanent R&D tax credit, and that the government provide incentives to increase the supply of scientists and engineers," Jasinowski said.

In asking for these tax breaks and government subsidies, NAM's speakers carefully avoided the issue of NAFTA shipping jobs south. But industries now huddled on the Mexican side of the southern border have no ready source of "scientists and engineers" for "R&D"—thus the request for taxpayer aid.

The selfish motives for U.S. industries to head south after NAFTA are obvious. They pay slave wages there, with no such benefits as health insurance and paid vacations. Nor are they burdened with extensive environmental and safety regulations that saddle American firms. For one example, a small construction company was fined out of business because a roofer was chewing gum. ★



As the great "sucking sound" of NAFTA gets even louder, and even more U.S. factories close, former advocates of the trade pact are now looking for handouts.

Britain Nixes the Euro for Now

Britain's leaders say they are committed to the euro and surrendering national sovereignty to the European Union, but they have been stalled by a strong populist upsurge.

By Fred Lingel

In a populist upsurge, Britain's leaders were forced to delay the country's adoption of the euro as its national currency over fear that voters would reject it in a referendum.

Gordon Brown announced June 9 that the time is not ripe for Britain to embrace the euro. Despite strong sup-

port from Prime Minister Tony Blair, with Bilderberg shoving him in the back, most Britons oppose giving up the pound sterling.

But despite delaying officially embracing the euro, Brown told the British Broadcasting Corp. he would campaign for Europe and "the principle of the euro."

Politically, the Blair government is hesitant to embrace the euro unless the matter is approved in a public referendum. Most Britons say they would vote against the euro. German and French citizens were outraged when their countries joined the single currency without a vote. After Brown announced the tactical delay, Blair phoned Germany, France, Spain and Ireland to assure leaders he remains committed to joining the common currency.

Britain's delay on the euro is the second mild setback in the rush to create a European super state. Sentiment against surrendering national sovereignty to the European Union prompted drafters of the "European Constitution" to drop the name "United States of Europe." ★

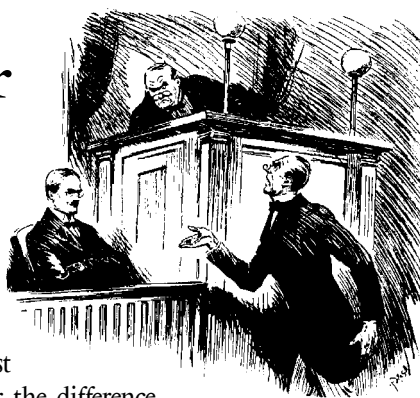
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Unjustifiable

(Continued from Page 1)

wrote again to Clark: "We find these events unjustifiable, unacceptable, arousing all forms of anger and rejection and most of all [in] need of an explanation."

The explanation seems to come in Moseley's reported analysis of the bombing campaign, which states there were 10 authorized strikes against "media facilities." Moseley's assessment, titled "Operation Iraqi Freedom—By the Numbers," is based on military records from March 19 to April 18.

American Free Press sent the Pentagon a copy of the June 3 article from *The Age* with a few questions. In reply to the question whether it were true that the bombing of *al Jazeera's* office in Baghdad had been authorized, came a terse statement "attributable to Defense officials: Coalition forces did not deliberately nor specifically target news media."

There was no response to the question: Is it true that *al Jazeera* provided the Pentagon and/or Centcom with the exact coordinates of their Baghdad office in order to inform the U.S. forces of their location as a precaution?

However, the fact that *al Jazeera* had informed the Pentagon of its coordinates and the code of its signal to the satellite transponder was reported in *The Guardian* on March 24.

Al Jazeera's office in Kabul was also bombed in November 2001, despite having provided U.S. authorities in Washington with the coordinates of its location as a precaution. The Kabul office was destroyed by U.S. "smart" bombs two hours before the Northern Alliance took over the city.

It was the fact that *al Jazeera* was broadcasting "blood-and-guts images from the invasion of Iraq" around the world that angered the United States, according to *The Guardian*. "Millions of viewers throughout the Middle East saw pictures of Iraqi and American victims . . . that many western news organizations would consider too shocking to publish," it said.

When Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld denounced *al Jazeera* for broadcasting images of cap-



More and more Americans are beginning to wonder just how deeply the U.S. military is mired in Iraq. Above, a U.S. soldier handcuffs a Baghdad street child after he is accused of drug addiction and "bullying."

tured U.S. soldiers, Jihad Ballout, a spokesman for the network responded: "Look who's talking about international law and regulations. We didn't make the pictures—the pictures are there. It's a facet of the war. Our duty is to show the war from all angles."

The assessment of the coalition air campaign also reported that 240,000 cluster bombs were dropped on Iraq. Because cluster bombs spread hundreds of "bomblets" over a large area they are not meant to be used in civilian areas. Due to a high frequency of unexploded bomblets, areas bombed by cluster bombs are "contaminated" and dangerous for years.

A leaked map of unexploded cluster bombs dropped by coalition aircraft was recently revealed in *The Observer*, a British newspaper. The map shows "an appalling level of contamination," according to Richard Lloyd, director of Landmine Action. Lloyd, who visited Iraq to assess the danger, said about the map, "It con-

firms that American and British forces attacked built-up areas in cities with cluster bombs."

Asked about the use of cluster bombs in Iraq, Defense officials told AFP, "Coalition forces conducted meticulous targeting techniques and used highly accurate weapons systems in order to minimize harm to Iraqi civilians and their infrastructure," adding that they were "still working on information on the use of cluster bombs."

"Operation Iraqi Freedom—By the Numbers" also said that the U.S. used 800 Tomahawk missiles. AFP asked the U.S. Navy's office of Strike Weapons and Unmanned Aircraft about the approximate cost of each missile.

The Tomahawk Block 3 missiles used in Iraq were produced by Raytheon's missile division in Tucson, Ariz., and cost \$1 million each, according to the Navy, but today's replacement cost for the missiles used would be \$1.4 million "per copy" or about \$1.2 billion. ★

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SPOTLIGHT on Congress

SENATE MAY KILL FCC ACTION

Members Concerned About Expansion of Media Monopoly

Senate Democrats may use a controversial and rarely employed procedure to overturn a decision by the Federal Communications Commission to allow the mainstream media to become even more monopolistic.

See AFP's June 16 issue for details on the newly-passed FCC rules which pave the way for multinational media corporations to gobble up local newspapers and television stations.

Sen. Byron Dorgan (D-N.D.), chairman of the Democratic Policy Committee, said he is considering using the Congressional Review Act (CRA), which provides a fast-track way for Congress to overturn federal regulations.

"We don't use it often," Dorgan told *The Hill*, a journal specializing in Congress. "[But t]hat's what it's there for." Using the procedure would give Democrats a good chance of forcing the issue to the floor and requiring senators to go on the record.

Senate Republican leaders used CRA once before, in 2001. Democrats were caught off guard, and Republicans were able to undo questionable workplace safety regulations dealing with "ergonomics" that had been issued during the Clinton administration.

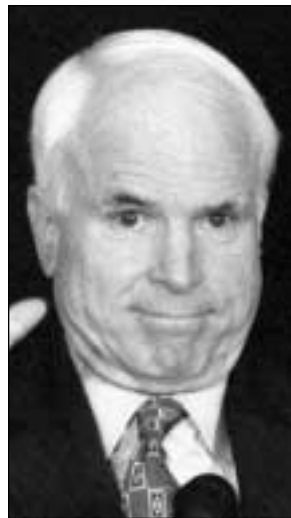
This produced loud protests by Democrats at the time. "We weren't objecting to the right of the Senate to exert a legislative veto," Dorgan said. "That's what the act is about. I think there's every reason to try to overturn this."

Sen. Harry Reid (D-Nev.), minority whip, who co-authored the CRA with Sen. Don Nickles (R-Okla.), said he might support the effort. "[The CRA] was set up for



BYRON DORGAN

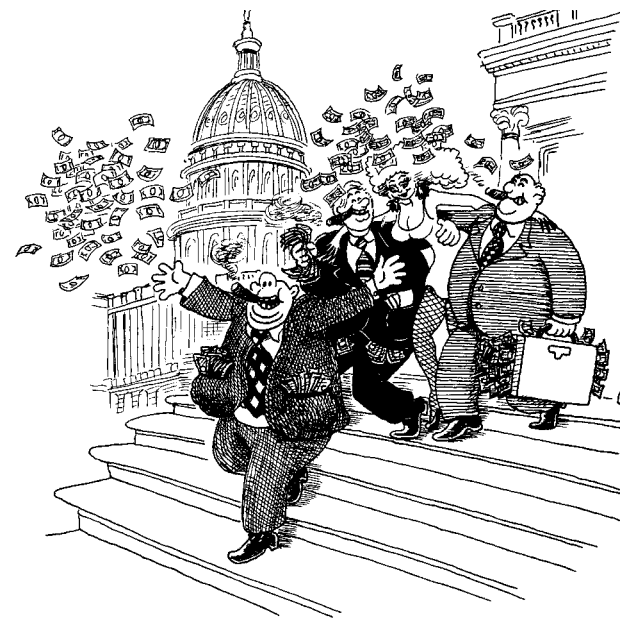
Want to stop FCC one way or another.



JOHN MCCAIN

things like this," he said.

Under the CRA, a senator introduces a joint resolution of disapproval, which is then referred to a committee. If the committee fails to act, 30 senators can force the issue to be placed on the legislative calendar by signing a petition. The majority leader can call it up at any time or it can be brought up by a motion to proceed. It could not be filibustered under either method. The House and Senate must approve and the president must sign the measure for it to take effect.



Other tactics for killing the new FCC rules are being considered.

Senate Commerce Committee Chairman John McCain (R-Ariz.), whose panel has jurisdiction over the issue, said he "is very seriously considering" scheduling legislation by Sens. Ted Stevens (R-Alaska) and Ernest Hollings (D-S.C.) that would maintain the current TV market limit at 35 percent.

But McCain said that legislation fails to address the full issue. The new FCC regulation would allow TV stations to reach up to 45 percent of the national market, allow one company to own a newspaper and television station in the same city, and allow one owner for two TV stations in most markets and three in some.

Of the Democrats possibly using the CRA, McCain said, "I'd rather go through the legislative process, but it's their right to do it, and I don't deny it."

McCain told *The Hill*: "I have gone from [being] a deregulator to someone who's very concerned about the level of media concentration." Citing the massive concentration of the radio industry, he said, "Radio could be the miner's canary for what might happen in other forms of media."

Sen. Trent Lott (R-Miss.), an opponent of the rule, said another way to deal with it would be to place a limitation on appropriations in a spending bill—effectively denying the agency funds to enforce the rule.

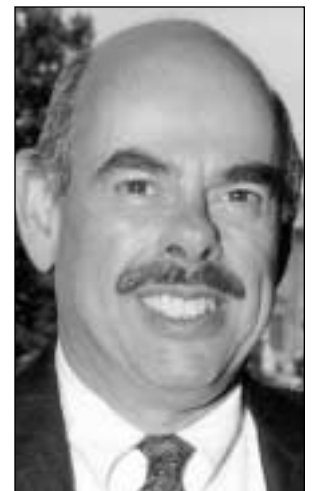
SPOILS OF WAR

Democrats are pressing for a congressional investigation of the billion-dollar contracts passed out to rebuild Iraq. Republicans are resisting. The General Accounting Office, an investigative arm of Congress, is probing the cozy deals between the administration and billionaire buddies.

Two of the biggest contracts have gone to Halliburton, which Dick Cheney headed for five years before becoming vice president, and the Bechtel Group, once headed by George Shultz, secretary of state under President



DICK CHENEY
Company rewarded?



HENRY WAXMAN
Wants investigation.

Senate Split on Raising Debt Ceiling

On May 23, the Senate passed H. J. Res. 51, 53 to 44, which raises the limit set on government debt by a whopping \$984 billion. The embarrassing increase was necessary, argued proponents, because federal law sets a ceiling on the amount of debt the Treasury can maintain. The current \$6.4 trillion limit had been reached and the government was in danger of defaulting on some of its bills.

YES: 53

Alexander (R-TN)
Allard (R-CO)
Allen (R-VA)
Bennett (R-UT)
Bond (R-MO)
Breaux (D-LA)
Brownback (R-KS)
Bunning (R-KY)
Burns (R-MT)
Campbell (R-CO)
Chafee (R-RI)
Chambliss (R-GA)
Cochran (R-MS)
Coleman (R-MN)
Collins (R-ME)
Coryn (R-TX)
Craig (R-ID)
Crapo (R-ID)
DeWine (R-OH)
Dole (R-NC)

Domenici (R-NM)
Enzi (R-WY)
Fitzgerald (R-IL)
Frist (R-TN)
Graham (R-SC)
Grassley (R-IA)
Gregg (R-NH)
Hagel (R-NE)
Hatch (R-UT)
Hutchison (R-TX)
Inhofe (R-OK)
Jeffords (I-VT)
Kyl (R-AZ)
Lott (R-MS)
Lugar (R-IN)
McCain (R-AZ)
McConnell (R-KY)
Miller (D-GA)
Murkowski (R-AK)
Nickles (R-OK)
Roberts (R-KS)

Santorum (R-PA)
Sessions (R-AL)
Shelby (R-AL)
Smith (R-OR)
Snowe (R-ME)
Specter (R-PA)
Stevens (R-AK)
Sununu (R-NH)
Talent (R-MO)
Thomas (R-WY)
Voinovich (R-OH)
Warner (R-VA)

NOS: 44

Akaka (D-HI)
Baucus (D-MT)
Bayh (D-IN)
Biden (D-DE)
Bingaman (D-NM)
Boxer (D-CA)
Byrd (D-WV)

Cantwell (D-WA)
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Kohl (D-WI)
Landrieu (D-LA)
Lautenberg (D-NJ)

Leahy (D-VT)
Levin (D-MI)
Lieberman (D-CT)
Lincoln (D-AR)
Mikulski (D-MD)
Murray (D-WA)
Nelson (D-FL)
Nelson (D-NE)
Pryor (D-AR)
Reed (D-RI)
Reid (D-NV)
Rockefeller (D-WV)
Sarbanes (D-MD)
Schumer (D-NY)
Stabenow (D-MI)
Wyden (D-OR)

NOT VOTING: 3

Edwards (D-NC)
Kennedy (D-MA)
Kerry (D-MA)

Ronald Reagan (*American Free Press*, June 16, 2003).

Shultz represented Reagan at secretive Bilderberg meetings. Cheney participated in meetings of Bilderberg's more public junior partner, the Trilateral Commission. Shultz remains on the Bechtel board.

Contracts to Halliburton and others were awarded without competitive bidding.

"I think there is already the appearance of the administration using the Iraq war to reward some of the companies that have been close to them politically," said Rep. Henry Waxman (D-Calif.), ranking minority member of the House Government Reform Committee.

"I don't think the Republicans are doing any oversight on what this administration is doing," Waxman said. "We're failing to live up to the responsibilities of the legislative branch." Investigations by the minority party are hampered by an inability to hold hearings or issue subpoenas, he said.

On the initiative of Comptroller General David Walker, the GAO is conducting its own probe.

"We're looking at the number of contracts awarded and who they've been awarded to," said Bill Woods, a director of the GAO's acquisitions group.

Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Ind.), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, asked administration officials about the contracts during a hearing on Iraqi reconstruction. But Democrats said his questions were too half-hearted.

"We need much more information about the contracts for the reconstruction of Iraq," said Sen. Byron Dorgan (D-N.D.), chairman of the Democratic Policy Committee. "These are potentially very large contracts, [and] we need to understand the circumstances under which [they] were awarded.

"We're spending a very large amount of money here," Dorgan said. "I worry that it's being spent with very little oversight and not subject to an open bidding process."

Earlier, Kellogg Brown & Root, a subsidiary of Halliburton, announced it had signed a no-bid contract with the Army Corps of Engineers to repair oil wells in Iraq. Inquiries by Waxman revealed that the contract has a potential value of \$7 billion and allows the company to operate Iraqi oil facilities and distribute Iraq oil—a potential gold mine.

Sen. Joe Lieberman (Conn.), ranking Democrat on the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, called on Chairman Susan Collins (R-Maine) to hold hearings on contracts awarded to rebuild Iraq. She said she did not want to investigate while the GAO is looking into the matter. ★

The Unbearable Cost of Running Iraq

As many critics of waging an aggressive war on Iraq feared, it now appears likely that the United States will become increasingly mired in the efforts to reconstruct a country ravaged by wars and sanctions for more than a decade.

By Rep. Ron Paul

Recently fired Army Secretary Thomas White said last week that senior defense officials "are unwilling to come to grips" with the scale of the postwar U.S. obligation in Iraq. Similarly, in February, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric Shinseki brought the same message to Congress: Occupation of Iraq would take "several hundred thousand" troops. Both men have been publicly admonished.

But as our commitment in Iraq continues to expand, how far off are these statements?

A recent *Washington Post* editorial suggests that, "The reality is that tens of thousands of U.S. troops will likely be in Iraq for years to come, and (that) country will not recover without extensive investment by the United States and other international donors."

Of course, what this means is that American taxpayers are to be squeezed in every direction to pay to "fix" Iraq. And it is becoming increasingly obvious that the open-ended American military presence in Iraq is not welcome: In the past two weeks eight American soldiers have, tragically, been killed in Iraq.

[Some 39 U.S. soldiers have been killed since Bush declared "an end to major military operations in Iraq" May 1.—Ed.]

This is not what the attack on Iraq was supposed to be about. It wasn't supposed to be about nation-building. It wasn't supposed to be about an indefinite U.S. military occupation.

"Regime change" was supposed to mean that once Saddam Hussein was overthrown the Iraqi people would run their own affairs. "Liberation" was supposed to mean that the Iraqi people would be free to form their own government and rebuild their own economy.

Yet the United States is spending tens of billions of dollars and more rebuilding Iraq. The Army's 3rd Infantry Division, scheduled to return home after its

success in Iraq, will remain "indefinitely" because securing Iraq is proving more difficult than defense planners envisioned. The U.S. civilian authority controlling Iraq has cancelled plans to allow the Iraqis to form their own provisional government. American bureaucrats are even running the Iraqi media.

What are we getting ourselves into?

I see the real possibility of our government getting into an expensive, long-term entanglement in Iraq at exactly the time we are beginning to see financial troubles on the horizon.

As our nation slinks further into debt and back into deficit, we are making decisions that will literally put our children and grandchildren on the line to pay interest payments for our current policy toward Iraq.

This policy threatens the long-term health not just of our economy but domestic spending on items like education and social security. While some of us in Congress raised these concerns prior to the beginning of the war with Iraq, our questions went unanswered.

Instead of focusing on how this commitment would almost certainly drain our resources for years to come, the policy debate wrongly focused almost exclusively on whether we would have the "moral support" of our "allies" and international organizations such as NATO and the UN.

When American policymakers consider the wisdom of foreign entanglements it would be best that they first understand the long-term implications for the people we are elected to represent.

We failed to do that with Iraq and the length, difficulty, and seriousness of the long-term commitment is only now coming to be realized by those who advocated this entanglement.

Unfortunately, once a project such as this has begun it becomes extremely difficult to set the ship aright and change the course of policy to better reflect the interests of our nation and its citizens. One thing is clear: winning the military battle against Saddam Hussein may well prove the easiest—and perhaps least costly—part. ★

Rep. Ron Paul, M.D. (R), represents the 14th District of Texas in Congress. Paul, a Libertarian, is one of the few members of Congress willing to mention politically incorrect issues in public.

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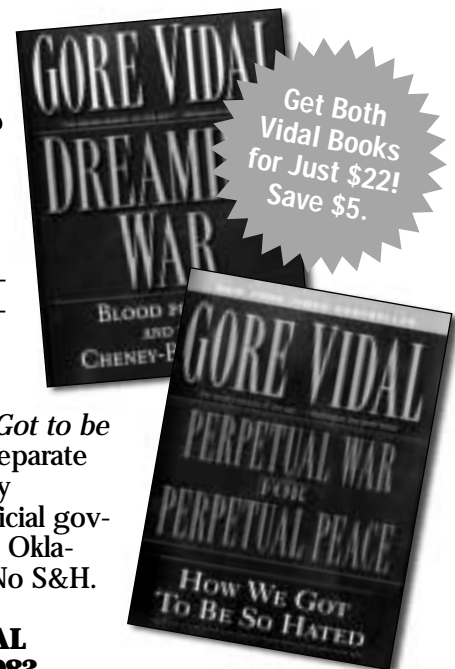
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Inspector General Report Blasts FBI, Immigration

INTRODUCTION

The following are key excerpts from the 198-page report issued by the Justice Department's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) evaluating how FBI, immigration and prison officials treated primarily Arab and Muslim immigrants who were caught up in the search for suspected terrorists in the United States following the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

The OIG's report paints a disturbing picture of human rights violations in the United States following Sept. 11 in which many individuals were held in maximum security prisons and abused for many months but had committed no crime other than having violated minor immigration laws, while others had committed no crime at all.

Though the OIG concedes that the vast majority of those detained following the Sept. 11 attacks were illegal immigrants, only 505 of the 762 detainees mentioned in the report have been deported. Only one, Zacarias Moussaoui, has been charged with any terrorism-related charge. What

happened to the more than 200 others remains a mystery. The federal government, for alleged national security reasons, has refused to discuss it.

Despite the government's study, a full accounting of the detentions is in order. Following the Sept. 11 attacks an estimated 1,200 people were arrested and held while the federal government supposedly investigated whether they had links to terrorism. The government has provided no accounting of those who were legally in the United States but were caught up in the random arrests. Were U.S. citizens suspected of being terrorists treated in a similar fashion?

Critics have accused the federal agents of purposely targeting individuals simply because they were from the Middle East or Asia, while doing little to try to stem the flow of millions of illegal immigrants from Central and South America. Federal agencies are facing multiple lawsuits as a result of the arbitrary roundups.

For the most part, the 762 aliens classified as Sept. 11 detainees were arrested by [an] FBI-led terrorism task force pursuing investigative leads and were held on valid immigration charges.

These leads ranged from information obtained from searches of the alleged hijackers' cars and personal effects to anonymous tips called in by members of the public suspicious of Arab and Muslim neighbors. . . .

Sept. 11 detainees held at the Federal Bureau of Prisons' (BOP) Metropolitan Detention Center (MDC) in Brooklyn were locked down 23 hours a day, were placed in "four-man holds" during movement, had restricted phone call and visitation privileges, and had less ability to obtain and communicate with legal counsel.

Officials from the FBI and the INS told the OIG they clearly understood from the earliest days after the terrorist attacks that the Department [of Justice] wanted Sept. 11 detainees held without bond until the FBI cleared them of any connections to terrorism.

The FBI was responsible for determining whether an alien arrested in connection with a Pentagon/Twin Towers Bombings investigation (PENTTBOM, the acronym given to the massive federal probe initiated following Sept. 11) lead on immigration charges should be further investigated. If it found further investigation warrant-

The OIG's report paints a disturbing picture of human rights violations in the U.S. following Sept. 11 in which many individuals were held in maximum security prisons for many months but had committed no crime.

ed, then the alien was "of interest" and the FBI notified the INS of that determination. However, there were many cases where the FBI told the INS that it could not determine at the outset whether it had an interest in the alien. In cases of affirmative FBI interest or a statement that interest could not be determined, the INS treated the alien as "of interest."

A variety of INS, FBI, and Department officials who worked on these Sept. 11 detainee cases told the OIG that it soon became evident that many of the people arrested during the PENTTBOM investigation might not have a nexus to terrorism. . . .

Department officials told the OIG that they initially believed the FBI would be able to clear, relatively quickly, aliens arrested in connection with a Sept. 11 lead and who were "of interest" to the FBI's PENTTBOM investigation. . . .

Searches Authorized by Secret Court

(Continued from Page 1)

super-secret U.S. spy court, which issued warrants allowing the FBI to break into homes, offices, hotel rooms and other places to install secret cameras, copy computer files and eavesdrop on telephone conversations. The agents also intercepted emails and pried into subjects' safe deposit boxes.

Until recently, Justice Department prosecutors were not entitled to the contents of files of U.S. intelligence agencies, which were limited only to government espionage and counterterrorism experts.

However, a recent federal court ruling now allows the review by Justice Department prosecutors of the old intelligence files.

"All U.S. attorney offices around the country are looking at the closed and open intelligence investigations to review for criminal purposes nationwide,"

Patrick Fitzgerald, the U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, explained.

"I'm not forecasting who, what, when and where we'll bring whatever in the future," he added, "but it's not limited to any one U.S. attorney's office."

In many instances, *American Free Press* has learned, the secret wiretaps and searches are so sensitive—even after decades of languishing in secret files—that prosecutors may never be able to even hint about them in open court or that a defendant was the target of such surveillance by government counterintelligence or counterterrorism agents.

Civil libertarians contend that the advent of secret evidence would make it impossible for suspects to defend themselves in court as they and their lawyers would need a security clearance to gain access to the details. ★

The belief that the clearance process would occur quickly was inaccurate. As we describe below, the FBI cleared only 2.6 percent of the 762 Sept. 11 detainees within three weeks of their arrests. The average length of time from arrest of a Sept. 11 detainee to clearance by FBI headquarters was 80 days. . . .

The following [is an example] of how delays in conducting clearance investigations affected individual Sept. 11 detainees:

A Muslim man in his 40s was arrested after an acquaintance wrote a letter to law enforcement officers stating that the man had made anti-American statements. The statements, as reported in the letter, were very general and did not involve threats of violence or suggest any direct connection to terrorism. Nonetheless, the lead was assigned to a special agent and resulted in the man's arrest for overstaying his visa. Because he had been arrested on a PENTTBOM lead, he automatically was placed in the FBI New York's "special interest" category. . . .

Within a week, the New York FBI field office conducted a detailed interview of the detainee. By mid-November 2001, the field office concluded that the detainee was of no interest. However, FBI Headquarters did not request a CIA name check until Dec. 7, 2001. [Due to a bureaucratic error, however] this alien, who was cleared by the New York FBI field office by mid-November 2001, was not cleared by FBI headquarters until late February 2002 due to an administrative oversight.

[What happened to the detainee following his release was not related in the report.]

FBI'S TERRORIST WATCHLIST

The day after the terrorist attacks, the FBI began developing a watch list originally designed to identify potential hijackers who might be planning additional terrorist acts once air travel resumed. The FBI distributed the watch list to airlines, rail stations, and other common carriers.

The FBI developed two versions of the list. One contained a person's name and date of birth only and the other contained additional information. The information on the lists was updated once or twice daily. The FBI provided the name and date of birth list to common carriers such as Amtrak, bus companies, truck rental companies, and the National Business Aviation Association.

on, Prisons Over Treatment of Civilian Detainees

By Sept. 26, 2001, the list had grown from the initial names to several hundred. As word spread nationwide that such a watch list existed, various agencies requested that names be added to the list.

Kevin Perkins, the Inspection Division Section chief at FBI headquarters who coordinated the watch list, said the list eventually grew to as many as 450 people.

By late October 2001, the FBI alerted its field offices that it had stopped adding names to the watch list. By the end of November 2001, Perkins said the team had reduced the watch list to 20 to 30 names, 19 of which were the names used by the hijackers. . . .

[Civil libertarians have disputed the claim that the FBI narrowed the watch list to only 20 people. There have been many documented accounts, which AFP has reported on, of Americans being barred from flying because they were on a "no-fly" list. However, the OIG did not research this point.]

NO BOND POLICY

The Department decided immediately after the terrorist attacks to oppose bond for all aliens arrested in connection with the PENTTBOM investigation until they were cleared by the FBI, as a way to disrupt potential future terrorist attacks.

As the weeks went by, two situations developed that should have led to a re-evaluation of this approach. The FBI's process for clearing Sept. 11 detainees, originally envisioned as taking just a few days, was taking weeks and months.

Also, as the Department learned more about the 762 Sept. 11 detainees, the fact that many of these detainees were guilty of immigration violations alone, and were not tied to terrorism, should have prompted the [Justice] Department to reevaluate its original decision to deny bond in all cases.

CONDITIONS OF DETENTION

Aliens arrested by the INS on immigration charges who were deemed by the FBI to be of "high interest" to its terrorism investigation were held in high-security federal prisons across the country, such as MDC in Brooklyn.

[The vast majority of Sept. 11 detainees were held in lower-security prisons such as Passaic County Jail in Paterson, N.J. The OIG reported that it found no evidence of abuse at these prisons. However, those unfortunate enough to be held in maximum-security prisons did not suffer the same fate.]

Immediately after the September 11 attacks, the BOP ordered all detainees who were "convicted of, charged with, associated with, or in any way linked to terrorist activities" to be placed in the highest level of restrictive detention.

Fifteen of the Sept. 11 detainees we interviewed who were placed in the MDC between Sept. 14 and Oct. 16, 2001, told the OIG that a "communications blackout" continued until mid-October 2001. The detainees said that during this period, MDC staff did not permit them visitors, legal or social telephone calls, or mail.

[The OIG reported that, though detainees in MDC had not been charged with any crimes, they were still routinely handcuffed and chained with leg irons, and were frequently subjected to humiliating and abusive conditions. However, when the OIG went to investigate allegations of abuse, videotapes that would have documented the abuse had been destroyed.]

The OIG interviewed a detainee who complained that MDC officers repeatedly slammed him against walls while twisting his arm behind his back. He also alleged officers dragged him by his handcuffed arms and frequently stepped on the chain between his ankle cuffs. The detainee stated his ankles and wrists were injured as a result of the officers' abuse. He also identified three other September 11 detainees who allegedly had been abused by MDC staff members.

Detainees alleged that officers verbally abused them with racial slurs and threats like, "You will feel pain," and, "Someone thinks you have something to do with the

World Trade Center, so don't expect to be treated well."

In interviews with our investigators, these detainees alleged that when they arrived at the MDC in September and October 2001, MDC officers forcibly pulled them from the car, slammed them into walls, dragged them by their arms, stepped on the chain between their ankle cuffs, verbally abused them, and twisted their arms, hands, wrists and fingers.

One of the detainees alleged that when he was being taken to the MDC's medical department following a four-day hunger strike, an officer bent his finger back until it touched his wrist. Another detainee alleged that when he arrived at the MDC, officers repeatedly twisted his arm, which was in a cast, and his finger, which was healing from a recent operation.

MDC staff subjected the Sept. 11 detainees to having both lights illuminated in their cells 24 hours a day for several months longer than necessary. Eighteen of the 19 detainees interviewed complained to the OIG about the difficulty of sleeping with both lights illuminated 24 hours a day, citing exhaustion, depression, stress and sleep deprivation. ★

The complete copy of the report can be found on-line at www.usdoj.gov/oig/special/0603/full.pdf.



Ashcroft Wants Patriot Act Expanded

Despite outrage from across the country from citizens who fear they are losing their constitutional rights, the attorney general is urging Congress to make the "Patriot" Act even more repressive.

By James P. Tucker Jr.

Attorney General John Ashcroft told Congress on June 5 he wants the Patriot Act strengthened to allow the death penalty for all terrorist acts that result in fatalities and to prevent suspects accused of terrorism from being released on bond.

Three days after the Justice Department's inspector general suggested that law enforcement agencies had mistreated hundreds of immigrant detainees seized after the 9-11, 2001, attacks blamed on terrorists, Ashcroft told the House Judiciary Committee the Patriot Act had "weaknesses which terrorists could exploit."

Critics expressed concerns about whether civil liberties were being lost in the name of national security under the Patriot Act, which was rushed through Congress in the wake of the 9-11 attacks and gave the Justice Department far-reaching powers to gather information and crack down on suspected terrorists.

Ashcroft admitted that officials had subjected some illegal immigrants detained after 9-11 to harsh prison conditions for long periods before the FBI cleared them of links to terrorism—a major finding of the critical report issued June 2 by Glenn Fine, the Justice Department's inspector general.

Ashcroft expressed "some sympathy" for the criticisms by Fine, who found there were "significant problems" in the detention, on immigration charges, of many of the 762 foreign nationals held after the 9-11 attacks.

Ashcroft said the Justice Department policy, "for which we do not apologize," is to fully investigate the illegal immigrants who came to the attention of authorities investigating the attacks before deporting them.

"If, God forbid, if we ever have to do this again, we

hope we can clear people more quickly," Ashcroft said. "There is no interest whatsoever that the United States of America has in holding innocent people—absolutely none."

Committee Chairman James Sensenbrenner Jr. (R-Wis.) complained that Ashcroft failed to consult with Congress last year when he revised the attorney general's guidelines on FBI investigations.

The previous guidelines, adopted in the 1970s to curtail spying on political organizations, were widely interpreted as prohibiting agents from gathering information in public, political or religious settings or by monitoring the Internet.

SECRET ARRESTS

The new rules permit agents to go anywhere the public can go, including to churches and mosques without revealing their purpose and even if there is no ongoing investigation. Ashcroft claimed information from such visits "cannot be retained unless it relates to potential criminal or terrorist activity."

Especially chilling is a request to allow, for the first time, secret arrests (disappearances). The draft of "Patriot II" reads:

"The government need not disclose information about individuals detained in investigations of terrorism until . . . the initiation of criminal charges"—no matter how long it takes.

Ashcroft's changes would make it possible for the FBI to arrest persons in the dead of night and take them away forever—something Americans have often criticized Josef Stalin's terrorist communist regime for doing.

An American could be stripped of his citizenship if found to provide "material support" to a group designated a "terrorist organization."

Critics point out that what constitutes a "terrorist group" is often vague. If you innocently donate to a charity which gives money to nationalist or revolutionary groups you could lose your citizenship and be prosecuted.

Now, an American can forfeit citizenship only by declaring a clear intent to abandon his country.

Under Ashcroft's proposal, "intent to relinquish nationality need not be manifested in words but can be inferred from conduct." It is unclear which bureaucrats would do the "inferring." ★



Ashcroft's Rule: Guilty Till Proven Innocent

Even while permitting the mass influx of aliens, the Bush administration has launched a massive campaign of preventive detention, based on little evidence of wrongdoing. The sweep proceeded under an unprecedented veil of secrecy and under a presumption of "guilty until proven innocent."

By David Cole

With the exception of Zaccarias Moussaoui and perhaps the material witnesses, all the Sept. 11 detainees are being held on "pre-textual" charges. The real reason for their incarceration is not that they worked without authorization or took too few academic credits. Rather, the government used these excuses to detain them because it thinks they might have valuable information, because it suspects them but lacks sufficient evidence to make a charge, or simply because the FBI is not yet convinced that they are innocent.

Ali Maqtari, a Yemeni citizen, was picked up on Sept. 15, 2001, when he accompanied his U.S. citizen wife to Fort Campbell, Ky., where she was reporting for Army basic training. Agents interrogated him for more than 12 hours and accused him of involvement with terrorists.

Maqtari took and passed a lie detector test but was detained on the highly technical charge that he had been in the country illegally for 10 days while changing his status from tourist to permanent resident.

The government never offered any evidence linking him to terrorism or to a crime of any kind. It merely submitted a boilerplate affidavit from an FBI agent arguing that Maqtari should be detained because the investigation of terrorism is a "mosaic," and therefore, seemingly innocent facts might at some future time turn out to indicate culpability. Two months later, Maqtari was released without charges.

Another man, Osama Elfar, was detained on Sept. 24, apparently because he was Egyptian, attended a Florida flight school and worked as a mechanic for a small airline in St. Louis.

Hady Hassan Omar, also an Egyptian, spent two months in jail because he made plane reservations on a Kinko's computer around the same time as one of the alleged hijackers. He was released without charges on Nov. 23.

These and other cases suggest that the Justice Department policy has been to lock up first, ask questions later, and to presume that an alien is dangerous



Playwrights, politicians and other activists on the steps of New York City Hall in a rally to defend constitutional rights against the USA Patriot Act. Many city councils are considering measures to officially oppose the post-9-11 erosion of civil liberties.

until the FBI has a chance to assure itself that he is not. **CHANGING LAW TO FIT FEARS**

Many of those detained were initially held without charges for several weeks. Shortly after Sept. 11, the Immigration and Naturalization Service unilaterally amended a regulation governing detention without charges. The existing regulation had required the INS to file charges within 24 hours of detaining an alien. Under the new regulation, detention without charges is permissible for 48 hours, and for an unspecified "reasonable" period beyond that in times of emergency. Documents disclosed through a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit show that many of the detainees were held for more than two weeks without any charges whatsoever.

Defenders of the administration often respond that the detainees violated immigration laws, and therefore deserve to be thrown in jail. But while an allegation of an immigration violation, if proven, may justify deportation, it does not in itself justify long-term detention.

Before Sept. 11, the INS could detain an alien charged with a deportable offense as a preventive measure, but only if it could show an immigration judge that the alien

posed a threat to national security or a risk of flight.

Under a new regulation issued Oct. 29, however, even if the immigration judge rules that there is no basis for detention, INS prosecutors can keep the alien locked up simply by filing an appeal of the release order. Appeals of immigration custody decisions routinely take months, and often more than a year, to decide. And the prosecutor need not make any showing that the INS's appeal is likely to succeed.

None of these measures would pass muster if applied to citizens. Citizens are entitled to a public trial. They may be subjected to "preventive detention," but only if charged in a public proceeding and brought before an independent judge within 48 hours for a probable cause hearing.

The requirement for a "speedy trial" means that unless a citizen agrees to an extension, preventive detention is limited to a matter of weeks. And if a judge rules that a citizen should be released on bail pending trial, the prosecutor cannot keep him in jail simply by filing an appeal.

THE LAST REFUGE OF SCOUNDRELS

It is likely to get still worse. An as-yet-unused provision in the USA Patriot Act, passed within six weeks of Sept. 11, gives the attorney general unilateral authority to detain aliens on his say-so, without a hearing and without any opportunity for the alien to respond to the charges. The attorney general may detain any immigrant whom he certifies as a "suspected terrorist."

While "suspected terrorists" might sound like a class that ought to be locked up, the Patriot Act defines that class so broadly that it includes people who have never engaged in or supported a violent act but are merely "associated" with disfavored groups.

It also includes virtually every immigrant who has used or threatened to use a weapon, even in a barroom brawl, domestic dispute, or in other settings having nothing whatsoever to do with terrorism, as it is commonly understood.

Such aliens can be held without charges for seven days, and in some circumstances can be held indefinitely, even if they cannot be deported because they have a legal right to remain in the United States.

One reason the Patriot Act provision has not yet been invoked may be that it raises a multitude of serious constitutional concerns. The Supreme Court has never permitted preventive detention absent a finding of dangerousness or flight risk, yet this provision would authorize just that. ★

David Cole is a professor at Georgetown University Law Center and an attorney with the Center for Constitutional Rights.

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Controversial German Politician 'Suicided'?

When Germany's most controversial and outspoken politician fell to his death while parachuting, the German media strangely disregarded the possibility of assassination and quickly promoted the assumed theory of suicide.

EXCLUSIVE TO AMERICAN FREE PRESS

By Christopher Bollyn

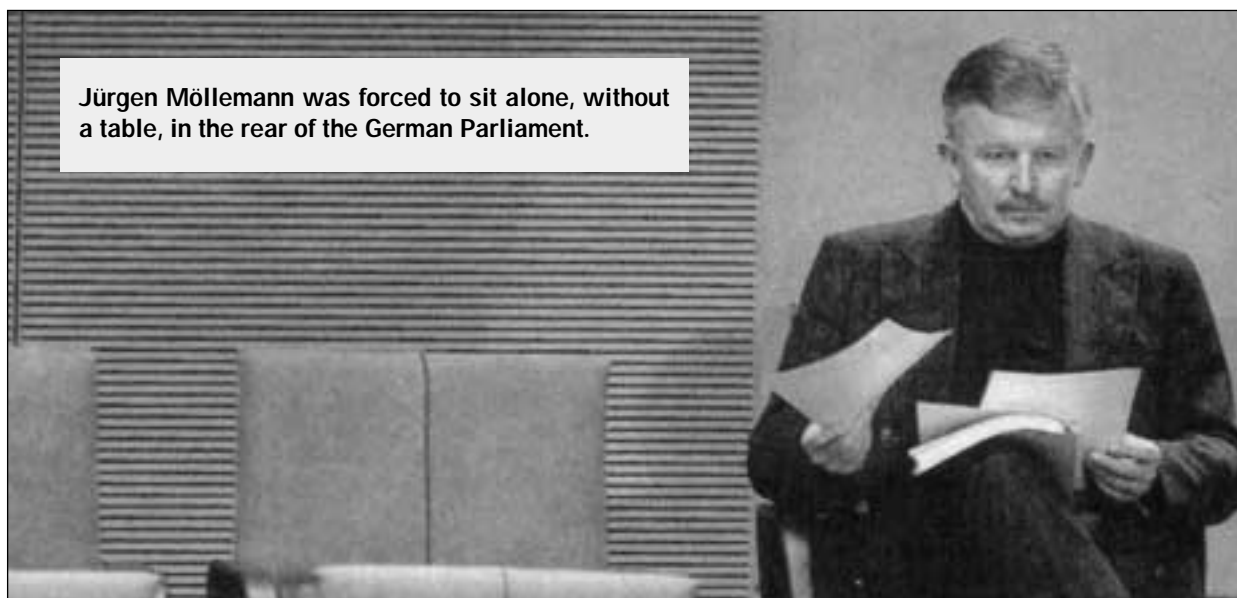
Jürgen Möllemann, 57, a controversial and flamboyant German politician with the liberal Free Democratic Party (FDP) since 1972, fell to his death on June 5 while parachuting near the town of Marl in North Rhine Westphalia. Condemned as an anti-Semite in the German media for his outspoken criticism of Israel's brutal occupation of Palestine, the mainstream press chose to portray Möllemann's death as the suicide of a "disgraced" politician whose career was in ruins. While the media barely mentioned the possibility of murder there is substantial suspicion—and some evidence—of foul play.

Möllemann, married with three daughters, was busy preparing to launch a new populist political party and was reported to be in good health and high spirits. The idea that he would have committed suicide was dismissed by those who knew him best: "That doesn't fit the picture I have of Jürgen Möllemann, because he was a fighter," Hans-Dietrich Genscher, former German foreign minister, said.

Genscher and Möllemann had worked together in the pro-business Liberal Party to form an alliance in 1982 with the Christian Democratic Party (CDP). This alliance brought the conservative Chancellor Helmut Kohl, from the CDP, to power.

Möllemann rose to become minister of state for foreign affairs (1982), secretary of state for education (1987), and secretary of state for economic affairs (1991). In 1993 he served as vice chancellor.

Möllemann resigned from the FDP in March of this year because of his disagreements with the chairman of the party, Guido Westerwelle, which centered on Möllemann's pre-election criticism of Israeli leader Ariel Sharon and Michael Friedman, the vice president of the



Jürgen Möllemann was forced to sit alone, without a table, in the rear of the German Parliament.

Council of German Jews. Möllemann was ostracized in the German parliament and made to sit in a special seat without a table in the back of the chamber.

In his recently released best-selling book, *Klartext* ("Speaking Frankly"), Möllemann accused Westerwelle of being blackmailed by the Israeli secret service, Mossad.

"Few things in Germany are more out of bounds for mainstream politicians than criticism of Israel or Jews," *The Guardian* (UK) wrote. "Möllemann, a long-standing supporter of the Arab cause, clashed repeatedly with Germany's Jewish leaders over their support for the Sharon government."

Möllemann's sudden and mysterious death, and his involvement with Mossad and Middle Eastern weapons deals, recalls a similar incident involving a German politician 16 years ago.

Two days after Möllemann's death, *Bild*, the most popular German daily, compared Möllemann's death with the death of Uwe Barschel, premier of Schleswig-Holstein, who was found dead in a Geneva, Switzerland, hotel bathtub on Oct. 11, 1987. *Bild* asked if the mystery of Möllemann's death would remain "unsolved" like that of Barschel.

What *Bild* failed to mention was that Victor

Ostrovsky, a former Mossad agent, wrote in his 1994 book, *The Other Side of Deception: A Rogue Agent Exposes the Mossad's Secret Agenda*, that a team of Israeli assassins had murdered Barschel.

Ostrovsky described how Barschel was lured to Geneva's Beau Rivage Hotel by a phone call received in the Canary Islands from a Robert Oleff in October 1987. Barschel was ambushed in the hotel by a team of Mossad assassins, Ostrovsky wrote, who killed him and then forced barbiturates down his throat through a tube. Barschel's fully clothed body was found in a hotel bathtub full of water.

Ostrovsky's grim account was confirmed in a January 1995 *Washington Post* story based on German, Spanish and Swiss police investigations of the murder, and the possible motives for it.

The *Post* article reported that the Barschel case has been reopened as a murder investigation because of evidence of "third party" involvement. Investigators found that the overdose of sedatives found in Barschel's stomach had been forced down his throat through a tube after he was dead.

According to Ostrovsky, Barschel was murdered because he refused to allow Israeli arms for Iran to be shipped from Schleswig-Holstein ports. During the Iran-

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*Loss of Liberty:
The Attack
on the
U.S.S. Liberty*



Iraq War, Israel and the United States secretly armed both sides.

In both the Møllemann and Barschel cases, dealings involving Middle Eastern weapons brought a German politician into contact with the Mossad. In both cases the German politician involved met an untimely and mysterious death.

In the case of Møllemann, a former military paratrooper who frequently parachuted into political rallies, death came when he became detached from his main parachute and fell into a barley field. How he became detached, however, and why his emergency parachute did not open have yet to be explained.

Authorities said Møllemann's emergency parachute had failed to open and that they were investigating "the possibility" of suicide.

"One witness, who jumped from a plane at the same time as the politician, said all the group's parachutes had opened normally," the BBC reported on June 6. "Then suddenly the chute broke free from Mr. Møllemann's body, said the witness, adding that he must have detached it himself. Mr. Møllemann's spare chute then failed to open, indicating that he must have switched off a safety mechanism in it, he said."

Some observers familiar with the sport of parachuting are skeptical of the preliminary findings regarding the circumstances of Møllemann's death.

Van Loman, a veteran parachutist (and former chairman of the Populist Party of Ohio) said the suicide theory makes no sense.

"Whenever your main chute fails, for whatever reason, getting rid of the malfunctioning chute is what any experienced jumper would do," said Loman. "This eliminates the possibility that the otherwise operable reserve chute, when deployed in such an emergency, will tangle in the main chute and cause certain death.

"Clearly," said Loman, "getting rid of the main chute, as Møllemann did, was a standard, emergency, life-saving maneuver that would have been a rather odd thing to do if Møllemann had indeed intended to commit suicide. To jettison the main chute indicates just the opposite intent—that Møllemann's intention was to deploy the reserve chute and save his life, not kill himself."

That Møllemann failed to deploy his reserve chute, as the official report concludes, raises more questions, he said. "A parachute is not a terribly complicated device. However, when packing a chute, it is absolutely critical to the jumper's safety that the chute is packed properly.



Amidst charges of anti-Semitism and financial improprieties, controversial German politician, Jürgen Møllemann, an experienced skydiver, plunged to his death near the western town of Marl, where he slipped out of his parachute at 5,000 feet and fell into a barley field, eyewitnesses reported.

"Unfortunately, even when the jumper packs his own chute, chutes can be tampered with afterward and may malfunction as a result. It is also not uncommon for someone who jumped as frequently as did Møllemann, that someone else, besides the jumper himself, would be tasked to pack the chute," said the expert. Neither Møllemann nor Barschel left a suicide note. ★

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(SPECIAL REPORT) "The recent discovery of a new natural protein enzyme may turn into a major breakthrough in health and aging," declared a research chemist at the National Institute of Aging, a branch of the U.S. Government's National Institute of Health. "It's a most exciting finding and it certainly looks strongly as if this enzyme is going to play an important role in retarding aging and promoting a long life," he said.

The new enzyme has a double action. One, it can help people "look" up to 30 years younger by smoothing wrinkles and firming up skin. Two, it boosts the energy supply and slows down the aging process so you can not only live a longer but also a healthier life. And to top it off, it's perfectly safe and has no side effects, top doctors and scientists say.

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Feds Investigate the Power of the Mind

The government and universities are studying the human brain and learning you can do anything if you put your mind to it.

By Jack Phillips

The federal government and universities throughout the nation are exploring the human mind to determine if the power of positive thinking can move mountains.

Scientists have long been aware that the mind is many-faceted. In double-blind studies, patients receiving a placebo, or phony pill, often do almost as well as those taking the real medication. Their minds convince them they are being treated and they respond.

Mothers exhibit uncanny sensitivity when danger threatens an absent child. Dowzers are able to determine where to drill for water hundreds of feet below in solid rock. Anecdotes abound.

About 1970, a young man said he could turn a light bulb on and off with brainpower alone. With a couple of wires attached to his head, and a little black box, he demonstrated this to about 100 people at NASA headquarters in Washington.

Now there is an ongoing \$24 million Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency program to determine what can be done with the power of thought and modern technology.

The Technology Review May 2003 issue provides an overview of what is happening in this area of research and development.

Ted Berger, a neurobiologist at the University of Southern California, is attempting to map the circuitry involved in memory inside a rat's brain. The objective is to gain an understanding of how minds and machines can interact. If successful, the result could be new techniques for controlling machinery and vehicles with the power of thought and, possibly, the wireless communi-

cation of thought between people.

At Duke University in Durham, N.C., Miguel Nicoleli has a rhesus monkey learning to control a robot arm through brain signals picked up by an implanted electrode. At the University of Michigan Daryl Kipke is attempting to teach rats and monkeys how to control six-legged robots. He hopes to have a monkey in St. Louis navigate a robot through a maze in Ann Arbor via the Internet this summer.

OTHER STUDIES

Richard Anderson at Caltech is developing electrode systems for use in brain research. John Donoghue at Brown University is developing prostheses to permit paralyzed people to interact with computers. Andrew Schwartz at the University of Pittsburgh is working on neural prostheses. Harvey Wiggins with Plexon in Dallas is developing hardware and software for recording and analyzing brain signals.

The Ozark Research Institute in Fayetteville, Ark., has been studying the activities of brainwaves during remote psychic healing. The book *Infinite Mind* by Dr. Valerie V. Hunt describes some of her work in this area at the University of California. The National Institutes of Health recently supported an investigation of psychic healing of brain tumors.

The American Society of Dowzers has been a center for individuals engaged in unsponsored research projects on dowzing phenomena. In Germany and Russia government programs have supported investigations involving dowzers. French and Egyptian dowzers recently investigated ancient Egyptian dowzing activities.

Many who deal with psychic phenomena believe the brain to be a computer and that thought originates in the soul. They also believe that energy, not presently recognized by scientists, makes the power of thought possible. Modern physicists have said that, after many years of studying nature, they have arrived at conclusions reached thousands of years ago by theologians. Perhaps brain research will reach a similar juncture. ★



PHOTO BY SION TOUGH/GETTY IMAGES

Jack Phillips is a writer who lives in Massachusetts. He has a degree in chemical engineering, is an emeritus member of the American Chemical Society and is a member of the society of Sigma Psi.

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Congress Abdicating Power

We Americans elect men and women as members of Congress to represent us and we expect them to obey their oaths they take to uphold, defend and protect the Constitution from all enemies foreign and domestic.

Sorry to say, the record of Congress during the 20th and continuing into the 21st century is a shocking record of abdication. They have surrendered their powers as stipulated in Article I, Sec. 8, to the executive or to some unelected entity.

Take war, for example. The last constitutional war (a war declared by Congress) was World War II. FDR, though cleverly laying the groundwork for our entry into war, asked Congress for a formal declaration of war. Congress had no choice but to say yes.

Harry Truman allowed our armed forces to enter Korea in the name of the United Nations. And as news reports have it, our position in that region is becoming more perilous each day.

Our second venture into Iraq has proved to be a disaster despite claims that the war has been a victory for "democracy." "Costly" is the operative word for this war and all wars, in men, materiel and indebtedness to the private banking interests that own our money system thanks to Congress, which in 1913 disregarded its constitutional mandate to "coin money, regulate the value thereof" as found in Article I, Sec. 8.

Thomas Jefferson demonstrated that he understood the dangers Congress and the people faced from unscrupulous private bankers who would try to swindle the American people on a grand scale when he warned:

"If the American people ever allow private banks to control the issue of their money, first by inflation then by deflation, the banks and corporations that will grow up around them (around the banks), will deprive the people of their property until their children will wake up homeless on the continent their fathers conquered."

Most Americans regardless of their occupation or status in life are totally in the dark about the working of our banking system. Two men of the 20th century, Pastor Sheldon Emry (1926-1985) and Father Charles Coughlin (1891-1979), did understand that system and wrote about it and spoke about it using all the methods of communication available to them, reaching millions of Americans.

Both men were of the Christian faith, one Protestant the other Catholic. Each man loved his country and his God with passionate conviction. Both were strong believers in constitutional government, 100 percent. And both were convinced that our private bankers' money system would ultimately self-destruct and take the country with it. Both of them strongly supported American independence and the sovereignty of the people.

Emry was a man of many parts—pastor, publisher, realtor, husband and family man. His masterpiece, a classic in the literature of banking, *Billions for the Bankers, Debts for the People* has sold millions of copies all over the world. In fact, the circulation staff at *American Free Press* has to keep ordering more from the printer to keep up with readers' requests.

Billions carefully explains the arcane business of the private institution the Federal Reserve Bank. That is the business of printing, also known as seignorage, and lending the government (the American taxpayers) a certain amount of money (\$1 billion, for example, which costs the Fed about \$1,000 to print) in exchange for an equal amount (\$1 billion) in interest bearing U.S. bonds.

The government uses the money to pay its soldiers and bureaucrats and other bills, most of which are unnecessary. The Congress gave away its right to control the money and there is no hope for any change in this unconstitutional arrangement in the foreseeable future.

Emry then leads us through the creation of money (read credit) that enables people to purchase homes, cars and other "big ticket" items. The unsuspecting buyer agrees to pay back to the lender many times the amount of the loan because of interest. This extra amount of money is money taken out of circulation and ultimately works toward the destruction of the national economy and the very existence of a prosperous nation.

Finally Emry suggests a constitutional way of banking. The federal government should print its own money backed by the credit of the United States. In other words, debt-free money. Such honest money frightens bankers and they in turn manage to keep a tight rein on their minions in Congress who plead with their constituents to allow the private Fed to continue to rip off the public and destroy our country in the name of good government.

Emry is must reading. To order one copy or as many as you can use, see page 20.

Coughlin, a Catholic priest out of Royal Oak, Mich., a suburb of Detroit, became famous for his Sunday afternoon radio programs long before FDR popularized his own "fireside chats." Coughlin was known as the lion of the airwaves. He came on the air exposing the bankers and the perpetual war syndrome that is so profitable to them.

"Privately owned banks now exercise the highest taxing power of the national government, when they originate and lend into existence our medium of exchange (supply of money)," said Coughlin. "These private corporations force the citizens to pay an invisible tax on the money in existence, because money can only come into existence as a loan made by some bank to private corporations, individuals or the government. This invisible tax, of which most people are not aware, is borne by every person who uses money

The Ryan Report

By Vince Ryan



... whether or not he ever borrowed a dollar."

Coughlin equated capitalism with communism and said, "I oppose modern capitalism, because, by its very nature, it cannot, and will not, function for the common good. In fact, it is a detriment to civilization.

"Modern capitalism . . . is on the level with modern communism, which, likewise, seeks what is not its own and teaches that the citizen exists for the state, while modern capitalism teaches that the citizen exists for the banker plutocrats," he said.

Coughlin relentlessly castigated the bankers for their unconscionable money monopoly. His radio program so angered the Establishment that he was forced to form an independent network of stations willing to carry his program.

His newspaper *Social Justice* fearlessly took on the mounting anti-American excesses of the New Deal and the growing influence of international political Zionism in the United States.

He opposed our entry into World War II and for his candor his newspaper's office was entered by federal agents a few months after Roosevelt goaded the Japanese into attacking Pearl Harbor. They carted off everything they could find.

By that time the Catholic Church had upgraded Detroit from a diocese to an archdiocese. Archbishop Edward Mooney, a professional Vatican diplomat, became an operative for the FDR government. He agreed to "silence" Coughlin, upon being pressured by other church officials and some powerful Detroit bankers, which included prominent Catholics, who supported FDR.

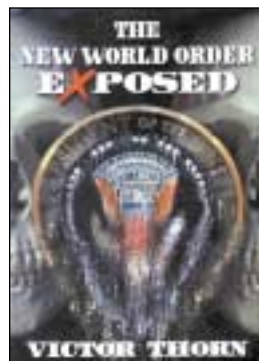
Coughlin was allowed to remain as pastor of his world famous parish, the Shrine of the Little Flower in Royal Oak. He kept his silence until his death in 1979 remaining "at peace with my own conscience and serene in the knowledge that those whose opinions I care for have confidence in me."

For a complete set of the audio collection of the radio speeches of Coughlin please see the advertisement on page 15. Every patriot owes a debt of gratitude to John Maffei for putting 16 of Coughlin's radio addresses on cassette tape.

With Emry and Coughlin in your populist arsenal you will win many converts to the cause of populism and freedom. ★

The Secret Cabal That's Undermining America

There's nothing new about the New World Order. It is a conspiracy—not a conspiracy theory—and its very roots can be found in the Garden of Eden. Today, those who are tilling this soil for their own insidious ends are in positions of power in government, the media and academia. In order to understand the history of and the nature of this monster—this enemy of Liberty—you must read Victor Thorn's *The New World Order Exposed*. Thorn is a shining star in the freedom movement and his efforts to expose this heinous plot to enslave us all on the Global Plantation are inestimable. *The New World Order Exposed* is available from FIRST AMENDMENT BOOKS, 645 Pennsylvania Avenue SE, Suite 100, Washington, D.C. 20003. Softcover, 563 pages, \$25, #1080. (S&H included). Discount for members of the AFP READERSHIP COUNCIL: *New World Order Exposed* just \$21.95 each.



The Congress Handbook Is Here!

This handy desk resource gives you all the pertinent information for every member of the House and Senate for the 108th Congress, First Session, 2003. This includes: websites for congressmen, telephone and fax numbers, date of birth, education, religion, committees, district offices and more. Includes up-to-date photo of each member of House and Senate. This 206-page, spiral-bound booklet, entitled *Congress at Your Fingertips*, also has sections on: the White House, the Cabinet, selected agencies, the Supreme Court and members, the Senate leadership, the House leadership, how to write your congressmen and their staff, state delegations and governors, Senate committees and subcommittees, joint committees, state legislature information, a legislative glossary and a full-color map of Washington, D.C.

As a bonus, the publisher has also included inside every edition of *Congress at Your Fingertips* a 15-minute phone card from Sprint.

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For those Christians who feel compelled to cancel their subscription to *American Free Press* because of AFP's tough reports on Israel: The truth, to some, is hard to accept. We as Christians should always pray for the divine leadership of our country.

Maybe they should ponder the murder of activist Rachel Corrie, who was trying to save a poor Palestinian family's home from destruction by an Israeli army bulldozer. In

Israel, Stop Killing Peace



Rachel Corrie, 1979-2003

Rachel, a non-violent peace activist, was killed when an Israeli soldier bulldozed her. She was trying to stop the demolition of a physician's family home in Palestine.

broad daylight an Israeli soldier blatantly ran right over her, squashing the lifeblood right out of this girl.

This is just a sample of the deeds of those in Israel and America in the name of peace and righteousness.

DAVID HUTCHISON Sr.
Via email

(The peace group, If Americans Knew, is sponsoring a drive to make people aware of the atrocities being committed in the Occupied Territories. Write: If Americans Knew, 3284-B Adeline St., Berkeley, Calif. 94703, or email ifamericansknew@yahoo.com, for more information. Above is their 11 x 17 color poster of Rachel.—Ed.)

READ BETWEEN THE LINES

Some people have the ability to be able to draw beautiful pictures, but most of us do not have that ability. Some people have the ability to create beautiful music, but, again,

Letters To the Editor

most of us do not have that ability.

But some of us do have the ability to be able to read between the lines of our government-controlled news media, and see the half-truths and outright lies that our government propaganda ministry is using to brainwash Americans.

It is the duty of every patriotic American to inform their friends and neighbors of the truth, and the corruption that is going on within our government, and how they are turning America into another socialist nation.

That is why I subscribe to *American Free Press* and encourage all of my friends and neighbors to do the same.

DON H. STREETER
Sebring, Florida

BRINGING DOWN THE SYSTEM

In regard to your report in the May 26 issue, titled "Beware Fraudulent Tax Gurus," it is true that most people exploit the patriot movement for personal gain because they think they know, but really don't understand the fraud. They therefore are easy pickings for the IRS.

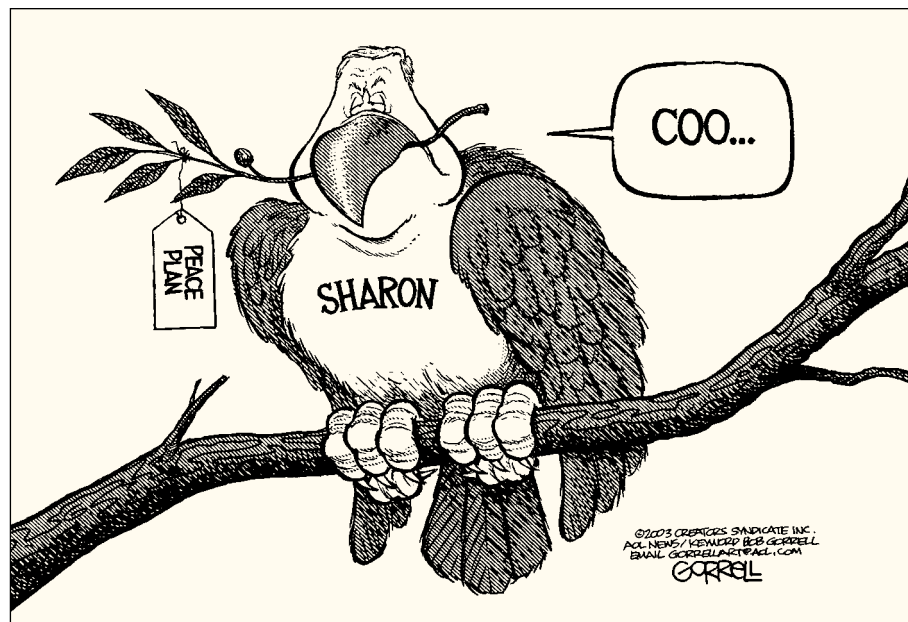
It is also true that the only way to bring down the entire system is for everyone to stop volunteering his or her labor to the Beast. A general tax revolt would require everyone being educated and to act at one time. This is not likely to happen, though. Most people look for someone else to go first. So the communist income tax has become an accepted American institution or way of life.

There is only one good reason to defy the IRS, and that is to retain one's life, liberty and property. But, to accomplish this, an individual has to become wise as a serpent and harmless as a dove.

LEE ROBERG
Via email

BILLIONS FOR THE BANKERS

I happened to read your supplement, *Billions for the Bankers, Debts for the People* again after a couple of years, and I want to



say that this little gem is certainly the best explanation of our fraudulent money system I've ever read.

The author, Sheldon Emry, clearly explains the most important part of the corrupt political system that governs us. Why don't you advertise this more?

MATT RICHARDSON
Omaha, Nebraska

(You're right—we don't advertise some of the great byproducts of a newspaper that tells the truth, and *Billions for the Bankers* is one of the very best. It was created by Rev. Emry, of Phoenix, years ago and is a true classic. We recommend that readers check the ad on page 20 of this issue to order that masterpiece as well as other great reprints available from AFP.—Ed.)

'ROPE A DOPE' IN THE DESERT

Prior to the second war in Iraq, George Bush, Donald Rumsfeld and Colin Powell gave Saddam Hussein a certain length of time to destroy and provide definitive proof of the destruction of his weapons of mass destruction, or we would remove him.

Now that we have won the war, shouldn't the UN give President Bush and secretaries Rumsfeld and Powell a certain length of time to produce definitive proof that those weapons of mass destruction existed or be removed from office? In fact, Congress should

do the same.

Americans and Britons have the right to know why the leaders of our nation take the actions they do. After all, we pay the bills and bleed in the wars. These countries are supposed to be democracies.

We cannot be sheep or we risk ending up like the Germans, who were blamed for following an unwise leader taking uncalled-for actions on false information.

NAME WITHHELD BY REQUEST

NEVER HAPPENED

Once again the federal government has employed its weapons of mass distraction and lied to the American people.

The rescue of soldier Jessica Lynch, from an Iraqi hospital-prison, never happened. She had already been saved—by Iraqi doctors.

EDWARD OCKER
Shandaken, New York

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The Last Affidavit of Gordon Kahl—This is an American Free Press exclusive. Just before tax objector Gordon Kahl was murdered by federal authorities, he wrote down his last statement, describing the trouble he had with corrupt federal officials and the famous shootout near Medina, North Dakota. Kahl gave the affidavit to his friend Leonard Ginter who hid it in his chickenhouse until he was released from prison, five years after Kahl's death. Now read, in Gordon Kahl's own words, his version of events. **The Last Affidavit of Gordon Kahl**—one copy is \$2; 6 copies are \$4; 40 or more copies are just 40¢ each.

Defend America First: A Memorial Day Report—Here is a compilation of articles and essays on why the America First position of patriots is the best way for America, not belligerent imperialism. Includes Lawrence Dennis on "Perpetual War for Perpetual Peace," Smedley Butler on the war racket, the shabby treatment vets have been getting from the war mongers; Thomas Jefferson on the true purpose of a standing army; the war lust of the warhawks and more. **Defend America First: A Memorial Day Report**—one copy is \$2; 6 copies are \$4; 40 or more copies are just 40¢ each.

Is a Religious Faction Dictating American Foreign Policy?—In a July 1 cover story, *Time* magazine—owned by a corporation dominated by liquor king Edgar Bronfman—gave 13 pages of favorable coverage to the "End Times" philosophy of Tim LaHaye, Jerry Falwell, Pat Robertson, Hal Lindsay and others who have made BILLIONS peddling their end times publications. *Time* pointed out that the Israeli lobby considers this philosophy quite beneficial to the interests of the political state of Israel. Is Christian scripture being twisted by One Worlders and others to manipulate Christians into blind support for the state of Israel? Will this brainwashing of Christians result in America's downfall? Are some actually praying for America to be destroyed in Armageddon? Find out from an uncensored news source. **Is a Religious Faction Dictating American Foreign Policy?** One copy is \$2; 6 copies are \$4; 40 or more copies are just 40¢ each.

An Open Letter to Jerry Falwell—Prominent evangelist and radio personality Dale Crowley takes Jerry Falwell to task—20 years after his first "open letter" to Falwell. Why are Christian televangelists instructing their flocks to blindly support Israel? Is the pro-Israel fanaticism of these "Protestants for Profit" driving a wedge between America and the rest of the world? Why does Israel not reciprocate, instead crushing all evangelical Christian work in the Holy Land? See the hypocrisy for yourself in this hard-hitting report from AFP. **An Open Letter to Jerry Falwell**—one copy is \$2; 6 copies are \$4; 40 or more copies are just 40¢ each.

YES! The FBI Framed Jim Traficant—Tells the sordid tale of just how and why the FBI framed Rep. Jim Traficant—in his own words—for his outspoken stance against government tyranny and ran him out of Congress with a manufactured conviction. You haven't heard the whole story until you read this exclusive AFP report. You'll see why one Traficant juror, who voted "guilty," is now trying to get Jim re-elected to Congress. **YES! The FBI Framed Jim Traficant**. One copy is \$2; 6 copies are \$4; 40 or more copies are just 40¢ each.

Eight Reasons Why the Budget is a Fraud—Every year Congress and the president fuss about how they're going to spend your tax money and how they can keep the federal budget deficit under a trillion dollars. All the wrangling and debate mean NOTHING. Why? The federal budget is a complete and utter fraud. All the politicians, talking heads and pointy-headed pundits are covering up and lying to hide the fact that our money system is fraudulent. But here, in one eight-page source you can quote to friends and adversaries, is the truth about the bogus

budget explained in eight easy-to-understand sections including: an expose of the Federal Reserve banking scheme; the unreported black budgets of U.S. intelligence services; the "imaginary" Social Security Trust Fund; the effect of "guesswork" on the budget; the trillions in unnamed commitments; and, finally, the huge cash-stash that is being hidden from the American taxpayers. **Eight Reasons Why the Budget is a Fraud**—one copy is \$2; 6 copies are \$4; 40 or more copies are just 40¢ each.

Cultural Communism: The Vivisection of America—The Communists lost the Cold War. But they're winning the Culture War. Now it's time for us to recognize & stop Cultural Communism. And here's the amazing, little-known story of the secret forces behind the push for "Cultural Communism." In the 1930s a clique of Marxist intellectuals set up the Frankfurt School in Germany. After Hitler came to power, they were chased out. They then set up shop in the U.S. Funded since then by major tax-free foundations they have been preaching war against traditional Christian morality, including open sexual perversion. You know it as "political correctness." This special 8-page compilation of fascinating historical dynamite, unknown to most, describes the bizarre history of this alien group of culture distorters who have targeted the West for destruction from within. Available exclusively from *American Free Press*. **Cultural Communism: The Vivisection of America**—one copy is \$2; 6 copies are \$4; 40 or more copies are just 40¢ each.

Billions for the Bankers; Debts for the People: The Real Story of the Money Control Over America—Thomas Jefferson once said, "If the American people ever allow private banks to control the issue of their money, first by inflation then by deflation, the banks and corporations that will grow up around them (around the banks), will deprive the people of their property until their children will wake up homeless on the continent their fathers conquered." But nobody has put it in one comprehensive source like the late Pastor Sheldon Emry did (over twenty years ago) in his now-famous report for patriots. Since it was first printed, *Billions for the Bankers* has sold in the millions and provided average Americans with a good overview of just how the bankers steal our money and what harm this has caused to our nation and our culture. See Vince Ryan's column for full description of this supplement. **Billions for the Bankers**—one copy is \$2; 6 copies are \$4; 40 or more copies are just 40¢ each.

An Orthodox Rabbi Speaks Candidly on Zionism—This is a heroic yet controversial religious leader's view on how Zionism has hijacked Judaism and the price the Jews are paying for turning their back on the Old Testament. Rabbi Yisroel Dovid Weiss tells you why Zionism and the secular state of Israel have no legitimate claim to the Holy Land and in fact are going against the word of God every time they attempt to keep or conquer Palestine by force. Fascinating insights in Judaism and Zionism and the differences between the two movements. **An Orthodox Rabbi Speaks Candidly on Zionism**. One copy is \$2; 6 copies are \$4; 40 or more copies are just 40¢ each.

50 Unanswered Questions About 9-11—A 20-page report on many of the mysteries surrounding this historic event. Do the American people have the right to know the truth about this crime which becomes more mysterious the closer it is inspected? Here are the facts that will astound you when you put them all together. **50 Unanswered Questions About 9-11**. One copy is \$5; 6 copies are \$8; 40 or more copies are just 80¢ each.



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