



# ***FROM THE WILDERNESS***

*A Nonpartisan, Non-sectarian, MAP from the Here That Is,  
Into the Tomorrow of Our Own Making*

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# NOINTELPRO

[After lecturing in seven cities (Sydney, Sacramento, Chico, Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver and Toronto) in less than four weeks Mike Ruppert remembers that his main role in life is writing.]

COINTELPRO, or Counter-Intelligence Program, was a massive intelligence-based government operation turned loose on the citizens of the U.S. during the 1960s and '70s. In the late-'70s COINTELPRO operations, largely (but not exclusively) coordinated from within the FBI, were thoroughly exposed thanks to the work of the late Senator Frank Church and many others. Tens of thousands of pages of FBI records, as well as those from the CIA's sister operation, MH-CHAOS, were entered into the congressional record detailing the extent the power elites had gone to in order to control public opinion and fragment opposition. At one point the FBI alone had some 35,000 paid informants acting as spies, provocateurs and disinformation agents throughout the American left. Now, they're on both sides of that outdated intellectual construct.

Anyone wanting to understand the intensity, style and flavor of the government's post-9-11 efforts to silence questioners and critics must take the time to read "The COINTELPRO Papers" (South End Press) by AIM activist and Professor Ward Churchill. This is a basic primer to understand how dissent is controlled and neutralized from within dissident groups.

Also not to be overlooked are the records of the CIA's Operation Mockingbird which detail the agency's infiltration and control of the major media as well as its use of journalists to sometimes act as case officers in intelligence operations. It was the agency's control of the media that prompted CIA executive Frank Wisner to once boast, "I can play the media like a mighty Wurlitzer." Wisner's son, Frank, Jr. currently sits on the board of directors of the insurance giant AIG, which **FTW** has previously connected to the international drug trade.

The post-9-11 world, however, is vastly different from the '60s and '70s. One of the few bright spots emerging is that the U.S. government's explanation of the attacks has been rapidly and sometimes laughably losing credibility. Another is the fact that tried and true tactics of opinion control are proving ineffective in stemming the slide of the government's credibility index.

Publishing on May 29 at Indymedia.org, writer Dennis Shipman ([www.eastnymanagement.net](http://www.eastnymanagement.net)) tells us the tale of one of three current or former FBI agents revealing damning information suggesting U.S. government foreknowledge of the attacks and additional actions which indicate that the government allowed the attacks to happen. Shipman's story, "The Spook Who Sat Behind the Door" focuses on former FBI agent and now college professor Tyrone Powers. On May 19 Powers took to the radio airwaves in Maryland to state that he had credible evidence suggesting that the Bush Administration had allowed the attacks in order to further a hidden agenda. Powers' position is almost identical to that of **FTW**. In closing his account of the Powers interview, Shipman writes, "The alternative press has been relentless in its reporting on this subject..."

It is important to note that the alternative press of today is not the same as the alternative press of yesterday. Once proud and defiant protectors of free thinking and direct challenges to government propaganda have become, as Jefferson might well have noted, entrenched financial powers that suffer not only from the weight of their own vested interests, but also from the placement within their ranks of intelligence "assets." In the wake of the attacks of last September they have trotted out their trusty cannons to debunk the likes of me and a dozen or so other "go for broke" journalists, and they have failed miserably.

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— **From The Wilderness** —

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**UNSUPPRESSED  
HISTORY:**

**Teacher Educates Youth Using Ruppert,  
Peter Dale Scott, Fitts As Sources**

by Carolyn Baker, Ph.D.

*“The world as I knew it before this semester no longer exists. It’s like a dream, as if I had been living in wonderland, but then I woke up. The reality of our society hit me right in the face. Although what I learned in this class has disappointed me, I’m glad to be given the opportunity of looking beyond my own personal life—to be given a choice to care for what happens to all of us as a nation. The rule of law may not prevail, but we as individuals still have the freedom to make choices, and those choices can help to weaken those who are still seeking total control.”*

June 20, 2002, 15:00 PDT (FTW) -- These words were written by one of my U.S. history students in a survey course covering the period of 1865 to current time, after she had viewed Mike Ruppert’s video documentary “The Truth & Lies of 9-11.” I have designed this course, which explores the events following the Civil War known as Reconstruction, through the end of the 20th century, to culminate in an alternative examination of the events of Sept. 11.

From the beginning of the course, we observed the burgeoning power of corporate Robber Barons in America following the Civil War and their ascendancy to economic and political dominance of the nation in the late-19th and early-20th centuries, attended by egregious racism and ethnocentrism among white Americans.

We studied the eugenics movement that was funded and promoted by corporate giants such as Rockefeller, J.P. Morgan, Kellogg, Harriman and Carnegie. As we explored the 1920s and ‘30s, we observed the dominant attitude of businessmen and politicians, which was: “The business of America is business.” Moreover, it became increasingly obvious that the imperialistic foreign policy of America at the turn of the century was economically essential in order to create markets for American goods produced by shamefully-exploited workers of African-American and European descent.

We examined World War I and Hitler’s rise to power in the 1930s and the ensuing attack on Pearl Harbor which ushered in World War II. Many students were completely unfamiliar with the fascism of the Third Reich, and their viewing of “Schindler’s List,” which many had never seen, was a profoundly wrenching and eye-opening experience. Sociologist, James Loewen, writes, “The glue that makes history stick is emotion.” Clearly, these students will not soon shed the emotional impact of viewing then discussing “Schindler’s List” and asking  
*(continued on page 11)*

# D.C. Press Conference Punches Big Holes in 9-11 Official Line

by Michael Davidson and Joe Taglieri, *FTW* Staff Writers

June 20, 2002, 15:00 PDT (FTW) -- A new coalition of 9-11 researchers, journalists, victims' families, and other truth seekers held an inaugural press conference June 10 at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.

The goal of UnansweredQuestions.org's press event and public inquiry was "to pose pointed, as yet unanswered, questions regarding the failure of our national security infrastructure, and the response that has sacrificed civil liberties and rewarded failure as opposed to ensuring performance and guaranteeing freedoms, now and in the future," according to a press release put out by the group. "UnansweredQuestions.org is being launched by an independent, non-partisan network of citizens concerned about the growing number of issues surrounding Sept. 11 that have yet to be addressed or resolved; and their related public safety and constitutional implications."

The event was moderated by Kyle Hence and former Assistant Secretary of Housing Catherine Austin Fitts, who have been at the helm of launching UnansweredQuestions.org. The day's two panels featured Mike Ruppert, *FTW* publisher/editor, as well as a host of researchers and activists focused on bringing out the truth regarding the U.S. government's actions, or lack thereof, relating to the 9-11 terrorist attacks.

Mary Schiavo is the lawyer for 32 victims' families. The former inspector general of the Department of Transportation and aviation expert was also a featured speaker at the press conference. Schiavo joined several of her colleagues who addressed the more than 300 in attendance in calling for an independent commission to investigate the events of Sept. 11.

"In every single aviation disaster, whether there was criminal activity or not, in every single one in the course of aviation history it has been followed -- not only where necessary a national criminal investigation -- but also a National Transportation Safety [Board] investigation into what went wrong in the aviation system so that it never happens again," said Schiavo. "This is the first time that families have been attempted to be silenced through a special fund, which I believe is about silence more than it is about money."

Another speaker, Lorna Brett of the Nolan Law Group, made a similar point, stating, "I live in the Midwest, and I feel like I'm doing focus groups when I'm out in my neighborhood and I ask people, 'What do you think about what happened on 9-11?' And it's amazing how many people say we couldn't have stopped it, it couldn't have happened, nobody could have known. And the truth is that a lot of people should have known."

Brett and Schiavo pointed out the cozy relationship that exists between the airline industry and the federal agencies designated to regulate it, particularly when it comes to security. Four federal investigations into airline security took place before Sept. 11, Schiavo said, "I know, I led up two of them. My successor has carried out more, including one investigation done after 9-11 that found security could be breached at will. Why?" Schiavo continued. "Is it business as usual? Is it cheaper to have lax security? One would think that when they heard the statements of the administration when they said, 'Well yes, we knew there might be hijackings. We knew that something was afoot, but we thought they'd be traditional hijackings.' Does that truly mean that they were willing to risk passengers and planes, and even compromise the aviation system, because it was cheaper to allow it to happen than to take the necessary steps to prevent it?"

Schiavo concluded her point saying, "That is what we will prove in court. But that isn't enough, because there are many more questions than the court can answer, and that can only be done with a government investigation."

Another speaker on the panel echoed the call for a non-partisan, full and open government investigation. Julie Sweeney lost her husband, Brian, on United Flight 175 and is one of the victims' family members pursuing litigation against the government. On why she declined "\$2 million" from the federal fund for 9-11 victims, Sweeney said, "I want the answers, and I want the answers to lead to accountability. And I want this accountability to be the catalyst for change in the airline industry and everything that goes along with that."

Sweeney expressed her dissatisfaction with the government's relationship with the airlines. "I will not sit back and be bought out in order to protect an industry that will never be destroyed because the American people depend on it too much," said Sweeney. "It's not going to go anywhere, planes will always be flying in the skies...Hiding behind the truth is an embarrassment to this country, leading to mistakes and lax attitudes. First and foremost, we need to begin to heal, and we need to make sure that this cannot be repeated."

Derrill Bodley, the father of a 9-11 victim, was in attendance as well. He had this to add in response to a statement made May 16 by Condoleezza Rice, Bush's national security advisor. "My biggest unanswered question today is this: Did my daughter, my 20-year-old daughter, my only child, have to die on Sept. 11 for the sake of the well-being of the civil aviation system? I have a big question in my mind whenever government officials denigrate the value of human life and well-being by

comparing it to the value of a system.” Responding to questions from the press about Bush Administration foreknowledge of 9-11, Rice said the government did nothing because “we would have risked shutting down the American civil aviation system with such generalized information.”

Bodley also questioned Rice’s statement from the same press conference that no one could have foreseen commercial jets being crashed into buildings, despite revelations in recent months from several whistleblowers that many in the U.S. intelligence community were warning of the likelihood of just such kinds of attacks from Islamic militants. “If the terrorists had envisioned it, if the U.S. government knew they had envisioned it, why didn’t our intelligence community, including the NSA, envision it and compel...the airlines and the airports to protect us, to keep my daughter from dying on Sept. 11,” said Bodley.

According to Brett, her law firm’s suit on behalf of 9-11 victims has been prevented from really getting off the ground. The case’s first status meeting, before the discovery phase starts, has not yet been scheduled. This, despite the fact the suit was filed in December.

“It’s stunning to me that some of the people questioning some of our agencies are accused of being unpatriotic,” Brett told the conference. “The world is watching us right now. If we can’t examine our...federal agencies, our government, the influence of lobbyists on politics,...if we can’t self-examine and cleanse that wound, reset that broken bone, what kind of example are we setting? Are we a super power, or are we super cowards?”

Steve Camarota, research director for the Center for Immigration Studies, spoke on how the U.S. immigration system is unable to keep terrorists out of the country. His group recently issued a report that found 48 terrorists have entered the U.S. “by every conceivable means” since 1993, the year the World Trade Center was bombed. Camarota said virtually all of these 48 terrorists have since been linked to Osama bin Laden. He also stated the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the State Department are overwhelmed by the number of visa and citizenship requests. “Congress just doesn’t give them enough resources,” he said, which is largely due to pressure from interest groups in favor of lax enforcement of immigration laws.

Researcher and freelance writer Richard Ochs posed the notion that there was a specific political agenda in the timing of the anthrax attacks on government officials last year. He said the anthrax letters sent to Democrats on Capitol Hill, the Supreme Court, and members of the media coincided with efforts to ram the USA Patriot Act through Congress. The Patriot Act has been criticized by many, including another panelist [see below], as unconstitutional.

After all the questions (and some heart-wrenching statements) following the first panel, a much needed break was taken. When the press conference reconvened, the second panel was on the dais with some new faces and some carryovers from panel one.

Catherine Austin Fitts opened the proceedings by introducing **FTW’s** Mike Ruppert, who was on a telephone hook-up from Vancouver, British Columbia where he was giving a 9-11 lecture during a 12-day speaking tour. Ruppert began with a heartfelt and passionate declaration of condolences for, and solidarity with, the families of the 9-11 victims. He said they were “foremost in his heart.” He then read a statement, published elsewhere in this issue, outlining the work **FTW** has been doing for the past nine months.

After Ruppert, Fitts introduced independent investigator and researcher John Judge. Judge is one of the co-founders of the National Coalition on Political Assassinations, which is responsible for getting the “JFK Records Act” passed. Judge’s work has resulted in the release of over six million documents, the largest in U.S. history.

Judge began very simply, stating there most certainly was a point at which it was clear the United States, and particularly Washington, D.C., were under attack. That point was 9:05 a.m. on Sept. 11. That was the point at which a shoot-down order for Flight 77 was issued. Oddly, the plane continued unmolested towards the most restricted airspace in the world for 40 minutes before hitting the Pentagon. During this time Washington, D.C.’s Channel 8 broadcast that the plane was heading there and many government buildings were evacuated.

Judge quotes a Pentagon spokesman as saying that there was no mechanism to respond to this type of event. Yet Judge, a lifelong Washington, D.C. resident, says he is personally aware that fighters routinely intercept commercial planes that are only slightly off-course to escort them out of the area. No thinking person can believe that the largest, most powerful, and most sophisticated military in history has no way to protect its own headquarters.

Judge went further down this path in describing a march he organized in the late-1990s. The march, “A Day Without The Pentagon,” was to end at the Pentagon, and Judge had to negotiate the physical movements of the marchers with, among others, Pentagon security. Judge was shown the absolute limit the marchers would be allowed to go to, explaining that the building was on “Delta Alert,” the highest state of alert due to the constant threat of attack, especially by airplanes being flown into the building. Security explained that the threat was so serious the marchers’ own safety required they be kept at a specific point on the grounds. Judge observed radar installed on the Pentagon roof, as well as anti-aircraft batteries on the grounds.

One of the questions Mike Ruppert posed in his opening was, “Why was the Andrews Air Force Base website changed after 9-11 to erase information about their combat readiness?” Judge went on to list the active military bases that had the ability to respond to Flight 77’s approach to Washington, D.C. He listed the 121st Fighter Squadron of the 113th Fighter Wing, 321st Marine Fighter Squadron and the 49th Marine Air Guard. These three groups are based at Andrews, only 10 miles from the Pentagon. Yet the fighters that were launched against Flight 77 were scrambled from Langley Air Force Base, 140 miles away. Doing the math, Judge said, shows the fighters flying at sub-sonic speeds. He also reminded the audience that Anacostia Naval Air Station, the home of the District of Columbia National Guard, is right near the Pentagon as well.

Another source of protection for Washington, D.C. could have been provided by the 177th Air National Guard stationed at Pomona, N.J. This base could have provided coverage for both Washington, D.C. and New York yet was instructed to cease routine sorties two weeks prior to 9-11. Judge also quoted a Pentagon official who referred him to a New York Times article stating that on Sept. 8 half of U.S. fighters were taken out of service. A personal friend, whose son is stationed at Otis Air Force Base on Cape Cod, Mass., told Judge that fighter pilots who specifically requested permission to attempt the interception of Flight 77 were called back.

John Judge has the firm belief that a lot of the public's questions about the events of 9-11 will be answered when we find out what took place during the 40-minute period between the 9:05 shoot-down order and the impact at the Pentagon at 9:45.

The third speaker on the second panel was Tom Flocco, Philadelphia teacher and investigative journalist. Flocco is a good friend of *FTW*, and has done a great deal of work regarding the suspicious put option trading that took place prior to 9-11. At the UnansweredQuestions.org press conference, however, Flocco said he would go beyond that issue, lay out a series of new dots, and connect them.

One of his key points was that the investigation of financial activities surrounding 9-11 has produced a "control" list of 38 stocks to be scrutinized. This list has never been made public, and much of the investigation has been conducted in a manner that seems designed more to protect the possibly guilty than to provide Americans with information.

One of his most damning dots was the fact that on Oct. 19 investigators asked member firms of the National Association of Securities Dealers, which is every broker you can name, to "privately" share information with those "directly effected" by the inquiry. The government further requested that those handling the issue be "senior personnel who appreciate the sensitive nature of the case."

Flocco quoted a Boston Globe article reporting the National Security Agency (NSA) has been continuously destroying data since 9-11. The Globe reporter who wrote the article is unaware of any other information that's been published on this issue. NSA officials say the data is being destroyed because it involves Americans or American businesses, and they are not allowed to conduct such spying. Why they collected the information and saved it if it is illegal was not revealed.

But Flocco quotes the former head of FBI counter-terrorism as saying that the NSA's collection of data on Americans is perfectly legitimate if it involves either foreign espionage or terrorist activities. Whoever is correct on this issue is moot; the data is gone.

While not mentioning the put options directly, Flocco did discuss other anomalies that suggest foreknowledge. One of these is a surge in Treasury bill purchases. Treasury bills are the safest investment known, being backed by the full faith and credit of the United States. Just prior to 9-11 there was a single Treasury bill transaction of \$5 billion.

Another reason to suspect foreknowledge is the recent indictments of two FBI agents who were apparently playing the stock market based on information derived from investigations. They were also passing this information on to others, and in one case an individual connected to the agents cashed out a \$300,000 portfolio, telling the broker he expected the Dow Jones index to soon drop by about two-thirds.

Other issues covered by Flocco included the employment by Enron of former CIA agents, the employment by Enron of current CIA agents who were given leaves of absence from the agency to work for Enron, and the truly Byzantine entanglements of Deutschebank, the CIA's no. 3 man A.B. "Buzzy" Krongard, Bayer, United Air Lines, and former Bush I counselor John Schmitz.

Flocco ended his presentation with a stinging attack on C-SPAN. Despite repeated pleading and begging using C-SPAN's own policy of covering events at the National Press Club, C-SPAN chose to ignore the UnansweredQuestions.org press conference, instead airing reruns of Capitol Journal.

Next up was Michael Springmann, an attorney with 20 years of government service, who had been head of the visa section at the U.S. consulate in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. Springmann reported that at least 100 visas he had denied were eventually issued by consular officials that were known CIA agents, or persons Springmann suspected were CIA agents.

He denied visas to two Pakistanis who wanted to go to a trade show, but didn't know what trade show they were going to, or even what city it was in. He denied visa approval for a Sudanese individual he felt had no legitimate reason for entering the U.S. but was overruled by a consular official, who said "we need him" for national security reasons.

While this was going on in the late-'80s Springmann thought he was witnessing "visa fraud," believing that people were paying bribes to officials to get visas they would otherwise be denied. He later found he was wrong. What Springmann actually saw was the CIA bringing terrorists into the United States for training against the Soviet Union's troops in Afghanistan. He believes this is still going on and points out that 15 of the 19 named 9-11 hijackers got their visas in Jeddah at, in one of the more amazing Freudian slips in history, what Springmann calls the "CIA consulate."

He points out that all of these visas were issued under the "visa express" program, a system under which questionable visa paperwork is mingled with large amounts of ordinary paperwork in the hope it will sail through unnoticed. Celerino Castillo, former Drug Enforcement Agency officer says the "visa express" program was commonly used for CIA assets in Central America. Springmann rattled off a long list of major mainstream media outlets he has approached with his story. Not one has expressed any interest.

While the events of 9-11 have sparked widespread skepticism of the official government story and an almost equally widespread belief that our government is a criminal enterprise, the reaction to that September day is having tremendous ramifications for every American. Speaking to that point was Jennifer Van Bergen. Van Bergen is an attorney, a faculty member

at the New School for Social Research in New York, and a contributing editor to truthout.org. Van Bergen published a six-part series on the Patriot Act on truthout.org and spoke about it at the press conference.

She pointed out that the act, which at about 400 pages is not known to have been read in its entirety by a single legislator voting on it, nullifies several portions of the U.S. Constitution. It also significantly increases the burden on law enforcement, and shifts a huge amount of power to the president. She also pointed out that no one has said 9-11 would have been prevented had the new law been in effect.

Specifically, Van Bergen pointed out that Section 216 of the Patriot Act allows law enforcement agents to tap an individual's phone and computer without probable cause. All that's required for the rubber stamp warrant is an officer's statement that the tap will be "relevant" to an investigation. Section 218 allows secret searches of private homes and businesses if the search has a "significant foreign intelligence purpose."

Section 802 creates a new crime, "domestic terrorism," defined as "any act designed to intimidate or coerce change in government policy." Van Bergen said that under the act, all civil disobedience is now "domestic terrorism," and a crime. Section 411 states any organization endorsing the type of behavior criminalized in Section 802 will be classified as a "terrorist organization." So conceivably under the Patriot Act, parents blocking an intersection to demand a traffic light be installed to protect their children going to and from school are criminals.

Despite being shutout by C-SPAN, the UnansweredQuestions.org press conference was well attended, with a great deal of domestic, as well as foreign, media present. It's obvious the mainstream media has a vested interest in following the Bush Administration's story blindly, and so the world will have to rely on the "alternative" press to get the information it needs. The press conference was the first event to bring people from different disciplines together to search for the truth. It signaled the beginning of a time in which, according to Tom Flocco, "People can no longer follow First Lady Laura Bush's advice when she says, 'Don't worry. Tell your children not to be afraid.'"

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## STATEMENT OF MIKE RUPPERT AT UNANSWEREDQUESTIONS.ORG JUNE 10 PRESS CONFERENCE

Just a few short years ago the world was accustomed to not learning the real historical truth about an event for many decades and perhaps centuries. But since Sept. 11th the Internet, and an increasingly skeptical world population, have dramatically shortened history's learning curve.

Rather than relying on unsupported theory, it is possible to expose and focus attention on major discrepancies in the Bush administration's characterization and handling of events by using the internet as a vehicle to widely disseminate and analyze reports from respected mainstream media from all over the world and to then compare and contrast those reports with official government statements, official records and other unquestionable documents and undisputed conduct.

In this manner it is possible, for example, to establish that statements by President Bush, Ari Fleischer and National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice claiming they had absolutely no idea that aircraft would be used as weapons, are absolutely false.

As established by reports in the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Izvestia, online.ie, MS-NBC, Agence France Presse and the International Herald Tribune, it becomes clear that foreign intelligence services -- not random callers or anonymous tipsters -- were making direct and urgent pleadings to U.S. intelligence agencies that, when compared side-by-side, clearly establish that Al Qaeda had trained as many as 25 suicide pilots who were planning to crash hijacked airliners into the World Trade Center in the week of September 9th.

Is that specific enough?

Are we to assume that a direct warning from Russian President Putin to the highest levels of the U.S. government somehow fell through the cracks?

The U.S. government has not denied a single one of these press reports. Neither have any of the intelligence services mentioned. In light of what the world has now seen was done with reports of possible hijackings from the FBI in Arizona and Minnesota, and the utterly disingenuous and unpersuasive profferings of the administration and its managers, we are now being asked to believe in some kind of grand and colossally contagious incompetence that any sentient being is not capable of.

And here we have to look at the brave actions of three FBI agents: Colleen Rowley, Robert Wright and Tyrone Powers. Colleen Rowley is now a legend and her 13-page letter to FBI Director Mueller should be mandatory reading for every journalist and politician in the country. Robert Wright's compelling press conference -- I believe in the very room where this conference is being held -- should be viewed by every member of Congress. And former FBI agent, law professor and author Tyrone Powers' statement that he believes the Bush administration deliberately allowed the attacks all bear just a moment's comment before this conference moves on.

As I read through the Rowley memo, or watch the Wright conference, I see words that tell me negligence or stupidity are not the issue. The words are -- "obstruct", "block", "thwart", "threaten", "intimidate", "rewrite", "harass", "punish", "dishonest", and "integrity".

***(continued on page 13)***

# **COLUMN: Leaping Off the Natural Gas Cliff (and a Word Concerning the Foolishness of Ethanol)**

by Dale Allen Pfeiffer, *FTW* Contributing Editor for Energy

Natural Gas (NG) must be considered separately from oil because its existence in the gas state at normal ambient temperature leads to different properties both in the Earth's crust and at the Earth's surface. NG flows more freely through pore spaces than does oil. Therefore, once a gas well is drilled, there is no Hubbert curve profile. It costs no more -- either in energy or in money -- to pump the last cubic foot of natural gas than it does to pump the first. The typical profile for natural gas production rises from zero, plateaus for some length of time, and then dives in a sharp cliff. The rise and plateau are a function of the size of the field and the number of wells drilled. The cliff arrives with hardly a warning and dives at a rate far in excess of a comparable oil production decline.

NG has not been as exploited worldwide as has oil. Demand has only begun to increase with the development of gas-fired electrical generation plants in response to environmental regulations. NG is cleaner than oil or coal. In North America, at least 275 gas-fired plants are planned for construction by 2006. These plants will increase gas consumption by more than 8.5 trillion cubic feet (tcf), according to <http://dieoff.com/synopsis.htm>

In 2001, Simmons & Company International estimated that U.S. NG demand for electricity was approximately 16 billion cubic feet (bcf) per day. They predict that demand will increase by two bcf per day for the next two years, wrote Kramer & Dietert in a Feb. 15 report titled "Dynamics of Electricity-Driven Natural Gas Demand."

Many analysts point to vast unexploited reserves of NG throughout the world and state we will have plenty of NG for many decades to come. However, these analysts do not take into account the difficulty of transporting NG. It can only be efficiently and economically transported by pipeline. To ship NG overseas, it must first be liquefied, then transported in specially designed refrigerated ships. Finally, it must be unloaded at specially equipped ports and reliquified. All of this results in an estimated 15- to 30 percent energy loss -- not to mention the capital expense.

For this reason, North American NG demand will have to be met by North American production.

## **NORTH AMERICAN PRODUCTION**

Mexican gas production has been in decline since 1999. U.S. NG imports from Mexico diminished to nothing in 2000. Mexico currently exports no NG and is struggling to meet its domestic demand.

U.S. gas production has been in plateau for some time. "North American natural gas has no excess capacity. It disappeared several years ago. What we do have is extremely aggressive decline rates in almost every key production basin making it harder each season to keep current production flat," wrote Matt Simmons in a presentation titled "Energy in the New Economy: The Limits to Growth. "

The U.S. Energy Information Administration and the National Petroleum Council have projected U.S. demand for NG could rise to 30 tcf per year by 2010. The lion's share of future U.S. production growth is expected to come from the Gulf of Mexico. However, the U.S. Minerals Management Service forecasts production will start to decline in 2005 from a plateau peak of 6.1 tcf per year, according to an April 26, 2000 report from Reuters.

Presently, the U.S. makes up for its shortfall in NG production by drawing from Canadian resources. Canada currently makes up about 13 percent of the U.S. gas supply. Unfortunately, the large Canadian fields which currently supply most of their production have plateaued and are expected to go into decline within the next few years. The Oil & Gas Journal reported most of Canada's gas additions will come from smaller fields. And Canada's quoted resources of 233 tcf will never be fully tapped, because portions of this reserve are contained in small, nonproductive fields.

Only by opening up currently restricted areas of Alaska, the Canadian Arctic, the U.S. Rocky Mountains, and deep ocean can we hope to meet future NG demand. All of this would require a large investment in drilling apparatus and gas pipelines, ultimately costing an estimated \$120 billion in infrastructure, the Oil & Gas Journal reported. And from the time construction would begin on this infrastructure it will take approximately 5 to 7 years before any of the gas begins to flow.

So what do we do in the meantime?

## **THE U.S. vs. CANADA**

NAFTA and other free trade agreements drawn up between the U.S. and Canada starting from the mid-1980s ceded away Canadian control over their NG resources. This writer expects that these agreements will cause increasing friction between the U.S. and Canada in the years to come.

Under these agreements, the Canadian National Energy Board was stripped of its powers, and Canada gave up its requirement to maintain a 25-year surplus of natural gas. There is no legal way for Canada to ensure that it will have adequate supplies of NG in the future. However, the U.S. still retains the right to store vast supplies of hydrocarbons for emergencies.

The all-Canadian gas distribution system was abandoned, and exporters are no longer required to file an export impact assessment. Furthermore, U.S. customers have gained a price advantage over Canadian consumers, as they do not have to

pay taxes on the gas exports.

The trade agreements established a system of "proportional sharing" which guarantee U.S. imports from Canada in perpetuity. The government of Canada relinquished the right to refuse to issue a license or revoke or change a license for the exportation to the United States of energy goods. U.S. distribution companies were able to sign long-term contracts at rock-bottom prices.

During the late-1990s when NG prices began to rise, the U.S. dipped into its emergency reserves and brought down the price of gas for U.S. customers, reported the Canadian newspaper the Globe and Mail. As a final irony, under NAFTA's proportional-sharing provision, Canada must replenish even the U.S. reserve supply -- by law and in perpetuity.

#### **NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION DECLINING AT ALARMING RATE**

A recent Oil & Gas Journal article contains distressing news. NG production is going into sequential declines, which should gain momentum as the year progresses. "We continue to believe that U.S. natural gas production could be down by as much as 5-6 percent this summer on a year-over-year basis..."

What the journal does not say is this production decline signals U.S. NG production is about to fall over the cliff. Subsequent decline will likely have a disastrous effect on the economy, and on pocketbooks of summer air conditioning users and winter gas furnace users. As the U.S. leans increasingly on Canada to meet its NG shortfall, Canadians could find it difficult to heat their homes through the cold northern winter.

#### **A FEW BRIEF WORDS ABOUT ETHANOL**

There has been a lot of talk about ethanol recently. Many are touting ethanol as a clean energy alternative, others hold it up as a way to augment and extend oil supplies. Congress is debating laws requiring ethanol to be mixed with gasoline for automobile consumption. Those who extol ethanol fail to look at the energy costs of production, what certain energy analysts call the EROEI (Energy Return on Energy Invested).

Simply put, it takes more energy to produce ethanol than is produced by the combustion of ethanol. According to Cornell professor David Pimentel, an acre of corn ultimately yields 328 gallons of ethanol. This quantity of corn requires 1,000 gallons of fossil fuels to plant, grow and harvest, and costs \$347 per acre. This means the corn feedstock costs \$1.05 per gallon of ethanol before it is even converted into ethanol. Additional energy costs accrue in distilling the ethanol. Adding it all up, 131,000 BTUs are needed to make 1 gallon of ethanol, with an energy value of only 77,000 BTUs. This results in an EROEI of roughly 59 percent. That is a 41 percent loss of energy, according the UniSci science daily news website.

If all of the automobiles in the U.S. ran on 100 percent ethanol, 97 percent of continental U.S. land would be required to grow the feedstock. Forget about feeding people, let alone housing them.

Increased ethanol production can only be maintained through increased tax dollar subsidies. And the competition for ethanol feedstock will inflate the price of corn. Any possible benefits in air quality will be more than offset by the petroleum required to grow and process the corn. Likewise, the added petroleum demand for producing ethanol will contribute to rising oil imports and further diminish world oil supplies. Finally, as the price of oil goes up, the subsidy for ethanol must go up as a multiple.

Ultimately, the only ones who benefit from ethanol production are the agribusiness industries. This is foolishness in the extreme.

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# DOJ Refuses to Pay Fitts \$2.5 Mil for Work Done on Successful HUD Loan Sales

by Joe Taglieri, *FTW* staff

June 20, 2002, 15:00 PDT (FTW) -- It's been almost six years, and Catherine Austin Fitts *still* hasn't been paid. The government owes her \$2.5 million plus interest for work done by Hamilton Securities, her former investment bank and financial software developer. The "cleaning lady of \$100 billion financial frauds," as she humorously describes herself, is in the seventh year of audits and litigation, all resulting from what she deems a frivolous lawsuit filed by a government-sponsored "bounty hunter." The end game of Fitts' fierce federal adversaries: slow down her ability to impact the market with her transparent, taxpayer-friendly, local control-based economic model -- Solari.

"The Department of Justice and the HUD Inspector General's (IG) office have used investigations to drive out honest HUD officials and their most effective financial advisor," said Fitts. "As DOJ and the HUD IG intentionally destroy internal financial controls, billions of taxpayer's monies are reported missing, and losses on defaulted mortgage inventories grow."

On March 18 United States District Court Judge Louis F. Oberdorfer issued a scheduling order effectively ending mediation between the Department of Justice (DOJ), Ervin and Associates, and Hamilton Securities without settlement, thus initiating the discovery phase with a consolidated trial set for September 2003.

And so despite a six-year investigation by the DOJ and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that found no merit to the charges of bid rigging and insider trading alleged by Ervin in his suit, Fitts' legal ordeal continues. In a *qui tam* case, which is what Ervin filed in summer 1996, the governing statute provides for a 60-day investigation period.

A *qui tam* suit is one filed by a private party on behalf of a federal government agency against an outside third party. In Fitts' case, her firm was the lead financial advisor for HUD, and Ervin made the claim that Hamilton's HUD loan sales program was rigged in favor of large Wall Street bidders. No evidence of this has surfaced before or since Ervin's suit was filed.

## LOAN SALES AND THE 'BOUNTY HUNTER'

Ostensibly, John Ervin's firm is a HUD Ginnie Mae contractor, performing servicing tasks for the department's mortgage portfolios. It was these very same single family and multi-family portfolios that Fitts, first as Federal Housing Administration (FHA) commissioner in the first Bush Administration, then as the head of Hamilton Securities, was intent on reducing -- and so reduced -- costs to the government, to borrowers, and to nearby homeowners whose property values are harmed by HUD foreclosures, boarded up homes, and troubled properties.

Traditionally, HUD would manage these defaulted mortgages so as to recover about 35 cents on the dollar, said Fitts. So she devised a loan sale program that was basically the opposite of HUD's old pork barrel style. And political brass couldn't deny the "fiduciary soundness," as Fitts described it, of her \$10 billion of successful loan sales. Fitts and Hamilton were lauded for more than doubling recoveries, making upwards of 70- to 90 cents on the dollar return from loan sales -- a \$2.2 billion profit affirmed by a General Accounting Office audit.

Picture Hamilton Securities leading auctions of all kinds of government-owned, defaulted mortgage portfolios to a host of large and small investors -- from Wall Street and state housing finance agencies to local mortgage bankers and property owners. Fitts even utilized the budding Internet at the time (1994) to maximize the loan sales' productivity and level playing field.

"Hamilton used software tools, the Internet and AT&T Bell Labs' optimization methodology to dramatically improve transparency and competition. All the steps on the loan sales were documented with hyper linked "design books" that were accessible on the Web, as were detailed databases on the mortgages for sale and upcoming schedules of loan sales. This shifted the balance of power between Wall Street and HUD insiders on one hand and the FHA Funds and homeowners on the other. From Goldman Sachs to Harvard Endowment, the big guys had to pay a lot more to play," said Fitts.

Fitts' loan sales success was a red flag to those who profited both financially and politically from the department's large defaulted portfolios and fiscally unsound, pork barrel style. HUD insiders would be increasingly impacted if high standards of transparency and competition were maintained -- stock prices and executive bonuses would be lower, and tax liabilities would be higher.

Enter John Ervin, or as Fitts describes him, the DOJ's "bounty hunter." Fitts learned Ervin received a HUD contract generating \$30,000 per month when the legal action against her began.

Prior to the loan sales program, Ervin was the lead servicer on defaulted multifamily mortgage portfolios at HUD. As the loan sales reduced the defaulted HUD mortgages, Ervin's servicing work diminished. Unsuccessful in his attempts to interest Wall Street loan sales bidders in his services and unsuccessful in his bidding efforts on the loan sales, Ervin started filing lawsuits and contractor bid protests claiming wrongdoing. He filed over 30 contract bid protests, a lawsuit against HUD and HUD officials, and a *qui tam* lawsuit under seal in the name of the government charging Fitts and her firm with insider trading connected to the loan sales program.

## THE HAWKES AND HUD: 'CRIMINAL ENTERPRISE'

Ervin's legal team included Dan Hawke, the son of Jerry Hawke, who was the undersecretary of domestic finance at the Department of the Treasury. Jerry Hawke, also a former general counsel of the Federal Reserve, was the Treasury official responsible to oversee the integrity of the federal credit programs (HUD is the largest), as well as the integrity of government accounting and financial systems and reporting. Jerry Hawke is now the comptroller of the currency, the lead U.S. banking regulator. When efforts to frame Fitts and Hamilton failed, Dan Hawke left private practice to join the Securities & Exchange Commission's enforcement division.

Reduced portfolios owned by the government also reduced the opportunities for DOJ and the HUD IG office, working with Ervin as a servicer, to profit from enforcement actions related to HUD's defaulted mortgage portfolio. As the War on Drugs expanded throughout the 1990s, DOJ and the HUD IG's Operation Safe Home focused on generating revenues from civil money penalties, recapture of contractor payments, debt collections and asset seizures. Fitts and Hamilton's efforts were good for the taxpayers and homeowners but bad for the enforcement business.

An audit of the loan sales program performed by HUD IG auditors in 1996 found the allegations against Fitts and Hamilton to be unfounded. But the HUD IG hushed it up, and the lead auditor was ultimately forced to leave government service. Similar findings by FBI investigators in 1999 were also ignored. One effort to falsify evidence by the HUD IG general counsel failed when Fitts produced an affidavit documenting them.

Upper echelons apparently marked Fitts and Hamilton for destruction.

In fact, Fitts' loan sales generated \$2.2 billion in profit as a result of selling blocks of HUD's defaulted mortgage portfolio on the open market. Whoever wanted to bid, the opportunity was there, says Fitts. But this success threatened top players in Washington and on Wall Street.

"In the summer of 2000, I went to visit with a senior member of the staff of the chairman of the HUD appropriations subcommittee. The staff member asked me what I thought was going on at HUD. I deferred. They said, 'HUD is being run as a criminal enterprise.' Until that moment, I had resisted facing this, as HUD is run by the Department of Treasury, the Department of Justice and a group of private companies and banks. It was hard to face the fact that this many parties would conspire to run HUD as a criminal enterprise. Subsequently, the appropriations committees voted a \$1.7 billion increase in HUD appropriations."

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## Solari: "How the Money Works" in Your Place

by Catherine Austin Fitts

June 20, 2002, 15:00 PDT (FTW) -- I am sitting looking at a framed check on my desk. The check was written by the Hamilton Securities Group on our J.P. Morgan account. It was dated Sept. 3, 1997, payable to the Africatown Neighborhood Equity and Trust Corporation for \$125,000. This was to be the first solari -- a neighborhood investment databank and investment advisor. Shortly thereafter, Hamilton's government contracts were cancelled, our offices were seized and our computer systems and databases destroyed.

It was time to rethink the risk management issues involved in helping 72,000 U.S. neighborhoods understand "how the money works" in their neighborhood. While it was unthinkable to many Americans in 1998 that the Department of Justice was so corrupt, it is not so unthinkable today. That means the market opportunity is emerging to start having the conversation about how we can start a solari.

### WHAT IS A SOLARI?

A solari is my idea for a locally controlled, private investment databank and investment advisor for a neighborhood. A solari collects and circulates information on how resources work in its place so that a group of people can "vote" in the marketplace or "vote" at the polls in a powerful way. [See <http://www.solari.com/solari>]. Once folks in a place understand "how the money works," they can start to get it to work for them.

Should you start a solari? The key to starting anything is for it to be totally energizing for you. It is impossible to determine a sound business plan for a solari until you have a sense of the various opportunities that exist in your neighborhood:

- Do you have housing being built for more per unit than what can be produced locally?
- Are you paying more for a government contractor through your federal, state or local budget for a job that a small business or neighbor could do for less?
- Are your water, energy and other essential services in danger of Enron-type privatization where you and your taxes foot the bill, but they get all the equity value transferred to them at below market prices?
- Is data about you and your neighbors being collected by government agencies, then finding it's way into the wrong hands?

*(continued on page 12)*

***(continued from page 2, Unsuppressed History)***

themselves if such crimes against humanity could ever happen again or happen in America.

Having never lived through the Red Scare of post-World War II America, it was difficult for my students to grasp anti-Communist hysteria. I tried to explain that in the early- 1950s, being, or being suspected of being a Communist in America, was somewhat equivalent to being suspected of being a child molester in the 21st century. Nevertheless, they could not grasp the blatant violations of civil liberties during the '50s by the CIA, FBI and congressional committees investigating Communist activities. Particularly horrifying to them was the History Channel documentary, "Mind Control: America's Secret War," which outlined devastating CIA mind control experiments in the 1950s, done on unsuspecting civilians without their knowledge. Especially difficult for them to understand was the National Security Act of 1947 which created the CIA. Having been taught from grade school that our government is just, fair and that we have a functional balance of power in Washington, they found the CIA's level of power in America and the world, almost incomprehensible. As we examined the assassination of John F. Kennedy, the viewing of Oliver Stone's "JFK" film, the assassinations of Martin Luther King, Jr. and Robert Kennedy, the Vietnam War and Watergate, I watched the innocence drain from their 20-something faces. I told them it would get worse.

When I explained and documented the intricacies of the savings and loan scandal of the 1980s and tied these with the government's illegal funding of the Nicaraguan Contras with sales of arms and drugs, I watched most of my students metamorphose from childhood to adulthood in front of my very eyes.

Subsequently, they viewed and discussed "Powderburns," a video documentary on the CIA's massive cocaine trafficking operations in the 1980s, narrated by former DEA agent, Celerino Castillo. Together we viewed documentary footage of Gary Webb and explored passages from "Dark Alliance," his extraordinary expose of government cocaine trafficking into South Central Los Angeles which helped fund the Contras. They watched and took copious notes on Mike Ruppert's videos, "Fifty Years of CIA Drug Dealing" and "The CIA, Wall St. and Drugs." The class read and discussed articles by Catherine Austin Fitts on how the money works in the criminal empire that the United States has become. However, nothing had prepared my students for the culmination of the course when we viewed Mike's most recent video presentation, "The Truth & Lies of 9-11." Not one student had a rebuttal, and when I asked them to write their gut-level reactions to the tape, I received comments like:

- "This tape burst my bubble. I was very interested in getting a job with the CIA or an agency like it, but the blinders have been removed. I must now choose another career, and while that is very disturbing, I know I can do it and that I will be happier choosing a career that truly serves people instead of colluding in their destruction."
- "This video helped me solve a huge puzzle of truth. Now I know why so many countries hate the U.S. I no longer trust my government at all."
- "I had assumed that the events of September 11 didn't really affect me directly. Now I know that they affected and still affect everyone in the world."
- "I was born in Mexico, and my family migrated here to escape the corruption in Mexico, but now I see that the U.S. is just as corrupt if not more. Never again will I shake my head in 'pity' for countries that everyone thinks are more corrupt than the U.S."
- "This course has made me realize how ignorant I, and people my age are, about how the money works. The articles we read by Catherine Austin Fitts have made me realize how little I have been taught about money in this country. I came into this course not really knowing for sure what the stock market was. I didn't learn anything about it in high school. Now I want to learn about economics and become educated in how the money in this country works so that I can feel safer economically."
- "Until I took U.S. History to 1865, I had only a vague idea what my civil liberties were, and I had no idea that they were not a gift from the government. Because of the material we studied in that course, I now know that our Founding Fathers believed that those rights are our inalienable, divine rights. They are not gifts from anyone. It scares me that so few Americans understand this and that these rights are now so much in jeopardy."

The last comment was written by a student who took a course with me on the first half of U.S. history last fall. In that class, we watched together the horrific attacks on the World Trade Center on the morning of Sept. 11. Also, in that course, many students learned for the first time that the philosophical foundation on which our government was based at its origin was the social contract. The social contract was a notion of the English philosopher, Thomas Hobbes, in his famous "Leviathan," which proposed that people form governments because of their need for safety and protection. In exchange for protection, the people give up some rights, most notably, the right to rebel against the government.

But the Founding Fathers amplified Hobbes' analysis with the work of John Locke and his writings on natural rights. Locke embraced the social contract theory, but went further to assert that the social contract could be dissolved if the government did not fulfill its obligation in securing the peoples' natural rights. Further embellishing the ideas of Hobbes and Locke, the Founding Fathers relied on the French philosopher, Jean Jacques Rousseau who presented the idea of the "consent of the governed" which means that the government is only viable if it is established by the consent of those governed. Therefore, it is essential that the people governed assure that the leaders are maintaining their part of the social contract. The ideas of Hobbes, Locke and Rousseau not only influenced the framing of the Constitution, but laid the philosophical groundwork for the American Revolution, which incidentally, the Founding Fathers perceived as another inalienable, divine right. While I spent a

great deal of time teaching the ideas of the Founding Fathers to my students before Sept. 11, I have intentionally belabored that topic since, knowing irrevocably that legislative horrors such as the Patriot Act and the Model Emergency Health Powers Act would, were they still with us, have instantly emboldened our Founding Fathers to mobilize a Second American Revolution.

In a page-one USA Today story from May 10 headlined, "Kids Get 'Abysmal' Grade In History," writer Tamara Henry reports that in a federally-mandated test administered to 29,000 fourth, eighth and 12th-graders at 1,110 public and private schools, 57 percent of high school seniors could not perform at the basic level. The scores remain virtually as deplorable as they were in 1994 when the test was first administered. My experience in the college classroom is frighteningly congruent with Henry's report. As noted above, students may enter college without having heard of the stock market, and in my experience, can state only about half the time, the correct decade (sometimes century) of World War II. Why is this?

In the USA Today report, Diane Ravitch, historian and education professor at New York University says "Our ability to defend -- intelligently and thoughtfully -- what we as a nation hold dear depends on our knowledge and understanding of what we hold dear....That can only be achieved through learning history."

But how can we hold dear or defend what we don't know about? Much has been written about the "dumbing down" of American public schools, and unfortunately, my experience is congruent with most of it. The majority of students leave my classes in wide-eyed disbelief of what they were *not* taught in high school and how overwhelmingly unaware of history they had remained throughout their twelve grades. It used to be that students were given only what I call the "Disneyland" view of history -- America the virtuous, defender of freedom everywhere, savior of the world. More recently, I'm finding that students are increasingly being given *no* history at all.

In reading the description of my history courses above, some colleagues may accuse me of undermining my students' trust in the American government. Curiously, I am regularly asked by students at the beginning of my history courses if I trust the government. My reply? I remind my students that the people in all of history who were the most distrustful of the American government, besides the Native Americans and slaves who were butchered and betrayed by it, were the Founding Fathers themselves. Jefferson, in particular, warned citizens not to trust their government because like his contemporaries, Hobbes, Locke and Rousseau, he believed that governments are inherently tyrannical and will invariably attempt to usurp the rights of their citizens. In fact, he once wrote that he would like to see a revolution every 20 years -- not of course, a violent revolution of guns and bullets, but a revolution of the mind, a revolution of consciousness. Nor was Jefferson troubled by resistance to government. In a letter to Abigail Adams he wrote, "The spirit of resistance to government is so valuable on certain occasions, that I wish it to be always kept alive. It will often be exercised when wrong but better so than not to be exercised at all. I like a little rebellion now and then. It is like a storm in the atmosphere."

In an interview with Mike Ruppert on "The Truth & Lies of 9-11" video, Rep. Ron Paul, R-Texas, asks the question: How did we get to this point in history -- the point where the government is willing to sacrifice the civil liberties of its citizens to put the country on a permanent military, economic and political war footing? I would add to congressman Paul's question my own: How did we get to the point in history where children are *not taught* history?

The most valuable and workable image I have found for giving students an authentic map for understanding U.S. history and the world in which they live is the image of the five-headed monster in which corporations, the stock market, the intelligence community, organized crime and government function not as separate entities, but as one predatory organism which devours and does not sustain either humanity or the Earth. One of my beloved mentors of history, professor Peter Dale Scott, refers to what I have named the five-headed monster as "deep politics," that is to say, a "process which habitually resorts to decision-making and enforcement procedures outside as well as inside those publicly sanctioned by law and society."

"The Truth & Lies of 9-11" video by Mike Ruppert is an extraordinary journey into the history of the last 40 years. It is intentionally shocking, as it should be in a time when ignorance of history is only one component of the soporific seduction of this society by business and Beltway thugs who are hellbent on establishing a perpetual militaristic plutocracy at the expense of the U.S. Constitution. But shock is not the only motivation for speaking truth to power. Ultimately, as Mike states in the video, in order to save itself, America must confront all that it has denied during the past four decades. Or as professor Scott reminds us, "psychologists explore shadows, not because they prefer darkness, but because they believe that healing can come from an enlargement of insight."

*Carolyn Baker, Ph.D., is a community college professor of U.S. History and former psychotherapist, living in Texas. She may be contacted at: drumbaker@prodigy.net.*

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***(continued from page 10, Solari: "How the Money Works" in Your Place)***

The list of potential opportunities is endless. Step one is to collect up a group of your neighbors who you know and trust. An investment club, book club, Rotary, Kiwanis, local women's club or other similar group may be a place to find like-minded folks. Divide up the data collection tasks for the different kinds of operations: taxes, utilities, education, health care, and so forth. Start with the ones that generate the most short-term interest. Look for the opportunities for change that will provide you with short-term improvement in services or time. You are paying the money. Where can you get more performance?

If you learn how the money works in your place, step two or three may be to start a solari. It will be one of the tools that we will use to generate jobs and equity for ourselves, our family and our neighbors.

**(continued from page 6, Statement of Mike Ruppert)**

These are not words describing ignorant or careless behavior. They are words describing intentional and malicious behavior.

And that is what ultimately must be addressed before the families of the victims of 9-11, the American people, and the world will be satisfied.

The Bush Administration must be forced to admit that they knew hijacked planes were going to be used as weapons. Why else would terrorists take flight training lessons? You can't crop dust with a 757 that you don't know how to land or take-off.

Why else would the G-8 conference in Genoa less than a year earlier have had extensive preparations to prevent hijacked aircraft from being used as weapons. President Bush was there, surrounded by anti-aircraft weapons. Was he not briefed on it?

Just a few of the questions that MUST be answered are going to be discussed today and we have been asking them at From The Wilderness since Septmeber 12th. Now many more are asking:

- Why did U.S. State Department officials Karl Inderfurth, Tom Simmons and Lee Coldren travel to Berlin in July 2001 to tell the Taliban that the U.S. government was going to "bury them in a carpet of bombs" in October 2001?

- Why were no fighters scrambled for 50 minutes after the first two planes had hit the World Trade Center towers?

- Why did Andrews Air Force Base alter its web site on 9-13 to hide the fact that it had scramble-ready fighters?

- Why were massive numbers of U.S., British and NATO forces pre-positioned off the Pakistani coast, in Oman and Egypt before the 9-11 attacks?

- Why has no one forcefully demanded an explanation from the administration as to why the head of the Pakistani intelligence service, the ISI, wired \$100,000 to Mohammed Atta before the attacks and then was happily in Washington, D.C. meeting with the heads of the House and Senate Intelligence Committees on Septmeber 11th?

- Why has the Wall Street Journal or any other major paper not investigated the fact that the aide to the head of the ISI who wired the money to Atta, Ahamad Umar Sheik, is also the lead suspect in the muder of reporter Daniel Pearl?

- Why did the National Security Council convene a Dabhol working group in the summer of 2001 to help a beleaguered Enron try to find a way to salvage a \$3 billion investment in a power generating plant that could only operate if there was a natural gas pipeline across Afghanistan?

- Why has John Ashcroft not recused himself from two sitting federal grand juries looking at Exxon-Mobil and BP/Amoco's frantic and desperate attempts to get oil out of Central Asia, when those two companies donated more money to Ashcroft when he was a senator than Enron did?

- Why has the White House broken laws to hide the records of the Vice President's Energy Task Force when targets of grand jury probes looking at Kazak oil corruption (Exxon and BP Amoco) were granted access? That's the same as having Manuel Noriega advise the White House in the war on drugs. Is it because the Vice President himself was a sitting member of the Kazakh government's oil advisory board when bribes were given and an illegal oil swap with Iran completed?

- Why has the government not disclosed the results of massive insider trading in the financial markets before September 11th that was so widely and urgently commented on by the likes of 60 Minutes, ABC, Bloomberg, and a multitude of respected media outlets?

- Why has no one told the American people about the results of massive numbers of put options on United Airlines that were placed through a firm that was headed until 1998 by a man, A.B. Krongard, who is today in the number-three position at the CIA?

I am one who believes that the last true vestige of an uncompromised rule of law in this country is in the civil courts. It is only there where the rules of discovery can compel the release of documents and the production of evidence that newly formed congressional committees, operating partly in secret and partly in the open, will only try to hide.

The public is rightfully skeptical about a White House that has lied to them about the events of September 11th. And I for one am proud to be a part of the vanguard of courageous independent journalists and researchers who are continuing to bring these shocking -- yet utterly verifiable -- facts to light.

We have also demonstrated that personal attacks on many of us, though draining, are ineffective when we demonstrate that we can read and use official records and undisputed mainstream media reports to arrive at an accurate and more prouductive picture of reality in a way that actually serves the interests of the people rather than protecting the interests of a government of questionable legitimacy that is asking for more money and more power after having both betrayed us and allowed the deaths of thousands of people.

The stars today are the families of the victims and their brave lawyers. But they are symbolic of a victimization that is national and indeed, global.

Unmitigated and fearless accountability is the standard for all of us here today. And I can assure you that as far as September 11th goes, time is on our side, and this government knows it.

Anyone wishing to see documentation for what I have described here can find it on my web site at [www.copvcia.com](http://www.copvcia.com).

Michael C. Ruppert, Publisher/Editor From The Wilderness

# “Oh Lucy! – New Additions

## The Following Items Have Been Added To Our World-Famous 9-11 Timeline.

[Expanded and Revised June 19, 2002]

2. January, 1995 – Philippine police investigating a possible attack on the Pope uncover plans for Operation Bojinka, connected to WTC bomber Ramsi Youssef. Parts of the plan call for crashing hijacked airliners into civilian targets. Details of the plan are disclosed in Youssef's 1997 trial for the 1993 WTC bombing. [Source: AFP, December 7, 2001]

6. April, 1999 – Enron with a \$3 billion investment to build an electrical generating plant at Dabhol India loses access to plentiful LNG supplies from Qatar to fuel the plant. Its only remaining option to make the investment profitable is a trans-Afghani gas pipeline to be built by Unocal from Turkmenistan that would terminate near the Indian border at the city of Multan. [Source: The Albion Monitor, Feb. 28, 2002.]

8. March, 2000 – An FBI agent, reportedly angry over a glitch in Carnivore that has somehow mixed innocent non-targeted emails with those belonging to Al Q'aeda, destroys all of the FBI's Denver-based intercepts of bin Laden's colleagues in a terrorist investigation. [The Washington Post, May 29, 2002].

9. 2000 (est.) – The FBI refuses to disclose the date of an internal memo stating that a middle eastern nation had been trying to purchase a flight simulator. [The L.A. Times, May 30, 2002].

10. August, 2000 – Suspected Al Q'aeda operatives wiretapped by Italian police made apparent references to plans for major attacks involving airports, airplanes and the United States according to transcripts obtained by the L.A. Times. The LA Times suggests that the information might not have been passed to U.S. authorities (hard to believe) but it did report that Italian authorities would not comment on the report. The Times also noted that “Italian and US anti-terrorism experts cooperate closely.” [The Los Angeles Times, May 29, 2002].

11. October 24-6, 2000 – Pentagon officials carry out a “detailed” emergency drill based upon the crashing of a hijacked airliner into the Pentagon. [The Mirror, May 24, 2002]

18. July, 2001 – FBI agents in Arizona write a memorandum warning about suspicious activities involving a group of Middle Eastern men taking flight training lessons in Arizona. The memorandum specifically mentions Osama bin Laden and warns of connections to terrorist activities. [Source: The New York Times, May 14, 2002]

23. Summer, 2001 – Jordanian intelligence (the GID) makes a communications intercept deemed so important that King Abdullah's men relay it to Washington, probably through the CIA station in Amman. To make doubly sure the message got through it was passed through an Arab intermediary to a German intelligence agent. The message: A major attack was planned inside the US and that aircraft would be used. The code name of the operation was The Big Wedding.” – “When it became clear that the information was embarrassing to Bush Administration officials and congressmen who at first denied that there had been any such warnings before Sept. 11, senior Jordanian officials backed away from their earlier confirmations.” This case was authenticated by ABC reporter John K. Cooley. [The International Herald Tribune (IHT), May 21, 2002]

24. Summer, 2001 (est.) – The National Security Agency intercepts telephone conversations between bin Laden aide Khalid Shaikh Mohammed and Mohammed Atta and does not share the information with any other agencies. [Jonathan Landay, Knight Ridder Newspapers, June 6, 2002].

28. July, 2001 – The G8 summit at Genoa, Italy is surrounded by anti-aircraft guns and local airspace is closed off after Italian and Egyptian officials (including President Hosni Mubarak) warn American intelligence that airliners stuffed with explosives might be used to attack President Bush. US officials state that the warnings were “unsubstantiated.” (But I wonder if they would have taken away the anti-aircraft artillery?) [The LA Times, Sept. 27, 2001].

29. July 26, 2001 – CBS News reports that John Ashcroft has stopped flying commercial airlines due a threat assessment. Ashcroft told the press that he didn't know anything about what had caused it.

32. August, 2001 – As reported in the IHT both a French magazine (name not given) and a Moroccan newspaper simultaneously report that a Moroccan agent named Hassan Dabou had penetrated Al Q'aeda to the point of getting close to bin Laden who was “very disappointed” that the 1993 bombing had not toppled the WTC. Dabou was called to the US after reporting this which curtailed his ability to stay in touch with the organization and gather additional intelligence that might have prevented the attacks. Though not proved beyond a doubt these stories have been met with a wall of silence. [The IHT, May 21, 2002].

34. August, 2001 – President Bush receives classified intelligence briefings at his Crawford, TX ranch indicating that Osama bin Laden might be planning to hijack commercial airliners. [CBS News, CNN – May 15, 2001]

36. August/September, 2001 – According to a detailed 13-page memo written by Minneapolis FBI legal officer SA Colleen Rowley FBI headquarters ignores urgent direct warnings from French intelligence services about pending attacks. In addition, a single Supervisory Special Agent in Washington expends extra effort to thwart the field office's investigation of Zacarias Moussaoui, in one case rewriting Rowley's affidavit for a search warrant to search Moussaoui's laptop. Rowley's memo uses

terms like “deliberately sabotage,” “block,” “integrity,” “omitted,” “downplayed,” “glossed over,” “mis-characterize,” “improper political reasons,” “deliberately thwarting,” “deliberately further undercut,” “suppressed,” and “not completely honest.” These are not terms describing negligent acts but rather, deliberate acts. FBI field agents desperately attempted to get action to no avail. One agent speculated that bin Laden might be planning to crash airliners into the World Trade Center while Rowley ironically noted that the SSA who had committed these deliberate actions had actually been promoted after September 11th. [The AP, May 21, 2002].

38. Early September, 2001 - An FBI internal document, based upon field notes from Minnesota field agents discloses that the agents had been investigating and had questioned the “20th hijacker” Zacarias Moussaoui. The field notes speculate that Moussaoui, who had been taking flight lessons, might crash an airliner into the WTC. Interestingly, the field agents’ requests to obtain a search warrant for his personal computer were denied. French intelligence confirms to the FBI that Moussaoui has ties to terrorist groups and may have traveled to Afghanistan. The agents also had no knowledge of the Phoenix memo (See Item #18). One news story states that agents were in “a frenzy,” absolutely convinced that he was “going to do something with a plane.” [Source NEWSWEEK, May 20, 2002 issue – story by Michael Isikoff].

46. September 10, 2001 – Amr Elgindy, a longtime colleague of Iran-Contra figure Adnan Khasogghi and a notorious inside trader on the financial markets orders his broker to liquidate his children’s \$300,000 trust account fearing a sudden crash in the market. Elgindy is arrested in San Diego May, 2002, along with FBI agents Jeffrey Royer and Lynn Wingate who have been using their FBI positions to feed him inside information on various corporations. Elgindy is currently being held without bail. [The Globe and Mail, May 25, 2002]

47. September 11, 2001 – United Air Lines flight 23, scheduled to fly from New York City to LA was delayed after four Muslim passengers began demanding that the plane take off immediately. This happened apparently after the first plane had hit the WTC. The passengers were thrown off the flight. [The Globe and Mail, June 13, 2002]

56. October 11, 2001 – The Ashcroft Justice Department takes over all terrorist prosecutions from the U.S. Attorneys office in New York which has had a highly successful track record in prosecuting terrorist cases connected to Osama bin Laden. [Source: The New York Times, Oct. 11, 2001.]

65. January 10, 2002 – Attorney General John Ashcroft recuses himself from the Enron investigation because Enron had been a major campaign donor in his 2000 Senate race. He fails to recuse himself from involvement in two sitting Federal grand juries investigating bribery and corruption charges against ExxonMobil and BP-Amoco who have massive oil interests in Central Asia. Both were major Ashcroft donors in 2000. [Source: CNN, Jan. 10, 2002 – FTW original investigation, The Elephant in the Living Room, Part I, Apr 4, 2002.]

66. January 23, 2002 – Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl is kidnapped in Pakistan. Pearl is reported dead on Feb. 21. Lead suspect Ahmad Umar Sheik, former colleague of Gen. Ahmad, arrested on Feb 12, is named as the lead suspect in the kidnapping and murder. Legal sources close to the Pakistani government tell FTW that Pearl was investigating the ISI. [Source: CNN.com]

69. May 13, 2002 – The BBC reports that Afghanistan is about to close a deal for construction of the \$2 billion gas pipeline to run from Turkmenistan to Pakistan and India. The story states, “work on the project will start after an agreement is expected to be struck” at a summit scheduled for the end of the month. Unocal will build the pipeline. [Source: BBC, May 13, 2002]

70. May 16, 2001 – Press Secretary Ari Fleischer states unequivocally that while President Bush had been warned of possible hijackings, “The president did not -- not -- receive information about the use of airplanes as missiles by suicide bombers.” [Source: CBS News, May 15, 2002]

71. May 19, 2002 – Former FBI Agent Tyrone Powers, now a professor at Anne Arundel Community College states on radio station KISS 98.7, states that he has credible evidence suggesting that the Bush administration did in fact allow the Sept. 11th attacks to further a hidden agenda. [www.indymedia.org – May 20, 2002]

72. May 31, 2002 – FBI Agent Robert Wright delivers a tearful press conference at the National Press Club describing his lawsuit against the FBI for deliberately curtailing investigations that might have prevented the 9/11 attacks. He uses words like “prevented,” “thwarted,” “obstructed,” “threatened,” “intimidated,” and “retaliation” to describe the actions of his superiors in blocking his attempts to shut off money flows to Al Qaeda and other terrorist groups. These are not words of negligence. They are words describing deliberate and malicious actions. [Source: C-SPAN website]

73. June 4, 2002 – Air Force Lt. Colonel Steve Butler who had called President Bush a joke and accused him of allowing the September 11th attacks to happen is suspended from his post at the Defense Language School in Monterey and could face a court martial. [AP, June 4, 2002]

74. June 17, 2002 – Reuters reports that Butler’s case has been resolved without the necessity of a court martial. (I guess so. There’s enough material here to prove him right. – MR) [Reuters, June 17, 2002].

To see the complete "Oh Lucy!" 9-11 timeline, please visit our website: [www.copvicia.com](http://www.copvicia.com)

# *A Time To Organize...A Time For Action.*

We have entered into a new period in the life of America and the world. The efforts of the major media to control every aspect of what the public thinks and reacts to have hit a new zenith of arrogance. The lies are out in the open.

Even the average person can feel that something is "out of whack." *But they have nowhere to go, nothing else to turn to.*

Here is where we can make a difference...and here is where we need your help.

**FTW** is creating Town Action Groups, which will be hosted on the **FTW** website. These will be nation and world wide. Each Town Action Group will be headed up by a person in that town or locale.

These groups will have:

- An individual events calendar
- An individual forum
- Access to PR materials (banners, signs, stickers, ads, flyers, etc.)
- Access to videos, audio presentations, interviews, etc., for use on Public Access television, cable, and radio
- Access to a complete library of **FTW** and related articles

What we need now are the people who are willing to run a Town Action Group in their area.

If you would like to participate or have more ideas along this line, please contact Michael Leon at: [media@copvcia.com](mailto:media@copvcia.com)

Thank you very much.

Michael C. Ruppert, Editor/Publisher, *From The Wilderness*

## **(continued from page 1, NOINTELPRO)**

Here's why.

First, they have failed to recognize that the Internet has given birth to a much more sophisticated core cadre of researchers who have access to and are trained to focus only on documented fact. These researchers, many with their own constituencies, operate from the premise that any rational explanation of 9-11 must conform to the facts that are known about 9-11.

Second, they have drawn attention to themselves by making their attacks on the basis of personality or irrelevant issues that actually erode their core support. They have avoided discussing facts that are now readily available to consumers.

Third, they have used '60s and '70s criteria to attempt to define the debate. For the most part, epithets like left/right wing, anti-Semitic and even the progressively clichéd "conspiracy theorist" have done little to arouse opposition for the work of these journalists. As I have said over and over again, since Sept. 12, 2001, we have been living in a new paradigm. That paradigm resonates in a different frequency and "consumers" of news and information know the difference between junk food, and food which nourishes them.

On this last speaking tour through Canada I was greeted in three cities by very nasty press stories linking me to lizards, Elvis and calling me a money-grubbing opportunist. All of these stories referred almost exclusively to the same two sources, who I consider to be government assets. Yet, in each of the three cities -- Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver -- I was faced with a sell-out and wildly enthusiastic crowd. I am especially grateful to the 600 people who braved the sweltering heat to stay for four hours and give me two standing ovations in Vancouver.

Nasty and apparently coordinated press attacks from a local radio station and a so-called "alternative" newspaper in L.A. have done nothing to weaken local support for **FTW** or our position. In fact, the attacks seem to have gone largely unnoticed. My speaking schedule throughout the fall is filling up, and the phone is still ringing off the hook.

The key to understanding all of this is the true and justified sense of urgency that now exists as never before. The U.S. government is being run as a criminal enterprise and that fact is becoming increasingly hard to hide. One of my great heroes, the late USAF Col. L. Fletcher Prouty, was paraphrased in the movie "JFK" as saying, "people are fundamentally suckers for the truth." With all due respect to the man who taught me how to think in many areas and how to see that a conspiracy on the order of 9-11 could have been carried out with only a few insiders' participation, I think a better way to say it is that people know, from the taste in their mouth and the feeling in their stomachs and the overall state of their health, when they are being fed B.S. and when they are being fed health food by someone who cares about their safety.

Throughout July and August **FTW** will be concentrating on bringing you many new hard and explosive news stories. Journalism is what we do, and I can hardly wait to get back to it.