



FROM THE WILDERNESS

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

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HAITI & VENEZUELA COUP & EMPIRE

(A Two-Part Series From FTW - Part I)

by
Stan Goff

[In this two-part analysis, Stan Goff exposes the underlying forces driving the current crisis in Haiti. The recent coup d'etat is only the latest in two centuries of violent transfers of power in that country – but today the regional balance of forces is refreshingly new. Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez has foiled a series of desperate CIA attempts to gain control of that oil-producing nation. While the Bush administration arrogantly plays the same the old game in the same old way, using the same old felons and convicted murderers, new rules are being written by an awakening transnational solidarity in the hemisphere. Markets, privatization of natural resources, drug routes, cheap labor – all are at stake in the US elite's scramble for Haiti. But Goff shows how an even more important motivation is stinging the Bush junta into frenzied action: when white supremacy is symbolically wounded, others have to bleed.

Haiti was founded in 1804 after a roundly successful slave revolution. Aristide is Haiti's first democratically elected President. Just before his kidnapping at gunpoint, he had moved to double the Haitian minimum wage. And the prospect of a dignified, self-governing Haiti free from the depredations of U.S. economic warfare and CIA intervention is intolerable to the heroes of American exceptionalism. Neo-conservative ideologues, Jesse Helms-style Southern racists, Miami exilios and organized crime players, intelligence men embarrassed by even a whisper of successful populism – these are the planners of the coup and the cover-up. Many learned their trade in the Iran-Contra period, or have mentors who did; the pattern hasn't changed. Just as Nicaraguan self-determination seemed to threatened the whole universe during the Reagan administration, from the perspective of Washington and Langley a strong Haiti – under an electorally legitimate Black president with a mandate and regional allies – would surely bring the Earth crashing into the Sun. – FTW]

(continued on page 14)

From the Wilderness

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VACCINE EPIDEMIC

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- *Nanotechnology and Gene Shuffling – New Insanity*
- *Scarlet Cloud Drills Point to Illegal Aerosol Vaccine “Solution”*
- *AIDS Vaccine Hoax – Is There an Alternative Agenda?*
- *Many Vaccines Proven to Promote Disease*

by

Michael Kane

Additional research by Nico Haupt

[With the looming peak oil and natural gas crisis too close for comfort, the possibility of mass global depopulation is likely inevitable. From a string of mysterious deaths among world-class microbiologists there hangs the question – what projects were they working on? Some have speculated on the possible existence of a top-secret “doomsday bug” project as a “solution” for overpopulation as we exit the hydrocarbon era.

There’s little need to speculate on top-secret projects when the “next generation” of vaccines is dangerous enough. Pharmaceutical press releases are hitting the wires every day announcing multi-million dollar military contracts to create new vaccines including aerosols (potentially deliverable by airborne dispersion), nanotechnology, genetically modified pathogens, and the stockpiling of the same vaccines that have been harming Americans for decades – most notably BioPort’s despicable anthrax vaccine.

With a bioterror attack on American soil having been virtually guaranteed by the Homeland Security Department, the reality of this translates into big bucks for the pharmaceutical industry.

When considering Dutch economist Maarten Van Mourik’s historic quote that it may not be profitable to slow the effects of Peak Oil, we need to take a hard, sobering look at what is profitable and what is happening under our noses.

By strange coincidence, as this story was out for proofreading, the New York Times reported on March 11th that the federal government had just issued an open solicitation for enough anthrax vaccine to inoculate 25 million people. – MCR]

March 16, 2004 1800 PST (FTW) – **T**he current vaccine market is valued at \$9 billion and is expected to triple in value by 2012.¹ How and why is this new economic bubble being inflated?

FORCING EXPERIMENTAL VACCINES ON SOLDIERS: JUNK SCIENCE

Six soldiers represented by attorney Mark Zaid have filed suit against the government for experimenting on them with the BioPort anthrax vaccine. BioPort is the nation’s only current manufacturer of the vaccine. The charge states that the vaccine was considered investiga-

tional for inhaled anthrax, and therefore its mandatory administration was experimental and illegal.

It’s crucial to start from the beginning. On November 2, 1970, the FDA granted an anthrax vaccine license to MDPH (now BioPort) though neither had conducted a controlled field trial. The data presented in support of the vaccine made a mockery of science for three reasons.

1. The study cited was of a completely different strain of vaccine made by Merck, Sharp, & Dohme.
2. The manufacturing process used in making the vaccine changed when MDPH took over.

3. The ingredients used to make the vaccine were changed.²

So this license was a complete fraud. How can a vaccine be licensed based on the testing of an entirely different vaccine? The whole sordid, disastrous history of anthrax vaccine follows from this central episode.

How can we even discuss the resulting mountain of distortions and lies, when the original license granted was fraudulent? The only ethical, and logical answer is to ban this vaccine in perpetuity. Think that statement's too strong?

Keep reading.

On Dec. 22, 2003, the US District Court for the District of Columbia ordered the military to stop using its soldiers as guinea pigs for dangerous experimental anthrax vaccines.³

Last year, army sergeant Rachel Lacey died from complications caused by the anthrax vaccine, according to an autopsy report from the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.⁴ This was not an isolated case; the anthrax vaccine is the likely cause of a pneumonia-like illness that may be reaching epidemic proportions in our military.

Despite strong evidence suggesting that the vaccine is causing soldiers to get sick, the Pentagon is denying the possibility. Instead, they claim that cigarette smoking is a leading factor. Staff Sgt. Neal B. Erickson Sr. doesn't smoke, and had exhibited pneumonia-like symptoms 10 days after his fourth anthrax shot. The anthrax vaccination requires six injections over eighteen months. He received the next shot in August, and 10 days later he was hospitalized in California. All tests for viruses or bacteria came back clean. It was essentially labeled as a type of pneumonia.⁵

But the Pentagon does not plan on including Erickson in their investigation of what they call a "mysterious pneumonia cluster". Erickson has said there are at least four other cases in his squadron, including another hospitalization. There are at least a hundred cases like this – and multiple deaths, many of which are not being investigated by the Pentagon.⁶

In an interview with UPI Editor Mark Benjamin, Erickson said, "I'm real touchy here. Come a few more months, I'm in line to get another (anthrax shot). It's not like we have a choice in the matter." Refusal could result in a court martial.⁷

It makes one wonder just how long the Pentagon will play these insane games of "blaming smoking" while a 2 ton elephant is sitting in the barracks. Thousands of Gulf War I veterans were poisoned by depleted uranium and

the same despicable BioPort vaccine over a decade ago under George Herbert Walker Bush, later continued under Bill Clinton.⁸ This is nothing new!⁹ By now I suppose you're saying, "Thank god they stopped poisoning our troops!"

Keep reading.

BUSINESS AS USUAL

Let's jump back to October, 2003, when 80.3 million of our tax dollars were spent in ordering VaxGen Inc. to develop an experimental anthrax vaccine. An additional \$71.3 million was contracted to Avecia for 3 million doses of a new recombinant anthrax vaccine.¹⁰

Those are serious contracts. Obviously there are those in the military-industrial complex who weren't pleased with the court decision to stop mandatory vaccination of soldiers. Although the ruling was for a different vaccine, it set a precedent for VaxGen and other big pharmaceutical corporations.

So what happens? Within weeks of this court ruling the FDA suddenly approves BioPort's anthrax vaccine as "safe and effective" against inhalation anthrax.

PERFECT TIMING?

In light of the FDA's sudden change of heart, the Department of Defense moved to resume mandatory vaccination of soldiers.

Judge Emmet Sullivan, who ruled that soldiers should not be "used as guinea pigs" with experimental anthrax vaccines, issued a subsequent order allowing the Pentagon to resume its mandatory vaccination program. This has been called a "temporary boost" for the Michigan-based BioPort.

In his two-page order Judge Sullivan wrote, "Although the timing of the issuance of the rule is arguably highly suspicious, nevertheless, the rule has been issued and the principal reason for the issuance of the injunction has been addressed by the government".

Just days before this ruling the Pentagon ordered a \$29.7 million order of anthrax vaccine from BioPort, part of a \$245.6 million contract, in anticipation of the reversal.¹¹

So let's say 5 or 10 years down the road a soldier, who has long since been administered the anthrax vaccine, has a child born with multiple birth defects. I suppose that's just too bad. It couldn't have been from the vaccine because the Pentagon and FDA said it was "safe and effective". But the FDA has admitted it is still uncertain as to what the long-term effects of the vaccine may be.

ABC Medical Reporter Nicholas Regush stated that the current anthrax vaccine from BioPort is based on "hope and apparent desperation," not good science.¹² A leaflet inserted

with the anthrax vaccine, which originally stated that adverse reaction occurred in 0.2 percent of cases, was recently revised to reflect a rate of 5 to 35 percent.¹³

This vaccine had not received FDA approval for inhalation anthrax in over 30 years, and they've held it up for 18 years since 1985, but the FDA suddenly experienced a change of heart in perfect time to reverse Judge Sullivan's historic ruling. In the FDA statement from December 30, 2003, they specifically state that their decision was based on studies from 1985, so no new supporting evidence has been presented.¹⁴ The FDA is showing its true colors here. It is notorious for conflict of interest, and much of that conflict comes from FDA ties to big pharmaceutical companies.

WHY SHOULD THEY?

Just days later VaxGen was granted FDA fast track status to get their "next generation" anthrax vaccine to market. Talk about big contracts – they're receiving \$280 million (our tax dollars) from three separate NIH contracts to develop this vaccine.¹⁵ They need to vaccinate our soldiers whether it saves them or kills them, and it doesn't matter which; there's simply too much money on the line to care. This is viral capitalism – destroying the host for profit.

Ironically, in the midst of this controversy involving BioPort's anthrax vaccine, UPI Investigations Editor Mark Benjamin was presented with a journalism award for exposing the problems of sick U.S. soldiers, including linking deaths in Iraq to the anthrax vaccine. Adding to the irony, the award was presented to him in Washington, D.C. in an event sponsored by the U.S. Senate press gallery.¹⁶

BATTLING THE PENTAGON – FIGHTING THE GOOD FIGHT

Attorney Mark Zaid has actually cornered the Pentagon with regard to the experimental anthrax vaccine as it pertains to his clients. This is from *Insight Magazine*:

The central issue is whether the anthrax vaccine is licensed for inhalation anthrax ... In hindsight, the plaintiff attorney says the Pentagon might have avoided the entire controversy by claiming that the vaccine was to protect troops in case they came into contact with anthrax through the skin, because no one disputes it was licensed for that situation. "If they had taken that posture from day one they could have gotten away with it," Zaid says, although he believes there are legitimate health-risk issues even in that case which have not been fully addressed.¹⁷

If the central issue is whether the anthrax vaccine was licensed for use against inhalation anthrax, the FDA showed it was not approved for such use by issuing their

statement on December 30, 2003, long after the shots were administered. There was no informed consent and the experimental injections were mandatory for military personnel, which makes the forced vaccinations patently illegal.

In the end it appears the Pentagon's lies will catch up with them. Pending court decisions will show whether the legal system works. In the meantime this dangerous vaccine, with a fraudulent license from 1970, has resumed its mandatory place for our service personnel.

Twenty-year-old Specialist Kurt Hickman, who was convicted in a December 2003 court-martial of disobeying a direct order by refusing to take the anthrax vaccine, had that conviction overturned after the mandatory vaccination program was banned by Judge Sullivan's historic ruling. He did not refuse to be deployed with his unit to Iraq.¹⁸

After the FDA had its sudden change of heart, Hickman refused the shot yet again and was charged, again, in Indiana. However, the Army dropped the charge when his unit was deployed to Iraq. Apparently Camp Atterbury commander Lt. Col. Kenneth D. Newlin intervened and the charges were dropped. In this rare exception Hickman seems to have beaten the system.

Hickman is not alone; at least three other soldiers have been deployed to Iraq after refusing the anthrax shot.¹⁹ Some brave commanders are resisting Pentagon pressures and risking the loss of possible promotions to do the right thing. Will BioPort's dangerous vaccine maintain its mandatory status when the draft is reinstated in 2005? That's going to be a hot issue when the time comes.

WHERE'S CONGRESS?

Where's the Congress in all this? Funny you should ask...

You may recall that Senator Patrick Leahy, in November of 2001, demanded that Attorney General John Ashcroft explain his order to wiretap attorney-client phone conversations, in complete violation of the Fifth Amendment. Leahy demanded a response by November 13, 2001. His answer came a little late. On November 16, Senator Leahy received an anthrax letter. Tom Daschle, the former Senate majority leader, received an anthrax letter also. Congress has been out of the anthrax vaccine debate ever since. How convenient.²⁰

Robert Stevens, editor of The Sun tabloid in Florida died on October 5, 2001 from an anthrax letter sent to Sun headquarters. His wife, Maureen Stevens, is suing the government for lax security. Her attorney, Richard Schuler, has said DNA tests would prove the anthrax strain used was produced at the U.S. Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases at Fort Detrick in Frederick, Md. Schuler has been denied access to the DNA tests, and the federal government is asking the courts to delay the law suit for "national security" concerns.²¹

In Congressional Testimony on February 12, 2004, Tom Ridge stated:

(\$2.5 billion for) Project BioShield allows the Federal Government to pre-purchase critically needed vaccines and medications for biodefense as soon as experts agree that they are safe and effective enough to be added to the Strategic National Stockpile.²²

With BioPort's anthrax vaccine receiving a sudden approval from the "experts" at the FDA, and VaxGen's anthrax vaccine given fast track approval to get past the "experts" as quickly as possible, it seems that the plan isn't to have these stockpiles gather dust. BioPort says it expects to sign its first contract to provide the anthrax vaccine for civilians sometime this year, but has not named the potential client.²³ Get the picture?

Recently the NYPD announced it has undergone massive contingency exercises for the scenario of a chemical or biological attack in Manhattan. Scenarios may include mass dissemination and administration of vaccines and quarantining people in their own homes. The city has also recently changed its health codes to detain anyone health officials suspect of having been exposed to a deadly infectious pathogen.²⁴

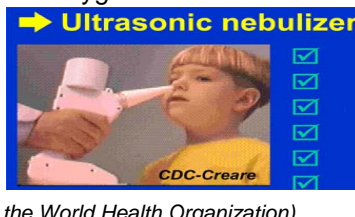
THE NEXT GENERATION OF INSANITY

BioSante Pharmaceuticals has just announced a sub-contract with DynPort (a subsidiary of CSC-DynCorp) to develop anthrax vaccines using nanotechnology based alternative delivery systems.²⁵ Nanotechnology involves building new structures at the molecular level. Atoms are individually moved, one at a time, to create new molecules, some of which do not occur in nature.

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease is funding \$8.3 million to University of Maryland researchers to develop an oral anthrax vaccine. They hope to provide vaccination with 2 doses of genetically engineered oral vaccine.²⁶

The World Health Organization (WHO) is promoting aerosolized vaccines for measles and rubella. Clinical trials are planned for this year and could be completed by 2007. The two systems the WHO has presented for delivery of the vaccines are jet nebulizers and ultrasonic nebulizers.²⁷

This program is promoted for the developing world, where conditions for needle hygiene are often lacking; but one can easily see the day when most vaccines will be aerosolized. These delivery systems are still beset by technical problems and safety concerns.²⁸ Since such concerns have not stopped dangerous vaccine injec-



(Photos originally published by the World Health Organization)

tions, it is unlikely they will stop aerosol vaccines. The Measles Aerosol Project has been given high priority by WHO, in partnership with American Red Cross and the CDC (Center for Disease Control). The project has received financial support from the Gates Foundation.²⁹

The story of a secret cabinet level experiment named "Scarlet Cloud" was reported by Suzanne Malveaux of CNN's Washington Bureau on Dec. 28, 2003, and by Judith Miller in the *New York Times* on the same day. Miller wrote that officials stated the exercise "...showed that antibiotics in some cities could not be distributed and administered quickly enough and that a widespread attack could kill thousands" – the widespread attack was war-gamed as anthrax.³⁰

So what's the solution? Miller's 2001 book "Germs" obliquely suggests what DARPA's idea of the "solution" might be.

AERIAL-AEROSOL VACCINATION

"Perhaps someday the military would have a detergent that could be sprayed over people and neutralize an anthrax attack ... A cloud of vaccine, sprayed over many square miles, was seen as potentially the simplest way to protect people and animals from epidemics".³¹ (J. Miller, "Germs", pg. 307)

DARPA – the Defense Advanced Research Project Agency, gave Maxygen a \$3.8 million contract in 1998, and a \$7.7 million contract in 1999 (Maxygen reports the contract as \$6.7 million).³²

Maxygen literature indicated that this was a three-year grant to use its proprietary MolecularBreeding™ directed evolution technology to protect against a broad spectrum of Pathogens. Maxygen is involved in what they themselves call "gene-shuffling", creating genetically modified

vaccines working directly with DARPA.

The military asked Maxygen to develop aerosol-based vaccines that could be inhaled to 'safeguard' people against a broad range of pathogens. Shaun Jones, the first director of DARPA's Unconventional Countermeasures program has said the value of many of their programs will not be known till they are tested on people.³³

"Scarlet Cloud" was a tabletop exercise that eerily resembles the mass emergency drill on October 24 through 26 of 2000, which practiced rapid response for a then-hypothetical scenario: an airliner being crashed into the Pentagon. Check the army's own website for the details.³⁴

That was just under two years before the 9-11 attacks. Is it possible that “Scarlet Cloud” is preparation for what is to come? Is it a guarantee that a mass biological attack is coming to American soil?

What is known is that those who would benefit the most from such an attack include BioPort, Maxygen, VaxGen, DynPort, BioSante, the Department of Defense, and large sectors of the military-industrial complex. If such an attack happens soon, BioPort would be the big “winner” since no one else has an FDA license and approval to administer an anthrax vaccine. Another big “winner” would be Bayer (now cleansed of its Nazi past), the manufacturer of the antibiotic Cipro. Such an attack could occur just as 9-11 occurred – through a complex war game scenario that is manipulated by terrorists at the top of the military-industrial-government complex.

In an age of genetically modified anthrax strains, we would never know what strain was actually used in a biological attack on the populace. The BioPort vaccine might well be totally ineffective, unless it matches the strain of anthrax that used in an attack. And if the BioPort vaccine is used in a mass immunization program it will likely cause fatalities of its own.

411 BLACKOUT – TESTING GROUND FOR AERIAL AEROSOL “VACCINATION”?

Members of my community in Nassau County, NY, including myself, witnessed an aerial-aerosol spray operation at 8pm on August 14, 2003 during the east coast blackout. Just like 911, the “411 Blackout” may have been part & parcel to war game scenarios.³⁵ Part of those scenarios involved aerosol spray operations, but what for?³⁶

The spin for the aerosol operation witnessed in Nassau County, if it is eventually required, may be that they were running drills for mass aerosol vaccination of the public.

Is it true?

Possibly. A vocal minority of high-level doctors and medical experts believes most vaccines have never been proven to prevent disease – quite the contrary. Many vaccines directly weaken the immune system, and in some cases, can cause the disease they are meant to prevent. In the case of the BioPort anthrax vaccine, multiple diseases can be induced after injection. This is a phenomenon known as provocation disease.³⁷

Might there be a hidden agenda here? Gary Null has compiled the leading body of work analyzing the dangers surrounding vaccines. His research is well worth reading – vaccines are not what they seem. Here is one of the best summaries I’ve read to date on vaccines, in laymen terms, from Michael Verney-Elliot...

*The vaccine scam works like this. Identify and magnify an ‘epidemic’ disease, whip up world panic, and devise a vaccine against the supposed causative agent. Administer the vaccine, preferably just before the epidemic starts to wane naturally, and then, when the cases of the disease start to diminish, claim the vaccine has worked and the pharmaceutical company who manufactures it will get the credit for saving mankind. There will be bouquets and Nobel prizes all round and every one makes a lot of money. One has only to look at the cases of the anti-polio and anti-smallpox vaccine campaigns to see the classic modus operandi in taking credit for ending the epidemics, which in the manner of all self-limiting phenomena, were already dying out before the vaccine was introduced...*³⁸

Are vaccines scams? The answer is usually: Yes, at least a scam, often worse. Thimerosal, a commonly used vaccine preservative, contains toxic levels of mercury shown to increase autism in children.³⁹ Worse yet, Melissa Ross of First Coast News recently revealed documents that prove the CDC knew thimerosal used in Measles vaccines was linked to autism and deliberately covered it up.⁴⁰

“VACCINES” IN THE AIR?

Do we want vaccines in the air? One need only reference Clouds of Secrecy, written by Leonard A. Cole, which documents clandestine American military aerosol operations unleashed in the subways of New York and sprayed in San Francisco in 1950. The operations were conducted to assess the ability of pathogens to spread through urban centers.

Cole details the case of Edward J. Nevin who died of a mysterious infection in a Stanford hospital that year. Nevin’s grandson filed suit in 1981 against the government, claiming the aerosol operation in San Francisco was responsible for his grandfather’s death. The judge in the case barred a scientist from testifying on the plaintiff’s behalf.⁴¹

Then there is Project Shad, which Judith Miller leaves out of her book Germs. Project Shad is not listed in the book’s extensive index. This is the same Judith Miller who used Ahmed Chalabi as an unidentified source for her spectacular (and now completely discredited) weapons of mass destruction claims before Gulf War II in Iraq.

Project Shad (1963-1970) was a series of despicable U.S.G. clandestine experiments – spraying aerosol clouds over tugboats filled with Americans. VX Nerve agent and Sarin gas were used, but the military never said exactly when this was done. To admit the exact date of such an illegal experiment would expose those responsible to possible prosecution.⁴²

WALL ST. & THE BLACKOUT– DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE...

In a bizarre twist, a company named Emerson received critical acclaim in the business world for their backup UPS (emergency energy) systems that allowed the New York

Stock Exchange to continue seamless service during the blackout. NYSE President Robert G. Britz said the successful backup systems were able to “fulfill our obligation to America’s 85 million investors”.⁴³

It’s interesting that the blackout happened at 4:11pm on a Thursday. This was just after the NYSE had closed for normal auction trading at 4 pm. When the blackout occurred, there weren’t 85 million investors using the New York Stock Exchange, as Robert G. Britz indicated. This writer spoke with a retired Merrill Lynch VP who said there is an after hours session of trading from 4 to 5pm, where very few transactions take place. At most, a few hundred transactions happen after hours.

This is a much lighter load to handle than the 85 million investors who were up and running just 11 minutes earlier. All stock prices were fixed at this point, so the blackout didn’t cause the market to fluctuate in any way. The 411 Blackout was the perfect real world test run for Emerson, especially since it didn’t happen at peak capacity. The success was a public relations dream.

KOREAN CONNECTIONS

Suspicious vaccination scenarios are appearing on a global scale.

In February of 2002 a pharmaceutical company named Celltrion Inc. was founded. Celltrion is a joint venture between a group of Korean investors and VaxGen Inc. In October of 2003, just two months after the 411 Blackout, Celltrion contracted Emerson to automate the first large-scale biopharmaceutical manufacturing facility in South Korea.⁴⁴

Emerson also works with Raytheon and AES (Applied Energy Services) Corporation of Arlington, Virginia on the AES Warrior in western Maryland.⁴⁵ According to journalist Wayne Madsen, AES has a financial stake in the power companies involved in the blackouts in Chile, Italy and the Republic of Georgia. Madsen called for an investigation of AES for potential “Pentagon highjinks” regarding the recent blackouts.⁴⁶ AES has a very interesting board of directors, many of whom have strong connections to the Pentagon including Richard Darman of the Carlyle Group,⁴⁷ and Phillip Odeen, a military-industrial luminary with virtually no media profile.⁴⁸

On January 28, 1998, as Chairman of the National Defense Panel, Odeen stated to the Senate Armed Service Committee:

While we may find ourselves facing enemies on traditional battlegrounds, it is far more likely that we will face very different adversaries and that our conflicts will include locations in space, throughout our information networks, in highly urbanized areas, within the undeveloped and developing world and, perhaps even on our own soil. Our adversaries will include not just the armed

forces of nations, but also international criminals and terrorist groups.⁴⁹

(*special thanks to Nico Haupt, a.k.a. ewing2001, for his research contribution regarding Emerson, AES, and VaGen)

MAXYGEN, VAXGEN & AIDS

In September of 2000, Maxygen announced collaboration with the Scripps Research Institute to identify potential vaccine candidates for an HIV vaccine.⁵⁰ In February of 2001 Maxygen announced collaboration with the IAVI – International Aids Vaccine Initiative, and DBLV, LLC, an entity established and funded by the Rockefeller foundation, to work on an AIDS vaccine over 3 years.⁵¹

Three senior executives from VaxGen, including its former president Dr. Donald Francis, are leaving VaxGen to create a nonprofit foundation to develop an AIDS vaccine. Most pharmaceutical companies won’t invest in AIDS vaccine research without government grants or philanthropic donations. A nonprofit organization specializing in facilitating such financial transactions is exactly what big pharmaceutical companies need.⁵²

VaxGen has conducted tests on its AIDS VAX vaccine in a completely unsuccessful and extremely controversial trial that specifically solicited “bareback” homosexual men to be used in one study to possibly spike the results in VaxGen’s favor. “Bareback” is a term for gay men who regularly practice unprotected sex. VaxGen went as far as to place an ad on barebackjack.com to solicit subjects for experimentation with AIDS VAX.⁵³

Dr. Francis was one of the first to recognize the significance of the AIDS epidemic. He worked closely with French researchers to prove that HIV was the agent that caused AIDS. Note that there exists no ultimately decisive scientific proof that HIV causes AIDS. The equation we’ve been brainwashed to believe which states HIV = AIDS = Death, is an unproven assumption that has generated a multi-billion dollar industry described by journalist John Rappoport as “AIDS Inc.”

This is not to say that HIV is not a contributing factor to AIDS. There is a huge distinction between the words contributing and causative. But HIV is used as an indicator for an individual who will be diagnosed as having AIDS and then placed on immune suppressive drugs with the false claim that such drugs are “life saving”. But a great deal of research definitively indicates that HIV is not the sole cause of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.^{54,55,56}

If HIV is not the sole cause of AIDS, then how is it possible to create an AIDS “vaccine”? Journalist Michael Verney-Elliott doesn’t mince words regarding so-called AIDS “vaccine” research.

The theory of vaccinating against a disease requires that one must find its true cause, and if it is an organism like a

virus or a bacterium, a vaccine perhaps may be constructed ... AIDS is not a specific disease but a collection or syndrome of some 30 old diseases; the so-called AIDS-virus, 'HIV,' has never been properly isolated, let alone shown to cause immunodeficiency ... The idea that an AIDS vaccine will be found at the end of the rainbow, like the proverbial pot of gold is merely a crock...⁵⁷

What are the real reasons for searching for an HIV "vaccine"? Why did VaxGen conduct one of its AIDSVAX experiments in Thailand, where a military coup in 1991 has left the country wide open to quick and cheap experiments on the Thai populace?⁵⁸ Why has VaxGen claimed their AIDSVAX has shown "promise" with non-white racial groups?⁵⁹ Why were no HIV tests given to Africans diagnosed with AIDS until 1997? Why did Africans only require three symptoms – dry cough, diarrhea, and persistent fever to be diagnosed with AIDS when those are the same symptoms of malaria and tuberculosis?⁶⁰ The answers are unclear.

Endnotes

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It is highly likely that there is a hidden agenda lurking behind the rhetoric of "vaccinating" the developing world. AIDS has been manipulated into little more than a category that may be necessary for a coming mass depopulation.

MORE, MORE, MORE

DARPA, the government agency supporting many of Maxygen's experimental vaccination programs (using public money), has seen budget increases from \$59 million in 1998 to \$162 million in 2001, and estimated to rise to \$205 million by 2005.⁶¹ DARPA has also brought us Total Information Awareness (TIA) – the big brother system created by convicted criminal John Poindexter designed to eliminate any and all privacy rights. Moreover the Homeland Security Act included a provision stating that if anyone dropped dead as result of forced vaccination, the vaccines makers were excluded from any civil liability.

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A TALE OF TWO PLANETS

A Report on the Conference "Future of Global Oil Supply: Saudi Arabia" Held at CSIS, Washington DC, February 24th 2004

by Julian Darley

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(special to *From The Wilderness*)

March 17, 2004 1800 PST (FTW) -- **T**he new millennium has not exactly been one of 'irrational exuberance' for many industries, and particularly not for the oil industry, despite high oil prices. Major oil discoveries have declined every year so that 2003 saw no new field over

500 million barrels, and in 2001 and 2002 the top ten non-state oil companies spent more on exploration than they discovered in value, a new and alarming record. It is well over twenty years since more oil was found than consumed in a year. From the outset of 2004, large reserve write-downs, starting with Shell, and including El Paso and BP,

have shaken the confidence of the financial community, set in motion an official SEC enquiry, and may yet be just the tip of the iceberg.

Comforting then to know that the Middle East, producer of last resort and future saviour of the world oil system, still has nearly 700 billion barrels of reserves, and is publicly confident that it can deliver the required doubling of output to 40 million barrels a day by 2025. Even more reassuring, Saudi Arabia says it can happily deliver 10 million barrels a day for at least the next fifty years, possibly even rising to 15 million barrels a day – and still for fifty years. This output can be guaranteed because Saudi 'oil in place' will rise to 900 billion barrels by 2025, while new technology will help existing recovery and lead to many new discoveries. This was the message from Saudi Aramco, delivered on February 24th, at CSIS (Center for Strategic and International Studies), a well-known think-tank in Washington DC, to an audience of diplomats, CIA, EIA (Energy Administration Agency, part of the US Department of Energy), media of record, and many energy companies and analysts of every stripe.

The trouble is that the Saudi Aramco presentations of Mahmoud Abdul-Baqi, Vice President of Exploration, and Nansen Saleri, Manager of Reservoir Management, seemed to be describing not just another country, but another planet when compared with what Matt Simmons, President of Simmons and Co (the world's largest private energy investment banker) had to say. Industry observers noted that Aramco had never before said so much about their reserves and how they hold production steady in their ageing oil fields, but much of the Aramco presentation concentrated on the benefits of new technology, especially in their medium-sized fields, and the possibilities of future discoveries, without noting that well productivity had fallen by more than half since the early 1970s. More than half of Saudi Arabia's oil comes from one giant field, Ghawar, the largest ever discovered, and the health of this field is now in serious doubt, after decades of water injection to maintain pressure.

Simmons' case rests on the painstaking analysis of two hundred SPE (Society of Petroleum Engineers) reports written over four decades by Saudi petroleum reservoir engineers, as well as a fact-finding mission in 2003, and ten years of other detailed studies of oil and gas depletion. He has been publicly hinting for more than a year that assumptions about Saudi Arabia's seemingly limitless capacity may be misplaced, but now, ahead of the publication of his forthcoming book on Saudi oil, the hints have been replaced by copious data and a dire warning.

Simmons noted that "in an era of poor energy data, OPEC is a total vacuum," but his latest work on Saudi Arabia does come at a time, when despite more than two decades of official secrecy, questions are being asked about Middle East capacity and reserves, espe-

cially since the surprise OPEC cut in production in February 2004.

ASPO has recently analysed the extraordinary OPEC reserve revisions of the 1980s, which saw volumes leap from 353.6 billion barrels in 1982 to 643.5 billion in 1990 despite no new large discoveries. Two different ASPO studies conclude that reserves are somewhere between 100 and 300 billion barrels smaller than officially claimed. Evidence from widespread and dramatic falls in well productivity suggests that reserves may now be about what they were stated to be in 1982. This would fit with the original numbers being understated by about thirty percent, and seeing about this much produced in the intervening twenty years. (See ASPO Newsletter March 2004, <http://asponews.org>.)

Simmons' new work on Saudi Arabia, the greatest of all oil provinces appears to have lit the fire under a fast growing mass of evidence that the Middle East is no longer capable of increasing production at will either to stabilise price or make up for sudden falls in other producers.

However, a major point of Simmons' work is that knowing when Saudi Arabia is in permanent decline will be very difficult to discern for some time. Despite Saudi Arabia's central role in world oil, there is no official agreement on how much it is actually producing (and this also applies to OPEC in general). Aramco's own report of 6.79 million b/d in 2002 was notably lower than either the IEA or press reports. This has led some to try to estimate production from tanker traffic. The OECD reported that Saudi exports were flat from 2000 to 2002, but Simmons questions how we can be sure of this.

During the question and answer period which followed all the presentations, Simmons was noticeably reticent about when Saudi Arabia would peak, but did note that Saudi Aramco had briefly produced over ten million barrels a day in 1981. Afterwards, however he was more forthcoming. "We could be on the verge of seeing a collapse of thirty or forty percent of their production in the imminent future, and imminent means sometime in the next three to five years – but it could even be tomorrow."

Simmons asks why the Saudis are expending so much effort on the old reservoirs if they have so many new ones in the wings, many of which have not even been tested. Could the reason be that many of the other 300 recognized reservoirs "seem to lack permeability, porosity, or aquifer – or all three"?

The 'Big Five' (Ghawar, Safaniyah, Hanifa, Khafji and Shuaiba) giant oil fields, all found by the mid 1960s, produced 90% of all Saudi oil in the last half century, but now, Simmons said, they were only being kept going by massive water injection, so that the "sweep of easy conventional oil flow is ending."

This may be most alarmingly true for Ghawar. According to Saudi Aramco, Ghawar is only 48% depleted, though they do admit that the northern and most productive region is 60% down. Simmons says that if Aramco's 1975 reservoir estimate of 60 billion barrels is correct, and he intimates that it is, then Ghawar is in fact 90% drained.

Many of the other large productive fields have a litany of problems, including sand control and water cut struggles in Safaniyah's northern end, and hydrogen sulphide and pressure drops in Marjan. The next generation of production from Qatif, Abu Sa'fah, and Khurais all have "complex production histories and each has its own set of challenges."

For all the Saudi insistence on the importance of technology, according to Simmons "Aramco's reservoir models failed to predict accurate fluid behaviour" fifteen years ago, and he wonders whether their new models will do any better. The knowledge now gained might have caused Aramco to manage its reservoirs differently in the 1960s and 1970s, when it first started peripheral water injection, which could have led to less oil being "by-passed" and left behind. However, hindsight will not help Ghawar now.

Another key cause for Simmons' concern is the increasing use of MRC wells (Maximum Reservoir Contact) or "bottle brush" wells, which he says "now anchor future oil production". These wells send out many offshoots into the reservoir: "in simple terms, they hide from top side gas and bottom end water". They can certainly produce oil more quickly, especially from "the last thinning columns of easy oil", but they rarely increase the total yield, and invariably hasten decline and increase its rate. This is the same technology that led to the infamous production collapse of Oman's Yibal field, which "after 30 years of water injection pressure maintenance, embraced horizontal drills in 1990, then peaked in 1997 [at 225,000 b/d] and saw production fall by 65% by 2001. The collapse was a total surprise". In 2004, production has fallen by another 50%. Yibal constituted almost a quarter of Oman's production in 1997.

Waving a wad of SPE reports, Simmons went on, "what worries me is these 200 hundred papers because they've basically been written by all their [Aramco] colleagues. They really describe a blizzarding trail of problem after problem after problem – and what we heard today [from Saudi Aramco] is 'we have no problems'."

Indeed Aramco stressed throughout their presentation that whatever the market wants they can deliver, and talked frequently of how the "tank" of Saudi oil would expand, thanks to exploration, "delineation", and more technology. Yet Simmons pointed out that much of Saudi Arabia lies outside the "endowment horseshoe", which contains all the great Middle East oil fields, and compared this situation with past, unfortunate US experi-

ence: "for years we knew we had the giant fields on the California coast, we knew we had West Texas. A lot of people thought there must be stuff in between if we'd just drill for it. There wasn't."

As for technology, Simmons says that "instead of creating easy supply growth, the technology revolution created monstrous decline rates". Monstrous means up to 20% a year, as in the case of Yibal, yet Aramco shows that Saudi depletion rates are generally lower than those of many other large producers. However, as an example of differences of interpretation perhaps, Aramco shows fallen giant Yibal as 4.3% annual depletion, in company with Prudhoe Bay and East Texas but less than half of a fast decliner like Brent. For the whole of Saudi Arabia, over its entire production history Aramco claims 28% depletion. This is plainly incompatible with Simmons' findings.

The two different reports presented by Simmons and Aramco are so utterly divergent that they are polar opposites, so that there seems to be no room for a middle ground. Either the Saudis are in the right direction or Matt Simmons is. Simmons was one of the first in the world to begin to comment loudly on global oil peak, after he discovered that the North Sea giant fields of Forties, Brent, and Ekofisk had peaked and already declined to midgets without anyone really noticing. Simmons and his staff have carried out some of the most meticulously detailed studies of US oil depletion, and he has been proved right concerning his prediction of North American natural gas peak. "Non-renewable things do some day peak, and there is some chance that that might be in the past tense. Scoffing at the notion is today, in my opinion, frankly naïve."

Simmons, along with many others, is calling for a "new era of true energy transparency", in which trust and "flying blind" is replaced by "timely field-by-field production and well-by-well data, budget details, third-party engineering reports" from OPEC. But other parties are also implicated: there must be "far better demand and cost data, and far better decline data for non-OPEC oil" from the IEA [International Energy Agency], and financial reforms are needed to tame "wild price volatility" – there must be a "a realistic economic model for how oil and gas needs to be priced."

However, there are many reasons why none of the above will happen, not least, that if the Saudi situation is as bad as Simmons portrays, then it is facing economic and social catastrophe in the near future, and will be unwilling to advertise the fact. Other Middle Eastern countries may not be much better off.

"I think we should worry about the future", said Simmons after his presentation. "I think we should basically look at this like we looked at nuclear warfare and say that would be so awful if it happened – let's do something, put in a warning system." Referring to Saudi claims of decades of future supply, Simmons said "we're just stupid as a society to say

'now I know we don't have any problems'. Fifty years is great if that's right. But if it's wrong, that's awful."

If the Saudis are right, the industrial world has decades more of abundant and cheap oil. If Matt Simmons is right the world is almost certainly in for global oil production decline before the end of the decade. Taken together with the baseless 1980s Middle East reserves increases and no new mega-finds elsewhere, this will most likely signal the end of the oil age.

The reader can judge the merits of all the presentations given at CSIS on Feb 24th 2004, and see a full confer-

ence transcript at <http://www.csis.org> The author's short but revealing video interview with Matt Simmons just after his presentation, is available at <http://www.globalpublicmedia.org>.

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(HAITI & VENEZUELA - continued from pg. 1)

GONAIVES ADVENTURE

March 23, 2004 1800 PST (FTW) -- In 1994, when my last Special Forces team, Operational Detachment Alpha 354, entered the Haitian city of Gonaives, I along with three members of that detachment waded through a huge and agitated crowd to encounter four soldiers and two plainclothes death squad members about to fire into that crowd with M-1 Garands. They were surprised to see us, and we took advantage of that surprise to compel them to lay their weapons down and submit to arrest. One of the plainclothes gents hesitated to relinquish his weapon, and I came very near shooting him. I'm only being honest - knowing this will put some people off - when I say that I now wish I had gone ahead and pulled the trigger. Instead, I protected him from a very angry crowd, one member of which lambasted him across the head with a heavy stick when he finally laid his weapon down, obliging my own team's medics to suture his gaping scalp laceration.

The whole tale is in *Hideous Dream - A Soldier's Memoir of the US Invasion of Haiti* (Soft Skull Press, 2000).

The man in question, Jean Pierre Baptiste, goes by the alias Jean Tatoune. Only six months before, he had participated in a massacre in the nearby slum called Raboteau. One participant in that massacre, Carl Dorélien, was given refuge in the United States, where he - somehow - won the Florida lottery in 1997.¹ Last year Jean Tatoune was busted out of jail, and now he is acting as the paramilitary chief of Gonaives as part of the latest successful, US-sponsored coup d'etat in Haiti.² The leader of the massacre at Raboteau was the Gonaives Haitian Armed Forces (FAdH) commander, Captain Senafis Castra, with whom we were ordered to cooperate by the Task Force commanders during the 1994 invasion. My team's arrest of Jean Tatoune was a deviation from the script.

Many people continue to believe that the US supported Aristide's return to the Haitian presidency in 1994 be-

cause the Clinton administration supported democracy. Nothing could be further from the truth. The intelligence summaries we received during his reinstatement were violently anti-Aristide, and the policies pursued from Day One were designed to ensure Aristide's neutralization as the leader of Haiti. He spent three years in talks with the United States trying to gain support for his return, and during that time the United States placed increasing pressure on him - especially by allowing the body count of the Cedras-Francois coup government to increase at the expense of Aristide activists from the Lavalas movement he founded. It is unlikely that the G.H.W. Bush administration would have ever put Aristide back into office.

THE IRAN-CONTRA-COCAINE-GUSANO CONNECTION REDUX

This became part of the backdrop of the 1992 US presidential election, leading to the 1994 US military invasion that brought Aristide back after the first US-supported coup against him. And the question of Haiti has been intimately connected to US partisan and race politics ever since. This partisanship and race politics has involved both American political parties, a cast of nefarious Iran-Contra characters, and the Central Intelligence Agency. The administration's international factotum for the latest coup is Roger Noriega, and he's a good starting point for any deconstruction of race, empire, and Haiti.

Roger Noriega is the Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs. Before that, he was the United States Ambassador to the Organization of American States (OAS).³ But his career got its running start when he became an aide in the Bureau for Inter-American Affairs of the US State Department. Like the Office of Public Diplomacy for Latin America, this was an instrument of the Reagan administration's campaign to destroy the Sandinista government of Nicaragua. Dubbed "Iran-Contra" by the press, that campaign was being run by a coterie of felons including Elliot Abrams, John Negroponte, John Poindexter, and Otto Reich.⁴ The Vice President during this episode was George Herbert Walker Bush, former Director of Central Intelligence.⁵

Reagan's Office of Public Diplomacy was run by Otto Reich, who zealously planted scads of bogus stories in the press for

instance, that MiGs were being shipped to Nicaragua, that Sandinistas were persecuting Miskito Indians - all untrue, but never recanted by the US press.⁶ Dubya tried installing Otto Reich as Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs during a legislative recess, but the returning Senate refused to renew Reich's appointment.⁷ In August 2001, the job went to Mr. Noriega; but like so many of the Iran-Contra werewolves, Reich is back in the government. He's now reporting directly to Condoleezza Rice from a special post (apparently created just for him) called "Special Envoy for Western Hemisphere Initiatives." He's the kind of person they have to keep moving around: toward the middle of the second Reagan administration when the huge cocaine element of Iran-Contra broke into view, Reich's deep involvement with CIA assassin Felix Rodriguez and terrorist Luis Posada Carriles became too obvious for the administration's comfort, and off he went. From 1986 to 1989 Reich was US Ambassador to Venezuela, where he tried very hard to secure the release of the Miami-mafia airline bomber Orlando Bosch. That downing of a civilian passenger airline from Cuba was an act of terrorism in which Posada Carriles had also been implicated.⁸

That's all been forgotten somehow, and Otto is back on the government payroll. His first task for Bush II, which he performed with admirable enthusiasm and success, was another disinformation campaign against the democratically elected Venezuelan government of Hugo Chavez.⁹

One of the high-level players in Iran-Contra was John Poindexter, a retired Navy admiral who specialized in illegal covert operations and spying on American citizens. With Oliver North, he engineered and oversaw the massive plot by the Reagan administration to sell weapons to Iran (despite the public show of bitter hostility between the US and Khomeini's Iran), ship huge quantities of cocaine into the United States via Central America, and use the cash to buy illegal weapons and materiel for Nicaraguan terrorists. Congress had cut off the funding for aid to the right-wing "Contras," so Poindexter, North and the others simply moved their operation outside the government by funding it with cocaine.

Eventually convicted of several felonies, the good Admiral Poindexter managed to get them all thrown out in an immunity deal. He got caught trying to destroy over 5,000 White House emails, and was also the originator of yet another disinformation campaign, this one directed at Libya's Col. Muammar Qaddafi.¹⁰ For his sins, John Poindexter - now the Vice President of Syntek Technologies, a surveillance technology outfit with juicy federal contracts - was appointed by Bush II to head up the sinister Information Awareness Office (IAO), a subset of the Department of Defense's Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA, a favorite of Donald Rumsfeld). IAO's main task is to vastly expand the Pentagon's capacity to spy on American citizens. But from the moment Poindexter's appointment went public, the internet began to hum with popular outrage about the

IAO's domestic spying program and Poindexter was canned.

John Negroponte is now the United States' Ambassador to the UN. He's another Cocaine-Contra figure with a great resume for disinformation. In 1981, US Ambassador to Honduras, Jack Binns, made the error of reporting that the Honduran military was engaged in death-squad activity. This did not sit well with the Reagan administration, who never met a right-wing Latin American killer they didn't like. Binns was fired and his job went to Negroponte. Between 1981-1985, during Negroponte's diplomatic tenure, there was a direct correlation between the level of military violence especially that of the specially US-trained "intelligence" unit called Battalion 3-16 - and the level of military assistance provided to Honduras by the US taxpayer: an increase from \$4 million to \$77.4 million. This was when Honduras was being used as a launch platform for the Nicaraguan Contras, as I can attest: when I was in Ojo de Agua, Honduras, in 1991, the locals informed us that the

same base at which we were working was used by the Contras.¹¹ When the Senate later questioned Negroponte in the course of the Iran-Contra investigation, Negroponte said he had no knowledge of Battalion 3-16 or its activities, indicating that he was either dead drunk for four years or not actually staying in Honduras where he was the ambassador (or, of course, that he was lying through his teeth).

Through this whole sordid period of death squads, the murders of nuns and Catholic clerics, arms-and-cocaine swaps, and felony-as-executive-branch-policy, the regional boss was Elliot Abrams, described by friend and foe alike as a snarling macho asshole. Convicted for his role in Iran-Contra as Reagan's Assistant Secretary of State for Latin American Affairs, Abrams was soon pardoned by George H. W. Bush. And in what must be a sick joke, Bush the Younger named Abrams Senior Director of the National Security Council's "Office for Democracy, Human Rights and International Operations."

Last December, Peter Kornbluh of the National Archives told a *Newsday* reporter: "The resurfacing of the Iran-Contra culprits has been nothing short of Orwellian in this administration. These are not 21st-century appointments. They are retrograde appointments, a throwback to an era of interventionism when the U.S. was the big bully on the block." There is much speculation that these appointments most intimates of the Miami-Cuban right-wing and mafia - are a form of reciprocation for gusano assistance with the Florida-based judicial coup that put George W. Bush into the Oval Office.

While Roger Noriega has been coordinating the details of President Aristide's forcible removal from office, Otto Reich has run the disinformation campaign in the Organization of American States (OAS).¹²

Another institution for building coups developed during the Reagan administration. The CIA's covert operators had proven perfectly capable of engineering the development of paramilitaries and death squads, but they had proven unequal to the task of developing political opposition to seated

governments. So the National Endowment for Democracy was established. From *Third World Traveler*:

The NED was set up in the early 1980s under President Reagan in the wake of all the negative revelations about the CIA in the second half of the 1970s. The latter was a remarkable period; spurred by Watergate-the Church committee of the Senate, the Pike committee of the House, and the Rockefeller Commission, created by the president, were all busy investigating the CIA.

Seemingly every other day there was a new headline about the discovery of some awful thing, even criminal conduct, the CIA had been mixed up in for years. The Agency was getting an exceedingly bad name, and it was causing the powers-that-be much embarrassment. Something had to be done.

What was done was not to stop doing these awful things. Of course not. What was done was to shift many of these awful things to a new organization, with a nice sounding name-The National Endowment for Democracy.

The idea was that the NED would do somewhat overtly what the CIA had been doing covertly for decades, and thus, hopefully, eliminate the stigma associated with CIA covert activities. It was a masterpiece. Of politics, of public relations, and of cynicism.¹³

The NED has four affiliates in the United States: the Republican Party, the Democratic Party, the US Chamber of Commerce, and the AFL-CIO. The NED counterparts to these three entities are the International Republican Institute, the Democratic Institute for International Affairs, the Center for International Private Enterprise, and the American Center for International Labor Solidarity. There is strong and growing opposition within the AFL-CIO to ACILS, which is a throwback to the bad-old-days of Cold War business-unionism.

The job of the NED is to funnel funds, training, and support to reactionary political groups in other countries in order to ensure political outcomes that are favorable to the US elite. Their most tried and true method has been to build, train, finance, and control political alliances as "oppositions" to popular governments considered too "left" for the US.

Allen Weinstein, who helped draft the legislation establishing NED, was

quite candid when he said in 1991: "A lot of what we do today was done covertly 25 years ago by the CIA." In effect, the CIA has been laundering money through NED. (Ibid.)

The National Endowment for Democracy was invented by the Reagan administration as a specialized outgrowth of the CIA's covert operations apparatus. In emulation of the CIA's now-famous string of murderous successes from Guatemala to Chile, Indonesia to Iran, NED's mission is to engineer "desirable" political/electoral outcomes in other countries.

THE HELMS SCHOOL

US policy right now is in the hands of the ideologues. You cannot overestimate the relevance of these people in shaping US policy. In a sense the Helms school of Haitian strategy is at work here.

-Larry Birns, director of the Council on Hemispheric Affairs

Roger Noriega's public antipathy for Aristide began while Aristide was in office the first time, when Noriega was working as a senior advisor to the OAS. This public opposition to Aristide - and Noriega's connections with Miami's organized crime reactionaries - led to an appointment to the staff of the arch-racist Senator from my very own North Carolina, Jesse Helms.¹⁴

Helms was a personal friend to and open supporter of Salvadoran death-squad commandante Roberto D'Aubuisson, believed to have planned the assassination of Archbishop Oscar Romero, one of the many outrages that occurred in Latin America on the Reagan watch.¹⁵

Active opposition to Aristide by Helms and Roger Noriega began at the very moment of Aristide's surprise election victory in 1990, when he overwhelmingly defeated the US-backed Haitian presidential candidate, Marc Bazin, a World Bank executive. This election made Aristide the first democratically elected president of in Haitian history.¹⁶

Helms' antipathy to Aristide is double-edged: Helms regards any form of independence, any populism, any policy that makes inroads against the power of the rich, to be "communist." Helms frequently referred to Aristide as a "Haitian Castro." And Jesse Helms just plain doesn't like Black people. Foreign, Black, Catholic, and populist - the only thing missing for the pure embodiment of evil according to Helms would be if Aristide were gay; Helms is also a notorious homophobe.¹⁷ In the South, where political hegemony has been exercised ever since the Nixon presidency, there is a long standing belief that unions, race-mixing, and communism are identical, and this remains Helms' view today. One of the Ku Klux Klan's principal appeals forty years ago (when Hoover's FBI was very much at home with the good ole boys) was that they were a bulwark against communism - which they opposed because communists promoted racial "mongrelization."¹⁸ Maybe Roger Noriega shares Mr. Helms' special political pathology. But it's more likely that our new Assistant Secretary

of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs is driven by his self-perception as a guardian of the empire in Latin America, and shaped by his origins in that particular region of the South that is Miami.

The former U.S. Ambassador to El Salvador, Robert White, was among those fired by Reagan for speaking out on human rights violations. Just days before the present coup d'etat culminated with the Aristide's removal and detention by the U.S. Marines, White commented: "Roger Noriega has been dedicated to ousting Aristide for many, many years, and now he's in a singularly powerful position to accomplish it." Recalling the Helms-Noriega efforts to prevent Aristide's return to Haiti in 1994, Dr. Heather Williams wrote in Haiti as Target Practice: How the US Press Missed the Story:

*As senior staff member for the Committee on Foreign Relations of the U.S. Senate, and advisor to Senator Jesse Helms and John Burton, he [Roger Noriega] was party to a three-year campaign to defame Aristide and prevent his return to power; all the while CIA-backed thugs left carnage in the streets daily in Port Au Prince. In his capacity in the State Department since 2003, and for two years before that as the U.S. Permanent Representative to the OAS, he has aggressively advertised his intention to oust Aristide a second time. For example, in April of last year, speaking at the Council of the Americas conference in Washington, he linked U.S. policies in Haiti to those in Venezuela and Cuba. He added that "President Chavez and President Aristide have contributed willfully to a polarized and confrontational environment. It is my fervent hope," he added ominously, "that the good people of Cuba are studying [this]."*¹⁹

While there is no doubt that the Reagan administration was a shaker and mover in Latin America and the Caribbean, to really get at the roots of covert operations, coups d'etat, and the connections to race-politics in the United States, we have to go back just a bit further.

PLAN CONDOR

In 1948, the CIA inaugurated its "Office of Policy Coordination," (OPC) headed up by Frank Wisner, a Wall Street lawyer (the deep-political connection between Wall

Street and the CIA has been the subject of several books, and should be the subject of several more). The OPC's responsibilities included, in its own words, "propaganda, economic warfare, preventive direct action, including sabotage, anti-sabotage, demolition and evacuation procedures; subversion against hostile states, including assistance to underground resistance

groups, and support of indigenous anti-communist elements in threatened countries of the free world."²⁰ In the 1960's one of the targets of these operations was a new Haitian leader named Francois Duvalier. This is a not-well-known fact on the right or the left in the United States, who only seem to remember when Papa Doc (Duvalier's infamous nickname) and the CIA were working together. But if we don't understand this, we cannot understand Haitian-American relations, so I will return to this subject further down.²¹

In the wake of the economic crisis caused by Vietnam, the US colonial playground called Latin America took on a new significance. The story of Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's involvement in the 1973 CIA-supported coup d'etat against democratically elected President Salvador Allende in Chile is well known. What is not so well remembered is that at the time, John Negroponte worked for Henry Kissinger, and the US Ambassador to the UN was George Bush the Elder through 1973. Bush took over the CIA in 1975. At that time, DCI Bush launched Plan Condor, designed to wipe out political opposition to USsupported regimes in Latin America. As part of Condor, the green light was given to the then-fascist government of Argentina to slaughter 30,000 political opponents between 1976 and 1983.

Who were some of the shakers and movers for Plan Condor? Orlando Bosch and Luis Posada Carriles, the future gusano bombers of a civilian passenger airliner.

These are some of the bloodiest personnel behind the many right-wing seizures of power in Latin America and the Caribbean. In fact, the Argentinean military helped train Negroponte's unacknowledged Honduran Battalion 3-16. The US was assisted liberally in its training of repressive forces in the region by the Israelis, who seemed weirdly indifferent to the fact that the Argentinean military tortured Jewish prisoners under portraits of Hitler to enhance the intimidation effect. But then the Israelis were staunch supporters of racist South Africa then as well. Israel actually set up a Galil assault rifle factory in Guatemala, and when I was there for the last coup in 1983, the Galil was the most popular weapon in the country. The strong relation between Israel and the modern-day Zionist neocons - whatever their various religious and ethnic identities, be it noted - is not new. The centrality of the Saudis is not new either.

This consortium of forces (Saudis, Israelis, CIA, Contras, and local reactionaries in Latin American and the Caribbean) was laundering money through the phony Bank of Commerce and Credit International (BCCI), which had links - too numerous and complex to recount here - with the bin Ladens and the Bush family; that money was being used to finance covert operations. BCCI collapsed after revelations about its connections to the Medellin cartel of Colombia brought down the whole house of cards.²² These would become the key players in the Iran-Contra-Cocaine affair because, as we say among activists, organizing is based on relationships.²³

There are those critics out there who will, at this juncture, say this is conspiracy theorizing, and that conspiracy theory is somehow the antithesis of class analysis. At the risk of seeming rude, let me say that this is idiotic. It is a false dichotomy.

To pretend dominant classes exist as some kind of autonomous abstraction without any personal agency inside a deterministic system ignores that members of any social class are people. To assume that these people do not scheme to protect their class interests - or that we should not concern ourselves with how those schemes work - strikes me as a recipe for inaction.²⁴

There is a very good reason why the CIA continually works with drug traffickers. The money is untraceable. They don't take the drugs. My experience is that they work out of embassies and are addicted to embassy fare - Scotch and martinis. And they don't sell the drugs. They facilitate and skim. George W. Bush, however: Well, never mind.

US DOMESTIC PARTISAN POLITICS - THE SOUTHERN STRATEGY

Since the late 19th Century, when Reconstruction was dismantled, the Democratic Party had openly and proudly claimed to be "the Party of White Supremacy," and Republicans - still identified with Lincoln, and therefore with Blacks - were incapable of getting elected in the South.²⁵ Kennedy and Johnson were seen as the great betrayers, and the Republican Party sensed an opening.

In 1968, the Nixon campaign fell upon an electoral strategy that would create a tectonic political shift, the "Southern Strategy."²⁶ Southern white racists perceived the end of Jim Crow (the legal system of Southern US apartheid) as a catastrophic threat to their privileged status. Outbreaks of their bitter resentment were called "white backlash" in the press. Barry Goldwater, the reactionary Senator from Arizona who was trounced by Lyndon Johnson in 1964 was rabidly opposed to the Civil Rights Act. In spite of his poor showing nationwide, he showed his greatest strength in the South, as did independent segregationist George Wallace.

The barely coded appeal used by Goldwater, who didn't feel empowered to call as openly as Wallace for a return to legal apartheid, was "states' rights," understood by every white Southerner as the battle cry in defense of slavery and its legacy. Out of Goldwater's wreckage, Nixon built the Republican strategy that has won overwhelming support from Southern white voters since LBJ went back to the ranch. African American political critic Lee Hubbard writes:

"Substantial Negro support is not necessary to national Republican victory," said Kevin Phillips, the mastermind behind Nixon's Southern Strategy, at the time. "The GOP can build a winning coalition without Negro Votes. Indeed, NegroDemocratic mutual identification was a major source of Democratic loss, and Republican Party or (George Wallace's) American Independent Party profit, in many sections of the country."

Since then, some Republicans have played to these fears to gather white votes. Their game has ranged from the kickoff of Ronald Reagan's presidential campaign when he declared he "believed in states rights," in Philadelphia, Mississippi -- the site of the deaths of civil rights martyrs Schwerner, Chaney, and Goodman -- to Vice President's Bush's 1988 Willie Horton ad campaign, which basically depicted all blacks as being criminals. Some of the GOP's race-baiting has been, perhaps, unintentional, and at other times it has been blatant, but it has happened, and black people are familiar with this list of racial baggage.²⁷

Richard Nixon's campaign effected the decisive transfer of the potent political mantle of white supremacy from the Democratic Party to the Republicans. It is important to understand that foreign policy is not solely determined by foreign priorities, either economic or strategic. It is also significantly influenced by its impact on popular domestic political bases.

HAITIAN HISTORY, VENEZUELA AND WHITE MEN'S FEARS

This is particularly relevant to Haiti. The Haitian Revolution that culminated in the first Black Republic on January 1, 1804, was fought against three imperial powers, including Napoleon's armed forces, by rebel slaves. These slaves out-generated, out-administered, and out-fought the European giants, smashing the myth of white supremacy. This struck terror into the American South, where the fear of Black rebellion was a constant obsession. Turmoil in Haiti is always portrayed by the American mainstream press in a way that explains as little as possible, so as to reinforce the impression of amorphous chaos - read: Black deviance and incapacity for self-governance. That tactic has distracted the television-drugged US public from yet another coup attempt afoot, the second in less than two years, in Venezuela. I have read dozens of articles over the last few days on both Haiti and Venezuela, and none of them mentions race or racism as a factor in these coup attempts. This is an elephant in the living room. Unfortunately, most Americans in the living room have been blindfolded.

In 1994, just before the United States launched the invasion of Haiti that became my last deployment, Paul Farmer published an excellent book called *The Uses of Haiti*.²⁸ He described America's horrifically successful Haitian policy of blaming the victim while continuing to strangle him. For instance, it's often pointed out that Haiti's capital city, Port-au-Prince is overpopulated, jerrybuilt, and afflicted by almost irremediable drainage and waste-disposal problems. Huge numbers of peasants continually leave the countryside in search of work in the city, forming overcrowded, sprawling bidonvilles (shantytowns) with little or no potable water or electricity. But mainstream American papers rarely go on to explain what drives this process: as foreign agribusiness disrupted the Haitian sharecropping system, land enclosure and mechanization (as well as terrible soil erosion) forced more

and more people off the land and into the cities to seek work that was not available except to a very few (accounting for the criminally low wages paid in Port-au-Prince by foreign manufacturers). Paradoxically, the Artibonite valley which grows enough rice to feed Haiti ships most of its product abroad to get export dollars, and the US ships (taxpayer subsidized) rice into Haiti at prices most Haitians can ill afford.

So Haiti is strangled by the Washington economic consensus (neoliberalism), then blamed for not getting its act together, because most Americans haven't a clue what these international trade policies are or how they work.

And that's just the economic assault. The biggest fear of the right wing and its para-political gangs is a strong effort by the Haitian state to establish the rule of law within its sovereign territory. This becomes incredibly difficult when weapons and equipment for the police are embargoed, and the 75% urban unemployment rate forces large numbers of people into various criminal enterprises to survive.

In the wake of the latest coup, Haiti is an utter legal shambles.

[Aside: Though this is often overstated inside Haiti, the country has become one of many regional stepping stones for drug-running operations in this hemisphere. This will now get considerably worse, since many of the FRAPH hoodlums were deeply involved in drug trafficking. Just as SouthCentral Los Angeles was chosen as the CIA's ideal market for its Contra-funding crack-cocaine bakesale, we can reasonably expect that Haiti will now be prized by those same forces for the same reasons. It's now a stateless milieu whose legal infrastructure has been so degraded that it offers political criminals a path of least resistance.]

This process has served as an important ideological pillar for white supremacy in the United States. From slavery to Jim Crow, to the de facto segregation that easily survived the Civil Rights Movement, white America has profited from racist ideology and the economic crimes it was invented to legitimize. Haiti's successful slave revolution at the dawn of the 19th Century shook that ideology, and prompted economic and political attacks by both France and the United States.

As Paul Farmer and other critics have shown, the message of the American press remains essentially racist and colonial; Haiti is subtly but unmistakably represented as inscrutably mad, animalistic, diseased, and deviant.

Ever since Nixon managed the Republican Party's displacement of the Democrats as the party of white supremacy, Republicans have taken a special responsibility for putting Haiti in its place. Just after Aristide's ouster, Florida Republican Mark Foley, in a CNN exchange with the priceless Maxine Waters, said the US will help Haitians learn how to run a government and "how to grow crops." A white f--king rich man from Flor-

ida, whom the website Democratic Underground named Number Two on its Top Ten Conservative Idiots list, is talking about teaching Haitians how to grow crops!²⁹

Note that the US-selected heir apparent in this coup is a white Haitian, Andre Apaid, a Duvalierist sweatshop tycoon who has an American passport.³⁰ The last US appointee after the last coup d'etat was light-skinned Raoul Cedras. This is a reflection of the still complicated class-race interfusion in Haiti, but also of a comfort threshold among American patrons - which would include craven opportunists like Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice. Race serves class: Duvalier came to power using a nationalistic appeal to black consciousness ("noirisme"), and ruled in behalf of the nationalistic big landowners in Haiti, whose way of life was threatened by US-sponsored capitalist agriculture (as opposed to the semi-feudal sharecropping system that enriched these grandons (big landowners). That mechanized capitalist agriculture was introduced to Haiti under the rule of the US Marine occupation from 1915-1934, as was the brutal Haitian National Guard, whom Duvalier distrusted and many of whom participated in a failed coup attempt against Duvalier (supported by the CIA). It was in response to the political unreliability of the Haitian armed forces that Duvalier developed the Gestapo-like Tonton Macoute militia to impose by terror a political discipline not only on the population but on the armed forces until he could redevelop its leaders and members into a force more consistently loyal to him.

It was the Tonton Macoute that gave Duvalier his fierce reputation, and which Duvalier would eventually use on behalf of US interests, when he and the US later mended their fences in exchange for his massacre of leftists in Haiti and his regional support of US "anti-communist" efforts.

Duvalier's authoritarian brutality then served him to control the Haitian population, as well as serving US interests in the region. It also had the added benefit in the US, unintended by the noiriste despot, of providing ideological support to white supremacy by reinforcing notions of Black brutishness.³¹

White privilege and white supremacy are still embraced at some level by the majority of the white US population.³² This embrace is not always the same as it was - unconcealed and unabashed - under Jim Crow or in South Africa during Apartheid. More often it is coded, socially inscribed through the erasure of history, ideologically inscribed as erasure of the social construction of individual agency (personal responsibility, etc.), and psychologically inscribed with Negrophobia - the personal internalization of racial stereotypes that regards Black male bodies as predatory, Black female bodies as hypersexual, and Black intellect as inferior. This is one of the foundation stones of Republican Party success.³³

I know some on the left will take me to task for emphasizing race by insisting that class is the deeper issue, but I don't buy it. When we can extricate the two in any but a theoretical way, I'll give this class-over-race argument another listen. White supremacy has been and remains a pillar of Euro-American power, and not in some merely discursive way that "divides and conquers" workers, though that's certainly part of it. And

imperialism is the issue, too, rationalized through notions of the "white man's burden."

BUSH THE ELDER AND CLINTON ON HAITI

During the 1992 election, Bill Clinton excoriated George W. Bush for his incarceration of Haitian refugees in the concentration camp at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Playing to his Black audience, whom Clinton would betray in his later policies at every turn, Clinton also pointed quite justifiably to the hypocrisy of allowing white Cubans automatic entry into the US, while indefinitely detaining black Haitians.³⁴

The coup of a year earlier was proceeding apace with its slaughter of Aristide loyalists and grassroots organizers, and CIA complicity in the coup was becoming gradually more visible with a leak here and a whisper there.

Then the economy tanked after George H. W. Bush had made his famed "read my lips" remark, and Bill Clinton was elected.

Faced with the reality of Haiti's desperation and the volume of refugees fleeing the Cedras-Francois regime, and faced with the reality of Florida politics and the possibility of 100,000 or more penniless people crashing onto its shores, Bill Clinton's first foreign policy embarrassment was being forced by his circumstances to treat the Haitians even more harshly than the Bush regime had.

My own unit in 1993 was preparing for an invasion of Haiti to re-install a reined-in Aristide, but the debacle in Somalia put the whole plan on hold for a year. While Haitians had originally elected Aristide because of his opposition to predatory neoliberal policies, Clinton now convinced Aristide to support those same policies in order to stop the killing. Clinton knew very well that a US invasion would not be accepted by the people of Haiti without Aristide - their first democratically elected President, whom they now saw as a symbol of their aspiration for genuine independence.

Aristide was to be re-installed on October 30, 1993, according to an agreement between Cedras and Clinton called the Governor's Island accords (please see: http://dosfan.lib.uic.edu/ERC/briefing/dossec/1993/9310/9310_11dossec.html). *The USS Harlan County*, carrying the military and State Department facilitators, arrived in Portau-Prince on October 11th. But the officials who were designated to meet the craft had been replaced by a handful of FRAPH thugs (some of them drunk) waving pistols and threatening to fire on anyone who disembarked. So the *USS Harlan County*, an American warship, was turned about and sent home by a band of intoxicated bullies with Colt .45s. This was a tremendous foreign policy embarrassment for President Bill Clinton, who was at a loss to explain the situation to the public.

This bizarre incident was rendered even more fantastic by the nonchalant presence of the American John Kambourian on the docks, unafraid and unthreatened by the

ostensible antiAmerican gang. Kambourian was leaning on his vehicle with a kind of Delphic smirk throughout this whole weird interlude. Documentary film maker Katherine Kean was on hand and secretly videotaped him.

Kambourian was the CIA's man on station. He had been sitting in the car with UN representative Vickie Huddleston, and the FRAPHists made a kind of show of banging on the hood and shouting, "Kill whites!" for the cameras. Neither Huddleston nor Kambourian seemed alarmed, nor did Huddleston attempt to leave. It was only later, when they didn't realize Kean had a running camera, that Kambourian exited the car to catch some air and suppress a smile at the little performance. The FRAPH, after all, were Kambourian's boys. In dissecting the current coup, we will see that the FRAPH is back in Haiti, and that this year they provided the paramilitary terrorism that precipitated the forcible removal of Aristide again.

Present during the 1993 USS Harlan County fiasco was the chief of the FRAPH, Emmanuel "Toto" Constant. Only later would the public learn that Constant was on the CIA payroll before, during, and after the 1991 coup d'etat. Little wonder Kambourian was so comfortable relaxing outside during the Harlan County "riot." Constant was taken in by the United States and now lives in Queens, NY collecting Happy Meal toys and (by many accounts) spending happy hours with his local cocaine dealers. His threats to expose his CIA relations pressured the US into protecting him from extradition.³⁵

Note that in this episode the CIA was subverting its own Director. There is no indication that R. James Woolsey, the newly appointed DCI was complicit in Kambourian's fake riot; in fact, it would be surprising if he were. He was a Clinton appointee, and like the next Clinton DCI, John Deutch, he served on the Boards of Directors of various big Defense contractors. The transparently orchestrated sabotage of Clinton's Haiti policy was probably the work of the field agents within the CIA who move up to become station chiefs.

By and large, their politics are racist and reactionary, if my own association with them is any indication. I never once met an exception. They are certainly nothing like the Tom Clancy caricatures we see in the movies. I invite readers to read my own accounts in *Full Spectrum Disorder - The Military in the New American Century* (Soft Skull Press, 2004). This Republican bias, which included a Jesse Helms-like aversion to both Haiti and Aristide, was prevalent among white officers in the military during the 1994 invasion, and among white Special Operations personnel.

Bush the Elder - former Director of Central Intelligence had his vengeance on Bill Clinton with the Harlan County incident. Clinton was likely reluctant to call anyone's bluff on issues related to the CIA, because he himself was vulnerable on his own complicity in another CIA operation, which we have mentioned earlier: Iran-Contra. His was not a central role, but given the cocaine politics of the Agency in its efforts to destroy the Sandinistas, it was more than a little discomfiting.

CLINTON, COCAINE AND CONTRAS

Bill Clinton comes from my Mom's home town, Hot Springs, Arkansas. In his campaigns, he said he was from Hope, Ar-

kansas, where his own mother lived for a while, partly because Hope sounds so cool in a political campaign, and partly because Hope is only famous for its very excellent watermelons. Hot Springs was for years a Southern gambling mecca, teeming with every kind of hustle one might imagine, and a favorite getaway for organized crime figures. All the gambling except Oaklawn Race-track has disappeared now, and the town is trying with only partial success to reinvent itself in the midst of a statewide economic crisis. Drug addicts, fishermen, Wiccans, criminals, hillbillies, artists, doddering retirees, and militia-types still coexist there in a kind of slow-motion cultural free-for-all. This may account for Clinton's chameleon-like capacity to protectively color himself.³⁶

Back in 1985, when I was working in El Salvador, Bill Clinton was the Governor of Arkansas. In that capacity, he consented to let a little airport at Mena (an hour and a half west of Hot Springs, near the Oklahoma border) be used by CIA contract-pilots who were shipping cocaine north and guns south. The exact nature and level of his role remains in question, partly because of a river of disinformation from right-wing ideologues.³⁷ The result has been the almost complete disappearance of the Mena story from public discourse; liberals associate it with right-wing lies, so they won't touch it. But like Waco, another fascist cause celebre, there really was something that was terribly wrong done there, and there is probably plenty to cover up. Certainly it would disincline Clinton to go after the CIA.

HAITI INVASION - CLINTON AND BUSH FACTIONS

Instead, in 1994, he invaded Haiti, and on October 15th of that year, Aristide returned. Members of both parties have desired Aristide's ouster since he won the 2000 election, and while the Democrats lean toward the comprador technocrats of the Haitian elite, the Republicans prefer the FRAPH-macoutes.

It would be Bush and the FRAPH that would help the phony Haitian "opposition" to finish its four-year coup. It would also be Bush, with Otto Reich on point, who would attempt to support the failed coup in Venezuela, and who is trying now to set up another.³⁸

The interests of the Republicans diverge from those of the Democrats based on their constituencies. Both parties are run by elites who want to see the removal of Aristide and others who have the capacity to mobilize their population. But where Democrats would prefer something that looks like a success story - along with managed elections and other trappings of "progress" - Republicans, as the party that still employs its latter-day version of the Southern Strategy, want to see Haiti in chaos. They will put on the mask of paternalistic sympathy while they continue to impose dysfunction, but they need Haiti to continue to serve as an example of Black incapacity for self-governance - which reinforces their white supremacist appeal to the Helms wing of the party. There is, in my opinion, a kind of imperfect comparison that can be made between Haiti and the American South

that sheds further light on American-Haitian ruling class relationships.

ENDNOTES

- 1 <http://www.cja.org/cases/dorelien.shtml>
- 2 <http://news.amnesty.org/mav/index/ENGAMR360062004>
- 3 For Roger Noriega's official bio page, see: <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/biog/4708.htm>
- 4 For notes on Roger Noriega's nomination to his current job, see: <http://www.scoop.co.nz/mason/stories/HL0305/S00064.htm>
- 5 http://www.geocities.com/iran_contra_christic_institute
- 6 For a rich trove of original documents from Reich's appalling career in the Reagan years, see: <http://www.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/NSAEBB/NSAEBB40/>
- 7 Blocking Reich's nomination wasn't easy: http://istsocrates.berkeley.edu/~border/list_articles/030901_nytimes_b_ush.html
- 8 <http://www.informationclearinghouse.info/article3354.htm>
- 9 <http://www.trinicenter.com/world/venez/lessons.shtml>
- 10 <http://www.hereinreality.com/bigbrother.html>
- 11 <http://www.geocities.com/ravencrazy/NegroPonte.html>
- 12 <http://www.scoop.co.nz/mason/stories/HL0403/S00047.htm>
- 13 <http://www.thirdworldtraveler.com/CIA/National%20EndowmentDemo.html>
- 14 <http://www.indystar.com/articles/0/125879-8940-P.html>
- 15 <http://www.fair.org/press-releases/helms.html> ; <http://www.icomm.ca/carecen/page70.html>
- 16 <http://www.globalpolicy.org/security/issues/haiti/2004/0302typical.htm>
- 17 <http://www.washingtonpost.com/ac2/wp-dyn/A108222001Aug28?language=printer>
- 18 http://www.epwijnants-lectures.com/ct_ku_klux_klan.html
- 19 <http://www.venezuelanalysis.com/articles.php?artno=1117>
- 20 http://www.disinfopedia.org/wiki.phtml?title=Plan_Condor
- 21 <http://www.counterpunch.org/goff02142004.html>
- 22 <http://vancouver.indymedia.org/news/2003/01/26515.php>
- 23 One of the major branches of the recent revolution in computer programming is called Network theory. It was the basis of PROMIS software and it now constitutes a vast research discipline of its own, whose primary organization is the International Network for Social Network Analysis: <http://www.sfu.ca/~insna/>. Applications include Namebase software (<http://www.namebase.org/>), terrorist tracking (<http://www.sfu.ca/~insna/INSNA/Hot/terrorist.htm>), and the mapping of complex webs of economic and political influence - "social capital" - through informal ties (http://www.sfu.ca/~insna/INSNA/Hot/soc_cap.htm).
- 24 <http://www.sonic.net/~doret/kIssues/9606%20JUNE/terrorismhypeparenti.html>
- 25 Comer Vann Woodward, *The Strange Career of Jim Crow*. Oxford University Press; 3rd Revision edition September 1989; latest edition 2001. http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/tg/detail//0195146905/qid=1079842032/sr=1-1/ref=sr_1_1/103-40065614479011?v=glance&s=books

26 <http://www.counterpunch.org/vest1220.html>
27 <http://speakout.com/activism/opinions/5670-1.html>
28 http://www.thirdworldtraveler.com/Caribbean/Uses_Abuses_Haiti.html
29 <http://www.democraticunderground.com/top10/02/84.htm>
30 <http://www.workers.org/ww/2004/haiti0304.php>
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32 <http://www.kersplebedeb.com/mystuff/books/collectiveliberation/beyond.html>
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36 http://www.hotsprings.org/things_to_do/historic_hotsprings/ 37
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Cynthia McKinney, Mike Ruppert Open Doors in LA

**Cracking the "L.A. Nut" Demonstrates Continuing Shift in Progressive Attitudes
About Israel, Peak Oil and Infinite War**

While former five-term Georgia Congresswoman Cynthia McKinney is one of the most sought-after speakers in the world, invited to speak in Northern California's Bay area at least a dozen times, before March 13th she had never been invited to speak in Los Angeles. And though FTW's Mike Ruppert has given more than 35 lectures on "9/11" and "Peak Oil" in eight countries, for more than three years he had not been asked to speak in Los Angeles, his home town.

Now, as Cynthia McKinney prepares to recapture a congressional seat taken from her by illegal campaign practices, well funded by an Israeli lobbying group; and as FTW becomes recognized as an international leader in investigative journalism, the LA ice has been broken as KPDK and its new station manager Eva Georgia – herself a courageous veteran of South African anti-apartheid activism – put the weight of L.A.'s influential radio station behind a major event featuring both controversial figures. McKinney's return to congress without loss of seniority (according to House rules), is viewed as critically important by Progressive activists who rightly believe that she will become the conscience of the Democratic Party should John Kerry succeed in his bid to oust George W. Bush. Should Bush secure a second term, McKinney is widely perceived as one of a few fearless voices in Congress who would charge into the "dragon's teeth" in defense of human rights, real American values and international law.

For everyone it proved to be a risk well taken.

Most LA Progressives know well the Immanuel Presbyterian Church, LA's spectacular Gothic-style cathedral on Wilshire Blvd. On Saturday March 13th, in an event titled "What's wrong with Election 2004", McKinney, Michael Ruppert, Ed Begley, Jr., and KPDK radio host Michael Slate took to the Church's stage to deliver fresh analyses and perspectives to what is generally regarded as a tough-to-penetrate Southern California political mix. The crowd of 500 people, eager to hear the perspectives offered by McKinney and Ruppert listened intently, occasionally rose from their seats for standing ovations, sometimes shouted in support, and more than once sat in stunned silence in response to facts, documents, maps and charts included in McKinney's talk and Ruppert's hour-long slide-presentation.

Following a solo musical performance by local recording artist/activist/photographer Vessy Mink, Ed Begley, Jr., actor/activist and environmentalist bad-boy, introduced McKinney to a standing ovation. It was something of a hero's welcome for the five-term Congresswoman, who gained international notoriety when she was defeated in her 2002 Georgia primary by an unprecedented campaign of "crossover voting," targeted at her staunchly Democratic district. Her supporters (the overwhelming majority of voters in her 4th US Congressional District of Georgia) woke to find themselves with a new "Democratic" Congresswoman, Denise Majette – a Republican who ran as a Democrat and was elected to this traditionally Democrat safe seat by votes from numerous other Republicans who had also crossed over and registered as Democrats.

A suit currently underway claims that the: "De Kalb County Republican Party promoted the crossover and expended

funds in support" -- and that Majette "openly promoted the Republican crossover... regularly sought counsel from Republican party operatives before and during her candidacy... voted for extreme right wing Republican Alan Keyes in the 2000 Republican presidential primary... [and] supported Michael Bowers in the 1998 Republican gubernatorial primary."

The Baltimore Sun (8/25/02) had proclaimed McKinney a "loose cannon" and "flamethrower" with a "sharp tongue," for suggesting President George Bush may have ignored warnings about September 11, and added that McKinney was at the "far extremes of American politics."

In a friendlier article, *The Washington Times* (8/22/02) reported: "Jewish money both national and local flowed into the campaign to McKinney's opponent." Significantly, the paper then quoted a key Jewish McKinney supporter, Joshua Ruebner, Executive Director of Jews for Peace in Palestine and Israel: "This is a dangerous dynamic... doing irreparable harm to [Jewish] relations with African-Americans."

In fact, it was the Zionist lobby group AIPAC [The American Israeli Public Affairs Committee] that had poured money into Majette's campaign. The AIPAC opposition to McKinney came after McKinney proved herself to be a resolute defender of human rights for Palestinians in the occupied territories, in direct opposition to both the Clinton and Bush administration policies.

As Begley explained in his introduction of McKinney: "During her 16 years in Congress, Cynthia served on several important committees and was an influential advocate for economic justice in Africa, social justice, and.... During her final year in office, McKinney's was a rare voice on the House floor, speaking out against the US invasion of Afghanistan, the Patriot Act, and of course, a call for an open investigation into events surrounding 9-11. The backlash was inevitable."

McKinney, a PhD candidate at UC Berkeley, gave her audience a taste of the passion and articulate rhetoric she fearlessly brought to the floor of Congress for 10 years, becoming a symbolic lightning rod for all progressives, and the nagging conscience of the Democratic Party. She is a reminder of what Congress is supposed to be -- placing herself firmly in the ranks of other outspoken Administration critics like Representatives Barbara Lee, Ron Paul, Dennis Kucinich and the late Paul Wellstone.

After thanking KPFK and Pacifica, McKinney spoke her mind:

- "The Bush Campaign has already gotten into a little trouble for using images of the September 11th tragedy in their campaign ads... [after] suggesting to then-Majority Leader Tom Daschle that he not investigate

September 11th because it would take too many resources away from the War on Terror."

- "The 9-11 families... even NY City firefighters were compelled by conscience to speak out against this kind of 'pain profiteering.'"

- "We can't let them back door us into a draft of any kind."

- "I demanded an accounting from the Pentagon for the 2.3 trillion dollars it said it couldn't find."

- "Colombia, Haiti, and Venezuela ... Interestingly, Cuba sent Haiti hundreds of doctors; the U.S. sent in the Marines."

- "Jean Bertrand Aristide had abolished the Haitian military and was instead spending scarce resources on literacy, health, sanitation, and children."

- "George Bush smirks at us and our Vice President sneers. The smirk is for what they still have up their sleeves and the sneer is because they know we'll let them get away with it... After all, we let them get away with it in 1963 (that's when John Kennedy's life was taken), and again in 1965 (when Malcolm X was murdered), then twice again in 1968 (when snipers' bullets stole Martin and Bobby from us)."

- "They've lied to us, sent our children into war, and are trying to introduce a draft so they can get their hands on even more of our children."

- "In 2001 I held a hearing entitled 'Covert Action in Africa: Smoking Gun in Washington, DC.' ... A former FBI investigator testified that the United Nations ordered his team to stop investigating the murder of two sitting Presidents in a missile attack on a Presidential plane."

- "One million dead Rwandans, three million dead Congolese, two million dead Sudanese... 70,000 maimed Angolans... and the list goes on of covert action in Africa and elsewhere around the world..."

- "I passed legislation to give medical benefits to our veterans still suffering from Agent Orange and I authored legislation to stop the use of depleted uranium weapons. "

- "Just before my departure from Congress I challenged the Administration on its corporate insider Pentagon contracts, including for the Carlyle Group. And I challenged the Administration to tell us what it knew and when it knew it about the tragic events of September 11th."

- And, just as I was able to do all that, while standing on the shoulders of that first group of voters who sent me to Washington, DC to represent them, I was sent home from Washington by Georgia and national Republicans, who for some reason were mightily afraid of the truth. So don't underestimate the power of your vote."

- "And by the way, getting a paper trail on electronic voting is a significant victory but we need it now, not in 2005."

In introducing Mike Ruppert, Ed Begley ran through a lengthy and impressive list of journalistic firsts from FTW's six-year history. Many in the audience had not known how many original stories FTW had broken, that had either found their way into the mainstream media or been as much as two years (in

the case of former CIA agent Edwin Wilson) ahead of actual developments. Begley echoed McKinney's praise for *FTW* as a thoroughly documented research tool that could be relied on from the floor of the congress or in any public debate.

This was an ironic "homecoming" for Ruppert, who, though an L A resident and a favorite of many local progressives, had found KPFK appearances either blocked or hampered until the station's new management, new on-air hosts, and new General Manager Eva Georgia, not only welcomed him on air, but agreed to sponsor the March 13th event and promote it as a station fundraiser.

Ruppert took the audience through a range of responses as he launched into a 60-minute PowerPoint tutorial that moved from "Peak Oil" to "global conflict" to the inevitable revival of "The Draft" (Selective Service System) which he predicted would occur sometime in 2005.

He pulled out a stack of about 100 reports from established sources -- *The Economist*, *Fortune*, *Foreign Affairs*, *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists* and dozens of others -- on "Peak Oil" and "natural gas shortages" and one by one threw them on the floor challenging his critics to question his sources.

He showed a map of Eurasia with a circle drawn around the area predicted to be next in line for global conflict -- the Middle East. When he explained that this graphic was part of a "blueprint" excerpted from a book written in 1997 by former National Security Advisor, Zbigniew Brzezinski, "*THE GRAND CHESSBOARD: American Primacy And It's Geostrategic Imperatives*," his audience listened intently.

They laughed when he joked that in his former career as an LAPD narcotics detective, "This is what we used to call a 'clue'."

When he showed and read from a passage written by Dick Cheney ending with the quote: "The American way of life is not negotiable," Ruppert took an extended pause. Then the audience sat in stunned icy silence when he resumed and reminded them that Cheney's "endless war" is actually an endless war for the diminishing reserves of readily available oil as we enter the era of "Peak Oil."

The audience groaned and growled the moment he mentioned "Haiti," and showed a map of the Caribbean. He then echoed Cynthia McKinney's warning, that Haiti is the logical staging area for a US invasion of Colombia and oil rich Venezuela.

When he showed a March, 2004 article from *The Christian Science Monitor*, titled "America's new Coal Rush,"

and read the quote: "At least 94 new coal fired electric power plants ... are now planned across 36 states," the audience got angry. Then they applauded in solidarity when Ruppert warned, "We're rushing headlong into suicide as they fry the planet in greenhouse gasses."

The afternoon ended with a Q&A and comment period as some 30-40 audience members lined up at a microphone to ask questions, add information, offer support and suggest remedies.

In introducing McKinney and Ruppert before audience participation, KPFK host Michael Slate first professed a lifelong "healthy distrust of politicians and cops" and then went on to praise both McKinney and Ruppert for their extraordinary integrity. He then spoke about the opposition he'd received from some of his liberal colleagues at the station, both before and after he hosted Ruppert on air last year -- explaining that the content and source of that opposition were confirmation that Ruppert was the right guest at the right time. Said Slate, "I was intrigued that the criticisms being hurled at Mike were backward and reactionary ... I'm proud to be here ... In times like these I sincerely hope that the truth will inspire us all to act like the future of the planet depends on what we do, because it very likely does."

During the question and answer period, Ruppert suggested a major shift in America's unilateral endorsement of Israel as the Neocon Bush administration continues to fall out of favor around the world. The audience then broke into applause when he exclaimed, "Israel is a country! Judaism is a religion. Ariel Sharon no more represents the totality of Hebraic thought than George W. Bush represents the totality of American thought. It is time that Americans recognized the protests of Not in Our Name, Women in Black, and many other Israeli organizations, and the fact that more than 500 Israeli non-coms and officers the have refused to serve in the occupied territories -- or that Benjamin Netanyahu's nephew has refused to be drafted, calling his government criminal."

Though the audience's backgrounds, agendas and opinions appeared varied, everyone, especially McKinney and Ruppert, seemed to agree on the need to mobilize a simultaneous effort to demand a paper trail to make sure votes are ethically and verifiably counted in the 2004 election year.

For Cynthia McKinney, KPFK and it's GM Eva Georgia, and Mike Ruppert, the watershed event was a mark set by three pioneers, ahead of the curve in breaking new ground in voicing the concerns of the people, and pressing issues outside of established comfort zones. It was also a fulfillment of Pacifica's mission to give voice to the most critical and pressing issues of our time.

-- Written by the From The Wilderness staff