
THE BARNES REVIEW

... TO BRING HISTORY INTO ACCORD WITH THE FACTS

In the Tradition of the Father of Historical Revisionism, Dr. Harry Elmer Barnes

MARCH/APRIL 2002 ❖ VOLUME VIII ❖ NUMBER 2

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PERSONAL FROM THE EDITOR

On our front cover, you see the celebrated Kensington Rune Stone (KRS). This image was made using low-angle lighting and is taken from the official report on the stone by American Petrographic Services (APS). (APS is a geological consultancy company specializing in mining and metallurgy, oil and gas, geothermal energy and scientific writing.) The stone, as most of you know, has been highly controversial ever since it was discovered in 1898, with most establishment types insisting that it is a modern forgery, while others argue that it was left in Minnesota by Viking explorers not long after the days of Leif Eriksson. Now, additional evidence has emerged that seems to prove the rune stone is the real McCoy. Among those who now pronounce the stone genuine are the Massey twins—Keith Massey and Kevin Massey-Gillespie. They say that the abbreviation “AVM” that occurs on the stone, short for “Hail Mary,” or “*Ave Maria*,” in Latin, is something that would have been beyond the abilities of even the most expert forger back in 1898. Another researcher, Dr. Richard Neilsen, wrote a paper that, in the words of our author, Stephen Martin, “annihilates all of the linguistic objections made against the KRS.” See his exciting and illuminating article starting on page 5 of this issue.

At the time this “Personal” is written, this information does not seem to have appeared on or in any of the news media, so it seems THE BARNES REVIEW has scooped the Ted Koppel and Tom Brokaw types on this important development.

There is a related item, on another set of European pre-Columbian discoverers of America, starting on page 11. Dr. Hugh Purcell has written a scholarly piece dealing with the visit to these shores of the earl of Orkney, Henry Sinclair. Sinclair’s background was that of the Knights Templar. He was specifically Norman by ethnicity, and as you probably know, the Normans were largely Viking in their origin, coming to the British Isles by way of France.

We also have an interesting article about President Diem of South Vietnam. Shockingly—but hardly surprisingly, in light of Waco, Ruby Ridge and Operation Phoenix—the U.S. government played a key role in the overthrow and murder of this democratically elected leader. The article begins on page 21.

A Jewish immigrant named Haym Salomon, who died in Philadelphia in 1785, is sometimes hailed as “the financier of the American Revolution.” It is not easy to find out the truth about this man. The establishment story is that he immigrated from Poland and settled in Philadelphia some years before the Revolution and became a merchant and banker, and succeeded in accumulating a large fortune. This fortune, we are led to believe, he subsequently devoted to the use of the American government during the war for independence. We are told that he negotiated all the war subsidies obtained during that struggle from France and Holland, which he endorsed and sold in bills to American merchants at a credit of two and three months on his personal security, receiving for his commission one quarter of a percent.

He also acted as paymaster general of the French forces in the United States, and for some time lent money to the agents or ministers of several foreign states when their own sources of supply were cut off. It is asserted that over \$100,000 advanced has never been repaid. To the U.S. government Mr. Salomon lent about \$600,000 in specie, and at his death about \$400,000 of this amount had not been repaid. This was irrespective of what he had lent to statesman and others while in the discharge of public trusts.

A successful financier in the early 1780s, he died in 1785 leaving a wife and four young children with debts larger than his estate. When his son petitioned Congress to recover money he claimed his father was owed by the government, various committees refused to

recognize the family’s claims. So, was Salomon a hero, as he is touted to be? Or has his contribution to the Revolution been overrated? See our story, starting on page 29.

Also of interest is the paper presented by Raphael Johnson at our second international conference. Dr. Johnson discusses imperial Russia, one of the most misunderstood of all nations.

This issue also carries an article that we have long been wanting to bring before our readers. Dr. Richard C. Bentinck considers the history of the U.S. Supreme Court, that “court of treason,” and its shocking role in the destruction of the U.S. Constitution. As patriots have learned to their sadness, the justices, using the doctrine of “implied powers” of the federal government, sophistic interpretation and phony “clairvoyance,” twist the Constitution to mean whatever the agenda of the hidden elite demands. Do not expect justice in the U.S. courts. This very important article begins on page 39.

And we also have a choice article by Contributing Editor Michael Collins Piper on the journalist who first put the spotlight on the Bilderbergers. The Bilderberg group is a set of plutocrats and politicians from Europe and North America who think of themselves as the masters of the universe, so it is very important to know what this secretive gang doing. See Mike’s story beginning on page 51. ❖

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THE VAMPIRE & THE CROSS OF TRUTH

Few will bother to doubt that the American news media are about as comfortable with the truth as a vampire before the cross. The dream of Thomas Jefferson that the people could be trusted to govern wisely and well because the newspapers would tell the truth about public events is an idealistic relic. The media has been taken over almost totally by plutocratic forces and their media policies are those dictated by these malefactors toward their end of infinite profits and power.

By the use of the word “power,” we mean far more than political power. We refer to a totalitarian power that extends to every nook and cranny of public life.

Face it: the business of the news business is not to tell the news and certainly not the truth. The news business—whether newspapers, radio or television—has exactly the same purpose as any other business: to make a profit. And the profit in news comes not from the reporting of news but from advertising. This unfortunate fact is an all-too-real facet of the American condition under the sway of minority rule, termed “democracy.”

Most advertisers have only the purpose of selling their goods or services by advertising. For the most part, the political and philosophical opinions of advertisers are as unsophisticated, divergent and confused as their customers. But they rightly feel that advertising is necessary to tell buyers about their product, so it becomes a budgeted expense. Of course, they turn to a professional in the business to take over their advertising, or at least to advise them of the meaning of their graphs, charts, statistics and accumulated wisdom.

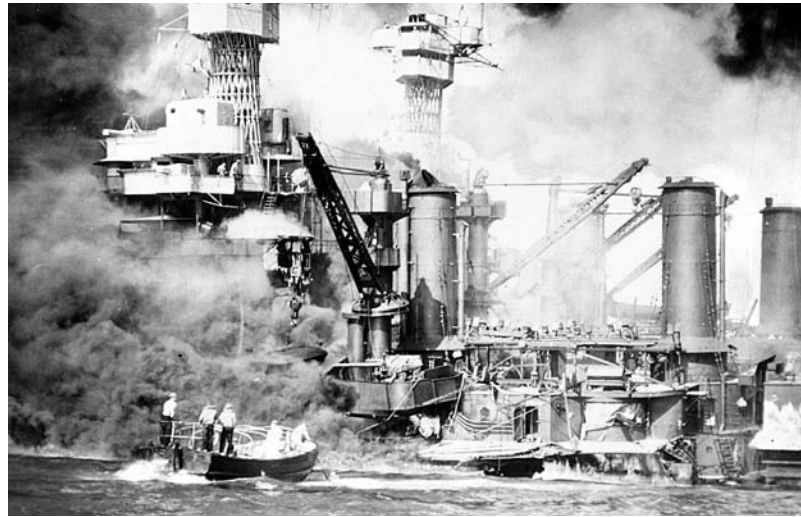
The rub is that all of the big agencies are part of a very tightly-controlled group and those that are not must go along with their peers and follow their spoken and unspoken rules which are dictated by the Zionist movement. The advertising agencies play an extremely important, if unnoted, part in the parade of fools and forces marching in step toward the Global Plantation.

The key to the process is that it is the agencies which make the selections of the “media buys,” in the parlance of the trade, and each and every newspaper or radio or television station knows that it absolutely must “go along to get along.” To editorially advocate policies which would be contrary to the standard of political correctness is unthinkable. Going along means survival and profits.

Meanwhile, the media owners hire publishers and managers to run their properties. Few owners become active in their businesses. They leave the running of the business end (which is all that counts—the “bottom line”) to professionals while they cut coupons or build mansions or acquire other business properties. Their managers and publishers know what they are supposed to do—and they do it or are quickly fired. They must make as much money as possible while flaunting the facade of seriously being concerned with the news, truth and objectivity. It is all a lie, a fraud and a hoax on the public, even as they give each other awards for public service.

Where does the business of history stand in all this, and what is the part played by THE BARNES REVIEW? On this subject, our betters—notably our namesake, Harry Elmer Barnes—have clearly expressed the reality. Academicians are notorious for their refusal to step out in controversial areas and generally they too “go along to get along,” and this attitude is very much at the forefront in their classes, journals, organizations and meetings. Academia lives through the funding received from taxpayers and foundations.

Thus, great historical questions, such as Roosevelt’s responsibility for Pearl Harbor, the “Holocaust,” Hitler’s motivations and actions, etc, etc are seldom if ever analyzed with honesty and it is up to small journals and newsletters directed by conscientious, “controversial,” and even courageous persons to fill this great void. We humbly draw attention to this magazine as an attempt to do just this.



In our zeal to give the benefit of the doubt to the “thought leaders” of the United States, immediately after the publication of our January/February 2001 issue, the special “all-Holocaust” issue, we sent 200 of these gentry a free copy along with a brief and polite letter from our publisher asking for nothing. We did this without great expectations, but the result was even greater—or lesser—than what we expected: nothing. That is, we received not only no letters of praise (which we did not expect) but no letters of acknowledgment or even condemnation or hate. And we find that remarkable.

The only possible conclusion is that the intellectual wonders who pollute the pages and the screens of the kept American media are terrified and so intimidated as to be paralyzed with fear contemplating what would befall them even if they merely acknowledged reading non-establishment facts about “the greatest crime in the history of the world.”

The conclusion has to be that if these people are so easily

(See *DRIVING A STAKE THROUGH THE HEART*, Page 66)



The Kensington Rune Stone: A Scientific Examination

According to American Petrographic Services (a company that specializes in “material forensics”), the controversial Kensington Rune Stone was obviously prepared for the inscription by first splitting the stone along natural fault lines. The glacial sides of the stone (characterized by scratches caused by the ice sheet), which were not split by human effort, exhibit only slightly more weathering than the two inscribed sides, according to APS. Shown above is the “face side” of

the stone, one of the glaciated surfaces. Shown below is one of the more narrow “split sides,” where it was broken off by human hands from the mother slab of rock. Runic inscriptions are clearly seen on both of these surfaces. The inscription starts on the front, and continues on the split side. According to APS, these two surfaces are the only non-glaciated sides of the stone. The top, bottom, back and one of the two narrower sides are all glaciated.



The Kensington Rune Stone

A Minnesota Mystery Solved?

BY STEPHEN J. MARTIN

Even the establishment now admits that Leif Eriksson and other Vikings reached at least as far as what is now Canada and made settlements there. But controversy continues to surround claims that the Vikings penetrated to Minnesota, perhaps by way of Hudson Bay. The main evidence that they may have done so is the Kensington Rune Stone (KRS). But the stone has been widely pooh-pooed. Is it real or is it a fake? Is the famous and oft-debated artifact a legitimate historical record of the travels of Scandinavian adventurers into the heartland of America in the mid-14th century? Some new developments, according to the author, have “proved conclusively to all but the most stodgy establishmentarian academics the absolute legitimacy of the KRS.”

Recent advances in the understanding of the Kensington Rune Stone consist of a conclusive paper on the linguistic aspects of the runes and the words used by the carver and an equally irrefutable study of the geological aspects of the stone itself. Less has occurred recently within the third milieu, that of historical documentation from elsewhere—yet, nothing has been found to challenge the spectacular advances within the past few months in the century-old effort to exonerate the KRS from the hasty and ill-informed initial opinions of skeptics. Perhaps the most impressive indicator of the importance of recent advances has been the almost total silence from the KRS’s nay-sayers. In the past, claims by proponents of the stone’s legitimacy were almost always countered, often very quickly, by an army of court historians desperate to prop up their ill-conceived and erroneous notions of the progression of New World exploration and settlement by Europeans.

The linguistic advances have come in the form of an exhaustive 74-page article by Dr. Richard Neilsen in the journal *Scandinavian Studies* (spring 2001). This paper annihilates all of the linguistic objections made against the KRS on the basis of supposedly modern grammar and word forms

found within the inscription. It also answers all of the previous complaints directed toward some of the rune forms utilized throughout the 74-word message as being unavailable in the 14th century. Dr. Neilsen has a broad résumé of both academic achievement and life experience (as opposed to purely academic insularity and narrow-mindedness), which establishes his ability to speak authoritatively on the linguistic aspects of the stone. He began his career after graduation from the Coast Guard Academy as a member of a 1957 circumnavigation of the Arctic Ocean in search of a deep water channel. He earned an M.S.E. in ship design from the University of Michigan in 1961, and an M.S. in mathematics from that same institution in 1964. He earned a doctorate of technology from the University of Denmark in Copenhagen in 1965.

He became fluent in Danish and began a nearly 40-year infatuation with Scandinavian cultures and languages. He then went into the oil exploration business, which took him to 150 countries, where he became conversant in many languages. Returning to Scandinavia for various stints (Oslo in 1978, Denmark in 1979-82 and again in 1983-85), he continued his study of Scandinavian languages and became fluent in Norwegian, Swedish, Finnish and Icelandic. As an

employee of the Bechtel Corporation back in the States (1985-87), he continued to be sent back to the region three times per year and kept his languages fresh by examining and studying various Scandinavian artifacts and ancient writings in his spare time.

Early in his examination of the KRS, Dr. Neilsen was able to eliminate the old objection to the KRS pertaining to the appearance of an Arabic “10” in the inscription. This was just one of many usages that scholars (beginning with Prof. O.J. Breda at the University of Minnesota in 1899¹) with their limited knowledge of forms available to 14th century Scandinavian scholars and clerics had used to bolster their contention that the inscription was a modern forgery. Dr. Neilsen pointed out many years ago (and within two weeks of his first examination of the KRS) that the medieval Scandinavians had translated a huge Arabic text on mathematics by the 14th century,² a fact then unknown to detractors. This piqued Neilsen’s interest in the KRS controversy and initiated a decade-long study of the stone and its fascinating message.

In his previously mentioned paper, Neilsen takes all of the other criticisms and devastates them by showing in detail how each of the supposedly modern forms appear in ancient writings that predate the KRS elsewhere across Scandinavia. Many of these sources were also apparently unknown to, or at least never utilized by, the critics. While a complete summary of his masterful silencing of the critics is beyond the scope of this paper (interested parties may view and download the entire article by visiting www.byu.edu/sasslink—choose “minimum graphics,” choose “Scandinavian studies,” choose “supplemental materials”), a couple of examples will suffice.

One of the major criticisms of the KRS inscription prior to the Neilsen article had been the supposed appearance of the word “*opdagelse*” (a word meaning “discovery”) that critics have always said did not appear in the Scandinavian lexicon until many decades after the 1362 date in the KRS inscription. Neilsen points out in his paper that the correct translation ought to have been “*ophagelse*,” meaning “acquisition.” The problem lay once again with early 20th-century limitations in the understanding of medieval rune forms. The rune for “th” had been incorrectly translated “d” for decades. Neilsen’s most up-to-date translation, as provided by the curator of the Rune Stone Museum in Alexandria, Minnesota,³ now reads:

Eight Goths and 202 Northmen are on acquisition business from Vinland far to the west. We had encampment by two shelters one day’s time north from this stone we were fishing one day. After we came home I found 10 men red from blood and dead (death). Hail Mary deliver from evil. I have 10 men by the sea to attend to our ship 14 days’ journey from this wealth. Year of Christ 1362.

The next example consists of the strenuous objections regarding the appearance of double dots throughout the text of the inscription. Critics smugly pointed out that the Germanic umlaut did not come into usage until well after

1362. Dr. Neilsen shows⁴ that these are properly understood as word break markers used to signify where one word ends and another begins. The article contains many startling and exciting discoveries of this type. In short, Neilsen’s work eliminates any objection from a linguistic perspective to the inscription being precisely what it purports to be—a frantic record of a besieged party of Scandinavians in the center of the North American continent 130 years before Columbus.

Other developments within the field of geology—when combined with Dr. Neilsen’s thus far unchallenged linguistic work—serve as the second of back-to-back homers in the bottom of the ninth (after being down one) for supporters of the KRS’s legitimacy. Scott Wolter of American Petrographic Services got his degree in geology from the University of Minnesota-Duluth in 1982. In 1990, he founded a company that specializes in material forensics. Engineers, architects and municipalities are the chief customers of the firm, which has done extensive microscopic examination of the stone and begun the process of chemical analysis which should have been started decades ago. The majority of geologists who have examined the KRS over the years have either gone on record in favor of its authenticity or adopted a wait-and-see attitude. This is in stark contrast to the linguistic academicians who have merely echoed, for the most part, the initial errant conclusions of their forebears up to the present.

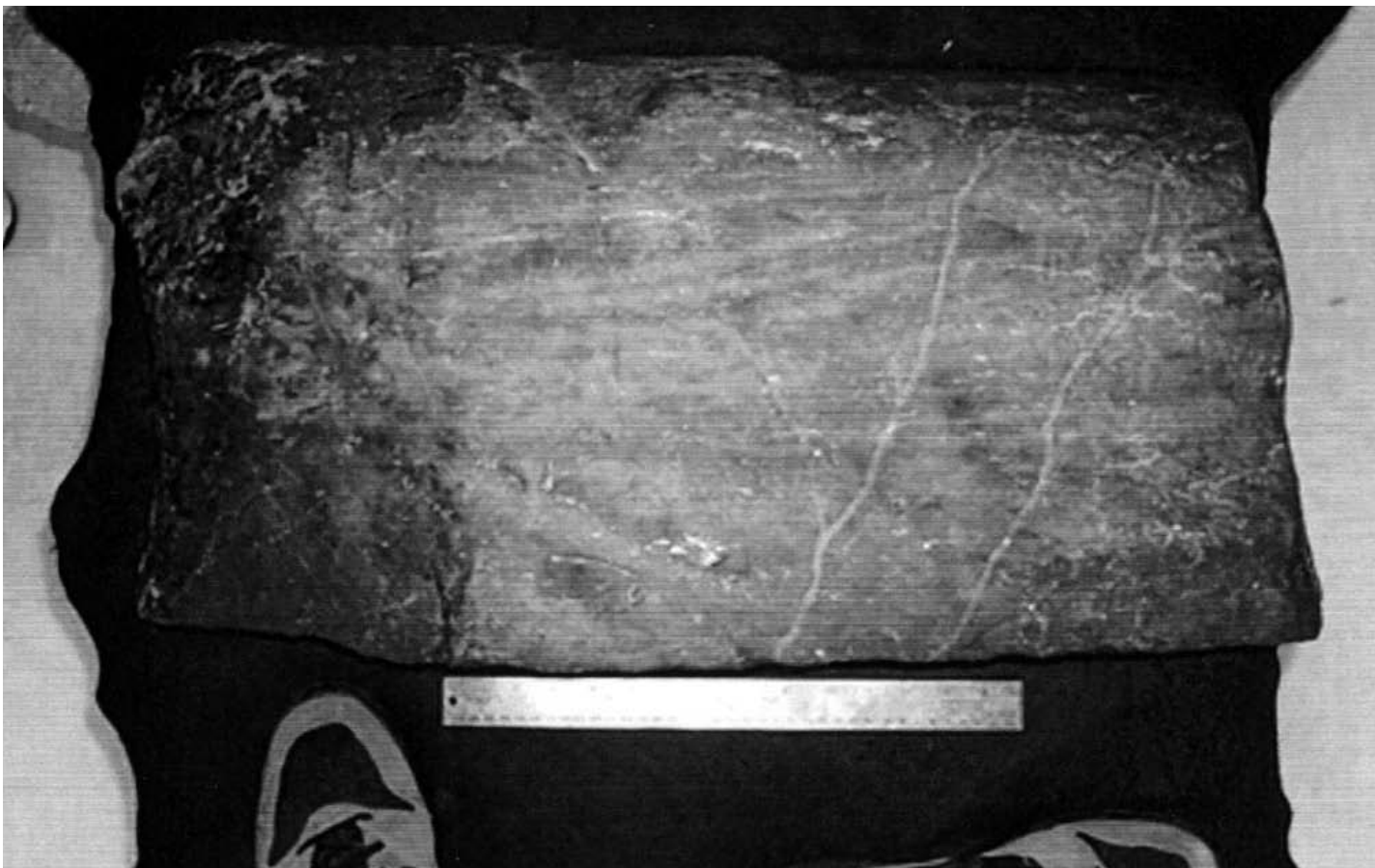
Twelve years after Olaf Ohman found the stone entangled beneath the tree roots of a 40- to 70-year-old poplar at his farm in Kensington, Minnesota, the Midwest’s most prominent geologist, Prof. N.H. Winchell, put his signature to a document of a committee put together by the Minnesota Historical Society for the purpose of examining the stone. The report, dated April 21, 1910, reads:

Resolved, that this committee renders a favorable opinion of the authenticity of the Kensington Rune Stone, provided, that the references to Scandinavian literature given in this committee’s report and accompanying papers be verified by a competent specialist in the Scandinavian languages. . . .⁵

Given that Dr. Neilsen has, 91 years later, finally provided the answer to the committee’s caveat, it remains only to echo and expand earlier geological opinions with state-of-the-art examination techniques. Before doing so, two more quotes from the same era as Winchell’s committee serve to set the tone for understanding the geologic community’s response to the KRS to date. Prof. W.O. Hotchkiss, then state geologist of Wisconsin, wrote (also in 1910) the following:

I have carefully examined the various phases of weathering on the Kensington Stone, and with all respect for the opinions of philologists, I am persuaded that the inscription could not have been made in recent years. It must have been made at least 50 to 100 years ago and perhaps earlier.⁶

This statement is extremely important in light of the fact that the first white settlers from Scandinavia (the most frequent targets of the forgery theorists) did not settle in that part of Minnesota until much after 50 years prior to the



Shown here is one of the “glacial face” sides of the Kensington Rune Stone, in this case what would be considered the back side, as there are no runes visible. A notable feature is the pair of undulating, parallel whitish lines. According to material forensics experts, these appear at first glance to be bleached areas from prolonged root contact. The supporters of the Norse contact theory of the stone say that Scandinavian-American farmer Olaf Ohman found the stone entangled beneath the tree roots of a 40- to 70-year-old poplar at his farm in Kensington, Minnesota. These apparent root markings require further study by a botanist as part of the scientific investigation of the stone, which has now, belatedly, begun.

stone’s discovery in the fall of 1898.

The geologists’ qualification of their statements is understandable in light of the well-written (though now thoroughly moot) objections of skeptics. It took just as much courage to overrule the considered opinions of a phalanx of linguistic Ph.D.s in 1910 as it does for heroes like Neilsen and Wolter to do so today. After all, reputations built over many years are not easily gambled in the court of established academic opinion, given the well-known resistance to new discoveries which may challenge outdated notions.

Another early examination of the stone was undertaken by Dr. Warren Upham, an eminent glacial geologist. In 1910 he wrote:

When we compare the excellent preservation of the glacial scratches, shown on the back of the stone, which were made several thousand years ago, with the mellow, time-worn appearance of the face of the inscription, the conclusion is inevitable that this inscription must have been carved hundreds of years ago.⁷

Such is the tenor of the opinions of the early 20th-century geologists who examined the KRS.

This author knows of no eminent geologist who has

published any documentation of a viewpoint critical of Winchell, Hotchkiss and Upham within the last 90 years. Most geologists have simply refused to study the KRS as a result of the widely held and widely publicized negative opinions of the philologists. Enter Scott Wolter and American Petrographics. The results of geological analysis of the stone ought to be given far more weight in the discussion than any of the linguistic arguments, either pro or con. If the inscription can be proved to have been written prior to the 1830s—when the first white explorers of the modern era began to traverse central Minnesota on their way to points further west—it makes no difference whether Olaf Ohman had a book with some runes in it inside his farmhouse, or that papers about Scandinavian explorations to America predating Columbus may have been available to the Scandinavian settlers of Douglas County, Minnesota. It also matters not how numerous and well devised the arguments in favor of a possible forger put forth by detractors such as Erik Wahlgren in his *The Kensington Stone: A Mystery Solved* (University of Wisconsin Press, 1958) might be. Unless Wahlgren, and others, would argue that the American Indians had obtained an in-depth knowledge of medieval Norse by some divine revelation, the KRS could only have been made by just the type

The Geology of the Kensington Rune Stone

*Here is an official description of the Kensington Rune Stone (KRS)
by American Petrographic Services (APS).*



Below: The glaciated top end of the stone is seen, measuring about 15 inches across.

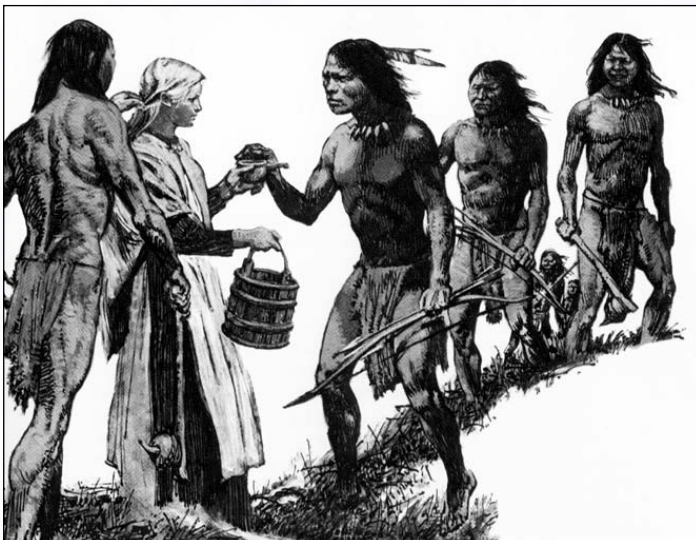
GENERAL GEOLOGY:

The KRS is a light- to medium-gray-colored meta-graywacke of probable Archaean age. Archaean age graywackes from Canadian Shield bedrock sources are commonly found in glacial deposits throughout much of Minnesota. The top face side of the stone contains a triangle-shaped, exposed hydrothermal calcite vein filling. The calcite vein is approximately 3 to 5 mm in thickness and exhibits a strong preferred orientation (sub-parallel to the long axis of the stone) of the medium-to coarse-sized (2-3 mm) calcite and chlorite minerals. The KRS exhibits well-developed joint fracture planes in at least three directions. These inherent fracture planes directly influenced the tabular shape of the stone.

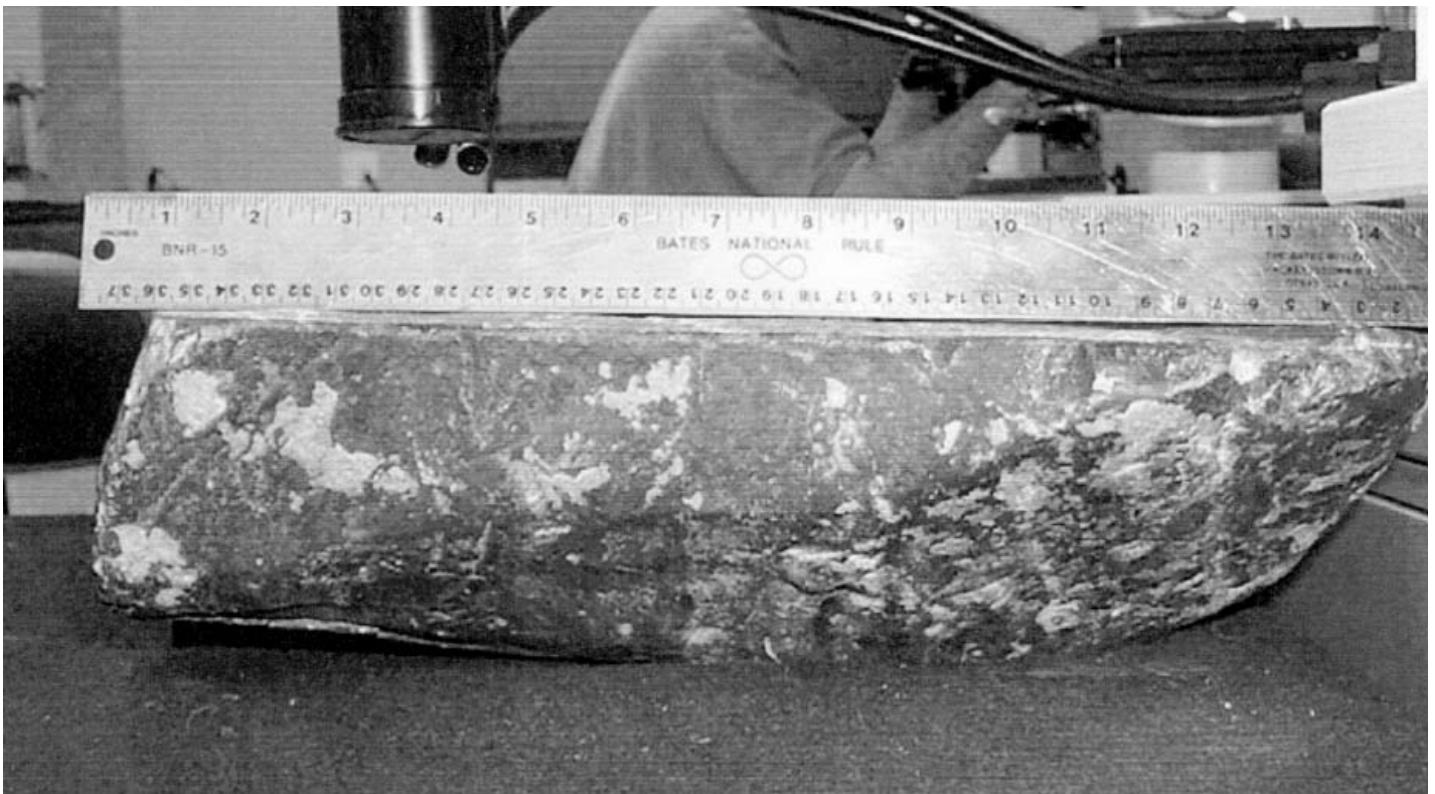
GLACIAL GEOLOGY:

The KRS is a portion of a previously larger glacial erratic. The glacial back side exhibits several large and deep striations running sub-parallel to the long axis of the stone. This length and depth of the striations suggest that they were produced at the base of a glacier moving over the stone while it was still a part of the bedrock. Also, many smaller and shallower groups of striations were also observed on the glacial back side, that were oriented in various directions. This suggests the striations developed during transport within the ice. The face side exhibits weathering consistent with the glacial sides but does not have striations. This suggests the slab may have broken off from a larger erratic near the end of its glacial transport.

What Life May Have Been Like for the Viking Explorers



Above, an artist's rendering of an early Viking farm complex in the Shetlands, established by westward-migrating Norsemen. Left, a Viking girl trades cow's milk for furs at a New World settlement. According to the Viking legends, all contacts with "Skraelings," as the Vikings called the American Indians, were not so peaceful.



The grayish-white splotches (yellowish in reality) seen in this view of the stone are calcite material that developed on the surfaces of the stone after glacial deposition, and, according to APS, prior to the dressing and carving of the stone. Shown is the bottom end of the stone.

of people mentioned in the translation of the inscription.

Scott Wolter was asked by Luann Patten of the Rune Stone Museum in July of 2000 to conduct forensic analysis of the KRS in keeping with standard scientific procedure. Scott Wolter told this writer in an interview by telephone that he had never heard of the KRS prior to this request, and entered the project with no preconceptions either for or against its authenticity.

The 30-page APS report concludes with these words:

It is clear that the manmade surface types on the KRS exhibit weathering (primarily mica degradation) consistent with being buried in the ground for at least decades and probably centuries. This being the case, the logical conclusion is that the KRS is an authentic artifact, presumably made at the time it is dated.

Wolter says that his observations are conclusive, with regard to the above statements. However, he makes some suggestions for further study which might be helpful in pinpointing the age of the inscriptions with more accuracy. These suggestions include:

- 1) Tombstone studies to quantify the rate of mica decomposition: Gravestones of incremental known ages (5, 10, 25, 50, 100, 200 years) should be sampled for analysis using SEM in order to generate a timeline for mica degradation that could be used for dating the KRS inscriptions.
- 2) Location studies with the goal of identifying the bedrock source of the KRS graywacke: Samples taken from the bedrock source would then be used in accelerated weather testing (to include an autoclave and a freeze-thaw

chamber). Chips should then be subjected to reflected light microscopy and SEM.

3) The data achieved above (#2) should then be analyzed with the intent of projecting a mica-degradation timeline and a weathering time line to be compared with the results from suggestion #1.

4) A thorough microscopic digital photo library of the entire inscription should be produced under various magnifications.

5) A qualified plant specialist should be consulted to examine the chemical processes and timing involved to develop the root bleaching observed on the back side of the KRS.

It appears that Olaf Ohman, his descendants and the early defenders of the stone—such as Hjalmar Holand (who purchased the stone from Ohman and wrote several books on the subject) and Prof. Robert Hall, whose classic work *The Kensington Rune Stone Is Genuine* (Columbia: Hornbeam

Stephen J. Martin is a political activist and pianist, and is a native of Pennsylvania who now resides in Maine. Steve, a former teacher with a deep interest in politics, ran for state representative for Maine's 141st district, but narrowly lost. An expert on the history of the northeastern borderlands and Atlantic Canada, Steve authored a fictional 420-page historical manuscript called Oak, describing the machinations of the international banking community in North America during 1833-1882, and is planning a sequel to cover 1883-1913. (See his ad on page 70.) Martin will be speaking on the Kensington Rune Stone at the TBR THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON AUTHENTIC HISTORY & THE FIRST AMENDMENT, June 14-16, 2002. See our insert in this issue for more.

Evidence That the Kensington Rune Stone Is Not a Forgery

The most salient points from the American Petrographic Services (APS) report are as follows (taken directly from the text of the report):

1) The KRS was obviously prepared for the inscription by first splitting the stone along natural fault lines. The glacial sides of the stone that were not split by human effort exhibit only slightly more weathering than the two inscribed sides, which differ primarily in the absence of glacial scratches.

2) There is a section of the prepared surface that was chipped off as the inscriber worked, forcing him to begin the second line of the inscription much to the right of where the first line of the inscription begins. This “oh shoot” section is weathered similarly to the rest of the split side, and, of course, similarly to the unsplit “glacial” sides.



An artist traces runes from the Jelling Stone in Jutland, placed there about 980 by Harald Bluetooth to honor his parents.

3) While someone obviously rescratched most of the inscription with a nail or other sharp object within perhaps days of the 1898 discovery, there are places above these retoolings still within the inscription “valley” which were not retouched, and there are some letters on the side of the stone (where the second portion of the inscription was made) that were not retooled at all. In each case, the untouched portions of the inscribed (sub-facial) surfaces are weathered to the same degree as the split surfaces of the stone.

4) The tree roots that were wrapped around the top (glacial side) of the stone as it was found *in situ* have left a very apparent chemical displacement on the back side of the KRS. The age of these (up to 1.5 mm depth) intrusions by chemical leaching from the roots into the body of the rock should be measurable.

5) Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) analysis of the “inside” surfaces of core and chip samples that were taken from the KRS by APS show a comparatively smooth surface, indicating low degradation of the mica in comparison to any of the exposed surfaces of the rock. The split side and inscription areas should appear similar in degree of weathering to the base of the core sample, were the KRS a forgery. ❖

Press, 1982) anticipated Neilsen—have finally been fully vindicated. The Ohman family, to the fourth generation, still bears the onus of rebuke from dozens of neighbors and academic skeptics who now owe them a full apology for their crass and insensitive insinuations. Cognizant Americans should now put the Kensington Rune Stone in the place it deserves in our nation’s history. The little museum in Alexandria, Minn. now deserves to be on everyone’s travel itinerary as much as does the Plymouth Rock.

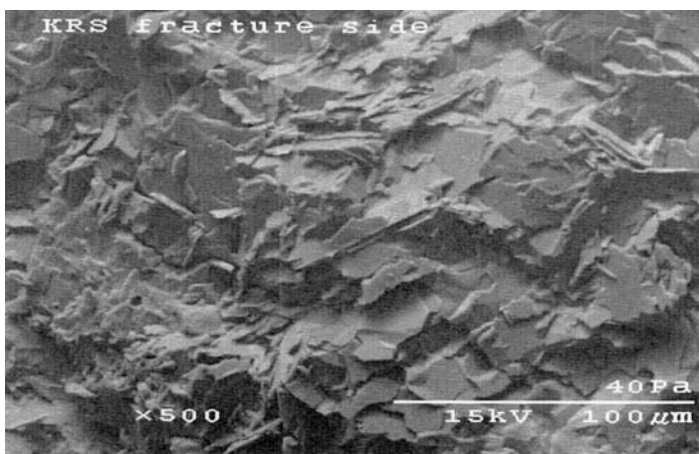
For those interested in further reading on this topic, Holand’s most interesting book (*Westward from Vinland*, New York: Duell, Sloan & Pearce, 1940), on a possible historical explanation for why the Kensington Rune Stone carvers may have been in the American heartland in 1362, is a must. Interested individuals should also visit the web sites of current researchers such as the Massey twins (Keith and Kevin), Michael Zalar and Yuri Kuchinsky. ❖

FOOTNOTES:

- 1 Wahlgren, 17.
- 2 Neilsen, interviewed by telephone, September 5, 2001.
- 3 Brochure from Rune Stone Museum, Alexandria, Minn.
- 4 Neilsen, 6.
- 5 Holand, 105.
- 6 In *ibid.*, 130.
- 7 *Ibid.*

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- Holand, Hjalmar, *Westward from Vinland: An Account of Norse Discoveries and Explorations in America, 982-1362*, New York: Duell, Sloan & Pearce, 1940.
- Neilsen, Dr. Richard, “A Response to Dr. James Knirk’s Essay on the Kensington Rune Stone,” in the spring 2001 edition of *Scandinavian Studies*, Vol. 72, #1.
- Wahlgren, Erik, *The Kensington Stone: A Mystery Solved*, Madison, Wis.: University of Wisconsin Press, 1958.



Surfaces of the stone as seen under a scanning electron microscope show evidence that the artifact is genuinely centuries old. Here, a freshly fractured surface is characterized by sharp, well-defined mineral grains, mostly micas. A manmade surface dating from when the runes were inscribed would be highly weathered, and display what the APS experts say are protruding quartz and feldspar grains. The mica particles, although they are “relatively slow weathering,” are virtually gone from the Kensington Rune Stone surface, indicating an age of approximately 500-1,000 years. This would of course rule out the establishment theory that the stone was created as a hoax in the late 19th century.

VIKINGS, NORMANS, TEMPLARS & THE DISCOVERY OF AMERICA BY PRINCE HENRY SINCLAIR

BY H.D. PURCELL, PH.D.

FIRST OF FOUR INSTALLMENTS

Prince Henry Sinclair, an earl of Orkney, according to legend, sailed with 200 sailors, knights, monks and farmers—and a Venetian sea captain named Antonio Zeno—in 12 vessels to North America in the 1300s. There, he made contact with Indians in Nova Scotia and Massachusetts—notably the Micmac tribe. The ancient cannon found at Louisbourg, Nova Scotia may be related to the sailing, if indeed it took place. No reference to this pre-Columbian discovery of America, nor to the related “Zeno Narratives,” can be found in any academic source. Is this just a “crackpot” story, or is it true history that has erroneously been considered to be “crackpot” by the establishment? The author believes it to be indisputable, and herein he sets forth some of the background to prove his case.

Prince Henry Sinclair’s 1398 voyage to North America was the culmination of the tradition originating with the Vikings, developed by the Normans and Templars and enriched by the fortuitous advent in the islands north of Scotland of a Venetian navigator.

The curse of historiography, as of literary biography, is the failure to calibrate the various disciplines which impinge upon it. It is this failure which encourages those who are imprisoned in their little disciplines to reject any Revisionist data advanced by those who have failed to qualify over the years for their academic union card. They regard Revisionists with contempt, which rapidly turns to alarm when the Revisionists begin to make any headway. The limitarians then anathematize the Revisionists with bell, book and candle, ensuring that very few of them ever make it into the groves (or graves) of academe, while they co-opt into their ranks, in Gramsciite fashion, those academics who toe the party line while “marching,” or rather plodding, through the institutions.¹

The very date of Prince Henry’s voyage is a Revisionist challenge to the establishment. Despite the gradual but inexorable buildup of evidence for the presence of Europids in North America from a very early date (some 9,300 years ago



The St. Clair Castle, on the L’Epte River in Normandy, is a typical Norman fortress. It was begun in the 10th century.

in the case of Kennewick Man—see TBR May/June 1999), most established archeologists and historians prefer to ignore the mounting evidence for a European presence in

North America before the time of Columbus. For them that old rhyming mnemonic is all that matters: “In fourteen hundred and ninety-two / Columbus sailed the ocean blue.”

Yet Columbus himself had heard about the Norse voyages to Vinland and even visited Iceland to learn more about them. Woe betide the North American university student who draws the attention of his teachers to earlier-than-Columbus European voyages of discovery or to Old World-related archeological sites in North America. But the present writer is a semi-retired professor in Austria, so he does not have to worry. Austria is remarkably free where personal opinion is concerned (except of course where restrictive laws have placed certain dogmas beyond discussion).²

The framework within which Prince Henry’s voyage took place is archeological, nautical, historical, cultural, religious, genealogical, traditional, geographical, climatological, literary, inscriptional, economic, craft organizational, military, botanical, alimentational and racial, all of which areas of study are relevant both to the Viking voyages to America, which preceded Prince Henry’s voyage by 400 years, and to Prince Henry’s own voyage. He followed in the wake of his Viking ancestors but was more successful than they were in establishing himself on the North American continent because he had superior techniques, in both war and peace.



Clement V was a weak and corrupt pope. Coerced by French King Philip IV, he agreed to dissolve the Templar Order in France (although a few here and there were spared, such as at Rennes-le-Château). He and the king were cursed by the order’s leader, Jacques de Molay, and both died within a year of the cursing.

In addition, there is other contemporary and near-contemporary evidence for Prince Henry’s voyage which is epistolary, graphological, cartographical, architectural, heraldic, geological and folkloric. This writer’s contention is that all these areas of study are based on firm scientific principles that enable their practitioners to establish definite conclusions—given sufficient time and the dying off of enough stick-in-the-muds. Taken together, this writer believes the evidence to be absolutely decisive. But the reader must judge the matter for himself.

Prince Henry’s voyage was the development of a great tradition. As the weather slowly grew warmer after the collapse of the Roman empire, the Norse Vikings began visiting and colonizing the Shetlands and Orkneys, possibly as early as the mid-fifth century A.D. By the year 700, archeological excavation shows that they had replaced the Christian Pictish inhabitants of the Shetlands, from which they gradually extended their power over the Faeroes (by about the year 800), the Orkneys, Caithness, the Hebrides, the Isle of Man, the Solway Firth, coastal Lancashire, the Irish ports and Iceland. The archeological evidence for the existence of all these Norse colonies is irrefutable, just as is the architectural evidence for Prince Henry’s settlement in North America.

Where North American settlements were concerned, a majority of archeologists used to ritually ignore or downplay the literary evidence, making the most of minor discrepancies between the sagas, until at least 1962, when Helge Ingstad began his excavation of the Viking settlement at L’Anse aux Meadows, a sheltered inlet of Cape Bauld, in the far north of Newfoundland. In due course, another Viking settlement was excavated, at Blanc Sablon, on the other side of the Labrador Strait, which put paid to the establishment’s objection that Newfoundland was not part of the North American mainland.

On October 10, 1964, the American government formally recognized the significance of Ingstad’s excavations on both sides of the Labrador Strait in a ceremony held at the State Department commemorating the first National Leif Eriksson Day. Since then, the archeological establishment in both the United States and Canada has been at great pains to play down the event. So it does not have quite the same nimbus as Martin Luther King Day, for example, though “Dr.” King did not discover America.³

In France, this writer even came across an archeologist who suggested that the Viking settlements on the Labrador strait were really built by Indians or Inuit (Eskimos) “on the model” of the Greenland settlements.” Not all archeologists are quite so dishonest, but most of them continue to regard the Viking settlements as irrelevant. They behave like the priesthood of a discredited religion.

Now this writer is not going to claim that the Greenlandic settlements in Newfoundland and Labrador were anything more than peripheral to the later history of mainland North America, the reason being that they were clearly sub-

ordinate to the Greenland settlements. The contemporary Wineland (Vinland) settlement is in a different category. It must have been farther south than those excavated by Ingstad.

Earlier Keltic expeditions appear to have affected the native inhabitants of North America to a much greater extent than the Viking ones (see, for example, the admirable etymological evidence in Barry Fell's *America B.C.*).⁴

Indeed, this writer believes that the earlier presence of Kelts in North America strengthened Indian resistance to Norse settlements, even though the Norsemen had become Christian by that time. Consider the case of a certain Ari Marson, who was kept prisoner for years in "Ireland the Great" (i.e. North America) by the Irish in "White Man's Land" (named after their off-white sheep's-wool tunics), because they did not want him to bring the Vikings down on them.⁵ At any rate, no comparable evidence for Norse place names in North America has yet been adduced.⁶

There is also the fact that the name of the kingdom of Estotiland, in what is now Nova Scotia, is evidently a corruption of Scotland, and the only question is when it was founded. If before 1014, when Malcolm Ceanmor succeeded in unifying Scotland, then the name would have referred to Ulster; if after it, then to present-day Scotland.⁷

In view of the fact that Greenland, Labrador and Newfoundland are all parts of North America, the excavated Norse settlements were certainly relevant, if peripheral, to the history of that continent. Their relevance was to the economic system which the Vikings had set up in the northern seas, from Europe to America, though the Wineland settlement probably, and that of Prince Henry certainly, are of much more than peripheral relevance. For 300 years or more, their Christian descendants dominated those northern seas, taking their timber from Norway and Labrador, hunting and growing crops in Greenland, and trading furs with Iceland, northern Scotland and Norway.

Standing on a broad white beach on the north coast of Sutherland three years ago, this writer was aware of a past era when people of Scandinavian speech dominated the seas northeastward to Norway, northward as far as Svalbard ("the Cold Edge," i.e., Spitzbergen)⁸ and northwestward to Iceland, Greenland, Baffin Island, Labrador and Newfoundland. "Sutherland," the most northerly county of mainland Scotland, means "South Land" in the Norse speech, which it was, of course, from the Norwegian point of view. The Norse Kingdom of Man also included the Hebrides, or Sodreys ("Southern Islands"), which lay to the north of Man but well to the south of Norway. This writer was looking northward into what had once been a sparsely settled but enormous economic area.

The deteriorating weather and the infrequency of transatlantic voyages made expert navigation all the more vital if a route to North America south of Greenland was to be opened up once more. Unlike the island-hopping Viking voyages, this meant crossing the open sea for a much longer period.



The Apprentice Pillar at the Rosslyn Chapel in Scotland, famous in legend, is one of the finest achievements of the art of the stonemasons, as practiced by the Knights Templar. Pillars are very important in the secret societies of the Western World, and are laden with occult meanings.

It was the deep keel which enabled the Vikings to halve the time spent in crossing the open sea by comparison with previous ships. This was invented during the late eighth century by some genius among them, and it was that deep keel, combined with the aerodynamic lines of their long-ships, which enabled them to cross the open sea twice as fast as any previous ships.⁹

The long-ships were provided with oars and a square sail, but had no deck and two small cabins at either end, at the very most—so they were not suitable for winter voyages. Raiding expeditions were carried out in summer, and there is a poem by a ninth century Irishman giving thanks that the wind has whipped up the white foam of the sea, so that he can sleep secure from the northern raiders.

The destruction by Charlemagne of pagan Friesian

sea-power laid Christianized Germany and the Low Countries open to the sacking of their cities by the Vikings. Eventually, King Alfred of Wessex had to appeal to the Friesians to man his fleet of super-dragon ships against the Vikings, because the Saxons had forgotten their seacraft. The Friesians, by the way, speak (of all living languages) the language closest to English. Hence the old saying, “Good butter and good cheese is good English and good Fries.”

The Norsemen in Ireland were defeated by the Irish king Brian Boru in 1014, but they retained the harbors they had built, because the deep-keeled long-ship needed a harbor. (The Irish curragh was seaworthy but had a shallow draft, and could travel up the rivers with great ease, for example up the Boyne to Tara.)

In North America, the Viking long-ships were far superior to any other boats on the open sea. That is what enabled them to go south along the American coast, like Verazzano in the 16th century. But the Vikings in their heyday were coastal settlers, raiders and traders rather than inland settlers.

However, a good reason why the western Vikings were unable to imitate the Swedish ones (who managed to reach the Volga, the Don and the Dnieper from Lake Ladoga by portage) must have been the Amerindian birch-bark canoe, which was faster and more maneuverable than the long-ship on rivers and lakes. Eventually the Swedes appear to have reached the Great Lakes in the 15th century, as it appears from the Kensington Rune Stone [see our lead story for more on the Kensington Rune Stone],¹⁰ but they were constantly under attack from the Indians. Only gunpowder could offset the Indian advantage in numbers, and Prince Henry Sinclair had gunpowder.

The Inuit¹¹ had the kayak, which could not challenge the long-ship in times of clement weather, but gave them the edge over the Vikings as the climate worsened. Among the ice-floes, the long-ship no longer had any advantage. It was much less maneuverable under such conditions than the kayak. Incidentally, there are Norse folkloric accounts of Inuit kayaks being blown off course and reaching the Orkneys.

However, the Vikings also had the *knarr*, or merchant ship, which, unlike the long-ship, had a hold, a deck and shelter on it. As time went on, and the weather worsened, this kind of ship was developed and enlarged, so that Prince Henry and his contemporaries were able to travel across the

open sea with far greater security, if not comfort. It could also carry light cannon, which evidently made it invulnerable to Indian attack on the coast of North America.

Prince Henry’s voyage took place in the tradition of regular Norse voyages between Norway and Greenland between the beginning of the second millennium A.D. and the 14th century, when the weather worsened, and regular contact was broken off. This happened when the “victuallers” of Stockholm, who served the Hanseatic League, gained control over the Norwegian port of Bergen and discontinued the yearly ship to Greenland.

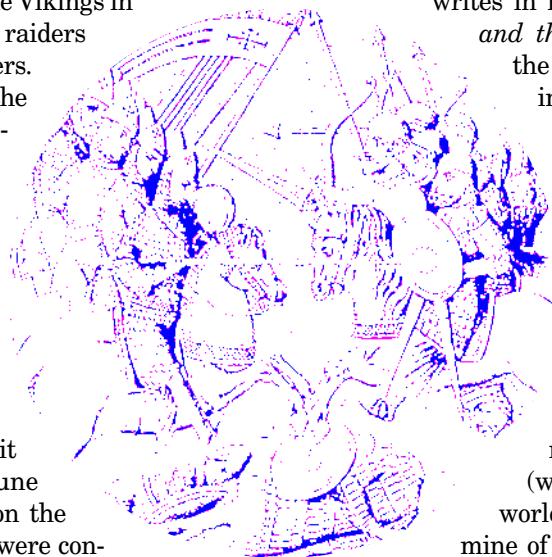
The Normans had subordinated their naval tradition to a military one, though they could still transfer a considerable army from one country to another by sea (as before the Battle of Hastings). But Prince Henry also had the advantage of nautical science as developed by those pre-eminent

seafarers of his age, the Venetians. As Andrew Sinclair writes in his most informative book, *The Sword and the Grail* (1992): “Venetian sailors had the benefit of the mariner’s compass, sailing directions based on estimating distances, a nautical chart and the sand-glass and table for calculating distance at sea, the equivalent of the modern transverse table.” Of these, Prince Henry would probably only have had the mariner’s compass, which had been described by Alexander Neckham, an English monk teaching at the University of Paris, in the 12th century. It was a floating iron needle magnetized by a lodestone (which had been used in the ancient world and also by the Vikings, who had a mine of it in Norway). Also, Prince Henry had experience on the Atlantic Ocean, which is much more tidal than the Mediterranean—where a system of dead reckoning was used, based on mathematics. In the Northern seas, “the changes of magnetic variation on the compass bearing [were] insignificant on long ocean voyages, particularly to the west under the North Pole.” (*Ibid.*)

A trained navigator like Nicolo Zeno could calculate latitude with great exactness—an important skill when crossing the open sea. Longitude, of course, could not be plotted with any degree of exactness till Harrison invented his two-clocks method in the 18th century.

What is more, the ships which Nicolo and Antonio Zeno built for the Sinclair family would have incorporated some of the features which distinguished Mediterranean nautical science.

The archeological evidence has pride of place as evidence for the Norse voyages, and it validates the historical record, rather than the other way round. In the year A.D. 872, Harold Finehair, king of Norway, created the earldom of Orkney, which included the Shetlands and the Faeroes, as well as the mainland Scottish county of Caithness. From the



Center of page: an engraving from a window in the Church of Saint-Denis, Paris, which was vandalized and seriously damaged during the French Revolution. It depicts Godfrey de Bouillon leading Christian knights of the military order for the first time in battle against Muslims.

end of the ninth century onward, the Norsemen and their pagan allies settled Iceland, then Greenland, then both sides of the Labrador-Newfoundland strait.

In the year 981, Eric the Red was exiled from Iceland for manslaughter and sailed westward in search of some rocky islets reported 70 or more years previously by an Icelander called Gunnbjörn. Instead, Eric discovered, and later colonized, Greenland. From there, his son and others went on to discover Helluland (“Land of Flat Stones,” almost certainly Baffin Island), Markland (“Forest Land,” certainly Labrador), Newfoundland and Wineland, or Vinland, which was evidently in a separate, more southerly location.

The Vikings also expanded eastward, where the Swedes from Roslagen gave the name of their province to their new dominion of Russia. Their leader, Rurik, established himself at Kiev in 850 and founded Novgorod about the year 862. There were Danish Vikings in the east as well, notably Helgi the Lean (Oleg), who made Kiev the nucleus of the new Russian state from 880 onward. Some of the Swedish Vikings even sailed and rowed down the Volga into the Caspian Sea and raided the cities of Mazenderan, in northern Iran.

The leaders of the Normans were Norwegians, as were a lot of the other Viking leaders. A famous Norwegian, Harald Hardraada, who became chief of the Varangian guard in Constantinople, was finally cut down at Stamford Bridge by the forces of Harold Godwinson in 1066. He was about seven feet tall, and stood out above all other heads in the battle.¹² (Yet there are politically correct “opinion formers” in modern Norway who are anxious to have people believe that there were never any Vikings in Norway, only peaceful farmers and fishermen, and that the wicked Danes were responsible for all those Viking raids.)¹³

The Vikings radiated out from Scandinavia, but their tradition of representative government meant that they could never be relied on not to create their own dominions remote from the power of the Scandinavian kings: in Man, Iceland, Greenland, Wineland, Normandy, Sicily, Anatolia or Russia.

So much for the previous history of the Vikings and their Christian descendants in the northern seas. But Prince Henry was a Norman, too. In him the Viking and Norman traditions coalesced. Only when they adapted themselves to colonizing a large part of northwestern France, and became nominal subjects of the Carolingian king, did the Northmen become Christianized Normans, with a culture which combined elements both Norse and Frankish.¹⁴

This amalgamation began in the year 911, when the Norse leader Rollo (Old Norse Hrólfr) became duke of Normandy. He was a son of Rognvald, earl of Mørr, and was one of the chiefs driven out of Norway by Harald Finehair. Many of the Norman leaders were likewise exiled Norwegians, among them being the eponymous ancestor of the Sinclairs. But the mass of their followers were Danish Vikings, whose advance into England had been checked. (Denmark was the



What appears to be American corn (Zea mays) is carved into the stonework at Rosslyn Chapel in Scotland. Yet the chapel dates from the 12th century, and Christopher Columbus did not make his famous journey to the New World until the late 15th century. Did Templars from Europe discover America over 300 years before the famous Genoese navigator?

northern country most afflicted by population increase as the weather conditions improved). There were Vikings from Ireland in Normandy, too.

Because the Normans became Frenchified, or at any rate Frankicized, they often took French wives and adopted the local dialect of the French language, so they came to regard themselves as different in many ways from their Viking brethren. When the ladies of Bayeux made their famous tapestry recording the events that led up to the Battle of Hastings and the battle itself, they described their men folk in Latin as *Franci* (Franks). Yet Bayeux was the last place in Normandy where the Old Norse language was spoken. Norman parents even sent their sons there to learn the language.

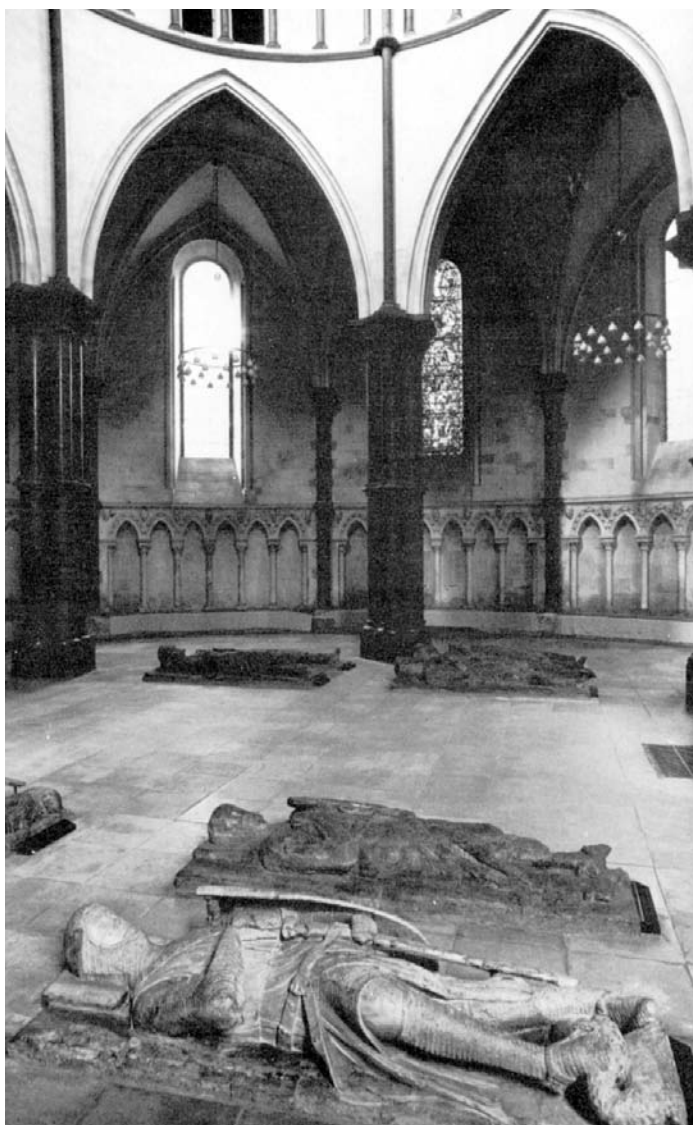
In France there is a school of Gallicizing archeologists which downplays the decisive contribution of the Normans to the development of Normandy. Their influence is clearly seen in some of the explanatory material on display in the museum and fortress of Caen. They strive to give the impression that the Normans were barbaric interlopers.

But the Normans went on from strength to strength,

consolidating their conquest of England and the Welsh marches, taking the best land in Ireland, infiltrating Scotland at the invitation of the Scottish kings, even sacking Rome under Guiscard in the year 1084, driving the Byzantines out of southern Italy and Sicily, providing the impetus for the reconquest of Portugal, even establishing themselves at Amasya, in northern Anatolia, under “Russell the Norman,” for a couple of years. Not a country in Western Europe was untouched by their genius for organization in peace and war.

The Sinclairs also stand in a third tradition—that of the Templars. Here we sail into deep waters, because the succession is spiritual rather than temporal, and secrecy casts its pall over it, as is often the case when the inheritance of wealth is in question.

The Sinclairs were Templars long before Prince Henry’s voyage to North America in 1398. As the Grand Larousse and a recent article on the Internet remind us,¹⁵ the Order of



Shown above is the interior of the Temple Church, the church of the Knights Templar, in London. The effigies of knights, not all of whom are Templars, date from the 13th century.

the Temple (on the very same Temple Mount which Israeli Prime Minister Sharon recently visited with 1,000 bodyguards) was founded in 1119 by eight breakaway members of the Knights Hospitalers of St John, led by Hugues de Payns, who had presented themselves to King Baldwin of Jerusalem requesting the duty of keeping Christian pilgrims safe on the highways leading to the holy city from the coast of Palestine and Syria. They soon began excavating the ancient site of the Temple of Solomon on the Temple Mount, where they were rumored to have found the ancient Ark of the Covenant in 1127, and it was from the Temple that they took their name. Legend has it that the Ark was secreted under Chartres Cathedral, and there is in fact a carving on a pillar there representing the ark as transported on a wheeled vehicle. The tradition is that it contained scriptural scrolls, treatises on sacred geometry and information on the arts and sciences.¹⁶

What appears certain is that the Templars brought back much architectural and scientific information from Palestine, especially in the field of astronomy, in which the Arabs were far ahead of the Europeans at that time.¹⁷ After the Council of Troyes in 1128, St. Bernard of Clairvaux worked out the new Templar Rule in 75 articles, basing it on his own Cistercian rule at the monastery of Citeaux. Templars had great prestige because they were both a religious order and a fighting order associated with protecting pilgrims to the Holy Land (which most Christians are now content to leave to either Jews or Muslims). The knights wore a white cloak marked with a large red cross. But initially the knights were not rich—only the order was. In Europe, from 1147 onward, the Templars became the richest of all the orders—and a temptation to the civil power.

The Templars also had a piece of the True Cross of Christ (found by St. Helena), which they retained until they were defeated by the great leader of Kurdish origin, Saladdin, at the Battle of the Horns of Hattin, in 1187. But the power of the Templars in Europe in no way diminished as a result. They set up the first international banking network, becoming financiers for Levantine trade and almost every throne in Europe. It has even been suggested that their huge stores of silver, which must have originated outside Europe, may have come from South or Central America, though no purported evidence for Templar voyages has yet been found south of Providence, Rhode Island. Even when the French king, “Philip the Fair,” moved against them in 1307, they managed to send out ships from La Rochelle with much of their wealth to several parts of Europe, especially to Portugal (where the order of the Golden Fleece was created with this financial backing) and to Scotland. Philip’s hatred of the Order appears to have been increased when he found that much of their wealth had disappeared.

Two of the original eight French Templars had set up their headquarters in Rosslyn, Scotland, under the patronage of the Sinclairs, who owned the castle there and became Templars themselves. This would have given the Sinclairs the financial power to undertake an expensive venture into the unknown, on behalf of their order and also to their own



Normans were not always nice guys, by any means. They commonly killed peasants and burnt churches with men and women in them. For example, in 1136, Waleran of Meulan burnt the town of Acquiny during his private war against Roger de Tosny. Roger responded by burning three of the Beaumont villages, probably La Croix-Saint-Lefroi, Caillé and Ecardeville-sur-Eure. Later the same year, Waleran and his brother Robert allied with Count Theobald of Blois, and “burnt the cottages of many poor people in three hamlets” and fired the church of Bougy-sur-Risle with the men and women in it. In its most extreme forms, ravaging aimed at the total deprivation of shelter and food to a local population. William the Conqueror’s “harrying of the north” had as its deliberate aim the creation of an artificial famine, intended to kill off as many as possible of the peasantry of the Anglo-Saxon lords, and thereby break, once and for all, the power of this separatist region. This tapestry depicts Norman invaders foraging for food and slaughtering captured livestock.

advantage. “Enterprizes of great pith and moment,” as Shakespeare puts it, require considerable financial backing—more than princes of Orkney (without the Sinclair Scottish connection) would have been able to afford. Certainly, non of the previous princes of Orkney had felt able to do anything similar. As we shall see, the Sinclairs appear to have continued their voyages to North America during the 15th century.

The Venetian contribution to Prince Henry’s voyage must not be underestimated. But it was a practical contribution, not a spiritual one. This writer does not subscribe to the view expressed in the “Enterprise Mission” article cited in a footnote above that the Venetian plutocrats had enormous influence on the development of the British and American empires. This writer regards this as an attempt to distract attention the very real influence of a quite different minority.

Under the Treaty of St. Clair-sur-Epte in the year 911, between the Vikings under Rollo and the king of France, “Charles the Simple,” the dukedom of Normandy was created,¹⁸ with Rollo as its first duke. Prince Henry’s remote ancestors, Rollo’s cousins of the same Mørr family, took the name of St. Clair from the place of the treaty, and built a castle with a round keep there.¹⁹

The “St. Clair” spelling was long retained by the family, but it became “Sinclair” much later, in the British Isles, Prussia and Sweden. So, like “William the Conqueror,” Prince Henry Sinclair stood in the great Mørr family tradition, Mørr being a Norwegian province near the 63rd degree of latitude. Earl Rognvald, the most prominent member of the Mørr family, remained in Norway, and was therefore in good odor with King Harald Finehair, if only in order to survive. After

Harald had brought the islands north and west of Scotland under his control in the year 872, King Harald donated to Rognvald the earldom of Orkney, which had been founded by Rognvald’s father, Eystein. Rognvald handed over the earldom to his brother, “Sigurd the Powerful,” but all the Norse earls of Orkney after the death of Sigurd’s son Guthorm were descendants of Rognwald until the 13th century,²⁰ and included other members of the Mørr family thereafter—this despite the fact that Rognvald himself was killed by King Harald Finehair’s sons. The Sinclairs were “of that ilk,” as they say in Scotland.

Because of his ancestry, and the fact that his Norman family had maintained its connection with Norway, Prince Henry, though a nobleman of Scotland, became Norwegian prince of Orkney as well. For the Norwegians, as for the Scots, it was the Norman skills and their genius for organization which made them welcome.

The purpose of this article is to show that the Christianized Sinclairs, more than any other family, carried on the great Viking tradition into Norman and subsequent times. A historian at Moscow University has even ranked them with the Habsburgs because of their dynastic and political influence in several European countries²¹—which continues, with some diminution, even today.

This author regards the Templar origins of the Scottish Freemasonic rite as proven, despite the aura of mystery which inevitably envelops all secretive societies, and the Sinclairs have always been prominent in the higher degrees of the Scottish rite. The connection is particularly relevant where the history of the United States is concerned, because

all, or most, of the founders of the United States—such as Washington (who used to practice Masonic rites in public), Jefferson, Franklin etc—were Freemasons. Engineer Pierre Charles L'Enfant, who planned the city of Washington, D.C., incorporated the Masonic square and compasses into his street plan, as well as the occult symbol of the inverted pentagram.²² Just take a look at the dollar bill, with its Masonic pyramid topped by the Masonic eye. Masonry was extremely influential in the 18th century. Frederick II of Prussia was also a Freemason, and Masonry was so strong among the



This mosaic fancifully depicts the coronation by Jesus of Roger II. Roger II, c. 1095–1154, was the count (1101–30) and first king (1130–54) of Sicily, son and successor of Roger I. He conquered (1127) Apulia and Salerno and sided with the Antipope Anacletus II against Pope Innocent II. In 1130, Anacletus crowned Roger king. Innocent rallied Holy Roman Emperor Lothair II and other allies against Roger but was defeated in 1139. Naples and Capua recognized Roger's sovereignty; Innocent was obliged to invest him with the lands that, for the next seven centuries, were to constitute the kingdoms of Naples and Sicily. Roger also conquered the coast of Africa from Tunis to Tripoli. He established a strong central administration and attempted to fuse the disparate ethnic groups in his kingdom. Prosperity returned to Sicily, and Roger's brilliant court at Palermo was a center of the arts, letters and sciences. Roger was succeeded by his son, William I.

Protestant bankers of France that Adam Weishaupt, who founded the Jacobins, found it necessary to convene a big conference of his own disciples together with the Freemasons and Jews before precipitating the French Revolution.

The Masonic legend of the two pillars of Jachin and Boaz is represented in the architecture of the Sinclair chapel at Rosslyn, in that of all Masonic lodges, and in the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center, which recently (September 11, 2001) collapsed after they had been hit by two airplanes—possibly helped by explosions at the bottom of the South Tower (and maybe the North Tower as well), which may have destroyed the steel supports of the buildings.²³

Prince Henry died, at the hands of raiders from East Anglia in 1400, after his return from North America. (They had evidently heard of his success, and were anxious to rob him and find out about his discoveries.) He had showed his Templar allegiance by building a small, typically Scottish variant of a Templar church in Providence, Rhode Island, which doubled as a lighthouse onto Narragansett Bay and had a watchtower added on.²⁴

Jacques de Molay, grand master of the Order of the Temple, was not burned alive till 1314, 12 years after the death of Prince Henry Sinclair. This judicial murder was ordered by the French king, “Philip the Fair.”²⁵ It deeply shocked contemporaries, despite the absurd confessions made by de Molay and 50 of his followers under torture, which de Molay repudiated the day before he was slowly burned alive. The most prominent of these contemporaries, at least in retrospect, was Dante Alighieri. In the *Purgatorio*, Canto XX, lines 86-93, Dante denounces the fleur-de-lys (i.e., the French king) for treating the pope, the vicar of Christ, as Pontius Pilate had treated Christ:

*Veggio il nuovo Pilato sì crudele, che ciò nol sazia,
ma, senza decreto, porta nel tempio le cupide vele.
 (“I see the new Pilate, so cruel, whose animosity is
not satiated by this, but who, without justification,
brings the avaricious sails [of piracy] into the Tem-
ple.”)²⁶*

The connection with the Templars was extremely important to the Sinclair family, because it meant Prince Henry's grandson had money enough (probably also from Templar ships which were tipped off in time to flee France before all members of the order were imprisoned) to build a jewel of a chapel at Rosslyn, in the Pentland Hills south of Edinburgh. In the splendid efflorescence of its carvings there are two plants, one of which is certainly connected with North America and the other almost certainly.

That brings us to the fourth great tradition which is intertwined with Prince Henry's voyage, that of Venice. It is hard for tourists today to realize what Venice once was, the pre-eminent European power guarding trade routes to the East. The flaming circles of its great foundries inspired those of Dante's *Inferno*. They could replace a lost fleet within a couple of months, and it is not surprising to learn that Nicolo and Antonio Zeno built a fleet for Prince Henry and became

captains of it. Their brother Carlo had defeated the Genoese at the Battle of Chioggia, breaking their blockade of Venice, and Nicolo had been a captain of one of the galleys at Chioggia. Another Zeno brother, Antonio, was also invited to Orkney and went on to Estotiland in North America.²⁷

The Venetians, as we have seen, were preeminent as navigators and constructors of ships.²⁸ If you want to understand what Venice meant to Europe in its great days, read Wordsworth's splendid sonnet *On the Extinction of the Venetian Republic*:

Once she did hold the gorgeous East in fee; / And was the safeguard of the West: the worth / Of Venice did not fall below her birth, / Venice the eldest child of Liberty. / She was a Maiden City, bright and free; / No guile seduced, no force could violate; / And when she took unto herself a Mate / She must espouse the everlasting Sea. . . .²⁹

So Prince Henry was ready to act when he experienced two great pieces of luck, one shortly after the other: the arrival of a fisherman who told him of rich lands in the New World, and the appearance in those northern seas of an experienced Venetian navigator, whom he saved from shipwreck and murder.

Much like the Norsemen on the Isle of Man, the Icelandic settlers set up a parliament, the greatest contributions to representative government having originated in Scandinavia. The Manx Tynwald and the Icelandic Althing, both founded in the ninth century, are the oldest parliaments in the world. But the tradition of representative government goes back much further than that. When Simon de Montfort created the English Parliament in 1265, he was inspired by the Catalan Parlemt, and used that spelling (which still influences the English pronunciation). "Catalonia" means Gothland, and the Parlemt of Barcelona was in a tradition founded by the Visigoths, or Western Goths, an originally Scandinavian tribe. The same ideas fell on fertile soil in England, largely because of the Magna Carta (1215), forced upon King John by the mainly Norman barons of England. (Please note that the Magna Carta also gave rights to the Welsh and Scots within the English jurisdiction.)

The religious myths of the Vikings were written down during the early Christian period, especially in the Elder Edda, and therefore retained because Christianity was introduced through the Althing. In this, Iceland resembled Ireland and England, which also retained many of their pagan legends and myths. Unfortunately, Christianity was introduced into Germany in Carolingian times through direct confrontation, and the Irish and English missionaries suppressed the southern Germanic myths.³⁰ That is why Wagner had to turn to Scandinavia for Germanic mythology in the 19th century.

The destruction of monasteries was a Viking specialty, and this was not merely a question of plunder. Charlemagne's brutal suppression of the pagan continental Saxons



This silver goblet is a reliquary said to contain the skull of French King Dagobert II, who was assassinated near Stenay on December 23, 679. The relic is now kept at a convent at Mons. Dagobert plays a key role in the claims that the Merovingian dynasty (predecessors of the Carolingians) is directly descended from Jesus, and the fantastic ciphers associated with Rennes-le-Château. Certain factions, allegedly aligned with the surviving representatives of the Templar Knights, want the Merovingians to return.

had driven many refugees into the Scandinavian countries, where they became eager propagandists in favor of a counter-strike against Christian Europe. Hence the Viking Queen Aud's more than gracious reception of a Spanish Arab emissary in Ireland, and the Iraqi Ibn Fadhlán's good reception by Swedish Vikings on the Volga.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: The footnotes for this article will be found on the following page. Part Two of this article will appear in the May/June 2002 issue of *THE BARNES REVIEW*.

FOOTNOTES

¹ The communist Antonio Gramsci, in his comfortable prison under Benito Mussolini, developed the idea that, in order to succeed in Western countries, the communists must transform society by co-opting into their ranks, in all the social institutions, only those who always seek the least inspired solution. What has resulted is a progressive breakdown of those institutions, as the incompetent functionaries prove incapable of finding efficient solutions to growing problems of their own making. Evidently, the Marxists hope to impose their revolution on the anarchy which they themselves have created.

² Note, however, that this writer is publishing this in an American journal, because the First Amendment “beacons the rocks on which high hearts are wreck’d” (Shelley). This writer would say that was worth living and dying for.

³ This writer’s quotation marks refer to the fact that his doctorate was plagiarized.

⁴ E.g., Fell’s chapter on “New England’s Keltic Place Names.” But not one archeologist in a thousand has studied Gaelic, like Barry Fell, so they give his work the silent treatment, or a blanket condemnation.

⁵ The story rings true but has been discounted because of the chronicler’s reference to North America as being only four days’ sail west of Ireland.

⁶ The voyage and settlement at Peterborough, Ontario, of the chieftain Woden-lithi from the Oslo Fjord are too early (c. 1700 B.C.) to have had much, if any, influence on the place names of today. See Barry Fell’s *Bronze Age America* (1982), in which he convincingly deciphers Woden-lithi’s inscriptions and reproduces a carving of what is likely to have been Woden-lithi’s very European face. But establishment archeologists, ignorant of the Tifinagh script, which may have actually been Germanic in origin and brought to Africa by the Peoples of the Sea around 1200 B.C., insist on regarding it as Amerindian, even though they cannot read it. All they know about early voyages to America is summed up in the couplet about Columbus. And these people are well paid for their perpetual obfuscation of real research.

⁷ For instance, the ninth-century philosopher Scotus Erigena was from Ireland. The late 13th-century philosopher Duns Scotus was from Scotland.

⁸ Discovered by the Icelanders in 1194. It was four days’ sail north of Langanes (the NE point of Iceland), so it must have been Spitzbergen, not the island of Jan Mayen.

⁹ Like the Yankee clipper ship of the mid-19th century, which rose in cross-section from a narrow base at its keel to broad decks above, like a palm tree or a fountain. That was the culmination of shipbuilding in wood (unless you count the yachts built for the Americas Cup) and likewise halved the time it took to cross the open sea.

¹⁰ Erik Wahlgren in his otherwise well-written book, *The Vikings in North America*, ridicules the Kensington Rune Stone but refrains from examining the runes textually—a very telling omission. What he does is to lump the KRS together with the inscription allegedly found in Spirit Pond, which many believe was a forgery. Barry Fell always provides chapter and verse for his proto-Norse, Iberian and Punic and Scandinavian inscriptions. But then he could read the Tifinagh, Phoenician and Ogham scripts. So can his readers if they follow his directions.

¹¹ The Inuit (a word that means literally “people”) dislike the term “Eskimo,” by which most Americans know them. It is a word from an Indian language meaning “flesh-eater.” They consider this to be pejorative.

¹² Harold Godwinson, whom Harald Hardraada described in a little poem written before the battle as a small man, was also pretty big. The Bayeux tapestry shows him pulling two armored Norman knights out of the quicksands near Mt. St. Michel.

¹³ The Danes are somewhat unpopular with their northern neighbors because they tell too many funny stories about them. But all the Scandinavians are guilty of this. The legends are that the Norwegians are simple-minded, the Swedes are standoffish, and the Danes have a language like a disease of the throat. The Finns are supposed to be habitually drunk, and the Icelanders are supposed to be difficult. A typical story occurs in Donald S. Connery’s book *The Scandinavians*. He meets a man at Stockholm airport

and asks, “Are you a Swede?” “No,” says the man, “I am a Norwegian, but I have been ill recently.”

¹⁴ To be sure, King Alfred forced the Danish leader Guthrum to adopt Christianity, but the Danes in England were never called “Normans,” a name derived from the French form. The Danes invaded England in 1069, where they were joined by the previously defeated Angles, and were all crushed by William the Conqueror. In Ireland, however, the Normans accepted the Norsemen in the harbors of Ireland as their kinsmen and allies.

¹⁵ See www.enterprisemission.com/tower and <http://www.enterprisemission.com/tower2.com> This document contains much useful information, interspersed with some very doubtful claims and some inaccuracies.

¹⁶ The copper scroll, among the Dead Sea scrolls, apparently gives some credence to the idea that knowledge could be transmitted in such a way, though this writer is not going to put his hand in the fire to affirm that this was in fact the case. What is important, is that many people believed it, and this gave the Templars immense prestige.

¹⁷ For more on the role of the Templars in transmitting to the West the secrets of the Egyptians and others, see *The Templar Revelation: Secret Guardians of the True Identity of Christ*, by Lynn Picknett and Clive Prince, Touchstone/Simon and Schuster, New York, 1997.

¹⁸ This was a much bigger area than the later province of Normandy, and included the Beauvaisis as well as a large part of Lower Brittany.

¹⁹ See Andrew Sinclair, *The Sword & the Grail* (New York, 1992), 27-28.

²⁰ See *Orkneyinga Saga: The History of the Earls of Orkney* (Penguin Books, 1981), genealogy of the earls of Orkney on page 225.

²¹ This point, without any further elaboration, is taken from a pamphlet entitled *The Sinclairs of Sweden*, for which no author is given.

²² Ayatollah Khomeini always referred to the United States and/or her president as the “Great Satan.”

²³ See “Some Survivors Say ‘Bombs Exploded Inside WTC,’” *American Free Press*, Vol. I, Issue #10, October 29, 2001, page 3.

²⁴ See Andrew Sinclair, *The Sword and the Grail*, 145.

²⁵ He was so called, not on account of his love of justice, but on account of his good looks.

²⁶ The Temple in question is the one on Temple Mount, the Dome of the Rock, which is the third most important Muslim holy place. It was believed in the middle ages to be the temple built by King David and gave its name to the Templar Order, which administered it during the Crusades. Gen. Sharon’s recent visit to it, with 1,000 bodyguards, set off the latest Intifada.

²⁷ See Andrew Sinclair, *The Sword and the Grail*, 14.

²⁸ However, this writer does not subscribe to Lyndon La Rouche’s theory that the Venetian oligarchy continued decisively to influence the politics of northern Europe and North America even after Venice ceased to be independent in 1805. It seems to the present writer that this is merely disinformation designed to distract attention from a quite different minority, which is much more influential. It reminds this writer of Mr. La Rouche’s attempt to make us believe that the queen of England is responsible for organizing the international drug scene. The charge has its amusing side, but the evidence points rather to three recent American presidents, not the queen.

²⁹ Under the hateful tyranny of the socialist Olivo, only a couple of years back, some young Venetians made it to the top of St. Mark’s tower and flew the flag of La Serenissima. They were badly beaten up by goons of the Italian state, but what a gesture.

³⁰ A few myths survived in part, for example the story of the sons of Muspilli, which is preserved in a medieval Bavarian commentary on the Biblical prophet Elijah.

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The Coup Against Vietnam's Diem Family

BY ROBERT K. LOGAN

Even as hostilities in the Korean “police action” were winding down and the Panmunjon talks were formulating the inconclusive truce of July 27, 1953, French forces were fighting a losing battle with the Vietminh, which, within a year, would conclude with the humiliating defeat of the French army in Dien Bien Phu on May 7, 1954. This led to the partition of Vietnam at the 17th parallel, a division intended to be temporary, pending elections two years later that were never held. Freed from combat in Korea, Red China could intervene more forcibly to advance the communist cause in troubled Southeast Asia, Laos, Cambodia, Malaysia and Vietnam.

“We of the Kennedy and Johnson administrations who participated in the decisions on Vietnam acted according to what we thought were the principles and traditions of this nation. We made our decisions in light of those values. Yet we were wrong, terribly wrong.”

—ROBERT S. MCNAMARA¹

Soon after the Japanese wedge in Manchuria separating the Soviet Union from China had been removed in 1945, the Russians and Chinese had a contiguous border, over which the USSR lost no time in supplying the necessary arms to the Chinese communists to defeat the U.S.-backed Chinese Nationalist forces [who were soon abandoned—Ed.] and to establish a communist government in China. China, in turn, was helping her neighbors to establish communism. The “domino theory” at that time and place was valid and in motion. European colonialism in the Pacific and Asia was gradually being replaced by communist colonialism.

Under the Roosevelt administration the United States not only was oblivious to the worldwide communist movement, but supported it. With regard to Southeast Asia specifically, as early as December 1943, at the Teheran Conference, President Franklin Roosevelt agreed with Josef Stalin that France should not get back Indochina after the war. The American president also favored the dissolution of the British empire. He had no idea of what was to replace the European colonies.



In 1956, Emperor Bao Dai, who had been put on the throne by the French, moved to France. He named the anti-communist Ngo Dinh Diem, shown above, as prime minister of South Vietnam. Diem then held an election and defeated the absent emperor to take full control of the South.

Fortunately, Roosevelt's successor, Harry Truman, had a better sense of reality and the threat of communism than his predecessor and picked up the gauntlet in Korea, inaugurating what was to be called the Cold War. By 1954 the United States was already providing 78 percent of the funding for French forces in Vietnam.²

The defeat of the French led directly to the 1954 Far Eastern Geneva Conference, which formally recognized the establishment of a communist North Vietnamese state north of the 17th parallel, with its capital at Hanoi. The French retained control of South Vietnam with its capital in Saigon. The situation that had existed in Korea, with the country split at the 38th parallel, was now replicated in Vietnam. The stage was set for a replay of Korea but with even more disastrous results. Again, without a formal declaration of war, the hostilities in Vietnam would officially be referred to in the United States as the Vietnam "conflict."

By 1954 the important decisions concerning both Korea and Vietnam were the responsibility of President Dwight D. Eisenhower's administration and especially of his secretary of state, John Foster Dulles. While Secretary Dulles advocated military, especially air, support to the French, America's leading military figures—Gen. Douglas MacArthur and Gen. Matthew Ridgway—advised against committing American ground forces to the Asian mainland.³ While aware of the extreme difficulties in conducting war operations in Southeast Asia, Eisenhower was also cognizant of the need to stop the spread of communism. In fighting communism he also did not want to put America in the position of appearing to support French colonialism. He decided therefore to provide limited aid to a free, independent South Vietnam.

Like former President Eisenhower, with whom he consulted, President John F. Kennedy was sympathetic to President Ngo Dinh Diem⁴ and South Vietnam's dilemma, but he too drew the line against massive intervention. He did, however, increase the American military adviser force level. By 1962, American military air support already exceeded what the French were able to bring to bear (e.g., by the end of 1962 the U.S. government had deployed 149 helicopters and 73 fixed-wing aircraft). As for personnel, France had only about 20,000 men fighting in all of Indochina in 1949, a level that was surpassed by the United States in 1963.⁵

Always ambiguous about his long-range plans for Vietnam, Kennedy withdrew some 1,000 U.S. military advisers from Vietnam shortly before his assassination, indicating that his inclination was to withdraw completely if the limited aid failed to turn the tide. With the American presidential election in mind, he would not in any case have withdrawn before 1965.

French influence in Indochina over the preceding hundred years was deep and lasting. Catholicism and French culture and language had been adopted and absorbed by the former ruling class to such an extent that at least 1 million Vietnamese Catholics in the North chose to emigrate to the

South after the communist victory. The new South Vietnamese government reflected more the staunch uncompromising anti-communism of the church than of the vagaries of French politics of that pre-De Gaulle era. By 1959 South Vietnam had the highest *per capita* income in Southeast Asia, while the North was suffering shortages as the peasants were being forced onto collective farms and the country communized.

Ngo Dinh Diem, a Roman Catholic who had served earlier under Emperor Bao Dai, assumed control over South Vietnam. Essentially a Vietnamese patriot, Diem had opposed French colonial rule, the Japanese occupation, as well as the communist-led Viet Minh independence movement.⁶ To the distress of our diplomats, he would oppose American imperialism as well. Moreover, Vietnam had over the centuries resisted and fought against all efforts of the Chinese to assert hegemony over the Vietnamese people.

President Diem's extended family included his brother, Ngo Dinh Nhu, who was in charge of all military and civil appointments, and his brother's fiery, outspoken wife Madame Nhu, referred to in the American media as the "dragon lady."⁷ While in reality the president's brother, Nhu, much like President Kennedy's brother, Bobby, undertook most of the backstage intelligence and counterinsurgency operations, Madame Nhu received her notoriety because, as Secretary of State Robert S. McNamara described her, she was "bright, forceful and beautiful, but also diabolical and scheming—a true sorceress."⁸

Madame Nhu's father, Tran Van Chuong, was the Vietnam Ambassador to the United States. Three other brothers of the president included the archbishop of Vietnam, the country's ambassador in London and the political boss of central Vietnam. All were fervently anti-communist and were favorably disposed to America. However, the fewer than 2 million Catholics in South Vietnam still comprised a minority in a total population of 14 million. Even though Diem himself was unmarried, his extended family ruled the country.

Although, in the opinion of the military, the war in Vietnam, with the assistance of some 16,700 American military advisers, was progressing well enough in 1961-63, elements in the U.S. State Department wanted changes for political reasons. They believed that the South Vietnamese government would have a stronger popular base and support by incorporating more Buddhists, especially since individual Buddhists were demonstrating in the streets against what they claimed was government discrimination and repression. The State Department and others also wanted Diem to dismiss both his brother, who was heartily despised by the president's enemies, as well as his brother's wife, Madame Nhu, who, in the opinion of many, spoke out too much on political matters.

Of course, Diem would not do this any more than President Kennedy would have fired his brother Robert, his closest adviser. As for Madame Nhu offending people by her political outspokenness, many Americans have been and are routinely offended by some of the opinionated notions of

Eleanor Roosevelt and Hillary Clinton.

Although Dean Rusk was secretary of state, he seems not to have exercised the power and prestige of his office to the extent he should have. Instead, other individuals—special advisers to the president (National Security Adviser McGeorge Bundy and Under Secretary George Ball) and certain State Department personalities, took the initiative. Depending on their views as to how the war was to be prosecuted, they were increasingly divided into “hawks” (e.g., the DOD and CIA) and “doves” (e.g., the State Department). While Presidents Eisenhower and Kennedy balanced the input of both sides, presidents Lyndon B. Johnson and Richard M. Nixon sided with the “hawks.”

Dissatisfaction with the way President Diem was prosecuting the war was fanned in the State Department by a cabal led by Under Secretary Averell Harriman, Roger Hilsman, assistant secretary for Far Eastern affairs, and Michael V. Forrestal, son of the first secretary of defense. These gentlemen engineered the replacement of Saigon Ambassador Frederick E. Nolting, a staunch supporter of President Diem’s government, with Henry Cabot Lodge, who of course shared the opinion of the Harriman group that Diem must go. Almost all the members of the State Department cabal advocating a coup against the Diem government were themselves typical establishment Anglophiles who must have found the idea of supporting a French-backed Catholic regime distasteful. Britain itself did little in real terms to support the Diem government.

On the other hand, however, the Israeli, Moshe Dayan, and the Britisher, Sir Robert Thompson, volunteered advice to the Americans on how to deal with the situation.⁹ Thompson, who had experience in counterinsurgency in Malaya, headed up the British Advisory Mission in South Vietnam. To this day, the British and the Israelis continue to help guide the American government in distinguishing between freedom fighters and terrorists, i.e., whom to aid and whom to bomb.

In August 1963, shortly after Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge assumed his post in Saigon, he received a “Top Secret/Operational Immediate” cable, initiated by the malcontents in the State Department, instructing him to inform key Vietnamese military leaders that the United States would not continue to support the South Vietnam government if Diem was not more compliant and did not attempt to win over the confidence of dissident Buddhists, some of whom were now immolating themselves in the streets of Saigon. For one reason or another, John F. Kennedy, Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson, McNamara, Rusk, DCI John McCone and Mc-



Pat Buchanan referred to the CIA-sponsored murder of President Diem (seen here in a car trunk with his brother Nhu) as “squalid.” As always, the U.S. government, operating under the fraudulent banner of anti-communism, did the Marxists’ dirty work by removing the genuinely popular and just Diem government from power, making certain the prosperous Republic of Vietnam was to remain unstable, and thereby hastening the hapless nation’s demise.

George Bundy all happened to be out of town when the cable was sent.

Ambassador Lodge was so sympathetic to the alleged persecution of the Buddhists that he established a “minister-counselor post for Buddhist affairs” in the American Embassy. He also granted a lengthy asylum in the U.S. Embassy to a notorious Buddhist troublemaker, Thich Tri Quang, who used the opportunity to poison American policy toward Diem.

Excerpts from the August 24 cable to Lodge read:

Diem must be given a chance to rid himself of Nhu. . . . If Diem remains obdurate and refuses, then we must face the possibility that Diem himself cannot be preserved . . . tell key military leaders that U.S. would find it impossible to continue to support GVN [the government of South Vietnam] unless above steps are taken immediately which we recognize requires removal of the Nhuses from the scene. . . . You may also tell military commanders we will give them direct support in any interim period of breakdown of the central government mechanism.¹⁰

To be certain the contents of the message received broad circulation. The Voice of America broadcast it in Vietnamese and English hours before Lodge’s first visit to Diem.

Virtually all of the CIA’s senior officers including, most especially, McCone and Far East Division Chief William Colby (later to become DCI), advised against overthrowing Diem at least until a stable and reliable successor government could be found. They warned correctly that one coup would

invariably lead to another and another without necessarily improving government efficiency. Just months after President Diem was taken out, a second coup occurred in Saigon in January 1964, in which Gen. Nguyen Khanh overthrew the junta that had murdered Diem and Nhu.

JCS Chairman Gen. Maxwell Taylor, when apprised of the cable's contents, told Marine Corps Gen. Victor Krulak that the cable reflected "the well-known compulsions of Hilsman and Forrestal to depose Diem."¹¹ He further informed MACV (United States Military Assistance Command for Vietnam) chief, Gen. Paul Harkins, that the Hilsman cable had been "prepared without DoD or JCS participation." DoD Secretary McNamara was initially opposed to the idea of a coup but eventually accepted it. Vice President Johnson sided with the military against the coup.

Thus, the fateful cable that led to the coup against the Diem government, including the murder of Diem and Nhu, had been sent without the approval of the DoD or the CIA, and apparently without Kennedy's full understanding of the possible consequences. The president certainly did not foresee the murder of Diem and Nhu. Because his government agencies and advisers were so divided on the implementa-

tion of a coup (the military and the CIA opposed it; the diplomats approved it); the president himself was uncertain as to which course to follow.

In the instance of the cable, there is no doubt but that the president was let down by all who knew of its content and possible significance but failed to explain it to him. Kennedy has been criticized rather unfairly in some quarters for his insouciant attitude toward his presidential duties. Perhaps, some believe, a more involved chief executive would have stopped the cable.

The similarities and contrasts in the personalities of Ambassador Lodge and President Diem were obvious. Each was representative of the "patrician class" in his own country. Henry Cabot Lodge was the descendent of a prominent Massachusetts family whose members had served the country with distinction in the past. His social status was best described by the popular ditty: "And here's to Boston, home of the bean and the cod, where the Cabots speak to the Lowells, and the Lowells speak only to God."

In South Vietnam this "Boston Brahmin" was sometimes referred to as the "American rajah." President Diem, for his part, was the scion of a long-entrenched mandarin family and ruled as a mandarin. His fellow nationalist, and later his political opponent, Ho Chi Minh,¹² was also a mandarin. In fact, in 1946 Ho had invited Diem to join with him against the French. Diem refused on the basis of the crimes committed against Vietnamese peasants and land owners by Ho's communist followers. Both Ho and Diem also happened to be born in the same province, Quang Binh, north of the 17th parallel. Both Ho and Mao Tse-tung had the highest regard for Diem right up to the president's assassination.

Mandarins in the Far East were respected for their integrity, learning, Confucian scholarship, politeness and justness. Diem personified those virtues in Vietnam, adding to them a stubborn incorruptibility. Annoyed at the criticism in the American media, which, wrongly and sarcastically, referred to Diem's "Roman Catholic government," Diem said: "Why does the Western press keep calling this government 'Diem's Roman Catholic government'? Kennedy is a Catholic, but nobody calls his government 'the Roman Catholic Kennedy regime'."¹³

As a matter of fact, there were only six Catholics out of 17 men in Diem's immediate cabinet. The vice president was a Buddhist. Most of the generals were Confucianists, Buddhists or Cao Dai. Of 17 generals on active duty, only three were Catholic.

Diem was by no means oblivious to the plots surrounding him. When war correspondent Marguerite Higgins Hall asked him if he thought a plot was being hatched against him, Diem replied:

I do not think Ambassador Nolting is plotting against me. I do not think the CIA is plotting against me. But I know there are American officials who are preparing the way in the event the decision is taken to try and get rid of me. I cannot foresee the future. I cannot believe that



Edward G. Lansdale and South Vietnam's President Ngo Dinh Diem. The CIA dispatched Lansdale to Saigon in 1954 after the French defeat, and he became Diem's adviser.



Edward Lansdale (with cigarette) talks with Barry Zorthian, chief of public information in Saigon. Zorthian believed Lansdale, the political action specialist, became “irrelevant” after the 1965 military buildup. “I thought Lansdale was one of these—what’s the phrase?—unrealistic, fuzzy-headed guys who were living in the past,” Zorthian said. Partly because of Zorthian and another operative, Phil Habib, Lansdale wound up “on the outside, with his nose pressed against the windowpane, looking in,” Zorthian said.

America would turn against an ally under attack, engaged in a struggle for its very existence. But some people are crazy—and the world is crazy. Still, Miss Higgins, I hope that your government will take a realistic look at these generals plotting to take my place. How much maturity or political understanding do they have—of their own country, let alone the world? I am afraid there are no George Washingtons among our military.¹⁴

In the encounter between Diem and Lodge, the mandarin emerged as an honorable Vietnamese patriot; the American ambassador as a rather pompous, narrow-minded man who fully expected the Vietnamese president to recognize his betters, kowtow and accept instructions. But he badly misjudged President Diem.

In November, two months after the cable was sent, the main conspirators on the Vietnamese side—Gen. Duong Van (“Big”) Minh, Tran Van Don, later defense minister, and Tran Thien Khiem, later to be appointed prime minister—launched the coup in the Presidential Palace. Foreseeing a possible coup, Diem and his brother managed to escape through a secret tunnel and eventually took refuge in a Catholic church. From there they telephoned the coup leaders and offered to surrender if they were granted safe exit from Vietnam. The putschists agreed, and the brothers surrendered.

It is significant that Diem and his brother surrendered to the putschists rather than seek asylum in the American Embassy. The rebellious generals were, after all, fellow Vietnamese. Diem, the Vietnamese nationalist, could never bring himself to turn himself in to outsiders, in this case the Americans, for protection. In the eyes of many Vietnamese, the generals in the coup had sullied themselves by playing the American game.

Apparently, Gen. Nguyen Ngoc Le first proposed that Diem and Nhu be murdered, although the actual killing was left to Minh’s personal bodyguard, a Capt. Nhung. The president and his brother were forced into an armored personnel carrier and shot in the back of the head; Nhu was knifed several times as well. The executioner, Nhung, was later found dangling from a rope in his own sleeping quarters.

At the time of the coup, Madame Nhu was in Washington trying to marshal support for Diem’s government. When she heard that both Diem and her husband were assassinated, she pled with the U.S. government to rescue her three children, ages 5, 11 and 15, as well as Diem’s brother, Ngo Dinh Can, who governed Central Vietnam in Hue. The American military did rescue her children, who eventually found safe haven with their mother in Italy. An American officer also picked up Can, but when his aircraft

reached Saigon, Can was instantly arrested by the Vietnamese, tried and executed.

In the summer preceding Diem's fall, evidence was obtained by the U.S. government that Nhu, Diem's brother, had made contact with Hanoi in the first step toward securing a cease-fire and the possible establishment of a confederation of North and South Vietnam, with the ultimate goal of reunification and neutralization. Gen. Charles De Gaulle is known to have favored a neutralization plan, such as already existed in Laos. The chemistry between Diem, Ho Chi Minh, and Mao Tse-tung was right for such a settlement.

As the CIA had warned, the governments that followed Diem's were even less stable and the Buddhists showed as little enthusiasm as previously. Lodge was soon replaced by Gen. Taylor as ambassador, but despite the general's many talents, he was also unable to form a stable government in Saigon. In his year-end (1964) appraisal, Taylor pessimistically informed Washington that in his opinion:

If worst comes to worst . . . we might seek to disengage from the present . . . relationship with the government of South Vietnam, withdrawing the bulk of our advisers. . . . By this means we might . . . disengage ourselves from an unreliable ally and give the government of South Vietnam the chance to walk on its own legs and be responsible for its own stumbles.¹⁵

Instead of seizing this second opportunity to withdraw with honor, President Johnson chose to escalate the bombing campaign and the Americanization of the war. Gen. Taylor relinquished his ambassadorship the following year and returned to Washington in the capacity of special adviser.

Much later in 1974, just before the ignominious defeat of South Vietnam, the same three gentlemen who had engineered the murder of Diem and Nhu again conspired to remove the last Vietnamese president, Nguyen Van Thieu, from office.

The death throes of the South Vietnamese government have been best described to the last painful convulsion by Frank Snapp, the controversial CIA strategy analysis in Vietnam.¹⁶ While President Thieu and Gen. Nguyen Cao Ky had been able to maintain governmental control by decree and weather the military and political storms since 1967, by April 1975, following the withdrawal of American ground forces and the refusal of Congress to approve further U.S. air and sea support, the situation at the front had deteriorated to the point where a communist takeover of Saigon was all but inevitable.

President Thieu resigned on April 21 and was succeeded by the quondam vice president, Tran Van Huong. Huong lasted for less than a week, transmitting presidential powers to the inveterate power broker, "Big Minh," on April 26. Upon taking office, Minh removed the official presidential seal and replaced it with his own personal coat of arms—a stylized version of the Taoist and Confucian symbol of reconciliation, the yin and yang symbol [also known as the T'ai-Chi—Ed.].

Minh, after arranging for the evacuation of his family, showed considerable courage by vowing to remain as head of government until the end. True to his word, Minh held his office until arrested by the North Vietnam Army when it finally seized Saigon.

U.S. participation in the coup was a serious diplomatic and military mistake that contributed mightily to the course and final outcome of the war. First, because we were in Vietnam, ostensibly, to help the duly constituted authorities combat communist insurgents; second, the governments that followed Diem's were even less stable than the legitimate president's; third, the mass of Buddhists continued to remain uncooperative; fourth, the military government, as McNamara admits,¹⁷ became a revolving door that spun at dizzying speed for the next 18 months, with one set of leaders after another; fifth, neighboring and other countries shied away from alliances with the United States for fear of U.S. intervention in their own affairs. Moreover, a UN investigation conducted at the time of Diem's murder concluded that the murdered president had never persecuted the Buddhists. Some of the demonstrators had been communist sympathizers, religious fanatics or drug users.

With the situation deteriorating further after the coup, President Johnson decided in early 1965 to expand and Americanize the war completely by committing U.S. combat troops and bombing North Vietnam. The alleged Gulf of Tonkin incident was used to rally popular support at home. In the State Department the "doves"—Harriman, Hilsman and Forrestal—were soon gone, and in the field in Vietnam, diplomacy was replaced by the MACV.

In the opinion of Francis X. Winters, whose excellent book concentrated on the reasons for and the personalities involved in the coup, American policy in Vietnam was greatly molded by three factors, namely, the effect Nikita Khrushchev made on Kennedy in Vienna [upon Kennedy's return from the meeting, he ordered the number of U.S. military advisers in Vietnam to be tripled], the fear of nuclear war and the desire to impose American-style democracy on an ancient oriental civilization. Not only were American values wholly alien to Vietnam, but the attempt to impose them smacked of a new imperialism.

In a frank conversation with Marguerite Higgins, arguably our most perceptive correspondent in the field at the time, Diem said rather sadly:

It would help if the people of the United States would try and understand the complexities of this country and the nature of the communist war we are fighting. You, Miss Higgins, have been in the countryside. You have seen the Montagnards, with their spears and their superstitions. The Chams. The Cao Dai. The Hoa Hao.¹⁸ . . . Tell me, Miss Higgins, what can parliamentary democracy mean to a Montagnard, when his language does not even have a term to express it?¹⁹

In the rare occasion when a liberal historian makes sense, Arthur Schlesinger, a veritable Kennedy court histori-



Above, the elaborate interior of a Cao Dai temple in Vietnam. Caodaism is a religion founded in 1919 in Tay Ninh. A mixture of many earlier religions, it now has more than 1 million followers. As with all religions today, the communist government of Vietnam fears activism by the members, and controls church activity. President Diem, too, had his problems with this and other sects—but they were not brutally suppressed.

an, addressed the question of America's right to impose her values on other nations:

... whether this country is a chosen people, uniquely righteous and wise, with a moral mission to all mankind; or whether it is one of many nations in a multifarious world, endowed with traditions and purposes, legitimate but not infallible, as other nations have legitimate and fallible traditions of their own.²⁰

The question Dr. Schlesinger poses so eloquently is even more pertinent today when America, as the world's sole superpower, deals with most nations and religions. The United States will soon have to choose between Patrick Buchanan's *A Republic, Not an Empire* or Zbigniew Brzezinski's *The Grand Chessboard*.

In this writer's opinion, either the policy of the "doves" advocating an early withdrawal, or the policy of the "hawks" for a military victory, could have been successfully implemented much earlier if the resolve to do so had been there. Indecisiveness, procrastination and failure to actually implement either solution prevented early success. Failure to pursue the De Gaulle neutralization plan and permit the Vietnamese to arrive at their own solution, whatever the ultimate outcome, would at least have permitted America to withdraw honorably. This would have satisfied the doves.

After President Johnson had decided to follow the hawks, he should have permitted the military, not civilians, to do the targeting. Instead, the U.S. government embarked on a terrible and ineffective carpet bombing and a chemical defoliation campaign. That lasted almost 10 years and served only to destroy the lives and livelihoods of countless innocent farmers and country folk. As in Germany in World War II, it served only to strengthen the resolve of the people without affecting the major sources of Nazi military power. It remained for President Richard M. Nixon to bring the communist side to the peace table by mining Haiphong, blockading Soviet supplies, bombing north of the 20th parallel and Hanoi and eliminating the communist sanctuaries, as Gen. MacArthur had advised, in southern Laos and eastern Cambodia. By our incursion into eastern Cambodia we learned that 80 percent of war materiel from North Vietnam to insurgents in the South had actually been shipped by boat to Sihanoukville and not over the Ho Chi Minh Trail,²¹ as had previously been thought. Thus, Nixon had successfully executed the hawkish solution to the surprise of both Sir Robert Thompson and our State Department.

In the chaos following the political assassination of Nixon, Congress failed to provide the air and sea support to South Vietnam forces that had been promised, thereby negating the years of effort required to withdraw U.S. forces

and bring about the Vietnamization of the war.

When Secretary McNamara says the policies of the U.S. government in Vietnam were terribly wrong, he is certainly correct in the matter of the coup against the Diem government. But, in this writer's opinion, the policies of the doves and the hawks in the Kennedy and Johnson administrations, respectively, failed because of indecisiveness, halfway measures and lack of resolve. Had Kennedy followed the De Gaulle neutralization plan, withdrawal would have been possible in 1963. Had Johnson followed Pentagon advice on targeting, and hit harder, as Nixon did, the war might have ended much sooner and with far fewer casualties.



FOOTNOTES:

¹ Robert S. McNamara. *In Retrospect: The Tragedy and Lessons of Vietnam*. Times Books, Random House, Inc., New York, 1995.

² [The French had asked for direct U.S. military support at Dien Bien Phu. The Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) were split on the issue. Army Chief of Staff Gen. Ridgway strongly opposed any direct U.S. involvement in the war, pointing out that large U.S. ground forces would be required. Adm. Radford, chairman of the JCS, pushed hard for employing U.S. air power to support the French. After determining that the British wanted no part in an Indochina war, President Eisenhower decided against armed intervention.—Ed.]

³ MacArthur argued strongly that American troops should never again be committed to ground warfare in Asia if the responsible military commander in the field was forced to fight an enemy, as in Korea, that had been granted privileged sanctuaries, in a war in which America had publicly renounced the use of nuclear weapons.

⁴ [Ngo Dinh Diem, an autocratic nationalist Catholic mandarin, had impressed some Americans. As noted in the text, Ho Chi Minh had offered him a position in his communist government, but Diem had refused, and as a result Ho had one of Diem's brothers shot to death. Later, after the partition of Vietnam, Diem was appointed premier of South Vietnam. Immediately he set out to centralize control, and ran into opposition from the French. Wishing to break away from French influence, Diem was quietly assisted by a U.S. Air Force colonel, Edward G. Lansdale, working under the CIA station chief in Saigon.—Ed.]

⁵ Many of the men in the French Legion were former SS-men or other German POWs who were given the choice of joining the legion or remaining in French detention camps.

⁶ "Viet Minh" refers to the Vietnamese army that defeated the Japanese and the French between 1941 and 1954. Viet Cong are those that supported the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam, i.e., the communist insurgents.

⁷ "Ngo" is the family name, "Dinh" is the middle name, and "Diem" or "Nhu" are the given names.

⁸ *Ibid.*, McNamara, 42.

⁹ America's special relationship with the UK and Israel has been at best a mixed blessing. From the UK we have of course benefitted from centuries of Anglo-Saxon experience in statecraft, the legacy of the mother language and culture and special access to the member-nations of the former British Empire. We have repaid the British in two world wars by helping her put down Germany, a continental competitor. In the case of Israel this writer sees no benefits whatsoever. We give her a military-industrial complex and play money and she gives us her enemies, of which there are many.

¹⁰ Francis X. Winters. *The Year of the Hare: America in Vietnam January 25, 1963-February 15, 1964*, The University of Georgia Press. Athens & London, 1997.

¹¹ The military was well represented in General Taylor who, in addition to being a war hero as commander of the 101st Airborne division in World War II, was a scholar who spoke six languages, including Japanese and Korean.

¹² ["Ho Chi Minh" was one of the 50 or so aliases used by Nguyen Sinh Cung, the communist leader of North Vietnam. He was also known as Nguyen Tat Thanh or Nguyen Ai Quoc.—Ed.]

¹³ Marguerite Higgins. *Our Vietnam Nightmare*. Harper & Row, Publishers, New York, 1965. 316 pp. Arguably the best account of the early stages of the Vietnam conflict by an independent journalist. Miss Higgins displayed more understanding and knowledge about internal Vietnamese matters than did our government experts.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, Higgins, 169.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, McNamara, 164.

¹⁶ Snapp, Frank, *Decent Interval: An Insider's Account of Saigon's Indecent End Told by the CIA's Chief Strategy Analyst in Vietnam*. Random House, New York, 1978, 394-95, 458, 461.



A soldier of the French Foreign Legion prepares to heat some rations at Dien Bien Phu. The shallow trench, lack of camouflage and profusion of equipment lying about would strike a World War I veteran as suicidal behavior.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, McNamara, 86.

¹⁸ [Hoa Hao is a Vietnamese sect of Buddhism with some 5 million followers. It was founded in 1939 by the prophet Huynh Phu So. *Dao Cao Dai* (Caoism in English) is the third-largest religion in Vietnam, after Buddhism and Roman Catholicism. "Cao" means "high" and "dai" means "palace," so together they refer to the high palace where God reigns. Caoism combines elements from many of the world's religions, including Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam and Geniism, an indigenous Vietnamese religion.—Ed.]

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, Higgins, 166.

²⁰ *Ibid.*, Winters, 225.

²¹ [Also called the Truong Son Trail, this was actually an elaborate system of mountain and jungle trails linking North Vietnam, South Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos during North Vietnam's war against the United States.—Ed.]

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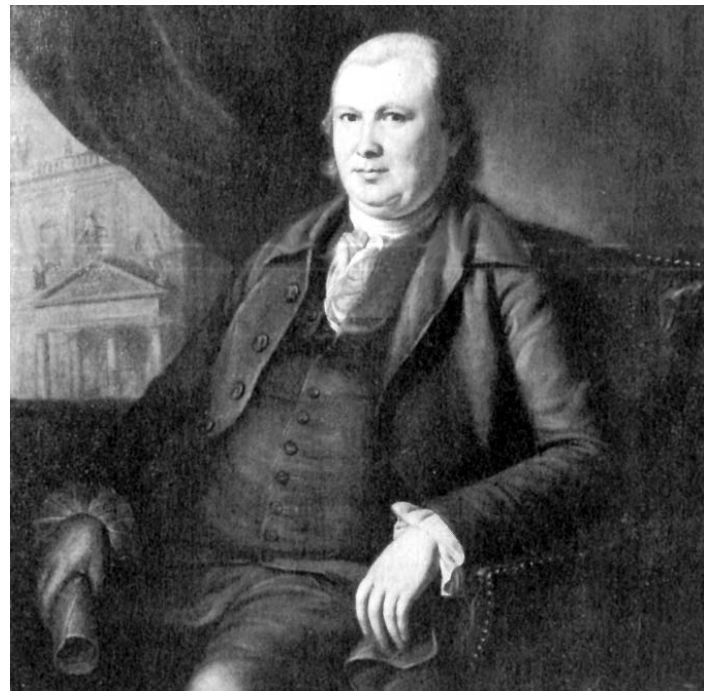
The True Story of Haym Salomon: Revolutionary Money Lender

BY JOHN TIFFANY

Although little known in most circles,¹ Haym Salomon is frequently promoted as a famous Jewish American patriot. Known in propaganda as “the financier of the American Revolution,” he is said to have been twice arrested for his activities in connection with the Sons of Liberty and was imprisoned by the British. It is claimed that he helped American and French prisoners escape and encouraged British soldiers to desert to the American forces. In 1778, about to be arrested as a spy, the New Yorker escaped to Philadelphia. But what were the real achievements of the “patriot broker of the revolution”? Have they been exaggerated?

Odd as it might seem, it was a group of Jewish citizens who investigated and exploded the Haym Salomon myth. A Jewish congressman named Emanuel Celler of New York called upon some patriotic Jews named Max Kohler and a Mr. Oppenheim. Presented here, in condensed form, is what they learnt. The Kohler Report is exceedingly difficult to find even in the best-stocked libraries, although there is a copy in the Library of Congress. Despite the report, there is a persistent and noisy effort to persuade the American people that Haym Salomon was “the financier of the revolution,” and that the services of this man to the patriot cause were unique. As a result of the propaganda on his behalf, the average American, if he has heard of Salomon, thinks he was the savior of the revolution.

Owing to the fact that most Jews in America in the colonial era were merchants and tradesmen, they were among the first in this country to feel the disastrous effects of British repressive measures. The continuation and enforcement of British laws against America would have destroyed the economic prospects of most of the Jewish people in America. For example, the British laws which required Americans to trade only with the British West Indies threatened to destroy the profitable trade which Jewish merchants had developed with the French, Spanish and Dutch West Indies. Additionally, the royal proclamation of 1763 forbidding settlement west of the Appalachian Mountains stuck a heavy blow against the prospects of Jewish traders and land speculators. Not surprisingly, then, the majority of American Jews threw in their lot with the revolutionary colonists early



George Washington relied greatly on “the [real] financier of the Revolution,” Robert Morris. Morris, from Pennsylvania, was one of the 40 or 50 delegates to the Continental Congress in Philadelphia that dealt with the July 4, 1776 Declaration of Independence. Morris later helped to ratify the Constitution and went on to participate in the First Congress under the Constitution. Throughout his public life, Morris, the wealthiest merchant in the state, with aristocratic aspirations, was charged by critics with furthering his private interests.

on in the independence movement.

The enforcement of the non-importation agreements was mostly in the hands of the Sons of Liberty, an organization formed by Samuel Adams and others in the latter part of 1765. This group was composed largely of mechanics, artisans and day laborers and served as the spearhead of the movement to free the American colonies from England. Relying on direct action rather than on petitions to a hostile Parliament, the Sons of Liberty pushed forward the revolutionary movement by prodding those members of the mercantile, landed and professional “aristocracy” who wanted to advance slowly, if at all, in the direction of freedom for Americans.

The Sons attracted the support of a number of Jews, most notable of whom was Haym Salomon. Salomon was born in Poland in 1740, of Portuguese Jewish ancestry. At the age of 30 he became an ardent advocate of Polish independence and a close friend of Count Thaddeusz Kosciuszko and Count Casimir Pulaski, who were to become supporters of the American Revolution.

Salomon was born in Lissa, Poland in 1740, and had apparently traveled considerably after leaving Poland at some unascertained date. He apparently arrived in America in 1772. Salomon was married in January 1777 in New York to Rachel Franks, daughter of Moses B. Franks of New York, who belonged to a distinguished American family, which included Jacob Franks of New York, who had been commissary to the British government during the French and Indian War and had handled hundred of thousands of dollars or pounds worth of property.

Salomon arrived in Philadelphia about August 25, 1778, practically penniless, after getting away from British soldiers in New York, who had imprisoned him on suspicion of arson. The British seized his entire fortune, which he stated to have been between 5,000 and 6,000 pounds sterling. There is no known evidence of that money ever having been refunded to him or his family. Some sources say that he “escaped,” but according to the book *War! War! War!* by “Cincinnatus,”²² he was actually released at the request of the British government. It seems they had entered into an agreement with him to use his language skills to communicate with their German (Hessian) troops. Instead, Salomon then made his way to Philadelphia.

There is a myth that Salomon loaned large sums of money to the new American government. However, a “Letter Book” containing copies of letters written by or on behalf of Salomon between July 1781 and July 1783, which had belonged to Salomon himself, shows that as late as 1782, he was able for the first time to spare money to aid his indigent parents in Poland by sending them funds, and he protested on July 10, 1783, that his means did not permit him to take care of a nephew, who his Polish relatives were sending to America to him without his authorization. He wrote: “Your ideas of my riches are too extreme. Rich I am not, but the little I have, I think it my duty to share with my poor father and mother.” These letters alone dispose of the theory that

Salomon had any considerable fortune to lend the government, even if he had wished to do so.

Had Salomon been in possession of the sums he is credited by his descendants with having lent our government, he would have been one of the richest men in America. Salomon’s financial connection with the government began only a few months before the Battle of Yorktown on October 19, 1781 ended the war, and years after Burgoyne’s surrender at Saratoga. While we were in sore financial straits in 1781, the war would nevertheless have been won by us had Salomon never lived, and the effort of Russell and others to depict Salomon as practically the savior of our country is absurd, although he was, no doubt, Morris’s chief assistant.

An able Virginia historian named Eckenrode, in reviewing the Russell book in *The New York Evening Sun* on October 31, 1930, remarks: “If Salomon had never lived, the American cause would have triumphed. It was not from a single broker, no matter how patriotic, that the means were obtained to carry the war to a successful conclusion but from France and Holland.”

With his many connections, innate financial genius and a remarkable grasp of foreign languages, acquired on his travels, Salomon was able to float about \$200,000 worth of securities for Robert Morris during 1781-82, Morris having been superintendent of finance of the fledgling U.S. government. In July 1782 Morris authorized Salomon to call himself “broker to the Office of Finance” of the United States, as Morris’s diary shows.

Oppenheim discovered, from the bank records, of which he had made photographic copies, that Salomon’s way of dealing with the government was to secure U.S. government paper to negotiate by sale thereof. He would “receipt” for the same. As he disposed of the same—quite uniformly at an enormous discount—he would draw his own checks in payment. Haym M. Salomon (Haym Salomon’s son) or the latter’s agents persuaded several committees of Congress that these checks—proceeds of the sale of government paper—somehow represented “loans” by him to the government from his own funds. This result was accomplished, evidently, by concealing the course of dealings referred to, showing that he first received government paper to sell for it, and by concealing the size of his own fortune.

The scheme was further manipulated by a device allowing Haym M. Salomon to introduce what lawyers call inferior “secondary evidence” of the alleged loans, namely, evidence that the original government notes or other proofs of indebtedness to him had been lost. He evidently opened the door to the receipt of such evidence by the unsubstantiated, improbable claim that his original vouchers and papers had been lent to President Tyler for examination and had been lost while in that custody. However, no plausible reason suggests itself as to why the president should have wanted to examine these papers.

Stronger evidence having been demanded by Congress, it was secured as follows: The claim now was chiefly based on securities Salomon had owned at the time of his death, which

Maxwell House® Coffee Honors Famous Jewish-American Patriots



HAYM SALOMON
1740-1785

Financier • Banker of the American Revolution • Patriot

One of the best known among Jewish-American patriots was Haym Salomon—the financier who helped raise money to carry on the American Revolution and later, save our emerging nation from economic collapse.

patriotic leaders who testified that without his aid they could not have carried on in the cause.

Salomon died in January, 1785, at the age of 45. His fortune had been devoured equipping military units, paying foreign agents and the salaries of government officials, and aiding

This cartoon is one of a series called "Maxwell House Coffee Honors Famous Jewish-American Patriots," and appeared in the B'nai B'rith Messenger of March 7, 1975. Captioned simply "Haym Salomon, 1740-1785, Financier / Banker of the American Revolution / Patriot," it shows Salomon being arrested by the redcoats for his activities in the Sons of Liberty.

were represented as issued in payment of "loans" he made the government. In fact, as above shown, he did not have the money to make such, or any other substantial loans. Next, these were current as "money" at the time, though largely depreciated, but some were "investments." Their possession, even *prima-facie*, does not indicate that they represented original loans to the government. Moreover, Salomon was a dealer in these very securities, and bought and sold them daily, according to his own advertisements, so in his hands there was even less reason to suppose they represented advances in such sums, which he had made the government.

But Oppenheim went further and looked up the history of the securities involved, listed in detail in the "inventory" and "account" of Haym Salomon's administrators soon after his death. Oppenheim showed that nearly all these issues antedated Salomon's arrival in Philadelphia and his connection with the government.

Oppenheim had Photostats made of the original surrogate court records of Philadelphia, which showed that the proof submitted many years after Salomon's death by his son, Haym M., was false in that the bulk of the securities which he owned at the time of his death, on which the claim

of loans to the government rested, were described in a document purporting to be officially certified in 1828 as “liquidated currency,” whereas they were “unliquidated,” according to the original records, thereby increasing nearly all the amounts involved 40-fold.

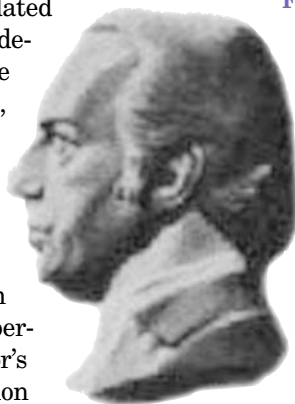
Russell glosses over this serious incident in his book (291-92). He is emphatic that “it is clear that Haym M. Salomon never suspected” these discrepancies, even though there is not a particle of evidence as to how they occurred.

Perhaps the clerk in the Philadelphia public office made a mistake, when giving this “certified copy,” and the item \$199,214.45, figuring in the congressional reports in alleged certified copies as “Continental liquidated dollars” instead of “unliquidated,” was so misdescribed. Perhaps it was made worthwhile for the clerk to falsely certify to the paper in this form, increasing the holding 40-fold, according to the prevailing law, under which “unliquidated dollars” were scaled down to one-40th of their face, in accordance with a measure of their depreciated value, making a holding of about \$5,000 figure as \$200,000 liquidated; this item constituted four-fifths of the whole estate. Or perhaps the certified transcript of the administrator’s accounts was fraudulently altered, after execution but before submission to Congress, with or without Haym M. Salomon’s knowledge. We cannot determine today who was responsible, but \$200,000 out of the alleged holdings of \$353,729.33 is thus reduced to \$5,000.

Oppenheim’s next important finding is that the Philadelphia Surrogate Court records affirmatively attest from the Haym Salomon administrator’s account that the bulk of the remaining securities was turned over by the administrators to his chief creditor, the Bank of North America, to be applied to the reduction of their claim, when sold. No doubt they turned them in to the government or otherwise disposed of them, and the government or the states, after such trans-

fer, owed the money for which they were to be redeemed to that bank, and not to the Haym Salomon estate. So much for the enormous unpaid claim, which an “ungrateful country” has never acknowledged or paid. Russell glosses over the incident, after partially concealing it, with the admission (290) that there was no basis for any “legal claim” in favor of his estate, and “because these securities were delivered to the creditors, the heirs were left penniless.”

Thus it can be seen that the claims of those who would make Haym Salomon the “financial hero of the American Revolution” are completely groundless. ❖



SALOMON

FOOTNOTES:

¹ For example, there is no entry for Salomon in *The Encyclopedia of the American Revolution*, Mark M. Boatner III, Stackpole Books, Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, 1994.

² “Cincinnatus,” *War! War! War!* Sons of Liberty, Metairie, Louisiana, 1984.

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The Jewish Tory Movement in the American Revolution . . .

Certain American Jews allied themselves with the patriots in the American Revolution, but others, especially some of the richer ones, fearing a movement that aimed to secure greater freedom for the common people, became Tories. David Franks, one of the Philadelphia merchants who had signed the original non-importation agreements, became a prominent Tory and was charged with giving secret aid to the enemy.

In July 1780, the state of Rhode Island passed an act of banishment against those who had “left this State and joined the enemies thereof.” Included in this list was Isaac Hart, wealthy Jewish merchant of Newport, who was a Tory. In 1776, when New York fell into British hands, 15 Jews joined with others in signing a “loyal address” to Sir William Howe and his brother, Lord Howe. Abraham Wagg, one of the 15, served in the British militia and in 1778 engaged in propaganda for the king by urging the Americans to end their alliance with France and agree to a negotiated peace with England.

SOURCE: *Jews in American History, 1654-1865*, Philip S. Foner, International Publishers, New York, 1945.

Holy & Imperial Russia

Lies & Myths of the Anglo-American Establishment

BY M. RAPHAEL JOHNSON, PH.D.

Students of history have been taught many falsehoods—and outright lies—about the history of Russia, and czarist Russia in particular, in the past 50 years. Here TBR’s associate editor attempts to bring history into accord with the facts in regard to this subject. These remarks were originally prepared for THE BARNES REVIEW’S SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON AUTHENTIC HISTORY AND THE FIRST AMENDMENT, June 15-17, 2001, Washington, D.C.

There is little question that Russia’s political future is of paramount importance to the United States in general, but also the Christian nationalist movement in America in particular. As American capitalism and mass-produced “lifestyle liberalism” become more and more unpopular, arrogant and violent throughout the globe, new, anti-Western coalitions are beginning to form. Russia is becoming the nucleus of such a welcome reaction. Rhetoric about “democracy” and “free markets” masks a violent, global and oligarchic ruling class that seeks the imposition of a single political and economic order throughout the world, which has no other purpose than to ensure global rule of capitalism and its legitimizing ideology, liberalism.

The present state of Russian poverty is the direct result of the pro-Western Russian ruling class, trained and financed by George Soros, the State Department and the corrupt dons of Harvard University. Supported by Western politicians, loans and capitalist moguls, the criminal liquidation of state assets and endless foreign welfare have done little but line the pockets of the ruling class, creating an elite of Westernized rulers and a mass of scared, sullen and hopeless citizens. The Russian ruling class—known collectively as the “oligarchs”—is supported by, and serves the interests of, Western government and economic elites.

In a recent *Washington Post* column, Robert MacFarlane, president of Energy and Communications Solutions LLC, has this to say about Russia’s immense natural resource potential:

[W]e could encourage the participation of U.S. oil and gas developers in the exploration and production of Russian oil and gas—a win-win proposition as



Above is a photograph of Nicholas II, dressed in 17-century style garb for a masked ball in St. Petersburg, taken in 1903. Nicholas II was canonized by the Russian Church in Exile in 1981.

Russia benefits from U.S. investment and state-of-the-art technology to accelerate the development of its fields, and we gain a measure of control over the pace and terms of developing Russia's resources.

What MacFarlane means here is that Russia's massive reserves of oil and gas are such as to present a threat to the West and her chronic dependence on foreign forms of energy. Therefore, American capitalism, with the assistance of the American foreign policy establishment and its obedient hacks in academia, need to dominate it so as to "control" Russia's use of it. Unsurprisingly, MacFarlane's company works closely with gas companies in Central Asia, Turkey and the Balkans.

This naked manipulation of Russia with the (often explicit) aim of making her an obedient, de-culturalized and de-Christianized part of the radical-elite's Global Plantation forms a major pillar of the American politico-economic plan for the globe. In order to combat it, a firm and unprejudiced understanding of her history is warranted.

This address will be broken into three parts: (1) the status of Russia in the last days of the empire; (2) the nature of the revolution; and (3) the peasantry and the state.

What Americans (including those in the ivory tower) have received as "Russian history" is largely warmed-over Soviet propaganda. Most of what has been written on Imperial Russia in English is, to be frank, useless. Part of this is undoubtedly deliberate, but part of it simply derives from the fact that Anglo-American historians, brought up in an oligarchic liberal society and a leftist academic environment, have little knowledge of Orthodoxy, monarchy, traditional virtues or community life. Agrarianism has as little meaning for them as it has for those writing on Confederate history in the United States. For the Anglo-American establishment, all societies are more or less "progressive" or "regressive" to the extent they display the moral underpinnings they half-consciously assume should be universal: "democratic" government and capitalist economics, coupled with increasing urbanization and centralized bureaucratization. That nations would choose or could choose alternate paths is inconceivable to them. Therefore, an agrarian society is, by definition "backward" and "rooted in superstition." Monarchy is always "despotism" and officially Christian states are "oppressive of free thought." That Imperial Russia exhibited these traits is largely an article of faith among the feckless and endlessly prosaic "experts" in Russian history writing in English. The reigning Modernization theory of political and economic development has distorted the writing of Russian history to the point where it may well become the next major topic in Revisionist history.

Far from being "backward," however, Imperial Russia, by the start of World War I, was the envy of the world. She had the lowest taxes in all Europe. Direct taxation *per capita* amounted to 3.1 rubles per year, versus 13 currency units for Germany, 10 for Austria, 12 in France and 27 in progres-

sive, democratic and capitalist Britain. Indirect taxation was also the lowest in Europe, amounting to 6 rubles *per capita* for Russia, but 10 for Germany, 11 for Austria, 16 for France and 14 for Britain.¹

Primary education was open to all classes and was free of charge. At the turn of the century, there were 10,000 primary schools opening in the empire per year. By 1913, over 500 million rubles per year were being invested in education, comparatively more *per capita* than any other nation in Europe. University study in Russia was the least expensive anywhere in Europe or America: \$75 per year—much less than in England and America. To relieve overpopulation, Czar Nicholas II eliminated all taxes and provided farm implements to those peasants who would move into less populated and more recently absorbed regions of the empire. By 1917, the peasantry controlled the overwhelming majority of farmland—more than three times what was controlled by the nobility. Such a record was matchless in Europe at the time.

Under the "reactionary" regime of Alexander III (father of Nicholas II), the State Peasant Bank was chartered which transferred almost all of the remainder of the land to the peasantry. This bank, which provided cheap credit to the farming class, became the largest credit union on earth, entirely dedicated to the purpose of the peasantry buying land for themselves. After a few years, Russian peasants owned 80 percent of the land. Later, beginning in 1905, the "People's Banks of Mutual Credit" were opened, and even provided free lectures to peasants in using the system.

In terms of agricultural production, this program of land redistribution was immensely successful. By 1913, 12 percent of the Russian harvest was exported. She accounted for 67 percent of the world's production of rye, 31 percent of wheat, 30 percent of oats and almost half the globe's production of barley. Given that the peasants controlled the land, they benefitted the most, and their income markedly increased during this period. Russia's fishing industry was the largest in the world, as was her sugar industry. Fully processed iron production increased over 100 percent from 1898 to 1913. Production of copper increased almost 150 percent at the same time. The output of gold increased 300 percent; manganese, 100 percent; and coal 900 percent in this same period. The Russian trade surplus by 1913 was 365 million rubles, up from a mere 163 million in 1903. The national debt amounted to 59 rubles per person in 1910. Industrial growth, additionally, was growing at a rate of 8 percent a year, higher even than the growth rate in the United States.

All of this was done under the "incompetent" reign of the "naive" and "weak" Nicholas II and the "tyrannical" Alexander III, and with a Russian population that was, according to nearly all the mainstream work on Russian history to date, "backward," "illiterate," "lazy," "stupid" and "superstitious." There is little question that, in spite of English-language histories of Russia, Imperial Russia, during this time, was likely the best run state in Europe—one without the "benefit" of republican politics or capitalist economics. What



Nicholas II addresses troops about to leave for the front in the Russo-Japanese War. This photograph was taken at Peterhof in 1905.

is even more telling is that Russia was just beginning her economic expansion into world markets. There can be no question that the refusal of the Romanovs to set up a central bank under the rule of the global financial elite marked them for extinction. Imperial Russia was the only major European power who refused to set up a central bank, though the Bolsheviks willingly obliged.

On the cultural and political level, the contemporary literature on Russian history tells us that Imperial Russia imposed a reign of terror on the population in censorship and police surveillance. They need to answer how the massive, and often very liberal, literary production in 19th-century Russia is compatible with this. This was the age of Chekhov, Turgenev, Gorky, Balmont and Gumilev. Why was Tolstoy not arrested? Or why was it that Lenin's newspaper *Pravda* was freely published and distributed in St. Petersburg under Nicholas II and his "tyranny"? Not only *Pravda*, but 12 daily newspapers were published by agents of the St. Petersburg Soviet. Rather, scholars like Yale's George Vernadsky (1954) simply claim: "Nicholas II's domestic policy consisted in continuing by inertia the policy of his father. The internal policy of Alexander III had been first of all to strengthen government control in all directions where free public opinion might be expected to manifest itself" (232). Scholars like Dukes, Carmichael and Risanovsky simply nod their heads. Simultaneously, Reginald E. Zelnik writes: "Without doubt,

the reign of Nicholas II witnessed extraordinary artistic creativity, so much so that cultural historians routinely use such terms as 'silver age,' 'second golden age,' and cultural renaissance' " (226, in Freeze). Of course, these two sentiments are mutually exclusive.

The overwhelming majority of the funds for the revolutionary groups in czarist Russia came from, as always, the elite, both in and out of the country. Revolutions, in spite of elite political scientists, are always from the top down. What is amazing is how mainstream history refuses to deal with these questions. For the 1905 uprising, the majority of the funds from the Social Democratic Party came from famed author Maxim Gorky, his mistress, the actress Adreyeva, and millionaire industrialist (and Old Believer) Savva Morozov. (Morozov listed the communists as the beneficiaries of his will; he committed suicide, conveniently, in 1905.) Outside of the major American and British banking families that financed the revolution of 1917, another important source of funding came from a Ukrainian sugar tycoon named Terechenko. Unfortunately, the German government, at war with Russia in 1914, also gave Lenin's movement 70 million marks. Generals Hoffman and Ludendorff admitted as much when the latter wrote: "Germany dispatched Lenin to Russia. . . . [T]his step was justified from the military point of view, as it was imperative that Russia should fall."² Lenin also admitted German assistance, claiming to the Central

Committee under Sverdlov: "I am frequently accused of having won our revolution with the aid of German money. I have never denied the fact, nor do I do so now. I will add, though, that with Russian money we shall stage a similar revolution in Germany."³ What one must understand about the revolutionary movement was that it was incredibly small, made up of alienated intellectuals entirely from an urban setting. They in no way represented the overwhelming majority of the Russian population, which was agrarian and deeply Orthodox. This fact is masked by the outrageously disproportionate share of scholarly attention these Marxist grouplets have received over the years.

Furthermore, as the revolution broke out, the radical railway workers kept food and fresh troops from the capital. The police force was small, and the "troops" were not troops at all, but middle aged peasants called up to fill in for soldiers at the front. They had no training and were angry that they were called away from home as most of them were the only breadwinners for their families. Thus, the entire revolutionary movement had to be fought with a handful of policemen carrying revolvers. The number of law enforcement is controversial. De Goulevitch claims there were 3,500 members of the St. Petersburg police force. However, Kochan and Keep (1997) claim that there were only 5,000 full-time policemen in the entire empire, which would make Russia one very poor example of a police state.

No European nation has been born in more difficult times and in more difficult circumstances than Muscovite Russia. This fact explains the development of her specific political institutions as well as the development of Russia's own "peculiar institution," serfdom. Serfdom, as opposed to slavery, is one of the major issues that Anglo-American writers use most commonly to attack the development and mission of Imperial Russia as a whole.

Several factors must be understood. The early history of Imperial Russia, or the development of the Muscovite state under the czars Ivan I Kalita through Alexi, shows Moscow surrounded by enemies. Sweden, Poland, the Teutonic Knights, the Livonian Knights, the Catholic Church, Lithuania, the Turks, Tartars, Khazars and lesser barbarian tribes continually harassed and warred with the infant state. Of course, from the 12th century to the reign of Basil III, Russia had been invaded and entirely overrun by the Mongols, who razed most of the country and stole her best and brightest artisans, intellectuals and workers. Her best men were taken to Mongolia to serve the khan. The surplus from her agriculture was skimmed off for tribute to the Great Khan himself. During the Mongol invasions, Sweden invaded the country from the northwest, hoping to take advantage of her newfound vulnerability. Novogorod (officially the republic of St. Sophia, a member of the Hanseatic League), under St. Alexander Nevesky, fought a war, then, to the west as the rest of the East Slavs fought it to the east. Continuing warfare with Poland/Lithuania, which after the treaty of

Lublin became one state to combine their forces against the Russian monarchs, further sapped Russia's resources and manpower. During the time of troubles in the early 17th century, after the death of Ivan IV left no competent heir, the Poles invaded the country and set up a Polish dictatorship in Moscow advised largely by Jesuits who surrounded the Polish crown.

The severe vulnerability of the Russian state defined, to a great extent, much of her political development. Poor land and a very short growing season (only about four months) meant that, during harvest time, severe discipline was necessary among the agricultural class to avert a famine. The manpower shortage due to Moscow's wars during the course of her early development, as well as the need for a stable source of taxation, were two main forces acting in favor of serfdom's development. Thus, constant warfare with major European powers, occupation from the east from Mongolia, the raids of barbarian tribes from the south, manpower shortages, the desperate need for revenue, a short growing season, poor climate and poor land conspired to ensure that the future Russian state, growing out of the Grand Duchy of Moscow, was to be rigid, centralized and autocratic; the Russian state would not have survived any other way. The Russian czardom was based on discipline and service, with the peasants serving the lord, and the lords serving the state. This mutual and reciprocal service made the system legitimate and workable, which is why the release of the nobles from compulsory service by Peter III and Catherine the Great in the mid 18th-century was such a tragedy for Russian society.

Peasant uprisings had a tendency to occur after natural famines, and for the most part, concerned Cossacks and others living on the borderlands of the empire. In nearly every recorded uprising, peasants declared full loyalty to the czar and Orthodoxy but condemned the bosses or landlords (fully understandable), and it is true that the interests of the two rarely meshed. The Pugachov revolt under the reign of Catherine received its impetus when Pugachov himself claimed to be Peter III. Only then did the revolt have legitimacy, which the reign of Catherine did not (taking the succession strictly). During this famous revolt, when Cossacks and alienated peasants would ransack the landlords' possessions, they were heard to exclaim: "Our Holy Father [the czar] commands us to!" It was the czars that enforced land redistribution over the heads of the reluctant (to say the least) noble class. The only reason he could carry out such a program was that he was an autocrat. In America, slavery was not abolished until after a massive civil war; in Russia, serfdom was ended by an autocratic stroke of a pen.

A particularly amusing episode in pseudo-aristocratic "radicalism" previous to the Revolution was the "to the people" movement of the late 19th century. Spoiled and alienated "radicals" decided they would take their "message" of "liberation" to the peasants themselves (reminding us of the so-called "freedom rides" in the 1960s and 1950s in the United States). Dressing in what they thought was peasant clothing,



Alexi and Nicholas break ice in front of the palace at Tsarskoe Selo in March 1917.

these urban pedestrians would begin to lecture the “poor, stupid *muzhik*” on how oppressed he was, how idiotic was his Orthodox tradition and how horrid his country was. The most common response (outside of bewilderment): The peasants would turn them over to the police. By 1883, the radicals had abandoned any hope of “converting” the peasants (which explains Lenin’s liquidation of millions of this class) and begun to concentrate on the “urban proletariat” (which was minuscule). Unfortunately for the world, 1893 and 1894 were bad harvest years. One of the worst famines in recent Russian history occurred in 1891 and 1892. Without these events, there would have been no unrest. The rebellion had nothing to do with monarchy or even government policy, but bad harvests and bad foreign policy decisions.

There can be no question that Russia has been de-

famed by the writing of history. The record of pseudo-historical defamation goes back at least to the turn of the 20th century, and likely goes back to the reign of Nicholas I and the war with Great Britain. Political pressure makes for bad history, as Nicholas Risanovsky writes in his acclaimed *History of Russia*, without ever applying it to himself. The “self-interest” of the Russian royals is always implicitly compared with the “scientific” and “objective” disinterestedness of professional “scholars.” In modern historiography, political and social pressure to conform to the liberal and radical standard is so intense that it is often imperceptible, and, given that these writers are the product of a highly politicized educational system, they are more than likely unaware that they operate under an artificial and synthetic system of rewards and punishments that do not sanction opinions outside of the

mainstream. Liberals and modernists cannot study Russia because she was explicitly not liberal and was quite anti-modernist in her political and religious views. They can never view her with anything but contempt. So what is the worth of Anglo-American writing on Russia? Little. It is little more than subconscious reaction to institutions and views that almost literally do not exist within the milieu of modern academia.

What is more important is that historiography on this topic does not exist in a vacuum. This nonsensical and distorted view of Russia's history put forth by the establishment also is placed into policy. Russia must be "forced to be free" not only because she experienced a revolution, but also because she is Russia and is uncooperative with the West. Her past is one of darkness and superstition, and thus the United States, the IMF and the European Union must all be marshaled to ensure that Russia "takes her place" within the "family of nations" and the "international community."



FOOTNOTES:

¹ Cf. de Goulevitch for an account of statistical sources.

² Quoted in de Goulevitch, 225.

³ A. Spiridivitch's *History of Bolshevism in Russia*, translated and cited by de Goulevitch, 226.

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The Empress Alexandra was a war nurse. Here she poses with recovering soldiers at Tsarskoe Selo in 1914 or 1915.

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The U.S. Supreme Court's Role in the Death of the Constitution

BY RICHARD C. BENTINCK, M.D.

FIRST OF TWO INSTALLMENTS

The Constitution of the United States of America is a dead document—a beautiful idea that has faded into the dark recesses of history—but few realize by whom this terrible transformation was wrought and how, why and when it began.

It is ironic that the tool designed to preserve our Constitution was forged into the sword that was used to murder it. The Constitution hides a bloodied weapon. This terrible weapon is the Supreme Court of the United States (TBR March/April 2001). The creators of this republic were passionate in their desire that their creation would keep freedom inviolate forever. They almost succeeded. Most were honorable men devoted to their ideals who, perhaps, could not see the treachery that watched their every move. In order to guard against destructive actions in the legislative and executive arms of government, Article III of the Constitution created the judicial branch, at whose apex sits the Supreme Court. It was to be the watchdog to ensure that the other branches of government did not violate the Constitution.

In their idealism, the framers imputed honor to all who might follow in high office. Though Article III was built well and sound, it left a chink through which devious error might creep and hide. It failed because it is manifestly impossible to have expressly enumerated the judgment that must be rendered upon every conceivable question the court might be asked. The gap was filled with sophistry practiced by men made dishonorable by an elite with an age-old agenda.

With impunity, the Constitution could be twisted to mean whatever the agenda of the hidden elite demanded. If all other means failed to attain the desired outcome, the justices could always fall back upon an expedient interpretation of what could be imputed to what the framers might have meant to imply had they said it. And the boobs fell all over themselves in praising such paranormal erudition.

The justices winked at each other as they bowed to the east. Sophistic interpretation became the rule and clairvoyance the tool of last resort. The doctrine of “implied powers” of the federal government was established. This has allowed the Constitution to be interpreted in almost any way that is con-

venient and expedient to the ruling imperium. This clever stratagem unsheathed the sword of age-old hatred and turned it against the body politic. How did this all come about?

It came about through what appears to have been the corruption of a man. In 1803, while the republic was yet young, the chief justice of the Supreme Court, John Marshall, wrote the opinion that, if he had upheld its genius, would have protected this nation in the manner the framers intended when they wrote the Constitution.

His opinion in the case of *Marbury vs. Madison* established that it is the function of the Supreme Court, not to determine whether or not a “law” passed by Congress is “constitutional,” but whether it is a law at all. This is a fine but profound—and enormously important—distinction.

This means that the function of the Supreme Court, when asked to consider an act of Congress, is to determine whether or not Congress had the right under the Constitution to take legislative action upon that matter at all! If the court found that Congress had no constitutional right to act upon such matter, then the congressional act was never law in the first place. The legislative act was null and void. The matter was not in the jurisdiction of Congress but, under the Constitution, was reserved to the states and to the people.

This decision effectively delineated the legislative from the judicial branches of government. Of profound import, had it been honored, it effectively would have kept the people and the states more aware of their rights under the 10th Amendment and severely limited the power usurped by the Supreme Court to “interpret” the Constitution. This means that it would have prevented the Supreme Court from being subverted into the *de facto* legislative body that it is today. Also it would have prohibited Congress from fiddling with a “law” in order to adjust it to an “interpretation” of the Constitution. Such a “law,” having never been law because

Congress had invaded a province in which it had no constitutional right, could not be subject to interpretation.

This was a brilliant decision which limited the invasion of government into the rights of the states and the people as the framers of the Constitution obviously intended. Honored, it would have prevented “legislation through interpretation” by the Supreme Court. Unfortunately this fine distinction has been lost, completely submerged in the cesspool of corruption the government has become.

As now taught, it is the common perception that the function of the Supreme Court is to determine whether or not a “law” is unconstitutional—or even, how much of it might pass the test if the Constitution is tweaked just a little. This perception has allowed untold mischief and even outright criminality.

Justice John Marshall is still hailed as “the greatest chief justice.” Not noted for his legal skills, he did not have a formal degree in law. His only formal education was attendance at some lectures on law for a few months. Nevertheless, he was granted a law degree in 1788. Either formal qualifications were viewed loosely then or, as an obedient Federalist believing in a strong central government, he may have been given a mission. He was elected to Congress as a Federalist in 1799, served as secretary of state from 1808 to 1810 when he was appointed chief justice of the Supreme Court by President John Adams shortly before the expiration of his presidency. Today’s histories laud his tenure with paeans such as:

- “He molded the Constitution by the breadth and wisdom of his interpretation.”
- “He saw in the Constitution the instrument of federal power.”
- “He eminently deserves the appellation ‘the great chief justice’ in his opinions.”

It was Marshall’s literary skill that was applauded rather than his legal work. He was a master of “doublespeak.”

Firmly entrenched in 1883 as the supreme arbiter of last resort for all disputes, the Supreme Court performed its function to preserve the freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution without serious flaw. But then, things began to change.

The struggle between the Federalists and the states and the citizenry heated up. The Federalists backed by moneyed interests sought by any means necessary to further their imperial aspirations by increasing the centralized power of the federal government. They were opposed by the large majority of the citizenry and their champions who remembered the dangers of an imperial government and wished to keep the freedoms so recently and painfully won. Behind the scenes lurked the banking interests.

The Constitution does not give Congress the power to incorporate a national bank under the centralized control of the federal government. While Congress is given the exclusive right to coin money, banking and the establishment of banks is left to the states. This effectively dilutes the control

that an all-powerful banking elite might exert upon the nation, its economy and the private citizen. Nevertheless, in 1791, under the urging of Alexander Hamilton, a Federalist and elitist, Congress had created by charter a corporation called the “Bank of the United States.” Under the exclusive control of the central government, it served as fiscal agent and repository of federal funds garnered by taxes. Its charter ran out in 1811 and was not renewed. It was not renewed because of mismanagement, corruption, and its arrogance in refusing to deal with state banks, particularly in the West. It was held responsible for the Panic of 1795.

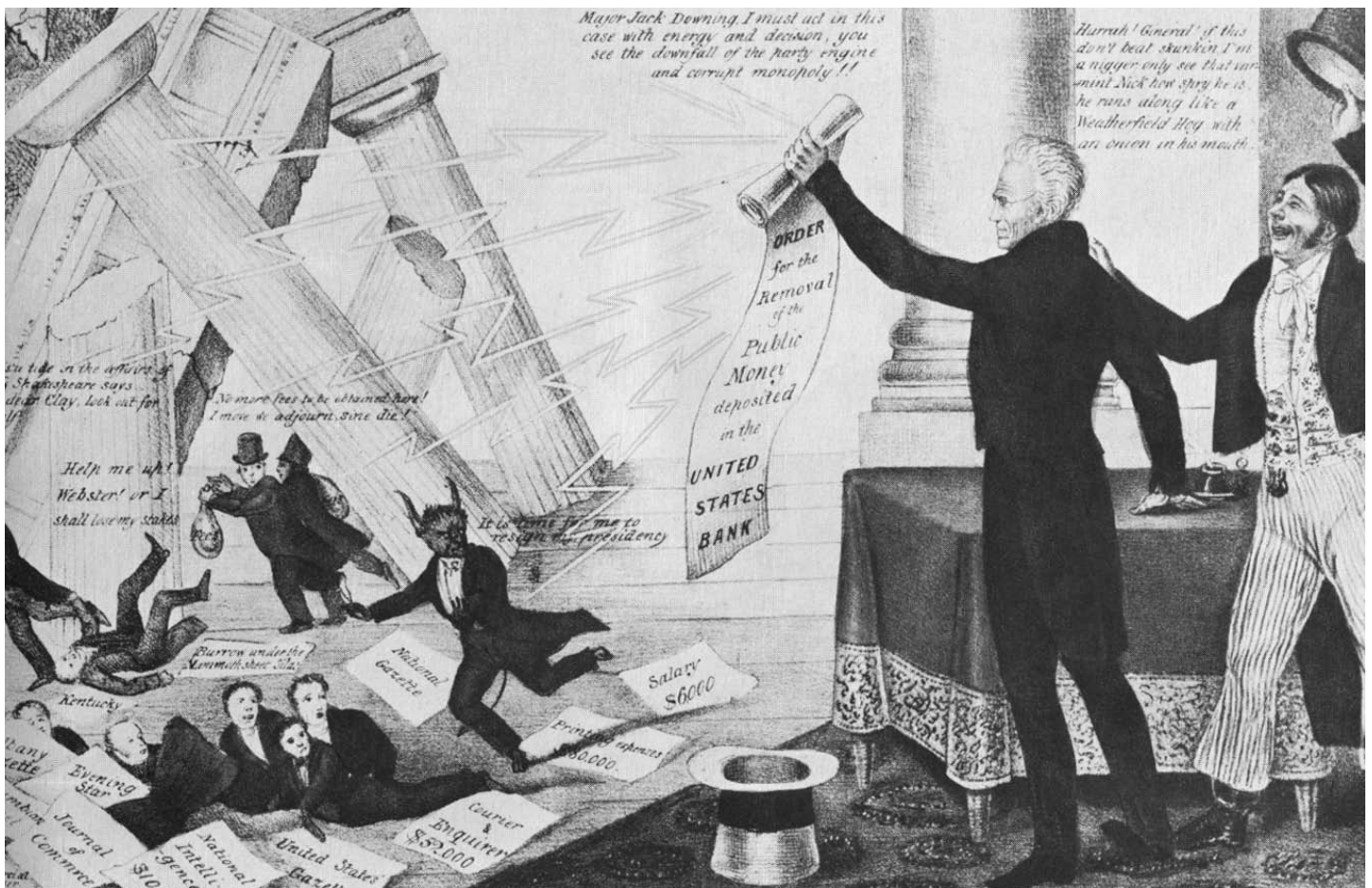
Later, problems had arisen in the financing of the War of 1812. These were blamed on the absence of a national bank under “government” control and resulted, over strenuous objections, in congressional renewal in 1816 of the bank’s charter for 20 years.

Objections continued from public and influential sources such as Daniel Webster, Henry Clay and Presidents-to-be Martin Van Buren and Andrew Jackson. Henry Clay succeeded in having a bill passed to require the bank to be re-chartered in 1832 instead of 1836 largely because of the same sort of shenanigans that had marked its first charter. Over bitter opposition from the powerful banking interests, Andrew Jackson was elected president in 1832 and promptly vetoed the bill to re-charter the national bank. But that is getting ahead of the story.

The most significant constitutional objection to the charter of a national bank was that it was considered a usurpation of states rights by the federal government. The state of Maryland pursued that avenue of attack. In 1818 the Maryland legislature passed a law designed to rid the state of the federal parasite. All banks and branches thereof that had not been chartered by the state legislature were to be taxed. The only such bank in Maryland was the branch of the Bank of the United States in Baltimore.

Mr. McCulloch, the cashier of the Baltimore branch of the federal bank refused to pay the tax, was sued in the state court and lost. The federal government appealed to the United States Supreme Court and the Maryland decision was unanimously reversed. In writing this decision, Chief Justice John Marshall is hailed to this day as the “greatest chief justice” that ever was. Perhaps this may have something to do with whose ox was gored and whose luxuriated in green pastures.

Justice Marshall’s decision established in 1819 the means by which the Constitution has been subverted, circumvented and, bit by bit, destroyed. It paved the way for the federal government to intrude into states’ rights and ultimately the lives of all of us. It established the concept of “implied powers.” These are powers said by the court to have been given the government which could be found if one researched the subjective realm of what the framers really meant to have said but just did not feel it was necessary to write down. This delving into the peripheral thoughts of the dead is a quest into the supernatural.



This 1833, pro-Andrew Jackson lithograph by Edward W. Clay is entitled “The Downfall of Mother Bank.” In 1832 Andrew Jackson vetoed the bill for the renewal of the United States Bank charter and ordered the removal of government funds from that institution. Sharing the West’s prejudice against the “moneyed monster,” he charged the monopolistic bank with being unconstitutional. As Jackson holds up his “Order for the Removal,” politicians and editors who received generous loans from the bank search for a refuge in the crumbling columns of the financial temples. Maj. Jack Downing, a fictitious character, approves Jackson’s decision and yells out in the vernacular: “Hurrah Ginerall! If this don’t beat skunkin I’m a nigger, only see that varmint Nick [Nicholas Biddle, president of the U.S. Bank] how sly he is, he runs along like a Weatherfield Hog with an onion in his mouth.”

The Constitution of the United States is a piece of remarkably clear and concise writing. The opinion of Justice Marshall stands in stark contrast. The 10th Amendment in the Bill of Rights says what it means to say in only 28 words: “The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people.”

As his weapon against the Constitution, Justice Marshall perverted the meaning of Article 1, Section 8 which delineates the powers of Congress and hence of the federal government. Paragraph 18 of Section 8 was his primary focus: “To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers nested by this constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.” He concentrated his talent for deceptive analysis on three little words: “necessary and proper.” It took him 25 printed pages of complex semantic obfuscation to create the semblance of a refutation of the meanings so clear in the 39

words of Paragraph 18 of Section 8 and the 28 words of the 10th Amendment in the Bill of Rights. Much of his rambling is untranslatable without intense study and even then, the meaning of some of his verbiage is either incomprehensible or at variance with another part of his composition. But it convinced the other justices to agree (the Supreme Court consisted of only seven justices at that time). In the defense of their unanimity stands the virtual incomprehensibility of the missive but it may be significant that they also were political appointees. How did Marshall perform this miracle that set the course of government toward tyranny and earned for himself the historical reputation of the “greatest chief justice”?

First he cites precedent. Congress had incorporated the First National Bank of the United States in 1791. That its charter failed renewal in 1811 because of corruption he fails to recall. He did cite, however, what he called “national embarrassments” during the War of 1812 with Great Britain which, he conveniently claims, could have been avoided had there been a national bank. From this claim, even if it were partially true, he concludes what is a remarkable *non sequitur*: the

creation of a government bank “is not a usurpation of power.”

He then opens a theme to which he returns in various forms throughout his opinion. It is the relativity of the three sovereignties recognized by the Constitution: citizen, state and federal government. In a morass of circumlocution and sophistry, he attempts to write the sovereignty of the state out of the equation. Recognizing that the people are the ultimate sovereign who, he claims, have delegated authority to the government to act back upon them directly without any interposition of the state, he counts the states out of the equation entirely. State sovereignties, he seems to claim, become irrelevant to the question.

But the 10th Amendment, as we have said, is clear. It says: “The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it (the Constitution) to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people.”

The pyramid of power as viewed by the monarchy which the revolution had so recently overthrown, has been reversed. Power is no longer concentrated in the hands of a single despot but radiates downward from the many. The pyramid has been turned upside-down and rests on its point. The people are superior. They stand elevated as the ultimate authority. This is what makes them free. The people have delegated certain powers to the states which lie about midway down the inverted pyramid. The horizontal area at this midsection of the pyramid is less than the base above it but greater than the area at the tip. Thus while the people retain most of the power, the states, by virtue of the 10th Amendment, retain more powers than the federal government. What this says in a simple and direct manner is that, if there should arise a question to which element of government the power of sovereignty may belong, the question will always be resolved in favor of the states and, if any question still remains, to the people. The powers of the states are not delegated from the central government. State powers descend directly from the people. To the states and to the people remain all the un-stated, non-specifically delegated powers that were not specifically prohibited to them and that were not given the government. Only a few powers necessary and proper to the relationships between the sovereign states and each other and between the union and the outside world are granted to the federal government.

To claim that because the people are sovereign and delegated certain powers to the federal government thereby gives the government the right to arrogate to itself powers that, under the 10th Amendment, rightfully belong to the states, is sophistry at its most arrogant.

Freedom of the individual is the overriding concept that the Constitution attempted to guarantee forever. No control was delegated anywhere over an act that could be performed by the individual so long as it did not interfere with similar rights of another individual. In turn, nothing that could be accomplished under state control was shifted to the government. Power lies with the citizen to be exercised by him on the state and federal governments to empower them only

insofar as such delegation of his power is necessary to retain to him his freedom. Justice Marshall set out to confuse and change this basic concept. And he did.

He points out that the enumerated powers delegated to the government do not detail all the minutiae necessary to execute those powers. If they had been so detailed, he says, “It would probably never be understood by the public” due to its prolixity. Therefore, the empowerment of these minor ingredients affecting the enumerated powers must be deduced from the powers themselves in the content of the Constitution and, since these ingredients are not excluded, it must be considered that their connection to the granted power is “implied.” And, he goes on, since the powers given the government are so great, this must mean that the government is to be trusted with a wide latitude in the selection of the “means” to carry out those powers. It could not have been meant to impede or obstruct those powers.

Having established this base of quasi-logic, he takes another step. Since such trust and great powers have been given the government, it must have meant to give it the “implied power” to choose what it “perceives” as the most “appropriate means.” In other words, if more than a single means is available to effect a specified power granted to the government by the Constitution, it has the right to choose the means it likes best, without further qualification, even though the means to that particular end may already exist under state control.

These “minor ingredients,” as he notes later, include such items as powering the post offices established by Paragraph 7, Section 8 of Article 1, to actually deliver mail, which is not specifically noted in Paragraph 7. These, however, such as the right to pay mail carriers, feed soldiers, allow the courts to punish etc are administrative acts inherent to the entity created. These are two different things—like apples and oranges. They are not equivalent.

An “entity” is a being. Animate or inanimate, it is a thing that has an existence of its own. It is not merely an appendage of another body. Neither arm, nor leg, it is the whole body. It is a free-standing sovereignty.

But, having established the illogic that allowing the government to execute the normal administrative acts pertinent to the entity it was empowered to create thereby establishes the doctrine of “implied powers,” he goes on: “It is not denied that the powers given to the government imply the ordinary means of execution.” Then he takes a further step into dissimulation. While everyone knows, it is the creation of a government bank that is in question, he insists that it is the power to create merely a corporation that is fundamental to the power sought and he attempts to equate the establishment of a corporation to the “ordinary means of execution.”

The establishment of a corporation was simply the means to an end. If the end was a delegated power of the government, the means was meant to be left to the selection of Congress. All law making is a sovereign power, he claims, in contradiction to his 1883 decision and the 10th Amendment.

Congress is empowered to make law but, he avoids saying, only upon those matters that are not reserved to the states or to the people. The creation of a corporation by Congress is an act of sovereignty, he states. Therefore, to prevent Congress from forming a corporation because that would be an act of sovereignty would be ridiculous and “there would be some difficulty in sustaining the authority of Congress to pass other laws.”

“The power of creating a corporation, though appertaining to sovereignty, is not, like the power of making war, or levying taxes, or of regulating commerce, a great substantive and independent power, which cannot be implied as incidental to other powers, or used as a means of executing them.” It is merely a means, not an end, he says.

The fallacy of this argument becomes obvious if one looks at what a corporation is. It also becomes obvious why it could be so important to certain nested interests to assure that Congress forevermore would have the right to create a corporation. This power even superseded the power to create a national bank. A government bank is a single, one-time entity. There can be many corporations serving many functions. Unlike the ordinary means of execution of government powers referred to above which are administrative acts, a corporation is an independent entity.

A corporation is “a body formed and authorized by law to act as a single person and legally endowed with whatever rights and duties are described by its founders in its charter, including the right of succession.” In short, it is an artificial being that may be endowed, according to the wishes of its founders, with any and all rights and privileges that may belong to an individual citizen. It is a sovereign entity. It differs from you only in that it is immortal.

The power to create a corporation is not delegated to the government by the Constitution. The act itself of creating a corporation is an act of sovereignty which, in turn, creates another sovereignty, the corporation. The corporation then is used to create a national bank—or whatever which then also acquires a sovereignty. The process is odious.

An exercise of sovereignty to create a means of executing a delegated sovereign power which creates another sovereign entity is hateful to the Constitution and cannot be allowed because the Constitution specifically limits the sovereignties of the government. Obviously, to allow admission of a sovereignty not delegated, whether by subterfuge or not, cannot be constitutional.

Chief Justice Marshall must have perceived paragraph 18, the final admonition of the list of the “powers of Congress,” Section 8 of Article I as a major hurdle to his purpose. He denotes a mass of circuitous, obfuscatory verbiage to an effort to alter its meaning. Paragraph 18 states: “To make all laws necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers.” The key phrase is “necessary and proper.”

He ridicules the idea that the word, “necessary,” controls the sentence and is restrictive of the government’s right

of choosing the means of executing the enumerated powers. Black’s law dictionary defines “necessary” and “indispensable” as synonymous.

What is necessary to the performance of an act is that without which the act cannot be performed. Either an act can be performed or it cannot. There are no intermediate degrees of completion possible between doing it and not doing it. There are no intermediate degrees of pregnancy—one either is or is not.

Marshall disagrees. He notes that the word “necessary,” often is used in a literary sense with modifiers such as “absolutely.” It may mean “convenient, useful or essential in ordinary usage,” he says. “Necessary,” in the sense of the relation of a means to an end, is usually understood, he believes, as any means that will produce the end. It is subject to degrees.

“To employ the means necessary to an end, is generally understood as employing any means calculated to produce the end, and not as being confined to those single means, without which the end would be entirely unattainable.”

This is a remarkable sentence. Think about it. What does it say? It seems to say, for example, that if there is more than one way to get from A to B, any way of getting to B is permissible as long as it accomplishes the transit. But then he qualifies this in the instance that there is only a single means to accomplish the transit. In this instance, one’s choice is not limited to the only way of getting from A to B. One has the liberty to choose (and perhaps he had Congress in mind) another means that would fail to accomplish the end. The sentence is meaningless, but it sounds profound. If it was meant to confuse by its seeming erudition, perhaps it served a deliberate purpose.

“To have declared that the best means shall not be used, but those alone without which the power given would be nugatory, would have been to deprive the legislature of the capacity to avail itself of experience, to exercise its reason, and to accommodate its legislation to circumstances.” Profound! Let us try to interpret this sentence into a comprehensible form. To paraphrase, it seems to say: “To say, ‘You cannot use the best means. You can use only the means which do not require your experience, reason or ability to accommodate to circumstances. But, this would make your right to choose the best means inconsequential.’”

This statement assumes that his expanded definition of the word “necessary” is acceptable and that Congress therefore has the right to choose whatever means to an end it happens to favor. This says, in effect, that the end justifies the means. It caps his mis-definition of the word, “necessary.” It is a difficult, circular and sneaky sentence. It is totally dishonest. It is hard to believe that it was not meant to deceive.

If requiring Congress to stick to a means that is consistent with the definition of the word, “necessary,” even if this meant there were only a single means available, would confer a greater than trifling power on the government, then it does not follow that a greater power could deprive the gov-

ernment from using its experience, reason and adaptability—another *non sequitur*.

He calls the restriction of the government to a single means which confers greater power instead of allowing it to select whatever means it felt were best as “so pernicious in its operation that we shall be compelled to discard it.”

He then digresses into a superficially erudite discussion of oaths of office and all the functions that government can carry out without an oath of office. As a not clearly related additive, he states that fidelity to the Constitution is the only oath that can be required. But, he continues, anyone who said that Congress might not add to this oath “—would be charged with insanity.” The point of this seems to be that Congress may increase the stringencies on itself at its discretion. However, this does not justify his attempt, just concluded, to broaden the definition of the word “necessary” and, in effect, abolish the stringency of the phrase creating thereby an open door to whatever federal legislative action may be “convenient” or “appropriate” to the end sought.

Another digression involves the power specifically designated to the government to “establish post offices and post roads.” As an example of an “implied right,” he contrasts the right of Congress to actually transport mail or to punish theft from the Post Office with the expressly delegated power to punish piracy on the high seas or the counterfeiting of money. But, these are not analogous.

“Piracy on the high seas” occurs outside the jurisdiction of any single state and counterfeiting may also occur outside of the United States. This is the realm of the federal government. Because of this, it is imperative that the federal government, acting in its delegated function of protecting the rights of the states and the citizenry, have this power specifically delegated.

In contrast, the punishment of mail theft is a logical extension of an administrative function of the post office. It is no different from setting the qualifications, salaries and routes of mail carriers or the provision of stamps. These are administrative acts. The right to establish a corporation, which is a sovereign entity, is not the same as the “implied” right to punish mail theft. To be equivalent, the right to punish mail theft would imply the right to establish a prison system, a sovereign entity.

In the same vein, he attempts to establish the “implied right” of the United States courts to punish as a sovereignty in itself because “—the power of punishment appertains to sovereignty, and may be exercised whenever the sovereign has a right to act, as incidental to his constitutional powers.”

Having settled to his satisfaction that dictionaries, including *Black’s Law Dictionary*, incorrectly restrict the definition of “necessary” to “that which is required to achieve a

purpose indispensable” instead of his definition, “convenient,” or merely, “useful,” he proceeds to attempt re-definition of the next word of the phrase, “proper.” Again his method seems to be the creation of confusion by application of spurious erudition and sophistry. Referring back to “necessary,” he ridicules the idea that if the word, “necessary” was meant to mean “indispensable,” instead of a broad range of degrees of convenience to an end, the clearly limiting word, “proper,” would not have been used.

He says, “if the word “necessary” was used in that strict and rigorous sense—it would be an extraordinary departure from the usual course of the human mind—to add a word, the only possible effect of which is to qualify that strict and rigorous meaning—(but)—to present—the idea of some choice of means—not straitened and compressed.”

“In their idealism, the framers imputed honor to all who might follow in high office. Though Article III was built well and sound, it left a chink through which devious error might creep and hide.”

Here he is using a very subtle misdirection. He is portraying the word “proper” as if it were a “qualifier” or modifier of the word, “necessary.” If the word, “necessary,” were capable of qualification in the sense he suggests (which it is not) and if the word, “proper,” modified the word, “necessary,” (which it does not), he could be correct (which he is not).

The word “necessary” does not mean “convenient.” What is necessary to an end cannot be converted into something without which the end can still be attained. More important, the word “proper” does not qualify or modify the word “necessary.” Both words, as denoted by the conjunction, “and,” and the syntax, refer to “all laws” (the means) that must be both necessary and proper to the end sought. Even if there were available a single means necessary to the end, and if that means did not meet the requirement of being “proper,” then the end itself becomes unconstitutional.

But the availability of only a single means to an end would rarely be true even in the abstract. It manifestly is not true in the instance under question. There are, as Marshall repetitively states, but often seems to forget, a choice of at least two means to carry out the fiscal operations of government: 1) the already-existing state banks or, 2) the obviously unnecessary, thereby, creation of a national bank with state branches under exclusive government control.

He digresses then into a sort of lyrical fantasy which fails to convince. It includes, for reasons not clear, consideration of holding “a lighted taper to the sun” as an index of the incongruity of claiming that Congress was not given by the Constitution the choice of means. “That it might employ those which, in its judgment, would most advantageously effect the object to be accomplished. That any means adapted to the end, any means which tended directly to the execu-

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tion of the constitutional powers of the government, were in themselves constitutional.”

In support of this interpretation, he lists first: “The clause is placed among the powers of Congress, not among the limitations.”

However, as the clause necessarily and properly states, it is placed at the end of the listing of the powers of Congress because it refers to “the foregoing powers.” Second, he claims that, “Its terms purport to enlarge, not to diminish the powers nested in the government. It purports to be an additional power, not a restriction on those already granted. No reason has been, or can be assigned for thus concealing an intention to narrow the discretion of the national legislature under words which purport to enlarge it.”

This remarkable statement is a wonderful example of George Orwell’s “doublespeak” in his novel *1984*. It assumes, presumes and repeats a clearly unwarranted deviation from syntax as if repetition alone can transform the true from the false and validate the lie. The word, “necessary,” does not imply the subjective choice of what is convenient to an end nor can the word, “proper,” be conceived to have any purpose other than to place limits on whatever means are determined to be “necessary.” No semantic contortions can transform it into the reverse of what it means.

He continues the same flight. He points out that ratification of the Constitution by the states would have been endangered by its strength rather than its weakness. The states were jealous of their sovereign freedoms and would have balked at a federal government they viewed as overpowering. This certainly is true.

Thus, in order to avoid the appearance of strength and if the framers had meant this phrase to limit the powers of Congress, they would have placed it somewhere else and used terms such as “In carrying into execution the foregoing powers —no laws shall be passed but, such as are necessary and proper.” This construction he views as restrictive and the other wide open. ❖

EDITOR’S NOTE: The conclusion of this article will appear in the May/June 2002 issue of *THE BARNES REVIEW*.

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It Was All Predicted: The Anti-Federalists Poke Some Holes in the Constitution



Excerpt from a letter of “Brutus” (most likely Robert Yates, New York judge and Convention delegate), dated October 18, 1787, and appearing in The New York Journal.

How far the clause in the 8th section of the 1st article may operate to do away with the idea of confederated states, and to effect an entire consolidation of the whole into one general government, it is impossible to say. The powers given by this article are very general and comprehensive, and it may receive a construction to justify the passing of almost any law. A power to make all laws, which shall be *necessary and proper*, for carrying into execution, all powers vested in the Constitution of the United States, or any department or officer thereof, is a power very comprehensive and definite (indefinite?), and may, for ought I know, be exercised in such a manner as entirely to abolish the state legislature. Suppose the legislature of a state should pass a law to raise money to support their government and to pay the state debt, may the Congress repeal this law, because it may prevent the collection of a tax which they may think proper and necessary to lay, to provide for the general welfare of the United States? For all laws made, in pursuance of this Constitution, are the supreme law of the land, and the judges in every state shall be bound thereby, any thing in the Constitution or laws of the different states to the contrary notwithstanding. —By such a law, the government of a particular state might be overturned at one stroke, and thereby be deprived of every means of its support.

PROFILES IN HISTORY

One of America's most infamous fringe political figures was gunned down in 1967; but it wasn't until 32 years later that the life of George

Lincoln Rockwell, founder of the American Nazi Party, was memorialized in two full-length biographies issued by the "mainstream" press, both published in 1999.

Although George Lincoln Rockwell's own published books, *This Time the World* and *White Power* (among numerous other materials prepared by this prolific writer, speaker and graphic artist) contain much biographical material and insights into Rockwell's thinking—and the forces and events that led him to his involvement in public political posturing and electioneering—the two new books (however biased against Rockwell) are important contributions to the lore of American political biography and long overdue.

American Führer, by Frederick J. Simonelli (published by the University of Illinois Press) and *Hate*, by William H. Schmalz (published by Brasseys)—both subtitled "George Lincoln Rockwell and the American Nazi Party"—are each substantial volumes, and although both cover the same topic, each book contains enough different material to make them complementary to each other.

The Schmalz book is considerably longer (388 pages) than the 206-page work by Simonelli and is more detailed in examining Rockwell's personal life. Each of the volumes considers Rockwell's often stormy relationships with other figures in the American "right" in general and in the so-called "neo-nazi" movement and provides interesting insights into Rockwell's personality as well as those of his compatriots. In addition, each book examines the reaction of the American media, the law enforcement community, and the organized Jewish establishment, in dealing with Rockwell's efforts to expand his influence.

Both those who supported Rockwell and those who opposed him will find a lot of fascinating reading in these volumes, both of which relied on a wide variety of previously-published material relating to Rockwell, as well as upon long-classified FBI documents on Rockwell (some 12,000 pages worth) and on personal interviews with Rockwell's friends and foes alike.

While the American Nazi Party established by Rockwell never achieved any electoral success of any kind, both writers delineate Rockwell's lasting influence on the American racist and nationalist movements. Indeed, many prominent figures in those movements today first became active under Rockwell's tutelage.

For years there were rumors that Rockwell was nothing more than a "plant," secreting working for (or otherwise funded by) the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) or even the FBI. There are many Rockwell associates and others who, to this day, contend that Rockwell was a conscious agent of these forces. The authors tackle these rumors head on, but (perhaps not surprisingly) neither dares to suggest that Rockwell was anything other than a home-grown "American nazi" driven by his own philosophy and desire for political influence.

However, if any firm documentary evidence of Rockwell having been an agent of the FBI or ADL, for example, ever did exist, it is highly unlikely that it would remain in existence today. It is almost certain that both the FBI and the ADL would have been careful to avoid placing any of this evidence in writing, keeping the information close to the vest.

What is interesting is that although Schmalz did interview one of Rockwell's closest confidants and one of his early mentors, the late DeWest Hooker—prior to Hooker's death at age 81 on September 22, 1999—Schmalz, quite notably, said nothing about Hooker's own long-

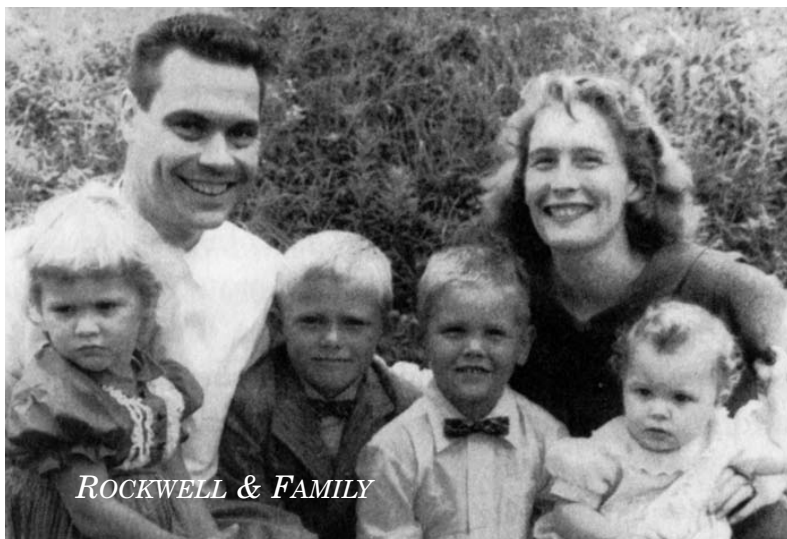
GEORGE ROCKWELL: AMERICA'S HOME-GROWN NAZI

time candid and very public contention that, in fact, Rockwell did receive funding from the ADL. Those who knew Hooker are certain that Hooker would have been the first to tell Schmalz of his own knowledge

of Rockwell's covert ties to the Anti-Defamation League.

Over many years following Rockwell's death, Hooker insisted that in the late 1950s that he (Hooker) had first been offered a "deal" by the ADL which offered Hooker publicity and funding if he would trumpet a new "nazi" movement in America, featuring the inflammatory swastika of the German National Socialist movement.

Hooker said he refused the offer and that his friend Rockwell took the ADL up on the deal. According to Hooker, Rockwell saw the secret alliance with the ADL as a temporary measure necessary to getting his American Nazi Party off the ground and that, in the end, Rockwell was confident that he could break with the ADL when his movement took hold in the American political arena.



What is particularly interesting is that, according to Hooker, the ADL was insistent that the swastika be utilized by the new movement. Until that time, no American "racist" or "nationalist" movement had dared to revive the swastika in the years following World War II and, according to Hooker, the ADL felt that revival of the swastika as part of a new "nazi" political party would be beneficial to its own fund-raising efforts in "fighting the American nazis."

Hooker considered Rockwell his closest friend and, in return, Rockwell honored Hooker in the dedication of his book, *This Time the World*, as the one "who first taught me to know the cunning and evil ways of the enemy." So it is highly unlikely that Hooker would have had any secret motive for creating such a story about Rockwell and the nazis out of the whole cloth. And for the record, Simonelli notes that Rockwell himself said that it was Hooker who actually inspired Rockwell to "come out" as a full-fledged "nazi"—swastika and all—after tiring of what Rockwell perceived to be the lame and unproductive stance of the typical American conservative or nationalist.

Rockwell was only 49 when he was shot in Arlington, Virginia on August 25, 1967—a crime for which his young associate, John Patler, was convicted. However, both authors point out, there continues to be doubt as to whether Patler was acting as a "lone assassin" and whether he was even the trigger man. ❖

GALVESTON

THE SECOND FRONT FOR ZIONIST IMMIGRATION

BY FRANK JACKSON

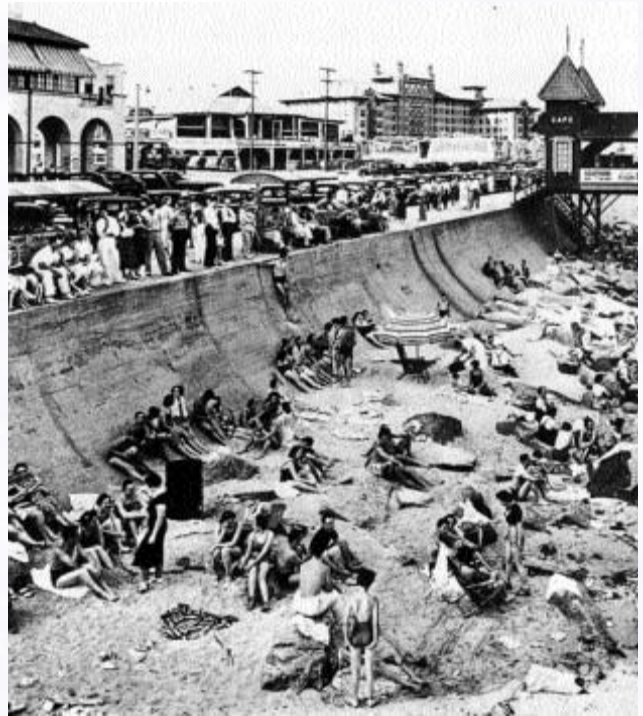
In downtown Galveston, Texas, visitors can step back in time by strolling down the “Strand,” once known as the Wall Street of the Southwest, climbing aboard the Elissa, a 19th-century square-rigger, or exploring the majestic old homes thereabouts. Few history buffs, however, are aware of the important role the city played in the immigration of Jews. True, New York City was the port of entry for most Jews. Other East Coast ports, such as Boston, Baltimore and Philadelphia, admitted their shares. But a surprisingly large number of Jews coming into America came through Galveston. And this was not by sheer happenstance.

By 1880, there were approximately 250,000 German Jews in the United States. In America, German Jews who had arrived in previous generations helped pave the way for their co-religionists from Eastern Europe. But they felt that creating New World ghettos such as New York’s Lower East Side—that surpassed their Old World counterparts in overcrowding and misery—was not the way to go. Indeed, the Lower East Side situation had inspired movements to restrict immigration. To the rest of the country, New York City was rapidly becoming synonymous with American Jewry, but Wall Street kingpin Jacob Schiff felt there was no reason why his fellow Jews could not fan out across America as other immigrant groups had.

That was the philosophy behind the Galveston movement. It was a well-oiled machine from the word “go,” but without the financial backing of Schiff, who earmarked \$500,000 (of which \$235,000 was eventually spent) for the project, it would have gone nowhere.

Schiff’s “experiment in immigration deflection,” as one scholar dubbed it, was the latest in his charitable efforts on behalf of Jews. In 1891, he joined with the Guggenheims, Morgenthau and Lewisons to create the Educational Alliance on the Lower East Side. In 1901, he was a founder of the Industrial Removal Society, which was designed to recruit immigrants away from New York.

Perhaps Schiff was particularly attuned to the needs of immigrants, as he had been one himself. Born in Frank-



Seen here in a photograph from the 1930s is the sea wall along Galveston’s beach. It was built to protect the city from storm surges caused by hurricanes. The Galveston hurricane of September 8, 1900, was America’s deadliest natural disaster, killing over 6,000 of the city’s 30,000 residents.

furt, Schiff did not come to America until 1865, when he was 17 years old. His timing was impeccable, as he was on the scene just in time to benefit from America's post-Civil War westward expansion. At the age of 28, he went to work for the investment bank of Kuhn, Loeb & Co.; 10 years later he was the CEO. Schiff became well known as the leading investment banker for the railroad industry. But what did Schiff find so attractive about Galveston?

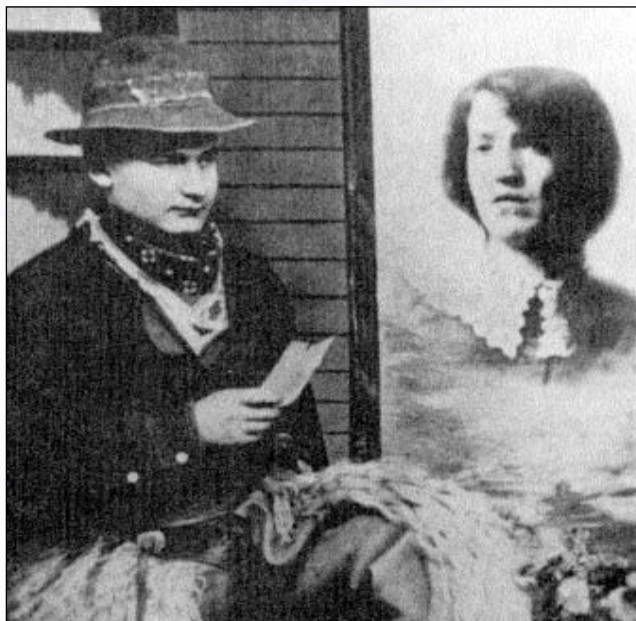
Since its inception during the days of the Republic of Texas, the port of Galveston had become home to a number of German Jews prominent in business, finance and politics. Leading families included the Kempners, the Heidenheimers, the Blums, the Dyers and the Levys. Jewish mayors included Michael Seeligson, Felix Halff and I.H. Kempner. But this was not why Galveston was chosen—although a local rabbi, Henry Cohen, was a key figure in the project. Charleston and New Orleans had been considered and found wanting. Besides, the idea was to bring Jews through a port where they could fan out across America's heartland. Galveston's location and rail connections—Schiff's business relationships with the Missouri Pacific, Southern Pacific and the Texas & Pacific Railroads were vital—seemed in “sync” with the project's objective.

Schiff employed the Jewish Territorial Organization in Europe to interview prospective immigrants to ensure that they were healthy and had skills that would be useful in the New World. Those who qualified were given a boat ticket good for passage on the Lloyd-German steamship line from the German port of Bremen to Galveston. On January 28, 1907, the Jewish Immigrants Information Bureau was established in Galveston under the administration of Morris Waldman.

The first arrivals came over on the *S.S. Cassel*, which sailed from Bremen on June 6, 1907. After stopping in Baltimore to let off some passengers, it proceeded to Galveston, where it docked on July 1, 1907. Eighty-seven Jews (66 men, six women and 15 children), who had been pre-matched with destinations where their occupations were in short supply, were immediately dispatched to cities in Missouri, Minnesota, Iowa, Colorado, Nebraska, Illinois, Wisconsin, Oklahoma and Texas. Kansas City, Missouri, was a particularly popular host city, as it was the home of Jacob Billikopf, head of the Federation of Jewish Charities.

Over the next seven years, some 10,000 Jews disembarked in Galveston and spread out across America's heartland. Many were shipped out to their destinations the same day they arrived in port. Few stayed more than a day or two. Of the Jews who arrived in Galveston from 1907 to 1914, only 300 remained there.

Jacob Schiff's dream of an American diaspora for Jews did not succeed, for a number of reasons—one of which was timing. A severe recession began the same year the Galveston movement was initiated. The advent of World War I in Europe finished it off. Galveston's particularly strict medical



Dressed as a cowboy is Ephraim Zalman (Charles) Hoffman, an immigrant who settled in Fort Worth after arriving at Galveston in 1913. In what might be called a gag photo, he poses for a snapshot to send to the woman he was engaged to in Poland, telling her, in effect, that her image is on his mind as he looks at her picture. Ironically, two years after his arrival, he married another woman.

examiner, who gave Galveston immigrants the highest rate of rejection of any American port of entry, was also a stumbling block.

As a result, the Galveston project had little effect on Jewish demographics in America. The total number of immigrant Jews who relocated to American soil in the late 19th and early 20th century was approximately 564,000. Even in the movement's peak years, the number of Jews who arrived via Galveston never exceeded 4 percent of total Jewish immigration. By 1930, the percent of America's Jews who lived in the northeast had risen to 68 percent—up from 57 percent in 1900.

Yet even today, in middle America, where Jews are scarce, many of the few who are there can trace their beginnings to the Galveston movement and can sometimes be found at the Texas Seaport Museum in Galveston, researching their family trees via a computerized registry. In a sense, Jewish influence in Galveston has been prominent since the early 1800s. Jean Lafitte, who established the first settlement on Galveston Island in 1817, claimed he was descended from Spanish Jews fleeing the Inquisition. ❖

Frank Jackson is a charter subscriber to TBR and occasionally does some writing on historical subjects for this and other “contrarian” magazines.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BIG OIL PLUTOCRATS

Like everyone else in America, I am still reeling from the so-called “terrorist” attacks on September 11, 2001 and their horrible aftermath, including the insane war our government, dominated by Big Oil plutocrats, has launched against the entire Islamic world, especially the starving Afghan people. Actually I do not think it was terrorism so much as a surgical strike orchestrated by some faction or other that is not normally classified as a terrorist group. Were the foreigners involved essentially cat’s-paws? Certainly domestic forces were also involved.

Instead of going after foreigners (especially ones who had little or nothing to do with the affair), perhaps we need to take a closer look at our own Machiavellian leaders. Particularly outrageous is our government’s failure to defend even its own military nerve center, the Pentagon, to say nothing of the World Trade Center. Why is the media saying nothing about this disgrace? At least in the days of Pearl Harbor, they realized something was amiss enough that they had to come up with some scapegoats. This time around, the American people are so dumbed down that the regime is not even bothering to find any scapegoats. Sadly, these flag-waving lemmings, or “sheeple,” are giving patriotism a bad name.

NATALIE VAN FLANDERN
BOSTON

THINKING, NOT PLANES, SCRAMBLED

The U.S. military should stop bombing innocent civilians—especially those poor starving peasants in Afghanistan. It’s very simple. Andrews Air Force base, 10 miles from the Pentagon, had combat-ready fighter squadrons on September 11. Why didn’t jets scramble from Andrews until after the Pentagon was hit? On Sunday, September 16, 2001, Vice President Richard Cheney lied on NBC TV’s *Meet the Press*, when he made the claim that the military needed authorization from President George W. Bush before scrambling fighter jets to intercept American Airlines Flight 77.

Jets are routinely scrambled to intercept commercial aircraft. Therefore, for the 9/11 conspiracy to succeed, someone had to give the order to not scramble jets. Let every TBR reader contact his congressman and demand an investigation. Whoever gave those orders, find out who ordered them to do so. Then we will have a traitor of the worst sort. They were clearly in cahoots with the hijackers themselves. Quite likely they are members of the same cabal that was also guilty of the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center towers. Personally I do not think Osama bin Laden or even Saddam Hussein had anything to do with it—more likely the Illuminati, the CIA and/or the Mossad.

The top conspirator in the U.S. government may be President Bush, or it may be someone lower down, with Bush merely acting as their moronic puppet. Although I voted for Bush as the lesser of two evils, I certainly support impeaching him if he turns out to be a traitor. But let us identify the real enemy—not Osama bin Laden—and bring him (or them) to justice. Impeach the traitor. And give them

a fair trial. Don’t let them be “Jack Ruby’d,” as Bush is trying to do to bin Laden (against whom no convincing evidence whatsoever has yet been shown to the public). Perhaps then we will find out who put them up to it.

MARTA WOLVERTON
CLEVELAND

TBR A HOMESCHOOL COMPANION

I just want to thank you for the scholarly articles that appear in TBR. It is so much fun to use your articles for a portion of history and geography lessons in our home school programs. This way, a large variety of opinion can tickle the imaginations of children and allow them to think for themselves.

In your “Who got here before Columbus” issue, you have really hit the jackpot. I appreciate your details and the reference material that is quoted. On page 70, you make reference to “Danish explorer Thor Heyerdahl.” He was Norwegian, really.

By all means, continue to explore the fascinating history of mankind, wherever it may lead.

HAROLD H. SCHARNHORST
MOYIE SPRINGS, IDAHO

[TBR strongly supports home schooling as a means to circumvent the left-wing lock on education of young people. Readers involved in home schooling are invited to give us a call. We’ll be happy to talk with you and discuss what we can do to help one another.—Ed.]

CRUSHING THE OPPOSITION

FDR’s persecution may have been even broader than we are presently aware of. At a used bookstore, I stumbled across an out-of-print book by George T. Eggleston, a former editor of the old *Life* magazine, in which he describes the persecution he and some of his staff suffered. He (and many others) is not listed among the defendants at the sedition trials. His book was entitled *Roosevelt, Churchill and the World War II Opposition: A Revisionist Autobiography*. It is a great read and exposes some World War II deceptions most of us are not aware of, even us Revisionists.

MAURY HIBBERT
ATHENS, GEORGIA

POWER INVERSION

The Paris Treaty of 1783 settled the Revolutionary War. What is generally not mentioned is that there were 13 treaties, instead of just one. Each of the 13 former Colonies was a separate and sovereign country. They were not “states” in the sense of a political subdivision of a larger government. There was no wording in the U.S. Constitution requiring them to give up their sovereignty. The United States was a loosely coupled union of American countries. The federal government was established to serve a few common needs of the American states, and it was to be the servant of those states. When Lewis and Clark made their expedition they called the United States “the 17 nations.” When Robert E. Lee had to choose between commanding the Union forces or the

Confederate forces, he said that he could not draw his sword against his country—Virginia. The Civil War changed our outlook and language so that instead of saying “the United States are,” we came to say “the United States is.” All the fears of the Anti-Federalists were realized with the Civil War.

This is not the country that was established by the Constitution in 1789; it is merely the hollow image of that country. This is an important story, and it needs to be written. We do not have the government that most Americans think we have. It was clever of the Northern “liberals” (federalists) to maintain the facade of constitutional organization. Few have recognized the power inversion.

NEILL LANDSVERK
DETROIT

GREAT KNOWLEDGE HIDDEN IN MYTH

The only instructive thing about astrology is the fact that it preserves, in degenerate form and overlaid by superstition, ancient people’s knowledge of the sky, including (some believe) the precession of the equinoxes. The Sun’s location in the zodiac at spring equinox drifts by approximately one constellation per 2,300 years. That the ancients could already have been aware of such a long cycle before the invention of writing is apparently hard for some archeologists to swallow, but for anyone who can stand to slog through it, *Hamlet’s Mill* by Giorgio de Santillana (a professor of the history of science at MIT, I believe) and Hertha von Dechend (same field, but a university in Frankfurt, Germany, I believe) makes a persuasive case that they indeed were.

Along the same lines, look at William Sullivan’s *The Secret of the Incas: Myth, Astronomy and the War Against Time*. He discovered that Santillana’s and von Dechend’s work on Old World myths also holds true for Incan myths, that is, that accurate, detailed astronomical information is encoded in the myths. Information that in some cases allows a precise dating of the events in the myth, dating that matches and reinforces dating of those events arrived at by archeology and other means.

PHILLIP WISTRICH
CHICAGO

THE GENIUS OF ZIONISM

In my journey thorough life, I have lived under relative freedom, but also I have survived under ruthless tyranny. I have witnessed and experienced the evil illusions provided by false prophets and totalitarian hucksters. In my final years, with pure frustration, I sadly foresee no defeat of the insidious Zionist wealth, power and influence which has already destroyed the honor and nobility of my people and nation. The majority *goyim* population have been effectively divided socially and politically. The increase of orchestrated violence and tyranny, within and without, is inevitable. Kosovo is a precedent.

The pure genius of Zionist manipulation is the illusion that Jews are on both sides of every issue; consequently, no conspiracy. Of course the illusion is promoted by the Zionist-controlled major mass media. Whereas, in reality, all major TV networks promote identical ideology, and no critical examination

(CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE)

MORE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE)

of Zionist wealth and power is permitted, except by Jewish “investigators” and Zionist agents.

Beyond reasonable doubt, our constitutional foundation has been diabolically circumvented and the solemn-noble oath of office is meaningless. My elected gentile leaders have become fools, cowards and traitors. Fear of Jewish power is absolute. To my death, I cry out for all to intelligently and publicly examine the genius of Zionist wealth and power which controls my beloved country.

F.J. “DINTY” MOORE
CARSON CITY, NEVADA

WAS THAT REALLY LORD HAW-HAW?

As a young RAF pilot officer, hoping to get into the American Eagle Squadron in 1942, I remember hearing “Lord Haw-Haw” a few times. All he ever talked about was how we poor suckers were missing the good old U.S.A., the swing music and our lovely young ladies. Then he mentioned the names of several Americans in the RAF, with their ranks and squadron numbers. As a propagandized country boy of 21, I was impressed, but not at all frightened.

Thanks to your article in the November/December 2001 issue, I now know that I didn’t hear the “Lord” at all. Could that have been a broadcast from somewhere in England, designed to make us hate Adolf? If I had heard anything like the quoted messages of William Joyce, I might have understood. Even then it made no sense to me for my country to be fighting another Christian country, instead of fighting communism.

MASON L. ARMSTRONG
ADDRESS WITHHELD

MIND BOGGLING

The September/October 2001 issue of TBR is absolutely mind boggling—a wealth of information.

Just when I thought that I knew it all, this last issue tells me even more. Very valuable!

On another note, Elsass-Lothringen was German since historical times. In 1683, a mighty Turkish army threatened all of Europe and was heading for Vienna. All German troops hurried to the defense of the accident. Instead of sending troops, France decided to stab Germany in the back. There were no German troops for the defense of the Rhine provinces. The French looted and burned Heidelberg and vast areas, unopposed. Elsass-Lothringen fell to the attackers. Germany never mustered the strength to regain the lost area. The population was German. Strasbourg had a German university where Goethe had studied. All German city and town names were Frenchified. Mühlhausen became Mulhouse.

Even after Napoleon was defeated, at the Congress of Vienna, German leadership was so weak and corrupt that they didn’t bang on the table and make demands. The congress was manipulated by Talleyrand. Finally, in 1870, the stolen German land returned to its rightful owner. Unfortunately, not for long.

WULF K.F. SCHULDES
VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA

CONCENTRATION CAMP MONEY

One of the articles you published in THE BARNES REVIEW has done more to free people’s minds from the establishment’s intellectual prison than all the rest. It was the one by Jennifer White about inmates being paid in the work camps, and not badly paid either. I never knew there was finely printed work camp money just for inmates. And the fact that the inmates could use the money for items in the camp canteen also flies in the face of what we have been told again and again by the Holocaust promoters.

We all know the Holocaust happened—just not the way they say. What a scam. And to think I’ll be called a “Holocaust denier” and an anti-Semite just because I have a few questions about it.

I go every week when I am in Vienna to a luncheon in the Innenstadt hosted by Count Gudenus, a member of the Bundesrat (a sort of senate). There I meet people like Walter Lüftl and Dozent Romig, who helped promote the idea I had about getting a man who specializes in stymieing class actions to help the Austrian government against Edgar Bronfman, Ed Fagan and all the other shysters out there ripping people off for reparations. They didn’t use Schonbrun, but they did use one of his ideas: no payout till the recipients (a) proved their title to the money, and (b) promised not to bring any more class actions in the future. So there is a stalemate, which should last a long time.

Keep on publishing the truth—it’s our best weapon against those who would manipulate history for personal profit.

NAME WITHHELD

Send Us a Letter or an Email!

Depending of course on reader input, TBR tries to print letters that represent all sides of the issues. We may edit for grammar, style and brevity (letters of not over 300 words are preferred). TBR does not print unsubstantiated personal attacks, nor do we print letters whose authorship we cannot confirm. We will withhold name and address on request. We reserve the right to reprint letters. E-mail letters are welcome at barnesrev@hotmail.com, but please include your regular mailing address and telephone number for verification purposes. Send “snail mail” to TBR, Letters Editor, P.O. Box 15877, Washington, D.C. 20003.

What Do You Think About This Issue?

We love input from our readers. To better serve you by bringing you an even better TBR, we invite you to send us your specific suggestions and comments. Send to above addresses.

Books Received Books Received Books Received Books Received

Geuss, Raymond. 2001. *Public Goods, Private Goods*. Princeton University Press. 148 pages. ISBN: 0 691 08903 5

Another work on that perennial of political theory topics, the distinction between goods considered private (i.e., the realm of individual and non-state organizations) and those considered public (i.e., the realm of state action in general). Traditionally (classical) liberal political theory has sliced out a significant amount of social business and placed it into an ill-defined “private” sphere. The difficulty is in the “ill-defined.” To what extent does private business enter into the public sphere? How is it that private organizations (such as Chrysler or Boeing) can be “bailed out” by public moneys and still remain purely “private”? Does the distinction still hold in advanced capitalism? Is neo-liberalism a sham (which amounts to the same thing)? If these questions are of any interest to you whatsoever, this book might be a nice, rather informal and not exceptionally academic offering. There is no expectation that the reader has familiarity with any specific philosophical jargon. Therefore, it is quite accessible to lay readers.

Bell, Bernard Iddings. 2001. *Crowd Culture: An Examination of the American Way of Life*. ISI Books. 136 pages. ISBN: 1 882926 60 9

The Intercollegiate Studies Institute has rereleased a classic in traditionalist social criticism. Originally published in 1952, *Crowd Culture* was a simple, well-written and accessible critique of “mass society” and the inevitable decadence that follows upon the

empty promises of “democracy.” Bell calls for (and this is a terrible simplification) a “democratic elite” to act as an intellectual aristocracy to correct the intellectual (or rather, anti-intellectual) drift of the consumer culture. A classic in social criticism, without question.

Neuhouser, Frederick. 2000. *Foundations of Hegel’s Social Theory*. Harvard University Press. 337 pages. ISBN: 0 674 00152 4

Hegel is one of the most misunderstood and misquoted philosophers in history, the greatest of the German Idealists and the towering figure of 19th-century philosophy. Hegel’s ideas are still being grappled with today, often unbeknownst to those who do the grappling. For those who have never approached Hegel and are not philosophers—don’t. Hegel’s difficulty and obscurity are legendary. Nonetheless, there are scholars who make it their business to make the obscure and abstruse intelligible and accessible. Neuhouser is one of them. His basic thesis is that Hegel was more of a libertarian than contemporary scholarship (this reviewer’s included) gives him credit for. What is more important, however, is that Hegel’s social work is made approachable for the well-educated layman. In this particular respect the work excels. One might disagree with the conclusions, but that in no way takes away from the acumen and clarity of this excellent book. It is simply impossible to understand 19th-century continental philosophy, nationalism, romanticism or historicism without knowing something about Hegel. In fact, Hegel is the 19th century.

—MRJ

Westbrook Pegler:

The Journalist Who ‘Discovered’ Bilderberg

BY MICHAEL COLLINS PIPER

Although he was a Pulitzer Prize winner and one of the most highly paid and widely read American journalists of his era, Westbrook Pegler has been relegated by modern schools of journalism to the memory hole. That would not surprise the colorful and biting muckraker, who very much understood, from first-hand experience, how the establishment press is manipulated by forces behind the scenes.

In mid-April 1957, readers of the Hearst newspapers’ King Features Syndicate were the first among the general public to learn of a secret conclave being held on St. Simon Island, off Brunswick, Georgia. There, some 67 of the wealthiest and most powerful people in the world were gathering for a private conference at an exclusive resort that had been closed off to the public and protected by armed guards, including agents of the FBI and the Secret Service.

Although he evidently didn’t realize it when he wrote that column for King Features (one of several on the subject), famed American journalist Westbrook Pegler was lifting the curtain of secrecy in which the self-dubbed “Bilderberg group” had wrapped itself every year since 1954, when the group first met at the Hotel de Bilderberg in the Netherlands.

Since he didn’t know its history (even today, few still do) Pegler didn’t use the term “Bilderberg” in his column, but he knew that there was something—as he put it—“spooky” about this parley. He also dared to mention that some prominent Americans were in attendance, including Ralph McGill, editor of the *Atlanta Constitution*, who, Pegler said, “had made some mental and ethical arrangement with himself which allowed him to ‘de-journalize’ himself for this extremely newsy meeting” and thereby wrote nothing about it on his own.

Yet, Pegler—a proverbial “disturber of the peace”—found it extraordinary (at least from the perspective of a journalist who believed that newspapers should report the news) that a select group of powerful policymakers, journalists, public officials and leaders of the world’s financial and industrial elite could hold such a private gathering with the press saying nary a word about such an affair.

However, Pegler noted, there was a precedent: the founding of the private Federal Reserve financial monopoly



Witty, articulate, colorful, bombastic, a hard-driving reporter and commentator, Pulitzer Prize-winning Westbrook Pegler (above) was a legend in his own not-so-distant time. However, times have changed, and Pegler—who should be an icon to modern students of journalism—has been relegated to the dustbin of history.

on the nearby Jekyll Island off the Georgia coast in the spring of 1908. Never one to mince words or to avoid “controversial” subjects, Pegler was not hesitant to talk about the secrecy surrounding the Federal Reserve System—which dominates the American economy—or what he called “that weird meeting” that brought it into being, unbeknownst to the public at large.

Among those who took notice of Pegler’s column was an American political reformer, Willis A. Carto, then of San Francisco. Intrigued by Pegler’s revelations regarding this secretive group and after he had, in fact, become a friend of Pegler—Carto organized the first directed, in-depth research into the history of Bilderberg, carried out through the aegis of Liberty Lobby, the now-defunct Washington, D.C.-based populist institution that published *The Spotlight*, the only national newspaper in the United States at that time, and for many years afterward, that reported in depth on Bilderberg and its global intrigues. Most newspapers did not even mention the meetings.

That Pegler should have tackled Bilderberg would surprise no one familiar with this American original. In his heyday, Pegler was one of the most popular daily newspaper columnists in America (and thus among the most influential). Yet, that a journalist who dared to first breach Bilderberg’s secrecy should now today be virtually forgotten would surprise no one who understands the very real power of the plutocratic elite who comprise Bilderberg. Who was this man who dared to say—and not just once but time and time again—that the emperor had no clothes?

Pegler—known as Peg to his friends—was born on August 2, 1894, in Minneapolis. Originally he was named “Francis Westbrook Pegler,” but the youngster’s parents changed the “Francis” to “James” when a daughter (named “Frances”) was born three years later. Pegler himself in turn dropped the name “James” as a young journalist when a friend told him the name “Westbrook” stood out like “the name on a Pullman car” and deserved to stand alone. So “Westbrook Pegler” his name became. It was a name that was to become synonymous with hard-hitting journalism and no-holds-barred writing aimed at the sacred cows who troughed in the American and world public arenas during Pegler’s heyday, from the late 1920s through the 1950s.

Pegler’s mother was Canadian born and ethnically Irish. His father, Arthur, was born in England but had migrated to the United States, where he established himself as a hard-charging investigative reporter and muckraker with *The St. Paul Pioneer Press*. Later, the senior Pegler took up with *The Chicago American*, by this time a well-known figure in Midwest journalism. His son soon followed in his footsteps but became, at his zenith, one of the most widely known and influential columnists in the world.

Although not particularly religious himself—nor was his father—young Pegler took up studies at the Jesuit-run Loyola Academy in Chicago where he developed a healthy respect for organized religion, but a notable disdain for aca-

democratic regimentation of the type for which the Jesuits are known. Whatever the case, throughout his life, according to his sympathetic biographer, Finis Farr, Pegler “showed fondness for clergymen, provided they were Catholic and conservative,” but in those early years Pegler considered himself all but a socialist and certainly a radical. Or so he was perceived.

However, Pegler decided journalism was his means to make his voice heard and he soon took up with the Chicago office of the United Press syndicate, a division of the Scripps-Howard newspapers. Pegler started at the bottom, but soon found himself on cross-country assignments in which he made his name as an up-and-coming cub reporter. In just a few years, by 1916, he was assigned to the London bureau and then spent time on the continent covering World War I.

It was during this period that Pegler first stirred controversy, poking fun at famed American military figure Gen. John J. “Black Jack” Pershing for what Pegler perceived as the general’s *prima donna* ways and his failure to show courtesies to ordinary soldiers except in the presence of the press. Pegler also objected to the fact that Pershing and the American military leaders in Europe used the cover of “national security” to censor criticism of military incompetence.

Pershing complained to Scripps-Howard and had Pegler removed from his post. Ironically, though, the young military critic signed up for the Navy for a four-month stint until the war ended, at which time he returned to New York and to the Big Apple office of United Press. He also met up with another young reporter, Julia Harpman, who was soon to become his wife.

In New York, Pegler’s career blossomed. In 1921 he became the author of a bylined daily sports summary sent out nationally to major cities across the country. He quickly emerged as one of the nation’s best-known sports writers. By 1925, famed Chicago publisher Robert McCormick sent out word to hire Pegler at whatever cost (double Pegler’s quondam salary) and Pegler became eastern sports editor of the *Chicago Tribune* which also syndicated a weekly Pegler column, “The Sporting Goods.”

Scripps-Howard recognized what a good commodity Pegler was and in 1933 he was lured “home” to write a daily feature—soon to be titled “Fair Enough”—for *The New York World-Tribune* and all of the Scripps-Howard papers across the country. The 37-year-old writer was now, as Finis Farr noted, “one of the most important men in the country” as well as one of the best-paid journalists in the nation.

The irascible Pegler claimed authority “to speak for the rabble because I am a member of the rabble in good standing” and said, up front, that he would say what he believed, no matter what the consequences. As such, Pegler became an icon and role model for “angry young journalists” across the republic. No matter whether people agreed or disagreed with what Pegler wrote, they were talking about it, and that’s what made Pegler a household name—from the elegant salons of Manhattan to the Irish bars of Chicago.

Pegler's rise to power was contemporary to that of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, and—at the time—Pegler considered himself a political friend of the Roosevelts and of the administration and soon became quite friendly with the first family itself. In fact, Pegler—at \$75,000 a year—had a higher income than the president himself.

However, Pegler would not allow his status or his income or his association with the media and political elite to limit his ability to speak out or to puncture high-rising hot-air balloons.

In the United States Pegler slammed the ballyhoo surrounding the famous Kentucky Derby and when the King of England died, Pegler took aim at what he considered the excessive public spectacle surrounding the king's funeral. And Pegler also had some pointed remarks for similar public spectacles in Hitler's Third Reich. Pegler also won many kudos for his harsh criticisms of Third Reich policies toward the Jews.

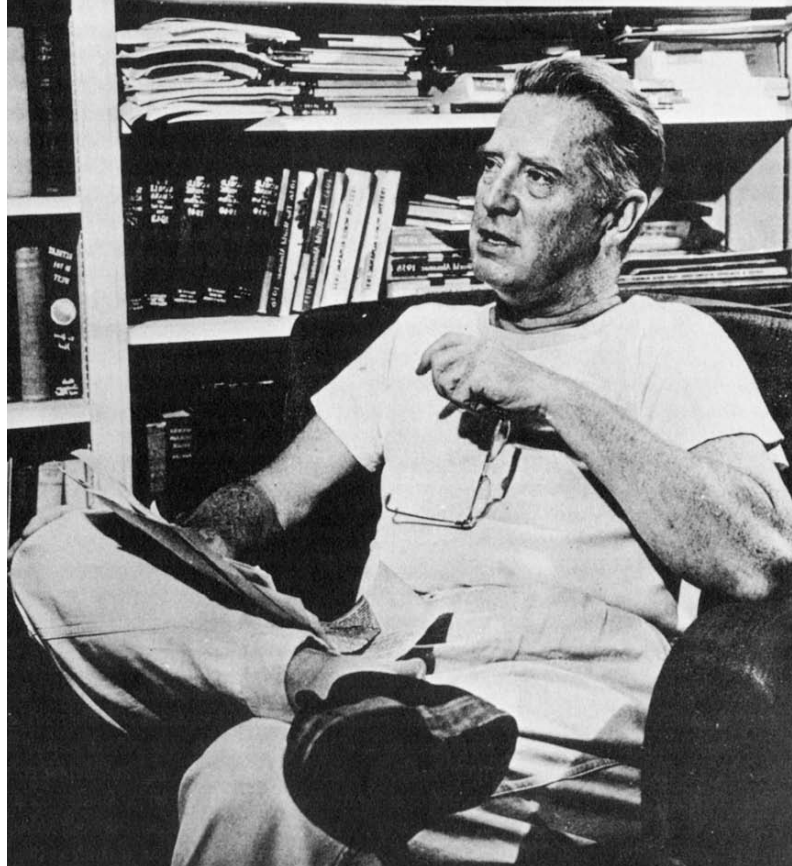
Pegler also questioned the public image of famed FBI director J. Edgar Hoover when no other journalist would dare do likewise and went so far as to condemn Hoover's favorite journalist, New York gossip columnist Walter Winchell, as a "gent's room journalist."

(Although Pegler had no reason to know it at the time, the truth is that we now know that Winchell was not only a conscious propaganda conduit of the British intelligence network, but also engaged in similar intrigue in behalf of the British-allied Anti-Defamation League, a domestic spying operation which, in turn, conducted covert operations on behalf of Hoover's FBI. See the July/August 1998 issue of TBR for an overview of Winchell's secret world.)

By the late 1930s, Pegler's alliance with the Roosevelt administration and the American liberal movement was beginning to disintegrate. Pegler had a deep-seated distrust for all totalitarian regimes and he began publicly criticizing Soviet Russia and its brutal dictator, Josef Stalin. While others smiled at the image of "Uncle Joe" Stalin, Pegler said frankly of Stalin and company: "These people are killers." As such, many of Pegler's liberal friends started taking a second look at Pegler.

This is all the more ironic in that Pegler himself was an outspoken critic, likewise, of Spanish leader Francisco Franco, a favorite target of the left and a hero, in many ways, to American Catholics in light of Franco's fight against the anti-Catholic communist "republican" forces in Spain. On one occasion Pegler even commented that based upon what he had seen of Franco's work, he might more expect to "see him in hell but never in church."

Pegler also stirred controversy by emerging as one of the proud founding organizers of the American Newspaper Guild, and as a fierce critic of the growing influence of communists within the guild. And although a union man himself, Pegler wasn't afraid to take on organized crime elements within the union movement, digging out the criminal activities of George Scalise, head of the Building Employees Union.



A relaxed Westbrook Pegler—or "Peg" to his wide-ranging bevy of friends and admirers—is shown in a corner of his library where he cranked out reams of remarkable newspaper copy that entertained and informed millions—meanwhile infuriating assorted trouble-makers and plutocrats—for a generation.

When Scalise went to jail for extortion, Scalise exclaimed, "I've been peglerized."

Thanks to his efforts in exposing Scalise, Pegler won the Pulitzer Prize for reporting—the most prestigious trophy in journalism, a fitting triumph for a writer said to be the "possessor of the most articulate growl in the nation."

However, Pegler wasn't just taking on corruption in the unions. He dared to blow the whistle on a scheme involving First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt to promote coffee for the Pan-American Coffee Bureau as a favor to advertising promoter David Hopkins (the son of top Roosevelt crony, Harry Hopkins). Young Hopkins used his connections at the White House to get Mrs. Roosevelt's impending endorsement in return for the bureau coming to his own firm as a new advertising client. This, not surprisingly, led to a parting of the ways between the Roosevelt family and Pegler who really and truly could not perceive of being muzzled by anybody, no matter how powerful.

Despite the controversy, Pegler was thriving and his column remained popular. Although his wife Julia was quite debilitated due to a chronic heart ailment, the couple settled into a comfortable life at a forty acre estate in Tucson, Arizona where Pegler continued to crank out his witty and often caustic commentary.

In 1942 Pegler brought to life the venerable "George Spelvin, American." "Spelvin" was Pegler's literary alter ego,

a character who appeared in his columns commenting on events in American life, with the readers knowing full well that behind Spelvin was Pegler himself.

Pegler, by the way, borrowed the name “Spelvin” from a theater tradition. The name “George Spelvin” was an assumed name, printed on cast directories, in place of the actual name of an actor in a play who doubled and played a smaller part aside from his main part. As such, throughout theater history, “George Spelvin” had played countless butlers, messengers, and other small parts. But “Spelvin” was a major player in the literary output of Pegler and became a familiar figure to American newspaper readers who found themselves nodding in agreement with the sentiments expressed by “George Spelvin, American.”

Pegler, controversial though he was, remained a force in journalism to be reckoned with. Although Pegler had needled famed populist newspaper publisher William Randolph Hearst over the years, Hearst admired Pegler’s work and told Pegler he was hopeful that Pegler might come to work for him. At the same time, his former employers at *The Chicago Tribune* were eager to bring Pegler back.

Ultimately, Hearst got his chance to enlist Pegler’s cannon in his newspaper armory. In 1944, Pegler left Scripps-Howard after controversy erupted over his published criticisms of Frank Knox, a former publisher of *The Chicago Daily News* (and 1936 GOP vice presidential candidate) who had joined the Roosevelt administration as Navy secretary. Knox died of a heart attack the day after Pegler’s published skewering of the secretary. Pegler and Scripps-Howard decided for a quiet and reasonable parting of the ways as Pegler left for Hearst’s King Features Syndicate.

Under the new column, “As Pegler Sees It”—which made very clear who was the voice being heard—Pegler continued his assault on what he perceived to be the unwise course of American and world affairs. FDR, Churchill, first lady Eleanor Roosevelt, the New Deal elite, corrupt labor leaders, liberal leaders—no one was spared. By now, Pegler’s break with FDR was complete, but it came at a time when the war was about to end and FDR was to die a wartime martyr.

The ascendancy of Harry Truman to the presidency in the wake of FDR’s demise, however, gave Pegler lots of red meat. Corruption—petty and not so petty—in the Truman years, coupled with the growth of domestic communism and subversion, became a staple of Pegler’s writing.

Pegler placed much of the blame on FDR, much to Roosevelt’s admirers, but Pegler responded, saying, “If the gradual disclosure of the truth evokes abuse of the truth itself, as ghoulish attacks and mad rantings, that may be only evidence of the depth of a great moral and ethical decline, between 1933 and 1945”—a pointed jab at the years of the Roosevelt reign.

Stirring up old wounds, Pegler also took issue with the imprisonment of American poet and fellow iconoclast Ezra Pound in the St. Elizabeth’s insane asylum in Washington, D.C. Pound’s “crime” had been to challenge FDR’s drive for

war and then, during the war, to broadcast critical commentary about the war from Italy. Rather than accusing the American literary legend of being a traitor, the American government chose instead to claim that he was insane.

Inevitably, an outspoken writer such as Pegler was likely to get in trouble with the law of libel. In 1954 Pegler was sued for libel by his own friend and fellow newspaperman Quentin Reynolds after Pegler had written a number of unpleasantries about Reynolds—a hostility based in part, it is said, on Pegler’s perception (perhaps correct) that Reynolds had become a sycophantic devotee of Franklin Roosevelt and nothing more than a compromised “court journalist.”

The jury found Pegler guilty of libel and awarded Reynolds one dollar for loss of income and \$175,000 in punitive damages that were paid by Pegler’s publishers, as per Pegler’s contract with the company. However, the Hearst publishers—minus the founder, who had died in 1951—rallied behind Pegler and even organized a gala lunch in his honor. (Years later, in 1966, a Broadway play entitled *A Case of Libel* was based on the Pegler-Reynolds bout and, in 1966, was broadcast as a television drama by ABC.)

However, without “the Old Man” (Hearst) behind him, Pegler found that his publishers were soon to become more and more determined to rein him in for the sake of what today is known as “political correctness,” and began to forcibly censor his columns. In response, Pegler complained to his editor that “My career has been based to a considerable degree on my courageous disclosure of facts which other journalists will not tackle.”

A major blow came in 1955 when Pegler’s beloved wife and partner, Julia, died after a long struggle with her heart condition. A major professional obstacle also emerged during this time—one which would ultimately set the stage for Pegler’s erasure from mainstream respectability: Pegler began to raise questions about all-out American support for the newly founded state of Israel.

In a 1955 letter Pegler wrote: “I have never been allowed to discuss the merits of the case for or against Israel.” He told his editor that he:

[C]onsidered it a hell of a note that it is necessary for a reporter to submit a scenario or synopsis of a legitimate news story for consideration by our syndicate under an apprehension that the facts themselves will be “anti-Semitic” merely because the offenders are Hebrews and have made themselves conspicuous in a racket. . . . An inhibition has been established which has the effect of warning me to let alone items of legitimate public interest and information. On one occasion, when I referred to Barney Baruch, the qualifying phrase “revered elder statesman” was inserted. I do not revere him and he is not a statesman but [a] four-flushing old mountebank. . . . I am not, and no harassment will drive me to be, “anti-Semitic.” I detest many individuals who are Jews—but not because they are Jews.

Among other things, Pegler was censored by his editors for daring to say that when he saw then-Secretary of State

John Foster Dulles “lending my income taxes and yours to the sovereign state of Israel so that Israel could compensate Arabs for property which Israel stole from them, it occurred to me that we Americans should demand a look at the books.”

As a consequence of entangling himself in issues relative to the interests of the state of Israel, Pegler came to take notice of the pressure tactics of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) of B’nai B’rith, which had emerged as a front-line force in the American lobby for Israel. He wrote:

The ADL has made people walk in fear of its power. . . . It is not good for any organization to be held in fear as though it were a Gestapo. . . . It is time to stop this spying on citizens by self-appointed vigilante outfits administered by irresponsible professionals and this keeping of “dossiers” susceptible of abuse or blackmail or boycott. . . . Any organization held in such awe by the chairman of a congressional committee that he is afraid to mention its name is the victim of bad judgment within itself. That certainly was not the original objective of the worthy citizens who lent the prestige of their names to the activities of the Anti-Defamation League.

The ADL promptly sent its agents to see William Randolph Hearst Jr. and, according to Pegler, writing to a friend, “The Hearst people were in a panic. After eight days of negotiations, Bill and I went in chains down to their national headquarters for ‘lunch.’ I sat on my hands and refused to break bread with them. I made no apology. But it was clear that they were threatening to kill off retail ads and since then the Hearst outfit has inexorably shoved me back into the clap-ads to appease them.”

Relations with his editors and publishers were never the same for Pegler, who simply could not countenance the idea that an outside, private pressure group could muzzle him or one of the most powerful publishing empires in America. A brief and unhappy second marital interlude intervened at this time, distracting Pegler’s attention. His second marriage ended in divorce in 1961.

In the meantime, though, Pegler continued to find that his columns were being censored by his employers, not only about subjects of concern to the ADL, but on a variety of others as well. On August 4, 1962, the “Hearstpress” cut short its contract with Pegler and paid him compensation for the remaining period. After thirty years as a daily voice in the mainstream American press, Pegler was no more.

For a brief period, Pegler was associated with the monthly *American Opinion* (now defunct), then the organ of the John Birch Society which, at the time, was being promoted by the elite media as the corral in which all American anti-communists and so-called “super patriots” could find a

home. However, the society’s founder, Harvard-educated Robert Welch was evidently offended by Pegler’s determination (as Pegler had put it years before) “to speak for the rabble because I am a member of the rabble in good standing.”

Welch told Pegler biographer Finis Farr that he objected to what he called “the monotony of Pegler’s articles,” in particular Pegler’s special interest in former First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt (still a heroine of the American liberal movement) and of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Earl Warren. Welch himself launched what proved to be a fruitless (and some say counterproductive) attempt to impeach Warren. In retrospect, some would find Welch’s concerns about Pegler’s attacks on Warren rather inexplicable.

For his own part, Welch claimed that he canceled Pegler, but Pegler said that Welch and his cronies had tried to censor him and that he wouldn’t accept it, commenting, “I had enough of that with [the Hearst company]. I don’t have to take it any more.”

Those in the patriotic movement in America with long memories are probably not surprised to learn of Welch’s censorship of Pegler, particularly in light of Pegler’s long-standing difficulties with the ADL. Critics of the John Birch Society—most of whom are former early members who left in the same period when Pegler was shoved overboard (or jumped)—say that Welch was ever in tune to the wishes of the ADL and made great overtures in an effort to assure that no critics of Israel would ever emerge in leadership positions in the Birch Society. Others, less charitable, would ascribe sinister aspects to Welch’s relationship with the ADL.

However, there were a few feisty journals that were not—unlike Welch and his Birch Society—cowed by ADL pressure. They relished the opportunity to bring “Peg” aboard. One was *The Jacksonville Chronicle* of Florida. The other was *The Councilor*, published in Shreveport, Louisiana by the now-deceased Ned Touchstone. It reached a substantial readership throughout the South and elsewhere.¹ However, Pegler was in physical decline with the onset of aging and didn’t have the energy he once had. In 1966 he underwent surgery for stomach cancer and initially survived. However, the cancer came back, and, approaching his 75th birthday, Pegler died, on June 24, 1969 in Tucson, Arizona. He was buried beside his late wife Julia. ❖

FOOTNOTE:

¹ Considering Pegler’s oft-expressed aversion to John F. Kennedy and family, it is quite paradoxical to note for the record that Pegler’s new publisher, Ned Touchstone, was a widely read, freethinking intellectual who later pioneered the first groundbreaking independent inquiries into the circumstances surrounding the so-called “New Orleans connection” to the JFK assassination conspiracy. Touchstone’s investigations implicated the “red-haired pilot,” CIA contract operative David Ferrie, and brought forth incriminating data regarding trade executive Clay Shaw, the two characters being primary targets in the 1969-1971 investigation of the JFK assassination conducted by New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison. Garrison privately concluded that Israel’s intelligence service, the Mossad, was linked to the JFK conspiracy but limited his commentary on the subject, recognizing, as did Westbrook Pegler, that criticism of Israel could be quite problematical.

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THE TBR HISTORY QUIZ

1 Which state built a monument to a quarter-inch-long beetle with a sharp snout?

2 When did the Middle Ages start and end?

3 What American state has vanished from the map? (John Sevier, the great Indian fighter, was its only governor.)

4 How did the White House get its nickname?

5 Which state entered the union first, North Dakota or South Dakota?

6 Which state has a lovely capital that was once known by the unlovely name of "Pig's Eye"?



St. Paul shipwrecked. See question 11.

7 (a) Where was the first skyscraper built? (b) What is the tallest building in the world today and in what city can it be found?

8 What is the oldest letter in the alphabet? What are the newest letters in the alphabet?

9 The letter "A" was originally a representation of an ox head. What was the pictorial origin of the "B"? What did "D" represent? And "N"?

10 How did the last two digits of 1984, the George Orwell novel, come about?

11 Everyone has heard the yarn that St. Patrick drove the snakes out of Ireland. But what is the myth about the snakes of Malta?

procedure did not work. whether or not the wine had been poisoned. Of course, this superstitious from Malta, which were used at feasts and banquets in attempts to test century, nearly every court in Europe had some of these so-called tongues snakes of Malta have never been venomous. From the 13th to the 18th to this day, they are found. The truth of the matter, of course, is that the saint is said to have magically cast all their tongues into the rocks, where, was misbelieved that snakes had their venom in their tongues, and the from drowning, he banished all the poison from the snakes of Malta. It wrecked on Malta in A.D. 60, and to show his gratitude for being saved were known as "St. Paul's tongues." According to legend, Paul was shipwrecked in shape, with sharp, serrated edges. In earlier centuries these Some of the biggest of these teeth are as large as an adult human's hand, white shark, but three times as long, are abundant on the island of Malta. 11. Fossil teeth of the giant shark, which was similar to the great transposing the last two digits in the title as a sales gimmick.

10. It is almost universally ignored that Orwell was not writing science fiction about the far future but describing what was already a well-developed system in 1948. His publisher persuaded him to go along with

for a fish. "N" represented a snake.

9. Most experts say "B" was a picture of a house, or a tent. "D" stood "U" which must have been very confusing.) Shakespearean vintage. (Initially they were considered variants of "T" and letters in the English alphabet are "J" and "V" which are of post-

8. The oldest letter is "O," which has existed unchanged in shape since it first appeared in the Phoenician alphabet about 1300 B.C. The newest

stories tall. 7. (a) The first skyscraper, 10 stories tall, was built in Chicago in 1884. (b) The world's tallest building today is the Aon Center, 1,136 feet tall, also in Chicago. For a long time, the record was held by the 110-story Sears Tower, also in Chicago. There are plans to build a new tower, over 1,500 feet tall, also in Chicago, but a similarly tall building is being planned for Kowloon, Hong Kong. Not to be put in the shade, Red China wants to build a skyscraper over 1,580 feet tall in Shanghai. That would be about 300

2. The most common dates are A.D. 500-1500. However, there are and especially peanuts. branched out into the growing of corn, hay, fruits, sweet potatoes, pecans most of it. The disaster alerted farmers to the need for diversity; they as the herald of prosperity. Cotton was the state's main crop from the early 1800s until 1910, when the weevil suddenly appeared and destroyed

1. Alabama. The Boll Weevil Monument was erected in 1919, tongue in cheek. In profound appreciation of the boll weevil and what it has done as the herald of prosperity. Cotton was the state's main crop from the early 1800s until 1910, when the weevil suddenly appeared and destroyed

state to enter the union and South Dakota as the 40th. cally, North Dakota, in alphabetical order, is generally ranked as the 39th which one was signed first, to avoid showing any favoritism. However, off- deliberately shuffled the papers so as to prevent anyone from knowing 2. 1889, the 5. It seems that as President Benjamin Harrison was about to sign the 1902.

the building was known as the White House, a name that became official 4. After the burning of the structure in the War of 1812, the walls of the blackened stone mansion provided by the taxpayers for the president (although there is nothing in the U.S. constitution to authorize such a ben-

called the state Franklin. The state was never recognized by Congress, 3. Franklin. As the United States was heavily in debt at the close of the Revolutionary War, North Carolina, in 1784, "voted to give Congress

that the end of the religious wars in the 17th century was the end of the 16th century marked the end of the Middle Ages, but others maintain 16th century marked the end of the tumultuous Reformation of 800. Some scholars think that the period until Charlemagne was

those who place the origins of the Middle Ages as early as the fourth cen- 2. The most common dates are A.D. 500-1500. However, there are and especially peanuts. branched out into the growing of corn, hay, fruits, sweet potatoes, pecans

as the herald of prosperity. Cotton was the state's main crop from the early 1800s until 1910, when the weevil suddenly appeared and destroyed 1. Alabama. The Boll Weevil Monument was erected in 1919, tongue in cheek. In profound appreciation of the boll weevil and what it has done

ANSWERS:

The Röhm Crisis Worsens

BY GEN. LEON DEGRELLE

Mollified by Adolf Hitler's moderation and carefully calculated attentions, the German army, known as the Reichswehr, had little by little fallen into step with the new regime—although without enthusiasm and ever on its guard, and very attentive especially to the verbal outbursts of men like Ernst Röhm, who did not hesitate to proclaim that he would throw the old system out on its ear.

Adolf Hitler continued to hope that by temporizing, the Reichswehr and the SA would balance each other off, the former growing larger and more modern within its proper sphere—the military—and the latter acting with greater wisdom to support the political initiatives of the new government.

Again and again the Führer repeated: “The one serves the nation, whose territory it defends. The other is the instrument of the party, whose ideas it protects. They form the two columns upon which the Third Reich rests.”¹

Röhm owed everything to Hitler. Without Hitler, in 1921, he would never have commanded a single SA unit. If Hitler had not called him back from South America in 1931, he would have continued on in Bolivia as just another lieutenant colonel or colonel frequenting the cafes. Yet in 1934 he thought himself to be a secular Saint Peter called to command by the good Lord Himself.

“I’ll never go downhill again,” he used to roar, haunted by the memory of the comedown that had previously taken him to South America among those millions of mestizos, him, the racist. He saw himself become a new Carnot—nay, Napoleon Bonaparte. The German army would be his fief. “All victorious revolutions based on an ideology must have their own army. . . . You cannot conduct a revolutionary war with reactionary troops.”

Hitler, who knew how to maneuver and diligently work his way around obstacles to get safely to his goal, was getting on Röhm’s nerves and exasperating him. In June of 1933, after finishing a substantial meal at the famous Kempinski Restaurant in Berlin, and having drunk too much as usual, he had burst out: “Hitler is leading me around by the nose. He’d rather not rush things. He is betraying all of us. Now he’s getting chummy with his generals.”²



When they were not yet in power, German National Socialists dealt with their opponents on the streets in savage fighting. Above, SS and SA men pose around banners captured from the communists during street fighting of the Kampfzeit or “time of struggle.”

Then Röhm reproached Hitler with the supreme crime: "He is becoming a man of the world. He has just ordered himself a black suit."³ In order to be a proletarian, Hitler should have received the diplomatic corps, or called on Marshal von Hindenburg, in a cap and overalls.

Bringing the Reichswehr to heel (and, above all, replacing it) was becoming a veritable obsession with Röhm: "I don't want a replastering job done on the old imperial army. Are we or are we not making a revolution? If we're making a revolution, something new has got to come out of our momentum, something like the *levée en masse* of the French Revolution. We do the same thing, or we're done for. The generals are old fogies; the officers and the cadets molycoddled at school don't know anything but their old notebooks and their barracks. Enough of their rigmarole. It's time we got rid of them."⁴

The trouble with Röhm was that those "old notebooks" had formed indispensable specialists in an exact strategic science. And Röhm did not possess that science. Nor did anyone in his entourage. To win international wars, or even to control a civil war, more is required than just being a valiant military hard case.

Moreover, there were rumors circulating about Röhm with regard to his morals, rumors of a very special nature that were readily exploitable and being exploited. These days, being a homosexual no longer seems to be an indelible stain. It is even demanded that such abnormal individuals be granted the right to a legally authorized marriage. Some priests here and there even take the initiative and receive their conjugal vows with a melting eye in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. But in 1933, especially in the army, such ways were viewed with disfavor. An officer who was a homosexual was inexorably cashiered.

It so happened that some letters of Röhm's had just been sold, letters written to one of his partners, alluding to these rather special practices. These letters left no room for doubt about the homosexual exploits of the writer, who, it seemed, had put them into practice in the course of his stay in Bolivia. These tropical distractions, transposed to a morally strict Germany, seemed at best in very bad taste. A valise was even found in Berlin that Röhm had left on the stairway of a house that openly specialized in such activities. The most serious thing was that Röhm had gained adherents and that a few emulators had been found among his immediate coworkers.

Also very offensive were the acts of violence of some of his leaders, their noisy drinking bouts, the luxury that several among them paraded, their racing cars and stables. The wild and dissolute life of several of them, relatively young men, sometimes in their 30s, had attained the proportions of a scandal.

Karl Ernst, the most notorious of them and one of the youngest generals of the SA, was spending on banquets alone more than 30,000 marks a month (30 times a deputy's salary) from party funds. He had the command in Berlin of

300,000 SA men, whereas in a normal army he would perhaps not have been the commander of so much as a company, or even a platoon. He pranced around on his horse in front of the troops like a Napoleon entering Potsdam. He owned a dozen very expensive cars and horses of the finest blood. He had the highest order of the grand duchy of Coburg hung around his neck—by the grand duke in person, a relative of the king of Belgium.

Ernst had previously been a traveling salesman. His father was a janitor. His special morals, too, caused a lot of gossip. But he had been a placard poster emeritus and an intrepid battler at a time when there were only a handful of SA in Berlin. The dizzy rise of Hitler had carried him from a minor local militant to stupefying heights.

Hitler knew very well that the corrupt little princelings of the SA would have to be gotten rid of one day. But he was busy with extremely harassing political and social duties. He was also afraid of upsetting many naive militants by hasty expulsions and feared, too, that such nettlesome revelations might arouse the indignation of a public newly won over.

Ernst's counterpart in Breslau, chief of police Heinz, was a boozing parvenu of the same stripe. He was young like Ernst, and like Ernst, he had hundreds of thousands of men following his orders. He was flanked by a whippersnapper of an assistant with a wiggly rump who never left his side by so much as a foot, not even a foot of the bed. "Mademoiselle Schmidt" he was called, by all the chief's associates. Just as with Ernst, it not only no longer even occurred to Heinz that without Hitler, he and his like would still be waiters or clerks; they both thought they still hadn't received enough. Karl Ernst was very free in voicing gross insults against Hitler. He had uttered "unequivocal threats": "We shall know how to keep Germany from going back to sleep again." Hitler, still silent, had kept an eye on them for months. Their remarks were noted down. Then an incident aggravated the distrust. One day Hitler was about to get in a car that was to take him to Karinhall, Göring's country estate. Sensing, with his special instinct, an impending danger, at the last moment he had changed cars, and Himmler had taken his place in the official car thus abandoned.

While that car was rolling down the highway to Stettin, a window was shattered by a projectile that passed within a few centimeters of Himmler's face. [The projectile was obviously intended for Hitler.] Himmler was only slightly wounded, but the affair gave pause for thought. Only someone very much up on the Führer's movements could have followed or waited for the car with such painstaking precision. Who? And on whose orders?

Ernst Röhm was less and less secretive about his plans: "Assault battalions will become the praetorian guard of the revolution."⁵ He would create "a sort of praetorian and socialist republic, an anti-bourgeois SA state in which the brown shirts, whose number had not stopped growing, would exercise power dictatorially."⁶ And this was only in June of 1933.



Dressed in civilian garb, these German men called up for the Volkssturm march through Berlin on their first parade. The organization was launched on September 25, 1944, as a home guard for the Nazi Party. This military militia was not part of the German army and never had its own complete uniforms, although members could wear party uniforms. The lack of Volkssturm uniforms later allowed members in the west to pose as civilians, while it meant that those in the east risked being shot by trigger-happy communists as guerrillas. The men, mostly skilled engineers, steelworkers, miners, shipbuilders and the like, are armed here with Panzerfaust anti-tank rocket launchers and other weapons.

“At the very least,” historian Brissaud writes, “the camarilla gathered around Röhm was methodically preparing the psychological conditions for the proclamation of a ‘second revolution.’”⁷

With his customary divination of peril, Hitler had charged his most faithful disciple, Sepp Dietrich, with forming, for his immediate protection, a special guard that would thereafter bear his name and that was soon to be celebrated: the Leibstandarte SS Adolf Hitler. On July 1, 1933, Hitler once again warned the potential rebels, but this time far more harshly:

I am resolved to put down without mercy any activities which would tend to disturb the present order. I shall oppose any second wave of revolution with all my energy, because that would end in veritable chaos. Anyone at all who rises up against the authority of the state will be arrested regardless of his rank or position in the party.

The threat was clearly meant for the people at the top. Ten days later, on July 11, 1933, Mr. Frick, the minister of the interior, repeated the stern warning:

To talk of continuing the revolution, let alone carrying out a second one, would be to compromise the legal and constructive evolution desired by the Führer. Such talk constitutes rebellion against the Führer, sabotage of the national revolution, and a factor of discord for the German economy which the government is in the process of rebuilding successfully. Any attempt to sabotage the revolution, and in particular any arbitrary interference with the economy, will be severely repressed. National Socialist groups and organizations must not arrogate to themselves powers which belong exclusively to the head of the government.⁸

The next day Hitler returned personally to the charge: “The revolution is only a means of coming to power, not an end in itself. In any surgical operation there comes a moment when you have to sew back up, or kill the patient you intend to heal.” Despite the fact that Röhm had been forbidden to increase the SA enrollment any further or to hold spectacular public demonstrations without Hitler’s presence, he insolently replied to these orders by rallying 92,000 SA effectives at the Tempelhof air field as if he himself were the true Führer.

“Anyone who imagines,” he cried, “that the work of the SA is finished forgets that we are here and that we are going to stay here, come what may. I will not tolerate having the SA shoved aside under any pretext from the objective it has been assigned.” That bordered on rebellion. Already several sections of the SA, stirred up by Röhm’s appeals for a second revolution, had earlier come close to mutiny. It had been necessary to hurriedly dissolve them. A decree of August 25, 1933, had prohibited anyone not holding a rank from bearing arms.

Röhm had been eager to respond and did so in November 1933. Writes historian Jacques Bardoux in the *Temps* of November 11, 1933:

To prove that he fears no one, Röhm concentrates in Breslau the entire SA division of Silesia, comprising five brigades and 29 regiments amounting to a total of 83,600 men. Most of these units have made marches of several days with all their equipment; and the march-past itself lasts more than four hours. Led by Obergruppenführer Heinz, commandant of the area, the long brown column passes in review before the chief of staff, Ernst Röhm. In

the lead, flags to the fore, comes a delegation of the Horst Wessel Brigade of the Berlin-Brandenburg division and the military staff section of the Fifth Brigade of Stettin (Second District). Then comes the cavalry regiment of the Silesian SA, followed finally by 29 infantry regiments and a motorized regiment in five groups.

The defiance of Obergruppenführer Heinz, the commander of the Breslau march-past, had known no bounds: "We are just beginning."

How was Hitler going to react? How? It is almost unbelievable: by having the would-be rebel become part of his government. Hitler had discerned the plotting quite clearly. But in those months of uncertainty he could not and did not wish to upset the apple cart. The regime was not yet stabilized. The SA was not yet in a state to surmount a great crisis. The Reichswehr on the other hand could not be sacrificed in order to comply with the edicts of muddleheads. To make an enemy of the army at a time like this would be madness. And if the German army and the SA were to have at each other's throats, the other nations would die laughing.

That being the case, why should not Hitler make Röhm, the poacher, into an official game warden? Being made part of the administrative team would no doubt satisfy his vanity. To be a cabinet minister. The ex-captain with a nose like a billiard ball would take a seat in the chancellery. And then, Hitler told himself, if we put the two adversaries together on the same ministerial council, Gen. von Blomberg, minister of the Reichswehr, and the commander-in-chief of

the SA, they will have no choice but to rub shoulders with each other. They will be forced to understand and support one another.

That is a classic procedure that judges employ with married couples who want a divorce after a marital battle; or notaries with clients who are wrangling over divergent concerns. But with Röhm, a ministerial portfolio was not enough. Besides, in his own way he was an idealist and little impressed by favors. In any event, it was a stranglehold on the army that he meant to have, complete authority over the ministry that controlled the Reichswehr. He accepted the appointment haughtily on December 1, 1933, in fact almost scornfully. He announced to one and all that he would not even take up residence in Berlin as his functions would oblige him to do. He said he would continue to live in Munich, far from the government he was nevertheless henceforth to be officially part of. He insisted that his subordinates address him not as minister but as chief of staff. Just as before.

Instead of being glad at the possibility of an approach to the minister of national defense, he made it a point to affront him in the course of the rare government meetings he attended. He did not wish to conciliate him, but to throw him out, him and his accursed Reichswehr. The most he would consider—and that only provisionally—was that the SA enter the Reichswehr in force, with each unit strictly maintaining its own authority and all of his princelings keeping the inflated rank they held in the SA formations. The 30-year-old brigade leaders and division leaders would automatically be the equals of superior officers who had exercised high-level commands during or after World War I and had spent a quarter of a century or more obtaining their red collars.

That seems almost insane, but the former traveling salesmen or clerks, like Ernst or Heinz, who had not spent a single day in barracks, even as orderlies, intended in an instant to become the equals of the military commanders of the old Reichswehr. It was evident, moreover, that not a single one of them would consider having anyone but Röhm, whose strategic competence was virtually nil, become their Reichswehr minister or chief of staff, as he demanded.

The reaction of Minister-General von Blomberg was sensible. He did not run down the SA, but militarily he knew its limits, which were indeed evident to the eyes of any specialist who was even slightly informed.

The brown-shirt army is at the very most an army for civil war. It would not be capable of waging victoriously a foreign war. The Reichswehr will never enroll units of the SA *en bloc*, nor will it recognize the ranks achieved in the storm troops. Anybody who wants to enter the army must come here individually and begin at the lowest echelon in the hierarchy. To act otherwise would be to shatter completely the unity of the army.⁹

Hitler thought the same way, not just by personal con-



Before the National Socialists took power in Germany, they had their problems with the police. Here, SA men are being searched for weapons. At one point there was an attempt to break up paramilitary organizations such as the SA and to ban uniforms. The SA responded by wearing white shirts and forming bicycling clubs and rambler's associations.



Times were tough in Germany in the 1920s. Here, women rake through a coal refuse tip to try to find some fuel for their homes.

viction, but because he was objective. “Placing the commander of the SA at the head of the army would have meant disavowing the political ideas I have followed for more than 14 years. Even in 1923 I proposed a former officer (Gen. Erich Ludendorff) to command the army and not the man who then commanded the storm troopers [Göring].”¹⁰

When France, convinced of Hitler’s imminent fall, was preparing to break off all negotiations with the Reich, how could he lend himself to any such suicidal merger?

His conciliatory gesture *vis-à-vis* Röhm had thus served no purpose. Sooner or later Hitler would have to put an end to his extravagant ambitions. “Personal feelings,” Gen. von Seeckt had written, “must never play any role in comparison with reasons of state.”¹¹

Röhm was raging, railing at the “bourgeois club,” spewing out his hatred of the whole capitalist system that Hitler at that very moment was beginning to whip into shape, and thanks to which he had already sent nearly 3 million unemployed back to work and obtained the application of reforms which were completely ameliorating the physical and moral situation of the proletariat. On February 22, 1934, in a speech to the SA leaders of Thüringen, Röhm went so far as to proclaim that the accession of Hitler to power had been “only a snack”: “The National Socialist revolution imposes new tasks on us, great and important tasks, beyond everything thus far obtained.”

“The revolutionary élan of the SA will put an end to ‘the stagnation and the spirit of the shopkeeper.’”¹² The shopkeeper in point, it was well understood, was Hitler. “If [he] does not agree,” Röhm added, “I will forge ahead, and millions of men will follow me. We’ll have to eliminate Hitler, put him under lock and key.”¹³

“The revolt that is rumbling more and more in the

ranks of the SA,” historian Benoist-Méchin observes, “may very well become explosive at any moment. Settling the SA problem is the absolute No. 1 priority.” From then on, Röhm, for all intents and purposes, was just a rebel. Either he would promptly use his bomb, or Hitler would set it off in his hands. A soft leader would allow himself to be surprised. There was nothing soft about Hitler, as Röhm was soon to learn. ❖

FOOTNOTES:

¹ Benoist-Méchin, *op. cit.*, vol. III, 177.

² Brissaud, *op. cit.*, 156f.

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ Brissaud, *Hitler et son temps*, 167.

⁶ *Ibid.*, 195.

⁷ *Ibid.*, 196.

⁸ Benoist-Méchin, *op. cit.*, vol. III, 172.

⁹ *Ibid.*, 176.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ Von Seeckt, *Gedanken eines Soldaten*, 191.

¹² Brissaud, *op. cit.*, 177.

¹³ *Ibid.*, 183f.

Leon Degrelle was an individual of exceptional intellect, dedicated to Western Culture. He fought not only for his country but for the survival of Christian Europe, preventing the continent from being inundated by Stalin’s savage hordes. What Gen. Degrelle has to say, as an eyewitness to some of the key events in the history of the 20th century, is vastly important within the historical and factual context of his time and has great relevance to the continuing struggle today for the survival of civilization as we know it.



ZIONISM & TWENTIETH CENTURY HISTORY

A BOOK REVIEW OF IVOR BENSON'S *THE ZIONIST FACTOR*

BY FRED BLAHUT

*It is difficult for the layman to absorb the pathology of modernity and the modern condition, particularly in the 20th century. The complex of economics, theology, history, psychology, culture, race and politics is such that individuals struggle to discover foundations or the fundamental basics from which modernity might be understood. Ivor Benson, in *The Zionist Factor*, finds such a foundation, one by reference to which modern difficulties lose their mystique and are exposed as the exercises of naked power that they are. The purpose of this book is to explain such a basis, a foundation, to the baffled student of contemporary politics.*

The foundation Ivor Benson adheres to is the battle between the various branches of financial capital during the early years of the last century.* Two powerful houses battled for control not only over the money of the Western World, but also its mind. Who won and who lost this epic battle is precisely the starting point, or foundation, necessary to fully understand the dynamic of social pathology that was the 20th century. The question of who controls the currency and financial wealth of a nation is frighteningly similar to the question of who controls the mind, culture, or one's "default" set of beliefs.

The battle was fought on Wall Street, the hub of global financial capital. The contending parties were the Morgan clan on the one side and the products of the Rothschilds on the other. Needless to say, the former lost the war as finance became almost exclusively a Jewish affair. The results for America, as well as much of the globe, were catastrophic. The Jewish mind, one radically cosmopolitan (at least in reference to non-Jews), was linked with the material conditions to allow nearly unlimited power over the political direction of much of the planet. In other words, an unlimited budget on the one hand was linked to a radically cosmopolitan agenda on the other. From this one can then depart and understand the domestic and global politics that came afterward.

Benson's thesis is that the defeat of the house of Morgan on Wall Street, and its eventual absorption into the Rothschild cult, was the paradigmatic event that defined the 20th century. From this, the Bolshevik Revolution can be understood, as can the Holocaust ideology, America's entry into World War II, domestic unrest, America's race problem and even the fashionability of Marxism. In other words, the defeat of the Morgan house

on Wall Street provided the material resources for the eventual Jewish-sponsored re-creation of America.

The short explanation is that the preponderance of Zionists within radical-leftist movements has been in no small part because the entire power of the international banking families found common cause with them. The resources were available to make Jewish national interests acceptable to the non-Jewish public in the form of ideology. Once the financial power is in one group of hands, such a group can dictate public policy.

With the house of Morgan, one could see a financial state of affairs where each nation kept its own set of bankers and financiers. Many of these were more or less conservative, at least when compared with the Rothschild clan. Nationalism held sway only to the extent the financial powers felt it within their interest, and it was so when financial houses competed in accord with national boundaries in that they were essentially national institutions. The Jewish houses, however, were inherently international, inherently hostile to gentile "nations." Soon, as they consolidated their victory, the financial power backed internationalist schemes, with the only constants that they be centralized and

that power remained in the hands of the powerful families such as the Schiffs or Warburgs. These two demands were met rather well by both the ideology of capitalism and the ideology of Marxism; both are highly centralized accumulations of capital controlled by a rather small group of people.

The internationalism of the Jewish banking houses (versus the "nationalism" of the older variety) is the material backdrop to what is colloquially called the "New World Order." It is, at least financially speaking, the control, from one central source, of the world's economy through the control of a globalized currency. The control of currency, as recent events have shown, is more powerful than the control of manufacturing or other productive capital, for it is the financial power that has made the other sorts of economic power dependent upon it.

The argument is convincing. The nature of internationalist ideology is such that it cannot be the work of a disparate group of organizations or ideologies. Its control has been put into place with such precision, such speed and with such stifled dissent that a centralized source seems necessary to posit. The late Mr. Benson gives a solid introduction into exactly what that source is.

*Ivor Benson's *The Zionist Factor* (softcover; 217 pages, item #195, \$13.95 minus 10% for TBR subscribers) can be ordered from TBR BOOK CLUB by calling 1-877-773-9077 and charging to Visa or MC or sending payment to TBR, P.O. Box 15877, Washington, D.C. 20003.



HISTORY YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

A stone-age murder mystery appears to have been solved, after 10 years of study by scientists. A man who has been dubbed Ötzi, perhaps better known as “the Iceman,” was found 10 years ago in a melting glacier in Austria. He died 3,300 years ago. Many theories have been advanced as to the cause of death: For a while, the consensus was that he got caught in a late-autumn storm, fell into a crevasse and froze to death. Or was it arthritis or malnutrition that killed him? At last, the verdict is in. According to *Discover* magazine, Ötzi was the victim of a homicide: He was shot from behind with a bow and arrow. Why did it take investigators a decade to determine how the Iceman died? It seems the stone arrowhead escaped detection because radiologists simply were not looking for it. They were looking for bone fractures, malformations or signs of illness. Perhaps part of it was the “New Age” influence of “goddess” cultists, who say that early man was peaceful and never went around killing his fellow man.



The remains of the so-called “Iceman” indicate he may have been a victim of homicide.

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A “lost city” has been located by a Canadian scientific research team. In a press release dated Havana, May 14, 2001, Reuters of London informed the world that Soviet-born ocean engineer Paulina Zelitsky, the president of Canadian-based company Advanced Digital Communications, had detected “a sunken city” in deep waters off the west coast of Cuba, the largest island of the Caribbean. Satellite-integrated ocean bottom positioning systems, echo sounders and high precision side-scan double-frequency sonar have detected the presence of what are being described as “shapes” that “resemble pyramids, roads and buildings.” In Mrs. Zelitsky’s opinion, the complex belongs to “the pre-classic period” of Central American history, and was populated by “an advanced civilization similar to the early Teotihuacán culture of Yucatán. . . . It is stunning,” she said during an interview with the Reuters representative at her office at Tarara, on the coast east of Havana. “What we see in our high-resolution sonar images are limitless, rolling, white sand plains and, in the middle of this, there are clear, man-made, large-size architectural designs. It looks like when you fly over an urban development in a plane, and you see highways, tunnels and buildings. We don’t know what it is, and we don’t have the videotaped evidence of this yet, but we do not believe that nature is capable of producing planned symmetrical architecture, unless it is a miracle,” she added. Mrs. Zelitsky is cautious about what lies beneath the blue waters of the Yucatán Channel, admitting only that she is “excited but reluctant to speculate.” The discoveries were made during deep-sea surveys made by Mrs. Zelitsky and a trained scientific research team aboard the Cuban research vessel *Ulises*. Sonar images revealed “an extensive

series of structures” over a several-mile area in darker and lighter shades. The site is close to the edge of the underwater geological feature known as the Cuban shelf, which falls off sharply in a series of shelves which drop down to several thousand meters, and it is on one of these shelves that the structures are to be found. The mass of rectilinear features is said to be located in the proximity of an “extinct volcano, geological faults and a river bed.”

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This from *Free Republic*: In 1964, President Lyndon Johnson wanted a war in Vietnam. He wanted it to help his friends who owned defense companies to do a little business. He needed it to get the Pentagon and CIA to quit trying to invade Cuba. And most of all, he needed a provocation to convince the American people that there was really “no other choice.” On August 5, 1964, newspapers across America reported “renewed attacks” against American destroyers operating in Vietnamese waters, specifically the Gulf of Tonkin. The official story was that North Vietnamese torpedo boats launched an “unprovoked attack” on the *USS Maddox* while it was on “routine patrol.” The truth is that *USS Maddox* was involved in aggressive intelligence gathering in coordination with actual attacks by South Vietnam and the Laotian air force against targets in North Vietnam. The truth is also that there was no attack by torpedo boats against the *USS Maddox*. Capt. John J. Herrick, the task force commander in the Gulf, cabled Washington D.C. that the report was the result of an “overeager” sonar man who had picked up the sounds of his own ship’s screws and panicked. But even with this knowledge that the report was false, Lyndon Johnson went on national TV that night to announce the commencement of air strikes against North Vietnam, “retaliation” for an attack that had never occurred.

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According to *The Daily Telegraph* (December 8, 2001), Britain’s Lord Aldington, who was awarded record libel damages of 1.5 million pounds sterling (\$2.4 million) in 1989 over allegations that he was a war criminal, died December 7, 2000, without receiving a penny in compensation from his principal accuser. He was 86 and had been suffering from cancer. The celebrated case arose after the writer Nikolai Tolstoy, a distant relative of the famous Russian author, accused Lord Aldington of sending 70,000 Cossacks, Serbs and Croats to their deaths in communist Eastern Europe in 1945 when he was a senior officer in the Eighth Army. In retrospect, Lord Aldington accepted that the fate of those handed over was in many cases “appalling.” But he said that he had no reason to think that they would be massacred. Lord Deedes, a friend of Lord Aldington’s for more than 50 years and his neighbor in the Kent village from which both peers took their formal titles, said that his last years were consumed by his battle with Count Tolstoy. Deedes added: “Those close to him will know the extent to which it preyed on his mind. It was a remorseless battle.” Earlier this year, Count Tolstoy inherited a substantial sum from the estate of his stepfather, Patrick O’Brien, the historical novelist. Lord Aldington took legal advice on whether he could recover his unpaid damages and costs from the O’Brien inheritance. However, O’Brien had taken steps to avoid just such a result and Lord Aldington was unsuccessful. The jury, which had awarded the former Brigadier Toby Low the largest sum ever in an English defamation case, had intended to mark the gravity of the libel that he had suffered. But Lord Deedes, a former editor of *The Daily Telegraph* and still familiar to readers as W.F. Deedes, now a writer on the newspaper,

(Continued on reverse)

MORE HISTORY YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

(Continued from previous page)

said that the punitive damages had acted in Count Tolstoy's favor by making him appear to be the victim of an injustice. Count Tolstoy was unrepentant on being told of the peer's death yesterday. He described Lord Aldington as "deeply embittered and vindictive." The legal action between the two men arose in a curious way. Nigel Watts, a property developer, was in dispute with the Sun Alliance insurance company. Lord Aldington was its chairman. After failing to resolve his claim by conventional means, Watts discovered that he and Count Tolstoy were united by their antipathy to Lord Aldington. In 1987, he circulated copies of a pamphlet written by Count Tolstoy, accusing Lord Aldington of issuing orders which led to the post-war massacres. This provoked the expected libel writ and the stage was set for a gripping courtroom confrontation. Sun Alliance agreed to pay its chairman's costs but friends said that Lord Aldington still ended the court case some 300,000 pounds out of pocket. Count Tolstoy was eventually declared bankrupt. Watts paid a relatively small sum in settlement. The European Court of Human Rights decided in 1995 that the size of the libel damages amounted to a breach of Count Tolstoy's right to freedom of expression. By then, the law had been amended so that juries would be given some guidance on the size of the sums they might realistically award. In addition, the Court of Appeal was allowed to reduce excessive damages. That means Lord Aldington will retain the record for the largest libel award. His reputation was fully vindicated by the jury but for him it proved to be something of a hollow victory. Lord Aldington leaves a wife, Araminta, whose father was Sir Harold MacMichael, high commissioner and commander-in-chief for Palestine during World War II. They married in 1947 and had two daughters and a son, Charles Harold Stuart Low, who succeeds to the hereditary peerage.

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According to Reuters, Britain has discovered no evidence of a massive gold deposit in the Bank of England traced back over four centuries by thousands of would-be Cuban inheritors, a British official said. "There has been a search by the Bank of England, who have looked through the records, but they can find no trace of any funds, or of the names," British Foreign Office Permanent Undersecretary John Kerr said late Wednesday in Havana. His comments put a damper on the frenzy of rumors across that poor Caribbean island that thousands of supposed heirs might have a share in a billion-pound London deposit said to come from gold belonging to a wealthy Spanish nobleman. "I feel very sorry for people whose expectations are being raised, probably unrealistically. That seems to be sad and cruel," Kerr added in an interview with Reuters before heading to Mexico after a two-day official visit to Cuba. History

books show that Francisco Manso de Contreras made his fortune capturing gold and other bullion from pirates in the Caribbean during the 17th century and settled in the town of Remedios on the northern coast of then Spanish-ruled Cuba. According to the legend in Cuba, now repeated by groups of self-proclaimed heirs, the nobleman's three daughters became nuns, had no use for riches, and so the gold was shipped off to the Bank of England in London in the 18th century. Those who claim to be the family's descendants calculate that, with at least a couple of hundred years of interest, the deposit must now be worth various billions of pounds—a tempting prospect for many Cubans both on the island and in the main exile community of Florida. The "Manso de Contreras" gold-fever has been around for years, but hit new heights in 2001 with unprecedented publicity, rowdy heirs' meetings, and rumors of secret negotiations between Havana and London. Kerr insisted, however, there were no grounds for optimism. "The Bank of England's position is that they can't find it. The British government's position is that it is a legal issue and not a matter for government," he said. "If a legal claim can be established, the law would take its course. I'm afraid it seems very unlikely given that the bank can find no trace." President Fidel Castro's government has made no official comment on the issue, though Cubans talk about it everywhere, and fortune-seekers line up every day to check church archives in Remedios that may prove their claim. Many self-proclaimed heirs suspect—without evidence—that London may be covering up its use of the money, maybe for colonial wars in past centuries. And a major Miami-based law firm is even reported to be working on the case. "I know it's a big story out here and people have had expectations raised, I think rather unwisely and rather unfairly," Kerr added. "I'm afraid I at present see no basis for payment and no particular role for government." Kerr, who met a host of senior Cuban officials, also mentioned a probable future medical initiative between Havana and London, proposed by Castro's government, to send Cuban doctors to poor nations funded and equipped by rich Western countries. "We are rather impressed by the standards of medicine here, and it seems to us possible and well worth exploring that we could do some good in the AIDS-struck African countries by a combination of a bit of capital and a bit of equipment from the United Kingdom and human capital and expertise from Cuba," he said.

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According to *The Telegraph* of London (July 24, 2001), the first pictures of the *Hood*, the Royal Navy battle cruiser sunk in the North Atlantic in 1941, show that she was ripped apart in a duel with the *Bismarck* and its 15-inch guns. A 2-million-pound expedition led by the undersea explorer David Mearns and funded by Channel 4 found the *Hood* 10,000 feet

down in the Denmark Straits, between Greenland and Iceland. "Our immediate reaction has been one of surprise by the damage suffered by the *Hood*," Mearns said. "It is far worse than any of us had expected." The largest portion of the hull was found lying upside down with the starboard side and the bows blown off. The section from the mainmast to the aft turret was blown to pieces. The *Hood* and the *Prince of Wales* sailed from Scapa Flow on May 21, 1941, after the German navy's most prestigious ship, the *Bismarck*, and the heavy cruiser the *Prinz Eugen*, were spotted off Norway en route for the Atlantic. For more than 20 years, the *Hood*, built at Clydebank and launched in 1920, had been the world's largest warship. But its last mission, to sink the *Bismarck*, was one it would not survive. All four ships met in the Denmark Straits in the early morning of May 24. In the battle, *Bismarck* and *Prinz Eugen* concentrated their fire on the *Hood*. They only fired a few salvos but, despite its reputation, the *Hood* had light armor and was vulnerable to fire from heavy shells. It split in two and sank in three minutes with the loss of all but three of its 1,419-man crew. The *Bismarck* was sunk three days later off the coast of northern France with the loss of 2,000 men. The Channel 4 team has already discovered the wreckage. The expedition to find the *Hood*, which has the backing of the Ministry of Defense, has a strict "look, but don't touch" philosophy, Mearns said. "The images we have seen are a constant reminder that the wreck site is a massive war grave and in that regard I have the deepest respect for the men who died here 60 years ago." Ted Briggs, the only living survivor of the *Hood*, will be flown to the wreck to lay a bronze plaque naming all those who died. He said: "Many of the relatives of the men lost with the *Hood* have spoken to me to say how happy they are that we are going out to the site. This is a chance to say a final good-bye to the men who died. I think the dead would want to know that they have not been forgotten. I feel that I owe them my life and I have a duty to visit the ship." Mearns and his team used remotely operated submarines and sonar to find the wreck. "Filming the wreck and investigating the debris field has been extremely difficult because of the strong bottom currents and the sheer scale of the destruction and large debris fields." The aim of the expedition is to answer vital questions about the last moments of the *Hood*. Eric Grove, a naval historian at Hull University, said that they remained a mystery. "But we do have an important new clue. From the rudder position we have found on the stern portion, we know that the *Hood* was turning when she blew up. The more she turned to port, the more vulnerable her side armor became. This may be a key to her destruction. But we also have a new mystery. What happened to separate the bows so violently from the fore part of the ship: implosion or explosion?"

Remembering the Legendary BLACK SHEEP SQUADRON

BY JOHN TIFFANY

Some of our readers may remember the TV version of the Black Sheep Squadron, starring Robert Conrad. But the reality was not as depicted by TV, nor was it quite the same as in the newspaper accounts. It was a lot less glamorous, but still plenty exciting.

The famed Marine Corps Squadron VMF-214 (known as the Black Sheep Squadron) was a group of daring fliers led by ace pilot Gregory “Pappy” Boyington. The Sheep started as a squadron of nobodies, being formed from a collection of flyers and replacements on the spur of the moment. Within a matter of weeks it became the best Japanese-killing outfit in the Solomons and, in some respects, the most unusual squadron ever to fly the South Pacific skies. The squadron harassed the forces of Nippon in a series of bold forays from September 1943 to January 1944.

Fred Avey became fascinated with aviation after his initial flight in 1935 at age 23. The knowledge that his older brother perished in an airplane crash his first time in the sky failed to deter Avey from volunteering in the Royal Canadian Air Force in February 1941, before the United States entered World War II. “I wanted to do my share to win the war and keep [America] out of it,” he said. Avey transferred to the U.S. Marines after the devastating Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor brought the United States into the war.

Avey headed for the Pacific in mid-1942, and by the following spring he had joined a fighter squadron operating out of Espiritu Santo, an island northeast of Australia in the Coral Sea. He transferred to Boyington’s squadron, VMF-214, which had already made its mark in six short weeks of combat flying.

The Black Sheep first gathered in September 1943 when Adm. William “Bull” Halsey asked that an additional Marine squadron be immediately dispatched to assist his hotly contested Solomon Islands operation. Normally, squadrons were formed in the United States and trained together extensively before heading overseas, but in the urgency of the situation a squadron was hastily assembled from replacement pilots and remnants from other units. Its commander would be Maj. Boyington, known for his skill as a pilot (he was already an ace) and his talent for getting into trouble (he was without a unit because he broke one of his ankles while wrestling during a drinking spree).



Black Sheep Ned Corman poses in front of his World War II plane.

After three weeks of hurried training, the original unit of 28 pilots (only three of whom had combat experience), one intelligence officer and one surgeon moved to its forward base at Munda in the Russell Islands on September 12. During two six-week combat tours, 51 different men eventually served with the Sheep; 11 died in action.

The number of kills recorded by the Sheep soared during the group’s first combat tour. To garner favorable publicity, Frank Walton, the squadron’s intelligence officer, provided *Chicago Daily News* correspondent George Weller with statistics about the unit and its various pilots, which Weller turned into a popular syndicated series.

"There were 41 members during my tour, most of them 20 or 21 years old and just out of flight school," Avey said. "We were not all glory boys—the press created that. But we weren't afraid to fly."

A typical mission began with the briefing, held the night before if the mission was scheduled for early morning and in the daytime if the planes were leaving later in the afternoon. Walton informed the pilots of the day's objective, expected resistance and times of departure. Normally, Avey and the others went out on strafing missions, escorted bombers to the Japanese bastion at Rabaul, or scoured the skies for Zeros in a fighter sweep. Afterward, Walton, aided by the squadron surgeon who handed out two-ounce bottles of whiskey to the men, debriefed the pilots.

Black Sheep John F. Bolt, credited with six kills, claimed he charged into a dogfight with the attitude that the first enemy he saw "was a dead man, and I didn't care where he was or how many protectors he had." Life on the ground could sometimes be a bit unusual for the Sheep because of the unit's colorful characters. Boyington bore a reputation for getting into trouble, usually when he overindulged in alcohol. Other men broke the long monotony with crazy antics. Chris Magee, a happy-go-lucky individual who read books on philosophy and witchcraft, brought along a pile of hand grenades to toss at Japanese buildings when flying at low altitudes and constantly wore blue bathing trunks, tennis shoes and a bandanna. He was a good pilot, credited with nine kills, second only to Boyington.

Far from being glamorous, living conditions in the South Pacific were "horrible," Avey said. "There was nothing pretty about it—either coral rocks or jungle trees." Their bases were cramped, experienced heavy rains at times, and were sweltering in the heat

because of their proximity to the equator.

Mosquitoes and big black ants were everywhere. Avey said: "At night we would catch six-inch salamanders and put them in our bedding. They helped keep mosquitoes away. One morning one of our pilots was bitten by a scorpion that had crawled into his pants overnight. When he put on his pants, the thing bit him. I also remember once on Vella Lavella looking down at the other end of the runway and seeing a huge mass of red crabs crossing over to get to the sea."

The food fit in with their miserable living quarters, said Avey. Once the unit had to eat Spam three times a day for a month, having run out of other food. "There wasn't much to do once it got dark," Avey said. "Our quarters were blacked out except for tiny blue lights on the floor, and we had no radio." Nights could stretch endlessly, because the Japanese normally sent over planes to harass the exhausted pilots. When enemy planes were heard, Avey and the others dashed for foxholes dug outside of their tents.

The group gained such notoriety that its members were later portrayed in the 1970s television series *Baa, Baa, Black Sheep*, starring Robert Conrad. Avey cringes at the mention of the popular 1970s television show that pictured the unit as a hard-drinking bunch. "Television made it look like all we did was party, but that was in no way true. We never went up drunk. The only thing accurate about the show was that we flew Corsairs." ❖

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DRIVING A STAKE THROUGH THE HEART OF THE THOUGHT VAMPIRE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

cowed that they are even afraid to take note that facts exist contrary to those the establishment officially projects about the "Holocaust," then they have to be willing to say anything—anything at all—no matter how stupid, erroneous, anti-historical, contradictory, self-demeaning—that they are told to say.

And if American life is so grievously polluted and poisoned by the likes of the 200 "thought leaders" we mailed that issue to, then the whole of American life is being corrupted by its leaders—social, intellectual, spiritual and political—not to mention technological.

Technology is politically and philosophically neutral and can be used for good or bad. In *Body of Secrets*,* author James Bamford explores and reports on the state of technology, specifically as utilized in the National Security Agency, which uses billions per year of taxpayers' money ostensibly for the purpose of enhancing national security. No review of this 721-page book can be even attempted in these brief sentences. Suffice it to say that no person can be even partially educated as to the ultimate reality of "our" government without being acquainted with the incredible facts about the NSA and its almost divine (or should we say satanic) capability of piercing the privacy of every being of the world; of managing falsity and creating documentation for any government policy desired.

(As an aside, the so-called videotape of Osama bin Laden presumably giving a secret report to his lieutenants about how

he managed the destruction of the Twin Towers and part of the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001, was almost certainly produced by the NSA, no doubt in collaboration with that more publicly known image factory, Hollywood.)

History merges into reality. This is why Stalin frankly said that historians can be great troublemakers. By trying to manufacture their own history, the politicians and their plutocratic dance masters respectfully acknowledge the overarching importance of history. Americans who wish to know the reality behind the facade, the real world instead of the artificial one, must bestow this vital and dynamic verity upon others without fear.

We have the facts and the truth. The establishment has the guns, the money and the motive to continue to escalate their criminal attempt to control reality by the levers of falsehood. That they can do it for a very short time—historically speaking—is certain. But that they can perpetuate their own artificial and false motion picture forever is nothing less than laughable and only shows their fundamental naivete. They can feast from the blood of the unwary and gullible, but they will wilt before the cross of truth when it is firmly held by those who know them for their evil works. ❖

**Body of Secrets is available from the TBR BOOK CLUB for \$32 (less 10% for TBR subscribers). Include shipping and handling: \$5 per book inside the U.S.; \$10 per book outside the U.S. Order item #720. Send payment to TBR BOOKS, P.O. Box 15877, Washington, D.C. 20003 or call toll free 1-877-773-9077 and charge to Visa or MC. Ask for a book catalog.*

Marie Antoinette

BY NESTA H. WEBSTER

The Nineteenth Century was a British magazine of historical and literary opinion, which is now defunct. This article written by Nesta Webster for the March 1937 issue is definitive regarding Marie Antoinette, the much-maligned queen of France, archduchess of Austria and daughter of the formidable Maria Theresa. Since we felt no one could say it better than that expert on the French Revolution, we reproduce her article here, with only insignificant changes.

Few characters in history have aroused stronger emotions in the minds of posterity than the ill-fated Queen Marie Antoinette of France. While she has found ardent defenders—the Goncourts, Imbert de Saint-Amand, Comte Horace de Viel-Castel—and thousands have wept over her fate as recorded in their pages—on the other hand she has encountered an animosity which knows no relenting and has recently increased in malevolence and volume. It seems that to such writers it is not enough that Marie Antoinette should have mounted the scaffold; her character must be traduced, and her memory dishonored, by misquotations and mistranslations of contemporary documents and by the interpolation of imaginary incidents.

What is the reason for this animosity? Is it because she once seemed happy, once flitted like a white butterfly around the gardens of the Petit Trianon, once moved as a queen of beauty and fashion through the Galerie des Glaces, “glittering,” as Burke said, “like the morning star, full of life and splendor and joy”? Can it be that sour envy, innate in some minds, cannot forgive her that brief and brilliant phase of her career? Or is it, as Ovid recorded 2,000 years ago in his *Tristia*, that illicit love is a “bestseller”? Thus it must be invented where it never existed in order to commend books of small intrinsic worth to the jaded palates of the patrons of lending libraries? Or is it that enemies of monarchy, of Christianity and indeed of European civilization, inflamed with hatred against all that commands reverence, all that is hallowed by tradition, hurl themselves against this woman as symbolic of that superiority they have vowed to destroy?

Throughout the last half of the 19th century a number

of scandalous writers found satisfaction in raking up some of the libels circulated during the lifetime of the queen by the gutter press of Paris. But nothing of this was taken seriously; the leading historians of France held their own against the slingers of mud and, while acknowledging the queen’s imprudences, maintained the tradition of her virtue in the face of all ignoble attempts to defame it. But in the course of the past 20 years this question, particularly with regard to the comte de Fersen, has entered on a new phase. The publication of fresh documents by M. Lucien Maury, by M. de Heidenstam and, above all, by Mlle. Alma Söderhjelm in 1930 and the new edition of the *Mémoires* of the comte de Saint-Priest in 1929, have revived controversy and led writers who had hitherto defended the queen’s virtue to regard it as an open question. In my two volumes on Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette, I have gone minutely into the real evidence those recent “discoveries” provide, and I have shown on what insecure foundations the case against her has been built up. In a work of history, however, only the documents themselves could be considered; the superstructure built on them by imaginative writers did not come within its scope. But since these pseudohistorical books are the principal means of information for the general public, some attempt should surely be made to dispel the fog of error they have created around the name of Marie Antoinette.

Proceeding in order of date, we may begin with the little brochure of M. Emile Baumann, *Marie Antoinette et Axel Fersen*, published in 1931. While keeping with fair accuracy to the facts of history in the general outline of his story and including some quite interesting documentation supported by footnotes, the author has, however, allowed himself to indulge in flights of fancy. Building on the aforesaid new doc-

uments, which are all accepted by him without reserve, M. Baumann introduces love scenes evolved solely out of his imagination. Thus Axel “falls on his knees. He kisses her eyelids. She drops her head on his shoulder.” All this is, of course, fiction. But M. Baumann’s final conclusions are curious and interesting. Even if the fresh evidence concerning the famous love affair is true; even if such impassioned scenes took place between the queen and Fersen, what reason, he asks, is there to believe in an actual liaison?

Mlle. Söderhjelm’s book, he points out, is “a valuable compilation on account of all the unpublished material she brings forward but which is spoiled by the *parti pris* [“side taken,” prejudice, preconception—Ed.] of arriving without the smallest proof at this conclusion—[that] Fersen was the lover of the queen” (260). M. Baumann also estimates at its right value the much-quoted evidence of the comte de Saint-Priest, of whom he says: “when he touches on the intimacy between Marie Antoinette and Fersen, we find the perfidy of insinuations, a sort of sour jealousy, of ill-suppressed rancor.” M. Baumann thus shows himself no enemy of the queen; on the contrary, like M. de Heidenstam, he sees her as the heroine of an idyllic romance which, according to his conceptions, never passed the bounds of strict morality.



f a very different order is the book of M. Pierre Nezeloff, *La Vie joyeuse et tragique de Marie Antoinette*, translated into English under the ironic title of *The Merry Queen: Marie Antoinette*. Here no attempt is made to defend the queen’s virtue, and the supposed revelations of Mlle. Söderhjelm are made to serve as a basis for pages of invented dialog quite unlike anything the characters in question are recorded to have said, and for love scenes of a ridiculous kind. Thus:

He stretched out at her feet and put his head in her lap, and she gently ran her outspread fingers through his hair. “Axel,” she said, “you don’t know how I love you.” He closed his eyelids, as if to get the full meaning of her words. “Dearest,” he murmured, “tell me what I have done to deserve such happiness.” [Etc etc.]

Fersen’s secret visit to Paris in 1792, of which not one word has been recorded relating to any sentimental episode, is spun out into six pages of amorous conversation ending with the inevitable “night of love” surmised by Mlle. Söderhjelm and here developed with a wealth of imagination. The whole book is too fantastic to be taken by anyone for a narrative of facts.

The *Marie Antoinette* of Stefan Zweig, which was published about the same time in this country, has, however, more the appearance of serious history, for nothing so crude as invented dialogue has been introduced. Yet the book must be placed in the same category as the foregoing nonetheless. Entirely undocumented from beginning to end, the reader is asked to take the author’s word for it on every point. Herr Zweig having decided, as he announces on the title page, that Marie Antoinette was merely “an average woman,” every-

thing is made to accord with this conception. Indeed, Zweig makes no secret of his method, for on p. 471 he actually admits that he has “omitted a number of witty or affecting remarks which belong to the ‘Marie Antoinette tradition’ . . . because they seem to be too witty or too affecting to be appropriate to the queen’s character, which was that of an average woman.”

Marie Antoinette is thus thrust into the Procrustean bed of Zweig’s thesis, and anything that does not fit in with it is ruthlessly lopped off. In accordance with this plan, the queen is shorn of every noble trait and the highlights which make the drama of her life are blotted out. The touching exclamation of Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette: “Oh God, guide us; protect us; we are too young to reign!” is declared to be “a clumsy invention” of that “elderly collector of gossip” Mme. Campan (72), although Mme. Campan was present in the chateau at the time and her account of the king’s and queen’s feelings on their accession is entirely corroborated by the testimony of the comte de Provence and the British ambassador, Lord Stormont. Zweig, moreover, does not hesitate to accept Mme. Campan’s version of a story when it suits him, even where she is least to be believed, as in the case of Mirabeau’s interview with the queen at Saint Cloud.

The most interesting psychological point in the character of Marie Antoinette, her evolution through successive phases, is almost entirely ignored by Zweig; so is her dominating passion, her love for children. From the beginning of his book until the last chapter, she remains the same: arrogant and empty-headed—sacrificing everything to pleasure “for nearly two decades” (90). Her whirl of gaiety is made to start a year before she became queen, in 1773 (63), instead of in 1775; to represent her as dauphine going off to indulge in Paris night life is absurd. Even when queen, her gay phase at its height never approached the description given on p. 63; the references to her flirtations and “nocturnal adventures” in the park of Versailles (101) are equally without foundation. So also is the assertion that Joseph II, during his visit to France in 1777, had felt certain that “she had flirted rather outrageously” (132); he had described her as “austere” in her morals. The suggestion that she ever felt a *tendresse* for Lauzun appears to be taken from the worthless *Mémoires* attributed to him, and is shown by Tilly, Mme. Campan and the baronne d’Oberkirch to be the reverse of what took place, the truth being that Lauzun dared to make love to her and was sternly repulsed.

There is, again, no foundation for saying (160) that Marie Antoinette ever wished to buy the famous diamond necklace; we know that she refused it again and again, even when it was offered to her by the king. Later on Zweig says that the documents which have come to light in modern times, preserved in the archives of Vienna and in Fersen’s papers, established her “treasonable practices against the republic” (441); but this is obviously impossible, since the republic was not proclaimed until more than a month after the royal family was imprisoned in the temple¹ and cut off from all communication with the outside world. What her

correspondence with Fersen—which ceased before the fall of the monarchy—has helped to establish is her opposition to schemes of aggression either on the part of the émigrés or of foreign powers.

It is in the question of Fersen that Zweig has shown the greatest disregard for facts, and, as this forms the salient feature of his book, the whole is invalidated as a work of history. Let it be said at once that he does not come forward as the queen's accuser on this score, for he sees in her supposed violation of what he terms "the bourgeois code of morality"—presumably the laws of Christian marriage—the one really interesting and praiseworthy episode in her career, to which only "purity fanatics" can take exception (see 237, 238, 247). But what evidence is there that Marie Antoinette ever followed this Freudian principle? It would hardly be too much to say that chapters XX and XXI, in which this theme is developed, consist mainly of a series of pure surmises and assertions made without any valid proof. "Her senses had been stirred . . . her heart had gone out to him in love . . . the queen was in love with him." All this belongs as much to the realm of novel writing as the love scenes of Nezeloff and Baumann. In a work of history we must state facts or make it clear we are putting forth a hypothesis. Apparently, like Mlle. Söderhjelm, Zweig thinks that if the public is told anything often enough it will believe it.

Nowhere, however, do we find Mlle. Söderhjelm inventing episodes or misquoting her authorities so as to alter the sense of the text. But this is what Zweig has done on several occasions. Thus the whole of page 228, where Marie Antoinette as dauphine is described as "forsaking the tedious couch of her sleepy spouse" and going off to a masked ball at the opera on July 30, 1774, accosting Fersen without introduction and then embarking on a flirtation with him, is a complete travesty. The date of the ball in question was January 30. No masked balls were given at the opera in July, and by that month of 1774, Marie Antoinette had become queen. From the accounts given by Mercy and Fersen we know what really took place, namely that Marie Antoinette attended the ball with her husband, his brothers and their wives, and talked to Fersen, whom he knew already, since he had been presented at court in the previous November and had attended four of her balls—two in this same month of January. Not one word is recorded of anything approaching



Executed in 1788, this is the last portrait of 30 that Mme. Elisabeth Vigée-Lebrun painted of Marie Antoinette. Her daughter and two sons (both named Louis) are also shown.

flirtation on this occasion, and Mercy has nothing but praise for the dauphine's conduct, as this author has shown in her book entitled *Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette Before the Revolution* (20).

Again, in the case of the famous letter of the comte de Creutz, where the duchess of FitzJames is reported to have said to Fersen, "What, monsieur, you are abandoning your conquest?" Zweig makes Fersen reply, "I am going away because I wish to, and without any regrets," (232) instead of "I am going away free, and unfortunately without leaving any regrets" (*"je pars libre et malheureusement sans laisser des regrets"*)—a most chivalrous way of saying he had not made the impression he was supposed to have done on the heart of the queen.

Later, on page 235, Zweig quotes Fersen as ending a letter to his sister with the words, "Farewell, I must go to the queen." What he really wrote was, "Farewell, I must go to the queen's *jeu* [play, party, ball]"—like any other courtier. Further down on the same page the comte de Saint-Priest is

represented as saying, "Fersen went three or four times every week to Trianon. The queen, unattended, did the same." But what Saint-Priest said was, "Fersen rode into the park near Trianon three or four times a week; the queen alone did the same"—that is to say, they met on horseback in the woods around the chateau, surely not a very compromising proceeding at all.

On page 239 Zweig says that Saint-Priest "tells of Fersen's secret nocturnal visits to Trianon, Saint Cloud and the Tuileries"; but nowhere does Saint-Priest say that Fersen went to Trianon by night, only to Saint Cloud and the Tuileries after the revolution had begun, when night was the safest time to discuss secret plans of rescue. On the same page Zweig asks: "Which among the contemporaries of the affair who were eye-witnesses of what went on can be found to stigmatize as a falsehood the statement that Fersen was Marie Antoinette's lover? Not a single one."

But the prince de Ligne and the comte d'Hézecques both stigmatized it as a falsehood, while a number of other contemporaries declared their conviction of her virtue without specifically mentioning Fersen, since he was only one of the many lovers gratuitously attributed to her. And how does Zweig get over the awkward fact that the name of Fersen never once occurs in Mercy's dispatches, that in the *Mémoires* of the day his name is mainly conspicuous by its absence? He can only account for it by concluding that there was "a conspiracy of silence" so as to uphold the "legend of the martyred

queen's immaculate chastity." A conspiracy of silence on the part of her mortal enemies at the court and of the revolutionaries who characterized her as a Messalina!² A conspiracy of silence on the part of Camille Desmoulins, of Hébert, of Mme. Roland, to defend her virtue! Yet even they dared not attack her on the score of Fersen. On page 238 Zweig cites Napoleon and Talleyrand as declaring that Marie Antoinette became the mistress of Fersen, but he refrains from mentioning the source through which this story was said to have reached them both—namely, "that elderly collector of gossip Mme. Campan." The story was refuted more than 100 years ago by John Wilson Croker.

P

roceeding with all the assurance of a writer basing his statements on recorded facts, Zweig says (246) "there can be no question" that as soon as the queen's "intimate relations" with Fersen began she "ceased to be Louis' wife except in name," probably between 1785 and 1790. In reality, nothing is known of their relations before the revolution—that is to say, before 1790, when, as the official intermediary between Gustavus III and Louis XVI, Fersen became the principal confidant of Marie Antoinette; nor does Fersen's recently published correspondence throw any light on the matter. But this presents no obstacle to Zweig, who, disregarding the chronology of "that distinguished investigator Alma Söderhjelm" (471), calmly takes a letter supposed to apply to the queen out of the series

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Dr. Guillotin's Philanthropic Decapitation Device

Mlle. Söderhjelm has placed, no doubt accurately, in the spring of 1790, and introduces it in 178, (234). That this letter does not refer to the queen at all, but presumably to Fersen's mistress, Mrs. Sullivan, is clearly shown in my book *Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette During the Revolution*.

Zweig, however, allows his readers no glimpse of that side of Fersen's life. He had no doubt the perspicacity to perceive that Mlle. Söderhjelm had seriously weakened her argument that Fersen was the queen's lover by introducing Mrs. Sullivan into the story. He therefore adopts the method of Baron de Klinckowström and M. de Heidenstam, whom he makes the butt of his sarcasms, by omitting all reference to that lady; not once does her name occur in the whole course of his book. This greatly enhances the credibility of the amorous meeting between the supposed lovers during Fersen's secret visit to Paris in 1792 when he was lodged in great comfort at the house of Mrs. Sullivan. To complete the episode, Zweig then adds a purely imaginary bit of narrative, thus (340):

Midnight struck. . . . Now came the hardest task of those 30 hours—the farewell. Fersen and his beloved tried to persuade themselves that it was not a last farewell, but in their secret hearts they foreboded the inevitable. Never again would they meet in this life! Trying to reassure his mistress, the lover promised to come again if it should prove possible to do so, and his sorrow at parting was tinged by happiness that his visit had been a comfort to her. The queen accompanied Fersen to the door, which again, by good fortune, was unwatched. But the last good-byes were still unsaid, the last embraces had not yet been exchanged, when the measured tread of an approaching sentry was heard. There was no choice left; they had to wrench themselves away from one another. Fersen slipped out into the night, and Marie Antoinette fled back to her room. The lovers had seen one another for the last time.

Now, in reality, we know nothing whatever about Fersen's farewell to Marie Antoinette at the end of his visit to the Tuileries on February 14, 1792. The only record of that event is Fersen's *Journal*, where he relates that he left the queen at half-past nine and returned to Mrs. Sullivan—"A 9 1/2 h: je la quittai"; that is all he has to say about his last parting on Earth with the queen to whose service he was devoted.

But on another page of Mlle. Söderhjelm's book we find Quintin Craufurd's account of his own farewell visit to the queen, which in the original runs as follows:

Toward 9 o'clock I left her. She let me out through a narrow room . . . which led to a dimly lit corridor. She opened the door herself and paused again to talk to me, but hearing someone walking in the corridor, she begged me to retire and closed the door. It was quite natural under the circumstances that I should have been struck by the idea that I was seeing her for the last time.³

Can we avoid the conclusion that this experience of Craufurd's has been adapted by Zweig so as to lend a picturesque touch to Fersen's unromantic record of his parting with the queen? It will hardly be maintained that this is the way serious history should be written.

Passing on to the queen's trial, Zweig says that, "giving evidence before the Revolutionary Tribunal, a housemaid tes-

An avid egalitarian, Dr. Joseph-Ignace Guillotin (1738-1814) argued that capital punishment should be administered the same, regardless of the wealth or social position of the culprit. In his day, privileged individuals were killed by decapitation with a sword or ax, while the poor were generally hanged. His lobbying efforts prompted others—not himself as many people imagine—to develop a "philanthropic decapitation machine" that performed its grisly task in the twinkling of an eye.

The Edison electric chair is a parallel in the sense that both inventions were intended to make execution quick and painless. Guillotin argued that the condemned would never feel anything but a sense of "refreshing coolness," a bizarre theory he was never able to prove.

Although the machine was still in the "drawing board" stage, people began talking about it, and referring to it as a "guillotine," in honor of the man who initially conceived of it. A committee was formed, and its chairman, Dr. Antoine Louis, secretary of the Academy of Surgery, was asked to issue a report on the possibility of manufacturing a machine that could be relied on. When the machine was actually built, it was called a *louisette* or *louison*, after Louis. However, soon people reverted to calling it by its original name of guillotine. It was a German harpsichord maker who constructed the actual machine, Tobias Schmidt.

The device was not so original as most people think. Very similar mechanisms, including the Scottish "maiden," predated the guillotine by several centuries.

Naturally the invention came into use throughout the French world, including the colonies as far-flung as Madagascar and North America. It also was adopted by a number of foreign countries.

The need to kill victims even faster was acutely felt at the height of the Reign of Terror, leading to dreams of multi-bladed guillotines. In 1794, a four-bladed machine was ordered by the military commission at Bordeaux and apparently was actually constructed, but it is unlikely that it ever saw service. This device boasted a huge scaffold with trapdoors through which the corpses were to drop down into waiting carts. When filled, these would be driven out through a large door in the side.

tified that a gentleman had frequently left the queen's bedroom secretly by night." Not a word of this kind was said by anyone on that occasion. It was because the revolutionaries could find no one to testify against the queen's morality that they were reduced to the horrible accusation of Hébert concerning the dauphin, which Zweig actually says (422) "has always been a tough nut for Marie Antoinette's biographers to crack." The truth is that its very infamy has provided one of the strongest weapons in the hands of her defenders. Even Robespierre recognized how seriously it weakened the case against her.

The misstatements and historical inaccuracies on minor and even on non-controversial points which occur throughout the whole of Zweig's book are too numerous to quote at length, but as examples of the latter category may be mentioned (122), where Mme. de Maintenon is apparently confused with Mme. de Montespan; (141), where the first dauphin is described as the duc de Normandie, which was the title given to the youngest son of Louis XVI, born four years later, who became the second dauphin; and (302), where on the flight to Varennes the berline⁴ is given eight horses instead of six.

There is, of course, no reason why a writer should not allow his fancy to play around characters in history, and many a historical novel has proved of value by making the dry bones to live and presenting the past in a more vivid manner than strictly documented works can convey. But it should be made clear to the public that such books are not history, and that imagination has played a part in their construction. Moreover, in a good historical novel the characters are drawn from life, and this is where the foregoing books fail most significantly. For no one who has studied Marie Antoinette in the records of the past, and particularly in her own writings,

could recognize in the blend of Becky Sharpe and modern "vamp" who masquerades through Zweig's pages any resemblance to the queen whose graciousness and splendid dignity were her dominant characteristics.

Unfortunately, it is through literature of this type that the general public gains its conceptions of historical characters and events. The theater, the cinema, those powerful methods of publicity which might be put to such great educative use, too often draw their inspiration from sources where picturesque effect has provided the sole consideration. A biography has come to be judged by the standard of whether it would "film well," and the noblest men and women of the past must be sacrificed to this end. I understand that a film of Marie Antoinette is shortly to be produced in which we may expect to see Fersen providing the necessary "love interest" in scenes of a sensational kind, and thousands of people will go out from these performances imagining that they have looked on at the true history of the martyred queen. Will no voice be raised to tell them that they have seen nothing but the vulgarization of a great tragedy? ❖

FOOTNOTES

¹ [This refers to the Temple Prison.—Ed.]

² [The wife of Claudius. She was the mother of his children, Britannicus and Octavia. Her reputation for greed and lust was unknown to the emperor until in his absence she publically married her lover, Caius Silius.—Ed.]

³ *Notice sur Marie Stuart, Reine d'Ecosse, et sur Marie Antoinette, Reine de France*, 1816, (52).

⁴ [An ordinary-appearing carriage, although the "escape berline" was slightly larger and, at seven miles per hour, much faster than the average carriage of the time. The berline was the perfect escape vehicle and served the king and queen well until they got to Sainte-Ménéhould, about halfway to the frontier. At that point they had problems, halted their advance and gave Jean-Baptiste Drouet time to get the barricade assembled.—Ed.]

NESTA WEBSTER WAS BORN *Nesta Bevan in a stately home in Trent Park, England, and was the youngest daughter of Robert Bevan, a close friend of Cardinal Manning. Her mother was the daughter of Bishop Shuttleworth of Chichester. Nesta was educated at Westfield College under the austere Miss Maynard. On coming of age she traveled around the world, to India, Burma, Singapore and Japan. While in India she met and married Capt. Arthur Webster, the superintendent of the English Police. Settling down in England, she commenced to write, and a strange obsession overcame her that she had, in a former existence, lived in 18th-century France. The more she read about the French Revolution the more she "remembered." Her first serious book on this subject was *The Chevalier de Boufflers*, which fascinated Lord Cromer; to judge by his long review in *The Spectator*. Deeper and deeper she sank into the literature of the French Revolution, spending over three years at the British Museum and *Bibliothèque Nationale*. After World War I she was asked to give a lecture on "The Origin and Progress of World Revolution" to the officers of the Royal Artillery. By special request she repeated the lecture to the officers and non-commissioned officers of the Brigade of Guards in Whitehall, and then she was asked to repeat it a third time to the officers of the Secret Service, and it was at their special request that she wrote *The World Revolution*, based on these lectures. Her charm and brilliance enabled her to captivate some of the leading literary, political and military minds of her day, and Lord Kitchener in India described her as the "foremost opponent of subversion."*

