

The Perils of Interventionism and Nation Building • Hope's Foundation

September 20, 2021 • \$3.95

The New American

www.TheNewAmerican.com



AFGHANISTAN: PLANNED DISASTER?



RAFFIN
CONSTRUCTION CO.



RAFFIN
PROPERTIES



Serving the Chicagoland area for over 90 years

744 EAST 113TH ST. • CHICAGO, IL 60628 • (773) 785-3055

WWW.RAFFINCONSTRUCTION.COM

Family Owned & Operated Since 1972



Natural Foods Market

What does "family owned & operated" really mean? For the Clark family, it means getting up early for 45 years to work in their own community, and choosing to invest in the Inland Empire. In a time when Wall Street is trying to run Main Street, Clark's Nutrition still believes that family-owned and operated businesses are the backbone of the American dream, and feels privileged to help families live healthier and happier lives.

Selection - Staff - Experience - Affordability

SELECTION

Clark's has the largest selection of organic produce and supplements in the Inland Empire.

NUTRITIONAL CONSULTANTS

We have trained Nutritional Consultants to help assist you with whatever your health goals are. They're not on commission, and are here to help you "Live Better!"

WE ARE EXCITED TO MEET YOU! It is our company mission to provide customers with nutritional assistance that can really have a lasting impact on their quality of life. We look forward to meeting and serving you!

AFFORDABLE

Clark's goes to great lengths to make sure your family has what they need at an affordable price.

STORE TOURS

Come by any time and we will be glad to give you a personal tour and answer any of your questions.

CHINO

909.993.9200

12835 Mountain Ave.
Chino, CA 91710

LOMA LINDA

909.478.7714

11235 Mountain View Ave.
Loma Linda, CA 92354

RIVERSIDE

951.686.4757

4225 Market St.
Riverside, CA 92501

RANCHO MIRAGE

760.324.4626

34175 Monterey Ave.
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270



www.clarksnutrition.com

Ray & Carol Clark



ZIGNEGO READY MIX, INC.

W226 N2940 DUPLAINVILLE ROAD
WAUKESHA, WI 53186

262-542-0333 • www.Zignego.com

COVER STORY

FOREIGN POLICY

10 Afghanistan: Planned Disaster?

by R. Cort Kirkwood — President Biden was right to withdraw U.S. troops from Afghanistan. But the results of the way it was done — and the 20-year war — are disastrous.

17 The Perils of Interventionism and Nation Building

by Steve Byas — The recent debacle in Afghanistan is further evidence of the follies of foreign interventionism.

FEATURES

POLITICS

23 DHS Paints Critics of COVID Mandates & Vote Fraud as Terrorists

by Alex Newman — Americans who believe in liberty and free speech are now potential terrorists, according to the Department of Homeland Security.

WORLD

26 House Report All But Proves Lab-leak Theory

by R. Cort Kirkwood — Contrary to the media narrative, a new report from the House Foreign Affairs Committee offers compelling evidence that SARS-CoV-2 came from a lab.

HISTORY — PAST AND PERSPECTIVE

31 Hope's Foundation

by Fr. James Thornton — When our current situation appears hopeless, we can look to examples from history of people who have overcome much worse odds than ours.

THE LAST WORD

44 Deep State Generals and the Afghan Debacle

by William F. Jasper

DEPARTMENTS

- 5 Letters to the Editor
- 7 Inside Track
- 9 QuickQuotes
- 30 The Goodness of America
- 39 Exercising the Right
- 41 Correction, Please!



AP Images



AP Images



AP Images



AP Images



Jaimie Tuchman / iStock / Getty Images Plus

TRAIL WINDS P L A Z A



SPACE AVAILABLE

5,640 square ft.

Call 239-677-7441 or Email dennyfog@aol.com

Cleveland Ave. (Rt. 41) • Ft. Myers, Florida • Stamra Inc.

Publisher

Dennis Behreandt

Editor-in-Chief

Gary Benoit

Senior Editors

William F. Jasper • Alex Newman

Managing Editor

John T. Larabell

Associate Editor

Larry Greenley

Contributors

Bob Adelman • Steve Byas

Raven Clabough

Selwyn Duke • Brian Farmer

Christian Gomez • Gregory A. Hession, J.D.

Ed Hiserodt • William P. Hoar

R. Cort Kirkwood • Patrick Krey, J.D.

John F. McManus

James Murphy • Annalisa Pesek

Dr. Duke Pesta

Llewellyn H. Rockwell, Jr.

C. Mitchell Shaw • Michael Tennant

Rebecca Terrell • Fr. James Thornton

Laurence M. Vance • Joe Wolverton II, J.D.

Creative Director

Joseph W. Kelly

Senior Graphic Designer

Katie Bradley

Graphic Designers

Lindsey McConnell

Nilai Lee

Research

Bonnie M. Gillis

Advertising/Circulation Manager

Julie DuFrane

The New American

Printed in the U.S.A. • ISSN 0885-6540
 P.O. Box 8040 • Appleton, WI 54912
 920-749-3784 • 920-749-5062 (fax)
 www.thenewamerican.com
 editorial@thenewamerican.com

Rates are \$49 per year (Canada, add \$9; foreign, add \$27) Copyright ©2021 by American Opinion Publishing, Inc. Periodicals postage paid at Appleton, WI and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send any address changes to THE NEW AMERICAN, P.O. Box 8040, Appleton, WI 54912.

JBS.org

Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of The John Birch Society.

THE NEW AMERICAN is published twice monthly by American Opinion Publishing

Communist Lies

How come Communist countries don't have to share their crimes committed against their own with the rest of the world, while freedom-loving nations are severely blasted for the slightest reproach? The whole Civil Rights Movement thing was not about civil rights at all. It was a distraction by way of international outrage conveyed by the world's media to mitigate the bloody murderous massacres of the Soviet Union against their own satellite states.

Why would the controlled media lie to us? Surely they would have told us if we were being lied to, lol.

The Communists tell us that the boss is using you for gain, that he is making profit off of your labor. They think the government should create jobs, control labor, and fix wages to make everyone equal. In essence, they blame God, who made us individuals, for social inequalities. Thus, to begin in understanding, one must see that the road to Communist domination lies in its division of classes concerning oppression, to cause the "oppressor" to give and give and give to make amends. The Communist then takes advantage of these amends to further the agenda. It has nothing to do with the "oppressed" whatsoever. Of the flag of freedom we wave, the Communists are the oppressor!

Anyone who loves the justness of what our country was founded upon, anyone who loves the Constitution with its checks and balances, and anyone who believes the Second Amendment was intended for us to form militias — they are considered anti-government, radical, far-right extremists.

LUKE MORELL

Sent via e-mail

MARK SCHUCKERT

Sent via e-mail

Save the Republic

Folks: Every American is now a soldier for liberty, right down to the children.

"Beijing Biden"



EXTRA COPIES AVAILABLE

◆ Additional copies of this issue of THE NEW AMERICAN are available at quantity-discount prices. To place your order, visit www.shopjbs.org or see the card between pages 34-35.

and his freak show have gone so far off the mark, it is beyond belief for many. But the fight is on. The survival of the Republic is at stake. Get this through your heads: No Republic, no liberty.

If what we see continues, Agenda 21/2030 will soon be upon us. When it does, here's what will happen: You, all of you, will lose all your private property and wealth; you'll have internal security (vaccine) passports of one form or another; you will not be able to go anywhere, buy food, shop, or do anything we now take for granted today unless we comply with every government mandate to the letter. In short, you can be jailed in your assigned dwelling, not allowed to leave, and starved to death. The Big Techs are already bragging about how they can jail you where you live.

Our Republic will be transformed into a Red Chinese colony. And if you want to see real racism, look at the Red Chinese. In China if you are not a bona-fide Chinese you will be marked, relocated, and eliminated. Red China is one of the most brutal and racist countries in this world, and many of our representatives are literally handing the United States over to them.

It's past time to act. Flush the RINOs, take back the school boards and city councils, dump CRT and the 1619 Project, and push for the abolishment of the federal Department of Education and many others.

Note also, this isn't just about us. This is a world war. If we beat these people, we will not only free ourselves but help free the Chinese people.

BLOW MOLDING SPECIALISTS



CONFER

plastics inc.

Confer Plastics has been proudly making all of our products in the United States since 1973.



More than 200 people work at our factory near Niagara Falls, New York where they operate some of the largest blow molding machines in the world to make durable consumer products that you are likely familiar with.

PROPRIETARY PRODUCTS

The pool & spa industry is an important part of who we are and what we do. Our Confer-branded products - like **ladders, steps, and spa cabinets** - are beloved in the industry. We have a strong reputation of providing innovative goods of the highest quality that **allow families to get the most enjoyment out of their backyard.**

CUSTOM BLOW MOLDING

As a **custom manufacturer**, we have helped countless inventors and entrepreneurs achieve their American Dream by allowing them to **transform their ideas into reality.**

To learn more about us, visit our website at www.ConferPlastics.com

► Confer Plastics Headquarters

97 Witmer Road
North Tonawanda, NY 14120-2421

► Confer Plastics Distribution Center

2107 Liberty Drive
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

CONFER INNOVATIONS

Kayaks and Paddleboards

We helped to develop one of the very first blow-molded kayaks.



The Living Hinge

In the 1960s, Ray Confer invented the living hinge that is used on almost every tool case and tackle box the world over.

Flexible Funnels

Doug Confer's flexible fuel funnel was patented in 1976 and we made hundreds of thousands of them. You will still see them in use in most every garage.



Purple Martin Gourds

Were it not for plastic gourds like this one the Purple Martin would be extinct. Over the centuries, the colorful bird evolved to need human-made birdhouses.

Pool Ladders

We've always been a leader when it comes to safety. Features such as the patented Roll-Guard enclosure on this ladder give parents the peace of mind they need to know that their children can't enter their swimming pool when it is unsupervised.



Plastic Barriers Don't Stop COVID-19 Transmission, May Make It Worse

All those plastic screens that have been erected to stop the spread of COVID-19 are useless and may even make viral transmission more likely, the *New York Times* reported August 19.

Businesses and schools hastily put up the clear barriers last year at the urging of so-called public-health experts such as the bureaucrats at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The barriers were supposed to prevent the coronavirus from being transmitted from person to person by blocking tiny, virus-laden particles exhaled by infected individuals from entering others' airspace.

The concept of germ-proof barriers, however, runs smack into the laws of physics. Unless people are completely enclosed in such barriers, air can still get around them; and eventually it, and the particles it carries, will. Furthermore, by changing the airflow pattern in a space, the barriers may redirect the particles to other people and even concentrate those particles in their space, making them more likely to contract COVID-19 than they otherwise would be.

As is often the case with government-recommended policies, barrier erection tackles a visible problem without considering the invisible side effects. Yes, barriers will stop large droplets that are spewed when someone coughs or sneezes, but they won't do a thing to prevent the distribution of the aerosol particles that are emitted when a person speaks.

In a classroom with barriers around each desk, the problem

could even be worse. "If there are aerosol particles in the classroom air, those shields around students won't protect them," Richard Corsi, incoming dean of engineering at the University of California, Davis, told the *Times*. "Depending on the air flow conditions in the room, you can get a downdraft into those little spaces that you're now confined in and cause particles to concentrate in your space."

Other than the common-sense suggestion that people who feel sick should stay home, practically every COVID-19 mitigation measure our supposed experts have recommended has been found wanting. Why should we trust them when it comes to anything else?



twinstarphoto/Stock/Getty Images Plus

China Set to Build 43 More Coal-fired Power Plants

A Helsinki-based research group is reporting that Communist China is set to build another 43 coal-fired power plants along with 18 new blast furnaces as part of its newest five-year plan. These new projects were all been announced in the first half of 2021.

The report, produced by the Center for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA) along with the U.S. group Global Energy Monitor (GEM), was released on August 13, just scant days after the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change released its Sixth Assessment Report on the current state of the climate, which UN Secretary-General António Guterres called a "code red for humanity."

The new greenhouse-gas emitting projects are in line with the country's latest five-year plan, which calls for hundreds of such plants to be built between 2021 and 2025. Oddly enough, the new plants are also in line with China's pledge to the Paris Climate Agreement, which states only that the country will reach peak emissions by 2030.

Last September, General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party Xi Jinping pledged that China would reach carbon neutrality by 2060. The climate pledges China has made seem to be at cross-purposes with the building of the coal-fired plants and blast furnaces.

In China, it would seem, economic progress is still allowed to trump environmentalism.

"There is this desire in the Chinese political and economic system to keep on building, to continue the infrastructure fever," said Li Shuo, a Greenpeace advisor based in Beijing.

Both CREA and GEM reported in February that "In 2020, China built over three times as much new coal power capacity as all other countries in the world combined — the equivalent of more than one large coal plant per week."

The CREA report reveals that the 43 new coal-fired plants and blast furnaces will add some 150 million metric tons to China's CO₂ emissions. That 150 million tons is roughly half of the U.K.'s total emissions.



zhongguo/Stock/Getty Images Plus

Biden Gives Chinese Tech Giant Huawei Entry to U.S. Auto Industry

RainerPlendl/Stock/Getty Images Plus



The federal government under Joe Biden is allowing Huawei, the blacklisted Chinese telecom monolith, to enter the American auto industry by giving the company licenses to buy automotive chips.

Officials at the Department of Commerce gave applications worth hundreds of millions of dollars to Huawei in order to purchase the chips for its auto business, Reuters reported August 25. This is in contrast to the Trump administration, which in August 2020 placed restrictions on Huawei, limiting its ability to purchase chips in the United States. The Trump administration did so out of national-security concerns.

“We don’t want their equipment in the United States because

they spy on us,” President Trump said at the time. “And any country that uses it, we’re not going to do anything in terms of sharing intelligence.” The Trump White House had previously banned vendors worldwide from using U.S. technology to produce components for Huawei. According to Trump, Huawei provided the communist Chinese with the means to spy on America.

A spokesman for Biden’s Department of Commerce would neither confirm nor deny a change in licensing restrictions for Huawei. Meanwhile, a spokeswoman for Huawei indicated that the company intends to move into the auto-manufacturing industry, which would potentially allow it to circumvent American sanctions.

As the Washington Free Beacon reported in June, Biden selected (and the Senate confirmed) Chris Fonzone, a lawyer who worked as a lobbyist for Huawei, as the top lawyer in the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

The Biden government’s ties to China run deep. Earlier this year, it took on more than 10 staffers from an advisory firm, Albright Stonebridge Group, that’s now partnered with China’s largest law firm.

China has been working hard to infiltrate Western governments and corporations. A leaked document identifying almost two million CCP operatives reveals that over 120 members of the Chinese Communist Party were employed by vaccine giants Pfizer, AstraZeneca, and GlaxoSmithKline. Chinese communist loyalists are also deeply embedded in military roles and academia.

New E-mails Shed Light on Wuhan, Gates, China Role in COVID Outbreak

Documents obtained August 6 by Judicial Watch through a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit shed light on ties between the Wuhan Institute of Virology and the American taxpayer-funded EcoHealth Alliance.

The FOIA suit, which requested records of communications, contracts, and agreements with the Wuhan lab, also provided records showing that billionaire Bill Gates worked closely with the communist Chinese government to facilitate the sale of Chinese-produced medications outside of China.

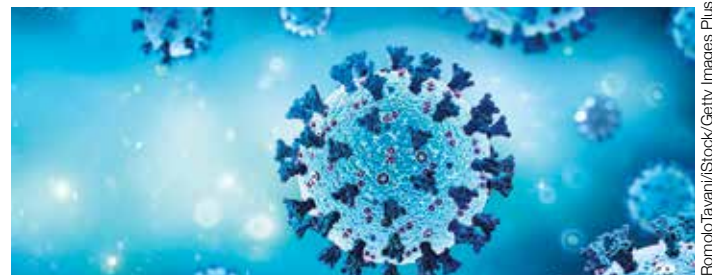
Additionally, the set of records obtained by Judicial Watch includes a January 6, 2020, “Wuhan Pneumonia Update” report that describes how EcoHealth Alliance president Peter Daszak was tied to the Wuhan lab and was “funded for work to understand how coronaviruses evolve and jump to human populations.”

The report details a National Institutes of Health (NIH) coronavirus grant “portfolio” that funded 13 basic science research grants, two treatment research grants, and five vaccination research grants related to coronavirus.

On February 6, 2020, Han Koo, an executive assistant to the director of NIH who works in the Office of Grants Administration (OGA), e-mailed Dr. Ping Chen and Matthew Brown, then-director of the NIH China Office, and wrote of a “NIAID grant to EcoHealth ... studying coronaviruses in animals including bats.”

In 2017, Chen wrote, “Gates Foundation is working with Chinese government on donations to its neighboring countries and African countries such as anti-malaria medicines, bed nets, diagnostics etc. More specifically, it helps Chinese companies to gain pre-qualification on medications so that Chinese company manufactured drugs can be sold outside China, helps the Chinese to establish bilateral collaboration with specific countries in Africa, teaches the Chinese how to do resource mobilization, and helps raise China’s voice of governance by placing representatives from China on important international counsels as high level commitment from China.”

The Judicial Watch documents come as the World Health Organization stated August 25 that the window for discovering the origin of COVID-19 is closing. ■

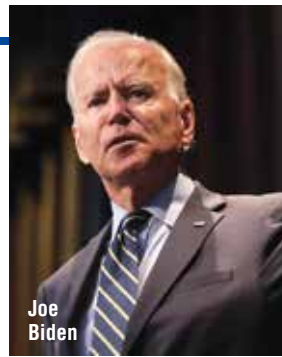


RomoloTavani/Stock/Getty Images Plus

Is Vice President Kamala Harris Soon to Become President?

“Pretty soon.”

During a visit to the White House celebrating their success in winning the women’s professional basketball crown, the members of the team known as Seattle Storm heard President Joe Biden verbally indicate that Vice President Kamala Harris will soon become president.



Gage Skidmore

U.S. General Offers Questionable Strategy

“If you have to go in, go in with the understanding that you can’t wholly succeed. Don’t go in thinking you’re going to solve it or fix it.”

In his book The American War in Afghanistan, author Carter Malkasian quotes a uniquely backward war strategy offered by Brigadier General Stanley McChrystal, a veteran member of the globalist-minded Council on Foreign Relations.

Pakistanis Have Mixed Views About Taliban Success

“Some Pakistanis see reasons to celebrate the Taliban victory. But the American disaster in Afghanistan that Mr. Biden’s impatience brought about is not a disaster just for us. It has also emboldened the T.T.P. (the Pakistani Taliban) — which seeks the overthrow of their government, and provided a huge boost to militant Islam everywhere.”

Writing in the New York Times, former U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan Ryan C. Crocker (a CFR member) issued a warning about the consequences of America’s ill-planned departure from the war-torn country.



AP Images

Taliban Victory Will Force Pakistan Into the Arms of Afghanistan’s New Leaders

“If the Afghan Taliban become leaders of a pariah state, which is likely, Pakistan will find itself tethered to them.”

Robert L. Grenier is a former CIA station chief in Pakistan and a member of the CFR. He warns that Pakistan’s intelligence service, the ISI, has in the past protected Taliban assets and aided the Taliban’s successful seizure of Afghanistan.

Conservative Talk-show Host Larry Elder Is a “Frontrunner” in Bid to Replace Newsom

“Newsom’s recall is no longer a sideshow. With Elder as a frontrunner [to replace him], it’s one more looming disaster for our beleaguered state.”

New York Times opinion columnist Farhad Manjoo notes that California Governor Gavin Newsom will be ousted unless a majority votes to keep him in office in the mid-September recall election. If he fails to gain that majority, then whoever wins the most votes among his challengers in a separate ballot question will become governor, even if the top challenger does not get a majority.

Retired Army General Explains the Miserable Performance of Afghan Military

“They don’t fight well unless we’re with them shoulder to shoulder. They don’t like their leadership, and they are a minimum-wage force. They’re just basically fighting for money, and they’re not even getting the money.”

A retired commanding general who led U.S. forces in Afghanistan a decade ago, Jack Hammond recalls the difficulty of trying to make a capable military force out of people who never possessed any serious motivation for their service.

How Could America’s Top Military Leader Have Been So Wrong?

“The Afghan Security Forces have the capacity to sufficiently fight and defend their country, and we will continue to support the Afghan Security Forces where necessary in accordance with the guidance from the president and the secretary of defense.”

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Mark Milley provided this assessment in a press conference on July 21, just weeks prior to the Taliban sweeping into Kabul on August 15. ■



AP Images

— COMPILED BY JOHN F. MCMANUS



AFGHANISTAN: PLANNED DISASTER?

President Biden was right to withdraw U.S. troops from Afghanistan. But the results of the way it was done — and the 20-year war — are disastrous.

by R. Cort Kirkwood

It goes without saying the United States never should have tried to turn Afghanistan into a South-Central Asian San Francisco. Yet the effort did leave Americans with the most indelible symbol of the Deep State's latest foreign policy failure: a photo of the "Rainbow Pride" flag over the U.S. embassy in Kabul. So after 20 years and \$2 trillion in direct costs as of July, the only things Americans have to show for the war are more than 2,000 war dead — and a banner that celebrates homosexual sodomy that flapped in the zephyrs from the Hindu Kush.

Be that as it may, President Biden was right to withdraw U.S. troops. The hemorrhaging had to be stopped. When he said not another American fighting man should die in that God-forsaken wasteland, he sounded like Pat Buchanan or Ron Paul. The problem is that the mentally handicapped Biden fumbled the operation. He not only gave the Taliban a high-tech arsenal worth between \$50 billion and \$90 billion, but also saddled Americans with up to 80,000 unvetted Afghan refugees who are unfit to live here temporarily, much less become citizens. Already, some have been discovered to be terrorists.

So despite Biden's being the proverbial stopped clock that's right twice a day — meaning right about the pull-out — he and his Rainbow Flaggers blew the operation. Now, Americans are stuck with the consequences of yet another Deep State globalist failure, and a planned one at that.

Weapons Bonanza

A principal reason for that failure is where the priorities of top U.S. officials lie. The chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Army General Mark Milley, spent much of June burbling about "diversity" and Critical Race Theory in the armed forces. Meanwhile, the Taliban readied to capture Kabul. Two months

R. Cort Kirkwood is a longtime contributor to THE NEW AMERICAN. He was a newspaperman for more than 25 years.

Were Team Biden's military, diplomatic, and intelligence experts so totally clueless? Were they really unaware that the Afghan government in Kabul could collapse so quickly?

after the State Department proudly tweeted a photo of the Rainbow Flag unfurled over the city, the Taliban marched in.

But at least 23 diplomats took time from pushing homosexual and "transgender" ideology on the Afghans to cable Secretary of State Tony Blinken with the warning: The Taliban are coming — we're doomed.

"The cable, sent via the State Department's confidential dissent channel, warned of rapid territorial gains by the Taliban and the subsequent collapse of Afghan security forces, and offered recommendations on ways to mitigate the crisis and speed up an evacuation," two sources told the *Wall Street Journal*:

U.S. military and intelligence officials, struggling with the fallout from the rapid collapse of Afghanistan's government and armed forces, have sparred over U.S. intelligence assessments regarding the country's stability.

President Biden in July had said that a collapse of the government and a Taliban takeover were "highly unlikely," pointing to the large numbers of Afghan National Security Force members, their U.S. training and modern equipment, including an air force....

Gen. Mark Milley ... has said that a speedy demise of the U.S.-supported government and army was unanticipated.

"There was nothing that I or anyone else saw that indicated a collapse of this army and this government in 11 days."

Maybe if Milley had been less worried about shoving CRT down the throats of American fighting men he would have seen what was coming, and at least tried to prevent billions of dollars of U.S. weapons, including Black Hawk helicopters, from falling into Taliban hands.

"Putting price tags on American military equipment still in Afghanistan isn't an easy task," Adam Andrzejewski wrote for *Forbes*. "In the fog of war — or withdrawal — Afghanistan has always been a black box with little sunshine."



Life and death in Kabul: Desperate Afghans fleeing the Taliban lift an infant to a U.S. soldier at the Kabul airport on August 19.

AP Images

Of course, Biden and his incompetent gang are trying to hide the foul-up, Andrzejewski reported:

Not helping transparency, the Biden Administration is now hiding key audits on Afghan military equipment. This week, our auditors at OpenTheBooks.com reposted two key reports on the U.S. war chest of military gear in Afghanistan that had disappeared from federal websites.

The loss of equipment is almost beyond comprehension.

“Between 2003 and 2016, the U.S. purchased and provided 75,898 vehicles and 208 aircraft,” Andrzejewski reported. They include 42,604 light tactical vehicles, 22,174 Humvees, and 8,998 medium tactical vehicles. More than 900 mine-resistant vehicles alone cost some \$711 million.

We also provided 110 helicopters, including the Black Hawk (\$21 million each) and A-29 Super Tucano attack aircraft (\$427 million each), along with 60 cargo planes and 20 light attack aircraft.

Small arms included these:

- 358,530 M-16s, M-4s, and other rifles;
- 126,296 pistols;
- 64,363 machine guns;
- 25,327 grenade launchers;
- 12,692 shotguns;
- 9,877 rocket-propelled weapons; and
- 2,606 mortars and cannons

“In 2017, the U.S. military lost \$174 million in drones that were part of the attempt to help the Afghan National Army (ANA) defend itself,” Andrzejewski wrote. “But the ANA didn’t immediately use the drones and then lost track of them.”

No, in fact, it was the U.S. military that “lost track of them.” Having tried to train and otherwise educate Afghans in modern policing and warfare — an almost impossible task, Marines on the ground told reporters — the bright lights in the Pentagon should have known what would happen. Biden’s bureaucrats, by the way, scrubbed that second report from the website, too. Did Deep State war racketeers order the losses hidden?

“We don’t have a complete picture, obviously, of where every article of defense

materials has gone, but certainly a fair amount of it has fallen into the hands of the Taliban,” White House National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan said. “And obviously, we don’t have a sense that they are going to readily hand it over to us at the airport.”

The *Daily Mail* put the price tag for the lost materiel at \$62 billion.

One last number from the balance sheet: By 2050, the war with interest on the debt will have cost the United States \$6.5 trillion. That’s about \$20,000 for each of the country’s 331.4 million people. Counting taxpayers alone raises the per-capita cost.

But money and equipment, which we can replace, aren’t all we lost in the Graveyard of Empires. Thousands of Americans died there: 2,218 total, with 1,833 killed in action, as of August 23. On August 26, 10 Marines and several other service members died in a suicide bombing during Biden’s botched evacuation from the Kabul airport. They can’t be replaced, and those fatalities don’t count another cost: tens of thousands of Americans mentally or physically wounded, or both — the amputees, the traumatically brain-injured, the 35-year-old fathers who dive for cover when they hear a late-night bottle rocket explode on Independence Day.

Treachery and Treason?

Team Biden’s military, diplomatic, and intelligence experts were, apparently, clueless, unaware that the puppet government in Kabul would collapse so quickly, and that the Taliban would turn the U.S. withdrawal into a frantic retreat, then a deadly rout, and then utter mayhem. But the humiliation in Kabul revealed more than bumbling ineptitude, irresponsible negligence, arrogance, and willful blindness, and instead pulled back the sheets on something far worse. One can’t look squarely at Biden’s Afghan debacle and not see careful design in the chaos. The failure is a recurring pattern. American blood and treasure are squandered in foreign lands, and one nation after another is betrayed into some form of brutal despotism, in this case, an Islamic tyranny determined to pretend its mullahs are reincarnations of The Prophet and his scimitar-wielding footsoldiers.

The scenes of desperate Afghans swarming into Kabul to escape the Tali-



Fallen heroes: U.S. service members kneel during a ramp ceremony on August 27 for the service members killed in action during operations at Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul.

ban and desperately clinging to American aircraft — before plunging to their deaths — predictably invited comparisons to Saigon in 1975, as Vietnamese sought to escape the communist bloodbath. But Vietnam is not the only example; we've seen this movie many times before and since: China (1949), Cuba (1959), Cambodia (1975), Laos (1975), Rhodesia (1979), Iran (1979), Nicaragua (1979), and Iraq (2009).

Over and over again, U.S. government officials have undermined any genuine reformers. The “best and the brightest” have promoted and installed corrupt and duplicitous “allies,” lavished them with money and arms, then betrayed them. And at the end, our enemies received supplies, weapons, and infrastructure of almost incalculable value. Here are few events that suggest a deliberate plan to create havoc in Afghanistan:

- *Surrendering Bagram Air Base:* In addition to the facilities and supplies we handed to the Taliban, we abandoned Bagram Air Base. Its strategic, defensible location and its multiple runways guaranteed that the evacuation would be restricted to the smaller, more vulnerable, congested Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul. Bagram was the only viable option for safely extricating the thousands of Americans still in Afghanistan. Our precipitous departure was an egregious tactical error. The base should only have been abandoned after all Americans were rescued, and all armaments and sensitive data were removed or destroyed.

- *Sending signals to demoralize allies and embolden enemies:* The manner in which we abandoned Bagram — sneaking out in the dead of night, without informing our allies — could not have been more destructive. It told the Taliban: “Afghanistan is yours.” It told our allies: “So long, suckers!” It told the region and the world: America is a disloyal weakling.

- *Putting Taliban-Haqqani terrorists in charge of security:* Unbelievably, the Biden administration agreed to continue working with the Taliban even though reports this year from both the Pentagon and the Treasury Department pointed to continuing ties between the Taliban, al-Qaeda, and the Haqqani terrorist network. In fact, after taking control of Kabul, the Taliban put the Haqqani Network in charge of security.



The fortunate ones: Evacuees fill a U.S. Air Force C-17 Globemaster III air transport at the Kabul airport on August 21.

- *Giving the Taliban-Haqqani terrorist a “kill list”:* Team Biden gave the new Afghan warlords a list and identities of Americans and American allies trapped in Kabul, supposedly in the belief that the virulently anti-American Haqqani extremists would help escort them through the mobs and Taliban checkpoints to the evacuation flights. Even worse, they gave them the employment and biometric databases, including fingerprints, face scans, iris scans, family data, and more on millions of Afghans who assisted and worked with American and allied forces and the Afghan government. The Taliban are now using this U.S.-provided system to hunt (and kill) the trapped Americans and our allies.

- *Thwarting private efforts to save lives:* While Team Biden dithered, military veterans of the Afghan War — including former special operators — raced into the chaos with their own private efforts. Organizations such as Ark Salus, Pineapple Task Force, and the Nazarene Fund rescued thousands of Americans and Afghan allies. The Nazarene Fund concentrated on extracting Afghan Christians, who are marked for torture and death. Conservative commentator Glenn Beck, who works with the Nazarene Fund, charged that the State Department repeatedly thwarted the group’s efforts to rescue Christians.

Who is responsible for these decisions? A short list would include Joe Biden, Antony Blinken, National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan, CIA Director William Burns, Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines, Secretary of Defense General Lloyd Austin, and General Mark Milley.

Also playing a crucial, though shadowy, role is the highly connected Afghan operative Zalmay Khalizad. A member of the Council on Foreign Relations, from which he launched his diplomatic career with a fellowship in 1984, Khalizad is also a mover in such globalist organizations as the Atlantic Council, Brookings Institution, RAND Corporation, CIA, and Project for a New American Century. During the past four decades, he has been a fixture in both Republican and Democratic administrations, especially regarding formulating U.S. policies for Iraq and Afghanistan. These ventures have put him in close working relationships with Zbigniew Brzezinski, Henry Kissinger, Dick Cheney, Paul Wolfowitz, and other Deep Staters. He was our lead negotiator with the Taliban, with whom he has been friends for many years.

What Afghans Believe

But the seemingly planned failure in Afghanistan mirrors the foreign policy failures of the past in another significant way:

Americans are saddled with the expense of resettling tens of thousands of refugees. So even if no more Americans die in Afghanistan, and taxpayers do not spend another dime in the country, they'll continue to pay for the misadventure far into the future. They'll pay for at least 60,000 Afghans to be resettled in the United States. They'll pay for their food and medical care until they get jobs. They'll pay to educate their kids. And they'll pay the price, in money and blood, for the crimes and likely terror attacks those violent tribesmen commit.

And they won't have a choice. Afghans helped the American war effort, GOP Senator Ben Sasse of Nebraska avers, and so Americans are obliged to rescue those helpers from certain death at the hands of the Taliban.

"A great nation is a nation that keeps its word," Sasse told *Fox News Sunday* host Chris Wallace,

And the American people need to understand who we're talking about here. We're talking about men and women who risked their lives to pro-

tect Americans. They fought hand-in-hand with our troops and we made promises to them.

That, of course, means importing not just those who helped the war effort, but family members, too. Contrary to early reports, the total will vastly exceed, by at least 200 percent and perhaps 300 percent, the 20,000 who helped the war effort.

Continued Sasse:

We're talking about 60,000 to 80,000 people. So the first thing to say is, the American people need to understand who we're talking about. We're talking about heroes who fought with us to take the fight to al Qaeda and the Taliban....

When you fought on behalf of Americans to protect our people, you're welcome in my neighborhood.

Ten Republican governors agree with Sasse and asked Biden to resettle Afghans in their states.

By the time this piece is published, tens

of thousands of more Afghans will have been dumped into military bases across the United States, where they will await "resettlement." But numbers aren't the only problem with this deluge of humanity: Almost as soon as the exodus began, authorities flagged 100 of 7,000 Afghans who applied for Special Immigrant Visas as a security risk; at least one is tied to the ISIS terror outfit.

That's why *Hillbilly Elegy* author J.D. Vance, a GOP Senate candidate in Ohio, attacked Sasse in a video after Sasse invited the Afghans to his neighborhood *before* all the *Americans* whom Biden stranded in Kabul were evacuated.

"I'd like to hear zero about Afghan refugees until we get every single American out first," Vance tweeted a few days before Sasse claimed it will be a wonderful day in the neighborhood when his beturbaned friends arrive. After Sasse attacked him, Vance explained why Sasse is wrong.

"He said great countries honor their word," Vance noted in a video posted to Twitter. "Of course nobody disagrees with that. It's a ridiculous platitude."

"The question isn't whether to keep a promise to Afghans," he said, but to whom we "owe an obligation.... And to any leader of this country, the obvious answer should be American citizens. So let's focus first on getting them out of Afghanistan."

Continued Vance:

So let's have an honest question about what exists in Afghanistan. According to Pew [Research], 40 percent of the people there believe that blowing yourself up, committing a suicide bombing, is an acceptable way to solve a problem.

So yes let's help the Afghans who helped us. But let's ensure that we're properly vetting them so that we don't get a bunch of people who believe they should blow themselves up at a mall because somebody looked at their wife the wrong way.

Here's what Vance didn't report about that Pew survey, but Jason Richwine of the Center for Immigration Studies (CIS) did:

- 99 percent of Afghans want Sharia law to be the law of the land;
- 85 percent want to stone adulterers;

Who is on the hook for it all? Answer: Americans. To all but the most obtuse — the neocons, globalists, and Deep Staters — we've paid enough.



Arming the enemy: These armored vehicles are a small part of the massive cache of arms and supplies left behind by U.S. forces at Bagram Air Base.

AP Images

- 79 percent want apostates punished with death; and
- 60 percent advocate honor killing.

Whom Biden Plans to Bring Here

Those data matter, and if Americans want to know why, and what's in store when the refugee resettlement racket airmails nearly 100,000 Afghans to the heartland, they can look to Europe. In July, police arrested three Afghans for the gang rape and murder of a 13-year-old girl, a crime with which Europeans are all too familiar.

CIS's Richwine reported the data on Afghan crime in Austria. While the violent crime rate for Afghans is a mere 9.1 times that of Austrians, the rape rate for Afghans is *22.1 times higher*. Cheryl Bernard explained the Afghan predilection for rape in the *National Interest* in 2017.

In 2014, when leaders such as Angela Merkel decided Europe must accept all comers, "citizens and officials alike responded with generosity and openness," Bernard wrote. "Exhausted refugees spilled out of trains and buses to be met by crowds bearing gifts of clothing and food, and holding up placards that read 'Welcome Refugees.'"

But Europe's bleeding-heart leftist elites got a rude awakening:

The large and growing incidence of sexual assaults committed by refugees against local women. These were not of the cultural-misunderstanding-date-rape sort, but were vicious, no-preamble attacks on random girls and women, often committed by gangs or packs of young men. At first, the incidents were downplayed or hushed up — no one wanted to provide the right wing with fodder for nationalist agitation, and the hope was that these were isolated instances caused by a small problem group of outliers. As the incidents increased, and because many of them took place in public or because the public became involved either in stopping the attack or in aiding the victim afterwards, and because the courts began issuing sentences as the cases came to trial, the matter could no longer be swept under the carpet of political correctness. And with the official acknowledgment and public reporting, a weird and puzzling



The new warlords: Taliban fighters stand guard in front of Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul after the U.S. withdrawal.

footnote emerged. Most of the assaults were being committed by refugees of one particular nationality: by Afghans.

Though "Europeans held a baseline positive sentiment towards Afghanistan" and "were predisposed to be positive towards Afghan refugees," an unsettling truth finally dawned on the Hippie-Boomers who clattered down the sunny highways of their youth in Volkswagen buses.

It became clear that Afghans "were committing sex crimes to a much greater extent than other refugees." And so attitudes changed. Tulln, Austria, banned more refugees "after a series of disturbing incidents all emanating from Afghans [including] the brutal gang rape of a fifteen-year-old girl, snatched from the street on her way home, dragged away and serially abused by Afghan refugees."

"And that was just one in a string of outrage-inducing occurrences, all of them going to the account of Afghans." Bernard continued:

A while before, in Vienna, a young female Turkish exchange student had been pursued into a public restroom by three Afghan refugees. They

jammed the door shut and proceeded to savagely attack her. Grabbing her by the neck, they struck her head repeatedly against a porcelain toilet bowl to knock her out. When that failed to break her desperate resistance, they took turns holding her down and raping her.

Of course, leftist authorities tried to hide the attacks until they couldn't. A daily newspaper, Bernard wrote, included these stories:

Front page: Afghan (eighteen) attacks young woman at Danube Festival. "Once again there has been an attempted rape by an Afghan. A twenty-one-year-old Slovak tourist was mobbed and groped by a group of men. She managed to get away, but was pursued by one of them, an Afghan asylum seeker who caught her and dragged her into the bushes. Nearby plainclothes policemen noticed the struggle and intervened to prevent the rape at the last moment." Page ten: "A twenty-five-year-old Afghan attempted to rape a young woman who was sitting in the sun in the park.

Four courageous passersby dragged the man off the victim and held him until the police arrived.” Page twelve: “Two Afghans have been sentenced for attempting to rape a woman on a train in Graz. The men, who live in an asylum seekers’ residence, first insulted the young woman with obscene verbal remarks before attacking her. When she screamed for help, passengers from other parts of the train rushed to her aid.”...

Type two words into Google — Afghane and Vergewaltigung — and a cornucopia of appalling incidents unfolds before you. The mentally retarded woman in Linz, kidnapped, dragged to an Afghan refugee’s apartment and raped until she was finally able to escape into his bathroom, lock herself in and, as he battered at the door, crank open the window and scream for help. Incidents like that one point to a cold-blooded predator, with planning and premeditation.

Afghan men have also exposed themselves at public swimming pools.

Bernard dismissed drunkenness and the

clash of cultural norms — that the men are punishing European women for not wearing burqas or adhering to Islamic dress codes — as excuses, and instead offered a “quite disturbing theory” from a friend and Afghan court translator:

They are motivated by a deep and abiding contempt for Western civilization. To them, Europeans are the enemy, and their women are legitimate spoils, as are all the other things one can take from them: housing, money, passports. Their laws don’t matter, their culture is uninteresting and, ultimately, their civilization is going to fall anyway to the horde of which one is the spearhead. No need to assimilate, or work hard, or try to build a decent life here for yourself—these Europeans are too soft to seriously punish you for a transgression, and their days are numbered.

And it’s not just the sex crimes, my friend notes. Those may agitate public sentiment the most, but the deliberate, insidious abuse of the welfare system is just as consequential. Afghan refugees, he says, have a

particular proclivity to play the system: to lie about their age, to lie about their circumstances, to pretend to be younger, to be handicapped, to belong to an ethnic minority when even the tired eye of an Austrian judge can distinguish the delicate features of a Hazara from those of a Pashtun.

Bernard goes on at some length, but a larger point is that Biden and Sasse know nothing about whom they are bringing here. Neither do the 10 Republican governors who invited the refugees to their states. None of this is to say all the Afghan refugees are criminals, stupid, crazy, or Islamist extremists. It is to say that Europe’s experience with Afghans, and the data on crime, drugs, and mental illness, warn that in a cohort of 60,000 *unvetted* refugees, more than a few will be. Again, what little vetting has been done has uncovered more than 100 potential terrorists. The sheer numbers mean that there are others who have already landed, as have rapists, the mentally disturbed, etc.

Another large point, overlooked by the major media, is that it would make much more sense, and cost far less money, to resettle Islamic refugees in Islamic countries than in the United States or other Western countries where the culture is alien to them. Yet despite the cultural differences, the U.S. government’s relocation of Middle Eastern refugees in the United States has strongly favored Muslims over Christians, despite the persecution of Christians in the Middle East (see page 17).

Who Pays?

The obvious question: Who is on the hook for it all? Answer: Americans. To all but the most obtuse — the neocons, globalists, and Deep Staters — we’ve paid enough.

We buried almost 2,000 fighting men in national cemeteries; the long-term bill is \$6.5 trillion. And now we must support an influx of poverty-stricken refugees, who, because of their religion, despise the society and culture into which they have been thrust. Americans will spend tens if not hundreds of millions of dollars educating them, and even more for their healthcare, and then even more to jail the criminals among them. Some Americans will pay with their lives.

The final invoice for this 20-year fiasco has not arrived. ■



AP Images

Coming to America: Refugees from Afghanistan arrive at Dulles International Airport in Dulles, Virginia, on August 27.

THE PERILS OF INTERVENTIONISM AND NATION BUILDING

The recent debacle in Afghanistan is further evidence of the follies of foreign interventionism.



AP Images

“Gaijin Shogun”: At the conclusion of World War II, General Douglas MacArthur was the de facto dictator of Japan. His wise handling of postwar Japan led to a stable nation built on the rubble of the war. Many have incorrectly held that this successful effort at “nation building” is something that can be repeated all over the world in other nations and with other cultures.

by Steve Byas

“Those who forget the past are condemned to repeat it.” Thus said the early 20th-century Harvard philosophy professor George Santayana, a quotation well known by every serious historian.

As Americans watched in horror as a man held onto an airplane leaving the

Steve Byas is a university professor of history and government, and the author of History’s Greatest Libels.

Kabul airport in Afghanistan, many no doubt had the feeling I had: I’ve seen this movie before. It was reminiscent of the humiliating end to America’s experience in Vietnam in 1975, when those Vietnamese who had put their trust in the United States clung to helicopters lifting off from the U.S. Embassy in Saigon.

Despite all of the history he could have drawn upon, President George W. Bush chose to ignore all of it and attempt nation building in Afghanistan. At first, the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan was purportedly to capture the alleged mastermind of the

9/11 attacks upon America — Osama bin Laden. But even after bin Laden had fled the country, and even after American forces found him and killed him in Pakistan, American forces remained in Afghanistan in an attempt to create a “nation” out of one of the most backward places on earth.

The withdrawal of U.S. forces has understandably evoked great criticism of the presidential administration of Joe Biden, but as former Congressman Ron Paul wrote recently, “So, who is to blame for the scenes from Afghanistan? There is plenty to go around.”

Certainly, some of that blame falls upon the shoulders of President George W. Bush. When he ran for president in 2000, Bush said that he believed the United States needed a “more humble foreign policy,” and that America did not need to be the world’s policeman. But, following the attacks upon the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, Congress joined in authorizing Bush to use force to retaliate against those responsible for the attacks. Even noninterventionist Paul voted for the resolution, and the country was overwhelmingly in favor of taking action.

But Paul wanted the mission limited to bringing bin Laden and his associates to justice. What he was not for was when the mission morphed into “regime change and nation-building.”

By the time of his second inaugural address, Bush had abandoned any pretense of having a “more humble” foreign policy, announcing his “ultimate goal of ending tyranny in our world.” He vowed to change from just defending our own country to treating other nations based on how they treated their own citizens.

The Foreign Policy of the Founders

This, of course, is in stark contrast not only to Bush's campaign statements five years earlier, but to the foreign policy of the Founding Fathers. While they disagreed on some things, our first three presidents — George Washington, John Adams, and Thomas Jefferson — all rejected the concept that it is the responsibility of the United States to end tyranny in the world, and to dictate to other nations their domestic policies. Adams' son, John Quincy Adams, while secretary of state for President James Monroe, said, "But she [America] does not go abroad, in search of monsters to destroy. She is the well-wisher to the freedom and independence of all. She is the champion and vindicator only of her own. She will commend the general cause by the countenance of her voice, and the benignant sympathy of her example. She well knows that by once enlisting under other banners than her own, were they even the banners of foreign independence, she would involve herself beyond the power of extrication, in all the wars and interest and intrigue, of individual avarice, envy, and ambition, which assume the colors and usurp the standard

of freedom. The fundamental maxims of her policy would insensibly change from *liberty to force.*"

Put simply, Adams argued that we Americans should promote liberty by example, not take it upon ourselves to force other peoples of the world to be like us.

It is understandable that Americans are disgusted by the brutal treatment of Afghans — especially women — at the hands of the Taliban. But, if we are going to end tyranny in the world, we should start with the bullies in our own government and the progressives who want to force us to all think alike. What's more, we seem rather selective in our outrages over mistreatment of foreign people. After all, in Communist China, millions of Chinese languish in prison, their only crimes being that they practice a religion the totalitarian regime does not like, or perhaps they have expressed a contrary political opinion. Where are the calls to end this oppression of Chinese people by overthrowing the Chinese government and installing a "democracy" in China?

The rejection of the foreign policy of the founding generation is not a recent innovation, although trying to make a na-

tion out of a place such as Afghanistan certainly takes it to a new level. The first indication that the United States was abandoning the noninterventionist policy of the Founders was when she became embroiled in a war with Spain, largely over the mistreatment of the Spanish colony in Cuba. After taking away some colonial possessions from Spain, the United States tried nation building in the Philippines. James Patterson, writing in his biography of Senator Robert A. Taft, *Mr. Republican*, remarked on the opposition of Taft's father, William Howard Taft, to the nation-building efforts in the Philippines. William Howard Taft said America should not be a "knight-errant country going about to independent people and saying, 'we do not like your form of government, we have tried our form of government ... and you have got to take it.'"

Senator Robert Taft was famous for his noninterventionist philosophy. "The basic foreign policy of the United States should be to preserve peace with other nations," the younger Taft wrote not long before the United States got involved in the Second World War, "and enter into no treaties which may obligate us to go to war." He later said, "We should be prepared to defend our own shores, but we should not undertake to defend the ideals of democracy in foreign countries." He added that no single nation, including the United States, "should range over the world, like a knight-errant, protect democracy and ideals of good faith, and tilt, like Don Quixote, against the windmills of fascism.... Such a policy is not only vain, but bound to lead to war."

Some argued then, and some argue today, against Taft's reluctance to go abroad and slay monsters to promote our form of government. These champions of interventionism note that without the help of France, we might not have won our independence from the British Empire. But what these advocates of intervention do not say, either from ignorance or dishonesty, is that France was acting in its own self-interest, not ours — they wanted revenge upon the British for having lost the French and Indian War. Even more relevant to our situation is that France's intervention wreaked great havoc upon that nation's finances, and was one of the principal reasons that the country succumbed



Setting an example: While serving as secretary of state, John Quincy Adams explained to Congress why it would be unwise for the United States to use military force to get other nations to follow our example.

to the madness known as the French Revolution a few years later.

The Perils of Nation Building

To many, our War of Independence and the French Revolution are ancient history, but our recent involvement in Vietnam ended less than 50 years ago. The Kennedy administration was determined to make South Vietnam “a showcase for democracy” in Asia. By pouring large amounts of American tax dollars into that country, the reasoning went, other nations in that part of the world would be so impressed that they would adopt our system of government. After the debacle of 1975, it was fashionable to ridicule the naiveté of the policy, but the Bush administration made much the same argument in Iraq less than 30 years later. By replacing Saddam Hussein with a “democratic” government, the argument went, other nations in the Middle East would suddenly adopt a similar government.

While Hussein was certainly a brutal dictator, it is difficult to argue that the people of Iraq are better off under their present “democratic” regime. After all, the United States was not founded upon the supposed blessings of majority rule, but rather on the blessings of liberty. In the Middle East, majority rule means the suppression of minority religious views. When Saddam Hussein was in power, Christians and other religious minorities were mostly protected from Islamist violence. Christians were not afraid to display Christmas and Easter decorations outside their homes. Saddam even had a Christian — General Georges Sada — as one of his principal advisors.

But after the nation-building efforts of America, the new regime proved unable or unwilling to protect religious minorities. Christian businesses were shut down, churches were bombed, and Christian women were raped.

As Archbishop Athanasios Dawood of the Syrian Orthodox Church explained regarding the fate of Christians in Iraq, “Since 2003, there has been no protection for Christians. We’ve lost many people and they’ve bombed our homes, our churches, monasteries.”

While religious liberty and no government establishment of religion is enshrined in the U.S. Constitution, the Iraqi



Minding our own business: Students of U.S. history know that our first three presidents — George Washington, John Adams, and Thomas Jefferson — had differences of opinion on some things, but all three agreed that the United States should adopt a policy of nonintervention in the internal affairs of other nations.

By replacing Saddam Hussein with a “democratic” government, the argument went, other nations in the Middle East would suddenly adopt a similar government.

constitution dictates that Islam is the official religion of the state. Rather than imposing any form of limited government and respect for minority rights, the constitution of Iraq gives government control over healthcare, education, housing, and the economy.

The Perils of Interventionism

The United States did not send in troops to oust Moammar Gadhafi in Libya, but the Obama administration backed those seeking his removal. Were they Jeffersonian Democrats? Hardly. Gadhafi’s opponents included al-Qaeda, the Muslim Brotherhood, and other radicals, some of whom actually fought against American soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan! After they won, the al-Qaeda flag even flew over the rebel headquarters in Benghazi.

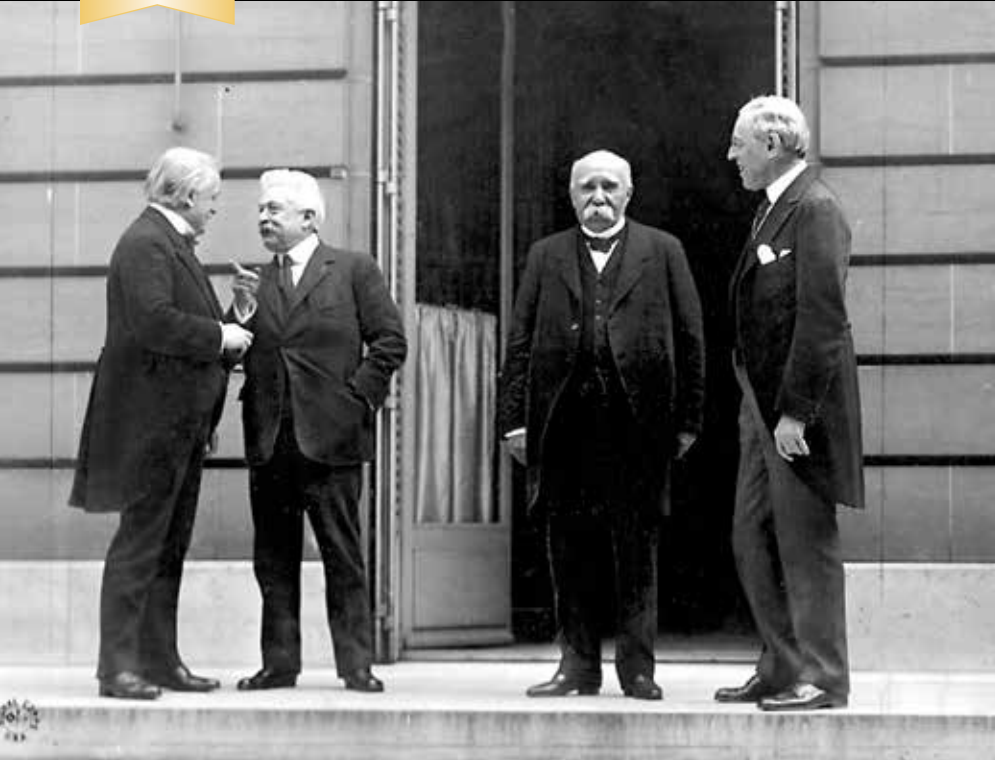
When rebels marched into Tripoli, Saint George’s Church — the oldest Orthodox church in northern Africa — was ransacked and desecrated. As THE NEW AMERICAN noted in 2012, Christians were even jailed just for importing Christian literature.

Again, Gadhafi was a brutal tyrant. But his regime was mostly secular. He was even friendly with the leaders of the Coptic Christian Church.

Similar stories can be told of the consequences of American interventionism in Egypt and Tunisia. President Obama even publicly called for the ouster of longtime American ally Hosni Mubarak, who was president of Egypt. “Change must take place,” Obama demanded. “My belief is that an orderly transition must be meaningful, it must be peaceful, and it must begin now.”

Enter the so-called Arab Spring, in which extremist Muslims ousted, or attempted to oust, moderate dictators, replacing them with their own tyrannical regimes and with their own theocratic rule.

It was not only in the Middle East and Vietnam that American interventionism either failed to produce a freer country or made things worse. In the Ivory Coast in 2011, for example, President Laurent Gbagbo was overthrown with the endorsement of the U.S. government. Obama boasted that America had



Do it for “democracy”: President Woodrow Wilson was able to persuade the other three allied leaders (from left to right: David Lloyd George of Great Britain, Vittorio Orlando of Italy, Georges Clemenceau of France, and Woodrow Wilson) at the post-WWI Versailles conference to create a League of Nations — a form of world government reliant on interventionism and nation building.

joined with the United Nations, Nigeria, and France to “support the will of the people.” Supposedly Gbagbo had lost an election, but the election was marred by massive voter fraud and ballot-box stuffing. *THE NEW AMERICAN* noted at the time, “Obama, France, and the UN decided to invade. Partnering with local Muslim militias, international forces dropped bombs and marched to the capital to arrest President Gbagbo, a Christian — slaughtering and raping tens of thousands of Christians along the way. Many fleeing Christians were hacked to death with machetes.” Senator Jim Inhofe of Oklahoma said the UN-Obama campaign was “a reign of terror.”

It seems to be a pattern for the U.S. government to oppose governments that are led by Christians. During the administration of President Bill Clinton, the United States bombed Christian forces in the former Yugoslavia, in favor of the Muslim forces. His predecessor, George H.W. Bush, had initiated the U.S. intervention, even seeking to jail former world chess

champion Bobby Fischer for daring to play a chess match in Belgrade with another former world chess champion, Boris Spassky. (Bush’s justification was that the United Nations had placed economic sanctions upon the country. One can search in vain in the U.S. Constitution for presidential authority to enforce foreign laws.)

Syrian president Bashar al-Assad has long been in the cross hairs of the interventionists, which fits the pattern of targeting secular dictators who protect Christians in the Middle East. President Obama called for Assad’s ouster, arguing that Assad had used chemical weapons against his own people in that country’s civil war. There is considerable doubt as to whether this is even true, but what business is it of the United States which thug rules Syria? How would Americans have liked it if other countries had called for the ouster of President Abraham Lincoln because his general, William Sherman, had attacked civilians in Georgia during our own Civil War?

Again, in Syria, not only are Christians

afforded considerable rights, they even serve in the Assad government. In fact, Syria has often been a place of refuge for Christians fleeing other Middle Eastern nations. Dr. Patrick Sookhdeo, international director of the Barnabas Front (a nonprofit organization that supports persecuted Christians), has said, “Syria has been very much a safe haven for Christians in the Middle East, one of the few Arab countries where they were treated with respect and had equality with the Muslim majority. Syria also has a history of welcoming in persecuted Christians from other countries.”

Despite this (or because of this?), the Assad regime is regularly condemned in the United States by leaders of both political parties. Even President Donald Trump decided to bomb Syria after Assad allegedly used chemical weapons in fighting his civil war. One CNN host, Fareed Zakaria, said that Trump’s missile strike in Syria showed him displaying the same qualities as America’s past leaders.

“I think Donald Trump became president of the United States last night,” Zakaria said on CNN’s *New Day* program the morning after the bombing. “For the first time really as president, he talked about international norms, international rules, about America’s role in enforcing justice in the world.”

To interventionists, bombing countries that are too weak to retaliate is apparently a baseline requirement to serving as president, right up there with being at least 35 years of age.

Assad is certainly a dictator, but his replacement would not be George Washington or Thomas Jefferson. His replacement would be a hardline, Islamist theocratic government.

To be blunt, it would be difficult to argue that the U.S.-backed government in Afghanistan was as respectful of religious minorities as the governments of Assad, Ghadafi, Hussein, and Mubarak. While the Taliban is certainly worse, the U.S.-backed government in Afghanistan was notorious as well.

The Christian faith was brought to Afghanistan by Thomas, one of Christ’s apostles, and the church thrived for a thousand years until the arrival of strict Islamists in the 13th century, which re-

sulted in the destruction of churches and the attempted extermination of the Christian religion.

Still, Christianity survived into the late 20th century. After the invasion of the Soviet Union in 1979, Afghans resisted the attempt to impose communism upon their country. President Ronald Reagan supported the Afghan rebels as part of his effort to bring down the Soviet empire. Unfortunately, many in the American-supported Afghan resistance fighters evolved into the Taliban, which quickly began persecuting the Christian minority.

After the U.S. invasion in 2001, the status of Christians only got worse, as Christians were now associated with the American invaders. In 2010, the last remaining Christian church building was demolished — under the government put in power by the United States. By 2012, World Watch List, which ranks nations by their persecution of Christians, ranked Afghanistan second in the world, behind only North Korea.

These are the fruits of interventionism and nation building.

Who Is to Blame?

After Senator Robert Taft's death from cancer in 1953, a notepad with a speech he was working on was found on his desk in his Capitol office. It was the beginning of a speech arguing against intervention in Indochina.

A few short months before, Taft had warned that continued interventionist policies were changing the country. "We simply cannot keep the country in readiness to fight an all-out war unless we are willing to turn our country into a garrison state and abandon all the ideals of freedom upon which this nation has been erected. It is impossible to have such a thing in this world as absolute security."

America is a different country today than it was before 9/11. Some of the provisions of the so-called Patriot Act have increased the power of the federal government beyond what is enumerated in the Constitution, and reduced our civil liberties, without making us any safer from terrorism. As with France's intervention in our war for independence, interventionism has damaged our country in many ways,

as well as damaging the places where we have intervened.

Who is to blame for all of this? Ron Paul addressed this question in a recent column. "Congress had kicked the can down the road for 20 years.... The generals and other high-ranking military officers lied to their commander-in-chief and to the American people for years about progress in Afghanistan. The same is true for the U.S. intelligence agencies.... The military industrial complex spent 20 years on the gravy train with the Afghanistan war.... The mainstream media has uncritically repeated the propaganda of the military and political leaders about Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, and all the other pointless U.S. interventions.... The corruption is deep."

But in the end, Paul noted, "American citizens must also share some blame. Until more Americans rise up and demand a pro-America, noninterventionist foreign policy they will continue to get fleeced by war profiteers."

If one reads the history of America's intervention — and attempt at nation building — in Vietnam and compares it to our experience in Afghanistan and Iraq, it is eerily similar. During the Vietnam War, Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara boasted about how "Operation Rolling Thunder," the carpet-bombing of North Vietnam, would end the war. In Iraq, it was "Shock and Awe," and Bush's secretary of defense, Donald Rumsfeld, ran that operation. Despite all the boasting and bluffing, we ultimately failed in both places.

It is no accident that the U.S. interventions in Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan were all run by members of the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), an organization that has supported the creation of a world government since its inception after the First World War. All of these interventions and attempts to "nation build" are an important part of that traitorous agenda.

It is time for Americans to say, enough is enough. It is time to reject what John Quincy Adams aptly called going abroad "in search of monsters to destroy" in favor of a noninterventionist foreign policy where America is once again "the well-wisher to the freedom and independence of all," but "the champion and vindicator only of her own." ■



In search of monsters: British Prime Minister Tony Blair and U.S. President George W. Bush were partners in the interventionism in Iraq. In his second inaugural address, Bush said that his goal was to "end tyranny in the world."

AP Images



Diamond M Ranch

**REGISTERED & COMMERCIAL
HEREFORDS**

**Range Bulls, Replacement Females, Stocker & Feeder Cattle
(one or a truckload)**

***A Fifth Generation Ranching Family
Engaged In Accenting The Hereford Influence***

**Box 99
Laurier, WA 99146
Len: 509/684-4380
(Summer phone)**

**The Diamond M Ranch Family
Len & Pat McIrvin
Bill & Roberta McIrvin
Justin & Kaleigh Hedrick
Mathan & Natasha Knapp**

**646 Lake Rd.
Burbank, WA 99323
Len: 509/545-5676
(Winter phone & address)**

“This is a republic, not a democracy — Let’s keep it that way!”

DHS PAINTS CRITICS OF COVID MANDATES & VOTE FRAUD AS TERRORISTS

Americans who believe in liberty and free speech are now potential terrorists, according to the Department of Homeland Security.



AP Images

What free speech? While polls show most Americans are concerned about the 2020 election, the Biden administration cites the mostly peaceful January 6 protest to argue that this belief is dangerous.

by Alex Newman

Americans opposed to COVID lockdowns and other government edicts supposedly related to the virus, as well as the “extremists” who believe the 2020 election was rigged, are at the top of the list of potential terror threats to the United States, according to a new advisory issued by the Biden administration’s Department of Homeland Security (DHS). “Conspiracy theorists” and purveyors of what the feds consider “disinformation” are now firmly in the cross hairs.

Alex Newman is senior editor of THE NEW AMERICAN, author of the new book Deep State: The Invisible Government Behind the Scenes, and co-author (with the late Sam Blumenfeld) of Crimes of the Educators.

Through a bulletin issued by the National Terrorism Advisory System on August 13, the increasingly discredited department, which also oversees the out-of-control southern border, painted everyday Americans as the most significant terrorist threat to America. Establishment media outlets happily regurgitated the talking points.

“Extremists may seek to exploit the emergence of COVID-19 variants by viewing the potential re-establishment of public health restrictions across the US as a rationale to conduct attacks,” Homeland Security bureaucrats claimed in the bulletin, acknowledging that there is no specific threat or credible information that it knows about suggesting that anyone is actually planning anything.

Also under scrutiny are those Americans suspicious of the 2020 election results — a number that polls suggest includes a majority of Americans and an overwhelming supermajority of Republicans. The mostly peaceful protest on January 6 at the U.S. Capitol, which Democrats and their media allies continue falsely referring to as an “insurrection” despite nobody having been charged with anything resembling insurrection, is key to the narrative. There was no mention about growing suspicions of FBI involvement in the January 6 incident.

“These actors are increasingly exploiting online forums to influence and spread violent extremist narratives and promote violent activity,” Biden’s Homeland Security bureaucrats claimed, without giving any examples of anyone promoting violent activity. “Such threats are also exacerbated by impacts of the ongoing global pandemic, including grievances over public health safety measures and perceived government restrictions.”

Speaking to NBC News, which helped amplify the government’s propaganda against Americans, a federal spokesman echoed those claims. “DHS has seen an increasing but modest level of individuals calling for violence in response to the unsubstantiated claims of fraud related to the 2020 election fraud and the alleged ‘reinstatement’ of former President Trump,” the DHS spokesman was quoted as saying, adding that the concerns are becoming more mainstream.

Tackling so-called thought crimes is becoming a central element of the administration’s supposed effort to prevent terror. “DHS is focused on the nexus between violence and extremist ideologies,” the spokesman for the agency was quoted

In general, though, the government claims to believe that threats from everyday Americans are lurking everywhere, except among the left-wing extremists burning down U.S. cities and attacking police.



Patriotic “terrorists”: The Department of Homeland Security issued a new terrorism advisory pointing to critics of COVID mandates and election fraud as a major terror threat to America.

as saying, with “extremist ideologies” being essentially any ideologies the Biden administration disagrees with, including ideas such as support for the U.S. Constitution and resistance to COVID tyranny.

The warnings about the alleged threat of conspiracy theorists, civil libertarians, and election-integrity advocates came shortly after the FBI came under fire for urging Americans to spy on and report their own family members for “extremist” views. Critics blasted the cryptic call as a throwback to the barbarous Stasi in Communist-ruled East Germany, which encouraged citizens to constantly surveil and report each other to the murderous regime.

While again acknowledging that they have no specific information about any specific alleged threat, Homeland Security claimed that the U.S. government was not “prepared” for the January 6 incident because it did not spy on Americans closely enough. And so, DHS “leaders” cited

by NBC vowed to more closely monitor social media, and especially “extremist rhetoric.” DHS is also reportedly working with local law-enforcement agencies on the issue.

“We are currently in a heightened terrorism-related threat environment, and DHS is aware of previous instances of violence associated with the dissemination of disinformation, false narratives and conspiracy theories about the 2020 election,” the DHS spokesman said, dismissing widespread and well-founded public concerns over election integrity as “disinformation” and “conspiracy theories.”

In general, though, the government claims to believe that threats from everyday Americans are lurking everywhere, except among the left-wing extremists burning down U.S. cities and attacking police. “Pandemic-related stressors have contributed to increased societal strains and tensions, driving several plots by do-

mestic violent extremists, and they may contribute to more violence this year,” the DHS claimed.

Unspecified “religious holidays” may also trigger terror attacks, the Biden administration said. The United States “continues to face a diverse and challenging threat environment leading up to and following the 20th Anniversary of the September 11, 2001 attacks as well as religious holidays we assess could serve as a catalyst for acts of targeted violence,” the DHS bulletin argued.

After repeatedly emphasizing that conservative and liberty-minded Americans are the main supposed terror threat to America, the administration reluctantly acknowledged supposed foreign threats, too. “These threats include those posed by domestic terrorists, individuals and groups engaged in grievance-based violence, and those inspired or motivated by foreign terrorists and other malign foreign influences,” the bulletin claimed.

There were no warnings issued about domestic terror groups such as Antifa or Black Lives Matter. The two communist organizations, which have numerous links to hostile foreign regimes and organizations, destroyed billions in property and were responsible for numerous deaths last year in violent riots that swept across major cities nationwide. Even RINOs (Republicans In Name Only) in Congress such as Senator Chuck Grassley of Iowa said it was a “grave mistake” for the administration to ignore those threats.

Meanwhile, despite the supposed concerns about terror and national security, the U.S. border with Mexico overseen by the same federal agency remains wide open. Because of that, actual terrorists with dangerous intent have been waltzing across the border into the “Homeland” practically uninterrupted on a regular basis.

Consider the recent arrest of two Yemeni men on the government’s no-fly and FBI terrorist watch lists who were arrested while illegally crossing the border from Mexico in January and March. According to U.S. Border Patrol officials, over a thousand illegal aliens each day walk across the border and are not even pursued because agents are so busy taking care of the growing tsunami of children showing up at the border.

Ironically, even as the administration

AP Images

works to stoke public fears about alleged domestic terror plots, it is vowing to re-settle tens of thousands of Afghans in the United States after the disastrous Biden withdrawal. Security and terror experts say that leaves the door wide open for would-be terrorist infiltrators to be plopped into local communities nationwide at taxpayer expense.

Of course, legitimate counterterrorism experts focused on actual terror threats to the United States were purged from federal service during the Obama administration — especially those who knew that jihadists and violent communists such as Antifa posed the most significant domestic terror threat to America’s national security.

The expertise and training programs developed by actual experts were replaced with discredited “countering violent extremism” (CVE) nonsense focusing on the largely imaginary threat of “white

supremacists.” Critics say that is how the FBI and other agencies missed obvious warning signs and clues about the Boston Marathon attack, the Orlando nightclub massacre, the San Bernadino slaughter, and other jihadist terror attacks.

Now, as THE NEW AMERICAN has been warning for decades, the end goal is coming into view more clearly: Turning the massive federal intelligence and law-enforcement apparatus against mainstream Americans concerned about the lawlessness coming out of the federal government. If the scheming is not checked by Congress and state governments, the administration fully intends to further weaponize the power of the federal government against its own citizens.

In a widely criticized document entitled “National Strategy for Countering Domestic Terrorism,” the administration made clear that it is not just violence that is at

issue — but ideas and thoughts that supposedly might possibly lead a person to commit a violent act. And it will not just be the federal government involved.

“Preventing domestic terrorism and reducing the factors that fuel it demand a multifaceted response across the Federal Government and beyond,” Biden says in an introduction to the document. “That includes working with our critical partners in state, local, tribal, and territorial governments and in civil society, the private sector, academia, and local communities, as well as with our allies and foreign partners.”

But of course, only some ideas that might lead to violence are actually in the cross hairs. For example, consider that admitted terrorist Floyd Corkins told the FBI that he was inspired by the far-left hate group known as the Southern Poverty Law Center to commit terrorism and mass murder against conservatives and Christians. And yet, instead of targeting the radical ideology of the SPLC, the feds work with the discredited organization to target mainstream Americans.

Ironically, perhaps, the mass-murdering dictatorship ruling mainland China sounded a lot like the Biden administration in its demonization of those who reject total government power under the guise of keeping people safe from COVID.

For instance, through its mouthpiece the *Global Times*, the Chinese Communist Party used an article about the terror alert to blast “loopholes” in the Constitution’s “federal system” that have “restricted” the power of the federal government when “encountering a crisis.” Some states, the regime said, are “reluctant to do the right thing to combat the epidemic.” Part of the problem is that “Americans advocate individualism,” the CCP said, slamming opposition to mask mandates, vaccine mandates, and travel restrictions.

With each day that passes, it is becoming more and more clear that the U.S. government — using rhetoric and talking points almost identical to those of the Chinese Communist Party — is being weaponized against Americans and freedom. The new “terror” warning painting as terrorists tens of millions of mainstream Americans with legitimate concerns about individual liberty and election fraud should be a wake-up call to all. ■



AP Images

Ignoring potential threats: While painting liberty-minded Americans as the main terror threat to the nation, Biden is currently importing thousands of Afghans despite warnings from security experts.

House Report All But Proves Lab-leak Theory

Contrary to the media narrative, a new report from the House Foreign Affairs Committee offers compelling evidence that SARS-CoV-2 came from a lab.

by R. Cort Kirkwood

You wouldn't know it from the leftist mainstream media, but a recently released congressional report about the Wuhan Institute of Virology (WIV) almost certainly proves that the China virus — SARS-CoV-2 — leaked from a poorly run lab at the institute. Other than Fox News and Reuters, few if any reports detailed the carefully constructed case in *The Origins of Covid-19: An Investigation of the Wuhan Institute of Virology*, published by the minority staff of the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee.

The 84-page paper reprises much of what has been widely reported about the lab-leak theory, including details in THE NEW AMERICAN'S lengthy story ("COVID Lab-leak Theory: Media Lied, People Died," July 5, 2021). The minority report shows just what Communist China's real-life Fu Manchus did in the lab, and what they didn't do.

Chinese labs suffered myriad safety problems, and authorities were renovating the lab at the institute, specifically a nearby

satellite campus, from which the virus escaped. Chinese with COVID-19 symptoms began surging into Wuhan's hospitals as early as September 2019, three months before the virus spread around the world. Athletes from around the globe assembled in Wuhan, ground zero for the outbreak, for the Military World Games in October. They took the virus back home.

When Democrats on Capitol Hill will agree to an independent probe is anyone's guess, but the Biden regime's report on the lab leak theory, was, as the leftist media said, "inconclusive."

Safety and Renovations

It's worth reviewing what already was known before the Republicans on the committee released their report:

- In her lab at the institute using U.S. taxpayer money and gene-forwarding know-how from American scientists, the notorious Bat Lady, Shi Zheng-li, modified a virus that could infect humans;
- Lab workers became ill and spread the virus throughout the city;
- The scientist who helped cover up



AP Images

It started here: The GOP minority on the House Foreign Affairs Committee recently released a report providing evidence that the SARS-CoV-2 virus leaked from a lab at the Wuhan Institute of Virology.

the lab leak funneled those U.S. taxpayer grants to the lab;

- Chinese military personnel collaborated with institute scientists;
- The People's Liberation Army published a paper that discussed a "new era of genetic weapons" as the Bat Lady monkeyed with the virus; and
- Chinese communists lied about a SARS virus outbreak in 2002.

We also know that alarmed U.S. science diplomats expressed safety concerns about the lab in 2018. But they were not alone, the minority report notes.

"One year later, in June 2019, George Gao, the Director of the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention, expressed concerns about safety protocols at the WIV," the House report observes. Wrote Gao:

Advances in biomedical technologies, such as genome editing and synthetic biotechnology, have the potential to provide new avenues for biological intervention in human diseases.... However, the proliferation

of such technologies means they will also be available to the ambitious, careless, inept, and outright malcontents, who may misuse them in ways that endanger our safety. For example, [they might create] unexpected off-target mutations within genomes or the possibility of gene drive initiation in humans, animals, insects, and plants. Similarly, genetic modification of pathogens, which may expand host range as well as increase transmission and virulence, may result in new risks for epidemics.

Gao cited several examples of dangerous mutations, including “synthetic bat-origin SARS-like coronaviruses [that] acquired an increased capability to infect human cells.”

In September 2019, Yuan Zhiming, director of the Biosecurity Level 4 lab at the Wuhan National Biosafety Laboratory (WNBL), the institute’s satellite campus, confessed serious safety worries in the *Journal of Biosafety and Biosecurity*.

“The article discusses at length the construction of the WNBL.” The minority report observes:

Yuan identifies multiple key issues, including inadequate biosafety management systems, insufficient resources for efficient laboratory operation, and deficiency of professional capacity. With a surprising level of transparency, Yuan admits that the enforcement of pathogen, waste, and laboratory animal management regulations “needs to be strengthened.”

Beyond that, just before the release of the virus, the WNBL’s hazardous-waste treatment system “was undergoing renovation,” the report says. And “the central air conditioning system at one of the facilities needed to be renovated, which likely resulted in lower than ideal air circulation and enabling viral particles to remain suspended in the air longer.”

Hospital Data

Data that point to the lab leak came from researchers at Boston University, Boston Children’s Hospital, and Harvard Medical School. Those scientists tracked parking-lot volume at hospitals in Wuhan before the outbreak hit full force.

“They found that five of six hospitals analyzed had the highest relative daily volume of cars in the parking lot in September and October 2019, before the first reported cases of COVID-19,” the report says. Those hospitals, all within 6.5 miles of the institute and connected by public transportation, “saw a rise in traffic with patients complaining of COVID-19 symptoms.”

The report then links the institute, its experiments, the hospitals, and the transportation system:

[A] daily shuttle bus transfers WIV researchers from the Wuhan Branch of the Chinese Academy of Sciences to the WNBL facility and back again. According to public mapping data, the shuttle pick up and drop off point is less than 500 meters from the WIV Headquarters. As such, it is likely that researchers from both the WIV Headquarters, as well as the WNBL, used the Wuhan metro and/or the WNBL shuttle bus, as part of their daily work commute.

Therefore, it is reasonable to conclude ... that in early September, one or more researchers became infected with SARS-CoV-2 in the lab and

carried it out into the city. Based on the WIV’s publications, researchers could have been exposed while experimenting with a natural virus collected from the wild or infected with a virus they genetically manipulated. Those researchers likely traveled to and from the WIV via the Wuhan metro or via the shuttle service, providing a vector for the virus to spread.

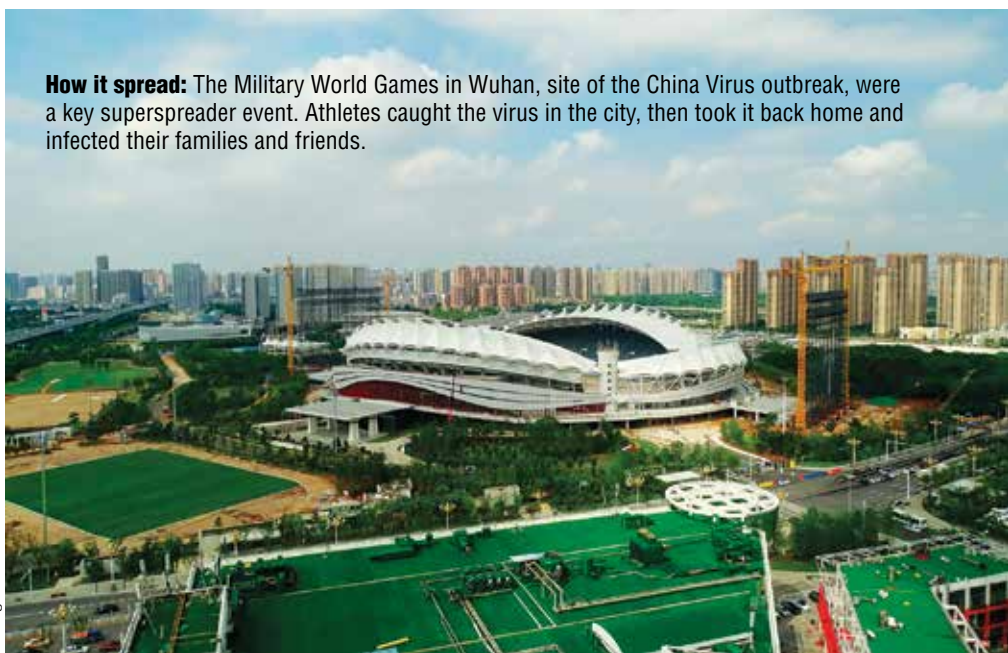
That assessment backs up what we’ve known all along, and what former Secretary of State Mike Pompeo observed: A major virus outbreak occurred in the city where a major virology institute genetically manipulated the bat-borne microbe.

Military Games

That raises the question of how the virus spread around the world so quickly. One reason was China’s hosting the Military World Games that October — just two months before the pandemic became known, but at the same time Wuhan’s hospitals were packed with patients with COVID-19-like symptoms.

The games drew more than 9,000 athletes from 109 countries, including Russia, Brazil, France, Germany, and Poland; 236,000 volunteers stayed in 90 hotels.

How it spread: The Military World Games in Wuhan, site of the China Virus outbreak, were a key superspreader event. Athletes caught the virus in the city, then took it back home and infected their families and friends.



More than 2,000 drivers shuttled them around town.

“During the games, many of the international athletes became sick with what now appear to be symptoms of COVID-19,” the report says. An athlete from Luxembourg said Wuhan was a “ghost town” and that authorities took his temperature at the airport when he entered the country.

A Canadian military man described contracting the lab-fortified virus:

This was a city of 15 million people that was in lockdown. It was strange, but we were told this was to make it easy for the Games’ participants to get around. [I got] very sick 12 days after we arrived, with fever, chills, vomiting, insomnia.... On our flight to come home, 60 Canadian athletes on the flight were put in isolation [at the back of the plane] for the 12-hour flight. We were sick with symptoms ranging from coughs to diarrhea and in between.

The athlete’s family members “became ill as his symptoms increased, a development that is consistent with both human-to-hu-

man transmission of a viral infection and COVID-19,” the report continues. “Similar claims about COVID-19 like symptoms have been made by athletes from Germany, France, Italy, and Sweden.”

Those claims are important because the four countries confirmed that the virus had entered their countries by November or December — “before the news of an outbreak first became public.” (Emphasis added.) The athletes unknowingly helped transmit the virus globally.

Details from the four nations explain the timeline and infections:

1. Italy. In February 2021, researchers from Italy published a research letter in the CDC’s Emerging Infectious Diseases journal describing a case involving a 4-year-old boy from Milan. A retrospective analysis of samples taken in 2019 identified the boy, who developed a cough on November 21, 2019, as having been infected with SARS-CoV-2 three months before Italy’s first reported case. The boy had no reported travel history.
2. Brazil. A March 2021 article

by researchers in Brazil examined wastewater samples from October to December 2019. Previous studies have confirmed that humans infected with the virus can experience prolonged viral shedding via their gastrointestinal tract. A sample from November 27th tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 RNA, confirming the virus was circulating in Santa Catarina, Brazil months before January 21, 2020, when the first case in the Americas was reported.

3. Sweden. Sweden’s Public Health Agency said it is likely that individuals in the country were infected with SARS-CoV-2 as early as November 2019.

4. France. Researchers in France also re-tested samples from late 2019 in an effort to identify early COVID-19 cases. They identified a 42-year-old male who presented to the emergency room on December 27th with an influenza-like illness. He had no connection to the PRC and no recent travel history. Upon re-testing, the patient’s samples were positive for SARS-CoV-2. It should be noted that one of his children also had similar symptoms before the man became sick, suggesting that the first case in France was likely earlier than December 27th.

But recall that athletes were falling ill while still in China. “The presence of SARS-CoV-2 in four countries, on two separate continents, suggests a common source,” the report says. “The 2019 Military World Games in Wuhan appears to be a key vector in the global spread — in other words, potentially one of the first ‘super spreader’ events.”

Let’s be clear on why the athletes were infected: *China permitted the games to continue even though lab workers and others had contracted the virus as early as September.*

The Full Lab-leak Hypothesis

The report presents 16 pages of evidence and arguments that the Chinese communists covered up the lab leak. Early on, they claimed the virus bubbled out of the filthy, repulsive wet markets in Wuhan, which sell exotic animals, including bats



Her creation: Shi Zheng-li is the notorious Bat Lady who, experts say, genetically modified the bat coronavirus that escaped the Wuhan Institute of Virology.

AP Images



AP Images

Moving fast: The SARS-CoV-2 virus was infecting Swedes as early as November 2019, the GOP report says. This strongly implies that the Military World Games was a primary vector.

that carry coronaviruses, for human consumption. Someone must have contracted the virus from a bat, the claim was, and the pathogen spread from that individual.

That was hokey. The Chinese knew very well that the institute’s Bat Lady and her lab underlings were fiddling with bat viruses — the institute is tightly connected to the People’s Liberation Army — and that a U.S. scientist helped her create a souped-up pathogen that would infect humans.

The report assembled all the data and provides what by all measures appears to be the definitive story of how the virus, possibly created as a bioweapon but released from the lab accidentally, spread globally so quickly.

But the Bat Lady and her sidekicks weren’t, again, merely looking at viruses under a microscope. They were genetically altering bat coronaviruses. “They were actively testing novel and genetically manipulated coronaviruses.... A defective hazardous waste treatment system and central air conditioning system would increase the likelihood of a lab employee (or several) becoming infected with SARS-CoV-2, as viral particles would be

more likely to remain in the air for longer periods of time.”

Riding on an institute shuttle and Wuhan’s metro system, infected lab workers ran thither and yon about the city, which spread the virus. Moreover, the authorities knew something was amiss. Once the “accidental release occurred,” the report says, at midnight local time on September 12, worried officials ordered lab inspections for late September. Hours later, “the WIV’s viral sequence database is taken offline.”

But the clues to a lab leak kept piling up in the action of “worried officials”:

Roughly 17 hours later ... the WIV publishes a procurement announcement for “security services” at the WNBL, to include gatekeepers, guards, video surveillance, security patrols, and people to handle the “registration and reception of foreign personnel.” The budget provided was in excess of \$1.2 million.

In order to prevent national embarrassment, the decision was made to allow the 2019 Military World Games to continue. No spectators

were allowed to attend the games, but international athletes and some of the 236,000 volunteers still become infected, spreading the virus in the city. Dozens of athletes fall ill with symptoms. Since COVID-19 can infect humans without causing symptoms, an untold number of athletes and volunteers become infected, but are asymptomatic and unaware they are infectious.

The athletes return to their home countries in late October, carrying SARS-CoV-2 across the world. Just as was the case in 2002 with SARS, the CCP sought to hide the outbreak, wasting precious time that could have been used to prevent the global pandemic. By the time the world was alerted to the virus spreading in Wuhan, it had already begun to spread around the world.

In December, as cases begin to overload local hospitals, it became impossible to hide the outbreak.

In February, the Reds persuaded American scientists and those who backed the dangerous gene-forwarding experiment to say any discussion of a lab leak was a “conspiracy theory,” a lie the leftist mainstream media uncritically and relentlessly repeated. The panicked public was clueless. The media became nothing more than a transmission belt for Communist Chinese lies.

One reason the media conspired with the Chinese so readily — instead of skeptically investigating denials of a lab leak — is surely because of its single-minded hatred of President Trump. He said the virus leaked from a lab early on. But such was the media’s Trump Derangement they refused to entertain even the mere possibility.

Now, they seem equally unenthused to report what the minority staff of the House Foreign Affairs Committee has shown in a comprehensive, extensively researched, and footnoted report.

As always, leftist Democrats, and even neoconservatives within the Republican Party, couldn’t care less.

Yet regardless of whether the media, Congress, or President Biden ever admit the truth, no one will ever get the remorseless Reds to pay the doctor’s bill. ■



THE GOODNESS OF AMERICA

Are These Seats Taken?

When brothers Jaylin, 18; Christian, 17; Jordan, 14; and Tristan, nine; of Warner Robins, Georgia, noticed 83-year-old Shelby Garrett eating alone at the Ole Times eatery on June 20, they decided to join her and make her dinner a little less lonely.

“Initially she seemed a bit shocked,” the boys’ mother, Courtney Hendrix, told the *Epoch Times*. “However, that was quickly replaced with gratitude and sheer joy. She was delighted to have them join her.”

According to Hendrix, the boys were upset to see Garrett eating alone, and kept hoping someone would join her. When it became clear that hers was a dinner for one, the boys asked if they could join her.

The conversation between the unlikely group was both light-hearted and profound, ranging from the mundane to deeply personal discussions.

“They talked over peach cobbler and ice cream,” Hendrix recalled. “They talked about God. She asked them about their lives and their goals.”

Hendrix told the *Epoch Times* that the boys were inspired to do something because they recently lost their grandmother.

“When they saw this woman at the table alone, they couldn’t help but to think that this woman may have been someone’s grandmother,” she told the *Epoch Times*. “Having lost their own grandmother in February of this year, the boys have spent some time thinking about their favorite memories with her.”

Hendrix said Garrett turned to her and her husband and said she was delighted to be sitting with their children.

Hendrix was so proud of her boys that she snapped a photo and shared it to her Facebook page, hopeful that their good deed would inspire others. Her post was shared thousands of times, and even reached Garrett’s family, who contacted Hendrix to extend their thanks and to share a bit about Shelby. They said that Shelby had taken on the care of her parents, and had never married or had children of her own.

Hendrix said her faith instilled in her children the importance of treating others with love and respect.

“We don’t have a philosophy when it

comes to raising kids,” she told the *Epoch Times*. “We have just tried to raise them to be the best human beings that they can possibly be.”

The response on social media has been enormous, with thousands of shares and comments from people who were moved by the boys’ altruism.

“This story makes my heart smile,” one user wrote.

“Praise God,” added another.

500,000 Books

Ten-year-old Orion Jean has made it his mission to share his joy of reading with hundreds of thousands of children in Texas. Jean set a goal of donating 500,000 books throughout Texas by the end of August.

“I want to be able to share my love of literacy with as many people as possible,” he told CBS News.

And with the help of generous donors, he is on his way to getting there. As of August 16, Jean had already collected 120,000 books. According to NBCDFW, financial consulting firm Whitley Penn launched a book drive in support of Jean. It collected more than 1,000 books and raised \$10,000 in support of his mission. Jean is also working with a number of partners to host book drop-off events throughout Texas.

Jean said he was inspired to start the book campaign when he learned that two out of three children living in poverty have no books of their own, *Texas Monthly* reported.

This is just Jean’s latest mission in his Race to Kindness. His kindness campaign began when he won a 2020 student kindness speech contest, earning him \$500, which he used to donate toys to Dallas Children’s Hospital.

He told CBS that winning the contest was “really just the catalyst to something so much bigger.”

After donating his winnings to the hospital, Jean partnered with a relief group and hosted food drives to collect 100,000 meals for families in Texas.

Jean’s mother, Kherri, helped create a website for his Race to Kindness campaign. The website, which tracks Jean’s latest missions, also accepts donations.

Jean said he is motivated by his “moral duty to help people.”

“You know, it’s my responsibility to be able to see these people who need help and knowing that I have the resources to help them,” he added, according to CBS.

More importantly, Jean believes his passion will motivate others. “I hope that the impact that I have had is enough to keep people continuing to race to kindness and continuing to join me in this marathon because it’s not a sprint,” Jean said.

I Think This Belongs to You

When Evan Byington of Utah dropped his cellular phone and a wallet full of money in a reservoir during an ice-fishing outing two years ago, he assumed he would never see them again. But thanks to the kindness of scuba diver Matthew Wesselink, Byington will be reunited with his possessions once again.

According to Wesselink, finding interesting items while scuba diving is typical.

“I find GoPros, scuba masks, a lot of paddleboard oars, phones, sunglasses is a big one,” Wesselink told Fox 13 in an interview.

While scuba diving in Deer Creek Reservoir in Utah this summer, Wesselink discovered a cell phone and a wallet full of credit cards and \$56 in cash.

Wesselink said “integrity is a big thing” for him, and took to Facebook to find the owner of the phone and wallet.

It did not take long before Wesselink found the rightful owner, Evan Byington.

Byington recalled losing the phone and wallet two years ago during a fishing trip with his neighbor. When the items fell into the reservoir, he thought he would never see them again.

Wesselink contacted Byington, and the two made arrangements to meet up in October. Wesselink, according to the *Epoch Times*, even went out of his way to replace the worn-out bills from the wallet with new ones from the bank.

Byington is grateful to Wesselink for his efforts to reunite him with his things.

“It’s great that there are still kind and loving individuals who are honest, like Matthew,” Byington said. ■

— RAVEN CLABOUGH

HOPE'S FOUNDATION

Jaimie Tuchman/iStock/Getty Images Plus

When our current situation appears hopeless, we can look to examples from history of people who have overcome much worse odds than ours.

by Fr. James Thornton

General Robert E. Lee, one of the greatest of Americans, wrote the following words: “My experience of men has neither disposed me to think worse of them, nor indisposed me to serve them; nor, in spite of failures, which I lament, of errors, which I now see and acknowledge, or of the present state of affairs, do I despair of the future. The march of Providence is so slow, and our desires so impatient, the work of progress is so immense, and our means of aiding it so feeble, the life of humanity so long, and that of the individual so brief, that we often see only the ebb of the advancing wave, and are thus discouraged. It is history that teaches us to hope.”

It is believed that the general wrote these words during the last years of his life, when he felt compelled to bear a large measure of responsibility for the defeat of his beloved homeland. This burden was a heavy one to shoulder, and it was reflected on his face, which, writes Southern philosopher Richard Weaver, “took on a look of settled sadness.” Heartache for a lost dream and grief over the tremendous suffering left in the wake of war were certainly there, but bitterness, hatred,

and surrender to despondency were not. To those who thought that there was no future worth living, General Lee responded that “human virtue must be equal to human calamity.” Hope remained very much alive in Lee’s heart. Indeed, Weaver declares that Lee’s cardinal message, that “history teaches us to hope,” is his final legacy to his countrymen, a testament that is “a profession of faith which for courage and spiritual hope deserves to rank with the noblest utterances.”

We live in a time when day-to-day events give powerful motive for despair about our beloved country, about its future as an independent nation, and about our future as a free and unique people. The fattening of the federal leviathan continues; internationalism as a political force still appears ascendant; an anti-American trade policy masquerading as “free trade” wreaks havoc on the foundations of our economic and political independence; we are awash in a flood of malodorous muck emanating from the Hollywood-New York entertainment axis; massive third-world immigration threatens to overwhelm the social, political, and cultural underpinnings of our land; our military grows weaker by the day; traitors are honored and loyal Americans mocked; and patriots make little visible headway despite many years of sacrifice and heroic effort. It is not an encouraging picture. Some would even say that our defeat is inevitable. Let us see if that impression can be justified.

Fr. James Thornton is a priest in the Eastern Orthodox Church. This article originally appeared in the May 25, 1998 issue of THE NEW AMERICAN.

The Future Is Not Determined

Many men down through the centuries have treated history as if it were made up of sets of iron laws, and so treated the future as if it were composed of processes that are inexorable. That outlook is called historical determinism. Peoples and nations sufficiently culturally advanced to have a true history are seen by determinists to be locked onto their paths, to be fixed in their journeys through time. Karl Marx, the most famous of these theorists, postulated an historical system wherein nations went through consecutive economic phases, each an advance on its antecedent. Thus, feudalism gave way to mercantilism, which gave way to capitalism, which *inevitably* must give way to socialism and communism.

Oswald Spengler's reading of history suggested to him a different scheme in which nations passed through life cycles similar to that through which living organisms pass: birth, childhood, youth, middle age, old age, and death. According to Spengler, there is no escape from destiny for any nation, any more than there is for an individual human being. Men and women pass through the phases of life and eventually die, and so it is, he surmised, for nations and civilizations. We note here, parenthetically, that the philosophies of Marx and Spengler are radically dissimilar, with very different roots. Their only similarity is that both are deterministic.

Marx and Spengler were not the only ones to envision the course of history as something fixed and preordained by inflexible laws. Indeed, such thinking — that the record of history is set in stone, that history is blind and grants no favors, and that there is no turning around its inevitable march — can be traced back to the ancient Greeks. Spengler, in a famous quotation from his *Man and Technics*, illustrates this outlook: "We are born into this time and must bravely follow the



"Molon labe": When the Spartans at Thermopylae were ordered by the Persians to lay down their arms and surrender, they replied, "Come and take them." Such courage led to an eventual Greek victory over Persia.

path to the destined end. There is no other way. Our duty is to hold on to the lost position, without hope, without rescue, like that Roman soldier whose bones were found in front of a door in Pompeii, who, during the eruption of Vesuvius, died at his post because they forgot to relieve him. That is greatness. That is what it means to be a thoroughbred. The honorable end is the one thing that can *not* be taken from a man."

Though that passage has a certain beauty and nobility when judged from the standpoint of literary elegance, the underlying thought is altogether fatalistic, even self-defeating. Were the Spenglerians correct, there would be every reason for despair. Hope would be foolishness.

However, the error made by men who believe in historical inevitability is that they confuse certain societal propensities with iron laws of history. It is evident that

groups of human beings tend to react to certain situations in more or less predictable ways. Overwhelm a society with too much luxury, and emphasize the commercial in preference to the spiritual and moral, and that society will likely become debased. Dishearten an army by subjecting it to continual evidence of its enemy's unbeatable superiority, and it will often turn and run. Such are the ways of people considered *en masse*, the behavior of which can be predicted with a fair degree of success. But these are not iron laws. Exceptions abound. Let us explore some of these.

Enemy at the Gates

In the fifth century B.C., Greece was threatened by Persian invasions. Persian power was vast, while Greece was weak and fragmented, and it stood to reason that the Persian armies would be victorious. All evidence pointed to this. Under Darius the Great, and again under Xerxes, successive invasions were launched. Even the Oracle of Delphi seemed initially to predict doom for the Greek cause. Yet, though a Persian triumph was thought to be inevitable, such was not the case. At Marathon, and later at Thermopylae, sheer courage, resoluteness, and unquenchable hope saved the day.

The Persian threat, this time under Darius III, was decisively smashed in the following century by Alexander on a plain near Gaugamela. Though the Persians again had amassed overwhelming strength on their side, with nearly double the cavalry as their enemy, numerous formations of mercenaries, and ostensibly irresistible weapons such as masses of scythe-wheeled chariots and huge and terrifying war elephants, those who believed in the inevitability of history were mistaken again. A combination of courage and brilliance on the part of Alexander's forces shattered Persian military might for centuries thereafter.

Those historical encounters not only preserved the independence of the Greek people, but they preserved the incomparable jewel of Greek learning and culture, and thereby safeguarded a worldview that was to form the basis for the whole of Western culture and civilization, right down to the present day. One cannot begin to estimate how different life for each of us would be had we lost that treasure.

Not So Invincible

A 19th-century author once declared, "It is in Rome that all ancient history loses itself; it is out of Rome that all modern history takes its source.... The history of Rome is in truth synonymous with the history of the world." That statement is unquestionably accurate. In nearly every area of public life, in statecraft, in foreign affairs, in military matters, and in social policy, the examples offered by Rome so often remain an endless source from which to draw. That is no less true with respect to a source of examples showing how peoples can overcome dire circumstances to survive, recover, and flourish.

Almost 2,000 years ago, the Roman Empire sought to extend its frontiers northward to encompass what is today Germany. In the year 9 A.D., the Roman Emperor Augustus sent his legions on a campaign to subdue the German tribes across the Rhine and to conquer all territory as far as the River Elbe. Roman Legions, led by their commander Varus, marched east, determined to rid Rome once and for all of the bothersome Germanic tribes. Now we must remember that Rome at that time still possessed the most modern army in the world, and military and economic power that was simply gigantic. Rome was, even as late as the days of Augustus, the colossal "super-power" of the age, and her resources very nearly limitless.

We live in a time when day-to-day events give powerful motive for despair about our beloved country, about its future as an independent nation, and about our future as a free and unique people.

By way of contrast, the Germans were disorganized, primitive, and wretchedly poor. Historian Sir Edward Creasy writes that they were "ill armed and undisciplined," while the Roman troops "consisted of veterans in the highest state of equipment and training, familiarized with victory, and commanded by officers of proved skill and valor." The Romans should have cut through the Germans with ease. Roman victory, and Roman

dominion over the German tribes, by any rational estimation, was "inevitable." But that was not to be, and this had to do with the internal psyches of the people involved in this struggle.

Creasy pays tribute to the integrity and uprightness of the Germans, to "their bravery, their fidelity to their word, their manly independence of spirit, their love of their national free institutions, and their loathing of every pollution and meanness." A

century before, the Romans too could have boasted of such things, but no longer. Rome was controlled by an "oligarchy of wealth," quite unlike its old, austere aristocracy of honor. In Creasy's words, Rome's cities were filled with "the chance sweepings of every conquered country" and her citizens mostly "a degraded mass of poverty and misery" infected with the "foulest profligacy of manners."

German culture was, at that time, still in its infancy, yet the way of life cultivated by the tribes of Germany embodied certain features which eventually would contribute to the invigoration of European civilization, which had been corrupted by the decay of late-pagan antiquity. Among these were a fierce passion for freedom and a strong sense of individuality. If these sound familiar to Americans, it is because they come to us from the ancient Germans, by way of our English ancestors. Creasy mentions that "the main stream of our [English] people was and is Germanic." So that element



Defeating the invincible army: Though the Germanic tribes were massively outclassed and outnumbered by the Romans, their character and honor allowed them to deal Rome a crushing defeat at Teutoburg Forest.



Be faithful unto death: The often-brutal persecution of Christians under the fist of the Roman Empire did not succeed in snuffing out the faith. Rather, the church only grew stronger, and it was Rome, not Christianity, that eventually collapsed.

stands out in modern America, through the agency of the Germanic Anglo-Saxons, who conquered the Romanized Celts of Britain, and who passed their love of freedom eventually down to us.

And so it was that in a thick wood known as the *Teutoburger Wald*, near where today exists the modern city of Detmold, the Roman Legions of Varus were confronted by German warriors led by Herman (also known by his Latin name, Arminius). The Romans were cut to ribbons, and the Roman commander Varus and his fellow commanders killed themselves rather than risk capture.

The Roman historian Suetonius recalled that Augustus, upon hearing of the catastrophe, struck his head repeatedly against the wall and exclaimed, “Varus, Varus, give me back my legions!” The truth is that Imperial Rome had received a blow from which she would recover only with tremendous difficulty. The myth of Roman invincibility had been shattered, and the days of pagan Rome were numbered. Men seemingly doomed to live as ignominious chattels won the day and saved their freedom, because they refused to abandon

hope, because they refused to bow before the “inevitable,” and because they exhibited the relentless determination that comes from loving liberty, decency, and dignity more than life itself.

The Empire was seriously threatened, so much so that all thoughtful men within the Empire concerned themselves about the future of Rome, the only established order that they knew or could imagine. The Germans did not follow up their victory with an assault on Italy and Rome, though little stood in their way. Rome did not again attempt to capture the whole of Germany, but she did regain her strength adequately to defend the northern frontiers for a while longer. Yet the decomposition was not halted. The Roman people found themselves in an ever more “hopeless” state.

End of an Empire

The Roman Empire, in the third century A.D., was a huge geopolitical entity surrounding the entire Mediterranean, covering Egypt and North Africa, the Near East, Asia Minor, and much of southern and parts of central Europe. Nevertheless, it was an empire in a state of sharp decline.

The most obvious sign of this deterioration was the quality of those at the very pinnacle of the pyramid of imperial power. One writer comments, “Roman emperors — once men of stature, power, and an aura of being larger than life — were now ephemeral creatures, succeeding one another to the throne of Rome in a depressing series of incompetent or helpless characters. For every new emperor there seemed to be two or three pretenders to the crown proclaimed by various legions in scattered parts of the empire.” Moreover, both ephemerality and incompetence were united with a system designed to confer upon these rulers enormous powers. A Roman emperor initially ruled at the behest of, and with at least the nominal approval of, the Senate. But by the third century it was the army, above all else, to whom he owed his high office. In his decisions he answered only to the army. His power, furthermore, was derived from, and position secured by, military power. And the Roman army proved a fickle master.

From the end of the reign of Septimius Severus, near the beginning of the third century, to the accession of Diocletian in 284, some 25 men rose to the purple, for the most part at the instigation of the military. A few of these were men of some wisdom, energy, and potential, but it was all for nothing. A number of the third-century emperors held their tenuous threads of power for only a few days, and many met violent and inglorious deaths at the hands of the very legions that had granted them the throne. The fabric of the Empire unraveled. Popular unrest, riots, and clashes between various branches and units of the military became the order of the day. In the meantime, all this internal discord allowed the once formidable barriers guarding the Empire against numberless enemies to deteriorate, and the torrent of barbarian invaders poured in. It is no exaggeration to say that with regard to its government, Rome’s situation was “hopeless.”

Morally, too, Rome was in a very bad place. “Never,” writes historian J.F.C. Fuller, “had the rabble sunk so low. Bereft of religion, morality, and all social virtues, the dole-fed masses wallowed in every vice. Luxury begot brutality and brutality licence ... childlessness became more and more prevalent. Whilst to these degenerates licence spelt liberty, to the plutocrats

liberty spelt power, profit, and an unlimited scramble for wealth, until money became the sole link between man and man.”

Fuller remarks elsewhere that “exotic luxuries, which flooded in from Egypt and the Orient, rotted the morality of low and high. Marriage was turned from procreation to recreation, [and] a differential birth-rate was established.” Romans had been a sturdy, tenacious race of men who had conquered the world. However, Fuller writes, “the spirit of the wild-boar petrified into the gluttony of the farmyard pig” because “gold had curdled the Roman blood: it was no longer red, but thin and yellow.”

Triumph Among Tragedy

For Christians, this period was marked by a number of persecutions. Almost from the beginning, Christian Romans had endured periodic persecution at the hands of the state, but they had nonetheless grown steadily in numbers over the decades. In the third century, under Decius, a new persecution broke out that proved to be a difficult challenge. Church property was confiscated and hierarchs, other clergy, and huge numbers of the faithful went to their deaths. Decius was a genuine disappointment, for at the time of his elevation he was thought to be the “heroic figure”

who would lead Rome back to greatness. Instead, he was merely another blood-drenched despot. After a short reign, he was killed in battle.

Valerian succeeded to the throne in 253. His name, too, is associated in Christian history with persecution. Initially somewhat friendly toward the growing Christian Church, in 257 he suddenly changed course and launched a campaign of repression that increased in intensity throughout that year and the first half of 258. At that time all clergy were arrested. Wealthy Christians had their property confiscated and were, if recalcitrant, executed. Christians in the lower strata of society were sold into slavery. Valerian’s end came soon, when he was captured in battle and languished for a time in captivity before his death. Valerian was followed by a succession of short-lived mediocrities. Then, in 284, Diocletian took command.

Diocletian was responsible for one of the worst of the attacks on the early Christians. Commencing in February 303, during the pagan festival of Terminalia, a campaign of burning, looting, beatings, imprisonments, and executions was launched which continued for a decade. That great numbers suffered death is testified to by the fact that the Christian calendar contains more names of martyrs from that period than from any previous persecution.

We see then how chaotic and hopeless everything seemed in the Roman world of that time. A world order several hundred years old, apparently as durable as the mountains and as unalterable in the minds of most people as the rising of the sun and the moon, was actually visibly collapsing; universal anarchy threatened, cataclysm appeared a certainty, overwhelming disaster seemed unavoidable. Furthermore, the Roman state had sullied itself by participating in the mass slaughter of its own citizens who adhered to the Christian faith.

What Romans of the last years of the third century did not suspect and could not know was that a new era was about to dawn. Not only would the best of the Roman way of life survive and undergo rejuvenation, but, in one of the most amazing reversals in all of history, this would happen under the aegis of a religion only recently harshly abused and oppressed by the state: Christianity. Moreover, the

Men seemingly doomed to live as ignominious chattels won the day and saved their freedom, because they refused to abandon hope, because they refused to bow before the “inevitable,” and because they exhibited the relentless determination that comes from loving liberty, decency, and dignity more than life itself.



He would not abandon hope: Though the situation of the Continental Army led by George Washington looked dire, and defeat appeared inevitable, Washington would not give up, and eventually led his men to victory.

Gospel of Christ would rise triumphant and begin its transformation of the world, all because of a dramatic change of policy under a new emperor, Constantine.

As is often the case today with the treatment of historical events in the distant past, there is considerable controversy about the conversion of Constantine to Christianity. On this matter, the traditional view has always been based on ancient accounts, especially that of Eusebius in his *Life of Constantine*. Questions as to the precise motives of this emperor in showing favor to the Christian religion — whether he indeed was influenced by a miraculous vision and whether his conversion was wholly sincere — occupy many pages in nearly all modern histories. Because they have little bearing on our overall theme, we will not enter into these controversies.

The fact remains, however, that Constantine did bring great benefit to Christians and to Christianity and, thereby, to his Empire. It is not true, as is often be-

lieved in the popular mind and asserted by certain polemicists, that Constantine elevated Christianity to the status of a state religion. In fact, during his reign Christianity enjoyed equal status with the old religion. Constantine personally sponsored the building of numerous churches, it is true. Yet the old temples remained open throughout the Empire, as would be expected, since a huge majority was still pagan. Under Constantine, people of both high and low station were completely free in religious matters. The important point is that the Church was given freedom to preach and to teach, and to work its “revolution of the heart” among the people. That “revolution of the heart” not only outlasted the Roman Empire, but provided the moral underpinnings for future societies and survives to this day.

We see in the story of Rome’s revitalization in the early fourth century how apparent doom can be averted and how society can renew itself. Of course it did not

last forever, for few things in this world endure. The Western Empire was given another 150 years, while its Eastern sister lived on for another thousand years, preserving the legacy of the ancient world until such time as it could take root among the younger peoples of Europe, until they had matured sufficiently to grasp the import of that inheritance. An earlier collapse would surely have meant the utter destruction of the wisdom of the ancient world. So, Greco-Roman thought lived on, as it lives on today even in our own American Republic, modeled as it is on the experiences of the ancients.

Changing the Course of History

An inner, spiritual metamorphosis on the part of a people or a nation can change the direction of history. The continuation of a plunge downward to calamity is not inevitable, despite the ominous nature of certain trends. Truly, history teaches us to hope.

History offers many other instances of startling turnarounds: the sudden and inexplicable retreat of Attila the Hun and his hordes, the victory of Charles Martel over the Moors at Poitiers, the victory over the Turks at the Battle of Lepanto, and the ruin of the Spanish Armada, to mention only four.

We see some splendid instances of the triumph of hope and determination in our own American history as well, one of which comes from our War for Independence. During the winter of 1778-79, when Washington gathered his troops at Valley Forge, the condition of our army was desperate. There was little food or supplies, there was practically no shelter from the vicious cold, the uniforms of our soldiers were in tatters, and boots or shoes were at a premium. Many of the troops wrapped their feet in scraps of cloth to try to stave off frostbite. Thousands of men deserted and returned to their homes, and hundreds of officers resigned their commissions. By all appearances, the army of General Washington was about to dissolve before his eyes.

But that did not happen. Washington, who shared the hardships of his men, was uncompromisingly determined to hold his cause together. Despite the fact that he and his men faced the combined forces of Great Britain and that any table



Hope was not lost: Though France was convulsed by a bloody, godless revolution in 1789, the 19th century was a time of great cultural, industrial, and spiritual revival for the West.



Flickr/UCameras

Down with tyranny: Karl Marx believed that the triumph of communism was inevitable. These demonstrators tearing down a statue of Vladimir Lenin in Ukraine show that he was wrong, as long as people are willing to fight and do not give up hope.

of comparison between American and British forces demonstrated that defeat was “inevitable,” hope burned brightly in Washington’s heart, and in the hearts of the stalwarts who stood by him, and never stopped burning until victory was theirs.

When Lord Cornwallis surrendered his sword and his army to Washington at Yorktown nearly four years later, the hope that General Washington had placed in his just cause was fully vindicated. Hope and firmness once again made the difference between success or failure.

Let us review one last example. In 1789, the world was convulsed by the French Revolution, as violent an offensive against traditional virtues and ways of life as has ever reared its head. In Paris and throughout much of France, Christian worship was discouraged, and in some churches a so-called Goddess of Reason was enshrined in place of Christ and the Saints. Looting, arson, and terrible public disorder became commonplace. Approximately one million people were murdered by the revolutionaries, and bloodthirsty tyrants of the worst stripe rose to power. If ever there was a time to lose hope, that was it. And yet hope was justified, for it happened that through-

out the Western World, the 19th century, totally unexpectedly, became a time of magnificent revival and renaissance, both in the religious sense and with regard to culture and civilization in general.

Not Inevitable

Pitirim Sorokin, the renowned Russian-American philosopher and sociologist, wrote, “The facts of history offer endless evidence of the impossibility of an accurate knowledge of forthcoming events.... The cup of history has been filled to the brim by the unforeseen, and ‘improbable’ surprises.” How true! The study of history tells us that the future is most frequently unpredictable, that people and nations consigned by conventional wisdom to defeat and oblivion sometimes experience dramatic revivals and spectacular reversals. The greatest developments in the lives of nations are, invariably, unanticipated and are beyond the abilities of human beings to prophesy. The Soviets once proclaimed that their “planned economy” was destined to overtake that of the West, that they would “bury us.” They were wrong. Karl Marx insisted that the triumph of communism is “ineluctable,” that a communist

world is foreordained by the forces of history. Modern Marxists still believe that. Marx was wrong and his followers were and are wrong.

Modern American liberals believe that a one-world government, led by a transnational elite, is historically and economically certain to rule the whole of the world, and that the many cultures and peoples of the planet will be replaced by a single universal culture, making us all citizens of the “global village.” Despite superficial appearances, they too are wrong. If the lessons of history mean anything, then Marxists, liberals, and others of similar stamp should prepare themselves for some very unpleasant surprises.

One of the most powerful weapons in the arsenal of communism and liberalism is this notion of determinism, the idea that the tides of history are flowing in *their* direction, that victory for them is inevitable. By means of that clever propaganda device, they have ever sought to paralyze all opposition. But history does not support their view. In battles between armies, as we have seen, it is often the case that the larger and better equipped of the two antagonists is defeated because the externally frail combatant, though weaker in the physical sense, is stronger in the moral sense, and is thereby stronger in its vitality, ardor, character, spirit of sacrifice, and love of the things for which it is contending. Anyone who reads history knows that this has happened over and over again since men began to inscribe the records of human events for the edification of their posterity. What is incontrovertible to the careful reader is that history is not a record of currents of “inevitability,” but of startling surprises and astonishing turnabouts. And thus it shall be until the end of time.

The only thing irretrievably fixed about the history of this world is that God Himself will ultimately decide its outcome. As a renowned Christian theologian has expressed it, “History is divine,” and “the story of the manifestation of the divine.” History is finally a record of the eternal plan of God, though He demands decisiveness, a turning in His direction, and human labor. He acts in concert with us. All of the victories over adversity in history have been won by struggle. So let us take heart, redouble our efforts, and never forsake hope. ■



CUSTOM STEEL FABRICATION



614.328.8450
actiongroupinc.com

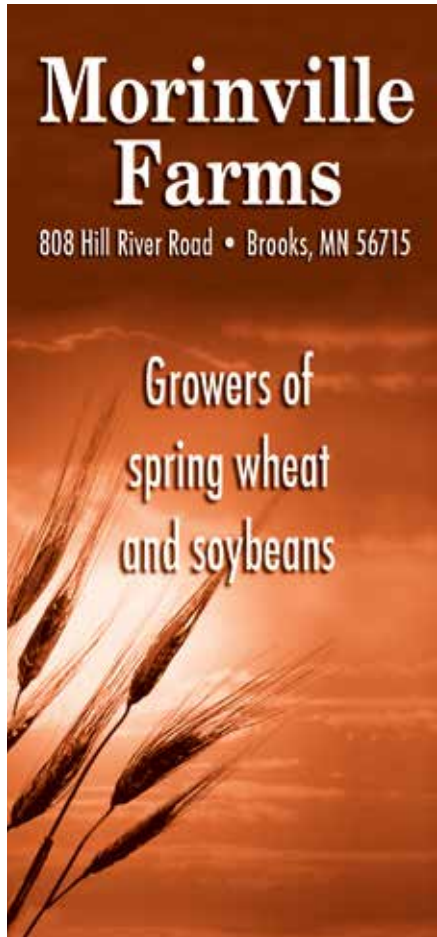
QUALITY ... ON TIME



Morinville Farms

808 Hill River Road • Brooks, MN 56715

Growers of
spring wheat
and soybeans




EMERGENCIES DON'T
TRUMP
LIBERTY

FREEDOM
IS THE

CURE

To learn more, visit jbs.org
Want Quick Access?
 Try hovering your smart phone over the smart code!

ARTHUR ENGINEERING, LLC

SYLVANIA, GEORGIA

Engineering consulting for manufacturing, chemical plants, oil + gas and industry.

- Project Management
- Process Engineering
- Electrical and Instrumentation Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- 3D Laser Scanning
- Structural Engineering

Also commercial MEP engineering. Licenced in 24 states and we travel!

1006 Millen Highway, Sylvania, GA 30467

Phone: (912) 499-1600 www.Arthur-Engineering.com info@arthur-engineering.com

Second Amendment Flip-flopping

In a story entitled “Anti-gun Grandstanding” in this column for the August 23 issue of TNA, this writer reported that then-New York Governor Andrew Cuomo issued an executive order proclaiming that gun violence is a public-health crisis, even going so far as to declare a state of emergency to address it. Second Amendment supporters expressed concerns that Cuomo’s executive order could lead to more infringements on their rights but, as evidence of how fast things can change in the world of politics, Cuomo ended up resigning shortly after he issued the order when multiple allegations of sexual harassment became public. Though Cuomo is no longer governor, this doesn’t mean New York residents who have firearms have nothing to worry about: Governor Kathy Hochul, formerly lieutenant governor under Cuomo, also holds extreme anti-Second Amendment positions.

While an anti-gun Democrat is nothing new, what’s ironic is that Hochul was once endorsed by the National Rifle Association! Back in 2012, when Hochul was serving as a U.S. representative from New York, the NRA’s Chris Cox proclaimed, “Kathy Hochul has a proven record of defending the Second Amendment.... Because of her strong support of our rights, Hochul has earned an ‘A’ rating and endorsement from the NRA-[Political Victory Fund].” The Daily Beast reported on August 11 that when Hochul was a congresswoman in a very Republican district, she proudly boasted of her support for the Second Amendment. This would all change once Hochul ran for statewide office in 2014 — indeed, she morphed into a carbon copy of Cuomo on every issue. She even went so far as to embrace the idea of driving the NRA out of New York. As the Daily Beast noted, this isn’t the first time a Democrat lied to voters to win in a conservative area only to flip-flop when campaigning at the state level. The Daily Beast wrote that “such evolutions are far from unheard of in New York, given the schism between its fiercely conservative rural regions and deep-blue Democratic

cities, and the nation’s increasingly polarized politics. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) served a term-and-a-half in the House of Representatives as a pro-gun, anti-sanctuary city, pro-English-only education Democrat, only to morph into a liberal paragon after former Gov. David Paterson appointed her to the Senate seat vacated by Hillary Clinton.”

Shooting Outside Movie Theater

Newson6.com reported on August 24 about a robbery outside a movie theater in Oklahoma City that turned deadly for the culprit. Master Sergeant Gary Knight of the Oklahoma City Police Department told Newson6, “It appeared there was a couple walking near the theatre when they were approached by a man who was armed with a gun.” The investigation revealed that the armed robber demanded cash and other personal belongings from the couple, but the male victim, who was also armed, pulled out his own handgun and shot the robbery suspect. “That’s when [the robber] was shot and killed right outside the Harkins Theatre,” Knight added. “They were interviewed by homicide detectives shortly after the case.... Because even though this appears on the surface to be a case of self-defense, it’s still a homicide.... If your life is in imminent peril, you have the right to defend yourself up to and including using deadly force.” Knight told Newson6.

Oklahoma News 4 KFOR reported on August 24 about what other moviegoers who were there that night witnessed. Bertoldo Berruete told KFOR that he “heard a bang and thought it was part of the movie. Next thing you know, the movie ended, and we came outside and seen all the [crime scene tape].”

Mary Jane Gonzalez told KFOR, “It’s actually scary. It was just an ordinary day. And that happens?”

Once the investigation is complete, the evidence will be presented to the Oklahoma County district attorney to review and decide whether the shooting was a justifi-

able homicide. All the known facts seem to indicate that it was a lawful shooting.

Active Shooter Stopped by an Armed Good Guy

The *Northwest Arkansas Democrat Gazette* reported about a shooting spree in Fort Smith that ended when an armed citizen halted an active-shooter situation. The incident unfolded on May 15 when 26-year-old Zachary Brian Arnold went on a shooting rampage at his apartment complex. Arnold armed himself with a semi-automatic rifle and began shooting at different apartments around 7:15 a.m. and yelling for his neighbors to exit their apartments. Sadly, an 87-year-old woman named Lois Hicks opened her apartment door to see what all the commotion was about and Arnold shot her multiple times, killing her. Another resident of the apartment complex, 58-year-old Wallace West, heard the shots, retrieved his own bolt-action rifle, and fired at Arnold from his balcony. West’s first shot missed the mark, because he was shaking so badly due to fear and the adrenaline coursing through his veins. Arnold returned fire at West, but then Arnold went back into his apartment, apparently to reload his rifle. Arnold came back out and continued shooting at West, but this time West was able to shoot Arnold in the head, killing him. Arnold’s mother later told investigators that her son was a veteran from the Afghanistan War and was suffering with mental-health issues, including dealing with post-traumatic stress disorder.

Sebastian County Prosecutor Dan Shue announced on July 29 that Wallace’s heroic actions were justified under Arkansas state law: “Mr. West acted lawfully when he shot Mr. Arnold and likely saved a number of lives in the process.... At last count, Mr. Arnold had fired 93 rounds from his semiautomatic rifle before Mr. West was able to stop him.... Had West not acted in a swift and decisive manner, my office could just as easily be dealing with multiple homicides rather than the homicide of Lois Hicks and the justified shooting of Zachary Arnold.” ■

— PATRICK KREY



Brick, Block, and Stone;
Basements, Chimneys,
and Fireplaces;
We build
new and repair.

Jim Squire

office: 330-239-3134

cell: 330-350-0169

fax: 330-239-1150

squire.construction@gmail.com

Pence Walnut Plantation and Hensler Nursery, Inc.

Now offering for sale
"Pence Select"
Walnut Seedlings

The 44,000 trees planted in 1989 are from a highly diverse genetic pool. The seedlings available to you will be from nuts gathered from the best 200 trees!

This is an exceptional opportunity to secure superior quality Black Walnut seedlings!

For more information contact:

Hugh B. Pence

1420 Adams St. • Lafayette, IN 47905

Ph: (765) 742-4269

Fax: (765) 742-6667

E-mail: hughbpence@cs.com



**One of many 27-year-old
Superb trees**



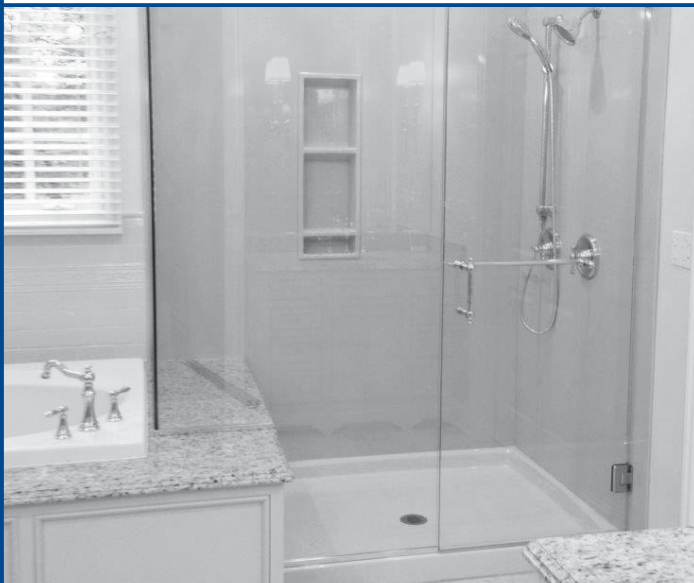
Elegance for your bath

Proudly Made In Kansas, USA

SHOWERS

LAVATORIES

ACCESSORIES



202 Broadway Street, Belvue, KS 66407

Phone: 800-669-9867

Fax: 800-393-6699

www.onyxcollection.com



Media Portray Misleading UN Climate Report as Proof of World's End

ITEM: *The New York Times*, in its August 9 print edition, blared this leading Page One headline: “A Hotter Future Is Now Inevitable, a U.N. Report Says.” Nations, says the piece, “have delayed curbing their fossil-fuel emissions for so long that they can no longer stop global warming from intensifying over the next 30 years, though there is still a short window to prevent the most harrowing future, a major new United Nations scientific report has concluded.”

According to the leftist paper: “Humans have already heated the planet by roughly 1.1 degrees Celsius, or 2 degrees Fahrenheit, since the 19th century, largely by burning coal, oil and gas for energy. And the consequences can be felt across the globe: This summer alone, blistering heat waves have killed hundreds of people in the United States and Canada, floods have devastated Germany and China, and wildfires have raged out of control in Siberia, Turkey and Greece.”

ITEM: *The latest United Nations climate report, insisted the Boston Globe for August 9, says the “world is on fire.” The report, “with its devastating assessment of the impacts already wrought by a warming world and dire predictions for what’s to come, is simultaneously terrifying, depressing, and overwhelming,” said the paper. Yet, concluded this left-wing newspaper, it also produced “a call to arms.”*

ITEM: *BloombergBusiness.com for August 9 boomed out a matching message: “United Nations Secretary General António Guterres has just proclaimed ‘a code red for humanity.’ The unequivocal consensus of the world’s top climate scientists — unveiled in a landmark report Monday — is that not only are humans responsible for the catastrophes befalling the atmosphere, the oceans, the ice packs and the forests, but that without drastic moves by the planet’s leaders to eliminate greenhouse gas pollution, things are going to get a lot worse, and quite soon.”*



AP Images

Nothing out of the ordinary: Liberals claim that the number of natural disasters, such as wildfires, is increasing due to human-caused climate change, but a study of historical records shows that wildfires, hurricanes, and floods are not occurring with abnormal frequency.

The publication concluded: “This report,’ Guterres warned the world, ‘must sound a death knell for coal and fossil fuels before they destroy our planet.’”

CORRECTION: If you want a straight account, the would-be world government is the last place to go, though the UN secretary-general — the former president of the Socialist International — is undoubtedly a “code red” aficionado. Indeed, he’s well-nigh wild-eyed in this regard, continuing, “The alarm bells are deafening, and the evidence is irrefutable: Greenhouse gas emissions from fossil-fuel burning and deforestation are choking our planet and putting billions of people at immediate risk.”

In a statement launching the “Summary for Policymakers” for the 6th Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), we are instructed: “On a warming planet, no one is safe.” And climate change is, of course, “getting worse faster.”

Though the most recent IPCC report is certainly feverish, the mainstream media’s embellished coverage about climate change has bordered on hysterical. A few typical headlines hint at the amplified reportage: “Wildfires rage across the world

as U.N. releases damning climate change report” (Yahoo News); “Greek wildfires are the ‘harsh reality of climate change,’ experts warn” (NBC News); and “Major climate changes inevitable and irreversible — IPCC’s starkest warning yet” (*Guardian*). The British *Guardian* even (falsely) indicated that the report found mankind “guilty as hell” of “climate crimes of humanity.”

The finger gets pointed at rising levels of carbon dioxide for seemingly every adverse weather-related event. Yet, as the *Washington Examiner* has pointed out, it is unlikely that you heard that the new IPCC report “specifically throws cold water on the idea recent flooding in Europe was related to climate change. This is true of nearly all recent weather phenomena because climate isn’t weather. Yet, in their coverage of this report, the media endlessly indulge this classic fallacy.”

The new assessment is misleading enough not to require the avalanche of mainstream media exaggerations. However, the report and the press accounts are paired politically, not for measured scientific discourse, but to terrify the hoi polloi into acquiescing in the face of in-



Correction, Please!

creased government actions and controls.

Stephen Koonin, a professor at New York University and author of the recent book *Unsettled: What Climate Science Tells Us, What It Doesn't, and Why It Matters*, notes that this IPCC report “emphasizes climate change in recent decades but obscures, or fails to mention, historical precedents that weaken the case that humanity’s influence on the climate has been catastrophic.” Its “Summary for Policymakers” section “says the rate of global sea-level rise has been increasing over the past 50 years. It doesn’t mention that it was increasing almost as rapidly 90 years ago before decreasing strongly for 40 years.”

As Koonin puts it:

Extreme weather events are invoked as proof of impending disaster. But the floods in Europe and China and record temperatures across regions of the U.S. are weather, not climate — singular events, not decades-long trends. Both Europe and China have experienced equally devastating floods in past centuries, but these are forgotten or deliberately ignored. The drought and wildfires in the Western

U.S. are part of a trend going back a few decades, but forest management and expanding human presence in the forests are perhaps more important than climate change in causing these events.

Nonetheless, one can be sure that the distortions will boost reactions at November’s United Nations Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, Scotland.

Roger Pielke, Jr., a political scientist and professor of climate studies at the University of Colorado, is sometimes called a “contrarian” because he looks at facts carefully. Among other points, he has observed that the IPCC’s most terrifying scenario is the one that gets the most attention — even though it is least likely to occur.

Pielke discussed such scenarios recently with the online British magazine *Spiked*. (For the record, Pielke maintains, “Climate change is real — but it’s not the apocalypse.”) As the professor told the publication:

At some point, the IPCC went down the path of favouring extreme scenarios. Not extreme climate scenar-

ios, but extreme *societal* scenarios. Imagine a future, for example, where the only energy source we rely on is coal. We get rid of solar, wind, nuclear and natural gas. That’s pretty extreme. And it’s pretty out of line with where the world actually is now and where it’s headed. But still, this scenario is then fed into the climate models that produce projections of future impacts. There’s a ‘catastrophe bias’ baked into the IPCC. [Emphasis in original.]

The IPCC finally has recognized this problem in its latest report, according to Pielke. However, “it hasn’t corrected it, which is unfortunate. The dynamic of the IPCC favouring the extreme scenario has been overlaid with the media, which takes an ‘if it bleeds, it leads’ approach to discussing the climate. It has also been overlaid with climate politics, which favours the extremes, too.”

The scare tactics seem to affect the brain functions of Chicken Littles. They run in circles rather than backing actual solutions about emissions. If the doomsayers really were truly terrified about “carbon pollution,” as noted by the editors of the *Washington Examiner*, they would

zealously support fracking so that natural gas becomes an ever-cheaper reliable substitute for coal. After all, natural gas emits half the carbon, and its adoption has done more to reduce carbon emissions than all of the environmentalists in history combined.

They would pursue rapid expansion of reliable nuclear and hydroelectric power. After all, endangered salmon will not survive if the Earth perishes. And even the thorny issue of nuclear waste would pale in significance to the possibility that we have only 12 — or, sorry, 10 — years left to act before Earth cannot be saved.

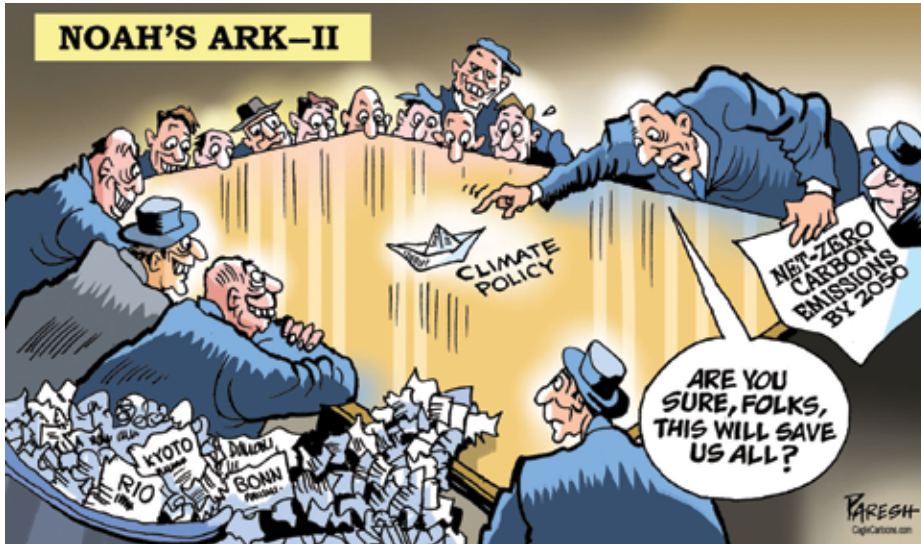
Bjørn Lomborg, president of the Copenhagen Consensus and a visiting fellow at the Hoover Institution, doesn’t think the



koddal / iStock / Getty Images Plus

Tilting at windmills: Despite incessant claims by environmentalists to the contrary, eliminating fossil-fuel use will not “save the planet.” It will have little, if any, effect on global temperatures.

NOAH'S ARK-II



sky is falling. He has, however, taken a clear-eyed note of those who have said that is the case. Some examples follow, as compiled by Lomborg, of how the UN has been trying to scare people into drawing that false conclusion.

For instance: In 1972, the late Canadian billionaire oil man Maurice Strong, an environmental official with the UN, said, “We have 10 years to stop catastrophe”; a decade later, in 1982, Mostafa Tolba, who led the UN’s environmental program, maintained there would be “an environmental catastrophe which will witness devastation as complete, as irreversible, as any nuclear holocaust” by the year 2000; and, in 1989, a senior UN official told the Associated Press that we had to fix climate change by 1999 or it would be beyond human control.

In contrast to the publicity-seeking catastrophe-mongers, Lomborg presents facts. For example, he cites global deaths — including those related to floods, droughts, storms, and fire — as collected by the International Disaster Database. This reveals, for instance, that

In the 1920s, these disasters killed almost half a million people on average each year. The current climate narrative would suggest that natural disasters are ever deadlier, but that isn’t true. Over the past century, climate-related deaths have dropped to

fewer than 20,000 on average each year, even though the global population has quadrupled since 1920.

In a recent *New York Post* article, Lomborg pushed back against climate-change alarmism — separating the actual IPCC report and reporting by the “hyperventilating media.” In his view, “the scare stories on climate impacts are vastly overblown and not supported by this new climate report.” He noted:

One of the clearest ways to see this is through climate economics. Because of climate change, the average person worldwide will be “only” 436 percent as well off in 2100 as they are now, instead of 450 percent.

This is not the apocalypse but a problem we should fix smartly.

That of course assumes “smart” governing.

That’s not what we have when, for example, a \$93 trillion Green New Deal is considered a viable climate-driven goal for the United States.

What sometimes gets lost in the rhetoric is that there isn’t going to be a decrease of global emissions in the foreseeable future. President Biden and his climate envoy (and private jet/carbon-emitting devotee) John Kerry, among others, know that is the case.

While not trumpeted by the mass media, this isn’t a secret. Kerry, for example, has

told the *Washington Post*: “The United States could go to zero [emissions] tomorrow. I mean we can’t, but if you, figuratively speaking could go to zero. We’d still have a problem; the world would still have a problem. If China went to zero tomorrow with the United States, we’d still have a problem.” Nonetheless, Kerry and his boss are still more than willing to spend trillions of our tax dollars because of the “crisis.”

Steve Milloy — the publisher of *JunkScience.com* and author of *Scare Pollution* — has written on this situation for the online *Real Clear Energy*. As he put it, both Biden and Kerry

... have openly admitted that unilateral US action on climate will achieve nothing. China has no plans to cut emissions and the G-20 just failed to agree on quitting coal and climate targets.

Yet Democrats nevertheless insist on massive climate spending and changes to our energy system even though there is no conceivable way they will accomplish their supposed underlying goal of controlling the weather.

Methinks control over people is considered more important.

The real point, to ruling elitists, is for them to ultimately hold sway. They’re not geniuses. These are people who display an unexpected talent when it comes to acting the fool. We’re talking, for example, about an occupant in the White House who stopped the Keystone XL pipeline in this country, ended new fossil fuel leasing on federal lands, canceled oil leasing in Alaska — but then waived sanctions for the Russian Nord Stream 2 pipeline and begged OPEC for more foreign oil.

Meanwhile, India and Communist China will assuredly not cripple their economies with unnecessarily jacked-up energy prices. Yet, that essentially is the political platform for this country’s left-wing Democrats, progressives and, importantly, their media enablers. ■

— WILLIAM P. HOAR

Deep State Generals **and the Afghan Debacle**

Afghanistan has fallen. The “last flight” of Americans out of Kabul International Airport has flown. But our Forever War on the other side of the world is far from over.

In an August 30 press statement, as that last evacuation flight was leaving, the commander of the U.S. Central Command, Marine Corps General Kenneth “Frank” McKenzie, admitted that “hundreds” of Americans were left behind. Despite the repeated affirmations by President Joe Biden, Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin,



Mark Milley, Joe Biden, and Lloyd Austin

AP Images

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Mark Milley, and other administration spinmeisters that “all” Americans would be evacuated, an unknown number of Americans remains trapped there. According to General McKenzie, “we think that the citizens not brought out number in the low, very low, hundreds.” Given the spectacular intelligence failures, dithering, and systemic lying we have witnessed from the White House, Pentagon, and State Department over every aspect of the August Afghanistan collapse, we can now expect to face continuous national trauma and humiliation as these hundreds of American hostages are hunted down, tortured, and killed — perhaps beheaded on live TV — or are bartered for more American concessions.

Before that happens, heads should roll among the globalist policy elites who are responsible for this debacle, starting with the Oval Office and proceeding through Defense, State, and CIA. Where are the firings? Where are the resignations? Don’t look to the Biden White House, the Blinken State Department, or the Austin Defense Department. In one of the nation’s most critical moments, Joe Biden, in his press conference on the growing crisis in Kabul, presented an embarrassing image of senility and ineptitude, as he tried to exculpate himself from any responsibility for the disaster and place all blame on President Trump. But Joe Biden must take the blame for Afghanistan’s rapid, deadly, and catastrophic descent into chaos and the cruel Taliban rule he has fastened on that nation.

In truth, though, Joe Biden wasn’t really calling the shots, as any honest observer who has watched his pathetic public appearances and steady mental deterioration over the past year must acknowledge. The mumbling, bumbling, stumbling, grumbling “commander in chief” can barely read his cue cards. He publicly tells us that he has been “told” not to take ques-

tions at pressers, or has been “instructed” to take questions from this or that Fake News “reporter.” So, who is instructing and telling Joe Biden what to do? Well, we might take a clue from one of his erstwhile colleagues in the Obama-Biden administration, Hillary Clinton. While serving as Obama’s secretary of state, Clinton made a speech at the Washington, D.C., office of the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), the brain trust and public face of the globalist establishment that has been promoting world government and engineering

America’s decline and defeats for the past century.

Following her introduction by CFR President Richard Haass, Clinton referred to the organization’s New York headquarters as the “mother ship” and confessed that the U.S. State Department looks to the CFR “to be told what we should be doing and how we should think.”

In our June 7, 2021 issue, “CFR: Still the Power Behind the Throne,” we not only named the many CFR members holding key posts in the Biden administration, but also provided an historical table showing the dominance this subversive organization has held in both Democratic and Republican administrations reaching back to World War II and the administration of Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Among the CFR operatives occupying positions of power on Team Biden are Secretary of State Antony Blinken, Secretary of Defense General Lloyd J. Austin, Assistant Secretary of Defense Kathleen H. Hicks, Deputy Secretary of State Wendy R. Sherman, and CIA Director William J. Burns.

Of course, when it comes to war, presidents and their cabinets must rely on their generals and admirals for execution of foreign and military policy. In our “CFR: Still the Power Behind the Throne” issue cited above, we published an article entitled “The Deep State and Our Military,” which catalogs the CFR’s gradual penetration and takeover of our nation’s military services and academies. Our 20-year war in Afghanistan — at a cost of more than 2,300 lives lost and more than \$2 trillion spent — was run by CFR generals who constantly lied to the American public with rosy pronouncements on alleged progress and the readiness of our Afghan “allies.”

Eighty-seven retired generals and admirals have signed a letter from Flag Officers 4 America calling on Generals Austin and Milley to resign. Yes, they absolutely should resign, as should Biden. But that will do little permanent good unless Biden’s CFR handlers are exposed and also booted out. ■

William F. Jasper is senior editor of THE NEW AMERICAN.

FEATURED PRODUCTS



COVID Lies — Reprint

Government and media have lied to us from pandemic day one. Are they lying about the vaccines, too? What is their goal? (2021, 16pp, 1-24/\$1.25ea; 25-99/\$1.10ea; 100-499/\$1.00ea; 500+/\$0.75ea)

\$1.25

RPCL



COVID-19 Vaccines: A "Cure" Worse Than the Disease

The COVID-19 vaccines were released on an emergency basis before being properly tested. With the passage of time, the bad effects of these experimental drugs look increasingly dismal. (2021ed, 20pp, 1-24/\$1.25ea; 25-99/\$1.10ea; 100-499/\$1.00ea; 500+/\$0.75ea)

\$1.25

RPCV



CFR: Still the Power Behind the Throne — Reprint

For a century, the globalist Council on Foreign Relations has been the "power behind the throne" in U.S. politics. This tradition has continued under the Biden administration. This reprint includes a list of the current CFR dominance over government, media, think tanks, foundations, public health, and industry, as well as charts of the CFR historic dominance over the government of the U.S.A. from 1929 to the present. (2021, 22pp, 1-24/\$1.25ea; 25-99/\$1.10ea; 100-499/\$1.00ea; 500+/\$0.75ea)

\$1.25

RPCFR2



China: The Deep State Trojan Horse in America — Second Edition

On full display in this exposé, the Chinese Communist plan of subverting America is well underway, aided by the Deep State. Will Americans wake up in time to realize it before the tipping point? (2021ed, pb, 178pp, 1-11/\$7.95ea; 12-23/\$5.95ea; 24-44/\$3.95ea; 45+/\$2.95ea)

\$7.95

BKCDSTHAN



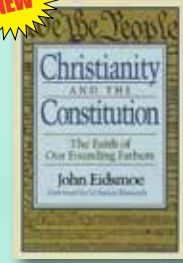
The United Nations: Unity Through Tyranny

The ideal of a one-world government to ensure world peace has been a siren song for over 200 years. Such unity sounds good, until you realize that the cost of such world "peace" would be the loss of our national sovereignty and personal freedoms, and being consigned to live under a perpetual tyranny. Read

this book, pass it along, and get involved today to protect the American way of life at JBS.org. (2020ed, pb, 73pp, 1-11/\$7.95ea; 12-24/\$5.50ea; 25-49/\$3.50ea; 50-99/\$2.95ea; 100+/\$2.50ea)

\$7.95

BKUNUTT



Christianity and the Constitution

This book examines the religious and philosophical background of the Founding Fathers, including biographical sketches with special attention to their religious beliefs. It also studies the biblical principles found in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, then exposes several dangers to the Constitution, such as the

notion of a "living Constitution." (1987ed, 473pp, pb, 1/\$39.95; 2-4/\$37.95ea; 5+/\$29.95ea)

\$39.95

BKCAC



The Invisible Government

The Invisible Government discusses the Council on Foreign Relations, perhaps the most politically influential group in the nation, which was founded to bring Marxist socialism into this country. Written by author Dan Smoot in 1962, it explains how "Communists in government during World War II formulated major

policies which the Truman administration followed" and that "the policies continued, under Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson," controlled by the same group. (2020ed, pb, 291pp, 1-4/\$9.95ea; 5-9/\$8.00ea; 10-23/\$6.50ea; 24-39/\$5.95ea; 40+/\$4.95ea)

\$9.95

BKTIG



In the Shadows of the Deep State

NOW IN ITS THIRD PRINTING! In 2016, a sea change occurred within the body politic of America. Donald Trump came to epitomize the anger and frustration of a sizable segment of the American people. Yet there are those entrenched in the federal government bureaucracy who are actively working against Trump's America

First agenda. Americans now know this as the Deep State (aka the Swamp or the establishment). This book exposes its key players and its agenda, and explains how it can be stopped. Includes 2019 CFR list and two new addendums. (2019ed, 378pp, pb, 1-4/\$10.95ea; 5-11/\$9.00ea; 12-23/\$7.50ea; 24+/\$6.45ea)

\$10.95

BKISODS19

Go to ShopJBS.org or call 1-800-342-6491 to order!

210920



**WATCH
WEDNESDAYS
7PM ET | 4PM PT**



2nd Amendment to Defend All Others

Join filmmaker Zoe Warren as he explores the Second Amendment and explains with expert guests and insightful analysis the continuing central importance of the 2A today. Brought to you exclusively by The New American magazine, the only publication in the world dedicated to the proposition "That Freedom Shall Not Perish."

New American

www.TheNewAmerican.com/video/2a