

# ***FROM THE WILDERNESS***

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

Vol. V, No. 1

April 4, 2002

© Copyright 2001, 2002, Michael C. Ruppert and From The Wilderness Publications,  
www.copvicia.com. [All Rights Reserved. Please visit website for Reprint Policy]

---

---

# **Incoming!**

In the last month a number of major developments have begun to indicate the next stage in the evolution of the post-9-11 world is at hand. Forget the polls. The Bush Administration's position, whether viewed from a political or a military standpoint, is weakening across the board. Dissent is rising all over the country and around the world. At the same time there are signs everywhere, both on a global and at my personal level, that the hand of tyranny has been stirred into action as a response to this rising dissent. What is coming -- what has already begun -- is neither pretty nor pleasant. But the fear of what is coming is the only real thing that needs to be faced. A brave and experienced soldier once told me that the real surrender always occurs a long time before the defeated ones raise their hands. "It happens," he said, "at the instant their minds succumb to fear."

In the spring 2002 issue of "Correspondence: An International Review of Culture and Society," published on the website of the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), writer Kenneth Maxwell -- the Nelson and David Rockefeller senior fellow for inter-American studies and director of Latin America studies at the CFR -- published an angry critique of an opinion expressed by a Brazilian economist, Celso Furtado, that the attacks of Sept. 11 had been an American Reichstag fire perpetrated by the American right. Furtado is a close friend of Brazilian President Fernando Cardoso, and his views are shared by a large majority of the Brazilian population. The problem is apparently serious enough for the CFR to take notice of it.

In the meantime a French book, "The Frightening Fraud" by Thierry Meyssan, has afterburnered to the top of the best-seller lists in Europe. Its premise: there was no flight 77 that smashed into the Pentagon. The author is the president of the Voltaire Network, which Britain's The Guardian described as, "a respected independent thinktank whose left-leaning research projects have until now been considered models of reasonableness and objectivity." I have looked at just about all the pictures and film footage of the Pentagon crash on the Internet, and I have seen no airliner in them, and I am still left with one big question that needs to be explained. Where's the airplane?

But that is not the point. The point is that so many people, so overwhelmingly believe what Meyssan writes. Within the first two hours the book was on sale, 20,000 copies were sold. Fox News was alarmed enough to do a story on it.

*(continued on page 15)*

# **From The Wilderness**

Michael C. Ruppert  
Publisher/Editor

Contributing Editor----- Peter Dale Scott, Ph.D.  
Contributing Editor – Energy----- Dale Allen Pfeiffer  
Staff Writer ----- Michael Davidson  
Canadian Correspondent ----- Greta Knutzen  
Copy Editor-----Joe Taglieri

**From The Wilderness** is published eleven times annually.  
Subscriptions are \$50 (US) for 12 issues.

## **From The Wilderness**

P.O. Box 6061- 350 Sherman Oaks, CA 91413  
www.copvca.com  
e-mail – editorial: mruppert@copvca.com  
e-mail – subscriptions and customer service:  
service@copvca.com

(818) 788-8791 \* (818) 981-2847 fax

---

---

## **New Developments in 9-11 Biowar Legislation -- MEHPA Draws Criticism, More Microbiologists Dying**

by Michael Davidson, **FTW** staff writer

April 4, 2002, 10:00 AM PST (FTW) -- Even as the epidemic of dying microbiologists continues, the Model Emergency Health Powers Act (MEHPA) is making its way across the country. All over America, individuals and organizations are rising up to oppose what many see as an astounding assault on civil liberties.

MEHPA is being pushed on states by the Department of Health and Human Services. Among other provisions, MEHPA includes sections that:

- Require any individual to be vaccinated. Refusal could constitute a felony and will result in quarantine.
- Require any individual to undergo specific medical treatment. Refusal could constitute a felony and will result in quarantine.
- Allow state or local governments to seize any property, including real estate, food, medicine, fuel or clothing, an official thinks necessary to handle the emergency.
- Allow state or local governments to seize and destroy any property alleged to be hazardous. There will be no compensation or recourse.
- Draft you or your business into state service in the event of a declared emergency.
- Impose rationing, price controls, quotas and transportation controls.
- Suspend any state law, regulation or rule that is thought to interfere with handling the declared emergency.

In addition to the medical, ethical, religious and constitutional problems MEHPA poses, much of the opposition to MEHPA relates to the amazing vagueness of the law's language -- any state governor can use MEHPA to make him or herself an absolute dictator by declaring an emergency. The proposed law defines a "public health emergency" as "an occurrence or imminent threat of an illness or health condition, caused by bioterrorism, epidemic or pandemic disease, or novel or highly fatal infectious agent or biological toxin that poses a substantial risk of a significant number of human fatalities or incidents of permanent or long-term disability."

Lawrence O. Gostin, Georgetown University Law School professor and primary author of MEHPA, uses incredibly vague language in his attempts to defend his proposed law. In an Insight On The News magazine article dated Jan. 7 Gostin, while discussing the checks and balances on a governor's declaration of a state of emergency, said, "The governor could do so only if there were compelling grounds for believing that there is a strong potential for mass casualties from bioterrorism or a novel infectious disease."

## **LEGISLATORS, NGOs, AIDS/HIV COMMUNITY OPPOSES MEHPA**

There is particular concern about MEHPA in the AIDS/HIV community. The AIDS problem has been repeatedly described as a "pandemic," a word specifically used in the legislation. In the Insight On The News article Gostin states, "It is not intended that long-term endemic diseases such as HIV/AIDS would be covered."

*(continued on page 7)*

---

---

## **Exclusive**

### **FTW INTERVIEW: DELMART "MIKE" VREELAND**

## **What the CIA Doesn't Want You to Know**

by Michael C. Ruppert

[Ed. Note: *Just prior to the publication of this article the FTW web site was hacked for the second time in a month. This hacking -- accomplished via sophisticated methods -- has been apparently intended to prevent us from publishing the following interview. As a temporary emergency measure ONLY please direct emergency e-mail correspondence to [mikeruppert@earthlink.net](mailto:mikeruppert@earthlink.net). FTW will be back up and running in an even more secure manner in the near future.-- MCR]*  
*(continued on page 8)*

# THE ELEPHANT IN THE LIVING ROOM -- PART I

## Grand Juries in New York and Washington Expose Major Ashcroft Conflicts of Interest

Cheney's Task Force Met with Targets of Grand Jury Probes -- Cheney Connected to Investigations -- Served on Kazakh State Oil Board When Reported Bribes Took Place

by Michael C. Ruppert

March 30, 2002, 10:00 AM PST (FTW) -- Attorney General John Ashcroft's prompt and public recusal from the Enron investigation because of a conflict of interest arising from Enron's donations to his 2000 Senate race has not been matched by a similar recusal in the case of federal grand juries in New York and Washington investigating two additional Ashcroft donors, ExxonMobil and BP Amoco. This, even though ExxonMobil gave more money to Ashcroft's campaign than Enron did.

A source familiar with the grand jury investigations, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told **FTW** that both grand juries are still active. The source also said Ashcroft has quietly moved, in the wake of last December's departure of Southern New York's U.S. Attorney, Mary Jo White, to exert control over the New York grand jury from Washington and to exercise "unusual" influence over the Washington investigations. **FTW** has also received multiple reports that several high-ranking career prosecutors in both New York and Washington have raised serious objections to Ashcroft's actions and his failure to publicly recuse himself in these cases.

Channing Phillips, speaking for the U.S. Attorney's office in Washington, D.C. told **FTW**, "I checked with [Assistant U.S. Attorney] Wendy Wysong and she confirmed that the investigation is still ongoing. There are three aspects to these investigations: one in New York, one in Washington [at the U.S. Attorney's office] and one at main Justice [DoJ headquarters]. If the attorney general had recused himself, we would know about it, and we are not aware of any such development."

Marvin Smilon, a spokesman for the U.S. Attorney's office in New York told **FTW**, "The department has a firm policy where we can't comment on grand jury investigations."

While federal rules of criminal procedure specifically prohibit the disclosure of the investigative activities of grand juries, they do not prohibit government officials from discussing matters of public interest concerning the progress or existence of grand juries, especially in cases where potential conflicts of interest arise. As a number of attorneys contacted for this story indicated, there are times when a Justice Department official would have a need, or even a duty, to inform the public of issues which indicate that the government is protecting the public interest.

Similar moves by Ashcroft, which deviate from established procedures, have occurred since Sept. 11. An Oct. 11 New York Times story by Benjamin Weiser and William Rashbaum was headlined, "Justice Dept. Takeover of Terror Prosecutions Frustrates U.S. Attorney." Its lead sentence stated, "The decision to shift authority over potential criminal prosecutions stemming from the Sept. 11 terror attacks from New York to Washington has upset and frustrated law enforcement officials who have investigated Osama bin Laden for nearly a decade." White's authority, in spite of eight years of successful terror prosecutions, was thus transferred to Washington, in spite of the fact that her office had coordinated a Joint Terrorist Task Force "that had won convictions of more than two dozen terrorists in five major trials." Her office had also secured the cooperation of two former bin Laden aides and already had under indictment 15 of the 22 most wanted terror suspects, as identified by the White House on Oct. 10.

Ashcroft's decision in this case had an impact on the grand jury process. According to the Times, "Officials in Washington have not said where grand juries investigating the attacks will sit, or where the indictments may eventually be brought." White, a Clinton appointee, resigned as U.S. attorney in New York in December and has not responded to a request for an interview for this story.

### THE ALLEGATIONS

The two grand juries have been investigating allegations that ExxonMobil, the world's largest corporation, and BP-Amoco paid cash bribes to the president of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev, and his oil minister, Nurlan Balgymbayev, and that Mobil engaged in an illegal oil swap of Kazakh oil through Iran in 1997. Vice President Dick Cheney's energy task force -- now the center of a constitutional battle over the release of its records -- was meeting representatives of both companies *after* the grand juries had been empanelled as a result of information received from a Middle Eastern source in 1997 and inquiries from Swiss banks in 1999. The fact that these known targets of criminal investigations had access to the vice president's energy

task force would be comparable to having allowed Manuel Noriega, while under indictment for drug smuggling, to consult in the war on drugs.

At issue is a 25 percent stake purchased by Mobil in Kazakhstan's Tengiz oil field, following an earlier purchase of 50 percent by Chevron and an apparently desperate attempt a year later to start making money from the fields by engaging in an illegal swap with Iran as a means of getting the Tengiz oil to market. Until Sept. 11, there was only one obstacle preventing the oil companies and their related industries from building the necessary pipelines, immune from Russian influence, which would have turned the Central Asian oil into dollars -- the Taliban.

American companies with unrequited heavy investments in the region's oil fields included ExxonMobil, ChevronTexaco, BP-Amoco, Phillips, Total/Fina/ELF, Unocal, Halliburton and Enron. Enron's investment alone, as reported by the Albion Monitor, exceeded \$3 billion in a power generating station in Dabhol, India that was floundering in red ink because Enron could not access inexpensive natural gas via a proposed trans-Afghani pipeline from Turkmenistan. Enron also had contracts to conduct feasibility studies for the construction of pipelines throughout the region.

ExxonMobil's role in the bribery and illegal oil swap, as well as the ensuing federal investigations, was comprehensively documented in a July New Yorker article entitled "The Price of Oil" by the venerable Seymour Hersh. Allegations being investigated by the New York grand jury involve felony violations (bribery) of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act. The Washington, D.C. grand jury is investigating evidence that links Mobil to an illegal 1997 swap of Kazakh oil through Iran, which would constitute a felony violation of the 1996 Iran Trade Sanctions Act.

Possible penalties in the event of criminal convictions include "disgorgement" of any assets obtained as a result of the criminal actions. That would mean that two of the largest oil companies in the U.S. could lose billions of dollars in cash already paid into the region over a decade and forfeit their rights to profits from selling oil produced there. This possible outcome was surely not lost on Dick Cheney's energy task force, which concluded its work last May.

An intransigent President Bush announced on March 13 that he would not release records revealing who the task force met with or what was discussed, in spite of a Feb. 27 court order signed by District Court Judge Gladys Kessler directing the Department of Energy to release the records.

However, it is clear that Kazakhstan-related issues were discussed behind Cheney's closed doors. In an analysis of the final report of the vice president's energy task force, released in May, The Washington Times on July 20 wrote, "While saying private investors must lead the way, the Cheney report devotes considerable time to the Kazakh market, urging U.S. government agencies to 'deepen their commercial dialogue' with Kazakhstan."

What is unknown at this moment is whether Ashcroft attended any meetings with the task force, or whether he discussed the status of the grand jury investigations while doing so.

## **ASHCROFT'S BIGGEST CONFLICT**

ExxonMobil was the single largest oil and gas contributor to Ashcroft's 2000 Senate race, donating \$11,650 -- \$4,140 more than Enron -- as disclosed by documents obtained from the Center for Responsive Politics. Other oil industry donors to Ashcroft's campaign which are heavily invested in Kazakhstan, or which represent firms that are, include Chevron (\$7,500), Enron (\$7,499), The Independent Petroleum Association of America (\$5,000), BP-Amoco (\$4,000) and Halliburton (\$3,500).

Thus, the total reported corporate donations to Ashcroft's campaign, from firms with known vested interests in opening Kazakh oil fields, totals \$39,149. Taken together, these contributions (which exclude soft money donations reported only to the Republican Senatorial Committee) would rank these contributions second only to Enterprise Rent-a-Car as Ashcroft's biggest 2000 contributor.

Within days of being publicly questioned by Rep. Henry Waxman, (D, Calif.), Ashcroft held a public press conference announcing that he would recuse himself from any part of the Enron investigations being conducted by the Justice Department. It now becomes both a fair and a glaringly obvious question as to why he has not done so with respect to the grand juries.

Some six months after the 9-11 attacks, and with a wealth of stories documenting oil interests in the region, the grand juries could expose the motives behind U.S. government July warnings to the Taliban, well documented in a number of European papers, "we will either bury you in a carpet of gold or we will bury you in a carpet of bombs starting in October [2001]."

After repeated requests for comment about whether Ashcroft had recused himself from these investigations, Dana Perino, a spokeswoman for the Department of Justice and Ashcroft told *FTW*, "We cannot comment or discuss anything about whether there even is a grand jury, so we are not going to answer any questions or make any comment." When advised by this writer that federal rules of criminal procedure did not prevent the attorney general from disclosing the status of the grand jury or his potential conflict of interest, Perino stated, "This is what my management told me to say. I'll take your comment back to them one more time and call you back if they say anything else."

As of press time no additional calls had been received.

## **THE TIGER IN THE TASK FORCE**

A March 1 New York Times story by Don Van Natta reported, "ExxonMobil, the second-largest energy donor in the



Republican Party, confirmed today that its executives met with Cheney. It was among the handful of companies that had declined to comment earlier this week about whether its executives had met with Cheney or members of the task force, although it did say that its interests were represented by the American Petroleum Institute, a trade council.

"In an interview today, company officials confirmed that ExxonMobil chief executive, Lee Raymond, met with Cheney for 30 minutes on Feb. 8, 2001. ExxonMobil officials also met with task force staff members for 45 minutes on Feb. 14 and made a presentation about future energy supply and demand, the company disclosed. The company said that on the same day, executives made a similar presentation to the General Accounting Office and to staff members of both political parties on the House and Senate Energy Committees. "

A Dec. 17, 2000 story by David Johnston of the New York Times stating that none of the companies connected to the alleged bribery (including ExxonMobil, BP-Amoco and Phillips Petroleum) appeared to be focuses of the New York grand jury has been flatly contradicted by Hersh, who reported extensive negotiations and payments by Mobil in 1995-96 after direct negotiations between Mobil and Kazakh President Nazarbayev. In fact, Hersh investigated the suspicious activities of now retired Mobil Vice President Bryan Williams and intelligence-connected American businessman James Giffen, both of whom have been directly tied to the bribery and the Iranian oil swap. Giffen has been reported in a number of stories to be Nazarbayev's "gatekeeper" for anyone wishing to do business in Kazakhstan. Hersh documented direct payments to Giffen's company, the Mercator Corporation, from Mobil.

Additionally, Hersh wrote, "Mobil participants in the Tengiz negotiations worried constantly about the possibility of payments going astray. [Mobil exec] Don Voelte told me that the company was concerned that the purchase payments it was sending the Kazakh government via Swiss banks might be diverted for personal use by the Kazakh leaders."

The Hersh piece makes it clear that Mobil's involvement in the bribery and the Iranian oil swap was much deeper and more involved than this disingenuous statement suggests. "Kazakhstan...[has] become notorious for exploitation, corruption and seemingly bottomless fields of oil whose bounty seldom benefits the average citizen."

"The country has not prospered under [President Nursultan] Nazarbayev [']s rule. Social conditions have deteriorated steadily; per capita GNP is just \$1,300 dollars a year," Hersh wrote. "A fifth of the country's total money supply is now stashed in Swiss banks...A Mobil employee who took part in [Mobil's negotiations with Kazakhstan] in Nassau said that the Kazakhs made a series of extraordinary demands, seeking among other things, a new Gulfstream jet aircraft for Nazarbayev, funds for tennis courts at his home, and four trucks with Satellite dishes to be used by his daughter's television network."

In a July 5 article posted by the International Eurasian Institute for Economic and Political Research, the Kazakhstan 21st Century Foundation reported, "Nazarbayev is so worried about the investigations, which he considers politically motivated, that he got his puppet parliament to pass a law granting him lifetime immunity from any legal liability stemming from his actions in office, and another law that appears to legalize money laundering."

What is clear, according to Hersh and other sources, is that as much as half of the \$1 billion paid by Mobil never made it into the Kazakh treasury.

## **BP-AMOCO EXPOSED**

The oil giant formed by the December 1998 merger of British Petroleum and Amoco was made even larger by the April 1999 merger of BP-Amoco with the American oil giant, Arco. It too is at least a target of the investigations into Kazakh dirty dealings. Johnston's New York Times story discussed the Department of Justice's criminal investigations:

"According to a formal request filed under a treaty between the United States and Switzerland, the Justice Department says that on March 19, 1997, Amoco Kazakhstan Petroleum, one of the companies involved in the big offshore project in the Caspian Sea, transferred \$61 million from Banker's Trust in New York in two payments to account 1215320 at Credit Agricole Indosuez, a bank in Geneva. (The Amoco unit is now part of BP)," wrote Johnston. "...Three days later, the document says, Mr. Giffen and Kazakh officials began a series of what the United States government says were illegal transfers from the Kazakh treasury accounts into private accounts benefiting several Kazakh leaders."

Johnston's account went on to describe how money was transferred out of these accounts into accounts that "benefited" Giffen and were allegedly used to disburse money into private accounts held or controlled by either Nazarbayev or Balgymbayev, his oil minister. By the time Hersh wrote his story, almost seven months later, the known total amount of payments from ExxonMobil and other companies exceeded \$1 billion, and documentation was beginning to show that much of it had been diverted into the private pockets of Kazakh public officials.

In a March 1 story, New York Times writers Don Van Natta, Jr. and Neela Banerjee reported on 18 corporations that were heavy Republican donors, which got in to Cheney's task force. "The companies include the Enron Corporation, the Southern Company, the Exelon Corporation, BP, the TXU Corporation, FirstEnergy, and Andarko Petroleum."

## **OIL: A NATIONAL SECURITY INTEREST**

The impending economic crash for the U.S. oil industry, and all of its downstream economic vassals, reached a crisis between 1996 and 2001 as the intransigence of the Taliban threatened to create an implosion within an industry that owned oil

but could not get it to market. The crisis was so severe that the National Security Council (NSC) got involved. Oil had become a national security matter of the highest priority.

Both the Washington Post and the New York Daily News (as reported by the Albion Monitor on Feb. 28) obtained a series of emails showing that the NSC led a “Dabhol Working Group’ composed of officials from various cabinet departments during the summer of 2001...The Working Group prepared ‘talking points’ for both Cheney and Bush...”

Hersh, in “The Price of Oil,” also documented a series of 1996 NSC meetings and discussions about Mobil’s pending illegal oil swap. Although his reporting indicates that Giffen and Mobil VP Bryan Williams, who met with NSC staff, were warned that such a swap was illegal, and that the NSC sent warnings to other Mobil executives, the swap went ahead anyway. This, after Hersh quoted a government official as saying that Giffen had said that Mobil was smart and that it would do it through a European trader.

-----  
*“We must come to recognition, personally and culturally, that corruption is not just a violation of the law, not just an economic disadvantage, and not merely a political problem, but that it is morally wrong.... It is now widely recognized that the consequences of corruption can be devastating: devastating to economies, devastating to the poor, devastating to the legitimacy and stability of government and devastating to the moral fabric of society.” -- John Ashcroft, The Hague, May 2001*

*Thanks to the Kazakhstan 21st Century Foundation for publishing the above quote.  
Joe Taglieri, FTW Staff, contributed to this story.*

**COMING IN PART II** – *During the years when these alleged crimes took place, Vice President Dick Cheney, then the CEO of oil services giant Halliburton, was a sitting member of the Kazakh government’s oil advisory board. What did Cheney know? When did he know it?*

---

---

## Column: Oil Prices and Recession

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

Isn’t it nice to know the recession is over? Al Greenspan, George W. and big business are all patting themselves on the back and talking about how resilient our economy is. Some of them are even venturing to wonder if this little economic bump was really a recession at all. Sure, the recovery is somewhat anemic, but the worst is behind us, they say. Corporate Average Fuel Economy limits? Who needs them? Increase the percentage of electricity generated from renewable sources? Why bother? Don’t worry about anything, folks. Just go out there and spend, spend, spend for your country.

Do people really buy this snake oil? I’m not one for polls, but in a recent Netscape poll, 62 percent of over 300,000 respondents said they did not believe the recession was over. Average folks are still feeling it in the pocketbook, in lack of job security, and in their stock portfolio. And once the 2001 tax returns come in, and people realize where last year’s tax rebate came from, the dissatisfaction is bound to increase. And, if anyone hasn’t noticed at the gas pumps, the price of oil is already on the increase.

So what has been going on over the last couple years, what is the deal with this “weak recovery,” and what do we have to look forward to?

### **OIL PEAKED IN 2000**

I won’t claim oil was solely responsible for the recession. Among other major factors were the overvalued tech market, consumer debt, and the manipulation of currency values. However, it was the surge in oil prices from 2000 to early-2001 that originally plunged the world into recession.

Conventional oil production does appear to have peaked in the year 2000. As production could no longer keep up with demand, the price of oil began to climb. And soaring oil prices sparked inflation, sending a very susceptible economy into recession. Here in the U.S., this was reflected by higher prices at the pumps, but we have only to look at Europe to see how seriously this event affected others. “French fishermen blockaded the Channel Ports because their fuel costs had doubled, even though their fuel was already tax-free,” wrote oil industry expert Colin J. Campbell. “The dispute spread rapidly to England and other countries. Schools were closed. Hospitals had red alerts because staff and patients could not reach them. Supermarkets started rationing bread. Trade and industry was seriously interrupted: the cost was huge.” The recession was not just a phenomenon of the U.S. economy. It was felt around the whole world.

*(continued on page 12)*

(continued from page 2, *New Developments in 9-11 Biowar*)

MEHPA's progress is being closely monitored by the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), a non-partisan association of state legislators. As of March 29, ALEC points to 24 states where versions of MEHPA have been introduced. So far, only South Dakota has passed a watered-down MEHPA-type law. A Minnesota bill close to passage is closer to the draft legislation. This bill has many of the original model law's provisions. Only one state, Mississippi, has actually defeated a MEHPA-type law.

According to Sandy Liddy Bourne, one of ALEC's MEHPA coordinators, "The further we get from 9-11, the less enthusiasm there seems to be for this type of legislation. State legislators are realizing they have other pressing issues to attend to." Organizations and citizen groups throughout the country, including the Libertarian Party and the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons, are pressing forward with concerted efforts to stop MEHPA-type legislation.

## **U.S. SPIN FANS FLAMES OF BIOTERRORISM**

That enthusiasm to which Bourne referred can be rekindled at any moment, and it is quite apparent that some interests -- especially the U.S. government -- are extremely interested in keeping bioterrorism fears inflamed. News stories attempting to link Al Qaeda and the Taliban to bioterrorism pop up on a regular basis.

For example, a New York Times article published March 23 was headlined, "U.S. Says It Found Qaeda Lab Being Built to Produce Anthrax," and restated that claim by "officials" in the first sentence. However, in the 13th paragraph the Times reports, "American officials did not describe the evidence in detail but said that it included medical equipment and supplies that would be useful for legitimate research but could also be used to produce biological agents."

An Associated Press story on March 22 began, "U.S. forces have recently found what appears to be another rudimentary al-Qaida biological weapons research site." The very next sentence was, "Officials found no evidence the terrorist organization could make weapons out of diseases or poisons, the official said. Instead, searchers found medical supplies and commonly available chemistry equipment."

Attorney General John Ashcroft is part of this "terrifyism" game. In a March 6 interview with USA Today, Ashcroft was quoted as saying authorities are "not on the verge" of any significant breakthrough in searching for the source of last fall's anthrax mailings that killed five. Ashcroft should be aware that prior to this interview, the FBI publicly acknowledged that the anthrax came from the U.S. military. A Feb. 25 story in The Washington Times began, "The FBI's search for the person who mailed anthrax-laced letters that killed five persons has focused on a former U.S. scientist who worked at a government laboratory where he learned to make a weapons-grade strain of the deadly bacteria."

Barbara Hatch Rosenberg is Chair of the Bioweapons Verification Working Group at the Federation of American Scientists (FAS). She is an acknowledged authority in the field, was a senior advisor to President Clinton, and has extensive connections in the biowarfare, law enforcement and intelligence communities. Rosenberg posted an article on the FAS website Feb. 5 beginning, "For more than three months now the FBI has known that the perpetrator of the anthrax attacks is an American."

Both the White House and the FBI have ridiculed Rosenberg's statements.

Even apparently "good" news can serve the needs of some to keep the public on the edge of its bioterrorism seat. America was strongly reminded of the biowarfare threat when, on March 28, the Washington Post reported that a pharmaceutical company had "discovered" between 70- and 90 million frozen, long-forgotten smallpox vaccine doses. How the company, Aventis Pasteur (now owned by Bayer, AG), could have forgotten 70- to 90 million units of its stock-in-trade was a temporary mystery. Until the next day, when an AP story by Lauran Neergaard reported that the federal government knew about the stockpile for years, and that Aventis had formally offered the vaccine to the government at no charge after Sept. 11.

In February, *FTW* reported that British vaccine maker, Acambis, had received a \$428 million federal contract last November to produce 155 million doses of smallpox vaccine. This was in addition to the contract Acambis already had to produce 54 million doses. The government has 15.4 million doses of smallpox vaccine warehoused, and planned to dilute them five to one. This would bring the total U.S. stockpile to 286 million doses. Is Aventis getting a free \$150 million tax write off at taxpayer expense?

## **MICROBIOLOGISTS CONTINUE TO DIE**

Also in February, *FTW* reported on the extremely suspicious deaths of as many as 14 world-class microbiologists. Since that report, three more microbiologists have died.

At about 8:45 p.m. on Feb. 27, Tanya Holzmayer answered the door of her Mountain View, Calif. home to find a Domino's Pizza deliveryman. While explaining that she had not ordered a pizza, a man jumped out of the shadows firing several point-black shots at Holzmayer, killing her instantly. The shooter ran down the street, jumped into a Ford Explorer, and sped away. Holzmayer's work was centered on using genomics to develop drugs for HIV/AIDS and cancer.

At about 10 o'clock that night, the body of Guyang "Matthew" Huang was found on a jogging path in a Foster City, Calif. park. He had been shot once in the head, and a .380 semi-automatic pistol was near his body. Quoted about Huang in the San Francisco Chronicle on Feb. 28, Mountain View police Capt. Craig Courtin said, "[Huang] did make a phone call to his wife and

told her he was on the bay, told her he had shot his boss [Holzmayer,] and...he threatened suicide.”

While the pistol found beside Huang was immediately found to have been registered to him, a month after the incident Mountain View police have not confirmed any ballistic evidence that links Huang’s gun to Holzmayer’s murder.

Both Holzmayer and Huang, like the other dead microbiologists **FTW** reported on in February, were experts at DNA sequencing. Holzmayer had been Huang’s superior at PPD, a Menlo Park, Calif. biotech firm. Holzmayer fired Huang in June, eight months before the shootings. Holzmayer herself left PPD in recent months, possibly to start her own biotech firm. PPD will not comment, other than to say Holzmayer and Huang both worked there.

Quoted in the Sacramento Bee on March 2, Maurille Fournier, Huang’s doctoral advisor, said Huang was fired because PPD believed he was doing work for another firm on the side, but that Huang insisted PPD knew about this other work. It is clear from several sources that Holzmayer did not initiate Huang’s firing, and did not want to fire him, but was ordered to do so by senior management.

Huang should not have been worried about finding employment. His resume included the fact that he was a senior research fellow at the University of Washington’s Department of Molecular Biology and a professor at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. He was also a founder of the Southern China National Human Genome Research Center.

In another bizarre incident, British microbiologist David Wynn-Williams was killed while jogging near his home in Cambridge, England. Wynn-Williams was an acknowledged expert on the microbiology of the Antarctic ecosystem, and how it could serve as a model for life on other planets. And like the others, Wynn-Williams was involved in DNA sequencing.

According to a March 27 report in England’s The Telegraph, Wynn-Williams was caught between two cars that apparently collided. Neither driver was hurt, yet the impact was sufficient enough to kill Wynn-Williams.

*[Ed. Note: In our previous story on MEHPA, **FTW** relied in part upon data provided by ALEC, some of which the group has since corrected. The current story reflects ALEC’s corrected tracking information of MEHPA status in various states.--MCR]*

---

---

*(continued from page 2, FTW Interview)*

April 4, 2002, 2:00 PM PST (FTW) -- If all of its dark alleys were explored, the case of Delmart Edward Joseph “Mike” Vreeland is one which is worthy of a book that would rival “War and Peace.” It is a case that has sparked zealous attacks on **FTW** and me personally, and one which has seriously disturbed many officials in Washington. These attacks are an indication of the threat Vreeland poses to the credibility of the U.S. government. Only one question of any relevance exists. How was this man able to write details that described the events of Sept. 11 while locked in a jail cell, more than a month before the attacks occurred?

It matters little to a housewife in Kansas if Mike Vreeland has a very confusing criminal arrest record -- some of it very contradictory and apparently fabricated -- for a variety of petty criminal offenses including fraud. But it may be a matter of the gravest importance for the same housewife if this man knew accurate information about the attacks, tried to warn both the U.S. and Canadian governments about them, and was ignored. If a crazy man runs up to you on the street and says that a house is on fire with children trapped inside, and you smell smoke, who is the crazy one if you decide not to investigate?

The U.S. Navy says that Vreeland, arrested in Canada on Dec. 4, 2000 and currently fighting a U.S. extradition warrant, was discharged for unsatisfactory performance after only four months of service in 1986. But a growing pile of evidence, much of it filed in court records and undisputed by Canadian or U.S. authorities, establishes clearly that Vreeland was exactly what he says he was -- a spy.

In three previous stories, **FTW** has described how his military records, acknowledged to be in excess of 1,200 pages, have been tampered with. We have described how, in open court on a speakerphone, his lawyers obtained direct confirmation from the Pentagon that he was a Navy officer. We have also reported that, as of March 14, all Canadian charges against Vreeland were dismissed. He was released on bail and also granted temporary refugee status by the Canadian government until his battle to beat the U.S. extradition request is settled.

Something that Canadian authorities have never disputed is that Vreeland wrote his ominous and hastily scribbled warning a full month before the attacks, and that the warning was sealed away by his keepers, beyond his reach, until Sept. 14, three days after the attacks.

If he loses his extradition fight, both Vreeland and his attorneys believe that his assassination will occur within days of his return to U.S. soil.

Mike Vreeland is not a saint. Covert operatives are not made from such material, and governments do not recruit or screen candidates for saintly qualities. By his own admission in Canadian court documents and in several conversations with **FTW**, Vreeland says he has done bad things. He has been on probation for petty offenses, and he has behaved the way covert operatives behave in the real world -- not in Hollywood.

I have been studying, interacting with, and talking to covert operatives for more than 25 years. It is for that reason that I avoid some of the questions being raised by dilettantes and neophyte journalists who take all of the threads of Vreeland’s stories and run with them into a wilderness from which no professional journalist could credibly emerge. Yes, I have listened to him talk about so-called “red mercury,” baseball-sized atom bombs, and Star Wars weapons systems. Yes, I have heard him



talk about a great many things, and I believe that what he told me was truthful according to his knowledge of events and the documents he brought back from Moscow in December 2000.

Even by his own statements, Vreeland, now 35, was a relatively low ranking officer and an intelligence field operative. Never in the history of covert operations has any government entrusted field operatives with total strategic knowledge because the knowledge held by those who make the plans is compartmentalized and locked away. Perhaps 80 percent of all intelligence work is disinformation, and governments know that their field operatives risk capture, interrogation and torture. Quite often field operatives are themselves fed disinformation so that if they talk, they will still spread lies that serve a larger strategic purpose. Quite often they carry documents that are deliberately inaccurate and their capture is engineered to give those documents credibility.

To the U.S. government, Vreeland is totally expendable. And those who run with every piece of information he has disclosed will themselves be proven fools in a fool's game.

But one question remains. And it is a question that now stands vindicated by time and events. He knew something chillingly accurate about the 9-11 attacks before they happened. And if he knew something, based upon documents given to him by Russian officials indicating U.S. knowledge, and if the U.S. government went to great lengths to discredit him, rather than bring him in from the cold -- then there is real meat on the plate for journalists, the American government, and all of mankind.

I have asked him 35 questions, and now you can read Mike Vreeland's answers as he speaks for himself. The first 32 questions were jointly submitted to both Vreeland and his attorney, Paul Slansky, for review. The remaining three questions were asked after the most recent hacking of **FTW's** website, which we believe was perpetrated by the CIA. This made the publication of this story an emergency and also made a statement about the survival of a free press in America:

1. What part of the U.S. government did you work for? Was it the CIA?

*I worked for U.S. Naval intelligence. What the CIA directs us to do is their business, so we have no way of knowing whether we're working for them or not.*

2. Was your assignment primarily connected to terrorism/oil?

*Yes, on both issues, in part.*

3. Why were you in Moscow and Russia in the latter part of 2000?

*I was sent there by the U.S. government and the ONI [Office of Naval Intelligence]. I got my orders between Sept. 4 and Sept. 7, 2000.*

*Marc Bastien departed for Russia on Sept. 7, 2000. I had orders to meet him. Bastien was going to work at the Canadian embassy regarding diagrams and blueprints of a weapons defense system. The U.S. government had a direct influence on his mission. The name of the defense system is SSST [Stealth Satellite System Terminator]. There are five different individual and unique defensive and strike capabilities of the system. The only portion that I have publicly spoken on is one frame regarding actual current orbiting satellites, which are not at this time owned by the US government. On advice of counsel I cannot discuss the other components.*

*This one component is a satellite system. Within the confines of the system there are multiple, deployable space/orbital EMP [Electromagnetic Pulse] missiles that are not aimed at the ground. They are targeted at everyone else's satellites. These would kill worldwide communications. The satellites of some countries that are shielded with titanium are protected from these weapons. The protected countries are Russia and China, but U.S. satellites are vulnerable and Putin has told Bush that the U.S. missile defense system doesn't work, and that Bush knows it.*

*The reason why I went to Russia was because I needed to meet with Bastien and another individual from the Russian Ministry of Defense named Oleg. The purpose was to get the Canadian diplomat who had made contact with Oleg to get the book of designs out of the ministry's R&D. That was done. We copied the entire book. Then we took certain documents, and we changed serious portions of the defense design so the program wouldn't work. They know this now.*

*Additionally I was to pick up docs from other agents and bring them back.*

4. You told Canadian authorities that Bastien was murdered when?

*I never told them he was murdered. I wrote a letter to Bastien around June of 2001 from jail. I sent it to CSIS [Canadian Security and Intelligence Service] in Ottawa, to the director for his eyes only. I had restructured the diagram to put it back in its original state. But I never told anyone exactly how to turn it on and how to build it. CSIS already knew that Bastien was dead. He died six days after I was arrested on Dec. 6. I was discharged on Dec. 9. He was killed on Dec. 12.*

*CSIS sent RCMP [Royal Canadian Mounted Police] (Sgt. Mabe, Corporal Kispol) to visit me in jail on Aug. 8, 2001, ... and they advised me that he was dead. They didn't say he was murdered. They told me he was dead. I told them that if Bastien was dead, it was murder, and that they should get a toxicology report. And I would tell you how it was done, and who did it.*

5. When did they finally admit that Bastien was murdered?

*They admitted that I was correct in mid-January.*

6. When did you first learn details of the attacks that were to happen on Sept. 11?

*In the first week of December 2000.*

7. How did you learn of the details?

*One document was written in English by a U.S. agent, who had picked up a copy of a document that had been sent to V. Putin by K. Hussein, Saddam Hussein's son. This is what the translation of the doc indicates. The Iraqis knew in June 2000 that I was coming. I didn't get my orders until August. The letter said that Bastien and Vreeland would be dealt with "in a manner suitable to us." The letter specifically stated on page two, "Our American official guarantees this."*

8. Who put the information on the attacks into the pouch, and what would have been their motive for doing so?

*I am not allowed to answer that. It would jeopardize the lives of active agents, and it would violate the National Security Act of 1947.*

9. After having learned of the details of the impending attacks on the WTC and the Pentagon, how long did you wait before trying to notify Canadian and U.S. authorities of the information?

*On Dec. 6, 2000 I told Canadian authorities to their face that I needed to contact the Canadian military immediately. I wrote it down. She [the Canadian official] was playing games, so I wrote down that I was a Russian spy and a weapons systems expert, and that I wanted to talk to them TODAY. I said I was a Russian because figured it would get their attention. The name they had on me was Mikhail Cristianov (Michael Christian), because I had ID that used this name.*

10. What was their reaction?

*The Canadians turned blue, walked away, and I never saw them again.*

11. How did it make you feel?

*I was pissed off. It's on video [referring to a standard jail surveillance/security video].*

12. Did the U.S. and Canadian response lead you to reach any conclusions? If so, what were they?

*I thought I was dealing with idiots who had no clue about what was about to happen. It's been put to me that there were certain officials who wanted the attacks to happen. No one ever had any intention of building the system I was after because it would have made the defense budget obsolete. One thing that happened after 9-11 was that the Pentagon budgets soared.*

13. Your written warning contains the statement, "Let one happen, stop the rest." Who was going to let one happen? Who was going to stop the rest?

*I can't comment on the advice of counsel.*

14. Does that statement imply that the U.S. or some other intelligence agency had achieved complete penetration of the terrorist cells?

*That goes without question. Sometimes certain governments design, create networks like Al Qaeda, which was really the government in Afghanistan. Those entities create specific problems at the creating government's direction.*

15. Do you know who had achieved this penetration?

*I cannot comment on that.*

16. Is it possible that the terrorist cells were being "run" without knowing by whom?

*Absolutely.*

17. The most common excuse people use to discredit you is that you have prior arrests on fraud charges, and there are several press stories linking you to alleged criminal activity. How do you explain this?

*The American Express charges are b.s., and Amex has stated on tape that the specific charges in question were approved. They admit that there was no fraud on this card. That card had been issued to Lt. Delmart Michael Vreeland. The Amex people admitted that the card was a U.S. Navy card.*

*People have accused me of identity theft. If anybody checked with the police departments in the U.S., they would find that there is not one police report from any individual in the U.S. who has alleged that I have stolen any identities. There is not a single identified victim anywhere. Three judges in Canada have denied my requests to have discovery and disclosure on these alleged charges.*

*The press stories that have circulated about my past are lies. Portions of the stories alleging fraud and ID theft are lies. I have threatened to sue these papers, and the stories have been pulled.*

*I'm working with ONI. Certain government officials -- politicians, brass, and high ranking military -- have 11th Amendment privileges and can't be sued. Another government agency has to go investigate activities connected to weapons smuggling, organized crime and drug trafficking. They use their power to break laws, and we're not allowed to investigate them. Thus certain parts of the U.S. government designed an entity called UID (Unofficial Intelligence Investigation Division). It was designed by Adm. Jeremy Michael Boorda, who allegedly committed suicide. Boorda put this together prior to becoming CNO [Chief of Naval Operations]. He was not a bad guy.*

*Intelligence officers are sometimes put into positions where they are given assignments to infiltrate specific organizations that are powerful enough to check out a newcomer's background. Page 335 of the Charter Application in Canadian Court shows a copy of orders from Southern Command. These orders are dated April 18, 2000, concerning an anti-drug operation we were mounting. At approximately the same time the media released widespread stories that I was a wanted criminal. This was a means of providing cover and credibility for me with the people I was infiltrating.*

18. How many times have you been arrested on criminal charges?

*Maybe three. Some of this I did, like a DUI charge in New York. I had been at the UN, and I had definitely been drinking.*

19. How many times have you been convicted?

*I have never been legally convicted of any criminal, felony activity anywhere. The drunk driving charge is still pending, and I have admitted in open court that I did it.*

20. The Michigan warrant for credit card fraud is based upon the use of your own credit card. How do you explain this?

*It is a setup.*

21. Were your credit cards authorized or facilitated by the U.S. Navy or any part of the U.S. government?

*Yes.*

22. Could the U.S. government or any of its intelligence agencies have "inserted" the charges through state and local agencies?

*Yes.*

23. You were in custody in New York on the date the alleged Michigan offense took place. What was the charge, and what was the disposition of that case?

*That was the DUI charge.*

24. Was working with organized crime families a part of your duties with the Navy?

*Yes.*

25. Were any of the organized crime families in Michigan?

*Yes.*

26. For what reason were you working with organized crime?

*I was under orders to do so 90 percent of the time. Organized crime supplies the weapons and drugs that go to the people we investigate.*

27. Are you afraid that you will be killed if you are extradited to the U.S.? Why?

*Yes. Because I have spoken out.*

28. Can you explain why the Canadian courts will not allow your attorneys to introduce evidence that verifies your position with the U.S. Navy?

*Yes. The Canadians are totally subservient to U.S. intelligence interests. They're afraid of Uncle Sam. It would also prove that CSIS covered up Marc Bastien's death, and that there was a cover-up involving a member of a major drug organization that had planned assassinations against prominent Canadians. In fact, one individual was found dead in a vat of acid. He was a hit man.*

29. What do you want?

*I want my uniform back, my back pay at \$4,210.90 a month and my honor. I want President Bush to give me a full and*

complete pardon and the amnesty of the U.S. government. I am owed that. I want Bush personally to know everything that I know, and what kind of threats there are against the U.S.

It's never going to happen, so I am now seeking permanent refugee status in Canada and the protection of the United Nations.

30. What do you think will happen next in your case?

I don't know. My attorney is in court seeking a postponement of the extradition case because the Canadian government will not allow me to subpoena very important U.S. witnesses from the Pentagon and other places.

31. Is the war on terrorism about something other than what the people of the world are being told?

What war on terrorism?

(continued on page 16)

---

---

(continued from page 6, Column: Oil Prices and Recession)

So why did oil prices dive over the past year, once the recession had begun? The answer to this is really quite simple. Rising oil prices brought on a recession, which in turn cut oil demand and reduced pressure on prices. In response, prices weakened to the point that OPEC was nearly in a panic. Oil producing countries had to straddle a tightrope between their own debts and decreasing production in order to hold prices steady.

In the U.S., the Federal Reserve Board made a record number of interest rate cuts in a desperate effort to bring inflation under control. And President Bush launched another major transfusion of money from the general public to the rich, with his tax rebate of last year and the further economic stimulus package he forced through Congress after 9-11.

But none of this seemed to make any difference. Nothing affected the recession until weak oil prices allowed the economy room to breathe again. And now that the weight on our chest has been eased, we are beginning to recover. Yet this recovery is very susceptible to disruption, and it is very possible that peak oil production will prevent us from ever making a full recovery.

From the chart below, courtesy of Campbell, we can see that we have produced almost half of the oil that is available. There remains only about 150 Gb (billion barrels) yet to be found, and we are consuming four barrels of oil for every one discovered. Because of this, we are depleting our oil inheritance at a rate of about two percent per year. From all of this we can deduce that conventional oil, which is the vast majority of the oil produced and consumed, has peaked.

Measurement	Measure
Produced-to-date	873 Gb
Reserves	928
Discovered-to-date	1801
Yet-to-Find	149
Yet-to-Produce	1077
Ultimate recovery	1950
Current consumption (2001)	22 Gb/y
Current discovery rate	6 Gb/y
Current depletion rate (ann. prod. as % of Yet-to-Produce)	2%

For the last few years demand and production have been in a neck and neck horse race. Production had the lead until 2000, at which time production hit its limit and demand took the lead. In 2001 the recession curbed demand to the point that production bounded well ahead and the price sagged. This gave the economy a chance to gain its second wind, and now demand is ready to rebound and overtake production again. This horse race could last for a few years before production is crippled.

## WHAT IS TO COME?

With Bush's oil wars, or as they are officially known, the "War on Terrorism," muddying up the pond, it is very difficult to say what lies ahead. However, we can be certain that oil production will eventually begin to decline, and the world will have to adjust. Despite all the variables that could enter into play, we can make some deductions about what lies ahead.

First, world oil production peaked in 2000, but the give and take between production and demand may put off the decline of production for a few years. So it appears that we have entered what could be called the "oil plateau," a kind of limbo where we will alternate between stagnation and viability. From our perspective in the midst of things, this will hardly be perceived as a smooth plateau. We have entered a cyclic pattern of peaking production leading to a price surge, which results in recession, which then reduces demand, leading to production surplus and weakening oil prices. This will in turn permit an economic rebound and an increase in demand, bringing us back to peak production again. This cycle could continue for the next several years until the inevitable decline of production sets in. The only way out of this cycle is to hold back demand below the rate of production, and this is unlikely to happen in a free-market economy.



Outside of the Middle East, world production is already in decline. This means that the Middle East must increase production to make up for declines elsewhere simply to keep production where it is right now. Within the next few years, the Middle East will take control of world oil production. And probably by the year 2010, the world oil production curve will dovetail into the Middle Eastern production curve. There are reasons to doubt that the Persian Gulf states can rise to meet this demand. Many Middle Eastern countries are already pumping at maximum. As the importance of Middle Eastern oil grows, the entire world will be at the mercy of political and social instabilities in this region. And in any case, the Persian Gulf oil fields are aging, and their production is approaching peak as well.

The roller coaster ride should end by 2010, at which point we may begin to look back fondly on the years of cyclic recession. By this time we will slide out of the plateau into an irrevocable decline of oil production. We have the next several years to wean ourselves from oil and prepare. A century of conspicuous consumption must come to an end, and we must learn to be frugal. If we are not prepared, then the suffering will be great.

## **CAUTION ABOUT OIL DATA**

There are reports that major oil discoveries are popping up all over the world, but none of these appear to be valid. Some of the reports are due to companies and governments attempting to put a spin on their assets in an effort to attract foreign investment. Whenever the claims are investigated, the size of the oil deposits decreases significantly. Two of the largest claims are the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) and the Caspian Sea reserves.

According to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), in the case of ANWR the most likely reserve estimate is in the neighborhood of 7.7 Gb, which is hardly enough oil to cover U.S. demand for six months.

As for the Caspian Sea reserves, these do truly represent a major find, equal to the North Sea fields. Their discovery is anomalous, due to the fact that the Caspian region only opened up to exploration after the dissolution of the former Soviet Union. Geologic studies of rock type and remote sensing data had long ago identified this as an area of interest, so the investigators rushed in just as soon as the iron curtain was raised.

However, this should in no way be taken as an indication that there are other major fields just waiting to be found. Scientific advances have done a great deal to explain where oil won't be found, and technological advances mainly serve the purpose of finding the small deposits which are still scattered about, and pumping the last few obtainable drops out of the fields that are in production.

There is also a great deal of confusion about the amount of oil contained in the Caspian fields. The most reliable figures place Caspian reserves on par with the North Sea oil fields -- 18 to 34 Gb of proven reserves, with a potential of maybe 50 Gb. While this is an impressive find, it is not enough to make a difference to the oil peak, but will only serve to help ameliorate the coming decline, and only if these Caspian reserves are fully brought on line in the next few years. Figures as high as 250 Gb are often bandied about, but they are meaningless. The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) has stated that the Caspian region may yield as much as 235 Gb, but the EIA has admitted to doctoring its figures.

This is one of the major causes of disinformation regarding energy issues. The U.S. government relies on the EIA for all of its energy information. Yet the EIA, a division of the Department of Energy, has admitted that it reverse-engineers its studies. "These adjustments to the USGS and MMS estimates are based on non-technical considerations that support domestic supply growth to the levels necessary to meet projected demand levels," stated the EIA in a report titled, "Annual Energy Outlook 1998 with Projections to 2020." This means that the EIA first looks at projected figures for demand, then juggles reserve and production figures to meet demand!

Likewise, USGS reports can no longer be trusted either since the agency's about face in 2000. Prior to 2000, the USGS was talking about oil depletion and the cross-over event between demand and supply. In 2000, however, the agency published a rosy report stating there would be abundant oil for many decades. Geologists working for the USGS have stated off the record that they do not trust USGS oil data.

## **A WORD ABOUT ABIOTIC OIL**

There is some speculation that oil is abiotic in origin -- generally asserting that oil is formed from magma instead of an organic origin. These ideas are really groundless. All unrefined oil carries microscopic evidence of the organisms from which it was formed. These organisms can be traced through the fossil record to specific time periods when quantities of oil were formed.

Likewise, there are two primal energy forces operating on this planet, and all forms of energy descend from one of these two. The first is the internal form of energy heating the Earth's interior. This primal energy comes from radioactive decay and from the heat energy originally generated during accretion of the planet some 4.6 billion years ago. There are no known mechanisms for transferring this internal energy into any secondary energy source. And the chemistry of magma does not compare to the chemistry of hydrocarbons. Magma is lacking in carbon compounds, and hydrocarbons are lacking in silicates. If hydrocarbons were generated from magma, then you would expect to see some closer kinship in their chemistry.

The second primal energy source is light and heat generated by our sun. It is the sun's energy that powers all energy processes on the Earth's surface, and which provides the very energy for life itself. Photosynthesis is the miraculous process by which the sun's energy is converted into forms available to the life processes of living matter. Following biological, geological and chemical processes, a line can be drawn from photosynthesis to the formation of hydrocarbon deposits. Likewise, both living matter and hydrocarbons are carbon based.

Finally, because oil generation is in part a geological process, it proceeds at an extremely slow rate from our human perspective. Geological processes take place over a different frame of time than human events. It is for this reason that when geologists say that the San Andreas fault is due for a powerful earthquake, they mean any time in the next million years -- probably less. Geological processes move exceedingly slow.

After organic matter has accumulated on the sea floor, it must be buried by the process of deposition. In geological time, in order for this matter to be a likely prospect for hydrocarbon generation, the rate of deposition must be quick. Here is an experiment you can conduct to get an idea how slow the rates of deposition are. Place a small stone on the bottom of a motionless pond. Take another stone of about the same size and place it at the mouth of a small stream, a stream where the current is not so great that it will sweep the stone away. Check both of these stones yearly until they have been buried by deposition. You might see the stone at the mouth of the stream covered over within a few years, but it is unlikely that you will see the stone in the pond buried within your lifetime.

It is a simple geological fact that the oil we are using up at an alarming rate today will not be replaced within our lifetime -- or within many lifetimes. That is why hydrocarbons are called non-renewable resources. Capped wells may appear to refill after a few years, but they are not regenerating. It is simply an effect of oil slowly migrating through pore spaces from areas of high pressure to the low-pressure area of the drill hole. If this oil is drawn out, it will take even longer for the hole to refill again. Oil is a non-renewable resource generated and deposited under special biological and geological conditions.

## **THE PROOF IS IN THE PUDDING**

If oil has a rosy future, one where there will be plenty of oil to pump, then what is the industry doing to prepare for that future? The major oil companies and other related industries have been merging and shedding staff. Likewise, they are buying their own stock. These are the moves of an industry preparing to downsize. On top of this, the major companies are not investing in new refining capacity. It has been over a decade since there was any talk of building new refineries. These are signs that the oil companies know there are no major investment opportunities left. As Colin Campbell notes, "Their past is worth more than their future -- and they know it."

And now, while claiming that the rest of us should increase our consumption for the good of the economy, and while claiming that conservation and renewable energy are not as important as increasing oil and gas production, developing nuclear power and burning coal, George W. Bush and Dick Cheney have been busy renovating their own households. George W.'s new home in Texas is fueled by solar power and features a 25,000-gallon cistern that collects house wastewater and rainwater for reuse in irrigation. His house will also utilize a geothermal heating and cooling system that uses 25 percent of the electricity of traditional systems. Water at a constant 67 degrees is piped up from a source 300 feet below ground and channeled through the house for cooling in the summer and heating in the winter. Similarly, the Cheney vice presidential house is equipped with state of the art energy conservation devices installed by Al Gore.

Who said, "Let them eat cake?"

*[Ed. Note: For an in-depth scientific look at the oil peak and the economy, read Colin J. Campbell's excellent article, "Peak Oil: an Outlook on Crude Oil Depletion," revised February 2002. <http://www.mbendi.co.za/indy/oilg/p0070.htm>]*

---

---

## **Michael Ruppert's Lecture/TV Schedule**

March 29 -- Austin, Texas: Four-hour Lecture, Public Access TV (25,000 viewers)

March 30 -- Vancouver, Canada: Four sold-out screenings of Mike Ruppert's "Truth & Lies of 9-11".

April 12 & 13 -- Portland, Ore.: Speaking at First Congregational Church.

April 14 -- Eugene, Ore.: Speaking at the Eugene Hilton Conference Room.

April 20 -- Athens, Ga.: Speaking at "Between the Hedges".

April 27 -- Long Island, N.Y.: Private speaking engagement. Sold out.

May 25 & 26 -- Sydney, Australia: Speaking at the Rex Hotel. Speaking tour will also be in Melbourne and Perth.

June 1 -- Sacramento, Ca.: Speaking at the Antioch Progressive Church.

June 8 -- Edmonton, Canada: Speaking at the SICES School.

(continued from page 1, Incoming!)

On March 25, The Guardian also noted that the FBI had raided an alleged U.S. terrorist support group, the Safa Trust, which had reportedly been sending money to both terrorist interests and to the Republican Party through a Republican political action committee called The Islamic Institute.

In this issue, **FTW** exposes the fact that Attorney General John Ashcroft has potentially criminal conflicts of interest with two grand juries investigating, among others, ExxonMobil and BP-Amoco on charges of bribery and an illegal oil swap with Iran in 1997. Both grand jury targets were heavy Ashcroft 2000 campaign donors, and both got behind closed doors into Vice President Dick Cheney's energy policy task force. In a half-measured cover-up, the White House complied this month with a court order to release task force records, but they were so heavily redacted as to be virtually useless. That noose, connected to Enron and deeper criminality, is slowly tightening around the Bush Administration's imperial neck.

On March 30, the Associated Press reported that 3,500 angry protesters took to London streets to protest likely U.S. military intervention in Iraq.

Around the nation, the fear-driven rush to enact the draconian Model Emergency Health Preparedness Act has slowed. The act has only been passed in one state and has been introduced in what appears to be a peak number of 24 states. Mississippi has actually defeated it. People have disconnected from the war.

Last weekend I watched a Fox News program. It was a call-in poll asking, "Who do you think is responsible for the anthrax?" The first caller on the air said, "I think it was the CIA. They did it to get more power." The strange thing is that not one of the news commentators openly disagreed with the caller. A couple of them nodded in agreement.

A new newspaper, the War Times, (<http://www.war-times.org/index.html>) will soon make its debut. They have already expanded a planned original printing from 7,500 to 100,000. What remains to be seen about this paper is whether it will fulfill its promise of telling us what the mainstream media won't, or whether it will be a well-funded wolf in sheep's clothing designed to corral and misdirect criticism of the U.S. government and its real role in 9-11. This is one of the oldest and best-known tactics of the power elite -- the creation of a "respectable" opposition voice to effectively control both sides of a debate. But the War Times' slick list of contributors gives proof to the fact that there is serious opposition. We will pray for a miracle with this new paper.

And the ubiquitous Michael Moore, author of the runaway best-seller "Stupid White Men," is bouncing around the country on a tour that continues to stop traffic and threaten civilization. The searing and hilarious critique of American industrialists and politicians, with some heavy swipes at the Bushes, is proof that the presidential approval rating poll numbers are lies. The book has been out for only two months, and is already in its 20-something-th printing.

It seems the bad guys have noticed. After many revelations that last fall's military-grade anthrax had originated from within the U.S. military and CIA-related programs, hyperbolic news stories began to appear insinuating that the nasty old Islamic terrorists had been making the stuff after all -- with simple chemistry kits.

Earlier this month, it was leaked that the Pentagon was developing plans for the use of tactical nuclear weapons in battlefield situations against non-nuclear powers.

Israel and the Palestinians are driving the world mad as tensions, carnage and death mount. The insanity builds fear everywhere as people remember Israel has nukes. And Saddam may also have weapons of mass destruction, as the remainder of the Arab world -- especially Iraq, Syria and Lebanon -- get drawn closer to the point of committing to rescue Arafat or else lose all respect. If Saddam moves to support Arafat, then the U.S. will no longer face a world opposed to the U.S. invading -- or nuking -- Iraq. Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon knows this, and he'll play it until the string breaks. On April 4, Bush slowed Sharon down and told him to cool it. The US, I suspect, has not completed military and diplomatic preparations for taking down Iraq.

Tension is building everywhere. It has been the same here at **FTW**. In this last month we have had a locked, garage storage area burglarized. Our website has been hacked twice. Whoever did it took out 200 websites just to get to us. An Internet stalker has been following the repostings of my stories about Delmart "Mike" Vreeland in Canada around the Web, in order to post hate mail. Several articles have appeared with deliberately falsified information about **FTW**. Pro-government administrators inside the Pacifica Radio network have pulled me from scheduled broadcasts. I have been attacked by The Nation Editor David Corn in a silly attempt to disparage my reporting. So severe was the criticism of his unfounded missive, that he received what might be several thousand e-mails and had to lament in a Sunday, March 24 Los Angeles Times OpEd interview. Corn described his run in with me, saying all of us conspiracy junkies were hopelessly demented, and there was nothing he could do to save us. Thank you, God! This was in the same week that a writer in the L.A. Weekly described me as a "nutball conspiracy theorist" and a "defrocked" ex-cop.

I have previously written for both of these papers and am in negotiations with the news editor of the Weekly over how they are going to correct the libelous term "defrocked."

All along in my lectures and radio appearances I have been saying this fight is winnable, but it will not be won without some discomfort. So therefore I must, in order to serve you and remain true to my beliefs, take this as a measure of the success of **FTW**, which you have made possible. I must walk the walk and say, "These are good signs." My opinion is that things will get worse for all of us who love the truth -- and soon. My caution to you is to be prepared for the next big lie and to jump on it with both feet when it comes.

A sign of its imminence was a comment made by avid hawk, Bush speechwriter, and political crony William Kristol on a C-SPAN Brookings Institute political forum. It was memorialized on an internet discussion list by an astute watcher who wrote, "Kristol is a motor-mouth and, therefore, stuff leaks out. When confronted with this poll of people disengaging in this war, he said that in 6-12 months they will have war as the top most in their mind as we get into a much bigger war than we have now. At one point he slipped into another tense...he talked about Bush in front of the Congress asking for a declaration of war against Iraq as though he was a reporter talking about something that happened yesterday -- that got their attention. And then it slipped. He talked about the terrorist attack that is going to happen in the next four (I believe -- or around there) months; caught himself, turned red and added, 'God forbid.'"

As we enter our fifth year of publication, **FTW** is now in 29 countries with almost 3,000 subscribers. Our website averages 4,000 visitors a day and our acceptance as a respected and responsible news source continues to grow. I thank all of you for believing in me, and I pray we will continue to be worthy of your faith and trust. Things are just starting to get interesting.

*"Beware the leader who bangs the drums of war in order to whip the citizenry into a patriotic fervor, for patriotism is indeed a double-edged sword. It both emboldens the blood, just as it narrows the mind. And when the drums of war have reached a fever pitch and the blood boils with hate and the mind has closed, the leader will have no need in seizing the rights of the citizenry. Rather, the citizenry, infused with fear and blinded by patriotism, will offer up all of their rights unto the leader and gladly so. How do I know? For this is what I have done. And I am Caesar."*

*-- Julius Caesar*

*"First they ignore you. Then they fight you. Then you win." -- Gandhi*

---

---

(continued from page 12, FTW Interview)

32. What do you think will happen next in the war on terror?

*Eventually, someone's going to have to tell the truth. Once those people are dealt with according to law, there will be no more false terror spread across the globe.*

33. You have recently had dealings with an American journalist named Rick Wiles. What is your opinion of Wiles and what was your experience?

*My opinion of Wiles is that he is a psychopath, who will print anything that will make him money. My experience with him was that I had private conversations with him that he recorded, not telling me he was going to post them on the Internet and sell them to the world. Then once I contacted him and told him that he was not to do that, he said he would take them down right now. Instead of taking them down he placed a bigger ad. He made a bigger ad!*

*In my opinion he is neither honorable nor professional. He has placed my story right next to a story about someone who talked to aliens 25 years ago. Yeah, that's right where I want my story to be, right next to some bozo who talks to aliens. The idiot!*

*So now he's selling this phony exclusive interview with me for \$20 and he's making all the money. He never had my permission to do that.*

34. You have recently had dealings with an American journalist named J.R. Nyquist. What is your opinion of Nyquist and what was your experience?

*Don't even get me started. My opinion: I think he might be working for the government. I did not know that he was writing a story about me. He asked me some questions. I answered some questions. I recorded it, and then he went off on a wild tangent about psychological crap, and I didn't even read the whole story I was so mad.*

*He went off about the Russians, and it's all b.s. He sent me this fax about you saying that Ruppert was not my friend. He was saying that the Russians had me boxed in. The truth is, the American government is boxing me in. He's full of shit.*

35. Are all of these statements on-the-record?

*Yes!*

---

---

Our website has been severely hacked this past month. We are currently setting up world-wide mirror sites of **FTW**. Here are some of our mirror sites, keep them handy! Also, if you would like to host a **FTW** mirror, please contact us.

<http://www.bighula.com/copvcia/>

<http://www.appollonia.net/copvcia/>

<http://www.tex-la.net/copvcia/>