

The Fortnightly Rant

Déjà War

Finally, the presidential election in Afghanistan is over. It lasted eleven weeks. That's more than twice as long as the American Presidential election of 2000 — hardly a confidence-building thought.

The winner was the incumbent, Hamid Karzai. Mr. Karzai had enjoyed all the the benefits usually associated with incumbency: high name recognition, a fundraising advantage, and the ability to get his message out thanks to the media's natural deference to authority. According to the United Nations, seventy percent of state-run television news coverage was devoted to covering Karzai.

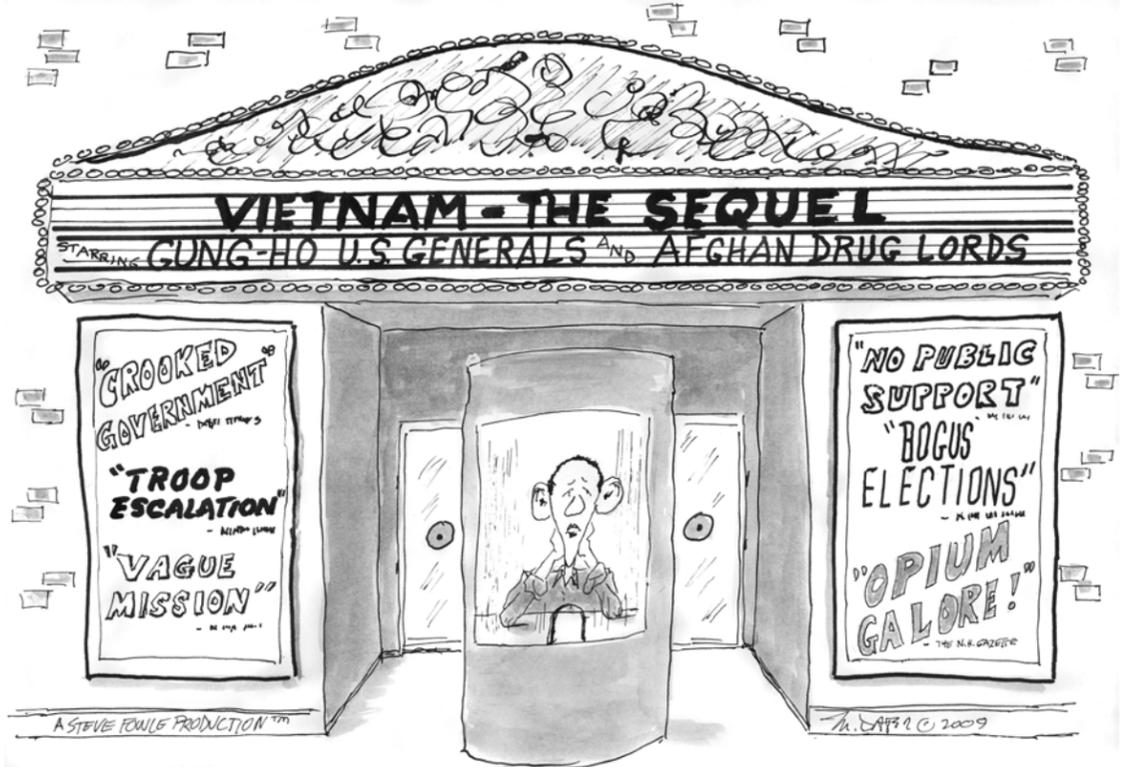
Karzai also had some other assets — if that's the right term — not usually seen in U.S. elections. One of Karzai's running mates, for instance, was the incumbent Second Vice President Karim Khalili, who has been accused by Human Rights Watch of killing thousands of innocent civilians during Afghanistan's civil war. Karzai's other running mate, Marshal Muhammad Qasim Fahim, has long been suspected by the CIA of being deeply involved in Afghanistan's opium trade. It's a pity Warren Zevon is dead — he would have been just the man to write Karzai's theme song.

Three major attacks occurred in Kabul in the days before the

election, including a huge car bomb near the U.S. Embassy and NATO Headquarters. To offset the perceived lack of security, Karzai's government announced it would hire 10,000 tribesmen to guard the polls. They wore their own clothes and brought their own guns to the polls, perhaps so they would blend in better. The locations of some polling places were not announced until Election Day, and almost one out of eight polling places never did open.

The prospect of being blown up or shot seemed to suppress voter turnout. The overall assessment of the electoral process was simply depressing. Foreign journalists reported that they were given the opportunity to vote. Indelible ink used to mark voters turned out to be delible after all. Some ballot boxes were stuffed, others were made to disappear. The death toll was 57, more than half of them civilians.

At one point during the initial wave of vote counting, Karzai's share of the tally was pegged at 72 percent. This figure quickly failed the laugh test. For the next two months two organizations, the Independent Election Commission and the Electoral Complaints Commission, tried to take the sow's ear they were handed and convert it into an acceptably silky result. For dignity and integrity, the resultant dickering



made Katharine Harris's Florida vote-counting farce of 2000 look like the British House of Lords in full regalia.

A hazy picture eventually emerged: about a quarter of the votes cast were too tainted to count and none of the candidates were innocent. Karzai had more votes than his leading rival, Abdullah Abdullah. But a higher percentage of Abdullah's votes were legitimate. The bottom line was, no amount of alchemy would give Karzai the 50 percent he needed to avoid a runoff — something Karzai viewed with less relish than he would a ham sandwich.

At this critical juncture, Sen. John Kerry (D-MA) gave the

diplomatic pinball machine a well-timed bump with his hip and presto: on October 20, Karzai agreed to a runoff.

For thirteen days, resolution was in the air, the kind of resolution Americans can understand — the political equivalent of a cage match. Two men go into an election, and one comes out the winner.

Then Abdullah withdrew. He refused to risk his countrymen's lives just to participate in an apparently doomed charade.

President Barack Obama promptly got on the horn with President Karzai, our valiant ally in whatever it is we're fighting for in Afghanistan, and congratulated him on his glorious victory.

Some Americans believe we should send whatever number of troops to Afghanistan that we have to, and stay as long as we need to, to finish whatever it is we're doing there. Doing anything less, they say, would jeopardize our national security and betray those who have fought and died there. Many of those same people would probably say that any similarities between what we're doing in Afghanistan and what we did in Vietnam are superficial and beside the point. Those arguments have one weak and debilitating merit: they serve to mask the truth about Vietnam, and about Afghanistan, and to put off even longer the reckoning that must some day come.

News Briefs:

Chickenhawks of a Feather Flock Together

The Center for Security Policy (CSP) held a lavish soirée at Washington's Union Station on October 21.* Fortunately C-SPAN covered the event, so anyone with basic cable was able sit comfortably at home in his La-Z-Boy, enjoying a cold Bud Lite and gazing in wonder at the gleaming podium and rich, velvety blue drapes, scratching wherever it might itch while noted authority figures droned on authoritatively about issues of great important import.

According to its own deeply self-reverential account, the CSP is "a non-profit, non-partisan national security organization that specializes in identifying policies, actions, and resource needs that are vital to American security and then ensures that such issues are the subject of both focused, principled examination and effective action by recognized policy experts, appropriate officials,

opinion leaders, and the general public."

From a more reality-based perspective, the CSP could perhaps more accurately — or at least more honestly — be described as "a vital organ of a corrupt power structure, supported with small change coughed up by the tax-dodging plutocrats for whom the U.S. government they habitually malign actually works, and taking upon itself the responsibility of putting the fear of God and Osama bin Laden into the hearts and minds of those benighted masses that are still naive enough to pay their taxes and go to desolate hellholes like Afghanistan to fight and die for their country."

A glance at CSP's roster of bigwigs shows it to consist of former Pentagon bureaucrats of the Republican persuasion, propagandists, investment bankers, and representatives of the nation's major arms manufacturers. The CSP's "work product" is a steady stream of justifications for expensive weapons systems designed to be used against enemies that do

not exist and dire warnings suggesting that America is about be pillaged by godless foreign hordes if we don't immediately put missile defense systems in every schoolyard in the country — even if we have to close the schools to pay for them.

For CSP to meet where they



Dick "Still Dick" Cheney

did was more than a little counter-intuitive. Their members are almost invariably disapproving of socialism. Yet it was under the control of private industry that Union Station, a formerly grand structure, fell into a disgraceful state of decay and disrepair. It was restored to splendor thanks to the Union Station Redevelop-

ment Act — a socialistic scheme signed by that champion of free enterprise Ronald Reagan, and paid for with tens of millions of taxpayers' dollars.

The highlight of last month's CSP shindig was the bestowal upon former Vice President Dick "Still Dick" Cheney of a tchotchke they call the "Keeper of the Flame Award." If the members of CSP had been a little more plainspoken, they might have called it the "Keep On Sticking it to The Kenyan Usurper Award."

Cheney gave a ~~talk~~ diatribe on the topic, "Putting Politics Over Security." Surprisingly, it was not about the administration in which he recently served. One hopes the YouTube video has been bookmarked by professors of psychiatry; it should come in handy when discussing the topic of projection.

Cheney began by praising his lifelong colleague, Donald "The Army You've Got" Rumsfeld. He proceeded to imply that Bill Clinton had left the Bush administration with a weakened

military, then ran down a seemingly inexhaustible list of nations with which the Obama administration had interacted in ways contrary to our national interests. In closing, he again lapsed into projection, accusing the Obama administration of setting the Justice Department "on a political mission."

Cheney's former Chief of Staff, Irve Lewis "Scooter" Libby, was given the "Service Before Self Award." Perhaps the name "Oscar for Best Fall Guy" was already taken. While no one came right out and said "You did a heck of a job of keeping your boss out of jail, at great personal expense" the sentiment could not have been clearer. Libby will no doubt keep this award on his mantle, next to a framed copy of his October, 2005 indictments for perjury.

The Center for Security Policy, the mutual admiration society which orchestrated this conservative's version of a Love-In, was

* This gripping event took place just hours before our previous paper went to press. We regret that it was not possible to bring this important news to our readers any earlier.



News Briefs

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founded in 1988 by one Frank Gaffney not long after he was bounced from the Reagan Administration during a turf war.

So far as we know, this Frank Gaffney is not related to the Frank Gaffney who, near Ronssoy, France, during World War I, "push[ed] forward alone, after all the other members of his squad had been killed, discovered several Germans placing a heavy machinegun in position ... killed the crew, captured the gun, bombed several dugouts, and, after killing four more of the enemy with his pistol, held the position until reinforcements came up, when 80 prisoners were captured," according to his Medal of Honor citation. He was a relatively ripe 34 at the time.

The CSP's Frank Gaffney is a bird of a different feather. When his idol Ronald Reagan invaded Grenada, the CSP's Frank Gaffney was just 30 — in the prime of his life — but he couldn't be

bothered to risk his life protecting American medical students from the dreaded Marxist-Leninists of the New Jewel Movement.

Despite his appalling lack of military training or experience, he snagged a job at the Pentagon, under the fetid wing of Richard Perle. The plaque on his desk read "Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear Forces and Arms Control Policy."

Gaffney's instinct for self-preservation has earned him the rank of "Chickenhawk First Class with Distinguished Fleeing Cross" on *The New Hampshire Gazette's* newly renovated Chickenhawk Database, which we hope to have online at nhgazette.com within days after the publication of this issue.

Neither is there any relationship, despite their shared initials, between the Center for Security Policy and the U.S. Congressman from New Hampshire's First District, Carol Shea-Porter. The former works for the top five percent of Americans, as mea-

sured by income; the latter works for the rest of us.

Sustainable Portsmouth

In a little over two weeks, on November 21st, Portsmouth will take a big step towards a sustainable future, provided enough people show up for the following event.

In 2008, the Portsmouth City Council asked Portsmouth Listens to create a process to develop a citizen-led sustainability vision and five-year plan for the city. They developed a three-step plan:

1. Bring together a large cross-section of residents and, through deliberative democracy techniques, create a vision of a sustainable city.
 2. Put the resulting citizen energy to work in further rounds of study circles to write a plan next spring.
 3. Set up citizen groups across Portsmouth's many neighborhoods to carry out the plan, and measure results, starting in 2010.
- This pioneering effort gets under way at Portsmouth High

School on November 21st starting at 8:30 a.m. and going through to 3:00 p.m.

Working in small groups, residents will discuss what a sustainable Portsmouth looks like. After lunch, the themes developed will be presented, shared, and discussed. Then everyone at will prioritize those themes.

Be there, or be unsustainable!

Grand Marshal's Report

The alleged editor of *This Olde Rag* had the genuine honor of serving as Grand Marshal of the Portsmouth Halloween Parade

last Saturday evening. It was the most surreal experience of his life that did not involve the wearing of a U.S. Army uniform. Instead, he wore two large rectangular mock-ups of the *Portsmouth Gerald-D'Ob*, sandwich-board fashion, in an effort to poke fun at another local paper. The headlines on it included, "Rupert Murdoch Names Geraldo Rivera New Editor of Award-Winning Local Daily," "PDA Gets Sur-

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Gazette staffers lead a horde of zombies up Junkins Ave. See "Grand Marshal's Report," above, for the sordid details. Photo by D. Karlotski.



The largest tug in Portsmouth harbor is usually the 101-foot Eugenia Moran, shown here at right. On Sunday the 25th, she was dwarfed by the 121-foot Lois Ann L. Moran, at left, and the 118-foot Jennifer Turecamo, center. The Lois Ann L. Moran was under construction at Washburn & Doughty in East Boothbay, ME on July 11, 2008 when that yard's main building burned down around her. She not badly damaged, and construction continued as a new building went up around her. She was launched last July, and is now in New York.

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The Fortnightly Quote, from A Reader:

*"Steal a little and they throw you in jail,
Steal a lot and they make you king."*

Bob Dylan, *Sweetheart Like You*

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The Red Sail Sails into the Sunset

For the last eleven months, workers at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard have been preparing a unique vessel for its final voyage. Throughout her 39 year career, the *NR-1* could dive deeper, stay down longer, and perform a more diverse array of tasks than any other seagoing vessel ever built by man.

At 150 feet, the *NR-1* is just 49 feet longer than Moran Towing's largest Portsmouth-based tugboat, the *Eugenia Moran*. The sub's pressure hull is just over 12 feet in diameter and only 96 feet long. More than half of that length is taken up by the reactor, electrical generator, and motors. A foot of lead shields the forward section, where a crew of 11 shared four bunks, in what space was not taken up by machinery. For cooking, the oven was a modified toaster taken from the galley of a P-3 Orion aircraft.

Powered by a tiny nuclear reactor, the *NR-1* could dive to 3,000 feet and stay below the surface for nearly a month. This extraordinary ability to remain deeply submerged allowed her to accomplish missions that no other vessel could attempt. The only factor limiting the little boat's endurance was all too human: there was only so much space in the onboard holding tank for the storage of human waste.

Admiral Rickover's Baby

In 1964, with the global Cold War between the U.S. and the Soviet Union going full blast, Hyman Rickover was thinking small.

Rickover himself was small, at least in terms of physical stature. Born in Poland in 1900, he was also approaching what others would consider to be retirement age. But Rickover did not think as others did. Already considered "the Father of the Nuclear Navy," Admiral Hyman Rickover

was thinking that the U.S. Navy needed a small submarine that could go deeper than any other and stay on the bottom for weeks on end. He believed that capability would give the U.S. a tremendous strategic advantage over the Soviets.

Thanks to Rickover's bureaucratic wiles and the sheer force of his will, on January 25, 1969, Electric Boat launched the *NR-1** at Groton, Connecticut, her conning tower painted a distinctive reddish-orange for higher visibility. There had never been anything remotely like her.

For one thing, this sub has wheels. When operating on suitable sea-bottom, the *NR-1* could "drive" on a pair of retractable Goodyear truck tires "inflated" with alcohol. Combined with three six-inch thick viewports and 29 external lights, this gave the boat the capacity to scrutinize large swaths of the seabed in ways never before possible.

Her search capacity was not limited to the visible light spectrum. She had three separate sonar systems, one so sensitive it could detect "an empty soda can buried in the sand a mile away."

Four ducted thrusters gave it great maneuvering ability. Her manipulator arm was capable of lifting objects weighing up to 125 pounds.

One thing lacking was offensive capability. Her only armament was one .45 Colt semi-automatic pistol, usually kept locked in a safe.

Some Known Missions

The *NR-1*'s first mission was assisting in the placement of three massive towers atop extinct

* The name *NR-1* refers to Rickover's command: Naval Reactors; the 1 reflected his desire to build additional vessels. The *NR-1* was never formally named or commissioned. By skipping that formality, Rickover sidestepped his limited number of ship allotments.

volcanoes in the Mid-Atlantic Ridge for a classified project that may have tracked Soviet subs leaving the Mediterranean.

Later, she managed to snoop undetected on a system of undersea Soviet listening devices — while the Soviet Navy was holding fleet exercises on the surface above.

In December of 1976, an F-14 armed with a new, top secret Phoenix missile rolled off the deck of an aircraft carrier near Scotland into 1,800 feet of water. Thanks to the *NR-1*, the Navy was able to retrieve both the plane and the missile, either of which would have been an intelligence bonanza had the Soviets swept them up in a trawler net.

After the *Challenger* disaster in 1986, the *NR-1* helped recover wreckage of the space shuttle. Her final mission last year was as part of an unsuccessful attempt to locate the wreck of John Paul Jones' ship, *Bonhomme Richard*, which sank off Britain's Flamborough Head in 1779.

Thanks to the dictates of national security, most of what the *NR-1* accomplished will never be known to those who footed the bill.

Going, Going ...

As our press time approached, the 610-foot Landing Ship Dock *U.S.S. Carter Hall* arrived at the shipyard to take Admiral Hyman Rickover's strangest creation on its last long trip. The *NR-1*, already placed atop a barge, will be floated into the *Carter Hall*'s huge well deck, then sail down the Piscataqua River and into the sunset.

Presuming she goes through the same process as other decommissioned nuclear sub reactors, after arriving at the Ship-Submarine Recycling Program at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard she will be cut into several sections.



With a top speed of just 3.5 knots, the *NR-1* had to be towed by the support vessel *MV Carolyn Chouest* if she was going any considerable distance. The light-colored towing cable ended in a large metal ball, seen here resting on the gunwale of a Zodiac boat (left). The ball locked into a socket on the bow of the *NR-1* (right). This photo was taken during a March, 2007 research expedition of the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary, off the Gulf Coast of Texas. Photo courtesy of the Institute for Exploration and the University of Rhode Island Institute for Archeological Oceanography.



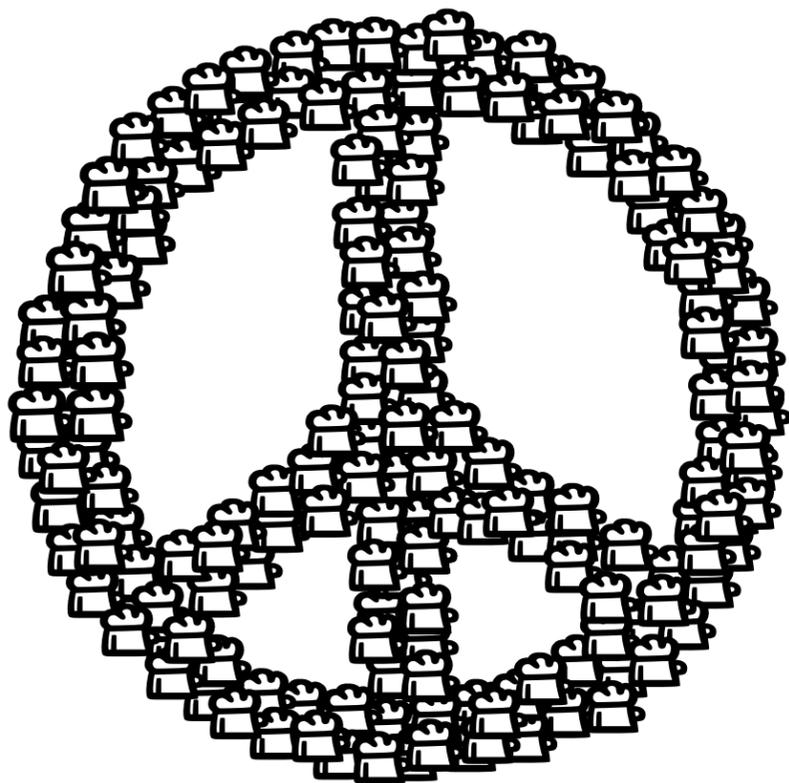
The *NR-1* in the Galveston shipping channel in March of 2007. Photo courtesy of the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary.

Most of the sub's material will be recycled, but not the reactor section. A thick steel plate will be welded onto it to seal it up. Then it will be buried, alongside dozens of other decommissioned reactors, in a trench at the Hanford Reservation, on the Columbia River in Washington State.

If the Navy has any plans to replace the *NR-1*, it's keeping

them secret.

[Note: For more about the *NR-1*, see *Dark Waters: an insider's account of the NR-1, the Cold War's undercover nuclear submarine*, by Lee Vyborny and Don Davis (New American Library, 2003), available at the Portsmouth Public Library. Vyborny was a "plank owner," a member of the boat's original crew.]



"WHEN THE POWER OF LOVE OVERCOMES THE LOVE OF POWER,
THE WORLD WILL FINALLY KNOW PEACE." -- JIMI HENDRIX



Northcountry Chronicle

Hanging Out

by William Marvel

Perhaps nothing is more reminiscent of childhood in the 1950s than a clothesline. Most clothespins were made of single pieces of birch, shaped like a duck's barely open bill, and women's aprons had big pockets in front, where they stored dozens of them. Sheets floated on the breezes in bright sun, absorbing a fresh-air scent that made them so delicious to sleep on that first time. No matter where we lived while my father was still in the navy, there was a clothesline of some sort, from a taut piece of rope to one of those double-pulley contraptions that stretched between tenements in an alley, allowing someone to stand on the back porch and reel the laundry in and out. Later came plastic-coated lines supported by aluminum frames in different geometric patterns. No day of outdoors play seemed complete without a dash or two between the rows of laundry, with at least one stop to

smell the virgin fragrance of sun-dried cotton.

Clotheslines began to disappear as people ran out to buy electric dryers. The wealthiest people I knew as a child had not only a dryer, but an entire room devoted to nothing but laundry, and a decade later everyone in the nicer parts of the villages began to imitate them. It was another decade and more before my parents finally got one—just about the time they razed the tarpaper shed out back, and put up a screened porch. They were always the last to accumulate the obligatory impedimenta of the studiously civilized.

By then clotheslines had assumed something of a stigma: they seemed to reveal the homeowners as proletarians. I must have absorbed that impression myself, without realizing it, for as I traveled about the country in the 1960s I was unconsciously recognizing the working-class neighborhoods by the clothes that were flapping in the back

yards. Not that hanging laundry struck me as gauche, or unsightly; I just seemed to accept that women in blue-collar households dried their clothes outside.

Then inflation forced those women to leave home to find work, which left their clotheslines to the mercy of thunderstorms and thieves. Inflation also encouraged ever-smaller house lots, and claustrophobic homeowners tried to make the most of their shrinking back yards, so the room that clotheslines consumed became too precious for the mere drying of clothing.

Others took the economic implications of clotheslines more seriously. Hanging out wet clothing insinuated that one was too poor to afford a dryer—just as the lack of any suburban accoutrements could only mean that money was short. Appliance advertisers capitalized on that perception, instilling shame to encourage the installation of dryers, for snobbery and shame are the salesman's best friends. That

snobbery eventually took official form in regions where suburban "values" reached the acme of logical perversion. Hanging laundry outdoors diminished the property values of the surrounding homes, declared the worst of the snobs, for to them their homes represented nothing more than a financial investment.

Through such asinine arguments did many a suburban community ban clotheslines. Remember the *Doonesbury* cartoons of neighbors turning neighbors in for hanging their clothes out to dry during the endemic California blackouts? The attitude that abolished clotheslines and mandated excessive electrical usage could not recognize reality even when slapped in the face with it. The same folks gradually banned agricultural activities in their picture-perfect tracts because of the noise and odors, and then complained when food became expensive.

The dryer that my parents bought thirty years ago is now

usually used less than once a year—although we've resorted to it three times this sodden summer. An ancient clothes rack served the same purpose for many years, spending summers on the back porch and winters in the toasty cellar. That shaved about \$20 off the monthly electric bill. On a visit to Kansas my wife admired her mother's retractable clothesline, and what should her birthday present be but a retractable clothesline, which fit handily on the rose garden fence. With that we only have to look like white trash one or two days a week, while the laundry is out. We can assume genteel pretensions the rest of the time.

Another form of snobbery may actually bring clotheslines back into vogue. The greener-than-thou environmentalist ethic dictates that drying clothes outside is now not only acceptable, but chic. This represents a very positive brand of conceit, and one I could easily embrace, because for once I'm actually ahead of the Joneses.

More News Briefs

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prise Bequest from Nigerian Uncle," "State Liquor Store Loses Liquor License," and "Schism Splits Committee To Consolidate Committees." We will post a PDF on the website (nhgazette.com) when time permits.

The Grand Marshal extends his sincere thanks to Adam Williams and Megan Stelzer, stalwart members of the *Gazette's* Downtown Distribution Team,

who abetted in this caper and completed the scene by walking alongside wearing old-time newsboys' garb.

When you are at the head of the parade, we discovered, it's not easy to sense what's going on behind you. Towards the very end, as we approached Maplewood Avenue, it was startling to look back and see the entire way packed, from wall to wall. Later that evening, Dave Karlotski of *The Wire* (another sponsor of the parade) informed us that as the

tail end of the parade left the parking lot by the South Mill Pond, the head of it was just reaching Rogers Street. Measuring that path on GoogleEarth, we see that the length of the whole shambling mass of zombies must have been more than a quarter of a mile long.

Thanks to able assistance from uniformed motorcycle officers of the Portsmouth Police Department, the entire enormous mass of walking humanity — or whatever that was — safely made it

from Point A to Point Z, without accidentally detouring through Gonic.

The Portsmouth Herald, an official sponsor of the parade, seems to have taken our jest in stride. Their online photo album of the event includes two photos (31 and 32) of the three of us. Also, an article by Gina Carbone in the next day's paper went so far as to mention the *Gazette*.

Dan Freund produced the best video we've seen so far of the much-anticipated Michael Jackson Thriller Dance. It's available online at shortstream.tv/v3/video/410.

Some Ride

According to a report in the British paper *The Guardian* a

South African civilian, taken aloft by a member of the South African Air Force's Silver Falcon aerobatic team, inadvertently pulled on the back seat ejection handle and was shot out of the plane last week. Though untrained in that dangerous procedure he survived the ejection, and was brought safely to earth by the parachute.

An observer told *The Guardian*, "That guy took off in an Astra, came down in a parachute, and landed back at base in a helicopter. Not bad for a for a single flip."

Editor's Note to Self

"A little levity will save many a good heavy thing from sinking."
—Samuel Butler

Please do not attempt to read this. The type is way too small. You could strain your eyes. And there's no content here anyway.

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When "the Army we had" was sent to war, they got plenty of lip service about "support." Well, some of them are back now. And a few of them could use a hand.

The Veterans Affairs Supported Housing (VASH) program provides permanent housing and ongoing case management treatment services for homeless veterans who would not be able to live independently without the support of case management.

VASH cannot provide furniture, household appliances, pots and pans, or other household goods. VASH can accept these items, and distribute them to veterans who need them.

Call or e-mail Tracey Noonan, VASH Program Manager, at (603) 657-5612 or tracey.noonan@va.gov

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Moving Pictures

Amelia

by Rodman Philbrick

Stars: Hilary Swank, Richard Gere, Ewan McGregor; **Screenplay:** Ron Bass & Anna Hamilton Phelan; **Director:** Mira Nair; **Rating:** [PG]

Amelia Earhart is not quite forty when she vanishes over the Pacific on July 2, 1937, attempting to fly around the world. By that time she's lived the equivalent of a half-dozen average life spans. A corn-bred Kansas kid with an independent streak, she volunteers as a nurse in the First World War, contracting influenza that will leave her weakened and bedridden for nearly a year. At age 23 she takes a ten minute, life-changing ride in a biplane. It's 1920, aviators are the glamorous, death-defying heroes of the new decade. Amelia wants some of that. Always keenly aware of fashion and image (she designs and makes her own clothes and will eventually endorse a clothing line in her own name) she cuts her hair short because that's the current "look" for female aviators in the flapper

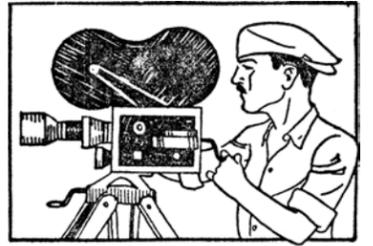
era, and sleeps in a leather flight jacket so it will look suitably wrinkled when she takes flying lessons. Amelia solos two years before another lanky Midwesterner, Charles Lindbergh, and is one of the few dozen licensed aviatrixes in the world. She buys her own airplane, does a bit of barnstorming that gives her local notoriety. When her family fortunes decline, Amelia has to sell her beloved airplane and earn her living as an earthbound social worker. At this point, like almost all the other aviation pioneers of the time, Amelia Earhart seems destined to fade into obscurity. And then, out of the blue, she's contacted by a group of promoters looking for a woman with "the right image" to share a record-breaking flight. The flight will be piloted by two highly experienced male aviators, but no woman has yet flown across the Atlantic, and if Amelia will volunteer to keep the flight log, publisher George Putnam will offer her a book contract. Putnam (whom she will later marry) fails to mention that Amelia has been selected because of her resem-

blance to Charles Lindbergh, but she soon gets the message when the PR-mad publisher cannily promotes her as "Lady Lindy." Deeply embarrassed to have become instantly world famous by being little more than a passenger, Amelia vows to set her own records. She does so with great brio and courage, not to mention iconic style, and in 1932, five years after Lindbergh, she becomes only the second pilot to fly solo across the Atlantic. Five years later, just as the planet is about to be convulsed in war, she vanishes into the mists of legend, last heard repeating her position somewhere in the remote Pacific, in search of a tiny island where she can refuel her plane. A plane that to this day has never been found.

As lives go, hers sounds splendidly cinematic. Cool airplanes, beautiful people, the birth of the age of celebrity (Miss Earhart endorsed everything from luggage to Lucky Strikes), casual infidelity (her marriage to Putnam was "open," at her insistence) and acts of spectacular airborne daring. And yet, despite that prom-

ise, it is this reviewer's sad duty to report that *Amelia* fails to inspire at every level.

What went wrong? As is often the case when good intentions fail so miserably, there's more than enough blame to spread around. A screenplay that never comes to life, a director who doesn't have a feel for the material, characters who wander in and out of the story without purpose, and some of the worst lines since *Star Wars* mangled the English language — and in *Star Wars* visual excitement and lively characters made up for everything else, which is not the case here. Casting Hilary Swank as Amelia should have been a stroke of genius — Swank has a similarly lanky, slim-hipped frame, as well as Earhart's great cheekbones and strong chin. But not even an actor of Ms. Swank's prodigious talents can bring this great corpse of a biopic to life. Spouting an inexplicable, rocks-in-the-mouth accent, Swank seems weirdly restrained, as if in awe of her unknowable subject, and she gets no help from the script or the director (*Mississippi Masala's* Mira Nair). Ev-



ery moment is a Hallmark moment, bathed in a phony golden glow, and every line of dialogue is carved in Ivory soap. There are moments so contrived, so utterly bogus, that many viewers will feel embarrassed by the endless proceeding, in which various historical characters (including Gore Vidal as an insufferably cute child) parade through Amelia's life as if they were barely animated waxworks.

This one's dead long before the final, doomed voyage. And just to add to the many rumors inspired by her disappearance, Amelia's navigator Fred Noonan is played by Christopher Eccleston. That's right, Doctor Who is along for the ride! So maybe the famed "First Lady of the Air" is still out there, time traveling in some pleasantly cheesy BBC production. That would explain her accent.

More Hate Mail, &c.

from page seven

of recession. That's good news for Granite Staters who are out of work and suffering hard times.

My thanks go to Congresswoman Shea-Porter for representing New Hampshire and our nation so effectively.

Fran Gehling
Londonderry, NH

Looking Out for Our Troops

To the Editor:

Congresswoman Carol Shea-Porter has again demonstrated that she is looking out for the

welfare of our men and women in the military. Shea-Porter was successful in persuading Congress to include her provision restricting the use of burn pits as part of the National Defense Authorization Act, which recently passed Congress and was signed into law by President Obama.

Open-air burn pits the size of football fields are currently used in Iraq and Afghanistan to incinerate medical wastes, unused fuel, hazardous waste, and everyday waste like plastics. The smoke from these pits contains toxins that are believed to cause long-term health problems for

our troops. According to Shea-Porter, "When they deploy, our service members put their lives at risk, and do not deserve to suffer this added, unjustifiable risk."

All Americans, not only those with family members fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan, are grateful to Carol Shea-Porter for her vigilance and support of our troops.

Kelly DeFeo
Conway, NH

The Butcher's Perspective

To the Editor:

A butcher looks at an animal and sees meat and profits in cuts.

The animal has a different perspective.

When it comes to taxes I see the politicians and the power brokers who sing the praises of cuts as the butchers. They and their cabal promote cuts because they get the vast majority of the pork. The tax cuts implemented during the Bush years have cost us over \$2 trillion in lost revenue. The consequences are that the butchers are very happy and the rest of us bleed. Look at our schools, our police, our fire, our roads, our jobs, our senior centers, our health care and more.

The butchers are now saying

we can't afford health care for everyone. We have to cut more. We have to tighten our belts. Yet I don't hear any of the butchers saying they want to pay their fair share or give back any of the \$2 trillion, or give up their tax paid health care.

Perspective is key. A democracy demands that *We The People* not be the pork.

Arnold Stieber
Grass Lake, MI

Arnold:
The stenographic media are to blame as well, for repeating their droning tax cut mantra.

The Editor

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Free Prince Whipple

To the Editor:
I am a New York State Acting Supreme Court Justice and recently had the opportunity to visit Portsmouth. During our visit, we toured the William Whipple House. On an upstairs floor of that home, they have a copy of the document drafted by Prince Whipple to request his freedom. The story is that Prince, a slave owned by William, accompanied William to Philadelphia and on his return, drafted his own Declaration of Independence, signed by a number of fellow slaves. It is a remarkable document — an ingenious, creative and forthright plea based upon the belief that “all men are created equal.”

His request was published by your newspaper and heard on the floor of the state legislature but all accounts indicate the motion was postponed or “tabled.” I am writing to propose to your newspaper that Prince’s motion has been delayed long enough and that the motion be heard in your state legislature and granted. Other accounts indicate Mr. Whipple may have been granted his freedom later in life but, with such an eloquent plea, he and his co-signers were entitled to be free from the moment their motion was before the legislature. Until it is formally heard and granted, Prince Whipple will be denied forever his rights and the others enslaved.

Hon. Alex M. Calabrese
Brooklyn, NY

[Note: Until recently, Judge Calabrese presided over the Red Hook Community Justice Center. According to Inside Fordham Online, the Center is “one of the reasons Red Hook saw the largest drop in major crimes in the city in 2006 and 2007.”]

*Judge Calabrese:
Just the other day we read somewhere that New Hampshire never abolished slavery. If that is correct, it is certainly time to do so now.*

As a resident of New York, your legal standing in New Hampshire is a bit thin. We will be honored to hereby present your proposal to our readers, among whom, we have reason to suspect, are a few New Hampshire legislators. We’ll be happy to facilitate any communications between you and them to accomplish this.

You came to the right newspaper. While we revere Daniel Fowle for many reasons, including the founding of this venerable journal, it is deeply troubling that he did so on the back of an enslaved African man called Primus Fowle. Only a few stories survive to flesh out the bare facts of his life, but in them Primus comes down to us as a man well deserving to be honored, not just for what he endured, but for the spark of freedom that clearly lived within him. We are happy to do what little we can.

The Editor

Who Would

Frank Guinta Represent?

To the Editor:

On Sept. 28, Republican Congressional candidate Frank Guinta received \$2500 from CIGNA PAC, a health insurance company’s political action committee. The very next day Guinta wrote a newspaper column attacking Democrats’ plans to rein in the power and profits of private health insurance companies like CIGNA.

If Guinta keeps talking like a health insurance CEO, no doubt he’ll get many more \$2,500

checks from political action committees representing private health insurance companies that put profits before people.

Do we want a member of Congress who represents the needs of the people like Congresswoman Shea-Porter, or the greed of the insurance industry like Frank Guinta? I support Congresswoman Carol Shea-Porter because she is working hard to make healthcare affordable and available for all of us.

Laurie McCray
Portsmouth, NH

Don’t Believe the Nonsense

To the Editor:

For weeks, I have been reading nonsense from Republican sources about Congresswoman Carol Shea-Porter. This is what I do know for a fact about Carol Shea-Porter.

She grew up in a middle class family, with parents who taught her good values, patriotism, hard work, faith, and service to others. She understands that America is the land of opportunity because she saw that at home. She went to Congress dedicated to serving the hard working families of New Hampshire, people who want to offer their children the opportunities, and security that she enjoyed.

I’ve been tracking what she has done in the short time she has been in office and I have seen that she is continuing that struggle to make life better for all of us.

She arrived in Congress with our country burdened by the biggest deficits in American history, a government that had failed to protect our citizens, waged war on the environment and nearly destroyed the middle class with punitive tax policies and the ever increasing costs for health care, gasoline, heating oil, and education.

Shea-Porter set to work immediately sponsoring and co-sponsoring legislature to provide

improved home health care and services for children and seniors, soldiers and veterans.

In addition, she worked hard to establish an increase in the minimum wage, for new investments in renewable energy, lobbying reform and fiscal discipline in the budgeting process.

I am very proud of the job our Congresswoman Carol Shea-Porter is doing on our behalf, and proud of my state that would elect such a deserving person.

Michelle O’Rourke
Bedford, NH

Our Noble Union

To the Editor:

The preamble of our Constitution states “We the people ... in order to form a more perfect Union.” A union is defined as the uniting of a federation of people, parties or political entities for common interests, interests defined as advantage or benefit. Benefit is defined as help or assistance.

We are the many parts of this Union.

We need the engineers, the designers, and the creators of our electronic and mechanic wizardry.

We need the banks to supply the money for the CEOs to build the factories to turn these designs into products and package them to be sold.

We need the distributors to deliver the products to the markets.

We need the farmers to produce the food for our bodies and the fabric for our clothing.

We need the super markets and department stores to display and sell the food and products,

We need the transportation industry to take our goods and us to our many destinations.

We need the water systems that collect and distribute this

Mash Notes, **HATE MAIL**,

vital ingredient of our lives.

We need the many small businesses to supply our every day needs.

We need the building trades to build the schools that educate us, the many structures that protect us where we live, work and play, the hospitals where our broken bodies are healed and our diseases cured.

We need unions to protect the workers rights and train our young to be the worthy employees of tomorrow.

We need our houses of worship to heal our souls and guide our ways

We need the arts, the poetry, music, the theater’s comedy and drama, paintings, sculpture, and yes, the Rap and Graffiti’s subliminal cry for justice ... peace ... and ... love.

We need the teachers, the professors and effective schools to educate our young to compete in the global market, industry and research.

We need the skilled workers that maintain the many mechanical and electronic systems of our homes, our workplace and our many business buildings.

We need those who clean our windows, offices, toilets and our public places; without them our widows would dim, our waste containers would overflow, and our toilet rooms would stink. The uncollected waste of four weeks would block our sidewalks with megatons of flyblown, rat infested garbage that would render our cities unlivable, The cleaners and garbage collectors are as necessary and important as the CEOs.

The Federal Union of our Constitution is broken. The oligarchy of concentrated wealth, that both Lincoln and Eisenhower warned us of, has created a quasi government that controls

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And Other Correspondence

much of our Congress with lobbies and subverts our legislation to their benefit at the expense of the taxes and well being of the working class.

In this Union we need compassion and respect for each other, we need to equally share the profit of our labor. The millions of workers of this Union should not have to work for the flat or minimum wage to make possible the enormous salaries and bonuses of the elite, top five percent. We need to "Buy American" to support our manufacturers and employees.

A one hundred dollar bill cannot pick a shovel or drive a bulldozer. It is a useless piece of paper without the labor of the working class members of the noble Union of our Constitution.

Two thousand years ago Christ said it better in the Union of Christianity: "Love one another as I have loved you." Many say it would be impractical to live and conduct our economy as Christ asks. Could any thing be more impractical than what we are doing now?

Wilbur N. Rhodes
Kittery, ME

A Woman Of Her Word

To the Editor:

Our thanks should go to Congresswoman Carol Shea-Porter for her support of the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act. This bill, which recently passed the House, will provide \$77 billion for education, without increasing taxes, by eliminating subsidies to private lenders who make federal loans.

Shea-Porter was also able to insert language into this bill that will save 200 jobs at the New Hampshire Higher Education Assistance Foundation (NHHEAF). NHHEAF is the private, non-profit agency that

provides help to college students who could not otherwise afford college, by providing them loans at much lower rates than those available from other sources. Her work on this bill will provide educational opportunities for many New Hampshire college students.

When New Hampshire sent Congresswoman Shea-Porter to Congress, she promised to fight for us in Washington. It's good to see she's a woman of her word.

Chuck Rhoades
Dover, NH

He Didn't Think We Could

To the Editor:

First point: I didn't think it was possible, but you've disappointed me. For a newspaper that so regularly researches well and gets their facts right, you've taken the *American Journal of Public Health* study at apparent face value and seemingly dug no deeper. Most polls and studies are conducted with an agenda and this one was no different.

I found another article on this study by *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, and since I was unable to find the study itself I will quote them.

"Researchers randomly chose 677 of (gunshot) victims for the study. They came from various occupations — taxi drivers, bartenders, nurses, and drug dealers. Fifty-three percent had criminal records." Seem skewed to you?

The study also seems to have made a linguistic jump between "victim" and "gunshot victim." Since an armed intruder, becoming a so-described "victim," would have a gun, they would be marked as "Had a gun, got shot."

It was also conducted in a major metropolitan area where the ability to legally acquire a gun is hampered and places to train or even test if a gun works are practically non-existent.

Second point: Women are killed by their husbands every day. Pointing one out because she was a minor celebrity for Open Carrying (legal), and subtly insinuating that she might've had it coming, seems tacky and calous.

Finally: Gun control is historically an agent of repression. In this time of governmental systematic dismantling of the constitution, a so-called "Liberal" newspaper should remember that and not just toe a party line.

Apparently more to your left than I thought,

Eban Carr
Kittery, ME

PS — I know of at least one of your staff that owns a firearm, and they haven't gotten shot. Although if you still believe this study you should probably keep your fingers crossed for them. Keep up the otherwise good work.

Dear Eban:

Pleased to get your letter. Nothing would make us more nervous than to think our readers expected us to be infallible. We should have been more skeptical of that study. Perhaps we would have been if the irony of it hadn't seduced us.

Gun ownership is one of the most difficult public policy questions facing us. How does a nation like ours establish policies that fit both rural New Hampshire and North Philadelphia? Especially when you believe, as we firmly do, that the true intent of the Second Amendment was not to assure that citizens could fill their stewpots but to keep their own government honest. If we had an answer, we'd print it right here.

The Editor

Health Care Reform Doubter Speaks

To the Editor:

Liberal, progressive Democrats to cut health care costs!

One of the facets of the Senate health care bill and now the House bill also is the plan to

"rein in" the spending on the "Cadillac" insurance plans that we, the citizens, buy outright or participate in via group plans from our former employers. The formal designation for "Cadillac" is Medicare Advantage, Part C.

These "Cadillac" plans provide coverage that regular Medicare Part B does not, so we have to pay for it ourselves if we want it. To encourage participation in these plans, the Federal government subsidizes them by taking our money in the form of taxes and sending it to the insurance companies such as Blue Cross.

Naturally the liberal, progressive Democrats say the wealthiest Americans are the only ones that can afford these plans and that is unfair. So they, the liberal, progressive Democrats, intend to eliminate the subsidies and plunder the productivity of the middle class by raising taxes on employers, wage earners and all businesses. Of course then the premiums for these "Cadillac" plans will go up and we, the consumers of these plans, will pay the insurance companies for what used to be subsidized. We won't be able to afford the increased costs so that will have the effect of eventually driving the private competition out of business.

You see, this way, the federal government makes its costs go down while putting the screws to the populace with higher premiums, higher taxes, new fines and jail terms and fewer Medicare services.

How's that hope and change working for you?

John Sangenario
Hampton, NH

John:

If the Republican Party weren't such a pack of raving obstructionists we could perhaps have a single payer system. You're complaining about a klutzy work-around forced on all of us by your own profit-crazed, right-wing pals.

The Editor



Win-Win for New Hampshire

To the Editor:

I was pleased to note in Congresswoman Carol Shea-Porter's newsletter that the \$26 million in funding she requested for local New Hampshire projects was authorized in the Fiscal Year 2010 National Defense Authorization Act.

The funds include \$10 million for replacing squadron operations facilities for the New Hampshire Air National Guard. The Portsmouth Naval Shipyard received \$7.09 million for Gate 2 security improvements. Another \$5 million was allocated to PolarTec in Hudson for multi-climate clothing protection systems for Navy aircrews.

The New Hampshire National Guard was assigned \$2.25 million for a Joint Command Vehicle that includes an Interoperable Communications Suite. Various natural disasters in New Hampshire over the past several years, including severe floods, ice storms, and a tornado, have highlighted the need for this capability.

Finally, \$2 million will fund Albany Engineered Composites to strengthen structural core materials in Army helicopters. It's a win-win for New Hampshire. These funds will both improve our national defense and help our local economy during a time

More Hate Mail, &c.

to page four

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Jazz pill		Jazz pill	
11 WED	Larry Shrek Singer/Songwriter 9PM NO COVER	18 WED	Chris Klaxton Combo Jazz 9PM NO COVER
Jazz lunch		Jazz lunch	
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ADMIRAL FOWLE'S PISCATAQUA RIVER TIDAL GUIDE (NOT FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES)

Portsmouth is bounded on the north and east by the Piscataqua River. Depending on which tour boat captain you believe, it's the second, the third, or the fourth fastest-flowing navigable river in the country.

The Piscataqua's remarkable current is caused by the tide which, in turn is

caused by the moon. The other major player is a vast sunken valley, about ten miles upriver. Twice a day, the moon drags roughly seventeen billion gallons of salt water from the ocean, up the river, into Great Bay. (If the moon ever stopped moving that water for us, it could be replaced with 2,125,000 tanker

trucks.)

The moon's meddling creates a roving hydraulic conflict as incoming sea and outgoing river collide. The skirmish line moves from the mouth of the river, past New Castle, around the bend by the old Naval Prison, under Memorial Bridge, past the tugboats, and on towards Great

Bay. This spectacle can best be seen when the chart below shows the tide rising. A good place to watch is the little deck near the sterns of the tugboats, off Ceres Street. Twice a day, too, the moon lets all that water go. All the salt water that just fought its way upstream goes back to rejoin the ocean. This is when the

Piscataqua earns its title for xth fastest current. A good place to observe this is from Bow Street, up by St. John's church. Look up the river, from one of the little parking lots between the buildings. (Don't try to drive or park there, that won't work.) You'll see a red buoy, at the upstream end of Badger's Island,

bobbing around in the current. That buoy weighs several tons, is nine feet wide, and it bobs and bounces in the current like a cork! The river also has its placid moments, around high and low tides. Often when the river rests, its tugboats and drawbridges work their hardest. Ships coming in heavily laden with coal,

oil, and salt generally do so at high tide, for maximum clearance under their keels. When they leave empty, riding high in the water, they tend to go at low tide, for maximum clearance under Memorial Bridge.

Sunday, November 8	Monday, November 9	Tuesday, November 10	Wednesday, November 11	Thursday, November 12	Friday, November 13	Saturday, November 14
<p>2000—At 2:16 a.m., Fox News "reporter" John Ellis calls Fla. in favor of his cousin, George W. Bush.</p> <p>1994—Serial philanderer Newt Gingrich and the Republican Party gain control of Congress.</p> <p>1983—Moscow puts its nuclear forces on high alert and sends flash telegrams to its embassies warning that a nuclear strike on the USSR may come at any time.</p> <p>1974—Richard Bingham, 7th Earl of Lucan, disappears without a trace, leaving a dead nanny behind.</p> <p>1932—Norman Thomas, (Socialist) gets 884,885 votes for President.</p> <p>1923—Disgruntled corporal A. Hitler, with help from disgruntled general E. von Ludendorff, stages the "Beer Hall Putsch" in Munich.</p> <p>1897—Birth of Dorothy Day, anarchist founder of <i>Catholic Worker</i>.</p> <p>1876—The editor of <i>The New York Times</i> and the chairman of the Republican National Committee conspire to bribe election officials in Florida, South Carolina, and Louisiana to "elect" Hayes president.</p> <p>1800—A mysterious fire in the War Office destroys many records after (then-liberal) Republicans demanded an accounting of (conservative) Federalist expenditures.</p> <p>1308—Theologian John Duns Scotus seems to die in Cologne. When his tomb is later opened, though, his body is found outside its coffin, the fingers torn and bloody.</p>	<p>1998—NASDAQ brokers are made to pay bilked customers \$1 billion for rigging the game.</p> <p>1989—The Berlin Wall becomes porous.</p> <p>1979—Due to a computer error, for six minutes the U.S. Air Defense Command mistakenly believes that the U.S.S.R. is attacking the U.S.</p> <p>1969—78 Indians occupy Alcatraz.</p> <p>1967—<i>Rolling Stone</i> begins publication.</p> <p>1965—Due to a failure at a single power plant in Ontario the entire northeast is left in the dark.</p> <p>1953—Dylan Thomas dies in New York at 39.</p> <p>1942—The first "Liberty Ship," the <i>Robert E. Peary</i>, is launched.</p> <p>1938—German Nazis demonstrate their racial superiority during Kristallnacht by killing 91 Jews.</p> <p>1932—In Switzerland, a crowd of thousands demonstrate against fascism; the Army opens fire, killing 13.</p> <p>1911—Charles Justice is executed in Ohio's electric chair—which he had built himself while an inmate 14 years earlier.</p> <p>1880—Twenty years after drilling the first successful oil well, Edwin Drake dies broke.</p> <p>1874—<i>The New York Herald</i> reports that wild animals, escaped from the Central Park Zoo, have killed 27 people. It's a hoax.</p>	<p>2004—George W. Bush nominates as his new Attorney General, Alberto Gonzales—who goes on to make his predecessor, John Ashcroft, look good.</p> <p>1982—The Vietnam Veterans Memorial, a gift to the nation from those it had shunned, opens in Washington, D.C.</p> <p>1975—The <i>Edmund Fitzgerald</i> sinks on Lake Superior, taking with her a crew of 29.</p> <p>1973—In Drake, North Dakota the school board fires a teacher and burns the book he assigned, <i>Slaughterhouse Five</i>.</p> <p>1969—"Sesame Street" debuts.</p> <p>1964—In Australia, the draft is re-introduced, apparently to protect that part of the British Empire from invasion by Ho's forces.</p> <p>1950—Flying over Canada a U.S. Air Force crew in a B-50 experiences engine trouble. They chuck the bomb (minus its plutonium core) which then explodes in Riviere du Loup, Quebec.</p> <p>1898—400 Democratic Party activists in Wilmington, N.C. murder 40 to 100 blacks, depose the mayor, and establish a new government by force.</p> <p>1871—Newspaperman Henry Morton Stanley, meeting a white man near Lake Tanganyika, says "Dr. Livingston, I presume?"</p> <p>1775—The Continental Congress creates the Marine Corps.</p>	<p>2000—Republicans go to court to stop manual recounts in Florida.</p> <p>1969—The <i>U.S.S. Sand Lance</i> is launched, the final sub built at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.</p> <p>1959—"Rocky and His Friends" debuts.</p> <p>1956—Soviet forces crush the Hungarian resistance.</p> <p>1933—"The Great Black Blizzard," the first of the great dust storms, hits the Great Plains.</p> <p>1921—President Warren G. Harding dedicates the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.</p> <p>1919—In Centralia, Washington, members of the American Legion kidnap, torture, and castrate fellow WW I vet Wesley Everest, who had been thoughtless enough to join the IWW.</p> <p>1918—At 11:11 a.m., the War to End All Wars ends.</p> <p>1911—"The Great Blue Norther" strikes the Midwest. In Springfield, MO the temperatures drops from 80 degrees at mid-afternoon to 13 at midnight.</p> <p>1887—The anarchist Haymarket Martyrs are hanged in Chicago.</p> <p>1880—Rebellious Australian bush-ranger Ned Kelly is hanged.</p> <p>1831—Nat Turner, slave, is hanged for rebellion in Virginia.</p> <p>1751—Julien Offray de La Mettrie, physician and philosopher, dies at 41 after gorging on <i>pâte aux truffes</i>.</p>	<p>2001—Flight 587 falls apart and crashes in NYC, killing 261.</p> <p>1980—New York City Mayor Ed Koch admits he tried marijuana.</p> <p>1971—The Berkeley City Council votes symbolically to provide sanctuary for draft resisters.</p> <p>1970—The Oregon Highway Dept. discovers that half a ton of explosives isn't enough to dispose of a dead eight ton whale.</p> <p>1941—Abe "Kid Twist" Reles earns the posthumous sobriquet "the canary who sang but couldn't fly" when he leaps—or is thrown—from a sixth floor window in Cooney Island while under the protection of six cops.</p> <p>1933—The first photo is taken of the Loch Ness Monster.</p> <p>1927—Stalin reigns alone after Trotsky is expelled from the Communist Party.</p> <p>1926—A feud between rival beer and rum factions in Illinois results in the aerial bombing of a farmhouse by a civilian plane.</p> <p>1865—Former Senator Preston King (R-NY) ties a bag of bullets around his neck and leaps to his death from a ferryboat.</p> <p>1815—Birth of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, suffragette.</p> <p>1779—Twenty slaves petition the New Hampshire legislature to abolish slavery, but to no avail. Primus Fowle, Daniel Fowle's enslaved pressman, is not among them.</p>	<p>2003—Because he would not remove a monument to the Ten Commandments from his courthouse, Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore is himself removed.</p> <p>2002—Iraq agrees to submit to UN Resolution 1441 and allow weapons inspectors into the country. Fat lot of good it did.</p> <p>1982—The Vietnam Veterans Memorial is dedicated in Washington, D.C. Richard Nixon, Henry Kissinger, and Robert McNamara are no-shows.</p> <p>1974—Disgruntled Kerr-McGee worker Karen Silkwood turns up conveniently dead.</p> <p>1970—Up to half a million die as a cyclone hits Bangladesh.</p> <p>1933—Workers at a Hormel plant in Austin, Minn. invent the sit-down strike.</p> <p>1922—The Supreme Court rules that Japanese persons cannot become naturalized citizens because they are "not Caucasian."</p> <p>1887—British police charge a demonstration by the unemployed in Trafalgar Square, killing 3 and arresting 300.</p> <p>1877—A locomotive and three freight cars plunge from an open drawbridge into the Piscataqua, just missing three ships; no injuries.</p> <p>1862—Lewis Carroll begins writing <i>Alice in Wonderland</i>.</p> <p>1829—Famed stunt diver Sam Patch makes one final, fatal plunge.</p>	<p>2002—Donald Rumsfeld predicts the Iraq War will last "five days or five weeks or five months, but [no] longer than that."</p> <p>2000—Florida Secretary of State Katherine Harris certifies George W. Bush's dubious electoral lead.</p> <p>1957—In Apalachin, NY, a meeting of important businessmen is interrupted by cops.</p> <p>1954—A campaign to collect 10 million signatures petitioning the Senate not to censure Joe McCarthy begins. It fails by 9 million.</p> <p>1927—Workmen in Pittsburgh's industrial center, attempting to fix a leak in the world's largest gasometer with an open flame blow-lamp, ignite 5 million cubic feet of natural gas, effectively clearing a one square mile area.</p> <p>1916—"Put out the bloody cigarette!" says H.H. "Saki" Munro to another soldier in a trench. Seconds later a sniper's bullet extinguishes him.</p> <p>1909—Birth of Joseph R. McCarthy, "... a great American [whose] stature will grow with the passage of time," according to NH Sen. Styles Bridges.</p> <p>1909—Joshua Slocum, first man to sail around the world alone, disappears near the Orinoco.</p> <p>1831—"Only one man ever understood me," says Hegel on his deathbed, "and even he didn't understand me."</p>
2:51 3:03	3:52 4:07	4:56 5:15	6:00 6:23	7:00 7:28	7:56 8:27	8:47 9:22
8:45 9:30	9:48 10:31	10:56 11:33	12:05	12:35 1:10	1:32 2:10	2:25 3:05
Sunday, November 15	Monday, November 16	Tuesday, November 17	Wednesday, November 18	Thursday, November 19	Friday, November 20	Saturday, November 21
<p>2006—Jack Abramoff, former Washington lobbyist, arrives at his new digs in a federal prison near Cumberland, MD.</p> <p>1996—British officials return the Stone of Scone to the Scots, from whom they had stolen it 700 years earlier.</p> <p>1967—"I have never," declares Gen. Wm. Westmoreland, "been more encouraged in my four years in Vietnam," eleven weeks before Gen. Giap springs the Tet Offensive on him.</p> <p>1917—Bolsheviks take Moscow, ending Russian Revolution.</p> <p>1908—Teddy Roosevelt becomes the first sitting President to travel abroad, visiting Panama.</p> <p>1887—Birth of F(ranklin) P(ierce) Adams, namesake of New Hampshire's only president, godfather of the newspaper column, born in Chicago.</p> <p>1864—General William T. Sherman burns Atlanta, inspiring well-known movie.</p> <p>1805—Lewis, Clark, Sacajawea, and the rest of the mob reach the mouth of the Columbia.</p> <p>1754—First playing of a trombone in America.</p> <p>1626—The Pilgrims at Plimoth Plantation buy out their London creditors for £1,800.</p> <p>655—Penda, the last pagan warrior-king of the Anglo-Saxons, is killed at the Battle of Oswiu.</p>	<p>2000—Bill Clinton finally goes to Vietnam. The visit fails to silence his critics.</p> <p>1989—U.S.-backed pro-government forces in El Salvador murder six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper, and the housekeeper's daughter.</p> <p>1969—White House Communications Director Herb Klein says he opposes government intervention in the news but that the networks invite it if they don't regulate themselves.</p> <p>1966—University of Strasbourg students blow the entire year's student government budget on a pamphlet, "On the Poverty of Student Life."</p> <p>1907—The first taxi cab meter goes into service.</p> <p>1890—George Seldes, journalist and media critic, is born. He'll live to be 105.</p> <p>1873—W.C. Handy is born.</p> <p>1849—Fyodor Dostoevsky is sentenced to death for spreading "impudent words."</p> <p>1811—An earthquake causes the Mississippi to flow backwards.</p> <p>1747—In Boston, hundreds of sailors, laborers, and free blacks rise up in protest against British naval press gangs.</p> <p>1665—The <i>Oxford Gazette</i>—the world's oldest surviving periodical—is founded.</p> <p>1384—Jadwiga, a ten year-old girl, is crowned King of Poland.</p>	<p>2006—"We'll succeed [in Iraq] unless we quit," says George W.</p> <p>2005—During a floor speech, Rep. Marion Barry (D-AR) calls Rep. Adam Putnam "a Howdy Doody-looking nimrod."</p> <p>2003—Californians find themselves with an Austrian musclem in the governor's office.</p> <p>1995—The commander of U.S. forces in the Pacific says the rape of an Okinawan girl was "stupid," and the culprit should have patronized a prostitute, instead.</p> <p>1992—NBC's <i>Dateline</i> broadcasts a rigged video showing a GM truck exploding.</p> <p>1973—Speaking to a convention of newspaper editors at Disneyland, Richard M. Nixon declares, "I am not a crook."</p> <p>1967—Lyndon Johnson tells the nation "we are making great progress" in Vietnam.</p> <p>1958—To allow more time to investigate possible violation of Massachusetts anti-anarchy laws, Alan Freed's trial for inciting to riot is postponed.</p> <p>1953—An Air Force C-119 "Flying Boxcar" kills nine Fort Bragg paratroopers in mid-air; six more servicemen die when the C-119 subsequently crashes.</p> <p>1896—Huge mysterious airships are sighted over Sacramento, Calif; other sightings follow across U.S. for another six months.</p>	<p>2005—Rep. Jean Schmidt (R-OH) apologizes on the floor of the House for implying Vietnam combat veteran Rep. Jack Murtha (D-PA) is a coward.</p> <p>1997—A declassified 1962 document outlines a Pentagon plan to build support for an invasion of Cuba by staging fake terrorist attacks in the U.S.</p> <p>1978—Jim Jones and 913 followers drink cyanide-laced Flavor-Aid in Jonestown, Guyana.</p> <p>1964—Snubbing Richard Nixon, J. Edgar "Mary" Hoover calls Martin Luther King Jr. "the most notorious liar in the country."</p> <p>1929—Marshall Ratliff, sentenced to the chair for a fatal bank robbery in which he wore a Santa Claus suit, kills a man in a failed breakout from the Cisco, Texas jail.</p> <p>1916—The Battle of the Somme is called off. The Allies have gained 125 square miles, at a cost of 1,250,000 British, French, and German casualties—one for every 2.5 square yards. Germans later re-take most of it.</p> <p>1686—Pioneering surgeon Charles Francois Felix operates on King Louis XIV's anal fistula, having practiced on peasants to hone his skills. Unlike some of the peasants, Louis survives.</p> <p>1477—William Caxton's press issues the first dated book printed in England.</p>	<p>1998—Congress begins considering whether to impeach Bill Clinton over his sex life.</p> <p>1969—Congress undercuts opposition to the Vietnam War by introducing a draft lottery.</p> <p>1967—Dick "Dick" Cheney is convicted of driving drunk in Cheyenne, WY.</p> <p>1961—Michael Rockefeller disappears in Papua, New Guinea and is presumably eaten by cannibals.</p> <p>1960—At a party in New York, Norman Mailer stabs his second wife, Adele Morales.</p> <p>1955—<i>National Review</i> begins.</p> <p>1929—A Texas mob takes Marshall Ratliff from the Cisco, Texas jail to lynch him. The first rope breaks, the second doesn't.</p> <p>1924—Hollywood producer Thomas Ince dies at 42, officially from a heart attack, but more likely from a [William Randolph] Hearst attack—a bullet to the head.</p> <p>1915—A firing squad executes IWW organizer Joe Hill; his last words: "Don't mourn, organize."</p> <p>1874—Tammany Hall Grand Sachem William Marcy "Boss" Tweed is convicted of 204 counts of fraud.</p> <p>1863—The nation's Chief Executive dedicates a new cemetery at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.</p> <p>1812—A third U.S. attempt to invade Canada fails; troops refuse to follow Gen. Henry Dearborn's orders.</p>	<p>1975—After stalling for an unseemly length of time, Spanish dictator Francisco Franco finally dies. As of today, he is still dead.</p> <p>1967—The U.S. population passes 200,000,000.</p> <p>1962—The Cuban Missile Crisis blows over, rather than up.</p> <p>1946—Viet Minh and French forces clash near Haiphong, leading to French occupation.</p> <p>1945—Nuremberg trials begin.</p> <p>1936—Buenaventura Durruti, the Spanish anarchist, dies defending Madrid from fascists.</p> <p>1917—In northeastern France, British forces use tanks in battle for the first time.</p> <p>1894—The U.S. intervenes in Nicaragua.</p> <p>1866—Pierre Lallemond of Paris invents a rotary crank bicycle.</p> <p>1820—A sperm whale attacks the Nantucket whaling ship <i>Essex</i>, inspiring the greatest fish story ever told.</p> <p>1817—Settlers attack Seminoles in Florida.</p> <p>1816—Striking members of the Albany Typographical Union use the term "scab" for the first time.</p> <p>1772—At a Boston town meeting called by Samuel Adams, the first Committee of Correspondence is formed.</p> <p>1316—France's King John I, aka "John the Postumus," dies at the age of five days.</p>	<p>1986—Ollie North and Fawn Hall start shredding evidence of criminal arms-for-hostages deals.</p> <p>1980—In Louisiana, an oil rig on Lake Peigneur accidentally drills into a salt mine, creating a whirlpool that drains the lake and takes the oil rig with it.</p> <p>1974—On the same day the Texas Air National Guard gives George W. Bush an inexplicably honorable discharge, the Freedom of Information Act passes over Gerry Ford's veto.</p> <p>1973—Nixon's Chief of Staff Al Haig accurately attributes an 18.5 minute gap on an audio tape to "sinister forces."</p> <p>1969—Looking for POWs, U.S. troops raid Son Tay prison camp, evacuated three weeks earlier.</p> <p>1967—Vietnamese commies are "unable to mount a major offensive," says Gen. Wm. Westmoreland. "We have reached an important point when the end begins to come into view."</p> <p>1921—The first Columbine Massacre: striking miners are machine-gunned by state cops in plain clothes.</p> <p>1894—Japanese troops conduct the Port Arthur Massacre.</p> <p>1801—For the 2nd time in 13 days, a suspicious fire destroys Treasury records after Republicans demand proof of Federalist Thomas Pickering's expenses.</p>
9:35 10:12	10:20 10:58	10:04 11:43	11:46	12:26 12:28	1:09 1:10	1:53 1:55
3:15 3:55	4:01 4:41	4:46 5:26	5:28 6:08	6:10 6:51	6:53 7:34	7:38 8:18

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