

The New Hampshire Gazette

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The Fortnightly Rant

Death to Frosty!

We were appalled — as were all Americans worthy of the name — by the semi-recent attack on the staff of the French satirical newspaper *Charlie Hebdo*.

Comparisons being odious, it would be distasteful if we were to suggest that we were any more distressed than the average American. As a newspaper, however, which could not operate in today's political climate without resorting to satire, the Paris massacre presented an unusual challenge to our ironic detachment.

We're Not Hiring

The assassins of January 7th seemed to be retaliating for what they perceived to be an attack on their religion, said attack being in the form of cartoons mocking Muhammad, the Prophet of Islam. If we could think of any way to further ridicule religion, beyond publishing the preceding sentence, this is where we would do so.

Charlie Hebdo's surviving staff rose heroically to the occasion and published on schedule the following week. Their cover, shown here, suggests that they remain undaunted.



Prudence would argue against our publishing this image.

Were we to take that route, however, we would then feel obliged to add an unwelcome line to our Masthead; besides, just whom would we designate to be our Religious Censor?

The March of Hypocrisy

World leaders and high-ranking

surrogates from around the world gathered in Paris on Sunday, January 11th, to march arm-in-arm, along with tens of thousands of ordinary citizens, in heroic solidarity with *Charlie Hebdo* and in support of the principle of free speech. Such, at least, was the official story.

In fact, the most-reproduced photos of the event were as misleading as those which showed the "spontaneous" 2003 toppling of Saddam Hussein's statue by ordinary Iraqis in Firdos Square. They even used the same photographic gimmick. The world leaders were herded together on an empty, cordoned-off side street. Photographers, knowing what their photo editors were after, carefully framed their shots to crop out the empty sidewalks. To be fair, it's not as if there was an alternative. Putting so many bigshots in front of an unscreened mass of the *hoi polloi* would have been an invitation to widespread mayhem.

The Gospel Truth

In response to this overwhelming show of support, Bernard Holtrop, a *Charlie Hebdo* cartoonist who was spared from the carnage because he never showed up for staff meetings, valiantly upheld the paper's commitment to being offensive.

"We vomit on all these people who suddenly say they are our friends," he said. "It really makes me laugh."

Here Come the Blogger Flogger

Among the attending defenders of free expression was Mohammed Ismail Al-Sheikh, the



M. SALEH © 23 JAN 2015
THE NEW HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE
R. SPOFFORD & S. FOWLE, ILLUSTRATIONS

The Washington Post, JAN. 13, 2015: "FROSTY FATWA: SAUDI CLERIC BANS SNOWMAN"

Saudi Ambassador to France.

Just two days earlier, the government Al-Sheikh represents had publicly administered 50 lashes to Raif Badawi, a 31 year-old Saudi man, as partial punishment for creating an online forum called Free Saudi Liberals — or, as the Saudi government saw it, for committing apostasy.

Appearances to the contrary, Badawi is lucky: he's enjoying the merciful benefits of Saudi Arabia's layaway plan for corporal punishment. Badawi owes it to King Saud to receive 1,000 lashes for his crime. Taken all at once, though, that might kill him. So, the plan is for him to be lashed 50 times a week for the next 19 weeks. As further evidence of King Saud's mercy, Badawi's sec-

ond public lashing was postponed to allow for a little more healing.

It could have been worse — just ask Laila Bint Abdul Muttalib Basim. Oh, that's right — you can't. The day after the march for freedom of expression, she was beheaded while screaming for mercy in a public square in Mecca. It took three strokes of the sword.

"Thanks, Obama"

On the Sunday of the free speech march, at a time when God-fearing Christians should have been at church, Sen. Lindsey Graham [R-SC] was on Fox News,* apparently incensed that President Obama had failed to fly to France, land of the cheese-eating, Jerry Lewis-loving surrender

* Oh, wait: of course — he *was* at church.

monkeys, to march arm-in-arm with the likes of Al-Sheikh.

Graham said he won't feel safe until ten thousand U.S. troops, not including him, are on the ground fighting a religious war in Syria and Iraq.

Death to Frosty

Just when it seemed things could get no more absurd, snow fell in Saudi Arabia. Some sinful Saudis built snowmen and posted pictures of them on Twitter. Sheikh Mohammed Saleh Munajjid set them straight by issuing a fatwa prohibiting the making of snowbeings representing anything with a soul. His edict drew praise from some Saudis: creating snowmen "promotes lustiness and eroticism." To which we can only add, thank God for religion.

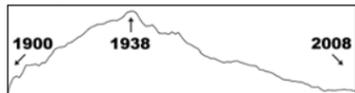
The Alleged News®

Welcome To The Good War

Using war as a metaphor for any other form of human endeavor is almost as wrong as it is common.

That said, the least-wrong use of the metaphor is the term "class war." When one economic strata systematically enriches itself at the expense of another, lives are shortened.

Of course, this is America, and we don't talk about such things. There was a time when we did, though.



This graph, taken from *The Google*, quantifies the usage of the term "class war" in American books published between 1900 and 2008. It shows a clear pattern that can easily be explained.

First there is a fairly steep climb in the use of the phrase during the first four decades of the 20th

century. Those were times when it was not that unusual for club-wielding cops to be busting the heads of unruly strikers. Peak usage came around 1938.

Then a roughly-matching, fairly steady decline in usage of the term set in — about the time the New Deal began to take effect. World War II came along, followed by the GI Bill, and the American middle class as we knew it came along and erased the phrase "class war" from the American lexicon.

The thing itself, though, has not gone away. Apparently stealth technology is not limited to jet bombers.

In the hours before President Obama's 6th State of the Union speech, Sen. Bernie Sanders tweeted a series of financial facts which show the battle lines clearly. Here are some of them, slightly reworded.

Down On Main Street

Despite all the productivity gains in the American workplace, the typical middle class American family now makes less than it did 25 years ago, adjusted for inflation. Its income is down by nearly \$5,000 just since 1999.

Meanwhile, that family's wealth is down by more than 36 percent since 2005. More than half of all Americans have less than \$10,000 in savings. In fact, the bottom 60 percent of Americans hold just 1.7 percent of the nation's wealth.

Up On Park Avenue

The average family in the top one percent has seen its wealth nearly triple since 2005 — increasing from \$5 million to \$14 million.

The richest 14 Americans increased their wealth by \$82 billion last year alone — more than our nation spends on food stamps.

The top 1 percent owns 41.8 percent of the nation's financial wealth, and the top one-tenth of 1 percent owns nearly as much as the bottom 90 percent.

Just Tough Luck?

This situation did not arise at random, nor was it caused by sunspots. It is the direct result of decisions made in the U.S. Congress and in boardrooms across the nation. The deciders and the job creators decided to create crummy jobs. While they were at it, they decided not to pay taxes. Because taxes are for chumps with crummy jobs.

Turn It Up to 11

Now President Obama proposes increasing taxes on the wealthy to provide tax breaks and free community college for the middle class. Let the howls of "class warfare" begin! Sounds like Beethoven's Ninth to us.

2016 First in the Nation™ Presidential Primary Election®

Never mind the Bugatti Veyron Supersport, with its paltry zero to sixty in 2.4 seconds; the record for fastest acceleration on the planet goes to the Republican Presidential Primary of 2016. The GOP's official online Straw Poll, as noted by the *Union Leader's* Dan Tuohy, includes 34 potential leaders of the Free World.

Since the online list is organized alphabetically, the pole position goes to New Hampshire's "Favorite Daughter," Sen. Kelly Ayotte. Unfortunately for Ayotte, the wheels of justice grind too slowly to allow for a photo op showing her standing outside the death chamber as Michael Addison is hanged.

The Alleged News®

to page two

The Alleged News®
from page one

On the day that our most-recent issue hit the streets, a competing newspaper revealed that former Massachusetts Governor and noted dog-lover Mitt Romney was making his third run for the White House.

The Wall Street Journal reported that Romney first broke the news in a clandestine meeting with his constituents, i.e., a small group of people with enough money to fund such a venture and a deficiency of sense pronounced enough that they would turn some of it over to Romney.

A few days later, the *Boston Globe* reported that Romney has begun "crafting a rationale" for the campaign he had just announced. Just let the sequence of those two things sink in.

The Granite State suffers from no such existential dilemmas. It managed to fully discharge its fortnightly, super-Constitutional, self-assigned Presidential-vetting

duties with a single sound bite involving alleged ophthalmologist* Sen. Rand Paul [R-KY].

While speaking to legislative leaders in Manchester over breakfast at Murphy's Diner, Paul saw Romney's "47 percent" and raised him by three percent. Paul claimed that "half the people on disability" are malingers who are "gaming the system."

Politifact looked into the question and found an error in Paul's math. A GAO audit from 2011 which set the figure somewhat lower: it's not 50 percent, it's four-tenths of one percent.

Paul's disability comment drew more coverage than his diagnosis of Romney's mental health. According to the self-styled ophthalmologist, Romney is insane.

According to *NHJournal's* John DiStaso, Paul said of Romney's run, "When you do the same thing and expect a different result,

* "Dr." Paul, who purports to be an ophthalmologist, is not board-certified in Kentucky. Well, he is certified — but only by a certification board that he created.



THE REPUBLICAN-LED 114TH CONGRESS GETS DOWN TO BUSINESS

it's sort of what Einstein said, that the definition of insanity is to do the same thing over and over again and expect a different result."

Twitter's Werner Twertzog fears it's not the candidate who's insane: "Seriously, America: Mitt Romney? Why do you not consider electing the Sheriff of Nottingham?"

Helicopters

A quiet little birdy tipped us off to an interesting one-star review at *TripAdvisor.com*. Headlined, "Buzzes downtown Portsmouth," it's a review of — yes, Seacoast Helicopters.

Signed by "CoastalNewt" and dated January 13, the review says, "Haven't been in his helicopter but I can tell you he's not a good neighbor, won't meet with the town. Flies over downtown and the schools up to several dozen times a day. His helicopters disturb the wildlife, kayaks, and beach goers."

As of January 20th, seven people had said they found that review helpful. And why not? It's concise and accurate.

One person did not find the review helpful, though.

Karen Cultrera, of Seacoast He-

licopters, sniffed, "This person has never flown with us and is on a personnal [sic] mission to shut us down. We are a legitimate business in Portsmouth and are compliant with all FAA rules and regulations. We have all 5-star ratings from our customers. Please delete his comments and correct our rating. If he can be banned, that would be great. Pls send any response to me to karen@seacoasthelos.com. Thank-you."

Let's see if we've got this right: the Cultreras' helicopters have every right to fly wherever they like, disturbing the peace of anyone who might be on the ground below them. The lowly earthbound victims of their noise pollution, however, have no right to complain — silently — in a public forum; their right to free speech ends where Cultrera's right to make a buck by making noise begins.

Why stop there?

If our First Amendment right to free speech must bow to the flying lawnmowers, why not our right to worship as we choose? Perhaps we should all be required to fall on our knees as they travel majestically over our benighted

heads. Let's not forget freedom of assembly. Perhaps it's time for the Cultreras to overcome their aversion to meeting with the great unwashed. They could come to the City Council and ask for an ordinance to prohibit two or more helicopter-haters from gathering in the same place.

Update, January 21st: We regret to report that CoastalNewt's review has apparently been deleted.

Local Boy Made Good

On January 17th, *Wikipedia's* Featured Article was about New Hampshire's own William Robinson Brown. Brown (1875 - 1955) was the sort of Republican whose loss is lamented in a letter by Dave Potter on page four of this newspaper. The full article is well worth a read; here's a brief synopsis.

W.R. was born into the wealthy family that owned Berlin's paper mills, but his father "wanted no kittens that couldn't catch mice." W.R. hired on as a lumber salesman in Portland and did well enough to get a promotion to supervisor of a sawmill. After a few clever innovations, the mill set a world production record that



Braving an air temperature of 15°, and a wind chill of 7°, protestors gathered in Market Square on Tuesday, January 13th to renounce the Keystone XL pipeline and its cargo of carcinogenic crude.

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stood for at least 85 years. Brown practiced sustainable forestry, paid his workers more than his competitors did, and he practiced progressive politics.

Sic transit gloria mundi.

We suspect Brown would not have approved of the state's current tax structure.

The New Hampshire Fiscal Policy Institute released a study on January 14th which clearly showed how expensive it is to be poor in this state, and how cheap it is to be rich.

The poorest fifth of taxpayers in New Hampshire, on average, paid 8.3 percent of their incomes in state and local taxes in 2012, those in the middle of the income distribution paid 6.6 percent, and the richest one percent paid 2.6 percent.

In other words, adjusted for income, the tax rate if you're poor is three times higher than if you're rich.

In other state news, the website *Mandatory.com*, working from data on chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis compiled by the Centers for Disease Control, has concluded that New Hampshire is America's "least-sluttiest state." So we've got that going for us which is nice. Mississippi, Alaska,

and Alabama are 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, by the way. Maine and Vermont come in at 47th and 49th.

Free Sanders Poynt!

As Bob Jesurum informed us in our previous issue, would-be Senator Bill Binnie is doing his best to prevent the unwashed masses from walking across a narrow strip of his pristine golf course to get to the beach that they own at Sanders Poynt.

Jesurum's successful court case has cost him in the neighborhood of \$40,000. With Binnie's lawyer Benjamin King appealing the decision, that cost will rise.

We have now learned that the Coastal Conservation Association of New Hampshire [CCANH] has agreed to act as a conduit for tax deductible donations to help defray the legal costs of this case and such associated expenses as surveying. Donations should be made by check payable to the "Coastal Conservation Association of New Hampshire" with the notation line on the lower left of the check stating "Sander's Poynt Legal Fund," and mailed to Coastal Conservation Association of New Hampshire, P.O. Box 4372, Portsmouth, NH 03802-4372. For more information see ccanh.org.



The Saga of S-48: One Hard Luck Boat

Ninety years ago next Thursday, on January 29th, 1925, the submarine *S-48* arrived at Jaffrey Point, at the mouth of Little Harbor, en route to the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. The trip up from New London, Connecticut had been uneventful so far. The last three miles were rough, though.

As the official Naval History and Heritage Command's website puts it: "At about [6:30 p.m.], the wind picked up and a heavy snowstorm developed. Visibility was reduced to zero. Soon after [7:34 p.m.], the S-boat grounded on rocks off Jaffrey Point; pulled herself off; then grounded again in Little Harbor. Messages requesting assistance were dispatched. By midnight, the storm had worsened; seas were coming "clean [sic] over the *S-48*" and she was rolling a heavy list developed By [3:30 a.m.] on the 30th, the battery compartment was taking in water. Chlorine gas was forming."

Fortunately the Coast Guard arrived about 5:00 a.m. and were able to evacuate the crew, although the storm continued. The men were treated for exposure to the weather and chlorine gas at Ft. Stark; apparently none suffered lasting ill effects.

Things didn't go that well for *S-48*, but then, they never did. Salvage operations began February 1, and a week later the boat finally made it to the Yard. Due to lack of funding for repairs, though, the sub was decommissioned.

S-48 turned out to be as tenacious as she was unlucky. "Shipyard workers brought so much pressure to bear that it forced the Navy to take action ... and put her back into shape again," wrote Rear Adm. William D. Irvin, U.S.N. (Ret.). After a second stop-and-start due to short funds, *S-48* — now 25 feet longer — was recommissioned late in 1928.

Then-Lieutenant Hyman G. Rickover served aboard *S-48* for

three years at its next home port, the Panama Canal Zone. He characterized the boat's mechanical systems as "faulty, sooty, dangerous and repellent."

Little Harbor was not *S-48*'s first acquaintance with the bottom. On December 7, 1921, while still undergoing sea trials from the Lake Torpedo Boat Company yard at Bridgeport, she attempted a dive off Penfield Reef in Long Island Sound. An unsecured manhole plate in an aft ballast tank flooded several compartments and the boat sank in 80 feet of water.

Apparently the crew were able to blow the forward ballast tanks; newspaper photos of the time show her bow jutting out of the water at a sharp angle. They then broke through the inner and outer doors of a bow torpedo tube and escaped to a waiting tugboat.

S-48 served as a training boat throughout WW II and was scrapped in 1946.



S-48 being towed into the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in February, 1925, after grounding in Little Harbor during a snowstorm. Kittery Foreside is in the background. Story at right. Photo © NavSource History.

6/29/31

Getting a Leg Up on the Competition

A Great Moment in Gender Equality

There are large glasses and there are small glasses but when the local Moose Lodge held an outing, even the largest glass could not keep local contender Mildred Cuddeback from entering the famed beer drinking contest, where (much to the surprise of onlookers) she took home the blue ribbon.

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A Veteran's View of Martin Luther King, Jr.

To the Editor:

Martin Luther King, Jr. was a deep thinker and a man of action. He began with civil rights. This upset the establishment. They used their resources to quash his voice. Later he added economic rights. This further infuriated the establishment. His thoughts on economic rights led him to his thoughts on violence and war. During his "Beyond Viet Nam" speech on April 4, 1967, he said the U.S. was "the greatest purveyor of violence in the world." He was assassinated exactly one year later.

I'm a retired businessperson with an MBA, and an Army infantry veteran of the U.S. war against the people of Viet Nam. My studies of the causes of war have lead me to conclude that there are immense economic incentives for war. Those in power politically and those with power economically, use every resource to retain and expand their power, even if that includes the physical, economic, and psychological destruction of others at home and abroad.

On this Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday, take 15 minutes and read "Beyond Viet Nam." Then, as Dr. King did, take action — within yourself and within your community — to quell "the greatest purveyor of violence."

Arnold Stieber
Chicago, IL

Arnie:
MLK Day is over now, but every day is a good day to read "Beyond Viet Nam."

The Editor

§
Nuke the IRS

To the Editor:

An internal email to IRS employees was leaked to the press this week where a senior IRS official warned that their budget was slashed so deeply that refund checks would be delayed, that less than half of the people calling the IRS would reach a human being, and that there would be more identity theft. I'm sure the IRS's solution would be for the American taxpayer to pay more money to fund their effort to intimidate and harass us, have more people we could call that would give us the wrong answer to our tax questions and to expedite giving us back our own money that they have held for a year without paying us a single cent in interest.

[Deleted: 104 predictable words attempting to sell the absurdly-named "FairTax." — The Ed.]

Jim Donnell
Cameron Park, CA

Jim:
Thank you for writing. It's always interesting to hear from a person who's apparently capable of causing a computer keyboard to create sequences of words which apparently form sentences, all without necessarily understanding their actual meanings.

What other conclusion can we draw?

The "FairTax" — as Rovician a name as we've ever heard — would replace the allegedly-progressive income tax with what would be, in effect, a regressive sales tax. This would further advantage the nation's highest income-earners, at the expense of the middle class and the poor.

Don't even bother to try to baffle us with the usual flurry of numbers and percentages. This gimmick was cooked up by Neal Boortz. It would

do with his tax obligation what he did with his Selective Service obligation 45 years ago — dodge it.

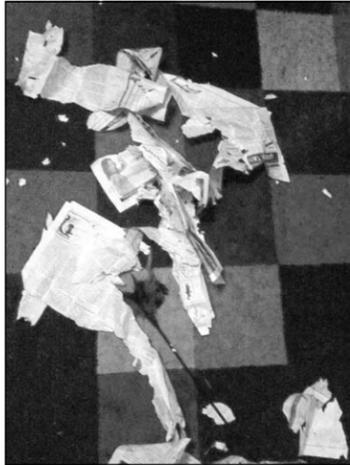
Peddle this tripe at some advertising-addicted, corporate-owned newspaper — we ain't buying it.

The Editor

§
Cross-Species Enjoyment

To the Editor:

Our cat Satchel *loved* this last issue.



Megan Stelzer
Exeter, NH

§
Would Dr. King March Today?

To the Editor:

Dr. King was a great civil rights leader. We still need his leadership. Our Federal tax code infringes on our civil rights: denial of due process, no trial by jury, forced self-incrimination, unreasonable search and seizure, lack of privacy, unequal treatment of citizens, complex and ambiguous laws. Witness the IRS to see government tyranny. The tax code has enslaved us to loose [sic] our God given right to our production (income, savings, and investment). It is free people and markets, not laws and regulations that create a higher standard of living with lower costs and higher quality.

The problem is the 16th Amendment, passed in February, 1913 to enable direct taxation of the individual without limits. Then came the first legal income tax, the IRS, payroll taxes and tax

Mash Notes, **HATE MAIL,**

withholding. Government gained huge taxing power and We the People lost Freedom, Liberty and Civil Rights as protects by our original Constitution.

[Deleted: a mercifully-concise 43 words promoting the "FairTax." — The Ed.]

Paul Livingston
Jacksonville, FL

Paul:
Have you seen a therapist lately? We are not licensed professionals, but ... Dr. King marching for the "FairTax"? That alone caused us to wonder. Then the paranoia, the self-aggrandizement, the self-pity, the lack of any sense of civic responsibility ... hurry, man — hurry!

The Editor

§
What Happened to the GOP?

To the Editor:

What has happened to my father's Republican party?

The Grand Old Party was once just that, grand! It guided big programs, good programs, through Congress. Founded in 1854, to abolish slavery, Republicans went on to give women the right to vote, pass the Civil Rights Act, expand Social Security, create the first National Park, and build the Interstate Highway System. You wouldn't expect it by today's attitudes, but they also elected the first African-American governor, first female, first Hispanic and first Asian-American to Congress and confirmed the first female Supreme Court Justice. A substantial history of which all can be proud and respectful.

When one thinks of the "old" GOP, men like Everett Dirksen, Dwight Eisenhower and Henry Cabot Lodge come to mind. They had national statue and noble intentions, striving to build a better America and improve the life of the "Average Joe." These men and others were defined as master ne-

gotiators, accomplished legislators, true statesmen and dedicated public servants.

Today's GOP offers us the likes of, Ted Cruz, Steve King and Louie Gohmert — small-minded, nasty natured men, who lack prestige outside the Tea Party and are happy to let our infrastructure rot and "Average Joe" slide back economically. Their behavior is driven by self-promotion not national benefit. Paragons of the praiseworthy party of old they are not.

This perversion of the GOP is locally well demonstrated by the self-serving and vindictive behavior of Bill O'Brien and his cohorts. Certainly their recent behavior does not reflect the example set by their party predecessors nor conform to what most of us expect of our elected representatives.

If there is such a place as "politicians' heaven" Everett, Dwight and Henry must be looking at each other and wondering what has happened to our GOP? They are also asking "who are these characters calling themselves Republicans, legislators and leaders and why does the majority allow them to behave this way"?

Dave Potter
North Hampton, NH

Dave:
For the record, Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr. played a disgraceful role as U.S. Ambassador to South Vietnam, much as his grandfather did ginning up the Spanish-American War.

The Editor

§
Roll the Constitutional Dice!

To the Editor:

One of the hottest issues being debated around the state legislatures is the push for an Article V "Convention for proposing Amendments." Even the U.S. Congress is paying attention, as just this last week Rep. Steve

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And Other Correspondence

Stivers (R-OH) successfully amended House Rules in regards to the system to track, count, and organize Article V applications to Congress.

One argument opposing an amending convention is that it is actually a "Constitutional Convention," and would open up our entire Constitution to replacement. I present one of many rebuttals to this argument.

Article V contains 143 words; I suggest opponents who claim it provides for a Constitutional Convention read the Article and apply basic rules we learned to diagram a paragraph. It's only one paragraph; no sections. There is only one subject, that of amending the Constitution, as has been done 27 times in the document's 226 years. If the framers had intended this Article to provide for both amending and replacing, they would have constructed this Article to separate the provisions. The subject is amending the Constitution; the agents for amending can be either the U.S. Congress, or, a Convention of the States when two-thirds apply for such an amending Convention.

Paul Hodson
Texas Convention of States Project District Captain
Burleson, TX

Paul:
The corporate-looking website ConventionofStates.com, which is pushing this gimmick as hard as anyone, says in the small print that it's "a project of Citizens for Self-Governance." And who might they be, pray tell?

One co-founder is Eric O'Keefe, according to SourceWatch.org, which is both reputable and reliable, "a right-wing political operative with deep ties to the Koch brothers."

O'Keefe is also "at the center of the 2014 John Doe' criminal investigation of the campaign of Wisconsin

Governor Scott Walker, Wisconsin Club for Growth, and numerous other 'dark money' groups."

Sorry to be so simplistic, but if he's for it, we're ag'in it.

The Editor

§
"Enhanced" vs. Effective

To the Editor:

I found myself reminiscing about the most effective interrogation I ever witnessed while reading the transcript of former VP Dick Cheney's recent Meet the Press interview, where he was attempting to defend the indefensible use of Enhanced Interrogation Techniques (Aka Torture).

Just about 24 years ago, I was watching a young USAF Captain, the best in the military interrogation business, strategically matching wits with an Iraqi Army Company Commander (Captain) at a Joint Interrogation Facility under the auspices of a U.S. Army Military Intelligence Battalion.

We had been tasked to gather essential information on the disposition of Iraqi minefields prior to the U.S. and Coalition ground invasion of Kuwait to liberate the country from occupying Iraqi forces. The aforementioned Iraqi officer commanded a company that was responsible for setting up land mines; hence, he seemed the ideal person to corroborate the information obtained from his subordinates in our custody; however, the initial screener described him as "reluctant to talk."

The USAF Captain quickly assessed that the Army officer's "uncooperative attitude" was due primarily to a low self-esteem and the shame he was feeling from just having surrendered a large portion of his company. He, recognizing this opening, shared some anecdotes of his own mistakes and setbacks and commenced to boosting the Iraqi officer's ego and confidence, assuring him that all his unit members we had talked with had spoken very highly of him and his leadership. This approach was extremely effective in extracting, timely, actionable intelligence from the Iraqi Captain, who abandoned all defenses and talked freely while drawing diagrams of minefields and pinpointing their locations on a map.

The USAF Captain had also been the author and chief instructor of the Air Force's Combat Interrogation Course. He taught us numerous creative approaches, like the one described above, which encourage a subject to talk and provide useful intelligence. However, the course syllabus never contained: Controlled drowning, asphyxia, electrocution, walling, hypothermia, stress positions, rectal rehydration, use of military working dogs as condoned by Dick Cheney and other Bush Administration officials, which should earn them a one way ticket to the Netherlands.

Wayne H. Merritt
Dover, NH
Wayne:
Nothing like hearing from a person who's been there and done that.
Thanks.
The Editor

§
Shadows Follow Frank Guinta
To the Editor:
With reference to Election 2014, the Associated Press (AP) just reported that Congressman Guinta has new problems. "U.S. Rep. Frank Guinta is once again on the radar of the Federal Election Commission for failing to follow campaign finance disclosure rules."

And last fall, candidate Guinta stated in a political ad that Carol Shea-Porter was lying, that he was "100 percent" cleared of violating campaign finance laws by the House Ethics Committee, and then stated in a debate that

the Federal Election Commission (FEC) had cleared him. Why did he name two different agencies?

Knowing that a Republican and the New Hampshire Democratic Party had both filed complaints with the FEC, not the House Ethics Committee, I called both agencies. The House Press Office found no evidence of a complaint being filed against Guinta. As to the FEC complaint, Judith Ingram, FEC Press Officer reported:

"The Commission did receive one more complaint in which Mr. Guinta was a respondent and the N.H. Democratic Party was a complainant. Unfortunately, we cannot provide any information about that complaint. To protect the interests of those involved in a complaint, the law requires that any Commission action on a MUR be kept strictly confidential until the case is resolved. 2 U.S.C. § 437g (a)(12)."

As to this charge, AP confirmed "... four years later, the complaint is still under investigation," and that Guinta refused comment.

Since the FEC investigation remains open, Mr. Guinta's statements cannot be true. The public expects the truth from Congressman Guinta, and a final report from the FEC.

Bob Perry
Strafford, NH
§
Guns in the House

To the Editor:
The Republican-controlled New Hampshire House of Representatives voted on January 7th to allow guns on the floor and in the visitors' gallery of the House. This misguided vote was not a continuation of a long-standing policy. According to Rep. Steve Shurtleff, "Deadly weapons were first prohibited in the House back in 1971 after a fellow lawmaker threatened (to shoot) House Speaker Marshall Cobleigh. Aside from the two year period that (Republi-



can) Speaker Bill O'Brien wielded the gavel, the policy (not to allow guns in the House) has remained in place since." (*Concord Monitor*, January 1, 2015).

The vote was largely along party lines with an overwhelming majority of Republicans favoring guns in the House and the visitors' gallery and a great majority of Democrats opposing this change in House rules. Why did Republicans strongly back this new policy?

Hampton Republican Fred Rice said, "We're not talking about the Wild West. We're not talking about irresponsible people running around waving guns in the air and making a scene. We're talking about people who want to have a right to self defense." (*The Telegraph*, January 8, 2015).

Oh, really? We're not talking about irresponsible people brandishing guns? Hmm. Shurtleff notes, "I vividly remember one day when the Merrimack Valley girls' field hockey team was in the gallery earning recognition for winning their state championship. Up for debate that day was a resolution supporting states' rights, a measure that was debated and ultimately defeated on the House floor.

"A couple hundred people showed up in support of the resolution, and when the losing vote was announced, many stood up

More Hate Mail, &c.
to page six

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Northcountry Chronicle

The Lie

by William Marvel

In the early 1980s I attended a lecture on economics by Lester Thurow at what was then known as Plymouth State College. Now they call it a university, which I suppose means the degrees and the beer are more expensive, but even then the keg parties were sometimes interrupted by a visiting scholar of some interest, and Thurow was hot in the field of economics.

He began by asserting that the American people had lied to their children. That was just to grab the attention of the audience, however, because what he really meant was that the older generation had been telling their children one thing and doing another. As he explained it, the prevailing economic theory had declared for decades that if everyone worked hard and saved their money, the savings would serve as capital to keep the machine running; the benefits to the investor seemed

only incidental, like dessert.

He cited statistics on per-capita savings and productivity, remarking that the United States was well below first place in either category. He named several countries ahead of us, and remarked that "the Japanese are nipping at our heels." No one laughed, which I initially attributed to the then-new American obsession with ethnic sensitivity, but on looking around I realized that the audience was too young to understand the pun; few of their fathers would have been old enough to fight in the Pacific.

Thurow's main point was that Americans weren't saving enough money for capital investment. The Japanese economy was beginning to expand in a big way about then, and Thurow attributed that to an abundance of capital arising from extensive personal savings. I think he claimed that the average Japanese family was putting away as much as half its income, while the rate in the U.S. was somewhere in

the low single digits.

That didn't surprise me. As a result of early indoctrination, I had been a saver most of my life, and one of the first things I recognized was that few other people were. Eventually I learned that those who tend to save their money become magnets for those who habitually live beyond their means, always seeming to need a loan.

With a few regrettable exceptions, I rebuffed all such loan requests in order to pursue my retirement plan. My goal from early youth was to carve out as much free time for writing as possible, which required Spartan living year-round and prevented me from following any career that provided a pension. Not trusting the stock market, I hoped to save enough cash to retire, albeit parsimoniously, on bank interest and Social Security. I bought little, paid cash, and borrowed nothing if I could help it. American legend is full of tales about poor immigrants who worked hard,

saved their earnings, and became wealthy, so why couldn't I at least scrape by on the same method? I wasn't much interested in keeping the wheels of industry turning by providing capital, but I was keeping up my end of the capitalist bargain and I expected capitalism to do the same for me.

Maybe the problem was that I wasn't an immigrant. Whatever the reason, the system began failing me a few years back, as it became obvious that Americans owed more than they owned. Under the old economics, a recession would have made my savings worth all the more, but the Federal Reserve couldn't allow that to happen. To perpetuate the cycle of profligate consumer spending, the Fed printed off shiplasters to create deliberate inflation, so people would spend whatever they had now, before it became absolutely worthless. In six years of "quantitative easing," with no officially recognized inflation, the buying power of my life sav-

ings shrank by nearly half. Who needed Bernie Madoff when we had Ben Bernanke?

Adding insult to injury, bank interest started dropping. Certificates of deposit that yielded 4.5 percent APY eight or nine years ago now offer .25 percent. The interest hardly justifies the cost of driving to the bank, and comes nowhere near covering the officially nonexistent inflation while the money is tied up.

It wasn't that our parents lied to us. The spenders and borrowers simply overcame the savers, subverting the classic formula for economic survival. Under their spend-and-borrow system, I would have been much better off giving up any creative ambitions and getting a job with the town, or the school. Fortunately, however, I had a backup retirement plan. She'll be working late this evening.

§

More Mash Notes, HATE MAIL, And Other Correspondence, from Page Five

and began shouting, heckling, and outright threatening House members What made this incident particularly troubling was that many in the angry mob were visibly carrying guns."

Shown below are the votes of Seacoast legislators on this new policy. "Yes" represents a vote to allow guns on the House floor and in the visitors' gallery. "No" opposes this House rule.

Hampton: Yes, Republicans Fred Rice, Tracy Emerick, and David Wood. No, Democrat Renny Cushing.

Hampton/Hampton Falls/Seabrook: Yes, Republican Andrew

Christie.

Portsmouth: No, Democrats Laura Pantelakos, Rebecca McBeath, Debbie DiFranco, Gerald Ward, Pamela Gordon, and Jacqueline Cali-Pitts.

Portsmouth/Newington/North Hampton/Greenland: No, Republican Carol Bush.

Newington/Greenland: Yes, Republican Pamela Tucker.

North Hampton: Yes, Republican Michele Peckham.

New Castle/Rye: No, Democrats David Borden and Tom Sherman.

Gary Patton
Hampton, NH

GOP Harmful To Your Health

To the Editor:

A warning for seniors, students, children, members of the working class and anyone who is sick — the GOP may be harmful to your health.

Hidden behind the Republican's claims of fiscal responsibility and deficit reduction is a dangerous disdain for your wellbeing. They basically believe that it is too expensive and inconvenient for the corporate community, in terms of reduced profits and changed processes, to pay for a social safety net or to stop poisoning our environment.

How can they hurt you? Let me count the ways: repeal the Affordable Care Act, weaken the Environmental Protection Agency, deny climate change, shift health-care costs from Medicare to seniors, reduce funding to prenatal care, school lunch and food stamp programs.

It is bad enough that these actions and attitudes mean the loss of insurance for millions, dirtier air and water, higher rates of infant mortality, more undernourished children and an increase in medical bankruptcies. The justifications are said with a sneer and a snarl (listen to Senators Ted

Cruz [R-TX] and James Inhofe [R-OK]) or with condescension coated in counterfeit concern. You've heard them say that supporting these people just makes them weak and dependent and other feeble rationales dripping with disrespect.

Hopefully, these consequences do not materialize but I'm afraid that there are too many Republicans in the U.S. House and Senate and state legislatures that have replaced the ideal of compassionate conservatism with callous and cold-hearted conservatism.

Dave Potter
North Hampton, NH

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Bezos Buys A Big Piece Of Power

By Jim Hightower

An old cowboy aphorism says: "Speak the truth. But ride a fast horse."

From the 1970s into the 1990s, there was a proud truth-telling newspaper of national importance. At the *Washington Post*, fiery editors hired strong investigative diggers to expose corporate and political corruption, telling the public who was doing what

to whom ... and why. From consumer ripoffs to the Watergate scandal that consumed Dick Nixon's presidency, the *Post* practiced Journalism with a capital J.

But then it devolved into just another corporate media property, focusing more on cutting newsroom costs than on its watchdog role. Finally, late last year, the *Post* plunged all the way down the corporate rabbit hole by selling out — body and soul — to the avatar

of Amazon, Jeff Bezos.

Why would the master of digital marketing metrics want a newspaper? It doesn't square at all with his matrix of other businesses. Was it just a lark?

Get real — Bezos doesn't do larks. Indeed, the *Post* is not just any newspaper. It's the paper at the epicenter of governmental decision-making, and it's read first thing in the morning by practically every Congress critter,

agency head, lobbyist, and others involved in Washington doings. And Amazon's doings are increasingly tied to the Capitol City — including possible anti-trust probes of its monopoly practices, its secret push to get a \$600 million contract to build the CIA's cloud, its scandalous laundering of much of its global income through the tax-dodger's paradise of Luxembourg, and its infamous exploitation of low-wage ware-

house workers.

And now, Mr. Amazon can "speak" through the *Post* every single day with every key policymaker, shaping the debate on everything that affects his grandiose ambition. Bezos wasn't buying a newspaper — he bought a big piece of power.

§

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Murdering Journalists ... Them and Us

by William Blum

After Paris, condemnation of religious fanaticism is at its height. I'd guess that even progressives fantasize about wringing the necks of jihadists, bashing into their heads some thoughts about the intellect, about satire, humor, freedom of speech. We're talking here, after all, about young men raised in France, not Saudi Arabia.

Where has all this Islamic fundamentalism come from in this modern age? Most of it comes — trained, armed, financed, indoctrinated — from Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, and Syria. During various periods from the 1970s to the present, these four countries had been the most secular, modern, educated, welfare states in the Middle East region. And what had happened to these secular, modern, educated, welfare states?

In the 1980s, the United States overthrew the Afghan government that was progressive, with full rights for women, believe it or not, leading to the creation of the Taliban and their taking power.

In the 2000s, the United States overthrew the Iraqi government,

destroying not only the secular state, but the civilized state as well, leaving a failed state.

In 2011, the United States and its NATO military machine overthrew the secular Libyan government of Muammar Gaddafi, leaving behind a lawless state and unleashing many hundreds of jihadists and tons of weaponry across the Middle East.

And for the past few years the United States has been engaged in overthrowing the secular Syrian government of Bashar al-Assad. This, along with the U.S. occupation of Iraq having triggered widespread Sunni-Shia warfare, led to the creation of The Islamic State with all its beheadings and other charming practices.

However, despite it all, the world was made safe for capitalism, imperialism, anti-communism, oil, Israel, and jihadists. God is Great!

Starting with the Cold War, and with the above interventions building upon that, we have 70 years of American foreign policy, without which — as Russian/American writer Andre Vltchek has observed — "almost all Muslim countries, including

Iran, Egypt and Indonesia, would now most likely be socialist, under a group of very moderate and mostly secular leaders". Even the ultra-oppressive Saudi Arabia — without Washington's protection — would probably be a very different place.

On January 11, Paris was the site of a March of National Unity in honor of the magazine *Charlie Hebdo*, whose journalists had been assassinated by terrorists. The march was rather touching, but it was also an orgy of Western hypocrisy, with the French TV broadcasters and the assembled crowd extolling without end the NATO world's reverence for journalists and freedom of speech; an ocean of signs declaring *Je suis Charlie ... Nous Sommes Tous Charlie*, and flaunting giant pencils, as if pencils — not bombs, invasions, overthrows, torture, and drone attacks — have been the West's weapons of choice in the Middle East during the past century.

No reference was made to the fact that the American military, in the course of its wars in recent decades in the Middle East and elsewhere, had been responsible

for the deliberate deaths of dozens of journalists. In Iraq, among other incidents, see Wikileaks' 2007 video of the cold-blooded murder of two Reuters journalists; the 2003 U.S. air-to-surface missile attack on the offices of Al Jazeera in Baghdad that left three journalists dead and four wounded; and the American firing on Baghdad's Hotel Palestine the same year that killed two foreign cameramen.

Moreover, on October 8, 2001, the second day of the U.S. bombing of Afghanistan, the transmitters for the Taliban government's Radio Shari were bombed and shortly after this the U.S. bombed some 20 regional radio sites. U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld defended the targeting of these facilities, saying: "Naturally, they cannot be considered to be free media outlets. They are mouthpieces of the Taliban and those harboring terrorists."

And in Yugoslavia, in 1999, during the infamous 78-day bombing of a country which posed no threat at all to the United States or any other country, state-owned Radio Television Serbia (RTS) was targeted because it was broadcasting

things which the United States and NATO did not like (like how much horror the bombing was causing). The bombs took the lives of many of the station's staff, and both legs of one of the survivors, which had to be amputated to free him from the wreckage.

§

William Blum is an author, historian, and renowned critic of U.S. foreign policy. He is the author of *Killing Hope: U.S. Military and CIA Interventions Since World War II*, first published in 1995 and updated since. It has received international acclaim. Noam Chomsky called it "far and away the best book on the topic."

He left the State Department in 1967, abandoning his aspiration of becoming a Foreign Service Officer, because of his opposition to what the United States was doing in Vietnam. He then became one of the founders and editors of the *Washington Free Press*, the first "alternative" newspaper in the capital. We've ordered his Cold War memoir *West-Bloc Dissident* online (\$17 at WilliamBlum.org), with a chapter on "how the authorities labored to wreck the 'underground' press."

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"It surely is a bit dramatic,
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— Stephane (Charb) Charbonnier
(1967-2015) editor, *Charlie Hebdo*

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ADMIRAL FOWLE'S PISCATAQUA RIVER TIDAL GUIDE (NOT FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES)

Portsmouth, arguably the first town in this country not founded by religious extremists, is bounded on the north and east by the Piscataqua River, the second, third, or fourth fastest-flowing navigable river in the country, depending on

whom you choose to believe.

The Piscataqua's ferocious current is caused by the tide, which, in turn, is caused by the moon. The other player is a vast sunken valley — Great Bay — about ten miles upriver. Twice a day, the

moon drags about seventeen billion gallons of seawater — enough to fill 2,125,000 tanker trucks — up the river and into Great Bay. This creates a roving hydraulic conflict, as incoming sea and the outgoing river collide. The skirmish line

moves from the mouth of the river, up past New Castle, around the bend by the old Naval Prison, under Memorial Bridge, past the tugboats, and on into Great Bay. This can best be seen when the tide is rising.

Twice a day, too, the moon lets all that water go. All the seawater that just fought its way upstream goes back home to the ocean. This is when the Piscataqua earns its title for xth fastest current. Look for the red buoy, at the upstream

end of Badger's Island, bobbing around in the current. It weighs several tons, and it bobs and bounces in the current like a cork. The river also has its placid moments, around high and low tides. When the river rests, its tugboats

and bridges work their hardest. Ships coming in laden with coal, oil, and salt do so at high tide, for more clearance under their keels. They leave empty, riding high in the water, at low tide, to squeeze under Memorial Bridge.

Sunday, January 25	Monday, January 26	Tuesday, January 27	Wednesday, January 28	Thursday, January 29	Friday, January 30	Saturday, January 31
<p>2005—Conservative columnist Maggie Gallagher admits accepting \$21,500 from the government for plugging Bush Administration proposals.</p> <p>2004—Senator John McCain confirms to Vermin Supreme that Karl Rove dynamited the Old Man of the Mountain “in a fit of anger” over McCain’s defeat of George W. Bush in the 2000 New Hampshire Presidential Primary.</p> <p>2002—Veep Dick “Dick” Cheney asks Sen. Majority Leader Tom Daschle to limit investigations into the events of 9/11.</p> <p>1996—Delaware hangs Billy Bailey by the neck—the last American to be executed that way.</p> <p>1971—Charles Manson and his followers are convicted in the Tate/LaBianca murders.</p> <p>1968—The election of Alexander Dubcek in Czechoslovakia kicks off the “Prague Spring.”</p> <p>1966—An SR-71 Blackbird flying at Mach 3.2 disintegrates 78,000 feet above New Mexico, but test pilot Bill Weaver lives to fly again.</p> <p>1927—J. Frank Norris of Fort Worth, a Baptist preacher who fatally shot an unarmed man, is acquitted of murder.</p> <p>1926—In Passaic, NJ, 16,000 textile workers strike.</p> <p>1908—Frederick Remington burns 100 of his paintings, worth millions of dollars. “They will never confront me in the future,” he writes.</p>	<p>2006—The Energy Dept. admits rent-a-cops at the Oak Ridge nuclear site have cheated on antiterrorism drills for up to twenty years.</p> <p>2005—Gay hustler and accredited White House correspondent Jeff Gannon asks Pres. G.W. Bush how he can work with insane people like Harry Reid and Hillary Clinton.</p> <p>2005—Federal spending on PR has doubled under George W. Bush, reports <i>USA Today</i>.</p> <p>2001—Britain’s <i>Guardian</i> reports [falsely] that Air Force One was “stripped bare” in “an orgy of pilfering” by outgoing Clinton staffers.</p> <p>1998—The same day the Project for a New American Century sends a letter signed by E. Abrams, J. Bolton, W. Kristol, R. Perle, D. Rumsfeld, & P. Wolfowitz to Bill Clinton urging him to overthrow Saddam Hussein, the Pres. denies having sex with “that woman.”</p> <p>1986—The Chernobyl nuclear power plant goes ballistic.</p> <p>1979—Ex-Veep Nelson Rockefeller, 70, alone in his townhouse with 26-year old Megan Marshak, dies of a heart attack. Oddly, his corpse is not discovered until an hour later, five blocks north at Rockefeller Center, by a security guard.</p> <p>1939—Franco’s fascists, aided by a few of Mussolini’s, take Barcelona.</p> <p>1785—Benjamin Franklin laments selection of the eagle, rather than the turkey, as a national symbol.</p>	<p>2008—The NSA warns that a malfunctioning, bus-size spy satellite is going to fall out of orbit soon.</p> <p>2005—Veep Dick “Dick” Cheney wears a down parka and ski cap to an Auschwitz memorial ceremony.</p> <p>2005—<i>Salon</i> reveals that conservative columnist Michael McManus has been paid \$10,000 to promote Bush programs.</p> <p>2000—“I know how hard it is for you to put food on your family,” says George W. Bush in Nashua.</p> <p>1987—Gorbachev announces the new policy of <i>glasnost</i>.</p> <p>1973—Hours before the U.S. and North Vietnam sign a peace treaty in Paris, Col. Wm. B. Nolde becomes the last American killed during the Vietnam War.</p> <p>1972—G. Gordon Liddy presents a plan to Attorney General John Mitchell to disrupt the Democratic Convention with “mugging squads, kidnapping teams, and prostitutes.”</p> <p>1967—A fire in the <i>Apollo</i> capsule kills three astronauts.</p> <p>1957—Martin Luther King’s home is bombed for the second time.</p> <p>1951—The U.S. breaks in a new nuclear weapon test site in Nevada.</p> <p>1944—PNSY launches four Balao-class subs, <i>Razorback</i>, <i>Redfish</i>, <i>Ronquill</i>, and <i>Scabbardfish</i>, in one day. Going on to earn a total of 18 battle stars, all survive the war.</p> <p>1913—Paterson, NJ silk workers strike for a 8-hour day.</p>	<p>2008—George W. Bush delivers his last (!) State of the Union speech, promising a budget that will keep the U.S. “on track for a surplus in 2012.”</p> <p>2004—U.S. weapons inspector David Kay tells the Senate pre-war WMD intelligence was “almost all wrong.”</p> <p>2003—In his State of the Union Address, George W. Bush cites misidentified aluminum tubes, non-existent viruses, fictitious alliances, and imaginary uranium as ample justification for his next war.</p> <p>1986—R. Reagan puts off his State of the Union speech because the space shuttle <i>Challenger</i>, launched under adverse conditions, crashed.</p> <p>1969—Unocal drillers using sub-standard pipe cause a 100,000-barrel oil spill off Santa Barbara, creating an 800 square mile oil slick and an environmental movement.</p> <p>1958—In Nebraska, Charles Starkweather, 17, and Carol Fugate, 14, kill their 8th through 10th (out of an eventual 11) victims.</p> <p>1936—Thrill-killer Richard Loeb is murdered by a fellow-prisoner at whom he made a pass. <i>The Chicago Daily News</i> writes that Loeb, “... a master of the English language, today ended a sentence with a proposition.”</p> <p>1922—The roof of the Knickerbocker Theatre in Washington, DC collapses under thirty inches of snow, killing 98 and injuring 133.</p> <p>1887—New York newsboys go on strike for a better deal.</p>	<p>2002—George W. Bush calls Sen. Majority Leader Tom Daschle and asks him to limit Congressional investigations into 9/11.</p> <p>2001—“I am mindful not only of preserving executive powers for myself,” says George W. Bush, “but for predecessors as well.”</p> <p>2000—Campaigning for president in Concord, NH, George W. Bush asks, “Will the highways on the Internet become more few?”</p> <p>1967—LBJ’s pal Bobby Baker is convicted of income tax evasion, theft, and conspiracy to defraud the government.</p> <p>1964—<i>Dr. Strangelove</i> premieres.</p> <p>1916—Zeppelins bomb Paris.</p> <p>1912—Anna LoPizzo, 34, is killed by a shot through the heart during the Bread & Roses strike in Lawrence, MA. A cop probably did it, but anarchists were blamed.</p> <p>1880—William Claude Dukenfield is born in Philadelphia.</p> <p>1863—In Utah, 400 Bannock and Shoshone Indians are massacred in four hours.</p> <p>1856—An attack on Seattle by 1,000 Nisqually and Yakama Indians is repulsed by cannon fire from ships in the harbor.</p> <p>1834—Striking workers on the Chesapeake Canal riot after their strike is met with violence. President Jackson initiates an American tradition by calling out Federal troops.</p>	<p>2005—A U.S. official reports that \$9,000,000,000 is ... well ... sort of ... missing in Iraq.</p> <p>2004—Arwin Meiwes, the Rotenburg Cannibal, gets 8 1/2 years for manslaughter. After he is incarcerated, he becomes a vegetarian.</p> <p>1981—An FB-111A “Aardvark” based at Pease AFB crashes near homes at Mariner’s Village, about 1.25 miles northwest of Market Square. One apartment building is destroyed, no one is injured.</p> <p>1976—The Supreme Court decides that limiting campaign contributions would unfairly restrict the speech of rich people.</p> <p>1968—Two hundred U.S. colonels in the U.S. MACV staff attend a pool party in Saigon. “Not one ... knew Tet was coming” the next day, an analyst said later.</p> <p>1945—A Soviet sub sinks the <i>MV Wilhelm Gustloff</i>. About 9,400 passengers lose their lives.</p> <p>1835—Richard Lawrence pulls two pistols on President Andy Jackson, but they both misfire.</p> <p>1798—Rep. Matthew Lyon insults Rep. Roger Griswold on the House floor. Griswold calls Lyon a coward. Lyon spits in Griswold’s face.</p> <p>1661—Oliver Cromwell, dead for two years, is posthumously executed and decapitated. His head goes unburied for 300 years.</p> <p>1649—Cromwell and his Roundheads decapitate King Charles I.</p>	<p>2007—Reacting to 18 gadgets showing an LED-illuminated cartoon figure, Boston transit authorities close I-93 and two bridges.</p> <p>2003—At the White House, George W. Bush tells Tony Blair he’s going to invade Iraq with or without WMDs, and the diplomacy will have to fit around the military strategy.</p> <p>1971—In Detroit, Vietnam Veterans Against the War begin the Winter Soldier hearings, testifying against U.S. policies in Vietnam. Few in power listen.</p> <p>1968—The Viet Cong and NVA tell America, the only way they can, that Vietnam is for the Vietnamese. Few in power listen.</p> <p>1963—“The war in Vietnam is going well and will succeed,” says Robert Strange McNamara, U.S. Secretary of Defense.</p> <p>1958—In North Africa, a B-47 crashes on takeoff and burns for seven hours. Luckily the armed nuke on board doesn’t go off.</p> <p>1950—Truman orders the construction of the first H-bomb.</p> <p>1945—The U.S. Army executes Pvt. Eddie Slovik for desertion.</p> <p>1915—Germany becomes the first civilized nation to employ poison gas in warfare.</p> <p>1900—William Goebel is sworn in as Governor of Kentucky while lying on his back, a day after being shot. Three days later he dies.</p>
2:32 2:53 8:38 9:04	3:27 3:53 9:37 9:59	4:25 4:57 10:40 10:59	5:27 6:04 11:46 12:01	6:31 7:11 12:53	7:34 8:14 1:05 1:56	8:31 9:10 2:05 2:53
Sunday, February 1	Monday, February 2	Tuesday, February 3	Wednesday, February 4	Thursday, February 5	Friday, February 6	Saturday, February 7
<p>2005—Canada OK’s same-sex marriage; world does not end.</p> <p>2004—Janet Jackson bares a nipple on TV; world nearly ends.</p> <p>2003—The space shuttle <i>Columbia</i> disintegrates over Texas.</p> <p>1974—Richard Nixon meets for twenty minutes with The Rev. Sun Myung Moon.</p> <p>1968—In Saigon, General Nguyen Ngoc Loan executes VC Captain Nguyen Van Lem in front of AP photographer and former Marine Eddie Adams who snaps the anti-Iwo Jima Raising photo of the Vietnam War.</p> <p>1964—Indiana governor Matthew E. Welsh declares The Kingsmen’s song “Louie Louie,” which everyone else finds incomprehensible, to be obscene.</p> <p>1963—Fleetwood Linley, the last living person to have looked upon the face of the dead Abraham Lincoln, dies aged 75.</p> <p>1960—Civil rights sit-ins begin in Greensboro, NC.</p> <p>1951—An inevitable confluence: the first telecast of an atomic explosion.</p> <p>1926—Col. Billy Mitchell, the lone U.S. military officer who understands the potential of aircraft in warfare, is court-martialed for criticizing his “superiors.”</p> <p>1923—In Japan, most of Tokyo and all of Yokohama are destroyed by an earthquake.</p>	<p>2007—Smelly, oily orange snow falls across Siberia.</p> <p>2004—George W. Bush reluctantly OK’s an investigation of intelligence failures.</p> <p>1972—In Dublin, Irish Catholics, irate over “Bloody Sunday,” burn the British Embassy.</p> <p>1970—Capt. Gary Faust bails out after his F-106 goes into a spin over Montana. The pilotless plane straightens out and lands in a cornfield. It’s later returned to service.</p> <p>1966—Australians burn conscription papers in Sydney.</p> <p>1956—350 American troops are assigned to “reclaim U.S. military equipment in Vietnam.”</p> <p>1952—Winnie Ruth Judd, the “trunk murderer,” escapes from Arizona State Insane Hospital. For the 5th time.</p> <p>1912—Steeplejack Frederick R. Law successfully parachutes from the Statue of Liberty’s torch.</p> <p>1893—The first close-up in motion picture history is shot at the Edison studio in West Orange, NJ, immortalizing a sneeze.</p> <p>1882—Birth of James Joyce.</p> <p>1870—The “Cardiff Giant,” hyped for months as a petrified, ten-foot-tall human, is revealed to be a to-baconist’s hoax.</p> <p>1848—The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo legalizes the American seizure of 525,000 square miles of Mexico.</p>	<p>2012—“Today is the day that in 1924 Woodrow Wilson died, that son of a bitch,” says Glenn Beck, “and I’m happy.”</p> <p>2006—Donald Rumsfeld likens Venezuela’s President Hugo Chavez to Adolph Hitler, inspiring Venezuela’s VP to compare the U.S. with the Third Reich.</p> <p>1959—In Iowa, a plane crash kills Buddy Holly, “The Big Bopper,” and Richie Valens.</p> <p>1956—In Memphis, the Sun studio simultaneously records Elvis Presley, Carl Perkins, Jerry Lee Lewis, and Johnny Cash.</p> <p>1953—J. Fred Muggs, a bad-tempered chimpanzee from Cameroon, becomes the first non-human primate to appear regularly on TV.</p> <p>1943—Four U.S. Navy chaplains aboard the U.S. Army transport <i>Dorchester</i> drown after giving their life jackets to others.</p> <p>1931—Arkansas’ state legislature votes to pray for the soul of H.L. Mencken after he calls the state “the apex of moronia.”</p> <p>1916—In Zurich, Hugo Ball opens Café Voltaire, hotbed of dadaism.</p> <p>1811—Future newspaperman and eccentric Horace Greeley is born on a farm in Amherst, NH.</p> <p>1793—Shot in the face and bayoneted 13 times by the British at Lexington 17 years before, Samuel Whittemore, a farmer, dies of natural causes at 98.</p>	<p>1996—President Clinton furtively gropes a 22-year-old intern.</p> <p>1987—RIP Liberate.</p> <p>1976—Lockheed Aircraft admits paying \$22 million in bribes to sell its product.</p> <p>1974—William Randolph Hearst’s granddaughter Patty, 19, is kidnapped by the Symbionese Liberation Army.</p> <p>1968—A considerable chunk of Cholón, the Chinese sector of Saigon, is declared a free-fire zone. The South Vietnamese Air Force bombs its own capitol using U.S.-supplied planes.</p> <p>1968—Neal Cassady, ur-beat, dies alongside railroad tracks in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico.</p> <p>1929—In New York, John Giola dances the Charleston for 22 hours and 30 minutes.</p> <p>1913—Rosa Parks is born in Tuskegee, AL.</p> <p>1912—Franz Reichelt, an Austrian tailor, tests his experimental parachute/overcoat from the Eiffel Tower. It is fatally flawed.</p> <p>1899—Philippine revolt against U.S. rule begins.</p> <p>1894—Adolphe Sax, inventor of the saxophone, dies broke.</p> <p>1869—Birth of Bill Hayward, legendary Wobbly.</p> <p>1861—Delegates from six southern states meet in Montgomery, AL to form the Confederate States of America.</p>	<p>2007—Astronaut Lisa Marie Nowak is arrested for attempting to kidnap the girlfriend of another astronaut and for suspected misappropriation of NASA diapers.</p> <p>2005—A man in a pub in Wales vows to cut off his own testicles if Wales beats England in a rugby match. They do. He does.</p> <p>2003—Secretary of State Colin Powell tells the UN that Saddam Hussein’s Iraq is bristling with WMDs.</p> <p>1992—George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush encounters a supermarket checkout scanner and confesses he is “amazed.”</p> <p>1958—The Navy makes its second attempt to launch a Vanguard rocket. Oops.</p> <p>1958—A B-47 bomber collides with a jet fighter near Tybee Island off the coast of Georgia and jettisons an H-bomb. It’s still lost.</p> <p>1937—Roosevelt attempts to “pack” the Supreme Court.</p> <p>1934—Birth of Hank Aaron.</p> <p>1918—Stephen W. Thompson becomes the first American pilot to down an enemy aircraft.</p> <p>1914—William Burroughs is born in St. Louis, MO.</p> <p>1897—Marcel Proust meets critic Jean Lorrain for a pistol duel at 3:00 p.m.—the earliest hour decent people are up and about.</p> <p>1861—Samuel Goodale patents the peep show machine.</p>	<p>2003—George W. Bush tells the American people that Saddam Hussein’s Iraq is full of WMDs.</p> <p>1994—U.S. Army Golden Knights parachutist Dana Bowman collides with a partner in mid-air and loses both legs. Nine months later he’s back on the team.</p> <p>1978—The northeastern U.S. is clobbered by a huge blizzard; 29 die, 10,000 are homeless.</p> <p>1976—Leonard Peltier is arrested because ... because ... well, he’s just arrested, that’s all.</p> <p>1971—New Hampshire’s own Alan Shepherd uses a nine iron to whack a golf ball on the moon.</p> <p>1968—North Vietnamese forces equipped with 12 Soviet tanks attack and overrun a Special Forces camp at Lang Vei. Of 24 U.S. Green Berets at the camp, 21 are killed, captured, or wounded.</p> <p>1933—Highest sea wave (nontsunami) on record is recorded: 110 feet, during a Pacific typhoon.</p> <p>1919—A shipyard strike kicks off a General Strike in Seattle. Workers control city for a week. Crime drops dramatically. Union bureaucrats intervene to end it.</p> <p>1910—Triangle Shirtwaist strike ends, workers accept arbitration.</p> <p>1908—Birth of Edward Lansdale, spook.</p> <p>1756—Aaron Burr, the first Vice President to shoot a man, is born in Newark, NJ.</p>	<p>2012—Flavor-of-the-Month Rick Santorum crushes Mitt Romney in CO, MI, and MN.</p> <p>1994—British journalist and Conservative member of Parliament Stephen Milligan is found dead of auto-erotic asphyxiation.</p> <p>1991—The IRA attacks 10 Downing St. with mortars.</p> <p>1968—“It became necessary to destroy [the Vietnamese village of Ben Tre] in order to save it,” U.S.A.F. Major Chester Brown tells reporter Peter Arnett.</p> <p>1965—VC attack Camp Holloway near Pleiku killing 9 Americans and wounding 137. The U.S. responds by bombing North Vietnam.</p> <p>1950—U.S. recognizes Emperor Bao Dai’s government of Vietnam, putting itself at odds with the Soviets and Ho Chi Minh.</p> <p>1951—In Korea, Maine native Capt. Lewis Millett successfully leads America’s last bayonet charge.</p> <p>1926—First Negro History Week observed.</p> <p>1848—Pierre-Joseph Proudhon, the first man to call himself an anarchist, begins <i>Le Représentant du peuple</i>, the first anarchist paper.</p> <p>1821—John Davis becomes first person known to set foot on Antarctica.</p> <p>1812—The last, and most destructive, of the three big New Madrid, MO earthquakes causes the Mississippi to briefly reverse direction.</p>
9:24 10:00 3:01 3:44	10:11 10:44 3:50 4:29	10:53 11:24 4:34 5:09	11:32 5:15 5:45	12:01 12:09 5:53 6:20	12:36 12:44 6:29 6:53	1:09 1:19 7:06 7:27



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