

The New Hampshire Gazette

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A Non-Fiction Newspaper
Vol. CCLXI, No. 8
January 6, 2016

The Fortnightly Rant

Prelude to a farce (if we're lucky)

Barring any last-fortnight *deus ex machina*, two weeks from today the most powerful nation on Earth will conduct an elaborate ceremony, presided over by our most eminent jurist and attended by everyone with pretensions of importance,* which will place its executive powers into the hands of a man who said, in 2014, that "When I look at myself in the first grade and I look at myself now, I'm basically the same. The temperament is not that different."

This situation would be less alarming if the President-elect had not asked, on several occasions, what the point is of having nuclear weapons if they're not going to be used. For the record, our cumulative strategic arsenal currently has a destructive capacity 100 times greater than all the explosives used in World War II. Given his propensity for excess, if Trump has a really bad day not even the cockroaches will survive.

Could there be a silver lining to this mushroom cloud? Of course — but only if we make one.

That First Step is a Doozy

Friends of Bill say the first step towards addressing an addiction to alcohol is to admit that your life has become unmanageable. Donald Trump's insecurity runs so deep — and his values are so perverse — that he bragged to a nonentity about grabbing women by their private parts.

The nonentity got fired. Trump got elected. If that's not rock bottom, we'd hate to see what is.

The Primrose Path

* Excepting, of course, the designated survivor: a person in the presidential line of succession, sequestered at a secure, undisclosed location, appointed to assure continuity of government should some catastrophe occur at the inaugural site which is even more devastating than the event which is scheduled.

There may be someone somewhere who thinks that Trump arrived at the threshold of the White House because he followed his own brilliant plan. If so, he's probably a Trump underling. All the top dogs, Trump included, were shocked on the night of November 8th.

His entrance on January 20th will be reminiscent of September, 2014, when Omar Gonzalez charged past the Secret Service and into the Green Room of White House. Unfortunately, this time the intruder can't be hustled out, booked, and handed over to professionals qualified to treat someone afflicted with his condition.

That's Some Mandate

Much of the responsibility for the disaster that awaits us must be borne, of course, by the 62.9 million who proudly voted for him. Without them our future Tweeter-in-Chief still would be but a minor figure, living in garish opulence and annoying only a few million New Yorkers. Those 62.9 million make up less than one-third of registered U.S. voters. The number would be even lower if civics were still taught in public schools. For some reason that practice has fallen out of favor. It's almost as if there had been a concerted effort since the Sixties to raise a more malleable populace. As his administration progresses — or regresses — the number who will admit to having voted for him is sure to shrink even further.

The Tragic Troika

The voters, though, in this tragic farce, are merely the lamenting chorus. The primary villains are our two political parties and the allegedly non-partisan press.[†]

[†] Additional parties are effectively prohibited by winner-take-all elections, but that's another Rant.



Assuming for the moment that we'll all die soon in a fiery nuclear inferno, Republicans will at least have the satisfaction of going out with all their hypocritical guns blazing. Nothing better illustrates the astronomical distance between Republican words and deeds than Trump's signature program of Draining the Swamp. [For further details, see this fortnight's Alleged News.]

Newt Gingrich — the Great Helmsman who steered the Party from Bob Dole-style curmudgeonly budget-fussing to full-on, non-stop Nixonism — told NPR (such an ironic venue!) on the morning of December 21st that the Party's new generalissimo "now ... disclaims" his use of language about alligators and swamps.

The next morning Trump issued a diktat (if Twitter shuts down, whatever will he do?) formally establishing that "someone" had been "incorrect" about cur-

rently-approved language.

How ominously vague, yet so precisely targeted.

Later that day, a contrite Gingrich dutifully appeared in the Forum — excuse us, on YouTube — and ritually consumed a steaming heap of crow. "I want to report that I made a big boo-boo," he said, using infantile language apparently designed to self-inflict the maximum survivable dose of humiliation. "I talked this morning with President-elect Donald Trump, and he reminded me he likes draining the swamp. Draining the swamp is in. And you're going to get to be part of it."

The late Joseph Stalin ground his teeth in seething envy, as George Orwell's head exploded.

A lot of people would rather volunteer to play target practice for a firing squad. For the GOP's most prominent serial adulterer, though, it was worth it. In return he gets to continue lurking in the Potomac's shallows, snapping his

prodigious jaws and advising his shiny liege lord. His latest effort along those lines was not to worry about violating ethical laws. Just issue illegal orders now, he told Trump, and pardon the guilty parties later.

On stage, they say, villains always get the good parts. The Democrats are doing their best to prove that adage true; they are too weak and ineffectual to inspire an entertaining characterization. Let's just say that, against the enormity of their opposition, they've failed miserably and show little sign of a spirited opposition.

As for our esteemed colleagues in the Fourth Estate, all we can say is, this is your fault. As evidence of your guilt, we offer the recent ascension of Megyn Kelly from Fox to NBC.

There's not much left to say but good luck to everyone, even the haters and the losers, and let's hope we all get to do this again sometime.

The Alleged News®

Miraculous Transformation in Nation's Capitol

The U.S. Congress has undergone a miraculous transformation. While the 114th Congress, which had to contend with a Democratic president, seemed to have trouble getting up in the morning, never mind showing up at the office, the 115th couldn't wait to start doing the people's business — or, more accurately, perhaps, to start giving the people the business.

On Monday, before new members were even sworn in, House Judiciary Committee Chairman Bob Goodlatte [R-Va.] proposed, and the House GOP Conference passed — by a secret vote — an amendment to the rules which would neuter the Office of Congressional Ethics.

That Office was established in

2008 by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi [D-Calif.]. Her motive, as she memorably said, was to "drain the swamp" by bolstering the existing House Ethics Committee, which was widely seen to be weak and ineffective. Given that the Committee was composed by law of five Democrats and five Republicans, it could be argued that its chronic state of paralyzed inaction was a design feature, not a defect.

It had failed for years, for example, to rein in Rep. Randall "Duke" Cunningham [R-Calif.]. The Duke took so many bribes he kept a handy memo in his desk to remind him what prices he'd assigned to his integrity. He pleaded guilty to accepting \$2.4 million in bribes, tax evasion, mail fraud

and wire fraud, and served seven years in a federal penitentiary. Released in 2013, he now lives in Arkansas, where he wishes he could go hunting. He requested a gun permit but was denied, under the provisions of a law for which he voted.

Goodlatte seems to think that with Cunningham gone — along with Rep. Mark Foley [R-Fla.], sexting underage Congressional pages], and Rep. Tom DeLay [R-Texas; money laundering], and Rep. Bob Ney [R-Ohio; accepting bribes] — the problem of corruption in Congress was solved.

Accordingly, the OCE has a new name, the Office of Congressional Complaint Review, and some new rules: it is now barred from accepting anonymous tips,

employing a spokesperson, or notifying law enforcement when a Member is suspected of violating the law.

Unconfirmed reports have suggested that the Office has been assigned a new logo [below]:



Unilaterally stripped of its independence by Republicans, the newly-neutered Office will be supervised by the purposely-comatose House Ethics Committee.

Less than four months ago, on September 9th, Chairman Goodlatte tweeted, "Midnight #regulations should be subjected to even greater transparency, public scrupu-

tiny, & congressional oversight."

Weekday Update: In an unexpected and refreshing development, House Republicans who voted on Monday to shield themselves from ethical oversight changed their minds Tuesday morning and postponed any further decisions on ethical matters until they think nobody's looking.

Republican Rep. Walter Jones, of North Carolina, attributed the change of heart to pressure from constituents. He told Bloomberg, "We have got just a tremendous number of calls to our office here and district offices concerned about this."

The *Washington Post* and *AP*,

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to page two

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from page one

fearful of being shunned by the incoming administration, attributed the reversal to a tweet from the President-elect.



Here, Have a Flag [Kerplunk]

As Republican muckety-mucks race to eliminate superfluous ob-

stacles to unethical behavior, their minions attend to more mundane functions — delivering decorative bits of cloth to the offices of new Representatives, for example. The person assigned to that duty on Tuesday must have found the recycling bins in the corridors to be quite handy, judging from the photo at left.

It was taken by the sharp-eyed Tom Porter, a Navy veteran and an advocate for the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, who noticed what the minion apparently did not: the colorful banner he chucked in the bin in front of the office of Rep. Reuben Kihuen [D-Nev.] was a U.S. flag!

Nixon Was the One, Alright

Richard Nixon sabotaged the Paris Peace Talks in 1968 to gain a political advantage in that year's Presidential election. As far as we know, it was the most treasonous act ever committed by an American President. So far, anyway.

Nixon's trick worked; he won.



WITH APOLOGIES TO HERBLOCK



Our Wandering Photographer, seen here at lower left, claims that Cianbro, now well along in the process of building a futuristic replacement for the Sarah Mildred Long Bridge, has been using an invisible skyhook to erect this stretch of roadway over the Market Street Extension. Apparently the shiftless wretch has somehow gotten it into his head that he can make any outlandish claim that pops into his head. Actually, the Zoning Board of Adjustment, at the suggestion of the City Manager, called upon a little-known city ordinance and cancelled gravity's operating permit for a while, so the flow of tourists and their dollars might proceed uninterrupted.

The Paris Peace Accords were not signed until five years later. While Nixon was in the White House, 21,264 U.S. troops were killed in action; thousands more were maimed and wounded. The number of Vietnamese and Cambodians killed is hard to estimate, but certainly ranges into the hundreds of thousands.

This is the third or fourth time this story has been reported, always with some new detail. This time there's a smoking gun — with Nixon's bloody fingerprints on it.

To put it all in perspective, we'll start from the beginning. President Lyndon Johnson, having declared after the Tet Offensive in January that he would not run for re-election, had finally convinced Nguyen Van Thieu, President of South Vietnam, to sit down in Paris and negotiate with the North Vietnamese.

Talks were finally about to begin, but no announcement had been made. An announcement would have boosted the odds that Vice President Hubert Humphrey would win on November 5th. A news story detailing Nixon's treachery might have changed history and landed the candidate in Leavenworth.

Robert Parry, on June 7, 2012, published a story at *Consortiumnews.com*, explaining how that almost happened:

"In late October 1968, Beverly Deepe, a 33-year-old Saigon correspondent for the *Christian Science Monitor* ... [and] six-year veteran covering the Vietnam War ... learned from South Vietnamese sources that Richard Nixon's campaign was collaborating behind the scenes with the Saigon government to derail President Lyndon Johnson's peace talks.

"On Oct. 28, Deepe sent her

startling information to her *Monitor* editors in the United States, asking them to have the Washington bureau 'check out a report that [South Vietnamese Ambassador to the United States] Bui Diem had sent a cable to the Foreign Ministry about contact with the Nixon camp,' she told me in a recent e-mail exchange."

Parry goes on to note that, had there been a peace agreement, it "could have brought the divisive war to an end before the social fabric of the United States was thoroughly torn apart."

Humphrey's election "could have given LBJ's Great Society a chance to work, alleviating the nation's poverty and reducing racial tensions."

He writes, too, that "the course of the Republican Party and modern American politics might have been very different. The darkly paranoid Nixon might not have

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had the chance to infuse the GOP with his win-at-all-cost ethos."

There was nothing but silence, though, from Deepe's editors, "even after the South Vietnamese government surprisingly backed out of attending planned peace talks in Paris."

On November 4th in Saigon, November 3rd in Washington, "she fashioned her information into an article and submitted it for publication. Her draft began: "Purported political encouragement from the Richard Nixon camp was a significant factor in the last-minute decision of President [Nguyen van] Thieu's refusal to send a delegation to the Paris peace talks at least until the American Presidential election is over."

Deepe, using her married name Keever, emailed Parry in 2012 that "The Monitor deleted those references [to collaboration between the Nixon team and the Saigon government]," but used some of the other material.

The story had been "trimmed and softened" because "the editors could get no confirmation and thus without it, they could not print such sweeping charges before the election," Deepe wrote to Parry.

More than five years later, on March 13, 1975, *Rolling Stone* published an article by Eric Redman. We have been unable to locate it online exactly as it was published in *Rolling Stone* — and trust us, we looked hard. We did find a reference to it, though, in the *Daily Courier*, published in Connellsburg, Pennsylvania, on March 8, 1975.

"Did Richard M. Nixon legally win the 1968 election? Eric Redman, writing in *Rolling Stone*, charges that Anna Chan Chennault, widow of the famed World War II Flying Tiger commander, tried to sabotage the Paris Vietnam peace talks ... Redman reviews claims that Nixon knew what Mme. Chennault, a long-time political ally, was doing and



This frayed flag flies on Gosling Road, over a fast food operation whose franchise owners certainly make a daily profit substantial enough to cover the cost of a replacement. This looks to be a standard five by eight. A spankin' new one would cost a whopping \$60 from Amazon, plus shipping. This item is in stock. The Flag Police understand that, as the overseer of an isolated outpost in the broader commercial landscape, the franchise owner has other responsibilities which he disregards at his peril: it cannot be easy running a panopticon whose mascot is a clown. It is also true that these days, the corporate tail clearly wags the national dog. The Flag Police, however, being of the old school, accept none of these factors as excuses.

denied that he was aware of her activities. If Nixon was involved, Redman writes, he 'would appear to violate at least the Logan Act,' which makes it a crime for private citizens to deal directly or indirectly with a foreign government or its agents" It was a juicy enough story, but apparently lacked hard proof.

In March of 2013, a tape finally surfaced that gave the story some traction. Johnson had proof of what Nixon had done, because he'd had the FBI bug the South Vietnamese. In a recorded phone call with Senate Minority Leader Everett Dirksen, he called Nixon's actions treasonous. At the time, though, he chose not to go public.

That tape caused a sensation, but still, all it proved was what Johnson believed.

Which brings us finally to a *New York Times* story by John A. Farrell, published December 31st, under the headline, "Nixon's Viet-

nam Treachery."

"A newfound cache of notes left by H. R. Haldeman, his closest aide," Farrell writes, "shows that Nixon directed his campaign's efforts to scuttle the peace talks"

The notes had been in the Nixon Presidential Library since 2007. Reading them, Farrell learned that "During a phone call on the night of Oct. 22, 1968, Richard M. Nixon told his closest aide (and future chief of staff) H.R. Haldeman to 'monkey wrench' President Lyndon B. Johnson's efforts to begin peace negotiations over the Vietnam War."

Who'da thunk it? Hunter S. Thompson went too easy on him.

Latest Climate Hoax "News"

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency just issued its latest annual Arctic Report Card. Surprise, surprise — it says that the persistent warming trend and accompanying loss of sea ice are triggering extensive changes up

there in Santy's neighborhood.

The average surface air temperature is way up, with four new monthly records. The minimum sea ice extent tied with 2007 for the second lowest in the satellite record. Spring snow cover extent in the North American Arctic was the lowest in the satellite record, which started in 1967. There's a good deal more along those lines. We've published the Executive Summary on pages six and seven.

Not to worry, though. According to our President-elect, and the party now running Congress, and Fox News, and the *Wall Street Journal* editorial page, and the experts on talk radio, it's all just a load of hooey from a bunch of freeloading nerds on the Federal payroll who are making up scary stuff so they can keep cashing their fat paychecks.

Either that, or they're all up to something that makes Richard Nixon look like Mother Theresa.



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**America vs America**

To the Editor:

"The America of Yesterday has defeated the America of Tomorrow," said Brian Williams on the night of November 8, 2016.

Hillary Clinton got 2.84 million more votes than Donald Trump, but for the fifth time in the history of our country, the Electoral vote has trumped the popular vote. The last time this happened, we got George W.[MD] Bush, Dick Cheney (Mike Pence's "role model"), two tragic wars, financial disaster, and environmental deterioration.

Alexander Hamilton and his fellow framers of the Constitution were afraid that a mob would elect a madman, and decided that an elite group, the Electoral College, should decide who would be President. The tables have turned, and now we have an elite group of billionaires, headed by a madman, to lead us into collapse.

I'm disgusted and scared, and I'm not alone. As a Greek columnist said recently about the economy in that country, "Pessimism is the rational position."

Dick Devens
Center Sandwich, N.H.

Dick:

No, you are certainly far from being alone. Less than one-third of

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registered voters marked their ballots for Trump. We feel fairly confident that he'll bring himself down, and badly damage the rotten party that nominated him in the process.

It looks like it's up to the rest of us to keep him from destroying the country.

The Editor

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**Trump? No Chance!**

To the Editor:

Often heard is "give him (Trump) a chance." Though early in the game, events to date clearly foreshadow what is coming. Again and again he has not shown the standards for his vaunted position as his central character exudes divisiveness, bigotry, scapegoating and a tiny heart. This Twitter-in-Chief has blatantly maligned Muslims, Mexicans, women, gays, Browns, Blacks and Tans and anyone who votes blue.

While originally expressing strong populist sentiments with contempt for elite-driven politics, after the election it's become clear that his agenda will be Corporate America to the max. He promises that "America will become great again," but I think it's already quite great, not for its red, white and blue but for its straights and gays, Gentile and Jews and Atheists, Caucasian and Asians, abled and disabled, immigrants and brave refugees too.

Engaging in fakery as if it were true, his base ate up every word they heard. That Hillary had nearly 3,000,000 more popular votes morphed into "I won the popular vote," alleging that millions voted illegally. Fakery schmakery.

My concern is that he will relentlessly continue battering media outlets to silence them into submission with fear and costly

law suites. This contempt for the First Amendment destroys the freedom to think independently, speak freely, dissent and protest which are bedrock's of democracy. Silence will be its defeat. It's no time to knuckle under!

Michael Kulla  
Poughkeepsie, N.Y.  
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A Three-Time Loser

To the Editor:

It is time to accept the fact that Donald Trump won the election and Hillary Clinton is a three-time loser, having lost the election, the recount that added votes to Trump, making her a bigger loser, and the attempted coup that saw Hillary losing five electors and Trump losing two.

So it is time for the university children, and even those with a Dr. prefix, to return to class. After having their cry-ins, their pet therapy, and participating in other New Age coping strategies, it is time they returned to real learning, which apparently they have not been introduced to. Perhaps it is the loss of the "compare and contrast" essay, and its substitution of the short answer test that has enforced and perpetuated their ignorance.

Fascism is not a defined philosophy; it is a process and structure of government. It comes in two forms — left and right — and it is merely state control over the economy and the daily life of citizenry. The state will define what you drink, if you may smoke, how many gallons your toilet tank will hold, what food you may eat, and what you will learn in school. And it is a jealous construct; it will not tolerate any organization that threatens total loyalty to the state. It will not tolerate any competing

loyalties such as those to church, social clubs, and family. In fact it sounds more like the left than the right as it applies to the United States.

The left mandates that the schools go beyond tolerance and acceptance of homosexuality to promotion of this behavior as a lifestyle equivalent to heterosexual preference, and there is no room for disagreement. Those who disagree that the state, instead of the family, should be in charge of the sexual education of their children are condemned and must be re-educated. And with the transgender controversy over the use of bathrooms, they create a ridiculous quantum like sexuality, where, as with Schrödinger's Cat that is both alive and dead until the box is opened and the wave function collapses, a person is both male and female until they make a choice of the bathroom they will use.

But what this fascism of the left teaches above all is that the white, heterosexual, Christian, male is the enemy of their utopia and it is he who must be disregarded or even crushed. Their contempt for the white, heterosexual, Christian male, in spite of the left's belligerencies about equal rights and respect for the individual, has revealed their hypocrisy and is another reason, along with her neo-conservative foreign policy and neo-liberal economic policies, that Hillary is the three-time loser that she is.

It was the political correctness and left wing fascism, along with foreign and economic policy, that killed the beast.

John Dente
Wilmington, Del.
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**A Right Wing Oligarchic Vision for America**

To the Editor:

David Koch is the brother of Charles Koch and together they form the Koch Brothers, America's second wealthiest family and the owner of Koch Enterprises, a very large fossil fuel company. The Koch Brothers are vehemently opposed to all forms of taxation, campaign finance laws and environmental regulation.

It's obvious that the Koch Brothers have never been content with just owning their enormous slice of the U.S. Economy; they have always wanted to own government as well. They reportedly contributed at least \$750 million (mere pocket change to the Kochs with huge returns on their investment) during the recent election cycle, almost exclusively to the campaigns of right wing Republicans.

David Koch ran for Vice President as a Libertarian in 1980 on the following radical right wing platform, nearly identical to that of today's Republican Party:

"We favor the abolition of Medicare and Medicaid programs."

"We oppose any compulsory insurance or tax-supported plan to provide health services, including those which finance abortion services."

"We favor the repeal of the fraudulent, virtually bankrupt, and increasingly oppressive Social Security system."

"We propose the abolition of

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"Friends need to tell each other the hard truths, and friendships require mutual respect."

— Secretary of State John Kerry criticizing increased Israeli settlements in the West Bank

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## And Other Correspondence

the governmental Postal Service ... In addition to being inefficient; it encourages governmental surveillance of private correspondence."

"We support repeal of minimum wage laws."

"Government schools lead to the indoctrination of children ... Government ownership, operation, regulation, and subsidy of schools and colleges should be ended .... We condemn compulsory education laws ... and we call for their immediate repeal."

"We call for the privatization of the public roads and national highway system."

"We oppose all government welfare, relief projects, and 'aid to the poor' programs."

David Koch, and his nasty platform lost big time in 1980, but 2016 was a banner year for the Koch Brothers and a handful of their billionaire friends, whose patience, perseverance and investments paid off handsomely. The planets are now aligned perfectly for a right wing oligarchy with bought and paid for Republican puppets controlling all facets of government to make sure the Kochs' vision for America, totally opposite to the interests of ordinary Americans, comes to full fruition.

Wayne H. Merritt

Dover, N.H.

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Mark Twain on General Wood's Brilliant Feat of Arms

[Note: For some years now our Tid-al Guide has included a brief item on the calendar for March 8th regarding U.S. Army Major General Leonard Wood, who was born in Winchester, New Hampshire on October 9, 1860. We've long wanted to expand on that entry. In the deafening silence following the Catastrophe of November 8th, we now have the space. First, a little introductory material, then some Twain. — The Ed.]

General Wood began his military career as a surgeon under contract in the Arizona Territory. He received the Medal of Honor for "extraordinary heroism in the Summer of 1886, in action in the Apache Campaigns in Arizona Territory. Assistant Surgeon Wood voluntarily carried dispatches through a region infested with hostile Indians, making a journey of 70 miles in one night and walking 30 miles the next day. Also for several weeks, while in close pursuit of Geronimo's band and constantly expecting an encounter, [he] commanded a detachment"

Mark Twain requires no introduction, but his friend George Harvey does. Harvey was the editor of *Harper's Weekly* from 1901 to 1913, and President of the Harper & Brothers publishing house. Interviewed by the *Washington Post* in 1907, Harvey said Twain was the best paid writer in the country. "Until recently he wrote wholly by hand. Quite unexpectedly he found that he could dictate to a secretary. He was as pleased over the discovery as was President Roosevelt when he happened upon Mount Sinai, Moses, and the Ten Commandments. Now he lights a cigar after breakfast, sits down in his library and dictates for three hours on his autobiography. When he gets up he has earned \$1,000 [\$25,654, adjusted for inflation].

The following is an excerpt from "Comments on the Moro Massacre," written about March 12, 1906, but not published until 1924, in *Mark Twain's Autobiography*. It refers to a battle between about 750 U.S. troops, with support from Filipino constabularies against about 1,000 Muslim insurrectionaries of the Moro tribe, who made the strategic mistake of taking up a defensive position in the mouth of an extinct volcano.

"At a luncheon party of men convened yesterday to God-speed George Harvey, who is leaving to-day for a vacation in Europe, all the talk was about the brilliant feat of arms; and no one had anything to say about it that either the President or Major General Dr. Wood ... would regard as complimentary, or as proper comment to put into our histories. Harvey said he believed that the shock and shame of this episode would eat down deeper and deeper into the hearts of the nation and fester there and produce results. He believed it would destroy the Republican party and President Roosevelt. I cannot believe that the prediction will come true, for the reason that prophecies which promise valuable things, desirable things, good things, worthy things, never come true. Prophecies of this kind are like wars fought in a good cause — they are so rare that they don't count.

"Day before yesterday the cable-note from the happy General Dr. Wood was still all glorious. There was still proud mention and elaboration of what was called the 'desperate hand-to-hand fight.' — Doctor Wood not seeming to suspect that he was giving himself away, as the phrase goes — since if there was any very desperate hand-to-hand fighting it would necessarily happen that nine hundred hand-to-hand fighters, if really desperate, would surely be able to kill more than fifteen of our men before their last man and woman and child perished.

"Very well, there was a new note in the dispatches yesterday afternoon — just a faint suggestion that Dr. Wood was getting ready to lower his tone and begin to apologize and explain. He announces that he assumes full responsibility for the fight. It indicates that he is aware that there is a lurking disposition here amidst all this silence to blame somebody. He says there was 'no wanton de-

struction of women and children in the fight, though many of them were killed by force of necessity because the Moros used them as shields in the hand-to-hand fighting.'

"This explanation is better than none; indeed it is considerably better than none. Yet if there was so much hand-to-hand fighting there must have arrived a time, toward the end of the four days' butchery, when only one native was left alive. We had six hundred men present; we had lost only fifteen; why did the six hundred kill that remaining man — or woman, or child?

"Dr. Wood will find that explaining things is not in his line. He will find that where a man has the proper spirit in him and the proper force at his command, it is easier to massacre nine hundred unarmed animals than it is to explain why he made it so remorselessly complete. Next he furnishes us this sudden burst of unconscious humor, which shows that he ought to edit his reports before he cables them:

"Many of the Moros feigned death and butchered the American hospital men who were relieving the wounded."

"We have the curious spectacle of hospital men going around trying to relieve the wounded savages — for what reason? The savages were all massacred. The plain intention was to massacre them all and leave none alive. Then where was the use in furnishing mere temporary relief to a person who was presently to be exterminated? The dispatches call this battue [*a hunting party arranged by driving game toward hunters by beaters*] a 'battle.' In what way was it a battle? It has no resemblance to a battle. In a battle there are always as many as five wounded men to one killed outright. When this so-called battle was over, there were certainly not fewer than two hundred wounded savages lying on the field. What became of



them? Since not one savage was left alive!

"The inference seems plain. We cleaned up our four days' work and made it complete by butchering those helpless people.

"The President's joy over the splendid achievement of his fragrant pet, General Wood, brings to mind an earlier presidential ecstasy. When the news came, in 1901, that Colonel Funston had penetrated to the refuge of the patriot, Aguinaldo, in the mountains, and had captured him by the use of these arts, to wit: by forgery, by lies, by disguising his military marauders in the uniform of the enemy, by pretending to be friends of Aguinaldo's and by disarming suspicion by cordially shaking hands with Aguinaldo's officers and in that moment shooting them down — when the cablegram announcing this 'brilliant feat of arms' reached the White House, the newspapers said that that meekest and mildest and gentlest and least masculine of men, President McKinley, could not control his joy and gratitude, but was obliged to express it in motions resembling a dance. Also President McKinley expressed his admiration in another way. He instantly shot that militia Colonel aloft over the heads of a hundred clean and honorable veteran officers of the army and made him a Brigadier General in the regular service, and clothed him in the honorable uniform of that rank, thus disgracing the uniform, the flag, the nation, and himself."

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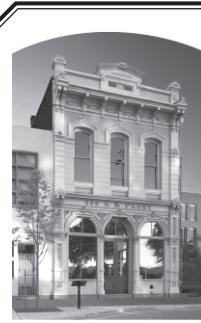
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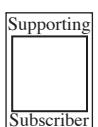
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Why in the world would Trump tap Perry to be Energy Secretary?

by Jim Hightower

Rick Perry has taken quite a tumble since being governor of Texas. He was a twice-failed GOP presidential wannabe and then ended up being a rejected contestant on "Dancing with the Stars," the television show for has-been celebrities.

But — resurrection! — having kissed the ring of President-To-Be Trump, Perry is being lifted from

the lowly role of twinkle-toed TV hoofer to — get this — taking charge of our government's nuclear arsenal!

That's a position that usually requires some scientific knowledge and experience, but as we're learning from other cabinet picks, the key qualification that Trump wants his public servants to have is a commitment to serve the private interests of corporate power.

That is why Perry — a devoted

practitioner of crony capitalism and a champion of oligarchy — has been rewarded with this position. As governor, for example, he went to extraordinary lengths to let the giant Energy Transfer Partners run a pipeline through the ecologically-fragile, natural wonders of Big Bend — ramming it right down the throats of near-unanimous opposition by local people. Perry then accepted a \$6 million campaign donation —

ie, a "payoff" — from the corporate boss, who later made Perry a paid member of the corporation's board of directors.

He also privatized a state-run, low-level nuclear waste facility, turning it over to Waste Control Specialists, owned by his largest campaign contributor. Then he let the corporation double the amount of waste dumped there, while reducing its legal liability for damages. Then, taking even

more cash from the owner, Perry pushed to let him put high-level nuclear waste in the dump.

Rick Perry has zero expertise or experience for the job of energy secretary, but he has beaucoup of both for "doing a job" on the American people and our environment.

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The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency's Latest Annual Arctic Report Card

The Executive Summary

The Arctic Report Card [www.arctic.noaa.gov/Report-Card/] considers a range of environmental observations throughout the Arctic, and is updated annually. As in previous years, the 2016 update to the Arctic Report Card highlights the changes that continue to occur in, and among, the physical and biological components of the Arctic environmental system.

Arctic air temperatures continue to increase at double the rate of the global temperature increase. The average annual surface air temperature anomaly (+2.0° C relative to the 1981–2010 baseline) over land north of 60° N between October 2015 and September 2016 was by far the highest in the observational record beginning in 1900. This represents a 3.5° C increase since the beginning of the 20th Century. Autumn, spring and winter showed extensive positive average air temperature anomalies across the central Arctic, primarily due to southerly winds moving warm air into the Arctic from mid-latitudes. Winter air temperatures greatly exceeded the previous record, with several locations showing January temperature more than 8° C above the norm. Con-

trary to conditions in much of the previous decade, neutral to cold temperature anomalies occurred across the central Arctic Ocean in summer 2016.

The relatively cool summer air temperatures over the Arctic Ocean created a condition which did not support rapid summer sea ice loss. After experiencing the lowest winter maximum ice extent in the satellite record (1979–2016) — which occurred in March and was 7 percent below the 1981–2010 average — many anticipated a record summer minimum extent. Though no new record was set, the September 2016 Arctic sea ice minimum extent tied with 2007 for the second lowest value in the satellite record, at 33 percent lower than the 1981–2010 average. The sea ice cover continues to be relatively young and thin. In March 2016, multiyear ice (more than 1 year old) and first-year ice were 22 percent and 78 percent of the ice cover, respectively, compared to 45 percent and 55 percent in 1985.

As the sea ice retreats more extensively in the summer, previously ice-covered water is exposed to more solar radiation. As a result, sea surface temperature (SST) and upper ocean temperatures are increasing throughout much of the

Arctic Ocean and adjacent seas. Also contributing to the increase in SST are regional air temperatures and influx of warmer water from the North Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. The Chukchi Sea, northwest of Alaska, and eastern Baffin Bay, off west Greenland, have the largest warming trends: ~0.5° C per decade since 1982. In August 2016, SST was up to 5° C higher than the 1982–2010 average in regions of the Barents and Chukchi seas and off the east and west coasts of Greenland.

Increasing ocean primary production (conversion of CO₂ to organic material) is also being observed as summer sea ice extent declines, related to enhanced light availability. In 2016, there were widespread positive primary production anomalies throughout the Arctic Ocean and adjacent ice-affected seas, from 5 percent to 19 percent above the 2003–2015 average in Hudson Bay and the Barents Sea, respectively. The only negative anomalies were observed in the western (North American) Arctic (-11.9 percent) and the Sea of Okhotsk (-1.8 percent). For the period 2003–2015 there are statistically significant primary production trends in the eastern (Eurasian) Arctic, Barents Sea, Greenland Sea, Hud-

son Bay and North Atlantic; the steepest trends are in the eastern Arctic (37.9 percent increase) and the Barents Sea (34.8 percent increase).

The waters of the Arctic Ocean are more prone to ocean acidification (OA) compared to the rest of the global ocean, due to their cooler water temperatures and unique physical processes (e.g. the formation and melting of sea ice). Even small amounts of human-derived carbon dioxide (CO₂) can cause significant chemical changes that other areas do not experience. Current data indicates that certain areas of the Arctic shelves presently experience prolonged ocean acidification events in shallow bottom waters. These waters are eventually transported off the shelf. As a result, corrosive conditions have been expanding deeper into the Arctic Basin over the last several decades. The inherently short Arctic food web linkages generate an increased urgency in the need to understand the impacts of OA on the Arctic marine ecosystem.

Ice on land, as represented by the Greenland Ice Sheet, saw a continuation of the overall increasing melting trend in 2016, with enhanced melt occurring in the southwest and northeast re-

gions. The onset of surface melt ranked 2nd (after only 2012) over the 37-year period of satellite record (1979 – 2016). The duration of the melt season lasted 30–40 days longer than usual in the northeast and 15–20 days longer along the west coast, compared to the 1981–2010 average. Consistent with the spatial distribution of melt anomalies, the largest area of relatively low albedo (a measure of surface reflectivity) was located along the southwest coast, reaching down to ~20 percent below the 2000–2009 average.

The spring snow cover extent (SCE) has undergone significant reductions over the period of satellite observations (which start in 1967), particularly since 2005. In 2016, new record low April and May SCE was reached for the North American Arctic. The June SCE was the 3rd lowest on record over both the North American and Eurasian sectors of the Arctic. Warming Arctic surface air temperatures have a clear influence on the timing of snow melt. However, there is also evidence of decreasing pre-melt snow mass (reflective of shallower snow) which may pre-condition the snowpack for earlier and more rapid melt in the springtime.

Satellite observations of tundra

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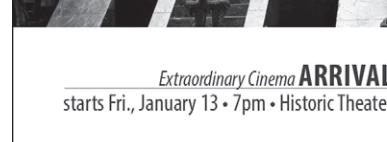
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The Northcountry Chronicle

Nightmare 2016

by William Marvel

December 19 finally brought an abrupt conclusion to the nightmare election of 2016. This year, the exercise that Walt Whitman exalted as the American "presidentialiad" went farther than most of us thought possible toward confirming ancient doubts that democracy could ever survive.

Thomas Jefferson cautioned that an educated electorate was essential to democracy. A more recent observer remarked that, if God had wanted us to vote, he would have given us candidates, and this year we did not have the candidates because we do not have an educated electorate. Jefferson wasn't talking about the degrees that are now good for little more than entry-level positions in jobs where you don't have to actually sweat. His hypothetical educated citizen needed only a working understanding of the political process at various levels of government, and a willingness to keep up with the issues.

Most Americans today know little about their government, and educating oneself on the issues and candidates is as difficult now as it was in Jefferson's day because the only information available is still partisan propaganda. Through both topic selection and interpre-

tive slant, broadcast news presents only biased viewpoints, and most viewers and listeners seem unable to detect that bias. Others deliberately seek it out, cleaving to commentators who tell them exactly what they want to hear. Still others pay no attention, and simply ask their friends how to vote when the time comes. They used to ask placard-holding acquaintances outside the polls which candidates they should vote for, but now they probably rely more on Facebook for their instructions.

Such widespread apathy and ignorance availed us an election offering no truly satisfactory candidate, with two eminently unlikely and untrustworthy characters dominating the show. The outcome was bound to dissatisfy most Americans, no matter who won. Thanks mainly to the partisan machinations of the principal losers, the aftermath has battered our institutions even more than the campaign itself.

First came the recount fiasco. It is unfortunate that Trump challenged any recounts, and particularly in Pennsylvania. The most noteworthy claim so far of Russian interference in the election involves the hacking of Democratic Party emails. That only gave the public information the Amer-

ican press might have exposed anyway — had it been sufficiently inquisitive and objective. Pennsylvania, however, provided the best opportunity for insidious manipulation of a machine-generated vote count, and that is something everyone should worry about (even if the U.S. had engaged in even more pernicious foreign intrigues). Trump didn't need Pennsylvania for electoral victory, but it would have added legitimacy to the results had he allowed a recount to show that he was really the winner there.

The worst post-election damage was the Democratic effort to coerce Electoral College members into overturning the outcome of the election. Were there credible evidence of foreign manipulation in the actual vote count, or if the election had been won by demonstrable corruption, that would have been a perfectly appropriate response. That is precisely what the Electoral College is for.

Unfortunately, the obvious motive for this unprecedented effort was no more noble than partisan preference. People lobbying for the Electoral College to dump Trump disingenuously insisted they were not seeking support for Hillary Clinton — but she was undoubtedly the candidate they wanted installed. Had she

removed herself from consideration she might have sheathed the effort in a veneer of principle, but such selflessness was not be expected from that career-conscious harridan. Instead, long after conceding the election she supported not only the recounts but the constitutionally dubious manipulation of the Electoral College, thereby showing herself just as untrustworthy as Donald himself. Where a statesman would have counseled accepting defeat for the good of the nation, she encouraged political trickery obnoxious enough to throw the country into a potentially violent uproar.

Even in failure, all these manipulative tactics jeopardize the certainty of presidential elections for the foreseeable future. The precedent for endless challenges to winning candidates is now set; Democrats have unwittingly validated the very type of denial they anticipated from — and ridiculed in — Donald Trump. Worse yet, their premature truculence casts advance discredit on the criticism they inevitably find cause to aim at Trump's actual performance.

Democrats justify their rancor on Clinton winning nearly 2 percent more of the popular vote than Trump — although neither won a majority. In 1824, Andrew Jack-

son won nearly 6 percent more of the popular vote than John Quincy Adams, but the House of Representatives anointed Adams. Rather than whimpering and whining, Jackson simply accepted defeat. In 1828 he came back and trounced Adams by 68 percent to 32 percent, and put his name on an entire epoch of American history.

If Democrats wish to recover, they might begin by examining their part in the conservative backlash of 2016. Instead of squandering their political capital and polarizing the American people with the relatively petty demands of a radical social agenda, they could have united people by focusing on more universally crucial environmental issues. Rather than presenting a Republican-lite plan for economic recovery, and quashing any dissent, they might have addressed the unsustainable nature of our entire economic system.

Democrats would serve their party and the people alike by dropping the arrogant air of knowing what's best for the nation's deplorables. Get off the high horse for a change, and listen to people who disagree. It still may not be too late to undo the damage you have done.

greenness (a measure of vegetation productivity and strongly correlated with above-ground biomass) are available since 1982, with 2015 being the most recent year with a complete data set. Long-term trends over this period show greening on the North Slope of Alaska, in the southern Canadian tundra, and in much of the central and eastern Siberian tundra. A decreasing trend in greenness, or "browning", is observed in western Alaska (Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta), the higher-Arctic Canadian Archipelago, and western Siberian tundra.

Warming air temperatures in

the Arctic are causing normally frozen ground (permafrost) to thaw. The permafrost is carbon rich and, when it thaws, is a source of the greenhouse gases carbon dioxide and methane. Northern permafrost zone soils contain 1330–1580 billion tons organic carbon, about twice as much as currently contained in the atmosphere. Tundra ecosystems are taking up increasingly more carbon during the growing season over the past several decades, but this has been offset by increasing carbon loss during the winter. Overall, tundra appears to be releasing net carbon to the at-

mosphere. Changes in the tundra environment also affect the fauna they support, causing species to shift their distributions, adapt to novel conditions, or die out. Because of this linkage, small mammals, such as shrews, and their parasites can serve as key indicators for anticipating the consequences of environmental variability and changing interactions among species. Some Arctic shrews have recently acquired new parasites indicating poleward shifts of sub-Arctic faunas, and demonstrating increases in both Arctic biodiversity and overall complex-

ity within these novel species networks.

In summary, there are numerous and diverse signals indicating that the Arctic environmental system continues to be influenced by long-term upward trends in air temperature, modulated by natural variability in regional and seasonal anomalies. *The acceleration of many of these signals, the interdependency of the physical and biological elements of the Arctic system, and the growing recognition that the Arctic is an integral part of the larger Earth system are increasing the pressure for more effective and timely communica-*

tion of these scientific observations to diverse user audiences. A key to meeting this challenging goal is to more directly convey the syntheses of observations across disciplinary boundaries, to better highlight Arctic system change.

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2008—Hillary Clinton wins the New Hampshire primary.	2002—Future Attorney General Alberto Gonzales writes that parts of the Geneva Conventions are “obsolete” and “quaint.”	2015—A Robinson R22 over San Juan Bay, Puerto Rico emits white smoke, gyrates as its rotors bend, then plunges 800 feet, killing the pilot.	2008—“There will be a signed peace treaty [between Israel and the Palestinians] by the time I leave office,” says George W.[MD] Bush.	1991—Congress authorizes the first Bush vs. Hussein War.	2002—George W.[MD] Bush passes out and hits the floor of the White House. He blames a pretzel, but an ex-British Foreign Secretary later says that lab techs found alcohol in a sample of Bush’s blood.	2005—“[M]an should never try to put words in God’s mouth,” says George W.[MD] Bush on TV.
2007—The sub U.S.S. <i>Newport News</i> collides with an oil tanker in the straits of Hormuz.	1980—On orders from King Saud, 63 participants in the 1979 seizure of the Grand Mosque at Mecca are beheaded with swords in the public squares of eight Saudi cities.	2002—George W.[MD] Bush denies ever meeting Enron CEO Ken Lay, his largest campaign donor.	2003—“You can count on this,” Donald Rumsfeld tells Saudi Prince Bandar, showing plans for the Iraq War. “This is going to happen.”	1984—Reagan Deputy Secretary of Defense W. Paul Thayer resigns after being charged with insider trading. He ends up in the can.	1992—Japan apologizes for having made sex slaves of tens of thousands of Korean women during WWII.	2000—“This is still a dangerous world ... of madmen and uncertainty and potential mental losses,” warns George W.[MD] Bush.
2005—The sub U.S.S. <i>San Francisco</i> collides at full speed with an underwater mountain near Guam. One sailor dies, 98 are injured.	1967—In Vietnam: 116,858 South Vietnamese troops deserted this year, up from 113,000 from last year. North Vietnamese desertions: 20,242.	1984—Responders to a false alarm about an accidental missile launch at Warren AFB, Wyo., park an armored car atop the silo as a precaution.	2002—Joe Foss, 86, ex-Governor of South Dakota, is detained at a Phoenix airport; security personnel mistake his Medal of Honor for a weapon.	1971—Rev. Philip Berrigan is indicted for conspiring to kidnap Henry Kissinger and bomb federal buildings.	1962—U.S. helicopters fly their first combat mission in South Vietnam.	1969—Near Hawaii, a rocket explosion aboard the nuke-powered U.S.S. <i>Enterprise</i> starts a fire. The fire sets off about 18 500-lb. bombs, killing 27 and injuring 85.
2003—“The war on terror involves Saddam Hussein,” explains George W. Bush, “because of the nature of Saddam Hussein, the history of Saddam Hussein, and his willingness to terrorize himself.”	1967—In Vietnam: 116,858 South Vietnamese troops deserted this year, up from 113,000 from last year. North Vietnamese desertions: 20,242.	1964—Panama suspends relations with U.S. after U.S. troops kill 21 anti-American protesters.	2000—“Rarely is the question asked,” says George W.[MD] Bush, “is our children learning?”	1954—Secretary of State John Foster Dulles announces that containment of Communism is “out” and massive retaliation is “in.”	1974—Dr. Hunter S. Thompson throws a Super Bowl party; one guest: George W.[MD] Bush.	1967—The First Human Be-In is held, in San Francisco.
1992—At a formal dinner in Japan, Bush #41 turns his head to Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and vomits in his lap.	1952—In Phenix City, Ala., anti-vice crusader Higgin Bently’s house is destroyed by a bomb.	1957—Four black churches and homes of two black leaders in Birmingham, Ala. are bombed.	1974—Joint Chiefs Chair Admiral Moorer is reported to have spied on the executive branch to get secret info on U.S. diplomatic initiatives.	1964—Twenty-three years after journalist George Seldes warns that smoking is hazardous to health, the U.S. Surgeon General does, too.	1951—Convicted of bombing an airliner, wheelchair-bound Albert Guay rolls to Canadian gallows.	1957—“I never should have switched from Scotch to Martinis,” says the dying Humphrey Bogart.
1982—The Reagan White House announces a new policy: granting tax-exempt status to racially-segregated colleges. (It lasts 4 days.)	1939—In Missouri’s “Bootheel,” 1,700 homeless sharecroppers, black and white, stage a sit-down strike in the middle of Highways 60 and 61.	1946—I hate war as only a soldier who has lived it can, only as one who has seen its brutality, its stupidity,” traitorous U.S. Army Chief of Staff Dwight D. Eisenhower reveals in Ottawa, Canada.	1943—Anarchist newspaperman Carlo Tresca is gunned down in New York City, probably by Carmine Galante or orders from Generoso Pope, Sr., as a favor for Mussolini.	1947—The Supreme Court tells states, if at first you don’t succeed at electrocuting a man, try, try again.	1946—In Paris, 500 GIs adopt an Enlisted Man’s <i>Magna Carta</i> . It calls for a radical reform of the master-slave relationship between officers and enlisted men.	1893—Joseph Conrad quits the sea of salt water for a sea of ink.
1973—The Watergate Burglar trial begins.	1918—The 10th Cavalry and Yaqui Indians conduct the last battle of the Indian Wars at Bear Valley, Ariz.	1920—Victor Berger (Socialist-Wis.) is refused a seat in Congress for opposing WWI.	1917—Fire consumes 39 buildings comprising a munitions plant in Lyndhurst, N.J. Switchboard operator Tessie McNamara’s warnings help 1,400 workers escape.	1833—Congress makes it illegal for any Indian to remain within the bounds of the state of Florida.	1874—NYC Police Commissioner Abram Duryée says 1,600 cops beat unemployed demonstrators was “the most glorious sight I have ever seen.”	1878—The U.S. Supreme Court confirms the right of railroads to provide unequal levels of service on the basis of race.
1965—Sen. Everett Dirksen proposes adoption of the marigold as America’s national flower.	1860—The Pemberton Mill in Lawrence, Mass., overloaded with machinery to boost profits, collapses killing 145 and injuring 166: worst industrial disaster in state history.	1776—In Philadelphia, <i>Common Sense</i> is published, by Thomas Paine, who eschews all royalties.	1912—In Lawrence, Mass., 32,000 women and children strike for bread—and for roses, too.	1641—James City, Va. passes a law saying if an Indian commits a crime, the first Indian caught must pay the penalty—even with his life.	1842—William Brydon rides into Jalalabad alone, the sole survivor of 4,500 British soldiers who began a retreat from Kabul a week earlier.	1850—Imprisoned anarchist Mikhail Bakunin, 35, is sentenced to death. That sentence is suspended, he spends years in a dungeon, comes down with scurvy, is sent to Siberia, escapes, travels the world making trouble for authorities, and eventually dies in Switzerland at 62.
1956—Hoaroani Indians in the Ecuadorian rainforest register their annoyance with missionaries by spearing five to death.	1855—The last 88 Clackamas Indians sign away the best timberland in Oregon for \$500 and some food.	1958—An accident at Chelyabinsk plutonium plant in U.S.R. kills hundreds.	1928—Ruth Snyder becomes the first woman ever photographed as she’s being killed in an electric chair.	1864—Kit Carson and his fellow heroes kill 23 Navajos in Canyon de Chelly, Arizona Territory.	1929—Ruth Snyder becomes the first woman ever photographed as she’s being killed in an electric chair.	1893—Joseph Conrad quits the sea of salt water for a sea of ink.
1946—Over 10,000 GIs in Saipan, Guam, and France protest slow redeployment back to the U.S.	1766—In Portsmouth, N.H., stamp master George Meserve is forced to surrender his commission by “a grand mob,” which then raises the first “No Stamp” flag in the colonies.	1965—Richard Milhouse Nixon is born in Yorba Linda, Calif.	1932—Ms. Hattie Wyatt Caraway (D-Ark.) becomes the first woman elected to the U.S. Senate.	1864—Kit Carson and his fellow heroes kill 23 Navajos in Canyon de Chelly, Arizona Territory.	1932—Ms. Hattie Wyatt Caraway (D-Ark.) becomes the first woman elected to the U.S. Senate.	1893—Joseph Conrad quits the sea of salt water for a sea of ink.
6:51 7:27 12:25 1:11	7:50 8:29 1:25 2:13	8:48 9:28 2:24 3:11	9:43 10:23 3:21 4:06	10:36 11:15 4:15 4:58	11:27 5:07 5:48	12:05 12:17 5:58 6:36
SUNDAY, JANUARY 15 MONDAY, JANUARY 16 TUESDAY, JANUARY 17 WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18 THURSDAY, JANUARY 19 FRIDAY, JANUARY 20 SATURDAY, JANUARY 21						
2009—Chesley “Sully” Sullenberger safely lands a malfunctioning Airbus on the Hudson River.	2008—Megachurch pastor, Bushian “Point of Light,” and confessed serial adulterer Earl Paulk confesses to perjury: he <i>did</i> sleep with his sister-in-law. Also, his “nephew” is really his son.	2014—NRA Board Member Ted Nugent, on TV, calls President Obama a “mongrel,” and says liberals should be prosecuted for treason.	1990—Washington, D.C. Mayor Marion Barry is busted in a drug sting.	2004—Weeks after telling Chris Matthews, “we’re going to break up the giant media enterprises,” Howard Dean addresses a screaming crowd in Iowa. Video techs create a clip using sound from his mike only. It is aired 633 times over the next four days.	2009—Administering the Oath of Office to President Obama off the top of his head, Chief Justice John Roberts blows his lines.	2001—The <i>New York Times</i> , ignoring 20,000 jeering demonstrators, reports George W.[MD] Bush’s inauguration may bring a “new era of ... social justice.”
2000—G.W.[MD] Bush promises an administration that “will see service to our country as a great privilege and who will not stain the house.”	2003—Space Shuttle <i>Columbia</i> takes off for the last time.	2003—George W.[MD] Bush tells wounded troops at Walter Reed we “must provide the best care” for veterans the same day the VA cuts off health care for 164,000 veterans.	1982—During a training mission at Indian Springs, Ariz., four Air Force Thunderbirds fly their T-38 jets into the ground.	2001—On his last full day in office, Bill Clinton admits he perjured himself when he denied having sex with Monica Lewinsky.	2009—Top Congressional Republicans gather and scheme to sabotage the administration of the newly-inaugurated President.	2000—“When I was coming up,” says George W.[MD] Bush, “it was a dangerous world, and you knew exactly who they were. It was us vs. them, and it was clear who them was.”
1992—George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush, campaigning in N.H., says “[W]e are blessed. So don’t feel sorry for...don’t cry for me, Argentina.”	1986—The Dept. of Energy announces a seven-year search for a nuclear waste dump site. One potential site: Hillsborough, N.H.	1996—Mistaken for a drug trafficker, Jimmy Buffet and his seaplane are fired on near Jamaica.	1969—Peace talks begin in Paris between U.S. and Vietnam.	1996—Hollywood producer Don Simpson’s \$2,000/day drug habit kills him at the age of 52.	2005—J.P. Morgan Chase admits two banks it swallowed had taken slaves as collateral years before.	1997—Newt Gingrich becomes the first Speaker of the House to be disciplined for unethical behavior.
1989—On Martin Luther King, Jr.’s birthday, President Reagan says some civil rights leaders are “doing very well ... keeping alive the feeling that they’re victims of prejudice.”	1989—The Dept. of Energy announces a seven-year search for a nuclear waste dump site. One potential site: Hillsborough, N.H.	1998—As Drudge is reporting that <i>Newsweek</i> has spiked a story about his having sex with an intern, Bill Clinton denies under oath having had sex with Monica Lewinsky.	1943—The Red Army breaks the 890-day Nazi siege of Leningrad.	1996—Hollywood producer Don Simpson’s \$2,000/day drug habit kills him at the age of 52.	2001—Minutes after Ronald Reagan is sworn in as president, 52 American hostages in Iran are released: a coincidence. He goes on to trade arms for hostages, bankroll the future al-Qaeda, rob Social Security, and triple the national debt.	1996—Bill and Monica enjoy their fifth illicit encounter.
1968—Near Dak To, SP5/Dwight H. Johnson engages so fiercely in a firefight that he is later awarded the Medal of Honor. In 1971 he’s shot to death in a suicidal robbery.	1986—Ronald Reagan, 74, has polyps removed and authorizes the secret (and illegal) sale of weapons to Iran.	1999—As Drudge is reporting that <i>Newsweek</i> has spiked a story about his having sex with an intern, Bill Clinton denies under oath having had sex with Monica Lewinsky.	1984—Five are killed and many injured when a steam boiler explodes at the Wallace Brothers Shoe factory in Rochester, N.H. Its malfunctioning safety valve had been weighted down with bricks.	1998—Two Britons are killed and three injured in the first Zeppelin attack of WWI.	1942—Nazi officials at Wannsee determine a “final Solution” to the Jewish problem.	1981—National Security Advisor Dick Allen does Nancy Reagan a favor, intercepting gifts from a Japanese reporter the law prohibits her from accepting. She repays the favor by exploiting that act to get Allen fired.
1968—Jeanette Rankin, 87, Congresswoman who voted against WW I and WW II, leads a march against the Vietnam War.	1979—Rep. Michael Myers [D-Pa.] is charged with assault and battery after a drunken brawl.	1991—Gulf (& Exxon) War I begins with air attacks on Iraq.	1943—Spanish anarchists proclaim a libertarian commune; the government soon jails its members.	1998—Howard Hughes by exploding an H-bomb 90 miles further away from his penthouse, but the ground’s no good for it.	1942—Nazi officials at Wannsee determine a “final Solution” to the Jewish problem.	1981—National Security Advisor Dick Allen does Nancy Reagan a favor, intercepting gifts from a Japanese reporter the law prohibits her from accepting. She repays the favor by exploiting that act to get Allen fired.
1961—Air Force’s “Texas Tower 4,” damaged during construction and again by Hurricane Donna, collapses into the Atlantic 60 miles off New Jersey with a loss of 28 lives.	1979—Rep. Michael Myers [D-Pa.] is charged with assault and battery after a drunken brawl.	1992—Vesna Vulović falls 33,000 feet from a bombed DC-9, lands on a snow-covered slope, and lives.	1944—Apache chief Mangas Colorado, having entered Fort McLane, N.M. under a flag of truce, is manacled, tortured, then shot. His skull is sent to a phrenologist.	1998—Howard Hughes by exploding an H-bomb 90 miles further away from his penthouse, but the ground’s no good for it.	1942—Nazi officials at Wannsee determine a “final Solution” to the Jewish problem.	1981—National Security Advisor Dick Allen does Nancy Reagan a favor, intercepting gifts from a Japanese reporter the law prohibits her from accepting. She repays the favor by exploiting that act to get Allen fired.
1943—Future S.C. Senator Strom Thurmond has backseat sex with murderer Sue Logue as she’s being driven to the electric chair.	1979—Rep. Michael Myers [D-Pa.] is charged with assault and battery after a drunken brawl.	1993—Serial killer and cannibal Albert Fish is executed at Sing Sing.	1945—Charles Bent, the new Territorial Governor of New Mexico, is scalped at his Taos home in front of his wife and children.	1998—Howard Hughes by exploding an H-bomb 90 miles further away from his penthouse, but the ground’s no good for it.	1942—Nazi officials at Wannsee determine a “final Solution” to the Jewish problem.	1981—National Security Advisor Dick Allen does Nancy Reagan a favor, intercepting gifts from a Japanese reporter the law prohibits her from accepting. She repays the favor by exploiting that act to get Allen fired.
1919—In Boston, a badly-built tank collapses, releasing a flood of molasses—a raw material for war munitions; 21 die, 150 are injured.	1979—Rep. Michael Myers [D-Pa.] is charged with assault and battery after a drunken brawl.	1994—Good ol’ Ike warns against the “acquisition of unwarranted influence” by the Military-Industrial Complex.	1946—Rhode Islander Joshua Tefft, the Algonquin-speaking widower of a Wampanoag woman, accused of high treason during the Great Swamp Fight, becomes the only Englishman ever drawn and quartered in North America.	1998—Howard Hughes by exploding an H-bomb 90 miles further away from his penthouse, but the ground’s no good for it.	1942—Nazi officials at Wannsee determine a “final Solution” to the Jewish problem.	1981—National Security Advisor Dick Allen does Nancy Reagan a favor, intercepting gifts from a Japanese reporter the law prohibits her from accepting. She repays the favor by exploiting that act to get Allen fired.
12:54 1:06 6:48 7:23	1:42 1:55 7:38 8:10	2:31 2:46 8:29 8:58	3:21 3:29 9:23 9:47	4:14 4:36 10:19 10:40	5:09 5:37 11:20 11:35	6:06 6:39 12:21

