

*The Fortnightly Rant***The Self-Exonerating Tyrant**

A 2013 glossary of military slang defines a “self-licking ice cream cone” as a “military doctrine or political process that appears to exist in order to justify its own existence, often producing irrelevant indicators of its own success. For example, continually releasing figures on the amount of Taliban weapons seized, as if there were a finite supply of such weapons. While seizing the weapons, soldiers raid Afghan villages, enraging the residents and legitimizing the Taliban’s cause.”

Military historian Norman Friedman coined the term to describe certain weapons systems during the Gulf War of 1991-1992. Astute readers, though, will readily see that it could accurately have been used two decades earlier. Afghans, Iraqis, Vietnamese, and U.S. veterans all can attest to this.

In fact, once this concept is understood, its broad applicability becomes unmistakable. The Space Shuttle, the International Space Station, and Star Wars all come to mind, along with, more recently, self-driving cars.

InkStickMedia reported Tuesday that “Annual spending on just one weapons system—the troubled F-35 combat aircraft, which the Project on Government Oversight has determined may never be fully ready for combat—is comparable to the entire discretionary budget for the Centers for Disease Control. And a 2022 report by the Center for American Progress found that an investment of just \$4.5 billion per year—about one-third the cost of a new aircraft carrier—would “ensure equitable and sustained foundation public health services for all.”

Why are such travesties accepted as normal? Perhaps because our domesticated media routinely fire any journalist who tries to report that the emperor is naked.

Now, against this already dysfunctional background, we appear to have another, analogous problem: that of the self-exonerating tyrant.

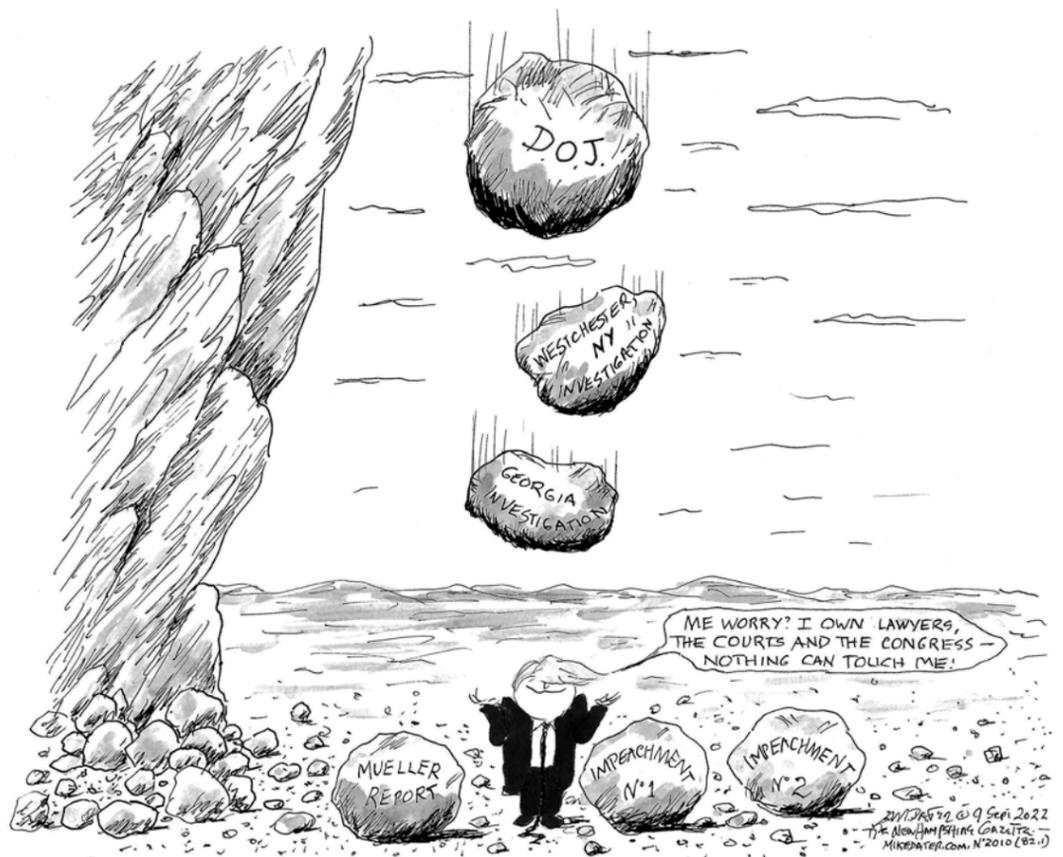
You know who we mean. We apologize for dragging this tiresome individual onto our pages yet again. We assume our readers are as tired of reading about him as we are of writing about him. If we ignore him, though, it’s not he who’ll go away. It will be our democracy.

To fully appreciate the staggering WTF-ness of this latest abomination, recall that the day after delivering his inaugural speech—the prophetic “American Carnage”—he visited CIA headquarters. He used as a backdrop the Memorial Wall—white marble dotted with 117 stars, each honoring an anonymous CIA officer killed in the line of duty.

“He used the scene as a prop for another complaint about the media and another bit of braggadocio about his crowds and his support,” Paul R. Pillar, former Deputy Director of the Agency’s Counterterrorist Center, told *The New Yorker’s* Robin Wright in 2017. “...that Trump made no mention of those whom that wall memorializes, made his performance doubly offensive.”

Four months after Biden was sworn in, the chief counsel of the National Archives, knowing that TFG had retained boxes of secret stuff, wrote an obsequious note to his lawyers—“We know things are very chaotic, as they always are in the course of a one-term transition”—asking for those secret materials back. All that got them was more lies.

Then last fall, on October 5th, *The New York Times* reported that “Top American counterintelligence officials warned every C.I.A. station and base around the world last week about troubling numbers of informants recruited from other coun-



tries to spy for the United States being captured or killed, people familiar with the matter said.

“The message, in an unusual top secret cable, said that the C.I.A.’s counterintelligence mission center had looked at dozens of cases in the last several years involving foreign informants who had been killed, arrested or most likely compromised.”

Finally, last month, the FBI showed up unannounced and raided TFG’s Florida playpen—well-known hangout of the occasional fake-Rothschild grifter and wandering, confused Chinese person bearing multiple electronic devices.

“Among the 100-plus classified documents taken in August,” the *Washington Post* reported yesterday, “some were marked ‘HCS,’ a category of highly classified government information that refers to ‘HUMINT Control Systems,’ which are systems used to protect intelligence gathered from secret

human sources, according to a court filing.”

Correlation is not causation, of course. We are certainly not qualified to say whether #45 is personally responsible for crippling the U.S.’s global spy network around the world. When she was interviewed recently by MSNBC’s Nicole Wallace, though, former CIA officer Tracy Walder did bring up that possibility.

Here’s another possibility: the person who once treated the Memorial Wall as a backdrop for his boasting may someday be responsible for putting another star on it.

At this point, many reasonable people are asking, “Why hasn’t this bozo been greased up and loaded into a circus cannon aimed at the United States Penitentiary in Leavenworth, Kansas?”

Oddly enough, the latest hitch in that seemingly-inevitable but glacier-paced process came from a

Judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida named Aileen Cannon.

Lawyers for the Doofus Formerly Known as #45 petitioned Judge Cannon for a special master to pore over all the pilfered U.S. gummint secrets stashed at MAGA-Lardo. In a just world, those lawyers would have been laughed out of court.

Judge Cannon, though, is special. She’s a member of the Federalist Society. On her scales of justice, a brick and a feather have equal weight, provided the feather belongs to a Republican. Appointed by Trump, she sided with Trump’s lawyers. Now the Justice Department can’t touch him until God knows when. Or, Justice can appeal—and roll the dice with more Trump judges.

It doesn’t seem to matter what this guy does, he just can’t get arrested. One thing’s for sure: until he’s locked up in Leavenworth, we’re staying the hell off Fifth Avenue.

*The Alleged News®***It Takes Two to Tango, and a Couple Hundred to Overturn An Election**

If only all our problems could be solved by jailing #45....

Even if the roll call at Leavenworth were to include the name of a former President in 2024, that would hardly assure that the nation had returned to normal operations. Equally-deranged replacements seem to be springing up like poisonous mushrooms after a toxic rain.

On Wednesday, the nerds at *fivevethirtyeight.com* reported that “From the Carolinas to California, Montana to Florida, election denialism has spread across the country. Candidates who support former President Donald Trump’s false claims that the 2020 election was stolen will appear on ballots in nearly every state this fall.”

After reaching out to “every single Republican nominee for the House,

Senate, governor, secretary of state and attorney general to determine their position on the 2020 election,” they concluded that out of “529 total Republican nominees running for office, we found 196 who fully denied the legitimacy of the 2020 election”—that’s well over one third.

Another 61 candidates “raised doubts about potential [election] fraud.” Add them to the paranoia pot and you’re up to 48.6 percent.

This would be less appalling if these were fringe candidates who were being shunned by donors. They would then be unlikely—due to our completely impartial and non-partisan market-based system of elections—to win office and turn our much-vaunted Constitutional Republic™ into a Fourth Reich.

We regret to inform our readers

that, according to a report published at *OpenSecrets*, “Corporate PACs have given more than \$22.2 million to election objectors since the January 6th Capitol attack.” Srijita Datta and Anna Massoglia reported on August 25th:

“Republican members of Congress who voted against certifying 2020 presidential election results received over \$22.2 million from corporate PACs between January 7, 2021 and June 30, 2022, a new *OpenSecrets* analysis found.

“The 147 election objectors in the Senate and House voted against certification of President Joe Biden’s victory in Arizona or Pennsylvania amid a violent attack on the Capitol that injured police officers, forced lawmakers to evacuate and left at least seven people dead.

“Three members of what critics dubbed the ‘Sedition Caucus’ have since left Congress, and 122 are running for office in 2022. According to filings with the FEC, six Republican incumbents lost their primaries—three in the House and three in the Senate.

“In the wake of the January 6th attack, scores of private companies declared they would completely stop, pause or reevaluate PAC giving to election objectors. But several corporations resumed PAC giving to these lawmakers within a month of the attack.

“Koch Industries’ PAC was the largest corporate PAC contributor to members of Congress who voted against election certification, with more than \$607,000 disbursed to campaigns or leadership PACs. Home Depot, Boeing Co. and United Parcel Service closely follow with more than \$500,000 each

in corporate PAC contributions.

“More election objectors—52—received funds from Koch Industries’ PAC than any other corporate PAC. Home Depot PAC is a close second, donating about \$593,000 to 44 members. Boeing Co. follows with \$520,000 to 27 members.”

The seven remaining top supporters of sedition, in descending order of largesse, were UPS, Lockheed Martin, Raytheon, Bue Cross, General Dynamic, Williams Company, and L3Harris Technologies. Oklahoma-based Williams sells fossil fuel. Shockingly, L3Harris, now a defense contractor, began in the 1890s as a legit business, manufacturing printing presses.

The Alleged News®
from page one

Having long scoffed at alarmist talk about election fraud, we may now have to eat a plate of crow.

We must say, though, in our own defense, that all the election workers we know are probably Democrats.

The following story suggests that—hard as this may be to believe—certain Republicans may possibly be guilty of the very crimes they accuse Democrats of committing.

Security Camera Footage May Show Evidence Of Election Fraud
by Brett Wilkins

A former Republican county chair in Georgia who is under criminal investigation for allegedly posing as a fake elector for former President Donald Trump escorted GOP operatives into an election office on the same day a voting machine was breached there, newly released surveillance footage shows.

Security video from the same Coffee County elections office also shows that consultants from a former company that failed to prove fraud in Arizona during the 2020 election made multiple visits to the facility, *The Washington Post*—one of

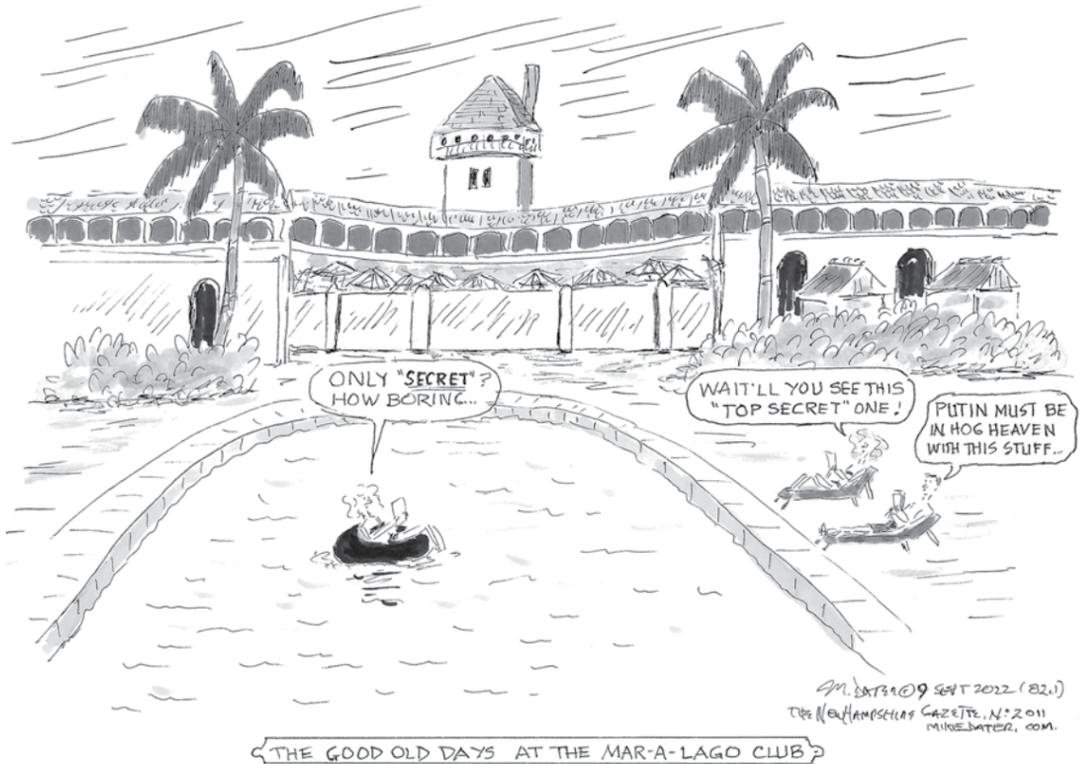
the media outlets that obtained the footage—reported on September 6th.

The video shows that Cathy Latham, a teacher and former GOP chairperson of Coffee County, led a group of data forensics experts into the elections office shortly before noon on January 7, 2021—the same day that confidential software and files were allegedly copied.

The theft was allegedly perpetrated at the behest of Sidney Powell, a former federal prosecutor and prominent purveyor of Trump's "Big Lie" that Democrats stole the 2020 election.

Latham has claimed in sworn testimony that she taught all day on January 7th and only visited the elections office briefly after classes ended. She is one of 16 Trump supporters in Georgia who signed a bogus certificate claiming they were "duly elected and qualified electors for president and vice president," part of an alleged scheme to create false slates of electors in seven swing states won by President Joe Biden, steal them for Trump, and ultimately overturn the 2020 presidential election.

Two of the data forensics experts seen in the January 7th footage,



THE GOOD OLD DAYS AT THE MAR-A-LAGO CLUB

Scott Hall and Paul Maggio, have admitted to accessing a Coffee County voting machine at Powell's request.

Atlanta-based Sullivan Strickler, which employed four of the experts including Maggio, was last week subpoenaed by the Fulton County special grand jury conducting a complex criminal investigation into Georgia's 2020 election.

Separate security camera footage from the Coffee County elections office shows consultants Doug Logan and Jeffrey Lenberg visiting the building twice later in January 2021, and Lenberg making five additional visits there on his own.

Logan was the CEO of Cyber Ninjas, the now-defunct security firm hired by Arizona Republicans to find evidence of baseless claims of fraud in the 2020 presidential election. The company's audit concluded that Trump lost Arizona by even more votes than the certified result and that there was no evidence of fraud.

Lenberg—who also analyzed voting equipment in Michigan and New Mexico—said he previously

worked on finding ways to break into purportedly secure systems.

The pair were allegedly involved in a separate but related criminal effort to subvert the 2020 election. The office of Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel, a Democrat, said last month that a group of Trump loyalists including Republican state attorney general candidate Matt DePerno, state Rep. Daire Rendon (R-103), and Barry County Sheriff Dar Leaf conspired to feloniously access voting machines as part of an effort to overturn the election.

An investigation by state police and special agents for the attorney general's office resulted in a petition to the Michigan Prosecuting Attorneys Coordinating Council seeking "prosecutorial review for charges" against nine people including DePerno, Rendon, Leaf, Lenberg, and Logan.

The petition states that potential charges in the case include—but are not limited to—conspiracy, using a computer system to commit a crime, willfully damaging a voting machine, malicious destruction of property, fraudulent access to a

computer or computer system, and false pretenses.

According to the document, vote tabulation machines used in multiple Michigan jurisdictions were illegally taken to hotels and rented properties in Oakland County, where four people including Lenberg and Logan "broke into the tabulators and performed 'tests' on the equipment" that allegedly included running fake ballots through the devices.

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Rapidly Retreating Doomsday Glacier Clinging 'By Its Fingernails': Study
by Jake Johnson

New research unveiled Monday suggests that the West Antarctic Thwaites Glacier—an enormous ice mass with the potential to trigger catastrophic sea level rise—could retreat far more quickly in the coming years than scientists previously anticipated as fossil fuel-driven planetary warming continues to accelerate.

Dubbed the "Doomsday Glacier,"



The more-or-less Fourth Annual Paul McEachern Regatta was held on Sunday, August 28th, at the eponymous Paul McEachern Park, on the north shore of the North Mill Pond. Perhaps there has been a more perfect day somewhere, at some time. If so, we know nothing about it.

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Sometimes Old is Good
The Fechheimer Building, one of the finest examples of a cast-iron facade in Portland, Oregon, was built in 1885. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places, it was restored in 1981 by Russell Fellows Properties, the principals of which enjoy a subscription to this newspaper.
THE NEW HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE

MIKE DATER'S CARTOON ORIGINALS
AND OTHER DRAWINGS BY THE NEW HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE'S VERY OWN
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Thwaites has been the subject of scientific concern for decades given its immensity—it is roughly the size of the U.S. state of Florida and, if melting continues at the current pace, it could raise global sea levels by 11 feet or more.

But a new study published in *Nature Geoscience* offers a first-of-its-kind look at the body's transformation over time, finding that "sustained pulses of rapid retreat have occurred at Thwaites Glacier in the past two centuries."

"Over a duration of 5.5 months, Thwaites' grounding zone retreated at a rate of >2.1 km per year—twice the rate observed by satellite at the fastest retreating part of the grounding zone between 2011 and 2019," the analysis notes. "Similar rapid retreat pulses are likely to occur in the near future when the grounding zone migrates back off stabilizing high points on the sea floor."

Robert Larter, a marine geophysicist with the British Antarctic Survey, said Monday that the research shows Thwaites "is really holding on today by its fingernails, and we

should expect to see big changes over small timescales in the future—even from one year to the next—once the glacier retreats beyond a shallow ridge in its bed."

To explore past changes to the glacier and help chart out its possible future, a team of scientists led by Alastair Graham of the University of South Florida's College of Marine Science traveled to West Antarctica to observe the sea floor in front of Thwaites using a sensor-equipped autonomous submarine.

"Over two extended survey missions, we targeted submarine troughs previously hypothesized as conduits for warm water access to the glacier grounding line," Graham and study co-authors Lauren Simkins and Anna Wählin wrote in a summary of their expedition. "At both sites, the sea-floor also comprised of sills that likely served as former stabilizing points for the grounding zone of Thwaites."

"For Thwaites, the importance of our results lies in two take-home messages. The first is that Thwaites has undergone significantly fast-



er rates of retreat in the past than it is experiencing right now," they continued. "This finding raises the potential upper 'speed limit' on our expectations for Thwaites behavior in the near future."

"Second, our results show that very short (several months duration) pulses of non-linear grounding zone retreat occur, especially where the ice is retreating from flattish sea floors or flat-topped ridges," they added. "These phases of rapid retreat are corroborated by modern observations, and demonstrate, collectively, that drastic changes in grounding line position might be expected, even from one field season to the next."

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Jane Molloy Porter

Jane Molloy Porter, of Bucks Harbor, Maine, and Portsmouth, New Hampshire, died on the morning of July 18, 2022. She was 91 years old. For many years, Janes was a much-loved member of this newspaper's 100 Proof Department. Many were the misspellings and grammatical errors that fell to her red pen.

Born February 6, 1931, in Boston, Massachusetts, to Paul Molloy, an English teacher, and Anne Baker Molloy, a children's book author, Jane grew up in Winchester and Exeter, N.H. She graduated from The Northfield School and then Radcliffe College, in 1952, with a degree in art history. She worked at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum until 1955, when she married Eliot F. Porter Jr. of Belmont, Mass. After several years in Portland, Maine, she and her family moved to St. Louis. There, Jane worked for Craft Alliance, The Learning Center and the Landmarks Association of St. Louis. At Landmarks she co-authored with Carolyn Hewes Toft, *Compton Heights: A Historical and Architectural Guide*.

In the mid-1980s Jane returned to New England and settled in Portsmouth. At the Portsmouth Athenaeum she served as Keeper from 1986 until 2000, furthering her dedication to history and research. She oversaw the acquisition of the Peirce Building in 1995. In 2006, the Portsmouth Marine Society published Jane's meticulous study of historic lighthouses along the New England coast, *Friendly Edifices: Pis-*

cataqua Lighthouses and Other Aids to Navigation.

Since 1942, Jane spent summers in Bucks Harbor, Washington County, Maine and loved its rocky landscape and the artwork it inspired. She regularly visited galleries up and down the coast, befriending artists and filling her house with their work. With her formal training as an art historian and a sharp eye for her environment, Jane was studiously modest about her deep knowledge of vernacular architecture and folk art. She was also delightfully spontaneous and generous in sharing her interests and seriously funny when she chose to be, exhibiting an extremely dry wit. She loved all styles of music with a special affection for country and bluegrass.

Jane is survived by her four sons: Eliot F. Porter of Providence, R.I., John Porter of St. Louis, Mo.; Charles Porter of Seattle, Wash., and Alex Porter of Brooklyn, N.Y. A daughter, Anne, predeceased her. She is survived by six grandchildren: Samuel, Elijah, Charlotte, Lucy, Sadie and Clementine. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on October 8th, at South Church, Portsmouth, New Hampshire.



Out towards the playground at the Plains, at a gentle bend in the road, somewhat hidden by trees, the Flag Police glimpsed an inverted flag: a prima facie violation of 4 U.S.C. Chapter 1 § 8 (a) "The flag should never be displayed with the union down, except as a signal of dire distress in instances of extreme danger to life or property." Public records revealed, though, that the property owner is a person known for civic engagement. The Flag Police concluded, therefore, that the responsible party was merely exercising his First Amendment right to free speech.

Murph's Fortnightly Quote

"Inside every cynical person, there is a disappointed idealist."

— George Carlin (1937-2008)

"People who know how much they're worth aren't usually worth that much."

— Nelson Bunker Hunt

john@wordpraxis.com

"I am merely trying to illustrate one of the fundamental facts about American journalism today, the fact that the servants of the press lords are slaves very much as they have always been, and that any attempt at revolt is immediately punished with the economic weapon."

— George Seldes (1890–1995), *Lords of the Press* (1938)

— *Not-So-Random Thoughts from an Oregon Subscriber*

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No Normalizing Trump's Criminality
Dear Editor:

Every American should be troubled, attentive, and very concerned about the mishandling of classified documents by the former president discovered by the FBI during their lawful investigation at Trump's resort in Florida. Politics aside, the slow but steady erosion of respect for state secrets and the uneven prosecution of those who willfully violate long-standing laws governing security of classified material; in particular, the coddling of the powerful and the harsh punishment of subordinates creates the inevitable extension of our seriously broken system.

In 2003, on two separate occasions, Samuel (Sandy) Berger entered the National Archives in Washington, D.C. and stole sensitive government documents, stuffing them into his socks and pants.

Two years later, after he left his job as President Bill Clinton's national security advisor, Berger pleaded guilty to the theft. He was fined \$50,000, sentenced to three years probation, 100 hours of community service and denied a government security clearance for three years.

In 2016, a U.S. Navy sailor pleaded guilty to unauthorized use of sensitive information for taking selfies inside a nuclear submarine. The sailor, Kristian Saucier, was sentenced to one year in prison, then home confinement with an ankle bracelet and three years of supervision.

The Berger and Navy sailor examples were violations of the laws forbidding the possession or illegal use of security secrets. In Berger's case, he was preparing for congressional testimony. In the sailor's case, he was excited to be on a nuclear submarine and forgot his duty.

In January, 2021, just hours before Joe Biden was sworn in as president, Donald Trump shipped a dozen boxes of classified government documents to Mar-a-Lago. These boxes were then stored in an unsecured basement room allowing Trump aides to access them freely (it's on videotape). These documents were clearly labeled "Top Secret" (among other terms) some so

sensitive that protocols require them to be read, but not removed from, secure locations like the White House Situation Room.

In their search, the FBI listed documents relating to national security, the President of France, even nuclear matters. Obviously there is no legitimate reason to have this kind of material in one's home.

Donald Trump has always considered himself to be above the law and apparently thought he could take what ever he wanted after he lost the election, lie to the FBI about it, and not be held accountable. The reality is, the truth is, American citizens have gone to prison for a lot less.

The former president is renown for his absolute disregard for the rules of law but this inconvenient fact seems to bother his disciples, including the majority of the Republican Party, not at all. That does not speak well for the men and women who have made a clear and purposeful choice to violate their oath of office, emulating a man who willfully placed this nation (the nation he too was sworn to protect) in extreme danger.

The battle for the soul of the Republican Party is over. The challenges that will determine America's future, from this point on, continue unremittingly. Trump proved beyond all reasonable doubt how ill-prepared America's institutions were to deal with an unapologetic authoritarian who, throughout his entire adult life, has believed rules that apply to the rest of us do not pertain to him.

We must not, for any reason or perceived circumstance, out of fear, allow the Republican Party (or anyone) to normalize his criminality.

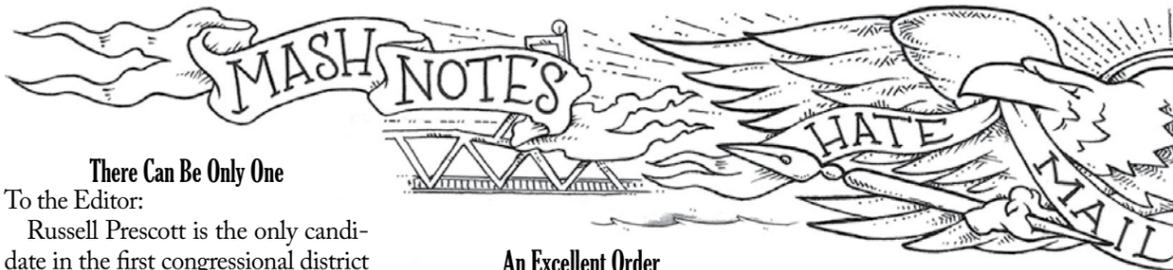
David L. Snell
Franklin, N.C.

David:

For the benefit of our readers, we will note here that you know whereof you speak.

David was an intelligence officer in the U.S. Navy. He served aboard a sister ship to the U.S.S. Liberty—the intelligence-gathering vessel attacked by Israel on June 8, 1968.

The Editor



There Can Be Only One

To the Editor:

Russell Prescott is the only candidate in the first congressional district primary who has the public and private sector experience necessary to bring real change to Washington. In the State Senate Russell balanced the budget, cut taxes, and created local jobs. Russell also served several years on the Executive Council balancing his experience of dealing with the Executive and the Legislative side of government.

He is running for Congress in New Hampshire's first district to bring his Wealth of experience to Washington. As a small business owner for nearly 40 years, Russell knows that taxes and over regulation hurt the private sector. He Also knows what it's like to sign both sides of a paycheck and balance a budget which he did twice as a State Senator in Concord.

Russell will bring his decades of experience and New Hampshire values to Washington. We support Russell Prescott for Congress and hope you will vote for him on Tuesday, September 13.

Douglas and Stella Scamman
Stratham, N.H.

Doug and Stella:

We agree wholeheartedly that none of the other Republican candidates for the First District are qualified for the job. Most of them fail our first test: are they dealing with reality in a forthright manner?

Prescott fails our second test, though. His support for a national investigation of the 2020 election shows he's willing to pander to the GOP's lunatic wing—which is to say, the party's majority.

You have our sympathy. It must be terribly hard, being basically decent people, to watch the Party you've supported all your lives set itself on fire on behalf of a monster.

Of course, you survived the Bill O'Brien era, so....

The Editor

An Excellent Order

To the Editor:

I was happy when President Biden signed an executive order regarding student debt forgiveness. Under his order, the Department of Education will cancel between \$10,000 and \$20,000 of debt for those with federal government loans, with Pell Grant recipients gaining the most benefit. In addition, the hiatus on student loan payments is extended to the end of December, 2022. Finally, a new cap on payments will not exceed five percent of a borrower's "discretionary income."

Recently characterized in local press as benefitting "affluent, middle-class New Hampshire student loan borrowers," the Department of Education actually estimates 90 percent of the forgiveness will benefit families earning less than \$75,000 a year. Are families earning less than \$75,000 per year really considered "affluent"?

Ironically, I note that criticism of the current administration's forgiveness did not extend to the forgiveness extended to the Paycheck Protection Program loans, despite the average of these being over \$70,000. This is a fine example of how socialism subsidies are acceptable for businesses, but not for the people.

For New Hampshire families trying to educate the next generation, and at the same time wondering how they are going to heat their homes, feed themselves, and keep the lights on this coming winter, this executive order is a blessing.

Chris Balch
Wilton, N.H.

Chris:

Oh, for shame, sir! How were you raised? Were you not taught that it's impolite to draw attention to the blatant hypocrisy inherent in our socio-political system?

The Editor

We Need Public-Oriented Candidates

Dear Editor:

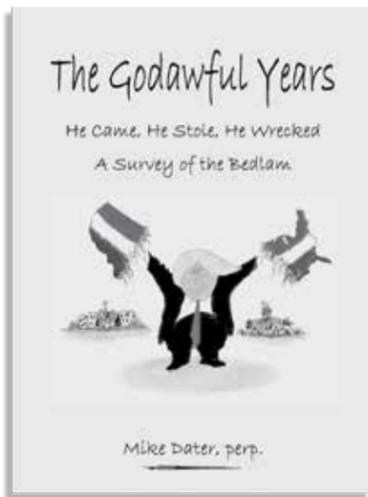
The IRS will have \$80 billion in new funding over the next 10 years. This, as Republicans have steadily blocked needed funding for the agency, abetting the "tax gap," difference between taxes owed and taxes paid. Up to 87,000 new IRS hirees are on the horizon, going after people and businesses who don't pay their owed taxes. Those making less than \$400,000 per year or small businesses are not the targets. The miscreants are the super wealthy, whose lawyers will fight their cases. We have some number of those hiding out in New Hampshire.

And "income" itself can be a word-distinction that hinders taxing. A clever CEO can take no "income." Bernie Sanders promoted a wealth tax instead of income tax. He envisions those worth more than \$32 million being taxed on their wealth, netting the public purse \$4.35 trillion over the next decade "and cutting the wealth of billionaires in half over 15 years, substantially breaking up the concentration of wealth and power of this small, privileged class." Yeah, Bernie!

What does this have to do with our New Hampshire primary voting, coming up September 13th? The Republican leadership, filtering down from distant desks to our hinterlands, maintains a tone of nicely deceiving the public as to the ailing old party's goals. They deceive; they're ailing. Our ballot lines will need public-oriented candidate names on them, even the Republican lines, if possible. These September 13th choices yield our so-important November ballot. But, if the Republican candidates are so bad, it could steer Independents / Undeclareds to vote for the Democrats, who, under President Biden, take on the muddle left by Trump and his

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A History of Portsmouth NH in 101 OBJECTS
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sidekick Mitch McConnell who governs the Senate Republicans to do not much, just block.

Lynn Rudmin Chong
Sanbornton, N.H.

Lynn:

Republicans are at their most transparent when they get apoplectic about the IRS getting adequate resources to go after fat-cat tax cheats.

It reminds us of what George W.[MD] Bush said at the Al Smith Memorial Dinner in October, 2000. As CBS reported, Bush "gazed around the diamond-studded \$800-a-plate crowd and commented on the wealth on display. 'This is an impressive crowd—the haves and the have-mores,' quipped the GOP standard-bearer. 'Some people call you the elites; I call you my base.'"

The Editor

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Why All This Vitriol?

Dear Editor:

While not surprising considering today's political atmosphere, it is still disturbing to hear all the anger, jealousy, and misinformation resulting from President Biden's recent decision to forgive some student loans. Considering this outcry from so-called "fiscal conservatives," it might be appropriate to discuss the actual anticipated costs of this program and compare it to other economic decisions such as tax cuts, corporate bailouts, and the pandemic Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans.

The University of Pennsylvania Wharton School estimates that Biden's education loan debt cancellation alone will cost between \$469 billion to \$519 billion over 10 years, depending on whether existing and new students are included. About 75 percent of the benefit falls to households making \$88,000 or less per year. Loan forgiveness for 2022 will cost an

additional \$16 billion. It is interesting to note that in the sixty year history of the student loan program prior to the Biden forgiveness decision, only 0.6 percent of student loan debt has been forgiven.

However, when compared to other economic decisions such as tax cuts, corporate bailouts and PPP loans, for which the people receiving them did nothing in particular to deserve them—in fact, with the case of the 2008 Great Recession corporate bailouts, those receiving the money actually contributed the problem in the first place—the picture looks quite different.

In 2019 the MIT Sloan School of Management estimated that the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 cost the economy \$498 billion, or 3.5 percent of 2009 GDP. Most of the funds were used to bail out corporations "too big to fail" that were responsible for causing the financial crisis requiring the bailouts.

The two tax cuts of President George W. Bush are estimated to have cost a combined \$3.5 trillion.

The President Trump tax cut is estimated to cost \$2.3 trillion.

The Payroll Protection Program or PPP business loan program cost \$953 billion.

Since the initiation of PPP loans in 2020 over 80 percent have been forgiven, totaling over \$600 billion. Some of those who have been forgiven their PPP loans are some politicians who are the most vocally opposed to President Biden's student loan forgiveness program. For example, Rep. Marjorie Taylor Green (R-Ga.) received \$183,504 in PPP loan forgiveness, Rep. Mike Kelly (R-Pa.) received \$987,237 in PPP loan forgiveness, Rep. Vern Buchanan (R-Fla.) received forgiveness of more than \$2.3 million, Rep. Markwayne Mullin (R-Okla.)

received \$1.4 million in forgiveness, Rep. Kevin Hern (R-Okla.) received more than \$1 million in loan forgiveness, and Rep. Matt Goetz (R-Fla.) received \$482,321 in loan forgiveness.

Even our own Gov. Chris Sununu (R-N.H.), who has condemned the student loan forgiveness, was OK with his family business receiving \$3 million in PPP loan forgiveness. These PPP loans were no different from student loans, when the borrower made the loan it was with the expectation that it would be paid back. In addition, the forgiveness of a student loan to an individual meeting certain economic standards, is in fact, much more stringent than PPP loan forgiveness made to those with substantial financial resources.

Many people complain that these student loans being forgiven is nothing but a handout. The same could be said to those wealthy individuals and corporations who received tax cuts, or the businesses who received Emergency Economic Stabilization funds, or those who received PPP loan forgiveness. However, the level of anger and vitriol being expressed over the student loan forgiveness was never directed at any of those receiving tax cuts, bailouts or PPP loan forgiveness which were at levels much in excess of \$10 or \$20 thousand the vast majority of those getting loan forgiveness will actually receive. I wonder why?

Rich DiPentima, LTC, USAF, Ret.
Portsmouth, N.H.

Rich:

The right wing regression towards infamy continues. They assume that everything is theirs. No one else has a right to anything.

The Editor

====

Student Loans, PPP Loans and Gov. Sununu
To the Editor:

Once again, Governor Sununu has made an uninformed and misleading public statement, this time about President Biden's student loan relief plan.

His opening statement that Biden "transferred it on to the backs of millions of hardworking Americans who chose not to go to college for expensive degrees" is insulting to two groups of hard working Americans: those who are saddled with student debt and those who chose not to go to expensive colleges. He gives the example of truck drivers, again using stereotypes. Some of those with student debt are truck drivers. Our son who went to college, had student debt, and is now an EMT/FF, was a truck driver. And while the rising price of diesel, which has more to do with Russia's war against Ukraine and the decisions made by oil executives than anything done in Washington, is an issue, it is the high cost of commercial trucking insurance that is "whacking" New Hampshire's truckers. There is just one company in New Hampshire that provides that insurance.

On top of all that, I do not recall Sununu or any Republicans complaining when \$742 billion dollars in Payment Protection Plan loans were forgiven. In fact Sununu signed a bill, SB 3, to make forgiven PPP loans exempt from New Hampshire's business profits tax. Additionally, the Sununu's consulting firm received a a \$23,600 PPP loan which potentially protected two jobs (U.S. Treasury), and Waterville Valley (Sununu maintains an ownership interest in Sununu Holdings, which owns Waterville Valley Holdings) got two whopping PPP loans (\$1.43 and \$1.71 million), among the first 100 loans dished out, loans which were **forgiven**.

Patricia L. Frisella
Farmington, N.H.

Patricia:

We're perplexed by the Governor's ability to sell himself as a folksy, reasonable kind of guy. That persona seems to us to hide multitudes, not all of whom are equally committed to telling the whole truth.

The Editor

====

Calling a Traitor a Traitor

Dear Editor,

Three Top Secret documents were found in Donald trump's desk draw-

er in Mar-a-Lago. They weren't even stored in the unsecured storage rooms of Mar-a-Lago. Has the Former President, who was reported to own three passports, already spilled the beans? Has he already called people, possible foreign government officials, and told them what the documents said?

If anyone else had illegally stolen Top Secret documents and tried to cover it up, as Trump and his employees have, wouldn't the obvious conclusion be that this was the action of a spy engaging in espionage against our country? Wouldn't we call such an ex-government employee a **traitor**?

Bruce Joffe

Piedmont, Calif.

Bruce:

Yeah, but what about that time Obama wore a tan suit?

The Editor

Huff 'n Puff

To the Editor:

Meet MAGA's newest Congressional Candidate and Disinformation Specialist, Gail Huff Brown.

Consorting with the likes of Newt Gingrich and Sean Hannity, there's no question whose team she's on. But, retired from the news business and liberated from the tethers of journalistic integrity, Gail is perfectly free to go full MAGA and prop up the Big Lie if she wishes.

Hell, Kari Lake did it and it's working well for her.

In fact, MAGA World loves to recruit retired newswomen like Gail because, as successful reporters and anchors, they're articulate, assertive, attractive on camera, and (more important) well-schooled in the art of manipulating information. Their candidacy also helps to soften the image of a party otherwise hostile to women and to project the illusion of journalistic integrity even though it was checked at the door.

So what's not to like about Gail's campaign?

I think Liz Cheney expressed it best when she said, "There will come a day

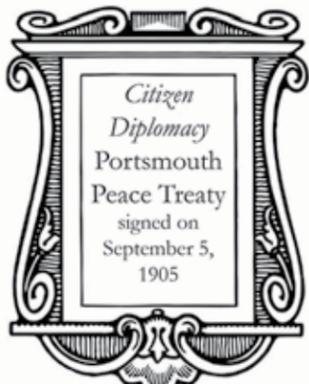
Mash Notes, Hate Mail, &c.

to page six

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What do we choose to remember with memorial markers, buildings and community projects?



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from page five

when Donald Trump is gone, but your dishonour will remain.”

Rick Littlefield
Barrington, N.H.

Rick:

It pains us to say it, but sometimes we wonder if the news racket is a net plus for this country, or a minus.

The Editor

—==—

Put Up Or Shut Up

To the Editor:

There has been a lot of criticism generated regarding President Biden's Student Loan Debt Forgiveness plan. I had the good fortune to attend and graduate from Williams College from 1980 to 1984. Even though I hailed from the great state of Rhode Island, where Senator Claiborn Pell was rightfully considered a god for, among many things, developing the Pell Grants for Education, I was not considered a candidate for a Pell Grant. So my four years at Williams College was paid for by my mother's savings; gifts from grandparents; a modest trust fund from my late father's estate; my savings from working at Burger King and delivering newspapers; two high school academic scholarships that I sought out, applied for, and won; and a Financial Aid Package from Williams College that included basic grants; a \$2,000 interest-free loan; the guarantee of a on-campus job for four years (I chose working in the dining halls washing dishes); and the suggestion to apply for the maximum GSL loans which at that time was \$2,500 per year. So I got four consecutive Guaranteed Student Loans (GSL) and graduated Williams with \$10,000 of GSL debt which technically was private debt (through Citizens Bank if memory serves me correctly). So I would not qualify for debt forgiveness nor up to \$10,000 debt cancellation. I would have still had to pay off the loans over seven years (I received a payment booklet with 84 monthly coupons of \$116.10 @ 7.00 percent APR—which was a deal in 1985 when Prime Rate was 15 per-



cent) with Biden's student loan forgiveness plan. The only extra benefit I would have received due solely to COVID was that the automatic six month deferral period would have been extended up to 24 months due to COVID.

Remember, Biden and the Federal Government—i.e. the U.S House of Representatives and U.S. Senate—have no authority over private lenders like Citizens Bank even if they set the standards for GSL loans. And while there are lots of holes in Biden's proposal (remember that no President can make loans—only recommend them (applies even for Trump and his zealots)—at least it is a reasonable proposal that does not overstep the bounds of the federal government by dictating changes to private lenders. If the nay sayers (i.e. Republicans) have an alternative plan—we are all ears. But if not, then do your elected job, lawmakers, and start drafting or get behind this plan.

Bruce E. McEldowney
Newington, N.H.

Bruce:

Do you actually mean to suggest that the U.S. Government ought to take action that would improve the material conditions of the average citizen?

What a remarkable concept. Bravo.

The Editor

—==—

Elections and Consequences

To the Editor:

Will Democrats work harder than ever to rebuff Republican extremism and national treachery? Will they, Independents and disaffected Republicans get active and interact politically in their communities to help secure our Democracy from "Insurrectionist Supporting" current politicians and their candidates?

Elections have consequences. We have seen, in the last election, how the absolute calamity created by Democratic timidity at canvassing door-to-door resulted in a wave of extremist "Free Staters" getting elected to the New Hamp-

shire Legislature in this past general session. We have seen the Republican/Libertarian effort to have New Hampshire secede from the union! We have witnessed and suffered through the public attacks on the poor, programs for the elderly, public education, school boards, teachers, principals, superintendents, selectpersons and on our electoral system itself. Such extremes of governance have seriously set back our state because Republican extremists, facilitated by Governor "Super-Veto" Sununu, were in charge.

We cannot, we must not have a repeat of the regression to the 19th century led by muddled-thinking Republicans in the last election. We cannot let them set the agenda for the next series of elections.

If you care about your/our Democracy and the very fabric of American culture and society...you **must** do all you can at all levels of our political efforts to elect, thoughtful, caring, progressive Democratic candidates to undo the "wrongs" of Republican leadership and create the caring, thoughtful, responsible and fair society we crave!

Herb Moyer
Exeter, N.H.

Herb:

Elections used to have consequences. Nowadays, that's not so certain. Apparently we're supposed to wait patiently, while Merrick Garland decides whether or not elections have consequences.

The Editor

—==—

The End Of The European Model?

To the Editor:

The signs are many: the resurgence of fascism, unbridled individualism, the absolute domination of economic power over political power, racism, exploitation, and poverty.

The signs, more or less strong, are everywhere and the European economic and social model is crumbling in all its versions: the Christian democratic, liberal and socialist versions. With all their limitations, the welfare models of Old Europe, its imperfect democracy, always under the tutelage of the American Friend

(but has everyone forgotten the Stay Behind networks?), left room for hope that there might at least be a rational response to the looming crises. Like the unrepresentable communism of the USSR, the European model continued to act as a competitor (certainly not as an alternative) to the savage Anglo-Saxon capitalism. And now?

Beyond the inefficiency of the legislative and executive powers, beyond the mediocrity exuded by today's politicians, with minimal and often ephemeral exceptions, the symptoms of gangrene are evident in the judiciary and the media.

The Spanish state in this respect is a paradigm, but this should not surprise us, given that it is unique among all the countries that have suffered a dictatorship. In Spain there has never been a change of economic, political, military or legal elites, not even apparent or partial. The timid transition to democracy that the current Constitution supposedly represented, with the yoke imposed at the dictation of the outgoing Franco regime, did not affect the deep state, the powers that be, the spheres where the law is decided and interpreted at will.

Cases of espionage against any opposition, whether political, regional (the Catalan case now, the Basque one for many years) or even cultural, the repulsive impunity from the royal family to the corrupt and corrupters, even during the pandemic, the coup declarations of a significant part of the military commanders, the annulment of any proposal for parliamentary investigation are the order of the day. All this with the absolute complicity of the high judiciary and the national press. This press is always ready to slam, on the front page of the newspaper, the enemy of the homeland manufactured with communicative engineering, but later, when it is shown that all the accusations were false, they are denied in a small news item or not denied at all.

As Rafael Correa said recently on Televisión Española, talking about the control of the media by the economic corporations: "freedom

of the press means communicating what the owner of the channel freely decides."

With regard to Spanish justice, the sentences against Catalan politicians are also emblematic: judicial harassment of a proposal for self-determination that should be addressed through political negotiation and not through court rulings. It is enough to review the statements of the UN Commission on Human Rights, Amnesty, or the responses of the courts of other European states that have refused to extradite Catalan politicians exiled in their countries due to the lack of judicial guarantees in Spain.

In this context, the role of the European Parliament and the European Court, subsidiary to the *raison d'état* of each of the states, is regrettable. This conniving behaviour is unworthy of the power entrusted to them.

It is not that the Belgian, Swiss, Scottish or German courts, which opposed the inconsistent justifications for the extradition of exiled Catalan politicians, are the paradise of the just. Simply put, magistrates in states with somewhat more mature democracies have a different dignity, often more corporate than deontological, but still capable of a lesser degree of servility. They have a different conception of their role, which is that of a buffer: to block any drift towards the too acidic or the too basic, to maintain neutrality. Chemical, of course, not ideological: that would be too good!

Guido Angelo Ramellini
El Masnou, Catalonia

—==—

Words, Words...

To the Editor:

Rick Littlefield's letter about how we refer to fetuses and the editor's response about being forced to write in the colonizers language reminds me how easy it is to be careless with the words we choose. These misused words have impacted the brains of otherwise astute beings.

My favorite example is "pro-life." Outside of gun manufacturers and those who support and buy their products, I think the rest of us are "pro-life." Those who don't support the right to choose abortion are "anti-choice," an accurate term, but one rarely used.

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Why I Like to Watch Bike Racing

by W.D. Ehrhart

For the past week and a half, I've been watching *La Vuelta a Espana*, the Tour of Spain bicycle race. I've watched *Le Tour de France* every July for the past twenty-five years, and since the coronavirus showed up, I've taken to watching *la Vuelta* as well.

I enjoy watching sports in general because you never know how it's going to end until it ends. And I especially like watching bike racing because it is so international with riders from all over Europe, the Americas, New Zealand, and even the Middle East, Central Asia, and Africa. And though there are teams sponsored by Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, and Israel, the riders themselves are a mix of nationalities. Of the 184 riders representing 23 teams, only three riders in this year's *Vuelta* are from the United States.

One never hears those mindless chants of "USA! USA!" One is not subjected to the mandatory "Ladies and gentlemen, please stand and remove your hats for our national anthem." No one drags a giant American flag across the starting

line as if I'm going to forget what country I live in if I don't see the Stars-n-Stripes thirty-seven times a day. And there is never a military flyover with F-16s or A-10s or Apache helicopters (oh, the irony of that name, but don't get me started).

Don't misunderstand me. I am an American citizen. I've never missed voting in an election—general, primary, or special—since the first time I was eligible to vote over half a century ago. I am an honorably discharged U.S. Marine, and I've never felt any need to remove the "USMC" tattooed on my left arm. I pay my taxes. There are many things about my country that I like very much.

But I am not "proud" to be an American because there are a lot of things I don't like about this country, nor should any other thinking person. Our wars of extermination against the original inhabitants of this country, for instance. Or our embrace of slavery as a major source of labor and therefore wealth, and the ongoing and often legalized subordination of those former slaves. Our wars of aggression against Mexico, Spain, the Philippines,

much of Central America, and in more recent times Vietnam, Grenada, Panama, and Iraq. Our wars against organized labor in the 19th and 20th centuries. Just to name a few of the things I'm not proud of.

You may want to argue about some or all of the points I've made in the preceding paragraph, but I have history and the facts on my side, not national mythology or myopia. Ask Little Turtle or Black Kettle or Frederick Douglas or Emmet Till or Emilio Aguinaldo or Maurice Bishop or Augusto Sandino or Mother Jones. Critical Race Theory isn't critical race theory; it's just **history**.

And while the United States of America isn't an "evil empire," it isn't very exceptional, either. It is just another empire with aspects to be admired and aspects to be deplored and ashamed of.

Which is why I object to the kind of chauvinistic jingoism I am subjected to every time I tune into an NFL or NHL or MLB or NASCAR event, and even at high school lacrosse matches and middle

school spelling bees. No other country on earth postures so ridiculously except maybe North Korea. Nazi Germany used to posture like this. I think Stalin's Soviet Union did, too. Yet another reason I find myself embarrassed to be an American.

Just this morning, I saw a video clip of House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy claiming that President Joe Biden is "dividing" the nation. This from a man who first criticized Trump for fomenting the January 6th insurrection only to block every subsequent attempt to hold the former president accountable. This from a man who refuses to condemn Trump for insisting that the results of the 2020 election are fraudulent. But Biden is "dividing, demeaning, and disparaging his fellow citizens"?

Nevermind the long sweep of American history. How am I *not* supposed to be embarrassed by a country where nearly half the voters elect a vulgar, ignorant, narcissistic "reality show" conman president, nearly re-elect him for a second term, and then refuse to accept the outcome of what was arguably the

most transparently honest election in U.S. history?

That's why I like to watch Grand Tour bicycle racing. The flags that fans wave along the bike route range from Denmark to the Netherlands, from Belgium to Wales (coolest flag in the world; it has a dragon on it!), from Slovenia to Italy. I've even learned to recognize the Basque, Breton, and Manx flags by watching bike racing.

And it's all mixed up together, just like the racers themselves: a Swiss flag here, a Slovak flag there, a Union Jack a little farther on. Indeed, bike racing is kind of like a United Nations on wheels. The way the UN is supposed to work. The way the world ought to work. And no one is shouting, "USA! USA!" As if that had anything to do with football or track & field or bicycles or the accident of birth by which I ended up an American instead of an Ethiopian.

W.D. Ehrhart, PhD, is a former Marine Corps sergeant and veteran of the American War in Vietnam. He is the author of a memoir trilogy: Vietnam-Perkasie, Passing Time, and Busted.



What Do Truckers and Librarians Have In Common?

by Jim Hightower

In the world of work, what two occupations might seem to have the very least in common? How about long-haul truck drivers...and school librarians? Yes, an odd pairing, but solidarity forever!

Start with truckers. The job is literally a grueling haul. You're wrangling massive 18-wheelers some 500 miles a day for 2-3 weeks straight, putting up with traffic jams, storms,

bad roads, lunatic drivers, helter-skelter scheduling, truck stop food, sleeping in the truck—and battling fatigue, aches, your bladder, and loneliness.

Trucking used to be a good union job, with decent pay and conditions—until the deregulation craze four decades ago brought in Wall Street profiteers and fast buck hustlers who turned the industry into anti-union exploiters. As a result, the yearly quit-rate for drivers is al-

most 100 percent! But rather than retaining drivers by upping pay and stopping their torturous treatment, the corporate bosses have rushed to Washington demanding access to an even cheaper pool of low-wage workers: Teenagers. Yes—put an 18-year-old in that 18-wheeler... and keep them profits rolling!

And here's another good job suddenly turned ugly: School librarian. Yes, while student enrollments rise and the need for these nurturers of

our society's literacy is greater than ever, their quit-rate is soaring. Not because of pay or long hours, but because of raw right-wing politics. These dedicated, invaluable educators are literally being abused by demagogic GOP politicians and their extremist partisans who've launched an anti-librarian crusade, including book banning and witch hunting. Come on—how twisted are you to pick on librarians? Yet, they are under attack by political

hacks, condemned by reprobate preachers, and physically threatened by frenzied parents...and being fired by wimpy school boards.

Forget the "law" of supply and demand, today's job market is being ruled by greedmeisters and political lunatics.

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Mash Notes, Hate Mail, &c.
from page six

I hope that as we claim the bits of our language we take care to accurately describe who we are, what we think and how our actions may reflect our best selves.

Diane Stradling
Portsmouth, N.H.

====

A Lesson in Fascism From Don Ewing
To the Editor:

[Mr. Ewing begins by offering up a straw man: a convenient definition of fascism equating it with a central government, specifically one that re-

wards its supporters and oppresses its opponents.]

[Deleted: a gratuitous introduction of the right wing shibboleth, "Constitutional Republic."]

Examples of domestic Fascist actions:

- *[Xenophobic alarmism.]*
- Government officials who allowed, encouraged, and some supported (e.g., Kamala Harris), their supporters' widespread 2020 riots that destroyed public and private property, and injured, and killed, people.
- Officials who closed Churches while leaving casinos and other

gathering places open.

- *["Cancel culture."]*
- Officials who, contrary to our laws, allow supporters to harass the Supreme Court Justices that Biden dislikes.
- Prosecutors, like L.A.'s [George] Gascón, who treat violent criminals very leniently, releasing them to victimize others.
- Using government power to harass political opponents, pressuring FBI agents to inflate Domestic Violent Extremist numbers (<https://tinyurl.com/2u5ny6vj>), and enforcing laws unequally (only against political opponents).

• Supreme Court Justices who decide cases based on their preferences rather than the clear meaning of our Constitution (usurping power from the American people).

[Remarkably, Ewing closes his letter by citing genuine political sins committed by Democrats—as if the heirs to that political tradition did not shift, under Nixon and Reagan, from the Democratic to the Republican party.]

Democrats falsely call Republicans Fascists to divert attention from Democrats' Fascist actions. Slavery, the KKK, Jim Crow Laws, dog attacks on peaceful protestors, and refusal to protect innocent peo-

ple from criminals reveal Democrats' long history of Fascist actions and character.

Don Ewing
Meredith, N.H.

Don:

We hope you will understand that, given your record, if we print your letter we must include a response. Unfortunately, because most of this space has already been taken up by more reliable writers, we will have to excise some of your verbiage to make room for necessary annotations. Fortunately your pomposity can be condensed easily enough.

The Editor

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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.

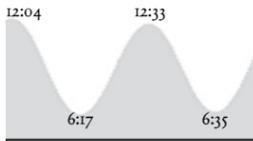
Twice a day, too, the moon lets all that water go. All the seawater that just fought its way upstream goes back home to the ocean. This is when the Piscataqua earns its title for xth fastest current. Look for the red buoy, at the upstream end of

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

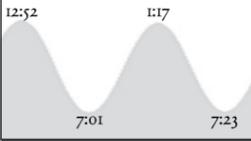
and bridges work their hardest. Ships coming in laden with coal, oil, and salt do so at high tide, for more clearance under their keels. They leave empty, riding high in the water, at low tide, to squeeze under Memorial Bridge.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11	MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12	TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13	WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14	THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15	FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16	SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17
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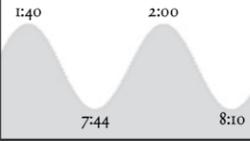
2016—The GOP nominee for President tweets “best wishes to all, even the haters and losers, on this special date, September 11th.”
2012—*Benghazi!!!*
2006—At Ground Zero, for a photo op, President Bush and the First Lady stand on an American flag carpet.
2001—Four American airliners are hijacked by Saudis and crashed; thousands die. George W.[MD] Bush scurries to safety, Donald Rumsfeld looks for excuses to attack Iraq, and Dick “Dick” Cheney authorizes the shooting down of civilian airliners.
1973—Salvador Allende, duly-elected President of Chile, is overthrown by CIA-backed thugs.
1957—A Denver H-bomb factory burns, releasing a pound of plutonium particles. The AEC, lying, says there's only a minor risk of contamination.
1942—Wheeler Lipes, a 22-year old dropout, successfully removes an appendix aboard the submerged *U.S.S. Seadragon*. The U.S. Surgeon General threatens to court martial him.
1857—*En route* to California, 120 Arkansans are murdered by Mormons at Mountain Meadows, Utah.
1777—Washington is defeated at Brandywine, the largest, longest battle of the Revolution—but N.H.'s Gen. Sullivan staves off catastrophe.
1649—Oliver Cromwell's Roundheads, in “a righteous judgement of God,” slaughter nearly 4,000 Irish, mostly civilians, in Drogheda.



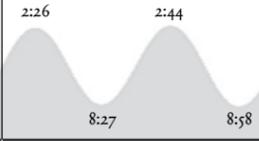
2008—Former Goldman Sachs boss Hank Paulson tells Merrill Lynch and Lehman Brothers execs the Fed will leave them twisting in the wind.
1996—Bob “Bob Dole” Dole's “Clinton accountability team” loses an unpaid advisor: Roger Stone resigns after tabloids report he and his wife had advertised for group sex partners.
1994—Frank E. Corder, 38, dies at 1:49 a.m., crash-landing a stolen Cessna on the White House grounds after a day-long beer and crack spree.
1983—Puerto Rican nationalists *Los Macheteros* rob a Well Fargo depot in West Hartford, Conn. of \$7 million. They throw some cash from the roof to display their disdain for capitalism.
1970—Tim Leary busts out, leaving in his cell a clipping in which Gov. Reagan says he's “not a security risk.”
1970—*The New York Times Magazine* publishes Milton Friedman's article, “The Social Responsibility of Business is to Increase its Profits.” Capitalists read it as a license to pillage.
1964—Unwilling to leave his Vermont farm, condemned to build I-91, Romaine Tenney, 64, shoots himself as it burns down around him.
1860—U.S.-born William Walker, deposed dictator of Nicaragua, is executed by a Honduran firing squad.
1857—*S.S. Central America* sinks in a hurricane off the Carolinas, drowning about 420. Ten tons of gold go down with the ship, the loss of which contributes to the Panic of 1857.



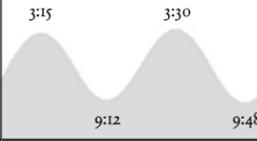
2010—After calling for civility in the Primary, ex-Gov. John H. Sununu tells the *N.Y. Times*, “I came in [as N.H. GOP Chair] to clean the vermin [Democrats] out, then I'll leave.”
2005—Two weeks after the catastrophe, George W.[MD] Bush admits the Federal response to Hurricane Katrina was less than ideal.
2001—Reverend Jerry Falwell says “The ACLU's got to take a lot of blame for [9/11].” Reverend Pat Robertson replies, “I totally concur.”
1981—William Loeb, alleged newspaperman, goes to his eternal torment.
1971—Staties blast Attica with 2,200 rounds in nine minutes; the dead include 29 prisoners and ten guards.
1971—In the Oval Office, Dick Nixon says to Bob Haldeman, about Attica, “You know what stops them? Kill a few.” Haldeman replies, “Sure.”
1948—In sneakers and a Speedo, Rollie Free sets a Bonneville record: 150 mph on a Vincent Black Shadow.
1945—*U-3008*, now *U.S.S. U-3008*, motors into Portsmouth harbor.
1940—A Luftwaffe plane drops six bombs on Buckingham Palace.
1913—Mary, an elephant who had killed her cruel, untrained trainer the day before, is hanged from a railroad crane in Erwin, Tenn.
1848—Lebanon, N.H. native Phineas Gage, working for a Vermont railroad, loses a good chunk of his brain when an iron bar is blasted through it, but lives 12 more pretty good years.



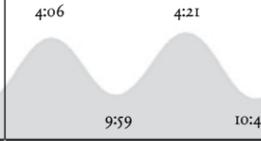
2019—Thieves steal a solid gold toilet from Winston Churchill's birthplace.
2008—At his gym, Lehman Brothers CEO Richard Fuld gets punched in the face by a complete stranger.
2005—At the UN, during the World Summit, the Leader of the Free World passes a note to his Secretary of State saying, “I think I may need a bathroom break. Is that possible?”
2001—In Manhattan, standing in rubble his failure helped to create, George W.[MD] Bush fatuously declares that America's “responsibility to history” is to “rid the world of evil.”
2001—Barbara Lee [D-Calif.] casts the lone vote against letting George W.[MD] Bush do whatever he wants.
1964—LB pins the Medal of Freedom on notorious crypto-fascist and arch-propagandist Walt Disney.
1959—Ike signs the Landrum-Griffin Act. An “anti-union corruption” measure, it's really just anti-union.
1938—The 803-foot *Graf Zeppelin II*—world's largest airship—first flies.
1899—New Yorker Henry Bliss becomes the first person in the U.S. to be killed by an automobile (an electric).
1874—New Orleans' Crescent City White League takes over Louisiana for three days in a bloody coup d'état.
1867—*Das Kapital* is published.
1836—Eliza Jumel's ex-husband dies the day their divorce becomes final. He was Aaron Burr—the first Vice President to shoot a man. Her lawyer was Alexander Hamilton's son.



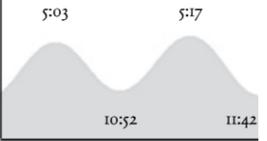
2008—Lehman Bros. drops 90 percent; the Dow is down 500 points.
2007—Laura Bush condemns Myra's crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators. Hours later thousands march in D.C. against the Iraq War; 190 are arrested, many are Iraq vets.
2004—D.C. cops on a 911 call find Cynthia Ore, 28, in the bathroom of Rep. Don Sherwood (R-Pa.), 63.
1982—Israeli Defense Forces surround Palestinian refugee camps Sabra and Shatila and let Christian Phalangist militiamen slaughter 3,500.
1980—A nuclear-armed B-52 burns for hours at Grand Forks AFB, N.D.
1970—In the Oval Office, Richard Nixon orders CIA boss Dick Helms to prevent the inauguration of Chile's just-elected socialist Salvador Allende, or overthrow him afterwards.
1963—Two Klansmen bomb Birmingham's 16th St. Baptist Church, killing four girls and injuring 22. One bomber is convicted 14 years later, despite the FBI withholding evidence.
1915—The Portsmouth-built *U.S.S. Portsmouth*, which took San Francisco (then Yerba Buena) from Mexico in 1846, helped Britain take Canton in the Second Opium War, and blockaded Texas during the Civil War, is torched as part of a festival in Boston.
1830—At the opening of the Liverpool and Manchester Railway, the first steam railroad, William Huskisson, M.P., becomes the first person killed by a train.



2016—MSNBC, CNN, and Fox treat Donald Trump to a free 1.5 hour infomercial consisting mostly of a live shot of an empty podium.
2009—Nashua-born news anchor Ernie Anastos tells a weatherman, on air, “Keep fucking that chicken.”
2001—Dick “Dick” Cheney vows to work on “the dark side”—his only side.
1992—After NYC Mayor Dinkins, who's Black, backs a civilian police review board, 10,000 off-duty cops riot. Rudy Giuliani leads with a bullhorn.
1976—Nelson Rockefeller, Veep, is photographed giving “the finger” to students at SUNY Binghamton.
1975—After winning by 355 votes, losing a recount by ten votes, and winning a ballot appeal by two votes, notorious Red-baiter Louis Wyman [R]—an appointed but not-seated Senator for three days—loses a special election to the droll John Durkin [D].
1968—Richard M. Nixon appears on “Laugh-In” and says, “Sock it to me”—which, eventually, they do.
1964—UC Berkeley bans free speech.
1942—A U.S. B-24 spots *U-156* of the coast of Africa, a big Red Cross on deck. As ordered, he attacks. The sub submerges, leaving survivors of the sunken *Laconia*—troops, POWs, civilians, women, and children—adrift.
1920—A bomb in a horse-drawn wagon explodes in front of the J.P. Morgan building on Wall Street, killing 38 and wounding 400.
1620—The *Mayflower* sets sail.

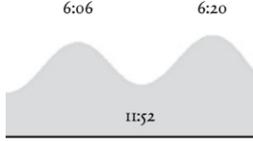


2011—Wall Street gets Occupied.
2002—President George W.[MD] Bush says, “...fool me once, shame on you—shame on you. Fool me...you can't get fooled again.”
2001—President George W.[MD] Bush gives the CIA secret authority to do...secret stuff. It's classified.
1980—“Operation Reptile” in Paraguay, a team of Sandinistas whack Anastasio Somoza with an RPG.
1967—The Mount Washington Cog Railway train derailed; eight die.
1955—A B-36 carrying a live nuclear reactor takes flight; a plane full of paratroopers follows, thus ensuring safety.
1948—In Jerusalem, the Zionist Stern Gang assassinates Count Folke Bernadotte, the UN's peace envoy.
1942—B-24 pilot J.D. Hardin sights and tries to sink *U-506*, but *Laconia* survivors on board survive yet again.
1908—Lieutenant Thomas Selfridge becomes the first plane crash fatality, in a Wright Flyer piloted by Wilbur.
1862—At Antietam, in Maryland, 113,000 men clash; 3,654 are killed and 17,292 are wounded. It's the bloodiest day in U.S. military history.
1859—Norton I, Emperor of the United States, proclaims his reign.
1787—Having signed the Constitution, its authors head to a tavern.
1665—Charles II is crowned King of Spain. His father was his mother's uncle. He is his mother's first cousin, and his father's grand-nephew. He's three, and an idiot; his reign goes poorly.

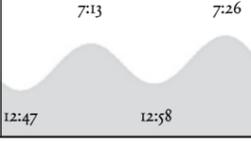


SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18	MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19	TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20	WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21	THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22	FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23	SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24
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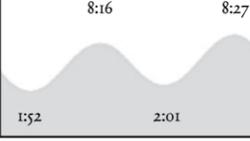
2001—Five journalists receive letters laced with anthrax. Five people die, the perps remain unknown.
2001—Complying with a White House request, EPA head Christine Todd Whitman says it's safe to breathe the air at “Ground Zero.” It isn't.
1987—*The N.Y. Times* reports the FBI's been spying on public library patrons.
1980—Cuban Arnoldo Tamayo becomes the first Black person in space, thanks to the Soviet Union.
1980—A dropped 30-pound socket wrench hits a Titan II missile fuel tank in Damascus, Ark. The tank springs a leak; the leaking fuel catches fire.
1975—The FBI catches “Tanya,” press baron Wm. Randolph Hearst's bank-robbing granddaughter.
1970—RIP Jimi Hendrix.
1961—UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld and 15 others are murdered when their DC-6 is brought down in Northern Rhodesia.
1947—The CIA's fell meddler starts.
1931—Japanese troops blow up their own railroad at Mukden, Manchuria, blaming it on the Chinese to justify an attack on Chinese Nationalists.
1873—Railroad baron Jay Cooke goes bust, sparking the Panic of 1873. A five-year depression ensues.
1755—Mark and Phillis, enslaved Blacks, are executed in Charlestown, Mass. for poisoning Captain John Codman, their “owner.” She is burned at the stake; he is hanged. His gibbeted body is displayed for 20 years.



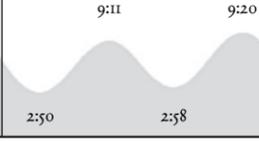
2014—Iraq War veteran Omar J. Gonzalez jumps the White House fence and runs into the East Room.
2001—George W.[MD] Bush tells CIA chief George Tenet to look for links between S. Hussein and al-Qaeda. Lacking credible evidence, he suggests Dick “Dick” Cheney as a source.
2001—The U.S. goes to war against Afghanistan—what could go wrong?
1991—Alpine tourists discover 5,300 year-old Ötzi the Iceman.
1980—After eight hours of fire, a missile silo in Arkansas explodes, hurling a nuclear weapon 600 feet. Somehow only one person is killed.
1964—The first gay rights demonstration is held at the Whitehall Army Induction Center in New York City.
1961—Betty and Barney Hill of Portsmouth, N.H. find their trip back home from a vacation takes two hours longer than expected due to a detour.
1945—William “Lord Haw-Haw” Joyce, U.S.-born fascist of Irish descent, is sentenced to death in England for broadcasting German propaganda.
1944—William of Orange, a pigeon set loose by Brits surrounded at Arnhem, arrives in Blighty, saving 2,000.
1881—Shot July 2nd by loony Charles J. Guiteau, President James Garfield dies of malpractice. Adverse result notwithstanding, loony Dr. Doctor [sic] William Bliss submits a huge bill.
1692—After two days being crushed under huge rocks, convicted warlock Giles Corey, 80, dies in Salem.



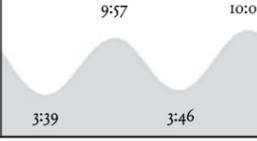
2006—“The devil came here yesterday,” says Hugo Chavez at the UN, “and it smells of sulfur still today.”
2001—George W.[MD] Bush declares a War on a noun, *viz.*, Terror, before a joint session of Congress, which somehow takes him seriously.
1968—A U.S. military spokesman in Saigon says Agent Orange has no harmful effects on human health.
1958—A deranged woman stabs Martin Luther King, Jr. while he's autographing books in Harlem.
1945—Ex-Nazi, former SS member, and rocket scientist Werner von Braun begins working for the U.S.
1830—In Philadelphia, 38 free Blacks form the National Negro Convention to abolish slavery.
1797—The frigate *Constitution* is launched in Boston.
1797—Captain Pigot of *HMS Hermeine* orders that the bodies of three sailors who died trying to fulfill his orders be thrown overboard.
1777—British troops conduct a surprise nighttime bayonet attack near present-day Malvern, Pa. The Paoli Massacre leaves 272 dead, wounded, captured, or missing.
1565—Spanish forces slaughter 135 Frenchmen in Florida, “for heresy.” It's the first clash between European colonialists in the New World.
1378—French cardinals elect Robert of Geneva, aka “The Butcher of Cesena,” to be Pope Clement VII, bringing the number of sitting Popes to two.



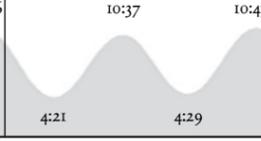
2014—A spokesman for the Islamic State calls U.S. Sec. of State John Kerry an “uncircumcised old geezer.”
2001—CIA chief George Tenet tells the V.P. his claim that Iraq and al-Qaeda are linked is crap, but Dick “Dick” Cheney goes on repeating it.
1989—The Chase Manhattan Bank accepts for deposit a check sent as a prank by *Spy Magazine*. Endorsed by “short-fingered vulgarian” Donald J. Trump, it's for \$0.13.
1983—Defending the diversity of his staff, Reagan's Sec. of the Interior, James G. Watt boasts, “I have a Black, a woman, two Jews, and a cripple.”
1982—Edward Lee Howard, a CIA agent suspected of spying for the U.S.S.R., eludes FBI surveillance in Santa Fe and splits for Helsinki.
1976—Ex-Chilean Ambassador to the U.S. Orlando Letelier, and assistant Ronni Moffit, are assassinated by car bomb in Washington, D.C.
1956—Testing a Grumman F-11, T.W. Attridge, Jr. hits the afterburner. Its jets ingest just-fired 20 mm rounds: he shoots himself down—but lives.
1956—Loathsome Nicaraguan dictator Anastasio Somoza García is assassinated by Rigoberto López, poet.
1938—A nameless 183 m.p.h. hurricane kills 700 in New England.
1915—As a whim, Cecil Chubb pays £6,600 at an auction for Stonehenge.
1897—A *New York Sun* editorial lies to a girl named Virginia, telling her a mythical “Santa Claus” is real.



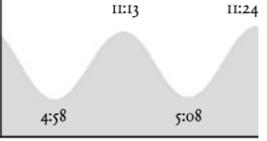
2003—“A year from now,” Richard Perle says, “I'll be very surprised if there is not some grand square in Baghdad that is named after President Bush.”
1987—Navy Reserve Capt. Timothy J. Dorsey shoots down a Navy plane during a training exercise. Its crew survives with injuries. Dorsey's career is unscathed: daddy's an Admiral.
1975—Nam vet Oliver Sipple deflects Sarah Jane Moore's shot, saving Gerry Ford. Harvey Milk out him, newspapers report he's gay. He dies at 47, disowned, drunk, and alone.
1970—President Nixon requests more FBI spies for college campuses.
1959—Air-raid sirens celebrate the White Sox's pennant win. Some Chicagoans mistakenly assume it's signaling war with the Russkies.
1950—Truman vetoes the McCarran Act, but Congress overrides him. Commies must now register; the gov't can preventively detain “threats.”
1922—American Capitalists form “Sentinels of the Republic,” a front group for the fascist American Liberty Lobby; 11 years later many of them join a plot to overthrow FDR.
1906—Following a gubernatorial campaign in which the candidates—both Democratic newspapermen—run on their racism, 10,000 whites use unsubstantiated newspaper stories as an excuse to attack Blacks in Atlanta. Death toll: 25 Blacks and two whites.
1862—Abraham Lincoln issues the Emancipation Proclamation.



1999—The \$328 million Climate Orbiter crashes on Mars because Lockheed forgot to use the metric system.
1998—The New York Fed bails out broke hedge fund LTCM, establishing a suicidal precedent.
1990—As Dan Quayle speaks at a \$2,500-plate fundraiser in Portland, Ore., the Reverse Peristalsis Painters protest by vomiting red, white, and blue mashed potatoes.
1975—Already fired for spying on citizens, ex-CIA counterintelligence chief James Jesus Angleton testifies, “certain individual rights have to be sacrificed for the national security.”
1960—Alan Ginsberg, Peter Orlovsky, and LeRoi Jones meet in Manhattan with Fidel Castro.
1957—Nine Black students enter Little Rock High School, but are escorted out again by police to pacify a howling mob of white segregationists.
1955—A white male jury which believes they're guilty finds Emmett Till's murderers “not guilty.”
1952—R. Nixon uses his daughter's pet dog to deflect corruption charges.
1945—French soldiers who'd been detained in Saigon by the Japanese are released and armed by British General Douglas Gracey. Terrorizing the Vietnamese, they stage a *coup d'état*.
1806—Lewis, Clark, and nearly all the rest make it back to St. Louis, Mo.
1779—John Paul Jones takes the British ship *Serapis* as the *Bonhomme Richard* sinks under him.



2007—A plane previously used for “rendition” flights carrying alleged terrorists to Gitmo crashes in the Yucatan carrying 3.3 tons of cocaine.
2006—The *New York Times* reports that our spies think the Iraq War makes Islamic terrorism more likely.
2006—George W.[MD] Bush says, “When the final history is written on Iraq, it will look just like a comma.”
1981—CIA boss Bill Casey says the Freedom of Information Act shouldn't apply to intelligence agencies.
1978—On his yacht in Chesapeake Bay, right-handed CIA spook John Paisley takes a shotgun blast behind his left ear. It's ruled suicide.
1968—Protestors destroy 10,000 draft files in Milwaukee, Wis.
1957—The 101st Airborne arrives in Little Rock, Arkansas and establishes a perimeter around Little Rock High.
1955—Vacationing Ike has a heart attack but his doc diagnoses indigestion. He falsifies papers to protect his reputation and Ike's electability.
1945—Reacting to yesterday's French coup, the Viet Minh paralyze Saigon with a general strike, storm the jail, and liberate hundreds of comrades.
1911—Portsmouth native Ensign Charles Emerson Hovey, 26, is shot and killed by natives on the island of Basilan in the Philippines.
1869—Black Friday: Jay Gould and Jim Fisk conspire to “corner” gold; the market collapses, chaos ensue. Both are charged, neither is convicted.



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