



FRIENDS OF THE MIDDLE NEWSLETTER #124 — APR. 25, 2012

Welcome to always lively political discussion and whatever else comes up.
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The Defense Budget Is Killing Us

(posted by Steven W. Baker / SteveB, Apr. 19, 2012)

Ike was right!

Don't listen to the lies about "Entitlements". Here's one clue: to call them "entitlements" is a lie. Both Social Security and Medicare are insurance that you pay for, plain and simple. If Congress screwed it up, maybe they should fix it or get out of the way, but the people will not tolerate giving up much of these popular programs.

On the other hand, 50% of the federal budget is "defense" or offense, more normally, whatever the case may be. This is where cuts must be made if we are to be safe.

And (of course) I have a small suggestion. The politicians have created a situation where everything the world buys is made in China. Why don't we have the Chinese build all our tanks, planes, guns, bullets, Cruise missiles, drones, bunker busters, bazookas, Howitzers, rockets, grenades, rifles, uniforms, medals, A-bombs, H-bombs, deadly chemicals, gases, and biological agents for us? I'm sure Walmart could get them that stuff way cheaper than what they're paying now.

Though my burning, burning question would then be whether we could meet our two primary foreign-policy objectives — KEEPING ISRAEL SAFE AND CUBA UNSAFE!

"Defending Ourselves to Death" by Thomas Magstadt, NationofChange

Apr. 24, 2012, (<http://www.nationofchange.org/defending-ourselves-death-1335281978>)

(If you add the \$100 billion or more for the two wars we are still fighting, the \$80 billion for the intelligence budget, and various other defense-related expenditures, that figure is actually much higher – roughly one-half the entire federal budget for the period 2002-2008.)

The OWS movement is right to focus on Wall Street and the financial services industry as the proximate cause of our current discontents. Wall Street is at once the symbol of greed and the instrument of the big commercial banks, venture capitalists, and "wealth managers" that feed on greed, and (more to the point) are fed by it. As everyone knows, the nation's leading financial institutions engaged in extremely risky behavior with our money, plunging the country into a deep and prolonged recession, causing great pain across the length and breadth of middle-class America, while reaping fabulous rewards, some virtually tax-free, in the form of multi-million-dollar bonuses, perks, deferred compensation, stock options, and "golden parachutes".

The economic conundrum we face at present is rooted in the past, including a tax system that redistributes wealth upward from the middle class to the wealthy and, consequently, the relentless growth in both public and private debt. Private debt exacerbates the problems arising from a shrinking labor market; burgeoning public debt places severe limits on what government can do to stimulate growth and often renders efforts to do so (for example, the Obama stimulus) ineffectual largely in large part because the very banks that receive the bulk of the bailouts pull back and refuse to lend. The irony is delicious; unfortunately, the *nouveaupauvre* can't eat it.

But there's another big piece of the puzzle that deserves closer public scrutiny, namely the obese US defense budget. The Plutocrats who control Wall Street and bankroll the Wingnuts in Congress who kill all attempts at tax reform and oppose everything that has anything to do with social justice would have us believe that the big problem with the federal budget is entitlements – Social Security and Medicare. Pure rubbish. There are two much bigger problems, one on the revenue side, namely the skewed federal tax laws that let corporations and the super-rich pay way too little, and one on the spending side. The mother of all expenditure-related debt problems is the defense budget.

At least 95 percent of the national debt is war-related. The Defense Department absorbs 25-30 percent of the federal budget, depending on what's being counted and who's counting. Two-thirds (68 percent) of all federal government civil and military employees are involved in national security and war related activities. If you add the \$100 billion or more for the two wars we are still fighting, the \$80 billion for the intelligence budget, and various other defense-related expenditures, that figure is actually much higher – roughly one-half the entire federal budget for the period 2002-2008.

In terms of money circulation and markets, the multiplier effect of military spending is far less than other forms of capital investment. Nor is the arms industry structured to compete in the civilian economy.

The defunct Soviet Union developed two distinct economies with two distinct sets of quality control standards. In his best-selling book, *The Russians* (1976), Hedrick Smith, winner of a Pulitzer Prize for journalism, wrote about "the split-level nature of Soviet society" in which the military industries "operate on a different system from the rest of the economy." Today, much the same can be said of the United States.

We, too, have a split-level society based on a self-perpetuating war economy with arms manufacturers, beltway bandits, and a vast array of defense contractors that similarly "operate on a different system from the rest of the economy". The domestic economy is characterized by structural unemployment, public and private debt, deteriorating infrastructure, outsourcing, and the like. The products of the war economy have "made in America" stamped all over them. The US is the world's largest arms export, accounting for 30% of the total in the most recent five-year period, 2007-2011. (Russia is second at 24% and Germany is a distant third at 9%.)

The military-industrial economy foreshadowed in President Eisenhower's farewell address a half-century ago, however, presents a very different picture. Defense contractors are thriving, while the federal government is busy throwing good money after bad in Iraq and Afghanistan; paying for the defense of NATO countries, plus Japan, and Korea; and deploying hundreds of thousands of active-duty military personnel at hundreds of bases around the globe.* The US governments also contracts with a growing number of private security contractors to augment military operations in places like Iraq and Afghanistan.

Much of the money spent in the name of national security and war-waging goes to private corporations through hundreds of thousands of procurement contracts (around 400,000).

For FY2002 through FY2008, nearly half of all federal expenditures went to eight federal departments and agencies involved in national and homeland security – including the servicing of war-incurred debt. The "military-industrial complex" has corporate and defense tentacles reaching into virtually every political constituency. DOD alone maintains nearly 5,500 bases and military sites in the U.S. and around the world.

Meanwhile, our NATO allies have made deep cuts in defense spending, and most are falling short of the minimum NATO requirement of 2 percent of GDP spent on defense. Ironically, 2 percent of GDP is what the US spends on the

maintenance and upgrading of its aging infrastructure. The EU, in contrast, spends 5 percent, and China spends at least 10 percent.

The bifurcation of the US economy has its roots in World War II and the intense postwar superpower rivalry. The emerging rivalry in the New World Order is between the United States and China – and the rules have changed.

The challenge China poses is very different from the one the Soviet Union did. China is leading with its strength – economic power – and building a first-rate military on that foundation. Meanwhile, the U.S. blithely continues to throw money at the military and run up ever bigger deficits as though there is no relationship between the soaring national debt and national security.

Most experts agree that a single minded obsession with building military muscle was a major cause of the Soviet Union's collapse. Armaments plus an ill-conceived war in Afghanistan proved to be the Soviet empire's undoing. They may also prove to be our own.

* A 2007 estimate put the number at 737, but it's impossible for any outside observer to know for certain.

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20120424-01	09:51	SteveG	Fw: Change.org Petition: Help a Family Save Their Home from Wells Fargo
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from Change.org:

Two of Kathy Sontag's daughters, Brittany and Cassie, were diagnosed with a rare immune disorder -- they both required months of grueling treatment and even bone marrow transplants. They left their home in Inola, Oklahoma for months on end while fighting to survive.

But medical bills piled up. Kathy, a single mother, missed work to care for her daughters. She says the payments on her home mortgage are becoming too much for her, and so she's been asking Wells Fargo to adjust her loan payments.

The bank hasn't budged. Now Wells Fargo wants to foreclose on Kathy's home -- in just weeks, Kathy and her daughters could be homeless.

Kathy didn't give up in her fight to save her daughters, and she's not giving up now. She started a petition on Change.org asking Wells Fargo to modify her home loan so that she and her daughters can stay in the only home they've known together.

Click here to add your name to Kathy's petition:

http://www.change.org/petitions/wells-fargo-save-the-home-of-bone-marrow-transplant-recipients?utm_source=action_alert&utm_medium=email&me=aa&utm_campaign=IpglNVkbxh&alert_id=IpglNVkbxh_GfgmAqtiYI

The home Kathy shares with Brittany, Cassie, and her third daughter is no ordinary home. When their neighbors heard about the girls' illnesses, they decided to pitch in. They transformed Kathy's home, including extensive repairs and a new ventilation system, all designed to make the girls' recovery as easy as possible.

When her daughters finally were able to return home, wearing face masks to protect their fragile immune systems, they were greeted by their friends and neighbors holding signs and cheering. "The whole community got together," said Kathy. "It was like they did their own version of Extreme Home Makeover."

Kathy's daughter Cassie told a local reporter when she returned home, "It's really amazing 'cause I knew they cared, but I didn't think they cared enough to build a new house and get us all this stuff. I'm shocked. I love it."

Now Kathy, Brittany, Cassie, and the rest of their family could lose their special home. But Kathy has seen other homeowners save their homes from foreclosure. She's hoping that if the public comes to her side -- much like her community came to her family when the girls first got sick -- she can save the only home her girls have ever known.

Click here to sign Kathy's petition to Wells Fargo to reevaluate her case and modify her mortgage so her family can keep their home.

Thanks for being a change-maker, Tim and the Change.org team

20120424-02	09:52	SteveG	Fw: JustLabelIt.org Petition: Urge USDA to Reject GMO Corn
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from Just Label It!:

The USDA is on the brink of approving a type of corn genetically engineered to withstand 2,4-D herbicide, which some studies have shown may be linked to reproductive abnormalities, birth defects, and several forms of cancer.

Approval of Dow Chemical's genetically engineered corn would trigger an increase in 2,4-D use and our exposure to this herbicide.

Although we might not all agree on the science concerning the long-term effects of eating GMOs, we should be able to decide for ourselves whether to feed them to our families. But if the USDA approves this new corn, we won't be able to make that choice since genetically engineered foods aren't labeled.

Urge the USDA to reject the genetically engineered 2,4-D resistant corn until these concerns are addressed.

Before the USDA makes a decision, they've asked to hear from people like you and me, but they're only accepting comments from the public until Friday! We must make sure they understand our concerns about this new kind of genetically engineered corn.

The herbicide 2,4-D is a persistent chemical with a habit of spreading into the water we drink, the grass our children and pets play on, and the soil beneath our backyard gardens. Plus a growing number of farmers are concerned about the potential impact on their crops from the herbicide drifting onto their fields.

You care about the food you eat, that's why you asked the FDA to label genetically engineered ingredients. Now speak up before the USDA approves 2,4-D resistant corn with absolutely no labeling, which could unleash a new wave of chemicals in our environment.

Help flood the USDA comment box before it's too late (Deadline on Friday!):

http://salsa3.salsalabs.com/o/50202/p/dia/action/public/?action_KEY=7572

Thank you for contacting the USDA today and for bringing attention to these critical food issues.

– Alex, Nancy, Naomi, Sue, and the entire Just Label It team

20120424-03	10:22	Pam	Re: How Do We Reach a Happier Conclusion? (reply to SteveBA, Apr. 23, 2012)
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SteveBA, what is it with you and your issue with "taking money and giving it to others?" That seems to really get under your skin. It's not as if Social Security were ripping people off. What's the limit? \$60,000 or so, then everything above that isn't charged, which means the rich are not touched by their deductions as much as those making less. It's not like it's a crushing burden or anything. Back in the 19th c. Otto von Bismark instituted the first social welfare programs in Europe in order to strengthen the German state. He knew that a society in which everyone has a measure of security is going to be stronger and more stable than someplace like Sudan or Somalia. Imagine what would happen if suddenly the rich didn't have to give up anything and the middle class didn't have to pay taxes. What would our society look like then? Look back at Victorian England to get an idea.

You might say you prefer private charity or church-run institutions to help people in need, but that would almost certainly be inadequate. For example, the university where I taught for 30 years is a state school and depends on the state legislature for a substantial portion of its budget. Private donors are solicited (my best friend works for Development), but those gifts could never cover everything. Places like Stanford and Harvard that are privately supported and have huge endowments can make it without govt. money (though their students often get federal education loans), but a school like UNCG would have to close its doors if the state eliminated our funding. I could write a telephone-book-length list of similar examples. Private money cannot replace government spending.

Moreover, government spending is at least notionally controlled by the taxpayers through their representatives. Government can see where money is needed and direct it accordingly. (I know it's way more complicated than this, but I think you understand me.) UNCG is always having to deal with benefactors who want to give money for a particular thing: a bell tower, the Honors Program, whatever. That's fine, but what if it's actually the Classics Dept. that needs the funds? A university, and a nation, need to be able to move money around to where it will do the most good. If taxes didn't provide that money, everything we take for granted would come to a crashing stop. The rich people I admire--and there are many I do--share their bounty with their society in one way or another. The rich people I do not admire are those whose goal in life is to hang onto every penny, who say, I got mine; you get yours. That is a selfish attitude, not a justified one. If the Grinches and Scrooges won't make a fair contribution to their society, then they must be made to do so. That's what taxes are for. We need a combination of money sources, just as we need a combination of energy sources. Balance. The middle way. Taking account of both complexity and human nature. These are what we need to focus on. When someone like Simon Cowell spends \$4 million on a birthday party for himself, I feel not a tinge of regret at taxing the bejeebers out of him. Everyone wants a comfortable life, but there's a reason the rich are so often hated--historically and today. Every time I see Kim Jung Un's fat face I think about all the North Koreans subsisting on tree bark. We need to find a reasonable middle ground, and we must consider the interests of EVERYONE.

20120424-04	10:44	Clark	Re: How Do We Reach a Happier Conclusion? (reply to Pam, above)
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Pam, I can't top this for eloquence, but I would only add that 2005 was a convenient time for such a study (on SS vs. private pension funds), a few years before many people lost their savings in the 2008 market/financial crash.

Yet they still had their Social Security. It's a safety net. Doesn't stop people who have the means from investing, but it takes the risk out for at least some funds. Otherwise, as Pam notes, it's a return to Victorian England.

[20120424-05](#) 10:45 Art Re: How Do We Reach a Happier Conclusion? (reply to SteveBA, Apr. 23, 2012)

All good points but I think the difference, for some of us at least, is that you cannot in the end really trust private enterprise to do anything but try to make a profit. I know some don't like to hear this but that doesn't make it any less true. It is only government regulations and requirements for at least some degree of honesty in business that keeps us from having sawdust or sewage in our hamburgers. Yes, it is true that in the end business must offer something that it's clients will buy but it also can be a very long road between cutting corners on the product and finally being rejected by the public. The larger the business the longer the road. In SteveBA's line of business, Bernie Madoff comes to mind instantly but in fact business is loaded with businessmen who cut corners, provided faulty products and generally cheated their customers and clients all in the name of making a little more money. If Social Security had been privatized, I am certain along the road somewhere some CEO, trying to enhance his salary, would have made risky investments or other selfish actions that would have not had the best interests of the investor population in mind.

Less this be misconstrued, I applaud private industry and am heavily invested in it myself. I just don't really trust any of the senior CEOs etc to do anything but try to make more money, mostly these days for themselves, but hopefully taking me along for the ride. I am OK with that as long as the people of this country have a higher power to watch over the abuses and reign them in from time to time.

[Can you imagine the panic in 2008 if the full Social Security funds, less Congressional pilfering, had been invested in the markets? Gack! Our nation could possibly have crashed and burned. –SteveB]

[20120424-12](#) 14:08 SteveB Re: How Do We Reach a Happier Conclusion? (reply to Art & SteveBA)

I agree, Art. And conservatives seem to be the last to believe that mankind is intrinsically good—hence the guns, death penalty, and interference in my bedroom.

They don't think mankind is honest or good, but somehow the rich and powerful and the mighty corporations are. I guess they would have us believe that, the more money involved, the more honest people become. They don't need any damned laws or regulations! Horsie doo-doo!

True or not, SteveBA?

You just can't have it both ways. Unless...oh...I see...the rich are good and it is only the scum who are bad! I get it!

[20120424-19](#) 18:01 Art Re: How Do We Reach a Happier Conclusion? (reply to SteveB)

"What's good for General Motors is good for America"

Right?

[20120424-16](#) 15:30 SteveG Re: How Do We Reach a Happier Conclusion? (SteveB, above)

As I remember Ron Paul stated that companies/corporations would do the right things if all the regulations were lifted.

[20120424-17](#) 16:05 Clark Re: How Do We Reach a Happier Conclusion? (SteveG, above)

Sure they would!

Getting back to government programs that work and have done tremendous good over the years, despite cutbacks and political interference, how about food inspection, the CDC, OSHA and the EPA?

I'll draw the line at the TSA, however.

20120424-06	11:22	SteveG	Re: A Happier Conclusion? Health Care (reply to Art, above)
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All excellent points. Banks during the past few years, particularly the mortgage scams, have to be added to the Madoff lists.

Most of us went (K-12) through public schools – all in one form another government institutions. Some went to private schools for college while others went to state universities and most went to state schools for graduate school – all government ran enterprises.

Last night there was a report on CBS news about costs of appendectomies – no complications – all were in California and the costs were from \$13, 000 to \$182, 000 dollars – free enterprise at work for you in the medical field.

20120424-07	11:43	SteveG	Re: How Do We Reach a Happier Conclusion? & Video: "No Standardized Price for Appendix Removal"
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Take a listen to the report on appendectomies and then talk to me about how great medical care in the US is. What is it that Pam says, single payer and universal coverage! Medical costs are ridiculous.

Video: "No Standardized Price for Appendix Removal" by CBS News

Apr. 23, 2012, (<http://www.cbsnews.com/video/watch/?id=7406362n&tag=contentMain;contentBody>)

20120424-08	11:55	Clark	Re: How Do We Reach a Happier Conclusion? (reply to SteveG, above); Health Care
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I had one of those (appendectomies) in California 30 years ago and the cost even then was around \$10,000. I did have insurance, which gave me the decided sense that they were happier to see me than if I hadn't, and I landed a good surgeon. Otherwise I might be a statistic. It was a messy operation.

20120424-09	11:56	Art	Re: How Do We Reach a Happier Conclusion? (reply to SteveG, above); Health Care
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Worth a watch. This is the problem and needs fixing. Could happen to any of us. Curious for the non Americans on this list. Have the same problem?

[Non-Americans? Well, in Bolivia we have incredibly inexpensive universal health care. Prescription drugs are cheap and don't require prescriptions. Doctors and hospitals make less money, but everyone who can be is happy and healthy. Many of our doctors were trained in the U.S. or Cuba, and I can't see much difference in the expertise of those two groups. Also, students come from all over Latin America to attend medical school in Bolivia. Is only America too stupid to leave this problem unsolved? The only country with a political process too controlled by special interests—doctors, the medical-industrial complex, and insurance companies, in this case? Pathetic! – SteveB]

20120424-10

12:08

SteveB

Re: A Happier Conclusion? Candidates Chosen By God (reply to Clark & SteveG, Apr. 23, 2012) & "Romney: God Wants U.S. to Lead, Not Follow"

And R0mney is not without Divine assistance either. (Where are those damned Golden Plates?) God sure gives mixed signals these days.

I hope He at least told President Obama to run too or to bomb Libya or something, otherwise... Maybe God tells him to raise our taxes...haha.

Below is from the *FotM Archive*.

SteveB, Oct. 7, 2011, 6:38 am

How far behind the times can you possibly be? Just what we need, more military spending and adventures. These Republicans just don't get it—we're broke! We gotta scrape some money together and fix ourselves somehow, not fight more wars!

And, even more dangerous—HE KNOWS WHAT GOD WANTS! (Hey, maybe he could ask God what happened to those golden plates Jesus gave the Mormons that they somehow managed to "lose".)

I guess "better than the rest" [of the field] doesn't mean much, huh? Now, Mitt, let's go out there in the world and dominate! hahaha This is not what we need at this point in our nation's history, in my humble opinion.

"Romney: God Wants U.S. to Lead, Not Follow" by Bruce Smith and Steve Peoples, AP

Oct. 7, 2011, (<http://news.yahoo.com/romney-god-wants-us-lead-not-081157082.html>)

(CHARLESTON, SC) Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney is calling for a century of American dominance in his first major foreign policy address, outlining plans to strengthen the U.S. military while rejecting multilateral institutions like the United Nations when necessary.

The former Massachusetts governor also condemns the isolationist policies supported by some tea party members in a speech to be delivered Friday at The Citadel, South Carolina's iconic military college.

"This is America's moment. We should embrace the challenge, not shrink from it, not crawl into an isolationist shell, not wave the white flag of surrender, nor give in to those who assert America's moment has passed. That is utter nonsense," Romney says in prepared remarks obtained by The Associated Press.

The leading GOP presidential contender offers no clear direction for the war in Afghanistan, but says he would conduct a full review of the situation in his first 100 days in office to determine "the presence necessary to secure our gains and successfully complete our mission."

"This century must be an American century. In an American century, America has the strongest economy and the strongest military in the world," Romney says. "God did not create this country to be a nation of followers. America is not destined to be one of several equally balanced global powers. America must lead the world, or someone else will."

While he served as a Mormon missionary in France more than four decades ago, Romney has limited foreign policy experience. As he says in nearly every campaign stop, he has spent the majority of his life in the business world. But Romney has been critical of President Barack Obama's foreign policy, particularly the president's aggressive timeline to withdraw troops from Afghanistan.

At a campaign stop in Mount Pleasant on Thursday, Romney previewed some of the themes for Friday's speech. He called for 100,000 new troops, increased military spending and a larger Navy.

"You would think that the president and the people in Washington would recognize the importance of the United States military and the need not to shrink our military budget but strengthen it," Romney told veterans on the hangar deck of the World War II-era aircraft carrier U.S.S. Yorktown.

The former governor acknowledged waste in defense spending and "my life in the private sector taught me to go after waste and economize, and there is an opportunity to do that." But he said he wouldn't, as European nations have done, reduce defense to bolster social programs.

Romney also released the names of 22 advisers he will consult on foreign policy issues.

The Citadel speech comes three days before his rival Jon Huntsman, the former ambassador to China, delivers a foreign policy address of his own. And it comes as Romney has jumped back into the lead in national polling following Texas Gov. Rick Perry meteoric rise and fall in recent weeks. The location of the speech, in the early voting state of South Carolina, is of course no coincidence.

Romney calls for working with the United Nations when appropriate.

"But know this," he says. "While America should work with other nations, we always reserve the right to act alone to protect our vital national interests."

[20120424-11](#) 12:55 SteveB Re: A Happier Conclusion? Candidates Chosen By God

Ah...I get it! THAT'S why they say President Obama isn't a Christian. God doesn't tell him to do all that stuff...thank God!

So the ignoramuses (ignorami?) conclude he must be a Muslim.

I do honestly believe that Mormonism is a cult and I don't think I'm prejudiced in saying that, but it is from getting to know some of the young Mormons who'd come around to try to convert us, from attending their small local church a couple of times, from spending some time in Salt Lake City, and from reading the entire incredibly boring alleged *Book of Mormon*, out of sheer, obstinate curiosity. It's as crazy as Scientology or Rev. Moon or Jim Jones, IMHO.

Not that I believe any of that matters one whit in whether to vote for R0mney or not. I'm pretty sure he doesn't believe in any damn thing. At least, in all these long months, I haven't seen one glimmer of integrity or veracity or what he stands for except the "private sector", being rich, paying little taxes, and liking to fire people.

Please give me a break. As John Huntsman said, "Is this the best we can do?"

[20120424-13](#) 14:19 Dennis Fw: Harlequin Novel, Updated: 2011 Version

[Source of original email unknown. -SteveB]

He grasped me firmly, but gently, just above my elbow and guided me into a room, his room. Then he quietly shut the door and we were alone. He approached me soundlessly, from behind, and spoke in a low, reassuring voice close to my ear.

"Just relax."

Without warning, he reached down and I felt his strong, calloused hands start at my ankles, gently probing, and moving upward along my calves, slowly but steadily. My breath caught in my throat.

I knew I should be afraid, but somehow I didn't care. His touch was so experienced, so sure. When his hands moved up onto my thighs, I gave a slight shudder, and partly closed my eyes. My pulse was pounding. I felt his knowing fingers caress my abdomen, my ribcage. And then, as he cupped my firm, full breasts in his hands, I inhaled sharply.

Probing, searching, knowing what he wanted, he brought his hands to my shoulders, slid them down my tingling spine and into my panties. Although I knew nothing about this man, I felt oddly trusting and expectant. This is a man, I thought. A man used to taking charge. A man not used to taking 'No' for an answer. A man who would tell me what he wanted. A man who would look into my soul and say...

"Okay ma'am, you can board your flight now."

20120424-15	15:21	SteveG	Re: Harlequin Novel, Updated: 2011 Version
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LOL – All I get is a video.

20120424-14	14:47	SteveB	Fw: Daily Kos Action: Support the Woman's Option to Raise Kids (WORK) Act
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from Daily Kos:

Please send an email to your member of Congress to support the Woman's Option to Raise Kids (WORK) Act, which gives low-income women with children under age four the choice to stay at home to raise their kids. Click here to send an email:

http://campaigns.dailykos.com/p/dia/action/public/?action_KEY=119.

Now that Republicans have flip-flopped on their decades-long denigration of mothers and decided that staying at home to raise children is work—or at least, it's work when Ann Romney does it—some House Democrats are telling them to put their money where their mouth is by introducing the Woman's Option to Raise Kids (WORK) Act.

The WORK Act allows raising children under the age of four to count toward the required "work activity" defined under the 1996 Temporary Assistance to Needy Families Program. If Republicans really valued the work mothers do, they'd support legally defining raising young children as work so that more low-income moms can make the same choice Ann Romney made.

However, with Democrats calling their bluff, many Republicans are folding. When asked about the WORK Act, Rep. Jon Mica (R-FL) said being a mother "isn't work in the normal sense." Teabagger Rep. Steve King of Iowa compared the hard work of motherhood to washing his car.

Please, send an email to your member of Congress in support of the WORK Act. It's either time to give all moms the same choice Ann Romney had, or to put an end to this sham outrage.

Keep fighting, Kaili Joy Gray, Daily Kos

20120424-18	16:13	SteveG	"Take Action Against Dow Chemical and Monsanto 'Agent Orange' GMO Crops" & Reply from SteveB
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"Take Action Against Dow Chemical and Monsanto 'Agent Orange' GMO Crops" by Cassandra Anderson, NationofChange

Apr. 24, 2012, (<http://www.nationofchange.org/take-action-against-dow-chemical-and-monsanto-agent-orange-gmo-crops-1335283074>)

You can help to hold the USDA and Dow Chemical accountable simply by posting your comments on the official public record of Dow Chemical's petition with the USDA to approve their 2,4-D herbicide resistant GMO crops (remember that 2,4-D herbicide is half of the recipe for Agent Orange).

The USDA is required to respond to all UNIQUE comments publicly. Therefore, it is essential that you write your own message in addition to using any of the issues listed below. It's also important to note that comments close April 27th, so make sure to get them in today. It's simple to do, and you can view the list of issues and links below. Simply go to the USDA website to leave your comments and take action!

Here is a list of issues concerning the new dangerous 2,4-D herbicide resistant crops and source links that we encourage you to use, along with your own message, in your comments to the USDA:

Effects on human health:

- I am demanding a full Environmental Impact Statement on these crops because they can affect human health.
- What are the cumulative effects for these crops and the increase in 2,4-D herbicide usage?
- EPA documents show that 2,4-D herbicide is the seventh largest source of dioxin in the US.
- Link: http://www.epa.gov/oppsrrd1/REDS/24d_red.pdf.

Pollution of the environment:

- EPA documents reveal that 2,4-D agricultural runoff has polluted groundwater across the US. Dioxin has a half-life of more than 100 years when leached into soil and embedded in water systems. Additionally, when contaminated fish are used as a food source, humans absorb dioxin.
- Links: http://www.epa.gov/teach/chem_summ/24D_summary.pdf.
- <http://www.aspeninstitute.org/policy-work/agent-orange/history>.

Ramped up 2,4-D herbicide in crops:

- The commercialization of GMO 2,4-D herbicide resistant crops will dramatically increase the usage of 2,4-D herbicide that is linked to dioxin to be used on food crops.
- Link: <http://www.i-sis.org.uk/GMcropsIncreasedHerbicide.php>.

Dioxin in diet and food sources:

- The FDA admits that 95% of human dioxin absorption is from diet, especially animal fats. Corn and other crops are used for animal feed and dioxin levels are likely to rise in animals if they are fed 2,4-D herbicide resistant GMO crops, due to increased herbicide use.
- Link: <http://www.fda.gov/Food/FoodSafety/FoodContaminantsAdulteration/ChemicalContaminants/DioxinsPCBs/ucm292321.htm>.

Connection to cancer and birth defects:

- The EPA says that dioxin increases risk of cancer and current dioxin levels are already "uncomfortably" close to dangerous levels that can cause other health damage.
- Link: <http://www.epa.gov/pbt/pubs/dioxins.htm>.
- EPA admits that dioxin in 2,4-D causes blood, liver and kidney toxicity in addition to birth defects in lab-tested animals.
- Link: http://www.epa.gov/teach/chem_summ/24D_summary.pdf.

- The Veteran's Administration recognizes these diseases that have resulted from Agent Orange exposure (2,4-D is half of the recipe of Agent Orange): Amyloidosis, chronic B-cell leukemias, chloracne, diabetes mellitus type 2, Hodgkin's Disease, ischemic heart disease, multiple myeloma, Non-Hodgkins lymphoma, Parkinson's Disease, peripheral neuropathy, liver dysfunction, prostate cancer, respiratory cancers (including lung), soft tissue sarcomas and birth defects in subsequent generations.
- Link: <http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/diseases.asp>
- The USDA has failed to require tests of how 2,4-D herbicide and Monsanto's glyphosate herbicide interact synergistically in the environment and in humans, which may present a real danger.

Take action on the USDA comments website:

<http://www.regulations.gov/#!submitComment;D=APHIS-2010-0103-0001>

Please note that your comments should contain an original message by you (instead of a form letter) so that it is counted as a unique message requiring a response from the USDA. It's also important to be aware that only your name, city and country are required information, the rest of your personal information like your home address and e-mail are voluntary.

Personal stories of individuals affected by agent orange: [see source website listed above].

reply from SteveB:

Ya know, SteveG, I was just thinking...

Isn't this one of those damned if you do / damned if you don't situations?

First of all, did you know that almost all the arable land on the entire planet is infertile for most crops? Oh, ya, we pay lip service to crop rotation, which helps, but it still takes millions of tons of fertilizer each year to make the farm land continue to grow crops, because it was "worn out" long ago. All this fertilizer ultimately damages the environment almost as much as the poisons.

This shows the dire situation we're gotten ourselves into.

Now, let's say we don't have pesticide/herbicide resistant crops. As the "background" poison levels rise, as they historically have, and we continue to use chemicals that don't break down into anything resembling harmless components, crops could start dying along with everything else, and the world, including the Tea Party, would starve. Oh, except the ones with big survivalist stashes, and there would be major armed conflict over those. Fun.

Just as, already, bees don't fly, corn would not grow.

I say, as in climate control, we go with science, but carefully monitored science, in this case. Already, much (more) of the world's population would be starving if we didn't already grow heavily genetically modified crops everywhere in the world. We just did most of the manipulation with less than modern, less efficient, less powerful methods.

As to this particular genetic modification? Governments, not corporations should decide the issue, I believe. The governments need a lot of input from scientists, companies, and the people, then time to decide. Many of us have gotten to be a small part of that process.

I say, let 'em do it, then ban the same chemicals world-wide, just to teach 'em a lesson. Unfortunately, cool sh*t like this almost never happens in the real world.

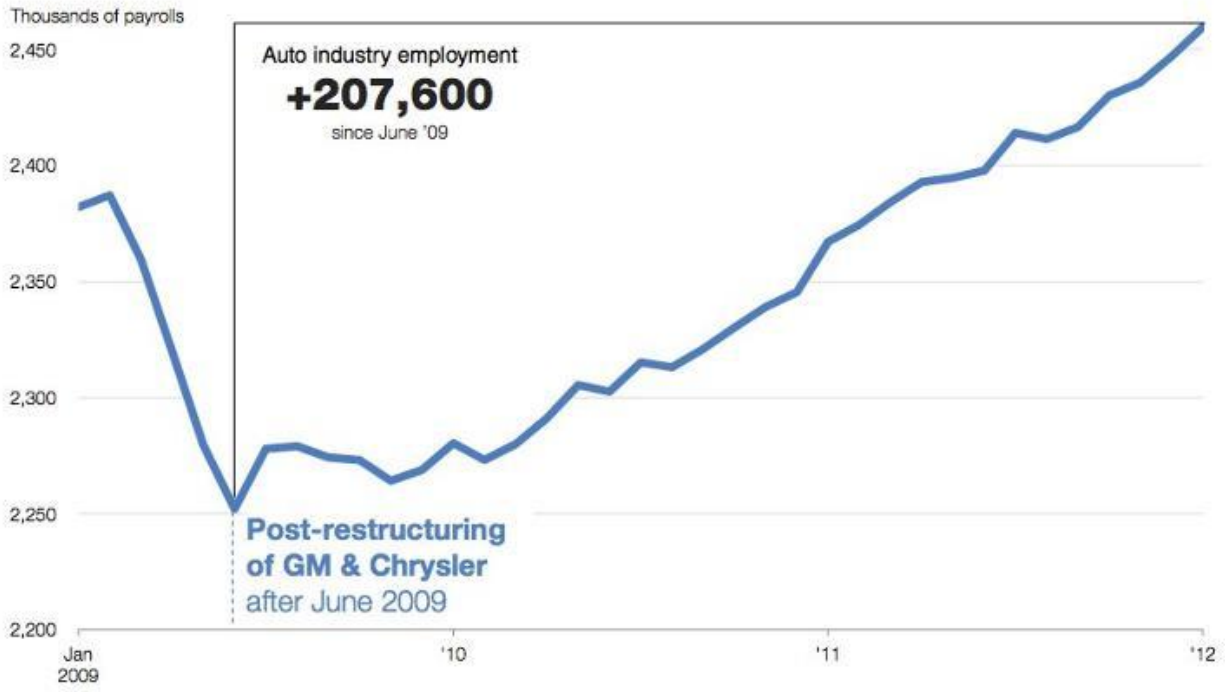
The real question is: Can we genetically engineer poison resistant humans (and dogs, cats, cows, and chickens, I hope)?

Seems that Government Motors and Chrysler are doing better than America in producing jobs. Who wudda think it?

8 The Auto Industry

Auto industry employment has grown since the rescue.

Total private payrolls in motor vehicles and parts (manufacturing and retail trade), seasonally-adjusted



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

You cannot get the water to clear up until you get the pigs out of the creek.

[Source of original email unknown. Attributed to the *Wall Street Journal*, but never published there, according to Snopes.com: <http://www.snopes.com/politics/soapbox/makebelieve.asp>. But this is apparently a legitimate blog posting. -SteveB]

"Obama's Make-Believe Life" by Alan Caruba, Warning Signs Blog

Jan. 2, 2010, (<http://factsnotfantasy.blogspot.com/2010/01/obamas-make-believe-life.html>)

I have this theory about Barack Obama. I think he's led a kind of make-believe life in which money was provided and doors were opened because at some point early on somebody or some group took a look at this tall, good looking, half-white, half-black, young man with an exotic African/Muslim name and concluded he could be guided toward a life in politics where his facile speaking skills could even put him in the White House.

In a very real way, he has been a young man in a very big hurry. Who else do you know has written two memoirs before the age of 45? "Dreams of My Father" was published in 1995 when he was only 34 years old. The "Audacity

of Hope" followed in 2006. If, indeed, he did write them himself. There are some who think that his mentor and friend, Bill Ayers, a man who calls himself a "communist with a small 'c'" was the real author.

His political skills consisted of rarely voting on anything that might be deemed controversial. He went from a legislator in the Illinois legislature to the Senator from that state because he had the good fortune of having Mayor Daley's formidable political machine at his disposal.

He was in the U.S. Senate so briefly that his bid for the presidency was either an act of astonishing self-confidence or part of some greater game plan that had been determined before he first stepped foot in the Capital. How, many must wonder, was he selected to be a 2004 keynote speaker at the Democrat convention that nominated John Kerry when virtually no one had ever even heard of him before?

He outmaneuvered Hillary Clinton in primaries. He took Iowa by storm. A charming young man, an anomaly in the state with a very small black population, he oozed "cool" in a place where agriculture was the antithesis of cool. He dazzled the locals. And he had an army of volunteers drawn to a charisma that hid any real substance.

And then he had the great good fortune of having the Republicans select one of the most inept candidates for the presidency since Bob Dole. And then John McCain did something crazy. He picked Sarah Palin, an unknown female governor from the very distant state of Alaska. It was a ticket that was reminiscent of 1984's Walter Mondale and Geraldine Ferraro and they went down to defeat.

The mainstream political media fell in love with him. It was a schoolgirl crush with febrile commentators like Chris Mathews swooning then and now over the man. The venom directed against McCain and, in particular, Palin, was extraordinary.

Now, nearly a full year into his first term, all of those gilded years leading up to the White House have left him unprepared to be President. Left to his own instincts, he has a talent for saying the wrong thing at the wrong time. It swiftly became a joke that he could not deliver even the briefest of statements without the ever-present Tele-Prompters.

Far worse, however, is his capacity to want to "wish away" some terrible realities, not the least of which is the Islamist intention to destroy America and enslave the West. Any student of history knows how swiftly Islam initially spread. It knocked on the doors of Europe, having gained a foothold in Spain.

The great crowds that greeted him at home or on his campaign "world tour" were no substitute for having even the slightest grasp of history and the reality of a world filled with really bad people with really bad intentions.

Oddly and perhaps even inevitably, his political experience, a cakewalk, has positioned him to destroy the Democrat Party's hold on power in Congress because in the end it was never about the Party. It was always about his communist ideology, learned at an early age from family, mentors, college professors, and extreme leftist friends and colleagues.

Obama is a man who could deliver a snap judgment about a Boston police officer who arrested an "obstreperous" Harvard professor-friend, but would warn Americans against "jumping to conclusions" about a mass murderer at Fort Hood who shouted "Allahu Akbar." The absurdity of that was lost on no one. He has since compounded this by calling the Christmas bomber "an isolated extremist" only to have to admit a day or two later that he was part of an al Qaeda plot.

He is a man who could strive to close down our detention facility at Guantanamo even though those released were known to have returned to the battlefield against America. He could even instruct his Attorney General to afford the perpetrator of 9/11 a civil trial when no one else would ever even consider such an obscenity. And he is a man who could wait three days before having anything to say about the perpetrator of yet another terrorist attack on Americans and then have to elaborate on his remarks the following day because his first statement was so lame.

The pattern repeats itself. He either blames any problem on the Bush administration or he naively seeks to wish away the truth.

Knock, knock. Anyone home? Anyone there? Barack Obama exists only as the sock puppet of his handlers, of the people who have maneuvered and manufactured this pathetic individual's life.

When anyone else would quickly and easily produce a birth certificate, this man has spent over a million dollars to deny access to his. Most other documents, the paper trail we all leave in our wake, have been sequestered from review. He has lived a make-believe life whose true facts remain hidden.

We laugh at the ventriloquist's dummy, but what do you do when the dummy is President of the United States of America?

20120424-22	23:21	SteveM	Video: "Obama Makes Free Speech a Felony"
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This one will blow your mind!

This is unbelievable! a law signed in secret, that allows the Secret Service ignore the 1st Amendment and charge protesters with a FELONY (more than a year in jail). The scumbags that protest at the burials of American service men and women do so FREELY, but if you hold up a sign as simple as "No More Obama" where the Secret Service can see it, you can be arrested for a federal felony!! On top of that, the President can decide who gets Secret Service protection . . . how long before his entire cabinet is protected by the Secret Service and the Secret Service (a historically 1st rate law enforcement organization) grows into Obama's Secret Police. Is nobody seeing the correlations of these actions with similar actions in recent history? (WWII) Do I need to worry that I could go to jail for writing this e-mail or that YOU may go just for reading it? OUR FREEDOMS ARE BEING STRIPPED AWAY FROM US AND WE MUST STOP THIS

New law makes it illegal to protest in Obama's presence

This means that, wherever Obama is at, his secret service can have you arrested, fined, and imprisoned for more than a YEAR if you ask him something he doesn't like...or say something he doesn't like...or if you are carrying a sign he doesn't like. Sound like he's more like Hitler than Lincoln to you?]

WATCH AND BE AMAZED AT HIS LATEST MOVE TO STAGE A TAKE OVER OF AMERICA ...

Guess you've probably heard about this, but sending it on anyway. It's probably the scariest thing this guy has done yet.

Are you aware of this new law, signed by Obama in early March 2012?

May the Lord have mercy on us!!!!

http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=7SGWH3kirzg&vq=medium

"Political correctness is a doctrine, fostered by a delusional, illogical minority, and rabidly promoted by an unscrupulous mainstream media, which holds forth the proposition that it is entirely possible to pick up a turd by the clean end." --Unknown

20120424-23	23:38	SteveM	"If Even Some of This Is True, Obama Is So Much More Dangerous Than We Thought"
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"If Even Some of This Is True, Obama Is So Much More Dangerous Than We Thought" by George Spelvin, ImpeachObamaCampaign.com

Apr. 24, 2012, (<http://www.impeachobamacampaign.com/>)

Years of living dangerously off of the U.S. taxpayers' dime have certainly served the Obama-Dunham family well, according to investigative journalist Wayne Madsen. Nevertheless, the downside for America is the Islamization of Africa and Asia in a remarkable example of unintended consequences of foreign entanglements gone bad- very bad, indeed.

A Wayne Madsen 32 page pdf file [<http://exopolitics.blogspot.com/files/wayne-madsen-obama-all-in-the-company.pdf>]. See below. There are lots of good historical photos in the PDF file which do not appear in this Newsletter. –SteveB] is opening up a Pandora's Box of American foreign aid money dispensed wildly and broadly overseas. The reporter cites American dollars intended to buy starving villagers rice actually going to finance foreign military weapons purchases for various wars, conflicts, and insurgencies. Our tax dollars earned through the hard work and sweat equity have not been used to our benefit but rather to further the Islamization of these continents which is now almost complete.

The very aims and actions of politicians, faceless bureaucrats, and foreign service operatives (both covertly and not covertly) have come back to bite America at a time when our own citizens are suffering through economic trouble. The investigative reporter's dogged pursuit of the Obama-Dunham family odyssey in places from Jakarta to Jalalabad, and from the Ford Foundation to the Oval Office, makes for fascinating reading: But how to verify it?

Rumors abound that Madsen has grown so fearful for his life that he has broken up with a long time companion and left the country. A noted author and syndicated columnist, Madsen's reports have been widely circulated. He is the author of "Genocide and Covert Operations in Africa" and "Jaded Tasks: Big Oil, Black Ops & Brass Plates."

A picture of Stanley Ann Dunham "visiting a Balinese duck farm officially as part of her work to secure bank loans for small businesses" is included in the five-part report of international intrigue and American dollars. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner's father Peter Geithner acted as the Ford Foundation's grant selector for projects in Indonesia, and President Obama's mother worked for or with him as Madsen reports.

The report's dizzying array of abbreviations, acronyms, NGO's, and many other groups obfuscate duties, dollars, and destinies.

What a labyrinth to wade through! Lost in all of this overseas stewpot are the unsuspecting U.S. citizens who pay for everything. But where is Madsen now? Is all of what he says true? He filed communiqués from the Obama Korean summit recently, that much we know, but is he safe?

What really is appropriate here is the admonishment of George Washington who warned America in his Farewell Address delivered to our new nation on 17 September 1796. Washington said, "Against the insidious wiles of foreign influence the jealousy of free people ought to be constantly awake since history and experience prove that foreign influence is one of the most baneful foes of a republican government."

Could any of our politicians look into the eyes of America's founder and say they have followed his advice when it comes to foreign aid? Mightily served by our founding fathers, America has been miserably served by her politicians!

[Maybe what the below shows is why President Obama is such a damned good President, and it's all a conspiracy within a conspiracy? You've, perhaps, been set-up, my friend. –SteveB]

Special Report: "The Story of Obama" by Wayne Madsen*

*Wayne Madsen Investigative journalist, author and syndicated columnist. His columns have appeared in a wide number of newspapers and journals. Madsen is a regular contributor on Russia Today. He has written *The Handbook of Personal Data Protection* (London: Macmillan, 1992); *Genocide and Covert Operations in Africa 1993-1999* (Edwin Mellen Press, 1999); *Jaded Tasks: Big Oil, Black Ops & Brass Plates* and *Overthrow a Fascist Regime on \$15 a Day* and co-authored *America's Nightmare: The Presidency of George Bush II* (Dandelion, 2003).

PART 1: The Story of Obama: All in The Company (Part I)

Investigative journalist Wayne Madsen has discovered CIA files that document the agency's connections to institutions and individuals figuring prominently in the lives of Barack Obama and his mother, father, grandmother, and stepfather. The first part of his report highlights the connections between Barack Obama, Sr. and the CIA-sponsored operations in Kenya to counter rising Soviet and Chinese influence among student circles and, beyond, to create conditions obstructing the emergence of independent African leaders.

From 1983-84, Barack Obama worked as Editor at Business International Corporation, a Business International Corporation, a known CIA front company.

President Obama's own work in 1983 for Business International Corporation, a CIA front that conducted seminars with the world's most powerful leaders and used journalists as agents abroad, dovetails with CIA espionage activities conducted by his mother, Stanley Ann Dunham in 1960s post-coup Indonesia on behalf of a number of CIA front operations, including the East-West Center at the University of Hawaii, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and the Ford Foundation. Dunham met and married Lolo Soetoro, Obama's stepfather, at the East-West Center in 1965. Soetoro was recalled to Indonesia in 1965 to serve as a senior army officer and assist General Suharto and the CIA in the bloody overthrow of President Sukarno.

Barack Obama, Sr., who met Dunham in 1959 in a Russian language class at the University of Hawaii, had been part of what was described as an airlift of 280 East African students to the United States to attend various colleges — merely "aided" by a grant from the Joseph P. Kennedy Foundation, according to a September 12, 1960, Reuters report from London. The airlift was a CIA operation to train and indoctrinate future agents of influence in Africa, which was becoming a battleground between the United States and the Soviet Union and China for influence among newly-independent and soon-to-be independent countries on the continent.

The airlift was condemned by the deputy leader of the opposition Kenyan African Democratic Union (KADU) as favoring certain tribes — the majority Kikuyus and minority Luos — over other tribes to favor the Kenyan African National Union (KANU), whose leader was Tom Mboya, the Kenyan nationalist and labor leader who selected Obama, Sr. for a scholarship at the University of Hawaii. Obama, Sr., who was already married with an infant son and pregnant wife in Kenya, married Dunham on Maui on February 2, 1961 and was also the university's first African student. Dunham was three month's pregnant with Barack Obama, Jr. at the time of her marriage to Obama, Sr.

The CIA allegedly recruited Tom M'Boya in a heavily funded "selective liberation" programme to isolate Kenya's founding President Jomo Kenyatta, who the American spy agency labelled as "unsafe."

KADU deputy leader Masinda Muliro, according to Reuters, said KADU would send a delegation to the United States to investigate Kenyan students who received "gifts" from the Americans and "ensure that further gifts to Kenyan students are administered by people genuinely interested in Kenya's development."

Mboya received a \$100,000 grant for the airlift from the Kennedy Foundation after he turned down the same offer from the U.S. State Department, obviously concerned that direct U.S. assistance would look suspicious to pro-Communist Kenyan politicians who suspected Mboya of having CIA ties. The Airlift Africa project was underwritten by the Kennedy Foundation and the African-American Students Foundation. Obama, Sr. was not on the first airlift but a subsequent one. The airlift, organized by Mboya in 1959, included students from Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika, Zanzibar, Northern Rhodesia, Southern Rhodesia, and Nyasaland.

Reuters also reported that Muliro charged that Africans were "disturbed and embittered" by the airlift of the selected students. Muliro "stated that "preferences were shown to two major tribes [Kikuyu and Luo] and many U.S.-bound students had failed preliminary and common entrance examinations, while some of those left behind held first-class certificates."

Obama, Sr. was a friend of Mboya and a fellow Luo. After Mboya was assassinated in 1969, Obama, Sr. testified at the trial of his alleged assassin. Obama, Sr. claimed he was the target of a hit-and-run assassination attempt after his testimony.

Obama, Sr., who left Hawaii for Harvard in 1962, divorced Dunham in 1964. Obama, Sr. married a fellow Harvard student, Ruth Nievesand, a Jewish-American woman, who moved with him to Kenya and had two sons. They were later divorced. Obama, Sr. worked for the Kenyan Finance and Transport ministries as well as an oil firm. Obama, Sr. died in a 1982 car crash and his funeral was attended by leading Kenyan politicians, including future Foreign Minister Robert Ouko, who was murdered in 1990.

CIA files indicate that Mboya was an important agent-of-influence for the CIA, not only in Kenya but in all of Africa. A formerly Secret CIA Current Intelligence Weekly Summary, dated November 19, 1959, states that Mboya served as a check on extremists at the second All-African People's Conference (AAPC) in Tunis. The report states that "serious friction developed between Ghana's Prime Minister Kwame Nkrumah and Kenyan nationalist Tom Mboya who cooperated effectively last December to check extremists at the AAPC's first meeting in Accra." The term "cooperated effectively" appears to indicate that Mboya was cooperating with the CIA, which filed the report from field operatives in Accra and Tunis. While "cooperating" with the CIA in Accra and Tunis, Mboya selected the father of the president of the United States to receive a scholarship and be airlifted to the University of Hawaii where he met and married President Obama's mother.

An earlier CIA Current Intelligence Weekly Summary, secret, and dated April 3, 1958, states that Mboya "still appears to be the most promising of the African leaders." Another CIA weekly summary, secret and dated December 18, 1958, calls Mboya the Kenyan nationalist an "able and dynamic young chairman" of the People's Convention party who was viewed as an opponent of "extremists" like Nkrumah, supported by "Sino-Soviet representatives."

In a formerly Secret CIA report on the All-Africa Peoples Conference in 1961, dated November 1, 1961, Mboya's conservatism, along with that of Taleb Slim of Tunisia, are contrasted to the leftist policies of Nkrumah and others. Pro-communists who were elected to the AAPC's steering committee at the March 1961 Cairo conference, attended by Mboya, are identified in the report as Abdoulaye Diallo, AAPC Secretary General, of Senegal; Ahmed Bourmendjel of Algeria; Mario de Andrade of Angola; Ntau Mokhele of Basutoland; Kingue Abel of Cameroun; Antoine Kiwewa of Congo (Leopoldville); Kojo Botsio of Ghana; Ismail Toure of Guinea; T. O. Dosomu Johnson of Liberia; Modibo Diallo of Mali; Mahjoub Ben Seddik of Morocco; Djibo Bakari of Niger; Tunji Otegbeya of Nigeria; Kanyama Chiume of Nyasaland; Ali Abdullahi of Somalia; Tennyson Makiwane of South Africa, and Mohamed Fouad Galal of the United Arab Republic.

The only attendees in Cairo who were given a clean bill of health by the CIA were Mboya, who appears to have been a snitch for the agency, and Joshua Nkomo of Southern Rhodesia, B. Munanka of Tanganyika, Abdel Magid Shaker of Tunisia, and John Kakonge of Uganda.

Nkrumah would eventually be overthrown in a 1966 CIA-backed coup while he was on a state visit to China and North Vietnam. The CIA overthrow of Nkrumah followed by one year the agency's overthrow of Sukarno, another coup that was connected to President Obama's family on his mother's side. There are suspicions that Mboya was assassinated in 1969 by Chinese agents working with anti-Mboya factions in the government of Kenyan President Jomo Kenyatta in order to eliminate a pro-U.S. leading political leader in Africa. Upon Mboya's death, every embassy in Nairobi flew its flag at half-mast except for one, the embassy of the People's Republic of China.

Mboya's influence in the Kenyatta government would continue long after his death and while Obama, Sr. was still alive. In 1975, after the assassination of KANU politician Josiah Kariuki, a socialist who helped start KANU, along with Mboya and Obama, Sr., Kenyatta dismissed three rebellious cabinet ministers who "all had personal ties to either Kariuki or Tom Mboya." This information is contained in CIA Staff Notes on the Middle East, Africa, and South Asia, formerly Top Secret Umbra, Handle via COMINT Channels, dated June 24, 1975. The intelligence in the report, based on its classification, indicate the information was derived from National Security Agency intercepts in Kenya. No one was ever charged in the assassination of Kariuki.

The intercepts of Mboya's and Kariuki's associates are an indication that the NSA and CIA also maintain intercepts on Barack Obama, Sr., who, as a non-U.S. person, would have been lawfully subject at the time to intercepts carried out by NSA and Britain's Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ).

PART 2: Special Report. The Story of Obama: All in The Company - Part II

In the second part of his investigation Wayne Madsen focuses on Barack Obama's mother and stepfather. He follows their footsteps as CIA assets from the University of Hawaii, home to some of the CIA's blackest projects, to their activities in Indonesia where a vast US-sponsored anti-communist massacre was unfolding. It marked the start of globalisation in Asia and in the rest of the world. Unlike the Bush dynasty, Barack Obama has smartly concealed his own connections with the Agency and, in particular, those of his ancestors, until now. Madsen concludes with a question: Is Barack Obama a real-life "Manchurian Candidate?"

In Part I of this WMR special report, we revealed the connections between Barack Obama, Sr. and the CIA-affiliated Airlift Africa project to provide college degrees to and gain influence over a group of 280 eastern and southern African students from soon-to-be independent African nations to counter similar programs established by the Soviet Union and China. Barack Obama Sr. was the first African student to attend the University of Hawaii. Obama Sr. and Obama's mother Stanley Ann Dunham met in a Russian language class in 1959 and they married in 1961.

The African airlift program was administered by Kenyan nationalist leader Tom Mboya, a fellow Luo tribe mentor and friend of the senior Obama. According to CIA documents described in Part I, Mboya also served the CIA in ensuring that pro-Soviet and pro-Chinese African nationalists were stymied in their attempt to dominate pan-African nationalist political, student, and labor movements.

One of Mboya's chief opponents was Ghana's first president, Kwame Nkrumah, who was ousted in a CIA-inspired coup in 1966, one year before Obama Sr's son, Barack Obama, Jr. and his mother joined Lolo Soetoro, an Indonesian who Obama's mother met at the University of Hawaii in 1965, when President Obama was four years old.

In 1967, Obama and his mother joined her husband in Jakarta. In 1965, Lolo Soetoro had been called back from Hawaii by General Suharto to serve as an officer in the Indonesian military to help launch a bloody CIA-backed genocide of Indonesian Communists and Indonesian Chinese throughout the expansive country. Suharto consolidated his power in 1966, the same year that Barack Obama, Sr.'s friend, Mboya, had helped to rally pro-U.S. pan-African support for the CIA's overthrow of Nkrumah in Ghana in 1966.

Ann Dunham met Soetoro at the East-West Center at the University of Hawaii. The center had long been affiliated with CIA activities in the Asia-Pacific region. In 1965, the year that Dunham met and married Soetoro, the center saw a new chancellor take over. He was Howard P. Jones who served a record seven years, from 1958 to 1965, as U.S. ambassador to Indonesia. Jones was present in Jakarta as Suharto and his CIA-backed military officers planned the 1965 overthrow of Sukarno, who was seen, along with the Indonesian Communist Party (PKI), as allies of China.

When Jones was chancellor of the East-West Center, he wrote an article for the *Washington Post*, dated October 10, 1965, in which he defended Suharto's overthrow of Sukarno. Jones was "invited" by the Post to comment on the Suharto coup, described as a "counter-coup" against the Communists. Jones charged that Suharto was merely responding to an earlier attempted Communist-led coup against Sukarno launched by Lt. Col. Untung, "a relatively unknown battalion commander in the palace guard."

Jones's article, which mirrored CIA situation reports from the U.S. embassy in Jakarta, continued by stating that the alleged leftist coup on September 30 "came within an inch of succeeding through the assassination of six of the top military command. It might well have succeeded had not Defense Minister Nasution and a number of other senior generals also maked for assassination acted fast in a dramatic counter-coup." Of course, what Jones did not inform the Post's readers was that the Suharto "counter-coup" had been assisted with the strong help of the CIA.

Sukarno never blamed the Communists for the assassination of the army generals nor did the Indonesian Cabinet, where the second- and third-ranking leaders of the PKI were present. The possibility that the assassination of the generals was a CIA/Suharto "false flag" operation to affix blame on the PKI cannot be ruled out. Two days after Suharto's coup, a CIA "rent-a-mob" burned down the PKI headquarters in Jakarta. As they marched past the U.S. Embassy, which was also the site of the CIA station, they yelled out, "Long live America!"

Untung later said that when he became aware that Suharto and the CIA were planning a coup on October 5, 1965 – Indonesian Armed Forces Day – forces loyal to him and Sukarno moved first. Jones described this as "typical Communist propaganda." Suharto moved against Sukarno on October 1. Jones iterated that "there was not an iota of truth . . . in the accusation that the CIA was working against Sukarno." History has proven otherwise. Jones accused the Communists of taking advantage of Sukarno's failing health to beat out the other candidates to succeed him. The goal, according to Jones, was to have PKI boss D.N. Aidit succeed Sukarno. Sukarno did not die until 1970, while under house arrest.

A CIA paper, formerly classified Secret and undated, states "Sukarno would like to return to the status quo ante-coup. He has refused to condemn the PKI or the 30th September Movement [of Lt. Col. Untung]; instead, he calls for unity of Indonesia and asks that no vengeance be taken by one group against the other. But, he has not succeeded in forcing the Army to abandon its anti-PKI activities and, on the other hand, he has bowed to their demand by appointing its single candidate General Suharto as head of the Army." Suharto and Barry Obama Soetoro's step-father Lolo Soetoro would ignore Sukarno's call for no vengeance, as hundreds of thousands of Indonesians would soon discover.

After a failed coup attributed to leftist army officers in 1965, Suharto led bloody anti-communist purges in which a reported one million civilians were killed.

The mass murder by Suharto of Indonesian Chinese is seen in the CIA paper's description of the Baperki Party: "the leftist Baperki Party, with its major strength in rural areas, is largely Chinese-Indonesian in membership." A CIA Intelligence Memorandum, dated October 6, 1966 and formerly classified Secret, shows the extent of the CIA's monitoring of the anti-Sukarno coup from various CIA agents assigned as liaisons to Suharto's army units surrounding the Presidential Palace in Bogor and at various diplomatic posts around the country, including the U.S. Consulate in Medan, which was keeping track of leftists in that Sumatran city and, which, in an October 2, 1965, Intelligence Memo, reported to the CIA that the "Soviet consul-general in Medan has a plane standing by that could be used for evacuation of Soviet citizens from Sumatra." The October 6 memo also warns against allowing Untung from developing a following in Central Java.

A CIA formerly Secret "Weekly Summary Special Report" on Indonesia, dated August 11, 1967, and titled "The New Order in Indonesia," reports that in 1966, Indonesia re-aligned its economy in order to receive International Monetary Fund (IMF) assistance. The CIA reports it is happy with the new triumvirate ruling Indonesia in 1967: Suharto, Foreign Minister Adam Malik, and the Sultan of Jogjakarta, who served as minister for economics and finance. The report also rejoices in the outlawing of the PKI, but states it "retains a significant following in East and Central Java," where Ann Dunham Soetoro would largely concentrate her later efforts on behalf of USAID, the World Bank, and the Ford Foundation, all front activities for the CIA to "win the hearts and minds" of the Javanese farmers and artisans.

A CIA Intelligence Memorandum, formerly Secret and dated July 23, 1966, clearly sees the Muslim Nahdatul Ulama party (NU), the largest party in Indonesia and Muslim, as a natural ally of the United States and the Suharto regime. The report states that helped Suharto put down the Communists in the post-coup time frame, especially where the NU was strongest: East Java, where Obama's mother would concentrate her activities, and North Sumatra and parts of Borneo. An April 29, 1966, formerly Secret CIA Intelligence Memorandum on the PKI states: "Moslem extremists in many instances outdid the army in hunting down and murdering members of the party [PKI] and its front groups."

Dunham dropped out of the University of Hawaii in 1960 while pregnant with Barack Obama. Barack Obama Sr. left Hawaii in 1962 to study at Harvard. Dunham and Obama divorced in 1964. In the fall of 1961, Dunham enrolled at the University of Washington while caring for her infant son. Dunham was re-enrolled at the University of Hawaii from 1963 to 1966. Lolo Soetoro, who Dunham married in March 1965, departed Hawaii for Indonesia on July 20,

1965, some three months prior to the CIA's coup against Sukarno. Soetoro, who served Suharto as an Army colonel, was clearly called back from the CIA-connected East-West Center to assist in the coup against Sukarno, one that would eventually cost the lives of some one million Indonesian citizens. It is a history that President Obama would like the press to ignore, which it certainly did during the 2008 primary and general election.

In 1967, after arriving in Indonesia with Obama, Jr., Dunham began teaching English at the American embassy in Jakarta, which also housed one of the largest CIA stations in Asia and had significant satellite stations in Surabaya in eastern Java and Medan on Sumatra. Jones left as East-West Center chancellor in 1968.

In fact, Obama's mother was teaching English for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), which was a major cover for CIA activities in Indonesia and throughout Southeast Asia, especially in Laos, South Vietnam, and Thailand. The USAID program was known as Lembaga Pendidikan Pembinaan Manajemen. Obama's mother, painted as a free spirit and a "sixties child" by President Obama and people who claimed they knew her in Hawaii and Indonesia, had a curriculum vitae in Indonesia that contradicts the perception that Ann Dunham Soetoro was a "hippy."

Dunham Soetoro's Russian language training at the University of Hawaii may have been useful to the CIA in Indonesia. An August 2, 1966, formerly Secret memorandum from the National Security Council's Executive Secretary Bromley Smith states that, in addition to Japan, Western Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia, and the Philippines, the Suharto coup was welcomed by the Soviet Union and its Eastern European allies because it created a non-aligned Indonesia that "represents an Asian counterweight to Communist China." Records indicate that a number of CIA agents posted in Jakarta before and after the 1965 coup were, like Dunham Soetoro, conversant in Russian.

Dunham Soetoro worked for the elitist Ford Foundation, World Bank, Asian Development Bank, Bank Rakyat (the majority government-owned People's Bank of Indonesia), and the CIA-linked USAID while she lived in Indonesia and later, Pakistan.

USAID was involved in a number of CIA covert operations in Southeast Asia. The February 9, 1971, Washington Star reported that USAID officials in Laos were aware that rice supplied to the Laotian Army by USAID was being re-sold to North Vietnamese army divisions in the country. The report stated that the U.S. tolerated the USAID rice sales to the North Vietnamese since the Laotian Army units that sold the rice found themselves protected from Communist Pathet Lao and North Vietnamese attack. USAID and the CIA also used the supply of rice to force Laotian Meo tribesmen to support the United States in the war against the Communists. USAID funds programmed for civilians injured in the war in Laos and public health care were actually diverted for military purposes.

In 1971, the USAID-funded Center for Vietnamese Studies at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale was accused of being a CIA front. USAID-funded projects through the Midwest Universities Consortium for International Activities (MUCIA) — comprising the Universities of Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Indiana and Michigan State — were accused of being CIA front projects, including those for "agricultural education" in Indonesia, as well as other "projects" in Afghanistan, Mali, Nepal, Nigeria, Thailand, and South Vietnam. The charge was made in 1971, the same year that Ann Dunham was working for USAID in the country.

In a July 10, 1971, New York Times report, USAID and the CIA were accused of "losing" \$1.7 billion appropriated for the Civil Operations and Revolutionary Development Support (CORDS) program in South Vietnam. CORDS was part of the CIA's Operation Phoenix program, which involved CIA assassination and torture of South Vietnamese village elders and Buddhist clerics. USAID money was also directed to the CIA's proprietary airline in Southeast Asia, Air America. In Thailand, USAID funds for the Accelerated Rural Development Program in Thailand were actually masking a CIA anti-Communist counter-insurgency operation. USAID funds programmed for public works projects in East Pakistan in 1971 were used for East Pakistan's military fortifications on its border with India, in the months before the outbreak of war with India, in contravention of U.S. law that prohibited USAID money for military purposes.

In 1972, USAID administrator Dr. John Hannah admitted to Metromedia News that USAID was being used as a cover for CIA covert operations in Laos. Hannah only admitted to Laos as a USAID cover for the CIA. However, it was also reported that USAID was being used by the CIA in Indonesia, Philippines, South Vietnam, Thailand, and

South Korea. USAID projects in Southeast Asia had to be approved by the Southeast Asian Development Advisory Group (SEADAG), an Asia Society group that was, in fact, answerable to the CIA.

The U.S. Food for Peace program, jointly administered by USAID and the Department of Agriculture, was found in 1972 to be used for military purposes in Cambodia, South Korea, Turkey, South Vietnam, Spain, Taiwan, and Greece. In 1972, USAID funneled aid money only to the southern part of North Yemen, in order to aid North Yemeni forces against the government of South Yemen, then ruled by a socialist government opposed to U.S. hegemony in the region.

One of the entities affiliated with the USAID work in Indonesia was the Asia Foundation, a 1950s creation formed with the help of the CIA to oppose the expansion of communism in Asia. The East-West Center guest house in Hawaii was funded by the Asia Foundation. The guest house is also where Barack Obama Sr. first stayed after his airlift from Kenya to Hawaii, arranged by the one of the CIA's major agents of influence in Africa, Mboya.

Dunham would also travel to Ghana, Nepal, Bangladesh, India, and Thailand working on micro-financing projects. In 1965, Barack Obama Sr. returned to Kenya from Harvard, with another American wife. The senior Obama linked up with his old friend and the CIA's "golden boy" Mboya and other fellow Luo politicians. The CIA station chief in Nairobi from 1964 to 1967 was Philip Cherry. In 1975, Cherry was the CIA station chief in Dacca, Bangladesh. Cherry was linked by the then-U.S. ambassador to Bangladesh, Eugene Booster, to the 1975 assassination of Bangladesh's first president, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, and members of his family. The hit on "Sheikh Mujib" and his family was reportedly ordered by then-Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. Bangladesh was also on the micro- and macro-financing travel itinerary of CIA-linked Ann Dunham.

Meanwhile, Dunham Soetoro's mother, Madelyn Dunham, who raised young Obama when he returned to Hawaii in 1971 while his mother stayed in Indonesia, was the first female vice president at the Bank of Hawaii in Honolulu. Various CIA front entities used the bank. Madelyn Dunham handled escrow accounts used to make CIA payments to U.S.-supported Asian dictators like Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos, South Vietnamese President Nguyen van Thieu, and President Suharto in Indonesia. In effect, the bank was engaged in money laundering for the CIA to covertly prop up its favored leaders in the Asia-Pacific region.

One of the CIA's major money laundering fronts in Honolulu was the firm of Bishop, Baldwin, Rewald, Dillingham & Wong (BBRDW). After the CIA allowed the firm to collapse in 1983 amid charges that BBRDW was merely a Ponzi scheme, Senator Daniel Inouye of the US Senate Intelligence Committee said the CIA's role in the firm "wasn't significant." It would later be revealed that Inouye, who was one of the late Alaska Senator Ted Stevens's best friends in the Senate, was lying. In fact, BBRDW was involved heavily in funding covert CIA programs throughout Asia, including economic espionage against Japan, providing arms for Afghan mujaheddin guerrillas in their war against the Soviets and covertly supplying weapons to Taiwan. One of BBRDW's principals was John C. "Jack" Kindschi, who, before he retired in 1981, was the CIA station chief in Honolulu. BBRDW's chairman Ron Rewald had a counterfeit college degree certificate provided for the wall of his office by the CIA's forgery experts and his name was inserted in university records as an alumnus.

A false history for BBRDW was concocted by the CIA claiming the firm had operated in Hawaii since it was a territory. President Obama is currently plagued by allegations that he has fake college and university transcripts, a phony social security number issued in Connecticut, and other padded resume items. Did Hawaii's fake BBRDW documents portend today's questions about Obama's past?

BBRDW conducted its business in the heart of Honolulu's business district, where the Bank of Hawaii was located and where Obama grandmother Madelyn Dunham ran the escrow accounts. The bank would handle much of BBRDW's covert financial transactions.

It is clear that Dunham Soetoro and her Indonesian husband, President Obama's step-father, were closely involved in the CIA's operations to steer Indonesia away from the Sino-Soviet orbit during the "years of living dangerously" after the overthrow of Sukarno. WMR has discovered that some of the CIA's top case officers were assigned to various official and non-official cover assignments in Indonesia during this time frame, including under the cover of USAID, the Peace Corps, and the U.S. Information Agency (USIA).

One of the closest CIA contacts for Suharto was former CIA Jakarta embassy officer Kent B. Crane. Crane was so close to Suharto after "retiring" from the CIA, he was reportedly one of the only "private" businessmen given an Indonesian diplomatic passport by Suharto's government. Crane's company, the Crane Group, was involved in supplying small arms to the military forces of the United States, Indonesia, and other nations. A foreign policy adviser to Vice President Spiro Agnew, Crane was later nominated as U.S. ambassador to Indonesia by President Ronald Reagan but the nomination was dead-on-arrival because of Crane's dubious links to Suharto. The ambassadorship would instead go to John Holdridge, a close colleague of Kissinger. Holdridge was succeeded in Jakarta by Paul Wolfowitz.

Suharto's cronies, who included Mochtar and James Riady of the Lippo Group, would later stand accused of funneling over \$1 million of illegal foreign contributions to Bill Clinton's 1992 presidential campaign. President Obama has twice postponed official state visits to Indonesia, perhaps fearful of the attention such a trip would bring to the CIA connections of his mother and Indonesian step-father.

In the 1970s and 80s, Dunham was active in micro-loan projects for the Ford Foundation, the CIA-linked East-West Center, and USAID in Indonesia. One of the individuals assigned to the U.S. embassy and helped barricade the compound during a violent anti-U.S. student demonstration during the 1965 Suharto coup against Sukarno was Dr. Gordon Donald, Jr. Assigned to the embassy's Economic Section, Donald was responsible for USAID micro-financing for Indonesian farmers, the same project that Dunham Soetoro would work on for USAID in the 1970s, after her USAID job of teaching English in Indonesia. In a 1968 book, "Who's Who in the CIA," published in West Berlin, Donald is identified as a CIA officer who was also assigned to Lahore, Pakistan, where Dunham would eventually live for five years in the Hilton International Hotel while working on microfinancing for the Asian Development Bank.

Another "Who's Who in the CIA" Jakarta alumnus is Robert F. Grealy, who later became the director for international relations for the Asia-Pacific for J P Morgan Chase and a director for the American-Indonesian Chamber of Commerce. J P Morgan Chase's CEO Jamie Dimon is being mentioned as a potential replacement for Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner, whose father, Peter Geithner, was the Ford Foundation's Asia grant-selector who funneled the money to Ann Dunham's Indonesian projects.

While in Pakistan, Dunham's son Barack visited her in 1980 and 1981. Obama visited Karachi, Lahore, and Hyderabad, India during his south Asia visits. It was during the time period that the CIA was beefing up its anti-Soviet operations in Afghanistan from Pakistan.

A January 31, 1958, heavily-redacted formerly Secret NOFORN [no foreign dissemination] memorandum for CIA Director Allen Dulles from the Deputy Assistant Director of the CIA for Research and Reports [name redacted] reports on a fact-finding mission to the Far East, Southeast Asia, and the Middle East from November 17 through December 21, 1957.

The CIA Office of Research and Reports (ORR) chief reports a meeting with the staff of retired Army General Jesmond Balmer, a senior CIA official in Hawaii, about requests by the Commander-in-Chief Pacific (CINCPAC) for "a number of detailed, time-consuming research studies." The ORR chief then reports about a CIA "survey of students at the University of Hawaii who have both Chinese language and research ability." The ORR chief also reports that at a South-East Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) Counter Subversion Seminar at Baguio, Philippines held from November 26-29, 1957, the Economic Subcommittee discussed an "economic development fund" to combat "Sino-Soviet Bloc subversive activities in the area and a consideration of possible counter-measures which might be employed."

The Thailand and Philippines delegations were pushing hard for U.S. funding for an economic development fund, which may have provided the impetus for later USAID projects in the region, including those with which Peter Geithner and Obama's mother were intimately involved.

Although CIA geo-political covert operations at the University of Hawaii are well-documented, the agency's darker side of research and MK-UKTRA type operations has not generally been associated with the University of Hawaii.

A series of formerly Confidential CIA memoranda, dated May 15, 1972, points to the involvement of both the Defense Department's Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA), the CIA, and the University of Hawaii in the

CIA's behavioral science program. The memos are signed by then-Deputy Director of the CIA Bronson Tweedy, the chief of the Intelligence Community's Program Review Group (PRG) [name redacted], and CIA Director Richard Helms. The subject of the memos is "ARPA Supported Research Relating to Intelligence Product," The memo from the PRG chief discusses a conference held on May 11, 1972, attended by Lt. Col. Austin Kibler, ARPA's Director of Behavioral Research. Kibler was the chief for ARPA research into behavior modification and remote viewing. Others mentioned in the PRG chief's memo include CIA Deputy Director for Intelligence Edward Proctor, the CIA Deputy Director for Science and Technology Carl Duckett, and Director of the Office of National Estimates John Huizenga.

In 1973, after CIA Director James Schlesinger ordered a review of all CIA programs, the CIA developed a set of documents on various CIA programs collectively called the "Family Jewels." Most of these documents were released in 2007 but it was also revealed that Dr. Sidney Gottlieb, the CIA's director of MKULTRA, the agency's behavior modification, brainwashing, and drug testing component, had been ordered by Helms, before he resigned as CIA director, to be destroyed. Duckett, in one memo from Ben Evans of the CIA to CIA Director William Colby, dated May 8, 1973, conveys that he "thinks the Director would be ill-advised to say he is acquainted with this program," meaning Gottlieb's drug testing program under MKULTRA.

Senior Gerald Ford administration officials, including Chief of Staff Dick Cheney and Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, ensured that after the production of the "Family Jewels" documents, no CIA revelations were made about CIA psychological behavior-altering programs, including MKULTRA and Project ARTICHOKE.

The May 15, 1972, set of memos appears to be related to the CIA's initial research, code named SCANATE, in 1972 into psychic warfare, including the use of psychics for purposes of remote viewing espionage and mind control. The memo discussed Kibler from ARPA and "his contractor," which was later discovered to be Stanford Research Institute (SRI) in Menlo Park, California.

In a memo from CIA Director Helms to, among others, Duckett, Huizenga, Proctor, and the Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, which later inherited remote viewing from the CIA under the code name GRILL FLAME, Helms insists that ARPA had been supporting research into behavioral science and its potential for intelligence production "for a number of years" at "M.I.T., Yale, the University of Michigan, U.C.L.A., and University of Hawaii and other institutions as well as in corporate research facilities."

The role of the University of Hawaii in CIA psych-war operations continues to this day. The chief of research for DIA's Defense Counterintelligence and Human Intelligence Center (DCHC) Behavioral Sciences Program, Dr. Susan Brandon, who was reportedly involved in a covert program run by the American Psychological Association (APA), Rand Corporation, and the CIA to employ "enhanced interrogation" techniques, including sleep and sensory deprivation, intense pain, and extreme isolation on prisoners held at Bagram airbase in Afghanistan and other "black prisons," received her PhD in Psychology from the University of Hawaii. Brandon also served as assistant director of Social, Behavioral, and Educational Sciences for the Office of Science and Technology Policy in the George W. Bush White House.

The CIA's close connections to the University of Hawaii continued to the late 1970s, when the former President of the University of Hawaii from 1969 to 1974, Harlan Cleveland, was a special invited speaker at CIA headquarters on May 10, 1977. Cleveland served as Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs from 1961 to 1965 and Lyndon Johnson's ambassador to NATO from 1965 to 1969 before taking up his position at the University of Hawaii.

A CIA Director of Training memo dated May 21, 1971, reports on the active recruitment of a U.S. Marine officer who was entering graduate school at the University of Hawaii.

There are volumes of written material on the CIA backgrounds of George H. W. Bush and CIA-related activities by his father and children, including former President George W. Bush. Barack Obama, on the other hand, cleverly masked his own CIA connections as well as those of his mother, father, step-father, and grandmother (there is very little known about Obama's grandfather, Stanley Armour Dunham, who was supposedly in the furniture business in Hawaii after serving in Europe during World War II). Presidents and vice presidents do not require security background checks, unlike other members of the federal government, to hold office. That job is left up to the press. In 2008, the press failed miserably in its duty to vet the man who would win the White House. With the ties of

Obama's parents to the University of Hawaii and its links to MKULTRA and ARTICHOKE, a nagging question remains: **Is Barack Obama a real-life "Manchurian Candidate?"**

PART 3: The Story of Obama: All in The Company (Part III)

WMR previously reported on the CIA links of President Obama's mother, father, step-father, grandmother to the CIA. Not much is known about Obama's grandfather, Stanley Armour Dunham, who Obama mistakenly referred to as "his father" in two speeches, one recently to the Disabled American Veterans.

What is officially known about Stanley Armour Dunham is that he served with the 9th Air Force in Britain and France prior to and after the D-Day invasion. After the war, Dunham and his wife, Madelyn and his daughter Stanley Ann — Obama's mother — moved to Berkeley, California; El Dorado, Kansas; Seattle; and Honolulu. Armour Dunham is said to have worked for a series of furniture stores.

Obama maintains that his mother and father first met in a Russian-language class at the University of Hawaii in 1959. However, a photograph has emerged of Stanley Armour welcoming Barack Obama, Sr., complete with traditional Hawaiian welcoming leis, from Kenya. Obama, Sr. was the only Kenyan student airlifted to Hawaii as part of the CIA-inspired Airlift Africa project that saw Obama and 279 other students from British eastern and southern African colonies brought to the United States for college degrees prior to their homelands gaining independence from Britain. The students were selected by Kenyan nationalist leader Tom Mboya who would later conduct surveillance for the CIA at pan-African nationalist meetings. Mboya was particularly focused on two African leaders who were seen as too close to the Sino-Soviet bloc, Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana and Sekout Toure of Guinea.

Stanley Armour Dunham with Barack Obama, Sr. at welcoming ceremony to Hawaii. The presence of two US Navy personnel indicates the plane may have landed at Hickam Air Force Base, an indication of the U.S. government's and CIA's role in the Airlift Africa project.

The photograph of Armour Dunham with Barack Obama, Sr., indicates that the "furniture salesman" in Hawaii was, in fact, working with a CIA-funded project to rapidly educate aspiring politicians to serve in post-independence African governments to counter Soviet- and Chinese-backed political leaders in the region.

There is a strong reason to believe that Armour Dunham worked in the 1950s for the CIA in the Middle East. An FBI file on Armour Dunham existed but the bureau claimed it destroyed the file on May 1, 1997. Considering the sour relations between the FBI and CIA during the Cold War, it is likely that Armour Dunham was being monitored by FBI director J. Edgar Hoover in the same manner as a number of other CIA officials and agents were being surveilled. Similarly, the pre-1968 passport records of Obama's mother, Stanley Ann Dunham, were destroyed by the State Department.

There is a photographic clue that the Dunhams may have been assigned by the CIA to Beirut, Lebanon in the early 1950s. A photograph of Obama's mother and grandparents has emerged that shows Stanley Ann Dunham wearing what may be a school uniform with the insignia of "NdJ," which stands for the College Notre-Dame de Jamhour, a private Jesuit Catholic French language school in Beirut, Lebanon. Graduates of the school include three former presidents of Lebanon, Amine Gemayel, Bashir Gemayel, and Charles Helou, all of whom maintained close relations with Washington.

There is also the curious nature of President Obama's Social Security Number, issued in Connecticut, a state where there is no other evidence of his ever being a resident. Adding to the mystery is a New York City address for a "male" named Stanley Ann Dunham, 235 E. 40th St Apt 8F, New York NY 10016-1747. The address is a few blocks away from the address of the Ford Foundation. Ann Dunham did work briefly in New York for the Ford Foundation.

On August 9, 2010, WMR reported, "In a December 19, 1971, article in the Boston Globe by Dan Pinck, [a historian and former OSS officer] titled 'Is everyone in the CIA?' it is alleged that identifying US Agency for International Development (USAID) officers as CIA agents was a 'reasonably accurate accounting of certain leading operatives and associates of the CIA.' President Obama's mother, Stanley Ann Dunham Soetoro worked for USAID in rural Java in Indonesia. Pinck's article was a review of a 1968 book, *Who's Who in the CIA* published in Berlin."

WMR has obtained a rare copy of *Who's Who in the CIA*, from England. The book, published in West Berlin in 1968, lists some 3,000 CIA agents and agents-of-influence around the world.

The book also contains a reference to one CIA operative whose area of primary place of operation was Mercer Island, Washington. He was retired Air Force General Don Zabriskie Zimmermann, who was the Chief Engineer for the Boeing Company in Seattle. Before retiring from the Air Force, Zimmermann was the Air Force Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Development in Foreign Countries. Ann Stanley Dunham reportedly graduated from Mercer Island High School in 1960 and met Obama later that year in a Russian language class after her parents moved to Hawaii. Stanley Ann's mother, Madelyn Dunham, worked at a Boeing plant in Wichita, Kansas during World War II.

The book lists the number of CIA agents in countries during the 1950s and 60s where Obama's father, mother, step-father Lolo Soetori, and allegedly, his grandmother and grandfather worked: Indonesia, Jakarta 64, Surabaya 12, Medan 8, Hollandia 1; Kenya, Nairobi 19, Mombassa 2; Lebanon, Beirut 61 (including one agent also assigned to Jakarta, Lahore, and Karachi and another assigned to Lahore) Hawaii, Honolulu 6 (one agent also assigned to Canton Island and another was fluent in French, Stanley Ann Dunham spoke French, Urdu, Bahasa Indonesian, and she studied Javanese at the University of Hawaii, in addition to Russian).

PART 4: The Story of Obama: All in The Company (Part IV)

Barack Obama's employment as an editor for CIA front Business International Corporation (BIC) after his graduation from Columbia University in 1983, came at a time when such small business and political risk consulting firms were mushrooming and their ranks growing with retired senior CIA personnel. The expansion of BIC and similar firms in the early 1980s also came at a time when major corporations were phasing out their internal risk departments and relying more on companies like BIC.

However, Obama's contacts with the CIA came earlier than his work for BIC. Obama's attendance at Occidental College in Los Angeles from 1979 to 1981 is significant considering the college's close ties with the CIA. Occidental's President, Richard C. Gilman, who retired in 1988, was a habitué of Los Angeles's version of New York's Council on Foreign Relations, the Los Angeles World Affairs Council (WAC). As a director of the WAC, Gilman rubbed shoulders with fellow WAC directors John McCone, a former CIA director; Simon Ramo, chairman of top CIA contractor TRW, Inc.; and the wealthy oil magnate Armand Hammer, chairman of Occidental Petroleum, himself no stranger to intelligence-oriented intrigue.

Occidental was, for many years, a top target for CIA recruiting efforts. WMR has obtained a CIA memorandum, formerly Secret and dated February 8, 1967, that details the CIA's "100 Universities Program," which, as stated by the author, "originally conceived [redacted] as a recruitment technique. Its purpose was to make better known on the campuses of America the very existence of the CIA and its mission and role in Government, to illustrate the vast range of vocational opportunities in the Agency."

A formerly Secret CIA memorandum for the Deputy Director for Administration from the acting Director of Personnel, dated February 8, 1979, discusses an active CIA recruitment effort at Occidental College on February 1, 1979. Obama reportedly attended Occidental later in 1979. The memo states, "[redacted] our [redacted] recruiter, reports that he briefed approximately seventy students at Occidental College in Los Angeles on 1 February and was very well received. He added that while they did not interrupt his presentation, about fifteen to twenty members of the Socialist Democratic Alliance demonstrated outside as he spoke and that their chanting of "CIA, go Away" could be heard. Larry also reported that the seventy attending his briefing was the largest number ever to attend a briefing at the school by an employer." A burning question is whether "Larry" ever tried to recruit a young Barack Obama, Jr. at Occidental and whether he was successful at the enthusiastically pro-CIA campus in 1979.

Stanley Ann Dunham's employer in Indonesia, the Ford Foundation, had a long-standing relationship with the CIA. While ostensibly working on micro-financing and rural development projects in Indonesia, Dunham's grant paymaster was Peter Geithner, the father of current Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner.

The rural development project funded by the Ford Foundation had long been a cover for U.S. intelligence activities in Indonesia. An Indonesian Permanent Mission to the UN bulletin dated November 19, 1959, states that a Ford

Foundation grant funded the Village Community Development Bureau's work with "development projects in line with village custom and tradition."

The Ford Foundation helped establish two Cold War institutes at Columbia University and Harvard, two universities where Obama graduated. In the post-World War II years, Ford Foundation money helped create the Russian Institute at Columbia and the Russian Research Center at Harvard to promote the study of Soviet and Russian history and politics for a cadre of CIA Kremlinologists. In fact, Dunham and Obama, Sr. met at a Russian language class at the University of Hawaii in 1960. Obama, Sr.'s scholarship was courtesy of a partly CIA-funded operation called Airlift Africa, designed to educate and gain influence over a new generation of eastern and southern African leaders in the same year the USSR was doing the same by establishing the People's Friendship University of Moscow, later renamed Patrice Lumumba University.

The Ford and Rockefeller Foundations continued to fund Columbia's Soviet studies programs through the early 1980s, while Obama was allegedly a student enrolled in a Soviet studies program taught by Zbigniew Brzezinski, the former National Security Adviser under President Carter.

The Ford Foundation also funded CIA-directed propaganda campaigns around the world. In 1967, Shepherd Stone, born Shepherd Arthur Cohen, a former New York Times reporter and director of international affairs for the Ford Foundation, became president of the International Association of Cultural Freedom (IACF), which saw its name change from the Congress of Cultural Freedom after its direct funding from the CIA ceased.

Much like Barack Obama's post-Columbia employer, BIC, the Ford Foundation, through groups like the IACF, carried links with some of Europe's main leftist political parties, including the British Labor Party, the West German Social Democrats, and the French Socialists.

However, not every world leader was lulled into a false sense of security by the Ford Foundation. A formerly Secret CIA "Current Intelligence Weekly Summary," dated April 20, 1962, reports that Burmese strongman Ne Win ordered "the Asia Foundation and Ford Foundation to wind up their activities" in Burma. The CIA report attacks Ne Win for his decision to toss out both CIA-linked organizations, stating, "Ne Win is a narrow nationalist with a suspicious conspiratorial outlook, a short temper, and a tendency toward snap decisions."

Columnist Murray Kempton, writing in the October 3, 1967, New York Post lambasted Stone, the IACF, and the Ford Foundation for their close links to the CIA. Kempton wrote, "One standard apology for the CIA used to be that its subsidies were a considerable force for cultural progress, and that it could not really be distinguished from, say, the Ford Foundation. This is a sounder comparison than one would have thought possible before reading the annual report of the Ford Foundation, after which it is difficult with confidence to distinguish the international activities of the Ford Foundation from those of the CIA."

Kempton cites the Ford Foundation's \$8 million grant to MIT's Center for International Studies, adding that the center was established with CIA funds. In 1966, one of the architects of the Cold War policies of Presidents Kennedy and Johnson, McGeorge Bundy, took over as the President of the Ford Foundation. Bundy also worked with the Council on Foreign Relations and CIA officers Allen Dulles and Richard Bissell to create a carve-out in the post-World War II Marshall Plan that covertly steered aid money to anti-Communist groups in Italy and France. After President Kennedy's assassination in 1963, Bundy began directing U.S. covert operations as chairman of the super-secret "303 Committee" in the Johnson White House.

Bundy signed a Secret memo on February 27, 1961, in which the Sprague Committee report on U.S. Information Activities Abroad was circulated to senior officials. The Sprague Committee, chaired by Mansfield D. Sprague of CIA-rife New Canaan, Connecticut, was commissioned by President Eisenhower and included Allen Dulles, CIA director, and the committee's executive director, Waldemar A. Nielsen, who was "loaned" by the Ford Foundation. The committee recommended integrating "psychological factors" into the United States "informational system."

The CIA's funding of foundations such as Ford and Rockefeller was so prevalent during the 1960s, New York Congressman William Fitts Ryan of New York introduced legislation in 1967 that would have prohibited the CIA from "granting, contributing, lending, or otherwise paying, directly or indirectly, any of its funds to any foundation or philanthropic organization, labor organization, publishing organization, radio or broadcasting organization, or

educational institution – including organization composed of students or faculty members – incorporated in the United States."

In a case eerily reminiscent of the post-gall bladder surgery death of Pennsylvania Democratic Representative John Murtha last February, in September 1972, Ryan died suddenly following surgery on an ulcer and after he cast a vote against new Vietnam War appropriations.

Ryan was particularly incensed over the CIA's use of the National Student Association (NSA) and its global counterpart, the International Student Conference (ISC), to recruit agents. In fact, the Airlift Africa project that brought Obama, Sr. to the University of Hawaii appears to have been part of a larger CIA program to use the NSA and ISC to recruit young college students into its ranks. The CIA funded technical assistance, education, and student exchange programs, via the NSA and ISC, with Third World nations like Kenya and Indonesia, the home countries of President Obama's father and step-father, respectively.

Although Airlift Africa received a \$100,000 grant from the Joseph P. Kennedy Foundation to pay for African students personally selected by the CIA's Kenyan nationalist asset, Tom Mboya, a mentor of Barack Obama, Sr., to travel to the United States to study at various colleges (Obama, Sr. was the first African student to attend the University of Hawaii), the CIA used a series of front foundations to launder money for such projects. The chief CIA fund used for such purposes in the early 1960s was the New York-based J. M. Kaplan Fund. The CIA used a network of other funds to pass money through the Kaplan Fund. These funds included, according to a March 1967, Ramparts magazine article, the Borden Trust of Philadelphia, the Price Fund of New York, the Edsel Fund of San Francisco, the Beacon Fund of Boston, and the Kentfield Fund of Dallas.

In 1958, a CIA-linked group called the Western Regional Assembly met at Lake Arrowhead, California in a seminar titled "The United States and Africa." Among those in attendance was Walter P. Coombs, the executive director of the Los Angeles World Affairs Council; Arthur N. Young, Trustee of Occidental College; and Frank LaMacchia, identified as "economic officer, American Consulate General, Nairobi, Kenya." However, the Julius Mader book published in 1968, "Who's Who in the CIA," identified LaMacchia as a CIA officer assigned to Nairobi, as well as Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, Seoul, and Baghdad.

The Lake Arrowhead conclave was told that for Africa's emerging nations, "furtherance of education on the college level is important, and the number of scholarships for Africans to American institutions of higher learning should be increased." In 1959, the CIA, likely through LaMacchia in Nairobi, and Mboya, kicked off Airlift Africa that saw 230 African students airlifted to the United States, including Barack Obama, Sr., a friend of Mboya, to Hawaii, via funding from the Kennedy and an entity called the African-American Students Foundation.

The Lake Arrowhead attendees also heard Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Joseph C. Satterthwaite warn, "persistent and ingenious Communists, skilled in subversive and revolutionary tactics, must be reckoned with" in Africa. The Airlift Africa project was a form of reckoning with the pro-Communists in Africa.

One of the Kenyan politicians who LaMacchia and Mboya kept a close eye on was Kenyan left-wing nationalist leader Oginga Odinga, whose son is now Kenya's Prime Minister. Odinga, a Luo like Mboya and Obama, Sr., had cultivated close relations with Soviet bloc countries and was dispatching Kenyan students to the east bloc for college educations.

One of the agencies that worked closely with the CIA to fund anti-communist student activities abroad was the US Agency for International Development (USAID), another one of Stanley Ann Dunham's employers in Indonesia. The CIA student operations were conducted through Langley's Covert Action Division No. Five, within the Plans Division. One of the chief missions of the CIA's foreign students was to infiltrate leftist student movements to either disrupt or recruit.

In our previous report on Obama's family and the CIA, WMR reported on the use of a Honolulu-based front company, Bishop, Baldwin, Rewald, Dillingham & Wong, (BBRDW) Inc., to pay off various Asian dictators, including President Suharto of Indonesia, who seized power in 1965 in a CIA-inspired anti-communist coup, merely two years before Stanley Ann Dunham and seven-year-old Barack moved to Jakarta to be with Dunham's new husband, Lolo Soetoro, a senior officer in Suharto's fascist armed forces. BBRDW used the facilities of the Bank of Hawaii to

transmit funds to CIA operatives and dictators in Asia. The bank vice president in charge of the escrow accounts used for such purposes was Madelyn Dunham, Obama's grandmother, who died just two days before her grandson was elected President of the United States in 2008.

Although the CIA and Hawaii Senator Daniel Inouye brushed off suggestions that BBRDW, which failed amid charges that it was a Ponzi scheme, was a CIA front, WMR has obtained from CIA files a letter, dated April 13, 1984, sent from the U.S. Attorney for the District of Hawaii to the Justice Department's Internal Security Criminal Division and the CIA's Legislative Office forwarding a Honolulu article on the firm. The article reveals that the CIA stepped in to halt an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) investigation of BBRDW in January 1983. IRS Honolulu agent Joseph A. Campione confirmed that his IRS bosses in Washington, DC had ordered him to halt his investigation of BBRDW. The CIA's station chief in Honolulu, Jack Kindschi, retired from the CIA and joined BBRDW after it was established.

Ron Rewald, BBRDW's principal, was recruited in 1976 by the CIA's chief officer in Chicago. In addition to BBRDW, Rewald created a number of other CIA front firms in Honolulu, including H&H Enterprises and Canadian Far East Trade Corporation. Other firms that were joint CIA ventures with foreign millionaires, included Hawaiian-Arabian Investment Company and U.S. and United Arab Emirates Investment Company, registered in Hawaii and involving Rewald, millionaire Indonesian Indri Gautama, and UAE prince Saud Mohammed of the emirate of Sharjah.

Rewald told the Hawaii Investor that millions of dollars in CIA funds were "freely co-mingled" with the funds of innocent investors in accounts such as those maintained in the Bank of Hawaii, as well as in overseas accounts. BBRDW accounts in Hawaiian and overseas banks were used to launder money for the Sultan of Brunei, Philippine banker Enrique Zobel and his close friend President Ferdinand Marcos, Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, Gandhi's son and future Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, and President Suharto of Indonesia.

Grandmother Madelyn's bank also had dealings with another CIA bank, Nugan Hand Bank of Australia, through which the CIA funded the constitutional coup d'etat against Australian Labor Prime Minister Gough Whitlam in 1975. After Nugan Hand collapsed in the late 1970s, co-founder Frank Hand was found slumped over the steering wheel of his parked car near Sydney. Hand was shot through the head although a rifle on the seat beside him had been wiped clean of fingerprints. The world of Pacific finance that Obama's banker grandmother dealt with in the 1970s and 1980s dealt with much more than loaning money for beachfront properties in idyllic South Pacific settings.

Curiously, buried deep in the CIA files is an obscure invitation to then-CIA director Stansfield Turner to attend a "30th Anniversary of Teaching" for "Gil's" award from the American Chemical Society at the East-West Center at the University of Hawaii on April 3, 1979. It was at the East-West Center where Barack Obama, Sr. stayed in 1960 and where Stanley Ann Dunham met Lolo Soetoro in 1965. The East-West Center also served as a CIA front activity for the grooming of future Asian leaders from Japan and Okinawa to Indonesia and Micronesia.

Oddly, the name of the group celebrating the anniversary is redacted in the unclassified invitation, which also reveals "Gil's" 30 year teaching stint at the University of Hawaii and University of Illinois. The ceremony for "Gil" follows a "Division of Chemical Education Dinner." The return address on the invitation's envelope is also redacted and two pages of the file on the anniversary and award ceremony are withheld from disclosure. Previously, WMR reported that the University of Hawaii served as one of five universities favored by CIA director Richard Helms for the CIA's behavioral modification projects, part of the CIA's Office of Science and Technology's MK-ULTRA and Project Artichoke programs, which employed the use of, among other drugs, LSD for the CIA's human subjects.

One of President Obama's chief campaign promises was to run the most transparent administration in history. Considering the fact that his own personal history is one of the most opaque of any past president, there is little wonder why Obama's administration is the least transparent in recent history.

PART 5: The Story of Obama: All in The Company (Part V)

In this, the last of a five-part series on how Barack Obama, Jr. is a creation of the Central Intelligence Agency, WMR delves into the behavior modification, creative leadership, and phenomenological research programs that were at full throttle while Obama was an employee of CIA front Business International Corporation (BIC).

In 1984, while Obama was working as an editor at BIC in Manhattan, CIA deputy director for intelligence Robert Gates, who Obama retained as his Secretary of Defense from the Bush administration, renamed the CIA's Political Psychology Division the Political Psychology Center (PPC) and transferred the group from the Office of Global Issues (OGI) to the Office of Scientific and Weapons Research (OSWR).

The CIA's political psychology program is directly linked to its overall psychological and behavioral science programs. In fact, the CIA continues to send CIA officers for training to the Stanford Institute for Political Psychology program at Stanford University. Stanford and Stanford Research Institute (SRI) figure prominently in the CIA behavioral science and modification programs that enabled Barack Obama to hurdle into political office.

A CIA memorandum from the chief of OSWR/PPC to the Associate Deputy Director for Intelligence, dated 1984, requests that a consultant member of the PPC's Senior Behavioral Science Panel be permitted to publish an unclassified paper prepared by the PPC at the University of Chicago. At the time of Gates's push for political psychology programs at the CIA, Obama was working on the very same psychological-propaganda "journalism" projects at BIC, a CIA front. The paper in question sought to depict Iranian Ayatollah Khomeini as intent on bringing down "'Western' supported regimes and to establish in their place one 'united Islamic Nation' guided by the Islamic Republic of Iran and Ayatollah Khomeini." The paper suggests Khomeini would accomplish his goals by stirring up the Shi'a populations of "Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Syria, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Bahrain, and Iraq" and maintain "the Gulf and the Arab world in a state of crisis."

The CIA's push for political action on the international and domestic media is seen in a formerly SECRET/SENSITIVE agenda for a meeting on "Political Action," dated August 5, 1982 and attended by Secretary of State George Schultz, Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, Deputy Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci, CIA Director William Casey, US Information Agency director Charles Wick, and National Security Adviser William Clark.

The CIA's Project MOCKINGBIRD, developed under the aegis of Cord Meyer, was a Cold War-era program designed to influence the foreign and domestic media and its successor programs governed the CIA's use of BIC journalists, of which Obama was one, to push propaganda and disinformation at home and abroad. With the approval of the new Political Action doctrine by the Reagan administration, there was a major push to use companies like BIC and other private sector operations to push U.S. propaganda abroad. The cover for the Reagan administration had to be in the private sector for, as the memo states, "Obviously as a government we cannot and should not simply emulate Soviet methods. Nor will our political parties be able in the foreseeable future to play the international role of European parties. But there is much that we can do."

The memo states that there should be a private sector campaign to challenge the Soviets abroad and states that "even the *New York Times*" supported such an effort. The private sector propaganda effort was called PROJECT TRUTH and its details are outlined in a formerly Confidential memorandum from Wick to Clark dated April 23, 1982.

A major propaganda effort against the Soviets, using U.S. and foreign private – unions, parties, youth, church, business, etc. – and public persons and elements, is described. Particular targets for the initiative included the May 13–16 Bilderberg meeting in Norway, the Fall UN General Assembly meeting, the April 28 Washington meeting of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations, and a contrivance known as "International Afghanistan Day."

The Reagan national security team was clearly intent, using cut-outs like BIC and others, to increase the U.S. "ability to generate political initiatives and conduct political campaigns, using overt and covert resources and combining government and private efforts here and abroad."

CIA files indicate the PPC was partially involved with a project called LOOKING GLASS, which involved a group of CIA and top business officials whose mission included "cultivating talent" from an early age.

WMR has obtained an agenda from the "Conference on Cultivating Talent" held in Greensboro, North Carolina from January 17–18, 1984, and co-sponsored by the Center for Creative Leadership (CCL). CCL was founded in 1970 by H. Smith Richardson, founder of the Vick Chemical Company.

Among the participants were the CIA's director of training and education, former National Security Agency (NSA) director Admiral Noel Gayler, and William Verity, Jr., the former chairman of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and a director at BIC in Manhattan. Gayler also served as Commander of the U.S. Pacific Command in Hawaii from 1972 to 1976, succeeding Admiral John S. McCain, Jr., the father of Obama's 2008 challenger, Senator John S. McCain III of Arizona.

Verity, who was also chairman of Armco steel corporation, later succeeded Malcolm Baldrige, Jr. as Secretary of Commerce in the Reagan administration. Verity became Commerce Secretary after Baldrige died in a freak rodeo accident in California. During his directorship at BIC, Verity also served on the boards of Eli Lilly and Chase Manhattan Bank, as well as serving as chairman of the board of trustees of Ford's Theater in Washington, DC.

Most of the CCL participants at the two-day conference were behavioral scientists. In our previous report on Obama and the CIA, WMR revealed that CIA director Richard Helms considered the University of Hawaii, the alma mater of Obama's mother and father, as one of five top centers for the CIA's behavioral science research work. The others were MIT, Yale, University of Michigan, and UCLA.

Speaking at the CCL conference, in addition to Verity, were Billie L. Alban, President of Alban & Williams, Ltd., an international consultancy. Alban was a core faculty member at UCLA and previously served on the staff of the Tavistock Institute in London. Currently, she teaches at Columbia University. Part of Alban's biography held in CIA archival files, which states her clients included the CIA-linked Bankers Trust, is redacted. Today, CCL's board of governors includes faculty members from Columbia and Harvard universities.

Verity was joined at the conference by two executives of Armco. One cartoon from the conference found in the CIA archives depicts two men with one pointing to a group of people representing the bottom rungs of society and exclaiming, "There is the raw material for a new, dynamic world!" The presence of Verity of BIC at the conference attended by the CIA's chief of education and training raises the specter of BIC's role in supplying "raw material" from its ranks, individuals like Obama, for the CIA's "new, dynamic world."

Also known as the "Freud Hilton," Tavistock has long been involved in brainwashing techniques and CIA work since its foundation. The institute also has links to the Harvard Psychology Clinic, the CIA, and Stanford Research Institute (SRI), a major contractor for CIA psychic warfare activities in the 1970s and 80s. Alban told the 1984 CCL seminar, "talent should be nurtured and developed for tomorrow not today. If one focuses on today's requirements, by the time talents are nurtured one will find they are the talents required of yesterday. The focus must be visionary and look to the needs of the future."

The Tavistock Institute has long been linked with the CIA's MK-ULTRA and Projects BLUEBIRD and ARTICHOKE mind control and brain-washing operations, conducted by the CIA's top scientist for such matters, Dr. Sidney Gottlieb. Much of the records about MK-ULTRA and other CIA programs was destroyed on the order of Helms in 1972. BLUEBIRD documents describe what the CIA was trying to accomplish with behavioral modification in the early 1950s: "Can we 'alter' a person's personality? Can we devise a system for making unwilling subjects into willing agents and then transfer that control to untrained agency agents in the field by use of codes or identifying signs?" In other words, the movie "The Manchurian Candidate," was not purely a fictional account within the CIA's research and scientific community.

Considering Obama's penchant for homosexual encounters in Chicago and Washington, DC, the question of a continuation of Gottlieb's OPERATION MIDNIGHT CLIMAX continues to the present day. A sub-program of MK-ULTRA, MIDNIGHT EXPRESS employed prostitutes in the San Francisco Bay Area and New York City to lure targeted individuals into CIA safehouses where they would then be plied with drugs like LSD. They would then be tested for their susceptibility to sexual blackmail. The program was "officially" halted in 1966, but the continuing use of prostitutes by the CIA for blackmail purposes has been verified to WMR by workers in the sex industry.

Twelve pages in the CIA's director for training and education's January 25, 1984, report to the deputy director for administration remain classified to this day, but in a hand written note on the CIA transmittal sheet, he states "I think you will find Tab B to be very interesting." The deputy director for administration replies, also in a handwritten note, "I did – though I don't [subscribe]? to call the community on Tab C."

Tab B is the training and education director's comments to the CCL. The talking points include:

- Pleased to be invited to participate and to exchange ideas on the cultivating and nurturing of talent.
- Our recent visibility has been both an asset and a liability in this regard. More people know of the CIA and its activities than when I joined (tell the labor union story), and this attracts some good people. By the same token, it brings out the weird ones.
- We have an exceptional screening process involving security investigation, testing, (assessment – OSS-CCL) psychological screening, medical review, interviewing, polygraph, etc. (and a long processing time!) [Ed. note: it cannot be determined if this reference is to the Office of Strategic Services, the forerunner of the CIA or the CIA's Special Security Office. CCL, however, appears to indicate a past and on-going relationship between the CIA and the Center for Creative Leadership.]
- So, the people who come to us are, for the most part, exceptionally talented, thoroughly screened, and represent a real challenge for us to stretch, nurture and retain.
- Eventually reach the point where at least some people are identified early on as having high potential for senior agency-wide positions and are consciously developed toward that end.

A September 11, 1984 memo to Dan Carlin, the assistant director of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board (PFIAB) from the CIA's executive assistant/executive director to director William Casey points out the academia sources for the past year's CIA undergraduate recruits. Two recruits came from Columbia University. Obama graduated from Columbia in 1983 after reportedly studying under Zbigniew Brzezinski, the former National Security Adviser to President Carter. The chairman of the PFIAB at the time of the stepped-up CIA college recruiting campaign was Anne Armstrong, the Ford administration's ambassador to London from 1976 to 1977 and a major backer of George H.W. and George W. Bush. A one-time board member of Halliburton, Armstrong was a mentor for Karl Rove when she served as co-chairman of the Republican National Committee from 1971 to 1973.

By way of comparison, one undergraduate was recruited from Harvard, one from Occidental College (where Obama attended before transferring to Columbia), one from Claremont Men's College, one from Pepperdine. Topping the list are five each from Georgetown and Dartmouth. Graduate recruits include one from Harvard Law, where Obama attended law school after his "community service" work in Chicago; three from the University of Michigan (one of Helms's favored behavioral science research campuses), and, trumpeting other graduate schools, American University in Washington, with five new recruits.

CIA archival records also indicate an on-going relationship between Obama's former college, Occidental, and the CIA in 1983. A MacNeil-Lehrer Newshour transcript shows a guest, Lawrence Caldwell of Occidental, as having been a scholar in residence at the CIA's Office of Soviet Analysis for two years.

A formerly Secret NOFORN [not releasable to foreign nationals] proposal for the CIA, dated December 31, 1992, and prepared for the CIA by Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) describes in great detail the agency's behavioral science programs, which included anomalous cognition (AC) and anomalous perturbation (AP). AC is defined as "the awareness of information that is considered otherwise shielded from all known sensory channels" and AP is "the perturbation of physical matter under conditions of complete physical and sensorial isolation."

The document states that research into both fields began in 1973 with the CIA engaged in such research and was followed by U.S. military service and Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) research with SRI through fiscal year 1990. The document also states "beginning in 1986, the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command (USAMRDC) [Fort Detrick, Maryland] initiated the first coordinated long-term examination of AC and AP phenomenon."

SAIC proposed to conduct various research projects for the CIA are similar to some of the "enhanced interrogation" techniques used on detainees in Guantanamo Bay, Bagram airbase in Afghanistan, and other CIA "black sites" in the wake of the 9/11 attacks. The experiments, conducted by SRI since 1974, included exposing individuals to flashing light or no light to discover how their central nervous systems reacted to the visual stimuli. Experiment subjects were fitted with EEGs (electroencephalogram) monitors to measure their reaction to the flashing light stimuli. Part of the SAIC proposal remains redacted.

A sub-contractor to SAIC was the Lucidity Institute of Napa, California, founded in 1987 by Dr. Stephen LaBerge for the conduct of "research on lucid dreams and to help people learn to use them to enhance their lives. Lucid dreaming means dreaming while knowing that one is dreaming and allows people to consciously guide the direction of their dreams." Ironically, one of this summer's blockbuster movies, "Inception," dealt with the subject of invading people's dreams to steal secrets. Leonardo DeCaprio plays a secretive agent named Dorn Cobb who is an "extractor" agent operating in the para-psychological dream invasion program. What may be fiction in Hollywood was far from it in the CIA research with SAIC, SRI, and the Lucidity Institute.

One of the methods used by the SRI and SAIC program to determine "the differences between effective and ineffective liars" was called the Q-Sort technique. The technique was used to separate "highly talented" individuals in test "clusters."

The paragraph on the intelligence applications of anomalous cognition is 90 percent redacted from the SAIC proposal as are at least three reference works cited in the document. Academic institutions involved in the project included, in addition to SRI, Stanford University, Brookhaven National Laboratory, the Institute of Buddhist Studies in Berkeley, and UCLA (one of Helms's favorite CIA behavioral science research centers).

The CIA-SAIC-SRI project principals had either worked at or attended the Biofeedback Institute of San Francisco; SAIC; Yale (another of Helms's favored research centers); Columbia University; Harvard; Bellevue Hospital in New York; the U.S. Army Medical Research Unit in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; the Stanford Hypnosis Research Laboratory; Carnegie-Mellon University; MIT (another one of Helms's favored behavioral science centers); the World Bank; the Air Force Institute of Technology at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio; University of Minnesota; the Brain Research Institute; the Behavioral Research Foundation of St. Kitts, West Indies; the Tavistock Institute in London; the A.K. Rice Institute of Rainier, Washington, an off-shoot of the Tavistock Institute; Sleep Disorders Clinic, Provo, Utah; Neurology Study Section of the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland; Tibetan government-in-exile, Dharamsala, India; U.S. Veterans Administration; University of Wisconsin-Madison; US Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, DC; and perhaps, most interestingly, the University of Hawaii (also designated by Helms as one of the CIA's favored behavioral science research centers and where two of the principals involved in the SAIC-CIA project had an affiliation).

The research director for the CIA-SAIC program was Dr. Edwin C. May, an internationally-recognized parapsychology expert who is the executive director for the Cognitive Sciences Laboratory of the Laboratories for Fundamental Research in Palo Alto, California. May was a lead researcher for the CIA's STARGATE remote viewing and ESP project until it was closed down in 1995. WMR has previously reported that the program moved from the CIA to the National Security Agency and involved research carried out with Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore and the Monroe Institute in Faber, Virginia, south of Charlottesville. The Monroe Institute was also heavily involved in the STARGATE program. The current research is also linked to the Parapsychology Foundation of New York City.

Other members of the team included a retired Army Major General who now specializes in human bionics a radio astrophysicist; an expert who maintains that sexual orientation may be influenced by experiences in childhood; a counselor for survivors of the People's Temple cult of Reverend Jim Jones (itself linked to a CIA MK-ULTRA behavioral modification and mind control operation); a current specialist with the Farsight Institute of Atlanta, a remote viewing research center; a neuro-linguistic programming expert; a toxicology specialist; a principal of the Pentagon's PANDORA project on the use of electro-magnetic weapons to roboticize human beings; an expert in the imaging and computer mapping of the human brain; an inventor of the cochlear implant; an expert on the mass popular opposition of Okinawans to the U.S. military presence on the island; a future warfare expert for the Pentagon and member of the National Security Agency Scientific Advisory Board and Defense Intelligence Agency Scientific Advisory Committee; a former Army Undersecretary for acquisition; a Defense Intelligence Agency psi-tech officer who worked on electro-magnetic weaponry for battlefield psychological purposes – PROJECT SLEEPING BEAUTY – who worked with another Army Intelligence psi-tech officer who was partially the inspiration for the movie "Men Who Stare At Goats;" a specialist on the brainwashing techniques, including sleep deprivation, by the North Koreans on American prisoners of war and the Church of Scientology who was an expert witness on the brainwashing techniques of the Symbionese Liberation Army on heiress Patty Hearst; and, lastly, a University of Hawaii-linked specialist on the psychological effects of prison and prison brutality on prisoners who later defended, as an expert witness, one of the prison guards at Abu Ghraib in Baghdad.

The presence of a Jonestown de-programmer on the CIA-SAIC team is noteworthy. On August 31, 2007, WMR reported: "During the time of the Jonestown massacre, the People's Temple's ship, the 'Cudjoe,' was en route to Trinidad with members of the Temple on board. Temple members soon set up operations in Trinidad and Grenada, where [Prime Minister Eric] Gairy, a CIA client, who, in a 1977 speech before the UN General Assembly, called for the UN to establish an Agency for Psychic Research into Unidentified Flying Objects and the Bermuda Triangle, was in charge. According to the Oakland Tribune, the St. George's University Medical School in Grenada had on its staff one Dr. Peter Bourne, the son of the university's vice chancellor Sir Geoffrey Bourne. Peter Bourne is a graduate of the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR), where he studied the psychological effects of stress on those in combat. He also served one year in Vietnam as the head of the Army's psychiatric research team. Bourne later became an Assistant UN Secretary General and an adviser to then-Congressman Bill Richardson. It was under the guise of rescuing American medical students at the university, that the Reagan administration launched a 1983 invasion to overthrow Bernard Coard, who had ousted and executed Bishop in a coup. Both Bournes said the medical students were never in any danger. [Some believe that author Robert Ludlum got the idea for CIA mind-controlled assassins in his novel "The Bourne Identity" and its sequels from Geoffrey Bourne's work.]

The Jonestown connection to the U.S. war in Southeast Asia does not end there. The U.S. ambassador to Guyana at the time of the Jonestown massacre was John Burke, who served with his Deputy Chief of Mission Richard Dwyer, were allegedly working for the CIA in Bangkok during the Vietnam war. Dwyer was wounded in the Port Kaituma shootings where [Representative Leo] Ryan and the others were killed. On Sept. 27, 1980, Jack Anderson reported that Dwyer was a CIA agent and a friend of Jones. Anderson reported that on one of the tapes made during the mass suicide Jones was heard saying, 'Get Dwyer out of here before something happens to him.' Dwyer reportedly left Guyana for Grenada after the massacre. The US Consular Officer at the embassy in Georgetown, Guyana was Richard McCoy, who allegedly liaised with Jim Jones and was a U.S. Air Force intelligence official. Another alleged CIA employee, operating under State Department cover, was Dan Webber, who also visited the Jonestown the day after the massacre. Joe Holsinger, Ryan's assistant and friend, later said that he believed that Jonestown was a massive mind control experiment and that the CIA and military intelligence was involved in the program."

The nexus of Obama's almae matres: Occidental, Columbia, and Harvard, as well as that of his parents, the University of Hawaii, in the CIA's mind control, behavioral modification, and mass hypnosis projects is deeply troubling. The fact that Obama has failed to provide a full accounting of his past academic and professional employment history, coupled with the presence of a major CIA presence within his and his parents', grandparents', and step-father's backgrounds opens up the real possibility that Obama was, to use the CIA's own term, "nurtured," for a higher calling. Obama told the nation that his would be the most open and transparent in recent recent history. However, Obama's biography and those of his parents and guardians are full of more holes than a slice of Swiss cheese. It is well past time for the President to make good on that promise and fully release his past academic, passport, employment, and overseas travel records.

After eight brutal years of George W. Bush and Dick Cheney, the nation was ready for any change. Unfortunately, the CIA, through LOOKING GLASS, MK-ULTRA, ARTICHOKE, PANDORA, and other behavioral science programs were ready to answer the call. The CIA answered the call with Obama and most of us bought him and his "Hope and Change" propaganda fecundity "nurtured" by CIA programs going back some sixty years.

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More Info: The CIA and it's Links to the Rise of Obama

For your information, this researcher [Wayne Madsen] has uncovered a number of credible sources (books, documentaries, articles, etc.) that clearly draw an Intelligence "hierarchy" that is nothing like we are led to believe (supporting articles with citations forthcoming).

In a nut-shell, be advised, the CIA, MI6, Israeli MOSSAD, and OSI are all products of "The Reich" of Nazi Germany (see book entitled "Blowback", by Christopher Simpson, McMillan Publishing Company, 1988). These agencies are the "enforcement and execution arm" of the Committee of 300, Royal Institute of International Affairs, and the

Jesuit Superior General's Office in Vatican City. When the orders come down "from above", these intelligence agencies (murderous spies) execute them.

Also, be advised, Israeli MOSSAD agents were arrested after being seen celebrating in public when the World Trade Centers were demolished.

It may take years to fully execute a given PROJECT. But the orders are always executed with deadly precision as history has shown.

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Today is a big day for Avaaz. If you join in, Avaaz might just move from having a small team of 40 campaigners to having 40,000!!

When I started Avaaz, it was just a crazy idea. But I loved the idea, and shared it, and now it's an idea that 14,000,000 people share! I've been blown away by the passion, creativity, smarts and commitment of everyone in this community. **Every day Avaaz members send in brilliant and important ideas for new campaigns** to create the world we all want -- more than our small staff could ever carry out alone.

So, to unlock all the incredible potential of our community to change the world, **we've developed our website tools to allow any Avaazer to instantly start their *own* online petitions**, tell friends, and win campaigns.

The site just went live -- will you give it a try? **Think of a petition you'd like to start on any issue** -- something impacting your local community, some bad behaviour by a distant corporation, or a global cause that you think other Avaaz members would care about. If your petition takes off, it may become an Avaaz campaign -- either to members in your area, or even to the whole world! Click here to get started -- **it takes just a few minutes to create your own campaign!**

http://www.avaaz.org/en/petition/start_a_petition/?v

I'm so excited about this. In just five years, Avaaz has run an incredible number of hard-hitting campaigns and grown to be the largest-ever global movement for change, all with just a tiny staff -- **imagine what's possible with all of us starting and winning amazing campaigns!** I can't wait.

With much respect and hope, Ricken

<http://www.bbka.org.uk/>

A bee doing his bee thing (thank God!)



—Friends of the Middle,
Steven W. Baker (SteveB), Editor/Moderator

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Welcome to all our new members who may be here for the first time. We want to hear from YOU! To submit your comment, you can use the form on our website or blog, or reply to this email with your two cents worth. Be sure to sign with your desired user name.

Your email address will always be kept strictly confidential.

Feel free to forward this Newsletter to anyone you know on the Right or the Left, though your motives might be different in each case. Regardless, PASS IT ON! Help keep your friends and acquaintances informed and thinking.

<http://www.FriendsOfTheMiddle.org>

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