

CONTACT

The Phoenix Educator: A LIGHT IN EVERY MIND!

*“YE SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH AND THE TRUTH SHALL MAKE YOU MAD!”
“NOW THAT YOU’RE MAD, LET’S FIX IT!”*

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NEWS REVIEW

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OCTOBER 13, 1998

Thousands Of High-Tech Workers

Imported To U.S.

While Americans Cook Hamburgers

Editor’s note: The following was originally part of the News Desk. However, considering the state of our U.S. economy, Front Page placement seemed more appropriate. We again thank the ever-vigilant Burgin-Overholt news relay team for this timely gem, which is extracted from the Internet and is quoted information from a source <ralph@TeamInfinity.com>.

This situation is even more exclusive and disguised than it appears on the surface because the hoops to jump through for “some” foreign high-tech people are insurmountable—while “others” simply walk right on into those jobs. Longtime CONTACT readers will have no trouble answering the question of who stays and who goes!

10/5/98 CALVIN BURGIN

<wrldline@texas.net>

Thanks to so-called “Republican” Senator Spencer Abraham of Michigan and the ZOG [Zionist Occupation Government] White House, your government is fast-tracking the importation of 375,500 HIGH-TECH workers to the USA. Highly coveted computer industry, skilled and specialty jobs that would have otherwise gone to Americans will go to IMPORTED FOREIGNERS.

That is right, the most desired HIGH-TECHNOLOGY JOBS in the

(Please see **Thousands Of High-Tech Workers Imported To U.S.** p.11)

IN THIS ISSUE

The News Desk, p.2

Nothing Happens By Accident,
Including The Y2K “Problem”! p.6

Will It Be The
Lifeboat Or Coffin? p.10

Clues To Watch
As Trap Is Set, p.12

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The News Desk

10/10/98 DR. AL OVERHOLT

CLINTON SUED FOR \$1 BILLION!

From the INTERNET, <para-discuss@tje.net>, 10/2/98: [quoting]

In February, according to a report on the *Agence France Presse* wire, Cairo lawyer Mustafa Raslan filed a \$1 billion lawsuit in Damanhur, Egypt, against President Clinton, alleging that Clinton's alleged sexual antics make it more difficult for him to raise his own children with good moral standards. "I don't know what to tell [them]," he said.

[End quoting]

He's damaged the morals of the world beyond measure. If you don't think so, try to talk with your kids openly about Clinton's conduct. Isn't it thus all the more sad for the health of this country to consider that he's still the better presidential choice than the team the Zionist faction of the dark "elite" wish to replace him with?

ATLANTIS OF ROMANTIC LEGEND DISCOVERED

From the INTERNET, <<http://www.tje.net/para>>, 10/5/98: [quoting]

World Of The Strange, Weekly Newsletter of the Paranormal, by: Louise A. Lowry

The Scott Stones PRESS RELEASE—May 23, 1998 "We have a truly majestic statement to make to the world!" says Aaron DuVal, president of the Egyptology Society in Miami, Florida. And continues: "It may come as little surprise to some and great surprise to others; some will be jubilant, some will be horrified; and some will be saddened almost beyond words. But, regardless of the jealousies, fears, and clambering assumptions, we are pleased and honored to announce on behalf of and with the permission of the discoverers, that "The Scott Stones" are not merely the remains of some ancient and unexpected megalithic society which existed long ago near Bimini; but they are in fact, part of the very Atlantis which Plato described!

Yes! And the explorers can now prove it! They had already discovered ancient calendars, maps, clay artifacts, etc.—but the real clincher to this claim was their discovery of ancient records at the site!

Once again, according to the explorers, it was the knowledge of Professor Scott (in whose honor the stones were first named) which allowed them to initially locate the actual records—records which can be expected to vastly illuminate our understanding of the earlier days of mankind! And, as for any previous presumptions that these ruins might somehow lead to a reinterpretation of the history of civilization; these presumptions can no longer be looked upon as mere conjecture!

But, you say, "What, exactly, makes these explorers so sure that their find is actually part of Plato's Atlantis?"

Well, their answer is: There's a lot of talk

these days about the possibility of finding ancient records, especially around Giza; but everyone seems to have forgotten about the original records of Sais. The explorers say they've identified the long-lost chronological records used by the priest of Sais, who first informed Solon, back in the sixth century B.C. The existence of these records was confirmed, as you may know, following the days of Plato; but, they subsequently fell into obscurity. The explorers say they've located and deciphered these very records; and that these Egyptian records correlate with the records found at the Scott Stones! The record is the same, they say, on both sides of the ocean! and the Sais/Solon/Plato-account for the end of the Atlantean Empire can now be independently confirmed!

The Scott Stones were discovered some three and one-half years ago; and the explorers, themselves, had hoped to bring the information to the public last summer. But personal injury, sickness, and threats of betrayal severely stalled their original efforts. Now, after months and months of delay, the information is lining up, nicely; and the discoverers are looking forward to revealing their identities. So, they have tentative plans to try, once again, this summer or certainly by the fall, to introduce the information to the public. They have not, as yet, stepped forward personally; simply because they have not wished any hindrance in their on-going research.

"As for the two sets of records, however, they are still being intensely studied and interpreted. So, nothing further will be released, just now, pertaining to these records. But, be sure, some very exciting pictures, publications, graphics, and video are already ready and more are being prepared! And the Egyptology Society in Miami hopes to play a role in bringing this history-shaking information to the fore.

So, the proof is now in. But, of course, Atlantis is a somewhat querulant subject in many circles. And, it seems, that most of the "authorities" that have been approached so far, have found themselves instantly appalled by the mere thought of such a possibility. Soon, however, some of these "authorities" may find themselves sorely embarrassed.

One of the reasons that the Egyptology Society has been included as part of this exciting adventure, is that I personally feel, just as the discoverers, that this very precious information should, by all means, completely by-pass the contemptuous and doubt-filled "established order"—until such time as: all the evidence has been fully prepared for the slaughter!

There may be further reports through *Nexus Magazine* or through future press releases, according to the opinion of Mr. DuVal. Interviewed for the Egyptology Society: May 23, 1998, in Miami, Florida. Contact: Aaron DuVal, President, Egyptology Society, c/o Miami Museum of Science, 3280 South Miami Ave., Miami, FL 33129, USA [End quoting]

Of course many of us don't need this proof, but this may help awaken many to the reality

of Atlantis and many other ancient civilizations. If nothing else it will set off a firestorm of controversy among those who want the truth known and those who want to continue to keep humans as ignorant-dumb slaves.

BOY RECEIVES UNUSUAL BONE GRAFT IN FLORIDA

Excerpted from the INTERNET, <<http://www.infobeat.com/stories>>, 10/5/98: [quoting]

A 5-year-old boy was on the road to recovery Friday after becoming what was believed to be the first person in the United States to receive an unusual type of shoulder bone transplant, doctors said.

Adam Johnson of Nassau, Bahamas, received the bone graft on Sept. 14, after spending nearly two months at the Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital undergoing chemotherapy for osteosarcoma, a rare form of bone cancer, doctors said.

During the operation, results of which were publicly withheld until Friday, doctors removed a tumor from the boy's right shoulder.

They removed the part of the bone where growth occurs from Adam's leg and attached it to a bone graft from a cadaver. The bone graft was then transplanted to the boy's shoulder.

Doctors said the operation had taken 8 and 1/2 hours, and Adam was recovering very well. They hoped the transplanted bone will grow and replace the cadaver bone to give him a full-sized shoulder when he grows up.

Hospital officials said they believed it was the first time such an operation had been done in the United States.

The boy's case was more unusual because his sister LaToya, 11, had suffered from the same form of bone cancer. The disease had forced doctors to amputate her left arm and shoulder two years earlier, although she is doing well and is cancer-free. [End quoting]

One wonders how many other techniques for saving lives are held under close control until some way can be found to change enough to make them "profitable"? J.P. Morgan put a stop to one of Nikola Tesla's most promising electrical energy transmission inventions because he could not meter (and thus charge for) it.

ALASKA ORDERS STATEWIDE MEASLES INOCULATIONS

From the INTERNET, <<http://www.infobeat.com/stories>>, 10/5/98: [quoting]

Alaskan officials Friday ordered all school children to have two measles vaccinations by Jan. 4 in response to a fast-spreading measles outbreak that started in August at an Anchorage high school.

Children from kindergarten through 12th grade must have obtained two measles shots by the deadline to continue attending school under an order issued by Health and Social Services Commissioner Karen Perdue.

"Today, Commissioner Perdue signed an order that all Alaska school children will be required to have a second dose of measles vaccination in order to combat the outbreak of measles which we're now facing, first in Anchorage but now with cases popping up in places other than Anchorage," Dr. John Middaugh, Alaska state epidemiologist, said at a news conference.

So far, 18 confirmed cases and 33 suspected cases of measles have been reported, giving Alaska the nation's worst outbreak of the contagious disease this year, state officials said.

Most cases have been in Anchorage, but some have been discovered in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, the Kenai Peninsula and the Yukon-Kuskokwim and Bethel areas of rural southwestern Alaska, state officials said.

Under Perdue's order, individual school districts may set earlier deadlines, Middaugh said. [End quoting]

It looks like the elite are pushing forward with their depopulation plans. Wonder just what all is contained in those vaccinations?

FLYNT OFFERS \$1 MILLION FOR SEX STORIES ON U.S. LEADERS

From the INTERNET, <<http://www.infobeat.com/stories>>, 10/5/98: [quoting]

Hustler magazine and its publisher, Larry Flynt, offered up to \$1 million Sunday for stories from individuals who can prove they committed adultery with members of Congress or high-ranking government officials. [End quoting]

How many government officials do you think are quaking in their boots over this?? How much blackmail power will Larry gain??

I just read on 10/7/98 that Larry has had over 300 requests to offer information. Don't you think many "saints" in our government are going to be sweating—possibly even a few "suicides".

PRINCIPLES OF SELF-SUFFICIENCY

[CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK]

Excerpted from *McAlvany Intelligence Advisor*: [quoting]

22. Examine the concept of civil disobedience (from the *Bible* and history). At what point should the people of Egypt have said 'no' to killing the male babies in Moses' day? At what point should the people of colonial America have said 'no' to King George? At what point should the people of Germany have said 'no' to Hitler? At what point do we say 'no' to despots in our day—when they take our money, our property, our guns, our children, our freedom?

Decide what is your choke point—when do you move to civil disobedience. (For many throughout history—it was when evil leaders handed down edicts that were directly contrary to God's Word or commands.)

Don't set your choke point too early or too quickly, nor too late, *nor never*. Think through or calculate a strategy—then never look back.

23. Learn to ask the right questions in every situation. (In 'Operation Waco', nobody asked the right questions.)

24. Bring orderliness into your life. *If you live in disorder it will pull you down, it will break your focus. Think focus versus distraction. Eliminate the distractions from your life.* Self-sufficiency (or survival) principles are learned on a day-to-day basis and must be practical.

26. Always have more than one way to

escape, more than one way to do something. Have a plan B and a plan C.

27. Everyday life (and especially a crisis) requires 'upfront systems' and 'backup systems' if the first line of defense or 'up-front system' fails.

28. Real education (or learning) only takes place when change occurs in our attitudes, actions, and way of life.

29. Wisdom is making practical applications of what you know. It is not enough to know everything you need to know. It will only serve you and others if practical application is made of that knowledge.

30. Fix in your own mind the truth about your capabilities. In a crisis situation this principle will keep you from cockiness (or overconfidence) and will provide you with confidence.

31. Decide ahead of time before a crisis arrives how you will react in a given situation so that you are not swayed by the circumstances, the situation, or your emotions.

32. Beware of being spread too thin in your life. Decide on the few things in life that you must do and do them well. *Think focus, versus distraction.* Make sure that unimportant, non-essential distractions don't keep you from achieving your important objectives.

33. Learn to quit wasting things. Be a good steward of all that God provides.

34. Buy an extra one of everything you use regularly and set the extra one aside for the time when such items may be difficult or impossible to obtain.

35. In every situation, train yourself to look for what doesn't fit, for what's out of place, for what doesn't look right.

36. Teach your children (and yourself) that they are not obligated to give information to a stranger. You don't have to answer questions (not even to a government official) that are none of their business. Sell or give away things you do not use or need. Consider giving away or selling 50% of your 'stuff', (i.e., the non-essentials). Simplify and streamline your life, lifestyle and possessions.

38. Find someone who lived through the Great Depression and learn from them how they were self-sufficient, how they made do with little, and how they found joy and contentment in the midst of hard times. An excellent book on this subject, is *We Had Everything But Money: Priceless Memories Of The Great Depression From Strong People Who Tell In Their Own Words What It Was Like When Banks Closed And Hearts Opened*, Country Books, PO Box 990, Greendale, WI 53129 (1-800-558 1013). —*McAlvany Intelligence Advisor*, 1-800-525-9556 [End quoting]

Hope this helps many with their preparations for what is coming in the near future.

IT'S NOT PRIVATE, STUPID

From a letter to *THE MODESTO BEE*, 9/23/98: [quoting]

So much has been said about the president's private life and bedroom. When he had his little tryst in the Oval Office during business hours it became a public affair. If you don't think so, try doing the same thing where you work and telling your boss it's between you, your family and your God. See how far that

flies. —Gerry J. Kilgore, Salida [End quoting]

Well said. Even the Liberals would have to admit that most of them would be fired if they were caught doing the same—if they were to tell the truth.

A LAWYER'S TRUE VALUES

From the INTERNET, <paradiscuss@tje.net>, 10/7/98: [quoting]

A lawyer opened the door of his BMW, when suddenly a car came along and hit the door, ripping it off completely.

When the police arrived at the scene, the lawyer was complaining bitterly about the damage to his precious BMW.

"Officer, look what they've done to my Beeeemer!!!" he whined.

"You lawyers are so materialistic, you make me sick!!!" retorted the officer. "You're so worried about your stupid BMW, that you didn't even notice that your left arm was ripped off!!!"

"Oh my gaaaad...", replied the lawyer, finally noticing the bloody left shoulder where his arm once was.

"Where's my Rolex????!!!"

—<<http://www.joker.org>> [End quoting]

The annoyance of jokes like this is their element of truth!

FOREIGNERS USING INVESTMENTS AS LEVERAGE AGAINST U.S. DEATH PENALTY

Excerpted from *MIDDLE AMERICAN NEWS*, Oct. 1998: [quoting]

International leftists and associated business interests are trying to leverage America's global financial entanglements into a force that will end the death penalty in the United States.

Waged by the European Parliament, the campaign is operating through a number of European companies that are being pressured to withdraw investments from states where capital punishment is enforced.

The European Parliament, which is the governing body of the European Economic Union, has targeted Texas as the campaign's flash point

In a letter to Texas Gov. George W. Bush, the chairman of the European Parliament's Delegation for Relations warns that "ethical business practices" may prevent European businesses from investing capital where the death penalty is used.

"Many companies, under pressure from shareholders and public opinion to apply ethical business practices, are beginning to consider the possibility of restricting investments in the United States to states that do not apply the death penalty," wrote Alan Donnelley a member of the British Labor Party and chairman of the Delegation for Relations.

The letter cautions Bush that Europe is the foremost foreign investor in his state, and that economic consequences could result if the state's criminal justice policies do not meet the approval of foreign financial interests.

More than any other state, Texas has come under increasing criticism by multiculturalists and criminal-rights groups for exercising the popularly supported option of executing convicted murderers. Many outlets of the U.S. corporate media have joined the fray, promoting

through news stories the message that too many convicts are in jail and too many killers are sitting on death row. [End quoting]

This, in one sense, is very good, but when foreigners are trying to **force** us into changing our laws, for ulterior political motives, that makes me want to question their "real" motives—especially when they have plenty to do to rectify their **own** immoral laws.

PUERTO RICO'S GOV. THREATENS GOP LAWMAKERS

From *MIDDLE AMERICAN NEWS*, Oct. 1998: [quoting]

The governor of Puerto Rico has threatened to mobilize Hispanic voters in the U.S. to defeat American lawmakers unless they approve legislation requiring the island commonwealth to vote on joining the American union as a state.

Gov. Pedro Rosello said he will run advertisements in heavily Hispanic states such as California, Illinois and Florida, blaming the GOP for being anti-Hispanic.

"I'll not mince any words on this," Rosello said. "If [the Republican leadership] chooses to stonewall this, it's going to be perceived as a rejection of Hispanic aspirations. This issue resonates with Hispanic voters."

But at least one senator isn't worried. Sen. Frank Murkowski, R-AK, a staunch supporter of the legislation, said "the time has passed for any full action" this year.

The bill allowing Puerto Rico to join the U.S. won't be brought up for a vote in the Senate before Congress adjourns in October, according to Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-MS.

The House approved statehood legislation by a single vote in March. House Speaker Newt Gingrich and other Republican multiculturalists, including Ralph Reed, former executive director of the Christian Coalition, think GOP support for the bill will entice Hispanics to join the party.

Rosello wants Congress to authorize a December 13 vote for the island.

The pending bill would permit Puerto Rico to maintain its current commonwealth status, opt for full independence, or join the U.S. as a state by a simple majority vote. The island is a poor, Spanish-speaking territory whose admittance to the union would virtually end the debate over whether English should be the nation's official language. An entire Spanish-speaking state would impel all federal documents to be available in Spanish.

As a state, the island would likely become a Democrat stronghold, sending two senators and several House members to Congress. [End quoting]

Anything for a vote to get into the public funds trough!!

PRESIDENTIAL PRIVILEGE

From *MIDDLE AMERICAN NEWS*, Oct. 1998: [quoting]

The estimated cost of Clinton's August 17 testimony to the grand jury—including an encoded, direct fiber-optic line from the White House to the court house—was \$200,000. The 23 grand jurors could have been transported to the White House for \$600. Clinton could have gone to the courthouse, like all the other

witnesses, for even less. [End quoting]

And the Clinton administration is so worried about us poor Americans and they tell us how they are going to help us. Like the Mafia, after they've stolen the money from us, they return a few crumbs of bread or heating oil in emergencies—a penny on the dollar.

NEVER-ENDING STORY

From *MIDDLE AMERICAN NEWS*, Oct. 1998: [quoting]

The Senate failed again in August to reduce the number of U.S. troops in Bosnia-Herzegovina. That "peacekeeping" operation has already cost more than \$10 billion. [End quoting]

They aren't about to return these troops. Instead they are doing their best to start another war before the elections next month—or at least bomb the Kosovo area.

If you haven't seen the movie *Wag The Dog*, I think it would be valuable as a lesson to show you how the scripts are written and played out in the political arena. It really is an eye-opener!

BUSINESS AS USUAL FOR "FRUGAL" FEDS

From *MIDDLE AMERICAN NEWS*, Oct. 1998: [quoting]

The Patent and Trademark Office plans to spend \$1.6 billion for a new office complex, including an open-air amphitheater, plazas, fountains, jogging trails, sculptures, \$13,000 tables and \$240 shower curtains. As profligate as ever about spending money, the Senate rejected an amendment to scrap the project, but did agree to place a \$1.3 billion limit on the new PTO palace, plus \$135 million for moving costs and new furnishings. [End quoting]

Another waste of taxpayers' money by a bankrupt, out of control government. When are we going to stop this waste?

GRAVY TRAIN

The average federal worker is paid \$46,056 per year, and there are 1,859,452 of them on the Executive Branch payroll. [End quoting]

Do you get over \$900 a week paycheck—even though you probably work harder than most of these government workers?

XMAS UNDER LEGAL ASSAULT

From *MIDDLE AMERICAN NEWS*, Oct. 1998: [quoting]

It was bound to happen. It was only a matter of time in the new multicultural era that the logic of ideology is poised to triumph over the customs and heritage of the people.

Rick Ganulin, the 46-year-old attorney who works as assistant solicitor for the city of Cincinnati, filed a federal lawsuit against Christmas, the biggest officially recognized holiday in the country.

Ganulin said Christmas violates the "constitutional separation" of church and state and makes non-Christians into second-class citizens.

"The statute that declares Christmas to be a national legal public holiday creates the

endorsement of the Christian religion by the federal government," said Ganulin, using the same argument the ACLU has used with great success in the federal courts to dismantle nativity scenes, obliterate references to God, and wipe out displays of the *Ten Commandments* in public places.

"I don't know why nobody stepped up before to address this issue. I felt strongly that the integrity of the *Constitution* and the *First Amendment* was worth it," said Ganulin, who describes himself as a progressive Jew. "I've heard some say I'm a whacko, but I've not heard one critic speak with an informed voice about what *The Constitution* requires in this area."

The Constitution, of course, does not forbid government from recognizing or allowing public religious displays, or even prayer. Only the federal courts have prohibited them.

The federal recognition of Christmas reflects America's heritage as a Christian country whose principles of tolerance forbid the Congress from passing laws regarding the establishment or free exercise of religion.

But in the logic of the multiculturalism that is supplanting that heritage, government recognition of a religious holiday celebrated by the core population cannot be tolerated. It must be wiped out to show that America no longer represents a particular people.

"If I succeed and Christmas is not a public legal holiday, then federal employees would not get the day off," said Ganulin.

"I suppose they would have to take a vacation day or a personal day to get Christmas off, just as I suppose Hindus and Muslims have to take a personal day for their holy days." [End quoting]

My opinion is that the Khazarian fake "Jews" make so much money off of this holiday that they aren't about to take it away before they pull down complete control. Then it won't make any difference anyhow, moneywise, and they will put in their new-age religion worshipping the anti-Christ.

FAST TRACK PASSED

From the INTERNET, <APFN@netbox.com>, 9/29/98: [quoting]

Well, Newt the Globalist Suit strikes again!

He is doing the devil's work while the world watches Clinton's Sin parading for all the children to see. It is Newt who is the real enemy of freedom, Newt who has led by lies and threats to pass NAFTA-GATT, and NEWT who programmed and got passed PL-104 (ad nauseum) bringing forth the National ID in a dozen areas. So we couldn't catch all of them. Yup, Contract ON America—Newt's theme.

—Jackie Juntti, Washington Grassroots e-mail Network, <idzrus@earthlink.net>

Thank you for ALL your hard work and the thousands of calls, faxes and letters pleading with Congress to stand strong for American workers. The sad news is that they turned their backs on us and instead stood with U.S. corporations—which now proudly call themselves "global companies". [End quoting]

Can't we all see how fast these rats are pinning us down with all these new laws in just the last few months? Are we going to continue to be couch-potatoes?

THE ARAB WORLD
IS FINISHED;
AFRICA IS A PARADISE

From *THE ORLANDO SENTINEL*, 10/5/98: [quoting]

"I would like Libya to become a Black country. Hence, I recommend to Libyan men to marry only Black women, and to Libyan women to marry Black men."

—Libyan leader Col. Moammar Gadhafi, in a TV interview, saying he has given up on his efforts to promote pan-Arab unity and instead is embracing his country's role in Africa's future. [End quoting]

Looks like he's fed up with the NWO.

SUPREME COURT DOCKET
WILL HAVE
FAR-REACHING EFFECTS

The justices will decide 45 cases involving issues such as welfare and school vouchers.

Excerpted from *THE ORLANDO SENTINEL*, 10/5/98: [quoting]

When the nine justices of the Supreme Court emerge from behind a red velvet curtain today and ascend the bench, they will begin a term that could have a lasting impact on today's era of dismantled social programs and tougher law enforcement.

Back from its summer recess, the court also will take up cases that could affect people's pocketbooks and their property, whether they're applying for welfare benefits, selecting a long distance provider or seeking a zoning permit.

The justices will weigh current issues in education when they review whether school officials are responsible for a student's harassment of another student. Also among the 45 cases the justices have agreed to decide by July are a big-stakes political fight over the 2000 Census and disputes over the future of local telephone service.

"This is shaping up to be a pretty active year," said Steven Shapiro, national legal director of the American Civil Liberties Union, which is involved in several cases.

There are other important cases on the horizon including whether school vouchers violate the *Constitution*, whether states can make English the official language and whether the Clinton administration can block government lawyers from answering questions before a grand jury investigating the president.

The following cases rank among the major disputes before the Supreme Court this term. During up-coming months the justices will add more to their calendar.

* Welfare reform: Whether a state may temporarily restrict the amount of benefits it pays to newly arrived welfare recipients to the level that the families received in their prior state, without violating constitutional guarantees of equal protection and freedom to travel. (*Anderson vs. Roe*)

* Street gangs; Whether a police officer may break up groups of people on the street if one of them is thought to be a gang member. A lower Court said such an ordinance infringes on people's ability to walk the streets freely and associate with others. (*Chicago vs. Morales*)

* Sexual harassment: Whether students who are sexually harassed by other students may sue

their schools for money damages under a law requiring schools that receive federal money to protect against sex discrimination. (*Davis vs. Monroe County Board of Education*)

* Census policies: Whether the Census Bureau can use statistical sampling in the 2000 Census to estimate parts of the population that are undercounted. As a threshold matter, the court must determine whether the House of Representatives is in some way injured by the sampling policy and has legal standing to sue. (*U.S. Commerce Department vs. U.S. House of Representatives*)

* Car searches: Whether police may search a car passenger's personal belongings when officers reasonably suspect that only the driver committed a crime. Separately, the justices will decide whether a police officer who stops a vehicle and issues only a citation, rather than making an arrest, nonetheless is empowered to search the car. (*Wyoming vs. Houghton, Knowles vs. Iowa*) [End quoting]

We'd all better pray to God for guidance in combatting any new decrees from this **court of Satan**.

LISTEN TO THE WIND

From *GUIDEPOSTS*, Aug. 1998, P.O. Box 1479, Carmel, NY 10512: [quoting]

I lay awake, listening to the surf outside my bedroom window. It seemed every night had been a sleepless one lately. What was wrong with me? At my new job, editing *The Carolina Opry's* entertainment magazines, I was making more money than I ever had. In addition, I performed a weekly one-man show as Mark Twain in one of the *Opry's* theaters. I should have been energized and excited, but instead I felt deflated and distracted. Strangely, I found myself wondering what I really wanted out of life.

Growing up, I was fat and had acne, so I was a favorite target for bullies. That's when I developed the yearning to be somebody important. In the meantime, I fended off ridicule by making people laugh. I mimicked our principal and teachers, as well as characters like the Hunchback of Notre Dame and Frankenstein's monster. I discovered I had a talent for capturing an audience.

In college I decided politics was my ticket to recognition. After graduation I landed a job as a radio talk-show host, my first step into the public eye. Through contacts made there—and a little luck—I became executive director of a regional chamber of commerce in the Myrtle Beach area. On the side I indulged my love of the stage by cocreating a show with friends, dramatizing the rich folklore of the South, performing five of eight characters myself.

My job and show got me lots of attention. When a U.S. Congress seat opened up in my district, I decided to go for it. Campaigning, I gazed into the faces of people at speaking engagements, many of those folks wearing buttons with my name on them, and I felt electrified. I even sold my house to finance my campaign. Although my chances of winning were slim, I believed the effort would pay off the next time.

Now everything was in place for that second attempt. I had respect, power and admiration—everything I had always wanted. Yet I couldn't shake the feeling that something crucial was

missing in my life.

I got out of bed and went to the window to stare out toward the Atlantic. I felt like a bottle adrift on its roiling waves. I couldn't remember ever feeling so alone and helpless. In meetings at work I would often be taken with the feeling that I didn't belong there. I leaned my head against the cool windowpane and watched my breath fog the glass. "Lord, help me," I whispered, and the desperation in my voice surprised even me. I had always considered myself a religious person, but I had never before felt such a deep need to reach out to God.

As I prayed, it suddenly hit me that I had never before asked God to guide my way. I had always just asked for the strength to continue down the path I had chosen. I got back into bed. *Show me the way*, I prayed, before finally falling asleep.

The next morning I awoke feeling rested for the first time in a long time. Then I found myself with a strange idea I couldn't push out of my mind. I envisioned myself dressed as Jesus, quoting his words from the *Bible* before an audience. *I've been under too much stress*, I told myself.

But my mind whirled with more details—I could distribute questions for the audience to ask during the performance. I could share bread and fruit with them. It would give people a sense of what it must have been like to be in Jesus' presence. But who am I to do this? I thought. People will think I'm blaspheming or have a Messiah complex. No one will come.

I tried to dismiss the odd notion and went to work, throwing myself into brainstorming for new issues of the *Opry's* magazines. But I could barely concentrate. In desperation I prayed, *Lord, what am I supposed to do? Call up a church and say, "Hi, I play Jesus?" How do I do this?*

Later in the week I received a package in the mail from a woman with whom I had once worked briefly. Inside was a note: "Here is something I felt you should have." It was a leather-bound, hand-printed book. Etched in delicate gold leaf was the title, *The Journeys of Jesus*.

The breath went out of me. *All right, Lord, I'm on my way*, I thought. A few days later, during a business lunch with a public-relations man, I revealed my idea. It turned out his wife was an expert in ancient textiles. She designed an authentic costume for me. Next I ordered a Broadway-quality beard and wig. Day and night my idea consumed me while I tried to

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keep up with the demands of my job.

Apparently I couldn't hide my inner struggle. One day my boss took me to lunch. "You're a good person and a hard worker, Bill," he said, "but we both know your heart's not in this job. I'm going to have to let you go."

I took it quietly, but back at work I went into the empty Opry theater, climbed way up into the top row of the balcony, and cried. I would lose the money and security of my job. Leaving it behind marked the end of a path I had followed all my life. Now I was being pushed into the unknown.

The next day, I pored over Scripture for hours, picking out parables and verses that would lend themselves to discourses on various topics. During the following weeks, I called on churches to get support. I made arrangements to use a state park's open-air theater, and placed a newspaper ad announcing my free performance. I had never been so passionate about anything.

The two hours before my first show, as I carefully transformed myself into a likeness of Jesus, were the most anxious of my life. Just before walking on stage, I prayed, *Lord, I don't know how I can possibly represent you. But you gave me this idea. Please help me to be worthy of you.*

Midway through my presentation, I quoted Jesus' words to Nicodemus: "Listen to the wind. It blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound..." A murmur rose from the audience as a soft wind began to rustle the surrounding palm trees. "But you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit." I paused. *I am truly where I belong.*

I've done hundreds of performances in the four years since, and every time I walk out on stage I feel a tingle up my spine: I know I'm helping bring people closer to God.

At one performance I had just recited what Jesus told his disciples in the garden of Gethsemane: "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death." Just then a little girl came running down the aisle, her dark hair flying behind her. She skipped up to me and handed me a note, then threw her arms around me. I looked at the words she had written: "I love you, Jesus." I held her close to me and looked up. "But you have made my heart glad," I said.

This is not the life of fame I once imagined. After a service, without my makeup, I can walk unrecognized among the audience. They didn't come to see me; they came to see Jesus. I couldn't be happier. It's not about me; it's about God. He was the piece missing in my life all along. —Bill Oberst, Jr., Pawleys Island, South Carolina [End quoting]

It's fascinating to read stories of how God turns lives around to a level of great inner fulfillment when we seek and listen to His guidance. 

Editorial Policy

Opinions of the *CONTACT* contributors are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of the *CONTACT* staff or management.

NEWS DESK SPECIAL REPORT

Nothing Happens By Accident, Including The Y2K "Problem"!

10/10/98 DR. AL OVERHOLT

SMOKING GUN ON Y2K?

From *FREE AMERICAN* newsmagazine, Oct. 1998: [quoting]

I've had entertaining conversations with folks over what is a short period of time for public warning on y2k over the last year. Many feel that this y2k thing is purely by oversight and that the folks who could/would use it to gain their agendas (Tri-Lateral Commission, Council On Foreign Relations, New World Order) did not reckon this many years ago.

Angie Carlson and I have had some interesting conversation where we pondered the question "just how did all this y2k come about?" I believe Angie and I share the belief that something of this magnitude can not be by accident but rather by design.

My cursory research (got too much going on in life to spend too much energy on y2k) was trying to seek answers to what I believe are some very clumsy assertions by the y2k and computer industry "experts".

My question was, since most of the software code that will produce date calculation errors was written in COBOL, my research was focused on who was teaching the protocols for COBOL programming. I believe in the TOP-DOWN method of learning so I focused on the university professors and where they got their information. Most of my answers seemed to suggest that the 6-digit date-codes leaving out the full 4 digits of the year was because of efficiency purposes. But I am always digging and was not satisfied with this theory.

I could not understand how so many VERY BRIGHT and LOGICAL-minded design analysts and programmers could overlook the very LOGICAL REALITY that year 2000 would come whether they liked it or not. Overlooking a future date just does not make sense for these ultra-IQ-qualified programmers. How could they succumb to such stupidity?

If the following information was already known by you, then obviously you have done more R&D on this y2k issue than I.

I was in a used bookstore today taking old books back for something more interesting. The owner of the bookstore said, "Darren, knowing you like I do, I bet you'll find something really interesting here."

The owner has a book on hold for someone else but here goes the amazing discovery I made today.

The old book my friend had in his store is titled *COMPUTERS IN CRISIS—HOW TO AVERT THE COMING COMPUTER SYSTEMS COLLAPSE* (ISBN # 089433-223-6).

Are you hanging on to your chair, desk, computer mouse or y2k generator? This book was written in 1984! This book was published by Petrocelli Books of New York and Princeton.

The book was written by Jerome T. Murray and Marilyn J. Murray. Mr. Murray was Director of Computer Management for Rose Packaging at the time the book was written, but prior to that, worked for IBM in their government and education divisions. Prior to that he worked for Honeywell. Mr. Murray was a alumnus of Chicago State University.

If these experts knew in 1984 about this coming problem, why is it the general populace is just NOW coming up to speed on the y2k problem?

Now I ask that you really hang on to your chair because the answer I've been seeking for a year popped right out at me as written on the cover of the jacket of this book:

"Warning, logical and maintenance flaws have been discovered in the design of worldwide programming code and databases. These flaws will result in the collapse of the world's computer systems on or before 2000 AD.

"How did it all begin? On November 1, 1968, the National Bureau of Standards issued a Federal Information Processing Standards Publication (FIPS PUB#4) where it specified the use of 6-digit dates for all information exchange between Federal agencies."

My question is: did this directive also recommend or require that any contractor doing business with any Federal agency also conform to a 6-digit date-code?

This all reminds me of the ISO-9000 dictates that many businesses are being forced to subscribe to in order to do business with GLOBAL government agencies. To do business, you must meet very rigid standards that are said to be for QUALITY ASSURANCE.

This book is now out of print and probably not available although Amazon Books does state they can try to order. The book did not really provide too much useful data to non-programmers and I'd recommend *TIME BOMB 2000* over this.

The answer I've been seeking has been found. I'll continue my open mind, but certainly believe this information to be significant considering how y2k fits into my rant that "a multitude of emerging events will culminate into

one heck of a grim situation". This was amazing for me to find, how about you? Best Regards, Darren [End quoting]

Very, very interesting. This is the first time I've seen the verification of what Commander Hatonn told us long ago about y2k all being a planned scenario in the elite's gameplan! *CONTACT* readers should be well aware by now that NOTHING this large "just happens" without a great deal of planning and deceit.

SENATOR D'AMATO SPELLS OUT THE RISKS FOR THE PUBLIC

From *FREE AMERICAN* newsmagazine, Oct. 1998: [quoting]

Senator D'Amato of New York, the banking center of the United States, has offered a whole series of potential horror stories. As you read the list, think: "What happens in 1999 if depositors around the world perceive that the problem will not be fixed in time? If they understand these risks, will they leave their money in the banks? Or will the bank run to end all bank runs (by shutting down all banks) begin?" [Quoting Sen. D'Amato:]

"This glitch may seem small. But if it is not corrected, the Year 2000 problem could cause the computers to make all kinds of miscalculations. For those who rely on these systems, the consequences could be widespread and dramatic.

"Nowhere is this more true than in the financial services industry. This industry has come to rely heavily and extensively on computer technology. Computers help to make our banking system and our stock exchanges safer, more efficient, and more convenient for businesses, consumers, and investors. But since these computer systems make extensive use of dates, many of them have a Year 2000 problem buried deep inside. These systems will need to be examined, repaired, and then carefully tested and retested.

"If the work is not completed, the consequences could be devastating for financial institutions, businesses, and consumers:

- * financial records could be destroyed in error by computers that think they are very old active bank accounts and could be declared "dormant" and transferred to State control.

- * finance charges on consumer credit accounts could be miscalculated, leading to astronomical errors on interest charges.

- * automatic mortgage payments and other consumer transactions could fail.

- * clearing and settlement of all types of financial transactions could break down." END [End quoting]

PREPARING FOR THE WORST MILLENNIAL CONCERNS

From *FREE AMERICAN* newsmagazine, Compiled by Farrell Montgomery, Oct. 1998: [quoting]

For those of us who are sensitive to the times we live in, following are a few of the concerns we see looming up on our event horizon.

y2k deadline:

Corporate manipulation and plundering of the speculative markets

Globalized fractional reserve banking about to implode

Governments worldwide are becoming more oppressive and intrusive

Corporate interests increasingly tend to supersede private interests

Societal and civil corruption

Personal Preparedness (Civil Defense), The Only Sensible Option

- * Read, learn, read: gain the tools and self sufficiency skills needed to thrive as a pioneer, for this knowledge may become your only wealth, weapon, or tool.

- * Start collecting cash slowly but steadily, for a few hundred dollars had in an emergency will be more than most will have when the banks suddenly close.

- * Locate others of like mind and form a support group. Be sure some have skills they learned from The Great Depression (70 years old).

- * Write to your bank, insurance company, investment and retirement agencies, via registered mail, asking about their y2k preparedness, and get copies of your records. If you're not comfortable with their position, move your account and/or records where they are safer.

- * Get copies of your credit report, investment and financial transactions, major and important bills paid (including property taxes). Also get copies of your last five years tax records from the IRS.

- * Check all invoices and bills for y2k-related errors, get your computers y2k compliant, and/or implement a more reliable record-keeping alternative (such as hard-copy of each days activities).

- * Prepare now for planting your garden and canning the harvest, this includes using Heirloom or Non-Hybrid seed (so you can replant harvested seed and still have reliable crops.) Also, be ready to replant some crops two or three times, in case frost, rain, or inexperience damages the first planting.

- * Assure you have a reliable potable water supply (have quality filtration available), including parts, etc. to repair and maintain it with. Is your well too deep for manual pumping? Do you have a generator & enough fuel to pump water over the next two or three years?

- * Stock your own private pharmacy, with medication for most any ailment that one is likely to face over a many-year period of rough times (consult your group's medical expert, your doctor, or even a veterinarian can be a big help). Also include books on medicinal herbs, wilderness survival, pioneering skills, etc..

- * Stockpile enough nonperishable food, clothes, and supplies, to last every one you want to protect, until your future crops can be harvested (minimum required). Even going as far as installing some grain bins, or storing several sealed and lined garbage cans, to feed your neighborhood from, might be worth considering.

Note: Feed stores have wheat, corn, oats, rice, soy beans. etc. for less than \$10 per 50 lb. bag. Grain silos sell grain in bulk quantities for much less than that.

- * Convert paper-based assets (stocks, bonds, CDs, etc.) into barterable items such as hygiene

items, coffee, sugar, salt, motor oils, tools, nails, ammo, small machine tools, bicycle parts, gardening implements, i.e.: anything that will be needed after a sudden return to a pioneer-type life style.

- * Move away from the big city if possible, or if things suddenly go bad, make sure you can get to a remote holdout that you've previously prepared.

- * Take thorough sanitary precautions, for disease may become the greatest threat to mortality.

- * Warn everyone that will listen, to also do the above, but be careful: if things get really bad, anyone who hasn't prepared but has heard you talking about this, might come hunt you down to rob, kill, or join you. Will you be able to repel an attack, or have the resources for any refugees?

TIMES TO WATCH

- * 9 Sept. 98; A few mainframe systems that were programmed to use the fiscal date 9/9/99 to activate a debugging routine, could fail. I suggest agencies get hard copies and/or backups of their non-archived computer records.

- * 16-17 Nov. 98: A seasonal meteor shower will be unusually severe this year. Meteor showers occur when the Earth passes through the debris of a comet's orbit. Most debris left by a comet is minor, for it originated when cast off as part of the comet's tail. When the comet's head evaporates, a denser region of debris remains. Every 33 years, the Earth passes through this denser debris from what used to be a comet's head. In 1966, we had few satellites up to get damaged by the 110,000 mph sandstorm. This fall might be much different. We could have major communications satellite failures, as well as defense compromises from military satellite losses.

- * 1 & 3 Jan. 99: Some systems already in fiscal year 2000, will fail. Also, FORTRAN systems may interpret the 99" year digits in the date field as an "end of file" indication, making data appear to be lost, prompting a system shutdown. *All essential items should be acquired prior to this date to avoid interrupted or lost shipments.*

- * Apr. 99: New York City and British businesses begin fiscal year 2000. Watch to see how NYC's infrastructure holds up, or fails. This could be a microcosm of what can eventually occur nationwide [*or it could be misleading*]. Also, now is the time to sprout garden seeds needed for planting next month.

- * June & July 99: NYSE, many businesses, and many states, begin fiscal year 2000 during this time.

- * 22 Aug. 99: The failure of Navy GPS satellites will effect commercial navigation, our national defense, and foul the ability of many banks to calculate interest.

- * 9 Sept. 99: A scaled-up version of failures that occurred on 9 Sept. 98.

- * 1 Oct. 99: Remaining federal and state government systems will begin Fiscal Year 2000.

- * Nov. 99: Start of peak period for solar flare activity which peaks every 11 years. Watch for the occasional power surge and radio communications blackout.

- * 12 & 31 Dec. 99: The date fields "1299" or "123199" are used in some other systems as

end-of-file markers, and will also indicate system interrupts, or lost data.

* 1 & 3 Jan. 2000: Most certainly, if they haven't ceased before now, Social Security, government retirement checks, etc. will very likely be interrupted on this date. Many automated processes such as the balancing of America's national power grid, fuel refineries, telephone networks, railroad scheduling & routing networks, air traffic control networks, etc., will simply fail. Many say that "If the national power grid drops all at once, we'll be lucky to get it back up before a riotous society destroys all hope of ever getting it back up."

IN CONCLUSION

Don't get trapped into having to make a "special midnight (compromised) deal" with the merchants during a time of great distress. Independence will mean freedom, and food will be the key to allowing you to remain free and faithful to our Almighty God. [End quoting]

YOUR BANK AND Y2K

From *FREE AMERICAN* newsmagazine, Oct. 1998: [quoting]

Your bank has only a little cash in it. Whatever you've deposited has been loaned out. You have been promised that you can draw out all of your money at any time. The banker assumes that you won't do this, and if you do, some other depositor will put in about as much money.

Sometime between now and June, 2000—probably in July, 1999—this assumption will die, all over the world. When depositors see that their money may disappear in the scrambling of the banks' computers, they will go down and demand payment in cash. On that day, the mother of all bank runs will begin. It will spread to every bank on Earth.

That day will be written up in history textbooks for the next thousand years, minimum. It will mark the end of an experiment in central banking that began in 1694 with the founding of the Bank of England.

The run may not start in the United States. It could well start in Japan. Japanese housewives control the pool of investment money in Japan. If they think their families' capital is at risk, they will very politely go down and get cash. Japanese banks use U.S.-built mainframe computers with the Millennium Bug built in. (This run has already begun in Russia.)

The banking system provides us with our means of payment. We don't use gold and silver coins any more to buy and sell. We use credit instruments. These refer back to entries in computers. But what if those entries were increasingly incorrect? We could see bank runs as people convert to cash. That would call the entire banking system into question. Interest rates would get astronomical in any move to cash. Banks would have to offer high rates to lure back depositors. In a worldwide move to cash, the word "recession" would not do justice to the economic effects.

Small, local banks keep their overnight deposits in the large money center banks. So, if the big banks go down, so will the small ones. The banking system is a system. Distrust of the big banks, from New York to

Japan, will spread to all the others. No bank will be immune.

Bank runs could destroy the existing means of payment. The inverted pyramid of bank credit could topple. If the means of payment breaks down, the division of labor breaks down. This would move us from the economy of 2000 to 1900—just as mainframe computers will be reading 2000! The huge population increase of the 20th century would be threatened with reversal. The division of labor has made this increase possible. Life in a large city would become very difficult. Riots would be likely.

It's unthinkable. But if the banks really do go down, it could happen. What will we use for money in the year 2000 if they do go under?

But is the banking system really this vulnerable? Yes. Will anyone in authority admit this? Are you kidding? Do most people believe there's a problem? Not in 1997. Maybe they won't in 1998. In 1999, it will be widely believed. In 1999 or 2000, it will come true. The widespread belief that the banks could go down will bring them down.

What can the world's central banks do to stem the panic? First, they can get their governments to limit cash withdrawals by law. Then they can print paper money. If they do either or both, this will end men's faith in the banking system and the capital markets based on it. Capital markets will collapse in a wave of selling, while consumer-goods prices denominated in paper money will soar.

We will see a breakdown in money payments. The social division of labor will collapse as a result. Unemployment will soar to levels never seen in the Great Depression. Computer-denominated wealth will disappear. There will be no "giant sucking sound", as Ross Perot has put it. There will be the sound of wailing and gnashing of teeth.

All modern governments rest on banks. Without the banks, tax collection stops. The national tax collectors cannot come and take a percentage of your garden. Governments will not be able to pay money out or take money in. Banks are the heart of the tax and payments system, and fractional reserve banking as a system will not survive the year 2000.

The end of the fractional reserve banking system and the nation state is imminent. Plan ahead.

Of course, this sounds crackpotty today. So does the idea that not putting "19" or "20" in a century slot could shut down a computer. But it can. It will.

Think about it. How will you get paid in the year 2000? I am making my personal plans on this assumption: I won't be paid.

When the computers see 00, they will think it's 1900. Within a few months after the rollover, economically speaking, it may be. END [End quoting]

THE [Y2K] BUG'S UNDERSIDE: IT'S NOT JUST SOFTWARE

Millions of microchips at risk for Year 2000 glitch in computers

From *FREE AMERICAN* newsmagazine, by Ashley Dunn, *LA Times*, 1998: [quoting]

Engineering consultant David Hall began a series of Year 2000 tests this year at a large

refinery in the Southwest that had been temporarily shut down for maintenance.

One by one, the date settings on systems to monitor waste storage and other parts of the refining process were rolled forward to Jan. 1 and allowed to enter a simulated version of the new millennium.

While most continued without missing a beat, a relatively minor part of the refinery controlling the supply of steam heat came to a halt within minutes of the new year. The culprit was a group of microchips buried deep in the plant's electronic innards that controlled temperature and pressure of the steam—none of which had an obvious reason to be affected by a date change.

At worst, Hall said, a real failure of the system would have made the refinery function less efficiently and might have led to a plant shutdown if allowed to continue for a long period.

But the lesson he took away from the experience was one that has now begun to creep into the already saturated minds of engineers grappling with the problem: "If it uses electricity, it is guilty until proven innocent," said Hall, a senior engineer for the information consulting firm CARA Corp.

The tale of the refinery marks a subtle but important distinction in defining the ever-broadening scope of the year 2000 bug, known as y2k.

Since the discovery of the millennium bug a few years ago, the impending collision of technology and the year 2000 has been largely framed as a problem of software—operating systems, databases and other programs—that are open to potential errors because of the ambiguity of the two-digit year 00.

What engineers and consultants like Hall have begun to realize is that the software problem is only part of a broader issue that also encompasses the vast array of digital devices that have proliferated into every nook and cranny of modern life.

These devices are used to control the operation of any system that requires a touch of machine intelligence, ranging from the tiny chips used in automobile fuel injection systems to the networks of chips that handle the operation of mammoth power or chemical plants.

These smart devices are found in factories to control machinery and assembly lines. Water treatment plants use other types of chips to monitor and guide the flow of waste. Even seemingly low-tech elevators now rely on chips to control their movements.

The heart of the problem is the tens of billions of generic microprocessors—the brains of modern smart devices—that have been strewn across the globe since the beginning of the digital revolution.

Billions of these embedded chips are produced each year. They are the dust of the electronic age.

"The software stuff is just the tip of the iceberg," said Ken Owen, vice president of business development for the system integration consulting firm TAVA Technologies. "The rest of the iceberg—the big blue mass underneath—that's the real problem."

The chips—which include such common types as application-specific integrated circuits, programmable-logic controllers and general-

purpose microprocessors—suffer from essentially the same vulnerability as software—the inability to handle the two-digit abbreviation for the year 2000. The problem was created by programmers and chip designers who never imagined that their products would have to confront the turn of the century.

The awareness of the embedded systems problem came slower than its software counterpart because of the invisibility of the chips and their obscure functions.

James Brainerd, chief information officer for the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, said the software problem was fairly easy to discern, since it would reveal itself through the normal process of forecasting with financial information. Chips, on the other hand, were just little pieces of silicon tucked away in facilities among tens of thousands of other components.

Once the department realized the scope of the problem, it began to review all its critical plants—a process covering 100 facilities from Utah to the Pacific Ocean that the department is still working on a year later.

The method companies typically use to evaluate their operations begins with a complete inventory of every electronic device in their operations, from security badge readers to computer-controlled machinery.

Xavier Roy, a general manager of Litton Enterprise Systems, which has launched an extensive Year 2000 consulting business, said his group's scan of a single medium-sized hospital turned up about 30,000 devices—with about 500 of them having some date function.

He said it took about 10 people more than a month just to conduct the initial inventory of devices and compare that with their ever-growing list of suspect machines.

Eric Trapp, head of the Year 2000 program for Southern California Edison, said 25 to 40 engineers worked for four months to pare down a list of 190,000 devices at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station to 32,000 electronic components and finally to 450 items that had some potential date connection. It will take another year to analyze those devices and fix the ones that will fail in 2000.

"The problem is the geographic dispersion of these devices," Trapp said. "Instead of having some automated tool, you have to use a person with drawings that physically has to (locate) all these systems. The actual fix is relatively easy."

After completing an inventory, companies then check with information from the manufacturer or other companies to see if their equipment has been identified as having a problem.

The actual number of failing devices, according to many consultants, is small—perhaps no more than 3 to 5 percent. The reason is that the vast majority of chips exist in a sort of timeless state where the date has no meaning to their tasks.

Foxboro Co., one of the largest manufacturers of automated control systems, reports that out of 17,000 devices made over the last 40 years, fewer than a handful were susceptible to a Year 2000 failure.

But even in chips that seem to have no outward connection with time,

there can be hidden problems, since generic chips often include a time function whether it is used or not.

"Computers are like anything else," said Jerry Kilpatrick, project manager of the Central Illinois Manufacturing Extension Center at Bradley University, "They have accessories that not everyone needs. If one of the accessories is a real-time clock, the programmer may never use it, but it's still there ticking away."

Even a tiny rate of failure can have an impact. Given that there are an estimated 35 billion to 40 billion logic chips floating around. The high level of integration between devices in modern plants and factories opens the possibility of cascading failures, where the one faulty device feeds confusing information to the next device.

Donald LeMaster, president of Seattle-based TAVA/R.W. Beck, a venture created to deal with embedded Year 2000 problems in utilities, related the story of a power-generating plant that conducted a test while shut down for maintenance. The problem took hours to manifest itself but gradually spread to various parts of the operation like a virus.

"The system just got overloaded," he said, adding that if the failure had occurred for real, the plant would have shut down, since even the backup system would have been affected by the date change.

How the percentages will ultimately play out on Jan. 1, 2000, is uncertain. END [End quoting]

**UMR COMPUTER SCIENCE
GRADUATE DEVELOPS
SOFTWARE TO FIX
Y2K BUG**

From *FREE AMERICAN* newsmagazine, Oct. 1998: [quoting]

Six years ago, Rex Widmer of Shawnee Mission, Kan., couldn't find a taker for his Portfolio Analyzer. An asking price of \$150,000 for the entire product and associated rights seemed fair to him, but no one even came forward with a legitimate offer for his software analyzer of "dinosaur" code. Personal computers dominated the market, driving mainframes into near extinction. Or so potential buyers thought.

Widmer, a 1972 computer science graduate of the University of Missouri—Rolla (UMR), grimaces when he thinks about how close he came to selling the software for a fraction of its worth today, as thousands of companies and government agencies scramble to fix the year 2000 "computer bug".

"I had been willing to sell the entire set of

technology outright for what today is the gross for fewer than 10 licenses," Widmer says. "I would have sold it lock, stock and barrel."

Fortunately for Widmer and UMR, no one wanted the software then. But everyone with a mainframe seemingly wants it now. Although it wasn't created to combat the Year 2000 computer bug, it works wonders for locating the lines of code that need to be changed to fix the problem. Widmer's analyzer locates the date-code lines so they can be reprogrammed to recognize that years have four digits, not just two, thus eliminating confusion about what year it is.

"The tool does nothing that someone who is familiar with codes and compilers can't do by hand, one or two programs a day: however, this will take the largest installation that we've ever encountered and do the entire installation in one day," Widmer says. "It will munch through 100,000 programs—perhaps 100 million lines of code—in a day. Our normal test case is to do 20,000 programs in a bit over an hour."

Widmer warns, however, that the Portfolio Analyzer is "not a silver bullet" solution to the Year 2000 bug. It helps identify application components "which obtain the system date from either the operating system or hardware". Widmer says it "also recovers compiler directives and application structure information from the executable (compiled) forms of application programs."

The Portfolio Analyzer is currently licensed to more than 150 corporations and governmental agencies worldwide. Each sale benefits UMR directly. Widmer gives one percent of gross sales to his alma mater; helping move UMR toward its Full Circle Campaign goal of raising \$60 million by the year 2001.

Patriots are not revolutionaries trying to overthrow government. Patriots are counter-revolutionaries trying to prevent government from overthrowing the *U.S. Constitution*.

On the other hand: The people brought this government into existence: The people can take it out.

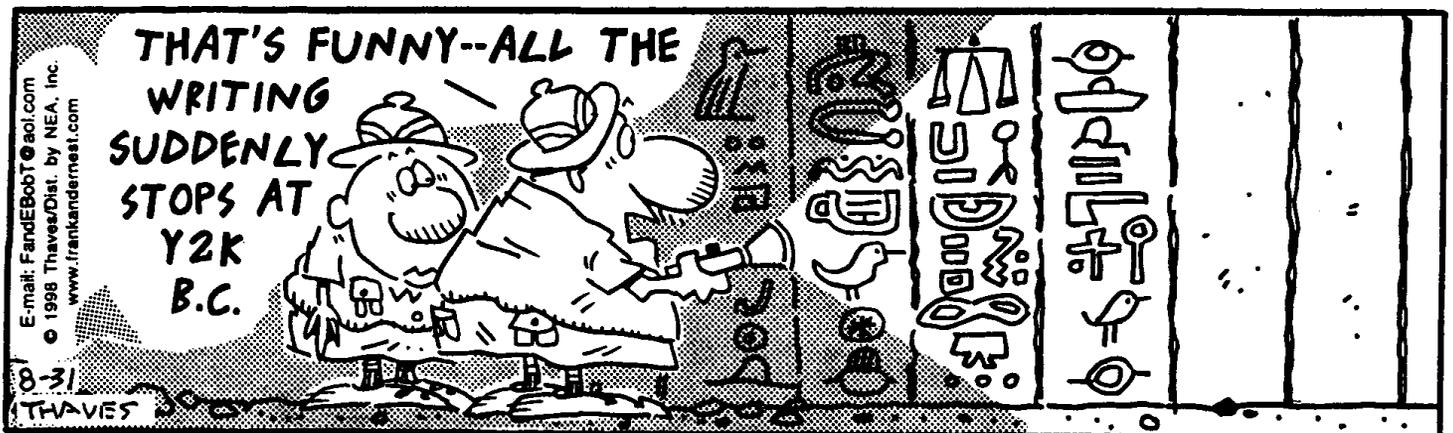
The Free American, Clayton L. Douglas, Editor & Publisher, Tel. 505-423-3250 [End quoting]

I want to thank Clayton for one of the most concise and informative articles I've come across on this topic.

I think it would pay to keep this article handy to refer back to as the time unfolds to recheck on how you are progressing on your preparations, etc.

Pray for God to help us through these unfathomable experiences! ☸

FRANK & ERNEST © by Bob Thaves



Will It Be The Lifeboat Or Coffin?

10/8/98 #1 HATONN

NEW POSSIBILITIES OR NEW IDEAS?

Ideas are simply the foundation of possibilities upon which action is taken. When someone says, "I think a good idea is to..." and no action is taken—there is now a dead possibility.

You want me to tell you everything—in writing and in absolute detail. My dears, if I do that—there is no need for YOU. If I give you an absolute recipe for, say, soup of my own favorite blend—then you don't, certainly, longer come to eat my soup. Therefore, I am not going to broadcast the total simplistic foundation upon which we base the triangle of commodity, contract and funding. We only have one thing the counter-controllers need and that is the ability to have leverage against the controllers when appropriate. This means, however, that it is the attitude of Man himself that is of importance, and his own intentions for self and his fellowman.

We are always, in change, stymied by those who want to garner great gain and wealth while taking no risks, no chances—and get a whole lot of something for nothing—even if that "nothing" was simply knowing someone who knows someone who knows someone. Those contacts should be rewarded but not in the manner presented to me for fee arrangement. We pay off someone for service—not just knowing someone or finding a name in a paper and suddenly that is "my contact". I think it surely must have become clear that this is why we had to "do it ourselves".

But it is not fair, come the retorts—you have Hatonn. Well, some people also forget that WE HAVE THE PROPERTY! If you wish to receive—the point is to "give" and "serve" FIRST so that the rewards are valid and rightly offered.

Couldn't ANYbody do this without us? No! They might well be able to simply issue CDs and such—but you need something powerful to issue anything "against". LEVERAGE IS THE ASSET BEYOND FUNDS OF ANY KIND.

You can get your currency into line by having established "value" in hard substance—BUT YOU MUST HAVE THE ABILITY TO MAKE CLAIMS AGAINST THE POWER-KING ZIONIST BANKSTERS. This, by the way, is the only way the United States of America can be brought into freedom and into constitutional recovery. And, as long as there is total control by the banks, as it is now, you can't do anything about it. You have to have sovereign banks and capabilities for free interchange in purchasing gold and other valuable commodities. This, too, is why you must have people, corporations and nations willing to join a coalition with freedom as its goal—so that nobody destroys the opportunity offered by God to reclaim and heal your globe. You cannot purchase integrity, moralistic ideals, and honor-with-truth. Therefore, there must be guidelines so that the same sick people do not get the prize and run with it. THE INTENTIONS MUST BE TOWARD SOLUTIONS OF WORLD CHALLENGES OR FORGET THE WHOLE THING.

If both parties to the transaction back with hard metal of value—YOU WILL BALANCE THE COSTS OUT TWICE AS QUICKLY—and you will have far more substance to hold and against which to work. Why do you think the big-boy rats have thieved and hidden the gold? Make them bring it back and make them bring it to the market as well. Any central bank outside the Federal Reserve can do this—and any major wealth holder can do it equally as well.

This is not for the purpose of having a goldmine in the sky far away—some day. It is for bringing nations together in a time of need to share, solve human problems with integrity, grow in freedom and substance and offer mankind dignity and self-esteem in his own production and self-attending. We allow the children to grow and flourish so that there is more industry in more hands, and not just have wealth in the hands of the tiny few. But it is earned wealth and stability—not a gift given by some self-styled welfare worker handing out toys from Satan Claws.

I will tell you this right here and now: if the goodly-intentioned don't do this and do it timely—the very adversary will take it and the game will be over for the already sick and dying nations. Note that the very beast who did this terrible thing to the global nations—is equally as sick, drained and bankrupt. Give God's gifts unto that dragon and he will eat you alive, bit by bit, as he stuffs you into the swamp of non-recovery.

I was interested to note that in Washington it was stated that there could be no time for fiddling around and making decisions and holding up funding, and, and, and—but WE are told to have patience and to wait until protocols are met in the "good manners" department. Thank you and no thank you, people—we have great gifts to offer and there are other places pleading for our presence.

There is no risk in this arrangement—EXCEPT THAT THE OFFER WILL BE WITHDRAWN IN FAVOR OF OTHERS WHO ARE ACTING AS WE WRITE.

We have people from distant places still wanting—WHAT? They claim to be great religious leaders and well-known persons—but they want us to guarantee their success and have no blemish except success on themselves? Say what? If you are of God in your religion—then you KNOW TRUTH OF THIS GIFT. AND IF YOU ARE NOT OF GOD—THEN HOW DARE YOU PROFESS SELF TO BE? AND NO, GOD IS NOT SOME "NICE GUY" WHO PLAYS FAVORITES JUST BECAUSE SOMEONE "EXISTS".

And what about all those trading-derivative programs that have cleaned out the free world? No thank you, friends. You can play whatever game you want to play to lose your marbles and your souls—but we will not join you willingly. We cannot, nor do we wish to, control anything you do—but we will not participate in further downfall in deliberate actions. This is why we have our own guidelines—and allow you yours. You can lose your share of any asset for it is yours—but you will not waste those of God.

The world of Man is strange indeed. It seems that nations are raped, ravaged and pillaged, brought into total degradation and defeat, and then the leaders move right ahead to set up MORE FOR THE RAPISTS AND ROBBERS TO BE RAVAGED OVER AND OVER AGAIN—BY THE SAME ONES USING THE SAME WEAPONS. Has insanity become the mental stance of all men? Or is it greed, fear, habit...? You pray to God for help and then you turn down the help, cast away the messengers, and move right back into solving the problem with more of the problem. Perhaps the insanity is in offering the gift of solution—we shall have to give study to that possibility for we wait not much longer for the strings of the clock to balance.

We ask privacy and security for our little team and then are asked to give up all contact information, all players, including the ability to check out each individual and remove all protective shelter—while the "other" goes by code-names and dares not even project self into public encounters, but uses go-betweens. How dare anyone ask this of us. We care not who knows us, or doesn't know us, or whether or not they "believe" us. Do you think each is so special as to be the ONLY one God serves?

Some have sat on top of the very wealth they claim to want—for month after dreary month—demanding that we guarantee something or another. No, go forth and sit until you see if the papers hatch into golden-goose eggs. I suggest that all you will find are goose-eggs ("0") at the end of your register or entry journal. God needs prove NOTHING—but some players will find it time to prove a few things to God and Fellow-man. You like sitting in the "cat-bird" seat, waiting? Fine—you will neither

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get the cat nor the bird. Remember something very important:

“He who denies me before my Father—shall I likewise deny to my Father.”

God sends His life-boat and His helicopter to save you. NEXT HE SENDS THE COFFIN. PONDER IT.

You don't believe all this? Who cares? Not me, not my friends. If you believe not in my presence or in my gifts, then why do you bother to even read the message? I thrust nothing off on anyone, so you who claim great knowledge and know nothing—are a bore and a bother, and we are a bit tired of simply “being nice” to you. We neither sell or distribute God like a commodity. If you are honorable in your claim of “knowing God”—this is not only reasonable and probable—but totally within that which is expected from God to whom you pray for guidance and gifts. Neither God, nor His people, are for sale, friends, and when turned away—they GO AS QUICKLY AS THEY CAME KNOCKING ON YOUR DOOR.

I have a weary secretary who wants off this job and a team who wants to “go home”. However, we will wait another few days until the leaders, having been to Washington to get the bad news, can get home and reconsider our offers. Then we leave—as simply as that.

In the U.S. the big cheaters are about ready to snatch and run. When you get DENIED rumors of such and such a major brokerage house ready for collapse—get out of the way of the falling debris—for the economy is already throwing off its deadly toxins. When a brokerage house rebuts gossip by claiming to “have plenty of assets”, “plenty of collateral”(????), etc., then know it is totally bankrupt and billions and billions of dollars will go down along with the people who trusted the brokers in hedge funds, etalis. And you think we don't have places pleading for our collateral? Re-read the paragraph, my good buddies.

A castle built on air—will go Phisst—just like the balloon when pierced by but a tiny needle prick.

Oh you nations and oh you citizens of the world species—you need the program we offer and you need it as offered, lest you simply bury selves in more greed and corruption, and that simply happens to be the way of it.

What of our other brothers in distant lands who can't seem to be very productive? Well, in some instances it is simply to be able to buy the shipping lines and land, my dears. We do not “take”, even from our most adverse enemies; we have honor in everything we do. Think about it. We don't want war supplies; we are moving for “peace” supplies in everything we touch. What will the world's enemies do when peace breaks out around the globe? Crawl back in their holes and pits? I doubt it, so take care, but KNOW: **GOD WINS!**

Bear with me, team, for you have backup at home—and we can soon give abundantly to those who have so patiently assisted us—even to the weeding and the feeding of our creatures. God counts each of His sparrows—are ye less than these?

Happy anniversary [birthday], Rick. May you have joy in the passage through this journey. Good morning and may you create a day of gratitude, joy, abundance, and positive actions.

Thousands Of High-Tech Workers Imported To U.S.

[Continued from Front Page]

USA will be divvied out to foreign nationals being imported here even though there are millions of eligible and willing Americans who could man these highly prized and crucial positions.

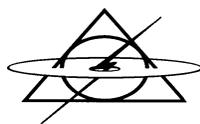
As if it was not bad enough that millions of quality manufacturing jobs have been EXPORTED overseas leaving Americans having to take 3 or 4 menial jobs in place of the one good job they lost, now the few quality positions left are being given to foreign nationals being brought into the USA via the “H1-B Program”. Under this cynically devised program the foreigners are considered “nonimmigrants”, whatever that is. As such they can stay here for up to 6 years TAX FREE. That is correct, many countries' citizens are allowed to work here in the USA for up to 7 years tax free. Israelis are reportedly allowed to go tax free for 10 years. Reportedly, many will, after their tax freedom ends, simply sell their businesses to a recently emigrated relative and the 10-year tax freedom starts again!!! I do not have the statutes and regulations which specify this yet, but with your help I hope to acquire this information.

Under “H1-B”, after 6 years, many “nonimmigrants” decide to settle here permanently, converting to immigrant status. It should be noted that much of their earnings is sent overseas, never to be spent here.

A key aspect of the currently implemented “H1-B Program” that the High-Tech pimps in the US wish to retain is the LACK of a requirement of all employers of H1-B workers to attest that they had tried to recruit Americans and had not used the program to lay off U.S. workers. SENATOR SPENCER ABRAHAM worked with ZOG White House to limit the need for such attestations. (In other words they have greased the skids). High-Tech pimps and firms such as Microsoft and Intel are exempt from many of the few restrictions of the “H1-B Program”, and will benefit from the lower pay paid out to these foreign, imported workers due to not having to pay FICA, etc., etc., etc. Since these foreign workers are “nonimmigrants”, I am not even sure whether they are numbered like the rest of us dogs—whoops, I meant “Citizens”.

Please forward all information and insights you have to: <ralph@TeamInfinity.com>

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How, then, can you help the cause of a nation without butting into national matters? You offer as much as you can of a way to achieve worthy success to the nations in areas where they are stranded without paddles. If a man has no paddle or rudder for his rowboat or steamship—he has nothing, for he will be caused to drift upon the tide and any current which passes.

We always GIVE abundantly and offer use of the gift without strings once a plan is reached and concluded. We work together or we do not work at all on any project. We cannot do as we wish to run the projects for that is none of our business, but our business IS OUR BUSINESS and we expect the same respect in return. We offer a better way—not a mandatory edict upon any man or nation. This is God's PLAN 2000. YOU KNEW HE HAD ONE, DIDN'T YOU?

FEDERAL RESERVE, IMF, WORLD BANK AND THE NEW WORLD ORDER OF GEORGE BUSH AND HIS BRANCHLETS

Everywhere you find reference to problems in the economies of the globe—you find reference to IMF and World Bank—along with the Federal Reserve and Alan Greenspan. You also note the involvement of Rubin, Secretary of Treasury. Why would Mr. Rubin be a spokesman and officer of the IMF? Because you, as a Constitutional United States Government, HAVE NO SECRETARY OF TREASURY OR STATE OR JUDICIAL BRANCH—NONE, CITIZENS! A picture that tells it all is in this week's NEWSWEEK but, being an international edition we have here, we don't

know what is issued in the U.S. that might be used as in the paper. This picture shows a nice big close-up of Rubin alongside a very large flag of the United States—with a gold fringe!

Remember that the gold fringe turns the U.S. Peace Flag into a flag of WAR and belongs to the corporate States of the United Nations. The flag is even draped across the man's shoulder. These are announcements, citizens—announcements of the taking control of the world and viably through economic warfare. We will ask Rick to get copies of this article and you can run it in full, please. [See following this writing.]

So how do politics look in the U.S.? Pretty dismal as to moral attitudes, but you are going to surely as heck put a Bush back in the White House—aren't you? Well, with all the bad activities and crony thefts—you will have an opportunity, if Daddy Bush gets the point, of taking the abundance he used before, works with us and allows joint utilization for reclaiming the United States from the thugs and regaining CLEAN AND CLEAR STATUS OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—WITHOUT ALL THOSE NASTY WAR CLAUSES AND PERMITS FOR WORLD DISORDER THROUGH WAR POWERS ACTS AND EXECUTIVE ORDERS.

DO WE ACTUALLY CARE WHAT HE DOES? NO! We will move ahead as steadily as is possible working with sovereign nations to accept a fully credentialed and Constitutional United States of America through the Native American original owners of the once-free nation of their Grandfathers. Can we do it? Of course.

You have moved so far from truth and justice, law and *Constitution* as to not even have consideration for whatever this "new" octopus of the past two-three centuries has accomplished with it's fire-breathing incestuous anti-family plan.

HOT AIR OR WIND POWER?

We are sharing, also, an article from the MALAYSIAN paper of Sunday, Oct. 11, 1998—on wind power! Featured in that article you will note is TEHACHAPI, CA. AND MACHINES NEAR MOJAVE. [See following this writing.]

FOR THE BENEFIT OF BUSINESS CONTACTS HERE (AND THERE) IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT E.J. EKKER WAS AN EARLY AND PRINCIPAL PARTICIPANT IN THOSE

WIND PARKS WHEN THEY WERE FIRST BEGUN. THE COMPANY REFERRED TO IS THAT ONE WHICH WAS KNOWN AS ZOND.

Ex-judge Jason Brent and such as George Green, et al., and especially such as Steven Horn and Santa Barbara Savings liars and cheats, should have better checked references. E.J. was a high-level vice president with Transamerica and Doris was a well-respected administrator-secretary at the corporation transplant program at Children's Hospital of Los Angeles. They are not, as Jason Brent proclaimed in the press and from the bench—flakes or transient thieves ripping off a Savings and Loan and causing the S&L debacle. One day both the PRESS, MEDIA, AND PERSONALITIES REFERRED TO—ARE GOING TO WISH THEY HAD BEEN A BIT MORE APPROPRIATE AND CONSIDERATE IN THEIR ACTIONS AND STATEMENTS.

Is this really about wind power? Yes, but we do not need to concern much about wind power for we will have perfection in power production as we move along. It is perfected as to technology—it is simply kept from you by this oppressive world order who relies on oil for its power to keep control—even over the nations with oil production. Well, they have their right to serve whatever master they choose—but we serve God of Light—and that LIGHT will serve us nicely when appropriate.

Do the peoples of the world need to suffer, hunger, and freeze? No—it is simply a part of the adversarial plan for world domination and depopulation. You don't need depopulation—you need freedom and an ability of mankind to flourish.

You are going to see from right here in Malaysia that when one man takes a stand and others stand with him—in right and honor—that a nation can be changed in the blink of an eye—AND THEN A WORLD CAN REVOLVE INTO HONOR AND INTEGRITY. WHEN MANKIND ARGUES IN FAVOR OF MORAL DECAY AND USURPATION OF RIGHTS AND PROPERTY OF OTHERS—YOU HAVE REACHED INTO THE GUTTER OF DESPAIR AND DOWNFALL.

Dharma, I think we can leave this short for there is so much to be done today and computer space is so limited that we need to clear this one in case information needs putting to print.

Salu and go forth and create a good day!

The Crash Of 99?

From NEWSWEEK, Oct. 12, 1998: [quoting]

The crisis stage: The U.S. economy suddenly looks weaker than almost anyone expected. The conventional wisdom still says America won't be pulled down by global economic woes. Don't bet on it.

By Robert J. Samuelson

There are two ways to interpret the slide of the stock market that, despite intermittent rallies, is down almost 17 percent from its mid-July

peak. The first is that investors simply got rattled by a series of events that they barely understood, from the collapse of the Russian ruble in mid-August to the near bankruptcy of the Long-Term Capital Markets hedge fund at the end of September. The second is that the market is signaling a genuine economic turning point: that the United States, after more than seven years of healthy expansion, is stumbling into sharp slowdown or even a recession.

Sorry, folks: it looks like a recession.

Let's state all the usual caveats. We can't know for certain. Economic prognostication is a routinely humbling exercise. And for now, the U.S. economy seems strong. In September, unemployment was 4.6 percent (up only slightly from 4.5 percent in August), and President Clinton boasted that the jobless rate has been below 5 percent for 15 months, the best performance in 28 years. Meanwhile, the Census Bureau reported that median household income rose almost 2 percent in 1997 to \$37,005 and that the number of people below the government's poverty line fell by almost 1 million. But beyond these sparkling reports, the economy is edging toward a slump.

The best way to grasp this is to see the economic events of the past 15 months as a set of dominoes that, as they tumbled, have imperiled U.S. production and profits—and frayed Americans' confidence. It was sky-high confidence, based on stratospheric stock prices and strong job growth, that kept consumers spending furiously in early 1998. The personal savings rate sank to less than 1 percent, as Americans spent almost all their current income. But with the global crisis eroding corporate profits, stock prices dropped. If consumer spending—two thirds of gross domestic product—follows stocks down, a slump may be inevitable. A bad omen: consumer confidence, though still high, has begun slipping lately.

Consider how the dominoes have toppled:

The first was Thailand. It devalued the baht on July 2, 1997. Few Americans noticed. After all, Thailand absorbed only 1 percent of U.S. exports. But other Asian countries (South Korea, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines) soon followed suit. Foreign investment capital that had poured into these countries—as bank loans, direct investment and stock purchases—began to flee, because the money was badly spent. Blame fell on "crony capitalism" (funneling investment funds to favored friends or industries). Still, American economists minimized the impact; together, these countries buy only 8 percent of U.S. exports.

Then Japan was hurt, because roughly 40 percent of its trade is with the rest of Asia. The loss of exports pushed its already-weak economy—which had never fully recovered from the speculative "bubble economy" of the late 1980s—into its worst postwar recession. The problems of its banks, burdened with more than \$500 billion in bad loans, deepened. All the Asian recessions fed on each other; Japan wasn't healthy enough to help other Asian nations revive by buying more of their exports.

Capital flight next hit Latin America and Russia in early summer. To stop investors from converting local currencies into dollars (or yen or German marks), countries raised interest rates. In July, short-term interest rates in Russia shot to 100 percent. But high rates meant slower economic growth or a crash; a currency

collapse—if capital flight continued—posed the same dangers. Now the "Asian crisis" extended well beyond a few small countries. Including Japan, Latin America and the former Soviet bloc, almost half the world economy was affected.

The stock market and major institutional investors—hedge funds, investment banks and commercial banks—are the latest dominoes to teeter. The slump in U.S. stock prices reflects a growing recognition that corporate profits will suffer from weaker exports and lower earnings of multinational companies in foreign markets. Hedge funds and others face huge losses from wild swings in markets and bad surprises: for example, Russia's default on its government debt.

This is a formula for recession, even though most economists aren't yet predicting one. The U.S. trade deficit is ballooning, as exports drop and other countries try to recover by selling more to the United States. The International Monetary Fund projects that the current account deficit (for broadly defined trade) will hit \$290 billion in 1999, almost double the \$155 billion in 1997. Since March, manufacturing jobs have fallen by 152,000. At home, consumer buying can stay strong only if Americans continue to spend almost all their current income—a shaky assumption of most forecasts. If both foreign and domestic prospects are darkening, why would U.S. companies continue to invest heavily to expand capacity (as they have for four years)? Good question.

All together, these pieces of the economy—consumption, exports and business investment—represent more than three quarters of GDP. Can the remainder (mainly home building and government spending) keep the expansion alive? Probably not. Government spending is hardly an engine of growth now, given the fact that the federal budget has just registered its first surplus since 1969. One bulwark against recession is the fact that more Americans have jobs than ever; this—perhaps more than the stock market—boosts confidence. But this bulwark could crumble if companies react to disappointing profits by reducing jobs. Just last week Gillette announced lower profits and said it would cut 4,700 jobs worldwide in an effort to consolidate factories, warehouses and offices. And banks now pose a new danger; after losses, they may tighten loan standards and create a credit crunch.

One reason that few economists predict a recession is that the consequences are hard, even horrifying, to contemplate. If strapped countries can't sell to the American market, their prospects will deteriorate—and that would further hurt the U.S. economy through still-lower exports. Indeed, almost everything would get worse if there were a U.S. slump. Consider the possibility of global deflation. Since early 1997, prices of raw materials (oil, wheat, copper, coffee) have dropped 10 to 40 percent on world markets. This hurts commodity-exporting nations (Russia and Mexico for oil, Brazil for coffee, Canada for wheat and Chile for copper) as well as American farmers. These prices would probably sink further with a U.S. recession; and the prices of industrial goods (chemicals, cars and machinery) might also be affected.

In its latest forecast, the IMF has already sharply reduced projections of world economic growth. It expects only 2 percent in 1998 and 2.5 percent in 1999, much less than the 4 percent of 1996 and 1997. Some crisis-stricken economies are in virtual depressions. Indonesia's

economy is expected to shrink by 15 percent in 1998, South Korea's by 7 percent. But even low world growth presumes that the United States and Europe (together, about 40 percent of the global economy) stay healthy. And the IMF added a somber qualification to its forecast. The risks, it said, "are predominantly on the downside" and "a significantly worse outcome is clearly possible." Put plainly, this means: "We don't know what will happen—and we're scared."

Just because the odds favor a recession doesn't mean that one will occur. The economy's momentum could, as most forecasters believe, carry it past all the lurking dangers. Wages are rising faster than inflation, enhancing purchasing power; despite recent declines, stock values (and people's paper wealth) remain much higher than a few years ago; and mortgage interest rates are dropping, helping home buying. But dangers are now obvious enough to be acknowledged openly. In a speech on Sept. 4, Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan doubted that the United States could remain "an oasis of prosperity" in a troubled world—a phrase Clinton repeated last week. Economists at Salomon Smith Barney think a slump within 18 months is as likely as continued growth.

Could anything improve the odds? Probably. Let's imagine what—in an ideal world—would be done.

The first would be steeper cuts in short-term interest rates by the Federal Reserve. Last Tuesday the Fed cut the Fed Funds rate—on overnight loans between banks—to 5.25 percent from 5.5 percent, where it had been since March 1997. The cut was the least the Fed could do and won't much help the economy. In 1998, measured inflation (by various indicators) is between 0.5 and 1.6 percent; this means that the "real" Fed Funds rate (adjusted for inflation) is roughly between 3.65 and 4.75 percent—an extremely high level. The Fed apparently still worries that low unemployment and rising wages will lead to higher inflation.

It shouldn't. This is the least of today's dangers. Last week's cut should have been a minimum of 0.5 percentage point—and cuts ultimately may need to exceed a full percentage point from present levels. At best, a lower Fed Funds rate is a crude instrument to steer the economy. It only indirectly influences other short-term rates (on home-equity or business loans) and long-term rates (on mortgages or bonds). But in today's economy, a lower Fed Funds rate would probably reduce most interest rates. This would ease debt burdens on consumers and businesses, bolstering their purchasing power and profits. Lower U.S. rates would also make investments more attractive in troubled economies, where possible returns are higher; this might stem capital outflows.

Second, confidence would return to international investing. Global investors seem addicted to herd behavior—pouring too much into developing countries in the early 1990s and now withdrawing funds abruptly. Capital flight forces countries to embrace high interest rates or let their currencies depreciate; either step hurts their economies (a lower currency increases inflation by raising the price of imports). If this happens to too many countries, world trade implodes. This is the danger now; the IMF already estimates that world trade growth will slow from 9.7 percent in 1997 to 3.7 percent in 1998.

The trouble is that investors won't keep their funds in a country—regardless of its prospects—if they think a currency depreciation is unavoidable; that would mean an automatic loss. At the IMF and World Bank annual meetings this week in Washington, officials will discuss how to dispel this climate of fear. One necessary step is for Congress to approve President Clinton's full \$18 billion request for new funds for the IMF. Although the IMF has hardly performed flawlessly, it is the only agency capable of organizing aid to ailing economies. (One proposal advanced by Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin would try to deter capital flight by providing countries with an early line of credit to reassure nervous investors.) But existing overseas debts also need to be stretched out or reduced, so that countries' foreign-exchange reserves aren't depleted. IMF officials are reportedly talking with private bankers to refashion their loans to Brazil; if successful, this negotiation would relieve pressure on that country and could forestall another round of currency depreciation in Latin America.

Finally, Japan would restore economic growth to become an engine for the rest of Asia. Its economy is more than twice the size of those of South Korea, Hong Kong, Singapore and Taiwan combined. As long as Japan isn't buying strongly from Asian countries, their only major export market is the United States—which can absorb only so much.

Japan clearly needs to recapitalize its banking system with government funds. The weakest banks need to be closed, with their deposits and good loans transferred to surviving institutions. The government would absorb losses on bad loans. If banks remain in their present weakened state, they will continue to reduce lending—which, of course, will drive more companies into bankruptcy and deepen Japan's recession. But Japanese consumers and businesses also need to raise spending; the government has already announced tax cuts.

It's possible to glimpse recovery in today's weakening world economy—but only barely. For all the anguish over the global crisis, there remains a curious absence of urgency. The Japanese have dithered over banking reform. Europeans generally seem unconcerned, despite the threat to the huge trade surplus that has kept their economy expanding. Suggestions that they, too, should cut interest rates have been casually brushed aside as a hindrance to the adoption of the single currency (the euro) in 1999. And American anxieties have been mostly rhetorical. When it has come to action—Congress's approving IMF funds, the Fed's cutting interest rates—the pace has been unworried and unhurried.

Americans may have been lulled into a false sense of security, and it is hard to overlook the eerie parallels with the late 1920s. Then as now, Americans had experienced an exhilarating stock-market boom; then as now, they had enjoyed the pleasures of new technologies (then—the auto, the radio, and the plane; now—computers and the Internet); then as now, they thought they had embarked on a period of endless prosperity. No doubt, the American economy has done better in the past three years than hardly anyone expected at the start of the 1990s. But the very surprising nature of its performance ought to remind us that the mood of the moment—pessimistic at the start of the decade, optimistic now—is rarely a

reliable guide to the future. The United States is the last great domino propping up the world economy. If it falls, woe to us all. [End quoting]



Wind Power Attracting New Customers

From the Malaysian newspaper called the *NEW SUNDAY TIMES*, Oct. 11, 1998: [quoting]

Choose your own power source—this is what California is offering its public. For the environment-conscious consumer, one option readily at hand is wind-powered electricity. MARTHA BELLISLE writes.

Tehachapi (California): The three-bladed propellers play an eerie wind waltz—whoosh, whoosh, whoosh—as the persistent breeze blows.

The sleek angular towers, reaching up to 43 metres, stand like sentries guarding the grassy hillsides that lead to California's high desert.

"To me, they look like giant pinwheels flickering in the afternoon sun," said Geraldine Veatch, who lives just west of Tehachapi Pass, where more than 4,900 wind turbines spin out enough energy annually to power 250,000 homes.

"Some say they're an eyesore. But I'd rather have wind turbines than nuclear power plants."

California is the birthplace of wind power in the United States.

It's also the first State to let consumers choose the source of the electricity they use. Now the rest of the country is watching to see how wind farms and other pollution-free, or "renewable", energy producers fare in a competitive marketplace.

Power sources considered renewable include wind, solar, geothermal, biomass (electricity produced by burning garbage) and small hydroelectric plants (which don't significantly impact wildlife and water).

Prior to March 31, a handful of utilities held a monopoly on the State's US\$20 billion (RM76 billion) power industry.

The system made sense, given the high cost of producing and transmitting electricity and the need for reliable electricity in this energy-dependent age.

But California's deregulation legislation, passed in 1997, opened the market in the same way the American airlines and long-distance phone industries were restructured.

"You used to have to give all you money to the monopoly utility. Now you can choose an independent supplier," said Rich Ferguson, spokesman with the Sacramento-based Centre for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Technologies.

[words missing]...non-polluting choices of electricity generation are unanswered questions.

About 69,000 residential customers have switched their power providers from utilities to independent suppliers since the programme started late last year, according to California Energy Commission spokeswoman Claudia Chandler.

But the utility industry is not yet able to determine how many of those customers chose

renewable power sources, Chandler said.

Ferguson said the majority were likely "green" switches.

"It's the biggest factor in the competitive market," he said.

"Prices aren't a strong marketing factor at this point."

John Shahabian, owner of The Coffee Works in Sacramento, said he has switched his small business to renewable energy and is planning to change over at home as well.

"I'm doing it because I'm so opposed to nuclear power," he said. "It's such a disaster for the planet."

"We have to think not just about the quantity but also the quality of the energy we use and how it affects the air and the Earth."

Several high-profile companies also have gone green for all its rewards which include being a strong image marketing tool.

Patagonia, Inc. a Ventura-based outdoor clothing company, announced recently that it has committed to using 100 per cent wind energy to power its 14 California facilities.

"We decided, as a company, to participate in eliminating or reducing the dirty power that's on the grid by replacing it with clean power," said company spokeswoman Lu Setnicka.

But the company won't be going off the grid and running power lines direct to the wind turbines.

Instead, it has contracted to buy its electricity from Enron Energy Services.

[words missing]...a pool full of dirty water," Setnicka said.

"As more and more power users add clean energy to the pool by buying renewable energy, the water will slowly clear."

"It's the replacement principle."

Setnicka said Patagonia will pay a premium for the power but declined to say how much.

"We're thinking in broader terms about what cost means," she said.

"What are the costs of using non-renewables to our health, or the Earth?"

Toyota Motor Sales also committed to using a mix of renewables—including wind, solar and geothermal—to power its Torrance and Irvine headquarters.

The division also is working on switching over to renewable energy at its Long Beach docking facility and an auto parts supply facility.

Jim Cooke, Toyota's national manager of real estate and energy affairs, said choosing clean electricity will cost the company an extra US\$1 million.

The positive response justifies the higher price, he said.

Among municipal customers, Santa Monica recently became the first city in the State to commit to green power.

Its city council voted to "pursue at the earliest possible date" the purchase of green power for City Hall and other city-owned buildings.

Wisconsin, Colorado, and Texas are a few of the States where monopoly utilities offer environmentally-friendly energy sources.

In their programmes, customers volunteer to pay a premium for their electricity.

The utility then invests that money in renewable power.

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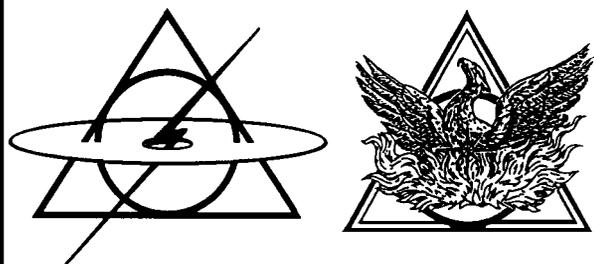
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