NORTH COAST



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'In a dark time the eye begins to see' ~ THEODORE ROETHKE 50CENTS VOL26NO1



DALE FLOWERS

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BY LESLIE MILLER

Bush The First was the head of the CIA when Noriega, Saddam, Osama, the Shah of Iran, and Muamahr, were all our cherished free-market, handpicked, and deniable Tyrants. (The Israelis and English have been strange bedfellows, for that matter; Cold War buddies.) Short range market projections dictated our mercurial alliances. Their fealty to democratic principles were the least of our overt concerns. It was a simpler time (as if no one else could read the Wall Street Journal).

You think the Saudis like us either? How soon we forget. We found the oil and built the pumps, but it's basically their oil, not ours. No wonder they hate us, generally. It's not as mucha matter of individual liberty as it is our collective corporate gluttony that creates more enemies for us. If we were more sufficient we would not have to expend 70% of the world's natural resources.

Might this explain the attacks (including the first on the subterranean parking lot) of the World Trade Center, U.S. Marine barracks (in a hotel) in Lebanon, embassies in Africa, troops in Somalia, the USS Cole, the Pentagon? These operatives were recruited, and abandoned, by the

Hundreds of "sleepers" may be planned to actuate as we exercise the Pax America from outer space in order to dominate Earth and the near Universe.

Most of our deadly enemies are past surrogates of George The First, King of the CIA & Insider President. What wehave here is a bad case of plausible deniability.

Democracy suffers for the sake of the elevation of the Republic, Deregulation and MultiNational Empire. We offend our conscripted and voluntary military patriots who swear to protect and defend the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic, only to receive conflicting and deadly orders — the President may request a declaration of war but only Congress can truly declare and finance a war.

No declared war: we don't know who our real enemies are but we kill anyway. Another police action die and withdraw. Bomb refugees and livestock by remote control, often referred to as 'collateral damage' - even if

dumb weapons are 90% accurate: 100 bombs = 5 dead refugees + 5 dead livestock = more new enemies for us.

Politicians keep the Army on a short leash. No win scenario. Gunboat diplomacy. Congress is getting great consul-tation. We have to recruit expatriate mercenaries. Renege on pollution agreements. Local taxpayers subsidize international corporations for lost money for not polluting. Import wage slaves while local citizens are denied decent job opportunities.

Allies hold our coat. The coup d'etat by executive and "shadow" governments. (Is this the old shadow that killed the young President in 1963?) The putsch of Washington, D.C. by the electoral college, Florida, Texas and the Supreme Court. Now we are informed of a shadow government; the arrogation of executive power beyond oversight. Supply-Side economics do not "trickle down" (r.e. Enron).

Future portends of Enron, Cheney reaction, martial law and 'theater' neutron bombings. Past speaks of Teapot Dome, Tammany Hall and Three Mile Island, except almost every elected official has accepted tainted contributions — Whitewater pales beside this but the media are too Bush friendly. Who has the intestinal fortitude to reform military driven disposable economics, corporate welfare and campaign financing? Dead issues?

The very constitutionality of the executive coup should be challenged and George II impeached, as well as every paid for politician who accepted enron.com money. (PGE must be converted into a citizens' utility.)

Corporate welfare, not universal health care, may yet drive us to extinction.

It isn't just politics. It is the worship of greed above kindness. Corporate aspiration vs. the needs of ordinary people. We confuse democracy with economic opportunity, as if they were interchangeable. It is abandonment. Who could blame those who wish to get back at us? The pity is, the same forces hurt our own citizens.

This new war is an undeclared, unconstitutional war, an unspecified police action with no end in sight. People get just as killed in declared wars, yet the undeclared war in (and upon) Vietnam drained the nation of its treasure (billions of public dollars disappearing into corporate pockets) and the greater cost of nearly sixty thousand American lives (for a war that depended on body count, there will never be an accurate accounting of the millions of Southeast Asian lives lost) for a decade. Market tip: invest in munitions.

We must invoke the impeachment of Bush II. Not only is he an apologist for the failed policies of his progenitor, nor is he simply a sophomoric, narrow-minded multinational corporate puppet, he is a major real and symbolic threat to the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

Because he has such a high approval rating, it means that he is doing poorly. Blame it on an ignorant electorate and slanted poll-taking. It helped to have his brother pull the tabs in Florida and to have the Supreme Court stop the recount for the sake of old political appointments. (Impeach them too!)

Ever since the insubordinate fools at the Alamo failed to blow up the place and withdraw to the San Jacinto River with General Houston, Texas has been a major embarrassment. It is where President Kennedy was shot and Armalite Corporation got a pork-barrel contract for M16 ammo for Vietnam. A facetious suggestion is that the first thing to do in a revolution would be to kick Texas out of the Union and invade.

Every voter who thinks there is a difference between 'D's & 'R's is Troll food. Go Green.

HYPOCRACY!

a capitolist (sic) contribution to read.... Isn't America wonderful?

> ~Note found in Times Eagle cash jar at Bill's Tavern in Cannon Beach

A socialist editorial sheet that demands

It might seem that this article was written today but Leslie Miller actually wrote it for the Marpril 2002 Times Eagle under the nom dé plume 'Troll Under the Bridge'. This reprint is occasioned by the perspicacity of his vision and as a tribute to Times Eagle contributors this 25th anniversary issue of the Born Again Bird.

Dale Flowers is a teacher at Astoria High School. His cartoons are a regular feature in the NCTE.

*Apologies to the Bard of Avon