

The Future Is Never What It's Supposed To Be!

MARCH 1999

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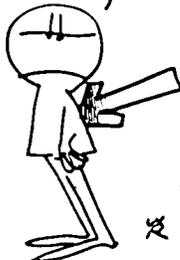
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GEIS NOTES: Neck pain is diminished, feeling better, able to sit at this desk without cringing.

Eight pages this issue due to must-print material.

I'LL NEVER ASK FOR DIRECTIONS AGAIN)



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Freedom of the press:

Whoever owns the press owns the freedom.

---Arthur Lane Terego

Freedom of speech:

Everyone can speak; only the wealthy can make themselves heard.

---Arthur Lane Terego



News Diary

Update: "Terrorism"

Continuing its anti-"Terrorism" campaign [which I suggest may be a planned agitprop operation designed to prepare the American public for a National Emergency and disguised martial law], the Clinton administration surfaced last week a breathtakingly arrogant policy of aggression, as told below in excerpts from the news story:

U.S. says OK to hit hosts of terrorists

■ The administration contends it has the right to bomb government facilities of nations that harbor Osama bin Laden and others

By John Diamond

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON --- The Clinton administration now asserts the right to bomb government facilities in countries that provide sanctuary to international terrorists, a significant escalation of U.S. attempts to thwart terrorism.

"We may not just go in a strike against a terrorist facility; we may chose to retaliate against the facilities of the host country, if that host country is a knowing, cooperative sanctuary," Richard Clarke, President Clinton's coordinator for counterterrorism, told The Associated Press.

"Countries that persistently host terrorists have no right to be safe havens," Clinton told the nation Aug. 20, the day the United States launched scores of cruise missiles at suspected terrorist targets in Afghanistan and Sudan.

Officials caution that a president seeking to use force against a terrorist sanctuary government would face a high burden to show that the target government willingly tolerated a terrorist presence. The added risk of collateral damage or excessive casualties would add political and moral complications.

Nonetheless, a senior administration official familiar with the policy described it as a recent addition to the array of options Washington could turn to in the war against terror.

Geis comment: The nations attacked, however, might consider a surprise missile attack on their government buildings and facilities to be an act of war [imagine that!] and retaliate in ways we might find very unpleasant.

This attack policy seems to be a policy designed to make enemies of whole nations...whole populations...possibly whole religions.

And this new policy is a perfect example of Might Makes Right and The End Justifies The Means. I'm sure that only weak, third world nations will qualify for such attacks. Usually missile attacks, since it is now an unwritten law in the United States that a president can get away with any murderous foreign attack as long as it is quick and doesn't kill any Americans.

You can also expect that the major media will not raise any embarrassing questions about past-present-future CIA-sponsored terrorism abroad as that agency attempts to create anarchy, disaffection, uprisings and revolutions in 'outlaw' and 'enemy' countries and elsewhere.

As the media don't consider Waco to have been a murderous act of domestic terrorism by the BATF and the FBI and their boss, Janet Reno, and her boss, President Clinton.

[In fact, under the sacred classifications of "anti-terrorism" and "national security" I foresee more attacks by the government on "terrorists" in this country, as whole towns (maybe, eventually, whole states) are accused or 'suspected' of 'harboring militias' and other 'dangerous patriot cults'. Media mind-fucked city-dwellers know those gun crazy hicks out in the boonies are untrustworthy and all far-right reactionary Christian fundamentalists.]

Let me here quote a 2-9-99 wire service report in *The Oregonian* detailing the truth of the Clinton/USA anti-terrorism attack last year via 6 cruise missiles on that pharmaceutical plant in Khartoum, Sudan.

WASHINGTON --- Chemists who examined soil, sludge and debris samples from a Sudanese pharmaceutical plant destroyed in August by U.S. cruise missiles found no traces of chemical weapon compounds, according to a scientist hired by the plant's owner.

The findings, though prepared privately for lawyers for the owner, who is now seeking redress from the United States, raise new questions about the government's reliance on tests of soil samples obtained clandestinely by the

CIA [From *outside the plant!* - Geis] . U.S. officials had said the samples contained traces of Empta, used in the production of deadly VX nerve gas. [Significantly, *Empta is chemically very similar to a common weed killer.* - Geis]

The United States attacked the Al Shifa pharmaceutical plant in Khartoum and suspected terrorist training camps near Khost, Afghanistan, on Aug. 20 in an effort to curb the activities of Saudi exile Osama bin Laden after the bombings of two U.S. embassies in East Africa.

A lot of people in this country and around the world thought the cruise missile attacks on Aug. 20 on 'suspected' terrorist facilities was a Clinton attempt to divert attention from his 'Pussygate' scandal in the United States and to enhance his 'presidential' status and stature: A '*Wag the Dog*' ploy.

The same thinking surrounded the suspicious timing of the recent Iraq attack by missiles and bombers.

My main point is that before the United States goes into mad dog attack mode on foreign terrorists and their harboring governments, the president should have solid proof that the terrorists are really terrorists, and not merely 'suspected' terrorists. That must be especially true before he sends the missiles against a sovereign foreign government.

But there may be a deeper, more sinister other motive behind the attacks, a motive which calls for missile attacks regardless of proof.

These 'war on terrorism' attacks and this new, extreme policy of willingness to attack countries we think or suspect are 'harboring' terrorists, along with the moves in this country to prepare the American population for 'terrorist' attacks, suggests to me that our leaders *expect* such attacks...and may be planning to use such retaliatory attacks as an excuse to declare a national emergency and a "temporary," gently-at-first setting aside of the Constitution.

This new [1999] anti-terrorism policy extension smacks as never before of a world empire mindset, a feeling among our elite that this planet is owned by the United States (and a few Europeans)...and all those non-white natives are only deadbeat renters...and we can do anything we want to them.

It's called hubris.

■ **THE KING IS DEAD - NOW START PAYING THE NEW KING**
2-8-99 So King Hussein of Jordan has died, and the media are making a big

praise-fuss about it---as four! U.S. presidents attend the funeral to honor him. Well, why not? He was a loyal and obedient servant to the oligarchy, as proved by his being on the CIA 'Class One' special beneficiary payroll for so many years.

I'm sure, too, that 'arrangements' have been put in place with the new king, Hussein's son. (Witness the \$300 M. aid package waiting now in Congress for approval.)

After all, when it comes to control of a region, bribed kings and dictators are so much simpler to deal with than democracies or republics, which is why we pay tribute in various ways to the Saudi Arabian and the Gulf States anti-democratic potentates, while berating Iraq's Saddam Hussein for being a ruthless dictator who will not allow democracy in Iraq.

Bit of a double standard there, don'tcha think? A classic example of Orwellian doublethink.



Update: DoD Testing of Bio-Chem agents on civilians

From: Ian Goddard <Ian@Goddard.net>
Subject: SAVE THIS LAW (it's evidence)

'Sometime soon the on-line U.S. Code archives will delete the horrific law that was Section 1520 of U.S.C. Title 50, since it was repealed.

'That law allowed for the testing of chemical and biological agents on entire "civilian populations." The law was in effect in the U.S. for 20 years (enacted in 1977 as Public Law 95-79 and then repealed in 1997) and is PROOF that turning entire "civilian populations" into Guinea pig farms was considered.

'One is forced to wonder if over that time the military abstained from that which the law defined.

'Here then is that law. Save this short law. Any government that would enact it could just as easily repeal it with a lie.'

(repealed) U.S. Code Title 50 Section 1520

(Still here: <http://www4.law.comell.edu/uscocode/50/1520.html>)

U.S. Code Title 50, Chapter 32
Sec. 1520.

Use of human subjects for testing of

chemical or biological agents by Department of Defense; accounting to Congressional committees with respect to experiments and studies; notification of local civilian officials

(a) Not later than thirty days after final approval within the Department of Defense of plans for any experiment or study to be conducted by the Department of Defense, whether directly or under contract, involving the use of human subjects for the testing of chemical or biological agents, the Secretary of Defense shall supply the Committees on

Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives with a full accounting of such plans for such experiment or study, and such experiment or study may then be conducted only after the expiration of the thirty-day period beginning on the date such accounting is received by such committees.

(b)

(1) The Secretary of Defense may not conduct any test or experiment involving the use of any chemical or biological agent on civilian populations unless local civilian officials in the area in which the test or experiment is to be conducted are notified in advance of such test or experiment, and such test or experiment may then be conducted only after the expiration of the thirty-day period beginning on the date of such notification.

(2) Paragraph (1) shall apply to tests and experiments conducted by Department of Defense personnel and tests and experiments conducted on behalf of the Department of Defense by contractors.

=END OF (repealed) U.S.C. 50(1520) =
(still here: <http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/50/1520.html>)

Geis Comment: Ian had some faulty info [in TGL #58] in re the date of origin of the above law. I'm certainly glad the law was repealed by congress. The "safeguards" in the law to prevent abuse seem to me to have been insufficient. Congressional committees often cannot keep up [nor want to in certain instances] with their incoming mail and notifications, and civilian officials often are cowed and frightened by federal military operations and are afraid to oppose them and/or make them public in the face of invocations of 'national security'.

I find it curious that the old law restricted only the Sec. of Defense and the DoD from conducting tests on Americans unless local officials were notified. Why that limited specificity?

What of possible bio-chem testing on Americans by the CIA and/or the FBI...okayed by the President via Executive Order? Or--- Is there another hidden law in effect which gives permission to experiment on Americans by other government agencies?

There's a lot of research to be done. It's apparent from this example that congress can and does pass into law many deadly, dangerous, outrageous, unconstitutional laws hidden in huge, omnibus bills during last-minute yearly rushes to keep the government operating.



MORE ON BIO-CHEM EXPERIMENTATION ON AMERICANS

From: Ian Goddard
<Ian@Goddard.net>
Subject: BioWar on The People

With respect to the question of the nature of widespread reports of jets (many identified as U.S. Air Force) that are spraying something that dozens of people around the nation claim makes them and their communities sick, the following testimony of Professor Leonard A. Cole is most relevant and alarming.

In the following testimony before the U.S. Senate, Dr. Cole covers facts regarding the U.S. military's spraying of HUNDREDS of populated areas in the U.S. with harmful chemicals and infectious pathogens as part of biological warfare experiments. Dr. Cole has a book on the topic that has received much praise:

"Clouds of Secrecy: The Army's Germ-Warfare Tests Over Populated Areas,"
by Leonard A. Cole
(<http://amazon.com>)

Environmental News Service reports on U.S. Air Force jets seen spraying something that makes people sick:

<http://ens.lycos.com/ens/jan99/1999L-01-12-01.html>
<http://ens.lycos.com/ens/jan99/1999L-01-08-05.html>

=BEGIN DR. COLE'S TESTIMONY=

United States Senate Testimony before the Committee on Veterans' Affairs May 6, 1994

Open Air Testing with Simulated Biological and Chemical Warfare Agents

My name is Leonard A. Cole, and I teach science and public policy at Rutgers University in Newark. My research interests include biological and chemical warfare policies, and I have written in particular about testing done in the U.S. Army's biological defense program.

I appreciate your invitation, Senator Rockefeller, to testify about experiments involving simulated biological and chemical warfare agents. These agents, which the army calls simulants, are intended to mimic more lethal bacteria and chemicals that might be used in actual warfare.

As described in my book, *Clouds of Secrecy*, the army began a program in 1949 to assess the nation's vulnerability to attack with biological weapons. During the next 20 years, the army released simulant agents over hundreds of populated areas around the country. Targets included portions of Hawaii and Alaska, San Francisco, St. Louis, Minneapolis, New York City, Washington, D.C., Key West, and many other cities. The purpose was to see how the bacteria spread and survived as people went about their normal activities.

Evidence suggested that the tests may have been causing illness to exposed citizens. Nevertheless, as army spokesmen subsequently testified, the health of the millions of people exposed was never monitored because the army assumed that the bacteria and chemicals were harmless.

Vulnerability testing continues at Dugway Proving Ground, 70 miles from Salt Lake City. Several smaller communities are closer to the base, and Dugway itself is home to hundreds of civilians and military personnel and their families. The stated purpose of the tests is to evaluate biological detector systems and protective gear.

Since tests involve spraying simulants outdoors, it is important to understand how much risk they pose to humans who are exposed.

Official statements have not always been clear on this matter. A July 1993 news release by the Dugway Public Affairs Office indicates that "no specific safety controls or protection are required for testing with simulants." The statement implies, erroneously, that the

simulants are harmless.

In fact, during 45 years of open air testing, from time to time the army has stopped using certain simulants for reasons of safety. In each instance the army belatedly recognized they could be causing disease and death, although such information had long been available in the medical literature.

This was the case in the 1950s when it ceased using the fungus *Aspergillus fumigatus* as a simulant. The fungus had long been known to cause aspergillosis, a disease that can be fatal.

Similarly, in the 1960s the army stopped using zinc cadmium sulfide, a chemical that had been known for years to cause cancer.

In the 1970s, the bacterium *Serratia marcescens*, a source of infections that can lead to death, was taken out of service as a simulant. And in the 1980s, dimethyl methylphosphonate, a chemical known as DPP, was removed from use as a simulant because of its carcinogenic and other toxic potential.

I understand that one of today's witnesses, Earl Davenport, was exposed to DMMP at Dugway in 1984 and may still be suffering health problems as a result.

Indeed, simulants now used at Dugway continue to pose risks.

The chemical ethylene oxide, which is present in some of the mixtures used in outdoor spraying, is a known carcinogen. The bacterium *Bacillus subtilis*, while not generally seen as dangerous, is cited in medical textbooks as able to cause serious infections. In truth any microorganism that seems harmless under some circumstances may cause illness under others.

Exposure to high concentrations of any microorganism can be critically dangerous to people in weakened conditions. The elderly, the very young, people with AIDS and others who have weakened immune systems are more susceptible to life threatening infections.

Nevertheless, the army has not monitored the health of citizens who may have been exposed during its tests while maintaining that its bacterial agents cause no harm.

In addition to people who are unwittingly exposed to the army's bacteria and chemicals, human research subjects may not be receiving appropriate information. A test at Dugway in November 1993, for example, raises important questions in this regard. The test was intended to assess the ability of chemical agents to penetrate

protective clothing.

Test subjects wore special outer garments and were then sprayed with chemicals in simulated battle conditions. An army Environmental Assessment before the test indicated that some of the chemicals could be toxic.

Yet the consent form that the subjects signed in advance of the test said nothing about any of the chemicals.

Subsequently, two of the test subjects said they were asked to sign another consent form sometime after the test had been completed. The second form described the chemicals.

But having the subjects sign a consent form after an experiment, rather than before, makes little ethical sense. The procedure renders meaningless the notion of informed consent.

Finally, several physicians at the University of Utah Medical School in Salt Lake City continue to express concern about the tests at Dugway. They do not feel they have information that would enable them optimally to handle infections and complications that might be caused by the tests. Dugway officials have thus far not satisfied their concerns either about field tests involving simulants or indoor tests with highly pathogenic agents.

These are a few of the disconcerting issues associated with testing at Dugway. If such tests must continue, several policy suggestions seem appropriate:

--Inform people in the area before each test that they may be exposed to the army's biological and chemical agents.

--For a substantial period after each test, monitor the health of the exposed population.

--Provide comprehensive information in understandable language to human subjects before they participate in any test.

--Fully inform the neighboring medical community about the nature of each test and its possible medical complications.

--Above all, strive for safety, candor, and openness.

= END OF DR. COLE'S TESTIMONY =

Visit Ian Williams Goddard ----->
<http://Ian.Goddard.net>

GODDARD'S JOURNAL ---->
<http://erols.com/igoddard/journal.htm>

Geis Comment: Obviously, the Army was testing with dangerous 'simulants' before USC 50 (1520) gave them permission to use the real thing, if they wanted.

And they may now, after USC 50 (1520) has been repealed, be using 'simulants' again, in their defense tests against the trumpeted possible terrorist attacks.

And there are other weapons systems being tested and/or used by the military about which the public knows little or nothing. As follows from Ian Goddard.

MYSTERIOUS SPRAYING SAID TO BE SECRET-MILITARY OPERATION

The Environmental News Service (<http://www.ens.lycos.com>) has a follow-up to their report about multiple sightings around the U.S. of massive grid-work patterns in the sky being created by fleets of jets that fly back and forth and spray down a material that seems to make people ill.

In their follow-up, ENS interviews Thomas Farmer, an ex-Raytheon Missile Systems engineer who's been tracking the mysterious spraying incidents for over a year. Farmer has confirmed that jets used to spray are Air Force jets, and he's made several collections of the cobweb-like, or "angel hair," material the jets are spraying out, which made him, just like many others, sick after contact. It appears to be a substance used to seed (build) clouds.

ENS reports that Farmer is "fairly certain the contrail phenomena is one part of a military weather modification weapons system." The ENS report then observes that a sub-set of the military plan to use weather as a weapon and create a "Weather Force," is "massive cloud-seeding that will work in with the HAARP antenna in Alaska, which is the U.S. military's primary weather-weapons system, which can exert effects on locations across the earth.

The openly-stated goal for the U.S. military is to "own the weather" by year 2025 and to thereby be able to bring target populations to their knees by "storm enhancement," "storm modification," and being able to "induce drought." So rather than natural laws of solar-heating and earth-rotation directing the weather, the weather will be determined by who is pleasing or displeasing our military masters, or then again, perhaps power does not really corrupt.

A U.S. military webpage states that

weather modification by the military is intended to allow for "storm triggering/-enhancement using airborne cloud seeding." That military webpage also says:

"A global network of sensors provides 'weather warriors' with the means to monitor and accurately predict weather activities and their effects on military operations. A diverse set of weather modification tools allows manipulation of small-to-medium scale weather phenomena to enhance friendly force capabilities and degrade those of the adversary. Many of the sensors required for this system are assumed to be...part of the global information management system (GIMS)..."

Apart from allowing for an Orwellian-weather tyranny, military-weather control could lead to environmental catastrophe, since the desire to exert control will conflict with and overpower rational environment considerations, particularly if control is directed under the cover of military secrecy.

Deliberate large-scale modification of the weather must be the most dangerous thing we could do to our planet, and it appears that military-weather-control planning is being done in secret, outside the realm of democratic oversight, just where it needs to be for the worst outcomes!

For Internet cites, sites and references to these news stories, interviews and broadcasts, visit Ian Williams Goddard -----> <http://Ian.Goddard.net>

Geis Comment: I must wonder how effective such extensive cloud-seeding weather modification can be in contrast to the massive environmental impact of the hundreds of oil well fires set by the Iraqis during their defeat in the Gulf War, and the horrific forest burning in Indonesia a few years ago, and the on-going forest/jungle burning going on in Brazil. To say nothing of the ruthless tree 'harvesting' going on in Siberia.

I wonder how much of the sins of El Niño and La Niña can be truly blamed on upwellings of warm water in the Pacific, etc., and how much to these other happenings?

It would appear though, that Mark Twain's remark that "Everybody complains about the weather but nobody does anything about it" is no longer true.



THE ECONOMY THAT WILL NOT DIE

It does seem that the American economy is bullet-proof: the collapse of economies in Asia, in Russia, in Brazil... All that happens is that we profit from their losses.

Frightened wealth flees these destructing economies and comes to the United States! Thereby giving us another shot in the arm...and another...and another! Never mind when the injections wear off and diminished trade kicks in. Lately there are ominous signs:

- Consumer debt is an avalanche waiting to happen. *Real Asset Investor - Dec. 1998* [Sent along by Forry Ackerman -- thank you, Forry.] shows graphs of shuddering implications:

#1 shows that personal savings in the U.S. have been flat since 1980, while stock buying and trading by the Boomers has gone up and up in a rocket zoom which clearly cannot be continued for long.

#2 shows home 're-financing' (actually second and third mortgages) has since early 1988 gone up in a vertical climb of 300% in 1998 alone!

And consumer credit card debt is at stunning highs, another arena waiting to implode at the first signs of real economic slowdown.

Meanwhile, the U.S. economic leaders such as Sec. of Treasury Rubin are demanding/begging Japan to inflate! Being of sound mind, the Japanese are very reluctant. They are as a people selling much of their very large U.S. Treasury bond holdings and are bringing those multi-billions back to Japan, which repatriation supports the yen and pounds down the dollar. Not what the U.S. money elite want.

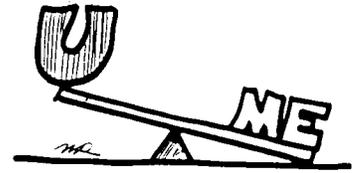
We may be seeing some of Japan's revenge for us winning the Pacific War with them in WWII.

By the way, William Bonner, publisher of *Real Asset Investor*, foresees an acute shortage of uranium fuel rods for the 330 nuclear power plants worldwide by June of this year, with resulting shutdowns and power shortages in Europe especially.

He also expects gold to explode in price and for worldwide inflation to appear, big time, as nations pump out printed money to save their economies (and fuck the future!). But Bonner is like all the "scare 'em & tempt 'em" investment advisors who send thousands and thousands of their carefully written come-on newsletters to people with money: he'll guide you through terror and turmoil to riches and safety via a subscription to his newsletter.

As of 2-23-99 gold is still sinking in

price, and no alarm is visible in re nuclear power fuel supplies.



My current analysis of our economy is that the U.S. Federal Reserve (headed by the Godlike Alan Greenspan) has been pumping up bank reserves like crazy in this country - which are used as backing for \$trillions of loans - in order to stave off the world's liquidity crisis which reared its ugly head in mid-1998. This vast debt creation is also responsible for our 'prosperity'

The debt structure is teetering, but still in place, until all this credit creation translates to higher interest rates, which will KILL the stock markets (may in fact be doing it now) and thereby KILL \$trillions in paper dollars and the wealth of millions of stock-infatuated fatheaded average American yuppies and boomers who will react in ghastly shock at the reality of what they've been doing: GAMBLING.

The vanishing of stock markets \$trillions will also undo a huge percentage of the debt creation by the Federal Reserve and again put the world debt structure at risk, precipitating another vicious liquidity crisis (that is, a lack of money by debtors to pay their debts) and a subsequent inevitable collapse of worldwide wealth and assets (which now are based on debts-owed to all and sundry.

What fun it will be to watch the long, interlocked, interdependent knot of debt dominoes fall and fall and fall...

That's my dream, folks.

Muah-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha....

READING THE SPIN 2-11-99

National reading scores edged upward in 1998 after having dipped in previous years. So sayeth the federal government after having tested 31,000 children in the 4th, 8th and 12th grades.

As usual, however, the government put a 'spin' on the test results by misdirection and emphasis.

Thus it says the average score for all eighth-graders was 264 in 1998. For African-Americans the score was 243. For Hispanics the score was 244.

No mention of the scores for Asian-Americans, nor for Euro-Americans

(Whites). Why not?

Because the contrast with African-American and Hispanic scores would be embarrassing yet again for the government and for those minorities.

I can figure out that if the A-A's and the H's are about 20 points below the average, that means the Asians and Euros are 20 points higher, at about 284.

Let's see, that's about 40 points difference...about 14½ or 15%. And that 15% is the usual, eternal, intractable difference between average for whites and the average for blacks in IQ tests.

Over the century, since IQ and school tests have been conducted, the Whites (since joined by those unmentionable Asians) have been about 15% higher or better than the Blacks (while the Hispanics or Latinos have usually of late tested higher than the blacks in IQ).

Since the Liberals (socialists) have been largely in control of education and the media in this country, they have been denying any racial differences between Blacks and Whites and claiming the tests are at fault, while they've tinkered with the tests to make them 'fair'.

It is a basic tenet of socialist-Liberal dogma that there are no basic mental differences between the races. Yet they endlessly run into this 15% boulder in their road. Their solution, now, seems to be to fudge reporting on the test results to the public, in the hope, I suppose, that few will notice. Certainly the major media are in their camp, since the Very Important Press and the Very Important News organizations go along with the spin...and the lesser 'mainstream' media follow them.

Almost everyone is afraid to be called a racist for pointing out the reality being ignored. Yet those Liberals who spin the test results to favor and protect races are never called racists.

So it goes.



ACQUITTED!!!

So he got away with it. No Senate conviction on the House impeachment charges. No Censure.

Clinton carries on, smirking inside, the arrogant, shameless psychopath now convinced he can do what he will, and that shall be the whole of the law.

What's next?

Somehow he must evade retribution after he leaves office. One solution may be to not leave office. Having evaded the rule of law, he may now contrive to rule above the law. [The ultimate Wag

the Dog scenario---declare a carefully prepared national emergency and rule under martial law for life. The people will adore him for saving them from the rigors of the Constitution.]

Or make sure that Al Gore wins the 2000 election and pardons him and Hilary for 'all crimes...' But that must seem---to this creature---like the coward's way out.



OBIT: ROBERT "BUCK" COULSON

I received several emails that Buck had died--on the 19th of Feb. as I recall--and a hole opened in the pit of my stomach.

Buck was so emotionally and intellectually tough that I expected him to outlive me. He was like a granite mountain in science fiction fandom, always uncompromisingly telling the truth as he knew it. And he knew most of it.

I especially remember him as a fan god in the 1960s when he and his wife Juanita won the Best Fanzine Hugo (1965) for their zine, *Yandro*. Every issue was eagerly anticipated and highly prized.

So he's gone; another of the old guard. He was 75.

Hail and farewell, Buck.



KOSOVO: THE CARROT and THE STICK

The latest do-gooder intervention by President Clinton into the internal affairs of another country is into Kosovo, a province of Yugoslavia.

He is obviously using the Stick from our diplomatic tool chest, instead of the other tool: Bribery.

Perhaps bribery is too obvious and it is known that Congress wouldn't pony up the \$B or so to buy compliance.

So Clinton and his cohorts have huffed and puffed and threatened to send missiles and bombers against the ground forces of the 'Serbs' (never against the Yugoslavians, note; the media is quick to pick up on the signals) to convince them he'll cause a lot of damage and deaths in order to get his way and to impose his solutions to their problems. And they must agree to his terms by last week...no, this week...no....next week...next month.

Clinton will kill and destroy them in order to stop them from killing and destroying more of the 'ethnic Albanian' revolutionaries who want to secede Kosovo from Yugoslavia.

Note he does this by way of using the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) as a would-be occupation force while he uses our air weapons.

And 'only' 4000 or so American soldiers will be among the occupiers this time, and Clinton says this time he won't make the mistake of promising to bring them back by a date certain (as he had at least twice [lied to] promised Congress and failed in re Bosnia...it's so embarrassing!).

Except the law [the War Powers Act] requires him to give Congress a date certain (after two months?) for return of American armed forces from these world policeman adventures.

We'll see, if he actually sends in the troops, if he is going to flout the law. And we'll see if Congress has the guts to oppose His Majesty. In the end, however, I suspect Clinton will lie...again,

I suspect we are now firmly into an era of American Caesars.

Can Nero be far into the future?



Y2K No Escape

The greatest threat to the U.S.A. is the lack of Y2K awareness and 'fixing' in the world outside the U.S.A and Europe (and we're not so sure about Europe!).

In a recent news story the U.S. govt. made a point of being worried about China's vulnerable computers, signifying that come 1-1-2000 China will probably have problems, big time..

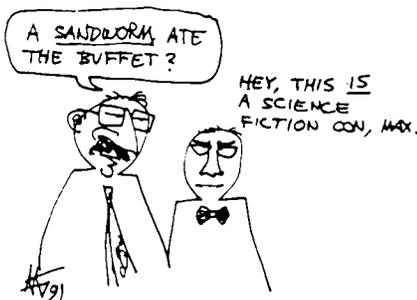
The same to lesser or greater degree can be said of the rest of the 2nd and 3rd world.

This will mean a breakdown in electronic transactions, money flows, orders, shipments...

Won't do much good if their computers all work right if theirs don't. In this country a partial shut-down of Eurasia, Africa and South America means instant depression as our shipping stops, banks go into paralysis, the stock markets crash, and factories are forced to shut down and lay off millions.

The p.m. of 12-31-99 will be fun as we watch and hear reports of Asia, Middle-East, Africa, Europe disasters as Midnight creeps westward.

BOOKS RECEIVED



Some reviewed, others listed and described and sometimes unfairly dealt with.



Q IS FOR QUANTUM

An Encyclopedia of Particle Physics

By John Gribbin

THE FREE PRESS, 1999, \$35.00, 545p., Hardcover, ISBN:0-68485578-X.

The "weirdness" of quantum behavior is integral to construction of supercomputers the size of a watch, explaining the beginning and end of the universe, and even to understanding human consciousness. In this book, brilliant, award-winning scientist John Gribbin takes us on a voyage to this microworld and the people who made the greatest scientific advances of the 20th century.

I have no taste for particle physics, though I admit its importance, and from paging through this big book I recognize its quality and recommend it to those who are attracted to the subjects and those who explore it.

RIDDLE-MASTER - The Complete Trilogy

By Patricia A. McKillip

ACE Fantasy, 1999, \$16.00, 578 p., Trade paperback, ISBN:0-441-00596-9.

Contains *The Riddle-Master of Hed*, *Heir of Sea and Fire*, and *Harpist in the Wind*. And a new Introduction by the author.

In a land where wizards have long since vanished, Morgon, Prince of Hed, is confronted with a challenge much different from that faced by Hed's land-bound rulers before him. Although he wants only to rule and work the land of his birth, Morgon must search out a very different destiny—given to him by the stars imprinted on his forehead since he was born. He must wander strange, foreign lands full of untamed magic in the form of riddling wraiths, mysterious harpists, a lost crown, a magical

sword, and an all-knowing High One who rules over all. But in his quest for a new life for himself and his people, he must face great dangers—not only to himself, but to his promised bride, his land, and his very way of life.

McKillip has a graceful, rather elegant style of writing which can be enjoyed as much or more than the story.

TEK NET

By William Shatner

ACE Science Fiction, 1999, \$6.99, 260 p., Mass market paperback, ISBN:0-441-00604-3.

Detective Jake Cardigan's partner, Sid Gomez, has always liked the ladies (after all, he married four of them). But when Wife #2 calls asking for his help—and then disappears—Sid is immediately reminded of her ongoing addiction to the drug Tek.

Jake knows about Tek from hard personal experience. And Sid's saved his neck more than once. Jake figures they're in this one together—a decision that will take them deeper into the underworld of Tek...

I've heard that a long-time pro writer ghostwrites the Shatner novels, perhaps from ideas or outlines from Shatner. I can believe it because the style and technique of the writing are smooth, spare, and heavy on the dialog. Reminds me of Ron Goulart.

ISAAC ASIMOV'S UTOPIA

By Roger MacBride Allen

ACE Science Fiction, 1999, \$6.50, 351 p., Mass market paperback, ISBN:0-441-00471-7.

This is the sequel to *Caliban and Inferno*, and deals with the Third Law of Robotics: A robot must protect his own existence as long as such protection does not conflict with the First or Second Law.

The crucial decisions in this novel deal with how to save the dying planet Inferno: will crashing a comet into the planet create new rivers and new life...or result in cataclysm.

Will the Three-Law robots allow this danger to humans and themselves? What will the controversial New-Law robots do?

Roger McBride Allen is a best-selling author. These Robotics novels are popular. But. To my mind he overwrites and his style of phrasing is subtly awkward.

I'm really getting picky in my old age.

CAPTAIN

By Rick Shelley

ACE Science Fiction, 1999, \$5.99, 281 p., Mass-market paperback, ISBN:0-441-00605-1.

On the planet Aldrin, Lon Nolan and his men are caught between two warring colonies, only to learn that the side that hired the Dirigent Mercenary Corps has deceived them. With casualties mounting, Lon must lead like never before, or his men may not make it out alive—and he may not make it back to his bride-to-be Sara Pine.

Rick Shelley, an US Army vet., has

written seven previous detailed future war novels. He sets the future scene, introduces the characters, moves the mercenary force into position...plonk, plonk, plonk...and it is Chapter Eight before anything in the way of actual fighting happens.

LEOPARD LORD

By Alanna Morland

ACE Fantasy, 1999, \$5.99, 260 p., Mass market paperback, ISBN:0-441-00606-X.

Baron Varian has inherited the lands of Leopard's Gard and like his father has the power of shapeshifting...but is also in thrall to the demanding dark god.

He strikes a bargain: he will give whom-ever he marries to the god—in exchange for the land's freedom from the god's demands.

But Varian didn't count on falling in love.

This is the usual medieval-magic format, but Morland has an engaging, captivating style, and I liked what I read.

IMMORTAL MONSTER

The Mythological Evolution of the Fantastic Beast in Modern Fiction and Film

By Joseph D. Adriano

Greenwood Press, 1999, \$55., 200 p., Hardcover, ISBN: 0-313-30667-2.

Adriano fully examines his subject, but limits it to animals, animals with intelligence, and man-into-animals. Not examined are Frankenstein's monster and its variants and descendants, as well as all them aliens. Well, those are other books-to-come, perhaps.

Reviews



AND THEN I SAW....

SHADOW OF DOUBT [1998 - R]

Melanie Griffith is unconvincing as a tough defense attorney in this ho-hum, routine suspense murder mystery. Tom Berenger is an also-acted.

At least there is some attractive nudity of the young women corpses & corpses-to-be.

VANISHED WITHOUT A TRACE [1999 - TV-14 NBC]

Shelley Long has overcome her comedy aura and in this effort plays well a distraught mother who refuses to stop searching for her kidnapped 13-year-old daughter.

This has the trappings of a docu-drama based on a real story, but is pure evil-man-preying-on-school-girls fiction, properly de-violenced and de-sexed.

THE PATRIOT [1998 - R]

A routine Steven Seagal vehicle. This time he plays (unconvincingly) a top microbiologist in retreat from CIA employment who is forced to combat an extreme Montana militia group headed by the usual "patriot" leader who has released a stolen, deadly govt. virus.

As usual, Seagal is invincible in hand-to-hand combat and in use of guns.

Seagal seems to be an environmentalist and distinctly skeptical about big, powerful govt.

GEORGE CARLIN: YOU ARE ALL DISEASED [1999 - R - HBO]

An hour of his un-PC, fuck-shit-cock comedy commentary on Amerika and The Amerikan Way. He toes no line, never holds his tongue, and skewers all and sundry, especially Big Business and pretentious middle class consumers.

His audience of young, middle-class consumers loved it.

NIGHT RIDE HOME [1999 - TV-G]

Rebecca De Mornay as a stressed mother, and Keith Carradine as a stressed father suffering the sling and arrows of the past death of a child are wasted in this so-what-else-is-new? mellow drama.

WALKING AND TALKING [1996 - R]

Very well done naturalistic comedy about angst and neurosis among close young friends in Manhattan. A more serious Seinfeld setup.

THE PEOPLE NEXT DOOR [1996 - PG]

Psychopathic criminal couple steal a single mom's three kids. Why? They cannot have kids of their own and are parentally challenged. Whatever. Duh.

Faye Dunaway as the vicious, controlling mother of the mom steals the not-worth-stealing movie.

KIDS IN THE WOOD [1996 - PG]

A contemptuous, terminally dumb comedy with high school teachers Dave Thomas and Julia Duffy tramping through inanity and stupidity while shepherding a group of idiot students for two weeks along the Oregon Trail in two covered wagons. DO NOT WATCH THIS! Disney should be ashamed of itself.

AMISTAD [1997 - R]

Magnificently cast, acted, directed and photographed PC anti-slavery picture set in 1839 America as it deals with slaves who took over a slave ship and killed the crew and officers.

Anthony Hopkins as the elderly John Quincy Adams is wonderful.

101 DALMATIONS [1996 - TV-G]

A delightful Disney combo of humans-computer animation using the Disney animal story formula, this time with strong elements of *Home Alone* and *Dumb and Dumber*, with humans taking the place of animation bad guys. The pups are almost all computer-generated. Glenn Close is superbly over-the-top as Cruella DeVil, the evil London fashion maven who will do anything to steal Dalmation pups for her must-create-at-any-cost Dalmation fur coat.

HARD RAIN [1998 - R]

Non-stop tension and action one dark and stormy night in a flooding town as thieves seek a stalled armored car's bags of \$\$\$, along with the town's corrupt sheriff, as one of the car's guards tries to protect the \$\$\$.

Morgan Freeman is fine as the pro robber struggling with stupid underlings, Randy Quaid is oily and cruel as the greedy and murderous sheriff, and Christian Slater is believable as the heroic guard.

The producers and director got everything there was to get out of the endless rising water and pounding rain.

I especially liked the jetboat chase in the flooded halls of the local high school.

GRAVE INDISCRETION [1995 - R]

Love, death and murder among the ruins of a crumbling English mansion, as a hapless, penniless aristocrat (Alan Bates) tries to be master in the face of his wife's money, his butler's arrogance and rampant sexuality, and the disappearance of his daughter's unwanted fiance.

I loved the fuzzy, low-key photography, the acting, and that horrible, cold old mansion.

Hated the ending.

AND THE BEAT GOES ON: The Sonny and Cher Story [1999 - TV-PG]

A so-so docudrama of their beginnings and difficult marriage and success in the 60's and 70's. Good songs. Ah, yes, I remember...

Look-like-Cher Renee Fala does a remarkable job of using Cher's mannerisms, movements, speaking style, as caustic, sarcastic, depressed, resistant Cher, especially the husky, slightly off-key singing.

NIAGARA NIAGARA [1997 - R]

Robin Tunney as a girl with various aspects of brain damage---jerking, spasms, involuntary shouting, flailing, attacks (only alcohol seems to help a bit) ---is stunningly real. She links with a nebbish boy (Henry Thomas) while shoplifting, and they venture into the

world via robbery, assault... Fiftyish Michael Parks (once touted as the new James Dean) in a character role as a tow truck operator and junkyard owner who befriends them is very good.

This film does not have a happy ending. But worth seeing for Tunney's performance.

EXIT IN RED [1996 - R]

Mickey Rourke (who changes 'looks' every picture) as a quiet psychiatrist who is nearly fatally addicted to beautiful women patients, becomes enmeshed in a murder-the-rich-husband-and-blame-the-shrink plot.

Some good scenes but generally poor dialog; mostly this film is too clumsy and obvious. Rourke plays his character too stolidly, and he never convinces he's a psychiatrist. Mouthing the words 'manic-depressive' several times doesn't cut it.



CARD FROM PHILIP JOSE FARMER

Mid-Feb. 'My thanks for sending me the Letter & for your book reviews & prophesies. I envision you as a long-bearded Moses on Mt. Pisgah denouncing evil & threatening doom & destruction --- but with your fly open.

As for me, at the age of 81, I see the majority of people everywhere sliding backward into superstition & irrationality & madness. My vision is 90% noir.'

Geis says: Yes, and Ghod is with me. Or so He says! I like to think of myself as my class maledictorian.

The Geis Open Fly Trap is a ploy to attract big-breasted young women. Sadly, it hasn't worked for decades.

■■■