

## OUR TERROR SANCTUARY

The “Fort Dix Six” may not be the smartest group of would-be jihadists we have seen, but their story should tell us something about how lax immigration and border-security policies put this country at risk.

The six Muslims were arrested in New Jersey in May, for plotting to attack Fort Dix, which is known as a staging area for troop deployments to Iraq, and other military bases in the area. One of six worked as a pizza-delivery driver and had scouted out the base. The group had acquired maps of the fort and had been practicing for the attack, including firing paintball guns and Kalashnikov rifles at a Pennsylvania shooting range. They fell under suspicion when one of them dropped off a videotape for transfer to DVD at a local retail store. A store employee watched the tape and called the FBI. According to the FBI report, the tape showed “ten young men” (where are the other four?) firing “assault weapons” at a firing range, calling for  *jihad* , and shouting “*Allah Akbar!*” The FBI infiltrated the group, employing a paid informant to record the details of their plans, and used another informant to catch them attempting to acquire more weapons illegally.

So far, the FBI has not linked these men to any larger terrorist organization, but recent experiences with “Sudden *Jihad Syndrome*,” in which Muslim immigrants unexpectedly lash out at the infidels around them, indicate that Muslims, whether attached to a “terrorist cell” or not, may be inspired to strike by the activities of more organized terrorist groups. The six men reportedly watched videos of attacks on U.S. troops, statements by suicide bombers and by Osama bin Laden, and various “terrorist training videos.”

One of the six was born in Jordan and is a U.S. citizen. Another was born in Turkey and is a legal U.S. resident. The other four were identified as being born in the “former Yugoslavia” and as “ethnic Albanians”—most likely, Albanian Muslims from Kosovo. One is a legal resident, while the other three are illegal aliens. According to most accounts, an unnamed “federal law-enforcement source” says that the three Duka brothers—Eljvir (23), Shain (26), and Dritan (28)—are illegal aliens. When did they enter the

United States? According to FOX News, that anonymous federal law-enforcement source says the three entered the United States near Brownsville, Texas, as children in the 1980’s. The source also says that there is no record of them “entering by way of a regular border crossing.” So, were they smuggled into the country? If so, when and where? Did the FBI track down their parents and ascertain the time and place of entry? And each of the three uses more than one name: Eljvir Duka is also known as Elvis Duka and Sulayman; Dritan Duka is also known as Distan Duka, Anthony Duka, and Tony Duka; and Shain Duka is also known as Shaheen. How can the authorities be sure just who these men are and how and when they entered our country?

It has become commonplace to read reports in the Texas press of aliens from all over the globe—including “special-interest aliens” from countries that have been identified as sources of terrorism—crossing the Rio Grande. Albanians are among those riding the tidal wave of illegals. Just last November, for instance, an Albanian illegal was killed when the SUV he was in—there were 11 passengers, including three other Albanians—rolled over near Falfurrias, Texas, along the border. The SUV was being pursued by the Falfurrias police.

The Duka brothers reportedly owned and operated businesses—Qadr Inc, Colonial Roofing, and National Roofing—out of their residence. They also had accumulated 19 traffic tickets among them. In a sane country, illegal aliens would not be allowed to operate a business, and a traffic stop would be an occasion for their detention and deportation. The Duka brothers were smart enough to operate in “sanctuary cities” whose authorities defy the law, not allowing local law enforcement to report the illegals to the feds. (Of course, given recent history, we could not expect the federal authorities to react even if the police had reported them.) Moreover, as Richard Minitier of the Hudson Institute commented, would-be jihadists are attracted to places with “diverse” populations—especially plenty of Muslims. “They are looking for places they can blend in,” Minitier said. “They want to find the biggest anthill close to population centers where they can carry out attacks.” Our government’s immi-

gration policies have created many such places. The state’s refusal to carry out its duty to protect the country from invasion has left the border wide open for who knows how many jihadists to enter the country. And the reckless, unlawful, and suicidal impulse of the “sanctuary” movement has helped provide a base of operations for *jihad*.

Did I mention that Fort Dix welcomed thousands of Albanian Muslim refugees during the Kosovo crisis of 1999? At the time, one Army officer gushed that “We want to welcome these people to America the way we might wish our grandparents . . . had been welcomed to Ellis Island.” Gen. Mitchell Zais didn’t stop there: “[T]he American soldier is loved around the world for his compassion and generosity,” he said. Is General Zais still in the Army? His attitude seems better suited for the misnamed Department of Homeland Security.

—Wayne Allensworth

## THE GOP’S CLINTON

During the Republican presidential debate on May 15, Ron Paul, the constitutionalist from Texas, flatly stated that the terrorist attacks on September 11 were retaliation for U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East. Rudy Giuliani shot back a mendacious rejoinder: “That’s an extraordinary statement, as someone who lived through the attack of September 11, that we invited the attack because we were attacking Iraq. I don’t think I’ve heard that before, and I’ve heard some pretty absurd explanations for September 11th.”

So Giuliani told a double lie—the falsehood that Paul had claimed that the war in Iraq inspired the terrorist attacks of September 11 (a chronological impossibility), and the greater absurdity that he’d never heard of the blowback theory.

If the Stupid Party does not want to lose the 2008 election, not to mention its tenuous hold on solid conservative voters, it had better think twice about nominating “America’s Mayor” for president. A liar, an adulterer, and a leftist goon, Giuliani has already out-Clintoned Bill Clinton, and on many of the same low crimes and misdemeanors.

Topping the list of the goombah’s infamous deeds are his sordid marital mon-

keyshines. He dumped his first wife on grounds similar to those used by Henry VIII when he tossed Catherine of Aragon overboard. After 14 years of marriage, Giuliani “discovered” that his wife was a second cousin and received a declaration of nullity from the Church. He then married Donna Hanover, whose principal claim to fame was having wangled the lead role in an off-Broadway production of *The Vagina Monologues*. While married to Hanover, Giuliani jumped between the sheets with his next wife, Judith Nathan, the home wrecker who was prowling Gracie Mansion, the mayoral residence, before the mayor’s second marriage ended. Hanover learned of her forthcoming divorce when Giuliani announced it at a press conference. Not surprisingly, Hanover accused Giuliani of “open and notorious adultery” and received a restraining order to bar Nathan from the mansion. At least Clinton has been down the aisle only once.

Also like Clinton, Giuliani has parlayed politics into tremendous wealth. In December 2001, just three months after the terrorist attacks, Giuliani opened a consulting firm, Giuliani Partners LLC. The original principals included Bernard Kerik, the former New York City police chief accused of ties to the Mob and guilty of misdemeanor corruption; a former priest accused of covering up sex abuse in the Diocese of Rockville Centre on Long Island; and an FBI agent who pilfered souvenirs from Ground Zero. According to a recent article in the *Washington Post*, the firm collected more than \$100 million in fees over five years, and Giuliani became a multimillionaire. His clients “have included a pharmaceutical company that, with Giuliani’s help, resolved a lengthy Drug Enforcement Administration investigation with only a fine; a confessed drug smuggler who hired Giuliani to ensure his security company could do business with the federal government; and the horse racing industry, eager to recover public confidence after a betting scandal.”

For “someone who lived through” September 11, Giuliani is rather soft on illegal immigration. In the *City Journal*, Heather Mac Donald wrote that the man who would be president went to the mat to stop the federal government from enforcing the country’s immigration laws. “Giuliani sued all the way up to the Supreme Court to defend the city’s sanctuary policy against a 1996 federal

law decreeing that cities could not prohibit their employees from cooperating with the INS. . . . The INS, he claimed, with what turned out to be grotesque irony, only aims to ‘terrorize people.’ Though he lost in court, he remained defiant to the end. On September 5, 2001, his handpicked charter-revision committee ruled that New York could still require that its employees keep immigration information confidential to preserve trust between immigrants and government.”

Giuliani is also a staunch supporter of abortion. So wedded is he to the cause of infanticide that he claims it for conservatives. To justify legally murdering the unborn, he observed that “a strict constructionist” Supreme Court, out of respect for precedent, would never overturn *Roe v. Wade*. Of course, Giuliani is of the “personally opposed, *but*” persuasion, a reformulated version of the famous Clintonian locution “safe, legal, and rare.”

Giuliani’s personal life and leftist politics may explain his conduct when he was U.S. attorney in Manhattan. In that job, he railroaded “junk-bond” king Michael Milken and others for crimes they did not commit. As Paul Craig Roberts wrote, “Giuliani was unknown until in search of name recognition he staged a stormtrooper assault on the financial firm Princeton/Newport involving fifty federal marshals outfitted with automatic weapons and bulletproof vests. On another occasion, he had two New York investment bankers hauled off their trading floor in handcuffs. Giuliani’s victims had done nothing and were exonerated.”

This is the man the “Hannitized” Smear Bund of conservatives thinks should be president. So they mauled Ron Paul, the only candidate who understands the Constitution and what it was meant, and not meant, to do. The conservatives who backed George W. Bush for president can be excused, at least partly, because he, as McCain and Romney do today, told them lies to get elected.

To his credit, Giuliani hasn’t done that. He’s a liberal, and proud of it. So the conservatives who back him cannot be excused. If the GOP nominates Giuliani, “a small man in search of a balcony,” as columnist Jimmy Breslin called him, the party may be more stupid than anyone thinks, but at least it would reveal the GOP for what it is and likely spell the end of its undeserved reputation as the political home for conservatives.

Come to think of it, maybe nominating Giuliani isn’t such a bad idea after all. It would leave American conservatives homeless and give candidates such as Ron Paul a serious chance to compete for their votes.

—R. Cort Kirkwood

## A COM FOR AFRICA

Ryan Henry, principal deputy under secretary of defense for policy, held a briefing on April 23 about the future opening of the new Africa Command (AFRICOM). It will join other U.S. commands that coordinate military and interagency operations for the Middle East, Latin America, Europe, and the Pacific. In her influential book *The Mission*, Dana Priest called the commanders of these regional headquarters “virtual proconsuls” in America’s informal global empire. According to Henry, “The goal of AFRICOM is to support indigenous governments, not to assert U.S. primacy on the continent.” AFRICOM will encompass 52 countries—every state on the continent except Egypt, which will stay within the Middle East’s Central Command.

According to the briefing, “Africa represents about 35 percent of the world’s land mass, about 25 percent of the world’s population . . . [which includes] 400 million Muslims, 400 million non-Muslims—very significant amount of natural resource . . . but most especially a remarkable human potential on the continent.” Yet, organizing the new command on the basis of continental geography rather than on a political and strategic basis is problematic. The Horn of Africa, which has been a radical Muslim hot spot, should have stayed in Central Command; the Mediterranean coastal states should have been left in the European Command.

The Bush administration is not alone in looking to expand its influence in Africa. A Beijing Summit on China-Africa Cooperation was held last November, following numerous visits to Africa by Chinese President Hu Jintao, Premier Wen Jiabao, and Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing. President Hu made another trip to Africa in February.

The Washington-based Jamestown Foundation devoted the April 5 issue of its journal *China Brief* to Africa. Mauro De Lorenzo, a resident fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, noted in the lead article that “What distinguishes China’s involvement in Africa from that

of other nations is that it is accompanied by a clear government policy in support of African commercial ventures, abundant financing and tax benefits for Chinese firms operating abroad and robust diplomacy toward the region.” Chinese interest, however, is focused on securing raw materials and energy supplies, not local economic development. Most of the increase in trade since 2000 has been oil imports from the Sudan and Angola. Beijing likes to call this “complementary” trade, paid for by Chinese exports of manufactured goods. But this is also the old colonial pattern that keeps the resource suppliers underdeveloped, while their fuel and metals go to support economic growth in China.

China has come under criticism for her protection of the Islamic Sudanese regime, which is waging genocide against non-Muslim Africans in Darfur. Beijing has used its veto power at the United Nations to block sanctions and limit the use of peacekeeping forces. Supplying weapons and training to regime forces and deploying substantial Chinese security troops to protect its investments undercuts Beijing’s claim that it opposes “intervention” in Africa’s internal affairs. It just opposes intervention by others. Beijing has also been arming the brutal, failed regime of Robert Mugabe in Zimbabwe.

In the late 19th century, there was a “scramble for Africa” among the major European powers. In the course of two decades, the entire continent was placed under European flags. Britain held the most lucrative areas, Egypt and South Africa, the latter attracting substantial white settlement. Despite investing much blood and treasure there, however, London’s efforts returned little. Even in 1906, with the region fairly stable, Africa (including Egypt) was a market for less than ten percent of British exports.

Sub-Saharan Africa was a strategic backwater during both world wars. During the Cold War, the Soviets tried to exploit national-liberation movements to spread their influence. Fidel Castro provided Cuban troops to spearhead Moscow’s efforts, but, instead of wealth and glory, the expeditions brought home only an AIDS epidemic.

In 2006, U.S. trade with Sub-Saharan Africa showed a deficit of \$47.1 billion, with exports of only \$12.1 billion against imports of \$59.2 billion. Most of this trade was oil related, and with only two countries: Nigeria (\$27.9 billion of imports against \$2.2 billion of exports) and

Angola (\$11.7 billion of imports against \$1.5 billion in exports). A two-way trade volume of \$71.3 billion with this region is trivial out of a total U.S. world-trade volume of \$3.6 trillion. Africa is still a poor, high-risk region, as the Chinese learned on April 24 when Somali rebels raided their oil field at Abole, Ethiopia, killing 74 local and Chinese workers.

At his briefing, Henry said “that AFRICOM was not being stood up in response to Chinese presence on the continent. It was not being stood up solely for the effort of enhanced counterterrorism, and it was not being stood up in order to secure resources.” So why is this new command being created? It fills a gap on Pentagon maps, but it appears to have no strategic mission worth the effort. With American forces overstretched in regions of much greater value, it can only be hoped that Henry’s claim that “AFRICOM does not mean the dramatic increase in resources to the African continent from the Department of Defense or from the U.S. government” will be firm policy.

—William R. Hawkins

### **BORIS YELTSIN, R.I.P.**

On April 25, Boris N. Yeltsin, Russia’s first postcommunist leader, was buried in Moscow. Many foreign dignitaries attended the funeral, praising the late president’s achievements. U.S. Presidents George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton also bid farewell to their partner in dismantling the Soviet Union.

Yeltsin’s death, seven years after his resignation at the dawn of the new millennium, underscores the striking difference between U.S.-Russian relations then and now.

To put into perspective how a great number of Russians regard their first president and his policies, imagine the governor of Illinois striking a deal with the leaders of New Mexico, Texas, and California and offering them support for their independence in order to oust his personal rival, the president, from the White House and take over the rump United States. Imagine, in addition, that he dissolves the U.S. Congress by sending in tanks, resulting in the deaths of over 150 citizens. These patriotic activities then lead to hyperinflation, wiping out the citizens’ personal savings. The economy is now in shambles, and high-tech gives way to raw-material extraction. Silicon Valley infogeeks are escaping to Chi-

na, Europe, and Brazil. Lucrative businesses are “privatized” and handed over to the president’s cronies. His reformist economists attempt to fix the economy by not paying wages—for years. Law enforcement virtually disappears, and U.S. cities become the battlefields of endless gang wars. The life expectancy of men falls to 57 years.

Meanwhile, U.S. foreign policy becomes subservient to China, and American troops abroad are withdrawn in a matter of months and settled in the Mojave Desert. Washington renounces any interest in Americans abroad, so the Anglos of Phoenix and San Diego are forced to flee the newly independent states, penniless.

Replace the *United States* with *Russia*, and you’ll have a moderate description of life under Yeltsin.

When communism was falling in the former Soviet Union, Russians were very positive toward the United States. Soviet anti-American propaganda was crushed by American pop culture. By the late 1990’s, anti-Americanism was again on the rise, thanks to the bitter disappointment engendered during the Yeltsin epoch. In those troubled years, instead of suggesting a Marshall Plan for Russia, Washington encouraged Russian liberals to destroy the country’s economy by adopting enlightened Harvard theories.

At the same time, Washington was constantly hailing the Moscow regime, and foreign support helped Yeltsin stay in power. So the Russian public got the message, loud and clear: Americans like Yeltsin because America enjoys seeing the Russians suffer. That is the joint legacy of Boris Yeltsin and his Beltway buddies.

—Egor Engelhardt

### **OBITER DICTA**

Making his debut in these pages is our poet this month, **Wilmer Mills**. Mr. Mills lives in Sewanee, Tennessee, with his wife and two children, in a bungalow he built himself. His poems have appeared in prestigious magazines and anthologies. His collection *Light for the Orphans* was reissued in 2004.

Our cover and interior art are provided by our designer, **Melanie Anderson**. Mrs. Anderson received her B.F.A. from Northern Illinois University.



## Ted's *Timor Mortis*



It was the second night of RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults), and Ted, the amateur catechist in charge of the class, was on a roll. The students were an odd lot of fallen-away Catholics, disgruntled Protestants who wanted to become Catholics, and men and women engaged to Catholics who objected to mixed marriages. Ted began by assuring the class that all religions pretty much worship the same God and teach the same moral code. A hand went up—the wise guy from the week before.

“What about suttee—you know, the Hindu custom that burned a wife alive with her dead husband?”

Ted allowed as how he did not know much about Hinduism and attempted to go on.

“What about Muslims who have four wives and think they go to Heaven if they murder innocent people?”

“I don’t think you understand much about Islam. Of course there are fanatics, but the true Islam is a religion of peace that protects all people of the book, as they call Christians and Jews.”

“You’d better not say that aloud in Iran or Pakistan. But what about Santeria and voodoo or the Aztec religious custom of slaughtering and eating young people?”

That was all the opening Ted needed. “I don’t think we should continue this. Our Lord wants us to respect the diversity of all the peoples of the earth. Besides, we are hardly superior to the Aztecs: Up until not too long ago, most people, even Catholics, thought that it was all right to execute condemned criminals. In fact, the Church has always condemned capital punishment, though only recently, since Vatican II, has the Church spoken out clearly.”

The wise guy thought about quoting the text of the catechism he had brought with him, but he had already said enough to turn the entire group against him. Why couldn’t they go back to discussing Adam’s belly button or the apparition of the Blessed Virgin on the side of a building facing U.S. 19 in Clearwater, Florida?

How had he ever managed to find himself taking instruction in the Catholic Faith from a liberal with a self-inflicted lobotomy? It was a long, strange journey. Brought up in a wholesome atheist home, he had learned from an early age to pity the weaklings who needed a mythical old man in a long beard to tell them what to do. Despite his sense of superiority, however, he had enjoyed none of the peace of mind or freedom from superstitious terrors that atheists (going back to Epicurus) had promised. As he later came to understand, the human mind, at any stage of development, is incapable of atheism, and the powers denied to a benevolent God are usurped by countless lesser deities, many of them malevolent. The great demons of materialism teach their worshipers to kill without mercy, while the lesser breeds of bogeymen—strange sounds in the forest, storm-twisted trees illuminated in a flash of lightening, and the

sinister crow whose eyes followed him walking down the street—filled a child’s soul with dread.

His greatest fear was of death. He did not remember when it began, but, even now, he could vividly recall lying awake, afraid to go to sleep for fear of not waking up. He was no older than five. This morbid imagination was stimulated by his sister, also an atheist until she was shipped off to a convent school, where her need to believe in something budded and bloomed. Nearly four years older, she delighted in telling long stories of animals that suffered tragic deaths before being plunged into the blackness of nonexistence. Her best story was of the fly he had just swatted, as they sat in the grass outside their family’s unelectrified cabin on Lake Nabuchodonosor. It was a mother-fly, on her way to her children’s birthday party—she had been out shopping for birthday presents when he so cruelly killed it. Her babies would never see their mother again, and they would die of hunger or be eaten by spiders.

Sometimes, the torture took the form of a litany: Their boxer, Blarney, was doomed to die; so was the neighbor’s cat, Tommy; and all his favorite animal characters in *Comic Cavalcade*, including Fauntleroy Fox and Crawford Crow—they, too, would die some day, and so would he; and when you are dead there is nothing: No toys, no play, no fun, no ice cream, nothing; but, what made it worse, you would not even be aware that it was nothing, because everything you are or have ever been would be gone, and it would be as if you have never existed.

In her crude way, his sister had touched the wisdom of Homer. “Even as are the generations of leaves such are those likewise of men; the leaves that be the wind scattereth on the earth, and the forest buddeth and putteth forth more again, when the season of spring is at hand; so of the generations of men one putteth forth and another ceaseth.” It is not simply that everyone in a generation will be dead but that they will be utterly gone and forgotten, like dead leaves scattered by the wind.

For the stout-hearted pagan, all that mattered was doing the glorious deeds that kept a name alive, the *klea andron* that Achilles sang, brooding in his tent. In later years, it was erotic passion that conferred the illusion of immortality in a dying world where the one reality, as Propertius said, was *una nox dormienda*, the one night that must be slept.

Pagans were not cowards, but post-Christian neopagans, as he and his sister were, fear death because it is the negation of everything—no toys, no fun, no candy, or, as a man might say today, no fast cars, no thrills, no women. While ancient pagan poets concluded from our mortality that it is best to live well and intensely, post-Christians flee from the one truth they have grasped and barricade their homes and even their