

Obama and the Army of Sodom

Homosexuals coast-to-coast have been doing the slow burn in the past few months because their jug-eared leader, Barack Obama, has delayed fulfilling a key campaign promise: to scrap the military's "don't ask, don't tell" rule. The policy is actually federal law, and it's very simple: Keep your mouth shut, and you can serve. Ten months into office, and Obama still hadn't moved to end it, but he re-upped the promise at a homosexual-rights dinner in October—not that his pink left wing will be satisfied.

Homosexuals should have known Obama would delay action on "don't ask, don't tell," which the Clinton administration crafted after its plans for homosexuals to serve openly went down in flames. Before his inauguration, Obama said he wouldn't move on the issue for some months, and perhaps not until 2010. The President's rookie year, an aide said, would be used for "consensus building." But they certainly didn't expect his solicitor general to argue for "don't ask, don't tell"—and against a homosexual G.I.—before the U.S. Supreme Court.

James Pietrangelo II is a veteran of both Iraq wars. In 2004, he emerged from the foot locker. The military kicked him out, and he battled to the high court. Arguing the government's side, Solicitor General Elena Kagan said a lower court of appeals had ruled correctly: "Applying the strong deference traditionally afforded to the Legislative and Executive Branches in the area of military affairs, the court of appeals properly upheld the statute." Indeed, Kagan used the classic (and correct) argument against homosexuals serving openly. The military's ban is "rationally related to the government's legitimate interest in military discipline and cohesion." The court refused to hear Pietrangelo's appeal.

Unsurprisingly, Pietrangelo exploded. "[Obama's] a coward, a bigot and

a pathological liar," he told *Time* in June.

This is a guy who spent more time picking out his dog, Bo, and playing with him on the White House lawn than he has working for equality for gay people. If there were millions of black people as second-class citizens, or millions of Jews or Irish, he would have acted immediately . . .

For blacks and Jews, he probably would have. But the Irish?

At any rate, you would think Pietrangelo's sentiments line up with those of angry homosexual militants everywhere, that anger being one reason Obama reiterated his promise at the annual dinner in October for the Human Rights Campaign (HRC). Said Obama:

There are still fellow citizens, perhaps neighbors, even loved ones—good and decent people—who hold fast to outworn arguments and old attitudes. . . . We are moving ahead on Don't Ask Don't Tell. We should not be punishing patriotic Americans who have stepped forward to serve this country. We should be celebrating their willingness to show such courage and selflessness on behalf of their fellow citizens, especially when we're fighting two wars. . . . So I'm working with the Pentagon, its leadership, and the members of the House and Senate on ending this policy. Legislation has been introduced in the House to make this happen. I will end Don't Ask, Don't Tell. That's my commitment to you.

Of course, neither Obama nor his sodomite supporters will concede that

the 99 percent of normal military men who have shown "courage and selflessness" might not want to spend all day every day wondering about the intentions of their comrades in arms. And once the homosexuals go in, the speech police will descend on the military, particularly the Marines, with the ferocity of Jimmy Doolittle's air raid on Japan. As Obama wrote in a statement he provided to the HRC during the campaign, repealing "don't ask, don't tell"

will require the implementation of anti-harassment policies and protocols for dealing with abusive or discriminatory behavior. . . . The military must be our active partners in developing those policies and protocols.

You know what that means: No more homo jokes.

After the speech, the *New York Times* reported on a homosexual website where one poster wrote, "I could have watched one of his old campaign speeches and heard the same thing." That, of course, is true of any politician on any given issue. But for homosexuals, the point is well taken. They expected Obama to dump the policy. Instead, his solicitor general defended it.

It doesn't much matter in the long run. Given the military's surrender on women in combat, it will very likely raise the white flag on homosexuals once Obama's leftist administrators ratchet up the pressure. Pentagon brass aren't much known for moral and political courage. And average Americans, especially "conservatives" if you believe the polls, aren't helping. As *Time* reported in its story on Pietrangelo, 58 percent of conservatives

now support openly gay people serving in uniform (nationally,


69% support the change; when Clinton assumed office, a Gallup poll found 53% of those polled opposed lifting the ban).

In addition, "58% of self-described Republicans, and 60% of weekly churchgoers" also support homosexuals serving openly. So the polling data comport with the public's weakening grasp on sexual morality and why certain standards are important.

Consider again the blithe, uncritical view Obama expressed at the HRC

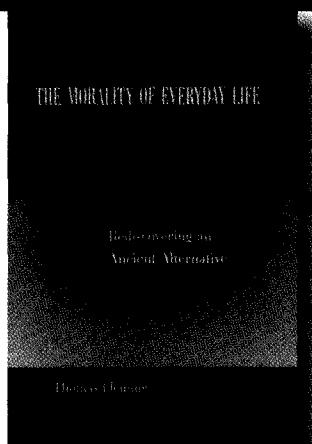
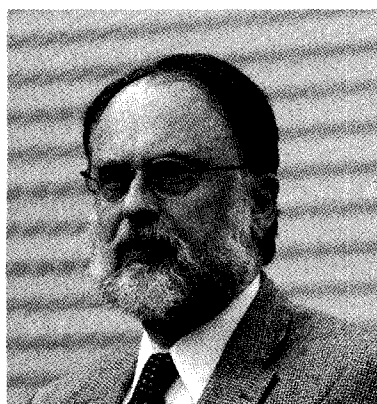
festival: "There are still fellow citizens, perhaps neighbors, even loved ones—good and decent people—who hold fast to outworn arguments and old attitudes..." Well, at least he conceded that some people who find sodomy to be an abomination can be "good and decent." They are merely misguided. Obama's unsettling assumption is that the lifeless act between two homosexuals in a germey bathhouse or even a bedroom equates to the life-giving marital act of a man and a woman. This, of course, is what the Lavender

Legionnaires want everyone to believe. If the polling data are correct, it appears that most Americans have bought the lie.

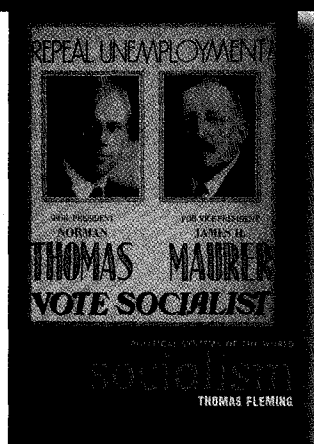
That means the Pentagon's decorated bureaucrats will likely surrender. The question is, how will that affect the Armed Forces? The introduction of women into nearly every military occupation specialty brought untold problems no one in the military wants to admit. And the introduction of openly declared sexual deviants will likely do the same. 

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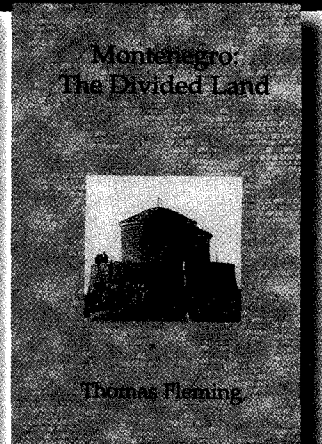
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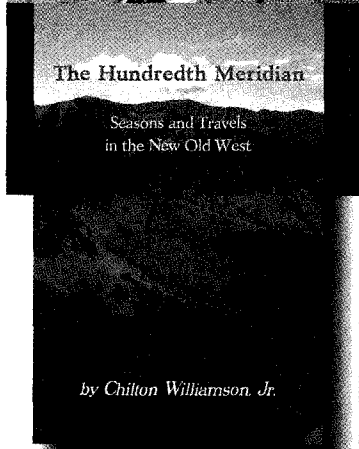
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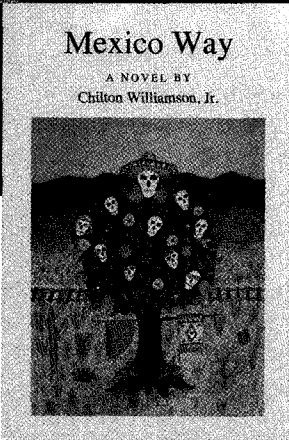
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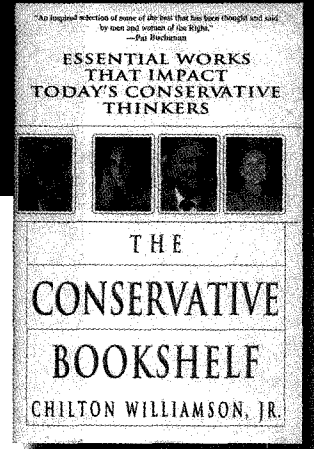
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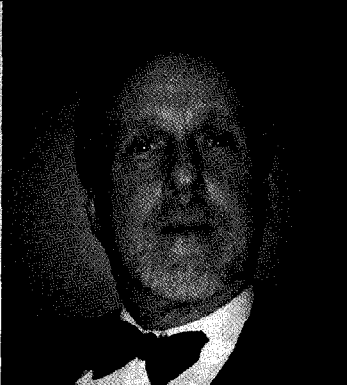


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THE FAINTING IRISH

Yes, the Irish caved in and reversed their vote against the European Union's Lisbon Treaty. Gutless? Of course. But I've spent too many years in Dublin and Cork to be surprised. The Irish did the same thing when they voted *no* to an earlier treaty in June 2001. The next year they gave in to bullying from Brussels and returned to the polling stations to vote *yes*. If you are looking for some Fighting Irish, you won't find them in Ireland.

As I write this, the European Union is within one signature of the treaty being ratified and established as a European constitution. The treaty will for the first time make the European Union a "legal personality" or, as the headline writers have it, "a country called Europe."

This new country will have a president, a foreign secretary and diplomatic corps, armed forces, a supreme court, and a criminal-justice system. It already has a parliament that is based on population and omits any representation of sovereign states: The European Union will not be a federal system.

Since the Irish voted *yes* all that has been standing in the way of this "European country" has been the refusal of Václav Klaus, president of the Czech Republic, to sign the treaty. He is utterly opposed to it. Even after the Czech parliament ratified it, he insisted he must wait until a challenge to the treaty in his country's supreme court was decided. He also insisted the treaty raised the threat of new lawsuits by the families of Germans expelled from the Sudetenland. He said he wanted to see this threat removed before he would sign.

Alas, after the Irish vote, no one was expecting that President Klaus could hold out for more than a few weeks. The European Commission, the unelected politburo in which all European law originates, threatened that the Czech Republic could lose its com-

missioner if President Klaus continued to refuse to sign.

President Sarkozy of France and other European politicians made poisonous demands in personal phone calls, warning of "consequences" if President Klaus did not sign. In the European parliament, one German socialist member demanded the Czechs impeach their president. In Prague, the German ambassador actually went to see the president of the Czech supreme court to insist he hurry up his decision in the legal challenge to the treaty.

The reason for the pressure, and the reason for President Klaus's willingness to endure it, has been this: David Cameron, the leader of Britain's Conservative Party, is likely to succeed Gordon Brown as prime minister following a general election in the spring. Mr. Cameron has promised he will give the British people a referendum on the treaty if it is not yet in force when he takes office.

The Blair government broke its 2005 election promise to allow the British a referendum. Instead, the government forced ratification of the treaty through parliament in 2008. Millions of Britons were, and are, enraged by the betrayal. So Mr. Cameron and the Conservative Party have already drafted a bill for a referendum. They say they will present the bill to parliament as soon as they are in government—if the treaty is not yet in force.

No one in the European Union doubts that if the British have a chance to vote on the treaty, they will vote *no*. Brussels and euro-enthusiasts across Europe are frantic to get the treaty in place before Mr. Cameron walks into Number 10. Brussels knows that Britain, unlike Ireland, is too big to bully into voting twice. Ratification must be unanimous, so the new constitution for Europe would be in the dustbin. A British *no* would finish it.

However, many people suspect Mr. Cameron will be relieved if the treaty is in place when he takes office and he does not have to be the man who gave

the British the chance to kill it. As for what he will do if the treaty is in force when he succeeds Gordon Brown, all the Conservative leader will say is that he "will not let matters rest there." The phrase is meaningless.

I recently spoke to Martin Howe, a senior barrister who contributed to the drafting of the Conservatives' bill for a referendum. I asked him what he thought Mr. Cameron would do if the treaty has been ratified by all 27 member-states before the time of the next British general election. Mr. Howe told me that, in that case, "legally it takes effect and supersedes earlier treaties. Then it cannot be amended or revoked except by further treaty or an instrument equivalent to a treaty, such as a protocol. Britain would need to get agreement of all other member-states for that."

This is unlikely to happen. Of course, there is another way Mr. Cameron could free Britain of the treaty. He could follow procedures laid down in the treaty itself for withdrawal from the European Union. This would take two years of negotiations, with terms having to be agreed upon by all the other member-states. It is unlikely the other states would be willing to give good terms to Britain. They would try to frighten the United Kingdom into staying.

The ploy would probably work. Mr. Cameron is not the kind of man who has the courage to stand on the White Cliffs of Dover, fix his gaze on storm clouds rolling in from the Continent and declare, "Very well, then, alone." That kind of British Conservative died off long ago.

—Mary Ellen Synon

LEFT TURN IN GREECE

Security has always been a key issue for conservatives and nationalists worldwide. But that's not the case in Greece. So voters in the homeland of democracy, displeased by riots and anarchy, the inability of the govern-