

as the terminus of decadent democracy. They know from experience that power is actually wielded directly by bureaucrats, delegated to them by an obscurely complicated process that makes it meaningless to speak of the consent of the governed. And yet when their state goes to war, they support it with an atavistic loyalty, as if it were an extension of themselves, rather than they of it.

But maybe it's just human nature. When slave owners fight, I suppose it's natural for each slave to root for his own master. After all, the master will probably have convinced him he's awfully lucky not to be owned by someone else. •

Lessons of The Gulf War

by M.N.R.

Every war supplies us with lessons we must learn. There were the lessons of Munich and the lessons of Vietnam. It is not too early for us to learn the lessons of the Gulf War, lest we lose the peace.

1. *War is wonderful.* We have learned at last that war is glorious, war is wonderful. As they said about the Spanish-American war, this was a "splendid little war." Our war effort from now on can be so high-tech that no American need die in one ever again. Three times as many American soldiers died in accidents in the Gulf before the war began than during the actual fighting. Deaths among enemy soldiers and civilians are solely the fault of the Evil Enemy.

From now on, the only

opponents of an American war will be traitors, yellow-bellies, Commies, neo-Nazis, and anti-Semites.

War is also a great unifier. Petty domestic problems, such as taxes, deficits, banking crises, are forgotten in the great uplifting current that brings back to America a sense of unity, of belonging, of common national purpose. Those who grumble at that unity are traitors and yellow-bellies.

2. *Don't let them surrender.*

Too many times Americans have won a splendid war only to lose the peace. One problem is the end game, the whole problem of surrender, who we accept surrender from, on what terms, etc. During the Gulf War we approached perfection by not letting them surrender. First, we set the goal of "unconditional Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait." When Iraq accepted those terms, we complained that they didn't accept reparations, they weren't clear about coming out with their hands up, and besides, we wanted to hear it from Saddam himself. When Saddam himself complied, we raised all the above objections, and we kept bombing, or "pounding." [Hey guys, how about coming up with a synonym for "pound"? If I had a dime for every time the media used "pound," I'd be a very rich man.]

And then, when they obviously began to withdraw, we said: "That's not 'withdrawal' (good); that's 'retreat' (bad)."

Demanding "unconditional surrender," as we did in World War II, was great, but again we got bogged down in end-game

problems. Clearly, the best strategy for the end game is *never* to accept any surrender at all. Let's just keep "pounding" the enemy *until nobody moves*. Let's keep it simple and clear-cut. Or to use the common American slogan of divine impatience: "Let's get it over with," or "let's finish the job." If we pound until we kill them all, until nobody moves, then we don't have to worry anymore about "losing the peace." The peace will be ours forever, the job will be finished forever.

To put a more rigorous twist on the old song:

"We'll be over,
We're comin' over,
And we won't be back
'Till there's *nothin'* over there."

3. *Take over the media.* We did a great job, in the Gulf War, in censoring, curbing, and confining the media. The media lost us the Korean and Vietnam Wars. The media are a bunch of traitors, yellow-bellies, etc. The media injure American morale. The media prattle about "gathering the news," and "giving us the truth." What they don't understand is that only the President deserves the truth. All public truth helps the Enemy.

The American people, thank goodness, now hate the media, with their subversion and their prying questions. The media are a bunch of individualists who won't go along with the program. Now we must finish the job. The federal government must take over the media. Issue licenses, certificates of convenience and

necessity, to all media people. And if they don't knuckle under and show proper respect to the President and his officers, just pull their licenses.

What, you say this would violate the First Amendment? Rubbish. We do it now with radio and TV; the FCC can pull their licenses at any time. All we'd have to do is have the FCC show some spine. And the much-reviled Alien and Sedition Acts were never declared unconstitutional. The Supreme Court will follow the election returns.

The objective should be for all the media to be, in effect, agit-prop arms of the President and the federal government. They're mostly at that point already. Let's finish the job.

4. *Abolish Congress.* Congress is a pain in the neck, a bunch of quibblers and fusspots who accomplish nothing, who only obstruct and delay (sometimes) the plans of the President. As neoconservative theorists have instructed us, the President embodies in his person the entire national and public interest. The President represents each and every one of us. But Congressmen are only bogged down in petty, narrow concerns of each district or state. So let's get rid of Congress; let's finish it off.

Or rather, let's have a constitutional amendment that abolishes elections, which are at best an expensive drain on the taxpayer, and replaces them with the best and wisest men and women appointed by the President and replaceable at his will. Then he could get the best

counsel for the national interest, free of partisan, political considerations.

5. *Let's get rid of political parties.* We keep praising the "two-party system" without realizing that there is nothing in the Constitution that mandates parties, two or whatever. The Founding Fathers hated parties, which they called "factions." Parties are divisive, they cripple American unity, and they cost the taxpayer money by requiring elections. Besides, the Republican Party will never again lose a Presidential election, and since we will get rid of Congress anyway, why not face reality? Let's combine both parties into one glorious party, call it the Democrat-Republicans, as under Jefferson, or maybe Republican-Democrats to reflect current realities. Then we'd all be united, and any disagreements could be ironed out *within* a one-party framework.

If anyone suspects that there's something dictatorial or un-American about a one-party system, think nothing of it. There is ample precedent; American had a one-party system (Democrat-Republican) from about 1815 to 1827. No one suffered; in fact, it is called by historians the Era of Good Feelings. No problem.

6. *Let's make George Bush President for Life.* Everyone knows that elections are too darn frequent, forcing our leaders to turn away from their great leadership at the helm of state to worry about our petty concerns. And besides, it's expensive for the taxpayer. So we can simply make George Bush president for life, and then, when he dies or retires, we can have a

glorious Democratic-Republican convention, to select his successor. What could be more truly democratic?

7. *Free Up the President.* If Lessons 1 to 6 were put in place, our President would then at last be free, free of the crippling restraints of Congress, of elections, and of the yellow-bellied, traitorous, etc. media. With Congress and the media united in service to the President, he would be free to unify the nation, he could write laws in the form of his own executive decrees, he could set his budget and levy his taxes (and cut the capital gains tax, by God). He would also be free to run his New World Order abroad, to obliterate the Enemy for, say, \$100 billion, and then spend another \$100 billion to rebuild the enemy lands. War and reconstruction contractors will be happy and prosperous, and this will provide plenty of jobs and keep America prosperous as well. The President will get 98% approval rating in the polls, which can serve as a scientific substitute for messy and grubby elections.

Some carping critics (the 2 percent yellow-bellies, etc. above—and there are always a few rotten apples in every glorious barrel) might claim that we would lose our freedom and that the President would be a dictator.

But that would be the biggest lie of them all. For we must always remember that the President represents us, that in the deepest sense the President *is* us and that *we are* the President, and that therefore when the President is set free and is unrestrained, we are all free.

George Herbert Walker Bush: The Power and the Glory

by M.N.R.

I confess. I'm a sinner. I didn't see the Signs. Yes, I opposed the Gulf War, from beginning to end. I was against the war before January 16. I was against it all during the 100 Hour Miracle. But now the scales have fallen from my eyes. I was blind but now I see.

Michael Novak, a Catholic theologian truly fit for our times, likes to call Democracy "the Incarnation." Close and prophetic, but not quite right. For now it is clear that it is George Herbert Walker Bush who is The Incarnation to lead us into His New World Order, the Kingdom of God on Earth. Yes, God works His Miracles in strange and mysterious ways, but it

is indeed and verily the improbable figure of George Bush, ex-dithering wimp, who has been Transformed. You can see it in the new nobility of his glance, his bearing, the divine assurance of his leadership, and his noble vision. Just as God parted the waters for the children of Israel, so he has wrought the Miracle of the Massacre in the Gulf War.

There can no longer be any

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doubt that George Bush is the Expected One, the Anointed One, the Man who has been sent here to heal the sick, to put an end to poverty and misery, to bring justice to all the peoples of the earth. We must repent and prostrate ourselves before His Majesty and beg forgiveness. We must all join in the ecstatic unity that brought us our glorious victory in war, and bring that same unity, that same singleness of purpose, to all the wars of peacetime: to the wars against poverty, racism, sexism, and injustice. We must end sedition, put a stop to the pockets of dissent, and deal harshly with

those grumblers and troublemakers who still deny the miracle.

And to think: George Bush was accused by those grumblers, among whom I admit I was one, who thought he lacked "that vision thing." Wow, what a vision! What a Man!

But there is one problem: where are the poets, where are the noble rhetors who will sing

the praises of George Bush as they should be sung? Where are the bards of yesteryear? In our current debased rhetoric, the best we can come up with is *Human Events'* banner headline: "Hail to the Chief!" Surely we can do better than that! Where in hell is our official Poet Laureate, some guy named Mark Strand? Why isn't he composing a hymn to this wonderful day?

No, to honor George Bush as he should be honored, we have to fall back on older and greater poets. I offer two:

And the government shall
be upon his shoulder:
And his name shall be called
Wonderful, Counselor,
The Mighty God,
The everlasting Father,
The Prince of Peace.

and Bush's Prayer:

Give us this day our daily
bread,
And forgive us our
trespasses,
As we forgive those who
trespass against us.
And lead us not into
temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the
glory, forever,
Amen. ●

The Danger of Victory

by Llewellyn H.
Rockwell, Jr.

One of the hidden costs of war is greater deference to the government. We tend to assume that if the feds can beat Iraq, they can do anything. All of a sudden, the normal ideological barriers to government growth are leveled, and politicians start an offensive against our pocketbooks.

"Government set a goal, mobilized half a million people, moved more material than any time since World War II," says Rep. Robert Wise (D-W.VA). "Why can't you do the same thing in education, in infrastructure, in

health care?" This thinking, already widespread, will be repeated endlessly by big-government types in the coming months.

Yet the government is already engaged in a number of "wars" at home: against drugs, poverty, AIDS, smoking, racism, etc. None has been won, but that doesn't stop liberals like Mr. Wise from wanting to adopt war as the model for all government actions, complete with higher taxes, increased regulation, mobilized public opinion, and centralized economic planning.

War is inherently a collectivist, State-run enterprise, but that is hardly a proper paradigm for domestic society, except in the U.S.S.R. Putting government in charge of defeating poverty or racism or sickness is an unlimited grant of power.

The Pentagons of our domestic wars, like HUD and HHS, are one big snafu now. Expand the welfare state and we put this hamhanded brigade in charge of even more of our society.

As government pours more billions into our schools, and takes greater control, the kids seem to get dumber. Is a federal war on ignorance the answer, or should we return to parental authority, and allow private alternatives to flourish?

The infrastructure is falling apart, but the federal and state governments are broke, and in the process of breaking us. Rather than mobilizing inefficient public institutions to build more roads, dams, and bridges, why not turn this over to the private sector? Then users would bear the burden instead of taxpayers, and

businessmen would call the tune instead of bureaucrats.

Who thinks the poor (as versus their self-appointed spokesmen) are better off today than in 1966, when LBJ declared his war on poverty? America's ghettos are in relatively worse shape by every measure. Should we continue to subsidize leisure and penalize work, or try letting people be responsible for themselves?

American medical costs have been on a rocket ride since the establishment of Medicare. Doctors on the federal dole may get rich, and the medical bureaucracy may be rosy cheeked, but the middle class can't afford insurance. Is the answer turning our semi-socialized system into a full-fledged Dr. Post Office, or injecting a little free-market competition into a protected and therefore arthritic industry?

The drug war, despite ex-czar William Bennett's claim, is another loser. By raising prices, it has made the drug trade more profitable and encouraged users to switch from low-potency drugs to high-potency ones. Heroin sales, for example, are skyrocketing.

Unlike the people of many other countries, Americans tend to be cynical about government. This helps keep us free. To the extent that war makes people forget their cynicism, it hurts us all.

Already, the administration and the Congress have approved an "emergency" \$4.1 billion spending bill exempt from the allegedly ironclad rules of last winter's budget summit. This classic pork-barrel legislation

spends more on foreign aid, welfare, and chicken inspection in Maryland, among other key national priorities. And, as a result of the Wise syndrome, there was *no controversy* about the bill's contents or its budget-busting nature.

If we let him, Congressman Wise and his friends will do to the American taxpayer what the Air Force did to the Republican Guard. •

Cop to King: "Go Tell Your Friends"

by L.H.R.Jr.

The next time an L.A. cop is murdered, it *might* make the metro section. The front page will be devoted to Rodney G. King, saint and martyr.

Before King stars in a mini-series, lectures at the Kennedy School of Government, or gets the \$56 million he's demanded, I'd like to dissent.

King, described by his salivating lawyers as "kind and gentle," is a convicted armed robber, and his behavior on the night he entered history shows he had not reformed. Responsible people don't drive drunk 100 mph on crowded streets, or resist arrest when caught.

As late as the 1950s, our cities were different. Robberies, rapes, and murders were relatively rare. Today, urban terrorists rule our streets. What the heck happened?

Drug prohibition increases crime, just as alcohol prohibition did. The court system is a joke.

Government won't allow us to protect ourselves with guns. And a depraved culture sees hoodlums as poor babies instead of evildoers. But these are not the full explanation.

Street criminals have what economists call a "high time preference." They want it and they want it now. To old-fashioned criminologists, felons seeking immediate gratification had to be punished quickly. Otherwise there would be no deterrence.

Movie audiences cheered when Batman—a private law enforcer—beat two muggers, saying, "Go tell your friends about me."

When I was a kid, the police imitated Batman. If a robber bashed an old man's head in, or a rapist destroyed a young woman's life, there was paddy-wagon justice in addition to the more formal sort. Criminals were terrified of the cops, so honest people could live their lives in peace.

The punks who roam our streets today know they probably won't be arrested. If they are arrested, they probably won't be convicted. If they are convicted, they probably won't go to jail. And if they do go to jail, they face a short sentence amidst weight rooms, color television, and law libraries. The result is the breakdown of society.

Would we be shown, endlessly, a video of Rodney G. King's crimes? No one seems to care about crime victims, or the now-strengthened criminal lobby, whose "reforms" will create even more victims.

The police, whatever their faults, try to guard us from the

barbarians—if the Visigoths will excuse the analogy. That job will now be made harder.

America is stuffed with harmful police—from tax to regulatory to anti-styrofoam. Meanwhile, the legitimate ones are under attack. Unlike many of my fellow libertarians, I haven't forgotten—amidst the King canonization—that we need to battle private crime as well as big government.

Maybe We Could Hose Down the Government

by L.H.R., Jr.

In California's gold rush days, miners developed a system of private water rights based on first use. But that system was eroded by the courts. Water, we were told, was too important to be left to the private sector. Only politicians could be trusted.

When we get bad service from a business, we get angry and go elsewhere. When we get bad service from the government, we shrug. There's no place else to go, and besides, who expects anything else? We assume, for example, that mail service has to be slow, technologically antiquated, and expensive. And it does, as long as the government is in charge.

If California had a socialist food system, there would be breakfast shortages and supper rationing. The politically powerful would have banquets; the average citizen would get crumbs. Food police would inspect your garbage.

It is no different with water.

In a free market, the price system balances supply and demand so that one doesn't outrun the other. Shortages are a governmental creation. If the feds had frozen gas prices in response to the Gulf, we'd have long lines. Far better to let prices rise, so drivers can fill up without waiting two hours.

In a drought, water prices should also rise. When there's no drought, they should fall. But a socialist enterprise like the Los Angeles Metropolitan Water District can't set the right price anymore than a Soviet collective farm.

So government uses force. It fines people who sprinkle their lawns or take long showers. And it orders citizens to cut water use by up to 70%. Not that our rulers are consistent. In West Covina, a man got a ticket, and was threatened with a \$1,000 fine and six

months in jail, for *not* watering his brown lawn—the dread crime of "failure to maintain landscaping."








The man tried to tell the lawn cop that his grass had died of fungus. But government, which

(Continued page 15 col.1)

In California's gold rush days, miners developed a system of private water rights.

MOVIE RATINGS

By Mr. First Nighter

Movie	Rating	Explanation
Dances with Wolves		Another Politically Correct picture with all Injuns noble and all whites evil (except Kevin Costner, of course). Who needs it?
Mr. and Mrs. Bridge		Acting good, especially Paul Newman playing sturdy, admirable Old Culture and Old Right upper-middle-class Mid-Westerner. But you are <i>supposed</i> to be opposed to Newman's "repressed" and old-fashioned character, and the movie dribbles along, pointlessly. Joanne Woodward overrated as dim "oppressed" wife.
Godfather, Part III		With reservations. Best movie of the year but not in the same league as giants I and II. Too downbeat, too dominated by crumbling Pacino character, not enough emphasis on excellent young successor as head of the Corleone <i>famiglia</i> , Andy Garcia. Some good murder-of-Pope John Paul I revisionism, but no mention of the Masonic connection. Garcia for Godfather IV?
Pretty Woman		Pleasant little movie, bitterly attacked by Left as "unrealistic" and pro-yuppie materialism. Actually, one more invulnerable and charming whore-with-heart-of-gold-redeemed by true love tradition. So what if true love is aggressive young millionaire financier, also redeemed by true love?
The Silence of the Lambs		Features a psychotic, murderous, cannibal shrink, therefore hailed by the Left as offering profound insight into the human condition.
Alice		Woody Allen's latest, <i>not funny</i> at all. Instead, left-wing message picture. Dumpy, whiny Mia Farrow plays bored rich wife who magically Learns About Herself by taking magic potions from elderly, creaky Asiatic Healer. Therefore she scraps wealth, goes to India to commune with Mother Theresa, and learns to love the simple virtues of poverty. Pass it up.
Scenes From a Mall		Woody Allen funny <i>as actor</i> in Paul Mazurky's pleasant little movie, and meshes well with Bette Midler, fortunately toned down for the occasion. But it is too thin, one joke stretched for two hours about a married couple who celebrate their anniversary, break up, and reunite, all within the confines of a Beverly Hills mall. Predictable, throughout.

- M.N.R.