

RRR

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Why The War? The Kuwait Connection

by Murray N. Rothbard

Why, exactly, did we go to war in the Gulf? The answer remains murky, but perhaps we can find one explanation by examining the strong and ominous Kuwait Connection in our government. [I am indebted to an excellent article in an obscure New York tabloid, *Downtown*, by Bob Feldman, "The Kissinger Affair," March 27]. The *Sabah* *klatura* that runs the Kuwait government is immensely wealthy, to the tune of hundreds of billions of dollars, derived from tax/"royalty" loot extracted from oil producers simply because the Sabah tribe claims "sovereignty" over that valuable chunk of desert real estate. The Sabah tribe has no legitimate claim to the oil revenue; it did nothing to homestead or mix its labor or any other resource with the crude oil.

It is reasonable to assume that the Sabah family stands ready to use a modest portion of that ill-gotten wealth to purchase defenders and advocates in the powerful United States. We now focus our attention on the sinister but almost universally Beloved figure of Dr. Henry Kissinger, a lifelong spokesman, counselor, and servitor of the Rockefeller World Empire. Kissinger is so Beloved, in fact, that whenever he appears on *Nightline* or *Crossfire* he appears alone, since it seems

to be *lese-majeste* (or even blasphemy) for anyone to contradict the Great One's banal and ponderous Teutonic pronouncements. Only a handful of grumblers and malcontents on the extreme right and extreme left disturb this cozy consensus.

In 1954, the 31-year old Kissinger, a Harvard political scientist and admirer of Metternich, was plucked out of his academic obscurity to become lifelong foreign policy advisor to New York Governor Nelson Aldrich Rockefeller. Doctor K continued in that august role until he assumed the mastery of foreign policy throughout the Nixon and Ford administrations. In that role, Kissinger played a major part in prolonging and extending the Vietnam War, and in the mass murder of civilians entailed by the terror bombings of Vietnam, the secret bombing of Cambodia, and the invasion of Laos.

Since leaving office in 1977, Dr. Kissinger has continued to play a highly influential role in the U.S. politics, in the U.S. media, and in the Rockefeller world empire. It was Kissinger, along with David Rockefeller, who was decisive in the disastrous decision of President Carter to admit the
(Cont. page 4, col. 1)



THE EAR

By Sarah Barton

Libertarians! You can't live with them, and it's getting increasingly easy to live without them. Are there any at all out there capable of making it through the pearly but narrow gates of paleo-libertarian redemption? The latest to fall by the wayside is my old buddy, Eric Rittberg, head of the Republican Liberty Caucus. I always suspected Eric of pro-war tendencies, but in a recent letter to a top Libertarian (no, not

us, silly), Eric writes: "Watching the joyous celebrations of the Kuwaiti people over their liberation by American/Allied forces, I am not ashamed to say, brings tears to my eyes and ... makes me DAMN PROUD to be an American!!! Oh yea, and proud to be a Republican too!"

Get ashamed, Eric, and fast. Are you also shedding tears of joy over the Kuwaiti mass torturing of their Palestinian inhabitants, or over the American/Republican destruction and massacre of countless Iraqi
(Cont. next page, col. 1)

**Kissinger
was the
mass
murderer
of civilians
in
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Cambodia
and Laos.**

(THE EAR cont. from P.1)

civilians in Baghdad? Of course, Eric sweetie, you didn't watch *that* on your precious American TV, along with all the censored news that's fit for us to watch and cheer over.

Well, there it is. I just tore up my membership application to RLC. And just when I find that Roger MacBride, Kochtopus/Ed Cranebiggie Howie Rich, and Mark Skousen have signed up. How can I bear not being in an organization with those guys? Beautifully, my dears, beautifully.

P.S. Congratulations to David Boaz of the Cato Institute, who refused to join the pro-war RLC.

Big Bill Bradford's boring and bloated rag, *Liberty*, continues to be the poor man's *Reason*, the object that every Modal curls up with on long winter nights (lacking sheep or gerbils, of course). The May issue is their anti-paleo number.

One thing about Modals: they have no sense of humor whatever. Zilch. Which makes them, of course, sparkling at parties. Our Lew Rockwell, who has a wonderful capacity for pushing the Modals' buttons, and driving them berserk (or berserker than they are already) really scored big in his articles in the *L.A. Times* and *USA Today* attacking the universal rush to judgment by videotape in condemnation of the L.A. cops in the Rodney King affair. Every Modal in the country—they who care nothing about the murder of hundreds of thousands of Iraqis—turned to their pens, typewriters, computers, and faxes in clamor against Rockwell. The sense of

humor part? They actually thought that Lew called for the outlawing of private video cameras! Worst offenders: Modals Bill Bradford and Sheldon Richman in *Liberty*, and a particular idiotic letter to the *L.A. Times* by Gail Lightfoot, former head of the California L.P. Let's hope for the sake of Gail's reputation, such as it is, that her letter never makes it into print.

The *Liberty* issue takes on the paleos and *Chronicles*, which is something like a pornographer attacking Shakespeare for being a lousy writer. Richard Kostelanetz, a Modal's Modal who is Mr. Avant-Garde Multi-Media "Art," writes a long and incoherent attack on *Chronicles*, full of pedantic trivia, accusing them of being "paleo-Stalinists." The bottom line is that it all boils down to pique because *Chronicles* never published some letter of his. Boy, that's *really* "Stalinism!"

As for Big Bill himself, he has a "report" on the Dallas John Randolph Club meeting, although he wasn't there. He complains that his invitation got lost in the mail, which grave offense I suppose makes us "Stalinists" too. You didn't need an invitation, Billy baby, all you needed to attend was the moolah to pay the tab (undoubtedly his *real* complaint, knowing Billy's cautious way with a buck). One thing about Bill, he's got plenty of *chutzpah*, which is what it takes to presume to correct Murray, who was there, for saying that Lew Rockwell was the one who made the great crack that the Grand Canyon should be used for landfill. To set the record straight, it was Lew who said it, Billy. Who do you claim should be credited for this *bon mot*?

Like all Modals who claim to favor diversity and "tolerance" in the libertarian movement, Bill Bradford stops short at tolerating...*us* and *our* little contributions to ideological diversity. Anyone who dares to question the sanctity of Rodney King, according to Big Bill, "has resigned from decent human society." How would *you* know, Billy? Billy still hasn't gotten the message: we don't want to be in any movement, or any closed room, for that matter, with *him*.

A final point to Big Bill, who like his friend and co-editor Kostelanetz, suffers from all the ticks and pedantry of pretend-scholars. Look, Billy, you mark yourself as a cretin when you attack *our* attacks on the sainted plagiarist and womanizer, "Dr." Martin Luther King, as being "*ad hominem*." All references to individual people, whether favorable or unfavorable, are by definition "*ad hominem*." There is nothing wrong with this, unless you claim that all people in general, and "Dr." King in particular, are and must be above criticism. None of this has *anything* to do with the "*ad hominem* fallacy," which is the logical fallacy of trying to refute a person's arguments by attacking the person. (There is, by the way, nothing wrong with refuting the arguments *and also* attacking the person.) How come I have to bother pointing this out to Billy, who, at least in the person of his alter ego, "Ethan O. Waters," likes to think of himself as a big-shot "philosopher"?

The Reason Foundation's annual banquet will feature Polly Williams, a black state legislator from Wisconsin. We're supposed to love Polly, says *Reason*, because

she introduced a law "to allow" 1,000 underclass students to attend "non-sectarian private schools." (The atheist *Reason* wouldn't want them attending sectarian schools, of course.)

But what does "allow" mean? They are allowed to attend now. It means, of course, allowed to get more welfare from the taxpayers, which doesn't seem to bother *Reason*.

Reason neglects to mention Polly's membership in Milwaukee's Black Militia, a para-military outfit that threatens to massacre whites unless it gets \$600 million by 1992. (Remind me not to visit Milwaukee that year.)

Cato has come out of the closet. No, silly, on the *Middle East*. Sheldon Richman, now senior editor at Cato, is spearheading the new effort aimed at the Israeli lobby. His opening shot was an article questioning the legitimacy of the state of Israel in last month's *Washington Report on the Middle East*.

Sheldon has also written a Cato monograph debunking the official history of Israel; forthcoming as well is a Cato book on the Middle East by the extraordinary Leon Hadar, now an adjunct scholar of Cato.

Why has Cato, which has always striven for Respectability, suddenly turned principled on such a controversial issue? Rumors mention a multi-billion dollar oil deal between the Koch world empire, owner of Cato, and an Arab state.

Joe Sobran will soon have his own newsletter, *Joseph Sobran's American Spy in Washington*. It will, like the *RRR*,

be published by the Center for Libertarian Studies. Joe will continue to write a column for us as well.

Joe Dehn, secretary of the Libertarian Party, says membership fell 3.7% in 1990, which he describes as "a little depressing." Worse, some alleged Libertarian strongholds fell by much more—New Hampshire by 12.6%, for example, and Utah by 19.3%.

Wayne Gable, president of the Kochs' Citizens for a Sound Economy, has been promoted to D.C. lobbyist for Koch Industries. New CSE head is Paul Beckner, former CSE vice president.

Conservative journalist Jon Basil Utley has been kicked off the Accuracy in Media board by Reed Irvine. Why? Because Jon opposed the Gulf war. Reed, a thuggish ex-Fed staffer, pretends to oppose liberal bias while actually fighting for State bias. ●

UNCONVENTIONAL WISDOM WATCH

Reason Edition

With its neocon-Modal editorial policy (the New World Order plus head freezing), inquiring minds want to know: what's happened to *the* Libertarian magazine?

PLAYERS

RRR Wisdom

Virginia Postrel	↓	Neocon edits boring, wacko, statist mag. Get thee to a <i>Commentary</i> .
Marty Zupan	↑	Postrel predecessor is now at IHS; ex-colleagues yearn for her.
Charles Oliver	↑	Good stories on environment and animal rights. In Postrelian dog house for anti-war quote to <i>New York Times</i> .
Jacob Sullum	↓	Balmy stories promote cryonics and more traditional forms of suicide.
Rick Henderson	↓	The Modals' Modal. First staffer to freeze head?
Martin Wooster	↑	Talented D.C. editor's job shaky? Postrel wants neocon in slot.
Tibor Machan	↑	Why is top Libertarian philosopher snubbed by mag he helped start?
Manuel Klausner	↑	L.A. lawyer and <i>Reason</i> co-founder planning some big changes.
David Koch	↔	Biggest donor applauds neocon coup, but insiders say he <i>no comprende</i> .
Bob Poole	↔	Libertarian giant founded <i>Reason</i> , but shouldn't have left editing to Postrel. Forget airports, Bob, your baby needs you. - F.W.T.

(Kuwait.. cont. from P.1)

recently toppled Shah of Iran, old friend and ally of the Rockefellers, into the United States, a decision that led directly to the Iranian hostage crisis and to Carter's downfall. Today, Kissinger still continues to serve the Rockefeller interests, as a trustee of the powerful Rockefeller Brothers Fund, as a counselor to Rockefellers' Chase Manhattan Bank and as a member of Chase's International Advisory Committee. Kissinger's media influence is evident from his having served on the board of CBS, Inc., and having been a paid consultant to both NBC News and ABC News. That takes care of all three networks.

But Kissinger's major, and most lucrative role, has come as head of Kissinger Associates in New York City, founded on a loan obtained in 1982 from the international banking firm of E.M. Warburg, Pincus & Co. Nominally, Kissinger Associates (K.A.) is an "international consulting firm" but "consultant" covers many sins, and in KA's case, this means international political influence-peddling for its two dozen or so important corporate clients. In the fullest report on KA, Leslie Gelb, in the *New York Times Magazine* for April 20, 1986, reveals that, in that year, 25 to 30 corporations paid KA between \$150,000 and \$420,000 each per annum for political influence and "access." As Gelb blandly puts it: "The superstar international consultants [at KA] were certainly people who would get their telephone calls returned from high American Government officials and who would also be able to get executives in to see foreign leaders." I dare say a lot

more than mere access could be gained thereby. KA's offices in New York and Washington are small, but they pack a powerful punch. [Is it mere coincidence that KA's Park Avenue headquarters is in the same building as the local office of Chase Manhattan Bank's subsidiary, the Commercial Bank of Kuwait?]

Who were these "superstar international consultants"? One of them, who in 1986, was the Vice-Chairman of KA, is none other than General Brent Scowcroft, former National Security Advisor under President Ford, and, playing the exact same role under George Bush, serving as the chief architect of the Gulf War. One of the General's top clients was Kuwait's government-owned Kuwait Petroleum Corporation, who

paid Scowcroft for his services at least from 1984 through 1986. In addition, Scowcroft became a director of Santa Fe International (SFI) in the early 1980s, not long after SFI was purchased by the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation in 1981. Joining Scowcroft on the SFI board was Scowcroft's old boss, Gerald Ford. One of SFI's activities is drilling oil wells in Kuwait, an operation which, of course, had to be suspended after the Iraq invasion.

Brent Scowcroft, it is clear, has enjoyed a long-standing and lucrative Kuwait connection. Is it a coincidence that it was

Scowcroft's National Security Council presentation on August 3, 1990, which, according to the *New York Times* (February 21) "crystallized people's thinking and galvanized support" for a "strong response" to the Iraq invasion of Kuwait?

Scowcroft, by the way, does not exhaust the Republican administrations' revolving door among Kissinger Associates. Another top KA official, Lawrence

Eagleburger, Undersecretary of State under Reagan, has returned to high office after a stint at KA as Deputy Secretary of State under George Bush.

Also vitally important at KA are the members of its Board of Directors. One director is T. Jefferson Cunningham III, who is also a di-

rector of the Midland Bank of Britain, which has also been a KA client. The fascinating point here is that 10.5 percent of this \$4 billion bank is owned by the Kuwait government. And Kissinger, as head of KA, is of course concerned to advance the interests of his clients—which include the Midland Bank and therefore the government of Kuwait. Does this connection have anything to do with Kissinger's ultra-hawkish views on the Gulf War? In the meantime, Kissinger continues to serve on President Bush's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board, which gives Kissinger not only a channel for

**Today,
Kissinger
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the
Rockefeller
interests.**

giving advice, but also gives him access to national security information which could prove useful to KA's corporate clients.

Another KA client is the Fluor Corporation, which has a special interest in Saudi Arabia. Shortly before the August 2 invasion, Saudi Arabia decided to launch a \$30 to \$40 billion project to expand oil production, and granted two huge oil contracts to the Parson and Fluor corporations. (*New York Times*, August 21.)

One member of KA's board of directors is ARCO chairman Robert O. Anderson; ARCO, also one of KA's clients, is engaged in joint oil-exploration and oil-drilling in offshore China with Santa Fe International, the subsidiary of the Kuwait government.

Other KA board members are William D. Rogers, Undersecretary of State in the Eisenhower Administration, and long-time leading Dewey-Rockefeller Republican in New York; former Citibank (Rockefeller) Chairman Edward Palmer; and Eric Lord Roll, economist and Chairman of the Board of the London international banking house of S.F. Warburg.

Perhaps the most interesting KA board member is one of the most Beloved figures in the conservative movement, William E. Simon, Secretary of Treasury in the Nixon and Ford Administrations. When Simon left office in 1977, he became a consultant to the Bechtel Corporation, which has had the major massive con-

struction contracts to build oil refineries and cities in Saudi Arabia. In addition, Simon became a consultant to Suliman Olayan, one of the wealthiest and most powerful businessmen in Saudi Arabia. Long a close associate of the oil-rich Saudi royal family, Olayan had served Bechtel well by getting it the multi-billion contract to build the oil city of Jubail. In 1980,

Bechtel, the Rockefellers, and the Sauds.

furthermore, Olayan hired William Simon to be chairman of two investment firms owned jointly by himself and the influential Saudi Prince Khaled al Saud.

Bechtel, the Rockefellers, and the Saud royal family have long had an intimate connection. After the Saudis granted the Rockefeller dominated Aramco oil consortium the monopoly of oil in Saudi Arabia, the Rockefellers brought their pals Bechtel in on the construction contracts. The Bechtel Corporation, of course, has also contributed George Shultz and Cap Weinberger to high office in Republican administrations. To complete the circle, KA director Simon's former boss Suliman Olayan was, in 1988, the largest shareholder in the Chase Manhattan Bank after David Rockefeller himself.

The pattern is clear. An old New Left slogan held that "you don't need a weatherman to tell you how the wind is blowing." In the same way, you don't need to be a "conspiracy theorist" to see what's going on here. All you have

to do is be willing to use your eyes. ●

Lost Illusions

by Joseph Sobran

Life always turns out to be so different from what you think. One of the better films of the last few years was an English film called *Mona Lisa*, about a low-level cockney criminal (beautifully played by the great Bob Hoskins) who falls in love with the lovely black call-girl he's paid to chauffeur around. It transpires she's tragically unlike his image of her. And all through the story, the soundtrack plays Nat Cole singing: "Are you true, are you real, Mona Lisa...?"

Those who want to avoid similar heartbreak are advised never to fall in love with a U.S. president. Over the last few months I've learned a lot about the last few presidents. A new book by James Spada, excerpted in the May *Vanity Fair*, recounts how the Kennedy brothers used Marilyn Monroe, how deeply they got their hooks into her, and how they may even have had her murdered. She'd been led to think she might wind up our First Lady, and when it sank in that this wasn't really the game plan, she threatened to talk and/or kill herself. I'd heard rumors about all this for a long time; more and more had gotten into print, but Spada provides the compelling details. Never mind the latest Teddy stories from Palm Beach! History may look back on the youngest Kennedy boy as the family male line's first faltering step out of the moral ooze.

Moving right along, we come