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## Special points of interest:

- Teach Peace celebrated our first anniversary as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization on April 6th.
- April 6th 2006 was also the date Libby confirmed the president approved the secret Valerie Plame intelligence leak giving new meaning to Mr. Bush's proclamation: "And if there is a leak out of my administration, I want to know who it is. And if the person has violated law, the person will be taken care of."
- On April 19th, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid said the war in Iraq is lost.
- Source articles for our "Special points of interest" are in the Articles section at [www.teachpeace.com](http://www.teachpeace.com).

## PEACEFUL TRANSFORMATIONS

Have you ever heard that you can't change a person who supports the Iraq War? The Teach Peace experience is proving that change is possible! The presentation of the truth, delivered in a calm and factual manner, is capable of creating transformations that are amazing.



Nationwide polls continue to confirm that with each month fewer and fewer Americans support the Iraq War. This alone is proof that change is possible. We highlight in this issue one of the powerful tools that Teach Peace has brought to college and high school students. This tool, the *Voices of Patriots* video by Valerie Mih and Don Richards, raises awareness of the reasons why the Bush administration attacked Iraq. Prominently featured in the video is former Air Force Chief of Staff General McPeak. He and other senior military and intelligence officials explain why the Bush administration selected the false scenario of scary weapons of mass destruction to convince Americans to support the invasion of Iraq.

Sofia Cortopassi observed, "I found the video very informative. I was unsure of the reasons and motives for the U.S. occupation in Iraq, and this video clarified everything for me. As a high school student I was surprised to hear that several high ranking military officers disagree with the Iraq War."

If you have someone in your life that can benefit from the *Voices of Patriots*, please let them know about the video at [www.teachpeace.com](http://www.teachpeace.com).

Former Lieutenant Colonel Dr. Bob Bowman, featured in the film, was once noted by the *LA Times* as the best public speaker in America. He is coming to Sacramento on June 8th. Together with Dave Dionisi, Dr. Bowman will discuss how to "Take Back America." This event is from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Marriott Courtyard and is sponsored by Teach Peace (tickets are \$15 online at <https://shop.teachpeace.com> and \$20 at the door).

## AMERICA HELD HOSTAGE

Many Americans are unaware that declassified information reveals the CIA helped overthrow an Iranian Prime Minister in 1953 and thwart 1980 hostage negotiations to defeat US President Jimmy Carter.

During 1979-1981 the American people were routinely told the reason for the Iran hostage crisis was that President Carter allowed the Shah to visit the US for medical treatment. While it is true the Shah did visit the US, the reason for the hostage crisis was to prevent another 1953 US coup. In 1953 the US and Britain illegally overthrew Iran's democratically elected Prime Minister.

### Special points of interest:

- On April 12th Mikhail Gorbachev said the U.S. is seeking to control Europe through a new missile shield. U.S. Missile Defense Agency Lt. General Henry Obering said three missile-defense satellites will be launched this year.
- A Virginia Tech student killed 32 people and himself on April 16th. What many people failed to note is about the same number of people were also shot to death the following day. On average 32 people die in the US from guns every day.
- On April 23rd, President Ahmadinejad of Iran proposed public talks with President Bush to prevent a US military attack. Ahmadinejad's offer is expected to be rejected as was a 2006 offer for a televised debate.
- Rep. Jim McDermott (D-Wash.) observed "there isn't a thinking person in the world that believes the President when he says he won't launch a military strike against Iran. Even conservative Republicans are worried about the president's lack of credibility."
- On April 24th, candidate for president Barack Obama called for expanding ground forces by adding 65,000 soldiers to the Army and 27,000 to the Marines.

## AMERICA HELD HOSTAGE (CONTINUED)

Why did the US and Britain overthrow Prime Minister Mohammad Mossadeq? The answer is that Mossadeq interfered with US and British oil interests. The Shah, returned to power by the US and Britain, outlawed political opposition and committed terrible crimes. Together with the CIA, he created a secret police organization called SAVAK. Torture became common and the Shah and the US were despised by most Iranians.

While this truth was highly classified in the US during the hostage crisis, this information has been published by newspapers in other countries for decades. The American public may want to take note of this to understand why we must not solely rely on the news as it

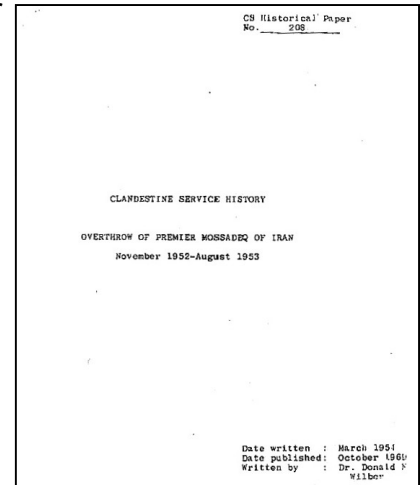
is reported here in the US. US media professionals knew the real reason for the Iran hostage crisis in 1979 and yet they did not broadcast this information. They failed to do that in part because the official US government position until 1999 was that the CIA was not involved. Decades of US government denials were silenced and illuminated as lies after the National Security Archive filed a lawsuit with the CIA in 1999. Educating millions about this tragedy, *The New York Times* also published in 2000 the Top Secret after-action report by coup planner Donald Wilber. The after-action report, kept secret for almost 50 years, confirmed that US covert action executed out of the US Embassy in Tehran in 1953 was a catalyst for the US Embassy being stormed on November 4, 1979. Iranian students involved in the hostage crisis communicated this justification in 1979 but their voices were dismissed.

Since the Iranian people knew about the US overthrow of Mossadeq in 1953, why was it necessary for the US government to deny the operation even in 1999? The answer to this question is to be found in the presidential election of November 1980.

Beyond wondering what secrets are so horrible that the Bush administration hopes they stay classified at least 50 years, why revisit this subject now? As demonstrated with the recent British hostage crisis and current calls by political leaders to bomb Iran, understanding history is necessary both to understand current events and to prevent future wars. Believing the story constructed by the perpetrators, specifically that 52 Americans were released on January 20, 1981 after 444 days of captivity because Reagan simply put his hand on a Bible to become the President, creates the conditions for continued corruption. A careful review of what really happened reveals that not one but two governments were overthrown by the CIA, one directly, the other, indirectly much later.

In 1980, Ronald Reagan was running against President Carter. Polls showed the major swing issue was the Iran hostage crisis. *Time* magazine's October poll highlighted this point, showing how close the race was, with Carter at 42 percent and Reagan at 41 percent. Reagan understood that Carter would win if

**TOP SECRET**



### Special points of interest:

- On April 4, 2007 President Bush named Republican fundraiser Sam Fox as U.S. ambassador to Belgium using an undemocratic maneuver to bypass Congress.
- The Rubicon of space weaponization was quietly crossed on April 24th with the NFIRE launch. NFIRE is a US system to track and kill missiles.
- Bill Moyer's April 25th *Buying The War* documentary revealed how the Bush administration and US media misled Americans to support war with Iraq.
- In April, 17 Teach Peace "in person" presentations were delivered to over 600 people.
- Teach Peace reached a large listening audience on April 2nd when Dave Dionisi was interviewed on KRXA. In this interview, national radio personality Peter Collins provides a powerful endorsement for the *American Hiroshima* book. To listen to the interview, go to [www.peterbcollins.com/shows/2007/04/02](http://www.peterbcollins.com/shows/2007/04/02).
- On April 18th, Republican John McCain answered a question about military action against Iran with the chorus of "Bomb Iran." Asked if his comments were insensitive, McCain said: "Insensitive to what? The Iranians?"

## AMERICA HELD HOSTAGE (CONTINUED)

the hostages were released before the election.

Reagan, his candidate for vice president (former CIA Director George H. W. Bush), and campaign manager (experienced CIA officer William Casey), formed a team of 120 foreign-policy and intelligence professionals. Some of these operatives continue in 2007 to actively promote the "hand on the Bible Reagan miracle" propaganda in order to harden Republican party support. To highlight the size of this operation, reporters Abbie Hoffman and Jonathan Silvers noted in an article titled *An Election Held Hostage* that the National Security Council employed only 65 foreign-policy professionals. They also revealed that in September 1980, William Casey and Edwin Meese formed a subcommittee of these professionals, called the October Surprise (OS) group.

As a result of the focused OS intelligence effort, Reagan had informants at the CIA, Defense Intelligence Agency, National Security Council and in the White House Situation Room. This intelligence apparatus enabled Reagan to receive the "Top Secret – Eyes Only" documents regarding President Carter's negotiations with Iran. When Reagan was asked how these Top Secret documents were found in his personal campaign file he answered "he didn't know how they got there." Reagan's intelligence apparatus also explains why former Congressman David Stockman was able to boast on October 28, 1980 that he used a stolen copy of Carter's briefing book to coach Reagan for a televised debate. The most important "Eyes Only" document Reagan's network provided was on October 15, 1980, when classified information revealed Carter was about to have the hostages released. Reagan obtained this information from campaign strategist Richard Allen, future Reagan National Security Advisor. Allen said he obtained the information from reporter John Wallach, who obtained his information from Secretary of State Edmund Muskie.

Robert Parry's book *Secrecy and Privilege* was published in 2004. Parry's interview with Ari Ben-Menashe (Israeli military intelligence officer 1977-1987) for PBS Frontline and subsequently in testimony to Congress revealed that the now Secretary of Defense Gates was a key October Surprise operative. Ben-Menashe also revealed he and Gates attended a 1986 meeting with a Chilean arms manufacturer (Cardoen) who was supplying chemical weapons to Saddam Hussein. Ben-Menashe's book, *Profits of War*, describes the Paris Ritz Hotel meeting that followed the October 15<sup>th</sup> Carter administration leak. At that meeting Gates, McFarlane, Casey, and George H. W. Bush met with Iranian cleric Karrubi. French investigative reporter Claude Angeli confirmed the French secret service provided "cover" for this meeting between the Republicans and Iranians on the weekend of October 18-19. This meeting, by delaying the hostage release, effectively determined that Ronald Reagan would become the president of the United States.

The fact that Reagan insiders had arranged for Iran to keep the hostages an additional 76 days served to successfully shape the Iran Contra scandal investigations with the false perception that US weapons were shipped to Iran starting in 1985. Reagan initiated Iranian weapon shipments actually started in 1981. During the Iran Contra investigations, to explore Reagan's pre-1985 conduct would have revealed to the American people that acts of treason successfully enabled Reagan to seize power.

### Special points of interest:

- The 15 British sailors were released by Iran as a signal for peace and improved relations on April 4, 2007.
- Iran is so concerned the US is looking for a catalyst to start a war that they would not allow Iraq's president to fly over Iran.
- We provide education about governments and organizations promoting violence because the truth will set us free.
- Contact us at 530-554-7061 to learn how you can help us bring one of our "Teach Peace" presentations to your area.

### SPECIAL EVENT!



June 8, 2007 - A 7-9 p.m. presentation by Dr. Bob Bowman and Dave Dionisi at the Marriott Courtyard.

The address is 4422 Y Street in Sacramento. The presentation is in the Main Ballroom.

Help support Teach Peace and buy your ticket online for \$15 at [www.teachpeace.com](http://www.teachpeace.com).

## AMERICA HELD HOSTAGE (CONTINUED)

Why would so many intelligence officers serve as moles against a sitting president? After the Shah was deposed, President Carter saw that the CIA was out of control and needed to be reined in. He reorganized and fired much of the CIA's Middle East division for misleading him about the reasons for anti-American feelings in Iran. Carter chastised CIA Director Admiral Stansfield Turner just as President Kennedy had blasted CIA Director Allen Dulles. Both presidents reached the boiling point because of misleading information from the CIA. For Kennedy it concerned the April 1961 Bay of Pigs failure and for Carter it was suspected sabotage of the disastrous April 1980 Eagle Claw rescue attempt.

On February 24, 1988, President Carter wrote that he received reports in 1980 that the Reagan campaign was dealing directly with the Iranian government to delay the release of the US hostages. President Carter wrote "I chose to ignore the reports. Later, as you know, former Iranian president Bani-Sadr has given several interviews stating that such an agreement was made involving Bud McFarlane, George Bush and perhaps Bill Casey. By this time, the elections were over and the results could not be changed."

In summary, the leaders in 1953 (President Eisenhower and spymaster Allen Dulles) bear much of the responsibility for the conditions that led to the 1979-1981 hostage crisis. The 1953 coup operation planners, like Donald Wilber, are not heroes but criminals. Reagan's acts of treason seized the presidency and paved the way for the 41st (George H. W. Bush) and 43rd presidents (George W. Bush) with increasing hawkish foreign policies and violations of the Constitution. The important message here is that when we turn a blind eye to injustice and dirty tricks, even decades old, it can lead to more dirty tricks and the undermining of our democracy.

Where do we go from here? Formally apologize to the people of Iran for overthrowing their democratically elected government in 1953. When we do, we can begin to restore the friendship the US and Iran once shared.

For the now declassified reports and sources to support this article, please visit [www.teachpeace.com/irandeception.htm](http://www.teachpeace.com/irandeception.htm).

Dave Dionisi, Teach Peace National Awareness

## HOW TO GET OUT OF IRAQ

The great debate raging across our country at this moment is how best to extricate ourselves from Iraq. But in the midst of the clamor and polarization no one, not even the Iraq Study Group, stopped to ask an important but simple question: Who should be deciding when we leave?

Should it be members of Congress, who may never have been to Iraq, or if they ever were, had stayed cooped up in the Green Zone on most or all of a brief visit?

Should it be the administration, which in the last four years has made countless predictions about Iraq that turned out to be wrong?

Should it be the American people, who know almost nothing about Iraq, and

**Teach Peace Meetings:**

- See the Teach Peace site for a full listing of May presentations and events. A few upcoming events include:
  - > May 10, 2007 - A 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Unity Week Student Facilitation, Ohlone College in Fremont.
  - > May 11-13 - The Whole Earth Festival in Davis, California. The booth will be staffed by TPF volunteers including students from our Youth for Freedom program.
  - > May 12, 2007 - A 6:30 - 7 p.m. "Teach Peace" presentation at Whole Earth.
  - > May 20, 2007 - Sacramento Peace Festival - Noon to 6 p.m. at the Village Green in William Land Park. See [www.sacpeacefest.com](http://www.sacpeacefest.com) for more information.
- Free movies showing at 7 p.m. in the Davis Library Blanchard Room at 314 E 14th Street include:
  - > *What I've Learned About US Foreign Policy* on 5/8.
  - > *Improbable Collapse* on 5/17.
- Monthly conference calls are on the first Saturday of every month from 1 - 3 p.m (PST). To participate on May 5th, go online at [www.teachpeace.com/skype](http://www.teachpeace.com/skype).
- For additional details and to learn about more events, go to the What's New section at [www.teachpeace.com](http://www.teachpeace.com).

**HOW TO GET OUT OF IRAQ (CONTINUED)**

would even have trouble identifying it on a map?

Should it be our commanders in Iraq, who have the bias of a military perspective?



None of these groups, well intentioned as they may be, should be the key players in the deliberations. The mess in Iraq has shown that our so-called experts are amateurs. So who is best qualified to advise on whether we stay or go? Who should be consulted?

The experts on this issue, the people who really are well-informed, who are familiar with the facts on the ground, are the Iraqi people, who live with the reality day in and day out, hour by hour. They are the ones who should be debating and settling this issue. They have had four years of experience on which to base their views. They are in the best position to weigh the benefits and costs of having the Coalition forces leave their country.

I am told that there is now an Iraqi government and that Iraq is a democracy. Indeed, twelve million voters there held up their purple fingers. Given that they know how to vote, Iraqis should be encouraged to run a national referendum on the timing of our departure. For instance, the referendum may read simply, "Should Coalition forces be withdrawn as rapidly as possible, that is, within ninety days? Yes or No." I pick ninety days, but military logistics may require a somewhat longer period.

The time needed to carry out the vote would be determined by how long it takes to print and distribute the ballots. There would be no need for campaigns, since every Iraqi already has had intimate access to the necessary information for an extended period of time.

No poll can serve as a substitute for a national vote. Given the turmoil in Iraq, it must be impossible to get a statistically valid sample.

If the verdict is yes, then we will have secured the blessing of a graceful exit. President Bush, who proclaims the advantages of democracy, would be happy to get out of the mess he is in. Perhaps he would even be relieved that he could not be accused of a "cut and run." An exit endorsed by the people of Iraq would be far more dignified than our pullout from Vietnam, with its image of a last minute helicopter rescue of a mob from the roof of our embassy.

If it is no, then we are in no worse position than we are now. We would still be free to leave after the duration mentioned in the referendum.

In either case, by agreeing to abide by the results of the vote, we would have demonstrated that we believe in the democratic process and that we are not trying to turn Iraq into part of an American empire or a dependable source of privatized oil. That may do more to fight terrorism than we could ever accomplish by force in Iraq, where we may be creating more terrorists than we are eliminating.

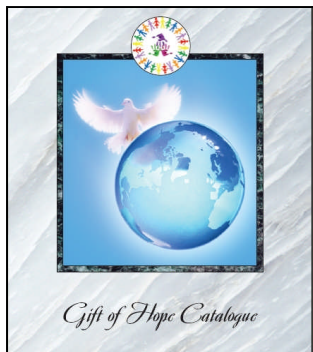
Sherman Stein, Teach Peace Founding Member

The peace movement, information from the US military, and a detailed warning from the Russian General Staff helped prevent war with Iran in April.

“Whenever the people are well-informed, they can be trusted with their government. Whenever things get so far wrong as to attract their notice, they may be relied upon to set them to rights.”

Thomas Jefferson in a 1789 letter.

Save the October 21, 2007 date and 6- 8:30 p.m. for the annual Teach Peace dinner.



Donations and our online store are our primary method for raising funds.

Help us take Teach Peace to the next level of success by financially supporting our work to end current and prevent future wars.



Teach Peace Foundation
Web: www.teachpeace.com
E-mail: contact@teachpeace.com
Phone: 530-554-7061

HIGH SPEED NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

One of the dangerous consequences of the US breaking long-standing agreements to eliminate nuclear weapons is the sudden increase in nuclear proliferation. For example, Just two years ago the leaders of Saudi Arabia told international atomic regulators that they could foresee no need for the kingdom to develop nuclear power. Today, they are rushing to build nuclear plants.



At least six states in the Middle East, plus Turkey and Egypt, have turned to the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna for help in starting nuclear programs.

“The rules have changed,” King Abdullah II of Jordan recently told the Israeli newspaper Haaretz. “Everybody’s going for nuclear programs.”

The official message in the Middle East is that they seek only nuclear power. But in the background are US repeated threats to use nuclear weapons, Israel’s nuclear arsenal, and Iran’s nuclear efforts.

AN EXPANDING EMPIRE IS NOT RATIONAL

Why would a country want to become an empire? The benefits are for a few and the costs are spread over the general population. Democracy suffers and the military expansion of empire leads to more state power at the expense of liberty.

Americans who think empire may be a good thing should read The Empire Has No Clothes by Ivan Eland. You will find dozens of reasons why empires can’t work and why they reduce the power and prestige of the countries attempting this least democratic form of government.

Hank Joerger, Teach Peace Founding Member

The Teach Peace newsletter team adds, “Hank fought in World War II in the Rhineland and at the Battle of the Bulge. His team guarded Nazi prisoners at the Nuremburg war crime trials. He is a decorated peace hero who cares about our soldiers and people around the world.

HELP US DO EVEN MORE

If you have never donated to help us teach peace, please make the peace sign with one hand and look at it. As you look at the V for peace victory sign, consider donating what you earn in two days to help us teach peace. If you are like most Americans, your taxes for war account for more than a month’s pay.

Donations of any amount are appreciated. Help accelerate the peace victory by contributing today.

Need more information? Our 501(c)(3) determination letter, IRS Form 990 tax return, and entire business plan are on our website. To donate, just visit us online at www.teachpeace.com or call 530-554-7061.

