

LEHIGH VALLEY-POCONO COMMON SENSE HERALD

THE PUBLIC VOICE ON THE CUTTING EDGE OF THE FUTURE



January 12, 2020 ***Newsletter*** Vol. 2020 - 1

A JOURNAL OF PHILOSOPHICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

An independent Non-Profit Newsletter formerly associated with the Lehigh Valley Council for Regional Livability, Inc ---.
Publisher and Managing Editor --- Dennis L. Pearson



An Observation Post for what is Happening

COMMON SENSE HERALD BLAST FROM THE PAST REPORT

The following is a repeat of an article that appeared in the Lehigh Valley Common Sense Herald in September 8, 1992. Gordon D. Sharp along with Dennis L. Pearson, Harry Forker, Kenneth Haas and Jean Scherir was a founding member of the Lehigh Valley Council of Regional Livability, Inc. "Gordon D. Sharp was a working journalist for a New Jersey newspaper for many years. He was a military veteran serving in both the Army and the Air Force and did military service in Korea.

THE COMING REVOLUTION IN HUMAN NATURE: THE ROAD TO FREEDOM

by Gordon D. Sharp, Jr. of The Common Sense Herald

On May 10, 1992, a NASA mission specialist named Pierre Thuot made one small misstep for mankind.

Thuot was scheduled to step out into the cargo bay of Space Shuttle Orbiter "Endeavour" and become the star of Mission STS-49 by using a specially designed capture bar to grab and hold an inoperative INTELSAT VI satellite so it could be repaired in orbit.

However, for two days Thuot, hanging in space as the earth spun before him, stood at the end of the shuttle's robot arm and jabbed at the INTELSAT without success. Each time the satellite bounced away out of reach. NASA was frantic, a ground team of experts sweating over the problem. Citizens of the so-far hypothetical space-faring civilization called Houston with ideas all the way from super glue to calf-roping to bring in the errant satellite.

Ultimately the Endeavour crew came up with their own solution, employing a simple formula of common sense and cooperation. Abandoning the superstar system of the one-man show, three of the astronauts --- Thuot, Tom Akers and Rick Heib --- entered the cargo bay and set up a triangular metal truss called an ASEM (Assembly of Station by Extravehicular Activity Methods), part of a Space Station Freedom assembly test scheduled for later in the flight. Akers stood on the truss, Thuot on the robot arm and Heib on the cargo bay rim while Shuttle Commander Dan Brandenstein skillfully maneuvered Endeavour close to the satellite. The three astronauts reached out and pulled the 9,000-pound INTELSAT aboard with their gloved hands, acting in concert. "Houston, I think we got a satellite," radioed Brandenstein. Mission Control erupted in cheers. The bird was soon repaired and sent into a new orbit 23,000 miles out in space. Despite Thuot's earlier mishaps, the Endeavour astronauts had taken a few small steps for mankind and a leap into space history --- the first three-person Eva (Extravehicular Activity), the 100th spacewalk and a new spacewalking record of eight hours and 29 minutes. And something else besides: they had demonstrated, as humanity in microcosm, that cooperation can be more vital than individual grandstanding or ambition in meeting the demands of outer space. The technology, the tolerances and margin for error involved in space demand more understanding and cooperative teamwork than the norm today on planet earth. These demands ultimately will change mankind's perspective on our place in the universe, on each other and on life itself. More than one astronaut, overwhelmed by the beauty of the heavens and the potential for human activity among the stars, has looked back upon our small, beleaguered planet with all its hatred, envy, greed, spite, murderous competition, politics and wars and been equally overwhelmed with disgust at current human behavior. Further reflection shows that the more mankind stretches its reach beyond its petty grasp of earth, the more expansive becomes its intellectual, spiritual and practical potential. Human nature itself is transformed by the view.

It falls to this generation, caught between the surface of our planet and our capacity to become a space-faring and space-dwelling civilization, truly civil and not the hypocritical mockery of today, to hold back the barbarian tide that would once again enslave mankind in liberal or conservative dress, preparing a prison camp disguised in the illusion of earthly paradise, while we at the same time push mankind's freedom forward, "Ad Astra" --- to the stars, and nurture the real and necessary revolution.

Editor's Note:- The above article was prepared using information on the Shuttle Orbiter "Endeavour" and its Mission STS-49 as described in -Final Frontier-, Vol. 5, No. 4, July/August, 1992, Final Frontier Publishing Co., Minneapolis, MN, pp. 37-39... Of interest --- At the National Space Society's Annual awards banquet in Washington D.C held May 1992, author Frank White gave a moving speech on some of his views of space, based on what he believed to be the most valuable treasure of discovery --- freedom. He told of watching a shuttle launch, of feeling the roar of the engines as the shuttle ascended, his cheers lost in the thunder. But his cheers were not for the beauty or the power of the launch. He cheered, he said, because he felt as if he were a prisoner in a jail, watching fellow prisoners escape.

This is a repeat of an article that appeared in the Lehigh Valley Common Sense Herald in March 16, 1993. It is a rather negative assessment of the merits of the Administration of Bill Clinton.

THE REPLACEMENT OF ANCIENT POWERS (PART II: THE NEW RESISTANCE)

by Gordon D. Sharp, Jr. of The Common Sense Herald

Come with us now to the thrilling days of yesteryear, when out of the past came Peter Pan and Wendy to win the White House and take us back to the Never-Never Land of socialist experiments.

Sixty years ago, the western world was wallowing in the socialism of the Soviet Union under communism, of Germany under National Socialism (Nazism) and the United States under the New Deal. Many of the innovations adopted by the New Deal were, in fact, pioneered in Nazi Germany by Hjalmar Schacht, minister of economics under Adolf Hitler. These included the Works Projects Administration (WPA), the Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) and much of the programs of the National Recovery Act (NRA) under Franklin D. Roosevelt. Later found unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Many reading this, especially Democrats, will beat their breasts and gnash their teeth in anger at such heresy; these historic facts are rarely uttered in the American public-school classroom, but they're true.

And now it's equally true that the Clinton/Gore combo that promised us "change" is instead taking us back to the make-work ethic of the 1930's. The march backward is taking place under a dark pall from all the burning campaign promises going up in smoke since Inauguration Day, from the promise of a middle-class tax cut to relief for the Haitian boatpeople. Slick Willy has become the Great Reneger.

This guy's inability to deliver substance instead of smoke and mirrors is one more example of the fact that the ancient powers of nations are declining, with their replacement waiting in the wings of history. That power doesn't belong to nations, nor to the rulers of nations whether presidents or dictators, or president/dictators. These days it's difficult to tell the difference.

As it turns out, the people who were most mistaken about Bugout Bill, the people who were most snookered, conned and cheated were the 43 per cent who voted for him. Ironically, the person who was most right about Saint Willy the Slick was President George Bush, who pointed out during the Richmond "debate" that Clinton would have to tax middle class Americans down to those earning \$36,000 a year in order to make a dent in the deficit. Clinton bridled, claiming if he had to tax below \$200,000 income he would delay or cut programs instead.

As it turns out, Bush was right. However, not only has Clinton violated his word to the middle class on the income level for taxation, he is going ahead with pet programs calling for billions in new taxes that will outstrip spending cuts. That's even before the Mad Empress Carlotta emerges with her socialist plan for national health coverage.

The current national deficit grew under Reagan and Bush largely because of huge defense outlays to counter the Soviet lead in conventional arms, indicating a firm stand against further Russian expansionism. In a sense, the present deficit is the bill we paid to bring the Cold War to an end. It was also built out of decades of deficit financing since the 1930s when FDR adopted the highly questionable economic ideology of British economist John Maynard Keynes. But that's a whole other story.

The story for the present is that the Clinton Administration seems determined to repeat the mistakes of 60 years ago as a solution to the problems of today, from weakening defense to railroading a generation of the nation's potential work force into permanent government dependency or make-work projects. The New Deal failed to pull American society out of the Great Depression before World War II, and the Clinton administration isn't likely to have any better luck with the current deficit, especially since their definition of "change" bears such a striking resemblance to the 1930's.

For example: then, as now, there was a battle over prospective cuts in the military budget. Early in the Roosevelt administration, General Douglas MacArthur, then Army chief of staff, confronted the new president over the issue of weakening national defense to pay for New Deal Programs. MacArthur and others sensed that the First World War, which ended only 15 years earlier, was only the prelude to a greater conflagration; weakening America was welcome for the Japanese. When they finally arrived on December 8, 1941 (December 7 Pearl Harbor time) and wiped out most of our Far East

Air Force in a single air raid, MacArthur had received little more than half the men and planes he needed to mount a successful defense. As Japanese bombs rained down on Clark Field, crews of the 200th Coast Artillery from the New Mexico National Guard fired their 37 mm. and 3-inch anti-aircraft guns at the enemy planes for the first time with live ammunition; back in the States they'd trained with dummy guns made of broomsticks and boxes, another legacy of the New Deal.

The present occupants of the White House seem no wiser. The breakup of the Soviet Union which supposedly ended the Cold War and allegedly signaled a "peace dividend" has actually made the world situation more volatile and unstable than it was at the end of World Wars I or II. Conventional arms and nuclear materials are still being unloaded in Third World hotspots. The bombing at the World Trade Center should have been a wake-up call, the 21st Century equivalent of Pearl and Clark.

The media, as predicted, is already growing cold on the Clinton honeymoon, finally pointing out the flaws that were so obvious to the majority of American voters who didn't choose Slick Willy. Even Dave Broder, who helped pull the wool over the eyes of those who couldn't see too clearly in the first place, finally 'fessed up that Willy's Wonka wasn't working ("Even if Clinton Diagnosis Right, His Proposed Cure Falls Short," Broder column, The Morning Call, February 24).

However, only four days later Broder was backtracking to his campaign theme that one-party government (an idea alien to the American ethos) was a good thing ("Shift to One-Party Government Gives Reform a Fighting Chance," The Morning Call, February 28). Apparently, it's not only the declining power of nations and politicians that need replacement, but the powers (particularly the mental powers) of media pundits.

Perhaps, however, Broder bespoke more than he intended. It may, in the end, be necessary for Americans to suffer the oppression of a one-party system before they accept true reform of government and shake off the shackles of an outdated nation-state system that keeps the people of the world at each other's throats. This is the essence of the New Resistance. Then we may disarm, then we may live free. Until then, however:

"Nations have millions for bombs and rocket thrust
For new inventions to grind their foes to dust
While children are chalk-faced and hunger-thinned
And the hawk of death rides high on every wind."

-- Lucia Trent, Hawk of Death

NOTICE-

The Lehigh Valley-Pocono Common Sense Herald is published in the English language
Copyright (c) 2020 by the Lehigh Valley -Pocono Common Sense Herald *** All
RIGHTS RESERVED

The Common Sense Herald has no subscription or newsstand price. This journal is provided free of charge electronically or by paper as long as supplies last. The Common Sense Herald will accept letters to the editor and other journalistic contributions from our readership and public for publication. The editor reserves the right to use or not use comments so addressed, in whole or in part, as he deems in the public interest, and include your name and edit the letter for clarity or space. Mail these contributions and letters to the editor to the Lehigh Valley Common Sense Herald, 212 Pinoak Road, Lehighon PA 18235... Please Note --- all journalistic contributions appearing in the Herald become the sole property of the Lehigh Valley-Pocono Common Sense Herald, unless accompanied by a request for retention of ownership by the placement of a copyright mark in identifying the article... Opinions expressed in articles are those of the authors and not necessarily of the Lehigh Valley-Pocono Common Sense Herald. The Lehigh Valley Common Sense was formerly associated with the Lehigh Valley Council of Regional Livability, which was administered by the East Allentown Rittersville Neighborhood Association, Inc. which currently has an re-organization problem

COMMON SENSE HERALD LEGACY REPORT

This is a repeat of an article that appeared in the Lehigh Valley Common Sense Herald in March 16, 1993

FROM THE PRAIRIE TO THE VALLEY III

by Tom Nakos --- Special Reporter of The Common Sense Herald

The first time I walked into the newsroom at the Decatur Herald & Review, I felt this is what I would have liked to be part of.

This was where I belonged, sitting in front of a keyboard staring at my monitor, creating literary masterpieces. I would have a big cigar chomped between my teeth, blue acrid smoke curling around my head. My wide brim crumpled felt hat would be high on my forehead, a half-empty bottle of booze making rigs on the side table.

That image of a reporter has long since disappeared into the dusty pages of a Damon Runyon novel, and anyway, I was 68 years old and retired when I walked into the Herald & Review with my first letter to the editor.

The receptionist at that time was a blond beauty named Sherry. She paged the editorial page editor who scanned my letter and said simply, "OK." That was the beginning of my love affair with the Herald & Review.

Month after month I would bring in my letter, and before I realized it, I had an audience of at least one. Sherry always wanted to read my letter before I went into the newsroom to see the editor. The more I became familiar with the newsroom the more my ego rose. I told myself, "This is the life."

Everybody looked so busy poring over their keyboards answering phones. There seemed to be board meetings every day. Sitting around a long table, shirt-sleeved men and smart-looking women seemed so busy. I could not hear what they were discussing. They could have been debating whether to change the contents of the candy machine in the lunchroom, or who to back in the next election to city council. Anyway, I was hooked, and I loved being a very small part of this wonderful world.

h

From out of the past of front page-type novels, only the one thing remains. It is the chief's glass-walled office in the back of the newsroom. I can picture when the chief would yell into the newsroom for some cub reporter to come into his office. You knew the kid would get a tongue-lashing although you couldn't hear a word. Do they still call them "cub" reporters or are they "the new kid on the block?"

Believe it or not, I did build up a following. Many times, where I had to sign my name, it would be recognized and commented upon. They would say they look for my name first before reading the letters. Even nurses in local hospitals where I go for X-rays or blood tests would make it a point to come over to me and say, "Keep writing that funny stuff, Mr. Nakos. We are tired of people griping about this and that." At about the time my ego was making me tough to live with, my wife would tell me. At times another booster of mine, the former director of the Decatur Area Arts Council. Nancy Allen Wolter, would write me notes accusing the Herald & Review of wearing blinders for not hiring me to write a monthly column slanted to the senior age group.

Success came to me finally this year as my essays were accepted for Prairie Talk. There I was - my picture and my words and my name. Now my wife will surely have trouble living with me.

EDITOR'S Note- --- The Article above first appeared in totality in Prairie Talk Column of the Decatur Herald & Review February 22, 1992 ... Article reprinted here by permission of Mr. Nakos

GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER SCIENCE FAIR IN PHILADELPHIA –

Founded by a group of educators and business people in 1979, The George Washington Carver Science Fair encourages urban youth to pursue academic achievement and careers in science. The Carver Fair is jointly sponsored by Temple University, The Academy of Natural Sciences, The School District of Philadelphia, and The Archdiocese of Philadelphia. It is open to all students in grades four through twelve who attend Philadelphia County public, charter, parochial, and private schools, as well as to home-schooled students residing in the county. Since its inception, over 37,000 students have participated in the Carver Science Fair and have, in many cases, moved on to compete in the Delaware Valley Regional and Intel

International Science Fairs. The George Washington Carver Science Fair is named in honor of the late Dr. George Washington Carver: scientist, inventor, artist, musician, and great humanitarian.

PASSING OF THOMAS ANDERSON



For a number of years with the NSS Philadelphia Area Space Alliance I served as a special judge for the elementary and secondary divisions of the George Washington Carver Science Fair in Philadelphia... The Elementary Division holding its Fair at the Academy of Natural Science of Drexel University and Secondary Division holding its Fair at Temple University's Aramark Star Complex. With sadness, I learned that Mr. Thomas Anderson Jr., Carver co-founder and leader of over 40 years had died a few months ago ... I had seen Mr. Anderson still working and promoting the event last March when I was at Temple University for the Science Fair. So, in honor of Mr. Anderson, the George Washington Carver Science Fair Committee with commitment to continue his legacy and Temple University have developed the Carver Fund to support his legacy of providing an opportunity for all Philadelphia students to create, share, and succeed at STEM. Donors, even from the Lehigh Valley, who choose to give by mail please send gifts to:

Temple University
Institutional Advancement
P.O. Box 827651
Philadelphia, PA 19182

Checks should be made payable to Temple University. In the memo line or with enclosed correspondence, donors can indicate, "Carver Science Fair in memory of Tom Anderson. In Allentown, I also urge people interested in the STEM Sciences. to support the Annual Allentown School District Foundation Science Fair" ... I certainly did in the Past and will in the Future as well as Science Fairs at Ritter Elementary and Mosser Elementary. And certainly, now living in the Lehigh Area School District I probably will support the STEM sciences there as well ...

COMMON SENSE HERALD MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT REPORT

My 1st meeting as East Penn Township Supervisor is Monday, January 6, 2020 ... I wish Joe Zeller was alive to witness it. And my parents Kenneth and Christine Pearson ,, And also, Richie Check,, And may God the father, the son, and the Holy Ghost watch over my deliberations on the Board and provide me the wisdom to make the right decisions for the people, property owners and the stake holders of East Penn Township



At that meeting I was named the voting delegate to the PSATS State Educational Convention from East Penn Township. The convention will be held in early May and will be in Hershey PA ...I was named by the same Board to be the Key Supervisor for Planning/Zoning ... Previous to becoming a Supervisor I was appointed in January 2018 as a member of the Township's Ashfield Playground recreation committee. I have three years remaining on that appointment. And I will be the Township's delegate to the carbon County Council of governments meeting in Jim Thorpe

One issue on center stage in East Penn Township is continuing litigation in regard to agreement between a local farmer and Synagro in regard to the dumping of bio-solid sludge on their farmland An issue that Township people expressed great concern.. They want protection for their adjacent properties, roads, groundwater, wells and water sheds from contamination due to the product that Synagro is providing from both short-term and long-term effects...

COMMON SENSE HERALD MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT REPORT



What are biosolids?

Biosolids are nutrient-rich organic material resulting from the treatment of sewage sludge. When treated and processed, biosolids can be recycled and applied as fertilizer to improve and maintain productive soils and stimulate plant growth.

Why do we have biosolids?

We have biosolids as a result of the wastewater treatment process. Water treatment technology has made our water safer for recreation and fish harvesting. Just 30 years ago, thousands of American cities dumped their raw sewage directly into the nation's rivers, lakes, and bays. Through regulation of this dumping, local governments are now required to treat wastewater and to make the decision whether to recycle biosolids as fertilizer, incinerate them, or bury them in a landfill.

Where do they come from?

Once the wastewater reaches the treatment plant, the sewage goes through physical, chemical and biological processes which clean the wastewater and remove water from the solids. If necessary, the solids are then treated with lime to raise the pH level to eliminate objectionable odors. The wastewater treatment process sanitizes wastewater solids to control pathogens (disease-causing organisms, such as certain bacteria, viruses and parasites) and other organisms capable of transporting disease.

Where are biosolids used?

Farmers and gardeners have been recycling biosolids for ages. Biosolids recycling is the process of beneficially using treated residuals from wastewater treatment to promote the growth of agricultural crops, fertilize gardens and parks and reclaim mining sites. Land application of biosolids takes place in all 50 states.

The application of biosolids reduces the need for chemical fertilizers. About 50 percent of all biosolids are being recycled to land. These biosolids are used on less than one percent of the nation's agricultural land.

Do biosolids smell?

Biosolids may have their own distinctive odor depending on the type of treatment it has been through. Some biosolids may have only a slight, musty-ammonia odor. Others have a stronger odor that may be offensive to some people. Much of the odor is caused by compounds containing sulfur and ammonia, both of which are plant nutrients.

Are biosolids safe?

The National Academy of Sciences has reviewed current practices, public health concerns and regulator standards, and has concluded that the use of these materials in the production of crops for human consumption, when practiced in accordance with existing federal guidelines and regulations, “presents negligible risk to the consumer, to crop production and to the environment.”

To determine whether biosolids can be applied to a particular farm, an evaluation of the site’s suitability is generally performed by the land applicator. The evaluation examines water supplies, soil characteristics, slopes, vegetation, crop needs and the distances to surface and groundwater.

There are different rules for different classes of biosolids. Class A biosolids contain no detectable levels of pathogens. Class A biosolids only have to apply for permits to ensure that the basic standards have been met.

Class B biosolids are treated but still contain detectable levels of pathogens. There are buffer requirements, public access and crop harvesting restrictions for virtually all forms of Class B biosolids.

Nutrient management planning ensures that the appropriate quantity and quality of biosolids are land applied to the farmland.

The biosolids application is specifically calculated to match the nutrient uptake requirements of the particular crop. Nutrient management technicians work with the farm community to assure proper land application and nutrient control.

Are there buffer requirements or restrictions on public access?

In general, exceptional quality (Class A) biosolids used in small quantities by general public have no buffer requirements, crop type, crop harvesting or site access restrictions. When used in bulk, Class A biosolids are subject to buffer requirements, but not to crop harvesting restrictions.

In general, there are buffer requirements, public access, and crop harvesting restrictions for virtually all forms of Class B biosolids (treated but still containing detectable levels of pathogens).

Other uses?

Biosolids have been used successfully at mine sites to establish sustainable vegetation. Not only does the organic matter, inorganic matrix and nutrients present in the biosolids reduce the bioavailability of toxic substances often found in highly disturbed mine soils, but also regenerate the soil layer.

In forested areas, biosolids have also been found to promote rapid timber growth, allowing quicker and more efficient harvest of an important natural resource.

Biosolids can also be composted and sold or distributed for use on lawns and home gardens. Most biosolids composts, are highly desirable products that are easy to store, transport and use.

Can anyone apply biosolids to land?

Anyone who wants to use biosolids for land application must comply with all relevant federal and state regulations. In some cases, a permit may be required.

Where can I find out more about regulations?

The biosolids rule is described in the EPA publication, *A Plain English Guide to the EPA Part 503 Biosolids Rule*. The EPA has also prepared *A Guide to the Biosolids Risk Assessments for the EPA Part 503 Rule*, which shows the many steps followed to develop a scientifically defensible, safe set of rules.

COMMON SENSE HERALD NATIONAL AND WORLDREPORT

A NERVOUS WEEK INDEED --- EVERY EVENT HAS A REACTION

By Dennis L Pearson of the Common Sense Herald

U.S. Senator Pat Toomey (R-PA) issued the following statement in reaction to American forces killing Qasem Soleimani, the head of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps-Quds Force, a U.S.-designated Foreign Terrorist Organization:

“Qasem Soleimani was responsible for the murder of hundreds of Americans. The world is a better place now that he is dead. Every American should be grateful to our armed forces who carried out this strike with incredible skill and precision. The Trump administration was right to restore deterrence against Iran.”

Soleimani was killed on January 3, 2020, after missiles shot from American drones targeted his convoy near Baghdad International Airport. The airstrike followed attacks on the American embassy in Baghdad by supporters of an Iran-backed Iraqi Shia militia and the 2019 K-1 Air Base attack.

Stated fictional Presidential Candidate Dennis Kennethsson: “I don't know how much safer we are ... Actions do have consequences ...And the action of killing an Iranian General whether it was justified or not may stir up the pot in a world that favors eye for eye rather than accommodation. If it is the right thing to do then we should not be afraid to do it, but if it is a wag the tail response the public should be wary.

Responded an Allentown Pennsylvania Republican who wants to be a Delegate to the 2020 National Republican Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina said: I applauded Obama when he took out coward Bin Ladin. Always consequences, if Clinton took out Bin Laden when he had chance

maybe we do not have 9/11. Indeed yes, there are consequences when we do nothing

His remarks being countered by Gordon Gordonsson:” Yes, but when you've wrecked all our international alliances, all you're left to work with is military might. To be effective, military might must be wielded with intelligence and competence - two things our president according to the opposition party dispensed with long ago, if he ever actually possessed them.

I applauded when Obama took our Bin Laden, too. But by that time, Bin Laden was a loose end, his influence degraded by a decade of military and intelligence activity - some well done, some not so much. It was not the willy-nilly takedown of someone of consequence and all the repercussions to follow.

The guy deserved to die, no question. I just have zero confidence this Administration has the moral or intellectual firepower to handle the inevitable aftermath. Sure, he may bomb a once-proud nation out of existence. Then what?



Kennethsson listened to what was said and then continued his comments: “In my belief no politician should tell the world that God is on our side... Why? if it is more correct for us to be on God's side... After all, the God who created the world and Universe is not exclusively the servant of one politician, one party or one nation. God so loves the world so much that he gave up his one and only son for the sins of the world ... But admittedly God has given the United States so many blessings But as his stewards may we act in the way that justifies this blessing and don't become the people

that we say that our enemies are.... Vigilant and Strong we must be, but we must not become hypocritical in our actions.

The wannabe Republican delegate interrupted Kennethsson by asserting: “But, But, ...Senator Toomey did not say God is on our side. The post was simply about Senator Toomey and taking out a terrorist.

Which Gordonsson replied: Yes, but Kennethsson must be referring to something Donald Trump said in Miami and reported in the New York Times: On Friday January 3, 2020 Jennifer Medina and Maggie Haberman wrote that in his first public appearance since the strike that killed Maj. Gen. Qassim Soleimani of Iran, President Trump rallied his evangelical Christian base of supporters, portraying himself as the restorer of faith in the public square and claiming that God is “on our side.”

And indeed, the use of this term by Donald Trump raised some eye brows for Dennis Kennethsson recalling that the term Defender of Faith is normally attached to the Queen of England rather than the President.

Kenneth Haas noting from where he was that Defender of the faith, Latin Fidei Defensor, indeed, was a title belonging to the sovereign of England in the same way as *Christianissimus* (“most Christian”) belonged to the king of France. The title was first conferred by Pope Leo X on Henry VIII (Oct. 11, 1521) as a reward for the king’s pamphlet *Assertio septem sacramentorum adversus Martinum Lutherum* (“Declaration of the Seven Sacraments Against Martin Luther”), written against Luther. When Henry broke with the papacy, Pope Paul III deprived him of his designation, but the title was restored to the king by Parliament in 1544 and is still used by his successors on the English throne. The abbreviation Fid. Def. or the letters F.D. have been regularly on the coinage from the time of George I.

The reporters maintained that Ms. Lynch’s appearance underscored how sensitive Mr. Trump was about any signs of fracturing in his base; many evangelical allies denounced the editorial, and Ms. Graham Lynch vowed on Friday to help Mr. Trump win re-election. She then welcomed a supporter to the stage who told attendees that they could not trust what the news media wrote about the president.

Mentioning the attack in Baghdad only briefly, the president spent his hourlong speech at Ministerio Internacional El Rey Jesús, a church with a predominantly Hispanic congregation, alternating between his familiar mocking jabs at Democrats, who he repeatedly called anti-religious, and boasting about his own faith-based policies. Saying he would renew the importance of religion and family, Mr. Trump vowed that he would toughen restrictions on abortion and would take action to “safeguard students and teachers’ First Amendment rights to pray in our schools.”

Using a chalk board, the approach normally used by Glenn Beck to explore an elusive issue, JoAnne Oliversdotir opined that relations between Tehran and Washington have spiraled since US President Donald Trump came to power and promptly quit the international deal on Iran's nuclear program, reposing sweeping sanctions on the country.

In a landmark address to Middle Eastern leaders in Saudi Arabia on May 21, 2017, just months after taking office, Trump urged nations to work together to isolate Iran "until the Iranian regime was willing to be a partner for peace".

"From Lebanon to Iraq to Yemen, Iran funded, armed and trained terrorists, militias and other extremist groups that spread destruction and chaos across the region." Some people correctly or incorrectly asserting that Iran has re-directed monies it allegedly received from the Obama Administration as part of the Iran nuclear deal framework which was a preliminary framework agreement reached in 2015 between the Islamic Republic of Iran and a group of world powers: the P5+1 (the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council—the United States, the United Kingdom, Russia, France, and China—plus Germany) and the European Union.

The Iranian government, Trump claimed in an address to the United Nations on September 19, 2017, "has turned a wealthy country with a rich history and culture into an economically depleted rogue state whose chief exports were violence, bloodshed and chaos."

Trump on May 8, 2018 pulled the US out of the nuclear pact between world powers and Iran, calling it "defective at its core".

The move heralded the reinstatement of US sanctions on Iran and companies with ties to it.

Washington warned other countries to end trade and investment in Iran and stop buying its oil, or face punitive measures.

On August 7, Washington reimposes a first set of sanctions that involved freezing financial transactions and imports of raw materials, as well as penalties on purchases in the car and commercial aviation industries.

A second wave of US sanctions came into force on November 5, described by Washington as the "toughest" yet.

On June 20, Iran's Revolutionary Guards said they shot down a US spy drone which allegedly violated Iranian airspace. The Pentagon denied the unmanned aircraft entered Iran's airspace.

The next day Trump approved a retaliatory strike, but canceled it at the last minute.

On June 24 the US imposed "hard-hitting" financial sanctions on Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and senior Iranian military leaders.

Iran announced on July 1 that it has exceeded a limit on its enriched uranium reserves set by the nuclear deal.

On July 7, Iran announced it will begin enriching uranium to a level prohibited by the deal "in a few hours".

Tehran also threatened to abandon more nuclear commitments in "60 days" unless a "solution" is found with the deal's remaining parties.

A day later, Iran said it is enriching uranium to a level of at least 4.5 percent.

On July 18, Trump said the US military has taken down an Iranian drone that came dangerously close to one of its naval vessels in the Strait of Hormuz. Iran denied the claim.

On July 22, Iran said it had dismantled a CIA spy ring, arresting 17 suspects between March 2018 and March 2019 and sentencing some of them to death. Trump dismissed the claim as "totally false".

On August 25, Tehran's top diplomat caused a stir at the G7 summit in France by making an unscheduled appearance, meeting with French President Emmanuel Macron on the sidelines.

The next day Trump said he is prepared to meet with his Iranian counterpart Hassan Rouhani.

"If the circumstances were correct, I would certainly agree to that," said Trump, considering it realistic to hold such a meeting "in the next few weeks".

On August 27, Rouhani calls on Washington to "take the first step" towards a such a meeting by lifting all Kennethsson adding that the Iranian general whom replaced the leader killed by a U.S. airstrike in Baghdad vowed Sunday January 5, 2020 to take revenge as Tehran abandoned the remaining limits of its 2015 nuclear deal with world powers in response to the slaying. Esmail Ghaani's threat came as the blowback over the U.S. killing of top Iranian general Qassem Soleimani mounted Sunday with Iraq's parliament calling for the expulsion of all-American troops from Iraqi soil.

In analysis Gordonsson commented: The three developments could bring Iran closer to building an atomic bomb, see an proxy or military attack launched by Tehran against America and enable the Islamic State group to stage a comeback in Iraq, making the Middle East a far more dangerous and unstable place. Adding to the tensions, President Donald Trump threatened to demand billions of dollars in compensation from Iraq or impose "sanctions like they've never seen before" if it goes through with expelling U.S. troops.

Ghaani made his remarks in an interview with Iranian state television aired Monday, January 6, 2019 <

"God the almighty has promised to get his revenge, and God is the main avenger. Certainly, actions will be taken," Ghaani said.

Chimed in Kenneth Haas another colleague of Kennethsson: "As I see it from where I am, the Iranian General believes that Trump's authorized deadly attack on his predecessor is an affront to God (Allah) and thus, Iran must retaliate as the avenger for God.

Pontificated Kennethsson: "As the three stooges would say ... What a revolting predicament we are in ... It is more and more evident that people are using their faith as their identification without meaning and also to excuse their actions, as well as inactions Often times, what we see is more political posture then true faith ...

In the war of words there is a standoff, each side accusing the other side of being terrorists ... each side saying of the opponent what the opponent said of them. The whole affair being a media circus ... But whereas a Circus is entertainment that brings joy and merriment, this circus can bring more anger and despair, and lead to more unending violence.... George W Bush in sending troops into Afghanistan to avenge the Osama Bin Laden planned 9-11 attacks in the United States, said: "The mindset of war must change It is a different type of battlefield... It is a different type of war...The battles, will be fought visibly sometimes, and sometimes we'll never see what may be taking place".

And his national security adviser, Condoleezza Rice, said his speech would seek both to reassure the public and dispel expectations of a swift victory.

"This is an opportunity to talk to the American people about the kind of threat that we face," she said. "An opportunity to urge patience and reason to demonstrate again that his resolve is going to be over a long period of time."

The speech would "make the case for why we are entertaining this long struggle", said MS Rice, who is anxious to discourage simplistic comparisons with past conflicts.

"This is not Pearl Harbor", she said, discouraging comparisons with Franklin Roosevelt's "date which will live in infamy" speech to Congress, which declared war on Japan. "There are no beaches to storm and islands to take ... This will be a war of will and mind," she said.

And Gordon Gordonsson responds: And with the recent action conducted by Donald Trump, this different type of war continues perhaps bringing on a different stage or phase... Meaning, that our will and mind would again be tested. Some people no doubt would be more confident in Trump's action if this was a stateless terrorist with no allegiance to any particular nation or state. But this was a high ranking official of a foreign government. And to some, this act for that reason may be an act of war. To the rest of the world many nations even some of our allies may deem this action as an assassination and an unjustified terrorist act. Strategically, a very dangerous decision to attack a country that has been coordinating navy drills with China and Russia. It could further increase the rift between the US and its allies. Taking all this into account, US might be less safe today than it was before the attack. And it is quite possible, this will have a ripple effect that will haunt the US for years to come. This being so, unless Trump's security team knows the consequences of what they are doing better than our fears and assumptions.

a rocket attack on Friday, December 27, 2019 on an Iraqi military base that killed an American civilian contractor and wounded several United States

military service members and Iraqi personnel, served as the genesis of decision-making leading to the deadly drone attack on an Iranian General on January 3, 2020 whom was suspected of associating and making plans with Iranian sponsored militias in Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq that were responsible for many more American deaths... Later the Trump Administration asserted that these plans involved multi-embassy attacks in the region... And of course, the Trump Administration didn't want a Benghazi like incident in his administration which has occurred under President Obama and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

Of importance, the Economic Times on January 4, 2020 cited Mary Ellen O'Connell an expert in International Law and the Laws of War associated with the University of Notre Dame School of Law as their spokesperson for declaring that the targeted killing of a high Iranian state and military official by a surprise attack was clearly an assassination.

The Pentagon instead characterized the attack at the direction of the President as defensive, to protect U.S. military forces abroad, and stated that Soleimani was actively developing plans to attack American diplomats, and service members in Iraq and throughout the region. Additional comment from Secretary of State, Michael Pompeo, and the President indicated that the slain general also was punished for past blood on his hands. Punishment or judgment coming from the sky via an unmanned drone rather than in the court room

O'Connell is also cited as saying that whether the killing was framed as part of an armed conflict between two states or a police action intended to deter terrorism, it cannot be characterized as self-defense because there was never a full-fledged and direct attack on the United States by Iran. U.S. laws prohibit assassination both in peace time and as well as on the battlefield.

Responded Gordonsson:

The War of Jenkins' Ear (known as *Guerra del Asiento* in Spain) was a conflict between Britain and Spain lasting from 1739 to 1748, mainly in New Granada and among the West Indies of the Caribbean Sea, with major operations largely ended by 1742. Its name, coined by British historian Thomas Carlyle in 1858,^[2] refers to Robert Jenkins, a captain of a British merchant ship, having suffered having his ear severed when Spanish sailors boarded his ship at a time of peace. However, there is no evidence that supports the stories that the severed ear was exhibited before the British Parliament.

The seeds of conflict began with the injury to Jenkins following the boarding of his vessel by Spanish coast guards in 1731, eight years before the war began. Popular response to the incident was tepid until several years later, when opposition politicians and the British South Sea Company

played it up, hoping to spur outrage against Spain, believing that a victorious war would improve Britain's trading opportunities in the Caribbean.^[3] In addition, the British wanted to keep pressure on Spain to honor their lucrative *asiento* contract, which gave British slave traders permission to sell slaves in Spanish America. The Spanish refer to this *asiento* in their name for this war.^[4]

British attacks on Spanish possessions in Central America resulted in high casualties, primarily from disease. After 1742, the war was subsumed by the wider War of the Austrian Succession, which involved most of the powers of Europe. Peace arrived with the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle in 1748.

Now, in this case to avenge the death of an American contractor is one of the reasons given to set off pre-planning for the deadly punishment or retaliation against the Iranian General which also killed Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis, a lifelong ally of Iran, whom was the Iraqi deputy commander of the group overseeing militias, which were long at odds with the United States.

Kenneth Haas adding; From where I am, I believe the following statements are true:

- The US' top allies, including the UK and France, have continued to back away from President Donald Trump following the US military's assassination of top Iranian general Qassim Soleimani on Friday, January 3, 2020
- Some European allies argue the US's dramatic escalation of conflict with Iran will benefit the Islamic State, increase the risk of terror attacks in Europe, and undermine global economic growth.
- A spokesperson for British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, a conservative ally of Trump's, said the US president's recent threat to target "Iranian culture" sites would constitute a war crime.
- On Monday, NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg called for "restraint and de-escalation" and said a new conflict with Iran "would be in no one's interest."
- Secretary of State Mike Pompeo lashed out at the Europeans during an interview on Friday and claimed the US strike against Iran "saved lives in Europe as well

But all this was said before the announcement that a Ukrainian Commercial Airliner was shot down near Teheran Airport after take-off there... For days authorities in Iran denied that they had anything to do with it ... But under foreign pressure they finally admitted they did it by error or was it deliberate as a form of avenging.?

Kennethsson's last reflection: When World War II had come to the end with the NAZI's surrendering in Europe and the Japanese surrendering in the

Pacific, his father wrote home to tell the Egyptian Press in Whitehall PA (Egypt) that he was delighted to go home to be with his wife and younger daughter. With an additional interest to see the Bethlehem High School-Allentown High School annual Thanksgiving football game. Being part of the Signal Corp, his father traveled with his unit from the United States to North Ireland, England, France, The Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany, Austria, and Checkslovakia seeing all horrors of war as two warring armies engaged in battle. His response to the coming peace was his wish that peace would never be disturbed by the horrors of war and battle again ... And that none of his future children or their children or the children of anybody else would see the horrors of war again. Unfortunately, Kennethsson's father's wish never prevailed and the four horseman of war continued their run around the globe... With the current crisis between the U.S and Iran for whatever reason it occurred leading to more concerns whether World War III is coming...

However, as it occurred; Iran's avenge on the United States turned out to be more powder puff then they boasted ... And most embarrassing for Iran was their admission after days of lying that their forces were not responsible for shooting down an Ukrainian Airliner ... This action causing the governments of Ukraine, Canada and Europe in addition to the U.S. to speak in angry terms about Iran's actions.

Reflected Gordonsson: Accustomed we are to hear the chant coming from Tehran and allies of Teheran of Death to America like were heard at the General's funeral. Now in wake of the airline attack, we hear protesters shout Death to the Regime Death to the Ayatollah. ... Of interest --- the Iranian regime are blaming the British for this backlash ... Are these the same people stirring up all the fuss in Hong Kong too.

What do Harry and Meghan say about this?

THE OLD PRACTICE OF YEARLY SACRIFICE OF BULLS AND GOATS NO LONGER NEEDED

The Epistle of Hebrews tells us why Jesus the word came into the world ... Jesus the high priest came to offer the last sacrifice for our sins ... The Old practice of the yearly sacrifice of bulls and goats to cover up our sins was needed no more.

Remember as imperfect beings we never can come close to see the perfect being which is God ... We need the forgiveness of our sins (which is defined as the failure to live up to the expectations of God) to have that opportunity.


Christ's Sacrifice Once for All

10

1. For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near.
2. Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins?
3. But in these sacrifices, there is a reminder of sins every year
4. . For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.
5. Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me;
6. in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure.
7. Then I said, 'Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.'"
8. When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law),
9. then he added, "Behold, I have come to do your will." He does away with the first in order to establish the second.
10. And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.
11. And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins.
12. But when Christ[b] had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God,
13. waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet.
14. For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.
15. And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying,
16. "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws on their hearts, and write them on their minds,"
17. then he adds, "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."
18. Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

Fact is, Human beings really cannot come close to God because we all are sinners ... We are sinners because we cannot live up to the expectations of God even if we would try to live up to it because we are imperfect... It is indeed true that priests before Christ were thought to remove our sins through the blood of bulls and goats, but this removal of sin or new beginning only had an impact temporarily because it had to be repeated every year. But when the word (Christ) came into the world all changed ... Christ the word was one with God and obedient to God and his sacrifice made it possible for human being having been cleansed of sin to no longer have any consciousness of those sins... And made it possible for human beings to become closer to God's perfection and therefore become eligible for eternal life ... However, if we willingly separate ourselves from God through

our actions, this offering of the high priest could still again be lost We celebrated the birth of the high priest of our faith on Christmas Day ...So in whatever station of life we are in, let us not forget through our actions the sacrifice of the high priest throughout the rest of the year



HOW MANY DAYS TO AMERICA?

By Dennis L. Pearson of **The Common Sense Herald**

“How many days to America,” said the little boy to his mother? The mother said: “Hush little child, to go to America we need to avoid detection by Castro’s Policia.”

It was the hope of the mother that her son and herself would come to enjoy in America a life they could not enjoy in Cuba. For the mother detection by the Policia would mean jail. For the child, detection would mean separation from the mother.

The pair would depart from Cuba in a weatherworn boat.

“How many days to America,” said the little boy to his mother? The mother said: “Hush little child, we need to avoid detection by Castro’s naval patrol’s, but I promise it would be soon.”

Only ninety miles to America, however, it might as well been a thousand. In the open seas the boat was swamped by heavy weather and sunk. In one of her last acts, the mother placed her precious son in an inner tube in the hope that he might live. And that is how a fisherman found the little boy. The little boy lay exhausted on an inner tube desperately clinging to life.

In the distant past another mother placed her son Moses in a small floating bassinet in the Nile River in the hope that he could be found and have a good life among the Egyptian royal family instead of a dreary life or death among the Hebrew slaves in Egypt.

The little boy's mother was dead. The father who had divorced his mother was in Cuba with a new family. He was completely in the dark in regard to the flight and misfortune that occurred to his former family. Meanwhile, that part of the little boy's family that had already fled Cuba and sought and lived the American dream would soon learn about the peril that the little boy was rescued from. Whatismore, they dreaded for personal and political reasons the long-term living conditions that would face the little boy should the American Immigration service send him back to Cuba.

"How many days to America," said the little boy to his temporary guardian? The temporary guardian said: "Hush little child, you are in America, do not worry and go out to play."

In Cuba, the father soon learned of the traumatic event that had been suffered by his son; and so, in fact did Fidel Castro.

Castro was looking for an issue to tweet the nose of the great North American power that is still in a contest of wills against his Communist state; and amazingly, the bearded one found one in the fate that befell this little boy. Is this not the same Latin American Dictator who has jailed or executed many of the brave or pathetic souls who have set themselves against his regime? Remarkably, he can now transform himself into the gallant compassionate knight fighting for the return of this little boy to Cuba. From the beginning he demanded of the American government to do the right thing and return the little boy to Cuba and his father immediately, to do otherwise would be criminal and constitute kidnapping.

Meanwhile, Bill Clinton and Janet Reno hear the cries of the Cuban expatriates in Florida and elsewhere in the United States to let this sacred child stay. Bill Clinton wants to apply the rule of law in this case. When it affects him more immediately, he wants to forget the rule of law. Actions speak louder than words.

"How many days to America," said the little boy to his new surrogate mother in Florida? The new surrogate mother said: "Hush little child, it may take many days before you may be allowed to stay in America. We fear that you may be sent back to Cuba." Said the little boy: "I don't want to go back to Cuba, do you hear me?"

Meanwhile back in Cuba, the father asks; "When can I get my son back?" A question that many American men or women would ask if their divorced custodial spouses would die suddenly in a foreign state. Therefore, despite the politics involved in this affair, many

of these people might side with the father. We cannot argue against this position. However, the Florida family in seeking custody of the little boy comes from another view.

The affair has become a circus as lawyers for the Florida family, the government, and the father haggle over the fate of the little boy. Even the little boy is said to have an attorney supposedly looking out for his interests. The Florida family seeks to reverse the Immigration Service order that they give up the little boy so that he could be returned to his father in Cuba. In State and/or Federal Court they seek to gain custody and the reversal of the Immigration Service order.

How many more hours in America must I wait," the father asks as he is brought to Washington D.C. in anticipation of an expected reunion with his son. The President and Janet Reno respond: "We are working on that problem right now."

Indeed, the President and Ms. Reno had a plan to resolve the problem. Part of the plan was to make the family think that the government was actually negotiating in good faith. But somehow to me the government looked as deceitful as the Japanese visitor to the Roosevelt White House appeared to be when he knew that the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor would begin shortly. The Clinton/Reno plan was implemented before dawn, as the Florida family was on the telephone in another attempt to work out details for an agreement, which would allow the father to see the son. The government soon resorted to trickery. In the midst of negotiations, for some unmentioned reason, the Florida family was put on hold. The next moment, a motorcade of heavily armed Immigration service people rolled up to the Florida family house, plied the door open, and by gunpoint snatched the little boy from the arms of the same fisherman who had saved him. A female agent carried a distraught Elian Gonzalez into a waiting van and whisked him away to meet his father in Washington D.C.

Said the little boy as this was happening: "What is happening?" Said a smiling Bill Clinton: "That was the right thing to do." Said Fidel Castro: "For this action, I grant the U.S. an one-day truce." Said the King Solomon, long in his grave, "Will the true protector of Elian Gonzalez please stand up? Said one of the Three Stooges: "What a revolting development this is!"

Amazingly, the screenplay of this continuing episode plays like a William Shakespeare drama. In fact, there is a scene in the movie **Titus**, an adaptation of William Shakespeare's play **Titus Andronicus**, in which Titus' son Lucias points a weapon point blank at the Moor, Aaron, who is attempting to steal away with the bastard baby of

Tamara, the Queen of the Goths and the wife of the Roman Emperor, which he sired. Lucias takes the baby away from the Moor with the promise to raise it to maturity. Later Aaron, the Moor is put to death for the intrigues he inflicted on the Roman Court

In the movie Titus Andronicus (Anthony Hopkins), the great Roman general, returns victorious from a long war with the Goths. As part of the victory ritual, Titus sacrifices an enemy prisoner. He chooses the eldest son of Tamora, the Queen of the Goths (Jessica Lange), who has been brought back to Rome as a captive with her three sons and the Moor, Aaron. Though Tamora pleads for her son's life, Titus continues with the ritual out of religious devotion. Tamora and her two remaining sons, Chiron and Demetrius, vow revenge. With that, the tale of double revenge begins; first Tamora's, and then Titus

THOUGHTS FOR THE NEW YEAR AND DECADE

Mark Twain:

"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So, throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover."

Benjamin Franklin:

"Be always at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let each new year find you a better man."

