

Tightening The Noose

by Del Coffee

Democracy in America today is hamstrung by a power-crazed vice president, a collusive congress and a broken judicial system. America needs a new compass a new direction. America needs to find it's heart! Meanwhile, the Bush administration continues it's rush into fascism. While the populous slumbers, insulated and lied to by corporate media, behind a cloak of secrecy the executioner tightens the noose. Unfortunately for us all, if there are elections in 2008, we'll only have a choice between corporate democrats and corporate republicans. Any candidate that actually has the vision to lead us out of this nightmare scenario can't even get into the debate.

If you take into account all the fronts that are under siege today in our country, by our very government, you might soon be ready to "step off the curb" and into the streets.

Consider the act of civil disobedience, being framed as *domestic terrorism*. Consider the move to distill media ownership and the *necessity* of domestic spying. Consider the acceptable use of torture and the CIA's practices of extraordinary rendition. Consider the ever expanding role of our Department of Homeland Security. Consider FEMA flagrantly lying to the people on Fox News, while the Bush administration continues to alter scientific reports to suit its real constituents.

Last week it was reported that the Pentagon and the Department of Homeland Security were to join forces and lay plans for future *anticipated* civil disobedience. This was to include plans for suspending the constitution and invoking martial law. Is this Pakistan or the US?

Today if we want to protest, we may be allowed to exercise our right in a designated *free speech zone*. These zones are usually blocks or even miles away from the battle lines. They

may be fenced and *will* be closely watched by the *authorities*, be they local police, military police or private contractors. I'd anticipate batons and pepper spray at the very least if one "steps off the curb" with the wrong attitude in the wrong town.

The Writing on the Wall:

Media consolidation, and the courts sanctioning fake news; Homeland security and the Pentagon joining forces. The likelihood of private mercenary armies being contracted domestically because the National Guard and the Reserves are deployed in a foreign land, and because oppression is big business. A Justice Department headed by an attorney general that protects the president by claiming he doesn't know whether water-boarding is torture or not....

Predatory corporations riddling and ravaging our country like termites so all we have left is a hollow facade, an illusion which only resembles America.

Now that the rats are fleeing, leaving us in rags and ruin, I'd say they should expect some civil disobedience, and we can expect Blackwater to be deployed.

We have been sold out. The fences and walls being built on our borders to keep immigrants out, will work equally well keeping us *in*.

Look at the emerging nations and Third World countries falling under the guise of growth and prosperity, a form of westernized democracy, of globalized capitalism. You'll see the same pattern that has laid our nation to waste: the exploitation of resources, both human and natural, civil rights violations and the destruction of the planet. In India, peasant farmers are being forced off their ancestral lands and the land is being re-designated as *industrial zones*, where transnational corporations are setting up their stinking, exploitive, polluting factories. India, where a burgeoning middle class wants *more*, and are increasingly unwilling to take care of their elderly.

Look at America, where people still think that as long as the stock market is up that the economy is sound.

America, where the citizens are kept in the blind about the value of their currency, unaware

that the greenback isn't worth the paper that it's printed on.

America, where most people don't know that the US is borrowing money from China to fund it's endless wars, and that China only supports the value of the dollar because it is so deeply invested.

The federal government is in worse shape financially than it's own middle class, though the parallel, living beyond our means, always amazes me.

The Way Home:

Realize and recreate our connection with *all* life. Recognize and embrace our sisters and brothers, differences and diversities, in solidarity; build a global movement.

Impact capital by organizing buyer boycotts, labor movements, bank reforms. Renew regulation of the banking system; reign in consumer interest rates, rewrite bankruptcy laws to aid individuals rather than corporations. Demand corporations pay more income taxes. Deprivatize power, water, health care. Restore vital social services that have been stripped away....

Overhaul the government through election reform. Publicly fund elections and eliminate private campaign contributions. Reduce the power of special interest lobbyists. Reduce presidential powers. Separate Church and State. Restore balance to the justice system.

Demand elections free from fraud, restore voter confidence and real voter representation. Vote out incumbents that don't perform. Revoke corporate personhood and licenses where needed. Rewrite US foreign policy, and build a world free from the tyranny of predatory global capitalism.

While my dark vision may sound hopeless, I believe we might still change the course of events. The time to act is now! Organize. Impact capital. March in large numbers on this nation's capitol, and *stay* until we have accomplished our goal.

Step off the curb!

It's the only way.

Crimes Against Humanity

It is reported that 8,320 tons of depleted uranium munitions (DU) were exploded during the invasion of Iraq. It's been said this is equivalent to 14 thousand Hiroshima bombs. The Department of Veteran Affairs reports the death toll in the two Iraqi wars, 1991-2003, to be 73,846. That's 17,847 battlefield deaths and 55,999 non-deployed deaths. DU slowly takes it's toll on those exposed to it's killer radiation.

Have you seen the photos of the babies born to parents that have been exposed to this silent killer? The question most asked by the parents of these newborn is not is the child a boy or a girl, but is it *normal*?

Citizen Alert

Senate Bill S. 1959

The Violent Radicalization and Home-grown Terrorism Prevention Act of 2007

Must be stopped!

Originally introduced in the House of Representatives as HR 1955 in April 2007, sponsored by Representative Jane Harman D-CA, the bill was passed October 23, by a vote of 404 to 6 with 22 members abstaining. S. 1959, introduced in the senate sponsored by Senator Susan Collins R-ME on August 2, 2007, could be coming up for a vote before the Christmas break. The bill seeks to establish a national commission on the prevention of violent radicalization and homegrown terrorism, *and other purposes*.

INN news reported, "If this bill is passed and

becomes law, your words and actions could be considered terrorism. S 1959 eviscerates free speech and empowers the government to declare anything they deem an *extremist belief system*, could instantly make you a terrorist, resulting in the stripping of US citizenship, torture and/or execution, with no habeas corpus rights and no ability to challenge the charges even in the Supreme Court."

Citizens are advised to contact their senators and demand a NO vote on this bill.

articles submitted by Del Coffee

"Nobody ever escaped detection, and nobody ever failed to confess. When once you had succumbed to thoughtcrime it was certain that by a given date you would be dead."

George Orwell, 1984