

Friends plead for Christian mother's life

by Keith Wilkerson, managing editor

She spent Christmas in prison, condemned to death. Her family is in hiding. Rioting protesters are demanding her death. A prominent cleric has offered a 500,000 rupee bounty to anyone who will kill her.

She is Asia Bibi, a 45-year-old Christian mother of five facing the death penalty on the charge of insulting the Koran and the Prophet Mohammad.

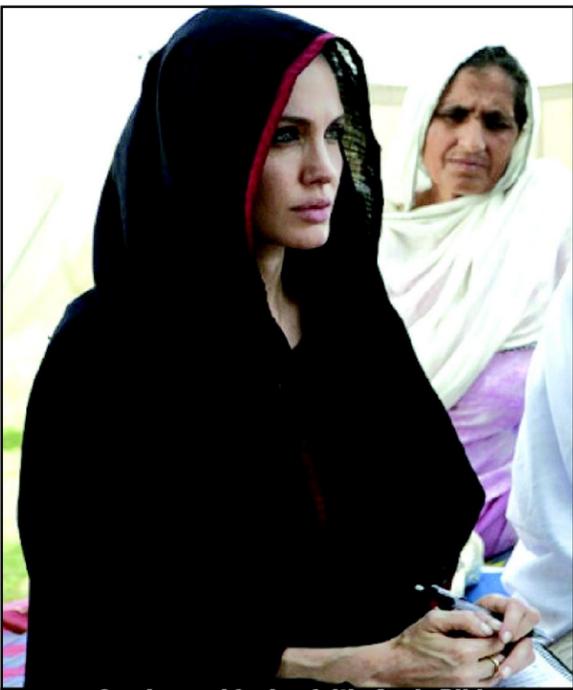
Her high crime? She reportedly remarked to a fellow peasant while they were picking berries "Jesus saved me. What has Mohammed done for you?" The Muslim neighbor was already angry because Asia had gone to

a nearby well and upon returning had offered her and another woman a drink of water. Both refused to be served by a Christian.

Government officials originally promised to pardon but Asia continues to languish in jail. Some analysts say that the government's apparent willingness to bow to Islamist extremists in the matter could undermine the country's gains in the ongoing battle against the Taliban.

The Pakistani government's refusal to repeal or amend the country's blasphemy laws have renewed concerns about its resolve to tackle extremism at home.

"The government has been trying to rely too much on



Condemned for her faith, Asia Bibi

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Media skips certain details about rogue 'Baptist' protesters

compiled by the Christian Crusadestaff



Outside a funeral

The mainstream press has a little secret that it never tells about the loathsome Westboro Baptist Church, which is best known for protesting the funerals of U.S. soldiers with signs saying "God hates fags" and "God hates America."

"This bunch has made it their mission to disrupt and make more painful as many military funerals as they possibly can," writes columnist

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WikiLeaks reveals why Obama betrayed Poland

compiled by the Christian Crusadestaff

It was not "new intelligence reports," but Obama's naivete in diplomatic negotiations and his fear of displeasing Russia that prompted him to scrap plans to provide Poland with a missile shield, according to diplomatic cables.

The disclosure came out of WikiLeaks' publication of thousands of diplomatic memos between U.S. negotiators.

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How can America ever pay off Obama's deficit?

by Billy James Hargis II, publisher

What's wrong with our leaders? They agree that our nation's drunken binge of tax, borrow and spend is unsustainable.

America simply can't continue without disaster.

However, the political solution is to "kick the can down the road," in the words of Congressman Paul Ryan (R-Wisconsin).

Rather than deal with tough decisions, politicians instead patch together temporary solutions.

They leave to those who will follow in years to come the difficult task of belt-tightening, either cutting back



Obama

on government spending or else voting in high taxes.

"This is a time to make tough choices, not run from them," Ryan advises.

However, our nation is in denial. Like the crew of the *Titanic*, rearranging the deck chairs and insisting the ship is not sinking, comedian Stephen Colbert recently made light of the situation—proclaiming Jesus is a socialist, as evidenced by His

"redistributing" a little boy's loaves and fishes so 5,000 hungry people could enjoy a free lunch.

Well, there is a vast, vast difference. Jesus was demonstrating God's power and how we can trust in the goodness of His provision.

That's completely different from misplacing our trust

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Liberals accuse 13 Christian groups of 'hate'

compiled by the Christian Crusadestaff

Flushed with victories in the lame duck session of Congress, liberal activists have accused 13 Christian organizations, including the American Family Association and Tony Perkins' Family Research Council, of practicing "hate" and pressuring the news media not to quote the groups' spokesmen or give their activities any



FRC's Perkins

publicity.

The intent is to silence some of the most effective defenders of our faith.

The smear was immediately denounced by incoming Speaker of the House John Boehner and 150 other national leaders, including 24 members of Congress.

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Bureaucrats try to take over Internet

compiled by the Christian Crusadestaff

Federal Communications Commission Chairman Julius Genachowski has defied the courts, Congress and a clear national consensus in a blatant power grab, seizing control of the Internet on behalf of the Obama Administration.

In an editorial headlined "The FCC makes a naked lunge to collect political power unto itself," the *Wall Street Journal* mused: "U.S. companies are sitting on \$2 trillion in cash, and the Obama Administration has just made telecommunications a less attractive



Julius Genachowski

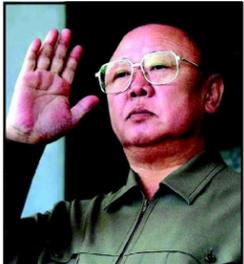
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Are we on the verge of a new Korean War?

compiled by the Christian Crusadestaff

North Korea's mad Stalimists with their thumbs on the nuclear button could plunge the world into a global nightmare—and the current weakness in the White House is tempting them to do just that.

Today, almost 60 years after the Korean war was suspended between the U.S.-allied



Kim Jong-il

Republic of Korea and the Chinese-backed Democratic People's Republic, the border is tense.

"Both sides are braced for a return to conflict that would kill millions of people and resonate economically and politically across the globe," warns journalist Joseph Schuman.

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European Union court denies 'right to abortion'

compiled by the *Christian Crusade Newspaper* staff

In a decision involving challenges to Ireland's abortion laws, the European Court of Human Rights has held that the European Convention on Human Rights does not contain a general right to abortion.

In a suit that had been dubbed the "Roe v. Wade of Europe," the decision was a substantial victory for the unborn. The ruling stymies the international abortion movement's claims that abortion is a universally-recognized right.

In November, 2008, a number of Christian groups including the Family Research Council, the Alliance Defense Fund, the European Centre for Law and

Justice, and the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children filed an amicus brief supporting Ireland. Of this decision, Jeanne Monahan, Director of the Center for Human Dignity at the Family Research Council, said: "Europe's highest court has sent a very welcome message not only to its constituent countries but to the world at large that the so-called 'right to an abortion' is neither fundamental nor recognized worldwide, as abortion advocates would suggest.

"We are thankful that the European Court on Human Rights stood by the right of a nation to define its own laws, and also that the court stood by the life of the unborn. The result of Europe's 'Roe v. Wade' decision

reaffirmed that it is up to nations to define their own laws, and that a woman's right to choose what to do with her body does not extend to a right to terminate a life she is carrying," Monahan concluded.

The Court also held that Ireland had not provided proper procedures pursuant to Article 40.3.3 of the Irish Constitution whereby a lifesaving abortion could be procured effectively.

This procedural failure was deemed to violate European Union laws.

It is anticipated that the Irish government will correct this situation while also continuing to maintain its current protections for unborn children.

Bureaucrats try to wrestle control of the Internet

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place to invest. To health care and financial services, add one more industry that the federal government has drawn into that huge gray cloud called 'economic uncertainty.'"

"Anyone interested in net neutrality regulation or the coming political, legal and constitutional fights over it must read the scathing dissents by FCC Commissioners Rob McDowell and Meredith Baker," writes observer Berin Szoka.

Indeed, McDowell said "Nothing is broken in the Internet access market that needs fixing; the FCC does not have the legal authority to issue these rules; and the proposed rules are likely to cause irreparable harm."

Baker's comments were equally on point: "There is no factual basis to support government intervention. Consumers will not benefit from net neutrality. The order may inhibit the development of tomorrow's internet. The Commission acted improperly."

"Yesterday's action is breathtaking," observed the *Journal* editorial. "At a stroke, the Democratic-controlled Federal Communications Commission circumvents Congress, defies the courts and declares itself overlord of the Web."

"Undermined by an April court decision that gutted much of the FCC's Web authority," reported Reinhardt Krause for *Investor's Business Daily*, "FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski aimed to carve out new rules."

"Reports are already circulating that at least one major firm will sue to overturn the illegal regulations," noted the *Journal*, "and, of course, Congressional Republicans will rightly rake the FCC over the coals."

"The FCC approved a set of net neutrality rules and nobody is happy," observed Dan Lyons in the liberal news site *The Daily Beast*. "No matter what you think about the new rules, however, they signal an important turning point in the development of the Internet.

"We are going from Phase One, where everything is free and open and untamed, into Phase Two, which is all about centralization, control—and money.

"There's little evidence the public is demanding these rules," observed financial



Demonstrators protest Obama's latest power grab

expert John Fund, "which purport to stop the non-problem of phone and cable companies blocking access to websites and interfering with Internet traffic.

"Over 300 House and Senate members have signed a letter opposing FCC Internet regulation, and there will undoubtedly be even less support in the next Congress.

"Yet President Obama is ignoring both Congress and adverse court rulings, especially by a federal appeals court in April that the agency doesn't have the power to enforce net neutrality. He is seeking to impose his will on the Internet through the executive branch.

"The net neutrality vision for government regulation of the Internet began with the work of Robert McChesney, a University of Illinois communications professor.

"McChesney's agenda?" asked Fund. "He told the website *SocialistProject* in 2009: 'The ultimate goal is to get rid of the media capitalists in the phone and cable companies and to divest them from control.'

"A year earlier," reports Fund, "McChesney wrote in the Marxist journal *Monthly Review* that 'any serious effort to reform the media system would have to necessarily be part of a revolutionary program to overthrow the capitalist system itself.'"

"'Net neutrality' sounds nice, but the Web is working fine now," notes Robert M. McDowell in the *Wall Street Journal*. "The new rules will inhibit investment, deter innovation and create a billable-hours bonanza for lawyers.

"Nothing is broken that needs fixing.

"The Internet has been open and freedom-enhancing since it was spun off from a government research project in the early 1990s."

This is nothing but a power grab.

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Is the 'Don't ask, don't tell' battle really over?



compiled by the *Christian Crusade Newspaper* staff

Incoming Chairman Buck McKeon

Although 60 percent of our frontline troops do not favor open homosexuals serving in the military, a lame duck Congress has extended open arms to gays.

The vote could not have passed without the support of scores of liberals who were cleaning out their desks since voters had just kicked them out of office. However, approval depended on a number of supposed conservatives, including Massachusetts' Republican Senator Scott Brown.

"Ironically," notes MassResistance, a Massachusetts pro-family grassroots activist group, "this comes just weeks after the latest deluge of the massive WikiLeaks scandal, called one of the greatest security breaches in U.S. history. Hundreds of thousands of classified documents were made public by a homosexual in the Army who was enraged at the military's "anti-gay" policy! The massive WikiLeaks betrayal was done by an angry homosexual activist, a fact that has been virtually ignored by the entire mainstream media."

The new policy now mandates that homosexuals be allowed to serve openly in the military. Or does it? Maybe not, says analyst Cliff Kincaid. The bill still leaves open the door for the incoming chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, Congressman Buck McKeon (R-California), to hold hearings and refuse to certify that the armed services are ready for such a change.

McKeon opposes repeal. He has told reporters he intends to hold hearings that would include rank-and-file service members along with military leaders.

"I would really like to hear from battlefield commanders," McKeon said. "I would like to hear from battalion commanders, I would like to hear from company commanders on the front lines in Afghanistan and Iraq to see what their feelings are."

So, there's a glimmer of hope that the lame-duck, last-minute legislation by discredited legislators will not take effect.

However, it's only the smallest glimmer

"Today is a tragic day for our armed forces," writes Family Research Council President Tony Perkins. "The American military exists for only one purpose—to fight and win wars. Yet it has now been hijacked and turned into a tool for imposing on the country a radical social agenda. This may advance the cause of reshaping social attitudes regarding human sexuality, but it will only do harm to the military's ability to fulfill its mission."

"Homosexual sin will always be a stench in the nostrils of Almighty God," agreed former Navy Chaplain Gordon James Klingenschmitt, "an abomination which God condemns and shall punish with everlasting destruction. Even if the Senate had voted 100 to 0 to legalize sin, they could not remove God from His throne of Judgment, before which every knee shall bow, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord."

"I call upon the new Congress to never certify that the military is ready to implement repeal of 'Don't ask, don't tell,' and instead pass strong laws protecting the rights of Christian troops (especially chaplains) to openly speak their opinions about what the Bible calls sin, to refuse common showers, sleeping quarters and 'social re-education,' guaranteeing religious freedom even outside of chapel services. If free speech and free religion rights of Christian chaplains and troops are not protected, then the military is not ready to certify or implement repeal, and will quickly begin to persecute good people of Christian conscience."

To read the media, however, you'd never know the law is not already in effect. "Don't ask, don't tell" is repealed by Senate; bill awaits Obama's signing," proclaimed the *Washington Post's* page 1 banner headline.

However reporter Ed O'Keefe did begrudgingly note in the 22nd paragraph that top military leaders must find or certify that changes to the current policy "must not affect troop readiness, cohesion or military recruitment and retention."

"How is this possible when Marine Commandant General Jim Amos has already said that the changes would cost lives?" asked Kincaid. "Calling repeal a major distraction, Amos said, 'I don't want to lose any Marines to the distraction."

"I don't want to have any Marines that I'm visiting at Bethesda National Naval Medical Center, in Maryland with no legs be the result of any type of distraction."

The *Post* article goes on to say "Even after the finding, lawmakers will be able to hold hearings for two months to review the Pentagon's policies and procedures for accepting openly gay troops, according to congressional aides."

So, the policy is not being put into effect immediately

You would never have known that from listening to National Public Radio, which compared the repeal to the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

The *New York Times* admitted deep within its article that "repeal will not take effect for at least 60 days while some other procedural steps are taken. In addition, the bill requires the defense secretary to determine that policies are in place to carry out the repeal 'consistent with military standards for readiness, effectiveness, unit cohesion, and recruiting and retention.'"

Then the *Times* acknowledged: "'Procedural steps' that are part of the bill give the new conservative-controlled House an opportunity to derail the repeal policy."

Elaine Donnelly of the Center for Military Readiness pointed out that a Pentagon survey found that if open homosexuals were admitted, 32 percent of Marines said they would leave the service sooner than planned, and 16.2 percent would consider an early end to their careers.

Among Army combat arms personnel, 21.4 percent would leave sooner than planned, and 14.6 percent would think about leaving.

"These losses 'could put remaining troops in greater danger, and break the All-Volunteer Force,' Donnelly points out. "So will Congress approve the changes, knowing that they could result in the return of the military draft?"

"As the *Times* indicates," observed Kincaid, "the specific language of the bill is that the repeal must be 'consistent with the standards of military readiness, military effectiveness, unit cohesion, and recruiting and retention of the Armed Forces.'"

Thus, noted Kincaid, "The burden is on the gay rights lobby to prove that the changes would have no negative effect on any of the above."

Meanwhile, a special Defense Department working group appointed by Defense Secretary Robert Gates has recommended that the military should "expressly prohibit" heterosexuals from using separate showers, bathrooms and bunking facilities from homosexuals.

"The working group also has recommended that commanding officers be left with the authority to exempt individuals from using the same showers, bathrooms and living facilities as homosexuals, but only on a 'case-by-case' basis," reported Terence P. Jeffrey of CNS News, an Internet service.

Passed by lame ducks already fired by voters

The margin of victory approving the appeal came from Congressmen and Senators who had already been defeated in the Nov. 2 elections, thrown out of office largely because of their support for Obama's radical left-wing agenda.

"In a cowardly last-ditch jab at America, they rushed it through in a lame-duck session, knowing that the new Congress which begins in a few weeks would never pass it," noted columnist Jay Tower.

"They knew full well that the majority of Americans greatly oppose this agenda. All 31 states which voted on "gay marriage" have defeated it, many by large margins.

"But particularly outrageous was Sen. Scott Brown, the newly elected Republican from Massachusetts who was swept into office by pro-family and Tea Party support, vowing he'd be the '41st vote' against the Obama agenda and would oppose the repeal.

"Brown completely abandoned his base and his campaign promises, and blatantly voted to homosexualize the military.

"But even worse, our top military leaders, including the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Secretary of Defense, aggressively supported integrating homosexuality into the US military and actively lobbied members of Congress to repeal 'Don't ask, don't tell.'"

"We're only lucky this wacky bunch wasn't in charge during WWII!"



Erskine Bowles, left, and former Wyoming Senator Alan Simpson, cochairmen of the president's deficit commission

Can America ever pay off Obama's deficit?

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in a fiscally bankrupt government that legalizes immorality and forbids Jesus' name even being mentioned to students in the schools our taxes support.

God owns the cattle on a thousand hills—and we are right to depend on Him. Nobody else is even close in terms of trustworthiness. Any manmade government, in extreme contrast, gives away money it does not have and cannot repay without mortgaging our children's future and igniting dangerous inflation that threatens the most vulnerable among us — the elderly on fixed incomes.

There is no comparison at all

However, delaying solutions is easier than implementing tough policies.

A sweeping belt-tightening plan put forward by President Obama's bipartisan deficit commission, which called for deep spending cuts as well as tax increases, drew howls of protest from across the political spectrum. The *New York Times* observed that one of the things the panel hoped to accomplish was to “jar the public into recognizing the magnitude of the nation's budget deficit and some of the drastic steps that might be needed to close it.”

A *Wall Street Journal*/NBC News poll summed up the commission's draft this way: “The commission recommends 75 percent come from spending cuts and 25 percent come from increases in tax revenues. Spending reductions include cuts to Medicare, Social Security, and defense spending. The tax increases include higher gasoline taxes, lowering the corporate tax rate but limiting business tax deductions, and placing a limit on the tax deduction for homeowners with mortgages over \$500,000.”

Of those voters polled, 40 percent called it a bad idea. Seventy percent were uncomfortable with the plan. Fifty-nine percent were not comfortable with increasing taxes. Fifty-seven percent expressed discomfort at increasing the age at which Social Security recipients could get full benefits.

Democratic pollster Peter Hart, who conducted the survey with Republican pollster Bill McInturff, observed: “Everybody wants to cut the deficit and cut the

spending. But everybody wants a choice that doesn't affect their well-being.”

After 30 years representing New Hampshire in Congress, retiring Republican Senator Judd Gregg offered a bleak view of the situation. He warned there is little chance Washington will address its staggering debt in order to avert the “inevitable fiscal meltdown” he fears is imminent.

“After the threat of a terrorist using a weapon of mass destruction, it's the biggest threat we have—the impending and inevitable fiscal meltdown of our nation if we don't take action to correct our financial health,” Gregg told the *Daily Caller*, an Internet daily news site.

After working behind the scenes to craft deficit-reducing legislation that he hoped could be the final capstone to his career, Gregg appeared pessimistic about the ability of Congress to act at all. Legislators seem only capable of spending more and more.

They refuse to deal with the consequences of the immense national debt and our nation's looming entitlement crisis. Millions of people are depending on money that does not exist.

Separated from reality

Gregg told reporter Jonathan Strong that Congress appears unable and unwilling to grapple with reality. Ignore the problem and maybe it will go away seems to be the attitude. Bury your head in the sand. Quote Scarlet O'Hara: “Fiddle-de-dee! Tomorrow's another day!”

“Right now,” warns Gregg, “we're in a situation

Number three!”

Jackson, a businessman and conservative author from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, says that America faces a similar situation.

“I am sorry to have to come before you with what are, indeed, five Unthinkable Options,” he writes. “They are not unthinkable because they cannot be thought of. In fact they all have been thought of. They are just unthinkable because once thought of, they are quickly discarded by minds that do not want to accept the truth.”

“That truth is that the way our federal government spends money, and likewise what it spends money on, is ruining America and heading us down a road to oblivion.”

“I see what our Congress and a long line of Presidents have done when it comes to spending. Year in and year out, they toss away more money than is collected.

“The numbers are staggering. The United States is not millions of dollars in debt. It is not even billions of dollars in debt. Oh, no, we are far past those milestones on the road to oblivion. The United States is trillions of dollars in debt.”

Oblivious to the magnitude of such numbers, our leaders, says Jackson, refuse to consider simple questions, such as whether an expenditure is a wise usage of taxpayer dollars or if it is even allowed under the Constitution.

“Once those questions are asked after the fact,” he writes, “the inevitable dance begins.”

“First those who support the spending try to just ignore the question. Then, when that fails and people

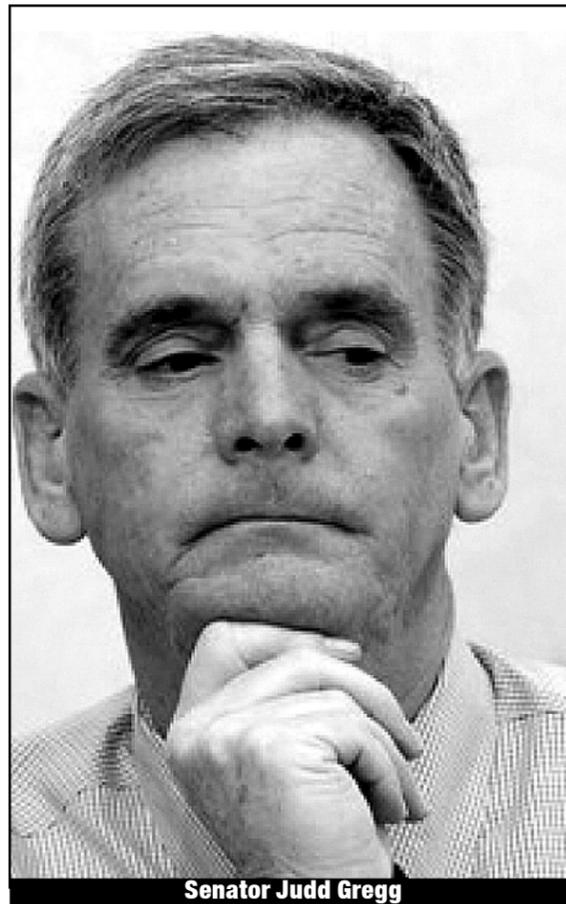
where it's totally predictable what's going to happen. I can't pick the date, but I guarantee you that three to seven years from now we will see a financial crisis of inordinate proportions if we don't take actions to reduce the rate of growth of our debt. Unfortunately, American politics and governance usually react best in crisis and aren't very good in anticipation of problems. We're good at the next election, but we're not very good at the next generation.”

The end result, he warns, will be a significant reduction in the standard of living for most Americans and a very dramatic change in our national security. But our leaders just don't want to deal with it, writes J.J. Jackson. He compares the situation to a recent cartoon:

“The scene is from *The Simpsons Movie*. Russ Cargill, the movie's villain, stands before ‘President’ Schwarzenegger with five plain, brown file folders, each containing government solutions.

“Cargill proclaims, ‘Well, I've narrowed your choices down to five Unthinkable Options. Each will cause untold misery.’

“Humorously the President,” writes Jackson, “as I think so many presidents have done throughout history, calls out, ‘I pick number three!’ Cargill asks, ‘You don't wanna read them first?’ President Schwarzenegger scoffs, ‘I was elected to *lee*ead, not to *ree*ead.



Senator Judd Gregg

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keep demanding answers, Step Two is implemented – which is to justify the spending under some obscure and wholly inconceivable interpretation of the Constitution.

“This tactic includes inserting words that do not exist into the text, redefining words that do exist, and ignoring actual documentation by the Founding Fathers themselves that further explains the words they penned, voted on and later approved.

“If that fails, it is on to Step Three, where they again try to ignore the question. When that fails, they pull out a line that goes something like, ‘The power of Congress to do [insert the proposed expenditure here] is unquestioned,’ and then again they return to ignoring the question.

“And finally when that fails to silence critics, they resort to their final excuse which is to play on your heart strings and talk about all the pain and suffering that would ensue if all this spending were to be ended.

“Then if absolutely necessary, they go back to Step One and start all over again, never actually settling anything, admitting they are wrong or solving the problem. Meanwhile they are heaping on us more such programs!”

It is utter insanity

Craziness, writes Jackson.

“We are enslaving our children, just as the ancestors of modern day liberals in the past enslaved blacks, to work for them,” charges Jackson.

Today, government incompetence is to blame for many of the problems that the government wants to solve. African-Americans have been victimized far more than anyone wants to admit.

Forty years ago, author and college professor Daniel Patrick Moynihan, who went on to be a liberal Democratic U.S. Senator from New York and the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, issued a controversial report noting that increasing rates of out-of-wedlock births among African-Americans was causing a crisis.

His report was published by the U. S. Department of Labor.

“The evidence – not final, but powerfully persuasive – is that the black family in urban ghettos is crumbling,” Moynihan reported. “For vast numbers of the unskilled, poorly educated city working class, the fabric of conventional social relationships has all but disintegrated.”

At blame were government programs that financially rewarded unwed mothers and actually penalized families with male breadwinners, observes Malcolm A. Kline, the executive director of the conservative watchdog group Accuracy in Academia.

“So long as this situation persists, the cycle of poverty and disadvantage will continue to repeat itself,” Moynihan warned.

He was right – but liberals pouring money into the ghettos didn’t want to hear any of it, says Kline.

“In 1970, 68 percent of black families were intact,”



Street demonstrations protest austerity measures in Ireland



Greek police battle Molotov cocktail-throwers protesting government belt-tightening



Protesters in Spain march, asserting their right to government handouts

notes Vanderbilt professor Carol M. Swain, who is a graduate of Yale University. An African-American, Swain came from a low-income black family.

The consequences have been grim

She notes that today, “Only 17 percent of African-American youth – less than one in five – live with both married parents.”

problem can be solved by paring back these selected programs and leaving their entitlements intact.

“On the other end of the spectrum I talk to people of lower incomes who think that the problem can be solved by cutting military spending; one of the few things that government actually does which is constitutional.

“The more I talk to people,” writes Jackson, “the more I know that most people are so wrong about this.

There shouldn’t be “a room full of white people talking about the problem,” Swain complained at a recent meeting of the conservative Family Research Council in Washington, D.C. “It should be our black president. It should be the Congressional Black Caucus. It should be the NAACP.”

However, they want to discuss nothing of the sort. They just want to heap on more expensive government programs that make the African-American community even more dependent on the government.

Swain teaches law and politics at Vanderbilt University in Nashville. She is frustrated that liberals refuse to discuss such issues or enormous African-American problems such as:

“Black babies are the most likely to be aborted, whether their parents are married or not; blacks are most likely to get HIV through heterosexual sex; and unemployment among blacks is at levels comparable to the Great Depression.”

“For some reason, black elites are silent on the extinction of black families,” Swain says.

College cowards

When asked how many fellow academics share her views, she responded sadly, “There would be very few. Well, you know what, academics are cowards. There might be more but they would be afraid to say it.”

Citing such governmental incompetence, Jackson presents what he believes are five solutions before our nation – which he admits are “five Unthinkable Options.”

“I see polls that show overwhelming majorities of Americans think that the government should tax and spend less while providing fewer services. But I know from my conversations with many of you that the common belief is that we can solve the problems of deficit spending by cutting spending from the programs that you do not currently draw from.

“I talk to seniors who rail against Medicaid and food stamps and other programs that are designed to give the poor more of a benefit than they pay for in taxes. But these seniors do not want their Medicare or Social Security touched.

“They actually think that the



British protesters demonstrate against government spending cutbacks

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They have too many misconceptions about the federal budget, where money is actually spent and what our revenues actually are each year.

"It is necessary to crunch the numbers and lay them out. When I do this with people who I talk to individually, they get a really shocked look on their faces. So much of what they think they know about where government spends money is wrong.

"What I am going to do is spell out what needs to be done to actually pay down the debt.

"Each option, I am sad to say, will cause untold misery. But it is a misery that so many Americans have inflicted upon themselves and the rest of us by simply not educating themselves.

"Some of these options are also completely and fiscally unsound. But they are still options that must be looked at in order to understand the ones that are in fact reasonable."

The first option is to just ignore everything

"Ignore the deficits. Ignore the spending. Ignore the Constitution. Ignore the cries of our children who are being crushed under the debt we are piling up. Just ignore everything. Put on your blinders and keep on moving forward towards the cliff as that whip cracks us in the rear waiting for the day we eventually run off it and take everyone, including our children, with us.

"That is the first of these options in the simplest terms I can state. And the misery that will be caused if you do choose this, the first of the five Unthinkable Options, will be the destruction of the United States of America.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower once said, "As quickly as you start spending federal money in large

amounts, it looks like free money." And therein is the trap into which America has fallen.

"While there are certainly some people," writes Jackson, "who would accept this option in order to maintain their current status within the convoluted system of federal benefits and kickbacks to buy their votes, I think that most Americans find it wholly untenable."

It won't work

"But I do not want it to be said that I did not put that option out there for your consideration. So there it is.

"Each of the remaining four of the five Unthinkable Options requires us to actually do something other than stay the course.

"In order to move on to the other options, however, we have to put forth some numbers and look at federal expenditures and revenues. In 2008 the federal government collected total receipts of \$2.569 trillion. Total expenditures for that year were \$3.094 trillion. That is a deficit of \$525 billion."

What can be done about such a deficit—other than just ignore it?

Option Number Two: Raise taxes

"Unthinkable option number two is often one that we hear from people that think money just grows on trees," writes Jackson.

"In order to close this budget gap and raise the \$525 billion needed, what would we have to do to tax rates? Personally I don't buy into this strategy because taxing people more and more strips them of any incentive to create and succeed.

"But I know that there are a lot of people out there

that think the opposite.

"So let's explore.

"In 2005 the median income for workers aged 15 and older was \$28,567. There were 155 million people in this category and that gives us total income earned in the United States as \$4.428 trillion dollars.

"Let's make a reasonable assumption that this increased through the years to 2008. I'll be generous and say there was a 3 percent standard wage increase per year in 2006, 2007 and 2008.

"That gives us a total estimated income of \$4.838 trillion two years ago in 2008. This is based on 155 million income earners still remaining in the labor force.

"If we target income taxes, which were \$1.124 trillion in 2008 (23 percent of our 2008 total income), we need to get to about \$1.649 trillion in personal taxes.

"That is a 46.7 percent across the board increase.

"Are you willing to pay 47 percent more in income and personal taxes? And have over a third of your income taken—just for the federal budget to break even?"

A cry of "Tax the rich!" writes Jackson, "will be heard in earnest from those who think it is a good idea to raise taxes to cover the deficit, but who don't want their own taxes raised.

"The rich' already pay most of the direct personal

income taxes in this country," notes Jackson. "The top 50 percent of all income earners pay well over 90 percent of the tab, so they are already footing the bill.

"So the assumption that the bill can be passed off to someone else won't work."

If this option is tried, however, what will happen?

"Just like you, 'the rich,' are not going to like having their pay essentially cut," writes Jackson. "And it will not be just them either. The people who work for them are not going to like it much either. Hey, the rich have to pay their bills, too.

"While you may think that they have too much, the people who build the pricey boats, planes, cars and houses which they buy are not likely to agree. Therefore those taxes, which are just government imposed costs, are going to get passed right on down the line to the final consumer of the products they make and the services they provide.

"Yeah, you think that you are not going to get socked with the tax bill, but you will."

Who really pays?

"That is the dirty secret about taxes.

"While the direct bill is paid for by the person on whom the tax is levied, the costs incurred are wrapped up in the price of the goods and services they provide.

"These are passed right on down the line.

"And just in case you want to raise taxes by going after other entities, think again. Corporate income taxes would need to be raised to \$816 billion to make up the shortfall or nearly three times their 2008 levels of \$291 billion just to break even.

"Wave bye-bye to hundreds of thousands if not millions of jobs. Companies will find ways to recoup those increased costs. How? By raising prices on all those things you love to buy.

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“That will cause you to once again bear the burden of those taxes.

“Of course,” writes Jackson, “you can also choose to raise taxes on imports to \$621 billion.” That would be six and a half times what those taxes were in 2008.

“Again, have fun as prices increase to cover those losses foreign companies will encounter as well as the trade wars that will ensue as American goods shipped overseas get retaliatory tariffs slapped on them. Oh, yeah, and not to sound like a broken record, but this is once again just to break even.”

So, this massive tax increase just stops the national debt from growing any larger.

“We are hovering around \$12 trillion dollars in debt as of right now and chugging quickly to \$14 trillion,” writes Jackson. “This does not even count the trillions of dollars our government is going to add to that over the coming years through fiscal irresponsibility.”

Nor does it include the trillions upon trillions in unfunded liabilities.

“To pay this debt down in thirty years like a standard mortgage,” writes Jackson, “we would need to raise an extra \$400 billion dollars a year.

“Now you can choose this Unthinkable Option Number Two, if you like. But you doom America just as badly as you doomed it if you had picked Unthinkable Option Number One.”

Unthinkable Option Number 3

The third option is to cut everything except social welfare programs

“Unthinkable option number three is based on something that a lot of people claim they want.

“In poll after poll majorities of Americans claim that they want a smaller federal government that both taxes and spends less.”

But unfortunately, what people want to exempt from the “spend less” category includes those programs from which they benefit.

“Anytime there is even half-hearted discussion about where to start cutting the federal budget, anyone who has their hand in the cookie jar fights tooth and nail to keep these programs funded at their current levels.

“Or, they scratch and claw even harder to make sure that they get nice big increases from year to year.

“The excuses are numerous as to why they are entitled to other people’s money and thrown about with great ease to defend their piece of the government pie.

“But excuses aside, we are here to look at the real, hard numbers.

“For Unthinkable Option Number Three, we are going to appease these folks who want to maintain the benevolent hand of government while reducing the size of the federal government. What we will do is start whacking, but we will keep their precious programs intact.

“This exercise, will be eye-opening to all those who think that we can get back to fiscal soundness as a nation by cutting everything except their piece of the pie.”

Using 2008 numbers, the federal government received \$2.569 trillion in revenues while racking up expenses of \$3.094 trillion. That was a deficit of \$525 billion. Where did the money go?

Mandatory spending was \$1.788 trillion: \$608 billion for Social Security; \$386 billion for Medicare; \$209 billion for Medicaid and the State Children’s Health Insurance Program; \$324 billion for Unemployment, Welfare and other mandatory spending. Then there was \$261 billion in interest on the national debt.



Riot police push back British protesters denouncing government austerity measures

Discretionary spending accounted for \$1.114 trillion.

Where did it go?

\$481.4 billion to the Department of Defense
 \$145.2 billion to the Global War on Terror
 \$69.3 billion to the Department of Health and Human Services
 \$56.0 billion to the Department of Education
 \$39.4 billion to the Department of Veterans Affairs
 \$35.2 billion to the Department of Housing and Urban Development
 \$35.0 billion to the Department of State and Other International Programs
 \$34.3 billion to the Department of Homeland Security
 \$24.3 billion to the Department of Energy
 \$20.2 billion to the Department of Justice
 \$20.2 billion to the Department of Agriculture
 \$17.3 billion to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration
 \$12.1 billion to the Department of Transportation
 \$12.1 billion to the Department of the Treasury
 \$10.6 billion to the Department of the Interior
 \$10.6 billion to the Department of Labor
 \$51.8 billion to other on-budget Discretionary Spending
 \$39.0 billion to other off-budget Discretionary Spending

“Just for the record,” notes Jackson, “there is a \$192 billion difference between the budget numbers here and what was actually spent. Yes, the government actually spent more than it budgeted.”

Can we break even?

“Now where in this budget can we get that \$525 billion just to break even?

“Well,” writes Jackson, “we could cut the entire budget of the Department of Defense and the War on Terror (\$626.6 billion) which gives us a \$101.6 billion surplus. That means that without any military at all we could pay down the debt (\$12 trillion) in about 118 years.

“This is hardly, if you ask me, a reasonable solution,” writes Jackson. “If there is one thing that the federal government does which is actually constitutional, it is to maintain a military.”

“OK, so let’s look at other things in the budget. But remember we are not going to look at cutting a single penny from Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, unemployment benefits or any other of those items under ‘Mandatory Spending.’

Whack, whack, whack!

“Let’s start with small discretionary items. So, say goodbye to \$51.8 billion in ‘Other On-budget Discretionary Spending’ and \$39 billion in ‘Other Off-budget Discretionary Spending.’ Whack! Whack!

“Feel good at saving some money? Well, all we have done is reduce the federal deficit from \$525 billion to just a hair over \$434 billion.

“OK, so let the whacking resume! Let’s get rid of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (\$35.2 billion), the Department of Energy (\$34.3 billion), the Department of Agriculture (\$20.2 billion) and the Department of Transportation (\$12.1 billion). And what the heck, for good measure let’s also throw into the old wood chipper the Department of Labor (\$10.6 billion). Can you hear all the screaming?

“Now, what have we got?” asks Jackson. “Well, we still have a yearly debt of almost \$322 billion in a year where government revenues meet 2008 standards and other expenditures are at 2008 levels.”

There has to be more

“OK, so time to sharpen the axe a little more. It is time to drop the Department of Health and Human Services (\$69.3 billion) and the Department of Education (\$56 billion).

“Whew! Those are some big numbers right? We have to be getting close! Well, we are getting closer to a balanced budget but we are still \$196 billion in the red.

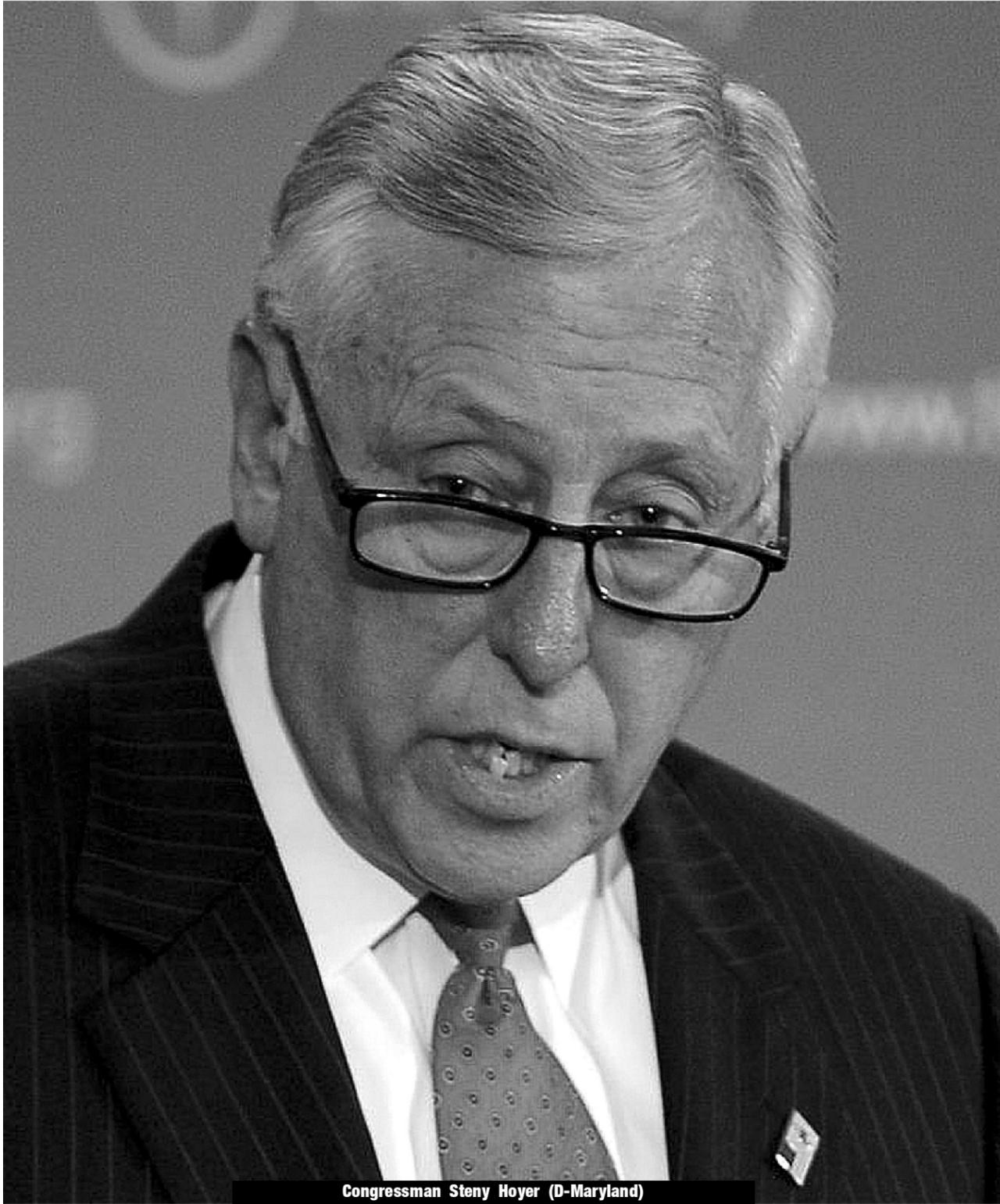
“So let’s give every liberal their wildest dreams. We will hack out the money for the ‘Global War on Terror’ because every elite on the left knows that America is the source of all evil in the world. Whack! There goes \$145 billion and we are now just a tick over \$50 billion in the red.

“But what to do now? Well it is time to keep going if we want to get into the black. Time to take out the line item ‘Department of State and Other International Programs’ (\$35 billion) and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (\$17.3 billion). And when we do that, guess what? We are now officially in the black!

“Yeah, it is only by \$1.5 billion and it would take 8,000 years to pay down the debt at that rate but you could feel good about yourself if you were looking at ways to balance the budget based on 2008 numbers.

“Oh,” writes Jackson, “but I should not neglect to mention that much to the chagrin of people that want government to both spend and tax less, that taxes would have to be kept level in order for this to be reality.”

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Congressman Steny Hoyer (D-Maryland)

Can America ever pay off Obama's deficit?

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What if we are really serious?

"But what if we really want to pay down the debt?" writes Jackson. "And what if, at the same time, we want to make sure that we have enough money for the lean years? Well, to get to the \$2.1 trillion dollar mark, which would allow us to pay off the current debt in a more reasonable timeframe and be covered if the economy were to hit a bump, further whacking is indeed necessary.

"Unfortunately, most what is left are actually Constitutional functions of our government. But oh well! Whack goes the Department of Treasury (\$12.1 Billion). Whack goes the Department of Justice (\$20.2 Billion). Whack goes the Department of Homeland Security (\$34.3 Billion). Whack goes the Department of Veteran's Affairs (\$39.4 Billion). And last but not least, whack goes the entire Department of Defense (\$481.4 Billion)."

Whack! Whack! Whack!

"The result? A budget surplus of nearly \$589 billion in a good year and enough to have a hundred billion or

two left over in the lean years. We now have a payback period of roughly 20 years.

"Very reasonable if you ask me," writes Jackson.

"And all it took, for those of you that want so desperately to protect your little piece of the welfare pie, is cutting out everything except your welfare programs. Sure, we are left with no federal courts, no military to defend us from invasion, no intelligence agencies to keep an eye on our enemies, no nothing except welfare programs.

"So there you have it—the third of the five Unthinkable Options. A good option? Not by a long shot. But I hope you who think that government welfare spending isn't the problem have had your eyes opened just a little bit.

"The numbers clearly show that the deficit will not be going anywhere anytime soon if you insist on having your hand in the cookie jar and increasing year after year the number of cookies you believe you are entitled to receive."

The fourth option is to cut everything, including Social Security

"The math is extremely simple when we take this approach," writes Jackson. "Actually cutting spending

20 percent for everything (expect debt interest payments) from Social Security to the Department of Defense based on 2008 numbers would actually turn us a profit.

"Cutting spending 20 percent from top to bottom would give us an extra \$3.1 billion each year."

With that sort of surplus, we could pay off the national debt in 3,871 years.

"If you think that 3,871 years is a reasonable period to pay back a debt," writes Jackson, "try going to your local bank and see if they'll give you such a term on your next mortgage. Good luck!

"So let's look at some more reasonable numbers. If we cut spending 35 percent on every line item in the budget, we could pay back the debt in 30 years.

"What, you may ask, about the \$260 some odd billion of interest payments heading out the door each year?

"Wouldn't that line item get smaller and enable us to pay down the debt faster?"

It would if we spent the surplus to reduce the deficit each year, says Jackson.

No track record

Congress has no history of such fiscal restraint.

Outgoing House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, for example, says the \$13.7 trillion debt is "the most pressing problem confronting our country." However, he did not use his leadership position to do anything about it—instead pushed through record-breaking spending.

The Maryland Democrat said bringing down and ultimately eliminating the country's operating deficits "will not be easy," but added that the more informed the American public is as to "what the options are," the better.

Much talk, no commitment

A plan agreed upon by a 2011 Congress is not binding in future years—not unless there is a constitutional amendment barring deficit spending.

"We will say that the government will use the savings to pay down the debt," writes Jackson. But you know, 30 years is a long time.

"There could be five different senators in a given seat over that period, a representation in the House could have cycled 15 terms. We could have had anywhere from four to seven different presidents.

"What do you think the odds will be that even if today we adopted such a plan that we could expect the course to be held over all those years?"

"I propose to you that if we are serious about getting this whole debt problem not just under control but wiped out as well, then we are going to have to realistically do it in the term of one president—eight years.

"Yes, there will be congressional turnover and even a potential new president," admits Jackson, "but I think that if the American public were serious, then we could hang on for those eight years and see it through."

To pay off the debt would require an across-the-board cut in spending of 75 percent.

"This means cuts in Social Security from \$608 billion to just \$152 billion," notes Jackson. "It means Medicare cut from \$386 billion to a paltry \$96.5 billion.

"It means cutting the Department of Defense to just a tad over \$120 billion from \$481 billion. It means everything, and I do mean everything, is cut to the bones. It is also very painful."

"At least here the pain is shared equally by everyone from our senior citizens to the military. Sure your Social Security check will only be 25 percent of what it is today, but at least you still have it. Sure the tanks our Army uses will be rusted out a little and may not work so great, but at least we still have them.

"Once again, even though we are cutting spending, it doesn't mean you get a tax cut—not with this option."

But what about the fifth option?

The final option is to end all spending not mentioned in the Constitution

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"We adopt the approach of 'if it ain't in the Constitution, sorry Charlie, but it ain't going to get money spent on it on the federal level,'" writes Jackson. "And when we do that, you are going to see how easy it is to get this debt paid off."

"Of course you are also going to hear the howls of misery. But, why I have not simply sell off the trillions of dollars in land our federal government owns as a way of dealing with our federal deficits?"

"Let's say we were to sell off about \$12 trillion in land tomorrow and make the deficit go away," writes Jackson.

What then?

"Well, the very next day we would be right back in the red racking up more debt spending."

"In reality this is no different than Unthinkable Option Number One where even though we staved off the inevitable, we would just keep on doing what we were doing. Personally, I think that it would be a great idea for the federal government to divest itself of land that

has been acquired by time and again violating the sovereignty of many states. But unless we cut spending, nothing changes. At the rate our current President and Congress are spending we would be right back here again in 10-12 years and that time around, there would be no land to sell."

"Kick and scream all you like about how such a proposal is anti-poor or how you as a senior citizen have 'earned' those monthly checks because you paid someone else's way previously," writes Jackson. "All you are going to do is become hoarse."

"Lop off the \$608 billion spent on Social Security. Lop off the \$386 billion spent on Medicare. Lop off the \$209 billion in Medicaid and SCHIP."

"Do this alone and we are running, with current taxes kept as they are, a surplus of just under \$678 billion each year and can have the debt paid off in 18 years."

"Let's cut some more heads off – \$324 billion in Unemployment payments, Welfare, and other 'Mandatory Spending.'"

"That leaves us with a trillion dollar surplus and a payoff period on the debt of just 12 years."

"Ditch the Department of Health and Human Ser-

vices, the Department of Education, the Department of Energy, the Department of Labor and the 'Off-budget' spending and our yearly surplus balloons to \$1.236 trillion – allowing us to pay off the debt two years quicker."

"Yes, in just ten years we would have the deficit retired!"

Only 10 years to solvency

"All it would take," writes Jackson, "is for us to abide by the Constitution."

"Would there be misery? Sure. But as I have said before, we have misery now where the productivity of the producing class is confiscated to provide hammocks to the rest of America in which they sleep waiting eagerly each month for their checks signed boldly by Uncle Sam."

"Personally, I think it is high time that the producers be cut a break in this country."

"So there you have it, my friends," concludes Jackson. "Five unthinkable options."

"Which will you choose?"

Media hides truth about funeral protesters

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Kevin Collins. "They carry signs claiming our fallen heroes are guilty of promoting homosexuality and that 'God hates fags.'"

"Watching them begs the questions: *Who are they and who is their leader?*"

The answers are never clear, writes Collins, "because of a systematic media cover up. The liberal media would love to write about Fred Phelps and his gang being 'Right Wing fanatics,' but, of course, it can't – because the truth is 180 degrees to the opposite."

Longtime Democrat candidate

What the media doesn't want anybody to know is that Phelps is a long time Democrat supporter and frequent Democrat candidate for various offices in Kansas.

"As recently as 1998 Phelps got 15 percent in a Democrat primary for governor," writes Collins. "He has been a devoted supporter of Al Gore and led his church members in working for Gore in 1988."

"Phelps' son Fred hosted a fundraiser for Gore in his home."

"Have you ever heard of that?" asks Collins. "Why do you think these things are left out of news reports about Phelps?"

"Phelps is a disbarred attorney who made a living suing institutions. His disbarment followed his disgraceful conduct during a trial alleging a court reporter intentional failed to provide Phelps with a transcript on time. He had the woman on the stand for a full week reducing her to tears with his demands for details about her sex life. Ultimately Phelps himself was convicted of perjury and stripped of his law license."

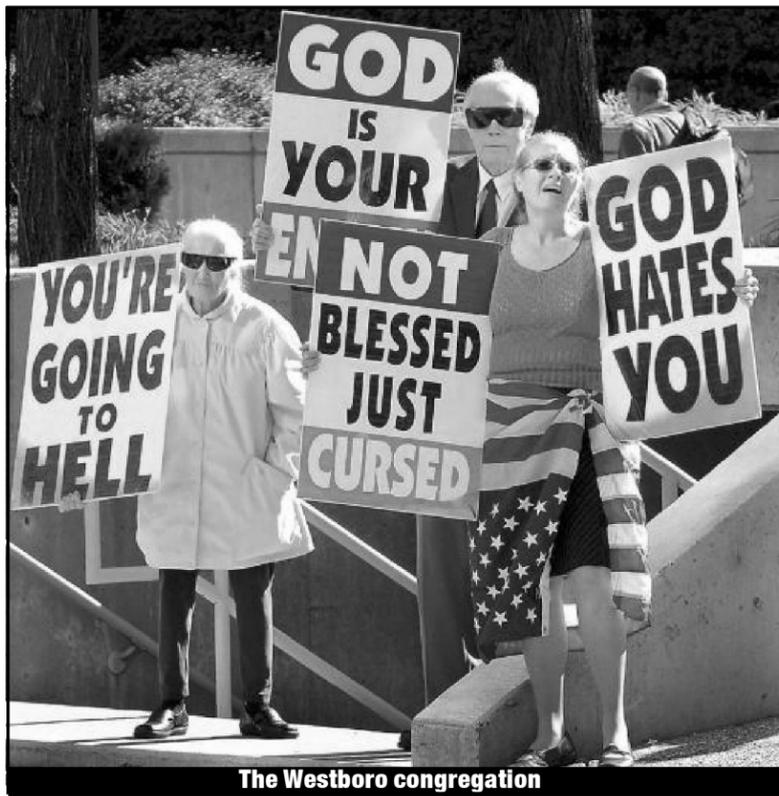
"In 2003 Phelps wrote a letter to Saddam Hussein praising him because Iraq was, 'the only Muslim state that allows the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ to be freely and openly preached on the streets.'"

Phelps' own son, Nate, shuns any connection with the church. Why?

"When Nate Phelps' son was about five years old and had been caught misbehaving, he taught his dad a lesson about ending the cycle of family abuse," writes Leanne Larmondin of the Religious News Service.

"I'd clung to the idea that corporal punishment was a requirement by God, because that's what we were taught," says Nate.

However, that changed one day when Nate's son,



The Westboro congregation



Picketing a funeral



Phelps' grandson

Hunter, trembled as he sat on his father's lap.

"I asked him why he was shaking and he went on about how scared he was when I was going to spank him," recalls Nate, who decided then and there to break his family's harsh cycle of fear.

"In a family whose business is demonstrating about God's wrath, Nate Phelps could not be more of a black sheep."

"His estranged father, Fred, leads a church known for picketing U.S. military funerals with graphic signs that read, 'Thank God For Dead Soldiers.'"

Phelps' relatives – described in a 2007 BBC documentary as 'The Most Hated Family in America' – are members of the Westboro Baptist Church, in Topeka, Kansas. But Nate has turned away from them.

Now 51 and a taxi driver in Cranbrook, British Columbia, Canada, Phelps wants nothing to do with the church that is called a cult by some observers.

The congregation of Westboro Baptist Church lives on a compound in Topeka and is comprised almost entirely of Phelps family members, writes Larmondin. It is not affiliated with any national Baptist group – and is frequently disavowed by the Southern Baptist Convention, the Regular Baptists, the Free Will Baptists, the American Baptists and the Primitive Baptists.

Since the early 1990s, Phelps' followers, whose websites include GodHatesFags.com and GodHatesAmerica.com, claim to have held 43,000 demonstrations. They have picketed churches, synagogues, government buildings and funerals of soldiers and homosexual men.

Why not 'Presbyterians'?

He was the sixth of 13 children. He says his father was a civil rights attorney-turned-preacher who espoused a frightening version of Calvinism to his family – which makes it a mystery that the group doesn't claim to be Presbyterians instead of Baptists.

"They believe that they alone in this time in history have been selected by God to carry His torch, His word, to the world and everyone else has fallen into error," remembers Nate.

Violence was ever-present in his home, he remembers. "Fred Phelps beat his wife and his children with his fists, a leather barber strap, or the wooden handle of a mattock, a tool like an ax," writes Larmondin.

The children also beat each other, he said.

"Early on, Nate Phelps chafed at his rigid upbringing, refusing to sell candy for the church, hiding and reading comic

books," writes Larmondin.

"Anybody who didn't conform stuck out like a sore thumb," remembers Nate. "But I was also observing my father, this man of God, how he treated people."

"He's supposed to be Christ-like, but watching him abusing my mother and siblings," Nate recalls, drove him away from the church.

And there he remains, humiliated to be associated with his father – and embarrassed for Baptists worldwide who wish Phelps would call himself something else.

Weather outside is frightful, but these spires are so delightful!

compiled by the *Christian Crusadestaff*

Winter is upon us and with it comes the inconvenience of snow. But, it would seem that everybody has an opinion about snow.

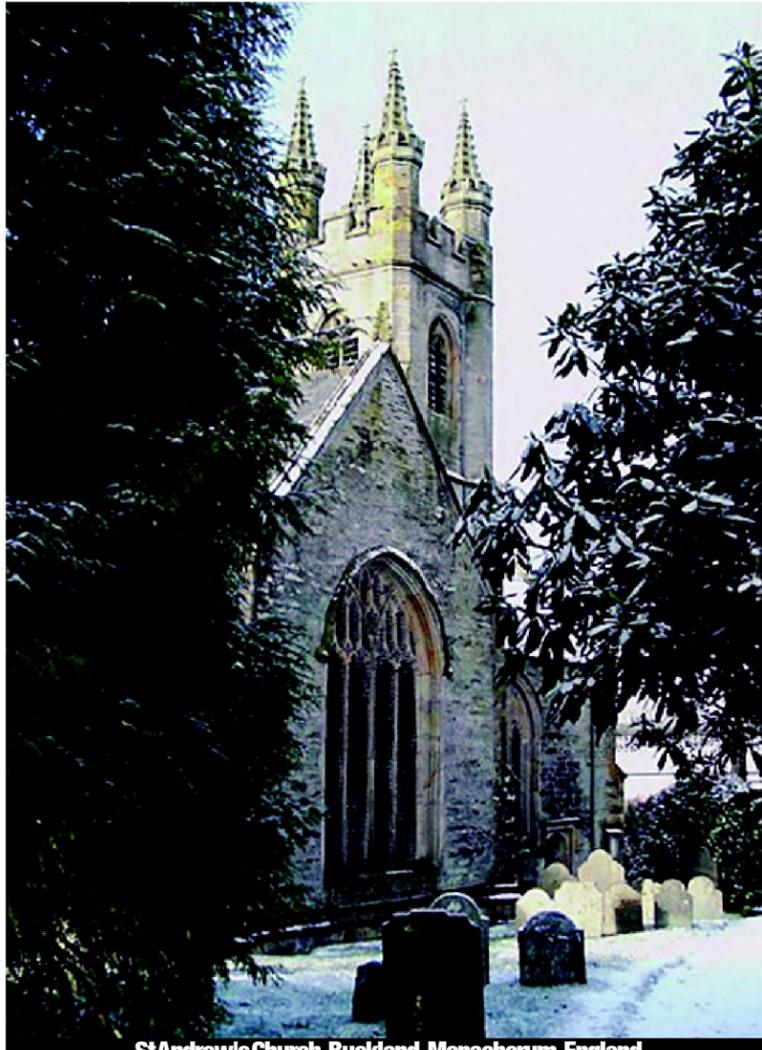
Perhaps one of the most beloved opinions was that of poet James L. Nicholson whose words were first published in the *Joyful Songs Hymnal* in 1872. He proclaimed:

*Lord Jesus, I long to be perfectly whole;
I want Thee forever to live in my soul.
Break down every idol, cast out every foe;
Now wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.*

*Whiter than snow, yes, whiter than snow.
Now wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.*

Amen! Let it snow!

Lord Jesus, let nothing unholy remain,



St Andrew's Church, Buckland-Monachorum, England



St. Peter's Church, Barnstaple



Liberty Baptist Church, Bowdon, Georgia



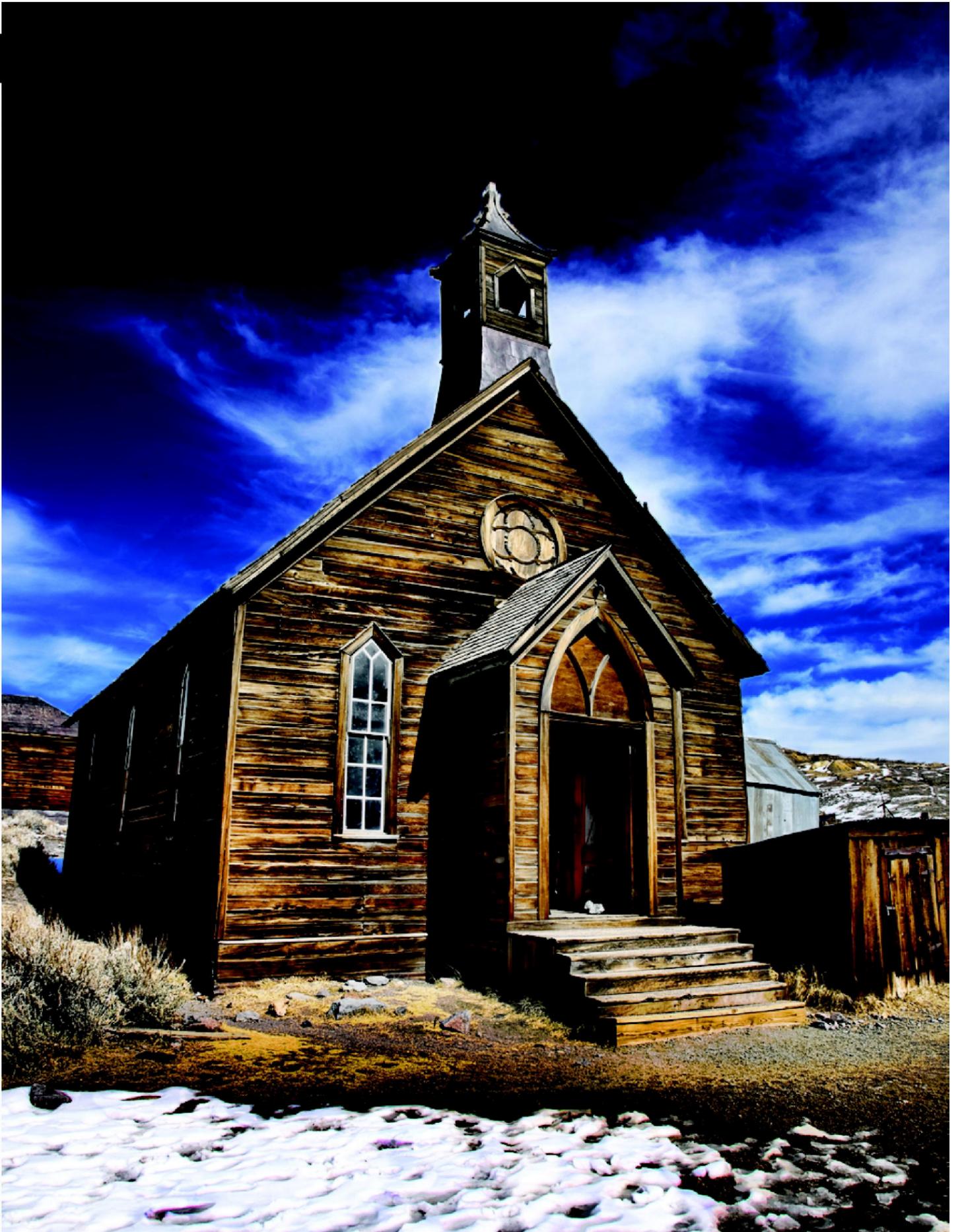
Toftrees Church, near Fakenham



Mortimer Church, Reading, Berkshire, England



able, England



Bodie Methodist Church, Bodie, California



ham, England



Ballygalwy Church, Northern Ireland



St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Church, Dolyn, Manitoba, Canada

Pakistan to execute Christian mom for sharing her faith

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symbolism, as a substitute for substantive measures” says Ashar Rehman, a senior editor at *Dawn*, Pakistan’s leading-English daily.

“They are giving medals to people like Myanmar’s dissident political leader Aung San Suu Kyi, and encouraging certain cultural events, but are not allowed the leeway to just do something in the areas where it really matters,” he says.

Laws abused by hardliners

Aasia’s ongoing imprisonment has divided the country along ideological lines, and ignited a debate about the future of the country’s blasphemy laws. The existence of blasphemy laws date back to British rule in the 19th century, though the laws were strengthened after independence. Critics say that today the laws are misused to persecute minorities.

Aasia has already spent a year and a half in jail on charges of insulting Islam. Critics say she’s a victim of the legal system. According to court documents, she was first accused of blasphemy by the Muslim woman who took offense at being offered water by a Christian.

At first, senior government figures said Aasia would receive a presidential pardon. Then the Lahore High Court on November 28 issued an order to prevent any such clemency. Amid it all, Islamist groups have called for her execution and law minister Babar Awan announced the government won’t repeal the blasphemy law used to convict her.

Execution now under review

She now awaits a higher court’s verdict which will determine whether her execution, originally planned for November 8, goes ahead.

The government’s mixed signals show a “wavering commitment to creating an environment in which Pakistanis can tackle sensitive religious and social issues

without fearing an extremist backlash,” wrote Huma Yusuf, a Pakistan scholar at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington, in the *Dawn* newspaper.

The government’s equivocation may be due to the ruling Pakistan People’s Party need to balance its own principles with the interests of its more conservative coalition partners, as well as pressure from Pakistan’s military establishment.

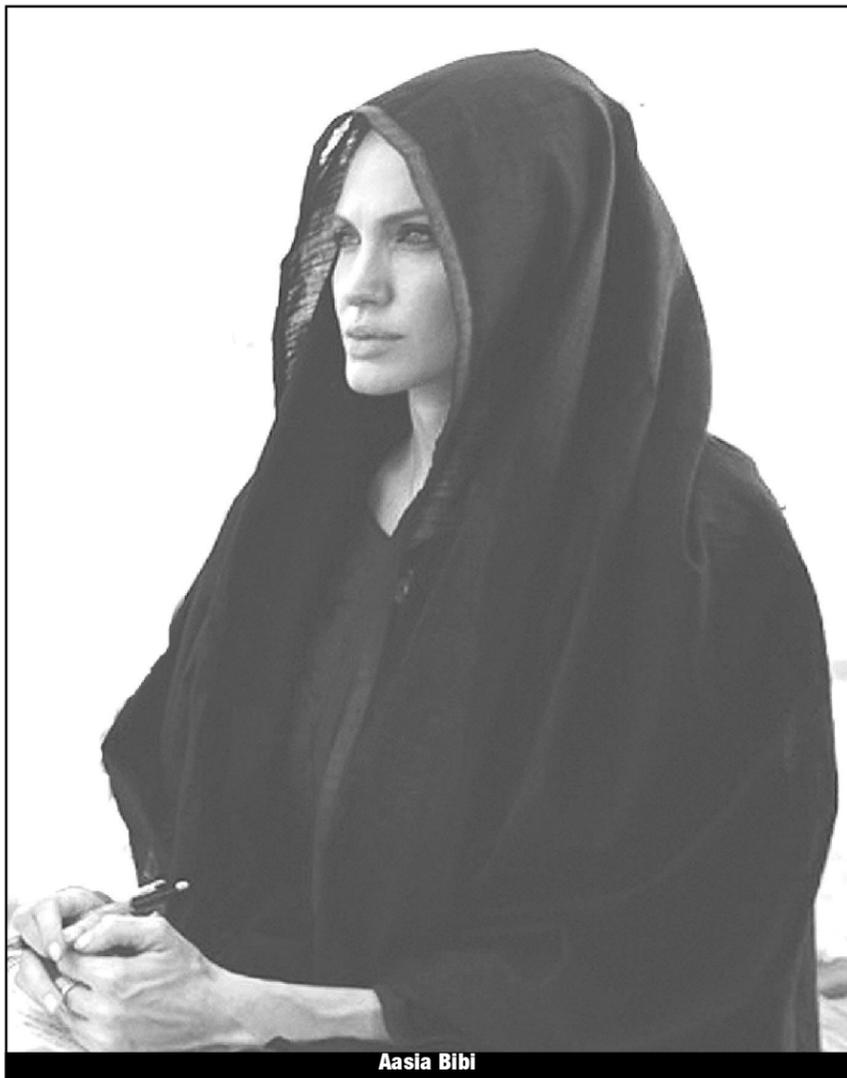
According to the Reuters news agency, the PPP, once led by former prime minister Benazir Bhutto until her assassination in 2007, is socially liberal in theory. Since coming to power in 2008, the party has created a Ministry for Minorities as well as launching a “Sufi Advisory Council,” seen as an antidote to the hard-line vision of Islam promoted by the Taliban.

Still, critics see it as a case of one step forward, two steps back

In late November, the PPP-led government appointed Senator Mohammad Khan Sheerani, a hard-line cleric, to the Council of Islamic Ideology. The CII is a constitutional body that advises the legislature on whether laws are Islamic and as such its decisions impact lawmakers’ ability to pass progressive legislation.

According to Saaeda Diep, founder of the Institute for Peace and Secular Studies in Lahore, the move represents “nothing more than a political move to please the extremists,” particularly those members of the ruling coalition having close links to the Taliban.

While certain developments are recent, others are chronic, such as Pakistan’s lack of investment in education and a curriculum some see as promoting a mix of



Aasia Bibi

jingoism and intolerance toward minorities.

In 2008, the *Christian Science Monitor* reported on the pernicious effects of bigoted textbooks on Pakistani school children.

Since that time, the government has broken its own promise to spend 4 percent of Pakistan’s gross domestic product annually on education and in fact spent slightly less than 1.5 percent in the last fiscal year.

“No matter what the rhetoric is, they just aren’t serious about education,” says education expert Baela Raza Jamil, a former technical advisor to the Ministry of Education. While there’s been some improvement thanks to the introduction of a progressive national curriculum, dissemination of texts remains limited due to lack of funds, she says.

Reformers face death threats

For now, the business of reform is being spearheaded not by those at the center of government but at the fringes. Sherry Rehman, a lawmaker from the PPP who resigned a cabinet post last year, tabled a bill that seeks to amend the blasphemy law to remove the death penalty.

The bill is supported by a prominent opposition politician, Ayaz Amir, as well as another PPP stalwart Raza Rabbani who also resigned from the cabinet in 2009.

Rehman acknowledges she has not taken “the purest position” of repealing the law, “but at least approach it from a sensible centrist view, to take the bad clauses out.” The key, she says, is to address reform from an Islamic, as opposed to a secular point of view, because “injustice is not tolerable in Islam or the Koran.”

She says she has already faced death threats by extremists for bringing the issue up, but won’t be deterred.

“This is the beginning of a long battle. It starts with one battle. Some say it won’t be tabled, some say it will. Some will try to block it, others won’t. It’s the beginning of a process and a mainstreaming of this idea of justice, because we have to move beyond symbolism.”

“We’re trying to regain space for the majority to not be silent. We



Aasia’s husband, Ashiq Masih, and two of their five children, all who are now in hiding

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can't keep taking it," she adds.

Pope asks for clemency

Meanwhile, Aasia is sitting in jail awaiting a death sentence for blaspheming the prophet Muhammad. Even an appeal to the Pakistani government by Pope Benedict hasn't saved her.

Apparently the trouble started when some women workers pressured Aasia to renounce her Christian faith and accept Islam in the summer of 2009, Aasia engaged them in debate.

According to court testimony, several times she responded that Jesus had died on the cross for the sins of humanity and she asked them what Muhammad, the prophet of Islam, had done for them.

In Pakistan, that is a capital offense and carries a mandatory death sentence.

"There is so much violence directed toward Christians" in Pakistan, says 72-year-old missionary Sister Mary Koop of the Sisters of Loretto. "It's hard to know where that might strike next."

In a presidential address on Aug. 11, 1947, the year Pakistan was forged out of India's independence from the British, the country's founder, Muhammad Ali Jinnah, declared, "You are free. You are free to go to your temples. You are free to go to your mosques or to any other place of worship in this state of Pakistan. You may belong to any religion or caste or creed that has nothing to do with the business of the state."

He was a student of history and he said, "The Roman Catholics and the Protestants persecuted each other. Even now there are some states in existence where there are discriminations made and bars imposed against a particular class.

"Thank God, we are not starting in those days. We are starting in the days where there is no discrimination, no distinction between one community and another, no discrimination between one caste or creed and another. We are starting with this fundamental principle that we are all citizens and equal citizens of one state."

Aasia's case isn't just one of outsiders speaking out



A street demonstration in Islamabad, Pakistan, demanding Aasia's death



Aasia's supporters hold a sidewalk demonstration in Islamabad

against the blasphemy law. Ali Dayan Hasan, a Pakistani and the South Asia researcher for Human Rights Watch, calls the blasphemy law a "heinous law" that should be repealed, and notes that it's "become an instrument of coercion used to terrorize minorities."

"It's time that Pakistan join the 21st century with the

vision of its founder and set Aasia Bibi and itself free from the reign of the mullahs," writes Asra Q. Nomani, the author of *Standing Alone: An American Woman's Struggle for the Soul of Islam*. She is co-director of the Pearl Project, an investigation into the murder of *Wall Street Journal* reporter Daniel Pearl in Pakistan.

Pakistani officials have criticized the prominent cleric who offered cash to anyone who kills Aasia. The Minister for Minorities, Shahbaz Bhatti, said the offer is "immoral, unjust and irresponsible" and should be condemned in the "strongest possible manner".

Cleric Yousuf Qureshi has declared that if the government did not execute Aasia, his mosque would pay anyone who killed her.

Meanwhile, a Christian doctor also has been arrested for insulting Mohammed.

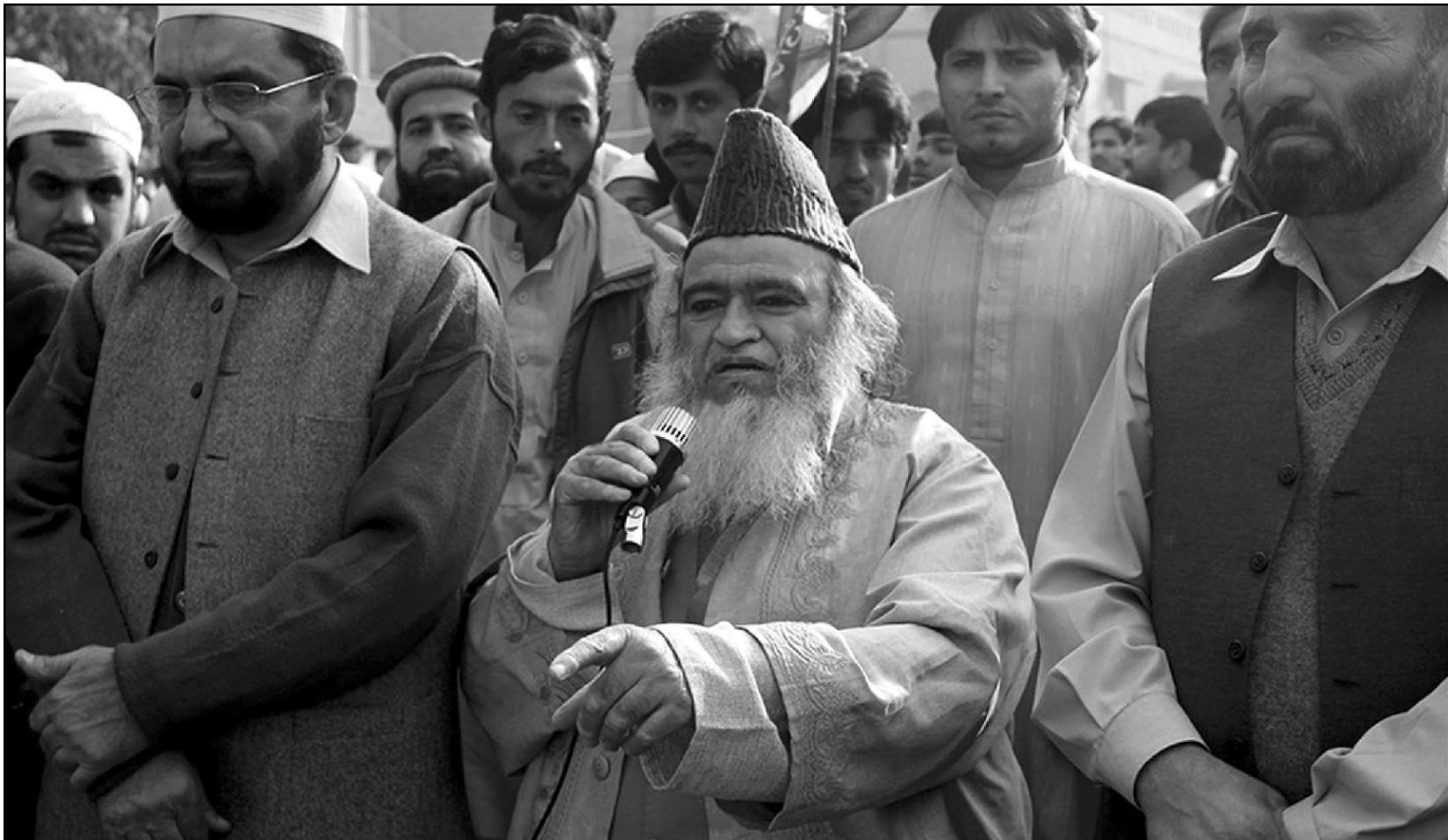
Naushad Valiyani was detained following a complaint by a medical representative who visited the doctor in the city of Hyderabad.

"The arrest was made after the complainant told the

police that Valiyani threw his business card, which had his full name, Muhammad Faizan, into a trash can during a visit to his clinic," regional police chief Mushtaq Shah told the Agence France Presse news agency.

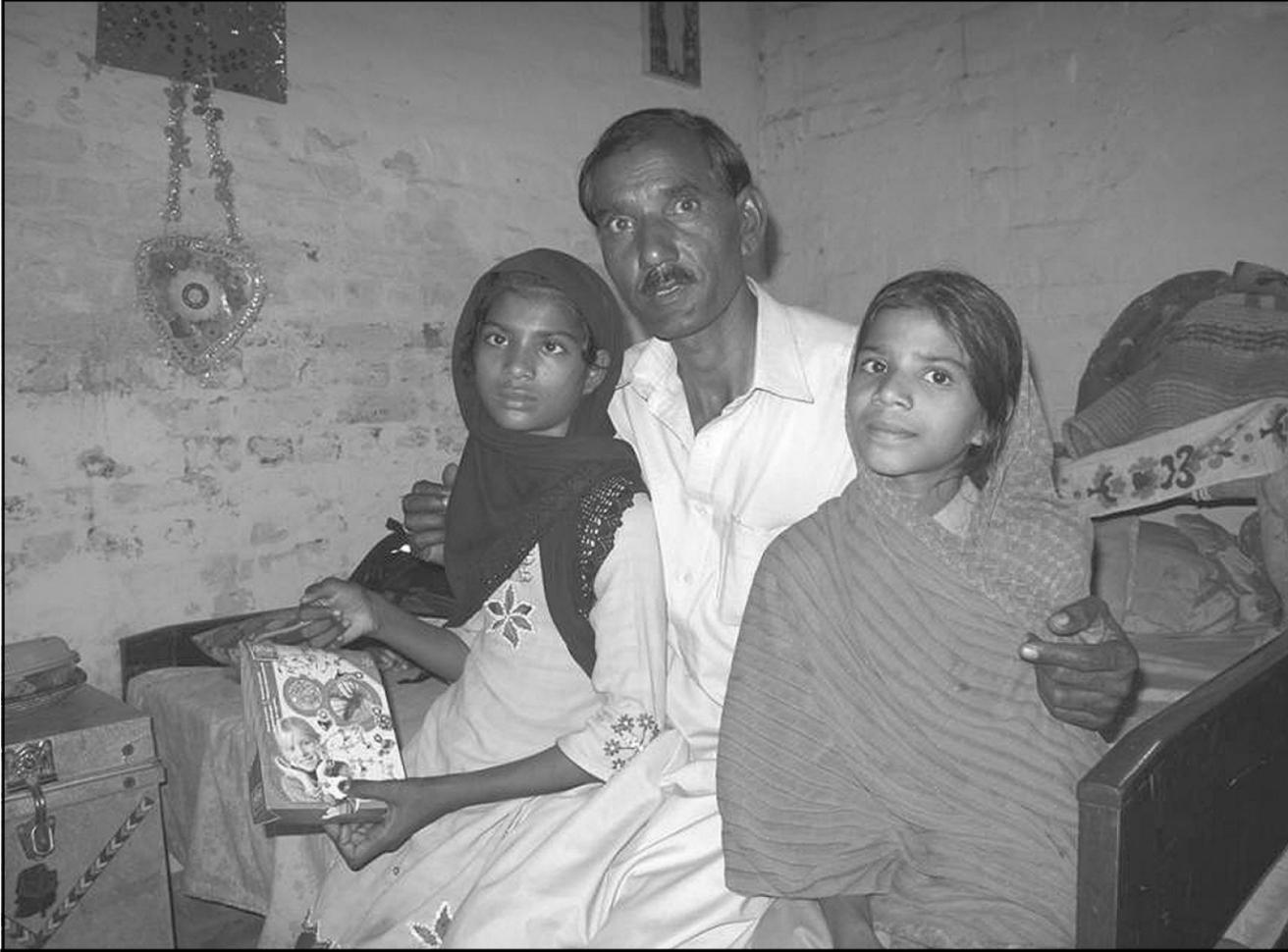
"Faizan accused Valiyani of committing blasphemy and asked police to register a case against the doctor."

Shah said the issue had been resolved after Valiyani, a member of Pakistan's Ismaili community, apologized but local religious leaders intervened and pressed for action.



Pakistani cleric Maulana Yousuf Qureshi, the prayer leader in Mohabat Khan, has put a bounty on Aasia's head

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Aasia's husband, Ashiq Masih, with two of their five children

Pakistan to execute Christian mom for sharing her faith

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"Valiyani had assured Faizan that he did not mean to insult the Prophet Mohammed by throwing the visiting card into the trash can," Shah said, adding that the police had registered a case under the Blasphemy Act.

Case has dragged on and on

"The story of how Aasia became the first woman to be sentenced to death for blasphemy in Pakistan began more than a year ago with a bitter quarrel in a field in deepest Punjab," writes reporter Mary Fitzgerald, the Foreign Affairs Correspondent for the *Irish Times* daily newspaper.

Aasia's family calls her Noreen, writes Fitzgerald.

"Noreen, one of several women farm workers toiling in the searing June heat, went to fetch water to drink. When she offered some to her coworkers, they refused.

"The reason? Noreen is a Christian, and, in their eyes, the water was therefore unclean.

"What followed was an argument about her faith and theirs," reports Fitzgerald. "Noreen's family say the women had previously pestered her to convert. Whatever may have been said in the field that day soon trickled back to a local mullah who roused a baying mob after he concluded the illiterate mother of five had committed blasphemy.

"Noreen was swiftly taken into police custody, but was later charged with insulting Islam and the prophet Muhammad.

"After 18 months in jail, Noreen, was sentenced to hang.

"The plight of the woman has triggered a contro-

versy which has echoed far beyond Pakistan. In Pakistan, it has laid bare all too familiar cleavages between secularists and fundamentalists, with many nervous politicians somewhere in between.

"Human rights groups and activists, many of whom have long called for the repeal of Pakistan's draconian blasphemy law, have railed against the sentence.

"Those who make up the country's constellation of Islamist parties and organizations have taken to the



Aasia, forced to wear a Muslim veil in court

streets to protest any attempt to roll back the verdict or the legislation."

Controversy raging

"In recent weeks and days, the mood has become uglier," writes Fitzgerald. "Fundamentalists declared Salmaan Taseer, the colorful governor of Punjab, an apostate after he called for Noreen to be pardoned.

"Pakistan's blasphemy law, while stemming from the Indian penal code drawn up by the British in 1860, was bolstered during General Muhammad Zia-ul-Haq's military dictatorship.

"In 1986 Zia introduced the death sentence for anyone deemed to have insulted Muhammad. Before then, only two cases of blasphemy had been recorded but in the decades since the numbers have rocketed to 962. These include 340 Ahmadis—members of a religious group that identifies itself as Muslim but is considered non-Muslim by the Pakistani state—119 Christians, and 14 Hindus."

Human rights groups say the legislation is often used as a pretext for attacks on religious minorities or to settle personal scores. No one convicted of blasphemy has ever been executed, but 32 who were accused have been murdered by vigilantes after they were released from prison.

"Meanwhile," writes Fitzgerald, "Noreen contemplates her fate in a Punjab prison. Even if her death sentence is overturned, nothing will ever be the same for her and her family. Given how much the case has polarized Pakistan, for her own safety she will have little choice but to seek another life outside the country."

A friend was permitted to meet with Aasia a few days ago. Surrounded by police and prison guards, he spent 25 minutes speaking to her and praying for her. During their conversation, Aasia said the following, according to Voice of the Martyrs, a Christian group that supports persecuted Christians.

"It does finally not matter to me whether I am sentenced or whether the judge will set me free," Aasia said, "because I know that I am innocent and most of all I know that the Lord is with me. They persecuted Jesus also, and the Bible says that they will persecute us as well."

What an amazing testimony!

"Please continue to pray for strength and peace for Aasia and her family," Voice of the Martyrs said in a statement. "Also, consider using the information below to contact the High Commissioner for the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and share your concerns about this case."

VOM recommended that concerned Christians write to His Excellency Akbar Zeb, High Commissioner for the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, 10 Range Road, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1N 8J3. His office telephone is (613) 238-7881.

His fax number is (613) 238-7296. His email address: parepottawa@rogers.com.

What should you write or say to a Muslim government official on behalf of Aasia?

"Write a short, clear message," advises VOM. "Be polite. Remember you are representing Jesus Christ. State your general concern for persecuted believers and Aasia's case in particular.

Here is a sample letter:

Your Excellency,

My Christian sister Aasia Bibi has been sentenced to death for blasphemy. The story of her case is circulating around the world, and thousands of Christians worldwide know about it. I ask that her sentence be reversed and that she be released from all charges and allowed to return home to her family. I am praying for you as you lead your country.

Sincerely, [Your Name]

And don't forget to keep Aasia in your prayers.



Russia's Vladimir Putin

WikiLeaks reveals why Obama betrayed Poland

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“Documents from the State Department published by WikiLeaks show that the Obama administration surrendered the missile shield previously planned by the Bush administration to Europe because of Russian demands, not because of any supposed intel reports,” reports defense analyst Zbigniew Mazurak.

“The original missile defense scheme was devised by the Bush administration, which persuaded Poland and the Czech Republic to authorize missile defense systems (ten unarmed interceptors and a radar) to be deployed on their soil.

“In April 2008, Bush outmaneuvered Vladimir Putin by obtaining an endorsement of this scheme from all NATO allies before the Russian leader reached Bucharest for the NATO-Russia summit,” writes Mazurak.

Russia has always opposed this scheme, supposedly because the scheme would undermine Russia’s nuclear deterrent. However, that is an empty argument. It wouldn’t; ten unarmed interceptors can’t undermine an arsenal of hundreds of intercontinental ballistic missiles and submarine-launched ballistic missiles – not to mention Russia’s 113 strategic bombers.

So, why was Russia so adamant to remove any shield protecting the Poles and Czechs?

“Russia is in the middle of selling a nuclear reactor and tons of nuclear fuel to Iran,” writes Mazurak. “The Kremlin doesn’t want the West to be able to defend itself against the incipient Iranian nuclear threat. Russia is also eager to claw Central Europe back into its sphere of influence.

“Bush wisely chose not to succumb to Moscow, but Obama did not follow his lead.

Why not? The leaked WikiLeaks documents indicate that Obama’s first eight months as president boiled over with Russian threats not to cooperate with the U.S. on any issue whatsoever.

Russian diplomats behaved like spoiled children, refusing to discuss anything with the Obama administration – not Iran, North Korea, space exploration, the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty negotiations, or anything else. The only topic on the table was Moscow’s demand for the cancellation of U.S. missile defense plans.

“During meetings with American officials, the Russians would repeatedly interrupt American diplomats who tried to discuss anything but missile defense,” writes Mazurak. “The Kremlin’s message was this: you must capitulate on missile defense and strategic arms, or else we won’t even discuss – let alone cooperate on – other issues.

“Eager to appease Russia, the Obama Administration naively surrendered missile defense plans on September 17, 2009,” writes Mazurak.

And then they lied about it

Administration officials, including Obama and Bob Gates, then falsely claimed that their betrayal of the Poles and Czechs had nothing to do with Russia and was instead dictated by claimed new intelligence discoveries.

Supposedly, the U.S. had learned that Iran’s priority is now the development of

short- and medium-range ballistic missiles rather than ICBMs – against which the Bush missile shield is effective.

However, the WikiLeaks cables, show that America knew good and well that the Iranians still prioritize the development and acquisition of long-range ballistic missiles.

So, Obama just lied to the American public – to hide his inability to negotiate with Russia.

“The documents say that before Obama made his decision, Iran acquired BM25 (Rodong) missiles from North Korea.

“These can reach Western Europe and Moscow. Other publicly available intel reports say that Iran aims by 2015 to acquire ICBMs meant to reach the U.S.”

Iran is reportedly now developing Shahab-4 and Koussar missiles that could fly as far as 3,000 miles – reaching the U.S. East Coast.

Iran also possesses missiles that can deliver satellites into the Earth’s orbit – missiles that can reach Europe just as easily. Iran’s Fajr-3 and Sajjil missiles can fly as far as 1,500 miles.

“So the Iranian long-range-missile threat is growing, not declining.

“Obama’s replacement for the Bush missile defense plan is a fantasy scheme partially based on technology that doesn’t even exist,” writes Mazurak. “Obama plans to first deploy Burke- and Ticonderoga-class ballistic missile defense-capable warships to Europe.

“The problem is that the Navy has only 24 such ships.

“The deployment would strain the ship fleet, which must also defend Gulf states and eastern Asian countries, and would be more expensive than the deployment of ten interceptors and a radar on land.”

However, the Russians were throwing fits over the interceptors, so Obama caved in.

Why would Russia block U.S. defense of Poland?

“In Eastern Europe, a nuclear Iran will vastly advance Russia’s plans for a de facto reconstitution of its old empire,” writes columnist Mark Steyn. “In an unstable world, Putin will offer himself as the protection racket you can rely on. And you’d be surprised how far west ‘Eastern’ Europe extends. Moscow’s strategic view is of a continent not only energy-dependent on Russia but also security-dependent. And, when every European city is within range of Teheran and other psycho states, there’ll be plenty of takers for that when the alternative is an effete and feckless Washington.

“So Iran will go nuclear and formally inaugurate the post-American era.”

The Heritage Foundation and the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office say that the deployment of ten interceptors in Poland and a radar in the Czech Republic would have been only half as expensive as the deployment of Aegis-type warships to Europe.

Those Bush-planned defensive systems would have protected Europe much better against Iranian missiles than the systems Obama has offered.

What did his surrender gain us?

Absolutely nothing, writes Mazurak. “Russia has not stopped backing Iran, North Korea, Venezuela and Syria. It has not allowed any serious sanctions to be approved by the United Nations Security Council. Putin hasn’t even toned down his comments about the U.S.

“In short, Obama has succumbed to Moscow for nothing.”

“President Obama’s decision to abandon plans for basing elements of the U.S. global missile defense shield in Poland and the Czech Republic is entirely political, designed to appease Russia, but it will leave the U.S. more vulnerable to the threat of ballistic missile attack,” warns the Heritage Foundation.

“This decision is a strategic victory for the Kremlin, which is determined to have a sphere of privileged interest in its region. The U.S. essentially gave Russia a veto over NATO’s support for the third-site defenses in Europe and turned Poland and the Czech Republic into second-class NATO citizens as members whose security is subject to Russia’s whims.”

“The Ground-Based Midcourse Defense interceptors in Poland and radar in the Czech Republic were in fact cost-effective and proven technologies,” says the Foundation, “that offer protection from long-range missile attack to both Europe and the U.S.

“The alternative that Obama will now pursue will not satisfy those criteria.

“Vice President Joe Biden recently said he is now ‘less concerned, much less concerned’ about the Iranian threat,” noted the Foundation. “Where does this assessment come from? The Iranians successfully tested a space launcher and could have a long-range missile by 2015. The United Nations confirms that Iran has enough uranium to build a nuclear bomb today.

“This is a strategic loss, a security loss, a diplomatic loss,” writes the Foundation, “and a major loss for America’s prestige on the world stage.”



General Douglas MacArthur confers with his officers

In November of 1950, American General Douglas MacArthur triumphantly completed his reversal of the Communist takeover of North Korea and their subsequent Chinese-led and Soviet-ordered invasion of South Korea.

Had it ended there, America would have won the war, writes Farrell. Today, North Korea would be free.

“In what has been described as one of the greatest displays of military genius in history, MacArthur had attacked the enemy’s rear with an impossible amphibious assault at Inchon far up the Korean Peninsula, drove the Communists pell-mell to the Manchurian border and, remarkably, in eight weeks’ time, liberated South Korea, which was his objective, and North Korea, which was above and beyond the call of duty. In the process, relatively few Americans – compared to what followed – lost their lives. It was a fantastic victory.

“There was due cause for celebration,” writes Farrell, who is an associate professor of political economy at George Wythe University.

But the celebration never came

“Red China, frenzied over its loss, massed its hordes upon the borders of North Korea at the Yalu River and began to flood its men, tanks, and military hardware – Japanese military hardware acquired from Russia, which received it as a

post-WWII gift from Truman – over the Yalu River Bridges, head-on into North Korea, MacArthur, and his men.

“A new war began in earnest,” recalls Farrell. “The solution for MacArthur and company was simple. Bomb the bridges. Red China lacked the technological ability to successfully launch an invasion across the river without them. Common military sense, a respect for human life on both sides of the conflict, the granting of time to secure Korean liberty, all bore witness that this was the intelligent, the moral, the instinctive thing to do.

“But intelligence, morality and instinct somehow managed to flee from Korea from that moment forward.”

American partisan politics intervened

“President Harry Truman and a shady list of State Department buddies were not very happy with MacArthur’s success,” recalls Farrell. “Pretending that MacArthur had not been fighting the Chinese all along, and that his actions would provoke China into the war, MacArthur was incredibly ordered not to bomb the bridges, and thus not to adequately protect his men and his victory against an enormous invading force.

“Call it what you will, Democrat Harry Truman ordered the abandonment of our troops in the field and altered the methods and objectives of war, and in particular this war which was supposedly fought to stop the spread of Communism,” says Farrell.

“The bloodiest battles of the Korean War ensued; tens of thousands of American soldiers died; North Korea had its recently-won liberty revoked; and General MacArthur was dismissed for first winning a war and then voicing a legitimate protest, through proper channels, when the tables were turned by design.

Are we on the verge of a new Korean War?

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Historian Steve Farrell says U.S. politics got in the way a half-century ago, just as they play a key role in today’s growing crisis.

“The bellicose Communist regime in North Korea may soon plunge the world into a real hot war,” warns author Bruce Walker. “Its evil rulers threaten Seoul with thermonuclear destruction and brute force.”

The situation could have been avoided

“The hungry, tormented slaves of the vast concentration camp’ – today’s North Korea – “live, perhaps, closer to the hellish world described in Orwell’s 1984 than any people in human history,” writes Walker. He’s the author of *Poor Lenin’s Almanac: Perverse Leftists Proverbs for Modern Life*.

“North Korea offers nothing good to the rest of the world,” he says. “We have bribed its leaders to leave mankind alone, but our bribery has failed.”

Almost 60 years ago, Kim Il Sung, the Communist dictator of North Korea, launched an unprovoked attack on South Korea. This aggression was supported by Russia and China, notes Walker. “The Soviet Union provided MIG pilots; the Chinese provided masses of ‘volunteers’ and the entire peninsula became a battlefield.

“The fighting ended in a ceasefire, leaving what we have today, an uneasy armistice of a divided nation. This was not inevitable. We had the power to defeat Korean and Chinese Communists and, if push came to shove, to even threaten the fledgling People’s Republic of China.”



President Harry Truman

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“His men, American men and boys, were declared open game.

“Truman,” charges Farrell, “a dedicated internationalist and the man who started this war without the consent of Congress was a traitor to his people. Not only did he permit China to launch a full-scale invasion against Americans which could have been averted, but he then gave these Communists other advantages by further altering the rules and objectives of war.”

It was all unnecessary

“The Korean War could have ended,” writes Walker, “as MacArthur and others wanted, with a united Korea as part of the free world. This Korea would not have been perfect in the beginning, but like South Korea, Taiwan, and Japan, it would have evolved into just the sort of nation we want: a peaceful, democratic, free, prosperous ally. This Korea would not have acquired nuclear weapons or threatened the world with war.

“But these benefits would only have been the public blessings of a united and free Korea.”

Instead, millions of North Koreans were condemned to what author R.J. Rummel calls “five decades of deliberate starvation, torture, thought control, and imprisoned souls—the bitter fruits of that vast Gulag we call North Korea.

Dr. Rummel, the author of *Death by Government*, places the genocide of the Korean people by the Communist regime at 1.6 million plus 1.4 million murdered by Communists during the war.

However, most Americans know little more about the Korean War than the long-running TV comedy, *M*A*S*H*, which made a mockery of the conflict, portraying “patriotic Americans who thought Communism was evil as nasty gnomes and vain buffoons,” laments Walker.

“The unspeakable crimes committed by the dark armies of Kim Il Sung against the Korean people and American G.I.s were never mentioned at all” in the TV show. “Captured enemy soldiers, unlike the clownishly portrayed American patriots of *M*A*S*H*, were ordinary and decent men, incapable of the atrocities which were thoroughly documented by many sources during and after the armistice ended the fighting.

“Do we want,” asks Walker, “a world safe from dangerous regimes like North Korea or Iran? Do we wish to end the unthinkable cruelties, like the Holocaust, which are committed each day as a matter of state policy in places like Cuba and North Korea?”

“Then there is only one solution: end these evil realms; replace the overlords with decent people; then let these lands evolve naturally into ordered liberty.”

However, Walker worries, war may break out again

“Seoul may soon be radioactive. Why? Because sixty years ago, we failed to conquer a blatant, terrible evil when we could, and now it has grown into a deadly viper.”

Truman forced the U.S. military to fight with one hand tied behind its back, writes Farrell. Among the “rules of engagement” that he required “was the outrageous implementation of what today we call ‘U.N. Safe Areas,’ what was called in Vietnam the ‘Demilitarized Zone.’

“This was a place where the enemy after launching its vicious volleys could run and hide without fear of reprisal. It was against the law for Americans to kill and maim there, but the Chinese could kill and maim Americans at their leisure.

“Call it military socialism, an attempt to level the playing field, converting handicap into privilege, bestowing an unwarranted advantage on an unworthy and unholy opponent who wouldn’t have stood a chance otherwise, as if to pretend this was some sort of competitive sport where parity only added to the excitement.

“This aid-to-the-enemy strategy also forbade enlisting the volunteer help of Chinese Nationalists who were anxious to strike back at their Communist masters, and later introduced, after MacArthur was booted out, a reversal of the historical and universal tactical objective of territorial acquisition in favor of one that repeatedly and

intentionally required our troops to retreat and abandon strategic territory which had been won with blood, sweat and tears.

“Measures like these went beyond ignorance and lunacy.”

No precedent in the history of the world

From his forced retirement, General MacArthur observed: “I realized for the first time that I had actually been denied the use of my full military power to safeguard the lives of my soldiers and the safety of my army. Such a limitation on the utilization of available military force to repel an enemy attack has no precedent, either in our own history, or, so far as I know, in the history of the world.”

A fellow general, Mark Clark, wondered aloud: “Perhaps Communists had wormed their way deeply into our government.”

Indeed, notes Farrell, “later investigations into the State Department and the Truman administration added fuel to that claim. Some of those Communists, however, worked not in Washington but in Manhattan at the headquarters of that world ‘peace’ organization we call the United Nations, under whose direction and blessing this war was launched and fought.

John F. McManus, in his hard-hitting *Changing Commands: The Betrayal of America’s Military*, explains what happens any time that we join with Communists in such a “peace” organization.

He wrote how Soviet U.N. Official, General Yuri Vasilev, left his post at U.N. headquarters in January 1950 and moved to North Korea in order to direct the military buildup of the Communist forces in North Korea.

“A U.S. department of Defense release of May 15, 1954, even claimed that Vasilev had given the order in 1950 for the North Koreans to invade,” writes McManus.

“That was bad enough, but then came this bombshell,” recalls Farrell. “All military directives sent from Washington and the Pentagon to military commanders in Korea were also supplied to several offices at the U.N., including the Military Staff Committee, formerly led by Vasilev and later by another Soviet General, Ivan Skliar.

And he didn’t keep it to himself

Everything the U.S. commanders were doing was known to Communist leaders even before actions were taken.

“Generals James Van Fleet and MacArthur, testifying before Congress, were convinced this was so, and were also convinced, said Van Fleet, that ‘there must have been information to the enemy from high diplomatic authorities that we would not attack his home base across the Yalu.’”

Chinese General Lin Pia, the commander of the Chinese troops, revealed in a leaflet distributed in China:

“I would never have made the attack and risked my men and military reputation if I had not been assured that Washington would restrain General MacArthur from taking adequate retaliatory measures against my lines of supply and communication.”

But what happened next is haunting the world

today.

“If MacArthur had been permitted to bomb the bridges,” writes Farrell, “as was his plan, the war would have been over, North Korea would be free today not a threat.

“Tens of thousands of American soldiers would have come home to a victory parade rather than a funeral procession.

A true hero vs thugs, Communists and terrorists

“Communism would have been put on notice to watch its step and MacArthur would be remembered for what he was – a true American hero.

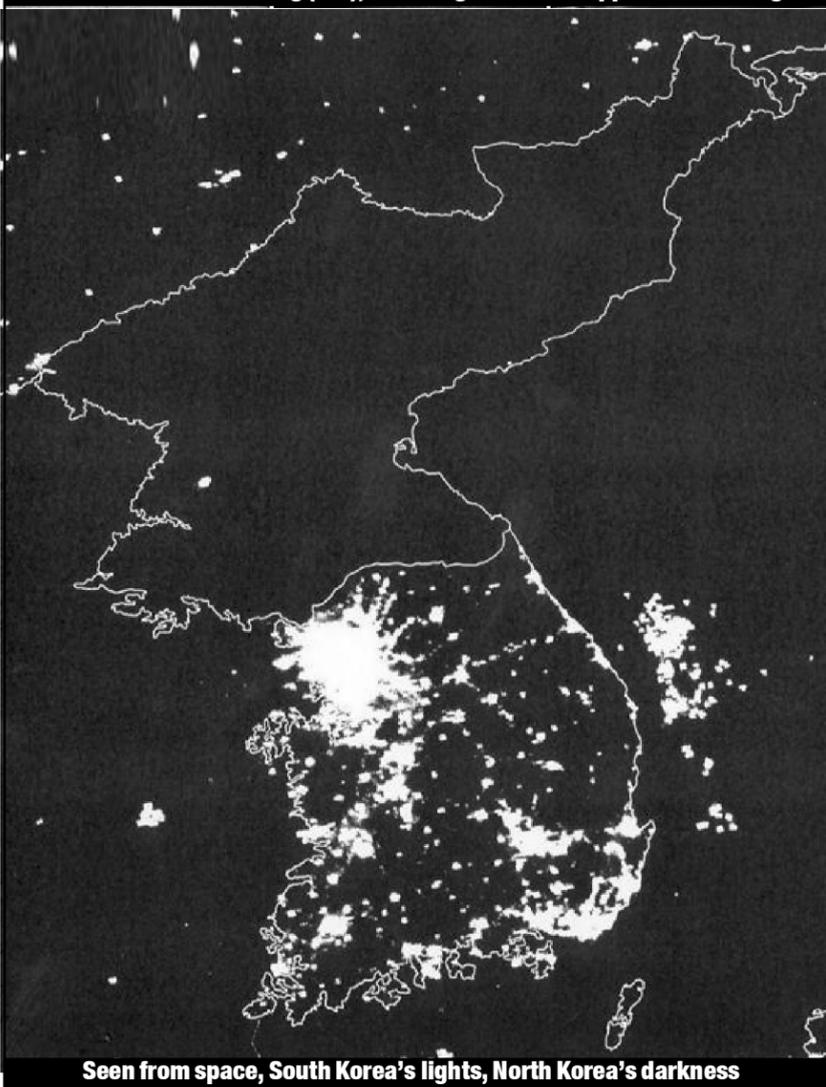
“But then, good things like that don’t happen when you join hands with thugs, Communists and international terrorists and dare to call your band a peacekeeping organization.

“And so the Communists won in the North,” writes Farrell, “American soldiers died, thousands of POWs were abandoned and an international standing army was installed in South Korea as a check against the instability of a third-rate criminal ring in North Korea.”

Today those thugs regularly starves North Korea’s people, “threatens its neighbors, and continues to receive food subsidies from the United Nations organization – that very organization which first promoted and now preserves its continued existence.



The North’s late Kim Il-sung (left), Kim Jung-il and heir apparent Kim Jong-un



Seen from space, South Korea’s lights, North Korea’s darkness



Americans file aboard a troop ship en route to Korea, 1950

Are we on the verge of a new Korean War?

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“Certainly, General MacArthur and the thousands of American men and boys who fought and bled in that unhappy battlefield of Korea cry from the dust in protest.”

And now, we face a nuclear-armed North Korea

There will be no winner if war breaks out, writes Schuman, a former editor for the *Wall Street Journal*.

Today, “both sides are braced for a return to conflict, however unlikely, that would kill millions of people and resonate economically and politically across the globe.

“In the South Korean capital of Seoul recently, residents participated in a 20-minute air attack drill by donning gas masks and rushing into underground shelters. It was the biggest evacuation exercise in decades and one treated with an unusual seriousness in the wake of last month’s artillery clash.

“North Korea’s rhetoric has become exaggeratingly bellicose – a standard practice for Pyongyang – with the state-run Korean Central News Agency most recently saying joint U.S.-South Korean military exercises in the Yellow Sea brought ‘the dark clouds of a nuclear war to hang over the Korean peninsula.’

These days, the international community isn’t dismissing the threat, says Schuman.

“An apparently evolving transfer of power in North Korea, along with the country’s perpetual economic frailty and extreme paranoia, has put the U.S. and South Korea on edge and scrambling for ways to calm the situation.”

“It’s changed out there, and it’s dangerous. Increasingly dangerous,” advises Admiral Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. That’s what he told troops in Baghdad during a recent visit to Iraq.

“In addition to what’s thought to be a rudimentary nuclear arsenal of perhaps a dozen bombs, the North Koreans have a million-man army, with half deployed near the demilitarized zone abutting South Korea, and hundreds of long-range artillery tubes within range of Seoul,” writes Schuman.

“That means a sudden strike could potentially kill the roughly 30,000 American civilians living among the millions of South Koreans, as well as the roughly 25,000 U.S. servicemen and women assigned to protect South Korea.

“In turn, U.S. and South Korean firepower can destroy the North Korean leadership and military.”

Terrible consequences for all

National security veteran analyst Leslie Gelb warns that “North and South Korea have never been closer to war since 1953, but close is actually not too close because of the terrible consequences of war for both sides.

“Still, unpredictability is one of North Korea’s most dominant characteristics.”

“The potential for miscalculation, misunderstanding, and unintended escalation cannot be dismissed,” wrote military scholar and analyst Paul Stares in a war contingency document put out by the Council on Foreign Relations in December. “Indeed, a combination of factors could propel a crisis beyond what the principal protagonists might initially expect or desire.”

One danger is that North Korea’s despotic leader, Kim Jong Il, surrounds himself with “yes men” who tell him what he wants to hear and exaggerate North Korea’s military prowess. Such tyranny was a cause of Saddam Hussein’s defiance.

“After Saddam was deposed, plenty of evidence emerged that he didn’t know the limits of Iraq’s defenses because frightened subordinates were afraid to tell him,” writes Schuman.

According to Stares: “Pyongyang’s grasp of potentially fast-moving events could be quite limited and slow, given the North’s relatively unsophisticated intelligence and communication systems.

“Equally destabilizing is the North’s current, apparently volatile succession process.

“The ailing Kim Jong Il has tapped his third son, the young and inexperienced Kim Jong Un, to be the next leader, as evidenced by the younger Kim’s recent promotion to four-star general and what appears to be the establishment of Kim family members and allies in a *de facto* ruling council that will advise him.

“Kim Jong Un may be behind the recent acts of aggression as a way of establishing his credibility with the military.”

“But North Korean politics are extremely hard to decipher from afar,” notes Schuman, “and it’s possible that factions within the government or military

could oppose Kim Jong Un, creating the potential for even more volatility.

“Pyongyang also has a history of fusing aggression to get the world’s attention in order to get food, fuel or other aid through negotiations. And the North always runs the risk of overplaying its hand.

“The North Koreans do know there is no way they could come out ahead in full-out war, but they also know they could inflict a tremendous amount of damage before the U.S. and South Korea could stop them.

“In some ways, the thrust of each side’s military threat is the unbearable cost to either of a first strike. If North Korea attacks the South with the decades-old motive of forcing reunification, U.S. and South Korean air and sea power can obliterate all key military targets, invade and topple the regime.

Contingency plans

“In the unlikely event of the South and U.S. forces instigating a conflict, the North can destroy Seoul, send missiles toward Japan and attack with a missile or airplane-carried nuclear device,” notes Schuman.

“The U.S. military perpetually updates its contingency plans for war in Korea, a document known as Operations Plan 5027, or simply OPLAN 5027.

“It officially envisions the U.S. providing units to reinforce South Korea in the event of an attack, but the commander of joint forces would be an American.

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“OPLAN 5027 lays out some scary possibilities.

“The roughly 500 artillery tubes trained on Seoul, twice the firepower the North had in the 1990s, could devastate the South’s capital.

“They are part of a 12,000-strong force of self-propelled and easily moved artillery and rockets. And though they are old, they could sustain a firing pace of up to 500,000 rounds per hour against the U.S.-South Korean Combined Forces Command defenses for several hours.”

The private political intelligence group Stratfor says that the shells used in the recent attack on Yeonpyeong Island were incendiary and possibly thermobaric – a class of so-called fuel-air bombs that produce much longer blast waves than traditional explosives – with the aim of increasing casualties and property damage.

In analyzing the pattern of fire and results, Stratfor said there was a fairly high dud rate – roughly a quarter of the rounds that failed to explode.”

Wanton destruction for no good reason

“But the North still has the power,” writes Schuman, “to destroy a half-century of industrial development in South Korea, a country that’s a key trading partner of the U.S. and an integrated cog in the global economy.

“That’s in addition to the devastation it could cause to the South Korean population and its American and other foreign guests.

“North Korea also has the manpower to stage a short-term *blitzkrieg* of the South with little time needed for preparation, though the U.S. and South Korean air superiority would likely stop that advance from going all the way to Seoul.

“And the North could unleash chemical and biological weapons, its small nuclear arsenal, and even flash floods with dams upstream from the DMZ.

“The U.S. counteroffensive plans are all about stopping the North Koreans in their tracks and quickly decapitating the regime.

“As the North Korean forces work their way through the rugged, mountainous terrain to the south, U.S. air power would use the northern tanks and infantry’s narrow access routes as killing zones.

“Meanwhile, as air- and sea-based missiles took out North Korean command and intelligence targets, a U.S. Marine expeditionary force and South Korean units could

stage an amphibious assault positioning them to quickly move toward and seize control of Pyongyang.

“But,” writes Schuman, “the South Koreans would have to withstand days of destruction while such an invasion was carried out.”

Nukes remain a question mark

“It isn’t clear how North Korea could or would deploy its small nuclear arsenal.

“Almost certain is that suspected North Korean nuclear facilities would be among

the first U.S. targets. And almost just as certain is that the U.S. wouldn’t retaliate with nuclear weapons – in part because of how that would affect China, South Korea and North Korean civilians, and in part because the U.S. has devastating conventional weapons at its disposal for a Korean conflict.

“Still, North Korea’s atomic weapons remain one of the biggest question marks on the peninsula.”

Adding to the confusion, senior Obama administration and intelligence officials told the *New York Times* that Pyongyang’s recently



Kim Jung-il, surrounded by officers

unveiled uranium-enrichment program may be “significantly more advanced” than Iran’s, involving hidden nuclear facilities around the country that outsiders haven’t detected. China, North Korea’s principal patron, has publicly declined to chastise Pyongyang after its artillery attack in November.

And after participating in multinational talks over the past decade aimed at denuclearizing North Korea, Beijing has recently stayed silent on that issue as well.”

China could be an extremely influential player on the Korean Peninsula should war break out.

But as in 1950, would they allow their North Korean allies to fall?

Liberals accuse thirteen Christian groups of ‘hate’

continued from page 1

Those denouncing the stunt included former presidential candidate Mike Huckabee, former Secretary of Education and bestselling author William Bennett, Prison Fellowship founder Chuck Colson, chief executive officer of Concerned Women for America Penny Nance, former U.S. Senator Rick Santorum, Eagle Forum’s Phyllis Schlafly, Mathew Staver, president of Liberty Counsel, David Stevens, CEO of the Christian Medical Association and Southern Baptist Convention spokesman Richard Land.

Who did the denouncing?

The radical Southern Poverty Law Center has for years pursued anti-discrimination cases. It received considerable publicity for suing the Ku Klux Klan and other white supremacist groups.

However, the SPLC in recent years has disintegrated into “nothing more than a liberal money-raising machine,” according to the *Washington Times* newspaper, which added that “even some liberals have accused it of financial mismanagement and misleading fundraising practices.”

In late December, the SPLC advised the national press to shun the 13 Christian groups.

The SPLC branded as “hateful” three influential organizations which have led the battle against “Don’t

ask, don’t tell,” and a number of moral issues such as perversion on TV and abortion.

The big groups attacked were the American Family Association, the Family Research Council and the Traditional Values Coalition. The smaller groups included such locally effective groups as Abiding Truth Ministries of Springfield, Massachusetts; the Chalcedon Foundation of Vallecito, California; and the Faithful Word Baptist Church of Tempe, Arizona.

Family Research Council President Perkins says the SPLC’s accusations are “a desperate attempt for attention by a dwindling national liberal base losing its relevance.

“It’s further evidence that the left is losing and that they’re out of ideas,” Perkins said. “They tried to do the same thing with the ‘tea party’ movement, they tried to characterize them as hate groups. They can’t win, so they engage in character assassination.”

About 150 public officials and pro-family leaders not only denounced the attempted blacklisting, but publicly supported the targeted groups in full-page ads in several national venues.

The ad said they “stand in solidarity” with the slandered organizations, which the ads said “are working to protect and promote natural marriage and family.”

Attempting to smear the Christian organizations “is intolerance pure and simple,” the ad said. “Elements of

the radical left are trying to shut down informed discussion of policy issues that are being considered by Congress, legislatures and the courts. Our debates can and must remain civil – but they must never be suppressed through personal assaults that aim only to malign an opponent’s character.”

The smear attempt is particularly worrisome since in Europe and a number of other countries, any criticism of homosexuality is automatically deemed “hate speech,” thus prohibiting any debate of the issue.

Canadian censorship

In Canada, a Christian television show was reinstated in December after being taken off the air in response to the host’s comments about homosexuality.

Although Word TV is back on the air, the Canadian Broadcasting Standards Council is prescreening and censoring its content.

“We spoke against a new proposed sex education curriculum that would teach gender identity, six genders, and sexual orientation to our children,” explained Dr. Charles McVety, president of Canada Christian College and host of the show. “I believe that this curriculum was for the purpose of teaching our children to be homosexuals.”

McVety also spoke against a \$400,000 Canadian government grant for a homosexual pride parade, which the government ultimately withdrew because of nudity and other illegal behavior. The CBSC afforded McVety no hearing, ruling that he had breached the code of ethics. In reference to his comments criticizing the parade, the council ruled that the preacher used the term ‘sex parade’ in a derogatory way during a sermon.

“The criminal code says the people in the parade should be prosecuted,” notes McVety. “But somehow, I am the one prosecuted for speaking against this.

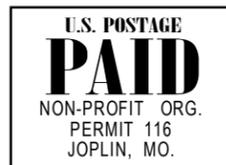
McVety has been told if he commits further ‘offenses,’ he will be permanently taken off the air.

He must censor himself or else.

Let us pray this never happens in America.

CHRISTIAN CRUSADE

Dept. 198 P.O. Box 21228
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74121-1228



An Open Letter from our publisher

January 2011

DEAR FRIEND:

Can liberal organizations survive without government dollars? We're about to find out. A number of newly elected conservative governors finally take office this month and have made it clear that if the liberals need money, they'll have to look beyond taxpayers to find it.

Virginia's Governor Bob McDonnell recently led the way, taking an axe to a number of items – including public broadcasting, saving his state \$4 million.

New Jersey's new conservative governor, Chris Christie, agrees, saying the "proper role of government" doesn't include taxpayer-funded abortions. So, he pulled the rug out from under Planned Parenthood, stripping \$7.5 million from the clinics in a move to save cash in a state that desperately needs it.

In Planned Parenthood's latest annual report, the abortion giant raked in \$63.4 million in *profit*. That was largely thanks to you and me, who fed Planned Parenthood \$363 million in government money, up \$13 million from last year.

President Obama complains about tax breaks for millionaires – but he supports welfare for billionaire organizations!

My friend, America is on the brink of bankruptcy as you can see in our article that starts on Page 1. Is it necessary to fund projects that also contribute to our moral bankruptcy?

Elsewhere in this month's edition, we look at the tragic case of Aasia Bibi, a bold Christian woman in Pakistan. She dared to ask her neighbors just what Mohammed had done for them – and proclaimed how Jesus had saved her. For this "blasphemy," she has been condemned to death. *Her story must be proclaimed!*

But it is being ignored by the liberal media – which also closes its eyes to America's bankruptcy.

My friend, we must shout warning in new and creative ways if we are to reach the millions searching for the truth!

That's why we are urgently recruiting "Watchmen on the Web" – volunteers who help us forward *Christian Crusade Newspaper* articles by e-mail to everyone that they know and love.

You can be a Watchman on the Web! Just send an e-mail to our editorial department at ChristCrew@aol.com and we will start sending you our best articles. You can help reach those who are not receiving the truth!

As always, after you read this newsprint version of *Christian Crusade Newspaper*, please make sure that it gets into the hands of someone who needs it!

We cannot be good stewards and just throw away our copies! *Please pass yours on!*

My friend, you are vital in this battle for truth and freedom! We depend on you!

Write to me! We are always so grateful if you can send us a gift of

\$5, \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100 or whatever you can. With your support, we are expanding our outreach!

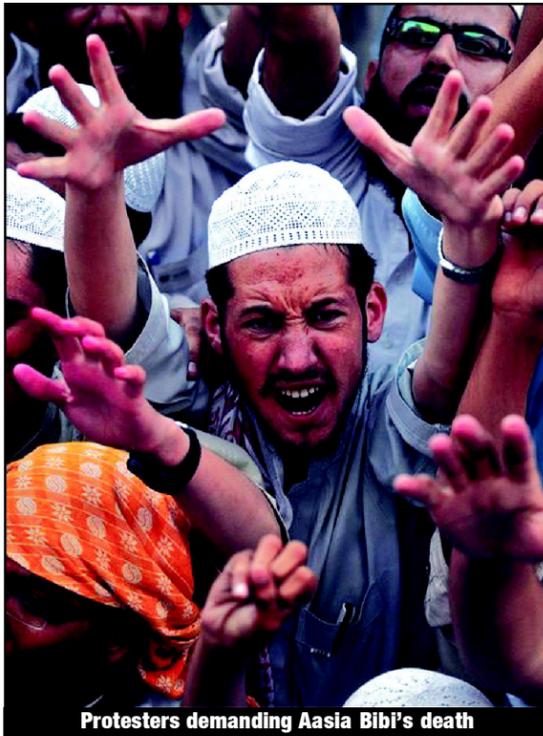
Pray with me for America! The truth **must** be proclaimed! If you are a recipient of somebody else's *Christian Crusade Newspaper* and you are reading our pages for the first time, we'd like to offer you a free subscription!

Yes, everybody gets this Newspaper free of charge! We challenge you to join us, proclaiming the truth!

Please write to me today! Let us know if you can help out as a Watchman on the Web. *I want to hear from you!*

God bless you! Go with God!

Billy James Hargis II,
PUBLISHER AND PRESIDENT



Protesters demanding Aasia Bibi's death

Christian Crusade



The late Dr. Billy James Hargis with Mrs. Betty Jane Hargis and Publisher Billy James Hargis II

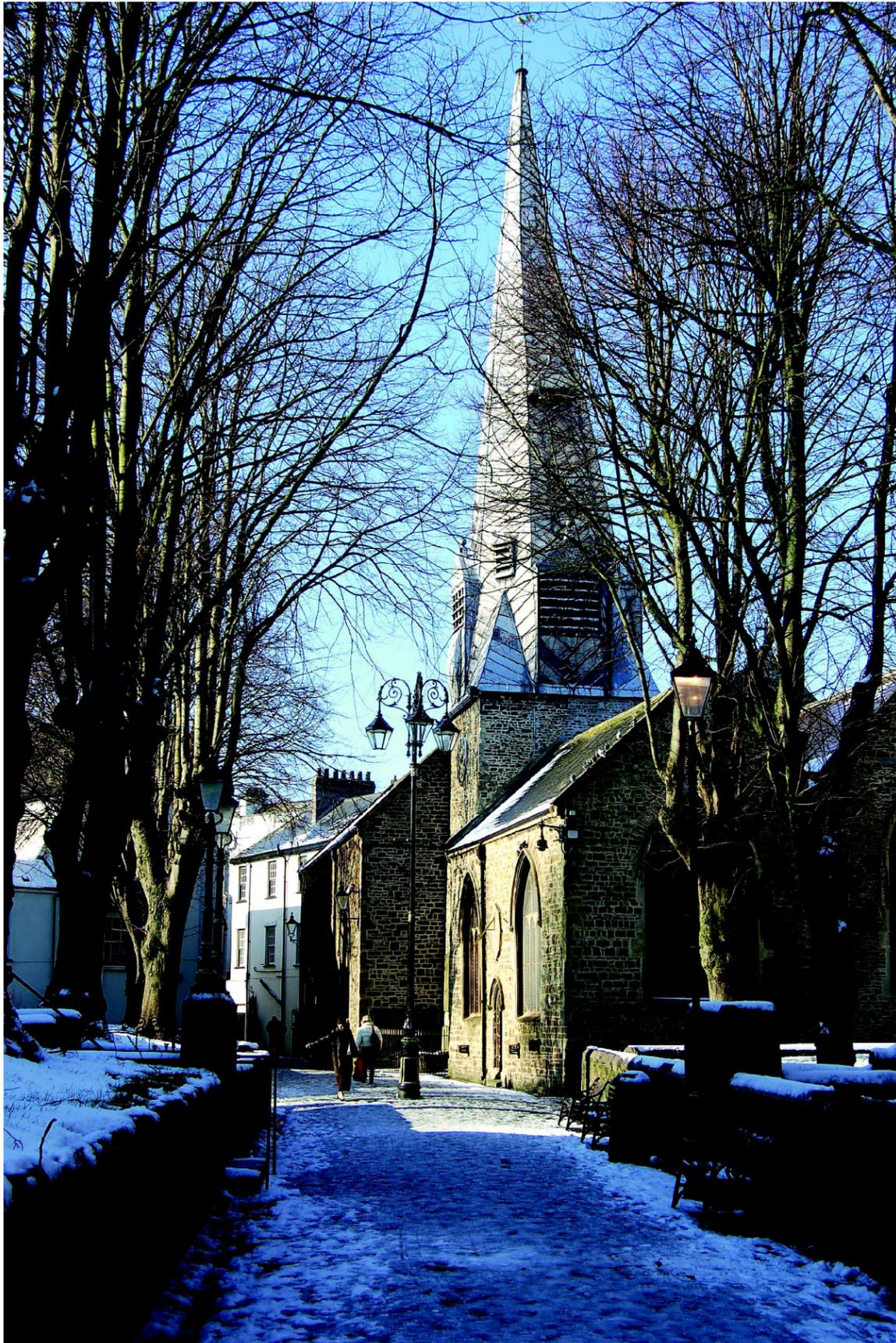
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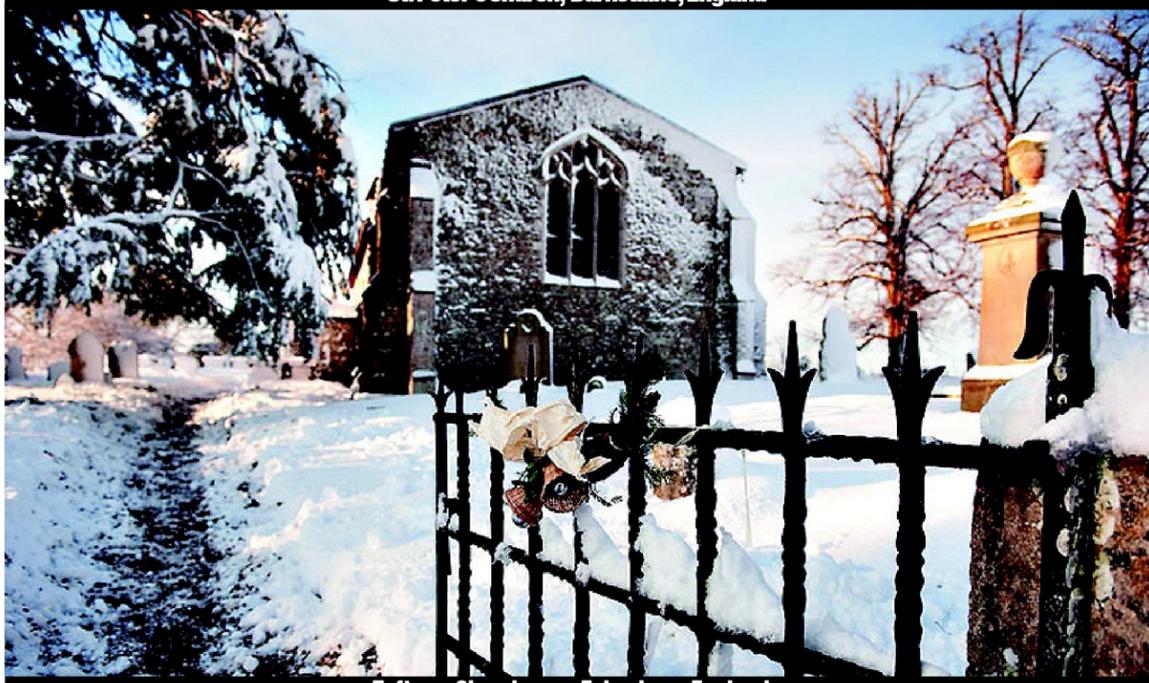
How can America
ever pay off
Obama's
debt?





St. Peter's Church, Barnstable, England

Bodie Metho



Toftrees Church, near Fakenham, England



Mortimer Church, Reading, Berkshire, England



Ballygalwy Church, Northern Ireland