

The Record

New York's Republican



The Department of Energy

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Around the City...

Commentary from the Editor



Recently, delivering the keynote address at Newsweek Magazine's second annual Global Environmental Leadership Conference which is held at Georgetown University, Mayor Bloomberg announced plans to double the city's current solar power capacity. This announcement came a day after the NY

State Assembly defeated his Congestion Pricing Proposal. For the Mayor's solar initiative the city would request proposals from private developers to enter into a 20-year deal to buy, install, own and maintain solar panels on city-owned buildings in all five boroughs as part of PlaNYC, the mayor's environmental initiative. His request for private developers to construct and then maintain ownership of these solar stations comes at no surprise since nationally we are experiencing a new clean energy boom. Private development of United States clean energy has spurred hopes of achieving energy independence within the next century. However, this hope could be thwarted if Democrats succeed in going on a legislating, regulating, and taxing spree.

Edward Coughlin, this month's headline contributor, has been talking with the Department of Energy about this very topic. He writes this month about the working relationship between the Department of Energy and the private sector. It seems the DOE and the Republican Party has their environmental and energy thinking in common. This is a great combination and as Edward states, it's time

that we Republicans reclaim our environmental crown. And since New York City has received \$400,000 from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, which is run by the DOE, to pursue its solar power initiative, we thought the link between the DOE and Republicans would make for a great article. Republicans and the markets are the answer to our energy problem and it's high time we started saying so.

With the Democratic Primary still dragging on, Senator McCain has yet to make a decision on a Vice President and may not pick one for quite a while. Sam Nunberg contributes a great piece telling us about how we need a Conservative for a Vice President to ensure that the base of the Party does not just vote, but participates and gets actively involved in the campaign. Sam exposes some startling numbers and shows just how vulnerable McCain will be if the base does not get involved with his campaign like they did for President Bush's.

A new contributor, Manish Maheswari, digs into one of the most controversial issues on the globe right now, the Tibet situation. Manish is a talented writer with a great perspective on foreign affairs. You will be hearing from him more in the future.

And Molly, after last month writing a piece on her travels to Egypt settles back down into the world of New York politics and talks about two Republican candidates running for State Senate seats. They both have great chances to win coming off of big Democratic scandals. It will be imperative for all of us to keep updated on their campaigns, help out whenever needed, spread the word and remain active. John Chromczak, one of those candidates, is also a Supporter of this growing magazine and we'd all like to thank him for his support.

Speaking of being active, that's exactly what Treasury Secretary, Henry Paulson,

has been. Reforming the United States entire financial regulatory entity is probably no easy task but that's what he's up to and Matt Bucklin lays it all out for us. In a system that has been created in pieces, each piece in response to another problem, hopefully Paulson can create a regulatory body that is representative of 21st century economics. But with most government undertakings, we will have to wait and see if they actually get something right for once.

The book reviewed this month, written by the book's two authors, is a breath of fresh air. Due out in May, I've gotten the privilege of reading an advance copy and I must say that it is exactly what we need. It's a book to hand every moderate and liberal you know. Debunking the myths of the Right in a fashion that proves most stereotypes completely wrong is a daunting endeavor but this book pulls it off in a hip young way that is easy to read. We need more books like this to get in the hands of younger people and help turn these Republican stereotypes around.

Lastly, Anthony Genovese and Brett Smith round off this month's Record. Anthony with a piece about how international law is trying to manipulate its way into the United States to supercede our own Constitution and Brett, a recently converted liberal, about the Iraq War. I've known Brett for quite some time and throughout our many political conversations he's come to see the Right as not so evil and in his words, "making a lot of sense." The mission of this magazine is to make sense and get the Republican word out in New York City. When people do realize we make sense, that's when we get members, support, and votes. In this City with not much GOP exposure to speak of, we have nowhere to go but up. It's not about right and wrong, it's about problem solving and making sense and the more people that hear that message, the better. *- Kellen Giuda*

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Clean Energy

With clean energy booming, the Department of Energy let's free enterprise do it's job.

By Edward Coughlin

Energy independence, going green, renewable resources. These are just some of the terms we've been hearing for the past 30 years as America's left pushed a goal in public that they did not support behind the scenes. The promise of a 'green tomorrow' successfully wins votes and public opinion, but without the consistent funding for research and development, the technology and innovation could not be developed. "Vote for us and we'll help the environment" is what we've consistently heard.

But finally, new technologies that may lead us to energy independence actually do exist, due to capitalism, private investment, and industrial R&D that has been lambasted by the left as the great evils of our nation and the world. As the world's population continues to grow, energy independence and clean renewable energy become more crucial for our national defense, our future economy, and of course, the environment. Republicans, responsible for creating the Environmental Protection Agency, the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Endangered Species Act, are in a prime position to take back the environmental crown that the left has unrightfully claimed.

While Ted Kennedy continues his attempts to block wind turbines off the Massachusetts coast, Texan oil barons continue to mock the northeast, as Texas has wind turbines that power over one million homes. However, while Texas only receives 3% of its energy from wind power, the Texas Public Utility Commission just approved transmission lines to be built across the state that can hold five times that, 15% of the state's energy, by 2012. And the venture capitalists, entrepreneurs, and existing renewable energy companies couldn't be more excited. The comparison between the oil boom of the early and mid 20th century and what is going on now in Texas is not far fetched to industry insiders and anyone who has been following the development.

While Texas is in the forefront of clean energy in the United States, many other states are close behind, also beginning to take advantage of their own wind and other clean energy opportunities. With each small step, the United States is beginning the process of weaning itself off the dependency on middle-eastern oil and improving the environment.

Now that technologies such as wind power are becoming more viable as evidenced by Texas' booming start and many other states aggressive undertakings, the Federal government should realize that leaving the states and markets alone and staying out of the way is the best way to advance our clean energy goals.

The Department of Energy (DOE) is taking the cue after observing the private sector boost clean energy technology growth with breakneck year on year numbers. After speaking with Department of Energy personnel over the past few weeks, it seems the DOE is onboard with helping by leading by example in response to President Bush's 2007 Executive Order ordering all federal agencies to reduce energy intensity, or consumption per square foot, by 30%. The order also called for increased percentages of new renewable sources in each agency's energy supply, and asked agencies to implement renewable energy generation projects on their property. Even though the media virtually ignored these positive steps, it does not minimize the fact that this is a telling example of Republican

commitments to the environment and clean energy sources.

Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman vowed to be the first agency to meet this goal. In conjunction with this new challenge by the President, The DOE released a handful of new programs and initiatives, one of which was the Entrepreneur in Residence (EIR) Program. This program and a number of others further solidify the argument that the Department of Energy and the Republican Party's vision on how to make the United States energy independent, align.

The Department of Energy, created in 1977, and the Republican Party share very common ideas on how to succeed at energy independence.



The world's largest wind turbine generator is currently undergoing testing in the North Sea off the East coast of Scotland. Each turbine weighs over 900 tons including the 360 foot tall tower which has to be anchored in deep water. It has an output of five Megawatts with each turbine blade being over 180 feet long.

Three of the top five mission objectives of the DOE are to provide:

- Energy Security: Promoting America's energy security through reliable, clean, and affordable energy.
- Scientific Discovery and Innovation: Strengthening U.S. scientific discovery, economic competitiveness, and improving quality of life through innovations in science and technology.
- Environmental Responsibility: Protecting the environment by providing a responsible resolution to the environmental legacy of nuclear weapons production.

While the ends are common, the means are what draw the similarities between the DOE and Republicans. These mission objectives along with a look at the DOE's history of pushing programs that promote innovative technology while using market capitalism to institute these technologies are just the kind of leadership and results-based vision we

need. The United States continually shows it can successfully take abstract theories and convert them into tangible results with the government assuming an assistance-based role.

Jennifer Scoggins, representing the EIR Program afforded the following statement.

The Entrepreneur in Residence (EIR) Program will bring venture capital sponsored entrepreneurs into three of the DOE's National Laboratories to develop plans to commercialize new clean energy technologies. The entrepreneurs in residence will identify technologies that, when commercialized in private sector companies, will contribute to the DOE's mission to promote America's energy security through reliable, clean, and affordable energy.

The EIR program seeks to identify and develop business cases to commercialize promising laboratory technology and give proven start-up entrepreneurs the opportunity to work directly with technical management and staff at a National Laboratory. Selected entrepreneurs would conduct technology assessments, evaluate market opportunities, formulate preliminary business cases, and propose business structures for start-up enterprises, as well as recommend policy and business practice modifications to the National Laboratories to refine their approaches to moving technology into the commercial sector.

The National Renewable Energy Lab, Sandia National Laboratory, and Oak Ridge National Laboratory will be the first DOE laboratories to host entrepreneurs in residence. As a first step in the program, DOE will support the work of three entrepreneurs at National Laboratories.

The EIR Program is a product of the DOE's Commercialization Team that is focused on broad market adoption of clean energy technologies. Crucial to their effort is supporting the move of these technologies from the nation's National Laboratories to the private sector.

Through this pilot program, the DOE is recognizing and implementing an important strategy when talking about new technologies and societal progress. It realizes that in America, it's best to leave the people and the markets alone while they figure out how to solve their own problems. The DOE is taking an admirable approach and has been ever since Secretary Bodman was first unanimously sworn in as Secretary of Energy; an approach that is one of side line assistance and promotion of American ingenuity and market innovation rather than a heavy, lazy, regulatory handed approach that stunts our economy and technological progress.

In a relatively small budget request for fiscal year 2009, \$25 billion, the DOE uses its money wisely in other assistance-based ways such as the Advancing the American Competitiveness Initiative which will increase basic research in the physical sciences that will have broad impacts on future energy technologies and environmental solutions. ACI funding will also continue to support the construction and operation of world-class scientific facilities and will support thousands of scientists and students, which are essential for the U.S. to maintain its world class, scientific leadership and global competitiveness.

The Department of Energy also actively supports and leads the President's Solar America Initiative and the Asia Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate that will advance the President's goal of developing and accelerating the deployment of cleaner and more efficient technologies and practices globally. And on a smaller scale there is President Bush's goal for cost-competitive, commercial scale cellulosic ethanol by 2012 as well as support for plug-in hybrids, lithium-ion batteries, and critical hydrogen fuel cell technology.

The Department of Energy has the right approach by assisting and promoting the private sector's successful progress in developing the nation's clean energy sources and infrastructure. The Entrepreneur in Residence program along with many other programs created by the DOE brings great hope to the goal of clean energy independence as long as the government allows the country's naturally vigorous market to work. While we as a nation have a tremendous distance to go to reach this goal, it is now time for Republicans to start highlighting the benefits and results of the market-based clean energy industry and take the environmental crown back from the Democrats. We need to show Americans that environmentalism, clean energy, technological progress, and open competitive markets are the answers for a clean and energy independent America. □

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McCain's VP Choice

Why it must be Right

By Sam Nunberg

At this moment, Sen. John McCain is the presumptive Republican nominee for the 2008 presidential election. His monotonous campaign is in the early stages of organizing a unique approach for the general election that will be decentralized and area specific. His campaign's public disclosure of its strategy (which was a gift to the DNC and not wise) is emblematic of Sen. McCain's public image of the moderate "Maverick" Republican with wide Independent appeal who can not only salvage the GOP's dismal Presidential prospects against the Democrats, but also lift on his coattails the numerous House and Senate races this coming Fall. However, this public image is also McCain's crutch with the most important segment of the GOP, the Conservative Base.

The Conservative Base is the most energetic and organized coalition in American politics. It is a combination of major money donors, small business owners, Veterans, lawyers, doctors, truck drivers, Church goers, security moms, NASCAR dads, Federalists, Libertarians, Wall Street Journal subscribers, hunters, finance professionals, Pro Lifers and even some Ron Paul supporters. This unique alliance is somewhat fluid, particularly varied but most importantly dedicated to a vision of America that Sen. McCain embraces in parts and eschews in others. During election time, the Conservative Base forms an alliance that coalesces into volunteer phone banks, voter drives, spirited dinner talk, campaign yard signs, house parties, radiophone calls, editorials, debates and most importantly a large fundraising success.

To put in another perspective, Karl Rove estimates that President Bush had a 20% increase in Evangelical votes in Florida from 2000 to 2004. In 2004, Pres. Bush, with his brother having a 70% approval rating as the Florida Governor, won the state by a little less than 400,000 votes. Pres. Bush won a total of 286 delegates because of his narrow state victories that were organized district by district with military stealth like precision by both Rove and Ken Mehlman. He would have lost the 2004 election, 3 years after 9/11, to the Massachusetts' pacifist Sen. Kerry, without the critical 20 delegates from Ohio. Bush won the Buckeye State by less than 120,000 votes. One shining similarity between both Florida and Ohio in 2004 is that both states had over 100,000 volunteers working in a wide variety of capacities for the Bush campaign. These active, engaged and dedicated Americans gave up their free time because of moral, business and foreign concerns. This shows the extreme importance of the Conservative Base.

In the past couple months, McCain's camp has made important inroads to the Conservative base. Whether it is the fact that Conservatives are merely relegated into accepting the reality of the McCain GOP nomination or frightened by the prospects of having Sen. Clinton or Obama nominate at least the next two Supreme Court Justices, surveys now consistently have 70% of Conservatives promising to pull the lever for the McCain ticket this November 4th. However, as the McCain campaign readily admits, there is a great distinction between the Conservative Base simply voting for Sen. McCain and enthusiastically supporting Sen. McCain as they did with President Bush. In fact, Sen. McCain's dismal fundraising during the first 3 months of 2008 and his lack of Internet traffic provides concrete evidence that the McCain camp is still lagging.

Sen. McCain is a self-described superstitious man who believes in luck. Frankly, he got lucky in the primaries. Mayor Giuliani's unwise

strategy to expend all resources for a Florida firewall strategy along with the Bernard Kerik indictment tanked his campaign. Sen. Fred Thompson never had a coherent strategy or a real desire to run, eventually proving that he was more of an idea of a candidate than an actual one even though he is a true Federalist and a hawk. Sen. McCain's campaign, after nearly imploding during the summer months due to the repugnant McCain-Kennedy amnesty bill and lack of fundraising, was financed by a \$6 million loan and living off name recognition. McCain stuck it and Minister Huckabee provided him the miracle that McCain is known to look for at the Vegas crap table.

Throughout 2007, one unknown Governor from Massachusetts was organizing a corporate like apparatus that was ready to campaign nationally for the Presidency from June 2007. Despite polling at 3% in national name recognition in January 2007, Gov. Mitt Romney not only raised over \$20million in the 2007 first quarter, he also won the CPAC Straw



Newly elected Senator McCain meets President Ronald Reagan with First Lady Nancy Reagan at left, March 1987.

Poll and started to become the frontrunner in the early primary states. His sparkling executive credentials, superb record as Governor, along with his Reaganesque platform, eventually had Gov. Romney polling at the top of Iowa, New Hampshire, and Michigan by mid-May. Gov. Romney's campaign strategy of blowing his competitors out of the water with early primary wins seemed on track with his Iowa Straw Poll win.

However, the demographics of Iowa never played to Gov. Romney's advantage and Minister Huckabee sized on it. After Huckabee's "off the record" remark to the New York Times saying that Mormons believe Jesus and Satan are brothers, Gov. Romney's lead started to shrink in Iowa, particularly because of the heavy Baptists base in Sioux County (one could only wonder how the New York Times would portray an off hand remark about the racist, Pan-Arabist, black power Rev. Wright, but let's leave that for November).

Despite Gov. Romney losing eventually losing Iowa and New Hampshire, he still won nearly as many states as Sen. McCain after Super Tuesday and was trailing McCain by under 100,000 in total votes cast. In fact, while Gov. Romney was competitive in every region, McCain simply was not. McCain did not perform competitively in the Mountain West and was really not a factor in the Southern and Mid-West states that he even won. As Michael Barone poignantly pointed out on his blog on April 7th, a three point swing between Romney and McCain in all states, would have given put the race at a virtual tie in delegate count. The Huckabee factor distinguished any chance of McCain having to actually compete for the GOP nomination instead of sticking around to survive the demographic carnage that Gov. Romney was forced to tie his hands up in with the theocratic Minister from Hope, Arkansas.

In his speech at this year's CPAC, his first in over three years, Sen. McCain readily admitted that he is not a Conservative but also promised

that he would work with Conservatives. A little less than three hours earlier, Gov. Romney suspended his campaign in order that the GOP unify around Sen. McCain and defeat what looks at this time to be the Obama ticket. In 1980, Ronald Reagan offered George H.W. Bush the VP slot as a conciliatory gesture to the moderate Nixon base of the GOP. At that time, many primary voters fumed that Reagan was out of touch with the GOP and only won the nomination because of his previous run in 1976 that nearly went to the Convention floor. Over 28 years later, the Republican Party finds itself in the same predicament.

Sen. McCain has often said that he is a soldier of the Reagan Revolution. His pick for VP is his chance to prove it. By awarding Gov. Romney with the VP slot, he will be awarding himself and the GOP an easy victory in November. The McCain-Romney against an Obama would have a 1972 like sweeping victory. The Republicans could count on being competitive in over 35 states. Michigan, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Minnesota and even possibly New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Maine, all states that Bush lost to Kerry in 2004, would go to the GOP. The McCain-Romney ticket would also carry states such as Nevada and New Mexico that Bush won narrowly in 2004, would go Red again. The Conservative Base would be galvanized and more importantly ready to donate their time and money. Simply put, picking Romney for the VP slot is the smart political move that the DNC and mainstream media doesn't want. The question now becomes, is McCain going to be the Maverick or the Gipper in his next critical campaign move? □

Sino-US Relations in Light of the Tibetan Crisis

By *Manish Maheswari*

It is not often we hear the phrase "cultural genocide", but when these words are spoken by none other than the spiritual leader Dalai Lama, the world stands up and takes notice. The simmering discontent against the Chinese policy of systematic destruction of the Tibetan culture and suppression of human rights has led to one of the biggest uprisings by the Tibetan masses for an Autonomous Tibetan Region free from Chinese interference. China's violent handling of the current crisis, which has left more than 100 dead, has come in for widespread international criticism and calls from certain quarters to boycott the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games.

The history of modern Tibet began in 1950 when China's People's Liberation Army defeated the ill equipped Tibetan Army, marking the end of more than four decades of Tibetan self-rule. The authoritarian Chinese communist party's socio-economic policies alienated the Tibetan masses and sowed the seeds of future revolts. The brazen attempt by the Chinese Government to interfere with Tibetan Buddhism, introduction of political education in monasteries much to the dislike of monks, the mass influx of Han Chinese into Tibetan mainland, and frequent mistreatment and detention of Buddhist monks on flimsy pretext had led to many anti-government revolts in the following years culminating into the dramatic escape of Dalai Lama to India in 1959 to pre-empt any Chinese design to arrest or harm him. Currently the Dalai Lama runs the Tibetan government in exile from his monastery in Dharamshala, a tiny hamlet in Northern India. There have been many uprising since then against the Chinese regime, which were all brutally repressed by the government.

China's economic clout to a certain extent has forced the US to tone down its criticism of the country's massive human rights abuses. With economic growth of more than ten percent a year, China now has

the world's fourth largest economy and may be on track to overtake the United States as the world's largest economy within a few decades. The US economy is dependent on China for its import of consumer goods ranging from toys to electrical goods. This compels the United States to sustain a staggering trade deficit of more than \$250 billion with China, enabling the Chinese Government to maintain the world's largest reserve of dollars.

The United States Department of State included the People's Republic of China among the group of countries described as "the most systematic violators of human rights" in the introduction of the 2006 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices and in previous Human Rights Reports, but did not do so in the 2007 Human Rights Report,



A pro-Tibet rally outside the Chinese consulate in San Francisco, California, on March 17, 2008. Global protests have disrupted the Olympic Torch Relay and much more.

despite any significant evidence to prove that China has improved its human rights record. Moreover in 2006 the United Nations made a mockery of itself by electing China along with Cuba and Saudi Arabia to the newly reconstituted UN Human Rights Council.

While governments are intimidated into silence, John McCain was quick to warn that Chinese mistreatment of Tibetan protesters would be unacceptable for a world power. Given his personal experiences there would be no better candidate to speak out for human dignity and against the repressive tactics of Beijing even as the world celebrates the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. Nancy Pelosi, the Speaker of the US House of Representative traveled to India to personally meet the Dalai Lama to express solidarity with Tibetan people and reiterated the policy of the United States "to support the aspirations of the Tibetan people to safeguard their distinct identity" and "to support economic development, cultural preservation, health care, and education and environmental sustainability for Tibetans inside Tibet".

Even in the best of times the Sino-US relations have been marked by mutual distrust and a general lack of understanding on both sides ranging from issues like Taiwan, struggle for regional supremacy in East Asia, burgeoning trade imbalances, Beijing lackadaisical response to climate change and its appalling human right record. The United States has vacillated from treating China as a strategic competitor to a strategic partner, a grudging acceptance of Beijing emergence as a world power capable of rivaling it in a few decades time.

The deep rooted ideological differences between communist China and a democratic United States will always create differences of opinions that will hinder any cordial relationship between these two world powers. Despite these glaring differences, the two countries in recent years have worked closely on issues like global terrorism and nuclear disarmament of North Korea. China's adoption of western style capitalism has made it the largest trading partner of United States next only to Canada. With the ongoing decentralization of the Chinese Communist political system, introduction of free markets, a pro-active middle class clamoring for advancement of personal liberties, the seeds of a democratic China have already been sown. □



New York News

Molly Casey

Can Republicans win elections in NYC?

Peter Koo and John Chromczak Think Yes

The idea of running viable challengers for New York State Senate seats in New York City districts often receives skepticism from both sides. Although the ability of a Republican to take out an incumbent Democrat in New York City may be questionable, the importance of running qualified candidates in competitive races is not. The Democrat tide has been rising for years, even threatening to push out the lingering Republican incumbents currently in office in New York City and slowly creeping out of the City to Westchester and Long Island.

The Democrats were dealt some heavy blows recently. The Governor resigned over a sex scandal. Before the new Governor was even able to get settled he was ripped apart by the press over his own personal misgivings. Clearly New Yorkers must now realize that governing in New York is not a case of the "good guys" (Democrats) versus the "bad guys" (Republicans). So, as the election season begins we are left with an important question: What will it take to get people to vote Republican again?

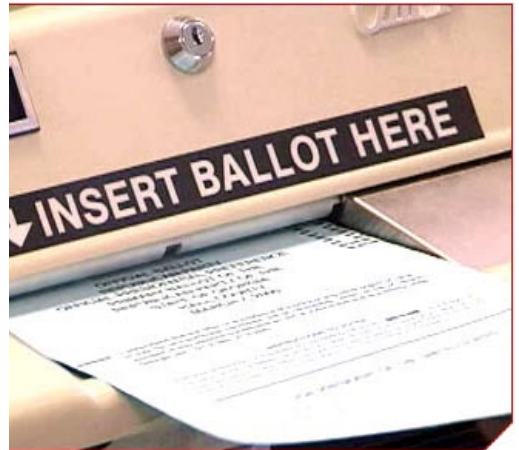
One theory that attempts to explain the loss of steam in the New York State Republican Party is the widespread dislike for President Bush. In light of recent events at the state Executive level, Republicans hold onto the hope that the same phenomenon could influence voters in the opposite way come November. However, recall last election when despite the outrageous plan proposed by then-Governor Eliot Spitzer to give Drivers Licenses to illegal immigrants, many seats long held by Republicans were lost in local elections across the state.

New York City is shaping up to be quite the battleground in November, especially if the four incumbent Senators are challenged. While only two candidates have formally announced their intent to take on Democrat incumbents in districts in New York City so far, rumors have been swirling in Republican circles about potential candidates for the GOP-targeted seats. Flushing Republican businessman Peter Koo is poised to take on Democratic incumbent Toby Ann Stavisky in the 16th Senate District and Downtown Manhattan Republican resident and medical technologist John Chromczak will be challenging Democratic Senator Martin Connor in the 25th. We can be sure to expect more as summer approaches and campaign season gets underway.

Peter Koo has the support of the Queens GOP and Senate Majority Leader Joe Bruno and his conference. While the 16th senate district, which

includes Flushing and parts of Bay Terrace, Forest Hills, Elmhurst and Whitestone among others, is only 18% Republican, the large Asian population could be extremely beneficial to Koo's candidacy.

Koo moved to America from Hong Kong as a young man, and after humble beginnings built up a successful chain of drug stores. He went on to become an active member and a pioneer in his community, serving on the community board and also various business associations. He has been described by some as something of a "rock star" in the Asian American community in Flushing. However as Koo put it so poignantly in his announcement speech, "I do not want to be an Asian or Chinese State Senator. I want to be a New York State Senator."



In New York City especially, where Republicans are handily outnumbered for the time being, we need to ensure that everyone votes.

The experience of building up his own small business has shown Koo firsthand the importance of providing opportunities for success to small businesses in this state. In contrast to Koo's emphasis on small business, Democratic Senator Stavisky voted against tax cuts benefiting small business for 2007-2008. Koo's pharmaceutical knowledge would also be a valuable asset to the Senate on health-related issues, another area where his opponent has been sketchy - while Stavisky claims to be fighting for increased access to health care; her voting record has shown the opposite. She has voted in favor of health cuts to local hospitals and nursing homes and against funding for a program that would assess and treat breast cancer due to environmental conditions.

This race in the 16th Senate District has all the elements to be interesting and competitive this election. Moving forward we will have other races in New York City to follow and report on as we enter this exciting, and very important election year. □

The Paulson Plan

By Matthew Bucklin

Commentary on regulation, economy and the markets...

"The instability of the pre-Federal Reserve years was nothing compared to the booms and busts caused by the monetary authorities after 1913."

-Milton Friedman

As a result of the current economic situation, Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson's has proposed a Blueprint for U.S. Financial Regulatory Reform. This is a prudent and detailed plan to streamline and modernize the patchwork of US financial regulatory bodies. Work on the Blueprint began in July 2007 in response to criticisms from finance industry leaders. The current regulatory system was built over time in a reactive fashion: Following each financial crisis, a new regulation was added. This system has become too burdensome to remain competitive with other world financial centers like London and Hong Kong. Paulson's goal is to put into place a simplified set of regulatory bodies that will be adaptable to the rapidly evolving global markets. The Blueprint calls for three new regulators to replace the current system, the "Market Stability Regulator," the "Prudential Financial Regulator," and the "Conduct of Business Regulator."

The "Market Stability Regulator" will implement traditional monetary policy. The current Federal Reserve will fill this role, but with the authority to inspect the private records of any financial institution in an effort to gather information. Paulson believes that with more information the Fed will be better able to foresee a potential crisis and take preventative action.

The "Prudential Financial Regulator" will be responsible for charting banks and thrifts. This is a unification of five regulatory bodies currently overseeing these charters, but now insurance companies will be able to get a Federal charter (previously only state charter) under this institution. This is a major change, which insurance companies have been lobbying for, for years.

The "Conduct of Business Regulator" will be responsible for protecting consumers and investors by monitoring business conduct and enforcing regulations. This is similar to the current job description of the Securities and Exchange Commission, which will be merged with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

There seem to be two objectives for the Blueprint: To modernize the cumbersome set of regulations, and to react to the current financial crisis. In addition to the three new regulators, the "Mortgage Origination Commission" will be designed as a response to the current woes in the mortgage and lending markets. This federal body will supersede state's regulations for mortgage lending, and make mortgage-lending standards more stringent.

Everyone agrees that it is time for an upgrade, but many believe the Blueprint will do nothing to prevent another market bubble and collapse, like the housing bubble that caused our current economic crisis. Alan Greenspan wrote an op-ed in the Financial Times recently stating, "regulators confronting real-time uncertainty have rarely, if ever, been able

to achieve the level of future clarity required to act pre-emptively."


Milton Friedman blamed the Great Depression on the Federal Reserve, and with good reason. New market bubbles will always form, but traditionally the Fed doesn't intervene to stabilize the economy until it is too late. With such a poor track record it is difficult to imagine that such an ineffectual institution, when given more power, will do better at stabilizing our economy. □

MODERN U.S. GOVERNMENT BAILOUTS


Last month the US Federal Reserve intervened to save Bear Stearns from collapse with a \$29 billion government backed loan, thus guaranteeing its takeover by JP Morgan. Sometimes large corporations are too important to the overall health of the economy to let fail, which is why the bailout of failed private companies is not all that uncommon. Below is a list of historical bailouts.

- October 2007 - Congress passed \$11.4 billion in funding for Amtrak.
- October 2001 - Congress passed a \$15 billion bailout package for the US airline industry.
- September 1998 - The Federal Reserve Bank of New York organized a \$3.625 billion bailout of the hedgefund Long Term Capital Management.
- 1979 - Congress guaranteed a \$1.2 billion loan to save Chrysler.
- 1975 & 1914 - New York City was bailed out by the Federal government.
- August 1971 - Congress authorized a \$250 million loan to save Lockheed Aircraft Corp.
- June 1970 - Penn Central Railroad failed and needed a \$125 million federal loan guarantee.

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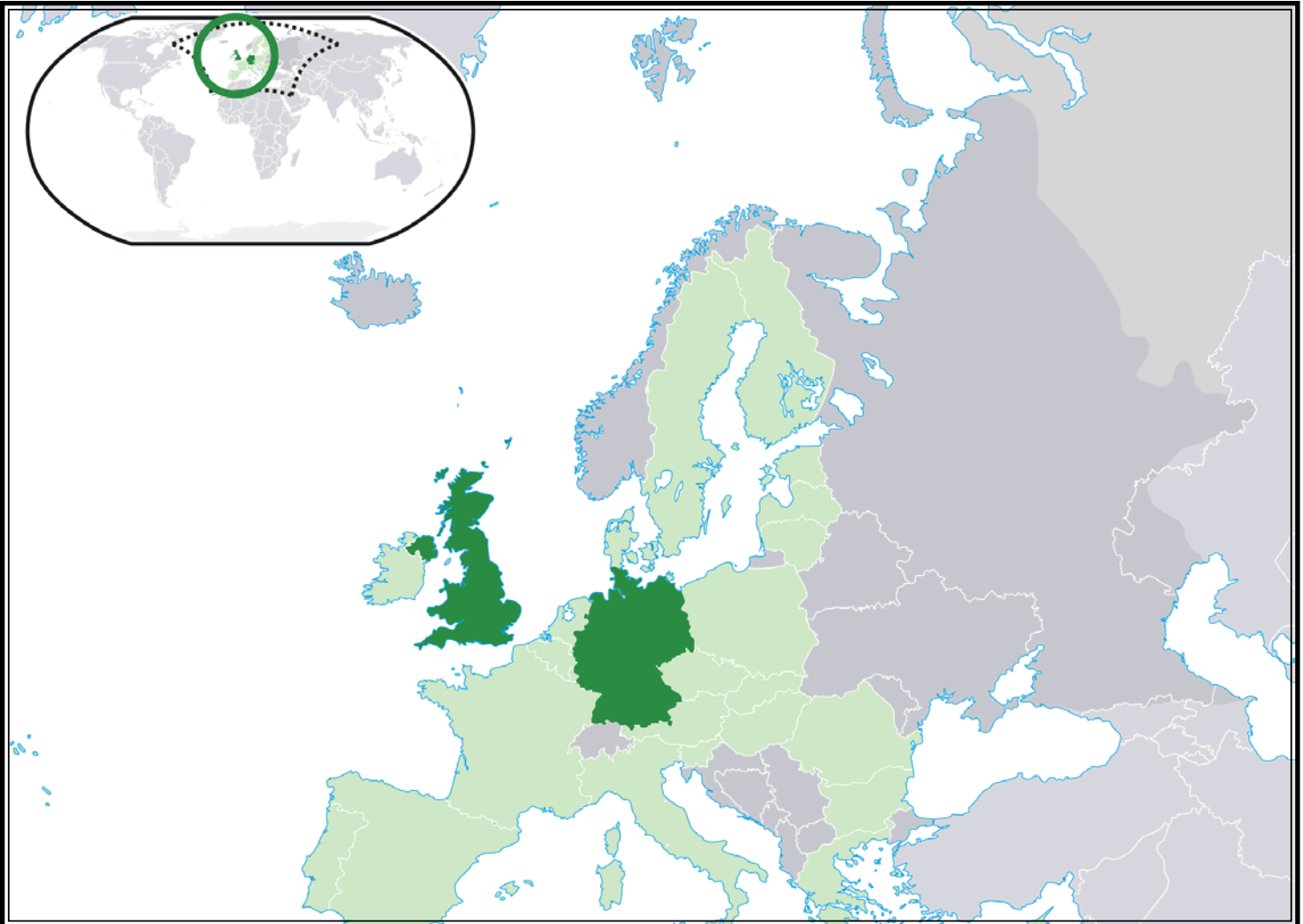
International

Political Commentary from around the Globe each month. Local issues reported by local participants.

Correspondents:

United Kingdom, Nitesh Palana: Nitesh is in his 20s, based in London and works for the UK's only financial services regulator. He has experience in lobbying and is involved with the British Conservative Party, the main center-right political party in the UK; with experience in both campaigning in general elections and working as an adviser to the Party on Trade and Industry.

Germany, Sirko Schulz: Sirko is Vice President of the Capital City Section of the Young Professionals of the Free Democratic Party of Germany.



A Striking Solution?

Nitesh Palana, London

For the past month most of London was in a panic amidst fears of a three-day underground train workers strike. For those unfamiliar with the UK transport network, a vast number of people that work in the centre of London use the 12 underground train lines, which transport nearly three million people every working day. The city has an extensive bus network and a river-boat service but, with all other forms of public transport too busy to use on strike days, nearly every commuter needs to find alternative ways to work.

Although the strike this month was called off days before it started, millions of people were worried about how they were going to make their way to work and they had already started making other arrangements. Commuters who usually rely on a mundane routine to get themselves to work use the opportunity to surprise their work colleagues by dreaming of creative and elaborate ways to transport themselves from

their home to work without using the underground; plans include jet skiing up the River Thames and driving into London and leaving the car to be valeted to save money on parking.

Nearly every year there is an underground strike or a strike-threat, which means that nearly every commuter is stressed for at least a week. One would expect underground employees that support strike-action to be poorly paid or have unfair working contracts, but the reality is that underground workers are paid higher than average. The average wage for train driver is £38,000 (\$76,000), drivers work no more than 35 hour weeks and are entitled to 43 days annual leave. In comparison, the average London employee is paid £30,212 (median average), works over 43.2 hours and is entitled to 25 days annual leave; the train driver is significantly better rewarded. Train driver may argue that they are 'key workers' and, therefore, deserve to be well rewarded, but they earn 16% more than teachers and as much as 380% more than a nurse, both of who are actual key workers.



Large Metropolitan areas are facing a resurgence in militant unions which cost cities hundreds of millions of dollars. Union strikes also inconvenience the average worker who usually makes less than the striking workers themselves.

Underground workers also complain about track safety, station safety and a whole range of other issues. Some of these issues may be serious and need considering, but passengers - who would also be at risk - are not concerned with safety and their willingness to travel on the train indicates that they don't care. The problem is that these concerns, which are like wolf-cries, have been dismissed as trivial because they have been overused by the underground staff.

All cities rely on certain people, including underground drivers, to keep it moving and to ensure that everyone else can go about their everyday business, but when these people have very active unions, they can hold a city to ransom. It is no coincidence that the latest industrial action was planned for this month, during the campaign of a very closely contested London Mayoral election; needless to say, the union won. It is true that London needs the underground to function and that the economy suffers during strike days, but the costs of running the underground is escalating for the Mayor and commuters. The cost of a single, adult, non-discounted, underground train fare in the centre of London is £4 (\$8) and although Londoners use pre-paid cards that give them discounts, a tourist would normally pay the full fare.

In 1919, the then Prime Minister, David Lloyd George, abolished the police union and banned police officers from striking because of the nature of their job, therefore a precedent has been set of banning key workers from industrial action. Although it may be extreme to call for London underground workers to be banned from striking, the current situation of the London mayor meeting all the demands of unions (however unreasonable) is unworkable. A potential solution would be to prohibit 'key workers' from industrial action without a court's permission. Fairness and equality has been decided by a justice system independent from the government for generations and it is reasonable to assume that they are capable of the task of deciding whether industrial action should be permitted. The costs of using the legal system may be expensive, but it's cheaper than the cost of a strike to the economy. □

The Dismantling of a Cold War Icon

Sirko Schulz, Germany

Tempelhof International Airport has a heroic past and a promising future; now the socialist state government wants to close it.

Tempelhof International Airport was Berlin's vital line when the Soviet Union blocked all accesses to West Berlin in 1948, which was by that time completely enclosed by the soviet satellite East Germany (GDR). The American and British military supplied Berlin with all necessities for about one year via Tempelhof airport, until the Soviet Union gave up its blockade. Today the old cadres from the GDR are members of the socialist coalition government in Berlin and hustle to close the Airport, which became the symbol of the Berlin Airlift. It expressed the commitment of the western allies and the power of freedom.

According to current surveys, the vast majority of Berliners still have a close emotional relation with the Airport and oppose the closure. Recently elements of direct democracy have been adopted in Berlin. For the first time since then an initiative has been able to jump over the formal hurdles. The petition on the preservation of the Tempelhof International Airport gained enough support to conduct a referendum, but the socialist coalition nevertheless followed up with its plan. Even before the referendum is conducted they have already announced to ignore the outcome.



The Berlin Airlift Monument in Berlin-Tempelhof, displays the names of the 39 British and 31 American pilots who lost their lives during the operation. But the battle over keeping the airport has Germany's capital up in arms.

Without offering a concept of alternative use, the socialist coalition denounced all investors who had the ideas and money to run the airport. Besides the usage as a regular airport the idea of an international health center with its own flight operations were discussed. But profit-oriented business ideas seem to be per se suspicious for the Left. Tempelhof, directly next to the city center, is a jewel and has the potential to place Berlin into the mix of attractive international airports luring in investors from every industry. What exists as a developable base in Berlin has been established in London recently with great difficulties.

Tempelhof International Airport is already embedded into a network of different carriers of which the airport could easily expand.

Private investors are on the starting blocks to preserve the air traffic. The closure would be much more expensive for the public authorities and 74% of all Berliners approve the preservation of Tempelhof International Airport. All rational arguments lead in one direction but if the state government can't be stopped, the air traffic will be ceased on October 31st.

Tempelhof International Airport has a heroic past and a promising future, but the socialist state government wants to close it for ideological reasons. Instead of developing the living monument for the heroic commitment of the western allies, they want to shut it down. On April 27th, the referendum on the preservation of the Tempelhof International Airport will commence and its face decided. □

CALENDAR

There are many events each month around NYC. From political meetings, lectures, book signings, and social events, just watch www.nyyrc.com/calendar for all of them. If you wish to submit an event please contact publications@nyyrc.com.

				April 17	18	19
				NYYRC MONTHLY MEETING¹		
20	21	22	23	24	WNRC²: 25	S.O.A.P. 26
	<p>John Bolton, WNRC² Monday, April 21: The Civic Affairs & The Library Committee invite you to hear the candor insights of former United Nations ambassador John Bolton. Mr. Bolton will discuss his latest book Surrender is Not an Option which "takes the readers behind the scenes at the U.N. and the U.S. State Department and reveals why his efforts to defend American interests and reform the U.N. resulted in controversy." Members: \$20 Non-Members: \$25 A signed copy of Mr. Bolton's book Surrender is Not an Option is included with your paid admission.</p>				<p>Friday, April 25th, 6:30pm -- The WNRC Young Professionals invite you to celebrate Spring in New York! Open bar, full buffet, and music by DJ Tricia. Members: \$45 Non-Members: \$50</p>	<p>Saturday, April 26th 2008, 10:00AM-3:00PM School of Applied Politics (S.O.A.P) Program NY Republican County Committee and the Metropolitan Republican Club will be hosting a S.O.A.P. seminar for those who are interested in becoming a candidate or would like to know more about running a campaign. Topics that will be covered in the program: Campaign Plan and Staff Organization, Ballot Access & Designating Petitions, Fundraising, and Message Development & Strategic Media Workshop.</p>
27	28	WNRC²: 29	30	May 1	2	3
		<p>Tuesday, April 29th, 7-10pm -- The WNRC Annual Awards.. This year's honoree is Mrs. Roberta McCain, mother of Senator John McCain. Come and enjoy an elegant and memorable evening. Members / Non-Members No Charge.</p>				<p>who are interested in becoming a candidate or would like to know more about running a campaign. Topics that will be covered in the program: Campaign Plan and Staff Organization, Ballot Access & Designating Petitions, Fundraising, and Message Development & Strategic Media Workshop.</p>
4	WNRC²: 5	6	NYYRC 7	8	MET 9	10
	<p>Feb 4. 6-8pm. First Monday Reception... an ideal time to catch up with old friends and make new ones, to introduce friends</p>		MONTHLY SOCIAL. LOCATION TBD.		<p>Friday, May 9th 2008 106th Metropolitan Ball at the Yale Club. For more information or to RSVP: mail@metclubnyc.org</p>	<p>Please RSVP to: mail@metclubnyc.org or (212) 288-8606. Free for members and non-members</p>
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	<p>and colleagues to our beautiful clubhouse...and just enjoy a warm and festive get-together. Members / Non-Members No Charge.</p>			NYYRC MONTHLY MEETING¹		
20	21	22	23	24		

¹ The New York Young Republican Club holds their monthly meetings every third Thursday of every month at the Women's National Republican Club Headquarters @ 3 West 51st Street, New York, NY 10001. www.nyyrc.com

² The Women's National Republican Club holds all their events at their headquarters located @ 3 West 51st Street, New York, NY 10001. Please see www.wnrc.org for more information on all events.

For more information about any events listed here please contact publications@nyyrc.com.



BOOK REVIEW | *You're Wrong*

Book/Movie/Art Review offers you the latest thoughts, inspirations and trends with a Republican bend

Why You're Wrong About the Right: Behind the Myths - The Surprising Truth About Conservatives

By S.E. Cupp and Brett Joshpe

New York young Republicans speak fluent Silence. Some of us learn Silence at a young age, while others are forced to take Silence classes at the Language Center just to navigate the decidedly blue waters that surround Manhattan. And even though Silence-speakers are a minority here, we have occasion to use our second tongue daily.

It's not uncommon to run head-on into a crowd of angry liberals on the street, in the office, or at the après-work watering hole, and in an effort to maintain one's standing in the community, most New York Republicans have learned to zip their lips. Who among us hasn't rolled our eyes (a particularly useful Silence idiom) upon overhearing a phrase like, "I hope he's tried for war crimes when his term ends"?

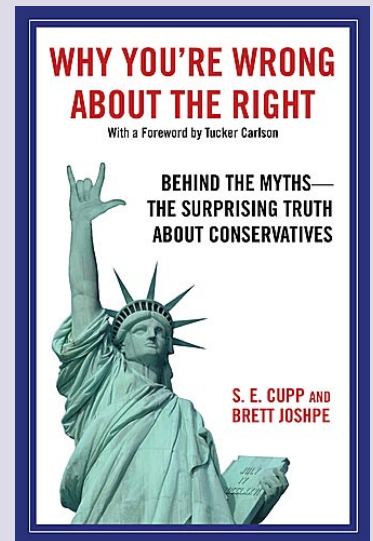
But when the oh-so-popular—and completely unsubstantiated—characterizations start flying, our Silence lessons rightly go out the window. Why You're Wrong About the Right takes surgical aim at those characterizations, in the earnest interest of accuracy, fairness, and the plight of Silence-speakers everywhere.

The majority tongue spoken in Manhattan and other liberal hotbeds is Hyperbole, and make no mistake – the Left and the liberal media are incredibly proficient. According to most, Republicans are racist, redneck, religious fanatics from the square states. Or, confusingly, we're heartless, blue blood, well-to-dos from the WASP-y "Porsche Belt." Or maybe the stereotype goes beyond class distinction to personality description, when we're called uptight, out-of-touch, sober, prude and uncool. It's a convenient tautology. New York conservatives can stomach the pro-Obama missives delivered regularly in the produce aisle of Whole Foods, and the anti-war sermons belted out in the Loge during a Broadway show intermission, but the paranoid, hysterical and, frankly, rude stereotyping gives us all collective Silence amnesia. We forget our conjugations, garble our translations and slur our diction, and eventually Silence gives way to Sound Off.

Why You're Wrong About the Right sounds off for every Right leaning voice, recognizing that conservatives are not a static mass of Lott look alikes. The book examines the nuanced perspectives of Christian conservatives, moderates, neocons, libertarians, and even the unidentified. With the help of provocative contributors who never learned Silence, thankfully – like Newt Gingrich, Ted Nugent, Curt Schilling, Tucker Carlson, Laura Ingraham, Glenn Beck and George Will, to name just a few, it is a searing catalogue of liberal complaints, and their lack of validity. Folks like Shelby Steele, Jonah Goldberg and David Horowitz have made careers out of quashing hyperbole, and our book is better for their contributions. Finally, it was our chance, as two 20something New York conservatives, to combine the good parts of every late night bar argument we've had with liberals into one giant, collective response, a cathartic antidote to Silence.

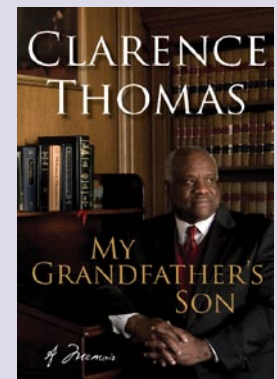
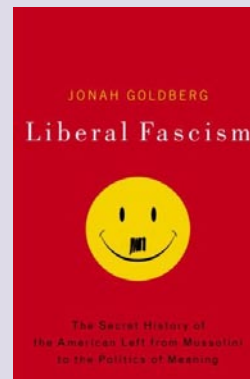
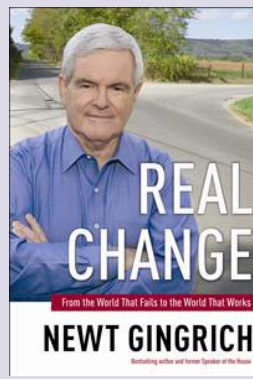
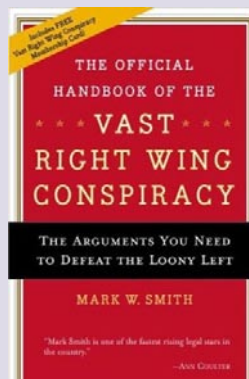
Young Republicans, in New York and elsewhere, will find that a proficiency in Silence is indeed useful from time to time. After all, who has the energy to jump into every 'listened in on' political conversation to just 'set the record straight' when there are seals to club and trees to murder. But Republicans of every age should also remember to break with Silence now and then, even if just to remind the Left that their arguments are sometimes caustic and counterproductive. For, as Barry Goldwater once said, "To disagree, one doesn't have to be disagreeable."

- S.E. Cupp and Brett Joshpe



Past Book Reviews...

- Vast Right Wing Conspiracy
By Mark Smith
- Real Change
By Newt Gingrich
- Liberal Fascism
By Jonah Goldberg
- My Grandfather's Son
By Clarence Thomas



Medellin v. Texas is not a glamorous case; in fact on certain news networks it was nothing more than a blurb. And nonetheless this case, and more importantly the Court's ruling, is of enormous significance for contemporary America. The case involved a brutal thug and murderer, Jose Ernesto Medellin, a Mexican national who has lived in America for most of his life. Medellin was involved in the atrocious gang rape and murder of two young teenage girls. The aberrant was then duly tried and convicted in the state of Texas and sentenced to death. It was upon appeal that Medellin issued a successive habeas petition by reason of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, a treaty the United States signed and ratified in 1962. The treaty gave foreign nationals detained in a country other than their own the right to contact a diplomat or consular official from their home country and be notified of this privilege upon detainment. Upon arrest, police failed to advise Medellin of this right.

The Texas Court of Appeals dismissed Medellin's habeas petition citing Texas procedural rules, which barred a defendant from raising an issue in appeal that was not raised at trial. Biding his time on death row, Mexico then took up his case in 2004, along with 50 other Mexican nationals on death row in the US, in the International Court of Justice (ICJ). Under what is called the Optional Protocol of the Vienna Convention treaty the ICJ is the venue by which member states resolve disputes arising from the treaty. The ICJ decided in favor of Mexico ruling that the United States review and reconsider the cases of the death row



The Supreme Court Justices' Conference Room, where the Justices meet to discuss cases heard before the Court.

he was charged with executing American foreign policy, which includes the upholding of American treaty obligations. Medellin argued that Article VI of the Constitution, commonly referred to as the Supremacy Clause, states treaties are the laws of the land superceding laws of states. In 1920 the Supreme Court addressed this issue in the case *Missouri v. Holland*. In his opinion for the Court, Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes affirmed this notion. Many conservatives were fearful of this concept of treaties. By this logic they could be used to amend the Constitution outside the traditional legislative process and with out judicial review.

The Court in its ruling upheld the decision they made earlier in *Sanchez-Llamas v. Oregon* that a ruling by the ICJ regarding the Vienna Convention did not preclude states' default rules. The Court also denied that the President had the authority as Diplomat in Chief to order domestic courts to follow a ruling of the ICJ as the UN charter states ICJ rulings are binding only to the parties of the case, of which the courts of Texas were not included. Roberts also stated that the Optional Protocol does not call for member states to be bound to ICJ rulings, rather for member states to acknowledge its jurisdiction. Roberts argued submitting to jurisdiction and agreeing to be bound to it are two very different issues.

Roberts went to write further that not all treaties are binding domestic law. The Chief Justice stated that any responsibility taking a treaty obligation (i.e. calling on state courts to disregard their procedural default rules) from a non-self-executing treaty and transferring it into domestic law fell to Congress. This is where Roberts and the consenting justices clarified the opinion of Justice Holmes in 1920 and limited the domestic reach of international law.

While the Court's ruling on *Medellin v. Texas* may not get much coverage in the mainstream media it remains a case that will be argued, reviewed and discussed amongst academics for years to come. The case took on two very important contemporary issues, the power of the President and the role of international law in America. With America now one of many nations in this new global village the role of international law in America is a pertinent topic, which for now it seems the Supreme Court has taken steps to limit. □

The Law of the Land: The Constitution or International Courts?

By Anthony Genovese

inmates. In 2005 the United States withdrew from the Optional Protocol. While President Bush in principle disagreed with the ICJ's ruling, he argued that both the Constitution and the United Nations Charter compelled him to comply with the ruling. The President therefore issued a memorandum ordering the Texas courts to review the case. The Texas attorney general refused, arguing the executive had not the competency to do so. The case subsequently found itself being heard in the Supreme Court.

The Court did not address whether the omission from Medellin's Miranda warning that he had the right to contact his consulate was prejudicial to his case. Rather the justices, as indicated in Chief Justice John Roberts' Opinion of the Court granted certiorari to discern if the ICJ's judgment was "directly enforceable as domestic law in a state court in the US" and whether the President's memorandum required the states to review and reconsider the cases disregarding the state's procedural default rules. They ruled on both issues that neither were enforceable.

The Court's decision dealt directly with both the scope of international law in regards to the United States and with executive power. Dealing with the latter the President had argued that as Diplomat in Chief

A Liberal Turned Republican

By Brett Smith

As I've gotten older and more independent in my thinking, I've come to realize that conservatism is not actually "evil." In fact, a lot of it makes pretty good sense. I've learned this slowly over the past year as a result of my conversations with various Republicans. But my conversion is not what I want to tell you about; I want to talk about the generational differences in regards to responsibility and duty.

Why does the War in Iraq, and more broadly, the War on Terror ideology not define our generation like Vietnam and WWII defined our Parent's and Grandparent's generations? In asking this question, I don't mean to imply that there aren't individuals expressing their anti-war sentiments or their support for the war, but I do mean to suggest that our generation, collectively, has failed in this regard. Plain and simple, I think our generation is not engaging in any meaningful wartime discourse. The question is why.

To find the answer, it helps to look at an example of a responsible wartime generation—the greatest generation. When we think of our Grandparent's era, we might think of WWII and ageing veterans, but we should also remember the daily sacrifices of a society engaged in "total war," sacrifices such as rationing, conscription, and bond drives. The people of WWII America lived and suffered through their war, even as it was being fought overseas. That they responded so willingly to what was asked of them, earned them their title; that they were even asked, suggests a major difference between our generation and theirs—we don't ration anything. We feel we shouldn't have to. Are we taking our Country for granted?

Another wartime generation quite different from ours is that of our Parent's. While classifying them as responsible may not be appropriate, we surely cannot call them ignorant. Because of the war in Vietnam, our Parent's era became hyper aware of many domestic problems that existed, including racial inequality, class disparity, and a double standard in voting laws and draft requirements. As a generation they responded, confronting these issues and inciting real change, skipping the rhetoric. Their protest and social activism not only affected the course of the Vietnam War, but it affected the course of society as a whole. Our generation, on the other hand, seems to avoid responsibility for any issue, period.

So I ask again, why are we not defined by the War in Iraq? Is it due to a lack of immediacy, since for most of us, the War is no more than another headline or a friend of a friend who's been sent overseas? Can we really be blamed for being a generation who doesn't actively participate in its War? I won't answer that, but I think that it's a question each of us needs to ask ourselves, regardless of political belief or party affiliation. □



World War II production saw Americans united in a way that seems implausible today.



Famous anti-war protesters: John Kerry with ex-Beatle John Lennon during a protest rally at New York City's Bryant Park in 1972. It is unfortunate that neither could comprehend that over the past 20 years Vietnam would make the shift from a central command-based economy to one with significant market elements. Such improvements include a 2% unemployment rate, becoming a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO), and Vietnam can also currently boast one of the worlds fastest growing economies. While not perfect, increasing liberalization of the economy and continually improving human rights records have put the people of Vietnam in a good situation.

Letters.

Re: Egypt's Political Climate

I recently read the March edition of *The Record*. I especially liked the article on Egyptian politics, and it is refreshing to compare our relatively transparent democratic process with a sham of a democracy. One sentence in particular, however, I took exception to:

"I sat down with my guava juice and pastry and read the cover story in horror- members of the political party the Muslim Brotherhood were arrested because they attempted to run for city council."

"While it is shocking to consider the thought banning a domestic party from running for political office (though the Red Scare under Woodrow Wilson rounded up and arrested many communists in the years before World War I), the Muslim Brotherhood is essentially a political party organized around the philosophy espoused by Osama bin Laden, and his Lieutenant, Al-Zawahari (who was a prominent Muslim Brotherhood member before he joined al Qaeda). As a nation at war as much with terrorists as their ideology, we should consider Mubarak's banning of this party in context. The Muslim Brotherhood's stated goals are the establishment of the Muslim state, followed by the "mastering of the world with Islam" (<http://www.ummah.net/ikhwan/>). While the writer is understandably appalled by political censorship, it would benefit all your readers to understand the dangerous designs of the Muslim Brotherhood and the implications of allowing them to run for office. That being said, although they are an outlawed party in Egypt, some have recently been elected as "independents."

- William Palumbo



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