The Enron Debacle and Electric Power Deregulation

by Mike DeBota

The U.S. Congress has begun a massive investigation of the collapse and bankruptcy of the Enron Corporation. Thousands of Enron employees have not only lost their jobs but in many cases have lost their 401k pension funds. The 7th largest corporation in America has been accused of misleading its investors by using overseas subsidiaries to hide more than $1 billion in debt and filing false and misleading information with securities regulators.

As the price of Enron stock started to fall, this corporation put a "freeze" on employees' sales of Enron stocks from their 401k accounts. The upper management of the company was not subjected to this "freeze." While those fellow employees were locked into their Enron stock, upper management sold hundred of millions of dollars of Enron stocks and Enron stock options. Ken Lay, the CEO of the Texas-based Enron, sold $100 million of his Enron stock during 2000 and 2001. In the week of the collapse, Enron stock during a time when he was publicly telling his employees that their corporation was on solid ground. During this period he encouraged his fellow employees to buy more Enron stock even though he continued to sell all of his corporation's stock. Arthur Anderson, Enron's accounting firm, Arthur Anderson, seems to have gone along with these deceptions. How could all of this have happened?

For years Ken Lay has bought and sold politicians in the Congress and in state legislatures in order to push his ideology of privatization of energy and electric power deregulation. Enron was George W. Bush's biggest donor and gave over $560,000 to Bush's gubernatorial and presidential campaigns. Arthur Anderson and Enron's law firm, Vinson and Elkins, were elite "Pioneers" fundraisers who moved another $400,000 or more dollars into George W Bush's presidential campaign. Ken Lay was also a "Pioneer" fundraiser for Bush and had extensive personal contacts and meetings with George W. Bush. What did Ken Lay get for his donations? According to critics, a great deal.

In the 1980's and early 1990's, Ken Lay was able through his political connections to persuade the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to deregulate natural gas. This allowed Enron, one of largest natural gas companies in the U.S., to take advantage of its position in the market place. It also set in motion Lay's much bigger plan to push Continuum on pg 8

History is Made (Again) in New Haven

by Bruce Crowder

Municipal elections in 2001 were anything but polite as usual in New Haven. Fed up with generations of one-party rule, machine politics and abandoned issues, voters in November voted Greens John Halle and Joyce Chen onto the Board of Aldermen by wide margins. For the first time in the city's recorded history, two parties now share minority status on the board. Green candidates made impressive showings in three other wards, leaving the party well-positioned for whatever may come next. Politicians and machine politicians were left wondering how the Greens had underestimated the party that, until recently, had been generally ignored as a group of ideologues who were more adept at picketing power stations than running serious campaigns. No one is ignoring us now.

The Greens had set ambitious goals for 2001 and there were many hurdles to overcome. Just a few months before the November election, Halle had made history by picking up a victory in a special July race. It had been a solid win but it seemed like we had exhausted our resources running that single campaign. Soon we would have to defend that seat against a red-faced Democratic party and dig up enough resources to field four more candidates.

As election day neared, we filled the manpower deficit by leveraging the valuable experience gained both from Hall's race and the 2000 Nader campaign. Those who had been sidelined stepped in as leaders and those who had been silent admirers stepped in to volunteer. From there we organized into groups for each ward and hit the streets.

Running as a third party candidate in New Haven is no easy task. Democrats have held the local government in a chokehold for five decades and, in most wards, 70 to 80 percent of voters are registered Dems, many of whom can be counted on to vote along party lines. While our campaign budgets

paid for by the Green Party of Connecticut, Chris Nelson, Treasurer
LETTERS & EDITORIALS

WHAT OF VANCOMYCIN?

Recently a news program indicated that more tax dollars are provided for the last two weeks of one's life than the first two years of life. As a geriatric nurse for the past 32 years, I have seen a huge increase in the number of new drugs on the market, especially created for older people. I have also noted when one medication is ordered, at times, several other medications must be ordered to combat side effects. I do not know this for a fact but it seems that new drugs get ordered to replace older, tried and true drugs. This causes one to believe, perhaps, that those prescribing these new drugs may get some type of perk for doing it. It should also be noted that pharmacists and false play a big role in profiting from extra
taneous drugs, especially IV antibiotics that require IV nurses hired by the pharmacy to start the process and many doctors hired for tenting to see if the drug is working. It is incredible, when expensive anti-biotics are the first choice. The funds must be available and when they are not, these new drugs are not used. Guess what? The older drugs work just as well and with fewer side effects. A rule, then, older drugs are also less expensive.

-Rebecca Tribble

CTGP ELECTIONS 2002: How You Can Help

2002 is a State and Federal election year. The CTGP is committed to running many candidates for office this year. The Governor's seat and the undercardinal, all State senators and representatives and some of our Federal senators and representatives are open to run. In general any candidate would do better where the incumbent runs unopposed or where the odd candidate is retiring. There are many races like this. There is an element of the CTGP membership that believes we need to concentrate on community work and should not put our limited time and resources in "races we can't win." While we have won with Elizabeth Horton Scheff won a second term as majority whip on the Hartford city council and recently John Halle and Joyce Chen on New Haven city council. We have also run races for Connecticut legislative seats. Good candidates cannot be found. Elizabeth Horton Scheff and others say it takes 5 or 7 times running to eventually win. Some CTGP members think the best hope is to target only winnable races, others think we need to run candidates widely to raise issues such as campaign finance, IRV (instant runoff vote) and many other issues such as faith, poverty, social justice, racism, environmental problems, etc. A campaign takes a lot of time, people, funds and commitments, especially if we run at the Federal level. Redistricting is also a factor. A portion of our members believe we need to concentrate on running minority and women candidates. A candidate need not be just someone from within the CTGP ranks, they can be a recruited and well known community person, activist, or academic etc. that shares our Ten Key Values and issues.

So now it's time for your input and help! Do you have an unopposed or open legislative seat in your district? Are you someone you know qualified and interested in running for a State or Federal office? We need you to help a friend or campaign worker for your specific race or area. We have won and can win! Please contact me with your ideas at anymuscumansfmer.net.

-Amu Van Nunes

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Conservatives Sell Out As Usual

Until they elected one, Italians used to make hilarious jokes about "intellectuals de la droite" (intellectuals of the right). That's because the world of ideas is not exactly overflowing with insights about the human condition from yahoos and free marketers.

Here in America, conservative ideas mirror the commercial culture. They are not principles but sales tools that change according to market conditions. For instance conservatives endlessly cajoled on big government when they were out of power. But once they got into office, they quickly discovered that government is just too big to deal with problems like terrorism and an economy gone sour. With composition conservative Bush in the White House, government has been growing by leaps and bounds since September 11 with many a peep from industry or any one else about such a flagrant betrayal of conservative principles. That's because, as most folks have figured out, conservative principles is another oxymoron.

Indeed, rampant socialism is on the march in Bush's America. All you have to do is prove that you are already rich to get a generous sub

By Mike DeRosa


Charlie has lived in New Haven for over forty years. He is the Executive Director of Community Media, a non-profit community-based media program. He has a long history of important work in the peace movement and has promoted nonviolence as a means for promoting peace and justice.

Many journalists in Connecticut have pointed out the fact that Charlie Pillsbury's roommate at Yale was Gary Trudel, the creator of the comic strip Doonesbury. They have reported that the Doonesbury character is largely based on Charlie Pillsbury. But the world of cartoons and reality access to part company in this race. Charlie Pillsbury is not the Gary Trudel, character who gives short shrift to his ideals and betrays the values of his generation. Charlie says that, "I campaigned hard for Eugene McCarthy in 1968 and George McGovern in 1972. I have always been a firm believer in ending the Vietnam War." In the early 1970's he helped develop the strategy by which progressives filed multi-hundred resolutions against weapons makers, polluters and the nuclear power industry. He says that he is a "recovering lawyer," but has used his expertise to "fight the people's light wherever I could make a contribution-in poverty law, employees benefits law, and community mediation." He is married to the Rev Alice Perry, who is a pastoral counselor and adjunct faculty member at Andover Newton Theological School, where she teaches non violence and narrative therapy. He is also the father of four teenagers.

So what motivates this former Democrat to join the Green Party and run for Congress? "I've learned over the years that many of our most intractable local problems have their origins in national policies." Pillsbury says Charlie sees the "war on terrorism" as "transforming into a war that has no certain bounds, no clear objectives, and no end in sight." Pillsbury looks in dismay at his congresswoman, Rosa DeLauro, who says she is "pleased" to support the proposed funding of the military-Continued on Page 5

Conservative rhetoric about individual liberty is also ringing hollow with ultra rightwing Attorney General John Ashcroft using the Constitution as a handy wake. We should say that truth to the Bush regime will reserve secret military trials with the White House and Pentagon as judge, jury and executioner strictly for alien terrorist. What of American citizens sitting disappearing? How will the system account for them? The answer to that question is matter of anything that has happened since the Rosenberg trial, which at least was public. Don't worry, that the country will stray too far to the left. Apart from socialism for the few rich on top, America still practices capitalism for the middle class and feudalism for the poor.

-Peter Karman is a member of the Central CT Green Party

Charlie Pillsbury will be running against Rosa DeLauro for Congress.

"... to the middle class and feudalism for the poor."
Elizabeth Horton Sheff Elected Hartford City Council Majority Leader

Continued from page 1

Democratic council members but the Democratic Party machine also created a secondary effect that encouraged others to run for office. Many reasoned that if the Hartford Green Party could win against the machine, why couldn't they? Six candidates ran for Mayor and for the first time in many years 16 people ran on various party labels for the nine citywide seats. Democracy was alive and well in Hartford CT. This created more challenges for us as we approached the election. Could we raise the necessary extra votes needed to assure Elizabeth's re-election in 2007? In 1999, 208% votes got us a seat. In 2001 we figured that we needed a minimum of 270% votes to win a seat. In the end we ended up with 298 votes and fulfilled our wildest dreams.

How was this accomplished? First, we were well organized together. The Green Party worked hand in hand with other activists and members of the community by knocking on doors, calling people, getting out the vote (GOTV). Secondly, we listened to the community, our candidates, and other activists. This helped us frame our message correctly and maximized the effectiveness of our fund raising and other activities.

We had two very successful fundraising events. The key to our success was involving the community in the planning and execution of these events. The second fundraising event was particularly important because it gave us the money we needed to do TV ads in the last days of the campaign. Olivia Almagro, Elizabeth's assistant, and Peter Higgins, a community person, came up with the idea that we should put together a basketball fundraiser with the AND-1 basketball team. AND-1 is a team of incredibly talented ball players who probably play better hoop than the professionals. They have a huge following among young people in the Hartford community. This fundraiser turned out to be a success beyond anything we could have imagined. Over 300 young people showed up and donated five and ten dollars each to see AND-1 play and hear Elizabeth speak at Weaver High School. This gave us the money we needed to finish the campaign with TV ads and pay our bills for literature and lawn signs. This fundraiser also got our message into the homes of many of these young people.

We were lucky in not only having activists and community volunteers but smart professional; giving us their expertise in developing literature and producing the media that made a big difference. Our core activists were always there giving freely of their time. I can only thank you for all your help!

Lastly, election day was well planned and worked like magic. Everything just fell into place. We covered almost every polling place with our campaign volunteers and activists. We targeted our strong areas with as many people as possible and others. Elizabeth, moving around to the most important ones.

Fourteen Campus Greens from the University of Hartford, Trinity College, and Wesleyan University assisted us. We had more than 80 volunteers helping us on election day. A multi-racial and multi-cultural group of poll workers greeted people at the polls and poll workers went toe to toe with the Republicans and Democrats. On election day we won by 3028 votes (almost a thousand votes more than in 1999). Because of our vote total in 2001 we came in eighth out of nine, thereby improving our position by one over the 1999 election. Our vote totals improved in almost every ward over 1999, even doubling in several wards. Clearly this was a significant victory, which would ultimately set into more important changes in the political situation in Hartford.

What happens shortly after an election is sometimes almost as important as the election itself. The first item of business in the post election period was who was going to be appointed to the city manager position. The old guard of the Democratic Party thought they could dictate this decision to the newly elected Mayor Eddie Perez. They thought wrong. Eddie Perez decided to oust the old guard by establishing a new coalition made up of many parties. Elizabeth Horton Sheff became the majority leader, and Republican Veronica Ayres Wilson became minority leader. We also got support from two Latino Democrats on the council and one registered Republican who ran as an independent. The coalition was agreed upon and Elizabeth became one of the most powerful elected officials in Hartford. A new temporary city manager was chosen by this new coalition and as they say the rest is history.

Mike DeRosa was Elizabeth Horton Sheff's campaign manager in 2001. You can reach him at maderosa@verizon.com

National Green Party News

by John Bartins & Tom Sewig

On November 8, 2001, the Federal Election Commission unanimously named the National Green Party of the United States as a national political party. This recognition culminates the rapid rise of the Green Party of the United States into a full scale player in the American political scene.

In accord with this recognition an office of the Green Party of the United States recently opened in Washington, D.C. in 2000. Lynn Myrick, Green Party Political Coordinator has been named to head this office. A major fundraising drive to support this office is under way. Please help this effort by sending your contributions to the Green Party of the United States, care of: Jeck Urich, Finance Director, 1028 Truro Street, Aiken, SC 29801.

Missouri became the 34th state to join the Green Party of the United States. Part of the work of our national office will be to send grass roots organizers into the remaining 16 states. We anticipate the Green Party solidifies Green Parties in all 50 states.

In Indiana, the Green Party of the United States has amended its by-laws to allow under-represented groups to have a direct voice in the party. To accomplish this, Organizations of underrepresented groups, such as Arab-Americans and Gays/Lesbians, can now be directly represented on the Coordinating Committee of the Green Party of the United States if there are at least 100 Green Party members in 15 states help fund this effort in that group. In this way the Green Party is seeking to build coalitions with groups that have been traditionally neglected by other national political parties.

Currently, the Green Party is growing in 27 states, including the 6 states of the American, African-Americans, Latinos and college students. Overall, the Green Party continues to experience phenomenal, exponential growth. State green parties have typically experienced 200 to 400% increases in their memberships. In addition, three numbers have been increasing at a greater rate in 2002 than in 2001. Many people have been drawn into the party as a result of the 2000 presidential election, a greater Green presence in local municipal races in 2001, and because of Green Party activism against the "war on terror," the PATRIOT Act, fast track trade, Wall Street Bailout, and Corporate Welfare. We are hopeful that in the years ahead the entire progressive-populist political movement will become united under the Green Party banner to become an increasingly important voice in American politics that affirms the government of the people, by the people, for the people.

At least 175 Greens in 20 states held elected office as of December, 2001. 36 Greens from 24 races in 2001. A record number of Greens, 278, ran for public office in 2001. Among important offices held by Greens outside of Connecticut are the mayor of Santa Monica, California (Mike Feinatzo), San Francisco Supervisor (Marti Bagnulo) and two positions on the Minneapolis City Council (Natalie Johnson Lee and Dean Zimmerman). This is particularly proud of Elizabeth Horton Sheff, Majority Leader of the Hartford City Council, as well as Dublin Mayor George Olson and Joye Chen, New Haven Alderman.

The Green Party of the United States has been a leading voice in speaking out on a wide variety of social justice, economic justice, environmental, human rights, anti-war, and anti-corporate welfare issues. Press releases and policy statements affirming a non-violence solution for Palestine, fighting against corporate law, opposing the corporate free trade fast track agreement, and opposing the PATRIOT Act, as well as on many other topics can all be accessed through our web site, at www.gpusa.org.

Currently, the Green Party of the United States is beginning to build important relationships with the over 50 Green Parties around the world. We sent a delegation to the international gathering of Greens and to the Federation of European Greens. Our October policy statement opposing the war on terrorism and the prosecution of terrorists under international law as the appropriate response to acts of terrorism has been extensively read and supported around the globe.

John Bartins M. D. & Tom Sewig are CT Green Party Representatives to A.S.G.P.

HELP BUILD

THE CONNECTICUT GREEN PARTY

Do you like to promote speakers or concerts? Would you like to host a house party or tag sale?

Join the Green Party Fundraising Committee.
Meetings are held on the last Monday of each month.
6:15 at the Hartford office
Contact Laura 860-701-0483/lauralcordes@aol.com

Elizabeth Horton Sheff at National Convention
The Palestine Question

by Justine McCabe

Since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the Palestinian-Israeli conflict has taken center stage as a key to understanding some of the instabilities in the Middle East and the ongoing tensions between the U.S. and Israel. Yet rarely does the American press provide context for comprehending the sources of injustice and despair that Palestinians feel after 34 years of brutal military occupation by Israel. Peetkewitz, then, is the recent 50th anniversary of the U.N. General Assembly Resolution 181, which partitioned British-Mandated Palestine into two states with economic union, and designated Jerusalem as an international city under U.N. administration. One state was to be for Jewish Palestinians and one for Arab Palestinians. Jewish Palestinians got the State of Israel, but a state for Palestinian Arabs remains a painful question mark.

Despite common references to later U.N. resolutions affirming the "two-state solution," it is in this 1947 Partition Plan that gave concrete shape to such resolve. Now as George W. Bush takes his place in the long line of U.S. Presidents who have tried to fulfill that resolution's creation of a Palestinian state, it is worth reviewing the Partition Plan that still stands at the U.N., still awaiting full implementation.

As Israeli remodel us, Palestinian Arabs—Muslims and Christians—rejected 181, preferring one democratic and secular Palestine that they would live together with Jewish Palestinians. Their rejection of 181 was fueled by its unfairness: they were the majority of the population (60 percent) and owned 94 percent of the land but were assigned only 35 percent of Palestine. As U.N. documents show, between 181's passage on Nov. 29, 1947 and the time the British Mandate ended, May 14, 1948, about half of the remaining Arab Arabs, around 400,000 people, had become refugees, and before one Arab army had entered Palestine.

Despite the rise of a body of work since the 1980's by Israeli "new historians" (e.g., Immanuel, Ari Schlam) supporting the Palestinian narrative, the uncounted facts before the publics are there. With the end of the British Mandate, a war was fought between Israelis and Palestinians and their Arab allies. Israel won and a total of about 800,000 Palestinian Arabs became refugees—three-quarters of the Arab population of Palestine.

The fact remains that Israelis and Palestinians have become inextricably bound by a mutually-constructed history, including horrific suffering on each other's hands. With each other's hands.

Corporation or Cooperation

by David Bedell

A political democracy cannot serve us when it is bottlenecked by an economic democracy...

Edward A. Filene

A business corporation is a legal entity which sells goods or services to its customers in order to make a profit for its owners. In many cases this is a fair exchange, especially if the consumer is not exploited. However, in other cases the power of the corporation can go unchecked at the expense of customers, employees, and the environment.

As a consumer, cooperate, on the other hand, is a severely owned and democratically controlled by the same people who are its customers or clients. Revenues from its operation are not paid to shareholders whose primary interest is profit, but rather reinvested in the operation or returned to dividends to the customers who generated the revenues in the first place.

A coop pools the buying power of many individual consumers in order to negotiate lower prices or better terms when doing business with better services. Examples include:

Food Coops: These may be storefront coops such as the Willimantic Food Coop (860-456-2681, users.meca.com/foodcoop) or monthly buying clubs such as Dine In Northeast (800-334-9999, www.northeastcoop.com). Most often, they specialize in organic and natural foods and offer wholesale prices if you buy in bulk.

Energy Coops: Connecticut has recently joined the 46 other states with energy coops. While most energy coops serve less densely populated rural areas where corporate utilities cannot reap great profits, Connecticut's Electric Coop (888-481-9555, www.energylize.com) serves the whole state, to anyone who can choose it as their energy supplier. You can buy electricity at cheaper rates than CL&P's standard offer, or for a little more you can buy "green" (renewable) electricity. CL&P also offers bio oil, propane, and long distance telephone service. Fuel oil can also be purchased through the Citizen's Oil Co-op (860-561-6011, www.oilcoop.com).

Housing Coops: These hear a superficial resemblance to condominiums, but instead of buying or renting individual units, the residents buy shares in a cooperative organization which negotiates the mortgage or leasing fee. Most coops maintain democratic control of shared space and services and set the rules on subleasing, etc. Coops have proven to be an excellent solution, especially for students, artists, disabled people, seniors, and people in mobile homes. For more information, contact the Association for Resident Control of Housing (510-777-1119, www.owen.com) or the National Association of Housing Cooperatives (202-273-0797, www.coophousing.org). The Greater Hartford Cohousing project (greaterhartfordcohousing.org) is now in the process of formation.

Credit Unions: These not-for-profit financial institutions offer some of the same kind of services as banks (savings and checking accounts, loans, etc.), but on better terms and with fewer fees to the consumer because they do not have to turn a profit to over expenses. Findable, compare the Connecticut State Employees Credit Union (860-922-9383) savings interest rate of 3% with the typical bank rate of 1.5%. A credit union is most commonly formed by a group of employees, but it could also be a religious congregation or a neighborhood association. Ask your employer, or contact the Connecticut Credit Union League (800-238-2285, www.ccu.org), or the State Department of Banking (800-851-7255, www.state.ct.us/deb/pages/credit Sul m).

Join and Empower

As consumers, we wield as much power as all voters. By joining a consumer coop, we empower ourselves with ownership and responsibility for the way our food and national economy is run.
continued from page 1

In the three-figure range, the major parties collectively raised more than a million dollars to drag voters to the polls. As if the playing field weren't slanted enough, Connecticut election laws favor major parties by ensuring them access to critical voter information during an election that the "minor party" candidates are not guaranteed.

In the face of these formidable obstacles, all of the candidates stuck to the honest, grass-roots campaigning for which the Green party is known. Battles were fought out by dragging our opponents' characters through the mud or throwing slick publicity stunts, but by getting together in the community, walking door to door, and listening to voters' concerns. While this kind of campaigning takes more time and energy than phone-banking, advertising, or press conferences, it establishes meaningful bonds that endure after the election has ended. One wonders how the history books will reflect upon this election. It may be characterized by the flat-fights in Fair Haven, as major staffers tore down each other's campaign signs. We may read about the bankrupt Republicans who dropped a 100-year-old railroad trestle out of the muddy West River as he touted his support for a expanded living wage and campaign finance reform. Or, try as we might, who could forget the write-in candidate, "Little Miss Mess-up," who made national news (wearing a green dress sized too small) with his/her "Guilty Party" crusade? Maybe it will reconstitute the rise of a viable third party making a permanent entrance into New Haven politics. Time will tell, but we certainly won't be sitting around waiting to find out.

Bruce Crowder ran for New Haven Alderman in the 8th Ward.

Charlie Pillsbury To Challenge DeLauro

continued from page 2

industrial complex to the tune of $396 Billion Dollars a year (or $87 Billion increase over January 2001). He is worried about the erosion of our civil liberties and calls it a "disaster". The Green Party candidate supports decent health care, secure jobs, and a living wage. Charlie points out that his congresswoman supported the so-called "Defense of Marriage" acts, which Pillsbury calls "indefensible". Pillsbury says that campaign finance reform (including public funding) is the most important issue in his campaign. He says that we need "corporate democracy" and "accountability". He believes that we need to repeal the Taft-Hartley Act and make it easier to organize unions. DeLauro has not supported reparations for the American descendants of African slaves and will not meet with groups that do. Pillsbury points to the fact that DeLauro has been drowning in PAC money, and has voted with corporate interests on big weapons systems that are irrelevant to current or future military needs. Charlie says the issues in this congressional campaign are: War versus Peace, Corporate power versus Democracy, Injustice versus Justice.

Charlie Pillsbury has a dream. He wants to raise key issues, hold his entrenched opponent accountable, and he wants to win. But Charlie also has a plan. Pillsbury wants to build the Green Party in New Haven and Connecticut. Charlie looks to the victories of Joyce Chen, John Hall, and Elizabah Herold-Sheff in Hartford, as examples of the kind of upset victories which are possible when people work the streets and organize around progressive issues. He wants to raise $60,000 for his campaign, and $4,000 for other New Haven candidates. Pillsbury needs 3000 signatures from registered District voters to get on the ballot, and he needs volunteers to make it happen.

Judging by the 85 or so people who showed up at the Green Party meeting that endorsed his candidacy, Pillsbury is well on his way to building the kind of organization he will need for victory in November.

The weekly meetings are that helping to build his campaign have been well attended and are not only creating new alliances but are also building the expertise that will make victory possible on election day.

Charlie Pillsbury is building a campaign that will make news and "rock the world of smug politicians" who exist because of corporate contributions. He says that "something great is happening outside the turmoil and tragedy of recent events" and that people around the world and across the nation are looking for a green future for themselves and their children. "They're calling themselves the Green Party," Pillsbury says, "and they're not going away."

For more information on Pillsbury campaign call Charlie @ 865-6574 or e-mail him at charliepillsbury@juno.com.
What is Terrorism?

by Pete Karman

Terrorism, which seems obvious, is tough to define. When does violence qualify as terrorism? The dictionary is little help. My Webster's says terrorism is "the systematic use of terror as a means of coercion." That could apply to 7-Eleven stickups.

A reasonable definition of terrorism is attacks against innocent people for political motives. It's broad enough to cover what's happening in the world today and narrow enough to exclude the commonplace violence of greed, animosity or madness.

The problem is that definition would brand most governments, especially our own, as terrorists. That's why the U.S. has replaced communism as the nation's frightful fable. Lately and scarily, it's even being used to demonize peaceful dissidents. More commonly, it's a puffy term for violence done by those we don't like at the moment, such as Lenin and his ilk. When the Soviet Union collapsed, nations mated by those we support, like the death squads of Latin America, were ignored too. The point is, terrorism is whatever we say it is.

Consider a typical example. In November, 1997, Miami-based Cuban exiles with long-time connections to the CIA began planting bombs at hotels, restaurants and other tourist facilities in Cuba. Innocent travelers, mainly from western Europe and Canada, were killed and injured. The Cuban government charged terrorism against various international bodies.

Washington's reply was to apply the same suspect as freedom fighters. The NY Times and other mainstream media characterized the bombings as "political resistance" or "acts of terrorism" in Cuba. The word terrorism was nowhere to be found.

The best explanation of terrorism I know comes from the film 'The Battle of Algiers.' A French army interrogator asks an Algerian prisoner how the rebel could be so disloyal as to blow up in grocery baskets at sidewalk cafes. The prisoner answered, 'Give us your war planes and artillery and we can have your grocery baskets. He was then tortured to death in the cause of western civilization.

Money's the Real Winner in War on Terror

by Pete Karman

America's war on the front of war has more to do with America's money than bombs but just one real winner. Obvious losers are the AL Qaeda Taliban zealots pulverized by American bombs and the rich Arab sheiks favored by Washington at the moment. Losers also are the millions in Afghanistan and neighboring lands whose deaths and dislocations are dismissed as collateral damage.

Ovaliyans Americans are losers too. These freeway jobs, jobs and living standards are already showing up on the casualty list. The declining U.S. economy was given a double hit by the squabbles of September 11. Fear slowed business activity, especially travel and tourism, and added to unemployment. All the while, the Cheney-Bush administration was busy enacting measures to further concentrate wealth and power at the top. The recession as an excuse. At the same time, it was using the war as a way to extract the expected proceeds as the American empire into Central Asia and using terrorism as an excuse to limit free speech and other civil liberties. This is not to say that any of the war's victims aren't important, but not as important as the war's victims aren't important, but not as important as it is to the Cheney-Bush crowd.

From Southeast Connecticut: An Election Story

by Glenn Chenery

I ran for Selectman in the town of Sprague, population 2,000 or so. There are four registered Greens in town. Sprague has one First Selectman position. I was the candidate of the Democratic and Green party and the candidate of the United Women's party.

I was endorsed by the Democratic and Green party and the candidate of the United Women's party. Other candidates for First Selectman were a member of the First Selectman's office and one other position on the board. A minority party member has always been selected to fill the position of the top post in every other town to have been controlled by Democrats since 1948. In past years I've run for Board of Education and Board of Finance and taken about 20 percent of the vote. My campaign has always been limited to making a rather densely written flyer into every paper box in town. That only other medium of delivering information is the monthly town newsletter, wherein candidates can buy space.

This year, sometime between my registry of motor vehicles and elctions of my wife and I decided to put our house on the market. I was a bit embarrassed to be running for office while doing so. I put a for Sale sign in front of my house. Worsening my nance, a certain business opportunity came along and threatened to keep me out of the country for as much as six months of 2004. If I served as selectman, I'd have to fly back to the States once a month to attend the Board of Selectmen meetings.

So my campaign was the same as enthusiastic. I stuffed the local paper boxes and explained my situations to a number of friends. I could not, however, bring myself to knock on doors or make phone calls. I would have dropped out entirely had I not seen the other candidates for First Selectman work for Diane Savings Bank. One of them, in fact, had pulled a mildly sleazy stunt or two last year. Likely a similar campaign of every other board to town has been controlled by Democrats since 1948.

In past years I've run for Board of Education and Board of Finance and taken about 20 percent of the vote. My campaign has always been limited to making a rather densely written flyer into every paper box in town. That only other medium of delivering information is the monthly town newsletter, wherein candidates can buy space. This year, sometime between my registry of motor vehicles and elections of my wife and I decided to put our house on the market. I was a bit embarrassed to be running for office while doing so. I put a for Sale sign in front of my house. Worsening my nance, a certain business opportunity came along and threatened to keep me out of the country for as much as six months of 2004. If I served as selectman, I'd have to fly back to the States once a month to attend the Board of Selectmen meetings.

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Hempcar Crew Set Record 13,000 Mile Road Trip and Educated the Public on Alternative Fuel

The Hempcar is a 1975 turbo diesel engine Mercedes-Benz wagon and the Hempcar Crew are four people—Graziella and Kellie Sigh, Scott Flaven, and Charles Ruchalski—who together made a 13,000-mile circuit of North America in three months to see a record for the longest distance of any car to run on hemp seed oil. The voyage began on July 4, 2001 in Washington D.C. and went through 24 states, the U.S. and six provinces in Canada and returned to the Capitol on October 4. The crew's goal was to educate the local residents of 48 cities along the 13,000-mile circuit that the industrial use of hemp can work in a more common, heavy machine—one automobile. The Hempcar Crew made two stops in Connecticut, the first stop sponsored by the New Haven Free Public Library and the second sponsored by Will Avery, the owner of Sunhemp in Manchester. The first stop occurred during the lunch hour of Monday, July 9, 2001, the day before John F. Kennedy's election to West Nile Avenue, and the Hempcar was parked on the New Haven Green across the street from the library where over one hundred people spoke with the Green to learn about the car and its alternative fuel. While the crew handed-out flyers about industrial hemp, they answered people's questions about the Hempcar and nearly all the people there were surprised to see that there is an ordinary diesel engine car that burns hemp-seed-oil fuel. Local newspapers generated interest in the Hempcar before the event, for the New Haven Register had a lead article on Friday, July 6, "Care fueled by hemp oil on real trip" by Ian Sheldon, while the New Haven Advocate had a feature article on July 5 not on the Hemp Car but the Green Car, entitled "Self-power: Vegetable oil takes this car full speed into the future" by Stephanie Krall. (An aside, there is a third alternative fuel vehicle called the Veggie Van, and there are websites for all three vehicles.) Local television news, Channel 6 WTNH-TV, had a one-minute report about the Hempcar in the 5:00 edition on the day of event. The second stop of the Hempcar in Connecticut was sponsored by Will Avery, the owner of the store Sunhemp in Manchester, which occurred on the afternoon and early evening of Tuesday, July 10. Fewer people visited the Hempcar in Manchester than in Washington as it is a week but Will Avery did arrange for a local rock band to appear, Liberty Bus, that did draw passers-by. The band, of course, harmonized with the theme of alternative energy, for the amps of Liberty Bus were plugged into solar generators. According to Will Avery, the local television stations that reported the Hempcar event were WTIT-TV Channel 30 in New Britain, WTNH-TV Channel 8 in Hartford, and WFTM in Springfield, Massachusetts. The hemp-seed oil burned in the Hempcar is purchased in Canada and China since hemp is not grown legally in the United States, and due to the highly restricted importation laws, the current cost of the oil is about $45.00 U.S. per gallon. According to Kellie Sigh, sugar can be legally grown and the oil produced in the U.S., the cost per gallon would be less than $4.00. The exhaust from the hemp-seed oil in the Hempcar has an 80 percent reduction of all pollutants in comparison to the exhaust from fossil-fuel cars. In particular, the exhaust from the Hempcar does not have nitrogen oxide emitted from fossil-fuel cars, a pollutant that can be removed by a special filter.

There are no significant changes to the turbo diesel engine of the Hempcar, and the only change are bases on the engine which had to be changed to those made of synthetic rubber since hemp seed oil is a solvent that would erode the bases used on an engine that burns diesel. Also there are no changes to the exhaust and muffler system on the Mercedes-Benz, and the only visible change is to the finish of the car with the logos of sponsors. As a crop, hemp can be grown in most areas of the United States where food-crop production would not be profitable. Lastly, although hemp is in the cannabis family of plants, it has no psychoactive properties as does marijuana, and so cannot be abused as a drug.

The Hempcar Crew continues to promote the industrial use of hemp through their highly informative website hempcar.org which has 95 links to sponsors and 26 links about the Hempcar itself, biodiesel, and history of industrial hemp. The website is encouraged to read 20 of the links, but from a sample of the links, one can learn that Rudolph Disdier first showed his engine at the 1900 World's Fair which he designed to burn peanut oil, a biodiesel by definition, and one can read a reprint of an article from the February 1938 issue of Popular Mechanics Magazine that described hemp as "the standard fiber of the world. It has great textile strength and durability. It is used to produce more than 5,000 textile products, ranging from rope to fine linen...[and]...can be used to produce more than 25,000 products..." According to Kellie Sigh, there are two future projects by the Crew to promote industrial hemp, a book and a documentary about the 13,000-mile voyage of the Hempcar.

Although the members of the Hempcar Crew are energetic about the cause of industrial hemp, the goal of the free use of industrial hemp will not be achieved immediately, a fact noted by Kellie Sigh, who interviewed by telephone for the article. In particular, Kellie mentioned that the Drug Enforcement Agency published a new restriction against industrial hemp on October 9, 2001 and one can read the latest news on the matter through the website for the Industrial Hemp Association (<www.ihia.org>). So far, in a positive environmental twist of law, on January 14, 2002, Rxew Limited in Ontario, Canada filed a lawsuit against the new DEA restrictions as a breach of obligations under NAFTA.

Sustainable Connecticut

A new coalition for public information and political action to bring holistic Sustainable Development to Connecticut. We hope to link together the many individual activities, specialized advocacy organizations, and progressive officials who now work on seemingly unrelated problems, and with a voice strong from our members, to increase awareness and enact change. Change of attitudes, law and behavior to make a brighter more sustainable future for Connecticut.

Sustainable Development is often defined in terms as: economic growth which preserves resources for future generations

Topics of interest include Connecticut initiatives Development and Support: Affordable Housing Healthcare Good Jobs and Living Wages Water and Air Quality Transportation and Transit Environmental Protection Local Control of Energy Sustainable, Aggressive and Effective Recycling Sustainable Development: January 22, 2002

Interested? Our forms of Progress won't happen without Good Citizens like you.

Contact us today at: sustainabledevelopement@nathankarmen.net

Right now at: www.nathankarmen.net

And in 2002 look for: www.sustainableconnecticut.org

Here is a sampling of Internet links to similar initiatives and information resources:www.sunhemp.org
www.sunhemp.net
www.sustainableeconomy.org
www.industrialhemp.org
www.fossilfuel.org
www.carbohydrate.org
www.hempcar.org

December 1, 2002

Sustainable Connecticut New Haven, CT
The Enron Debacle and Electric Power Deregulation, continued

Continued from pg 7

electric deregulation on a state-by-state basis and was a federal level. Lay was one of the first to push the idea of taking over the electric industry and turning it into an international casino where people like Ken Lay could control and manipulate a commodity that was once considered a public service.

Enron played a major role in lobbying electric deregulation in the Texas, Tennessee, Oregon, and Pennsylvania state legislatures. I even spotted them here in CT pushing their deregulation schemes when the top leadership of the CT legislature and Governor Rowland rolled over and passed a electric "restructuring" bill mostly orchestrated by an army of lobbyists fueled by millions of dollars from energy companies. In Pennsylvania, then Texas governor George W. Bush called then Pennsylvania governor Tom Ridge to encourage him to support deregulation of electricity in Pennsylvania. George W. Bush strongly supported and signed an electric deregulation law in Texas at the behest of Ken Lay and Enron. Enron was successful in pushing through electric power deregulation in 24 state legislatures, which made it possible for them to create the "markets" they needed to rip off consumers. Some experts say that Enron played a significant role in the recent astronomical increases in electric rates in California and other states. According to the National Institute of Money in State Politics, Enron's lobbying included more than $1.5 million in campaign contributions to more than 700 candidates in 28 states. They met with utilities commissioners and worked in close tandem with other energy companies to make sure that electric power privatization passed in legislatures across the country. The massive political and lobbying power of these energy companies drowned out the voices of consumer groups and environmental groups who had serious questions and doubts about electric restructuring. These corporate victories set the stage for an "energy crisis" in California and other states.

Many have argued that the old system of regulated monopolies is wasteful and environmentally indefensible. This was certainly true. But what Lay proposed, privatization of the generation of electricity and deregulation, was not only as bad as the old regulated monopoly system but also far worse. What state legislatures created was a system with little control and few regulations. This deregulated system ultimately created the conditions where corruption, greed, and deception flourished. Just look at what recently happened in California's electric rates and service during their recent "energy crisis" when deregulation of the electric industry was implemented. California experienced the '9-pc Brownout, Blackouts, Blackouts, and Bankruptcies. This story was repeated in many other states in the U.S., which has an unfortunate history of creating a "market" out of their electric power system. Connecticut will face the same issues. Deregulation of the electric rate price controls come off our electric bills in 2004.

What Lay got for his money were politicians who were willing to do the dirty work of corporations like Enron. These elected officials came from both the Democratic and Republican party. They represent and are owned by big money and big corporate interests. But the deregulation mania of the 1980's and 1990's did not deal only with energy policy but extended into almost every corner of our economy and government regulations.

What makes the Enron story so serious is that it may be the tip of the iceberg as far as corporate corruption is concerned. People are now anxious about their 401k accounts and their ability to protect their retirement money in the future. About 45% of the wage earners in the U.S. now own substantial amounts of stock. Because of deregulation and other schemes, many of the protections once afforded to stockholders have been quietly repealed or eliminated, and other protections never made it out of congressional committees.

Our own two U.S. Senators have participated in this deregulation of our economy and have acted as enablers to those who want to deregulate and privatize our society. Joe Lieberman, whom Ralph Nader has described as a senator "who has not seen a weapons system, an insurance company, or a drug company he doesn't like", is a case in point. In the early 1990's Lieberman led the charge to prevent the Federal Accounting Standards Board (FASB) from instituting proper accounting of stock options. One of the ways Enron and other corporations are evading their profits by not including the stock options issued to their top executives against company profits. These stock options do not show up as a cost on a corporation's financial statements. Lieberman with the support of big corporations prevented the FASB from implementing this change. Enron and other corporations used this accounting practice to deceive investors and employees.

Senator Chris Dodd was the co-sponsor of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. This law makes it harder for people to sue a company or its auditors if a company goes bankrupt after making the books and engaging in deception. Under this law auditors are liable for only those losses that were caused by the auditors. Under the old law the auditors could be sued in court for all losses caused by the bankruptcy. Some critics think

Continued on page 10
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Crashing the Party

Taking on the Corporate Government in the Age of Corporate Arrogance

By Ralph Nader

About the Author
Ralph Nader is a writer, social activist, and the Green Party's choice for the presidency in 2000. He is the author of more than 20 books, including such best sellers as "The Un Dann's Case" and "Mega-Corporations: Monopoly Capitalism and the Threat to Freedom in America." He also serves on the board of the Wisconsin-based Wisconsin Public Interest Research Group (WIPIRG), which he founded in 1972. Nader has been involved in a wide variety of public interest campaigns, including consumer protection, independent clothing, the environment, and the political process.

Thesss are just a few of the many books Ralph Nader has written on a variety of topics. His latest book, "Crashing the Party," is a political thriller that tells the story of how the United States of America can become a full-time democracy. The book is available for $25.00 plus $5.00 shipping and handling.

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EFFICACY

The tide is turning in the War on Drugs

With public sentiment rising against seizable drug policy, a youth movement demanding an end to the insanity and punitive policies decrying the US's failed approach.

THE TIME HAS COME!
The Drug War has caused a massive prison surplus with over 2 million people now incarcerated in the U.S.

IT'S TIME TO END THE WAR ON DRUGS!
The Drug War is not working.
Use and abuse levels have risen over the thirty years of the Drug War.

The Drug War disproportionately affects minorities and the poor.
While 13% of drug users are black, over 50% of people incarcerated for drug crimes are black.

European nations are successfully implementing programs based on alternatives to the War on Drugs. In South America, the President of Uruguay recently declared the Drug War a failure and voiced support for legalization of drugs.

Legitimate capital investment can never be more profitable than prohibition-induced drug trafficking or cultivation.

Alternatives to the Drug War have to be as far-reaching and pervasive as the problem itself.

Want more Information? Want to help?
Contact Efficacy, PO Box 1234, Hartford, CT 06143 860-285-8831

www.efficacy-online.org
Enron Debacle

Continued from pg 7

that Enron's auditors, Arthur
Anderson (of Golonial Realty fame) may have shielded documents in part,
so if they can hide their complicity with Enron in deceiving investors and securities
regulators, they may do so until
their complicity may be
limit their liability using the
law that Senator Dodd co-sponsored.

If you are not acclimate to the many people who
lost much of their 401(k) money or
jobs because of these practices and
corruption, the effect of the Enron
debeacle has even affected the
CT Resource Recovery Authority
(CRRA), which runs trash-to-
energy plants in Hartford CT. In a
complicated scheme cooked up by
Enron and CRRA, the CRRA
board and management leased Enron $220 Million so that Enron
would buy electricity from them.
That money is now gone and the
rider is expected to reach
Hartford has increased 51%.

Connecticut's Attorney General has raised some serious
questions about the $220 million
questionable "unsourced loan.

Recently some news outlet's have reported similar
schemes involving Enron in other states.

More how Enron
debacle will it take before
the American public
realizes this, is that
they can fact that they are being lied to by
America's corporations and
manipulated by the politicians who are
complicit in the corruption.

Enron it just one of many

corporations that is overvalued and
holds its true earnings through
deception and by accounting prac-
tices (consider Tyco or Global
Crossing). Some economists say
that the entire stock market is overvalued by
8 to 10 trillion dollars.

They call this stock bubble. If
that bubbles ever bursts the retirement
and 401k's of many Americans will be lost or
be worth dimes on the dollar.
The Enron debacle will then
longer be looked back at as a
nuisance but rather as a
seen as the beginning of something
far worse.

Mike DeWine is running in 2002 for the CT senate in the 1st district.

Money Wins War!

Continued from pg 6

duty, punctuated by regular wars, as far away as you can get from home,

therefore: Meanwhile at home, conserva-
tive economic policies ratified by
ever compromising Democrats promise hard times for ordinary citizens.

The Revolutionary
Realm

of Corporate

Terrorism

By Peter Tar

The United States' unilateral withdrawal in mid-December from the
nuclear arms race with Russia foreshadowed by months of Bush's
hinting, hemming and hawing, was hardly a surprise. From the
beginning, Bush said the move was a "relief of the Cold War" and
has since been in line to justify this.

The Bush administration's rationale was the following: The
Bush administration's rationale is that the United States is at
nuclear war with Russia, which cannot be allowed to continue.

This rationale is based on a series of false assumptions. The
United States is not at war with Russia. Russia is not a nuclear
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The Palestine Question, continued

Continued from pg 6
Partition Plan as the basis for peace.

Israel's signature in Switzerland on this day coincided almost to the hour with Israel's admittance to the U.N. by General Assembly Resolution 273 in New York on May 11, 1947. Doubt informed of Israel's signing as they were voting, the member states believed that Israel was agreeing to surrender the territory occupied beyond that assigned to the "Jewish State" and to allow the Palestinian refugees to return to their homes. However, since being admitted to the U.N., Israel has refused to comply with 181 and 186, and continues to claim all of the land of British-Mandated Palestine to this day.

Third, there is no legal basis to Israel's argument that by rejecting the U.N.'s Partition Plan, Palestinians lost their claim to the 43 percent of Palestine allocated to them by it. In fact, the U.N. acknowledged this ongoing Palestinian claim after the 1948 fighting had stopped and 16 months after the rejection of the plan by its reaffirming Resolution 181 and 194 as the essential conditions under which Israel would be admitted to the world body.

Interestingly, compliance with the Partition Plan and international law—the return of Palestinian refugees and land—is feasible, given that the territory assigned to become the Jewish and Arab states actually contains within whose limits—Israelis actually live and where some of the heaviest concentrations of Palestinians (in Israel and the occupied territories) are today. For example, 77 percent of Israel's five million Jews are concentrated in only 15 percent of its entire area, leaving vast amounts of land, including former homes of Palestinian refugees, uninhabited.

Given these facts, it is startling that Israel has continued to publicize with Palestinians over returning what amounts to 92 percent of British-Mandated Palestine. Moreover, because of the uneven demographics of the two peoples and the paucity of resources (e.g., water), a growing number of Americans, Palestinians, and Israelis advocate the eventual creation of one secular and bipartisan homeland for the two peoples at the just and viable solution to the conflict. Nonetheless, the U.N. Partition Plan still stands as the only valid legal basis for both Israeli and Palestinian claims to land, borders, and statehood with international recognition.

For over 52 years, conflict between Palestinians and Israelis—including the increase of ghettoizing and desperately violent fundamentalism on both sides—has continually threatened their individual and collective security, as well as regional and world stability. Sustained by enormous U.S. political and financial support, Israel's ongoing violation of U.N. resolutions and Palestinian rights continue to profoundly challenge the international rule of law—surely the only hope for world peace.

The fact remains that Israelis and Palestinians have become irrevocably bound by a mutually-constructed history, including horrific suffering at each other's hands. The U.N. has specific mechanisms to initiate reconciliation between two peoples who call the same place home. These include the still-standing U.N. Conciliation Commission on Palestine and U.N. Resolutions 181 and 194. Their utilization simply awaits the international community's will.

Justine McCabe, Ph.D., an anthropologist and psychologist, lives in New Milford.

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Join Us in Our Ongoing Quest for Social Justice and Ecological Wisdom

Dear Friend,

Now that the elections are over, we at the Connecticut Green Party have turned our attention to building a strong progressive political party and effecting meaningful social change—locally and globally. We are ordinary citizens who have said "enough is enough" to the corporate-controlled Democratic and Republican parties.

The Green Party has accomplished a great deal by electing Green Party member and Majority Leader Elizabeth Horton Sheff to the Hartford City Council, as well as Joyce Chen and John Halie to the New Haven Board of Alderman:

- We stopped the siting of a medical waste facility in Hartford.
- We continue to fight against the pollution that is causing an asthma epidemic in Hartford (Hartford has the highest documented childhood asthma levels in the country).
- With a coalition organized by Democracy Works we’ve continued to pressure the legislature to pass a campaign finance bill.

But the quest has just begun. These are the pieces of legislation we are currently working on:

- Opposing Connecticut’s “Flibby Five” Polluters
- Universal Health Care for all Connecticut residents.
- Death Penalty Moratorium in Connecticut.
- Living Wage/Corporate Welfare Bill.
- Instant Runoff Voting.

Additionally, members are working in coalition with other groups on issues like opposing imperialistic globalization measures like the F.T.A.A. and Plan Colombia. Members are also working on National and local policy initiatives such as drug policy reform; opposition to the prison industrial complex; supporting local workers’ attempts to obtain living wages and decent benefits, and continuing our fight against the “Flibby Five” Hartford polluters. We will also begin the process of running candidates in upcoming elections.

Green Ten Key Values

1. Grassroots Democracy
2. Social Justice
3. Ecological Wisdom
4. Nonviolence
5. Decentralization
6. Economic Justice
7. Gender Equity and Cooperation
8. Respect for Diversity
9. Personal and Global Responsibility
10. Future Focus

It is up to each one of us to create a better future and a “deep democracy”.

In order to continue this work we need your help and involvement!

Our address: CT Green Times, PO Box 231214, Hartford, CT 06123

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