

## **Financing Fascism:**

### **The Military-Industrial Complex and the Rise of Neo-Conservatism**

By: Andrew G. Marshall

Today, and in fact, for much of our recent history, our governments in the Western world have been controlled by an unseen hand. Most of us have been aware of some aspect of this hidden hand, but cannot identify who moves its fingers and controls its actions. This hidden hand goes by many names; among the more prominent being the shadow government, the iron triangle or, more accurately, the military-industrial complex. So it is necessary to now take a look back at the history and role that the military-industrial complex has played in all our lives, and continues to play today.

It was on January 17, 1961, that President Dwight D. Eisenhower delivered his farewell address to the nation, in which he coined this term and gave a stern and necessary warning to the American people. His use of the term ‘military-industrial complex’ was in reference to describing the intimate relationship between the military establishment, the political structure and the defense industry. In his speech, Eisenhower stated:

This conjunction of an immense military establishment and a large arms industry is new in the American experience. The total influence -- economic, political, even spiritual -- is felt in every city, every State house, every office of the Federal government. We recognize the imperative need for this development. Yet we must not fail to comprehend its grave implications. Our toil, resources and livelihood are all involved; so is the very structure of our society.

In the councils of government, we must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex. The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will persist.

Eisenhower then warned that:

We must never let the weight of this combination endanger our liberties or democratic processes. We should take nothing for granted. Only an alert and knowledgeable citizenry can compel the proper meshing of the huge industrial and military machinery of defense with our peaceful methods and goals, so that security and liberty may prosper together.<sup>1</sup>

I now ask you: Have we all acted as an alert and knowledgeable citizenry? Well, if this warning given by the former President of the United States is news to you, then you, like the majority of all people in the Western world, have not heeded these warnings. So it is now time to examine what role this complex has played and what role it currently plays.

The idea behind Eisenhower's warning was that the free people of the world must be vigilant in guarding against the power of the military-industrial complex, because if it goes unchecked and of its own will, it will inevitably lead to a state of constant war. The idea of this complex in the United States and the institutions involved is largely about

profit in war. However, as a general term it can refer to simply the collusion between the war apparatus of the state, that is, the military, with the political establishment, the Executive or Legislative branches, and the commercial industry, arms and oil corporations. However, it does not need to be a capitalistic society for it to have a military-industrial complex, as this is exemplified with the former Soviet Union, which had this very collusion, in that commerce was simply a branch of the government, which worked with the military and political arms, thus, acting as a military-industrial complex. However, the structure of the military-industrial complex that will be addressed here is that which is prevalent in capitalist societies, namely, the United States, as this is the country in which the military-industrial complex has had the greatest influence. In this context, the military-industrial complex, or MIC, thrives through war, and the industries involved, which have arguably become the dominant partner in the relationship between industry, politics and military, stand to profit from all conflicts and war. War is the most profitable industry in the world, and when the industries that flourish during war time, predominantly being the arms and oil industries, are so closely aligned and connected with the political and military establishment, the eventual result is to ultimately lead to a state of constant war, or in the eyes of the war industry, constant profits.

World War 2, in fact, saw a great rise in the profit made by war. In fact, many of the most dominant corporations of our time made fortunes funding both sides of the war. For example, IBM, one of the largest corporations in the world today, played a very sinister role during World War 2. Beginning with Hitler's rise to power in 1933, IBM began a series of contracts with the Third Reich. Among them, running railroads,

organizing concentration camp slave labor, and most disturbingly, taking under the task of identifying and categorizing all German and European Jews and other minorities termed by the Nazis as being invalids.<sup>2</sup> The job was so monumental in scope, and so intricate in detail, it required the ability of a computer, however, there were no computers in the 1930s, but luckily for IBM, they manufactured the closest thing at the time, their punch card machines. The punch card machines would punch in specific numbers, which would have different meanings, for example, one number would identify the person to whom it is being assigned as a Jew or a Gypsy or a Communist, and so on. Another number would determine the person's fate, assigning specific numbers to mean slave labour, to be shot or what was termed 'the special treatment'; gas chambers. These numbers were then tattooed onto the arms of each person interned in concentration camps. When Allied troops entered concentration camps, such as Auschwitz, there inside the camps, they found the punch card machines clearly showing the proud corporate logo of IBM. There are even photos of the CEO of IBM sitting down at a table with Hitler in the early 1930s.

IBM was not the only corporation that colluded with the Nazis. Another corporation that played a large role was that of General Motors, whose CEO at the time was welcomed to Nazi Germany in 1934 as Hitler's special guest.<sup>3</sup> GM manufactured many of the vehicles Hitler used in his military campaign he waged across Europe through their German subsidiary company, Opel, named after the prominent German Opel family, among them many were card-carrying members of the Nazi Party. In 1935, a process of transferring the technology to Germany to produce the leaded gasoline

known as ethyl, was undertaken. A project to build leaded gasoline plants for Hitler was undertaken by GM, which had a 25% stake in the project, Standard Oil took another 25% and I.G. Farben took the remaining 50%.

I.G. Farben was the largest chemical manufacturer in the world, with arguably some of the closest ties with the Nazis.<sup>4</sup> It's American subsidiary company had on its board prominent Americans such as influential banker Paul Warburg, Carl Bosch, who also worked for Ford Motors, Edsel Ford, also from Ford Motors, H.A. Metz from the Bank of Manhattan, (later to be known as Chase Manhattan and now J.P Morgan Chase) C.E Mitchell, who was director of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and National City Bank, Herman Schmitz, the President of the company who also served on the board of Deutsche Bank and was later convicted of war crimes at the Nuremberg trials and Walter Teagle, director of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and Standard Oil of New Jersey.

I.G. Farben had very close ties to large US companies such as Standard Oil of New Jersey, DuPont and Dow Chemical. Standard Oil was once the monopoly oil corporation in the United States founded by industrialist John D. Rockefeller, until it was forced by the US government to be dissolved in 1911 into several smaller companies.<sup>5</sup> However, the breaking up of these companies made Rockefeller the richest man in the US, as he owned a quarter share of all the smaller companies, which included Standard Oil of New Jersey, which later changed its name to Exxon, Standard Oil of New York, later to be named Mobil and now both of these have merged into ExxonMobil. Other

branches of Standard Oil have since changed their names to ConocoPhillips, Chevron, Amoco, which has now merged with oil giant British Petroleum into BP Amoco, Marathon Oil and many others.<sup>6</sup> The Rockefeller family to this day, controls a major if not the major stake in all these companies, apart from BP, which is predominantly owned by the British crown, which incidentally, along with the Dutch Royal family, own the majority of Royal Dutch Shell.<sup>7</sup> Standard Oil literally fuelled Hitler's war machine and gave the Nazis the ability to wage total war across Europe.

One of the top financial supporters of Hitler was the German steel industrialist Fritz Thyssen, who later wrote a book titled, "I Paid Hitler".<sup>8</sup> Thyssen held and transferred money to Hitler through a variety of banks, mostly Dutch, however, he worked in cooperation with an influential New York banking family, the Harrimans, under family patriarch, E. Roland Harriman, to create the Union Banking Corporation. The Union Banking Corporation raised extensive funds for Nazi Germany and illegally transferred vital technologies over to the Third Reich. However, the Harriman family wasn't the only influential American family working with the Union Banking Corporation. A man from another family was appointed director and Vice President of the corporation, until its assets were seized in 1942 under the Trading with the Enemy Act, and he later went on to become a US Senator. This man, as both the New Hampshire Gazette reported in 2003 and the London Guardian reported in 2004, was a man by the name of Prescott Bush, the father of former President George H.W. Bush and grandfather of current President George W. Bush.<sup>9</sup>

In compensation for having its assets seized, Prescott Bush received \$1.5 million dollars in reparations from the US government, initiating the fortune of the Bush family. Later on, another one of Prescott Bush's business ventures, the Silesian-American Corporation, was seized, after it was found out that it was profiting from slave labour at Auschwitz concentration camp in a joint business project with I.G. Farben. So, the family fortune of the current President began with funding Hitler and making money through the most notorious concentration camp in history.<sup>10</sup>

Benito Mussolini had a great quote about fascism, in which he stated, "Fascism should more properly be called corporatism because it is the merger of state and corporate power".<sup>11</sup> Corporations favour the conditions of a fascist and authoritarian state, where there are no regulations, but rather "public-private partnerships" that dominate the economy.

One of the first books ever describing the military-industrial complex was "War is a Racket",<sup>12</sup> written by the most highly decorated Marine in US history at the time, Major General Smedley Butler, one of only 19 people in US history to have received the Medal of Honour twice. Smedley Butler sits as the hero in a mostly unknown yet incredible story of American history in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. In 1934, Butler testified before a Congressional committee that a group of men had approached him in an attempt to recruit him as the leader of a plot to orchestrate a military coup d'état and overthrow President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1933, imposing a fascist dictatorship in the United States. In the final report of the Congressional Committee, they concluded that Butler's allegations

were true, and recommended further investigations, however, none were undertaken and the story was lost.<sup>13</sup>

The event was known as the Business Plot or the White House Putsch and it included the backing of prominent individuals and families in the United States, such as the Du Pont family, the Morgan banking family, the Lehman Bros. bankers, the Warburg banking family, William Randolph Hearst, the media tycoon who was infamous for pioneering the concept of yellow journalism and was inspiration for Orson Welles' character in Citizen Kane, and the controlling interests behind Goodyear Tires, Bank of America, and Remington Arms<sup>14</sup> of which the Bush family had close ties to at the time. Prescott Bush, the current President's grandfather who helped finance Hitler, was not the first war profiteer in the Bush family. His father, Samuel Prescott Bush, was brought into the industrial business by his close family friends, the Rockefeller family, who made Samuel Bush the President of Buckeye Steel Castings Company<sup>15</sup> as well as being appointed to a national position of the War Industries Board, through which Bush handled relations and assistance for Remington.<sup>16</sup> The Buckeye Steel Castings Company was founded by the Rockefellers, and at the start of World War 1, Percy Rockefeller took control of Remington Arms. 67% of all ammunition used in World War 1 by Britain, the US and Russia came from Remington Arms.<sup>17</sup>

Smedley Butler exposed how he was approached by well known Wall Street and banking lackeys, and that they wanted Butler to lead 500,000 troops into Washington to overthrow FDR and place Butler in his stead as a figurehead for their interests.<sup>18</sup> They



also promised Butler a “friendly media”, which is where Hearst’s media empire would have come into play.<sup>19</sup> Butler responded to their requests by accepting, and over time, as the planning continued and as Butler found out more about who was behind the plot he collected all the information until he felt it was time to speak out. After the initial warning he gave to the US Congress he was attacked by an unfriendly media, casting him as a liar.<sup>20</sup> However, Butler went on to write his book exposing not only the “Business Plot”, but how his entire military career was in service to Wall Street, not the American people.

Now I will jump ahead a few decades to discuss this new form of the military-industrial complex. In the past, as I have examined, it was this Complex in its more simple form that fuelled Hitler and the Nazi ideology to pursue total war and world domination. Today, we are witnessing a much more advanced, intricate and global military-industrial complex, which is once again fuelling a dangerous new ideology based upon the concept of total war and world domination. This new ideology is termed Neo-Conservatism.

To understand the neo-conservatives, we must first understand what neo-conservatism is and where it’s roots are. Most prominent neo-cons today consider themselves followers of a reclusive University of Chicago professor who went by the name of Leo Strauss. Strauss, in fact, is considered to be the father of neo-conservative thought.<sup>21</sup> Leo Strauss was born in Germany and dedicated his life to studying political philosophy.<sup>22</sup> Strauss particularly focused on the philosophy of Machiavelli and Friedrich

Nietzsche, who was famous for his theories on existentialism and the concept of “the will to power”.

Machiavelli was one of the most prolific and important political philosopher's of his time. His most famous work was, “The Prince”, in which he discussed the art of how a Prince, or any ruler for that matter, can maintain and increase his power.”<sup>23</sup> Stephen Gill wrote in *Power and Resistance in the New World Order*, that, “Machiavelli sought to theorize how to construct a form of rule that combined both *virtu* (ethics, responsibility and consent) and fear (coercion) under conditions of *fortuna* (circumstances).<sup>24</sup> Machiavelli discussed how it might be necessary for a leader to descend into evil to accomplish the “greater good”.<sup>25</sup>

He advocated the concept of ‘the ends justify the means’, just so long as the end result is for the protection of the state above all else.<sup>26</sup> Machiavelli believed that human nature was essentially flawed, and that it is necessary to reach practical ends through the use of brute force.<sup>27</sup> Machiavelli believed that it was often compulsory for leaders to deceive and manipulate others for their gain, just so long as the gain itself was the benefit and preservation of the state.<sup>28</sup> This idea had been termed “Machiavellianism”, and many researchers have often considered it to have links to both psychopathic and sociopathic behaviour.<sup>29</sup> Psychopaths are those that do not understand the difference between right and wrong, and sociopaths have an understanding of right and wrong, but act in ways that only lead to personal gain, often relying on their skills of cunning and manipulation, voiding themselves of moral and ethical judgment.

Friedrich Nietzsche's concept of "the will to power" was a theory on what drives people. The most dominant thought on this concept had previously been thought to be that people were driven by what was termed, "the will to live". However, Nietzsche disagreed with this concept as being the primary force to drive people, instead he suggested that the "will to power" drove people to a larger degree. However, much of what he said on this concept has been misinterpreted. As Abir Taha wrote in *Nietzsche, Prophet of Nazism: The Cult of the Superman*, "if it is an undeniable fact that the concept of the Will to Power was Nietzsche's own brainchild, it is nevertheless also an equally undeniable fact that the S.S., Nazi Germany's Aristocracy, was the living embodiment of this concept in every respect."<sup>30</sup>

In *An Introduction to Nietzsche as Political Thinker: The Perfect Nihilist*, by Keith Ansell-Pearson, he wrote, "Nietzsche was enlisted to the Nazi cause in order to provide the movement with philosophical justification and legitimacy. He was by now an internationally celebrated and controversial philosopher, whose ideas could lend intellectual credence and power to their views. Nietzsche's sister, Elisabeth, played a decisive role in the transmogrification of Nietzsche into the philosopher of German militarism and imperialism," and that, "With the assistance of Elisabeth, the Nazis turned Nietzsche into one of the most popular and widely read philosophers in Germany and abroad," and it continued, "A number of academic and professional German philosophers, including Alfred Baeulmer and Alfred Rosenberg, were entrusted with the

task of propagating Nietzsche and providing the correct Nazi interpretation of his work.”<sup>31</sup>

Author and historian Webster Griffin Tarpley wrote in his book, *9/11: Synthetic Terror*, that “Leo Strauss was the product of three main intellectual and political influences. First among these was the proto-Nazi Friedrich Nietzsche, who was designated by Nazi ideologist Alfred Rosenberg as one of the four precursors of Hitlerism.”<sup>32</sup> He further stated, “As the neocons never tire of reminding us, ideas have consequences. If Strauss is based to such an extraordinary degree on Nietzsche, then we may be permitted to take a minute to see which Nietzsche it was that Strauss admired so much. The indications are that it was Nietzsche as the glorifier of hierarchy, slavery, violence, war, and terrorism. In some of the notes that Nietzsche made during the time he was writing his *Genealogy of Morals*, we read: ‘Which way? We need a new terrorism’,” and Tarpley further quoted Nietzsche from one of his works, stating, “I know my fate. My name will be linked someday to the memory of something monstrous – to a crisis whose like never existed on earth, to the deepest clash of conscience, to a decision conjured up against everything which had been believed, promoted, held sacred up to them. I am not a man, I am dynamite.”<sup>33</sup>

Nietzsche was a great influence upon another German philosopher, Martin Heidegger, who devoted much study to the concept of the “will to power”. Heidegger was elected as Rector of the University of Freiburg in Germany, in 1933, which was the same year he joined the Nazi Party. His first speech that he gave to the University later

became quite infamous, as it ended with three proclamations of “Heil Hitler”. The next year he resigned from the University, however, he maintained his Nazi Party membership until the end of the war.<sup>34</sup> Earlier on in his teaching career, Heidegger taught a man by the name of Leo Strauss, the man who would come to be the intellectual spawn of neo-conservatism.<sup>35</sup>

Leo Strauss, while still in Germany, was close to a man by the name of Carl Schmitt. Strauss left for Paris in 1932 after Schmitt helped him receive a Rockefeller Fellowship to leave Germany. Carl Schmitt also has an interesting history. In 1933, he became a professor at the University of Berlin, while at the same time also joining the Nazi Party, of which he remained a member of until his death.<sup>36</sup>

In 1921, he wrote the work, “On Dictatorship”, in which he discussed two forms of dictatorship, sovereign and commissarial, the commissarial reflecting that of the Roman dictator, whose purpose was to use his power to ‘protect’ the constitution, and in doing so, must break certain constitutional laws, such as suspending the rights of citizens.<sup>37</sup> Schmitt believed that for any government to ever be capable of a decisive action, it must have an element of dictatorial power to it. In constitutional democracies, this power resides in the “emergency powers” granted to government, that is, the authority of a government in time of emergency. Schmitt thusly came to argue that Hitler’s continual suspension of the German constitution was justifiable under its basis that Hitler continually declared a state of emergency under Article 48 of the Weimar Constitution, of which Schmitt explained as a ‘democratic dictatorship’, because Hitler

had to take dictatorial power to restore order.<sup>38</sup> Germany had a constitution under the Weimar Republic in the years between World War 1 and the rise of the Third Reich. However, after the Reichstag, the German Parliament burned down in 1933, Hitler passed the Reichstag Fire Decree, which took away the civil rights of German citizens, in order to deal with the threat from the Communist terrorists, whom Hitler blamed for burning down the Reichstag. This decree, however, set the way for the Nazis to imprison and silence all who opposed them or their ideology. However, now most evidence points to the fact that it was in fact the Nazis themselves that burned down the Reichstag to create the state of emergency.<sup>39</sup>

Schmitt further wrote more works advocating authoritarian and totalitarian governments, stressing that Parliamentary and legislative democracies did not represent the people, and that a separation of powers threatened the will of the people, which would better be realized in a strong, central government; a one-party system. Schmitt wrote his most famous work in 1925, "The Concept of the Political", in which he identified that in politics, distinctions to be made are between 'friend' and 'enemy', on which Schmitt wrote, "War is the most violent form that politics takes, but, even short of war, politics still requires that you treat your opposition as antagonistic to everything in which you believe. It's not personal; you don't have to hate your enemy. But you do have to be prepared to vanquish him if necessary," thus defining a strong body politic as having to be united in opposition to a perceived 'enemy'.<sup>40</sup> Schmitt commented that the "enemy" does not need to be defined by nationality, but rather anyone that is different in any discernable way, just so long as the 'enemy' is "in a specifically intense way,

existentially something different and alien, so that in the extreme case conflicts with him [the enemy] are possible.”<sup>41</sup> He argued that the power to unify a state and a people was to identify a common enemy that they could all be united against. Of course, in Germany, this was manifested by the Communists and Jews who bore the brunt of Hitler’s unified power.

After studying under two prominent Nazi intellectuals, Strauss traveled Europe for some years as the Third Reich grew in power, and in 1937, moved to the United States. In 1949, he became a political science professor at the University of Chicago.<sup>42</sup> This is the school where Strauss taught many loyal followers his ideas and political philosophy, based in his interpretations of the works of Machiavelli and Nietzsche and the lessons of his Nazi teachers.

Strauss was also famous for his concept of the “noble lie”. Strauss would often question whether politicians could be completely truthful and still achieve the necessary ends of their society. Strauss believed that “noble lies” had a place in uniting and acting as a guide for the masses in order to achieve the greater good. Strauss believed that myths were necessary to give people meaning and purpose, as well as to maintain the stability of society.<sup>43</sup>

Strauss had many loyal, devoted students when he taught at the University of Chicago. His loyal followers consider themselves Straussians, which is almost synonymous with neo-conservatism. Among his many students were Paul Wolfowitz, the

former Deputy Secretary of Defense and architect of the Iraq war, and currently deposed President of the World Bank, and Abram Shulsky, the head of the Pentagon's Office of Special Plans, which was created by Donald Rumsfeld and responsible for gathering intelligence with the intent to make the case for war with Iraq.<sup>44</sup> There was also one man, who was not one of Strauss' students, but was nonetheless a self-described Straussian, Harvey Mansfield.<sup>45</sup> Mansfield has been a professor of government at Harvard University for more than 40 years, where he has taught one of the most prominent neo-conservatives today, William Kristol,<sup>46</sup> a founder and current member of the neo-con think tank Project for the New American Century, also known as PNAC.<sup>47</sup>

William Kristol's father, Irving Kristol is considered to be the founder of American neo-conservatism.<sup>48</sup> In his earlier years, he was an active Trotskyist, and it was at a Trotskyist meeting in the early 1940s where he met his wife to be.<sup>49</sup> Trotskyism was a form of Marxism, or Communism, which was founded by Leon Trotsky. A main aspect of Trotskyism was the idea of "permanent revolution".<sup>50</sup> The concept of "permanent revolution" was that it was necessary for the masses to seize control of the society, economically, politically, socially and culturally. However, rather than changing some aspects of the society, the change, or revolution, is meant to be continuous.<sup>51</sup> Later on from his years as a Trotskyist, Irving Kristol became a professor, and more recently, a Distinguished Fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, one of the most powerful think-tanks in the United States, which is largely neo-conservative in ideology.<sup>52</sup> As well as this, he is a lifetime member of the Council on Foreign Relations, or the CFR,<sup>53</sup> the most powerful think tank in the United States, with thousands of members spanning the



political arena, including Presidents, Secretaries of State, Defense and CIA Directors,<sup>54</sup> as well as the corporate world, with the CEOs of all of Americas largest corporations<sup>55</sup> and all the major media corporations and prominent media figures such as journalists and news anchors.<sup>56</sup>

So what is neo-conservatism?

Neo-Conservatism means “New Conservatism”, yet, in analysis of this ideology, there is nothing conservative about it. Conservatives believe in a small government, that the government that governs best, is the one that governs least. Conservatism also tends to favour a gradual change, and is rooted in traditional views and morals.<sup>57</sup> Conservatism has varied concepts in different countries, as different countries have different traditional values. Many concepts of conservatism surround cultural, religious, or fiscal conservatism. Yet, under the neo-conservatives, the government of the United States has grown larger than ever before in the recent history of the US,<sup>58</sup> as neo-conservatives advocate a strong, powerful, authoritative state, resembling more the far-right fascistic ideology or the far-left Communist ideology, both of which hold the power of the State as being paramount. Where conservatives generally believe in a non-interventionist foreign policy, neo-conservatives advocate an imperialistic foreign policy.<sup>59</sup> The neo-conservatives also do not seek a slow, gradual change, but rather a rapid, revolutionary change; in military, politics, economics and culture.

Neo-Conservatism is characterized by the concept of the ends justifying the means. They believe in the concept of pre-emptive war, a war that is launched not as a response to an attack, but in a fashion to pre-empt an attack, and thusly take out the threat before it materializes.<sup>60</sup> Neo-Conservatives are strong advocates of an American Empire and have often supported redrawing the map of the Middle East<sup>61</sup> and have become strong supporters of the far-right Israeli Likud Party, dominated by a similar imperialistic ideology.<sup>62</sup> This correlates with their belief that imperialism is acceptable. It is widely accepted in neo-conservative thought that lying is necessary for the state to survive, and that the state, and society itself, should be run by an intellectual elite.<sup>63</sup>

A particularly disturbing point about neo-conservative thought is the concept that attacks on civil liberties are not only allowed, but necessary.<sup>64</sup> This relates to Strauss' questions on whether excellence and individual liberty can co-exist.<sup>65</sup> The idea behind this is that neo-cons see the role America should play in the world as a role of excellence, in that they seek to project American influence and power across the entire globe, a new American Empire.<sup>66</sup> To attain this role in the world, the neo-conservatives see it as necessary that the civil liberties of American citizens and indeed all citizens involved, be rolled back, attacked, or nullified in order to quell opposition and create a strong, central power capable of exporting America's might around the world. Liberty, in neo-conservative ideology, is not the ultimate goal, as much as they proclaim their goal to spread it throughout the world. In actuality, it is the State, and the preservation of the State, which is above all else, and neo-conservatives believe that it is acceptable and even necessary to cancel or remove all personal liberties to sustain the state's power.<sup>67</sup>

Prominent neo-conservatives have often discussed in their writings, the need for strong leadership. It is also a widely held neo-conservative belief that lying is central to the survival of nations. The belief that the leader must lie is excused by neo-conservatives because they say that since the leader is a public figure and what the leader says is therefore publicly stated, it is necessary to lie in order to protect the people, because the “enemies”, whomever they may be, are watching the leader, too. So, thusly, neo-conservatives advocate lying as a form of tricking the enemy. This is termed, “strategic deception”.<sup>68</sup> Given all these linkages between neo-conservatism emanating from the far right Nazism and far-left Communism, it seems that a more correct term for their ideology is not neo-conservative, since it has almost nothing to do with traditional conservatism, but rather neo-totalitarian, or neo-fascist.

Communist countries were based on a system in which the state controlled all aspects of society, and in fact, ran the industry, with all resources and land belonging to the state, and not to private interests. Fascism is an ideology, which sees the state as being paramount, however, it views itself as being anti-Communist, as it does not seek to take over all industry, but rather empowers industry, and is closely aligned with corporatism, in which power is given to economic and industrial groups. However, both Communism and Fascism are allied in that they are totalitarian systems of control and their belief of dismantling democratic institutions and rights, as well as the dismantlement of the individual. However, between these two ideologies, neo-conservatism, although having linkages from its roots to both communist and fascist

ideologies, is today more representative of fascism, as it empowers corporations and essentially merges the power of the state with the dominant corporations. So, the most logical term for neo-conservatism would be neo-fascism.

Up until the present administration, the neo-cons were referred to in Washington quite literally as, “The Crazyies”, because of their stances on imperialism and American empire.<sup>69</sup> However, shortly after the first Gulf War, a large so-called “charity” organization, named the Bradley Foundation began giving out considerable sums of money to up-and-coming think tanks and various interest groups. The Bradley Foundation is a group that gives tens of millions of dollars away every year to organizations that it has an ideological connection to.<sup>70</sup> The board of directors of the Bradley Foundation includes one man by the name of Pierre S. Du Pont.<sup>71</sup> Pierre Du Pont was a former member of the House of Representatives and Governor of Delaware. Not only that, but he is also a member of the extremely powerful DuPont family, of DuPont Chemical Corporation, which was the main driving force behind the attempted fascist coup of the United States in the 1930s during the rise of the military-industrial complex. So instead of financing a military coup against the United States, they financed an ideological coup of the leadership of the US. So where did the Bradley Foundation give their money? Two of the most notable groups were the American Enterprise Institute, or AEI, and the Project for the New American Century.<sup>72</sup>

The American Enterprise Institute is one of the most influential and powerful think tanks in the United States. AEI is governed by their Board of Trustees, which

includes Lee Raymond, former CEO of Exxon Mobil, who recently retired with a hefty \$400 million dollars,<sup>73</sup> and who now sits on the Board of JP Morgan Chase. Other notable board members include the former CEO of Merck and Co., one of the world's largest pharmaceutical corporations, the former CEO of American Express, the Chairman and Founder of TD Ameritrade, Chairman and CEO of State Farm Insurance Company, Chairman Emeritus of the Dow Chemical Company, and many other representatives from the corporate world.<sup>74</sup> Here we see representatives from Dow and JP Morgan Chase, whose ownership was also involved in the attempted fascist coup in the 1930s. On top of the Board of Trustees, the American Enterprise Institute also has a long list of Fellows and Scholars. Among the many are John Bolton, a noted neo-conservative, Lynne Cheney, wife of Vice President Dick Cheney,<sup>75</sup> and incidentally she also used to be on the board of directors of Lockheed Martin Corporation,<sup>76</sup> the world's largest weapons manufacturer and military corporation. More notable Scholars and Fellows are David Frum,<sup>77</sup> another neo-conservative, and in fact, a Canadian, a former writer for the National Post and other Canadian publications until he took a job as a speech writer for George W. Bush's first term in office.<sup>78</sup> He also co-authored a book with Richard Perle in defense of the 2003 invasion of Iraq, who incidentally is also a scholar at AEI, and a leading neo-conservative who is often referred to and has even referred to himself as "The Prince of Darkness".<sup>79</sup> More notable Fellows and Scholars include Irving Kristol, the father of American neo-conservatism, and Michael Ledeen,<sup>80</sup> another prominent neo-conservative who ran into controversy in the 80s during the Reagan administration when he had extensive ties to the Iran-Contra scandal.<sup>81</sup>

The other group that received major funding from the Bradley Foundation was the Project for the New American Century, or PNAC, the most noteworthy and prominent neo-conservative think tank. The Directors of PNAC include William Kristol, son of Irving Kristol,<sup>82</sup> as well as Robert Kagan, also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, and a former speechwriter for former Secretary of State George P. Schultz,<sup>83</sup> who now sits as Chairman of JP Morgan Chase's International Advisory Board alongside other notable figures such as Henry Kissinger, David Rockefeller and former Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney.<sup>84</sup> Schultz was also a member of the board of Bechtel Corporation,<sup>85</sup> a highly lucrative corporation that relies upon government contracts, especially in war zones, and he is also a member of the American Enterprise Institute.<sup>86</sup> Schultz has also been a strong advocate of neo-conservative ideologies, especially that of pre-emptive war.<sup>87</sup>

In the Statement of Principles for the Project for the New American Century, the neo-con think tank argues for American global leadership by increasing defense spending drastically, challenge all regimes hostile to America's interests and values, promote political and economic freedom abroad, and to make America the unchallenged World Empire. Among the many signatures attached to this statement include the Iran neo-Contra criminal Elliott Abrams, the brother of the current US President, Jeb Bush, the current Vice President Dick Cheney, Eliot Cohen, who was a member of the Defense Policy Board Advisory Committee, a group that Donald Rumsfeld set up in the Pentagon whose purpose was to advise Rumsfeld, which was headed by the self-proclaimed "Prince of Darkness", Richard Perle. Cohen has more recently been made Counselor of

the State Department, working for Condoleezza Rice. More signatories to the PNAC statement of principles include, Donald Kagan, brother of PNAC Director Robert Kagan, Zalmay Khalilzad, who was the first US Ambassador to Afghanistan after the US occupied it in 2001, the US Ambassador to Iraq, and currently sits as the US Ambassador to the United Nations.<sup>88</sup> Educated at the University of Chicago, he went on to play a role in working closely with Zbigniew Brzezinski,<sup>89</sup> a former British Petroleum adviser<sup>90</sup> who served as Jimmy Carter's National Security Advisor and was the principal architect behind the US funding the Afghan Mujahadeen to fight the Soviets, later to become known as Al-Qaeda.<sup>91</sup> More names attached to the Statement of Principles include I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby, who served as Dick Cheney's Chief of Staff, and who was just recently convicted of four felony charges in the Valerie Plame Affair in which he was involved in outing an undercover CIA agent.<sup>92</sup> Dan Quayle is another notable name on the Statement of Principles, as he served as Vice President under the George HW Bush administration. Donald Rumsfeld also signed this statement, who then went on to become Secretary of Defense, and finally Paul Wolfowitz, the newly ousted President of the World Bank and former Deputy Secretary of Defense and architect of the Iraq war.<sup>93</sup>

A letter dated January 26, 1998, was written to President Clinton from the PNAC. In this letter, PNAC called for the removal of Saddam Hussein from power to prevent the threat he poses through weapons of mass destruction. The signatories of this letter include Iran-neo-Contra figure Elliott Abrams, Richard Armitage, former Deputy Secretary of State under Colin Powell in George Bush's first term, John Bolton, who would later become US Ambassador to the UN, Robert Kagan, PNAC Director, Zalmay Khalilzad,

William Kristol, the Prince of Darkness Richard Perle, Donald Rumsfeld, Paul Wolfowitz, former CIA director James Woolsey and Robert Zoellick,<sup>94</sup> who is the new President of the World Bank.<sup>95</sup>

In September of 2000, the PNAC published a document entitled, “Rebuilding America’s Defenses” Strategy, Forces and Resources For a New Century”. The document outlines the objective of making the United States a global empire, with total control over land, sea and outer space, and especially calls for overthrowing “rogue” regimes such as Iraq, Iran and North Korea, later to be termed by neo-con speech writer as “the Axis of Evil”. They specifically advocated for a massive increase in defense spending and the formation of an American Empire of a truly global scale.<sup>96</sup> However, the most disturbing aspect of the report, which is freely available from their website, is when they discuss the means to which they can achieve their goals, and state, “Further, the process of transformation, even if it brings revolutionary change, is likely to be a long one, absent some catastrophic and catalyzing event – like a new Pearl Harbor.”<sup>97</sup> One year to the exact month later, PNAC got their “new Pearl Harbor” on September 11, 2001.

The neo-conservatives could not have maintained their power without help from the media, which is owned by the military-industrial complex. The United States media is entirely owned by just a few corporations; AOL-Time Warner, which owns CNN and Time Magazine, Disney, which owns ABC, General Electric, which owns MSNBC, NBC, and CNBC along with the fact that GE is also a military corporation, which makes parts for aircraft and other military vehicles and equipment as well as being a security



company, making high-tech surveillance equipment, both of which are making it billions of dollars from the War on Terror and the emergence of a domestic police state at home, and finally, News Corporation, one of the largest media corporations in the world, which owns National Geographic Magazine and Fox News. Rupert Murdoch, the media mogul who is the CEO of News Corporation, has publicly admitted to his bias in reporting news when he recently stated at the World Economic Forum, “We basically supported the Bush policy in the Middle East”.<sup>98</sup> The board of directors of News Corporation include, other than Rupert Murdoch, José María Aznar, the former President of Spain, Sir Roderick I. Eddington, Chairman of Australia and New Zealand JP Morgan Chase Bank, Andrew S.B. Knight, Director of Rothschild Investment Trust Capital Partners, one of many banking institutions under the control of the extremely powerful Rothschild family of Europe.<sup>99</sup> Another noteworthy member of the board is Viet Dinh, a Professor of Law and former Assistant Attorney General of the United States from 2001 to 2003, where he worked under then-Attorney General John Ashcroft. Viet Dinh was also the principle architect of the Patriot Act, which was passed after the events of 9/11,<sup>100</sup> which paved the way for Bush to erase the rights of US citizens, conduct massive surveillance of both US, and through corporate subsidiaries, foreign, including Canadian, citizens. Murdoch and his media empire were the most vocal in support of the neo-con agenda of American imperialism in the Middle East.

Canada stands as no exception to being controlled by these various power factions, our elites are just better at hiding it. The military-industrial complex has co-opted what we once referred to as Democracy in Canada, although this is not a new

concept that arrived with the Harper government, in fact, it dates back many years, through both Liberal and Conservative governments. Brian Mulroney opened Canada for business with so-called “free-trade” which resulted in US corporations buying up the near entire infrastructure of our country.<sup>101</sup> NAFTA paved the way for the multinational corporations to buy up Canada’s resources, and with it, our politicians.<sup>102</sup>

The Canadian Council of Chief Executives is the most powerful and influential interest group in Canada, being to our country what the Council on Foreign relations is to the United States.<sup>103</sup> With the revolving door between government positions and big business, the corporate elite have managed to infect out political and governmental landscape like a virus, and year after year, our country gets sicker and sicker. A virus may be treatable, but it is necessary to first accept that we as a nation are sick, because if we do not wake up to this disease, it will surely kill our country.

Members of the Council include the CEOs of Scotia Bank, Bell Canada, BMO Financial, CAE Inc., a large military contractor, Canadian Pacific Railway Company, CIBC, CanWest Global Communications Corporation, Dow Chemical Canada, E.I du Pont Canada, General Electric Canada, General Motors Canada, HSBC, IBM Canada, Imperial Oil, which we know as Esso, and most of the rest of the world knows as Exxon Mobil, Microsoft Canada, Maple Leaf Foods, McCain Foods, Petro-Canada, Quebecor Inc, Rogers Communications, Royal Bank of Canada, SNC-Lavalin, a military contractor, Shell Canada, TD Bank, TELUS, Toyota Canada and TransCanada

Corporation.<sup>104</sup> This is not an extensive list, but rather just a list of some of the most prominent corporations.

One prominent politician in Canada is the perfect example of an infectious disease, David Emerson. Most Canadians are aware of a controversy erupting when the new Conservative government took power with Stephen Harper. This is because prior to the Conservative minority government in Canada, David Emerson was a member of Paul Martin's Liberal Cabinet. Yet, when the Conservatives came into government, Harper asked Emerson to cross the aisle and join the Conservative Cabinet, which he immediately accepted.<sup>105</sup>

What most people do not know about David Emerson, however, is that prior to taking a position in Canadian government, he was Vice Chair of the Canadian Council of Chief Executives.<sup>106</sup> On the website of the Canadian Council of Chief Executives they literally gloat over their central role in pushing for the North American Free Trade Agreement, or NAFTA.<sup>107</sup> However, NAFTA represented only the first step in achieving their ultimate goals. These goals are outlined in reports published and available for free from their website, in which they advocate the implementation of a process of what they term "deep integration" with the United States and Mexico.<sup>108</sup> 'Deep Integration' is a reference to the process of merging the United States, Canada and Mexico into a supra-national entity in North America, paralleling the European Union, which also started out as a free trade agreement among the countries of Europe.<sup>109</sup> This plan is not only being sought by the Canadian Council of Chief Executives, but also is supported by pro-big

business think tanks such as the Fraser Institute and the C.D Howe Institute,<sup>110</sup> whose board of directors includes senior executives of Imperial Oil, (the Canadian subsidiary of Exxon Mobil), the Bank of Montreal, General Electric Canada, Shell Canada, CIBC, NM Rothschild and Sons Canada, a conglomerate of one of the largest banking families on Earth, Bell Canada and the Bank of Nova Scotia.<sup>111</sup>

This process is not being implemented, alone by the Canadian elite, as the Council on Foreign Relations in the US is the main advocate of this process driving us into a North American Union, alongside its Mexican counterpart.<sup>112</sup> The plan was outlined in the CFR document, “Building a North American Community”, in which they advocate the integration, or merging, of defense, energy supplies, natural resources, economies, and foreign policy of Canada, the US and Mexico.<sup>113</sup> Among the many things advocated are a shared security perimeter, securing the border around North America as opposed to the borders between North American nations, as well as developing a North American border pass, or ID Card,<sup>114</sup> with biometric identification technology, meaning it will have a Radio Frequency Identification microchip implanted in it which contains detailed personal information on everyone, and it will be mandatory to include some sort of personal ID such as fingerprints or DNA.<sup>115</sup> They advocate combining militaries,<sup>116</sup> energy resources,<sup>117</sup> and implementing a single external tariff known as the Amero,<sup>118</sup> much like the European Euro. As well as this, they want a common North American education program.<sup>119</sup>

Neo-conservatism snuck into our government without any notice or warning. This occurred with the election of the Conservative government in Canada. Stephen Harper appointed an individual to be his advisor who came from his hometown of Calgary, where he was an academic at the University of Calgary who advocated a neo-conservative ideological view. This neo-Con-adian came out of what has been named, “The Calgary School”. Though not an actual group or organization, the Calgary School represents the Canadian equivalent of the University of Chicago in its sprouting of neo-conservatism in the United States.<sup>120</sup> Tom Flanagan is an adviser to Prime Minister Stephen Harper who also sits as a Senior Fellow at the Fraser Institute,<sup>121</sup> the pre-eminent policy think tank in Canada, whose directors and senior fellows include representatives from CIBC, the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, the Bank of Canada,<sup>122</sup> not to mention Mike Harris, former Premier of Ontario, Ralph Klein, former Premier of Alberta and Preston Manning, former member of Parliament.<sup>123</sup>

Tom Flanagan was born in the United States, who, after coming to Canada, joined the Calgary School of thought. He was Stephen Harper’s national campaign director in 2004, and a senior campaign advisor in 2006. Flanagan is also an admitted Straussian.<sup>124</sup> Other members of the Calgary School of neo-conservative thought include David Bercuson, director of the University of Calgary’s Military and Strategic Studies as well as a regular columnist for Legion Magazine, the Calgary Herald and the National Post. Barry Cooper, another Calgary School member, also a Senior Fellow at the Fraser Institute, and weekly columnist for the Calgary Herald. More members include Roger Gibbins, President and CEO of Canada West Foundation and Ted Morton, an Alberta

Cabinet Minister who has written columns for the National Post, the Calgary Herald, the Globe and Mail and the Calgary Sun.<sup>125 126</sup>

Even our Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Minister of Public Safety Stockwell Day have made public their sympathies with the neo-conservative ideology as in 2003, they co-wrote an article together for the Wall Street Journal in which they claim Canada's refusal to publicly join the Coalition of the Willing to invade Iraq is a mistake, and said that they, "support the American and British position because we share their concerns, their worries about the future if Iraq is left unattended to, and their fundamental vision of civilization and human values".<sup>127</sup>

Today, the various power factions of the military-industrial complex and the neo-conservatives have again come together in harmony to pursue a common goal. This goal is the "North American Community", also known as the North American Union, which was signed into agreement in 2005 as the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America, or SPP, by Prime Minister Paul Martin, George W. Bush and Mexican President Vicente Fox.<sup>128</sup> In 2006, under the new Conservative government, it was again signed, this time by Bush and Fox as well as Stephen Harper.<sup>129</sup> This agenda is going forward irrelevant of what political party is in power, as is demonstrated by Paul Martin and Stephen Harper signing on to it, with the Canadian Council of Chief Executives' man on the inside David Emerson, spanning both cabinets. David Emerson was also the CEO of Canfor Corporation, Canada's largest producer of softwood lumber.<sup>130</sup> Although, I'm

sure it's just a coincidence that as soon as he was appointed into the Conservative cabinet his first task was resolving the softwood lumber issue.<sup>131</sup>

In September of 2006, the elites of the three North American countries met in secret at the Banff Springs Hotel, to convene the first North American Forum. Here, they met in secret to work on the implementation of the North American Union agenda. Freedom of Information Act Requests in the United States released the minutes of these meetings, and outlined how it was discussed and agreed upon to keep their activities largely secret and out of the public eye. The Co-Chairs of the North American Forum meeting were George P. Schultz, currently the Chairman of JP Morgan Chase's International Advisory Board and neo-con sympathizer, Pedro Aspe, a leading elitist from Mexico and Peter Lougheed,<sup>132</sup> former Alberta Premier who currently sits on the boards of the Royal Bank of Canada and the Carlyle Group, one of the leading private equity firms in the US,<sup>133</sup> which primarily invests in defense contractors, leading it to be one of the most profitable contractors in the wake of the launch of the War on Terror.<sup>134</sup>

Canadian participants from the Forum include Col. Peter Atkinson, Special Advisor to the Chief of Defense Staff, Thomas d'Aquino, Chairman of the Canadian Council of Chief Executives, Stockwell Day, our Minister of Public Safety, Ward Elcock, Deputy Minister of National Defense, Bill Elliott, Associate Deputy Minister of Public Safety, neo-Con-adian Roger Gibbins of the Calgary School, V. Peter Harder, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, General Rick Hillier, the Chief of Defense Staff, John P. Manley, former Liberal member of Parliament and Deputy Prime Minister, who also sits

on the boards of Nortel Networks and CIBC, Anne McLellan, Deputy Prime Minister under Paul Martin's government, and she also sits on the boards of a Canadian oil and gas corporation, Nexen Inc, as well as an agrifood corporation, Agrium Inc. More Canadian members of the Forum include Greg Melchin, the Minister of Energy in the Government of Alberta, Sharon Murphy of Chevron Canada, and Gordon O'Connor, the Minister of Defense,<sup>135</sup> who before being appointed to that position, served as a lobbyist for big military and defense corporations such as BAE Systems and General Dynamics, two of the largest defense contractors in the world, and now sits in a position to reward them with Canadian military contracts.<sup>136</sup>

American participants in the Forum include corporate representatives from Lockheed Martin, whose Canadian subsidiary, Lockheed Martin Canada, received the contract to handle our latest Canadian Census, Chevron Corporation and the Wall Street Journal, as well as many government representatives from Northcom, NORAD, the National Security Council, the Pentagon, including Donald Rumsfeld, the Department of Energy the State Department under the leadership of Condoleeza Rice, a former board member of Chevron who has an oil tanker named after her, and James Woolsey, former Director of the CIA and neo-con member of the Project for the New American Century.<sup>137</sup>

This process of implementing a massive transformation of the North American geo-political landscape could not be taking place without the help from a complacent media. Canadian media is especially silent on this issue, as at least in the United States



Lou Dobbs of CNN is discussing the North American Union on a weekly basis. In Canada, the role of a complacent media is filled by members of the Canadian Council of Chief Executives, CanWest Global Communications Corporation, which owns the National Post, Vancouver Sun, the Province, North Shore News, Dose, Metro, Global TV, CH TV, and Canada.com, as well as dozens of other newspapers and media across Canada.<sup>138</sup> Members of the board of CanWest Global include Derek Burney, who also sits as Lead Director for Shell Canada, as well as being on the board of TransCanada Pipelines Inc., and is a former CEO of CAE Inc., a leading Canadian military contractor and former CEO of Bell Canada. Another board member of CanWest Global was David Kerr, also a director of Sun Life Financial as well as Shell Canada.<sup>139</sup> Quebecor, another of Canada's largest media conglomerates, also a member of the Council of Executives, has on its board a man by the name of Brian Mulroney, our former Prime Minister.<sup>140</sup> Torstar Media, another of Canada's large media conglomerates, which owns such publications as the Toronto Star, as well as a 20% stake in CTVGlobe Media, which owns the national paper, the Globe and Mail, has on its board of directors Sarabjit Marwah, who also is Vice Chairman of Scotiabank as well as being on the board of the pro-big business, neo-con affiliated think tank, the C.D Howe Institute<sup>141</sup>, and Ronald Osborne, who on top of being on the board of Torstar, is also on the boards of Sun Life Financial and Shell Canada.<sup>142</sup> CTVGlobe Media, which owns CTV, the Globe and Mail, Much Music and many other media outlets, has, as a member of its board, Pamela Wallin, who was a senior adviser to the President of the America's Society and the Council of the Americas in New York,<sup>143</sup> both of which are strong supporters and pushers of regional integration, and which are both chaired by David Rockefeller, not to mention

their membership is filled with representative corporations of the military-industrial complex.<sup>144</sup> Another board member of CTVGlobe Media is Gordon Lackenbauer, who is also a director of TransAtla Inc, and energy corporations and NAL Energy Inc.<sup>145</sup> This media silence has proven that the media in Canada has lost all relevance and trust, and is merely a voice-box for the corporate elite to espouse distracting issues for the public, while stifling and silencing dissenting opinions, not to mention deceiving Canadians about massive agendas that the media conglomerates are intricately involved in.

Yet, there is hope still, demonstrated by the very fact that I am standing before you today to attempt to inform you on these issues, in the hopes that you will now choose to inform yourself. I ask that you do not simply believe everything that I say, just as I ask that you do not believe everything that our governments and media say, but rather, I ask that you investigate and research these issues for yourselves to come to your own conclusions. Thanks to other people standing up and speaking out, I chose to look into the issues they were discussing, and now here I am, asking you to do the same. Remember, every great movement that changed the world for the better started out with a small group of people. We have the potential to make a difference, but we must not sit back and wait for someone else to solve our problems, because no one else will; it is up to each and every one of us to stand up and protect our own freedoms and democracy.

Thomas Jefferson once said, “The cost of eternal freedom, is eternal vigilance”. So be vigilant, stand up to those who need to be taken down. Let us heed the warning of President Eisenhower, when he stated that, “We should take nothing for granted”.

Mahatma Gandhi, the man who led India to independence from the tyrannical British Empire, once stated that, "Truth stands, even if there be no public support. It is self-sustained."

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