

# Intervention Magazine

War, Politics, Culture

## Main Menu

- Home
- Mission Statement
- Magazine Staff
- Writers Guidelines
- Contact Us

## Immortal Words

### Vietnam Syndrome

By Mick Youther



"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." --George Santayana

### The Corporate Propaganda Machine

By Mick Youther

## Commentary: Are Bush and Neo-Cons Finished?

The publication of Bob Woodward's *Plan Of Attack* has removed all reasonable doubt that Bush's war has been an unmitigated disaster, it may also be the final nail in the Neo-Cons coffin.

By Regis T. Sabol

The events and revelations of the past two weeks should have, by now, removed all reasonable doubt that George W. Bush's stewardship of the nation has been an unmitigated disaster born of willful misjudgments, willful ignorance, unlawful deceit, and an arrogance rooted in Bush's belief that he has God on his side.



Even before all hell broke loose in Iraq, even before testimony before the commission investigating the 9/11 attacks revealed that Bush and his national security team could have and should have prevented that nightmarish disaster that cost almost 3,000 lives, even before Bush, in a rare prime-time press conference, revealed himself to be incapable of giving straight answers to straight question, we should have known.

Former Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill, in Ron Suskind's *The Price of Loyalty*, revealed that Bush intended to go to war against Iraq from the day he entered office. The White House dismissed him as a kook and initially claimed that O'Neill stole classified documents, a charge it was later forced to retract.

Richard Clarke, former counter-terrorism director under three presidents--including George Bush--revealed in his book, *Against All*



**"The bigger the information media, the less courage and freedom they allow."-- Eric Sevareid**

### Take Action

**Keep the pressure on:  
Demand an  
Investigation into  
Bush's Security  
Priorities**

### Film Review

**The Revolution Will  
Not Be Televised  
By Frederick Sweet**



**Media concentration  
enhances political  
corruption and a coup  
attempt.**

### Make A Contribution

*Enemies*, in an interview on 60 Minutes, and in testimony before the 9/11 Commission that Bush & Co. showed far less interest in al Qaeda than in Saddam Hussein. Even after 9/11, when Bush was told that Osama bin Laden, not Saddam Hussein, was the culprit, he still demanded that Clarke find evidence that Iraq was involved. The White House rolled out all its big guns to smear Clarke's reputation and Republican Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist went to so far as to accuse Clarke of perjury.

Now, with the publication of Bob Woodward's *Plan of Attack*, the Bush Regime has run out of excuses and run out of lies. Why? Because Woodward wrote his book with the full cooperation of the White House and Bush, himself. Bush and his gang of ideological neoconservative bunglers have hanged themselves with their own words.

Did Bush lead the nation into a needless, bloody war using information that was, at best, mistaken, and, more likely, simply untrue? Yes. Saddam had no connection to Al Qaeda. He had no program to develop nuclear weapons. And he had no weapons of mass destruction.

Were Bush, Condi, George Tenet, and the Gang asleep at the wheel before 9/11? Yes. Bush said he had no "actionable" evidence about an impending attack. We now have learned that the August 6, 2001, briefing he received while on an extended vacation at his ranch in Crawford, Texas, specifically warned of just such an attack. The title of the PDB (My, they do love those acronyms) was "Bin Laden Determined to Launch Attacks Inside the United States." That doesn't sound like "background information" to me. That sounds like a serious warning that should have sent every agency of government into action immediately. Bush went golfing instead.

Did Bush secretly begin planning for war even as he claimed to be seeking a diplomatic solution to the phony crisis with Iraq? Yes. He ordered Rumsfeld and Gen. Tommy Franks to put together a war plan by November, 2001, and not worry about the cost. Bush told the general he had "a blank check."

Did Bush divert \$700 million that Congress had appropriated for the war against al Qaeda in Afghanistan to preparations for the invasion of Iraq? Yes. Is that a violation of the Constitution that falls into the category of "high crimes and misdemeanors?" Yes, indeed. Essentially, he stole money earmarked for the War on Terror and used it for his planned War on Iraq. Is that an impeachable offense? Definitely. But no Republican Congress is going to allow that to happen.

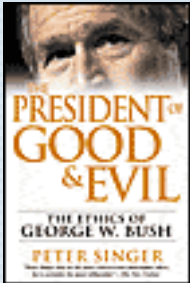
Did Rumsfeld and the Joint Chiefs of Staff have any feasible plan about what to do once we had conquered Iraq? Obviously not. Instead of being greeted as liberators by the Iraqi people, U.S. forces have been attacked by them. The toll of American dead will soon top 1,000, with 2,000 troops already wounded. And then there are the 10,000 or so Iraqi civilians we've killed. But they don't really count, do they? Could that be one reason why so many Iraqis are killing us? What do you think?

## Book Reviews

### The President Of Good And Evil

By Peter Singer

Reviewed by John Greeley



### Worse Than Watergate

By John W. Dean

Reviewed by John Greeley



### Red Dust Rising

By Marilyn Johnston

Reviewed by Jan Barry



Have American occupation forces and Paul Bremer's Provisional Civilian Authority lost control of Iraq? Just count the number of Marines, Army troops, and American civilians who died in the past two weeks as uprisings have broken out in cities all over Iraq. What do you think?

Have the invasion and occupation of Iraq led to democracy in that country and the spread of democracy throughout the Middle East? No. Iraq in particular and the Middle East in general are as unstable as a truckload of fertilizer.

Is the United States in the worst military and diplomatic mess doomed to failure since the Vietnam War? That goes without saying.

Have George Bush and his policies made America any safer from acts of terrorism? Not at all.

**Regis T. Sabol is a contributing editor to Intervention Magazine. He is also editor of A New Deal: an online magazine of political, social, and cultural thought. You can email Regis at [Regis@interventionmag.com](mailto:Regis@interventionmag.com)**

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- **Asking The Right Questions About Iraq** (04/18/04)
- **Vietnam Syndrome** (04/17/04)
- **White House Press Corps Fails Our Troops** (04/17/04)
- **The Passive Priority: National Security** (04/16/04)
- **The President Of Good & Evil: The Ethics Of George W. Bush** (04/16/04)
- **The Magic Box** (04/16/04)
- **Vietnam, Again!** (04/13/04)
- **"Comfortable" War Propaganda** (04/11/04)
- **The Corporate Propaganda Machine** (04/10/04)

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