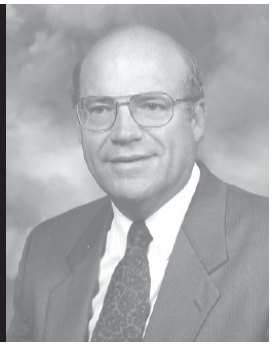
The Schwarz Report



Dr. Fred Schwarz

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Dr. David Noebel

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You don't understand the class structure of American society," said Smetana, "or you would not ask such a question. In the United States, the working class are Democrats. The middle class are Republicans. The upper class are Communists."

—Whittaker Chambers, *Witness*, p. 616

Fidel Castro and America's "Upper Class" Useful Idiots—Part 1

by Humberto Fontova

One June 4, the FBI arrested a well-born State Department intelligence analyst and his wife for conspiracy to commit espionage for the Castro regime. David Kris, assistant attorney general for national security, described the case against Walter Kendall Myers and his wife Gwendolyn as "incredibly serious" and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton called it an "outrageous violation," ordering a top-to-bottom review of the State Department's security procedures.

"Cuban spies can be especially difficult to catch," lament U.S. intelligence officials, "because the Cuban government specializes in recruiting 'true believer's' rather than agents who are out to make money." Walter Kendall Myers was a perfect case in point. It took 30 years to catch him.

"I have concluded that we should attempt to achieve normalization of our relations with Cuba," read Presidential Directive NSC-6 issued on March 16, 1977, by Jimmy Carter. "To this end we should begin direct and confidential talks with representatives of the Cuban government," continued the directive, which was declassified only in May 2002.

This Democratic "opening" to Castro set the stage for Walter Myers' spy career. It appears that Myers started flirting with Castro's KGB-trained agents in late 1978 while they served as diplomats at the UN and Myers worked as an adjunct professor at the John Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies and as instructor for the State Department, which had already granted him "secret" clearance.

The Castro agents graciously invited Myers to Cuba on an "academic" junket (a cinch to arrange then as now) for more sizing up. A few months later Castro's agents visited Myers in his temporary South Dakota home and broke the good news. He had the job. So Myers promptly enlisted as an agent for the regime that craved (and came within a hair of) the nuclear incineration of his home town, Washington, D.C.

During the course of Myers' arrest, the FBI uncovered his dairy, which was laden with Castrophilic passages.

To highlight the difficulty in catching Castro's spies that bedevils U.S. spy-catchers, let's play a game I've titled "Castro Spy or Democratic Official? Who said it?"

"Fidel has lifted the Cuban people out of the degrading and oppressive conditions which characterized pre-revolutionary Cuba. He has helped the Cubans to save their own souls. Cubans don't need to try very hard to make the point that we

Founded in 1953, the Christian Anti-Communism Crusade, under the leadership of Dr. Fred C. Schwarz, has been publishing a monthly newsletter since 1960. *The Schwarz Report* is edited by Dr. David A. Noebel and Dr. Michael Bauman. The Crusade's address is PO Box 129, Manitou Springs, CO 80829. Our telephone number is (719) 685-9043. All correspondence and tax-deductible gifts (the Crusade is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization) may be sent to this address.

have been the exploiters."

If you answered: "Castro spy Kendall Myers in his diaries," you're right.

"I believe that there is no country in the world including any and all the countries under colonial domination, where economic colonization, humiliation, and exploitation were worse than in Cuba, in part owing to my country's policies during the Batista regime."

If you answered: "Democratic President of the United States John F. Kennedy speaking to French Journalist Jean Daniel in Nov. 1963," you're right again.

"Batista was only one of the long list of murderous figures that we thrust upon them in the name of stability and freedom."

If you against answered, "from Castro Spy Kendall Myers' diaries," you win.

"I will even go further: to some extent it is as though Batista was the incarnation of a number of sins on the part of the United States."

Answer: Democratic President John F. Kennedy, where noted above," you win again.

"Everything one hears about Fidel suggests that he is a brilliant and charismatic leader."

"Castro Spy, Kendall Myers, again?" you got it.

"Fidel Castro is very shy and sensitive, a man I regard as a friend."

"Was that Democratic presidential candidate, George McGovern?" you're right, but that was too easy.

"Castro exudes the sense of seriousness and purposefulness that gives the Cuban Socialist system its unique character. The revolution is moral without being moralistic."

"Castro Spy, Kendall Myers writing in his dairies," is the correct answer.

"Castro first and foremost is and always has been a committed egalitarian. He despises any system in which one class or group of people lives much better than another. He wanted a system that provided the basic needs to all—enough to eat, health care, adequate housing, and education."

If you answered: "the Jimmy Carter-appointed head of Havana's Cuban Interest section, Wayne Smith" for the above quote—you're doing exceptionally well.

"Have the Cubans given up their personal freedom to get material security? Nothing I have seen yet suggests that, I can see nothing of value that has been lost by the revolution. The revolution has released enormous potential and liberated the Cuban spirit."

If you answer: "That's from Castro spy, Kendall Myers," you win, predictably.

"Cuba has superb systems of health care and universal education. The Cuban embargo is the stupidest law ever passed in the U.S."

Answer: "former U.S. Democratic President James Earl Carter."

(Please overlook that all of the above talking points from Castro to his propagandists are demonstrably false. The point here is to show who's parroting these lies.)

"Tip of the iceberg" is a phrase often used by Cuba-watchers whenever a Castro spy gets nabbed. In light of the motivations uncovered in Myer's diary and the rampant Castrophilia among Beltway academic, media, and Democratic circles, who can doubt it?

"The Toast of Manhattan!" crowed *Time* magazine about Castro's reception by Manhattan's Beautiful People when he visited to address the UN General assembly in 1996, during the UN's 50th anniversary celebrations.

"The Hottest Ticket in Manhattan!" read a *Newsweek* story that week, referring to the social swirl that engulfed Castro. After Fidel's whopping, hollering, foot-stomping ovation in the General Assembly, he was feted by New York's best and brightest, hob-nobbing with dozens of Manhattan's glitterati, pundits, and power brokers.

First, there was dinner at the Council on Foreign Relations. After holding court there for a rapt David Rockefeller, along with Robert McNamara, Dwayne Andreas, and Random House's Harold Evens, Castro rushed over to Mort Zuckerman's Fifth Avenua pad, where a throng of Beltway glitterati, including a breathless Mike Wallace, Peter Jennings, Tina Brown, Bernard Shaw, and Barbara Walters, all jostled for a brief tryst, cooing and gurgling after Castro's every comment.

All clamored for autographs and photo ops. Diane Sawyer was so overcome in the mass killer's presence that she rushed up, broke into her toothy smile, wrapped her arms around Castro and smooched him warmly on the cheek.

"You people are the cream of the crop!" beamed the

The Schwarz Report Bookshelf

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Cuban Fuhrer to the smiling throng that surrounded him.

"Hear, hear!" Chirped the delighted guests while tinkling their wine glasses in appreciation and glee.

And the murderer had barely scratched the surface of his fan club. According to the U.S. Cuba Trade and Economic Council, on that visit Castro received 250 dinner invitations from Manhattan celebrities and power brokers.

So who can doubt that Castro's Intelligence officials are horribly overworked? How can they possibly process all the applicants from the U.S. Beltway on their "academic" and "Journalistic" visits to Cuba, all clamoring to help the regime that craved to enslave them?

—*Human Events*, June 15, 2009, p. 18

Fidel Castro and America's "Upper Class" Useful Idiots—Part II

by Sam Shulman

The W. Kendall Myers treason story—the retired State Department agent and never-published scholar whose 30 years of skillful espionage on Cuba's behalf has recently come to the notice of the authorities—has already produced one great benefit. Not for some years have we seen newspaper writing like this in the *Washington Post*:

> He was a courtly State Department intelligence analyst from a prominent family who loved to sail and peruse the *London Review of Books*. Occasionally, he would voice frustration with U.S. policies, but to his liberal neighbors in Northwest D.C. it was nothing out of the ordinary. "We were all appalled by the Bush years," one said.

Mary Beth Sheridan and Del Quentin Wilber in only a few Updikean brushstrokes paint the character of W. Kendall Myers (age 72) and his wife Gwendolyn (age 71).

Until he retired in 2007, Myers was an official at the Bureau of Intelligence and Research (INR), a group within the State Department that scrapbooks intelligence supplied by the 18 federal and military agencies that actually do legwork and plops it on the desk of the secretary of state. Myers is also one of some 130 "professorial lecturers" at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) in Washington, a title he has held since 1979. Although Myers is a Ph.D.—his 1972 Hopkins dissertation defending Neville Chamberlain was titled "A Rationale for Appeasement"—his SAIS rank is really nonacademic, shared by a floating crew of 130-odd part-time lecturers, mostly State Department employees and other diplomatic professionals who give classes from time to time. Mrs. Myers was an executive in the computer department of Riggs Bank—a bank often said to have cooperated with the CIA. And since 1979, the government believes that the Myerses have been passing classified information to the Cuban authorities. The couple told FBI agents that they are passionate and committed supporters of Fidel Castro and the transformation he has wrought upon Cuba.

It is astounding to the *Washington Post* team and to the neighbors and former colleagues they interviewed that a man of Myers's breeding, education, and charm could have dedicated himself to the enslavement of the Cuban people. A colleague from State was particularly astonished because Myers never spoke about Latin America at all, much less Cuba, "ever, ever." It is depressing that our striped pants brigade expects so little of what John le Carré calls "tradecraft" from our spies. Did they imagine the Myerses would wear Che T-shirts and hang souvenir Venceremos Brigade machetes on the walls of their offices?

Myers's academic colleagues are also stunned. SAIS professor David P. Calleo, who often invited Myers—despite his lowly rank—to co-teach with him, thinks Myers's treachery is "out of character." He told the *Post* that Myers "has this amazing intellectual curiosity" and is "open to all kinds of ideas." This description is high praise, since Calleo is himself open to all kinds of ideas. One of these ideas is that disloyal American Jews have mesmerized the United States through their control of the media into supporting a friendly power that really ought not to exist at all.

Despite his learning and his intellectual curiosity, Calleo is unaware that some of the greatest traitors to the Western democracies were notable for their intellectual curiosity. The KGB spy Guy Burgess, for example, was the "most brilliant, compelling, promising human being" that his Cambridge peer Noel Annan had ever met. Myers, too, has a high opinion of Burgess and the Cambridge Ring of traitors. According to Tom Murray, a SAIS student in the 1990s who looked up his lecture notes when Myers was arrested, "Myers suggested they were called by their sense of duty to 'save' Europe (rather than the British Empire), and that U.S. and U.K. policies 'turned them into' spies." Murray was also impressed by Myers's "dapper Anglophile" wardrobe and sense of style.

Myers didn't charm everyone at SAIS. Another colleague remembers Myers in a different way: "droopy mustache, air of fey, bemused irony, obvious condescension about the petty follies of U.S. foreign policy, love of Europe, unexpressed but evident disdain for America"—in other words, a man with no curiosity at all who feels taking in new ideas is beneath him. One begins to see the truth in Fielding's observation that it requires an unusually "penetrating eye to discern a fool through the disguise of good breeding."

To the amateur of treason, there is something wonderfully familiar about the Kendall Myers saga—and it has nothing to do with his ideas or his teaching. Rather, it is the class markers—markers that make a spy-hunter of the old school feel like it's the first day of grouse season. Myers's patrician upbringing and manners disarmed suspicion. But they also injured him in a way that could only be healed by personal attachment to the ill-mannered man who turned Cuba into a charnel house.

A decade ago, Edward Luttwak declared that "snobs made better spies." In America, we have our own set of patrician disloyalists and admirers of mass murder. The Communist party, famous in the 1930s and 1940s for having the best-looking girls, commanded the enthusiasm of some very well-tailored men and chic women: Frederick Vanderbilt Field of Hotchkiss and Harvard, Corliss Lamont (Exeter and Harvard), Ralph Ingersoll (Hotchkiss and Yale), Alger Hiss (Hopkins and Harvard Law), Michael Whitney Straight of Dartington Hall and Cambridge (and son of Dorothy Payne Whitney), Martha Dodd (Vassar), Donald Ogden-Stewart (Yale and the Algonquin Round Table), Molly Day Thacher of Vassar (Mrs. Elia Kazan and the daughter of a Yale president). Et in Chicagoland ego: Ernest Hemingway and Bill Ayers.

To these gentlemen and ladies, Myers is about as close as Gatsby gazing over from West Egg at the Buchanans in East Egg. Although the *Post's* Sheridan announced on NPR that he was a "man from one of Washington's most prestigious and storied families, a prep school background, elite universities," she neglected the crucial point. Myers's accomplishments were deeply mediocre measured against what his family and he himself must have expected.

On his mother's side, he was the great-grandson of Alexander Graham Bell. His grandmother married into the Grosvenor-Hubbard dynasty, which organized Bell Telephone and founded the National Geographic Society (and still chairs its board). Myers's mother married a soon to be successful Washington cardiologist, Walter Kendall Myers (Princeton and Johns Hopkins). Until 2009, journalists could always get a paragraph out of the Bush dynasty and their Skull & Bones memberships. Myers's great-uncle Alphonso Taft, father of Willam Howard, *founded* Bones.

And Kendall himself? Like Henry Adams in his *Autobiography*, "no child, born in the year, held better cards than he. He could not refuse to play his excellent hand." But something went badly wrong. Instead of a first-rate New England or Delmarva prep school, Myers attended the third-tier Mercersburg Academy in his father's Pennsylvania hometown. He went to an Ivy League college, but it was Brown (don't scream, Gen-Xers, long before you were born or attended Brown or desperately wanted to or pretended that you had, it was, in the 1950s and 1960s, known as the "armpit of the Ivy League").

There were also emotional issues: After his father's death in 1964, Myers stopped being Walter Jr. and styled himself as W. Kendall. His Johns Hopkins doctorate earned him an assistant professorship at SAIS from 1972 to 1979, but for some reason—probably having to do with the eternally unpublished dissertation (you can find it cited in scholarly books for decades as "the yet-unpublished writings of Kendall Myers")—he did not discern tenure in his future. According to the *Post's* narrative, based on the accounts of his friends, "his life was rocked by tragedy and difficulties" in the mid-1970s. In 1975, "Myers was driving a car that slammed into a 16-year-old girl in Northwest Washington, near his childhood home, killing her. Myers felt terrible about the crash." In 1977 he divorced his first wife, Maureen Walsh. On the basis of her name alone, it seems likely she had not fit well in the Grosvenor world. Myers's second wife, a South Dakota divorcée called Gwendolyn Steingraber Trebilcock would have been just as unwelcome at Wildacres, the Grosvenor estate near Bethesda.

Myers went to Cuba in 1978 at the invitation of the Cuban mission to the U.N., according to the *Post*. "[T]he son of privilege fell in love with the communist revolution." But like many chic radicals, Myers must have felt inwardly that he was not a legitimate son of privilege. His academic failure—the dissertation only in the beginning of its long career of nonpublication, the disappointing academic career, his inability to play up and play the game—made him ready for conversion.

In a diary entry made during his Cuban idyll in 1978, we can see this child of privilege projecting his sense of self-disappointment onto his country. The robber barons disappoint him–but so do their victims:

> Cuba is so exciting! I have become so bitter these past few months. Watching the evening news is a radicalizing experience. The abuses

> of our system, the lack of decent medical system, the oil companies and their undisguised indifference to public needs, the complacency about the poor, the utter inability of those who are oppressed to recognize their own condition.

Myers's indictment of the state of the American polity under Jimmy Carter is a cliché. But his admonishment of the poor for not being able to recognize their own misery and failure is rare, though also familiar. Imagine how his parents must have admonished him when he didn't get into Groton or Princeton (or wherever he actually was supposed to go), when he brought home to his Presbyterian Colonial Dame of a mother an Irish bride, when he chose not to be a professional man but a tweedy professional advocate for Neville Chamberlain—when he failed to play the hand he was dealt.

It seems that Myers chose soundly just once—when he chose no longer to allow himself any more choices. Within six months of his return to America, he was in South Dakota living with Gwendolyn, and—as Clarice Feldman shrewdly guesses in a long piece at TheAmericanThinker.com—some gunsel in the Cuban mission on Lexington Avenue drew the short straw and traveled to South Dakota to enroll the eager couple as traitors. Signing up with Fidel solved Myers's problems. From that moment, everything that the couple would do—where they lived, when they moved, where they worked—or attempted to work (the poor fellow failed the CIA entrance exam in 1981)—would no longer be their choice, but would serve the cause of the Cuban Revolution. The Cuban people unburdened Myers of his freedom to fail. And no doubt Myers is still grateful for that gift of captivity.

And for us—it's nice to know that we can look forward once again to watching the life and lies of a WASP traitor unfold in the next months, even if he's only a third-tier sort of WASP traitor.

—*The Weekly Standard*, June 22, 2009, p. 11-13

A Rebirth of America's Nuclear Renaissance

by Sen. Lamar Alexander

Today I am in Oak Ridge to propose that the United States build 100 new nuclear power plants during the next 20 years while scientists and engineers figure out these grand challenges. This would double America's nuclear plants which today produce 20% of all our electricity, and 70% of our pollution-free, carbon-free electricity.

It is an aggressive goal, but with presidential leadership it could happen. And I am convinced it should happen because conservation and nuclear power are the only real alternatives we have today to produce enough low-cost, reliable, clean electricity to clean the air, deal with climate change, and keep good jobs from going overseas.

These nuclear skeptics cite regulatory delays, bring up past problems with safety, and appoint commissions to slow-walk decisions about recycling used nuclear fuel. They point to the shortage of welders for new plants. They complain that Japan and France are building most of the essential equipment for new nuclear plants—no surprise since Japan is building one nuclear plant a year and France is producing 80% of its electricity from nuclear. The skeptics say that carbon from coal plants contributes to climate change, which is true, and so they offer their solution: Operate our big complex country, which uses 25% of all the energy in the world, on electricity generated from the wind, the sun, and the Earth.

One day, that might be possible. But today there is a huge energy gap between the renewable electricity we would like to have and the reliable, low-cost electricity we must have. My guess is it will be 30, 40, or 50 years before these new sources of electricity are cheap enough and reliable enough to supply most of the power to our electric grid.

The nuclear skeptics in Congress, urged along by the President, reported last week an energy and climate change bill that would require 20% of our electricity to be made from a narrow definition of renewable energy.

To put things in perspective, the Tennessee Valley Authority produces on average about 27,000 megawatts of electricity for industrial and household customers in its seven-state region: 60% comes from coal, 30% from nuclear, 8% from hydroelectric power, and 1% from natural gas. Nationally, it is 50% coal, 20% nuclear, 20% natural gas, and 6% hydro.

Nationally, only 1.5% of electricity comes from the sun, the wind, and the Earth and almost none of TVA's power does. But the 40% of TVA power that comes from nuclear and hydro is just as clean as these narrowly defined renewables—free of pollution that dirties the air and of carbon that contributes to global warming. In that sense, TVA is the 16th cleanest utility in the country.

Here is another yardstick: The new nuclear unit at Watts Bar can produce 1240 megawatts, the Bull Run coal plant 870 megawatts, the Fort Loudoun Dam 150 megawatts. All three operate almost all the time. That

is called baseload power, which is important since large amounts of power can't be stored. Some forget that solar power is only available when the sun shines and the wind is available only when the wind blows.

So how much renewable electricity is available in our region? The new solar plant Gov. Bredesen has proposed for Haywood County will produce five megawatts. The 18 big wind turbines atop Buffalo Mountain just a few miles away have the capacity to produce 29 megawatts, but actually produce only 6 megawatts. . . . The Southern Company's new biomass plant in Georgia—biomass is a sort of controlled bonfire of waste wood products—will produce 96 megawatts.

Each of these sources of renewable energy consumes a lot of space. For example, the big solar thermal plants in the Western desert where they line up mirrors to focus the sun's rays take more than 30 square miles—that's more than five miles on a side—to produce the same 1000 megawatts you can get from a single coal or nuclear plant that sits on one square mile.

Or take wind. To generate the same 1000 megawatts with wind you would need 270 square miles. An unbroken line of wind turbines 50 stories high from Chattanooga to Bristol would only give us one-fourth of the electricity we get from one unit at Watts Bar—which fits on less than one square mile—and we'd still need Watts Bar for when the wind doesn't blow. . . .

Biomass, we are told, will be the renewable source we're going to emphasize in the South. That's a good idea. It might reduce forest fires and will conserve resources. The National Forest Service tells us there are two million tons of wood scraps and dead trees in Tennessee forests. And pulp and paper companies might produce another two million tons. But let's not expect too much. We'd need a forest the size of the entire 550,000 acre Great Smoky Mountains National Park to feed a 1000-megawatt biomass plant on a sustained basis. And think of the energy it's going to take to haul all this stuff around. Georgia Southern says it will take 160-180 trucks a day just to feed biomass into a 96-megawatt electrical plant. . . .

Of all these renewable forms of electricity, in my judgment, solar has the most promise. It takes up massive spaces, but we can use rooftops. It only works when the sun shines, but the sun shines during peak times of electricity use. . . . The first grand challenge of my proposed Manhattan project is to try to make solar power cost competitive. According to TVA, in our region, solar costs 4-5 times as much as the baseload electricity TVA now produces.

Wind power, on the other hand, can supplement electricity on the Great Plains or offshore, but for our region it would be a terrible mistake. Here, it is a waste of money and destroys the environment in the name of saving the environment. The turbines are three times as high as Neyland Stadium. In our region they work only on mountaintops where the winds are strongest, and they barely even work there. And I haven't even mentioned the new transmission lines necessary from the mountain tops through your back yard. Someone asked Boone Pickens if he would put any of these turbines on his 68,000 acre ranch in Texas. "Hell no," he said, "They're ugly." Well, if Boone doesn't want them on his ranch because they're ugly, why would we want them on the most beautiful mountaintops in America?. . . .

So why is it that nuclear energy, perhaps the most important scientific advance of the 20th Century, was invented in America yet we have stopped taking advantage of it just when we most need it?

Shortly after World War II, Glenn Seaborg, the great American Nobel Prize winner, said that nuclear energy had come along just in time because we were reaching the limits of the fossil fuels. And he was right. The succeeding decades proved that fossil fuels are not unlimited and their supplies can seriously compromise our energy independence. And that doesn't even begin to address global warming. Yes, I do believe global warming and climate change are problems we must address. We can't go on throwing three billion tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere every year without running into some kind of trouble. . . .

Nuclear for Plug-Ins

The way both to deal with global warming and to keep our jobs is to encourage what is being called the "Nuclear Renaissance" and start making nuclear energy the backbone of a new industrial economy. Right now there are 17 proposals for 26 new reactors in licensing hearings before the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. That's a start. But I think we need to go well beyond that. I propose that from the years 2010 to 2030 we build 100 new nuclear reactors to match the ones we already have operating. That's what we did from 1970 to 1990. During that 20-year interval we built almost every one of the 104 reactors that now provide us with 20% of our electricity. If we built another 100 by 2030, we'll be able to provide well over 40%. Clean hydropower provides 6% of our electricity and with the electrification of small dams around the country we may be able to expand this to 8%. With diligent conservation, and other renewable resources, we can add another 10% to 12%. Then, my friends, we'll be talking about a clean-energy economy!

Still, that's only the beginning. The second largest source of carbon emissions—and the biggest source of our energy instability—is the 20 million barrels of oil we consume every day to run our cars and trucks. I believe we should make half our cars and trucks plug-in within 20 years. That would reduce by one-third the oil we import from foreign sources. The Brookings Institution scholars estimate that we can power those cars and trucks by plugging them in at night without building one new power plant. As our fleet of electric vehicles grows, the most logical option for plugging in will be supplied by clean nuclear power. Until we make great advances in storage batteries, it can't be electricity that's sometimes there and sometimes not. We can't have Americans going to bed every night praying for a strong wind so they can start their cars in the morning.

Still, when it comes to nuclear power, a lot of people worry about safety. They say, "Nuclear power sounds great to me, but I'm afraid one of those reactors is going to blow up and cause a nuclear holocaust." Well, let's make a few things clear. As Oak Ridgers know better than almost anyone, a reactor is not a bomb. It can't blow up, that's impossible. There's not enough fissionable material there.

What a nuclear reactor can do is overheat if it loses its cooling water, just the way your car engine can overheat and break down if it loses its antifreeze. It's called a meltdown. Nuclear scientists have worried about this from the beginning and take many precautions so that it won't happen.

Nuclear skeptics like to bring up Three Mile Island. So let's talk about that. What happened at Three Mile Island was basically an operator error. A valve failed and when the automatic safety mechanism kicked in, the operators overrode it because a mass of flashing lights and sirens on the control panel confused them about what was happening.

Three Mile Island completely changed the nuclear industry. The Kemeny Commission, appointed by President Jimmy Carter, analyzed the problems and made many recommendations, most of which were put into practice. The valve that started the whole thing had failed nine times before in other reactors and the manufacturer had tried to keep it a secret. People in the nuclear industry just weren't talking to each other.

Now all of that has changed. Nuclear operators train for five years before they can take over in the control room. They spend one week out of every five in a simulator honing their skills. . . . A Nuclear Regulatory Commission inspector practically lives on the site. What's more, every reactor in the country is on the hook for $100 million if something goes wrong at another reactor. As you can imagine, they watch each other closely.

And it shows. Our entire nuclear fleet—104 reactors—is now up and running 90% of the time. There has been only one yearlong shutdown for safety problems in the last decade. We've added the equivalent of 29 new reactors since 1990 just by doing a better job of running the ones we already have. If the rest of America ran as well as the nuclear industry, we'd be sitting on top of the world!

"But what about Chernobyl?" someone will say. "Wasn't that a nuclear catastrophe?" Well, the Soviets did things very differently at Chernobyl than how we do it in this country. For instance, they didn't put a containment structure around the reactor, which is like not putting a roof on your house and then acting surprised when it rains and you get wet. In addition, they did something no American power reactor has ever done. They surrounded the core with carbon in the form of graphite. That's like building your reactor in the middle of a charcoal grill. When the graphite caught fire, it spewed radioactive smoke all over the world. That could never happen at an American reactor—and it won't happen again in Russia, since they've made a lot of changes over there and now they are building reactors the same way we build reactors.

So let's build 100 new reactors in the next 20 years. Our new reactors have even better safety features—although it's never good to be overconfident. We've learned how to run the current fleet at its full potential. Most reactors are making close to $2 million a day. The attorney general of Connecticut proposed a windfall profits tax a few years ago when fossil fuel prices went through the roof. He said it wasn't fair that reactors could run so cheaply. So why not expand on our winnings? Why not build another generation of reactors?

Well, a lot of people say it can't be done. They say we don't manufacture anything anymore in America. We have to import all our hard goods from China. They say we don't have the nuclear engineers to design the new generation. They say we don't have the specialty welders to put them together on-site. They say we can't manufacture the steel vessel heads anymore, and our steel forges aren't big enough. Right now, the only forge in the world big enough to make a reactor vessel is Japan Steel Works and they're backed up. People say our new plants will spend a decade standing in line behind the 34 other reactors that are already under construction in the world, mostly in Asia.

And you know something? They're right.

They're right because all the things they're saying here

are true. We don't currently have a nuclear construction industry. But then they don't know America. America can respond to a challenge. Just as we rose to the occasion in 1943 when we built this complex here at Oak Ridge, so can we rise to the occasion today to build a new generation of nuclear reactors that will provide clean, reliable power for America for the rest of this century.

It's not going to be easy. What we're talking about here is essentially a rebirth of Industrial America, and it's already starting to happen. Westinghouse is opening a school for training welders who can knit together a containment structure strong enough to protect both the environment from the reactor and the reactor from outside threats. Alstom, a French company, is investing $200 million in Chattanooga to manufacture heavy turbines for nuclear plants. We also have to train nuclear engineers to take the place of the great generation that embraced the technology in the 1960s and 1970s, only to see their dreams come to naught when the nation turned away from nuclear power. We have to find a steel manufacturer somewhere in this country that is willing to step up and say, "Here, we can do those forgings right here in Pennsylvania or Ohio or Michigan. We don't have to stand in line in Japan." And we have to find investors who are willing to put up their money and say, "Yes, I have faith in America. I have faith in technology. I'm ready to invest in building a cleaner, safer, more prosperous world."

And with presidential leadership we could add more loan guarantees to accelerate construction, and could streamline the permit system to ensure that new reactors don't become ensnared in regulatory mazes or combative lawsuits. But we can't just sit on our hands, because in America we don't sit around waiting for the government to do things for us. We do things for ourselves.

So the task we face here today is no less formidable than the task the Oak Ridge pioneers faced when they first arrived here in 1943. They were trying to save the world from Japanese militarism and Nazi totalitarianism. Now, we are trying to save the world from the pending disaster of dwindling energy supplies, the uncertain dangers of a warming planet, and the stagnation and decay that can only follow if we do not revive American industry.

So I ask you here today to join in the task of bringing about this Nuclear Renaissance, in helping to generate the Rebirth of an Industrial America.

—*Human Events*, June 15, 2009, p. 12, 13

As Goes Massachusetts, So Goes…

by Associate Press

Massachusetts, the first state to legalize gay marriage, sued the U.S. government Wednesday over a federal law that defines marriage as a union between a man and a woman.

The federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) interferes with the right of Massachusetts to define and regulate marriage as it sees fit, Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Coakley said. The 1996 law denies federal recognition of gay marriage and gives states the right to refuse to recognize same-sex marriages performed in other states.

Massachusetts is the first state to challenge the federal law. Its lawsuit, filed in federal court in Boston, argues the act "constitutes an overreaching and discriminatory federal law." It says the approximately 16,000 same-sex couples who have married in Massachusetts since the state began performing gay marriages in 2004 are being unfairly denied federal benefits given to heterosexual couples.

"They are entitled to equal treatment under the laws regardless of whether they are gay or straight," Mrs. Coakley said at a news conference.

Massachusetts, Connecticut, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, and Iowa have legalized gay marriage. Gay marriage opponents in Maine said Wednesday they had collected enough signatures to put the state's pending law on the November ballot for a possible override.

The lawsuit focuses on the section of the law that creates a federal definition of marriage as "a legal union between one man and one woman as husband and wife."

Before the law was passed, Mrs. Coakley said, the federal government recognized that defining marital status was the "exclusive prerogative of the states," Now, because of the U.S. law's definition of marriage, same-sex couples are denied access to benefits given to heterosexual married couples, including federal income tax credits, employment benefits, retirement benefits, health insurance coverage, and Social Security payments, the lawsuit says.

The lawsuit also argues that the federal law requires the state to violate the constitutional rights of its citizens by treating married heterosexual couples and married same-sex couples differently when determining eligibility for Medicaid benefits and when determining whether the spouse of a veteran can be buried in a Massachusetts veterans' cemetery.

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