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Special points of interest:

- "I noticed Jesus shining on the faces of each one of these beautiful Christian women" - Anti-Choice Corner, p.2
- "If they took a vote in the Tigris and Euphrates precincts today, it'd be George W. Bush by a `sandslide.'" - Commentary, p.4

# The Happy Hour

## Bush Clarifies Policy on Middle East



Bush: "...we can totally own the entire region."

During one of his few public appearances, last Tuesday President George W. Bush outlined his administration's comprehensive plan for the middle east.

"And this time it doesn't involve peace," Bush noted. "Well, eventually it involves peace. But not until we go in and kick some ass." Citing what he called "complicated" but ultimately "crappy" theories about stopping the centuries-old conflicts in the region, Bush called for a new approach.

"What you got now is a lot of self-declared intellectuals doin' a bunch of talking about treaties and such and takin' no action. We're here to stop all that." The plan, as outlined in a simple two page memo, calls for "total US domination." Bush explained to reporters that much of the policy work on the document had been his own, putting an end to speculation that Donald Rumsfeld had been the primary drafter.

Alternately, many believed Dick Cheney to be the author, owing to statements in the piece such as "...trying peace didn't work. Clearly, they're just never going to get along over there. And all that

fighting is just wasting a lot of oil that the I could be making money off of."

Bush will go to Congress next month to ask for funding for the new plan, tentatively dubbed, "Operation Stop Talking." It would be the most expensive US foreign policy initiative to date, approaching a cost of some \$700 billion dollars. Bush explained, however, that much of that would be paid for by profits realized from the seizure of oil fields in Saudi Arabia.

"For about one billion dollars a country, we can totally own the entire region. After the bigger ones like Iran and Egypt fall, most of the smaller countries will just roll over," said the President.

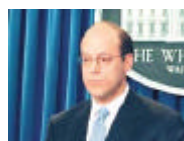
*"Trying peace didn't work."*

While there is no specific timeframe, experts agree the effort may take decades.

Congressional Democrats expressed unease about the plan. However, they are widely expected to give Bush what he wants anyway, with little debate. "We haven't really stood up to Bush about anything else," said Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle. "This is guaranteed to start WWII, but, you know, what can we do about it?"

Currently, the campaign is set to begin on July 4, 2003. As Bush stated, "July 4th is international independence day, so that's perfect."

## Ari Fleischer Announces New, Permanent "Shock and Awe" Style Diplomacy for Administration



Ari Fleischer

In a briefing this morning, Bush Administration Press Secretary Ari Fleischer announced that due to the overwhelming popularity of Gulf War II's "Operation Shock and Awe," all further

White House diplomatic efforts will be modeled on the "shock and awe" principal. "In fact, you might find this rolled out into the domestic sphere too," Fleischer commented.

"The President was extremely satisfied with the outcome of that mission. He believes we can turn "shock and awe" into a universal political theory. And it sounds really cool."

The new style calls for the entire State Department to implement diplomatic styles similar to those Bush's in previous visits to countries such as France and Russia, where he displayed little cultural sensitivity and a complete lack of concern for enduring diplomatic ties.

**ANTI-CHOICE  
CORNER**

**A Message to NOW From the Women of Operation Save America: Stop Wasting Your Time on All That Politics Crap**

On the first Thursday night of every month the National Organization of Women in Dallas, TX held (*sic*) their monthly meeting at La Madeleine's. We purposely would hold our bible study there as well. We are still there. They are no longer coming. We continued on in our study monthly. Many times our hearts would be directed to stop our study and pray for the table of women who stood opposed to the God who could set them free. We had been praying all day for genuine conversations.

I noticed something as our group met outside the restaurant. I noticed Jesus shining on the faces of each one of these beautiful Christian women as we walked up to one another. I saw softness, tenderness, and mercy. I saw biblical womanhood. We prayed that the ladies of NOW would see it too. Our small bible study has a message for those involved with NOW. We know that many of you have been hurt. We know that many of you believe that you are standing up for the right to be treated correctly. We in Operation Rescue have stood opposed to your agenda as an organization. We will not move from that position. But we do believe there is an aspect of our message that you have missed.

We too, stand up for your right to be treated with honor and dignity. We believe you to be unaware of the



ramifications of NOW's agenda. By your actions and beliefs, you nullify the very thing that would lead to true liberty for women. By your victimizing anger, you keep women in bondage to selfishness.

You would be surprised at what many of us have gone through. We are not ignorant of the plight of women who are being victimized. Most men without Jesus are predators. It is only as Jesus enters the heart of a man that he can get beyond his selfish lust and enter into something greater than himself.

We desire to be independent of men and seek our own way. We can manipulate and control every situation for our own benefit if we are not tempered by the love of the Lord. But there is a beauty that awaits any woman who is ready to lay that anger down. If you will tell the truth about yourself to Jesus, He will bring you into the liberty that you so desperately desire. It is the sin within yourself that keeps you bound.

We are now meeting at La Madeleine's every first and third Monday of the month. We are still praying to have genuine conversations with you. There are those of you who are truly fed up within yourselves. Jesus is waiting to fill you with beauty. Please don't hesitate to give all that you are to Him. You can trust Him. We are here if you need us.

Kristene O'Dell—Becky Puckett—Missi Owen  
[www.nrlc.org](http://www.nrlc.org)

**Feminist Point / Counterpoint: White Scarf for Peace**

**Point: Judith Lorber**

A spontaneous war protest has started in Montreal after a popular radio host here announced that Mrs. George W Bush had cancelled a meeting with a group of women at the White House because several of them planned to attend the meeting with a white scarf round their necks as a silent symbol of their desire for peace.

If everyone who disagreed with the war were to wear a white scarf around their neck, tie a white handkerchief to their attache case, their school bags, white penants from car antennas, white flags hanging in front of houses the world over, would this not be a powerful message to send to our leaders? Sometimes images and symbols are more powerful than words.

**Counterpoint: Amy Hubbard**

I love the idea of wearing a scarf of a certain color. I'm a bit concerned about choosing white. Some people will associate that with the white flag of surrender. I know that white means much more than that but I'm afraid it will have that association in some people's eyes. However, I suppose that there are some people who will glean the worst possible meaning, whatever the color, and we should count on the meaning white has for the rest of us.

**CounterCounterPoint:**

**Judith Lorber**

Yes, I thought of that too. White is also the color for death in many cultures, not black.



## Email Diaries

Recently, Happy Hour editor Amy Drayer enrolled in the Columbia House DVD club.

From: csresponse@columbiahouse.com  
 Reply-To: customer\_service@columbiahouse.com  
 To: LASEMEUSE@HOTMAIL.COM  
 Subject: Your recent return of product to Columbia House  
 Date: Mon, 31 Mar 2003 10:39:31 -0500 (EST)

Dear Member,

We have noted that you have returned several recent DVD shipments. When you joined the Club, you agreed to contact us when you do not wish to receive your current Director's Selection. This way, we can be sure to send you only the selections you want. The quickest and easiest way to let us know if you wish to receive the Director's Selection, is to go to [www.columbiahouse.com](http://www.columbiahouse.com) and click on the Director's Selection. You may also use the Order Card we send in every Club mailing, or call us toll-free at 1-800-262-2001. Just be sure to respond by the date shown on your Order Card or on the web site. It's simple, fast and easy!

Sincerely,

Customer Service

From: Amy Drayer [mailto:lasemeuse@hotmail.com]  
 Sent: Tuesday, April 01, 2003 5:17 PM  
 To: customer\_service@columbiahouse.com  
 Subject: My recent return of product to Columbia House  
 Dear Columbia House:

Thanks for passive aggressive, guilt-inspiring note. I have noted that I almost never want the director's selection, but I also notice that there is no easy and PERMANENT "opt-out" click on the website, only the default, "opt-in" hmmm - I wonder why? So then, if I don't remember to log on EVERY MONTH, I have to waste a stamp and trust old unreliable USPS to get the postcard to you on time. The only thing that's easy is actually buying the director's selection. When I joined the club, YOU promised me a lot of things - like making it easy to be a member and getting me all the greatest movies. To the contrary, YOU broke YOUR promise - most of the director's selections suck, and you only send them to me because you think most people will just buy them once they arrive. The quickest and easiest way to deal with this problem is to stop sending me sucky movies, and let ME pick my OWN director's selection each month, not whatever film the studios are paying you the most to push on me. To learn my selection, you can call me (sorry, not toll-free) at 202.387.7337. Now that's simple, fast and easy (for me - but I guess that's not the point).

Sincerely,

Amy Drayer

slightly satisfied Columbia House DVD Club Member

From: music <music@columbiahouse.com>  
 Reply-To: music <music@columbiahouse.com>  
 To: Amy Drayer <lasemeuse@hotmail.com>  
 Subject: Re: My recent return of product...  
 Date: Fri, 04 Apr 2003 12:08:06 -0500

Thank you for your e-mail message.

Please accept our apology for the inconvenience you have experienced. Although you are not required to purchase the

automatic selection of the month, you must respond prior to the date printed on the card. You may call 1-800-262-2001, toll-free or respond on-line at: <http://www.columbiahouse.com>.

You can respond to your Director's Selection whenever you want! Just follow these simple steps: Step 1: Go to [www.ColumbiHouse.com](http://www.ColumbiHouse.com). Step 2: To go to the Director's Selection page, just click the "Director's Selection" button at the top left of any page in the DVD Club. Step 3: If you have only the latest Selection outstanding, the item will be displayed and you can simply click "accept" or "decline". If you have more than one outstanding Director's Selection, the Director's Selection page will display them all. It's that easy! If you ever receive an unwanted Director's Selection, you may return it at our expense and we will credit your account. If we may be of further service, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Steven Jones

Customer Service

From: "Amy Drayer" <lasemeuse@hotmail.com>  
 Reply-To: firegeorgebush@hotmail.com  
 To: music@columbiahouse.com  
 Subject: Re: My recent return of product to Columbia House  
 Date: Wed, 16 Apr 2003 20:28:45 +0000

Hi Steven -

Thanks for your pleasant response to my disgruntled email. I especially appreciate the step-by-step on the Director's Selection opt-out. I tried it, and it was remarkably easy and much cheaper than using a stamp. What I'm really going for here though, is a permanent opt-out. I intend to continue buying DVD's, but don't need the constant pressure of remembering to cancel the crappy "Director's Selection." Who is the Director anyway? It must be the guy who made Snow Dogs, or that guy that always does Vin Diesel films. Could I change my Director? I would prefer to have Ron Howard or Steven Spielberg.

Thanks,

Amy Drayer

From: dvd <dvd@columbiahouse.com>  
 Reply-To: dvd <dvd@columbiahouse.com>  
 To: Amy Drayer <lasemeuse@hotmail.com>  
 Subject: Re: My recent return of product to Columbia House  
 Date: Fri, 18 Apr 2003 05:54:03 -0500

Thank you for your e-mail message.

The Featured Selection is chosen because of its current popularity. Should you wish only to receive the Featured Selection, it is not necessary to respond to your selection card, as the shipment will be sent automatically. If you choose not to receive the automatic selection or prefer to order alternate titles, you must indicate your wishes prior to the date specified. If we may be of further service, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Kevin Blade

Customer Service



## Iowa Opines About Arizona: wisdom from a snowbird

1. It can rain and rain hard in Arizona, especially if you have visitors from Iowa.
2. You can make something from almost nothing (my latest quilt).
3. How to circle the Sky Harbor Airport Terminal looking for your relatives.
4. Christies is not a place where you can buy carpets (think of another word that starts with ca).
5. The difference between a drop fruit cactus and a teddy bear cholla.
6. 2 birds can make more racket than 365 hogs.
7. How to fly an F-16 (on a simulator). Thanks Lt. Lancaster.
8. How to use the left hand turn lanes in the big city.
9. My house here in Dows is very large.
10. How many kind, helpful people there are in the world.

- JoNette Rollene, special to the Happy Hour

## Asshole of the Month: Norm Coleman



**"To be very blunt and God watch over Paul's soul, I am a 99 percent improvement over Paul Wellstone."**

*Norm Coleman—Roll Call, April 03*

## Commentary: Why George W. Bush should be Iraq's next leader

Over at the National Republican Party's headquarters, they've probably got the video already edited and cued up for a 2004 campaign ad, Iraqis running through the streets of a liberated Baghdad leaping and waving their arms and shouting, 'Bush, Bush, we love Bush!' Some of them have named their newborn kids after him, just as Kuwaitis did for his father. If they took a vote in the Tigris and Euphrates precincts today, it'd be George W. Bush by a 'sandslide.' So why not solve the faction-frought question of who should lead postwar Iraq and let *our* president be Iraq's next president? When you really think about it, President Bush would be perfect for Iraq, the old Iraq anyway, and he'd fit in there a lot more comfortably than he has among those white-shoe lawyers and lobbyists and think-tank intellectuals of the Beltway. Here, a dozen good reasons why President Bush would feel at home as Iraq's maximum leader.

1. Lots of guns, lots;
2. Plenty of oil in need of drilling by somebody who knows the oil business;
3. Climate similar to Texas.
4. Many Iraqi's also speak English with an accent;
5. Changed its name from Mesopotamia to the easier-to-pronounce Iraq;
6. Unmarried daughters have to live at home and stay out of trouble;
7. No problem defying international treaties;
8. No alcohol, no temptation to fall off the wagon;
9. No term limits;
10. No annoying campaign finance rules.
11. People will love faith-based initiatives;
12. It's got capital punishment and then some.

*The comments of Patt Morrison as they were heard on NPR's Morning Edition, April 15, 2003. Morrison is a writer for The Los Angeles Times.*