

Engaging the Divine Energies for Military, Social and Economic Success or "In God We Trust." QUOTES ONLY.

Ideas Presented to Secretary of Defense, William S. Cohen February 14, 2000
By Connie Baxter Marlow

Ben Franklin's first diplomatic mission was to negotiate a treaty with the Six Tribes of the Iroquois in 1750. In 1754 he drafted his proposal for the Albany Plan of Union.⁽⁹⁾ He had found in the Indian way of life that *"Their Government is by the Counsel or Advice of the Sages; there is no Force, there are no Prisons, no officers to compel Obedience, or inflict Punishment. Hence they generally study Oratory; the best Speaker having the most influence."*

"Man has doubted the Creator since the beginning, and that doubt has plagued him." Wallace Black Elk, Lakota Elder

America was founded on a vision of Truth, and every American expects to achieve those high ideals and to bring the beauty, peace and abundance embodied in that vision to pass on Earth. We haven't and we can't while doubt continues to drive our behavior.

"Washington is certainly a surprising man, one of nature's geniuses. A heaven-born general, if there is any of that sort." (15)

"Providence has heretofore taken us up when other means and hope seemed to be departing from us." George Washington in a letter to Benjamin Harrison Dec. 30, 1778. (16)

The Declaration of Independence states the concept of ultimate trust succinctly: *"And for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor."* In the memorable words of Benjamin Franklin: *"We must all hang together, or we will hang separately."* The signers of the Declaration were well aware of putting their lives on the line for the new nation.

Alexis de Tocqueville in his treatise: *Democracy in America* states that: *"If we carefully examine the social and political state of America, after having studied its history, we shall remain perfectly convinced that not an opinion, not a custom, not a law, I may even say not an event is upon record which the origin of that people will not explain."* (17)

The Constitution became, in the words of Benjamin Franklin "a near-perfect document" after four months of deliberation. Mid-way through the negotiations Franklin stood up and declared *"It is my hope that good-will will come. The arduous and complicated sides of government have been too long in the hands of practical politicians. It seems we should invoke the Divine guidance in such a debate and start each session with a prayer."* (18)

At the conclusion of the convention Franklin stated: *"I have often in the course of the session and the vicissitudes of my hopes and fears as to its issue, looked at that sun behind the President (carved in his chair) without being able to tell whether it was rising or setting; but now at length I have the happiness to know that it is a rising and not a setting sun."* (18)

"If I was to be called upon to draw upon a picture of the times and of men from what I have seen, heard, and in part know, I should in one word say that idleness, dissipation, and extravagance seems to have laid fast hold of most of them; that speculation, peculation, and an insatiable thirst for riches seems to have got the better of every other consideration and almost of every order of men." George Washington: On the Lack of a National Spirit taken from a letter to Benjamin Harrison December 30, 1778. (19)

"At no time during the Revolution was there unity of public mind or purpose in America." (20)

"...its soul, its climate, its equality, liberty, laws, people and manners. My God! How little do my countrymen know what precious blessings they are in possession of and which no other people on earth enjoy!" Thomas Jefferson in a letter to Monroe June 17, 1785. (21)

Jefferson, Franklin, Washington among many others kept their eye on the heart, the high ideals of the human potential. *"...To establish fraternal love and harmony through the whole empire, and that these may continue to the latest ages of time, is the fervent prayer of all British America."* Thomas Jefferson: A Summary View of the Rights of British America 1775. (22)

New York was not founded by visionaries seeking religious freedom, it was valued by the Dutch for its enormous potential as the biggest and best harbor in the world where human forces were unleashed and the bottom line became paramount, other ideals taking a back seat. *"The more money you had the closer you were to God."* It was a business proposition from the start for the Dutch East India Trading Company. There was not a church built for 17 years. Modern capitalism was invented. (24)

Another great American ideal was born-the ability of anyone to rise and become something new through the acquisition of wealth. Alexander Hamilton, a brilliant 16-year-old bastard from the West Indies, championed this idea. He wanted war (the Revolution), for it was in war that a man makes his reputation. A powerful orator, Hamilton was a man to be feared for his vision for the development of the country. (26)

Thomas Jefferson loathed New York and all it stood for. He stated *"The mob of the great cities add just so much to the support of pure government as sores do to the strength of the human body."* Jefferson hated all things commercial, never understood money. (28) There came a split in American life. Hamilton and Jefferson negotiated a truce - The political capitol of the United States would move to a swamp on the banks of the Potomac. New York would be bailed out by the federal government (from its war debt) and would become the cultural, economic and creative capitol of the new nation. (28)

The Great Depression in the 1930's etched doubt and fear into the minds of capitalist America. Now there was proof that if we don't feed the system what it wants and needs it will take away our food and comfort. It hardened the hearts of the capitalists and also gave birth to one of the great voices for the common man: FDR and his New Deal. His ordeal with polio had transformed him and he brought a fresh voice of courage and vision to a country in crisis. *"Suddenly, there he was, flat on his back, with nothing to do but think. His thoughts expanded, his horizons widened. He began to see the other fellow's point of view. He thought of others who were ill and afflicted and in want. He dwelt on many things which had not bothered him much before. Lying there he grew bigger day by day."*(30) Frances Perkins believed he experienced *"a spiritual transformation"*. *"The man emerged completely warm-hearted, with humility of spirit and with a deeper philosophy."*(31) FDR became the man who changed America. His policies have

I would here like to propose that today we are in a moral crisis of much the same proportions as we were in an economic crisis in the 1930's when FDR proposed a New Deal to the American people. I would like to suggest that A New Future is at hand with a shift in thinking so fundamental and so profound that it will lift Americans up to a level of self-trust and trust in the Divine that will transform life on this planet.

A few quotes from FDR are applicable today in a new light:

"This generation of Americans has a rendezvous with Destiny." (32a)

*"This is preeminently a time to speak the truth, the whole truth, frankly and boldly. Nor need we shrink from honestly facing conditions in our country today. This great nation will endure as it has endured, will revive and will prosper. So first of all let me assert my firm belief that **the only thing we have to fear is fear itself.**" (33)*

*"The structure of world peace cannot be the work of one man, or one party, or one nation...it must be a peace which rests on **the cooperative effort of the whole world.** (34)*

*"Unless the peace that follows recognizes that **the whole world is one neighborhood** and does justice to the whole human race, the germs of another world war will remain as a constant threat to mankind."(35)*

*"More than an end to war, we want **an end to the beginnings of all war.**" (36)*

*"To you, and to all Americans who dedicate themselves with us to the making of an abiding peace, I say: **The only limit to our realization of tomorrow, will be our doubts of today. Let us move forward with strong and active faith.**" (37)*

*"The country needs and, unless I mistake its temper, the country demands bold, persistent experimentation. It is common sense to take a method and try it. If it fails, admit it and try another. **But above all, try something.**"(38)*

Conclusion:

"No problem was ever solved in the same consciousness as it was created." Albert Einstein.

*"...(Nothing) has ever demanded more bravery from our people and our government-not just bravery under fire or the bravery to make sacrifices, but the bravery to discard the comfort of illusion, to do away with false hopes and alluring promises. But it is only a remote echo of the anguish toward which a policy founded on illusion is surely taking us. **This is a great nation and a strong people. Any who seek to comfort rather than instruct, promise satisfaction rather than reveal frustration-they deny that greatness and drain that strength. For today as it was in the beginning, it is the truth that makes us free.**" RFK February 8, 1968.*

I hope that in the foregoing I have made a case for engaging the Divine energies in the unfolding of A New Future for America. I believe we can pierce the illusion of separation and scarcity and bring about the realization of the two dominant founding dreams of America: The Pilgrim/Jeffersonian dream of unity and equality serving the common good, and the Hamiltonian dream of abundance for all and classless upward mobility. Neither of these essentially American

visions can truly be achieved in the prevailing doubt-based paradigm. A move to ultimate trust is the only way to bring the universal all-loving, all-knowing, all-creative forces fully to bear on the unfolding of our lives for military, social and economic success.

*"I now make it my earnest prayer that God would have you, and the state over which you preside in, in His holy protection; that he would incline the hearts of the citizens to entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another, that he would most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility and pacific temper of mind which were the characteristics of the Divine author of our blessed religion, **and without a humble imitation of whose example we can never hope to have a happy nation.**"* George Washington: On Disbanding the Army. From a circular letter to the state governors, 1783. (40)

*We must not confuse the American Revolution with the War for Independence. Nothing but the first act of a great drama has been played out. **The American Revolution is not over.**"* (41)

In the book of Daniel in the Bible King Nebuchadnezzar and his son King Belshazzar often called in Daniel to bring Divine insight into their problems: *"There is in your kingdom a man in whom is the spirit of the holy gods. In the days of your father light and understanding and wisdom like the wisdom of the gods, were found in him, and King Nebuchadnezzar, your father, made him chief of the magicians, enchanters, Chaldeans and astrologers, because an excellent spirit, knowledge, and understanding to interpret dreams, explain riddles, and solve problems were found in this Daniel. Now let Daniel be called and he will show the interpretation (to the handwriting on the wall).* (41)

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Notes to: Engaging the Divine Energies for Social, Military, and Economic Success
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1. The Denver Post January 10, 2000
2. *The New Oxford Annotated Bible: Revised Standard Edition*. Book of Daniel
3. Columbus Day 1999, Washington, D.C. – Program
4. Description of Freedom Statue found in the Capitol, first floor near bookstore
5. *America's Freedom Documents* Thomas Publications 1989 Gettysburg, PA
6. *Forgotten Founders* Bruce E. Johansen 1982 Harvard Common Press
7. CBM – personal experience from spending a week in Rochester and Canandaigua, New York with the Iroquois for the celebration of the Canandaigua Treaty 11,1199
8. *The White Roots of Peace* Paul A..W. Wallace 1986(originally 1946) the Chauncy Press, Saranac Lake, New York 12983.
- 8a. Taken from a poster found on an Iroquois reservation near Rochester.
9. *Annals of America* Vol. 1 p. 522. The Albany Plan came to naught but was nonetheless a farsighted document, for it contained the seeds of the solution to colonial problems later adopted in the Articles of Confederation and in the Constitution.
10. Quotes on display in the museum at Franklin Park, Philadelphia
11. Squanto-Pilgrims, Sacajewa-Lewis and Clark, Polly Cooper-Washington at Valley Forge, winter of 1777-78(saved him and his men with gift of corn, and taught them how to prepare it) among many others.
12. *Robin Hood:Prince of Thieves*. A movie.
13. *The Crossing*. A&E Special Movie Aired in December 1999
14. *New York* PBS Special, Episode 1 Aired in November 1999
- 14a. *George Washington:American Symbol*, Exhibit at museum or Our National Heritage, Lexington, MA 10/99-2/00
15. Nicholas Cresswell: On General Washington July 13, 1777. *Annals of America* Vol. 2. p. 487. Encyclopedia Britannica.
16. *Annals of America* Vol 2. p. 510 Encyclopedia Britannica
17. *Democracy in America*. Alexis de Tocqueville Vol 1 p. 27. Vintage Classics. Random House 1990.
18. Quotes on display in museum at Franklin Park, Philadelphia
19. *Annals of America* Vol. 2 p 510
20. “
21. “ p 265
22. “
23. “
24. *New York*. PBS Special, Episode 1. Aired November 1999
25. “
26. “
27. “
28. “
29. *Titanic* A&E Documentary Film, 1994
30. *Franklin Delano Roosevelt* Russell Freedman Clarion Books 1990 p. 56
31. “
32. “
- 32a. FDR Monument in Washington
33. FDR – March 4, 1933 First Inaugural Address

34. FDR – Address before Yalta Conference March 1, 1945
35. FDR – Address to White House Correspondents February 12, 1943
36. FDR – April 13, 1945
37. FDR. – The day before he died from a speech he was preparing to honor the birthday of Thomas Jefferson.
38. *Franklin Delano Roosevelt* Russell Freedman Clarion Books 1990 p.1.
39. “ p. 38
40. *Annals of America Vol. 2* p. 607
41. *Independence*. The movie shown at the visitor center in Philadelphia.
42. *The New Oxford Annotated Bible. Expanded Edition Revised Standard Version*
Daniel 5:11, 12

Addendum: On October 14, 1999 from 5:00-6:00 p.m. I witnessed the Senate Debate on soft money. I didn't really know who all the players were, but there were some very interesting, impassioned speeches. There was one brilliant speech by the Senator in the wheelchair on the moral swamp of America today, and there was also a statement made concerning the decline in public trust in our government, that it has been dropping steadily since the 1950's, with a brief reprieve during the Reagan administration.

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