



President will decide fate of alleged terrorist

The new president will have to decide what happens to the hundreds of alleged terrorist prisoners being held at the U.S. naval base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

The U.S. government can't keep the prisoners on the base, which is Cuban territory under a long-term lease to the U.S. that dates back to the Spanish American War.

Guantanamo survives as a capitalist enclave in communist Cuba because we simply refused to leave when Fidel Castro took over more than 50 years ago. Its nearly total isolation — there are no gates that allow commerce with Cuba and only sea approaches to the heavily guarded base — made it a perfect site to hold terrorists.

Or so it seemed. The Bush Administration wanted the prisoners outside the U.S. court system, where lawyers could have tied the cases up for years. The foreign site kept the prisoners more out of the courts and out of the public eye at first.

However, scandals involving treatment and alleged religious abuse managed to leak out. Lawyers began to file court cases on the U.S. mainland. And many around the world objected to the extralegal way they were being treated.

The true radicals among the crowd refuse to bow at all to U.S. authority. A former chief of public relations for Al-Qaida, Ali Hamza al-Bahlul, was found guilty of 35 counts of conspiracy, solicitation to commit murder and providing material support to terrorism this week.

He ordered his lawyers to stand silent, making no plea or case, and vowed to continue the fight against America. It's hard to see how we can release someone like that, especially after he was convicted of masterminding videos and Internet sites for Osama bin Laden.

Others, such as a group of Chinese muslims captured in Afghanistan, have no place to go.

The U.S. no longer sees them as a threat, but cannot send them home to China, where the government would arrest them. The Bush Administration, for many reasons, does not want them here, either.

Still, that leaves al-Aahlul and others like him, real terrorists.

But where to put them, and others convicted in special military courts on the Navy base?

No state wants them. Kansas' senators, usually eager to grab any jobs offered by the government, both wrote to reject the idea of building cells at a military prison in Leavenworth.

Wherever they might be held, these political prisoners — we call them war criminals, but their own people do not — would be a target for escape and retribution. Released, they would only return to their crimes.

Keeping them forever in Cuba is not much of an option. The Democratic candidate, Barack Obama, already has vowed to close the prison there. A Republican president eventually would have to do the same.

Nor does it seem likely that another location could be found on foreign soil that would not draw world protests, possible terrorists raids and other problems.

The only real alternative would be to build a special camp somewhere in the U.S., but in an open society, that would be hard to hide. Opposition would be strong.

It is a dilemma. No one wants to see the prisoners released, the terrorists at least, and no one wants to have them near. It's no wonder Guantanamo looked so good at the start.

Perhaps, in hindsight, taking these people into the regular courts and regular federal prisons would have been the smart thing to do, but it may be too late for that.

There is no easy solution here, just tough questions. — Steve Haynes

Reader says 'Blame Replicrats'

Letter to the Editor:
Inflation is a tax on savings. In 1933, FDR's New Deal (Change) to fix the Depression illegalized owning gold! Not tied to value, lo... the green backs float! When wages were \$1 an hour, bread was 10 cents a loaf. Had you banked it for interest, what can it buy now? Government is to set standards, not redistribute wealth. (Where doth the Constitution permit taxing everybody to benefit anyone?) Name anyone overlooked by church charity, the compassion of God, unworthy of thy personal help, entitled to tax dollars? Nary anyone's Social Security tax was ever saved and returned to them plus interest?

If anyone else foisted this pyramid, ponzi, chain letter scheme, they would be incarcerated! If family and the church cannot take care for their own, how can they support everybody else's kin?

Would even Karl Marx cringe at this utopian nightmare of welfare gifts, subsidies exceeding the legal exemption for a taxpayer?

In 1957, a German, farming with a cow and a horse, told me America made a big mistake helping Russia! Had the U.S.A. stayed out,

Honor Roll

New and renewed Herald subscriptions: Alice Coffin, Parker, Colo.; Larry Kramer, Bird City; Jim Keller, League City, Texas; Gladys Cook, St. Francis; Carl Svec, Northglenn, Colo.; Elmer Carper, Kingman; Jim and Carol O'Brien, Chula Vista, Calif.

Letters to the Editor

Germany would have conquered the U.S.S.R. and collapsed trying to police that huge mass of land.

Sending troops out to save the world while illegals are flooding the U.S.A. is national suicide!

A Replicrats (A Replicat is a Democrat faking Republican, or a Republican faking Democrat) only twice balanced the budget since F.D.R. Their wars for false prosperity cost all the dead corpses.

Irresponsible bailouts — who is next? Who will bail out the U.S.A.? Trillions of debt burdening generations to come is taxation without

representation and morally wrong! If \$700 billion is about \$2,300 per member of every family, what is the total debt prorated to every citizen?

Abolish retirement dollars for every elected official! Dock their pay by the same percent as the deficit!

"But if any provide not for his own family, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith and is worse than an infidel." I Timothy 5:8

Frank Sowers
Benkelman

Newspaper is enjoyed

Letter to the Editor:
Please renew my subscription to The Herald for another year.

I am following, with a great deal of interest, the bond election for the new gym. I sure hope it passes. I remember the battle we had many years ago to get a new

swimming pool built and look at the service it has provided all of these years!

I'm also following the football team and their great season!

Gordon Smith
Greeley, Colo.

LIKE ALL OF US WHO HAVE COVERED THE 2008 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, YOU PROBABLY CAN'T BELIEVE IT'S REALLY OVER — BUT THERE IS SOME GOOD NEWS TO REPORT...

ELECTION 2012 BEGINS NOW!!!

EEEEGADS!!! SAY IT AIN'T SO!

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CAMPAIGN-DRIVEN TV NEWS DODGES THE POST-VOTE DOLDRUMS...

News From the Past

5 years ago - 2003
Ground breaking has begun at the Cheyenne County Hospital in St. Francis. The new addition will be on the west end of the hospital.

St. Francis has a new coffee shop at 216 W. Washington. The business is owned by Pastor Richard Garcia and his wife Ingrid.

Over 250 volunteers walked through the night to raise money for cancer research. They were part of the Fourth annual St. Francis Relay For Life.

20 years ago - 1988
New teachers in the St. Francis school system include Mary Danielson, Jeff Miller and Kim Leibbrandt. Ms. Danielson will be teaching elementary physical education and high school

health. She will also be head girls basketball coach and assistant volleyball coach. Mr. Miller will instruct physical education in the high school. He will be assistant football coach, working with the offense, and assistant boys basketball coach. Ms. Leibbrandt will be instructing seventh, eighth and ninth grade social studies. She will be head volleyball coach as well as assistant track coach. She will also be the junior high track and basketball coach.

Football cheerleaders include Kayla Schultze, Patty Pittman, Kari Milliken, Adele Cram, Kristi Neel and Missy Hefner.

45 years ago - 1963
Grand Old Opry entertainers from Nashville, Tenn., who

have record sales in the millions, highlighted the Cheyenne County Fair in St. Francis.

Mr. Will Derby, high school wrestling coach and teacher, has submitted his resignation to the high school board. Mr. Derby has accepted a position as head wrestling coach at Montrose, Colo., high school.

Nineteen St. Francis Boy Scouts and two leaders, Bill Wilson and Harold Goodell attended camp near Abilene. Earning the mile swim award were Bradley Burnham, Richard Cram, Roger Jensen, Jimmy Frewen, Randy Cook and Mike Holliman. Earning pro-marksman awards were Tommy Williams, Jensen, Burnham, Cram and Gary Walter.

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick

Baseball players are known for their unique sense of humor. Tug was a funny man among grown up boys who liked to laugh.

My younger brother, Mike, and I had the pleasure of meeting him at a major leagues alumni gathering in Denver back in the 1990s. We got into this event because of a friend of ours who owns a sport's memorabilia business.

The first night was a dinner at a posh, downtown hotel. We were ushered in and were the only guests at a table with Al Oliver, Bill "Mad Dog" Maddlock and Len Barker. Also at the dinner were such greats as Bob Feller, Brooks Robinson, Robin Roberts, the original "Big Cat," Johnny Mize and many other former players.

A couple of times over the week-

end of get-togethers, Mike and I ran into Tug. He always seemed to have a few ball players around who enjoyed his jokes.

When we were driving home after one event, we pulled up next to Tug and Sparky Lyle, another famous pitcher, at a stop light. They were in a red, Chevy convertible and my brother and I were in a old Ford Escort. As they recognized us, Mike rolled down his window, revved his engine and hollered "Pink slips Baby." He got a good laugh out of them!

"Ten million years from now, when the sun burns out and the Earth is just a frozen iceball hurtling through space, nobody's going to care whether or not I got this guy out." Tug McGraw

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Weekday Mass 8 a.m.
Confessions Sat. 4-4:30

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Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service 6:30 p.m.,
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St. Francis Community Church
332-3150
204 N. Quincy Street
www.sfccfamily.com
Pastor: David Butler
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Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Potluck & Communion -
Every 2nd Sunday
Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

Peace Lutheran Church, AFLC
202 N. College
Pastor Ken Hart
332-2928 Pars. 332-2312
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Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Eve. Bible Study 7 p.m.
Communion 1st Sunday
6:30 of the month

United Methodist Church Office 332-2292,
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Pastor Morita Truman
Early Bird Service 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

Salem Lutheran Church
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Morning Worship 11 a.m.

Solid Rock Baptist Church
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Welcomes You!
Pastor Allen Coon
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Worship 10:30
Prayer Meeting, Wed 7:30 p.m.

First Christian Church
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Church Service 10:30 a.m.

St. Francis Equity

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