

## **Disturbing Questions Yet Unanswered About the 9/11 Attacks**

*By Fran Shure*

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As peace and justice activists, we must address the violence and injustice in the world and do our best to prevent and alleviate the suffering that results. However, to be more effective in our work, we must also stand back and discern the root causes of oppression, violence, and injustice.

The sole political root cause of the wars on Afghanistan and Iraq, and of the passage of the Patriot Act and the formation of the Department of Homeland Security has been the attacks of September 11, 2001. Without 9/11, Americans would have never tolerated these events. And yet, there are numerous very disturbing issues surrounding 9/11 that have not been investigated in any meaningful way by Congress, the 9/11 Commission, or the media.

In fact, due to the nearly total blackout in the U.S. news media, few Americans even know that there are serious uninvestigated questions—questions which challenge the “official story” of the 9/11 attacks, and which strongly imply complicity by elements of the U.S. Government.

Few know that the 9/11 Commission has consciously ignored these questions. They were presented to the Commissioners by the Family Steering Committee for the 9/11 Commission (family members of 9/11 victims) who begged them to investigate these questions. As one family member was told by a commissioner, “it’s not the Washington way to ask pointed questions.”

Yet, in spite of this almost complete censorship by the mainstream news outlets and in spite of what amounts to a sophisticated cover-up by the 9/11 Commission, more and more Americans influenced by the internet, published books and videos, are becoming skeptical of the official story and calling for a new truly independent investigation, not one run by DC insiders with conflicts of interest with those they are supposed to probe.

So what are some of these uninvestigated questions? Well, some are actually facts, and they include:

- Air Force jets not being scrambled to intercept the hijacked airliners, which is “Standard Operating Procedure” whenever any airliner veers off course and loses contact with the Air Control Tower (10 to 20 minutes is normal to intercept a wayward plane, but 1.5 hours passed before a single jet was scrambled on 9/11—why?);
- Reports in international media regarding the Bush Administration’s plans to invade Afghanistan well before 9/11/01, in order to establish an American oil pipeline across this country;
- Project for a New American Century document, “Rebuilding America’s Defenses,” written before the 2000 election, showing that Bush’s cabinet intended to take military control of the Gulf region even if Hussein was not in power;

- \$100,000 wired to Mohammed Atta, one of the lead hijackers, by the head of the ISI, Pakistan's Secret Service, who was meeting with top Bush Administration officials in Washington on 9/11/01 (the ISI is financed by the U.S.);
- Insider stock trades in weeks and days before 9/11 called "put options" (bets that a corporation's stock value will fall) against United and American Airlines as well as other businesses affected by the 9/11 attacks (this is a common indicator of an impending terrorist attack);
- Multiple warnings from the intelligence community to specific individuals not to fly on 9/11/01;
- Osama bin Laden being visited in a hospital in Dubai by a CIA agent in July, 2001, and yet not apprehended;
- President Bush forbidding investigations into the financial ties between the bin Laden family and the White House;
- The World Trade Center towers falling at or below free fall time even though there would have been tremendous resistance offered by the intact structure below (Critics of the official account contend that the only way these two towers could have fallen this fast and in the way they fell was with bombs placed throughout the buildings, as well as in the basement. Also, reports of what sounded like bombs going off was reported by firemen as they fled the collapsing buildings.);
- Building #7, which sustained only superficial damage from the collapse of the two WTC towers, falling in complete conformity to a controlled demolition. (in fact, the lease owner, Larry Silverstein, saying it was "pulled", jargon for a controlled demolition); and
- Compelling video footage indicating that something other than a 757 hit the Pentagon. (There is no wreckage to be seen and the hole in the Pentagon is reported to be only 14'-16' wide, much too small for a 757 Airliner to fit into. Why does the Pentagon refuse to release video footage proving that AA77 hit the Pentagon and therefore disprove this allegation?).

All of this evidence is stunning, and the last three items seem to enter the arena of the "Twilight Zone." Yet, when a murder is being investigated, is any stone left unturned? Shouldn't all evidence be thoroughly probed, no matter how "unthinkable?"

### Who is endorsing a New 9/11 Investigation?

- The National Green Party, U.S.
- Daniel Ellsberg, Pentagon Papers Whistleblower
- Ed Asner, actor/activist
- Howard Zinn, author
- Jim Hightower, National Radio Program
- Dr. Kevin Danaher, Global Exchange Co-Founder
- Medea Benjamin, Global Exchange Co-Founder, CodePink Founder
- Michael Meacher, (former) UK Environmental Minister
- Dr. John Gray, author of "Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus"
- Philip J. Berg, (former) Deputy Attorney General of Pennsylvania, and attorney for Ellen Mariani's RICO lawsuit against Bush Administration
- Paul Hellyer, (former) National Defense Minister of Canada
- Dr. Robert Bowman, (retired) U.S. Air Force, Archbishop, United Catholic Church
- Dr. Paul Lannoyer, European Union Parliamentarian
- Gore Vidal, author
- Catherine Austin Fitts, Bush I Administration, Assist. Secretary of Federal Housing
- Frank Serpico, (former) NYPD Detective
- Andreas Von Buelow, (retired) National Defense Ministry, Secretary of Germany
- Sibel Edmunds, Former FBI translator and 9/11 whistleblower
- Former Senator Max Cleland, (an original) 9/11 Commissioner
- Buffy Saint-Marie (singer)

The media blackout evidently has not applied to Europe and Canada. A former environmental minister, Michael Meacher, wrote an excellent article in The Guardian, a mainstream liberal newspaper in Britain, called "This War on Terrorism is Bogus." A Maritz: Thompson Lightstone poll conducted in May, 2004, showed that 63% of Canadians believe that individuals within the White House had prior knowledge of the plans for the 9/11 attacks and failed to take appropriate action to stop them. Additionally, 16% of Canadians believe that individuals with the U.S. Government were involved in the planning and execution of the events of 9/11.

Those of us in this 9/11 truth movement are not saying definitively that there was complicity or orchestration by elements of our government. We are saying that it is outrageous that there is not a thorough investigation into each and every one of the allegations which imply complicity. We are also saying that it is outrageous that President Bush did everything in his power to stop any investigation and that the 9/11 Commission members were rife with conflicts of interests.

It is time for Americans to inform themselves and demand an investigation. If we do not, can we

be surprised if we sustain another terrorist attack? Or have more of our Constitutional freedoms legislated away from us? We must not be in denial any longer. Our elected representatives know it is political suicide to approach this subject, so it is up to us. We are going to have to lead our leaders.

### **How to Become Informed on 9/11 Issues**

#### **Books:**

- The New Pearl Harbor by David Ray Griffin, 2004. Endorsed by Howard Zinn.
- The War on Freedom: How and Why America was Attacked, September 11, 2001 by Nafeez Mosaddeq Ahmed, 2002.

#### **Videos:**

- “The Great Deception” by Canadian investigative TV journalist, Barrie Zwicker (45 minutes long from [www.visiontv.ca](http://www.visiontv.ca) or 1-866-663-0262)
- “Truth and Lies About 9/11” (2.5 hours long from [www.copvcia.com](http://www.copvcia.com))

#### **Web Sites:** (be careful, there are web sites with hoax material)

- [www.911truth.org](http://www.911truth.org) (promotes mainstream debate on 9/11 questions)
- [www.911forthetruth.com](http://www.911forthetruth.com) (Ellen Mariani’s RICO suit against Bush Adm. w/ petition)
- [www.911citizenswatch.org](http://www.911citizenswatch.org) (latest info on 9/11 Commission, supports Family Steering Comm.)
- [www.911independentcommission.org](http://www.911independentcommission.org) (Family Steering Comm. for 9/11 Commission)
- [www.911inquiry.org](http://www.911inquiry.org) (International Citizens Inquiry into 9/11, Toronto, May 25-30)
- [www.septembereleventh.org](http://www.septembereleventh.org) (9/11 Visibility Project)
- [www.fromthewilderness.com](http://www.fromthewilderness.com)
- [www.standdown.net](http://www.standdown.net)
- [www.globalresearch.ca](http://www.globalresearch.ca) (good source for articles)
- [www.cooperativeresearch.org](http://www.cooperativeresearch.org)

*Fran Shure is a member of the Colorado 9/11 Visibility Project which recently held a well-attended town meeting in Boulder on the Unanswered Questions of 9/11. If you want to be*

*informed of the next town meeting in Colorado, or if you want to organize a presentation on this subject, she can be contacted at [franshure@estreet.com](mailto:franshure@estreet.com).*