



## WHO ARE *THEY*?

Conspiracy has a long and notorious history in this country. Ever since the secret meeting of the Constitutional Convention in 1787, conspiracy rumors have flared up and been nourished by the discontented and cynical. They blossomed after Abraham Lincoln's assassination; after the passage of the Federal Reserve Act, and after JFK's murder.

But positive proof has never unmasked the "conspirators" of these acts. No specific persons have dared be accused for fear of libel. Identification has been restricted to the vague and anonymous "they" and "them."

Does this mean that "they" don't exist. That "they" are a figment of someone's imagination?

Of course it doesn't. These individuals and families exist as surely as you do, and as I do. Although we can not definitely name them without a great deal of digging into the corporate files and subversive legal shenanigans, we know with certainty what they have done over the past 200 years of our nation's existence. And what they have done is more than necessary to prompt serious thoughts about changing the American System from a representative to a direct, or participatory, democracy.

Following are only some of what *they*, in their anonymity, have done over the past two hundred

years.

*They* are the individuals and families who caused the deliberate murder of untold numbers of American Indians, and stolen millions of square miles of Indian lands.

*They* are the individuals and families who, in 1805, denied working shoemakers the right to unite for fairer wages, and had them fined for trying.

*They* are the individuals and families who, in 1812, had war declared against England, presumably in retaliation of England's capture of American ships and sailors. Many American historians believe, however, the war was merely their attempt to grab the vast Canadian territories.

*They* are the individuals and families who, in the 1830s, had American troops sent to Argentina and Peru to protect their investments.

*They* are the individuals and families who, in the 1840s, had Congress declare war upon Mexico, presenting them the opportunity to steal half of our southern neighbor's lands. The 1840s is also the decade in which these individuals and families legally stole millions of acres of federal lands to build their cattle, mining, lumber, and railroad empires.

*They* are the individuals and families whose greed and stupidity caused an economic panic in 1850,

and who later in the decade had American troops sent to China and the San Juan Islands to protect their investments.

*They* are the individuals and families who, through their insane drive for profit and disregard of human life, instigated the Civil War of 1861, in which 600,000 Americans killed one another. *They* are the individuals and families who, after the war, allowed and encouraged the plundering of the South by northern carpetbaggers. *They* are also the ones who, in the 1860s, brought in thousands of

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eager foreigners to compete for factory jobs and drive wages down, allowed some of their group to use prison inmates in their factories to weaken the demands of striking employees, and had American troops sent to Japan, Uruguay, and Colombia to protect their investments.

*They* are the individuals and families who devised strategies to discourage common Americans from voting, including residency requirements, literacy tests, poll taxes, registration during work hours, and complex and confusing registration forms.

*They* are the individuals and families who, in the 1890s, decided

to drastically change the direction of public attention from domestic problems (which neither political party could, or wanted, to solve) to international affairs, because American workers were unable to absorb the flow of goods coming from factory production lines (wages were too low), and because it was hoped the strategy would increase party influence over domestic affairs, transform the republic into an international player, and create additional markets.

*They* are the individuals and families who, in 1894, had American troops sent to Nicaragua to protect their investments.

*They* are the individuals and groups who, in 1887, tried to

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provoke war with England over a boundary dispute in Venezuela, but failed. *They* are the individuals and families who, the following year, tried to instigate a war with Cuba by sending the battleship Maine to sit smack in the center of Havana Harbor. But the Cubans, like the English before them, refused to be tricked into war with the United States.

*They* are the individuals and families who, when the battleship suddenly and mysteriously exploded killing 252 Americans, had Congress declare war upon Spain, despite Spanish denial of involvement, and despite lack of proof to the contrary.

*They* influenced Congress to order the American Asiatic fleet (which had conveniently positioned itself in Hong Kong) to immediately attack and destroy the unsuspecting Spanish fleet in Manila Harbor (forty-three years before a similar treachery by the Japanese at Pearl Harbor).

*They* are the individuals and families who intimidated Congress to immediately send 150,000 American troops to invade the Philippines, provoking a long, bitter war which ended in 1904. Nearly 4,000 American lives were lost (almost ten times more than in the war against Spain), and more than 50,000 Filipinos were killed by the Americans, who treated captured Filipino guerrillas as murderers, not prisoners of war, executing many of them, burning farms and crops to prevent guerrillas from obtaining food, and placing entire communities into concentration camps. It was a nasty business in which a people professing to believe in “freedom” should never have been involved.

*They* are the individuals and families who, at the beginning of the century, adopted two strategies suggested by their hired psychologists as ways to increase productivity and investments. *One*: reduce the male’s authority within the family and increase the female’s—because she does most of the buying. *Two*: target advertising and public relations campaigns at young people, for young, immature, undisciplined people will be easier to mold into active consumers than older people who have developed habits of thrift imposed by economic deprivation.

*They* are the individuals and families who, in 1904, had troops

sent to Honduras to protect their investments.

*They* are the individuals and families who, in 1907, caused the nation to plunge into the worst economic crisis it had yet experienced.

*They* are the individuals and families who were instrumental in forming the nation’s first spy agency—the Justice Department’s Bureau of Investigation—to spy upon American workers.

*They* are the individuals and families who, in 1909, had American troops sent to Nicaragua, and in 1912 to China, to protect their investments.

*They* are the individuals and families who, in 1913, intimidated the men of Congress into passing a Federal Reserve Act, giving the country the central bank which common Americans had rejected in 1910. The law presumably gave the republic a banking system owned by the people. It was merely another deception, however, managed by men who knew how to manipulate word images. There was little federal about the new *Federal Reserve System*. Its banks were all privately owned and operated, and men chosen for the Federal Reserve Board were private citizens who weren’t required, or obligated, to report their activities to Congress or the President of the United States.

*They* are the individuals and families who, in 1914 and 1915, had American troops sent to Haiti to protect their investments, and to Nicaragua to support its dictator, a man hated and unwanted by Nicaraguan commoners. In 1916, *they* had American troops sent to Santo Domingo to protect their investments.

*They* are the individuals and families who, in 1917, deliberately involved this country in World War I by propagandizing the American people and intimidating Congress, despite pleas from the European combatants that we stay out of the conflict. More than 120,000 American boys lost their lives.

*They* are the individuals and families who, expecting to continue profitable business relations with German businessmen after the war, refused to enforce the punishment of war criminals. And so, strange as it may seem, the Germans were allowed to try their own war criminals. Of 901 people accused, 888 were acquitted and 13 convicted. Of the 13, few were required to serve sentence, and the others easily escaped prison.

*They* are the individuals and families who, after the war ended, bought or participated in joint ventures with German corporations, giving them access to European markets for telecommunications, automotive, chemical, electrical, electronic, and other industrial products.

*They* are the individuals and families who, in 1919, with little regard for due process of law, had the Justice Department raid labor union halls in twelve cities, arresting, brutally beating, and deporting hundreds of workers.

*They* are the individuals and families who instructed their advertising and public relations agencies to follow the advice of the man considered "The Father of Public Relations." The way to overcome cultural prejudices and resistance of common citizens to the ideas and needs of capitalism, he advised, "...is by trying to control every approach to the

public mind in such a manner that the public receives the desired impression, often without being conscious."

*They* are the individuals and families whose greed and lust for power caused the economic crash of 1920.

*They* are the individuals and families who, in 1920, had American troops sent to Haiti and Cuba, in 1925 into Panama, and in 1926 into Nicaragua to protect their investments.

*They* are the individuals and families who, in 1929, influenced the modification of the League of Nations' order forbidding German rearmament, thus allowing Germany to rearm.

*They* are the individuals and families whose greed and callousness, caused (perhaps, deliberately) the October, 1929 collapse of the New York Stock Exchange, resulting in the disappearance of thousands of businesses, millions of jobs, and the start of the worst economic depression the country has ever experienced.

*They* are the individuals and families who had police ruthlessly attack all bands of unemployed, protesting workers with clubs and tear gas.

*They* are the individuals and families who, by 1940, had sent American troops into foreign lands nearly 150 times since the ratification of the constitution; always for their benefit, always to the detriment of the common citizens of those countries.

*They* are the individuals and families who invested heavily in Germany after 1929, and whose German subsidiaries supplied the Nazis with heavy-duty vehicles and whose Latin American subsid-

aries, despite all out war with Nazi Germany in 1941, continued selling oil to the Nazis.

*They* are the individuals and families who, at the end of WWII, took the opportunity to secure a

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foothold in Asia to secure sources of raw materials and new markets by having American troops kept in Korea. The strategy enabled them to meddle in the affairs of the Korean people resulting in its division into North and South, and causing the unnecessary deaths of tens of thousands of American boys (8,000 still listed as missing) and almost four million innocent Asians.

*They* are the individuals and

The term "metamorphose" as used by Active Humanists has two meanings. It first refers to the transformation of a human child from an ignorant infant to an educated, mature, caring adult.

It also refers to the evolution of a society from one governed and driven by the selfish desires of its powerful citizens, and biased against the common working masses, to a more caring society governed by all citizens, and sensitive to the needs of all.

families who after WWII, limited the official list of accused World War II criminals to hundreds, despite there having been more than one million Nazi officers, government officials, and industrialists suspected of war crimes and imprisoned immediately at war's end. *They are the individuals and*

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families who influenced the U.S. to withdraw from the allied war criminals trials and hold their own trials. These proceedings, known as the "Subsequent Proceedings" tried and convicted a mere 180 people.

*They are the individuals and families who directly, and indirectly, assisted thousands of Nazis to escape to Latin America or the United States, and who provided jobs to those escaping to this country.*

*They are the individuals and families who, in 1949, had the CIA interfere in the internal affairs of the Chilean people trying to prevent the election of a popular Chilean leader whom they feared. The CIA not only financed the man's fascist opponent's campaign, but also tried to destroy Chile's economy by drastically reducing American exports of essential spare machinery parts needed to keep the country's factories producing.*

*They are the individuals and families who, in 1950, had the U.S. commissioner to Germany grant clemency to every German busi-*

*nessman convicted at Nuremberg.*

*They are the individuals and families who, in 1954, had U.S. troops invade Guatemala to protect their investments.*

*They are the individuals who, in 1954, after the success of their Korean adventure, also meddled in the affairs of Vietnam, had the country divided into North and South, sent in American troops, and eventually caused the deaths of more than 58,000 American boys and untold millions of innocent Asians.*

*They are the individuals and families who, in 1960 interfered in the internal affairs of El Salvador by aiding the military overthrow of the new popular government.*

*They are the individuals and families who had the CIA interfere in the internal affairs of the Congolese people by secretly supplied money and arms to the Congolese Establishment which was defending itself against a commoner uprising.*

*They are the individuals and families who, in 1965, had 20,000 U.S. troops sent into the Dominican Republic to oust commoners who had toppled the U.S. supported government.*

*They are the individuals and families who had American troops invade Cambodia and destroy the tiny country's economy with more than 35,000 bombing missions.*

*They are the individuals and families who, in the 1950s and 1960s, supported and encouraged the House un-American Activities Committee's witch-hunts for "communists," when in reality their objectives were to intimidate American liberals, freethinkers and humanists to keep their mouths shut; to stop making movies or*

*writing books favorable to other social systems, to stop teaching the dark side of our country's true history to young students, and to stop annoying the Establishment.*

*They are the individuals and families who had the U.S. military train Salvadoran forces which, in 1981, invaded El Salvador and overthrew the popular government.*

*They are the individuals and families who, when they moved their factories overseas to take advantage of cheap labor sources and low taxes in the 1980s, became role models for hundreds of American executives, causing 10 million Americans to lose their jobs between 1983 and 1988.*

*They are the individuals and families who, without the knowledge or approval of Congress, had troops sent into the small nation of Grenada to protect American investments. Eighteen American boys were killed in the action, as were 30 innocent civilians when U.S. bombs accidentally destroyed a mental hospital.*

*They are the individuals and families who are the largest owners of Central and South American lands, factories, farms, railroads, and mines, and who finance and support the continual oppression of the area's workers and peasants. By the end of 1983, they had had the Congress of the U.S. approve the installation of nine military governments in Central America alone; all supportive of elite families, military dictators, and American businessmen.*

*They are the individuals and families whose public relations agencies are responsible for the propaganda blaming big government for the nation's problems, despite the truth that our national*

problems are caused by the callous abuse of corporate power. *They* are the ones responsible for the Republican attacks on programs instituted by Franklin Delano Roosevelt and his New Deal during the depression of the 1930s. Programs which regulated business to curb unrestrained greed; programs which helped American commoners to survive the callous abuse of rich Americans.

*They* are the individuals and families who intimidated Congress to use military force in response to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. Although it was obvious from the very beginning that the war in the Mideast was totally orchestrated, the Establishment media overwhelmed the American citizenry in its attempt to justify American aggression and program the American people to accept not only the war, but female American soldiers as part of the war. Television and print, editorials and commentaries explained the bombing of civilians as the only way to win a necessary war. Every effort was made to justify the logic of war, and to convince young Americans that going to war and murdering thousands of innocent people were the right things to do.

As a consequence, U.S. forces applied more destruction in a shorter time than in either of the two great World Wars. The conflict ended quickly. Almost 100,000 Iraqi's were killed; Americans suffered fewer than one hundred deaths. All the scare talk, all the imagined terror of a dangerous Iraqi military proved to be mere fiction, nothing more than Establishment hype. The Iraqi ruler remained alive, well, and still in power.

*They* are the individuals and families who devastated Kosovo under pretense of humanitarian reasons, managing to destroy the country's economy and productive resources: a condition necessary for capitalism to take root quickly.

*They* are the individuals and families who have had Congress repeatedly reject the claims of our most knowledgeable people that marijuana is harmless, and that the country's drug policies are doing more harm than good. *They* are the ones who have had Congress authorize building hundreds of new prisons to house "drug" criminals.

*They* are the individuals and families who ignore the warnings of our most learned scientists that we must change our reckless and arrogant use of natural resources and try to stop the rapid and unusual warming of the planet.

*They* are the individuals and families who have had Congress authorize the importation of millions of Asian and Latin American people to weaken the demands of American workers, and to enlarge the "American" market for their corporate products.

*They* are the individuals and families who have had the Congress of the United States violate the sovereignty of other countries, and break international law by authorizing invasion by American troops to kidnap and bring individuals to the U.S. to stand trial for "alleged" crimes.

*They* are the individuals and families whose giant corporations have merged with others to accumulate greater economic and political power, or have acquired other giant corporations to eliminate competition.

*They* are the individuals and families who have lied to and betrayed the American people for more than 200 years, who have bilked American workers of trillions of dollars with overpriced corporate products and pork-barrel congressional projects.

*They* are the individuals and families whose stranglehold on the economic and political narrows to the nation's survival has true freedom gasping for breathe, and whose callous indifference to human rights is quickly transforming this nation into a more oppressive human environment than the Old World environment which birthed it more than four hundred years ago.

*They are the American Establishment, the enemy of all working Americans.*



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Never in the history of Western civilization has there been an instance in which privileged people voluntarily shared their wealth and political powers with the common, destitute.