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John Kerry's Speech

By Harry Braun

Senator Kerry delivered a great speech at the Democratic Convention. Kerry did not mention any new ideas or visions for America, but he is certainly a distinguished American, and in my view, he is a far better choice for president than George Bush, although that is not saying much. President Bush also delivers great speeches, but they are Orwellian-scale distortions of reality. Bush has imposed unprecedented levels of government secrecy and placed industry lobbyists in charge of the EPA and interior department, who have substantially increased the toxic emissions that are contaminating millions of Americans; his fiscal irresponsibility is unprecedented and his reckless foreign policies have given new meaning to the term "ugly American." These arrogant and misguided policies have alienated our traditional allies and supercharged the hatred for Americans internationally and the recruitment efforts of Al Qaeda.

Kerry said that he wants to treat President Bush with respect, but how do you respect someone who used falsified information to mass-murder and injure tens of thousands of innocent people, including thousands of American soldiers, while reducing the cradle of civilization to rubble for oil and corporate profits? By contrast, President Clinton was impeached for having consensual sex, and President Nixon was impeached for a burglary where no one was even injured.

While most Americans assume we are the good guys, the reality is that the U.S. government and armed forces have killed literally millions of innocent people in countries like Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia and El Salvador over lies and misinformation, just like we are now doing in Iraq. Yet both Bush and Kerry continue with the Orwellian rhetoric that ignores these atrocities by proclaiming that we are really only trying to promote freedom and democracy. They never mention that the U.S. has been supporting brutal dictatorships all over the globe for the past 50 years in order to serve the interests of multinational corporations, which can easily corrupt our republican form of government that allows a handful of people to conduct business in secret. This flawed system is at the heart of many of the most serious problems related to our national security, energy, the economy, the environment, human rights and foreign policy. The only solution is to pass the necessary constitutional amendments that will transform America into a real democracy, but neither Bush or Kerry will even discuss such fundamental changes.

Kerry inferred wisdom in his approach to U.S. foreign policy, but he still refuses to acknowledge that it was a tragic mistake to give President Bush the personal authority to wage war in Iraq, and his views on Iraq and the rest of the world mirror those of Bush. One can only conclude that Bush and Kerry are not aware of historical lessons of *Lawrence of Arabia*. Indeed, Kerry indicated he wants larger military forces to wage the war in Iraq, even though 9 out of 10 Iraqis understandably want the American armed forces to leave their country. Kerry's approach means the mass-murder and chaos will continue, and it won't be long before there will be anti-war protesters calling Kerry a war criminal.

It is tragic that Kerry has chosen to forget what he learned as a young naval officer when he himself testified before Congress about the terrible atrocities that he witnessed in the barbaric and illegal war in Vietnam. He now says that he should have not used such language. Just like Kerry now promotes “environmentally friendly” strip-mining for coal, he wants to find kinder and gentler language to describe the mass-murder of innocent people. This is not the kind of enlightened foreign policy that is needed to resolve the war on terror, but both Kerry and Bush argue that we cannot afford to let Iraq or Saudi Arabia fall into unfriendly hands because access to Middle East oil is critical for the U.S. They are apparently not aware that oil production in Saudi Arabia is already declining at about 10% per year, and that soon the production will fall off dramatically, which will have a catastrophic impact on the American and global economy.

Kerry talked about American energy independence in his speech, but he did not mention that the vast majority of energy in his Strategic Energy Initiative will continue to come from the increasing the use of coal and other fossil and nuclear fuels. This means the horrific destruction of ancient mountain ecosystems for a few days worth of coal will continue, and when the coal is burned, it will put increasing amounts of carbon in the atmosphere and mercury into the brains of our families and children. And that pales in comparison to the stress-corrosion problems that have turned all of the existing nuclear reactors into ticking time bombs, or the radioactive waste problems that have been out of control for decades, which will be leaving a legacy of disease and death for over 160 million years.

Kerry should have been announcing America’s commitment to implement the Phoenix Project, which would create millions of high-quality private-sector jobs as the U.S. and the rest of the world shift to carbon-free, pollution-free wind and other solar hydrogen production technologies. These are the only systems that can not only make America energy independent of imported oil, but all fossil and nuclear fuels by 2010. However, such a “transition of substance” requires presidential leadership, as well as the passage of Fair Accounting Act legislation that will provide the financial incentives to transform oil and coal companies into solar hydrogen companies. Detailed materials on these issues have been provided to the staff of Bush and Kerry over the past several years, but thus far, they and their senior advisors have been unwilling to be briefed on the solutions to these interrelated and profoundly serious problems.

Rather than focusing any more of our national assets on the illegal and immoral war in Iraq, America should be focused on the fact that it is exponentially 11:59 for the biological life-support systems of *Spaceship Earth*, which is why we are all like passengers on the *Titanic* and there is very little time left to change course. The oceans are already 90% dead, and catastrophic climate change is inevitable, yet Bush ignores the scientific community and wants to “stay the course” and Kerry wants to rearrange deck chairs. Either way it won’t affect the outcome. It is why regardless of who wins in November, every citizen who understands the serious nature of the issues involved needs to join with us to help turn the wheel and change course while there is still time to make a difference.

What is required is a new heading for the solar hydrogen economy as well as the necessary Constitutional Amendments that will end government secrecy and transform America into a true democracy. The national news media has thus far chosen to ignore our Phoenix Project Platform that outlines how to accomplish these objectives, but ignoring the exponential icebergs will not make them go away. It is why we need to organize an army of hundreds of thousands of citizens that will meet in Washington DC in order to press our case with the new President, the Congress, and the American people. We are on the threshold of both an ecological oblivion or a nanotechnology utopia, and the decisions we make in the next few years will determine which future evolves.