
Profile: Sen. John S. McCain III

Who Owns 'Bull Moose'?

by Edward Spannaus

John S. McCain III, called the “Manchurian candidate” by some, is positioning himself as a “Bull Moose” Republican—a combination of a “progressive reformer” on domestic issues, and a warhawk on foreign policy. Detested by conservative Republicans (he was a subject of a recall petition campaign in Arizona, until that drive was derailed by the Sept. 11 events), Senator McCain has allied himself with the most corrupted elements of the Democratic Party, those in the Gore-Lieberman, Democratic Leadership Council (DLC) wing of the party, who explicitly reject the FDR tradition. (See, “McCain-Lieberman ‘Bull Moose’ Duo Destabilize the President,” *EIR*, Feb. 22, 2002.)

McCain’s closest adviser, Marshall Wittman, is attempting to rally “progressive” Republicans and centrist, DLC Democrats into a new “Bull Moose” alliance, which Wittman claims “advocates reform of the campaign finance system, entitlements, the tax code, and the budget process,” and consists as well of “believers in America’s ‘benevolent hegemony’ on the world stage—with a robust internationalism and formidable military.”

Rise to Power

John McCain is a strange one to be promoting “campaign finance reform”—since he owes his political career to his second wife’s money and her mob-connected family.

McCain’s father and grandfather were both four-star Navy admirals. His father, John McCain, Jr., was Command-in-Chief of the Pacific Command (CINCPAC) during the Vietnam War. He was, according to McCain III’s 1999 book *Faith of My Fathers*, a “great admirer of the British Empire, crediting it with keeping ‘a relative measure of peace’ in the world for ‘someplace in the neighborhood of two centuries.’” His father’s favorite poem was Oscar Wilde’s ode to the British Empire, “Ave Imperatrix.” The son’s book includes the following quote:

The fleet-foot Marri scout, who comes
To tell how he hath heard afar
The measured roll of English drums
Beat at the gates of Kandahar.

McCain attended Episcopal High School in Alexandria, Virginia, in order to prepare for entrance to the Naval Academy at Annapolis. Episcopal High was, not surprisingly, a

Confederate haven. “The most pervasive military influence at the school was the heroic legends taken from the annals of Civil War history,” McCain wrote. “More precisely, they were the stories of Confederate heroes. . . . More Episcopal graduates died in the Civil War than in any subsequent war in our nation’s history.”

McCain then went on to the Naval Academy at Annapolis, where he had a reputation as a playboy, and graduated fifth from the bottom of his class.

As a Navy pilot flying bombing missions over North Vietnam, he was shot down in 1967, and held captive until 1973 (see below). After his release, he was first stationed in Florida, then was transferred to Washington as the Navy’s liaison to the U.S. Senate, where his political ambitions grew.

In his Senate liaison capacity, he went on a 1979 trip to China with a group of Senators, who stopped for a cocktail party in Honolulu. There, McCain met Cindy Hensley, a 25-year-old heiress; McCain was 43 at the time, and married. He pursued Hensley aggressively, flying all over the country. The next year, he divorced his wife Carol, who had stood by him and who had fought for his release during the five years while he was a POW, and he immediately married Hensley. Carol had been seriously injured in an auto accident while McCain was imprisoned, and the once tall, slim, former model was now shorter, heavier, and on crutches.

As the *New York Times* generously put it: “Mr. McCain abandoned his wife, who had reared their three children while he was in Vietnamese prisons, and he then began his political career with the resources of his new wife’s family. . . . No candidate could be luckier in his choice of an ex-wife than Senator McCain, and he must be the only politician around who could cheat on his wife and divorce her and still get her support and her campaign contributions today.”

Cindy McCain was the daughter of James W. Hensley, a wealthy beer baron, who gave his new son-in-law a job in his Budweiser distributorship, and then bankrolled his 1982 campaign for Congress. McCain had no previous ties to Arizona. His other primary backer was Darrow “Duke” Tully, publisher of the *Arizona Republic*—the state’s dominant newspaper—and the leader of the group of local businessmen and political kingmakers known as the “Phoenix 40.” (The Phoenix 40 was created in the early 1970s by the publisher Eugene Pulliam.) With the backing of Tully & friends, McCain won a U.S. Senate seat in 1986. (Tully later left Phoenix in disgrace, after it was disclosed that he had lied about his own military record.)

Mob Rule in Arizona

Who was Jim Hensley? After World War II, he had gone to work for Kemper Marley, a powerful, mob-connected rancher and liquor distributor, who was later linked to the car-bomb murder of reporter Don Bolles. Marley was reportedly awarded his liquor monopoly by Sam Bronfman, the Canadian bootlegger who was the principal supplier of the U.S.



Arizona Sen. John McCain (right) is again already campaigning for President, but this time as a “Bull Moose”: not to win the office, but to control what the current occupant of the White House does—especially about starting wider Mideast war-fighting.

crime syndicate. In 1948, fifty-two of Marley’s employees were convicted of violations of Federal liquor laws, including Hensley (who received a suspended sentence), and Hensley’s brother Eugene (sentenced to one year in prison). Some said that Jim Hensley took a fall for Marley. Hensley was rewarded with the Budweiser distributorship, now said to be worth over \$200 million.

Don Bolles, a veteran reporter for the *Arizona Republic*, had been investigating Marley and organized crime in Arizona, and had testified before Congressional investigating committees. Bolles’ articles, before he was murdered, forced the resignation of Marley from the state’s racing commission.

Bolles had also written about the Hensleys; and had reported that they had sold their dog-racing track to Emprise Corp., the Buffalo, New York-based sports and money-laundering conglomerate owned by the notorious Jacobs brothers. John McCain himself has reportedly been seen in the company of Emprise personnel. (Emprise has changed names a number of times; for a period, it was known as SportsServices, and is now called Delaware North Corp.)

Indeed, McCain’s ties to Jewish-named mobsters in Arizona are so pervasive, that one has to also ask whether the Israeli foreign intelligence service, Mossad (known for its close ties to Israeli-linked organized crime circles in the U.S.), has been able to sink its own hooks into McCain? This could shed some light on the reasons for McCain’s close political alignment with the craziest, most fanatical elements in Israel.

Charles H. Keating Jr., the savings and loan operator later

convicted of large-scale securities fraud, also raised money for McCain’s 1982 campaign; and, in return, McCain intervened with Federal regulators on Keating’s behalf. Up until 1998, Cindy Hensley McCain and Jim Hensley retained an 8% interest in a shopping center project put together by Keating in 1986.

Keating had multiple ties into U.S. intelligence and organized-crime circles. His American Continental Corp, the parent company of Lincoln Savings & Loan, was sold to him by Carl Lindner of United Brands (previously United Fruit), which long served as a front both for the dirtiest elements in the U.S. intelligence community, and for related drug-running and money-laundering operations. Keating was also a partner in business dealings with Alfred Hartmann, the head of the Swiss branch of the notorious Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI).

In 1984-86, according the *Arizona Republic*, McCain and his wife took at

least nine trips at Keating’s expense, aboard either Keating’s corporate jet, or on chartered planes and helicopters owned by Resorts International—the front for the Meyer Lansky crime syndicate. Three of the trips were for vacations at Keating’s luxury retreat in the Bahamas.

McCain and the POWs

In September 1967, McCain was assigned to duty as a pilot on the *Oriskany* aircraft carrier, which was being used as a platform for bombing North Vietnam. On his 23rd bombing mission, on Oct. 26, 1967, he was shot down by a surface-to-air missile, landing in a lake in the middle of Hanoi.

McCain’s record as a POW has been a matter of intense scrutiny by other former POWs and activists in the POW-MIA movement. But, by contrast, McCain’s record and his bizarre treatment of POW-MIA activists has been glossed over by the “mainstream” news media which have busily touted McCain as a war hero.

According to McCain’s own account, he “broke” under threat of torture and provided military information to his North Vietnamese captors, including information about targets, detailed information about sorties, order of attack, etc. (It is a matter of dispute among his fellow POWs as to whether McCain was actually tortured, or just threatened.) It is also believed by some that McCain sought favorable treatment because of his father’s high-ranking position in the U.S. Navy—an allegation which is supported by McCain’s own account of his imprisonment. The North Vietnamese aired

a broadcast in which McCain admitted to bombing civilian targets in North Vietnam, and praised the medical treatment he received while a prisoner. The broadcast was beamed to U.S. troops in South Vietnam, to counter charges that American POWs were being mistreated in the North.

McCain was kept in isolation from other American POWs for a period of 22 months, during which he was subject to intense indoctrination. Even though it has been documented that Soviet officials interrogated U.S. POWs in Vietnam as well as in Korea, McCain has always hysterically denied this.

McCain has been brutally hostile to POW-MIA organizations and activists, calling them “hoaxsters,” “charlatans,” and “conspiracy theorists.” He harassed and scoffed at witnesses—including family members of missing servicemen—at Senate hearings on the POW-MIA issue in 1992, questioning their patriotism and mocking their concerns.

McCain was the most determined of any Senator involved, to discount and dismiss the formidable body of evidence indicating that hundreds of POWs and MIAs had been left behind when the United States pulled out of Vietnam in 1975. He even asked the Justice Department to investigate POW-MIA activists for fraud—the fraud being the claim that the U.S. government knowingly left U.S. POWs behind in Vietnam. The Justice Department found no grounds for any action against the activists.

Further, McCain has infuriated POW-MIA organizations and families by consistently opposing disclosure of documents and information about POWs and MIAs. Not a few of those involved in seeking disclosure of these records, wonder at McCain’s determination to keep all such records secret, and ask whether McCain himself has something to hide—something that he fears being made public.

Whatever personal concerns McCain has about these records, another important element of his strange behavior in this regard, is his, and his father’s, close association with Henry Kissinger, the architect of the U.S. withdrawal. Kissinger, more than anyone else, bears the personal responsibility for abandoning hundreds of U.S. military personnel in his haste to arrive at a “peace” agreement.

Kissinger still remains one of McCain’s closest advisers; others among McCain’s foreign policy and national security advisers during his 2000 Presidential campaign were Carter’s National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski, George Bush (father)’s Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger, and former CIA director James Woolsey.

Profile: Sen. Joseph Lieberman

The Senator from ‘Mega’

by Scott Thompson

At the Feb. 1-3, 2002 Wehrkunde (International Conference on Security Policy) meeting in Munich, Germany, the U.S. delegation, led by Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz—whose entourage included the Chairman of the Defense Science and Policy Board Richard Perle, and Senators Joseph Lieberman (D-Conn.) and John McCain (R-Ariz.)—shocked Europe with the vehemence of their call for what amounts to a Thirty Years War scenario in the Middle East, starting with a “Phase II” war against Saddam Hussein’s Iraq.

For many years, Senator Lieberman—one of only ten Democrats who voted for President George H.W. Bush’s 1991 Persian Gulf War—has been sounding the trumpet for yet another charge against Iraq. Long before President George W. Bush proclaimed a “war against terrorism” following the Sept. 11 coup d’état, Lieberman had expanded his target list of nations, calling for a “global showdown” with Islam, on the model of Samuel Huntington’s “Clash of Civilizations” thesis.

Thus, in a Jan. 14, 2002 “major policy speech” at Georgetown University, Lieberman paraphrased his hero, former British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, stating that the fanatical forces of an Islamic jihad were about to drop a “theological iron curtain” across the world. The Senator unabashedly called for a new “imperialist” U.S. foreign policy in response. Lieberman said that this “iron curtain would extend from the terrorist camps in the hills and villages of Central Asia, to the sands of Somalia, Sudan, and Saudi Arabia, to cells in Singapore, Indonesia, the Phillipines, and many other places, including Europe and America.” In other words, a string of endless wars, that would keep President Bush from focussing on a solution to the present global systemic economic collapse, such as that proposed by Democratic Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche.

One of Lieberman’s closest collaborators in promoting this “Clash of Civilizations” with Islam, has been Sen. John McCain (see accompanying article), who has worked with Lieberman to blackmail two Presidents on this question—first, Bill Clinton, and now George Bush. At present, Senator McCain is holding a gun to Bush’s head by encouraging supporters to mount a draft third-party “Bull Moose” candidacy on McCain’s behalf, that would throw the 2004 Presidential election to Lieberman, should he win the Democratic Party Presidential nomination.

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