

Newly-Uncovered Documents Confirm Bush-Nazi Link

By John Buchanan

After 60 years of inattention and denial by the U.S. media, newly-uncovered U.S. government documents in The National Archives and Library of Congress reveal that Prescott Bush, the grandfather of President George W. Bush, served as a business partner of and U.S. banking operative for the financial architect of the Nazi war machine from 1926 until 1942, when Congress took aggressive action against Bush and his “enemy national” partners.

The documents also show that Bush and his colleagues, according to reports from the U.S. Department of the Treasury, tried to conceal their financial alliance with German industrialist Fritz Thyssen, a steel and coal baron who, beginning in the mid-1920s, personally funded Adolf Hitler’s rise to power by the subversion of democratic principle and German law.

Furthermore, the declassified records demonstrate that Bush and his associates, who included E. Roland Harriman, younger brother of American icon W. Averell Harriman, and George Herbert Walker, President Bush’s maternal great-grandfather, continued their dealings with the German industrial tycoon for nearly a year after the U.S. entered the war.

No Story?

For six decades these historical facts have gone unreported by the mainstream U.S. media. The essential facts have appeared on the internet and in relatively obscure books, but were dismissed by the media and Bush family as undocumented diatribes. This story has also escaped the attention of “official” Bush biographers, Presidential historians and publishers of U.S. history books about WWII.

The White House did not re-

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Documents in the U.S. National Archives prove that George W. Bush's grandfather - Prescott Bush - traded with Nazis, even after Pearl Harbor.

spond to phone calls seeking comment

The Summer of '42

The unraveling of the web of Bush-Harriman-Thyssen U.S. enterprises, all of which operated out of the same suite of offices at 39 Broadway in New York under the supervision of Prescott Bush, began with a story that ran in both the New York *Herald-Tribune* and *Washington Post* on July 31, 1941. By then, the U.S. had been at war with Germany for nearly eight months.

“Hitler’s Angel Has \$3 Million in U.S. Bank,” declared the front-page *Herald-Tribune* headline. The lead paragraph characterized Fritz Thyssen as “Adolf Hitler’s original patron a decade ago.” In fact, the steel and coal magnate had aggressively supported and funded Hitler since October 1923, according to Thyssen’s autobiography, *I Paid Hitler*. In that book, Thyssen also acknowledges his direct personal relationships with Adolf Hitler, Joseph Goebbels and Rudolf Hess.

The *Herald-Tribune* also cited unnamed sources who suggested Thyssen’s U.S. “nest egg” in fact belonged to “Nazi bigwigs” including Goebbels, Hermann Göring, Heinrich Himmler, or even Hitler himself.

Business is Business

The “bank,” founded in 1924 by W. Averell Harriman on behalf of Thys-

sen and his Bank voor Handel en Scheepvaart N.V. of Holland, was the Union Banking Corp. (UBC) of New York City. According to government documents, it was in reality a clearing house for a number of Thyssen-controlled enterprises and assets, including as many as a dozen individual businesses. UBC also bought and shipped overseas gold, steel, coal and U.S. Treasury bonds. The company’s activities were administered for Thyssen by a Netherlands-born, naturalized U.S. citizen named Cornelis Lievense, who served as president of UBC. Roland Harriman was chairman and Prescott Bush a managing director.

The *Herald-Tribune* article did not identify Bush or Harriman as executives of UBC, or Brown Brothers Harriman, in which they were partners, as UBC’s private banker. A confidential FBI memo from that period suggested, without naming the Bush and Harriman families, that politically prominent individuals were about to come under official U.S. government scrutiny as Hitler’s plunder of Europe continued unabated.

After the “Hitler’s Angel” article was published, Bush and Harriman made no attempts to divest themselves of the controversial Thyssen financial alliance, nor did they challenge the report that UBC was a *de facto* Nazi



On May 31, 2003 - soon after Newsweek Polska was "spiked" for exposing that Prescott Bush profited from Auschwitz, the Nazi slave labour/concentration camp in Poland - President George W. Bush and wife Laura, posed for press photos during their tour of the death camp. The U.S. (and Canadian) corporate media did not

mention Prescott's Nazi dealings or George W's inheritance.

front organization in the U.S.

Instead, the government documents show, Bush and his partners increased their subterfuge to try to conceal the true nature and ownership of their various businesses, particularly after the U.S. entered the war. The documents disclose that Cornelis Lievense, Thyssen's personal appointee to oversee U.S. matters for his Rotterdam-based Bank voor Handel en Scheepvaart N.V., via UBC for nearly two decades, repeatedly denied to U.S. government investigators any knowledge of the ownership of the Netherlands bank or the role of Thyssen in it. Brown Brothers Harriman sent letters to the government seeking reconsideration of the seizures by using false information.

UBC's original group of business associates included George Herbert Walker, President Bush's maternal great-grandfather, whose relationship with the Harriman family began in 1919. In 1922, Walker and W. Averell Harriman traveled to Berlin to set up the German branch of their banking and investment operations, which were largely based on critical war resources such as steel and coal.

The Walker-Harriman-created German industrial alliance also included partnership with another German titan who supported Hitler's rise, Friedrich Flick, who partnered with Thyssen in the German Steel Trust that forged the Nazi war machine. For his role in using slave labor and his own steel, coal and arms resources to build Hitler's war effort, Flick was convicted at Nuremberg and sentenced to prison.

The Family Business

In 1926, after Prescott Bush had married Walker's daughter, Dorothy, Walker brought Bush in as a vice president of the private banking and investment firm of W.A. Harriman & Co., also located in New York. Bush became a partner in the firm that later became Brown Brothers Harriman and the largest private investment bank in the world. Eventually, Bush became a director of, and stockholder in, UBC.

However, the government documents note that Bush, Harriman, Lievense and the other UBC stockholders were in fact "nominees," or phantom shareholders, for Thyssen and his Holland bank, meaning they acted at the direct behest of their German client.

Seized

On October 20, 1942, using the Trading with the Enemy Act, the U.S. Congress seized UBC and liquidated its assets after the war. The seizure is confirmed by Vesting Order No. 248 in the U.S. Office of the Alien Property Custodian and signed by U.S. Alien Property Custodian Leo T. Crowley.

In August 1942, under the same authority, Congress had seized the first of the Bush-Harriman-managed Thyssen entities, Hamburg-American Line, under Vesting Order No. 126, also signed by Crowley. Eight days after the seizure of UBC, Congress invoked the Trading with the Enemy Act to take control of two more Bush-Harriman-Thyssen businesses: Holland-American Trading Corp. (Vesting Order 261) and Seamless Steel Equipment Corp. (Vesting Order 259).

The documents from the U.S. government archives also show that the Bushes and Harrimans shipped valuable U.S. assets, including gold, coal, steel and U.S. Treasury bonds, to their foreign clients overseas between 1931-1933, as Hitler engineered his rise to power.

Aftermath

In 1952, Prescott Bush was elected to the U.S. Senate, with no press accounts about his well-concealed Nazi past. There is no record of any U.S. press coverage of the Bush-Nazi link during any political campaigns conducted by George H.W.

Bush, Jeb Bush or George W. Bush, with the exception of a brief mention in an unrelated story in the *Sarasota Herald Tribune* (November 2000) and a brief, inaccurate account in the *Boston Globe* in 2001.

Still No Story?

Since 1942, the information has not appeared in any U.S. news coverage of any Bush political campaign, nor has it been included in any of the major Bush family biographies. It was, however, covered extensively in *George Bush: The Unauthorized Biography*, by Webster Tarpley and Anton Chaitkin. (Chaitkin's father was an attorney in the 1940s for some of the victims of the Bush-Harriman-Thyssen businesses.) Their book gave a detailed, accurate accounting of the Bush family's long Nazi affiliation, but no mainstream U.S. media reported on or even investigated the allegations. Major booksellers declined to distribute the book, which was dismissed by Bush supporters as biased and untrue. Its authors struggled even to be reviewed in reputable newspapers. That the book was published by Lyndon LaRouche's organization undoubtedly made it easier to dismiss, but does not change the facts.

In the 1990s, former U.S. Justice Department Nazi war crimes prosecutor John Loftus wrote a book and launched a web site which did breakthrough reporting, including establishing the link between Prescott Bush, Consolidated Silesian Steel Corp. and forced labor at Auschwitz. Although the widely-respected Loftus established

a successful international speaking career with his information, no U.S. newspaper or major TV news program acknowledged his decade of work.

Meanwhile, the mainstream media have made no attempt since WWII to either verify or disprove the allegations of Nazi collaboration against the Bush family. Instead, they have attempted to dismiss or discredit such Internet sites or "unauthorized" books without any journalistic inquiry or research into their veracity.

Loyal Defenders

The *National Review* ran an essay on September 1, 2003, by their White House correspondent Byron York, entitled "Annals of Bush-Hating." It begins mockingly: "Are you aware of the murderous history of George W. Bush – indeed, of the entire Bush family? Are you aware of the president's Nazi

sympathies? His crimes against humanity? And do you know, by the way, that George W. Bush is a certifiable moron?" York discredits the "Bush is a moron" IQ hoax, but fails to disprove the Nazi connection. The more liberal *Boston Globe* ran a column September 29 by *Reason* magazine's Cathy Young in which she referred to "Bush-phobes on the Internet" who "repeat preposterous claims about the Bush family's alleged Nazi connections."

Poles Tackle the Topic

Newsweek Polska (Newseek's Polish edition) ran the "Bush Nazi past" (March 5, 2003). It reported that "the Bush family reaped rewards from the forced-labor prisoners in the Auschwitz concentration camp," according to a translation from Scoop Media. It also reported the seizure of various Bush-Harriman-Thyssen businesses.

Still Not Interested

Major U.S. media outlets, including *ABC News*, *NBC News*, *CNN*, *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Washington Times*, *Los Angeles Times* and *Miami Herald*, as well as the Knight-Ridder newspapers, repeatedly declined to investigate when information regarding discovery of the documents was presented to them beginning August 29, 2003. *Newsweek* U.S. correspondent Michael Isikoff, famous for his reporting of big scoops during the Clinton-Lewinsky sexual affair of the 1990s, declined twice to accept an exclusive story based on the documents from the archives.

Source: *New Hampshire Gazette*, October 10, 2003. <www.nhgazette.com/cgi-bin/NHGstore.cgi?user_action=detail&catalogno=NN_Bush_Nazi%20Link>

The Corporate Media's Ongoing Failure

By Paul Krassner

In January 2003, John Buchanan began researching war profiteering in the Bush administration by way of such companies as the Carlyle Group, Engineered Support Systems, BioPort, Halliburton, Bechtel and Wackenhut. His investigation led to a screenplay called "Project Clear-Vision," taken from the name of an actual CIA anthrax-biowarfare project that may have violated the 1972 Biological Weapons Convention.

"The plot of the script," he told me, "is that the German principals of Bayer AG, which came out of I.G. Farben after WWII, blackmailed [George Bush Sr.] with the 'Nazi past' of the family into allowing the anthrax letters to happen so Cipro sales could save Bayer U.S. from bankruptcy. I got a hotshot young agent in Hollywood who told me on Sept. 2 that he could [sell] the script if I could 'prove' the Nazi past and publish the documentation."

Buchanan spent a few days at

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the National Archives and the Library of Congress, where he found "smoking gun" information in the personal papers of former New York governor Averell Harriman. However, the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *ABC News*, *CNN* and the *Miami Herald* all refused to acknowledge the documentation of his discovery. He ended up in the fortnightly *New Hampshire Gazette*. After his first article appeared on October 10, more than 60 web sites around the globe picked up the story.

Internet postings generated hundreds of emails and calls, including one from the Associated Press. AP Washington reporter Jonathan Salant studied the documents, but then, says Buchanan, he "misreported them in a watered down, inexplicably erroneous story that ran all over the world, October 17-19" in the *Moscow Times*, *London Guardian*, *Hindustan Times*, *Sydney Morning Herald*, *Jerusalem Post* and, in the U.S., *Newsday*, *Washington Times*, *Chicago Sun-Times*, *Kansas City Star*, *Fort Worth Star-Tel-*

gram, *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* and the *San Francisco Chronicle*, among others.

"Meanwhile," says Buchanan, "the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *ABC* and *CNN*, not to mention the *Miami Herald* (whose official response to the AP story was to send the police to my apartment as a 'suspected terrorist sympathizer') stonewalled and refused to look at the documents. After that, Joe Conason...wrote a column in the *New York Observer* in which he dismissed my story as a 'smear' against George W. Bush. That set off a backlash that culminated in a Sunday *Doonesbury* 'Bush-Nazi?' cartoon that turned the scoop into pop culture."

Finally, presidential historian and George Bush Sr.'s official biographer Herbert Parmet [*George Bush: The Life of Lone Star Yankee*, 1997] came to my rescue [November 17, 2003] with a major essay at the *History News Network* at George Mason University." [Editor's Note: Professor Herbert Parmet's article, "What Should We Make of the Charge Linking the Bush Family Fortune to Nazism?" and many followups on this subject be read online at <hnn.us/articles/1811.html>]

Source: "Who leads the '04 fringe candidates," *New York Press*, January 14-20, 2004. <www.nypress.com/17/2/news&columns/zen.cfm>

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