



The Idaho Observer

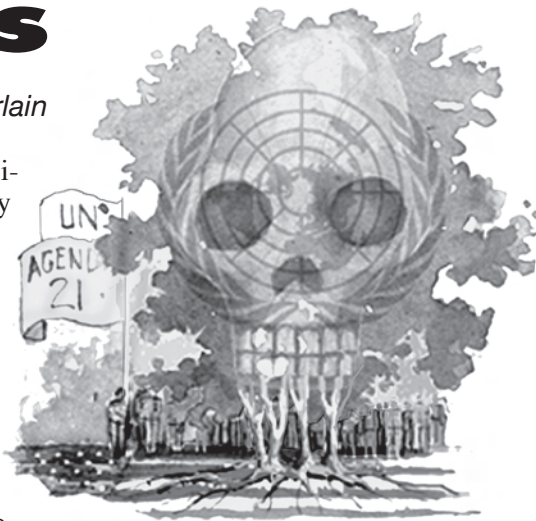
Beware of Glossy Candidate Fliers

By: Anne Wilder Chamberlain

As the Republican Primary nears, (and probably the Democrat Primary in some states) the daily deluge of glossy candidate fliers increases by the week. Here in Idaho, the glossy fliers all pretty much look the same. Those of candidates with little or no experience in government say the same thing as those of career politicians. They tout how they are “conservatives” (by whose definition?) and supporting “sustainable investments” (isn’t that the buzzword of Agenda 21, the United Nations program to take away all of our property rights and turn most of North Idaho into a “wilderness”, uninhabited by humans?) And they say they will reduce taxes and better the business environment, with no proof whatsoever that they have done so in the past, “balancing the budget” with the help, of course, of the Federal Government, which provides 33% of Idaho’s income. They call their unacceptable programs like Common Core “preparing Idaho’s Workforce for a Competitive Future.” Idaho’s students are no longer children and individuals to these folks; they are “Workforce” in the making. Just like in China.

The interesting thing about these fliers is that they all look the same, as though they were paid for and printed at all the same time, by all the same contributors at the same printer. Hmmm. I have supported some grass roots candidates in the past, and we and the other people’s candidates cannot afford these fancy glossy fliers. Mailing is very expensive, so we have to be careful and put everything we want to say into one mailing, in one envelope - often sending it at first class rate because it takes so many mailings to balance out the high cost of third class mailing permits, and we simply do not have the available funds that the incumbents have for mailings.

Who then, is paying for all these glossy mailings? How could a “new” candidate afford a multitude of glossy mailings, unless he is being supported by the same corporations that are attempting to keep the incumbents in office - because they have voted in favor of big business, not the people? Idaho Freedom Foundation has a wonderful “Freedom Index” available (www.idahofreedomindex.com), that rates the voting record of our current candidates, based on whether the vote expanded government and increased spending, or did exactly the opposite. Sadly, nearly 3/4 of our state senators and over half of our state representatives failed the test, by voting for legislation that increased government and taxes. It is time for those people to go. They are likely the same folks who can afford the many glossy mailers. Their supporters hope that you will vote for the names you’ve seen in your mailbox the most, not the tiny letters from the people who will work for you.



Armenian Genocide USA & Turkey Liar! Liar!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

they pleased. They also encouraged Kurdish bandits to raid the caravans and steal anything they wanted. In addition, an extraordinary amount of sexual abuse and rape of girls and young women occurred at the hands of the Special Organization and Kurdish bandits. Most of the attractive young females were kidnapped for a life of involuntary servitude.

The death marches during the Armenian Genocide, involving over a million Armenians, covered hundreds of miles and lasted months. Indirect routes through mountains and wilderness areas were deliberately chosen in order to prolong the ordeal and to keep the caravans away from Turkish villages.

Food supplies being carried by the people quickly ran out and they were usually denied further food or water. Anyone stopping to rest or lagging behind the caravan was mercilessly beaten until they rejoined the march. If they couldn’t continue they were shot. A common practice was to force all of the people in the caravan to remove every stitch of clothing and have them resume the march in the nude under the scorching sun until they dropped dead by the roadside from exhaustion and dehydration.

An estimated 75 percent of the Armenians on these marches perished, especially children and the elderly. Those who survived the ordeal were herded into the desert without a drop of water. Being thrown off cliffs, burned alive, or drowned in rivers.

During the Armenian Genocide, the Turkish countryside became littered with decomposing corpses. At one point, Mehmed Talaat responded to the problem by sending a coded message to all provincial leaders: ‘I have been advised that in certain areas unburied corpses are still to be seen. I ask you to issue the strictest instructions so that the corpses and their debris in your vilayet are buried.’

But his instructions were generally ignored. Those involved in the mass murder showed little interest in stopping to dig graves. The roadside corpses and emaciated deportees were a shocking sight to foreigners working in Turkey. Eyewitnesses included German government liaisons, American missionaries, and US diplomats stationed in the country.

Western Response

During the Armenian Genocide, the Christian missionaries serving in the Empire were often threatened with death and were unable to help

the people. Diplomats from the still neutral United States communicated their blunt assessments of the ongoing government actions. US ambassador to Turkey, Henry Morgenthau, reported to Washington: ‘When the Turkish authorities gave the orders for these deportations, they were merely giving the death warrant to a whole race’

The Allied Powers (Great Britain, France, Russia) responded to news of the massacres by issuing a warning to Turkey: “the Allied governments announce publicly that they will hold all the members of the Ottoman Government, as well as such of their agents as are implicated, personally responsible for such matters.’

The warning had no effect. Newspapers in the West including the *New York Times* published reports of the continuing deportations with the headlines: Armenians Are Sent to Perish in the Desert ‘Turks Accused of Plan to Exterminate Whole Population (August 18, 1915) ‘Million Armenians Killed or in Exile ‘American Committee on Relief Says Victims of Turks Are Steadily Increasing ‘Policy of Extermination (December 15, 1915).

Armenian Self-Defense

Temporary relief for some Armenians came as Russian troops attacked along the Eastern Front and made their way into central Turkey. But the troops withdrew in 1917 upon the Russian Revolution. Armenian survivors withdrew along with them and settled in among fellow Armenians already living in provinces of the former Russian Empire. There were in total about 500,000 Armenians gathered in this region.

In May 1918, Turkish armies attacked the area to achieve the goal of expanding Turkey eastward into the Caucasus and also to resume the annihilation of the Armenians. As many as 100,000 Armenians may have fallen victim to the advancing Turkish troops.

However, the Armenians managed to acquire weapons and they fought back, finally repelling the Turkish invasion at the battle of Sardarabad, thus saving the remaining population from total extermination with no help from the outside world. Following that victory, Armenian leaders declared the establishment of the independent Republic of Armenia in a small portion of their historic homeland in the Caucasus.

War Trials

World War I ended in November 1918 with a defeat for Germany and the Central Powers including Turkey. Shortly before the war had ended, the Young Turk triumvirate; Talaat, Enver and Djemal, abruptly resigned their government posts and fled to Germany

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9