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Hard News:

T: There were 4 of them were talking about when the end of 1335 days was: what was the beginning?

- Ended up on March 21st on 1st day of spring, and the day Madam Wu filed her writ against the false country of the the United States - a deal made dirt cheap on both sides, but it does represent ??
 - GG Lillie was there too -
- Things manifest outwardly from our inward experiences - as we get confirmations, the biological "a - ha" that comes in - we get to the right use of will
- The whole thing of money as power was swept away -

R: Wild stories today:

- Ed Schultz TV show last night, radio show today: Jonathon Alter was guest, also John Nichol
 - the ad by Mike Huckabee about repealing "Obama care" - as that is done, people with pre-existing conditions are sentenced to death
 - where did B M Mittens get his money? 40% of the money he got to start Bain Capital came from the elite of El Salvador
 - Ed had on a vet today: he lost a hand and a foot and it's time to hang the f *****! Ed cut him off, but
- The stories of covering things up - discussing that Mitt will not back down on hiding his taxes: take it or leave it; Harry Reid saying more and more: Put up or shut up!
 - Someone else told him to put them out as he has less and less credibility -
 - the larger picture not being discussed: our friends from across the galaxy
 - there are hints about things coming out of Mars

T: Rama asked her how the A M A got started: after EBE [the captured ET in 1947] got killed - the doctors had figured out how to stop his ability to walk through walls; when they were finished torturing him and killed him, they got rid of the evidence

- the AMA's purpose was to hid the experiments and secrets, and the extensive research doctors did on people
- Mike P [lawyer by trade] was telling of all kinds of cases that he represented where people were experimented on & gave no permission
 - There was a drug that caused bleeding and death, and some kind of mesh used on women that caused pain, bleeding, then death
 - Pharmaceutical companies train reps to not tell the truth: the doctors who say no get taken out - like Dr John Mack who stepped off a curb in London and got hit by a bus
 - Mike P: US makes money by selling toxic trash
 - Check out ABC Sunday morning talk shows: how dumbed down they are

R: peoples' IQ have dropped to 6th or 7th grade: Mike P spoke of this today - not teaching critical thinking! Only want sheeple - the plan to take over the planet has been cancelled

T: writing laws in Texas to prevent the teaching of critical thinking

R: a retarded man executed in Texas: also banning of **The Grapes of Wrath**

- There is a man in the book who steps into a rejuvenation chamber and both sides of brain worked

T: Guest on Mike P / Thom Hartmann show - ??

R: Rick Perry, Dick Cheney, Bush Jr not invited to RN Convention -

T: talking of devastation in the eyes of the world

- Goo Kai Lei, wife of head of a Chinese province, charged with murdering a British ambassador
 - said she suffered a mental breakdown when thought son was in danger
 - 4 senior police officers were discovered covering up the scandal of the ambassador
 - forging witness statements, hiding evidence; falsifying interview records, concealing evidence and the fact that she had been on the scene and poisoned him -
 - also persuaded his family that it was a sudden death after a lot of drinking,
 - no autopsy but a cremation
 - so the Chinese have a real problem

R: an internal revolution in China - the Falun Gong people, and the white dragon people will overcome the legions of the black dragons in China: could happen as soon as Sept/October

T: the present ways of controlling the people in China will soon dissolve

- cleaning up the scandal without further damaging the reputation of the Communist Party is

almost being done with balance; they want to keep the question of money laundering out of the story

- In the province, Lie's power base, the people are learning the fate of their former first lady but the reporters are learning of the resentment against the wealth gap that is growing, disparity poses a challenge for the entire Chinese way of governing long after Lie fades from the scene.

Audio: Amy Goodman: Romney getting 40% of his start up money from El Salvador
<http://www.democracynow.org/2012/8/9/headlines#894>

Romney Scrutinized over Bain's Ties to El Salvador Death Squads

Republican candidate Mitt Romney continues to face scrutiny over his record at the private equity firm, Bain Capital. The latest controversy to surround Bain concerns how Romney helped found the company with investments from Central American elites linked to death squads in El Salvador. After initially struggling to find investors, Romney traveled to Miami in 1983 to win pledges of \$9 million, 40 percent of Bain's start-up money. Some investors had extensive ties to the death squads responsible for the vast majority of the tens of thousands of deaths in El Salvador during the 1980s. The investors include the Salaverria family, whom the former U.S. ambassador to El Salvador, Robert White, has previously accused of directly funding the Salvadoran paramilitaries. In his memoir, former Bain executive Harry Strachan writes that Romney pushed aside his own misgivings about the investors to accept their backing. Strachan writes: "These Latin American friends have loyally rolled over investments in succeeding funds, actively participated in Bain Capital's May investor meetings, and are still today one of the largest investor groups in Bain Capital."

[SEE BELOW FOR ARTICLE DETAILING WHAT WAS DISCUSSED ON AMY'S PROGRAM]

T: The person discussing what was going on with Bain Capital mentioned that Hillary was tied in.

Reading: The Science of Genocide by Chris Hedges - Aug 6th **[SEE BELOW]**

T: Ashtar spoke to Gorbachev to reduce the size of the Russian nuclear arsenal; the purpose was to put the responsibility for what happens to the planet squarely on the US military etc etc complex.

- The Pleiadians came around 100,000 years ago and infused spirit into people - yet this was almost wiped out too

Caller: reference to Moab & Moses taking a star ship to Turtle Island

T: Akhnaton came first, and Aknauton took Moses body: they were identical souls

R: the wandering through the desert for 40 years: a lie or did it happen? Not sure

T: Moses was placed in a reed basket : the princess adopted him when she caught him: the Nile went right by the palace

R: Akhnaton had something wrong with his physical form - he had a hard time walking, it was painful so how could wandering through the desert for 40 years be so?

Caller: as they were the Goodly Company, when it was time to leave, A just dropped the body and went to Turtle Island?

T: She knows A did not die: just transferred to Moses' body

Caller 2: If he walked out without death, what happened to A?

T: they beamed it up: they say they saw Orisus body in the Sphinx - but he just manifested into a form on to the earth, was not born through a woman

Caller 1: what is connection between Moses and Moab?

T: both were on Egypt - Moab was in land of Canaan

Caller 1: Pisgah Forest, North Carolina, large national forest in the Appalachians - goes into Northern Georgia -

- there are underground ley lines that connect the Judicala Rock and Uluru

T: there were ways of travelling in space ships, also land speeders that took them through underground tunnels as well - via Agartha network; 2000 years ago

Caller: what rock has an entrance

T: they met with Gerry Bostock - an aboriginal shaman healer - various people went up to meet him;

• he had a bone healer with him who did not even say hello; just said you are members of the Ashtar Command too!

Had a regular instant Polaroid camera - in the pictures, orbs were everywhere - would see rainbow arches of light coming out of his hands, crown - wherever a person needed healing, the arch would come out, and the orbs would move around and heal people where they needed healing

- The movie called "The Rabbit-Proof Fence" - the kids escaped
- John Winston in Alaska knows all about the entrances into the Agartha Network - he got his blessings in 1996 and has been working with materials from various libraries, including the Vatican
 - O:N:E: is a document which contains 3 different things
 - 3 levels of text - ancient Nazarene writing translated out of Aramaic

Music: Dunya - sung in ancient language of Lemuria, in Mali - the origins of the Mayans

Caller: re history of western Canada, US:

- That native Americans were robbed of their resources [furs, land, etc] & that people who did it [companies like Hudson Bay, etc] did it with "malice aforethought", with long range plans to disenfranchise everyone for the benefit of their own pockets and for ultimate control is even harder to contemplate than what might be called "mere opportunism" -
- That the natives knew absolutely who they were and that it was also about shutting them up about that knowledge - opportunism seems slightly less heinous than out and out calculated long-range planning to take everything in sight for self, leaving poverty and the death of others behind

T: we are being guided by spirit & we are remembering things that have not been written before

Audio: completion of interview with Ryan Grim on Bain Capital, Romney etc

[SEE BELOW]

Reading: **Secret Places of the Lion** Chapter One: Preparation

The *WORD* was prepared . . .

"In the beginning was the Word, and the *Word* was with God, and the *Word* was God" (John i:I)
"Word" in its first and original sense does not mean voice, sound, or speech. It means: The Creation, according to divine laws, from the universal creative *fluid*, in the "tomb", "cave", or manger of the earth of that *Perfect One*, which has the power to spiritualize and regenerate Adamic man. The Bible tells us that "Man does not live by bread alone, but by every *Word* that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

Therefore, the "Word" . . . the Divine Creative Influx was *prepared* on earth that man here might receive it in love and understanding . . . that he might ascend to higher spiritual knowledge and wisdom because of this *preparation*.
.....

Audio: Space Brother Contactees - George van Tassel and Dan Fry

R: the integration is an ancient Lemurian rejuvenation device; he met Van Tassel as a kid who put him into the integration & found out what happens

[1950s Contactees](#)

webspaces.utexas.edu/cokerwr/www/index.html/sbrothers.sh...

This crew is usually referred to today as "the **Contactees**. ... (1898-1969), **George Van Tassel** (1910-1978), **Daniel W. Fry** (1908-1992), Orfeo Angelucci ... introduced a new paradigm to replace Adamski's by now stereotypical **Space Brothers**.



May 27, 2009 ... Howard Menger, **Van Tassel and Dan Fry**, completing the series on ...

Space Brother Contactees Part 1 of 5 - Howard Menger, **Van Tassel & Dan Fry** megawatts106642411 views · **George** Kavassilas' Secret Messages ...

Space Brother Contactees part 1 of 5

www.youtube.com/watch?v=7myEjjbuPYU

Space Brother Contactees part 2 of 5

www.youtube.com/watch?v=T19PPMMvdgI

Space Brother Contactees part 3 of 5

www.youtube.com/watch?v=ggsuHRnyn0Q

Space Brother Contactees part 4 of 5

www.youtube.com/watch?v=avxS4cmprRU

Space Brother Contactees part 5 of 5

www.youtube.com/watch?v=z4zoxdE5u8E

Audio: Max Keiser

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=qrmJ8pa5e1w

T: The light is getting brighter every day, in spite of what we hear!

Send them light and love: Some are chasing after a nickel in front of a steam roller

Reading: Swami Purna I AM THAT

Closing: Rainbird

Closing Music: Ancient Mother

2012, Aug 8 **Mitt Romney Started Bain Capital with Money from Families tied to Death Squads**

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/08/08/mitt-romney-death-squads-bain_n_1710133.html

In 1983, Bill Bain asked Mitt Romney to launch Bain Capital, a private equity offshoot of the successful consulting firm Bain & Company. After some initial reluctance, Romney agreed. The new job came with a stipulation: Romney couldn't raise money from any current clients, Bain said, because if the private equity venture failed, he didn't want it taking the consulting firm down with it.

When Romney struggled to raise funds from other traditional sources, he and his partners started thinking outside the box. Bain executive Harry Strachan suggested that Romney meet with a group of Central American oligarchs who were looking for new investment vehicles as turmoil engulfed their region.

Romney was worried that the oligarchs might be tied to "illegal drug money, right-wing death squads, or left-wing terrorism," Strachan later told a *Boston Globe* reporter, as quoted in the 2012 book "The Real Romney." But, pressed for capital, Romney pushed his concerns aside and flew to Miami in mid-1984 to meet with the Salvadorans at a local bank.

It was a lucrative trip. The Central Americans provided roughly \$9 million -- 40 percent -- of Bain Capital's initial outside funding, [the Los Angeles Times reported recently](#). And they became valued clients.

"Over the years, these Latin American friends have loyally rolled over investments in succeeding funds, actively participated in Bain Capital's May investor meetings, and are still today one of the largest investor groups in Bain Capital," Strachan wrote in his memoir in 2008. Strachan declined to be interviewed for this story.

When Romney launched another venture that needed funding -- his first presidential campaign -- he returned to Miami.

"I owe a great deal to Americans of Latin American descent," he [said at a dinner](#) in Miami in 2007. "When I was starting my business, I came to Miami to find partners that would believe in me and that would finance my enterprise. My partners were Ricardo Poma, Miguel Dueñas, Pancho Soler, Frank Kardonski, and Diego Ribadeneira."

Romney could also have thanked investors from two other wealthy and powerful Central American clans -- the de Sola and Salaverria families, who the *Los Angeles Times* and *Boston Globe* have reported were founding investors in Bain Capital.

While they were on the lookout for investments in the United States, members of some of these prominent families -- including the Salaverria, Poma, de Sola and Dueñas clans -- were also at the time financing, either directly or through political parties, death squads in El Salvador. The ruling classes were deploying the death squads to beat back left-wing guerrillas and reformers during El Salvador's civil war.

The death squads committed atrocities on such a mass scale for so small a country that their killing spree sparked international condemnation. From 1979 to 1992, some 75,000 people were killed in the Salvadoran civil war, according to the United Nations. In 1982, two years before Romney began raising money from the oligarchs, El Salvador's independent Human Rights Commission [reported](#) that, of the 35,000 civilians killed, "most" died at the hands of death squads. A [United Nations truth commission](#) concluded in 1993 that 85 percent of the acts of violence were perpetrated by the right, while the left-wing Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front, which was supported by the Cuban government, was responsible for 5 percent.

When The Huffington Post asked the Romney campaign about Bain Capital accepting funds from families tied to death squads, a spokeswoman forwarded a 1999 *Salt Lake Tribune* article to explain the campaign's position on the matter. She declined to comment further.

"Romney confirms Bain had investors in El Salvador. But, as was Bain's policy with any big investor, they had the families checked out as diligently as possible," the *Tribune* wrote. "They uncovered no unsavory links to

drugs or other criminal activity."

Nobody with a basic understanding of the region's history could believe that assertion.

By 1984, the media had thoroughly exposed connections between the death squads and the Salvadoran oligarchy, including the families that invested with Romney. The sitting U.S. ambassador to El Salvador charged that several families, including at least one that invested with Bain, were living in Miami and directly funding death squads. Even by 1981, El Salvador's elite, largely relocated to Miami, were so angered by the public perception that they were financing death squads that they reached out to the media to make their case. The [two men put forward](#) to represent the oligarchs were both from families that would invest in Bain three years later. The most cursory review of their backgrounds would have turned up the ties.

The connection between the families involved with Bain's founding and those who financed death squads was made by the *Boston Globe* in 1994 and the *Salt Lake Tribune* in 1999. This election cycle, [Salon first raised](#) the issue in January, and the [Los Angeles Times filled out](#) more of the record earlier this month.

There is no shortage of unsavory links. Even the *Tribune* article referred to by the Romney campaign reports that "about \$6.5 million of \$37 million that established the company came from wealthy El Salvadoran families linked to right-wing death squads."

The **Salaverria family**, whose fortune came from producing cotton and coffee, had deep connections to the right-wing Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA), a political party that death-squad leader Roberto D'Aubuisson founded in the fall of 1981. The year before, El Salvador's government had pushed through land reforms and nationalized the coffee trade, moves that threatened a ruling class whose financial and political dominance was built in large part on growing coffee. ARENA controlled and directed death squads during its early years.

On March 24, 1980, Oscar Romero, the archbishop of San Salvador and an advocate of the poor, was celebrating Mass at a chapel in a small hospital when he was assassinated [on D'Aubuisson's orders](#), according to a person involved in the murder who later came forward.

The day before, Romero, an immensely popular figure, had called on the country's soldiers to refuse the government's orders to attack fellow Salvadorans.

"Before another killing order is given," he advised in his sermon, "the law of God must prevail: Thou shalt not kill."

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=2dvT1rrDBTI

In 1984, Robert White, the former U.S. ambassador to El Salvador, named two Salaverria brothers -- Julio and Juan Ricardo -- as two of six Salvadoran exiles in Miami who had directly funded death squads, repeating in sworn congressional testimony a claim he'd made earlier as ambassador. The group became known as the "Miami Six." White testified that a source close to the Miami Six had notified the U.S. embassy of their activities in January 1981.

White was pushed out of his job by the incoming Reagan administration in 1981; he was considered insufficiently supportive of the Salvadoran ruling class. (D'Aubuisson [endorsed Ronald Reagan](#) in 1984.) When contacted by phone recently, White reiterated his claim about the Salaverria brothers, but said he couldn't reveal his source's identity in order to protect the source.

"The Salaverria family were very well-known as backers of D'Aubuisson," White told The Huffington Post. "These guys were big-money contributors. ... They were total backers of D'Aubuisson and the extremist solution, including death squads."

Alfonso Salaverria was a close associate of Orlando de Sola, a leading death-squad figure, and, like him, supported D'Aubuisson.

The Salaverria family also violently resisted land reform efforts. When the Salvadoran government seized about 140 of the country's largest farms in March 1980, 73-year-old Raul Salaverria was the only landowner to openly resist, the *Washington Post* reported at the time. A brief exchange of gunfire between government forces and Salaverria's people resulted in two injuries, and 1,500 weapons were allegedly found on the property.

Eight years later, workers in an agrarian reform co-operative whose land once belonged to the Salaverrias barely escaped an assassination attempt. "Members of the co-op suspect the former owners, the Salaverria family, were behind the violence," a 1988 Human Rights Watch report said. The family denied involvement.

Francisco de Sola and his cousin, **Herbert Arturo de Sola**, also invested early in Bain, according to the *Los Angeles Times*. Two other members of the de Sola family were "limited partners," according to the *Boston Globe*, but the Romney campaign declined to provide The Huffington Post with their names. The de Sola family was one of El Salvador's most powerful coffee growers and a financier of the ARENA party.

Herbert's brother was the notorious Orlando de Sola, who resisted the peace negotiations toward the end of the civil war. The Romney campaign acknowledges Orlando de Sola's connection to death squads but insists he is not representative of the de Sola family investors. While Romney told the *Tribune* in 1999 that the backgrounds of the families had been checked diligently, he had explained to the *Boston Globe* in 1994 that Bain's due diligence included only the backgrounds of the individual investors, not their family members. "We investigated the individuals' integrity and looked for any obvious signs of illegal activity and problems in their background, and found none. We did not investigate in-laws and relatives." Deflecting the association with Orlando, Strachan, whom Romney had charged with vetting the investors, described him that same year to the *Globe* as "the black sheep of the family. ... He was kicked out of the family business."

Yet there is strong evidence that Orlando was anything but a black sheep in the de Sola family. Indeed, he was a leading public face of the Salvadoran elites in Miami, speaking, for example, [on behalf of](#) the El Salvador Freedom Foundation, the organization which arranged a U.S. press conference for D'Aubuisson as part of its public relations activities on behalf of the oligarchs and ARENA. An [Associated Press story from April 1981](#) includes Orlando de Sola and Alfonso Salaverria speaking on behalf of the oligarchs in exile. The story also makes reference to White's charges regarding the funding of death squads, indicating that the charges were already well known by that point.

But the ties run deeper still. In 1990, Orlando de Sola, D'Aubuisson and founding Bain investor Francisco de Sola allegedly assassinated two left-wing activists then in Guatemala, according to a [report by that country's government](#), which cited its intelligence sources. The activists had just held a meeting with then-Sen. Chris Dodd (D-Conn.), who was attempting to broker a Salvadoran peace deal.

Francisco de Sola later [pleaded his and his cousin Orlando's innocence](#) to the U.S. ambassador. The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights looked further into the killings and concluded that elements of the Salvadoran right were indeed the mostly likely assassins, but said that it couldn't confirm the guilt of the de Solas or D'Aubuisson. It deemed the investigation incomplete and called for a deeper look. The three men were never charged.

Francisco de Sola is now president of the Salvadoran Foundation for Economic and Social Development. His assistant, Ada Chang, said that he was traveling and unavailable to comment, but she confirmed to HuffPost that he had been accused of murdering the two leftists in 1990. Whether he committed the crime or not, the fact that Guatemalan intelligence would associate him with Orlando de Sola and D'Aubuisson, and place them in Guatemala together, casts further doubt on Strachan's claim that Orlando de Sola was merely a "black sheep" who had been "kicked out of the family business."

Orlando de Sola, who is serving an unrelated prison sentence for fraud, told the *Los Angeles Times* that he did not personally benefit from the Bain investments. "I would say their relationship with Bain Capital was a step to diversify into foreign investments," he said of his family.

Ricardo Poma was the first investor Romney thanked when he traveled to Miami in 2007. The head of the Poma Group, he became one of the three members of the Bain Capital investment committee, according to

Strachan's memoir. The Poma family were financiers of D'Aubuisson's ARENA party.

The **Regalado-Dueñas family**, like many of El Salvador's other powerful clans, amassed much of their wealth and political power through the coffee industry. Along with the Alvarez family, they also helped to found Banco Comercial, one of the biggest banks in El Salvador.

The Regalado-Dueñas and Alvarez families were leading supporters of ARENA. Arturo Dueñas "regularly supplied" the head of an ARENA-affiliated "paramilitary unit ... with a variety of official Salvadoran documents," according to a [redacted 1984 CIA document](#), which uses the euphemism for death squad. (Salvadoran government documents were used by death squads to assemble lists of people to kill.)

Miguel Dueñas and Ricardo Poma did not respond to requests for comment. The Salaverria brothers are dead, according to Ambassador White.

Jeffery Paige, author of "Coffee and Power: Revolution and the Rise of Democracy in Central America" and a professor at the University of Michigan, has studied the political economy of Central American oligarchies. Romney's claim to have checked out the backgrounds of the families and come away satisfied befuddles Paige.

"These people benefited from one of the most exploitative and repressive agricultural systems in Latin America. That's why they had a revolution," Paige said. "This money, certainly there wasn't much concern where it came from and what these people had done to make that money."

Sergio Bendixen, who now does polling for President Barack Obama, spent a significant amount of time in El Salvador in the early '80s, doing political polling for Univision. He said that he met D'Aubuisson on many occasions and found him to be one of the warmest, most charming and charismatic people he has ever met. But he said D'Aubuisson was also very upfront about what he saw as the justifiable use of death squads.

"There were 10 or 30 bodies in the street every morning," Bendixen recalled of his time there. "D'Aubuisson said it was necessary. The message needed to be sent [that] if you were associated with the communists or socialists, you had to be killed. He said it was an instrument in keeping the violence down, because others would see the consequences."

Bendixen suggested that a cursory look would have shown Romney what those families were involved with. "If anybody tries to tell you there was a line, a Chinese wall, between ARENA and the death squads, that's just not the way it was," he said.

The Salvadoran elite in Miami talked openly at the time, he said, of supporting the death squads battling the rebels. It wasn't a source of shame, Bendixen recalled, but a source of pride. "They were proud of the fact that they were supporting their country against the communists," he said.

As Romney now seeks support from the Latino community in his campaign for president, his knowledge of Bain's all-too-few degrees of separation from Salvadoran death squads may become a topic of interest.

"Under Ronald Reagan, the U.S. sent billions of dollars to the murderous regime, which utilized that aid to fund the military and death squads in an effort to preserve the unjust privileges of the Salvadoran oligarchy," said Arturo J. Viscarra, an immigration lawyer, who, like many other Salvadorans, emigrated to the United States in order to escape the civil war. He said his family left the country in 1980 after his father began receiving death threats.

"To now learn that a man that may become president of the U.S. deserves some of his success due to the incredible inequality that the U.S. helped to preserve in El Salvador is ironic," Viscarra said. "It's morbidly funny."

The U.S. involvement in the bloodshed is now seen as a black mark on the nation's record. When President Obama visited Central America in March 2011, he made a symbolic stop at Romero's grave, lighting a candle for the archbishop.

Romney, however, has shown no public remorse for signing up such investors, although the concept of culpability is not foreign to him. When he returned to Miami in 2007, he condemned those who had financed

torture and other human rights abuses during the Salvadoran civil war -- just not those he was connected to.

"These friends didn't just help me; they taught me," Romney said. "Ricardo's brother had been tortured and murdered by rebel terrorists in El Salvador. Miguel himself had been chained to a floor in Guatemala for weeks and tortured. And their torturers were financed by Fidel Castro. I learned from these friends about the human cost when Castro has money."

2012, August 6 **The Science of Genocide** by Chris Hedges

http://www.truthdig.com/report/item/the_science_of_genocide_20120806/



Illustration by Mr. Fish

On this day in 1945 the United States demonstrated that it was as morally bankrupt as the Nazi machine it had recently vanquished and the Soviet regime with which it was allied. Over Hiroshima, and three days later over Nagasaki, it exploded an atomic device that was the most efficient weapon of genocide in human history. The blast killed tens of thousands of men, women and children. It was an act of mass annihilation that was strategically and militarily indefensible. The Japanese had been on the verge of surrender. Hiroshima and Nagasaki had no military significance. It was a war crime for which no one was ever tried. The explosions, which marked the culmination of three centuries of physics, signaled the ascendancy of the technician and scientist as our most potent agents of death.

“In World War II Auschwitz and Hiroshima showed that progress through technology has escalated man’s destructive impulses into more precise and incredibly more devastating form,” [Bruno Bettelheim](#) said. “The concentration camps with their gas chambers, the first atomic bomb ... confronted us with the stark reality of overwhelming death, not so much one’s own—this each of us has to face sooner or later, and however uneasily, most of us manage not to be overpowered by our fear of it—but the unnecessary and untimely death of millions. ... Progress not only failed to preserve life but it deprived millions of their lives more effectively than had ever been possible before. Whether we choose to recognize it or not, after the second World War Auschwitz and Hiroshima became monuments to the incredible devastation man and technology together bring about.”

The atomic blasts, ignited in large part to send a message to the Soviet Union, were a reminder that science is morally neutral. Science and technology serve the ambitions of humankind. And few in the sciences look beyond the narrow tasks handed to them by corporations or government. They employ their dark arts, often blind to the

consequences, to cement into place systems of security and surveillance, as well as systems of environmental destruction, that will result in collective enslavement and mass extermination. As we veer toward environmental collapse we will have to pit ourselves against many of these experts, scientists and technicians whose loyalty is to institutions that profit from exploitation and death.

Scientists and technicians in the United States over the last five decades built 70,000 nuclear weapons at a cost of \$5.5 trillion. (The Soviet Union had a nuclear arsenal of similar capability.) By 1963, according to the Columbia University professor [Seymour Melman](#), the United States could overkill the 140 principal cities in the Soviet Union more than 78 times. Yet we went on manufacturing nuclear warheads. And those who publicly questioned the rationality of the massive nuclear buildup, such as J. Robert Oppenheimer, who at the government lab at Los Alamos, N.M., had overseen the building of the two bombs used on Japan, often were zealously persecuted on suspicion of being communists or communist sympathizers. It was a war plan that called for a calculated act of enormous, criminal genocide. We built more and more bombs with the sole purpose of killing hundreds of millions of people. And those who built them, with few exceptions, never gave a thought to their suicidal creations.

“What are we to make of a civilization which has always regarded ethics as an essential part of human life [but] which has not been able to talk about the prospect of killing almost everyone except in prudential and game-theoretical terms?” Oppenheimer asked after World War II.

[Max Born](#), the great German-British physicist and mathematician who was instrumental in the development of quantum mechanics, in his memoirs made it clear he disapproved of Oppenheimer and the other physicists who built the atomic bombs. “It is satisfying to have had such clever and efficient pupils,” Born wrote, “but I wish they had shown less cleverness and more wisdom.” Oppenheimer wrote his old teacher back. “Over the years, I have felt a certain disapproval on your part for much that I have done. This has always seemed to me quite natural, for it is a sentiment that I share.” But of course, by then, it was too late.

It was science, industry and technology that made possible the 20th century’s industrial killing. These forces magnified innate human barbarity. They served the immoral. And there are numerous scientists who continue to work in labs across the country on weapons systems that have the capacity to exterminate millions of human beings. Is this a “rational” enterprise? Is it moral? Does it advance the human species? Does it protect life?

For many of us, science has supplanted religion. We harbor a naive faith in the godlike power of science. Since scientific knowledge is cumulative, albeit morally neutral, it gives the illusion that human history and human progress also are cumulative. Science is for us what totems and spells were for our pre-modern ancestors. It is magical thinking. It feeds our hubris and sense of divine empowerment. And trusting in its fearsome power will mean our extinction.

The 17th century Enlightenment myth of human advancement through science, reason and rationality should have been obliterated forever by the slaughter of World War I. Europeans watched the collective suicide of a generation. The darker visions of human nature embodied in the works of Fyodor Dostoevsky, Leo Tolstoy, Thomas Hardy, Joseph Conrad and Frederick Nietzsche before the war found modern expression in the work of Sigmund Freud, James Joyce, Marcel Proust, Franz Kafka, D.H. Lawrence, Thomas Mann and Samuel Beckett, along with atonal and dissonant composers such as Igor Stravinsky and painters such as Otto Dix, George Grosz, Henri Matisse and Pablo Picasso. Human progress, these artists and writers understood, was a joke. But there were many more who enthusiastically embraced new utopian visions of progress and glory peddled by fascists and communists. These belief systems defied reality. They fetishized death. They sought unattainable utopias through violence. And empowered by science and technology, they killed millions.

Human motives often are irrational and, as Freud pointed out, contain powerful yearnings for death and self-immolation. Science and technology have empowered and amplified the ancient lusts for war, violence and death. Knowledge did not free humankind from barbarism. The civilized veneer only masked the dark, inchoate longings that plague all human societies, including our own. Freud feared the destructive power of these urges. He warned in [“Civilization and Its Discontents”](#) that if we could not regulate or contain these urges, human beings would, as the Stoics predicted, consume themselves in a vast conflagration. The future of the human race

depends on naming and controlling these urges. To pretend they do not exist is to fall into self-delusion.

The breakdown of social and political control during periods of political and economic turmoil allows these urges to reign supreme. Our first inclination, Freud noted correctly, is not to love one another as brothers or sisters but to “satisfy [our] aggressiveness on [our fellow human being], to exploit his capacity for work without compensation, to use him sexually without his consent, to seize his possessions, to humiliate him, to cause him pain, to torture and to kill him.” The war in Bosnia, with rampaging Serbian militias, rape camps, torture centers, concentration camps, razed villages and mass executions, was one of numerous examples of Freud’s wisdom. At best, Freud knew, we can learn to live with, regulate and control our inner tensions and conflicts. The structure of civilized societies would always be fraught with this inner tension, he wrote, because “. . . man’s natural aggressive instinct, the hostility of each against all and of all against each, opposes this program of civilization.” The burden of civilization is worth it. The alternative, as Freud knew, is self-destruction.

A rational world, a world that will protect the ecosystem and build economies that learn to distribute wealth rather than allow a rapacious elite to hoard it, will never be handed to us by the scientists and technicians. Nearly all of them work for the enemy. Mary Shelley warned us about becoming Prometheus as we seek to defy fate and the gods in order to master life and death. Her Victor Frankenstein, when his 8-foot-tall creation made partly of body pieces from graves came to ghastly life, had the same reaction as Oppenheimer when the American scientist discovered that his bomb had incinerated Japanese schoolchildren. The scientist Victor Frankenstein watched the “dull yellow eye” of his creature open and “breathless horror and disgust” filled his heart.” Oppenheimer said after the first atomic bomb was detonated in the New Mexican desert: “I remembered the line from the Hindu scripture, the Bhagavad-Gita. Vishnu is trying to persuade the Prince that he should do his duty and to impress him takes on his multi-armed form and says, ‘Now I am become Death, the destroyer of worlds.’ I suppose we all thought that, in one way or another.” The critic [Harold Bloom](#), in words that could be applied to Oppenheimer, called Victor Frankenstein “a moral idiot.”

All attempts to control the universe, to play God, to become the arbiters of life and death, have been carried out by moral idiots. They will relentlessly push forward, exploiting and pillaging, perfecting their terrible tools of technology and science, until their creation destroys them and us. They make the nuclear bombs. They extract oil from the tar sands. They turn the Appalachians into a wasteland to extract coal. They serve the evils of globalism and finance. They run the fossil fuel industry. They flood the atmosphere with carbon emissions, doom the seas, melt the polar ice caps, unleash the droughts and floods, the heat waves, the freak storms and hurricanes.

Now I am become Death, the destroyer of worlds.