

[REDACTED]
H.E. MO. 64127

Brian Lamb,

Journalist Round table is the
one T.V. program I never miss.

I just want the Washington
Journalist know there are thousand
of peope and a few Journalist in
the mid west who do not believe
the Government version of "Wato"

Thank You Much
[REDACTED]

More wacky Waco babble

"Wild-eyed claptrap" is how one caller described what has been "running in your column lately" about "the incident."

I agree. Or, rather, I would have agreed a little more than a year ago. That was before the \$2-

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million-a-day raid and siege by federal law enforcement agents at the Mount Carmel complex of the Branch Davidian sect near Waco, Texas.

The whole thing occurred to me at the time as merely bizarre. Here were more than 100-plus agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms clad in riot gear, clambering out of cattle trucks, hollering and hooting, setting off "flashbangs" (while shooting dogs to keep them quiet), flinging ladders against the walls of the compound, "breaking and raking" windows, helicopters looming overhead — all in the interest of serving a warrant to search for illegal weapons and arrest the self-styled prophet of the sect, David Koresh (aka Vernon Wayne Howell), whose flock was thought to number about 75 souls — mostly women and children.

In this fashion, the ATF managed to validate the apocalyptic paranoia of Koresh and his followers, who had been told 10 years earlier that in 10 years the beginning of the End Times would occur right there in and around Waco with an Army of the Enemy assaulting and besieging the Davidians.

Then the FBI arrived, Bradley fighting vehicles and Abrams battle tanks were brought in on the second day, plus another 300 or 400 federal agents in addition to local police and sheriffs from all around the area, hundreds of media people who set up shop three miles away, a contingent of sympathizers and onlookers as well as family and friends of the Davidians, souvenir hawkers and so on.

It all began to appear to be a micro-Desert Shield, especially with the media agreeably remaining far from the action, attending daily briefings, asking ridiculous questions and gratefully broadcasting or printing whatever line federal officials fed them.

Koresh seemed to me to be beyond belief — a high school dropout who was kicked out of a couple of churches for, in one instance, seeking to bed the preacher's daughter, a failed rock performer, apparent pedophile and — like Saddam himself — consummate gun nut who pursued his vocation and predilections just outside Waco, Texas — a town once called Six-shooter Junction and now claiming more than 200 churches serving a population of about 103,000.

Then I began to discover more about what went on and was appalled in the end when Attorney General Janet Reno agreed to a plan to attack the compound with tanks and shoot a type of gas in there that has been banned for use in warfare — in the interest of saving the children, of course. I was more appalled when she said, following the inferno, "I'm accountable" and "I made the decision" and "the buck stops with me" — however, in so many words, it's all the fault of David Koresh. So said the four agents who were killed in the raid had been body guards of his in the primary and presidential campaign. These agents were out of the New Orleans office and had been in the charge of Resident Special Agent William Buford of Little Rock.

The whole business was catastrophic. Lies were told on top of lies; the subsequent ATF Review is replete with excuses, alibis, distortions and omissions that amount to more lies. Eleven survivors of the raid and conflagration were charged with murder and conspiracy to murder, but the media were too busy with the likes of the Buttafuocos, the Menendez brothers, Michael Jackson, the Bobbitts, Tonya Harding et al. to pay any attention to the trial preliminaries or the trial itself in San Antonio.

Neither has anyone been paying much attention to the crime bill winding its way through Congress, with provisions that increase the number of federal crimes, that add 100,000 or 200,000 officers to urban police forces by bringing in former military people (as many of the special agents at Waco were) and, yes, instituting new gun regulations and restrictions that would be enforced by a beefed-up ATF.

Now, again, the mainstream media are out of the loop in the aftermath of "the incident." According to an account by Andrew L. Kilpatrick in the *Waco Tribune-Herald* (and nowhere else that I have seen) the law firm of Caddell and Conwell in Houston recently filed a \$675 million suit against the U.S. Government, 19 agents and former agents of the ATF and FBI, plus one Justice Department official, on behalf of the dead Davidians and their families. Also 48 tort claims were sent to the federal government asking \$240 million. A suit in that amount will also be filed if there is no response in six months.

Acting Special Agent in Charge Darrell Dyer of the ATF Kansas City office is one of those named in the suit. According to the ATF Review, Dyer assumed duties as Support Coordinator and was involved in belatedly writing — and later "revising" — the required plan for the raid as well as in the shooting of Michael Schroeder, a Branch Davidian who was returning to the compound, after a cease-fire had been established. (Buford of Little Rock was also named.)

Attorney Joe Phillips commented that, in addition to getting compensation for the families of those who perished, "We want to establish the terrible power that the government and its agents used against these people. . . . We want to send a message to the government, and the individual agents, that they cannot use their power in the reckless manner they did."

Civil libertarians, especially those in the media, need to wake up. Many of us are afraid of appearing to champion gun violence or to become identified with oddball religious fervor or even a "white supremacist," as Randy Weaver, the former Green Beret, has been labeled. We need to remember that the government vilifies whomever it goes after, and it can as easily do the same to your kindly neighbor or yourself. If we of the media aren't interested in reporting on the situation of anyone whose ideas we dislike, then we're out of business. Or should be.

And I thank the gentleman for his "wild-eyed claptrap" accusation. It's the sort of thing that was said of those persons in various states who fought against ratification of the U.S. Constitution without plainly stated provisions assuring individual freedoms and property rights. As Patrick Henry said (13 years after his famous "Give me liberty or give me death" line), "I would rather have a King, a House of Lords and Commons" than an all-powerful central government wherein "the rights of conscience, liberty, of the press, all your communities and franchises, all pretensions to human rights and privileges, are rendered insecure, if not lost."



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MALE SEXUAL DYSFUNCTION

By Steve Goodman, RN, BSN

While cigarette smoking and the consumption of alcoholic beverages have been portrayed as glamorous and sexy since the earlier 1900s, one of the most poorly publicized side effects of smoking and drinking alcohol is erectile dysfunction, commonly known as impotence.

According to Steve Goodman, RN, BSN, Director of Clinical Services for The Diagnostic Center for Men in Olathe, impotence is defined as: the ability to achieve and/or maintain erections (rigidity) suitable for sexual intercourse.

Goodman, who has helped treat thousands of men in the greater Kansas City area for impotence, says that, "the reason cigarette smoking affects sexual function lies in the fact that the drug, nicotine, contained in the cigarette smoke, causes arteries to temporarily become smaller in diameter, reducing blood flow to various parts of the body, as well as increasing the likelihood that those arteries clog more rapidly."

"Since erectile function in men is directly related to increased blood flow, decreased blood flow results in the inability to produce sufficient rigidity for satisfactory intercourse.

The fact that tobacco and alcohol result in sexual dysfunction is probably never apparent without the warning label of cigarettes."

Studies show that the nicotine contained in cigarette smoke contributes to the destruction of the tiny arteries in the body. Since penile arteries are very tiny, they clog with plaque, and also at a more rapid rate.

Goodman further states that it is well known that alcohol not only affects the brain but can also slow down the nerve impulses which ordinarily allow the arteries to dilate and increase blood flow. That area of the body, in question, decreased blood flow limits the ability for an erection.

More than 185,000 men in the greater Kansas City area suffer from impotence. The Diagnostic Center for Men specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of sexual dysfunction. Statistics show that while more than one million men suffer from impotence, the percentage can increase annually as in the case

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Beginning of the end in Waco

April 12, 1993. It is six weeks into the siege at Mt. Carmel, site of the Branch Davidian complex several miles east of Waco, Texas.

A military-style assault on Feb. 28 by more than 100 agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms arriving

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in cattle trucks, helicopters and several command vehicles had been a disaster. Now the FBI is in charge. Hundreds of law enforcement agents and officials are on the scene amid an array of armored personnel carriers, M-60 tanks, A-1 Abrams tanks, helicopters and assorted other combat paraphernalia.

Thirty-four people, including 22 children, had been persuaded early on to leave the complex. Now, still inside, 71, possibly 72, remain — 24 or 25 of them, at most, are men; the rest, women and children. The one woman who was thought to pose any sort of threat, a former cop, had been killed in the initial raid.

Apparently pressured by Justice Department higher-ups, possibly by members of Congress and certainly by the media, the FBI deputy director and assistant director visit Waco on April 7 and 8 to find out what the plan might be to end the siege. Special Agent in Charge Jeffrey Jamar reportedly likes the idea of hitting the facility with tanks and gas.

Attorney General Janet Reno conducts a 90-minute meeting on April 12 at the FBI command center in Washington to examine the plan to inject in the compound a type of gas that advisers told her would have to be more debilitating than tear gas but nonlethal. (An Army chemical warfare manual warns of the type of gas chosen that long exposure may render people "incapable of vacating the area.")

A couple of days later Reno calls in more Justice and FBI officials, plus some Delta Force people, to review the — well, final solution. On April 18, she and her senior staff get together for pizza and watch TV as the Rodney King verdict comes in; later, sharing pepperoni leftovers with FBI officials, she decides to go for it. (This, by the way, is the sort of thing that went on during the Gulf War. Pizza dealers said they knew when some big action was about to be taken because there was always a demand for deliveries. Is this the new red-meat of aggression, or what?)

Meanwhile, back in Waco, Jamar assures Koresh's attorney, Dick DeGuerin, on April 14 — two days after the first Reno meeting — that Koresh could do his decoding work on the seven seals; another couple of weeks would be no problem. DeGuerin, assured, leaves town to work on another case.

On April 18, the FBI delivers writing materials requested by Koresh. On April 19, at 5:50 a.m. the tanks roll.

But wait. Agents have another small mission on the morning of April 19. According to James R. Lewis, academic director of the Association of World Academics for Religious Education, a nurse interviewed on radio stations in Laport and Waco said that the FBI had dropped by the hospital at 5 a.m. "to find out how it was equipped to handle burn victims."

Hmmmm. Perhaps the bureau was not so surprised by the outbreak of the fire at Mt. Carmel as it later let on. Perhaps flame-throwing tanks were used, as it appears they were on a least one of two videos released by the American Justice Federation in Indianapolis, Ind., "Waco: The Big Lie" and "Waco: The Big Lie Continues."

It is hard to believe what appears to be happening on "The Big Lie" tapes. Linda Thompson of the AJF says 100 copies of have been ordered by members of Congress, who, if they're not too busy with matters that occurred 16 years ago, might find something here worth investigating.

But it may be that Congress, for whatever reason, isn't terribly interested in pursuing this. It has been obvious for a while that there was a lot of lying in congressional hearings on the Waco debacle, yet no charges have been brought.

The best lie, I suppose, was not so much told as it was done.

During the trial in San Antonio of 11 survivors of the raid and firestorm at Mt. Carmel, the defense played recordings of a 911 emergency call made by sect member Wayne Martin, a Harvard-trained lawyer. Martin could be heard shouting: "There's 75 men around our buildings and they're shooting at us! Tell them there's women and children in here and call it off!" Martin asked at least 25 times on the recordings for the agents to stop firing. He was upset about the helicopters, which can be heard roaring overhead.

All this was *edited out* of the 911 recordings played at the congressional hearings (held long before the San Antonio trial). Also, in the Department of Treasury investigation and review of the ATF operation, this is the story:

"According to McClennan County 911 records, Branch Davidian Wayne Martin called the Waco 911 emergency service at 9:48. His call was handled by Deputy Larry Lynch. Martin sounded very frightened and Lynch heard gunfire in the background. Deputy Lynch attempted to speak with Martin, but Martin did not respond and at 10:02, Martin hung up."

Perhaps it will turn out that the "Big Lie" videos somehow show more than is there, just as the 911 recording presented at congressional hearings told less than was there. So many thousands of people have seen the videos now, however, that Congress must surely respond by reopening hearings if only to get some explanation from Justice and Treasury officials.



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By Marcia Hines,
Free-Lance Medical Writer

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