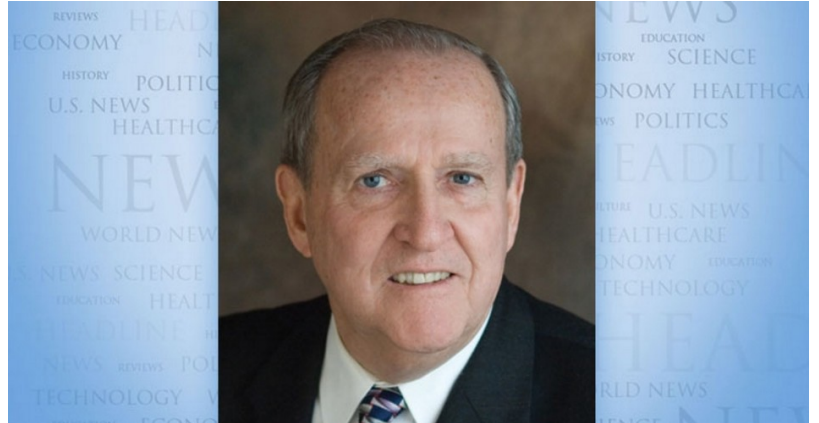


# Afghanistan: A Debacle Many Years in the Making



John F. McManus

There was an occasional exception. One of these was Admiral Thomas Moorer, who served as Chief of



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Naval Operations in 1967. He later rose to become Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. I had the pleasure of getting to know him quite well after he retired and would frequently visit with him at his Maryland home. When I questioned him about how he had never become a CFR member when one of his predecessors and his immediate successor as our nation's top military official had accepted affiliation, his ready response was, "I told them I wasn't interested and was too busy with my important duties." Admiral Moorer knew enough about the CFR to steer clear of it.

Wisconsin Congressman Les Aspin was a CFR member who likely never fully understood what that meant. He became secretary of defense during the early days of the Clinton presidency. But during his confirmation hearing, he told senators, "The President is the Commander in Chief.... Congress has war powers. If you second [U.S.] forces to the UN, how do you maintain the Constitution?" Even though he was questioning an important goal of the plotters, he was allowed to become the Defense Department's head but was soon quietly eased out and not heard from again.

Years later, I attended a gathering where retired four-star Army General John Galvin reminisced about his youth and graduation from West Point. He had served as NATO's topmost official after years of membership in the CFR. When an opportunity arose for questions, I asked the general if he had any regrets about the abandonment of the requirement for a congressional declaration of war before sending U.S. forces into battle. He pondered how to respond for a few seconds and finally said for all in the audience to hear, "No I don't have any problem with that." No one else in that audience seemed to grasp the importance of the general's willingness to ignore the oath he'd taken to abide by the U.S. Constitution. Nor did anyone else in that audience have any awareness about the CFR, or that NATO has always been a subdivision of the UN. General Galvin's years of membership in the CFR had accomplished what the organization wanted from him.

The awful truth is that any high-ranking members of the military who oppose the U.S. taking direction from the UN or any of its subsidiaries won't be tolerated. During recent decades, generals, admirals, and other Defense Department officials affiliated with the CFR have posed as loyal Americans but allowed themselves to become agents of change driving our nation into a "new world order." Some of these military figures include: Lyman Lemnitzer, Maxwell Taylor, David Jones, William J. Crowe, Colin Powell, Michael Mullen, and Lloyd Austin. Civilian collaborators working for the CFR's subversive goals include: Robert McNamara, Elliot Richardson, Donald Rumsfeld, Caspar Weinberger, Frank Carlucci, Richard Cheney, William Cohen, Robert Gates, and Ash Carter. Still others from the State Department, CIA, Treasury Department, and elsewhere in government collaborate with the mass media and like-minded members of Congress to grease the skids for our nation to slide into domination by the UN and its subsidiaries such as NATO.

After 20 years of war in Afghanistan, the result can only be classified as a complete defeat for the United States. Current Secretary of State Antony Blinken, a CFR member, tried to put a positive spin on the loss when he said that the "new chapter" of engagement with Afghanistan is "one in which we will lead with our diplomacy." The old chapter cost over 2,300 American lives, \$2.26 trillion, and a worldwide loss of respect for our country. Sprinkled within reports about the defeat were occasional mentions of NATO's role in bringing about the tragedy. The U.S. lost a war that the UN and its NATO subsidiary controlled for much of its duration. And U.S. presidents, along with our nation's senior military leaders, not only tolerated such an arrangement, they applauded it. Past military leaders including MacArthur, Patton, Nimitz, Wedemeyer, and many others understood that wars cannot be won with one's arms tied behind one's back.



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Not only did the U.S. pull out of Afghanistan, but our leaders arranged to leave behind a significant amount of military equipment. Numerous reports tell of such U.S. equipment as armored vehicles, Black Hawk helicopters, machine guns, mortars, night vision goggles, uniforms, and more now in the hands of the Taliban.

Righting the wrongs about the defeat in Afghanistan must begin with exiting the United Nations and all its subsidiaries. In addition, America's military should only be sent to war when Congress declares war, as required by the U.S. Constitution.



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