



Written by [John F. McManus](#) on January 24, 2023

Published in the February 13, 2023 issue of [the New American](#) magazine. Vol. 39, No. 03

The Real Message in the Great Seal of the United States

Nine weeks before America's courageous Founding Fathers mutually pledged their lives, fortunes, and sacred honor by signing the Declaration of Independence, a less auspicious but equally momentous event took place in far-away Bavaria. May 1, 1776 marked the launch of a conspiratorial organization known as the Bavarian Illuminati. Its founder, a college professor named Adam Weishaupt, was first a student and then a teacher at the Jesuit-run University of Ingolstadt.



[Mike Rosiana/Getty Images Plus](#)

Weishaupt had spent much of the previous five years formulating the structure and goals of a plot targeting all of mankind, an ambitious scheme designed to overturn civilization and plunge the entire world into tyranny. To this day the birth of the Illuminati on May 1 is commemorated by communists and socialists alike as "May Day."

Despite Weishaupt's affiliation with the Jesuits, his new organization had no religious foundation. In fact, it held both religion and established government in contempt. In his 1798 exposé of Weishaupt's cabal, the French Jesuit Augustin Barruel paraphrased the insurrectionist's perverse intent:

What these men have done for the Altar and the Throne (said he to himself) why would not I do in opposition to the Altar and the Throne?... Why may not I destroy under the cover of darkness, what they edified in broad day? What Christ even did for God and for Caesar, why shall not I do against God and Caesar, by means of adepts now become my apostles?

Indeed, Weishaupt began welcoming ambitious self-servers, who were shown the meanings of the symbols and slogans he had selected for them. He chose a pyramid to depict the hierarchical organization; the decreasing number of stones rising from base to top represents initiates who enter and are gradually either promoted or weeded out. An all-seeing eye at the top stands for an all-knowing leader with unlimited power over subordinates.

Weishaupt's chief deputies, having committed themselves to the pact's sinister goals, recruited individuals who at first had little or no inkling of the Illuminati's agenda but were gradually introduced to it. Those who harbored reluctance were ignored in favor of more eager and promising apprentices. Already-flourishing Freemasonic lodges in France, Germany, and Italy became the most fruitful recruiting grounds for the new organization.



Written by [John F. McManus](#) on January 24, 2023

Published in the February 13, 2023 issue of [the New American](#) magazine. Vol. 39, No. 03

The Illuminati expanded so swiftly that they were able to spark the disastrous French Revolution in 1789, from which that unfortunate country has never fully recovered. After France's turmoil had done so much damage, Barruel published his 1798 exposé, [Memoirs Illustrating the History of Jacobinism](#), the latter term being used in France to refer to Illuminists. At the same time, but unbeknownst to Barruel, Britain's highly respected Professor John Robison broadcast results of his own research in the book *Proofs of a Conspiracy Against All the Religions and Governments of Europe, Carried On in the Secret Meetings of Freemasons, Illuminati and Reading Societies*.

These books contain much of what is known about the Illuminist plot. Its goals seek worldwide destruction of the six main pillars of any healthy nation: ordered government, private property, inheritance, patriotism, religion/morality, and the family (including marriage and the education of children). When George Washington was given a copy of Robison's work, he thanked his Maryland benefactor for the gift and indicated his own deep awareness of the Illuminati's presence in America.

Our nation's first president was already familiar with the Illuminati plotters and their penetration of the infant United States, having sent troops to put down Pennsylvania's Whiskey Rebellion in 1794. When they arrived in Harrisburg, they found French flags flying over the courthouse, a link to the godless revolution in that country. In a letter about it to Henry Lee, Washington wrote, "I consider this insurrection as the first formidable fruit of the Democratic Societies," which was one term by which Illuminists were known in the United States.

His contemporary government leaders also warned of dangers posed by these impious rebels. "I suspect that the Jacobins are still more numerous, more desperate, and more active in this country than is generally supposed," wrote John Jay, our nation's first chief justice, in a 1799 letter to Boston preacher Jedidiah Morse.

He wrote "still more numerous" because Illuminists had been active since Colonial times, even at the top echelons of government. Their fingerprints could be seen in the crafting of the Great Seal of the United States.

Design of the Great Seal

In 1777 the Continental Congress appointed a committee to design a national seal. Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, and Thomas Jefferson were its first members. The three turned to Philadelphia resident Pierre Eugene DuSimitiere, a portrait painter and authority in heraldic arts.

Four of his suggestions would eventually be accepted. These were the Roman numerals signifying 1776, the shield, the phrase *E Pluribus Unum* ("out of many, one"), and the all-seeing eye. However, no firm decisions were made, and the committee's work fizzled.

A second committee, formed in 1780, had for its leader Francis Hopkinson. He recommended the shield appearing on the obverse (front) side of the Seal along with an eagle holding in one of its talons an olive branch, signifying peace. Its other talon holds a sheaf of arrows, depicting war. The eagle's head is turned toward the olive branch, indicating a preference for peace.

Hopkinson also suggested the Illuminati's all-seeing eye atop the unfinished pyramid. His plan, however, never received full approval, and that committee was dissolved.

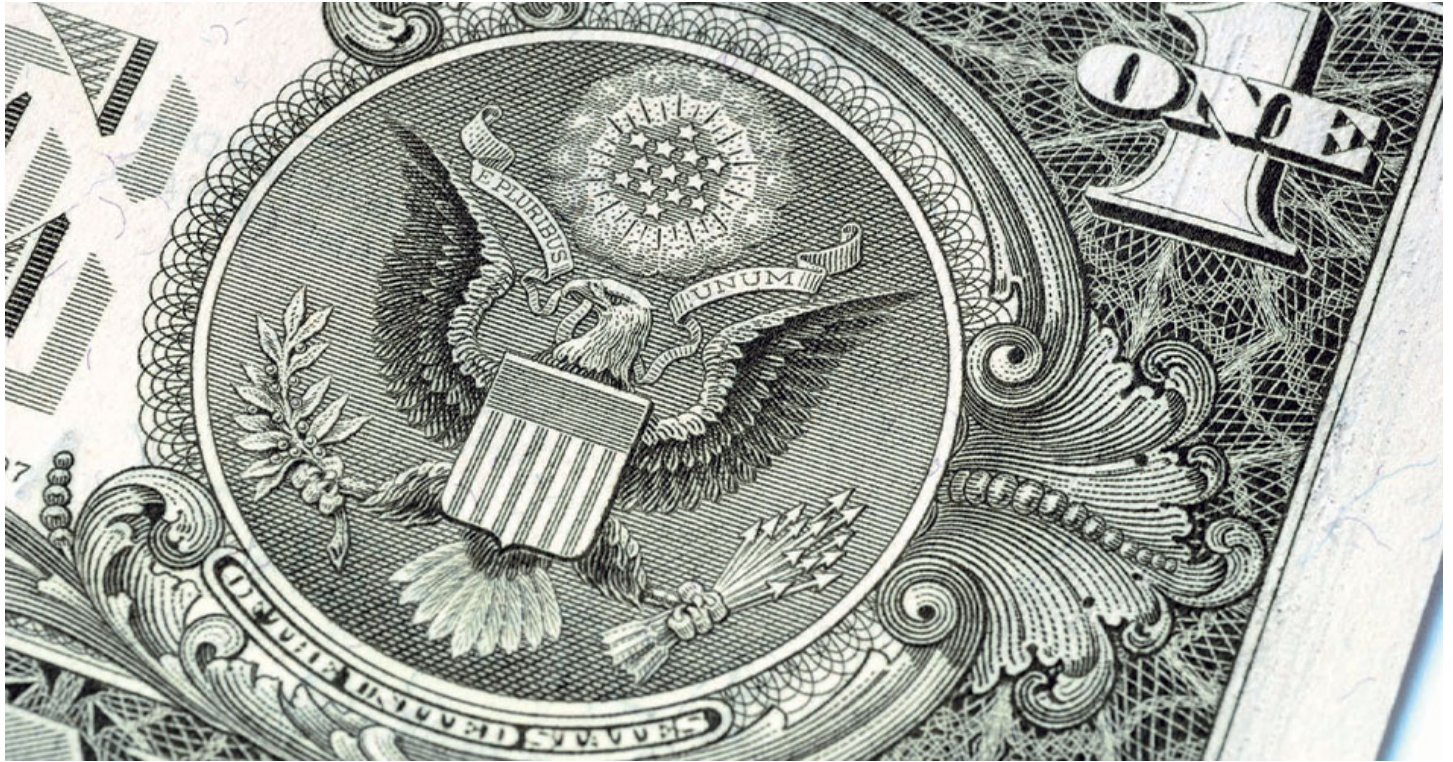
After the adoption of the U.S. Constitution in 1787, the new Congress finally gave the project to a third



Written by [John F. McManus](#) on January 24, 2023

Published in the February 13, 2023 issue of [the New American](#) magazine. Vol. 39, No. 03

committee, led jointly by artist William Barton and Charles Thomson, the secretary of Congress. The latter approved the plan to create a two-sided seal, a departure from the popular custom among nations to have seals with only one side.



Illuminati signaling: Symbolism depicted on the Great Seal of the United States commemorates the founding of the nation as well as the establishment of Adam Weishaupt's secret society. (tntemerson/Getty Images Plus)

The Great Seal's Messaging

Thomson retained the Illuminist pyramid topped with the all-seeing eye. Roman numerals at the pyramid's base indicate 1776, the Illuminati's founding year as well as the year U.S. independence was declared. Thomson also suggested the two phrases appearing above and under the pyramid.

The phrase *Annuit Coeptis* ("He has favored our undertaking") flanks the all-seeing eye. Defenders of the Seal both then and now insist that the "He" refers to Almighty God, while opponents believe it to be a reference to some figure from the occult world, possibly even Satan.

On a scroll beneath the pyramid appear the words *Novus Ordo Seclorum*, another Latin phrase whose strict English translation is "New Order of the Ages." It is more commonly translated as "New World Order."

Thomson's design won official approval on September 15, 1789. Though the content on the reverse side signaled Illuminist influence, most Americans rarely, if ever, saw it that way, and it was not commonly used.

Resurrecting the Seal

Attention paid to the Seal changed in 1935 when President Franklin Delano Roosevelt ordered placement of both of its sides on the back of the U.S. one-dollar bill. Secretary of Agriculture Henry



Written by [John F. McManus](#) on January 24, 2023

Published in the February 13, 2023 issue of [the New American](#) magazine. Vol. 39, No. 03

Wallace, who would later become FDR's vice president during his third term (1941-1945), had suggested it to the president. Recalling the outcome in a 1955 letter to then-Treasury Secretary George Humphrey, Wallace wrote:

[Roosevelt] brought it up in Cabinet meeting and asked James Farley [postmaster general and a Catholic] if he thought the Catholics would have any objection to the "All Seeing Eye" which he as a Mason looked on as a Masonic symbol of Deity. Farley said "no, there would be no objection."

Wallace included more detail about his discovery of the reverse side of the Seal in a 1951 letter to renowned occultist Dal Lee of Maryland. He described finding a picture of it in an old State Department publication and wrote:

The Latin phrase *Novus Ordo Seclorum* impressed me as meaning the New Deal of the Ages. Therefore I took the publication to President Roosevelt and suggested a coin be put out with the obverse and reverse sides of the Seal. Roosevelt ... was first struck with the representation of the "All-Seeing Eye," a Masonic representation of The Great Architect of the Universe. Next he was impressed with the idea that the foundation for the new order of the ages had been laid in 1776 but that it would be completed only under the eye of the Great Architect. Roosevelt like myself was a 32nd degree Mason. He suggest [sic] that the Seal be put on the dollar bill rather than a coin and took the matter up with the Secretary of the Treasury.... When the first draft came back from the Treasury the obverse side was on the left of the bill as is heraldic practice. Roosevelt insisted that the order be reversed so that the phrase "of the United States" would be under the obverse side of the Seal. I believe he was also responsible for introducing the word "Great" in the phrase "The Great Seal" as it is found under the reverse side of the Seal on the left of our dollar bills.

(Both of these letters are included in full in the 1976 book *The Two Great Seals of America* by Robert Hieronimus.)

Wallace was well-known for his extreme leftist and pro-Soviet views, and was considered by many to have been an outright communist. There was ample evidence for these concerns, even before the Communist Party of the United States publicly and enthusiastically endorsed him for U.S. president in 1948. As *The New York Times* reported on August 3 of that year:

The Communist party of the United States endorses and will work for the election of Henry A. Wallace as President of the United States. This announcement, long foreshadowed by the activity of American Communists within the Wallace movement, was made last night by William Z. Foster, national chairman of the Communist party and one of its twelve leaders who are under indictment for conspiracy to overthrow the Government by force.

Wallace gladly accepted the endorsement.

Four years earlier, in 1944, Vice President Wallace had led a controversial three-month mission to Soviet Russia and China. The trip was arranged by FDR advisor Lauchlin Currie, who was later



Written by [John F. McManus](#) on January 24, 2023

Published in the February 13, 2023 issue of [the New American](#) magazine. Vol. 39, No. 03

identified as a Soviet agent by former Communists Whitaker Chambers and Elizabeth Bentley. Accompanying Wallace on the expedition as “experts” were Soviet agents Owen Lattimore and John Carter Vincent.

Not surprisingly, Wallace glamorized the Soviet Union and shamefully praised conditions in the Siberian gulag, Stalin’s massive system of brutal political prisons and death camps. The Wallace mission also ended up shoving a dagger into the back of anti-communist Chiang Kai-shek, while sending an unending series of bouquets to Mao Tse-tung’s communist forces.

Further research into Wallace’s ties to communism, as well as occultism, led to his decline into political obscurity. But his influence has lasted until today. Placement of the reverse side of the Seal on U.S. currency signals all who favor the long-range Illuminati goal of drastically changing America while the people of our nation and others robotically accept the pyramid, the all-seeing eye, the alternate importance of 1776, and the slogan New World Order.

Novus Ordo Seclorum

Since Roosevelt’s day, “New World Order” has become a catchphrase of Deep State promoters of world government. Presidents Richard Nixon, George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton, and Joe Biden have repeatedly invoked it, as have notables such as Nelson Rockefeller and his brother, David; Henry Kissinger; Fidel Castro; Mikhail Gorbachev; veteran president of the Council on Foreign Relations Richard Haass; and numerous others.

The phrase is included in the 1976 “Declaration of Interdependence” authored and promoted by notorious leftist Henry Steele Commager and shamefully signed by more than 100 members of Congress on the 200th anniversary of the proclamation of American independence at Congress Hall in Philadelphia. “Two centuries ago our forefathers brought forth a new nation; now we must join together with others to bring forth a new world order,” reads the script.

That, too, was the aim of the World Order Models Project founded in the 1960s by Rutgers University law professor and renowned globalist Saul Mendlovitz. He predicted that world government would come about by “arms races, outbreaks of violence, food/population/environmental imbalances, and large-scale serious injustices,” as detailed by William P. Hoar in the April 1977 *American Opinion* magazine, a publication of The John Birch Society (JBS) and predecessor to *The New American*.

Exposing the Conspiracy

JBS founder Robert Welch spent decades alerting fellow Americans to the threat of this international conspiracy. He founded the Society in December 1958, consistently tracing the conspiracy’s origins to the Illuminati and warning of what would be lost if its sinister goals were not exposed and thwarted. In the May 1976 *JBS Bulletin*, on the 200th anniversary of the Illuminati’s founding, he explained its aim: “to destroy all religion, all existing governments, and all traditional human institutions so that the Insiders of this Conspiracy could erect on the resulting chaos and misery their *novus ordo seclorum*.”

Welch insisted that a nationwide education campaign about the threat was something the conspirators had not faced. That campaign became The John Birch Society, which has long maintained that the first step in defending national sovereignty is to cancel our country’s membership in the United Nations. This can be achieved by persuading Congress to repeal the 1945 United Nations Participation Act and



Written by [John F. McManus](#) on January 24, 2023

Published in the February 13, 2023 issue of [the New American](#) magazine. Vol. 39, No. 03

by formally resigning from the world body.

Our withdrawal from that organization, headquartered in New York City, would deal a crippling blow to the plans of mankind's enemies and would expose the sinister designs of the conspiracy aiming to rule mankind in a New World Order.

In the past, many legislators have introduced bills to end U.S. membership in the godless UN. The most recent bill — the American Sovereignty Restoration Act ([H.R. 7806](#)) — was introduced in the previous Congress by Alabama Republican Mike Rogers. So far, this legislation has not been reintroduced in the new Congress. Each of us needs to contact our representatives and senators to urge that it be reintroduced and receive enough support that it becomes adopted.

Don't let anyone deter you from taking much-needed action. Remember that separating from Britain and creating a new country seemed impossible in 1776. But it happened when individuals yearning to be free defeated the world's most powerful military force. It's time to scoff at the odds against defeating the Illuminati and its New World Order goal. It's time to duplicate the great victory that established the United States of America.



Written by [John F. McManus](#) on January 24, 2023

Published in the February 13, 2023 issue of [the New American](#) magazine. Vol. 39, No. 03

Subscribe to the New American

Get exclusive digital access to the most informative,
non-partisan truthful news source for patriotic Americans!

Discover a refreshing blend of time-honored values, principles and insightful perspectives within the pages of "The New American" magazine. Delve into a world where tradition is the foundation, and exploration knows no bounds.

From politics and finance to foreign affairs, environment, culture, and technology, we bring you an unparalleled array of topics that matter most.



Subscribe

What's Included?

- 24 Issues Per Year
- Optional Print Edition
- Digital Edition Access
- Exclusive Subscriber Content
- Audio provided for all articles
- Unlimited access to past issues
- Coming Soon! Ad FREE
- 60-Day money back guarantee!
- Cancel anytime.