



Written by [Staff](#) on September 3, 2018

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Letters to the Editor

Correcting a Citation

The June 4, 2018 issue of The New American contains an excellent article entitled “Propaganda: Fight for the Minds of Children,” by Dennis Behreandt.

However there is an errant claim. A citation on page 34 refers to comments that Hitler made while in conversation with “Herman Rauschnigg.” But the conversation probably never happened. The person Behreandt refers to is actually Hermann Rauschning, the former National Socialist president of the Danzig Senate, who fell out with the party shortly before WWII, went west, and wrote up his supposed private conversations with Hitler in a book. The book was variously entitled *Conversations With Hitler* or *The Voice of Destruction*.

An article in the German newsmagazine Der Spiegel, published in 1985, contained the research of a German-Swiss teacher named Wolfgang Hanel, who uncovered the fact that these reminiscences are invented. Dr. Rauschning had two — not hundreds of — meetings with Hitler, neither of them private. The themes and quotations written by Rauschning are invented, or sometimes lifted from fiction (e.g., Nietzsche’s works or Guy de Maupassant’s “The Horla.”)

Dr. Rauschning’s book was widely quoted by historians after the war, no doubt coloring our perceptions of the era. Probably the last to fall victim to the fraud was Richard Pipes’s *Russia Under the Bolshevik Regime*, in which one chapter contains extensive quotations to draw parallels with the Reds.

Dr. Eric Rachut

Moody, Texas

Geologically Speaking

In my view as a geologist, the scientists in Alex Newman’s article “International Scientific Conference Deems Evolution a ‘Hoax’” (June 18 issue) ignore or dismiss physical evidence of evolution. The fossil record shows evolution. I admit that the record is incomplete, because perhaps it is hard to make a fossil from certain life forms and perhaps bridging fossils have so far escaped discovery.

It is also my opinion that “intelligent design” and evolution are not necessarily incompatible. The Genesis story of creation depicts God as a tinkerer. He experiments with creation, and for some things “saw that it was good.”

Question: Why didn’t He know it would be good beforehand? What if a powerful creator figuratively snapped its fingers and precipitated a “big bang” that created a universe with the precise chemical and physical properties and processes that the creator knew beforehand would lead to evolution of life, including humans? That’s the ultimate “intelligent design.”

Jonathan DuHamel

Sent via e-mail

Undoing Militias

Joel Goodman’s article in your June 4 issue (“Don’t Blame the Left — Blame the NRA”) was a real eye-



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opener.

The Militia Act, which was passed by Congress in 1903, established the National Guard system. The National Guard would be under state control until it was federalized, at which time it would be taken under federal control. However, that also left the home guards, which are more true militias.

They have since been redesignated the state guards, and are now known as the state defense forces. They are more truly militias because they are always under state control and can never be federalized.

One thing that caught my eye in Goodman's article is the mention of the "Virginia House Sub-Committee Anti-Militia Task Force" on the NRA Institute for Legislative Action website. Sadly, the Virginia Defense Force, in which I formerly served, has been forbidden to bear arms by the Virginia General Assembly. In my training there, I was taught that if we ever encountered a situation in which there was shooting, we were to withdraw and let the police handle it.

This is a ridiculous regulation for a military force. The Texas Defense Force uses automatic weapons, operates tanks, and helps with border patrol.

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Centreville, Virginia



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