HOW LONG WILL AMERICANS BELIEVE THE LIES?

By Elbert "Big Man" Howard

Governments have always lied to their people but have used some caution in the lies they told because of their knowledge that not all people are total idiots who believe everything without question.

However, I have to wonder at this point, when Americans will wake up and respond to the atrocious, open lies being presented to them by this government. The following are just examples of these lies:

- 1) There will be funds for the education of our children, including funds available for community charter school, after-school programs, and private schools. This has been presented to the American public under the slogan "No Child Left Behind".
- 2) There will be an increase in the Pell Grants for College students.
- 3) There will be funds provided for job training. Jobs will be provided to replace welfare. Jobless benefits will be extended for the unemployed. There will be jobs available for American workers to replace the jobs lost to overseas economies.
- 4) New affordable prescription drug benefits will be provided for American senior citizens.

Not only were these outright, bold-faced lies, but just the opposite occurred. Funds for existing programs and jobs have been drastically cut and/or programs in their entirety have been all but eliminated.

Many Americans believe in dangerous illusions and fear-inspiring myths both self-perpetuated and created by politicians. They believe, for example, in the stereotypical Hollywood Hero who will rescue them. They have bought the story that but for the heroic efforts of the President, their world and freedom as they know it, is in terrible danger, not to mention their creature comforts. However, here comes the gun-slinging hero to save them! Because of their fears, they cannot see that he is the cause of all of the problems.

George W. Bush, the hero gunslinger, says "I am here and it's my job to protect the American people". So that there is no misunderstanding, let me remind you that this is the same George W. Bush who was too much of a coward to complete his military duties, who begged his wealthy and powerful father to pull strings to get him out of going to war and /or any danger zones, during his term of service. Our President maneuvered his way into the National Guard and was able to avoid any combat duty. He then got away without fulfilling his full obligation to the National Guard!

Money and political corruption got Bush into the position as President. The electoral process and the votes at the time of his election ended up in the hands of government-appointed gangsters who miscounted, stole, and even threw the people's votes away. In the state of Florida, this was a given since Bush's brother Jeb is the governor there. Florida's black votes were not even counted, just stored and locked up in a warehouse.

With his mob, the Administration, firmly in place, Bush's propaganda campaign *really* began. The key phrases we heard from Bush repeatedly were, "Saddam has weapons of mass destruction" and "Saddam will use these weapons against the United States" along with, "Saddam hates America because of our freedom". Bush has continued on with, "Iraq is the home of the master-mind of terror against America and against the Iraqi people" and "If we get rid of Saddam, we will eliminate terror and his countrymen we see us as great liberators. The killing will cease and peace will come to the entire region – Let's go to War"! After 911, it appeared, the American people were ready to swallow all these fear-inspiring excuses and allow Bush free reign.

The right-wing hawks, war-profiteers, and innocent, young people looking for some type of self-esteem, lined up to go to war. Since the beginning of George Bush's personal war for power and profit, close to three thousand young men and women have been killed along with thousands of Iraqis and many other countries' citizens. Because of a lack of education and knowledge and due to misguided ideas about patriotism and loyalty, those young Americans went off to kill and destroy people they did not even know. The ideals presented by Bush are: "We are the most powerful nation on earth and we are going to prove it" and "We will destroy everything on the earth in order to prove it".

American politicians, who remain safe at home, eating their dinners and sipping their cocktails, decide who live and die and proclaim themselves to be kings of the earth, while innocent, misguided, misled, ignorant and bamboozled American citizens die, and yet the lies are still being propagated and are still being believed...when will the American people wake up and end this reign of terror?