



THE BIZARRE STORY OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

DID YOU KNOW THAT 9/11 AND THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER ARE CONNECTED?

By Paul Warren Dinger

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Spangled Banner” are based on an earlier, internationally earthshaking victory over Islamic terrorism. So, the patriotic sentiments in America’s national theme song are historically authentic even if the incident celebrated in the first verse isn’t.

At the start of the Stars-and-Stripes-flying summer, let’s remember that “The Star-Spangled Banner” (*SSB*) is where the American belief in God-Country-and-Flag was inscribed in the American mind. The last verse is where the national motto on our money, “In God We Trust,” was originally proposed. “In God We Trust” was drawn from a central Bible doctrine (and its central verse), Psalm 118:8, which advises trust in God not man. So, America’s “Trust God” motto is a biblical idea and correlates with America’s amazing victories beginning with the Revolutionary War as the gift of America’s Creator, not the great strategies of great men.

The *SSB* articulated the patriotic belief that propelled the American Revolution - that America’s flag is the symbol of a national covenant between America and its “Creator.” God is mentioned four times from beginning to end in the warrant for Revolution. The Declaration of Independence acknowledges the authority of the Creator four times and calls on Him to become the invisible Commander-in-Chief of the Revolution. The *SSB* connects the Stars and Stripes with the supernatural empowerment that enabled the infant nation to beat two superpowers in 30-some years.

America’s national anthem is full of strange mysteries. For example - according to numerous historians, the incident glorified in the first verse didn’t happen as the national song portrays it. Francis Scott Key did not see the giant flag glorified at the Smithsonian in “the dawn’s early light.” But even if the big flag was up, he couldn’t have seen it from eight miles away - especially “in the dawn’s early light.” On the other hand, the God-Country-and-Flag emotions in the rest of “The Star-

If you sing America's theme song to the end, you will hear national beliefs that go back to America's Revolution. (1) God is America's Creator and empowered His nation-creation and "rescued" Americans from the corrupt, tyrannical Old World. (2) God (not great men, proclaiming they will "make America great") made America great and gave it "victory and peace." (3) When Key wrote, "Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us as a nation," he was stating the original colonial understanding that God made America, endowed it with His supernatural power and preserved it from defeat in the overwhelming odds against two world superpowers.

By 1814, when "The Star-Spangled Banner" was first published, America had bested Britain, the military superpower of the world - and - the ultra-powerful Ottoman Empire, which was the first entity to declare war on the American nation. At the end of the Crusades, the Islamic Turks had utterly humiliated the Roman Empire Church, swallowing most of the eastern half of the Roman Church. Islam's 1,000-year holy war against Christendom was still going up to the very year (1683) that Philadelphia - the birthplace of America - was born. The U.S. victory over Ottoman pirates that had been terrorizing and extorting fortunes in bribes from European powers got the attention of an astonished world.

By the time "The Star-Spangled Banner" was published, America's amazing power and victories had inspired a new revolutionary age in South America and Europe. When the *SSB* was published, America had become the unofficial "alpha dog" of the world. America's theme song became public at the time America's spiritual leadership was changing the world from ancient "divine monarch" theocracy to the democratic governance of the modern age.

However, all this very significant stuff aside, let's remember the 2nd mystery - "The Star-Spangled Banner" was strangely written about the nonsensical version of America's banner - the 15 stripe flag.

THE NONSENSICAL SECOND VERSION OF THE AMERICAN FLAG

The *SSB* was written about the first revision of the Stars and Stripes. The second version of the American flag added two new stars - and, oddly, two

new stripes - for the entry of Vermont and Kentucky to the American union. This month is the 204th anniversary of the publication of the national anthem of History's Great Nation. But who knows when they sing America's theme song that they're singing about a dubious incident and the oddball version of the American flag?

The original Stars and Stripes, unveiled in 1777, was redesigned 18 years later to admit the first new states, but for some strange reasoning, that has never been adequately explained, two new stripes were added to the American flag. The 1795 revision of America's flag canceled the founding fathers' definition of the stripes as signifying the 13 colonies of the American Revolution. The 13 stripes were restored 23 years later in the 1818 flag revision - but four years earlier, Francis Scott Key had written "The Star-Spangled Banner" about the 15-striper.

Both the 15 stripe flag and the war in which it was given a starring role were equally strange. Historians today regard the war on which the national anthem was written as perhaps the most inconsequential and ambiguous war in U.S. history. The attempt to incorporate Canada into the United States was an utter failure and the British, having humiliated America by trashing its capitol, simply abandoned the war because it was in another war in Europe.

The War of 1812 was considered so outrageously dangerous and unnecessary that a movement began in the North to secede from the "Slaveocracy." This satirical nickname was given to the Jeffersonian "Democracy" that ruled America for most of the 19th century, up to the Civil War. Not only, as historians have pointed out, does the story about "The Star-Spangled Banner" have a lot of holes in it, it is *Twilight Zone* weird.

COULD KEY HAVE SEEN THE FLAG FROM EIGHT MILES AWAY - IN "THE DAWN'S EARLY LIGHT?"

The first problem with the *SSB* story is - how could Francis Scott Key see the flag from eight miles away? Even with a telescope, it would have been virtually impossible to see the flag eight miles away - particularly "in the dawn's early light." Now, for those who have seen the house-size flag identified as the

Star-Spangled Banner at the Smithsonian, they might say - well, sure, he could see *a flag that big*. Okay, but the big Star Spangled flag at the Smithsonian isn't the flag that was up all night during the British blitzkrieg. *Smithsonian* magazine admits this. ¹

THE SMITHSONIAN FLAG IS NOT THE FLAG THAT WAS UP ALL NIGHT AND SEEN IN "THE DAWN'S EARLY LIGHT"



(1) The big flag at the Smithsonian could not have been up in the dark and stormy night. Had it been atop the flagpole, it would have been so waterlogged and heavy with rain, that when waving wildly in all the turbulence of the storm and the explosions the flagpole may have broken. Even if it had stayed in place, it would have looked like a drowned rat, eliminating the circumstances required for Key to write the national anthem.

(2) The Fort McHenry custom at the time was to install a smaller "storm flag" that could withstand rough weather - especially in anticipation of the British ships. According to a report from a British sailor on one of the British ships that was leaving the scene at 9 a.m., that is exactly the case here. A smaller storm flag - not the giant Star Spangled Banner - was up during the all night British blitzkrieg. The Big Flag, reverently displayed at the Smithsonian like the American version of the Shroud of Turin, was not the flag that

was up all night and was seen by Key in "the dawn's early light."

According to British seaman Robert J. Barret's eyewitness report from the British warship, the "Hebrus," the giant Star Spangled Banner, wasn't raised until around 9 a.m. - about 4 hours after "the dawn's early light." Barret reported seeing the storm flag lowered and the giant flag raised to taunt the British ships and their failure to capture the fort - just as the ships were leaving the harbor. In all likelihood, this mammoth flag flying around 9 in the morning is the one that Key saw from the British ship that was dropping him off at Fort McHenry. ²

THE LONG TRAIN OF MYSTERIES AROUND AMERICA'S NATIONAL ANTHEM



¹ "Saving the Nation's Flag," Michael Kernan, p. 28-30, *Smithsonian* magazine, Oct. 1998.

² A number of historians have commented on the problems with the official story of America's national anthem. British historian Walter Lord pointed out that from eight miles away, Key could hardly have seen the flag, but if he had, it would have been so waterlogged, that even, in the unlikely event that the big flag were on the flagpole, it would have looked like a soggy dishrag.

Lord references a report from Robert J. Barret, a sailor on the British warship, "Hebrus," an eyewitness to the Fort McHenry attack. The

British stopped their blitzkrieg around 4 a.m. In an 1841 book, Barret remembered that the Americans taunted the retreating British ships by raising a "superb, splendid" giant flag. The Hebrus ship log showed the time of this sighting around 9 a.m. "What Did Key See?" British historian Walter Lord, p. 55 *American Heritage*, Dec. 1990.

There's a train of mysteries that circle the Star Spangled Banner. (1) According to the October 1998 *Smithsonian* magazine article, "Saving The Nation's Flag," Fort McHenry Commander George Armistead ordered the expensive flag in 1813 - so the British could see it when they invaded the fort's harbor. Was Major Armistead deliberately creating a large target for the British, who having trashed the nation's capitol would have loved to destroy a giant American flag? (2) If Armistead ordered the big flag for the British to see, then why was it not up when the British attacked the fort? (3) How long was the flag that was too big for the flagpole actually in place at Fort McHenry?

(4) Why did Major Armistead take the famous, taxpayer-funded flag with him when he retired, and then store it in a closet at his home? (5) Why was it hidden and mutilated for nearly a century? Someone cut a star, and other pieces out of the flag about which the national anthem was written. Why was an "A" (Armistead?) sown onto the special flag?

(6) Why was the sacred American icon passed down as a piece of property in Armistead wills until gifted to the Smithsonian by Armistead's grandson, Eben Appleton?

(7) Why, after spending half its life in darkness, was the flag resurrected and given to the Smithsonian in 1912? This was the year the first Democrat president of the 20th century, Woodrow Wilson was elected. Wilson was the only president to see his country (the Confederate States of America) be defeated in war. Compounding the mystery, Wilson became the first president to declare the American flag meaningless - just as the Star Spangled Banner was becoming an object of national worship. A few years later, Wilson's war propaganda department created a Stars and Stripes glorification extravaganza for the purpose of taking America into the war it didn't want - World War I. Wilson declared the flag meaningless, but this extravaganza directly contradicted him, declaring the Stars and Stripes had the greatest meaning.

³ In agreement with British historian Walter Lord, Australian historian Brett Goodin documented the Star Spangled Banner story as "legend" more than fact. Nine years before Key's September 13, 1814 poem, Key had published another poem in a Boston newspaper celebrating Barbary War hero, Stephen Decatur. The 1805 poem, "When the Warrior Returns," reports Goodin, shows the seeds of the Star Spangled Banner. One verse in particular shows the original sentiment of what is now in the national anthem.

"By the light of the Star Spangled flag of our nation, Where each radiant star gleamed a meteor of war, and the turbaned heads bowed

For the second half of its life, the famous "war hero" of the War of 1812 has been reverently displayed in quite the opposite circumstances that it spent the first half of its life. For the last century, the big banner has been exhibited in the rarified air of a special, temperature-controlled room and restored with the most precious attention.

(8) Why is the melody of America's national anthem that of an elite British drinking song? The "Anacreon in Heaven," sung in aristocratic English clubs, is an ancient pagan myth. The high pitched melody is much more appropriate after a few late night drinks in a private club than at a sunny afternoon baseball game. But, speaking of appropriate, has anyone noticed that the melody of America's national anthem, written about victory over British ships, is borrowed from elite British clubs?

Australian historian, Brett Goodin, observed that what made the Barbary War victory so significant to America's banner is that it was "the first time Old Glory was raised over foreign soil after a military victory." Moreover, "it was also the first attempt by the U.S. to overthrow a foreign ruler and install an American-friendly government - an attempt which ended in compromise, not victory" because President Jefferson strangely stopped the American forces from completing their intended mission. Commander William Eaton's "plan to march to the shores of Tripoli and overthrow the {anti-American} government was aborted." ³

Historians have now pegged the inspiration for the sentiments and some of the words - including "star spangled banner" - not from Key's witnessing the giant flag flying "in the dawn's early light." Rather, the emotions came from an amazing American victory nearly a decade earlier - that Key didn't see. "The {American} operation was hailed throughout Europe. Britain's Lord Nelson called it 'the most bold and daring act of the age.'" And Pope Pius VII, no fan of Protestant America, claimed that the U.S. Navy had

to its terrible glare" shows the patriotic sentiments of Americans, not merely those of Key two centuries ago. It was here that America's God-Country-and-Flag patriotic beliefs were inscribed in America's theme song. Let's remember that "When the Warrior Returns" is about America's internationally stunning victory over Islamic terrorism.

- Research from Brett Goodin, a scholar at the Australian National University's School of History

“done more for the cause of Christianity than the most powerful nations of Christendom have done for ages.” He was referring to the Crusades’ loss to Islam.⁴

It is here in one of the most important victories by America’s early Marines that the patriotic emotions of America’s national anthem are rooted, not the dubious “victory” of the War of 1812. We get an idea of the significance of this achievement from the memorial line in the Marine anthem, “from the shores of Tripoli.” The American conquering of diabolical Moslem pirates, collection agents for the Ottoman Empire in Istanbul, was international front-page news. For centuries, the Moslem terrorists had been making fools of European powers and America by demanding annual fortunes in “tribute” for the privilege of not having their ships laden with goods stolen and their crews put into Islamic slavery.

As chronicled in a number of books,⁵ it was here on the north coast of Africa, in Libya, that a handful of American heroes gave Islamic terrorists a humiliating dose of their own medicine in their front yard. The effect of what happened in 1805 opened the Mid-East, that had been closed to the West for centuries, and earned the respect of the European powers, who had been, in the words of some historians, “cowardly submitting” to the bribes Istanbul had been demanding.

What has been oddly demoted to a footnote as the “Barbary War” is more realistically described in the words of historians as “America’s first war,” or “America’s dramatic victory over Islamic Terrorism” or “the forgotten war that changed American history.” Were Americans aware of what happened in the first Islamic Jihad against America, they would know the significance of 9/11.

The September 11, 2001 Jihad attack was a renewal of the 1801 Islamic war declaration. 9/11 was planned for the 200th anniversary of the first Islamic Jihad (1801) against America. When a tiny band of the earliest American Marines invaded the Libyan stronghold and beat the Jihadists using the same surprise tactics of the barbaric pirates, it was a shocking humiliation. Precisely two centuries later,

9/11 was a Hollywood movie-like humiliation payback, and a resurrection declaration of Islamic Jihad against America.

ISLAMIC JIHAD IS AGAINST THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER

The Moslems declared Jihad in 1801 by chopping down the flagpole at the American embassy in Tripoli and confiscating the 15-stripe Star Spangled Banner. This was the same 15-stripe flag America’s national anthem is written about. Historians have noted that the Tripoli Jihadists, unlike the British in the War of 1812, were fighting “against the Star Spangled Banner.” The malevolence Muslims have against America’s flag began in Tripoli in 1801. The Muslim pathological hatred for the Stars and Stripes is on display thereafter in the Muslim tradition of burning-the-American-flag.⁶

IN 1805, ISLAM SURRENDERED AND THE MID-EAST WAS OPENED. AFTER 2001, AMERICA SURRENDERED AND AMERICA WAS OPENED.

Here’s the night-and-day historical difference between the 1801 and the 2001 incidents. In 1805, Tripoli surrendered to America and the Mid-East was opened to the West. In breathtaking contrast, after 9/11, the American ruling class refused to acknowledge that the first entity to declare war on America was reviving the original Jihad call in the most dramatic and highly symbolic attack on American soil. In 1805, Ottoman Muslims surrendered. Today, American leaders are oddly surrendering to America’s first and enduring enemy by refusing to acknowledge that 9/11 was the clearest declaration of war on America since Pearl Harbor.

The American surrender becomes obvious when watching Democrat leaders strangely opening the doors of America to a flood of Muslim immigrants who dislike America and Christianity, and who support

⁴ “Power, Faith and Fantasy: America in the Middle East 1776 to the Present” p. 60, Michael Oren, 2007.

⁵ “Power, Faith and Fantasy: America in the Middle East 1776 to the Present” and “Thomas Jefferson and the Tripoli Pirates: The Forgotten War That Changed American History” are current ones

⁶ p. 98-99, “Thomas Jefferson and the Tripoli Pirates: The Forgotten War That Changed American History,” Kilmeade and Yaeger, 2015.

Jihad against America. Democrat leaders have appointed themselves as the protectors of Muslims in America. The Democrat anointing of Islam as “a religion of peace” is historically ludicrous. The plain truth of history is that Islam has been at a never-ending war against the West and Christianity for the last 1000 years.

Democrat leaders have made “Islamophobia” a mental disease and a national sin, the new Scarlet Letter. Just out of curiosity, why shouldn’t Americans be fearful of “the religion of peace,” whose American policy is “Death to America?” The dictionary and the national anthem define the Democrat alliance with and protection of Muslims, whose leaders have clearly declared war on America, as “treason.” The Democrat leader’s protection of anti-American Muslims goes back to the Democrat Party’s “father,” Thomas Jefferson. As we saw, President Jefferson strangely sabotaged General Eaton’s plan to substitute the rightful leader of Tripoli and evict his tyrant, anti-American brother who had stolen the seat from his brother. This kept the war with America going a few years beyond the peace treaty.

Sadly, the God-Country-and-Flag foundation of American patriotism showcased in the national anthem that has empowered and protected America over the last two centuries has vanished. Americans today largely follow the Media-Education Complex teaching that the God-Country-and-Flag patriotism that protected and empowered America for two centuries is antique superstition.

This summer, when singing “The Star-Spangled Banner”, let’s remember that it is not great men who made America great; it is America’s Supernatural Creator. Let’s remember what “The Star-Spangled Banner” tells us - that the Stars and Stripes is the sign of the covenant of protection and empowerment between History’s Great Nation and the Great Creator that the Declaration of Independence called on to become the Commander-in-Chief of the David-versus-Goliath Revolution. With or without the president’s help, only America’s Creator, protector and power-giver can pull America out of its dizzying nosedive. Only God has the ability to make America great again.

Editor’s Note: *Paul is a Bostonian, a former pastor and an avid student of American history. He is a descendent of an American Revolution soldier.*

The Star-Spangled Banner

*O say can you see, by the dawn’s early light,
What so proudly we hail’d at the twilight’s last
gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the
perilous fight
O’er the ramparts we watch’d were so gallantly
streaming?
And the rocket’s red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was
still there,
O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O’er the land of the free and the home of the brave?*

*On the shore dimly seen through the mists of the deep
Where the foe’s haughty host in dread silence
reposes,
What is that which the breeze, o’er the towering steep,
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning’s first beam,
In full glory reflected now shines in the stream,
’Tis the star-spangled banner - O long may it wave
O’er the land of the free and the home of the brave!*

*And where is that band who so vauntingly swore,
That the havoc of war and the battle’s confusion
A home and a Country should leave us no more?
Their blood has wash’d out their foul footsteps’
pollution.
No refuge could save the hireling and slave
From the terror of flight or the gloom of the grave,
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave
O’er the land of the free and the home of the brave.*

*O thus be it ever when freemen shall stand
Between their lov’d home and the war’s desolation!
Blest with vict’ry and peace may the heav’n rescued
land
Praise the power that hath made and preserv’d us
a nation!
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto - “In God is our trust,”
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O’er the land of the free and the home of the brave.*

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