

# commentary

from other pens...

## It's good guys vs. bad just like in Cold War

By George Gedda

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — During the Cold War, the world was divided largely into two camps: NATO and the Warsaw Pact, with everybody else tilting one way or the other or assiduously nonaligned.

It was a grim time. People worried about nuclear war. It lasted 45 years. But amid the threats, there were summits. There were weapons buildups but there were also negotiations to promote disarmament. If things got tense, the White House had the address and phone number of the Kremlin and vice versa.

Now, almost a decade after the collapse of the Soviet Union and, with it, the demise of the Cold War, the good-guy-vs.-bad-guy syndrome has resurfaced, partly as an outgrowth of the terrorist devastation in New York and Washington two weeks ago.

The new alignment features governments opposed in varying degrees to terrorism on one side. On the other are terrorist groups and regimes that support them.

"Either you are with us, or you are with the terrorists," President Bush told the world last week. The U.S. administration, much as it was during the Cold War, is in the market for allies and an impressive number of countries have pledged support for a crackdown on terrorism, in South Asia and elsewhere.

One big difference between the current and Cold War-era security threats is that today's chief enemy, at least immediately, is not a nation or an alliance but a single individual, Osama bin Laden, and a network of supporters believed to operate in about 60 countries.

Secretary of State Colin Powell believes that bin Laden is in Afghanistan under protection of the Taliban militia but is not sure. Unlike Soviet Communist Party general secretaries, the Saudi-born reputed terror kingpin has no fixed address. A summit meeting with a man accused of masterminding the murders of thousands of American civilians is out of the question.

The anti-terror war, much like the Cold War, is multifaceted. "It is not just a war in the sense of a military conflict; it is a campaign that is financial, political, diplomatic (and) public diplomacy," Powell says. Another part of the campaign is what he likes to call "ripping up" the terrorist infrastructure.

During the Cold War, the United States offered all sorts of inducements to persuade countries to oppose the Soviets. If it meant support for corrupt dictatorships, so be it. Zaire under anti-communist President Mobutu Sese Seko received millions of dollars in aid. When the Cold War ended, aid dried up. Mobutu was deposed.

Now America's favorite dictatorship is Pakistan, seen here as a crucial stepping stone in the hunt for bin Laden in neighboring Afghanistan. The administration has put on the back burner misgivings about Pakistan's undemocratic rule and its nuclear weapons. Decades ago, Romania was part of the Soviet bloc but was Moscow's least reliable ally, sometimes siding with the West on key international issues. No doubt some countries will sign up eagerly but will cooperate only to the extent local politics permit.

Helmut Sonnenfeldt, of the Brookings Institution, notes that Iran has opposed the Taliban for years and may be a useful partner in U.S. efforts there. But once the coalition takes on Middle East terrorism, he predicts Iran will become a dropout.

"People in the administration realize that not everybody in the coalition will be able to do everything the coalition wants when it wants it," Sonnenfeldt says.

*George Gedda has covered foreign affairs for the Associated Press since 1968.*

## The Goodland Daily News

(USPS No. 222-460. ISSN 0893-0562)

Member: Kansas Press Association  
The Associated Press

Inland Press Association Colorado Press Association  
e-mail: [daily@nwkansas.com](mailto:daily@nwkansas.com)



Steve Haynes, President  
Tom Betz, Editor/Editorial Page  
Rachel Miscall, Managing Editor  
Society Editor/Reporter  
Sharon Corcoran, Sports Editor  
Doug Jackson, Eric Yonkey, Bill Wagoner, Advertising Sales  
James Schiefen, Adv. Production  
Sheila Smith, Office Manager Pat Schiefen Bookkeeping

### Nor'west Press

Jim Bowker, General Manager  
Ron VanLoenen Judy McKnight Richard Westfahl  
Lana Westfahl Betty Morris Helen Dilts



[nwkansas.com](http://nwkansas.com)

N.T. Betz, Director of Internet Services ([nbetz@nwkansas.com](mailto:nbetz@nwkansas.com))  
Evan Barnum, Systems Admin. ([support@nwkansas.com](mailto:support@nwkansas.com))

Published daily except Saturday and Sunday and the day observed for New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day, at 1205 Main St., Goodland, Kan. 67735.

Periodicals postage paid at Goodland, Kan. 67735; entered at the Goodland, Kan., Post Office under the Act of Congress of March 8, 1878.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Goodland Daily News, 1205 Main St., Goodland, Kan. 67735.

TELEPHONE: (785) 899-2338. Editorial e-mail: [daily@nwkansas.com](mailto:daily@nwkansas.com). Advertising questions can be sent to: [gdnadv@nwkansas.com](mailto:gdnadv@nwkansas.com)

The Goodland Daily News assumes no liability for mistakes or omissions in advertising or failure to publish beyond the actual cost of the ad.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: In Sherman County and adjacent counties: three months, \$22; six months, \$38; 12 months, \$72. By mail in Kansas, Colorado: three months, \$ 28; six months, \$50; 12 months, \$95. (All tax included.) Out of area, weekly mailing of five issues: three months, \$25; six months, \$40; 12 months, \$75.

Incorporating:

**The Sherman  
County Herald**

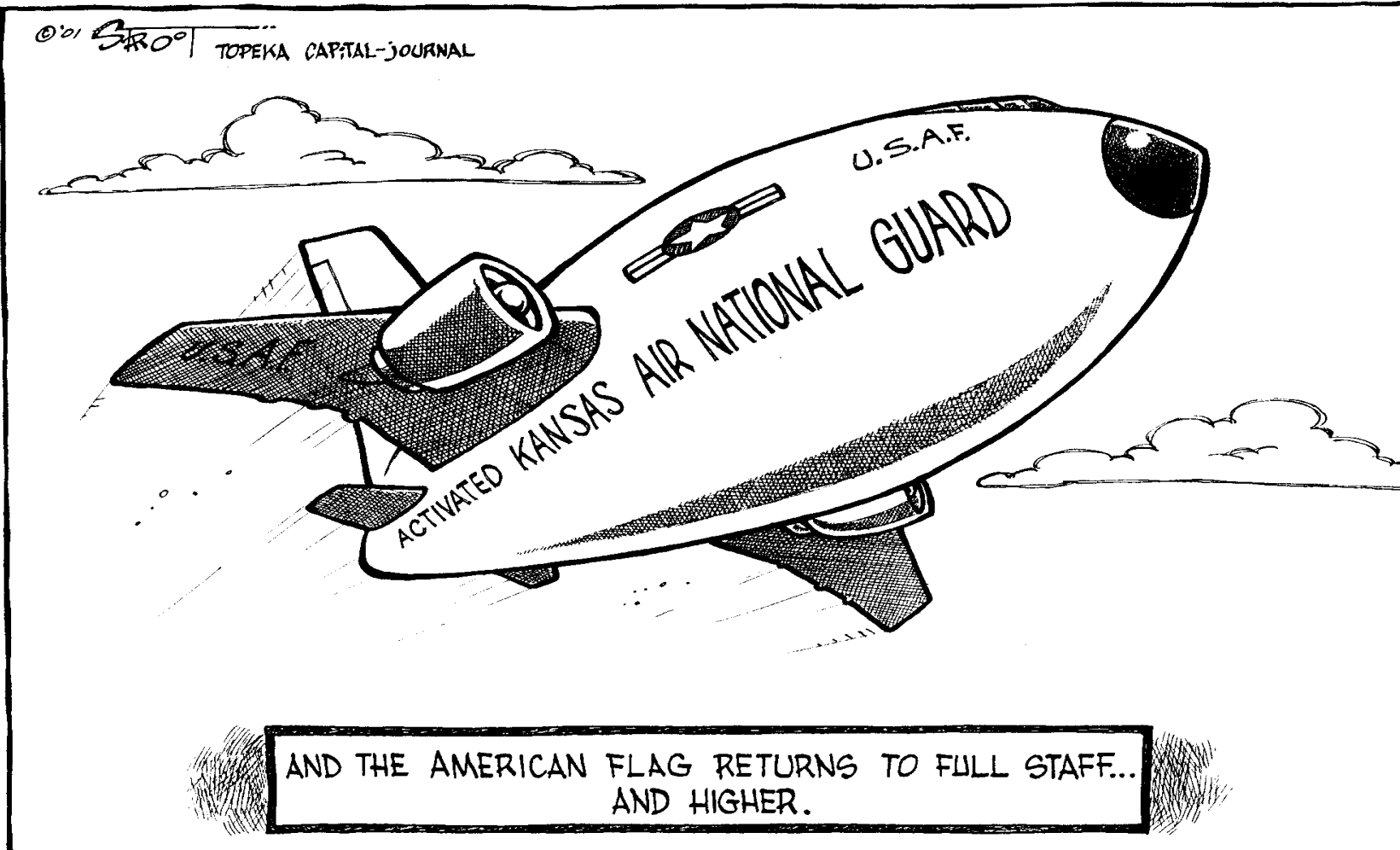
Founded by Thomas McCants  
1935-1989

THE SHERMAN COUNTY  
**STAR**

Founded by Eric and  
Roxie Yonkey  
1994-2001

### Nor'West Newspapers

Haynes Publishing Company



## Breathing seems natural until you don't

The terrorist attack of Sept. 11 started our vacation, which was planned as a trip to Texas to be at our oldest daughter Kate's wedding to Donald Canfield on Saturday, Sept. 15.

The gas price panic following the attacks in New York and Washington put us on guard, as we had planned to drive down so we could deliver a doll house at the same time.

It was good to see that governors and attorneys general moved quickly to quell the panic, and we did not see any out-of-the-ordinary gas prices through our whole trip.

Of course, we were interested to find that as we went south, the price kept falling until we paid \$1.32 in Rosemount, where we stayed. The prices were down to \$1.49 by the time we got to Wichita Falls, Texas

Excitement seemed to be the norm for this trip, as we spent a day driving between Childress and Wichita Falls to recover an errant purse, and then we waited for about four hours in Childress while a man cleaned out and repaired our van's radiator, which was rebelling at the heat going south.

When we arrived at Houston Friday afternoon, we realized we were headed into rush hour traffic, but my wife Ava and I had been studying the map and felt we had found a good way to stay out of some of the inner-city traffic gridlock.

However, as with most of this trip, our plans were changed because when we arrived at the ramp for the Sam Houston Tollway there was an accident which had closed the ramp, and we found ourselves having to squeeze back into the gridlock



### tom betz

- tom's t, t & o

to follow the less desirable course. It was over 2 1/2 hours to get through, but finally we had arrived.

The wedding went very well, but our other daughter Nikki was unable to get out of Denver International to get to Houston, and our granddaughter Victoria Dawn, 10, was trapped in Florida when the tropical storm caused the cancellation of flights from Tampa to Houston.

We were disappointed, but that had sort of been expected since the explosions on Tuesday.

We enjoyed a couple of days looking around Houston, and saw a good deal more than we had planned by missing a turn here and there on the roads.

Tuesday when we left we managed to make it to the halfway point at Wichita Falls, and then onto Lamar by Wednesday. That had been planned, and things were looking on schedule, but there was this other problem which had been developing.

That night, a nagging shortness of breath, which we had been blaming on the heavy air in Texas, was not getting better and I went to the emergency room at Prowers Medical Center in Lamar to have it checked. The doctor said it looked like there was an upper respiratory infection.

## Cars no longer rule the continent

In North America, the 20th century was dominated by the internal combustion engine, or, more specifically, the automobile. It's how suburbia was created, because having a car meant you could live further from where you worked and where you shopped, and most importantly, it meant you could live further from your relatives.

A car was also pretty good for picking up girls. But then we got carried away. Every family got two or three cars and a minivan and an ATV and a backhoe and a hovercraft.

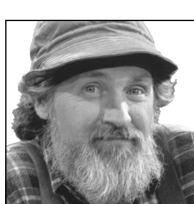
Next thing you know, we have a serious air pollution problem and that led to emission controls, and now they're making hybrid electric cars that run on fermenting broccoli and the gravitational pull of the moon.

None of this is necessary. The automobile no longer drives North America. The computer does. Now you can work at home and shop at home. If you go to the right Web site, you can even pick up girls at home. So we're not going to save the ozone by making better cars. We're going to save it by never going anywhere.

#### INTERNAL JOB SECURITY

I have a little trick I've always used to help me stay gainfully employed. It's not about job skills or work ethic, it's about rate of pay. The only job I'm ever comfortable with is the one where I get paid 10 percent less than I'm worth.

If I get paid more than I'm worth, I'm a nervous wreck, expecting to be fired at any minute. If I get paid exactly what I'm worth, there are whole bunch of guys just like me, trying to steal my job. Now don't get me wrong, I'm not promoting the concept of being grossly underpaid. I'm only talking 10 percent. The government would get a lot of it anyway. And once you get into that mindset, it makes many aspects of your life so much easier. For everything you do, expect to get back 10 percent less than you deserve. I've even envisioned



### red green

- north of forty

my wife to try it, and it worked. We've been married 35 years.

#### EVERY BODY HAS A STORY

Some people keep photo albums or diaries to remind them of everything they've done in their lives. Most men don't need to do that. Their bodies do it for them. A middle-aged guy looking at his own body is like a walk down memory lane:

- The missing eyebrow hairs from his first bar-becue.
- The chunk out of his ear from the self-installed ceiling fan.
- The damaged hand from the time he confused the terms "thumb nail" and "roofing nail."
- The tattoo from his first experience with alcohol.
- The missing tooth from his first hockey game. From then on, he sat farther back.
- The wedding ring that saved his life.

#### YOU GOTTA BE IN PICTURES

Every one of us has had an unflattering picture taken that we immediately rip up and then burn and then bury in the backyard. I think that's a mistake. Now, I know some people like to take a fat picture of themselves and stick it on the fridge as a deterrent to keep them from snacking, but that rarely works and the picture ends up looking like a territorial claim. "This fridge and its contents are the property of Big Al."

My advice is to find the ugliest, fattest, most disgusting picture of yourself ever taken, and then put

"I can't tell if your bugs are on the way up or the way down," Dr. Dan Runyon said. "I am sure it will get better or get worse."

He was right. By Friday morning, I was taken to the hospital by ambulance and the diagnosis was the shortness of breath was being caused by blood clots in the lungs, and there were additional clots in my legs.

In covering rural medicine, and small hospitals in Lamar and Hugo, Colo., in particular as well as Goodland's Regional Medical Center, I always had the feeling they got a bad rap from many of the local people as being sort of second rate or somehow inadequate.

Now I at least have a personal perception which discounts that attitude and in fact shows the opposite is really the truth. I'm glad that if this was to happen, it did so where I was comfortable with the people, and know that whether it was in Lamar or Goodland, I would be well cared for and on my way to recovery.

They put me through a full course of treatments which are working, as I can now walk more than 20 feet without wheezing and being out of breath. I am looking forward to getting out of the hospital and back to work.

I know those who have been filling in at *The Daily News* will be glad to see me.

I know two things from this experience for sure — you never appreciate the power of breathing until you almost can't, and the cooks in today's hospitals have gotten much better over the years.

it into a beautiful frame and hang it beside a full-length mirror. It has to be such a horrible picture of you that there is almost no chance you will ever look that bad again.

That means that when you stand and look at yourself in the mirror, you will notice how much better you look than you did in the picture. That will fool you into thinking that as you get older, you're looking better. And that will make you look better still. And if the day ever comes when you look worse than you do in the picture — well, hey, time to get out the camera.

**QUOTE OF THE DAY:** "If you're the only one in your family who's in a good mood, it's probably not a coincidence." — Red Green

*Red Green is the star of "The Red Green Show," a television series seen in the U.S. on PBS and in Canada on the CBC Network, and the author of "The Red Green Book" and "Red Green Talks Cars: A Love Story."*

© 2001, Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

### berry's world

