

Gerome Morrow Proposed to Me the Greatest Con in History

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So, I just got back from a walk to the local coffee shop. I used a gift card that had been given to me by the manager at work, at the university, as a sign that all of us in the department were doing an A+ job, and keep up the good work. A very thoughtful gesture, I thought to myself, accepting the small brown envelope with the red and green translucent card affixed inside. I thanked our boss a couple times, saying how nice it was of her to do this. She is a good woman, our manager, she cares about people. Often times one can find her engaged in a meaningful conversation about what is going wrong around our newly globalized planet. She takes particular interest, as do many good people these days, in the misgivings and strange, immoral transactions of the current Presidential administration.

I hear a lot of peoples' concerns these days. At the coffee shop just now I ran into my good friend Gerome Morrow. Gerome, too, is a stand up guy who concerns himself with the politics of the world. He is an intelligent person, my friend Gerome, and I have always really liked the sound of his name to boot.

I don't feel the need to spend a lot of time now describing Gerome's appearance, or clothing preferences, or usual vocal inflections, or the way he carries himself around campus or at his family's home over the holidays. All I feel the need to express here is a theory that Gerome has been putting to me for quite some time now. It's a disturbing concept for any American, but not anything that would most likely shock or even surprise a citizen living anywhere else in the world, especially in the Middle East.

"They knew." Gerome said to me as we both stared down at the front page of the *New York Times* weekend edition waiting in line.

"What?" I said.

"They knew," Gerome said again looking up at me and then glancing at the coffee mugs for sale on the shelves, "and they just let it happen."

I looked at him and furrowed my brow.

"The government knew that the United States was going to be attacked, that thousands of people, potentially, would be killed. They knew, maybe even encouraged the possibilities. They let it happen. The president let what turned out to be "September eleventh" happen."

"But Gerome," I said, "that's so un-American of you to establish."

"It is proven fact," Gerome rolled his eyes and went on, "that the Bush family and the Bin Laden family are two major share holders in United Defense, a company—or should I say *the* company—that is manufacturing almost all of the tanks, anti aircraft guns, helicopters, vehicles, and all the other weapons being used in the so called "War on Terror". It is documented that United Defense pulled in over a trillion dollars last year alone after securing the governmental contract as the nation's number one dealer in support of the military operations going on in the Middle East.

"Doesn't anyone find it peculiar," He continued, "that the United States supported Osama Bin Laden with arms and money in Afghanistan's war against Russia?"

"Yeah, but..." I got cut off.

"I think George Bush himself wanted—no *needed*—a reason to go to war with someone—anyone—in the Middle East." Gerome said, "The reason: Money. Money from oil. Mainly Saudi oil, a business industry that the Bush family and Bin Laden family have also both been highly involved in for some time now.

"Lots of people think that." I assured him.

"Bush decided at some twisted point in his very low-reaching career as President that he needed to take things a step further to secure his financial security and global domination by controlling much more of the world's oil supply. He needed to be close to that oil supply. He needed to have his military permanently settled in the region in order to secure this dominance. He couldn't invade Kuwait, we just took care of that situation. He couldn't invade Saudi Arabia directly, he had no reason to do so, plus he would sacrifice the good business relations with the Saudi Royal family, and, of course, the Bin Ladens. Iraq has been known as a strategic military location for the United States for a long time now, Pentagon officials have been confirming this for years. G.W. decided he finally was going to take it.

"So, what do we have here?, Gerome continued, sipping a Chai tea latte, "Billions of dollars a year in revenue, the potential to not only continue that level of greed and gluttony, but to *own* the potential for that greed and gluttony, general world domination by way of acquiring full power of the entire world's number one addiction: oil, the means to invade and most likely take over the country of Iraq, the understanding of the power of media to sedate and comfort the people of this country when the time comes and it is necessary to do so through CNN, Fox News, and all the other monster cable 24 hour a day quote un-quote news networks... All the United States government needed now was an over-arching reason to go to war. And nobody likes going to war, of course, except the folks making billions of dollars off of one, so there needed to be a good reason to bomb Iraq. There needed to be a "fool-proof" motivator that would leave no doubt in any American civilians mind about what needed to be done.

I sat back in my chair as Gerome hit an impressive, discursive stride.

"I can understand Osama Bin Laden's dusty gang's loathing toward the United States a few years after the battles in Afghanistan. I can understand any countries hatred for a big bullying, money-making monster of an institution that forces its one-sided, narrow-minded, culture-crushing ideals, military power, and commercial imperialism on the rest

of the world. Anyone with an open mind can clearly see how the United States of America is probably the best country in the world at pissing people off.

"I have some uncertainty whether or not Osama Bin Laden actually did the hijackings on September eleventh. I have some uncertainty about how close the President's family, the United States government, and the Bin Laden family all were on September tenth, but the fact George W. Bush made very very sure that the Bin Laden's who were living in the U.S. were flown out of this country directly after the attacks—when the FAA banned any flights from the U.S. airways—in order to ensure their safety, I'd bet they were pretty close buddies. Sharing billions of dollars in revenue can make people very good friends.

"Do you find it strange that the press never told the people of this country that "On October 24-26, 2000 the Pentagon held detailed drills of what to do if or when airplanes were flown into the Pentagon." (Ruppert)

"In the months before the September 11th attacks, there was ample warning to the U.S. government from France, Germany, Russia, Egypt, and Jordan that "during the week of September ninth 2001" (Ruppert), foreign powers would use American airplanes to crash into the Pentagon and New York City's World Trade Center. *What was done with that information?*

"In the months before the attacks there was official military training on how to deal with such an invasion.

"There is FAA/military procedure that only after, I think, three minutes of an unidentified commercial airliner is aflight in U.S. airways, that the military intercepts with fighter jets to confirm the people's safety... on September 11th, the U.S. military waited something like fifteen to twenty minutes to send out the fighters. This is an enormous blunder on someone's part, man, a blunder that took out one of the World Trade Center towers, killed nearly three thousand people, and no one—not one single government employee even was demoted or reprimanded for their mistake. No one was fired.

"You tell me who in their right mind as the so-called leader of the free world, could sit rather quietly and solemnly in a classroom of children, looking at the pictures of a child's story book, when they are just told that their country is under attack! That a commercial jet full of passenger civilians has just been flown into the World Trade Center in downtown New York City. Bush sat there in that classroom for a while doing nothing. Then his advisor informed him of the second plane. Still Bush sat there and did nothing. I don't believe that is near humanly possible," Gerome insisted, "I think the first attack of this country on the mainland in history would set an unknowing President into action. Immediately. I think that news would come as such an unexpected and incredible shock that a person who is supposed to be in charge would not be capable of just sitting there looking stupid...that is, of course, unless he was *ready* for that news. Unless, of course, he knew it was going to happen.

"So, a few thousand people die as a result of four separate hijackings. Now the G.O.P. has the greatest reason since Pearl Harbor to go to war. Any war. You can attack anything anywhere if your enemy is a state of mind, as opposed to another group of people. "Terror" can be anywhere, the Bush Administration reasoned brilliantly. Therefore Terror-ists can be anywhere... especially in Iraq, the country with the infamously villainous dictator, who, incidentally, never did anything to bother the United States directly. The oil rich land we've always wanted! My God, they probably boasted, we'll have the oil, the real estate, AND the sales of multi trillion dollars worth of United Defense contracts.

"We know," He laughed, "Arthur Anderson suggested Enron go the way they did, and look what happened. That is the same accounting firm that counseled Halliburton with its CEO at the time Dick Cheney. Can you say crook? It was right then, after the Enron scam came out, that a lot of people pointed out that George Bush's "personal fortune had been made by some timely sales as a board member of an energy company in Texas, just before bad news had plummeted the share price" (Whybrow).

"The people whom were supposedly elected by the citizens of this country to be the leaders of this country are getting incredibly rich off of other people's loss, my friend—whether that loss is in retirement accounts, pay stubs, homes, personal freedoms, lives. It is well documented, you just need to know where to look, and the major network entertainment news channels like CNN and Fox are not the places you will find the truth. Those channels will entertain you twenty-four hours a day with coverage of soggy talkers in raincoats standing in bad tropical storms trying to look steadfast and not be blown over; child-molesting and murderous super stars being set free; checklists that they say you need to run through to prepare yourself for when disaster inevitably strikes you, because, they reason with their boards of experts, disaster is striking everywhere—just ask us—and if it is striking everywhere, eventually then it will strike at you, too.

"But, you will see, some people are getting wiser. More and more people are not standing for it any longer. This whole thing has been a brilliant con," Gerome said to me, "the biggest and most deadly con in the history of the world. I love the checks and balances of Adam Smith's free enterprise."

SOURCES

Interview with Michael Ruppert, Editor, From the Wilderness, Los Angeles, California.

"American Mania When More is Not Enough" Dr. Peter C. Whybrow.