



The Official Publication of ACT
P. O. Box 40074, (626) 795-2798

Volume 41
Number 6
June, 2013

Published by Chuck Hains & Sally Beer

Annual Summer Potluck Dinner



and...ACT and ADC Meetings
Thursday, July 11, 6:30 p.m.
at the home of Bobbie & Henry Moon
1961 Mar Vista Avenue, Altadena



Everyone is invited to our traditional Summer Potluck Dinner and the July meeting of ACT and the Arroyo Democratic Club. Come for dinner and socializing at 6:30 p.m. The meetings will follow at about 8 p.m.

Program: Anthony Reyes will report on the State Convention and Mike Babcock will give a presentation on Pasadena Village. See Potluck Assignments on page two.



Members of the ACT Steering Committee Welcome Guest Speaker

Annual Potluck Dinner, continued

Potluck assignments: A-G – Main dish
 H-M – Salad or vegetable
 N-Z – Fruit or dessert

Please bring enough for about 6 people as well as your own serving utensils. The rest will be provided. Please come and bring a friend.



ACT's 40th Anniversary Celebration

We have a date: Sunday, **September 29** in the afternoon! We will be honoring members who made key contributions during each of our four decades. And we are fundraising with a \$40,000 goal.

Wendy Soltes is finding sponsors and leading the fundraising effort. (You may be hearing from her in the coming weeks!) If you want to be a sponsor for the celebration please contact Wendy at wcuite@aol.com or 626-359-7703.

Anne Wolf is in charge of the planning and preparation for the big day. If you would like to be involved, please contact Anne by Email: annie2away@yahoo.com.



2013 Steering Committee Meeting Calendar

The ACT Steering Committee and the Arroyo Democratic Club meet on the first Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday of the month in rotation.

This is the 2013 Steering Committee meeting schedule with the presiding Co-Chair for each meeting:

Thursday, July 11 – Wendy Soltes
 Tuesday, August 6 – WS
 Wednesday, September 4 – WS
 Thursday, October 3 – Anthony Portantino

Wednesday, November 6 – AP
 (the election falls on our regular meeting date, hence the change)

Thursday, December 5 – AP
 (Annual Holiday Potluck)

All members are welcome and urged to attend Steering Committee meetings. Check **The Phoenix** Calendar and our website <http://www.ACTPasadena.org> for meeting locations.



Reminder of Possible Changes to ACT's Bylaws on Proposition and Issue Endorsements

Steering Committee members, please be sure to review the materials submitted by the Bylaws Committee at the June meeting (or Emailed to you) so we will be able to discuss them at upcoming meetings.

NOTE: Any changes to the Bylaws will require a vote of the entire membership before inclusion in ACT's Bylaws.



Friday Morning Progressive Discussion Group

Friday Morning Progressive Discussion Group meets on first and third Fridays at **CoCo's Bakery Restaurant, 77 N. Lake Avenue, Pasadena** (west side of Lake, below Union) at **9 a.m.** See the Calendar on the back page for upcoming meetings.

Everyone is welcome. You may order breakfast, coffee, etc., or not. For more information check with Inman Moore at 626-795-2201 or in-man@pacbell.net.



Wanted!

Photos of you on your vacation ... Please send bright, clear pics to Chuck at Hains27@SBCGlobal.net.

Wonderings and Wanderings

By Inman Moore



Progress in America Up Close and Personal

Last week, June 9, United Methodists from all over the State of Mississippi gathered for their annual conference in Jackson, the state capital. Among other things they gave their racial justice award to 28 ministers who 50 years ago, in 1963, signed a statement entitled "Born of Conviction." It said three things:

- It opposed racial discrimination of any kind.
- It opposed the use of state funds to finance private academies designed to continue segregation in the schools.
- It was opposed to Communism, in order to answer the prevailing charge that anyone supporting integration was a Communist.

The statement in 1963 was immediately picked up by the Associated Press and made headlines all over America. All hell broke loose in Mississippi. A number of the 28 ministers were immediately locked out of their churches by their congregations. Some of the ministers had physical property destroyed or vandalized. A contract was put out by the Ku Klux Klan to kill Rev. Jerry Trigg, one of the 28. All received tons of negative mail and threats. I was one of the 28. At the time I was serving as pastor of the Leggett Memorial United Methodist Church in Biloxi, Mississippi. The document turned out to be a very "moving document" in that it moved most of the 28 right out of Mississippi. My wife, Nellie, and I moved to a pastorate in California in June of 1963. Twelve other Mississippi Methodist Ministers also moved to California. Others moved to pastorates all over America.

At the time of the statement, Mississippi was totally segregated, and the state was controlled by the White Citizens Council who had

elected one of their own, Ross Barnett, as governor. Schools, churches, and public facilities, such as restrooms and drinking fountains, were all segregated. Blacks could not eat in the restaurants or stay in hotels. Public swimming pools and the entire beaches on the Mississippi Gulf Coast were off limits to blacks. For a period of years Mississippi was indeed a closed society.

But, time marches on and today in the South it is a different story due to the efforts of many people. Dr. James W. Silver, a distinguished Southern historian of that time credits the 28 as being one of the reasons for change in the South. From being chased out of the state in 1963, the 28 this year are now being honored in Mississippi as agents of change. This is a great indicator of what has happened in the South.

Today, blacks have access to all public facilities including schools, churches, restaurants, and hotels. Blacks no longer ride in the back of the bus. Today, the Mayor of Jackson, the capital city, is a black and recently Meridian, one of the larger towns in Mississippi, elected a black mayor. Indeed, there many blacks serving in elective positions all over the state. My point is that progress can be made in all walks of our public life. We continue to open doors to many racial groups. Women are in more leadership roles than ever before. Gays are gradually establishing their rightful place in society, and the beat goes on. Anyone interested in pursuing the Mississippi dilemma will find these two books helpful:

Mississippi: The Closed Society, James W. Silver (found in the library.)

Sandersville, Ned Kellar (May be found on Amazon. It was written by one of the 28.)

We can and do make progress, but it is not inevitable. Change for the best is always a struggle, but it does happen with the help from a concerned citizenry..

Political Notes

by Jon Fuhrman



Saturday, June 8.

All the noise about supposed scandals in DC tends to divert attention from some real progress the Administration is making: modest, but consistent, job growth; a falling deficit; slow but steady progress toward immigration reform. But it's the most recent revelations about national security monitoring methods that I think deserves some special attention here.

That's a hard topic to talk about, in part because the details are pretty wonky, but mostly because the crux of the story is secret -- and rightly so, to my mind. The first set of revelations suggested the National Security Administration (NSA, the group that makes and breaks codes and tracks all manner of communications) was building a database tracking every landline and cell-phone call from and to every person in the United States. It turns

out that was somewhat exaggerated. NSA was archiving all the "meta-data" on those calls -- the numbers called and length of those calls -- but excluding the names of the people calling and being called. That seems an odd thing to do; it doesn't do you much good to know that number X called number Y if you don't know who X and Y are.

But as the story unfolded, and one read a bit between the lines, it seems like a very clever thing to do indeed if one is trying to balance national security requirements (which are very real) and privacy concerns.

Let's remember first that the data here is routinely collected and stored by phone companies. Anyone who has ever watched TV crime shows has seen detectives routinely pull phone records on suspects (as they do in real life, as well). Of course, the difference here is that the detectives have a specific suspect and can articulate probable cause for investigating that suspect.

One real-life problem, however, is that phone companies don't keep such data forever. So if an intelligence agency chances upon a suspected terrorist and wants to backtrack their activities two years, five years or even further back, trying to find connections that might lead to a wider network, it would be nice to have a permanent archive of that data (and unite the data from all the phone companies in a single database) rather than rely on phone companies to keep that data indefinitely.

But without knowing ahead of time which records might be critically important in tracing a terrorist network, how do you know which records to keep? The only answer is to keep everyone's records, even though we have no probable cause now, and likely will never have probable cause, to inspect the vast, overwhelming majority of the data retained.

How then can we reconcile legitimate national security requirements with 4th Amendment

constraints? My personal guess is that this arrangement was worked out by the somewhat maligned FISA Court. This group of 11 judges, appointed by the Chief Justice Roberts from District Court judges around the country, was established under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act to hear, in absolute secrecy, applications for secret wire-taps and other surveillance warrants aimed at foreign spies, terrorists, and suspected terrorists. Many liberal commentators dismiss the Court as toothless or excessively submissive to the Executive Branch. Yet they forget a sharp opinion issued by the Court's Chief Judge some years ago that, although secret, apparently prohibited certain Bush-era intelligence gathering activities and forbade a particular FBI agent from testifying before the Court, because judges believed he had lied to the Court. So, as best I can tell, they are not a rubber stamp. They approve virtually every warrant application because they have explicit guidelines and the FBI and other agencies follow those guidelines.

My guess is that the Court, as a condition for approving the warrants that authorize the collection of the telephonic "meta-data", required that names be stripped from the data. So the NSA can permanently archive the meta-data, but without a name to attach to calling or called numbers, the data is relatively useless, and therefore harmless. And before the Court approves a warrant to connect a name to a number, appropriate probable cause has to be shown in each specific case.

Critics, though, ask what happens if Executive Branch officials don't follow the guidelines; what if they cheat and find names and track networks without approved warrants, or if they lie on the warrant applications? Yes, theoretically, that could happen, but we have



created a significant oversight structure -- the regular management within the Agency, the Agency's Inspector General, oversight from the Cabinet-level Director of National Intelligence and oversight from Senate and House Select Committees. And finally, what if the database is abused, and someone in NSA is tracking the calls I make? How does one balance the potential damage from having my civil liberties invaded with the potential benefit of using this database (which, by its very nature, can't be publicly discussed)?

It seems to me the critics are way off-base, which may be why Sens. Wyden and Udall, who have been circumspectly trying to draw

attention to this program, failed to elicit virtually any support -- from either side of the aisle. In fact, members of Congress were briefed, in some significant detail, and nearly all seemed satisfied that the data was of critical importance to our national security monitoring programs, that the checks and balances were appropriate, and that in fact it was worth spending several billions of dollars on the program.

So if two Administrations (of different parties), the overwhelming majority of Congressmembers of both parties, and 11 federal judges all feel the program is necessary and appropriately constrained to respect 4th Amendment limits, then perhaps we should be cautious in questioning their collective judgment.

The second revelation was somewhat more ambiguous. It revealed a program called "Prism" that apparently collected electronic communications (e-mails, blogs, videos, etc.) from individuals outside the United States. Occasionally, data from or about U.S. citizens or residents was swept up in the collection effort, but there appeared to be internal processes for eliminating or sanitizing that data.

This seems an even easier call, since by definition users outside the United States have no expectation of privacy rights under our laws and we have no obligation to them. Some Internet purists may be upset that we're tracking and storing such data, but welcome to the real world. Further, it appears that the "Prism" system is more of a cataloging and analysis tool rather than a collection tool; the Administration has been a bit vague about how it collects the data that is assessed and stored through the Prism system.

In both these cases, it seems to me, the government is doing exactly what we've been expecting them to do -- trying to connect obscure dots in the puzzle that is the fight against terrorism, while not sacrificing basic Constitutional rights and values.

Perhaps the most interesting question, however, is about the leaks themselves. President Obama said he welcomed the debate those leaks have brought on; perhaps so, or perhaps he was just being polite. My question is whether the newspapers that published those articles did the right thing.

That's a hard question for a sort-of journalist like myself to answer. Don't we celebrate folks like Daniel Ellsberg, who leaked the Pentagon Papers? Don't we posit that one of the most basic building blocks of democracy is a free press, guaranteed by the 1st Amendment?

And yet, in all discussions about intelligence matters, the one area of near-unanimous agreement is that "sources and methods" of intelligence gathering are off-limits. That's why it's a flat-out federal felony to reveal the identity of an undercover CIA officer -- both for insiders who leak the information, and for members of the press who publish the information. These recent leaks come as close to disclosing "sources and methods" as any leak I can recall recently.

Skeptics may argue that it's hardly surprising

that we monitor phone and e-mail communications, and any terrorist who doesn't know that isn't much of a terrorist. Yet, you may recall, about 10 years ago there was a press story about how we had tracked a known terrorist in Afghanistan through his cell-phone calls. Indeed, that terrorist was sloppy enough, or sufficiently unaware, to use his cell-phone carelessly. Within days, though, the cell-phone traffic that intelligence agencies had been tracking came to a screeching halt. That leak did tip off the terrorists, and it did cost us a useful, perhaps tremendously useful, method of tracking terrorists.

Is this case similar? Does specifying the seven or nine internet providers who currently provide data on international communications simply point terrorists to other internet providers who are perhaps out of reach of FISA Court subpoenas? Are these leaks doing more harm than good?

My sense is, in fact, exactly that -- publishing those articles was not in our national interest, that the papers did a disservice to the nation, that the debate we are currently having belongs behind closed doors among Congressional oversight committees and not on our front pages. That means most of us get left out of the debate, and it places even greater responsibility upon Members of Congress who are, or could be, privy to the details. (To be fair to some critics, it does not build confidence to know that most Members declined to attend detailed secret briefings where some of these tough questions could be debated.) Yes, it can be worrying, and frustrating, that we can't openly and broadly debate these programs. Yet, revealing specific details that would promote an informed debate would likely fatally undermine those very programs.

So we're stuck between a rock and a hard place. Do we trust our elected leadership to make thoughtful, balanced decisions on diffi-

cult issues? Or do we handcuff them and hope that, nonetheless, they can succeed in their mission to disrupt terror plots and apprehend terrorists? In this instance, I think we have to trust, delegate and empower. And I wouldn't want to be the intelligence analyst who leaked the documents to the Guardian and the Wall Street Journal.

-- Jon Fuhrman



**From
41st District
Assemblymember
Chris Holden**



Dear ACT Friends,

I was very pleased when the Speaker appointed me to the Governing Board of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy because so many environmental issues are important to the 41st Assembly District. The Conservancy has helped preserve urban parks and wilderness access throughout Southern California and especially in the foothills region of the 41st A.D. and I look forward to working with local governments to protect and preserve the treasures of the San Gabriel Valley.

I realized early on in the debate over the Hahamonga Watershed Park that what's bad for Hahamonga could be good for NW Pasadena. I recently wrote to Pasadena officials to reaffirm my longstanding position in favor of moving the multi-use field improvement project from Hahamonga to Muir High School. I pointed out that the state grant funds associated with the development must be spent in an area that serves underprivileged children and that the multi-use fields could have numerous adverse effects on the Hahamonga ecosystem.

In case you haven't heard, the City of South Pasadena has been awarded a Bicycle Transportation Account Grant to improve safety and convenience for bicycle commuters in the City of South Pasadena. The implementation of the Bicycle Master Plan will encourage bicycle ridership versus the use of personal automobiles in South Pasadena and will become a model for the entire 41st Assembly District. I'm hoping to work with the City as we explore ways to expand the bike paths and other recreational activities.

I want to thank you all for your kind wishes and cards following the recent loss of my mother, Fannie Louise Holden. My family and I greatly appreciate your thoughts and prayers.

Assemblyman. Holden represents some 420,000 people in the foothills communities of Altadena, Pasadena, South Pasadena, Sierra Madre, Monrovia, San Dimas, La Verne, Claremont, and Upland. He can be reached via his website at: www.asm.ca.gov/holden and fill out the contact form.



Welcome New and Returning ACT Members:

George & Sara Abdo, Pasadena
Arden Beer, Lancaster
Rex Mayreis, Altadena

Special Thanks to Sustaining Members

Nichole Mihara & Greg Harrison, Pasadena
Connie O'Donnell, Altadena
Nancy Warner & Christine Reynolds,
Pasadena

Really special thanks to Our Benefactors

Kip Thorne & Carole Winstein,
Pasadena

From 25th District State Senator Carol Liu...



Sacramento Update

I am pleased to report that the Senate has passed and sent to the Assembly my bills to improve funding for public schools, modernize adult education programs, and provide more revenue for local transportation improvements. These measures are:

- SB 69, the Senate's version of Local Control Funding, will increase per-pupil funding for California students in kindergarten through 12th Grade, especially in disadvantaged communities. The proposal improves upon the Governor's plan by increasing the base grant to all schools while providing supplemental funding for English language learners, foster youth, and low-income students.
- SB 173 updates and streamlines funding for adult education programs. The bill narrows the categories of adult education for which state funding can be used to citizenship, vocational training, English, GED, and adults with disabilities. It establishes processes to align student assessment policy and create an accountability system, and allows public schools and community colleges to charge a modest fee for adult education classes other than those that can be offered using state funds.
- SB 416 will help Caltrans sell state-owned homes that are not needed for a proposed extension of State Route 710 in Los Angeles, Alhambra, South Pasadena, and Pasadena. Caltrans has owned these houses for nearly

50 years. This bill will remove barriers to selling the properties and direct revenues to be used for transportation improvements in the area. It prohibits spending those funds to advance or build a tunnel.

That brings the total to 11 of my bills that passed the Senate by Friday (May 31, 2013), which was the deadline to approve and send to the Assembly any bills introduced in the Senate this year. I am pleased that many of these measures passed with bipartisan support. I now look forward to carrying them through the Assembly process. The Legislature has until September 13 to approve any legislation introduced this year. Governor Brown has until October 13 to sign or veto legislation.

June 15th is the date by which the Legislature must send a balanced budget to the Governor. Budget negotiations are ongoing through the weekend as I write, and it appears we are closer to a compromise between the Governor's proposed Local Control Funding Formula and the alternate approach the Senate put forth in my SB69. I trust I can report a summary of the final budget to you next month.

Sen. Liu represents about 930,000 people in the 25th Senate District, which includes Burbank, Glendale, Pasadena, La Cañada Flintridge, La Crescenta-Montrose, Altadena, San Marino, South Pasadena, Sierra Madre, Monrovia, Duarte, San Dimas, La Verne, Claremont, Glendora, and Upland.. Visit www.senate.ca.gov/LIU.



Special Thanks to Patrons

Louise Brinsley, Pasadena
Susan Heck, Pasadena
State Sen. Carol Liu &
Chairman Michael Peevey, La Canada
Dorothy Matthiessen, Pasadena

**From
43rd District
Assemblymember
Mike Gatto**



Greetings from Sacramento!

**"Library 2.0" –
Extending the Shelf Life of Our Libraries**

I recently took a tour of a wonderful classroom in La Crescenta, where students were learning (gasp!) how to make things with their hands -- and their minds. The students were not only getting valuable, hands-on experience, to prepare them for the jobs in tomorrow's economy, but they were building neat things like robots, and programming in advanced computer code. As I left, the teachers and parents touring with me posed the question: would we better serve our students if libraries focused on the tactile and practical as opposed to the informational and theoretical?

Libraries spend thousands of dollars each year on books that sometimes gather dust, only to soon be replaced by digital books on electronic readers. Other library services, like DVD rentals and internet access serve an important public function, but watching a movie, checking e-mail, or chatting with a friend on Facebook is a far cry from the experiential research, discovery, and creation centers that libraries could become.

So the question becomes, as mail-order books and digital e-readers supplant the traditional needs for space to house volumes, should policymakers push for "Library version 2.0?" Building on the model schools used to employ (of tactile classes like woodshop and mechanic, now mostly gone), could the space in libraries be used for things like robotics, computer programming, and 3D Printing, a new form of

manufacturing? I think this is an intriguing possibility. And as always, I would like to hear your thoughts.

Mike Gatto is a father and the Chairman of the Assembly Committee on Appropriations. He represents the cities of Burbank, Glendale, and La Cañada Flintridge, the Los Angeles neighborhoods of Los Feliz, Silver Lake, Atwater Village, and portions of the Hollywood Hills and East Hollywood. E-mail Mike at: assemblymember.gatto@assembly.ca.gov



**From
ACT Co-Chair and
former 44th District
Assemblymember
Anthony
Portantino**



Dear Act Members,

I can't believe that Memorial Day has come and gone, the end of the school year is a week away and summer is here. I bet your house is just as hectic as mine with old and young children rushing in different directions and finding it more difficult than ever to bring everyone together for quality family time. Being home is giving me time to spend with everyone individually but rarely all together. I'm going to push for a family camping trip over the next two months. Let's see if I can amass the necessary "votes" to pass such a controversial agenda.

Frank E. Evans -- On June 3rd, I was able to attend the very emotional memorial service for the USS Frank E. Evans in Long Beach. Two hundred seventy eight sailors left port during the Viet Nam War. Forty Four years ago, 74 tragically died during an international training exercise with an Australian Air Craft Carrier. One of the brave men who did not return was the father of my good friend and

ACT Member, Tim Wendler. Tim, who was just two years old, has joined with other family members on efforts to bring appropriate recognition for the fallen Evans' sailors. Congressman Schiff has been working aggressively to help Tim in this effort.

Government Reform – I recently joined with the League of Women Voters on a lunch discussion on the need for reforms in Sacramento. This seemed extremely timely since a number of bi-partisan bills to bring more transparency to Sacramento were recently shelved. Something as simple as putting legislation in print for three days before voting on it couldn't pass. There have also been several noteworthy efforts to bring needed changes to AB 109, the prison realignment plan that is facilitating the early release of felons onto our streets. Unfortunately, many of these proposals have also been put on the sideline.

Non-Profit Boards

The Arroyos and Foothills Conservancy conducted a one year celebration of the acquisition of the Rosemont Preserve property in La Crescenta. This property has been a magnet for community involvement and education as students from Mountain Avenue Elementary get excellent use of the preserve.

The Pasadena Armenian Genocide Memorial Committee (PASAGMC) just received a \$10,000 grant from the California Endowment for its terrific project to build a Genocide Memorial in Pasadena. The effort has received wide-spread community support and will very appropriately commemorate the 1.5 million men women and children who lost their lives in the first Genocide of the 20th Century.

The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy allocated some planning resources for trail and educational opportunities in the Verdugo Mountains and the Crescenta Valley.

The California Film Commission just held its lottery for the current year tax credit. I congratulate the winning projects but urge the state to do more and allocate additional funding for this program. It's needed and is an enormous economic benefit for our State.

The La Canada Chamber of Commerce completed a very successful Fiesta Days Weekend. This is has been going on forever and continues to grow and entertain the entire community. I was able to enjoy

fireworks on Sunday night with Bella in my arms. Don't know how much longer I'll get that much public attention from my 11-year old.

Family News -- The big news on the home front is Sofia's purchase of a new "used" car. It was a pretty sweet story. She's working at Starbucks till she finds something more permanent and came home one day telling me how much a fellow barista knew about cars. The young gentleman told her to purchase a 2012 Mazda 3 with less than 20,000 miles. "You know dad, this guy really knows his cars," was what she told me. Unwilling to cross the barista, I took her to Sierra Mazda where we found "the perfect car that she loves." Dad didn't know much about cars but knew where to facilitate the purchase. Thank you Sierra Mazda!

I hope you and your family have a terrific summer.

Anthony Portantino is a Co-Chair of ACT and the former 44th Dist. Assemblymember. He is a visiting fellow at the USC Unruh Institute of Politics. In addition he is a member of the California Film Commission, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Board, the Arroyos and Foothills Conservancy Board, the PCC Bond Oversight Committee, the PAS-AGMC and the La Canada Flintridge Chamber of Commerce Board.



Thanks to Members for Additional Contributions to ACT's Operating Account

State Sen. Carol Liu &
Chairman Michael Peevey, La Canada
Connie O'Donnell, Altadena

Thanks to Members for Additional Contributions to ACT's Political Account

Ken Chawkins, Pasadena
Nichole Mihara & Greg Harrison, Pasa.
Connie O'Donnell, Altadena
Betty Sandford, Monrovia
Nancy Warner & Christine Reynolds,
Pasadena

A Festering Wound

By John Grula, reprinted from the
Pasadena Weekly with permission



Time to defuse nuclear Cold War tensions on the Korean Peninsula

Nearly three years ago this column warned that America should do all it can to reduce tensions between North Korea and South Korea. Unfortunately, North Korea and the possibility of war on the Korean Peninsula have been much in the news of late, so clearly the tense situation between the two Koreas has only worsened.

The latest go-round between North Korea, South Korea and the South's ally, the United States, started escalating after the North supposedly conducted a third underground test of a nuclear device on Feb. 12. This follows alleged nuclear tests by North Korea in 2006 and 2009. The first test had an explosive yield of less than one kiloton and is widely considered to have been a failure or possibly a faked test conducted with conventional explosives.

The second "test" in 2009 had an estimated yield of about six kilotons, as did the most recent test. However, there is considerable doubt as to whether these tests were actually nuclear, because in both cases diagnostic radiation was not detected by sensors in South Korea, China, and Japan, according to *Science* magazine and BBC News Asia online. By comparison, the primitive nuclear bomb the US dropped on Hiroshima in 1945 had a yield of 15 kilotons. Clearly, the third-rate nuclear technologies the North Koreans have so far developed do not equal what our nation was capable of 68 years ago. At this point, it is by no means certain that the North has even one nuclear bomb that actually works.

On April 11 a report by the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) was made public in a con-

gressional hearing, and in this report the DIA said that it had "moderate confidence" that the North has already succeeded in building a nuclear warhead that can fit on top of a ballistic missile. However, after this conclusion became public, the director of National Intelligence, James R. Clapper, released a statement that said the DIA's position does not reflect the consensus view of the 15 other intelligence agencies that comprise our rather large and diverse intelligence community. Secretary of State John Kerry and President Obama have both voiced support for Clapper's statement, according to reports in the *Los Angeles Times*.

Our media constantly portray new North Korean leader Kim Jong Un as a paranoid nutcase, the same way they depicted his father, Kim Jong Il. But, as pointed out in my earlier article, there's an old saying that "even paranoids have real enemies." Moreover, we have our own share of nutcases within the ranks of our military and political establishments.

Case in point: As part of our recent war games on and around the Korean Peninsula with the South Korean military, for the first time the US flew nuclear-capable B-2 stealth bombers, B-52 bombers and F-22 stealth warplanes near the North Korean border. This was needlessly and irresponsibly provocative. As the *Wall Street Journal* reported on April 3, the Obama administration subsequently acknowledged this, and US officials decided to "dial back" their show of force, worried that North Korea and its new leader "may be more provoked than the US had intended." Ya think?

Among other things, Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel subsequently postponed a long-planned test of a US intercontinental Minuteman 3 missile, "because of concerns the launch could be misinterpreted and exacerbate the current crisis," according to a report by *The Associated Press*.

How would we like it if North Korea buzzed

our West Coast with nuclear-capable bombers? Would we find that provocative?

In its April 5 lead editorial, the LA Times naively stated that the Obama administration's ultimate goal is "a Korean peninsula without nuclear weapons." This canard has been repeated many times in the past. It's a canard because nuclear-armed US submarines routinely ply the waters near the Korean Peninsula, and can deliver a nuclear knock-out punch to North Korea at any time. The North Koreans know this and it's one of the reasons they persist in pursuing a nuclear deterrent. In this way they are no different than the US and our insistence on maintaining our nuclear deterrent.

So, what's to be done about North Korea and the tensions on the Korean Peninsula? In the short term, the US should use all of its diplomatic skills to persuade North Korea's main ally, China, to lean on the North to tone down its belligerent rhetoric. Secretary of State Kerry is already working on this, according to the Times.

Finally, the US and South Korea need to negotiate a peace treaty with North Korea and put a formal end to the Korean War, which stopped with a truce in 1953. That 60 years have gone by without such a treaty is absurd and the primary reason this Cold War wound continues to fester.

John Grula, PhD, is affiliated with the Southern California Federation of Scientists.



Jun Jul Calendar

- June 21
Friday
9 a.m.
Friday Morning Progressive Discussion Group at CoCo's Restaurant, 77 N. Lake Ave., Pasa. Call Inman Moore for info at 626-795-2201.
- June 30
Sunday
3-5 p.m.
Anthony Portantino for State Senate Fundraiser at the home of Mary and Bill Urquhart, 1210 Chelton Way, South Pasadena. \$50 per person. RSVP to 626-405-8130.
- July 5
Friday
Progressive Discussion Group. Details same as 6/21.
- July 11
Thursday
6:30 p.m.
ACT/ADC Summer Potluck and Meeting at the home of Bobbie & Henry Moon, 1961-Mar Vista Ave., Alta.. State Convention report and Pasadena Village presentation. Potluck at 6:30 p.m.; meeting follows at about 8 p.m. Potluck assignments on page two. Everyone's welcome.
- July 19
Friday
Progressive Discussion Group. Details same as 6/21.
- Sept 29
Sunday
ACT 40th Anniversary Fundraiser and Celebration. Please save the date!!
- October 22
Tuesday
Anthony Portantino's seventh annual San Gabriel Valley HIV/AIDS Action Summit, at City of Hope Cooper Auditorium. For information call 626-471-7307.

Is There a **Red** Check on Your Address Label?

We put a **red** check on your address label on this *Phoenix* to remind you that we have not yet received your 2013 ACT and/or ADC dues. Please use the form below and mail your check c/o ACT/ADC, P. O. Box 40074, Pasadena, CA 91114-7074 ASAP. Or renew online at <http://www.actpasadena.org/>. If you have any questions about your membership contact Jon Fuhrman at jon_fuhrman@charter.net or 626-795-5255.



P.S. Thanks to the folks in 178 ACT/ADC households who have already renewed and to those in our 31 new households.

I'd like to join both groups for one low price! (Checks payable to ACT/ADC)

\$40 Single	\$70 Single Sustaining
\$25 Each additional member per household	\$90 Double Sustaining
\$15 Student or limited income	\$150 Patron
	\$275 Benefactor

I'd like to join ACT (Checks payable to ACT)

\$35 Single	\$60 Single Sustaining
\$20 Each additional member per household	\$85 Double Sustaining
\$15 Student or limited income	\$125 Patron
\$20 Gift Membership (NEW!)	\$275 Benefactor

I'd like to join the Arroyo Democratic Club (Checks payable to ADC)

\$35 Single	\$60 Single Sustaining
\$20 Each additional member per household	\$85 Double Sustaining
\$15 Student or limited income	\$125 Patron
	\$275 Benefactor

Extra Contribution

\$ _____ Political Account (for endorsed candidates and issues)
 \$ _____ Operating Account (for organizational costs) \$ _____ **Total enclosed**

Name	Home Phone
Address	Office Phone
City	ZIP
Email address	

Mail to ACT, P. O. Box 40074, Pasadena, CA 91114-7074