

# AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL



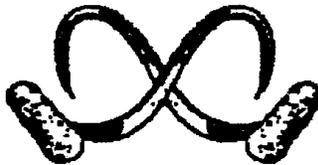
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## Meeting Dates

May	6
June	3
July	1
August	5

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## Dennis Rodman had the Right Idea

By Dave Chaddock

It is certainly ridiculous that a war beginning nearly 65 years ago could not by this time have been brought to an end. The ping-pong ball helped ease hostilities between the U.S. and China. Why couldn't another ball, a bit larger one, have a similar effect with the U.S. and North Korea?

In his magnificent book about World War One, *To End All Wars*, Adam Hochschild points out that it was not enough to introduce new weapons like poison gas. It was also necessary for an all-out mobilization of public opinion. Key British officials "had grasped that this war would require propaganda of unprecedented sophistication and scope." For this purpose two dozen leading authors were assembled in secret. They included Arthur Conan Doyle, H.G. Wells, and Thomas Hardy. They agreed to be recruited to fight with their pens, and soon the War Propaganda Bureau "launched a flood of books, pamphlets, newspapers, posters, post cards, slide shows and films" (pp. 147-8).

But it was in the Korean War that the United States refined this art of propaganda to the point of absolute perfection. Stories of German troops "crucifying Belgian peasants by nailing them to the doors of their cottages" have long since been exposed as fabrications. But the myths about the Korean War are still alive and well in the minds of most Americans.

Victor Cha, former Asian affairs adviser for George Bush, notes with amazement how "every North

Korean child today believes the Korean War was started by South Korea and the United States" (*The Impossible State*, 66). Americans have been taught that people who think like this have been "brainwashed." The term originated in Korean War days. A writer paid by the CIA, Edward Hunter, wrote two books about it. He called it a mysterious process involving either hypnotism or conditioned reflex by means of which human minds could be controlled and manipulated in a manner reminiscent of the horror stories of Edgar Allen Poe. Though the belief in such a process has faded somewhat as the evidence for its existence has been found wanting, the alleged "truths" about the war that this hocus-pocus helped to buttress have hardly been challenged. And, over the years, new "truths" about North Korean aggression have been piled on, until the image of this regime in American eyes is firmly cemented as a paranoid state full of groundless fears about non-existent U.S. threats, and moreover, a regime that is a standing menace to world peace.

Actually, although much of the activity leading up to the war took place within Korea, it was the U.S. reaction to the victory of the PLA in China in 1949 that was the greater precipitating factor. The U.S. wanted to build up its forces to contain the "Red menace" after what was seen as the devastating "loss" of China. Red-leaning rebels were everywhere, especially around the borders of China, in the Philippines, in Vietnam, and of course

*Continued on page 2*

in Korea. The greatest amount of U.S. military strength in the Far East was concentrated in Japan, very close to Korea. But the U.S. did not want the American people to think it was the one striking the first blow. What it needed was something like a Pearl Harbor to goad it into action. And thus we had the “most treacherous, most perfidious” unexpected attack in world history, the sneaky attack on innocent South Korea, early on a Sunday morning while only Godless Communists would be up and about, while President Truman was giving a speech about “peace,” while most high-level U.S. officials were off on vacations, leaving only Harold Noble asleep in his bed at the U.S. Embassy, who would be jarred awake to sound the tocsin.

Ah, what a relief! Just when the U.S. was most in need of a stimulus, good old North Korea came along to supply it! Now there was hope. Now the sun was shining. Now there was purpose in life!

As I say, there were also precipitating factors in South Korea. Among them was the fact that the U.S.-installed dictator and right-wing fanatic Syngman Rhee had just lost an election and was a lame duck, needing a suspension of constitutional processes in order to stay in power. After a campaign to massacre rebel oppositionists and countless cross-border raids against the North, he had been itching to be unleashed for an all-out war to wipe out the Reds.

Completely ignored in the U.S. accounts of the origin of the war is any mention of how it barged in and replaced the legitimate Korean forces that had accepted a Japanese surrender, how it ousted these popular forces and replaced them with Japanese-trained Korean traitors who “did a good job for Japan, and therefore would do a good job for us.”

Right at the outset, the first thing that Truman did was send the Seventh Fleet into the Taiwan strait, preventing China from final completion of its civil war, protecting Chiang Kai-shek in his lair, and giving him hope of a comeback on the mainland. It was also an illustration of what the Korean War, in its larger sense, was all about. Incidentally, this aspect of the Korean War is finally reaching a peaceful solution as capital flowing from the Chinese mainland into Taiwan (first permitted in 2009) has increased by 650 per cent in 2012 as 138 projects funded by mainland capital have reached a total of \$328 million (figures are from Beijing Review). The Korean aspects of the war, however, are still at an impasse.

As MacArthur took the war to the Chinese border in an attempt to seize all of Korea, he was forced to eat humble pie as Chinese forces entered the war. Marines retreated from “frozen Chosin” and soon

the war settled into one of attrition over ridges not very far from where it had all begun along the 38th parallel. It should have been brought to an end at this point but the U.S. carried it on for an additional two years as it sought a propaganda victory for the “Free World.” Allying that most all of its captured Chinese and Korean soldiers had no desire to return to their homelands, it refused to release them.

Actually these men were intimidated and feared for their lives. It was all touted as a proof of the unpopularity and inhumanity of Communism.

While the war continued, North Korea was bombed flat. In hopes of turning the tide, new weapons were introduced. Among them were fleas infected with bubonic plague, a bacteriological weapon devised and perfected by Japanese war criminal Shiro Ishii, who was protected by the U.S. so it could learn his secrets. The U.S. has never admitted its use of this weapon and insists that the many captured American airmen who testified in great detail to their participation in this “germ” war campaign had been “brainwashed.” (I have written about this in my latest book, soon to be published.)

Yes, the United States has “promised” not to attack North Korea. But North Korea has been face to face with a U.S. that has lied about the origins of the Korean War, lied about the weapons it used during that war. How can it trust the U.S. to be an honest broker? Even as Jimmy Carter worked out an agreement for peace during the Clinton administration, the U.S. balked at implementing it, believing and hoping that North Korea would collapse before it had to follow through. Bush adviser Victor Cha is all agog over the fact that scholars Leon Sigal and Selig Harrison have castigated the U.S. for its provocative stance against the North. Both these men have written excellent and convincing accounts. And I would mention a third book as well, that of CNN correspondent Mike Chinoy, which he called *Meltdown*. Chinoy details how the Bush regime blew countless opportunities to ease the tension. North Korean expressions of sympathy after 9-11 were met with an “Axis of evil” speech. North Korean negotiators who arrived for parleys “full of optimism” would be torpedoed by unfounded accusations. When North Korea invited envoy Christopher Hill to come for talks, the administration rejected the invitation. To talk, it was explained, would “reward aggression.” Condoleezza Rice called North Korea an “outpost of tyranny” and John Bolton fulminated against the DPRK at the UN, using “derogatory terms in virtually every sentence.” South Korean leaders who rejected Bush’s

*Continued from page 2*

confrontational policy were treated as ignorant children. Kim Dae-jung was told: "Your sunshine policy sucks!"

But Vincent Cha in his book would have it that Dick Cheney was "one of the most thoughtful voices behind the scenes" (p.278). And he insists that until North Korea modifies its "human rights" policies at home "no American president could possibly offer regime assurances to the butchers of Pyongyang" (p. 305).

North Korea, however, looks at the 80,000 troops gearing up for war exercises, including a simulated attack by South Korean artillery. It looks on the 65 ships and 40 aircraft mobilized in 2012 by the U.S. for the largest amphibious landing operation in 20 years, and can't help but fear an attack may be in the offing. It looks at Libya, where Moammar Gadhafi gave up his nuclear plans in accordance with U.S. wishes and ended up dead. Its quest for a nuclear umbrella is understandable. Mao once remarked that all over the world, cats speak only with cats. They don't speak to mice. It was only when the Chinese stood up, that the Chinese cat was able to make friends with the American cat. It may seem paradoxical, but North Korea's nuclear plans are really for the purpose of making peace. As Kim Jong-un told Dennis Rodman: "I don't want to do war."

Yet developing nuclear weapons in North Korea is dangerous. Already there are calls in South Korea for developing their own nuclear counterforce. And thus China has condemned its little buddy and joined in UN sanctions. But it insists that these sanctions will not work, and they will only encourage North Korea to be even more provocative. It points out that a small country like North Korea doesn't have the wherewithal to go toe-to-toe with a large armed-to-the-teeth superpower in nuclear war games. It points out that putting North Korea on an all-out war footing makes it impossible to devote attention to economic development. But it realizes that North Korea is not listening. So what is the point?

China is urging that the ball is in the U.S. court and that the only way to solve this dilemma in the last analysis is for the U.S. to start peace talks. Sanctions are putting the cart before the horse. North Korea is insecure and threats only make it more insecure. So far only the "worm" has been able to get close enough to talk with Kim Jong-un. Even ex-governor Richardson was not able to do it on his latest visit to the DPRK. Only when high level officials follow Rodman's lead will the situation start to get resolved.

Our port has seen the arrival of a great many

South Korean vessels. I look forward to the day when a North Korean vessel will tie up. And better yet, a vessel from a confederated Korea, so tragically divided all these many years!

## **Old 'Arry**

Longshoremen's firebrand marks 50 years since

'Bloody Thursday

By Emmett Watson From the Seattle Times dated Nov. 13, 1984

I used up one year out of a rather misspent life working as "permit man" out of the Longshoreman's Hall down on Western Avenue during World War II. Local 19 was closed to new members, but in those war years the ILWU allowed us to work as "extras, or "permit" laborers, loading ships bound for the Pacific war zones.

Each hold of a ship had a longshore gang that loaded that particular hold. So you went deep down in the hold of a Liberty Ship, or some other kind of freighter ----- and because those were deep bottoms, it was a long way down.

What was loaded was lumber, heavy equipment, sacks of cement, cases of Spam, butter and toilet paper, not to mention cases of Johnny Walker Red Label and Seagrams 7-Crown, destined for officers' clubs in the South Pacific. Ours not to reason why. Ours but to load 'em high.

So when you joined a longshore gang you were with them for several days until the cargo began spilling over the deck. You got to know these guys quite well. You squat in the hold eating out of a lunch pail and the old-timers would talk about what the waterfront was like before the ILWU.

They were like old war veterans at reliving past battles. They told us of the shape up, where the only way a longshoreman could get a temporary job was by maybe bribing the company dock foreman. "Jeez, kid" they would say, you shoulda been here when they had the speed-up. You worked your tail off or you were gone.

Many times they said, when you went down into a hold to load a ship you didn't leave until it was done. This took as long as 72 hours - three full days - before you went home. There was no overtime, no holidays. You got maybe 40 or 45 cents an hour.

"We fought for the likes of you," one of them told me. We got control of the hiring - and now it's all done in a fair way. Members first, permit guys next, but each in line for his turn."

"Hey, tell him about the Battle of Smith Cove," a man would say. "Oh jeez, that was a war! We had to

fight cops and scabs and company goons and State Police. Two of us got killed in one day and I damn near got blinded by the tear gas. But we shut the damned waterfront down, from Canada to Mexico, and we won, by God, we won.

So during World War II we worked an 11 hour day and we received, as I recall, \$11.55 a shift. This was, heaven, they told me; compared to the old days - the days before the great waterfront strike of 1934. For 83 days, not a ship that was loaded went out of Seattle.

"The Battle of Smith Cove." That 'was just one' of the battles, the fights with ball bats and longshore hooks, tear gas and guns. The mayor of Seattle then, Charles Smith, ordered machine guns' posted out by Smith Cove, and it was said he lobbed out the first gas bomb, the way, a mayor now throws out the first baseball on opening day. The chamber of Commerce got some 500 deputies sworn in so the regular Seattle police could fight the longshoremen.

As a kid, I had read about "communists on our waterfront," and how Harry Bridges a "communist" From Australia, was stirring up revolution. Maybe Harry was a communist, but millions of dollars and thousands of FBI man hours failed to prove it. Old 'Arry, as they called him, beat back two lengthy deportation 'trials, and remained a hero to the longshore gangs on the Pacific Coast.

Harry Bridges! He was a wiry man, then, a big hawk beak on him, speaking in that Australian twang, a tough smart, sometimes ruthless little man. I used to go up to the Longshore hall to hear him exhort the members, even' during World War II. "We'll win this war, and then, we'll go after more," he promised. Don't let the bastards scare you!"

And who should come to town last week but this same firebrand Harry Bridges. This I had to see. I went over to the Swedish Club on Dexter Avenue North, where the old timers of the waterfront were gathered to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the big strike of '34. An' old "permit man" didn't belong there, but I went in anyway, because I wanted to see these aging waterfront warriors and Old 'Arry himself.

Martin Juggum and Roscoe Craycraft spoke - president and secretary, respectively, of the Longshoremen's' Pension Union. Jerry Tyler a retired longshoreman, was there and so was Earley Douglas, who gave the invocation, and other veterans like Bert Nelson and Phil Crawford.

In all, there must have been 200 people there. When, they checked around they found there were 71 veterans still living, the veterans or "Bloody Thursday," July 5, 1934. Maybe half of those could make it; the rest were infirm or in rest homes. The, average age

Was well onto the 70's.

These, the honored ones of this 50th Anniversary, gathered down in front of Harry Bridges, who sat up near the podium. Most of the audience was up there in years, but they looked healthy, and even a bit prosperous, and it should it be recorded here that not one of them lives today in want or need. Old 'Arry saw to that. One of them told me what Harry had done. "When mechanization and containers were coming, Harry saw the handwriting on the wall. Longshoremen would be obsolete. So Harry told the ship owners in effect, 'We can cripple your operations and cost you millions of dollars but there's a better way than that. You put into our pension funds and we'll let your containers on the waterfronts.' That's why we got such good pensions."

The entire room rose to its feet when Harry got up to talk. The old fire was gone because Harry Bridges is 83 now. He confessed to having emphysema. He said they were giving him too much credit, "because the rank and file was what it took to win."

He spoke on, rambling at times, speaking softly about the world, the places he had been, and how he had loved the old battles. He said that the three great problems we have are unemployment, inflation and world peace. "But I think, looking back 50 years" he said, "that the world is getting better. In most ways in a 'fundamental sense the world seems to be a better place." They rose again when Harry Bridges sat down.

## Conversations With Harry

By Ian Kennedy

I stopped in San Francisco on my way to Mexico a couple of weeks ago. Looking forward to a few days of nothing but sun, sand and water, I was in a good mood. So when I walked into the Bar and saw Harry in intense conversation with the waitress, I smiled. Sue looked up, saw me, and shook her head, "no." I stopped, wondered what was the matter. She came over to me, "Get that shit-eaten grin off your face, he's in a foul mood." and headed to the bar. I called after her, "better bring us whiskey and milk." She nods. When I walked up to the table, Harry didn't even realize I was there. Sue brought our drinks as I sat down. "What the hell is this?" Harry growled.

"I ordered it." I responded. "It seems you need it. What has put you in such a foul mood?" I asked. "You usually don't let things get to you."

Harry looks over at me and continues to scowl. "What's with all these give aways I'm hearing about?" he asks. "Are you talking about the Grain negotiations?"

## Final Dispatch

Julius Woeck 19  
Martin Mac Kinnon 52  
Gaston Bicheray Jr. 98  
Robert Smith 19  
Arthur N. Wallace 19

Ernest Lee Jennings  
Richard Sam Maletta 19  
Bill Fairbanks 19  
Gregory Morgan 19 active  
member

I responded. He killed the whiskey and almost half the milk. "I'm talking about Grain, I'm talking about those Boeing Engineers up your way, I'm talking about all of the working class." he responds.

"Well," I sip my whiskey as Harry eyes it. I wave to Sue, "The SPEEA contract was a big disappointment to me. I was a member of SPEEA a long time ago, and thought it was a union in name only, but when I read about their leader, I had high hopes. I thought the Union had the upper hand and could have forced the Company to cave, but the members proved to be to conservative and caved." Sue brought us another round. "As for the Grain, the Companies have returned to the table, so were not dead yet,"

The house was slow, so Sue came over with a pitcher of beer, sat it on the table along with three glasses. She stood waiting, until I realized and invited her to sit with us. "Thank you," she responded, "This is on the house, so I thought I'd share it with you." She poured, filling the three glasses. "I hope I'm not interrupting anything." Harry smiled at her, raised his glass in thanks and drank. "We're just bitching about the state of Labor and how it frustrates us." He again drinks some beer and sips some milk. "Ya," she replies, "My friends that lost their jobs last year still haven't found anything." She sighs, "Why are the papers always saying 'we are in recovery.' when all these people are still out of work? and, and the stock market is as high as it's ever been." She sits back in her chair, waiting for an answer.

"You're calling it right, the Corporations are making big bucks, bigger than they've made in years, paying top management more money then ever, but cutting back on both the work force and what they pay. And don't forget increasing the deductible on health care, and destroying pensions. Workers wont be able to retire." I answered. "So unemployment remains high and more and more families are having to turn to food banks, unable to pay bills, still loosing their homes. It drives me crazy.-----The money these CEOs get, it's obscene," I continued.

Harry is nodding in agreement. "The balance between rich and poor has been turned upside down. And the gap between the two has widened by over four hundred percent." he adds. We sip at our beers, Sue gets up to wait on a couple that just walked in. She soon returns with another pitcher for us, and sits down. Harry straightens up and continues, "I think back on the struggles we had when I was at the helm. Labor was in a much stronger place than it

is today. The Labor Movement has got to find a way to show the working class why it's important to belong to Unions. And it may mean rethinking and changing their structures to a bottom up system as we are." Harry looks over at Sue, smiles, "Any chance of getting another whiskey?" he asks. Sue jumps up and heads toward the bar, stopping at the only other table occupied.

I wait until Sue returns with our drinks, then respond, "Even in the ILWU, newer members don't know the history of the Union, the hardships, the struggles you and the others went through to get the Union established. Maybe, a contract demand should be the establishment of classes controlled or taught by the Union, covering the history, structure and importance of the Union. Organizing and arbitrating should be skills everyone should have." Harry again is nodding in agreement, with perhaps a slight smile on his face. "Not likely something that will happen soon." We sit back, sip our drinks and think about how great it would be. Harry then continues, "Labor has got to start educating everyone that, when you're down and out, you shouldn't try to pull your neighbor down with you, but to strive to raise to his/her level. Too often, when we are down and out, we question why should they have more then me?" Sue sits up with a bright smile on her face, "We can organize all the Bar Waitresses, I'd join in a minute." Harry responds, "In the old days ,waitresses were the domain of HERE, but they had a hard time holding on to those jobs, they're too fluid." Sue sticks out her lower lip, "There must be a Way?"

"While we're on the topic of Unions, next year is a contract year." I threw out to see what Harry's thoughts might be. He looks over at me with a thoughtful expression on his face. After a minute or two, he asks, "Are there any rumors going around yet?"

"I haven't picked up much, I do know Health Care will be major. Obama's plan calls for a tax on "Cadillac" plans, and ours falls into that category. The employers are not happy about that extra cost and warned that it will be an issue at the bargaining table. They, (The Employers,) have been causing all sorts of problems with our Health Care since it has passed." I pause to have the last of my whiskey and follow it with beer. Harry

## Correspondence

From **PEPE MCDONALD**, \$56.00 for 2 years dues, 2013 & 2014. Thanks so much **PEPE**.

From **BILLY & SHARON ARTHUR**, \$28.00 for 2013 dues and \$72.00 for the Rusty Hook. Thank you **BILLY & SHARON**.

From **CHUCK KOLE**, \$28.00 for 2013 dues and \$72.00 for the Rusty Hook. Thank you **CHUCK**.

From **MICHAEL HEDRICK**, \$28.00 for 2013 dues and \$72.00 for the Rusty Hook. Thank you **MICHAEL**.

From **WARREN NARVESON**, \$28.00 for 2013 dues. Thank you **WARREN**.

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From **BOB & LINDA DELAY**, \$28.00 for 2013 dues and \$172.00 for the Rusty Hook. Thanks so much **BOB & LINDA**.

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From **CHARLOTTE MACKNER**, \$28.00 for 2013 dues. Thank you **CHARLOTTE**.

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From **JOHN LEWICKI**, \$28.00 for 2013 dues and \$22.00 for the Rusty Hook. Thank you **JOHN**.

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From **BOB ROGERS**, \$28.00 for 2013 dues. Thanks **BOB**.

From **DAVID WOECK**, \$28.00 for 2013 dues. Thanks **DAVE**.

**CWH** from page 5

responds, "Well the Health care should be the first issue on the table and should be finalized before moving on. I assume McEllrath and company will stick to that like glue." I nod, "I hope so."

"The one thing we have going for us," I respond, "is the good will and solidarity Big Bob and Crew have been building world wide. I expect the shipping companies will be getting an ear full all over the world."

Again Harry smiles, stands and puts on his top coat. I rise with him and slip into my jacket. "What one minute." Sue jumps up, looking at me, "I have something for you, just a moment and I'll get it." She gives Harry a peck on the cheek as he heads for the door, then runs to the bar. In a couple of minutes, she returns, hands me a slip of Paper, with a smile. I look at the paper and reach for my wallet.



**AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL**

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**Seattle ILWU Pensioner's Club Annual Luncheon**

Thursday, May 23, 2013

White Center Eagles

10452 – 15<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.W.

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Social Hour 11:00-11:45a.m.

No Host Bar

Guest Speakers 11:45-12:30

Lunch @ 12:30

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All Active members, pensioners, and family are invited to attend our annual luncheon. If you have never been to our Luncheon, this is a great opportunity to have lunch and visit with our pensioners, old friends, and buddies you have worked with for many years.

Tickets can be purchased at the Pensioner's Club @ Local 19 on Monday, Wednesday, & Friday between 9:00 am & 12:30 pm. You may also order by phone, 206-623-7461.

**SEE YOU THERE !!!!**

Please respond by May 19, 2013.

Cost is 20\$ per person.

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