A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT... SCOT GUENTER

As I sit down to write this column, the standoff between federal authorities and the Branch Davidians in Waco, Texas, has been continuing for a month, and at present time, although media coverage has subsided considerably, there are no indications that it will be resolved quickly and peacefully. (I wonder what the status of the situation will be as you read this in May.) A February 28 raid on the compound killed four federal agents, leaving sixteen wounded. It is not clear at this time how many of the group died in this assault. The battle and ongoing negotiations have cost taxpayers in excess of $5 million at this time, yet more than 90 cult members (including 17 children) remain inside the heavily armed compound.

Throughout this struggle, which perhaps because of lack of sensationalism and overt violence has not been receiving much media attention lately, an interesting flag has been flying atop the compound, serving the same function as a flag above a military fort. The significance that flag takes on in such a situation reminds me of the talks on the Alamo flag given by John Gamez and Richard Santos at the last NAVA meeting in San Antonio. But beyond the flag as a military marker, I am intrigued by the symbolism that it must convey for Branch Davidians, and I am also curious as to its origin, derivation, and familiarity in their daily lives previous to this violent confrontation.

This raises the larger theoretical question of the use and significance of flags in various cults. It is true that the definition of cult is subjective, and one man's religion could be another man's cult, but I am using the term here to describe religious groups whose theological, cultural, and social practices clearly set them apart as deviant from the mainstream society. The cult's existence is based on a rejection of the dominant culture's values or practices, and the participants gather around a charismatic leader whose personality and vision determine their activities, often with dictatorial attention to the smallest details of daily life. Those who join cults find a paradoxical liberation in subsuming their own liberty and personal choice to the dictates of the leader and his organizational power structure.

In such a situation, where commitment to community is a constantly reinforced social value, it seems to me the use of group symbols and rituals associated with personal allegiance to those symbols would be heightened. I am asking John Gamez to include a drawing of the Branch Davidian flag with this article. Does anyone have information on the function of flags or the symbolism and ritual of flags in this cult? How about other cults? Were flags significant in any ways in Jonestown, Guyana? I know that the use of the American flag was adopted with zeal and tenacity by the Nicheren Shoshu of America when that Buddhist sect began a campaign for acceptance in the USA, and they also incorporated baton twirlers and cowboys into their promotional extravaganzas. But my question here is not about appropriating important civil religious symbols in an attempt to mainstream (though that itself is certainly worthy of study and examination), my question is about the existence of specific flags particular to various religious cults, the derivation of those flags, and (here's the trickiest part to get a handle on) the function of those flags in the ongoing process of self-identification of the members with the "groupthink" of the cult.

I welcome any insights and discussions on these topics. Let me also add my appreciation for recent articles by NAVA members responding to some of my questions on gender roles in flags, on specific texts on flags of provinces or states, and on comparing flag functions in monarchies and republics. Together we learn, together we grow, and NAVA is following (to appropriate the language of Jean-Luc Picard and Data) its "Prime Directive." Keep up the good work... AND KEEP STUDYING THOSE FLAGS!!!

B W

3:5 (?) by John H. Ott

The flag of the Branch Davidians flown from their compound near Waco, Texas, based on CNN video. The blue and white flag appears to have an emblem of some sort in the star. NAVA member David Ott suggests that it may be a cornucopia. What did you see?

WAKE UP CALL NAVA 27

I know it is earlier than usual for this, but I have been requested by the NAVA 27 Committee to submit the list of speakers as soon as feasible. Therefore, the "CALL FOR PAPERS" is now being issued.

Although most of you are familiar with the guidelines that have been setup for presentation of papers, I will briefly reiterate the highlights. We recommend the presentation of original research. The Driver Award is presented to the NAVA member whose paper is judged best for research and the presentation of new documented information. We will exercise the 30 minute basic limit on presentations. However, if another 10 minutes (or so) is actually needed to adequately cover your material, please indicate this on your proposal form. You will, otherwise be given a 30 minute time slot (and you know these are enforced). If your presentation can be given in 20 minutes please indicate this so scheduling can be effective. Your request will be considered in the best interest of convention time restraints.

Please meet application deadlines as they are set for a purpose. The information is needed to prepare the convention schedule as well as to print the convention program. It will also help each one of you to have your presentation well researched, well formulated, well written and well rehearsed so you will feel comfortable when the time comes to deliver your paper. A 200-250 word abstract (summary) of your paper must be submitted to the program chairman by 1 August 1993 and the complete transcript of your presentation submitted by 1 September 1993. Ignoring these dates might preclude inclusion of your presentation. Please delineate equipment needs; we can only have the equipment ready for you if we know what you need.

I want to thank all those who gave presentations at the convention in San Antonio for following the guidelines and therefore making the program run smoothly. I am looking forward to another great program of presentations this year at Portland, Maine, and thank you for your cooperation and contributions to NAVA 27.

Rich Kenny, Vice Pres.
Program Committee, NAVA 27
NAVA 27
HOLIDAY INN BY THE BAY
PORTLAND, MAINE
OCTOBER 8-11, 1993

BOOTHS AND DISPLAYS:
Open all day Saturday and Sunday. There will be a prize of $50 for the best non-commercial display and an award certificate for the best commercial display booth.

REGISTRATION:
Fee is $100 per person before July 1, it $155 after July 1. If you are not registered at the “NAVA 27” Hotel, there is an additional $30 charge added to the registration to cover the cost of the meeting rooms. Checks are made out to N.A. 27. Mail to New England Vexillological Assoc., c/o Dave Martucci, Sec., Treas., RR1 Box 334, Washington, Maine 04574-9715 by September 8, 1993.

FEE INCLUDES:
FRIDAY NIGHT RECEPTION - Featuring three food stations: 1) Pasta Bar serving Tortellini Alfredo and Spinich Fettucini dressed with olive oil and fresh basil. 2) Carving Station featuring Fresh Turkey Breast served with Parker House Rolls, Horseradish Mayonannaise and Honey Mustard. 3) Antipasto Table featuring a Cheese and Fruit display, Casco Bay Trio, Baked Stuffed Vegetarian Mushrooms, Franks-in-a-Blanket, Potato Pancakes, Chicken Drummies, and Gourmet Cookies and Brownies. In addition to the food stations, there will be 4) a Cash Bar.
SATURDAY AFTERNOON LUNCH - Deli Platter featuring assorted cold cuts, cheeses, pasta salad, pickle spears, dessert du jour and beverage.
SATURDAY NIGHT BANQUET - Corn Chowder, Mixed Greens with Vinaigrette, Choice of English Cut Rib with Mustard-Horseradish Sauce or Grilled Salmon with Lemon Butter, Maine Baked Potato with Sour Cream and Chives, Mashed Winter Squash, Rolls & Butter, Blueberry Shortcake and Coffee, Tea or Milk.
SUNDAY MORNING BREAKFAST - The Old Salt Buffet: Seafood Crepes, Cheese Omelettes, Crisp Bacon, Loin Sausage, Cold Cereals, Fruit Muffins, Fresh Fruit Bowl, Juice Bar, Coffee, Tea or Decaf.
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST - Saturday and Monday: Coffee, Tea, Decaf and assorted Danish.

OPTIONAL TOURS:
FRIDAY AFTERNOON TOUR will include the highlights of the City of Portland November including the Portland Observatory, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow House, Victoria Mansion and Portland Head Light.
MONDAY MORNING TOUR will feature the sights of the coast between Portland and Freeport and will include ample time to shop in Freeport, home of many countless outlet stores, and of course, L.L. Bean.

Expenses of the tours are additional and are not included in your registration fee.

HOTEL & SHUTTLE SERVICE:
The Holiday Inn by the Bay offers shuttle service for all its customers between the hotel and the Portland International Jetport. Please let them know of your arrival and departure schedules so that the shuttle can be scheduled to meet you at the proper times.

HOTEL COST:
$98.00, single or double, plus 7% sales tax. Send reservation by September 8, 1993 to Holiday Inn - Downtown, 88 Spring Street, Portland, Maine 04101.

TENTATIVE AGENDA
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8 —
2:00 p.m. - Optional Tour of Portland *
4:30 p.m. - Parade from Holiday Inn to International Ferry Terminal (Shuttle bus service provided.)
5:00 p.m. - Flag raising ceremony at International Ferry Terminal.
6:00 p.m. - Reception* with entertainment at Holiday Inn by the Bay.
9:00 p.m. - Executive Board Meeting.
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9 —
7:00 a.m. - Continental Breakfast.*
9:00 a.m. - Annual Meeting of N.A.V.A.
10:30 a.m. - Refreshment Break.
12:00 p.m. - Deli Platter Lunchon.*
1:00 p.m. - Meeting resumes.
3:00 p.m. - Refreshment Break.
5:00 p.m. - Portland Museum of Art displays.
7:00 p.m. - Banquet* featuring keynote speaker Earle Shettleworth, Director of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission.

SAN ANTONIO’S FIESTA FLAG
By John H. Gamez

Texas folklorist and writer J. Frank Dobie once wrote: “Every Texan has two homes - his own and San Antonio”.

While he may have been referring to San Antonio’s role in Texas history, today it could also mean Texan’s love affair with the city’s annual Fiesta Week. For ten days visitors and citizens alike take to the streets of downtown San Antonio and parade through various spots around town and live up to the words, “eat, drink, and be merry”.

Fiesta’s roots go back centuries. At the site called Yanaguana, the Payaya tribe celebrated numerous times throughout the year. In 1747 the inhabitants of the Villa de San Fernando celebrated the coronation of King Ferdinand VI of Spain with a week of revelry. As San Antonio evolved into a way station along the Camino Real or King’s Highway halfway between Mexico and Louisiana, travelers often noted the merriment and festivity of the locals.

Modern Fiesta has its origin in the Battle of Flowers Parade held in honor of the visit of President Benjamin Harris in 1891. Officially, Fiesta celebrates the Texan victory at the Battle of San Jacinto and as a result many of the festivities and ceremonies center around the Alamo. The Fiesta flag reflects this symbolism.

Like Fiesta, the Fiesta flag is replete with symbolism. The flag was chosen from entries submitted to a flag design competition sponsored by the Fiesta San Antonio Commission and judged by the San Antonio Art League. The winner of the contest was a design submitted by Joe Esquivel, Jr., a commercial artist with the San Antonio City Public Service Board.

The blue hoist and green fly represent the countries of Anglo-American and Latin America respectively. The olive branches symbolically unite the two halves in peace and friendship. The two white stars, fimbrated in red and white, shooting skyward represent the spirit of Fiesta.

The design is completed by a white disc in the center of which is a drawing of the Alamo in black outline, around which are the words ‘FIESTA’ and “SAN ANTONIO” in red Roman capitols.

The flag was adopted in April of 1964.

4" x 6" CORNER
By Don Healy

The expansion of the United Nations has brought a whole panoply of new 4"x6" flags:

- Kazakhstan (blue & gold)
- Kyrgyzstan
- Uzbekistan
- Turkmenistan
- Georgia

new Cape Verde
restored Congo
new Yugoslavia

reotured Benin

New yet reported are then ew Afghan, Macedonian or Tajikistan flags.

Another mishmash of new flags reported include:

Anahiem, CA
Port of Charleston, SC

Port of Portland, OR
Port of San Diego

U.S. Dept. of Interior
Port of Seattle, WA

Nez Perce Indian Nation
State of Georgia, pre-1956

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10 —
7:00 a.m. - Breakfast.*
10:00 a.m. - Presentations and talks.
12:00 p.m. - Lunch (on your own).
1:00 p.m. - Presentations and talks.
4:00 p.m. - Reception for NAVA 28, Portland, Oregon.
5:00 p.m. - Dinner.*
7:00 p.m. - Closing ceremonies.
MONDAY, OCTOBER 11 —
7:00 a.m. - Continental Breakfast.*
9:00 a.m. - Optional Tour to Freeport.*
TEACHING VEXILLOLOGY IN ARGENTINA

By Prof. Anibal Gotelli
President of the Centro Interdisciplinario de Estudios Culturales de Argentina.

Two years ago I started the regular teaching of Vexillology, including one or two vexillological units in my Official Protocol’s Courses, with great acceptance from my students.

Vexillology never was regularly taught in Argentina. Some Vexillologists gave some lectures or short seminars, although they were addressed to very small and restricted audiences.

On the contrary, I decided to take Vexillology out of its enclave and to expand its knowledge to all my students. Now, for a wide range of my students, Vexillology is not only an auxiliary discipline of History but a very important discipline of the most modern techniques of protocol organization.

After two years of the regular teaching of Vexillology, we can arrive to the following conclusions:

a) Two Argentine Institutions (The Centro Interdisciplinario de Estudios Culturales—Private and the Instituto Nacional de la Administracion Public—Official) have included Vexillology in their academical programs.

b) In only two years, more than two hundred people have been introduced to Vexillology and studied it.

c) The greatest number of my students are public officials and state employees. Thanks to the study of Vexillology, those officials and employees have improved their relations with our national symbolism. Now, hopefully, those students can impel new bylaws for our National Flag.

d) Some of my students are from the interior of the country, and they are provincial state employees. I hope that those students also impel the creation of bylaws for the correct Protocol of provincial flags.

Finally, we can be sure that this year (1993) will be best. Thanks to NAVAs help we have the most up to date vexillological material.

The perspective for this year is very bright and positive not only for Argentine students but also for the whole international Vexillological Family.

FORGOTTEN FLAG DAYS

By Charles Spain

Vexillologists in the United States are probably aware of the list of days in the Flag Code (title 36, United States Code, section 174) on which the U.S. flag should be flown.1 This list is not comprehensive, however, as there are other national days and patriotic observances on which Congress has called for the U.S. flag to be flown:

Thomas Jefferson’s Birthday2 — April 13
Loyalty Day3 and Law Day, U.S.A.4 — May 1
National Maritime Day5 — May 22
Father’s Day6 — third Sunday in June
National Aviation Day7 — August 19
Citizenship Day8 — September 17
Gold Star Mother’s Day9 — last Sunday in September

In addition, the Congress has never called for the flag to be flown on the following national days and patriotic observances:

Martin Luther King, Jr.’s Birthday10 — third Monday in January
John F. Kennedy’s Birthday — May 29
Constitution Day — September 17
Pearl Harbor Day — December 7
Bill of Rights Day — December 15

Footnotes:
10) Although doubtless unintentional, Dr. King’s birthday is the only national legal public holiday for which the Flag Code (or any other law) does not call for the flag to be flown. See 5 U.S.C. § 8103 (1988) (listing legal public holidays). This is a regrettable omission and should be corrected.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF FOOTBALL ASSOCIATIONS (FIFA)
1994 WORLD CUP SOCCER
USA

By Dave Pawson

The lettering for “World Cup 94” is black, “USA” and the horizontal stripes are red, and the dots, soccer ball, and streaks are blue, all on a white background.

The table banner is blue with yellow lettering with a black and white double-hemisphere globe overlaid with a soccer ball design.
VISUAL VEXI-BITS

By Don Healy

Graphic views of many of the new flags adopted since 1986. (Continued from March/April NAVA News)
XV CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF VEXILLOLOGICAL ASSOCIATIONS (FIAV)
AUGUST 22-27, ZURICH SWITZERLAND

All persons interested in the study of flags are invited to participate.

PATRONATE AND SITE: Swiss National Museum (Schweizerisches Landesmuseum, CH-8023 Zurich.

ORGANIZER: Swiss Vexillogical Society (Schweizerische Gesellschaft fur Fahnen - und Flaggengeschichte / Societe Suisse de Vexillologie).

CONGRESS SECRETARIAT: Send all correspondence and registration to - Schweizerisches Landesmuseum, XV Fahnenkongress, Postfach, CH-8023, Zurich. Tel: 01-218.65.11. Fax: 01-211.29.49.

PROGRAM:
22nd AUGUST - informal welcome party at the “Landesmuseum”, registration.
23rd AUGUST - official opening, visit to the “Landesmuseum” and its special flag exhibition, presentations, FIAV general assembly.
24th AUGUST - whole-day tour to Schwyz (visit of the “Bundesbriefarchiv” with its rich collection of the oldest Swiss flags dating from 17th to the early New Year, except for the flag pictures. I trust the cuttings are of interest to you.

Over the last few years, NAVA News has introduced in alphabetical order, information on national flag changes throughout the years (a very handy reference). Would it be possible to do a similar project on American State flags? I know there are books on the subject, but, as yet, I do not have one. As I mentioned in the previous paragraph the “condensed” versions are very useful for ready reference!

Perhaps editor Grace would be interested - do hope so. I look forward to more of NAVA News - and please, a membership card.

Yours sincerely,
(Mrs.) Elaine Peters

Editors Note: I have such wonderful memories of Australia and the Flag Congress in 1989. It is good to hear from Australian member Elaine Peters, and we welcome her suggestion. Would several of our U.S. members like to collaborate on a series of State Flag histories? James Ferrigan, III, presented a well-researched paper on “The Nevada State Flag and Its Predecessors” at NAVA XXVI in San Antonio last year, 19 pages. What would be needed for NAVA News would be very concise, limited to line drawings of the changes in the State flag design, and dates, footnoted for further details and for documentation. Let me hear which State flag you would like to present for this series.
LETTERS...

Dear Editor:

I read with great interest Creighton Kern’s article on the Charlottetown’s new civic flag in NAVA News, Jan./Feb. 1992, (vol. XXV, no. 1). I want to commend him for taking the initiative in writing this article and I hope he will continue to contribute to NAVA News in the future.

However, there are several points in this article which I would like to clarify. I base my findings on correspondence with the flag manufacturer, Flags Unlimited, Mr. Douglas Morton, Assistant Administrator of the city of Charlottetown and from my own personal observations on visiting the Charlottetown City Hall.

The points I would like to clarify are:

1.) The illustration on the cover of NAVA News displays the new Charlottetown flag with a “compony” bordure on all four sides. This is incorrect. The “compony” bordure should not be along the hoist side but only along the other three. I quote from the official heraldic blazon on the grant of arms issued on 28 August 1989: “A banner of the Arms the three edges in chief fly and base charged with a bordure compony Vert and Argent. 2.) Secondly, Mr. Kern states, “the four large squares represent city parks.” They do not represent parks but civic squares. I quote from a paper by A. G. Puttock, “A Dictionary of Heraldry and Related Subjects” by A.G. Puttock:

- Argent - Silver. As silver paint does not reproduce well and rapidly tarnishes, argent is represented in all Heraldry as white. If on white paper the section which is to be argent is left blank, if on colored paper the argent section is painted white.

Finally, I viewed both the old and new Charlottetown table flags I possess in my collection. The old flag’s field is definitely grey. However, the current one does look more like light silver or grey, as Mr. Kern states, than having the white sheen as shown on the large flags.

The flag of the City of Jackson was created in November 1992 and first raised at City Hall on January 6, 1993.

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WELCOME TO... OUR NEW MEMBERS

MS. TERRI AMANN, Active, c/o Flags USA, 2030 Madison Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45208. (513) 533-0330. A + B: WJ, S, 3) F.

MR. DAVID BLOMSTROM, Active, 5011 Brooklyn NE, #3, Seattle, WA 98105. ( ) 527-1690. + A: 1) AD, 2) B.

DR. ROBERT DAVIS, Active, Dept. of History/Chaffey College, 5885 Haven Ave., Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91701. + A: 1) AB, 2) K, 3) J.

STEPHEN W. GILREATH, MD, Active, 7929 Misty Forest Dr., San Antonio, TX 78239-3569. (512) 221-3893. + A: 1) J.

MR. BERNARD MADSSEN, Active, 80 N. Moore St. #26C, New York, NY 10013. + A: 1) J, 2) A.

MR. GERARD M. McCAY, Active, 130 Mansion Drive, Media PA 19063. (215) 565-7422. + A: 1) JU, 2) HU, 3) W.

MR. CLAY J. MOSS, Active, P.O. Box 12901, Jackson, MS 30226, (601) 992-3164. + A: 1) J, 2) D.

MS. VANESSA van de PUTTE, Student, 1616 W. Mulberry, San Antonio, TX 78201.

ADDRESS CHANGES

MS. JOAN E. BEARD, P.O. Box 8, Lutsen, MN 55612-008

MR. SCOTT T. FORBES, 6134 W. Pinedale Cr., Crystal River, FL 34429

MR. ROBERT S. GOODMAN, c/o Flag & Banner Co., 543 Dumaine St., New Orleans, LA 70116

MR. JOHN E. GUICHARD, 17417 Ashworth Ave., N, #208, Seattle, WA 98133.

MR. DAVID C. HEISSER, 24 Pitt St., Charleston, SC 29401

MR. PATRICK K’AN’O, c/o K’an’o Productions, P.O. Box 104976, Jefferson City, MO 6510-4976.

MR. RUDI KOOT, Nieuweweg 10, AM Nunspeet, NL-3281, The Netherlands.

MR. JUAN JOSE MORALES, 3205 Bee Ridge Rd., #40, Sarasota, FL 34234.

MR. PAUL RICH, Hoover Institution, Stanford CA 94305-6010

MRS. JAN STOLFI, 2533 Honeyuckle Ave., Fort Worth, TX 76111.

MR. ADAM STOLFI, 2533 Honeyuckle Ave., Fort Worth, TX 76111.

MR. JAMES M. WHITE, S. 511 Park Rd., Spokane, WA 99212.

DECEASED

Captain Stanley L. Waitzfelder
78 E. Raleigh Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10310 USA

Our sympathy is extended to the family.

********

Dear Editor:

May I take a small part of your valuable space to thank all those of your readers who kindly (and gently) wrote and told me why I was unable to notice the “considerable attention” given to port authority flags. (NAVA News, Vol. XXVI, No. 1 and No. 2).

Does anyone have a copy of the 1971 edition of Flags of the World for sale?

Peter Edwards

NAVA NEWS MAY/JUNE 1993 PAGE 7
EDITOR’S NOTES...

In our NAVA Bylaws, Article 2-Purpose, under C. Limitations it is stated that the association shall have no commercial, political or religious objectives. It is true that many if not most flags are political. (I know that there are hundreds of examples that are not.) In printing information about flags I have tried to steer clear of the flag stories that are “political” in nature whether I agreed or disagreed. I do not believe that it is the purpose of this newsletter, especially in the case of an ongoing controversy.

Many items that are submitted for NAVA News are not ready for the Printer. And many are too long for the subject content. It would be most helpful if long articles that have appeared in another publication but might be of interest to NAVA members could be offered in digest form. Please type all copy, double-spaced, 65 spaces to the line. There are 75 lines to a printed column and line drawings take 12-15 lines.

Some items that are lengthy and are of interest to a limited number of members will be deposited with the Historian for the NAVA Archives. These will be listed in NAVA News so that you will know that the articles are available. At the present time items in the Archives can be purchased for the price of copying and postage, $.25 per page, from Mark Liss, Historian, c/o Heritage Flag Co., P.O. Box 31521, Houston, TX 77231.

Items submitted to the Archives:


Official art for Texas state seal, reverse, and state arms with letter from John Hannah, Jr., Secretary of State, that accompanied the art from Charles Spain, March 12, 1993. 4 pages.

Two page Oregonian newspaper story on angry art exhibit by Emery E. Purcell. Truth about Old Glory. There are five multimedia pieces in the exhibit. Submitted by Donald Klett. 2 pages.

The deadline for the July/August NAVA News is June 1.

NAVA News
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