

To the Editor:

Ten years after George W. Bush and his foreign policy advisors planned to invade the Iraqi people months before Sept. 11, 2001 and seize their oil for “the powers that be,” thousands have needlessly died and trillions of dollars cunningly dispersed.

Yet the conspirators did this with complete impunity and now they’re in on dividing up the rest of the take – 110 billion barrels of oil. Meanwhile, since many of the troops have come home the U.S. taxpayers are obliged to pay thousands of corporate mercenaries up to a thousand dollars a day or roughly \$3.2 billion a year, counting the most expensive embassy in the world, to protect it for those privileged few.

Still the Republican Presidential contenders are turning to this team of sideshow veterans for their foreign policy advice, the architects of the prearranged wars. Mitt Romney is calling on Cofer Black, the chairman of a firm that is a subsidiary of Blackwater/Worldwide, the same Blackwater whose mercenaries massacred unarmed Iraqi civilians. Then add Robert Kagan and Bill Kristol, two neo-cons with Kristol being one of the founders of Project for the New American Century that promoted full-scale military action on the war-ravaged Iraqi people. He’s also using Walid Phares as an advisor, a Fox News talking head.

And there’s Newt Gingrich, the mop-haired caricature undone by petulance and hypocrisy while carrying on an extramarital affair who was not only in favor of the terrorist war on Iraq from the beginning that killed children, seniors, et al., but is now advocating doing the same to Iran as does the purported pious Rick Santorum. Meanwhile Rick Perry’s relying on Donald Rumsfeld and Dough Feith who persuaded the Bush administration to make Saddam Hussein’s weapons of mass destruction the rationale for going to war...all intentionally fraudulent.

Inasmuch to witness all the wrongdoing and the innumerable many that fall for no reason is convincing. Enough so that every man make it his business to understand, to do his own thinking and take little traditional wisdom and orthodoxies for granted. We’re all victims, but if we remain true to our moral imperatives and rebel against perpetual oppression and injustice while standing up for the dispossessed, poor and weak, even to fail...we win.

Robert Knowles

Lebanon