



# Harper Traitor-Watch

## Traitor Now Working *Overtime* To Sell Out Canada!

### 'Jose, Can You See' Bush's Trojan Taco

By Greg Palast

Psst! George Bush has a secret. While Democrats are pounding each other to a pulp in Pennsylvania, the President has snuck back down to New Orleans for a meeting of the NAFTA Three: the Prime Minister of Canada and the President of Mexico.

You're not supposed to know that for two reasons: First, the summit planned for the N. O. two years back was meant to showcase the rebuilt Big Easy, a monument to can-do Bush-o-nomics. Well, it is a monument to Bush's leadership: The city still looks like Dresden 1946, with over half the original residents living in toxic trailers or wandering lost and broke in America. The second reason Bush has kept this major summit a virtual secret is its real agenda. More important, the agenda-makers, the guys who called the meeting, must remain as far out of camera range as possible: The North American Competitiveness Council. Never heard of The Council? Well, maybe you've heard of the counselors: the chief executives of Wal-Mart, Chevron Oil, Lockheed-Martin and 27 other multinational masters of the corporate universe.

And why did the landlords of our continent order our presidents to 3-nation pajama party? Their term is 'harmonization.' Harmonization

has nothing to do with singing in fifths like Simon and Garfunkel. Harmonization means making rules and regulations the same in all 3 countries. Or, more specifically, watering down rules on health, safety, labor rights, oil drilling, polluting and so on - in other words, any regulations that get between The Council members and their profits.

Take for example, pesticides. Wal-Mart and agri-business don't want to reduce the legal amount of poison allowed in what you eat. Solution:

'harmonize' US and Canadian pesticide standards to Mexico's. Can they do that? Can Bush just say, 'Eat your peas' even if they're radioactive? Under NAFTA, at least the way George Bush reads it (or has it read to him), he can. At any rate, he does.

The three chiefs of state will meet privately with the thirty corporate chiefs where they are also expected to legally erase more of our borders, to expand the 'NAFTA highway.' Technically, the NAFTA highway is a set of legal rules governing transcontinental shipment. Some fear NAFTA highway expansion will allow a new flood of cheap Mexican products into the US and Canada. Not so. Their hunger to expand the NAFTA highway is to bring in even cheaper Chinese goods.

Say what? As trade expert Maud Barlow explained to me, the new 'NAFTA highway' will allow Chinese stuff dumped into Mexico to be hauled northward as duty-free 'Mexican' products. That's one of the quiet agendas of this 'Summit for Security and Prosperity,' the official Orwellian name for this meet. Think of the SSP 'harmonization' as the Trojan Taco of trade. Barlow is Chairwoman of the Council of Canadians. She is known as the 'Ralph

Nader of Canada' (not Nader version 2.0, The Spoiler Candidate, but Nader version 1.0, the consumer advocate). Because Americans are too distracted by the Punch-and-Judy primaries to complain about this lobby-fest on the bayou, Canadian Barlow is leading street protests against this greed-grab.

### I caught up with this courageous Canadian (I've seen her face down corporate bullying we can't imagine in the US) on her way down to New Orleans.

Barlow's particular concerns are first, the NSS agreement promotes a five-fold increase in the mining of Canadian tar sands for import, as liquid crude oil, into the USA, an idea filthier than a re-make of Debbie Does Dallas. 'This is an insane model of development,' she says, especially given Bush's recent claim that he wants to slow global warming. Bush himself is pushing his Canadian and Mexican counterparts to adopt US-style 'Homeland Security' measures so that, says Barlow, 'we'll all be zip-locked together in one security bag.'

There will be other anti-SSP protesters in New Orleans as well, from America's populist Right. They are concerned that the Security and Prosperity Summit is worse than the 'NAFTA on steroids' that Barlow fears.

The populists see in the SSP a nascent 'North American Union,' and the elimination of the good old US of A.

They're wrong, of course. The U.S. of A. has been long eliminated, at least economically. The Competitiveness Council is a multinational crew, with one shared set of country clubs, beach homes, art collections, union busters and lobbyists knowing no borders. The populist radio hosts railing against the coming North American Union don't realize that these CEOs won't take away their flags or Fourth of July or Star-Spangled Banner. The rags and flags will always be kept around to con the schmucks along the Yahoo Belt into donating their children to the Iraq Occupation or other misadventures. A billionaire like Carlos Slim, the richest man on the planet (sorry, Mr. Gates), didn't buy the Mexican government to 'protect' his nation from Gringos but to protect his media monopoly.

So there is no United States of America nor Canada nor Mexico - at least as we like to imagine ourselves in our national fairy tales: self-governing democracies run by we the people or nosotros el pueblo. There's just the diktats of the North American Prosperity Council. Get used to it.

Barlow said that the US Ambassador to Canada told her the legal changes wrought in New Orleans will not be put before the three national Congresses for a vote. 'We don't want to open up another NAFTA.' So, they'll skip the voting stuff. Democracy is so, like, 20th Century.

Is Bush just a reluctant participant in this 'harmonizing' of our economic fate? The meetings are secret, so I can't say for sure. But I note that, at the opening ceremony, if you read his lips, you can see our president singing the national anthem as, 'Jose', can you see'?

## Harper Killing Cormorants: What next?

### Peaceful Parks Coalition

Days Of Action - Point Pelee National Park  
The Stephen Harper govt. has tentatively approved a plan by Parks Canada to shoot thousands of nesting Double-crested Cormorants at Middle Island, Point Pelee National Park beginning as early as next week - April 29, 2008.

They plan to reduce the vibrant and historical colonial waterbird colony by 90%, possibly killing as many as 7500 birds in the first week of May.

Day of Action - Sunday May 18, 2008 (Victoria Day long weekend)

WHERE:

- Point Pelee National Park - primary location
- Also Ojibway Nature Centre - Windsor
- Pelee Island ferry docks - Leamington
- Rondeau Provincial Park - Chatham
- Long Point Provincial Park - south of Kitchener
- Ward's Island - Toronto

The action is simple. It involves handing out information asking visitors to boycott Point Pelee National Park. For those visitors already at Point Pelee, we will ask them to wear black arm bands while in the park, and consider cancelling future visits to the park.

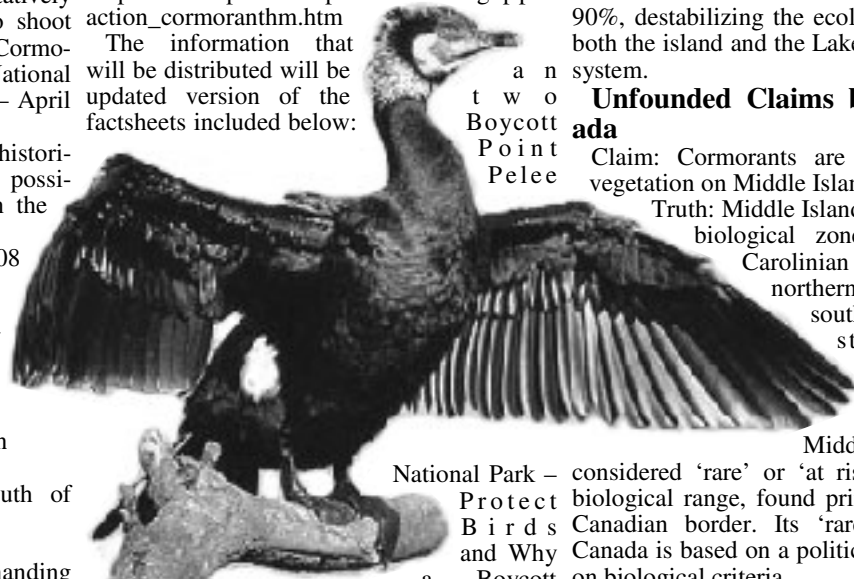
All action will occur outside the park gates and off park property.

The Peaceful Parks Coalition has called for a boycott of Point Pelee National Park because we believe a boycott would be effective. Visitors to Point Pelee are already at an all time low, and a strong rejection of park policy by supporters could halt the shooting of cormorants scheduled for the next five years.

Parks Canada is part of a broader partnership, that includes the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Toronto Region and Conservation Authority, Canadian Wildlife Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, whose mandate is to kill double-crested cormorants at their nesting sites throughout the Great Lakes basin, leaving so place safe for these birds anywhere.

For detailed background information, please link to <http://www.peacefulparks.org> and [http://www.peacefulparks.org/ppc/action\\_cormoranthm.htm](http://www.peacefulparks.org/ppc/action_cormoranthm.htm)

The information that will be distributed will be updated version of the factsheets included below:



National Park - Protect Birds and Why a Boycott

Will Work.

The Peaceful Parks Coalition will provide all information factsheets, organize transportation and billeting for those who can travel to Point Pelee National Park, and will provide all participants with a protocol on how to interact with the public.

If you can help, please forward your full name, address and telephone number.

Please circulate widely  
Peaceful Parks Coalition  
W . <http://www.peacefulparks.org> E. [ppc@peacefulparks.org](mailto:ppc@peacefulparks.org)  
T. toll free 1.877.785.8636

Boycott Point Pelee National Park - Protect Birds

The Harper government and Parks Canada have decided to shoot thousands of nesting Double-crested Cor-

morants at Middle Island, Point Pelee National Park. They plan to reduce the vibrant and historical colonial waterbird colony by 90%, destabilizing the ecological integrity of both the island and the Lake Erie aquatic ecosystem.

### Unfounded Claims by Parks Canada

Claim: Cormorants are destroying 'rare' vegetation on Middle Island.

Truth: Middle Island is part of a larger biological zone known as the Carolinian Life Zone. Its northern edge reaches into southern Ontario and stretched from Sarnia to Toronto. Vegetation found on Middle Island is not considered 'rare' or 'at risk' throughout its biological range, found primary south of the Canadian border. Its 'rare' designation in Canada is based on a political border, and not on biological criteria.

Claim: Parks Canada states cormorants are 'destroying' Monarch Butterfly habitat

Truth: Parks Canada has failed to produce any scientific evidence that demonstrates that

the cormorant colony threatens the monarch butterfly or any other wildlife that shares Middle Island with nesting cormorants.

Claim: Double-crested Cormorants are 'hyper-abundant'.

Truth: The large dense colonies of cormorants during nesting periods serve as a natural barrier against predators that feast of cormorant eggs and chicks. These predators include other colonial birds such as gulls and herons. Populations are self-regulating once colonies become too dense. This basic ecological principle is true for all species. The term 'hyper abundance' has no basis in scientific study, and is a fabricated term to justify the removal of unwanted wildlife.

Claim: Parks Canada does not want to eliminate Double-crested Cormorants from Point Pelee National Park

Truth: Parks Canada will reduce the cormorant population by 90%, from approximately 8000 nesting birds to only 800 nesting birds - a mere shadow of the original colony. This artificially contrived number is unrepresentative of a natural cormorant colony and could jeopardize the population altogether.

Good Reasons To Boycott Point Pelee National Park

Historically, boycotts have been instrumental in establishing positive social and environmental change, and are an effective yet quiet method of sending a strong message.



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