

Gally, then, Bill Clinton could be arrested in China in the future for the embassy bombing in Belgrade, or former President George Bush could be prosecuted by Arab courts for "war crimes" in Iraq. What if we also were to lose our control of the U.N. courts in The Hague? We cannot tolerate this type of legal colonialism to be self-righteous according to our values and standards. Big trouble could lie ahead.

Y.S. Wu

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The Futility of Kyoto

What a surprise to find recognition at last in Patrick J. Caraher's Sept. 26 Letter to the Editor, of water, not carbon dioxide, as the dominant "greenhouse" gas in the atmosphere. When you run the numbers, as I did for nine years teaching a course, "Air Pollution From Combustion Sources," in the 1970s, the water averages out as 97% of the thermal trapping, with a top limit of 99%, with carbon dioxide as the balance of 1 to 3%. In other words, the carbon dioxide is less than the "noise" in the variations in the water.

What is now needed is recognition of the futility of trying to control global warming by reduction of carbon dioxide (the Kyoto Protocol Objective) by fuel switching or carbon sequestration, to say nothing of the economic damage by pointless diversion of resources to those ends. When can we expect this to penetrate the minds of the policy makers?

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Red" Ide, "undersecretary of defense for policy and to Lt. Gen. James Abrahamson, director of the Strategic Defense Organization.

I was concerned that the Soviets had been illuminating ("painting") our satellites with their high-power laser at Sary Shagan. We had no comparable laser, except for MIRACL, being operated by the Navy as an Army "tenant" at White Sands, New Mexico. I felt it vital that MIRACL should be preserved in spite of budgetary pressures. Mr. Ikle agreed, as did Gen. Abrahamson, with the proviso that other SDIO priorities not be harmed and that I not infer that my efforts were "officially" sanctioned. Not a career employee, I had a certain amount of freedom to "lobby" from outside the system, which I proceeded to do.

It was July 1988, and Tom Clancy's novel "The Cardinal of the Kremlin," with a strong laser theme, had just been published. I called Mr. Clancy and we mutually commiserated at the coming demise of MIRACL. I asked him for copies of his new book to send to government officials. He agreed, and put me in touch with publicist Suzanne Herz at Putnam's; I asked her to send copies to Secretary of Defense Frank Carlucci, President Reagan's deputy for National Security Affairs, Colin Powell, to William J. Crowe Jr., chairman of the Joint Chiefs, and to a few other policy markers. Ms. Herz was delighted to join the "conspiracy" to save MIRACL.

Rarely constrained by "the system," I also lobbied in other quarters, and MIRACL was saved, possibly because of "The Cardinal" as much as the other efforts.

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(Mr. Kramish served on the Manhattan Project (atomic bomb) during World War II, as a member of the Atomic Energy Commission, the RAND Corporation and as a State Department science counselor. He was technical director of the Heritage/White House study resulting in the Strategic Defense Initiative.)

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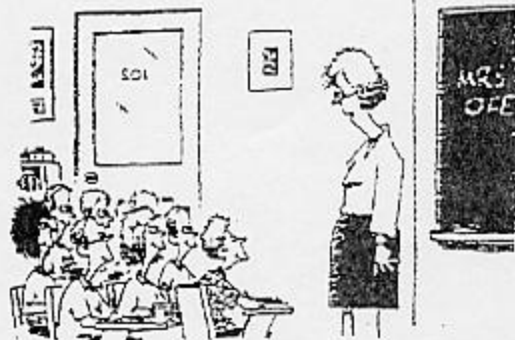
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Pepper . . . and Salt

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