

move in the direction of terrorism that there is a better way . . . [because] terrorism is a product of hopelessness and poverty.”

It was through U.S. urging, that Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres (Labor Party), while at the WEF, met with Secretary Powell to discuss the status of Middle East peace, and held talks with Palestinian Legislative Speaker Ahmed

Qurei (a.k.a. Abu Ala) and Palestinian Economics Adviser Halad Salam, on Jan. 31, to discuss steps toward a cease-fire. It was later revealed that both Abu Ala and Salam had taken part in a heated meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon on Jan. 30. Sharon had been called by Jordan’s King Abdullah II from Washington, D.C., where the King had met

## Nuremberg Rally At the Super Bowl

This year’s Superbowl half-time spectacle on Feb. 3, struck many for its echoes of the Nazis’ famed Nuremberg rallies: it used 21st-Century blazing light, blaring sound, smoke, and a “charismatic figure” *to promote a global policy*. The feature attraction was the Irish U2 rock band, and its leader, Bono (né Paul Hewson), who had appeared as a superstar “friend of the poor” at the World Economic Forum in New York City the day before. This was an outstanding display of bread and circuses for the masses, done in the style of what qualifies as “compassionate fascism.”

The next day, the media machine gave out the “spin” on the events: The *New York Times* wrote that the Super Bowl half-time was, “Most emblematic. There was Bono, fresh from the World Economic Forum, where on Saturday he had a formal debate with Treasury Secretary Paul O’Neill and lobbied for the cancellation of Third World debt. He led U2 in a live performance during the half-time show, a one-man walking, talking, singing symbol of how politics and entertainment mixed here” in New York.

### Patriotism Bud-ding All Over

During the Super Bowl “Nuremberg rally,” advertisers blatantly used their TV spots to cheapen patriotism and even to “commercialize”—not honor—the Sept. 11 dead. Budweiser showed their noble Clydesdales bowing to the knee, as they drew up their wagon toward Ground Zero, where the World Trade Center used to stand. Bono was dressed in an American flag. This is the highest-rated TV program, and most-watched single-day sporting event in the world. (Only viewership for the Olympics opening on Feb. 8 in Utah, will exceed it.) Televised on Fox, the Feb. 3 half-time reached 130 million viewers in the U.S.A., and some 800 million people in 180 countries.

The economic policy Bono carried out on the Super Bowl stage, came from his much-celebrated debate on Third World debt with U.S. Treasury Secretary Paul



Rock star Bono (left) with Microsoft billionaire Bill Gates. The two were featured speakers at the World Economic Forum, along with Treasury Secretary Paul O’Neill, who will accompany Bono on a junket to Africa to “fight poverty and AIDS.”

O’Neill at the World Economic Forum; his coming odd-couple trip with O’Neill to Africa “to fight poverty and AIDS”; his announced plan with billionaire Bill Gates, “Which we’re calling the ‘DATA Agenda’: ‘Debt, AIDS and Trade for Africa, in return for ‘Democracy, Accountability and Transparency in Africa.’ ” All this was bally-hooded in the World Economic Forum publicity, as the Super Bowl rally went on.

What’s going on? Patriotism, activism, philanthropy, charity—and to top it off, entertainment, mega-sports events. But the economic policies promoted here, are a continuation of precisely those which created the poverty and collapse in the first place—globalized trade, the International Monetary Fund, attacks on nations in the false name of “democracy,” etc. And instead of music and entertainment, along with sports, the wrapping for the package was a fascist musical drama aimed at causing its audience to dissociate and “just feel” a new policy. Look at Hitler’s designs for his 1934 Nuremberg Rally, which he had Leni Riefenstahl film for her movie, “Triumph of the Will.”

Reportedly, some 3,500 volunteers were prepared in advance to help bring off the New Orleans stadium super-show. In six minutes, a huge heart-shaped stage was erected. The four U2 band-members charged out, amidst a sea of screaming, waving fans (approved to be on the field). They performed three numbers, utilizing, no more than the

with Secretary Powell, representing the views of Jordan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Syria.

While there has been no immediate breakthrough on the ground, it is notable that Secretary Powell is maintaining pressure on his opponents within the Administration, in the “Wolfowitz cabal,” who envision a Phase II of the “war on

customary five chords each—“Beautiful Day,” “MLK,” and “Where the Streets Have No Name.” The lyrics—undiscernible under the ear-splitting amps—are all well known, from previous best-seller U2 releases. During the incited frenzy, Bono jogged all around the perimeter of the stage as an action stunt, while the crowd swayed and screamed. The TV camera shots were pre-set to beam the choreography to viewers at home.

When the song, “Where the Streets Have No Name,” began, a giant screen appeared from on high, scrolling down the names of those killed on Sept. 11, in black and white transparent lettering (apparently, this projects on smoke). The stands were darkened, and the names reflected over the thousands of bleachers. The sound levels, lighting, and gigantic special effects, all came together into calibrated focus for maximum effect to induce a mass “wave of concern.” As the lights played on Bono, he dramatically opened his lapel, to reveal an American flag.

Anyone still paying actual attention, will have noticed that the scrolling got down only to about the letter “D” among the dead. So, the list was a come-on. Then, the show over, U2 ran out; the huge staff and volunteers disassembled the heart-shaped stage within six minutes; and the gladiatorial mayhem of the Super Bowl football teams recommenced.

The U2 and Bono are specially qualified for their current role, from their beginnings in Dublin, in 1978, as a “politically concerned” group. They were, at times, even a “Christian” rock band, which is a fraudulently concocted genre. They record for Universal (part of the mass media arm of the Lazard Frères/Bronfman interests).

In the “Christian” genre, the idea is that, so-called “Christian” references and words are used, such as grace, and salvation, all the while employing below-the-belt music and theatrics, to induce the audience to zone out, disassociate, turn off their reasoning ability, to “just feel.” After a few down years of what the critics call “me-ism” orientation in their music, the U2 have returned to a phony Christian charity theme, especially in their “stadium-rocker” mode. They were part of the hit parade for the 1985 Live Aid world concert. To further extend their promotional appeal, an instrumental release called, “Strung Out on U2,” has been put out by Classical string musicians.

—Marcia Merry Baker

terrorism” as including a Thirty Years War spreading from the Middle East.

Moreover, Solana and French Foreign Minister Hubert Védrine—who were both part of the WEF panel with Secretary Powell—spoke out strongly there against President George W. Bush’s “axis of evil” reference in his Jan. 29 State of the Union speech. Danilo Taino in an article for Italy’s *Corriere della Serra* on “The Axis of Evil Splits the Big Powers,” reports that, at the WEF, both Védrine and Solana expressed “doubts over the American campaign.” “The differences were laid out publicly, in front of the U.S. Secretary of State, [by] EU foreign policy czar Javier Solana: ‘I do not think that we could build a coalition in which nobody feels at ease.’ So far, Solana warned, we have shared the American action against terrorism; now, however, we want to share decisions. And Hubert Védrine, French Foreign Minister, has repeated the concept: In the war against terrorism, international consultations must be more ongoing and targets must be reviewed and approved periodically.”

### ‘Clash of Civilizations’ Gang at WEF

On Jan. 31, the Thirty Years War perspective was put forward by Harvard’s Huntington in a panel entitled, “Defining What We Share: Bridging Cultures and Civilizations.” However, as Marc Champion put it in the *Wall Street Journal* web edition on Jan. 31, Huntington, true to form, was not really interested in “bridging cultures and civilizations.”

This “religious program” of the World Economic Forum was organized by Sheikh Zaki Badawi, a London-based Egyptian scholar, who is quoted saying that Huntington’s book, *Clash of Civilizations*, “has given extremists the means to justify their claims about jihad between Islam and the West.” Huntington simply lied, and responded that he is just warning the world of the facts, as George Kennan had in the 1950s about the danger of nuclear war, so it can be avoided.

The Argentine daily *La Nación* on Jan. 4, reported on a WEF panel entitled, “The Paradigm for the Future,” which saw, squared off against one another: “British Golem” and hedge-fund billionaire George Soros; former Carter National Security Adviser and fascist geopolitician Zbigniew Brzezinski; Huntington, who had been Brzezinski’s protégé at the Trilateral Commission and National Security Council; Francis “The End of History” Fukuyama; Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-N.Y.); and, and Israel’s Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

While Huntington and Fukuyama argued that there would likely be a post-Cold War clash of civilizations, “Zbig” argued that during this conflict, the United States would need allies to prosecute the “war on terrorism” to its conclusion—i.e., a series of wars throughout what Brzezinski once called the “Arc of Crisis,” and has now broadened into “The Eurasian Balkans.” As Brzezinski has claimed since his 1997 book, *Grand Chessboard*, this “zone of instability” now includes not only the Middle East, but also Transcaucasia and Central Asia.