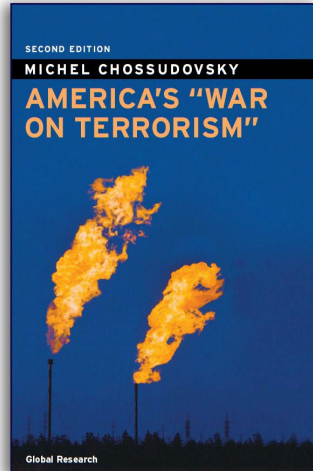


OIL COMPANY "Appoints" HAMID KARZAI to head interim Kabul government in Afghanistan following US invasion and occupation.

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In the wake of 9/11 and the bombing of Afghanistan, the Bush administration designated Hamid KARZAI as head of the interim government in Kabul. While highlighting KARZAI'S patriotic struggle against the Taliban, what the media failed to mention is that KARZAI had collaborated with the Taliban government. He had also been on UNOCAL'S payroll. (UNOCAL has since been acquired by CHEVRON in 2005). In fact, since the mid-1990s, Hamid KARZAI who later became President, had acted as a consultant and lobbyist for UNOCAL in negotiations with the TALIBAN. His appointment - visibly on behalf of the US oil giants - had been casually rubber-stamped by the "international community" at the November 2001 Bonn conference, held under UN auspices.

The bombing of Afghanistan served to restore the multi-billion dollar drug trade, which is protected by the CIA. Immediately following the installation of the US puppet government, under President Hamid Karzai, opium production soared, regaining its historic levels.

The history of the drug trade in Central Asia is intimately related to the CIA's covert operations. Prior to the Soviet-Afghan war, opium production in Afghanistan and Pakistan was directed to small regional markets. There was no local production of heroin. Researcher Alfred McCoy's study confirms that within two years of the onslaught of the CIA operation in Afghanistan, "the Pakistan/Afghanistan borderlands became the world's top heroin producer, supplying 60 per cent of US demand. In Pakistan, the heroin-addict population went from near zero in 1979 ... to 1.2 million by 1985 -- a much steeper rise than in any other nation".



Afghanistan President, Hamid Karzai former Oil Company lobbyist for UNOCAL and negotiator with the Taliban in the mid - 1990's. KARZAI acted as a Central Intelligence Agency covert operator during the Reagan Administration.

According to the Saudi newspaper Al-Watan: "KARZAI has been a Central Intelligence Agency covert operator since the 1980s. He collaborated with the CIA in funneling US aid to the TALIBAN as of 1994 "when the Americans had secretly and through the Pakistanis [specifically the ISI]-supported the TALIBAN'S assumption of power."

"Coincidentally, President Bush's Special Envoy to Kabul, Zalmay Khalizad, had also worked for Unocal. He had drawn up the risk analysis for the pipeline in 1997, lobbied for the Taliban and took part in negotiations with them."20 Khalizad had occupied the position of Special Advisor to the State Department during the Reagan administration, "lobbying successfully for accelerated US military aid to the Mujahideen".

Khalizad later became Undersecretary of Defense in the Bush Senior Cabinet. When George W. was inaugurated in January 2001, Khalizad was appointed to the National Security Council. While Clinton's foreign policy had provided support to US oil interests in Central Asia, under the Republicans oil company officials were brought into the inner sphere of political decision-making.

The 'Reconstruction' of Afghanistan

Washington had set the stage. According to a World Bank representative in Kabul, "reconstruction in Afghanistan [was] going to open up a whole range of opportunities."

Two days after the bombing of Afghanistan commenced, on October 9, the US Ambassador to Pakistan, Wendy Chamberlain, met with Pakistani officials regarding the trans-Afghan pipeline. The pipeline, according to the report, was slated to "open up new avenues of multi-dimensional regional cooperation, particularly in light of recent geopolitical developments [bombing of Afghanistan] in the region".

With Afghanistan under US military occupation, the role of Hamid KARZAI as the country's President is to "broker" the pipeline deal on behalf of the Anglo-American oil giants with the firm backing of the Bush administration.

In the immediate wake of the October 2001 bombing raids, the media reported that "two small companies", Chase Energy and Caspian Energy Consulting (acting on behalf of major oil interests), had contacts with the governments of Turkmenistan and Pakistan to revive the pipeline deal. While the identity of the oil companies behind these "small firms" was not mentioned, it just so happens that the President of Caspian Sea Consulting, S. Rob Sobhani, had been a consultant to BP-Amoco in Central Asia. Sobhani also sits on the Council of Foreign Relations'" Caspian Sea

Source: *America's War on Terror*, Chossudovsky, Michel

Chevron Corporation (NYSE: CVX) is an energy company. Headquartered in San Ramon, California, USA, and active in more than 180 countries, it is engaged in every aspect of the oil and gas industry, including exploration and production; refining, marketing and transport; chemicals manufacturing and sales; and power generation. Chevron is one of the world's six "supermajor" oil companies.

