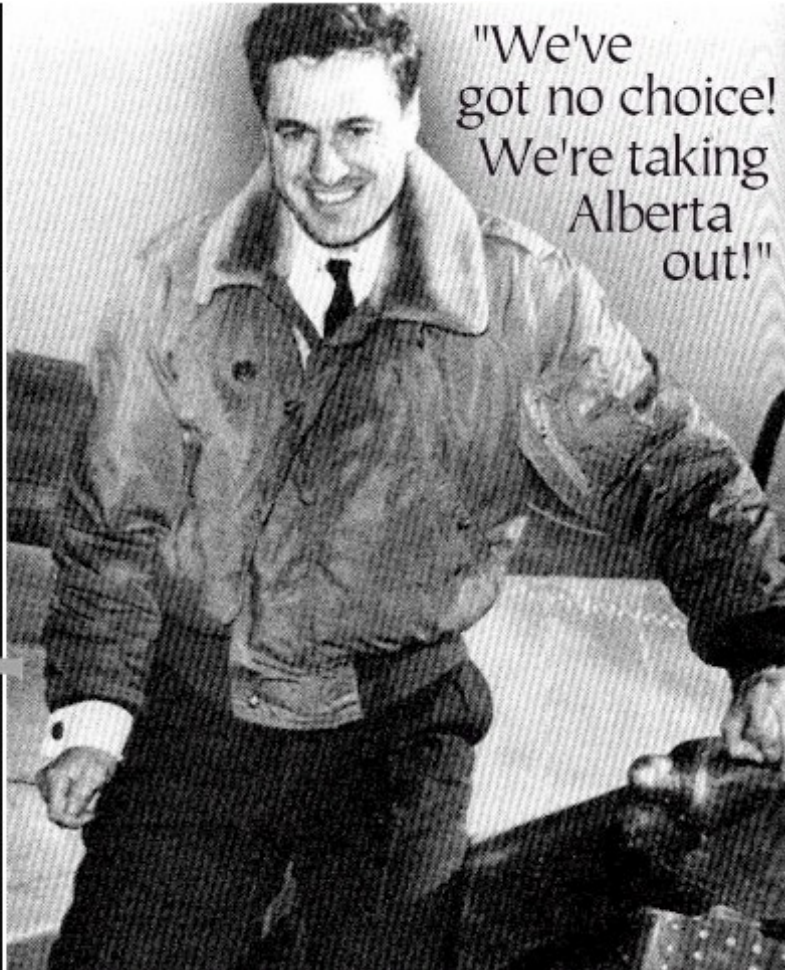


# The Western Separatist



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"Separate or Surrender"

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**Our cover:** This month's cover continues our series featuring Western Canadian separatist folk heroes. Milt Harradence was a famous Western Canadian lawyer, judge and character. In the late 1970's he started to speak up for Alberta's interests against the rapacious federal government of Trudeau. He held one of the largest separatist rallies to that point, in High River. C.D. Evans describes in the book "The Western Flair" a memoir of Harradence, how Trudeau dealt with the separatist threat:

"Trudeau took counsel with his Western wizers and resolved the 'western problem' by appointing A. Milton Harradence, Q.C. to the Court of Appeal of Alberta in early 1979. The Minister of Justice, the Hon. Mark Lalonde, a mortal enemy of A.M.H., not only strongly demurred but was quoted with authority as saying: 'Harradence will be appointed to the court over my dead body.' Trudeau, well apprehending the danger of a western insurrection to the fledgling Canadian constitution which was about to be repatriated, overruled his hatchet-faced Attorney General..."

## Canada? Whose Canada?

by Richard McBride

Dr. Johnson defined "the Patriot" as "he whose public conduct is regulated by one single motive, the love of his country;

who, as an agent in parliament, has, for himself, neither hope nor fear, neither kindness nor resentment, but refers every thing to the common interest." But didn't he also say that "Patriotism is the last refuge of the scoundrel"? Yes, indeed. So what did he mean, and what does this have to do with Western separatism?

Well, those of us who support Western independence are often called “unpatriotic.” But what is the measure of the patriotism of our accusers? Yes, they wrap themselves in the maple leaf and speak often of their love of Tim Hortons inimitable double-double (proudly Canadian since 2009) and the quintessentially Canadian National Hockey League (headquartered in New York City since 1989). But what of their public conduct? Is it regulated solely by love of country? And our agents in Parliament? Do they refer every thing to the common interest? Let’s see. Here’s a survey of one week’s worth of political stories in November.

### ***Afghanistan Torture***

A senior civil servant has accused the Canadian Forces of turning over to local authorities Afghani civilians to be tortured. This, if proved, would be a blow to the morality of a continuing Canadian military presence in Afghanistan, especially if, as is almost certainly the case, these Afghans were guilty of nothing more than being in the wrong place at the wrong time.

But this is begging the question. Why on earth is Canada in Afghanistan? According to Prime Minister Harper, “In Afghanistan in 1991 there were barely seven hundred thousand children in school, all boys. Today there are six million children in school and two million are girls.” So Canada’s blood and treasure is spent to foster feminism. In Afghanistan. How is this in our common interest? Afghanistan might be in America’s national interest, but that is not quite the same thing.

### ***New Citizenship Guide***

Immigration Minister Jason Kenney unveiled a new primer for would-be Canadian citizens, and the *National Post* succumbed to a paroxysm of excitement. The guide states, “Canada’s openness and generosity do not extend to barbaric cultural practices that tolerate

spousal abuse, ‘honour killings,’ female genital mutilation, or other gender-based violence.” That’s certainly good to know, but it’s interesting to note that Mr. Kenney did not see fit to condemn the barbaric “gender-based” cultural practice of aborting children for the crime of being female. One wonders why.

Just as one wonders why Mr. Kenney felt it necessary to issue this *index prohibitorum* in the first place. Could it be because the majority of our immigrants now come from places where Canadian—indeed, Western—values do not obtain? How is this in our common interest?

### ***Israel First***

The Conservative Party sent out a taxpayer-funded mailer suggesting that they and only they can be counted on to support the State of Israel come what may. The Liberals howled in anguish, declaring that they were just as committed to Israel as the Conservatives and accusing the Conservatives of accusing the Liberals of “anti-Semitism.” Ah, true patriot love.

This is an argument the Liberals are doomed to lose, as Mr. Harper is of the opinion that “Our government believes that those who threaten Israel also threaten Canada.” Mr. Harper seems confused as to the meaning of “sovereignty.” How is this in our common interest?

### ***Harper in India***

There was also much excitement in the Punjab, where Mr. Harper made a pilgrimage to the Golden Temple in Amritsar. According to the authoritative *Chandigarh Tribune*, “A Punjab Public Relations Department press note quoted the Canadian premier as saying that his country owed its development and prosperity to the hard work and grit of 1.2 million Punjabis.” In addition, Mr. Harper “said that the Canadian Government was committed to preserving and promoting Punjabi culture and language. Canada has already announced that Punjabi will be-

come one of its officially recognized languages in 2011.”

Even accounting for the traditional hyperbole of the Indian media, here we are faced with the extraordinary spectacle of the Prime Minister of Canada campaigning for votes in a foreign country. How is this in our common interest?

Which brings us back to Dr. Johnson. When he spoke of the “patriotism of scoundrels” he meant those, like Lord Bolingbroke, who would subsume love of country to partisan interest. Which perfectly describes Stephen Harper and our agents in Parliament, who when they think of “Canada” think of nothing other than selfish gain and the needs of foreigners. So, Western separatists, when our ruling class accuses us of lack of love of country, remember who we are dealing with—people who wouldn’t recognize patriotism if we dumped a grande double-double on their shoes.

## Freedom’s Voice

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“The state tends to expand in proportion to its means of existence and to live beyond its means, and these are, in the last analysis, nothing but the substance of the people. Woe to the people that cannot limit the sphere of action of the state! Freedom, private enterprise, wealth, happiness, independence, personal dignity, all vanish.”

*Frederic Bastiat (1801-1850) French economist, statesman, and author. Sophisms, 141*

“The object of life is not to be on the side of the majority, but to escape finding oneself in the ranks of the insane.”

*Marcus Aurelius, [Marcus Aurelius Antoninus Augustus] (121-180) Roman emperor (161-180)*

“All history is one long story to this effect: men have struggled for power over their fellow men in order that they might win the joys of earth at the expense of others, might shift the burdens

of life from their own shoulders upon those of others.”

*William Graham Sumner (1840-1910) American academic and professor at Yale College*

“One of the common failings among honorable people is a failure to appreciate how thoroughly dishonorable some other people can be, and how dangerous it is to trust them.”

*Thomas Sowell (1930- ) Writer and economist*

“True liberty cannot exist apart from the full rights of property, for property is the only crystallized form of free faculties... The whole meaning of socialism is a systematic glorification of force... No literary phrases about social organisms are potent enough to evaporate the individual, who is the prime, indispensable, irreducible element.”

*Auberon Herbert (1838-1906) English author*

## A Separatist Speaks

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### *What the Colvin Revelations Mean to Western Canada*

As the anti-war movement gathers force here in Canada and the United States, the reaction of Peter MacKay and the Conservatives demonstrates the corrupting nature of Ottawa politics. Instead of being as outraged as the opposition at the possibility our troops routinely handed over prisoners for torture by the Afghan security forces of Hamid Karzai, which one would expect to be the moral position of any sincere person, they attack the messenger, Mr. Colvin.

Mr. Colvin says he repeated it to his superiors and the military commanders on the ground. They allegedly told him to keep quiet. Complicity in torture is a war crime. How ironic that the same cabinet is currently considering whether to take away the citizenship of Michael

Seifert for alleged war crimes in an internment camp in Bolzano, Italy in 1945, when he was 19 years old, and a private!

Mr. Justice O'Reilly, of the Federal Court of Canada, said there was no evidence to find that Seifert committed those crimes, even on the balance of probabilities. It is obvious that O'Reilly found this after a thorough hearing in which those witnesses were crossed examined for the first time (by myself) in a hearing in Verona in 2006.

The irony is complete now that the fate of Mr. Seifert is in the hands of a group called the "Governor in Council" which is usually made up of three cabinet ministers. Are they the same cabinet ministers who are helping to bury circumstantial evidence of Canada's war crimes in 2009, while seeking to deny citizenship to an 85-year-old man who is languishing in an Italian military prison for crimes of which a Canadian judge has found him "not guilty?" To bury the accusations of their own crimes and those of their military, they attack the messenger. Victors were ever thus.

But why is this so typical of Ottawa? Because being both a puppet of Washington and a slave of Quebec and Ontario, Ottawa must support its bureaucracy. The war in Afghanistan is good for government power and prestige. Billions are invested in it. It provides purpose for a host of Ottawa bureaucrats and it diverts attention from the problems of Ottawa's bankrupt system.

A recent appearance by Malalai Joya, a woman of Afghanistan, says it all when from years of bitter experience living in Afghanistan under Soviet and now NATO occupation, she said:

"The U.S. government and the Canada government are just war criminals. . . . They are worse than war criminals because they support those who are war criminals. . . . Democracy never comes from occupation. You cannot give it with cluster bombs. . . . My people are

crushed between two powerful enemies. . . From the sky, occupation forces bomb and kill civilians. On the ground, the Taliban and warlords continue their crimes. It is better that the foreign masters leave my country. . . . It's your government that supports the mafia-corrupt system of Hamid Karzai. Canada is just a tool in the hands of the U.S. government. . . . It's a mockery, the war on terror, it's a war crime." (Source: National Post, November 21, 2009, page A3)

This situation is a real symptom of Ottawa's preoccupation with being a United States "gofer."

This is what the Conservative government, led by a Prime Minister who pretends to come from Western Canada, has become, a defender and promoter of the Ottawa system, and an apologist for corruption. It appears likely that Canada has been complicit in torture and destroying Mr. Colvin, who has sacrificed his career to tell this most difficult and painful truth is the last disgrace. No Western Canadian should feel loyalty to the corrupt system which turns the honourable nature of Western Canada into a mercenary, complicit in torture.

The Conservative government has demonstrated the urgent need for two fundamental changes: Firstly, Independence is entirely an obvious necessity. Secondly, the need for a constitutional right of referendum, initiative and recall is equally obvious. Otherwise, Western Canada can be run again by a clique of similarly hypocritical politicians and comfortable bureaucrats who take Western Canada down the wrong road.

Free the West!

*Douglas Christie*

*The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors.*