

tactical nuclear weapons against the nuclear stockpiles of such “rogue” nations as Iraq, Iran, Syria, Libya, and North Korea, in addition to nuclear superpowers Russia and China.

Intelligence analysts worry that these doctrines make the unthinkable very likely: the use of tactical nuclear weapons against underground Iranian nuclear facilities. It is noteworthy that the U.S. Intelligence Community’s Underground Facility Analysis Center recently hired a number of new analysts to scrutinize satellite and other reconnaissance photos of Iranian military sites.

Oil companies are also concerned about U.S. military intentions in the region. They complain that information from the State Department, the U.S. military, and intelligence agencies ranges from non-useful to partial to deceptive. Asian nations are concerned about the effects that a tactical nuclear strike on Iranian nuclear facilities would have for the Indian Ocean region and East Asia considering the onset of late Spring monsoon weather and the effects of rain-borne radioactive fallout. Still recovering from the effects of the devastating December 2005 tsunami and worried about avian flu, Asia can ill-afford to deal with fallout from an attack on Iranian nuclear sites.

Those who remember the 1983 movie “War Games” will recall how every nuclear war-gaming scenario ultimately resulted in all-out global thermonuclear warfare. The I&W confronting intelligence analysts and war gamers around the world about a U.S.-Iran military confrontation conclude with equally sobering scenarios. ■

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It is an axiom to “follow the money” in terrorist investigations,

but in doing so, Scotland Yard’s inquiry into the bombing of London’s transportation system last July has made a startling discovery. One of the four bombers, Mohammad Sidique Khan, who worked as a part-time teacher, was the principal financier of the attacks that killed 52 and injured hundreds. The total cost of the attacks is estimated to have been less than £1000, or \$1,750. That only such a small sum was needed and that the money was raised legitimately, through normal employment, calls into question the assumption that the most effective way to identify and arrest terrorist cells is through monitoring their financing. The last major terrorist action that was funded by al-Qaeda directly was the 9/11 attack in New York and Washington. The bombing of the transportation system in Madrid in 2003, which was also successful and killed 191, was locally financed by the terrorists themselves, most of whom were living illegally in Spain. Likewise, the bombing of the nightclubs in Bali in 2002 that killed 202 were carried out by local terrorists using their own resources.



The Scotland Yard inquiry also learned that there’s real money to be made in fish and chips.

Shehzad Tanweer, one of the bombers, left behind a bank account containing more than £120,000 (\$210,000). Tanweer, a Briton of Pakistani descent who blew up himself and seven others on a subway car near Aldgate Station, was only 22 years old and worked as an assistant in his father’s fish and chips shop in Leeds. In spite of rigorous investigation, the police were unable to prove that any of the money came from illegal sources and were even able to confirm that taxes had been paid on the income. The authorities have turned over the money in the account to Tanweer’s closest relative, his father. Britain has no law making it possible for the estates of killers like Tanweer to go as compensation to the families of their victims.



Both Saudi Arabia and Egypt have become alarmed by the possible regional consequences of the deteriorating situation in Syria.

The two countries have begun to co-ordinate their diplomatic positions on the issue of the United Nations investigation of Lebanese politician Rafik Hariri’s murder and are sending emissaries to convince President Bashar Assad that he needs to respond positively to demands for co-operation. The Saudi intelligence service has been tracking developments and is particularly concerned about the growing Syrian dependence on Iran as its only reliable supporter in the region. The Egyptians believe that Syria, backed into a corner, could easily use its resources to instigate a new civil war in Lebanon to take the heat off itself. The prospects are that Lebanon will remain a fairly dangerous playground for the immediate future with Hezbollah, supported by both Iran and Syria, continuing to stir up trouble, especially on the Israeli border area by means of rocket attacks. More murders of Lebanese perceived as anti-Syrian activists can also be expected.

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Arts & Letters

FILM

[*Glory Road*]

Basketball As It Wasn't

By Steve Sailer

AT LEAST SINCE 1967's Best Picture-winning "In the Heat of the Night," in which Rod Steiger's bigoted Southern sheriff and Sidney Poitier's angry Northern detective reluctantly team up to solve a murder, movies aimed at guy audiences have often astutely promoted racial harmony not as an end in itself, but as the most efficient way for real men to work together for important manly goals. A canonical illustration is the Jerry Bruckheimer-produced 2000 hit "Remember the Titans," in which the black and white football players at a tense newly integrated Virginia high school in 1971 learn to play as a team to win the big game.

Bruckheimer's new basketball movie "Glory Road" purports to be similar. Yet this story of the 1966 Texas Western Miners, the first squad to win the NCAA championship game with an all-black starting line-up, actually exemplifies more unsettling historical trends: the beginning of the *de facto* re-segregation of basketball and of the triumph of recruiting over coaching.

Josh Lucas, who exhibited ornery charm as Reese Witherspoon's redneck husband in "Sweet Home Alabama," gruffly plays new coach Don Haskins, who in 1965 brings to the benighted Southern school—now the U. of Texas at El Paso—the radical idea of recruiting

blacks. Although his seven Northern newcomers are the victims of racist violence and vandalism, they persevere to the NCAA Final, where they confront august coach Adolph Rupp and his mighty all-white Kentucky team, backed by their Confederate flag-waving fans. To make a civil-rights statement, Haskins chooses to play only African-Americans. Their astonishing victory finally opens the doors to black basketball players.

Unfortunately, that paragraph is mostly Hollywood hooey.

For example, it was 1961 when Haskins arrived in El Paso, which is so far from Fort Sumter that it's west of Denver, and Texas Western already had three black players. In the 1966 Final, Haskins didn't bench his white and Latino players as a political gesture—he'd barely played them all season. Not only was there no violence, but relatively few fans noticed he'd started five blacks in the 1966 Final—after all, three blacks had started for CCNY's championship team way back in 1950—until 25 years later when *Sports Illustrated* mythologized the game as an epochal triumph over racism.

Because college sports are more decentralized than professional leagues, they had never been fully segregated and thus lack national desegregation milestones like Jackie Robinson breaking big-league baseball's color line in 1947. Indeed, at UCLA before World War II, Robinson himself had starred in basketball, football, track, baseball, golf, and swimming.

By the mid-'60s, blacks were playing virtually everywhere except the South, where white boosters were denying themselves victories by insisting on all-white teams.

From today's perspective, the remarkable story in 1966 was not Texas Western's triumph but how far Rupp got with

such a physically inferior Kentucky team. "Rupp's Runts" were so short that they had to use 6'-4" Pat Riley, the future NBA coaching legend, for the opening center-jump.

Kentucky's old-school coach Rupp was called the "Baron of Bluegrass" because more than 80 percent of his players were Kentuckians. Yet he molded these local lads into four NCAA winners. Rupp thought it unseemly to pester high-school stars to accept valuable scholarships. When Rupp unsuccessfully tried to sign big Wes Unseld to be his first black player in 1964, the future Hall-of-Famer was offended that Rupp paid only one visit to his home.

In 2006, Rupp's faith in nurture over nature seems hopelessly outdated. The younger Haskins, in contrast, scoured distant cities for superior black talent rather than cultivate El Paso's white and Mexican players.

Today, African-Americans outnumber white Americans in the NBA by an order of magnitude. Yet has American basketball improved by evolving from integrated to overwhelmingly black? In 1992, the two-thirds black Olympic "Dream Team" thrilled the world with its overwhelming virtuosity. But by the 2004 Olympics, the all-black American squad of squabbling, gangsta-rap-loving NBA stars lost to Argentina, Puerto Rico, and Lithuania.

As entertainment, "Glory Road" offers respectable family fare, with a strong, amusing first half. Eventually, however, the script locks into the well-worn grooves of the inspirational sports movie genre and loses its distinctiveness. Also, the decision to focus on all seven black players was a mistake. Audiences find it hard to keep straight more than four characters of the same sex, age, and race. ■

"Glory Road" is PG-rated for some bad words.