



CHAPTER 11

For the next several weeks, Luck exchanged only brief pleasantries with Chandler when he saw him in the newsroom. Chandler, as usual, projected the British cheerio persona to everyone in public that was nothing like what Luck had witnessed in his private conversations about the Bilderbergers. After less than two months, Chandler disappeared, just as he had foretold. And then Luck himself was about to be given a new assignment from Overmeier.

He went to Langley in September, figuring correctly that his next assignment would be in the Arabian Peninsula. Overmeier already had hinted to him that it would be a long-term assignment—at least a year—and he would be advised to close up his apartment.

“Well, Marco, are you ready for a serious dose of the desert?”

“Maybe . . . What do you have for me?”

“It’s potentially one of the most important assignments the CIA has had in the Middle East in recent years. You’re going to be scouting out potential threats to the House of Saud—sort of what you did in Bahrain and Qatar but in a mega-way. You won’t be reporting to me on a regular basis but to the station chief in Riyadh. You will be involved in a lot of high-level discussions there.”

“So I assume I’ll be assigned to the Global News bureau in Abu Dhabi?”

“Yes, but you’ll be spending a lot of your time in Saudi Arabia, ostensibly doing stories on the changing society over there. In reality, you’ll be scouting out potential dissidents, folks who could actually stage an uprising with inside help from some royals.”

“So you want me to rat out some idealistic young folks to save Abdullah’s ass.”

“King Abdullah is our biggest asset over there . . . or used to be. Quite frankly, he’s gonna bite the dust soon from what I hear. But we need to know what’s going to happen there because the Saudis provide almost 15 percent of the world’s oil, and we can’t afford to have some bad shit pop out over there.”

“What if I don’t give up my sources—like in Qatar?”

“You don’t have to—we have other assets to follow-up.”

Luchesi averted his gaze with his head slightly bowed. “So you followed up with the young prince I talked to in Qatar?”

Overmeier stared out the window. “Marco, I started feeling the same cynicism and anger once—that’s one of the reasons I’m in charge of you. I know what it’s like to see shit and lies everywhere and you wonder if you’re on the right team. At that point, it’s time to get out . . . or move up. After this next assignment, I’m going to recommend you for a position here at Langley. You could stay in one place for a while, go on for your PhD, whatever. You’d still be Mark Luck, but you wouldn’t be with Global News anymore.”

“I’ll think about it, Phil. But let me ask you one question before I head off. What do you know about Larry Mitchell of the CIA and Turkil al-Faisal of Saudi Intelligence visiting an extremely sick Osama bin Laden at the American Hospital in Dubai in late July 2001, *after* the Tanzania embassy and USS *Cole* bombings . . . and a month *before* 9/11?”

“Marco, I don’t know anything about that crap, and even if I did, I wouldn’t admit to it. There are some questions that shouldn’t be asked.”

“OK, Phil . . . just checking.”



After returning to Atlanta, Luck began to feel somewhat anxious and depressed. He knew he had to give up the lease on his condo, but that was the only piece of stability he had in the world anymore. And he wasn't looking forward to a year or more in Saudi Arabia—it was insanely hot most of the year, and there was absolutely no one he could trust over there, and an occasional escort now and then wouldn't make up for the continual loneliness he would feel. And he had heard about the repression, the feeling that there were a lot of eyes on you at all times, especially if you looked at a woman the wrong way.

For weeks, Luck had resisted doing anything with Chandler's flash drive, but he finally broke down a few days before he was slated to head to Saudi Arabia. After plugging it in, Luck was surprised to find how voluminous the files were—thirty chapters in all. The topics ranged from the origins of the Bilderbergers to their organizational structure, their memberships and meetings, and some of the key policies articulated at their meetings that later went into effect. *It must have taken him years to research . . . maybe that's all he ever did when he wasn't at work.* Just as Chandler had relayed, the Bilderbergers emerged from the early twentieth century's New York "Money Trust," which was subsequently aided by the consolidation of American banking under the Federal Reserve and infused by cash from World War One. They then used its new cash and financial clout to begin their overseas forays after the war. Chandler carefully went through the formation of the new super governmental institutions after World War Two—the International Monetary Fund and World Bank—and the official launch of the Bilderbergers in 1954, the subsequent formation of the Trilateralists in 1973, and the annual conferences and even smaller gatherings each had had since their inception.

Luck was impressed at how Chandler managed to find out the names of most of the attendees of the Bilderberger meetings over the years—almost suspiciously so, given the tight secrecy of the

organization. There were many expected faces besides the perennial attendees Kissinger and Brzezinsky. There were financial types like Paul Volcker, the former Fed chief; Tim Geithner of Treasury; George Osborne, Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer; and Mario Monti, who moved from the Goldman Sachs investment house in New York to the head of the European Central Bank and then was recently appointed prime minister of Italy after the manufactured financial crisis there. There were also leading political figures, including every British prime minister and even a few American presidents and candidates, although their attendance was always publicly denied.¹⁸² Business leaders like Agnelli from Fiat and Gerstner from IBM and the heads of oil and automobile and international construction giants and rising corporate stars like Google were invariably in attendance as were media types like Murdoch of Fox, Gigot of the *Wall Street Journal*, and Ted Turner of Time Warner. Even his boss Joe Schlanger went to one of the conferences—probably as a stand-in for one of the top brass at Global News. Finally, there were the usual collection of so-called public policy experts like Fouad Adjami and Fareed Zakaria of CNN/*Time*, who were seemingly popping up everywhere in the media but were, in Luck's eyes, sloppy and biased in their analyses.¹⁸³ Luck noticed how interconnected the Bilderberger web was, as exemplified by the jumping around of leading Bilderbergers throughout the empire, such as Robert McNamara (from Ford Motor to the Pentagon to the World Bank), Paul Wolfowitz (from academia to Bilderberger secretary to the Pentagon and then finally to the World Bank), and John McCloy (from helping create the CIA to the World Bank and then on to head the Council on Foreign Relations and Rockefeller's Chase Manhattan Bank).

¹⁸² For the denial for Obama's Bilderberger meeting attendance in 2008, see: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NIPik872K64>.

¹⁸³ Indeed, Zakaria was accused of plagiarism and briefly suspended by CNN: http://www.business-standard.com/article/international/time-and-cnn-lift-fareed-zakaria-s-suspension-112081700104_1.html.

Chandler described many of the Bilderberger meetings over the years, including the fractious one in 2002 where the Europeans put up such a fit that the invasion of Iraq was delayed for over six months. It was one of the few times the group had such a major disagreement, the others being the Suez crisis in 1956 (in which the U.S. sided with Egypt against England, France, and Israel) and the American involvement in Vietnam (which most Europeans opposed). Operation Iraqi Freedom was supposed to have happened in 2002, but there were a lot of objections and efforts to win over some of the dissenters, which in the end failed, as Bush eventually went to war without UN Security Council authorization.¹⁸⁴ Obviously, someone close to Chandler had been in the meeting and later fed him the details. It seemed to Luck that the discussions were, for the most part, not designed to elicit new ideas or plans—they had already been vetted by the council and Royal Institute—but more to disseminate what was to be done or, in some cases, to uncover any serious opposition that needed to be dealt with before any action was taken.

He found two other meetings interesting as well—the 1973 one in Saltsjobaden, Sweden, in which the conference was told of the need to raise oil to the then unheard-of price of twelve dollars a barrel, which occurred almost immediately afterward due to the Arab embargo supposedly resulting from the Yom Kippur War. This was but one of many wild fluctuations in the oil price over the next few decades directly tied to Bilderberger discussions.¹⁸⁵ The thesis put forth by Chandler in his book was that the Bilderbergers used the price of oil primarily for political purposes—massively elevating it in 1978, which helped set off an inflationary spiral to thwart Carter’s reelection bid, then following it with a precipitous drop in the 1980s,

¹⁸⁴ In the end, only four nations of the UN Security Council were in support of the resolution to invade Iraq and the motion was never brought to a vote: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Nations_Security_Council_and_the_Iraq_War

¹⁸⁵ Both of these are described in Estulin, *op cit*.

designed to bring the oil-exporting Soviet Union to its knees, and then a steep rise after 2000, designed to pressure the oil-challenged Chinese government. The second Bilderberger meeting of note was the 1979 one in Baden, Austria, which Chandler had alluded to in his conversation. That was the one in which Bernard Lewis proposed that various intelligence groups, including the CIA, Mossad, and Pakistani ISI, work to destabilize hostile nations in the region by fomenting conflicts among various ethnic and religious groups.¹⁸⁶ Among other things, the 1979 meeting presaged a simmering conflict with Iran that was continuing, with its outcome still not clear.¹⁸⁷

The more he read Chandler's account, the angrier Luck became. *Why were all these rich bastards fucking with other nations like Iran and Libya and Syria?* Iran hadn't invaded anyone since the Persians attacked Greece in ancient times. And the city of Aleppo in Syria had been a citadel of peace and prosperity and tolerance for over five hundred years until the CIA sicced its death squads known as the "Free Syrian Army," composed largely of Islamic jihadists from around the Middle East, on it. Why did the people of Iran and Syria and dozens of other countries around the world have to suffer horrific strife just because pompous shits like Lewis and Kissinger and Brzezinski and Bush and Blair and the whole goddamned cabal wanted them to tow the line and give away their oil and other national inheritance for nothing? Wherever there was oil and other resources to be exploited, there would be British or American mercenaries causing trouble—just like that Thatcher guy

¹⁸⁶ A description of Lewis's "arc of crisis" proposal at the 1979 Bilderberg meeting and his subsequent 1992 article in *Foreign Affairs* are described by Andrew Gavin Marshall: www.globalresearch.ca/index.php?context=va&aid=11313

¹⁸⁷ <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/28/opinion/28iht-edharrison.html>
The Bilderbeger mainstay Henry Kissinger argued as recently as June 28 2013 that the best option in Syria would be to break it up into separate ethnic enclaves: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/06/28/kissinger-syria_n_3512659.html (beginning at 19:30 of the video).

down there in Equatorial Guinea.¹⁸⁸ And that Bilderberger queen, Hillary Clinton, was one of the worst—going around the world acting like she gave a shit about women’s rights and then trying to knock off the two regimes in the Middle East with the best treatment of women—Libya and Syria. Clinton laughed at Gaddafi’s death,¹⁸⁹ but she should have been crying for the thousands of women now getting raped by the NATO-backed butchers in Syria and Libya, who were trying to reinstitute polygamy¹⁹⁰ and enforce the wearing of the hijab. And what about the average folks in Europe and America and all over the globe who were suffering because a group of power-mad rich pricks were trying to mess with the price of oil? He thought about all of the hard-working steelworkers in his old McKeesport neighborhood, who couldn’t take a decent vacation because it would cost them half their salary in gas to drive to the beach.

Men like Kissinger and Brzezinski had power and fame and were trying to gain the world, but they had lost their souls a long time before. Luck remembered from an undergraduate course that these Dr.

¹⁸⁸ Mark Thatcher, son of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, was allegedly the leader of a coup attempt—believed to be backed by MI6—against President Nguema of Equatorial Guinea in 2004. Thatcher was allowed to leave South Africa after paying a large fine and admitting involvement with the plotters: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/8830120/MI6-knew-about-Equatorial-Guinea-coup-plot-leader-claims.html>

¹⁸⁹ Immediately after Gaddafi’s death, Clinton paraphrased Julius Caesar’s famous “Veni, Vidi, Vici” by saying “We came, we saw, he died!” and then releasing a chuckle: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fgcd1ghag5Y>. Two days earlier, she had told her Libyan hosts that it was time Gaddafi was captured “dead or alive”.

¹⁹⁰ One of the first efforts of the NATO-backed National Transitional Council was to restore polygamy to Libya, which Gaddafi’s government had tried to abolish: <http://www.jihadwatch.org/2011/10/libyas-new-regime-lifts-ban-on-polygamy-announces-ban-on-interest.html>. Regular harassments of women and even public lashings were carried out Islamist groups, acting with virtual impunity after the civil war: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/03/19/libya-islamists-gaining-strength-libyans-concerned-by-sectarian-violence_n_2909693.html

Strangelove types had neurochemical imbalances in their brains, which gave them great intelligence, self-control, and achievement drives but a striking lack of empathy toward others. The classic example of this was Napoleon, who was a brilliant general and political leader, especially during the manic phase of his bipolar illness when his dopamine levels were high. Luck remembered the famous quote in which Madame de Stael described Napoleon as a chess master taking on the rest of humanity.¹⁹¹ To the Bilderbergers, millions of dead and injured and tens of millions of refugees all over Africa and Asia meant nothing.¹⁹² But dopaminergic minds also had a serious weakness—a delusion that they were more powerful than they really were.¹⁹³ Unchecked, they ended up taking big risks and going for broke and then failing big, as Napoleon and Alexander the Great had. With the failures in their Middle Eastern forays and the recent economic collapse of the West, Luck wondered if the Bilderbergers were at that stage already.

While most of the attendees were no surprise, given their leadership positions in banking, business, government, media, and academia, he did note the presence of Professor Retter at a couple of meetings. Luck knew his old professor was a prominent expert on the Middle East, but he didn't realize that he was so highly regarded with the Bilderbergers that he was repeatedly asked to attend. *Now I know why Retter always seemed to have inside information.* On perusing the 2008 list of attendees, Luck was even more surprised to find one name in

¹⁹¹ The exact de Stael Napoleon reference was to “A chess-master whose opponents happen to be the rest of humanity . . . neither pity nor attraction, nor religion nor attachment would ever divert him from his ends,” Paul Johnson, *Napoleon*, p. 115 (Viking Penguin, 2002).

¹⁹² It has been estimated by John Stockwell, a former high-ranking CIA official, that the various wars instigated by the CIA had, from the time of its inception to the mid-1980s, led to the deaths of a minimum of six million people worldwide: <http://www.informationclearinghouse.info/article4068.htm>

¹⁹³ See Fred Previc, *The Dopaminergic Mind in Human History and Evolution*, chap. 6 (Cambridge University Press, 2009).

particular—Martha Farah, a former neuropsychology professor at Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh who once gave a colloquium on the brain that he went to hear while he was a student at nearby Pitt. *What connection would a brain scientist possibly have with the Bilderbergers?*¹⁹⁴ *I need to check with Chandler on that one . . . if I ever see him again.*

Chandler had mysteriously disappeared, and no one seemed to know his whereabouts. Luck's concern for Chandler's files conflicted with his angry realization that those same files were responsible for the collapse of his previous worldview, even though he hadn't admitted that to Chandler himself. Luck even took the unusual step of checking in on Schlanger, who merely said that Chandler was "on assignment." Luck didn't know whether to be alarmed or suspicious, but either way, he himself was in danger because if something had happened to Chandler, then he would be a new target—perhaps the next one. On the other hand, if Chandler set him up and then disappeared, that wasn't good either. Despite his ambivalence about heading to Abu Dhabi, he felt somewhat relieved that it might be a way to get away from the Bilderberger danger at home in the States, at least for a while.

As he was closing down his apartment and placing his furniture and other items into storage, Luck kept looking at Chandler's flash drive and wondered where he should store it. He ended up placing the

¹⁹⁴ Dr. Martha Farah, head of the Center for Neuroscience and Society at the University of Pennsylvania, actually attended the 2008 meeting of the Bilderberg Group in Chantilly, Virginia (Estulin, *op. cit.*, p. ix). There are hundreds of academicians who are associated peripherally with Bilderberger organizations such as the Council on Foreign Relations and are not involved or necessarily even aware of their darker purposes. On the other hand, the Bilderbergers and their CIA arm have long maintained an interest in the brain and mind control, allegedly through various research institutes (see Estulin, *op. cit.*, chap. 14). The most famous of the mind-control programs was the notorious MK-ULTRA, which was in existence for twenty years before "officially" terminated in 1973: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project_MKUltra

drive in the underside of a half-empty deodorant stick, which would almost certainly escape detection among his many other stored items. He decided against copying the files to yet another flash drive, but unbeknownst to him, that had already been done for him. Shortly after their last meeting, Chandler placed a duplicate drive behind the dashboard of the Lexus that Luck was about to loan TP Preuski while he was in Arabia so the latter could free up his own car for one of his daughters.

Unaware of John Chandler's deception, Mark Luck should have been feeling reassured and prepared for the longest assignment of his career. Deep down, though, it wasn't Abu Dhabi that was on his mind. It was Chandler, his Bilderberger saga, the shadowy outline of the Bilderbergers' New World Order, and the sinking realization he was working *for the wrong team*.