

SPEECH BY DR. GEORGE A. CARVER, JR.
BEFORE THE PALM BEACH ROUND TABLE
WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA - MARCH 11, 1993

Background: Dr. Carver is considered to be "America's foremost authority on intelligence and security." He served as Deputy for National Intelligence to two (2) former Directors of the CIA and as the senior U.S. intelligence officer in NATO. He is a Yale graduate and has a doctorate from Oxford University. He is the only person in the history of the CIA to be twice awarded the Distinguished Intelligence Medal.

Title of Dr. Carver's Speech: "We Cannot Afford Surprises - We Must Be Prepared To Prevent Them."

★ Excerpt from Question and Answer Session

Porcher L. Taylor, III: "Dr. Carver, I'm a West Point graduate and while I was a cadet at the Academy in 1973, there was a strong rumor going around, that one of our military spy satellites was flying down the Russian/Turkish corridor taking photographs of a Soviet missile site and apparently accidentally took photographs on the Turkish side, of a large wooden object which appeared to be a ship stuck in a glacier about 14,000 feet on Mount Ararat. Strong rumors going around the Academy at that time was that apparently our intelligence people at the CIA might have classified photographs of Noah's Ark, and I was wondering if you had any comments about that."

Laughter From Audience.

Dr. Carver: "Well, I don't recall the CIA working on Noah's Ark, but I do remember that at the time there were some pictures taken, and there were clear indications that there was something ~~was~~ up on Mount Ararat, which was rather strange. There was various archaeological expeditions that were mounted. The Turkish government was not to thrilled about supporting them, because it was getting into an area that was politically dicey from the Turks' point of view. But that is but one of the indications, you know, I haven't been up there, I don't think anyone has, but it certainly was eyebrow lifting and it was certainly another indication that despite its splendor as a work of poetry, the Pentateuch, the first five books of the Bible, might not be all that bad as history also."

Porcher L. Taylor, III: "Thank you, Sir."

★ Transcribed from Tape by Palm Beach Roundtable