

“Assaulting Audre”
Time capsule to terminated:
the Duke and his wingmen shoot down
one of America’s most promising technology companies

A nonfiction book by Tom Casey

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Assaulting Audre

Story summary

Part I:

Assaulting Audre is a story about an award-winning Artificial Intelligence software development company that immediately captures the attention of the Pentagon, only to ultimately succumb under the largest scandal in Congressional History.

The book begins nearly ten years after the company's first successful product test took place on Christmas Eve 1982, a pioneering event that propelled Audre only three months later into a relationship with the military establishment that would last more than twenty years. As one of the first software developers to employ applied-intelligence algorithms in the interpretation of scanned information stored on paper and microfilm engineering drawings and maps, Audre was instantly recognized by the Army as the long-sought bridge between historical methods of maintaining data and the exciting new era of the computer age.

By 1992, when Assaulting Audre's narrative commences, the company had not only earned numerous industry and scientific accolades, it had also succeeded in capturing the attention of Wall Street, quickly vaulting to become the second highest gaining stock on the NASDAQ exchange in 1991, after announcing in September its selection to be an essential supplier to a strategic Department of Defense joint-command program. Expectations were exceptionally high as 1993 began with Audre becoming the center of attention within the Defense Committees on Capitol Hill and at a festive ten-year anniversary party, hosted on the mountaintop ranch of CEO, Tom Casey. Although the company was the honored recipient of widespread congratulations and commendations from the City of San Diego, Congress, California's Governor and Legislature, the celebration also ignited unforeseen consequences with its publicized highlight of bringing together two famous former Vietnam War adversaries, Navy Ace Randy "Duke" Cunningham and Stalin Medal recipient Dr. Boris Kogan...

Part II:

The cooperation of Congress culminates with a \$14 M earmark by the Defense Appropriations Committee to competitively compare the Pentagon's predominating data conversion methodology against Audre's highly automated approach. Set to square-off over "Star Wars" missile defense and strategic shipbuilding documents, the entire success of the program becomes jeopardized after both the Pentagon's Program Management and powerful Congressional ally Jerry Lewis separately solicit illicit stock options, motivated from the general consensus that Audre would not only prevail, it would then profit handsomely from the tens of millions of dollars of software the government had budgeted to buy from the winning company. Tom Casey's adamant refusal to covertly reward public servants through an offshore stock scheme has immediate negative repercussions. The once fair-fight flounders amid intentional interference with Audre's test results and a public campaign to cast a pall over the program's productivity. Although Audre manages to prevail in the testing, the spurned parties manipulate the results in their report to Congress, suggesting that a second test with scores of supposed alternative approaches be undertaken before any purchasing decisions can be made.

In response, Congress appropriates another \$ 20 M the next year to take on the testing of more than two-dozen competitive products, as rumors swirl suggesting that the program's managers have vowed to defeat Audre. Setting the stage for what would become a pattern of conduct that ultimately results in their later indictments, Audre consultant Brent Wilkes and the eventual Executive Director of the CIA, Kyle "Dusty" Foggo, clandestinely record the Pentagon's principal program manager, capturing comments against Audre so compromising as to constitute a criminal conspiracy. Surprised by Audre's demands to turn the tapes over to the Defense Criminal Investigative Service, an action which would reveal Foggo's participation in a domestic surveillance, Wilkes, and Audre soon part company. Despite the now proven conspiracy to compromise its success, Audre presses on and prevails over its competitors, only to become blindsided by a state marital court's unprecedented determination that Audre, a public company, would be jointly held responsible for a multi-million-dollar personal divorce award against Mr. Casey...

Part III:

Forced by the divorce decision into bankruptcy only months before the Pentagon's test results are made public and with the intent of awarding Audre \$ 20 M in available Defense procurement appropriations, a cabal takes over the company, fires Casey and attempts to cash in on the successful tests, only to become thwarted by the interventions of Congressmen Charlie Wilson and Randy Cunningham on behalf of new company started by Wilkes. What then unfolds can best be described as nothing less than complete pandemonium, as members of congress begin to divert defense funds to best serve their own selfish ambitions and the cabal strips Audre away from its stockholders while still struggling to get the lion's share of the Pentagon's program funding, igniting a fierce firefight in bankruptcy court over the rightful ownership of the company...

Part IV:

The battle for Audre goes to the brink and beyond, a conflict which becomes extended far outside the courtroom and deeply into the private lives of its principal combatants. Eventually, the cabal collapses into default and operational control is returned to Casey, who pledges to reorganize Audre and restore the share ownership to its original public holders. But before the restoration order can go into effect, the Cabal dismisses all of the company's employees and boldly steals the software, leaving behind only an empty building and a bleakly indebted business-shell. Building back from the ruins with the support of a couple loyal employees and dozens of military bases that had served for more than a decade as the backbone of Audre's past success, Casey sets the stage for a colossal conflict between Congress and the Pentagon for control over the program's and Audre's future...

Part V:

Cunningham starts first by shooting down published rumors of his collusion with Wilkes, claiming to be "On the side of the Angels". Just a few months later, the program's Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense gets suddenly fired and mysteriously escorted out of the Pentagon under guard, resurfacing the following week working for Wilkes. Confusion reigns as the Pentagon calls in the Inspector General and program funds remain unspent. Audre pleasantly surprises the Army by bringing into the battle on

its behalf, General Dynamics' Executive Officer (and current Deputy Secretary of Defense), Gordon England. As everyone frantically jockeys for millions in product orders, acting on an anonymous tip, the FBI raids a major defense contractor and seizes Audre's stolen software off the desk of their Senior Executive Vice President. Just as it appears that everything is finally going to go Audre's way, a general directive gets issued from the Justice Department, calling for all Bankruptcy Trustees to clear their caseloads. In compliance, Audre's Trustee unexpectedly files a motion to involuntarily compel the company into Chapter 7 liquidation. Unrelated, but almost simultaneous with that catastrophic event, Casey gets served with a \$15,430,093.05 personal wage garnishment order from the Marital Court. Salvation makes a brief appearance as the Pentagon confirms its intent to process \$ 5 M of purchase orders for Audre's product, only to have Cunningham personally intervene the following week and swiftly shift the entire department's budget directly into Wilkes' company...

Part VI:

Sounding the alarm, Audre's case is made in August 1998 to the Chairman of Military Procurement and the Under Secretary of Defense. The Pentagon responds by declaring Audre to be part of the Department of Defense's "Strategic Supply Base" and as such, its liquidation by the Bankruptcy Court would not be in the National Interest. The momentum finally appears to swing Audre's way eight months later, when the Tank Command orders \$ 3 M of Audre software and Casey's ex-wife's litigation syndicate sues her for \$ 41 M. A newly emboldened Army then refuses to pay Wilkes \$ 10 M for his software. The uprising is short-lived as Cunningham and Appropriations Chairman Jerry Lewis shock the military establishment by punitively cutting \$2 B in F-22 program funding. Within days, the Pentagon capitulates by canceling all future orders for Audre's products and commits to Wilkes \$ 15 M in return for the full restoration of its budget...

Part VII:

After 54 months in bankruptcy, Audre, now known as eXtr@ct, successfully reorganizes in February 2000, becoming the first company in the known history of the Southern District of California whose original shareholders emerge intact. The news is offset, however, by General Dynamic's union's refusal to use the company's software out of fear that its

prodigious productivity would lead to layoffs and Cunningham's continuing domination of the Department's expenditures on behalf of Wilkes. The Inspector General's report is finally published on May 2, 2000, questioning the "lopsided funding" that has caused some military officers to "lose confidence in the fairness of the selection process." Even low-profile service programs started by sympathizers at The Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command and the Army Corps of Engineers fail to succeed in sustaining company operations. The final blow arrives when all Army non-warfighting funds are redirected towards the build-up for Operation Iraqi Freedom. Closing its office in the spring of 2003, one month after the war begins, operations are temporarily outsourced to complete an undersea mapping project for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. On March 11, 2005, Audre, a.k.a. eXtr@ct, is administratively liquidated without further notice by the U.S. Trustee.

Epilogue:

Almost three months to the day later, on Sunday, June 12, 2005, an article is published in the San Diego Union Tribune that begins the unraveling of Cunningham's conspiracy with Wilkes. Sentenced on March 3, 2006 to eight years and four months, Cunningham admits having received \$636,000 in bribes from Wilkes in return for channeling \$ 87 M in contracts to his company between 1995 and 2004, including \$ 20 M in 2000, the year after Audre's exclusion from further software sales. On September 6, 2007, twenty-two years and five months since their separation, Catherine Casey's case is closed without her ever collecting a penny more than she received ten days after the original divorce judgment in 1987. On February 19, 2008, Wilkes is sentenced to twelve years in a Federal Penitentiary. The trial of the former Executive Director of the CIA, Kyle "Dusty" Foggo is set to begin November 3rd. The movie, "Charlie Wilson's War" has earned more than \$ 112 M in box office receipts since its opening on December 21, 2007, and the DVD will be released on April 22nd. Since June 2006, Congressman Jerry Lewis has been under a formal criminal investigation for his ties to Brent Wilkes and others. With Lewis having paid to-date more than \$ 1 M in legal fees, the case against him has recently stalled due to the Bush administration's unprecedented midterm dismissal of seven U.S. Attorneys, including the prosecutor of both Cunningham and Wilkes, and the shutting down of their Los Angeles U.S. Attorney's Public Corruption unit on March 17, 2008...

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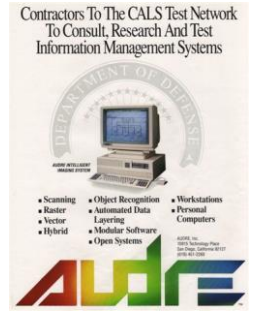
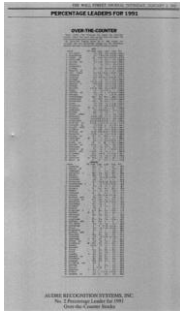
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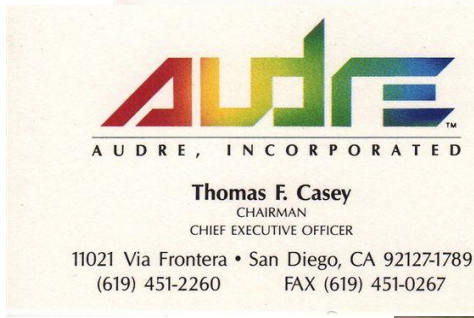
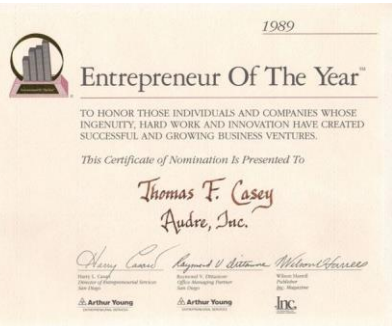
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2nd highest gaining stock, most innovative product award





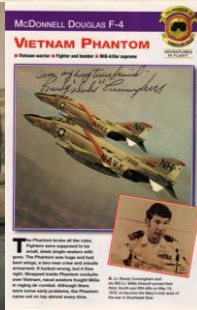
AUDRE, INCORPORATED



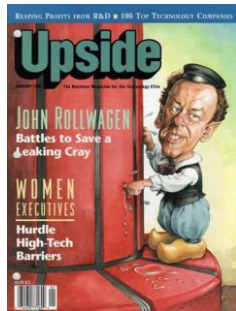
Dr. Boris Kogan & Duke



Lowery & Wilkes, Charlie and his Angel



Dick Cheney



GROWTH POTENTIAL

Company Name	Market Value (\$mil)	Current Sales (\$mil)	Net Sales (\$mil)
1. ADAGE RECOGNITION SYS	196.00	1,704	51
2. PARAMETRIC TECHNOLOGY	26.62	\$1,496	645
3. CABNET COMMUNICATIONS	23.25	501	34
4. WILFREY COME INC.	19.08	3082	136
5. CINGO SYSTEMS INC	17.22	\$1,449	1003
6. AMTECH CORP	13.21	1291	109
7. MINDSCOPY CORP	11.77	\$2,487	\$3,843
8. LANNET DATA COMMUNICATION	10.16	1254	123
9. AMERICAN POWER CONVERSION	8.96	811	194
10. SATE INC	6.12	1281	629
11. CONVERSE TECHNOLOGY INC	6.05	1369	123
12. LEAR TECHNOLOGY CORP	6.01	1711	194
13. SPINTEK INC	6.00	306	111
14. ESI TELECOMMUNICATIONS	7.46	1070	\$114
15. INTEGRATED CIRCUIT SYSTEMS	3.25	107	112
16. CABLETION SYSTEM	4.62	\$1,733	\$291
17. LEXANT CORP	3.11	\$1,077	\$209
18. BRIDGEVIEW SOFTWARE INC	4.08	1211	190
19. NEWSEDGE NETWORKS CORP	4.87	1734	1112
20. SULLOX COMPUTER GROUP	4.76	196	119

There are many ways to measure a company's growth prospects. We used a simple ratio of market value of equity divided by the sales of the company to get an idea of how highly investors value a company's ability to generate returns. The higher the ratio, the more investors are willing to pay for the company's current level of sales.

JANUARY 1992 SPECIAL \$2

Upside – Company with greatest growth potential



Lizard Island



Bridezilla



Lundell & Di Ricco, Karen & Mom

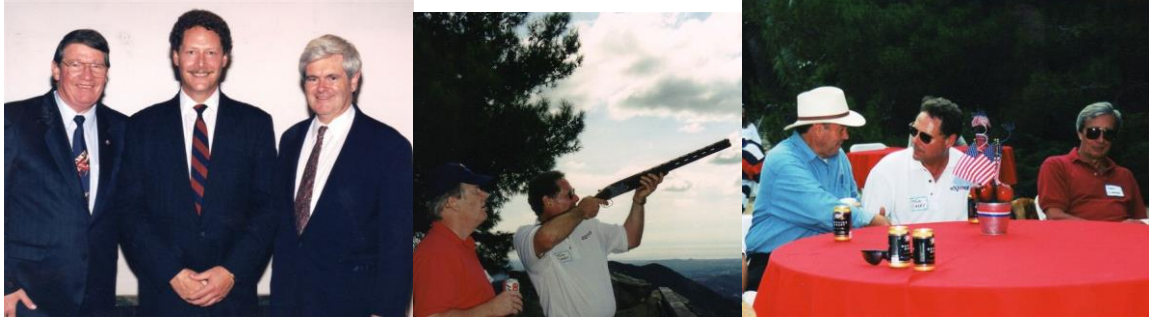


Bilbray, Shamrock & Mc Cain

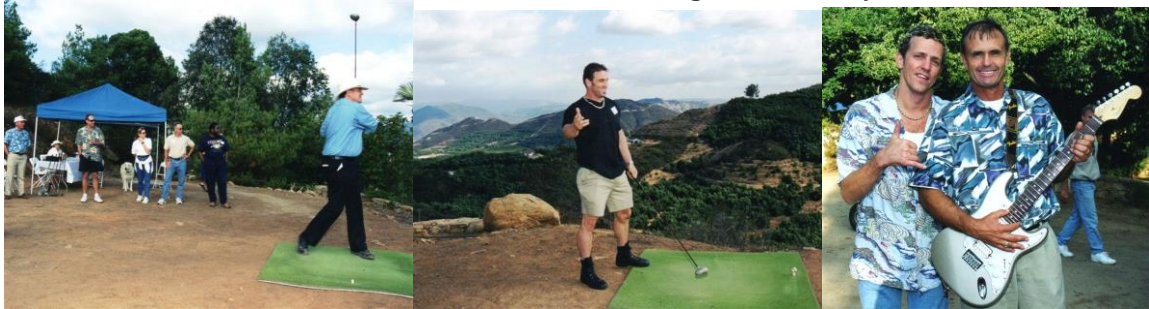
Duke, Floyd Spence & Duncan Hunter



Duncan Hunter, Charlton Heston, Sonny Bono



Newt Gingrich, David Harris, Sergei Givotovsky



Duncan, Ken, Brian Bilbray & Gary Hoey



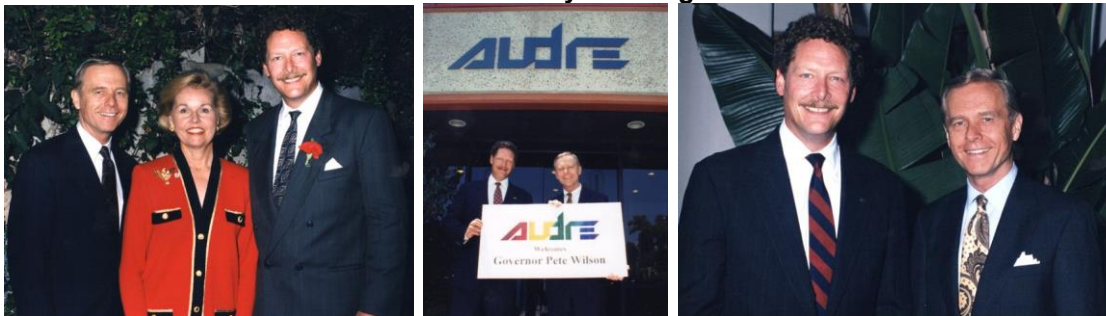
George Nassos, Ken, Duncan & Brian



Duke & Ken



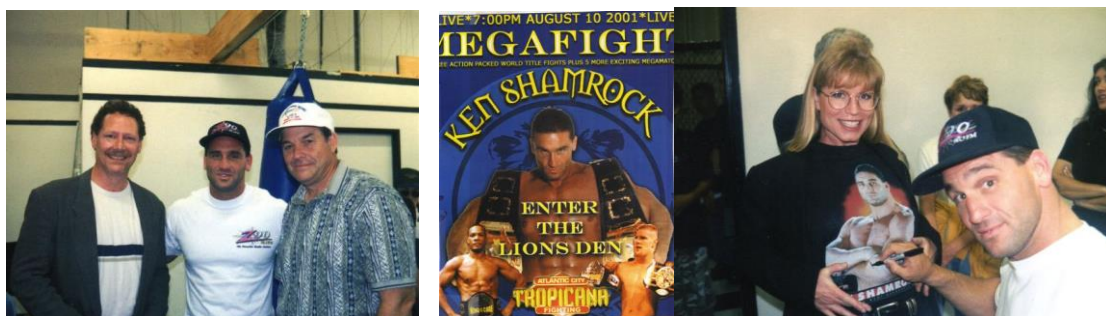
Loraine & Nancy Cunningham



Pete & Gayle Wilson



Governor Wilson visits Audre



Ken Shamrock, Duncan Hunter, Loraine



"Shamrockin"



UFC Hall of Fame, Raj



Ian Kessler



Shamrock & Hastert, Ernie & Duke



Wilkes, Hardin



Collins, Mc Swain

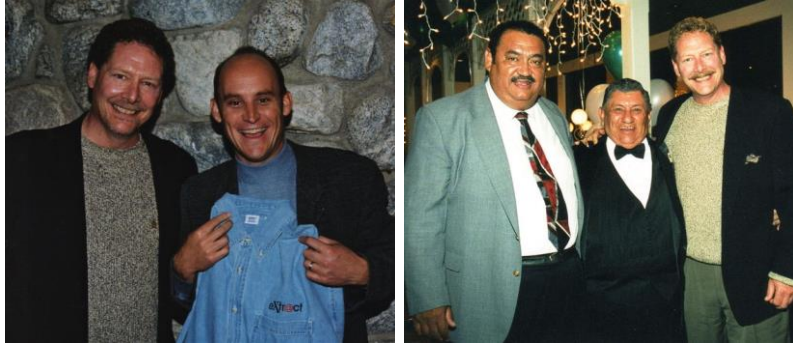


Leatherneck Ring Champ

Marine Staff Sgt. Thomas F. Casey, of 384 Orchard St., Coe Ck., is the 165-pound class member of the undefeated Marine Air Group boxing team of the Fourth Marine Air Wing Base somewhere in the South Pacific. Shown above, left to right, are Marine Corp. John W. Carston, of Long Island City, N. Y., 165-pound class, Marine Second Lt. Ralph W. Engelbrecht, of Pittsburg, manager of the team, and Sgt. Casey. The team has been victorious in all bouts since it went overseas last summer. It has defeated Army, Navy and Marine teams. Sgt. Casey, 24, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Casey. He was graduated from Coe Ck. and Greenwich High Schools and entered service in Aug., 1941. He is on his second tour of overseas duty, having already served on Guadalcanal, New Guinea and Munda. A sister, Pvt. Helen Casey, is with the U. S. Marines at Quantico, Va. Another sister, Barbara, is a Yeoman 2d Class, WAVES, stationed in Washington, D. C. A brother John was killed in action on Saipan, while serving with the U. S. Marines. Sgt. Casey is a radio-gunner with the Marine Air Corps.

My Dad, Tom Casey

extract



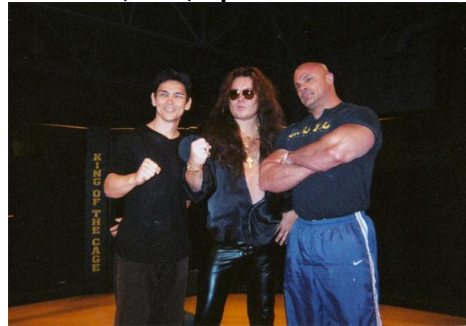
Gateway's Ted Waitt, Lorenzo & Cato



Yngwie Malmsteen opens for King of the Cage



Ken, Teri, April Malmsteen



Don "the Dragon", Yngwie & Big Brad