

Rock Creek Free Press

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Vol. 5, No. 1 January 2011

A FIERCELY INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Washington, D.C.

12 Simple Things You Can Do Now to Prepare for the Coming Financial Apocalypse

END OF THE AMERICAN DREAM

It is becoming increasingly apparent that the US economy is heading for complete and total disaster. State and local governments across the nation are uncontrollably bleeding red ink. The federal government has accumulated the largest debt in world history. Every year we buy hundreds of billions of dollars more from the rest of the world than they buy from us. That means that we are getting hundreds of billions of dollars poorer as a nation every single year. Meanwhile, thousands of factories and millions of jobs continue to be sent overseas as American cities turn into post-industrial wastelands. Incomes are down, unemployment remains at depressingly high levels and very few of our politicians seem to have any idea how to fix things. Yes, things are really, really bad. So what are some things that we can all be doing to prepare for the coming financial apocalypse?

See PREPARE p. 2

Safety of TSA X-Ray Machines in Doubt

TSA refuses to release inspection reports about X-ray machine safety

By JONATHAN BENSON / NATURALNEWS

Airports have become a minefield of health hazards, and an investigation into airport safety has revealed that radiation emitted from various scanning machines is sometimes much higher than medically-accepted limits, putting workers and passengers at serious risk. And while the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) insists that the machines are safe, the agency

See X-RAY p. 2

Pentagon Papers Whistleblowers Call for New 9/11 Investigation



Daniel Ellsberg



Sen. Mike Gravel

By GEORGE WASHINGTON / GLOBALRESEARCH

Two of the main players in releasing the 'Pentagon Papers' were Daniel Ellsberg and Senator Mike Gravel.

Ellsberg is, of course, the former military analyst and famed whistleblower, who together with colleague Tony Russo, smuggled the 'Pentagon Papers' out of the Rand Corporation.

Senator Gravel is the person who read the 'Pentagon Papers' into the *Congressional Record*. This act made the papers public record, so that they could not be censored by the government.

Ellsberg and Gravel are receiving a lot of media attention right now for their support of WikiLeaks.

But little attention has been paid to Ellsberg and Gravel's support for a new 9/11 investigation.

Ellsberg says that the case of a certain 9/11 whistleblower is "far more explosive than the

See PENTAGON PAPERS p. 8

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WikiLeaks



Julian Assange RCFP MAN of the YEAR

There is no question that the documents, cables and e-mails released by WikiLeaks are genuine; they are. Yet questions surround the site and its most visible figurehead, Julian Assange. Even if the the information is genuine, is it complete? Is there undisclosed cherry-picking of the data to support some hidden agenda? Is the site an intel agency honey-pot intended to lure and entrap would-be leakers?

And what of the mysterious Mr. Assange? Will he be derailed by trumped-up rape charges? And what about his unusual childhood in an Australian cult commune? Could the cult have

been part of an MKULTRA-style mind control experiment?

In this issue of *The Creek* we investigate WikiLeaks from many angles, including articles from both champions and critics of the site (see WikiLeaks spread on pages 4-5). And we hear from Mr. Assange himself (interview on p. 3).

Whatever you think of WikiLeaks or Assange, the information they have released has dominated the news for weeks and will likely resonate for months and years to come. For dominating the hard news like no one else, we name Julian Assange the *Rock Creek Free Press* "Man of the Year".

WikiLeaks Cables Reveal Bush, Obama Pressured Germany, Spain Not to Probe Torture

By ANDY WORTHINGTON / THE PUBLIC RECORD

In the relatively small number of US diplomatic cables released to date by WikiLeaks, from its cache of 251,287 documents, the most disturbing revelations concerning the "War on Terror" deal with the pressure that the Bush administration exerted on Germany in 2007, regarding the planned prosecution of 13 CIA agents involved in the rendition and torture of Khaled El-Masri, a German citizen who was seized as a result of mistaken identity.

Moreover, those cables reveal the pressure that the Obama administration exerted on the Spanish government in 2009 to derail a criminal investigation into the role played by six senior Bush administration lawyers in establishing the policies that governed the interrogation — and torture — of prisoners

seized in the "War on Terror."

Neither of these developments had been reported prior to the release of the cables by WikiLeaks, and they are, therefore, extremely significant in establishing how long Bush administration officials were involved in fending off torture investigations overseas, and how eagerly Obama administration officials took up this role.

Suppression of torture inquiry in Germany

The first cable was sent to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice from Berlin on February 6, 2007, by John M. Koenig, the senior career diplomat at the US Embassy in Berlin, following discussions with Rolf Nikel, the deputy national security advisor for Germany. Koenig explained how he emphasized to Nikel that "issuance of international arrest

warrants would have a negative impact on our bilateral relationship." In addition, he "reminded Nikel of the repercussions to US-Italian bilateral relations in the wake of a similar move by Italian authorities last year" (in the case of Abu Omar, discussed below), and "pointed out that our intention was not to threaten Germany, but rather to urge that the German government weigh carefully at every step of the way the implications for relations with the US."

What makes this thinly-veiled threat seem particularly harsh is the fact that El-Masri is the clearest case of mistaken identity in the whole of the "War on Terror." Confused with another man of the same name who had liaised with the 9/11 kidnappers, he was seized in Macedonia as he tried to enter the country on a vacation on New Year's Eve, 2002, and was

See TORTURE p. 8

Justice, the Guardian of Liberty Mumia Abu Jamal: the Fate of an Innocent Man

By JOE P. BROWN / RCFP STAFF

On November 9, 2010 there was a hearing at the James A. Byrne United States Courthouse in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, regarding Mumia Abu Jamal. This hearing was held in the United States Court of Appeals for the 3rd Circuit by a panel of three judges. They were: Judge John Sirica (a Reagan appointee), Judge Robert Cowen (a George H. W. Bush appointee), and Judge Thomas Ambro (a Clinton appointee). Three to four hundred supporters were outside demonstrating. There was a high level of security present, including bomb sniffing dogs.

Representing Mumia Abu Jamal was attorney Judith Ritter. Representing the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania was District Attorney Hugh Byrnes. The courtroom was packed with supporters of Mumia, as well as supporters of Maureen Faulkner, who was the wife of the slain officer: approximately 150

people, including a dozen from the press.

At issue was the penalty phase of Abu Jamal's conviction. Should Mumia receive life without parole or death? Mr. Byrnes spoke to the three-judge panel first. As prosecutor, he was there to argue for the death penalty. The discussion centered on the instructions given to the jury in the original and only trial thus far.

The shooting of Officer Faulkner occurred on December 9, 1981. What has been going on ever since is a worldwide discussion of "who" actually shot the officer. The first trial was wrought with many inconsistencies.

DA Byrnes was presenting an argument which said the jury was duly informed and instructed about the death penalty.

The question that went back and forth was the weight of mitigating and aggravating circumstances. In this case, the killing of a police officer is an aggravating circumstance. A mitigating circumstance is less severe and



Mumia Abu Jamal

vague. In Abu Jamal's case, he was a good father with no previous criminal record. These are mitigating circumstances. Also at issue were previous cases. Among these were Mills, Spivak and McCoy. These cases

See MUMIA p. 2

Wall Streeters Line Up for Big Bonuses

By DANNY SCHECHTER

Never mind the rise in unemployment and foreclosures. Never mind the folks waiting to know if they will get the benefits they need before they are cut off. Never mind the growing gap between rich and poor and the continuing spread of poverty. (Did you know that inequality in the US is at the highest level of any industrialized country?)

Does any of this matter?

The idea of equality as a social goal is apparently passé.

Christmas has a special meaning on Wall Street: It's bonus time. This brings

to mind Peter Wolf singing with the J Geils Band, "First, I look at the Purse."

The context was different but the meaning is the same.

Just five too-big-to-fail bankster companies have stashed \$90 billion for payouts to prized employees. They know that the beat on The Street is fading, so it seems to be take-the-money-and-run time.

Incidentally, that "bonus pool" will rise with end-of-the-year earnings.

Right now, the greedsters have a PR problem — how to transfer all this wealth from the banks to themselves with the lowest possible tax rate and the

lowest degree of bad publicity.

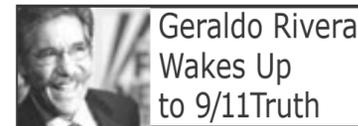
They also will try to focus the media on supporting their right to such over-the-top rewards and "incentives" in the name, of course, of fostering an economic recovery.

Yes, it is a cynical exercise, but no more blatant than the successful campaign to extend the Bush tax cuts for millionaires.

The mantra is simple: to those who have, more should be given.

So sayeth the faux populists of the Tea Party and their Republican benefactors. So sayeth the Democrats in the interest of compromise and getting some

See WALL ST p. 7



Geraldo Rivera
Wakes Up
to 9/11Truth

On November 13, 9/11 family member Bob McLvaine and building engineer Tony Szamboti appeared on Geraldo Rivera's show "Geraldo At Large" on Fox News to talk about theArchitects & Engineers for 9/11 Truth "BuildingWhat?" TV ad campaign. Geraldo began the segment by saying, "Up until now, only those considered nut jobs questioned the official conclusions. But now, over 1,200 architects and engineers examined the evidence and have concluded that WTC Building 7 was brought down in a controlled demolition using explosives." Geraldo continued, "If explosives were involved, that would mean that the most obnoxious protesters in recent years are right."

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US Votes Against UN Anti-Nazi Resolution

United States is Sole Opponent of UN Anti-Nazi Resolution. Iran, Israel, Syria Unite Again to Support United Nations Third Committee Resolution A/C.3/65/L.50 November 16th, 2010: "Inadmissibility of Certain Practices That Contribute to Fueling Contemporary forms of Racism..."

By CARLA STEA / RCFP UNITED NATIONS

On November 16, 2010, for the eighth consecutive year, the United Nations Third Committee adopted Resolution A/C.3/65/L.50, on the "Inadmissibility of Certain Practices That Contribute to Fueling Contemporary Forms of Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance." The vote requested by the United States delegation registered 118 in favor of the resolution, 48 abstentions and only one vote in opposition. Once again this year, Iran, Israel, Syria and Libya united in support of this resolution, together with a majority of the United Nations delegations. Once again, the sole vote opposing the resolution was cast by the United States.

The Resolution, co-sponsored by Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, India, The Russian Federation and a large number of other UN delegations, states: Point 4: "Expresses deep concern about the glorification of the Nazi movement and former members of the Waffen SS organization, including by erecting monuments and memorials and holding public demonstrations in the name of the glorification of the Nazi past, the Nazi movement and Neo-Nazism, as well as by declaring or attempting to declare such members and those who fought against the anti-Hitler coalition and collaborated with the Nazi movement participants in national liberation movements. Point 5: "Expresses concern at recurring attempts to desecrate or demolish

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Cholera in Haiti Linked to UN Troops

By CANADIAN PRESS / CBC

A contingent of UN peacekeepers is the likely source of the cholera outbreak in Haiti that has killed more than 2,000 people, a French scientist said in a report obtained December 7 by The Associated Press.

French epidemiologist Renaud Piarroux, who studied the outbreak for the Haitian and French governments, concluded that there was no doubt that the cholera originated in contaminated water next to a UN base outside the town of Mirebalais along a tributary to Haiti's Artibonite River.

"No other hypothesis could be found to explain the outbreak of a cholera epidemic in this village ... not affected by the earthquake earlier this year and located dozens of kilometers from the coast and (quake refugee tent) camps," Piarroux wrote in a report that

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TSA refuses to release inspection reports about X-ray machine safety

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refuses to release the actual safety inspection reports to back its claim.

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) conducted an investigation back in 2003 and 2004 exposing several X-ray machines that were in violation of federal radiation standards. Policy states that the TSA is in charge of inspecting its own machines, but the agency has allegedly neglected this responsibility for years, while continuing to install increasingly more X-ray machines like the new full-body scanners that emit even higher amounts of dangerous radiation.

Reporters from *USA Today* recently petitioned the TSA to release inspection reports for the 4,080 X-ray machines used across the country, as well as the 221 full-body scanners. But the TSA refused to release them while still insisting that they all passed inspection, even though the previous investigation had revealed that the agency has a track record of failing to identify faulty machines.

Some TSA workers have filed complaints about poor maintenance and monitoring of X-ray machines, citing high cancer rates among agency employees who regularly work near the machines. One employee requested that a hazard assessment be conducted, which the TSA denied because it said that at least three employees had to jointly make such a request for it to happen.

The TSA's blatant lack of transparency in verifying the safety of its machines points to the fact that something is amiss. Officials admit that some radiation is emitted from the machines, but that regular levels are below maximum thresholds. Even so, radiology experts say that perpetual exposure to even low-dose radiation from airport X-ray machines can lead to cancer and other health problems.

Jonathan Benson is a staff writer at *NaturalNews.com*

FBI Paid Ex-Con \$177,000 to Entrap Muslims



Craig Monteilh

By NOEL BRINKERHOFF / ALLGOW

In exchange for paying informant Craig Monteilh \$177,000 to infiltrate Muslim communities, the FBI got little to show, except for embarrassment.

Monteilh, a convicted forger of banks notes, was hired by federal law enforcement to spy on

Muslims in Southern California and, he says, entrap them on charges of terrorism. But the FBI didn't rack up a lot of convictions from Monteilh's handiwork. As a matter of fact, it was Monteilh who wound up being served—after his talk of violent jihad resulted in his fellow Mosque members filing a restraining order against him.

Jerry Markon of the *The Washington Post* writes: "Compounding the damage, Monteilh has gone public, revealing secret FBI methods and charging that his 'handlers' trained him to entrap Muslims as he infiltrated their mosques, homes and businesses. He is now suing the FBI."

Noel Brinkerhoff is a professional writer with over 10 years of experience specializing in journalism and screenwriting.

Cholera in Haiti Linked to UN Troops

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has not yet been publicly released. The AP obtained a copy from an international official who released it on condition of anonymity. Piarroux declined in an e-mail interview to discuss his findings.

The French Foreign Ministry confirmed that Dr. Renaud Piarroux's report has been completed and sent to officials in Haiti and at the United Nations. France commissioned the report at Haiti's request.

The report calls for a further investigation of the outbreak and improved medical surveillance and sanitation procedures for UN peacekeeping troops.

Anger sparked riots

Many Haitians suspect that the Nepalese troops were the source of the outbreak, and anger at the troops sparked a week of violent riots, but the French scientist's report is the first scientific study linking the base to cholera.

Piarroux said in his report that he cannot prove there was cholera inside the base. But he also said that septic tanks and pipes that would have helped to confirm the presence of the bacteria were no longer at the base when he visited.

Nepalese troops earlier confirmed they had replaced a leaking pipe, which contained a

foul-smelling runoff that the UN denies was human waste, between two visits by an AP reporter in October.

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention earlier confirmed that the strain of cholera bacteria in Haiti matched one from South Asia, a region that includes Nepal, but the UN denied its troops were to blame and said it was more important to focus on fighting the outbreak than on its origin.

UN officials said Tuesday there is still no conclusive evidence that the peacekeepers caused the infection.

"We have neither accepted nor dismissed his findings, as it's one report among others," UN mission spokesman Vincenzo Pugliese said. "The Nepalese contingent in Mirebalais is just one piece of the cholera puzzle, since there is no conclusive evidence at this point that the Nepalese camp was or was not the source of the epidemic."

Since it emerged in late October, the disease has spread throughout much of the country, killing 2,000 and sickening at least 100,000 people. The UN says up to 650,000 people in Haiti could get cholera over the next six months.

US Diplomats Ordered to Steal DNA

Cables released by WikiLeaks reveal that US staff in embassies around the world were ordered by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to obtain frequent flyer numbers, credit card details and even iris scans, fingerprints and DNA of foreign officials.

By CARLA STEA / RCFP UNITED NATIONS

On the morning of November 29, 2010, a crowd of United Nations reporters assembled outside the UN Security Council chamber. As each Ambassador descended the stairs to attend the Democratic Republic of the Congo, reporters called out to each: "Do you have any comments about the Wikileaks?" Each Ambassador either ignored the question, or replied "no comment." As one of the Latin American Ambassadors walked past, an intrepid UN reporter called out: "How do you feel about the fact that the United States is spying on all of you?" The Ambassador made no reply. As Russian Ambassador Vitali Churkin arrived, the CNN reporter called out: "Ambassador Churkin, can you comment about the Wikileaks?" The Russian Ambassador replied: "No comment," and just before entering the Security Council chamber, Ambassador Churkin added, with more than a hint of irony, "Surprise! Surprise!"

There was especially serious concern among the press about the gross invasion of privacy involved in the US Mission's collection and scrutiny of the personal credit card

information, frequent flyer accounts and DNA information about other United Nations diplomats. Some reporters speculated about how DNA samples would be obtained from other diplomats and high level United Nations officials. During her "stake out" United States Permanent Representative Susan Rice reiterated that US diplomats behave, throughout the world, as diplomats, with professionalism and integrity. Ambassador Rice repeated the word 'integrity' several times. Clearly, however, the demarcation between diplomacy and espionage was being breached, and the result was succinctly described by Ronald Neumann, former US Ambassador to Afghanistan, Algeria and Bahrain: "My concern would be, first of all, whether the person could do this responsibly without getting us into trouble, and secondly, how much effort a person put into this at the expense of his or her other duties."

Carla Stea covers the UN for RCFP. She has written for *Covert Action*, and *War and Peace Digest*, and numerous other publications in the USA, also in *Komsomolskaya Pravda* in the Soviet Union, and in *Rabochaya Tribuna* and *Sovetskaya Rossia*, in Russia, as well as in publications in England and Latin America. Stea also holds press accreditation at the US Department of State.

12 Simple Things You Can Do to Prepare for the Coming Financial Apocalypse

PREPARE from p. 1

Well, the truth is that we all need to start becoming less dependent on "the system." If the economy does completely fall apart at some point, your employer is probably not going to take care of you. Neither is the federal government – just look at what happened in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. In the end, you are going to have to take care of yourself and your family.

Now is the time to prepare. So are you ready?

If you wait until things totally fall apart it will be far too late.

The following are 12 simple things that you can start doing right now to prepare for the coming financial apocalypse....

#1 Become Less Dependent On Your Job

Many people define a job as the state of being "just over broke". The truth is that it is incredibly difficult to become financially independent working for someone else. Now, the truth is that most Americans would not be able to survive without a job, but what would you do if someday you suddenly lost your job during a financial apocalypse? Now is the time to start investigating alternate sources of income and different ways to build wealth. Today it takes the average unemployed American over 33 weeks to find a job. You may not always be able to count on being able to get a good job, and the economy is only going to get worse over the long-term. All of us should be operating under the assumption that any job we now have will someday be taken away.



#2 Get Out Of Debt

Some people disagree with this, but unless society degenerates into complete chaos or we experience Weimar Republic-type hyperinflation, the truth is that your debts are going to continue to hang over you wherever you go. Getting out of debt can be completely and totally liberating. It will give you much more freedom and will make you far less dependent on your job. In fact, it looks like a lot of Americans are already moving in this direction. It was recently announced that eight million Americans have stopped using their credit cards over the past year. Why not join them? When things start really falling apart and it is incredibly difficult for anyone to get a job, the last thing you want is a huge amount of debt hanging over your head.



#3 Reduce Expenses

For decades, most Americans have been living far beyond their means. In the future, times are going to be really tough and we are all going to have to learn to tighten our belts. Do you and your family waste money right now? If you can eliminate that, you can live on a smaller income and you will have more money to invest in the things that are really going to matter.



#4 Purchase Land

Real estate is still priced too high in most areas of the United States, but the truth is that you don't want to wait forever to get your hands on a piece of land. If a "financial apocalypse" does happen, you don't want to be stuck in a big city with no place to go. You always want to have somewhere that you can "bug out" to. The U.S. real estate market is continuing to struggle right now, so hopefully prices will come down even more and there will be some really great deals available over the next couple of years.



#5 Learn To Grow Food

Another reason why you want to purchase some land is so that you will have somewhere to grow food if you need to. 100 years ago almost all Americans knew how to grow their own food, and most of them also knew how to raise farm animals. Today, relatively few Americans have those skills. A great way to begin is by starting your own "survival garden". If you are not already doing this, then why not start this upcoming year?



#6 Find a Reliable Source of Water

Water is going to become a very, very valuable resource in the years to come. It will be absolutely key for you and your family to have a dependable source of clean drinking water. If you do not have water you will not be able to survive for long. In the event of an economic meltdown, basic services such as power and water may not be there. So be certain that you and your family have an alternate source of water to depend upon.

#7 Explore Alternative Energy Sources



Don't think that if a financial apocalypse happens that you will always be able to depend on the power company. The truth is that there is a good reason why so many Americans have been trying to go "off the grid". Without power, life gets really difficult very quickly. But if you are generating your own power, then you won't have to worry about that.

#8 Store Supplies

In the event of a major disaster or emergency, store shelves are going to empty really fast. If supplies are disrupted on a permanent basis, you may have to get by on what you already have in your home. So do you and your family have enough food, warm clothes, personal hygiene products and medical supplies to last for an extended period of time? Hopefully your local stores will always be able to supply what you need, but we need to prepare as if that is not guaranteed.

#9 Protect Your Assets With Gold And Silver

The way that the Federal Reserve is abusing the U.S. dollar, it is only a matter of time before rampant inflation sets in. Even now, the U.S. dollar has already been seriously declining and precious metals like gold and silver have been shooting into the stratosphere. In the future, your paper money may not buy much for you at all, but if you have some gold or silver coins you can always exchange them for the things that you are going to need.

#10 Learn Self-Defense

Did you see what happened at stores from coast to coast this past 'Black Friday'? Americans were literally trampling one another just to get their hands on some cheap foreign-made plastic crap. So what do you think is going to happen once these people have been without food for two or three days? Now is the time to think about how you will defend your home and your family from crazed looters. It is not a fun thing to think about, but unfortunately we are heading for times that will not always be pretty.



#11 Keep Yourself Fit

As Americans, we live such "cushy" lives. But when times get hard, things will not be so cushy. In fact, the years ahead are likely to demand quite a bit of physical activity. So keep yourself in good physical condition right now. In the future you will be very glad that you did.

#12 Make Friends

It is really, really hard to "survive" by yourself. Those who will thrive the most in the future are those who will have a community that they can depend on. Americans are always at their best when they work together. Don't be afraid to reach out to your family and friends. In the times ahead the world will be a very cold place, and a little love and compassion will go a long way.



Reprinted from End of the American Dream.

Justice, the Guardian of Liberty Mumia Abu Jamal: the Fate of an Innocent Man

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were important because of the jury instructions. If the jury in the Abu Jamal trial was not properly informed, then he should not have received the death penalty. Instead he would have been given a life sentence. In the Mills case it was pointed out that unless the jury is unanimous on the death penalty the jury cannot give the death penalty.

Judge Cowen pointed out to Mr. Byrnes that the jurors must vote separately on mitigating and aggravating circumstances. He appeared to question the DA's position on the original finding of death in the penalty phase of Abu Jamal's trial.

Next to speak before the panel was defense attorney Judith Ritter. Ms. Ritter raised many issues pertaining to the original jury instructions during

Abu Jamal's penalty phase in the 1982 trial. Judge Cowen at one point said to Mr. Byrnes, "You have not answered Ms. Ritter's points here."

The hearing took fifty-five minutes. I am optimistic about a ruling for a life sentence. The defendant has been in prison for 29 years. Unfortunately the give and take between the judges revolved around semantics. I was very frustrated sitting in the hearing waiting for actual facts pertaining to the case against Mumia. The questions are really about his guilt or innocence.

For those who are not familiar with this case it is important to note that Abu Jamal has maintained his innocence. He and his defense have demanded repeatedly for a new trial. The original trial was quite frankly a farce. His constitutional rights were repeatedly violated. Judge Sabo, the

original trial judge, had been a lifelong member of the Fraternal Order of Police. He was notorious for having put 32 people on death row, almost all were African-American men. This was more than any other judge in the United States.

Most people do not realize that the appeals process does not look at the question of guilt or innocence. The criminal justice system has many fallacies. This unjust process affects many others who sit on death row. Only in a new trial would a person be allowed to enter facts pertaining to their innocence that were not presented in the first trial.

After the hearing those in the courtroom filed outside. A press conference ensued on the sidewalk. Judith Ritter was surrounded by the press. She answered a few questions. I

asked her if this hearing would lead to a new trial. Ms. Ritter replied: "Today is only about the penalty phase. I am focused on that at this time." She was then thanked and there was some applause for her efforts. I then ran into Mitchell Cohen from New York; he said, "Mumia is innocent! Stop the racist frame-up!" A Philadelphia resident, Kentu said: "There is no justice in Philadelphia! What liberty? Liberty for whom?"

Among nine supporters from France, Patrick Kamenka said: "It is difficult to understand the judge's opinion in regards to the Sepzak case. It could be positive in regards to Mumia." The Sepzak case involved a neo-Nazi that admitted to two murders. A federal judge overturned the death penalty on appeal. I also interviewed Ramona Africa and asked her what she thought about the hearing. "This hearing is nothing but a trick, because finally the only decision they will make is death or life. This has nothing to do with the death of Officer Faulkner."

In 1982, racism and bigotry were very much alive in Philadelphia. At least fifteen of the police officers in this case have now been found to have tampered with evidence in other cases. This is called police misconduct.

Twenty-nine years is way too long. A new trial is in order. Let justice be served. Free Mumia!

Joe Brown is a peace activist and anti-death penalty activist. A co-founder of the Shepherd's Table Soup Kitchen and the Elektrik Maid Community Living Room.

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A FIERCELY INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Fabricating Terror

By PAUL CRAIG ROBERTS

Why does the FBI orchestrate fake terror plots?

The latest one snared Osman Mohamad, a Somali-American teenager in Portland, Oregon. The Associated Press report by William Mall and Nedra Pickler (11-27-10) is headlined in Yahoo News: "Somali-born teen plotted car-bombing in Oregon."

This is a misleading headline as the report makes it clear that it was a plot orchestrated by federal agents. Two sentences into the news report, we have this: "The bomb was an elaborate fake supplied by the [FBI] agents, and the public was never in danger, authorities said."

The teenager was supplied with a fake bomb and a fake detonator.

Three sentences later, the reporters contradict the quoted authorities with a quote from Arthur Balizan, special agent in charge of the FBI in Oregon: "The threat was very real."

The reporters then contradict Balizan: "White House spokesman Nick Shapiro said Saturday that President Barack Obama was aware of the FBI operation before Friday's arrest. Shapiro said Obama was assured that the FBI was in full control of the operation and that the public was not in danger."

Then Shapiro contradicts himself by declaring: "The events of the past 24 hours underscore the necessity of remaining vigilant against terrorism here and abroad."

The story arrives at its Kafka highpoint when President Obama thanks the FBI for its diligence in saving us from the fake plot the FBI had fabricated.

After vacillating between whether they are reporting a real plot or an orchestrated one, the reporters finally come down on the side of orchestration. Documents released by US Attorney Dwight Holton "show the sting operation began in June." Obviously, the targeted Portland teenager was not hot to trot. The FBI had to work on him for six months. The reporters compare "the Portland sting" to the recent arrest in Virginia of Farouq Ahmed who was ensnared in a "bombing plot that was a ruse conducted over the past six months by federal officials."

Think about this. The FBI did a year's work in order to convince two people to participate in fake plots.

If you are not too bright and some tough looking guys accost you and tell you that they are al Qaeda and expect your help in a terrorist operation, you might be afraid to say no, or you might be thrilled to be part of a blowback against an American population that is indifferent to their government's slaughter of people of your ethnicity in your country of origin. Whichever way it falls, it is unlikely the ensnared persons would ever have done anything beyond talk had the FBI not organized them into action. In other cases, the FBI entices people with money to participate in its fake plots.

Since 9/11, the only domestic "terrorist plot" that I recall that was not obviously organized by the FBI is the "Times Square plot" to which Faisal Shahzad pleaded guilty to trying to set off a car bomb in Manhattan. This plot, too, is suspicious. One would think that a real terrorist would have a real bomb, not a smoke bomb.

In his May 19, 2009 article (reprinted Nov. 27, 2010), Joe Quinn, of online site, Sott.net, collects some of the fake plots, some of which were validated by torture confessions and others by ignorant and fearful juries. The US government comes up with a plot, an accused, and tortures him until he confesses, or the government fabricates a case and takes it to jurors who know that they cannot face their neighbors if they let off a media-declared "terrorist."

Perhaps the most obvious of these cases is "the Miami seven," a hapless group of Christian-Zionist-Muslims that called themselves the "Sea of David" and were quietly living in a Florida warehouse awaiting biblical end times. Along came the FBI, posing as al Qaeda, and offered them \$50,000 and an al Qaeda swearing-in ceremony.

The FBI told them that they needed to blow up the Sears Tower in Chicago and various government buildings. An honest reporter at Knight Ridder revealed: "The Justice (sic) Department unveiled the arrests with an orchestrated series of news conferences in two cities, but the severity of the charges compared with the seemingly amateurish nature of the group raised concerns among civil libertarians," who noted that the group had "no weapons, no explosives."

The Justice (sic) Department and tamed media made a big show out of the "militaristic boots" worn by the ill fated "plotters," but the FBI had bought the boots for them.

The biggest piece of evidence against the duped

group was that they had taken photos of "targets" in Florida, but the US government had equipped them with cameras.

The US government even rented cars for its dupes to drive to take the pictures.

It turns out that the group only wanted the \$50,000, but an American jury convicted them anyhow.

When the US government has to go to such lengths to create "terrorists" out of hapless people, an undeclared agenda is being served. What could this agenda be?

The answer is many agendas. One agenda is to justify wars of aggression that are war crimes under the Nuremberg standard created by the US government itself. One way to avoid war crimes charges is to create acts of terrorism that justify the naked aggressions against "terrorist countries."

Another agenda is to create a police state. A police state can control people who object to their impoverishment for the benefit of the super rich much more easily than can a democracy endowed with constitutional civil liberties.

Another agenda is to get rich. Terror plots, whether real or orchestrated, have created a market for security. Dual US-Israeli citizen Michael Chertoff, former head of US Homeland Security, is the lobbyist who represents Rapiscan, the company that manufactures the full body porno-scanners that, following the "underwear bomber" event, are now filling up US airports. Homeland Security has announced that they are going to purchase the porno-scanners for trains, buses, subways, court houses, and sports events. How can shopping malls and roads escape? Recently on Interstate 20 west of Atlanta, trucks had to drive through a similar device. Everyone has forgotten that the underwear bomber lacked required documents and was escorted aboard the airliner by an official.

The "war on terror" provides an opportunity for a few well-connected people to become very rich. If they leave Americans with a third world police state, they will be living it up in Gstaad.

This despite the fact that everyone on the planet knows that it is not lactating mothers, children, elderly people in walkers and wheelchairs, members of Congress, members of the military, nuns, and so on, who are members of al Qaeda plotting to bring aboard a bomb in their underwear, their shoes, their shampoo and face creams.

Indeed, bombs aboard airliners are a rare event. What is it really all about? Could it be that the US government needs terrorist events in order to completely destroy the US Constitution? On November 24, National Public Radio broadcast a report by Dina Temple-Raston: "Administration officials are looking at the possibility of codifying detention without trial and are awaiting legislation that is supposed to come out of Congress early next year." Of course, the legislation will not come out of Congress. It will be written by Homeland Security and the Justice (sic) Department. The impotent Congress will merely rubber-stamp it.

The obliteration of *habeas corpus*, the most necessary and important protection of liberty ever institutionalized in law and governing constitution, has become necessary for the US government, because a jury might acquit an alleged or mock "terrorist" or framed person whom the US government has declared prior to the trial will be held forever in indefinite detention even if acquitted in a US court of law. The attorney general of the United States has declared that any "terrorist" that he puts on trial who is acquitted by a jury will remain in detention regardless of the verdict. Such an event would reveal the total lawlessness of American "justice."

The United States of America, "the city upon the hill," "the light unto the world," has become Nazi Germany. It was the practice of the Gestapo to ignore court verdicts and to execute or hold indefinitely the cleared defendant in the camps. The Obama regime is in the process of completing Dick Cheney's dream by legislating the legality of indefinite detention. American law has collapsed to the dungeons of the Dark Ages.

This Nazi Gestapo policy is now the declared policy of the US Department of Justice (sic).

Anyone who thinks the United States is a free society where people have liberty, "freedom and democracy" is uninformed.

Paul Craig Roberts, former Assistant Secretary of the US Treasury and former associate editor of the Wall Street Journal, has been reporting shocking cases of prosecutorial abuse for two decades. His book The Tyranny of Good Intentions documents how Americans lost the protection of law.

Building What?

Dear Friends,

We are very pleased and excited to announce the launch of a new fundraising drive for the next round of BuildingWhat? TV ads. Before going into the details of Round 2, here is a brief recap of what has happened to bring us to this point:

Thanks to the generosity of thousands of supporters across the globe, the BuildingWhat? TV ad campaign was able to raise \$100,000 and reach a remarkable 1 million viewers in the New York Metropolitan Area during the month of November, most of them seeing footage of World Trade Center Building 7's destruction for the first time ever.

The campaign also received the media attention it deserved in the form of an appearance on FOX News' "Geraldo At Large" in front of a national audience of 1 million more viewers. After that momentous breakthrough, Geraldo and FOX News' Andrew Napolitano affirmed their skepticism of the official explanation for Building 7's destruction, resulting in a flurry of responses from other media outlets including CNN, MSNBC and the Huffington Post.

Now is the time for us to dig deep and take the BuildingWhat? campaign to the next level.

BuildingWhat? Round 2

This time around, we are setting a fundraising goal of \$200,000 that we hope to reach by January 1, 2011. The TV ad campaign for Round 2, set to launch in New York City in mid to late January, will be much larger than Round 1, and it will go hand-in-hand with an online viral campaign, a print ad campaign, and a PR effort coordinated by top professionals in the industry who are capable of landing BuildingWhat? more priceless media coverage.

We ask you to support BuildingWhat? Round 2 with whatever amount is manageable for you. If you donated to Round 1, we are counting on you to match your previous donation. If you were very pleased with the results from Round 1 – and you are able – we invite you to double your previous donation. Do not forget that every dollar you donate is fully tax-deductible when you file your taxes after December 31.

Thank you for your tremendous support.

Sincerely,

The BuildingWhat? Team
BuildingWhat.org



How Jesus's Message Was Hijacked

By THE REV. HOWARD BESS

The great religious divide in the world today is not a divide between Christianity and other religions, but rather within Christendom.

The arguments are about very basic questions: What is the nature of God? Is God loving? Or is He vengeful? Are neighbors to be loved or killed? Both sides of the arguments can be found in the writings that are commonly called the *Holy Bible*.

In discussions about the differing opinions in the *Bible*, one side is commonly called the "great tradition" and the other side is called the "small or lesser tradition." The two sides are divided by the power interests that the arguments have represented.

The so-called great tradition was developed and enforced by the ruling classes. In Biblical times, their religious interpretations were found almost exclusively in larger cities where rulers, the rulers' retainers, priests and religious leaders lived.

Under the great tradition, there was an emphasis on rules, especially for worship practices. Making proper sacrifices, observing holy days, keeping purity rituals, and bringing proper gifts were mandatory for a person to be right with God.

The small tradition was found in rural areas away from the seats of power. In the *Old Testament* writings, the prophets were typically a part of the small tradition.

Over and over again, the prophets critiqued the religious practices of kings and priests. The champions of the small tradition called for justice and often scathingly criticized the great tradition and its powerful enforcers.

The advocates of the small tradition never sought power themselves; instead they expressed concern for the poor, the widow, the orphan, and the foreigner.

Jesus can best be understood as a practitioner of the small tradition. His faith practice was expressed simply: Love God. Love your neighbor. Do justice. His idea of greatness had nothing to do with wealth or power.

According to Jesus, true greatness is achieved by being a servant of a loving God. Serving God is expressed by being a servant of all.

Jesus's Roots

Jesus was raised in a very small village in northern Palestine, a seed-bed for the small tradition. Apparently, Jesus participated in the synagogue gatherings in Nazareth at which Torah (the law or message of God) was vigorously debated.

He emerged from village life in Nazareth as a rabbi without formal training but empowered by his reputation as a skilled teacher and debater of the truth of his faith. The base of his followers also was recruited in the small towns of northern Palestine.

There were two large cities within a few miles of Nazareth, Sepphoris and Tiberias. They were centers of wealth and power, dominated by the era's great tradition. They would have been very dangerous places for Jesus to speak, and he apparently never visited them.

Most scholars believe Jesus visited Jerusalem (70 miles to the south) only once – and when he spoke out, he was killed.

The corrupting of Jesus's message began soon after his death. His greatness became tied to King David, the most powerful king in the history of Israel. This conquering

king became the image of the ideal Jesus, making Jesus a ruler of all rather than servant of all.

It is startling to realize how fast Jesus, the practitioner of the small tradition, was transformed into Jesus, head of the great tradition. Over the ensuing centuries, the vast majority of Christian church leaders has unwittingly embraced this switch, buying into the great tradition and selling out the small tradition.

I suspect the appeal of power is very attractive to most everyone. Many lose their souls in pursuit of wealth and status. Apparently there was a struggle even among the disciples of Jesus for positions of power. Jesus steered his followers in a different direction, but the selfish impulses never left.

I confess I do not have a clear vision of the Christian church of the future. What is called "the emerging church" holds great promise because of its focus on Jesus and his actual teachings, rather than the trappings of religious ceremony and political influence that have come to surround and obscure his message.

The ultimate shape of the emerging church is still unknown. Emergents are apparently found in most every congregation – and they are restless.

If they stay rather than leave, they may become the salt, leaven and light that brings a new day for the small tradition. If they listen carefully to Jesus, they will become servants rather than rulers.

The Rev. Howard Bess is a retired American Baptist minister, who lives in Palmer, Alaska. His e-mail address is hdbss@mtaonline.net.

Lying Is Not Patriotic

By RON PAUL

WikiLeaks' release of classified information has generated a lot of attention world-wide in the past few weeks.

The hysterical reaction makes one wonder if this is not an example of killing the messenger for the bad news.

Despite what is claimed, information so far released, though classified, has caused no known harm to any individual, but it has caused plenty of embarrassment to our government. Losing a grip on our empire is not welcomed by the neo-conservatives in charge.

There is now more information confirming that Saudi Arabia is a principle supporter and financier of Al Qaeda and this should set off alarm bells since we guarantee its Sharia-run government.

This emphasizes even more the fact that no Al Qaeda existed in Iraq before 9/11, and yet we went to war against Iraq based on the lie that it did.

It has been charged, by self-proclaimed experts, that Julian Assange, the internet publisher of this information, has committed a heinous crime deserving prosecution for treason and execution or even assassination.

But should we not at least ask how the U.S. government can charge an Australian citizen with treason for publishing U.S. secret information, that he did not steal?

And if WikiLeaks is to be prosecuted for publishing classified documents, why shouldn't the Washington Post, New York Times, and others that have also published these documents be prosecuted? Actually, some in Congress are threatening this as well.

The New York Times, as a result of a Supreme Court ruling, was not found guilty in 1971 for the publication of the Pentagon Papers. Daniel Ellsberg never served a day in prison for his role in obtaining these secret documents.

The Pentagon Papers were also inserted into the Congressional Record by Senator Mike Gravel with no charges being made of breaking any National Security laws.

Yet the release of this classified information was considered illegal by many, and those who lied us into the Vietnam War and argued for its prolongation were outraged. But the truth gained from the Pentagon Papers revealed that lies were told about the Gulf of Tonkin attack which perpetuated a sad and tragic episode in our history.

Just as with the Vietnam War, the Iraq War was based on lies. We were never threatened by Weapons of Mass Destruction or Al Qaeda in Iraq, though the attack on Iraq was based on this false information.

Any information that challenges the official propaganda for the war in the Middle East is unwelcome by the administration and supporters of these secret documents.

See RON PAUL p. 5

Interview with Julian Assange

By HANS LYSGLIMT

Hans Lysglimt: What is WikiLeaks?

Julian Assange: WikiLeaks is an international public service. It helps people who have suppressed information get it out to the public where it can do some good.

Then once that important information is public, we keep it public. That is also a quite difficult thing because of legal attacks and illegal attacks that are made by governments and corporations when you try to get something out that may achieve reform.

HL: The threats to WikiLeaks, and the people in WikiLeaks, they are real?

JA: Yes, they are real. There have been more than 100 attempts, legal attempts, to attack us. Some of them quite serious, all of which we have overcome succeeded successfully with help from our friends.

We publish the material which is in the greatest need of a free press. Material which other people can not publish.

We are a sort of publisher of last resort for journalists as well as for society.

And, that is something new. We have

never really seen a free press before that has managed to stay up for more than a small period.

HL: The ideology behind WikiLeaks is to enable transparency, or is there more of a thought behind it than that?

JA: There is. Our goal is justice. Our goal is to have a just civilization. That is sort of a personal motivating goal. And the message is transparency.

It is important not to confuse the message with the goal. Nonetheless we believe that it is an excellent message. Gaining justice with transparency. It is a good way of doing that, it is also a good way of not making too many mistakes.

We have a trans-political ideology; it is not right, it is not left, it is about understanding. Before you can give any advice, any program about how to deal with the world, how to put the civil into civilization. How to gain influence on people. Before you can have that program, first you have to understand what is actually going on. How does the world actually work. How do human civilisation and institutions actually work. What are

they doing? Because, any remedy must be based on what is actually happening in practice. Because, if it is not based on what is actually happening it is based on some kind of fantasy. And therefore any program or recommendation, any political ideology that comes out of that misunderstanding will itself be a misunderstanding.

So, we say, to some degree all political ideologies are currently bankrupt. Because they do not have the raw ingredient they need to address the world. The raw ingredient to understand what is actually happening

HL: Are you then an anarchic sort of organization? Do you subscribe to the modern democratic progressive nation state?

JA: Our belief is more fundamental. It does not matter what your ideology is. It can not go anywhere good unless you know what is actually going on. If you are trying to sail to a destination and you do not have a map you can not get there. You will be adrift in the political landscape. The drifting hypocrite. The first thing for any

See ASSANGE p. 4

WikiLeaks: Messenger Revealing Uncomfortable Truths

Truth in Chains: Assange Arrest a Chilling Sign of Power's "New Realities"

By CHRIS FLOYD

Well, they got him at last. WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange, the target of several of the world's most powerful governments, turned himself into British authorities and is now at the mercy of state authorities who have already shown their wolfish – and lawless – desire to destroy him and his organization.

It has been, by any standard, an extraordinary campaign of vilification and persecution, wholly comparable to the kind of treatment doled out to dissidents in China or Burma. Lest we forget, WikiLeaks is a journalistic outlet – just like *The New York Times*, *The Guardian* and *Der Spiegel*, all of whom are even now publishing the very same material – leaked classified documents – available on WikiLeaks. The website is also a journalistic outlet just like CNN, ABC, CBS, Fox and other mainstream media venues, where we have seen an endless parade of officials – and journalists! – calling for Assange to be prosecuted or killed outright. Every argument being made for shutting down WikiLeaks can – and doubtless will – be used against any journalistic enterprise that publishes material that powerful people do not like.

And the leading role in this persecution of truth-telling is being played by the administration of the great progressive agent of hope and change, the self-proclaimed heir of Martin Luther King and Mahatma Gandhi, the winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, Barack Obama. His attorney general, Eric Holder, is now making fierce noises about the “steps” he has already taken to bring down WikiLeaks and criminalize the leaking of embarrassing information. And listen to the ferocious reaction of that liberal lioness, Sen. Dianne Feinstein, who took to the pages of Rupert Murdoch's *Wall Street Journal* to call for Assange to be put in prison – for 2,500,000 years:

When WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange released his latest document trove – more than 250,000 secret State Department cables – he intentionally harmed the U.S. government. The release of these documents damages our national interests and puts innocent lives at risk. He should be vigorously prosecuted for espionage.

The law Mr. Assange continues to violate is the Espionage Act of 1917. That law makes it a felony for an unauthorized person to possess or transmit “information relating to the national defense which information the possessor has reason to believe could be used to the injury of the United States or to the advantage of any foreign nation.” ... Importantly, the

courts have held that “information relating to the national defense” applies to both classified and unclassified material. Each violation is punishable by up to 10 years in prison.

So there you have it. Ten years for each offense; 250,000 separate offenses; thus a prison term of 2.5 million years. Naturally, tomorrow the same newspaper will denounce Feinstein for being such a nabby-pabby terrorist-coddling pinko: “Why didn't she call for Assange to be torn from limb to limb by wild dogs, as any right-thinking red-blooded American would do!”

Meanwhile, corporate America and its international allies continue to do their bit. Joining PayPal and Amazon, who had already cut off their services to WikiLeaks, most of the remaining venues through which the internet journal is funded are also freezing out the organization, including MasterCard, Visa, and a Swiss bank that WikiLeaks used to process donations. All of these organizations are obviously responding to government pressure.

As I noted earlier this week, what is perhaps most remarkable is that this joint action by the world elite to shut down WikiLeaks – which has been operating for four years – comes after the release of diplomatic cables, not in response to earlier leaks which provided detailed evidence of crimes and atrocities committed by the perpetrators and continuers of Washington's Terror War. I suppose this is because the diplomatic cables have upset the smooth running of the corrupt and cynical backroom operations that actually govern our world, behind the ludicrous lies and self-righteous posturing that our great and good lay on for the public. They didn't mind being unmasked as accomplices in mass murder and fomenters of suffering and hatred; in fact, they were rather proud of it. And they certainly knew that their fellow corruptocrats in foreign governments – not to mention the perpetually stunned and supine American people – wouldn't give a toss about a bunch of worthless peons in Iraq and Afghanistan getting killed. But the diplomatic cables have caused an embarrassing stink among the closed little clique of the movers and shakers. And that is a crime deserving vast eons in stir – or death.

But before Assange was taken into custody, he fired off one last message to the world, in *The Australian*, a newspaper in his native land. With supreme irony, he tied WikiLeaks' operation to the roots of the Murdoch media empire, which began by speaking truth to murderous and wasteful power – and now, of course, is one of the most powerful and assiduous instruments of murderous and wasteful power itself. Assange writes:

In 1958 a young Rupert

Murdoch, then owner and editor of Adelaide's *The News*, wrote: “In the race between secrecy and truth, it seems inevitable that truth will always win.” His observation perhaps reflected his father Keith Murdoch's expose that Australian troops were being needlessly sacrificed by incompetent British commanders on the shores of Gallipoli. The British tried to shut him up but Keith Murdoch would not be silenced and his efforts led to the termination of the disastrous Gallipoli campaign (1915-16).

Nearly a century later, WikiLeaks is also fearlessly publishing facts that need to be made public. ... Democratic societies need a strong media and WikiLeaks is part of that media. The media helps keep government honest. WikiLeaks has revealed some hard truths about the Iraq and Afghan wars, and broken stories about corporate corruption.

... WikiLeaks is not the only publisher of the US embassy cables. Other media outlets, including Britain's *The Guardian*, *The New York Times*, *El Pais* in Spain and *Der Spiegel* in Germany have published the same redacted cables.

Yet it is WikiLeaks, as the coordinator of these other groups, that has copped the most vicious attacks and accusations from the US government and its acolytes. I have been accused of treason, even though I am an Australian, not a US citizen. There have been dozens of serious calls in the US for me to be “taken out” by US Special Forces. Sarah Palin says I should be “hunted down like Osama bin Laden,” a Republican bill sits before the US Senate seeking to have me declared a “transnational threat” and disposed of accordingly. An adviser to the Canadian Prime Minister's office has called on national television for me to be assassinated. An American blogger has called for my 20-year-old son, here in Australia, to be kidnapped and harmed for no other reason than to get at me.

These, of course, are the defenders of Western Civilization, that pinnacle of human progress, that bulwark against savagery like murder and torture, that bastion of temperance and reason. But in his piece, Assange once more gives the lie to the ferocious canards of Feinstein, Holder, Obama and Palin about the “great harm” the leaks have done:

WikiLeaks has a four-year publishing history. During that time we have changed whole governments, but not a single person, as far as anyone is aware, has been harmed. But the US, with Australian government connivance, has killed thousands in the past few months alone.

US Secretary of Defence Robert Gates admitted in a letter to the US congress that no sensitive intelligence sources or methods had been compromised by the Afghan war logs disclosure. The Pentagon stated there was no evidence the WikiLeaks reports had led to anyone being harmed in Afghanistan. NATO in Kabul told CNN it couldn't find a single person who needed protecting. The Australian Department of Defence said the same. No Australian troops or sources have been hurt by anything we have published.

Yes, how many thousands of people, how many tens of thousands, have been killed by our bipartisan Terror Warriors in the four years of WikiLeaks' existence? How many millions have been “harmed” not only by the direct operations of the Terror War, but by the ever-widening, ever-deepening violence, hatred and turmoil it is spreading throughout the world? (Not to mention the accelerating collapse of American society, which has been financially, politically and morally bankrupted by the acceptance of aggressive war, torture, elite rapine and authoritarian rule.)

But none of the perpetrators of these acts, past or present, are in jail, or have even been prosecuted or investigated, or inconvenienced in any way. Yet, Assange is in a British prison tonight – and it is certainly not for the “sexual misconduct” charges that were filed against him in August, which then became the basis of an unprecedented worldwide arrest order of the type ordinarily reserved for war criminals – for those, in fact, accused of aggressive war, torture, elite rapine and authoritarian rule. The judge refused to grant bail, saying that Assange had “access to financial means” and could flee the country – perhaps a bitter joke on m'lord's part, aimed at a man whose means of financial support are being systematically shut down by the most powerful government and corporate forces in the world. Journalist John Pilger and filmmaker Ken Loach were among those who appeared in court ready to stand surety for Assange, but to no avail.

WikiLeaks will doubtless try to struggle on. And Assange says he has given the entire diplomatic trove to 100,000 people. By dribs and drabs, shards of truth will get out. But the world's journalists – and those persons of conscience working in the world's governments – have been given a hard, harsh, unmistakable lesson in the new realities of our degraded time. Tell a truth that discomforts power, that challenges its domination over our lives, our discourse, our very thoughts, and you will be destroyed. No institution, public or private, will stand with you; the most powerful entities, public and private, will be arrayed against you, backed up by overwhelming violent force. This is where we are now. This is what we are now.



Graphic by Jeff Long

Interview with Julian Assange

ASSANGE from p. 3

political ideology is to understand what is actually going on. And then maybe you have a hope of getting there, of charting the course. But you got to have the map first. We want to draw the map.

HL: In a sense you are manifesting the possibility of the Internet in its truest form.

JA: We have drawn a line in the sand.

JA: And, no other group yet has drawn that line. And we have done it consistently.

When we publish something we will never un-publish it.

We have seen that by being the free press vanguard, by drawing this line in the sand, by placing ourselves and our defences there we are opening up the spaces for everyone else to hide. We are now the status quo in that we have been publishing for 3½ years consistently and managed to keep ourselves up. Although we are certainly the free press vanguard, we are a vanguard that has been able to keep itself in our position. So everyone who publishes less aggressively, is normal. We have created that space behind us, and we are changing the view about what is normal and correct publishing.

HL: What are the threats to WikiLeaks?

JA: The threat at the moment, is death by a thousands cuts.

It is expensive running all of this, expenses protecting ourselves against legal attacks, that we however manage to do successfully. But there is a cost. Also, as an organization grows there are scaling problems; in this we are a victim of our own success.

HL: What is your view of the politician? Is he a prisoner of his circumstances?

JA: Obama is a good example. Obama has two things that he considers as values, that he believes are virtues. Number one is compromise. Not as a means but as an end, that is an inherent virtue to balance the political forces around. And there is some argument for this, that this is what a politician should be doing. Not taking sides, just balancing the power. Remember what is politics, in its essence, about? It is about allowing transfers of power without bloodshed. This is where it all comes from. It is where the first parliament came from. When you sort this out in Parliament you do not have to go to war with each other. So when you see bailing in Parliament you should also understand its success, which is, its basic success is stopping people killing each other when one groups starts to get more powerful.

Obama believes compromise is a virtue, an end goal.

And then he is concerned with some inner quality issues within the United States.

To me it seems those are the only two things he considers end goals. The first one I think is a mistake, it is making the method the goal. Just like WikiLeaks, our goal is justice, our method is transparency. But we do not confuse the goal and the method. To Obama, the goal is compromise, I would rather say his goal should be justice and his method should be compromise.

But even if you do not have this idea that compromise is a virtue, you are limited in your ability to act as a politician by the forces that are around you. So we, everyone, an industry, an individual, shape what a politician can do by shaping the environment that is around them. And if you have a purely compromising politician, like Obama, then they are completely shaped by the forces that are around them. Push a little bit more here, and you get a different response.

Who is the actual audience of the material that we release? Is it the politicians? Is it the general public? Is it actually the organization that it comes from? The sort of dissenters of that organization?

Many of these organizations, be they political parties, be they conspiratorial groups of criminals, or be they business, are only just in equilibrium with their competition. And because they are acting in a way that is often inhumane or corrupt or criminal, they have lots of opponents. So, if you cause them to collapse as an organization, to not be able to communicate with each other internally, to become paranoid and fall in on themselves. Then they are no longer competitive as an organization compared to all those organizations that are more open. So the power of these organizations starts to shrink. And the market gap is then taken up by the more open organization that does not have the problem of secrecy.

So that is a really nice outcome. **HL:** Thank you for this interview Julian.

JA: You are welcome.

Original video and audio files of this interview are available online.

Hans J. Lynglimt is the publisher of the *Famann Magazine* (publishing a free email newsletter in English and Norwegian) from Oslo, Norway. Published since 1891, the classical magazine regularly featured contemporary writings by Ludwig von Mises through the early and mid 20th century. Copyright © 2010 by LewRockwell.com. Permission to reprint in whole or in part is gladly granted, provided full credit is given.

Leaked Cables Point to Burmese Nuke Program

By WAYNE MADSEN / WAYNEMADSENREPORT

While the United States has been pressing Iran on its nuclear program, under pressure from the Israel Lobby, Burma, according to leaked State Department cables and previous WMR reports, has been acquiring its own nuclear capability, likely with the assistance of North Korea.

On December 18, 2009, WMR reported: “WMR's Asian intelligence sources report that Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Kurt Campbell and the U.S. embassy in Bangkok is pushing the weak Thai government of Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva to provide more assistance for Burmese refugees along the Thai-Burmese border and permit more ‘black ops’ in the Thai military-run districts along the border. The targets for U.S. Special Operations forces are five uranium mines inside Burma, including two in the north of Burma near the Thai border. U.S. special operations teams want to use Kachin and Karen separatist insurgent groups in Burma to help gather intelligence on the Burmese uranium mining operations, as well as enrichment and weapons development.

There are fears that Burma's military junta is seeking to procure nuclear weapons, possibly with the assistance of North Korea. Massive tunnels have been detected being built in Burma and there are signs of increasing military cooperation, including nuclear cooperation, between Burma and North Korea. Earlier this year, details of the secret Project UF6 were leaked to the Thai press. Burma reportedly is constructing a nuclear reactor with North Korea's help, as well as plutonium

enrichment facilities. Last year, Mizoram police in India arrested two individuals who were trying to smuggle uranium from Meghalaya in India to Burma. The Burmese military junta feels increasingly besieged by neighboring China and India and has, according to a number of sources, elected to use the ‘North Korea option’ and go nuclear in order to achieve security in an area dominated by rivals, including nuclear-armed India and China.”

WikiLeaked cables from the US embassy in Rangoon confirm WMR's earlier report:

It is also noteworthy that the above September 23, 2008 cable reveals that a sample of Uranium-238 acquired from Burma was sent via diplomatic pouch to the Defense Intelligence Agency building at 3100 Clarendon Boulevard in a densely-populated urban section of Arlington County, Virginia while en route to the Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland. The revelation leaves open the possibility that shipments of other dangerous and hazardous materials via diplomatic pouches are also being sent to the Arlington address from US Defense Attaches abroad.

Uranium-238 is a hazardous by-product in particulate form of the military use of depleted uranium in munitions.

The DIA building in Clarendon is located at the Clarendon Metro stop and there is direct controlled access from the Metro station to the basement of the building. The building is surrounded by restaurants, stores, and residences.

Wayne Madsen is a Washington based investigative journalist. www.WayneMadsenReport.com.

Publishing Classified Info: A Review of Relevant Statutes

By STEVEN AFTERGOOD

“There appears to be no statute that generally proscribes the acquisition or publication of diplomatic cables,” according to a newly updated report from the Congressional Research Service (CRS), “although government employees who disclose such information without proper authority may be subject to prosecution.”

But there is a thicket of statutes, most notably including the Espionage Act, that could conceivably be used to punish unauthorized publication of classified information, such as the massive releases made available by WikiLeaks. See “Criminal Prohibitions on the Publication of Classified Defense Information”, December 6, 2010.

The updated CRS report sorts through those statutes, provides an account of recent events, presents a new discussion of extradition of foreign nationals who are implicated by US law, and summarizes new legislation introduced in the Senate (S. 4004).

The new CRS report states: “It seems likely that most of the information disclosed by WikiLeaks that was obtained from Department of Defense databases [and released earlier in the year] falls under the general rubric of information related to the national defense. The diplomatic cables obtained from State Department channels may also contain information relating to the national defense and thus be covered under the Espionage Act, but otherwise its disclosure by persons who are not government employees does not appear to be directly proscribed. It is possible that some of the government information disclosed in any of the three releases does not fall under the express protection of any statute, despite its classified status.”

Incredibly, CRS was unable to meaningfully analyze for Congress the significance of the newest releases because of a self-defeating security policy that prohibits CRS access to the leaked documents.

The CRS report concludes that any prosecution of WikiLeaks would be unprecedented and challenging, both legally and politically. “We are aware of no case in which a publisher of information obtained through unauthorized disclosure by a government employee has been prosecuted for publishing it. There may be First Amendment implications that would make such a prosecution difficult, not to mention political ramifications based on concerns about government censorship.”

For our part, we would oppose a criminal prosecution of WikiLeaks under the Espionage Act.

Steven Aftergood is a senior research analyst at the Federation of American Scientists. He directs the FAS Project on Government Secrecy, which works to reduce the scope of government secrecy and to promote reform of official secrecy practices.

- or - Could WikiLeaks be an Intelligence Agency Disinfo Operation?



WikiLeaks Being Used to Justify “Patriot Act” Legislation for Internet

By ERIC BLAIR / ACTIVIST POST

Senator Mitch McConnell called Assange a “high-tech terrorist” on NBC’s “Meet the Press” Sunday and said, “if it’s found that Assange hasn’t violated the law, then the law should be changed.”

Over the weekend, an insightful article by Zen Gardner exposed how WikiLeaks resembles an establishment creation. The article correctly pointed out that the WikiLeaks storyline was conforming nicely to the elite’s problem-reaction-solution method, with the solution of more tyranny “for our safety”.

WikiLeaks is being used to bring in the agenda on so many levels, but most importantly by setting the precedent of shutting down websites for politically “dangerous” content. Gardner writes:

After all, if information is now the enemy, we must carefully police any and every aspect of this dangerous medium — all for the safety and protection of ‘we the people.’

Oh, we’ll still have the Internet, just like you can still fly. You’ll just have to be on the ‘approved’ list, screened, stamped, zapped, mugged and molested if you want to get ‘on the net.’ No biggie. Thanks Julian — job well done.

First, let’s be clear, the 250,000 pages of cables amounted to some geopolitical Jerry Springer he-said-she-said nonsense to make countries look petty and stupid. They revealed nothing new that wasn’t already known or well suspected. The information simply stoked existing flames by airing geopolitical dirty laundry, nothing more — no secret weapons, no major arms deals, no tactical locations of troops, and no revealing the ID of secret agents, etc.

Yet, the government has used its corporate muscle to illegally limit access to WikiLeaks. It was recently revealed that Amazon, the server host for WikiLeaks, caved to political pressure to drop the website. Then, in dictatorial fashion, PayPal removed its service for donations to WikiLeaks, and now their bank account has been frozen. And all this comes a week after the shutdown of 80-plus websites for “copyright infringement,” apparently in preparation for passing the “Blacklist” bill.

Now, Gardner’s weekend speculation and McConnell’s call for action have turned into political reality. *The Hill* reports today that Senators unveiled anti-WikiLeaks legislation, which seems to be a sort-of “Patriot Act” for the Internet. It’s astonishing how fast these guys can write legislation when major events occur. And again, it’s Tyrannysaurus Rex, Joe Lieberman, leading the charge with scandal-ridden Ensign (R-Nev.) and empty-suit Scott Brown (R-Mass.). Ensign was quoted:

“WikiLeaks is not a whistleblower website and Assange is not a journalist.”

That, we agree with. Yet, therein lies the concern for establishing new Internet rules of what can and can’t be discussed, and who qualifies as a “journalist.” Look, Assange is clearly either a kinda-smart “useful idiot” or a brilliant insider to the elite. He is certainly not a genuine whistleblower. Admittedly, though, for those of us who hoped he was the real thing, the elite have used some savvy tactics to boost WikiLeaks’ rogue credibility in order to confuse us.

The White House has sent down a warning to government agencies to restrict employee access to WikiLeaks in order to make Assange and crew appear dangerously off limits. Apparently, this warning has already trickled

down to “potential” government employees as well. It was revealed that the State Department warned Columbia University students who may apply for a Federal job:

DO NOT post links to these documents nor make comments on social media sites such as Facebook or through Twitter.

In other words, the Thought Police are out in full force telling job-hungry students to not apply if they discuss current events which authorities have labeled those events “dangerous” or “harmful to America”. Soon, they’ll most likely publicly fire a mid-level employee who went over the line to prove how serious they are. After all, they desperately need to keep the slaves on the plantation.

Furthermore, an Interpol arrest warrant has been issued for Julian Assange for shady rape charges, making him an internationally “wanted” man.

Assange is playing the clever-but-likable villain part so well, too, claiming to have an encrypted “insurance” file in case anyone kills him or terminates the website. Assange is the perfect international man of mystery with the dark shades in press conferences, endless mainstream media interviews with his exotic accent and short temper, and his famous silver-blond locks. What a great show they’re putting on for us. I’m sure the movie industry is already clamoring for the rights to the script.

In the meantime, it has become the typical political game show. Only in America could Cablegate become such a divide-and-conquer partisan issue. The Right has successfully defined WikiLeaks as a dangerous terrorist organization and desire the assassination of its leader, while the Left defends the public’s right to knowledge, but disparages the damage the documents may cause, thus setting up the obvious bipartisan compromise: tighter control and surveillance of the Internet.

It will go down like this: the Right’s extreme calls for Assange’s execution will give the establishment the publicly defensible compromise of shutting down their website by pressuring their service providers, etc. And the wimpy Left will compromise by letting it happen, while Assange will be allowed to remain alive and free.

It fits ever so perfectly for them to extend the definition of an “enemy combatant” to a website that publishes “anti-government” material. Enter Attorney General Eric Holder, who has authorized “significant” action into the probe of WikiLeaks. Can’t you just smell the tyranny coming to the Internet?

Ron Paul said it best in his book *Revolution: A Manifesto*: “Truth is treason in an empire of lies.” Paul reiterated this principle of transparency in a recent interview. Paul said that we need more WikiLeaks if we expect to live in a free society:

‘In a free society we’re supposed to know the truth,’ Paul insisted. ‘In a society where truth becomes treason, then we’re in big trouble.’

Given the angry calls for action and today’s developments of government proposals, not to mention the blight of Internet-restricting legislation already on the table, we will likely get the exact opposite of the free-flow of information that Paul is advocating. In fact, if history is any indicator, get ready for nothing less than the Patriot Act for the Internet!

Eric Blair blogs at Activist Post, an Independent News blog for Activists challenging errors of the establishment.

BUSTED – WikiLeaks Working for Israel

By GORDON DUFF / VETERANSTODAY

Reports have come in today, tying Wikileaks founder, Julian Assange, directly to Israeli intelligence and “Israel friendly” media outlets. We are told Assange, while at a Geneva meeting, agreed to allow Israel to select or censor all Wikileaks output.

Despite the dramatic arrest of Julian Assange for rape, a story long hyped by the media, Assange “the martyr” now appears to be Assange “the Israeli spy.” Reports from inside Wikileaks differ greatly from the image presented by the press, an Assange tied to ultra-nationalist Israeli groups, an Assange with an extremist agenda, an Assange who sees himself as a geopolitical player, willing to censor, willing to fabricate and willing to betray.

The new Assange, as recent revelations reveal, may very well be capable, with help from Israel and powerful media friends, of staging a phony arrest. The new Assange may also be absolutely guilty of real sex crimes and not a martyr at all.

The look “behind the curtain” at Wikileaks that we have been given shows us a Julian Assange capable of anything, now labeled a paid Israeli agent by multiple press sources around the world.

Neo-con Threats on Fox News “Part of the Act”

The latest pro-Israel “Neocon” to attack Assange on the very pro-Israel Fox network is Newt Gingrich.

When I saw Newt Gingrich, Neocon hardliner with a closet full of skeletons, on “Freedom Watch” with Judge Napolitano, something was terribly wrong. Gingrich was threatening Julian Assange, who had, only that day, praised Rupert Murdoch, owner of Fox News and long time patron of Gingrich.

I immediately smelled a setup.

There is a problem with all this. Both Assange and Gingrich are virtual “stepchildren” of Rupert Murdoch, his followers, his acolytes, and, despite the “bad boy” Assange persona, political twins. Assange, at heart, is everything but progressive and open. Assange, as described by those around him, is a dictator, manipulator and allied to wealth and power.

Newt Gingrich was on a mission, he and other Neocons along with Fox’s Bill O’Reilly, all pouring threats at Assange to build “his” credibility on the basis of the total lack of theirs.

Then the Shoe Drops on Assange

Today we learn that Assange is also a creature of Israel, bankrolled by spies, running a disinformation site with help from Fox News, *The New York Times* and other media giants. A confirmed news story from the “IndyPress” has Assange in bed with Israeli intelligence;

“Assange met with Israeli officials in Geneva earlier this year and struck the secret deal. The Israel government, it seems, had somehow found out or expected that the documents to be leaked contained a large number of documents about the Israeli attacks on Lebanon and Gaza in 2006 and 2008-9 respectively. These documents, which are said to have originated mainly from the Israeli embassies in Tel Aviv and Beirut, were removed and possibly destroyed by Assange, who is the only person who knows the password that can open these documents, the sources added.”

Assange and 9/11

More importantly, Wikileaks has never had a document mentioning the 9/11 investigation, the controversy over the “9/12” secret flight to Israel or the “dancing Israelis,” the 5 Mossad agents arrested on the George Washington bridge on 9/11 in a van with 2,000 pounds of explosives. This group, admittedly “documenting” the 9/11 attack for the Israeli government was kept in custody for 10 months and only released after diplomatic wrangling and a major lobbying effort.

Hundreds of cables were generated by this issue and thousands, perhaps tens of thousands, tied to 9/11. All magically disappeared at the hands of Julian Assange whose public statements on 9/11 now make him suspect.

The Wikileaks Dictatorship

Inside the Wikileaks organization, Assange’s secret deals are seen as a betrayal. Assange is described as dictatorial and secretive, with a lot to be secret about.

“In a recent interview with the German daily *Die Tageszeitung*, former WikiLeaks spokesperson Daniel Domscheit-Berg said he and other WikiLeaks dissidents are planning to launch their own whistleblowers’ platform to fulfill WikiLeaks’ original aim of “limitless file sharing.”

“Mr. Domscheit-Berg, who is about to publish a book about his days ‘Inside WikiLeaks’, accuses Assange of acting as a “king” against the will of others in the organisation by “making deals” with media organisations that are meant to create an explosive effect, which others in WikiLeaks either know little or nothing about.

Wikileaks and Tel Aviv

Payoffs by Israel to Assange had, until today, been an issue of debate among journalists.

Following the leak (and even before), Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu said in a press conference that Israel had “worked in advance” to limit any damage from leaks, adding that “no classified Israeli material was exposed by WikiLeaks.” In an interview with the *Time* magazine around the same time, Assange praised Netanyahu as a hero of transparency and openness!

As for personal ethics, I give it to Assange, hands down. He is the cleaner of the two, no question about that, and far more valuable to Rupert Murdoch and his media empire, the virtual voice of the State of Israel.

Assange “The Cardboard Luthorio”

Yesterday, something odd happened in Britain. Julian Assange was arrested on charges that seem bizarre, under circumstances that discredit the legal system of Sweden. The alleged victims have been cited by the world press as CIA agents in more than one story and the case itself shows obvious signs of tampering, maybe to harass Assange or maybe, based on bizarre timing, to help sell Wikileaks data that is increasingly looking like an Israeli intelligence scam.

Today, Julian Assange, “bad boy,” hacker, accused rapist, threatened by American neocons with contract killing, authored an op-ed for *The Australian*, Rupert Murdoch’s flagship publication in Australia.

His article cites Murdoch as his inspiration. A day later, we learn that Assange was working, not just for Israeli ultranationalist Murdoch but for the Israel government as well.

An Israeli Psy-op?

All three, Gingrich, Assange and Murdoch have several things in common. All are avid Zionists, supporters of Israel’s expansion. Murdoch, Australian born of a Jewish mother, is an Israeli citizen and the powerful guiding force behind the ultranationalist Likudist Party, the hardliners pushing to dispossess Palestine’s non-Jewish population, Israel’s anti-American political wing.

Assange, we know nothing of him other than the rumors and myths, now all brought into serious question.

Gingrich’s move to “the darkside” traces back to the beginnings of his political career.

A Gingrich Path

In 1994, Gingrich’s wife, Marianne, was hired by the Israel Export Development Company. This was while her husband, Congressman Newt Gingrich had just announced support for that company’s free trade zone in Israel. Gingrich had already established himself as “fair game” after a series of ethics and IRS investigations involving the GOPAC organization and its questionable financial practices.

Articles, exposing the Gingrich/Israel connection were in *The Wall Street Journal*, a newspaper later purchased by Murdoch, a paper unlikely to carry such as story ever again.

Lying Is Not Patriotic

from p. 3

Ron Paul

unnecessary wars. Few are interested in understanding the relationship of our foreign policy and our presence in the Middle East to the threat of terrorism. Revealing the real nature and goal for our presence in so many Muslim countries is a threat to our empire and any revelation of this truth is highly resented by those in charge.

Questions to consider:

1. Do the American people deserve to know the truth regarding the ongoing war in Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Yemen?
2. Could a larger question be: how can an Army Private gain access to so much secret material?
3. Why is the hostility mostly directed at Assange, the publisher, and not our government’s failure to protect classified information?
4. Are we getting our money’s worth from the \$80 billion per year we spend on our intelligence agencies?
5. Which has resulted in the greatest number of deaths; lying us into war, or WikiLeaks’ revelations or the release of the Pentagon Papers?

Soon afterward, Newt was called on to aid Murdoch in an FCC complaint made by NBC. They contended that foreign ownership of Fox (Murdoch was not an American) was illegal. Murdoch then gave Gingrich \$4.5 million through his publishing company, Harper Collins, to write a book. Murdoch had offered similar deals to Margaret Thatcher and other politicians where Murdoch had regulatory problems. This time, when Newt was found to be meeting with Murdoch’s lobbyists, it all blew up in his face and he was forced to give the money back.

When it came down to “splainin’ time,” Newt and Murdoch denied it all, then it came out that they met secretly on a park bench. Then they claimed Murdoch’s agent, Lynn Chu and Gingrich’s “associate” Jeff Eisenach had cut the deal and forgotten to tell them about it. Rupert Murdoch got to keep Fox News and the Neocons gained control of content, making Fox the unofficial voice of Israel, the Republican Party and the military/industrial complex.

Thus began the Gingrich/Murdoch partnership which continues to this day.

The Neo-con Charade

Separating myth from reality, real “Wikileaks” from the “Franken-Wikileaks” of Israel and Julian Assange, is going to be difficult.

Where the Swedish government may really be after Assange, it is obvious that the parade of Neocon politicians and media pundits, all “creatures” of Rupert Murdoch’s media empire, are not.

The same media that worked with Assange to censor and manipulate Wikileaks for the Netanyahu government in Israel is the same media, the same outlets, the same ownership, the same management that are now pouring out threats, demands for “hanging.”

Seldom is such a scenario successfully exposed, particularly one of such complexity. First Wikileaks source is tied to AIPAC, the Israeli lobby in the United States, through information leaked in a private lawsuit.

Then we learn Assange is not only working directly for Israel but is closely aligned with the Murdoch media empire that is managing the most violent criticism of Wikileaks.

Will there be an end to this, a “not so innocent” side show that may well have been put together to push the world into its last war?

Wikileaks once had much promise. It can again.

Gordon Duff is a Marine combat veteran and a regular contributor to Veterans Today. He specializes in political and social issues.

Congressional Research Service Blocked from Using State Dept. Cables to Advise Congress

By NOEL BRINKERHOFF / ALLGOV

Reading WikiLeaks’ treasure trove of classified documents from the State Department can be bad for your career, says the Obama administration. Since the website began publishing diplomatic cables, officials from the Executive Branch have warned federal employees, contractors, soldiers and college students aspiring to work for Uncle Sam not to read any of the documents.

The Office of Management and Budget late last week sent a memo to government lawyers asking them to remind workers and contractors that reading classified documents without the appropriate security clearance is a big no-no, even if the materials are available for anyone to read on the Internet.

Next, counselors at Columbia University’s School of International and Public Affairs told students not to spread the WikiLeaks documents around the Web or comment about them on social media sites like Facebook or Twitter. The warning was issued after a State Department official who’s a school alum emailed the university about how messing with the WikiLeaks archive could hurt a student’s chance of landing a job in Washington.

Also, the career services department at Boston University School of Law issued a

similar warning to students, claiming the reading of the WikiLeaks documents could interfere with getting a security clearance for certain government jobs.

Even the military is getting into the WikiLeaks-suppression game. The US Army’s NIPRnet (Unclassified but Sensitive Internet Protocol (IP) Router Network) in Iraq is dissuading soldiers from not only visiting the WikiLeaks website, but also those of Fox News, CNN, MSNBC, the Huffington Post and other news outlets that have published stories about the documents. Troops can get to the websites, but accessing them prompts a window warning them they’re about to break the law if they proceed.

It has also been reported that the Library of Congress is blocking its employees and users of its computer terminals from reaching WikiLeaks.

Even the Congressional Research Service (CRS), known as the so-called “brain of Congress,” is being denied access to the thousands of State Department cables illegally released by WikiLeaks. As an arm of the Library of Congress, CRS is unable to review the documents because the library’s computers have been blocked from accessing the WikiLeaks website.

Books

Pearl Harbor: A Successful War Lie

An Excerpt from "War Is A Lie"

By DAVID SWANSON

One type of "defensive" war is one that follows a successful provocation of aggression from the desired enemy. This method was used to begin, and repeatedly to escalate, the Vietnam War, as recorded in the Pentagon Papers. Setting aside the question of whether the United States should have entered World War II, in either Europe or the Pacific or both, the fact is that our country was unlikely to enter unless attacked. In 1928 the US Senate had voted 85 to 1 to ratify the Kellogg-Briand Pact, a treaty that bound — and still binds — our nation and many others never again to engage in war.

British Prime Minister Winston Churchill's fervent hope for years was that Japan would attack the United States. This would permit the United States (not legally, but politically) to fully enter the war in Europe, as its president wanted to do, as opposed to merely providing weaponry, as it had been doing. On April 28, 1941, Churchill wrote a secret directive to his war cabinet:

"It may be taken as almost certain that the entry of Japan into the war would be followed by the immediate entry of the United States on our side."

On May 11, 1941, Robert Menzies, the prime minister of Australia, met with Roosevelt and found him "a little jealous" of Churchill's place in the center of the war. While Roosevelt's cabinet all wanted the United States to enter the war, Menzies found that Roosevelt, "... trained under Woodrow Wilson in the last war, waits for an incident, which would in one blow get the USA into war and get R. out of his foolish election pledges that 'I will keep you out of war.'"

On August 18, 1941, Churchill met with his cabinet at 10 Downing Street. The meeting had some similarity to the July 23, 2002, meeting at the same address, the minutes of which became known as the Downing Street Minutes. Both meetings revealed secret US intentions to go to war. In the 1941 meeting, Churchill told his cabinet, according to the minutes: "The President had said he would wage war but not declare it." In addition, "Everything was to be done to force an incident."

Japan was certainly not averse to attacking others and had been busy creating an Asian empire. And the United States and Japan were certainly not living in harmonious friendship. But what could bring the Japanese to attack?

When President Franklin Roosevelt visited Pearl Harbor on July 28, 1934, seven years before the Japanese attack, the Japanese military expressed apprehension. General Kunishiga Tanaka wrote in the *Japan Advertiser*, objecting to the build-up of the American fleet and the creation of additional bases in Alaska and the Aleutian Islands:

"Such insolent behavior makes us most suspicious. It makes us think a major disturbance is purposely being encouraged in the Pacific. This is greatly regretted."

Whether it was actually regretted or not is a separate question from whether this was a typical and predictable response to military expansionism, even when done in the name of "defense." The great unembedded (as we would today call him) journalist George Seldes was suspicious as well. In October 1934 he wrote in *Harper's Magazine*: "It is an axiom that nations do not arm for war but for a war." Seldes asked an official at the Navy League:

"Do you accept the naval axiom that you prepare to fight a specific navy?"

The man replied "Yes."

"Do you contemplate a fight with the British navy?"

"Absolutely, no."

"Do you contemplate war with Japan?"

"Yes."

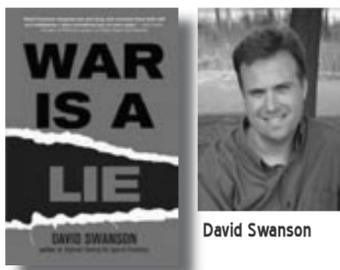
In 1935 the most decorated US Marine in history at the time, Brigadier General Smedley D. Butler, published to enormous success a short book called *War Is A Racket*. He saw perfectly well what was coming and warned the nation:

"At each session of Congress the question of further naval appropriations comes up. The swivel-chair admirals don't shout that 'We need lots of battleships to war on this nation or that nation.' Oh, no. First of all, they let it be known that America is menaced by a great naval power. Almost any day, these admirals will tell you, the great fleet of this supposed enemy will strike suddenly and annihilate our 125,000,000 people. Just like that. Then they begin to cry for a larger navy. For what? To fight the enemy? Oh my, no. Oh, no. For defense purposes only. Then, incidentally, they announce maneuvers in the Pacific. For defense. Uh, huh.

"The Pacific is a great big ocean. We have a tremendous coastline in the Pacific. Will the maneuvers be off the coast, two or three hundred miles? Oh, no. The maneuvers will be two thousand, yes, perhaps even thirty-five hundred miles, off the coast.

"The Japanese, a proud people, of course will be pleased beyond expression to see the United States fleet so close to Nippon's shores. Even as pleased as would be the residents of California were they to dimly discern, through the morning mist, the Japanese fleet playing at war games off Los Angeles."

In March 1935, Roosevelt bestowed Wake Island on the US Navy and gave Pan Am Airways a permit to build runways on Wake Island, Midway Island, and Guam. Japanese military commanders announced that they were disturbed and viewed these runways as



a threat. So did peace activists in the United States. By the next month, Roosevelt had planned war games and maneuvers near the Aleutian Islands and Midway Island. By the following month, peace activists were marching in New York advocating friendship with Japan. Norman Thomas wrote in 1935:

"The man from Mars who saw how men suffered in the last war and how frantically they are preparing for the next war, which they know will be worse, would come to the conclusion that he was looking at the denizens of a lunatic asylum."

The US Navy spent the next few years working up plans for war with Japan, the March 8, 1939, version of which described "an offensive war of long duration" that would destroy the military and disrupt the economic life of Japan. In January 1941, eleven months before the attack, the *Japan Advertiser* expressed its outrage over Pearl Harbor in an editorial, and the US ambassador to Japan wrote in his diary:

"There is a lot of talk around town to the effect that the Japanese, in case of a break with the United States, are planning to go all out in a surprise mass attack on Pearl Harbor. Of course I informed my government."

On February 5, 1941, Rear Admiral Richmond Kelly Turner wrote to Secretary of War Henry Stimson to warn of the possibility of a surprise attack at Pearl Harbor.

As early as 1932 the United States had been talking with China about providing airplanes, pilots, and training for its war with Japan. In November 1940, Roosevelt loaned China one hundred million dollars for war with Japan, and after consulting with the British, US Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau made plans to send the Chinese bombers with US crews to use in bombing Tokyo and other Japanese cities. On December 21, 1940, two weeks shy of a year before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, China's Minister of Finance T.V. Soong and Colonel Claire Chennault, a retired US Army flier who was working for the Chinese and had been urging them to use American pilots to bomb Tokyo since at least 1937, met in Henry Morgenthau's dining room to plan the firebombing of Japan. Morgenthau said he could get men released from duty in the US Army Air Corps if the Chinese could pay them \$1,000 per month. Soong agreed.

On May 24, 1941, *The New York Times* reported on US training of the Chinese air force, and the provision of "numerous fighting and bombing planes" to China by the United States. "Bombing of Japanese Cities is Expected" read the subheadline. By July, the Joint Army-Navy Board had approved a plan called JB 355 to firebomb Japan. A front corporation would buy American planes to be flown by American volunteers trained by Chennault and paid by another front group. Roosevelt approved, and his China expert Lauchlin Currie, in the words of Nicholson Baker, "wired Madame Chiang Kai-Shek and Claire Chennault a letter that fairly begged for interception by Japanese spies." Whether or not that was the entire point, this was the letter:

"I am very happy to be able to report today the President directed that sixty-six bombers be made available to China this year with twenty-four to be delivered immediately. He also approved a Chinese pilot training program here. Details through normal channels. Warm regards."

Our ambassador had said "in case of a break with the United States" the Japanese would bomb Pearl Harbor. I wonder if this qualified!

The 1st American Volunteer Group (AVG) of the Chinese Air Force, also known as the Flying Tigers, moved ahead with recruitment and training immediately and first saw combat on December 20, 1941, twelve days (local time) after the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor.

On May 31, 1941, at the Keep America Out of War Congress, William Henry Chamberlin gave a dire warning: "A total economic boycott of Japan, the stoppage of oil shipments for instance, would push Japan into the arms of the Axis. Economic war would be a prelude to naval and military war." The worst thing about peace advocates is how many times they turn out to be right.

On July 24, 1941, President Roosevelt remarked, "If we cut the oil off, [the Japanese] probably would have gone down to the Dutch East Indies a year ago, and you would have had a war. It was very essential from our own selfish point of view of defense to prevent a war from starting in the South Pacific. So our foreign policy was trying to stop a war from breaking out there."

Reporters noticed that Roosevelt said "was" rather than "is." The next day, Roosevelt issued an executive order freezing Japanese assets. The United States and Britain cut off oil and scrap metal to Japan. Radhabinod Pal, an Indian jurist who served on the war crimes

tribunal after the war, called the embargoes a "clear and potent threat to Japan's very existence," and concluded the United States had provoked Japan.

On August 7th four months before the attack the *Japan Times Advertiser* wrote: "First there was the creation of a super base at Singapore, heavily reinforced by British and Empire troops. From this hub a great wheel was built up and linked with American bases to form a great ring sweeping in a great area southwards and westwards from the Philippines through Malaya and Burma, with the link broken only in the Thailand peninsula. Now it is proposed to include the narrows in the encirclement, which proceeds to Rangoon."

By September the Japanese press was outraged that the United States had begun shipping oil right past Japan to reach Russia. Japan, its newspapers said, was dying a slow death from "economic war."

What might the United States have been hoping to gain by shipping oil past a nation in desperate need of it?

In late October, US spy Edgar Mower was doing work for Colonel William Donovan who spied for Roosevelt. Mower spoke with a man in Manila named Ernest Johnson, a member of the Maritime Commission, who said he expected "The Japs will take Manila before I can get out." When Mower expressed surprise, Johnson replied "Didn't you know the Jap fleet has moved eastward, presumably to attack our fleet at Pearl Harbor?"

On November 3, 1941, our ambassador tried again to get something through his government's thick skull, sending a lengthy telegram to the State Department warning that the economic sanctions might force Japan to commit "national hara-kiri." He wrote: "An armed conflict with the United States may come with dangerous and dramatic suddenness."

Why do I keep recalling the headline of the memo given to President George W. Bush prior to the September 11, 2001, attacks? "Bin Laden Determined To Strike in US"

Apparently nobody in Washington wanted to hear it in 1941 either. On November 15th, Army Chief of Staff George Marshall briefed the media on something we do not remember as "the Marshall Plan." In fact we don't remember it at all. "We are preparing an offensive war against Japan," Marshall said, asking the journalists to keep it a secret, which as far as I know they dutifully did.

Ten days later Secretary of War Henry Stimson wrote in his diary that he'd met in the Oval Office with Marshall, President Roosevelt, Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox, Admiral Harold Stark, and Secretary of State Cordell Hull. Roosevelt had told them the Japanese were likely to attack soon, possibly next Monday. That would have been December 1st, six days before the attack actually came. "The question," Stimson wrote, "was how we should maneuver them into the position of firing the first shot without allowing too much danger to ourselves. It was a difficult proposition." Was it? One obvious answer was to keep the fleet in Pearl Harbor and keep the sailors stationed there in the dark while fretting about them from comfortable offices in Washington, DC. In fact, that was the solution our suit-and-tied heroes went with.

The day after the attack, Congress voted for war. Congresswoman Jeannette Rankin (R-MT), the first woman ever elected to Congress, and who had voted against World War I, stood alone in opposing World War II (just as Congresswoman Barbara Lee (D-CA) would stand alone against attacking Afghanistan 60 years later). One year after the vote, on December 8, 1942, Rankin put extended remarks into the Congressional Record explaining her opposition. She cited the work of a British propagandist who had argued in 1938 for using Japan to bring the United States into the war. She cited Henry Luce's reference in *Life Magazine* on July 20, 1942, to "the Chinese for whom the US had delivered the ultimatum that brought on Pearl Harbor." She introduced evidence that at the Atlantic Conference on August 12, 1941, Roosevelt had assured Churchill that the United States would bring economic pressure to bear on Japan. "I cited," Rankin later wrote, "the State Department Bulletin of December 20, 1941, which revealed that on September 3 a communication had been sent to Japan demanding that it accept the principle of 'non-disturbance of the status quo in the Pacific,' which amounted to demanding guarantees of the inviolateness of the white empires in the Orient."

Rankin found that the Economic Defense Board had gotten economic sanctions under way less than a week after the Atlantic Conference. On December 2, 1941, *The New York Times* had reported, in fact, that Japan had been "cut off from about 75 percent of her normal trade by the Allied blockade." Rankin also cited the statement of Lieutenant Clarence E. Dickinson, USN, in the *Saturday Evening Post* of October 10, 1942, that on November 28, 1941, nine days before the attack, Vice Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr., (he of the slogan "kill Japs, kill Japs!") had given instructions to him and others to "shoot down anything we saw in the sky and to bomb anything we saw on the sea."

Whether or not World War II was the "good war" we are so often told it was, the idea that it was a defensive war because our innocent imperial outpost in the middle of the Pacific was attacked out of the clear blue sky is a myth that deserves to be buried.

History's Lessons

Lessons from the Fall of Rome



Murder of Julius Caesar. Oil on canvas 2003 by Irina Gornostaeva.

By SIMON BLACK / SOVEREIGNMAN.COM

In 43 BC, over 2,000 years ago, warring consuls Antony, Lepidus, and Octavian were "duking it out" with each other over control of Rome following Julius Caesar's assassination the prior March.

Each had legions at his disposal, and Rome's terrified Senate sat on its hands waiting for the outcome.

Ultimately, the three men chose to unite their powers and rule Rome together in what became known as the Second Triumvirate. This body was established by a law named lex Titia in 43 BC.

The foundation of the Second Triumvirate is of tremendous historical importance: as the group wielded dictatorial powers, it represents the final nail in the coffin in Rome's transition from republic to malignant autocracy.

The Second Triumvirate expired after 10-years, upon which Octavian waged war on his partners once again, resulting in Mark Antony's famed suicide with Cleopatra in 31 BC. Octavian was eventually rewarded with rich title and nearly supreme power, and he is generally regarded as Rome's first emperor.

Things only got worse from there. Tiberius, Octavian's successor, was a paranoid deviant with a lust for executions. He spent the last decade of his reign completely detached from Rome, living in Capri.

Following Tiberius was Caligula, infamous for his moral depravity and insanity. According to Roman historians Suetonius and Cassius Dio, Caligula would send his legions on pointless marches and turned his palace into a bordello of such repute that it inspired the 1979 porno film named for him.

Caligula was followed by Claudius, a stammering, slobbering, confused man as described by his contemporaries. Then there was Nero, who not only managed to burn down his city but was also the first emperor to debase the value of Rome's currency.

You know the rest of the story — Romans watched their leadership and country get worse and worse.

All along the way, there were two types of people: the first group were folks that figured, "This has GOT to be the bottom, it can only get better from here." Their patriotism was rewarded with reduced civil liberties, higher taxes, insane despots, and a polluted currency.

The other group consisted of people who looked at the warning signs and thought, "I have to get out of here." They followed their instincts and moved on to other places where they could build their lives, survive, and prosper.

I'm raising this point because I'd like to open a debate. Some consider the latter idea of expatriating to be akin to 'running away.' I recall a rather impassioned comment from a reader last week who suggested that "leaving, i.e. running away is certainly not the proper response."

I find this logic to be flawed.

While the notion of staying and 'fighting' is a noble idea, bear in mind that there is no real enemy or force to fight. The government is a faceless bureaucracy that's impossible attack. People who try only discredit their argument because they become marginalized as fringe lunatics.

Remember John Stack? He's the guy who flew his airplane into the IRS building in Austin, Texas on February 18, 2010 because he had a serious philosophical disagreement over tax issues.

While his ideas may have had intellectual merit, they were immediately dismissed due to his murderous tactics. Violence is rarely the answer, and it often has the opposite effect as intended, frequently serving to bolster support for the government instead of raising awareness of its shortcomings.

Unless/until government paramilitaries start duking it out with citizen militia groups in the streets, this is an ideological battle... and it's an uphill battle at best.

Government controlled educational systems institutionalize us from childhood that governments are just, and that we should all subordinate ourselves to authority and to the greater good that they dictate in their sole discretion.

You're dealing with a mob mentality, plain and simple. Do you want to waste limited resources (time, money, energy) trying to convince your neighbor that s/he should not expect free money from the government?

You could spend a lifetime trying to change ideology and not make a dent; people have to choose for themselves to wake up, it cannot be forced upon them. And until that happens, they're going to keep asking for more security and more control because it's the way their values have been programmed.

When you think about it, what we call a 'country' is nothing more than a large concentration of people who share common values. Over time, those values adjust and evolve. Today, cultures in many countries value things like fake security, subordination, and ignorance over freedom, independence, and awareness.

When it appears more and more each day that those common values diverge from your own, all that's left of a country are irrelevant, invisible lines on a map. I don't find these worth fighting for.

Nobody is born with a mandatory obligation to invisible lines on a map. Our fundamental obligation is to ourselves, our families, and the people that we choose to let into our circles... not to a piece of dirt that's controlled by mob-installed bureaucrats.

Moving away, i.e. making a calculated decision to seek greener pastures elsewhere, is not the same as 'running away'... and I would argue that if you really want to effect change in your home country, moving away may be the most effective course of action.

The government beast in your home country feeds on debt and taxes, and the best way to win is for bright, productive people to move away with their ideas, labor, and assets. This effectively starves the beast and accelerates its collapse. Then, when the smoke clears, you can move back and help rebuild a free society.

I'd really like to know what you think—which is the right thing to do, stay or leave? What are you planning to do?

Simon Black is an international investor, entrepreneur, permanent traveler, free man. Simon blogs at sovereignman.com

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Wall Streeters Line Up for Big Bonuses

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unemployment benefits to workers, even at an unacceptable cost.

Who will remind the American people that many of these banks are only here to pay for bonuses because the government — our government — bailed them out and then The Federal Reserve Bank pumped trillions in no interest loans into their coffers.

Can we count on the media to point this out, to make the connection clear about the many government subsidies behind the gigantic payouts that are on the way to companies lobbying against government programs for regular Americans?

Don't count on it.

November 5, "60 Minutes" sat down with Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke. They asked him about the bonuses. The Fed head had nothing to say about that. He just wanted to praise his own efforts to save the financial system.

If you watched his body language, you could see that his stab at optimism was forced. He admitted it will be at least five years — if that — before more jobs come back.

He seemed depressed, perhaps because he didn't want to tell us we are in a depression. His past track record as a forecaster has been flawed to a fault. That was not noted.

As is common these days on the networks, no criticisms or contrary concerns were integrated into this world-shaking interview. There was no comment from Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-VT), who challenged the Fed's admission of a "jaw-dropping" injection of trillions into banks here and abroad.

There wasn't even a response from libertarians like, Rep. Ron Paul (R-TX), who was also horrified.

So much for reporting.

David Degraw of Amped Status.com says the recent Fed disclosures were shocking. "Just when I thought the bankers couldn't possibly shock me anymore... they did.

"We were finally granted the honor and privilege of finding out the specifics, a limited one-time Federal Reserve view, of a secret taxpayer-funded 'backdoor bailout' by a small group of unelected bankers.

"This data release reveals 'emergency lending programs' that doled out \$12.3 TRILLION in taxpayer money - \$3.3 trillion in liquidity, \$9 trillion in other financial arrangements.

"Wait, what? Did you say \$12.3 TRILLION tax dollars were thrown around in secrecy by unelected bankers... and Congress didn't know any of the details?"

Of course not!

The myth that the media continues to "truck-in" is that somehow the Congress and the President are in charge of the economy, They aren't.

Wall Street and the corporate world are clearly running the show, with little restraint, effective oversight or regulation.

Back to Degraw: "The Federal Reserve was secretly throwing around our money in unprecedented fashion, and it wasn't just to the usual suspects like Goldman Sachs, JP Morgan, Citigroup, Bank of America, etc.; it was to the entire Global Banking Cartel.

"To central banks throughout the world: Australia, Denmark, England, Japan, Mexico, Norway, South Korea, Sweden, Switzerland... To the Fed's foreign primary dealers like Credit Suisse (Switzerland),



US Votes Against UN Anti-Nazi Resolution

UN from p. 1

monuments erected in remembrance of those who fought against Nazism during the Second World War, as well as to unlawfully exhume or remove the remains of such persons, and urges States, in this regard to fully comply with their relevant obligations inter alia, under Article 14 of Additional Protocol 1 to the Geneva Conventions of 1949." Point 8: Stresses that the practices described above do injustice to the countless victims of crimes against humanity committed in the Second World War, in particular, those committed by the SS organization and those who fought against the Anti-Hitler coalition and collaborated with the Nazi movement, and poisoned the minds of young people, and that failure by states to effectively address such practices is incompatible with the obligations of States Members of the United Nations under its Charter and is incompatible with the goals and principles of the Organization." Point 16: To declare as an offense punishable by law (c) all dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or hatred, and incitement to racial discrimination, as well as all acts of violence or incitement to such acts against any race or group of persons of another color or ethnic origin, and also the provision of any assistance to racist activities, including the financing thereof."

No other nation speaks more forcefully and often about human rights than the United States. Among the arguments the United States delegation used in explanation of its sole opposition vote is the following: "In a free society, hateful ideas will fail on account of their intrinsic lack of merit." This argument reveals a dangerous failure of historic memory. In the 1930's, writing in "Mein Kampf," Hitler explicitly stated his racist and genocidal intent. His racist speeches mesmerized huge audiences in Germany, and attracted a vastly increasing number of Nazi supporters, as well as a large pro-Nazi movement within the United States, including the world-famous Charles Lindbergh, Henry Ford, and numerous pro-Nazi Congressmen. The actual menace Nazism represented was largely ignored by governments throughout the world. Little was done to address the explicitly stated Nazi threat to world peace. In those early 1930's, during the early stages, Hitler and the Nazis could have been stopped. Nothing effective was done to avert this peril until too late. As should have been recognized, therefore, as inevitable, Hitler began invasions of Europe and slaughter of countless numbers of European citizens, and the Nazis perpetrated the extermination of six million Jews, known as the Holocaust.

But extermination of the Jewish people did not satisfy the Nazi blood lust. In *The Plot Against the Peace*, by Michael Sayers and Albert E. Khan, published in 1945: "It was against the Slav peoples, the traditional enemy of Pan-Germanism that the policy of genocide was most extensively applied. It will be one of the chief tasks of German statesmanship," Hitler told Hermann Rauschning, 'for all time to prevent by every means in our power, the further increase of the Slav races.'" "Immediately after the invasion of the Soviet Union, the German High Command arranged in their military schools and institutions special courses of lectures emphasizing the necessity of exterminating masses of the Russian people. Among those who attended these courses was Senior Corporal Reinhard Retzlaff, who testified at his trial for his part in the atrocities committed by the German army at Kharkov, regarding his training in the Altenburg Special Battalion: "At the courses, several special lectures were even arranged and delivered by leading officials of the German Field Police who definitely stated that the people of the USSR, and those of Russian nationality in particular, were inferior, that the vast number of them should be exterminated, while a small section should be utilized by the big German landowners in the capacity of slaves. These instructions followed logically from the policy pursued by the German government towards the peoples in occupied territories."

"As the Nazi Wehrmacht drove toward Moscow in the summer and autumn of 1941, it conducted ferocious massacres of tens of thousands of Soviet men, women and children. These mass executions, unprecedented for scale and savagery, were not a matter of military expediency. They were part of the Pan-German program of wiping out the Slav peoples....At the ghastly Babi Yar ravine near Kiev, the corpses of approximately 80,000 Soviet civilians and 25,000 war prisoners were found. In 34 grave pits in the Blagovschin Forest near Minsk, the Nazis buried 150,000 people, etc., etc. When the bodies were exhumed from these mass graves, Soviet medical experts established that many of the victims had been buried alive. Large numbers of the bodies were dreadfully mutilated and bore evidence of fearful tortures inflicted by the Nazis."

"In 1942, the Nazi leaders decided that the extermination of Soviet citizens was not proceeding at a sufficiently rapid rate. At a conference between Adolf Hitler, Heinrich Himmler and Ernst Kalterbrunner, the chief of the Security Service, it was agreed that the use of poison gas should be introduced as the most effective and speedy means of killing people in

large numbers....Obersturmbannfuhrer George Heinisch, member of the Nazi party since 1923 stated: 'The extermination of the bulk of the citizens of Soviet Russia could only be to the advantage of Germany, as it would enfeeble Russia.' But even these mass shootings and gassings were not sufficient to carry out the plans of the German General Staff. For the systematic extermination of millions of people an even more highly organized and efficient technique than ravine massacres and mobile gas vans was necessary. By orders of the German General Staff, the Death Camps were built....Murder on the gigantic scale contemplated by the German General Staff at Maidenak and other death camps required as much organization and elaborate machinery as the mass production of tanks, planes and guns. Complex problems were involved in the extermination of millions of human beings, the disposal of their bodies and the accumulation and distribution of their possessions. To solve these problems the Nazi leaders called upon various experts."

"On August 27, 1944, W. H. Lawrence sent a dispatch to *The New York Times* which began: 'I have just seen the most terrible place on the face of the earth — the German concentration camp at Maidenak, which was a veritable River Rouge for the production of death, in which it is estimated that nearly 1,500,000 persons from nearly every country in Europe were killed in the last three years...this is a place that must be seen to be believed.'" "To relieve the monotony of the daily mass executions, the Nazi guards amused themselves by inflicting horrible tortures and 'jokes' upon the prisoners. Another method by which SS men amused themselves: before a prisoner guilty of some misdemeanor was killed, he would be led over to a large, sparkling white wringer used by the camp laundry, and made to place his fingers between the heavy metal rollers. Then an SS man, or perhaps another prisoner forced into their service, would turn the handle. The victim's arms would be literally mangled up to the shoulder. The agonizing screams of the tortured victim would afford great entertainment to his Nazi torturers. A former prisoner named Atrakov told the Polish-Soviet Atrocities Commission: 'They took away babies from their mothers' breast and killed them before her eyes by smashing them against the barracks wall. 'I, myself,' said Edward Baran, another witness, 'saw how babies were taken from their mothers and killed before their eyes; they would take a baby by one foot and step on the other, and so tear the baby apart.'" (*The Plot Against the Peace*, by Sayers and Khan, 1945.)

The American Axis, by Max Wallace, page 39 recounts: "At 10AM on November 21, 1945, twenty of the most notorious Nazi leaders sat in the dock of a Nuremberg courtroom...These men were to be judged for planning and perpetrating the greatest crime in history — what William Shirer calls 'a massacre so horrible and on such a scale as to leave an ugly scar on civilization that will surely last as long as man on earth.' The chief U.S. Prosecutor, Robert Jackson declared: 'In the prisoners' dock sit twenty-odd broken men. What makes this inquest significant is that these prisoners represent sinister influences that will lurk in the world long after their bodies have returned to dust. We will show them to be living symbols of racial hatreds, of terrorism and violence, and of the arrogance and cruelty of power.' On the 137th day of the proceedings it was the turn of Baldur von Schirach, leader of the Hitler Youth to take the stand...the story of the path that brought von Schirach to Nuremberg is a cautionary tale...In 1924, a year after the Hitler beer hall putsch, at the impressionable age of seventeen, von Schirach discovered the Nazi Party and gradually became a convert to its ideology. Had his transformation into a loyal Nazi come about through reading the party's literature? Von Schirach's response: 'The decisive anti-Semitic book which I read at that time, and the book which influenced my comrades, was Henry Ford's book, *The International Jew*. I read it and became anti-Semitic. In the poverty-stricken and wretched Germany of the time, youth looked toward America...and it was Henry Ford who, to us, represented America....If he said the Jews were to blame, naturally we believed him.' One year before he ever heard of Adolf Hitler, von Schirach had found inspiration in the hate-laced diatribes of Henry Ford."

"In March, 1923, Vice-President of the Bavarian Diet, Erhard Auer spoke to the *Chicago Tribune*, charging: 'Henry Ford was financing the program of a radical Austrian named Adolf Hitler because he was favorably impressed by Hitler's program supporting 'the extermination

of Jews in Germany.'" Henry Ford was hardly alone in the United States in putting his money where his pro-Nazi mouth was. From *The Plot Against the Peace*: "In Cincinnati, Ohio, an anti-Administration, anti-Semitic and anti-United Nations organizations called Mothers of Sons Forum was spreading its propaganda through the mails and reaching 65,000 women.... Before the war, Mrs. Agnes Waters of Chicago aided in the organization of propaganda agencies within the women's auxiliaries of the America First Committee. In Chicago, on February 24, 1942 Mrs. Waters addressed a mass women's 'peace' rally; 'Traitors, Jews and Communists controlled America,' said Mrs. Waters. President Roosevelt was a 'traitor' and should be 'impeached.' Mrs. Waters charged the President with 'stripping our country of its defenses,' and she cried: 'He ought to be killed.' Several women in the audience shouted: 'Let's do it.' In 1944, Mrs. Waters told Patricia Lockridge, Washington correspondent of the *Women's Home Companion*, 'If we cannot get these traitors out of office by peaceful legal means we can resort to shooting them out! This would be easier than to fool with elections.'

"From 1939-1945, the attack against Franklin Delano Roosevelt was the dominant theme of Nazi political propaganda in the United States. With the aim of discrediting his leadership and undermining his influence with the American peoples, the innumerable American outlets of the Nazi propaganda machine poured forth an incessant stream of provocative rumors and poisonous slanders directed against Roosevelt's personal character, his wife, his children, his habits of life and his domestic and foreign policies as President of the United States. No lie was too grandiose or mean, no vilification too obscene for the Nazi psychological warfare experts or their American accomplices. Berlin gave the signal to unleash all forces in an effort to defeat Roosevelt who, as the key American architect of the United Nations postwar security structure represented a deadly threat to the secret plans of the German General Staff."

At the United Nations, November 16, 2010 at 11:05 AM the recorded vote on Third Committee Resolution A/c.3/65/L.50 attested, once again, perhaps, to at least a partial victory of the United Nations: Once again, Iran, Israel, Syria and Libya united to support the anti-Nazi resolution, transcending their virulent hatreds to unify in opposition to the greatest scourge humanity has ever witnessed, the threat of world domination by Nazism, in the words of William Shirer, the most genocidal racist ideology in human history. The United States 'opposition to that Third Committee resolution is reminiscent of Chamberlain's appeasement of Hitler: as Winston Churchill said after Munich, 'We had a choice between shame and war. We chose the shame. And now we shall get the war.'

Pro Nazi demonstrations are increasing, with government support in Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Moldova; 20% of the newly elected Swedish Parliament are known Nazis. The extreme right-wing and racist wing of the US Republican Party now dominates the US Congress. It was during the Great Depression of the 1930's that Nazism rose to power and threatened to dominate the globe. Today, the world is plunged into what is euphemistically called a recession, but with huge numbers of people in the United States and Europe recently forced into unemployment, homeless and destitute. The current rise of Nazism should alarm us all before it is too late. Those who do not learn from history are condemned to repeat it.

Russian Senator Boris Shpigel presciently and wisely invested some of his personal funds to finance the large international convocation of 158 organizations gathered in Kiev, Ukraine, last June 22, to form the constituent assembly drafting the constitution: "World Without Nazism." One would have hoped that other Senators would have emulated Senator Shpigel's admirable example, and convened another such large international convocation of all the organizations which originally gathered together in Kiev to sign the Constituent Declaration "World Without Nazism."

Carla Stea covers the UN for RCFP. She has written for Covert Action, and War and Peace Digest, and numerous other publications in the USA, also in Komsomolskaya Pravda in the Soviet Union, and in Rabochaya Tribuna and Sovetskaya Rossia, in Russia, as well as in publications in England and Latin America. Stea also holds press accreditation at the US Department of State.



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Pentagon Papers Whistleblowers Call for a New 9/11 Investigation

PENTAGON PAPERS from p. 1

He also said that the government is ordering the media to cover up her allegations about 9/11.

And he said that some of the claims concerning government involvement in 9/11 are credible, that "very serious questions have been raised about what they [US government officials] knew beforehand and how much involvement there might have been", that engineering 9/11 would not be humanly or psychologically beyond the scope of those in office, and that there's enough evidence to justify a new, "hard-hitting" investigation into 9/11 with subpoenas and testimony taken under oath.

Senator Gravel has long supported a new 9/11 investigation. Gravel told the *Daily Caller* this week:

"Individuals in and out of government may certainly have participated with the obviously known perpetrators of this dastardly act. Suspicions abound over the analysis presented by government. Obviously an act that has triggered three wars, Afghan, Iraqi and the continuing War on Terror, should be extensively investigated which was not done and which the government avoids addressing."

Other high-level whistleblowers have alleged a cover-up as well.

For example, Air Force Colonel and key Pentagon official Karen Kwiatkowski - who blew the whistle on the Bush administration's efforts to concoct false intelligence about Iraqi weapons of mass destruction - wrote:

"I have been told by reporters that they will not report their own insights or contrary evaluations of the official 9/11 story, because to question the government story about 9/11 is to question the very foundations of our entire modern belief system regarding our government, our country, and our way of life. To be charged with questioning these foundations is far more serious than being labeled a disgruntled conspiracy nut or anti-government traitor, or even being sidelined or marginalized within an academic, government service, or literary career. To question the official 9/11 story is simply and fundamentally revolutionary. In this way, of course, questioning the official story is also simply and fundamentally American."

Indeed, Ellsberg and Gravel join a long list of high-level former officials in the government and intelligence services - including many well-known whistleblowers - who have publicly demanded a new investigation.

You can read more of George Washington's blogs at www.georgewashington.blogspot.com.

WikiLeaks Cables Reveal Bush, Obama Pressured Germany, Spain Not To Probe Torture

TORTURE from p. 1

then sent to the CIA's notorious "Salt Pit" prison in Afghanistan, where he was "repeatedly beaten, drugged, and subjected to a strange food regime that he supposed was part of an experiment that his captors were performing on him" (as described by Scott Horton of Harper's), until the CIA realized it had made a mistake, and reluctantly set him free, dropping him off in Albania and obliging him to make his own way home, and to try to put together the pieces of his shattered life.

Suppression of a torture inquiry in Spain

The second cable, dated April 17, 2009, and sent from Madrid, explained how US officials had manipulated Spanish officials to suppress an investigation into six former Bush administration lawyers - Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, David Addington, former chief of staff and legal adviser to Vice President Dick Cheney, William Haynes, the Pentagon's former general counsel, Douglas Feith, former undersecretary of defense for policy, Jay Bybee, the former head of the Justice Department's Office of Legal Counsel, and John Yoo, a former official in the Office of Legal Counsel - for "creating a legal framework that allegedly permitted torture." A Spanish human rights group had filed the complaint the month before, contending that Spain had a duty to open an investigation under its "universal jurisdiction" law.

The cable reveals how US officials immediately began sounding out Spanish officials, and how, on April 15, an apparently unlikely figure for the Obama administration to embrace - Sen. Mel Martinez (R-Fla.), who had recently been chairman of the Republican Party - attended a meeting between the US embassy's *charge d'affaires* and the acting Spanish foreign minister, Angel Lossada, at which the Americans, repeating the same threatening language used in Germany in 2007, "underscored that the prosecutions would not be understood or accepted in the US and would have an enormous impact on the bilateral relationship" between Spain and the United States.

As the cable described it, "Lossada responded that the [Spanish government] recognized all of the complications presented by universal jurisdiction, but that the independence of the judiciary and the process must be respected." However, he added that the government "would use all appropriate legal tools in the matter," and that, although "it did not have much margin to operate," would advise the Spanish Attorney General, Cándido Conde-Pumpido, that "the official administration position was that the [government] was 'not in accord with the National Court.'"

The next day, Attorney General Conde-Pumpido "publicly stated that prosecutors will 'undoubtedly' not support [the] criminal complaint," adding that he would "not support the criminal complaint because it is 'fraudulent,' and has been filed as a political statement to attack past [US government] policies." He added that, "if there is evidence of criminal activity by [US government] officials, then a case should be filed in the United States." In the cable, officials at the US embassy in Madrid congratulated themselves for their successful involvement in the case, noting that "Conde Pumpido's public announcement follows outreach to [Spanish government] officials to raise [the US government's] deep concerns on the implications of this case."

This was not quite the end of the story, as Conde-Pumpido had specifically taken aim at Investigating Judge Baltasar Garzón, "a world-renowned jurist," who, as David Corn

explained in an article for Mother Jones, "had initiated previous prosecutions of war crimes and had publicly said that former President George W. Bush ought to be tried for war crimes." Garzón pressed ahead with the prosecution in September 2009, but when he ran into domestic problems, triggered by his enthusiasm for investigating war crimes committed under General Franco, the



Spain's Investigating Judge Baltasar Garzón

case was assigned to another judge, and the trail has since gone quiet. As David Corn explained, "The Obama administration essentially got what it wanted. The case of the Bush Six went away."

Suppression of torture inquiries in the US - and an unexpected conviction in Italy

As a result of these revelations, it is clear that the US government - under Bush and Obama - has been largely successful in preventing the prosecution of anyone involved in the horrendous human rights abuses initiated in the "War on Terror," not just abroad, but also in the US. In the last year, fulfilling his "belief that we need to look forward as opposed to looking backwards," which he expressed in January 2009, the week before he took office, President Obama has presided over the whitewash of a damning internal Justice Department report into John Yoo and Jay S. Bybee (who wrote and approved the notorious "torture memos" of August 2002, which attempted to redefine torture, so that it could be used by the CIA), and has cynically resorted to manipulating the little known and little used "state secrets" privilege to prevent the merest whisper of evidence regarding the torture of foreign prisoners to be discussed in a US court.

One unexpected exception to this global clampdown is Italy, where 22 CIA operatives and a US Air Force Colonel were convicted in absentia, in November 2009, for their part in the kidnapping, in broad daylight in a street in Milan on February 17, 2003 of the cleric Abu Omar, who was then rendered to Egypt, where he was subjected to horrific torture. The US government, of course, refused to allow these operatives to be extradited to Italy to face justice, but the ruling remains a permanent black mark against the Bush administration, which can never be washed away or concealed, and the entire sordid story has recently been covered, in extraordinary detail, by Steve Hendricks in his book, *A Kidnapping in Milan: The CIA on Trial*.

Trouble ahead in Spain, Germany, Macedonia, Lithuania, Poland and the UK

Moreover, it may be that, despite the success of the US efforts in Germany and Spain, further troubles lie ahead in both countries. In May 2010, Spain picked up where Germany left off regarding the prosecution of the thirteen CIA agents responsible for the torture of Khaled El-Masri, when prosecutors attached to the Audiencia Nacional in Madrid asked a judge to issue an order for the agents' arrest,

and, as Scott Horton also reported at the time, "A criminal proceeding relating to the kidnapping and torture of El-Masri is also underway in Germany."

In addition, in 2009, as Amrit Singh of the Open Society Justice Initiative explained in a recent article on the Huffington Post, the OSJI filed an application on El-Masri's behalf against the Macedonian government before the European Court of Human Rights. Singh continued:

In October 2010, the European Court communicated the case to the Macedonian government. This is a significant development, as only about ten percent of all cases brought before the European Court get communicated. Perhaps even more significant is the fact that the European Court has asked the Macedonian government a set of pointed questions, including whether agents of the Macedonian government detained El-Masri and subjected him to torture or cruel inhuman or degrading treatment; whether Macedonian government agents handed him over to a CIA rendition team; whether the Macedonian government was aware that El-Masri faced a real risk of being subjected to torture or cruel inhuman or degrading treatment if transferred to the Salt Pit; and whether Macedonia had conducted an effective official investigation of this case.

In addition, it is possible that further problems - which seem already to have gone beyond the reach of US diplomatic bullying - relate to investigations in Lithuania, Poland and the UK.

As Amnesty International noted in its recent report, "*Open secret: Mounting evidence of Europe's complicity in rendition and secret detention*," Lithuania, whose role as the host of a secret CIA prison in Europe - along with Poland and Romania - was most recently exposed in a United Nations report on secret detention, "has admitted that two secret prisons existed." Significantly, "The prisons were visited in June 2010 by a delegation from the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture, the first visit by an independent monitoring body to a secret CIA prison in Europe," and a criminal investigation is ongoing.

Although Romania continues to deny hosting a secret prison, it is implicated in documents issued by Poland's Border Guard Office in July 2010, which, as I explained in an article at the time, provided, for the first time, "details of the number of prisoners transferred by the CIA to a secret prison in Poland between December 5, 2002 and September 22, 2003, and, in one case, the number of prisoners who were subsequently transferred to a secret CIA prison in Romania." The revelations led immediately to claims that former Prime Minister Leszek Miller and former President Aleksander Kwasniewski "may face war crime charges for agreeing to host the facility," and in September, as Amnesty described it, "the prosecutor's office confirmed that it was investigating claims by Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri [one of 14 "high-value detainees eventually transferred to Guantánamo, in September 2006], that he was held in secret in Poland." Moreover, al-Nashiri "was granted 'victim' status in October 2010, the first time a rendition victim's claims have been acknowledged in this context."

In the UK, British complicity in US torture has been acknowledged, through the deliberations of judges, since August 2008, when two high court judges, Lord Justice Thomas and Mr. Justice Lloyd Jones, found that the British government had been involved in "wrongdoing" in the case of Binyam Mohamed, a British resident who spent over two years being tortured in Pakistan, Morocco and the CIA's

"Dark Prison" in Kabul, before he was sent to Guantánamo. Mohamed was released in February 2009 - in the hope, shared by both the British and the American governments, that his release would shut down any further interest in his case - but in fact Lord Justice Thomas and Mr. Justice Lloyd Jones continued to fight against foreign secretary David Miliband's refusal to allow them to release a summary of documents provided by the US, relating to Mohamed's treatment by US agents in Pakistan.

Finally in February this year, 18 months after their initial ruling, the Court of Appeal ordered the documents to be released, and it was finally revealed that the summary described a range of techniques, which, in the judges' opinion, "could readily be contended to be at the very least cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment by the United States authorities," including "continuous sleep deprivation," combined with "threats and inducements," including the threat of "disappearing." As the judges also explained, "the stress brought about by these deliberate tactics" was "causing him significant mental stress and suffering," to the extent that he was being "kept under self-harm observation."

Although a Metropolitan Police investigation was launched into Mohamed's allegations, this investigation recently concluded with an announcement that there was insufficient evidence to prosecute the MI5 officer, known as Witness B, "for any criminal offence arising from the interview of Binyam Mohamed in Pakistan on 17 May 2002."

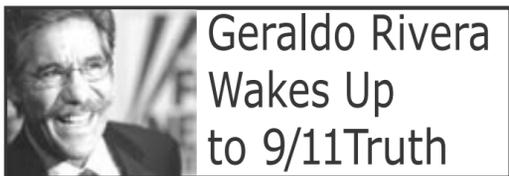
However, the larger picture of British complicity in torture has refused to go away. In November, the British government announced that it had reached a substantial financial settlement with 15 former Guantánamo prisoners - and with one man, Shaker Aamer, who is still held - to staunch the flow of dangerous documents being released as part of a civil claim for damages brought by a number of former prisoners. These had already revealed uncomfortable truths about the complicity in torture of former Prime Minister Tony Blair and former foreign secretary Jack Straw, and although David Cameron, the Prime Minister of the new coalition government, hopes to prevent any further damning revelations emerging, by announcing that a judicial inquiry into British complicity in torture will be held, directed by Sir Peter Gibson, who was previously responsible for overseeing the conduct of the security services, it is by no means certain that the inquiry will be able to halt further revelations, some of which may well involve the US.

It may be that further documents in WikiLeaks' cache of diplomatic cables deal with the torture problems encountered in the UK since 2008, and with some of the other cases mentioned above, and it is also worth reflecting that, for the foreseeable future, diplomats may find it harder than before to exert pressure to suppress evidence of US torture, having suffered something of a hammer blow to their credibility through the documents released to date.

As a result, this is probably a good time for those in other countries who wish to hold the US government accountable for torture to press ahead with their claims and their cases, and if this is so, then on this point alone WikiLeaks' disclosures will have been invaluable.

Originally published on the website of the Future of Freedom Foundation.

Andy Worthington, a regular contributor to *The Public Record*, is the author of *The Guantánamo Files: The Stories of the 774 Detainees in America's Illegal Prison and the definitive Guantánamo prisoner list, published in March 2009*. He maintains a blog at andyworthington.co.uk.



Geraldo Rivera Wakes Up to 9/11 Truth

By Aaron Dykes / INFOWARS.COM

During a segment on Judge Andrew Napolitano's "Freedom Watch," Geraldo Rivera qualified his remarks about WTC Building 7 and his fair treatment of the "Building What?" campaign on his TV program. Geraldo first reiterated his "loathing" for conspiracy theorists as a proviso before stating that:

"I think that it is highly unlikely that our government would do anything nefarious on a scale of this epic nature. However, the building does come down in a way that is reminiscent of

The 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center was exposed to be just this type of set-up. In 1993, the FBI became, at best, dangerous enablers as they undertook a "sting" operation to prove the alleged culpability of the suspects. Even Wikipedia admits that harmless powder was swapped with real bomb material. FBI informant Emad Salem became alarmed at the introduction of real explosives and recorded his conversations with the FBI proving they enabled and allowed the bombing to go forward that killed four people.

Jeanne Meserve, the CNN anchor



a controlled demolition." According to Geraldo, the heartfelt victims' family members and the 1300+ Architects & Engineers are the only reason he paid any attention to the issue.

In another amazing Fox News moment, Geraldo Rivera explains why an alleged foiled plot in Maryland fits the M.O. and pattern of the FBI to "seduce" radicals, set them up with a bomb and push them to take action. Geraldo called the case against 21 year old Antonio Martinez, a.k.a. Muhammad Hussain, "bogus, absolutely bogus."

Bill O'Reilly told Geraldo that his explanation was "annoying him," going on to voice support for FBI anti-terrorism "stings" where radical Muslim patsies are set-up. O'Reilly, satisfied with reinforcing the official account of the next provocation in the phony War on Terror, returned to a jovial mood and told Geraldo that he and Judge Napolitano, two Fox anchors who recently voiced doubt about WTC7, should "go camping together." Is Geraldo coming around, or is the fraudulent War on Terror just becoming that transparent?

seen at the beginning of the clip, hypes the terror fear, stating that "This is just another in a long string of domestic terror cases." Her statement is true, however, inadvertently pointing to the true track record of domestic terror - and the role of the FBI and other intelligence agencies in setting up Muslim dupes to become patsies in the War on Terror. CNN themselves admit that the FBI gave this individual the bomb; again, alleged ties to Anwar Al-Awlaki are mentioned.

CIA lackey Awlaki, the famed al-Qaeda "mastermind", who, it emerged, dined with top Pentagon brass shortly after 9/11, was allegedly also behind the ink toner cartridge bombing attempt, the Christmas Day underwear bomber, the Foot Hood shooter and other failed plots. These failed plots and many, many others all demonstrate close ties to intelligence assets often provoking, funding or aiding their suspects while doing nothing to stop any attempts that could take human life.

prison planet

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