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Vol. 5, No. 2 February 2011

A FIERCELY INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Washington, D.C.

Fallujah: America's WMD Atrocity

By CHRIS FLOYD

For years, I have been writing about the American use of chemical weapons in the savage assault on the Iraqi city of Fallujah in late 2004. The results of this deployment of WMD began emerging a few months later. The clear evidence of chemical weapons damage to the civilians of the city — uncovered by Iraqi doctors working for the American-backed government — was scorned and dismissed at that time, including by many stalwart anti-war voices, apparently frightened that such “extremist” charges would somehow detract from their own “reasonable” position — perhaps even cost them their perches in the mainstream media.

(Oddly enough, my own pieces on the matter were also appearing in the mainstream media — the pages of *The Moscow Times*, the decidedly centrist, pro-business, English-language newspaper in the Russian capital, which supported my column from all attacks, including heavy hints from the American embassy that it should be dropped.)

In any case, the evidence of American WMD in Fallujah kept mounting, year after year, until finally, in mid-2010, even the BBC's most respected voices were reporting on the effects of the chemical weaponry — primarily on the children of Fallujah, some of whom were not yet born when the attack was launched.

Even without the WMD, the attack itself was one of the most horrific events of the still-unfolding act of aggression in Iraq. Presented in the US press as an old-fashioned, gung-ho, WWII-style “battle,” it was in fact a mass slaughter, largely of trapped civilians; almost all of the “terrorists” and “insurgents” in the city had long escaped during the months-long, oddly public build-up to the assault. It seemed clear that the intent was not to quash an insurgent nest, as stated, but to perpetrate an act of condign, collective punishment — primarily against

See FALLUJAH p. 4

Sorcha Faal: Russian Source or Disinformation?

How to tell the difference

By PHIL BRENNAN

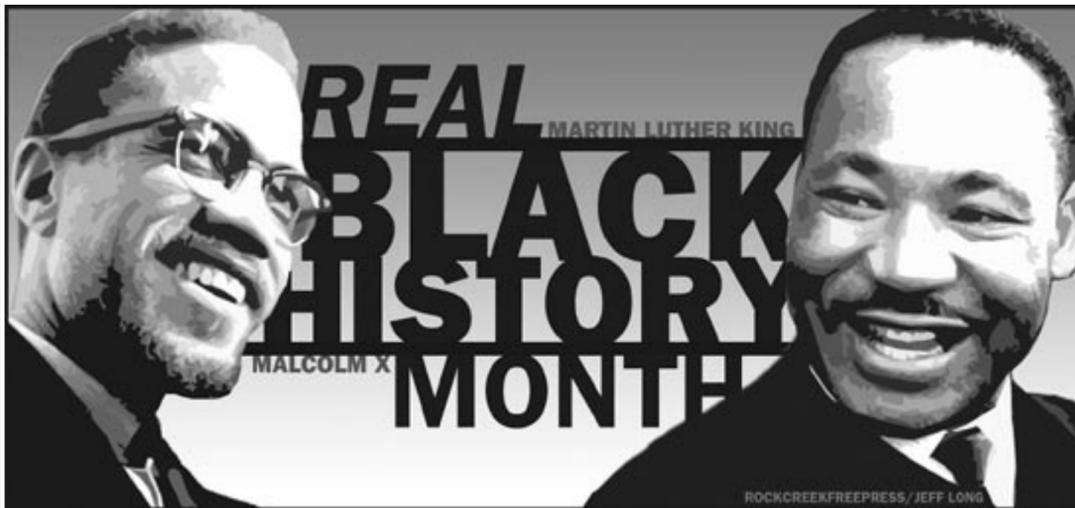
With certain people within my circle of contacts being suckered by Sorcha Faal / *EU Times* articles, I feel it is time to deal with the whole messy subject of intelligence sources.

Before I go into this subject in any great depth, I would first like to deal with Sorcha Faal, otherwise known as David Booth of the CIA. David Booth works within the Central Intelligence Agency in ongoing COINTELPRO operations. Other western intelligence agencies known for using COINTELPRO methods include MI5, MI6, GCHQ, and the think-tank, DEMOS. To be quite blunt, all intelligence agencies have their own COINTELPRO departments.

Sorcha Faal does not exist. There is no “spokesperson” within the Russian military intelligence (GRU) named Sorcha Faal. Intelligence agencies rarely make public statements, and when they do, it is always through either someone in the highest echelons of the organization or a government minister with the correct clearances, and never a mere “spokesperson”.

Do leaks ever happen through lesser agents? Yes, but those agents if caught are dealt with very strictly, usually with “Holy Orders” to keep

See DISINFO p. 7



Malcolm X: Evidence of US Intelligence Assassination

By JOHN POTASH

With February celebrated as Black History Month, the life and death of black leader Malcolm X, aka El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz, deserves a new examination. Malcolm X died from assassins' bullets on February 21, 1965, at the age of 39. By that time, Malcolm X had started a non-religious activist group that worked with Martin Luther King, Jr. and collaborated with African presidents. His legacy inspired many activist organizations. US Intelligence used tactics and personnel to target Malcolm similar to those they used against MLK and the Black Panthers.

Closer scrutiny of Malcolm X's life leading up to his murder supports the conclusion that US Intelligence orchestrated his assassination. An FBI memorandum of March 4, 1968, among other documents, confirm that US Intelligence considered Malcolm X the top threat to the

See MALCOLM X p. 5

Another MLK Day is Safely Past

Now that he is safely dead let us praise him, build monuments to his glory, sing hosannas to his name. Dead men make such convenient heroes. They cannot rise to challenge the images we would fashion from their lives. And besides, it is easier to build monuments than to make a better world.

— Carl Wendell Hines

By GARY KOHLS

“Now That He Is Safely Dead” is the poignant poem that was written by black poet/musician Carl Wendell Hines soon after Malcolm X's assassination in 1965. The poem has been appropriately associated with the death of Martin Luther King, Jr. and his legacy of nonviolent struggle for black liberation, freedom, equality, economic justice and

See KING p. 5

Sick Gulf Residents Beg Officials for Help

By DAHR JAMAIL / GLOBAL RESEARCH

NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana, Jan 14, 2011 (IPS) - In an emotionally charged meeting this week sponsored by the National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill, fishermen, Gulf residents and community leaders vented their increasingly grave concerns about the widespread health issues brought on by the three-month-long disaster.

“Today I'm talking to you about my life,” Cherri Foytlin told the two commissioners present at the January 12 meeting. “My ethylbenzene levels are 2.5 times the 95th percentile, and there's a very good chance now that I won't get to see my grandbabies...What I'm asking you to do now, if possible, is to amend [your report]. Because we have got to get some health care.”

Ethylbenzene is a form of benzene present in the body when it begins to break down. It is also present in BP's crude oil.

“I have seen small children with lesions all over their bodies,” continued Foytlin, co-founder of Gulf Change, a community organization based in Grand Isle, Louisiana.

“We are very, very ill. And dead is dead. So it really doesn't matter if the media comes back... or the president hears us, or... if the oil workers and the fishermen and the crabbers get to feed their babies and maybe have a good Christmas next year... Dead is dead...I know your job is probably already done, but I'd like to hire you if you don't mind. And God knows I can't pay you. But I need your heart. And I need your voice.”

Commissioner Frances Beinecke, president

of the National Resources Defence Council, vowed to convey her concerns to the White House.

“We hear what you are saying,” said Beinecke. “We will take these health issues and concerns back to the President.”

The commission, appointed by President Barack Obama, released its final report January 11, after a six-month investigation into the nation's worst-ever oil disaster.

The report recommended a massive overhaul of the oil industry's failed safety practices in the Gulf, as well as the creation of a new independent agency to monitor offshore drilling activity.

However, most of the 250 people at the meeting here focused on the health crisis that

See OIL SPILL p. 2

Turkish Intel Chief Exposes CIA Operations Via Islamic Group in Central Asia

“In the 1990s Gülen's Madrasas sheltered 130 CIA agents” in Kyrgyzstan & Uzbekistan.

By SIBEL EDMONDS / BOILINGFROGSPOST

On January 5 *The Washington Post's* Jeff Stein published a very interesting but incomplete story regarding a recently published memoir by former Turkish Intelligence Chief Osman Nuri Gundes. Here is the title of his post: “Islamic group is CIA front, ex-Turkish Intel chief says”. For those of you familiar with my case and what I've been covering here at Boiling Frogs Post, this exposé is ‘old news’ but nonetheless a vindication. As for those

who are first-timers here or not that familiar with my case, this is an opportunity for a bit of background and to learn a few important points and facts that you won't be getting from the ‘half-picture’ presented by *The Washington Post*.

In his memoir Gundes claims that Fethullah Gülen's worldwide Islamic movement based in Pennsylvania has been providing cover for the CIA since the mid-1990s, and that in the 90s, the movement “sheltered 130 CIA agents” at its schools in

Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan alone.

Now, as I've done before, I am going to praise Jeff Stein, whom I know and like, for his solid journalistic talent and background and give him a few credits for actually covering this story (it is one of those ‘thou shall not cover’ areas in an agreement between the US mainstream media and the US government). Before I bash the piece, its half-ass coverage, incomplete background, and its incredibly lenient treatment of a shady-

See TURKISH INTEL p. 8

Sunstein Decries “Conspiracy Theories” but Says Some Conspiracies (Torture and Spying) Should Go Unpunished

By GEORGE WASHINGTON

Cass Sunstein was the main adviser to the Obama White House advocating against prosecuting Bush administration officials for torture, illegal spying, and other crimes. And Sunstein is also the guy who proposed that the government use its power to suppress “conspiracy theories.”

As Glenn Greenwald wrote in January:

Cass Sunstein has long been one of Barack Obama's closest confidants. Sunstein is currently Obama's head of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs where, among other things, he is responsible for “overseeing policies relating to privacy, information quality, and statistical

programs.” In 2008, while at Harvard Law School, Sunstein co-wrote a truly pernicious paper proposing that the US Government employ teams of covert agents and pseudo-“independent” advocates to “cognitively infiltrate” online groups and websites — as well as other activist groups — which advocate views that Sunstein deems “false conspiracy theories” about the Government. This would be designed to increase citizens' faith in government officials and undermine the credibility of conspiracists.

Sunstein advocates that the Government's stealth infiltration should be accomplished by sending covert agents into “chat rooms, online social networks, or even real-space groups.” He also proposes that the

Government make secret payments to so-called “independent” credible voices to bolster the Government's messaging (on the grounds that those who don't believe government sources will be more inclined to listen to those who appear independent while secretly acting on behalf of the Government). This program would target those advocating false “conspiracy theories,” which they define to mean: “an attempt to explain an event or practice by reference to the machinations of powerful people, who have also managed to conceal their role.”

So Sunstein is really saying the government should use its power to protect powerful people.

See CONSPIRACIES p. 8

US Special Ops: Christian Crusaders

Changing Mosques into Cathedrals, Ooh-Rah!

Seymour Hersh: Many within Joint Special Operations Command are, “Members of, or at least supporters of, Knights of Malta.”

SEYMOUR HERSH VIA FOREIGN POLICY

“What I'm really talking about is how eight or nine neoconservative whackos, if you will, overthrew the American government. Took it over,” Hersh said in a speech given in Doha, Qatar on January 17. “It's not only that the neocons took it over but how easily they did it — how Congress disappeared, how the press became part of it, how the public acquiesced.”

Hersh then brought up the widespread looting that took place in Baghdad after the fall of Saddam Hussein in 2003. “In the Cheney shop, the attitude was, ‘What's this? What are they all worried about, the politicians and the press, they're all worried about some looting? ... Don't they get it? We're gonna change mosques into cathedrals. And when we get all the oil, nobody's gonna give a damn.’”

“That's the attitude,” he continued. “We're

See CRUSADERS p. 7

UN Report on Hariri Assassination:

Final report, cooked up by players in New York, fixes blame on Hezbollah

By WAYNE MADSEN REPORT

On January 12, eleven ministers from the Hezbollah-Aoun bloc resigned from the Lebanese government. Prime Minister Saad Hariri cut short his trip to the United States and flew home from Washington via Paris. The Hezbollah-Aoun bloc is calling for new elections. There is a feeling among the bloc that Hariri was cutting a side deal in New York with Clinton, Sarkozy, the Saudis, and the UN to accept the Special Tribunal findings assigning blame on the Rafik Hariri assassination on Hezbollah.

WMR has learned that the final report of the UN's Special Tribunal on Lebanon was made known to leaders from the United States, France, Saudi Arabia, Israel, and Lebanon in New York with an agreement by most parties that blame will be fixed for all of Lebanon's recent assassinations, most of them signature Mossad remotely-controlled car bombings, on Lebanese Hezbollah. Hezbollah, aware of the secret deals in New York, has announced that it will pull out of the Lebanese coalition government led by Prime Minister Saad Hariri, son of slain ex-Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, a victim of one of the Mossad-CIA car bombs, thus bringing down the Lebanese government.

Saudi King Abdullah, in New York for surgery on a herniated disc, met with Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and spoke by phone with President Obama on the forthcoming UN tribunal report on Hezbollah. A key member in the talks was Assistant Secretary of State for Near East Affairs Jeffrey Feltman, who is as close to the government of Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu as he is to his own government. Feltman, a former US

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CDC Adjusts Fluoride Level Downward

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You want statins with those fries?

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CDC Recommends Lower Fluoride Levels for America's Water Supply

By Mike Adams / NATURALNEWS

A startling report issued by the US Centers for Disease Control (CDC) admits that two in five children in America show signs of fluoride poisoning (streaking, spotting or pitting of teeth due to dental fluorosis). Based on the January 7 report, the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) concluded that fluoride levels need to be lowered in municipal water supplies, reducing fluoride to 0.7 milligrams per liter (the previous recommended upper limit was 1.2 milligrams per liter).

This ends over five decades of the US government recommending up to 1.2 milligrams of fluoride in every liter of water. But even the new lower levels are still more than enough to cause serious harm to children, and when mothers make infant formula using fluoridated tap water, they inadvertently poison their infants with hundreds of times the level of fluoride that would normally be found in healthy human breast milk.

Fluoride is still a poison

It's so rare to find any agency of the federal government actually doing anything even resembling a good decision these days that the CDC's decision deserves some level of kudos. Even though it doesn't end the destructive practice of poisoning the water supply with fluoride, it's a step in the right direction. But it doesn't go nearly far enough, say industry watchdogs.

"It's a good start that they've finally recognized that after 65 years they needed to lower the 'optimal' level of fluoride," Professor Paul Connett told NaturalNews. He's the executive director of the Fluoride Action Network (www.FluorideAlert.org), which is spearheading the fight against water fluoridation in the United States. "It should have happened years ago."

Connett goes on to explain why the CDC's decision doesn't go nearly far enough:

"The bad news is that the CDC and the American Dental Association (ADA) are still trying to maintain that the only issue of concern is dental fluorosis, [while] they are trying to ignore all the other health concerns. If they were really serious about reducing dental fluorosis, they would stop fluoridated water altogether. But short of that, if they were really serious, then the next best thing would be to warn parents in fluoridated communities not to use fluoridated tap water to make baby formula. That's the most practical thing to do."

It is unknown how many children in America and around the world have been poisoned by infant formula made with fluoridated tap water, but that number continues to grow each day water fluoridation continues.

Is the announcement a PR stunt?

About the CDC's motives for this announcement, Connett characterizes it as a bit of a PR stunt:

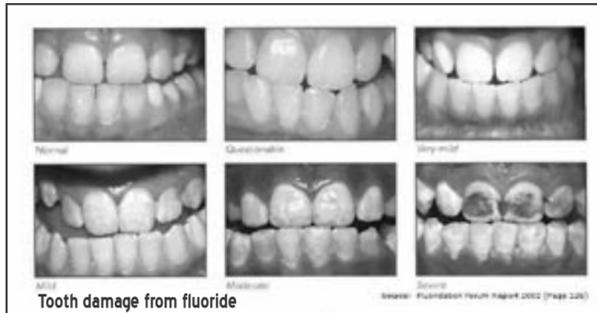
"All that's happening here is really a PR exercise to make it look as if they are addressing the public's concerns without really doing anything substantial. [They] give the message that they're going to choose a level which would allow the water fluoridation program to continue. That's a travesty of science and another example where these Washington-based agencies are more interested in protecting a policy than in protecting the health of the American people."

"They've completely ignored all the IQ studies and the notion that fluoride damages the brain," Connett explains.

Connett isn't the only one hoping to see the CDC ban fluoride outright. ABC News is reporting today that Dr. Griffin Cole, a dentist in Austin, Texas, said, "I still don't think it's enough, honestly," he said. "I don't think there should be fluoride in the water at all."

"Ingesting fluoride in any form does nothing for your teeth," he said. He also points out that dental fluorosis leads to costly dental work being needed to restore the patient's teeth. "When you see a case of somebody coming in with bad fluorosis, to restore those teeth you either have to crown them completely or at least do a veneer. So it's a very costly thing to fix."

That's sort of the whole point of



Tooth damage from fluoride

fluoride, actually: To bring in repeat business to dental offices around the country. It's the same scam as mercury fillings which crack teeth and result in a steady stream of repeat business to repair the damage. Over half of today's practicing dentists have already stopped using mercury fillings ("silver fillings") due to the toxicity of mercury.

Both mercury and fluoride are founded in the corrupt dental industry which has, for over a hundred years, poisoned the American people in order to protect its business model of harming people in order to generate repeat business. The dental industry operates in almost precisely the same way as the pharmaceutical industry: If you keep people sick, they'll keep coming back for more "treatments."

Fluoride is dangerous to your health

Even though the CDC's decision still supports water fluoridation, it nevertheless sends a powerful message across the country that too much fluoride is dangerous for your health.

This should slap shut the mouths of at least some of the fluoride-pimping dentists and doctors who have been advocating this mass poisoning of our nation for the last several decades. But there's much more to this story that's not being reported anywhere else.

For one thing, do you know where fluoride comes from? It turns out that so-called "fluoride" is really fluorosilicic acid, a toxic waste byproduct of the phosphate mining industry. If it wasn't being dumped into the water supplies of major cities, it would have to be disposed of as a hazardous toxic waste chemical under EPA rules.

When the phosphate mining industry used to release fluoride byproducts directly into the atmosphere (from the fumes of the acidic slurry used to process phosphate rock), it caused the widespread death of cattle and crops. In order to protect local livestock from fluoride poisoning, wet scrubbers were installed at the phosphate mining processing sites in order to collect the toxic fluoride and prevent it from being released into the atmosphere.

Fluorosilicic acid is derived from these wet scrubbers, then sold to cities and towns to have it dumped into the water supply. That's one reason why so-called "fluoride" is so toxic: It's not a naturally-occurring mineral! It's actually a toxic waste chemical that, if it were dumped into the water supply by a terrorist, would be called a Weapon of Mass Destruction. The act of dumping it into the water, from any rational perspective, must be considered an act of terrorism.

For the CDC to limit this act of terrorism to only 0.7 mg per liter rather than 1.2 mg per liter isn't exactly a huge victory. As Connett explains, it is actually an admission that the CDC supports the mass poisoning of the American people with a dangerous toxic chemical.

Take action to oppose fluoride in New York City and San Diego

If you live in San Diego, you may be subjected to water fluoride poisoning this year. Please use these new links that were just set up by the Fluoride Action Network:

Residents of San Diego use this link: <http://salsa.democracynaction.org/>

Non-Residents of San Diego use this link: <http://salsa.democracynaction.org/>

Also, if you live or work in New York City or even live in the state of New York, please stay tuned to NaturalNews for upcoming action items on that front. A new bill is now slated to be introduced

in New York City on January 18th that would eliminate water fluoridation throughout the city. We intend to garner grassroots support for that bill and, thereby, eliminate toxic fluoride from the New York City water supply.

After all, don't New York City citizens deserve clean water? Doesn't America? Doesn't the entire world?

Interestingly, with today's report, the CDC has decided that "too much" fluoride is bad for you, but "a smaller amount of fluoride poison" is just fine for your health. As I said, it's a step in the right direction, and the CDC deserves some credit for this decision, but until all the fluoride poison is removed from ALL the water in America, children are still being harmed by fluoride. The CDC has a moral and regulatory responsibility to ban fluoride from being dumped into municipal water supplies.

Let us hope this agency will soon rise to this moral standard and take action to protect the health of the American people rather than protecting the financial interests of the morally repugnant (and highly corrupt) industry of conventional dentistry.

Mike Adams is a natural health researcher, author and award-winning journalist with a mission to teach personal and planetary health to the public. www.naturalnews.com.

Sick Gulf Residents Beg Officials for Help

OIL SPILL from p. 1

has exploded in the wake of the April 2010 disaster, leaving former BP clean-up workers and Gulf residents alike suffering from ailments they attribute to chemicals in BP's oil and the toxic dispersants used to sink it.

Dr. Rodney Soto, a medical doctor in Santa Rosa Beach, Florida, has been testing and treating patients with high levels of oil-related chemicals in their bloodstream.

These are commonly referred to as volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Anthropogenic VOCs from BP's oil disaster are toxic and have negative chronic health effects.

Dr. Soto is finding disconcertingly consistent and high levels of toxic chemicals in every one of the patients he is testing.

"I'm regularly finding between five and seven VOCs in my patients," Dr. Soto told IPS. "These patients include people not directly involved in the oil clean-up, as well as residents that do not live right on the coast. These are clearly related to the oil disaster."

Nevertheless, US government agencies like the Environmental Protection Agency, Food and Drug Administration, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, along with President Obama himself, have declared the Gulf of Mexico, its waters, beaches, and seafood, safe and open to the public.

Gulf residents at the meeting on January 12 made sure the two commissioners were aware of the health crisis they are facing.

Tom Costanza of Catholic Charities in the New Orleans area stated that the region is in the middle of a social service crisis and faces a claims process he said is fraught with problems.

"People call me crying and dying," he said. "They need medical attention and support to get through this."

Ada McMahon works with Bridge the Gulf Project, a citizen journalism



website that highlights stories from Gulf Coast communities about justice and sustainability. She told IPS that "the unmet health issues are the biggest issue, along with residents turned advocates going to meetings of the commission or with [BP oil spill fund administrator Kenneth] Feinberg to tell people about their health problems."

"People who can afford the \$300 blood tests have found alarming rates of chemicals in their bodies, and these people are concerned and doing what they can to speak out," she said. "But they feel they can't wait for Congress or Obama to address this, because they need doctors and support now in the communities."

LaTosha Brown, director of the Gulf Coast Fund for Community Renewal and Ecological Health, which works with 250 community groups, agreed that "the key concern expressed by the community in response to the report is the overwhelming need for access to health care."

"Over and over, people exposed to crude and dispersants from the drilling disaster told stories of serious health issues — from high levels of ethylbenzene in their blood, to respiratory ailments and internal bleeding — and expressed an urgent need for access to doctors who have experience treating chemical exposure," she said.

Stephen Bradberry, Executive Director

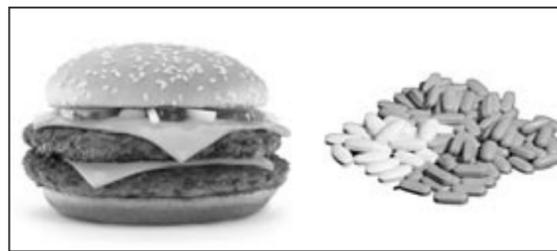
of the Alliance Institute, a non-profit that provides community organizing support in the Gulf South, worries that the Gulf Coast Claims Facility is not accepting health claims, thus leaving sick residents unable to work and without any income to pay their medical bills.

"There is bruising and skin lesions, not just with clean-up workers. These are residents not involved in the clean-up," Bradberry told IPS. "Just yesterday I learned of five people on Grand Isle who passed away...people who did not have health problems prior to this. Nevertheless, there has not been any talk of monitoring of these communities."

Bradberry, who also attended the forum on Wednesday, also said, "We need a separate health task force that can focus solely on testing, monitoring, and studying the long-term health issues from exposure to crude and dispersants. And this needs to happen now."

Dahr Jamail, an independent journalist and frequent contributor to Global Research. Jamail is the author of *The Will to Resist: Soldiers Who Refuse to Fight in Iraq and Afghanistan*, and *Beyond the Green Zone: Dispatches From an Unembedded Journalist in Occupied Iraq*. Jamail reported from occupied Iraq for nine months as well as from Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and Turkey over the last five years.

Statin Condiments: Would You Like Statins with that Burger?



By Elaine Sullivan/RCFP

We already have fluoride dumped into our drinking water supposedly to keep us from getting cavities. Now some doctors think we should have statin supplements handed out with our cheeseburgers and fries to combat heart disease. According to a group of medical researchers, that is exactly what we should do. Emily A. Ferenczi, MRCP, Perviz Asaria, MPH, Alun D. Hughes, PhD, Nishi Chaturvedi, MD, and Darrel P. Francis, FRCP (It should be noted that Dr. Francis is supported by a grant from the British Heart Foundation, London, United Kingdom) wrote up such a proposal in their article, "Can a Statin Neutralize the Cardiovascular Risk of Unhealthy Dietary Choices?" (*Am J Cardiol* 2010;106:587-592). This group of investigators "...compared the increase in relative risk for cardiovascular disease associated with the total fat and trans fat content of fast foods against the relative risk decrease provided by daily statin consumption..." They concluded that "...statin therapy can neutralize the cardiovascular risk caused by harmful diet choices." But the researchers did not stop there. They went on to propose:

"Given the frequency of fast food consumption and the adverse health consequences of the foodstuffs supplied, we propose that the fast food industry is well placed to offer advice and supplements to counteract the cardiovascular harm arising from the foods they purvey. These companies already have an infrastructure for providing a variety of condiments, including salt, tomato ketchup, and other sauces, none of which have any health benefits but are made available free of charge. A generic statin could be added to the panoply of items in the self-service tray, at little marginal cost, in combination with other healthy lifestyle suggestions."

This is not a joke. The article justifies this mind boggling proposal with logic such as: "In other spheres of human activity, individuals choosing risky pursuits (motorcycling, smoking, driving) are advised or compelled to use measures to minimize the risk (safety

equipment, filters, seat belts). Likewise, some individuals eat unhealthily. Routine accessibility of statins in establishments providing unhealthy food might be a rational modern means to offset the cardiovascular risk. Fast food outlets already offer free condiments to supplement meals. A free statin-containing accompaniment would offer cardiovascular benefits, opposite to the effects of equally available salt, sugar, and high-fat condiments. Although no substitute for systematic lifestyle improvements, including healthy diet, regular exercise, weight loss, and smoking cessation, complimentary statin packets would add, at little cost, one positive choice to a panoply of negative ones."

According to Mike Adams of NaturalNews, "What [the researchers] don't mention is the disastrous side effects of statin drugs: extreme muscle pain and weakness, kidney failure, the loss of CoQ10 (a vital nutrient for heart health), liver damage, erectile dysfunction, constipation and much more."

The more serious side effects of statins include myositis, which is inflammation of the muscles. According to WebMD.com, "the risk of muscle injury increases when certain other medications are coupled with statin use. Muscle pain, mild inflammation, and possibly weakness are also seen. This condition, though uncommon, can take a long time to resolve."

The most severe serious side effect of statins is called rhabdomyolysis. "Muscles all over the body become painful and weakened because of extreme muscle inflammation and damage. The kidneys can become overworked trying to eliminate a large amount of muscle breakdown caused by statin use. The severely damaged muscles release proteins into the blood that collect in the kidneys, thereby causing damage. This can ultimately lead to kidney failure or even death." (www.webmd.com)

Other side effects of statins listed

at www.statinanswers.com include people experiencing memory loss, or an inability to concentrate as well, and feel that they are developing Alzheimer's disease when taking statin drugs. This memory loss may be so extreme as to be amnesia that lasts for 6 to 12 hours. These types of problems are known as cognitive defects. Other people claim to experience mood swings and other behavioral changes when taking statins. These differences in behavior are not just subjective feelings on the part of the individual but tend to be corroborated by family members. Fortunately, most people return to normal after discontinuing the statin drug.

Although the investigators acknowledge some side effects, they seem to feel that handing out packets of a drug without a prescription and with possibly life-threatening side effects to millions of people is okay.

"The widespread clinical use of statins has permitted extensive review of their safety profile. Reports have concluded that statins have a favorable 'benefit-to-risk' ratio, with only rare adverse effects reported in hepatic, renal, and muscle tissue and no associated increase in non-cardiovascular mortality. If statins are to be made more readily available

....and on the tray, next to the ketchup, will be a new and protective packet, 'MacStatin,' which could be sprinkled onto a Quarter Pounder or into a milkshake."

by fast food outlets, statin toxicity might become a greater concern, but statins have been shown to be safe even at high doses. We can conclude that the documented safety record of statins is substantially better than that of fast foods, which carry not only direct cardiovascular risks but other risks due to obesity. It cannot therefore be reasonably argued on safety grounds that individuals should be free to choose to eat lipid-rich food but not be free to supplement it with a statin. It would be no more sensible than allowing individuals to drive without training or a license but at the same time restricting access to seat belts and airbags. Despite this, we would advocate that appropriate studies be conducted to evaluate the potential risks of 'unsupervised' statin availability."

But according to an article by Paul Joseph Watson for Prison Planet, "...a new study published in the Cochrane Library, which reviews drug trials, examined data from 14 drugs trials involving 34,000 patients and found evidence of 'short-term memory loss, depression and mood swings,' that had

been deliberately underplayed by the drug companies funding the research. The researchers warn that, 'Statins should only be prescribed to those with heart disease, or who have suffered the condition in the past. Researchers warn that unless a patient is at high risk of suffering a heart attack or stroke, statins may cause more harm than good.'

Dr. Francis and his colleagues continue: "We envisage a future in which fast food restaurants encourage a holistic approach to healthy living. On ordering an unhealthy meal, the food will arrive labeled with a warning message similar to those found on cigarette packets ("This meal increases your risk for heart disease and death"), and on the tray, next to the ketchup, will be a new and protective packet, 'MacStatin,' which could be sprinkled onto a Quarter Pounder or into a milkshake. This could easily be provided at no extra charge, just as sugar and salt currently are (despite being harmful). To prevent individuals from believing that the packet is a 'cure-all,' it should be accompanied by a leaflet stating, "No tablet can counteract the full spectrum of harm that comes from eating unhealthily. Better ways to reduce your risk for death from heart attack include eating healthily, exercising, maintaining a healthy weight, and not smoking."

Mike Adams, in his August 2010 article, "Doctor urges fast food restaurants to hand out pharma drugs like ketchup packets," states, "The very premise of this argument is extremely dangerous: That you can go ahead and keep eating toxic fast food as long as you 'protect' yourself by taking dangerous chemical medications. That a doctor would actually recommend giving out free statin drugs to fast food customers is yet more proof that conventional medical training is a total failure and that mainstream doctors continue to remain clueless about real answers to health."

"Mike Adams concludes: "I think the bottom line here is that too many medical researchers are taking their own drugs because one of the very first side effects from taking daily medications is a loss of cognitive function and impaired ability to reason. And when that goes, there's no telling what kind of whoppers these people will come up with." I have to whole heartedly agree.

Elaine Sullivan is the health editor for the Rock Creek Free Press and a homeschooling mom.

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A FIERCELY INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Spinning Unemployment in a Collapsing Empire

By PAUL CRAIG ROBERTS

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reported January 7 that the economy gained only 103,000 new jobs in December—not enough to keep up with population growth—but the rate of unemployment (U.3) fell from 9.8% to 9.4%. If you are confused by the report, you are among the many.

In truth, what fell was not the number of unemployed people but the number of employed people who are actively looking for work. Those who have become discouraged and have ceased looking for work are not considered to be in the work force and are not counted as unemployed in the U.3 measure. The unemployment rate fell because discouraged workers increased, not because employment rose.

The BLS counts short-term discouraged workers (less than one year) in its U.6 measure of unemployment. That unemployment rate is 16.7%. When statistician John Williams (shadowstats.com) adds the long-term discouraged, the US unemployment rate as of December 2010 was 22.4%.

The question to ask yourself is: why does the media focus on the unemployment measure that does not count any discouraged workers? The answer is that the U.3 measurement only counts 42% of the unemployed and makes the situation appear to be a lot better than it is.

Where are the 103,000 new jobs? As I have reported for years, the jobs are in non-tradable domestic services: waitresses and bar tenders, health care and social assistance (primarily ambulatory health care services), and retail and wholesale trade.

Today the United States has only 11,670,000 manufacturing jobs, less than 9% of total jobs. Yet, despite America's heavy dependence on foreign manufactures and foreign creditors, the idiots in Washington think that they are a superpower standing astride the world like a colossus.

John Williams reports that "the level of payroll employment still stands below where it was a decade ago, despite the US population growing by more than 10% in the same period. The structural impairments to US economic activity continue to constrain normal commercial activity, preventing any meaningful recovery in business activity."

Another way of saying this is that American corporations have taken American jobs offshore and given them to the Chinese. So much for big business patriotism.

Williams also reports that, unless it is fangled, next month's BLS benchmark revision of payroll employment data will lower the level of previously reported employment by more than 500,000.

Federal Reserve chairman Ben Bernanke used his testimony before the Senate Budget Committee January 7 to warn that the US government must get its budget deficit under control or "the economic and financial effects would be severe." Here Bernanke is acknowledging that the Federal Reserve cannot indefinitely print money in order to finance wars and bailouts of the mega-rich.

But how is the government to get its budget under control? The US government, regardless of political party or president, is committed to American hegemony over the world. The Congress has just passed the largest military budget in history, and there is no indication that any of America's wars and military occupations are near an end.

The financial crisis is not over, with more foreclosures and more losses for the financial sector that will result in more taxpayer bailouts for those "too big to fail." John Williams says that the double-dip is already happening, just disguised by faulty statistics, and that the deficit implications are horrendous and

are likely to result in hyperinflation as the Federal Reserve will have to monetize the otherwise unfinanceable deficits.

The dollar is also in danger, its role as reserve currency undermined by the Federal Reserve's creation of more and more dollars. Temporarily, the dollar is buttressed by the grief that Wall Street's sale of fraudulent derivative financial instruments to Europe has caused the euro.

The Republicans will try to destroy Social Security and Medicare in order to pay for wars and bailouts. If Americans are capable of realizing that they are threatened on a much greater level by the Republicans' evisceration of the social safety net than they are by terrorists, the Republican assault on what they call "the welfare state" will fail.

The fallback target will be private pensions, assuming any of them survive plunder by the Wall Street investment banks. Pension funds could be required to invest in Treasury debt or they could face a levy. In the Clinton administration, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Alicia Munnell proposed confiscating 15% of all pension assets on the grounds that they had accumulated tax free. Certainly Washington will steal Americans' pensions, just as Washington has stolen Americans' civil liberties, in order to continue the empire's wars of hegemony.

Increasingly, the rest of the world views America as the single source of its financial and political woes. While the superpower massacres Muslims in the Middle East and Central Asia, people in the rest of the world have learned from WikiLeaks that the US government manipulates, bribes, threatens, and deceives other governments in order to have those governments serve the US government's interest at the expense of the interests of their own people.

The American Imperial Empire rests on puppet governments that are increasingly distrusted and hated by the peoples under their rule. Like the Soviet Union's Eastern European Empire, the American Empire is ruled not directly but through puppet states.

Puppet governments are caught between the empire's power and the power of the local population. To the extent that Europeans have a moral conscience, they will find America's foreign policy increasingly repugnant. To the extent that Muslim solidarity grows, the Muslim puppet governments that support America's and Israel's massacres of Muslims will find themselves threatened from within.

The American Empire is on the rocks, despite its vast arsenal of nuclear weapons and its control over the foreign and domestic policies of its subservient puppet states in Western and Eastern Europe, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, parts of Africa, the Middle East, Japan, Thailand, Indonesia, the Baltic states, Georgia, Kosovo, Mexico, Central America, Colombia, and, no doubt, others.

A country that is the font of war and oppression, whose dominance rests on the weak reed of puppet states, and whose economy is collapsing will not long remain dominant.

Paul Craig Roberts was Assistant Secretary of the Treasury during President Reagan's first term. He was Associate Editor of the Wall Street Journal. He has held numerous academic appointments, including the William E. Simon Chair, Center for Strategic and International Studies, Georgetown University, and Senior Research Fellow, Hoover Institution, Stanford University. He was awarded the Legion of Honor by French President Francois Mitterrand. He is the author of Supply-Side Revolution: An Insider's Account of Policymaking in Washington; Alienation and the Soviet Economy and Meltdown: Inside the Soviet Economy, and is the co-author with Lawrence M. Stratton of The Tyranny of Good Intentions How Prosecutors and Bureaucrats Are Trampling the Constitution in the Name of Justice.

WikiLeaks And Assange: Limited Hangouts In The Service Of The CIA

A LETTER TO THE EDITOR FROM WEBSTER TARPLEY

To the Editor:

It was with deep dismay that I saw that the *Rock Creek Free Press* had chosen to name Julian Assange as its Man of the Year. The celebrity of Assange and WikiLeaks represents a large CIA covert operation. You do not debate a CIA covert operation or engage in a dialogue with it. You unmask it and try to shut it down. This goal is not served by making Assange Man of the Year. Further: your newspaper has deep roots in the old 9/11 truth movement, and Assange is a self-declared enemy of 9/11 truth. As Assange told *Belfast Telegraph* reporter Matthew Bell last July, "I'm constantly annoyed that people are distracted by false conspiracies such as 9/11, when all around we provide evidence of real conspiracies, for war or mass financial fraud." In other words, Assange argues that the truth about 9/11 is not nearly as radical as the various scandals which WikiLeaks claims to expose.

And what are Assange's scandals? He started his intensive deployment phase this year with video of a Class A US war crime in Iraq, which was very graphic but which dealt with an incident which was already widely known. The second document dump focused on Iraq, but now the targeting had shifted to Prime Minister Maliki, the Iranian asset whom the US by some strange coincidence was trying to oust as leader of Iraq in favor of the US puppet Allawi. With the third document dump, this time involving State Department

cables, we found out much derogatory gossip about such classic CIA targets as Russian prime minister Putin, Italian Prime Minister Berlusconi, the Russian-Italian strategic alliance, President Fernandez de Kirchner of Argentina, and President Karzai of Afghanistan, along with jabs at supposed US allies who need to be kept off-balance and dependent, including the Saudi Arabian royal family, French President Sarkozy, and others. WikiLeaks thus directs the vast majority of its fire against figures who are part of the CIA's enemies list.

No Equal Time for CIA Covert Operations
Assange also provides a splendid pretext for draconian censorship and limitations on the freedom of the internet. The totalitarian liberal Senator Feinstein wants to bring back Woodrow Wilson's infamous Espionage Act of 1917 in honor of Assange. In this sense Assange is a provocateur and provocateurs must be exposed, denounced and discredited, not given equal time to make their case.

Assange must be seen not as an activist, not as a journalist, and not as an entertainer, but rather as a spook. John Young of Cryptome, according to some reports, has denounced WikiLeaks, to which he formerly belonged, as a CIA front. In a December 29 RT interview, Young described the internet as "a very large-scale spying machine." The internet is indeed a vast battlefield, where the intelligence agencies of

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Why Are We Still in Afghanistan?

How the Power of Myth Keeps Us Mired in War

By IRA CHERNUS

January 20, 2011 "TomDispatch" — When I try to figure out why we are still in Afghanistan, though every ounce of logic says we ought to get out, an unexpected conversation I had last year haunts me. Doing neighborhood political canvassing, I knocked on the door of a cheerful man who was just about to tune in to his favorite radio show: Rush Limbaugh. He was kind enough to let me stay and we talked.

Conservatives are often the nicest people — that's what I told him — the ones you'd like to have as neighbors. Then I said: I bet you're always willing to help your neighbors when they need it. Absolutely, he replied.

So why, I asked, don't you want to help out people across town who have the same needs, even if they're strangers? His answer came instantly: Because I know my neighbors work hard and do all they can to take care of themselves. I don't know about those people across town.

He didn't have to say more (though he did). I knew the rest of the story: Why should I give my hard-earned money to the government so they can hand it out to strangers who, for all I know, are good-for-nothing loafers and mooches? I want to be free to decide what to do with my dough and I'll give it to responsible people who believe

in taking care of themselves and their families, just like me. I'll give my money to the government only to protect us from strangers in distant lands who don't believe in the sacred rights of the individual and aim to take my freedom and money away.

What a story it is — a tale of mythic proportions! As an historian of religions, I was trained to appreciate, even marvel at the myths people tell to make sense out of the chaos of their lives. So I can't help admiring the conservative myth: so simple yet all encompassing, offering clear and easy-to-grasp answers that cut through the everyday complexities besetting us all.

Of course, the answers are far too simplistic, as stupid (in my opinion) as they are dangerous. But I was also trained to be non-judgmental and to admire the power of a myth even when I find it morally abhorrent. And this one is impressive, with its classic good-guys-versus-bad-guys plot line turned into a stark political tale of freedom versus slavery.

White Americans, going back to early colonial times, generally assigned the role of "bad guys" to "savages" lurking in the wilderness beyond the borders of our civilized land. Whether they were Redskins, commies, terrorists, or the Taliban, the plot has always remained the same.

Call it the myth of national security — or, more accurately, national insecurity, since it always tells us who and what to fear. It's been a mighty (and mighty effective) myth exactly because it lays out with such clarity not just what Americans are against, but also what we are for, what we want to keep safe and secure: the freedom of the individual, especially the freedom to make and keep money.

The President Trapped in a Myth and a War

No politician who aspires to real influence on the national level can afford to reject that myth or even express real doubts about it, at least in public, as Barack Obama surely knows. Not surprisingly, President Obama has embraced the myth in his most important speeches: The bad guys are always out there. ("Scripture tells us that there is evil in the world.") The good guys have no choice but to fight against the evildoers. ("Force may sometimes be necessary.")

Because every myth has variants, though, politicians can still make choices. In Obama's version of the myth, the federal government can be a force for good. So he has a domestic fight on his hands every day against right-wingers who cast the

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The Hypocrisy of America's Democracy

"Sometimes people hold a core belief that is very strong. When they are presented with evidence that works against that belief, the new evidence cannot be accepted. It would create a feeling that is extremely uncomfortable, called cognitive dissonance. And because it is so important to protect the core belief, they will rationalize, ignore and even deny anything that doesn't fit in with the core belief." - Frantz Fanon

"Killing One Person Is MURDER—Killing 100,000 Is FOREIGN POLICY." - Anonymous

By LARRY PINKNEY / BLACKCOMMENTATOR.COM

The United States of America is, in reality, a one-party corporatist state whose very existence is, more than ever, perpetuated by a conscious deliberate denial of reality, even in the face of the obvious.

This nation's internal and external political, economic, and military policies have nothing whatever to do with "democracy," "justice," or "human rights;" and everything to do with exploitation, hegemony, deceit, and control of the many by the few. No amount of rationalization can change or ameliorate this fact.

Everyday Black, White, Brown, Red, and Yellow people in this actual one-party US corporatist state are the de facto cannon fodder of the corporate / military Democratic and Republican Party foxes and wolves respectively. Moreover, it is utterly absurd and delusory to expect "hope" to bring about much-needed systemic "change." The time is here for the people of this nation to dispense with myths, face reality, and change it.

Corporations are in constant covert (and often unabashed overt) control of the White House, the congress, and the judiciary, even as this nation's infrastructure deteriorates and living standards plummet along with decent living wages and opportunities for everyday people. The two Rs—Rhetoric and Repression—are what the masses of everyday people are the daily recipients. Meanwhile, the corporate elite of corporations including Honeywell, General Electric, Lockheed, Boeing, and so very many more—rake in billions upon billions of dollars in blood money as they develop and perfect ever more sinister and devastatingly hideous devices and killing machines—to the scourge of humankind and the entire planet. There is no war (declared or undeclared) that the corporate / military elite do not support—for whether any war itself is won or lost—this avaricious corporate / military elite wins. They smugly and arrogantly wrap themselves in apparent political expediency under the cover of grotesquely distorted patriotism—sanctimoniously financially enriching themselves—while bathing in the precious irreplaceable blood of everyday people of

this nation and that of people around the globe. This is the corporate trough from which the politicians of this nation drink and to which they are beholden.

With over 800 US military bases / installations throughout this planet—the amoral symbiotic relationship between corporations and politicians in this nation (including the judiciary and ever-compliant corporate-stream "news" media) reeks with the stench of hypocrisy, injustice, subterfuge, and death. As the present robotic, black-faced, corporate / military, nominal head of the US empire shamelessly wages military wars abroad while facilitating repression against political dissenters and against any possibility of having informed, honest, and real dialogue at home; the hypocrisy of 'America's' so called democracy is self evident whether or not people choose to see the obvious.

Then of course there are the blatant right-wingers who cling to their own form of blind insanity and denial in search of yesterday; followed closely by the "liberals" who stand for absolutely nothing other than lofty rhetoric and the ultimate continuation of this hypocrisy which they call democracy. For example, over two years ago, the rhetoric of "liberals" loudly questioned the correctness of George W. Bush's wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, etc.—but quickly turned a blind, complicitous eye to the widening of these very same bloody wars by Barack Obama. Once more, the hypocrisy is self evident. Both the blatant right-wing and the so-called "liberals" have one very important thing in common: They both support the maintenance and perpetuation of the US corporate / military empire, only differing with one another in how this is to be done. Neither camp seriously questions or opposes, the validity of or right to, world hegemony by the US corporate / military elite. Indeed, this nation continues to have a 21st century form of the 'Manifest Destiny,' which led to the brutal genocide of the Indigenous Red peoples on this continent—all in the distorted name of God, patriotism, and "civilization." Very little of substance has changed today. In fact the US corporate / military elite has

actively pushed the people of this nation and world backwards—once again, in the name of "progress."

There can be no viable appeal to reason when the obvious is so studiously ignored. Thus, the need to intensify in our efforts to educate, agitate, and organize with and among everyday Black, White, Brown, Red, and Yellow people.

This 'American' democracy is a terrible hypocrisy and a bloody sham. Only by consciously breaking away from the imagined comfort zone of mental stupor that many people find themselves in can we collectively and uncompromisingly bring about real systemic change. This struggle for human rights and economic and political justice is a local, national, and international in scope. It is linked to the struggle of everyday peoples around the world. And comfortable people don't make change. The mental-stupor comfort zone must be shattered in order to step into reality and collectively change it.

Justice for the people of Haiti! Justice for the people of Tunisia! Justice for the people of South Africa! Justice for the people of France, Germany, Greece, Iceland and Spain! Justice for the everyday people of the United States of America! Justice for students and workers! Justice for the peoples of the world! Visualize a world free of corporate / military domination! Visualize it and struggle to make it real.

We must end this hypocrisy in 'America,' and in the words of Langston Hughes, "Let America Be America Again!" Let it be the 'America' of and for everyday people in harmony with everyday people of the world—of our Mother Earth, for she calls to us and we must answer!

Onward my sisters and brothers! Onward!

BlackCommentator.com Editorial Board Member, Larry Pinkney, is a veteran of the Black Panther Party, the former Minister of Interior of the Republic of New Africa, a former political prisoner and the only American to have successfully self-authored his civil/political rights case to the United Nations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. For more about Larry Pinkney see the book, Saying No to Power: Autobiography of a 20th Century Activist and Thinker, by William Mandel [Introduction by Howard Zinn].

Fallujah: America's WMD Atrocity

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civilians — in order to terrorize the rest of Iraq into submission. As I noted at the time of the initial attack in 2004:

"There are more and more dead bodies on the streets and the stench is unbearable. Smoke is everywhere. It's hard to know how much people outside Fallujah are aware of what is going on here. There are dead women and children lying on the streets. People are getting weaker from hunger. Many are dying from their injuries because there is no medical help left in the city whatsoever. Some families have started burying their dead in their gardens.

"This was a voice from the depths of the inferno: Fadhil Badrani, reporter for the BBC and Reuters, trapped in the iron encirclement along with tens of thousands of civilians.



US Hum-Vees on the streets of occupied Fallujah

"One of the first moves in this 'magnificent feat' was the destruction and capture of medical centers. Twenty doctors — and their patients, including women and children — were killed in an airstrike on one major clinic, the UN Information Service reports, while the city's main hospital was seized in the early hours of the ground assault. Why? Because these places of healing could be used as "propaganda centers," the Pentagon's "information warfare" specialists told the *New York Times*.

"So while Americans saw stories of rugged 'Marlboro Men' winning the day against Satan, they were spared shots of engineers cutting off water and electricity to the city — a flagrant war crime under the Geneva Conventions, as CounterPunch notes, but standard practice throughout the occupation. Nor did pictures of attack helicopters gunning down civilians trying to escape across the Euphrates River — including a family of five — make the TV news, despite the eyewitness account of an AP journalist. Nor were tender American sensibilities subjected to the sight of phosphorous shells bathing enemy fighters — and nearby civilians — with unquenchable chemical fire, literally melting their skin, as the *Washington Post* reports. Nor did they see the fetus being blown out of the body of Artica Salim when her home was bombed during the "softening-up attacks" that raged relentlessly — and unnoticed — in the closing days of George W. Bush's presidential campaign, the *Scotland Sunday Herald* reports."

The wanton, unnecessary destruction of Fallujah is one of the central war stories of our time. Yet it is almost entirely forgotten, especially among the people in whose name this vast crime was committed. But the marks of this atrocity live on in its victims. Over the holidays, while America's high and mighty were making merry, yet another detailed study was released confirming a major spike in birth defects in Fallujah following the attack. The *Guardian* reports:

A study examining the causes of a dramatic spike in birth defects in the Iraqi city of Falluja has for the first time concluded that genetic damage could have been caused by weaponry used in US assaults that took place six years ago.

The findings, which will be published in the *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, come prior to a much-anticipated World Health Organization study of Fallujah's genetic health. The findings are likely to prompt further speculation that the defects were caused by depleted uranium rounds, which were heavily used in two large battles in the city in April and November 2004.

One case documented in the report is of a mother and her daughter who after the 2004 battles both gave birth to babies with severe malformations. The second wife of one of the fathers also had a severely deformed baby in 2009. "It is important to understand that under normal conditions, the chance of such occurrences is virtually zero," said Savabieesfahani.

Birth-defect rates in Fallujah have become increasingly alarming over the past two years. In the first

half of 2010, the number of monthly cases of serious abnormalities rose to unprecedented levels. In Fallujah general hospital, 15% of the 547 babies born in May had a chronic deformity, such as a neural tube defect — which affects the brain and lower limbs — cardiac, or skeletal abnormalities, or cancers.

No other city in Iraq has anywhere near the same levels of reported abnormalities. Fallujah sees at least 11 times as many major defects in newborns than world averages, the research has shown.

The new report follows on the harrowing findings reported by the BBC and *The Independent* (but strangely omitted from the American media) in mid-2010:

Iraqi doctors in Fallujah have complained since 2005 of being

Aylwin-Foster, a British commander serving with the American forces in Baghdad.

He added that the US commander who ordered this devastating use of firepower did not consider it significant enough to mention it in his daily report to the US general in command. Dr. Busby says that while he cannot identify the type of armaments used by the Marines, the extent of genetic damage suffered by inhabitants suggests the use of uranium in some form. He said: "My guess is that they used a new weapon against buildings to break through walls and kill those inside."

As I noted then, the effects of these wonder-weapons were, to borrow Barack Obama's term for the Bush Regime's "surge" in Iraq, "an extraordinary achievement."

From *The Independent*:
The study, entitled "Cancer, Infant Mortality and Birth Sex-Ratio in Fallujah, Iraq 2005-2009", is by Dr. Busby, Malak Hamdan and Entesar Ariabi, and concludes that anecdotal evidence of a sharp rise in cancer and congenital birth defects is correct. Infant mortality was found to be 80 per 1,000 births compared to 19 in Egypt, 17 in Jordan and 9.7 in Kuwait. The report says that the types of cancer are "similar to that in the Hiroshima survivors who were exposed to ionizing radiation from the bomb and uranium in the fallout".

Researchers found a 38-fold increase in leukemia, a ten-fold increase in female breast cancer and significant increases in lymphoma and brain tumors in adults. At Hiroshima, survivors showed a 17-fold increase in leukemia, but in Fallujah, Dr. Busby says, what is striking is not only the greater prevalence of cancer but the speed with which it was affecting people.

A city whose birth defect rate is 11 times the world average. A city where children are suffering from cancers "similar to that in the Hiroshima survivors" — indeed, where the increase in leukemia is far greater than among the first victims of American WMD. Oh where are our great American moralists, who rant and rage at the exposure of a nipple or the thought of gay sex? Why have they not seized on this terrible crime "against the children," this horrible, criminal overreach of "big government?" Oh where are our great American progressives, who stood so tall and proud against the American war machine when it was led by an embarrassing vulgarian, but now occupy themselves with handwringing and bead-counting about the political fortunes of his bloodstained successor, now perpetrating his own mini-Fallujahs week after week against defenseless villagers in Pakistan?

I'm going to finish by repeating my conclusion of the July 2010 piece. Hell, I might just repeat it every six months from now until kingdom come:

I have written about Fallujah over and over for a long time. In many respects, these stories are like the ones I've written about the American-abetted horrors in Somalia: no one gives a damn. Well, I don't give a damn that no gives a damn. I'm going to keep ringing this bell until my arm falls off. We Americans have committed and countenanced a great evil in Iraq. I can't change that and it's obvious that I cannot prevent the "continuity" of such hellish atrocities by the progressive Peace Laureate now in the White House, and by whatever similar blood-soaked poltroon comes to lead the never-ending Terror War for Loot and Power after him. But by god I will not let it be said that I stood by and failed to bear witness to this raging filth.

From 2004:

"The inferno...is what is already here, the inferno where we live every day, that we form by being together. There are two ways to escape suffering it. The first is easy for many: accept the inferno and become such a part of it that you can no longer see it. The second is risky and demands constant vigilance and apprehension: seek and learn to recognize who and what, in the midst of the inferno, are not inferno, then make them endure, give them space." — Italo Calvino, *Invisible Cities*.

Chris Floyd is an award-winning American journalist, and author of the book, *Empire Burlesque: High Crimes and Low Comedy in the Bush Regime*. He has written for: *The Moscow Times* and the *St. Petersburg Times in Russia*, *Truthout.org*. His work appears regularly in *CounterPunch*, *Floyd co-founded the blog Empire Burlesque with webmaster Richard Kastelein*.

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the US-UK, China, Israel, Russia, and many others clash every hour of the day, with commercial spies, hackers, anarchists, cultists, mercenary trolls, and psychotics all getting into the act as well. Intelligence agencies deliberately feed real and doctored material to various websites, sometimes using their own disgruntled employees as cutouts, conduits, and go-betweens. This means among other things that Bradley Manning cannot be taken at face value, although it is also clear that he like anyone else should not be tortured.

Assange is now famous, it might be argued. But the Wall Street controlled media can make anyone famous, from Lady Gaga to Justin Bieber to Snookie, and this is what they have done with Assange. It is wrong to capitulate to the demagogic power of these media by making it appear that there might be some legitimate value to Assange. Up to now, the CIA has been organizing color revolutions using Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, and so forth as vehicles. Now they think they have a cult figure whom they can sell to the youth bulge in the Arab world and other developing countries, where most of the population is under 30. This is an operation which must be exposed.

Most recently, WikiLeaks has played a role in the CIA's new "Jasmine Revolution" in Tunisia by publishing some State Department cables about the sybaritic luxury and lavish lifestyle of the Ben Ali clan, leading to the downfall of that regime. The CIA is now gloating that with the help of WikiLeaks it can now topple all the Arab regimes at will, from Mubarak to Qaddafi to Bouteflika, and replace them with new and more pliable puppets eager to clash with Iran, Russia, and China

If Assange ever launches his much-touted doomsday machine against the Bank of America or some other financial institutions, we will be justified in asking that the Securities and Exchange Commission make public the extent of short interest in those stocks by certain hedge funds, especially those controlled by George Soros. And as far as Assange's attacks on the Vatican are concerned, they fit neatly into four centuries of British intelligence warfare against the Holy See, going back to Guy Fawkes and Lord Robert Cecil's Gunpowder Plot of 1605 and beyond. Not much new or radical here.

WikiLeaks: No Serious Derogatory Information about US, UK, Israel

It is illuminating that none of Assange's document dumps have revealed any notable scandals involving Great Britain or Israel. No US public figures have had to resign because of anything WikiLeaks has done. No major ongoing covert operation or highly placed agent of influence has been blown.

After all these months, there are still no US indictments against Assange, even though we know that a US grand jury will readily indict a ham sandwich if the US Attorney demands it. If the CIA had wanted to silence Assange, they could have subjected him to the classic kidnapping aka rendition, meaning that he would have been beaten, drugged, and carted off to wake up in a black site prison in Egypt, Poland, or Guantanamo Bay. Otherwise, the CIA could have had recourse to the usual extralegal network.

We must also assume that the new US Cybercommand with its vast resources would have little trouble shutting down the WikiLeaks mirror sites, no matter how numerous they

WikiLeaks and Assange: Limited Hangouts in The Service of The CIA

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might be. The same goes for Anonymous and other flanking organizations of WikiLeaks. But these considerations are purely fantastic. Assange emerges today as the pampered darling and golden boy of *The New York Times*, *Der Spiegel*, *The Guardian*, *El Pais* — in short, of the entire Anglo-American official media Wurllitzer. He reclines today in baronial splendor in the country house of a well-connected retired British officer who should be quizzed by the media about his ties to British intelligence. The radical-chic world, from Bianca Jagger to Michael Moore, is at Assange's feet.

Cass Sunstein Present at the Creation of WikiLeaks

WikiLeaks was apparently founded in 2006. Originally, the group was programmed to attack China, and its board was heavily larded with fishy Chinese dissidents and "democracy" activists from the orbit of the Soros foundations. Interestingly, the first big publicity breakthrough for WikiLeaks in the mainstream US media was provided by an infamous totalitarian liberal today ensconced in the Obama White House — none other than Cass Sunstein. In Sunstein's op-ed published in the *Washington Post* of February 24, 2007 under the title "Brave new Wikiworld," we read: "WikiLeaks.org, founded by dissidents in China and other nations, plans to post secret government documents and to protect them from censorship with coded software." How interesting that Sunstein was present at the creation of the new WikiLeaks psywar operation!

This is the same Sunstein who today heads Obama's White House Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs. In his January 2008 Harvard Law School Working Paper entitled "Conspiracy Theories," Sunstein infamously demanded that the United States government deploy groups of covert operatives and pseudo-independent agents of influence for the "cognitive infiltration of extremist groups" — meaning organizations, activists and Internet websites who espouse beliefs which Sunstein chooses to classify as "false conspiracy theories."

WikiLeaks = Cass Sunstein's Program for Cognitive Infiltration In Action

It should be clear that Assange and WikiLeaks are precisely the practical realization of Sunstein's program for "cognitive infiltration" shock troops to counteract and overwhelm any real mass understanding of oligarchical domination in the modern world, and any discussion of what kind of economic policies are needed to secure a recovery from the present world depression.

Assange must also be seen as a deeply troubled individual and a possible psychopath. He has the ravaged emotional complexion that we might expect from an alumnus of one of the MK-Ultra operations. He reportedly spent several years in the mentalid Anne Hamilton-Byrne cult (also known as The Family and Santiniketan) near Melbourne, Australia. Here, little children were separated from their parents and made to ingest LSD, Anatenzol, Diazepam, Haloperidol, Largactil, Mogadon, Serepax, Stelazine, Tegretol, Tofranil, and other potent psychopharmaca. Dozens of children were told that Hamilton-Byrne was their real mother, and had their hair dyed blond. Anne Hamilton-Byrne reportedly regarded blond hair as a sign of racial superiority. Careful observers will have noted that Assange's hair is sometimes blond,

sometimes more brownish, raising the question of whether his grooming practices are a residue of his time with Hamilton-Byrne, whom he says he does not remember.

With Assange, we thus have the tragic spectacle of the emotionally mutilated product of a CIA (or MI-6) covert operation of 40 years ago, who has now been given a prominent role in a key counter-insurgency ploy of the present time. Will the youth of the world, already burned by their recent fatuous obsession with Obama, be duped again by such an impaired individual?

The Precedent: Pentagon Papers Whitewashed CIA, Blamed Army, Demonized Kennedy

Assange's revelations mainly involve communications labeled Confidential or Secret, and many which in reality would be over-classified if marked Official Use Only. In other words, Assange is in reality a purveyor of low level cable traffic, not of earth-shattering secrets. This reminds us of an earlier CIA limited hangout operation, the one known as the Pentagon Papers.

This was a carefully screened selection of historical documents, supplemented by outright forgeries, relating to the Vietnam War and compiled by Morton Halperin and Leslie Gelb, both of whom have gone on to glittering careers in the imperialist foreign policy establishment. Gelb became president of the Council on Foreign Relations, while Halperin serves today as chief political officer of the Soros wolfpack of foundations. The Papers were leaked by former RAND Corporation official Daniel Ellsberg, who had been a murderous hawk in Vietnam before a suspicious Damascus Road conversion to pacifism, and then published in the US establishment press — similarly to Assange today. There was nothing in the Pentagon papers which a casual reader of *Le Monde* or *Corriere della Sera* did not already know. But, as Mort Sahl later said, left liberals have generally had very few heroes, so they batted on to Ellsberg and lionized him — led by Noam Chomsky, Howard Zinn, and some others. (This is a syndrome which we see again today: at the moment when Obama's treacherous sellout on the Bush tax cuts was providing a final disillusionment for many gullible left libs, Assange arrived on the scene as their new Savior. Not by chance, Ellsberg has now designated Assange as his own reincarnation, and thus surely the new Messiah.)

The Pentagon Papers had been carefully selected by the CIA itself to cover up CIA war crimes in Vietnam, blaming these on the US Army wherever possible, while also obscuring the CIA's massive program of drug production and narcotics smuggling. The Pentagon Papers systematically hid the salient political fact of the entire Vietnam era, which is that President John F. Kennedy before he was assassinated was preparing to end the de facto US combat role in that country. Instead, Kennedy was systematically demonized and smeared, emerging as the villain of the piece. Needless to say, the Pentagon Papers throw no light whatsoever on the CIA role in the Kennedy assassination — in the same way that Assange's various document dumps tell us nothing of importance about 9/11, the Rabin assassination, Iran-contra, the 1999 bombing of Serbia, the Kursk incident, the various CIA color revolutions, or many of the other truly big covert operations of the past decades.

The limited hangout is not new; it was described in a secret memorandum by Venetian intelligence chief Paolo Sarpi to the Venetian Senate in 1620 as the art of "saying something good about somebody while pretending to be saying something bad." That is the common denominator of the CIA's limited hangout operations from Ellsberg to Assange, with so many other "former" CIA operatives turned "whistleblowers" along the way.

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Malcolm X: Evidence of US Intelligence Assassination



Malcolm X and family

MALCOLM X from p. 1

wealthiest white power structure. It discussed the "long range goals" including: "Prevent the rise of a 'messiah' who could unify, and electrify, the militant black nationalist movement. Malcolm X might have been such a 'messiah'; ... Martin Luther King, Stokely Carmichael and Elijah Muhammad all aspire to this... [particularly] King... should he abandon his supposed 'obedience' to 'white liberal doctrines' (nonviolence)."

Malcolm X's radical activist evolution started with his father, Earle Little. Working as a preacher, Little led a Lansing, Michigan chapter of Marcus Garvey's Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA). The UNIA gained widespread appeal in the 1920s and '30s, reaching a million members amongst northern US blacks.

Garvey originally started his UNIA with its black pride activism in his birth country of Kingston, Jamaica before re-starting it in Harlem. Garvey's life appeared to reflect the effect of government oppression of many black leaders and groups to come after him. He first supported socialists and anti-colonialists worldwide. He had a successful international shipping company that helped distribute his Negro World newspaper to the Caribbean and Africa, where other UNIA chapters started. When both British and US Intelligence officials (including emerging FBI leader J. Edgar Hoover) took action against him, he tried on a more conservative, capitalist but nationalist stance that he hoped would allow him to get back into the US. In spite of this moderation of his position, Garvey was shot, imprisoned, deported and exiled for his activist work.

Malcolm X was born in 1925 and grew up in Lansing, MI. The town's segregationist and racist rules included banning blacks from East Lansing after dark. When leaders, such as Earl Little, tried to organize for change, racist whites threatened them. For example, Lansing's Ku Klux Klan, the Black Legion, threatened Little and then burned his house down in 1929.

In 1931, when Malcolm was 6, his father was found dead with a crushed skull and his body almost cut in half, reportedly due to being laid on street car tracks and run over by a street car. Malcolm's mother, Louise Little, paid for the funeral through a small insurance policy. A larger company wouldn't pay on Little's life insurance because they called it a suicide.

Malcolm rose to a position of influence within the Nation of Islam (NOI), becoming the group's national spokesman. From the late '50s on, Malcolm X's leadership of the New York NOI mosque helped him meet with third world revolutionaries and African leaders in the New York-based United Nations. The FBI began their surveillance file on him early in the 1950s, but, by the start of the '60s, US Intelligence agents were writing as many as several reports a week on Malcolm X and his radical influence over blacks.

The CIA grew concerned about Malcolm's influence with these leaders. African leaders soon embraced Malcolm X and had him take part in their political decisions. From the mid-1800s to the mid-1900s, European nations had invaded and forcibly taken Africa's riches of oil, diamonds and other minerals until independence movements drove the European colonizers out.

After WWII devastated most European countries, the chances for African independence movements to gain control of their countries were expedited and US corporations needed to gain control of African wealth through more subtle means. Malcolm's input about racism in the US threatened to sabotage multinational corporations' hundred million-dollar deals.

Malcolm X criticized America's capitalist system for exploiting people in general, but he believed that its historical racism kept people of color particularly disadvantaged. With a huge media presence, he expressed his ideas to large forums. However, NOI leader Elijah Muhammad disagreed with Malcolm's leftist political activism. Muhammad restricted Malcolm's political activities, leading Malcolm to split with the NOI in 1964.

African leaders helped fund Malcolm's travels; and he started a new activist group in '64, which he named the Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU) in connection with the Organization of African Unity (OAU). African presidents had invited Malcolm as the only American in their OAU meetings because they recognized him as the leader of black American interests.

While Malcolm X maintained his position of militant self-defense, he also began directly collaborating with Martin Luther King's group and other civil rights movement leaders. For example, Malcolm mentored Revolutionary Action Movement leader Maxwell Stamford. Malcolm also supported equality for women, saying that the non-equality of African women in African organizations hindered the liberation movement. Deviating from the chauvinist stereotype of Muslims, Malcolm said he wanted to practice equality and give women more of a leadership roll in his OAAU.

Undercover police agent infiltrator Gene Roberts joined the OAAU at its inception and rose to the leadership ranks of its Harlem-based security force. Roberts worked for the New York Police department's Bureau of Special Services (BOSS). The FBI directed BOSS actions as part of its Counter Intelligence Program (Cointelpro) against Malcolm X. In direct violation of the National Security Act of 1947, CIA superiors supervised this entire domestic US Intelligence apparatus.

US Intelligence had made several attempts on Malcolm's life early in his development. In 1958, New York detectives shot up Malcolm X's office, for which the city settled with Malcolm in a \$24 million lawsuit. FBI undercover agent, John X Ali, who infiltrated the Nation Of Islam (NOI), could provide the floor plan since he was living with Malcolm at the time.

Agent John X Ali also reportedly played a part in orchestrating the firebombing of Malcolm's house in 1965. Ali had risen to a national secretary assignment, one of the highest leadership positions in the NOI. NOI leader Elijah Muhammad's son, Wallace Muhammad, said several FBI undercover agents in the NOI national staff helped Ali make that rise, as also attested to by FBI documents.

Malcolm X believed that US Intelligence also set up his near-fatal poisoning in Cairo, Egypt in late July of 1964. He said CIA agents made their presence obvious to intimidate him as he traveled through Africa. They didn't want him to present his planned United Nations proposal, with African leaders, to declare that the US was violating American blacks' human rights.

At a Cairo restaurant, Malcolm said that just as he felt the poison in his food, he recognized the waiter as someone he had seen in New York. Rushed to the hospital, he was barely saved by a stomach pumping. The attending doctor said there was poison in his food. Malcolm had been concerned about NOI death threats, but he knew they didn't have a global spy capacity.

Several other disclosures support Malcolm's belief that this was a CIA attempt on his life. A high level African diplomat later said that the French Counter-Espionage Department reported that the CIA planned Malcolm's murder, and France barred Malcolm for the first time in fear of getting scapegoated for the assassination. The FBI Director wrote a confidential memo on Malcolm's travel plans through Britain and France. He sent it to the CIA Director, the Army Intelligence (Intel) chief, the Naval Intel Director, and the Air Force Counterintel chief, as well as Intel chiefs in London and Paris. One such memorandum on Malcolm and African leaders went directly to the CIA director of covert action, Richard Helms, who had a key role in assassination plots.

FBI and police action on the day of Malcolm X's assassination, February 21, 1965, confirms their role in it. An FBI document mentions that [undercover agent] John Ali met with Talmadge Hayer (a.k.a. Thomas Hagan), one of the gunmen that shot Malcolm X, the night before the assassination. Hotel information on Ali's stay in New York those days supports this. At the Audubon Ballroom hall where Malcolm X gave his last speech, uniformed police left the area. At every other speech by Malcolm, uniformed officers were present inside and outside the halls.

Gene Roberts' revealed his undercover police agent status at a trial against the Black Panthers in 1971. Roberts had followed members of Malcolm X's OAAU as they started the New York Panther chapter. Under cross-examination at the trial, Roberts said he was the first to arrive at Malcolm's body and he "proceeded to give Malcolm X mouth-to-mouth

resuscitation." But Roberts revealed more, in interviews decades later, which suggests that his real role was to check Malcolm X's vital signs to confirm the assassination's success.

Roberts described the actions of his wife, Joan Roberts, who was with him at the event. When Malcolm X was shot, Malcolm's wife Betty Shabazz first tried to cover her daughters and screamed, "They're killing my husband!" When the shooting stopped, Shabazz, a nurse, went to run to her husband, but Joan Roberts grabbed her. Shabazz struggled to get free, threw Roberts into a wall and ran to Malcolm. Gene Roberts said he was there checking Malcolm's pulse. He turned to Shabazz and said Malcolm was dead.

Roberts admission bore even more importance due to its historical parallels. Martin Luther King's family attorney, William Pepper, extensively documented revelations on the role of undercover infiltrator, Military Intelligence agent Marrell McCullough in Martin Luther King's assassination. McCullough disclosed how he raced to and knelt over Martin Luther King as he lay bleeding from the fatal shooting.

Pepper noted that McCullough was "apparently checking him for life signs," making sure the assassination was successful and signaling to Military Intelligence that "the army snipers there as backup shooters [weren't needed as]...the contract shooter [hadn't]... failed to kill King." They then communicated to the Special Force Group snipers, who were waiting for their shooting orders, that they could disengage.

Police officials' admissions and later events supported the malevolent roles of the Roberts. Without Gene Roberts' disclosure at a trial six years later, no one would have known he worked undercover for the BOSS police intelligence unit. New York's *Herald Tribune* also said a "high police official" confirmed that several undercover BOSS agents were in the Ballroom audience at the assassination of Malcolm X.

Police and media's cover-up actions were extensive. For example, New York's *Herald Tribune* and *The New York Times* reported



Martin King and Malcolm X

that, just after the shooting of Malcolm, police detained two people who were grabbed by the crowd. A later *Herald Tribune* edition said the crowd only grabbed one person, without acknowledging their earlier account.

The *New York Times* later edition dropped the second suspect from its subheading, but still quoted patrolman Thomas Hoy who said that, while one subject was grabbed by Malcolm's supporters, he grabbed a second suspect being chased by some people. Hoy further said, "the crowd began beating me and the suspect" in the Ballroom. In the following days, no mention was made of the second suspect in the mass of media's accounts.

The media also largely ignored the circumstances around the death of Malcolm's close ally, Leon 4X Ameer. Mainstream media alleged that he died of an overdose of sleeping pills fewer than twenty days after Malcolm's assassination. This happened just after Leon 4X announced plans to produce tapes and documents proving that the government was responsible for Malcolm X's assassination.

Soon after Malcolm's murder, a partially deleted FBI memo noted the CIA's desire to get rid of Malcolm. The memo also offered a key motive. It said a *Life Magazine* reporter agreed with a source that the reporter should "check out Washington and the CIA because they wanted Malcolm out of the way because he 'snaufed' African relations for the US", risking deals worth vast amounts of money for top American corporations.

This article was adapted from a chapter of John Potash's book: The FBI War on Tupac Shakur and Black Leaders: US Intelligence's Murderous Targeting of Tupac, MLK, Malcolm, Panthers, Hendrix Marley Rappers and Linked Ethnic Leftists. www.fbiwarontupac.com

Another MLK Day is Safely Past

KING from p. 1

the pursuit of happiness for all.

Ignoring Dr. King's first principle of confronting injustice with nonviolent struggle, America has posthumously awarded him the monument of a national holiday with frequent references to the moving "I Have A Dream" speech. Officialdom tolerates the retelling of the Dream, hoping that the yearly event honoring this more "benign" and less militant King suffices to quell the real demands for real freedom and equality.

And so another MLK Day has safely passed into memory.

Most peace and justice-seekers who have read the above poem feel that Hines' masterpiece applies equally to the legacy of other assassinated whistle-blowers and champions of the downtrodden, including Jesus of Nazareth, Mohandas Gandhi, Malcolm X, John Fitzgerald Kennedy, Robert Kennedy and Paul Wellstone.

Jesus, of course, was another one of those whistle-blowing tellers of the truth who advocated and/or practiced active resistance to evil in the nonviolent struggle for the relief of human suffering. His radical teachings of unconditional love thrived for only two or three centuries after his death, and today, barely survives in a few remnants of the original form of Christianity.

Dr. King was one of those remnants that recognized the original voice of Jesus and had the courage to preach those radical and dangerous truths. Dr. King knew all about the power and practicality of the Sermon on the Mount, the Golden Rule and the love of enemies. And he knew about the rapid reversal of those highly ethical teachings and the takeover of the church by the state starting about 300 CE.

Purging the prophets

But the voices of the prophets always get silenced in violent societies, and it isn't by accidents.

Both ancient and modern powers-that-be recognize dangerous whistle-blowers when they see them, and they usually don't waste much time planning the "silencing". Usually the prophets are initially ignored. Then, if that doesn't succeed, they are violently opposed. Finally (rarely, it seems to me), the truth may be ultimately accepted as self-evident (idea stolen from German philosopher Schopenhauer).

In our more complicated era, Schopenhauer's dictum still holds, but now there are more sophisticated ways to discredit: by rumors, infiltration of the prophet's movement by agents provocateur, death threats to the victim or family, "think tanks" to spread disinformation to the media, harassment and even arranging murders that look like accidents or suicides or by some "deranged" or planted patsy.

And so it goes. Being a prophet is hazardous duty ("a vocation of agony" as King described it).

Whistle-blowers such as Dr. King know very well that they are going to pay a heavy price for their refusal to bow down to authority. They know that they will have to endure character or physical assassination if they don't shut up.

"I Have a Dream" vs. "Beyond Vietnam": A world of difference

Dr. King is mostly known for his "I Have a Dream" speech and his courageous civil rights activism on behalf of poor and oppressed African-Americans. The powers-that-be seem to be OK with the sentiments in that speech, as long as the granting of full freedom and opportunity for blacks and minorities continues to be slow AND the truth about King's commitment to Christian nonviolence remains unacknowledged and unheard.

It is important to realize that Dr. King's commitment to his struggle for human rights for all came out of his understanding of the life, mission and gospel ethics of his mentor, Jesus of Nazareth. Dr. King's belief in nonviolent societal transformation mirrored the politics and theology of Jesus (as well as Gandhi, who was inspired by the Sermon on the Mount), and it was the teachings of those two heroes of his that shaped the civil rights movement and his antiwar activism. The success of King's nonviolent tactics is proven by the fact that his enemies had to resort to killing him in order to stop the movement.

And it was Dr. King's willingness to come out against the dirty war in Vietnam in his powerful "Beyond Vietnam" speech that unleashed the final assassination plot in an effort to silence him permanently (or so his killers hoped) with a single bullet to the head exactly one year later, April 4, 1968.

"The greatest purveyor of violence in the world today is my own government"

Dr. King had struggled for months with what



Dr. Martin King and family

he felt was his calling to speak out against the war, and eventually he realized that he had no choice but to do so.

He said: "As I have walked among the desperate, rejected and angry young men, I have told them that Molotov cocktails and rifles would not solve their problems. I have tried to offer them my deepest compassion while maintaining my conviction that social change comes most meaningfully through nonviolent action. But, they asked, what about Vietnam? They asked if our own nation wasn't using massive doses of violence to solve its problems, to bring about the changes it wanted. Their questions hit home, and I knew that I could never again raise my voice against the violence of the oppressed in the ghettos without having first spoken clearly to the greatest purveyor of violence in the world today - my own government."

King saw the connections between the financial, spiritual and psychological costs of participation in the human slaughter of the innocents in Vietnam and the racial and economic violence that was preventing poor blacks from attaining justice in America. King knew a nation couldn't simultaneously fund both "guns and butter" (the notion that a nation can pay for war and simultaneously provide for its people's basic human needs). American politicians had already made the choice. The funding was going to go to the guns and not the butter. Pouring scarce resources into war-making automatically sabotages socially programs that benefit the poor.

America lost President Johnson's "war on poverty" because it fought Johnson's and Nixon's wars in Vietnam. Understanding the connections between those realities is important, and Dr. King understood them. He knew that the war in Vietnam meant that freedom for the oppressed at home was going to be delayed - perhaps forever if the proponents of white racism had anything to say about it. And, as Dr. King often said: "justice delayed is justice denied."

Many historians believe that Dr. King's "Beyond Vietnam" speech was equivalent to the signing of his own death warrant. The war profiteers, pro-war politicians and assorted militarists in positions of power at the time absolutely could not tolerate his antiwar activism. King was working for justice for all, which necessarily meant the defenseless Vietnamese women and children who were being indiscriminately targeted, starved, maimed, murdered, bombed and napalmed. The soil, water and unborn children of Vietnam were being poisoned for generations to come by Agent Orange and other military toxins. King had no choice but to object on the basis of his conscience.

King endured daily, anonymous death threats

King received, on a daily basis, during the years leading up to that fateful day in Memphis, dozens of cowardly death threats from the racist reactionaries who were afraid of black equality.

Oppressors naturally fear whatever long-overdue reprisals (or indictments and prison terms) will occur when their oppressed victims gain their freedom, but they don't seem to fear for their souls or the souls of the nation they were trying to dominate. In this regard, Dr. King had a warning for them.

In the Riverside Church speech he said: "A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual death."

In addition to pointing out the "guns and butter" fallacy, King accused those who waste precious resources on state-sponsored crimes against humanity of risking moral collapse.

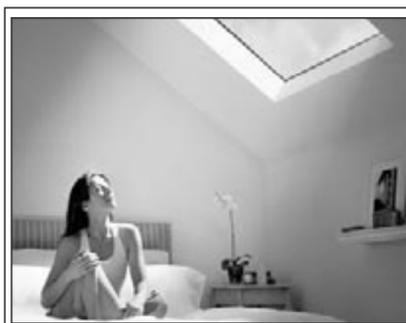
Harry Truman understood that reality, when he said, "All through history, it has been the nations that have given the most to generals and the least to the people that have been the first to fall."

The elephant in the room that the power elite hope we don't see (just like their emperor's lack of clothing) is the state-sponsored violence that Dr. King spoke out against continuously. It is the military spending that keeps justice from being delivered. Reversing poverty and racism will be impossible as long as America continues to spend an unaffordable (\$2 billion) every day on militarism. Every program of social uplift is made unaffordable when military spending is the nation's top priority.

The spirits of Martin Luther King and Jesus are not dead if only we will listen and take them seriously. Each one has been futilely trying to tell us: "Put away the sword, for those who live by the sword will perish by the sword." America is doomed if it doesn't stop wasting so much money on guns. Without serious attention to the willingness to kill, there will be no hope of achieving economic relief, sustainable jobs and an end to racism.

We can't afford to put King's message on hold for yet another year.

Gary Kohls is a retired physician from Duluth, MN who writes about peace, justice, health and religious issues. He is also a founding member of Every Church A Peace Church www.ecapc.org



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UN Report

Globalization and Its Impact on the Full Enjoyment of All Human Rights

By CARLA STEA

The voting for United Nations Third Committee Resolution A/C.365/L.38 on November 16, 2010 was revealing. Almost the entire developing world, plus Qatar, China and Russia supported the resolution. All the Western and most Eastern European countries, (whose economies are tanking, and whose citizens are rioting in outrage as their capitals explode in increasingly violent demonstrations against failed and inhuman economic policies) voted against the Resolution entitled: "Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights."

On December 2, the Human Security Report presented at the United Nations noted: "The impact of the global economic crisis on developing countries risks generating political instability and increasing the risk of war."

On November 29, 2010, *The New Yorker* published their "Annals of Economics," "What Good is Wall Street," concluding that "much of what investment bankers do is socially worthless." "Paul Woolley, a seventy one year old Englishman who has set up an institute at the London School of Economics called the Woolley Center for the Study of Capital Market Dysfunctionality, wrote, 'Why on earth should finance be the biggest and most highly paid industry when it's just a utility, like sewage or gas? It is like a cancer that is growing to infinite size, until it takes over the entire body.'" The article concludes:

"For a long time, economists and policymakers have accepted the financial industry's appraisal of its own worth, ignoring the market failures and other pathologies that plague it. Even after all that has happened there is a tendency in Congress and the White House to defer to Wall Street because what happens there, befuddling as it may be to outsiders, is essential to the country's prosperity. Finally dissidents like Paul Woolley are questioning this narrative. 'There was a presumption that financial innovation is socially valuable,' Woolley said... 'The first thing I discovered was that it wasn't backed by any empirical evidence. There's almost none.'" In other words, the Emperor is naked.

On December 1, 2010, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs released its "World Economic Situation and Prospects, 2011 Global Outlook" which reports: "Weaknesses in major developed economies continue to drag the global recovery and pose risks for world economic stability in the coming years. There will be no quick fix for the problems these economies are still facing in the aftermath of the financial crisis... Persistent high levels of unemployment, with increasing numbers of workers that have been without a job for prolonged periods, are restraining private consumption demand; they are also a continued cause of increasing housing foreclosures, which are adding to the fragility of the financial system... The longer term employment consequences of the present crisis are already becoming visible. Workers have been without a job for more time, and in some countries, youth unemployment has reached alarming heights. The share of the structurally or long-term unemployed has increased significantly in most developed countries since 2007."

In the United States, for instance, the share of workers who have been unemployed for 27 weeks or more has been rising at a disturbing pace since 2010. Persistent high unemployment, stagnant or declining real wages and subdued output recovery can push the economy into a vicious circle; the longer this vicious circle lasts, the higher the risk of 'cyclical' unemployment becoming 'structural.' In Spain, the unemployment rate more than doubled to 20.5 percent. It also increased dramatically in Ireland, reaching 15.9 percent in 2010. Some countries in Europe will see even less growth, especially where drastic fiscal austerity and continued high unemployment rates are draining domestic demand. This is especially the case in Greece, Ireland, Portugal and Spain, which are entrapped in sovereign debt distress."

Austerity measures being imposed throughout capitalist Europe are provoking raging social instability. On December 15, 2010, *The Financial Times* reports: "The sense of a government under siege was reinforced by rioting in Rome, as demonstrations across Italy drew thousands of students and workers protesting against budget cuts and the austerity program." On December 10, 2010, *The New York Times* reported: "Britain Approves Tuition Increases as Violent Protests Erupt in London."

"Britain's coalition government survived the most serious challenge yet to its austerity plans on Thursday when Parliament narrowly approved a sharp increase in college fees. But violent student protests in Central London, including an attack on a car carrying Prince Charles and his wife Camilla to the theatre, provided a stark measure of growing public resistance... The confrontation occurred when a group of about 50 protesters, some in full-face balaclavas broke through a cordon of motorcycle police flanking the car as it approached London's theater districts in slow-speed traffic. Some of the demonstrators shouted 'Off with their heads,' and others shouted 'Tory scum.' Protesters beat on the side of the armored chauffeur-driven Rolls Royce with sticks and bottles, smashing a side window, denting a rear panel, etc. ... Other violence across the city center continued into the night, with demonstrators trying to smash their way into the Treasury building at the heart of the Whitehall government district with makeshift rams made from steel crowd barriers, shouting 'We want our money back.'

At the height of the unrest, student protests have been a vehicle for wider popular resistance to the 20 percent across the board cuts in government spending announced by the Cameron government in October, with tens of thousands of young people angered by a doubling or potentially even a tripling of government regulated tuition fees. The street clashes on Thursday raised concerns that the protests could be the templates for even wider disturbances in the future, as the spending cuts and expected job losses begin to bite."

One could ask, why don't these Western European capitalist countries cut their military budgets, instead of their social welfare programs, which made possible a high level of education and health care and employment throughout these countries for so many decades. The answer seems to be that many of these countries are NATO members, and NATO requires a high level of military spending to reach standards necessary for admittance to NATO, a defunct organization to defend against a nonexistent enemy, and a serious de facto provocation and threat to Russia's safety and security, despite NATO's loud disclaimers to the contrary.

In a fascinating denouement, the *United Nations World Economic Situation and Prospects 2011*, states: "Brazil, the engine of regional growth continues with strong domestic demand to boost export growth of neighboring countries!!" In January 2011, leftist President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva completed his eight year Presidency of Brazil, a period of such extraordinary economic development and poverty reduction that the Brazilian economy has been cited as the envy of countries of the so-called 'developed world.' Lula, eschewing pomp and protocol, a President of the most humble, working class background, has proved to be Brazil's greatest President, making the largest country in South America a formidable economic and political power. Rare among world leaders, Lula was never educated at elite New England colleges, has no Harvard or Stanford degree, and despite, or perhaps because of that, his leftist government and policies of social welfare led his huge nation into the stratosphere of major world economies, as Brazil, Russia, India and China (BRIC), have become formidable economic dynamos. This socialist man of poorest origins, without prep school or Oxford credentials, proved a brilliant leader more skilled than any other currently, a global paragon outstripping the privileged 'elite' who have led Europe and the United States into economic disaster.

In the past decade, every country in South and Central America had democratically elected socialist governments and leaders, except Colombia, which hosts seven United States military bases. Twenty years ago, when the Soviet Union collapsed without a shot being fired (at first), the capitalist powers gloated that socialism had been proven a failure. Today, as bloody riots and conflagrations erupt in capitalist Athens, Madrid, Paris, Rome and London, the failure of capitalism to offer justice, equality and human dignity to the majority of its subjects has become glaringly and inescapably obvious.

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.

By DALLAS DARLING / MIDDLE EAST ONLINE

WikiLeaks reports told of collateral murders by US forces in Iraq, of pregnant women and children being shot to death at checkpoints, and of thousands of unlisted civilian casualties and deaths.

In My Lai, "The rampaging GI's were not interested solely in killing, although that seemed foremost in their minds. Just outside the village there was this big pile of bodies. This really tiny kid — he had only a shirt on, nothing else — he came over to this pile and held the hand of one of the dead. One of the GI's behind me dropped into a kneeling position thirty meters from this kid and killed him with a single shot. A GI grabbed this girl and with the help of others started stripping her. A soldier said, 'Let's see what she's made of. VC boom-boom.' Another soldier was telling the thirteen-year-old girl that she was a whore for the Vietcong. 'I'm horny,' said a third. As they were stripping the girl, with bodies and burning huts all around them, the girl's mother tried to help her, scratching and clawing at the soldiers." SPS Roberts (*Time Magazine*, November 1969) BBC reported that:

"Soldiers went berserk, gunning down unarmed men, women, children and babies. Families which huddled together for safety in huts or bunkers were shown no mercy. Those who emerged with hands held high were murdered."

The testimonies from US soldiers of the My Lai Massacre, that occurred on March 16, 1968, speak for themselves. But instead of describing how a company of soldiers went into the hamlet of My Lai, in Quang Ngai province and brutally raped and murdered over five hundred Viet Nameese women, children and elderly men, it might be more conducive at this point in the history of the American Empire to discuss the "pacification of perception" in America, especially in reference to WikiLeaks. It is well known and documented that since the end of World War II and during the Cold War, US national security and its interests have not only monopolized news and information, but it has pacified perception. By perception, I mean the ability and opportunity to acquire information and experience reality from surrounding environments or a given situation.

The public's perception, or how it observes, discerns, and then mentally interprets and judges certain events and their meaning, is really the core debate between WikiLeaks and the US Government. It is also the reason the US Government wants to extradite Julian Assange and to put him on trial for releasing information about the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq and other areas throughout the world. But the rigid control and monopolization over perception was the reason most Americans did not know that large areas in South Viet Nam were declared "free fire zones," which meant that all persons remaining within them — civilians, old people, children — were considered an enemy, and bombs were dropped at will. It was also why Americans were unaware of the CIA's "Operation Phoenix" that executed at least twenty thousand civilians in Viet Nam suspected to be Communists. Still, it was the reason Americans did not pay attention to "pacification programs."

Because of an extremely selective and internalized perception, no one knew — at least in America — how many hamlets in Viet Nam were pacified and eradicated. (Since I served with several Viet Nam veterans while in the military, they told me that there were many My Lais.) In some cases, pacification meant the complete security, or subjugation, of an area controlled and dominated by US forces and culture. This was implemented through either militarizing or policing and training local male recruits in the countryside, or through political, economic and social propaganda campaigns. It was also done through moving and resettling them into what were called "strategic hamlets." When this failed, or when the Viet Nameese sought their own freedom and even starvation and terror were used. Although some economic goods were supplied to the Viet Nameese, along with schools and infirmaries and funds

History's Lessons

My Lai, WikiLeaks and the Pacification of Perception

"... The less information and experience that one has about their world ... the smaller and more selective reality becomes. It can even cause unreality to exist in the mind. Unreality ... leads to false beliefs and misperceptions about others and events and the world. It has also led to some of the most horrendous atrocities, mass killings, and holocaust-like events throughout history. ..."



My Lai, Viet Nam

for local development projects, the prerequisites and goals of pacification were always security and loyalty, or allegiance to the United States and its military power.

When a member of Lieutenant Calley's platoon (Calley was the officer in charge and one who ordered his men to massacre innocent civilians at My Lai) appeared on CBS News with Walter Cronkite and explained that Charlie Company lined up hundreds of old men, women, children, and babies in a drainage ditch and massacred them with bayonets, bullets, and grenades, a not-so stunned American public had this to say about the shocking report: "It was good. What do they give soldiers bullets for — to put in their pockets?"; "It sounds terrible to say we ought to kill kids, but many of our boys being killed over there are just kids, too."; and, "I don't believe it actually happened. The story was planted by Vietcong sympathizers."

Meanwhile, newspapers that publish the stories and photos are threatened with boycotts, while others complain that the photos of the murdered Viet Nameese women and children were obscene because the dead victims were unclothed.

What is also troublesome is that

"The Battle Hymn of Lt. Calley".

The less information and experience that one has about their world, (when one is uniformed and unaware of others and their environment); the smaller and more selective reality becomes. It can even cause unreality to exist



My Lai, Viet Nam

in the mind. Unreality, or something that is not true and genuine but is instead false and does not conform or accept facts and certainties, leads to false beliefs and misperceptions about others and events and the world. It has also led to some of the most horrendous atrocities, mass killings, and holocaust-like events throughout history. Just as bad, this kind of "pacification of perception" destroys the ability to reason and to consider and evoke and live the principles of life, liberty, equality, happiness, and the ability to further human and civil rights and justice. The pacification of perception steals the humanity of others. Like one soldier exclaimed who participated in the rape and killing of women and children at My Lai, "We didn't think they were human." This is what My Lai exposed about America's collective perception, and it is what WikiLeaks is revealing.

After the initial WikiLeaks reports that told of collateral murders by US forces in Iraq, of pregnant women and children being shot to death at checkpoints, of thousands of unlisted civilian casualties and deaths; and after WikiLeaks made known how the US formed assassination and death squads, how it either ignored or supported torture and killed journalists, how it instigated foreign military coups leading to the death of thousands, and how politicians and a president were lying about the ongoing

conflicts in Afghanistan and Yemen; the American public responded by saying: "Isn't WikiLeaks a terrorist organization? At least that is what I hear."; "WikiLeaks should be nuked!"; "Isn't that Assange guy wanted for rape?"; "WikiLeaks is endangering our troops who are doing a great job over there."; "Wiki who?" and, "Who cares? Nothing's ever going to change. There's always going to be wars." And like the polling data after Lt. Calley was found guilty for murdering 109 innocent civilians, the majority of Americans believe WikiLeaks should be censored and suppressed.

What was/is really on trial was/is not only Lt. Calley for murdering innocent women and children, or WikiLeaks and if it should have released evidence of what most of the world perceives as crimes against peace and humanity, but America's perception and how it had/had been pacified. Like My Lai, there is no need for the US Government and US Military to conceal or cover-up its atrocities, because many Americans already hold extremely selective perceptions and have internalized misperceptions. Such misperceptions have been secured by militarizing and policing and training the mind. These strategically isolated "mental hamlets" exist and thrive and are reinforced through carefully crafted political, economic and social propaganda campaigns. When some citizens attempt to question and pursue their own freedom to think and to be sovereign, they are censored, imprisoned and tormented by a non-perceptive system. This kind of psychological warfare and mental imprisonment are prerequisites and goals for the pacification of perception. These goals always consist of security, loyalty and allegiance to the State and to its corporations and military forces.

Bertrand Russell, who was a British social critic and philosopher and during a mock trial [the 1967 International War Crimes Tribunal composed of 25 members from 18 countries] found the United States guilty of numerous war crimes in its quest to dominate Viet Nam, concluded that perception was a scientific problem, or, rather, no longer philosophical. The My Lai Massacre (and trials that followed) and WikiLeaks were/are in nature scientific. This is why they were/are a threat and suppressed. Unlike America's perception of itself and the world, their facts cannot be falsified. SPS Roberts stated: "Another Viet Nameese woman, afraid for her own safety, tried to stop the woman from objecting. One soldier kicked the mother, and another slapped her up a bit. Ron Haerle (the photographer) jumped in to take a picture of the group of women. The picture shows the thirteen-year-old girl hiding behind her mother, trying to button the top of her pyjamas. When they noticed Ron, they left off and turned away as if everything was normal. Then a soldier asked, 'Well, what'll we do with'em?' 'Kill'em,' another answered. I heard an M60 go off, a light machine-gun, and when we turned all of them and the kids with them were dead."

From My Lai to WikiLeaks, America's individualistic and nationalistic perceptions of the world and humanity has always been one of turning away, as if everything was normal. But was/is it?

Dallas Darling is the author of Politics 501: An A-Z Reading on Conscientious Political Thought and Action. Some Nations Above God: 52 Weekly Reflections On Modern-Day Imperialism, Militarism, And Consumerism in the Context of John's Apocalyptic Vision. and The Other Side Of Christianity: Reflections on Faith, Politics, Spirituality, History, and Peace. He is a correspondent for www.worldnews.com. You can read more of Darling's writings at www.worldnews.com and www.wn.com/dallasdarling.



My Lai, Viet Nam

when Lt. Calley was found guilty in connection with the My Lai Massacre and for murdering 109 civilians and was given a life sentence, 79 percent of Americas disagreed with the verdict and sentence. Over 50 percent agreed with the idea that President Richard Nixon should free Lt. Calley. Indiana's governor asked all state flags to be flown at half-staff on behalf of Lt. Calley. While several state legislatures requested clemency for Lt. Calley, Alabama's Governor George Wallace visited him and declared President Nixon should grant him a full pardon. After serving only three months in the stockade, President Richard Nixon freed him and ordered him confined to quarters pending review of the case. In 1974, a federal court judge ruled that Calley was convicted unjustly, citing "prejudicial publicity." Calley was paroled for good behavior after serving 40 months, most of them in the relative comfort of his own quarters and was issued a pardon. In 1971, a song was penned in honor of Lt. Calley, called





US Special Ops: Christian Crusaders

Changing Mosques into Cathedrals, Ooh-Rah!



Why Are We Still in Afghanistan?

How the Power of Myth Keeps Us Mired in War

MYTH from p. 3

government as an agent of darkness.

He's not likely to stand a chance of winning that battle if he tries to take on the myth of national security as well. Bill Clinton once put it all-too-accurately: "When people are insecure" — which is exactly when they rely most on their myths — "they'd rather have somebody [in the White House] who is strong and wrong than someone who's weak and right."

That's a truth everyone in the room undoubtedly had in mind back in the fall of 2009 when the top military field commanders came to the White House to talk about Afghanistan. Where else, after all, could our military act out the drama of civilized America staving off the savages? And what better-cast candidates for the role of savages could there be than the Taliban and al Qaeda?

The generals who run the war also had to confront another vital question: Could they still act out some contemporary version of the myth of good against evil? They've given up on the possibility of victory in Afghanistan, so there's no real chance to go for the classic version of the myth in which the good guys totally vanquish the bad guys.

But since the Cold War era, the myth has demanded only that the good guys don't lose — that they merely "contain" the evildoers who "hate our freedoms" (especially our freedom to make and keep money) and will swoop down to destroy us if we give them the chance.

These days the generals must sense that even the containment version of the myth is in trouble. Their predecessors failed to enact it in Vietnam, and though the judgment of history is still out on the Iraq War, it's looking ever more dim, too. If the US loses in Afghanistan, the American public might abandon the myth that justifies the military establishment and its gargantuan budget. As a result, the generals prefer to fight on eternally.

President Obama is trapped at this point. He risks losing both a war and a presidency. Yet if he tries to ease up on the war accelerator, he knows he'll be pilloried by an alliance of military and right-wing forces as a "cut-and-run" weakling.

If he's ever tempted to forget that domestic political reality, the mass media are always ready to remind him. Just glance at the 145,000 Google hits on "Obama wimp." Even his liberal friends at *The New York Times* have asked in a prominent headline, "Is Obama a Wimp or a Warrior?"

Within the confines of the national insecurity myth, of course, those are the only two options. If pressure is ever going to develop to get US troops out of Afghanistan, progressives will have to offer a new option that actually speaks to Americans.

To Myth or Not to Myth

And there's the problem. Myths are like scientific theories. No mountain of facts and logic, however convincing, can change believers' minds — until a more convincing myth comes along.

A handful of progressive political thinkers is trying to persuade the American left to understand this truth and start offering new political myths (their technical term is "framing narratives"). George Lakoff is probably the best known. His books are bestsellers. His articles on websites invariably go to the top of "most read" and "most emailed" lists. Yet, he can't seem to make much of a dent in the actual policies and practices he'd like to change.

Progressives still shower the public with facts and arguments that are hard to refute, as

Hersh may have been referring to the Sovereign Order of Malta, a Roman Catholic organization committed to "defence of the Faith and assistance to the poor and the suffering," according to its website.

"Many of them are members of Opus Dei," Hersh continued. "They do see what they're doing — and this is not an atypical attitude among some military — it's a crusade, literally. They see themselves as the protectors of the Christians. They're protecting them from the Muslims [as in] the 13th century. And this is their function."

"They have little insignias, these coins they

pass among each other, which are crusader coins," he continued. "They have insignia that reflect the whole notion that this is a culture war. ... Right now, there's a tremendous, tremendous amount of anti-Muslim feeling in the military community."

Seymour Hersh is a United States Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative journalist and author based in Washington, D.C. He is a regular contributor to The New Yorker magazine on military and security matters.

blame for the Hariri assassination on Hezbollah, the Obama administration and France, Saudi Arabia, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, and Israel are poised to see Hezbollah blamed for several assassinations of Lebanese politicians. International criminal indictments have been issued against leading Hezbollah figures. The tribunal report will result in a major political upheaval in Lebanon, which is to Israel's benefit.

The presence of Feltman, who is a virtual tool of the Israeli government, in the top Middle East policy position in the State Department has largely led to the present debacle in America's Middle East policy.

A political deal was in the works for Lebanon that would have prevented the UN tribunal from indicting senior Hezbollah officials for the

2005 Hariri assassination. However, the Saudis helped scuttle the deal being worked out with Syria. Hezbollah political ally, retired General Michel Aoun, leader of the Free Patriotic Movement of Lebanon, decried the Saudi double-cross and Qatar Prime Minister Sheikh Hamad bin Jasssem bin Jabr al-Thani, who helped work out the Arab-led peace deal for Lebanon, also expressed alarm that the Lebanese government would collapse as a result of the deal between Washington, Paris, Riyadh, and Tel Aviv.

Wayne Madsen is a Washington, DC-based investigative journalist, author and syndicated columnist. He is a frequent political and national security commentator on Television News and is a regular contributor to Russia Today. Madsen is the author of Jaded Tasks: Big Oil, Black Ops & Brass Plates and Overthrow a Fascist Regime on \$15 a Day.

UN Report on Hariri Assassination:

Final report, cooked up by players in New York, fixes blame on Hezbollah

HARIRI from p. 1

ambassador to Lebanon and a bitter enemy of Hezbollah, reportedly met with Hariri in New York prior to the Lebanese Prime Minister's trip to Washington to meet with Obama. French President Nicolas Sarkozy was also in New York where he met King Abdullah and Hariri. Sarkozy's meetings with the Arab leaders followed his meeting with Obama in Washington. Hariri also met with Hillary Clinton in New York.

Although the Special Tribunal for Lebanon has proven to be a propaganda tool of the Israelis and its lobby in the United States and recent Lebanese intelligence discoveries of Mossad penetration of Lebanese telecommunications proves that Israel manufactured the cell phone and other telecommunication "evidence" pinning

Sorcha Faal: Legit Source or Disinformation?



Which is the REAL Sorcha Faal?

On the left is the only photo of Sorcha Faal found on the internet, but it is not Sorcha. Sorcha Faal is the alter-ego of disinfo agent David Booth (right).

DISINFO from p. 1

their traps shut. By rights, if "Sorcha Faal" was really working within the GRU, she would have been silenced by now. Permanently.

It appears that David Booth is a major thorn in the side of the Alternative Intelligence Community, as well as the Patriot and Truth Movements. This is a gross understatement. Over the past week or two I have had to take aside many people and let them in on the whole Sorcha Faal thing.

Known sites run by Sorcha Faal / David Booth: <http://WhatDoesItMean.com/>
Known sites that Sorcha Faal / David Booth writes for: <http://EUTimes.net/>
<http://FreedomFighterRadio.net/>
<http://FourWinds10.com/>

So why does David Booth do what he does? To understand this you have to understand the nature of COINTELPRO, and how it relates to his "work." In order to do this I am going to have to dissect one of Sorcha Faal's articles, and show you how it is used in COINTELPRO.

From "Obama Orders Military To Prepare For Spring Food Riots" on WhatDoesItMean.com, dated 13 January 2011:

"...A grim report prepared by France's General Directorate for External Security (DGSE) obtained by Russia's Foreign Intelligence Service (SVR) states that presidents Obama and Sarkozy have "agreed in principle" to create a joint US-European military force to deal exclusively with a global uprising expected this spring as our world runs out of food.

According to this report, Sarkozy, as head of the G-20 group of developed Nations, called for and received an emergency meeting with Obama at the White House, wherein he warned his American counterpart that the shock rise in food prices occurring due to an unprecedented series of disasters was threatening the stability of the entire World and could lead to the outbreak of Total Global War.

Just last week French Prime Minister Francois Fillon underlined that one of France's top G-20 priorities was to find a collective response to "excessive volatility" in food prices now occurring, a statement joined by Philippe Chalmin, a top economic adviser to the French government, who warned the World may face social unrest including food riots in April as grain prices increase to unprecedented highs..."

So the "SVR states that..."? Who within

the SVR is making that statement? As I have already said above, on the rare occasions that an intelligence agency makes a public statement, it will either come through a named official in the higher echelons of the intelligence organisation or a government minister with the correct brief and security clearance, and not through a mere, unidentified "spokesperson."

Notice how Sorcha Faal only links to the Wikipedia entries to the DGSE and SVR, and not their official sites. Why? Because if you followed links to their actual sites you will find no such public statements from them. In fact, you will not find any public statements from them at all. If I were to write about the Secret Intelligence Service, I would link to their official web site. If you go over there, you will find no public press statements from them at all on their web site. Why? Because they never make any public statements unless it is through their Commander in Chief or the Secretary of State through the National Press.

You can see an example of this in an article from *The Guardian* last year, in an article entitled "MI5 warns Britain facing double terrorism threat" dated the 24th September 2010:

"...Today's announcement by the home secretary, Theresa May, means MI5 believes the threat is at its highest for at least a decade. Security officials are combating this threat, plus what is assessed to be the greater threat from al Qaeda-inspired terrorists, who remain 'highly likely' to stage an attack..."

Notice how the statement from MI5 came through official channels, in this case, through our current Home Secretary, Theresa May.

This does not prove that the information is accurate or truthful, but it does prove the source. The intelligence services are known for giving out false information within the national press in order to fulfil a political agenda. So just because the source is officially verified, does not mean that the information is accurate or truthful.

Now going back to the Sorcha Faal article, you will note that she / he does link back to some mainstream news articles concerning the topic in hand in order to make what he is saying more plausible. Now let us take a good look at what these articles actually say, because I bet most readers will take "Sorcha Faal's" article at face value without double checking the links.

From "Sarkozy and Obama to discuss soaring food prices" on France24.com (first article link):

"...When French President Nicolas Sarkozy arrives in Washington Monday, he'll have plenty

of ammunition to argue his case for greater global food price and currency stability..."

So far, nothing about crushing food riots in the USA with NATO troops. More like top level discussions on how to stop the speculative commodities markets from pushing up food prices to incendiary levels. Perfectly sensible. In fact, the only discussions on NATO mentioned in that article pertain solely to continuing actions in the Middle East and Africa:

"...The two leaders will also discuss a range of security issues such as the NATO-led war against the Taliban in Afghanistan, Iran's nuclear developments, the increasing terror threat from Pakistan, and the ongoing post-election crisis in Ivory Coast..."

Where, pray tell, do food riots in America or Europe get a mention here? I cannot see it...

The second and third links go back to the first article, and I see no such dire warning within its text. I do see concerns, but no hint of impending doom. This article certainly does not say what he claims it says, but then, who actually bothers to double check the linked sources on what they read?

As for the fourth link, from *Bloomberg Business Week*, it primarily talks about food riots in poorer nations of the third world, and not the west. Are those food riots going to be severe and see loss of life? Probably. But it is no "national security" concern of the United States. So where does Sorcha Faal get the idea that both Obama and Sarkozy are going to be talking about Martial Law in the USA due to food riots? From an unquoted source in the SVR. Duh.

In other words, this is a disinformation piece to set up a future straw-man argument to discredit legitimate intelligence posted in the future about food shortages in the west and possible food riots. Let me give a scenario:

A couple of months down the line we get good intelligence about food shortages in the west and start blogging about what information we have been getting. Then another disinformation agent who is aware of the Sorcha Faal article will come on the message boards posting straw man arguments like:

"...Where did you get that junk from? Sorcha Faal? Har Har... Sorcha Faal is a nut — she's talking out of her arse — ergo, you're a nut who is talking out of your arse..."

This is what Sorcha Faal / David Booth does — he sets up straw-man articles in order to discredit any real information we do get. It does not matter if all the sources from which we glean our intelligence are sound, the Sorcha Faal straw-man Article exists, and will be used by COINTELPRO to discredit whatever real intelligence we get.

Of course, we all know about how the United States military have been training with foreign troops for a Martial Law situation in the United States, and we know about all the Executive Orders and Acts of Congress which allows them to do that, but what we do not know is how or when such an event could be sparked off.

So be aware of Sorcha Faal / David Booth and his agenda, and steer clear of his disinformation.

Phil Brennan blogs at www.philipbrennan.net.

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CIA Operates via Islamic Group in Central Asia

by TURKISH INTEL from p. 1

dubious charlatan, a major player in this operation yet a major denier when confronted by Stein, former CIA executive Graham Fuller, I am going to



Fethullah Gülen

secular apparatus of state and establish a theocratic state". Mr. Gülen has not left the United States since.

The Netherlands has taken major steps to cut funding to all Gülen-associated organizations and is investigating his operations. The Turkish Fethullah Gülen movement is really an Islamic fundamentalist group, claims Rotterdam council member Anita Fählmel (Leeftbaar Rotterdam political party) on the basis of her own study of the Turkish movement.

The Russian government has banned all Gülen schools and the activities of the Nur sect in Russia. Over 20 Turkish followers of Gülen were deported from Russia in 2002-2004.

In 1999 Uzbekistan closed all Gülen's Madrasas and shortly afterward arrested eight journalists who were graduates of Gülen schools, and found them guilty of setting up an illegal religious group and of involvement in an extremist organization.

In Turkmenistan, government authorities have placed Gülen's schools under close scrutiny and have ordered them to scrap the history of religion from curricula.

Now, back to the story and its other major short coming:

Apparently Mr. Stein was not able to reach Gülen for comment, so he moved on to his CIA sources with 'long ties to Central Asia.' First he quotes his source,

From Turkey, they were putting all these bin Ladens on NATO planes. People and weapons went one way, drugs came back.

Former CIA operative Robert Baer, chief of the agency's Central Asia and Caucasus operations from 1995 through 1997, who called the allegations bogus. However, Mr. Baer added: "It's possible that the CIA turned around this ship after I left."

I don't have a problem with Baer's response. Based on what I personally know, US Islamization Operations in Central Asia via Gülen started in late 1997, early 1998. That brings me to what truly set me off, Stein's second source and, actually, a character who is pointed to by the new memoir's author - Graham Fuller:

Graham Fuller, a former CIA station chief in Kabul and author of *The Future of Political Islam*, threw cold water on Gunders's allegations about Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan.

"I think the story of 130 CIA agents in Gülen schools in Central Asia is pretty wild," Fuller said by e-mail.

"I should hasten to add that I left

CIA in 1987 - nearly 25 years ago - and I have absolutely no concrete personal knowledge whatsoever about this. But my instincts tell me the claim is highly improbable."

Next, Jeff Stein very gently confronts Fuller with the fact that, according to the memoir and related media coverage, Gülen obtained his US residence permit with his (Fuller's) help, and Fuller denies it and says that's 'wrong.'

"What I did do," Fuller explained, "was write a letter to the FBI in early 2006 ...at a time when Gülen's enemies were pressing for his extradition to Turkey from the US. In the post 9/11 environment, they began spreading the word that he was a dangerous radical. In my statement to the FBI, I offered my views...that I did not believe he posed a security threat of any kind to the US. I still believe that today, as do a large body of scholars on contemporary Islam."

First of all, there have been tens if not hundreds of articles establishing Graham Fuller as one of Gülen's official references to the court for his residency. This quote comes from *Foreign Policy Journal*:

"Fethullah Gülen became a green card holder, despite serious opposition from FBI and from Homeland Security Department officials. Former CIA officers (formally and informally) such as Graham Fuller and Morton Abromovitz were some of the prominent references in Gülen's green card application.

"Next is the question of why. Why, and in what capacity, has Fuller been this active, this supportive, of Gülen? I am talking about this voluntary 'I wrote a letter to the FBI on Gülen's line: '...was write a letter to the FBI in early 2006 ...at a time when Gülen's enemies were pressing for his extradition to Turkey from the US In the post-9/11 environment, they began

spreading the word that he was a dangerous radical. In my statement to the FBI, I offered my views...that I did not believe he posed a security threat of any kind to the US. I still believe that today, as does a large body of scholars on contemporary Islam."

And Stein let that slide?! I'd quickly ask: "how often do you write to the FBI on people you think have been unfairly targeted or treated by them?!"

Last but not least on Graham Fuller is my own on-the-record, more accurately on-the-album, naming of individuals implicated (criminally) in my case, thus protected via invocation of the State Secrets Privilege:

Coinciding with the publication of the first article in a series in Britain's *Sunday Times* covering some of her allegations, former FBI translator Sibel Edmonds posts a gallery of 18 photos of people and three images of question marks on her website, justcitizen.com. The 21 images are divided into three



Sibel Edmonds

groups, and the page is titled "State Secrets Privilege Gallery."... "The third group includes people who all appear to work at think tanks—primarily WINEP, the Washington Institute for Near East Policy"; Graham E. Fuller—RAND Corporation, David Makovsky—WINEP, Alan Makovsky—WINEP, Yusuf Turani (president-in-exile, Turkestan), Professor Sabri Sayari (Georgetown, WINEP), and Mehmet Eymur (former head of the Turkish intelligence agency MIT).

I am going to leave you with the following excerpts from my interview with former CIA officer Phil Giraldi for the *American Conservative Magazine* in 2009, on Gülen, CIA Central Asia operations & the use of Islam and Mujahideen there between 1997-2001:

GIRALDI: You also have information on al Qaeda, specifically al Qaeda in Central Asia and Bosnia. You were privy to conversations that suggested the CIA was supporting al Qaeda in central Asia and the Balkans, training people to get money, get weapons, and this contact continued until 9/11...

EDMONDS: I don't know if it was CIA. There were certain forces in the US government who worked with the Turkish paramilitary groups, including Abdullah Çatli's group, Fethullah Gülen.

GIRALDI: Well, that could be either Joint Special Operations Command or CIA.

EDMONDS: Maybe, in a lot of cases when they said State Department, they meant CIA?

GIRALDI: When they said State Department, they probably meant CIA.

EDMONDS: Okay. So these conversations, between 1997 and 2001, had to do with a Central Asia operation that involved bin Laden. Not once did anybody use the word "al Qaeda." It was always "mujahideen," always "bin Laden" and, in fact, not "bin Laden" but "bin Ladens" plural. There were several bin Ladens who were going on private jets to Azerbaijan and Tajikistan. The Turkish ambassador in Azerbaijan worked with them.

There were bin Ladens, with the help of Pakistanis or Saudis, under our management. Marc Grossman was leading it, 100 percent, bringing people from East Turkestan into Kyrgyzstan, from Kyrgyzstan to Azerbaijan. From Azerbaijan, some of them were being channeled to Chechnya. Some of them were being channeled to Bosnia. From Turkey, they were putting all these bin Ladens on NATO planes. People and weapons went one way, drugs came back.

GIRALDI: Was the US government aware of this circular deal?

EDMONDS: 100 percent. A lot of the drugs were going to Belgium on NATO planes. After that, they went to the UK, and a lot came to the US via military planes to distribution centers in Chicago and Paterson, New Jersey. Turkish diplomats who would never be searched were coming with suitcases of heroin.

Sibel Edmonds is the founder and president of the National Security Whistleblowers Coalition (NSWBC), a nonprofit organization dedicated to aiding national security whistleblowers. She has appeared on national radio and TV as a commentator on matters related to whistleblowers, national security, and excessive secrecy & classification, and has been featured on CBS 60 Minutes, CNN, MSNBC, NPR, and in the New York Times, Washington Post, Vanity Fair, The American Conservative, and others. Edmonds co-authored, Shooting the Messenger, with Professor William Weaver (Kansas University Press, 2010).

Sunstein Decries "Conspiracy Theories" While Government Conspiracies, Torture and Spying, Go Unpunished

CONSPIRACIES from p. 1

Greenwald continues:

"Sunstein's closeness to the President, as well as the highly influential position he occupies, merits an examination of the mentality behind what he wrote. This isn't an instance where some government official wrote a bizarre paper in college 30 years ago about matters unrelated to his official powers; this was written 18 months ago, at a time when the ascendancy of Sunstein's close friend to the Presidency looked likely, in exactly the area he now oversees. Additionally, the government-controlled messaging that Sunstein desires has been a prominent feature of US Government actions over the last decade, including some recently revealed practices of the current administration. The mindset in which it is grounded explains a great deal about our political class. All of that makes Sunstein's paper worth examining in greater detail. ("Conspiracy Theories", Sunstein, Cass R. and Adrian Vermeule; *Harvard Public Law, Working Paper No. 08-03, January 15, 2008*).

"Initially, note how similar Sunstein's proposal is to multiple, controversial stealth efforts by the Bush administration to influence and shape our political debates secretly. The Bush Pentagon employed teams of former generals to pose as "independent analysts" in the media, while secretly coordinating their talking points and messaging about wars and detention policies with the Pentagon. Bush officials secretly paid supposedly "independent" voices, such as Armstrong Williams and Maggie Gallagher, to advocate pro-Bush policies while failing to disclose their contracts. In Iraq, the Bush Pentagon hired a company, Lincoln Park, which paid newspapers to plant pro-US articles while pretending they came from Iraqi citizens. In response to all of this, Democrats typically accused the Bush administration of engaging in government-sponsored propaganda - and when it was done domestically, suggested this was illegal propaganda."

Greenwald notes: "Indeed, there is a very strong case to make that what Sunstein is advocating is itself illegal under long-standing statutes prohibiting government "propaganda" within the US, aimed at American citizens:

"As explained in a March 21, 2005 report by the Congressional Research Service, "publicity or propaganda" is defined by the US Government Accountability Office (GAO) to mean either (1) self-aggrandizement by public officials, (2) purely partisan activity, or (3) "covert propaganda". By covert propaganda, GAO means information which originates from the government but is unattributed and made to appear as though it came from a third, independent party.

"Sunstein's response to these criticisms is easy to find in what he writes, and is as telling as the proposal itself. He acknowledges that some "conspiracy theories" previously dismissed as insane and fringe have turned out to be entirely true (his examples: the CIA really did secretly administer LSD in "mind control" experiments; the DoD really did plot the commission of terrorist acts inside the US with the intent to blame Castro; the Nixon White House really did bug the DNC headquarters). Given that history, how could it possibly be justified for the US Government to institute covert programs designed to undermine anti-government "conspiracy theories," discredit government critics, and increase faith and trust in government pronouncements? Because, says Sunstein, such powers are warranted only when wielded by truly well-intentioned government officials who want to spread The Truth and Do Good."

Sunstein is also a fan of illegal spying and radical presidential powers, and despises alternative media as being "anti-democratic."

Back to Greenwald: "What is most odious and revealing about Sunstein's worldview is his condescending, self-loving belief that "false conspiracy theories"



Obama advisor Cass Sunstein

are largely the province of fringe, ignorant Internet masses and the Muslim world. That, he claims, is where these conspiracy theories thrive most vibrantly, and he focuses on various 9/11 theories - both domestically and in Muslim countries - as his prime example."

"Who is it who relentlessly spread "false conspiracy theories" of Saddam-engineered anthrax attacks and Iraq-created mushroom clouds and a Ba'athist/al Qaeda alliance - the most destructive conspiracy theories of the last generation? And who is it who demonized as "conspiracy-mongers" people who warned that the US Government was illegally spying on its citizens, systematically torturing people, attempting to establish permanent bases in the Middle East, or engineering massive bailout plans to transfer extreme wealth to the industries which own the Government? The most chronic and dangerous purveyors of "conspiracy theory" games are the very people Sunstein thinks should be empowered to control our political debates through deceit and government resources: namely, the Government itself and the Enlightened Elite like him.

"It is this history of government deceit and wrongdoing that renders Sunstein's desire to use covert propaganda to "undermine" anti-government speech so repugnant. The reason conspiracy theories resonate so much is precisely that people have learned - rationally - to distrust government actions and statements. Sunstein's proposed covert propaganda scheme is a perfect illustration of why that is. In other words, people don't trust the Government and "conspiracy theories" are so pervasive precisely because government is typically filled with people like Cass Sunstein, who think that systematic deceit and government-sponsored manipulation are justified by their own Goodness and Superior Wisdom."

Just to get a sense for what an extremist Cass Sunstein is (which itself is ironic, given that his paper calls for "cognitive infiltration of extremist groups," as the Abstract puts it), marvel at this paragraph:

"What can government do about conspiracy theories? Among the things it can do, what should it do? We can readily imagine a series of possible responses. (1) Government might ban conspiracy theorizing. (2) Government might impose some kind of tax, financial or otherwise, on those who disseminate such theories. (3) Government might itself engage in counterspeech, marshaling arguments to discredit conspiracy theories. (4) Government might formally hire credible private parties to engage in counterspeech. (5) Government might engage in informal communication with such parties, encouraging them to help. Each instrument has a distinctive set of potential effects, or costs and benefits, and each will have a place under imaginable conditions. However, our main policy idea is that government should engage in cognitive infiltration of the groups that produce conspiracy theories, which involves a mix of (3), (4) and (5)."

So Sunstein isn't calling right now for having the Government "ban conspiracy theorizing" or "impose some kind of tax on those who do it" - but he says "each will have a place under imaginable conditions." I'd love to know the "conditions" under which the government-enforced banning of conspiracy theories or the imposition of taxes on those who advocate them will "have a place." That would require, at a bare minimum, a repeal of the First Amendment. Anyone who believes this should, for that reason alone, be barred from any meaningful government position.

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

blame it on the unfortunate situation of 'having to sell your journalistic soul to earn your living.'

Let's start with Gülen. The only background provided on Gülen is the following from Gülen's marketing site:

"...an influential former Turkish imam by the name of Fethullah Gülen, has 600 schools and 4 million followers around the world.

"The imam left Turkey in 1998 and settled in Saylorsburg, PA, where the movement is headquartered. According to Intelligence Online, he obtained a residence permit only in 2008 with the help of Fuller and George Fidas, whom it described as head of the agency's outreach to universities."

There is no mention of Gülen's decade-long 'wanted' status in Turkey (until recently), no mention of the ban on Gülen and his Madrasas in several Central Asian countries, no mention of various investigations of Gülen by other western countries, no mention of the unknown sources of his billions of dollars. As we all know, except for a very few, and by that I mean a number in 100s if that, no one in this country has ever heard of this guy with his billions, with his castle in Pennsylvania, his hundreds of Madrasas, now hundreds of US charter schools, his dubious businesses. Yet, for an article as serious as this (Madrasas and mosques as CIA operation centers in Central Asia), the central figure in the story has been given one sentence; no history, no relevant facts.

Below is a list of a few Gülen-related facts totally (mysteriously?) absent from *Washington Post* piece:

In 1999, Gülen defected to the US shortly before his scandalous speech, where he is heard calling on his supporters to "work patiently and to creep silently into the institutions in order to seize power in the state", became public. Turkish prosecutors demanded a ten-year sentence for Gülen for having "founded an organization that sought to destroy the

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