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A FIERCELY INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Washington, D.C.

Released Blackbox Data Reveals Flight 77 Cockpit Door Never Opened During 9/11 “Hijack”

By SHEILA CASEY / ROCK CREEK FREE PRESS

Pilots for 9/11 Truth has reported that the data stream from the flight data recorder (FDR) for American Airlines flight 77, which allegedly struck the Pentagon on 9/11, shows that the cockpit door never opened during the entire 90 minute flight. The data was provided by the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), which has refused to comment.

The FDR is one of two “black boxes” in every commercial airliner, which are used after accidents to help determine the cause of a crash. One black box records flight data, the other records voice data (everything said in the cockpit during the flight). With those two sets of data, NTSB investigators can usually piece together the events that led to a crash. The status of the door to the cockpit is checked every four seconds throughout a flight and relayed as a simple 0 or 1, where 0=closed and 1=open, with approximately 1,300 door status checks performed during AA77’s 90 minute flight. Every one of those door status checks shows as a 0, indicating that the door to the cockpit never opened during the entire flight.

Accident investigators monitor the cockpit door with the FDR because it may yield clues

See FLIGHT 77 p. 2

Wealthiest Head CIA and Control Media

By JOHN POTASH / ROCK CREEK FREE PRESS

A review of the CIA and the media helps explain how the wealthiest families gained control over a vast majority of Americans’ information. US Intelligence whistle-blowers and mainstream media insiders revealed that a group of white Anglo-Saxon Protestant elites own or influence virtually all of our media sources that shape our opinions about events at home and abroad. News Anchor Dan Rather typified some insiders’ thoughts about America’s press when he described our media as a “miniature version of what you have in totalitarian states” (Jarecki, 2005).

Wealthiest Direct US Intelligence

The history of US Intelligence, as described by insiders and researchers, supports that elite multinational corporate owners influenced the founding of the Central Intelligence Agency. Through the National Security Act of 1947, the CIA leadership ruled over all other 14+ intelligence agencies (though changes occurred after 2000). These agencies included the FBI, NSA, Army Intelligence, Naval Intelligence, etc.

The highest-ranking CIA whistleblower, former assistant Deputy Director Victor Marchetti, was a 14-year CIA veteran. He and State Department Intelligence analyst John Marks wrote that CIA leaders came from the wealthiest families, some of which had led the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) wartime intelligence group. Marchetti reported that virtually the entire CIA leadership and middle ranks were filled with white, Anglo-Saxon, Protestant male family members of corporate moguls and it remained that way with few exceptions (Marchetti and Marks, 1974, pp266-8).

Marchetti and Marks cited a CIA Inspector General’s study in 1964 that found no Black, Jewish or female professionals in the entire

See MEDIA p. 8

Obama Declares War On Pakistan

By WEBSTER G. TARPLEY

Washington DC, Dec. 11 — Obama’s West Point speech of December 1 represents far more than the obvious brutal escalation in Afghanistan — it is nothing less than a declaration of all-out war by the United States against Pakistan. This is a brand-new war, a much wider war now targeting Pakistan, a country of 160 million people armed with nuclear weapons. In the process, Afghanistan is scheduled to be broken up. This is no longer the Bush/Cheney Afghan war we have known in the past. This is something immensely bigger: the attempt to destroy the Pakistani central government in Islamabad and to sink that country into a chaos of civil war, Balkanization, subdivision and general mayhem. The chosen strategy is to massively export the Afghan civil war into Pakistan and beyond, fracturing Pakistan along ethnic lines. It

is an oblique war using fourth-generation or guerrilla warfare techniques to assail a country which the United States and its associates in aggression are far too weak to attack directly. In this war, the Taliban are employed as US proxies. This aggression against Pakistan is Obama’s attempt to wage the Great Game against the hub of Central Asia and Eurasia or more generally.

US Deterred From Open War By Pakistan’s Nukes

The ongoing civil war in Afghanistan is merely a pretext, a cover story designed to provide the United States with a springboard for a geopolitical destabilization campaign in the entire region which cannot be publicly avowed. In the blunt cynical world of imperialist aggression à la Bush and Cheney, a pretext might have been manufactured to attack Pakistan directly.

But Pakistan is far too large and the United States is far too weak and too bankrupt for such an undertaking. In addition, Pakistan is a nuclear power, possessing atomic bombs and medium range missiles needed to deliver them. What we are seeing is a novel case of nuclear deterrence in action. The US cannot send an invasion fleet or set up airbases nearby because Pakistani nuclear weapons might destroy them. To this extent, the efforts of Ali Bhutto and A.Q. Khan to provide Pakistan a deterrent capability have been vindicated. But the US answer is to find ways to attack Pakistan below the nuclear threshold, and even below the conventional threshold. This is where the tactic of exporting the Afghan civil war to Pakistan comes in.

The architect of the new Pakistani civil war is US Special Forces General Stanley

See PAKISTAN p. 7

Science Scandal of the Century

The World’s Most Influential Climate Scientists Get Caught “Fudging” the Data

By MATT SULLIVAN / ROCK CREEK FREE PRESS

Climategate is shaping up to be the biggest science scandal in a generation. Given that the theory of Anthropogenic Global Warming (AGW) is being used to argue for radical changes in the economic and energy policies of every government on earth, affecting literally trillions of dollars of tax and economic policy, the stakes literally could not be higher. And the scientists involved in the scandal are the world’s top climate scientists; the driving forces behind the UN’s IPCC (Inter Governmental Panel on Climate change).

In mid-November, someone anonymously uploaded a ZIP file to the internet containing over a thousand e-mails and other data and program source code files totaling over 61MB lifted from the servers of the top British Climate Research Unit (CRU) at the University of East Anglia.

It is not clear if the leak is the work of an outside hacker or the work of a whistle-blower from within.

While the leak was immediately a big story on the internet, most corporate-controlled media outlets initially attempted to downplay the controversy. For the first few weeks, the major TV outlets wouldn’t even report the story. In fact, the BBC received the leaked documents first in October, but decided to sit on the story. The one outlet that did promote the story was FOX News, probably because the story fit their existing editorial slant and GOP talking points.

Most corporate print and on-line sources, such as *TIME*, *Huffington Post*, *The Atlantic*, and many others have attempted to downplay the controversy, attributing the seemingly damning quotes from the e-mails to “innuendo and smear

campaigns” or saying that they were “taken out of context”. White House spokesman Gibbs even characterized the flap as “silly”.

Unfortunately for them, the archive of over 1000 e-mails provides ample context for the damning quotes and you don’t need to be a scientist to recognize when people are discussing the fudging of results, destruction of data and underhanded manipulation of the peer-review process. Also unfortunately for them, the more you do know about the science, the more damning the revelations become. This controversy is not going away.

The senders and recipients of the e-mails and data streams include the top climate scientists in the UK and the US, including researchers at CRU, NASA, and Penn State. They represent almost half of the scientists forming the UN IPCC. Two

See SCIENCE p. 5

UK Weapons Expert Kelly WAS Murdered And There Has To Be A New Inquest, Say Six Top Doctors

By TIM SHIPMAN

London — Six doctors who believe UK government scientist David Kelly was murdered have launched a ground-breaking legal action to demand that the inquest into his death be reopened.

They are publishing a hard-hitting report which they claim proves the weapons expert did not commit suicide, as the Hutton Report decided.

They have also engaged lawyers to write to Attorney General Baroness Scotland and the coroner Nicholas Gardiner calling for a full re-examination of the circumstances of his death.

The doctors are asking for permission to go to the High Court to reopen the inquest

on the grounds that it was improperly suspended. If Baroness Scotland rejects that demand, or the court turns them down, their lawyers say they will have grounds to seek judicial review of the decision.

Dr Kelly was found dead at a scenic spot near his Oxfordshire home in 2003, days after he was exposed as the source of a story that Tony Blair’s government ‘sexed-up’ its dossier on Saddam Hussein’s weapons of mass destruction to justify invading Iraq.

In one final phone conversation, he told a caller he wouldn’t be surprised ‘if my body was found in the woods’.

The inquest into Dr Kelly’s death was

suspended before it could begin by order of the then Lord Chancellor Lord Falconer. He used the Coroners Act to designate the Hutton Inquiry as ‘fulfilling the function of an inquest’.

Lord Falconer, a former roommate of Tony Blair, was also responsible for picking Lord Hutton to run the inquiry.

But the doctors claim that the original inquest was never formally closed and should now be allowed to hold a proper inquiry.

The six are Michael Powers, a Queen’s Council and former coroner; trauma surgeon David Halpin; Andrew Rouse, an epidemiologist who established that

See DR KELLY p. 2

Was GOP Computer Expert Silenced?

New Evidence Mike Connell’s Plane Crash Was No Accident

GOP Computer Expert Built the Systems to Hide e-mails and Hack Election Results

By ROGER SHULER

An anonymous informant has provided information indicating that an airplane piloted by Republican computer expert Mike Connell was sabotaged before it crashed on December 19, 2008, near Akron, Ohio.

One of Connell’s sisters says she believes the family will file a wrongful-death lawsuit against Republican strategist Karl Rove if foul play ever is proven in the plane crash.

Those are two of the major revelations in a stunning recent investigative piece at BradBlog, by award-winning television

producer and writer Rebecca Abrahams.

Connell, the founder of New Media Communications in Richfield, Ohio, was considered a skilled and experienced pilot. He developed campaign Web sites for a number of Republican clients, including George W. Bush and John McCain.

Connell had been forced to give a deposition in an election-fraud lawsuit on November 3, 2008, the day before the general election. Roughly six weeks later, his plane crashed next to a vacant house in Lake Township, Ohio, as Connell was returning from a business trip to Washington, D.C. The cause of

the crash is unknown, and it remains under investigation by the National Transportation Safety Board.

Why was Mike Connell a central figure in election-fraud issues? And why have questions been raised about the nature of the plane crash that killed him? Abrahams summarizes:

“Although mainly un-reported, there’s a great deal of controversy surrounding Connell’s death — largely in part because he was the architect of many Republican websites including GeorgeWBush.com and GWB43.com, the site Karl Rove used for 95% of his email correspondence.

See CONNELL p. 4

Freedom is never **FREE**

CIA Involved in Child Sex Trade Since 1978

By WAYNE MADSEN / WMR

A top US intelligence source told WMR that the CIA’s involvement in procuring children in Thailand for the purpose of engaging in sexual trysts with visiting VIPs from the United States, including members of Congress and high administration officials, began in earnest in 1978.

In fact, WMR has been told, the operations at one point in time were run out of the CIA station in Bangkok and were directed by the deputy chief of station. The CIA station cooperated with American “procurers” who were working in Thailand to arrange for the encounters between children and the VIPs. The CIA’s motivation was simple: the VIPs were later subject to blackmail if they failed to support the incumbent administration’s policies.

WMR reported in February 2008, on US diplomats and intelligence agents in Southeast Asia who have participated, aided, and abetted in the sexual abuse and trafficking of children. Since that time, the only bright spot was the December 2007 early retirement and departure of US ambassador to Thailand Ralph Boyce, who was repeatedly accused over the years of failing to take action against US diplomats and their local interlocutors in countries where he was assigned as ambassador, including Thailand and Indonesia.

WMR has also learned that the CIA is pressuring local media outlets that report on the widespread abuse of children involving Americans in general and diplomats and American VIPs in particular. Some of the

See SEX TRADE p. 8

Blackwater CEO Prince Graymailing the US Government

By ELAINE SULLIVAN / ROCK CREEK FREE PRESS

Billionaire, ex-Navy SEAL and founder of Blackwater Worldwide, Erik Prince is reportedly stepping down as chairman and CEO of Blackwater. In an in-depth interview by Adam Ciralsky in the January 2010 *Vanity Fair*, Erik Prince claims that he has been sold out by people inside the US government.

In 1997, Prince bought 6,000 acres of the Great Dismal Swamp of North Carolina and set up a school for special operations operators. The Blackwater training center is reportedly equipped with a private landing strip, Bell 412 helicopters, Black Hawk helicopters and a Dash 8 airplane. Blackwater has for many years covertly provided contractors to the CIA for drone bombings, targeted assassinations, and other nefarious jobs, but in 2004, Prince himself was, he claims, recruited by the CIA’s National Resources Division.

According to the *Vanity Fair* article, “For the past six years, he [Prince] appears to have led an astonishing double life. Publicly, he has served as Blackwater’s CEO and chairman. Privately, and secretly, he has been doing the CIA’s bidding, helping to craft, fund, and execute operations ranging from inserting personnel into “denied areas” — places US intelligence has trouble penetrating — to assembling hit teams. Prince, according to sources with knowledge of his activities, has been working as a CIA asset: in a word, as a spy. While his company was busy gleaning more than \$1.5 billion in government contracts between 2001 and 2009 — by acting, among other things, as an overseas Praetorian guard for CIA and State Department officials — Prince became a Mr. Fix-It in the war on terror. His access to paramilitary forces, weapons, and aircraft, and his indefatigable ambition — the very attributes that have galvanized his critics — also made him extremely valuable, some say, to US intelligence.”

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Mammograms Cause Breast Cancer, Groundbreaking New Research Declares

By S. L. BAKER / NATURALNEWS

Ever since the US Preventive Services Task Force took a look, finally, at the scientific evidence and announced new recommendations earlier this month for routine mammograms — specifically that women under 50 should avoid them and women over 50 should only get them every other year — the reactions from many women, doctors and the mainstream media have reached the point of near hysteria. Not getting annual mammograms, some say, means countless women will receive a virtual death sentence because their breast tumors won't be discovered. But what is rarely discussed about mammograms is this: the tests could actually be causing many cases of breast cancer.

In fact, a new study just presented at the annual meeting of the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA) concludes the low-dose radiation from annual mammography screening significantly increases breast cancer risk in women with a genetic or familial predisposition to breast cancer. This is particularly worrisome because women who are at high risk for breast cancer are regularly pushed to start mammograms at a younger age — as early as 25 — and that means they are exposed to more radiation from mammography earlier and for more years than women who don't have breast cancer in their family trees.

“For women at high risk for breast cancer, screening is very important, but a careful approach should be taken when considering mammography for screening young women, particularly under age 30,” Marijke C. Jansen-van der Weide, Ph.D., an epidemiologist in the Department of Epidemiology and Radiology at University Medical Center Groningen in the Netherlands, said in a statement to the media. “Further, repeated exposure to low-dose radiation should be avoided.”

Dr. Jansen-van der Weide and colleagues analyzed peer-reviewed, published medical

research to investigate whether low-dose radiation exposure affects breast cancer risk among high-risk women. Out of the six studies included in this analysis, four looked at the effect of exposure to low-dose radiation among breast cancer gene mutation carriers. The other two studies traced the impact of radiation on women with a family history of breast cancer. The researchers took the combined data from all these research projects and then calculated odds ratios to estimate the risk of breast cancer caused by radiation.

The results? All the high-risk women in the study who were exposed to low-dose mammography type radiation had an increased risk of breast cancer that was 1.5 times greater than that of high-risk women who had not been exposed to low-dose radiation. What's more, women at high risk for breast cancer who had been exposed to low-dose radiation before the age of 20 or who had five or more exposures to low-dose radiation were 2.5 times more likely to develop breast cancer than high-risk women not exposed to low-dose radiation.

Bottom line: any supposed benefit of early tumor detection using mammograms in young women with familial or genetic predisposition to breast cancer is offset by the potential risk of radiation-induced cancer. “Our findings suggest that low-dose radiation increases breast cancer risk among these young high-risk women, and a careful approach is warranted,” Dr. Jansen-van der Weide said in the press statement.

The mammogram scam exposed

Incredibly, although it is rarely reported in the mainstream media, the new study follows on the heels of several others that have already sounded the warning that mammograms may cause breast cancer. For example, NaturalNews covered a Johns Hopkins study published earlier this year in the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute* that warned radiation exposure from

annual mammograms could trigger breast malignancies in women with a strong family history of breast and/or ovarian cancers who have altered genes (identified as BRCA1 or BRCA2).

And it may not be only women with a familial risk for breast cancer who are at extra risk from mammography radiation. As NaturalNews covered last year, a report published in the American Medical Association's *Archives of Internal Medicine* found breast cancer rates increased significantly in four Norwegian counties after women there began getting mammograms every two years. In fact, the start of screening mammography programs throughout Europe has been linked to an increased incidence of breast cancer.

Comments by the Health Ranger, Editor of NaturalNews.com

Mammogram pushers now have nothing left to stand on. The complete and utter hoax of mammography has now been wholly discredited through a flurry of groundbreaking studies performed by conventional medicine researchers! Yes, even the industry's own former advocates now admit mammography harms far more women than it helps.

Why? Because mammography causes the very disease it claims to “detect”. It's much like a clever sleight-of-hand magician's trick where they reach for your ear and suddenly produce a coin that was presumably hidden there. But as everybody knows, they put it there themselves! Mammograms offer a similar kind of sleight-of-hand trick (or sleight-of-breast, as the case may be) by actually generating the very disease they claim to find. If so many women hadn't already been harmed by mammography, the whole thing would be quite hysterical.

“Early detection saves lives,” they say. Except they stupidly forget to tell women the other side of the story: “Mammograms cause cancer.” And if you're gullible enough to actually irradiate your breasts every year, don't be surprised — shocked! — if they someday find tumors in them.

S. L. Baker is a widely published writer whose work has appeared in Newsweek, Health, and many others. She is also a feature writer and Health Science Editor for NaturalNews.com

Flight 77 Cockpit Door Never Opened During 9/11 “Hijacking”

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to pilot error in a crash. The FDR begins recording once the pilots are in their seats and readying for takeoff, and the plane cannot take off unless the FDR is working.

The official story about flight 77 is that five Muslim terrorists brandishing box cutters forced their way into the cockpit and herded two pilots, four flight attendants and all the passengers to the back of the plane. This story came into being via Ted Olson, US Solicitor General, who told CNN — that he received two phone calls from his wife Barbara Olson, a passenger on the doomed flight. Ted Olson's story changed several times. Sometimes he claimed that the calls from his wife were made from seat back phones, other times that she used her cell phone.

According to American Airlines customer service, the American Airlines maintenance manual for that aircraft, and American Airlines Captain Ralph Kolstad, seatback phones on 757s had been deactivated prior to 9/11/01. (They were later removed entirely, as they never worked well.)

Barbara Olson couldn't have used a cell phone either: numerous 9/11 researchers, most notably David Ray Griffin, have pointed out that cell phones did not work on airplanes on 9/11. The speed and altitude of a commercial airliner both present overwhelming obstacles to a cell phone's need to lock onto a cell tower and then hand off to another tower in a new location.

It was the FBI that revealed the evidence that decisively disproves Ted Olson's story. In the Zacarias Moussaoui trial in 2006, the FBI presented a report on the cell phone calls from all four 9/11 flights. Their report on AA77 shows that there was only one phone call from Barbara Olson, but that it was an unconnected call lasting zero seconds. So Ted Olson either lied about receiving calls from his wife or was deceived into believing he received calls from her.

According to the *UK Telegraph*, Barbara Olson delayed her flight on 9/11 so that she could have breakfast with her husband on his birthday. That delay put her on the doomed flight. Ted Olson remarried in 2006 to tax attorney Lady Booth, whom he reportedly met the year after Barbara died.

There are numerous oddities and contradictions about AA77's black boxes.

The government claims that the voice data recorder was damaged during the crash and that no usable data was retrieved from it. If true, this would be the first time in aviation history that a solid-state data recorder was destroyed during a crash.

While it was widely reported in the media that the FDR for AA77 was found at 4 am on September 14, 2001, the file containing the FDR data was dated over four hours earlier. In other words, we are asked to believe that the data from the FDR was downloaded prior to the FDR being found.

Researcher Aidan Monaghan has established that the NTSB does not have either serial or part numbers for the FDRs from AA77. The NTSB's own handbook indicates that the part number and serial number of the FDR are required for data

readout of the FDR. The NTSB did not have this information, giving us another reason to question how the FDR data was created.

Structural engineer Allyn Kilsheimer claimed that he personally found AA77's black box on 9/11. But in the Popular Mechanics book *Debunking 9/11 Myths*, Kilsheimer is quoted as saying, “I stood on a pile of debris that we later found contained the black box . . .”

Kilsheimer's story changes again in August 2007 in a piece done by the History Channel, “The 9/11 Conspiracies,” where he claims “I tripped over something; it was the black box.”

In earlier work, Pilots for 9/11 Truth (P4T) has determined that the same data set provided by the NTSB shows the plane too high to hit the Pentagon, based on an altimeter that uses air pressure to calibrate altitude.

As reported in the April 2009 *Rock Creek Free Press*, Citizen Investigation Team, citizen journalists from southern California, has collected evidence from 14 eyewitnesses that shows that the plane seen that morning near the Pentagon did not hit the building, but flew over it at the moment explosives detonated in the Pentagon, leading observers to conclude that the plane had crashed into the Pentagon.

Questions about what happened at the Pentagon have intrigued 9/11 researchers for years, beginning with photos from the alleged crash scene which do not show the wreckage of a plane.

This new evidence, showing that the cockpit door never opened during flight, is another nail in the coffin of the official story about flight 77. Clearly, if the cockpit door never opened, then hijackers did not storm the cockpit and herd the pilots to the back of the plane. The data, which originated from the government, does not support the government's story.

Why would the government release data which contradicts its own version of events? It is possible they were just sloppy, or that they never anticipated that anyone would parse the data as carefully as Pilots for 9/11 Truth have. They may have also felt secure, that regardless of what damning revelations were contained in the FDR data, no mainstream media outlet would give them ink or air time, keeping the official story intact for the vast majority of Americans who receive their news from mainstream sources.

Rob Balsamo, founder of Pilots for 9/11 Truth, stated: “We have not located any independently verified data which confirms the government's story. The FBI and NTSB refuse to comment.” Founded in August 2006, Pilots For 9/11 Truth is an organization of aviation professionals from around the globe who are investigating the government's claims about the attacks of 9/11.

Sheila Casey is a DC based journalist. Her work has appeared in The Denver Post, Reuters, Chicago Sun-Times, Dissident Voice and Common Dreams.

UK Weapons Expert Kelly WAS Murdered And There Has To Be A New Inquest, Say Six Top Doctors

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deaths from cutting the ulnar artery — as claimed in Dr Kelly's case — are extremely rare; Martin Birnstingl, another surgeon; plus Stephen Frost and Chris Burns-Cox.

Lord Hutton concluded that Dr Kelly killed himself by severing an ulnar artery in his left wrist after taking an overdose of prescription painkillers, but he skated over the controversies about the causes of death.

The bulk of his report was dedicated to the political row between Downing Street and the BBC, which revealed the sexing-up of the dossier.

Dr Kelly's death certificate states that he died of a hemorrhage, but the results of a post mortem examination have never been made public.

Crucially, the doctors say that Lord Hutton had no witnesses on oath and did not have to make a finding, as the coroner does, beyond a reasonable doubt.

The doctors tried to persuade the coroner to reopen his inquest in 2004 but were rejected because they were not judged to be ‘properly interested persons’ with the authority to demand an inquiry.

Now they have hired human rights lawyers Leigh Day & Co to challenge the use of the Coroners Act to close the inquest.

A source close to the doctors said: ‘Lord Falconer is on record saying this is a “useful little law”, but it was set up to avoid multiple inquests in cases where there were multiple deaths.

It has been used for victims of train crashes and the Harold Shipman case, but Dr Kelly's was not a multiple death.

‘We argue that that's an abuse of due

SIX questions that have still to be answered

Why was the cause of death found to be a haemorrhage when hardly any blood was found around the body?

Experts say that it takes the loss of up to five pints of blood to kill a man, but paramedics who dealt with Dr Kelly's body say the blood nearby was minimal. It could have sunk into the earth but the doctors believe he would have lost no more than a pint in any case before the cut to his artery closed up, preventing further blood loss.

Who were the mystery men seen around the time of Dr Kelly's death near where his body was found?

Men dressed in dark clothing and combat gear were seen near the death scene, prompting speculation about teams of assassins.

Why were there no fingerprints on the knife that Dr Kelly supposedly used to slit his wrist?

The knife was apparently wiped clean but Dr Kelly wore no gloves, implying that someone else was responsible.

Why did the police investigation into Dr Kelly's death apparently begin before he even set off for his final walk, let alone before his body was found?

Police files on Operation Mason, the investigation of Dr Kelly's death, say it began at 2.30pm – an hour before Dr Kelly even set out on his final walk to his untimely death. The couple who found the body met three men dressed in civilian clothes who said they

were Thames Valley ‘detectives’ just minutes after they alerted the police. They have never been identified as legitimate policemen.

Why were there claims that Dr Kelly took 29 painkillers when only a fifth of one tablet was found in his stomach?

Empty packets of Coproxamol tablets were found near his body and some believe the painkilling drugs contributed to his death. But the doctors say he would not have died even if he had swallowed all the pills.

Was Dr Kelly's body moved after death?

The couple who found his body said it was leaning up against a tree. When the paramedics arrived, Dr Kelly was lying flat on his back.

process. The lawyers have sent the letters this week.

We have concentrated on the finding on the death certificate that the primary cause of death was a hemorrhage. We are spelling out why he could not have died from a cut to the small ulnar artery.’

One of the doctors, who preferred not to be named, added: ‘When the Romans committed suicide they would slit all four arteries in a warm bath, which keeps the blood flowing. The arteries would close up in the open air and you would not lose that much blood.’

A book on the unanswered questions surrounding the case by Liberal Democrat MP Norman Baker concluded that Dr Kelly may have been murdered by Iraqi exiles – but the finger has also been pointed at MI5 and the CIA.

Dr Kelly's family has never commented publicly on his death.

Read more: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1233330/Dr-David-Kelly-Six-doctors-demand-inquest-death-weapons-expert-prove-murdered.html#ixzz0YyDn7eHm>

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Blackwater CEO Prince Steps Down Under Fire

BLACKWATER from p. 1

On September 16, 2007, a group of Blackwater bodyguards opened fire at a Baghdad intersection called Nisour Square and when the smoke cleared, 17 Iraqi civilians lay dead. *The New York Times* recently reported that the company's top executives authorized secret payments of about \$1 million to Iraqi higher-ups in order to buy their silence — a claim Prince denies.

But, this isn't the end of Blackwater's legal troubles. In North Carolina, a federal grand jury is investigating various allegations, including the illegal transport of assault weapons and silencers to Iraq. Ciralsky reports that in Virginia, two ex-employees have filed affidavits claiming that Prince and Blackwater may have murdered or ordered the murder of people suspected of cooperating with US authorities investigating the company. There have also been allegations that company employees ran a sex and wife-swapping ring.

Prince's woes began last June when CIA Director Leon Panetta named Prince and Blackwater in a closed-door hearing of the Intelligence Committee and the information was then leaked by one of the attendees of that hearing. By July, *The Wall Street Journal* was reporting that the program was an effort to capture or kill al Qaeda operatives and was part of a 2001 presidential directive. Lawmakers were upset mostly over having been kept in the dark about the program. In August, *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post* filed stories about the program and the CIA's hiring of Blackwater to carry out assassinations and its role in the use of aerial drones to kill al Qaeda and Taliban leaders.

According to the *Vanity Fair* article, “Prince's CIA handlers obtained provisional operational approval from senior management to recruit Prince and later

generated a “201 file” which would have put him on the agency's books as a vetted asset.” Prince claims that he made no money off his work for the CIA, “I'm painted as this war profiteer by Congress. Meanwhile I'm paying for all sorts of intelligence activities to support American national security out of my own pocket.” Prince told Ciralsky that he couldn't understand why the government would shut down “certain high-risk, high-payoff collection efforts against some [of] America's most implacable enemies for fear that his involvement could...result in their compromise.”

Prince may ultimately prove more of a liability than an asset. Many observers think Prince is using the *Vanity Fair* interview as ‘graymail’. Graymail is a legal tactic used by intelligence operatives or assets who are facing or fear that they will soon be facing prosecution. In short, the operative threatens to reveal sensitive or classified information in an effort to fend off indictments or criminal charges. Oliver North used this tactic successfully during the Iran-Contra hearings to force the dismissal of the most serious charges against him.

Time will tell whether Prince will be successful in his attempts at graymail. In the meantime, he has stepped down as CEO and chairman of Blackwater. In what may be the most cynical PR statement in the article, he alleges he wants to retire to teach high school history, economics, or maybe coach wrestling.

Meanwhile, Blackwater has changed its name to Xe in a futile attempt to disassociate itself from recent PR disasters. It hasn't worked — even people inside the company still refer to it as Blackwater.

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

Rock Creek Free Press

A FIERCELY INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

The World’s Least Powerful Man

Obama the Puppet

By PAUL CRAIG ROBERTS

It didn't take the Israel Lobby very long to bring President Obama to heel regarding his prohibition against further illegal Israeli settlements on occupied Palestinian land. Obama discovered that a mere American president is powerless when confronted by the Israel Lobby and that the United States simply is not allowed a Middle East policy separate from Israel's.

Obama also found out that he cannot change anything else either, if he ever intended to do so.

The military/security lobby has war and a domestic police state on its agenda, and a mere American president can't do anything about it.

President Obama can order the Guantanamo torture chamber closed and kidnapping and rendition and torture to be halted, but no one carries out the order.

Essentially, Obama is irrelevant.

President Obama can promise that he is going to bring the troops home, and the military lobby says, “No, you are going to send them to Afghanistan, and in the meantime start a war in Pakistan and maneuver Iran into a position that will provide an excuse for a war there, too. Wars are too profitable for us to let you stop them.” And the mere president has to say, “Yes, Sir!”

Obama can promise health care to 50 million uninsured Americans, but he can't override the veto of the war lobby and the insurance lobby. The war lobby says its war profits are more important than health care and that the country can't afford both the “war on terror” and “socialized medicine.”

The insurance lobby says health care has to be provided by private health insurance; otherwise, we can't afford it.

The war and insurance lobbies rattled their campaign contribution pocketbooks and quickly convinced Congress and the White House that the real purpose of the health care bill is to save money by cutting Medicare and Medicaid benefits, thereby “getting entitlements under control.”

Entitlements is a right-wing word used to cast aspersion on the few things that the government did, in the distant past, for citizens. Social Security and Medicare, for example, are denigrated as “entitlements.” The right-wing goes on endlessly about Social Security and Medicare as if they were welfare give-aways to shiftless people who refuse to look after themselves, whereas in actual fact citizens are vastly overcharged for the meager benefits with a 15% tax on their wages and salaries.

Indeed, for decades now the federal government has been funding its wars and military budgets with the surplus revenues collected by the Social Security tax on labor.

To claim, as the right-wing does, that we can't afford the only thing in the entire budget that has consistently produced a revenue surplus indicates that the real agenda is to drive the mere citizen into the ground.

The real entitlements are never mentioned. The “defense” budget is an entitlement for the military/security complex about which President Eisenhower warned us 50 years ago. A person has to be crazy to believe that the United States, “the world's only superpower,” protected by oceans on its East and West and by puppet states on its North and South, needs a “defense” budget larger than the military spending of the rest of the world combined.

The military budget is nothing but an entitlement for the military/security complex. To hide this fact, the entitlement is disguised as protection against “enemies” and passed through the Pentagon.

I say cut out the middleman and simply allocate a percentage of the federal budget to the military/security complex. This way we won't have to concoct reasons for invading other countries and go to war in order for the military/security complex to get its entitlement. It would be a lot cheaper just to give them the money outright, and it would save a lot of lives and grief at home and abroad.

The US invasion of Iraq had nothing whatsoever to do with American national interests. It had to do with armaments profits and with eliminating an obstacle to Israeli territorial expansion. The cost of the war, aside from the \$3 trillion, was over 4,000 dead Americans, over 30,000 wounded and maimed Americans, tens of thousands of broken American marriages and lost careers, one million dead Iraqis, four million displaced Iraqis, and a destroyed country.

All of this was done for the profits of the military/security complex and to make paranoid Israel, armed with 200 nuclear weapons, feel “secure.”

My proposal would make the military/security complex even more wealthy as the companies would get the money without having to produce the weapons. Instead, all the money could go for multi-million dollar bonuses and dividend payouts to shareholders. No one, at home or abroad, would have to be killed, and the taxpayer would be better off.

No American national interest is served by the war in Afghanistan. As the former UK Ambassador Craig Murray disclosed, the purpose of the war is to protect Unocal's interest in the Trans-Afghanistan pipeline. The cost of the war is many times greater than Unocal's investment in the pipeline. The obvious solution is to buy out Unocal and give the pipeline to the Afghans as partial compensation for the destruction we have inflicted on that country and its population, and bring the troops home.

The reason my sensible solutions cannot

be effected is that the lobbies think that their entitlements would not survive if they were made obvious. They think that if the American people knew that the wars were being fought to enrich the armaments and oil industries, the people would put a halt to the wars.

In actual fact, the American people have no say about what “their” government does. Polls of the public show that half or more of the American people do not support the wars in Iraq or Afghanistan and do not support President Obama's escalation of the war in Afghanistan. Yet, the occupations and wars continue. According to General Stanley McChrystal, the additional 40,000 troops are enough to stalemate the war, that is, to keep it going forever, the ideal situation for the armaments lobby.

The people want health care, but the government does not listen.

The people want jobs, but Wall Street wants higher priced stocks and forces American firms to offshore the jobs to countries where labor is cheaper.

The American people have no effect on anything. They can affect nothing. They have become irrelevant like Obama. And they will remain irrelevant as long as organized interest groups can purchase the US government.

The inability of the American democracy to produce any results that the voters want is a demonstrated fact. The total unresponsiveness of government to the people is conservatism's contribution to American democracy. Some years ago there was an effort to put government back into the hands of the people by constraining the ability of organized interest groups to pour enormous amounts of money into political campaigns and, thus, obligate the elected official to those whose money elected him. Conservatives said that any restraints would be a violation of the First Amendment's guarantee of free speech.

The same “protectors” of “free speech” had no objection to the Israel Lobby's passage of the “hate speech” bill, which has criminalized criticism of Israel's genocidal treatment of the Palestinians and continuing theft of their lands.

In less than one year, President Obama has betrayed all of his supporters and broken all of his promises. He is the total captive of the oligarchy of the ruling interest groups. Unless he is saved by an orchestrated 9/11-type event, Obama is a one-term president. Indeed, the collapsing economy will doom him regardless of a “terrorist event.”

The Republicans are grooming Palin. Our first female president, following our first black president, will complete the transition to an American police state by arresting critics and protesters of Washington's immoral foreign and domestic policies, and she will complete the destruction of America's reputation abroad.

Russia's Putin has already compared the US to Nazi Germany, and the Chinese premier has likened the US to an irresponsible, profligate debtor.

Increasingly the rest of the world sees the US as the sole source of all of its problems. Germany has lost the chief of its armed forces and its defense minister because the US convinced or pressured, by hook or crook, the German government to violate its Constitution and to send troops to fight for Unocal's interest in Afghanistan. The Germans had pretended that their troops were not really fighting, but were engaged in a “peace-keeping operation.” This more or less worked until the Germans called in an air strike that murdered 100 women and children lined up for a fuel allotment.

The British are investigating their leading criminal, former prime minister Tony Blair, and his deception of his own cabinet in order to do Bush's bidding and provide some cover for Bush's illegal invasion of Iraq. The UK investigators have been denied the ability to bring criminal charges, but the issue of war based entirely on orchestrated deception and lies is getting a hearing. It will reverberate throughout the world, and the world will note that there is no corresponding investigation in the US, the country that originated the False War.

Meanwhile, the US investment banks, which have wrecked the financial stability of many governments, including that of the US, continue to control, as they have done since the Clinton administration, US economic and financial policy. The world has suffered terribly from the Wall Street gangsters, and now looks upon America with a critical eye.

The United States no longer commands the respect it enjoyed under President Ronald Reagan or President George Herbert Walker Bush. World polls show that the US and its puppet master are regarded as the two greatest threats to peace. Washington and Israel outrank on the most dangerous list the crazy regime in North Korea.

The world is beginning to see America as a country that needs to go away. When the dollar is over-inflated by a Washington unable to pay its bills, will the world be motivated by greed and try to save us in order to save its investments, or will it say, thank God, good riddance.

Paul Craig Roberts was Assistant Secretary of the Treasury in the Reagan administration. He was Associate Editor of the Wall Street Journal editorial page and Contributing Editor of National Review. He is coauthor of The Tyranny of Good Intentions. 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.



US Officials Face Pro-Israel Background Check

By STEPHEN M. WALT / FOREIGN POLICY

There is an amazing story in *Ha'aretz* today on the “pro-Israel” litmus test that determines who is permitted to serve in the United States government. Here's the sort of lead you're not likely to read in the *New York Times* or *Washington Post*:

Every appointee to the American government must endure a thorough background check by the American Jewish community.

In the case of Obama's government in particular, every criticism against Israel made by a potential government appointee has become a catalyst for debate about whether appointing “another leftist” offers proof that Obama does not truly support Israel.”

The story goes on to rehearse what happened to Chas Freeman (whose appointment was derailed by the Israel lobby because he voiced a few mild criticisms of Israel's behavior) and reports that similar complaints are now being raised against the appointment of former Senator Chuck Hagel. Even more bizarrely, the Zionist Organization of America and

other rightwing Jewish groups are complaining about the appointment of Hannah Rosenthal to direct the Office to Combat and Monitor Anti-Semitism. Why? Apparently she's been involved with J Street and other “leftwing” organizations that ZOA et al deem insufficiently ardent in their support for the Jewish state and has suggested that progressive forces need to be more vocal in advancing the peace process.

One has to feel a certain sympathy for Ms. Rosenthal, who is forced to defend her own appointment by telling an interviewer:

“I love Israel. I have lived in Israel. I go back and visit every chance I can. I consider it part of my heart. And because I love it so much, I want to see it safe and secure and free and democratic and living safely.”

These are fine sentiments, but isn't it odd that she has to defend her qualifications for a position in the US government by saying how much she “loves” a foreign country? For an American official in her position, what matters is that she loves America and that she believes anti-Semitism

is a hateful philosophy that should be opposed vigorously. Whether she loves Israel or France or Thailand or Namibia, etc., is irrelevant. (And yes, it's entirely possible to loathe anti-Semitism and not love Israel).

But the real lesson of all these episodes is the effect of this litmus test on the foreign policy community more broadly. Groups in the lobby target public servants like Freeman, Hagel, and Rosenthal because they want to make sure that no one with even a mildly independent view on Middle East affairs gets appointed. By making an example of them, they seek to discourage independent-minded people from expressing their views openly, lest doing so derail their own career prospects later on. And it works. Even if the lobby doesn't manage to block every single appointment, they can make any administration think twice about a potentially “controversial” choice and use the threat to stifle open discourse among virtually all members of the mainstream foreign policy community (and certainly anyone who aspires to public service in Washington).

The result, of course, is the US Middle East policy (and US foreign policy more generally) is reserved for those who are either steadfastly devoted to the “special relationship” or who have been intimidated into silence. The result? US policy remains in the hands of the same set of “experts” whose policies for the past seventeen years (or more) have been a steady recipe for failure. If a few more Americans read *Ha'aretz*, they might start to figure this out.

Stephen M. Walt presently serves as faculty chair of the International Security Program at the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs.. Professor Walt is the author of Taming American Power: The Global Response to U.S. Primacy (W. W. Norton, 2005), and, with coauthor J.J. Mearsheimer, The Israel Lobby (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2007).



Is President Obama’s Surge A Trap?

By CYNTHIA MCKINNEY

President Obama announced both his decision to add 30,000 US troops to the mire in Afghanistan and his desire to see other countries and N.A.T.O. match his surge. Thanks to US taxpayers, mercenaries will continue to be a part of the foreign presence in Afghanistan. The Republicans support the President's move and are expected to reward President Obama with the bulk of their Congressional votes to pass his plan.

However, there is deep disquiet today within the ranks of the President's own base in the Democratic Party, with independents, and with middle-of-the-roads called “swing” voters. In unprecedented numbers, voters in the United States of all previous political persuasions went to the polls and invested their dreams and, most importantly, their votes in the “hope” and “change” promised by the Obama campaign. But in light of the President's defense of Bush Administration war crimes and torture in US courts, the transfer of trillions of hard-earned taxpayer dollars to the wealthy banking elite, continued spying on environmental and peace activists as well as support for the extension of the Patriot Act and removal of Medicare-for-all (single payer) as a central feature of proposed health care reform, Obama voters are rethinking their support.

Already, according to a Daily Koss report written by Steve Singiser: “Two in five Democratic voters either

consider themselves unlikely to vote at this point in time, or have already made the firm decision to remove themselves from the 2010 electorate pool. Indeed, Democrats were three times more likely to say that they will ‘definitely not vote’ in 2010 than are Republicans.” By contrast, Republicans are happy today; almost giddy with glee as far as I can see. Warmonger John McCain and most Republicans will make sure the President gets what he wants. And in 2012, they will abandon their support of this President and support the candidate that comes from their base.

War-weary voters in this country are committed to peace. They reject the notion, as put forward by Vice President Dick Cheney that “the American way of life” is something worth fighting for when that means that war becomes an energy policy.

Tragically, the major unstated US interest in the region that the President has bought into is the unacceptability of a proposed Iran-Pakistan-India (I-P-I) pipeline at a time when our country is saber-rattling against and threatening Iran with more sanctions. Earlier this year, Iran and Pakistan decided to move forward with their pipeline even if India decides to drop out. Ironically, I-P-I is also known as the “peace pipeline.”

The alternative pipeline route, Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (T-A-P-I), is supported by Washington because it denies an important economic benefit to Iran.

Sadly, nowhere in the President's remarks did he mention the pipeline on which construction is slated to begin in 2010.

US policy is not only guided by pipeline politics. There is also the consideration of chessboard geo-positioning necessary to contain Russia, China, and ensure US empire—for those inclined to traditional Cold Warrior “containment” thinking. Apparently, behind what some are calling a “shadow war in Muslim lands,” are targeted assassination teams that have wreaked tri-border havoc in Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

Fortunately, this time around, I'm convinced that US voters will vote for peace. President Obama has now ensured this outcome. Imagine, John McCain and Joe Lieberman have just been made very happy by the President's choice while that same choice leaves swing voters, independents, and some Democrats who enthusiastically supported Obama's campaign looking for somewhere else to go.

Cynthia McKinney is a former congresswoman from Georgia and Green Party candidate for President 2008. In 2006 she introduced articles for the impeachment of G. W. Bush. McKinney is a leader in the Free Gaza Movement and was aboard the ship Dignity in December 2008 when it was rammed by the Israeli Navy Vessel while attempting to deliver relief supplies to Gaza.



By INDRA SINHA

Indra Sinha, who was Booker-nominated for his book on the Bhopal disaster, explains why the gas leak that killed 20,000 people 25 years ago – and continues to create health problems for countless more – is still a national scandal

“Wake up people of Bhopal, you are on the edge of a volcano!”

In September 1982, Bhopali journalist Raj Keswani wrote a terrifying story, the first of a series of articles, for the city’s *Jansatta* daily. Bhopal was about to be annihilated. “It will take just an hour, at most an hour-and-a-half, for every one of us to die.”

Keswani’s information came from worried staff at the Union Carbide factory, where a worker, Ashraf Khan, had just been killed in a phosgene spill. The First World War gas was used in the production of MIC (methyl-isocyanate), a substance 500 times deadlier than hydrogen cyanide, and so volatile that unless kept in spotless conditions, refrigerated to 0° C; it can even react explosively with itself. Cooling it slows reactions, buys time, but MIC is so dangerous that chemical engineers recommend not storing it at all unless absolutely necessary and then only in the tiniest quantities. In Bhopal it was kept in a huge tank, the size of a steam locomotive.

Far from the shining cathedral of science depicted in Union Carbide adverts, the Bhopal factory more closely resembled a farmyard. Built in the 70s to make pesticides for India’s “green revolution”, a series of bad monsoons and crop failures had left it hemorrhaging money.

Union Carbide bosses hoped to dismantle and ship the plant to Indonesia or Brazil, but finding no buyers, went instead on a cost-cutting spree.

Between 1980 and 1984 the workforce was halved. The crew of the MIC unit was cut from 12 to six, its maintenance staff from six to two. In the control room a single operator had to monitor 70-odd panels, indicators and controls, all old and faulty. Safety training was reduced from six months to two weeks – reduced in effect to slogans – but as the slogans were in English, the workers couldn’t understand them.

By the time Keswani began his articles, the huge, highly dangerous plant was being operated by men who had next to no training, who spoke no English, but were expected to use English manuals. Morale was low but safety fears were ignored by management. Minor accidents happened routinely but were covered up. There were so many small leaks that the alarm siren was turned off to avoid inconveniencing the neighbors. A Union Carbide memo boasted of having saved \$1.25m, but said that “future savings would not be so easy”. There was nothing left to cut. Then bosses remembered the huge tank of MIC. They turned off its refrigeration to save freon gas worth \$37 a day.

A 1982 safety audit by US engineers had noted the filthy, neglected condition of the plant, identified 61 hazards, 30 critical, of which 11 were in the dangerous MIC/phosgene units. The audit warned of the danger of a major toxic release.

Safety was duly improved at Union Carbide’s other MIC plant in West Virginia. In Bhopal, where six serious accidents had occurred – one fatal, and three involving gas leaks – nothing was done.

If safety was ignored inside the plant, Union Carbide had no plan at all for the surrounding densely packed neighborhoods. As the situation worsened, factory staff, fearing for their own lives and those living nearby, put up posters warning of a terrible danger. Keswani wrote begging the chief minister of Madhya Pradesh to investigate the factory before Bhopal “turns into Hitler’s gas chamber”. His sensational style, perhaps, caused him to be ignored. His final article, “We are all about to be annihilated”, appeared just weeks before the gas disaster.

As night fell on 2 December 1984, none of the factory’s safety systems was working. The vent gas scrubber lay in pieces. The flare tower was undersized. The siren stayed silent. Years later – too late for the thousands who would now die in unimaginably hideous ways – a prosecuting attorney would say that Union Carbide had demonstrated a “depraved indifference to human life”.

“That night”

December 3, 1984, just after midnight; death came out of a clear sky. From Union Carbide’s factory, a thin plume of white vapor began streaming from a high structure. Caught by the wind, it became a haze and blew downwards to mingle with smoke coming from somewhere nearer the ground. A dense fog formed. Nudged by the wind, it rolled across the road and into the alleys on the other side. Here houses were packed close, shoddily built, with ill-fitting doors and windows. Those within woke coughing, their eyes and mouths on fire. Across the city countless women were saying, “Hush darling, it’s only someone burning chillies. Go back to sleep.”

Survivors’ leader Champa Devi Shukla says, “We woke with eyes crying, noses watering. The pain was unbearable. We were writhing, coughing and slobbering froth. People just got up and ran in whatever

Bhopal: 25 Years of Poison



clothes they were wearing. Some were in their underclothes, others wore nothing at all. It was complete panic. Among the crowd of people, dogs, and even cows were running and trying to save their lives and crushing people as they ran. All climbed and scrambled over each other to save their lives.”

In the stampedes through narrow alleys many were trampled to death. Some went into convulsions and dropped dead. Most, struggling to breathe as the gas ripped their lungs apart, drowned in their own body fluids.

Aziza Sultan had two young children and was pregnant with her third. When the panic began, her entire family ran out of their house. They were in night clothes and it was bitterly cold, but nothing mattered except to run. Outside in the lane, it appeared that a large number of people had passed that way. Shoes, slippers and shawls were strewn about. A thick gas cloud enveloped everything, reducing the streetlights to brown pinpoints.

“In the panic,” Aziza recalls, “lots and lots of people were running, screaming for help, vomiting, falling down unconscious. Children were wrenched from their parents’ grasp. Their cries were heartbreaking. I was terrified of losing my children. I was carrying my baby son Mohsin. My daughter Ruby was holding on to my kurta, she did not once let go. We had gone about 500 meters when my father-in law spotted a truck and told us to climb aboard. We couldn’t, but he was tall and strong so he got in. In the confusion, instead of lifting up his grandson, he grabbed another little boy who was running around on his own. My mother-in-law was vomiting. She was a heart patient and Hamidia hospital was still two kilometers away, much of it uphill. Soon Mohsin was being sick on me. Ruby was also vomiting. We all fell on the ground. I had a miscarriage right there in the middle of the street; my body was covered with blood.”

At least 8,000 people died on “that night”. Half a million were injured. In the years since, as more people died of their injuries and illnesses caused by inhaling the gas, the death toll has risen above 20,000.

The long-predicted gas leak at Union Carbide was, and remains, the worst industrial disaster in history.

The aftermath

Light came to city streets full of corpses sprawled in the agonized poses in which death had found them. They lay in heaps, limbs twisted, faces contorted.

In some places the dead were so many that it was impossible to walk without stepping on them. These were scenes from an apocalypse. The sun came up on choking, blinded people making their way to the hospitals. Some, desperate to relieve the agony in their eyes, were washing them in sewage water from the open drains.

The hospitals were full of the dying and doctors did not know how to treat them because they did not know which gas or gases had leaked, and Union Carbide would not release the information, claiming it was a “trade secret”.

A quarter of a century later, Union Carbide and its owner, the Dow Chemical Company, which acquired it in 2001, still refuse to publish the results of studies into the effects of MIC. With or without these studies, 25 years of suffering prove that mass exposure to MIC destroys bodies, minds, families and a whole society.

Abdul Mansuri speaks for thousands. “My breathing problems started after the gas and got worse and worse. I can truthfully say that I have never had a day’s health, or a day without pain, since ‘that night’.” For some the pain, physical, mental, emotional, has been too much.

Kailash Pawar was a young man. “My body is the support of my life,” he said. “When my breathing is normal I feel like living. But when it becomes heavy, thinking stops and absolute pain takes over. I have become worthless.” He was still in his 20s when he doused himself in kerosene and struck a match.

Today in Bhopal, more than 100,000 people remain chronically ill.

The compensation paid by Union Carbide, meant to last the rest of their lives, averaged some £300 a head: taken over 25 years that works out at around 7p a day, enough perhaps for a cup of tea.

Over the years the survivors have received little medical help. Being mostly very poor, they were often treated rudely. Government doctors would refuse to touch them. They were theoretically entitled to free treatment but were prescribed expensive drugs they did not need and which in some cases actually harmed them. In 1994 the Indian government, eager to put the gas leak behind it, shut down all research studies into the effects of the gas, just as new epidemics of cancers, diabetes, eye defects and crippling menstrual disorders was beginning to appear.

Abandoned by all who had a duty of care, the survivors decided to open their own clinic. In 1994, an advertisement appeared in the *Guardian*, launching the Bhopal Medical Appeal. The generous response of this newspaper’s readers and others enabled the survivors to buy a building, hire medical staff and begin training. In 1996 the Sambhavna Clinic opened its doors, offering survivors a combination of modern medicine, ayurvedic herbal treatments, yoga and massage. Consultations, treatments, therapies,

medicines and post-treatment monitoring are all absolutely free.

The water poisoning

After the night of horror, the factory was locked up. Thousands of tons of pesticides and waste remained inside. Union Carbide never bothered to clean it. The chemicals were abandoned in warehouses open to wind and rain.

Twenty-four monsoons have rusted and rotted the death factory. The rains wash the poisons deep into the soil. They enter the groundwater and seep into wells and bore pipes. They gush from taps and enter people’s bodies. They burn stomachs, corrode skin, damage organs and flow into wombs where they go to work on the unborn. If babies make it into the world alive, the poisons are waiting in their mothers’ milk.

Atal Ayub Nagar is a slim strip of housing sandwiched between Union Carbide’s factory wall and the railway line. It used to have no hand pumps and fetching water meant a trek to a well in Shakti Nagar, half a mile to the south. People clubbed together to install two hand pumps. At first the water seemed OK, but then oily globules began appearing. The water acquired a chemical smell, which grew gradually worse.

A private Union Carbide memo, obtained via a US court case, reveals that as far back as 1989 the company had tested soil and water inside the factory. Fish introduced to the samples died instantly. The danger to drinking water supplies was obvious, but Carbide issued no warnings. Its bosses in India and the US watched silently as families already ruined by their gases drank, and bathed their kids in poisoned water.

In Atal Ayub Nagar, many damaged babies were being born. The situation did not improve after the state government took possession of the site in 1998. The following year, when Greenpeace was testing soil and water around the factory, it visited this place and found carbon tetrachloride in one of the hand pumps at levels 682 times higher than US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) limits. People drank this water, washed their clothes and bathed in it.

In August 2009, a sample of water from the same hand pump was analyzed by a Greenpeace laboratory in the UK. Carbon tetrachloride was found at 4,880 times the EPA limit. In the last decade, the water has become seven times more poisonous.

Rehana is a nine-year-old from Atal Ayub Nagar. She was born without a left thumb, her growth is retarded, her mind is weak and she hasn’t the strength to go to school. Rehana’s vision is not good, she’s plagued by rashes and is constantly breathless.

Her father sadly asks, “Why was fate so cruel to our poor child?”

Why was fate so cruel?

Long before “that night” there had been troubling rumors, mysterious deaths of cattle grazing near the factory. Babulal Gaur, a Bhopal lawyer, mediated a settlement between Union Carbide and the aggrieved farmers.

In 2004, Gaur became a minister in the local BJP government and to him fell the duty of caring for the city’s gas survivors. He told the *Christian Science Monitor* that the Union Carbide factory had contaminated the groundwater, and complained that the previous Congress government had tried to hush the matter up.

In May 2004, India’s Supreme Court ordered the state to supply clean water to the poisoned communities. Gaur’s government ignored this order.

A year passed and a group of women and children went to the government offices to ask why nothing had been done. They were savagely beaten, punched and kicked by police. Weeks later Gaur, by now promoted to chief minister of Madhya Pradesh, announced an ambitious £120m plan to beautify the city with ornamental fountains and badminton courts.

To mark the 25th anniversary of the gas leak, Gaur, demoted to Bhopal gas tragedy relief and rehabilitation minister, announced that he would open the derelict factory site to the public. There was no water contamination, he said, echoing Indian environment minister Jairam Ramesh, who, with curious naivety, told journalists that he had handled some waste and not become ill.

A cynic remarked that this was like touching a cigarette and saying, “Look, I haven’t got lung cancer.”

Denying that contamination exists clearly serves the company’s interests. No doubt it is mere coincidence that the Dow Chemical Company has made at least one donation to Gaur’s party, the BJP.

This sordid little tale is itself an echo of the bigger machinations at the centre, where Dow has been trying to twist the arm of Manmohan Singh’s Congress government into letting it off the Bhopal hook in return for a billion-dollar investment in India.

When people ask, “Why is the disaster continuing? Why has the factory not been cleaned? Why have Union Carbide and Dow not faced justice?”, the answer is this: Union Carbide’s victims are still dying in Bhopal because India itself is dying under the corrupt and self-serving rule of rotten leaders.

Indra Sinha is the author of *Animal’s People*, a novel based on the Bhopal disaster. For more on the Bhopal Medical Appeal: bhopal.org

COUNTERTHINK



Mike Connell’s Plane Crash Was No Accident

A “Deep Throat” Emerges in the Year Old Case

CONNELL from p. 1

Connell was also considered a key witness in the election fraud lawsuit King Lincoln Bronzeville Neighborhood Association v. Blackwell. The suit implicates Former Ohio Secretary of State Kenneth J. Blackwell, Karl Rove and others of 2004 election night vote rigging.

Attorneys in the case believe that Connell, who had not been accused of any wrongdoing, had firsthand knowledge about the missing White House emails and Rove’s alleged wrongdoing with respect to the 2004 Presidential election.

Connell’s sister, Shannon, says she believes her brother’s work related to politics led to his death. Reports Abrahams:

Although her brother never spoke of his work, Shannon believes that Mike’s ties to the Bush Administration and the GOP are somehow related to his death.

“It just seems way too convenient, the timing since he had been deposed. He didn’t get to testify. But I don’t think he would’ve perjured himself. When it comes down to it, he was basically an honest person. If push came to shove and he was under oath testifying, I believe that he would’ve told the truth. I think that there were other people who believed that as well.”

The Connell family has received tangible evidence that suggests foul play in the plane crash. Reports Abrahams:

Recently, the Connell family has been dealt another blow—an anonymous memo penned by someone identifying themselves as “Mark Felt” (the name of the man who was ultimately revealed to be “Deep Throat”), cataloguing an order and mission to remotely intercept and rig the instrument panel of Mike Connell’s plane then “sanitize” the area.

Heather confirms receipt of this memo, which was c’d to six unknown recipients.

What does the memo mean? Abrahams reports that it is being taken seriously:

Those close to the case believe the person behind the memo is a real informant with inside knowledge about Connell’s plane crash. There are a number of Intelligence officials looking into it, including the FBI. The FBI field agent in charge of the case, Jack Vickery, did not return my calls. But Cliff Arnebeck, the prosecuting attorney in the case and the one who deposed Mike Connell last November, issued the following statement:

We received copies of the “deep throat” letter and redacted report of a jackal that “is not supposed to exist.” We passed on to the FBI this and other information we have relevant to the matter. Our impression is that the FBI is doing its job of investigating specific allegations regarding the assassination of a vital witness in our federal election fraud case.

The term “jackal” refers to a hired assassin. And Abrahams quotes an expert on the subject:

Former NSA operative John Perkins wrote about such “jackals” in his book, *Confessions of an Economic HitMan*, and says while he doesn’t have any inside knowledge about Connell’s death; he would not be surprised if he was murdered.

“It wouldn’t surprise me a bit. They’ve certainly assassinated a lot of people in this country. The Kennedys were assassinated. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated. It’s entirely possible that Paul Wellstone



Did Mike Connell know too much? The GOP computer expert built the systems used to hide e-mails and hack election results.

was assassinated. We’ve had a long, long history of assassinations. It’s extremely successful in terms of turning politics around and getting people off cases. In a way, Bill Clinton was assassinated but it was a personality assassination. The Connell case is just one more possibility.”

Perkins says that the mysterious plane crash long has been a popular tactic with hired assassins:

“It’s so easy to cover it up. The evidence is destroyed and everybody knows airplanes are fragile anyway, small airplanes in particular. So it’s a very clean type of assassination in terms of ways to do it because the area where the plane crash happens can be quickly cordoned off . . . and the evidence can be cleaned up very quickly and most of it is destroyed anyway. But if there’s anything left, it can be disposed of very, very quickly.”

The Connell family wants to know the identity of the informant. The family also wants to know more about threats Mike Connell reportedly received in the weeks leading up to his death.


Shannon Connell is quick to say that justice will be difficult to achieve in her brother’s death. Reports Abrahams:

Shannon says if there were proof of foul play, she believes her family would file a wrongful death suit against Karl Rove. But she says she’s not sure her family will ever know what really happened that day in December.

“I think Mike got caught up in some other people’s lives and didn’t know how to get out or was trying to get out. You know, I’m real cynical about whether justice will be done. A lot of the government officials probably have gotten away with a lot of things. My position now is what’s going to make this different? What’s different with my brother’s death that’s any different than Paul Wellstone’s?”

Roger Shuler is a journalist and author of the blog, *Legal Schnauzer* (www.legalschnauzer.blogspot.com). He lives in Birmingham, Alabama with his wife and two Siamese cats.

Speak English Available Now!



Mike Palecek

Speak English


"Mike Palecek reminds me of many Americans who as children were so blasted with propaganda that they're devoting the rest of their lives to challenging the lies and all who tell them."

- David Roy, American Poet

Small Towns. Prejudice. Dirty politics. Crazy people make more sense than the sane ones. Distorted reality.

Oh, of course it was written by Mike Palecek

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Science Scandal of the Century

The World’s Most Influential Climate Scientists Get Caught “Fudging” the Data

key figures involved are Dr Michael Mann of Penn State, author of the famed “Hockey Stick” graph (more about that later) and Dr Phil Jones of East Anglia CRU, who holds a key position within the UK Met Office which selects scientists for the UN IPCC.

Other scientists include CRU researcher Keith Briffa; Ben Santer, who was responsible for rewriting key passages in the IPCC’s 1995 report; Kevin Trenberth, who pushed the IPCC into scare mongering over hurricane activity (since discredited); and Gavin Schmidt, right-hand man to Al Gore’s ally Dr James Hansen, whose own Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS) record of surface temperature data is second in importance only to that of the CRU itself.

The e-mails make it clear that the scientists closely coordinate their activities and work together in a collegial manner. They consider themselves to all be “on the same team” and in fact they refer to themselves as “the Team” or the “Hockey Team”.

The Climategate scandal has already ended the careers of at least two top climatologists. The head of the CRU and author of several incriminating e-mails, Phil Jones, has stepped down “temporarily” from his post while the University of East Anglia conducts an investigation. Stateside, Pennsylvania State University announced it would conduct its own investigation of head climatologist Michael Mann. Regardless of the outcome of the investigations, it is unlikely that either man will survive, reputation intact. In fact, they may eventually face criminal charges, but I’m getting ahead of myself.

Background

Unless you’ve been living under a rock, you know that the world faces imminent disaster. Glaciers are melting, deserts are expanding and soon you’ll be able to book a tropical vacation to the North Pole. Not quite, but you get the point. The theory of Anthropogenic Global Warming posits that this is all due to human influence. By burning coal and oil, humans have increased the CO2 concentration in the atmosphere (from about 0.028% centuries ago to about 0.038% today) which has driven up the global temperature due to the “green house effect”.

No one disputes that the climate is changing. After all, 10,000 years ago, during the last Ice Age, glaciers as much as a mile thick covered much of North America. About 1,000 years ago, during the Medieval Warm Period (MWP) wine grapes were grown in Europe up to 300 miles farther north than present day, and the Vikings were able to settle and grow crops in Greenland. More recently, the Little Ice Age (LIA) was a period of cooling that lasted several hundred years until the 19th century, when the current period of global warming began. So, there is no dispute that the climate does change and is changing all the time.

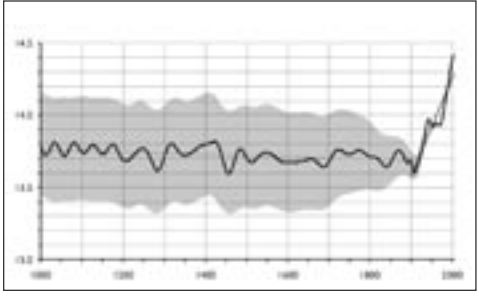
There is not even much dispute about the current direction of change; the climate does appear to be getting warmer. While there will inevitably be peaks and valleys along the way, the general temperature trend is slowly up, on the order of 1 degree Centigrade per century. The real question is: how much of the current warming trend is due to human influence, and what, if anything, can or should we do about it?

If climate change is mostly due to man-made CO2 in the atmosphere, then, perhaps, we could do something about it, but if the climate is changing of its own accord, then any effort to curb CO2 would be tragically misdirected. Worse, the fixation on CO2 will have directed attention and resources away from other real issues, like hunger, poverty, healthcare, pollution, (name your cause).

So this is the crucial question: How much of the current global warming is due to increased CO2 and how much is natural and beyond our control?

Back to Climategate

The scientists involved in the Climategate scandal are the very ones who have attempted to prove the link between CO2 and global warming. The main tool they have used to demonstrate a link is a variation on the famous “Hockey Stick” graph that Al Gore made the centerpiece of his movie, “An Inconvenient Truth”. The Hockey Stick, created by Dr Mann of Penn State, is a graph of global temperature plotted over the span of the last 1000 years. The graph is very dramatic because it shows past temperatures basically flat until 1900 when the graph takes a turn up, then dramatically higher for the last few decades.



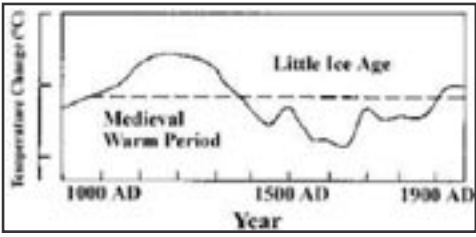
“Hockey Stick” graph

When you compare this climate Hockey Stick graph with a graph of atmospheric CO2 levels, which follows an almost identical

pattern, flat for centuries then rising ever steeper after 1900; BINGO! They match! Proof, they say, that CO2 is causing the warming.

There is only one problem. The actual record of temperature looks nothing at all like the Hockey Stick suggests. For one thing, the Medieval Warm Period, a thousand years ago, when temperatures were higher than they are today, has been completely eliminated, and the Little Ice Age is also reduced significantly. Even more recent climate anomalies, such as the extraordinarily warm decade of the 1930s (remember the dustbowl?) have been erased from the data as well. (Actually, as the e-mails show, the 30s “blip” is in the data; it’s simply been erased from the graph.)

Here is a graph of what we used to think the temperature record looked like, from the IPCC’s own publications in 1990:



World Climate History According to IPCC in 1990

lists papers by more than 750 scientists from more than 400 institutions in the peer-reviewed literature that provide hard evidence that the MWP was real, was global, and was warmer than the present.

The scientists, Jones and Mann, contend that they are justified in rewriting the temperature record based on new data gathered from tree rings and other “proxies”. The theory is that the growth rings of certain trees can be used to deduce the temperature in the past, i.e. that tree data can be used as a proxy for temperature.

The idea that temperature can be deduced from tree rings, when tree growth is affected by so many other factors, might seem dubious, but Team members were able to match this tree-ring proxy data to the measured temperature history pretty well, at least for the period where thermometer data is available, up to about 1960... but then there is a problem. After about 1960 the tree-ring predicted temperatures, no longer match the actual measured temperatures and the divergence between the tree-ring predictions and real temperatures continues to increase for more recent measurements.

But wait, if the tree-ring proxy isn’t valid after 1960, what makes us think it is a valid proxy for older climates? After all, it is the tree-ring data, primarily, that was used to justify eliminating the MWP from the record. If you can’t eliminate the MWP then today’s warm temperatures are no longer unprecedented. More than that, the invalidity of the tree-ring data disproves the supposed relationship between CO2 and a warming climate.

The MWP is not the only inconvenient fact of climate history being ignored by the “Team”. By concentrating on only the last one or two thousand years, they ignore the fact, well established in the scientific literature, that most of the last 11,000 years since the end of the last Ice Age, have been warmer — often considerably warmer — than the present. The Bronze Age and the Roman era, like the MWP were both warmer than the present. If we look even farther back in time, each of the past four interglacial warm periods was up to 6 C° (11 F°) warmer than the present.

So clearly, the scientists involved in this scandal are crucial to pushing the theory of Man-Made Global Warming. What the leaked e-mails reveal is shocking, and what is revealed in the source code of the leaked computer programs is even more so. First the leaked e-mails.

Leaked e-Mails

The e-mails reveal that the scientists:

- Manipulated the presentation of data in order to suggest a connection between temperature and CO2. An honest presentation would have invalidated the use of tree-ring proxies which purport to show that current temperatures are historically unprecedented.
- Conspired to delete e-mails relating to their role as key contributors to the IPCC’s last report.
- Used their influence within the IPCC to prevent dissenting scientific opinion appearing within IPCC reports.
- Conspired, contrary to the rules of open, verifiable science, to conceal and then to destroy computer codes and data that had been legitimately requested by an external researcher.
- Mounted a smear campaign against scientific opponents via a website of their own creation (RealClimate.org) which purported to be a neutral forum for discussion, but in fact, was under their exclusive control.
- Interfered with the process of peer-review itself by leaning on journals to allow their friends rather than independent scientists to review their papers.
- Abused the peer review process to make sure that no dissenting scientific opinion ever saw the light of day. And when a dissenting

paper did get published, pressured the journal into firing the responsible editor

- Tampered with their own data to conceal inconsistencies and errors.
- Expressed alarm that, contrary to their predictions, and their public pronouncements, global temperatures had not risen appreciably for 15 years, and had, according to their own data, been falling for nine years.

Excerpts of Troubling e-mails

In an e-mail from 1999, Jones refers to one of Mann’s studies from the prominent journal *Nature* in a discussion of his own data:

“I’ve just completed Mike’s Nature trick of adding in the real temps to each series for the last 20 years (i.e. from 1981 onwards) and from 1961 for Keith’s to hide the decline.”

If the goal is to prove a relationship between CO2 and temperature, the MWP must be eliminated. Since they used tree-ring data to justify erasing the MWP the validity of using tree rings as a proxy for temperature must be protected. That is what’s meant by “hide the decline”; to cover-up the failure of the tree-ring proxy data after 1960.

In this Oct. 2009 message from Kevin Trenberth, head of the Climate Analysis Section, NCAR New Zealand to Michael Mann he expresses doubts about the data.

“The fact is that we can’t account for the lack of warming at the moment and it is a travesty that we can’t. The CERES data published in the August BAMS 09 supplement on 2008 shows there should be even more warming: but the data are surely wrong. Our observing system is inadequate.”

While privately they admit their system is inadequate and their inability to explain lack of warming is “a travesty”, publicly they continued to make statements that the present decade is the “warmest ever,” and that global warming “science is settled”.

They discuss how to manipulate the IPCC process in a July 2004 e-mail, sent to Mann from Jones. The topic is a pair of papers that criticize the case for man-made global warming; Jones wrote that he and his colleagues would be sure to keep the papers out of consideration for the forthcoming climate assessment by the IPCC, “even if we have to re-define what the peer-review literature is.”

In this message from Mann to Jones, June 2003, they discuss how to “contain” the Medieval Warm Period.

...“Phil and I have recently submitted a paper using about a dozen NH [northern hemisphere] records that fit this category, and many of which are available nearly 2K back-I think that trying to adopt a timeframe of 2K, rather than the usual 1K, addresses a good earlier point that Peck made w/ regard to the memo, that it would be nice to try to “contain” the putative “MWP”, even if we don’t yet have a hemispheric mean reconstruction available that far back.”

Mann and Jones discuss ways to pressure an academic journal *Climate Research* to stop publishing submissions from climate skeptics, with Mann suggesting that they consider encouraging colleagues not to submit papers to the journal until it changes its editorial stance.

This message is from Mann to Jones, March 2003:

...“This was the danger of always criticising the skeptics for not publishing in the “peer-reviewed literature”. Obviously, they found a solution to that-take over a journal! So what do we do about this? I think we have to stop considering “Climate Research” as a legitimate peer-reviewed journal. Perhaps we should encourage our colleagues in the climate research community to no longer submit to, or cite papers in, this journal. We would also need to consider what we tell or request of our more reasonable colleagues who currently sit on the editorial board.What do others think?”

“I will be emailing the journal to tell them I’m having nothing more to do with it until they rid themselves of this troublesome editor.”“It results from this journal having a number of editors. The responsible one for this is a well-known skeptic in NZ. He has let a few papers through by Michaels and Gray in the past. I’ve had words with Hans von Storch about this, but got nowhere. Another thing to discuss in Nice!”

Jones also wrote repeatedly about rebuffing requests by climate skeptics for raw temperature data from CRU. In this message he encourages his colleagues to delete e-mails concerning a Freedom of Information (FOI) request for the data.

The following is a May 2008 message from Jones to Mann with the subject “IPCC & FOI”:

Can you delete any emails you may have had with Keith re AR4?
Keith will do likewise. He’s not in at the moment - minor family crisis.
Can you also email Gene and get him to do the same? I don’t have his new email address.
We will be getting Caspar to do likewise.
I see that CA claim they discovered the 1945 problem in the Nature paper!!

Leaked Source Code

Many megabytes of computer source code files were released with the e-mails. They comprise the programs that were used to both “filter” the raw climate data, and then use the processed data to produce charts and graphs, including the Hockey Stick graph and others. Within the source code are many remarks, or notations left by the programmers explaining the purpose of various bits of code.

Quotes from the source code:

“REM Uses ‘corrected’ MXD [proxy data from tree-rings] - but shouldn’t usually plot past 1960 because these will be artificially adjusted to look closer to the real temperatures.

“In two other programs, briffa_Sep98_d.pro and briffa_Sep98_e.pro, the “correction” is bolder by far. The programmer (Keith Briffa?) entitled the “adjustment” routine “Apply a VERY ARTIFICIAL correction for decline!!”

Here’s the “fudge factor” code:

Note that the words “fudge factor” actually appear in the code as released.

```
'yrloc=[1400,findgen(19)*5.+1904]
'valadj=[0.,0.,0.,0.,0.,-0.1,-0.25,-0.3,0.,-0.1,0.3,0.8,1.2,1.7,2.5,2.6,2.6,2.6,2.6]*0.75 ; fudge factor
```

These two lines of code effectively create a “fudge factor” table that looks like this:

Yrloc	valadj	Yrloc	valadj
1400	0	1949	0.3
1904	0	1954	0.8
1909	0	1959	1.2
1914	0	1964	1.7
1919	0	1969	2.5
1924	-0.1	1974	2.6
1929	-0.25	1979	2.6
1934	-0.3	1984	2.6
1939	0	1989	2.6
1944	-0.1	1994	2.6

This fudge factor table serves the dual purpose of reducing the temperature “blip” of the 1930’s as well as producing a dramatic “Hockey Stick” out of whatever raw data you feed into it.

Conclusion

The evidence of misbehavior and scientific fraud by this group of elite climate scientists is plain. There is little chance that these scientists will recover their reputations.

So what? We have a small group of climate scientists caught red-handed falsifying data. Surely that’s not enough to throw out the whole Anthropogenic Global Warming theory. Is it?

This is not just some small random group of climatologists. This is “the Team”, the top of the heap, the principal researchers at the top institutions proposing and providing evidence for the AGW theory. These are the very people behind the data and graphs used by Al Gore and the IPCC to promote the world-wide carbon trading scheme, carbon taxes and other regulations.

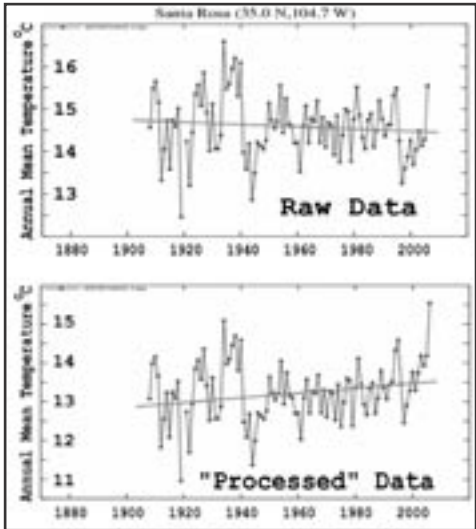
This scandal affects just one set of data. Don’t we have other independent data that backs up the AGW claim?

Unfortunately, there are only four global temperature datasets in the world: two from the Earth’s surface and two from satellites.

The satellite data is not in question, but it goes back only about 35 years. It shows a slow and steady rise in temperature.

The two terrestrial data sets are Professor Jones’ dataset from the Climate Research Unit, in collaboration with the Hadley Center for Forecasting at the UK Meteorological Office and Professor James Hansen’s dataset at NASA’s Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS), in collaboration with NOAA.

The leaked e-mail make clear that there is very close collusion between the principal figures at CRU in East Anglia and both NASA and NOAA. The climate researchers at these establishments are all members of the Team. Professor Jones at the Climate Research Unit in the UK, Gavin Schmidt at NASA, and Tom Karl at NOAA are now



Temperature data for Santa Rosa, NM showing how GISS “processed” the data to lower temps from the 1930’s and increase recent temps.

known, from their e-mail correspondence, to be closely coordinating their results and collaborating to manipulate both the peer review process and the UN IPCC.

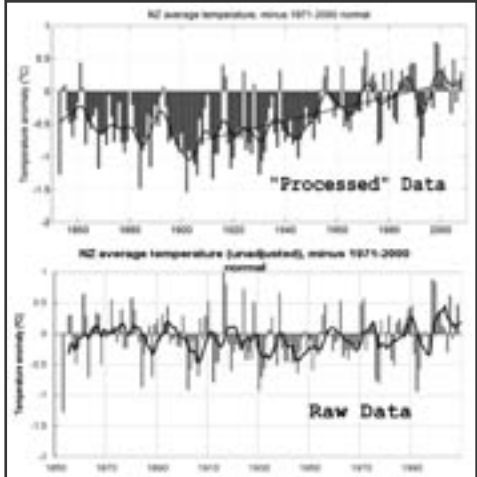
In fact, NASA was particularly embarrassed this summer when they were forced to admit that their temperature data for the US was altered (fudged?) to hide the fact, which they now admit, that 1934 was the hottest year on record in the US, not 1998 as NASA had claimed.

Don’t individual companies have their own weather stations and their own independent climatologists? Can’t they provide independent verification of the data?

Yes, one would assume that sovereign countries could use their own climate

datasets to verify or refute the findings now in question. Unfortunately, there is evidence that even some national data sets have been “fudged” as well.

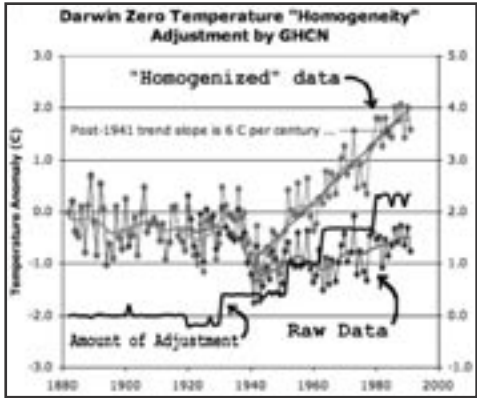
For example, a citizen researcher in New Zealand, Richard Treadgold of the Climate Conversation Group, used publicly available temperature records to show that, contrary to the claims that NZ has been warming, in fact, NZ temperatures have been surprisingly stable for a century and a half.



New Zealand temp record before and after GHCN processing

An even more remarkable case comes to us from Australia. Climate researcher Willis Eschenbach took a look at the raw data to determine what effect the “homogenization” process at the NOAA’s Global Historical Climate Network (GHCN) had on the temperature readings. What he found was remarkable. Decades old temperature data from stations all over Australia had been arbitrarily adjusted to create a warming trend out of thin air.

One interesting example is weather station Darwin Zero. From the graph below you can see the data both before and after “homogenization”. Particularly interesting is the “Amount of Adjustment” line in the graph below. It looks suspiciously like a version of the “fudge factor” we saw in the in the CRU source codes.



But didn’t Al Gore say “the science is settled, AGW is a fact!”

That’s just not the way science works. No scientific theory is ever “settled”. A theory is only viable until it is disproved. You can have a hundred experiments that support a theory, but as soon as one comes along that disproves it, it’s done. Once disproved (falsified it’s called) the theory is relegated to the dust bin of history, regardless of how many scientists believed it or how much money was spent on it.

What we witness in these e-mails are the desperate attempts of the East Anglia Climate Group to maintain the pretense that the data continued to support the theory that CO2 was linked to global temperature. But there were too many flaws beginning to show. Too many independent researchers were finding contradictions in the data. They just couldn’t hold the theory together any longer.

In the coming months I expect there will be frantic attempts by supporters of AGW to tough it out. There are always true-believers who will never be able to accept that the theory is wrong. And, to complicate matters, the globe will probably continue to warm, just as it has been doing for the last three centuries. But remember, the question is not whether the climate is getting warmer; the AGW theory was that the warming is caused by man-made CO2. The evidence for that has now been shown to be fraudulent.

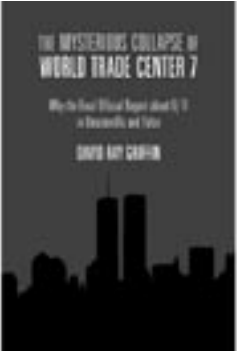
For all practical purposes, as a scientific theory, Anthropogenic Global Warming due to man-made CO2, is dead. But that doesn’t mean the controversy is going away, after all there are billions of dollars and even more importantly, major global power structures with vested interests at stake. Now that efforts to regulate CO2 have been stripped of the patina of scientific legitimacy, we may see the forces behind carbon taxes and carbon trading schemes attempt to force through legislation using raw political power. One sign that this is happening will be if the Climategate investigation is removed from the realm of science and given to yet another Warren Commission, or 9/11 Commission style political cover-up body.

Regardless of how you felt about AGW, there is no doubt that the focus on CO2 has distracted environmentalists (and I consider myself one) from other pressing issues. Maybe now we can redirect our energies to the issues that have been forgotten in the rush to control CO2. Issues such as deforestation, habitat destruction, chemical and radiological pollution, mountaintop removal, over-fishing and the many other real issues where we can make a real improvement in our quality of life.

Matt Sullivan has a degree in chemistry and worked in analytical and computational chemistry for ten years before working as a computer programmer and systems analyst for another ten. Matt is the editor and publisher of the Rock Creek Free Press in Washington, DC.

Book Review

Just Say No to NIST



A review of
The Mysterious Collapse of World Trade Center 7:
Why the Official Report about 9/11
is Unscientific and False
A book by David Ray Griffin



REVIEW BY JERRY MAZZA
The headline, “Just Say No to NIST” (the National Institute of Standards and Technology) is purposely patterned after Nancy Reagan’s “Just Say No to Drugs.” In the case of David Griffin’s new book, *The Mysterious Collapse of World Trade Center 7*, the NIST lies, half truths, omissions, and the outright corruption of honest science are the administrations’ dope, administered by NIST, to lull inquiring minds into believing the fantasy of their lies.

NIST’s violations of scientific method, as Griffin clearly explains, represent what he terms the “politicization of science,” used to delude Americans to accept the Bush administrations’ conspiracy theory. That is, the World Trade Center Tower 7, the Tower not hit by an airliner, fell into its own footprint in six seconds at 5:20 PM on 9/11 as a result of minor fires, not explosives planted in the 47-story steel-framed building to create a classic internal demolition — uncannily resembling so many we’ve seen in movies or on TV.

Griffin points out that the only two other buildings in history to have fallen from fires were the steel-framed WTC Towers 1 and 2 earlier that morning. Any and all previous fires in steel-framed buildings, those that burned for hours, even days, did not fell the buildings, let alone explode them, like Towers 1 and 2, into a pyroplastic cloud that hung for months in the skies over Ground Zero and Manhattan, and rolled through the streets of the financial district, graying it like a huge graveyard.

In Griffin’s steady hands, the story of WTC 7 becomes the fulcrum to understand how Towers 1 and 2 were felled with similar internal demolitions, as opposed to the fires caused by the jetliners impact, how Towers 1 and 2 then exploded into their own footprints as they fell within 10-second free-falls, which Griffin explains in great engineering and science-based detail.

Of course, Griffin reminds you that NIST itself is a government agency, working for the US Department of Commerce, subject to control by the White House, not unlike the 9/11 Commission, which was controlled by its White House author Philip Zelikow. Zelikow wrote the outline of the Commission’s inquiry and findings before the group ever met.

Working with physicist Steven Jones and a battery of top scientists and engineers, Griffin has shepherded a vast amount of information into *The Mysterious Collapse of World Trade Center 7*, to present the explosive results of their findings. Jones, formerly a physics professor at Brigham Young University, was released from his job because of his studies. They were of samples of dust gathered from Ground Zero, at Tower 7, as well as at the Tower 1 and 2’s sites. They all indicated the presence of super nanotech versions of thermite and/or thermate (thermite plus sulphur for added heat).

The nanotechnology allowed the thermate to be broken down into minute, even more potent particles which could be aerosolized and used to spray on or within the walls of the towers, to be ignited for later havoc. The fact that NIST refused even to consider nanothermate presence and destructive potential, but rather summarily dismissed the use of it, is a sin against science, as Griffin points out. It is a sin, too, against the almost 3000 souls who were lost on 9/11, as well as all those Americans who innocently believe the administration conspiracy theory.

This is not to mention the second wave of slaughter, the many illnesses and deaths from cancer, pulmonary disease and body poisoning, which are occurring with first responders who worked non-stop on the pile for up to eight months. These are not the illnesses of mere smoke inhalation, but of the massive number of toxic substances exploded into the air by the literal pulverizing of the three towers that each sunk in free fall to the ground into their own footprints.

Fire doesn’t pulverize a million tons of concrete. High-powered explosives do.

Griffin brings a plethora of examples of NIST’s violations of scientific method which ignore or skirt, omit or bluntly lie about the questions raised by the presence of these explosive substances, just as FEMA and the EPA denied their by-products devastation throughout the WTC and New York City, making it the greatest environmental disaster in US history.

Griffin documents the facts of the nanotech-thermate and its heat-generating energy. He describes how firefighters found streams of melted steel, molten for months under the debris, and pouring out, along with the presence of Swiss-cheese-like chunks of steel filled with melt-holes. This was lifted and shipped away as the debris .

Through all of NIST’s obfuscation, which would bring most of us to our feet raging against the government-front NIST, Griffin, author of some 35 books, keeps a level hand and the cool rationality of the philosopher of religion, politics and science that he is. He deconstructs the falsehoods, page after page, chapter by chapter, with an impenetrable sense of logic.

In short, the black-on-black covered, 328-page *The Mysterious Collapse of World Trade Center 7*, seals the doom of NIST chicanery and lies, a disgrace to those who participated in creating them. As well as being an expose of the “politicization of science,” this book is a history of perhaps the darkest time in America’s history. It is a document driven by Griffin and his colleagues’ passion for truth, a book that wishes to and succeeds in toppling the NIST lies like the ill-fated towers.

What’s more, there is new information here for the most seasoned 9/11 scholar as well as those who have just begun to question the anomalies of the WTC 7 tower which was not hit by an airliner but which fell exactly as Towers 1 and 2 did.

Lastly, Griffin’s analysis of the recently uncovered story of Barry Jennings, liaison for the Housing Authority to Giuliani’s Office of Emergency Management, and Michael Hess, Giuliani’s Chief Counsel for New York City, and a head partner in Giuliani & Partners, a private financing firm, is amazing. Both Jennings and Hess were caught in an explosion on the sixth floor of Tower 7 that occurred about 9:30 AM on 9/11/2001.

After the explosive collapses of Towers 1 and 2, the two men were rescued from Tower 7, finally led by firefighters through a hole in the wall of what was its bombed-out lobby. Jennings said that he could tell that he was walking over dead bodies. This cast an entirely new light on the Tower 7 history. Subsequently, Mr. Hess redacted or changed most of his testimony to fit the timeline of a book Giuliani wrote in 2002 about the events. Griffin impeccably documents the time of events and the redacting of information.

He points out that Jennings stuck to his story. Amazingly, he became ill and entered a hospital in August, 2008, and died several days later on August 19, 2008. This was strangely several days before NIST’s first WTC 7 Report’s release. Dylan Avery, lead producer of “Loose Change”, hired a private investigator to gather information about what happened. Not too long after, the P. I. called Avery and told him she would be crediting his card for her fee (returning his money), and would like it “if he never called her again regarding Mr. Jennings.”

Griffin’s investigatory detailing of this story is both interesting and illuminating. Parenthetically, since the book’s release, Dylan Avery made a visit to the Jennings family, and found them disappeared from their home, gone, just gone.

Perhaps this will make a follow-up story for David Ray Griffin. Fortunately, *The Mysterious Collapse of World Trade Center 7* is here/now to stay. For all those who have hungered for the information to “Just Say No to NIST” and the administration’s conspiracy, this book is a must-read.

Jerry Mazza is a freelance writer living in New York City. His book State Of Shock – Poems from 9/11 is available at www.jerrymazza.com and Amazon.

History’s Lessons

The Christmas Truce of 1914



By GARY G. KOHLS

A century ago, before the start of World War I (referred to in the history books as “The Great War” or, naively, “The War to End all Wars”), warfare as a means of settling disputes between nations was often regarded as an honorable undertaking. Military officers, which came from the aristocracy, were respected and honored because of their impressive uniforms and the medals and ribbons on their chests. Military veterans, dead or alive, were regarded as heroes and the acts of war they participated in were considered to be glorious. Many of the males on the planet seemed to look forward to the exciting act of going off to war.

A century ago, little French and British schoolchildren, not yet the age of military conscription, were indoctrinated in the belief that Germany was evil incarnate and deserving of death, and German schoolchildren were taught to believe the same things about the French and the English.

The peace that had existed for decades in Europe since the Franco-Prussian War had resulted in tremendous progress in culture, commerce and international relations. Europeans of all stripes crossed borders freely, despite the significant class and wealth disparity. There was very little homelessness or chronic hunger.

Jews and Christians intermingled and intermarried with few eyes being raised. The majority of people were basically content, despite the knowledge of the excess luxury wealth of the ruling classes. Non-democratic empires ruled by kings, emperors, capitalists, generals and the bureaucratic hangers-on of the ruling elite seemed to have everything going for them in order to stay in power.

Despite their wealth and power, many of the ruling classes were still looking for ways to enrich themselves or further secure the ill-gotten gains that they had already accrued. Some of these elite were also hoping to expand their colonial empires by the use of military force directed against innocent peoples who were weaker or otherwise less able to defend themselves.

Some of those in power desired to recapture or maintain control of disputed territories (ex. Alsace-Lorraine), but they all bound themselves by a complex web of treaties that promised nations to come to the military aid of another if one of them was attacked.

When Archduke Ferdinand was assassinated in Sarajevo, the peace rapidly unraveled and, by a series of errors of judgment, bureaucratic inefficiencies, ineptitude, and a lack of communication skills and a refusal to risk the dishonor of “turning the other cheek” all the treaty nations declared war on each other in a domino effect and the First World War was on.

The momentum that had built up over the decades by the propaganda in the schools turned out to be unstoppable and the indoctrinated boys, ignorant of the tragedy of past wars and looking for glory and a way out of their boredom, rushed to the recruiting offices to sign up for war. And the war was on.

The war ultimately destroyed four empires, chemically poisoned the earth and water supplies with the massive application of military toxins and killed off 14,000,000 people, 90% of whom were young naïve combatants.

An entire generation of young French, British and German men was wasted, either killed, wounded or rendered insane or criminal. Virtually all of the casualties had been brain-washed to believe that war was glorious rather than satanic.

Predictably, the Christian churches chimed in with their nationalistic blindness and refused to teach what Jesus had taught his followers about violence. The pulpits on all sides, British, Scottish, French, German, Austrian, Hungarian, Russian, Italian, etc. all rang with patriotic fervor and flags waving, telling their doomed sons that

it was their Christian duty to obey their secular leaders and to go off to war to kill the fingered enemy on the other side.

Five months into the mass slaughter of trench warfare, the Christmas holiday came, holidays that reminded them of the safe home they had foolishly left behind. The physically exhausted, spiritually deadened and combat-traumatized soldiers on each side of No Man’s Land sought some respite from the cruelty of the frozen trenches.

The frontline soldiers were at the end of their rope because of the unrelenting sleep deprivation, hyperalertness, bad food, rats, lice, frostbitten toes and fingers, deadly artillery bombardments, machine gun massacres and suicidal assaults that were stupidly ordered by the commanding officers in the rear. The horrors of No Man’s Land were punctuated by the screams and pleas for help of the wounded soldiers who were helplessly hanging on the barbed wire or lying in the bomb craters, each one dying an agonizing death that often lingered for days.

So, on Christmas Eve, December 24, 1914, the troops on either side of the front line, settled down to special food, special liquor, special rest — and the singing of Christmas carols. Kaiser Wilhelm had



ordered that 100,000 Christmas trees be delivered to the German trenches for Christmas eve, thinking that the expense of such an irrational act was justified because, after all, the war was soon to be won by the superior German army and so using the supply lines for such unnecessary items seemed to be an acceptable expense.

And then a spontaneous event happened at various spots on the 700-mile-long trench line that stretched between Belgium and France. The singing of Christmas carols started a chain of events that resulted in an event that was never to be repeated in the history of warfare after that night.

The tradition that has emerged from this famous and true story was that the Germans started singing *Stille Nacht* (Silent Night) and the British responded with another carol. And the French and Scots joined in and all sides sang together in their own tongues, the Scots with their bagpipes, accompanying the German singing.

And the sense of their common humanity, which had been driven out of them in the schools and in basic training, broke through to consciousness. Homesickness may have set in or perhaps the futility of the slaughter became clear or perhaps the realization that they would have had things if they had met in different circumstances. Or perhaps their sheer exhaustion took the fight out of them.

However it started, the soldiers disobeyed the orders to kill (their commanding officers were, after all, celebrating Christmas eve back where it was safe from the killing), dropped their guns and came out of their trenches to meet one another. The former

enemies shared pictures from home, chocolate candy, wine – and soccer games were played. Friendships were made and every soldier who experienced the events was forever changed. The motivation to blindly kill a person who had never done them wrong suddenly vanished, never to return.

So powerful was the experience that most of the affected men had to be withdrawn from the front lines, replaced with fresh troops who had never had the life-changing experience.

Fraternization in time of war was an act of treason that was punishable by summary execution. Unexpectedly, the commanding officers, not wanting to draw public attention to this aberrant but potentially contagious episode, and knowing that such actions would threaten the war effort if it somehow became widely known, ordered no executions. There were punishments, however, with many of the German soldiers who refused to fight being transferred to the eastern front to kill and die in the war with Russia.

The prize-winning movie that beautifully characterizes the spirit of the Christmas truce of 1914 is “Joyeux Noel” (French for Merry Christmas). It is a moving tale whose basic story comes directly from surviving veterans who experienced the event and from letters from soldiers who wrote home about it, letters that somehow survived military censorship.

The story that is so beautifully told in “Joyeux Noel” needs to be retold again and again in this era of the cleverly orchestrated, bankrupting, perpetual “US-led” wars of empire that are being fought by our indoctrinated, soon to be exhausted young men and women, some of whom are doomed to a life overwhelmed by the horrendous realities of posttraumatic stress disorder, sociopathic personality disorder, suicidality, homicidality, loss of religious faith, permanent and virtually untreatable traumatic brain injury, and a host of other nearly impossible-to-treat problems that are eminently preventable.

Militarists remain fearful about allowing their combatants to experience the humanity of their future targeted victims, whether they are average civilians from Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan or North Korea. Military chaplains, who are supposed to be nurturers of the souls of their soldiers, are also forbidden by their superior officers to talk about the Golden Rule or about love of enemies or about the ethics of the Sermon on the Mount. They are a part of the apparatus that rejects all of the Ten Commandments, especially the one that says “thou shalt not kill.” Military chaplains, in their defense, may themselves have never heard about the nonviolence of the gospels or the rejection of enmity because their home churches or their seminaries never emphasized those realities

Near the end of “Joyeux Noel” there is a powerful scene, a confrontation between the Christ-like chaplain and his Scottish bishop just as the chaplain was giving last rites to a dying Scottish soldier. The bishop had come to relieve the chaplain of his duties and abusively ordered him to return to his home parish because of his “treasonous and shameful” behavior (being merciful to the enemy) in a war zone.

The chaplain tried to explain to the authoritarian, pro-war, German-hating bishop that he had just performed “the most important mass of my life” and wanted to stay with his troops who were losing their Christian faith. On Christmas Eve, German, Scottish and French Christian soldiers (and one Jewish German officer) had all gathered for the mass on Christmas eve, had prayed together and had listened to a powerful rendition of Ave Maria. The bishop denied the request.

The bishop then delivered a pro-war sermon (the exact words having been obtained from a sermon that was delivered by an Anglican bishop in England later in the war) to the troops who were being brought in to replace the suddenly reluctant soldiers. The dramatic response of the chaplain represents a serious warning to the Christian church in America and also to its war-justifying citizens and their political leaders.

This is a profoundly important and very moving film that deserves to be annual holiday fare, alongside Dickens’ *A Christmas Carol*.

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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Obama Declares War On Pakistan



McChrystal, who organized the infamous network of US torture chambers in Iraq. McChrystal's specific credential for the Pakistani civil war is his role in unleashing the Iraqi civil war of Sunnis versus Shiites by creating "al Qaeda in Iraq" under the infamous and now departed double agent Zarkawi. If Iraqi society as a whole had lined up against the US invaders, the occupiers would have soon been driven out. The counter-gang known as "al Qaeda in Iraq" avoided that possibility by killing Shiites, and thus calling forth massive retaliation in the form of a civil war. These tactics are drawn from the work of British General Frank Kitson, who wrote about them in his book Low Intensity Warfare. If the United States possesses a modern analog to Heinrich Himmler of the SS, it is surely General McChrystal, Obama's hand-picked choice. McChrystal's superior, Gen Petraeus, wants to be the new Field Marshal von Hindenburg — in other words, he wants to be the next US president.

The vulnerability of Pakistan which the US and its NATO associates are seeking to exploit can best be understood using a map of the prevalent ethnic groups of Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran, and India. Most maps show only political borders which date back to the time of British imperialism, and therefore fail to reflect the principal ethnic groups of the region. For the purposes of this analysis, we must start by recognizing a number of groups. First is the Pashtun people, located mainly in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Then we have the Baluchis, located primarily in Pakistan and Iran. The Punjabis inhabit Pakistan, as do the Sindhis. The Bhutto family came from Sind. (see map)

Pashtunistan

The US and NATO strategy begins with the Pashtuns, the ethnic group from which the so-called Taliban are largely drawn. The Pashtuns represent a substantial portion of the population of Afghanistan, but here they are alienated from the central government under President Karzai in Kabul, even though the US puppet Karzai passes for a Pashtun himself. The issue involves the Afghan National Army, which was created by the United States after the 2001 invasion. The Afghan officer corps are largely Tajiks drawn from the Northern Alliance that allied with the United States against the Pashtun Taliban. The Tajiks speak Dari, sometimes known as eastern Persian. Other Afghan officers come from the Hazara people. The important thing is that the Pashtuns feel shut out.

The US strategy can best be understood as a deliberate effort at persecuting, harassing, antagonizing, strafing, repressing, and murdering the Pashtuns. The additional 40,000 US and NATO forces which Obama demands for Afghanistan will concentrate in Helmand province and other areas where the Pashtuns are in the majority. The net effect will be to increase the rebellion of the fiercely independent Pashtuns against Kabul and the foreign occupation, and at the same time to push many of these newly radicalized mujaheddin fighters across the border into Pakistan, where they can wage war against the central government in Islamabad. US aid will flow directly to war lords and drug lords, increasing the centrifugal tendencies.

On the Pakistani side, the Pashtuns are also alienated from the central government. Islamabad and the army are seen by them as too much the creatures of the Punjabis, with some input from the Sindhis. On the Pakistani side of the Pashtun territory, US operations include wholesale assassinations from unmanned aerial vehicles or drones, murders by CIA and reportedly Blackwater snipers, plus blind terrorist massacres like the recent ones in Peshawar which the Pakistani Taliban are blaming on Blackwater, acting as a subcontractor of the CIA. These actions are intolerable and humiliating for a proud sovereign state. Every time the Pashtuns are clobbered, they blame the Punjabis in Islamabad for the dirty deals with the US that allow this to happen. The most immediate

goal of Obama's Afghan-Pakistan escalation is therefore to promote a general secessionist uprising of the entire Pashtun people under Taliban auspices, which would already have the effect of destroying the national unity of both Kabul and Islamabad.

Baluchistan

The other ethnic group which the Obama strategy seeks to goad into insurrection and secession is the Baluchis. The Baluchis have their own grievances against the Iranian central government in Tehran, which they see as being dominated by Persians. An integral part of the new Obama policy is to expand the deadly flights of the CIA Predators and other assassination drones into Baluchistan. One pretext for this is the report, peddled for example by Michael Ware of CNN, that Osama bin Laden and his MI-6 sidekick Zawahiri are both holed up in the Baluchi city of Quetta, where they operate as the kingpins of the so-called "Quetta Shura." Blackwater teams cannot be far behind. In Iranian Baluchistan, the CIA is funding the murderous Jundullah organization, which was recently denounced by Tehran for the murder of a number of top officials of the Iranian Pasdaran Revolutionary guards. The rebellion of Baluchistan would smash the national unity of both Pakistan and Iran, thus helping to destroy two of the leading targets of US policy.

Obama's Rube Goldberg Strategy

Even Chris Matthews of MSNBC, normally a devoted acolyte of Obama, pointed out that the US strategy as announced at West Point very much resembles a Rube Goldberg contraption. (In the real world, "al Qaeda" is of course the CIA's own Arab and terrorist legion.) In the world of official US myth, the enemy is supposed to be "al Qaeda." But, even according to the US government, there are precious few "al Qaeda" fighters left in Afghanistan. Why then, asked Matthews, concentrate US forces in Afghanistan where "al Qaeda" is not, rather than in Pakistan where "al Qaeda" is now alleged to be?

One elected official who has criticized this incongruous mismatch is Democratic Senator Russ Feingold of Wisconsin, who said in a television interview that 'Pakistan, in the border region near Afghanistan, is perhaps the epicenter [of global terrorism], although al Qaeda is operating all over the world, in Yemen, in Somalia, in northern Africa, affiliates in Southeast Asia. Why would we build up 100,000 or more troops in parts of Afghanistan included that are not even near the border? You know, this buildup is in Helmand Province. That's not next door to Waziristan. So I'm wondering, what exactly is this strategy, given the fact that we have seen that there is a minimal presence of al Qaeda in Afghanistan, but a significant presence in Pakistan? It just defies common sense that a huge boots on the ground presence in a place where these people are not is the right strategy. It doesn't make any sense to me.' Indeed, 'The Wisconsin Democrat also warned that US policy in Afghanistan could actually push terrorists and extremists into Pakistan and, as a consequence, further destabilize the region: "You know, I asked the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral Mullen, and Mr. Holbrooke, our envoy over there, a while ago, you know, is there a risk that if we build up troops in Afghanistan, that will push more extremists into Pakistan?" he told ABC. "They couldn't deny it, and this week, Prime Minister Gilani of Pakistan specifically said that his concern about the buildup is that it will drive more extremists into Pakistan, so I think it's just the opposite, that this boots-on-the-ground approach alienates the Afghan population and specifically encourages the Taliban to further coalesce with Al Qaida, which is the complete opposite of our national security interest.'" Of course, this is all intentional and motivated by US imperialist raison d'état.

Malick: "Did Obama Declare War On Pakistan?"

Obama's speech did everything possible to

blur the distinction between Afghanistan and Pakistan, which are after all two sovereign states and both members of the United Nations in their own right. Ibrahim Sajid Malick, US correspondent for Samaa TV, one of the largest Pakistan television networks, called attention to this ploy: 'Speaking to a hall full of cadets at the US Military Academy of West Point, President Barack Obama almost seemed like he might be declaring war on Pakistan. Every time he mentioned Afghanistan, Pakistan preceded mention.... Sitting at the back benches of the hall at one point I almost jumped out of my chair when he said: "the stakes are even higher within a nuclear-armed Pakistan, because we know that al Qaeda and other extremists seek nuclear weapons, and we have every reason to believe that they would use them." I was shocked because a succession of American officials recently confirmed that the Pakistani arsenal is secure.' This article is entitled "Did Obama Declare War On Pakistan?", and we can chalk the question mark up to diplomatic discretion. During congressional hearings involving General McChrystal and US Ambassador Eikenberry, Afghanistan and Pakistan were simply fused into one sinister entity known as "Afpak" or even "Afpakia."

In the summer of 2007, Obama, coached by Zbigniew Brzezinski and other controllers, was the originator of the unilateral US policy of using Predator drones for political assassinations inside Pakistan. This assassination policy is now being massively escalated along with the troop strength: "Two weeks ago in Pakistan, Central Intelligence Agency sharpshooters killed eight people suspected of being militants of the Taliban and al Qaeda, and wounded two others in a compound that was said to be used for terrorist training.... The White House has authorized an expansion of the CIA's drone program in Pakistan's lawless tribal areas, officials said this week, to parallel the president's decision...to send 30,000 more troops to Afghanistan. American officials are talking with Pakistan about the possibility of striking in Baluchistan for the first time — a controversial move since it is outside the tribal areas — because that is where Afghan



Taliban leaders are believed to hide." The US is now training more Predator operators than combat pilots.

Blackwater Accused In Peshawar Massacre Of Women And Children

The CIA, the Pentagon, and their various contractors among the private military firms are now on a murder spree across Pakistan, attacking peaceful villages and wedding parties, among other targets. Blackwater, now calling itself Xe Services and Total Intelligence Solutions, is heavily involved: 'At a covert forward operating base run by the US Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC) in the Pakistani port city of Karachi, members of an elite division of Blackwater are at the center of a secret program in which they plan targeted assassinations of suspected Taliban and al Qaeda operatives, "snatch and grabs" of high-value targets and other sensitive action inside and outside Pakistan, an investigation by *The Nation* has found. The Blackwater operatives also assist in gathering intelligence and help direct a secret US military drone bombing campaign that runs parallel to the well-documented CIA predator strikes, according to a well-placed source within the US military intelligence apparatus.'

As shocking as Scahill's report is, it must nevertheless be viewed as a limited hangout, since there is no mention of the persistent charges that a large part of the deadly bombings in Peshawar and other Pakistani cities are being carried out by Blackwater, as this news item suggests: "ISLAMABAD Oct. 29 (Xinhua) — Chief of Taliban movement in Pakistan Hakimullah Mehsud has blamed the controversial American private firm Blackwater for the bomb blast in Peshawar which killed 108 people, local news agency NNI reported Thursday." This was blind terrorism designed for maximum slaughter, especially among women and children.

US Also At War With Uzbekistan?

Scahill's report also suggests that US black ops have reached into Uzbekistan, a post-Soviet country of 25 million which borders Afghanistan to the north: 'In addition to planning drone strikes and operations against suspected al Qaeda and Taliban

forces in Pakistan for both JSOC and the CIA, the Blackwater team in Karachi also helps plan missions for JSOC inside Uzbekistan against the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan, according to the military intelligence source. Blackwater does not actually carry out the operations, he said, which are executed on the ground by JSOC forces. "That piqued my curiosity and really worries me because I don't know if you noticed but I was never told we are at war with Uzbekistan," he said. "So, did I miss something, did Rumsfeld come back into power?" Such are the ways of hope and change.

The role of US intelligence in fomenting the Baluchistan rebellion for the purpose of breaking Pakistan apart is also confirmed by Professor Chossudovsky: 'Already in 2005, a report by the US National Intelligence Council and the CIA forecast a "Yugoslav-like fate" for Pakistan "in a decade with the country riven by civil war, bloodshed and inter-provincial rivalries, as seen recently in Baluchistan.'" (*Energy Compass*, 2 March 2005). According to the NIC-CIA, Pakistan is slated to become a "failed state" by 2015, "as it would be affected by civil war, complete Talibanization and struggle for control of its nuclear weapons". (Quoted by former Pakistan High Commissioner to UK, Wajid Shamsul Hasan, *Times of India*, 13 February 2005).... Washington favors the creation of a "Greater Baluchistan" which would integrate the Baluch areas of Pakistan with those of Iran and possibly the Southern tip of Afghanistan, thereby leading to a process of political fracturing in both Iran and Pakistan.' The Iranians, for their part, are adamant that the US is committing acts of war on their territory in Baluchistan: "TEHRAN, Oct. 29 (Xinhua) — Iran's Parliament Speaker Ali Larijani said ...that there are some concrete evidences showing US involvement in recent deadly bomb explosions in the country's Sistan-Baluchistan province, the official IRNA news agency reported. The deadly suicide attack by Sunni rebel group Jundallah (God's soldiers) occurred on October 18 in Iran's Sistan-Baluchistan province near the border with Pakistan when the local officials were preparing a ceremony in which the local tribal leaders were to meet the military commanders of Iran's Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC).

US Goal: Cut The Pakistan Energy Corridor Between Iran, China

Why would the United States be so obsessed with the breakup of Pakistan? One reason is that Pakistan is traditionally a strategic ally and economic partner of

Pakistan are already working on a proposal for laying a trans-Himalayan pipeline to carry Middle Eastern crude oil to western China. Pakistan provides China the shortest possible route to import oil from the Gulf countries.... The pipeline, which would run from the southern Pakistan port of Gwadar and follow the Karakoram highway, would be partly financed by Beijing. The Chinese are also building a refinery at Gwadar. Imports using the pipeline would allow Beijing to reduce the portion of its oil shipped through the narrow and unsafe Strait of Malacca, which at present carries up to 80% of its oil imports. Islamabad also plans to extend a railway track to China to connect it to Gwadar. The port is also considered the likely terminus of proposed multibillion-dollar gas pipelines reaching from the South Pars fields in Iran or from Qatar, and from the Daulatabad fields in Turkmenistan for export to world markets. Syed Fazl-e-Haider, "Pakistan, Iran sign gas pipeline deal," *Asia Times*, 27 May 2009. This is the normal, peaceful economic progress and cooperation which the Anglo-Americans are hell-bent on stopping.

Oil and natural gas pipelines from Iran across Pakistan and into China would carry energy resources into the Middle Kingdom, and would also serve as conveyor belts for Chinese economic influence into the Middle East. This would make Anglo-American dominion increasingly tenuous in a part of the world which London and Washington have traditionally sought to control as part of their overall strategy of world domination.

US domestic propaganda is already portraying Pakistan as the new home base of terrorism. The four pathetic patsies going on trial for an alleged plot to bomb a synagogue in the Riverdale neighborhood of the Bronx in New York City had been carefully sheep-dipped to associate them with the shadowy and suspicious Jaish-e-Mohammad, allegedly a Pakistani terrorist group. The same goes for the five Moslems from Northern Virginia who have just been arrested near Lahore in Pakistan.

India And Iran

As far as the neighboring states are concerned, India under the unfortunate Manmohan Singh seems to be accepting the role of continental dagger against Pakistan and China on behalf of the US and the British. This is a recipe for a colossal tragedy. India should rather make permanent peace with Pakistan by vacating the Vale of Kashmir, where 95% of the population is Moslem and would like to join Pakistan. Without a solution to this issue, there will be no peace

on the subcontinent.

Regarding Iran, George Friedman, the head of the Stratfor outlet of the US intelligence community recently told *Russia Today* that the great novelty of the next decade will be an alliance of the United States with Iran directed against Russia. In that scenario, Iran would cut off oil to China altogether. That is the essence of the Brzezinski strategy. It is urgent that the antiwar movement in the United States regroup and begin a new mobilization against the cynical hypocrisy of Obama's war and escalation policy, which supresses even the war crimes of the Bush-Cheney neocons. In this new phase of the Great Game, the stakes are incalculable.

Webster G. Tarpley is an economic historian, radio host and author of 9/11 Synthetic Terror: Made in USA, Obama, The Postmodern Coup and Surviving The Cataclysm and other books.

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CIA Involved in Child Sex Trade Since 1978

SEX TRADE from p. 1

money used to silence the local media is being laundered by the agency through the National Endowment for Democracy (NED).

This editor has personally requested assistance from Congress to investigate and curtail the sexual abuse of children by US diplomats and intelligence agents. However, given the fact that the abuse also involves members of Congress and their staff, the requests have been met with stony silence.

One major problem for the activists is that many ‘established’ and ‘recognized’ non-government organizations (NGOs) dedicated to the anti-pedophile cause are ciphers for larger organizations that want to divert attention and obfuscate about the actual perpetrators of pedophile activities. These include local NGOs supported by the Roman Catholic Church and the US Agency for International Development (USAID). USAID has long been a financial pass-through for the CIA.”

On July 16, 2007, WMR reported that the US Embassy in Bangkok’s Homeland Security office and CIA station assisted in exfiltrating John Mark Karr, arrested by Thai police on sex charges but later accused of murdering Jon Benet Ramsey. All criminal charges against Karr were later dropped.

“Karr had been charged with previous child pornography crimes in the United States. After he jumped bail in the United States before his California trial on child pornography charges, Karr surfaced in various countries known as havens for pedophiles — Costa Rica, the Netherlands, Honduras, South Korea, and finally, Thailand. In Thailand, Karr ended up teaching affluent Thai and foreign children at three elite international schools in Bangkok.

Karr, it will be remembered, publicly claimed after his arrest in Thailand in 2007, to have been present at the murder of 6-year old Jon Benet Ramsey in 1996 in Boulder, Colorado.

After Karr was arrested by Thai police on what was reported to be “unspecified sex charges” the US embassy, the CIA station in Bangkok, and the Department of Homeland Security, arranged for Karr’s hasty departure from Thailand to face charges in the Ramsey murder case. Karr was flown, un-handcuffed and sipping champagne, in business class from Bangkok to Los Angeles on Thai International Airways, courtesy of the American taxpayer. Why?

For a California schoolteacher, arrested in April 2001 for possession of child pornography, losing his teaching license, and vanishing into thin air after serving six months in a California jail, Karr led a charmed life in an upscale neighborhood of Bangkok. After Boulder, Colorado authorities determined that Karr lied about killing Ramsey, Sonoma County, California prosecutors discovered that the computer containing the child pornography images for which Karr was originally arrested in April 2001 was missing. As a result, all criminal charges from that case were dropped against Karr.

End of story?

Not quite. Karr is a public face for the tip of a huge pedophile iceberg operating within the bowels of America’s diplomatic and foreign business communities in Asia.

Former *Jakarta Post* editor Finnegan believes that John Mark Karr was a typical intelligence ‘cut out’ for the embassy in Bangkok, one whose major job for the embassy was to procure underage children for sex with visiting VIPs and senior diplomats. In fact, Bangkok is a major stopping point for US members of Congress on “junkets.” This editor has identified

a number of House members who have visited Bangkok on numerous occasions. All of them are Republicans.

Because Karr was smart enough to spread out incriminating evidence he possessed of embassy involvement, they had no other choice but to extricate him from Thailand when he ran afoul of the local authorities. It was under the protection of the US embassy that Karr was spirited out of Thailand. It is clear that the Ramsey story was a ruse cooked up by the US embassy to create such a firestorm of media attention that the Thai authorities, who had come under the rule of a military junta in a coup a few weeks earlier, had no other choice but to release Karr to the Americans.

One American anti-pedophile activist named Sean Parlaman investigated the smuggling of children from the Thai-Burmese border into Thailand and beyond for purposes of prostitution. In 1997, Parlaman wrote, “At an age when we would regard them as still being children, over a thousand young girls from northern Thailand are being lured every year into prostitution. Girls, as young as 10, are being sold to the brothels of Bangkok, other Thai cities and overseas.” The young girls would be spirited out of Thailand to places like Saipan in the US territory of the Northern Marianas, where they would be used as child laborers and prostitutes. Joining the children from the Thai-Burmese border were young under-age Vietnamese girls spirited from Vietnam through Cambodia for further transport to Saipan.

The child sex slave and slave labor status quo in Saipan was pushed by such Republicans as Tom DeLay, Ralph Hall, then-Representative Bob Riley of Alabama, and James Doolittle. The reason for Saipan becoming the ‘Guantanamo Bay of child slavery and prostitution’ was simple — the island’s sweat shops and corrupt government had a powerful GOP lobbyist working for them, Jack Abramoff.

Parlaman’s crusade against pedophiles and their enablers eventually landed him in hot water with his enemies. –On September 30, 2002, Parlaman was accused by Thai police of sexually molesting a 12-year old boy who was staying at one of the dodgy street kids’ organizations that Parlaman felt were part of the problem, not the solution. No reputable person familiar with Parlaman’s work and dedication believed the story about his being a molester, including the reporters and editors of the *Pattaya Mail* newspaper.

When police arrived at Parlaman’s Star Beach Condominium on November 23, 2002, to take him to the police station for further questioning, Parlaman, meeting them in the lobby, told the police he had to go upstairs to give his car and condo keys to a friend for safekeeping. Police later claimed that Parlaman jumped from his 15th floor condo unit to his death.

Police quickly ceased their investigation of Parlaman for the alleged child abuse. Parlaman’s body was transported to the police forensics institute in Bangkok where it was autopsied and then cremated. The US embassy never intervened in the highly improper procedure for a US citizen who died from suspicious causes.

The confirmation about the CIA’s use of children for prostitution in Thailand is the first by any top US intelligence source and constitutes a major break in the story.

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Wealthiest Head CIA and Control Media

MEDIA from p. 1

CIA, and the agency contained only a few Catholics (Marchetti and Marks, p269). British editor Frances Stonor Saunders also pored through government documents to make similar claims. She listed the family members of the Mellons, J.P. Morgan, and the Vanderbilts, along with the Rockefellers’ lawyers, the Dulles Brothers, amongst other elites in the CIA leadership (Stonor Saunders, 1999, pp.34-5).

CIA’s Early Media Assets

The history of the CIA work for multinational corporate interests further reveals how the wealthiest maintain their vast control over information. Victor Marchetti; Philip Agee, a 12 year CIA veteran; and Frances Stonor Saunders also concurred that US Intelligence generally acts as agents of these corporations rather than working on behalf of all Americans’ interests. Award-winning *Washington Post* reporter Morton Mintz quoted Phil Agee as summarizing that “the CIA is essentially an instrument for the pursuit of the great transnational corporate interests in the name of ‘national security.’ (Mintz and Cohen, 1977, p.40)”

Multinational corporations have always maintained public relations and psychological operations as a major component for advancing their interests. Their financing of political campaigns helped them gain influence over top politicians. President Harry Truman made this evident when he started the Office of Policy Coordination (OPC) in 1948, which merged with the CIA in 1951.

In 1952, OPC Director Frank Wisner supervised 2,800 personnel in the US and 3,100 overseas working on psychological warfare operations with an \$82 million budget. Saunders detailed how their budget and personnel increased annually. Individuals such as Charles Douglas Jackson went back and forth between Psychological Operations and Vice-President of Time Inc.’s media empire. Evidence supports that he aided these operations through Time’s magazines (Stonor Saunders, p.40-1, 116-7, 129, 146-9, 152-3).

The New York Times, itself under multinational corporate control, ended up concurring with many of these disclosures. They reported that Wisner had also kept a highly secret “Propaganda Assets Inventory,” representing a network of more than 800 news and public information organizations and individuals. These assets became part of the CIA’s opinion-making propagandists within both American and international mainstream media (Crewden, 1977, p.1).

CIA’s Media Network Controls Hearts and Minds

Frances Stonor Saunders reviewed a trove of buried archival US Intelligence documents that explained their goals. For example, in a 1950 “NSC Directive,” the US Intelligence umbrella group, the National Security Council, described its “psychological warfare... [through] propaganda... to influence [people’s] thoughts and actions... [so that] the subject moves in the direction [they] desire for reasons which he believes to be his own” (Stonor Saunders, p.4).

In the 1950s, CIA propaganda chief Frank Wisner said that he could “play the media like a mighty Wurlitzer (Crewden, 1977, p.1).” By 1977, Watergate muckraking reporter Carl Bernstein wrote a seminal expose on the media. Despite his earlier ’70s Watergate fame, only *Rolling Stone* magazine published this revealing article. A Senate Intelligence Committee forced CIA Director George Bush, Sr. to admit that “more than 400 journalists had lived double lives, maintaining covert relationships with the CIA,” Bernstein wrote. Others in the CIA told Bernstein that the number was far higher (Bernstein, 1977, pp.55-66.).

The Senate Committee found that virtually all of the leading media companies have top executives, editors and journalists who are paid by the CIA, for example, to reprint CIA written articles verbatim under

their names (Bernstein, pp55-66). US Intelligence leaders could eventually boast about their almost complete control over the media. Former veteran CIA agent Ralph McGehee obtained a CIA memo in ’91 that contained such a boast. It claimed that the agency had representatives in every media outlet in the country; these representatives help to spin and censor the news (DiEugenio and Pease, 2003, p.311).

Multinational Corporate Media Control

As previously noted, the CIA supervised the whole of US Intelligence, and CIA leadership came from the families that owned the multinational corporations. Ben Bagdikian, dean of the University of California-Berkeley School of Journalism, explained how multinational corporate owners gained even tighter controls over public information.

During a sabbatical to study the media industry, Bagdikian set out to research another topic before he found out about the ever-consolidating media ownership. Bagdikian detailed how the media industry experienced a huge consolidation trend approaching “monopolization” by a smaller and smaller number of controlling multinational corporations (Bagdikian, 1992, pp.ix, 24-5).

Bagdikian, a Pulitzer Prize-winning former reporter, first noted the history of corporate media control. He detailed how the reform-minded journalism of the early 1900s helped elect reformist politicians such as President Theodore Roosevelt. But, he added, the Rockefeller and J.P. Morgan interests bought control of the most influential media outlets (Bagdikian, pp.210-11). These conservative robber barons installed their own managers. These managers stopped the newspapers from publishing information that threatened their owners’ profits or promoted populist politicians (The film, “America: Freedom to Fascism”, also cites this information, first stated in the Capital by US Congressman Oscar Callaway in 1917).

Bagdikian further explained that most major media outlets have directors on their company boards that also sit on the boards of these major multinational corporations. For example, the Board of Directors of *Time magazine* and the industry standard-bearer *New York Times* also sit on corporate boards involved in military defense contracting, oil, and pharmaceuticals, as well as banks, finance and insurance companies. Bagdikian explained that under corporate law, “the director of a company is obliged to act in the interests of his or her own company (Bagdikian, pp.24-5).”

The rare disclosures by *The New York Times* and other mainstream news sources usually came despite their owners’ political agenda. These disclosures do come more often in *The New York Times* than the more blatantly conservative news sources such as *The New York Post*, or *The Washington Post*, but editors usually limit the content of the disclosures or print other articles that contradict the disclosures. In the introduction of his book, *Inventing Reality*, Yale-trained political science professor Michael Parenti explained mainstream media’s occasional disclosures by brashly stating, “...like any liar the press is filled with contradictions...without a word of explanation (Parenti, 1986, p.ix).”

Pentagon and US Intelligence Ownership of Media

US Intelligence helped the elite further tighten their control over public information by gaining direct ownership over the vast majority of information sources. For example, one of their own publications, *Armed Forces Journal International*, revealed that the Pentagon (military intelligence) published 371 magazines in 1971, making it 16 times larger than the nation’s biggest publisher that year. This number increased to 1,203 different periodicals by 1982. The quantity suggests that these 1200 magazine and journal titles straddled many areas of life, thus controlling information that could make it to the pages of news, fashion and sports magazines crowding

book chain outlets (Herman and Chomsky, *Manufacturing Consent*, 1988, p.20).

In the mid-70s, a Senate intelligence committee issued an investigative report on other US Intelligence media assets. It stated that the CIA owned outright, “more than 200 wire services, newspapers, magazines, and book publishing complexes,” according to Professor Michael Parenti (Parenti, p.233). Washington Post reporter Morton Mintz also detailed this in his book, *Power Inc* (Mintz and Cohen, p.364).

Following these reports and Carl Bernstein’s *Rolling Stone* exposé, The New York Times published one of its few disclosures, the aforementioned piece by Crewden, on the CIA and the media. The Times reported another fifty media outlets run by the CIA and added that the CIA secretly commissioned over 1,200 books by 1977, including 200 in 1967 alone (Crewden, 1977). Morton Mintz quoted a Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Activities 1976 report describing how the CIA promoted their own propaganda in that a book written “by one CIA operative was reviewed favorably by another CIA agent in *The New York Times* (Mintz and Cohen,p.364).”

Furthermore, William Casey, who was in and out of US Intelligence for years before he became CIA director under President Reagan, presents another example of this ownership. Casey led a group of Intelligence officials that founded the Capital Cities media company in 1954. Capital Cities bought the ABC television network in 1985 (Mazzocco, 1994).

And finally, former OSS agent John Elroy McCaw attended meetings of the US Intelligence umbrella group, the National Security Council, as he served on their Advisory Council. He also owned WINS, one of New York City’s top music stations at that time. WABC Program Director Rick Sklar published a memoir detailing how McCaw lead the nationwide promotion of The 40 music format that permanently changed radio programming. John McCaw’s four sons gained a large ownership in cable television networks and other communications companies, each accumulating a net worth of at least \$750 million (Constantine, 2001, pp.20-3). Other US Intelligence leaders set up similar spheres of influence in music and entertainment.

Advertising Control and Insider Disclosures


The wealthiest have also gained further control over Americans’ information by use of a different tactic. They’ve gained control over media content through advertising. Disclosures from media insiders present general agreement on advertisers’ huge influence over media content.

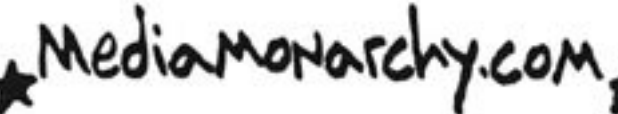
New York Times publisher Arthur Ochs Sulzburger provided one example when he openly admitted that he had his editors put forth the auto industry line in censoring auto safety and pollution issues because otherwise it “would affect the advertising.” Another *Times* staff member said that stories on the automobile industry in the early 1970s were “more or less put together by the advertisers.” A CBS television news veteran supported this notion in saying that advertising agencies and their affiliates are “always taken into account,” when it came to programming decisions, in order not to offend them (Parenti, p.48-9).


One of the most well-known media insiders, Dan Rather, described the media’s conservative censorship in stark terms. Rather started in journalism working for United Press International in the 1950s. His journalistic achievements moved him up to the position of CBS Southern Bureau chief and then anchorman on the CBS Evening News in 1981. He remained in that position until 2005. In 2002, the BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation) interviewed Dan Rather about the media’s aid in the suppression of dissent in the United States. Rather said, “What you have here is a miniature version of what you have in totalitarian states” (Jarecki, 2005). However, the above information suggests that we have a more sophisticated version of what takes place in totalitarian states.

John Potash contributed this article by adapting two chapters of his book The FBI War on Tupac Shakur and Black Leaders. A film of the same title based on the book is now available on DVD, www.fbiwarontupac.com.

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