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CLEANING HOUSE

Rising tide of populism, America-first sentiments forcing out "America-last" senators, congressmen

By John Friend

A number of Republican senators and congressmen who have publicly criticized President Donald Trump's agenda recently announced they will not be seeking re-election during the next election cycle, signaling yet another triumph of Trump's America-first populism, which has divided the GOP between Trump-supporting Republicans and establishment-serving, internationalist Republicans increasingly out of touch with conservative and right-wing voters.

Jeff Flake, Arizona's junior Republican senator who frequently criticizes Trump, is facing a tough primary challenge from Kelli Ward, a populist, America-first former state senator who has the backing of Trump and former campaign advisor Steven Bannon, Flake recently announced he would not seek re-election due to the fact his failed conservatism is no longer popular or viable among traditional GOP voters.

"It is clear at this moment that a traditional conservative who believes in limited government and free markets, who is devoted to free trade, who is pro-immigration has a narrower and narrower path to nomination in the Republican Party," Flake stated during a speech on the Senate floor announcing his decision to not seek re-election. Flake's faux conservatism, which is quickly being discredited by Trump's



DONALD TRUMP

America-first populism and nationalist rhetoric, is simply out of touch with rank-and-file GOP voters, who have been craving the sort of bold, uncompromising leadership Trump and his movement offer and represent.

"If I could run the kind of race I'd like to run and believe[d] I could win a Republican primary, I might go forward," Flake later told reporters, underscoring the reality of just how disconnected Flake and other establishment GOP political leaders are.

Trump has harshly attacked his GOP critics since becoming president, including Flake. In August, Trump expressed joy that Ms. Ward would be running against

Flake, accurately describing the Arizona senator as weak on borders and crime.

Tennessee Republican Sen. Bob Corker, yet another GOP political leader who has publicly sparred with Trump, also recently announced he would not be seeking re-election in 2018.

"After much thought, consideration and family discussion over the past year, (wife) Elizabeth and I have decided that I will leave the United States Senate when my term expires at the end of 2018," Corker declared in a statement announcing his decision.

Corker has repeatedly criticized Trump, perhaps most notably in the aftermath of the Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville, Va., a legally organized and sanctioned rally that was sabotaged by local and state law enforcement and political leaders with left-wing political affiliations.

These political developments potentially represent a stark departure from the failed conservatism championed by establishment Republicans, who for far too long have been driven by a globalist, neoconservative, America-last political perspective that is being exposed for the fraud it is by Trump and other America-first populists.

John McCain, the senior senator from Arizona who is a close ally of Flake, demonstrated just how contrary his increasingly unpopular and out-of-touch brand of conservatism is during a recent speech attacking Trump and his positions.

"We have to fight isolationism, protectionism, and nativism," McCain stated. "We have to defeat those who would worsen our divisions." He later went on to attack the notion that America could put her political and economic interests first, which more and more Americans are becoming increasingly tired of hearing.

This newspaper, and millions of Americans across the nation, welcome the rise of an America-first, populist political movement, which has been championed so well by Trump thus far. ★

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A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

POWER ELITE WON'T LET UP ON THIS NEWSPAPER

For the past month, AMERICAN FREE PRESS staffers have been able to accept credit cards from supporters who want to renew their subscriptions or buy books. That's been helpful, because 30% of our revenue comes from credit card sales through the mail, over the phone, and on our website. On Oct. 25, however, a representative from Stripe, our new credit card processor, informed us that they have to cancel our account because we are on the so-called Match List. That's the secret blacklist maintained by the credit card industry that we have written about at length in previous editions.

It's worth mentioning that, unlike Wells Fargo, which canceled us overnight back in July without even informing us, Stripe gave us five days to find a new processor. The truth is, though, once a company or individual is added to the blacklist, it's extremely difficult to find any bank that is willing to work with you. In other words, Stripe's five-day notice was just an empty courtesy.

In past issues, we've detailed how this all works, but it bears repeating. Any time a private company wants to open up an account to accept credit cards, a credit card-processing company will check the name of the company, its business address, and the primary individual named on the account against what is known as the Match List. If there is a match, the company is immediately denied—no questions asked, no appeal.

For years, MasterCard maintained this list to get a handle on individuals and companies that were committing credit-card fraud. In the past, scammers would simply close up shop when they were caught ripping off people and open up



a new account. All of that changed, though, when MasterCard created its secret blacklist and began adding not just company names but the names and social security numbers of the principal signers on the accounts.

All in all, we consider the concept behind the secret blacklist a good thing. It's meant to keep criminals from ripping people off. Increasingly, though, the blacklist is being exploited as a tool to censor conservative and politically incorrect individuals and companies. We have been added to this list, at the behest of radical leftist groups like the Southern Poverty Law Center and the Anti-Defamation League, as a way to drive us out of business and silence us.

The good news is, we believe we will be able to find another credit card processor. It is just going to take some time. Even better news, we believe we have a strong case against the risk

management company that was hired by Wells Fargo to assess us as clients. This company, T/Sys, could have simply advised Wells Fargo to stop doing business with us. Instead, they went over and above terminating our contract for political reasons and added us to the Match List simply because they didn't like a couple of books we sold.

We will keep readers posted as this story continues to evolve. In the meantime, on a brighter note, we're coming into Christmas season, and, just like in previous years, we are including in this issue a sizable Christmas catalog of our latest and most popular books and DVDs. Please take a moment to check out the great products we offer. Every dollar you spend goes to help us grow. Unfortunately, it looks like you'll have to send us cash, check, or money order, but at least we won't have to give the bankers a pound of flesh this year.

On a final note, please take advantage of our new special Gift Subscription offer on page seven in this week's issue. For only \$44, you can buy a friend, family member, coworker—really anyone who you think would benefit from our news—a full year of AMERICAN FREE PRESS. You can save yourself a few bucks and help educate someone close to you with a great gift that can change the way people see the world, something this country desperately needs in these tough times. ★

—CHRISTOPHER J. PETHERICK
Executive Editor

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News You May Have Missed

Better Shape

Some 1.5 million Americans dropped off the food stamp rolls since President Donald Trump took the White House in January 2017, according to the latest Department of Agriculture numbers on food stamp enrollment. Specifically, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program participation dropped to 41,203,721 as of July 2017, down from 42,691,363 in January 2017.

Football Takes a Hit

The National Football League (NFL) has not forced players to stop taking a knee in protest of racism, and now it looks like this is helping the sport of baseball, which has not fallen victim to disrespectful antics. The NFL's TV network has used a "nothing to see here, folks" ploy and simply won't show the unpatriotic protesting as it happens—which has done nothing to keep fans from tuning out. *Sporting News* reports that NFL's once-golden network TV numbers continue to drop, averaging 15.1 million viewers through week seven—a drop of 5.1% from the 15.87 million during the same period in 2016 and off 18.7% from 2015.

Hillary the Fraud

Hillary Clinton had no problem exploiting the Confederate flag for pins for her 2008 presidential campaign. The pins are still available on eBay, which has pulled all other Confederate merchandise from its offerings. Yet Hillary has stated recently that the Confederate flag has no place in America. It is interesting Big Media is not jumping all over this rampant hypocrisy. Could it be because she is not Donald Trump?

Overstated

At a hearing of the Senate Judiciary Committee Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism on Oct. 31, general counsel for Facebook Colin Stretch said that Russian interference before and after the election accounted for a small 0.004% of all news feed traffic on the social media site. Sean Edgett, acting general counsel for Twitter, and Richard Salgado, director of law enforcement and information security for

Google, agreed that any Russian interference during the 2016 election constituted a miniscule percentage of all content on their sites.

Censorship

Two high-profile lawsuits are going after tech companies that are accused of censoring conservative and libertarian ideas. Author and political advisor Roger Stone Jr. says he will go after Twitter for suspending his account permanently. In late October, Stone was banned by Twitter after he posted a series of angry responses to various Hillary-supporting news outlets, including an attack Stone launched on Don Lemon, host of "CNN Tonight." The second lawsuit involves conservative radio host and author Dennis Praeger. Praeger contends Google and its subsidiary YouTube are filtering out a series of five-minute videos his "Praeger University" has produced featuring leading experts in the fields of economics, politics, national security, and culture.

Leftism Without Limits

Leaders at Christ Church in Alexandria, Va., just outside of Washington, D.C., say they will take down a memorial plaque marking the pew where George Washington and his family



sat for 20 years. Because he owned slaves, Washington has become persona non grata to the Black Lives Matter rabble and other leftists. "The plaques in our sanctuary make some in our presence feel unsafe or unwelcome," church leaders groveled.

Chemical Weapons Culprit

Americans have been led to believe that Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and his government were responsible for the use of chemical weapons in the civil war there. Now for the first time the State Department has admitted it

was all a lie. In its official travel warning to citizens going to the Middle East, it cautions that the key rebel group in northwest Syria has used chemical weapons so Americans might not be safe going there. "Tactics of ISIS, Hay-at Tahrir al-Sham, and other violent extremist groups include the use of . . . chemical weapons. They have targeted major city centers, road checkpoints, border crossings, government buildings, shopping areas, and open spaces in Damascus, Aleppo, Hamah, Dara, Homs, Idlib, and Dayr al-Zawr provinces."

Caution on Flu Shots

Another medical study—this one at the Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center—is undermining the orthodox notions about vaccinations. Women who received flu shots were



found in the study to have weakened immune systems in subsequent years. It seems we have a vicious cycle in which flu shots make people more vulnerable to illnesses, resulting in more infections, leading to more people thinking they need flu shots to prevent the disease.

Worse than Nukes

Vladimir Putin, speaking to a group of students recently, warned that a new era of genetically engineered humans would be worse than atomic bombs. Among the new humans envisioned might be soldiers designed as mass murderers that are incapable of feeling compassion, fear, or pain. Slightly less frightening would be genetically designed genius mathematicians and scientists, for example, or even musicians. Observers said the usually flappable Russian leader looked scared as he discussed the looming threat. He said, "As you understand, humanity can enter, and most likely it will in the near future, a very difficult and very responsible period of its existence."

Moves Toward Civil War

Moderate Party politician Mikael Cederbratt and 19 other members of the party have proposed the government deploy troops to keep the peace in areas of Sweden that to the police are "no go zones." These are the immigrant-heavy Stockholm suburbs of Hallunda-Norsborg, Tensta, Rinkerbym, and Husby. One police station in Helsingborg was demolished by explosives recently in what was called an attack on democracy by Prime Minister Stefan Lofven.

'Please Come Back'

Faced with starvation, Zimbabwe is begging the white farmers who were evicted to return and reclaim their farms. It has been 15 years since the communist regime of Robert Mugabe seized vast swaths of farmland from white people in the African country, leading to drastic deterioration in the economy.

Short-Lived Independence

The provincial parliament of Catalonia recently declared independence from Spain. Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy responded with force, disbanding the parliament and sending in police to restore the status quo ante. Despite the crackdown, independence movements were emboldened in Bavaria, Scotland, Sicily, and Wales. Kurdistan patriots also have been watching these events. There are 37 million Kurds spread throughout Iraq, Iran, and Turkey, many of whom want to see an independent Kurdistan. Catalonia has close to 8 million people.



MARIANO RAJOY

Obama DoJ Funneled Money to Leftists

• Administration forced predatory banks to pay \$1 billion to radicals

By Allen West

The House Intelligence Committee announced recently that it would be conducting an investigation of “Uranium One,” as the issue is being called. To summarize: Somehow the Obama administration, through the Hillary Clinton State Department, approved the sale of 20% of the U.S.’s uranium stock to a Russian company that was being investigated. Suspiciously, some “interesting” monetary deposits were made to the Clinton Foundation, along with a \$500,000 speaker’s fee to Bill Clinton, coinciding with the uranium sale.

But what if “Uranium One” wasn’t just the Clinton Foundation running a pay-for-play scheme in conjunction with the Obama administration? What if the Obama administration itself, through its Department of Justice (DoJ), was running a shake-down scheme?

As reported by the *Daily Caller*:

Emails written by Obama administration Department of Justice officials confirm reports the agency engaged in a systemic effort to funnel money to liberal advocacy organizations from settlements reached with big banks.

The documents, obtained by the House Judiciary Committee as part of an ongoing investigation, reveal the Obama Justice Department effectively skirted Congress’s budgetary authority by requiring that major financial institutions donate to a group of affordable housing nonprofits and legal advocacy organizations as part of settlement agreements resulting from predatory mortgage lending practices.

The internal DoJ documents represent the latest revelation in a two-year investigation spearheaded by House Financial Services Committee Chairman Bob Goodlatte.

The investigation has thus far yielded evidence implicating the Obama DoJ in using mandatory donations to funnel roughly \$1 billion in settlement money to activist groups, including the National Council of La Raza, the National Community Reinvestment Coalition and the National Urban League. The list of third party organizations were unrelated to the legal settlements, except through general claims that they would use the funds to aid the low-income Americans most severely harmed by predatory lending practices.

Let’s have a little history lesson here. First of all, the whole mortgage meltdown of 2008 can be traced back to President Jimmy Carter’s Community Reinvestment Act, based on his belief that every American has a right to own a home—another example of government interjecting itself in our lives, not to allow us to “pursue our happiness” but instead trying to “guarantee our happiness.” The end result was government forcing itself into



a private-sector market, in this case the mortgage industry, as well as enacting punitive measures against private-sector lending institutions that did not comply and conduct risky business endeavors.

Yes, the private sector lending institutions did wrong in creating the mortgage-backed securities that were sold, knowing they weren’t strong or profitable. The end result was the sub-prime mortgage-lending crisis and the revelation that these mortgage-backed securities were worthless. However, this crisis could have been averted had the government never ventured into the mortgage industry in the first place. The same government also used its power to attempt to force lending institutions to take on highly risky endeavors. And yes, many lending institutions that believed they could make money enacted even worse practices, what the government termed “predatory lending.” The whole scheme, crafted by government in the first place, should never have been unleashed.

Along comes Barack Obama, who adeptly used his bully pulpit to demonize lending institutions instead of telling the whole truth, willingly aided by a compliant ally, the liberal progressive media. Obama and his lead henchman at DoJ, Eric Holder, levied fines against these financial lending institutions, not in an attempt to correct the wrong but for far more nefarious purposes.

The community-organizer-in-chief then funneled funds from the penalties levied against these financial institutions to his administration’s preferred progressive socialist organizations. While this has previously been suspected, it is now confirmed.

Bottom line: The Obama administration was running a shakedown of financial institutions that sought to settle instead of going through the legal “kangaroo court” of Holder’s DoJ. One is reminded

Above left, a Black Lives Matter (BLM) activist walks on the U.S. flag at a protest against law enforcement in Milwaukee. Above right, Milwaukee police officers later pick the flag up, salute it and fold it. It has now come to light that the Obama Justice Department effectively skirted Congress by requiring major financial institutions that had been caught engaging in predatory mortgage practices to pay billions to multiple groups. These groups included ones advocating for affordable housing, as well as groups like BLM and La Raza, which have advocated violence against the government and cops.

of when, during his election night victory speech, Obama famously said: “Chicago is coming to Washington, D.C.” Now we truly know what that meant: The same style of gangster mentality that once ruled the streets of Chicago, Al Capone-style, was heading to our nation’s capital.

It seems safe to assume this story won’t be receiving much, if any, attention from the liberal progressive media. For them, this isn’t anything upsetting—just another example of their cronyism, elitism, and corruption and why we can never allow the progressive socialists of the Democrat Party to have control and power in our government. Americans can never accept this type of behavior, which is reflective of a Third-World banana republic, not our constitutional republic. Anyone who engages in this type of disgusting behavior is indeed a threat to the country and to the rule of law. ★

Allen Bernard West is an American political commentator, retired U.S. Army lieutenant colonel, and former member of the House of Representatives.

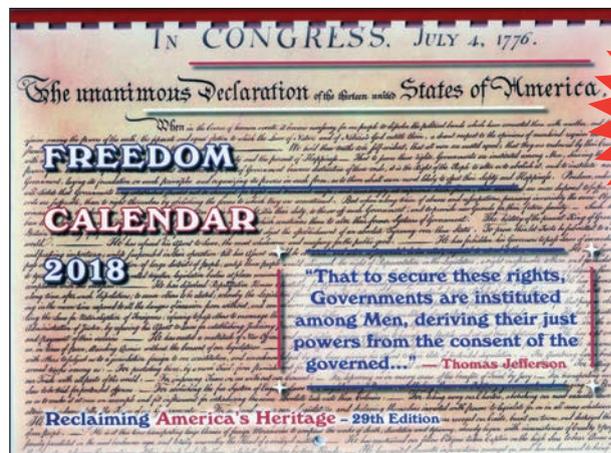
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Democrats Behind Fake News Dossier

- Clinton campaign tied to bogus report on Trump released before presidential election

By John Friend

Throughout the 2016 presidential election, and even following Donald Trump’s electoral victory, Democrat strategists, Hillary Clinton and her top aides and supporters, and much of the corporate-owned mass media have attempted to discredit and marginalize Trump by alleging he has ties to and has been influenced by the Russian government.

Purported “Russian meddling” in the 2016 election has been a major talking point for Democrats, who have relentlessly attempted to tie Trump and his closest associates—including his son, Donald Trump Jr.—to the Russian government. Democrat partisans and anti-Trump members of the GOP, such as Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) and other Republican leaders, continue to peddle the largely discredited theory that Russia “interfered” in the heated 2016 election in order to help Trump triumph in the heated presidential election.

Now it has been revealed that the Clinton campaign, working in conjunction with the Democratic National Committee (DNC), funded research that ultimately resulted in the much ballyhooed “Russian dossier,” which was leaked to the mass media and has been used to promote the largely discredited notion that Trump has deep, compromising ties to Russia, and that the Russians interfered in the election.

Early last week, *The Washington Post* published a detailed report alleging that Marc E. Elias, a top lawyer for the Clinton campaign and the DNC, retained and financed a Washington-based company called Fusion GPS to conduct the research and amass the dossier. Elias used his law firm, Perkins Coie, to retain Fusion GPS and to pay for its research activities.

Elias and DNC officials all have lied, claiming

that they did not know who paid for the dossier.

The funders were only discovered thanks to a lawsuit brought by a technology mogul who was smeared in the document. The billionaire had sued Fusion GPS along with a mainstream media outlet that posted the entire document to its website for everyone to read. In his suit, he gained access to Fusion GPS’s bank accounts and discovered who had paid for the research.

Prior to the Clinton campaign and DNC contracting Fusion GPS to conduct the research, *The Washington Free Beacon*, a conservative news outlet, contracted Fusion GPS to conduct opposition research on then-candidate Trump and many of the other top GOP contenders at the time. Elias, working on behalf of the Clinton campaign and DNC, eventually contracted Fusion GPS to engage in similar research, which was used to buttress Democrat talking points designed to discredit Trump by portraying him as a Russian puppet who was potentially being blackmailed by the Kremlin.

ENTER THE BRITISH SPY

Fusion GPS then hired Christopher Steele, a former British intelligence official who has close ties to both the FBI and the broader U.S. intelligence community, to put together the dossier, which alleges, among other things, that Russia has been “cultivating, supporting, and assisting Trump for at least five years,” *The Hill* reports. The dossier, entitled, “U.S. presidential election: Republican candidate Donald Trump’s activities in Russia and compromising relationship with the Kremlin,” also alleges that Trump and his top aides “accepted a regular flow of intelligence from the Kremlin” about Mrs. Clinton.

In the dossier, Steele further contends that Trump has deep financial ties to Russia.

Additionally, a number of lewd allegations were made about Trump in the dossier, allegations which have been met with skepticism and doubt.

Trump has denied all of the charges contained in the dossier, calling it a “fake dossier” that was “made up” by disingenuous and dishonest individuals seeking to tarnish his image and reputation in the minds of the American public. Trump has regularly attacked and criticized allegations of “Russian meddling” in the election, and has denied having close, compromising ties to Russia, describing the allegations as a “hoax.”

“I have to say, the whole Russian thing is what it’s turned out to be,” Trump explained to reporters following reports demonstrating the “Russia dossier” report was financed and compiled largely at the behest of the Clinton campaign and DNC. “This was the Democrats coming up with an excuse for losing an election.”

The dossier is a collection of 17 memos authored by Steele between June 20 and Dec. 13, 2016. In the memos, Steele cites conversations he had with unnamed Russian sources, many of whom he paid for their “information.”

Former FBI Director James Comey briefed Trump and former President Barack Obama on the dossier prior to the election. Comey described it as “salacious and unverified” in testimony before the Senate Intelligence Committee. Many of the claims made in the dossier have been debunked, and many others have not been verified and likely never will be.

Several DNC leaders and many former Clinton campaign officials have denied involvement or knowledge about the “Russian dossier” and Fusion GPS’s role in compiling it.

DNC Chairman Tom Perez and top DNC leaders “were not involved in any decision-making regarding Fusion GPS, nor were they aware that Perkins Coie was working with the organization,” a DNC spokeswoman recently told *The Washington Post*. ★



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Were Promises of Dirt on Hillary Clinton A Honey Pot Set Up to Trap Trump?

- Three times shady Russian middlemen dangled dirt on Hillary but never came through

By Robert Romano

Meetings set up with Trump campaign officials. Promises of dirt on Hillary Clinton being offered by the Russians. People involved were not who they say they were or did not furnish the information they said they would. Sound familiar?

We're talking about Donald Trump Jr. and Paul Manafort's June 2016 meeting with the Russian lawyer, Natalia Veselnitskaya, right? The one where the promise of damaging information on Mrs. Clinton was used to get the meeting but was never actually furnished?

Wrong.

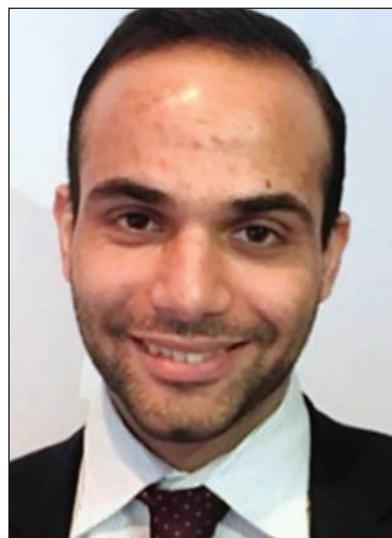
We're talking about George Papadopoulos, a former Trump campaign foreign policy advisor and volunteer, who has pled guilty to lying to the FBI about the timing of his joining the Trump campaign and his subsequent contacts with persons he apparently believed were connected to the Russian government. On Oct. 30, the special counsel's office investigating the Trump campaign for supposedly colluding with the Russians released the statement of offense and the plea deal that Papadopoulos agreed to.



BILL BROWDER



NATALIA VESELNITSKAYA
Smear specialist?



GEORGE PAPADOPOULOS
Never got dirt on Clinton.



CARTER PAGE
Never got dirt on Clinton.

According to that statement, which was signed by special counsel Robert Mueller, in March 2016 and while in Italy, Papadopoulos met an overseas professor based in London who "claimed to have substantial connections with Russian government officials." Eventually he was introduced to a female Russian national who Papadopoulos thought was Vladimir Putin's niece with the purpose being to set up an eventual meeting between the Trump campaign and the Russian government. It turns out she was not related to Putin.

On April 26, Papadopoulos was teased by the professor that, according to the special counsel, "the Russians had obtained 'dirt' on then-candidate Clinton. The professor told defendant Papadopoulos, as defendant Papadopoulos later described to the FBI, that 'They [the Russians] have dirt on her'; 'the Russians had emails of Clinton'; 'they have thousands of emails.'" This apparently was referring to the missing emails from Clinton's private server that contained classified information and had been reported to have been hacked variously by Marcel Lehel Lazar, AKA Guccifer, the Russians, and others.

By then, Papadopoulos was attempting to arrange a "history-changing" meeting between Trump and Putin, but the idea was nixed by then-Trump campaign manager Paul Manafort, according to the *Daily News*. "We need someone to communicate that DT [Donald Trump] is not doing these trips," Manafort told his business partner Rick Gates per the *Daily News* report.

So no collusion there. Meetings were proposed, but never accomplished. Even if they had been, having meetings is not a crime in itself.

Notably, nowhere in the special counsel's filing does it purport that Papadopoulos actually ever received the damaging Clinton dossier or met with real Russian officials. Instead, the filing merely states that Papadopoulos thought he was meeting with such officials. For example, the professor, per the special counsel, "claimed to have substantial connections with Russian government officials."

On Putin's purported "niece," Papadopoulos "believed that she had connections to Russian government officials. . . ." At one point, Papadopoulos was introduced to "an individual in Moscow . . . who told defendant Papadopoulos he had connections to the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs." Nowhere does the statement of offense confirm these contacts actually had the connections they were purporting.

If not Russian agents, then, who might have been teasing Papadopoulos with this "dirt" on Mrs. Clinton? Well, one hint might come from the fact that similar bait was used by Russian lawyer Natalia Veselnitskaya to get the meeting with Donald Trump Jr.

According to the email chain released by Trump Jr., an associate by the name of Rob Goldstone offered in an early June 2016 email that, "The crown prosecutor of Russia met with his father Aras this morning and in their meeting offered to provide the Trump campaign with some official documents and information that would incriminate Hillary and her dealings with Russia and would be very useful to your father." This eventually resulted in the June 2016 meeting at Trump Tower with Ms. Veselnitskaya.

None of the supposed incriminating information

was apparently ever furnished, though. Instead, Ms. Veselnitskaya wanted to discuss U.S. sanctions on Russia via the Magnitsky Act. Trump Jr. called it a “wasted 20 minutes.” The meeting was not what it appeared to be.

It also sounds a lot like the same incriminating information on Mrs. Clinton that was similarly teased in the Christopher Steele-authored dossier that was produced by Fusion GPS, which we now know was funded by the Clinton campaign and the Democratic National Committee via the law firm Perkins Coie.

In the Steele documents, former Trump campaign foreign policy advisor Carter Page was also said to have been offered the Clinton dossier: “A senior colleague in the Internal Political Department of the PA, Diveykin (nfd) also had met secretly with [Carter] Page on his recent visit [to Moscow]. Their agenda had included Diveykin raising a dossier of ‘kompromat’ the Kremlin possessed on Trump’s Democratic presidential rival, Hillary Clinton, and its possible release to the Republican’s campaign team.” Page has denied such meetings took place.

There you have not one, not two, but three examples where the Trump campaign was offered similar incriminating information on Mrs. Clinton, supposedly by Russia.

Perhaps the Papadopoulos overture had failed, and so the same thing was tried again at different levels. The fact that it happened more than once can be no coincidence, however.

Even more so because Bill Browder, the CEO and co-founder of Hermitage Capital, testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee on July 26 that Ms. Veselnitskaya had been working with Fusion GPS. Yes, the same Fusion GPS that commissioned Steele to write the dossier.

Browder said, “Veselnitskaya, through Baker Hostetler, hired Glenn Simpson of the firm Fusion GPS to conduct a smear campaign against me and Sergei Magnitsky in advance of congressional hearings on the Global Magnitsky Act.”

Ms. Veselnitskaya, who per Browder once hired Fusion GPS for a similar smear campaign, was teasing the Clinton Russia-produced dossier to Trump Jr. as bait. Fusion GPS was reporting via Steele that Page had been teased with this same information as bait.

A very good question that congressional investigators on the House and Senate intelligence committees should be asking is if this professor, Putin’s “niece,” and this supposed contact to the Russian Foreign Ministry were somehow connected to Fusion GPS, too? What if they’re all connected?

This all violates the law of too many coincidences. The Russian government offered three times to deliver “dirt” on Mrs. Clinton to the Trump campaign? And each time, it never produced the dirt? What purpose did this operation serve? Whose agenda?

Was the Trump campaign being set up with this promise of “dirt” on Mrs. Clinton, her missing emails, and offers of meetings? Was it Russia? Or were all these efforts really a sting operation by the FBI or somebody else? ★

Robert Romano is the vice president of public policy at the conservative watchdog group Americans for Limited Government.

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End Goal of All These Plots Is to Bring Down President

- Was mission of FBI to ensure Trump was never elected?

By Patrick J. Buchanan

Well over a year after the FBI began investigating “collusion” between the Trump campaign and Vladimir Putin, Special Counsel Robert Mueller has brought in his first major indictment.

Trump campaign manager Paul Manafort has been charged with a series of crimes dating back years, though none is tied directly to President Donald Trump or 2016.

With a leak to CNN that indictments were coming, Mueller’s office stole the weekend headlines. This blanketed the explosive news on a separate front, as the dots began to be connected on a bipartisan plot to bring down Trump that began two years ago.

And like “Murder on the Orient Express,” it seems almost everyone on the train had a hand in the plot.

The narrative begins in October 2015.

Then it was that *The Washington Free Beacon*, a neocon website, engaged a firm of researchers called Fusion GPS to do deep dirt-diving into Trump’s personal and professional life—and take him out.

A spinoff of Bill Kristol’s *The Weekly Standard*, the *Beacon* is run by his son-in-law. And its Daddy Warbucks is the GOP oligarch and hedge fund billionaire Paul Singer.

From October 2015 to May 2016, Fusion GPS dug up dirt for the neocons and never-Trumpers. By May, however, Trump had routed all rivals and was the certain Republican nominee.

So the *Beacon* bailed, and Fusion GPS found two new cash cows to finance its dirt-diving—the DNC and the Clinton campaign.

To keep the sordid business at arm’s length, both engaged the party’s law firm of Perkins Coie. Paid \$12.4 million by the DNC and Clinton campaign, Perkins used part of this cash hoard to pay Fusion GPS.

Here is where it begins to get interesting.

In June 2016, Fusion GPS engaged a British spy, Christopher Steele, who had headed up the Russia desk at MI6, to ferret out any connections between Trump and Russia.

Steele began contacting old acquaintances in the FSB, the Russian intelligence service. And the Russians began to feed him astonishing dirt on Trump that could, if substantiated, kill his candidacy.

Among the allegations was that Trump had consorted with prostitutes at a Moscow hotel,



In August 2016, lobbyist Paul Manafort resigned from the Trump campaign. Manafort was back in the news again after special counsel Robert Mueller, who is investigating Trump and his allies for colluding with Russia, indicted Manafort for tax evasion and failing to register as a lobbyist for a foreign power.

that the Kremlin was blackmailing him, that there was provable collusion between the Trump campaign and Russia.

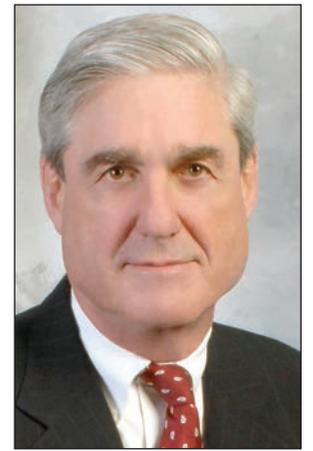
In memos from June to October 2016, Steele passed this on to Fusion GPS, which passed it on to major U.S. newspapers. But as the press was unable to verify it, they declined to publish it.

Steele’s final product, a 35-page dossier, has been described as full of “unsubstantiated and salacious allegations.”

Steele’s research, however, had also made its way to James Comey’s FBI, which was apparently so taken with it that the bureau considered paying Steele to continue his work.

About this “astonishing” development, columnist Byron York of the *Washington Examiner* quotes Sen. Chuck Grassley: “The idea that the FBI and associates of the Clinton campaign would pay Mr. Steele to investigate the Republican nominee for president in the run-up to the election [raises] questions about the FBI’s independence from politics, as well as the Obama administration’s use of law enforcement and intelligence agencies for political ends.”

The questions begin to pile up. What was the



Sen. Charles Grassley (left) has real questions about the Democrats’ use of the FBI to investigate Trump before the election. Can we trust Robert Mueller (right), the former head of the FBI, to conduct any kind of unbiased investigation?

FBI’s relationship with the British spy who was so wired into Russian intelligence? Did the FBI use the information Steele dug up to expand its own investigation of Russia-Trump “collusion”? Did the FBI pass what Steele unearthed to the White House and the National Security Council? Did the Obama administration use the information from the Steele dossier to justify unmasking the names of Trump officials that had been picked up on legitimate electronic intercepts?

In testimony before the Senate Intelligence Committee, Clinton campaign chair John Podesta and DNC chair Debbie Wasserman Schultz claimed they did not know that Perkins Coie had enlisted Fusion GPS or the British spy to dig up dirt on Trump. Yet, when Podesta testified, the lawyer sitting beside him in the committee room was Marc Elias of Perkins Coie, who had engaged Fusion GPS and received the fruits of Steele’s undercover work.

Here one is tempted to cite Bismarck that, if you wish to enjoy politics or sausages, you should not inquire too closely how they are made.

Thus we have *Free Beacon* neocons, never-Trump Republicans, the Hillary Clinton campaign, the DNC, a British spy and comrades in Russian intelligence, and perhaps the FBI, all working with secret money and seedy individuals to destroy a candidate they could not defeat in a free election.

If future revelations demonstrate that this is what went down, it is not only the White House that has major problems.

If you wish to know why Americans detest politics and hate the “swamp” that has been made of their capital city, follow this story all the way to its inevitable end. It will be months of unfolding.

The real indictment here is of the American political system, and the true tragedy is the decline of the Old Republic. ★

Pat Buchanan is a writer, political commentator and presidential candidate. He is the author of a new book, *Nixon’s White House Wars: The Battles That Made and Broke a President and Divided America Forever* and previous titles including *The Greatest Comeback: How Richard Nixon Rose From Defeat to Create the New Majority*. Both are available from the AFP Bookstore.

Next Bundy Trial Begins

- Several new twists emerge that could lead to mistrial

By Mark Anderson

The Cliven Bundy trial proceedings finally resumed on Oct. 30 when jury selection began with about 50 prospective jurors. An ongoing evidentiary hearing requested by Ryan Payne, one of the defendants in the second of three trials in the Bundy saga, however, suggests that the U.S. government may have baited the defendants to set them up for prosecution.

This striking charge pertains to Dan Love, the special agent in charge (SAC) of Bureau of Land Management agents, other federal agents, and contractors during their standoff with Bundy and his supporters in Nevada in the spring of 2014.

Love, located in Salt Lake City, testified in the evidentiary hearing in Las Vegas on Oct. 23 via a computer audio-visual link. During testimony, Love said that he had over 200 personnel under his command during the standoff.

According to court observer Roger Roots, who was at the hearing, Love recalled he was on the phone on April 12, 2014—the day the standoff came to a head—with Daniel Bogden, then top U.S. attorney for the federal district of Nevada. Love told the court that even though, as the SAC, he had carefully devised a plan to carry out the impoundment of Bundy's cattle under court order, higher-ups such as Bogden disregarded his strategy.

Roots later told AFP that Love's testimony at the very least suggests that the agents on the scene, who were there to confiscate the cattle under a grazing-fees dispute, instead released the cattle—on purpose.

"They released the cattle right after the phone call from the U.S. attorney and entrapped the Bundys [and their supporters]," Roots remarked. "You can draw an inference that that's what this is about."

Roots added, "This calls into question exactly why the cattle were released—perhaps not from fear [of the Bundys and supporters] like the feds have maintained but just so they could prosecute the defendants" in a contrived event.

"The government just wants to avoid this stuff," Roots said. He stressed that if Love's testimony is allowed as evidence in the upcoming trial—questionable given presiding Judge Gloria Navarro's apparent tendency to disallow key evidence for the defense—then the central claim by the federal government that they failed to seize the cattle and released them due to fear for their lives has a "powerful potential" to unravel the government's case.

According to the multi-count federal indictment, the government's case centers on allega-

tions that the federal agents grew fearful when encountering Bundy's supporters, some of whom carried weapons, and released the cattle on the basis of that fear. But if the feds were told to release the cattle by higher-ups and not because they feared for their lives as the government claims, this trial could take a new turn.

Motions to dismiss the entire case have been filed. Now it's a question of whether more such motions will be submitted and to what effect.

The evidentiary hearing was also called to explore the alleged destruction of evidence pertaining to actions during the standoff, which may have involved the shredding of documents by federal agents before they left the area.

"Love testified that he knew absolutely nothing about the destroying of any evidence. He did admit to telling his subordinates to take everything with them 'that was not nailed down,' " reported "RedoubtNews.com" editor Shari Dovale, who has been attending the trial. The evidentiary hearing will continue on Friday, Nov. 3 with additional witnesses.

Media accounts say the highly anticipated second of three planned trials—in which family patriarch Cliven Bundy and three others are defendants—could last into February. The jury-selection process alone, which began Oct. 30, is expected to take several days. The elder Bundy will be tried along with sons Ryan and Ammon Bundy, as well as Ryan Payne of Montana.

To varying degrees, all the remaining defendants are accused, according to the federal government's narrative, of leading what most major media label "a self-styled militia" against agents from the BLM and other bureaucracies—in what is now Gold Butte National Monument.

However, when the Bundys and scores of supporters in that area encountered the federal agents, they felt it was as an exercise of their First and Second Amendment rights to protest the federal government's widely acknowledged heavy-handed control of Western lands, especially in Clark County, near Bunkerville in southern Nevada, where the attempted cattle seizure took place. No shots were fired by either side.

Notably, three defendants who had been slated to stand trial this fall have accepted plea deals, instead. Eric Parker and Scott Drexler, who had been cleared of some charges but still faced felony counts, pled guilty to the misdemeanor charge of obstruction of a court order. As a result, the two men will not spend more time in prison.

Internet radio host Pete Santilli of Ohio was also released recently according to the terms of a plea bargain and will be sentenced in January, possibly facing six years in prison, though he could get considerable credit for time served. ★

Mark Anderson is AFP's roving editor.

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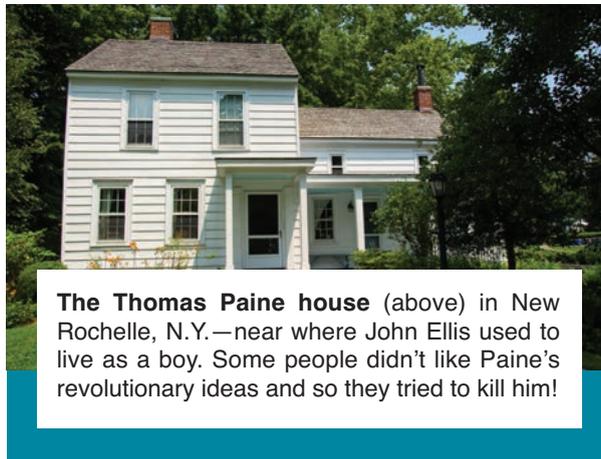
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The Thomas Paine house (above) in New Rochelle, N.Y.—near where John Ellis used to live as a boy. Some people didn't like Paine's revolutionary ideas and so they tried to kill him!

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Dr. Peale always came to our family gatherings with his "Power of Positive Thinking" that has had a positive impact on millions of lives including Joel Osteen and President Donald Trump!

Like the Catholic Priest who saw the Cross at ground Zero 9/11, forget controversy and dwell on a positive outcome like the Olympic athletes I have known that imagined themselves competing using Dr. Peale's powerful message!

WE'RE NOT NEW TO CONTROVERSY

I am not new to controversy: In 1957 I had the best discus throw in the World (*T&F News*, Vol. 10, No. 12) but gave it up because I knew Anabolic Steroids would cause users heart damage! All the top athletes were told they were safe by doctors. However, their inventor, John Ziegler M.D., said before he died at 63: "**I wish I had listened to [John Ellis]. I damaged my own heart!**"

Now, there is a long list of Olympic friends who are dead because they were "FDA Approved" (now banned). I was right then about anabolic steroids and I am right now about viruses and disease!

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Rest in Peace, American Left

• When did the war on American values, white workers really begin?

While AFP recognizes that FDR's vice president, Henry Wallace, was a notorious communist and Soviet apologist, the following column by Paul Craig Roberts still has great merit for its detailed analysis of when and how the left wing started working against white, middle-class Americans.

By Paul Craig Roberts

Once upon a time the left wing of the political spectrum was committed to the advancement of the working class and its protection from political and economic abuse by the owners of the means of production. Consequently, the left wing was politically potent and reached a pinnacle of power when Henry Wallace was selected by Franklin D. Roosevelt as his third term vice president. Despite his wealth from the company he founded, Wallace stood for the farmer and the working class.

The Democrat Party power brokers refused to accept Wallace as the vice president candidate until FDR told them he otherwise would decline the presidential nomination.

Wallace was Roosevelt's and the Democratic voters' choice for vice president in Roosevelt's fourth term. But Wallace's progressive views had alienated the party bosses, Wall Street bankers, anti-union businesses, and America's British and French allies with his support for labor unions, women, minorities, and victims of colonialism. When he called for the emancipation of colonial subjects and for working with the Soviet Union in the cause of peace and working-class justice, he sealed his fate. Despite a Gallup poll released during the Democratic National Convention in July 1944 showing that Wallace was the favorite with 65% of the vote and Roosevelt's announcement that if he were a delegate, he would choose Wallace, the party bosses chose Harry Truman, who was preferred by only 2% of Democratic voters.

This was a turning point in U.S. politics and world history. If the people had prevailed over the corrupt Democrat party bosses, Wallace instead of Truman would have become the first postwar U.S. president. Most likely, there would have been no Cold War, no Korean War, no Vietnam War, no NATO, and no decades of mutual distrust between the U.S. and Russia that today threatens life on Earth.

Moreover, in place of today's highly skewed income and wealth distribution toward the very rich fraction of 1%, there would be an equitable distri-



Left, Sen. Samuel Jackson of Indiana raises up the hand of Missouri Sen. Harry S. Truman as the vice presidential nominee for the Democrat Party in 1944. Party leaders strongly preferred Truman to FDR's vice president, Henry Wallace, believing FDR might not live out his fourth term and Wallace would present a problem for their agenda. Wallace had been the favorite of most of the delegates on the convention floor.

bosses forced adjournment against the will of the delegates, Wallace would have become president in 1945 and the course of history would have been dramatically altered.

The next day Jackson apologized to Pepper: "I had strict instructions from [Democratic National Committee Chairman Robert] Hannegan not to let the convention nominate the vice president last night. So I had to adjourn the convention in your face."

Thus was the power of interest groups to prevail over democracy 73 years ago when there was still a press that would on occasion speak for the people.

The American left wing has been transmogrified. The left, which formerly stood for "peace and bread," today stands for identity politics and war. The working class has been redefined as "the Trump deplorables" and splintered into separate "victim groups"—women, racial minorities, homosexuals, transgendered. The oppressors are no longer oligarchs who own the means of production. The oppressor is the sexist, misogynist, homophobic, heterosexual, fascist, white-supremacist, working-class male.

The rise of identity politics has brought with it politically controlled speech. Primarily white people—especially heterosexual white males—are subject to this control. The limits on their free speech are growing ever more severe, and no one has to be concerned about white heterosexual males being offended by offensive or threatening speech. White males can be called anything, and they are.

A splintered society cannot recognize or resist its oppression by a ruling elite. Feminism turns wives and husbands from complements into rivals. Indeed, Sarah Knapton, science editor for *The Daily Telegraph*, reports on the rise of "bro-mance," strong emotional relationships between heterosexual men. Feminist attacks on men and political correctness have reduced millennial heterosexual males' relationships with women to sex only. Their emotional commitments are to their male friends. This doesn't seem like a victory for women.

bution that would support a strong consumer market instead of declining real incomes and debt expansion that threatens economic growth, business profits, employment, and high equity values.

Oliver Stone and Peter Kuznick in their best seller, *The Untold History of the United States*, describe the Clinton-style Democrat Party corruption that was used to block Wallace as the vice-presidential candidate:

Party insiders made sure they had an iron grip on the convention. Yet the rank-and-file Democrats would not go quietly, staging a rebellion on the convention floor. The groundswell of support for Wallace among the delegates and attendees was so great that despite the bosses' stranglehold over the proceedings and strong-arm tactics, Wallace's supporters almost carried the day as an uproarious demonstration for Wallace broke out on the convention floor.

In the midst of the demonstration, Florida Sen. Claude Pepper realized that if he got Wallace's name into nomination that night, Wallace would sweep the convention. Pepper fought his way through the crowd to get within five feet of the microphone when the nearly hysterical [Chicago Mayor Ed] Kelly, purporting that there was a fire hazard, got the chairman, Sen. Samuel Jackson, to adjourn the proceedings. Had Pepper made it five more feet and nominated Wallace before the

**HENRY WALLACE**

Could have been president.

**SEN. CLAUDE PEPPER**

Tried to nominate Wallace.

**MAYOR ED KELLY**

Party loyalist.

**SEN. SAMUEL JACKSON**

Adjourned proceedings.

**ROBERT HANNEGAN**

Sabotaged Wallace.

The cultivated hyper-sensitivity of political correctness, which arises from identity politics, is destroying language, history, and free speech. Perhaps the height of this insanity is the UK government, which now opposes the term “pregnant woman” because it excludes and offends transgender people.

The British Medical Association has issued guidelines that doctors should not use the word “mother” to refer to a pregnant woman, as the term could offend transgender people. Instead, the term “pregnant people” should be used. This has led to more conflict between feminists and the transgendered. Feminists see it as a plot to make “women” unmentionable. Health Service doctors are no longer to use the term “expectant mother” because it is “non-inclusive.”

Identity politics, together with the rising American police state, have just about destroyed the First Amendment. A professor at one of America’s research universities told me that he was dressed down by a dean because he used the word “girls” in class and a woman was offended. Google fired one of its senior software engineers because he wrote a memo that men and women have different traits that make them suitable for different kinds of jobs. This statement of ordinary common sense got the engineer fired for “gender stereotyping.”

Economic commentator Marc Faber was removed from the board of the investment company, Sprott, and banned from CNBC and the Fox Business Network for expressing his views against monument removal and that white Americans have done a better job of building an economy than black Zimbabwe.

Free speech is not supposed to be limited to words that give no offense to anyone. What this definition of free speech does is to eliminate all criticism of wrong or criminal activity and all dissent against war, police brutality, and political, social, and economic programs. In other words, political correctness silences a population. Silencing is permitted regardless of whether the “offensive” statement is true or false. Just expressing a truth, as the Google engineer did, can destroy a person’s career. There is no freedom in such a sys-

“
Would things have
been drastically
different had Wallace
become president?”

tem. As George Orwell said, “If liberty means anything at all, it means the right to tell people what they do not want to hear.”

Universities, traditionally dependent on free speech, are now themselves banning free speech. Controversial speakers likely to offend some “victim group” are simply prevented from speaking at universities. For example, speakers in favor of multiculturalism are welcomed even though the speech might offend those who believe the U.S. is a white Christian society, but a white supremacist, whose speech at the University of Florida could not be blocked, caused the Florida governor to declare a state of emergency.

It seems simple enough that if a person doesn’t want to be offended by a speaker, don’t go to the speech. On the other hand, if a person wants to learn what the opposition is up to, why miss the chance? In the end, political correctness is about regulating what can be said and controlling explanations, not about protecting the hyper-sensitive from hurtful words.

What identity politics and political correctness are doing is demonizing white people and heterosexual males. Only white people are racists. Only heterosexual males—essentially white gentile ones except for Bill Cosby and Harvey Weinstein—commit sexual violence, as David Rosen writes in a recent article for the news and commentary website “CounterPunch” titled “Male sexual violence: as American as cherry pie.”

Rosen defines sexual abuse as “a form of sexual terror, an all-American male sport” that is “as old as the country.” In other words, all or most American males practice sexual terror on women. We have reached the point where a wife who gets angry at her husband can accuse him of rape and have him imprisoned, a far departure from the days when husband and wife were legally regarded as one and neither could testify against the other. When the most intimate personal relationship is subject to outside intervention, how does marriage prosper?

It doesn’t. According to the American Psychological Association, “about 40% to 50% of married couples in the United States divorce. The divorce rate for subsequent marriages is even higher.” If husband and wife, mother and father, can’t stay together, how does society stay together?

How does society stay together when identity politics teaches hate and inflames social divisiveness?

How does society stay together when thugs claiming to be offended offend others by destroying historical monuments that are associated with the memory or identity of others?

How does society stay together when its history is erased, its schools, streets, and public buildings are renamed? As George Orwell said, “The most effective way to destroy people is to deny and obliterate their own understanding of their history.” The next monuments to be removed are those of the Founding Fathers, racists all who adopted a Constitution that permitted slavery, an inherited institution that they had no power to reform.

In the United States, history is being rewritten and language corrupted in order to foster hatred of white “oppressors,” especially white heterosexual males.

Little wonder Russia responds diplomatically to Washington’s aggression. No need to reply in kind when an enemy is destroying itself. ★

Dr. Paul Craig Roberts was assistant secretary of the U.S. Treasury under President Ronald Reagan and was associate editor and columnist at *The Wall Street Journal*. He has been a professor of economics in six universities, and is the author of numerous books available at www.AmericanFreePress.net.

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Israel's Central Role in the September 11, 2001 Terrorist Attack

This is the book that many influential 9/11 organizations and individuals don't want you to read or talk about. This is the book the ADL doesn't want you to read or talk about—they describe it as “preposterous,” simply because the evidence compiled points a finger at Israel as a major player in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attack on America. But facts are facts; we do not control where they lead. We already know why 9/11 was done, and we already know how the WTC towers were destroyed (via controlled demolitions). But for some reason, most everyone wants to shy away from WHO ultimately did 9/11. In the author's opinion, the nation of Israel played a central role in the 9/11 terrorist attack on our country, and Thorn presents overwhelming evidence in the pages of *9/11 EVIL*. This is the book the government, mainstream media gatekeepers, 9/11 Commission members, obfuscators, deceivers, and those who want to keep a lid on 9/11 don't want you to read. This may be the most dangerous 9/11 book ever written. This is the book that has forever changed the way many people look at 9/11—and at the world around us today. Softcover, 123 pages, \$15 plus \$5 S&H inside the U.S. (Add \$25 S&H outside the U.S.) (See the companion book to the right.)



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The Plot Against America

What this book makes clear is that a massive cover-up exists not only in the mainstream media, but in the so-called 9/11 truth movement as well. It is true that 9/11 was an “inside” job, and criminal elements within the U.S. government were undoubtedly involved, as is so often stated by many authors and activists. But 9/11 was much more. It was an “outside” job also, ultimately made in Israel, as a mountain of evidence compiled in this landmark book clearly shows.

This book sets the record straight by focusing on the actual puppetmasters. Jewish control of World Trade Center security and Jewish ownership of the WTC complex is only one piece of the 9/11 puzzle that Thorn meticulously pieces together.

Only one nation and group of people benefited most from the attacks on 9/11: Israel and its Zionist allies. As Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu boasted before an audience at Bar-Ilan University, “We are benefiting from one thing, and that is the attack on the Twin Towers and Pentagon.” Considering the fact that the rogue state of Israel has a prior criminal record of perpetrating just such a crime—the June 8, 1967 attack on the USS *Liberty*—the verdict in this case is clear: 9/11 was made in Israel. Softcover, 138 pages, \$15 plus \$5 S&H inside the U.S. (Add \$25 S&H outside the U.S.)

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From the Author . . .

“9/11 was an intricately planned act of state-sponsored terrorism concocted by a foreign government (Israel) in unison with an ardently loyal faction of neocon “crazies” who had burrowed their way into the Pentagon, State Department, and White House. Assisting them were a host of defense contractors, computer gurus, and explosives experts who made the whole thing happen on the morning of September 11, 2001.”

—VICTOR THORN

(Victor Thorn was also the author of *9/11 on Trial: The World Trade Center Collapse, Phantom Flight 93 and Other Astounding 9/11 Mysteries Explored, 9/11 Exposed* and countless more articles and booklets on the subject of 9/11 and the New World Order.

Globalists Seek to Scuttle Brexit

• New World Order elite say they won't let British put Britain first

By Mark Anderson

The British “Brexit” vote, cast June 23, 2016, provided a clear indication of the populist revolt that’s been simmering for several years. But as the European Union (EU) tightens its despotic grip even more on the economic and political destinies of Europe’s peoples, the British exit from the EU could get delayed or even scuttled.

Brexit refers to the national referendum that passed in the United Kingdom (UK) that calls on the country to leave the EU.

A key factor is that the Bilderberg-nurtured EU superstate, which had 28 members at the time of the Brexit vote, is completing long-planned fiscal and banking unions to centralize its powers.

Bilderberg is the shadowy group of global elites who gather every year behind locked and guarded doors in five-star resorts to discuss, debate, and ultimately influence the most pressing issues of the day.

European Council President Donald Tusk—whose cooperation is indispensable if British voters ever want a real chance at getting out of the EU—recently addressed European Parliament members about a recent EU summit, telling the MEPs: “It is in fact up to London how this will end, with a good deal, no deal, or no Brexit.”

As quoted by the UK’s *Guardian* newspaper, Tusk rather cryptically added: “We have managed to build and maintain unity . . . but ahead of us is still the toughest stress test. If we fail it, the [Brexit] negotiations will end in our defeat,” speaking in a manner that suggested a sense of rivalry with Britain’s wishes as expressed by Brexit. “We must keep our unity regardless of the direction of the talks.”

On a somewhat more upbeat note, European Commission head Jean-Claude Juncker did say: “Those who don’t want a deal, the no-dealers, they do not have friends in the commission. We want a . . . fair deal with Britain. The no-deal is not our working assumption.”

However, EU chief negotiator Michel Barnier told a European newspaper group that the EU wants a deal “but could not exclude the no-deal option.” And other voices see a darker tinge to these developments, suggesting that Brexit could very well be imperiled.

David Ellis, an analyst with Strategic Defence Initiatives, said on the Oct. 24 edition of UK “Column News” online that, due to the EU’s intent to issue a European Monetary Fund plan by June 2018, it appears the EU’s pending banking and fiscal unifications will result in “a single-point control of all money.” That includes doing away with allowing EU member nations to control their internal budgets.

This, he said, will bring with it the EU’s military unification—into which the British armed forces are heavily involved as they’re downsized to where



Like all other internationalists, European Council President Donald Tusk holds great disdain for nationalism especially when it comes to national referenda like Britain’s landmark vote to leave the European Union. In a recent speech before the European Parliament, Tusk questioned whether the so-called Brexit will even happen, suggesting that there needs to be a deal negotiated despite the fact that a majority of UK citizens said they want independence.

they’re not sufficient for effective national defense, but the right size to be a contributing force to an EU military union. This could effectively keep the UK in the EU.

“Brexit,” Ellis said, “has just been an umbrella” to bring about “a tyranny like we’ve never seen on the continent.” And when the *Guardian* quotes Tusk as simply saying that he may slow or halt Brexit, that establishment paper “is missing the point,” Ellis continued.

In a separate online column, Ellis, mirroring conversations he has had with this AFP writer, wrote: “The issue of the European Union desperately requiring control of the military and budgets of EU member states is moving very fast now . . . We feel strongly that it is not being voiced with the correct level of importance as the UK (apparently) prepares for Brexit.”

He added, “There will be no Brexit unless Britain extricates itself as a matter of urgency from the amalgamation of EU militaries, which will inevitably prompt an EU treasury taking over the member states’ budgets.”

Ellis continued, “In [the UK] Parliament, no party is even mentioning EU military union, popularly

but inaccurately referred to as ‘an EU army.’”

This military arrangement, he added, “does not replace but rather subsumes the nation states’ militaries and military budgets. In other words, the nominal armies, navies, and air forces of the EU member states . . . will remain in place, but sapped of their ability to operate or purchase independently of EU command.”

In the U.S., speaking to the Chicago Council on Global Affairs on Oct. 2, Sir Alan Duncan, Britain’s minister of state for Europe and the Americas, sounded the alarm for fellow elites about the populist revolt as expressed through Brexit. However, he shrugged off Brexit’s significance while expounding on his “global Britain” speech topic—suggesting that the British state’s status and operations will largely remain the same as they have been under the EU: free trade, open borders, and so on.

“Brexit was only about Brits expressing how they want their country to work, not to step back from its role in the world,” Duncan opined, while also claiming, “The importance of the UK’s global role was one place where the ‘leave’ and ‘remain’ [voters wanting to leave or remain in EU] converged.”

So, besides speaking as if he can somehow assess the attitudes of all voters in greater Britain about the UK’s global role, he’s saying that the Brexit vote, no matter what the ultimate outcome, may not be allowed to change UK policies enough to matter.

“No one in the UK believes that it makes sense to turn inwards,” Duncan presumptuously added. He stressed the melodramatic mantra that even the slightest retreat from worldwide Western hegemony is an intolerable slap in the face to the post-World War II “rules-based international order,” formed in 1944 at Bretton Woods, N.H., at a conference that spawned the World Bank, IMF, and today’s world-trade infrastructure.

The Bretton Woods agreement is the world elite’s modern-era touchstone, largely serving the super-rich while having formed the bedrock of modern transnationalist empires like the EU, the U.S. etc.

Duncan made it clear that while “leaving the EU” may be the wish of a majority of UK voters, at the end of the day, the “global values” undergirding that “rules-based order” help cement a marriage whose vows are not easily dissolved.

“We’re leaving the EU,” he claimed, “but we [the UK and EU] . . . believe deeply in the same values—peace, democracy, freedom, and the rule of law.”

Further suggesting Brexit is being deflated, he announced that the EU and UK have rolled out “our Future Partnership Paper on foreign policy, defense, security, and development”—an ambitious “new framework for future security, law enforcement, and criminal justice cooperation between the EU and the UK.”

Duncan labeled Russia as “more aggressive, more authoritarian, and more nationalist” than the world community cares to tolerate—as if internationalism cannot possibly be authoritarian or aggressive. ★

Trump Will Release JFK Documents

• CIA, FBI worried about president's release of thousands of assassination files

By S.T. Patrick

Though President Donald Trump has acquiesced to the CIA and FBI that requested another 180 days to re-evaluate their reasons for redactions, the president did not block the release of over 2,800 John F. Kennedy assassination documents to the public. The releases coincided with the Oct. 26 date that had been set by the JFK Records Act of 1992—25 years to the day after the act was passed by Congress.

In July, the National Archives began releasing the first batch of documents. The releases came earlier than researchers had been expecting and included 441 CIA and FBI documents that had been completely withheld and 3,369 previously released documents that had been redacted to varying degrees.

The first significant revelation from the July records release concerned Earle Cabell, who was the mayor of Dallas in 1963 when Kennedy was assassinated. Documents revealed that Cabell had been a CIA asset since 1956. His brother, Charles Cabell, had been deputy director of the CIA until Kennedy forced him to resign in the CIA shake-up that emanated from the Bay of Pigs fallout.



EARLE CABELL

One early shocker from the JFK documents that have been released so far is that Dallas Mayor Earle Cabell had been a CIA asset since 1956. His brother, Charles, had been CIA deputy director until John F. Kennedy forced him out in 1963. This could explain why, according to some JFK researchers, the Dallas police seemed to be working against Kennedy's safety, not for it.

rather than botched, the Warren Commission's investigation of Oswald.

"The CIA made at least four false statements to investigators," Morley wrote. "The effect of these statements was to conceal what top CIA officers, including Angleton, knew of Oswald while JFK was still alive."

The new documents appear to quell many arguments that the KGB was actively involved in both Oswald's preparation and the assassination itself. However, new questions have been raised about Cuban involvement. Theorists who have claimed involvement from Fidel Castro point to CIA attempts to assassinate Castro as motive. JFK assassination researchers such as Joseph Green of the Hidden History Center disagree in light of Castro's own comments.

"If you've ever read what Castro said on Nov. 23, 1963, it's an amazing speech," Green said. "Castro had it figured out immediately. He said, 'They're going to blame it on us.' Castro knew he was losing an ally. Lyndon Johnson's foreign policy with respect to Cuba was not going to be the same as Kennedy's. But he also saw that he was being set up."

Green also believes the withheld documents are equally telling, as they weave a narrative about who is being protected.

"Are we covering up all of this because we are trying to protect the fact that the KGB sent (Os-

Another newly released record describes a phone call made 25 minutes before the assassination. The anonymous call to the British *Cambridge News* warned a reporter that some "big news" was coming. The caller then suggested that the reporter call the American embassy for details. After the assassination, the reporter informed the Cambridge police, who then relayed the information to MI5, the UK's domestic counter-intelligence and security agency.

Dr. John Newman, author of *JFK & Vietnam* and *Oswald and the CIA*, and Jefferson Morley of "JFKfacts.org" have been mining the 2017 releases for information on what and when the CIA knew about alleged assassin Lee Harvey Oswald. Morley, the author of *The Ghost: The Secret Life of Spymaster James Jesus Angleton*, has been using the documents to argue that the CIA controlled,



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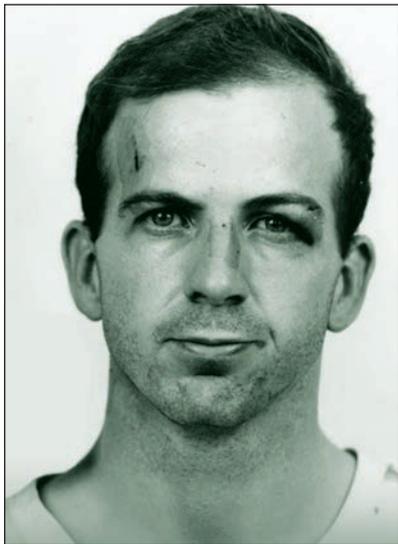
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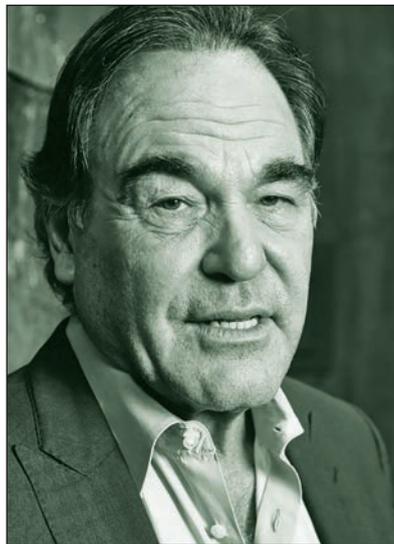
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CHARLES CABELL
Former CIA boss hated JFK.



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OLIVER STONE
Deserves some credit.

wald)?” Green asked. “Would the CIA be concerned about documents implicating Castro? No. There’s only one reason for the government to be upset and delaying after 54 years the release of documents that should be completely harmless documents.”

On Oct. 21, Trump tweeted that he would be “allowing, as president, the long blocked and classified JFK files to be opened.” Critics condemned the semantics of the tweet, stating that the president does not “allow” the release of the documents. The 1992 law mandates their release. He can, however, choose to block specific releases if he can show, according to the JFK Records Act, that a release would signify an “identifiable harm to the military defense, intelligence operations, law enforcement, or conduct of foreign relations . . . and that the identifiable harm is of such gravity that it outweighs the public interest in disclosure.”

The Assassination Records Review Board (ARRB) was set up by the act to serve as an inde-

pendent agency that would consider arguments and then render decisions when the release of a record was challenged by a government agency. In its final report, the ARRB cited the Oliver Stone film “JFK” as a catalyst for the passage of the JFK Records Act. Since 1992, the ARRB has declassified over 5 million documents.

The general public still awaits a “smoking gun” document that the vast majority of researchers know will never come. The documents that have already been released add colors and dimensions to a basic construct that was established by first-generation researchers that questioned the Warren Commission immediately after its volumes were released in 1964.

A deadline for those documents withheld for further review has been set for April 26, 2018. ★

—
S.T. Patrick holds degrees in both journalism and social studies education. He spent ten years as an educator and now hosts the “Midnight Writer” News Show. His email is STPatrickAFP@gmail.com.



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ADL Trying to Criminalize Free Speech & Thought

- One goal is to censor anything critical of Zionism, Israel

By Philip Girdi

Recent debates about “safe spaces” at universities and declarations of states of emergency to prevent alleged white supremacists from speaking are part of a much broader movement to manage the information that the American public should be allowed to access. In its most recent manifestations, an anonymous group produced a phony list of 200 websites that were guilty of serving up Russian propaganda, a George Soros-funded think tank identified thousands of individuals who are alleged to be “useful idiots” for Moscow, and Twitter announced that it is no longer taking ads paid for by two Russian media outlets, RT International and Sputnik.

Apparently, the exposure of dissident sites, the outing of dissident individuals, including myself, and the banning of a small number of ads will preserve American democracy and allow the truth tellers at *The New York Times* and MSNBC to inform us regarding what we need to know and not one iota more lest we draw some false conclusions.

If the road to hell really is paved with good intentions, it just might be that the wave of censorship that is currently engulfing the Internet really is intended to make people feel good about themselves so they will behave decently when they interact with other users. But if one is interested in the free flow of information and viewpoints that comes with the alternative media, it certainly does not look that way. U.S. investigative journalist Robert Parry describes it as a deliberate process of “demonizing and silencing dissent that questions mainstream narratives.”

One of the organizations most interested in limiting conversations about what is going on in the world is the Anti-Defamation League (ADL). The ADL claims that it is “the world’s leading organization combating anti-Semitism and hate of all kinds,” though it clearly excludes incitement or even physical harm directed against Palestinian Arabs resentful of the Israeli occupation of their country. Its definition of “hatred” is really quite selective and is focused on anyone criticizing Israel or Jewish-related issues. Its goal is to have any such speech or writing categorized as anti-Semitism and, eventually, to have “hate crime” legislation that criminalizes such expressions. As most criticism of Israel or of Jews is currently limited to the alternative media, and that media lives on the Internet, the ADL and those who are like-minded now are focusing on “cyberhate” as the problem and are working with major Internet providers to

“The ADL admits it is working with Facebook, Google, Microsoft, and Twitter to censor the Internet.

voluntarily censor their product.

The ADL is quite adept at telling other people how to think. Back in 1999, the complaints of one Jewish officer who did not like how he was treated at CIA led to mandatory “Jewish sensitivity” training courses produced and presented by the ADL. Then Agency Director George Tenet, who mandated the training, explained, “With the help of ADL trainers we educated an entire bureaucracy and taught people about how their words could be misinterpreted in a manner that was detrimental to the interests of the country.” I was fortunately already out the door at that time and was not subjected to such nonsense, which would have led me to resign.

On Oct. 10, the ADL issued a press release out of its New York City offices to explain just how far that process has gone. The organization boasts of the fact that it is now working with Facebook, Google, Microsoft, and Twitter “to engineer new solutions to stop cyberhate.” Apple is not identified by name in the press release but one should presume that it is also involved, as well as YouTube, which is owned by Google. When you consider that the associates in this venture with the ADL are vast corporations that control huge slices of the communications industry, the consequences of some kind of corporate decision on what constitutes “hate” become clear. Combating “cyberhate” will become across-the-board censorship for viewpoints that are considered to be unacceptable.

The ADL will be the “convener” for the group, providing “insight on how hate and extremist content manifests—and constantly evolves—online.” This means it will define the problem, which it calls the “spew[ing] of hateful ideologies,” so the corporate world can take steps to block such material. And “the initiative will be managed by the ADL’s Center for Technology and Society in Silicon Valley.”

The ADL boasts of a “long track record of fighting bigotry and defending free expression,” apparently failing to understand the contradic-



Freedom of speech is in a sad state these days; you can only exercise your First Amendment rights in certain restricted areas. And, if you hold conservative viewpoints, those areas are growing even smaller.

tion, as free speech includes the right of individuals and groups to be bigoted. The ADL has, for example, opposed activities by Palestinian groups on campus because some Jewish students find them “offensive.”

And the ADL also chooses to avoid addressing the issue of Israel, which already has considerable internal censorship and is behind recent moves to manage the Internet globally. In January 2016, the Israeli government proposed across the board censorship of the most prominent social media platforms on a global scale by creating an “international coalition that would make limiting criticism of Israel its primary objective.”

A “loose coalition . . . would keep an eye on content and where it is being posted, and members of the coalition would work to demand that the platforms remove the content . . . in any of their countries at the request of members.” Collusion to operate collectively across borders would effectively limit the global nature of Internet platforms, but it also relies on the full cooperation of the corporate communications industry, which is what the ADL is attempting to obtain.

Facebook already employs thousands of censors and there is literally no limit to how far those who want to restrict material that they consider offensive will go. To be sure, most groups who want to limit the flow of information do not have the clout or resources of the ADL with its \$64 million annual operating budget so its “cyberhate” campaign will no doubt serve as a model that others will then follow. For the ADL, reducing criticism of Israel is a much-sought-after goal. For the rest of us, it is a trip into darkness. ★

Philip Girdi is a former CIA counter-terrorism specialist and military intelligence officer and a columnist and television commentator. He is also the executive director of the Council for the National Interest. This article appeared on the website of the Unz Review.

Great Experiment in Freedom Failing

- We cannot have a republic when government views itself as superior to people

By John W. Whitehead

What characterizes American government today is not so much dysfunctional politics as it is ruthlessly contrived governance carried out behind the entertaining, distracting, and disingenuous curtain of political theater. And what political theater it is, diabolically Shakespearean at times, full of sound and fury, yet in the end, signifying nothing.

We're being robbed blind by a government of thieves. Americans no longer have any real protection against government agents empowered to seize private property at will. For instance, police agencies under the guise of asset forfeiture laws are taking Americans' personal property based on little more than a suspicion of criminal activity and keeping it for their own profit and gain.

We're being taken advantage of by a government of scoundrels, idiots, and cowards. When you've got government representatives who spend a large chunk of their work hours fundraising, being feted by lobbyists, shuffling through a lucrative revolving door between public service and lobbying, and making themselves available to anyone with enough money to secure access to a congressional office, you're in the clutches of a corrupt oligarchy.

We're being locked up by a government of greedy jailers. We have become a carceral state, spending three times more on our prisons than on our schools and imprisoning close to a quarter of the world's prisoners, despite the fact that crime is at an all-time low and the U.S. makes up only 5% of the world's population. The rise of overcriminalization and profit-driven private prisons provides

“
The feds are watching everything you do, reading everything you write, listening to what you say, and tracking what you spend.”

even greater incentives for locking up American citizens for such non-violent “crimes” as having an overgrown lawn.

We're being spied on by a government of peeping Toms. The government is watching everything you do, reading everything you write, listening to everything you say, and monitoring everything you spend. Omnipresent surveillance is paving the way for government programs that profile citizens, document their behavior and attempt to predict what they might do in the future, whether it's what they might buy, what politician they might support, or what kinds of crimes they might commit.

We're being ravaged by a government of ruffians, rapists, and killers. It's not just the police shootings of unarmed citizens that are worrisome. It's the SWAT team raids gone wrong—more than 80,000 annually—that are leaving innocent citizens wounded, children terrorized, and family pets killed. It's the roadside strip searches—in some cases, cavity searches of men and women alike carried out in full view of the public—in pursuit of drugs that are

never found. It's the potentially lethal—and unwarranted—use of so-called “nonlethal” weapons such as tasers on children for engaging in little more than childish behavior.

We're being forced to surrender our freedoms—and those of our children—to a government of extortionists, money launderers, and professional pirates. Under the guise of fighting its wars on terror, drugs, and now domestic extremism, the government has spent billions in taxpayer dollars on endless wars that have not ended terrorism but merely sown the seeds of blowback, surveillance programs that have caught few terrorists while subjecting all Americans to a surveillance society, and militarized police that have done little to decrease crime while turning communities into warzones.

We're being held at gunpoint by a government of soldiers: a standing army. As if it weren't enough that the American military empire stretches around the globe (and continues to leech much-needed resources from the American economy), the U.S. government is creating its own standing army of militarized police and teams of weaponized bureaucrats. These civilian employees are being armed to the hilt with guns, ammunition, and military-style equipment; trained in military tactics; and authorized to lock the nation down under martial law.

Whatever else it may be—a danger, a menace, a threat—the U.S. government is certainly no friend to freedom.

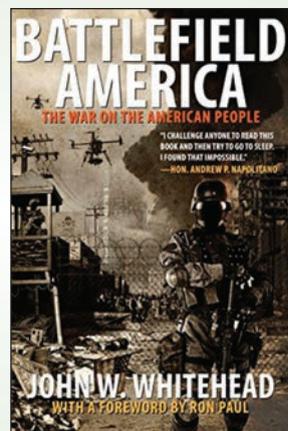
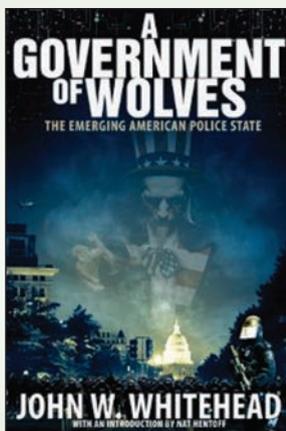
As I make clear in my book *Battlefield America: The War on the American People* (see ad below), you cannot have a republican form of government—nor a democratic one, for that matter—when the government views itself as superior to the citizenry. ★

Constitutional attorney and author John W. Whitehead is founder and president of The Rutherford Institute. His books are available online from AFP's Bookstore. (See below for an ad for the books.) Email Whitehead at johnw@rutherford.org.

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Radical Groups Held at Bay During White Heritage Rally

• Free speech allowed, assaults on marchers avoided

By Jacob Tyler

The recent “White Lives Matter” event in Shelbyville, Tenn. has demonstrated that in the face of seemingly insurmountable odds and strident opposition, the heart of American nationalism is beating strong, and its proponents continue to seek solidarity with all Americans as they stand defiantly in opposition to the globalist agenda.

Over 200 working-class Americans converged on Shelbyville on Oct. 28 for the rally organized by the Nationalist Front, a coalition of right-wing organizations. Opposing them was a large group of predominantly white Antifa and Black Lives Matter counter-protestors that attempted to disrupt the event with incessant heckling intended to drown out the event speakers.

Predictably, the mainstream media has described the event as a white supremacist or neo-Nazi rally, but has had little to say beyond that about the assembly, as it remained peaceful and thus un-newsworthy.

The event marked the first major collaborative, boots-on-the-ground gathering since the August “Unite the Right” protest in Charlottesville, Va.

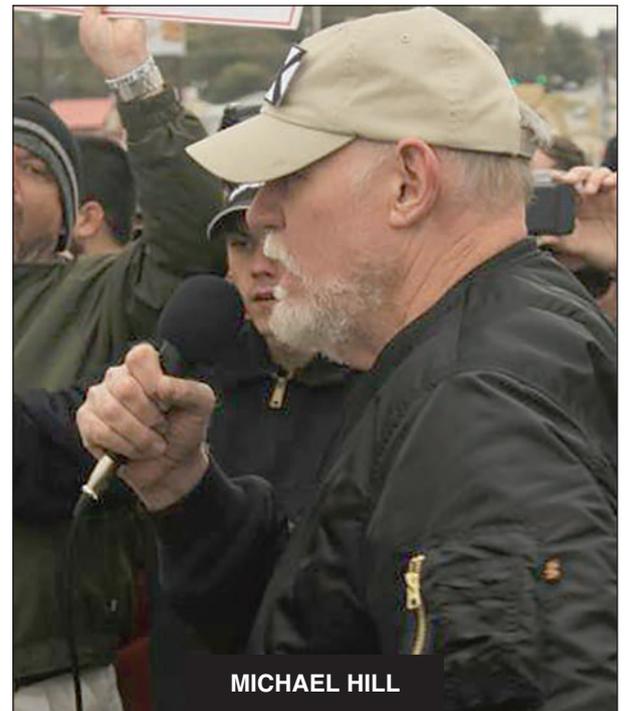
Brad Griffin, one of the principal organizers and the League of the South chief of communications, explained on his blog the clear, concise focus of the event: “draw national attention to the Emanuel Samson church shooting [in Nashville, by an immigrant from Sudan]; foster greater unity and cohesion within our own movement; turn the page on the events

in Charlottesville.”

In the aftermath of the Charlottesville event, draconian reprisals against all manner of right-wing media outlets have been widespread, including websites being taken down and confiscation of domain registrations. Social media on the Internet has largely become a massive leftist echo chamber in which virtually any sentiments and political viewpoints to the right of Karl Marx are met with instantaneous censorship.

Law enforcement performed their duties with commendable efficiency, if not a considerable degree of overkill. Protestors on both sides of the ideological spectrum were processed through two checkpoints where everyone was frisked and scanned with a metal detection wand. The two groups were cordoned off from each other on opposite sides of the street by metal barricades, with a skirmish line of heavily equipped police officers and dogs positioned between the two. At least three snipers were visible on nearby rooftops, and four helicopters hovered in the vicinity. Unlike Charlottesville, it was clear in Shelbyville the intention of the police was to maintain order and ensure the safety of all attendees.

Although counter-demonstrators continually attempted to verbally disrupt the event by shouting obscenities, making vulgar gestures, and waving signs, the disruptions only faded into the background as speeches by prominent Nationalist Front leaders, including Dr. Michael Hill, Matthew Heimbach, and Jeff Shoup, as well as Mike Enoch and Sacco Vandal, popular podcast hosts with the talk show network “The Right Stuff,” were met with thunderous cheers and applause.



MICHAEL HILL

Michael Hill, president of the League of the South, speaks to the assembled crowd.

While any expression of white identity is deemed by the left as inherently racist and oppressive, ethno-nationalist activists contend that such sentiments are demonstrative of the assault on white, working-class families’ interests by globalist intelligentsia, which is manipulating the left into being useful idiots that are sowing the seeds of their own destruction. This contention was strikingly validated in a disturbing moment during Vandal’s speech. When he declared, “My children, your children have a right to exist and a right to a future!” the counter-protestors responded by loudly booing in unison.

The rally concluded without incident and the permitted group then gathered in a nearby park for food and fellowship.

Upon learning a large contingent of Antifa trouble-makers was headed to the park, the group determined it prudent to move on and avoid confrontation and the possibility of violence. Dozens of state troopers had massed near the group’s rented pavilion with arrest bags and batons as a news helicopter circled above. The troopers’ purpose in assembling is unknown. When questioned about the nature of their arrival on the scene, the officers demurred and claimed it was for a wedding party that was nowhere to be seen.

Two additional demonstrations had originally been planned for the day, one in Murfreesboro, Tenn. followed by a silent candlelight vigil to pay respects and offer prayers for the victims of the recent Samson church shooting. Nationalist Front leadership informed AFP that these events were canceled after intelligence gathered indicated that there was a major legal trap awaiting the group in Murfreesboro and that a large force of National Guardsmen was already deployed on location. In addition, organizers learned Antifa had swarmed this second venue as well. The stage was set for a chaotic finale of the day’s peaceful activism, which would have undermined the whole purpose behind the event. ★



A photograph of White Lives Matter marchers shows a portion of the sizeable crowd that gathered.

SPLC Wages War on Conservative Pastor

• Radical law center's core beliefs at odds with traditional American values

By Jacob Tyler

The Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) has had conservative Christian Pastor Chuck Baldwin in its sights since at least 2008, labeling him an extremist and cautioning law enforcement to be wary of his supporters, as they're potentially "domestic terrorists."

Anyone who has spent time in the trenches for the cause of truth is acquainted with the slanderous shenanigans of the SPLC. The self-proclaimed arbiter of justice and tolerance, defender of civil rights, and hate-group watchdog purports to shine the bright light of truth on the misdeeds of the mythical right-winger ever skulking in the dark, tirelessly scheming to repress people of color in ever new and more imaginative ways. In truth, however, from the SPLC's perspective, merely possessing a political outlook even slightly to the right of the leftist behemoth is enough to warrant being targeted. In its zealous pursuit of this paranoid agenda, the SPLC attacks and defames even the most dignified and respectable of individuals. Its focus on Baldwin is one such example.

Baldwin, who now lives in Montana, founded the Crossroads Baptist Church in Pensacola, Fla., hosted "Chuck Baldwin Live" for eight years, and is a prolific writer.

The "shoot first, ask questions later" approach employed by SPLC co-founder and attorney Morris Dees and his lackeys has invited more than a little criticism throughout the years. An article in the July/Aug. 2017 issue of *Politico Magazine* notes: "As Dees navigates the era of Trump, there are new questions arising around a charge that has dogged the group for years: that the SPLC is overplaying its hand, becoming more of a partisan, progressive hit operation than a civil rights watchdog. . . . Critics say the group abuses its position as an arbiter of hatred by labeling legitimate players 'hate groups' and 'extremists' to keep the attention of its liberal donors and grind a political ax. . . . [I]ts authority to police the boundaries of American political discourse is facing its greatest challenge yet."

It has gotten so bad that even Israeli Ambassador to the U.S. Ron Dermer in a December 2016 speech condemned the SPLC as "defamers and blacklisters."

AFP recently spoke with Baldwin, who explained the chronology of the SPLC's focus on him.

He first came under fire shortly before beginning his presidential campaign in 2008.

"A deputy sheriff came into my office one day and asked if I'd come out to his squad car, where



he proceeded to show me on his computer a report that had been issued to law enforcement personnel . . . which identified myself and my friend, Pastor Greg Dixon [an independent Baptist preacher who was a principal founder of the American Coalition of Unregistered Churches and an iconic figure in modern Christian circles] on a watch list of potential government extremists," Baldwin stated.

When asked by AFP what put him on the "extremist" radar to begin with, Baldwin stated he believed that anyone who takes stands such as those he is known for will not go long without receiving a similar level of attention.

The SPLC's attention has continued intermittently since then. In the past decade, there have been other examples of the SPLC targeting Baldwin. In 2009 law enforcement officials were instructed in a now infamous February 2009 report titled "The Modern Militia Movement," prepared by the Missouri Information Analysis Center, to be on the lookout for anyone driving vehicles with bumper stickers promoting the campaigns of Ron Paul, Libertarian Party presidential candidate Bob Barr, or the Constitution Party's Chuck Baldwin, asserting there was a tangible possibility that such people were "right-wing extremists."

In 2010, after Baldwin relocated to Montana, another deputy sheriff showed him a copy of a memo released by a local police lieutenant for other law enforcement officials in the area that once again placed Baldwin on a watch list based

on reports being disseminated by the SPLC.

In 2011, Baldwin was targeted yet again by the SPLC shortly after starting a non-501(c)(3) church organization, Liberty Fellowship. Again, he was labeled an extremist.

"I have lived under the cloud of these accusations spawned by the SPLC for all of these years," Baldwin lamented. "Almost without exception, reporters I encounter will bring up claims leveled against me by the SPLC. For the most part, it seems that they have a political agenda, and for the most part they're going to stick with what the SPLC has to say. But there are also many who are only interested in my message and support me even more when they hear about the SPLC's attacks. They'll look me up and become a supporter as a result of the attacks, so it is a mixed bag of results."

Perhaps most galling about all of this is that Baldwin, a conservative Christian pastor who advocates for traditional American values, is being routinely targeted and slandered by the SPLC while many left-leaning pastors are given a free hand to foment disinformation and division among the American people, then exalted by the SPLC and the media for doing so.

AFP asked Baldwin to comment on this.

"It just goes to show the biased agenda of the SPLC," he stated. "The organization has a very prejudiced agenda in which people they deem to be outside their political persuasion are targeted for destruction while people that favor their political ideology are given a pass. It also serves to spotlight the agenda of the mainstream media, as it follows in lockstep with whatever narrative the SPLC decides to run with—which I feel people are definitely waking up to. This has, of course, had a lot to do with the election of Donald Trump—but the underlying answer is that this is a very biased organization with no interest in truth or honesty with a definite political agenda. That agenda is the politics of destruction. They try to destroy the reputation and character of individuals that oppose them. The real hate mongers here are the SPLC."

When asked if he felt patriots being targeted by the SPLC had any recourse against the persecution, Baldwin concluded: "They have to recognize that the MSM [mainstream media] and all its facets is deliberately going to lie to them. Start looking to independent news sources instead. AMERICAN FREE PRESS has been around for a long time and puts out news that other people will not put out. [Much of] the independent media is truly presenting a balanced view on what's going on and doing some good, old-fashioned journalism, which is virtually a dead art as far as the MSM is concerned." ★

Jacob Tyler is a freelance writer and graphic designer based in Tennessee.

Boston Mayor Sued for Calling Free Speech Activist a 'Nazi'

By John Friend

Boston mayor Martin J. Walsh is being sued for slander and defamation by a leading organizer of the Boston "Free Speech Rally" which took place in late August of this year, it has been reported, mostly in the alternative media.

Brandon Navom, a resident of Lowell, Mass., who helped organize the rally, filed a \$100 million lawsuit against Walsh last Monday in Berkshire County, which sits on the western-most end of the state of Massachusetts. Navom's lawyer, Rinaldo Del Gallo, filed the suit outside of Boston in order to find a "more neutral and unbiased" jury than one in Boston, the *Boston Herald* reported.

Navom and others with the Boston Free Speech Coalition organized the rally in order to promote free speech "from all sides of the political spectrum," according to the Boston Free Speech Facebook page. Navom was scheduled to speak, but later backed out following the chaos and mayhem in Charlottesville, Va. at an alt-right rally organized largely by Jason Kessler the week prior to the Boston rally. Ironically, the list of speakers and sponsors included "libertarians, progressives, conservatives, and independents," who were traveling to Boston to "peaceably engage in open dialogue about the threats to, and importance of, free speech and civil liberties."

In his lawsuit, Navom contends that Walsh purposely defamed him and other rally organizers as "neo-Nazis," "white supremacists," and "hate group members," leading to Navom being terminated from his software consulting job. Additionally, the

lawsuit argues that Walsh falsely implied that Navom and other rally organizers were connected to the violence in Charlottesville the previous weekend, describing the rally organizers as promoting "hate."

"It's my understanding they're coming to Boston," Walsh said at the time, referring to the alt-right rally goers who participated in the Charlottesville rally. "There's no place for the hate that they're spewing."

Navom alleges in his lawsuit that an "Internet hate mob" harassed him following the mayor's comments, and exposed his personal information, including his home address and contact information, before targeting his employer, which eventually led to his termination. Navom charges in his lawsuit that he was targeted online by people who "tracked [him] down and harassed [his] employer until they let me go simply because my name was on the list of speakers—injuries that I suffered because of Mayor Marty Walsh's defamatory comments."

Navom is seeking \$50 million in actual damages, along with an additional \$50 million in punitive damages, according to the *Boston Herald*, and is also demanding that the mayor declare that his statements were "false and defamatory."

The Boston "Free Speech Rally" only drew a few dozen supporters, while thousands of counter-protesters showed up to shout down, harass, and physically confront and assault rally goers. A few counter-protesters were arrested during the rally, mostly for assault and battery against a police officer, it was reported at the time.

Police Commissioner William Evans also reported that some Boston law enforcement officers were hit with bottles of urine, and that rocks were



MARTIN WALSH

also thrown at police by counter-protesters. A few minor scuffles broke out as well, and many pro-free speech rally goers were chased off and threatened by counter-protesters.

Incredibly, Walsh and Evans praised the counter-protesters, who they claimed "stood for peace and love, not bigotry and hate."

Most of the speakers who attempted to voice their political views at the rally were prevented from doing so by counter-protesters.

"I'm not going to listen to people who come in here and want to talk about hate," Evans stated in a press conference following the rally, demonstrating his contempt for the First Amendment and free speech. "And you know what? If they didn't get in, that's a good thing because their message isn't what we want to hear." ★

John Friend is a writer who lives in California.

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Israeli Interests Come Before Recovery

• Hurricane's devastation shines light on law prohibiting state from contracting with "boycott" firms

Hurricane Harvey's devastation provides first real glimpse of the law prohibiting the Lone Star state from entering into contracts with companies that boycott Israel.

By Dave Gahary

If there are still folks out there who question the allegiance of American politicians, all one need do is look to Dickinson, Texas (population around 19,000), where the city elders demanded that denizens who wished rebuilding funds to rectify Hurricane Harvey's destruction "certify in writing that they will not take part in a boycott of Israel."

Hurricane Harvey, the costliest tropical cyclone on record and the second-costliest (\$150 billion to \$190 billion) natural disaster worldwide, drenched eastern Texas over a four-day period in late August with nearly 65 inches of rain in some areas, which caused catastrophic flooding that destroyed hundreds of thousands of homes, displaced more than 30,000 people, and necessitated over 17,000 rescues.

To force beaten-down Americans to grovel for emergency funds after a disaster of this magnitude may be par for the bureaucratic course, but to require they pledge an oath of fealty to a foreign country in order to get those funds is beyond the pale.

But Israel, as AMERICAN FREE PRESS readers are so painfully aware, has never been short of *chutzpah*—the Yiddish "audacity," used to describe someone or something that has overstepped the boundaries of acceptable behavior.

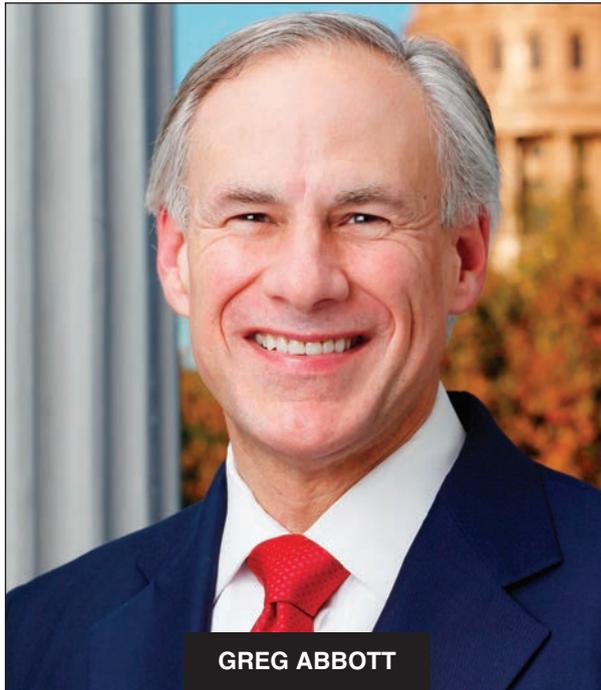
The city's "Hurricane Harvey Repair Grant Application and Agreement" required that applicants agree to follow building codes, apply for the necessary permits, use funds solely for their project, and—incredibly—pledge to not boycott Israel.

Section 11 stated: "By executing this agreement below, the applicant verifies that the applicant: (1) does not boycott Israel; and (2) will not boycott Israel during the term of this agreement."

Yes, folks, that's really what it *stated*, not *states*, because the outrage this requirement generated forced Dickinson to reconsider its demand. This "strange stipulation" even had the fake news media raising their collective eyebrows, with a staunchly Zionist *Time* magazine headline blaring, "A Texas City Will Only Give You Hurricane Aid If You Promise Not to Boycott Israel."

Most likely, Dickinson finally cried "uncle" when the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) weighed in. ACLU of Texas Legal Director Andre Segura stated:

The First Amendment protects Americans' right to boycott, and the government cannot con-



GREG ABBOTT

Gov. Greg Abbott of Texas has been an ardent supporter of laws that require citizens and businesses to sign agreements that prevent them from supporting the notion of boycotting Israel, despite the fact that the Supreme Court has ruled that such coercion is illegal. That does not seem to matter.

dition hurricane relief or any other public benefit on a commitment to refrain from protected political expression. Dickinson's requirement is an egregious violation of the First Amendment, reminiscent of McCarthy-era loyalty oaths requiring Americans to disavow membership in the Communist party and other forms of "subversive" activity.

The ACLU pointed out in a news story Oct. 19 that the Supreme Court "ruled decades ago that political boycotts are protected by the First Amendment, and other decisions have established that the government may not require individuals to sign a certification regarding their political expression in order to obtain employment, contracts, or other benefits."

The news story also mentions the ACLU "filed a federal lawsuit challenging a Kansas law on behalf of a high school math teacher who is being required by the state to certify that she won't boycott Israel if she wants to take part in a teacher training program," and that the organization had "sent a letter to members of Congress opposing a bill that would make it a felony to support certain boycotts of companies doing business in Israel and its settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories."

Dickinson claimed the city was just following the law in Texas, referring to H.B. 89, which was passed by the Texas House on April 20 (voting 131 to 0 with 12 present, not voting) and the Texas

Senate on April 27 (voting 27 to 4), and signed by Gov. Greg Abbott on May 2. This act took effect on Sept. 1. Significantly, the law is aimed at companies, using the language, "Prohibition on Contracts With Companies Boycotting Israel"; Dickinson's demand that individuals follow the law was fraught with trouble.

Abbott—like many U.S. politicians who want to keep the Israel lobby's spigot aimed at their campaign coffers—groveled to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in Jerusalem in January 2016, openly stating that he wanted Texas legislators to pass such a ban.

He got his wish, and crowed "any anti-Israel policy is an anti-Texas policy" when he signed the clearly unconstitutional bill into law. Shamelessly kissing Israel's backside even further, he posted on his official website, "Anti-Israel policies are anti-Texas policies, and we will not tolerate such actions against an important ally."

Yes, this is all true, dear reader. Whoever can kiss Israel's butt the best wins a prize! If it wasn't so un-American it might be funny. But it's not, as it's a threat to our God-given freedoms. What's worse is that this law is similar to existing laws in at least 22 other states, leaving only 27 states to go. The United States of Israel, anyone?

What's behind the nationwide push to protect "our greatest ally" is the success of the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions Movement (BDS), created in 2005 "to increase economic and political pressure on Israel to end what it describes as violations of international law." BDS seeks "the end of Israel's occupation and settler colonization of Palestinian land and the Golan Heights, full equality for Arab-Palestinian citizens of Israel, and acknowledgement of the right of return of Palestinian refugees."

AFP asked Mark Dankof, a Texas resident and U.S. Senate candidate, for his views on H.B. 89.

"Here in Texas, sadly enough," Dankof told AFP, "what we refer to as the 'conservative movement' is, in many cases, nothing of the type. If you look at the Republican Party state platform of Texas, it's solidly Zionist, it's solidly globalist and interventionist, and it's something that could have been easily penned by Netanyahu himself.

"The notion that any state government, much less the federal government," he concluded, "should be able to say to any legitimately incorporated business in the United States that they have to sign off, officially, in support of Mr. Netanyahu's policies—many of which the United States government says are a violation of international law—[is ludicrous]." ★

Dave Gahary, a former submariner in the U.S. Navy, prevailed in a suit brought by the New York Stock Exchange in an attempt to silence him. Dave is the producer of an upcoming full-length feature film about the attack on the USS *Liberty*. See the website erasingtheliberty.com or call (850) 677-0344 for more info.

Blame Congress for Niger Debacle

• Why is U.S. now waging war against Muslims in at least six African nations?

By Richard Walker

While the mainstream media has been quick to lay blame at President Donald Trump's door for the recent death of four Green Berets in Niger, it has failed to point out that for years Congress has ignored America's expanding war in North Africa.

When it was reported that the four Green Berets in Niger had been ambushed and killed on Oct. 4 while pursuing a target, leading senators, including Sen. Lindsay Graham (R-S.C.), complained that Congress had been unaware we had close to 1,000 Green Berets and other special forces in that country.

The figure is likely much higher given we also have mercenaries there. Consequently, Graham's reaction, shared by Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.), was disingenuous given the U.S. has been operating in that part of Africa for years. During the Obama presidency, there was a massive increase in expenditure and the use of Navy SEALs, Green Berets, mercenaries, and drone bases across what is called the Sahel region. It stretches from the Atlantic coastline of northwest Africa to the continent's eastern border with the Red Sea.

The area includes nations like Sudan, Niger, Chad, Eritrea, Burkina Faso, and Mali. They have all experienced military coups, and the U.S. has been training their special forces for two decades. The EU has even set aside close to \$80 million for a joint French-African force to combat Islamic fighters in those countries.

For Congress to be unaware of an ongoing war in that part of the world implies it has failed in its oversight role. It also suggests Trump has not been properly briefed or, as is more likely, he has fulfilled his boast that he leaves military matters to his generals.

In this light, let's look more closely at the loss of four courageous Green Berets in Niger. While it is now clear they were not highly experienced operatives, it remains unclear what their mission was and how they died. Niger borders Chad, and within Chad lies an important zone called the Chad Basin, touching the borders of both countries as well as Nigeria. It is an area that has seen increased activity by ISIS and al Qaeda and especially by Nigerian terrorists from what used to be called Boko Haram, infamous for abducting hundreds of schoolgirls. The group changed its name in 2015 to ISWAP—the Islamic State West Africa Province—and pledged its loyalty to ISIS. It has moved many of its fighters into Niger, using the Chad Basin as a staging post. The region also falls within the Sahel Strip.

The terrorist groups got many of their weapons



An honor guard carries the coffin of U.S. Army Sgt. La David Johnson, who was among four special forces soldiers killed in Niger. How they were killed and who is at fault are major concerns of the U.S. military. But the real question is: "Why are U.S. troops fighting in at least six African nations without any congressional oversight?" It looks as though, once again, the U.S. military is engaged in operations hidden from the public.

from Libya, which also borders Niger and Chad. By 2016, the U.S. and its allies had thousands of mercenaries, as well as American, French, and British special forces in the region. Some reports have put the figure at 6,000, which is assumed to be a low estimate.

Until a week before the Green Berets were killed, Chad was an especially important American ally in the fight against ISIS and the former Boko Haram. Its special forces, considered among the best, were crucial in the U.S. effort to combat the Boko Haram expansion into Niger. In one day, Chad forces were reputed to have killed 100 Boko Haram fighters in Niger. It is also noteworthy that the U.S. has been building a special drone base in Niger to provide surveillance along the Sahel Strip, which is mostly flat land.

It therefore came as a total shock to U.S. Special Forces and their commanders when the White House on Sept. 24 added Chad to its travel ban. Chad retaliated by pulling its special forces out of Niger. A week later, the four Green Berets were killed.

Now, suggesting the pull-out emboldened militants to attack the Green Berets would be mere speculation. What is not speculation, however, is that the White House move was a severe blow to U.S. military strategy in the Chad Basin and especially in Niger.

So why did Trump suddenly treat such an important ally as Chad as a potential threat to the U.S.? That is a head-scratcher, though one might

care to look back several months to June 2017, when Exxon, facing a \$79 billion fine for oil debts owed to Chad, was forced to settle for a massive but undeclared sum. For years, Exxon's CEO had fought the Chadian government's demands for reparation. The CEO was Rex Tillerson, now the U.S. secretary of state. Could the decision to add Chad to the Muslim travel ban have been punishment or revenge for Chad standing up to Exxon? That we may never know.

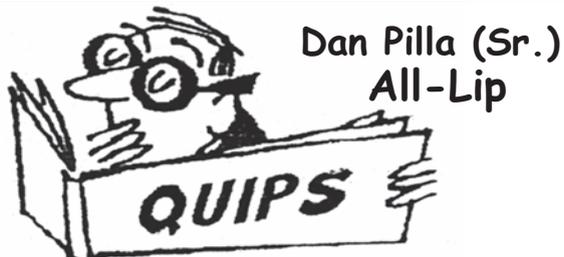
On the other hand, the response of Congress that it had not known what the U.S. had been doing militarily in Niger and other areas of North Africa exposed its failure to conduct due diligence. More worrying perhaps is that we also have a White House that is happy to let the Pentagon run an expanding war without oversight.

Missing in this tragic story are important facts. What was the Green Berets' mission and were they left exposed? Has putting Chad on the travel ban risked the lives of more Green Berets and Navy SEALs? How many mercenaries are employed in Africa, and how many are from the Frontier Services Group, once called Blackwater? Frontier is run by Erik Prince, a brother of Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos and a close friend of Trump. Prince has lately been hired by the Chinese Liberation Army to help it deal with the Muslim Uighur minority within China's borders. ★

Richard Walker is the nom de plume of a former New York mainstream news producer who grew tired of seeing his articles censored by his bosses.

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Christians, Muslims the Real Terror Threat?

• FBI, Israel are responsible for more terror attacks than all other groups combined

By Kevin Barrett

Every day we are inundated with scare stories about “Islamic extremists.” Whether it is the ravages of ISIS, atrocities against women by Boko Haram, or reminders about the allegedly al Qaeda-affiliated individuals blamed for 9/11, the mainstream media consistently puts “radical Muslims” in the spotlight. Much of this “radical Islamic threat,” however, is the fictional creation of the U.S. government, and behind it, the government of Israel.

The idea of a “Muslim terror threat” was invented at the 1979 Jerusalem Conference on International Terrorism (JCIT) convened by Benjamin Netanyahu and attended by top American policy makers. The U.S. government subsequently created al Qaeda to fight the Russians in Afghanistan, then to serve as the new post-Cold War enemy. The U.S. government also created ISIS, as Donald Trump has stated.

Like al Qaeda and ISIS, almost all “Islamic terror plots” in the United States are creations of the U.S. government. Trevor Aaronson’s *The Terror Factory* details how the FBI creates terror plots and manip-

ulates helpless, gullible people into taking the blame.

People in Syria, Iraq, Nigeria, Pakistan, Iran, and other countries really do have a good reason to be concerned about U.S.-government-supported Islamic extremist terrorists. But Americans don’t. Inside the U.S.—even when you take into account what happened in New York City on Oct. 31—you are far more likely to be hit by lightning than to be killed by any kind of terrorist. Further, only 6% of terrorist attacks are even blamed on Muslims, according to the very FBI that manufactures almost all of those same Muslim-attributed attacks.

How about Christian extremists? Are they a threat to Americans? The liberal media sometimes tells us so. We hear quite a bit about abortion-clinic bombers. And during the past year the alt-right, a predominantly white Christian movement, has emerged as a new bogeyman.

The demonization of Christianity by Hollywood and the rest of the liberal mainstream media is far subtler than that same media’s demonization of Islam, but it is equally pervasive. Christianity and Christian values are mocked and derided far more than they are celebrated and upheld. Comedienne Sarah Silverman’s one-liner, “I hope the Jews did kill Jesus; I’d do it again in a second!” may be an ex-

treme example, but it exemplifies the entertainment industry’s attitude toward Christianity.

And that leads us to the topic of Jewish extremism. Does such a thing exist? Terrorism means “attacking and terrorizing civilians.” And that is precisely how Jewish extremists have been stealing more and more of the Holy Land. In his book *State of Terror: How Terrorism Created Modern Israel*, Thomas Suarez shows how Jewish nationalist extremists pioneered the use of large-scale terrorism in the modern world. From the bombing of the King David Hotel in 1946, to the attempt to assassinate President Harry Truman with a letter bomb, to Deir Yassin and the hundreds of other massacres that emptied Palestine of its inhabitants, to the bombings and other attacks on Jews across the Arab world designed to scare them into going to Israel, to the Lavon Affair and USS *Liberty* false flags, to Baruch Goldstein’s massacre of worshipers in Hebron, through the false flags of recent years and the repeated massacres of thousands of civilians in Gaza, Jewish extremists are unquestionably the modern world’s leading terrorists. But you won’t read about that in the mainstream media. ★

Kevin Barrett, Ph.D., is an Arabist-Islamologist scholar and one of America’s best-known critics of the War on Terror.

New Jersey Welfare Scammers Getting Amnesty

By Dave Gahary

LAKESWOOD, N.J.—Preferential treatment doled out to welfare cheats in this south Jersey town has the residents here—used to the white-glove treatment the Orthodox Jewish community here receives—up in arms. Not only did the Orthodox steal millions from New Jersey and U.S. taxpayers after they had been warned not to do so several years earlier, but after they were arrested, processed, and released, they were offered a never-before-seen amnesty pilot program that leaders of the accuseds’ community helped draft.

Under the amnesty program, individuals would have to repay benefits they received while ineligible, plus a civil penalty. They would also have to agree not to accept Medicaid for one year. If they meet all the program requirements, local officials will not prosecute them, and the Ocean County prosecutor’s office said it will not pursue charges.

As this reporter wrote about in a June 2014 AFP article entitled “An Orthodox Final Solution,” Lakewood is unique in the annals of American community history. As reported in the 2014 article:

Founded by hard-working Americans in the late 1880s, a blast-iron furnace business kick-started

the town’s good fortune. Several magnificent estates sprouted around town, helping Lakewood to become a favorite winter retreat for the Eastern elite, including the Rockefellers, Vanderbilts, Goulds, Astors, and others. President Grover Cleveland would spend his dying days in the town.

This past July, writer John Friend reported that “a total of 26 individuals—all of whom are members of the Orthodox Jewish community in Lakewood—have been either arrested or have had charges brought against them for crimes relating to illegally obtaining state and federal government benefits in a fraudulent manner . . . including Medicaid, Social Security, food stamps, and housing assistance, among other programs.”

“Incredibly,” he reported, some of those arrested “had earned over a million dollars in annual income, yet were still collecting government benefits illegally.”

In September it was uncovered that New Jersey’s state comptroller—who is overseeing the amnesty program—gave Orthodox leaders “exclusive access to state officials” for the creation of the controversial amnesty program. Black and Latino groups told a local newspaper that their views were excluded.

Making matters worse for the stretched taxpayers in Lakewood and the county, the comptroller, Philip Degnan, rented a 3,200-seat arena “to hold an amnesty ‘informational’ ” meeting, but just three

dozen were present for the session. Taxpayers paid \$1,200 for the arena and \$640 for a police detail.

Degnan confirmed this pilot program was designed with the Orthodox in mind: “We have not seen it in any other state. As far as we know, it’s a fairly unique program.”

AFP interviewed Carolyn Yeager, who has covered this topic on her personal website. She summarized why this issue is destined to only get worse.

“The typical Orthodox Jewish family consists of a mother, father, and seven children,” Ms. Yeager told AFP, “and 70% receive some form of government assistance, with many of them on multiple forms of government assistance.”

Compounding the large families of the Orthodox is the fact that this community is made up of Ashkenazi Jews, who share a group of rare genetic diseases and disorders due to something called the “founder effect,” which is a nice way of saying inbreeding, or incest. Although most of the diseases associated with Jewish incest “are severe and can cause early death, some can be treated to reduce symptoms and prolong life,” which only further strains the taxpayer base. Additionally, most of the male members of the Orthodox community attend their peculiar form of schools, for life.

“These men don’t work,” explained Carolyn. “They go to school forever and have access to education grants.” ★

The Healthcare Debate: Where Do You Stand?

We could spend endless time debating healthcare, or we could actually do something positive and extraordinary and begin to resolve this crisis for the good of all concerned. The key to resolution is to ask, what do we believe is in our best interests? Not so easily answered. Why? Many factors enter into the equation.

Let's begin.

The U.S. government spends over \$1 trillion a year on a military budget, yet we constantly hear that the budget is inadequate. Maybe we should be asking, why are we spread so thin over the world defending everyone else? The military-industrial complex would have us believe even greater spending is necessary. This is nonsense.

The answer is, the U.S. should withdraw from areas around the world that do not threaten us directly. Remember, our Founders warned us against foreign entanglements long ago. It was excellent advice that has never been heeded. Second, the U.S. should close all non-essential military bases and installations worldwide. We have bases in countries that can take care of their own military

needs. There should be no more American dollars spent on this. We need to be realistic in our goals and spending.

The Bush pharmaceutical plan must also be canceled immediately, allowing the open market of worldwide drugs to be purchased instead of only American products at significantly higher prices for the same drugs.

Finally, I would add that additional savings can be obtained from needed revisions in the country's bloated welfare system.

These three things—scaling back the military, allowing purchases of medicine across borders, and reforming welfare—will greatly reduce spending and help rein in the national budget.

The really big issue of our generation involves the health insurance companies (HIC).

Judicial Watch has a proposal to do away with all HICs and create one provider under Medicare for the entire country. I like the idea but their math is fuzzy—as in “liberal fuzzy.” They estimate a \$500 billion-a-year savings under such a plan; however, they also give an ex-



ample of someone paying \$8,000 per year for insurance. Then they say that there would be no increase for that person. No increase? Where is the \$500 billion in savings and where did it go? How would this individual who is paying such a high premium benefit at all? The money vanished quicker than a cash payroll to a “ghost battalion” in Afghanistan.

I strongly recommend that Dr. Ron Paul, retired congressman from Texas, be appointed to head a blue-ribbon panel to rethink American healthcare within 120

days. He is honest, sincere, and highly capable of bringing this about.

I want to hear what you, my fellow readers think. Write to AFP and tell them what you think can be done to fix healthcare. We all need to chime in here. I look forward to hearing from you all soon.

JOHN RYAN
New York

[Mr. Ryan is correct. We do want to hear from you, our readers, about

The Neocons Have Hijacked Trump's Syria Policy

By Rep. Ron Paul

Does anyone in the Trump administration have a clue about our Syria policy? In March, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson appeared to be finally pulling back from President Barack Obama's disastrous “Assad must go” position that has done nothing but prolong the misery in Syria. At the time, Tillerson said, the “longer-term status of President Assad will be decided by the Syrian people.”

Those of us who believe in national sovereignty would say that is pointing out the obvious. Nevertheless it was a good sign that U.S. involvement in Syria—illegal as it is—would no longer seek regime change but would stick to fighting ISIS.

Then out of the blue this past week, Tillerson did another 180-degree policy turn, telling a UN audience in Geneva that, “[t]he reign of the Assad family is coming to an end. The only issue is how that should be brought about.”

The obvious question is why is it any of our business who runs Syria, but perhaps that's too obvious. Washington's interventionists have long believed that they have the unilateral right to determine who

is allowed to head up foreign countries. Their track record in placing “our guy” in power overseas is abysmal, but that doesn't seem to stop them. We were promised that getting rid of people like Saddam Hussein and Muammar Qaddafi would light the fire of freedom and democracy in the Middle East. Instead it has produced nothing but death and misery—and spectacular profits for the weapons manufacturers who fund neocon think tanks.

In Syria, Assad has been seen as a protector of Christians and other minorities against the onslaught of in many cases U.S.-backed jihadists seeking his overthrow. While the Syrian system is obviously not a Switzerland-like democracy, unlike our great “ally” Saudi Arabia they do at least have elections contested by different political parties, and religious and other minorities are fully integrated into society.

Why has the Trump administration shifted back to “Assad must go”? One reason may be that, one-by-one, the neocons who opposed Trump most vociferously during the campaign have found themselves and their friends in positions of power in his administration. The neocons are great at winning while losing.

The real story behind Washington's ongoing determination to overthrow the Syrian government is

even more disturbing. In a bombshell interview last week, a former Qatari prime minister confessed that his country, along with Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and the United States, began shipping weapons to jihadists from the very moment Syrian unrest began in 2011. The well-connected Qatari former minister was trying to point out that his country was not alone in backing al Qaeda and even ISIS in Syria. In the course of defending his country against terrorism charges leveled by Saudi Arabia he has spilled the beans about U.S. involvement with the very groups claimed to be our arch-enemies. As they did in Afghanistan in the 1980s, the CIA supported radical Islamic terrorism in Syria.

Haven't we done enough damage in Syria? Do we really need to go back to 2011 and destroy the country all over again? The neocons never admit a mistake and never change course, but I do not believe that the majority of Americans support their hijacking of Trump's Syria policy.

It is long past time for the U.S. to leave Syria alone. No bases, no special forces, no CIA assassination teams, no manipulating their electoral system. We need to just come home. ★

Ron Paul, a former U.S. representative from Texas and medical doctor, continues to write his weekly column for the Ron Paul Institute for Peace and Prosperity, online at <http://www.ronpaulinstitute.org>.

American healthcare. In the Sept. 25 and Oct 2 edition, roving editor Mark Anderson detailed a plan by Sen. Bernie Sanders for universal healthcare. This was laid out in legislation introduced by Sanders called the Medicare for All Act of 2017. Anderson invoked the great Fr. Charles Coughlin, who was a strong advocate of universal healthcare for all American citizens. What do you think? Is this a pie-in-the-sky dream that would only bankrupt the country, or is it doable? What do you think of Mr. Ryan's proposal? Send us a letter or an email with your comments and we'll publish them in upcoming issues.—Ed.]

Ban Geoengineering

It's wonderful that the Geoengineering Act of 2017 is gaining recognition. However, the article [in AFP Issue 43 & 44] has quite a few fundamental errors that need clarification.

First, the Rhode Island bill was not passed. H. 6011 is actually just a study commission to examine the legislation.

Second, the assertion that no one gets punished for violations is incorrect. Since the bill is only a starting point, penalties, regulations, and all aspects of the bill will be examined. At an April hearing, one committee member asked how stronger penalties might be imposed.

Finally, the 1976 legislation mentioned has absolutely no impact on current policy designed to increase weather research. Under President Donald Trump, Congress passed H.R. 353 in April and S. 141 in May, which fund national geoengineering programs—now called “weather research” and “space weather research”—through 2020. The Obama administration accelerated this, even though 193 nations called for a ban, when the Senate passed S. 601 in 2009.

For this reason, Rhode Island's Geoengineering Act, introduced by Rep. Justin Price and co-authored by Rosalind Peterson and Susan Clarke, is a monu-

mental national and international legislative initiative to clean up our skies and our environment.

JOLIE DIANE

Via email

(Ms. Diane runs the website ZeroGeoEngineering.com, which provides detailed information on the hazards of geoengineering, weather modification, and other weather research activities such as cloud seeding.—Ed.)

Prayer in School

Prohibiting prayer in schools is a violation of the First Amendment, which states: “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.”

Our constitutional rights do not stop at the schoolhouse door or when you enter military service and take the oath, which our Founding Fathers knew when they ratified the Bill of Rights. Public schools apparently do not teach civics, and I doubt our teachers learn civics in college. We the people need to become active with our local school boards and state governments to be sure our young people are taught civic affairs and duties. How can we expect our government to act in keeping with the Constitution when those we elect are ignorant of how our government is designed and that it must be operated for and by the people?

JERRY EVANS

Michigan

Don't Cling to Trump

I am thinking about cancelling my subscription to AFP due to its unnecessary and illogical support of Donald Trump. He is a morally challenged demagogue demonstrating his true colors—more support of Zionism, proliferation of endless wars, disregard for peace with threat of nuclear destruction, huge spending on pet projects like the Mexican wall, lack of restraint and disrespect in words and actions, lack of knowledge needed to govern, continuation of the se-



cret domestic and international espionage network, and continuing misrule.

The solution to the terrible political and economic woes of this nation is not worshipful praise of a system of governance that has decayed to the extent of representing nothing but selfish interests. What ails the U.S. is a long litany of abuses of power by elements that cannot and will not be unseated. The presidency, Congress, and the judicial system are heavily tainted by corruption and the control of big money. Does anyone believe the government functions for the benefit of the majority?

Before it is too late, it is time to stop the worship of the past and the dubious protection of a strongly violated Constitution. A constitutional convention is long overdue, and it is time to take our chances to drastically change a government that has ceased to function for the safety and benefit of all. A fresh start is needed, not attempting to cling to and patch what is no longer working.

RICHARD ALLEN

Puerto Rico

[Take a look at our last issue and you will see that about half of the articles we write about President Trump are rightfully critical.—Ed.]

Land of the Free

America is supposed to be the land of the free and the home of the brave. I therefore say it also is to be the land of the politically and culturally incorrect. Either we can be a free country or a “correct” country, but not both.

The mainstream news zealously attempt to control public thinking using their biased, highly partisan ideology. Media has no right to purport that it represents popular public opinion, when clearly it does not. Any American unwilling to stand for this power grab is free, under the First Amendment, to publish his or

her thoughts. Political correctness is really the enemy. In his *Little Red Book*, Mao Tse-Tung called it “right thinking.” As a free American, I am proud to think “wrong.” And though I don't have a drop of Southern Confederate blood in my body, I am an ardent friend of Sons of Confederate Veterans because the group is decisively politically incorrect—a birthright of every American—and I zealously support their right. “Timid men prefer the calm of despotism to the boisterous sea of liberty.”—Thomas Jefferson

LAWRENCE K. MARSH

Maryland

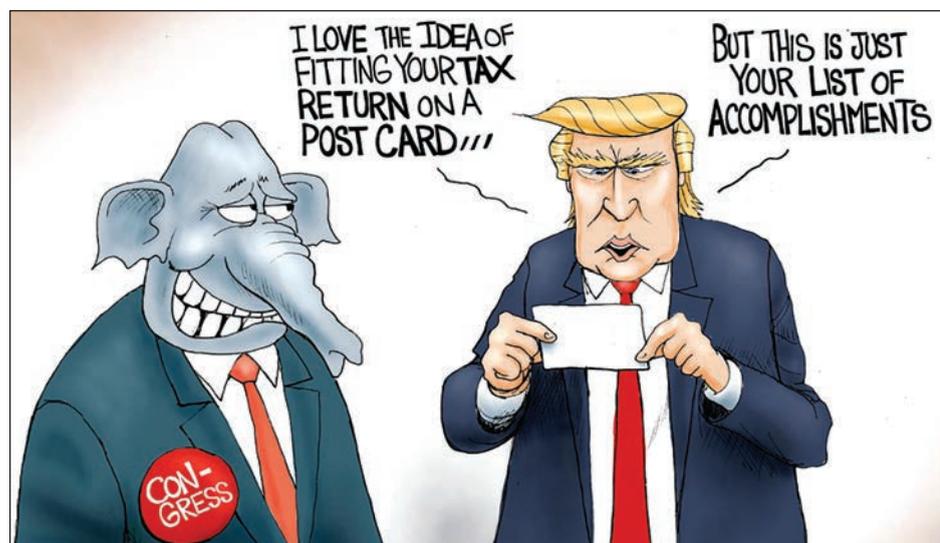
Prefer Homelessness

[In response Dave Gahary's article titled “Homelessness & Infectious Diseases Combine to Create Health Disaster” in AFP's Oct. 23 & 30 issue] I worked for the VA for seven years as a counseling psychologist dealing with drug and alcohol users and abusers. One thing I have never seen written about the homeless population is that many of them are homeless because they want to be homeless, with no financial responsibilities.

I would not be surprised if some are wealthy but choose homelessness. They can stand around on a street corner and hold out their hand, and someone will fill it. If no citizen will fill their hand, our dysfunctional federal or local government will step in and do so. That is why we are fast approaching third or even fourth world society status. If a person does not work then he or she should go hungry.

DARROLD J. HUNTLEY

Via email



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