

Police State America

Volume Two



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About the Author

Mr. Romanoff's writing has been translated into 32 languages and his articles posted on more than 150 foreign-language news and politics websites in more than 30 countries, as well as more than 100 English language platforms. Larry Romanoff is a retired management consultant and businessman. He has held senior executive positions in international consulting firms, and owned an international import-export business. He has been a visiting professor at Shanghai's Fudan University, presenting case studies in international affairs to senior EMBA classes. Mr. Romanoff lives in Shanghai and is currently writing a series of ten books generally related to China and the West. He is one of the contributing authors to Cynthia McKinney's new anthology 'When China Sneezes'. (Chapt. 2 — Dealing with Demons).

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Chapter 1 - Imaginary Rule of Law



The Rule of Law

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The Rule of Law



The US government has seldom concerned itself with legalities or the rule of law when its purposes were frustrated. Indeed, the American government and many of its agencies have consistently been among the world's most flagrant law-breakers, this condemnation applying not only to the White House and Congress but to the courts and the entire police and judicial systems, the IRS, the military and espionage agencies and more. Looking back as far as 200 years, we have already seen this lawlessness existed not only in the treatment of workers and labor unions, but in dealing with political dissension, emancipated slaves, the domestic media, the theft of intellectual property, the legitimacy and sovereignty of foreign governments, and more recently the United Nations and many international law and treaties. Since the early days of the Republic, the government has launched almost 200 illegal wars and fabricated justifications for all of them, has overthrown dozens of other governments, assassinated dozens of leaders of other nations, paid huge rewards for Americans to steal inventions and intellectual property from foreign companies and nations. It has engaged in widespread torture, espionage, genocides and massacres, international kidnapping and assassination of foreign political leaders, and every manner of unethical human experimentation especially on its own population. **It has reneged on, or repudiated, dozens of**

international treaties. Evidence of the US government or its agencies in having or following a rule of law is thin to non-existent.

For two centuries, the US has consistently ignored international law whenever it hindered American control and domination, but thanks to Lippman and Bernays the American people see only the mythical propagandised narrative. Americans are taught virtually from birth about the supremacy of their rule of law, of a legal and judicial system and a corresponding moral code that are the world's standard, where all men are equal before the law, where citizens have myriad rights and full protection from arbitrary enforcement. **But this is just one more fairy tale in the vast utopian mythology book of America, and has never been true.**

If we define '**rule of law**' as clear and transparent laws and an absence of selective and arbitrary enforcement, then the rule of law in the US has collapsed, almost entirely in some areas. On the domestic scene, the most frightening development is that **the people have now become 'the enemy'**, threats to the state, with laws no longer used to shield citizens from crime but now a weapon in the hands of the government, with almost no hindrances to the use of the full power of the state against innocent individuals. Indeed, it is becoming increasingly easy to find evidence of the American 'justice' system being widely used to enforce injustices. The actual law is ignored both in protecting government officials and the elites from the consequences of their transgressions and in prosecuting those who reveal these crimes or otherwise interfere with the state, meaning **there are two sets of laws - one for the government and the wealthy and another for the citizens.**

There are literally tens of thousands of documented cases where police have either planted or fabricated evidence or destroyed exculpatory evidence, and countless thousands where Federal agencies have fabricated charges and destroyed lives to achieve a political objective. We have voluminous evidence of a long history of the FBI's willingness to have people imprisoned **and even executed** on fabricated evidence and false charges, a practice which has now been widely extended not only to all Federal agencies but to local authorities as well. Threats of

prosecution and imprisonment as a negotiating tool to silence dissidents and enforce obedience are now so common as to barely attract attention. US Prosecutors have found that the practice of freezing assets, even though done entirely outside the law, is a convenient way to prevent a defendant from being able to pay attorneys, making it easier to coerce a guilty plea or enforce submission to arbitrary demands, with the full support of the court. It is becoming legend that American officials will freeze the US assets of a foreign corporation, in violation of all law, to force compliance with its international political agenda. The US government has done the same to force open the Swiss banking system under the pretense of searching for tax evaders, threatening the Swiss banks with the seizure and loss of their entire US assets if they refuse to open their secret accounts to the IRS. **The full power of the law is being utilised as a tool in a widespread and lawless extortion racket.**

The FBI has frequently boasted of filing so many separate charges against political dissidents that these individuals no longer had the means to even post bail, much less pay for legal counsel. We have read of the local police authorities misusing laws and utilising intimidation, threats and violence to suppress dissension, using the law as a weapon against the civilian population to obtain surrender and compliance to the demands of the secret government elites and their corporations. US multinationals have for decades used the law as a weapon to stifle competition and eliminate even the most trivial threats to their domination of a market. They will attack small firms or even individuals with massive lawsuits based on flimsy IP or brand violations in a manner intended to severely intimidate and even bankrupt any challenge to their supremacy. In a civil court it may at least be possible for a judge to dismiss these claims and order the corporation to pay the defendant's legal costs, **but no such option is available in criminal matters**, which is why the US government has increasingly criminalised the elements of its oppression. The FBI and increasingly many other branches of the US government have always used the IRS as an illegal weapon against political adversaries, instituting unjustified tax audits and laying charges of tax evasion or other such crimes against political enemies, religions, foreign companies and huge numbers of individuals. **This practice is in great evidence today against political dissidents, including some Occupy Wall Street protestors.**

In unremitting efforts to impose conformity to its political agenda and to punish the unwilling, the US government is increasingly resorting to what it terms **"economic sanctions"**, which doesn't so much mean the prevention of trade as blocking access to the international banking system. Visa and Mastercard will discontinue servicing retail or online businesses, banks will arbitrarily close accounts without explanation. Since 2013 the US Justice Department has been operating a program called **"Operation Choke Point"**, which was initially presented as a fraud-prevention measure by removing access to the banking and payments system, but all indications are that legitimate businesses and individuals have been targeted, with no evidence of frauds either prevented or terminated. The US government, acting entirely outside the law, is using the banking system to financially strangle domestic and international businesses and individuals who have committed no crime other than political disobedience and who cannot be easily punished by legal means, powerful evidence of the government weaponising the infrastructure to control people and groups that offer ideological opposition. **The government cannot, without applying to the courts and providing evidence of criminal wrongdoing, force the closure of accounts and removal from the financial system, but the banks are under no such restriction. By threatening retaliation for political non-compliance, the government pressures the banks to do its dirty work while remaining in the background.** The FBI have for decades used the same influence to choke off funds for groups that are politically active or expose government malfeasance, employing extortion to accomplish illegally what it cannot do within the law.

One recent example relates to the sudden frenzied attacks in 2013 and 2014 by the US Justice Department on foreign banks operating in the US, on the pretext of financing terrorism or encouraging "tax evasion". These banks may or may not have assisted American citizens in avoiding tax but there was absolutely no evidence of involvement in financing terrorism. The truth was rather different and, while the US media refused to touch the issue, **it was only foreign banks that were being targeted** while Citibank and Goldman Sachs were outstandingly conspicuous by their absence in this frenzy and indeed many politicians and others questioned the peculiar selection of banking victims. The truth emerged, though again the US government

and media totally censored these facts, when documents were discovered to prove that US officials, working through the New York prosecutor's office, had begun moves to cancel Standard Chartered's US business license, an act which would have been potentially fatal to the bank's survival. **The reason was Iran**, specifically that the US government, following its instructions from Israel and the Jewish lobby, wanted to financially isolate and bankrupt Iran in preparation for another US-sponsored revolution, an agenda some foreign banks, including Standard Chartered, did not share. **Benjamin Lawsky**, the Jewish-American head of the New York Financial Services division claimed that when warned to cease dealings with Iran, a Standard Chartered executive replied: "You f---ing Americans. Who are you to tell us, the rest of the world, that we're not going to deal with Iranians." **That was when Lawsky decided, entirely outside the law, to revoke the bank's business license**, and it was only from extensive pleadings at the highest government levels that the bank was saved.

One startling feature of this so-called sanctions program is that Justice Department officials have withheld all information from Congress - from the elected government that controls this same Justice Department! In late 2013 a group of Congressmen wrote to **US Attorney General Eric Holder**, stating, *"We are especially troubled by reports that the DOJ and FDIC are intimidating ... banks and third-party payment processors with threats of heightened regulatory scrutiny unless they (comply)"*. The Congressmen warned Holder that these actions "had no statutory authority", meaning they were operating entirely outside the law. In response, a junior Justice Department staff member met with Congress but refused to answer any questions and informed them that "the Justice Department was under no obligation to tell Congress anything". Americans fervently boast of the many checks and balances in their vaunted democracy, but this myth was never real and certainly isn't real today. **The actions of those who control the White House are not only outside the law but entirely outside the very constitution of the United States**. If this isn't "lawlessness" with a total absence of checks or balances, I can't imagine what would be.

Giving testimony under oath in a courtroom was once a solemn obligation, with violations resulting in prosecution for perjury, but this

has disappeared entirely. Lying under oath by government officials, prosecutors, the police and prosecution witnesses, is so common today that it is no longer a crime - except for the defendants. The US government position is that "as a practical matter, only defense witnesses can commit perjury", and federal immunity statutes "hold government witnesses harmless for penalties when lying under oath". **Paul Craig Roberts** wrote, *"It is rare for a prosecutor to suffer any consequence for bringing false charges, for consciously using and even paying for false evidence, and for lying to judge and jury"*, and that is precisely correct. We are today in the circumstance where all government in America - *the entire 'establishment' - can freely make false claims and charges, fabricate and destroy evidence at will, engage in false imprisonment as a form of political punishment, freely lie under oath, engage in criminal violence against the population, and do all of these with impunity.*

The breakdown of the rule of law is very evident in America's commercial arena. Indeed, after the 2008 financial meltdown, certainly one of the greatest financial crimes in history, the perpetrators all received billions of dollars in bonuses largely paid from the FED's own bailout funds **while civilian protestors were assaulted and imprisoned.** With insider trading scandals, LIBOR and gold price manipulation, rigging of the stock markets, and so much more, a few person-companies paid fines, but we have seen no real people prosecuted because they are too important to fail. On the other hand, **government prosecutors use the same legal system to crush dissenting voices and silence those who reveal these felonies.** One author noted that the Jewish financial elites are so powerful and firmly entrenched that even the Department of Justice fears bringing criminal charges against them, and this has been true for at least 100 years. *The fact that they can destroy the economy and tens of millions of lives by clearly illegal means and without fear of prosecution, is a testament to their political and economic power.* These corporate cases reveal so clearly America's two-tiered justice system where individuals are imprisoned for trivial financial crimes while elite bankers loot billions yet suffer no consequences.

It has been similarly true with the multitude of corporate crimes committed by the same invisible people, the same suspects that

populate every such list, all too powerful to prosecute. **Their political immunity and legal impunity are so entrenched today as to be almost unassailable.** The 2008 financial devastation was not an accident but a boldly-planned felonious wealth transfer of such magnitude as to deserve reclassification as treason, yet only the innocent victims will pay. Relatively minor and easily-recovered fines levied against the banks will do nothing but punish innocent shareholders. **The tens of millions who lost their homes will receive nothing, while the perpetrators bask with their hundreds of billions in profits and bonuses,** with not a whimper of objection from the elected members of the People's Congress. The executives of the financial and other giant corporations have de facto criminal immunity for all their actions. In what other sphere do criminals redefine laws to exclude their illegal acts while the authorities watch silently and helplessly, and when it occurs that the criminals have the power to define legality as they do today in the US, **is it not the criminals who are now in charge?**

A natural development during the Great Transformation was the creation of an enviable legal climate applicable only to the rich and powerful. This substantial change in the nature and quality of US law produced a situation today where the law applies capriciously to common citizens but where the government itself and its officials and agencies, executives of the large corporations, **and the individuals in the top 1% have become virtually immune to prosecution for even the most heinous of crimes.** As a result of a new law whereby US corporations entered Congress as companies and exited as people, these new 'person-companies' would now, in almost every case, take the heat for crimes committed by their executives, at least those who didn't make the mistake of annoying the secret government. **So when Merck was discovered to have killed off some half a million retired Americans with their hugely profitable Vioxx medication, the person-company paid a fine but those actually responsible continued in their executive positions undisturbed by courts or hangings.** The list is very long, and star-studded. The US government adopted an official policy of avoiding the prosecution of corporate fraud, while even encouraging the banks and multinationals to engage in such behavior. In the government realm, Obama was pressed repeatedly to investigate George Bush and Dick Cheney for their massive war crimes, but said "I prefer to look forward

rather than backwards". Picture a civilian defendant before a judge asking to avoid prosecution on such grounds. **This attitude of elite impunity renders the concepts of law and justice irrelevant.**

This is more serious and more far-reaching than most people imagine, all fabricated on the assumption that Wall Street institutions and major multi-nationals have grown so important to the economy that they cannot be charged, a false perception of their being "too big to fail". But this is smoke and mirrors. The real issue is not that some firms are too big to **fail but that their secret owners are too powerful to be prosecuted.** *The person-companies themselves are still charged as if they really were individuals, but the live people managing them behind the scenes, **have become invisible and untouchable.*** US prosecutors and the establishment now speak of these firms as if they really were people who made criminal decisions and who should be punished without imposing a "death penalty", i.e., putting them out of business and possibly damaging the economy. **Arthur Andersen** was one firm that did receive a 'death penalty' for its part in [the Enron fraud](#), and authorities are anxious now to avoid a repeat.

US regulators are now having apparently serious discussions about charging corporations with criminal acts in place of charging the individuals who actually committed those same acts. This massive psychological change is in fact **normalising a total legal immunity for all criminals fortunate enough to be employed by large organisations,** their criminal acts being transferred to the organisations themselves. Harry Potter couldn't do better magic than this. US national prosecutor **Bharara** said, "*You can expect that before too long a significant financial institution will be charged with a felony or be made to plead guilty to a felony, where the conduct warrants it*". Well, that's nice, but what about the individuals who effected that so-called 'corporate' conduct? **They are now invisible to the law.** As I noted in the Chapter on corporations, **it is not a company that commits a crime, but a real person or persons who made those decisions and committed those acts,** but the US government has now voided this unassailable truth and pretends that it was the Goldman Sachs building that committed the frauds and that Lloyd Blankfein had nothing to say in the matter. Once again, we can assume

that the **people who proposed this law had considerable influence over those who passed it.**

In conjunction with this new immunity, US authorities increasingly and in seemingly every department at almost every level, appear to view laws as a kind of voluntary guideline that can be freely ignored when inconvenient or troublesome. In one recent case, the *Washington Post* reported that the US Social Security Service had intercepted tax refunds for more than 400,000 people as a means of collecting undocumented debts owed to the government by that individual's relatives. In some cases, these supposed debts were more than 60 years old, with the department having no record of the cause of the debt nor the actual person who owed it, other than a family surname, but collected it by seizing the tax refund of a child whose parent or other relative had been dead for decades. **There has never been any provision in law granting authority to collect the debts of deceased relatives by seizing money from the survivors.** When exposed, the Department made no apologies and gave no refunds, but simply said it would "re-examine its responsibilities" under the law. *Who among us can steal money from hundreds of thousands of people and walk away free while keeping the money, claiming only to re-examine our responsibility to obey the law?* **Only the government and the (primarily) Jewish elite who control the banks and multinationals.** The rest of us return the money and go to prison.

In Aliquippa, Pennsylvania, an elderly widow had her \$280,000 home seized by the court and sold at an auction for a little over \$100,000 because of an unpaid interest fee of \$6.30 on her property taxes. The officials did not notify the woman that the amount was outstanding, they made no effort to collect the due amount, nor did they notify her that her home would be seized and sold. **She learned of it only after it the sale had been completed.** The woman said, "I'm a widow. I'm trying to put my three children through college. To steal my house for \$6 is ridiculous. I didn't know about the \$6." This is not an isolated instance; **this one small county in one small state seizes around 1,000 properties a year by this method, selling them to friends for sums far below the market value of the properties, and the US has more than three thousand counties.** Government officials in many states take

advantage of this ignorance to prey on unsuspecting citizens. Unpredictable, unjustified and capricious seizures of this scale are not a testimony to any rule of law, not even an imaginary one.

Civil forfeiture is another similar type of crime against the people that relieves tens of thousands of Americans of their cash, cars, homes and other property, with no legal recourse.

This practice began as a way to short-circuit the legal process where authorities suspected an individual's assets had been obtained through crimes such as selling drugs, but where no evidence existed to identify these assets as the proceeds of crime. In other words, *the police have total freedom to seize any assets without having to resort to charges or lengthy criminal trials, effectively charging the cash or property with being a criminal even without evidence that the owner is guilty of a crime.* The new laws gave police the authority to simply seize the assets, leaving the victim to prove beyond doubt the assets were obtained legally - a process virtually impossible in most cases, and prohibitively expensive. Of course, such unrestricted laws beg to be abused, and abused they have been. *Today, in thousands of towns and rural areas, police randomly stop a vehicle without cause, search it illegally, then seize cash and other property, jewelry, computers, everything in the vehicle that may have a resale value, and often the car as well. This is often done on the pretense that the driver has either passed through or will pass through a town noted for illegal marijuana or other drug sales and that the driver was likely involved in a drug crime.* **Inevitably, the arresting police officers will claim to have smelled marijuana in the vehicle.** In one case, police seized \$28,000 in cash that a church pastor was taking to a town to purchase land for a church hall, and only a volunteer high-priced lawyer was able to recover the funds. According to recent reports in the *Washington Post* and other US newspapers, **at least several billion dollars have been illegally confiscated from innocent citizens, and all without recourse.** The Federal and State governments are all silent on the issue, and I was told reporters have been forbidden to question authorities on the matter.

The Washington Post did an extensive investigation of this practice, obtaining tens of thousands of Justice Department documents, and discovered that billions of dollars of cash and other assets had been

confiscated by police forces through this method, with almost no criminal charges ever being laid against the owners, *and never any charges against the police for illegal search and seizure*. The police now are so bold that many small towns in the Southern US states have each taken in millions in these scams, with local authorities virtually daring the victims to pursue court action. Naturally, the process is whitewashed with propaganda. **Julie Parker**, a police spokeswoman in Maryland, said that *"using asset forfeiture dollars ... in crime fighting helps serve and protect the citizens"*. Well, not exactly. **In truth, the citizens are not being protected but rather preyed upon and victimised by police forces that are not fighting crimes but committing them.** Even the Justice Department claimed this asset forfeiture program contravenes the US Constitution and violates the Bill of Rights. **The US is the only country in the world that practices this legalised theft by police forces against its own population.** There are no dictatorships, no axis of evil members, that carry out such open marauding against their own citizens with full protection of the "law". These outright thefts from the public have become so common and widespread that in the US it is no longer safe to travel in a private vehicle outside of major urban centers, at least not while carrying money or valuables of any kind. **And even this restriction will not prevent the police from confiscating your vehicle if they want to do that.**

Possessing stolen property is a crime in every nation, as are the purchase and sale of stolen goods and, sometimes, even the claim you didn't know your possession was stolen will not save you from criminal charges, but even here the Imperial Prerogative takes precedence over law. **It is well-known that as much as 80% of the content of many US museums consists of stolen and illegal specimens bought from questionable sources, with both the museums and courts refusing to contemplate their return.** A large number of priceless treasures, historical artifacts and fossils have been unearthed and looted from China, Mongolia, Egypt and other nations, many purchased with full knowledge of their criminal origin, in many cases purchased from known criminals. As mentioned earlier, **Iraq's museums stand totally empty today, having been looted by American troops and a few powerful individuals of their ancient scrolls and artifacts, many of which will find their way into American museums.** Many priceless antiques and museum

specimens, **including many stolen from China's Summer Palace, are openly offered through auction firms like Christies, with full knowledge that the items were stolen but with the local courts dismissing all claims by the rightful owners who, in all cases, are not white.** American museums and private collections hold tens of thousands of these items, under the full protection of American law. The Smithsonian is not innocent of such accusations. In 2012 there was a famous case involving a priceless 30 Kg. aquamarine that was the largest cut piece of aquamarine ever known, a gem which was a state treasure of Brazil but today is proudly on display in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington DC, "donated" by Americans who purchased it from the thieves who stole it. Neither the Smithsonian nor the US courts will entertain any bid to repatriate the stone, and the government remains silent. The Smithsonian's website actually boasts about the "World's Largest Cut Aquamarine" proudly resting in its museum, stating, "The quality of the original crystal and its size, exquisite blue-green color and distinctive cut make it an exceptionally rare gem." The Museum Director waxed poetically about the "fascinating journey" of this gem from deep within the earth to the Smithsonian's gem collection, saying, **"We are grateful to Jane Mitchell and Jeffery Bland for their wonderful gift."** *But they forgot to mention the part of the 'fascinating journey' about how the gem was stolen from Brazil, spirited illegally out of the country with the help of the US military, then sent to Germany to be cut.* Oddly, neither Google nor Bing seem to know about this. Their website tells us this gem "joins the Smithsonian's famous ... collection of more than 10,000 gems in addition to 350,000 mineral specimens", their collection being one of the largest in the world. *What would be the American position if agents from another country stole their precious Declaration of Independence and put it on display in a foreign museum or offered it for sale at auction?*

Actions that were once punishable crimes have been legalised. Lobbying, once termed "influence-peddling", was considered corrupt and a serious criminal offense, but became so widespread and institutionalised that the Americans applied a typical American solution - they legalised it. Now, what used to be criminal and illegal is acceptable and praiseworthy. Most executive white-collar crime is now ignored, with person-companies receiving the fines and punishments. **Foreign military adventures are undertaken by the White House**

or the CIA independently of Congress, with no checks or oversight. Crimes and illegal activities are first ignored then legalised. When elite flouting of the rule of law becomes widespread, government stooges rewrite the laws. *American so-called rule of law has become little more than a system of retrospective permissions for all the crimes Americans want to commit, American morality being adjusted with the assistance of Hollywood and the media so as to glorify what were once felonies and international crimes.* And speaking of retrospective permissions, in one case when US courts ruled the government did not have the right to impose higher tariffs on goods from China, Congress passed new laws and backdated them four years, then levied the tariffs anyway.

It isn't only in the criminal realm that the rule of law has disappeared in America, but in the civil realm as well. US civil law does work at some times in some circumstances, but is much more famous for its unpredictability and capriciousness than for justice or equity, civil financial settlements being especially outrageous and often simply insane. In one case, a Canadian company named **Loewen** owned and operated hundreds of funeral homes in the US, with a total company value of \$650 million. The company bought one small firm in Alabama for \$10 million, but after two years the original owners filed a lawsuit claiming they had been short-changed and should have received \$11 million. These are the only salient facts in the case; there were no other extenuating circumstances. In a scandalous misuse of the court system, the American jury awarded the plaintiffs \$650 million in damages, including hundreds of millions for "mental anguish". *The Canadian company lost the entire value of their firm, and no appeal was permitted.* The values involved in this case are certainly startling, but cases like this are by no means unusual. "News about frivolous and controversial lawsuits makes headlines just about every day. But when a 14-year-old sues her friend for losing her iPod, and ... the music industry sues a 12-year-old for downloading music from the Internet, litigation, it seems, gets taken to a new level. *Perhaps most telling of all, (87% of) Americans surveyed agreed that the justice system is used by many as a lottery, to start a lawsuit and see just how much they can win.*"

One of the fundamental myths surrounding the entire US judicial system, both civil and criminal, is the theory that two opposing counsel, each presenting a version of the facts from opposite sides, will expose all of the truth of a case and therefore permit justice to prevail. *The theory may be admirable but the system has never operated in such a fashion or with such intentions, the entire court system being arbitrary and capricious, with judges that are biased and politically pre-disposed.* **To expect justice in an American courtroom is to be naive indeed. The process of cross-examinations has always been pathologically unjust, their only purpose being to discredit witnesses by any means possible.** *There is no shortage of documented cases of witnesses being mercilessly attacked, their testimony disparaged, their reputations assaulted and sometimes destroyed. Whether in criminal or civil hearings, the lawyers and witnesses lie, mislead, obfuscate, destroy or conceal evidence, commit perjury with abandon and in general do whatever is necessary to win.* **American courtrooms today are too often untainted by either law or justice, functioning primarily as gladiatorial arenas virtually without moral or legal regulation, their prime function not to disclose truth or dispense justice but to win a game.**

As I noted earlier, the US government and especially the FBI are now using Grand Juries not only against political activists but on a widespread basis to accomplish in secret what they could never dare to attempt openly. *These Grand Juries are a natural tool for lawless politicians and legal authorities because they are by definition secret proceedings, with only the jurors and government prosecutor present and with the media and even defense counsel deliberately excluded.* In a Grand Jury, there is no judge to supervise the proceedings. The prosecuting attorney is the presiding officer and it is he who instructs the jury on law and on his expectations of their decision. To say that this man has absolute power to bring indictments, is a gross understatement. The few rules that do exist for these juries - and there are not many - are regularly ignored without consequence. **In a Grand Jury, a defendant is forced to testify and will be imprisoned if refusing, but he can be forced to testify not only to facts as in other law courts but to opinion or speculation.** A defendant can be forced to divulge his personal viewpoints on any subject, which testimony can then be used as a foundation for further charges. In other words, **he goes to prison if he doesn't testify, and he goes**

to prison if he does. The prosecutor has unlimited freedom in practice to introduce only the witnesses or evidence he wishes to present, and can freely omit exculpatory evidence or even proof of innocence, and with complete immunity. **The prosecutor has the freedom to manipulate the circumstances of events and to present to the jury only such particulars as he wants them to know.** According to one tally, of a total of more than 162,000 cases brought before one of these juries, only 11 did not result in the indictment the prosecutor wanted. **Today, US Grand Juries are virtually factories of lawlessness, political arenas where the protagonists make up the rules as they go, and are often used to prevent police officers from facing charges for civilian murders.** Even a former US Supreme Court judge stated that all legal principles are violated in these courts. They are revolting, insidious and very dangerous to any society, but the American authorities are resorting to this platform precisely because it is secret and permits them to violate any and all domestic laws without responsibility and with a complete absence of publicity. **For the US today to scold China for not holding all court sessions open to the foreign media (and to American interference) is the absolute extreme of possible hypocrisy.**

Even more, Americans boast proudly of prosecutors and highly-priced lawyers having elevated their presentations to "an art form" where they have a great deal of latitude in dealing with the truth, with evidence, and with fact. A Cambridge attorney named Gretchen Greene stated that "both for an artist and a lawyer ... you're choosing a viewpoint. The job of a lawyer ... is to present a vision, much like the job of a sculptor or a photographer. *So, they present an idea, a story and try to make it so compelling to the jury that this is the only vision they can remember.*" She added that the purpose of both prosecutor and defense attorney is to present their argument in such a way as to imply the opposing side is "telling less than the truth", by projecting "their own interpretation of reality" onto the factual evidence. An article in the *Huffington Post* by **Phillip Martin** noted the famous trial of OJ Simpson where a clever defense attorney managed through his great theatric ability to have acquitted a man who was almost certainly guilty. Martin noted "That's an example of theatrics, having a dramatic tag line, a memorable tag line, but ties in nicely and neatly with the evidence in the case." He added that due to the great degree of

autonomy (freedom from restrictions on truth), the US court system **"allows in some respects for tremendous theater"**.

Another writer stated the situation perfectly when he wrote, "In an American courtroom, each witness must place his or her hand on a Christian bible and answer in the affirmative to the following question: "Do you solemnly swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?"

Then, in that same courtroom, the prosecutors and lawyers make every effort to prevent **'the whole truth'** from seeing the light of day, preventing witnesses from fulfilling their oath." When innocent people are convicted and guilty persons walk free only from clever theatrical posturing, in what way is this a reflection of American courts being either of law or justice? **Greene**, *fully a party to this system, tellingly stated that in a courtroom "... there is no one truth" meaning that in American courts as in every part of American commerce, government and society, perception is everything and reality is nothing. This is the truth of the American justice system today, corrupted beyond redemption.*

For decades, the US government and media condemned 'water-boarding' as torture, admitting it contravened all domestic and international law as well as violating the Geneva Conventions. But when Rumsfeld and Cheney opened their vast network of torture prisons and began to apply the practice, the rules and definitions magically changed and water-boarding was no longer defined as torture. Of course, the establishment of the vast system of torture ships and torture prisons, the kidnapping and so-called 'rendition' of so many individuals, the physical torture itself (often to the death) were all heinously illegal acts, and yet were not only forgiven, but continued with the full public knowledge of the Justice Department and Congress. No US President has authority to wage war or take offensive military action against another nation without the full support of Congress, so when George Bush launched a massive war against Iraq, 'war' was redefined to exclude this action. When Obama launched his months-long military destruction of Libya, his actions were redefined to not qualify as 'military action'. When he initiated his policy of extra-judicial killings in other nations, the terms 'murder, assassination, and state-sponsored executions' were redefined to eliminate this category of

international murders. Obama, forever the orator but an increasingly dishonest and hypocritical one, stated he had "worked tirelessly to forge a durable legal and policy framework" to guide such operations, even claiming he would "engage with Congress to ensure our targeting, detention and prosecution of terrorists remains consistent with our laws and system of checks and balances". But his claims are all nonsense and smoke. No such legal framework exists and there are no checks or balances. With the revelations of domestic espionage by the CIA, NSA and a dozen other agencies, all clearly against the law, the existing laws were quickly "clarified" and the definitions of espionage altered to make the NSA legal. Where in any of this do we find evidence of a rule of law?

From an article by Allen Aslan Heart:

*"Phones were tapped, emails were read, letters were opened, even personal library information was required to be released to law enforcement authorities. We saw a rapid increase in warrantless searches, secret courts, massive spying on citizens, especially those involved in political dissent. **We've seen taser attacks by police on children, elderly, and innocent citizens.** We've seen the creation of watch-lists, no-fly lists and similar exclusionary documents, increasing government control over private behavior. The Federal government has taken over functions formerly considered essential state or local responsibilities such as militias and public education. **Torture was re-instituted and blessed in secret as America turned from human rights advocate to human rights terrorist, supported by US Christian leaders.** Creation of a mercenary military force such as Blackwater for foreign and domestic purposes has led the oppression and murder in Iraq and in New Orleans in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Dissent is now characterized as disloyalty by government and its supporting media, protestors are herded into pens called "free speech zones", while the media supports and condones the government's police state activities. **People are now beaten and arrested under the Bill of Rights and their President dismisses the Constitution as just a piece of paper.***

The President asserts the right to ignore part or all of laws passed by the national legislature and the courts increasingly support presidential use of unconstitutional powers. **The President and other officials regularly lie to you, the newspapers and media lie to you, the President claims the right to make war whenever he wants and keep soldiers past their tour of duty indefinitely.** Government agencies and officials declare themselves exempt from portions of the law or Constitution. Citizens lack any legal recourse to stop illegal government actions, **and now under the Military Commissions Act you can be arrested and held without charges, and imprisoned without trial.** The long history of habeas corpus has disappeared after centuries of due process. **By means of Presidential National Security Directive 51, the President can assume dictatorial powers without the consent of Congress.** *Because of the Domestic Terrorism Law what you think and what they think you think can be a sufficient cause for investigation, arrest and imprisonment. Over 600 concentration camps have been built by Halliburton and one out of every 100 Americans is in prison, highest in the First World nations. Surveillance cameras are everywhere. The rule of law has become a quaint artifact of another time."*

The US and International Law



Project Censored wrote in 2005, *"The U.S. is a signatory to nine multilateral treaties that it has either blatantly violated or gradually subverted. The Bush Administration is now outright rejecting a number of those treaties, and in doing so, places global security in jeopardy, as other nations feel entitled to do the same. The rejected treaties include: The Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), the Treaty Banning Antipersonnel Mines, the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC), a protocol to create a compliance regime for the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), the Kyoto Protocol on global warming, and the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty (ABM). **The U.S. is also not complying with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), the Chemical Weapons Commission (CWC), the BWC, and the U.N. framework Convention on Climate Change.**"*

International law and the domestic laws of other nations are regularly flouted by US officials, in everything from CIA murders to political interference in elections, from illegal espionage to kidnapping. **Carl Boggs** wrote that *"American policymakers, setting themselves up as guardians of the world system, are more inclined than ever to simply disregard international laws and conventions if they interfere with (military or political objectives). Every instance of US armed intervention ... represents a flagrant violation of regional treaties and laws, not to mention the UN Charter itself, which explicitly prohibits military attacks against sovereign nations. In any event, the US has consistently shown its contempt for international bodies, agreements, and procedures that might conflict with its hegemonic aspirations."* One of the military judges at Guantánamo said: *"I don't care about international law. I don't want to hear the words 'international law' again. We are not concerned with international law."*

In all cases involving the United Nations, the US simply declares its intention to ignore the law. A White House official said, **"The UN can meet and discuss, but we don't need their permission"** and the US Secretary of State made clear that if the US wants to attack another country, **"we won't be 'handcuffed' by the United Nations"**. One author wrote that "US officials don't try to hide their contempt for the law, or for the intelligence of others. President Bush challenged the United Nations to be "relevant": If you do what we say, we will give

you some minor role in executing our policy. If you don't, we will do what we please". **John Bolton**, American ambassador to the UN, claimed that American exceptionalism meant that **the US could not be "legally bound" or constrained in any way by its international treaty obligations, that America needed to "be unashamed, unapologetic, uncompromising American constitutional hegemonists" and be free to use force unilaterally.** **Condoleezza Rice**, US Secretary of State, was equally contemptuous of international law. She claimed that in the pursuit of its national security the United States no longer needed to be guided by "notions of international law and norms, or institutions like the United Nations, because America was "on the right side of history"." When US Secretary of State **Madeleine Albright** was conducting her intensive destruction of Yugoslavia in 1999, she was informed by British Foreign Secretary **Robin Cook** that **her bombing campaign of Serbia was illegal under international law.** Albright's response: ***"Get some new lawyers."***

In truth, no nation can claim adherence to rule of law without a foundation of the principles of fairness and what we might call reciprocal justice which, in its simplest form, might be described as an absence of hypocrisy, meaning not only that our actions correspond to our words but that what is fair for one is also fair for all. By these measures the US fails miserably in any test. In the Chapter on the criminalisation of protest I outlined the extensive legislative measures the US has taken to prevent any and all challenges to its political and capitalist system, most especially from external sources where even imaginary violations were treated with extreme harshness. **Yet the Americans have for 200 years grossly interfered in the political systems of every nation they have touched, not only destroying entire nations but causing tens of millions of civilian deaths.** The Ukraine is the most recent example, but Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea, China and Russia have for many decades been on the receiving end of massive US political interference, as have all South American governments. Even so-called allies like Canada, the UK, Japan and Australia, have experienced enormous interference and pressure. **In 2018 Australia rejected Huawei's presence in the construction of new communications infrastructure, and Canada illegally arrested Huawei's financial executive purely as a political move, both on instruction from the US.**

In early 2014 **Wen Wei Po** ran an article on the US Assistant Secretary of State **Daniel Russel** openly interfering in China's internal affairs, giving bombastic speeches in Hong Kong under the guise of 'participating' in Hong Kong's political reform, meeting with opposition leaders, fostering and financing the "**Occupy Central**" movement, and attempting to dictate the terms and conditions of Hong Kong's political future. "In recent years, America's interference in Hong Kong has become more wanton by the day. Ever since America's Hong Kong Consulate General Xianqian Fu assumed office these activities have been on the rise. **America, so brashly involving itself in Hong Kong's affairs, has crossed the line** ... When it comes to matters of national security, the most crucial question is to resist any and all influence from foreign nations in order to safeguard the internal affairs of Hong Kong. At stake is allowing America to influence the general election in order to ruin Hong Kong and undermine China." Using large-scale financing and huge media influence, "**an American agenda is being foisted upon the public opinion of Hong Kong. America's intent is to meddle in the general election, with the goal of installing an agent of its own as the chief executive of Hong Kong**". **Perhaps it's time for China to arrest and deport these foreign seditionists just as would happen to them in America.**

The US has openly stated it doesn't recognise diplomatic immunity when crimes are involved, having recently arrested, strip-searched and deported an Indian consular official on trumped-up charges of a minor violation. There is no valid justification for the world tolerating any further the Americans' gross violations of the laws of all other nations. **In the same light, the US exhibits no hesitation in demanding other nations adhere to laws or international treaties the Americans themselves violate and ignore.** An article in the **NYT** noted that "Secretary of State **John Kerry** encouraged Southeast Asia leaders to resolve disputes with China according to international legal principles. His words would carry far more weight if the United States had ratified the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the legal construct that constitutes the legal principles to which Mr. Kerry refers. **The United States is therefore in no position to urge others to adhere to these rules.**"

When **Julian Assange** took refuge in the Ecuadorian Embassy in London after revealing Hillary Clinton's UN spy ring, the US State Department declared, **"The United States is not a party to, and does not recognize the concept of, diplomatic asylum as a matter of international law"**. Well, sometimes it does and sometimes it doesn't. We have the Cuban terrorist **Orlando Bosch**, *who executed the CIA-planned bombing of a Cuban airliner, among many other acts, and a significant number of other CIA-financed terrorists and criminals all of whom are happily resident in the US, having been granted political asylum*. In a similar context, the US selectively denies recognition of foreign governments in countries that insist on electing socialist governments they want instead of Right-Wing dictatorships the US wants. *On numerous occasions a State Department official has informed the world that if a nation insists on selecting a non-US-approved government, then "the entire concept of governments recognising each other" will disappear*. **The US Senate recently approved an act that permits a US government agency to apprehend (by kidnapping if necessary) any citizen of any nation, to detain them indefinitely without charge or access to counsel, and without informing anyone**. Many US laws assume a worldwide jurisdiction where none exists, the Americans simply ignoring all international law as well as the laws of other nations, **assuming the right to act as the de facto world government**.

At the time of its illegal destruction of Libya, the US government confiscated Libya's \$30 billion of assets held by US banks, claiming it would be held for the US-financed rebels who were "the real government". **There was no domestic or international law to permit such a theft; the Americans did it because they had the power to do it and were willing to ignore the illegality. The \$30 billion of gold in Libya's central bank was also confiscated by the Jewish Banker owners of the US FED, as were the tens of billions of gold in Iraq's central bank**. *Moreover, tens of billions of dollars of Iraqi oil revenue were simply looted by the the Jewish bankers in the City of London*. So-called Reconstruction Projects with a cost of \$20 billion were charged to Iraq at \$60 billion, with a refusal to account for the difference, *and a warning to "be grateful for the removal of a dictator"*. Projects worth billions were given to American firms without tender or accounting for cost. *\$600 million dollars were kept in cash in a room in the American headquarters, without explanation of source or*

*disposition. Considering only Iraq and Libya, the secret government used the US military as a personal army to conduct a private war against two innocent nations from which more than \$100 billion was plundered for the personal profit of a few powerful bankers and corporate owners, in a place far enough away that nobody knew what was happening, and with no oversight, no reporting to Congress and no accounting to the world for the death and destruction. And the world's media, owned by the same people and reading from the same script, were totally silent on these issues, **an immense cloak of censorship covering enormous crimes.***

The International Criminal Court



When the International Criminal Court was created, the US refused to participate unless all founding parties agreed to full immunity for all American citizens. No nation would be permitted to apprehend an American for war crimes or crimes against humanity, or send these persons to the court in the Hague, and no American could be compelled to appear as a witness in the proceedings of the court. When the world's nations balked at this transparent effort at imperialism, the US scoured the world in prolonged attempts to bully and threaten nations one by one

into signing agreements to never submit American citizens to the court. Most refused. Secondly, the US passed a domestic law which was quickly dubbed the **"Hague Invasion Act", which authorised the US to launch a military offensive against the Hague Court! to rescue any American being held there on trial.** Of course, the US still maintains the right to apprehend and submit to the court citizens of another country when it wants a "legal" way to convict and execute those who escape its drone aircraft and other assassination attempts, but blanches at the thought of the court being used against it. Ever since the creation of this court, the US has taken every opportunity to discredit "frivolous or politically motivated lawsuits" that might be brought against it, *ignoring the fact there would be many non-frivolous and genuine charges arising against Americans.* The State Department has openly threatened that anyone attempting use of this court against the US "understands the potential effect on relations with the United States". In other words, **charges against the US of military aggression or crimes against humanity would result in crippling economic sanctions if not a full-scale military invasion.**

The ICC was established to prosecute individuals accused of genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes, but the US opposed the ICC from the beginning, incurring criticism from a wide range of nations and law organisations, *given the loud and hypocritical American pronouncements on rule of law and human rights. The US claimed that cases would be brought against American civilian and military authorities only on "political grounds", a position that was always complete nonsense.* The real problem is that the US has for many decades been involved in various regions around the world, propping up brutal dictators and providing weapons and training too many notorious human rights abusers, **and has thus been directly or indirectly responsible for a wide variety of savage human rights violations and millions of brutal deaths.** *From this, the US Administration has long been afraid of an international body having jurisdiction over it for these crimes. The US has always fought bilateral agreements unless they provided full immunity for all US citizens or would be under US control.* With the ICC, the American position was clearly that while Americans would be immune to its powers, the US itself would take advantage of this court to prosecute 'crimes' that would be entirely political. In one of the more blatant revelations of American lawlessness from imperial prerogative, **in 2014 the US**

agreed to support a UN Security Council resolution for the ICC to investigate war crimes in Syria, but with the provision that the court could make no inquiry into possible war crimes by Israel or the US. All the world's peoples are subject to international criminal law, with the exception of Americans and Jews.

"The US has made clear that it is approaching almost every other state or jurisdiction seeking impunity for its nationals with regard to prosecution in the International Criminal Court for genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes." The US government used all manner of coercive tactics to obtain immunity from the jurisdiction of the ICC for its nationals. US officials have publicly threatened economic and diplomatic sanctions, termination of military assistance, and much more, if countries do not sign the agreement. *"Following on with its threats, in 2003, the US cut off military aid to 35 friendly countries. Richard Dicker, director of the International Justice program, said that the U.S. ambassadors that have been pushing these agreements onto various countries have been "acting like schoolyard bullies." Even Human Rights Watch strongly agreed. In several instances, there were media reports of the US providing large financial packages to countries at the time of their signature of bilateral immunity agreements. Some 37 countries had already caved in to US pressure, **Israel being the first**, and that other nations are also likely to face a US threat of withdrawal of aid."*

"The USA expresses its intention to investigate and prosecute only "where appropriate", thus, indicating that the decision to investigate or prosecute is a matter solely within the discretion of the USA and not a matter of law." **This is simply another way of saying that the US will use the ICC not as a legal forum but as a political tool to prosecute those it chooses, but that no nation could use the ICC to prosecute the US. The US did sign the agreement without ratification at one point, but then quickly "unsigned" it, i.e., it reneged on its agreement, then passed the "Hague Invasion Act", which prohibited cooperation of any kind with the court, refused participation in UN peacekeeping missions and all joint international affairs unless it was first guaranteed full immunity from prosecution for any and all human rights**

violations. It also gave the White House the freedom to use "all means necessary and appropriate", including military force, to free any American detained by the International Criminal Court. **With this, and its behavior noted above, we can see clearly that the only purpose was "to permanently exempt Americans from the reach of the International Criminal Court".**

When the US and the International Jewish Bankers planned the destruction of Yugoslavia, they also planned in advance where they would lay the blame - **on Slobodan Milošević of Serbia, who had proven an obstruction to American global domination and to the bankers' New World Order.** The execution of Milošević was confirmed two years before the CIA and Gene Sharp's Einstein Institute began their political destabilisation of the Balkans. At the culmination of the destruction, ethnic cleansing and genocide, **Serbia was forced to surrender Milošević to the ICC or face even more total destruction at the hands of the US military.** *Further, the Tribunal at the International Criminal Court of Justice that prosecuted Milošević for supposed war crimes, was financed by the Jewish financier **George Soros.*** It is a legitimate question to ask why this financial predator would be paying the bill for the false prosecution and execution of an innocent man, if not for the benefit of worldwide Jewry. From the trial transcripts, **there was a portion where a witness was testifying that he heard Milošević give orders to slaughter a large number of people.** He testified that he was outside the building where Milošević was meeting with his lieutenants, and had seen and heard everything clearly through the open window. On cross-examination, Milošević confirmed the building and its location, *then asked the witness how it was possible for him to have heard this conversation through an open window when there were no windows on the entire side of that building.* **At that point, the judges immediately attacked Milošević for "harassing the witness" and excused the man.** That was the end of his opportunity for cross-examination, and the entire trial was cut from the same cloth. The man was simply framed and executed for defying the US and the international Jewish bankers, and to cover up American crimes in the Balkans.

At the outset of the trial Milošević denounced the Tribunal as illegal because it had not been established with the consent of the United

Nations General Assembly, and indeed in spite of all the false evidence and perjured testimony, the Tribunal still after several years failed to find grounds to convict and execute the man. But then, God works his wonders in mysterious ways. **Even though the trial ended without a verdict, Milošević suddenly was found dead in his cell from an apparent "heart attack", an ailment the Jewish Mossad apparently has great expertise in creating. Naturally, they denied any responsibility for his death.** Then, in a surprise declaration, in February 2007, the International Court of Justice ruled separately in the Bosnian Genocide Case that there was no evidence linking Serbia and Milošević to genocide committed by Bosnian Serbs in the Bosnian war. But no matter. Dead is dead. *"Canada's former Ambassador to Yugoslavia, James Bissett, resigned over this issue. He said the US controlled the court, selected the judges, and had ordained the man's guilt from the beginning, partly to absolve the Americans from the atrocities they themselves committed, and partly to punish Milošević for his defiance of the US.* Bissett claimed it was clear that the trial was completely political, that Milošević could have easily defended himself against all the charges, but that the judges refused him the time and opportunity for a defense. They simply convicted him." Bissett further stated that this so-called court needs to be "totally discredited" so that its judgments never form any part of the world's historical record. **According to Bissett, "The court has been dominated and managed by the United States.** It is in the interests of the USA to continue the pretense that Milošević is solely responsible for everything that went wrong in the former Yugoslavia. His guilt is essential if the Americans who played such a critical role in causing the bloodshed and the violence in the Balkans are to be let off the hook. This is why the Tribunal in The Hague must be discredited because if it is not – its files and testimonies will form an important part of the historical record. Unfortunately it seems obvious that Milošević's guilt has already been ordained by the Americans ... **confirmed my early suspicions that the Tribunal was really a political court."**

George Bush and his cronies were anxious to obtain these immunity agreements before launching their pre-emptive war against Iraq, since an unprovoked war of aggression is in itself a recognised war crime. They were simply arranging protection for themselves, knowing of the crimes they would commit. At the time, John Bolton, who was an

Undersecretary of State, **wrote the UN Secretary General to inform him that the US signature on the ICC treaty was "no longer legally binding"**. According to Bolton, "The United States does not intend to become a party to the treaty. Accordingly, the United States has no legal obligations from its signature on the December 31, 2000." *Then there is the issue of Palestine, which joined the ICC in early 2015 and asked the ICC to investigate Jewish war crimes committed against the Palestinian people.* Israel which, like the US, refused to be a party to the ICC, and for the same reasons, immediately began lobbying friendly countries like the US and Canada to cut all funding for the ICC, to prevent Israel from having to face its crimes. The ICC, according to Israel's Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman, "This body represents no one. It is a political body." US Senators are already condemning both the Palestinians and the ICC for potentially "politically abusive" actions, which means charges you bring against me, while charges I bring against you are morally righteous.

Chalmers Johnson, president of the Japan Policy Research Institute and former professor at the University of California, wrote in his book, *Blowback: The Costs and Consequences of American Empire*: "Largely by design, much of America's imperial politics takes place well below the sight lines of the American public. Throughout the world in the wake of the Cold War, official and unofficial US representatives have been acting, often in covert ways, to prop up repressive regimes or their militaries and police forces, sometimes against significant segments of their own populaces. Such policies are likely to produce future instances of blowback whose origins, on arrival, will seem anything but self-evident to the American public. **Every now and then, however, America's responsibility for its imperial policies briefly comes into public view.** One such moment occurred ... [when much of the] world voted to establish an international criminal court. ... With his opening speech, American ambassador **Bill Richardson managed to infuriate virtually every human rights group on earth and led many delegates to accuse the United States of "neo-colonial aspirations"**. *The United States, he said, would support only a court that received its cases solely from the U.N. Security Council, where a single American vote can veto any action.*"

American officials claim they must protect their two hundred thousand troops permanently deployed in forty countries from "politically motivated charges", maintaining that due to America's "special global responsibilities", no proceedings can be permitted to take place against its soldiers or clandestine agents unless the United States itself agrees to them. In essence, **America's leaders believe that their "lone superpower" must be above the very concept of international law** - unless defined and controlled by them. Richardson arrogantly and stubbornly refused to deal with the question of war crimes charges against Americans that were justified and warranted. *The US specifically objected to torture being included in any definition of international war crimes.* One could legitimately ask why that would be. The American government displays one face to its own people (and its English-speaking allies), but supports repressive regimes whenever necessary to maintain American imperial dominance. *When this contradiction is revealed, Americans try to cover it up with rhetoric about the national burden of being the "indispensable nation" or the world's "reluctant sheriff".* But the key point is the American fear that its own crimes against humanity will be publicised and prosecuted if all international institutions are not under its control because, with America's eager disposition to free-ranging savagery and violence, this would undermine its ability to project its power around the world. *It has therefore for decades continued to pressure many countries to not surrender US citizens to the ICC.*

Crime in America



The US Justice Department and FBI produce an annual report titled "Crime in the United States", with several sections that are instructive by virtue of their inclusion and others even more so by their omission. First, 'Crime' in the US means street crime - the things that you and I do, like burglary and common assault, and the occasional imaginative bank robbery. The category of "Corporate Crime", that is, serious felonious crimes committed by executives of large corporations, or crimes committed by elected officials, government officers, White House staff and others don't exist in either the FBI or US Justice Department files, nor are these crimes included in any other category. Corporate crimes produce infinitely greater financial losses every year than do our few burglaries and muggings, and corporate malfeasance produces far more injuries and deaths each year than do family arguments or street fights, yet for this vast category there are no references, no statistics or data, and research is impossible without an extraordinary investment in time. For the US Justice Department, the FBI and the mass media, corporate crime in America is invisible.

The FBI estimated that street crimes like robbery and burglary cost the nation almost \$4 billion each year, *but the total stolen or extorted from the public by the large multinationals is in the hundreds of billions every year - as evidenced by the fines paid.* By the FBI's own admission, and by the courts, *public street crime carries only 1% of the cost of corporate crime, yet no records of the latter are kept and no statistics compiled.* We have undisputed data to document that the medical area alone, *including medical malpractice, Medicare fraud and the litany of abuses by the pharma companies* - all of which involve reckless and often deliberate criminal culpability - is the greatest single cause of deaths and serious injuries in America each year, *resulting in millions of deaths and direct financial losses in the hundreds of billions of dollars.* When we add the numbers killed by police officers or in prisons, the numbers who die because GM didn't want an auto recall or because Merck forgot to tell the FDA that people were dropping like flies from its Vioxx medication; When Union Carbide had its explosion in Bhopal or US pharma companies kill thousands in India and Africa in their clinical drug trials, when Bayer or Cutter or Baxter produce yet another killer vaccine, when the US pharma companies kill hundreds of thousands by blood plasma contaminated with HIV and Hepatitis C; When the oil companies kill millions each year with leaded gasoline,

when asbestos miners die by the tens of thousands; When we have killers like contaminated foods, occupational diseases, hazardous consumer products, GM foods and dioxins and chemicals and hormones, *the number of us killing each other in civil disputes pales in comparison.*

Similarly, the direct financial losses alone imposed on the public by other corporate crime are also in the hundreds of billions of dollars. We have the *US FED and the big banks who regularly loot the public of billions of dollars in everything from massive mortgage fraud, insider stock dealing, program stock trading, the manipulation of stock and gold markets and of commodity markets including foods and petroleum, items like Enron's huge manipulation of retail electric energy prices, the collusion and price-fixing rampant in many industry sectors, **the immense financial fraud on which the entire US healthcare system is based,** the grotesquely corrupt political lobbying system ...* All of these are crimes, even if some have been deemed permissible with legislation introduced by corrupt politicians - which is itself a crime. Let's note again here that the US pharma industry arranged for corrupt American politicians to pass legislation providing them with total legal immunity for all their criminal actions *including knowingly distributing killer medications and vaccines* - even though it can be proven they lied on their FDA applications and fabricated all their test data. If the passage of that legislation weren't a crime, what would be?

The next major FBI category is "Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted" each year - all 27 of them - but, in spite of the vanishingly low incidence, this "crime" deserves its own statistically-laden category at the FBI and Justice Department. *But strangely there is no category for "Civilians Killed and Assaulted by Law Enforcement Officers", and we could legitimately wonder why not.* After all, police officers kill more than 1,000 civilians each year in circumstances almost universally unjustified. *The FBI estimates a total of little over 1.2 million violent crimes in the US each year, but in New York City alone nearly **one million civilians are assaulted each year by the police.*** The total of these assaults in the entire US would be at least in the tens of millions annually, making police assaults on civilians the single most prevalent crime in America today, but the category doesn't even exist

in America's halls of justice and law enforcement. *As noted elsewhere, most police forces don't even bother to record their beatings and killings, nor their tortures and forced confessions, making the compilation of statistics impossible.* The little we do know, results from tedious examination of the mass media, which by no means record all these events. Even more, *the numbers of deaths and assaults by the FBI itself, including its famous "kick down the front door in the middle of the night" raids are not recorded anywhere either.*

Another category of crimes conspicuous by its absence from this list is political crime, or crimes committed by elected politicians and those committed by others in favor of elected politicians. At last count, the US had something like 2,500 former politicians in prison for various crimes, most often corruption of one sort or another, and there surely have been countless thousands that did not result in prison sentences. If we consider the list of federal, state and local politicians, law enforcement officers, judges and prosecutors, there have certainly been many tens of thousands who have been investigated and/or charged with almost every kind of corruption or crime imaginable, **including murder**. But neither the Department of Justice nor the FBI have any information on these categories. Nobody maintains any records. Just as with corporate crime and law enforcement crime, *political crime in America is invisible*. It would not be a sign of intelligence to conclude these invisibilities are accidental.

There are no records of corporations or the names of their executives, of the names of politicians or government officials, or of police, prosecutors and members of the judiciary who are criminally culpable in a truly vast array of illegal acts every year, nor any data on the millions of lives lost or ruined, nor of the billions of dollars looted annually from the public in pursuit of profit and the exercise of power. *"Crime" is a word reserved for something that you and I do to each other. When the US government, the banks and large corporations do it to us, it's called "**democracy and free enterprise**". And when the police do it to us, it's called "serving and protecting".* In case you don't already know, the US is not a democracy. **What we have been reading is a classic description of a fascist police state.** Welcome to America.

Chapter 2 - Diplomatic Immunity, American-Style



In a recent podcast, Kevin Barrett stated that the rule of law has disappeared in the US. This is so obviously true to outsiders looking in, and is even more true of American official conduct abroad, but I find myself wondering about the extent to which Americans generally are aware of this and how it is perceived.

In days gone by, this lawlessness was usually deeply buried and obfuscated but today it seems there is no longer even a pretense of any rule of law. We see this most recently in the so-called “sanctions” the US so freely applies to countries and individuals, being no more than illegal rampaging and looting.

But there is another category that may not be as visible and yet is indicative of an extreme breakdown of the rule of law, this applying to the category of “diplomatic immunity”, real or imagined, where the US government absolutely treads on a one-way street. This article is only

a brief introduction with a few examples of hundreds that could be cited.

Devyani Khobragade



On late 2013 an Indian diplomat, 39-year-old **Devyani Khobragade**, was the Deputy Consul-General in New York, and by all reports had an excellent reputation and was honorably discharging her consular duties. But then she was suddenly charged with submitting false documents to obtain a work visa for a housekeeper. She was arrested and handcuffed while dropping her daughter off at school, was taken to a police station and strip-searched, given a body cavity search, then put into a cell with drug dealers and held there until she was finally released on \$250,000 bail. ([1](#))



The Federal Prosecutor, **Preet Bharara**, claimed agents had arrested her “in the most discreet way possible”, having doing so in full view of her daughter, her daughter’s friends, and most of the teachers and students. He said “there can be no plausible claim that this case was somehow an injustice”, **calling her treatment “standard procedure” even for diplomatic personnel, claiming further that during her strip and cavity searches she had been**

"accorded courtesies well beyond what other defendants are accorded, most of whom are American citizens." He claimed these procedures were **"standard practice for every defendant, rich or poor, American or not,** in order to make sure that no prisoner keeps anything on his person that could harm anyone, including himself". He said his office's sole motivation was to uphold the law, protect victims and hold lawbreakers accountable, "no matter what their societal status and no matter how powerful, rich or connected they are". (2) (3) (4) (5) It staggers the imagination and leaves us numb and unable to respond when faced with such incredibly shameful lies.

The mess was later blamed on a "mistake", a claim that the low-level agent who drew up the charges against Ms. Khobragade had confused two documents – Ms. Khobragade's US visa application and that of the employment contract with her housekeeper – and **"misunderstood" Ms. Khobragade's salary as the amount she meant to pay her maid.** Yet those two documents are in an entirely different format and could not possibly have been confused one with the other. It would appear that no visa fraud actually occurred after all, and it was further discovered Ms. Khobragade was after all attached to the UN as an advisor, which function unquestionably granted her full diplomatic immunity. The US State department repeatedly refused to acknowledge her diplomatic status but let her leave the country. (6)

However, and if all the claims had been true, this really would have been at most a simple issue of a wage mis-statement which is a misdemeanor offense and not a felony, and would normally be investigated by the Department of Labor. In fact, this is a common issue with many foreign household and agricultural workers in the US, and also occurs daily with restaurant workers, but never in the history of America has a restaurant or farm owner been arrested and strip-searched because of a low-level wage or visa dispute. And for such a minor offense the bail is usually around \$5,000, not \$250,000. **So what really happened?**

Well, only a few weeks before being abruptly arrested and strip-searched in New York, **Ms. Khobragade had managed to make some powerful enemies in the US pharmaceutical**

industry about India's treatment of US so-called intellectual property. The Indian government and courts have taken IP actions that angered the Americans, including denial to US firms of pharmaceutical patents that were not a true innovation, and permitting compulsory licensing for production of generic medicines. **The US Chamber of Commerce (AmCham) was hysterical** at India's actions, referring to "unprecedented patent revocations and denials" and accusing India of being "an outlier in the global economy". AmCham's "Global IP Center" held a public event in New York at which it attacked India's practices, and at which Ms. Khobragade was "outspoken" in defense of her country's practices, and where she engaged in "debate" with US industry executives, demanding that in future an Indian representative be given a formal place at these events to present India's side of the story. **Shortly thereafter, US officials were busy cavity-searching, humiliating, and deporting the woman** who dared confront the IP kings of AmCham and the US pharma industry.

Preet Bharara later confirmed in an autobiography that Devyani Khobragade was indeed strip-searched and cavity-searched, and acknowledged, "That could have and should have been avoided, given that no one would have sought pretrial detention." ([Z](#)) A bit too little and a bit too late.

The official position of all civilised nations toward a foreign diplomat resident in their countries is that "He is a diplomat and has the privileges of a diplomat. **If you're a diplomat and you commit any crime, the case is investigated and is forwarded to your embassy. That's what the law says and we work within the law**". However, the official position of the American government toward foreign diplomats in the US is different. A State Department "guidance paper" for American law enforcement officials on how diplomatic immunity works even at the highest levels says that "**diplomatic immunity is not intended to serve as a license for persons to flout the law and purposely avoid liability for their actions**. The purpose of these privileges and immunities is not to benefit individuals but to ensure the efficient and effective performance of their official missions on behalf of their governments."

In short, a foreign diplomat in the US has no immunity against prosecution by the US government for offenses real or imagined, **but US citizens in other nations, diplomats or not, have full immunity even when clearly engaged in illegal activities that include drunk or reckless driving, espionage, and murder.**

There are literally hundreds of cases where US consular officials in all countries regularly flout domestic labor and many other laws. American employment contracts in other countries are regularly violated with impunity, and typically specify that all staff issues including compensation will be decided exclusively by the US consular staff with no recourse to either domestic or US law – contract wording that is itself illegal, since no contract anywhere can eliminate recourse to local courts. But then, these are Americans, and their world is apparently different than ours. *Americans in all countries violate both domestic tax laws and their visa status, in all cases being protected by the US government claiming "diplomatic status" for those who are clearly non-diplomats.*

Raymond Davis



Here is another incident, this one from the other side of the fence. In January of 2011, CIA agent Raymond Davis was driving down a street in Lahore, Pakistan, when he stopped at a red light. A motorbike carrying two Pakistani Intelligence agents keeping Davis under surveillance due to suspicion of criminal activities, pulled in front of his car. Davis drew an automatic weapon and killed both men, claiming they had attempted to rob him and that he acted in self-defense. (8) (9) But the documented facts from multiple witnesses clearly proved that Davis initiated the violence. When the motorcycle stopped in front of his car, Davis first fired five shots through the windshield, killing one man and injuring the other, then got out of his vehicle, shot four more rounds into the two men as they lay on the pavement, then four more

shots into one man's back as he was trying to crawl away, killing him as well. Witnesses testified that Davis then walked back to his car, called for backup on a military radio, then took photos of the men he had just killed. One witness who watched from his restaurant across the street, said he was amazed at the American's manner. *"He was very peaceful and confident. I was wondering how he could be like that after killing two people,"* he said.

Minutes later, four Americans in a Toyota jeep with fake registration plates left Davis' home and made a frantic but unsuccessful attempt to reach Davis and rescue him. Finding their vehicle trapped in a traffic jam, they crossed the median and traveled against the oncoming traffic, colliding with a motorcycle and killing the driver. After the accident, they fled the scene and drove at high speed to the US Embassy, jettisoning many bits of evidence along the way including 100 bullets, knives, gloves, a blindfold. Witnesses later told police that one American opened the door to their vehicle, displayed a rifle and threatened to kill anyone who got in their way.

Davis also attempted to escape in his vehicle but was apprehended and charged with double murder, espionage and the illegal possession of a firearm. Although Davis was part of the CIA's Global Response Staff, he was at the time doing some contract espionage work for **Xe Services**, the private company formerly known as **Blackwater** that was involved in a multitude of scandals in Iraq that included mass murders and many other crimes. *Items recovered from Davis's car included a Glock handgun, an infrared light, a portable telescope, GPS equipment, two mobile phones, a satellite phone, 9mm ammunition, multiple ATM and military ID cards, multiple ID cards from several different US consulates, facial disguise and makeup, and a camera.* According to Pakistani officials, Davis' camera contained photos of "prohibited areas such as installations along the border with India", stating *"This is not the work of a diplomat. He was doing espionage and other activities"*. ([10](#)) ([11](#)) ([12](#)) ([13](#))

Then-US President Obama demanded that Pakistan free "our diplomat" under the Vienna convention rules, and the State Department exerted fierce and unrelenting pressure on Pakistan to release Davis. US officials insisted Davis was a diplomat doing

"technical and administrative work" at the embassy and had to be treated as such, though he was a common criminal in the country on a tourist passport, had no diplomatic credentials and no consular functions. Pakistani officials demanded the US turn over for questioning the men in the Embassy who had attempted to rescue Davis and had killed the motorcyclist, but the Americans refused and spirited the men out of Pakistan. Davis was released after the families of the two killed men were paid \$2.4 million in what is called "blood money".

Joshua Walde



In another incident, in August of 2013 an American diplomat, Joshua Walde, an information management officer at the US Embassy in Nairobi, Kenya, was driving his SUV at a high rate of speed when he made an illegal turn, crossed the highway center line, and rammed into a full mini-bus, killing a father of three whose widow was six months pregnant, and seriously injuring eight other people. (14) (15) US Embassy officials in Nairobi took advantage of Walde's diplomatic immunity and rushed the American and his family out of Kenya the next day, leaving the crash victims with no financial assistance. Officials noted that embassy employees are typically evacuated "for medical evaluations" after traumatic events but also are flown out of a country "to avoid any possible retribution". **Hilary Renner**, a State Department spokeswoman in Washington, said **the embassy extends "its deepest condolences" to the family of the dead man, and "wishes a speedy recovery" to those injured.**

Anne Sacoolas



More recently we had the case of Anne Sacoolas, the wife of an American employed at a UK consulate, who was formally charged in the death of British teenager Harry Dunn. Sacoolas was driving her car on the wrong side of the road, perhaps while impaired, and crashed into Dunn's motorcycle, killing him. Sacoolas spoke later to the police, but then immediately headed for the airport and left the UK, claiming "diplomatic immunity" when of course she had none. However, the Americans refused to release her to return to the UK to stand trial. ([16](#)) ([17](#)) Once safe at home in the US, Ms. Sacoolas offered to perform some "community service" as penance. Here are some media details if you are interested in more information: ([18](#)) ([19](#)) ([20](#)) ([21](#)) ([22](#)) ([23](#))

Julia Bravo



A current case is that of an American soldier in Italy, a young woman named Julia Bravo, who has been charged with vehicular homicide. Prosecutors in Pordenone, in Italy's Northeast, charged the 20-year-old female soldier stationed at the US Air Force's Aviano Air Base with vehicular manslaughter in the auto death of a young boy in Italy. According to witness testimony, Bravo had left a disco in the small hours of the morning, was subsequently seen driving erratically on the

road, drove over and through a traffic circle, crossed a median, crashed through a group of road signs at high speed and hit a group of young boys walking on the roadside, killing one of them instantly. According to an eyewitness who had been partying in the same club, Bravo was so drunk “she couldn’t even turn the ignition on”, and at first drove off in the opposite direction of her military base. **The police said her blood-alcohol level was four times the legal limit.**

The dead boy’s mother said, “We all know that the soldiers on the Aviano base in this area do what they like, that they don’t respect the rules. There have been many incidents in the past that involved American troops. They have the freedom to do whatever they like and not be punished.” The mother told the Corriere della Sera newspaper that she wanted the soldier tried in Italy. “I don’t trust the American justice system.” However, the chance of that appears slight since the US Embassy is apparently exerting enormous pressure on the Italians to have the woman sent to the US for a “prosecution” which will never take place. ([24](#)) ([25](#)) ([26](#)) ([27](#)) ([28](#))

However, being American, our sympathies must lie with the perpetrator. Her lawyer told the Italian media that his client was “extremely emotionally exhausted” from expressing her remorse and apologising to the family.

Capt. Richard Ashby



There have been many such occurrences involving US military personnel in countries throughout Europe and Asia, and invariably with the US applying immense diplomatic and military bullying to prevent

Americans from being subject to the laws of any country. One notable case occurred some years back where a Capt. Richard Ashby, flying a military jet aircraft in Northern Italy, was displaying what he boasted as a "daredevil stunt" and severed the cables of a cable car line at an Italian ski resort, sending 20 people to their death. The military restrictions prohibited flight below 1,000 feet above ground level and at speeds more than 500 mph. **Ashby was flying his aircraft at little over 300 feet and at more than 1,000 Kph when the accident occurred.** ([29](#)) ([30](#)) ([31](#))

Italian prosecutors had wanted four US airmen, including Ashby and his co-pilot, Capt. Joseph Schweitzer, and three officers from the US base at Aviano, to face charges of manslaughter and endangering the safety of transport, but the Americans bullied the Italians into surrendering the prisoners to an American court. Naturally, all were found not guilty of all charges. The Italians were infuriated, but there was nothing to be done. People still ask today why has no one has even been held to account for that tragedy. ([32](#)) ([33](#))

Epilogue

One of the distressing features of today's world is that it is not only the US that has apparently abandoned any pretense of adhering to a rule of law; most other Western nations are as guilty, and some perhaps even more so.

Think of **Canada** during the recent truckers' protest in Ottawa. Prime Minister **Justin Trudeau** first had the nation's law enforcement agencies track down the ownership of the vehicles and extort the insurance companies into canceling the insurance on all the trucks. When that failed, they used every manner of access to determine the identity of all protesters and forced the banks to freeze the accounts of all participants. When that still failed to frighten off the protesters, Trudeau had the local governments begin seizing the semi-trailers and selling them (\$150,000 to \$200,000 each) **"to pay the costs of monitoring the protest"**. All actions were openly and reprehensibly illegal, against all manner of law and justice, but seemingly of no concern.

It is incredible, unbelievable, that the government of any civilised country, the so-called democracies and “free nations”, could behave in such a manner, and yet this is where we are. The few examples in this essay are of rampant criminality and the immunity that comes with uncontrolled power in the hands of the wrong people. **It is no longer a matter of law but of power to do.** The US government recently confiscated the entire assets of Afghanistan’s central bank and arbitrarily decided to “donate” the money to American 9-11 victims. That is not different than seizing the assets of Russia’s central bank, and keeping the money, not different than seizing a \$100 million yacht owned by an innocent individual, and selling it and keeping the money – because he’s Russian.

We see articles today warning us of the impending degeneration of the US and the West into totalitarian fascism, but that’s a delusion: **we’re already there, but nobody seems to know.** If you are on the wrong side of the political fence today, your life could easily become miserable and short. **Dissidence is no longer a requirement; innocent questioning of the official narrative will be sufficient.** By the time everyone wakes up, it will be too late and we will be in the middle of World War Three.

*

Notes

(1) <https://www.theweek.in/news/india/2020/10/01/devyani-khobragade-whose-arrest-led-to-india-us-spat-made-envoy-to-cambodia.html#:~:text=Devyani%20Khobragade%20was%20charged%20and%20arrested%20by%20US,by%20paying%20her%20less%20than%20the%20stipulated%20wages.>

(2) **IFS officer Devyani Khobragade, who was stripped searched in US, promoted after 7-month wait**

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2018/oct/27/ifs-officer-devyani-khobragade-who-was-stripped-searched-in-us-promoted-after-7-month-wait-1890490.html>

(3) **Who is Devyani Khobragade, the Indian diplomat at the center of the firestorm?**

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia_pacific/indias-devyani-khobragade-advocated-for-womens-rights-but-underpaid-her-nanny/2013/12/20/13e23688-69a2-11e3-8b5b-a77187b716a3_story.html

(4) Indian diplomat Devyani Khobragade leaves US under immunity

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/jan/10/devyani-khobragade-to-leave-us-under-diplomatic-immunity>

(5) U.S. officials made a mistake that led to Indian diplomat's arrest and strip search over visa application for maid

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2529122/Devyani-Khobragades-arrest-strip-search-result-mistake-US-officials-claims-lawyer.html>

(6) Devyani Khobragade: Diplomat row charges dropped in US

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-26554245>

(7) Preet Bharara says diplomat was strip-searched, could've been avoided

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/former-prosecutor-preet-bharara-says-diplomat-devyani-khobragade-was-strip-searched-could-ve-been-avoided/story-QsrVh6iiCF4RIirCRke1qM.html>

(8) American who sparked diplomatic crisis over Lahore shooting was CIA spy

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2011/feb/20/us-raymond-davis-lahore-cia>

(9) US gives fresh details of CIA agent who killed two men in Pakistan shootout

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2011/feb/21/raymond-davis-pakistan-cia-blackwater>

(10) CIA killer Raymond Davis released by Pakistani authorities

<https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2011/03/pkst-m18.html>

(11) CIA contractor Ray Davis freed over Pakistan killings

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-south-asia-12757244>

(12) Revealed: What CIA agent was really doing in Lahore as it emerges even Pakistan officials are 'worried for his safety'

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1359324/CIA-agent-Raymond-Davis-Lahore-Pakistan-officials-worried-safety.html>

(13) Pakistan defiant in face of US pressure to free CIA agent

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2011/feb/21/raymond-davis-cia-agent-pakistan>

(14) <https://www.rt.com/news/us-diplomat-flees-kenya-accident-979/>

(15) <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2013/08/02/diplomat-kenya-car-crash/2612229/>

(16) <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9280351/Harry-Dunns-family-lawyer-hits-diplomat-Anne-Sacoolas-offers-pay-funeral.html>

(17) <https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/world/case-against-anne-sacoolas-over-death-of-harry-dunn-can-go-ahead-in-us-judge-rules/ar-BB1dKA18>

(18) **Anne Sacoolas to face UK court over death of Harry Dunn**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2021/dec/13/harry-dunn-anne-sacoolas-to-face-criminal-trial-in-the-uk-over-teenagers-death>

(19) **ANNE SACOOLAS has reached a “resolution” with Harry Dunn’s family after the teenager was killed in a car accident with her behind the wheel in 2019.**

<https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/10079907/anne-sacoolas-us-diplomat-wife-harry-dunn-death/>

(20) **Anne Sacoolas: Harry Dunn suspect ‘willing to do community service’**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-northamptonshire-56326406>

(21) **Case against American woman accused of killing a UK teenager can go ahead in the US, judge rules**

<https://edition.cnn.com/2021/02/17/us/harry-dunn-anne-sacoolas-damages-intl/index.html>

(22) **The fugitive: US spy’s wife Anne Sacoolas is pictured driving HER children on the school run in America after fleeing Britain following car crash that killed teenager Harry Dunn**

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-7971307/Pictured-Anne-Sacoolas-fled-justice-road-crash-killed-Harry-Dunn.html>

(23) US woman who killed teen biker Harry Dunn wouldn't face prosecution in America, lawyer claims

<https://edition.cnn.com/2021/03/09/uk/anne-sacoolas-harry-dunn-community-service-intl-gbr/index.html>

(24) U.S. servicewoman in Italy charged with vehicular homicide in drunk driving accident

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2022/aug/23/julia-bravo-us-servicewoman-italy-charged-vehicula/>

(25) American service member, 20, is arrested in Italy for hitting and killing 15-year-old boy with her car while 'driving drunk'

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-11137855/American-soldier-arrested-Italy-hitting-killing-15-year-old-car-drunk.html>

(26) Drunk US soldier kills boy in Italy

The American airwoman hit the 15-year-old while driving four times over the legal blood alcohol limit

<https://www.rt.com/news/561418-american-pilot-drunk-driving-italy/>

(27) US soldier held in Italy for allegedly killing 15-year-old while driving four times over legal alcohol limit

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/crime/soldier-italy-drunk-driving-teen-killed-b2150353.html>

(28) US soldier under house arrest in Italy after driving drunk, killing teen

<https://english.alarabiya.net/News/world/2022/08/24/US-soldier-under-house-arrest-in-Italy-after-driving-drunk-killing-teen>

(29) 20 die as US warplane hits cable car in Italian resort

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/20-die-as-us-warplane-hits-cable-car-in-italian-resort-1142753.html>

(30) 20 Die in Italy As U.S. Jet Cuts A Ski Lift Cable

<https://www.nytimes.com/1998/02/04/world/20-die-in-italy-as-us-jet-cuts-a-ski-lift-cable.html>

(31) Cable Car Plunges in Italy, Killing at Least 14 People

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/05/23/world/europe/italy-cable-car.html>

(32) **US pilot who killed twenty on ski gondola acquitted**

<https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/1999/03/ital-m06.html>

(33) **Cavalese cable-car disaster: It's 20 years since a US aircraft killed 20 people in the Dolomites and still no one accepts responsibility.**

https://www.independent.co.uk/news/long_reads/cavalese-cable-car-disaster-us-aircraft-deaths-trentino-20-1998-italy-dolomites-lake-garda-responsibility-air-force-a8184771.html

Chapter 3 - Dealing With Dissidents



Activists gather at an Occupy Wall Street rally in New York City on October 11, 2011. (Photo: Kurt Christensen)

America Deals With Political Dissension

The Black Panthers

Dr. Martin Luther King

US Student Protests are Met With Gunfire

Protesting Racial Segregation in America

Bombing Dissidents in Philadelphia

Jeremy Hammond

Steve Kangas

Gary Webb

Phillip Marshall

Pat Tillman

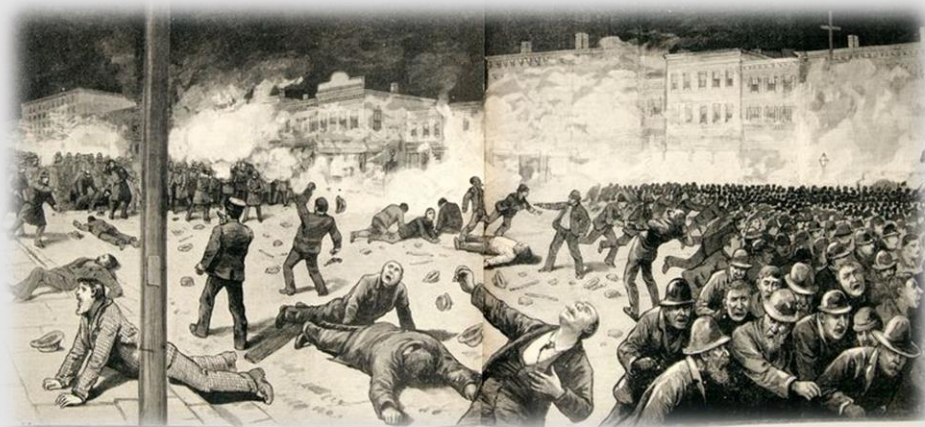
Karen Silkwood

Bradley Manning

Edward Snowden

Michael Hastings

America Deals With Political Dissension



[C. Bunnell, "Police Charging the Murderous Rioters" in *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper* \(May 15, 1886\)](#)

We have already seen the extensive and usually violent steps the US government took in the first half of the 20th century to silence political dissension and labor unrest, but there is much more, in each case consisting of widespread civil unrest stemming from one form or another of government criminality and corruption, often so serious as to challenge the legitimacy of the government itself. *The 1960s and 1970s were another period of great social change and unrest in America, with widespread civil defiance.* The violence and illegality of the Vietnam war were on every TV set; increasingly, the many lies of the US government were becoming public knowledge. The general populace had lost faith in government and the new generation were in rebellion and street

protests became widespread, especially among the universities. Many young Americans were defying the establishment by burning their conscription notices or relocating to Canada to avoid the military draft. As well, racial tensions originating in the injustices of segregation were producing massive black rebellions in most major US cities. **Presidents Johnson and Nixon and Bernays' ruling elites were becoming more fearful of a violent revolution.** But contrary to its carefully-polished international image as the homeland of freedom and political democracy, the US government launched a prolonged campaign of domestic terrorism intended to quell that dissent. In those decades, there was neither freedom nor democracy in America, and precious little in the way of human rights. *And contrary to popular belief, the situation has not improved measurably since.*

The Black Panthers



This was a politically-inspired group that was active in the US in the 1970s, campaigning for human rights in America and protesting against the rampant racial discrimination against blacks. A Top-Secret Special Report provided to then President Nixon claimed that the Black Panthers carried great respect

among the general population and were becoming a substantial political force in the country. *This was a force that the US government very badly wanted to "neutralise", to destroy its social influence, and the FBI's method of accomplishing this was to initiate years of domestic terrorist events that resulted in the murders of about 50 Black Panther leaders.* On one occasion, two of the leaders, **Fred Hampton** and **Mark Clark**, were shot to death by Chicago policemen while sleeping in their beds. According to Special FBI Agent **Gregg York**, *"We expected about twenty Panthers to be in the apartment when the police raided the place, but only two of those black nigger fuckers were killed, Fred Hampton and Mark Clark".* **This was a pure, police-state political assassination, and only one of many instigated or performed by the FBI.** Marlin Johnson, who was the FBI's Chicago Special Agent in Charge of these events made clear that he viewed these killings as a model for "successful" counterintelligence operations.

One Black Panther leader, **Elmer Pratt**, *was imprisoned for 27 years before a California Court vacated his murder conviction. At the court, an FBI agent testified that Pratt had been framed by both the FBI and the Los Angeles Police Department, and that both knew he had been out of the area at the time the murder occurred.* In another case, a Black Panther leader who was already in prison on false charges was shot dead on the accusation that he was helping another prisoner to escape. But the testimony of the guard was that he had shot the man from the top of a 20-foot tower, while the wound on the victim indicated that the bullet had entered his back from below, travelled up his spine, and exited through his head. *No investigation was ever performed. All of these, and many more, were simply gangland-style political executions, the kind of thing "that would never happen" in democratic, freedom-loving America.* In fact, the secret government that controlled the US White House, simply set out to exterminate, by either killing or imprisoning, an entire political force that was deemed a threat to its power.

And it was more than killing or imprisoning. Another method that has escaped American history books is what was termed

"psychosurgery", the performance of frontal lobotomies on American political dissidents. Three Harvard University professors put forward the thesis that individuals who engage in civil disobedience possessed defective or damaged brain cells, receiving enormous funding for almost 600 "research projects dealing with behavior modification". These 600 'projects' were performed on American citizens campaigning against racial discrimination, who were first arrested and imprisoned on trumped-up charges **then subjected to these medical procedures against their will, and who all became virtual zombies from the procedure.** The doctors went so far as to recommend that "screening centers" be established throughout the nation to identify and "treat" all emerging political dissidents and activists, fully aware that lobotomies would be an effective instrument of repression and social control.

Dr. Martin Luther King



Dr. Martin Luther King was a black preacher and human-rights activist who became a leader of the human-rights movement in

the US during this same period. The US government was prepared to ignore Dr. King so long as he remained focused on the black population, but the man became outstandingly popular among all of the disadvantaged in America and was rapidly becoming a serious political threat with his potential to attract a great many voters to his cause of equity among people. **FBI Director Hoover** instructed his agents to develop a plan that would *"prevent the rise of a messiah who could unify and electrify" the emerging broad-spectrum political movement that encompassed civil rights and religious groups, and Dr. King became a target.*

The FBI was concerned over King's widespread public support, noting that he was growing in stature daily, and claiming that his civil rights agitation represented a clear "threat to the established order" of the US. COINTELPRO specialist William C. Sullivan wrote at the time, "We must mark King as the most dangerous Negro in the future of this Nation ... it may be unrealistic to limit [our actions against King] to legalistic proofs that would stand up in court". All King was really looking for was equal treatment for blacks, black voting rights and the removal of at least some of the US system of racist segregation of blacks. In addition, King vehemently denounced the Vietnam War and called the United States "the most violent nation in the world". But to the US government and the elites, this was a serious threat to the established order.

*At first, the FBI attempted many ways to discredit King, using their influence with the media to denounce him. They spread multiple rumors of sexual misbehavior and arranged for the IRS to constantly harass him. Upon the announcement that King would receive the **Nobel Peace Prize** for that year, the FBI became desperate and escalated their campaign. One act was to create a complete set of fabricated tapes, supposedly taken from wiretaps of his home and hotel rooms, that purported to document his participation in many sexual orgies with prostitutes, claiming this demonstrated "the depths of his sexual perversion and depravity." In a scheme that truly defies belief, the FBI packaged and delivered the tapes to King along with a letter informing him that the audio material would be released to the*

*media unless he committed suicide prior to presentation of the Nobel Prize. When King declined this generous offer, the FBI presented the doctored tape to the US media, but the newspapers and radio stations questioned its authenticity, and wanted no part of it. Having failed in their attempts to discredit, intimidate, and silence Dr. King, the US government and the FBI had King murdered, **shot by a sniper - a local Memphis police officer** - from a hotel balcony as he was giving a speech in Memphis. Even after his death, the FBI continued for several years their attempts to blacken Dr. King's reputation. They failed.*

There were many aspects of Dr. King's death that immediately pointed to a government conspiracy and cover-up. One notable item was that a taxi driver saw the assassin crawling over a wall after the shooting and, still carrying his rifle, climb into a Memphis police car and drive away. The taxi driver assumed the assassin had been apprehended and began spreading this good news. Shortly thereafter, he was picked up by the local police and his dead body was found in an alley the next morning. Interestingly, no record of the taxi driver's death has ever existed. It is only his wife who can testify that he was indeed shot and killed, but officially the man still lives.

Only the most cursory investigation was done of Dr. King's death, and the matter was closed. But much later, his family wanting closure on his death, initiated a private investigation and filed suit against the US government and the FBI for his murder. At the trial, most of the original witnesses were still available and the evidence presented was damning. *It took the jury only a few hours to find the government and the FBI guilty of Dr. King's murder. **The trial jury concluded that the conspiracy to kill Dr. King included Hoover, the FBI, Richard Helms, the CIA, the US military and the local Memphis police department.*** The King family lawyer summed up the proceedings by stating that Dr. King took on the most powerful forces in the nation, those that dominated politics and money, and they had him killed because they could not stop him. And still, there were no punishments for this crime; the US government refusing to take

any action against itself or the FBI, including those agents directly responsible for the murder.

US Student Protests are Met With Gunfire



Ohio National Guardsmen fire on students at Kent State University at the height of a student protest on May 4, 1970. Four students were killed; nine other people were wounded. This photo was published in the May 13, 1970, Milwaukee Journal. Life Magazine Photo, (C) Time Inc., via UPI

Another internal FBI memorandum referred to American student protesters, claiming that *"the movement of rebellious youth, involving and influencing a substantial number of college students, is having a serious impact on contemporary society with a potential for serious domestic strife"*, the memo further claiming this group intended to initiate a political revolution. The US government, and many Americans, enjoy condemning the actions of other countries in dispersing student protests or riots, but America has always been one of the most brutal and violent in this regard. When the US had its long series of student protests against racial segregation and especially the Vietnam war, *in most*

cases armed troops simply opened fire on innocent students, with no attempt at dialogue or negotiation.

The Kent State University Massacre was perhaps the best known, but there were many others. In May of 1970, University students gathered on the Kent State campus to protest the Vietnam war when soldiers opened fire, killing and injuring many students. The soldiers said they fired because they were under attack, but in fact the students were retreating, and most of them were shot in the back, some from as far as 100 meters away. The soldiers were cleared of any wrongdoing, and no charges were ever laid.

Documents later unclassified suggest that then President Nixon, on advice from the 'secret government' had personally ordered the killings to intimidate the students into silence and forestall a potential popular revolution against the government. **But instead, the killings triggered the only national student strike in US history.** Over four million students protested from coast to coast during the national student strike of May 1970, and hundreds of universities were shut down.

Also, in May of that year, a group of students at Jackson State University in Mississippi were protesting the Vietnam war *when they were confronted by 75 heavily-armed city and state police who opened fire, killing many students and seriously injuring many others.* The police in this event appeared almost insane, firing many thousands of shots, blowing out every window in nearby buildings with shotguns, and causing extensive damage in addition to the deaths and injuries. *Again, the police claimed they were under attack by the students and that there 'may have been' sniper fire.* But a search for evidence of snipers proved negative, *and witnesses claimed there was no provocation for the police to begin firing on the students. There were no charges or arrests of the police involved. There were many more of these student killings over several years, all following the same pattern, but Americans today discount these events as irrelevant to their society, considering them as aberrations, as some kind of simple mistake for which media attention provided absolution and should therefore be forgotten.*

Protesting Racial Segregation in America



Civil Rights March In Chicago

(Original Caption) 7/26/1965-Chicago, IL: Thousands of civil rights marchers led by Dr. Martin Luther King walk toward Chicago's city hall in protest of defacto school segregation and other racial issues. March started at Buckingham Fountain on the lake front and was delayed more than an hour because Dr. King was ill.

Many similar events in recent US history have been racially-motivated. At about the same time as the above student killings, a crowd of young people in Orangeburg, South Carolina, were protesting against racial segregation - the US custom of forcibly separating blacks from whites in public places - when heavily-armed local policemen fired into the crowd, killing 4 and seriously injuring 31 others. *Most were shot in the back. After the shootings, many others were severely beaten by police, including a pregnant woman who later had a miscarriage due to the beating she received at the hands of the police.* As would become a standard defense, the police claimed they were under attack or that there had been sniper fire, but all witness accounts discredited their testimony. *All officers were acquitted of all charges, while some of the young black protestors were imprisoned for "rioting".*

Another typical example occurred in Augusta, Georgia, a classic American confrontation of young black men attacked by police while protesting racial discrimination. During the riot, six people were killed, all black men, each one shot in the back by police. *In addition to those deaths, 80 people were injured, 200 were arrested, and 50 businesses in the city's center, many owned by Augusta's Chinese residents, were burned.* Witnesses claimed to have watched *while five of the dead men were shot repeatedly in the back, and at close range by police who, it was later proven, had covered their ID badges and nameplates with tape, and were using private weapons, to avoid later identification for killings they had clearly planned in advance.*

One of the most famous race-inspired events occurred in Los Angeles in 1992. A black man was stopped by police for speeding, then pulled from his car, thrown onto the ground and shot twice with a TASER gun, after which numerous LA police officers gave him a merciless beating with their batons. Although the police denied the event, it had been captured on video by a witness. *The city was outraged at the brutality of the local police, and when a white jury later acquitted all officers, Los Angeles and other cities erupted in violent protest.* **All that rage generated the worst single episode of urban unrest in American history, and before it ended several days later it had left 53 people dead and \$1 billion in damage.**

In another recent example in 2008, A TV news helicopter captured video of more than a dozen Philadelphia police officers surrounding a car and dragging out three black men to give them what became a viciously excessive beating which involved the three being kicked, stomped on, and struck up to 20 times each with night sticks. This incident was one of many occurring in the US during the past decade. **No officers were found guilty of any crimes.** Even more recently, it has occurred repeatedly in various US cities that police have opened fire on an unarmed black man and pumped more than 50 bullets into him and, in one case in Miami, more than 100 bullets. In each case the courts ruled in

favor of the police, claiming this 'was not an excessive use of force'. **In each case, no charges were ever laid.**

Bombing Dissidents in Philadelphia



In the mid-1980s there existed an organisation in Philadelphia called MOVE that was formed to bring public attention to the acceleration of the unjust racially-oriented arrests and imprisonment of blacks that had continued in that city for over 30 years. In May of 1985, the Philadelphia police mounted a massive operation to silence this group by exterminating the members in their homes. It began with a concerted attack with fire hoses, apparently attempting to drown the people in their homes, followed with tons of tear gas shells fired into all nearby buildings. When these attacks failed to do the job, the police department bombed the area with incendiary explosives, creating an intense inferno that burned to the ground an entire city block, destroying 65 homes and killing many people. The fire department refused to extinguish the flames, and people fleeing their burning homes were met with a barrage of gunfire from the police. No charges were ever laid and no financial or other assistance was offered to the newly-homeless (black) families. **The only person arrested was a female member of the group, on the apparent crime of not burning to death with her family.**



The damage on either side of Osage Avenue in Philadelphia, after the confrontation between MOVE and the police in 1985. Credit...Bob Sherman/United Press International, via Getty Images

Jeremy Hammond

“ They condemn hackers and leakers when the NSA, CIA, and FBI illegally spy on everybody, and wage cyber espionage through viruses and hacking for foreign government systems... If you point out suspicious activities of our own government, if you leak information that should be free and public anyway, then they will follow you to the ends of the Earth to put you in prison... They are scared that if people know the truth, the day will come when they will have to answer for their own crimes. ”

- Jeremy Hammond, in solitary confinement and facing a decade in prison for leaks that revealed massive corporate espionage.



#FreeJeremy



An American activist named Jeremy Hammond was recently sentenced to 10 years in prison for protesting, and for hacking into and releasing emails from Stratfor, a private security intelligence firm that engages in "monitoring and surveillance of protestors and dissidents" for governmental agencies and corporations. At the time, Hammond's articles sparked mass protests in the US, resulting in the courts immediately granting authorities a permanent injunction against any kind of public protest, effectively stripping all persons of free speech and assembly, and levying a fine of \$25,000 per hour if the injunction were violated. **All political dissent was made illegal by one stroke of a judge's pen.** Hammond wrote, *"I have tried everything from voting petitions to peaceful protest and have found that those in power do not want the truth to be exposed. When we speak truth to power, we are ignored at best and brutally suppressed at worst. We are confronting a power structure that does not respect its own system of checks and balances, never mind the rights of its own citizens or the international community"*. Journalist **Chris Hedges** described Hammond's actions as providing *"chilling evidence that anti-terrorism laws are being routinely used by the federal government to criminalize nonviolent, democratic dissent and falsely link dissidents to international terrorist organizations"*.

Steve Kangas



Steve Kangas

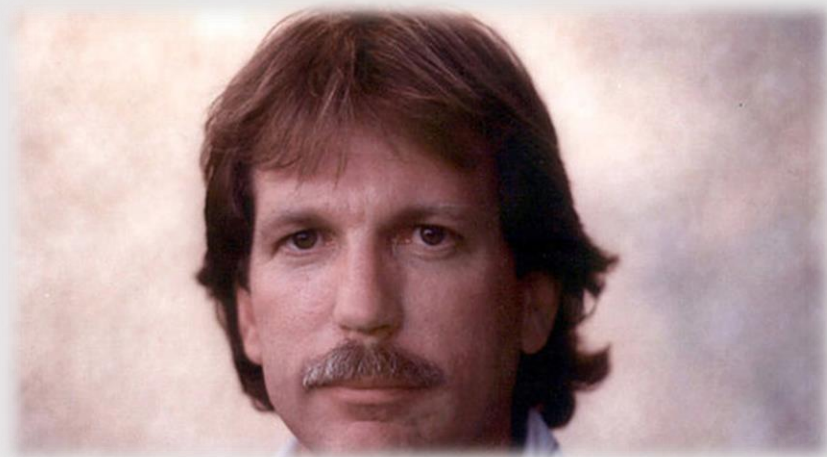
"A timeline of CIA atrocities"

Steve Kangas was a researcher and writer with prior experience in the US intelligence community, employed mostly by the US military in Europe. He resigned from the military and compiled in the 1990s a disturbing list of CIA crimes around the world that he titled, **"A timeline of CIA atrocities"**. He was recently engaged in some deep research into what were secret and undocumented CIA projects and activities, some of which involved a man named Richard Mellon Scaife, a wealthy US businessman who had been closely involved with the CIA for many years. In another apparent suicide that was almost certainly another CIA murder, Kangas was found dead in the small hours of the morning in a bathroom on the same floor as Scaife's office. As is usual in these CIA-perpetrated murder-suicides, the story changed rapidly, evidence disappeared, the official narrative didn't fit the facts, and there was considerable evidence of a cover-up. First, a security guard found Kangas lying on the floor of the bathroom, apparently wounded, with blood spattered around, but he was still alive. The guard went to get some help, and when he returned, he found Kangas seated on a toilet, fully-clothed, with no blood apparent anywhere, and Kangas was dead. Then, the initial police report stated that Kangas had been shot in the side of the head, but the government coroner later stated he had shot himself through the roof of his mouth. His body was quickly cremated, so no further examinations will ever be done as they were with Frank Olson.

When the security guard first found Kangas lying on the floor, there were no objects with him, but the final death report conveniently catalogues an empty bottle of whiskey, a gun and bullets, and three books, one of which was a copy of "Mein Kampf" by Adolf Hitler. There was no explanation as to why Kangas would have travelled from his home in Las Vegas to Pittsburgh, apparently with no credit cards and only \$14.63 in his pocket, just to kill himself. Kangas' computer would likely have held files relating to his then-current research on the CIA and on Scaife, but it seems that the computer was given to a maintenance man who for some reason erased the entire hard drive, thereby destroying whatever evidence might have existed. Kangas was a

man who didn't believe in guns and had never owned one, but the CIA produced a purchase certificate showing that Kangas had bought a gun a short time prior to his death. There was no explanation as to why a man who didn't believe in guns would have been in possession of one, nor whether the apparent purchase records of the gun were legitimate or had been forged. After the death began to attract attention and suspicion, the authorities and involved parties attempted to dismiss Kangas as a drunk, a drug addict and a penniless derelict who sold pornography on the internet. All accusations were, of course, false. Given the circumstances common to this and so many other deaths that have involved the CIA, it appears Kangas was probing too successfully into secrets the CIA did not care to have revealed.

Gary Webb



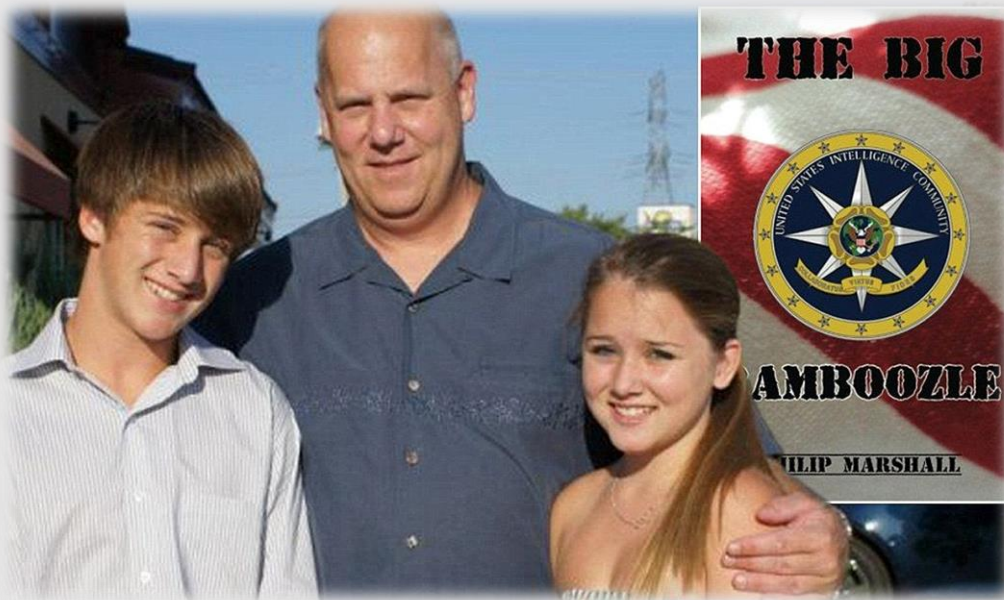
[Dark Alliance](#)

Free E-Book

In an article by **Don Quijones** in May of 2013 he stated, *"On December 10, 2004, a 49-year-old man was found dead in his home in Sacramento, California. At first glance the scene bore all the hallmarks of a run-of-the-mill suicide case - apart, that is, from one niggling little detail: the man had two gunshot wounds in the head. That didn't stop the coroner, however, from swiftly pronouncing the cause of death as suicide. It was a verdict that would go universally unchallenged by the US mainstream media, despite the fact that the man's enemies included some of the*

nation's most powerful people." The man involved, **Gary Webb**, had been one of the most talented and dedicated investigative journalists in the US, who produced a damning and proven report on the crack cocaine business in America, *including the active involvement of the **CIA***. In fact, he had revealed a memorandum of understanding between the CIA and Justice Department that effectively freed the CIA from legally reporting drug smuggling by its own personnel. His work was published in a San Jose newspaper and titled "**Dark Alliance**", but Webb soon encountered a massive character assassination campaign that left him unemployed and unemployable; every effort was made by the US mainstream media to destroy the man's reputation and credibility. *"In short, one of the most talented, dedicated and outspoken journalists of his generation had effectively been silenced despite the fact that many of his claims about the CIA smuggling cocaine and able to operate freely operate without threat of law enforcement had already been substantiated."* Then, he was found dead, with two shots to the head, the government coroner claiming a distraught unemployed man killed himself.

Phillip Marshall



[The Big Bamboozle 9 11 and the War on Ter - Philip Marshall](#)

Free E-Book

Phillip Marshall was a former airplane pilot and author whose works included several volumes on 9-11, and whose decades of experience included not only the duties of an airline captain, but as a "*special activities*" contract pilot for various US government agencies including the **DEA**. *He held captain ratings on the Boeing 727, 737, 747, 757 and 767, and was eminently qualified to write on the events of 9-11 and the challenges and capabilities of the supposed terrorists to control those aircraft.* Marshall was the leading aviation expert on the 9-11 attack, **and in 2012 published a definitive work claiming it was Bush, Cheney and the Saudis who orchestrated that tragedy.** Shortly thereafter, **he was found dead with himself, his two children and the family dog all shot in the head.** The local police department quickly released their finding that this had been a murder-suicide, a report that by all accounts emerged a bit too soon and appeared a bit too solid, apparently without investigation.

Pat Tillman



Pat Tillman was an American football player who sacrificed a good life and abandoned a lucrative professional career, sacrificing a multi-million-dollar salary to enlist in the US Army after 9/11 because he felt a patriotic urge to defend his country. He joined the US Army Rangers and served several combat tours there. As a result of his fame and sacrifice and his masculine good looks, Tillman quickly became a US poster child for the questionable and unpopular war in Afghanistan. Sadly, before he had completed his last tour of duty, Tillman died in the war, in the mountains of Afghanistan. The Army initially claimed that Tillman and his unit were attacked in an apparent ambush on a road outside of a village near the Pakistan border. According to the official story, an Afghan militia soldier was killed, and two other Rangers were injured as well.

Tillman was awarded a **Purple Heart**, a posthumous promotion, and the **Silver Star** citation which gave a detailed account of his heroism, claiming he died "*in the line of devastating enemy fire*". **Ann Coulter**, an extreme Right-Wing columnist, called Tillman "*an American original: virtuous, pure and masculine like only an American male can be*", and claimed that Tillman "*died bringing freedom and democracy to 28 million Afghans*." His funeral was on national television, his fate still being sold as a hero's death from enemy fire. Then-President Bush was boasting about Tillman's "*inspiration on and off the field*."

But his funeral had hardly taken place when the unexpected happened: *the news was released that Tillman had not died in an enemy firefight but had been killed by "friendly fire"*. In other words, in what was perhaps the confusion of war, **he had been accidentally shot by his own US army colleagues**. In a report in *The Washington Post*, it was claimed that Tillman's superiors were fully aware of this fact before granting his military awards, and before his funeral. Tillman's family was not informed of the true facts until weeks after his memorial service, when they also discovered the military had given orders to Tillman's comrades to lie to his family about the circumstances of his death. Then more information began to emerge. Not only were Army investigators aware that Tillman had been killed by friendly fire, **but the**

autopsy reported that he had been shot three times in the forehead, and from only a few meters away. There was a further report that members of his unit burned his body armor and uniform in an apparent attempt to hide these facts.

In addition, Defense Department documents indicate that there had never been any evidence of even enemy presence much less enemy engagement, and that contrary to the original story, *no members of Tillman's group had been hit by enemy fire*. According to numerous reports, there were no Taliban anywhere near the area where Tillman was killed. One revelation that the authorities tried to suppress was that Tillman's squad encountered a group of US military snipers that approached them. All the medical reports made the same observation - that Tillman was killed by three closely-grouped shots to the center of his forehead. The official story still claimed Tillman was supposedly killed by "friendly fire" during an engagement with the enemy, but it was now proven that there was no such enemy engagement, so how would it happen that, in the absence of any conflict, somebody would put three closely-packed bullets into the forehead of Pat Tillman from only a few meters distance? Army doctors told the investigators that Tillman's wounds suggested murder and urged them to launch a criminal investigation, but they were rebuffed. The doctor who autopsied Tillman's body tried to pursue an investigation into the murder **but was prevented from doing so** by the Army's Criminal Investigation Division. There were further reports that Army medical examiners tried without success to get authorities to investigate whether Tillman had been murdered. The destruction of all evidence, including his personal journal, linked to her son's death, led his mother to speculate that he was murdered. Mary Tillman has long suggested that her son was deliberately murdered by his fellow soldiers. **US General Wesley Clark agreed that this was "very possible".**

Of interest is the content of some internal military communication where Army attorneys congratulated each other in emails for impeding the criminal investigation to the point where only administrative, or non-criminal, punishment was indicated. Adding another layer of murk, the White House and President

Bush claimed "executive privilege" in refusing to release documents dealing with Tillman's death. We do need to ask who is being protected. Why would such a thing happen? The answer is apparent. Despite his fame, Tillman did not want to be used for propaganda purposes. He spoke to friends about his strong opposition to President Bush and the Iraq war: "You know," he told a close army buddy, "this war is so f--- illegal." The US poster boy who had indeed been used in a propaganda campaign for the war, had now experienced a change of heart and was violently opposed to the same war the government had used him to promote. *When Tillman discovered that the invasion of Iraq was based on a mountain of lies and deceit and had nothing to do with defending America, he became infuriated and was ready to return home to become an anti-war hero. He was nearing the end of his tour of duty and had made an appointment to meet with well-known government critic and the nation's leading anti-war crusader Noam Chomsky after his return.* If that meeting with Chomsky had occurred as scheduled, Tillman would likely have teamed up with him to travel the country and jointly reveal and condemn the illegalities and atrocities of that war. Tillman might even have become directly involved in a political campaign, and in that event the US government's prized propaganda creation would have, like Frankenstein's monster, turned against his creator. That would have had a devastating effect on the US government's effort to shore up support for what one writer called "our crazed foreign policy". *And that would undoubtedly have been the motive for the elimination of Pat Tillman.*

All the evidence points directly to the execution of Tillman by a US military sniper group because of his threat to the government, and their motivation is clear. Tillman was deliberately executed to prevent him from becoming an anti-war icon and derailing public support in the United States for the ongoing occupations of Iraq and Afghanistan. In a widely-seen TV appearance, *US General Wesley Clark stated that "the orders came from the very top" to cover-up the nature of Tillman's death, as he was a political symbol and his opposition to the war in Iraq would have rallied the population around supporting immediate withdrawal.* Another author writing in a similar context, wrote, **"These American**

men of war are so morally deformed that anything is possible."

Karen Silkwood



Wreckage of the death car after mysterious crash in 1974

"Anyone exposed to that amount is married to lung cancer."

Silkwood had carried small amounts of plutonium out of the plant and had deliberately contaminated herself and her apartment. Why should she act so bizarre-

nesses are expected to tell, for example, of the night that workers were dispatched by the

<http://law2.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/silkwood/silkwoodlinks.html>

The Kerr-McGee Corporation was an American defense contractor with powerful political connections not only to the government but to the US military and CIA as well as local law enforcement officials. Karen Silkwood was a young chemical technician at the Kerr-McGee plant making plutonium pellets for nuclear reactor fuel rods. She discovered numerous instances of company violations that exposed workers to serious radioactive contamination, and in the summer of 1974 Silkwood testified to the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) about these issues, alleging poor or no safety standards and claiming the company falsified inspection records. A short time later, she discovered her body contained almost 400 times the legal limit for plutonium, resulting in her undergoing many intense decontamination sessions, but after each one she was again found to be dangerously

contaminated. Health officials finally examined her home and found plutonium deposits throughout her bathroom and kitchen, and even in her refrigerator. A day later, Silkwood's body was found dead in her car, which had run off the road and struck a culvert.

Silkwood had made two serious mistakes. One was joining the company union and participating in a strike to attract public attention to the severe safety hazards at the plant, and the second was testifying against the company to the AEC. At the time of the accident, Silkwood had just left a union meeting with an armful of documents taken from the Kerr-McGee plant that proved the company's violations and massive cover-up attempts, and also documented the large-scale falsification of records, with proof that quality control of the dangerous fuel rods had been compromised. *Her revelations, if made public, would have created a major scandal with enormous and wide-ranging implications.* She was on her way to deliver those documents to a *New York Times* investigative reporter when her car ran off the road and she was killed. When the police arrived at the scene, no documents were found in her car.

There is evidence that the authorities had kept Silkwood under surveillance and her phone had been tapped. Someone had contaminated her apartment with plutonium in an attempt to kill her while making it appear as an accident due to her own carelessness. *And the circumstances of her auto accident were highly suspicious, with damage to the rear of her car strongly suggesting that it had been forcefully struck from the rear and forced off the road.* The auto accident was never satisfactorily investigated or explained, nor did the company or military offer any explanation for the presence of plutonium throughout her home. The official narrative was that she had "fallen asleep while driving", but a federal court jury awarded her family \$10.5 million against the company, which was deemed responsible for the plutonium contamination. A movie was made in this woman's honor ("Silkwood", starring Meryl Streep), and a museum was created in her home town to commemorate her courage. But she is still dead.

Bradley (Chelsea) Manning



By now, probably everyone knows the story of the young US soldier Bradley Manning, who several years ago leaked 250,000 US diplomatic cables and half a million army reports to Wikileaks and the media. **There has never been a bigger leak of classified material in the history of the United States, nor one as volatile or shocking. It was Manning who released to the world the dishonesty of the US war in Iraq and the savage brutality of the American military in that country. It was Manning's documents that first informed the world of the reality of the US government's network of torture prisons and prison ships around the world, and of the CIA's extensive network of kidnapping and rendition - shipping kidnap victims outside US jurisdiction to be tortured, many to the death.**

Among the videos Manning released was one of an Apache helicopter conducting a bombing raid that killed Iraqi civilians and a Reuters journalist, where the Iraqis on the ground surrendered, only to be shot dead anyway. Manning said *"The most alarming aspect of the video to me was the seemingly delightful bloodlust they appeared to have", and an appalling "lack of value for human*

life". In releasing that information, Manning did a great service to the entire world, a world that needed to see in pictures and video the true face of US foreign policy and the extent of US brutality toward non-whites. Manning proved that US foreign policy depends on secrecy, not because of fear of US enemies, but because the reality would horrify not only the American people but the entire world. And horrify, it did. Manning's only real crime was to have embarrassed the US government in its increasingly farcical claims of being a defender of rights and freedoms and its adherence to rule of law.

Manning has for years been in prison, where he has by all accounts been tortured, horribly mistreated, and deprived of all human contact. He was kept naked, left without privacy, awakened every five minutes day and night for apparently weeks on end, and much more. *Neither legal counsel nor the International Red Cross nor human rights groups were ever permitted to visit or interview him.* His military trial was held behind closed doors with no media or public present on the grounds that the trial would contain classified information. Of more than passing interest is a claim that among the witnesses to testify against Manning are members of the US Navy Seal Team #6 - **the team that "doesn't exist"** - and that carried out the almost certainly fictitious raid against Osama bin Laden in Afghanistan. The reason this is curious is that all members of this (perhaps imaginary) team were reported killed in a helicopter crash, so even if they existed before, they certainly don't exist now. **But they will still testify against Manning.** The Manning trial isn't the first instance in which the United States under Obama has demonstrated its willingness to do anything necessary to prevent the spread of unwelcome truths. **Former President Richard Nixon tried to use the Espionage Act to put the leaker of the Pentagon Papers - about the planning of the Vietnam War - behind bars.**

The US makes an enormous amount of sanctimonious noise about what it terms harsh treatment of so-called dissidents in other countries whenever it finds political advantage, however sleazy, in doing so. **But when dealing with American dissidents, the**

US has no hesitation in exercising the brutality and lack of conscience for which it has become famous, and pays no attention whatever to world opinion. Certainly, Bradley (Chelsea) Manning's life is over, a harsh warning to those who would dare expose the brutal truths of the imperial master, **and a frightening reminder to the people of the world that the false smile painted on the face of US foreign policy is only a mask that covers the most evil of faces.** Filmmaker Michael Moore stated in an article in *The Huffington Post* that "*all soldiers convicted of war crimes in Iraq and Afghanistan have served less prison time in total than Bradley Manning faces by himself*". The United States of America specialises in political prisoners.

Edward Snowden



Edward Snowden is another US "dissident" who, acting from conscience, decided to tell the world the truth of the US government's illegal espionage and law-breaking on an almost unimaginable world-wide scale. **The US government had for some time flooded the worldwide media with accusations of hacking against China, only to be revealed as the worst violator in the world by orders of magnitude.** It is worth noting that Snowden had a legal responsibility to report crimes perpetrated by his superiors, but that responsibility is only propaganda and utopian illusion. In real life, with this man and so

many others in the US, whistleblowers are viciously prosecuted while the perpetrators are protected. Snowden was fortunate to have planned his escape in advance, **but everyone, most especially Snowden himself, knows the US will not rest until he has been eliminated.** Wherever Edward Snowden finds refuge, he will simply be waiting for the arrival of that fatal shot. And it will come. **The US is nothing if not vengeful, and it has killed people for much smaller offenses.**

We have read about Snowden's revelations, but the Western media failed to report Snowden's interview with a German broadcaster or to air the content of that interview in the US. Notable among the comments in that interview were the US government threats on Snowden's life. One NSA official was quoted as saying, *"(If I weren't) restricted from killing an American, I personally would go and kill him myself."* A senior Pentagon official is quoted as saying: *"I would love to put a bullet in his head."* A US military intelligence officer declared in an interview that *"Snowden could be 'poked' on his way home from buying groceries by a passerby who is actually a US agent. Snowden thinks nothing of it at the time (and soon) starts to feel a little woozy. And the next thing you know he dies in the shower."*

Michael Hastings



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3LSY3wVuASg>

...and that there was no way the accident could have caused the engine to fly 60 meters from the car in the direction it did...

(You can see it in this video)

Michael Hastings was 33 years old, an award-winning journalist and an accomplished war correspondent and political reporter, perhaps best known for writing a critical profile in the Rolling Stone magazine about **US General Stanley McChrystal** that led to McChrystal's resignation. He was apparently working on another important story that involved yet another major US military figure, **General David Petraeus** of Iraq fame, and that implicated both the US Department of Defense and the FBI. Hastings wrote about being approached by one of Gen. McChrystal's aides who told him "We'll hunt you down and kill you if we don't like what you write". Hastings later wrote, "I wasn't disturbed by the claim. Whenever I'd been reporting around groups of dudes whose job it was to kill people, one of them would usually mention that they were going to kill me".

Just before his death in July 2013, Hastings sent an SMS message to several friends, *saying "the FEDS" were watching him and contacting his friends and associates, and that he was onto a big story and needed to disappear "under the radar for a while"*. He died a few hours later when his Mercedes, traveling at high speeds, smashed into a tree and caught fire. This is the text of his message: "FBI Investigation, re: NSA - the Feds are interviewing my "close friends and associates". Perhaps if the authorities arrive, may be wise to immediately request legal counsel before any conversations or interviews about our news-gathering practices or related journalism issues. Also: *I'm onto a big story, and need to go off the radar for a bit.*" Wikileaks made an online post that Hastings had consulted with one of its lawyers, Jennifer Robinson, "just a few hours" before his death, claiming that the FBI was investigating him. **The FBI, in what may be the first time, publicly - and quickly - denied having any interest in Hastings.**

There aren't enough facts to form a judgment on this event, but the circumstances are sufficiently suspicious to generate speculation about yet another murder of someone who became troublesome. The fire that destroyed Hastings's car was recorded on video, and that itself raises many questions. I have seen cars burn, and videos of cars burning, the fire usually caused by a collision and the leakage of fuel, but I have never seen a fire like this one. Auto fires are normally localised, with either the engine compartment or the rear of the car severely damaged, **but Hastings's car was totally enveloped in flames and completely destroyed.** And I have seldom seen such an intense and violent conflagration as the one that consumed this car. I don't believe anything could burn so furiously and violently without accelerants. I don't know what the truth is, **but the flames that consumed Hastings's car were not from a gasoline fire.**

Both police and reporters claimed there were no skidmarks, the police claiming the car simply left the road and drove into a tree at high speed, and caught fire. But when the fire abated, **the police immediately covered the entire car with a white sheet, which is something I have never seen before.** And news reports now claim that both police and firemen who were on the scene have been ordered to not discuss the matter with anyone, under any circumstances. **Mercedes claims its car could never have burned naturally in the manner in which it did, and that there was no way the accident could have caused the engine to fly 60 meters from the car in the direction it did, which suggests both an explosion and incendiary materials.** Also, a man named Jose Rubalcava who witnessed the entire crash, **said he saw sparks coming out of Hastings' car before it hit the tree** and that it was traveling at very high speed, and had repeated explosions after the collision. Richard Clarke, the counterterrorism chief under both Bill Clinton and George W. Bush, told *the Huffington Post* that **Hastings's crash looked "consistent with a car cyber-attack".**

To add to the mystery, auto technicians have claimed that a car can easily be remotely controlled and/or sabotaged by on-board

software, and that it would technically be quite easy to have accomplished Hastings' accident. In the August 12, 2013 issue of Forbes Magazine, in an article titled **"Hackers Reveal Nasty New Car Attacks"**, Forbes staff writer **Andy Greenberg** took readers through a tour of the vulnerabilities lurking in the electronics of today's automobiles. These startling deficiencies and dangers were introduced to him by two researchers named **Charlie Miller** and **Chris Valasek** who had spent a year on this project. You should have alarm bells ringing in your head when you learn that in 2012 Miller and Valasek received an \$80,000-plus grant from the research arm of the Pentagon known as the *'Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency'*, a grant for research ostensibly intended "to root out security vulnerabilities in automobiles". Isn't that interesting? The Pentagon, of all people, are interested in identifying and eliminating software vulnerabilities in civilian automobiles. Unlikely. **The US military is quite uninterested in rooting out anything, but is desperately interested in the weapons potential of such technology, as is the CIA. And this relates directly to Google's 'driverless car' project.**

Greenberg tells us that as he drove a vehicle for more than an hour, Miller and Valasek demonstrated that they had reverse-engineered enough auto software to deliver a wide range of nasty surprises - with Greenberg at the wheel. They could sound the horn, or slam on the brakes at high speed. They could kill both the brakes and the power steering. They could make the GPS, the speedometer and odometer, **wildly inaccurate**. They could violently jerk the steering wheel at any speed, sufficient to send a car into a head-on collision, or off the road into - a tree. **Their focus, and that of the Pentagon, is hacking vehicles physically and also by remote wireless devices**, and this ability is already old news. *A team of researchers from the University of Washington and the University of California, San Diego, proved in 2010 that they could wirelessly penetrate these same critical systems by using OnStar, Bluetooth, Android smartphones or even a CD in the car's stereo system. They claimed that obtaining remote-code execution was not difficult for most vehicle functions.*

Security analyst Richard Clarke said it was easily possible for the authorities to have hacked into Hastings' 2013 Mercedes C250 control system, **and that such an attack would be almost impossible to trace.** He said the evidence available publicly is consistent with a cyber-attack, but the problem is that it can't be proven. We may never learn the truth about Michael Hastings, **but this wouldn't be the first time the US authorities have 'eliminated' a problem by creating an 'accident'.** And this apparent accident has FBI and US military fingerprints all over it, especially their desperate attempt to discredit Hastings' name with claims that were proven false of him **having narcotics in his system at the time of the crash.**

There is another element regarding General Motors that I find disturbing, this being GM's recent infatuation with Israel and the establishment of various R&D centers in that country. The simple fact of doing R&D in Israel is more or less irrelevant, and Israel may well be a useful location for such an enterprise. The portion of this I find disturbing is that, while the language appears to be cleverly couched in neutral terms, my conclusion on reading the releases and media articles was that this R&D appears to relate primarily to electronic remote control of automobiles, *the very same program of such great interest to the FBI and CIA in the US to contain public protests and dissension and quite possibly to create plausible examples of "death by auto accident",* of which we have already seen several. The articles referred to the development of "alternative driving systems", "vehicle electronics and communications systems", and various other kinds of "advanced technology", none of which appeared related in any sense to automotive development as such, **but rather to electronic control and communication,** terms not so easy to misinterpret.

GM's vice president of global research and development, **Alan Taub,** spoke of this being "the first true scientific research laboratory" for automotive "Operations and Administration", and to tap that country's brightest minds in a way similar to the US military outsourcing weapons research to universities around the world. He spoke of using remote technology in the march to ...

"in some cases, intervention", i.e., *authorities learning to control vehicles remotely, using sensors to determine the surroundings*. He repeated Google's barely credible references to self-drive cars as being for safety - but also available for remote control. In his words, *"They use the exact same technology"*. I don't find that comforting. Taub also spoke of one such auto jointly designed by GM and Carnegie-Mellon University that won the Urban Challenge event sponsored by the US Department of Defense. **Anyone who believes there is no military or civilian control agenda behind these research efforts, is truly asleep.** Taub also noted that Israel has a huge amount of human talent in precisely the fields required by GM, and this very much includes electronic espionage for which the Israelis are famous. One GM source, Gil Golan, GM's Israel site director, specified that GM will focus on *"advanced sensing, wireless enabling, allowing a vehicle's systems to use networks to ensure constant communication ... and vehicle control (by whom?) ... for driverless navigation"*, with or without the driver's permission, no doubt. The issue is not GM's designing the means for American authorities to control dissent by rendering autos inoperable in the US, **but of inserting that technology into GM cars in China, thereby providing US authorities with the same opportunity in China, yet one more weapon in their "full-spectrum dominance" for warfare.** If I want to declare war on your country, the ability to disable every motor vehicle on your streets, would be useful, no?

Before you dismiss this too quickly as yet another conspiracy theory, the *Times of Israel* carried articles in June of 2015 revealing that *Hyundai of South Korea is interested in precisely these things and is taking substantial initiatives to obtain results, apparently intending to become a leader in this field*. It is worthy of note that Hyundai's first step is to conduct a national computer hacking contest in Israel, in the hopes of identifying the top such talents who will then receive research contracts with the company. The winners will be selected on the basis of "creativity" and how they use the Internet and other "connected technologies" including Bluetooth and GPS to **"affect the driving experience"**. Use your imagination. What does that mean, 'using creativity and connected technologies to affect the driving experience'? The article stated that Hyundai was creating a "built-

in cellular modem" that will connect with a car and "its APPS" and, of course, with all the vehicle's controls. The article stated Hyundai's auto communications would permit the company to **"implement numerous long-distance features"**, exemplified by drivers being able to call for help - which they can easily do without Hyundai's help - or where "other parties could connect" to the car. **Think about that.** What does that mean, 'using communications to implement long-distance features where "other parties" can connect to your car'. The article noted that security was a concern, quoting studies by the US Senate and other proving hackers can easily take control of key vehicle components remotely, stressing that Hyundai "has gone to great lengths" to ensure that no one but them will be able to intrude. **Exactly: ensuring that 'no one but them' would be able to take control of a vehicle.** Apparently Jewish security experts have considerable experience in this precise field, the article specifying that these experts have worked on "closed operating systems" for "Jewish phones". In other words, **protecting themselves first from others doing to them what they propose to do to others.**

Chapter 4 - The Criminalisation of Protest in America



*US today freely interferes in the governments of so many other nations, fueling unrest and financing violence, seeking to impose on these countries a peculiarly American form of "open government" which it can control, but has always severely restricted any such activity either suspected or real, on its own soil. We have already read about **the Un-American Activities Act [1]** and the extensive government policies to prohibit political activism or promote other forms of government or capitalism in those years, and I briefly mentioned the Sedition Act passed by **President Woodrow Wilson's** government in the early 1900s. [2]*

This latter legislation was directed against all Americans and used to firmly silence criticism of government policies. Under this Act, the government engaged in countless illegal searches and seizures of property and imprisoned tens of thousands of US citizens simply for criticising Wilson's desire for war. The authorities organised gangs to regularly intimidate and beat up citizens, unrelated to the propaganda war on the Germans. Wilson admitted openly that many of his laws and activities were unconstitutional, but often protected himself with claims of national security.



In 1940, under **President Franklin Roosevelt**, the US created a law known as **the Smith Act** [\[3\]](#) which made it a crime in the US to “knowingly or willfully advocate, abet, advise, or teach the ... desirability or propriety of overthrowing ... any government in the United States”. And for the following decades the government prosecuted thousands of individuals who proposed alternatives to the US system of capitalism, or promoted any form of socialism or attempted to form another political party. The act was exclusively intended to suppress any and all forms of political dissent in the United States. Many people were imprisoned or disappeared simply for publishing or circulating pamphlets or articles that discussed alternative political or economic views.

The government created internment camps where anyone suspected of being a subversive agent could be imprisoned indefinitely without charge, disappearing into a secret prison system. US authorities still continue the process they began more than 60 years ago of using the IRS – the US Tax Department – as a weapon of intimidation against those who dare to challenge the political or capitalist systems. According to records, tens of thousands of individuals and groups, colleges, charities and even religious organisations have been mercilessly harassed by the IRS as punishment for political activism.

In 1950 The US passed the **McCarran Internal Security Act** that effectively prohibited even the discussion of other forms of government within the US. That law required that all persons objecting to the American multi-party political system were to be registered as subversive agents, a process that would automatically deny them most of their basic rights including the ability to travel freely and would place severe restrictions on the kinds of jobs they could hold. They were also

subject to arbitrary deportation even though they were American citizens.

Failure to register as subversive agents would lead to a \$10,000 fine and five years in jail for each day of non-compliance, all in a circumstance where the definition of such persons and their need to register were by no means clear. Anyone interested in political reform or an increase in social justice therefore faced a stark choice: either register as a subversive agent and enemy alien and face personal destruction, or avoid registration and face certain bankruptcy and life in prison. It was apparent this law was a forceful method of using fear to intimidate individuals from criticising the government since its application was entirely arbitrary and with no transparency whatever.

[4]



The McCarran Act was a far-reaching piece of legislation that served to remove most of the civil liberties from a great many people on what was essentially an arbitrary basis, the set of laws that gave **Senator McCarthy** the freedom to introduce fascism on a grand scale, and worked in conjunction with the House Un-American Activities Committee. The Act's stated purpose was to protect the US against subversive activities by requiring registration of hostile foreign propagandists and agents, but it did far more than this. It prevented people from becoming citizens, it could withdraw citizenship, deport individuals, prevent their employment, and much more. In all, it had far-reaching consequences for both civil liberties in the US – which it totally trashed – and as a template for its own resurrection in the 1980s and beyond. It targeted intellectuals, anyone who might have written criticism of the US government. One Dr. Morrison received an unfortunate summons to a Congressional

Committee simply for writing a review of a book that described the human horrors of nuclear war. At the time, the US was desperately trying to produce an improved atomic bomb and widely used the powers of this Act to silence all public criticism of its plans by categorising objections as subversive and treasonous.

The Act prohibited the writing or circulation of, or any teaching of, opposition to the US form of government or the removal or replacement of the US governmental system. It was forbidden to be a member of any organisation that would "raise the presumption that such person was not attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States". It was forbidden to advocate any economic or political doctrine foreign to the US. The Act stipulated that all persons arbitrarily defined by the FBI as 'political activists' would be confined to automatic forced detention on the spurious grounds they might conspire to commit sabotage or espionage.

It was forbidden for any employee of the US government or of any US corporation "to communicate in any manner or by any means, to any other person whom such officer or employee knows or has reason to believe to be an agent or representative of any foreign government". No such "agent of a foreign government" was permitted to "seek, accept or hold" any employment in the US, nor to conceal the fact that he was such an agent. All US citizens were forbidden from funding, advising or assisting any such person or organisation, and it was forbidden by law to associate with those who were not "well disposed to the good order and happiness" of America.

This legislation and other similar Acts are still in force in the US today, raising yet again the vast discrepancy between what the Americans preach externally and what they do at home. Once again, the Americans pressure China vigorously to freely and without restriction permit unlimited seditious American propaganda into China, openly declaring their intention to overthrow China's governmental system, yet deport or imprison for life those attempting such acts in their own country.

And once again we can ask why, if these “seditious foreign agents” must be registered and identified in the US, cannot be funded or even communicated with, cannot publish or distribute any material contradictory to the American government and capitalist system, it is okay for the Americans to do precisely these things in China. Why is it not equally appropriate for China to force all Americans and their agents to register as “seditious aliens”, forbid them to communicate with Chinese and forbid employment? And why isn’t it okay for China to just deport all those Americans who are not “well disposed to the good order and happiness of China”? We must remind ourselves yet one more time that democracy is a coin with only one side.

Today, the proliferation of ‘anti-terror’ legislation in the US essentially duplicates all this past legislation in its fascist glory, but updated to the present.

The Patriot Act made all Americans potential enemies of the state, and the National Defense Authorization Act gave the US military and espionage agencies the ability to ignore all considerations of law or civil rights. You have read of some of the problems in US agriculture and the problems with so-called “factory farms” where animals are raised in abhorrent conditions.

Today in the US, anyone investigating the toxic conditions and abuses on these farms risks being prosecuted under the same terrorism legislation, for causing “losses to American businesses” owned by the top 1%. One Ph.D candidate at MIT, whose name appeared on one of these prosecution lists, wrote,

“It is deeply sobering to see one’s name in an FBI file proposing terrorism charges. It is even more sobering to realize the supposedly terroristic activities in question are merely exposing the horrific cruelty of factory farms and educating the public about what goes on behind those closed doors”.

Simply, the puppet-masters who control the White House and also direct the large corporations are avoiding exposure and prosecution

and silencing all political and anti-capitalist sentiment by directing the justice system to target civilian investigators and activists as terrorists.

The process now operating within the US is that every threat, real or imagined, to the established political-capitalist order will produce increased public repression. And it is not only US government agencies and police forces that are involved in this civil suffocation; the major American banks and the Foundations play an increasingly deep role in subverting even further the free expression of dissent in America. We have already seen that the banks that were the target of the Occupy Wall Street protests surreptitiously funded the group in order to manage its direction and ensure its demise. Foundations like **Rockefeller** and **Carnegie** have done the same, with the idea of financing and participating **in various civil rights movements in order to better control them** and prevent the movements from taking their natural course as popular expressions of public sentiment against an unfair and brutal system. They were co-opting the movements to suit the interests of the top 1%, to make the world "*safe for capitalism*". Some states have introduced legislation to criminalise all investigations of corporate crimes, in transparent attempts to use frighteningly powerful and unlimited legislation to protect corporate profits. Even photographing some of these actions will be classified as terrorism and subject to the full arbitrary power of these laws. *We have reached the point where a camera is now a terrorist weapon, the possession of which is punishable by life imprisonment in a black prison without any judicial process or recourse.*

Congress recently passed a new law that effectively criminalises all public protests, and categorises civil society movements like Occupy Wall Street as "domestic terrorism". **The Patriot Act and the National Defense Authorization Act** *give the military and espionage agencies unlimited powers.*

The law is deliberately vague, so that almost anything could be included within the criminal definition, and so broad that almost every American today could be labeled a suspected terrorist. *The intent is to intimidate all citizens and stifle any public criticism of US government acts or policies.* Any of the following actions may get a US citizen labeled as a suspected terrorist today:

- (1) Speaking out against government policies,
- (2) Protesting against anything,
- (3) Questioning the government's many wars,
- (4) Asking questions about Wall Street Banks and the FED,
- (5) Taking pictures or video, especially of police.

According to US Department of Defense training manuals, any public protest is considered "low-level terrorism" today, and all anti-war protesters are now classified as terrorists.

The US government is using the Patriot Act and various other bits of new legislation not only to outlaw most of the basic civil freedoms in the country, *but these laws are so vague as to permit virtually any domestic atrocity against civilians.*

*Anyone today who speaks out against any US government policies can be arbitrarily classified as either a terrorist or an "unlawful enemy combatant" and imprisoned indefinitely without charge or trial. **Few people seem aware that the US media are compelled by law to report to the FBI/CIA all communication (letters to the Editor, etc.) that is critical of the US government.***

Another fact not widely known is that thousands of Americans are imprisoned each year for a single Tweet, a single Facebook post or a single Text message. *A simple post on social media or pressing "like" on Facebook, can be deemed "terroristic threatening" in the US, and result in a sentence of three to five years in prison.*

Many government agencies, including the military, now actively monitor all US social media like Facebook and Twitter to identify those who criticise the US government, then seek them out and interrogate them. *This has a particularly chilling effect on American so-called "free speech" when citizens know that espionage agencies are now*

monitoring every online post and comment. It is not widely known, but US authorities constantly monitor the social media, bulletin boards and other Internet sites for potential political dissent, and often exercise their authority to order people to disperse from “unlawful online assembly”, which definition is as arbitrary as the authorities wish to make it.

Moreover, *leaked documents revealed that any students who could be identified as having been involved in protests, or posted public but 'sensitive' information, or involved in various political activisms, would forever be prohibited from employment with any part of the US government.* One university student who had taken part in the **Occupy Wall Street** protests later said, *"The system in place sublimely manipulates our social reality in ways obvious only when we realize that there is nothing between us and the police but fear".* She added that if the protestors had held out and actually tried to make changes in the system, her participation would exist in a permanent record **and she would never be able to get a job.** And in any case, she held out no hope that the citizens could ever really change anything.

The **DHS** hired defense contractor **General Dynamics** for a \$12 million program to monitor the Internet for “reports that reflect adversely on DHS, especially those that have a negative spin on DHS activities”. **These agencies are not monitoring so-called “terrorist” activity, but normal social activity and political commentary.** In its defense, DHS claimed the released documents were “outdated” – though they were new – and that social media were monitored for “situational awareness of man-made threats” and not to police disparaging opinions about the federal government. According to their spokesman, the manual’s instruction that analysts should identify media reports that reflect adversely on DHS activities was not at all meant to silence criticism, but simply “to identify areas where DHS wasn’t doing a good job, and to help it improve”. I can scarcely imagine a greater lie than that one. **[5] [6]**

In yet another attempt to silence political dissension, New York State proposed new legislation that would outlaw anonymous speech on the Internet, on the foolish pretense of discouraging ‘cyber-bullying’. *The*

*legislation states that any online comment attracting an objection, mostly from the government, must be deleted immediately **unless the website or social medium clearly displays the poster's true identity, IP address and residential home address.*** This was not presented as a removal of a civil right but rather the granting of a new one – the government's "right to know who is behind an anonymous internet posting", on the basis that a valuable resource like the Internet "ought to be used properly". Of course, there are few people anywhere so reckless as to expose themselves to the entire Internet world in this fashion, especially when it would invite a knock on the door. Naturally, government officials, media owners and anyone in the top 1% can continue to publish op-ed pieces without a byline, maintaining their own privacy while the peasants cannot.

In their book [***Manufacturing Consent***](#), and writing of the elite domination of the media, **Herman** and **Chomsky** noted that the marginalisation of dissidents results from filters so natural that the media can easily convince themselves they are being objective, *but the constraints are so powerful and so fundamentally built into the system that alternative choices are scarcely imaginable.*

Ben Bagdikian wrote that the acceptable range of discourse determines what topics can be discussed and to what degree, which will be pushed into the shadows and which uppermost in the public mind. He claimed it is the power to treat some subjects obscurely and others in depth where the media ownership most effectively influences the news – and also the content in the public mind. And, as Chomsky has often noted, it is the assumptions that are not articulated that affect the range of public discourse. And again, it is the political-capitalist narrative that is so closely protected from dissenting voices.

[Kevin Zeese and Margaret Flowers](#) made these very accurate observations:

"Another tool is to create insecurity in the population so that people are unwilling to speak out and take risks for fear of losing their jobs and being unable to afford food, a home and health care. Changes in the work environment, such as the attack on

unions and the war on whistleblowers, have led to greater job insecurity. Changes in college education also silence dissent, including the trend toward adjunct rather than tenured professors. Adjunct professors, now comprising 85 percent of faculty, are less willing to teach topics that are viewed as controversial. These, combined with massive student debt, are tools to silence the student population, once the center of transformative action.” ([Truthout](#))

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Notes

(1) HUAC – Definition, Hearings & Investigations; <https://www.history.com/topics/cold-war/huac>

Arbitrary Law Enforcement in the US

(2) U.S. Congress passes Sedition Act; <https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/u-s-congress-passes-sedition-act>

(3) Smith Act; https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Smith_Act

(4) McCarran Internal Security Act of 1950; <https://mtsu.edu/first-amendment/article/1047/mccarran-act-of-1950>

(5) Lawmaker Demands DHS Cease Monitoring of Blogs, Social Media; <https://www.wired.com/2012/02/dhs-media-monitoring/>

(6) Department Of Homeland Security Tells Congress Why It's Monitoring Facebook, Twitter, blogs; <https://www.fastcompany.com/1816814/departments-homeland-security-tells-congress-why-its-monitoring-facebook-twitter-blogs>

Chapter 5 – Police Brutality



Police Brutality

A Few Examples

Celebrating Freedom in America

And Not Only America

Police Brutality



Police brutality is an everyday occurrence in most of the US today, perhaps most notably in Los Angeles, Houston, New York, Philadelphia, St. Louis, and other major cities where there exist large communities of blacks and Latinos. These people, especially the young and poor and the new immigrants, are harassed, assaulted and killed on a daily basis, being easy targets and having little protection from police who terrorise and intimidate them with impunity. The extent and variety of police brutality today in the US is alarming. **It isn't only what the police do, but the freedom with which they do it, almost never held to account or punished even for killing people who are unarmed and restrained.** A contributing factor is that in American cities, police shootings and violence are investigated by the police themselves, with the result that virtually all violence and other crimes and almost 100% of police shootings are ruled to have been "justified". The Police Departments maintain the pretext of a war on crime or drugs, but the truth is that there is a war against minorities, with the police conducting themselves more like an occupation army than civilian police. Dr. Paul Craig Roberts noted in an article that "According

to news reports, during eight years of what is called the Iraq War more US citizens were murdered by the police than US soldiers were killed in the war. In other words, US police are a greater threat to Americans than enemy forces are to US soldiers who have invaded a foreign country."

US police forces have become increasingly militarised, with equipment like firearms, Kevlar body armor and armored vehicles, their behavior reflecting this apparent new perception of their role. Clearly, the people in a general sense have become "the enemy" whom the police are not charged to protect but to control. This militarisation is now extending itself to police interrogations, *following the military practice of "conditioning" prisoners before questioning, using harsh methods, yelling, swearing, making threats to instill fear and disorientation. Humiliation is another method of this so-called conditioning, resulting in an exponential rise in strip-searches and body cavity searches, enforced nakedness being one of the CIA's long-standing methods of preparation for interrogation now having been adopted by American police forces generally.* One PowerPoint training manual informed police to *"Get them naked"; strip prisoners before they are questioned, and maintain them in physical discomfort.*

The general public view today in so many American cities is that **the local police are often borderline psychotics, ready to shoot and kill on almost any pretext, and always immune from sanction.** There are countless cases of police beating and tasing physically and mentally disabled people, from people in wheelchairs to diabetics in glycemic shock or experiencing epileptic seizures. The US media attribute this psychopathic behavior to *"a woeful lack of training"* but this level of inhumanity clearly does not result from substandard training. **It is instead the natural outcome of a pathological fascism that has infected the entire US government and military, the police and espionage agencies, DHS and FEMA, and more.** These animals are in fact responding appropriately to the planned training they received. **They have been taught to brutalise, terrorise and kill, and are well-informed of their immunity. That's why they do it.** No sane person can accept that this widespread behavior would continue unabated if it failed to meet with high-level approval.

Another justified public conviction is that today all levels of the US criminal justice system are at least partially corrupt and that the system will lie and commit any number of progressive illegalities to protect itself from judgment or sanction. The politicians and the mass media ignore this alarming rise in police criminality and justice system corruption, *and instead continue to propagate the myth of a need for more prisons and yet more police*, for the sake of capitalism and feeding the private prison system. All this in a situation with an exponential rise in police crime and physical brutality revealing a rotten justice system saturated with corruption and violence, racism and injustice. Since the preponderance of police brutality is clearly racially-motivated, perpetrated against blacks and Latinos, and since the matters die without further complaint, *we must assume this is acceptable to Americans*, at least the white ones. **Brigitt Keller**, an American lawyer who works for increased police accountability, stated that *"The willingness of police to use very harsh measures against people has definitely increased"*, that there has been *"a clear escalation of violence by police, particularly since 9/11"*. The Justice Department, which keeps all kinds of statistics on every other kind of violent crime, claims it collects no records of individuals killed annually by police in the US, but other sources have documented at least 1,000 or more killings each year, many of which fail to reach the news media.

In late 2014 the *Wall Street Journal* began an article on police killings in America with the following: "When 24-year-old Albert Jermaine Payton wielded a knife in front of the police in this city's southeast corner, officers opened fire and killed him. Yet according to national statistics intended to track police killings, Mr. Payton's death in August 2012 never happened. It is one of hundreds of homicides by law-enforcement agencies between 2007 and 2012 that aren't included in records kept by the Federal Bureau of Investigation." A *WSJ* analysis of data from some of the largest police forces in the US found more than 500 police killings that were missing from any list, and there are potentially hundreds or even thousands more, meaning it is impossible to know how many people are killed by the police in the US each year. As one measure of the insanity of this epidemic of police killing, in the 31 days of March 2015, police in the United States killed more than twice as many people as did the UK did in the past 100 years, and about the same number as did China in the past century. In fact,

American police kill far more people in one year than do all the other countries in the world combined.

Certainly the total is much greater than the 1,000 estimated above. In one analysis, about 750 police departments reported about 2,500 police killings, but this was from a total of more than 18,000 police departments that did not report such data, including a great many of the largest population centers. For many police departments, anything termed a "justifiable homicide" is not reported as killings, *and of course virtually all killings by American police are classed as justifiable homicides*. Police departments in many other cities simply withhold data and refuse to report. Washington DC, which a *Washington Post* study proved had one of the highest rates of police killings in the country, refused to report this data for more than ten years. According to the *WSJ* article, Florida, which also has a very high rate of police killings, apparently hasn't submitted data since 1996 because "its tracking software was outdated". Similarly, New York, with an assuredly very high rate of these murders, claims it cannot track this information but officials are "looking to modify our technology so we can reflect these numbers". Moreover, none of these totals reflect the deaths resulting from encounters with Federal Agents such as *the FBI, Homeland Security and others*, those who are in part responsible for the more than 80,000 events where doors are kicked in during early morning hours and where very often the occupants are killed.

In so many cases, video has recorded deadly police violence in situations where neither the officers nor anyone else were experiencing any physical threat. With the almost total absence of judicial protection, citizens have recourse only to their cameras and mobile phones to document and prove these atrocities, but US courts increasingly claim that video recording of police, even when committing criminal violations, atrocities, even outright murder, is itself illegal. We are now in the position where US police officers can freely and without provocation execute an unarmed man, then charge any civilian witnesses with assault and obstruction of justice. These are almost always thrown out for absence of evidence but the police themselves are almost never charged.

A Chicago policeman named **Jon Graham Burge** was fired and briefly imprisoned for having electrocuted and tortured more than 200 criminal suspects in order to force confessions. The eventual evidence indicated he had corrupted so many court cases and convictions that the state of Illinois cancelled all death penalty convictions in the state and ordered reviews of hundreds of other cases. Most of the guilty had in fact been innocent, but confessed because they were so badly brutalised that many required emergency hospital treatment. This man was only one of many, having achieved a bit of notoriety only due to the large number of accusations, but there have been certainly hundreds and more likely thousands of US police officers who have been exposed with the abuse of smaller numbers of victims. One police officer in New York City made a practice of sodomising all his arrest victims with a broomstick, and there are hundreds of such sickening reports. But Americans, in all their self-referenced glory, are somehow ignorant of all this, and make themselves feel good to be an American by accusing nations on their 'hit list' like Russia or China for police illegalities that are mild by comparison and infrequent in occurrence.

In early 2015 the UK *Guardian* published an article that rocked all Western countries, and most certainly the civilian US population, by revealing that the Chicago police had a "black site" in a location named Homan Square, reminiscent of the CIA's torture prisons where individuals were confined, abused, beaten, sometimes tortured, and on at least one occasion, killed. Those taken to this site are not registered or 'booked' as the law demands, so there is no record of them being held by the police. They are not read their rights, nor are they permitted to call a lawyer or inform anyone of their whereabouts. They simply 'disappear' into the police system. Of course, Chicago is famous for its police department's torture activities of prisoners, but this carries the activity into a formal program, with a huge building resembling an unused warehouse and lost in what appears to be a warehouse district. When confronted with this latest travesty, Chicago's Mayor, Rahm Emanuel, formerly Obama's Chief of Staff, said simply it was "not true". But of course it was true. Numerous lawyers, parents, victimised prisoners and others have since come forward with tales of beatings and mistreatment of those kept for various periods of time in total isolation and secrecy. Lawyers and parents in particular were incensed that in all their approaches and requests to the Chicago

police for information, they were invariably told the police were not holding those persons and had no knowledge of their whereabouts.

Joachim Hagopian wrote in *Global Research* on March 1, 2015:

"The latest wake-up call arrived in a *Guardian* article earlier this week. The story features a secret prison not unlike the CIA torture detention centers all over the world whereby the Chicago police hold rounded up US citizens for hours or days at a time for interrogation. The same internationally illegal roundups of suspected "*potential terrorists*" (which by latest Gestapo America standards can easily be you or me) that the CIA and military black ops deploy globally, are being covertly conducted not only in Obama's hometown where his thug buddy Rahm rules, but likely every US city and soon coming to a neighborhood near you.

The complete loss of constitutional civil liberties where we can be taken in without warrant, locked up and shackled for indefinite periods of time, where to all our friends and family we simply disappear. *Those imprisoned are not booked nor entered in any record-keeping system, only to typically be beaten and shackled.* It was determined that one man at the Chicago site already died while in custody. If this inhumane brutality hidden from public view is operating in one major US metropolis, it means that these secret police detention centers are no doubt also up and running in secret locations throughout America. This worst-case scenario of police state USA is just one more nightmare come true. *And this comes after it's been determined that Americans are at least 100 times more likely to die at the hands of murdering police than in all other industrialized nations.* The criminal syndicate of our shadow rogue de facto government currently in power is waging undeclared war against the American people.

The physical brutality that occurs in a great many, perhaps most, and perhaps almost all, American prisons, and certainly in the privatised ones, is a tale of physical violence almost too distressing to tell. In one celebrated case, a man in New York City was arrested for some minor infraction, thrown into a jail cell, beaten and then sodomised with a broomstick. There are stories too many to relate of sexual violations, beatings, unjustified strip searches and cavity searches, every manner

of abuse, **many of them resulting in death.** Female prisoners constantly report that they didn't realise performing oral sex for the guards was part of their prison sentence, and homosexual gang rapes are so common the authorities look on them part of daily prison life and totally ignore them, considering them a method of "maintaining discipline" within the system. In California in recent years and presently continuing, *hundreds of women have been either sterilised against their will or coerced into sterilisation,* reflecting a return to the fascist eugenics programs so popular in the 1930s. These abuses are so widespread and well-known that they no longer attract media or Justice Department attention. During arrests and even temporary confinement, property is confiscated, damaged or destroyed, and in almost no case is there any recourse.

There is another category of physical abuse that does not so easily lend itself to culpable documentation, this one being what **Dave Lindorff** called '**execution by medical neglect**'. It is an open secret that inmates in many US prisons are denied necessary medical care, especially in cases involving expensive surgery or requiring expensive medications, a situation that may be of almost epidemic proportions but where the inmates have no microphone, no access to the media, and where the authorities are generally indifferent and uncaring. Lindorff wrote an article for **Counterpunch** in April of 2015 where he provided some detail of a convict sentenced in a trial that was "fraught with prosecutorial misconduct, witness coaching and judicial prejudice", and where the man spent 30 years in solitary confinement. In his case, despite overwhelming signs of suffering from acute diabetes, the man remained untreated until he lapsed into a coma, at which point physicians discovered his blood glucose level at 779 instead of the normal range of 70 to 120. According to Lindorff's evidence, prison doctors simply ignored the man's symptoms, a situation made public only because fellow inmates informed his family.

Lindorff also wrote of a cover story in the *New York Times* about the US federal supermax prison in Colorado, that provided details of a regime of inmate isolation and abuse worthy of any dictator, and that in his words, "makes it clear that the purpose of prison in the US is punishment, pure and simple, with inmate torture and abuse - and inmate family torture and abuse - the logical outcome. He wrote that these events clearly illustrate what he calls a "**national atrocity,**

faced at any given time by some 2.2 million men, women and children".

Craig Floyd, a Law Enforcement spokesman attempted not long ago to perpetuate the myth that "law enforcement remains the most dangerous occupation in America today, and those who serve and make the ultimate sacrifice are true portraits in courage". His claim of course, is complete nonsense. **US police officers are more likely to die from eating too much pizza or being attacked by an angry raccoon than in the line of duty.** **Jeffrey St. Clair** and **Alexander Cockburn** wrote an interesting article in late 2013, detailing the safety of law enforcement as an occupation in the US, noting that officer deaths had reduced from about 220 per year in the 1970s to less than 100 by 2013, of which most were either vehicle-related or from natural causes while on duty. They stated that only 27 policemen died from gunfire in 2012, *many of those having been shot by other policemen.* For citizens, however, the picture is rather different, with American policemen shooting thousands of civilians each year and trigger-happy police accounting *for about 10% of all homicides in cities like Los Angeles.* **In fact, so many more Americans are killed by police than by terrorists, that the US should abandon its 'war on terror' and instead launch a 'war on police'.**

A Few Examples



I am providing here only a few examples of the kind and style of police brutality that exists in the US, followed by a few from Canada and the UK. They are all different, but they are all the same, and there are many tens of thousands of them occurring in the US each year. *They all contain unprovoked, unjustified, and often fatal, aggression, most often against non-whites and the poor; they contain lies and cover-ups by all levels of the justice system. They occur everywhere, and they are all frightening. In almost every case the police officers are exonerated.*

A police officer in Houston, Texas, shot and killed a double amputee in a hospital after claiming the man threatened him and aggressively waved a metal object that turned out to be a plastic pen. The elderly one-armed, one-legged man who was in a wheelchair at the time, apparently terrified the officer so that, "fearing for his own safety and that of his partner", he shot and killed the man. *The police officer, who already had a record of fatally shooting other unarmed civilians, was punished with a three-day 'administrative leave'.* In another case, in El Paso, Texas, video emerged of the local police shooting and killing a handcuffed prisoner who was lying restrained on the floor of the jail. *The man had been in custody only a short while but had already been shot five times with a taser, with the video showing police officers holding down the man while another officer climbed on top of him and repeatedly tasered him. They then dragged him along the floor to an outside area and killed him. The police claimed the man hit an officer's hand during a struggle and the gun fired inadvertently. The video showed otherwise.*

Then we have 22-year-old Victor White, who was handcuffed with his hands behind his back and placed in the back seat of a police car. Two minutes later he was dead, shot in the chest from close range. The police claimed the man - who was searched thoroughly by them at least three times before being placed in the police car - pulled out a gun and shot himself in the chest. The police coroner declared the death a suicide. Case closed. *Neither the coroner nor the police had any explanation for the fact that the man had been beaten badly and that his entire face was bloody and swollen, nor could they explain the source of the firearm.* They had no explanation as to how it was possible for the man, whose hands were cuffed behind his back, to

have shot himself in the chest, nor why he would have done so. This was one of many questionable incidents where someone was shot in the chest and killed while handcuffed with their hands behind their backs, the police claiming in each case the death to have been a 'suicide'.

In early 2014 in Miami, Florida, 23 police officers fired 377 bullets at two unarmed men, finally killing them. The police had noticed a Volvo auto in which they believed they saw a robbery suspect and a companion, and gave chase. The Volvo crashed into a building, at which point all the police exited their cars and fired a volley of about 50 shots at the two men, after which witnesses reported the two men were still alive. The police then approached the car and ordered the men to raise their hands. As soon as the men complied, all the officers began firing again until all their guns were empty. **According to witnesses, the police were laughing after the shooting, apparently thinking the entire event quite hilarious.** The police not only killed the two men, but bullets were sprayed everywhere, including many other cars, fences, neighboring businesses, and even homes where mothers were grabbing their children and diving for cover. *In their haste, they even shot two of their own officers.* Naturally, no charges were laid.

Also in early 2014, we had an interesting case in Rains County, Texas, where a man called the police to report a burglary at his home. *After a delay of some two hours, the police arrived at the man's home, shot his dog in the head, and then left.* No explanation, and no investigation of the burglary. In another case in Sulphur, Louisiana, the local police came to investigate two young men who were hitch-hiking through the area with their dog. The police ordered the men to tie their dog to a nearby fence, which the men did, after which one of the policemen walked up to the dog, petted it, then shot it in the head. Then the police left.

In another case from early 2014, a police officer was fired for shooting dead an 84-year-old woman in her home. The officer had apparently assumed the authority to enter the woman's home to confiscate her car keys based on his understanding that she had been driving with a suspended license. He claimed that when he refused to return her keys,

she pulled a gun and fired two shots into the floor in front of him, and that he shot her in self-defense. There was no corroboration of the woman either owning a gun or producing one, and there were no bullet holes in the floor of her home where she was claimed to have shot. Even though the officer had entered this woman's home forcibly and without cause, attempted to seize her driver's license without any legal jurisdiction, then shot her dead, he was not charged. In late 2014, the *Huffington Post* reported that a policeman in Texas was aggressively driving an unmarked car and cut off another vehicle. The policeman was apparently upset when the other auto regained its position, and pulled up alongside the other car *and shot the driver in the head*.

Paul Craig Roberts provided links in an article to two short videos of Montana police officer Grant Morrison shooting to death in separate incidents two unarmed drivers pulled over by Morrison in routine traffic stops. In both cases, Morrison's first actions are to scream obscenities and pull the trigger. Roberts wrote that "Morrison comes across as completely crazed. It is inexplicable that Montana permits an armed lunatic to roam the streets pulling over cars." In another incident that was widely reported, that of New York Police officers strangling a helpless non-resisting man in the presence of dozens of witnesses, on an assumption (with no visible evidence of any kind) that he was illegally selling individual cigarettes to locals. Roberts noted in an article that when a reporter asked New York's Police Commissioner if selling single cigarettes out of a package was a sufficiently dangerous act to justify killing a man, the commissioner replied that "Garner's single cigarette sales were depriving NY City of hundreds of millions of dollars in tax revenues that could be used for more and better schools and hospitals." Nothing else to say.

A media report in early 2015 noted a young man named **Milton Hall** who was shot dead by police officers in Saginaw, Michigan, *with a barrage of 45 bullets*. A man named Dontre Hamilton was shot 14 times by police in Milwaukee for arguing with police about his sleeping in a park, and another named John Crawford was shot dead by police when he picked up a BB gun (air gun) in an Ohio Wal-Mart. The report noted there were hundreds (thousands, actually) that hadn't been caught on video and posted on the Internet. The American police almost invariably resort to lethal gunfire as the first response to any situation.

In early 2015 a man named Walter Scott was shot eight times in the back when he tried to run away from a police encounter at a routine traffic stop. *The officer then dropped his taser beside the dead man whom he claimed had grabbed the taser and tried to kill him.* Once again, it was only the video taken by a civilian witness that exposed the lies of an entirely unprovoked murder. We have read about the *Rodney King Riots* in Los Angeles where a black man was stopped by police for speeding, then pulled from his car, shot twice with a taser gun, then given a merciless beating by a group of officers with batons. Although the police denied the affair, it had been captured on video by a witness. The city was outraged at the brutality of the local police, and when all officers were later acquitted (by a white jury) of any crimes, the city of Los Angeles and many other cities broke into riots to protest. All that rage turned into the worst single episode of urban unrest in American history, which erupted on April 29, 1992, and before it ended a few days later, had left 53 people dead and \$1 billion in damage. In 2008, a Fox TV helicopter captured video of at least 12 and perhaps 14 Philadelphia police officers surrounding a car and dragging out three men to give them what became a viciously excessive beating which involved the three being kicked, stomped on, and struck up to 20 times each with night sticks. **This incident was one of thousands similar occurring in the US during the past decade.**

Also in early 2014, a wedding party at a hotel in Galveston, Texas, turned a bit nasty when an off-duty policeman claimed to have seen a wedding guest walking outside the hotel with "what appeared to be" an alcoholic beverage - but which actually was a glass of water. No matter, the policeman called his department for "backup", at which point 34 policemen appeared on the scene, entered the wedding party room in the hotel and proceeded to violently beat the guests. Many, including the father of the bride, were brutally beaten, and most were also sprayed in their eyes and faces with Mace and pepper-spray. The bride's brother entered the room in the midst of this action and asked what was happening, whereupon a group of police attacked the man and beat him so violently he escaped death only by being quickly rushed by helicopter to a nearby hospital. No charges have been filed against the police officers.

In May of 2013, in Portland, Oregon, a neighbor called the police to investigate a playground dispute between two small girls that had apparently occurred several days earlier. *While interviewing the two*

children, a police officer decided one girl was "nervous" and "began breathing rapidly" and was likely not telling the truth, so he arrested her, charged her with "assault", handcuffed her and pushed her into his police car. When the father, who was carrying an 11-month-old baby, protested at his daughter's arrest, the policeman walked up to the man and pepper-sprayed the infant directly in his eyes and face, leaving him screaming in pain. The Portland Police spokesman claimed everything was done "in accordance with policy" and that handcuffing a 9-year-old child was "justified as a safeguard" - to protect the officer from being violently abused by a terrified child. In a fit of good sense, the local newspaper ended its article by advising parents to (1) "cultivate within your children an incurable distrust of the police", and (2) "never, under any circumstances, allow police to have access to your children."

In the recent past, it has occurred repeatedly in various US cities that police have opened fire on an unarmed man and pumped more than 50 bullets into him, in each case the courts ruling that this 'was not an excessive use of force'. In each case, no charges were ever laid. In one case in New York, a man was confronted by a number of police officers when he exited a bar. He raised his hands in the air, informed them that he was not armed, obeyed their order to lie on the ground, and informed them he was reaching for his ID. The policemen immediately opened fire, pumping more than 50 shots into the man, killing him while on his way to his own wedding. *In late 2012 in Miami, eight policemen shot an innocent and unarmed man more than 100 times, meaning they stopped shooting only when all their guns were empty.* The man had committed no crime and there was no apparent evidence that he was dangerous. Again, the courts sided with the police and no charges were laid.

One Chinese woman in the US was shot by police with a taser then bodily tackled and knocked to the ground because she wanted to purchase a second iphone in an Apple store. Apple had instructed its retail stores to limit sales to all Chinese to only one phone per person on the premise that additional phones would be sent to China for sale at a discount compared to the outrageous prices Apple charged in China. When the woman objected to this racist policy, the Apple store called the police who shot and beat the Chinese tourist for having

committed no crime whatever. The authorities refused to discuss the issue and no charges were laid against the police. We increasingly see such senseless brutality in entirely non-violent civil matters that in no sense should even involve the police. **Chinese citizens have no idea how brutal and merciless US law enforcement can be. This matter is so serious it should be included in a program to educate all Chinese who apply for US tourist visas.**

In 2014 a US Border Patrol agent shot and killed a 16-year-old at the Arizona border for throwing rocks over the border fence. According to the autopsy report, he was shot 11 times, all but one bullet hitting him in the back. A medical examiner said the shooting was "consistent with someone being shot and falling, with subsequent shots hitting the prone body". The border guard faced no criminal charges, but the Department of Homeland Security said it was reviewing its policy of permitting deadly force against rock-throwers if media are present to record the killings. **The only other country where young boys are shot dead for throwing stones, is Israel.**

In early 2015, police officers in Denver shot and killed a 17-year-old girl, claiming she was driving a stolen car and that she had tried to run them down after they had ordered her several times to get out of the vehicle. But passengers in the car said she was driving her father's car, that the police gave no commands and were in no danger, that they approached from behind the car and began firing bullets into the driver's door and window without warning. According to the autopsy, the girl had been shot four times from the left side. No charges were laid against the policemen.

In April 2015, most of the world was aware of yet another American killed by local police, in this case a man named **Freddie Gray** in Baltimore, who was chased and arrested without cause and, while in custody in a police van, suffered a broken neck, a crushed larynx, and a severed spine. Medical experts said his injuries were comparable to those seen in victims of high-speed crashes, in other words a rapid deceleration thrusting the head forward sufficiently violently to crush the larynx and break the neck. Gray's legs also appeared to have been broken, which would coincide with the testimony of witnesses who claimed the police had Gray forcibly bent over with his legs bent

backward: "They had him folded up like he was a crab or a piece of origami". Gray, of course, died from his injuries and of course the police lied about the entire event. The entire city of Baltimore was in riots and chaos after this event reached the news.

An additional feature in this case was that Gray was thrown into the back of a police van - which has only unpadded steel sides, without being buckled into a seat belt, apparently a common practice as a means of "doling out extrajudicial treatment". Prisoners are then taken for a wild ride while totally unprotected in the back of the van, with many having suffered serious injuries in the recent past. According to a media report, one man was awarded \$39 million by the courts after **he was paralyzed from the neck down** during a police-van ride, and another received about \$8 million after a similar ride left him a paraplegic.

In another case, a police officer accosted a young mother in a shopping center parking lot, twisting her arms behind her back, slamming her face into the hood of his police car, then pulling her away and forcibly throwing her face-down onto the pavement, knocking her unconscious - **in front of her six-year-old daughter who was screaming in terror**. The police officer casually checked for a pulse when witnesses said the woman appeared to be dead. One witness said, "I saw her head bounce off the concrete. She was absolutely unconscious." The Police Chief reviewed the video footage taken by witnesses and said he stood by the officer's behavior, saying "the officer was very professional", adding it was "unfortunate that this lady hit her head and was knocked unconscious". Nothing more to say.

The New York Police Department has a reputation perhaps worse than that of any brutal dictatorship in the world today, with a truly dismal record of human rights violations and racial profiling, consisting in some large part of intrusive searches and interrogations of citizens that appear intended only to intimidate and induce fear into the broader population. *In a typical year, the New York police stop, search and interrogate nearly one million citizens, 85% of whom are black or Latino, virtually all without legal authority.* One official wrote that "The NYPD is turning black and brown neighborhoods across New York City into Constitution-free zones", meaning that US constitutional civil

rights no longer exist in New York, at least not if you are black. It may be the **NYPD** *has been attending the military's School of the Americas, since they appear to be as murderous and trigger-happy as the worst dictators that passed through that 'school'*. In one notable case, a 22-year-old man was shot almost 50 times by NYPD officers while simply standing in the hallway of his apartment building, and not having been suspected of any crime. "Their guns were semi-automatic, meaning each officer had to squeeze the trigger for each shot", and emptied their entire magazines into the young man. This was simply "a police execution by firing squad without provocation", but when public outrage led to street protests outside Manhattan police headquarters, the police arrested more than 1,000 of the demonstrators.

When they aren't being killed, they're being harassed. As noted, New York is one of the very worst places in America, but by no means the only bad one. A recent report on Florida documented a program of the *police continuously harassing and arresting young black men*. One such case was a young man named **Earl Sampson** who was arrested over a hundred times in a five-year period, including seventy times for "trespassing" in a convenience store. Why was he trespassing at that particular store so frequently? Because he worked there.

Houston, Texas, one of the main centers of police violence and brutality in the nation, is one city where outraged citizens frequently hold public meetings to condemn the police and demand an end to the official violence. These meetings are usually prompted by the release of yet more graphic video of yet more brutal and unprovoked beatings and killings by police officers. One case depicted a 15-year-old being beaten to death by police while in a hospital waiting room, others showing young men being assaulted, kicked and brutally beaten without apparent reason or provocation. Children are often tasered by the police for either small or no apparent infraction, and many store clerks report a policeman walking into a shop and putting a gun to their head. *One video showed a young man being hit and knocked to the ground by a moving police car, followed by several officers simultaneously kicking him in the head, neck and ribs, causing permanent neurological impairment.* These videos and more had been forwarded to the federal Justice Department for

resolution, but without response, and in each case the police department claimed an internal review showed no wrongdoing.

We have one instance of a group of police driving nine separate cars harassing a TV news reporter, making him exit his car, kneel on the ground and submit to various offenses. When his complaint was reviewed, it seemed that the dashboard cameras installed to record video of police behavior were "malfunctioning" at the time and did not record the incident. That is, the cameras on all nine police cars malfunctioned at the same time. Even US courtrooms are not very safe. In 2014 in Salt Lake City, a US Marshall shot and killed a young man who apparently picked up a pen and lunged at a friend who was testifying against him in a courtroom. **The Marshall shot the young man six times before he died.**

At 3:00 AM one morning, a police SWAT team kicked open the door of a family home in Georgia and tossed a flash grenade into the room. The grenade landed and exploded in a baby's crib, critically wounding the infant. When the mother tried to reach her child, the police apparently attacked her and told her to sit down and shut up, that her child was fine. But in fact, half the child's face had been blown off, his body severely burned, and he had a large hole in his chest. When the child was finally rushed to the hospital it had to be placed in a medically-induced coma, but eventually died. **The police denied any responsibility, claiming it was all just a 'mistake'.**

Two policemen in Albuquerque, New Mexico, stopped a man for a traffic violation, but appeared uninterested in giving him a ticket. Instead, they pulled him out of his car, threw him on the ground and took turns holding him down while the other punched and kicked him in the head, repeated dozens of times. When the man was finally unconscious, the two officers celebrated in a kind of 'victory dance' for two or three minutes, bumping their chests together and giving each other 'high five' signs. In a cheap and dishonest attempt to defend himself, one officer claimed the man appeared to have a gun and required restraint. Once again, it was only the shocking video obtained with a bystander's mobile phone that proved the truth of the event.

It would appear that one dangerous thing to do in America, the land of the free, is to have an argument with your wife. A man in Oklahoma had such a dispute and was in the process of following and calling to his wife who appeared to be heading for the family car to drive home with her daughter. Two police officers stopped the man and demanded to see his ID, the man asking them to wait for a moment while he pursued his wife. Big mistake. The officers knocked the man to the ground and beat him to death, then confiscated his wife's mobile phone that had recorded the entire event. Bystanders said that when the police finally turned the man's body over, his face had been beaten with such ferociousness that it was so badly disfigured the man could not be recognised. The man was beaten to death in front of his family for failing to be respectful to the police. No charges were laid.

In another case in **Moore, Oklahoma**, a man and his wife exited a movie theatre and were walking to their car in the parking lot where five policemen had been called for a domestic disturbance of some kind. **The police, assuming this man was the guilty party, threw him face-down on the pavement, handcuffed him, pepper-sprayed his mouth, nose and eyes, then all five jumped on his body and beat him to death.** They were so frenzied they refused to stop beating him even after it was quite apparent the man was dead, and in spite of his wife begging the officers to not kill her husband. According to bystanders, the beating was so excessive that all five officers appeared exhausted. Then, realising there were bystanders who had been taking video of the event, the officers all cooperated in propping up the man and telling the spectators "See? He's still alive". **The officers confiscated all the bystanders' mobile phones and the lied about the circumstances but the family released the entire video to the media. It didn't help. No charges were laid.**

The New York Police Department is special in many ways, public killings being one of these ways. In 1999, a 22-year-old black man joined a rally to protest against the NYPD shooting of another young black man. Four NYPD officers pulled out their guns and shot at him 42 times, hitting him with 19 bullets, and killing him. Their reason was that he was holding a gun in his hand. It seems the gun was actually a wallet, but the man is just as dead as if he'd had a gun. The four white officers were cleared of any wrongdoing. In May of 2003 NYPD officer Bryan

Conroy, not wearing a uniform nor identifying himself as a police officer, raided a warehouse that contained a counterfeit DVD operation. But it also contained a small shop that repaired musical instruments where a young immigrant from Guinea was working. When Conroy pulled out and waved his gun in the youth's face, the kid was terrified, and ran. Conroy chased him down, and repeatedly shot him until he was dead. The police later admitted the music shop was unrelated to the DVD enterprise and the boy was innocent. Conroy is free.

In April of 2012, NYPD officers stopped a kid on the street and accused him of stealing paving stones from a construction site which, it was later proven, he had not done. The officers were belligerent, and the kid was frightened and began to run, so the police jumped into their car and ran him down, killing him. No charges were laid. Again in New York, a 16-year-old was shot and killed by two police officers who claimed he pulled a gun on them even though a group of surprised bystanders all testified that the youth did no such thing, and did not have or own a gun. **Neither officer was charged, and one of them later received a "Policeman of the Year" award.**

In Bakersfield, California, police received a call from a hospital about a man standing outdoors who appeared to be intoxicated. The police arrived on the scene, took out their batons, and beat the man to death in the presence of the man's family and a number of witnesses. Then, they confiscated the mobile phones of all the bystanders, and left. The man's brother said "My brother spent the last eight minutes of his life pleading, begging for his life", and other witnesses told the media the police savagely continued to beat the man on the head with their batons while he was screaming for help, and simply refused to stop until he was dead. The man was not intoxicated, and had simply been standing near the hospital waiting to meet his relatives. He had four children. No charges were laid.

In another case, a deaf man in the midst of a life-threatening diabetic episode was kicked, beaten and shot with a taser by policemen who made no attempt to ascertain what was happening or why the man couldn't respond to their calls. The first police officer who beat the man into unconsciousness refused to call for paramedics but called instead for more police backup who also tasered, punched and kicked the man,

all while he was handcuffed and unconscious. This one followed closely a similar case in Hawthorne, California where the police beat and tased an innocent deaf man when he failed to respond to their demands. He was removing boxes of his possessions from a friend's house, but the police assumed him to be a burglar and so they shot him multiple times with a taser until his flesh burned. Then they beat him unconscious, and then charged him with assault.

In a similar incident in early 2014, New York police beat and severely injured an 85-year-old Chinese man for jaywalking. The elderly man could not speak English and didn't understand the police commands, so several officers attacked and beat him to the ground, leaving him bloody. The police were targeting jaywalkers as part of a safety patrol, so in order to prevent this man from being hit by a car, the officers beat him unconscious. Onlookers were surprised at how openly the police were willing to use force in the presence of many witnesses. In this case, the Chinese social media reflected the normal outrage at such an event, but I noted many posts that purported to be from Chinese citizens but were clearly made by Americans as part of the US State Department's 'monitoring service', all suggesting that it was the man's fault for disobeying the officers who couldn't have known he didn't understand English, and claiming the same behavior was common in China. Lovely. China may have legal issues that require addressing, but the police beating unconscious an 85-year-old man for jaywalking is not one of them.

In North Carolina in early 2014, the police shot and killed a mentally-ill ten-year-old who had already been subdued with a taser. The child was having an epileptic seizure and someone in the family had called the police for assistance since they weren't sure what to do. Two police officers arrived on the scene and immediately tasered the young boy. As he was lying flat on his back, convulsing from both the electricity of the taser and from his epilepsy, a third officer stepped between his two partners, said, "We don't have time for this", pulled out his firearm and shot the boy dead. Police officials said it would take time for an internal investigation to determine if a crime had been committed. **The father said, "I watched him shoot my son in cold blood right in front of me", but attorney James Payne who is representing the officer who did the shooting said that the investigation would**

show no wrongdoing. "When the investigation is done and the review has been completed, everybody will conclude that the officers acted appropriately".

One of my favorites is this story from Tennessee, again in early 2014. A man named James Smoak was travelling home with his wife and family on New Year's Day when they noticed four police cars following them, then demanding they pull over and stop. The police ordered the adults to exit the car, then made them kneel on the highway and handcuffed them. At that point, the family asked the police to please shut the car doors so that the family dog wouldn't escape and run off. But too late. The dog jumped out of the car, at which point the police officer raised his shotgun and blew off the dog's head. The police later claimed the dog was acting in a threatening manner, but the police car video showed the dog standing still and wagging his tail at the precise moment he was killed. The only reason the family's car was stopped is that someone reported to the police that the man had left his wallet on the roof of his car after paying for gas, a mistake he will probably never make again.

Also in early 2014 a young woman was shot to death by a police officer while sitting in her car at a drive-in pharmacy. Apparently the woman had been reported for not having a valid prescription for that medication. The police officer claimed he shot the woman - who had a 14-month-old baby with her in the car - while acting in self-defense because the woman had tried to run over him with her car. However, the medical examiner discovered the woman had been shot from behind and from her left - a clear execution. The police officer was fired, but no criminal charges were laid, a child is motherless and a man has lost his wife.

In June of 2011 in Florida, a young man and his girlfriend saw police officers firing dozens of bullets into a car, killing the driver in a hail of lead and also injuring many bystanders. The man stopped to film the event but was unfortunately noticed by the police who jumped on his vehicle, put a gun to his head and yelled, "So, you wanna be a f***ing paparazzi?" The officers then pulled the man out of his vehicle, threw him to the ground and handcuffed him, then smashed his mobile phone and stomped on it several times. But despite the phone being destroyed, the young man had the presence of mind to remove the

memory card and put it into his mouth before handing it to the police. The officers had apparently smashed all other cameras and mobile phones that had taken video of the killing, which clearly showed the police gathering around the car, speaking to the driver, then pulling their guns and shooting. When the police later learned the man had retained his video of the crime, a judge ordered him to appear in court and surrender his video and all other evidence in his possession. He refused, and hired a lawyer. The police chief said he had "never in his life heard of an officer destroying or even threatening to destroy a phone or camera", and that the court wanted this man's video "just to help in the investigation".

One especially sad story involves a young man by the name of Oscar Grant who used his mobile phone to take a photo of the policeman who killed him. The video was very clear, of the man with some of his friends having already been abused by the local police and now sitting upright against a wall. He knew the policeman was going to shoot him, so he called his girlfriend, told her what was happening, then turned the phone toward the policeman and took video of himself being shot to death. The streamed video was transmitted to his girlfriend before the policeman could prevent it. And then he was dead.

Celebrating Freedom in America



In August of 2014, 100 American cities held evening candlelight vigils and a National Moment of Silence to remember and to protest all the thousands of victims who have recently died as a result of police brutality in America. They all had "wrenching personal stories to tell, cumulatively painting a depressing tableau of a nation whose inhabitants face unaccountable, arbitrary and brutal policing and surveillance at all levels." And it's becoming worse by the day. One would think the situation would moderate after the thousands of recent unwarranted killings of civilians by police and the enormous publicity given to these events with all the street marches and so on, and especially after civilians appeared to begin taking revenge by killing policemen. But no. US media reported that within one month of the release of White House report 'Task Force on 21st Century Policing', an additional more than 100 civilians were killed by American police in circumstances equally as unwarranted as the thousands preceding them.

One writer noted that "a peculiarity of American democracy" is that it somehow manages to obscure the extent to which basic civil rights are being destroyed, in ways that Americans would loudly condemn as "dictatorial and authoritarian" if they occurred elsewhere. US Senator Ron Wyden, speaking of government abuse of authority, said "It's almost as if there are two laws in America, and the American people would be extraordinarily surprised if they could see the difference between what they believe a law says and how it has actually been interpreted in secret." Secret law is itself, of course, a critical ingredient in the construction of a police state. The same author wrote that the White House is "presiding over a steadily metastasizing police state, evident in its massive and indiscriminate surveillance program, its intensifying war on whistleblowers, mass deportations, its non-transparent and widespread program of drone-based assassinations and its illegal treatment of those in its custody, as well as its refusal to bring to account those responsible for committing torture and other crimes in its name."

In late 2014, in response to the additional dramatic videos of some especially egregious and unjustified police killings in the US, a group of high school students in Missouri walked out of their classes and began street protests calling for greater police accountability. Authorities were

quick to put an end to this incipient demonstration of the only 'democracy' remaining in America. Students "choosing to be disruptive" were threatened with harsh and unspecified consequences for these actions, including deleting all their high test scores or giving them all failing scores, preventing them from participating in any school activities and sports programs, and cancelling their scholarships providing free tuition at junior colleges. The police seized all video of these student protests, claiming that some students were seen "yelling at police officers" and that any students so identified "would face the consequences". The police also invaded the school, "to increase school security", though there was no evidence the school was "insecure" in any way. Students claimed the police *"turned the school into a prison"*, stating there were officers at every exit, and they weren't permitted to leave the class "even to use the bathroom, without a police escort".

Also, US courts ruled as early as 1988 that high school newspapers were "not entitled to First Amendment protection", which means the vaunted American freedom of speech and assembly does not apply to high schools or its students. And finally, the local school superintendents explained that it was important for students to remain in their schools because (1) protesting would result in their receiving poor grades, which would (2) affect the school's rating and (3) affect local property values. **Fascist capitalism at its finest.** These students were not campaigning for frivolous causes but to protest the unjustified and rampant killings of civilians across the country by policemen who had full immunity from prosecution. It is worth noting here that while all aspects of the American legal, judicial and educational systems supported this oppressive crackdown on students, and while it was strongly supported by the US media, it was the same elements and the same US media that were so strongly in favor of high school students in Hong Kong shutting down sections of the city and causing serious business disruptions and losses in the tens of millions of dollars. It seems that protesting against a fundamental electoral law that has always been on the books is okay, but protesting against the unjustified murders of thousands of civilians by the police is an action deserving of serious consequences. As always, American media hypocrisy at its finest.

And Not Only America



I will relate for you here three other instances of police criminality because they are instructive. One occurred in the UK and the other two in Canada. In the UK, you may recall the story of **Ian Tomlinson** who was attacked by police during a G-20 protest, and later died from his injuries. The man was not part of any protest; he lived on that street and was simply walking home, paying little attention to the protestors, and was in fact walking away from the protest with his hands in his pockets, when a policeman approached him from behind and struck him severely with a baton. The man fell to the ground, attempted to crawl away, but died. The police claimed he was part of the protest and inadvertently injured, and it was only a bystander's video that proved his innocence. The police then hired a private pathologist - who was later totally discredited - to testify under oath the man had died from an unrelated heart attack. When other pathologists proved this claim false, he then testified the man died inexplicably from "a loss of blood", then quickly destroyed all the original evidence from his autopsy to prevent challenges. A proper autopsy was finally commissioned and which proved the man died from police-inflicted injuries. The policeman, named Harwood, who committed that murder, had incurred previous complaints of unprovoked violence, yet no charges were laid and he was declared innocent of any wrongdoing. To that time, more than 1,500 civilians had been killed by police in the UK, many of them in suspicious and questionable circumstances.

In one case from Canada, and again at a G-20 protest, a young man named Adam Nobody was attacked and beaten by Toronto police officers. like Ian Tomlinson, the man was not part of the protest but

was simply walking down the street when several police officers grabbed him, threw him to the ground and kicked him in the head enough times to break all the bones in his face. Toronto's Police Chief Bill Blair claimed the man was "armed and dangerous", and again it was only video from a bystander that showed a peaceful individual attacked without provocation. Rather than being ashamed or embarrassed about his lies of the man being armed and dangerous, Chief Blair then accused the media and investigating body of having altered the video and presenting tampered, fraudulent evidence. When much other video reduced that claim to ridicule, Chief Blair claimed he could not identify the policemen involved because they had all removed their police badges and covered their faces to make recognition impossible. An enormous public outcry magically resulted in identification only a day later of 14 participating officers who will face no criminal charges for their actions. Where can you find a more perfect example of cowardly fascism? And why would a man like Blair be permitted to remain as the city's police chief?



In a more tragic case, a man named **Robert Dziekanski** had travelled from Poland to visit his mother in Vancouver, had been placed in an airport waiting room during a passport check, and forgotten for more than 12 hours. He spoke no English and could not communicate to officials. Instead of calling for a translator, airport officials called the police, and within minutes Robert Dziekanski was dead from multiple shots with a taser. The police version of the story was that the man was agitated and violent, had threatened them with various pieces of

office equipment, had tried to strike and injure them with chairs, and that they tasered him in self-defense. That would have been the end of the story, except that once again a traveler in an adjoining room caught the entire brief episode on video. That video showed a man calmly standing in a room, being approached by four police officers who drew their tasers and shot him once they drew near. There was no agitation, no violence, no swinging of chairs; the entire police story was a lie. Further, the police shot the man once and, when he didn't fall, fired again. The man was lying on the floor in convulsions from the electric shocks, when the officers rushed him, placed tasers directly on his body and fired several times more. The totality of those shocks killed him. The police claimed they couldn't use pepper spray to subdue this "agitated" man because of risk to bystanders, though the video revealed no bystanders existed.

The tourist offered his video to the police who immediately confiscated it, to have it finally returned only after 18 months of court orders. The four police officers had apparently agreed in advance to use their tasers on this man and also collaborated on the story they would tell after their victim died. They repeatedly lied under oath in court hearings, which would result in prison sentences for civilians but not for police. The provincial justice system stated that, while the actions of the officers were "a contributing cause" to the man's death, the force they used was "reasonable and necessary in the circumstances" and that no criminal charges would be approved because "there would not be a substantial likelihood of conviction". Three of the four officers are still on duty with the police, the fourth having resigned due to an unrelated criminal charge that arose from an auto collision in which a young man was killed.

I have related these last three tales to help my Chinese friends understand that all politically Right-Wing countries, a label that includes the US, UK, Canada, Australia, are progressing in the same frightening direction. **The US may have the largest number of violent police episodes but the others are not different in quality.** The reality is that if you are white, and appear rich, you have a good, but by no means absolute, prospect of safety in the presence of police. If, however, you are black, Latino, Asian or visibly from a Muslim country, you have no safety and no protection whatsoever. The

police have full immunity for any and all crimes they commit against you, and the justice system will protect them. The police and prosecutors will lie, will fabricate evidence, produce fake witnesses, destroy evidence, all with the blessing of the courts and judges. They will assume authority they don't legally have, will engage in any manner of capricious violence, will seize, examine, confiscate, or destroy any of your property including phones, computers and cameras, and you will have no recourse. They are subject to no laws, and have the power to destroy you if you challenge them. In almost every case, regardless of context, they act with the full protection of the system. The volume of police crimes, and the range, far exceeds anything that has ever occurred in all but the most brutal dictatorships, and it is only American propaganda that lets you believe otherwise. In these countries, the very presence of uniformed police is cause for concern for one's safety.

End of Volume Two.

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Police State America

Volume Two



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