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Poison Gas Attack Is Fake News False Flag

Doctors, eyewitnesses say "poison gas attack" never happened . . .
Who benefits from drawing U.S. into yet another no-win war?

By John Friend

Testimony from Syrian civilians and one doctor, along with other reports on the ground, have cast doubt on claims by the West that the Syrian military used chemical weapons on its own people in early April. Despite this uncertainty, Western warmongers still used the allegation to justify launching missiles at alleged key military sites in the Middle Eastern country.

On April 8, major international media outlets reported that the Syrian government, led by the much maligned Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, had launched a ruthless chemical attack the previous night on the city of Douma, a suburb just east of Damascus, the Syrian capital. The city largely had been controlled by radical Islamic rebels engaged in a brutal conflict with the Syrian government. Rebel groups affiliated



with radical Islamic terrorist organizations, many of them funded and supported by Western intelligence agencies and governments, have been waging war against Assad for years in an attempt to

overthrow the stable Syrian government, a key goal of the neocon warmongers holding sway in Washington and other major Western capitals.

Rebel groups hostile to the Assad regime had controlled Douma and other towns east of Damascus, known collectively as Eastern Ghouta, using it as a base of operations since the outbreak of the Syrian civil war. The Syrian government, backed by Russia and Iran, was engaged in a months-long campaign to retake the territory and expel the rebels, establishing sovereignty and the rule of law in the area once again. The towns, under the control of rebel forces close to radical Islamic terrorist organizations, had been subjected to heavy bombardment by Syrian military forces, who were on the verge of recapturing the territory.

Then news broke of the alleged chemical attack, prompting a harsh response from President Donald Trump and other Western leaders, who were quick to demonize not only Assad, but also his government's primary allies, Russia and Iran.

"Many dead, including women and children, in mindless chemical attack in Syria," Trump tweeted in the early morning hours following the alleged chemical attack. "Area of atrocity is in lockdown and encircled by Syrian army,

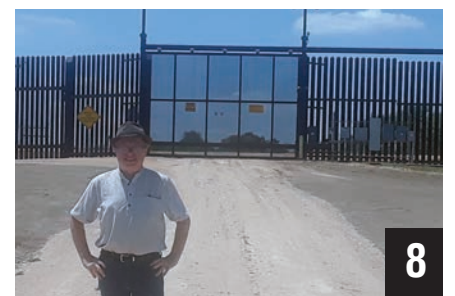
See TRUMP SUCKERED, page 21

THE INSIDE SCOOP



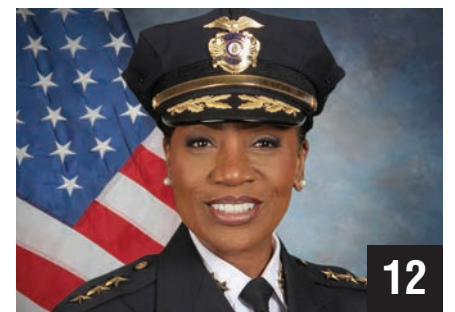
Far-left corporate media censors news of pro-gun student walk-out.

See page 4



AFP takes trip to border to inspect efforts against illegal immigration.

See pages 8-9



City of Durham, N.C. will not send police to Israel to be militarized.

See pages 12-13



Baby-faced billionaire privacy thief grilled on the Hill by congressmen.

See pages 14-15

A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

President Trump's Mideast Turnabout Highly Troubling

In the lead-up to the presidential election in November 2016, billionaire real estate mogul Donald Trump blasted Washington's involvement in "stupid wars," arguing that the trillions of dollars spent on wars that are not vital to U.S. interests in the Middle East and Afghanistan would have been far better spent on rebuilding American infrastructure. Trump's outspoken support for non-interventionism was one of the things that really appealed to the editors and reporters at AMERICAN FREE PRESS and was why we initially supported him over the other Democrat and Republican contenders vying for the presidency.

For example, during the third presidential debate on Oct. 19, 2016, in a testy back-and-forth between himself and Democrat presidential candidate Hillary Clinton, Trump blasted Mrs. Clinton, saying, "[Syrian President Bashar] Assad turned out to be a lot tougher than [Mrs. Clinton] thought. Everyone thought he was gone two years ago. He aligned with Russia. He is now also aligned with Iran, who we made very powerful. We don't know who the rebels are. But if they overthrow Assad, as bad as Assad is—and he's a bad guy—you may very well end up with worse than Assad."

Trump was also well known for assailing the amount of money the U.S. had wasted in the Middle East. In one instance, during a campaign stop in Charlotte, N.C. on Oct. 28, 2016, he told a crowd that the U.S. had blown \$6 trillion on wars in the Middle East.

"We've spent \$6 trillion, lost thousands of lives," Trump charged. "You could say hun-

dreds of thousands of lives, because look at the other side also."

At the time, Trump's assertion was criticized by the mainstream media, which claimed he exaggerated the amount spent. Less than a year later, though, Brown University released a study in spring of 2017 that showed the U.S. had, in fact, spent around \$6 trillion, which included the wars' "prolonged length, the rapidly increasing veterans healthcare and disability costs, and the interest on war borrowing."

And it wasn't just the campaign trail. Go back even further, and Trump has always been against needless wars.

In an interview with *Esquire* magazine for its Aug. 1, 2004, issue, Trump had strong words for the Iraq War, telling the magazine: "What was the purpose of this whole thing? Hundreds and hundreds of young people killed. And what about the people coming back with no arms and legs? Not to mention the other side. All those Iraqi kids who've been blown to pieces. And it turns out that all of the reasons for the war were blatantly wrong."

A few years later, when President Barack Obama launched missiles at Syria, following unproven charges that the Syrian military had used chemical weapons there, Trump turned to Twitter on Aug. 29, 2013, writing: "What will we get for bombing Syria besides more debt and a possible long-term conflict? Obama needs congressional approval."

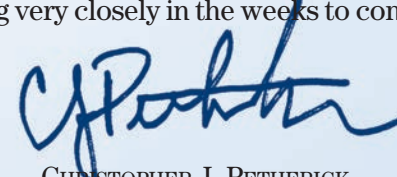
In every statement, Trump was correct, so the question on everyone's mind now is, why the radical change? Why did Trump on April 13

order his second missile strike against Syria in less than a year?

We have answers.

In this week's issue, columnists Phil Giraldi and Pat Buchanan tackle the central question, pointing their fingers squarely at the neoconservative War Party that's been circling Trump since he first took the Oval Office in January 2017. As we've warned readers in the past few issues, Trump's appointment of warmongering chickenhawks like John Bolton to high offices is a betrayal of his base and is coming back to haunt America. Now, it is looking more and more like Trump has been conned by these very people, which should surprise no one since many of them were instrumental in the "Never Trump" movement—the group of Republican traitors that went so far as to throw their support behind Mrs. Clinton over Trump.

We at AFP take no pleasure in criticizing the president, who has already had to face more negative, fake, and downright nasty reporting by the mainstream press than any other president in U.S. history. Trump was right when he sought to reduce the number of U.S. soldiers, Marines, sailors, and airmen as well as the U.S. footprint in the Mideast. His latest turnabout is troubling and something we at AFP will be watching very closely in the weeks to come. ★



—CHRISTOPHER J. PETHERICK
Executive Editor

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News You May Have Missed

Ban Citibank

Rep. Todd Rokita (R-Ind.) is demanding that the federal government end a contract with Citibank after the financial giant imposed draconian, anti-Second Amendment policies on businesses that bank with it. According to the report, Citibank has a \$700 billion contract with the General Services Administration (GSA). In a letter to GSA administrator Emily W. Murphy, Rokita blasted Citibank, saying its new policies go beyond legal requirements calling for a ban on “high capacity” magazines and bump stocks as well as sales of long guns to anyone under 21. Federal law allows sales to customers age 18 and up.



ROKITA

Huge Number Move Off Food Stamps

As the economy continues to grow under President Donald Trump, his reelection campaign released a statement on April 16 noting that 600,000 fewer people are using food stamps this month than in the previous month.

Warmongers Slammed

Fox News commentator Tucker Carlson slammed war hawks on both the right and the left who claim America must go to war against Syria based on a video allegedly depicting Syrian civilians suffering from a chemical gas attack. The war hawks claim the Syrian government attacked its own people—a claim for which there is no evidence and which makes no sense, as Carlson points out. President Trump is in the war hawk camp. Carlson noted prior regime changes forced by the U.S. government on Libya and Afghanistan have been totally disastrous and cost U.S. taxpayers billions of dollars. He said we should concentrate on making those nations whole again, not create another disaster in another country. The hawks say stirring up trouble in Syria, on the other side of the Earth, is far more important than defending our own southern border.

Secret Korean Diplomacy



POMPEO

CIA Director Mike Pompeo made a top-secret visit to North Korea over Easter weekend to meet with that country's leader, Kim Jong Un, reported the *Chicago Tribune*. The meeting was reportedly part of an effort to lay the groundwork for direct talks between the U.S. president and the North Korean leader about North Korea's nuclear weapons program.

Now for the Other Side of the Story

The Russian representative to the international chemical weapons watchdog group, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), said that non-governmental organizations funded by the UK and U.S. were behind the unproven claims of an April 7 chemical attack in the Damascus, Syria suburb of Douma. During a recent press conference, Alexander Shulgin said Russia has irrefutable evidence that there was no chemical weapons incident in Douma. “We have incontrovertible evidence that there was no incident on April 7 in Douma and that all this was a planned provocation by the British intelligence services, probably, with the participation of their senior allies from Washington with the aim of misleading the international community and justifying aggression against Syria,” he stated.

Gorsuch's Immigration Ruling

Donald Trump has voiced his disapproval of a recent 5-4 ruling by the Supreme Court overturning a controversial lower court's ruling on federal immigration law. It will now be harder to deport immigrants convicted of serious crimes, critics allege, thanks to President Trump's pick, conservative Supreme Court Associate Justice Neil Gorsuch, who sided with liberals on the bench. Mark Krikorian, executive director for the Center for Immigration Studies, poured cold water on the criticism, telling reporters, “[The ruling] doesn't bother me much. It was a question of statutory interpretation and while I'd have preferred that [Gorsuch sided] with the other conservatives on the court and the Obama administration, it's a little early to start jumping to conclusions.” In truth, the Supreme Court was only saying it was not going to settle decades-long immigration debates. It is up to Congress to act with a willing president to fix the country's immigration problems.



GORSUCH

Unarmed Civilians Killed Again

Israel built a wall around occupied Palestine and declared it a military zone, meaning its military will shoot to kill anyone near the wall. Unarmed Palestinians marking what they call “Land Day Protest” approached close to the wall and were fired on by Israeli snipers, who also used drone airplanes to drop tear-gas canisters on the people, who were only demanding a right to return to their homeland. Seventeen were killed and thousands more injured on the first day of the protest, in an unprecedented show of Israeli violence against men, women, and

children as young as three years old. The protest is planned to continue for six weeks, until May 15—the anniversary of Israel's 1948 seizure of Palestinian territory.

Illegal Invasion Army on the Way

A marching “caravan” of 1,500 wannabe illegal aliens that was heading for the U.S. border via Mexico has reportedly been disbanded. The group, said to be made up of mostly young males, originated in Central America and was being assisted by the Mexi-



ILLEGAL ALIEN CARAVAN

can government. The invading forces were organized and led by a group called Pueblos Sin Fronteras—“People Without Borders.” Many people thought it was set up to test U.S. resolve to repel invaders, and if it succeeded more caravans would soon follow. People Without Borders published a list of demands, including that the U.S. government respect their “right” to “dignified work,” the end of deportation, protected status for “migrants in need,” and their “rights under international law.”

UK Wants Knife Control

The British government, not satisfied with depriving UK citizens of guns, now wants to take away knives from law-abiding subjects. According to the BBC, the UK has already banned online sale of knives and there is an amnesty in place, meaning people can turn in knives at police headquarters and not be arrested. The new “save a life—surrender your knife” program is already in full swing, and citizens in Lancashire County alone have reportedly turned in more than 800 knives—including swords, machetes, commando knives, and others, even kitchen knives. Ironically, despite having strict gun control laws, London still has a very high murder rate.



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Students March for Gun Rights

• Florida high school students stage walkout in support of Second Amendment

By Dr. Edward DeVries

While the “media” was showing us non-stop coverage of a few students from Florida’s Stoneman Douglass High School in staged anti-gun protests, an even larger event in nearby Brevard County went unnoticed. Wearing patriotic-themed t-shirts and “Make America Great Again” caps, a large number of Rockledge High School’s students walked out of their classrooms in support of the Second Amendment.

Many were carrying American and Gadsden flags. Others carried signs with slogans like: “Guns don’t kill people; people kill people,” and, “I support the right to bear arms.”

Participation was diverse, representing students from all demographics: boys, girls, Asian, Hispanic, black, and white.

With no encouragement from the school’s administration or faculty, the grassroots student walkout was entirely organized by sophomore Cloe Deaton and junior Anna Delaney. Both are participants in the school’s Criminal Justice and Legal Studies Academy. If you can’t tell by their names, they are girls.

On the day of the walkout, Miss Deaton was wearing a t-shirt that read, “My rights don’t end where your feelings begin.” She said that she and Miss Delaney organized the walkout in order to “clear misconceptions about the Second Amendment.” With the media portraying so many students as being anti-gun, she thought it was “important to make sure other students’ voices are heard.”

Students who participated in the March 30 pro-Second Amendment walkout said they felt silenced by the staged March 14 pro-gun-control walkouts and wanted their voices to be heard in the conversation as well.

Once assembled on the school’s athletic field, band members played the national anthem and “God Bless America” before Miss Delaney read the Second Amendment and then a quote from a speech that former President Ronald Reagan gave at a 1993 NRA banquet: “The Constitution does not say that government shall decree the right to keep and bear arms. The Constitution says ‘... the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.’”

The event lasted about 20 minutes and concluded with Lee Greenwood’s “God Bless the USA” being played while students walked back to their classes.

School officials have tried to downplay the event, claiming that no more than 70 students participated. Students insist the number was much higher.

It is also worth noting that no one got into



Photographer Malcolm Denmark from news outlet Florida Today was on hand to photograph this Rockledge High pro-gun student.

mourn together.” He then got about 50 other students to sign his poster.

At least two other students also made pro-Second Amendment signs, one of which read, “Unapologetically Pro-2A.”

When the students walked outside, Dalsin was confronted by principal Lonnie Seifert and the school’s police officer, John Madigan. As Dalsin stood in the back, holding up his sign, Seifert approached and told him, “Hand it over.” The principal then told

fighters, no fires were started, cars were not vandalized, and windows were not broken. It was an entirely peaceful assembly.

Five days later, on Wednesday, April 4, a similar walkout was conducted by students at Woodland Park High School in Colorado.

Christian Garcia, the Hispanic student who organized the walkout, said that he wanted to show student support for the Second Amendment and to support teachers and concealed carry permit holders being allowed to carry defensive weapons on school property. “If we have more armed people or some type of security at our school and teachers train more,” he said, “that will honestly stop or prevent school shootings a lot more.”

“I don’t believe that guns are the problem,” Woodland Park student Haley Armstead said. “The problem is bad people, not guns,” which she described as “inanimate objects.”

Zachary Schneider, a junior at the school, said he participated because: “It’s all over the news right now that all students hate guns. I wanted to show that not all students feel that way.”

The Colorado walkout lasted approximately 30 minutes and included a moment of silence for the victims of school shootings. Like the Florida walkout, it was entirely peaceful, with no incidents of violence. The students returned to class when asked to do so by school officials.

A third walkout, attempted at New Prague High School in southeastern Minnesota, did not end so well. Its organizer, senior Andy Dalsin, was confronted by his principal and threatened with arrest.

Dalsin wanted to pay tribute to the victims of the school shootings while also expressing student support for the Second Amendment. During a study hall period he made a sign that read: “Guns don’t kill people, people kill people. We all

Dalsin that he could not display the message because he had not cleared it with him 24 hours in advance of the protest.

Dalsin respectfully refused to give up his sign, arguing that he had a constitutional right to display it. Seifert then asked Dalsin to leave school grounds. The student again cited his First Amendment right to express his political opinions.

The principal then threatened the students with arrest. As one senior recalled, Seifert told them, “I’m going to have to have Officer Madigan escort you off the premises. If you don’t comply, I will have him arrest you.”

Realizing the seriousness of the threat, Dalsin and others left the campus. Seifert and Madigan followed until they reached a public sidewalk. Dalsin says, “They stared me down. They watched me the whole time,” until he got to his truck, which was parked in a nearby lot.

While Dalsin is troubled by how he was treated, he places most of the blame for the incident on the school’s policy and not on the principal himself. Dalsin believes the policy is unconstitutional and is leading student initiatives to have it changed.

Why haven’t we seen these pro-Second Amendment students in the media? Probably because the media has picked its side in this culture war. And it’s not the side that wants to protect our rights and liberties.

Fortunately, AFP is here to cover what the controlled mass media will not. ★

A pastor and in-demand traveling speaker, **Dr. Edward DeVries** is the editor of the Dixie Heritage Newsletter and a contributing editor at THE BARNES REVIEW. He is the author of 30 books including the two-volume *Glory in Grey*. Some of his other titles include *Sacred Honor*, *The Truth About the Confederate Battle Flag*, *Prayer is Simple*, *Every Member a Minister* and *Coaching Youth Baseball the Right Way*. He is also the host of TBR RADIO’s “Dixie Heritage Hour.” Please check it out at www.BarnesReview.com.

Why Haven't U.S. Citizens Been Told These Important Social Security Facts?

By George Freed

Americans work harder than any other nation in the world to make money for their retirement years.

BUT, most of the benefits we're entitled to go unclaimed because we don't know the right way to apply for them.

With over 2,700 rules and complex regulations governing our benefits, it's easy to see why the average person would have a hard time trying to figure what they have coming to them...until now!

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- Why you should never apply for Social Security online or by mail. (See why on page 14.)
- The 12 times you MUST contact your Social Security office in order to keep from losing benefits.
- How students between the ages of 18 to 22 can "cash-in" on Social Security.
- How to make your whole family eligible for Social Security benefits, even your youngest children.



- How you may already be cheating yourself out of \$1,000s in Social Security benefits. (Just look on page 24.)

- How to make all the money you want and still collect Social Security Checks tax free every month legally.

- How you can receive full Social Security benefits even if you've never worked a day in your life.

- Why in some states people receive more Social Security money than in other states.

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Plus Discover Answers to:

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- Can greedy bill collectors take your Social Security money to repay an old debt?

- When is the best day of the year to visit your local Social Security office? (See page 34 for the surprising answer.)

- Will Social Security give you a Debit Card to buy things?

- When are the three times you can collect Social Security at any age? (Revealed on page 23.)

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YouTube & the War Against Iran

• Was the YouTube shooter Nassim Aghdam a victim of the anti-Iran culture war?

By Dr. Kevin Barrett

We are told that Nassim Aghdam, the woman who purportedly shot three people at the headquarters of the video hosting service YouTube before taking her own life, fled her native Iran decades ago in search of freedom, glamor, and creative opportunities.

As a rising YouTube star, she branded herself “Green Nassim” and put out slick, stylish videos advocating animal rights, healthy living, and veganism.

But then something went wrong. As *The New York Times* video “Who Was the YouTube Shooter?” tells us: “She explains that even though she was a member of the Bahai faith, which is a persecuted faith in Iran, she doesn’t really like life in the United States. And she says, ‘In Iran they kill you with an axe; in the United States they kill you with cotton’—an Iranian expression saying she’s dying a slow death in the United States.”

“Welcome to freedom of speech,” Nassim says sarcastically in the video. “Do you think Iran is better than the USA or the USA is better than Iran?”

The issue that finally drove her over the edge was YouTube censorship: “I’m being discriminated against, I’m filtered on YouTube. I’m not the only one,” she said in her final message before attacking YouTube’s headquarters in San Bruno, Calif., and then killing herself.

YouTube has indeed been censoring alternative media outlets. Many leading independent channels, including British broadcaster Richie Allen’s, have been shut down on ludicrously flimsy pretexts—a clear violation of the First Amendment, since YouTube, owned by CIA asset Google, has a *de facto* monopoly and therefore must be considered a public utility, not a private company.

But why would YouTube try to bury Miss Aghdam’s “stylishly sexy Iranian girl promotes healthy living” videos? To understand the likely answer, we need to know more about the Zionist-driven



NASSIM AGHDAM

culture war against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

At the behest of Israel and its American assets, the U.S. government has been spending billions of U.S. taxpayer dollars to beam pornography and decadence into the minds of the Iranian people. A massive U.S./Zionist Farsi-language media operation, based in the Los Angeles area, produces programming ranging from hardcore pornography to sexually titillating fluff, all of it designed to undermine traditional values and promote the idea that the U.S. is a rich, liberated, sex-saturated paradise. Why? To brainwash hormone-addled Iranian young people into rebelling against their “repressive” Islamic culture and government.

When Miss Aghdam began making YouTube videos, they fit this paradigm reasonably well—so the CIA-Google powers-that-be gave her a free pass, or perhaps even tweaked the algorithms to promote her. The commissars overseeing the anti-Iran culture war must have loved the videos showing “sexy Nassim” dancing happily in front of American and Israeli flags.

But then Miss Aghdam grew disillusioned with American life. She started telling her viewers (most of them in Iran) that the U.S. is definitely

Iranian activist Nassim Aghdam came to the United States expecting that free speech and personal freedom were actually guaranteed to people living here. She soon came to find out that, once she resisted being a propaganda pawn, her message of disaffection with life in the United States was being censored by YouTube thought police.

not paradise, that in fact it isn’t any better than Iran. Suddenly, for no discernable reason, the number of views drawn by her videos began to drop. Miss Aghdam, no idiot, realized what was happening. She protested, growing ever more critical of the U.S. and the phony “freedom” it pretends to offer. And the more she protested, the more CIA-Google tweaked their algorithms to bury her videos and destroy her career. In a final, desperate gesture of misguided protest, she shot up YouTube’s headquarters.

In the same April 8 issue of *The New York Times* featuring the video about Miss Aghdam, another article appeared headlined “Many People Taking Antidepressants Discover They Cannot Quit.” The article quoted Edward Shorter, a historian of psychiatry at the University of Toronto: “We’ve come to a place, at least in the West, where it seems every other person is depressed and on medication. You do have to wonder what that says about our culture.”

No need to wonder. What it says is obvious: Western culture has gone completely insane. The New World Order’s orchestrated destruction of tradition and religion has created a world that may look like paradise on the outside—as Miss Aghdam’s early videos suggested—but is rotting and dying on the inside.

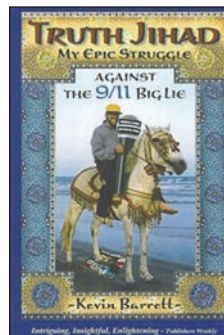
The CIA-Google mind-controllers want Iranians to rise up against their country, destroy their religious traditions, turn Tehran into a third-rate replica of Los Angeles, and start taking anti-depressants to cope with the anomie. Maybe it’s a conspiracy by the pharmaceutical companies looking for new markets.

If Americans were aware of what is being done to them, they would rise up in revolution against the New World Order oligarchs who are dumbing them down, annihilating their religion and spirituality, and robbing their lives of value, purpose, and meaning. In so doing, Americans would be following in the footsteps of the people of Iran, who successfully revolted against the NWO’s hellish materialism and decadence back in 1979. ★

Kevin Barrett, Ph.D., is an Arabist-Islamologist scholar and one of America’s best-known critics of the War on Terror. From 1991 through 2006, Dr. Barrett taught at colleges and universities in San Francisco, Paris, and Wisconsin. In 2006, however, he was attacked by Republican state legislators who called for him to be fired from his job at the University of Wisconsin-Madison due to his political opinions. Since 2007, Dr. Barrett has been informally blacklisted from teaching in American colleges and universities. He currently works as a nonprofit organizer, public speaker, author, and talk radio host.

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Cathy, CA

AFP Visits National Guard in Texas

• Roving reporter checks out new security measures to stop drug trafficking

By Mark Anderson

WESLACO, Texas—Texas Gov. Greg Abbott met with National Guard and Border Patrol personnel April 12 in the Texas border city of Weslaco to strategize and marshal the resources needed to curb major increases of contraband and terrorist gang members entering the U.S.

Abbott visited Weslaco's National Guard Armory to follow up on his recently announced commitment to send "additional National Guard troops to the Texas-Mexico border in support of the Trump administration's call to enhance security along the U.S. border," as a press release from the Texas Military Department (TMD) in Austin noted.

AFP attended a press conference that Abbott's office organized right after his Weslaco strategy session. Asking the first question, this writer pressed the first-term Republican on whether one or more caravans consisting of about 2,000 Central Americans, which were headed for the U.S. border, had been dispersed or if they had regrouped—due to ongoing concerns that dangerous MS-13 Salvadoran gang members might blend



On April 12, Texas Gov. Greg Abbott urgently visited the Rio Grande Valley (RGV) sector of south Texas to stress the importance of President Trump's call to send hundreds of Texas National Guard members to the RGV border area. Here, at the Weslaco Guard Armory, Abbott (head of table) assesses border security with Border Patrol and National Guard officials, including Army National Guard Commander Brig. Gen. Tracy Norris (to the immediate right of Abbott).

PHOTO BY MARK ANDERSON

in with the caravans.

"They have been dispersed . . . for the most part," Abbott replied, appearing somewhat uncertain. "But the reason that the National Guard was called up had nothing to do with the caravans. . . . There has been devastatingly high cross-border activity, like we saw in 2014. President Trump was right to take this action to prevent the situation from getting out of hand."

Flanked by several rows of uniformed National Guard members at the armory, Abbott specified that there's been a 200% increase in heroin com-

ing over the border since about one year ago, with about the same hike over the same time period in the number of migrants crossing the border illegally.

"And, disturbingly, we've seen a 200% increase in MS-13 coming across the border," Abbott stressed, adding that MS-13 members enter the U.S. but often do not stay near the border.

"They go to Houston, Dallas, New York . . .," Abbott said.

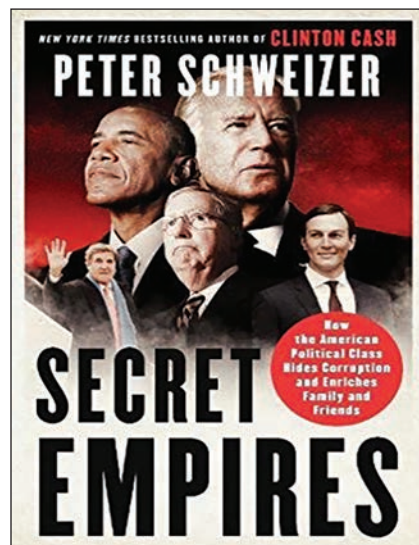
Weslaco was the focal point for Abbott's visit because it is in the middle of the Rio Grande Val-

Secret Empires

Peter Schweizer has been fighting corruption—and winning—for years. In *Throw Them All Out*, he exposed insider trading by members of Congress, leading to the passage of the STOCK Act. In *Extortion*, Schweizer uncovered how politicians use mafia-like tactics to enrich themselves to the utmost. And in *Clinton Cash*, he revealed the Clintons' massive money machine and sparked an FBI investigation.

Now he explains how a new corruption has taken hold, involving larger sums of money than ever before. Stuffing tens of thousands of dollars into a freezer has morphed into multibillion-dollar equity deals done in the dark corners of the world.

An American bank opening in China would be prohibited by U.S. law



from hiring a slew of family members of top Chinese politicians. However, a Chinese bank opening in America can

How the American Political Class Hides Corruption and Enriches Family and Friends

hire anyone it wants. It can even invite the friends and families of American politicians to invest in can't-lose deals.

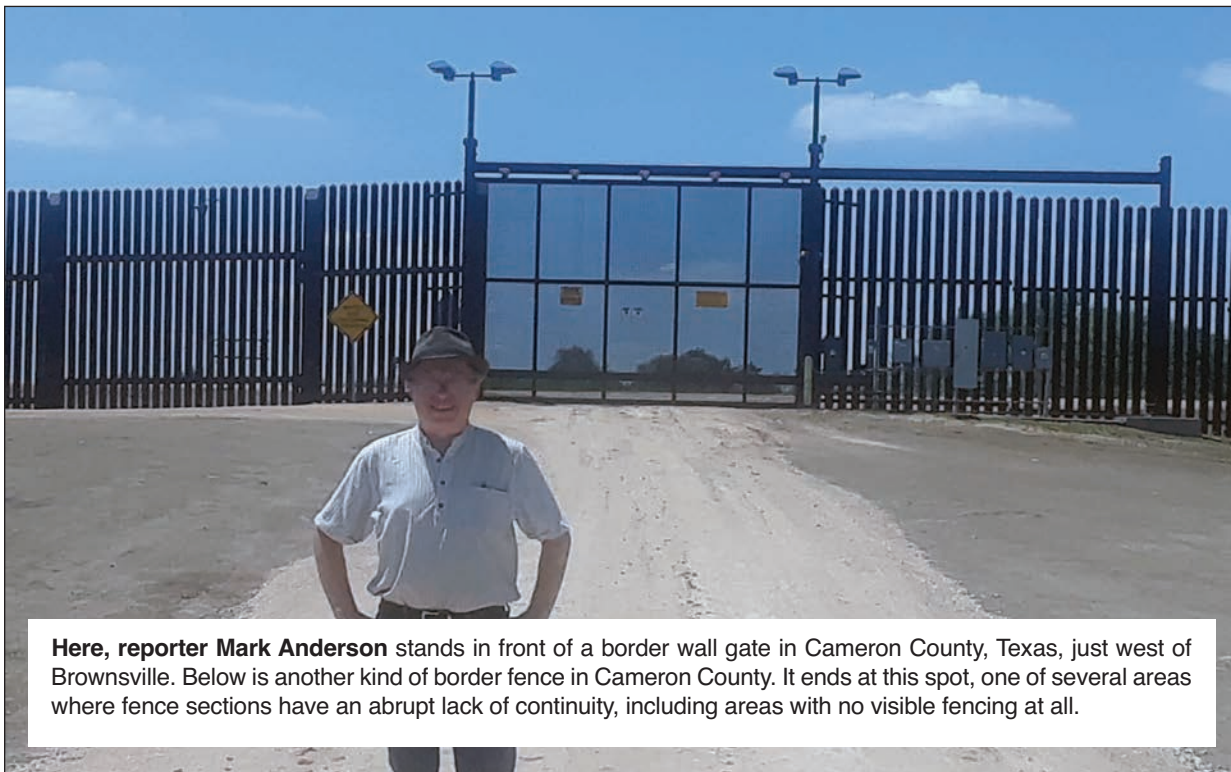
President Donald Trump's children have made front pages across the world for their dicey transactions. However, the media has barely looked into questionable deals made by those close to Barack Obama, Joe Biden, John Kerry, Mitch McConnell, and lesser-known politicians who have been in the game much longer.

In many parts of the world, the children of powerful political figures go into business and profit handsomely, not necessarily because they are good at it, but because people want to curry favor with their influential parents. This is

a relatively new phenomenon in the United States. But for relatives of some prominent political families, we may already be talking about hundreds of millions of dollars.

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Here, reporter Mark Anderson stands in front of a border wall gate in Cameron County, Texas, just west of Brownsville. Below is another kind of border fence in Cameron County. It ends at this spot, one of several areas where fence sections have an abrupt lack of continuity, including areas with no visible fencing at all.

ley, a populous four-county region bounded by Brownsville to the east and Rio Grande City to the west. The “valley” is thought to account for 40% of all illegal-alien apprehensions and 42% of all marijuana seizures along the entire 1,950-mile southern border with Mexico.

Abbott said that critics of the troop deployment need to look at the Border Patrol’s information on the increasing influx of drug-cartel elements, MS-13 members, and other threats instead of just relying on their assumptions. Those threats include the creation of “stash houses” for hiding drugs and drug distributors who drive recklessly and pose a danger to Texas motorists.

Abbott added: “In just the Rio Grande Valley sector alone, there are more than 450 apprehensions per day. It’s getting very high compared to what we’ve seen even over the last decade.” He noted that he wants to shut down the Mexican drug cartels’ cross-border operations.

He continued: “As of today, 762 Texas National Guard [troops] have been assigned to the border. There will be 300 more per week up to 1,400,” a number that fulfills federal Department of Homeland Security (DHS) requirements.

The National Guard troops being assigned to the Texas-Mexico border, like those assigned to border duty in New Mexico, Arizona, and California, will assist DHS with surveillance, detection systems, mobile communications, and augmenting border intelligence analysis, along with providing aviation assets, transportation, and training.

This all comes in the wake of Trump getting \$1.6 billion, as part of the \$1.3 trillion omnibus spending bill, toward a modest start on his promised border wall. And while news of the caravans spurred Trump’s declaration that the military should be deployed to protect America’s southern border, presumably until the wall is built, soldiers from Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and, more reluctantly, California were assigned to the border at the behest of their governors and remain under state control.

“The support of the National Guard will free up



Border Patrol agents, allowing them to focus . . . on securing the border against all threats,” the TMD press release, handed out at the press conference, further explained.

The lingering question is whether these troop deployments will be sustained until the border wall’s construction advances significantly. The Texas military’s border missions under Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama each lasted about two years. The only massive deployment to the border, besides during the Mexican War itself, came in 1916 when the U.S. sent 110,000 soldiers to ward off border raids attributed to Mexican revolutionary Francisco “Pancho” Villa.

About 20 miles of “wall” sections (a fence-like edifice, nearly 30 feet high, comprised of heavy, vertical, metallic beams with no horizontal sections) are being assembled in New Mexico. “This is the beginning, in this sector, of President Trump’s border wall,” a Border Patrol spokesman stated, adding that the structure—which replaces a shorter, inferior design—is intended to block a prime narcotics-smuggling corridor. Construction is set to run 400 days and will reportedly cost \$75 million. ★

Mark Anderson is AFP’s roving editor. He invites your thoughtful emails at truthhound2@yahoo.com.



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because of a book I read at The Choate School about *The Fathers of Modern Chemistry* that stated: **“Rapidly heating and cooling water stops disease!” ... ultimately saving my life!** During Vietnam, I could have saved many more lives when I owned Precision Switch Corp. Port Chester, New York and my Resident Military Inspectors asked me about a company producing parts for Nuclear Submarines like the *Thresher* and *Scorpion*. I said “they will sink to the bottom during sea trials”! I was proven correct but I couldn’t stop it because after finding a blueprint error, I faced a Military Tribunal for Breach of Contract because **I refused to put lives at risk until the fatal flaws were finally corrected**, unlike the water filters and distillers being sold today that ignore my FTC complaint: “cease and desist” order C-3220!

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JOHN ELLIS
1958 Discus Champion!

By John Ellis

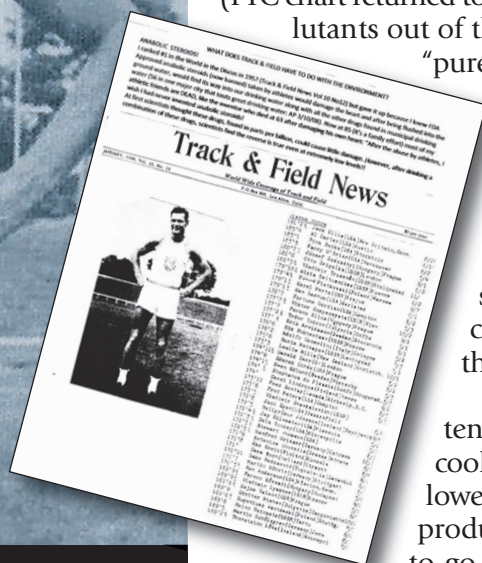
Our Laboratory Machine Tests (not water “samples”) are the industry best: As low as “less than” 0.07 ppm TDS (Pure water is 0.1 pm) but so what? How about your food (below) and the “Fathers of Modern Chemistry” that changed water properties to flush disease (FTC chart returned to us on facing page) and pollutants out of the blood stream unlike the

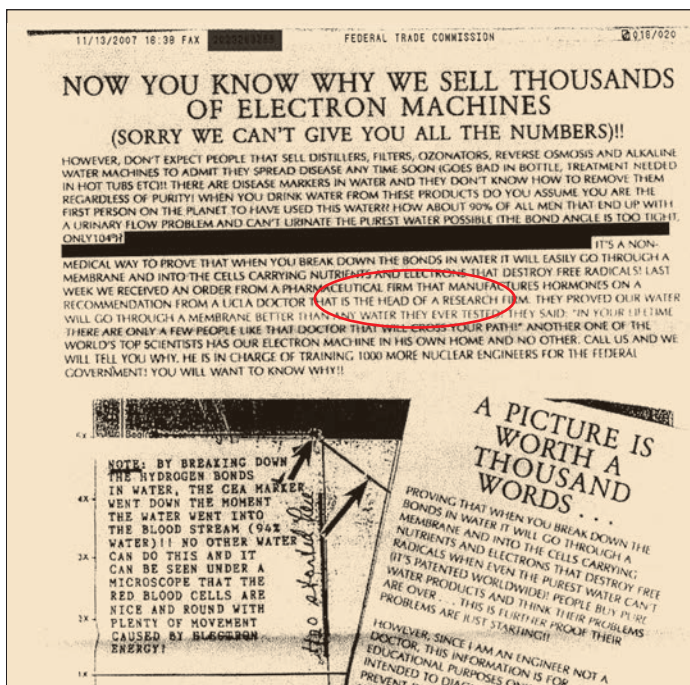
“purest water” from home filters or distillers that CAN’T make pure water because ordinary distillers (like a covered pot) produce high steam pressure/velocity that carry over some 80,000 chemicals including very light plastic phthalates (below)!

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studies: “Nothing is even close to your water!” See our video at www.JohnEllis.com.) Albert Szentgyorgy Nobel Prize Winner said: “Hydrogen is the Fuel of Life!” and yet extra energy is required from your food to split water into Hydrogen and oxygen because **ordinary water has ZERO ENERGY!** PROOF (scroll down/camera on the Ammeter/ Video): Use tap, filtered, ordinary distilled, Deuterium Depleted (\$300/bottle!), “energized” or “hydrogen water” and they ALL require 31 amps to split water into hydrogen-oxygen! Our water requires less than one amp **MAKING THE SAME AMOUNT OF HYDROGEN** adding **ONLY 20 DROPS** to ordinary water!! ... **PROVING** what the Chart says: “**Ordinary water CAN’T stop disease!!**” It’s been repeated thousands of times and you may need this “Body Electric energy” that powers your heart (electric defibrillator to stop a heart attack, pacemaker)! After hydrating, just a **MOUTHFUL** throughout the day **MAINTAINS YOUR ENERGY!!**

Virtually all Americans have plastic **phthalates** in their bodies because our food is wrapped in plastic with long contact time like bottled water, filters and plastic distillers running boiling water into plastic collection jugs for years ignoring C-3220 **ruining millions of lives** ... even causing breast cancer, baby boys with undeveloped sex organs and female characteristics! A news magazine





Above, this fax was sent from the Federal Trade Commission back to John Ellis in 2007, showing that they were aware of his scientific claims yet could not refute them!

combines politics (friend of Clinton then Trump) and bad "health advice" profits into an art form with fringe M.D.'s promoting a plastic distiller when the FDA informed mothers NOT to boil plastic baby bottles! This is all part of a "water scam alert" network with the same greed and fraud mindset that sunk our submarines including a delicensed MD (lost 40 lawsuits even using FTC/FDA legitimacy) and a fired Vietnam turncoat professor in Canada that disparages our Vietnam Veterans with NO DEGREES IN THIS FIELD! At 25, I had Top Secret Security Clearance as a Douglas Aerospace Engineer. How about a SECURITY CLEARANCE? On the contrary, Google: Nursing Sisters Port Dover about my grandmother (World War I and World War II) and a JohnEllis.com brochure about her friends that included CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT (19th Amendment: Women's Right to Vote), American Red Cross Founder CLARA BARTON and her cousin SUSAN B. ANTHONY!

This tale of woe had a great ending in spite of the Navy submariners and Air Force members including myself (at 14) who had radium tipped rods inserted into their nasal cavities to treat hearing problems, ear infections, sinus trouble and shrink

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adenoids. However, decades later serious health problems developed including thyroid cancer and head and neck tumors!

As a result, I went to the Choate School Wallingford, Conn. where an old chemistry book inspired me to release the measurable energy in water to 30 TIMES the energy in ordinary water and save my own life (JohnEllis.com videos)! A child in Chemistry class also proved that! Thousands were treated near the submarine base in New London, Conn. I tried to help these people 40 years ago with my health course and free water machine with this new-found energy (13 International Patents, 332 FDA Tests) but after Vietnam, they didn't want to help veterans and it continues today as Joseph Lieberman (I-CT) also discovered as late as 1994 ... even after ONE MILLION CIVILIAN RADIUM TREATMENTS, there was little interest in helping even Agent Orange victims!

Instead of helping them—like a Jan. 27, 1992 *Washington Post* article: "10,000 people per day say this water cures anything including cancer!" (we are allowed to quote)—"News and Health" magazines use fringe MDs to sell products that cause cancer! Editor and Health Pioneer: "I feel wonderful taking 70 vitamins a day!" before dying on TV while another overdosed on iodine (both from Toxic Overload!) like the Anabolic Steroid inventor who died at 63 (below) ... which is why I gave up the discus!

To stem the naysayers: My college engineering professor Dr John Weishampel, gave me the only grade of 100% in 30 years of teaching.

I'M NOT NEW TO CONTROVERSY

I am not new to controversy: In 1957 I had the best discus throw in the World (*T&F News*, Vol. 10, No. 12) but gave it up because I knew

Anabolic Steroids would cause users heart damage! All the top athletes were told they were safe by doctors. However, their inventor, John Ziegler M.D., said before he died at 63: "I wish I had listened to [John Ellis]. I damaged my heart!"

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

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Here's what a man in Zurich said: "I have had your E5 Water Machine for only 24 hours. I had gross swelling in my legs and hadn't worn ordinary shoes in years. **Your water immediately destroyed the markers for elephantiasis in my blood stream!!** I lost all the water weight in my legs and I bought a pair of shoes size 10 1/2. Also unlike ordinary DDW, using electrolysis (a battery and two thin pieces of stainless steel, anode and cathode, not a stack that negates power) **your water produces so much Hydrogen it violates Faraday's Law producing the energy needed to stop disease!!**"

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Cops Won't Be Trained in Israel

• City officials of Durham, North Carolina won't allow their police to be militarized

By Dave Gahary

The North Carolina city that developed a reputation for standing up to the Jim Crow laws that enforced racial segregation in the U.S. is now standing up to another relic of the past: the terrorist state of Israel.

Durham—which pioneered the “sit-in” movement of the 1950s and 1960s—on April 17 issued its strongest statement yet on its policy of sending the city’s police force to receive training in Israel, which would lead to the force’s militarization, an outcome seen in too many municipalities across this once-great nation.

As this newspaper has reported regularly on this matter, since the false-flag attacks on 9/11, “high-ranking American police officers from all over the country have been sent to Israel for counterterrorism training,” a disturbing trend, considering the Zionist state’s abysmal record of human rights abuses.

Spearheading the corruption of the once-revered American police forces across the country is an array of pro-Israel groups: the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs (JINSA),



Durham, N.C.’s City Council—which voted 6-0 on April 17 to prohibit any police exchanges with Israel—referenced a memo from gutsy Durham Chief of Police Cerelyn “C.J.” Davis, that stated: “There has been no effort while I have served as chief of police to initiate or participate in any exchange to Israel, nor do I have any intention to do so.”

and the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), the latter of which is the subversive international Jewish non-governmental organization that Jewish-American professor Noam Chomsky accused of “having lost entirely its focus on civil rights issues in order to become solely an advocate for Israeli policy.” The ADL’s main tool in its tired arsenal is equating any criticism of Israel with “anti-Semitism,” whatever that is.

“Over the past decade and a half,” reported online news publication “The Intercept,” “scores of top federal, state, and local police officers from dozens of departments from across the U.S. have gone to Israel to learn about its terrorism-focused policing.”

Last September, a delegation of top U.S. law enforcement officers visited Israel “for the ADL’s National Counter-Terrorism Seminar, which include[d] training on topics, such as ‘leadership in a time of terror’ and ‘balancing the fight against crime and terrorism.’”

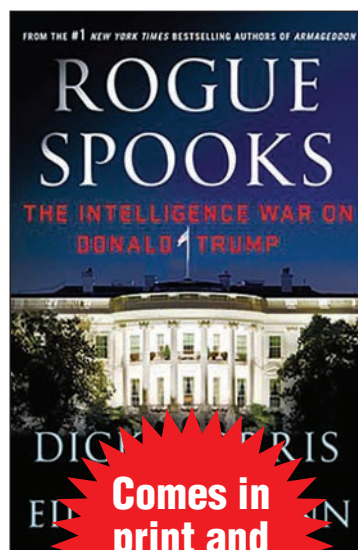
The Intercept added, “More than 200 law enforcement executives from over 100 departments in the U.S. and abroad, immigration enforcement agencies, and even campus police have participated in the ADL program since it launched in 2004.”

For an organization that describes itself as the nation’s premier civil rights and human relations

Rogue Spooks: The Intelligence War on Trump

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Donald Trump’s time in office has been roiled by allegations of treasonous contacts between his campaign team and the Kremlin to rig the election. These outrageous charges surfaced in the notorious “Trump Dossier,” an unverified document of suspect provenance, full of wild accusations. This dossier—little more than gossip and innuendo—was compiled by Christopher Steele, a former British intelligence agent who teamed up with the FBI and anti-Trump partisans. Hillary supporters paid for Steele’s work. When no news media would publish the unverified dossier, the ex-spook enlisted the help of a former UK ambassador to Russia, who arranged for a former U.S. assistant secretary of state to get it to Sen. John McCain, hoping he would bring it to FBI Director James Comey. He did just that. Comey played a critical role in the dossier going public, giving a confidential summary to President Obama and congressmen. It was immediately leaked by rogue spooks in order to destroy Trump. Working with liberal news outlets, these rogue spooks have formed a



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agency, apparently no one in the fake news media found the irony in the ADLs nearly 15 years of promoting the “Palestinization” of American cities, even when the ADLs then-regional director David Friedman stated in 2015 of the program’s impact: “[They] come back and they are Zionists. They understand Israel and its security needs in ways a lot of audiences don’t.”

Durham’s City Council went on record April 5 in its opposition to military-style training by foreign governments for local police, and didn’t mince its words:

The council opposes international exchanges with any country in which Durham officers receive military-style training since such exchanges do not support the kind of policing we want here in the City of Durham. We recognize and share the deep concern about militarization of police forces around the country.

In a memo cited in the council’s missive, Cerylyn “C.J.” Davis, Durham’s black police chief, wrote: “There has been no effort while I have served as chief of police to initiate or participate in any exchange to Israel, nor do I have any intention to do so.”

President Donald Trump isn’t helping to demilitarize American cities.

Last August Trump took aim at one of his predecessor’s many executive orders by rescinding the limitations imposed by former President Barack Obama on the Pentagon’s DoD Excess Property Program, or “1033 program,”—reported on in depth by this newspaper—“to transfer left-over military materiel (supplies and equipment) to U.S. state and local civilian law enforcement agencies,” including “grenade launchers, helicopters, military robots, M-16 assault rifles, armored vehicles, riverboats, Battle Dress Uniform clothing, and information technology equipment.”

Opposition to Durham’s police participating in any training in Israel came in the form of a peti-

tion—below, in part—put forth by the local chapter of Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP) and other groups, who last October began their campaign called “Demilitarize from Durham2Palestine.”

The Israeli (sic) Defense Forces and the Israel police have a long history of violence and harm against Palestinian people and Jews of color. They persist in using tactics of extrajudicial killing, excessive force, racial profiling, and repression of social justice movements. Such tactics have been condemned by international human rights organizations for violating the human rights of Palestinians.

“These programs transform Israel’s 70 years of dispossession and 50 years of occupation into a marketing brochure for ‘successful’ policing,” wrote JVP in an email to *The Intercept*. “Under the banner of ‘counterterrorism’ training, high-ranking police and immigration officials visit checkpoints, prisons, settlements, police stations, and other key sites that are central to Israel’s policies of occupation and apartheid.”

Not surprisingly, the petition was opposed by the ADL and seven area rabbis, on the grounds of—you guessed it—“anti-Semitism,” who signed a letter urging the city council to reject it, as reported in Durham’s *The Herald-Sun*.

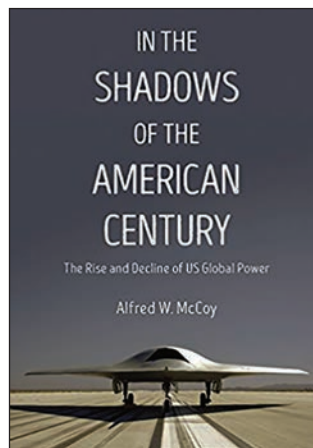
Durham’s mayor pro tem disagreed, stating that she didn’t believe that “it is inherently anti-Semitic to criticize Israeli policies and practice, just as I don’t believe it’s anti-American to criticize the practices of the U.S. military and police, which I do often.”

The Bull City showed a lot of courage standing up to Israel and its U.S. propaganda and intimidation arm. If more cities follow its lead, we may just have a chance of breaking free from at least one tentacle of that foreign power’s octopus-like grip on this once-proud nation. ★

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

In the Shadows of the American Century: The Rise and Decline of U.S. Global Power

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Boy Billionaire Grilled on Hill

• Facebook, Amazon, YouTube facing backlash for banning conservative views

By S.T. Patrick

On April 10 and 11, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg testified before the Senate Judiciary and Commerce committees on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. While the main issues addressed by senators were the security of user data, Facebook's role in presidential elections, its potentially monopolistic practices, and possible government regulation, the growing tide against Facebook as a service stems from user dissatisfaction with the tech giant's disregard for privacy, ambiguous censorship, and politically biased decisions.

Zuckerberg admitted to senators that Facebook had been working with Robert Mueller's investigation of President Donald Trump. When asked if there had been a subpoena that motivated Facebook to cooperate, Zuckerberg said that he was not aware of one.

The debate over Facebook's use of personal user data only becomes more complex with the revelation. If Facebook is releasing citizen data to the government without an official subpoena, a written request, or a show of just cause, then any expectation of privacy Facebook's 2.1 billion users had with the social media company has been misplaced. Team Zuckerberg has, again, shown that their loyalty is to data-hungry advertisers and the government rather than users.

Astoundingly, Zuckerberg also told senators that he would not be working "proactively" with



Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to locate criminal illegals within U.S. borders. While Americans can no longer expect Facebook to respect an individual's intrinsic ownership of their own private data, criminal illegals can depend on

Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg is shown before the House Energy and Commerce hearing on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. on April 11. He was grilled by senators about data privacy. Judging from their comments, members of Congress were not pleased with Zuckerberg's flippant responses to their queries about the handling of users' private data by Facebook. ANDREW HARNIK / AP

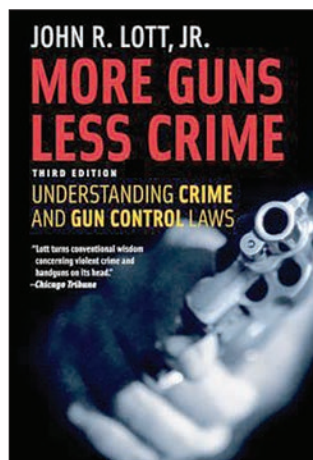
Facebook to be a sanctuary social media service.

The sharpest criticism of Facebook's politically biased decisions came from Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas), who asked Zuckerberg if Facebook was a neutral forum or a company expressing its First Amendment right to free speech. Zuckerberg testified that it does not allow "hate speech, terrorist content, nudity . . . anything that makes people feel unsafe in the community" and repeatedly classified the social media giant as "a platform for all ideas."

Cruz then pointed out a "pervasive political bias" that included "purposely and routinely" suppressing conservative stories from trending news, including stories about the Conservative Political Action Committee (CPAC), Mitt Romney, the Lois Lerner IRS scandal, and Glenn Beck. Cruz also sought answers as to why the Chick-fil-A Appreciation Day page was shut down, why a post from a Fox News reporter was blocked, why over two dozen Catholic pages were blocked, and, most recently, why Trump supporters Diamond & Silk, two African-American women with 1.2 million followers, were blocked by Facebook when it

More Guns, Less Crime: Understanding Crime & Gun Control Laws—3rd Edition

On its initial publication in 1998, John R. Lott's *More Guns, Less Crime* drew both lavish praise and heated criticism. More than a decade later, it continues to play a key role in ongoing arguments over gun-control laws: Despite all the attacks by gun-control advocates, no one has ever been able to refute Lott's simple, startling conclusion that more guns mean less crime. Relying on the most rigorously comprehensive data analysis ever conducted on crime statistics and right-to-carry laws, the book directly challenges common perceptions about the relationship of guns, crime, and violence. For this third edition, Lott draws on an additional 10 years of data—including provocative analyses of the effects of gun bans in Chicago and Washington, D.C.—that brings the book fully



up to date and further bolsters its central contention. Contents: How to Test the Effects of Gun Control; Gun Ownership, Gun Laws, and the Data on Crime; Concealed-Handgun Laws and Crime Rates: Empirical Evidence; Victims and Benefits from Protection; What Determines Arrest Rates and the Passage of Concealed-Handgun Laws?; The Political and Academic Debate by 1998; Final Thoughts; Updating the Results in 2000; A Decade Later: Nine More Years of Data; Nine More State Appendices; Bibliography; Index. Softcover, 442 pages, \$18 plus \$4 S&H inside the U.S. from AFP, 16000 Trade Zone Avenue, Unit 406, Upper Marlboro, MD 20774. Call 1-888-699-NEWS toll free to charge. You may also order online at www.AmericanFreePress.net. Call 202-544-5977 for cryptocurrency options.

was determined that their content and brand were “unsafe to the community.”

Zuckerberg told Cruz that he understood the concern. He then blamed Facebook’s chosen location, Silicon Valley, which he called “an extremely left-leaning place.” Cruz then asked if any advertisement or page had been taken down from Planned Parenthood, “MoveOn.org,” or any Democratic candidate for office.

“I’m not specifically aware of that,” Zuckerberg replied.

At one point in 2015, the “Right Wing News” page on Facebook had reached 133 million people. After the election of 2016, liberal pundits began bloviating about Russian ad buys and “fake news” on Facebook. It was then that Facebook started to alter some of its algorithms—moves that many conservatives claim decreases their page’s reach. The pages were not affected with one crushing leftist swat. Instead, it was a crawl, algorithm-by-algorithm.

John Hawkins of Right Wing News wrote: “If Facebook killed every conservative page overnight, there would be a huge outcry. On the other hand, if Facebook slowly strangled us to death, we’d fade away and would people even notice?”

Users did notice. At the same time, Facebook’s corporate ego led them to mishaps and bad decisions that found Zuckerberg, Facebook’s co-creator, on Capitol Hill in mid-April.

While Facebook’s size and volume of personal interaction make it the world’s most powerful personal censor, they are not alone in their castigation and banishment of viewpoints they deem unpopular.

In 2015, Amazon banned *Nobody Died at Sandy Hook*, a compilation of articles edited by Jim Fetzer, Ph.D. Some of Fetzer’s other works can be found on Amazon, but mostly as used items. Despite Fetzer’s popularity in the world of alternative anti-establishment research, Jeff Bezos’s company refuses to carry many of Fetzer’s

works as new items. Books dealing with holocaust revisionism and memorabilia bearing the confederate flag have also been widely banned by the world’s largest bookseller. History magazine *THE BARNES REVIEW* was kicked off Amazon around that time, too. Regardless of what someone or many feel about a historical perspective or policy, the banning of any viewpoint is dangerous in a society and market that pretend to respect freedom of speech.

YouTube has even joined the censorship fray as channels and programs they deem too controversial are taken down or demonetized. Fetzer is linked to the YouTube censorship, as well. On March 28, Kerry Cassidy of Project Camelot recorded a program with Fetzer and Ole Dammegard called “Investigating False Flags Worldwide.” Shortly thereafter, it had been taken down by YouTube.

While Facebook has grown to numbers and heights unseen before in social media, it is not impenetrable. Montgomery Ward, Enron, Pan Am Airways, and Radio Shack were once dominant in their respective fields. Companies can fall just as surely as they rise. Be it corruption, the lack of recovery after a tragedy, or egotistically standing fast in a medium that is passing them by, companies do fall. MySpace was the first wildly popular social media network. It fell to Facebook.

What will our gadget’s home screen look like in five years? Corporations like Facebook, Amazon, and YouTube have an opportunity to separate themselves from the field by standing up against political and historical censorship. If not, new applications will emerge to fill the growing need for free speech as people seek freedom in a way that is inalienable. ★

S.T. Patrick holds degrees in both journalism and social studies education. He spent ten years as an educator and now hosts the “Midnight Writer News Show.” His email is STPatrickAFP@gmail.com. He is also an occasional contributor to *THE BARNES REVIEW* (TBR) history magazine. For a sample copy of TBR, please send \$2 to TBR, P.O. Box 15877, Washington, D.C. 20003 with your request. Editor’s choice. To subscribe to TBR magazine, send \$56 per year inside the U.S. to above address.

Rep. Wants Treasury to Fund Mandatory Holocaust Education for Public Schools

By Dave Gahary

A bill introduced in the House of Representatives on April 10 by Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney (D-N.Y.) would fund “Holocaust” education programs in American schools.

As first reported by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency (JTA) the day before the bill was recorded, H.R.5460, the Never Again Education Act, “would establish the Holocaust Education Assistance Program Fund in the U.S. Treasury.”

Maloney, who represents a heavily Jewish district, launched the bill “at the Olga Lengyel Institute for Holocaust Studies and Human Rights in New York City, accompanied by representatives of Hadassah, B’nai B’rith International, and the Association of Holocaust Organizations.”

The bill’s text points out that the U.S. is firmly in the pocket of victimhood racketeers, and that threats to the power of this enterprise—especially from historical revisionists—are not going unnoticed, as two sections of the bill respectively illustrate:

(2) The Congress has played a critical role in preserving the memory of the Holocaust and promoting awareness, including by authorizing the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum as an independent establishment of the federal government to ensure that “the study of the Holocaust becomes part of the curriculum in every school system in the country,” as well as by establishing a national Holocaust Remembrance Day in 1978.

(6) Today, those who deny that the Holocaust occurred or distort the true nature of the Holocaust continue to find forums, especially online; this denial and distortion dishonors those who were persecuted and murdered. This makes it even more of a national imperative to educate students in the United States so that they may explore the lessons that the Holocaust provides for all people, sensitize communities to the circumstances that gave rise to the Holocaust, and help youth be less susceptible to the falsehood of Holocaust denial and distortion and to the destructive messages of hate that arise from Holocaust denial and distortion.

The bill has 12 cosponsors (six Democrat, six GOP), two of them “top House appropriators,” which suggests—to the JTA—that “the bill likely will pass.” ★

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Western Hypocrisy on Display in Full Force in Middle East

By Richard Walker

The West's leaders have shed no tears or threatened airstrikes against the Saudis for the slaughter of thousands of Yemeni women and children, or for the continued torture carried out at black sites in Yemen by America's Arab ally, the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

The silence from presidents Donald Trump and Emmanuel Macron in France, as well as from British Prime Minister Theresa May, stands in stark contrast to their threats of military intervention following events elsewhere in the region, especially in Syria.

Their refusal to condemn war crimes in Yemen exposes their duplicity in the way they address Mideast issues. By any standards they are guilty of moral cowardice.

Majorities in France and Britain have made it clear that they believe their governments should end arms sales to the Saudis because those sales make their governments and people complicit in the slaughter. There have been over 1,600 bombing raids carried out by the Saudis, sometimes targeting weddings and funerals. Aside from the 5,000 children who have died in those bombings, it is estimated another 100,000 have died from disease. The UN has called it the world's worst humanitarian disaster.

At home, President Donald Trump, congressional leaders, and the mainstream media have ignored Yemen with the result that most Americans know little about the catastrophe.

One might have thought, given our history in

the Iraq and Libya wars, launched on the basis of lies and fake intelligence, our leaders would be much more circumspect about getting involved in a war in support of Arab states like Saudi Arabia and the UAE. They are using the weapons we sell them to kill innocent people, and we have actively assisted in their targeting, which makes our countries complicit in war crimes. Did we not also help Saddam Hussein make and use chemical weapons to kill tens of thousands of Iranians during the Iran-Iraq War from 1980 to 1988?

Then there is the issue of black sites, at least 18 of them, run by the UAE whom General Jim Mattis has praised as "Little Sparta." The UAE has not only been running the black sites where children have been tortured but has lots of experience in torture. Its interrogators were trained by the CIA and worked in renditioning and interrogating suspects in CIA black sites during the Bush and Obama presidencies.

Contrary to the myth that Obama disapproved of torture, he allowed black sites in the Middle East to exist during his time in office. As most terrorism experts agree, black sites create terrorists, and provide terrorist groups with propaganda. Evidence has now mounted that U.S. personnel have been at UAE black sites in Yemen, and have handed over detainees, or received detainees from them.

Two veterans in Congress, Sens. John McCain (R-Ariz.) and Jack Reed (D-R.I.), have been the only members to express serious concerns about possible U.S. involvement in torture in Yemen. They made their feelings known when the issue came to light in 2017. It has since been ignored.

So what is at the core of the desire of Western leaders to turn a blind eye to the slaughter in



EMMANUEL MACRON

Yemen while grandstanding about Syria? The answer lies in money and oil and what it always has done when it comes to the West's propensity for ignoring Saudi support for terrorism and now for war crimes in Yemen.

Lately, the Saudi leadership has established closer ties to Israel, and their royal family is being treated like the British royal family in Washington, London, and Paris. They are equally skilled at manipulating our leaders and media. They buy weapons, spending more lavishly than any other country, and spend tens of millions on lobbying. They purchase the most high-tech weaponry and in return acquire our help in using it. Like the Israelis, it does not matter to our leaders if they deploy our phosphorus or depleted uranium weapons against civilian targets.

Equally, how can we condemn the UAE for running black sites when they worked in ours and we taught them how to manage a large torture program? Craven support in Western capitals for the Saudis and for Israel's treatment of Palestinians, including Christian Palestinians, has subjected the West to ridicule across the globe. People not only see the duplicity of our leaders and the corporate entities that control them; they know that the massive profits from arms sales end up in the coffers of the privately run arms-industrial complex.

It is difficult to look at Yemen without recalling that it is only seven years since a NATO coalition launched a war in Libya, based on bogus intelligence and a French desire to seize that country's oil. We subsequently left Libya in an unholy mess from which it has not recovered.

Israel and its puppet Saudi Arabia pull our strings, and the more they pull the more we commit to the region. They want to take us to war with Iran next and may get their wish. There would be no tears for dead kids there, either. ★



UN Humanitarian Coordinator for Yemen Jimmy McGoldrick has expressed "shock" at the deaths of so many children and civilians in Yemen. The UN children's agency UNICEF said that by mid-March, at least 1,546 children have been killed and 2,450 others maimed—while the West ignores the ongoing slaughter.

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

U.S. Attack on Syria Illegal, Immoral

HASSAN AMMAR, AP

By Philip Giraldi

Here we go again. The lesson not learned from Afghanistan, or from Iraq, or from Libya will now be also not learned from Syria. This is the second time that President Donald Trump has used volleys of cruise missiles against a country that in no way threatens the United States or its interests. It also comes on top of Secretary of State designate Mike Pompeo positively boasting over the U.S. military having killed hundreds of Russians in Syria in what was clearly a trap designed to do just that.

Make no mistake; there are certain things that every American should know about the Syrian conflict. First of all, the United States and its allies, who are occupying nearly one-quarter of the country, though in a region that is generally sparsely populated, are in Syria illegally. Under international law, attacking and occupying a country that is not directly threatening you without any justifying United Nations Security Council resolution is illegal. It is also a war crime as defined by the Nuremberg trials that followed after the Second World War, which ruled that a war of aggression is the “ultimate war crime,” as it inevitably leads to many other crimes. So the United States is undeniably a war criminal.

That the United States has not been brought to justice for its crimes is largely due to its political and military power, which few nations choose to challenge, but also because it is a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council and is able to veto resolutions criticizing it. There have been numerous motions condemning American behavior, but none of them have made it out of the Security Council. This is not a confirmation of U.S. innocence but rather a result of the politics that operate at the United Nations.

The United States is also in violation of international law because it remains in Syria without the permission of the recognized and legitimate Syrian government. Iranian forces and those of Russia are present on the invitation of Damascus. The United States is not. The United States has also been working to overthrow the legitimate Syrian government acting in collusion with groups of so-called rebels, some of whom are drawn from internationally recognized terrorist groups.

Concerning the assertion being made by the Trump administration that there is responsibility to intervene militarily in Syria to prevent attacks on civilians, there is no such obligation. No country has any right to intervene in the internal workings of any other country without a UN Security Council resolution. If there were such an obligation, the United Nations and the United States would have already intervened in Israel/Palestine, as Israel has been the subject of more resolutions than any other country, nearly all of which have been



A fact-finding mission by the UN's chemical watchdog is claiming that sarin or a sarin-like substance was used as a chemical weapon in the April 4 attack in the Syrian town of Khan Sheikhoun. However, how the children shown above actually died has not been definitively determined or who was responsible for their deaths.

blocked by the use of the U.S. veto. If there were actually what the Barack Obama administration used to refer to as a “responsibility to protect” or “R2P,” it would certainly apply to Israel’s current systematic murdering of unarmed demonstrators protesting its occupation of Palestine. Israeli snipers have shot more than 2,000 Gazans who were demonstrating on their own side of the border between Gaza and Israel, targeting in particular individuals who appeared to be leading the protests and also journalists. What Israel is doing to Gaza currently, as well as what it did in 2014, is orders of magnitude worse than what Syria is allegedly doing to rebels on its own territory.

The claim being made by the White House that Syria is a serial user of chemical weapons does not bear scrutiny in any event. Most of the evidence comes from hostile sources, meaning from the rebels themselves, who are not shy about staging atrocities and blaming them on the government in Damascus. Last year’s cruise missile assault on Shayrat Airbase was triggered by assertions that Syria had carried out a chemical weapons attack at Khan Sheikhoun, claims that were dubious at the time and have been challenged repeatedly. Recently, Secretary of Defense James Mattis admitted that there was no actual evidence that the Syrian government had carried out the attack. In the current case, in the Damascus suburb of Douma, the “evidence” for a gassing comes from rebel sources, who controlled the area at the time of the attack, and also from media sources sympathetic to their cause.

A team of investigators from the relatively impartial Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) arrived in Damascus on the day of the U.S. attack and were to be given access to the site of the alleged gassing by the Syrian government, which now controls the area, but they had not even begun their work. The U.S.,

Britain, and France attacked without even allowing the process to play out to determine who had done what, a presumption of guilt based on dubious or no evidence, which is in itself suspicious. It was as if they knew that they must act quickly while nearly everyone was accepting the questionable narrative that Syrian leader Bashar al-Assad had done it.

And then there is motive. The Syrian government had no good reason to use chemical weapons on a pocket of rebels that was rapidly being reduced and was ready to fall. To use such weapons would guarantee international outrage and even military reprisals, such as occurred on Friday. The rebels, on the contrary, who are losing to the Syrian army, had every reason to fake an incident precisely to invite foreign intervention.

And finally, there are the practical and constitutional arguments, which start with an appreciation that previous U.S. interventions in Asia and Africa have all failed to make the United States and the American people any safer; quite the contrary. They have cost trillions of dollars better spent at home as well as thousands of American and millions of foreign lives. And the Syrian cruise missile attack staged last week is also unconstitutional. There was no imminent threat and, lacking that, the president has no authority to use lethal force to compel anyone to do anything. Per Article I, Section 8, the Constitution requires a congressional authorization to go to war.

Bombing Syria is illegal, immoral, ineffective, and dishonest. It is time for the United States to pull out its troops and leave the Syrians alone. Americans killing Syrians just to stop Syrians from killing each other is a recipe for disaster. ★

Philip Giraldi is a former CIA counter-terrorism specialist and military intelligence officer and a columnist and television commentator. He is also the executive director of the Council for the National Interest. Other articles by Giraldi can be found on the website of the Unz Review.

A Disastrous Mistake

• Assault on Syria reminds many of U.S. attack on Iraq

By Rep. Ron Paul

On April 14 President Donald Trump celebrated firing more than 100 missiles into Syria by tweeting, “Mission Accomplished!” They say if you cannot learn from history you are condemned to repeat it. So I guess we are repeating it.

We all remember that “Mission Accomplished” was the banner behind then-President George W. Bush as he gloated aboard a U.S. Navy ship that the war in Iraq had been won. After his “victory,” however, some 4,000 U.S. military personnel were killed, perhaps a million Iraqis were killed, and the country’s infrastructure and social fabric were so badly destroyed that they probably can never be repaired.

Actually, there is much about the U.S. attack on Syria that reminds us of Iraq.

With Iraq, the U.S. moved in to start bombing before international inspectors had completed their mission to verify whether Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass destruction. Had they been allowed to complete their mission and verify that he did not, imagine the suffering, death, and destruction that could have been avoided. In Syria, the U.S. decided to start bombing before the international inspectors were even allowed to start checking claims that Assad gassed his own people in Douma. Why? What was the rush? Was Washington afraid they might not find Syrian leader Bashar al-Assad guilty?

Who really benefits from U.S. attacks on the Syrian government? There were reports that ISIS began making moves immediately after the air

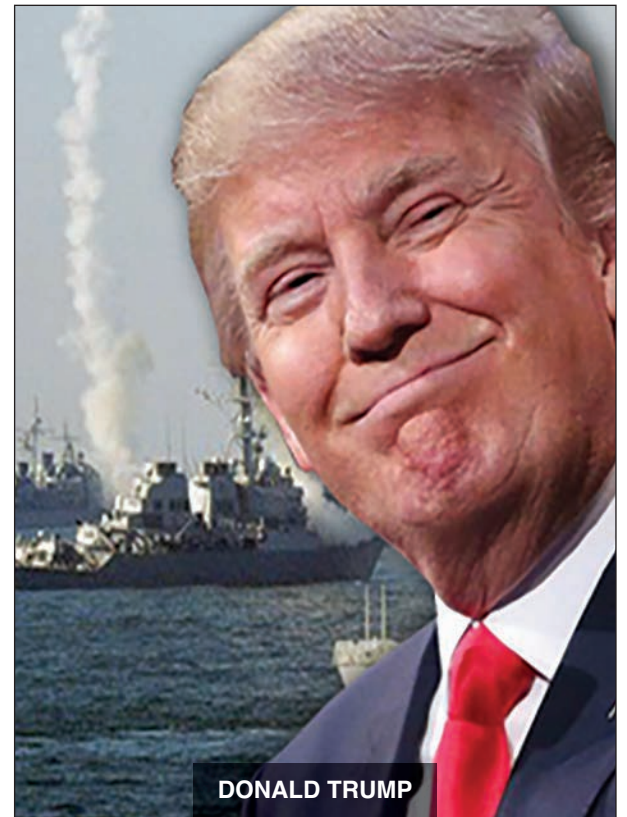
strikes. Do we really want to be al Qaeda’s and ISIS’s air force? Is that going to keep us safer? I remember when al Qaeda was actually considered our enemy, not an ally in overthrowing the last secular government in the Middle East.

Will Syria’s Christians be better off after the recent U.S. attack? Just over a week ago Christians celebrated Easter in Aleppo for the first time in years. What changed? The Syrian army kicked out al Qaeda, which had been occupying the eastern part of the city. So, no, Christians will be much worse off if our “moderate terrorists” take control of Syria.

If Syria really had sarin and other chemical weapons factories, does it make sense for the U.S. to bomb the buildings and risk killing thousands by widely dispersing the poisons? Does it make sense to risk killing Syrian civilians with chemical weapons in retaliation for allegations that the Syrian government killed civilians with chemical weapons? No, it seems more like the phony “mobile WMD labs” we were told that Saddam Hussein had constructed.

If the U.S. knew Syria was manufacturing chemical weapons in the buildings they bombed, why not notify the Organization for the Prevention of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)? The OPCW had certified the very building the U.S. bombed as chemical weapons-free not that long ago. Why not just call them up and ask them to check it out? After all, they were just arriving in the country as the U.S. started bombing.

There are many more questions about Trump’s terrible decision to again make war on Syria. For example, where is Congress? It was disgraceful to see Speaker Paul Ryan (R-Wisc.) telling the president he needs no congressional authorization to



DONALD TRUMP

Has Donald Trump begun World War III by launching cruise missiles against Syria, whose allies include Russia and Iran? Has the president been suckered into this attack by bogus intelligence?

attack Syria. All members of Congress take an oath to uphold and defend the Constitution, and the Constitution says that only Congress can declare war. Does that oath mean nothing these days?

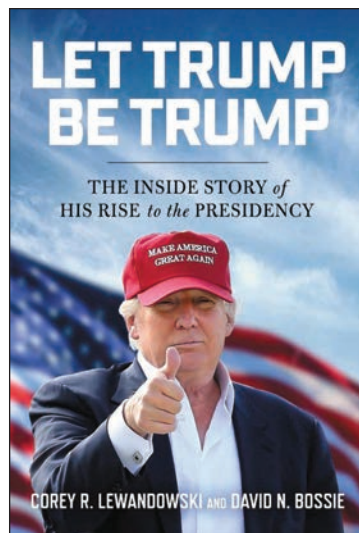
Trump will come to regret the day he let the neocons take over his foreign policy. Their track record is abysmal. His attack on Syria was clearly illegal and should his party lose the House in November he may find his new fair-weather friends in the Democrat Party quickly turning foul. ★

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

Let Trump Be Trump: The Inside Story of His Rise

Let *Trump Be Trump: The Inside Story of His Presidency* is the ultimate behind-the-scenes account of how he became president of the United States. Donald Trump was a candidate—and now a president—like none that have come before. His startling rise to the White House is the most shocking political tale in the history of our republic. Much has been written about this event, but all of those words come from authors outside the orbit of Donald Trump.

Written by the guys in the room—two of Trump’s closest campaign advisors—*Let Trump Be Trump* is the eyewitness account of the stories behind the headlines. From the Access Hollywood recording and the Clinton accusers, to one-time campaign manager Paul Manafort, to the last-moment comeback and a victory that reads like something out of a fiction novel, *Let Trump Be Trump* pulls back the curtain on a drama that has mesmerized the whole world—including the palace intrigues of the Mooch, Sean Spicer, Lance Preibus, Steve Bannon, and more.



By turns hilarious and intimate, *Let Trump Be Trump* also offers a view of Donald Trump like you’ve never seen him, the man whose success in business was built not only on great skill but on loyal relationships and who developed the strongest of bonds with the band of outsiders and idealists who became his team because they believed in him and his message.

Written by Trump’s campaign manager, the fiery Corey Lewandowski, and Dave Bossie—the plaintiff in the famous *Citizens United* Supreme Court case—who helped steer the last critical months of the campaign, this riveting book gives us an inside look at the Trump campaign and the presidency, so far. Hardback, 296 pages, \$27 plus \$4 S&H inside the U.S. from AFP BOOKSTORE, 16000 Trade Zone Avenue, Unit 406, Upper Marlboro, MD 20774. Call 1-888-699-6397 toll free, Mon.-Thu. 9-5 ET to charge. Call 202-544-5977 for cryptocurrency options. Order online at www.AmericanFreePress.net. (Outside U.S. email Bookstore@americanfreepress.net for S&H.)

Has Trump Been Taken Prisoner?

• War Party has taken president hostage and now makes foreign policy for U.S.

By Patrick J. Buchanan

“Ten days ago, President Trump was saying ‘the United States should withdraw from Syria.’ We convinced him it was necessary to stay.” Thus boasted French President Emmanuel Macron on April 14, adding, “We convinced him it was necessary to stay for the long term.”

Is the U.S. indeed in the Syrian civil war “for the long term”? If so, who made that fateful decision for this republic?

UN Ambassador Nikki Haley confirmed April 15 there would be no drawdown of the 2,000 U.S. troops in Syria, until three objectives were reached. We must fully defeat ISIS, ensure chemical weapons would not again be used by Bashar al-Assad, and maintain the ability to watch Iran.

Translation: Whatever Trump says, America is not coming out of Syria. We are going deeper in. Trump’s commitment to extricate us from these bankrupting and blood-soaked Middle East wars and to seek a new rapprochement with Russia is “inoperative.”

The War Party that Trump routed in the primaries is capturing and crafting his foreign policy. The April 16 edition of *The Wall Street Journal* editorial page fairly blossomed with war plans: “The better U.S. strategy is to . . . turn Syria into the Ayatollah’s Vietnam. Only when Russia and Iran begin to pay a larger price in Syria will they have any incentive to negotiate an end to the war or even contemplate a peace based on dividing the country into ethnic-based enclaves.” Apparently, we are to bleed Syria, Russia, Hezbollah, and Iran until they cannot stand the pain and submit to subdividing Syria the way we want.

But suppose that, as in our Civil War of 1861-1865, the Spanish Civil War of 1936-1939, and the Chinese Civil War of 1945-1949, Assad and his Russian, Iranian, and Shiite militia allies go all out to win and reunite the nation.

Suppose they choose to fight to consolidate the victory they have won after seven years of civil war. Where do we find the troops to take back the territory our rebels lost? Or do we just bomb mercilessly?

The British and French say they will back us in future attacks if chemical weapons are used, but they are not plunging into Syria. Defense Secretary James Mattis called the U.S.-British-French attack a “one-shot” deal. British Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson appears to agree: “The rest of the Syrian war must proceed as it will.”

The *Journal*’s op-ed page Monday was turned over to former U.S. ambassador to Syria Ryan Crocker and Brookings Institute senior fellow



Former U.S. Ambassador to Syria Ryan Crocker (above) says the U.S. should not only up the ante in Syria by attacking Iranian and Russian forces there, he believes the United States should commit yet another war crime by targeting and assassinating the democratically elected leader of Syria, Bashar al-Assad. Pat Buchanan says this strategy is insane.

Michael O’Hanlon: “Next time the U.S. could up the ante, going after military command and control, political leadership, and perhaps even Assad himself. The U.S. could also pledge to take out much of his air force. Targets within Iran should not be off limits.”

And when did Congress authorize U.S. acts of war against Syria, its air force or political leadership? When did Congress authorize the killing of the president of Syria whose country has not attacked us?

Can the U.S. also attack Iran and kill the ayatollah without consulting Congress?

Clearly, with the U.S. fighting in six countries, Commander-in-Chief Trump does not want any new wars, or to widen any existing wars in the Middle East. But he is being pushed into becoming a war president to advance the agenda of foreign policy elites who, almost to a man, opposed his election. We have a reluctant president being pushed into a war he does not want to fight. This is a formula for a strategic disaster not unlike Vietnam or George W. Bush’s war to strip Iraq of nonexistent WMD.

The assumption of the War Party seems to be

that if we launch larger and more lethal strikes in Syria, inflicting casualties on Russians, Iranians, Hezbollah, and the Syrian army, they will yield to our demands. But where is the evidence for this? What reason is there to believe these forces will surrender what they have paid in blood to win? And if they choose to fight and widen the war to the larger Middle East, are we prepared for that?

As for Trump’s statement April 13, “No amount of American blood and treasure can produce lasting peace in the Middle East,” *The Washington Post* Sunday dismissed this as “fatalistic” and “misguided.” We have a vital interest, says the *Post*, in preventing Iran from establishing a “land corridor” across Syria. Yet consider how Iran acquired this “land corridor.”

The Shiites in 1979 overthrew a shah our CIA installed in 1953. The Shiites control Iraq because Bush invaded and overthrew Saddam and his Sunni Baath Party, disbanded his Sunni-led army, and let the Shiite majority take control of the country. The Shiites are dominant in Lebanon because they rose up and ran out the Israelis, who invaded in 1982 to run out the PLO.

How many American dead will it take to reverse this history? How long will we have to stay in the Middle East to assure the permanent hegemony of Sunni over Shiite? ★

Pat Buchanan is a writer, political commentator and presidential candidate. He is the author of a new book, *Nixon’s White House Wars: The Battles That Made and Broke a President and Divided America Forever* and previous titles including *The Greatest Comeback: How Richard Nixon Rose From Defeat to Create the New Majority*. Both are available from AFP Bookstore for \$25 plus \$4 S&H.

Anti-Immigration Party Is Victorious in Hungary

By John Friend

Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban's nationalist political party, Fidesz, won a resounding victory in recent national elections. The big win granted the Eurosceptic populist, who is a close ally of Russia, a third consecutive term as prime minister of the former communist country.

According to the latest election results, Fidesz secured over 48% of the popular vote, and will hold at least 134 of the 199 total seats available in the Hungarian parliament. The far-right Jobbik Party received roughly 20% of the total overall votes, while the Socialist Party received roughly 12%. As AFP goes to press, competing political factions and leaders have conceded defeat, and Orban and his Fidesz Party are set to consolidate their already considerable political power.

"We have won!" Orban announced in a post-election speech in front of a crowd of enthusiastic supporters. "Hungary has won a great victory."

Orban also praised the high voter turnout, with official estimates indicating 68% of all eligible voters participating in the recent national elections.

Orban, who is increasingly demonized in the Western press as a racist, xenophobic autocrat, is a longtime critic of the European Union, massive non-European immigration into Hungary, and the prevailing liberal order, which he views as an assault on the people, traditions, and culture of Hungary.

Following the refugee crisis and the massive push for resettlement of Middle Eastern and North African migrants, many of whom are from Third World Islamic countries, Orban has become a leading critic of open borders and mass immigration, putting him in direct conflict with Brussels and top globalists, such as the Hungarian-born billionaire financier George Soros, who Orban and his Fidesz

“

Many Hungarians voted for Orban because of his strong stance against illegal immigration.

party have specifically targeted. Soros is often portrayed as a villainous globalist who is seeking to destroy the sovereignty of Hungary and its unique culture and people by funding NGOs working to help resettle migrants not only in Hungary, but other countries in Europe. In an interview with Hungarian state radio last month, Orban described Soros and the activists and NGOs he finances as working to "transform Hungary into an immigrant nation," a charge that is increasingly being embraced by the people of Hungary who view their nation and way of life as under attack.

"We don't want migrants to come to Hungary," Attila Boda, a 48-year-old army reservist and dishwasher who voted for Orban's Fidesz Party in the recent elections, told the *The New York Times*. This reflects a common sentiment among Hungarians who view the threat of mass Third World immigration and so-called "refugee resettlement" as a top priority for the government. "They are unwilling to integrate, and they only respect their own laws. They want a war; they are brought to Europe by ISIS."

In a speech in February, Orban sparked controversy by stating that Hungarians "do not want to be a multicolored country," and that he did not want Hungarians to interact with migrants "in such a way that our color is mixed with others' colors,"



ORBAN

On April 8, Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban won election for the fourth time. His Fidesz Party ended up taking 134 seats in the 199-seat parliament. The nationalist Jobbik Party won 25 seats, while the Socialists and other allied parties took 20. Orban's campaign focused on the threat illegal immigration, George Soros, the EU and UN pose to Hungarian sovereignty and culture. GETTY IMAGES PHOTO

according to *The New York Times*. Unsurprisingly, Orban's frank and politically incorrect statements were demonized as racist by the Western press and international political establishment, including the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Orban's Fidesz Party has previously proposed legislation to tax foreign donations to any NGO operating within Hungary's borders that is working to facilitate and encourage refugee resettlement and Third World immigration, drawing the ire of many in the international community. His government has also sought to strictly regulate the operations of NGOs and other groups and activists assisting refugees and other immigrants, viewing their subversive activities as a potential threat to national security. ★

John Friend is a writer based in California.

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Trump Suckered Into Syria Attack

Continued from page 1

making it completely inaccessible to outside world. President Putin, Russia, and Iran are responsible for backing animal Assad.”

The Syrian government immediately insisted that the alleged chemical attack was a fabrication perpetrated by the Western media working in conjunction with local forces on the ground in Syria hostile to the Assad regime. Assad was interviewed by Sky News, a mainstream British news channel, and described the alleged chemical attack as a “100% fabrication.”

Syria’s representative at the UN, Bashar Jaafari, described the situation in Douma as a “Hollywood scene,” before accusing Western governments and their allies in the Mideast of supporting terrorist groups operating in Syria attempting to overthrow al-Assad.

“Today we directly accuse Washington, Paris, London, Riyadh, Doha, Ankara of providing ISIS, al-Nusra Front, Jaish al-Islam, Faylaq al-Rahman and dozens of affiliated terrorist groups with toxic chemical substances to be used against Syrian civilians,” Jaafari told the UN Security Council shortly after the alleged attack was reported by Western media outlets. “We accuse them of starting those massacres, of fabricating evidence to falsely blame the Syrian government of toxic chemical substances to prepare the ground for an aggression against my country, just as the United States and the United Kingdom did in Iraq in 2003.”

The Russian government also questioned the alleged chemical weapons attack, with Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov stating the attack was staged by foreign agents working in collaboration with terrorist groups in Syria supported by the West. During a press briefing shortly after the purported attack, Lavrov told reporters his government had “irrefutable evidence” the attack was a fabrication perpetrated by forces hostile to both the Syrian regime and the Russian government and was part of a broader “Russo-phobic campaign” led by one country in particular that he did not name. Russian Gen. Igor Konashenkov, a spokesman for the Russian defense ministry, specifically criticized the United Kingdom, stating, “We have . . . evidence that proves Britain was directly involved in organizing this provocation,” the BBC reported.

The Western press and virtually the entire Western political establishment insisted the alleged attack was carried out by the Syrian military, citing two extremely questionable organizations operating on the ground in Syria: the Syria Civil Defense, known more commonly as the “White Helmets,” and the Syrian American Medical Society (SAMS). The White Helmets and SAMS have been operating on the ground in Syria for

years and are openly hostile to the Syrian government. In a joint press release on April 8, the White Helmets and SAMS alleged that there were more than 500 cases of local residents—almost all women and young children—experiencing “symptoms indicative of exposure to a chemical agent,” the press release stated. “Patients have shown signs of respiratory distress, central cyanosis, excessive oral foaming, corneal burns, and the emission of chlorine-like odor.”

Despite the allegations, little hard evidence was presented to demonstrate the Assad government in fact carried out a chemical weapons attack. Traumatic photographs and videos, which originated with the White Helmets and SAMS, were presented in the Western press as proof of a chemical weapons attack, but international investigators were prevented from verifying the details or investigating the scene.

Interviews with local residents cast doubt on the official narrative being disseminated by the Western press and major political figures. Dr. Assim Rahaibani, a doctor operating in Douma, and others explained that the picture painted by the Western media was a deliberate deception fabricated by the White Helmets and SAMS yet was parroted by the Western press in an effort to demonize Assad and justify a military strike.

“There was a lot of shelling [by government forces] and aircraft were always over Douma at night—but on this night, there was wind and huge dust clouds began to come into the basements and cellars where people lived,” Rahaibani explained, describing the night of the alleged attack. “People began to arrive here suffering from hypoxia, oxygen loss. Then someone at the door, a ‘White Helmet,’ shouted ‘Gas!’ and a panic began. People started throwing water over each other. Yes, the video was filmed here, it is genuine, but what you see are people suffering from hypoxia—not gas poisoning.”

Marwan Jaber, a Syrian medical student who was in Douma on the night of the alleged chemical weapons attack, told a similar story.

“Some of [the victims] suffered from asthma and pulmonary inflammation,” Jaber told reporters. “They received routine treatment and some were even sent home. They showed no symptoms of a chemical attack. But some foreigners entered while we were in a state of chaos and sprinkled people with water, and some of them were even filming it.”

It has become more and more obvious that the purported chemical attack allegedly carried out by Assad’s regime was a deliberate deception perpetrated by the White Helmets, SAMS, and others operating in Syria with ties to Western intelligence, working in collaboration with the mainstream news media. ★

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Ryan: Western Hegemony Must Reign

• “Goodwill” speech to Czech Republic’s parliament laced with confrontational rhetoric

By Mark Anderson

It’s well known that House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-Wisc.) has decided not to seek re-election, but a lesser-known event, during the recent congressional break, was his speech to the Czech parliament on March 27. There, he approvingly revealed that two hawkish neoconservative organizations are instrumental in U.S.-Czech Republic cooperation to confront Russia’s alleged subversion of the democratic process.

“We also partner to support the heroic efforts of organizations such as the National Endowment for Democracy [NED] and the International Republican Institute [IRI],” Ryan told the Prague parliament. “We, as elected legislators, should never forget just how powerful it is to speak out for those who cannot speak for themselves.”

The rather obscure IRI is chaired by Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.), the war-happy veteran senator whose legislative partnership with Sen. Lindsey Graham (2016 and 2017 Bilderberg attendee) has been hyper-fixated for several years on toppling Syrian leader Bashar al-Assad and confronting Syria’s chief allies, Russia and Iran. Other IRI board members include Sen. Tom Cotton (2017 Bilderberg attendee), the young Arkansas Republican who shares McCain’s and Graham’s passion for saber rattling toward Russia, Syria, and Iran; former Sen. Kelly Ayotte (R-N.H.); J. Scott Carpenter, an adjunct scholar at the Zionist, neo-conservative Washington Institute for Near East Policy; and Janet Mullins Grissom, a Council on Foreign Relations member who worked for both of George H.W. Bush’s presidential campaigns.

According to the NED’s website, “The Endowment is guided by the belief that freedom is



Speaker of the House Paul Ryan (R-Wis.) was in the Czech Republic recently, lecturing the Czech parliament on how best to protect their own nation from the “evil influence” of Russia. What Ryan really wants is the Czech Republic’s assurances that it is a willing partner in the New World Order.

a universal human aspiration that can be realized through the development of democratic institutions, procedures, and values. . . . Democracy cannot be achieved through a single election and need not be based upon the model of the United States or any other particular country.” Rather, “it evolves according to the needs and traditions of diverse political cultures.”

However, the NED finds no room for such di-

versity when it rails against all forms of populism, even though populism most often centers on a popular desire for national self-determination and commonsense reforms in the face of the chaos and decline caused by the unbridled globalization that the NED worships.

The NED is clearly partisan geo-politically, meaning that, like virtually all U.S. and European think tanks, it’s strongly biased in favor of trans-

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Was FDR a Victim of Assassination?

- Book says Stalin, FDR inner circle plotted to remove FDR from postwar decisions

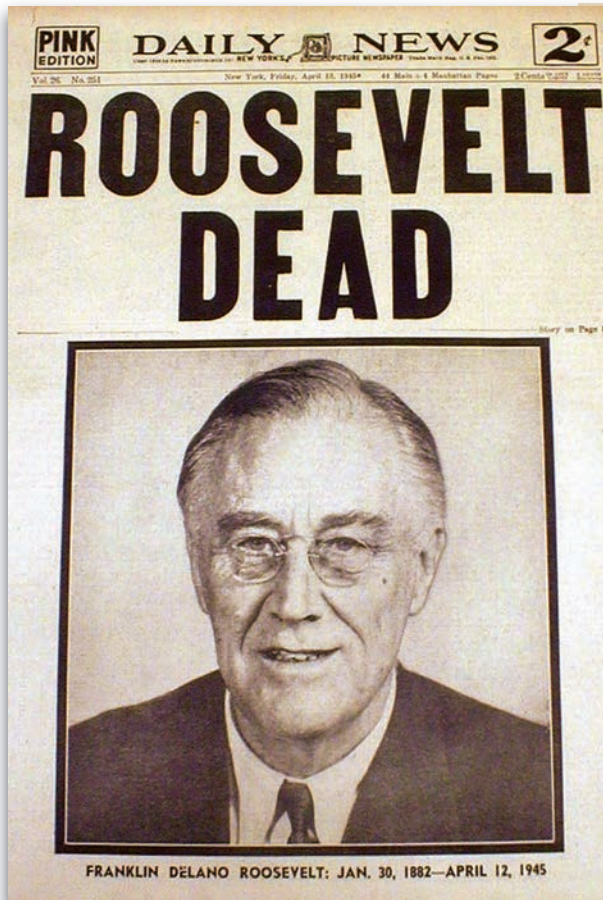
By S. T. Patrick

By March 29, 1945, the United States could sense an end to the war that had both ravaged the globe and rescued the American economy from the straits of the Great Depression. Franklin D. Roosevelt had just entered his fourth term as president. Whenever the stresses of the nation's highest office demanded a calming respite for the ailing president, an excursion to the Little White House in Warm Springs, Ga. was scheduled.

Recuperation was needed. FDR was about to attend a series of organizational meetings to charter the United Nations. In that all-important and lucrative practice of parsing and restructuring the world after a war, Roosevelt was to be the lead figure, maneuvering the chess pieces across the grandest of geopolitical boards. The general secretary of the Soviet Union, Josef Stalin, had led his country for two decades and was about to preside over his army's victorious march through the streets of Berlin. Stalin believed that he, himself, had earned the right to helm the division of spoils emanating from the Second World War.

On the afternoon of April 12, Roosevelt, who felt increasingly ill, said, "I have a terrible headache," and slumped forward in his chair, unconscious. After being carried to his bedroom, FDR was pronounced dead of a massive cerebral hemorrhage by his cardiologist Dr. Howard Bruenn. Vice President Harry Truman, an unassuming machine politician from Kansas City, became FDR's successor.

Stalin must have seen a clearer path upon FDR's death. In fact, it would be the beginning of a remarkably fatal 18 days. Italian Prime Minister Benito Mussolini was assassinated on April 28 and Stalin was led to believe that the German Chancellor Adolf Hitler had committed suicide



on April 30. Churchill's Conservative Party would soon lose an election, forcing the resignation of the prime minister, and France's Charles de Gaulle had neither the financial stability nor the military fortitude to demand a powerful seat at the table of postwar politics.

While many characterize FDR's death as the culmination of an adulthood riddled with health emergencies, author Steve Ubaney believes the evidence tells quite a different story. Ubaney is the author of the *Who Murdered . . . ?* book series. His volumes *Who Murdered Elvis?* and *Who Murdered FDR?* have questioned the official causes of

A *Daily News* headline announces the death of U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt on April 12, 1945. Though many thought the president had died a natural death, losing his battle with polio and heart disease, a new book says that FDR may have been the victim of a slow-working assassination plot by poison, orchestrated by Josef Stalin.

death, and his upcoming *Who Murdered JFK?* will focus on the 2017-2018 JFK records releases. Ubaney believes the evidence shows that FDR was not solely suffering from the physical difficulties of a man who had contracted polio, a paralytic illness, in 1921 at the age of 39. Ubaney describes a situation in which Roosevelt was the victim of a meticulous, systematic poisoning that began around the time of the Tehran Conference in December 1943.

When examining the suspects, Ubaney writes as an investigator, examining means, motive, and opportunity. No one is off limits. He examines Eleanor Roosevelt's growing anger over FDR's trysts with Missy LeHand, his personal secretary, and Lucy Mercer, Eleanor's social secretary. FDR was so fond of LeHand that he included her in his will after she suffered a stroke. Mercer was with FDR in Warm Springs when he died. FDR had refused his wife's request for a divorce, leaving her fastened to a loveless marriage.

Harry Hopkins, FDR's chief diplomatic advisor and friend, is the book's most interesting character. Long treated by Roosevelt biographers as the heroic architect of New Deal implementation, Ubaney details Hopkins's ties to Soviet intelligence, going so far as to label him "a Soviet spy and operative." Hopkins had always been closer to the Soviets than many American diplomats had wished him to be. When FDR was going through a more difficult stint of immobility, Hopkins would

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Left, Winston Churchill and Franklin D. Roosevelt chat before the start of the Yalta Conference (Feb. 4-11, 1945), in which the two handed much of Europe to Josef Stalin. Author Steve Ubaney says Stalin had FDR poisoned to keep him out of any post-WWII decisionmaking.

act as the mouthpiece and legs of the president. Ubaney writes that Hopkins was “the most important man that no one ever knew.”

Elizabeth Schoumatoff and Nicholas Robbins were also present in Warm Springs when FDR died. Schoumatoff, a friend of Mercer, was a Russian-born painter tasked with capturing FDR’s likeness in his fourth term. Robbins was a photographer and longtime friend of Schoumatoff. Both shared Russian backgrounds, ties to high-level anti-FDR financiers, and a presence in Warm Springs.

When Ubaney discusses the practicalities of poisoning, characters reminiscent of the board

game *Clue* enter the story. There is Arthur Prettyman, one of FDR’s personal valets, Howell Crim, the chief usher of the White House, and the cooks who prepare Roosevelt’s daily meals, about which FDR had increasingly complained throughout his presidency.

After his death, many of FDR’s medical records at Bethesda were either lost or stolen. We know this because Mrs. Roosevelt had her own suspicions approximately 10 years later. She wanted a re-evaluation of her husband’s medical history and the records of his death. She soon discovered that what was not locatable could not be re-evaluated.

Though Roosevelt was only 63 when he died, he appeared much older, as many onlookers observed. The severe decline began after Tehran and then seemingly hit bottom after the Yalta Conference of February 1945. Ubaney points out that the closer FDR traveled in proximity to the Russian delegation, the worse his health deteriorated.

Ubaney writes, “Are we really expected to believe that (FDR) died of natural causes at the same time the Allied troops were closing in on Hitler’s bunker? Are we really expected to believe that Roosevelt, Hitler, and Mussolini died within 18 days by coincidence?”

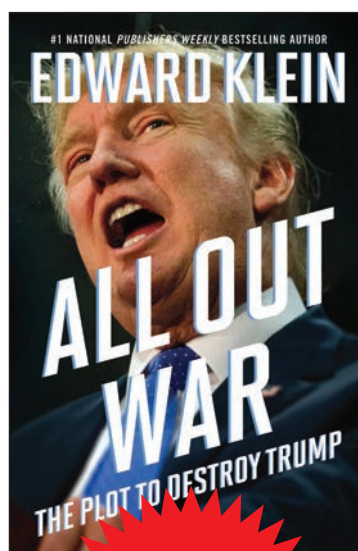
Though the lions of the Second World War were gone or removed from office, Stalin did not have complete autonomy. He had underestimated both Truman’s resolve and corporate America’s desire to control new markets. What he may have done, however, is end the fourth term of FDR prematurely. Ubaney admits that Stalin is the puppet-master in the plot. The remainder of *Who Murdered FDR?* answers the questions of the players, their roles, and the strategies used to poison an American president. ★

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

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Was Prominent Journalist a Target?

• Journalist claims Richard Nixon considered assassinating famed columnist Jack Anderson

By S.T. Patrick

The common factors that drove columnist Jack Anderson and President Richard Nixon to the apex of their respective fields are the same that tore them apart and made them adversaries for more than 25 years. The escalating tension between two of the most powerful men in Washington, D.C. climaxed in the year before Watergate, as Nixon's men wanted Jack Anderson dead.

Anderson and Nixon were both from small, western towns. Their middle-class upbringings often made them uncomfortably conscious of the class warfare inherent within elite society. Anderson was a devout Mormon, while many of Nixon's social leanings reflected his Quaker upbringing. Both men wrote, walked, talked, and lived like they perpetually had something to prove.

While money was not the driving factor behind the two men personally, they both placed a high value in the same Washingtonian commodity—information. They would gain it in ways that were morally and ethically repugnant to later observers and biographers. They would use it to stay one step ahead of their competition, as well as to belittle opponents who invariably attempted to agitate their most paranoid insecurities. The Beltway was a game, and they were both sore losers.

Nixon believed Anderson was partially responsible for his 1960 presidential loss to John F. Kennedy. Anderson, in his *Washington Merry-*



MARK FELDSTEIN

Go-Round column, had printed a revelation that the Nixon campaign had secretly funneled a private donation from billionaire Howard Hughes. Anderson was in large part responsible for Nixon's distrust of the establishment media. When the Nixon administration entered the White House in 1969, Anderson's criticism intensified. He wrote about yet another contribution from Hughes, a favorable tilt toward Pakistan that al-

most caused a nuclear confrontation with Russia, a covert attempt to oust Chilean president Salvador Allende, and many other brewing scandals.

Mark Feldstein, the chair of broadcast journalism at the University of Maryland, has written *Poisoning the Press: Richard Nixon, Jack Anderson, and the Rise of Washington's Scandal Culture*, which is simultaneously a biography of Anderson and a well-written account of his conflict with Nixon.

Feldstein details how Nixon's "Plumbers"—G. Gordon Liddy, E. Howard Hunt, and company—were created to plug the leaks Anderson used to such success. At one point, Anderson's column was syndicated in over a thousand newspapers, including *The Washington Post*. He was the subject of a *Time* magazine cover story under the headline "Supersnoop," he won a Pulitzer Prize in 1972, and he was featured on "60 Minutes."

"Jack Anderson was like Ahab chasing after Richard Nixon, this great white whale, and he plagued Nixon from the very beginning of his career," wrote Feldstein.

Nixon explored many options of what could be done with Anderson. On Jan. 3, 1972, he discussed with Attorney General John Mitchell the possibility of criminally prosecuting Anderson for publishing classified documents.

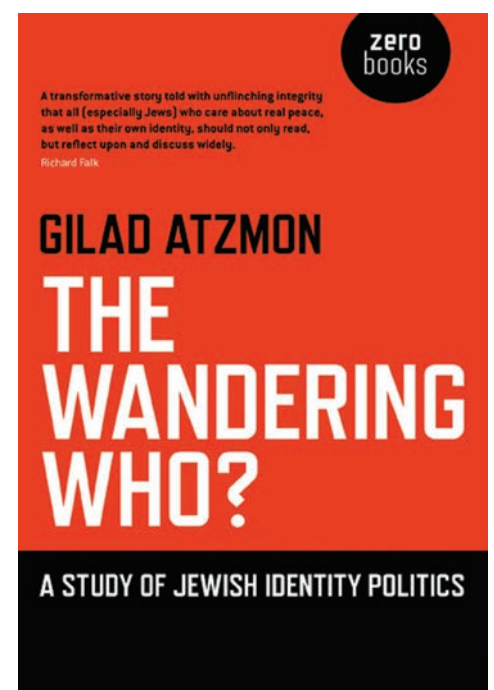
"I would just like to get a hold of this Anderson and hang him," said Mitchell.

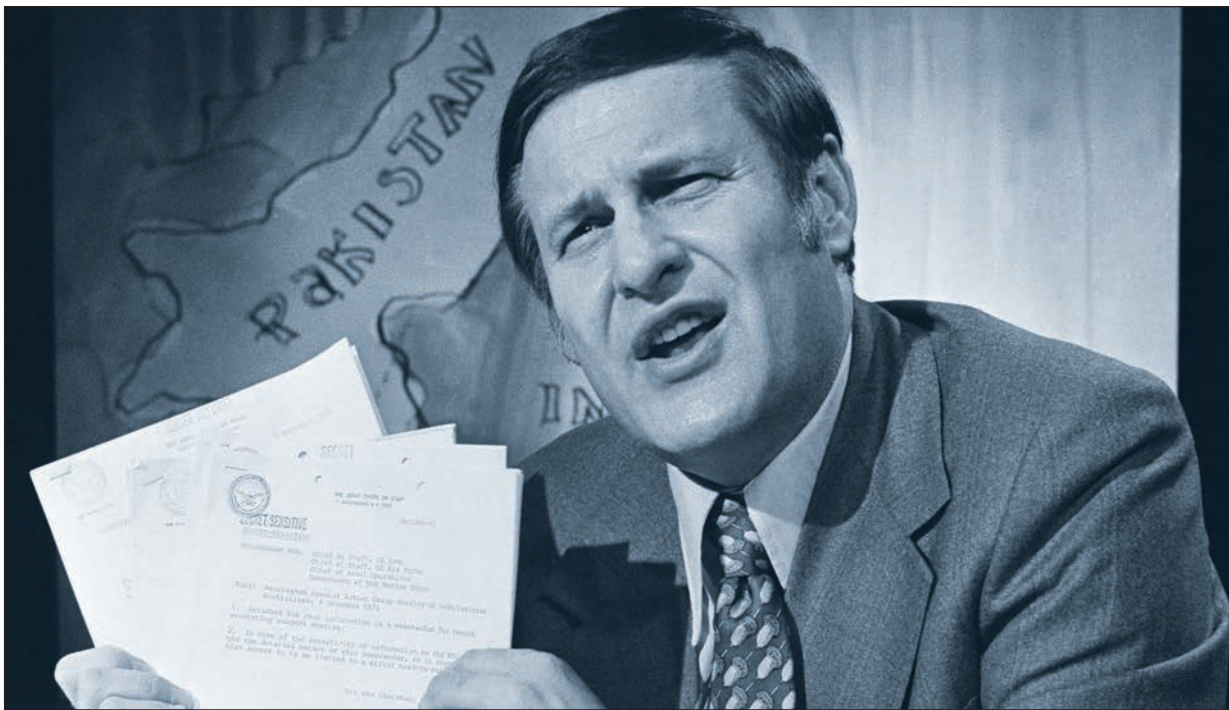
Nixon replied, "So listen, the day after the election, win or lose, we've got to do something with [Anderson]."

Liddy and Hunt met with other Nixon aides to discuss what could be done to thwart the muck-

THE WANDERING WHO? An Examination of Jewish Identity Politics

This book by Israeli intellectual Gilad Atzmon is an exposé of Jewish identity politics. Jewish identity is tied up with some of the most difficult and contentious issues of today. The purpose of this book is to open many of these issues up for discussion. Atzmon examines the tribal aspects embedded in Jewish secular discourse, both Zionist and anti-Zionist; the "holocaust religion"; the meaning of "history" and "time" within the Jewish political discourse; and the anti-Gentile ideologies of secular Judaism. He questions what it is that leads Diaspora Jews to identify themselves with Israel and affiliate with its politics. Softcover, 211 pages, \$18 plus \$4 S&H inside the U.S. Order from AFP, 16000 Trade Zone Avenue, Unit 406, Upper Marlboro, MD 20774 or call 1-888-699-6397 toll free to charge, Mon.-Thu. 9-5.





In 1972, journalist Jack Anderson appeared on TV to reveal secret White House documents that he said described key Richard Nixon strategy sessions during the India-Pakistan war. Anderson had long been a thorn in Nixon's side, but would the president really have considered assassinating the popular reporter?

raking journalist. A spy was placed in Anderson's office where Colson attempted to plant a false White House document. They considered labeling Anderson as gay, which he was not, and charging that his legman Brit Hume was his gay lover. The administration then tried leaking information on Anderson to *The Washington Post*, which instead printed a story about how Nixon was trying to smear Anderson.

Exasperated, the Plumbers turned to the one method of silencing Anderson that would work permanently—murder. Hunt and Liddy, under orders from Colson, met and plotted potential ways to kill Anderson. They interviewed a CIA poison expert to determine whether they could poison him without detection. They put Anderson under surveillance to see if there was a location on his regular route to potentially stage a fatal auto accident. They staked out his home to case the vulnerable points of entry that could be penetrated to swap prescription medications for poison. The most bizarre consideration was the idea of lacing Anderson's steering wheel with LSD, thus causing an accident.

Finally, they decided that the best means would be to stage a mugging that would end in Anderson's death. Liddy later claimed that he had volunteered for the latter and was satisfied with breaking Anderson's neck. Before his death, Hunt

also corroborated the scheme to kill Anderson.

Colson called off the plan to kill Anderson, as the funds had been earmarked elsewhere. Six weeks later, the burglars were arrested at the Watergate complex.

When the second Watergate break-in occurred in June 1974, Chief of Staff H.R. Haldeman tried planting a story that blamed Anderson. Dating back to the 1950s, Anderson had been involved in buggings and break-ins in an effort to acquire damaging information on politicians. Making Haldeman's plan even more potentially credible, Anderson was also friendly with Watergate burglar Frank Sturgis, who had been his house guest in Washington, D.C. In a strange turn of coincidence, Anderson ran into Sturgis at the airport on the night of the Watergate break-in. Sturgis and the burglars were flying in from Miami. When Anderson first heard about Watergate, he instantly knew who was involved.

Anderson's later career was plagued with factual errors, dwindling readership, and an affinity for the Reagan administration that took the bulldog out of the aging reporter. Nixon would resign from office and live out his life writing about global issues. Nixon would die in 1994, and Anderson would succumb to the effects of Parkinson's disease in 2005. He had retired his column a year before at the age of 81. ★

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Who'll Decide What's 'Fake' & What's 'Real'?

• New law designed to fight “fake news” a threat to free speech, independent media

By John Friend

An Orwellian bill that has been introduced in the California state Senate is causing alarm among social media users and supporters of the First Amendment in both California and across the nation as governments and large corporations continue their assault on one of the bedrocks of American political tradition: freedom of speech.

Introduced by California state Sen. Richard Pan—the same senator who was behind the controversial 2015 law enacted by the state of California mandating all schoolchildren receive a series of vaccinations in order to attend public school in the Golden State—the bill is ostensibly aimed at combating “the spread of false information” and “fake news.”

The bill, S.B. 1424, was first introduced in February, and is currently scheduled to be discussed by the California state Senate Judiciary Committee on May 8. If passed, the bill “would require any person who operates a social media, as defined, Internet website with a physical presence in California to develop a strategic plan to verify news stories shared on its web site,” according to the full text of the bill. Additionally, the bill “would require the plan to include, among other things, a plan to mitigate the spread



of false information through news stories, the utilization of fact-checkers to verify news stories, providing outreach to social media users, and placing a warning on a news story containing false information.”

Essentially, the bill is aimed at regulating the flow of information, with the state deciding what passes as “real news” and what doesn’t, a hallmark of totalitarian societies.

The tyrannical, free-speech-killing bill introduced in California comes as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and other top Internet giants have come under fire for censoring politically incorrect opinions and perspectives offered by users

on their platforms, especially conservative and right-wing users. Many top Internet companies have developed partnerships with partisan organizations such as the Anti-Defamation League and Southern Poverty Law Center in an effort to crack down on free speech and political dissent as well. Countless political dissidents, including dozens linked to conservative groups, have been censored and permanently banned from Facebook and Twitter, while many controversial content creators on YouTube have had their channels either shut down or demonetized by the thought police patrolling the Internet.

In recent weeks, Facebook in particular has come under close scrutiny, as reports have emerged detailing how the social media giant stores and sells the personal and private data of its users. In testimony before Congress recently, Facebook founder and CEO Mark Zuckerberg explained that his organization has stepped up its efforts to combat “hate speech” and “fake news,” and hopes to have roughly 20,000 employees working strictly to review and police controversial content on its platform by the end of the year. Zuckerberg also noted that his company is utilizing artificial intelligence (AI) to police and regulate its platform, and is developing AI designed to identify “hate speech” and eliminate it online.

“We’re not there yet,” Zuckerberg told Congress during testimony, referring to AI designed to identify “hate speech.” ★

All But One State Has Run Out of Pension Money

By Dave Gahary

While over \$50 billion a year continues to involuntarily pour from the hapless U.S. taxpayer for economic and military assistance to foreign governments, this once-great nation’s finances are in shambles, most visibly illustrated by a recent study by the Pew Charitable Trusts, the independent non-profit, non-governmental organization founded by the head of Sunoco in 1948.

The study, “The State Pension Funding Gap: 2016,” the most recent year for which comprehensive data were made available for all 50 states, found that state pension funds “reported a \$1.4 trillion deficit—representing a \$295 billion jump from 2015 and the 15th annual increase in pension debt since 2000,” the last year “pension funds were well funded.” After 2000, many states increased pension benefits with no way to pay for them, even in the face of the dot-com bubble implosion, where only Wall Street brokerage houses and their trader armies escaped unscathed.

Pew found that “[m]any state retirement systems are on an unsustainable course, coming up short on their investment targets and having failed to set aside enough money to fund the pension promises made to public employees.” This “[e]ven as contributions from taxpayers over the past decade doubled as a share of state revenue. . . .”

In fact, it was reported by AP on April 11 that the city of Harvey, Ill., located around 20 miles south of Chicago, must lay off police officers and firefighters “due to financial troubles precipitated by pension woes.” The city attorney said “18 firefighters and half of the city’s police officers will be laid off.”

Across the country, cities and school districts much larger than Harvey have been forced to cut or freeze services, some even declaring bankruptcy.

According to the report, the states that are in the most trouble include Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Kentucky, and New Jersey, which all had less than 50% of the assets they needed to meet their obligations. Only New York, South Dakota, Tennessee, and Wisconsin had at least 90% of their liabilities funded. Kansas was the only standout, but this was due to the fact that it credited \$1 billion from a pension obligation bond sale to its state pension plan in 2016,

which made it the only state in the union to contribute “more to its pension system in 2016 than it paid out.”

In New Jersey, it is expected to require \$6 billion each year from the state to rescue its pension system, a huge number but still less than what’s given away to Israel, Saudi Arabia, and Pakistan each year.

Incredibly, many state pension funds had not yet recovered from the aforementioned dot-com crash when the so-called “Great Recession” hit due to the self-inflicted 2007-2008 financial crisis of the 2007-2009 U.S. subprime mortgage crisis, and many have still not recovered. Again, only Wall Street whistled away from the mess without a scratch, protected by the “too big to fail” mantra.

The future looks even bleaker for state pensioners. While the study detailed poor investment returns in 2016, even taking into account better ones, as 2017 has showed, “the overall position of pension funds still would have declined because state governments were not contributing enough.” The study also found that states are increasingly relying on investments to stabilize their faltering finances, “which makes them more vulnerable to market fluctuations.” ★

EMF Dangers Censored

• Are Wi-Fi, microwave ovens, cell phones attacking our health?



By John Tiffany

Cellphones, laptops, microwave ovens, and other fancy devices have become almost a necessity of modern life, as well as a convenience. Wireless connections, known as Wi-Fi, are increasingly ubiquitous. All this high technology depends on a kind of microwave radiation known as radiofrequency electromagnetic fields, RF-EMF. Ten or 20 years ago, this was rare and almost unknown. Now we are all exposed to it, even our children. But is it safe? The evidence shows it is not.

According to a major review in *The International Journal of Oncology*, those who do not use cellphones face a lifetime risk of brain tumor of approximately one in 167. But for those using cellphones, the risk is one in 128. This would seem to indicate cellphones (and presumably other Wi-Fi devices) cause tumors and likely cancer, but some (especially industry spokesmen) say the link is still unproven.

Two 2017 reviews, however, add to the evidence, showing a 33% to 46% increased chance of brain tumors on whichever side of your head you habitually hold your phone.

The radiation penetrates a few inches or about

halfway through an adult's head. But for a small child, the radiation can penetrate right through the head. An added concern for children is that they may be using cellphones for many decades over their lifetimes, compared to today's adults who may experience many fewer years of exposure. Thus, the chance of tumors and cancer developing in children increases due to their increased years of exposure.

RF-EMF radiation, unlike nuclear radioactivity, does not damage DNA directly but can damage DNA indirectly by creating free radicals, which can damage DNA and cell membranes.

Some scientists are advocating the World Health Organization should “bump up” the warning about cellphones from “possible carcinogen” to “probable carcinogen” or even “known carcinogen,” at least for brain cancer and inner ear tumors.

Dr. Michael Greger, M.D., of Nutritionfacts.org advises those who use a cellphone, “It’s best to use a headset or the speakerphone option and limit the time children use [such devices].”

A hands-free operational mode, including Bluetooth headsets, reduces brain exposure by a factor of 100 or more.

And don’t use so-called anti-radiation gizmos that may actually worsen things by causing your phone to boost the signal.

It may be wise to keep your phone turned off

when not in use or expecting a call, and to avoid placing it in the vicinity of your head or genitalia. One study found sperm motility to be reduced by 8% in men using cellphones. This may be a result of carrying the phone in a trousers pocket. There is also evidence using a laptop on your lap, if you are a man, can result in damage to your reproductive organs.

Some population studies found increased risk, while others did not. Interestingly, it was studies funded by the telecommunications industry that had about 10 times less likelihood of finding adverse effects. This can be compared with industry-funded studies done on pharmaceutical drugs (about four times as likely to not find adverse effects of their product), or tobacco—where a whopping 88 times the likelihood was noted. A similar, but more extreme, bias was found in studies of the dangers of nuclear power plants such as Chernobyl.

Don’t expect the government to warn you of these dangers, as they are influenced by the industry, which wants to pooh-pooh the hazards possibly associated with their products. ★

Perennial Spring Vegetable Can Boost Your Health

By John Tiffany

Asparagus is a perennial vegetable celebrated annually in festivals in California, Michigan, Britain, and Germany, but especially interesting is the effects of this delicious vegetable on human health. Garden asparagus (simply “asparagus” for the rest of this article) has many great nutritional benefits and is high in antioxidants, which may have anti-cancer effects.

Asparagus is also known to be high in folate, or vitamin B9. Deficiency of B9 may cause low numbers of red blood cells, fatigue, heart palpitations, shortness of breath, open sores on the tongue, and changes in the color of the skin or hair. Folate occurs in natural food, whereas folic acid, commonly confused with folate, is a synthetic chemical used in dietary supplements and for food fortification and should be avoided, as studies indicate it can actually increase cancer and all-cause mortality.

Folate prevents birth defects, regulating embryonic and fetal nervous system development. It also helps prevent premature births.

Asparagus also can help you to lose weight, as a single serving contains about 11% of your daily



requirement of dietary “fiber.” Food fiber, found only in plants, has innumerable benefits, promoting a healthy gut biome and helping you to feel fuller longer so you are less tempted to eat fattening things you don’t really need. A study published in 2008 reported that a combination of asparagus and elderberry extracts helped patients lose weight. Many suspect that intact asparagus and intact elderberries might be even more effective.

Asparagus keeps your bones healthy, as a serving contains 70% of the daily recommended dose of vitamin K, helping with bone formation and repair and preventing osteoporosis and osteoarthritis. Vitamin K is important for the biosynthesis of osteocalcin, a protein that serves as a nucleus for bone calcium to crystallize upon.

It is rich in vitamin E, an antioxidant that has anti-aging properties—in particular, keeping your skin “young” and healthy. It also has vitamins A and C and calcium, promoting healthy hair, stimulating the hair follicles.

Asparagus has only 25 calories per serving, and in addition to the above is high in thiamin, potassium, and iron, numerous phytochemicals (some of which are yet to be discovered), and glutathione. Glutathione is said to protect us against certain types of cancer and viruses, and it gives immune cells a boost.

Abstain from asparagus if you have acute lymphoblastic leukemia, as there is reason to think it actually worsens that form of cancer.

The “roots” or tubers of the closely related Chinese asparagus have been used for centuries against cancer and hepatitis, but scientists are unsure how it works.

According to the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, extracts did slow the growth of isolated lung cancer cells and also protected liver cells from alcohol toxicity, but it is unknown if these effects also occur in the human body, and more research is needed to evaluate its safety and efficacy.

Modern science has discovered this herb can also minimize bacterial growth. Chinese asparagus is listed as a top-grade medicine in the *Shen Nong Ben* herbal classic. ★

Drugs Clearly to Blame

I am a conservative and longtime supporter of your newspaper. I couldn't agree more with the article by Dr. Ron Paul regarding the possibility that there is a connection between the dispensation of medicinal "psychotropic" drugs by presumably well-meaning psychiatrists in efforts to combat "depression" and other adolescent ailments and the mass shootings by mentally deranged students whose minds have been altered by the continuing intake of these drugs.

I have been pushing this viewpoint for a long time and have been writing letters to newspapers, but no one will publish such a viewpoint that possibly big pharma is responsible. Of course, billions of dollars are at stake here, and they are reluctant, to say the least, to allow any such opinion to be expressed.

My personal opinion is that it began even earlier than the notorious Brad Bishop case in the 1960s, when a foreign service officer under psychiatric treatment (meaning prescribed drugs such as Valium, then popular) suddenly murdered his entire family and pet dog, drove their bodies to North Carolina, burned them, and then vanished forever. The media continually asks, what was the motive in these mass shootings? The point is that, when your mind is deranged by ingestion of these psychotropic drugs, you don't need a motive. It's the drugs, stupid.

JOHN D. S. MUHLENBERG
Virginia

Troops on the Border

Most of the children "marching" about the recent school killings do not even know what they are protesting. They don't even know what an assault weapon is. They should spend as much time learning the three "Rs" as they should the Constitution.

Guns do not kill anyone. People kill people. There are many more lives saved by people with guns than deaths caused by guns. And that is a proven fact.

Existing background checks can prevent unstable people from buying weapons. The book *More Guns, Less Crime** by John Lott details many facts about weapons and deaths associated with weapons, as well as gun-free zones. There's more gun crime and gun deaths in areas where there are more strict gun control laws.

The NRA has educational help that teaches gun safety and responsible use that most anti-Constitution people ignore.

There has been a law banning fully automatic weapons since 1934. An AR-15 is not an assault weapon. Anti-gun people have never even shot a gun, and a majority of these people have bodyguards and live or work in areas where armed people protect them. A lot of banks are now "gun-friendly" zones for concealed carry.

According to the FBI, there were approximately 374 people shot and killed

with rifles of any kind in 2016. There were 1,604 people killed with "knives or cutting instruments." A large percentage of gun deaths are suicides, and laws do not control this. Laws are also not obeyed by criminals. If criminals obeyed the laws, we would not need jails. The FBI also says that more people were killed by the use of "hands, fists, feet etc." than were killed by rifles of any kind. In fact, the tally shows that the death numbers were not even close. While approximately 374 people were shot and killed with rifles, roughly 656 people were beaten to death with "hands, fists, feet etc."

These students who are protesting about school killings are supported by whom? Who pays their transportation? Who rents their hotel rooms? Who pays their food bill? Underage people cannot rent hotel rooms.

Maybe the "news" should bring up a few of the facts that are pro-life, pro-Second Amendment, and pro-Constitution.

JOHN GALBREATH
Ohio

(John Lott's *More Guns, Less Crime* is available from AFP. See page 14 of this issue for an ad.—Ed.)

All Sinners

In a recent interview with talk show host George Stephanopoulos, former FBI Director James Comey said President Donald Trump is morally unfit to rule. What is the truth in this matter?

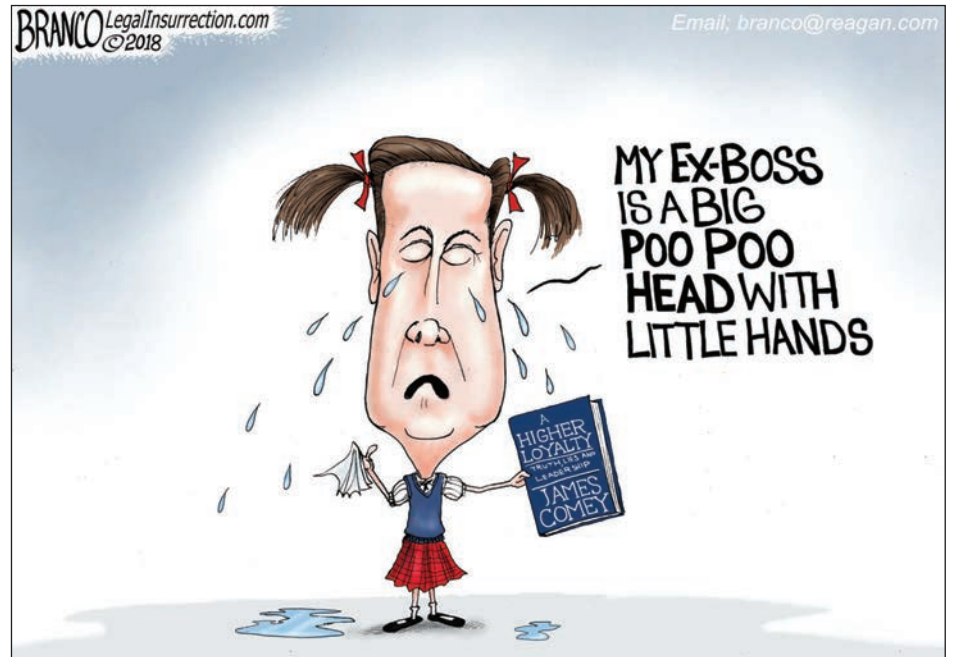
The Bible says, "There is none righteous; no, not one . . . for all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God. . . ." (Romans 3:10-23). Jesus Christ did tell the scribes and pharisees, "Let him who is without sin among you throw the first stone at her [the woman who committed adultery]" (John 8:1-11). Even if we offend in only one point, we have still broken the entire law of God (James 2:8-10).

So there is something wrong with all of us. God "has something" somewhere on each and every one of us. That is why our nation's founding fathers designed a government with a system of mutual checks and balances, both horizontal (three independent branches of government) and vertical (different levels of government).

It is the moral responsibility of each of us to make sure the system works properly. Government never checks itself, even as Adam and Eve covered themselves with fig leaves, to hide their sin from the sight of God. Such is human nature. "Men love darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil" (John 3:19-21).

Archie Bunker once told his son-in-law, Mike Stivik: "This is the United States of America, meat-head! Not the poifekt (perfect) states!"

LAWRENCE K. MARSH
Maryland



Truth the First Casualty?

In AFP's March 12 & 19 issue, letter writer Elaine Ray says, "I don't know how the letter in AFP's Feb. 12 and 19 issue can contend that 2 million lives were probably saved by dropping these bombs." Yes, Elaine the "2 million" you question no doubt is wrong but not for your reason. Think in terms of possibly "2 million" Americans plus 95% of the population of Japan becoming casualties.

AFP and Mrs. Ray should first understand that I am not quoting any encyclopedia or news media. Having been staging for several months for the Nov. 1 invasion of Japan, we were preparing to be among the early arrivals off the Kyushu Beach area. What I am relating to you here was at the time secret military intelligence. U.S. military medical services were under orders to prepare for 1 million casualties.

Our Saipan, Marianas, Leyte, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa campaigns made it quite clear: There would not be any "surrenders," only exterminations. The only question was, who would be exterminated? Intelligence revealed that the civilian population, women and children, were being taught to produce bamboo weapons and fight to the end. Women and children in the Marianas had displayed the same frame of mind. When faced with the possibility of surrender, they jumped from the cliffs into the ocean.

The B-29 fire bombings of Japan killed far more people than did the two atom bombs. Previous war history makes it quite clear Japan as a nation would not have survived the upcoming invasion, nor is it likely I would have survived another 73 years to tell you about it.

What you should have been told years ago and have not is that both Germany and Japan had ongoing nuclear weapons programs in progress. Japan's was retarded due to a lack of a uranium source. Germany had uranium sources in the Scandinavian peninsula and was actually ahead of the U.S. in refining uranium. Fortunately, when Germany got to the point of pro-

ducing weapons-grade uranium, they had lost the ability to deliver a weapon.

Very late in the war, in a difficult vital materials exchange program, facilitated by submarine, Germany shipped a significant cargo of highly refined, bomb-grade uranium to Japan in a U-234 submarine. The U-234 was still in route in the Atlantic when Germany surrendered on May 8, 1945, and the U-234 surrendered. According to a book by the U.S. Naval Institute, it was the German uranium captured on the U-234 that was used in the Hiroshima bomb.

When we started bombing Japan from B-29 bases in the Marianas Islands, Japan moved its nuclear research facilities from Japan to the Chosin Reservoir area of North Korea. This is the northernmost point our troops reached when China entered the Korean War and entrapped our forces there. No doubt the reason for China's entering the war at that point was to protect their access to those nuclear research facilities. It seems that, upon Japan's surrender, they never revealed to the U.S. the existence of these facilities, and our intelligence never picked it up. Probably only after our troops broke out of the Chosin Reservoir trap did we discover what was there. By then it was too late. We had discovered all these nuclear goodies were there, and we had to slice them off on the communist side of the 38th parallel. Clearly the communists knew all about this so the only reason to leave a sensor ship in place becomes personal "cover yourself" considerations.

With this, if Mrs. Ray will just remember that, "truth is always the first casualty in every war," maybe she can come out of the fog.

FRANK TURBERVILLE
North Carolina

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Want to Make Uncle Sam Fall Madly in Love With You?

All you have to do is . . . *nothing!*

We've got a surefire way you can make Uncle Sam one happy guy, and all you have to do is *nothing*. By doing *nothing*, you give the government more power, and lots more of your estate. In return, Uncle Sam becomes just like one of the family, and as such, becomes your happiest heir when you pass on!

Just follow these five simple steps to make sure Uncle Sam gets a big, fat portion of the things you have worked so hard for your entire life:

1 Don't worry about your will or trust. Without a will or trust, the court will get to decide how to disburse your assets. Of course, the court doesn't know you have stepchildren you're fond of, or that you want to remember a few of your favorite charities in your will – and the court doesn't care.

2 Don't worry about your will or trust. Without a will the court will select someone to handle your estate during probate. Even if you would have selected a close friend to have this responsibility, the court won't know that and won't care.

3 Don't worry about your will or trust. If you have minor children for whom guardianship is important, guess what, the court will pick the guardian for you. This means you can sit back and relax—the court will decide who should take care of your kids.

4 Don't worry about your will or trust. The estate tax dollars that your government could collect will be used for, well, anything the government chooses. Just think what a few of your favorite charities—those you've been supporting during your life—could do with that money.

5 Don't worry about a will or trust. Your heirs will be grieving after you are gone. Why not saddle them with the added responsibility of figuring out your affairs, and what decisions you might have made;

Your bequests and donations to FDFA go to help FREE SPEECH survive—and give you a great tax write-off!

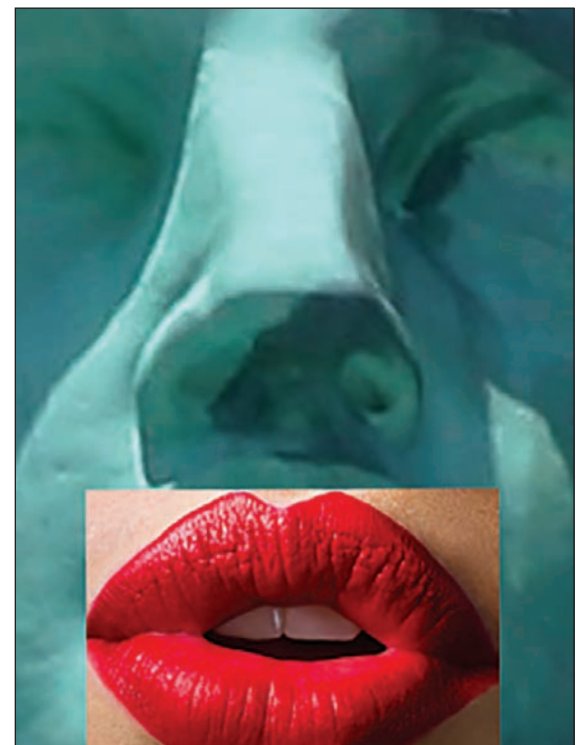
because now they will just have to guess?

Pardon the irony, but have we made our point? These are some darn good reasons why you *should* write your will. We at the FOUNDATION TO DEFEND THE FIRST AMENDMENT and AMERICAN FREE PRESS urge you not to subscribe to the idea that you, your family, and the charities you care about are better off if you pass without a will. Don't continue to put off the minor inconvenience of making a will. The peace of mind will be worth the time you spend on getting your will done.

Let Uncle Sam take care of himself. Your family will be thankful. Your favorite charities will be thankful.

By the way, we've heard on more than one occasion that some of you are a little nervous about meeting with an attorney. But an attorney who specializes in wills and estate planning is the right person to seek out because they can help you accomplish your goals.

We can also send you some information on writing a will and, if you like, ways you can include the FOUNDATION TO DEFEND THE FIRST



AMENDMENT, AMERICAN FREE PRESS and your other favorite charities in your plans.

Writing a will is too important to delay. It's important for you, your heirs, and for AMERICAN FREE PRESS and the FOUNDATION TO DEFEND THE FIRST AMENDMENT. Contact us today.

For a free estate planning newsletter and guide contact:

Christopher J. Petherick

202-544-5977 • 1-888-699-6397

Email: chris@americanfreepress.net

Write:

**FDFA Wills & Trusts Department
16000 Trade Zone Avenue, Unit 406
Upper Marlboro, MD 20774**

Please leave your name, phone number and a time of day to call. We'd like to make sure the estate planning newsletter arrived.

THE FINE PRINT:

This publication is intended to provide general gift planning information. Our organization is not qualified to provide specific legal, tax or investment advice, and this publication should not be looked to or relied upon as a source for such advice. Consult with your own legal and financial advisors before making any gift.