

# American Free Press

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# MEET ME ON THE DARK WEB

## Philosophers, free thinkers retreat to little-known Internet fringe area to have politically incorrect debates

By John Friend

**A** burgeoning political and intellectual dissident movement known as the Intellectual Dark Web is gaining traction and popularity as the thought police and enforcers of political correctness that are attempting to control the prevailing political, social, and cultural discourse continue their tyrannical overreach into the lives of not only public intellectuals, journalists, and other outspoken thinkers, but also average Americans holding views that challenge the prevailing political orthodoxy.

The Intellectual Dark Web, or IDW, is comprised of a number of popular, yet politically incorrect and controversial, thinkers, academics, journalists, and independent political and cultural commentators that have openly rebelled from “the establishment”—major academic institutions, mainstream media platforms and



outlets, and other avenues and venues promoting politically correct narratives and ideas. Many of these individuals began their careers operating in established institutions before rebelling and venturing out on their own in order to pursue their unique intellectual passions and challenge

many of the pillars of mainstream, politically correct narratives shaping our political discourse today.

At its heart, the IDW is a movement of independent thinkers who are determined to buck the shackles of political correctness and champion free speech, free thought, and free intellectual and political inquiry, at least on many topics. A recent profile of the IDW published by *The New York Times* describes the group as “a collection of iconoclastic thinkers, academic renegades, and media personalities who are having a rolling conversation—on podcasts, YouTube, and Twitter, and in sold-out auditoriums—that sounds unlike anything

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## A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

# Allowing the Erosion of Free Speech Is Un-American

If you live in the United States, and you have a job, hold a position of authority, or are a public figure, you have to meet in secret to have candid discussions about some of the most important issues facing people across the globe today. Otherwise you risk having your name dragged through the mud, seeing your reputation maligned, losing your job and/or being ruined financially. Is this really what has become of the U.S.A., the shining city on the hill?

Until the past decade, this state of affairs would have sounded absurd to average Americans. In 2018, however, it is becoming commonplace for politicians to resign, teachers to get fired, and employees to be shown the door simply because they said or wrote something that went against what today's self-appointed gatekeepers of modern standards deem acceptable.

Check out our front page this week to see how this horror show is evolving. In this week's issue, we look at a group of top American intellectuals, who say they now have to meet outside of the existing establishment because they want to talk about issues like politics, abortion, or evolution without fear they will lose their jobs or be attacked and ostracized from mainstream society. They call themselves "the intellectual dark web." In reality, though, these men and women should be heard in lecture halls, nightly TV broadcasts, town hall meetings, and on the Internet.

So what could be so controversial that they have to make extreme accommodations just to talk candidly with each other? They want to debate and discuss topics such as whether there really are more than two genders or if male biology might make men perform better or worse at certain tasks than women. Shocking, right?

Of course, the average reader of AMERICAN FREE

PRESS wouldn't even blink at the prospects of discussing these mundane topics. Believe it or not, though, in several high-profile cases, unorthodox views that were espoused publicly on some of these very issues have already ended the careers of executives, academics, and public figures.

It is shocking to learn this once-great nation has sunk so low that anyone who doesn't conform to modern liberal, politically correct narratives on issues like abortion, gender, race relations, even the extent to which government should be involved in our daily lives, risks being publicly pilloried, financially ruined, and driven from society. Go ahead and say the wrong word in public life, and you will never be allowed to hold public office, teach at an institution of higher learning, work for a major corporation, get a book published with a major publishing house, or even find gainful employment.

For a while it was conservatives who were the targets of what many call the culture of outrage. Now, however, even liberals are having to face down the wrath of the monster they created.

The fact is, we may disagree with what these people think and say. We may even find their opinions crass and absurd, but they still have just as much of a right to hold them as any of the rest of us—and not be punished just for disagreeing.

Just to re-cap, the First Amendment states: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

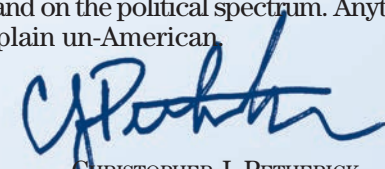
But their obligation really is more than that. Congress shouldn't sit idly by while a gaggle of well-heeled, anti-American lobbying groups pres-

sure the biggest purveyors of information and institutions of higher learning into limiting what and what not we Americans can discuss in open fora. But this is exactly what is happening. And trust me, most of the spineless members of Congress are scared of being blackballed, too. Boo hoo.

What we are talking about is Congress owning up to the spirit of the First Amendment and guaranteeing that we here in America are allowed to express our opinions, as long as they do not advocate violence. If they have to stand up for free speech, crack down on a few lobbying groups or break up a monopoly or two, so be it. Otherwise, we might as well be living in the old Soviet Union where people were banished to the gulag for voicing dissenting opinions.

Remember, too, that what has happened in modern Europe can easily happen here in the U.S.A., Don't kid yourself. In Germany and a dozen other European nations, citizens are being imprisoned for discussing banned historical, religious, and racial topics in public. (The Europeans thought it would never happen there, either.) If the individual states decide to make laws restricting free speech, will Congress step in to fight for our rights? We doubt it. (See page 18 of AFP issue 19/20, 2018, "No Criticism of Israel' Bill Passes in South Carolina.")

At some point, Americans are going to have to stand up and say enough is enough. Free expression applies to everyone regardless of where they stand on the political spectrum. Anything less is just plain un-American. ★

  
—CHRISTOPHER J. PETHERICK  
Executive Editor

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# News You May Have Missed

## Trump Polls Improve

Despite overwhelmingly negative media coverage, President Donald Trump is rising in public opinion polls, studies have found. The Media Research Center reports that between Jan. 1 and April 30, 90% of comments about Trump on the major broadcast networks were negative. Meanwhile Trump's job approval rating rose from 37% to 43%, according to a RealClearPolitics average of the top pollsters. Never before has a president faced such a hostile press, but evidently its bark is worse than its bite.

## Victory for Unborn

The Iowa Legislature has passed a bill that would ban abortions after a baby's heartbeat is detected. Pro-life groups see the bill as a win for the cause of life. Exceptions would be made in cases of rape or incest. A heartbeat is usually detected about the sixth week of pregnancy.

## Illegal Crackdown

President Donald Trump has taken the hobbles off of U.S. immigration authorities, allowing them to step up inspections of businesses that violate U.S. law and hire illegal aliens. According to recent reports, there has been a 60% increase in I-9 audits where Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officials serve notice on a business that they must turn over their I-9 government forms, used to authenticate identity and employment authorization for all workers. "Unless you remove the magnets [for illegal immigration], as long as they think they can come here and get U.S. citizenship and not get removed, they're going to keep coming," Acting ICE Director Thomas Homan recently told reporters. "As long as they can come here and get a job, they're going to try and come. So we are stepping up worksite enforcement."

## Trump Scoffs at Nobel

Barack Obama, when a new president, eagerly accepted the Nobel Peace Prize for doing nothing. Donald Trump's attitude is different. He dismissed the idea that he deserved the Nobel for his efforts to negotiate peace with North Korea. "Everyone thinks so, but I will never say it," was his response when asked about it on May 9. All he is interested in is a "great deal" for peace. "I want to get it finished. The prize I want is victory for the world," he said. The current rapprochement between South Korea and North Korea is all temporary until a deal can be reached. His projected meeting with North Korea leader Kim Jong Un could fall through. He said: "Everything can be scuttled. A lot of things can happen."

## Russians Fight Back Against Collusion

Concord Management and Consulting, one of the Russian companies that special counsel Robert Mueller has accused of interfering in the 2016 presidential election, recently filed a motion in court asking a federal judge to determine if Mueller is engaging in a bogus criminal case. Foreign interference in the presidential election is a "make-believe crime," the Russian company said in its court filing on May 14. The company argues the case is an example of Mueller attempting to "justify his own existence" by indicting "a Russian—any Russian." The filing added that Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein has "licensed a special counsel who for all practical political purposes cannot be fired to indict a case that has absolutely nothing to do with any links or coordination between any candidate and the Russian government." The company is the only one among three Russian companies Mueller indicted in February that has responded to the charges in court.

## Surrounded

Regular readers of AMERICAN FREE PRESS are scratching their heads over President Donald Trump's unquestioning support for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu given that the Israeli leader is currently under investigation by police for corruption. The best explanation is that Trump is surrounded by ardent Zionists, like advisor and son-in-law Jared Kushner as well as U.S. Ambassador to Israel David Friedman, who remain close to the most extreme elements in Israel. For example, on May 11, the Jewish Telegraph Agency reported that U.S. nonprofit American Friends of Bet El Yeshiva Center, which was headed by Friedman until he left to take the U.S. ambassador position, donated \$12,000 to Qomemiyut, a radical Israeli organization that advocates for Jewish settlers who steal land from Palestinians.

## Horrible New Disease

"Why can't a woman be more like a man?" Professor Henry Higgins (Rex Harrison) wonders in *My Fair Lady*. The University of Texas (UT) wonders the reverse. The UT-Austin Counseling and Mental Health Center claims a terrible mental illness is scourging the male gender, a disease called masculinity. They fret over how men suffering from masculinity are too aggressive and competitive, not emotional enough. In a nutshell, masculinity restricts men from being and acting like women. To educate students about this plague, the center distributed posters with the clever headline, "Expanding MasculinUT," urging men to wear women's underwear, dresses, pantyhose, and makeup.

## Offensive "Art"

"Artists" in Chula Vista, Calif. painted a mural at a school showing an Aztec brave with a heart in his hand and the severed head of President Donald Trump impaled on a spear, causing a storm of justified outrage—which the "artists" attributed to "white supremacists." Whatever you think of the president, such a depiction is inappropriate. The mural was subsequently repainted to remove the offensive imagery, but one "artist," Sasha Andrade Mercado, posted the mural on social media, decrying "censorship." The "artists" indicated they will reproduce the disgusting mural elsewhere in the city. Said Ms. Mercado: "We will never give up to fighting for our rights [sic] and fighting to end this racist country that this president has created."

## Governor Disappoints

Oklahoma Gov. Mary Fallin (R) angered citizens who favor gun rights on May 11 by vetoing a bill that would have allowed adults to carry handguns without a permit or training. It was a rare defeat for groups like the National Rifle Association (NRA) in a state viewed as conservative. Some law enforcement officials opposed the measure, claiming it would weaken background checks and "hurt" public safety. The NRA blasted the governor for violating her 2014 campaign promise to support a constitutional gun-carry law.

## Big Trouble

The idyllic land of the Swiss is being targeted by global gun controllers intent on wrecking the nation's tradition of an armed citizenry. Many proud Swiss patriots are refusing to take this attack lying down. Switzerland, of course, has a tradition of neutrality and is not a member of the European Union (EU) but unfortunately chose to become part of the Schengen Area—the group of 26 countries that have abolished passport and other border control requirements at their mutual borders—obligating the country to comply with certain EU laws. Under the 2017 European Firearms Directive, Schengen nations face more stringent gun registration and licensing requirements, and civilian possession is practically prohibited for certain semiautomatic guns and their magazines. This would mean the day you leave the army, you would no longer be trusted with your SIG 559 and would be treated as a criminal or potential terrorist.

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# Censorship Plague Infects America

• Manipulating the various groups working to stifle free speech are the true puppeteers

By Dr. Kevin Barrett

**A**lbert Camus's 1947 novel used *The Plague* as a metaphor for fascism. Today, the plague of fascist-style intolerance is once again spreading. But the carriers are not so much the paleo-conservative nationalists that antifa hates as antifa itself . . . and the milieu from which it arises.

The core principle of fascism is crushing dissent. And it is antifa and its allies who are the worst censors and most fanatical enemies of free speech.

On May 10, 1933, 40,000 pro-Nazi Germans gathered in Berlin to stage a gigantic book-burning bonfire. Exactly 85 years later, on May 10, 2018, philosopher and author Gilad Atzmon was barred from the Wil-Mar Community Center in Madison, Wisc. on the grounds that he was a supposed "Holocaust denier."

In fact, Atzmon does not deny any facts about any of the many 20th century holocausts, but he insists that events in the past must be treated in an open, scholarly manner as opposed to as a religion. Atzmon opposes all forms of history laws. He prefers to remember his grandmother as a victim of the larger holocaust, World War II—which killed 60 million innocent people—rather than giving her special status because she, unlike more than 50 million other innocent victims of that horrific war, happened to be Jewish.

Like the 1930s German authors whose books were burned by Nazis, Atzmon is a dissident. A healthy society welcomes and embraces heretics like Atzmon. But our society is increasingly unhealthy, sickened by the plague of censorship, which festers in the stinking marshes of political correctness, then creeps out to strike down free thought.

Atzmon has been censored so many times he has lost count. When I informed him that his Madison venue had been abruptly canceled less than a week before the event, he told me, "It happens all the time." Often the cancellations come on the very day of the event, making it difficult or impossible to find alternative locations.

Atzmon is censored because he criticizes Israel's sacred cows and defends the rights of Palestinians. In this, he resembles the vast majority of censorship victims in America and Western Europe. Is it not odd that Americans and Europeans can critique and mock their own culture's sacred symbols, yet are forced to kowtow to Israel's?

I was recently banned from KBOO community radio in Portland, Ore. shortly before I was scheduled to appear. The witch-hunt that terrorized KBOO management into banning me was led by Zionists hiding behind the banner of the neo-Bol-



**Never before in American history** has such a concerted effort been made by big business, state governments, mainstream publishers, Internet thought censors and academia to stifle honest discussion of important topics. Thank "political correctness."

shevik antifa movement.

The previous year I was banned from the Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarians and Universalists after a hate campaign led by a "liberal Zionist" member. That was the first time I had ever had a speaking event canceled.

Israel lobby groups had tried to cancel my events several times before that, but they had always failed. In 2015, they got me briefly banned from Canada, but it backfired when the ban was quickly lifted and I spoke in many Canadian cities. In several of those cities, B'nai B'rith Canada pressured the venue to cancel, but none ever did.

In Edmonton, B'nai B'rith lodged a hate speech complaint with the local police. After the first half of my talk, two plainclothes officers approached me and identified themselves as members of the Edmonton Police Department hate squad. They told me they had no problem with anything I had said. So I can now brag that my talks are "certified hate-free by the Edmonton PD hate squad."

Over the past three years, it seems that the censorship plague has metastasized and spread not only through community institutions like the Berkeley Unitarian church, the Wil-Mar Center in

Madison, and KBOO radio but in even more virulent forms across the Internet. Many dozens of history books have been banned by Amazon. Facebook and Google are tweaking their algorithms to hide alternative media. An Internet publication I write for, "Veterans Today"—the most-read veterans publication in America—has been completely banned from Facebook without any explanation. The most likely reason: offending Zionist sensibilities.

Academia is also affected. Professors who question Zionist propaganda, like Anthony Hall, Steven Sulaita, and Joy Karega, have been the focus of hysterical witch-hunts.

I recently interviewed Alan Sabrosky about censorship. Sabrosky, an ex-Marine officer and former director of strategic studies at the U.S. Army War College, is on record stating that "9/11 was a Mossad operation, period." He told me that the ultimate form of censorship is assassination and voiced his suspicions about the untimely deaths of two great AMERICAN FREE PRESS journalists, Michael Collins Piper and Victor Thorn.

AFP is the last print publication braving the Zionist censorship hurricane. Writing for this newspaper may be a dangerous job, but somebody's got to do it. ★

**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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# Activists Target Another FAU Scholar

• Dr. Marshall DeRosa harassed over Southern scholarship, prison outreach efforts

By S.T. Patrick

Since March, Dr. Marshall DeRosa has been under fire from journalists and activists across Florida and nationwide. The charges against DeRosa, a professor at Florida Atlantic University (FAU) for 28 years, range from the innocuously political (“Koch-funded”) to the serious and potentially career-threatening (“white supremacist”).

The criticism of DeRosa had been a niche story until the left-leaning magazine *The Nation* published a hit piece on March 21, “How Charles Koch is Helping Neo-Confederates Teach College Students.” Since then, DeRosa has been the target of protests and harassment from across the FAU campus and beyond. Student activists, primarily from the FAU Democratic Socialists and FAU Student Power groups, have made DeRosa’s classes at FAU difficult endeavors. Some students have even gone so far as to post accusatory flyers inside DeRosa’s classrooms.

The attacks on DeRosa center on his ties to what critics are calling “white nationalist” and “neo-Confederate” groups such as the League of the South Institute (LSI), which, according to its own advertisement, is the “educational arm of the Mary Noel Kershaw Foundation.”

In an email exchange with this writer, DeRosa described the end of his tenure with the LSI. “My disengagement from the League of the South was a gradual process,” DeRosa wrote. “I don’t have a specific date, but I believe it began in the late 1990s. As an academic I was able and willing to give presentations about my scholarship. Professor Forrest McDonald [world renowned historian at the University of Alabama] invited me to the first organizational meeting at the University of Alabama. The purpose was to provide an academic and research forum for scholars. It did not and was not intended to be engaged in politics.”

DeRosa is currently associated with the Abbeville Institute, an organization formed “to critically explore what is true and valuable in the Southern tradition.” Abbeville is named after the birthplace of former Sen. and Vice President John C. Calhoun of South Carolina.

What is confusing are the duplicitous motives of the protestors, as well as organizations such as Campus Reform and Media Matters for America. A majority of the headlines and flyers use the name “Koch” more prominently than they use “DeRosa.” Therefore, it can be assumed that DeRosa is just the target *du jour* for the left’s perpetual attacks on Charles and David Koch, the oil billionaires known for donating to Republican political causes. One of those causes, the Charles Koch Foundation’s education initiatives, allows



DR. MARSHALL DEROSA

FAU to fund the civics classes DeRosa teaches at the South Bay Correctional Facility (SBCF), a private prison operated by GEO Group, Inc.

DeRosa teaches approximately 130 students at SBCF. Almost 70% of his students are black. The remaining 30% are equally white and Hispanic. Sources within SBCF tell this writer that the students are “real fans” of both DeRosa and his classes. What he is teaching all of the South Bay students is uniform; he teaches about individual rights, duties, and dignity. In a reaction that may surprise his harshest critics, the classes seem to be affecting the black students most.

DeRosa told “WashingtonExaminer.com,” “(The black students are) coming to the realization that the government has been their enemy.”

These dictums must be surprising to an educational structure and prison-industrial complex that demands obedience to an authority, a reliance on government programs, and a blind faith in law. Yet they are ideals that DeRosa believes will make the prisoners valuable members of their communities and families after their time is served.

When asked why these classes were important to him, DeRosa responded with a quote from Matthew 25:36, “. . . I was in prison, and you came to me.”

The DeRosa story is really a crossroads of ongoing conflicts that have plagued Florida for decades. Florida is a state that is very Southern in culture, yet it attempts to promote itself as an impartial, fully modernized, coastal vacation desti-

Dr. Marshall DeRosa of Florida Atlantic University has been called everything from a Koch-funded lackey to a white nationalist and white supremacist, yet he continues to improve the lives and minds of Florida prisoners, one class at a time. Many of the prisoners DeRosa teaches are black and Hispanic, and they seem to respond to his politically incorrect message of truth.

nation. It is a state that has over 154,000 residents in jails or prisons. The state is also slowly moving toward prison privatization. That move had previously caused conflict on the FAU campus when in 2013 students protested over the GEO Group’s purchasing of the naming rights to the football stadium. DeRosa is simply caught in the current wave of old conflicts.

For DeRosa, however, the attacks and harassment have been very personal. In communication with this writer, as well as in reports culled from SBCF sources, DeRosa has been a polite intellectual with an intense devotion to both his students and his material. Unfortunately for DeRosa and his colleagues, he is also caught up in a schism that the historical community has yet to resolve adequately.

There has to be a way for scholars interested in southern or Confederate history to study it with impartiality and without the snap judgments that cause many to label them as “white supremacists” or “white nationalists” solely due to their interest and lack of volatile scorn. They should not have to reflexively despise the South or hate all of its institutions and principles to study it critically.

DeRosa is a scholar with an interest in the Confederacy, and he is an author of a book on the Confederate Constitution of 1861. He has done what many do in the field of history—he has associated with other historians with similar interests. That is professional; it is neither illegal nor immoral. It isn’t even a bad decision. It is the norm in any scholarly field.

DeRosa, to date, has been given the tacit support of an FAU administration that in 2016 fired James Tracy, the professor who contributed to a book on the Sandy Hook school shooting claiming he had some doubts about the official story surrounding the event. If FAU is an educational institution that seriously believes in the university being a forum for the marketplace of ideas, DeRosa will stay at FAU and his students at SBCF will continue to learn his valuable lessons. ★

S.T. Patrick holds degrees in both journalism and social studies education. He spent 10 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.



# Most Dangerous Mind in America?

• Dr. James Fetzer has seen his books, videos, interviews banned by thought censors

By S.T. Patrick

**B**anned by Amazon, thrown off of national talk shows, denounced by fellow researchers, decried by the national media, and adored by conference attendees, James Fetzer, Ph.D., is simultaneously one of the most polarizing and sought-after members of the worldwide truth-seeking communities.

Labeled “The Most Dangerous Mind in America” in a recent article by Mike Adams of “NaturalNews.com,” Fetzer can certainly make a claim that he may be the most banned mind actively doing research in America today. Fetzer and fellow researcher Ole Dammegard appeared March 28 on Kerry Cassidy’s “Project Camelot” show in an episode entitled “Investigating False Flags Worldwide.” Shortly after it was uploaded to YouTube, the video was taken down. Fetzer has also seen a number of his own uploaded videos taken down by YouTube.

Fetzer co-edited *Nobody Died at Sandy Hook* with Mike Palecek, and on Oct. 15, 2015 it was released on Amazon. Quickly selling 500 copies, the book prompted enough attention that “Inside Edition” contacted Fetzer for an interview. The show



DR. JAMES FETZER

staff demanded Fetzer do a telephone pre-interview before they would record an interview for television, and when someone with the program

Dr. James Fetzer has managed to produce some of the most detailed and scholarly analyses of contentious events, enlisting dozens of professors, educators and technical experts to bolster his basic point: You really can’t trust anything the mainstream media or the government tell you.

made contact with Fetzer, he was transferred to what he contends was “a basement at Langley (CIA headquarters).”

“(I was) put through an interrogation as to ‘What’s the best you’ve got’ over and over until (the pre-interviewer) was satisfied that we had too much,” Fetzer told this writer.

Two days later, on Nov. 19, the book on Sandy Hook was banned by Amazon. As a countermeasure, Fetzer and his contributing authors agreed to release the book for free on “Rense.com,” the website of talk show host Jeff Rense.

Most of Fetzer’s books can still be found on Amazon, sans his books on Sandy Hook and the Holocaust. However, YouTube has been far more aggressive in censoring Fetzer’s work, removing scores of his videos and taking down interviews of him by others, including entire channels.

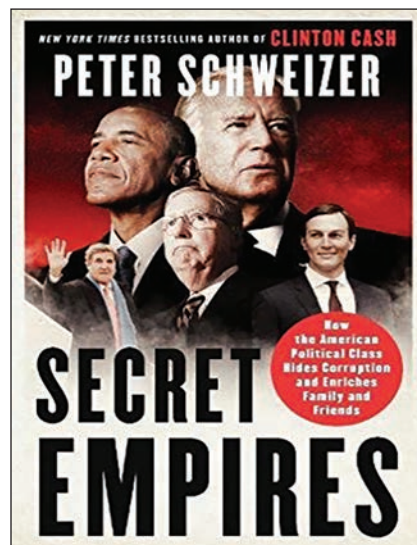
Fetzer’s research has by now extended well

## Secret Empires

**P**eter 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.

Deeply researched and packed with shocking revelations, *Secret Empires* identifies public servants who cannot be trusted and provides a path toward a more accountable government.

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Pictured: Just a few of the many conspiracy fact books produced by Dr. Fetzer.

beyond the JFK assassination and 9/11, but those two communities were the ones where Fetzer really made his name within the world of critical alternative research. Even among the most conservative researchers, Fetzer's *Assassination Science* (1998) remains an acclaimed work—and one that, according to Fetzer, is still his most popular. *Assassination Science*, like most of Fetzer's alternative works, is an anthology of research that he compiles and edits.

Even those who criticize Fetzer's current work will often begrudgingly admit they like his work in *Assassination Science* and *The Great Zapruder Film Hoax*, in which he argues that the Zapruder film showing Kennedy's assassination has been altered. When he co-founded Scholars for 9/11 Truth, the general consensus of feeling among "truthers" was that of gratitude and appreciation.

It was when Fetzer turned his laser-like sights and biting criticism toward the issues of false flags (Sandy Hook, Boston, Orlando, Las Vegas, Parkland etc.), Pizzagate, the Moon landing, Sen. Paul Wellstone's death, the mystery of Paul McCartney, the Holocaust, and what he believes to be the "real" gender of Michelle Obama that fellow researchers turned on him.

Through Nov. 26, 2009, Fetzer was a mainstay on Len Osanic's "Black Op Radio" program, the leading radio show dealing primarily with JFK assassination research. Fetzer was then removed from the program and replaced by "Kennedysand-King.com" founder Jim DiEugenio. Fetzer believes DiEugenio "works the other side of the street" and pushed Osanic, "a good guy," to remove him from the program after Fetzer had proposed assassination theories with which DiEugenio disagreed: that Lee Oswald was standing in front of the Texas School Book Depository as the motorcade passed, that the limousine driver intentionally stopped the car for the fatal shot, and that the Zapruder film was altered.

Fetzer's work has been repeatedly suppressed by the mainstream.

On July 31, 2015, Fetzer was prematurely booted from Clyde Lewis's "Ground Zero" radio show after he refused to stop disputing the number of Holocaust deaths and discussing Sandy Hook. The theme of the episode, ironically, was the mainstream media's censorship and mistreatment of conspiracy theorists.

Lest one think Fetzer is a self-created conspiracy media magnet hell-bent on self-promotion by any means necessary, Fetzer has a successful career in education. He is the Distinguished McKnight University Professor Emeritus of the philosophy of science at the University of Minnesota-Duluth. He is an expert on research methodology and has written extensively on the foundation of scientific explanation, probability, the philosophy of cognitive science, and artificial intelligence. He is an academic that has broken ranks with his colleagues in favor of theories and research that is often scoffed at and dismissed within the halls of academia.

At conferences, he is a major draw. Colleagues nervously wait to hear who he will blast, while attendees wait in droves to shake his hand, get pictures, and thank him as they present the copies of his books that they have brought hundreds of miles to get signed.

Fetzer is not bothered by the feathers he often ruffles, especially those belonging to other researchers in the same field.

"I don't suffer fools gladly, and I am willing to call them out in public," he told this writer. "That does not go over well with those who have not done their homework. . . . I want the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but (the truth)—not their praise." ★

S.T. Patrick holds degrees in both journalism and social studies education. He spent 10 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.

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**By John Ellis**

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“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)!

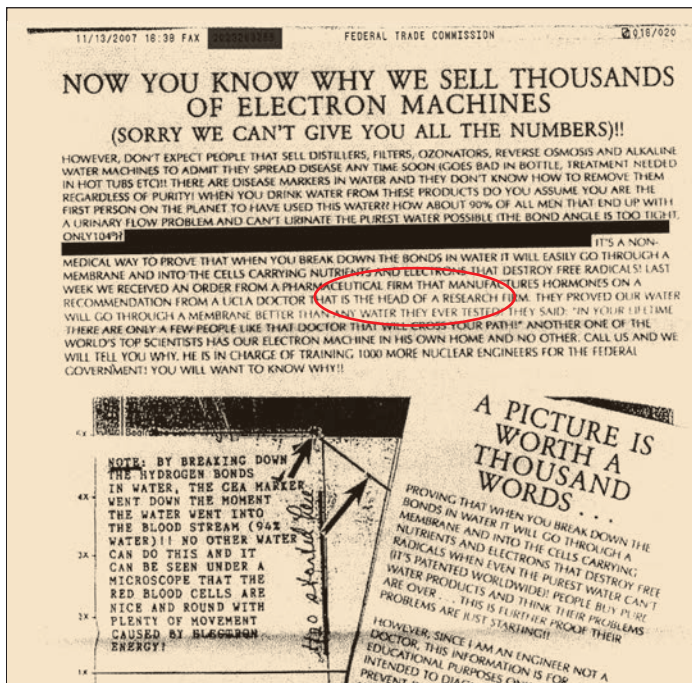
Our 13 International patents show (every 20 seconds) cooler water stops the boiling to lower the pressure/velocity while producing 30 times more energy to go through a membrane into the cells to the extremities (UCLA Med. School M.D. doing independent blood flow

studies: “Nothing is even close to your water!” See our video at [www.JohnEllis.com](http://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!

### VIOLATING FARADAY'S LAW?

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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# Honest Reporters Stage Revolt

• Even mainstream journalists are bucking the agendas of their billionaire owners

By John Friend

Major corporate media outlets across the country are in chaos as they struggle to compete with the rising alternative and independent media, a loss of public trust, and an increasingly jaded and disgruntled work force.

Many of these outlets are part of large media conglomerates owned and operated by billionaires, hedge funds, and other financial interests. As the mainstream mass corporate media has become more consolidated in recent years, the large financial interests that own and operate these outlets and publications have attempted to increase profits by cutting staff and reorganizing its work force, oftentimes bringing the corporate owners into direct conflict with the reporters and editors that produce and run the outlet or publication's content.

For example, late last year roughly 100 employees of *The Washington Post*, the biggest newspaper in the nation's capital, which is owned and operated by multi-billionaire Jeff Bezos, held a public demonstration outside the paper's main office to demand fair wages and other benefits for employees.

"We want Jeff Bezos to be a leader and to understand that investing in the people at the *Post* is investing in the future of the *Post*," Robert Struckman, president of the Washington-Baltimore News Guild, said at the time. Bezos and other corporate leaders at the *Post* had been under fire for their meager pay raise proposals as well as their proposal to severely cut severance pay.



For over a decade, AMERICAN FREE PRESS has been warning about media consolidation and the takeover of the news by the moneyed elites. Unfortunately, the alarm bells sounded by us were ignored. Now journalists around the U.S. are seeing many of those predictions come true as Wall Street further clamps down on the truth. Above, staff at *The Denver Post* protest staff cuts and censorship at the newspaper.

In more recent weeks, hundreds of journalists working for municipal and local publications, including *The Denver Post*, *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, and *The Mercury News*, among other smaller newspapers owned and operated by major hedge fund Alden Global Capital, have engaged in public protests against their corporate owners who are determined to cut staff in order to increase profits. In April, the editorial board at *The Denver Post* used six of its own pages in its editorial section to rail against its Wall Street owners.

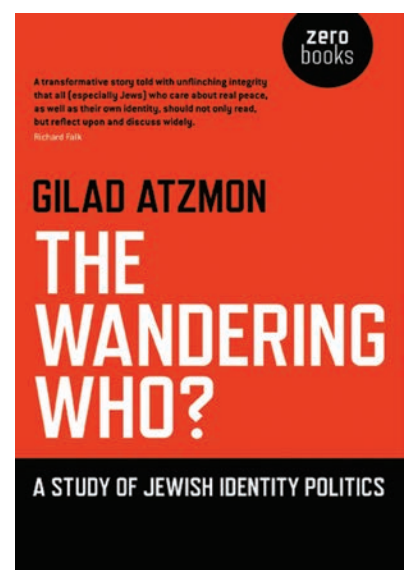
Early last week, dozens of journalists and re-

porters working for publications owned and operated by Alden Global Capital organized a rally at the Lipstick Building in New York City demanding the hedge fund either invest its healthy profits back into the media outlets and publications it owns or sell its share. The rally, organized and funded by the Newspaper Guild, which operates under the umbrella of the Communication Workers of America, brought together reporters, journalists, and photographers from across the nation to petition their corporate paymasters.

"We're taking the message to Alden Global's

## 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. Call AFP toll free at 1-888-699-6397 to charge, Mon.-Thu. 9-5 ET. See also AmericanFreePress.net..





front door,” Noelle Phillips, police reporter and vice chair of the Denver News Guild, told “The Daily Beast” at the time. “They won’t reach out to us, so we’re going to go to them.”

Phillips went on to argue that Alden Global Capital needs to “share some of [their] profits.” They need to feed the profits “back into their newspapers and if they can’t do that, then they should let go of their newspapers,” Phillips stated.

Others at the rally highlighted the increasing tensions at publications and outlets owned and operated by Alden Global Capital. Numerous staff members have been laid off in recent years, as media outlets struggle to maintain profits, readers, and revenue. John Ingold, a reporter for *The Denver Post*, voiced support for the rally in a series of tweets, where he argued that the corporate owners of his newspaper “have censored our pages and created an untenable climate of fear and intimidation in our newsroom.”

“They must change course or sell,” Ingold defiantly stated.

In related news, employees of online news outlet Gizmodo Media Group published a devastating critique of Univision, its corporate parent headquartered in Mexico, signaling yet another rebellion at a mainstream conglomerate.

Gizmodo writers Kate Conger, David Uberti, and Laura Wagner argued Univision has created “a culture of complacency and excess,” and noted that the media conglomerate is struggling with “a disastrous private equity buyout finalized in 2007; an aging audience; a burdensome program-licensing deal with Televisa; competition from Telemundo and Netflix; layers of overpaid and useless middle management; and a general failure to position itself for a digital future.”

Univision, like other major corporate media conglomerates, has terminated or laid off a number of employees in recent years, creating more tension and alienation among its work force.

As the mainstream corporate news media—often correctly referred to as “the fake news” media—continues to struggle and face internal turmoil, alternative and independent publications such as AMERICAN FREE PRESS continue to gain credibility, readership, and trust.

Is the hostile corporate mass media, which has continually deceived the public in order to advance plutocratic and foreign agendas, finally on its deathbed? We can only hope. ★

John Friend is a writer based in California.

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## TBR announces the release of *Mussolini's War!*

# Mussolini's War

## Volume 1: The Triumphant Years

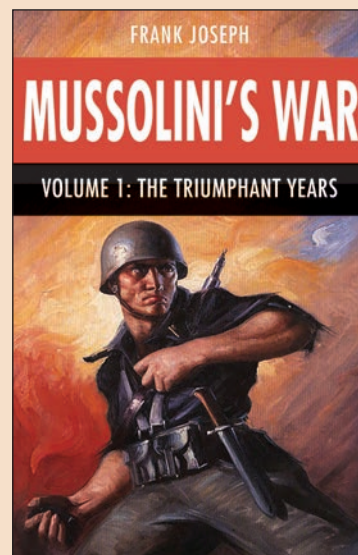
“[T]hose who think they know World War II history will be pleasantly surprised to learn an incredible array of new details about the entire scope of that conflict, and not just as it related to Italy. And I guarantee that *Mussolini's War* will completely change general, preconceived notions of the Second World War.”

—Lt. Col. FORREST P. PATTON, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve (Ret.)

Among the great misconceptions of modern times is the assumption that Benito Mussolini was Adolf Hitler's junior partner, who made no significant contributions to the Axis effort in World War II. That conclusion originated with Allied propagandists determined to boost Anglo-American morale, while undermining Axis cooperation.

The Duce's failings, real or imagined, were inflated and ridiculed, his successes pointedly demeaned or ignored. Italy's allegedly “bungling navy, ineffectual army—as cowardly as it was ill-equipped—and air force of antiquated biplanes were handily dealt with by the Western Allies,” so the hackneyed, completely false mainstream story goes. So effective was this disinformation campaign that it became postwar history, and is still generally taken for granted, even by otherwise well-informed scholars and students of World War II—even by many Italians themselves!

But a closer examination by historian and author Frank Joseph of original, often neglected, recently disclosed mate-



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Brigade near Gazala, in North Africa, from otherwise certain annihilation.

These and numerous other disclosures combine to debunk lingering propaganda stereotypes of the inept, ineffectual Italian armed forces and their allegedly inept commanders and supreme leader. That dated portrayal is rendered obsolete by a true-to-life account of the men and weapons of *Mussolini's War: Volume 1—The Triumphant Years*.

This book is sure to become a TBR Revisionist classic—and, better yet, it is designed and published solely by TBR and available nowhere else!

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rials presents an entirely different picture. They shine new light, for example, on Italy's submarine service, the world's greatest in terms of tonnage, its boats sinking nearly three-quarters of a million tons of Allied shipping in three years' time. By mid-1942, Mussolini's navy had fought its way back from crushing defeats to become the dominant power in the Mediterranean Sea. Contrary to popular belief, Mussolini's *Fiat* biplanes gave as good as they got in the Battle of Britain, and Italy's Savoia-Marchetti *Sparrowhawk* bombers accounted for 72 Allied warships and 196 freighters sunk. On June 7, 1942, infantry of the Italian X Corps saved Rommel's 15th



# Global Cities High on Elites' Agenda

• Pre-meeting releases indicate Bilderbergers want to thwart populism's global advances

By Mark Anderson

As the 66th Bilderberg Meeting approaches in Italy June 7-10, the anti-populist “global cities” movement has been moved to the front burner. From papers posted by urban analyst Bruce Katz on the website of the Bilderberg-connected Brookings Institution, to several recent forums featuring Katz and other notables at the Chicago Council on Global Affairs (CCGA), a major thrust is underway to thwart populist gains across the world by arranging a large network of cities that represents a blend of global and local policies and concepts—often called “glocalism.”

That thrust also is highlighted by the CCGA's annual Chicago Forum on Global Cities June 6-8, with more in store beyond that.

While this writer previously reported that the Global Covenant of Mayors, the Global Parliament of Mayors, and other groupings are integrating major cities to incrementally circumvent national authority on at least some fronts, most of what we've heard about so far has been limited to the general framework for the growing global-cities grid.

That framework consists of designations such as “sanctuary cities” for challenging national immigration laws to foster heavy migration and integration; “smart cities,” in which the coming “5-G” data-infrastructure upgrade, for example, will enable people, self-driving cars, and even “smart” buildings to communicate with each other to save energy and surveil public movement much more closely; and, among many other names, “green cities,” where mayors take the lead combatting “climate change” and unconstitutionally craft their own foreign policies and diplomatic initiatives toward that end.

Katz, representing Brookings, attended the 2014 Bilderberg gathering in Denmark with then-



BRUCE KATZ

Mayor of Atlanta Kasim Reed—a prominent smart-cities advocate. Katz has since teamed up with former Philadelphia Federal Reserve Board regional chairman Jeremy Nowak to take things to the next level, revealing new details about the specific “machinery” of global cities, particularly in the economic realm.

At an April 23 CCGA presentation, Katz and Nowak introduced their book, *The New Localism: How Cities Can Thrive in the Age of Populism*.

Citing Copenhagen's City and Port Development Authority as an example that “global cities” can adopt, Katz told the CCGA's audience, “Basically they're taking all the assets that the government owns—whether it's the national govern-

ment, whether it's the local government, whether it's special authorities—and putting [those assets] under the aegis of one corporation.”

Such a “publicly owned and privately driven” entity would be chaired by the mayor. The public assets (water systems, electrical distribution etc.) would be placed in a professionally managed portfolio to earn dividends. Katz said for the U.S. to finance the \$3 billion in infrastructure upgrades and repairs it reportedly needs, this model is the only game in town, as he sees it.

“The model out of Copenhagen, Hamburg, Hong Kong, and Singapore is the model we're going to have to adopt in the U.S.,” Katz said. “It's hard to do but what other choice do we have?” He added that while the U.S. lacks this system, it needs to adopt it to “invest in innovation, infrastructure and inclusion.”

To be fair, this model, despite having shades of economic fascism (the merger of corporate and government power, instead of empowering the consumer through ending the debt-based money system, for example) may have some sundry benefits. Copenhagen, Katz observed, developed its subway system “without a kroner of taxes.” He says they were able to finance it “through land sales and land leases.”

However, Katz and Nowak aren't touting their economic measures (representing “the new lo-

Judging from the pre-meeting hype, Global Cities is a Bilderberg priority.

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# GLOBAL CITIES INITIATIVE

A Joint Project of Brookings and JPMorgan Chase

The **Global Cities Initiative** is, as their project logo indicates, a joint enterprise of the Brookings Institute and JPMorgan Chase. These outfits rarely if ever have the interests of everyday citizens at heart.

calism”) just to improve mass transit or to pretty things up. While calling global cities “the flip side of populism,” the two authors indicated their intent to hang populism in the town square, so to speak, while they devise the details of such cities.

Thus, their CCGA discussion assumed a more adversarial tone when it shifted to populism. In the minds of these authors, populism is a crude credo—chiefly consisting of angry citizens venting their grievances over industrial decline and wage losses due to free trade and other “inevitable” aspects of globalization.

According to this condescension, the *hoi polloi*—while some of their complaints may have substance—should stop seeking scapegoats to blame and kindly adjust themselves to globalization, not the other way around, and drop their nervy tendency to elect populist “strongmen” (Donald Trump or Victor Orban, leader of Hungary), lest these “autocrats” listen to the people, end free trade as we know it and throw the globalists’ “liberal democracy” overboard.

Katz and Nowak, notably, also pointed out that populism can be “left” or “right” and common ground can be found in opposition to free trade and corporatization. However, they stopped short of admitting that this is what the “global class” fears most about populism: It’s a commonsense, grassroots, more consumer- and labor-based worldview that tends to be nationalistic, is typi-

cally pro-property rights, and isn’t quite Democrat or Republican. Therefore, it fosters greater public unity behind certain broad issues, liberating ever larger swaths of people from the two-party trap and enabling them to more effectively counter the rigged internationalist system.

Little wonder, then, that the plutocratic caste wants to create a “global cities” grid to quell the populist revolt that’s already led to major right-leaning political gains in Italy, Hungary, Germany, Austria, the U.S. (Trump), and in the UK (the Brexit vote to leave the European Union).

Other relevant recent events included two April 20 CCGA programs: One, “Fascism: A Warning,” with former Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright, lumped populist movements into a virtual-Nazi mold, and “The Retreat from Western Liberalism,” presented by *Financial Times*’ Washington reporter Edward Luce, cited the populist awakening as a threat to the “liberal” international order. The *Times* is perennially present at Bilderberg.

As Katz summarized for the CCGA: “Globalism and localism are converging in new ways. It’s not a cyclical issue but a structural shift.”

That’s an understatement. And it’ll be interesting to see what may emerge from Bilderberg this year along these lines. ★

Mark Anderson is AFP’s roving editor.

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# Feds Betray America's Vets Yet Again

• Former Air Force veteran wants VA to pay 98,000 unpaid emergency room bills

By Dave Gahary

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), called the Veterans Administration (established 1930) until it became a cabinet-level department in 1989, has been playing dirty tricks on the men and women who have sacrificed for this once-great nation, by regularly refusing to pay for emergency room (ER) visits. But this time, they picked on the wrong veteran.

Minnesota-based U.S. Air Force (USAF) veteran Benjamin Krause—who has been interviewed by this newspaper several times—is a lawyer, investigative reporter, and award-winning veterans advocate, running the website “DisabledVeterans.org.” He’s also the author of a benefits guide for veterans that shows how to maximize what they have earned from serving their country. An authority on VA policy, Krause is featured regularly on Fox, CBS, and NBC as well as in the pages of Bloomberg, *The Washington Times*, Minnesota’s largest newspaper the *Star Tribune*, and many others.

Veterans across the U.S. were served a heap of good fortune when the VA denied Krause’s \$6,066.91 ER bill. And although Krause’s



BENJAMIN KRAUSE

visit to the ER occurred last year, the 2.4 million-member American Legion just recognized this nationwide “ER billing denial scandal” as worthy of exposure.

Krause’s nine-hour visit to the ER had its roots in the loss of a loved one, as he explained on his website:

My chest pains immediately followed the untimely death of my ex-wife, Amie Muller, from pancreatic cancer believed linked to her burn pit exposures at Balad, AB, Iraq. The stress of her passing most certainly triggered my chest pains, and we swiftly went to the nearest emergency room to be safe.

“I felt like my chest was about to pop,” he told Minneapolis-based KARE 11 News.

Thankfully, he said, doctors eventually determined that it was not a heart attack but instead an extreme form of stress, exacerbated by a recent death in the family.

“The technical term for it is malignant hypertension with neurological and cardiovascular complications,” Krause explained. “I couldn’t dial back the stress.”

As a USAF veteran, Krause was sure he’d be covered, especially since he followed the procedure for ER visits required by the VA. “I followed the rules,” Krause explained. “I notified the [VA]

Continued on page 17

# China Eliminating Human Workers in Banks

By Dave Gahary

The newest employee at a China Construction Bank branch is every employer’s dream come true: never late to work, always smiling, and best of all, doing it all for free. Only trouble is, Xiao Long, which translates to “Little Dragon,” is a robot.

As detailed in a May 14 article in the UK’s *The Guardian*, “Inside Shanghai’s robot bank: China opens world’s first human-free branch,” besides greeting customers with “Welcome to China Construction Bank,” “What can I help you with today?,” and “If you have any questions, just ask me!,” “she” can interact with customers by answering basic questions, accessing accounts, and taking bank cards using her PIN pad.

“After a quick initial chat with Xiao Long, customers pass through electronic gates where their faces and ID cards are scanned,” explains the article. “On future visits,” it continues, “facial recognition alone is enough to open the gates and call up customer information.”

Once inside the bank, customers can use ATM machines to open accounts, transfer money, and access foreign exchange services. There’s a second robot past the barriers, as well as a “VR room” if customers need the assistance of a pesky human.

VR stands for “virtual reality,” a computer-generated “dimension” that simulates experience through senses and perception, usually utilizing a headset to generate realistic images, sounds, and other sensations that simulate a user’s physical presence in an imaginary environment. Users can view the artificial world, move around, and interact with things in it. It’s the Sensorama from the early 1960s on steroids. There are now over 250 companies developing VR-related products.

China is on the cutting edge of robotics and artificial reality, as robots are handling more and more aspects of everyday life in Chinese cities.

Deployed in train stations for security, as this newspaper wrote about, robots are “employed” to cook, wait tables, and perform other functions.

In fact, according to *The Guardian*, the People’s Republic of China’s Robotics Industry Development Plan “targets the production of at least 100,000 industrial robots a year by 2020,” spurred

in part by—believe it or not—an “ailing manufacturing sector,” increasing wages, and low-level labor shortages.

China is already the leader in the \$30 billion robotic global market. Last year, Taiwan’s Foxconn, covered by this newspaper, cut tens of thousands of employees and replaced them with 40,000 robots, and hopes to achieve 30% automation by 2020. The rise of the robots is coming in Red China, as well as facial recognition and AI, artificial intelligence. In some of China’s major cities, facial recognition is used to target jaywalkers. Photos are snapped and the “perps” are “publicly named and shamed on large screens by the roadside—and even sent fines automatically via instant messaging,” explains the article.

More ominous than that, a beer festival was equipped with “a network of cameras and facial recognition technology to scan the faces of the 2.3 million attendees,” with images matched to a national police database of those with a history of drug addiction: 19 were arrested.

How far will it go? The CEO of a Chinese Fortune Global 500 company thinks “robots will replace human workers in the retail industry.” ★



within 72 hours of the hospitalization.”

He was mistaken when he thought the VA would cover his visit, however. “I received a denial three weeks later asserting my decision to seek emergency care when I did was not what a ‘prudent layperson’ would do,” Krause explained.

It was then he reached out to KARE 11 to see if they might be interested in his story.

According to the VA’s own “Prudent Layperson Fact Sheet,” a “prudent layperson” is someone who possesses:

... an average knowledge of medicine and health, to believe that his or her condition, sickness, or injury is of such a nature that failure to obtain immediate medical care could result in placing the patient’s health in serious jeopardy, cause serious impairment to bodily functions, serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part, or in the case of a behavioral condition placing the health of such person or others in serious jeopardy.

In fact, the fact sheet’s first example of when an ER visit is covered seems as if it was written for Krause’s visit:

A patient presents to the emergency department with a complaint of chest pain. The patient is examined and evaluated and discharged with a diagnosis of mild gastric irritation. Retrospective analysis by a Fee Basis Unit may determine that gastro-intestinal upset is not an appropriate use of an emergency department and deny the claim as non-emergent. However, the patient’s initial judgment seeking emergency treatment regarding his/her chest pain, a potentially serious problem, is appropriate. This type of visit clearly falls into the category of what any prudent layperson would consider an appropriate use of an emergency department.

Coincidentally, the same day KARE emailed the Minneapolis VA for an interview to discuss Krause’s case, he received a call from a VA official “saying a mistake had been made and his claim should not have been denied.”

They blamed Krause’s denial on a “coding error” and some other matters.

“If it happened to me,” Krause told KARE, “I guarantee it’s happening to thousands of veterans nationwide.”

Turns out he’s right.

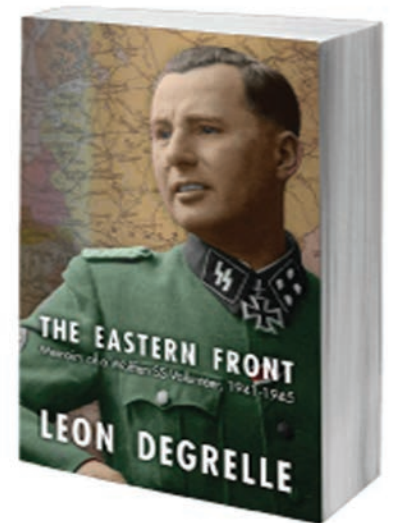
In a 2017 congressional hearing, VA official Dr. Baligh Yehia addressed the scandal of veterans being denied payment for ER visits in a statement detailing that “between the beginning of fiscal year 2014 and August of 2015, approximately 98,000 claims were denied because the condition was determined not to be an emergency.” He further admitted, “Many of these denials are the result of inconsistent application of the ‘prudent layperson’ standard. . . .” ★

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# Iconic Band Calls It Quits

• Southern group says America has turned its back on tradition

By Dr. Ed DeVries

**T**hey were kids when they met and teenagers when they started playing music together as students at Robert E. Lee High School in Jacksonville, Fla. Their stage name was a tribute to their gym teacher, Mr. Leonard Skinner. Now, a half-century after Ronnie Van Zant formed the band, his kid brother, Johnny, has announced that Lynyrd Skynyrd's current tour, which began in their home state with a May 5th concert in Tampa, will be their last.

Probably the biggest band to have ever come out of Florida, after the deaths of Gregg Allman and Tom Petty (also from Florida), Lynyrd Skynyrd is the last of the great legends of Southern rock, a genre that Floridians perfected, if they did not outright invent it.

The band achieved superstardom with their 1974 hit "Sweet Home Alabama." The song was written and recorded in response to "Southern Man," Neil Young's stinging critique of supposed Southern bigotry.

After the Oct. 20, 1977 crash of the band's Con-vaire CV-240 that took the lives of Ronnie Van Zant, guitarist and vocalist Steve Gaines, vocalist Cassie Gaines, and their road manager, Dean Kilpatrick, "Sweet Home Alabama" became the unofficial national anthem of the Southern states.

Now, over 40 years after the crash, the world Skynyrd is leaving in 2018 looks almost nothing like the one they entered in the 1960s. Still, the band's identity remains unapologetically "Southern," and its popularity is at an all-time high.

Crash survivor Gary Rossington, Skynyrd's only remaining original member, believes that the band has endured and its popularity has grown through the decades because of—not in spite of—its Southern tradition. It is because the band has "stayed true to its soil and to its roots," according to lead vocalist Johnny Van Zant.

The story that some in the music business have tried to sell is that their label, MCA, made Skynyrd adopt the Confederate flag, but it's not quite that simple. Their use of the flag was controversial even in the 1960s and 1970s. Today, the band's members continue to defend it, even though they are under tremendous pressure not to do so. For example, after a 2012 CNN interview in which Rossington distanced the band from the flag's "extremist undertones," he said, "We know what the Dixie flag represents and its heritage; the Civil War was fought over states' rights."

Rickey Medlocke, one of the band's only two pre-crash members, who is also of Native American ancestry, has spoken out against the removal of Confederate statues and memorials: "It's a proven fact; if you go to erasing history, history's going to repeat itself."

So why is this iconic band calling it quits at the height of its popularity?

Per a 1988 agreement with Ronnie's widow, any band calling itself Lynyrd Skynyrd must consist of at least two pre-crash members. Rossington and Medlocke, who recorded with the band in the 1970s, are all that's left.

As for his retirement plans, Johnny Van Zant, who still calls Jacksonville his home, says that he looks forward to being able to "spend more time at home and not hit it so hard." Still, Van Zant says that after the farewell tour he might, "make a spe-



cial appearance here and there, who knows? . . . But we're just not going to hit it like we've been hitting it. We just can't do it no more."

On May 5, in Tampa, Van Zant waved his flag, then handed it to a beaming fan down front. It's the same flag on the breast of his vest, the one whose stars and bars fill the giant band logo behind the stage. It's a tradition the band won't let go of. And, after 50 years, Van Zant says they really shouldn't have to explain it. "It's music for the common people. That's what it is. It talks about every subject, from drinking to having a good time to God. I think if you're a true fan, you know what the hell the band stands for." ★

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.org](http://www.BarnesReview.org).

## Is the Dark Web the Future for Open, Honest Discussion?

Continued from page 1

else happening, at least publicly, in the culture right now."

Many of its members have either been forced out, shunned, or otherwise ostracized from establishment circles and organizations, and have developed and founded their own media platforms, using YouTube, social media outlets like Twitter, and personal websites and blogs to express themselves and gain an extraordinary following.

Notable names openly identifying with the IDW include, among others: Sam Harris, the popular podcaster, neuroscientist, and atheist; Ben Shapiro, a conservative pundit, writer, and podcaster who formerly worked at Breitbart News; Jordan Peterson, one of the most important—and controversial—public intellectuals in Canada; Dave Rubin, a popular comedian and commentator who has made his name on the Internet; and Joe Rogan, a podcast-

er and commentator in the martial arts world.

Members of the IDW often disagree politically and have a wide range of opinions and views on the political spectrum. But one thing they all agree on is that free speech and free intellectual inquiry are under direct assault in America and the wider Western world, where political correctness and intellectual tyranny prevail. Virtually all of them have been purged from major institutions and establishment-serving organizations, which are increasingly hostile to persons expressing politically incorrect opinions, for their intellectual and political pursuits.

"People are starved for controversial opinions," Rogan, the popular podcast host and commentator, explained to the *Times*. "And they are starved for an actual conversation." That's where the IDW comes in.

Rogan, like other members of the IDW, has seen

a dramatic increase in this audience in recent years, and now his podcast reaches millions of listeners every month. Other members of the IDW draw enormous crowds for their public speeches and presentations, while others generate millions of views on their YouTube channels.

The rise of the IDW and other independent media outlets and venues is certainly a welcome development in the eyes of critical thinkers, free speech activists, and those of us concerned about the future of intellectual inquiry in the West.

As the controlled corporate mass media and other establishment-serving organizations continue to be exposed as the deceptive, manipulative, and freedom-crushing entities they truly are, the flourishing of the IDW and other independent thinkers brings hope and light to a potentially dark future of political correctness, censorship, and intellectual tyranny. ★



# Immigration Bills Await Action

• Rep. Goodlatte's H.R. 4760 has promising provisions to improve U.S. border security

By Mark Anderson

As many as four bills related to immigration and border security are awaiting congressional action, according to Rep. Carlos Curbelo (R-Fla.)—the twist being that Curbelo on May 9 advanced a discharge petition to expedite action on immigration legislation as the mid-term congressional elections approach.

A discharge petition, which needs the support of at least 218 House members to take effect, is a parliamentary means of bringing a bill out of committee and to the floor for consideration without a committee report. The committee is “discharged” from taking further action on a bill or resolution. As of the second week in May, Curbelo’s discharge petition had 19 names.

Curbelo is not a particularly strong advocate of vastly improved border security or significantly stricter immigration procedures. Proving the adage that being Republican and genuinely conservative often do not coincide, Curbelo has broken ranks with his party to take more liberal stands on high-profile topics, ranging from immigration to abortion and women’s health, climate change, and government spending.

But Curbelo’s sense of urgency and bipartisan outreach may have the effect of advancing stricter immigration rules and a more secure border, since the discharge petition he’s advancing could, in a round-about manner, hurry along action on the Securing America’s Future Act (H.R. 4760), sponsored by Rep. Bob Goodlatte (R-Va.).

According to the Library of Congress, if the discharge petition advances to the 218 threshold in the near term, the Committee on Rules will be bypassed and the bill will go to the House floor for debate and, ultimately, a vote.

Introduced Jan. 10, H.R. 4760 is a mixed bag when it comes to addressing the country’s immigration issues.

The bill “takes a number of steps to ensure our immigration laws are enforced. It aims to reduce the number of people who overstay the terms of their visas, prevents fraud and abuse in the asylum system, and provides the authority to ensure unaccompanied minors are safely and quickly returned home. The Trump administration needs the tools contained in the Securing America’s Future Act to help its efforts to secure the border,” Goodlatte noted in a press release.

On the other hand, there are concerns, including those noted in an online petition by former Rep. Ron Paul, that H.R. 4760 contains an embedded provision for a national (federal) I.D. card.

The bill’s critics also include Tim Brown of the website FreedomOutpost.com. He points to de-



KIRSTJEN NIELSEN

DHS Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen should be commended for acting with Attorney General Jeff Sessions “to restore the rule of law at our nation’s borders and ports of entry by announcing that all illegal border crossers flouting the law will be referred for prosecution,” say Rep. Bob Goodlatte of Virginia.

cidedly vague language in the bill’s official summary that says: “Employment eligibility verification provisions are revised. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) shall establish an employment verification system.”

Brown noted: “The big deal is that the Social Security card was intrusive enough and has caused countless thousands of Americans tremendous problems with identity theft. As for a driver’s license, it is issued by each state, not the central government. Now they are wanting biometrics [on a federal ID] as well.”

The Illinois-based Eagle Forum, which actively supports the bill, disputes these claims, pointing out that on page 125 of H.R. 4760 (as checked by AFP), it specifies: “NO NATIONAL IDENTIFICATION CARD—Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize, directly or indirectly, the issuance or use of national identification cards or the establishment of a national identification card.”

Eagle Forum’s online news bulletin on this matter added: “E-Verify is not a database itself. It is a portal that pulls from existing databases, like the Social Security Administration and the Depart-

“DHS has announced that all illegal border crossers flouting the law will be referred for prosecution.”

ment of Homeland Security, to verify if an individual is eligible to work in the United States. An immigrant who obtains a work visa is issued an alien identification number, similar to [a] . . . social security number. Once that number, name, and birthday are put into the system, a confirmation of work eligibility is sent.”

Goodlatte also commended DHS Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen for acting with Attorney General Jeff Sessions “to restore the rule of law at our nation’s borders and ports of entry by announcing that all illegal border crossers flouting the law will be referred for prosecution.”

H.R. 4760, according to the Library of Congress, also would:

- Transfer authority for strengthening the southern border from the Department of Justice to DHS;

- Eliminate the diversity visa program, although this represents Goodlatte’s third attempt to nix that random lottery. Critics say it’s been exploited by terrorists and that a merit-based system is needed (which Goodlatte’s bill evidently envisions) instead of the current process that makes available 50,000 annual visas in a State Department-run lottery focusing on nations-of-origin that are under-represented in American life;

- Authorize DNA testing to establish familial relationships among migrants; and

- Prevent interference whenever “a federal, state, or local government entity or official” opts to assist federal law enforcement, apparently meaning better federal-state cooperation in enforcing immigration laws.

As if that is not enough, the 414-page bill approves additional border-security personnel, “new ports of entry along the northern border and southern borders,” the authorization of National Guard border-security activities, appropriations for specified border barriers and infrastructure, and “establishing Operation Stonegarden to make border-security grants to law enforcement agencies.” ★

Mark Anderson is AFP’s roving editor. He invites your thoughtful emails at [truthhound2@yahoo.com](mailto:truthhound2@yahoo.com).



# Big Oil, Bankers Await Fate of Bashar al-Assad in Syria

By S.T. Patrick

Syria is a land that traces its heritage and occupation nearly to the dawn of time. Today, it stands amidst some of the most chaotic territory in the modern world. Bordered by Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, Jordan, and Israel, President Bashar al-Assad's unitary republic has become both a geopolitical chessboard and a globalist war zone with the world's mightiest powers jockeying, posturing, and bombing for control of assets and ideologies that can often be confusing.

Assad is now in an unenviable position of governing a country torn asunder by religious and militaristic conflict, most of which stems from the deterioration of turn-of-the-millennium alliances that he had assumed were stable.

Assad is a graduate of medical school and spent his postgraduate years in London studying ophthalmology. His father, Hafez al-Assad, was the president of Syria from 1971-2000. Bashar was brought back to Damascus to succeed his father



The CIA began meddling in Syrian internal affairs in 1949, just a year after the agency's creation. Democratically elected Syrian President Shukri al-Quwaiti hesitated to approve the Trans Arabian Pipeline, an American project intended to connect the oil fields of Saudi Arabia to the ports of Lebanon via Syria. As it did with Iran's Prime Minister Mohamed Mossadeq when he expressed a desire to nationalize his nation's oil revenues, the CIA ousted Syria's leader in an orchestrated coup.

after the eldest heir, brother Bassel, died in a car accident. Assad leads the Syrian branch of the Ba'ath Party, the Iraqi branch of which was once led by Saddam Hussein. As a leader, Assad has been widely available to the global media and has stringently defended his country's right to make sovereign decisions in the face of international demands.

While he can be characterized as a hardliner when dealing with organizations such as the United Nations, Assad is not unbending when reacting to pressures within his own country. In April 2011, as a response to Arab Spring protests, Assad lifted Syria's 48-year-old state of emergency law, which had restricted freedom of speech and allowed the government expanded power to detain citizens for perceived threats to national security.

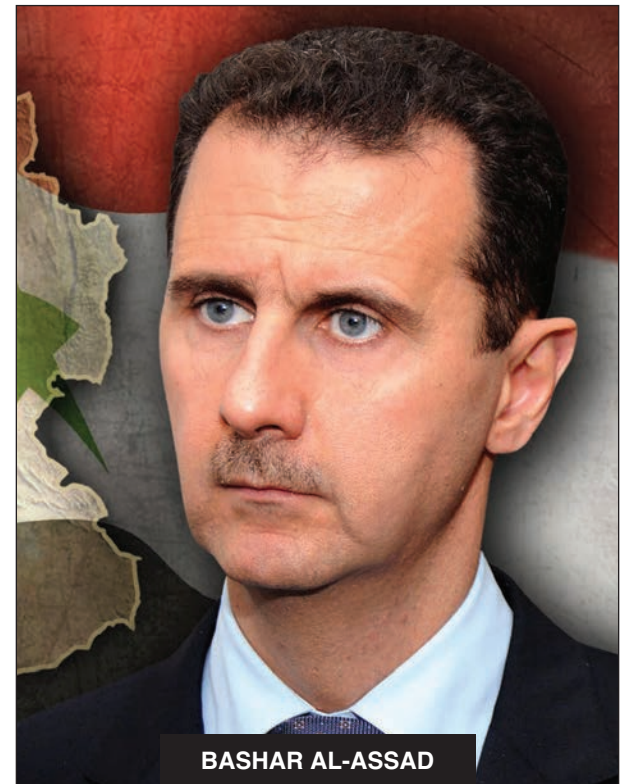
A week after Assad lifted the state of emergency law and allowed dissident groups more freedoms, then-President Barack Obama commented that protestors had displayed "courage in demanding a transition to democracy." He then threatened Assad, stating, "President Assad now has a choice: He can lead that transition, or get out of the way."

Obama's comments and intentions would soon become clear—Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi, another Arab socialist leader who had been threatened by international globalists—was murdered five months later, much to the cackling delight of then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. Qaddafi had supported the idea of an African gold-backed currency and had repelled attempts to establish an internationally controlled central bank within Libya. Assad has done the same.

Unlike Qaddafi, however, Assad had also shown signs of pragmatism when dealing with the world's controlling powers. He is not opposed to forging questionable alliances when support is needed.

Following 9/11, Syria was used as a semi-secret locale for incarcerating U.S. rendition and torture suspects. Canadian Maher Arar was arrested at John F. Kennedy International Airport in September 2002 while returning to his home in Canada from a vacation in Tunis. He was transported to Syria, via U.S. ally Jordan, and was tortured for a year while housed in inhumane conditions. American officials suspected he had ties to al Qaeda. He did not. He was released a year later, and U.S. officials claimed it was a deportation issue.

Syria is valuable real estate. Robert F. Kennedy Jr. penned an article calling the fighting in Syria "Another Pipeline War." In 2000, Qatar proposed the construction of a \$10 billion pipeline through Syria, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, and Turkey. Assad then enraged the Gulf's Sunni monarchs by endorsing an "Islamic pipeline" that would run from Iran and Syria to the ports in Lebanon. The Islamic pipeline—also approved by Vladimir Putin's Russia—would then make Shia Iran and not Sunni Qatar the primary supplier to Europe's energy mar-



BASHAR AL-ASSAD

kets. Israel and the United States opposed the pipeline that Assad had endorsed, in part because it would also enrich Hezbollah and Hamas.

Russia has a vital interest in its own relationship with Assad. Its deep-water port on the Mediterranean Sea is its only port outside of the former Soviet Union. In 2015, Iran increased to \$1 billion its credit line to Assad's government. Iran's interest in Syria directly relates to Saudi Arabia, Iran's rival. Iran is concerned that the Assad government will fall to Saudi- and American-backed rebels. Iran has also denied the international banking conglomerates from influencing its monetary and banking systems.

All of the global powers interested in guiding Syria's future have publicly chosen sides over ridding Syria of ISIS and condemning Assad over two chemical attacks (2013 in Ghouta and 2017 in Idlib). Yet, former Rep. Ron Paul has called the 2017 attacks a "false flag" aimed at forcing President Donald Trump to change the focus of his Syrian policy from the defeat of ISIS to regime change. UN official Carla De Ponte told Swiss TV that the sarin gas attacks were perpetrated, not by Assad, but by the U.S.-backed rebels. It has even been speculated that some of Trump's anti-Russian talk regarding Syria is a strategic move to distance himself from accusations of collusion with Putin.

Whether or not the United States or any competitor can afford the existence of a power vacuum in Syria is yet to be seen. More than almost any struggle over a singular piece of land in the last century, the future of Syria—inevitably tied to the future of the Assad administration—has far-reaching implications that could change the entire balance of power throughout the Middle East. The dominoes would then begin to fall throughout Europe and the world. ★

S.T. Patrick holds degrees in both journalism and social studies education. He spent 10 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.



# Lebanon Threatened With Genocide

By Richard Walker

Despite a well-funded and devious Saudi campaign to put its favorites in power in Lebanon's recent parliamentary elections, Hezbollah and several smaller parties won more than half the seats, making Hezbollah a major power broker.

Hezbollah's victory led to threats of genocide against Lebanon by Israeli religious right-wing politician Naftali Bennett, who has been described by some Israelis as more dangerous than Hezbollah. As the "Middle East Monitor" put it, had Russia made such a threat against any of its neighbors the condemnation in the West would have been widespread. The Israeli threat was somewhat ironic, given President Donald Trump's letter to Lebanon's President Michel Aoun in November 2017, thanking him for Lebanon's role in the war against terrorism and assuring him of American support. A month later, Aoun described as dangerous Trump's decision to move the U.S. embassy in Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

The Saudis had placed their electoral hopes on the Sunni Arab Future Movement, which lost 13 seats to Hezbollah. The result upset the Israelis and neocons in Washington, all of whom had been hoping for a Hezbollah defeat. The outcome indicated that Hezbollah continues to attract the support of Lebanese Christians who have felt for some time that the Islamic organization protected them from ISIS and al Qaeda. Hezbollah had the backing of the country's largest Christian party, the Free Patriotic Movement. Hezbollah has been a major supporter of that group.

In the wake of the election, a document came to light exposing how the Saudis plotted to undermine Hezbollah in the polls. Their plan was to funnel large sums of money to Hezbollah's opposition, the Future Movement, and to encourage a bigger inflow of Syrian refugees into Lebanon, which could be blamed on Hezbollah's support of the Assad government. The plan backfired badly for the House of Saud and its favored Lebanese politicians.

Ever since Israel got a bloody nose in its last war with Hezbollah in 2006, there has been a drumbeat in Tel Aviv to find a pretext for a new war with Hezbollah, something that would please Saudi Arabia, its Sunni allies, and U.S. neocons like John Bolton, who now dominate the Trump administration's national security and Middle East policies.

It was hardly a coincidence that within hours of Trump exiting the internationally approved Iran nuclear deal that Israel's Benjamin Netanyahu launched air strikes against targets, including Iranian ones, in Syria. It was a sure sign he was hoping to goad Iran and Hezbollah into a shooting war designed to drag the United States into war. His



Lebanese soldiers hold a position in a mountainous area near the eastern town of Ras Baalbek during an operation against jihadist fighters in late 2017. Even President Donald Trump has lauded Lebanon for its commitment to wiping out ISIS and al Qaeda. Israel, however, remembers the drubbing Hezbollah soldiers from its militant wing inflicted on Israeli forces as recently as 2006 and wants the U.S. to destroy Lebanon.

“Despite a campaign to put U.S. puppets in office, Hezbollah emerged victorious.”

move was praised by the Trump White House.

Israeli meddling in Syria and Lebanon is nothing new. Netanyahu has been supporting extreme Sunni militias like the al-Nusra Front that have been funded by Saudi Arabia and other Arab states. Wounded al-Nusra fighters have been treated at Israeli military hospitals in the Golan Heights, a part of the region that Israel claims to be its own, in contravention of international law. The Golan belongs to Syria, but Israel wants to keep it because of the oil and gas it holds. It would suit Israel if the Syrian government were destroyed so that it could not continue to lay claim to the Golan Heights. Netanyahu has given Genie Energy Ltd., a New Jersey-based company with leading neocons like Dick Cheney on its board, gas and oil exploration rights to parts of the Golan Heights. In September 2017, Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke met with a former Israeli politician, who runs an Israeli subsidiary of Genie Energy.

The Lebanese know all about Israel's political

and military interference in the affairs of its neighbors. Israel first invaded Lebanon in 1979 and then later in 1982, withdrawing in 1985 while maintaining a 12-mile security border inside Lebanon. Israel has not forgotten that it was Hezbollah that mostly forced it to pull out of Lebanon in 1985. After it did so, Hezbollah instigated a policy of seizing Israeli soldiers and using them to bargain for the exchange of Lebanese men held in Israeli prisons. The seizure of two soldiers in 2004 was the precursor to Israel's invasion of southern Lebanon in 2006.

Ever since the Bush-Cheney era, there has been a growing nexus of Israel and Sunni Arab states like Saudi Arabia plotting a war with Shiite Iran that would also result in attacks on Hezbollah and the Assad government in Syria. Russia has made it clear its military will not sit idly by if there are any moves to remove Assad, but that leaves Israel with the option of drawing America into a war with Hezbollah and Iran. To that end, it is more than likely there will be a growing drumbeat from Tel Aviv, Washington, and Riyadh insisting that Iran has resumed its nuclear program and that Hezbollah is an increasing threat to Israel.

What is missing in many of the assessments of such a war is that even if America, Israel, and the Saudis won an air war, the war that would be fought on the ground across the region, including in Iraq, would be long and bloody. Israel and Saudi Arabia would not remain unscathed, and the U.S. military would not be able to protect all purported U.S. allies across the region. ★

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.



# Israel Owns U.S. Foreign Policy

• President Trump not making America great again in the Middle East

By Philip Giraldi

There should be no remaining doubt over whether Israel and its Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu working through their billionaire proxies in the U.S. own President Donald Trump. Last Tuesday's [May 8, 2018] presidential full-bore denunciation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) that limits Iran's nuclear program followed a script that could have easily been written by the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs or by National Security Advisor John Bolton, which amounts to the same thing. A truly American foreign policy, which is supposed to be designed to support genuine national interests, was nowhere to be seen.

Perhaps the most absurd segment in what was an emotional rather than rational call to arms was Trump's citation of "definitive proof" that Iran has a secret nuclear weapons program.

It went like this:

At the heart of the Iran deal was a giant fiction: that a murderous regime desired only a peaceful nuclear energy program. Today, we have definitive proof that this Iranian promise was a lie. Last week, Israel published intelligence documents—long concealed by Iran—conclusively showing the Iranian regime and its history of pursuing nuclear weapons.

Trump was referring to the previous week's theatrical performance by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, complete with PowerPoint slides, delivered in English to reach the desired



BENJAMIN NETANYAHU

audience, which was the "decider" in the White House. It was not Netanyahu's first attempt to employ simple graphics to make his point about the alleged Iranian threat. His famous ticking-bomb montage presented at a meeting of the United Nations General Assembly is still recalled fondly in diplomatic circles.

The provenance and meaning of the documents that Netanyahu produced have been debunked almost everywhere in the media, even in outlets

Does Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu have President Donald Trump mesmerized in regard to U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East? The president's recent actions in regard to recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's capital and tearing up the Iran nuclear deal would indicate the answer is "yes." Neither of those moves is good for America.

that are normally strongly supportive of Israel and all its works. Investigative journalist Gareth Porter has written a book entitled *Manufactured Crisis: the Untold Story of the Iran Nuclear Scare*. In it he describes how many of the documents on Iran's alleged nuclear weapons program were forged by Israel's Mossad intelligence service before being placed on a laptop and delivered by the terrorist group Mujaheddin e-Khalq, which the Israelis use to carry out assassinations inside Iran. The latest batch of documents mostly date back 15 years, and many of them were already known to the International Atomic Energy Agency as forgeries. Only the president of the United States was seemingly unaware of what kind of material he was actually endorsing.

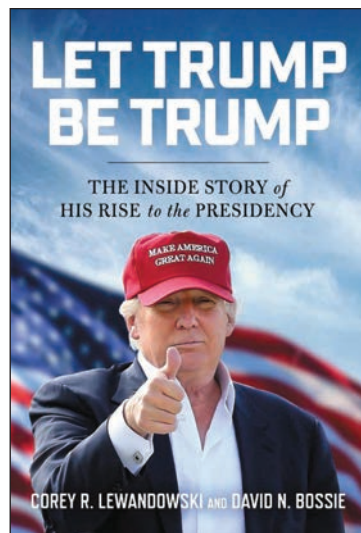
In truth, Bibi is a serial liar who has been beating on the Iran-nuclear drum since 1996 if not earlier in an attempt to get the United States involved in a program to use its own military resources to take out Iran's government.

Netanyahu is aware that his own military does not have the capability to destroy Iran single-handedly unless it uses its secret nukes. It has therefore taken on the task of convincing the Americans to do the heavy lifting and to also suf-

## Let Trump Be Trump: The Inside Story of His Rise

**L**et *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](http://www.AmericanFreePress.net). (Outside U.S. email [Bookstore@americanfreepress.net](mailto:Bookstore@americanfreepress.net) for S&H.)



fer the casualties and other costs.

Ironically, in spite of Bibi's bleating, even his own intelligence chiefs have gone on record recently saying that keeping the JCPOA is good for Israel. Here in the U.S. the verdict has been somewhat the same, with Director of National Intelligence Daniel Coats and also then-CIA Director Mike Pompeo, a hardliner on Iran, both stating recently that Tehran is in compliance with all the restrictions placed on it by the agreement. Opinion polls also indicate that two out of three Americans support sticking with the JCPOA because it is clearly working and avoids American entanglement in yet another quagmire in the Middle East.

Trump, who attracted many voters due to his campaign promises to avoid unnecessary military interventions, coupled with his pledge to get out of foreign wars, has become Israel's poodle. He has surrounded himself with Zionist Jewish advisers David Friedman, Jason Greenblatt, and his own son-in-law Jared Kushner to craft some kind of plan for the Middle East region, the details of which remain notably obscure. The recent move of the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem and the recognition of the city as Israel's capital was a typical gesture to satisfy an impossible to satisfy Netanyahu. There was no gain for the United States and the American people; quite the contrary, as it will inspire numerous terrorists and make U.S. travelers targets. And Israel has inevitably taken advantage of the opportunity to make more demands, recently expanding the size of Jerusalem to include large chunks of the West Bank while also considering obtaining U.S. consent to the full annexation of the Golan Heights.

So far the game plan, if there is one, has been to allow Israel to do everything it wants in a bid to make the Palestinians so desperate that they will

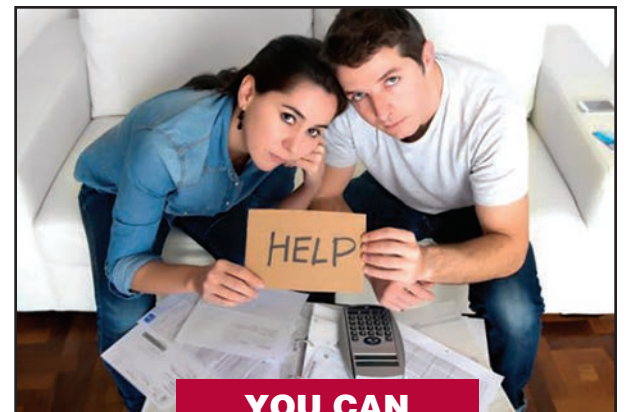
President Trump has surrounded himself with far too many Zionist advisors.

leave or surrender completely to become Israel's serfs, thereby allowing the creation of a Greater Israel stretching from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean. It would be an Israel ethnically cleansed of Arabs if some of Netanyahu's ministers have their way. Conceding all to Israel has also meant an ominous silence as Israeli war criminals continue to use army snipers to shoot dead unarmed protesting Gazans. The death toll is currently close to 50 with as many as 5,000 more injured by gunshots and tear gas.

Others who marvel at the ability of Israeli interests to preempt American interests in the White House have come to believe that it is all about money. Tying large dollops of Jewish money to political power is often cited as some kind of "libel," but there should be no question that Jews have been the money men for the candidates of both major parties in the last electoral cycle. And their money has been provided conditionally based on what the candidates were willing to do to make Israel happy. Both Hillary Clinton and Trump understood the deal and were prepared to deliver.

In the upcoming midterm electoral cycle, control of the Senate is up for grabs and the Democrats are also eyeing major gains in the House. Key to the Republican maintenance of the status quo of control of both legislative bodies is money. Casino magnate Sheldon Adelson, Home Depot's Bernard Marcus, and hedge fund manager Paul Singer are all reportedly prepared to hand over whatever it will take to the party making the most promises. And it will all be for Israel. ★

**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.



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# Scrapping Iran Nuke Deal Dangerous

• President pressures France, Great Britain, Germany to sever economic ties with Iran

**PAT BUCHANAN ASKS**, and with good reason given President Donald Trump's withdrawal from the Iran nuclear deal, "Is the foreign policy that America firsters voted for being replaced by the Middle East agenda of Israeli Prime Minister 'Bibi' Netanyahu and the neo-conservatives?"

By Patrick J. Buchanan

**B**rushing aside the anguished pleas of our NATO allies, President Donald Trump on May 8 contemptuously trashed the Iranian nuclear deal and reimposed sanctions.

Prime Minister Theresa May of Great Britain, President Emmanuel Macron of France, and German Chancellor Angela Merkel were put on notice that their ties to Iran are to be severed, or secondary sanctions will be imposed on them. Driving the point home, Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin ordered Airbus to cancel its \$19 billion contract to sell 100 commercial planes to Iran.

Who is cheering Trump's trashing of the treaty? The neocons who sought his political extinction in 2016, the royals of the Gulf, Bibi Netanyahu, and



## A BAD INFLUENCE

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu could not be happier. Since Donald Trump took office, he has helped Israel get the most coveted items on its national wish list. Good for Israel but bad for America.

the Golan, which ignited a massive Israeli counterstrike the night of May 10, a 70-missile attack on Iranian bases in Syria.

We appear to be at the beginning of a new war, and how it ends we know not. But for Bibi and National Security Adviser John Bolton, the end has always been clear—the smashing of Iran and regime change.

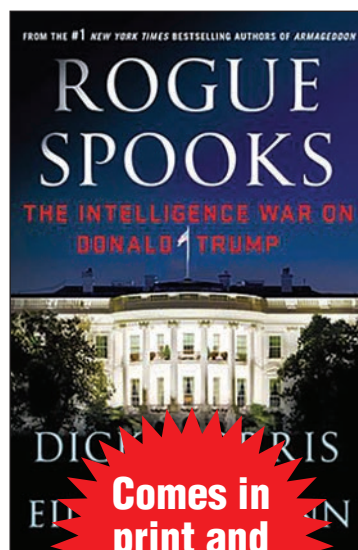
the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps. The IRGC had warned Iranians that the Americans were duplicitous. When Trump finished speaking, Bibi launched strikes on Iranian bases in Syria and flew to Moscow to persuade Vladimir Putin not to give the Iranians any air defense against Israeli attacks. Iranian forces responded with 20 missiles fired at

Iran is on "a quest for nuclear weapons," and "if we do nothing . . . in just a short period of time, the world's worst sponsor of state terror will be on the cusp of acquiring the world's most dangerous weapon." And where is the evidence for this Bush-like assertion? If Iran is on a "quest" for nukes, why did 17 U.S. intel agencies, "with high confi-

## Rogue Spooks: The Intelligence War on Trump

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**D**onald 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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dence,” in 2007 and 2011, say Iran did not even have a nuclear weapons program?

Saddam Hussein could not convince us he had no WMD, because the nonexistent WMD were the pretext, the casus belli, for doing what the War Party had already decided to do: invade Iraq. We were lied into that war. And how did it turn out?

Why has the foreign relations committee not called in the heads of the U.S. intelligence agencies and asked them flat out: Does Iran have an active nuclear bomb program, or is this a pack of lies to stampede us into another war? If Iran is on a quest for nukes, let the intel agencies tell us where the work is being done, so we can send inspectors and show the world.

Efforts to pull us back from being dragged into a new war have begun. The Europeans are begging Iran to abide by the terms of the nuclear deal, even if the Americans do not. But the regime of Hassan Rouhani, who twice defeated Ayatollah-backed candidates, is in trouble.

The nuclear deal and opening to the West were the reasons the children of the Green Movement of 2009 voted for Rouhani. If his difficulties deepen because of reimposed U.S. and Western sanctions, his great achievement, the nuclear deal, will be seen by his people as the failed gamble of a fool who trusted the Americans.

Should Rouhani's regime fall, we may get a Revolutionary Guard regime rather less to the liking of everyone, except for the War Party, which could seize upon that as a pretext for war.

What happens next is difficult to see, but Iran does not want a war with Israel in Syria that it can-

not win. Iran's ally, Hezbollah, which just swept democratic elections in Lebanon, does not want a war with Israel that would bring devastation upon the nation it now leads. The Russians don't want a war with Israel or the Americans. But as Putin came to the rescue of a Syria imperiled by ISIS and al Qaeda, to save his ally from a broad insurgency, he is not likely to sit impotently and watch endless air and missile strikes on Syria.

Trump has said U.S. troops will be getting out of Syria. But Bolton and the generals appear to have walked him back. There are reports we are reinforcing the Kurds in Manbij on the west bank of the Euphrates, though Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has demanded that the Kurds vacate all Syrian border towns with Turkey.

Americans are also reportedly on the border of Yemen, assisting Saudi Arabia in locating the launch sites of the rockets being fired at Riyadh by Houthi rebels in retaliation for the three years of savage Saudi assault on their country.

Meanwhile, the news out of Afghanistan, our point of entry into the Near East wars almost a generation ago, is almost all bad—most of it about terrorist bombings of Afghan troops and civilians.

Is the foreign policy that America firsters voted for being replaced by the Mideast agenda of Bibi and the neoconservatives? So it would appear. ★

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.

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## Who convinced Donald Trump to scrap the Iran nuclear deal?



President Hassan Rouhani of Iran is no religious radical. He is considered a moderate who won because many Iranians wanted to see better relations with the West and the signing of a nuclear deal. Unfortunately, should the U.S. reimpose sanctions, Rouhani could lose his reelection bid to a more radical candidate.

# All Out War: The Plot to Destroy Trump

## Now available from AFP in print, audio CD or both!

By Edward Klein. All out war! That's what the media, the Democrats, and the Never-Trump Republicans are waging on the democratically elected president of the United States. With ferocity not seen since the Civil War, the Washington establishment and the radical Left are joining forces in an attempted coup d'état to overturn the will of the people and return power to the political and media elites who have never been more unhinged. In *All Out War: The Plot to Destroy Trump*, investigative reporter and national best-selling author Edward Klein reveals: How the plot to destroy Trump was initiated in the Obama White House; two exclusive FBI reports that prove the existence of “the Deep State” working against the Trump agenda, warn of ISIS ties to the anti-Trump “resistance,” and highlight the danger of domestic terrorism from the anti-Trump radicals; the scandal you don't yet know about: why Hillary Clinton could still be facing investigation by the FBI and prosecution by the Justice Department. “In America, you are entitled to your own opinion,” Klein writes, “but you are not entitled to overthrow the democratically elected presi-



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dent of the United States and inflict irreparable damage on our country. That, however, is what Donald Trump's enemies on the Left and Right are doing. Through a variety of underhanded tactics—lies, leaks, obstruction, and violence—they are working to delegitimize President Trump and drive him from office before he can drain the swamp and take away their power.” Stunning in its revelations, meticulous in its reporting, there can be no timelier or more important book.

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The sex slave scandal that exposed pedophile billionaire Jeffrey Epstein and his rich pals including Ghislaine Maxwell, Bill Clinton, Tony Blair, Prince Andrew and many more . . .

# Filthy Rich



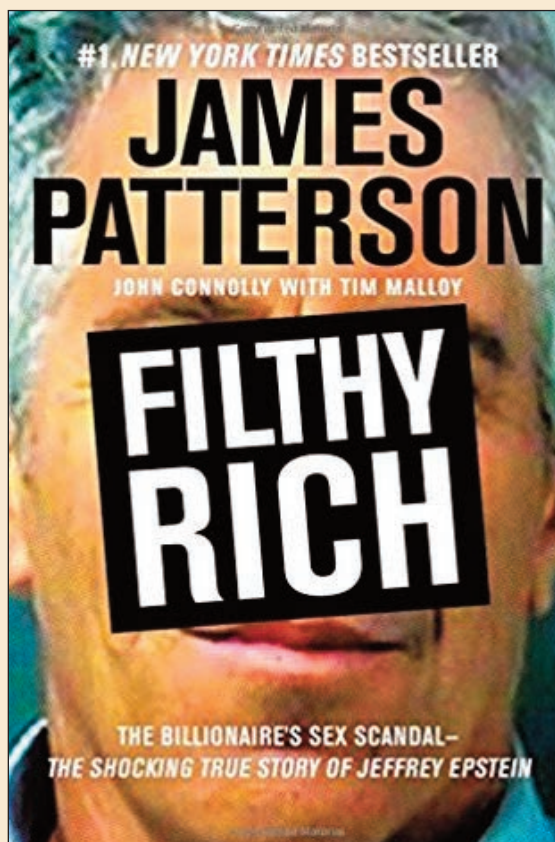
## The Billionaire's Sex Scandal

The Shocking True Story of Jeffrey Epstein  
. . . and All the Justice Money Can Buy

A shocking TRUE CRIME TALE of money, power, and perversion from James Patterson, the world's most popular thriller writer that has opened up a can of rotten worms for hundreds of the world's rich and famous . . .

Jeffrey Epstein rose from humble origins to the rarefied heights of New York City's financial elite. A college dropout with an instinct for numbers—and for people—Epstein amassed his wealth through a combination of access and skill—and possibly even blackmail. But even after he had it all, Epstein wanted more. And that unceasing desire—especially a perverse taste for young girls—resulted in his stunning fall from grace. From Epstein himself, to the girls he employed as masseuses at his home, to the cops investigating the appalling charges against him, *FILTHY RICH* examines all sides of a case that scandalized one of America's richest communities. An explosive true story, *FILTHY RICH* is a riveting account of wealth, power and the influence they bring to bear on the American justice system.

Epstein is best known to AFP readers as the owner/operator of “Pedophile Island,” a place where extraordinarily rich and powerful men went to relax and meet young women—very young women. Epstein had spent the bulk of his adult life cultivating relationships with the world's most powerful men. Flight logs show that from 2001 to 2003, Bill Clinton flew on Epstein's private plane, dubbed *The Lolita Ex-*



*press* by the press, 26 times. After Epstein's arrest in July 2006, federal tax records show Epstein donated \$25,000 to the Clinton Foundation that year. Last year, *The Guardian* reported that Epstein's “little black book” also contained contact numbers for Hollywood stars and powerful people like Tony Blair, Prince Andrew, Kevin Spacey, Dustin Hoffman,

Michael Bloomberg and more.

Why does this book matter? For years AFP has told you that this is the way global business is conducted. Blackmail, arm-twisting, catering to the perversions of the most powerful people in the world—these are the methods used to influence important decision with no consideration for what is best for the global public. This book also makes crystal clear that if you are a billionaire, you can usually buy your way out of the most harsh sentences in lieu of a slap on the wrist. Example: While Epstein got off with very little punishment, his gardener was harshly punished for his role in the crimes including a lengthy jail sentence.

Finally, an award-winning author—James Patterson—has tackled this incendiary subject and exposed a dark side of U.S. and global politics while showing the utmost respect for the victims. Patterson holds the Guinness World Record for the most No. 1 New York Times bestsellers, and his books have sold more than 325 million copies worldwide. He has donated more than one million books to students and soldiers and funds over 400 Teacher Education Scholarships at 24 colleges and universities.

For those who just can't believe how perverse the global elite truly are, this is must-reading. And for those who already believe it, this book will reinforce what you have come to believe even further.

*FILTHY RICH*—softcover, 304 pages, \$25 plus \$4 S&H inside the U.S.—from AFP, 16000 Trade Zone Avenue, Unit 406, Upper Marlboro, MD 20774. Call toll free 1-888-699-6397 to charge, Mon.-Thu. 9-5 ET or visit [AmericanFreePress.net](http://AmericanFreePress.net).



# Sailing the Globe for Palestine

• Currency trader quits job to draw attention to Mideast issues by sailing around the world

By Dave Gahary

As snipers in Israel's armed forces continue to pick off Palestinians protesting the anniversary of the 70-year-old illegal occupation, known as the Nakba, one Palestinian-American is fighting back, not by tossing stones or burning tires—the only “weapons” those trapped in Gaza have—but by navigating a sailboat around the world.

The Nakba, literally “disaster,” “catastrophe,” or “cataclysm,” marks the time in 1948 when more than 700,000 Palestinians were forcibly expelled from their homes to ensure Israel's creation. Over 500 Palestinian villages were destroyed, with Palestinian cities “almost entirely extinguished.” All Palestinians in Gaza are literally prisoners—confined behind fences—in what's described as the largest open-air concentration camp the world has ever known.

Nabil Amra, 43, was a successful “forex”—or foreign exchange—trader in Minneapolis, Minn., until he quit his job and spent 85% of his life savings to get behind the controls of the Biscay 36 sailboat that will be his home on the world's oceans and seas for the next year.\*

He prepared for the race by first changing the name of his yacht from “*E'le May*” to “*The Liberty*,” to honor to the crew of the USS *Liberty*, the victim of a savage, premeditated, unprovoked attack on the unarmed U.S. Navy ship in international waters on June 8, 1967, by Israeli air and naval forces.

Amra, the youngest of four children, sat down

with this reporter to discuss why he took these—what many folks would consider drastic—steps to bring awareness to the plight of the Palestinians and the USS *Liberty*.

“When I was 12, my parents wanted us to go to Palestine and learn the language and meet some of our cousins who hadn't emigrated,” he explained. “These are people that showed me every kindness when I visited them, not the people they portray on the news. I didn't know the language; I didn't know anything, and they gave me everything they had, whenever they had it.”

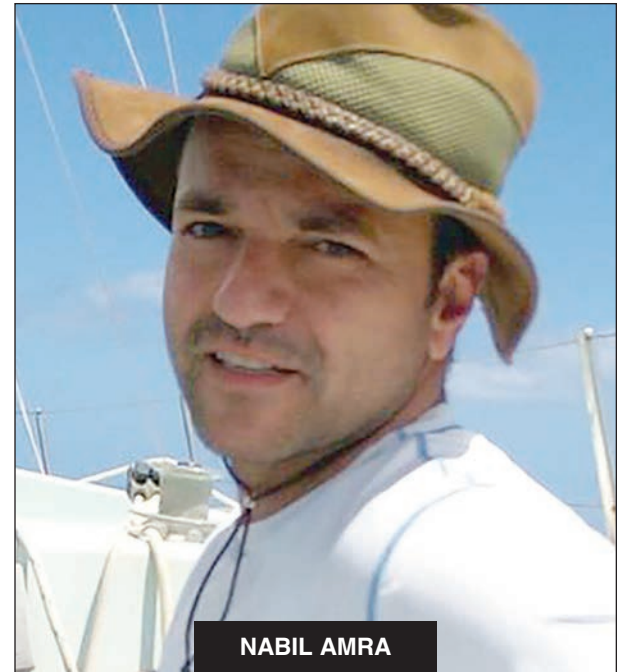
He was shocked by how the Israeli occupiers treated their Palestinian captives.

“Coming from the Midwest and all of the greatness that we have here,” Amra explained, “and then to go and see that you are treated like an animal, an American passport or not, that blew me away. They said I was throwing rocks, and I had the crap kicked out of me for three days in a little box.”

He lived from 1987 to 1990 in the land where his late father—a lieutenant commander surgeon in the U.S. Navy—was born and saw firsthand the daily misery heaped upon the rightful denizens of Palestine, including the murder of his cousin and 14-year-old best friend at the hands of Israeli soldiers.

Ultimately, his experiences there led him to wonder why some of the greatest sailors in the world never competed on the water.

“I was just sick of not seeing a Palestinian sailor in the Olympics,” he told this reporter, “and I finally got a hold of somebody in Gaza who was in charge of the sailing federation. They said, ‘Oh, we can't leave. We can't go to open-air competitions because we can't get



NABIL AMRA

visas. We're on lockdown.”

In fact, not only are Gazans forbidden from leaving their 141-square-mile prison to do what their ancestors had done for millennia, “the Israeli air force destroyed the Palestinian Sail and Surf Federation boating fleet, which was training for the Olympics, citing national security risks, and pointing out that Gazans aren't permitted to travel anyway,” wrote the magazine *The Washington Report on Middle East Affairs*.

This, and other matters, inspired Amra to do what they can't.

“I know there's a whole tribe of them down in Gaza that are competitive,” he explained. “These would be the guys to be in a race like this, not me. They have great sailors already, but they can't leave. But I'll do it for them. There's no validity to the standings after a race if you don't allow certain people to participate. It's so un-American.”

Amra described the nine-month race, which begins July 1 in western France and ends where it began.

“It's a nonstop, solo, around-the-world race,” he explained about the 2018 Golden Globe Race, a 30,000-nautical mile competition, “via the four great capes of the world in the Southern Ocean, on slow, porky, family cruisers from the '60s, with no modern convenience such as a GPS or a water-maker, or any of that. You get 80 gallons of water, 40 gallons of diesel, to use however you want, and a ham radio if you so choose. You collect water and use celestial navigation.” ★

\*Help Nabil draw attention to Palestine and the USS *Liberty*. Send any size donation to: Nabil Amra, 4437 Portland Ave. South, Minneapolis, MN 55407 or visit [www.gofundme.com/2s7pwj8](http://www.gofundme.com/2s7pwj8).





A BOOK ALL AMERICANS WHO LOVE HONEST HISTORY SHOULD READ RIGHT NOW . . .

# CONFEDERATE MONUMENTS

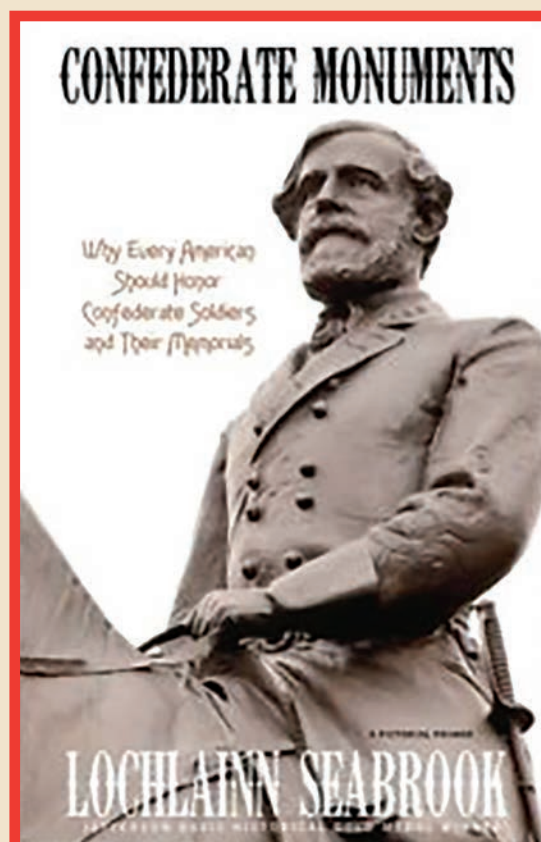
## WHY EVERY AMERICAN SHOULD HONOR CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS AND THEIR MEMORIALS

**W**hy is the Left targeting Confederate monuments for removal and destruction? Ignorance, social spite, and political expediency!

But the Liberal's sinister efforts to eradicate American history do more than just offend the living. They are an insult to the honor and memory of one of the most courageous and patriotic American servicemen the world has ever known: the Confederate soldier.

If you are a truthseeker and want to know why Confederate monuments should be treated as national treasures, you owe it to yourself to read the deeply researched works of world acclaimed Southern historian Col. Lochlainn Seabrook, starting with this highly topical book, *Confederate Monuments: Why Every American Should Honor Confederate Soldiers and Their Memorials*.

Conveniently divided into three sections, the first debunks the fake history fabricated by the Left to conceal the facts about Lincoln's War and turn America against the South. Here we learn about the true history of the conflict, the early tradition of nationwide U.S. support for Confederate soldiers, the unique origins of Southern patriotism, the legal rights of the Confederate dead, and the many stringent preservation laws surrounding their memorials. The second sec-



tion provides a massive pictorial sampling of the thousands of Confederate monuments that dot the American landscape, arranged alphabetically by state and city. The book ends with a fascinating section of appendices comprising 19th-century speeches, addresses, articles, and lists related to the Confederacy and

her awe-inspiring granite landmarks.

Throughout this densely illustrated work, the award-winning author sprinkles scores of additional Confederate images from the Victorian era, along with dozens of poems, quotes, and genuine inscriptions from Confederate statues, all which add further educational value to this already powerful and informative pictorial primer. This is the only book of its kind, and the only one you will ever need to combat Yankee myths and Liberal lies surrounding the phony “controversial” issue of Confederate soldiers and their precious stone memorials.

Colonel Seabrook confidently predicts that thousands of new Confederate monuments will go up in the future. Once the historical truths revealed in his book are more widely known, President William McKinley's charge that all Americans should share in honoring the Confederate dead will be taken seriously, and patriots everywhere will be clamoring to help fund, build and raise as many memorials as possible to our country's heroic men in gray!

Softcover, 432 pages, illustrated, #807, \$22 plus \$5 S&H inside the U.S. from THE BARNES REVIEW, P.O. Box 15877, Washington, D.C.20003. Call 1-877-773-9077 toll free Mon.-Thu. 9-5 to charge or visit our website at [www.BarnesReview.org](http://www.BarnesReview.org).



# Court Rejects Farmer's Appeal

• Judge upholds six-year prison sentence for Amish herbalist who mislabeled salve

By Dr. Edward DeVries

**S**amuel A. Girod (58) of Bath County, Ky. is an Amish farmer who made national news during the summer of 2017, when, on June 30th, he was sentenced to six years in federal prison by Judge Danny Reeves. Girod's crime? Mislabeled "herbal salve" made from chickweed, bloodroot, and a mixture of essential oils. More importantly, he failed to bow to the tyrannical authority of the federal government.

Girod had been making the herbal concoction for more than 20 years, and the government could not produce a single "victim"—someone who was actually harmed by the salve. Nonetheless, acting in good faith, Girod scheduled an FDA inspection of his production facility and changed his labeling to meet the guidelines.

Then, someone claimed that Girod's salve cured her skin cancer. For the FDA this is a "no-no," especially when it's true. Thus, the government launched an all-out assault on Girod.

Millions of dollars later, the best that the feds could come up with were "conspiracy to impede an officer," "obstruction of a proceeding before an agency," "failing to register with the FDA," "tampering with a witness," "failure to appear," and eight counts of "causing misbranded drugs to be introduced into interstate commerce."

Sheriff Richard Mack and hundreds of Amish from all over the United States converged upon the federal courthouse in Kentucky in support of Girod during his trial. Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.) was appealed to. The media even appeared to be on Girod's side, but all to no avail.

Girod acted as his own attorney in fighting the charges, arguing that his products were not subject to FDA oversight because they were herbal remedies and that they were not drugs as defined by federal law. He also argued that requiring FDA approval for the products infringed on his religious freedom. The Amish have traditionally opposed government licensure for their enterprises and the government has traditionally respected their position.

Throughout his trial, Girod asserted his rights as a sovereign citizen, responding to every question with the words: "I do not waive my immunity to this court. I do not consent."

At trial's end, Mack told the assembled news media that the sentence was way out of proportion to the so-called crime. "This has nothing to do with safety," said Mack. "The only crime committed here is that a family has been torn apart. Every American has something to fear after this."

At the time of sentencing, there was a good chance the ruling against Girod would be over-



Supporters of Samuel Girod outside the courthouse where he was sentenced to six years in prison.

turned on appeal by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. Five high-profile lawyers offered to take his case pro bono and numerous others offered to do so for a reduced fee. But Girod, who didn't trust lawyers to begin with—hence, his self-representation in his initial trial—continued to represent himself throughout the appeal.

On Feb. 27 of this year, Girod's final motion for dismissal was rejected by Reeves.

In April, his case was finally heard by a three-judge panel of the Sixth Circuit, where he argued that Reeves erred by not dismissing the charges against him because his products were not drugs, that Reeves gave improper instructions to the jury, that Girod suffered selective prosecution based on his Amish religion, and that Reeves was biased against him.

A three-judge panel of the appeals court turned away all of Girod's claims, stating, "Judge Reeves was correct to rule that Girod's products were drugs under federal law because the determination depends on whether the products were intended for use in the cure, mitigation or treatment of disease." The labels Girod put on the products, "could be used to treat a variety of conditions," the appeals panel said. In response to his other claims, the appeals panel said, "Girod presented no evidence that the government targeted him based on his religion and the jury instructions were proper." Finally, "Girod cited no facts that would lead an objective person to question Judge Reeves's impartiality in handling the case," the three-judge ruling said. The appeals court unanimously upheld the original conviction.

Throughout the entire ordeal, Girod became a "cause" for thousands who saw him as the victim of government overreach. More than 25,000

signed a petition asking to have him released from custody.

A coalition, formed by Mack of the Constitutional Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association, along with Larry Pratt of Gun Owners of America, Judge Andrew Napolitano, rocker Ted Nugent, Tom Woods, Larry Klayman of Freedom Watch, and John Whitehead of the Rutherford Institute, submitted the following appeal on behalf of Girod and others:

We the people of The United States of America do hereby request the immediate assistance and intervention by President Donald J. Trump, the U.S. Congress, and the U.S. [attorney general] to join together in stopping the injustices befalling numerous Americans who are now in prison as a result of out-of-control federal regulations. These good people have not committed any crimes and have harmed no other human beings.

While we wait to see if Trump, Attorney General Sessions, Sen. Paul, or another agent of the government acts on Girod's behalf, he is being held in a federal prison in Pennsylvania, his release date scheduled for April 2022. Until then, his wife, their 12 children, and their 25 grandchildren will spend the next six years without their patriarch. When he is finally released, the sentence will require that Girod remain under government supervision and pay more than \$15,000 in fines. ★

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.org](http://www.BarnesReview.org).



# Paul Challenges War Power

By Mark Anderson

Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.) has been butting heads with Sens. Tim Kaine (D-Va.) and Bob Corker (R-Tenn.) over a proposed joint resolution by the latter two lawmakers to remake the infamous Authorization for Use of Military Force (AUMF). Paul views the Corker-Kaine AUMF resolution as a case of severe misdirection that opens the door for more widespread war under the guise of limiting presidential war-making powers.

As AFP goes to press, the resolution has already been cosponsored by Sens. Jeff Flake (R-Ariz.), Chris Coons (D-Del.), Todd Young (R-Ind.), and Bill Nelson (D-Fla.).

“In the near future,” Paul wrote May 7 in *The American Conservative*, “Congress will debate a new [AUMF]. I use the word ‘debate’ lightly. So far, no hearings have been scheduled, and no testimony is likely to be heard unless something changes. That’s a shame, because this is a serious matter, and this is a deeply flawed AUMF.”

He added: “For some time now, Congress has abdicated its responsibility to declare war.”

The words “for some time” downplay that it’s

been 76 years since Congress formally declared war in accordance with its original Article I constitutional authority. That was on Dec. 8, 1941 after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

Paul continued: “The status quo is that we are at war anywhere and anytime the president says so. It is clear upon reading the AUMF . . . that it gives nearly unlimited power to this or any other president to be at war whenever he wants, with minimal justification and no prior specific authority.”

Paul emphasized that the Corker-Kane AUMF “declares war on at least the following places and people: the Taliban, al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, ISIS anywhere, al-Shabaab in Somalia and elsewhere, al-Qaeda in Syria, al-Nusra in Syria, the Haqqani network in Pakistan and Afghanistan, al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb, in Niger, Algeria, Libya, and Nigeria, and associated forces (as defined by the president) around the globe.”

Paul noted, “Previous AUMFs have never included ‘associated forces,’ and with good reason. Yet the Corker-Kaine AUMF not only codifies military action against those associated forces, but by conservative estimates authorizes war in over 20 nations.”

A look at the AUMF resolution itself and an associated press release from Kaine’s office seems to bear that out, at least for the most part.

“Congress has abdicated its responsibility to declare war.”

“For too long, Congress has given presidents a blank check to wage war,” Kaine noted in his press statement, sounding somewhat non-interventionist. “We’ve let the 9/11 and Iraq War authorizations get stretched to justify wars against multiple terrorist groups in over a dozen countries, from Niger to the Philippines. Our proposal finally repeals those authorizations and makes Congress do its job by weighing in on where, when, and with whom we are at war.”

However, one key part that Paul sees as problematic, as spelled out in Kaine’s statement, follows: “Authorizes the executive to use all necessary and appropriate force against al Qaeda, the Taliban, the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS), and designated associated forces. The legislation does not provide authority for military action against any nation state.”

Thus, the AUMF resolution could be interpreted, on the one hand, as imposing limits, since wars against other nation states are specifically excluded. Yet the terrorist outfits named in the resolution—since such outfits must be located somewhere—conceivably could be pursued nearly anywhere in the world. ★

# NSA Continues to Intercept Your Telephone Calls

By Ron Paul

One of the few positive things in the ill-named USA FREEDOM Act, enacted in 2015 after the Snowden revelations on NSA domestic spying, is that it required the director of national intelligence to regularly report on its domestic surveillance activities. On May 4, the latest report was released on just how much our own government is spying on us. The news is not good at all if you value freedom over tyranny.

According to the annual report, named the “Statistical Transparency Report Regarding Use of National Security Authorities,” the U.S. government intercepted and stored information from more than a half-billion of our telephone calls and text messages in 2017. That is a 300% increase from 2016. All of these intercepts were “legal” under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA), which is ironic because FISA was enacted to curtail the Nixon-era abuse of surveillance on American citizens.

Has the U.S. government intercepted your phone calls and text messages? You don’t know, which is why the surveillance state is so evil. Instead of assuming your privacy is protected by the

U.S. Constitution, you must assume that the U.S. government is listening in to your communications. The difference between these is the difference between freedom and tyranny. The ultimate triumph of totalitarian states was not to punish citizens for opposing its tyranny, but to successfully cause them to censor themselves before even expressing “subversive” thoughts.

We cannot celebrate our freedom or call ourselves an exceptional nation as long as we are under control of the kind of surveillance that would have turned the East German Stasi green with envy. We know the East German secret police relied on millions of informants, eager to ingratiate themselves with their totalitarian rulers by reporting on their friends, neighbors, even relatives. It was a messy system, but it served the purpose of preventing any “unwelcome” political views from taking hold. No one was allowed to criticize the policies of the government without facing reprisals.

Sadly, that is where we are headed.

Our advanced technological age provides opportunities for surveillance that even the most enthusiastic East German intelligence operative could not have dreamed of. No longer does the government need to rely on nosy neighbors as informants. The NSA has cut out the middleman, intercepting our communications—our very

thoughts—at the source. No one who calls himself an American patriot can be happy about this development.

Not even the president is safe from the surveillance state he presides over. According to a news report last week, federal investigators monitored the phone lines of President Donald Trump’s personal lawyer, Michael Cohen, even when he was speaking to his client—the president.

An all-powerful state that intercepts its citizens’ communications and stores them indefinitely to use against them in the future does not deserve to be called the leader of the free world. It is more the high-tech equivalent of a Third World despotism, where we all exist subject to the whim of those currently in political power.

NSA whistleblower Edward Snowden did us all an enormous favor by risking it all to let us know that our government had come to view us as the enemy to be spied on and monitored.

If we are to regain the liberty that our founding fathers recognized was granted to us not by any government, but solely by our Creator, we must redouble our efforts to fight against the surveillance state! ★

— 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](http://www.ronpaulinstitute.org).



# Readers Vent Frustrations With Trump

I liked Dr. Kevin Barrett's article [in the May 7 & 14 issue of AFP]. I hate to say I told you so, but that madman Trump and his insane government and misinformed followers will be the death of us all. The U.S. media will never tell the U.S. people what they need to know. AFP is one of the few that will. For this reason, AFP should be the greatest enemy of Donald Trump.

RICHARD ALLEN  
Via email

## AIPAC Running Trump

Dual loyalist Donald Trump accomplished a dual mission. He cemented his reputation as a bombastic toady for Israel. He gave the *coup de grace* to the Constitution.

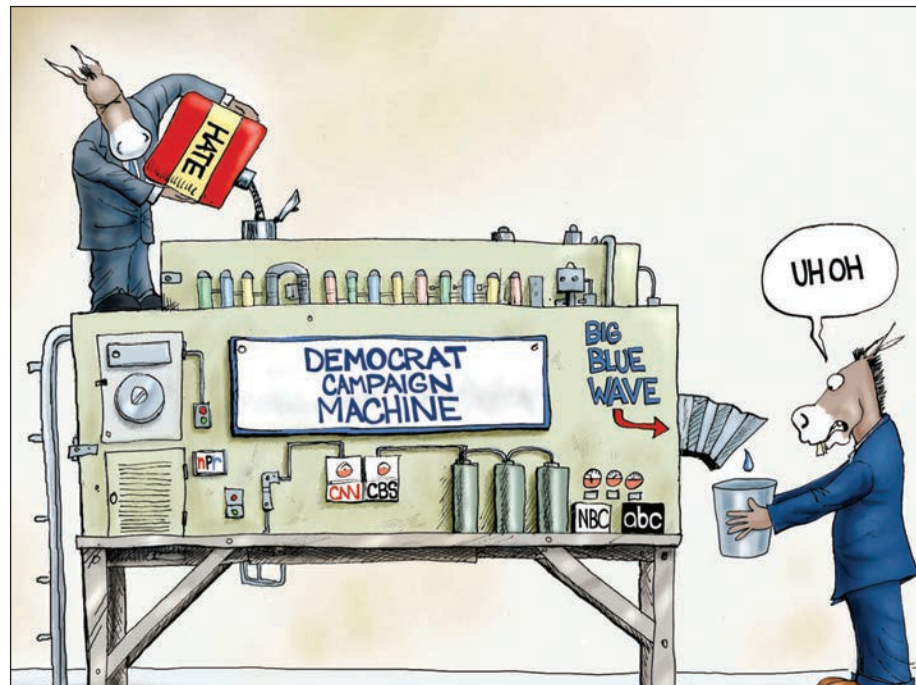
On March 10, 1954, Dwight David Eisenhower said: "There is going to be no involvement of America in war unless it is a result of the constitutional process that is placed upon Congress to declare it. Now let us have that clear."

At the other end of the constitutional-allegiance spectrum President George W. Bush said, "It ain't nothing but a [expletive deleted] piece of paper," a view shared by President Donald Trump and a Congress full of Israel-first toadies.

History will call our era the American Dark Age.

AIPAC has replaced Congress as our governing body while our foes dance on the remnants of our Constitution. Keep exposing the truth about this un-American lobby group.

CHARLES WIGGIN  
Via email



## Is This the Best We Got?

How a country of 325 million people can only come up with the likes of Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump for candidates for the president of the United States is shameful. Instead of reaching to the bottom of the barrel we need to strive for quality. We certainly don't have this with Trump.

RICHARD BROWNING  
Missouri

## Soured on Donald Trump

His words spurred many of us to vote for him. He seemed different. He treated politicians as they should be treated—not as royalty but as what they mostly are: spoiled brats who have never been called to the carpet.

But his recent actions in regard to

relocating the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem, scrapping the Iran nuclear treaty, bending over backwards for Benjamin Netanyahu, and surrounding himself with a gaggle of rabid warmongers has changed my mind.

I still think he is better than Hillary Clinton, but, then again, my pet chihuahua would have made a better president than she. I am worried.

GLORIA WALLACE  
Virginia

## Abandoned by the Democrats

I used to be a Democrat until the party was hijacked by Saul Alinsky and his extreme left-wing ideologues. If Harry S. Truman and John F. Kennedy were both alive today, they would not be accepted into today's extreme left-wing Democratic Party. Here, then, is a listing of some of the ideals and policies for which the Democratic Party stands—by way of their actions, if not spelled out in writing in their official agenda platform.

1) Tear up the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. Forcibly impose the Democrat Party ideology on the nation; this will combine communism, Islam, radical feminism, and political correctness together. Declare God to be dead.

2) Kill all police officers, nationwide. Completely disassemble and dismantle the military. Confiscate everybody's guns.

3) Erase America's borders, blend the USA with Mexico and Canada with it to form the North American Union.

## Letters

4) Crash and smash all Christian churches, nationwide. Build Islamic mosques in their places. Christianity is the politically incorrect religion, while Islam is the politically correct religion.

5) Keep all Americans under constant surveillance of the state, to ensure that everything everybody says and does is politically correct.

6) Give free "education" to everybody, which will be politicized indoctrination to Democratic Party leftist ideology.

7) Crown a black female lesbian queen for life. Her word will be universal law, superseding all other legal systems and institutions.

8) Eliminate the institution of marriage altogether. Free sexual relations for any two consenting adults, regardless of their genders.

9) Give abortion-on-demand at any stage of pregnancy, including partial birth abortion.

10) Free speech without restriction, but only if it conforms to Democrat rules of political correctness. Four-letter-word obscenities are okay.

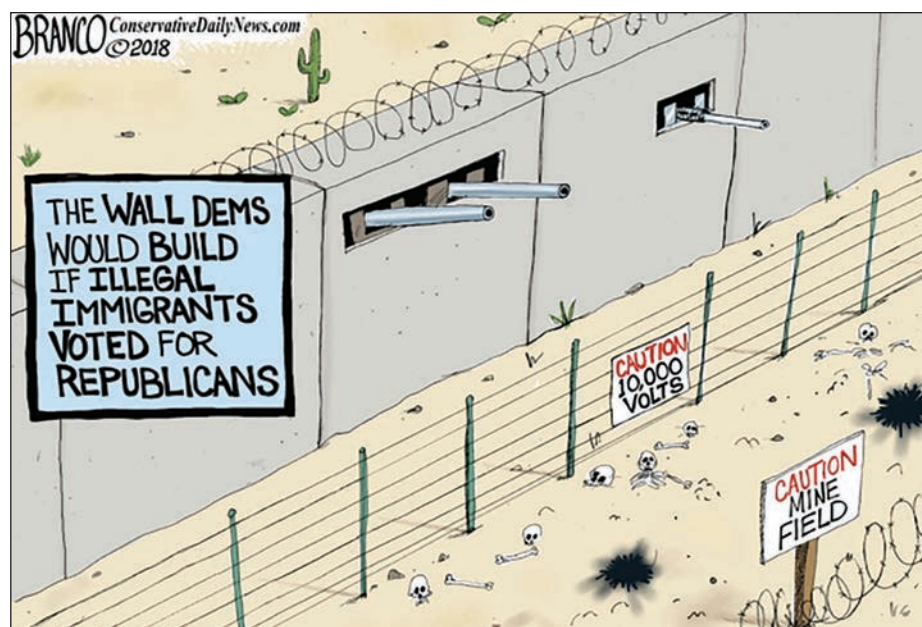
11) Racial and sexual identity are to be self-determined, whatever anybody wishes to call themselves. Sex change surgical operations at public taxpayer expense will be okay at any time.

12) Young people shall rule over older people at will. Old people will have no rights. The old must die and get out of the way upon a young person's command.

I never left the Democratic Party; it left me. In no way can I identify myself with a political party that believes these things and intends to implement them. In fact, I do not see how any human being with an inch and ounce of basic moral decency in him or her can possibly identify themselves with a party believing these lunatic ideas. This is not the Democratic Party I knew in the 1950s and early 1960s.

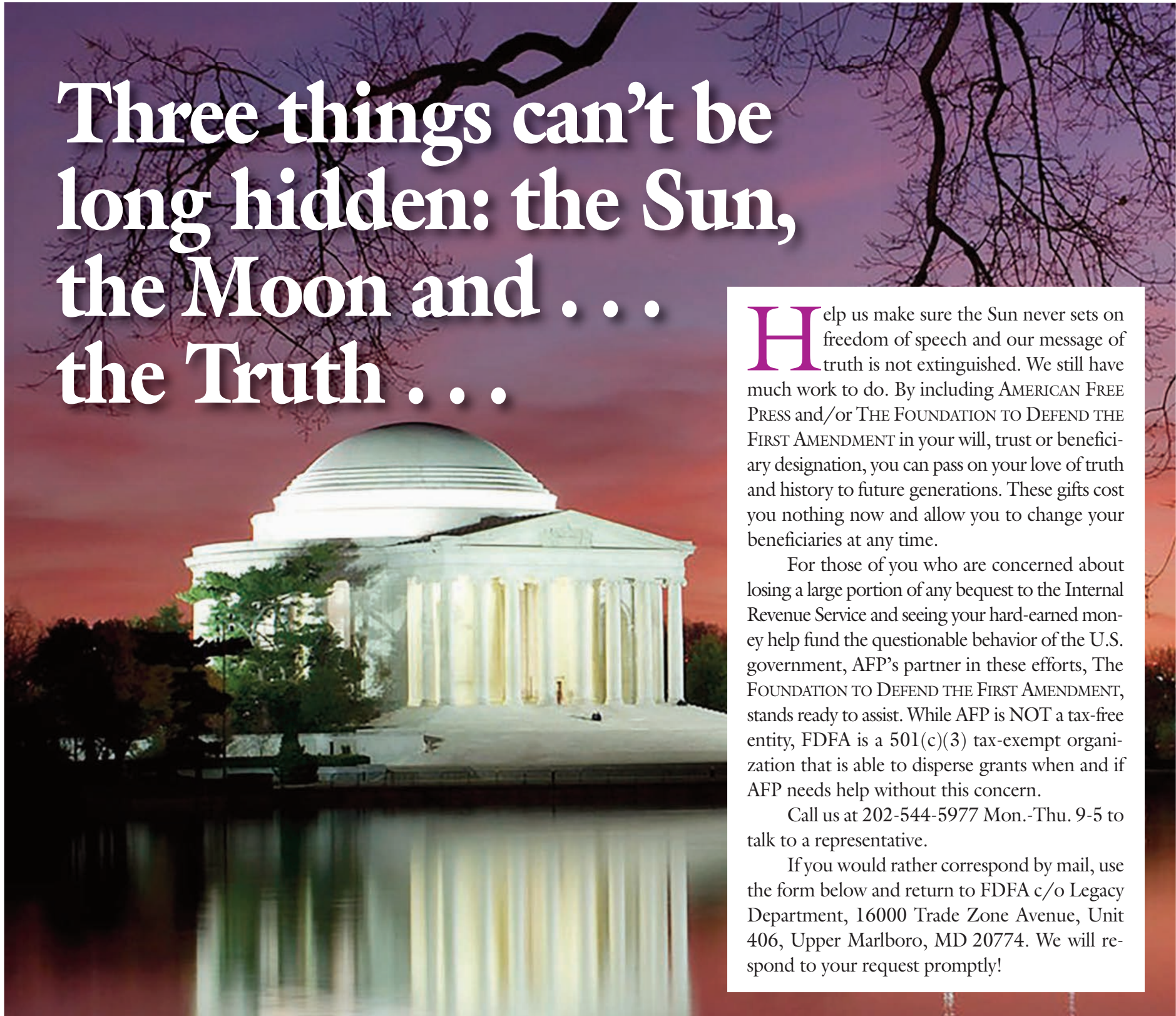
LAWRENCE K. MARSH  
Maryland

Write: Letters Editor, AFP, 16000 Trade Zone Avenue, Unit 406, Upper Marlboro, MD 20774. Send your emails to editor@americanfreepress.net. Note: Please leave your phone number in your letter and, if possible, we will call you.





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