

THE COVERT WORLD OF ESPIONAGE

# EYE SPY

INTERCEPTION

NATO-RUSSIA CYBER SPY WARS



NEW YORK ATTACK

ISIS PLOTS MORE CARNAGE IN WEST



CIA AT 70

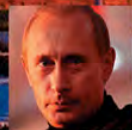
SEVEN DECADES OF COVERT OPERATIONS



UAV DANGERS

INTEL WARNINGS ON THIRD USERS

KGB VAULT



REBRANDING SPIES AND INTEL HISTORY

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THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

60

# STEPPING STONES



One of the world's most famous spy agencies celebrates 70 years of secret service



NATO's secret spy wars with Moscow intensifies as communications breached

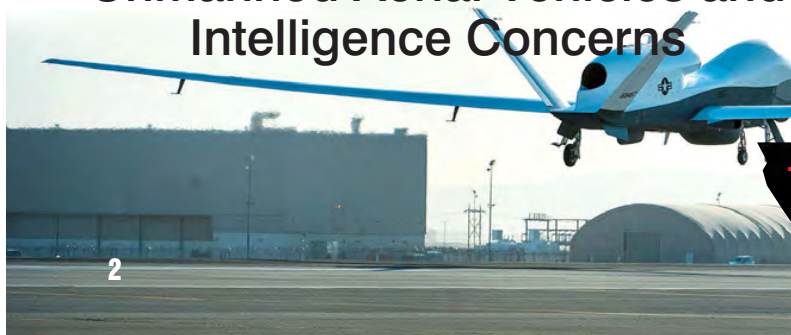


# SPIES IN THE MEDIA

- Exhibits
- Film
- Auction
- Spy Museum
- Cold War Station

# UAVs: THIRD USER

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles and Intelligence Concerns



# THE HALLOWEEN PLOT

Terrorist strikes in the heart of New York



22 NOVEMBER 1963

A MILLION PIECE JIGSAW



CIA Release More Bin-Laden Files

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### TERRORIST STRIKES IN NEW YORK CITY



The use of vehicles as an attack weapon is not a new trait, but in recent months it has become the 'weapon of choice' by those supporting the ideology of ISIS. During a research trip to New York in 2016, Eye Spy was told by senior counterterrorism officials that regardless of good intelligence and security measures, virtually nothing can be done to prevent an attacker intent on using a vehicle to target innocent people. Those words carried much meaning when a terrorist struck in Lower Manhattan targeting civilians enjoying a day out in the city.

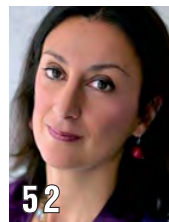
ISIS has provided much information on how to conduct low-cost attacks and listed sites around the world where people congregate. And it doesn't take much imagination and planning to perform a terrorist attack by vehicle (TAV). The security world is fearful and sadly I suspect we will sadly see more and more incidents such as those carried out in some of the great cities of the world.

Intelligence officials are equally concerned over information being sought by attackers on UAVs, albeit the miniaturised versions (MUAVs). In Iraq and Syria such devices are being adapted to carry explosives and operated as surveillance and reconnaissance platforms by terrorists. New intelligence secured by MI6 and other organisations now suggests ISIS is seeking to use MUAVs to carry chemicals. Called the 'Third Users' in the intelligence world, in this edition of Eye Spy we examine some aspects of UAV use by terrorists and an attempt by the United Nations to create a worldwide registration list of operators. For sure one party who will resist attempts to engage with this useful endeavour are terrorists.

### MARK BIRDSALL, MANAGING EDITOR



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### INTELLIGENCE CHOICE

#### CELL PHONE INTERCEPTION AND MISINFORMATION

**N**ATO forces in eastern Europe and the Baltics are being targeted by a band of cyber proxies led by an alleged Russia GRU-controlled outfit known as Fancy Bear. The operatives first surfaced during investigations into external interference in the 2016 US General Election, when information was secured from various political parties, and seemingly used in an attempt to help Donald Trump reach the White House.



While there is no evidence this affected the presidential result, military intelligence figures in NATO are satisfied the group represents a 'clear and present danger' to forces guarding the gates of Europe. Most concerning too, the sending of disinformation, which could lead to incorrect commands and judgements. Little wonder new regulations have been enforced regarding troops and the sending and receiving of cell calls and emails. Eye Spy investigates...

#### •32 INTERCEPTION



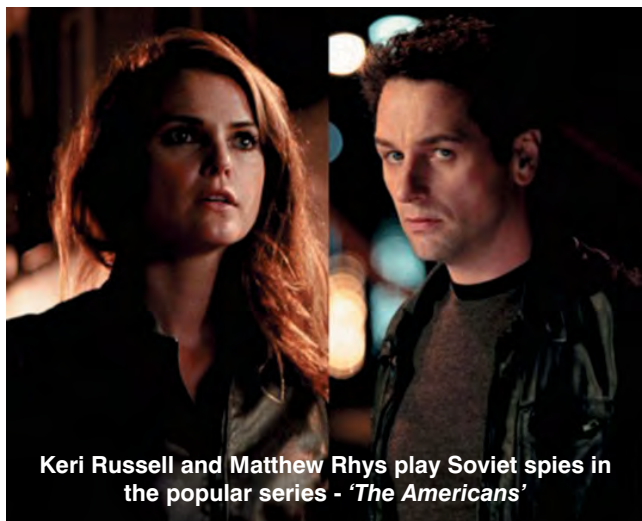
# INTELLIGENCE REVIEW • NEWS • DIGEST

## TO CATCH A SPY

### Five Years for US Satellite Technology Traitor

**G**regory Allen Justice, 50, a US satellite engineer who sold military secrets to an undercover FBI agent, has been sentenced to five years in prison. Authorities have not disclosed the name of his employer, but intelligence sources have referenced Boeing Satellite Systems in El Segundo.

US Attorney Sandra R. Brown, said of Justice: "This defendant sold out his employer and betrayed his country in exchange for a few thousand dollars. His actions posed an imminent threat to our national security... and a person who was willing to sell important information to a foreign power will now serve a considerable amount of time in a federal



Keri Russell and Matthew Rhys play Soviet spies in the popular series - 'The Americans'

## 'MI6 NUCLEAR AGE'

### Iran Nuclear Negotiator Sentenced to 5 Years

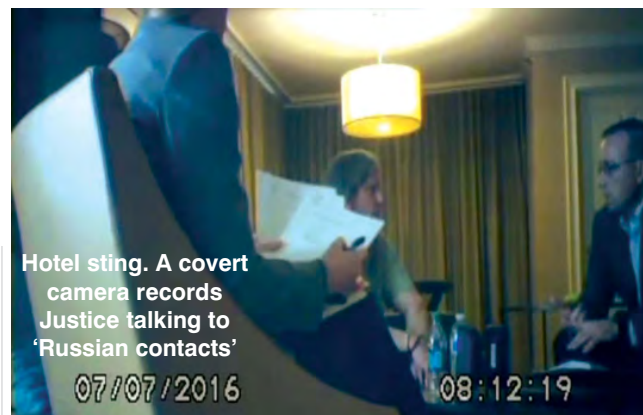
**F**ears that members of Iran's negotiating team with the West over its nuclear agreement are being targeted by the country's conservative judiciary have intensified after former banker Abdolrasoul Dorri Esfahani was jailed for five years for spying. Esfahani was a member of Iran's negotiation team that helped broker the 2015 deal with world powers, but since then has been accused of spying for Britain on multiple occasions.

In August 2016, a prosecutor said Esfahani was "active in the field of the Iranian economy, and was linked to the British espionage service MI6," but Intelligence



Abdolrasoul Dorri Esfahani (right) was honoured by President Hassan Rohani on 8 February 2016, for his role in the landmark nuclear negotiations

Minister Mahmoud Alavi flatly denied the accusation and the case remained open. However, the allegations surfaced again and on 8 October 2017, the judiciary said Esfahani was "among some who were accused of spying and



Hotel sting. A covert camera records Justice talking to 'Russian contacts'

prison." However, the sentence hardly reflects his actions.

In 2015 investigators discovered Justice had downloaded five folders with detailed mechanical drawings and design information for a satellite programme onto a USB device. Handwritten notes with the addresses of the Consulate General of Russia in San Francisco, the Russian Embassy and offices of the defense, military, air and naval attaches in Washington were also found in his vehicle.

The FBI suspected espionage and devised a plan to catch Justice. After befriending the target a 'Russian spy contact' paid Justice \$500 and \$1,000 cash payments in exchange for thumb drives

containing sensitive files with satellite information. The liaison lasted six months while the Bureau collected sufficient evidence to charge him.

During one meeting, Justice told the undercover FBI agent that he



FBI agent Danny Kennedy



# 'NT' JAILED

## Five Years for Spying



providing information for foreigners and had links with two espionage services."

Esfahani is a Canadian-Iranian national; Iran does not recognise dual citizenships - therefore he

cannot receive diplomatic protection, and consular visits. Iran's conservative-dominated judiciary has jailed a number of dual nationals and foreigners since the nuclear deal came into force.

"The court sentenced him to five years in prison and the verdict is final," said judiciary spokesman Gholamhossein Mohseni Ejeie. "He also has a financial corruption case for which bail has been issued but no indictment has been issued yet."



Iran Intelligence Minister Mahmoud Alavi

## SMILEY OVER BOND

### MI6 Chief Responds to 'Mavericks' Claim

**T**he Chief of MI6, Sir Alex Younger, responded to an article written in *The Economist*, suggesting that British intelligence officers were the 'mavericks' of government and that they get away with reckless acts because they are part of the British Establishment. Sir Alex wrote to the magazine that he had learned to live with the public perception that all British spies behave just like Bond.

*Extract: 'Indeed, I have determined to take advantage of it. They say that life follows art. I do not think that this is the case exactly. But I accept that there is a strong feedback loop. In which case, I should make it clear that, despite briding at the implication of a moral equivalence between us and our opponents that runs*



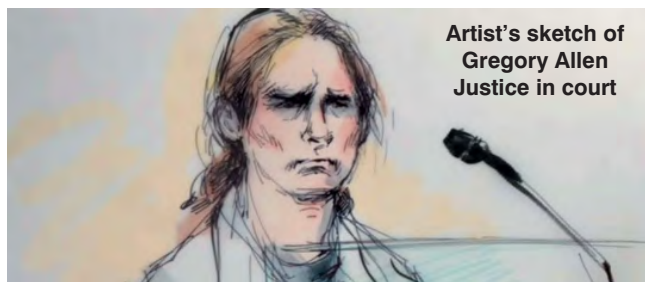
Alec Guinness played John Le Carre's fictional MI6 officer George Smiley in 'Smiley's People'

*through novels, I'll take the quiet courage and integrity of George Smiley (John Le Carre's creation from Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy) over the brash antics of 007, any day'.*

The former commissioned Army officer who joined MI6 in 1991, admitted that his Service, whilst operating entirely for the good of the country, sometimes performed tasks that could not be justified in pursuit of private interest. *'We break the rules, certainly; we do not break the law. And if we are not maverick, we are not all establishment or male either; ask my deputy. What I will allow, is that alongside our values of courage, respect and integrity, we place a premium on creativity'.*



Sir Alex Younger

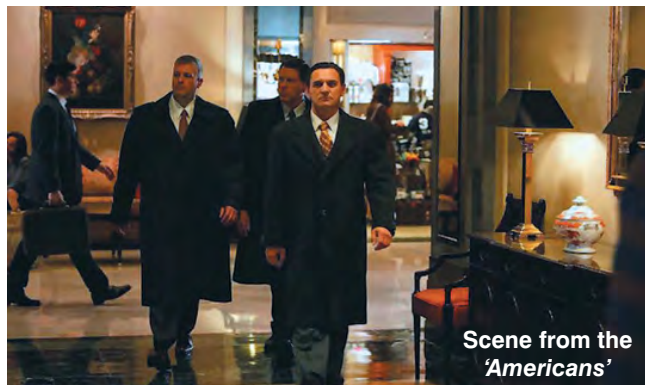


Artist's sketch of Gregory Allen Justice in court

was enamoured with spy thrillers and "wanted to try to build the type of relationship depicted in the television show 'The Americans'."

Danny Kennedy, Acting Assistant Director heading the FBI's Los Angeles field office, said: "Unlike a reality television series, selling secrets to a foreign government is not entertaining, and in the wrong hands, threatens national security and puts American lives at risk."

US District Judge George H. Wu, rejected prosecutors' request for more years behind bars after concluding there was insufficient evidence to support a government allegation the Culver City scientist had also been plotting to use a potent drug to murder his wife. "Sometimes people fantasise about killing their significant others," said Wu. "But that did not mean they would actually follow through on the idea."



Scene from the 'Americans'



# THE CONTROLLER

## FSB Confirms Killing of Terrorist Leader Umarov

**D**oku Umarov, the feared leader of the Caucasus Emirate terrorist group, and dubbed the 'Controller' by associates, has again been confirmed dead by the FSB. Umarov and his terror group have been linked to numerous major attacks in Russia and a number of former Soviet satellite countries. These include the 2010 Moscow Metro bombing which claimed 40 lives; the 2011 bombing of Moscow's Domodedovo Airport in which 36 people were killed and the explosion on a Nevsky Express train in 2009 which left 39 dead.

A Russian ISIS-linked operative arrested in summer after returning to Russia from Syria and looking



Doku Umarov



Alexander Bortnikov

for a lighter sentence, told FSB investigators that Umarov had been poisoned in 2013 by Russian Special Forces "with a highly-toxic substance." He went on to point investigators to the mountains of Ingushetia, in the Sunzhensky district, Chechnya. The covert operation to eliminate the terror leader was of course known to journalists, but never confirmed - the lack of a body being the prime reason.

Eye Spy was informed the unidentified poison was actually contained on a letter or mail (package) opened by Umarov.

Although Umarov was officially declared dead in 2014 by FSB



Director Alexander Bortnikov, the continued lack of physical evidence frustrated security services, leading to much speculation he was still alive. Now, following information provided for by the ISIS informant, who was interviewed in September, and a search operation which concluded on 25 September, the FSB has again issued notice of Umarov's death.

"A targeted, long-term search operation was initiated" after the tip-off that led to the discovery of



Chechen President Ramzan Kadyrov



Moscow HQ of Russia's Investigative Committee

the remains of Umarov and four of his bodyguards, a source in the Investigative Committee (North Caucasus region) said. These comments appeared in most Russian newspapers and were widely reported by state media houses.

Chechen President Ramzan Kadyrov welcomed the news and optimistically proclaimed: "I'm confident international terrorism will never raise its head in our republic again."



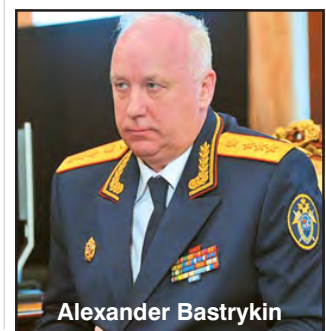
FSB officers at Domodedovo Airport following the 2011 terrorist attack

## THE CHECHAN INTEL FEUD

**R**ussian Investigative Committee head Alexander Bastrykin gave a prickly response when asked by a student at Moscow State University, to explain his agency's perceived abuses of power and policing failures.

"Then I invite you to take up the vacant post of Investigative Committee branch chief in Chechnya," he said. "You can start tomorrow. Go ahead and put your ideas into practice. I'm ready

to appoint you to work under Ramzan Kadyrov tomorrow. We'll see what you can do."



Alexander Bastrykin



# PRIVATE INTELLIGENCE MAN

## Former GCHQ Director Moves into Cyber Sector

**L**loyd's of London insurer Hiscox, a FTSE 250 firm, has recruited former GCHQ Director Robert Hannigan as a special adviser on cyber security. He will work with analysts from the insurer's cyber security division, offering market intelligence, staff training and help with developing cyber products.

Mr Hannigan, who left his intelligence post earlier in the year for personal reasons said:

"The risks that cyber criminals pose, both to businesses and individuals in the UK, are significant and sophisticated. Cyber attacks are intrusive, costly and disruptive, which is why businesses and the public must be proactive in establishing a defence against them."

Mr Hannigan played a pivotal role in developing the UK's cyber security strategy, and helped establish the National Cyber Security



**Former GCHQ Director Robert Hannigan lays the 'foundation brick' of the Lego block creation**

Centre in 2016. And while GCHQ's primary mission is one of intelligence collection, under Hannigan's watch he also sought to present a more public image. One of his last 'tasks' was to oversee the construction of a model of the GCHQ's famous 'doughnut' headquarters for charity. Some 400 staffers using approximately 17,000 standard Lego bricks, built the model in just 12 hours. And of course, the 'fabled' foundation brick was laid by Robert Hannigan himself.



**£1,000 (\$1,300) was raised for charity in building of the model**

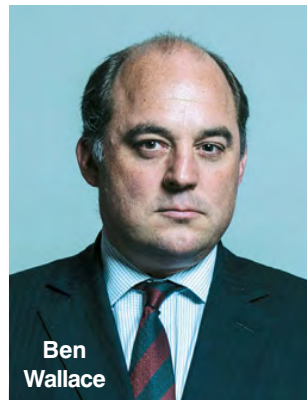
© GCHQ/CROWN COPYRIGHT

# WANNACRY VIRUS

## UK Security Minister Blames North Korea for Worldwide Cyber Attack

**F**ollowing an investigation led by GCHQ and supported by several international cyber agencies, the WannaCry ransomware cyber attack that disabled UK National Health Service (NHS) trust computers in May has been publicly blamed on North Korea; nearly 20,000 operations were cancelled. Since then, the NHS has updated its security software. The attack also affected computer systems in 150 countries.

Security Minister, Ben Wallace, is satisfied that a foreign state was behind WannaCry and points the blame at Pyongyang. Mr Wallace said: "This attack, we believe quite strongly came from a foreign state. North Korea was the state that we believe was involved in this worldwide attack." He added: "We can be as sure as possible... and it is widely believed in the [intelligence] community and across a number of countries that North Korea had taken this role."



Mr Wallace suggested the attacks were part of North Korea's plan to access foreign funds and were potentially linked to other attacks.

In addition, Microsoft President, Brad Smith, said he believed Kim Jong Un's secretive state was behind the WannaCry virus.

### BAD RABBIT VIRUS

Britain's National Cyber Security Centre, part of GCHQ, has also

issued a warning over a similar virus that has affected systems in several countries including Russia and the Ukraine. Banks, transport hubs and media houses were all targeted.

Bad Rabbit ransomware, which contains a number of references to 'Games of Thrones' is finding its way on to systems disabling computers. Users are then informed that unless a fee of around £200 is paid via the Bitcoin currency, the computer will remain locked. A digital display clock warns that the fee will go up if the ransom is not paid.





# MI5 WARNING

## A SUBLIMINAL MESSAGE



Returning and in-situ ISIS terrorists pose worst UK and European security threat for 30-years

**S**peaking to a number of 'selected' journalists in Whitehall, MI5 Director-General Andrew Parker acknowledged that the UK is facing its biggest terrorism threat in 30 years. "It is multi-dimensional, evolving rapidly and operating at a scale and pace we've not seen before," he said.

He was of course referencing the activities of ISIS/Daesh. "Extremists of all ages, gender and backgrounds are united only by the toxic ideology of violent hatred that drives them," he warned.

Mr Parker, a counter-terrorism specialist who has worked in intelligence for 34-years, noted a

"dramatic upshift" in the number of UK-based terror plots, probably due in part to the return of ISIS operatives from Iraq and Syria, most of whom are now being surveilled and monitored. However, he warned MI5 can't be expected to thwart every attack. "Twenty attacks have been foiled over the past four years. Many have been prevented by early interventions," he said. And whilst the focus of his notes was UK-centric, he said similar "terror surge patterns" had been experienced in mainland Europe.

The actual number of counter-terrorism operations and other statistics were released some months ago by Whitehall sources,



but Mr Parker chose to highlight them again. He said 500 live MI5 investigations were ongoing involving as many as 3,000 individuals known to have some sort of link to terrorism and extremist activities. Interestingly, he also said more than 20,000 people have been probed for similar associations whilst others have not been detected. Mr Parker also chose the event to announce the organisation is increasing its staffing levels, from around 4,000 to 5,000. Many are expected to engage in the work of counter-terrorism, undercover posts and analysis.



MI5 D-G Andrew Parker

On why some attacks succeed, Mr Parker told the media speed is often a factor. "From inception through planning to action... all in a handful of days. This pace, together with the way extremists can exploit safe spaces online, can make threats harder to detect and give us a smaller window to intervene."

Mr Parker said that it would be helpful if technology companies work with the Security Service to help prevent extremists taking advantage of social media - especially those platforms that are beyond the reach of the intelligence world. Asked if Facebook and Google could do more, he declined to engage, however, he said tech firms have an "ethical responsibility" to help the government.

Despite the rapid fall of ISIS in the Middle East, "the homegrown threat will continue for years to come," he warned. However, the security response would be "unrelenting." He concluded by saying those wishing to harm the UK, should expect to "meet MI5... and the Police."

**LINKS:** [www.mi5.gov.uk/](http://www.mi5.gov.uk/)



MI5 is engaged in a recruitment programme to enlarge the Service to 5,000 full-time employees



YPG military counter-ISIS fighters



# NSA-GCHQ OPERATIONS

## German Government Finds No Evidence of Eavesdropping

**G**erman government investigators from the country's domestic (BfV - Bundesamt für Verfassungsschutz) and foreign intelligence service (BND - Bundesnachrichtendienst), have found no evidence that either NSA or GCHQ had deliberately and maliciously launched eavesdropping operations against Berlin. The probes were actioned following the release of NSA documents stolen by Edward Snowden that detailed various operations, some indicating key German figures and organisations had been targeted.

Prosecutors, acting on the advice of German Intelligence, now admit that despite "indications some individuals had been selected," no evidence of "direct eavesdropping" was uncovered. Public



**Frauke Koehler**

Prosecutor General spokeswoman Frauke Koehler said: "The documents [from Snowden] didn't provide any information on concrete interception measures... and with this background, there is no room for an investigation by prosecutors."

Analysis of the alleged joint UK-US operation was launched three

years ago after intelligence was presented that indicated key electronic devices (cell phones, telephone landlines and other media) used by parliamentary personnel and ministers had been breached. The NSA material revealed operational codenames, XKeyscore (XKS), for example, and the intricate manner in which intelligence could be sourced.

During a meeting of senior German Intelligence officials and ministers, the BfV and BND said there was no point in pursuing the investigation. Observers note that the reason may have been influenced by the fact that evidence was uncovered that indicated the country's own services may have participated in some aspects of the eavesdropping - a suggestion refuted by



**Hans-George Maassen, BfV Director**

ministers. However, German intelligence sources say the BND did handle files linked to XKS.

At the meeting, Hans-George Maassen, BfV Director, who met with NSA officials, also said it would be useful if more pro-active powers were given to the German intelligence services that could help detect and counter cyber attacks. He told a parliamentary oversight committee that Germany should have the right to target foreign servers involved with illegal activities (securing German data) and to destroy the material held. "It makes sense for us to infect servers to understand their operations," he said. "In the real world, it would be like turning a foreign intelligence agent and getting them to work for us."

**BND Headquarters, Berlin**



## US Green Berets Special Forces Troops Killed in Ambush

**F**our Green Berets were killed and two more were wounded in an ambush in Niger during a 4 October reconnaissance patrol in Niger, near the border with Mali. US Special Forces are in Niger to train local units in anti-terrorism tactics to combat violent extremists.

Intelligence sources say the patrol was attacked by 50 ISIS operatives and had no air cover. French warplanes and helicopters did arrive at the scene shortly after.

The Pentagon has expanded efforts in Niger due to the growing

numbers of ISIS and al-Qaida affiliates in the Sahel region. Some 800 US personnel are assigned to posts in Niger, and Special Forces personnel have, since at least 2014, run training operations out of Ouallam, a town halfway

between Niamey and the Mali border, where militants regularly cross for incursions into Niger.

• In November 2016, three Green Berets were killed in Jordan in an incident described as a "chain of unfortunate events."



**L-R: Sergeant La David Johnson, Staff Sergeants Dustin Wright, Jeremiah Johnson and Bryan Black**



# HARVARD INTELLIGENCE RIPPLES

## University Drops Chelsea Manning as Visiting Fellow

**C**helsea [Bradley] Manning, the former US Army intelligence analyst responsible for leaking over 500,000 government documents (100,000 classified) to WikiLeaks, is at the centre of another controversy. Harvard University announced that it has rescinded an invitation to Manning to serve as a visiting fellow, calling it "a mistake."

Douglas W. Elmendorf, Dean of the Harvard Kennedy School, said in a statement: "I now think that designating Chelsea Manning as a Visiting Fellow was a mistake, for



**Douglas W. Elmendorf**

which I accept responsibility. I see more clearly now that many

people view a Visiting Fellow title as an honorific, so we should weigh that consideration when offering invitations. We did not intend to honour her in any way or to endorse any of her words or deeds, as we do not honour or endorse any Fellow."

Manning's appointment as fellow drew sharp criticism from former CIA Acting Director Michael Morell, who resigned as a senior fellow over Manning's selection, and current D/CIA Mike Pompeo, who cancelled a scheduled appearance at the university. In a letter to the school, Pompeo wrote: *'I believe it is shameful for Harvard to place its stamp of approval upon her treasonous actions'.*

The decision was criticised by some who said Harvard was being hypocritical given that the university states that its approach is to "tap controversial speakers," including "some people who have significantly influenced events in the world even if they do not share our values and even if their actions or words are abhorrent to



**Chelsea [Bradley] Manning**

some members of our community."

Manning, who was jailed in 2013 for 35-years, was pardoned by President Obama in one of his last acts in office. He was released in May 2017.



**Director CIA Mike Pompeo**



**Harvard University**

# The Marathon Man

## Guilty On All Charges: NYC Bomber

**A**hmad Khan Rahimi, 29, has been found guilty on all charges in a Manhattan court including counts of using a weapon of mass destruction and bombing a public place. Rahimi placed two pressure

cooker bombs (PCBs); one on West 27th Street NY, and another in New Jersey, targeting a charity race in Seaside Park, on 17 September 2016. Thirty one people were injured in New York, but there were no injuries in New Jersey.

Prosecutors said Rahimi considered himself 'a soldier in a holy war against Americans' and was inspired by ISIS and al-Qaida to carry out the attacks after years of reading jihadist propaganda.

"Ahmad Khan Rahimi attacked our country and our way of life," said Acting Manhattan US Attorney Joon Kim. "Rahimi planted and



**Ahmad Khan Rahimi**

detonated bombs on the streets of Chelsea, in the heart of Manhattan and in New Jersey, hoping to kill and maim as many innocent people as possible. His crimes of hate have been met with swift and resolute justice."

Afghanistan-born Rahimi now faces life in prison.



**Rahimi caught on CCTV in Chelsea carrying the PCBs**



**The explosion in Manhattan injured 30 people**



# FRANCE SECURITY FOCUS

## New Counter-Terrorism Legislation

**F**rance's National Assembly (Lower House of Parliament) has approved a new counter-terrorism bill proposed by French President Emmanuel Macron giving the country's security services wider search and arrest powers. The new ruling also allows police to close places of

worship accused of condoning terror. The new bill makes permanent a number of measures put in place following a two-year-old state of emergency - this following several terrorist attacks in 2015 - including coordinated ISIS operations in Paris (Stade de France and Bataclan Theatre), which left 130 people dead.

**National Assembly**



**Patrick Weil**

The bill, passed by a 415-127 vote, and will now go to the Senate then return to the Lower House for a final vote. Some of the legislation includes confining suspected terrorism sympathisers to their neighbourhoods and carrying out more on-the-spot identity checks without the prior approval of a judge. It will also allow the government to increase security perimeters in places



**President Emmanuel Macron**

deemed at risk, such as train stations and airports.

The new legislation encountered little public resistance with a poll finding that 57 per cent of French people were in favour of enshrining the measures into law. However, some human rights' experts said the bill is "discriminatory" and will have "repercussions... especially for Muslims." Historian and political scientist Patrick Weil said the law would "divide and stigmatise," warning that stop and search operations would be largely focussed and determined on skin colour.

France's Interior Minister Gerard Collomb dismissed fears calling the bill a "lasting response to a lasting threat."

## ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

**ABU DHABI:** Omar Bin Sultan Al Olama, 27, has been appointed the world's first Minister for Artificial Intelligence.

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE, said: "We want the UAE to become the world's most prepared country for Artificial Intelligence. Advanced technology will create new jobs and make half of existing jobs redundant within just ten years," he added. "We are seeking to adopt all tools and methodologies related to Artificial Intelligence to expedite and ensure more efficiency for government services at all levels."



**Omar Bin Sultan Al Olama**

## ASIO EYES ON CHINA'S SPIES

**CANBERRA:** ASIO (Australian Security Intelligence Organisation) Director General Duncan Lewis writing in a forward to its annual report, said foreign powers are undertaking intelligence operations against the country that are 'extensive, unrelenting and increasingly sophisticated'.

In addition to stealing government and industry information, Mr Lewis wrote: 'We identified foreign powers clandestinely seeking to shape the opinions of members of the Australian public, media organisations and government officials in order to advance their country's own political objectives'.

As for espionage, the spy chief warned: 'Espionage and foreign interference is an insidious threat - activities that may appear relatively harmless today can have significant future consequences'.

The report follows recent public warnings from government officials about the level of Chinese Government interference on university campuses and the discovery that the computer of a defence contractor was hacked and sensitive data on the F-35 stealth fighter and P-8 surveillance aircraft programmes stolen using a tool widely used by Chinese cyber criminals.



**ASIO Director General Duncan Lewis**



# ISIS CALL FOR NEW YORK ATTACK IS HEEDED BY LONE WOLF



## THE HALLOWEEN PLOT

Several days before Halloween, ISIS supporters used the Telegram app to call for a strike on New York City. Social media sites carried messages urging followers to attack the city's famous Halloween parade as terrorists shared pictures of the route and encouraged people to use vehicles and trucks to attack the crowds. Though NYPD secured the route and streets with a variety of defences and specialist troops, including marksmen and dozens of surveillance officers, they were helpless to stop a terrorist who chose to strike early, and at the softest of targets. The attack mimicked previous low-cost ISIS strikes in London, Barcelona, Berlin, Jerusalem, Paris, Marseille, Stockholm and elsewhere - TAV - Terrorist Attack by Vehicle.

### THE INCIDENT

At around 3.00pm on 31 October, eight people were killed and 11 injured when a white pick-



NYPD officer Ryan Nash

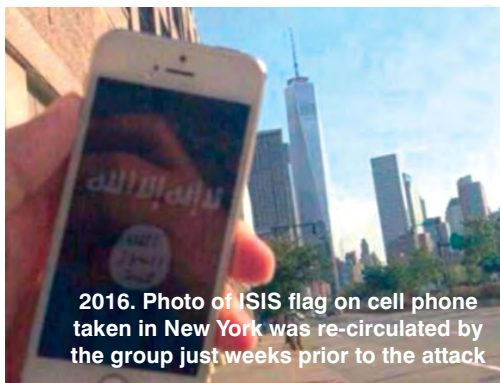
up truck rented from DIY retailer Home Depot struck cyclists and pedestrians just a few hundred yards from the site of the World Trade Center memorial. The truck then deliberately rammed a school bus, injuring two adults and two children on board, and came to a halt outside Stuyvesant High School. Few doubt the terrorist chose the time when youngsters were finishing school.

Sayfullo Habibullaevic Saipov, 29, emerged holding what appeared to be two handguns and shouted "Allahu Akbar" (God is great). He was chased by police and shot in the abdomen by police officer Ryan Nash stationed near the scene and later underwent surgery for gunshot wounds. The weapons turned out to be paintball and pellet guns. A note recovered from the truck read *'ISIS will endure for a long time'*. An image of the flag of ISIS was also found. On his cell phone, police found 90 short ISIS films including some featuring commentary by the group's leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. With such evidence at hand, NYPD officials quickly concluded the incident was one of terrorism.



### ROAD TO NEW YORK

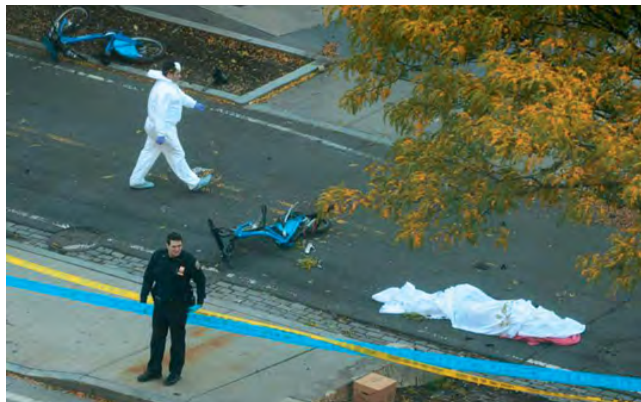
Saipov arrived in the United States from Uzbekistan in 2010 via a diversity lottery programme and is classed as a Florida resident. However, he had been living in nearby Patterson, New Jersey, with his wife



2016. Photo of ISIS flag on cell phone taken in New York was re-circulated by the group just weeks prior to the attack







**Rumkmini Callimachi**

and three children working as a driver for the car-share firm Uber.

Rumkmini Callimachi, a correspondent for the *New York Times* who has closely followed

the ISIS terror network since 2014, published texts extremists had shared on Telegram after the attack. ISIS supporters praised the attack, but also mocked Saipov for what they called a 'low death count' and discussed what he should have done differently for more impact, i.e. targeting the evening parade, using a busier street etc. "Typically the threats are



**Saipov is wrestled to the ground**

more amorphous - Attack London! Attack Paris! I rarely see a date on ISIS threats (though it's not first time)," Callimachi said. "The New York threat was distributed in at least four languages."

#### SPEED AND PLANNING

Some analysts questioned why Saipov chose a pellet and paintball gun when he could have travelled to Florida and purchased firearms as a legal resident. However, it's possible he may have thought securing an authentic firearm could have alerted authorities. The date is relevant - and was probably one of a number considered by the attacker knowing that thousands of people would be taking to the streets in New York to mark Halloween. The Telegram 'call to attack' from ISIS may have been the final prompt.

Short notice attacks by individuals have been highlighted by MI5 in recent weeks and are considered the most difficult to detect. An NYPD counter-terrorist expert agreed and told

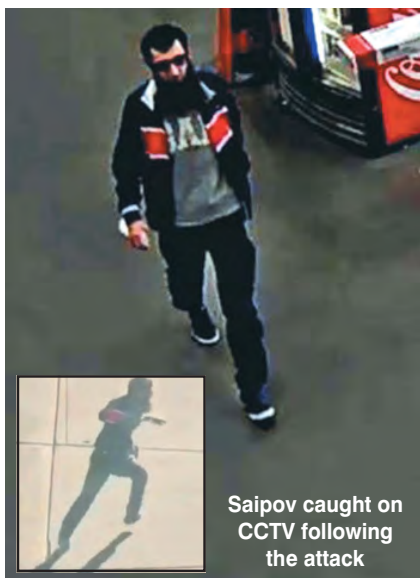


**Deputy Police Commissioner for Intelligence and Counterterrorism John Miller**

Eye Spy that time is often a factor: "The most complex plots involving multiple participants often means information and clues surface. It's one reason why the FBI and ourselves believe Saipov probably acted the end part of his 'mission' alone. He was not on any [terrorist]

watchlist, as far as I am aware... but was known to authorities for his contact with at least two persons who were being monitored."

Though prosecutors believe he had considered an attack for 12 months, an indication of Saipov's intent to avoid detection and perform the 'end strike' quickly can be found in the



**Saipov caught on CCTV following the attack**







*In hospital, Saipov asked that he be allowed to drape an ISIS flag on the wall behind his bed*

**Terrorist Saipov - guns-in-hand stands in front of his crashed pick-up**

hiring of the vehicle in New Jersey - at 2.00pm - just 65 minutes before he attacked. Court papers filed after his arrest and subsequent interviews state he had planned the attack for a year. And of further interest, he admitted performing a 'dry run' using a hired vehicle just four weeks earlier to plan the route.

Deputy Police Commissioner for Intelligence and Counterterrorism John Miller said: "It appears Saipov had been planning this for a number of weeks. He followed almost exactly to a 'T' the ISIS instructions on social media channels how to carry out such attacks." Mr Miller said he believes the terrorist had links to other individuals already under investigation.

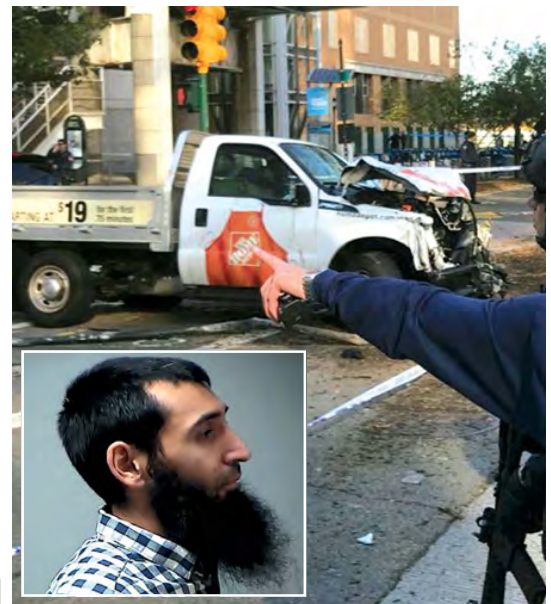
Hours after the attack the FBI said it was seeking fellow Uzbek Mukhammadzoiir Kadirov, 32, a resident of New Jersey. Asked if he was a suspect, William Sweeney, head of the Bureau's New York office. "We have now found him and I'll leave it at that."

#### STAYING UNDER THE 'RADAR'

US-based Uzbek religious activist and blogger Mirrakhmat Muminov said that Mr Saipov became an aggressive person after being radicalised on the Internet once he had arrived in the country. "He was not well educated and had no knowledge of the Koran before arriving in the US," he said. However, others who know him disagreed, including fellow Uzbeks. "He was no terrorist," said Kobiljon Matkarov. "He was happy all the time."

New York Governor Andrew Cuomo said: "He's a depraved coward and was associated with ISIS. He was radicalised domestically... he's a depraved coward." President Trump warned that the United States should not allow ISIS followers to enter the country or other Middle East nations once the group is defeated. However, the incident only reaffirms the thinking of international intelligence officials, many of whom believe that even

© MARTIN SPEECHLEY/NYPD



**Mukhammadzoiir Kadirov**

when defeated militarily in Syria, Iraq and other parts of the world, the ideology of the group will continue to influence and pose problems.

Uzbekistan's Foreign Ministry is now reported

to be checking whether Saipov is of Uzbek origin. If confirmed, he will join a growing number of Uzbek nationals accused of plotting terror attacks in the United States and

© GOVERNORANDREWCUOMO



**NYPD Police Commissioner James P. O'Neill and city officials discuss the attack**



New York Governor Andrew Cuomo called the attacker "depraved" and announced enhanced security measures at well known visitor sites in the city. Flags on all state government buildings were lowered to half-staff in memory of the dead





© TREVISAN FAMILY

Five of the victims were from Argentina and part of a group of 10 friends in New York celebrating the 30th anniversary of their school graduation. One of the men who died, steel firm owner Ariel Erij, helped pay for the friends' trip. All of the victims were aged 48 or 49 – and named as Diego Enrique Angelini, Alejandro Damian Pagnucco, Ariel Erij and Hernan Ferruch. Another of the friends, Martin Ludovico Marro, is being treated in hospital. This photograph was taken just three days before the outrage.



elsewhere. Last month Abdurasul Juraboev, 27, from Brooklyn was sentenced to 15-years in prison for plotting terrorist attacks, including threats to kill President Obama.

### HALLOWEEN NIGHT

The city's main Village Halloween Parade went ahead as planned but with an extremely heavy police presence. Sam Rosenthal, who was on his way to a Halloween party said: "You can't let the terrorists win. I think New York is like London - after something like this, you have to get on and live your life without fear. Otherwise they win."



Cycle lane where Saipov struck



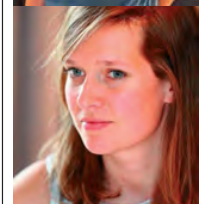
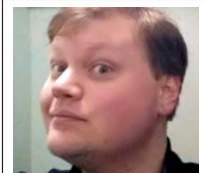
Sayfullo Saipov

admitted that his goal was to kill as many people as possible and "felt good about the

In hospital, police interviewers said Saipov "showed no remorse whatsoever" and even boasted how he had "succeeded in attacking America on behalf of ISIS." Police said he

Halloween attack." He said he had considered striking people on the city's iconic Brooklyn Bridge which attracts tens of thousands of walkers every day. His intention was to place ISIS flags on the vehicle, but felt this would draw "too much attention."

Saipov appeared in court in a wheel chair just 24-hours after the atrocity. Charges against Saipov are numerous, but interestingly they have been designated 'federal', which means the US Government can override New York State's law which bans capital punishment. President Trump wants Saipov to face the death penalty.



T-B. Americans Darren Drake, 32, Nicholas Cleves, 23 and Belgian national Anne Laure Decadt, 31, also died in the attack



Mask of defiance. NYPD officers were adamant Saipov's action would not stop the parade



# THE THIRD USER

NEW HORIZON THREAT

D. Anne Kohl



## Unmanned Aerial Vehicles and Intelligence Concerns

The UAV sector is growing exponentially as more industries, including those in intelligence and defence sectors, take advantage of the benefits of UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) technology. While UAVs, referred to for decades as RPVs (Remotely Piloted Vehicles), found favour with military operators, users can now be found in commercial, scientific, recreational, agricultural and other areas. Civilian UAVs now vastly outnumber military UAVs, with estimates of over a million sold by 2015. More than 127,000, primarily [M]UAVs (Miniature) were bought and sold on online auction site eBay in 2106 alone. Intelligence analyst D. ANNE KOHL provides insight into an emerging threat posed by unregistered 'new' users of this extremely useful and adaptive technology

### AN IMMEDIATE THREAT

In recent months, defence chiefs and counter-terrorism officers have raised concerns that terrorists will use unmanned vehicles to launch domestic attacks and film the devastation for use in on-line propaganda videos. Already imagery taken by ISIS in Syria and Iraq showing its followers using MUAVs to attack positions, and in a reconnaissance role, have appeared on the Internet. Senior MI5 and Pentagon sources have confirmed that ISIS has already tested how much plastic explosives the flying machines can carry, and experimented with detonation devices.

One counter-terrorism operator speaking on the condition of anonymity said: "ISIS and al-Qaida plotters have been trying to launch a drone-borne\* bomb attack for some time, as these machines are getting more hi-tech every year. They want the spectacular devastation of such a raid, which would cause murder and maiming in a crowd, while filming it for a sick video. ISIS is obsessed with recreating the horror of 9/11 and believes this may be possible by launching a multi-drone attack on large numbers of people in a synchronised attack."

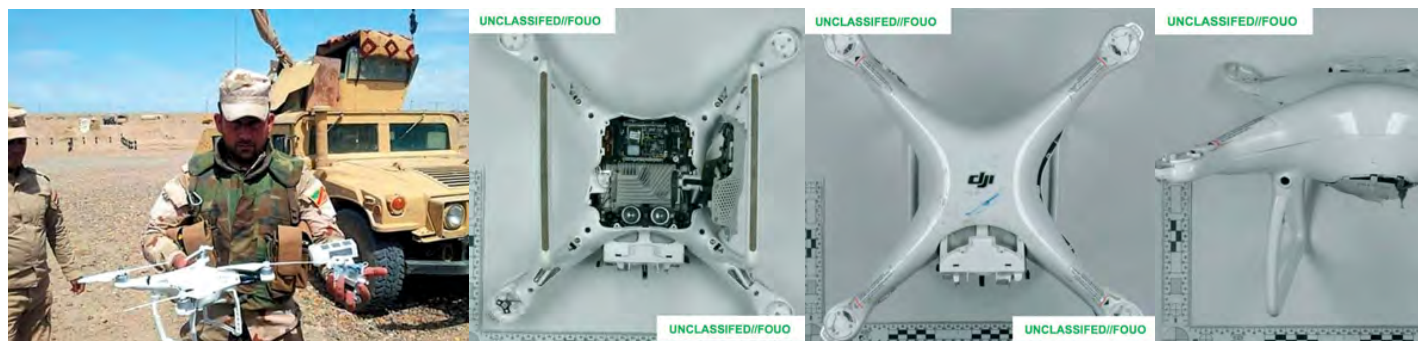
Another analyst told Eye Spy the group is not "blind to the benefits" these devices provide.

Plots against well known buildings, including the Capitol Building in Washington have been derailed, but Eye Spy has learned of the existence of a 'target list' produced and circulated by the terror group. This also includes some very well known public venues.

Retired British Army Colonel, Richard Kemp, who has advised the UK Government on terrorism, said: "There is a genuine threat from Islamists wishing to deliver high explosives by drone to crowded areas. The effects could be devastating."

Buying inexpensive MUAVs on-line is easy. Perhaps more concerning, evidence has been secured that suggests terrorists have adapted

### CENTCOM imagery of ISIS operated MUAV surveillance device recovered in Iraq



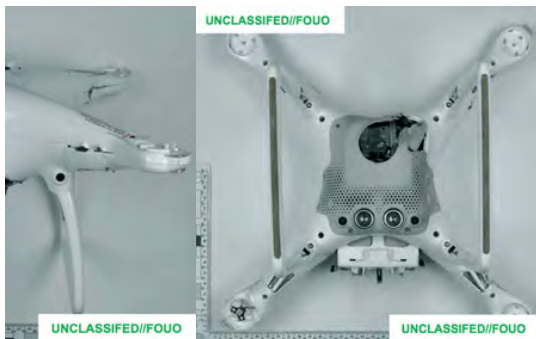




**A British soldier watches a Tarantula Hawk (T-Hawk) Micro Remote Piloted Air System (RPAS) hover over the desert in Afghanistan. A special unit known as Talisman (counter-IED) uses the T-Hawk to check for roadside bombs and clear routes for large convoys**



**ISIS adapted MUAV to carry explosives**



© MOD/CROWN COPYRIGHT

## SHRINKING UAV TECHNOLOGY

A Royal Marine controlling a Black Hornet 2 Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS). The pocket-sized and hand-launched MUAV, or RPAS uses micro thermal cameras, visible spectrum cameras and proprietary software for flight control, stabilisation, and communications. Weighing just a little over half an ounce, the Black Hornet helicopter can fly for up to 25 minutes at line-of-sight distances of up to one mile at speeds of 11mph. It uses GPS navigation or visual navigation via video and can fly pre-planned routes via its autopilot.

Developed in 2007 the RPAS has been used by NATO forces in Afghanistan since 2011, with the UK first to acquire the type and use it operationally. Its small size and electric motors make it a stealthy reconnaissance tool for militaries and law enforcement agencies. The complete UAS (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle System) comprises two helicopters, a base station, controller, display unit and pouch weighing a total of around three pounds.

some platforms - increasing payload capacity to carry explosives. And whilst various intelligence services have now initiated operations to monitor the sale of complete commercial military grade UAS (Unmanned Aerial Systems), the sale of MUAVs is one area that as yet, is generally unlicensed.

### A CENTRE OF ACTIVITY

As ISIS continues to lose territory and towns in Syria, Iraq and elsewhere, its propaganda arm has published various features on securing and using MUAVs to attack positions. Intelligence analysts believe the information is intended for its supporters outside the primary theatres, similar to recent guidance issued on TAVs (Terrorist Attack by Vehicle).

A US Central Command (CENTCOM) official said: "Over the last two months, Alliance forces have observed about one adversary

drone every day around Mosul. ISIS primarily uses quadcopters for surveillance and to drop explosives. Most of what they have is very primitive, bought from hobby shops, modified." That reference to 'hobby shop' has been highlighted by the terror group.

### COUNTERMEASURES

In America, various initiatives are being pursued to counter and defeat improvised



**Another recovered adapted ISIS MUAV**

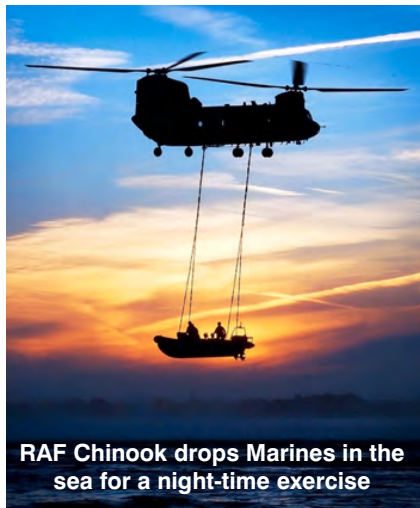


## AIRPORT CONCERNS



In 2016, there were around 70 reported incidents involving MUAVs at Britain's biggest airport Heathrow. On at least three occasions incidents classified as Category A occurred - meaning an airliner collision had been averted by the crew - were reported. On several occasions, MUAVs were reported flying at heights approaching 10,000ft.

In early 2017, an RAF Chinook helicopter narrowly avoided impact with a MUAV near RAF Odiham in Hampshire. In this case the device showed up as a faint image on radar. The MUAV operator was never located, but was criticised by investigative officials, who said a "collision had only been avoided by providence."



**RAF Chinook drops Marines in the sea for a night-time exercise**

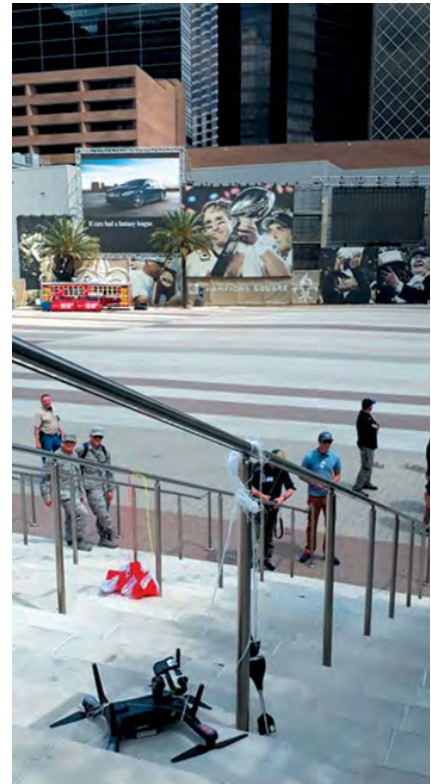
An FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) report published in early 2017, showed that the number of safety violations between aircraft and MUAVs (drones) continued to rise. Data showed a 46% increase from the preceding year. In total, 1,274 encounters with airliners (including a few with people and buildings) occurred - 400 more than in 2015. The FAA has a number of regulations and plethora of guidelines for operators. All UAVs over 55lbs must be registered with the authority. Police said unauthorised operators could be jailed for their activity.



**SkyWall 100 developed by Openworks Engineering**

and weaponised UAVs (of all sizes and variants). These include precision surveillance cameras, roaming vehicle and airborne detection platforms, and even a directed-energy weapon that can disable and disrupt a UAV navigation system as it overfly's an area or projects towards a target. In 2017, the Pentagon launched a \$700 million programme to develop these and other technologies specifically to counter the growing threat of such weaponry.

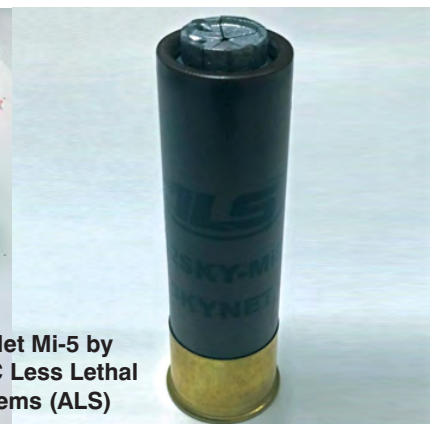
However, the US is not alone in this endeavour, and even countries such as Iran have boasted of acquiring "interference technology." Indeed, intelligence sources in the Middle East have referenced a Tehran-based cyber unit dedicated to developing a cyber programme that can over-ride a command - in effect "taking control of the device," one intelligence watcher said.



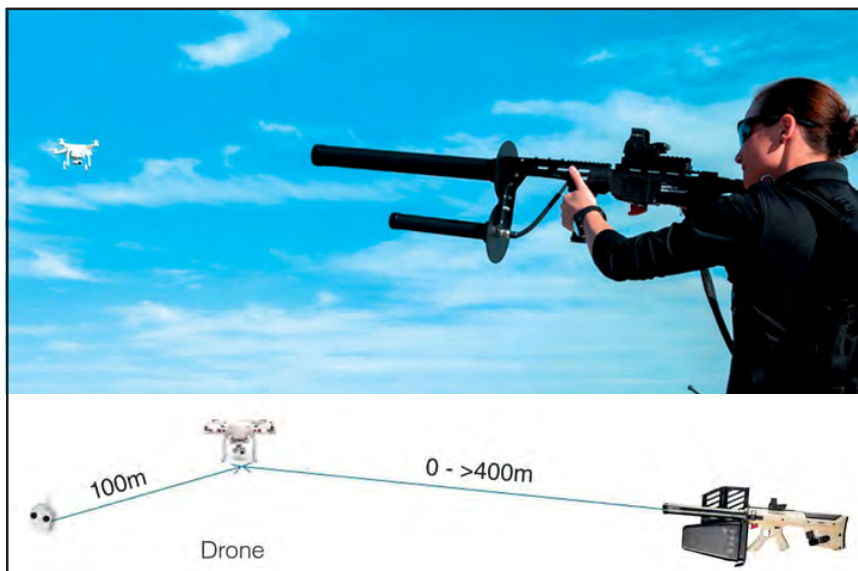
However, despite these innovations, some intelligence commentators said more must be done, or sooner or later a "significant event will occur." One analyst, who warned of the growing menace of adapted or misused UAV technology is Peter Singer, a strategist of the New America Foundation. "It's not enough... the 'drone defender gun' is not part of the regular kit," he said. "Soldiers are going to face this potential threat across the world, in anything from battles to assisting an embassy evacuation. And that's not good. We should



**SkyNet Mi-5 by AMTEC Less Lethal Systems (ALS)**







**Point-and-shoot counter-MUAV weapon DroneDefender built by Battelle and effective upto a range of around 410 yards. The device is described as a 'Remote control and GPS disruption MUAV counter-measure'**

have seen this coming and developed a plan and equipment, not just for us, but for allied forces."

#### THE TECHNOLOGY

Defence and technology companies around the world are now focussed on producing proper field countermeasures, including Lockheed Martin and Boeing. The science arms of these firms are already field testing laser weapons and high-tech systems to confront enemy UAVs. Lockheed's new weapon system, codenamed Athena, is programmed to 'deliver an invisible killing blow', a reference to its laser technology. And the US Air Force recently contracted AMTEC Less Lethal Systems (ALS) to use its technology to bring down commercially available MUAVs described as Category 1 and 2 by defence analysts (weighing upto 55lbs) and with a ceiling height of 3,500ft. Its SkyNet

Mi-5 is a 12 gauge anti-MUAV round designed to be rapidly deployed from standard Remington Model 870 shotguns fitted with choke tubes. Upon firing, five tethered segments separate with centrifugal force and expand to create a five-foot wide capture net. This effectively causes the MUAVs propellers to fail.

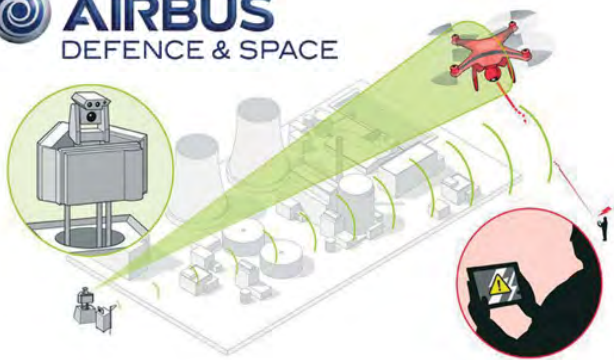


**2013. Peter Singer of the New America Foundation interviews Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff US Army General Martin Dempsey**

Last year Airbus Defence and Space announced the introduction of a system specifically designed to jam navigator signals used to control MUAVs, no doubt with air and airport security a major consideration. The counter-measure targets only the frequency used to operate the MUAV. Similar technology is being developed by various companies, with one organisation already claiming it has devised a tool that detects the signal and allows the system to be controlled.

Another promising counter-measure is SkyWall 100 developed by Openworks Engineering. In this case the operator fires a man-portable compressed gas-powered launcher at the target MUAV bringing it safely down to earth on a parachute. Utilising an intelligence system that locks-on to the





**Airbus MUAV countermeasures**



target, the company has already announced new variants are in the pipeline.

Tests are being performed, and if successful, the countermeasure could be used by other security sectors, including police and border patrols.

Danish company, MyDefence Communication based in Aalborg, has joined with Lockheed Martin to develop a counter UAV and MUAV system called KNOX. This monitors airspace over a specific site or land mass. KNOX effectively jams the signal which prevents an

operator from controlling the device. A hidden advantage also exists, in that it advises where the operator is located. Analysts believe the system will provide security at venues where large numbers of people assemble (sports' arenas, for example). Other defence uses include protecting power plants, critical infrastructure and transport hubs.

#### CONTINUED THREAT

And whilst many in the security and intelligence world acknowledge such countermeasures are both useful and necessary,

some warn that UAV technology, in the hands of terrorists, will continue to pose a danger. A spokesperson from the US Joint Improvised-Threat Defeat Organisation (JIDO) said: "Threat targets are very resilient against damage. Bottom line: Most technologies still immature." J.D. Johnson, head of Army programmes for Raytheon, agreed: "These things are really small and hard to detect, and if they swarm in groups, they can overload our ability to knock them all down. The threat is very resilient and well-resourced, and we have to be looking one or two moves ahead to defeat it."



**Left: 2015. A United Nations security element uses a tethered MUAV in preparation for a visit to the Central African Republic by Pope Francis. Right: UN Stabilisation Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Pictured (top) is Herve Ladsous, Under Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations with a UAV protection fleet in Goma**





**Lockheed-Martin's Athena can disable rogue UAVs using a penetrating laser to disrupt control. The weapon is considered a major breakthrough against 'multiple attack UAVs' (several) and has other applications**



**Recovered ISIS MUAV - note grenade and explosives**

#### JAMMING CONUNDRUM

Some researchers working on UAV jamming technology and disruption methods, believe that problems still have to be overcome to source specific UAV signals. Noting that at a football stadium or concert for example, thousands of other signals are emitted from cell phones, radios, satellite (television) transmission stations, and other electronic devices. Research continues into developing programmes where the 'rogue UAV signal' and nothing else is targeted, causing the device to depart or disabling an onboard transmitting camera, for example.

To summarise, RPV or UAV development has improved dramatically over the years and technology has provided many useful enhancements for operators. More advanced models now carry an array of in-built data-processing capabilities and can operate at great distances and for extended periods of time. However, an authentic counter-measure

that can be used in all environments and situations, has yet to be created, though there have been significant advances.

#### GOVERNMENT COOPERATION

The United Nations hopes that a worldwide database of UAV and MUAV operators can be established and that all sellers of such devices

will cooperate and register new purchasers. The ultimate intention, according to those close to the initiative is to see each new device carry a unique registration number and users (including government bodies) adhere to an accepted international rule book.

The UN considers UAV technology important: the organisation has already tested various



**Above: Vienna, Austria. International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) officials at a demonstration of a computer-controlled large MUAV used for environmental monitoring. Few doubt the usefulness of such devices in all manner of tasks, from surveillance photography to security and increasingly as delivery platforms - especially in hard-to-reach areas**







devices in emergency situations, and as access platforms to inaccessible locations (to reach refugees or victims of a disaster, for example). Whilst most reputable and responsible firms have accepted that more must be done to regulate the industry, sceptics have already downplayed the plan claiming rogue users and even manufacturers will simply circumnavigate any official rules and regulations.

However, the scheme is not without support, and many in the aviation industry are working with authorities to tighten regulations on operating UAVs, MUAVs and similar devices. Britain, for example (CAA - Civil Aviation Authority) has a registration scheme and a lengthy list of guidelines for commercial users and hobbyists.

Interestingly, and in recognition of the usefulness of miniaturised UAVs, emergency services are exempt from regulations when such devices are used in short term reactive situations.

All in the intelligence world agree, however, that UAVs or more specifically low-cost MUAVs, in the hands of terrorists and those intent on disruption or mischief, will continue to pose a danger in future years. Perhaps those engaged in intelligence horizon threats, should have paid more attention to the activities of Japanese apocalyptic and terrorist group Aum Shinrikyo. As long ago as 1995, intelligence was secured that showed the group had discussed using a MUAV to distribute sarin gas at busy locations. In the end, the group opted to attack the Tokyo Subway system killing 13 people and injuring many more.



**An ISIS terrorist prepares to launch a MUAV in Mosul**

**LINKS:** [www.caa.co.uk/consumers/unmanned-aircraft-and-drones/](http://www.caa.co.uk/consumers/unmanned-aircraft-and-drones/)

[www.faa.gov/uas/getting\\_started/](http://www.faa.gov/uas/getting_started/)

# THE ART OF THE POSSIBLE

## UAV EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

**T**he Ministry of Defence (MOD) and Home Office jointly funded the Autonomous Hazardous Scene Assessment (AHSA) Defence and Security competition to tackle the challenge of assessing scenes at incidents and on operations involving hazardous chemical or biological materials. Phase 1, which ran for 6 months until July 2017, funded 18 development projects. Four of those initial Phase 1 winners were then selected to develop their concepts further into the second phase.

One of the finalists, Autonomous Devices Limited has just won Phase 2 - with Snake



**Snake Eyes MUAV - can access small cavities and transmit imagery**



Eyes, a MUAV\*\* (Miniature Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) so small and compact, it can actually be posted through a letter box and relay 3D images of a space; the device can also detect chemical agents.

Peter Stockel, from the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl), said: "After a fast-paced first phase, we are now delighted to rapidly move the project forward into phase 2 with four highly innovative and technically exciting system propositions to tackle this priority challenge for UK Defence and Security.

"With continued involvement and demonstration with the user community, we aim to mature this emergent capability over the next 12 months to test the 'art of the possible' and accelerate this into the hands of the prospective users for further operational evaluation, both for MOD and the Home Office."

\* Drone - incorrect term for UAV.

\*\*Some UK and USA defence and security officials substitute 'M' for 's' - signifying small.

## UUV KNIFEFISH MINE COUNTERMEASURES

**G**eneral Dynamics Mission Systems is currently engaged in contractor trials for the US Navy's Knifefish Programme involving mine detection and applicable countermeasures. The defence company recently announced its Knifefish UUV (Unmanned Undersea Vehicle) successfully completed tests against multiple targets - detection, recognition and identification of possible UUVs.

Knifefish can operate at various depths and has recently performed 100 operations.

The technology is seen as vital in supporting the Navy and determining the safety of waters, from oceans to canals. "Knifefish provides a critical means to find and identify bottom, buried and volume mines, providing a much-needed capability for the warfighter," said Carlo Zaffanella of the company.



**UUV Knifefish can detect undersea mines and relate information in seconds**



# CIA SEES THE HIDDEN HAND OF RUSSIAN INTELLIGENCE BEHIND EVENTS IN CUBA



## OBJECTIVE: RETURN CUBA TO A COLD WAR CLIMATE

### Diplomatic Reprisals, Covert Spy Games and Intelligence-Sponsored Media Front Companies

**P**ersona non grata are words inextricably linked to the world of espionage - you are not welcome - go. From deep cover agents sometimes posing in the guise of diplomats to general embassy staff, once given the title, individuals are usually asked to leave a host country in days. For decades use of the term generally meant that a person was suspected of being involved in activities which are not acceptable - espionage included. History is littered with people labled as spies but in recent times the phrase has also been used as a 'catch all' designation to vent anger in respect of other matters, some not directly linked to spy cases.

Diplomatic spats between the United States and Russia are legendary; and in the last two years they have surfaced again - most connected to alleged Russian interference in the 2016 USA General Election.

President Obama expelled a number of Russian diplomats and closed two Russian compounds in New York and Maryland just before he departed. Russia's President Vladimir Putin decided not to retaliate at the time in what he said was a "gesture of goodwill" to incoming President Trump and hoped for a reversal of the expulsions. These hopes evaporated and a downward spiral of US-Russia relations has ensued.



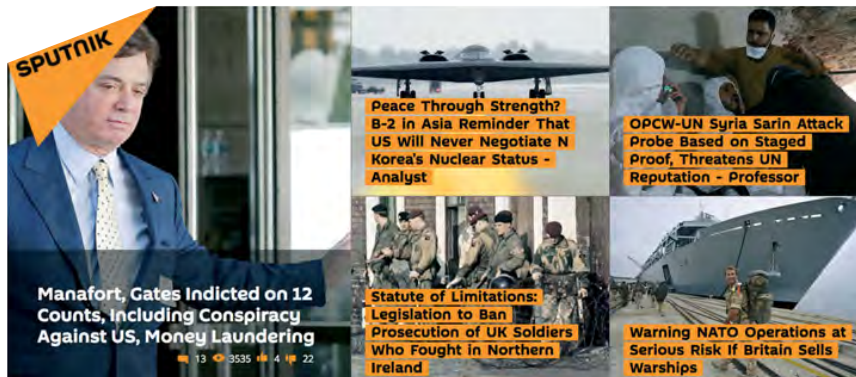
**Cuban Interior Ministry building 2008**

In July 2017, the US Congress stepped-up sanctions on Russia, and in Moscow's view, the "gloves were off." Moscow reduced US ➤

**2017. US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson (centre right). He believes sonic attacks targeting US diplomats in Cuba are an attempt to destabilise the region and damage relations**







Typical Sputnik International News banner

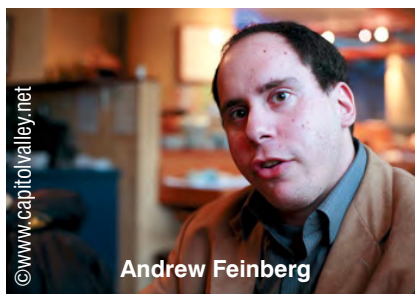


**Sputnik and RT editor-in-chief Margarita Simonyan**

diplomatic personnel to half and threatened to expel more than 200 American diplomats. The US then countered by shutting down the Russian Consulate-General in San Francisco as well as 'trade' missions in Washington and New York.

#### RIPPLES AND SPY FRONTS

In September, former White House correspondent, Andrew Feinberg, was 'separated' from a position with Russia's state-owned Sputnik News, but not before downloading thousands

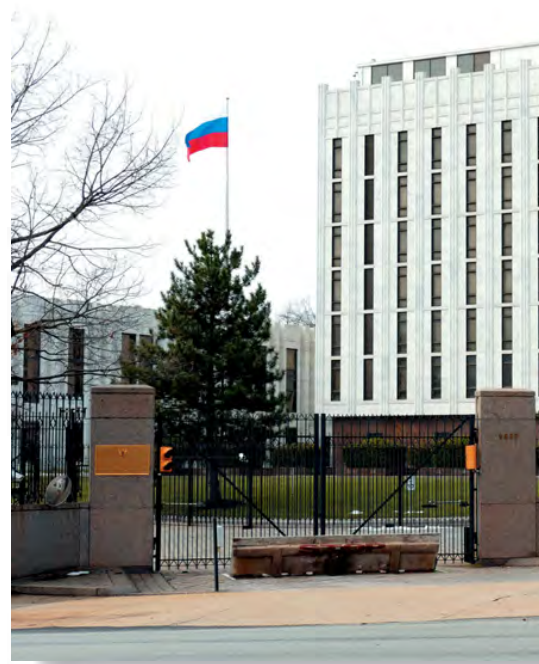


**Andrew Feinberg**

of internal Sputnik emails and documents that he promptly turned over to the FBI. An investigation into the documents reportedly point to Sputnik News and Russia's other state-owned news outlet, Russia Today (RT) - who share an editor-in-chief, as being part of a disinformation campaign on behalf of the Kremlin to alter the outcome of the presidential election. Sputnik succeeded state-owned RIA Novosti's international wing.

Thereafter a circulated US Intelligence Community (USIC) report noted: *'RT conducts strategic messaging for [the] Russian government and seeks to influence politics and fuel discontent in the US'*. The report also cited Sputnik as *'Another government-funded outlet producing pro-Kremlin radio and online content'*.

Sputnik and RT's editor-in-chief Margarita Simonyan said in a statement that the Justice Department is forcing them to register under



**Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova**

the Foreign Agents Registration Act - a World War II-era law that requires foreign principals [people and entities] that are seeking to influence US public opinion to disclose their full activities and sources of funding. Essentially, and with jargon removed, theUSIC believes the media arms are intelligence front companies.

Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova issued a warning that Russia would retaliate. Every act, she said, will be met with a response. "When it comes down to a fight with no rules, when the law is twisted and turned into an instrument for the destruction of a television company, every step against a Russian media outlet will be met with a corresponding response. And whom this response will be aimed at, that is what Washington needs to figure out well. The clock is ticking."

Following the closure of several trade missions, Moscow issued the following statement: *'The US authorities must stop the gross violations of international law and breaching the immunity of Russia's diplomatic institutions. Otherwise, we reserve the right to reciprocate on a mutual basis'*



**FBI investigators enter and search the Russian Trade Mission in Washington DC**





Former Russian international trade annex, Washington DC



Happier times Cuba's Rual Castro and President Obama

#### RETURN TO SPY CUBA

Another US diplomatic and intelligence row is taking place with a close Russian ally - Cuba.

The US has ordered the expulsion of 15 diplomats, accusing Havana of failing to protect US diplomats following what has been described as "acoustic attacks" that began in late November 2016 and has affected at least 22 US embassy staff in Havana resulting in alleged brain damage and permanent hearing loss (See Eye Spy 111). A number of US civilians have also been affected. Half the entire US delegation has now left the island.

US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said the expulsions were because of "Cuba's failure to take appropriate steps to protect our diplomats in accordance with its obligations under the Vienna Convention."

In addition, the direct postal service between Cuba and the United States, which had resumed last year after a 48-year break, has



#### US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson

been suspended and travel terminated to the island for all but emergency services for US visitors.

The Cuban government initially reacted with relative restraint. Josefina Vidal, the Foreign Ministry official in charge of US affairs, urged the Trump administration "not to continue politicising this matter, which can provoke an undesirable escalation and would [further] reverse even more bilateral relations." However, in recent weeks the tone has been more forceful. Havana has now described Washington's claims as "pure science fiction" and "slander," noting US officials have opted not to engage in a Cuban investigation. Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez Parrilla denounced the decision to expel his US-based officials calling it "unjustified." ➤



August 2015. Former US Secretary of State John Kerry at the flag raising ceremony in Cuba following an end to nearly 50-years of Cold War tensions and non-diplomatic cooperation between the United States and Cuba





*Some CIA analysts believe a Cuban unit is being directed by the Russians to target the US diplomatic staffers*

For the record, Cuba claims an amazing 2,000 people have now been hired or their services utilised by the Cubans to investigate the sonic attacks, from criminologists and scientists to mathematicians. Doctors skilled in audible matters have also been summoned to help.

Colonel Ramiro Ramirez, who is in overall charge of security for all diplomats working in Cuba said the US accusations amount to "slander."

Lt. Colonel Jose Alazo from the Interior Ministry's Criminal Investigation Unit summed up the official position. "It is impossible. We are talking about science fiction." Alazo said no Cuban has been allowed access to the affected US staffers, and that some recordings supplied by Washington of a 'mystery noise' as evidence, did not contain anything unusual.

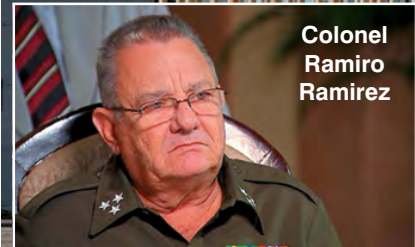
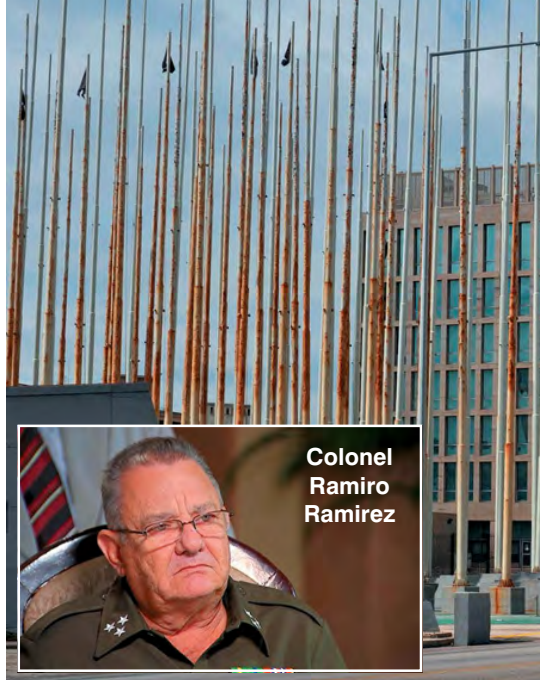
An FBI team, despatched by Director Christopher Wray in early October, has been unable to pinpoint the source of the attack, but sources have said that some of the staffers affected, have shown signs of improvement since leaving the island.

#### COVERT OPERATIONS

Although a culprit hasn't been identified, nor the actual equipment used in the sonic attacks found, US intelligence analysts believe they



Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez Parrilla attended the reopening ceremony of the Cuban Embassy in Washington DC on 20 July 2015. He was the first minister of the office to visit the United States in official capacity since 1958.



**Colonel Ramiro Ramirez**



**FBI Director Christopher Wray**

## MASS HYSTERIA, CRICKETS AND CICADAS

**O**n 26 October, Cuban television aired a prime time documentary which government officials sponsored. For the first time it cleverly named US diplomatic staff said to have suffered 'sonic injuries'. A document featuring the identity of the staffers was briefly aired but the move has served only to worsen relations, for the US State Department had asked Cuba not to release the

names. It was a further twist in an already strange mystery.

The Americans said that the sounds, similar to birds chirping, high pitched screeching or metal being ground, made them feel dizzy and were further compounded by balance problems, blurred vision, headaches, fatigue, tinnitus to name but a few symptoms. Others said they had difficulty sleeping. The diplomats and other staff said

that when they left their rooms, all the symptoms stopped, leading to a genuine belief that they were being targeted by a specific weapon.

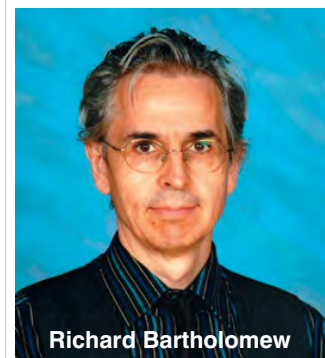
Cuban security services, backed by the conclusion of a number of health investigators, are convinced the sounds are little more than "incessant chirping of crickets and cicadas."

Richard Bartholomew, a medical sociologist and expert on mass hysteria said: "American intelligence agencies are the most sophisticated in the world... they reportedly don't have a clue to what's causing the symptoms." He is of the belief that the "mass psychogenic illness is the most plausible explanation."



**Cicada**

Eye Spy was told the last reported incident occurred in August 2017. As for the nine individuals named, the US said some are incorrect.

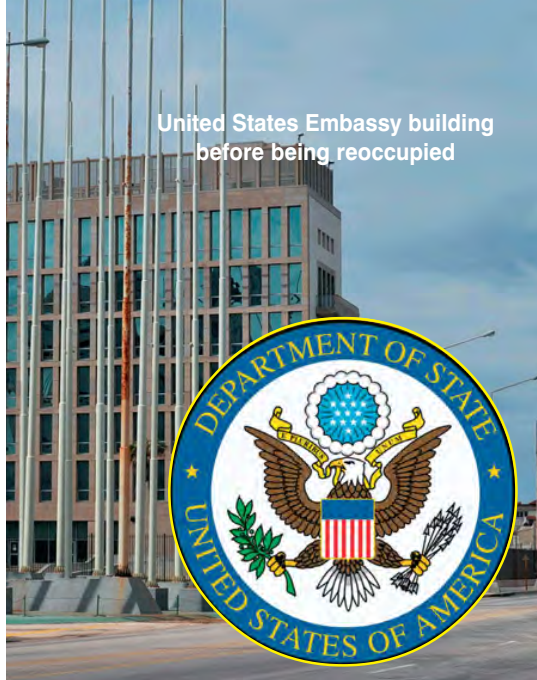


**Richard Bartholomew**



**Cricket**

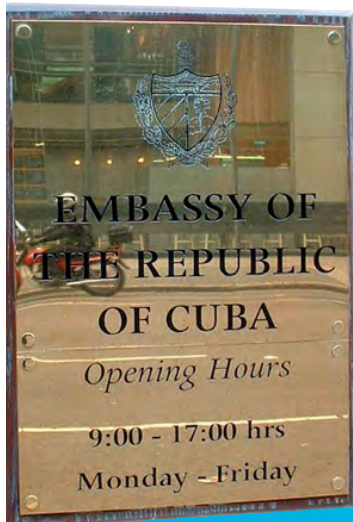




United States Embassy building before being reoccupied



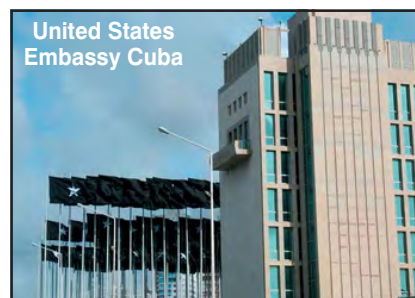
Cuban President Raul Castro with President Putin. The latter is reportedly pleased that relations have again soured between Cuba and the United States



were orchestrated by a third party - Russia. The Trump administration has made it clear they don't believe the Cuban government is culpable - rather, a third party has engaged in a programme intent on damaging US-Cuban relations. Langley has not ruled out the

possibility that a rogue Cuban intelligence office sponsored by Russia's FSB or GRU are responsible.

The CIA note Cuba and Russia signed a new defence technology agreement on 16 December 2016 which will increase cooperation and help modernise Cuba's armed forces until 2020. Thereafter the sonic fiasco intensified. CIA analysts believe the entire operation was enabled by Russian Intelligence as a clever way to derail newly established liaisons between the countries and begin dismantling agreements. And all the while, Russian military elements were once again appearing in Cuba and offices established.



United States Embassy Cuba

Asked about future US-Cuba relations, Eye Spy Russian sources said President Putin would be "delighted" if events continued and he would "welcome any setback to such matters [relations]."

#### A BUILDING OF ESPIONAGE

Not coincidental, and linked to all matters involving Russia, the United States and Cuba, residents living next to the now vacated Russian international trade annex in Washington, say that following the departure of the Russian entourage, wireless and Internet services have improved.

In recent months, as international hostilities mounted, locals noticed a spike in activity at the annex including cars entering the parking lot at night, state-of-the-art surveillance cameras appeared above the street and Wi-Fi and cellphone signals started dropping - but only in rooms facing west, towards the Russian building.

And then there was the case of a man dubbed by the media - 'the burglar with no bag'. A neighbour noticed a hooded intruder on the building's fire escape and shouted to him. The man, using a thick eastern European accent, replied that he'd climbed up there to hide from an assailant. Then, in a second he was gone. CCTV footage secured by the FBI showed the man jump off the fire escape onto a ➤



Embassy of Cuba, Washington DC





narrow wooden fence, and then pull himself over another fence into an adjoining parking lot. The video showed him sprinting through the nearby parking lot, tucking something into his jacket. "It was all so very cloak and dagger," an official said.

When asked about the activities in the Russian building, David Major, a retired senior FBI executive, ex-counter-intelligence official, and head of the C.I. Centre, said the building was

cover for Russian espionage activity. "Not likely... for sure," he said. "It's been used as a base of human operations."

As for whether the neighbours were living at the nexus of another chapter in Russian-American spy wars - "not so much," he said. "No, no, no... they're not the epicentre of anything. It's just another place in Washington [which] they use as a base for human operations."

Major said the real 'rezidentura' - the true centre of US-Russia spy games is in a bigger building, on a taller hill, just north of Georgetown. That building is of course the Russian Embassy.



Former FBI counter-intelligence officer David Major (right) with Admiral Nick Wilkinson, former Chairman of Britain's Advisory Committee in Whitehall

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# THREADS

## AGENTS, MONEY AND MOSCOW

In late October, Paul Manafort, President Trump's former campaign manager, handed himself into the FBI to face charges arising from the investigation into alleged Russian interference to sway the result of the 2016 US General Election in favour of Trump.

Manafort, 68, was chair of Trump's campaign from June to August 2016 before resigning amid reports he may have received millions of dollars in illegal payments from the Party of Regions, a pro-Russian political party in Ukraine. Justice Department special counsel Robert Mueller (former FBI Director) also told Manafort's business partner, Rick Gates, to surrender to federal authorities. Gates, who was Manafort's deputy during his tenure as



campaign manager, had alleged ties to many Russian and Ukrainian oligarchs. One charge relates to money laundering. The Kremlin denied allegations of collusion and President Trump called the investigation "a witch hunt."

Trump senior adviser Kellyanne Conway insisted any charges would not necessarily implicate Trump or his campaign. "Whatever happens with the Mueller investigation, we don't even know that it has anything to do with the campaign," Conway said. She believes any activity deemed illegal by the Bureau will not extend to the White House. The President himself 'tweeted': 'Sorry, but this is years ago before Paul Manafort was part of the Trump campaign. But why aren't Crooked Hillary & the Dems the focus????'

Ty Cobb, a senior White House solicitor said of the Mueller investigation: "The one thing that's clear is there is no reference to collusion, no reference to the President."

Manafort's solicitor

Kevin Downing agreed: "President Trump is correct... there is no evidence that anyone from President Trump's campaign colluded with the Russians during the 2016 election."

Manafort was charged with one count of conspiracy against the United States, one count of conspiracy to launder money, one



Viktor Yanukovich



Paul Manafort has denied charges



Former FBI Director Robert Mueller is leading probe

## FBI WIDENS INVESTIGATION INTO ALLEGED COVERT RUSSIAN LIAISONS





**Paul Manafort (right) is interviewed in the ABC studio at the 2016 Republican National Convention in Cleveland, Ohio**

count of being an unregistered agent of a foreign principal, one count of making false and misleading FARA statements, one count of making false statements and four counts of failing to file reports of foreign bank and financial accounts.

Manafort previously lobbied for Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich who has ties to President Putin. Both Manafort and Gates have pleaded not guilty to the charges.

#### THE PROFESSOR

Perhaps more far reaching that could impact on the President, are events surrounding George Papadopoulos. The foreign policy adviser to the Trump campaign has pleaded guilty to misleading the FBI about his April 2016 communications with a Kremlin-linked 'professor' who hoped to set up a meeting between Russian Government officials and the Trump campaign. The 'professor,' Joseph Mifsud, honorary director of the London Academy of Diplomacy, is said to have told Papadopoulos that the Russians had "dirt on Hillary Clinton in thousands of emails."

Papadopoulos falsely told investigators that his communications with the professor had predated his involvement with the Trump campaign. "In truth and in fact, however, defendant Papadopoulos learned he would be



**Professor Joseph Mifsud (right) with Russian Embassy staffer (London) Ernest Chernukhin**

an advisor to the Campaign in early March, and met the professor on or about 14 March 2016," an official said.

The professor reportedly only took interest in defendant Papadopoulos because of his status with the campaign; and advised him about the "thousands of emails" on or about 26 April 2016, when he had been a foreign policy adviser to the campaign for over a month.



**George Papadopoulos (right) with Panagiotis Kammenos, former Minister of National Defence, Greece**



**George Papadopoulos**

Papadopoulos reportedly made repeated attempts to establish a meeting between Trump and the Kremlin, which were reportedly rejected by senior campaign aides. During the investigation, Papadopoulos attempted to diminish the attempted liaisons characterising the professor as "a nothing and just a guy talking up connections or something."

Investigators state Papadopoulos understood that the professor had substantial connections to several key Russian officials, some of whom he met following information revealed about Moscow's collection of "thousands of emails."

One court document read: *'Over a period of months, defendant Papadopoulos repeatedly sought to use the professor's Russian connections in an effort to arrange a meeting between the campaign and Russian government officials. Through his false statements and omissions, defendant Papadopoulos impeded the FBI's ongoing investigation into the existence of any links or coordination between individuals associated with the campaign and the Russian government's efforts to interfere with the 2016 presidential election'.*

White House Press Secretary Sarah Sanders distanced the President from Papadopoulos by stating he had an extremely limited role in the campaign and that "no activity was ever done in an official capacity on behalf of the campaign in that regard."

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Eye Spy Associate Editors in Washington have spoken to several journalists in relation to the alleged 'back-deals' and 'intelligence threads' linked to events leading up to the election. And whilst the media in Washington continues to target Trump, it's likely the FBI and other investigators will, in the coming months, interview other senior figures from both the Clinton and Trump campaigns. At least one person is well known in the intelligence community.

In March 2017, former CBS news anchor Dan Rather said the investigation could result in a scandal at least as big as Watergate. Many in the corridors of the world's biggest media houses are beginning to believe Rather is correct.



# INTEL EXTRA

## REVIEW • NEWS • DIGEST



## BIN LADEN'S BOOKSHELF

# THE IRAN THREAD

## CIA Release More Bin-Laden Files

**O**n 1 November 2017, the CIA released an astonishing 470,000 documents, 79,000 images and audio tapes, 10,000 video and computer (movie) files all recovered from Osama bin-Laden's secret hideaway in Abbottabad in May 2011. Director CIA Mike Pompeo said the transfer of the papers into the public domain was to show transparency and provide a better understanding of the terror leader and his group.

Analysts acknowledge that the material provides valuable insight into the terrorist organisation and

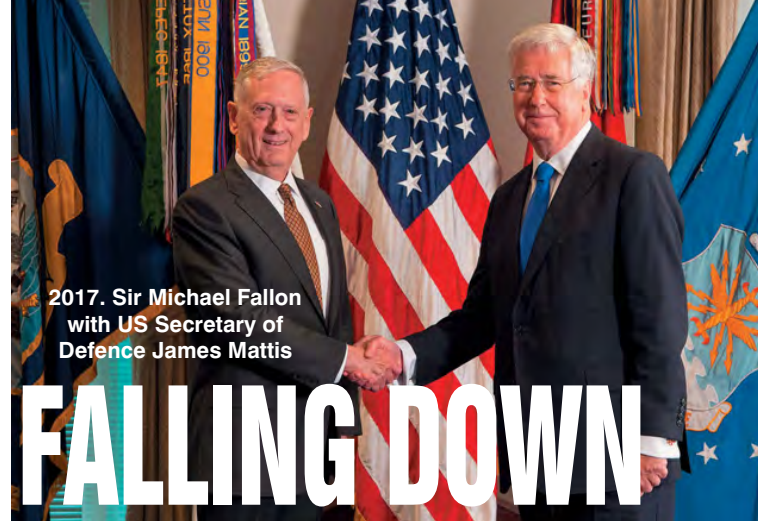


**D/CIA  
Mike  
Pompeo**

many are still relevant today. While it will take years for historians to delve through the files, some of the preliminary insights are: The adult face of Hamza bin-Laden seen for the first time. Since 2015, Al-Qaida has used Hamza to front its propaganda - but has selected only photos of him as a child. Bin-Laden's personal journal - a handwritten, 228-page notebook containing private reflections.



**Cover of bin-Laden's  
notebook**



**2017. Sir Michael Fallon  
with US Secretary of  
Defence James Mattis**

# FALLING DOWN

## UK Defence Minister Departs

**S**ir Michael Fallon has resigned as UK Defence Secretary following allegations over his behaviour. It brings a dramatic end to the former Deputy Chair of the Conservative Party. He apologised for repeatedly placing his hand on

the knee of political journalist Julia Hartley-Brewer in 2002. Although, Ms Hartley-Brewer said that she did not consider herself a victim - and if he'd quit over the incidents - dubbed 'kneegate' by the media - it would be "the most insane, absurd and ridiculous resignation



### IRAN THREADS

The material proves that whilst in relative obscurity, he was still communicating with subordinates around the world discussing the various committees and 'lieutenants' who helped manage his

global network. Of much interest to the intelligence and political world, al-Qaida's relationship with Iran. In his diary, Bin-Laden described Iran as al-Qaida's 'main artery for funds, personnel, and communication'. And despite differences, Iran continued to



**Released imagery showing Hamza bin-Laden  
as an adult - today's 'face of al-Qaida'**



of a cabinet minister ever in the history of the world."

With stories of inappropriate behaviour sweeping through the media and indeed, Britain's Parliament, Mr Fallon opted to stand down. The experienced politician said: "The culture has



Gavin Williamson



Ministry of Defence  
HQ, Whitehall, London



changed over the years. What might have been acceptable 15, 10-years ago is clearly not acceptable now. Parliament now has to look at itself. And the Prime Minister has made very clear that conduct needs to be improved and we need to protect the staff at Westminster against any particular allegations of harassment. I accept that in the past I have fallen below the high standards that we require of the Armed Forces that I have the honour to represent.

"I have reflected on my position and I am therefore resigning as Defence Secretary. It has been a

privilege to have served as Defence Secretary for the last three and a half years, and I have nothing but admiration for the professionalism, bravery and

service of those men and women who keep us safe."

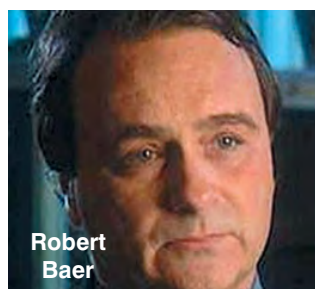
Gavin Williamson has been appointed new Defence Secretary.

provide crucial support for al-Qaida's operations.

#### IRAQ INSURGENCY

Al-Qaida's role in the Iraqi insurgency is also referenced. The material provides new details on the history of al-Qaida's efforts in Iraq; from feared terrorist Abu Musab al Zarqawi's earliest days inside the country before the war, to the building bricks and creation of ISIS/Daesh and the 'self appointment' of Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi as its chief.

Bin-Laden's sprawling support network in Pakistan is also detailed. A meticulous review of the documents will likely shed light on previously unknown aspects of bin-Laden's Pakistani-based network. The release



Robert Baer

creates a unique opportunity for experts, researchers and journalists to garner a better understanding of al-Qaida. The intelligence and security world believe the papers are even more valuable today as the terror group seeks new opportunities due to the collapse of ISIS as a pseudo-military fighting force. "These documents are indispensable," said former CIA officer Robert Baer, an expert on al-Qaida.



Bin-Laden watches television in his compound.  
Inset: Hamza bin-Laden



2015. US Defense Secretary Ash Carter and Mohammad bin Salman Al Saud

## VISION 2030

### INTEL EYES ON SAUDI ARABIA REFORMS

**O**n 21 June, King Salman elevated his son Mohammed bin Salman, 31, to the position of Crown Prince and heir apparent - much to the surprise and delight of many Saudis. It was a matter of deep concern however for its arch rival neighbour - Iran.

Since his appointment, the reform-minded prince has championed social

and economic changes under the catch-all title of Vision 2030. He removed the power of arrest from the feared religious police, lifted the ban on woman driving, created an Entertainment Authority, which has organised concerts and plans opening cinemas and even held a book convention.

Two years ago he was appointed Defence Minister and in addition was in overall charge of the country's oil industry. As minister he earned a reputation as a key

player in matters of national security, especially over the 2015 Saudi armed intervention in Yemen. For Prince Mohammed, Qatar's involvement with terrorism



was tantamount to treachery, hence the Saudi mobilisation of Egypt, Bahrain and the UAE in a joint diplomatic and commercial boycott.

The prince now says that he would like to see the country return to a

nation of moderate Islam. "We want to live a normal life. A life in which our religion translates to tolerance, to our traditions of kindness," Prince Mohammed said. "We are returning to what we were before - a country of moderate Islam that is open to all religions, traditions and people around the globe."

"We will not spend the next 30 years of our lives dealing with destructive ideas. We will destroy them today at once... we will end extremism very soon."



# INTERCEPTION



Logo of the GRU  
proxy - Fancy Bear

## Russian Cyber Proxies Target NATO Forces

NATO commanders have acknowledged that Russia has seemingly embarked upon a programme which has resulted in the hacking of electronic media used by front-line troops in Eastern Europe and the Baltics



### BASE TARGETING

**M**ilitary analysts believe the hacking is to secure operational information, troop strength and location, and to harass and intimidate soldiers. In the past 12 months, NATO has performed several major exercises along the border regions with Russia; in response, Russia has increased its troop numbers to levels not seen since the Cold War. The new intrusions follow a Pentagon warning in July that highlighted numerous security risks of Internet-capable

devices, and that rogue applications can be installed on personal, and even DOD-issued smartphones.

Evaluation of a number of reported incidents, reveals a probable state-sponsored operation using mobile platforms carrying antennas and UAVs. The interception of emails, cell calls (received and forwarded), plus imagery, has allowed the unidentified operators to identify positions, and engage with soldiers on a personal level. "Psychological intimidation," said one official.

At the Tapa military base in Estonia, some soldiers reported contact names, messages and cell numbers were disappearing from their phones. Others claimed music and songs would start to play - none of the media had been downloaded by the troops.

2017. Operation Atlantic Resolve. Latvian and US Army troops







Fearful of GRU interception, NATO has introduced new regulations on the use of cell phones, Internet and other communication platforms



US Army Lt. Colonel Christopher L'Heureux

In Poland, US Army Lt. Colonel Christopher L'Heureux, head of Battle Group Poland (NATO element), reported that someone with a Russian IP address was trying to access his cell phone's password protection. "It had a little Apple map, and in the centre of the map was Moscow," L'Heureux said. A message read: 'Somebody is trying to access your iPhone'. L'Heureux said he was also being physically tracked through the phone.

Soldiers have also been approached in public places by people who calmly pass and mention details about the soldiers' personal lives which appeared on their private Facebook pages. Analysts believe these encounters are intended as a provocation, rather than a menacing warning. Either way, NATO chiefs are naturally concerned.

#### UKRAINE THEATRE

One journalist attached to a Ukrainian unit said the troops all received a text message at the same time: 'Ukrainian soldiers, they'll find your bodies when the snow melts' it read.



2017. NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg visits the important Tapa Army Base in Estonia

Other text messages were also received - 'Leave and you will live... nobody needs your kids to become orphans'.

NATO spokesman Lt. Commander Davide Galli, said: "We have seen attempts to undermine troops deployed in this part of our Alliance, but our personnel are well-equipped to perform the mission at hand, despite hybrid challenges. These kinds of attacks are often

complex and sophisticated, therefore it's not always possible to determine all factors in an unequivocal way."

Intelligence officials claim psychological warfare has been conducted by Russian-backed supporters in Ukraine's Donbas for several years. Perhaps directly associated with recent incidents, a December 2016 report states Russian hackers had embedded



**Left: NATO tactical communications system used to support forces at Tapa Army Base. System provides secure communications data and can be relocated, installed and operational in very quick time.**

**Right: NATO commanders plot troop deployment in a joint exercise in Latvia**







**On 17 September, EU defence ministers met in Tallinn, Estonia to discuss recent cyber attacks. In attendance was NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg. He invited ministers to a Cyber Coalition exercise in November - described by NATO as being one of the largest ever held in the world**

malware into a Ukrainian artillery Android app - targeting units and allowing Moscow chiefs to monitor the movement of weaponry and forces. "It's an easy surveillance option which is increasingly popular - troops continue to carry cell phones in this area, and restrictions on their use are not always implemented," an intelligence source said.

#### FANCY BEAR

In respect of the 2016 report, US intelligence cyber specialists sourced the malware to Russian cyber group Fancy Bear. This group is well known to NSA and GCHQ, and both organisations believe it is Kremlin-controlled via the GRU (military intelligence). Fancy Bear came to prominence during the hacking of appliances and systems used by the Democratic National Committee in 2016.

"Russia has always sought to target NATO servicemen for intelligence exploitation," said Keir Giles of London-based think tank Chatham House (Russia and Eurasia Programme). "But such a campaign of harassment and intimidation is unprecedented in recent times."

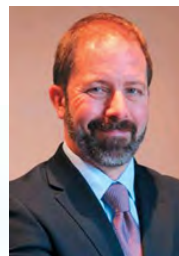
Moscow has officially rejected claims of intimidation and cyber penetration of NATO

and Ukraine forces in the region (Poland and Baltics included). Following the security breach, new rules have been issued to troops and a 'no smartphones' policy introduced. Soldiers (in the field) and base personnel must remove SIM cards and use the Internet only in areas deemed secure. It is estimated that 4,000 smartphones used by NATO and NATO-supportive troops have been hacked.

Eye Spy cyber specialists said that one aspect of the alleged Russian operation not discussed by NATO concerns misinformation. "If a commander on the battlefield receives a bogus or misleading communication, then the implications could be disastrous."



**SVR Director Igor Korobov**



**Keir Giles**



# INTELLI

## NATO Launches Major Intelligence Centre in Poland to Combat Russian 'Spy' Activities

**A**s tensions continue to rise between NATO countries and Russia over Moscow's perceived interference in Eastern Europe and the Baltics, senior military officials in the West have opted to site a major new Counter-Intelligence Centre of Excellence in Krakow (CI COE). The objective is to expand and centralise all activities associated with CI, including counter-espionage, surveillance and pro-active measures, in an effort to dissuade Russia from creating a situation where conflict is inevitable. NATO commanders recognise that any incursion by Russia into NATO aligned countries could start war. The new centre, besides operating as an intelligence collection and information delivery hub, will also enable 'students' to enhance CI skills.



**Antoni Macierewicz announces the opening of the CI COE centre**



# INTER IGENCE



**Supreme Allied Commander Transformation (SACT), General Jean-Paul Paloméros, signs the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the NATO Counter Intelligence Centre of Excellence (NATO CI COE) located in Krakow**

At the opening of the centre, Polish Defence Minister Antoni Macierewicz said: "The facility is focussed on developing the basic norms, principles and activities for [all] the spy agencies of the NATO alliance." He went on to say that espionage affects everyone including the military, so it was in NATO's interest to establish such a centre. "The Krakow centre is fundamentally important, especially in the face of threats from Russia," he said.

The genesis for the CI COE (like all others) began in 2015 at the Allied Command Transformation facility in Norfolk, Virginia, USA. Here major NATO partners working with various intelligence and military intelligence figures, opted to site the intelligence hub in Poland and four major battle forces in the east to effectively act as a "tripwire to Russian adventurism in the area," said one intelligence official. The US Army has its European headquarters in Poland to guard NATO's eastern flank, and 1,000 British troops have moved into Estonia to bolster Baltic forces. For



**June 2017. US Defense Secretary James Mattis with Poland's Defence Minister Antoni Macierewicz**

the record, such COE's are not unique and NATO operate other centres supporting a myriad of military intelligence elements, from weapons usage, cyber warfare, air intelligence gathering, analysis and medical training. ➤

**Patriot Missile assembly in Poland**





The new CI COE, a Polish-Slovak initiative will teach students a plethora of skills, including how to recognise enemy infiltration and identify losses of information and security breaches which could indicate an operational mole, agent and/or spy.

Poland, like most nations, has a domestic intelligence service and Eye Spy understands some of its most senior officers will help support the new centre. The ABW has in the last few months, warned that Russia continues to spread anti-Western rhetoric and its foreign intelligence service, SVR, has already initiated a programme of infiltration and use individuals designated 'agents of influence'. These operatives are not spies as such, but use their position to spread propaganda and in many cases identify people willing to help engage in similar operations.



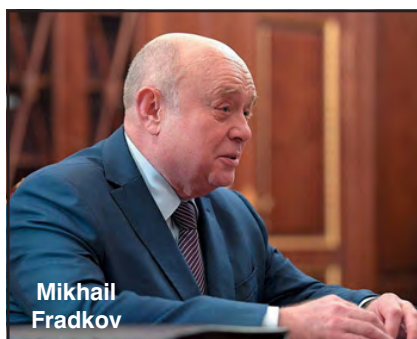
**Dmitry Karnaukhov**

One such person referenced by the Polish media is alleged SVR 'agent of influence' Dmitry Karnaukhov. He is a Russian academic who

was deported a few weeks ago accused of spreading anti-Polish propaganda. Polish Intelligence accused Karnaukhov, a member of the Russian Institute for Strategic Studies (RISS), an alleged SVR front organisation, of



**President Putin at the change-over of leadership of RISS with former SVR Directors Mikhail Fradkov and Leonid Reshetnikov**



**Mikhail Fradkov**

covertly inducing associates and a wider audience with material specifically intended to garnish support for Moscow. "He was involved in a hybrid war," said one official.

Eye Spy researchers note RISS's head (retired in 2017) was Leonid Reshetnikov, a former KGB and SVR officer and supporter of President Putin. RISS's current director is recently retired SVR Director Mikhail Fradkov



**Leonid Reshetnikov**

who ran the organisation for ten years until he stepped down last year. "With so many links to the SVR, it's easy to understand why the allegations have surfaced, an Eye Spy associate in Moscow said, "but there is no difference to the running of other well known 'think tanks' in London and Washington whose membership and advisory committees have embedded intelligence people."

COURTESY: OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF RUSSIA

## NATO COEs



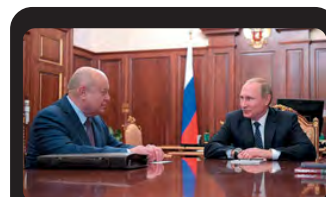
Centres of Excellence (COEs) are nationally or multi-nationally funded institutions that train and educate leaders and specialists from NATO member and partner countries, assist in doctrine development, identify lessons learned, improve interoperability, and capabilities and test and validate concepts through experimentation. They offer recognised expertise and experience that is of benefit to the Alliance and support the transformation of NATO, while avoiding the duplication

of assets, resources and capabilities already present within the NATO command structure.

Coordinated by Allied Command Transformation (ACT) in Norfolk, Virginia in the United States, COEs are considered to be international military organisations.

**CASPOA:** Centre for Analysis and Simulation for the Preparation of Air Operations  
**CI:** Counter Intelligence  
**CIMIC:** Civil Military Cooperation  
**CWO:** Cold Weather Operations  
**CJOS:** Combined Joint Operations from the Sea  
**C2:** Command & Control  
**CCD:** Cooperative Cyber Defence  
**CIED:** Counter Improvised Explosive Devices

**CMDR:** Crisis Management and Disaster Response  
**DAT:** Defence Against Terrorism  
**ENSEC:** Energy Security  
**EOD:** Explosive Ordnance Disposal  
**HUMINT:** Human Intelligence  
**JAPCC:** Joint Air Power Competence Centre  
**JCBRN:** Joint Chemical, Biological, Radiological, & Nuclear Defence  
**MILENG:** Military Engineering  
**MILMED:** Military Medicine  
**MP:** Military Police  
**M&S:** Modelling and Simulation  
**NMW:** Naval Mine Warfare  
**CSW:** Operations in Confined and Shallow Waters  
**STRATCOM:** Strategic Communications



At the exchange of leadership of RISS, addressing Mikhail Fradkov, President Putin said: "I am confident that you will be able, using your past experience, to organise the work so that the institute will provide support to the Presidential Executive Office, the Government and other agencies, which need relevant and objective open information and analyses.

"I would like the institute to have close, strong and stable ties with the media and to provide them with reliable, full and relevant information and analytical materials."



# MI6 Officer, Traitor, Spy and KGB Hero Highlighted in Moscow Exhibition



# PHILBY REBRANDED

**S**ince Russia's annexation of Crimea in 2014, President Putin has overseen several campaigns to improve the standing of his country on the international stage. Another has been to elevate the image of its intelligence services with his own people, and make sure the Russian public never forget the role played by the NKVD and later KGB in the Cold War. Putin said the organisation was "heroic, the platform, the starting point," which enabled "Russia to become a superpower."

And in relation to this, several key historical figures who operated in intelligence, have been identified as part of the KGB's resurgence. Patriotism is a word he frequently references, but intelligence historians were a little surprised when the word was used to define one of the most infamous spy characters of the 20th century... MI6 officer Kim Philby. He recently featured in a Moscow exhibition accompanied by the tag line 'An Unwavering Russian Patriot'. Even those who are familiar with his work, life and operations, have failed to categorise Philby as a patriot.

Others are more outspoken, calling the description "a most inaccurate portrayal."

## DRINK, SHADOWS AND DEFECTION

The life and operational endeavours of Philby have been covered extensively by Eye Spy, but briefly: the son of a well-off British diplomat, the hard-drinking Harold Adrian Russell Philby, was perhaps the best known of all the members of the Cambridge Spy Ring. Born in India in 1912, Philby found his vocation in journalism before entering secret service; he was even awarded an OBE. Throughout his



Philby stamp

time in MI6, he continually supplied Moscow with intimate British secrets, and ultimately, his life-long fondness of many aspects of Communism, resulted in his defection to Moscow in 1963, by which time he



President Putin wants people to support his intelligence and security services

had already fallen under suspicion. There he would remain until his death in 1988.

Moscow has previously honoured the spy with the release of a stamp featuring his portrait. The new event, at Moscow Art Gallery, whilst public, was intimate and a celebration of the spy's life. Of further interest, Philby is the central character in a new spy documentary featuring his "endeavours for Russia."

The exhibition was hosted by the Russian Historical Society, a state-run organisation





**SVR Director Sergei Naryshkin**

headed by Sergei Y. Naryshkin, who just happens to be Director of Russia's Foreign Intelligence Service (SVR) - the agency created to supersede the foreign intelligence collection element of the KGB. At the opening of the exhibition he told journalists: "Philby spent the last 25 years of his life in Russia working as a consultant for the Soviet foreign intelligence, and today many of our current Russian intelligence operatives proudly call themselves 'Philby's Students'." Also at the event, Rufina Pukhova, 85, Philby's fourth wife of 20-years who he met following his defection.

#### A SPY'S JOURNEY

Described as a journey of Philby's life and work, the exhibition featured several personal items: Philby's chair, radio, and briefcase which the spy secreted many documents out of MI6 buildings; a British diplomatic cable detailing the visit of US Vice President Henry Wallace to Russia and China in 1944, and a Hungarian dagger awarded to Philby in 1976



© ALEXANDER SHALGIN/TASS

Philby's widow Rufina Pukhova with SVR Director Sergei Naryshkin at the opening of the exhibition. Married to Philby for 20 years, Rufina was introduced to the spy by another MI6 officer and defector George Blake. Besides writing a factual book titled *The Private Life of Kim Philby: The Moscow Years*, she also wrote a novel - *Island on the Sixth Floor*. The title was derived from the fact that the couple lived on the sixth floor of a Moscow apartment block.

by Hungarian Intelligence for his role as 'a prominent figure in the struggle for socialism'.

The public and historians have also been given access to a most interesting document. An intercepted telegram dated 31 July 1944, containing Benito Mussolini's account to Japan's ambassador in Italy, of the attempt by German officers to assassinate Adolf Hitler days earlier on 20 July (Operation Valkyrie). Mussolini said: "The force of the explosion was astonishing and the Fuhrer sustained minor injuries to his left hand and arm and some of his hair was burned."

#### THE PRINCIPLED IDEALIST

Many of the descriptions attached to display items portray Philby as a 'principled idealist' who supported Russia throughout the postwar years and rallied to its side. Commentators proclaim he remained loyal throughout because of his "love for Russia and his determination to battle injustice and fascism." This message is being 'fired' at Russia's



© RIA Novosti

#### Kim Philby in Moscow

opponents, including pro-Western Ukraine and other former Soviet satellites in the Baltics, most who now support NATO. By coincidence, the Philby exhibition, opened just a few days after the unveiling in Moscow of a giant statue in honour of the inventor of the Kalashnikov automatic rifle. Intelligence analysts see both events as part of a grand Kremlin drive to create national pride in Russia's intelligence services and burgeoning military. Part of this endeavour is seen as psychological and linked to a covert task of repairing the damage done to the reputation of Felix E. Dzerzhinsky, the ruthless founder of the Soviet security apparatus. His statue once stood in front of KGB headquarters - Lubyanka, but was toppled by anti-Communist protesters in 1991. A 'positive' note written by Philby to KGB officers in 1977 - on the 100th anniversary of Dzerzhinsky's birth - also features in the exhibition. 'May we all live to see the red flag hanging over Buckingham Palace', Philby wrote. It is intended to show



**Exhibit - some artefacts belonging to Philby, including his KGB identification papers and signature badge**





Top: Plaque of Felix Dzerzhinsky in the troubled region of Donetsk, Ukraine.  
Centre: 1936 NKVD march with banner of Dzerzhinsky in Moscow.  
Bottom: Study of Dzerzhinsky

The re-erected statue of NKVD (KGB) founder Felix E. Dzerzhinsky which was toppled in 1991. The statue now stands in the grounds of Art Park Museum, Moscow. Part of the exhibition was intended to highlight the feared Dzerzhinsky as a hero

ordinary Russians that even loyal citizens such as Philby essentially supported Dzerzhinsky and his views. The statue has now been re-erected in Moscow.

Besides personal memorabilia, the exhibition featured nearly 1,000 pages of intelligence documents sourced (stolen) by Philby and delivered to his KGB spymasters in Moscow. No-one has seen this material before, and the content is of interest to agencies such as MI6,

MI5 and even the CIA, who all suffered because of his activities.

#### THE FATEFUL MI6-CIA OPERATION

One file, dated September 1949, focuses on intelligence despatched hastily to Joseph Stalin and his foreign minister, Vyacheslav M. Molotov. Philby's report details a proposed MI6-CIA endeavour to train Albanian emigrants in Greece and Corfu to act as anti-communist



#### The dagger presented to Philby by Hungary's then pro-Soviet Government

partisans, and disable or disrupt Soviet intervention. The file was then delivered to a Soviet adviser to Albania's pro-Communist



Exhibit - recreating Philby's living room - note briefcase



Philby's spectacles and drinking vessel





## OPERATION VALKYRIE

Far left: Following the explosion at Hitler's Wolf's Lair near Rastenburg, East Prussia. Near left: Benito Mussolini and Hitler. Below left: (L-R) Henning von Tresckow, Friedrich Olbricht and Claus von Stauffenberg, just three of many conspirators behind the plot



KGB Colonel Mikhail P. Lyubimov

So 1977 is a year which we shall all always remember. But I have a very particular personal reason for remembering it all my life. It is the year of my first visit to Soviet intelligence headquarters. (trans)  
It has taken me a long time to get here. My journey started in a London park on a sunny afternoon more than 43 years ago. And during that long journey, I had occasion to drop in on quite a few other intelligence headquarters of rather a different colour. (trans)  
I have held official passes to seven major intelligence headquarters. Four British -- SIS, SOE, MI5 and the Government Code & Cypher School; three American -- CIA, FBI and the National Security Agency. [So I can claim that this is the eighth major intelligence organisation which I have succeeded in penetrating. (trans)  
Needless to say, my feelings here are rather different to those I

### A document typed by Philby explaining his access to British Intelligence materials

Cambridge spies than most - intelligence historian, author and investigative journalist Chapman Pincher. Decades ago he refuted the notion that Philby was a "lover of Moscow and all things Communist." Pincher asked why the MI6 man in 1963, had not sought Soviet citizenship? He argued that the use of the word 'traitor' may not have been so easily applied had he done so.

ruler via the Interior Ministry in order that it could take immediate counter-measures.

History has shown that hundreds of Albanian agents and intelligence contact people were captured and executed after they were betrayed by Philby. Many who arrived by boat were detained and summarily shot, whilst others were subjected to violent interrogation and torture. The action did not just befall the 'agents', for records exist that show extended family were also detained and some shot.

As for the exhibition's general theme, that Philby was "a defender of narrow Russian national interests," Mark Galeotti, a researcher on Russian security and intelligence issues at

the Institute of International Relations in Prague said: "He was indeed a lifelong enemy of fascism but would be spinning in his grave over his portrayal by Moscow. This was a man motivated by Marxism, not by love of Russia. Presenting him as a great Russian patriot is far from the truth." Others disagree, "he was an idealist," said former London-based KGB Colonel and spymaster Mikhail P. Lyubimov. He met Philby on a number of occasions following his defection. "I knew him quite well. His idea was that he was not serving Stalin but the Russian people."

Perhaps the last word on one of Britain's most treacherous spies should go to a man who perhaps had a greater insight into all of the



1955. Kim Philby talks to journalists after being cleared of being a KGB spy



Mark Galeotti





## Washington Release More Kennedy Assassination Papers

**H**istorians and intelligence watchers around the world had hoped declassifying more secret files concerning the assassination of President John F. Kennedy on 22 November 1963 in Dallas, would finally put pay to the numerous conspiracy theories which have abounded and fermented since that fateful day. Investigators from the Warren Commission, established to examine the exact circumstances of the incident, concluded that his death was the result of the actions of a single gunman - Marxist Lee Harvey Oswald. Other official inquiries and investigations since then, have served only to cloud the case resulting in the creation of a 'intelligence dragnet' which has spawned even more tales from the dark side.

Numerous books have been written on the case containing a plethora of reasons, explanations and side-stories surrounding the incident - far too many to properly examine here. However, when news circulated a few months ago that archive researchers had been tasked to source more Kennedy papers for release from the intelligence sections of



government, historians were optimistic that the case could be assessed a little further.

The move was not a new initiative but part of the

Lee  
Harvey  
Oswald  
following  
his arrest  
in Dallas



A government security man rushes to Kennedy's aid following his shooting



government's necessary compliance with a law requiring the documents release after 25 years. However, there was even more reason to consider 'closure' when President Trump announced the materials included commentary from agencies such as the FBI and CIA, and above all, he promised "transparency."



John F. Kennedy

### BREAKTHROUGH?

Of the 18,000 previously unreleased documents related to the assassination, 2,891 pages have now been published on the US National Archives website, an unspecified number will also be released on a rolling basis up until April 2018. Though the President approved declassification, three hundred





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President Kennedy and his  
wife Jacqueline

documents were held back immediately on instruction by the US intelligence agencies. This of course has not gone down too well with those researchers hoping to find that elusive 'gem' or 'nugget' of detail which could confirm or dispel rumours of government collaboration into Kennedy's death, or covert support from an agency such as the KGB.

"There does remain sensitive information in the records," a US official said, often "related



Onlookers drop to the  
ground after shots are heard





Oswald is arrested. From the time of the incident, the media has speculated that an internal or external entity was behind the assassination

to the identity of individuals involved in their roles as informants." And as such (as is nearly always the case), those documents have been pored over and sections redacted. The official also said some edits would be made to hide "activities that were conducted with foreign partner agencies."

Director of Center for Politics at the University of Virginia Larry Sabato, an authority on Kennedy, said that documents (many generated in the 1990s) that could contain the names of people who are still alive, are of particular concern to those who want files held back. Eye Spy was informed that the documents had passed through the hands of analysts from various US agencies, and those containing the slightest "hint or line suggesting a wider conspiracy" were also selected for redaction. A spokesman for the CIA admitted that 1% of the material will remain redacted.

Some of the primary themes contained in the documents include:



Larry Sabato

- FBI source stated Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson was responsible
- FBI warned Dallas police that Oswald had made a death threat
- The *Cambridge Evening News* (UK)

was 'warned' minutes before the shooting

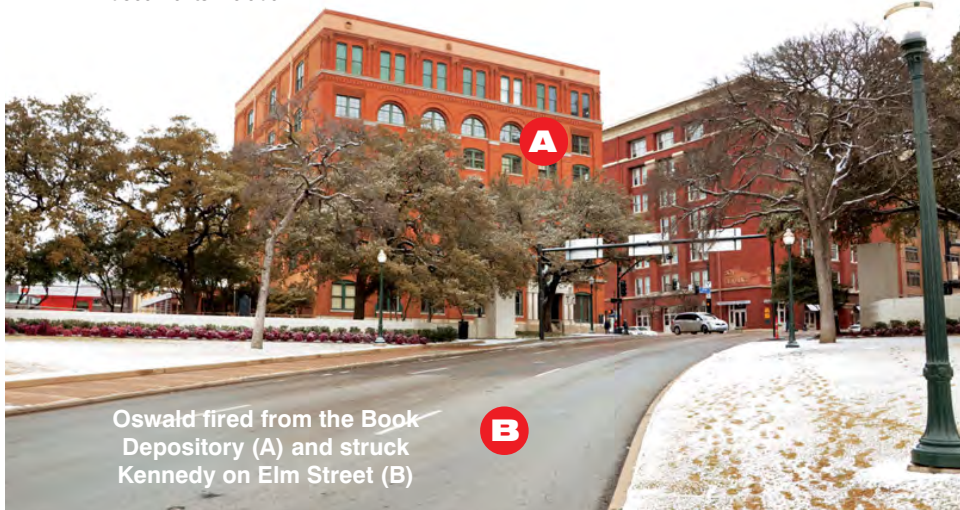
- Police were looking for Oswald before the assassination
- FBI Director Hoover was concerned about conspiracy theories from the start
- Tensions between the FBI and the CIA

Other released materials extend to plotlines and conspiracies already well documented and all in the public domain. Some have historical application but most are topical:

- US plans to assassinate Cuban Prime Minister Fidel Castro, including using a contaminated 'skindiving' suit and exploding sea shells ➤



Jack Ruby shoots dead Oswald following his arrest. This meant Oswald could not provide much needed background information about his action and motivations



Oswald fired from the Book Depository (A) and struck Kennedy on Elm Street (B)



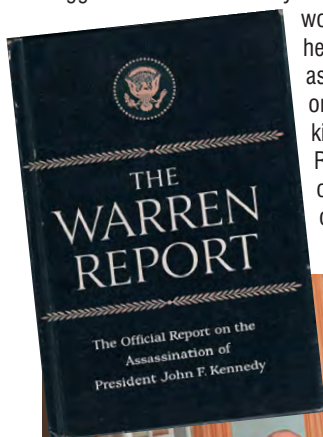


Oswald holds a weapon and Marxist literature - fuelling speculation he acted for the KGB

- Undocumented claims Lyndon B Johnson was a member of the KKK
- A warning about a book detailing Bobby Kennedy and Marilyn Monroe romance

It will take months, perhaps years for scholars to go through and investigate the newly released files to piece together what the files reveal about the incident. Thus far, Eye Spy editors have found nothing startling or which points to an international, government or local conspiracy, but lots of commentary and innuendo to explain why so many theories were born. Nothing suggests there was anything untrue about the official sequence of events on that day in November. Nothing yet suggests that Lee Harvey Oswald didn't

work alone, that he had killed JFK as part of a plot or that his own killing by Jack Ruby was part of a similar conspiracy.



24 September 1964. The Warren Commission led by Chief Justice Earl Warren presents its findings to President Johnson in an 888-page report



Lee Harvey Oswald is brought to Dallas Police Station. In the building's basement he was shot as he was about to be driven to court



Whatever details are finally released, or conclusions reached by historians, they're not expected to answer the major and still lingering question of - was anyone other than Lee Harvey Oswald involved in the assassination, including the government? And like any good conspiracy, despite the information being supportive of a lone wolf action, even acclaimed authors have played down Washington's attempt to lessen the mystery. This was summed up by Larry Sabato. He acknowledged that it will probably take years to "put this million piece puzzle together." He is also adamant that "the good stuff was held back... what we got was raw intelligence information, loads of rumours." Tim Naftali, a presidential historian and long-time researcher of the Kennedy assassination added fuel to the fire: "What I'm seeing is evidence of a small cover-up."



Some documents reflect in-house intelligence confusion. For example, three years after the shooting, and still searching for a wider conspiracy, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover wrote a memo to the White House noting comments made by a source: 'Our source added that the



KGB was in possession of data purporting to indicate President Johnson was responsible for the assassination'.

A caveat was added that the Kremlin believed it was part of a wider ultra- right conspiracy.

None of the files contain materials which will quell the doubts and suspicions of 60% of

Continued on Page 82





# Coup d'état

**'CIA Spy' Arrested as Plot Organisers Suffer Consequences of Failed 2016 Takeover**

# Night of the Long Knives

## Turkey Coup Attempt - 40 Life Sentences and Intelligence Arrests

**F**ollowing the failed July 2016 coup d'état attempt that left between 250-300 dead\*, more than 50,000 [official number] people have been arrested in Turkey under an imposed state of emergency. Intelligence sources and Turkey news commentators believe the true figure is probably twice that. Besides those detained, an estimated 100,000 people lost their jobs, including many in government and local authority positions. Around 150 intelligence officers, serving and retired from the country's National Intelligence Organisation (MIT), have also been caught up in the aftermath.



In February 2017, the trial began of those considered to be plot organisers including senior military officers. Now

**MIT believe General Akin Ozturk was one of the 'masterminds' of the d'état - a claim he rejects**

**A government supporter blocks the path of a tank**



concluding, a court in Mugla, a town near the resort where President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and his family were staying when the coup unfolded, has just handed down 40 life sentences to people, including Special Forces commanders convicted of plotting to assassinate President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. The attack force consisted of elite troops drawn from a number of units. Some targeted the hotel where Erdogan was staying. Turkey's Parliament building along with various government and security stations suffered

shell damage and incidents took place in major cities and towns throughout the country. The primary objective was to initiate a nationwide revolt and secure public support. However, the operation was not widely







**US Marine General Joseph Dunford Jr, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff inspects damage at the Grand Assembly of Turkey**



**Arrested - Brigadier General Gokhan Sahin Sonmezates**

supported by other forces and intelligence officials and soon many members of the public opted to support pro-Erdogan forces.

In Mugla, 31 defendants received quadruple life sentences. Of these, one was Brigadier

General Gokhan Sahin Sonmezates, an alleged central figure accused of directing the plot, and Zekeriya Kuzu, the former elite commando famously found hiding in a cave four days after the incident. General Edal Ozturk, commander of the Third Army Corps is also on trial, whilst the alleged leader of the plot, Air Force General Akin Ozturk has denied all charges, despite Turkish media initially stating he accepted his role in the operation.

Nine other defendants received single life sentences and Erdogan's former military aide-camp Colonel Ali Yazici, was sentenced to 18-years in jail. Of the 47 in total, only former Lieutenant Colonel Huseyin Yilmaz, was acquitted.

#### FETO AND ALLEGED US THREADS

Three others were tried in absentia, including US-based Muslim cleric Fethullah Gulen who has been accused of orchestrating the attempted coup, but the judge separated the cases for future rulings.



**Arrested - General Erdal Ozturk**



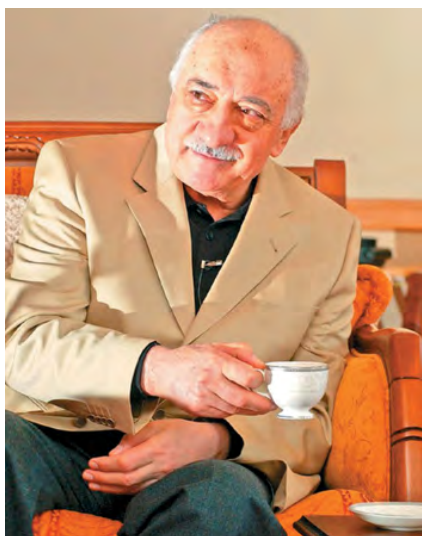




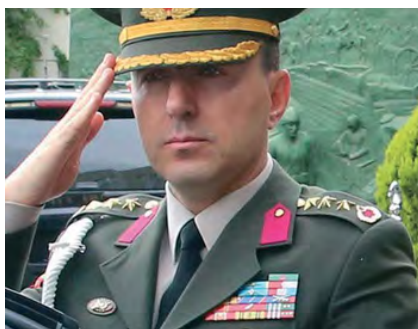
**President Recep Tayyip Erdogan**



Many Turks still oppose President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. In July 2017, hundreds of thousands of people demonstrated against the country's leader in a rally called 'Justice March' - this following widespread arrests and dismissals



**Fethullah Gulen**

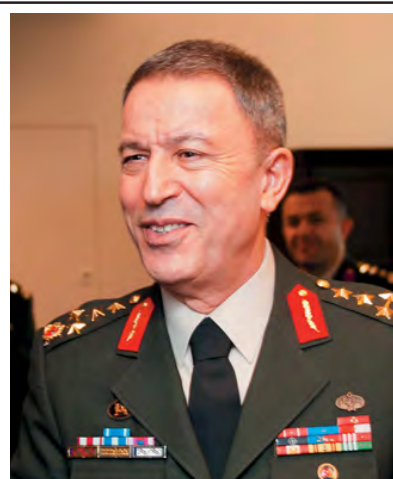


**Colonel Ali Yazici**

Turkey's MIT refers to Gulen's movement as the Gulenist Terrorist Organisation (FETO). Erdogan has persistently requested that he be extradited from the United States - a request denied by Washington. The cleric, who resides

in Pennsylvania has lived in the USA since 1999.

In September, a major internal investigation in MIT related to the coup resulted in the arrest of 45 former MIT intelligence officers - some are accused of being FETO supporters ➤



**INTEL  
INSIDE**

Chief of General Staff General Hulusi Akar was taken hostage by coup plotters at the Akinci Air Base. When he refused to sign a declaration of martial law, a belt was tightened around his neck - but he still rejected the intimidation.

Akar was freed after government forces retook the base a few hours later.

Intelligence sources claim he alleged one of the captors invited him to make contact by telephone with the coup leader... Fethullah Gulen in America.





**President Recep Tayyip Erdogan with Chief of General Staff General Hulusi Akar just days after the failed coup on 22 July 2016**

and spies. Other serving MIT personnel suspected of having links with Gulen were sacked.

It is believed 500 suspects, of whom 200 are linked to the military, are still on trial in various courts across the country.

#### CIA 'SPY' DETAINED

In October 2017, Turkish security services arrested a member of the US consulate, branding him a "CIA spy" as Erdogan



**Metin Topuz**

threatened to "eliminate internal threats." Metin Topuz, a Turkish national, was detained and accused of being a follower of Gulen. He was charged with 'undermining the constitutional order, espionage and efforts to overthrow the Turkish government'. America responded by suspending the issuing of visas to Turks at a number of consulates in the country. A US official said the government was "deeply disturbed and assessing the situation in

respect of the safety of US citizens and employees."

President Erdogan said: "How did these spies infiltrate the American consulate? If not... who put them there? No state would allow such spies to pose such an internal threat." US Ambassador to Turkey John Bass dismissed the spy allegations saying Turkey had not presented any evidence and the allegations "were without merit."

Eye Spy understands that police began investigating Topuz five years ago after he was linked to an on-going corruption probe which authorities claim was orchestrated by Gulen. The names of some of those involved surfaced again following the coup investigation - including Topuz. However, Ambassador Bass said it was part of Topuz's remit to liaise with police. At least one other US consulate employee is under investigation.

Intelligence watchers have described the spy allegations as "groundless," and evidence again of Erdogan's paranoia.

\* Observer groups dispute figures



**Bomb damage at the General Directorate of Police Headquarters, Ankara following the failed coup d'état. Inset: Dr Hakan Fidan - Director of MIT**

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- Volume Fourteen numbers 105-112





**2010. US Ambassador Louis B. Susman announces new embassy design**

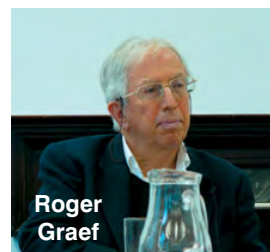
Media (MSM), after months of suspicion and hostility.

#### CHANNEL 4 INSIGHT

On 29 August 2017, President Trump appointed billionaire and friend Robert Johnson IV, as new Ambassador to the UK. Mr Johnson, recognising an inevitable delay in relocating, has now invited a British Channel 4 documentary team to record happenings during a new six-month allotted transition period. He wants to “expand and strengthen” the special relationship between the countries as Brexit unfolds - and he sees cooperation and engagement with the public as an important part of that liaison.

Insiders say the three-part feature will provide background to the modern working mechanisms of the massive embassy, and has some threads to intelligence work. For example, there are concerns from embassy staffers about some of the President’s ‘tweets’, referencing British anti-terrorism work. Nevertheless, the film project has the full backing of the White House.

Other embassy operations are also detailed. For example, how staffers work to ensure the safety of US citizens, the country’s security stance and a glimpse at how



**Roger Graef**

© POLICY EXCHANGE

# US Embassy in London

**Major film project to provide insight into relocation and transition of America’s new embassy**

In 2014, Eye Spy 90 provided a major insight into the decision to relocate from 24 Grosvenor Square, to the southern bank of the River Thames just east of the iconic Battersea Power station (Nine Elms area of London). One major consideration was security - the current site is simply too difficult to protect properly: the new 12-storey building, which will house nearly 1,000 staffers, has an enviable Diplomatic Security Service detail. Besides the numerous offices and elements of the US State Department, representatives from the primary members of the United States Intelligence Community (USIC) will also be housed here.



**Diplomatic Security Service agent**

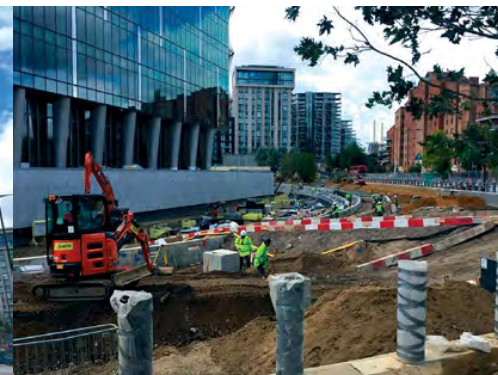
The building itself covers 485,000 square feet, and is protected from external attack by an earth bank, a semi-circular lake, bomb-resistant glazing, anti-ram barriers and a moat - described as a “water feature” by the architects. Designed by acclaimed US architect firm Kieran Timberlake, the building sparked controversy when it was revealed in 2008 construction costs would amount to one billion dollars (£770 million). Some critics were also uncomfortable with its modern design.

Perhaps fortuitously, the delay has allowed the State Department and embassy media arms to engage in a positive way with the Main Stream



**UK Chancellor Philip Hammond with US Ambassador Robert Johnson**

© US EMBASSY LONDON



Photographs © www.thisischriswhite - via US EMBASSY LONDON





Operation Temperer patrol in London. Security in and around the old embassy has always been a major consideration



Facade of the new US Embassy

Eye Spy media sources said the film project is allied to redefining the role of the UK as Britain prepares to leave the European Union.



UK Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson

Not to be undone by America opening a public 'gateway' to one of its most important intelligence and information transfer sites, Britain's Foreign Office, the overseers of MI6, is collaborating with the BBC on a new documentary series called *'Inside the Foreign Office'*. Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson is said to be behind the move which will show how this vast organisation helps UK citizens abroad, and its engagement with numerous organisations.



Diplomatic Security Service agents operating in Afghanistan

information is received, consumed and analysed. There are also scenes showing personal engagement and the 'human face' of embassy personnel. The series is being produced by award winning documentary maker Roger Graef. Graef, 81, who moved to the UK from America in 1962, has built himself a reputation of securing access to many government buildings and agencies.







# ASSASSINATION

## Panama Papers Journalist Killed

**D**aphne Caruana Galizia, 53, the Maltese journalist who led the so-called Panama Papers investigation into corruption in Malta (and other countries) was killed by a car bomb near her home in Bidnija on 16 October. Galizia was a blogger whose posts were read by more people than the combined circulation of Malta's newspapers. Her recent investigations involved Malta's Prime Minister, Joseph Muscat, and two of his closest aides, connecting offshore companies linked to the three men with the sale of Maltese passports and payments from the government of Azerbaijan. Earlier in the year her bank accounts were frozen amidst controversy over a pending libel case.

Several press releases originating from the Office of the Prime Minister in recent months, have dismissed any wrong-doing, and several contained the line: *'Daphne Caruana Galizia is lying outright'*. "Everyone knows Ms Caruana Galizia was a harsh critic of mine," said Muscat at a press conference, "both politically and personally, but nobody can justify this barbaric act in any way".

Muscat announced later in parliament that FBI officers were on their way to Malta to assist



Daphne and Matthew Galizia



**Daphne Caruana Galizia - her investigative research into powerful international figures seems inextricably linked to her death**

with the investigation, following his request for outside help from the US government. A Dutch forensic specialist was also asked to participate. For the record, such was the force of the bomb that body parts were found nearly 300ft from the blast site. The car itself was hurled 100ft into a field.

Adrian Delia, the Nationalist party leader, said: "A political murder took place today. What happened today is not an ordinary killing. It is a consequence of the total collapse of the rule of law which has been going on for the past four years." European Parliament President Antonio Tajini has demanded a full investigation into the circumstances of the incident.

One of Galizia's four sons, Matthew Galizia, is a member of the International Consortium of



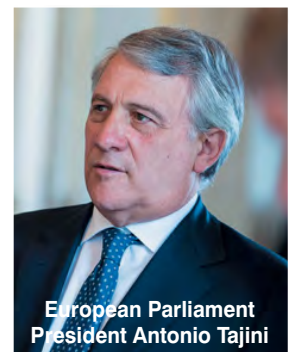
**Memorial to Galizia outside the law courts in Valletta**

Investigative Journalists, he said: "To kill a journalist in 2017 with a bomb is incredible... probably because she was close to one point." Another source close to the deceased agreed, saying that 'point', was probably "unpalatable truth."

Earlier this year, her revelations caused major concern in Brussels during Malta's Presidency of the European Union with MEP's (Member European Parliament) calling for Muscat's resignation. German MEP Sven Giegold, a leading figure in the Parliament's Panama Papers inquiry, said he was "shocked and saddened," to learn of her murder.

"It is too early to know the cause of the explosion but we expect to see a thorough investigation," said Giegold. "Such incidents bring to mind Putin's Russia, not the European Union. There can be absolutely no tolerance for violence against the press and violations of the freedom of expression in the European Union."

Prime Minister Muscat announced a one million Euro (£890,000) reward for information leading to a conviction. Galizia's sons refused to endorse the move saying without [political] change it was irrelevant.



European Parliament President Antonio Tajini

Eye Spy was told Galizia was driving a hire car and that she had received "coded threats



Malta Prime Minister Joseph Muscat





**Galizia's car was thrown into a field - such was the explosive nature of the IED**

shortly before the incident." Another police source explained the IED was detonated using a cell phone - and at the exact moment when no other vehicle was nearby - a deliberate act to limit other casualties. "Undoubtedly she was surveilled," and her route carefully examined by 'specialists' Eye Spy was told.

Amongst her last posts she named another prominent Maltese government official and the establishment of secret companies based in Panama.

Many in the intelligence world believe the assassination was political and linked to

At time of publication, the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) reported that 42 journalists have been killed (30 - motive confirmed) thus far in 2017. Ten other people working on media-related projects have also been murdered.



Galizia's long investigation into government officials, not only in Malta, but overseas as well.

The car bombing was the fifth (or sixth) such attack in Malta since 2015.

# The 'Accidental' Assassins

## Kim Jong-nam Murder Trial Commences

**T**he trial of Indonesian Siti Aisyah, 25, and Vietnamese national Doan Thi Huong, 28, commenced at the Shah Alam High Court on the outskirts of Kuala Lumpur. The pair are charged with murdering Kim Jong-nam, the half-brother of North Korean leader Kim Jong-un at Kuala Lumpur International airport on 13 February 2017. Death was caused by smearing his face with a highly toxic VX nerve agent, a chemical the United Nations classifies as a weapon of mass destruction. At the trial, where various items were



**Tun Arifin Zakaria**

shown, prosecutors wore rubber gloves after being advised they were still potentially dangerous.

Both women maintain their innocence and say they were



**NK leader Kim Jong-un**

duped by North Korean handlers into believing they were carrying out a prank for a reality TV show.

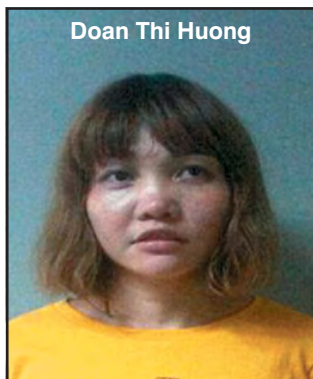
Four North Korean suspects are accused alongside the women in the prosecution's charge sheet as having common intent to kill Kim, though they remain at large and Malaysian authorities have not released their names. All are believed operatives of the international covert intelligence unit Office 225. (See Eye Spy 108).

Chief Justice Tun Arifin Zakaria is hearing the case and lead prosecutor Muhamad Iskandar Ahmad has said he intends to call



30 to 40 witnesses and 10 expert witnesses, including pathologists and chemists, to testify.

Both women pleaded not guilty on the opening day of the trial, which is expected to run until 30 November. The women face a mandatory death sentence if convicted.



**Doan Thi Huong**



**Siti Aisyah**



**Kim Jong-nam**



the State Department debacle of Benghazi...

# CIA EVIDENCE

Joint Base Andrews 2012. Transfer of Remains Ceremony for those killed in the Benghazi attack

## Disguised CIA Officers Testify in Trial of Benghazi Suspect

**T**he trial of Ahmed Abu Khattala in Washington DC has begun. He stands accused of helping orchestrate the September 2012 attacks on the American Consulate and a CIA-operated security facility in Benghazi. The terrorist action resulted in the deaths of US Ambassador to Libya J. Christopher Stevens, US Foreign Service Information Management officer Sean Smith and CIA contractors Tyrone S. Woods and Glen Doherty. Ten others were wounded in a night of fierce fighting.

Khattala, head of the Benghazi-based Ansar al-Sharia group, was arrested in Libya in June 2014 by military commandos. In court he pleaded not guilty to a number of charges.

The trial has heard evidence from two CIA agents who used the pseudonyms 'Alexander Charles' and 'Roy Edwards'. Disguised in wigs and moustaches both were operational in Benghazi on the night in question. Reporters were prohibited from entering the courtroom, and the faces of the agents were blacked-out on video streamed into a room for journalists. Charles said: "All hell broke loose... you could feel the ground shaking. Big blocks of cement were falling." He also revealed that he believed this was his and his colleagues "last night on Earth" and that they would be "buried alive," such was the intensity of the enemy's firepower.

Described as "battle-hardened CIA veterans," the officers grew emotional as they recounted first-hand one of the most politically explosive events in recent US history. Stevens, of course, was the first US ambassador



Ahmed Abu Khattala

killed in the line of duty since 1979.

As the officers gave a detailed overview of the event, Khattala, listened impassively and took notes.

A press release from the Justice Department read:

*'The superseding indictment*

*describes Khattalah's alleged role in the attacks at a US diplomatic mission in Benghazi and a second US facility there, known as the annex. According to the superseding indictment, Khattalah was a leader of an extremist militia group and he conspired with others to attack the facilities, kill US citizens, destroy buildings and other property, and plunder materials, including documents, maps and computers containing sensitive information. The offences that could carry death sentences include one count of murder of an internationally protected person; three counts of murder of an officer and employee of the United States; four counts of killing a person in the course of an attack on a*



Christopher Stevens  
Inset: Logo of Ansar al-Sharia

*federal facility involving the use of a firearm and a dangerous weapon; and two counts of maliciously damaging and destroying US property by means of fire and an explosive causing death'.*

US prosecutors claim Khattalah undertook the attack because he had learned the United States had two intelligence facilities in Benghazi. "He viewed US intelligence actions in Benghazi as illegal, and... he was therefore going to do something about this facility," a prosecution official said.

The political repercussions and fallout from the Benghazi attack were many, and led to claims that then Secretary of State Hillary Clinton was "lackadaisical in responding to the assault and that she did too little to address the security threats to US diplomatic personnel in Libya." The Benghazi attack was a key storyline in the 2016 presidential campaign when Clinton ran for the White House.



The CIA contract unit known as the Annex Security Team. L-R: Kris Paranto, John Tiegan and Mark Geistmission. On three occasions the men were allegedly told to "stand down"



# Intelligence Mystery Continues THE KGB VAULT

## Russian Court Denies Access to Wallenberg's Secret File and Fate...

**M**oscow's Mechchansky District Court has rejected a request from the relatives of Raoul Wallenberg - seeking documents related to the Swedish diplomat's unexplained death. Wallenberg was Sweden's special envoy to Budapest during World War II and used his diplomatic privileges to save tens of thousands of Hungarian Jews by issuing them passports (Schutz-Pass) and sheltering them in Swedish diplomatic buildings.

### BACKGROUND

On 17 January 1945, during the Siege of Budapest by the Red Army, Wallenberg was called to General Malinovsky's headquarters in Debrecen to answer allegations that he was engaged in espionage. Wallenberg's last recorded words were: "I'm going to Malinovsky's... whether as a guest or prisoner I do not know yet." He subsequently disappeared and thereafter followed countless theories that have lasted over 70 years.

Originally Moscow said the 35-year-old had died in 1947 of a heart attack whilst in prison,

but Wallenberg's family, Swedish officials, and historians have disputed that. Following two Russian Government investigations in 1991 and 2000, some intelligence people conjectured that Wallenberg was probably executed in 1947 in Lubyanka prison. Notes discovered in the diary of the head of the KGB at the time, Ivan Serov, state Wallenberg was 'liquidated on the direct orders of Joseph Stalin'. To add to the confusion, periodically, unconfirmed reports of sightings of Wallenberg by former Soviet gulag prisoners have emerged, many of which were collected by legendary Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal.

Wallenberg's fate remains one of the enduring mysteries of the postwar period and his relatives desperately want answers that they believe lie hidden in FSB archives. Ivan Pavlov,

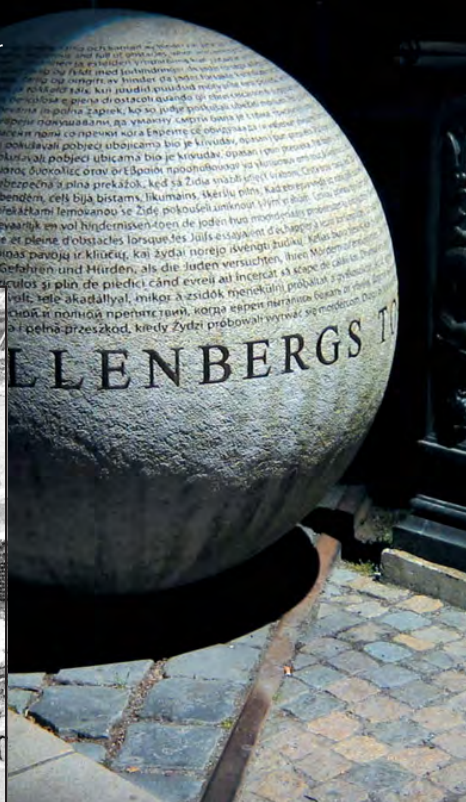


Raoul Wallenberg

the lawyer representing the family said that the court's decision to reject their request to access uncensored documents that could shed light on Wallenberg's fate was, "unlawful and cynical." Pavlov said the family would appeal the decision through the Russian courts and, if necessary, to the European Court of Human Rights.



Budapest 1944



Joseph Stalin





**Tribute to Wallenberg. Ambassadors of Israel and the United States, Benny Dagan, Mark Brzezinski and wives Irit and Natalie at the 2012 Days of Remembrance ceremony in Stockholm**



**Budapest survivor Kate Wacz with US Ambassador to Sweden Mark Brzezinski**



**Statue of Raoul Wallenberg by Philip Jackson (inset) in London**

"Cases involving the search for historical truth - if you'll allow a sports metaphor - are not sprints but marathons," Pavlov said. "We knew from the beginning that we would have to run a long distance and we prepared for that. We are ready."



**Ivan Pavlov**

Officially, Wallenberg was declared dead by Stockholm tax agencies in October 2016. The date written on the notice was 31 July 1952 - exactly five years after his disappearance.

#### INTELLIGENCE THREADS

Solicitors representing the FSB argued that revealing the documents would violate the privacy of other people [including living

relatives] mentioned in them. It's a similar argument used by intelligence agencies in the UK, USA and elsewhere. And interestingly, the FSB also stated that it was not technically the successor agency to the Stalin-era secret police, even though it controls the archives of those agencies.

The FSB, like its predecessor the KGB, refuses to release prison and transportation log entries relating to Wallenberg. "Just like now, in the 1940s, remand prisons were regimented institutions where any movement of a detainee was documented and a note was made in the appropriate logbooks," Pavlov said. "This happens when a detainee is moved from one cell to another, when they are taken for questioning, when they are moved from one prison to another."



**KGB chief Ivan Serov**

It would be amiss also not to reference Wallenberg's supposed [unconfirmed] threads to America's wartime Office of Strategic Services

(OSS), the predecessor of the CIA. However, there are convincing CIA papers referencing his WWII connections, with some commentary on him acting as an OSS agent. In 1990, William Henhoeffer, curator of Langley's Historical Intelligence Collection, hinted that it was "essentially correct" that Wallenberg, whilst based in Budapest, was working as an OSS agent.



**Raoul Wallenberg Monument by artist Kirsten Ortved was opened in 2001**





**Holocaust Shoe Memorial on the Danube River in Budapest. It is estimated around 400,000 Jews lost their lives in Hungary**

#### ATMOSPHERE OF TOTAL SECRECY

Legal protection of the files based on confidentiality expires in the 2020-2022 time period, but Pavlov believes even then more excuses will be raised to avoid making the information public. When asked why, Pavlov said: "The position of the FSB and the government is - never to give anything [away] in general. They want to keep all information that relates to our historical memory in an atmosphere of total secrecy, no matter what. Because if you give out even just a little, it just leads to requests for further information and, in the end, you have to open up all the archives - something that I'm sure our secret services would like to avoid."



**October 1944. Jewish women are detained in Budapest by the Nazis after Hungary was invaded. Most were sent to death camps**



Wallenberg's mother Maj and his stepfather Fredrik von Dardel searched for their son for the rest of the lives. In 1979 they committed suicide. Nina von Dardel Lagergren, Wallenberg's half-sister believes the strain of not locating him was all too much for her parents and contributed to their fateful decision. Lagergren, of course, went on to marry Kofi Annan, the former Secretary General of the United Nations.



was sculpted by Philip Jackson and is a larger than life representation of Wallenberg, standing against a bronze wall made up of

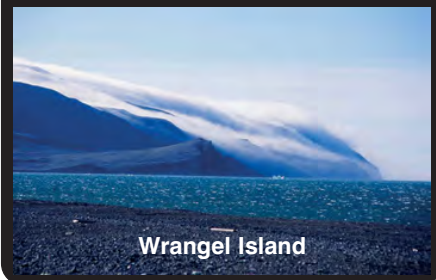
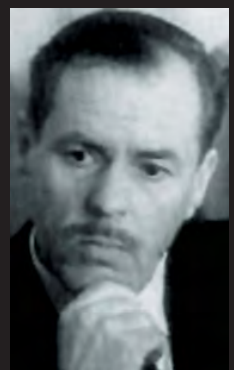
A monument to Raoul Wallenberg stands at Great Cumberland Place in London's Marble Arch district near the Swedish Embassy in London. The 10ft bronze monument

100,000 Schutz-Passes (left), the protective documents used by Wallenberg to rescue Hungarian Jews.

Unveiled by Queen Elizabeth II in February 1997, the ceremony was attended by the then President of Israel, Ezer Weizman, the Secretary General of the United Nations, Kofi Annan, and survivors of the Holocaust.

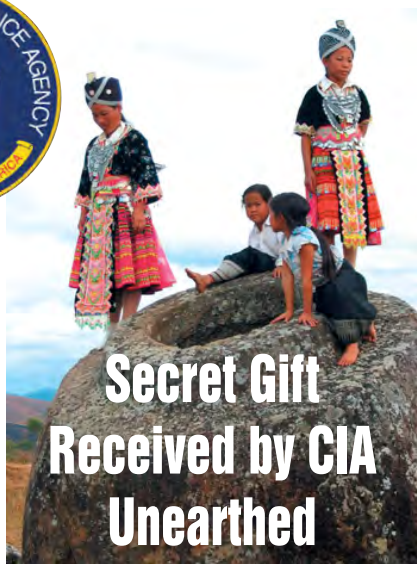
#### ISOLATION OR DISINFORMATION?

MI6 agent Greville Wynne, known for his role in the case of KGB defector Oleg Penkovsky, said whilst he was held at the Lubyanka prison in 1962, he talked to a man who said he was a Swedish diplomat who claimed he had seen Wallenberg on Wrangel Island just months earlier. The remote location in northeast Russia sits between the Chukchi Sea and East Siberian Sea.



**Wrangel Island**





**Secret Gift  
Received by CIA  
Unearthed**

**L**ee Pao Xiong, Director of the Center for Hmong Studies at Concordia, Minnesota, came across an interesting set of documents while conducting research on the CIA's involvement in Laos during the Vietnam War. One of the documents references a gift from a leader of the Hmong forces fighting the CIA's secret war in the country.

The Laotian Civil War (1953-75) was fought between the Communist Pathet Lao and the Royal Lao Government. Both sides received external support in the proxy war between the Cold War superpowers - America and the Soviet Union. The action in Laos was

described by the media as the '*CIA's Secret War in Laos*', primarily because details were largely unavailable due to official government denials that the war even



existed. Analysts acknowledge such denials were necessary because both the North Vietnamese Government and the United States had signed binding agreements specifying the neutrality of Laos.

Nevertheless, the CIA, in an attempt to disrupt operations in northern Laos without direct military involvement, covertly trained a guerrilla force of about thirty thousand Laotian hill tribesmen, mostly local Hmong (Meo) tribesmen along with the Mien and Khmu, led by Royal Lao Army General Vang Pao, a Hmong military leader.



**General Vang Pao**

In one of the declassified documents uncovered by Xiong in his researches, General Vang Pao presented then CIA Director Richard Helms, with an ancient sandstone jar weighing 1800lbs in thanks for Langley's secret aid in the battle with North Vietnamese forces on the legendary Plain of Jars in northern Laos. This

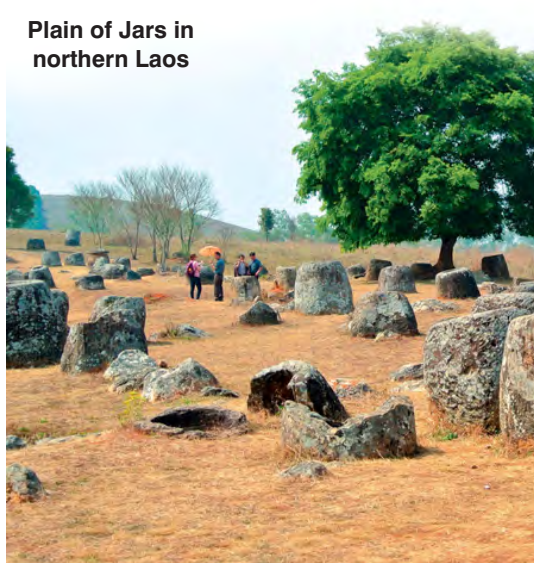


**Lee Pao  
Xiong**



**A destroyed Russian PT-76 tank  
abandoned in northern Laos during  
the Indochina Wars**

**Plain of Jars in  
northern Laos**





COURTESY: USMC

1992. Researchers uncover unexploded ordnance - evidence of the secret conflict on the Plain of Jars



historic and important site dates back to the Iron Age (500BC - 200AD) and consists of thousands of stone jars believed to be burial vessels; they are rarely seen outside Laos.

Unable to publicly acknowledge the gift in 1970, Helms contacted the head of the Smithsonian Institution to take it off his hands. In typical intelligence speech, Helms wrote:

*'It is my understanding that few of these jars have ever been removed from Laos. Recognising that the Smithsonian would*

*doubtless prefer to have the Department of State indicated as the donor, I feel confident that we can have arrangements made to handle this, leaving the Agency out of the picture entirely'.*



Lao villagers in the Plain of Jars stand over a crashed USAF bomber during the secret war. The image is on display in the National Museum in Vientiane, Laos



CIA Director Richard Helms. His letter to the Smithsonian (below) was discovered by Lee Pao Xiong



US armored North American TD-28 Nomad near Laos

Instantly noting the importance of the artefact, the jar was accepted into the Smithsonian and deposited in a warehouse where its been ever since.

Following the discovery of the incident in the archives, Xiong wrote: *'I don't know whether General Vang Pao had permission from the King or the Prime Minister of Laos to issue such a gift. I wondered if the Lao government now knew about the gift, whether they would want it back'.*

Now the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History has retrieved the massive jar from the Suitland MD warehouse and allowed a group of researchers and former CIA officer Paul Michael Taylor, Director of the Smithsonian's Asian Cultural History Programme, to view the intriguing piece.

"We consider this an American national treasure now," said Taylor. "It's a very important symbol for us of the complex relationship with Laos and its cultural heritage that we have had."

- Some researchers want the site to be given UNESCO World Heritage site status, but there are concerns about unexploded bombs in the area. A visitor centre was built in 2013.



Staff at the Suitland MD warehouse with the gifted Jar



# STEPPING STONES



## 70 YEARS OF SECRET SERVICE THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



The 70th anniversary of President Harry S. Truman signing the National Security Act 1947 - which created the CIA, came at a time of heightened tension in the security world. WWII had ended but a new and frightening Cold War had begun. Today, of course, the CIA continues to operate in dozens of fields, and whilst keeping a watchful eye on Russia, Iran and North Korea (amongst others), it has evolved and is more active in counter-terrorism work, analysis and even domestic security. But, despite its growing prowess in many fields, there remain some officers still skilled in old fashioned 'cloak and dagger' work... including espionage.

### EYE SPY IDENTIFIES THE KEY MOMENTS OF THE CIA'S CREATION...

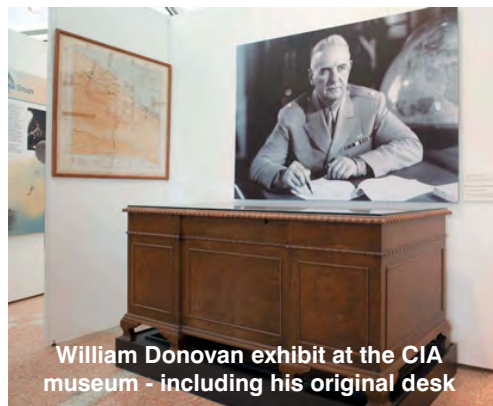
#### SIX TRAUMATIC YEARS

Prior to its formal establishment in 1947, there were four short-lived agencies that operated in intelligence and security, evolved, changed names, leadership and governing bodies; all eventually absorbed and reborn by what is today, perhaps the world's best known intelligence agency... the Central Intelligence Agency. And all of this took place in a torrid six year period.

#### STEP 1

The Office of the Coordinator of Information (COI) was established on 11 July 1941. At the beginning of WWII intelligence was collected by the US State Department, Army, Navy and FBI without coordination. President Franklin D. Roosevelt created the

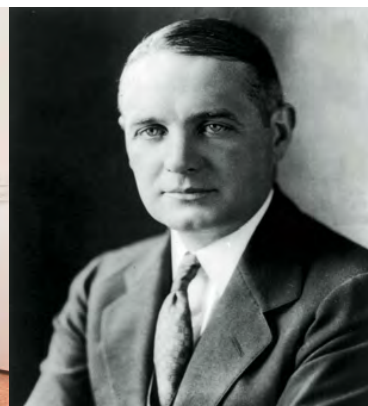
COI to streamline the intelligence and engage in unconventional warfare. Great War hero General William 'Wild Bill' Donovan was appointed to lead the office with a \$10 million budget and an operational staff of 600. The COI existed for just 337 days.



William Donovan exhibit at the CIA museum - including his original desk

#### STEP 2

The best known of all early US intelligence and special warfare organisations, and certainly the one identified in historical writings as the CIA's predecessor, the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) was established







**Bust of William Donovan and flag of OSS at the CIA museum**

on 13 June 1942. Headed by Donovan, the OSS collected and analysed information and conducted unconventional and paramilitary operations with personnel deployed to North Africa, Europe, China, Burma, and India. The organisation had a major presence in London and worked closely with Britain's Special Operations Executive (SOE) and in part, MI6.

However, other US agencies stood firm protecting their monopolies on domestic counter-intelligence work and the Department of State effectively banned OSS from acquiring and decoding intelligence intercepts. The OSS did develop a capable

counter-intelligence apparatus of its own overseas and built a worldwide clandestine capability. At its height of operations, the OSS

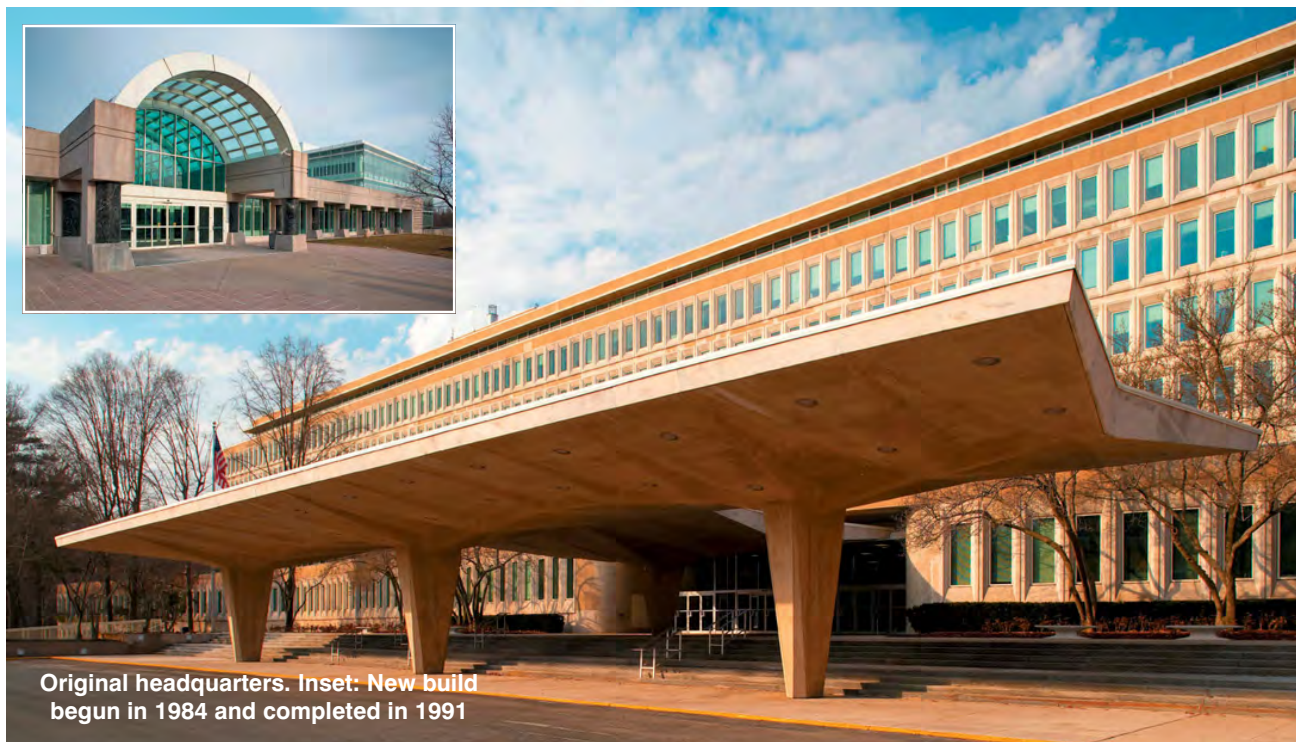


**Original OSS patch and pin**

employed 13,000 people, including hundreds of field agents, many skilled in the art of subterfuge, sabotage and espionage. Sadly, despite much support for the continuation of the organisation, it was dismantled on 1 October 1945, but not before absorbing and documenting its tradecraft capabilities which would be utilised soon by those working in the CIA. The demise of the OSS has been likened to that of its British counterpart - SOE.

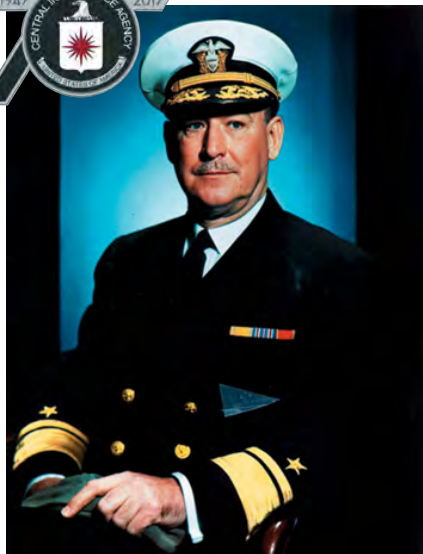
### STEP 3

On 1 October 1945, the Strategic Services Unit (SSU) was established. Described as



**Original headquarters. Inset: New build begun in 1984 and completed in 1991**





**Rear Admiral Sidney Souers**

a "temporary unit," by officials, the SSU ran OSS posts until a permanent office (or solution) could be found in respect of overseas intelligence collection. In 1946 a new National Intelligence Authority was established along with a small Central Intelligence Group (CIG) that assumed SSU's responsibilities. Deputy Chief of Naval Intelligence, Rear Admiral Sidney Souers, USNR, was appointed Executive Secretary of CIG and was responsible for carrying out the integration of SSU into CIG. Interestingly, the experienced Souers said he did not want to run the new agency... but orders are orders.

#### STEP 4

The Central Intelligence Group (CIG) was officially established in 1946 and was effectively run by the Deputy Director, Roscoe H. Hillenkoetter, an experienced naval intelligence officer. CIG coordinated intelligence but also produced its own through research and analysis. It acquired a

## CIG, SOUERS AND A MOST UNUSUAL DIARY ENTRY

January 1996 marked the 50th anniversary of President Truman's appointment of the first Director of Central Intelligence (DCI) and the creation of the Central Intelligence Group (CIG), CIA's institutional predecessor. The office diary of the President's chief military adviser, Flt. Admiral William D. Leahy, records a rather unexpected event on 24 January 1946:

*'At lunch today in the White House, with only members of the Staff present, RAdm. Sidney Souers and I were presented [by President Truman] with black cloaks, black hats, and wooden daggers, and the President read an amusing directive to us outlining some of our duties in the Central Intelligence Agency [sic], Cloak and Dagger Group of Snoopers'.*

With this whimsical ceremony, President Truman christened Admiral Souers as the first DCI.

clandestine capability and as well as utilising its own personnel for operations, CIG also secured the services of officers and agents from external bodies including the US Army,



**Roscoe H. Hillenkoetter**



**President Truman and Admiral William D. Leahy inspect the submarine USS Tusk**

Navy and Department of State. CIG became the United State's primary agency for strategic warning and management of clandestine activities abroad. CIG's activities lasted but 18 months.

#### THE CIA

The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) was officially established on 18 September 1947. President Truman appointed CIG Deputy Director Roscoe H. Hillenkoetter as its first Director. Not coincidental by any means, at least one third of CIA personnel at this time were OSS veterans.

Though the CIA had the same functions as CIG its tasks and remit were broadened. Regulations governing the new organisation were also created, and its budget increased.



**CIA Director William Colby points to a map of Vietnam. Nearly 60,000 US troops died in the 20-year conflict**







**Alleged operatives of the CIA's Special Activity Division (SAD) in Afghanistan. The military element is said to be defunct**

Just as important, it was given a 'broad and flexible' licence to operate in areas around the world. By 1953 it had achieved the scale it would maintain for 20 years and had established three of today's five best known directorates: the Directorate of Operations, the Directorate of Analysis, the Directorate of Science & Technology, the Directorate of Support, and the Directorate of Digital Innovation.

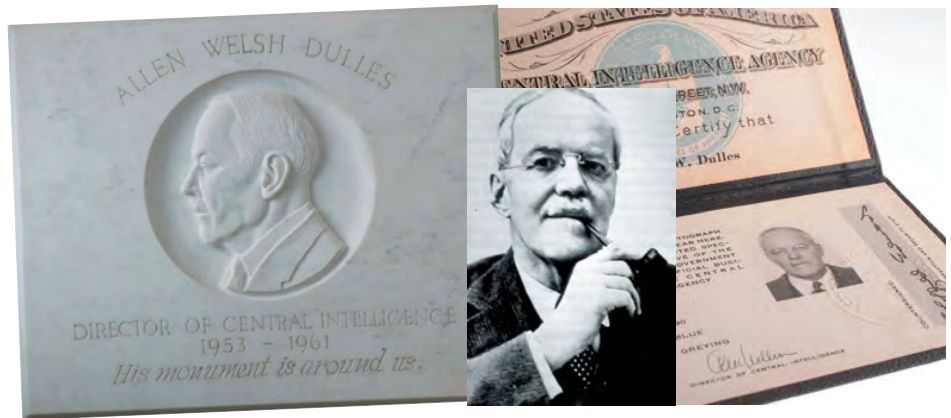
#### LANGLEY

The first offices of the CIA were situated in central Washington DC, but in late 1961, the Agency moved to a newly constructed facility in Langley, Virginia under the direction DCI Allen Dulles where it still serves today as an iconic symbol of CIA and its mission. And the name 'Langley' is often referenced (exchanged) by its staffers when referring to the CIA.

On 17 December 2004, President George W. Bush signed the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act which restructured the USIC (United States Intelligence Community) by abolishing the position of Director of Central Intelligence (DCI) and Deputy Director of Central Intelligence



**The CIA's 65th Anniversary was highlighted at the New York Stock Exchange - in attendance D/CIA David Patraeus (centre)**



**Allen Welsh Dulles CIA Director - 1953-1961**

(DDCI) and creating the position the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency (D/CIA). The Act also created the position of Director of National Intelligence (O [Office] DNI), which oversees the Intelligence Community and America's burgeoning National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC).

#### OLD FRIENDS IN MOSCOW

For many years of the CIA's first seventy, Langley has battled its oldest adversary - Russia's KGB and its replacement[s], the FSB, SVR and GRU (to name but a few). From propaganda and psychological



**1987. President Reagan delivers his famous "tear this wall down" speech in West Berlin**

**Left: 1987. KGB badge celebrating 70 years of service to Moscow and Communism**



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**Shield of the NKVD**

operations, to real life threats of nuclear response and spy games played around the world, the two entities have sought to gain a hidden advantage. And quite naturally, it would be amiss of Moscow not to make reference of the CIA's 70th anniversary.

The intelligence arm of the Kremlin chose Sputnik News to broadcast a feature called 'Seven Decades of Organised Crime: Central Intelligence Agency Turns 70'. The news piece included a section entitled: 'Four of the worst things the toxic agency has done - at least the worst the public knows about'. A commentator said: "Over the course of its seven-decade-long existence, the agency's brief has frequently extended to violence, assassination, subversion, infiltration and coup d'etat, among assorted criminal skulduggery." The four 'worst things' include overthrowing governments, arming militants, media infiltration and human experimentation.

In respect of Sputnik's dark humoured 'glowing admiration', a former CIA officer told Eye Spy: "Everything included in the piece was expected!" He smiled and proclaimed: "The pot calling the kettle black? Happy anniversary CIA."

**CONGRATULATIONS CIA**



**T**he CIA received congratulations from President Trump - albeit in the form of a 'tweet' that included a video showing excerpts of his speech at the Agency's headquarters in Langley, Virginia.

During the talk, controversially given in front of the fabled Memorial Wall, he chose to attack the media. "So I can only say that I am with you a thousand percent and the reason you're my first stop, is that as you know I have a running war with the media. They are among the most dishonest human beings on Earth," the President said. "And they sort of made it sound like I had a feud with the intelligence community and I just want to let you know, the reason you're the number one stop, it is exactly the opposite".



**President Trump speaks to CIA staffers**



EACH REPRESENTS A LIFE, DEATH AND  
NEARLY ALWAYS A SECRET BACK STORY

# CIA STARS

IN HONOR OF THOSE MEMBERS  
OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY

**A**n impactful site in the lobby of CIA headquarters awaits visitors, staff and dignitaries alike. It has been deliberately positioned here to inject into the minds of people, the awareness that some of its employees have paid the ultimate sacrifice in service of the organisation, the United States and its allies. A silent memorial with the wording 'who gave their lives in the service of their country'.

## SECURING A STAR

The Honour and Merit Awards Board (HMAB) recommends approval of the nomination to the CIA Director if it meets the following selection criteria:

*'Inclusion on the Memorial Wall is awarded posthumously to employees who lose their lives while serving their country in the field of intelligence. Death may occur in the foreign field or in the United States. Death must be of an inspirational or heroic character while in the performance of duty; or as the result of an act of terrorism while in the performance of*



*duty; or as an act of premeditated violence targeted against an employee, motivated solely by that employee's Agency affiliation; or in the performance of duty while serving in areas of hostilities or other exceptionally hazardous conditions where the death is a direct result of such hostilities or hazards'.*

Once approved by the Director, the Office of Protocol arranges placement of the star on the Memorial Wall.

In 2017, eight new stars were engraved - four of which Langley has now chosen to reference: David Bevan, Darrell Eubanks and John Lewis died in an aircraft whilst



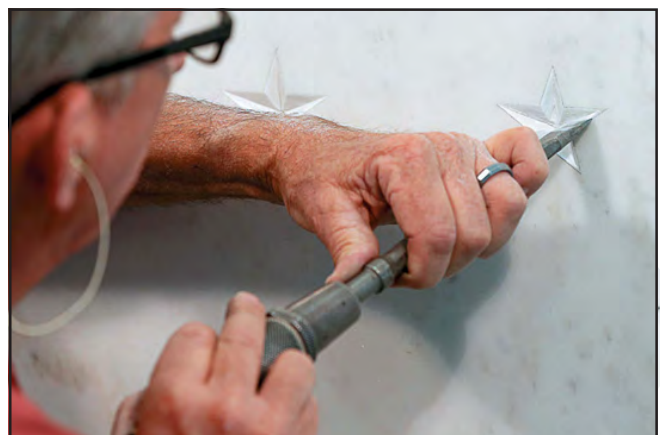
performing a mission for the legendary CIA front company - Air America in Laos 1961. Mark Rausenberger was also named. Just 18-years-old at the time, the circumstances of his death remains classified. As for the other four, their adventures will remain secret for some time, as just revealing their names would expose top secret missions.

Seven decades have now passed and dozens of stars have been engraved on the CIA's Memorial Wall - each one representing an officer, agent or staffer who has passed in the line of duty. Today, 125 stars - each telling a secret and unspoken story or act - reflect the Agency's silent service. When it was first dedicated in 1974, there were just 34 stars.

## CREATING A STAR

When a new entry is added to the Book of Honor, a stone carver is called upon to add the corresponding star to the Memorial Wall. First a star is traced on the wall using a template. Each star measures two inches by two inches and has a depth of half-an-inch. They are separated six inches apart. Today, a pneumatic air hammer and chisel are used to carve out the traced pattern. After completion, the star is cleaned and sprayed black; in time the colouring fades and turns to grey.

## Memorial Wall 2017







# MEDIA WATCH

Eye Spy examines a number of fascinating projects linked to the world of espionage and intelligence currently attracting global attention

## AGE OF TERROR: ART SINCE 9/11

**B**ritain's Imperial War Museum, established in 1917 while WWI was still being fought, tells the story of people who have lived, fought and died in conflicts involving Britain since the First World War. As part of its 100th anniversary, its London museum (one of a number throughout the UK) is hosting the first major exhibition featuring artistic responses to terrorism, war and conflict since the catastrophic events of 9/11. Some 50 art

works span film, sculpture, painting, installations, photography and prints and features more than 40 British and international contemporary artists.

The attack in America changed the world forever and also changed public perception and understanding of conflict. "The complex issues surrounding the global response to 9/11, the nature of modern warfare and the continuing state of emergency in which we

### Dolls at Dungeness September 11th 2001 by Grayson Perry

find ourselves have become compelling subject matter for contemporary artists," a museum official said. "Artists' unique ways of communicating through their art provide different levels of understanding. The stories they tell, whether first or second-hand, come from alternative viewpoints not always reflected in the mainstream media."

Age of Terror takes 9/11 as its starting point and is presented in four themes; artists' direct or immediate responses to the events of 9/11; issues of state surveillance and security; our complex relationship with firearms, bombs and drones and the destruction caused by conflict on landscape, architecture and people.

The exhibition runs until 28 May 2018.

**LINKS:** <http://www.iwm.org.uk/ageofterror>



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© THE ARTIST/PHOTO THELMA GARCIA/COURTESY GALERIE DANIEL TEMPLON, PARIS-BRUSSELS



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Circadian Rhyme 1 by Jitish Kallat

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5000 Feet is the Best - film still, single channel projection



© AI WEIWEI STUDIO; COURTESY LISSON GALLERY

Surveillance Camera with Plinth

## EICHMANN: OPERATION FINALE

### New Motion Picture on the Capture of Adolf Eichmann

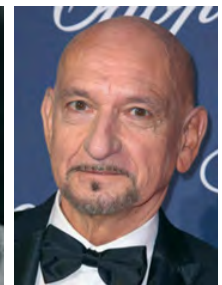
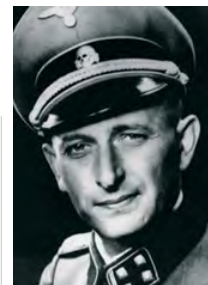
**T**he legendary Mossad operation to capture a leading WWII Nazi - Adolf Eichmann - is being chronicled in a new movie. Using the cover identity Ricardo Klement, Eichmann avoided detection in Argentina until his location and identity was confirmed by a specialist unit dedicated to finding him in 1960.

Argentina was a safe haven for Nazi war criminals after the war, including Joseph Mengele and Erich Priebke. Adolf Eichmann was the organiser of the transport of Jews to concentration camps in Europe. He escaped

to Argentina via Austria after WWII. He was captured in Argentina by the Mossad team and agents of Shin Bet in the famous raid -



codenamed Operation Finale. Thereafter he was brought to Israel and stood trial for crimes against humanity. Writer, humanitarian and Holocaust survivor Simon Wiesenthal (left) was instru-

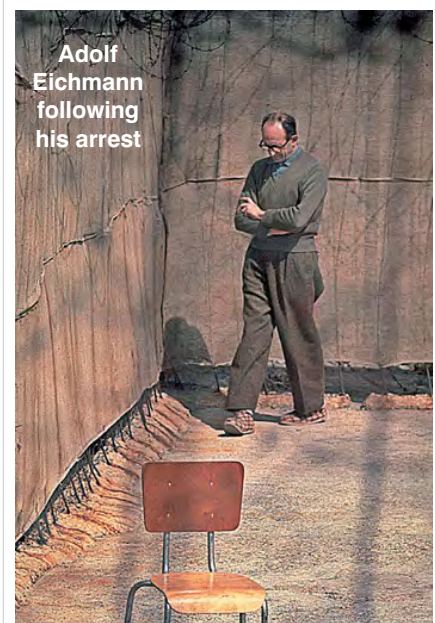


Ben Kingsley plays Adolf Eichmann

mental in finding the location of Eichmann after learning he was living in South America in 1953. ➤



Former memorial at a bus stop close to Eichmann's WWII office in Berlin



Adolf Eichmann following his arrest

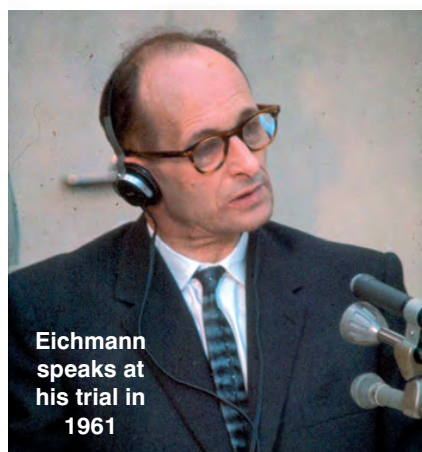




Reverse roles - Ben Kingsley plays Nazi Eichmann. Nearly 30-years ago he featured in a picture as Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal



Oscar Isaac plays Mossad officer Peter Malkin



Eichmann speaks at his trial in 1961

Filmed in Buenos Aires it stars Academy Award winner Ben Kingsley as Eichmann, whilst Mossad team leader Peter Malkin is played by Guatemalan-American actor Oscar Isaac. Malkin is regarded as one of the Service's most successful operatives and later went on to become chief of operations.

It was Malkin who approached Eichmann on the street and famously said "momentito senior," before wrestling him to the ground and pushing him into a waiting vehicle. The operation is regarded in intelligence circles as the most famous ever conducted by the Mossad. No doubt these famous words will be

used in the movie. Another Mossad agent, Zvi Aharoni, is played by Michael Aronov.

Eichmann was sentenced and executed by hanging in the yard of Ayalon Prison in Israel in 1961.

Nearly thirty years ago Ben Kingsley actually portrayed Simon Wiesenthal in the film 'Murderers Among US: The Simon Wiesenthal Story'.

'Operation Finale' is produced by Fred Berger, directed by Chris Weitz and written by Matthew Orton. The release date has not been announced.

## NEW SPY MUSEUM TO OPEN IN NEW YORK CITY

**S**pyscape, is a new museum dedicated to espionage developed by the British investment group Archimedia, and will open in January 2018. Located in mid-town Manhattan on 8th Avenue and 55th

Street, the museum advertises it delves into the secret universe of intelligence agents, codebreakers, investigative journalists and

hacktivists. The museum's web site states: 'We tell real-life spy stories with a mix of extraordinary artifacts, engaging media and personalized experiences. Spyscape allows visitors to explore their own spy skills and attributes, and learn what kind of spy they'd be'.

The museum, designed by leading architect Sir David Frank Adejaye, will



Former CIA Director General David Petraeus has backed the Spyscape project





feature rare artifacts and personalised experiences including interrogation booths, code-making stations, a surveillance experience and a special laser tunnel.

Former CIA Director General David Petraeus said. "Spyscape provides a wonderfully creative, interactive, and stimulating experience that imparts tremendous insights into the conduct of spy craft and intelligence operations - as well as the paradoxes involved in such operations."

The museum says an average visit will take between one and two hours. An adult ticket costs \$39.00 (£33.00).



Sir David Frank Adejaye

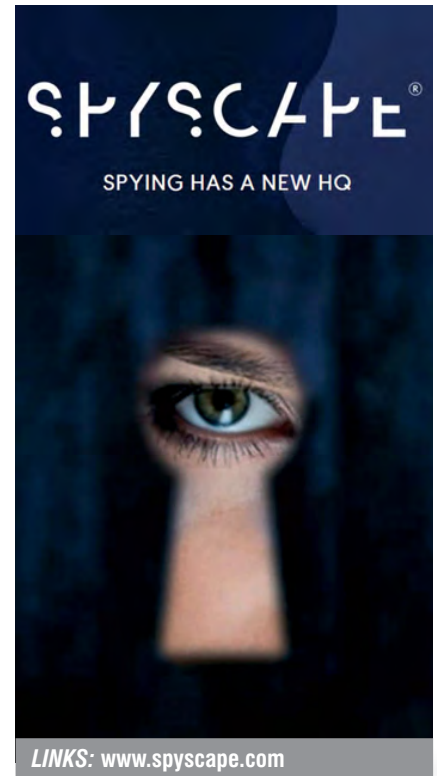
# FIELD STATION TEUFELSBERG

Former NSA Cold War Spy Station Now A 'Cultural Space' - Intel Watchers Far From Happy

**B**erlin's famous Field Station Teufelsberg, a former listening post for the US National Security Agency, was a key component of the worldwide ECHELON intelligence gathering network. Well known for its giant white 'bubbles' atop the facility, it was referred to by former staffers as 'The Pile,'

because it was built over a Nazi college that couldn't be destroyed after World War II.

Abandoned for many years, and a target for graffiti artists and political activists, Teufelsberg, north of Berlin's Grunewald Forest, is taking on a new lease on life as an art exhibition space. Marvin Schutte, the current landlord of the site, officially opened the site to the public in 2016. He now charges around £7.50 for access, and a similar amount for a photo pass. He opened the structure as an open art gallery allowing 'artists' to spray paint 'street art' and create a 'gallery'.



The 'art' can be found inside and outside of most of the buildings and there is a little bar with up-cycled furniture dotted around the site. In addition, he allows music bands to play in its famous dome. "The acoustics are amazing," he said.

He wants locals and tourists alike to visit Teufelsberg and relax. "If you have a stressed week in Berlin, you come up here Saturday, sit around, listen to music, see art, talk to artists and just enjoy silence and free time," he said. Artists can call several weeks before arriving and book a wall upon which to spray or paint. However, some 'works' are laced with propaganda and derogatory words opposing its former role as a key defensive position which provided protection against invasion. The anti-espionage, anti-politics theme is echoed in other works around the complex.

Schutte's plan for a "little museum with some history" has done nothing to appease many







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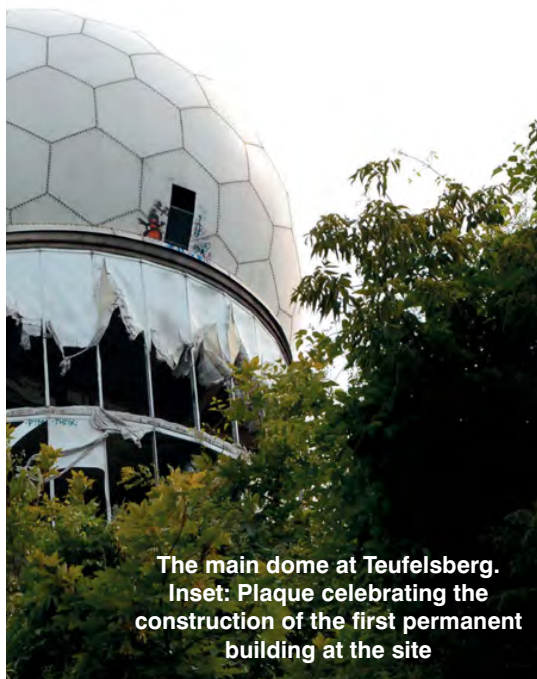


intelligence historians who wanted to turn the site into a fully working Cold War museum, educational and archive centre. One intelligence watcher told Eye Spy Associate Editor D. Anne Kohl: "I shudder to think what 'history' will be included Schutte's little museum."

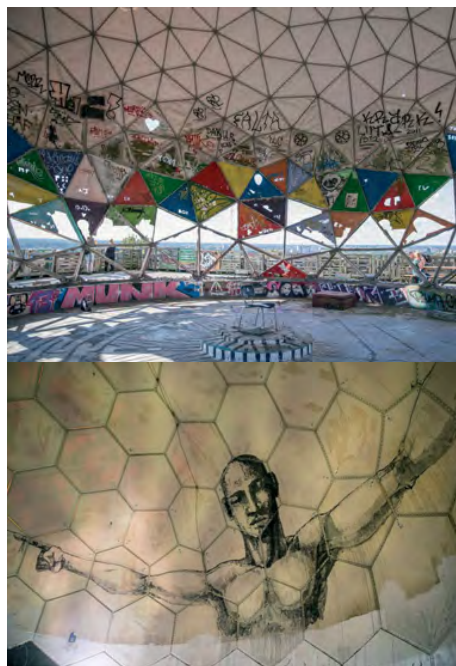
Field Station Teufelsberg continued to operate until the fall of Communism and the Berlin Wall. After WWII 1945-1948 Russia stripped the factories of East Germany of machinery to take as reparations. The US, Britain and France responded with an airlift flying supplies to the people in West Berlin so they could defend it and resist a takeover. "Communists wanted to take West Berlin over because they had expansive tendencies," the intelligence source said. By 1961, nearly 2,000 East Germans were fleeing into West Berlin every







The main dome at Teufelsberg. Inset: Plaque celebrating the construction of the first permanent building at the site



day. "If not for the US, Britain and France - and the NSA, it is very likely that Germany would probably have become a Communist nation - but fortunately we will never know".

Many oppose the new vision for the site and despite recent happenings involving NSA,

GCHQ and spying concerns within the corridors of Germany's parliament building, it's unlikely those spraying anti-NSA 'art', have even delved into the historic role played by the spy centre. In 2014 an environmental activist was sent to prison for three years by a Russian court for spray painting his views on

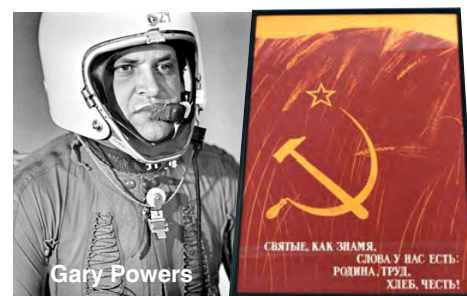
a fence. Our German source concluded: "I doubt they have even considered the efforts of the dedicated people who worked at the site that gave them the freedom to paint their words of opposition."

## CIA U-2 FLYER GARY POWERS ARTEFACTS AUCTIONED

**F**ifty-five years after captured US Air Force pilot Gary Powers was released from Soviet prison in exchange for KGB spy Colonel Rudolf Abel during the Cold War, US auction house Guernsey recently auctioned a number of his belongings. Donated by his son, Francis Gary Powers Jr., who along with John C. Welch founded the Cold War Museum in Virginia in 1996, the items depict what life was like for an American spy during the Cold War. Called the 'Espionage Collection', the items included various equipment and documents written by Powers during his imprisonment.

**High Altitude Flight Suit:** A perfect copy of the flight suit Powers wore on the day he was shot down flying a CIA U-2 in 1960. Not Sold.

**Inflatable Raft:** While the flight suit above was never actually worn by Powers, this raft was likely on board his U-2 with him the day it was shot down on 1 May 1960. Experts believe the item was salvaged and displayed in a Soviet museum following the failed CIA reconnaissance mission. After the museum was looted, the raft was allegedly used by local fishermen for years before it was returned to Powers' family. Sold: \$1300

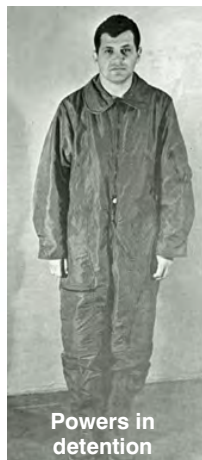


**Trench Coat:** - A tan London Towne jacket worn by Powers in the 1960s was originally made for Army officers. Not Sold

**Soviet Propaganda Poster:** Several Soviet Union propaganda posters were also sold, including a poster depicting a gold hammer and sickle against a field of grain. Sold: \$100

**Orange Flight Suit:** Worn by Powers during low altitude flights on the Lockheed U-2 practice missions. This historic suit served as the uniform he wore before he was shot down. Sold: \$2,750

**LINKS:** [www.coldwar.org/index.asp](http://www.coldwar.org/index.asp)



Powers in detention



**Powers Prison Journal:** Faced with up to 10 years in USSR custody, Powers started teaching himself Russian shortly after he was sentenced. His notebook from that time contains two pages of English words paired with their Russian definitions handwritten in pencil. Sold: \$750



Francis Gary Powers Jr.



international

# NOTES:

لا إله إلا الله

الله  
رسول  
محمد

## ISIS/DAESH

# FRAGMENTATION AND LEGACY

### NEW HORIZONS FOR ISIS

**O**n 17 October Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) announced that Raqqa, the de facto capital of ISIS, is free of enemy forces. In an operation codenamed Great Battle, the SDF said “all fighting had ceased.” News of the victory followed the defeat of ISIS forces in Mosul, Iraq, another stronghold of the terror group.

A more guarded response on the situation in Syria came from US Central Command (CENTCOM). An official here said “90% of the city is now free of ISIS fighters.” Either way, news of events in Raqqa was hailed by world leaders. President Trump said: “The defeat of ISIS in Raqqa represents a critical breakthrough in our worldwide campaign to defeat ISIS and its wicked ideology. With the



liberation of the ISIS capital and the vast majority of its territory, the end of the ISIS caliphate is in sight.”

Whilst the fall of ISIS as a fighting force seems inevitable, intelligence officials around the world have all acknowledged that the fragmentation of the group, means increased domestic terrorist attacks are likely to occur.

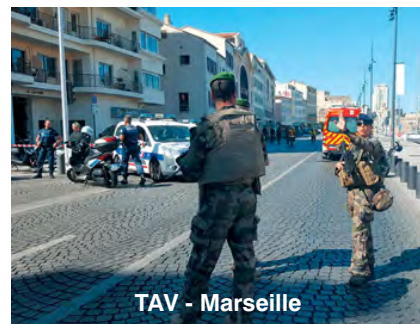
**Flags of the SDF and Kurdish fighting force YPJ fly in the centre of Raqqa following defeat of ISIS**

Such a projection was recently made by MI5 Director-General Andrew Parker, who feared the legacy of ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi will remain for some years to come.

In this brief international overview, Eye Spy presents a few significant Autumn happenings involving the terror group with some reflective new horizon and emerging threats.

### 21 AUGUST. MARSEILLE, FRANCE

**P**robably inspired by events in Barcelona just four days's earlier when a terrorist used a vehicle to kill 14 people, ISIS claimed responsibility for two separate incidents where a man crashed his van into bus shelters killing one woman and injuring several others. The first incident occurred at 8.15am in the 11th district in the northern part of the city and the second took place one hour later in the 13th district.



TAV - Marseille







US Army battery strikes ISIS positions. Right: Kurdish fighter



## SCENES FROM RAQQA



A 35-year-old man was arrested. ISIS supporters tweeted *'the war has just begun'*.

### 29 SEPTEMBER. EDMONTON, CANADA

A police officer controlling traffic at a football game at Alberta's Commonwealth Stadium was deliberately run over by a vehicle. Somali-born refugee Abdulahi Hasan Sharif, 30, then stabbed constable Mike Chernyk several times, before fleeing on foot. Shortly before midnight, a man driving a rented van was stopped at a checkpoint with documents similar to that of the man police were searching for. The truck then fled the scene pursued by officers. Four pedestrians were rammed during the resultant chase in what police say were deliberate actions.

Sharif was jailed in the US in 2011 and ordered back to Somalia. Released under control conditions he failed to report on his

scheduled date. He crossed the border into Canada and later received refugee status. Edmonton police were notified in 2015 that the man was "espousing extremist ideology," but investigators determined at that time that he did not pose a threat.



Abdulahi Hasan

### 10-14 OCTOBER. MOSCOW, RUSSIA

Russia's National Anti-terrorism Committee (NAC) and the FSB released a statement: *'The security service along with the Russian Interior Ministry has uncovered and stopped the*



An ISIS suspect is detained

activities of the ISIS/Daesh'. The media release concerned four members of an ISIS gang who were detained in Moscow and Makhachkala (capital Republic of Dagestan). A subsequent search of the cell's safehouse uncovered three large explosive devices. One detainee said they were intended for use in crowded places. ➤



Police officer Mike Chernyk



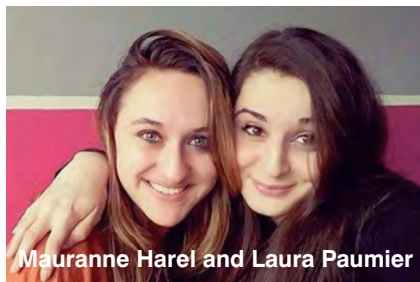


## Russian counter-terrorism officers raid one of two ISIS safe houses identified by the FSB

Earlier in September, the FSB released video footage of officers arresting members of another ISIS sleeper cell plotting to launch a series of high-profile attacks on the country's transport system. The arrests were made in a residential apartment - grenades, pistols and explosives were recovered. The cell included Russian citizens from the North Caucasus region who claimed they were "committed to establish a global Islamic caliphate and were directed by foreign militants."

### 1 OCTOBER. MARSEILLE, FRANCE

Cousins Mauranne Harel, 20, and Laura Paumier, 21 were stabbed to death and their assailant, Ahmed Hanachi, 29, shot dead by a soldier in the southern French port city. Police sources said Hanachi



Mauranne Harel and Laura Paumier

had shouted "Allahu Akbar" (God is great) in Arabic as he attacked the women at Marseille's main railway station.

Hanachi, an Italian resident with a valid Tunisian passport, had seven previous 'encounters' with French police. He had no residency papers, but due to legal matters had not been expelled from the country.

ISIS associated web sites immediately claimed responsibility, but French investigators have thus far refused to confirm his allegiance.

However, perhaps a clue can be found in Italy when just days later, four other associates were detained on suspicion of criminal association in relation with a terrorist

undertaking. It transpired that two of the men are Hanachi brothers, Anouar and Anis. Anis is suspected of complicity in the Marseille attack - he was described as a "former ISIS fighter" who recently returned from Syria.



### 1 OCTOBER. SYRIA

Russia's Air Force destroyed a training centre, three terrorist command posts, nine strongholds, eight tanks, three artillery systems, 17 off-road vehicles with large-calibre weapons and four ammunition depots. The operation was centred around an ISIS stronghold near Deir el-Zour in eastern Syria. It allowed forces loyal to President Bashar Assad to retake areas previously occupied by the terror group.

Defence officials said 304 terrorists were killed and 170 injured in what was described as the Air Force's "biggest ever raid on ISIS positions."



President Assad has the backing of Russia



### 4 OCTOBER. PARIS, FRANCE

Five people were taken into custody by French authorities over a failed bombing attempt at an apartment building in Paris. Police said that a neighbour alerted authorities to suspicious activity in the building in the uptown 16th arrondissement, or district. An official said an explosive device was found and deactivated. Counterterrorism prosecutors have opened an investigation.



Interior Minister Gerard Collomb

under surveillance." Collomb revealed the terror cell had intended to attack a "chic neighbourhood in Paris."

### 9 OCTOBER. BIRMINGHAM, UK

ISIS supporter Zahid Hussain, 29, who used a bedroom in his parents' house as a "base of operations and improvised laboratory," to research and build explosives, has received a life sentence. Judge Justice Sweeney told Hussain it was clear he had been "strongly committed" to carrying out multiple bombings.



Following Hussain's arrest in August 2015 investigators discovered evidence he had carried out reconnaissance on London rail lines and had made a pressure cooker bomb (PCB) with a fairy light igniter to use on the line. In addition, he possessed books on guerrilla warfare and had adapted other devices to act as ignition switches including a wireless doorbell.





**Hussain's room contained a plethora of terror-related material**

Hussain became radicalised after viewing hundreds of ISIS videos on the Internet from his bedroom.

**10 OCTOBER. SYRIA**

**T**wo Russian mercenaries captured by ISIS were executed because they refused to read out a statement saying they rejected their Christian faith and had converted to Islam. Roman Zabolotny, 39, and Grigory Tsurkanu, 38, also refused to say on camera that they had joined the terrorist group.

Intelligence sources state the Russians were members of a secret, deniable mercenary force called the Wagner Private Army deployed in Syria by the Kremlin.

Ruslan Leviev, founder of Conflict Intelligence Team (CIT), an independent investigation group, said: "We think it is a strategy of the Defence Ministry of Russia: sending mercenaries to the 'hottest' places. We avoid losses among official soldiers yet keep the image of a successful combat operation."



**Grigory Tsurkanu and Roman Vasilievich Zabolotny**

US intelligence sources have also drawn reference to the private company providing covert operatives to fight in proxy wars, such as in the east of Ukraine. Others have said the fighters are given training by the GRU (military intelligence).

**OCTOBER. SYRIA**

**S**ally Jones, 50, the former UK beautician who travelled to Syria with her son in 2013 to fight for ISIS, has been killed in a US UAV Predator strike. The CIA reportedly informed UK

# THE LAST SYMBOL OF ISIS

## Fate of Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi Unclear

**T**hree years ago Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, 46, emerged on the steps of the Great Mosque of al-Nuri in Mosul to declare the creation of a caliphate. Since then, a dedicated CIA Desk has been seeking the terror leader throughout the region. Though controlled by Langley, the operation has utilised Special Forces' troops, intelligence contacts, paid sums of monies to informants, inserted agents, liaised with numerous Middle East agencies and has a permanent link to an NSA detail constantly monitoring ISIS communications. In the event he is traced, the CIA can engage in minutes with armed UAV controllers and air operators from all three armed forces to attack locations. On three occasions the CIA Desk has been alerted, according to officials, resulting in air strikes and the targeting of one safe house, a meeting room and a moving convoy.



**Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi - Russian intelligence officials have again insisted the terror leader is dead**

Al-Baghdadi was last seen in October 2016 and heard on radio in late November of the same year - urging his supporters to stand firm as the battle for Mosul neared. Now a new 45-minute recording of the terror leader has been released. It is considered authentic, but its content gives little away in respect of where it was actually recorded - but there are clues to when.

Whilst there's no direct reference to Raqqa, he does reflect on the "near one-year fight for Mosul," and recent "nuclear happenings" between North Korea and the United States. He also mocks America for allowing Russia to lead peace talks. Intelligence analysts have



**2014. Al-Baghdadi speaks at the Great Mosque of al-Nuri, Mosul**

pondered long and hard if this negates claims by Russian Intelligence that he was killed at the end of May in a Russian airstrike near Raqqa. And other intelligence people believe much more 'chatter' amongst ISIS fighters would have been heard if the leader was dead. US Lt. General Stephen Townsend said: "I really don't know where he is." He too believes the voice on the recording is al-Baghdadi.



**Most Wanted. US Department of Justice poster for al-Baghdadi's arrest**

Despite a \$25 million reward for his capture, the last symbol of ISIS remains elusive to the CIA Desk keen to deliver news of his downfall to those fighting against the terror group. Privately, most intelligence officials recognise that even if he is killed, it is unlikely to deter those intent on following in his footsteps...



**CNN report on the 'death' of Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi**





## FROM IT TO FIGHTING ISIS

British civilian IT worker and painter Jac Holmes, 24, who chose to travel to Syria in 2015 to fight with Peshmerga forces against ISIS, has died just 72-hours after the city was officially declared 'liberated'. Holmes headed a sniper unit but was caught up in a blast as he and colleagues searched for covertly placed IEDs in the rubble of houses.

Holmes, who had no previous military experience and often posted imagery and comments on social media sites recently said: "I miss England but wanted to fight the evil in Syria."



**Sally Jones - few will mourn her demise**

security services that Jones, who went by the names of Umm Hussain al-Britani and Sakinah Hussein, was killed near the Syria-Iraq border in June. Whilst there is "high confidence" in US Intelligence circles she is dead, it is impossible to be categorical given the inability to collect evidence on the ground. A cautionary comment from a Pentagon official warned, "other members of ISIS have been reported dead only to reappear."

Some analysts believe the delay in releasing information on Jones' death surrounds her

12-year-old son JoJo. The child, who was seen in ISIS propaganda videos murdering captives (below), is also believed to have been killed in the airstrike.

New regulations give Pentagon and CIA forces authority to launch strikes against ISIS terrorists without needing White House approval.



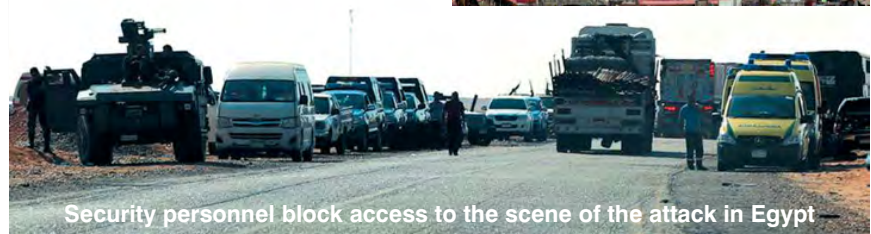
**JoJo prepares to shoot a captive**

## 21 OCTOBER. NORTH SINAI, EGYPT

A deadly attack on Egypt's police officers is clouded in ambiguity. Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi officially announced 14 policemen were killed in an ambush by terrorists southwest of Cairo. However, some journalists and security officials claim the death toll is actually 54 - 20 officers and 34 undergoing training.

Acting on intelligence the officers were killed after moving against an ISIS supportive group known as the Hasm Movement. Dozens of operatives were thought to be using a safehouse and training area some 80 miles southwest of Cairo. The police transport section was targeted by terrorists using RPGs (rocket propelled grenades) and heavy weaponry.

Confusion surrounding what happened next has caused some journalists to speculate the police detail actually ran out of ammunition. Many Egyptians are divided over who is to blame. No group immediately claimed responsibility but sources suggest that the police force had been infiltrated by Islamists given the ambush was carefully planned.



**Security personnel block access to the scene of the attack in Egypt**

## 22 OCTOBER. MIDDLE EAST/ASIA

ISIS media has 'promised' to bring death and mayhem to the 2018 football World Cup finals in Russia. A new on-line propaganda campaign shows a jihadi and a bomb in front of a football stadium and bullet-ridden photos of President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin with the message: *'Lie in wait for them at every chance to ambush... the Levant is the graveyard of the Russians and Americans'*.

The messages, shared throughout pro-ISIS Internet sites on the encrypted messaging application Telegram, have been attributed to the Al-Wafaa Media Foundation. The messages include excerpts of a Quranic verse manipulated by ISIS followers to urge fellow jihadis to take every opportunity to conduct deadly attacks in the United States and Russia.

The 2018 World Cup will be held across 11 cities in Russia in June and July with tens of thousands of foreign fans alone expected to visit the country for the month-long finals.



## 24 OCTOBER. MARAWI, PHILIPPINES

In the Philippines, ISIS via its proxies the Maute and Abu Sayyaf Salafi terror groups have laid siege to the city of Marawi for the last six months. On 17 October President Rodrigo Duterte declared victory over ISIS but the fighting raged for a further week. The statement was issued following the death of senior terrorists Omar Maute and Isnilon Hapilon.



**Airstrike against an ISIS target in Marawi**



# The Torture CELL



**Abu Sa'eed al-Britani - a former supermarket employee**

## CONFUSION OVER FATE OF BRITISH ISIS RECRUITER

**A** Sky News investigative team which has been active in a number of high-risk areas in Syria, has visited a former prison operated by ISIS, and discovered evidence that a notorious British member of the group was held there. Beneath Raqqa's main sports stadium, a labyrinth of

secret rooms were used as a detention, torture and execution complex. In one cell, prisoners wrote their names on the wall... and one in particular was instantly recognisable - Abu Sa'eed al-Britani. He was in fact senior ISIS recruiter, fighter and spokesman Omar Hussain who also used the name Abu Awlaki. He left his

home near London in 2013 to participate in a food convoy operation to Syria - but his real intention was to join al-Qaida (Al-Nusra Front). After three months he switched allegiance and joined ISIS.

Once embedded with ISIS forces he used the Internet as a propaganda and recruiting platform to urge others to join ISIS. He had threatened to return to the UK and attack locations, but his communications slowed in 2016 - this



after inviting then British Premier David Cameron to send troops to Syria so they could be "slaughtered."



Beneath his scribbled name (left) in the cell was a date - 24/02/2016 and crossed-out icons signifying his time spent there - 49 days. Now analysts have conjectured he fell foul of the group's leadership and was killed. However, Hussain allegedly used the Internet in August 2017 to protest about the lack of support being afforded to the group by other Muslims as Alliance forces began the battle to retake Raqqa.

**Above Right: Omar Hussain posted this photograph (believed to have been taken near Raqqa) on 7 June 2015 on the Internet. The propaganda recruiting image shows the terrorist (circled) at the rear of a group of children holding weapons. A tag-line written by the terrorist read: 'This is how we teach ur kids in school here in Sham... All girls had a shot'**



**Recovered ISIS weaponry**



**ISIS graffiti found on a Marawi building - 'Islamic State of the World'**



**The destruction on Marawi - scenes are reminiscent of Raqqa**

Visiting observers said the city of 225,000 had been completely destroyed and imagery was reminiscent of scenes from Raqqa.

The CIA, which had been providing intelligence to government forces, estimates 1,000 terrorists and 175 government troops were killed in the fighting, along with around 100 civilians.

### 2 NOVEMBER. SOMALIA

**F**ollowing the terrorist attack in New York, the US Government authorised air strikes using armed UAVs on several known ISIS terrorist camps in northeastern Somalia.

The attacks were the first on ISIS positions in the Horn of Africa, a region beset with troubles and incidents of terrorism. President Trump warned US forces would "ramp up strikes against ISIS anywhere in the world."

### AL-QAIDA'S BIGGEST TRUCK BOMBING



**Aftermath of the Mogadishu strikes**

Al-Qaida claimed responsibility for what was described as the deadliest truck bombings ever. On 14 October, two bombs in the Somali capital Mogadishu killed 358 people and injured a further 400. US intelligence officials said the likely target was a security facility housing international agencies and a number of Alliance fighting forces.



## NEW YORK TERRORIST PLOT

# FBI UNDERCOVER

**“A DATE THAT WILL  
CHANGE HISTORY....”**

**T**hree men, Canadian national Abdulrahman El Bahnasawy, 19, Talha Haroon, 19, a US citizen based in Pakistan, and Russell Salic, 36, another American living in the Philippines and known as ‘The Doctor’, planned to attack targets in New York City. All have since been detained. The Bureau state the gang were intent on “bringing about the next 9/11.” According to a statement from the US Justice Department, the men were inspired by the ISIS Paris terrorist attacks of 13 November 2015.

The FBI uncovered the plot last year, and entered into a complex intelligence-gathering operation, which identified various attack methods and targets. Court documents show they discussed detonating bombs in New York’s famous Times Square and attacking

civilians using the city’s bustling transit system. Other schemes included the mass shooting of civilians at concert venues (not specified). One attack date discussed was 30 May 2016 - America’s Memorial Day. Haroon declared “that’s a date that will change history.”

### ELECTRONIC MESSAGING

One alleged conspirator wrote, via an instant-messaging app, that he believed Times Square and the Subway would be the perfect targets: ‘We seriously need a car bomb’ [to attack Times Square]. The three would-be terrorists allegedly also planned to detonate suicide vests killing civilians and themselves in the process. Haroon said the Subway was the ‘perfect target... as they could shoot as many passengers on the train as possible... when



*we run out of bullets we let the vests go off’.* The FBI contend the operation would have been funded mainly by Salic, who agreed to wire money through Western Union to New York. Indeed, several hundred dollars were traced by investigators and linked to the plot.



### Dr Russell Salic - denies involvement

Fortunately, in addition to plotting with each other, the three were also communicating with an undercover FBI agent, purporting to be a supporter of ISIS. Salic told the agent via an electronic device: ‘It would be a great pleasure if we could slaughter them’, a reference to the city’s Jewish residents. El Bahnasawy wrote: ‘We need to shoot up a concert coz they kill a lot of people... we just walk in with guns in hands. That’s how the Paris guys did it’. The last comment is a reference to the massacre at the head office of French satirical magazine *Charlie Hebdo*.







The bustling Times Square - one suspect told FBI agent they wanted to create an "ocean of blood"

© MIK FEENEY

#### AN AUTHENTIC THREAT

Disturbingly, Salic, who is an orthopaedic surgeon, is a known ISIS supporter and has been linked by security services in the Philippines to the abduction and beheadings of two Filipino workers in April 2016. Arrested earlier this year, he is accused of belonging to an ISIS offshoot known as the Maute Group (also known as the Islamic State of Lanao) based in the Philippines. Maute was formed by two criminal brothers, Abdullah and Omar Maute in 2011 and was previously called Dawlah Islamiya. In 2015, Maute pledged allegiance to ISIS/Daesh. On 23 May 2017,



Abdullah and Omar Maute

Maute attacked areas in the Philippine city of Marawi; several policemen, soldiers and civilians were killed and buildings set on fire,

including a hospital and mosque. The country's President Duterte declared a state of emergency in the region. As for Salic, he told the undercover Bureau man he was "desperate to join ISIS in Syria."

#### END GAME

Abdulrahman El Bahnasawy travelled to New Jersey on 21 May 2016, to prepare for the



El Bahnasawy made several purchases allegedly for bomb-making, including hydrogen peroxide, batteries, Christmas lights, aluminium foil and thermometers



El Bahnasawy sent the undercover FBI agent this map of the New York Subway and detailed his plan of attack. 'The 2 subway routes we will blow up will be the purple one and the green one', he wrote.





In 2016, 5.7 million people used the New York Subway every day (weekdays)

attacks. He was duly arrested and pleaded guilty to terrorist offences on 13 October 2016. As for Haroon, he was arrested by Pakistan police in September 2016, whilst Salic, was detained by security services in April 2017; both men are currently awaiting extradition to the United States, though Salic's alleged involvement in the ISIS case may lengthen the process. All are charged with terrorist offences including conspiracy to use weapons of mass destruction.

### NOT ENTRAPMENT

Whilst some ill-informed critics have labelled the operation entrapment, and the plot more aspirational than operational, the court documents show El Bahnasawy, for example, had already allegedly obtained bomb-making materials and had either rented or purchased a cabin in which to build the devices. The materials included 40lbs of hydrogen peroxide, batteries, Christmas lights, aluminium foil and thermometers - all delivered to the FBI agent. El Bahnasawy was arrested whilst visiting New York in May 2016. Similarly, the language used in the communications had intent, for example, whilst in Pakistan Haroon told the agent he had met with an explosives expert - 'we need perming



Hydrogen peroxide delivered to FBI agent



Abdulrahman El Bahnasawy

cords or detonator cords', he wrote. "This was for the purpose of obtaining additional information to be used in the building of the bombs," an FBI official said. And of course, Salic's link to the Maute Group and ISIS should not be downplayed.

A New York counterterrorism security source told Eye Spy the main reason for withholding details of the case for over a year was primarily because investigators wanted to check if other people were involved with the plot and had "international dimensions." And whilst there is no evidence yet of any ISIS control or instruction, Salic is supportive of the group and there are lots of references to ISIS attacks.

Few intelligence organisations in the world can compete with the Bureau in performing such operations, and in the last two decades, the FBI has derailed numerous terrorist



Russell Salic in court in the Philippines

plots in various stages of planning using similar methods. Whilst the FBI said the New York investigation was not a typical case, it was also not a sting operation. Intelligence watchers note that since 9/11, the organisation has successfully penetrated terror cells intent on attacking US interests, using highly skilled deception agents. Nearly 30 viable plots have been thwarted.

- In 2010, a similar FBI operation resulted in the arrest and subsequent conviction of terror operative Faisal Shahzad. He planned to detonate explosives packed in an SUV in Times Square (below).





# BOMB DETECTION AND SECURITY



*A Clue is  
Just an  
Another  
Word for a  
Mistake*

**E**arlier this year investigators from regional US authorities in and around New York gathered on Long Island, New York for a week-long course, taught by the FBI's elite bomb technicians, to learn specific techniques and investigative tools to respond to a suspected bombing or explosion. The course was held in response to growing concerns of terrorism in the USA. "Terrorists are showing they are taking every action they can take to try to raise their visibility," said US Department of Homeland Security Acting Secretary Elaine Duke. "Incidents like the recent bombings in London, Manchester and the 2016 Chelsea (New York) bombing and many other attacks, are all stark reminders of the necessity for

trained investigators who can quickly get to the scene of an incident." There was no reference to the foiled New York plot.

Karen Cunningham, a special agent on the FBI's counterterrorism squad, who participated in the training course said: "The ease at which bombs can be made, the simplicity of it, leaves that weapon in the hands of anyone who wants to cause harm to innocent people." Cunningham recognised that in most cases, the first crime responders are from local departments. Pete Licata, an FBI special agent bomb technician and instructor agreed: "These are the people that are going to respond first, it's not the FBI - they're the ones that are going to respond. We need our public

safety partners to be trained, to be able to solve these cases."

As for post-explosion evidence, instructors maintained clues are always left. "The misnomer is in an explosive crime scene, things just vapourise. Nothing vaporises, it may not be in its original state when it was bought off the shelf or before the device happened, but it is still there," said Licata.



In September, C. Bryan Paarmann was named Special Agent in Charge of the Counterterrorism Division of the FBI's New York Field Office. Vastly experienced in international terrorism, he is pictured here meeting students at the Bureau's Combating Terrorism Center on 6 October, where he delivered a lecture.



FBI bomb technicians train federal and local law enforcement officers in post-blast bomb investigation techniques





# JFK



Continued from Page 44

Americans who believe Oswald was the 'trigger man' for an international or domestic group of conspirators. A former CIA officer with intimate knowledge of the case told Eye Spy Editor Mark Birdsall: "No new revelations, no evidence of a wider conspiracy... nothing. But the release of the documents will no doubt provide the media and writing world with plenty of opportunities to create lots more theories. The US Intelligence Community is in a no-win situation whenever the topic of JFK and Oswald is discussed."

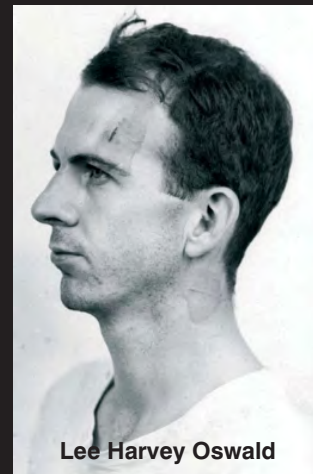


**Lyndon B Johnson is sworn in as President on Air Force One just hours after Kennedy's death. Alongside him is Kennedy's widow, Jacqueline**

Another former CIA officer who was almost certainly privy to the full facts of Kennedy's death is ex-Director James Woolsey (1993-1995). He believes the political situation at the time of the shooting, combined with other intelligence-related events, plus

the background of Oswald, all helped create the conspiracy.

Woolsey has seen the new material, but continues to present a chain-link scenario which he has supported for decades; Oswald's KGB links and his time spent in



**Lee Harvey Oswald**

Russia, and Russian President Nikita Khrushchev's hate of Kennedy for "making him look weak" during the Cuban missile crisis just a year earlier. Woolsey believes Khrushchev took the decision to kill the US President - not an easy task - especially as all eyes would fall directly on the KGB, regardless of how the assassination was carried out.

Woolsey conjectures a plot-line was discussed anyway, and notes a visit to Mexico by Oswald months before the assassination where it is believed he met with a KGB man and a plan was hatched. However, the CIA man believes Khrushchev opted to cancel the operation and stand down those involved. "Everyone did... except Oswald," said Woolsey.

"It's just one theory," he admitted, "but it's the one I lean towards." Woolsey also said he "would wait and see if anything comes from the new documents."



**Former CIA Director James Woolsey**



**Vienna 1961. John F. Kennedy with Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev**

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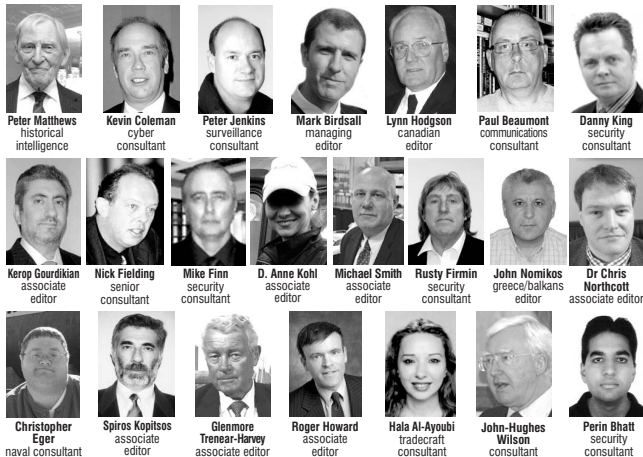


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