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ACIPSS-newsletter

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TOP HEADLINES

725/13

----- **Showdown in Zypern - Schäuble fordert Zugeständnisse** -----

(morgenpost) Die Euro-Finanzminister wollen Zypern retten. Bundesfinanzminister Wolfgang Schäuble hofft, "dass man in Zypern die Lage einigermaßen realistisch sieht". Das Treffen der Finanzminister wird verschoben.

Bundesfinanzminister Wolfgang Schäuble (CDU) hat Zypern in den Bemühungen zur Rettung des Landes vor dem Staatsbankrott zu Zugeständnissen aufgefordert. "Es liegt nicht an uns, die Entscheidung liegt in Zypern", sagte Schäuble am Sonntagabend in Brüssel vor einem Treffen der Euro-Finanzminister. "Ich hoffe, dass wir heute zu einem Ergebnis kommen, aber das setzt natürlich voraus, dass man in Zypern die Lage einigermaßen realistisch sieht."

- (a) <http://www.morgenpost.de/politik/ausland/article114731761/Showdown-in-Zypern-Schaeuble-fordert-Zugestaendnisse.html>
- (b) Rettung von Zypern: Springt Russland ein?:
<http://www.theintelligence.de/index.php/wirtschaft/kurznachrichten/5214-rettung-von-zypern-springt-russland-ein.html>



HOT SPOTS / WARS

726/13

----- **Rebellen erobern Bangui - Umsturz in der Republik Zentralafrika** -----

(nzz) Die Rebellen in der Republik Zentralafrika, die sich Ende letzten Jahres in einem losen Bündnis zusammengetan hatten, haben am Sonntag die Hauptstadt Bangui erobert. Gegenüber der Agentur AFP bestätigten sowohl Quellen innerhalb der zentralafrikanischen Regierungarmee als auch einer afrikanischen Interventionstruppe Meldungen der Aufständischen, nach denen der Präsidentenpalast gestürmt worden sei.

Wohin floh der Präsident?

Am Nachmittag waren in Bangui noch vereinzelt Schüsse zu hören, aber was die Regierungarmee überhaupt an Widerstand aufgebracht hatte, war rasch verpufft. Einwohner und Banden von Kriminellen nahmen die Gelegenheit zu ausgiebigen Plünderungen in Geschäften und Restaurants wahr. Neben verschiedenen afrikanischen Staaten hat auch Frankreich 250 Soldaten in Bangui stationiert. Präsident Hollande hatte jedoch bereits mehrfach klargemacht, dass sie ausschliesslich zum Schutz der rund 1200 in dem Land

niedergelassenen Franzosen und anderer westlicher Ausländer eingesetzt würden. Am Wochenende verstärkte Paris das Dispositiv und sicherte mit zusätzlichen 150 Soldaten den Flughafen. Von einer Evakuierung der Ausländer wurde jedoch vorerst abgesehen.

<http://www.nzz.ch/aktuell/international/umsturz-in-der-republik-zentralafrika-1.18052897>



UNITED STATES

727/13

DOD Releases Strategy for Homeland Defense + Defense Support

(DOD) The Department of Defense announced today the release of the Strategy for Homeland Defense and Defense Support of Civil Authorities. This policy establishes DoD's priorities in the areas of homeland defense and defense support of civil authorities through 2020, consistent with the president's National Security Strategy and the 2012 Defense Strategic Guidance. It links with other DoD and national strategic documents related to missile defense, space, cyberspace, counterterrorism, and the Western Hemisphere. The strategy identifies two priority missions for the department in the homeland: defend U.S. territory from direct attack by state and non-state actors; and provide assistance to domestic civil authorities in the event of natural or manmade disasters, potentially in response to a very significant or catastrophic event.

<http://www.defense.gov/Releases/Release.aspx?ReleaseID=15878>

728/13

Marine Corps' 1st Operational F-35B Conducts Initial Vertical Landing

(avionics-intelligence) The U.S. Marine Corps issued the following news release:

Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 121 watched in amazement and satisfaction as the Corps' first operational F-35B Lightning II squadron conducted its first Short Take Off, Vertical Landing operations aboard Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Ariz. March 21, 2013.

Maj. Richard Rusnok, an F-35B Lightning II test pilot, conducted VMFA-121's first short landing and takeoff as well as the Corps' first F-35B hover and vertical landing outside of a testing environment in BF-19.

VMFA-121 is the first F-35B squadron to join Marine Aircraft Group 13 which is currently composed of four AV-8B Harrier squadrons a Marine wing support squadron and a Marine aviation logistics squadron.

<http://www.avionics-intelligence.com/news/2013/03/24/marine-corps-1st-operational-f-35b-conducts-initial-vertical-landing.html>

729/13 -----

Austin Takes Central Command Flag From Mattis

(DOD) Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel presided over the change of command of U.S. Central Command from Marine Corps Gen. James N. Mattis to Army Gen. Lloyd J. Austin III here today.

Hagel said the transfer occurs at a time of great change in the Central Command area of responsibility. It is a time of great risk and challenges, the secretary said, and a time of great opportunities.

Mattis and Austin have a long history together, Hagel said. At the beginning of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Mattis and Austin led the first American troops to cross the berm into Iraq.

<http://www.defense.gov/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=119609>

730/13 -----

Pentagon delays sending furlough notices to civilian workforce

(USAF) Pentagon officials have put off sending furlough notices to civilian employees until they've had a chance to analyze how pending legislation that would fund the federal government for the rest of the fiscal year will affect the Defense Department.

Officials now estimate that furlough notices will go out on or about April 5, Navy Cmdr. Leslie Hull-Ryde, a Pentagon spokeswoman, said.

"The legislation could have some impact on the overall number of furlough days, but no decisions have been reached, especially since the legislation hasn't been signed into law," Hull-Ryde said. "The number of furlough days at this point remains at 22."

<http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123341117>

731/13 -----

US Lawmakers: Cyber Attacks Will Have Consequences

(VOA) Members of a U.S. congressional panel have expressed concern about the threat cyber attacks from other nations pose to U.S. national security. Some lawmakers are calling on the Obama administration to make sure governments which might be encouraging or tolerating cyber attacks know that these incidents will have serious consequences.

The Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia and Emerging Threats has called on the Obama administration to do more than just issue stern warning statements to China and other nations.

<http://www.voanews.com/content/us-lawmakers-cyber-attacks-will-have-consequences/1626246.html>

732/13

Pentagon Official Provides Budget Update

(DOD) Expressing the hope that a bill will pass through Congress this week to fund the government for the rest of the fiscal year, a senior Pentagon official today told an audience at the Precision Strike conference here that while the bill would fix some problems, other fiscal challenges will remain.

"We live in interesting times. It's an insane budget environment that we're living in," said Frank Kendall, undersecretary of defense for acquisitions, technology and logistics.

<http://www.defense.gov/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=119582>

733/13

Neues Monsterrechenzentrum für die NSA

(orf) Am Mittwoch wurde ein 565 Millionen Dollar schwerer Auftrag zum Bau eines Datencenters nahe dem Hauptquartier der NSA in Maryland vergeben, Vollbetrieb soll schon 2015 sein.

Nach mehr als einer Woche der Budgetkürzungen von 5 bis 7,8 Prozent quer über alle Bereiche des US-Haushalts ist davon wenigstens bei den Aufträgen aus dem Pentagon noch nichts zu bemerken.

Nach einem auffälligen Einbruch zu Jahresbeginn wurden alleine am vergangenen Mittwoch wieder Rüstungsaufträge im Gesamtwert von mehreren Milliarden Dollar vergeben.

Die Gesamtsumme lässt sich nicht exakt feststellen, da es sich teils um Folgeaufträge zu bereits ausfinanzierten Großprojekten handelt, deren Umfang nicht einzeln ausgewiesen wird. Ganz neu hingegen und auf eine Gesamtlaufzeit von nur zweieinhalb Jahren ausgelegt ist ein Großauftrag an das Baukonsortium Hensel Phelps Kiewit über 565 Millionen Dollar.

<http://fm4.orf.at/stories/1714132/>



*(Hat tip to Harald KNOLL
for this info!)*



FORMER SOVIET UNION

734/13 -----

Das letzte Interview des Kreml-Kritikers Boris Beresowski

(focus) Boris Beresowski: „Ich habe den Sinn des Lebens verloren“

Einst war er einer der reichsten Männer Russlands, dann ein mächtiger Putin-Gegner. Jetzt ist Boris Beresowski tot. Angeblich Selbstmord. In einem Gespräch, das er am Vorabend seines Todes gegeben haben soll, erscheint er als gebrochener Mann.

Als nervös und misstrauisch beschreibt Ilja Scheguljow, Journalist der „Forbes Russia“, Boris Beresowski. Er traf den russischen Oligarchen, der am Samstag tot aufgefunden worden ist, nach eigenen Angaben am Vorabend seines Todes. Ursprünglich wollte Scheguljow Beresowski bereits im vergangenen Jahr interviewen, nachdem jener mit seiner millionenschweren Schadenersatzklage gegen den seinen Landsmann und Ex-Geschäftspartner Roman Abramowitsch vor Gericht gescheitert war. Beresowski habe sich aber unter anderem durch einen Wechsel der Telefonnummer entzogen - bis er sich plötzlich von selbst meldete und zum Gespräch bereit erklärte.

http://www.focus.de/politik/ausland/das-letzte-interview-des-kreml-kritikers-boris-beresowski-ich-habe-den-sinn-des-lebens-verloren_aid_947230.html

735/13 -----

Russia's Mediterranean Task Force to Comprise 5-6 Warships

(ria) The Russian Navy will maintain 5-6 warships in the Mediterranean Sea as a task force to defend Russia's interests in the area, Navy Commander Adm. Viktor Chirkov said on Sunday.

"Up to five-six warships must be present in the Mediterranean Sea on a permanent basis and control must be exercised through the command of the [Russian] Black Sea Fleet," Chirkov said in an interview with the Zvezda TV network run by the Defense Ministry.

The Russian Navy's Mediterranean task force will comprise frigates and cruisers, as well as support vessels, he said.

http://en.ria.ru/military_news/20130317/180069468.html



THE IRAN SPECIAL

736/13

Kerry wirft Irak Unterstützung Syriens vor

(zeit) Iranische Flugzeuge mit Waffen für Syrien können nach US-Angaben unbehelligt über den Irak fliegen. So werde dem Assad-Regime geholfen, sagte US-Außenminister Kerry.

US-Außenminister John Kerry hat dem Irak vorgeworfen, indirekt die syrische Führung von Staatschef Baschar al-Assad zu unterstützen. Die irakische Führung spiele Assad in die Hände, indem sie iranischen Flugzeugen mit Waffenlieferungen eine Überflugerlaubnis erteile, sagte Kerry nach einem Treffen mit dem irakischen Regierungschef Nuri al-Maliki in Bagdad.

<http://www.zeit.de/politik/ausland/2013-03/usa-irak-iran-syrien>

737/13

Iran mostly speechless after Israel, Turkey agree to restore ties

(israelhayom) "This is just a game the U.S., Israel and Turkey are playing to influence the Islamic awakening," says Iranian deputy chief of staff in only comments out of Iran on Israel-Turkey reconciliation • Abbas welcomes deal • Erdoğan to visit West Bank, Gaza.

Iran was left scrambling for ways to deal with the news of Israel and Turkey's reconciliation, with one senior official accusing the U.S. of playing a "game" in the Middle East.

"This is just a game the U.S., Israel and Turkey are playing to influence the Islamic awakening," said Iran's Deputy Chief of Staff Brig. Gen. Masoud Jazayeri, the senior-most official to respond to news that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had apologized to his Turkish counterpart over the 2010 flotilla incident, paving the way for full reconciliation and the normalization of diplomatic relations that had been severed after Israeli Navy commandos killed nine Turks aboard the Mavi Marmara.

http://www.israelhayom.com/site/newsletter_article.php?id=8221

738/13

P5+1 experts give Iran further details on 'revised proposal'

(presstv) A senior EU official says the experts of the group of six major world powers have presented Iran with further details about their "revised confidence-building proposal."

Michael Mann, a spokesman for EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton, said that the representatives of the P5+1 (Britain, China, France, Russia, and the United States plus Germany), provided Iran with the details during Monday's expert-level talks in the Turkish city of Istanbul.

<http://www.presstv.ir/detail/2013/03/19/294316/p51-gives-iran-details-of-proposal/>

739/13

Strange bedfellows -- Iran and al Qaeda

(cnn) Editor's note: Peter Bergen is CNN's national security analyst, the author of "Manhunt: The Ten-Year Search for bin Laden -- From 9/11 to Abbottabad" and a director at the New America Foundation.

(CNN) -- The appearance Friday in a lower Manhattan courtroom of Sulaiman Abu Ghaith, Osama bin Laden's son-in-law and one-time al Qaeda spokesman, to face charges of conspiracy to kill Americans underlines the perhaps surprising fact that members of bin Laden's inner circle have been living in Iran for the past decade or so.

It was Abu Ghaith's decision to leave the comparative safety of his longtime refuge in Iran for Turkey a few weeks ago that led to the chain of events that landed him in Manhattan for trial.

<http://edition.cnn.com/2013/03/10/opinion/bergen-iran-al-qaeda/index.html>



THE SYRIA SPECIAL

740/13

Syriens zentrale Oppositionsgruppe lehnt Rücktritt ihres Chefs ab

(welt) Al-Chatib soll Nationale Koalition laut Erklärung "weiter führen"

Die wichtigste syrische Oppositionsgruppe hat den Rücktritt ihres Vorsitzenden Ahmed Moas al-Chatib abgelehnt. "Die Mitglieder der Generalversammlung der Syrischen Nationalen Koalition nehmen diesen Rücktritt nicht an", teilte die Organisation am Sonntag mit. Al-Chatib werde "aufgefordert, seine Arbeit als Präsident der Koalition wieder aufzunehmen". Er werde "die Koalition weiter führen", hieß es.

<http://www.welt.de/newsticker/news2/article114732179/Syriens-zentrale-Oppositionsgruppe-lehnt-Ruecktritt-ihres-Chefs-ab.html>

741/13

Syria's Assad Vows to 'Purge Extremists'

(VOA) Syrian President Bashar al-Assad vowed Friday to purge his country of extremists he blames for a suicide bombing that killed at least 49 people at an ancient Damascus mosque.

In a statement carried in the official Syrian Arab News Agency, President Assad said the blood of those killed in the Thursday attack "would not go in vain," promising to eliminate the "forces of darkness and extremist" ideology responsible.

Among those killed in the attack was longtime pro-government cleric Mohammed al-Buti, who had been a fierce critic of rebels fighting to topple President Assad.

<http://www.voanews.com/content/assad-vows-to-purge-extremists-following-suicide-bombing/1626501.html>

742/13 -----

UN: independent probe into allegations of chemical attack in Syria

(UN) Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon today said that the United Nations will launch an independent investigation into allegations of the possible use of chemical weapons in Syria, after receiving a formal request from the country's Government.

"The investigation mission is to look into the specific incident brought to my attention by the Syrian Government," the Secretary-General told journalists in New York this morning.

"I am, of course, aware that there are other allegations of similar cases involving the reported use of chemical weapons," he added.

Mr. Ban said the investigation will start "as soon as practically possible."

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=44450&Cr=syria&Cr1=#.UU9aSIE7vWU>

743/13 -----

NATO Commander Says Syrian Plans Under Way

(rfe) The top U.S. military commander in Europe says several NATO countries are discussing plans for possible military action in Syria.

Admiral James Stavridis said any such military action would require a UN Security Council resolution and agreement among all 28 members of NATO.

Stavridis' remarks March 19 before the U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee come after Syria's government and rebels accused each other of launching a deadly chemical attack near the northern city of Aleppo.

<http://www.rferl.org/content/syria-/24933519.html>

744/13 -----

Syrian Government, Rebels Accuse Each Other Of Chemical Attack

(rfe) Syria's government and rebels have accused each other of launching a deadly chemical attack near the northern city of Aleppo.

There has been no immediate independent confirmation of the claims.

Syria's state-run SANA news agency said 25 people were killed and dozens were wounded in the alleged rebel attack on March 19.

Information Minister Omran al-Zoabi said rebels fired "a rocket containing poison gases" at the town of Khan Al-Assal, near Aleppo, from a rebel-held district of the city.

- (a) <http://www.rferl.org/content/syria-chemical-weapons-rebels/24932808.html>
- (b) <http://www.voanews.com/content/syria-chemicals-/1624455.html>

745/13

Kampf den Geheimdiensten: Rebellen und europ Hacker vernetzen sich

(dradio) Sie nennen sich "World Neighbor Hood": eine Gruppe europäischer Netzaktivisten, die syrischen Rebellen helfen, die Überwachung des Internets durch den Geheimdienst zu unterlaufen. Corso hat einen der Aktivisten in Chemnitz getroffen.

"Ich bin der Christian Neubauer, im Internet bekannt als "Neutrino". Meine offizielle Haupttätigkeit ist studieren. Ich studiere angewandte Informatik."

Der Laptop von Christian Neubauer wird gerade noch von ein paar schweren Klebebändern zusammengehalten. Der 25 Jahre alte Chemnitzer sitzt in seiner Küche. Neben dem Computer stehen eine Flasche Mate und ein voller Aschenbecher. Auf dem Bildschirm ist ein Chat geöffnet.

"Das normale Chatfenster bei uns ist eigentlich immer relativ voll, mit irgendwelchen Statusinformationen zwischendurch."

Ein Chat, der für alle zugänglich ist. Nichts wird protokolliert, alles ist anonym. Gerade sind Menschen aus Ägypten, Tunesien und Syrien online. Und europäische Netzaktivisten, wie Christian. Aktivisten der "World Neighbor Hood". Christian und seine Leute versorgen momentan vor allem syrische Rebellen mit Wissen, wie sie sich im Netz schützen können. Schutz vor dem Geheimdienst, der das Internet überwacht.

<http://www.dradio.de/dlf/sendungen/corso/2046084/>



NEAR / MIDDLE EAST / NORTH AFRICA

746/13

Obama gets diplomatic coup in Israel

(news4jax) President heckled during speech in Jerusalem

President Barack Obama arrived in Jordan on Friday after scoring a diplomatic coup just before leaving Israel when Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu phoned his Turkish counterpart to apologize for an Israeli commando raid in 2010 that killed eight Turks and an American of Turkish origin in a Gaza-bound flotilla.

The apology, long sought by Turkish Prime Minister Recep Erdogan, brought a restoration of normal relations between Turkey and Israel, two vital U.S.

allies in the Middle East, according to a statement from Netanyahu's office.

<http://www.news4jax.com/news/Obama-gets-diplomatic-coup-in-Israel/-/475880/19422866/-/vjbajk/-/index.html>

747/13

Remarks of President Barack Obama To the People of Israel

(whitehouse) THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. (Applause.) Thank you so much. Well, it is a great honor to be with you here in Jerusalem, and I'm so grateful for the welcome that I've received from the people of Israel. Thank you. (Applause.) I bring with me the support of the American people -- (applause) -- and the friendship that binds us together. (Applause.)

Over the last two days, I've reaffirmed the bonds between our countries with Prime Minister Netanyahu and President Peres. I've borne witness to the ancient history of the Jewish people at the Shrine of the Book, and I've seen Israel's shining future in your scientists and your entrepreneurs. This is a nation of museums and patents, timeless holy sites and ground-breaking innovation. Only in Israel could you see the Dead Sea Scrolls and the place where the technology on board the Mars Rover originated at the same time. (Applause.)

But what I've most looked forward to is the ability to speak directly to you, the Israeli people -- especially so many young people who are here today -- (applause) -- to talk about the history that brought us here today, and the future that you will make in the years to come.

Now, I know that in Israel's vibrant democracy, every word, every gesture is carefully scrutinized. (Laughter.) But I want to clear something up just so you know -- any drama between me and my friend, Bibi, over the years was just a plot to create material for Eretz Nehederet. (Applause.) That's the only thing that was going on. We just wanted to make sure the writers had good material. (Laughter.)

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2013/03/21/remarks-president-barack-obama-people-israel>

748/13

Obama: Peace with Palestinians Crucial to Israel's Future

(VOA) President Barack Obama leaves Israel on Friday, going to Jordan on the next stop of his Mideast trip. Obama told Israelis on Thursday that Palestinians deserve an independent state and Israel's future depends on forging a lasting peace.

Punctuated by frequent applause, and at one point interrupted by a heckler, the speech was aimed at prompting Israel's younger generation to consider their future in an increasingly unstable region.

Obama suggested that future must include risk-taking to achieve lasting peace with an independent and viable Palestinian state living alongside a secure Israel.

<http://www.voanews.com/content/obama-peace-with-palestinians-crucial-to-israel-future/1626280.html>

749/13 -----

Obama Reaffirms US Commitment to Israel's Security

(cbn) On the first day of his trip to Israel, President Obama promised Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu the United States is committed to the security of its closest Mideast ally.

The visit is dubbed "Unbreakable Alliance." Some have called it a charm offensive. According to polls, many Israelis don't trust Obama. But Obama said it's his chance to connect with the Israeli people.

"I see this visit as an opportunity to reaffirm the unbreakable bond between our nations, to restate America's unwavering commitment to Israel's security and to speak directly to the people of Israel and to your neighbors," Obama said.

<http://www.cbn.com/cbnnews/insideisrael/2013/March/Obama-Arrives-in-Israel-for-Unbreakable-Alliance-Tour/>

750/13 -----

Obama: Not Much Difference with Israel on Iran Nuclear Assessment

(VOA) U.S. President Barack Obama says there is not much difference between U.S. and Israeli assessments of how close Iran is to potentially developing a nuclear weapon.

Speaking alongside Israel's prime minister in Jerusalem Wednesday, Mr. Obama said he would not expect his host to defer any decisions about military action to another country - even a close ally such as the United States. He repeated the U.S. position that "all options" are on the table for stopping Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon but said there is still time to resolve the issue diplomatically.

<http://www.voanews.com/content/obama-not-much-difference-with-israel-on-iran-nuclear-assessment/1625473.html>

751/13 -----

Turkey Cautiously Welcomes Kurdish Cease-Fire Call

(rfe) The Turkish government has cautiously welcomed a call for a cease-fire by jailed Kurdish leader Abdullah Ocalan.

Speaking during a visit to The Hague, the Netherlands, on March 21, Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan called it "a very positive approach...a very positive appeal," adding, "But what is most important is how far this will be implemented."

Erdogan added that Turkish security forces will end operations against Kurdish rebels if Ocalan's call is implemented.

<http://www.rferl.org/content/turkey-kurds-cease-fire/24934986.html>

752/13

Wardak Could Be Early Test of Transition Success, Official Says

(DOD) Afghanistan's political situation and its people's confidence will be essential to a successful shift to Afghan-led security, a top commander of NATO troops in Afghanistan said today.

Briefing Pentagon reporters by video link from Kabul, Afghanistan, Lt. Gen. Nick Carter of the British army, deputy commander of NATO's International Security Assistance Force, said the transition in Wardak province, which Afghan President Hamid Karzai last month ordered all U.S. special operations forces to leave, offers an example of the issues coalition forces and their Afghan partners face as they exchange supported and supporting roles.

Transition in Wardak is an "interesting pilot," Carter said.

<http://www.defense.gov/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=119583>

753/13

US, Afghanistan Struggle to Agree on Special Forces

(VOA) More than a week after Afghan President Hamid Karzai ordered U.S. special forces to leave a strategically key area near the capital, officials from both sides are still struggling to resolve the issue.

Karzai ordered the elite American units out of Wardak province after residents complained that they, and Afghans working with them, were torturing and killing civilians - an allegation strongly denied by the United States. At the same time, the Afghan leader also accused the U.S. and NATO of trying to forge an agreement between the Taliban and his political opponents.

<http://www.voanews.com/content/us-afghanistan-struggle-to-agree-on-special-forces/1623896.html>



FAR EAST & ASIA

754/13

Rückkehr des ungeliebten Sohnes - Musharrafs Comeback in Pakistan

(nzz) Der frühere Militärherrscher Pervez Musharraf ist nach Pakistan zurückgekehrt, nach über vier Jahren im Exil. Bei der bevorstehenden Parlamentswahl werden seiner Partei aber kaum Chancen zugerechnet.

Der frühere Militärherrscher Pervez Musharraf ist am Sonntag nach über vier Jahren im Exil nach Pakistan zurückgekehrt, um dort ein politisches Comeback vorzubereiten. In den letzten Jahren hatte er wiederholt seine Rückkehr angekündigt, nur um diese kurz darauf wieder zu verschieben. Wenig Freunde - viele Feinde

Der 69-Jährige veröffentlichte begeisterte Stellungnahmen auf Twitter, als er in Dubai das Flugzeug in Richtung Karachi bestieg. Der Empfang dort fiel jedoch sehr viel weniger glamourös aus als geplant. Nur ein paar tausend Anhänger empfingen Musharraf am Flughafen. Eine Massenveranstaltung am Grab des Staatsgründers Jinnah im Zentrum Karachis wurde aus Sicherheitsgründen abgesagt.

<http://www.nzz.ch/aktuell/international/musharraf-hofft-auf-comeback-in-pakistan-1.18052790>

755/13

Strategic Posture Review: Pakistan

(wpr) Given domestic economic weaknesses, security competition with India and an antagonistic relationship with Afghanistan, Pakistan has traditionally sought external alliances with strong powers and pursued an offensive security policy. Nevertheless, there has been a dawning realization in Islamabad that a new approach is necessary, and as a result, Pakistan's foreign and defense policies are undergoing important transformations, including a normalization of relations with neighbors and a renewed focus on domestic security threats.

<http://www.worldpoliticsreview.com/articles/12782/strategic-posture-review-pakistan>



*(Hat tip to Lukas HEGI
for this info!)*

756/13

U.S., Japan Move Forward With Futenma Replacement Initiative

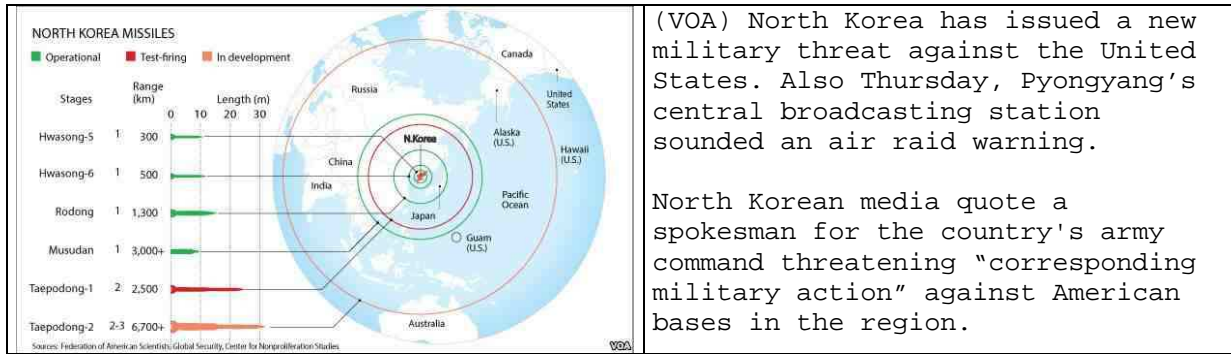
(DOD) Japan's government has moved forward with the submission of a landfill request permit to the Okinawa prefectural government in the relocation of Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, Pentagon Press Secretary George Little said today.

"This is a key milestone that comes after many years of hard work between the United States and Japan," Little said. "It marks a significant step toward realizing the vision of the 2006 Realignment Roadmap and toward achieving a sustainable U.S. military presence with less impact on the Okinawan people."

The U.S. and Japanese governments agreed to relocate the air station, currently in Okinawa's Ginowan City, to a more remote area of the island. The plan also would move about 8,000 Marines now based on Okinawa to Guam, in line with U.S. defense priorities in the Asia-Pacific region.

<http://www.defense.gov/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=119610>

N. Korea Issues New Military Threat Against US



(VOA) North Korea has issued a new military threat against the United States. Also Thursday, Pyongyang's central broadcasting station sounded an air raid warning.

North Korean media quote a spokesman for the country's army command threatening "corresponding military action" against American bases in the region.

The fresh threat is tied to Pyongyang's anger over nuclear-capable planes and submarines participating in an annual joint exercise with South Korean forces.

The fresh threat is tied to Pyongyang's anger over nuclear-capable planes and submarines participating in an annual joint exercise with South Korean forces.

An announcer on North Korean television quotes an unnamed military spokesman as saying the "United States should not forget that Andersen Air Force Base on Guam where B-52's take off and naval bases in Japan and on Okinawa, where nuclear-powered submarines are launched, are within the striking range" of the North's "precision strike means."

<http://www.voanews.com/content/nkorea-threatens-us-bases-in-japan-and-guan/1625691.html>

Alleged coup attempt against North Korean leader in Pyongyang

(intelnews) A prolonged exchange of gunfire that took place in the North Korean capital last November was part of a failed military coup against North Korean leader Kim Jong-un, according to intelligence sources. On Wednesday, South Korean daily JoongAng Ilbo quoted an anonymous intelligence source in Seoul, who said the coup was linked to an ongoing power struggle unfolding inside the North Korean armed forces. The unnamed source told the paper that Seoul had confirmed the accuracy of rumors of an "armed skirmish" that took place at a central location in downtown Pyongyang in mid-November of 2012. The exchange of gunfire, which stunned residents of the eerily ordered city, was allegedly an effort to assassinate Kim, but failed after the assailants were rounded up and arrested by troops loyal to the country's leadership. The culprits appear to be members of the Reconnaissance Bureau of the General Staff Department, which operates as the primary intelligence-collection agency of North Korea's Ministry of the People's Armed Forces. In early November of last year, the Reconnaissance Bureau was restructured to accommodate two newly amalgamated intelligence agencies, the Intelligence Department of the Workers' Party of Korea and a combat-intelligence unit of the People's Armed Forces.

<http://intelnews.org/2013/03/15/01-1217/>



(Hat tip to Lukas HEGI for this info!)

759/13 -----

Carter Reaffirms U.S. Commitment to South Korea

(VOA) During a series of high-level meetings here, Deputy Defense Secretary Ash Carter met with members of South Korean President Park Geun-hye's new administration, and with U.S. military and diplomatic officials.

Carter had an excellent round of consultations with senior members of Park's new team, he told reporters during a briefing this afternoon, and in each meeting reconfirmed a steadfast commitment to the nearly 60-year-old alliance between the United States and South Korea.

"It's safe to report that the relationship between the Park and Obama administrations is off to a very productive start," he said. "My visit reflects the importance [Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel] and I attach to this alliance."

<http://www.defense.gov/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=119556>

760/13 -----

Japan, US Drafting Plan to Defend Disputed Islands

(VOA) Japan and the United States will draft a plan to counter any Chinese military action to seize disputed islands in the East China Sea.

A U.S. defense official in Washington told VOA Wednesday that Japan's General Shigeru Iwasaki, the chief of staff of the Japanese Self Defense Forces Joint Staff, is meeting in Hawaii this week with the commander of the U.S. Pacific Command, Admiral Samuel Locklear, to discuss a plan to retake the islands, should China invade.

<http://www.voanews.com/content/japan-us-drafting-plan-to-defend-disputed-islands/1625307.html>

761/13 -----

China replaces Britain in world's top five arms exporters: report

(yahoo) China has become the world's fifth-largest arms exporter, a respected Sweden-based think-tank said on Monday, its highest ranking since the Cold War, with Pakistan the main recipient.

China's volume of weapons exports between 2008 and 2012 rose 162 percent compared with the previous five-year period, with its share of the global arms trade rising from 2 percent to 5 percent, the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) said.

China replaces Britain in the top five arms-dealing countries between 2008 and 2012, a group dominated by the United States and Russia, which accounted for 30 percent and 26 percent of weapons exports, SIPRI said.

<http://news.yahoo.com/china-replaces-britain-worlds-top-five-arms-exporters-003324632.html>

762/13

New China Leader Seeks 'Renaissance'

(rfe) China's new President Xi Jinping has pledged his leadership will work for a "great renaissance of the Chinese nation" and the "great cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics."

Xi on March 17 delivered his first speech since being installed last week as head of state of the world's most populous country.

He told the closing session of the rubber-stamp National People's Congress parliament that China "cannot have the slightest complacency" or permit the "slightest slack at work" if the country is to make a better life for its 1.3 billion citizens.

<http://www.rferl.org/content/china-xi-li/24930849.html>

763/13

Chinese Drone 'Swarms' Designed to Attack American Aircraft Carriers

(usnews) The Chinese are taking unmanned aerial vehicle development very seriously, according to a new report

China's fleet of unmanned aerial vehicles, or drones, could be technologically superior to those in the American arsenal and might have the ability to "swarm" in attacking an American aircraft carrier, according to a new analysis of the country's program.

China first started publicly flying drones in October, 2009, during its National Day parade. Since then, it had stockpiled at least 280 UAVs as of 2011 that could be used for "intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions, precision strike missions and electronic warfare missions," according to the report, released by the Project 2049 Institute, an Arlington, Va.-based think tank. Since then, the country has likely manufactured many more, lead author Ian Easton says.

http://www.usnews.com/news/articles/2013/03/14/report-chinese-drone-swarms-designed-to-attack-american-aircraft-carriers?s_cid=rss:report-chinese-drone-swarms-designed-to-attack-american-aircraft-carriers

764/13

Intelligence based on 'fabrication'

(belfasttelegraph) Vital intelligence used to justify the invasion of Iraq 10 years ago was based on "fabrication" and "wishful thinking", a new documentary claims.

A BBC Panorama investigation, broadcast to mark the 10th anniversary of the start of the Iraq War, suggests that US and UK security services relied on several pieces of questionable information, while dismissing others that were contradictory.

The war, which started on March 20, 2003, lasted over six years, claimed the lives of 179 UK personnel, more than 100,000 Iraqis, and cost more than £9 billion.

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/world-news/intelligence-based-on-fabrication-29136337.html>

765/13 -----

Statement by Chuck Hagel on the Ten Year Anniversary of the Iraq War

(DOD) This week marks the ten year anniversary of the beginning of the Iraq War. While that conflict has been brought to an end, we must never lose sight of the tremendous sacrifices our brave men and women in uniform made during Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation New Dawn. Every one of the more than one million service members that deployed to Iraq, often for multiple tours of duty, deserves our highest praise and deepest debt of gratitude. They served with valor and met every challenge -- from the streets of Fallujah and Sadr City to outposts in Ramadi and Mosul -- always watching out for their brothers and sisters in arms.

The American people will always honor the sacrifices of the 4,475 U.S. service members who died in Iraq, and the more than 32,000 who came home wounded. Every man and woman who served in Iraq carries with them the scars of war. As we remember these quiet heroes this week we are also reminded of their families and their sacrifices, as we also honor and thank them.

<http://www.defense.gov/releases/release.aspx?releaseid=15868>

766/13 -----

At Least 50 Killed in Iraq Attacks

(VOA) A series of car bombings in the Iraqi capital has killed more than 50 people and wounded at least 200. The attacks come on the tenth anniversary of the U.S.-led invasion that toppled the regime of Saddam Hussein.

Rescue workers rushed to aid the mostly civilian casualties as the bombs detonated at regular intervals during the height of the morning rush hour Tuesday.

A security clampdown at the city's hundreds of checkpoints caused large traffic jams in certain areas.

<http://www.voanews.com/content/attacks-kills-23-in-iraq/1624178.html>

767/13 -----

Pakistani Taliban suspend dialogue offer

(irna) Pakistani Taliban here Monday suspended their peace talks offer after government ignored their proposal as they had refused to stop attacks.

The Taliban had offered conditional talks in early February and at the same time they had continued attacks on security forces and opponents.

A Taliban video said they were suspending talks because of the 'non-serious attitude of the security forces and the government.

<http://old.irna.ir/ENNewsShow.aspx?NID=80589215>



EUROPE (GEOGRAPH.)

768/13

Luxemburger hadern mit Geheimdienst

(volksfreund) Braucht das Land noch einen Geheimdienst in der aktuellen Form? Die Frage stellt sich im Großherzogtum zurzeit der parlamentarische Untersuchungsausschuss Geheimdienst.

Luxemburg. Wird der Luxemburger Geheimdienst SREL (Service de Renseignement de l'Etat) nach einem halben Jahrhundert Existenz aufgelöst? Diese Möglichkeit ist dieser Tage nach einer Sitzung des Untersuchungsausschuss SREL in Erwägung gezogen worden.

Zwar wurde dort nicht die Abschaffung des SREL gefordert, aber Gedanken wolle man sich darüber machen, ob man eine solche Behörde in der aktuellen Form noch benötige, sagte einem Bericht von tageblatt.lu, dem Online-Auftritt des Luxemburger Tageblatts, zufolge Ausschusspräsident Alex Bodry (Luxemburgische Sozialistische Arbeiterpartei, LSAP).

<http://www.volksfreund.de/nachrichten/region/luxemburg/aktuell/Luxemburg-aktuell-Luxemburger-hadern-mit-Geheimdienst;art1715,3476491>

769/13

Stay Behind, Srel und die Bommeleeër

(wort) „Der ehemalige Chef des Luxemburger Geheimdienstes wurde am Mittwoch im Bommeleeër-Prozess schwer von einem deutschen Historiker belastet. Der Mann hat in einer eidesstattlichen Aussage behauptet, dass Hoffmann im Stay Behind eng mit seinem Vater, einem ehemaligen Agenten des Bundesnachrichtendienstes, zusammengearbeitet habe und für sämtliche Diebstähle und Attentate in den Jahren 1984 und 1985 verantwortlich gewesen sei. Im Gespräch mit dem „Luxemburger Wort“ ist Charles Hoffmann formell: „Ich kenne weder Vater noch Sohn. Stay Behind hat nichts mit den Attentaten der Bommeleeër zu tun.““

<http://www.wort.lu/de/view/stay-behind-srel-und-die-bommeleeer-514601d0e4b0246d64a9b7aa>



*(Hat tip to Lukas HEGI
for this info!)*

770/13

China Knocks on Iceland's Door

(nytimes) ICELAND'S long-isolated existence was broken by World War II and the Cold War when its strategic location at the gateway to the North

Atlantic and the Arctic were key to the defense of NATO and the United States. But with the disintegration of the Soviet Union the island country seemed again to pass into irrelevance, and in 2006 the last American military aircraft were withdrawn from the Keflavik Air Base. Now the situation is changing again, as the melting north polar ice opens new ocean routes and access to vast natural resources.

According to a 2008 estimate by the U.S. Geological Survey, 13 percent of all the unexploited oil, 30 percent of natural gas and 20 percent of the natural gas liquid resources are located under the seabed of the Arctic. Iceland is an ideal location to base ocean research, drilling and support for extraction and transport. The shrinking polar ice also introduces a revolutionary change in ocean transport between Asia and Europe – the Northeast Polar Passage would reduce transport costs by as much as 40 percent as compared with the traditional route via the Suez Canal.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/03/13/opinion/china-knocks-on-icelands-door.html>



771/13

Sir Nick Houghton appointed new defence chief

(bbc) General Sir Nicholas Houghton has been appointed as the new chief of the defence staff for the British armed forces, the Ministry of Defence says.

He will take over in July from General Sir David Richards, who has held the post since 2010.

Sir Nicholas became vice-chief of the defence staff in 2009.

Defence Secretary Philip Hammond said he looked forward to working with Sir Nicholas "as we continue radical reforms to the Ministry of Defence".

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-21843660>

772/13

Labour 'open' to cheaper Trident alternatives

(bbc) Labour says it may rethink its backing for like-for-like replacement of the Trident nuclear weapons system.

The coalition is split on the issue, with the Conservatives backing a straight £20bn replacement of Trident.

The Lib Dems favour a cheaper option, with a study on possible alternatives due to be published in the summer.

Labour says it would consider different options for the future if they provided better value for money while retaining for the UK a "credible" deterrent.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-21827278>

773/13

Graduate jailed over terror offence

(belfasttelegraph) An engineering graduate who applied to work at the Olympics has been jailed for nine months for a terror offence.

Norman Idris Faridi, 32, was turned down after applying to work last summer at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff, where some football matches for the London 2012 Games were held.

The Kenyan national was later found to have a "terrorist's manual", 39 Ways To Serve And Proceed In Jihad, on his external hard drive and in a deleted file.

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/local-national/uk/graduate-jailed-over-terror-offence-29143548.html>



NORTHERN IRELAND

(This section is edited by Oliver PLAUDER, ACIPSS's expert on the IRA)

774/13

Bomb found in abandoned car in County Fermanagh

(bbc) A bomb found in a car in County Fermanagh was probably destined for a police station in the area, the Police Service of Northern Ireland has said.

The device contained 60kg of home-made explosives packed into a beer keg.

The security forces examined the vehicle after it was abandoned on the Derrylin Road, outside Enniskillen, on Friday.

District Commander Pauline Shields said it was fortunate no-one was killed or injured.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-21911598>

775/13

Bomb 'destined for Fermanagh police station'

(belfasttelegraph) A bomb found and made safe in a car in Fermanagh was destined for a police station, the PSNI have said.

It was recovered not far from the luxury Lough Erne golf resort where this June's G8 conference of world leaders is being held. Dissident republicans are prime suspects.

Northern Ireland Secretary Theresa Villiers said: "The abandoned device dealt with by PSNI sadly reminds us that there are still a small minority who are determined to damage communities and cause death and disruption.

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/local-national/northern-ireland/bomb-destined-for-fermanagh-police-station-29150021.html>

776/13

Bombs were meant to create crisis

(independent) Thwarted attacks in Belfast and Derry were part of a planned campaign in the run-up to G8 summit, writes Jim Cusack

The large bomb found in Fermanagh on Friday is part of what is believed to be a carefully thought out strategy by the newly formed IRA group to create a political crisis in Northern Ireland in the run-up to the G8 summit of world leaders in June. Before the bomb was discovered 16 miles from the site where the G8 leaders will meet, two attacks by the group terming itself the "IRA" in Northern Ireland earlier this month were designed to create a crisis to coincide with high level British-Irish meetings including the annual meeting of the Taoiseach and British Prime Minister, it has been learned.

<http://www.independent.ie/irish-news/bombs-were-meant-to-create-crisis-29150287.html>

777/13

Dissident republican laid to rest

(independent) Murder victim and dissident republican Peter Butterly was laid to rest yesterday after funeral Mass at the church where he was baptised, outside Dunleer, Co Louth.

St Colmcille's Church in Togher was packed with neighbours and friends in a show of community solidarity and sympathy for his family, wife and children.

There were no paramilitary trappings.

The chief mourners were Mr Butterly's wife Eithne and children Aoife, Clara and Matthew, as well as his mother Vera, father Matt and sisters Mary and Barbara.

<http://www.independent.ie/irish-news/dissident-republican-laid-to-rest-29135095.html>

778/13

Suspects 'on way to bury guns in Republic'

(newsletter) Three men who were caught red-handed with an arms cache in a car near the border had dug them up in the north and were taking them to the Republic to re-bury them in a safer place, a court has heard.

Brian Calvan, Dominic Dynes and Brian Sheridan pleaded guilty at Belfast Crown Court to having a loaded revolver with intent to endanger life and to having rifles and cartridges in suspicious circumstances.

They were arrested by police who stopped their car near Keady in April 2011 and the revolver was found in the front while the rest of the weapons were discovered wrapped up in the boot.

<http://www.newsletter.co.uk/news/headlines/suspects-on-way-to-bury-guns-in-republic-1-4906951>

779/13

Omagh bomb: Colm Murphy and Seamus Daly found liable at retrial

(bbc) Two men who were sued over the Omagh bomb have been found liable for the 1998 atrocity at their civil retrial.

The judge described the evidence against Colm Murphy and Seamus Daly as overwhelming.

The action was taken by the victims' families, who have been awarded £1.6m damages.

Twenty-nine people, including a woman pregnant with twins, were killed in the Real IRA attack on the County Tyrone town in August 1998.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-21858904>

780/13

Bryan McManus 'reactivated guns for Real IRA'

(bbc) An engineer who reactivated guns for dissident republicans has been told by a judge that it is now inevitable that he will be sent to prison.

Bryan Christopher McManus claimed the terrorists told him the guns were to be used for defence in interface areas.

The 56-year-old, from Aileen Terence in Newry, had pleaded guilty to possessing eight handguns, a rifle and a quantity of assorted ammunition.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-21858909>

781/13

North Derry Republican Group claim Dungiven gun attack

(derryjournal) The "North Derry Republican Group" have claimed responsibility for a gun attack on a house in Dungiven last week.

In a telephone statement to the 'Derry Journal' this afternoon, the group said it used a shotgun in the incident at Rannyglass last Wednesday at around 9pm. No-one was injured in the attack during which windows at the front of the two-storey dwelling were blasted with gunshots.

In their statement, the group said they were not giving a reason why the house was targeted.

<http://www.derryjournal.com/news/local/north-derry-republican-group-claim-dungiven-gun-attack-1-4908691>

782/13 -----

Men injured in Derry double shooting

(utv) Two men have been taken to hospital following a shooting in Londonderry.

The attack happened in the Ballymagroarty area at around 8pm on Thursday.

The victims, aged 25 and 26, were shot in the legs.

Foyle MLA Raymond McCartney condemned the attack.

"There can be absolutely no justification for this type of action.

"Whatever organisation carried out this out needs to come forward and give a clear explanation for their actions," the Sinn Féin representative added.

<http://www.u.tv/News/Men-injured-in-Derry-double-shooting/f2382231-ba77-4b79-9d7e-7c8d2831df01>

783/13 -----

G8 security briefed on dissident threat

(utv) Senior police say thousands of extra officers drafted into Northern Ireland to help with the G8 security operation will be fully briefed on the dissident threat.

Leaders of some of the world's most powerful countries will travel to the Lough Erne Golf resort in Fermanagh in just 12 weeks time.

Around 3,500 extra police officers from across the UK have volunteered for duty and, along with hundreds of private security guards, they will assist the PSNI with one of the biggest operations of its kind in the region.

<http://www.u.tv/News/G8-security-briefed-on-dissident-threat/e3a64d72-f97e-4fb0-8f7e-43d762ec9a23>

784/13 -----

IRA funeral shots clean-up man walks free

(irishnews) A car bomber who helped clean up after a volley of shots were fired over an IRA killer's coffin has walked free from court with a suspended sentence.

Judge Corinne Philpott said she had no doubt that Co Tyrone man Conor Casey (41) knew there would be gunmen at the funeral of Sean Brady and that he lifted the spent cartridges "so that no information as to the likely provenance of the ammunition would be found".

However, she said she took into account the fact that the charges had been hanging over his head for a lengthy period, his mental health difficulties and his guilty plea.

<http://www.irishnews.com/news/ira-funeral-shots-clean-up-man-walks-free-1240809>

785/13

Shivers charged with lesser offence as murder trial nears close

(thedetail) A Magherafelt man on trial for the murder of two British army soldiers has unexpectedly been charged with an additional lesser offence of assisting offenders just hours before the prosecution case against him closed.

Brian Shivers (47) is accused of the murder of sappers Mark Quinsey and Patrick Azimkar outside Massereene army barracks in March 2009.

Mr Shivers was charged with murder after his DNA was found on matches and a mobile phone found inside a getaway car used by the killers.

<http://www.thedetail.tv/issues/184/shivers-additional-offence/shivers-charged-with-lesser-offence-as-murder-trial-nears-close>

786/13

Grief stricken mother of murdered Massereene soldier dies

(newsletter) Republican terrorists have claimed another victim with the death of Sapper Quinsey's mother in Birmingham, an Antrim councillor has claimed.

Pamela Brankin, the mother of Royal Engineer Mark Quinsey shot dead by dissidents outside Massereene army barracks in 2009, fell into ill health after her son's murder. Her condition is said to have gradually deteriorated and the 51-year-old died on Sunday.

<http://www.newsletter.co.uk/news/headlines/grief-stricken-mother-of-murdered-massereene-soldier-dies-1-4919559>

787/13

Londonderry shootings: McCartney blames 'INLA elements'

(bbc) The Sinn Fein MLA, Raymond McCartney, has said he believes elements close to the INLA were involved in the shooting of two brothers in Londonderry.

The two men were shot in the legs in the Ballymagroarty area of the city shortly after 20:00 GMT on Thursday.

The men, aged 25 and 26, have been taken to hospital for treatment. Their injuries are not known.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-foyle-west-21890269>

788/13 -----

Inquiry call over corporals' deaths

(belfasttelegraph) The IRA murders of two soldiers during one of the most bloody periods of the Northern Ireland conflict should be reinvestigated, it was claimed.

Detectives must reopen their inquiries on the 25th anniversary of the shooting dead of Corporals Derek Woods and David Howes, Ulster Unionist leader Tom Elliott said.

The soldiers were in an unmarked car when they were inadvertently caught up in a republican funeral in west Belfast and killed.

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/local-national/northern-ireland/inquiry-call-over-corporals-deaths-29137525.html>

789/13 -----

HET nearing probe into IRA murder of corporals

(newsletter) Those involved in the brutal murder of corporals Wood and Howes in west Belfast 25 years ago could yet face arrest as the original investigation file nears its reopening date.

The Historical Enquiries Team has been re-examining murder files dating back to 1968 - and is thought to be only months away from focusing on the double murder that shocked the world back in March 1988.

Corporals Derek Wood and David Howes were in plain clothes when they drove into the path of an IRA funeral in west Belfast 25 years ago this week.

<http://www.newsletter.co.uk/news/headlines/het-nearing-probe-into-ira-murder-of-corporals-1-4919970>

790/13 -----

Politician's shocking IRA torture revelations from beyond the grave

(belfasttelegraph) Disturbing tape recordings of a late political figure from the Republic of Ireland chuckling about torturing, executing and secretly burying suspected spies during the War of Independence are set to be aired for the first time.

Fianna Fail TD Martin Corry served in the Dail for 40 years before his death in 1979.

But tapes unearthed for a new TV3 series reveal how he relished his role as chief IRA executioner in a medieval torture vault named 'Sing Sing' outside the village of Knockraha near Glanmire in Co Cork.

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/local-national/republic-of-ireland/irish-politicians-shocking-ira-torture-revelations-from-beyond-the-grave-29139988.html>

791/13 -----

Officer injured in trouble linked to flag protests

(bbc) A police officer has been injured during trouble linked to the loyalist flag protests in south Belfast.

A group of masked youths blocked the Donegall Road, near Sandy Row, and attacked police with bricks and bottles.

Police said sporadic disorder flared between 20:00 GMT and 22:00 GMT on Sunday.

Protesters burned bins on the road and carried out "sustained attacks on police". A man was arrested.

An officer suffered minor injuries.

www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-21826618

792/13 -----

Accused 'on CCTV firing blank pistol at officers'

(belfasttelegraph) A blank pistol fired at police during trouble in east Belfast was feared to be a bid to kill them, the High Court heard.

Officers on the ground during one of the worst outbreaks of street violence linked to Union flag protests believed at the time it was an act of terrorism, prosecutors said.

Details of the incident emerged as bail was granted to a gardener accused of having the fake weapon.

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/local-national/northern-ireland/accused-on-cctv-firing-blank-pistol-at-officers-29144827.html>

793/13 -----

New prison to be built at Magilligan, County Londonderry

(bbc) A new jail is to be built on the current site of Magilligan prison near Limavady.

The project is part of a new £200m strategy for prisons announced by Justice Minister David Ford.

Last year, a prison review team appointed by Mr Ford said Magilligan Prison should be closed, and a new one built in a more central location.

But the justice minister has confirmed that he has rejected that advice and opted for a new prison on the old site.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-foyle-west-21840827>

794/13

Outrage as Stormont cuts Historical Enquiries Team cash

(belfasttelegraph) Public confidence in the body responsible for investigating Troubles killings could be undermined after Stormont's Justice Department cut its funding, said an MLA.

The department recently refused a £10m request from the Historical Enquiries Team (HET), and asked the PSNI to put forward the money from its own reserves.

But SDLP Policing Board member Conall McDevitt has called on Justice Minister David Ford to intervene and ensure his department continues to fund the team directly.

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/local-national/northern-ireland/outrage-as-stormont-cuts-historical-enquiries-team-cash-29147129.html>

795/13

IRA boss Murphy tipped off ahead of Garda raid

(independent) Former IRA chief of staff Thomas 'Slab' Murphy was tipped off four hours before he was to be targeted in a major cross-Border police swoop.

The Irish Independent has learned that detectives discovered evidence that the notorious oil smuggler and his associates knew about the operation and destroyed computers and documents just before the raids took place last Wednesday morning.

Senior security officials are now seriously concerned that the Republican leader has an informant in one of the state agencies investigating him either in the North or the south.

<http://www.independent.ie/irish-news/ira-boss-murphy-tipped-off-ahead-of-garda-raid-29136442.html>

796/13

Illegal empire filled IRA coffers

(independent) Thomas 'Slab' Murphy has been the de-facto godfather of south Armagh for over three decades.

Nothing moves in this lawless Republican enclave without the knowledge of the Provo's former chief of staff.

From his property straddling the Border with Co Louth, Murphy has presided over a huge oil laundering and smuggling empire that has earned hundreds of millions through the years and filled the coffers of the IRA.

<http://www.independent.ie/irish-news/illegal-empire-filled-ira-coffers-29136426.html>

797/13

Tax case of Thomas 'Slab' Murphy put back until year end

(independent) The case against prominent republican Thomas "Slab" Murphy, who is being prosecuted on tax charges, has been put back until the end of the year.

Mr Murphy (60) is bringing a Supreme Court challenge against the constitutionality of a law under which the tax charges against him are to be dealt with by the non-jury Special Criminal Court (SCC) as opposed to the ordinary courts.

Mr Paul Tiernan, for Mr Murphy, this morning told the Special Criminal Court that his client's case was one of 70 priority cases before the Supreme Court, and while it was anticipated the case would be heard this calendar year, it was unlikely the matter would be dealt with by the end of the next court term.

<http://www.independent.ie/irish-news/courts/tax-case-of-thomas-slab-murphy-put-back-until-year-end-29146040.html>

798/13

Apology after man shot dead by Army in 1974

(bbc) The family of a vulnerable man shot dead by soldiers in County Armagh nearly 40 years ago has received an apology from the government.

John Pat Cunningham was killed in a field near his home in June 1974.

He was 27 but had a mental age of between six and ten. The MoD said his death was "tragic".

The family has welcomed the apology but said more questions needed to be answered.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-21840739>



GERMANY

799/13

Netzwerk des NSU war größer als angenommen



(zeit) Insgesamt 129 Mitglieder der rechtsextremen Szene sollen die Terrorgruppe NSU unterstützt haben. Die neue Namenliste wird nun auf unentdeckte V-Leute untersucht.

Das Netzwerk der rechtsextremen Zwickauer Terrorzelle war Medienberichten zufolge deutlich größer als bisher angenommen. 129 Mitglieder der rechtsextremen Szene

gehörten zum engeren und weiteren Umfeld des Nationalsozialistischen Untergrunds (NSU), meldete die Bild am Sonntag. Die Namen stehen auf einer geheimen Liste der Sicherheitsbehörden, die dem NSU-Untersuchungsausschuss des Bundestags nun zuging. Der Vorsitzende des Untersuchungsausschusses, Sebastian Edathy, bestätigte das dem ARD-Hauptstadtstudio.

<http://www.zeit.de/gesellschaft/zeitgeschehen/2013-03/nsu-netzwerk-namensliste>

800/13

Ausländer im Geheimdienst beleidigt

(neues-deutschland) Ausländische Mitarbeiter beim Bundesverfassungsschutz in Köln sollen einem Medienbericht zufolge jahrelang von Kollegen wegen ihrer Herkunft verspottet worden sein. Wie die »Süddeutsche Zeitung« berichtete, gibt es beim Inlandsgeheimdienst massive interne Spannungen »wegen islamfeindlicher und rassistischer Äußerungen«. Das Bundesamt für Verfassungsschutz (BfV) sprach in einer schriftlichen Stellungnahme von einem Einzelfall, der einige Jahre zurückliege. Nach intensiver Aufklärung seien auch disziplinarrechtliche Konsequenzen gezogen worden. »Für Rassismus und Islamfeindlichkeit gibt es keinen Platz im BfV«, heißt es in der Erklärung weiter.

<http://www.neues-deutschland.de/artikel/816698.auslaender-im-geheimdienst-beleidigt.html>

801/13

Gesetz ist verfassungswidrig - Bundestag will Passwörter aushebeln

(ntv) Polizei, Zoll und Geheimdienst rufen über eine Software Kundennamen, Adresse und Bankdaten bei Internet-Providern und Telefongesellschaften ab, dazu E-Mail-Passwörter, PIN-Codes und andere Zugangsdaten. Das entsprechende Gesetz soll nach dem Willen des Bundestages nun präzisiert werden. Datenschützer und Opposition sehen klare Verfassungsverstöße.

Eine breite Mehrheit aus CDU/CSU, FDP und SPD ist sich einig: Die Neuregelung der Bestandsdatenauskunft ist rechtlich wasserdicht. Die Bestimmungen für die Weitergabe der Internet- und Telefondaten an die Sicherheitsbehörden sollen nun nach dem Willen des Bundestags "präzisiert"

werden. Auf der Basis des überarbeiteten Gesetzes sollen Strafverfolgungsbehörden künftig statische und dynamische IP-Adressen sowie Telefonnummern bürgerlichen Namen zuordnen können. Dazu kommen Postanschrift, Rufnummern und andere Daten; Angaben, die Internet-Provider und andere Telekommunikationsfirmen von ihren Kunden gespeichert haben. Doch damit nicht genug: Ermittler sollen zudem Passwörter, PIN- und PUK-Codes anfordern können.

<http://www.n-tv.de/politik/Bundestag-will-Passwoerter-aushebeln-article10340776.html>

802/13 -----

Ramstein/Koblenz: Anklage gegen mutmaßlichen Spion

(swr) Die Bundesanwaltschaft hat nach SWR-Informationen Anklage gegen einen Zivilangestellten der NATO in Ramstein erhoben. Der Mann soll auf dem US-Stützpunkt geheime Informationen gesammelt haben. Er war im August 2012 festgenommen worden.

Die Klage gegen den Informatiker ist jetzt beim Oberlandesgericht (OLG) Koblenz eingegangen. Dem Mann aus Rheinland-Pfalz wird Verrat von Staatsgeheimnissen vorgeworfen. Weder das OLG noch die Karlsruher Behörde wollten sich zu dem Fall äußern. Einzelheiten würden erst bekanntgegeben, wenn der Angeschuldigte die Anklageschrift erhalten habe, hieß es.

- (a) <http://www.swr.de/nachrichten/rp/-/id=1682/nid=1682/did=11180500/cpc67z/>
- (b) Spion versteckte Nato-Daten in Apfelkompott: [http://www.merkur-online.de/aktuelles/politik/spion-versteckte-nato-daten-
apfelkompott-schleuste-ramstein-zr-2815308.html](http://www.merkur-online.de/aktuelles/politik/spion-versteckte-nato-daten-apfelkompott-schleuste-ramstein-zr-2815308.html)

803/13 -----

Rassismus beim Verfassungsschutz

(mittelbayerische) Offenbar haben Mitarbeiter des Bundesverfassungsschutzes jahrelang ausländische Kollegen mit islamfeindlichen und rassistischen Äußerungen verspottet.

Ausländische Mitarbeiter beim Bundesverfassungsschutz in Köln sollen einem Medienbericht zufolge jahrelang von Kollegen wegen ihrer Herkunft verspottet worden sein. Wie die „Süddeutsche Zeitung“ am Freitag berichtet, gibt es beim Inlandsgeheimdienst massive interne Spannungen „wegen islamfeindlicher und rassistischer Äußerungen“. Das Bundesamt für Verfassungsschutz (BfV) sprach in einer schriftlichen Stellungnahme von einem Einzelfall, der einige Jahre zurückliege. Nach intensiver Aufklärung seien auch disziplinarrechtliche Konsequenzen gezogen worden.

[http://www.mittelbayerische.de/nachrichten/politik/artikel/rassismus-beim-
verfassungsschutz/895184/rassismus-beim-verfassungsschutz.html](http://www.mittelbayerische.de/nachrichten/politik/artikel/rassismus-beim-verfassungsschutz/895184/rassismus-beim-verfassungsschutz.html)



SWITZERLAND

804/13

«Etliche Spione sind in der Schweiz tätig»

(tagesanzeiger) Der Bundesrat will dem Nachrichtendienst mehr Kompetenzen geben. Dessen Chef Markus Seiler hofft, dass der Lauschangriff Spione abschreckt. Und er verspricht, die Anzahl der Fichen endlich zu reduzieren.

Jetzt dürfen Sie nur bei rund zehn Fällen pro Jahr das volle Geschütz mit Telefonüberwachung und so weiter auffahren. Sind Sie enttäuscht?

Markus Seiler: Nein, enttäuscht bin ich nicht. Und ja, es sind tatsächlich nicht sehr viele Fälle. Aber es muss erwähnt werden, dass die Fallzahl nicht im Gesetz verankert ist, sondern nur eine Grössenordnung darstellt.

<http://www.tagesanzeiger.ch/schweiz/standard/Etliche-Spione-sind-in-der-Schweiz-taetig/story/11373447>



(Hat tip to Lukas HEGI
for this info!)

805/13

Nationalrat will Waffenregister schnell vernetzen

(tagesanzeiger) Zum Schutz vor Schusswaffen will der Nationalrat kantonale und nationale Behörden schnell vernetzen und die AHV-Nummer zur Identifikation eventuell problematischer Wehrleute nutzen.

Zum Schutz vor Schusswaffen will der Nationalrat kantonale und nationale Behörden schnell vernetzen, den Informationsfluss zwischen Kantonen und Bund sowie zur Armee verstärken und die AHV-Nummer zur Identifikation eventuell problematischer Wehrleute nutzen.

Die nationalrätliche Sicherheitskommission war tätig geworden, nachdem sie festgestellt hatte, dass die Kantone die im Abstimmungskampf zur Waffenschutz-Initiative versprochenen Massnahmen nicht ergreifen können. Wie Chantal Galladé als Kommissionssprecherin sagte, braucht es für Registerverknüpfungen Gesetzesänderungen. Diese setzte die Kommission mit vier Motionen in Gang.

- (a) <http://www.tagesanzeiger.ch/schweiz/standard/Nationalrat-will-Waffenregister-schnell-ernetzen/story/13174967>
- (b) Offiziersgesellschaft unterstützt Vorstoß zum Einsammeln der Waffen:
<http://www.tagesanzeiger.ch/schweiz/standard/Offiziersgesellschaft-unterstuetzt-Vorstoss-zum-Einsammeln-der-Waffen/story/11823492>



(Hat tip to Lukas HEGI
for this info!)

806/13

Abschaffung der Wehrpflicht - nur für Männer ist «unhaltbar»

(nzz) In der Märzsession hat der Ständerat die Abschaffung der Wehrpflicht abgelehnt. Die Befürworter der Abschaffungsinitiative führen ins Feld, die Wehrpflicht verstosse gegen die Gleichberechtigung. Zeit also, die Frage juristisch zu klären.

Laut Bundesgericht ist die Beschränkung der Wehrpflicht auf Männer keine Diskriminierung. Die Wehrpflicht stelle eine Sondernorm dar und gehe dem Diskriminierungsverbot vor. Hierbei handelt es sich jedoch um eine rein formelle Argumentation, mit welcher sich auch das fehlende Frauenstimmrecht ad infinitum hätte begründen lassen können. Nach Bernhard Waldmann, Professor für Staats- und Verwaltungsrecht an der Universität Freiburg, steht es dem Verfassungsgeber nicht zu, Kerngehalte von Grundrechten, wozu das Diskriminierungsverbot gehöre, zu durchbrechen. Die Begrenzung der Wehrpflicht auf Männer sei daher geschlechterdiskriminierend, auch wenn sie in der Verfassung selbst vorgesehen sei.

<http://www.nzz.ch/aktuell/schweiz/wehrpflicht-nur-fuer-maenner-ist-unhaltbar-1.18047005>



*(Hat tip to Lukas HEGI
for this info!)*

807/13

Kandidatur der Schweiz für den UNO-Sicherheitsrat

(foraus) Kandidatur der Schweiz für den UNO-Sicherheitsrat:
Vollmitgliedschaft der Schweiz oder außenstehende Beobachterin?

Am 14. März 2013 diskutiert der Nationalrat den Bericht des Bundesrates zur Kandidatur für den UNO-Sicherheitsrat. Gleichzeitig wird eine parlamentarische Initiative von Nationalrat Luzi Stamm diskutiert, welche verlangt, dass eine Kandidatur um eine Mitgliedschaft zwingend im Parlament diskutiert und ein entsprechender Beschluss dem fakultativen Referendum unterstellt wird. Dabei stellen sich zwei Fragen: Warum soll eine solche von Parlament und Volk abgesegnet werden müssen? Und weshalb sollte sich die Schweiz überhaupt um eine Kandidatur bemühen?

Bereits 2006 plädierte die damalige Bundesrätin Micheline Calmy-Rey für einen schweizerischen Einsitz in den UNO-Sicherheitsrat, worauf das EDA einen Bericht zuhanden der Außenpolitischen Kommissionen beider Räte erstellte. Zur Diskussion steht nun eine mögliche Mitgliedschaft der Schweiz im Sicherheitsrat für die Periode 2023/2024 - also 21 Jahre, nachdem die Schweiz Mitglied der UNO wurde.

Was will die parlamentarische Initiative von Luzi Stamm?

Die parlamentarische Initiative von Nationalrat Luzi Stamm ist wenig mehr als das Aufwärmen einer Motion der SVP-Fraktion aus dem Jahr 2011, welche sich vehement gegen einen Einsitz der Schweiz im Sicherheitsrat wehrte. Insbesondere hält der Motionstext fest, dass ein Einsitz nicht vereinbar mit dem Neutralitätsgedanken sei und deshalb dem Volk zu Abstimmung gebracht werden müsse.

<http://www.forausblog.ch/kandidatur-der-schweiz-fur-den-uno-sicherheitsrat-vollmitgliedschaft-der-schweiz-oder-aussenstehende-beobachterin/#.UU-D2oE7vWV>



(Hat tip to Lukas HEGI
for this info!)

AUSTRIA

808/13

----- **Telekom Austria startet "Whistleblowing"-Plattform** -----

(derstandard) "Um potenzielles Fehlverhalten im Unternehmen aufzudecken" - Anonymität garantiert

Dubiose Geldflüsse an Parteien, umstrittene Ostgeschäfte und die Manipulation von Aktienkursen: Die Telekom Austria zeigte sich in den letzten Jahren nicht von ihrer besten Seite. Dieses Bild soll künftig der Vergangenheit angehören - das Unternehmen hat sich Sauberkeit verordnet. Dafür geht die Telekom neue Wege: Am Montag stellte sie ihre "Whistleblowing"-Plattform vor. Das Hinweisgeberportal ist über die Corporate Website telekomaustria.com erreichbar.

infos über Ungereimtheiten

Ziel des "tell.me" genannten Systems ist es, "Mitarbeitern wie auch externen Personen die Möglichkeit zu geben, der Unternehmensspitze Informationen über Ungereimtheiten anonym zukommen zu lassen", wie das Unternehmen in einer Pressemitteilung erklärte.

- (a) <http://derstandard.at/1353208700864/Telekom-Austria-startet-Whistleblowing-Plattform>
- (b) Die "Whistleblowing"-Plattform: <https://www.bkms-system.net/bkwebanon/report/clientInfo?cin=20teleau21>

Austro-Islamist Mohamed M. droht Österreich mit Terror



(derstandard) 29-Jähriger verbrennt in Video seinen österreichischen Pass und kündigt Anschläge an

Der aus Wien stammende Radikalislamist Mohamed M., der sich vermutlich in Ägypten aufhält, droht Österreich in einem neuen Video und spricht von Anschlägen auf Städte, Züge und Parlamente. Außerdem verbrennt er seinen österreichischen Pass, wie die Tageszeitungen "Die Presse" und

"Kurier" am Samstag in ihrer Internetausgabe berichteten.

"So wie das Republikssiegel, auf das ihr so stolz seid, euer Kuffar- (Ungläubige-)symbol, wird dieses Feuer eure Länder erreichen. Durch unsere Hände oder die Hände unserer Nachkommen." Mit diesen Worten zündet Mohamed M. seinen österreichischen Reisepass an, den er zuvor schon in mehrere Teile zerrissen hat. In Tarnjacke, mit einer AK47 in der rechten Hand steht er in einem Hinterhof und attackiert seine alte Heimat, mit der er nichts mehr zu tun haben will.

- (a) <http://derstandard.at/1363239262605/Austro-Islamist-Mohamed-M-droht-Oesterreich-mit-Terror>
- (b) <http://diepresse.com/home/politik/aussenpolitik/1376730/AustroIslamist-droht-Oesterreich-mit-Terror->



AMERICA (CONTINENTAL)

Falkland-Inseln bleiben in der Hand Großbritanniens

(theintelligence) Die Falkland-Inseln haben derzeit einen sehr bequemen Stand. Sie können vollständig eine eigene Regierung wählen, haben einen eigenen Staatshaushalt und können die meisten Entscheidungen selbst treffen. Dennoch sind sie vor Angriffen durch Großbritannien geschützt und müssen sich auch um die Außenpolitik nicht kümmern. Kein Wunder also, dass sich bei der Volksabstimmung die Mehrheit für einen Verbleib im Herrschaftsbereich Großbritannien entschieden. Nur drei Stimmen wollten aus dem Herrschaftsbereich heraus.

Argentinien möchte die Falkland-Inseln gern für sich haben

Über 99 Prozent stimmten damit für einen Verbleib in den Händen Großbritanniens. Die Wahl soll nach Beobachtern auch fair, geheim und technisch sauber abgelaufen sein. Kritik gibt es jedoch von Argentinien. Das Land, welches am nächsten an der Insel dran ist, will das Referendum

jedoch nicht anerkennen und fordert, dass die Falkland-Inseln argentinisch werden. Demnach sei die Abstimmung nicht unter Beobachtung der Vereinten Nationen geschehen. Ebenso sei es in Ordnung, dass die Bewohner der Insel britisch bleiben wollen, jedoch läge die Insel im argentinischen Einzugsbereich. In den Besitz Großbritanniens ist die Insel im Jahr 1833 gekommen. Im Jahr 1982 versuchte Argentinien mit einer militärischen Invasion die Insel zurück zu bekommen. Der entstandene Krieg endete bereits am 14. Juni des Jahres mit einer Niederlage für das südamerikanische Land. Seitdem versucht Argentinien politisch Druck auszuüben, um die Inseln wieder zu bekommen. Die demokratische Abstimmung dürfte jetzt jedoch erstmal ein großer Dämpfer sein.

<http://theintelligence.de/index.php/politik/kurznachrichten/5201-falkland-inseln-bleiben-in-der-hand-grossbritanniens.html>



AFRICA (SUB-SAHARA)

811/13

Congolese warlord Bosco Ntaganda now in custody of ICC

(UN) The Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC) has welcomed the news of the transfer of Congolese warlord Bosco Ntaganda to The Hague, where he faces charges for a range of alleged war crimes, including rape, murder and the recruitment of children.

Mr. Ntaganda has been indicted by the Court on seven counts of war crimes and three counts of crimes against humanity allegedly committed in Ituri province in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) between 2002 and 2003. He turned himself in to the United States Embassy in Rwanda on Monday.

"This is a good day for victims in the DRC and for international justice," ICC Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda said in a news release. "Today those who are alleged to have long suffered at the hands of Bosco Ntaganda can look forward to the future and the prospect of justice taking its course."

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=44460&Cr=criminal%20court&Cr1=#.UU9WuYE7vWU>

812/13

Rebel Surrender, a Boost to DRC Peace Process, Says Official

(VOA) The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has expressed confidence the U.S. Embassy in neighboring Rwanda will ensure Bosco Ntaganda is prosecuted on war crimes charges.

"We have maintained close contact with our counterpart in the U.S. government as well as in Rwanda, because the two governments have to cooperate so that Ntaganda is sent to be judged," said the DRC Information Minister Lambert Mende.

Mende says the surrender of Ntaganda could change the dynamics of instability in the restive parts of the North Kivu province and surrounding areas in the DRC.

<http://www.voanews.com/content/rebel-surrender-a-boost-to-drc-peace-proecss-says-official/1623946.html>



THE CYBER BATTLEFIELD/ CIVIL RIGHTS

813/13

Al-Qaeda lacks expertise for cyberwar, expert tells MPs

(bbc) Al-Qaeda lacks the technical expertise to sabotage Britain's national power and water systems, a cyber-security expert has told a committee of MPs.

Asked why a cyber-attack had never been launched on such assets, Thomas Rid said: "Al-Qaeda are too stupid and China doesn't want to do it."

China denies state-backed hacking and says it is, rather, a victim of it.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-21769078>



*(Hat tip to Lukas HEGI
for this info!)*

814/13

Cyberwar in the Underworld: Anonymous versus Los Zetas in Mexico

(yalejournal) Little attention has been paid to non-state actors conducting cyberwars against each other and the disruptive effects these wars can have on nation-states. This article explores the online clash between the hacker group, Anonymous, and the Mexican drug cartel, Los Zetas. This type of cyberwar was unique: it was an incident where two clandestine non-state groups used the digital domain to attack each other and it was largely a

private affair. Yet the incident had public consequences that left the Mexican government as a bystander. Such criminal activity beyond the reach of government intervention blurs the line between public safety and national security.

In the fall of 2011, two clandestine non-state groups—a hacktivist collective and a Mexican drug cartel—stared each other down in the digital domain, with potentially fatal real world consequences for both sides. Los Zetas, a Mexican drug trafficking organization composed of former members of Mexico's Special Forces, kidnapped a member of Anonymous, the global hacking group, in Veracruz on October 6th. In retaliation, Anonymous threatened to publicize online the personal information of Los Zetas and their associates, from taxi drivers to high-ranking politicians, unless Los Zetas freed their abductee by November 5th. The release of this information on the Internet would have exposed members of Los Zetas to not only possible arrest by Mexican authorities, but also to assassination by rival cartels. Unconfirmed reports suggest that Los Zetas then attempted to "reverse hack" Anonymous to uncover some of its members and to threaten them with death. As a consequence, a few members of Anonymous sought to call off the operation and disavowed those members who wanted to go forward. With time running out and locked in a stalemate, Los Zetas released their kidnap victim on November 4th with an online warning that they would kill ten innocent people for each name that Anonymous might subsequently publicize. Anonymous called off its operation; each side appeared to step back from the brink.

<http://yalejournal.org/2013/02/26/cyberwar-in-the-underworld-anonymous-versus-los-zetas-in-mexico/>



*(Hat tip to Lukas HEGI
for this info!)*

815/13

Resilient Military Systems and the Advanced Cyber Threat

(acq) MEMORANDUM TO THE CHAIRMAN, DEFENSE SCIENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Final Report of the Defense Science Board (DSB) Task Force on Resilient Military Systems

The final report of the DSB Task Force on Resilient Military Systems is attached. This report is based on the perspective of 24 Task Force members who received more than 50 briefings from practitioners and senior officials throughout the Department of Defense (DoD), Intelligence Community (IC), commercial sector, academia, national laboratories, and policymakers.

This Task Force was asked to review and make recommendations to improve the resilience of DoD systems to cyber attacks, and to develop a set of metrics that the Department could use to track progress and shape investment priorities.

<http://www.acq.osd.mil/dsb/reports/ResilientMilitarySystems.CyberThreat.pdf>



*(Hat tip to Lukas HEGI
for this info!)*

816/13

A Non-Attribution-Dilemma/its Impact on Legal Regulation of Cyberwar

(study4cyberpeace) "Abstract: The potential impossibility of attribution in cyberspace causes at least three challenges for international politics. This paper analyses the systematic role of the non-attribution-problem with regard to the definition of cyberwar, its impact on legal regulation and the strategy of 'deterrence through a threat of retaliation'. Firstly we provide a conceptual specification of non-attribution. Secondly, referring to a classical definition of war and a sound principle of self-defense, we provide a logical clarification of these terms for cases of non-attribution and their impact to define and classify 'cyberwar'. Afterwards we argue that any attempt to rational legal regulation under non-attribution will lead into a serious dilemma, which consists either in a reductio ad absurdum of the category of war and the impossibility of a sound principle of self-defense or the indistinguishability of a state of regulation and anarchy. However, the existence of this non-attribution-problem has no impact on the possibility of rational 'deterrence through a threat of retaliation', which in turn might lead to a complete prudential dilemma."

http://www.study4cyberpeace.com/images/A_Non-Attribution-Dilemma_and_its_Impact_on_Legal_Regulation_of_Cyberwar.pdf



*(Hat tip to Lukas HEGI
for this info!)*

817/13

DoD panel recommends special bomber-armed cyber deterrent force

(killerapps) This is interesting. The Defense Science Board's new report on protecting the Pentagon's computer networks calls for the development of a special force armed with its own bombers, cruise missiles, and cyber weapons to respond to a devastating cyber attack. Kind of like a mini, conventionally-armed Strategic Command for cyber deterrence.

We've heard Pentagon leaders acknowledge that they are building up their offensive cyber capabilities to deter destructive cyber attacks that could harm thousands or even millions of Americans. However, the new report says that the U.S. must go further to "ensure the President has options beyond a nuclear-only response to a catastrophic cyber-attack."

That's right, the report, written by the DSB's Task Force on Resilient Military Systems, implies that the United States might have to rely on nuclear weapons to retaliate after a large-scale cyber attack.

http://killerapps.foreignpolicy.com/posts/2013/03/06/dod_panel_recommends_special_bomber_armed_cyber_deterrent_force



*(Hat tip to Lukas HEGI
for this info!)*



SPYCRAFT

818/13 -----

US Military Launches New Missile Defense Satellite

(rian) The United States launched on Tuesday a military satellite designed for infrared detection of ballistic missile launches, the US media reported.

GEO-2 is the second satellite in the Space-Based Infrared System (SBIRS), a US Air Force program developed to provide the United States with advance warning of potential nuclear attacks.

An Atlas V rocket lifted off at 16:21 EST (21:21 GMT) from Cape Canaveral space center in Florida, according to nasaspaceflight.com internet portal.

The satellite will be placed into a classified position on a geostationary orbit about 22,300 miles (36,000 km) above the Earth.

http://en.rian.ru/military_news/20130320/180126264/US-Military-Launches-New-Missile-Defense-Satellite.html

819/13 -----

Profi-Videokonferenzsysteme als Spion

(heise) Moritz Jodeit vom deutschen IT-Sicherheitsspezialisten nrns hat im Lauf von zwei Monaten verschiedene Schwächen in Polycoms HDX-Serie entdeckt. Er präsentierte die Ergebnisse seiner Arbeit während der Sicherheitskonferenz Black Hat Europe. Diese Videokonferenzsysteme sind laut Herstellerwebsite in zahlreichen Großunternehmen auf der ganzen Welt im Einsatz.

Nachdem sich Jodeit mittels eines nicht dokumentierten "Developer"-Modus des Polycom-Systems lokalen root-Zugriff verschaffen konnte, begann er die Analyse der einzelnen Softwarekomponenten. Darunter fand sich das Modul, das sich um die Kommunikation des Systems an sich kümmert und die Protokolle H.323 sowie SIP handhabt. Dabei entdeckte er diverse Bugs - und reichlich Hinweise auf mehr: unter anderem 800 Referenzen auf die gefährliche und deshalb geächteten Funktion strcpy().

Ein konkreter Bug betrifft den Umgang mit dem H.323-Protokoll: Den Aufbau eines Anrufs oder einer Videokonferenz initiiert ein an Port 1720 geschicktes SETUP-Paket. Die Polycom-Systeme verarbeiten diese Pakete automatisch, auch wenn die Funktion zur automatischen Gesprächsannahme deaktiviert ist. Dieses SETUP-Paket enthält unter anderem das Informationselement "Display". Beim Verarbeiten dieses Elements findet sich ein Format-String-Bug, so dass das Element einen beliebigen, vom Angreifer definierten Wert haben kann. Auf diesem Weg legt Moritz Jodeit nach und nach mittels zahlreicher SETUP-Pakete den Shellcode im Speicher des Polycom-Geräts ab und erhält so eine Remote Root-Shell. Schutzmechanismen wie ASLR finden sich in der Firmware nicht, so dass der Code verlässlich abgelegt und danach angesprungen werden kann.

Die Demonstration der Sicherheitslücke war fast schon zirkusreif: Der Hacker lud per wget weiteren Schadcode auf das Linux-basierte Gerät. Danach ertönte Zirkusmusik in einer Endlosschleife, die fernsteuerbare Kamera drehte sich von links nach rechts und auf dem Display zeigte bildschirmfüllend "Pwned!". Ein echter Angriff würde natürlich lautlos ablaufen und das Kamerabild abgreifen oder per Mikrofon den Raum überwachen.

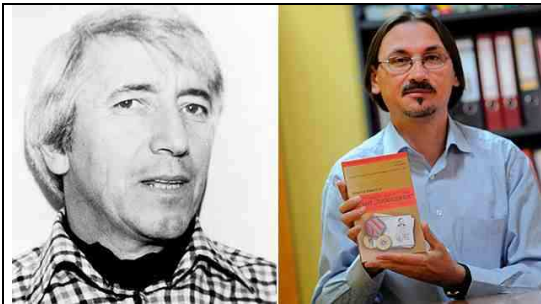
<http://www.heise.de/security/meldung/Profi-Videokonferenzsysteme-als-Spion-1824557.html>



INTEL HISTORY

820/13

"Regenschirm- Mord" 1978 in London: Täter in Ö?



(krone) Der Hauptverdächtige des spektakulären Mordes an dem bulgarischen Dissidenten Georgi Markow (Bild li.), der 1978 in London mit einer vergifteten Regenschirmspitze getötet wurde, soll sich in Österreich aufhalten. Wie britische Medien am Samstag berichteten, wurde Francesco Gullino mehrmals in Wels gesichtet und soll dort für einen

Antiquitätenhändler arbeiten bzw. gearbeitet haben.

Die heimischen Behörden werden vorerst jedoch nicht tätig, da laut Landespolizeidirektion Oberösterreich kein Rechtshilfeersuchen der britischen Behörden vorliegt. Das heißt, dass es derzeit keinen internationalen bzw. EU- Haftbefehl gegen den in Italien geborenen Dänen Gullino gibt.

Allerdings, so die Zeitung "The Telegraph" in einem Online- Beitrag , könnte die Londoner Polizei Scotland Yard die Ermittlungen gegen Gullino nach dessen Lokalisierung nun wieder aufnehmen wollen. Die Akte sei jedenfalls noch nicht geschlossen, man arbeite weiterhin mit internationalen Behörden zusammen, wurde eine Scotland- Yard- Mitarbeiterin zitiert.

http://www.krone.at/Nachrichten/Regenschirm-Mord_1978_in_London-Taeter_in_Oe-Spektakulaerer_Fall-Story-355786

821/13

Hitler assassination plotter Von Kleist dies



(bbc) A former German army lieutenant who took part in a plot to assassinate German leader Adolf Hitler in 1944 has died.

Ewald-Heinrich von Kleist died aged 90 at his home in Munich last Friday, his wife Gundula told the Associated Press.

Mr von Kleist was just 22 when he volunteered to wear a suicide vest at a meeting with Hitler.

The meeting did not come off, but months later he played a key role in what became known as the 20 July plot.

He was supposed to carry a briefcase packed with explosives to a meeting with the Nazi leader, but in a change of plan the bomb was planted by plot mastermind Colonel Claus von Stauffenberg.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-21760460>



*(Hat tip to Lukas HEGI
for this info!)*

822/13

The Lyndon Johnson tapes: Richard Nixon's 'treason'



(bbc) Declassified tapes of President Lyndon Johnson's telephone calls provide a fresh insight into his world. Among the revelations - he planned a dramatic entry into the 1968 Democratic Convention to re-join the presidential race. And he caught Richard Nixon sabotaging the Vietnam peace talks... but said nothing.

After the Watergate scandal taught

Richard Nixon the consequences of recording White House conversations none of his successors has dared to do it. But Nixon wasn't the first.

He got the idea from his predecessor Lyndon Johnson, who felt there was an obligation to allow historians to eventually eavesdrop on his presidency.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-21768668>



*(Hat tip to Lukas HEGI
for this info!)*



HOT DOCS ONLINE

823/13 -----

NASA Technical Reports Database Goes Dark

(fas) This week NASA abruptly took the massive NASA Technical Reports Server (NTRS) offline. Though no explanation for the removal was offered, it appeared to be in response to concerns that export controlled information was contained in the collection.

"Until further notice, the NTRS system will be unavailable for public access. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you and anticipate that this site will return to service in the near future," the NTRS homepage now states.

http://www.fas.org/blog/secretcy/2013/03/ntrs_dark.html

824/13 -----

A Study of Public Mass Shootings, and More from CRS

(fas) Over the past thirty years, dozens of indiscriminate mass shootings in America have resulted in 547 deaths and an additional 476 injured victims, according to a new tabulation by the Congressional Research Service.

The new CRS report examines the phenomenon of mass shootings, like the December 2012 incident in Newtown, CT, and considers potential policy lessons for law enforcement, public health, and education.

The first step is to define the topic. CRS says that public mass shootings occur "in relatively public places, involving four or more deaths-not including the shooter(s)-and gunmen who select victims somewhat indiscriminately." Furthermore, the violence is not calculated to advance any political agenda or criminal scheme.

http://www.fas.org/blog/secretcy/2013/03/mass_shootings.html

825/13 -----

Classification Complaint Arising from Thomas Drake Case Dismissed

(fas) In July 2011, J. William Leonard, a former director of the Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO), took the extraordinary step of filing a formal complaint with the Office he once led charging that a document used to indict former NSA official Thomas Drake under the Espionage Act had been wrongly classified in violation of the executive order on classification. ("Complaint Seeks Punishment for Classification of Documents" by Scott Shane, New York Times, August 2, 2011 - b; "Ex-federal official calls U.S. classification system 'dysfunctional'" by Ellen Nakashima, Washington Post, July 21, 2012 - c)

- (a) http://www.fas.org/blog/secretcy/2013/03/complaint_dismissed.html
- (b) http://www.nytimes.com/2011/08/02/us/02secret.html?_r=0

- (c) http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/ex-federal-official-calls-us-classification-system-dysfunctional/2012/07/21/gJQAFJl0W_story.html

826/13 -----

Secret Sessions of Congress, and More from CRS

(fas) The latest updates from the Congressional Research Service obtained by the Federation of American Scientists include these reports.

Secret Sessions of the House and Senate: Authority, Confidentiality, and Frequency, March 15, 2013 (b)

Europe's Energy Security: Options and Challenges to Natural Gas Supply Diversification, March 15, 2013 (c)

The Amending Process in the Senate, March 15, 2013 (d)

Commonly Used Motions and Requests in the House of Representatives, March 15, 2013 (e)

Navy Nuclear Aircraft Carrier (CVN) Homeporting at Mayport: Background and Issues for Congress, March 15, 2013 (f)

Navy Irregular Warfare and Counterterrorism Operations: Background and Issues for Congress, March 15, 2013 (g)

Coast Guard Cutter Procurement: Background and Issues for Congress, March 15, 2013 (h)

Coast Guard Polar Icebreaker Modernization: Background, Issues, and Options for Congress, March 15, 2013 (i)

- (a) http://www.fas.org/blog/secretcy/2013/03/secret_sessions_crs.html
- (b) <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/secretcy/R42106.pdf>
- (c) <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/R42405.pdf>
- (d) <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/98-853.pdf>
- (e) <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RL32207.pdf>
- (f) <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/weapons/R40248.pdf>
- (g) <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/natsec/RS22373.pdf>
- (h) <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/weapons/R42567.pdf>
- (i) <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/weapons/RL34391.pdf>

827/13 -----

Taxes on Gun Sales to Support Wildlife, and More from CRS

(fas) In the wake of recent gun-related violence, and in anticipation of potential new restrictions on gun ownership, there has been a sharp increase in sales of guns and ammunition. That is bad news for gun control advocates, but it turns out to be good news for wildlife, at least in the short term.

"Through an excise tax on firearms and ammunition, such sales have a marked beneficial effect on funding for state wildlife programs," according to a new Congressional Research Service report. (b)

- (a) http://www.fas.org/blog/secretcy/2013/03/gun_sales.html
- (b) <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R42992.pdf>

828/13 -----

Judge Collyer Named to Intelligence Surveillance Court

(fas) Judge Rosemary M. Collyer of the D.C. District Court was appointed by the Chief Justice of the United States to a seven year term on the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court. (b) The Court provides a measure of judicial oversight over surveillance activities under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, as amended. (c)

Judge Collyer's term on the FIS Court began on March 8, 2013 and will conclude on March 7, 2020. She replaces Judge John D. Bates, whose term ended on February 21. Her appointment was confirmed by Sheldon Snook, spokesman for the Court.

- (a) http://www.fas.org/blog/secretcy/2013/03/collyer_fisc.html
- (b) <http://www.fas.org/irp/agency/doj/fisa/court2013.html>
- (c) <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/intel/R42725.pdf>

829/13 -----

CRS Reports on Navy Programs

(fas) Newly updated reports from the Congressional Research Service on various U.S. Navy programs include the following.

Navy Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) Program: Background and Issues for Congress, March 14, 2013 (b)

Navy Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) Program: Background, Issues and Options for Congress, March 14, 2013 (c)

Navy Ohio Replacement (SSBN[X]) Ballistic Missile Submarine Program: Background and Issues for Congress, March 14, 2013 (d)

Navy DDG-51 and DDG-1000 Destroyer Programs: Background and Issues for Congress, March 14, 2013 (e)

Navy Shipboard Lasers for Surface, Air, and Missile Defense: Background and Issues for Congress, March 14, 2013 (f)

Navy Virginia (SSN-774) Class Attack Submarine Procurement: Background and Issues for Congress, March 13, 2013 (g)

Navy Ford (CVN-78) Class Aircraft Carrier Program: Background and Issues for Congress, March 13, 2013 (h)

Navy Force Structure and Shipbuilding Plans: Background and Issues for Congress, March 1, 2013 (i)

- (a) http://www.fas.org/blog/secretcy/2013/03/crs_navy.html
- (b) <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/weapons/RL33745.pdf>
- (c) <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/weapons/RL33741.pdf>
- (d) <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/weapons/R41129.pdf>
- (e) <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/weapons/RL32109.pdf>
- (f) <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/weapons/R41526.pdf>
- (g) <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/weapons/RL32418.pdf>
- (h) <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/weapons/RS20643.pdf>
- (i) <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/weapons/RL32665.pdf>

830/13

OPM Mulls Changes to Security Clearance Questionnaire

(fas) The Office of Personnel Management has invited the public to comment on proposed changes to Standard Form (SF) 86, the questionnaire that must be filled out by all persons who are seeking a security clearance for access to classified information.

Although critics have argued that the SF-86 is hopelessly out of date and should be abandoned in favor of a more streamlined process, the changes that OPM is currently considering are mostly technicalities, not a wholesale revision. Proposed changes include a recognition of civil unions as a legal alternative to marriage, a clarification that use of drugs that are illegal under federal law must be reported even if they are legal under state law, and changes in wording and instructions for completion of the Form.

http://www.fas.org/blog/secrecy/2013/03/opm_sf86.html

831/13

Deterring Leaks Through Polygraph Testing

(fas) Last summer, Director of National Intelligence James R. Clapper directed agencies that perform polygraph tests to include a "pre-test dialogue" about the need to prevent leaks of classified information as part of the polygraph interview process.

In a July 2012 memorandum to agencies, he said that the CIA's polygraph program exemplified what he had in mind.

"During the pre-test discussion, CIA specifically asks whether an individual has provided classified information or facilitated access to classified information to any unauthorized persons, to include the media, unauthorized U.S. persons, or foreign nationals. The polygraph process is also used to identify deliberate disclosures," DNI Clapper wrote. Other agencies that perform polygraph testing should follow procedures similar to CIA's, he said.

http://www.fas.org/blog/secrecy/2013/03/leaks_polygraph.html

832/13

Leaks: Why the Government Condemns and Condone Them

(fas) Leaks of classified information and the government's responses to them are the subject of a new study by David Pozen of Columbia Law School.

The starting point for his examination is the "dramatic disconnect between the way our laws and our leaders condemn leaking in the abstract and the way they condone it in practice." How can this disconnect be understood?

Leaks benefit the government, the author argues, in many ways. They are a safety valve, a covert messaging system, a perception management tool, and more. Even when a particular disclosure is unwelcome or damaging, it serves to validate the system as a whole.

http://www.fas.org/blog/secrecy/2013/03/leaks_pozen.html



LITERATURE

833/13

Worldwide Threat Assessment of the U.S. Intell Community

(dni) Chairman Feinstein, Vice Chairman Chambliss, and Members of the Committee, thank you for the invitation to offer the United States Intelligence Community's 2013 assessment of threats to US national security. My statement reflects the collective insights of the Intelligence Community's extraordinary men and women, whom it is my privilege and honor to lead.

This year, in both content and organization, this statement illustrates how quickly and radically the world—and our threat environment—are changing. This environment is demanding reevaluations of the way we do business, expanding our analytic envelope, and altering the vocabulary of intelligence.

Threats are more diverse, interconnected, and viral than at any time in history. Attacks, which might involve cyber and financial weapons, can be deniable and unattributable. Destruction can be invisible, latent, and progressive. We now monitor shifts in human geography, climate, disease, and competition for natural resources because they fuel tensions and conflicts. Local events that might seem irrelevant are more likely to affect US national security in accelerated time frames.

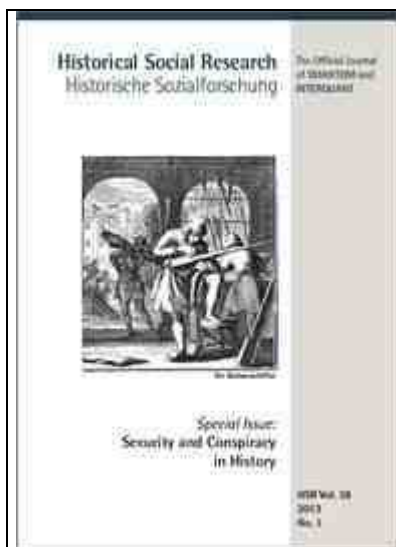
In this threat environment, the importance and urgency of intelligence integration cannot be overstated. Our progress cannot stop. The Intelligence Community must continue to promote collaboration among experts in every field, from the political and social sciences to natural sciences, medicine, military issues, and space. Collectors and analysts need vision across disciplines to understand how and why developments—and both state and unaffiliated actors—can spark sudden changes with international implications.

The Intelligence Community is committed every day to providing the nuanced, multidisciplinary intelligence that policymakers, diplomats, warfighters, and international and domestic law enforcement need to protect American lives and America's interests anywhere in the world.

<http://www.dni.gov/files/documents/Intelligence%20Reports/2013%20ATA%20SFR%20for%20SSCI%2012%20Mar%202013.pdf>



(Hat tip to Lukas HEGI for this info!)



(gesis) HSR Vol. 38 (2013) No. 1: Special Issue: Security and Conspiracy in History

Beatrice de Graaf & Cornel Zwierlein (Eds.): Security and Conspiracy in History, 16th to 21st Century

Dieses Special Issue vereint zum ersten Mal zwei sich aktuell neu formierende Felder der Geschichts- und Sozialwissenschaften – die Sicherheitsgeschichte und die Geschichte von Verschwörungen und Verschwörungstheorien – mit der Frage, wie ihre aufeinander bezogene Entwicklung von der Renaissance bis zur Gegenwart zu konzipieren ist. [Mehr]

Dieses Heft enthält weiterhin ein Mixed Issue mit zwei Artikeln zu unterschiedlichen Themen.

<http://www.gesis.org/hsr/aktuelle-ausgaben/>



(Hat tip to Lukas HEGI for this info!)



(hr) Es war eine glänzende Karriere: Als DDR-Flüchtling arbeitete sich Günter Guillaume in der SPD bis zum persönlichen Referenten des damaligen Bundeskanzlers Willy Brandt hoch – trotz Unzulänglichkeiten und Brandts offensichtlicher Abneigung gegen ihn. Was damals keiner ahnte: Die Flucht des Meisterspions Guillaume 1956 war von der Stasi inszeniert. Nur durch Zufall kam der Verfassungsschutz auf seine Spur. Was folgte, waren Ermittlungsspannen, Dilettantismus und schließlich der Rücktritt Willy Brandts. Jetzt erscheint mit Eckard Michels Buch „Guillaume, der Spion – Eine deutsch-deutsche Karriere“ eine neue Biografie über Guillaume.


Michels hatte als erster Einsicht in mehrere Tausend Verschlussakten des Bundeskanzleramtes und war dadurch in der Lage, das Leben Günter Guillaume akribisch nachzuzeichnen. Seine Beschreibung zeigt, wie Guillaume es überhaupt geschafft hat, so weit zu kommen, und wie sein Leben nach der Enttarnung bis zu seinem Tod 1993 verlief – ein wahrer Agentenkrimi der deutschen Nachkriegsgeschichte.

- (a) Eckard Michels: Guillaume, der Spion: Eine deutsch-deutsche Karriere. Links Verlag, März 2013. ISBN-10: 3861537087. ISBN-13: 978-3861537083. Euro 24,90.
- (b) http://www.pressrelations.de/new/standard/result_main.cfm?pfach=1&n_firmanr_=100188&sektor=pm&detail=1&r=527145&sid=&aktion=jour_pm&quelle=0

	CONFERENCES / LECTURES
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836/13

CFP: Kampf um Wissen - Spionage, Geheimhaltung und Öffentlichkeit

	(hsozkult) CFP: Kampf um Wissen - Spionage, Geheimhaltung und Öffentlichkeit (1870-1940) - Rostock 11/13
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Veranstalter: Robert Radu / Lisa Medrow / Daniel Münzner

Datum, Ort: 14.11.2013-16.11.2013, Rostock

Deadline: 31.05.2013

Seit je waren Herrschaftseliten bestrebt, politisch relevantes Wissen über spezifische Themenbereiche zu sammeln und geheim zu halten. Mit der Schaffung staatlicher Geheimdienste im 19. und frühen 20. Jahrhundert wird die Beschaffung, Verwaltung und Anwendung sensiblen Wissens auf eine gänzlich neue organisatorische Grundlage gestellt. Die Spionage als eine spezifische Form der Wissensbeschaffung avanciert dabei zu einer ebenso professionellen wie gefürchteten Technik.

Mit dieser Professionalisierung der staatlichen Wissensbeschaffung kontrastiert eine Entwicklung, die sich parallel dazu entfaltet: der Aufstieg der Massenmedien zur "Vierten Gewalt". Mit ihm wird Öffentlichkeit zu einer Zeitforderung und Realität, die vor kaum einem Bereich des gesellschaftlichen Lebens mehr Halt macht. Im Akt der Veröffentlichung und Enthüllung werden Medien damit auch zu Gegenspielern der Geheimdienste.

Die Tagung möchte diese Transformation der Akquise geheimen Wissens unter den Bedingungen einer expandierenden Öffentlichkeit beleuchten und dabei über das Feld einer nationalstaatlich fixierten Geheimdienstgeschichte hinausgehen. Unter dem Signum von Imperialismus, "Weltpolitik" und Weltkrieg wird - so eine Hypothese - Wissen zu einer umkämpften Ressource um weltweiten Einfluss konkurrierender Staaten. Aufklärung über den Gegner, aber auch über den Verbündeten, erhielt in der Vorstellungswelt der Herrschenden wie im Diskurs der Zeit ("Weltreichslehre") den Status einer zur nationalen Sicherheit beitragenden, in bellizistischen Zeiten mithin kriegswichtigen, gar kriegsentscheidenden Tätigkeit.

Im Rahmen der Tagung scheint es praktikabel, zunächst keine zu starre Definition des Gegenstandsbereiches zugrunde zu legen. Vielmehr wird davon ausgegangen, dass das, was als geheimes oder "sensibles Wissen" gilt, zeitabhängig und daher auch wandelbar ist, und nur durch eine quellennahe Analyse rekonstruiert werden kann.

Auf drei Fragen soll dabei das Hauptaugenmerk gelenkt werden:

1.
Welche Institutionen bildet der Nationalstaat zur Wissensakquise aus? Welche Akteursgruppen sind daran beteiligt? Welche Praktiken und Medien kommen dabei zum Einsatz?

2.
Nach welchen Kriterien vollzieht sich die Kategorisierung von relevantem und sensiblem Wissen? Welche Wissensbereiche treten zu welcher Zeit und warum in den Bereich des Geheimwissens hinzu, welche verlieren diesen Status?

3.
Welche Rolle spielen Massenmedien und Öffentlichkeit? Wie wird die Notwendigkeit einer Sphäre des Geheimwissens zeitgenössisch begründet/legitimiert, wie ihre Negation im Akt des Öffentlichmachens (etwa durch Journalisten), politisch, juristisch aber auch literarisch bewertet und sanktioniert ("Landesverrat")?

Die Tagung ist interdisziplinär ausgerichtet und an der Schnittstelle zwischen Geschichts-, Medien-, Literaturwissenschaft und Soziologie angesiedelt. Sie richtet sich insbesondere an Nachwuchswissenschaftler/innen.

Vorschläge für einen Beitrag, der sich mit einer oder mehreren der oben genannten Fragen beschäftigt, sind als Abstract (max. 1 Seite) und nebst kurzem Lebenslauf bis zum 31. Mai 2013 per E-Mail zu richten an:

Robert Radu, M.A.
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Interdisziplinäre Fakultät
Universität Rostock
robert.radu@uni-rostock.de

Die Veröffentlichung eines Tagungsbandes ist geplant.

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<http://hsozkult.geschichte.hu-berlin.de/termine/id=21378>



*(Hat tip to Martin MOLL
for this info!)*

Media Alerts

MEDIA ALERTS

Media alerts

am Mi, 27.03. um 22:15 phoenix

Propaganda, Hass, Mord - Die Geschichte des rechten Terrors

Report

Dauer: 45 min ()

Beschreibung: Elf Morde der Zwickauer Neonazi-Zelle - der Aufschrei ist

schnell verklungen, die Gesellschaft längst wieder im Alltag angekommen.

Doch wie konnte es soweit kommen? Die Dokumentation rekonstruiert, wie die

Blutspur des neonazistischen Terrors vor mehr als 30 Jahren gelegt wurde.

<http://www.tvinfo.de/fernsehprogramm/sendung/193742549>

Deadline for application: 28 March 2013

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