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ACIPSS-newsletter

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that will become intelligence history of tomorrow -

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617/07-----
Karl Rove resigns

Karl Rove took leave yesterday of the man he helped put in the White House nearly seven years ago, and in the process he opened a new phase of the politically battered Bush presidency as it heads into its final months without some of the central players who shaped it. Rove, the primary author of President Bush's two successful national campaigns and perhaps the most influential and controversial presidential strategist of his generation, became the latest Bush adviser to head for the door, announcing that he will resign Aug. 31.

The wave of departures signals a broader transition as Bush shifts away from the sweeping domestic initiatives on taxes, education, Social Security and immigration that Rove favored, and refocuses his presidency to a more defensive posture in the face of an opposition Congress and sunken poll ratings.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/08/13/AR2007081300180_2.html?wpisrc=newsletter&wpisrc=newsletter&wpisrc=newsletter

618/07-----
French police finds ETA weapons cache

French police have discovered weapons and explosives in a garage in the town of Biarritz, suspected of belonging to the Basque armed separatist group Eta.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/6945213.stm>

619/07-----
New US offensive in Iraq

US forces in Iraq have launched a new offensive against both Shia and Sunni insurgents, the US military has said.

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/6944543.stm

620/07-----
DiCaprio plays IRA spy in new movie

Hollywood superstar Leonardo DiCaprio is to play a real-life IRA spy in a new blockbuster. The actor has been billed to star in 'The Infiltrator' - the story of British soldiers going undercover to penetrate the Provos. His role is based on Newry-born 'Kevin Fulton', the former Royal Irish Ranger who became a spy at the heart of the terrorist group.

<http://www.sundaylife.co.uk/news/article2856964.ece>

621/07-----
The history of INLA infighting

The republican breakaway group "Irish national Liberation Army" did not need many enemies outside its group. Internal feuding and powerstruggles for drugs and gangland control lead to many brutal murders.

<http://www.independent.ie/opinion/analysis/inla-man-feigned-friendship-but-ordered-my-death-1056983.html>

622/07-----
WiKiPedia-Scanner links delete-ops to intelligence services

Virgil Griffith, a CalTech graduate student downloaded the entire encyclopedia, isolating the XML-based records of anonymous changes and IP addresses. (a) He then correlated those IP addresses with public net-address lookup services such as ARIN, as well as private domain-name data provided by IP2Location.com.

The result: A database of 34.4 million edits, performed by 2.6 million organizations or individuals ranging from the CIA to Microsoft to Congressional offices, now linked to the edits they or someone at their organization's net address has made. (b)

(a) <http://wikiscanner.virgil.gr/>

(b) http://www.wired.com/politics/onlinerights/news/2007/08/wiki_tracker

623/07-----

How Phone Companies Team Up With Bush to Spy on US Citizens

Despite the fact that Democrats have since taken control of the House and Senate, there is still no substantive investigation into the relationship between telecommunications companies and the White House. It's a relationship that warrants investigation as select telecommunications companies have gained nearly inconceivable clout. The past three years have seen a string of massive telecommunications mergers leaving Americans with only two major telecommunications options: AT&T and Verizon. AT&T and Cingular (co-owned by AT&T and BellSouth) clearly feel they have some powerful allies. Last year, they actually referenced the "state secrets" privilege after receiving a subpoena from the state of New Jersey.

<http://www.alternet.org/blogs/peek/59682/>

624/07-----

A rare look into CIA's "black sites"

An astonishingly detailed report about US interrogation techniques has been published by the NEW YORKER. The paper's investigation was originated by some mysterious circumstances surrounding the confession of Mohammed, whom law-enforcement officials refer to as K.S.M., the convicted murderer of Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl

http://www.newyorker.com/reporting/2007/08/13/070813fa_fact_mayer

625/07-----

Interview with John L. Young, webmaster of cryptome.org

For 13 years John Young, a 71-year-old architect, spy buff, and proprietor of strange and engrossing website called Cryptome has been infuriating governments worldwide by publishing highly classified intelligence documents and exposing covert agents. Young craves data. He covets it, collects it, triangulates it, and uploads it to Cryptome (a) -- an online repository of forbidden information -- where it collides with more data, gig after gig sloshing around in chaotic digital clouds. There are high-resolution photos of President Bush's Crawford ranch, technical documents detailing how the National Security Agency spies on computer traffic, even the home addresses and telephone numbers of government officials, including former Director of National Intelligence John Negroponte. (b-d)

- (a) www.cryptome.org/
- (b) <http://cryptome.org/radar-smear.htm> (html, text only)
- (c) http://www.radaronline.com/from-the-magazine/2007/08/cryptome_john_young_radar_anthony_haden_guest_3.php (original article with photos)
- (d) <http://cryptome.org/radar-smear.pdf> (colour-pdf, 8,5MB)

626/07-----

Book-hint: Jeff Richelson's "U.S. Intelligence Community"

The role of intelligence in US government operations has changed dramatically and is now more critical than ever to domestic security and foreign policy. This authoritative and highly researched book provides a detailed overview of America's vast intelligence empire-its organizations, its operations (from spies on the ground to satellites thousands of miles in space), and its management structure. Relying on a multitude of sources, including hundreds of official documents, author Jeffrey T. Richelson

provides an up-to-date picture of the US intelligence community that will allow students to understand the full scope of organizations and activities and will give valuable support to policymakers and military operations. Hailed by the Washington Post Book World as "the authoritative survey of the American cloak-and-dagger establishment," this important text is now fully revised and updated. The fifth edition includes new material on homeland security intelligence, POW and detainee interrogation, and national intelligence organizations. (a-c)

- (a) The US Intelligence Community 5th edition, by Jeffrey T Richelson, Aug 6, 2007, Paperback, US \$49.95, ISBN: 9780813343624, ISBN-10: 0813343623, published by Westview Press
- (b) http://www.perseusbooksgroup.com/westview/book_detail.jsp?isbn=0813343623
- (c) http://www.amazon.de/US-Intelligence-Community-Jeffrey-Richelson/dp/0813343623/ref=sr_1_1/302-7715352-1587218?ie=UTF8&s=books-intl-de&qid=1187189230&sr=8-1

627/07-----

190.000 Schusswaffen im Irak „verschwunden“

Im Irak sind rund 200.000 für die Sicherheitskräfte bestimmte Sturmgewehre und Pistolen, die 2004 und 2005 ausgeteilt wurden, verschwunden. Einem Untersuchungsbericht des US-Kongresses zufolge hat das Verteidigungsministerium die Spur von rund einem Drittel der irakischen Armee und der Polizei seit 2004 zur Verfügung gestellter Waffen verloren. Auch kugelsichere Westen und Helme würden vermisst. Unter den verschwundenen Faustfeuerwaffen befinden sich auch rund 80.000 Glock-Pistolen österreichischer Herkunft, die für die irakische Polizei bestimmt waren. Bei einem Verkaufspreis von USD 500,- hat die Glock einen Schwarzmarktpreis von rund USD 2.500,- .

<http://derstandard.at/?url=/?id=2986993>

628/07-----

Canadian intell admits to have helped CIA during retention op

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) yesterday admitted for the first time that it worked with the CIA during the Maher Arar affair (The Syrian-Canadian was among five Canadian Arabs who were jailed and interrogated in Syria at various points between 2001 and 2003). Suggestions of CIA involvement have been public since the Ottawa engineer provided convincing evidence he was flown to the Middle East on a CIA Gulfstream jet after his arrest in a U.S. airport, but yesterday was the first occasion there has been official confirmation to support his accusations. (a,b)

- (a) <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/LAC.20070810.CIA10/TPStory/National>
- (b) <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20070809.warar0809/BNStory/National/?page=rss&id=RTGAM.20070809.warar0809>

629/07-----

Concern over exodus of UK intelligence officers

Anti-terror operations are being hampered by an exodus of intelligence experts from the military. Around 20% of officers have quit the intelligence corps in the past three years, with many defecting to the private sector for lucrative security jobs. A defence source said the shortages had raised serious concerns among senior officers over people doing jobs for which they were not properly trained or experienced.

<http://politics.guardian.co.uk/homeaffairs/story/0,,2147769,00.html>

630/07-----

Japan, US sign military information pact

Japan and the United States on Friday signed an agreement aimed at protecting classified military information to be shared by the two countries promoting closer defence cooperation. The agreement between the two allies follows the revelation of a series of Japan's embarrassing leaks of sensitive information including confidential data on the US-developed high-tech Aegis combat system. Under the agreement, both governments will restrict the personnel allowed to access secret military information provided by each other.

http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070810/pl_afp/japanusmilitary

631/07-----

Mata Hari was not a spy, only scapegoat, says new book

After pouring over declassified and other papers about the Dutch-born exotic dancer and courtesan, author Pat Shipman sided with growing research that Mata Hari was used as a scapegoat by the French who convicted her of espionage and executed her during World War I to bolster national morale. At her trial it was charged that she was responsible for the deaths of at least 50,000 French soldiers after she passed secrets from Allied officials to the Germans. "But the evidence is quite strong that she was completely innocent of espionage," said Shipman, a professor of anthropology at Pennsylvania State University. "When she was arrested, the war was going very badly for the French and she was foreigner, very sexy, having affairs with everyone, and living lavishly while people in Paris had no bread. There was a lot of resentment against her."

http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/Mata_Hari_was_not_a_spy_says_a_book/articleshow/2273217.cms

632/07-----

Iran accuses Britain of digging tunnel to ferry spies into embassy

Ascribing sinister motives to Britain has long been an integral part of Iranian culture and political life. But now pro-government hardliners have accused the country they label the "old fox" of plumbing new depths of chicanery by digging a tunnel to ferry spies and prostitutes into its embassy in Tehran. Iranian authorities claim to have uncovered a long subterranean passage leading to the embassy compound, which occupies a large area in the centre of the Iranian capital. The tunnel was reportedly found by builders digging in a nearby alley.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/iran/story/0,,2146532,00.html?gusrc=rss&feed=networkfront>

633/07-----

Name of chief of US Clandestine Service published

With little fanfare, Jose Rodriguez, who heads the National Clandestine Service, had his cover lifted about a month ago. CIA spokesman Mark Mansfield said the driving factor was Rodriguez's interest in publicly participating in minority recruitment events. He's also retiring this year after more than three decades with the agency. (a-c)

- (a) http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070808/pl_afp/usintelligencecia_070808223458
- (b) <http://www.startribune.com/484/story/1356645.html>
- (c) <http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2007/08/08/national/main3147114.shtml>

634/ 07-----
EUROPOL veröffentlicht Terrorismusbericht 2007

Nichts belegt die Zerrissenheit der Europäischen Union betreffend Terrorismusbekämpfung mehr als der aktuell veröffentlichte „TE-SAT“-Bericht der Europol. (a) Während dieser Bericht von insgesamt ca. 700 Terrorismus-relevanten Verhaftungen berichtet, bleiben die diesbezüglichen Fahndungsmaßnahmen Großbritanniens (angeblich: 1.600) unberücksichtigt, da die britischen Dienste es ablehnen, sich in ihre Karten blicken zu lassen. (b)

- (a) <http://www.europol.europa.eu/publications/TE-SAT/TE-SAT2007.pdf>
- (b) http://www.cfr.org/publication/13939/one_europe_many_terror_policies.html?breadcrumb=%2Findex

635/07-----
StaSi unterhielt Agentennetz in Schweden

Der schwedische Inlands-Sicherheitsdienst SAPO gab bekannt, daß gegen 50 schwedische Staatsbürger Gerichtsverfahren wegen nachrichtendienstlicher Tätigkeit für die DDR-StaSi angestrengt wurden. Die betreffenden Verfahren wurden jedoch wegen Verjährung eingestellt. Anders Thornberg von der SaPo gab ferner bekannt, dass die Namen der Angezeigten nicht veröffentlicht werden.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/6938763.stm>

ACIPSS-Kommentar: Sag nochmal einer: Crime doesn't pay!" Aber auch in Österreich gab es vor Jahren haargenau die gleiche Situation. Nachdem die US Dienste sich nach Auswertung der sog. Rosenholz-Dateien herabliessen, den österreichischen Behörden eine Liste mit Verdächtigen zu übermitteln, mussten die engagierten Ermittler der damals zuständigen Einsatzgruppe zur Bekämpfung des Terrorismus (EBT) frustriert feststellen, daß die Masse der Geheimnisverratsfälle verjährt waren. Einige Verfahren konnten noch durch die rasche Einbringung von Stellungsanzeigen (das sind kurze, noch nicht ausermittelte Sachverhaltsdarstellungen an die Staatsanwaltschaft, die den Zweck haben, eine Verjährung durch die rasche Eröffnung eines Vorverfahrens bzw einer Voruntersuchung zu verhindern) einige wenige Verurteilungen erwirkt werden.

636/07-----
Treating terrorists as combatants is a mistake

The line between soldier and civilian has long been central to the law of war. Today that line is being blurred in the struggle against transnational terrorists. Since 9/11 the Bush administration has sought to categorize members of Al Qaeda and other jihadists as "unlawful combatants" rather than treat them as criminals. The federal courts are increasingly wary of this approach, and rightly so. In a stinging rebuke, this summer a federal appeals court in Richmond, Va., struck down the government's indefinite detention of a civilian, Ali al-Marri, by the military. The case illustrates once again the pitfalls of US current approach.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/08/08/opinion/08clark.html?th&emc=th>

637/07-----

German charged with spying for Algeria

A German employee at the Algerian embassy in Berlin was been charged with espionage, the federal prosecutor's office said Monday. A statement said the 44-year-old man is accused of providing the Algerian intelligence service with information on the activities of Algerian government critics in Germany. The man, who is of Algerian descent, had been in contact with the intelligence service since the end of 2005, the prosecutor's office said.

<http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/90636.html>

638/07-----

Österreich / Kasachstan: Wirtschaftsbeziehungen und Verbrechen

Zwei Aspekte dominieren derzeit die bilateralen Beziehungen zwischen Österreich und Kasachstan. Zum einen die Interessen der Wirtschaftskammer an dem öl- und erdgasreichen Land (für September 2007 ist eine Tour von Wirtschaftsvertretern geplant). Auf der anderen Seite belastet die Affäre rund um den Ex-Botschafter Rakhat Aliyef die Beziehungen schwer. Kasachstan hat Österreich um Auslieferung des in Ungnade gefallenen Politikers ersucht, was abgelehnt wurde. - Im Zusammenhang mit Aliyef soll es auch in Wien zu einem ungeklärten Todesfall gekommen sein.

profil 33/2007, S.62f

639/07-----

Russian : UK-relations

Both Russian and British investors and businessmen are quite concerned about the decreasing stability of the Russian : relationship.

TIME, 30 July 2007, p.26f

640/07-----

DDR-Schiessbefehl unerwartet gefunden

Bisher hatten alle Verantwortlichen, insbesondere der „StaSi-Adel“ die Existenz dieses brisanten Dokumentes vehement geleugnet, nunmehr ist es aufgetaucht: die DDR-Lizenz zum Töten. Es ist der legendäre Schiessbefehl des Ministeriums für Staatssicherheit (MfS) der DDR, in welchem Agenten konkret ermächtigt und beauftragt wurden, Fluchtversuche mit Waffengewalt zu begegnen: „Zögern Sie mit der Anwendung der Schusswaffe nicht, auch nicht, wenn Grenzdurchbrüche mit Frauen und Kindern erfolgen ...“. - An der DDR-Grenze sollen bis 1989 zwischen 800 und 1500 flüchtige Menschen ermordet worden sein, alleine an der Berliner Mauer sind 115 Abschüsse von „Republiksflüchtlingen“ konkret belegt. Bis dato wurde lediglich ein ex-StaSi-Angehöriger wegen dieses Deliktes zu einer Freiheitsstrafe verurteilt!

Kurier 13. August 2007, S.4

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