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ACIPSS-newsletter

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657/07-----  
Shia militia disobeys British orders

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Shia militia loyal to the firebrand cleric Muqtada al-Sadr have scuppered an attempt by British forces to hand over the Basra joint police command centre to Iraqi police.

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/world-news/article2898518.ece>

658/07-----  
Afghanistan: Friendly fire incident kills three

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Three British soldiers have been killed in Afghanistan in a "friendly fire" attack by American aircraft while involved in a clash with Taliban fighters.

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/world-news/article2894246.ece>

659/07-----  
Bombs in Hyderabad

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Two bombs exploded Saturday night in the southern Indian city of Hyderabad, killing at least 42 people and seriously injuring about 50.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/08/25/AR2007082500691.html?wpisrc=newsletter>

660/07-----  
New US Intelligence estimates on Iraq

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The U.S. intelligence community yesterday provided a mixed picture of the security situation in Iraq but cautioned that a drawdown of U.S. forces there and a scaled-back mission for the remaining U.S. troops "would erode security gains achieved thus far."

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/ac2/related/topic/Syria?tid=informline>

661/07-----  
Republican Senator calls for US withdrawal

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Sen. John W. Warner, one of the most influential Republican voices in Congress on national security, called on President Bush yesterday to begin withdrawing U.S. troops from Iraq in time for Christmas as a new intelligence report concluded that political leaders in Baghdad are "unable to govern effectively."

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/08/23/AR2007082302291\\_2.html?wpisrc=newsletter](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/08/23/AR2007082302291_2.html?wpisrc=newsletter)

662/07-----  
Private companies aided US surveillance program

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The Bush administration acknowledged for the first time that telecommunications companies assisted the government's warrantless surveillance program and were being sued as a result, an admission some legal experts say could complicate the government's bid to halt numerous lawsuits challenging the program's legality.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/08/23/AR2007082302056.html?wpisrc=newsletter>

663/07-----  
Violence in Guatemala

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International election monitors in Guatemala have said they are deeply concerned over the murders of political candidates and activists.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/americas/6963167.stm>

664/07-----  
Arrests in case of murdered Russian journalist

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Ten people have been arrested in Russia over the murder of investigative journalist Anna Politkovskaya.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/6965253.stm>

665/07-----  
US troops clash with Mehdi militia

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At least 10 people have been killed in the Iraqi capital, Baghdad, in clashes between US forces and militants in a mainly-Shia district.

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle\\_east/6961782.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/6961782.stm)

666/07-----

Al Qaeda kills Iraqi tribal leader

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A Sunni leader in the Iraqi province of Diyala, who encouraged his community to confront al-Qaeda in Iraq, has been killed by the group, police say.

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle\\_east/6960009.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/6960009.stm)

667/07-----

ETA offensive imminent?

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A car bomb has exploded in the city of Durango in Spain's Basque country, lightly wounding two policemen.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/2/hi/europe/6961584.stm>

668/07-----

FBI sieht sich als Geheimdienst und baut HUMINT aus

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In einem offiziellen Statement bezeichnet sich das amerikanische Bundeskriminalamt FBI als Inlandsgeheimdienst und primäre Terrorbekämpfungsbehörde Amerikas. Das FBI ficht für eine höhere Dotierung, die vor allem für die Anwerbung von CHSs [confidential human sources] dienen.

[http://www.fas.org/blog/secretcy/2007/08/the\\_fbi\\_as\\_an\\_intelligence\\_org.html](http://www.fas.org/blog/secretcy/2007/08/the_fbi_as_an_intelligence_org.html)

669/07-----

The hunt for bin Laden

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In the winter of 2004-05, U.S. soldiers on patrol in the mountains along the Afghanistan/Pakistan border came so close to the most wanted man in the world, Osama bin Laden, that his entourage considered using the code word to kill the Al Qaeda leader and commit suicide, according to a report in the current issue of Newsweek. According to Sheikh Said, a senior Egyptian Al Qaeda operative, bin Laden had decreed that he would never be captured. "If there's a 99 percent risk of the sheikh [as bin Laden is known to his followers] being captured, he told his men that they should all die and martyr him as well," Said told Omar Farooqi, a Taliban liaison officer to Al Qaeda who spoke to Newsweek in Afghanistan.  
After Six Years, A \$50 million reward and billions spent on the pursuit, U.S. officials admit they haven't had a good lead since early 2002; certainty of Bin Laden's whereabouts were never more than 50-50.(a,b)

- (a) <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/20430170/site/newsweek/page/0/>
- (b) <http://sev.prnewswire.com/magazines/20070826/AQSU00426082007-1.html>

670/07-----

U.S. Counterinsurgency Manual At Amazon? Where's The Outrage?

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Seems the rightwing can't whine fast enough when the New York Times points out that the United States government monitors the financial transactions of terrorists, claiming that by telling "the terrorists" something they doubtless have known for years, the New York Times is committing treason. When Freakonomics author Steven D. Levitt posts a blog entry soliciting schemes that terrorists might use in the future to inflict pain on Americans, the rightwing blogosphere along with the Newsvine component goes positively apoplectic, wetting their collective pants out of fear that "the

terrorists " are busy scanning the New York Times blogs, seeking out some new ideas for attacking Americans. Amazingly, there doesn't seem to be any such handwringing coming out of the rightwing fever swamp about the fact that The U.S. Army/Marine Corps Counterinsurgency Field Manual(a) is widely available for purchase by anyone, or that the U.S. Army Counterintelligence Handbook(b) is similarly available, or the U.S. Army Sniper Training Manual,(c) for that matter. No cries from the nattering nabobs of negativity about how the authors of those manuals should be brought up on treason charges, no pants-wetting claims that the United States Army is "helping the enemy" by making its tactics public, no bleating from the herd about Amazon's anti-American tendencies. Has this simply been overlooked, is it a sign of blatant hypocrisy, or is there perhaps a third possibility?(d)

- (a) [http://www.amazon.com/Marine-Corps-Counterinsurgency-Field-Manual/dp/0226841510/ref=pd\\_bbs\\_sr\\_1/102-2054798-2424136?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1188078999&sr=8-1](http://www.amazon.com/Marine-Corps-Counterinsurgency-Field-Manual/dp/0226841510/ref=pd_bbs_sr_1/102-2054798-2424136?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1188078999&sr=8-1)
- (b) [http://www.amazon.com/U-S-Army-Counterintelligence-Handbook/dp/1592283802/ref=sr\\_1\\_11/102-2054798-2424136?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1188079917&sr=1-11](http://www.amazon.com/U-S-Army-Counterintelligence-Handbook/dp/1592283802/ref=sr_1_11/102-2054798-2424136?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1188079917&sr=1-11)
- (c) [http://www.amazon.com/U-S-Army-Sniper-Training-Manual/dp/0873641205/ref=sr\\_1\\_12/102-2054798-2424136?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1188079917&sr=1-12](http://www.amazon.com/U-S-Army-Sniper-Training-Manual/dp/0873641205/ref=sr_1_12/102-2054798-2424136?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1188079917&sr=1-12)
- (d) [http://bradfarris.newsvine.com/\\_news/2007/08/25/920187-us-counterinsurgency-manual-at-amazon-where-the-outrage](http://bradfarris.newsvine.com/_news/2007/08/25/920187-us-counterinsurgency-manual-at-amazon-where-the-outrage)

671/07-----  
Scottish inquiry into 'rendition' flights by CIA

Scotland is entering the list of countries that are conducting investigations into 'rendition' flights by the CIA: Fresh allegations that British airports were secretly used by the CIA to "render" Islamist terror suspects to be tortured in secret prisons or held in Guantánamo Bay are to be investigated by Scottish prosecutors. Kenny MacAskill, the Scottish justice minister, is to give the lord advocate a new report alleging that airports in Scotland were used 107 times for refuelling by secret CIA flights, which later carried at least six suspects, including the senior al-Qaida leader Khalid Sheikh Mohammed.

<http://politics.guardian.co.uk/scotland/story/0,,2155349,00.html>

672/07-----  
The CIA vs. Its Inspector General

Following the release of a 9/11 report by a joint inquiry of the House and Senate intelligence committees, the Central Intelligence Agency was asked to perform an internal review to see whether any CIA employees might be "deserving of awards for outstanding service" or, conversely, to determine whether any might be held accountable for failures prior to the attacks. The agency's inspector general, John Helgerson, completed his investigation in 2005 and provided the congressional intelligence committees with a classified report (declassified version a). In a statement to his employees, Director Hayden states that this "much plowed ground" would be better left alone. The country and the CIA should "keep our focus on the present and the future" instead of being "captive" to the past. Calling the report distracting to "officers serving their country on the frontlines of a global conflict," Hayden disavows the process by which the report was created ("one group of agency officers ... examines and judges the actions of another group of agency officers"), which, he says, undermines the validity of its "focus, methodology, and conclusions," and disagrees with its recommendation "to consider disciplinary action against a handful of individuals at different levels of command." (b,c)

- (a) [https://www.cia.gov/library/reports/Executive%20Summary\\_OIG%20Report.pdf](https://www.cia.gov/library/reports/Executive%20Summary_OIG%20Report.pdf)
- (b) <http://www.slate.com/id/2172704/entry/0/>
- (c) [http://www.examiner.com/a-901341~New\\_director\\_brings\\_air\\_of\\_calm\\_to\\_CIA.html?cid=rss-Washington\\_DC](http://www.examiner.com/a-901341~New_director_brings_air_of_calm_to_CIA.html?cid=rss-Washington_DC)

673/07-----  
The C.I.A.'s Open Secrets

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"How can information that's a five-minute Google search away be classified? It's simple. Classified information is not the same thing as secret information." says JOSEPH WEISBERG, former member of the C.I.A.'s directorate of operations (now called the national clandestine service).

[http://www.nytimes.com/2007/08/27/opinion/27weisberg.html?\\_r=1&th&emc=th&oref=slogin](http://www.nytimes.com/2007/08/27/opinion/27weisberg.html?_r=1&th&emc=th&oref=slogin)

674/07-----  
Iraq Weapons Are a Focus of Criminal Investigations

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Several federal agencies are investigating a widening network of criminal cases involving the purchase and delivery of billions of dollars of weapons, supplies and other materiel to Iraqi and American forces, according to American officials. The officials said it amounted to the largest ring of fraud and kickbacks uncovered in the conflict here.

[http://www.nytimes.com/2007/08/28/world/middleeast/28military.html?\\_r=1&th&emc=th&oref=slogin](http://www.nytimes.com/2007/08/28/world/middleeast/28military.html?_r=1&th&emc=th&oref=slogin)

675/07-----  
Chechen 'hitmen' and FSB agents are held over journalist's murder

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Members of the Russian security services were involved in a conspiracy with organised crime to assassinate Anna Politkovskaya, the investigative journalist, the country's chief prosecutor announced yesterday.

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/world/europe/article2337406.ece>

676/07-----  
UK private war contractors

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That's what British security contractors have come to call the business opportunity in the Middle East. The British may have lost their empire but they have quietly established a major presence in the distant outpost of Iraq, securing lucrative contracts to safeguard not just British interests but the U.S. military. And a private British firm may be poised to land the largest U.S. security contract in Iraq. About 15 British security contractors have set up shop in Iraq in the aftermath of the U.S.-led invasion. Of the estimated 20,000 private security employees operating in Iraq today, about 4,000 come from Britain, according to the British Association of Private Security Companies, an industry trade group established last year to accommodate the burgeoning international security business concentrated in London.

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/08/23/AR2007082302233\\_pf.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/08/23/AR2007082302233_pf.html)

677/07-----  
Chinese spying on German government computers



Numerous computers of the German government are infected by Chinese espionage programs, the weekly Der Spiegel news magazine said in a report to hit the newsstands on Sunday (a). The so-called 'Trojan' programs which enable the unnoticed spying of computers, have been discovered in several ministries a few months ago, Der Spiegel cited a probe by Germany's domestic Verfassungsschutz intelligence agency and the Federal Office for Information Technology Security. Chinese cyber spies snooped reportedly on computers in the chancellery, the foreign and economic ministry as well as the research ministry. According to the Verfassungsschutz, the Chinese hackers are believed to be linked to China's People's Army.

Reacting to the report, the Chinese embassy in Berlin dismissed it as "irresponsible speculation without any basis of proof". Chancellor Angela Merkel was due to embark on Sunday on a one-week visit to China and Japan. The German media has repeatedly reported on extensive Chinese economic espionage inside Germany. (b-e)

- (a) DER SPIEGEL 35/2007, p. 18-33
- (b) <http://www.securityfocus.com/brief/577?ref=rss>
- (c) <http://www2.irna.ir/en/news/view/menu-235/0708252353172401.htm>
- (d) <http://www.interfax.com/4/306378/news.aspx>
- (e) <http://www.iht.com/articles/2007/08/26/business/chitech.php>

678/07-----

BRD: Streit um Terrorismus-Begriff

In Deutschland ist eine heftige Debatte um den „Terrorismus“-Begriff ausgebrochen. Die Bundesanwaltschaft steht wegen ihres Vorgehens gegen linksextreme Brandstifter in der Kritik: Brandstiftung ohne Personenschaden sei eine „kleine Tat“ und dürfe nicht als Terrorismus verfolgt werden, so die Argumentation der Kritiker.

DER SPIEGEL 35/2007, S.48f

679/07-----

Die Geliebte des Schakals

Magdalena Kopp, die Exfrau von „Carlos“, beschreibt in ihrem Buch (a, b), wie sie in den internationalen Terrorismus abrutschte. Im Gegensatz zu anderen Mitgliedern des damaligen linksextremen Umfeldes sei sie selbst ideologisch nie verblendet, sondern lediglich mit einer großen Portion Naivität ausgestattet gewesen. (c)

- (a) Magdalena Kopp „Die Terrorjahre. Mein Leben an der Seite von Carlos“. DVA, 320 Seiten, ISBN-10: 3421042691, ISBN-13: 978-3421042699 ca 20.- Euro
- (b) [http://www.amazon.de/Die-Terrorjahre-Magdalena-Kopp/dp/3421042691/ref=pd\\_bbs\\_sr\\_2/303-0677208-7569856?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1188509420&sr=8-2](http://www.amazon.de/Die-Terrorjahre-Magdalena-Kopp/dp/3421042691/ref=pd_bbs_sr_2/303-0677208-7569856?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1188509420&sr=8-2)
- (c) DER SPIEGEL 35/2007, S. 50

680/07-----

Interview mit Mohammed El-Baradei

Das profil dieser Woche bietet eines der sehr raren Interviews mit Mohammed El-Baradei, dem Generalsekretär der Internationalen Atomenergie-Organisation IAEA zu den Themen: Nuklearterrorismus, Teherans

Atomwaffenambitionen, nahöstlichen Politwirren und die Angst der  
österreichischen Bevölkerung vor dem Atomkraftwerk in Temelin.

profil 35/2007, S. 42-47

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Austrian Center for Intelligence, Propaganda and Security Studies (ACIPSS)

                    Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz  
mail:              A-8010 Graz, Austria  
tel.:              (+43) 316 380 2364  
fax:               (+43) 316 380 9730  
web:               [www.acipss.org](http://www.acipss.org)  
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