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ACIPSS-newsletter

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708/07-----
Media Alerts

- Am Donnerstag, dem 20.9., 23.00-23.45 auf SWR: „30 Jahre danach... der Deutsche Herbst in Stuttgart“. Dabei handelt es sich um eine Filmcollage aus Archivaufnahmen und aktuellen Interviews.(a)
- Anschließend am Donnerstag, dem 20.9., 23.45-1.10 auf SWR: „Ein deutscher Terrorist - die Geschichte des Hans Joachim Klein“(a)
- Am Freitag, dem 21.9., 0.00-0.45 im MDR: „Ex-Fremdenlegionäre in der DDR“(b)
- Laut Standard zeigt Arte am 24. 10. den Spielfilm „Stammheim“ und am 31.10. den Spielfilm „Baader“(c,d)

- (a) <http://www.swr.de/nachrichten/deutscher-herbst/-/id=2070672/vj6pq7/index.html>
(b) http://www.mdr.de/tv/programm/prog_detail+902703.html
(c) <http://derstandard.at/?url=?id=3022024>
(d) <http://www.arte.tv/de/70.html>

709/07-----

FBI wants banks ban on hats, sunglasses

Hats and sunglasses are becoming one of the most common disguises for bank robbers. Many banks, like Washington Mutual, already ask customers to take them off before walking in. Asking doesn't seem to be working, so instead of bank policy the FBI says there should be a law. (a, b)

- (a) <http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2007/09/12/europe/EU-GEN-Britain-Guantanamo-Lawsuit.php>
- (b) http://www.king5.com/topstories/stories/NW_091407WAB_bank_attire_LJ.d238e252.html

710/07-----

Russians unintentionally post 'secret' sub plan on web

Foreign spies in Russia have been handed an unexpected gift by officials in the town of Sarov who accidentally posted details of a new top secret submarine on the local administration's website. The embarrassing leak followed what was supposed to be a confidential meeting between the commander of the secret submarine and officials in the closed town, which is home to Russia's main nuclear research facility.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2007/09/12/wrussia212.xml>

711/07-----

MI5 and MI6 to be sued for first time over torture

A British man who was held in Guantánamo Bay has begun a civil action against MI5 and MI6 over the tactics that they use to gather intelligence. The suit has been brought by Tarek Dergoul, 29, who claims he was repeatedly tortured while he was held by the US, and that British agents who had also questioned him were aware of the mistreatment. (a,b)

- (a) <http://politics.guardian.co.uk/foreignaffairs/story/0,,2167207,00.html?gusrc=rss&feed=19>
- (b) <http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2007/09/12/europe/EU-GEN-Britain-Guantanamo-Lawsuit.php>

712/07-----

Alleged killer of Litvinenko to start new career in politics

The former KGB spy accused of murdering the Russian dissident Alexander Litvinenko said yesterday he intended to embark on a new career as a politician and would stand for parliament in the Russian election in December. Andrei Lugovoi said he would run as a candidate for the Kremlin-supporting ultra-nationalist Liberal Democratic party. The party confirmed it had placed him second on its party list - a move that virtually guarantees him a seat as an MP. (a-c)

- (a) http://www.news.com.au/story/0,23599,22437733-38200,00.html?from=public_rss
- (b) <http://www.guardian.co.uk/russia/article/0,,2170684,00.html?gusrc=rss&feed=networkfront>
- (c) http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070917/wl_afp/russiabritainspy_070917195127

713/07-----

China, Russia Spying on U.S.

China and Russia are spying on the United States nearly as much as they did during the Cold War, according to the top U.S. intelligence official.

Mike McConnell, the director of national intelligence, says in testimony prepared for a Tuesday congressional hearing that a law passed last month expanding the U.S. government's eavesdropping power is needed to protect not just against terrorists but also against more traditional potential adversaries, such as those two Cold War foes. "China and Russia's foreign intelligence services are among the most aggressive in collecting against sensitive and protected U.S. systems, facilities and development projects, and their efforts are approaching Cold War levels," McConnell says in his testimony. "Foreign intelligence information concerning the plans, activities and intentions of foreign powers and their agents is critical to protect the nation and preserve our security."(a,b)

(a) http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070918/pl_afp/usattacksespionage_070918142946

(b) http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5hysN_7m4mgkFWvKwGPE1sy140m8A

714/07-----

Defeating terror the British way

The government's initial response in the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks was to introduce a volley of new anti-terror laws, some of which were good, many of which need revisiting. Tony Blair, and John Reid as his last home secretary, indulged in spine-chilling rhetoric about the terrorist threat, in part to justify their legislative hyperactivity and to crush any concerns about the effect on British civil liberties and due process. Thankfully, the tone of the political debate is now starting to change. Gordon Brown and Jacqui Smith appear to have abandoned much of the breathless Blairite rhetoric. But on substance they appear determined to pursue exactly the same legislative course. This ideological engagement has hardheaded security objectives: no terrorist movement in history has been defeated without first winning over the wider community in which extremism can be given tacit support and camouflage. Here, the Muslim Contact Unit of the Metropolitan police has pioneered a model strategy of engagement with Muslim groups.

http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/comment/columnists/guest_contributors/article2461326.ece

715/07-----

Return of a Prodigal Spy at the CIA

The CIA's new chief spy, Michael Sulick, is a veteran of the shadowy world of undercover operations in hostile countries—and also the backstabbing arena of Washington politics. Sulick learned his tradecraft—the James Bond side of spying—in the old Soviet Union. Like other Western spies, he learned to follow "Moscow Rules," the rigorous countersurveillance measures used to avoid detection by the ubiquitous KGB. Sulick also served as a CIA case officer—an undercover operative who steals secrets and recruits informants—in Latin America and Poland. He returned to Moscow for the CIA after the fall of communism.(a,b)

(a) http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070914/pl_afp/usintelligence_070914185245

(b) <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/20789366/site/newsweek/>

716/07-----

Turkish intelligence assisted IDF in attack on Syria

Turkish intelligence provided Israel with information on the Syrian targets allegedly attacked by the Air Force last week without the Turkish government's authorization, Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Jareeda reported Thursday. Al-Jareeda quoted several sources as saying that Israel and senior Turkish

military personnel coordinated Israel's invasion of Turkish airspace during the operation to send a message to the ruling Justice and Development party, or AKP. Senior military officials in Turkey, most of whom are secular, oppose the Islamist party's platform.

<http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-3449145,00.html>

717/07-----

France reorganizes intelligence services to fight terrorism better

France's two police intelligence services have moved in together at a glistening office tower. Now, the aim is to get the once-competitive agencies to fight terrorism better. Interior Minister Michele Alliot-Marie announced a makeover of the two services Thursday, saying they will be rolled into the new Central Directorate for Domestic Intelligence - or DCRI, in its French acronym. (a,b)

- (a) <http://www.ttc.org/200709131209.18dc9fn19367.htm>
- (b) <http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2007/09/13/europe/EU-GEN-France-Intelligence-Unit.php>

718/07-----

CIA 60 Years Old this Month

The Central Intelligence Agency marks its 60th birthday this month. The CIA has had a colourful and often controversial history. In a background report, Voice of America (VOA) correspondent Gary Thomas looks at the CIA's past and its current state. (a) The website also offers a link to a 5 minute video (wmv-format) on the history of the CIA. (b)

Meanwhile the first highly critical if not to say negative review of Tim Weiner's "Legacy of Ashes", has been published. Weiner's book had been praised throughout the world as the new standard volume on the history of the CIA. (c)

- (a) <http://voanews.com/english/2007-09-14-voa21.cfm>
- (b) http://www.voanews.com/mediaassets/english/2007_09/Video/wmv/CIAAnniversary_bb.wmv
- (c) <http://www.washingtondecoded.com/site/2007/09/sins-of-omissio.html>

719/07-----

Hacker/"Terrorist 007" Exposed

For almost two years, intelligence services around the world tried to uncover the identity of an Internet hacker who had become a key conduit for al-Qaeda. The savvy, English-speaking, presumably young webmaster taunted his pursuers, calling himself Irhabi -- Terrorist -- 007. He hacked into American university computers, propagandized for the Iraq insurgents led by Abu Musab al-Zarqawi and taught other online jihadists how to wield their computers for the cause. Suddenly last fall, Irhabi 007 disappeared from the message boards. The postings ended after Scotland Yard arrested a 22-year-old West Londoner, Younis Tsouli, suspected of participating in an alleged bomb plot. In November, British authorities brought a range of charges against him related to that plot. Only later, according to sources familiar with the British probe, was Tsouli's other suspected identity revealed. British investigators eventually confirmed that they believe he is Irhabi 007.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/03/25/AR2006032500020_pf.html

720/07-----

China's cyber raid on Western agencies

CHINA has allegedly tried to hack into highly classified government computer networks in Australia and New Zealand as part of a broader international operation to glean military and commercial secrets from Western nations. The Howard Government yesterday would neither confirm nor deny that its agencies, including the Defence Department, had been subject to cyber attack from China, but government sources acknowledge that thwarting such assaults is a continuing challenge. "It's a serious problem, it's ongoing and it's real," one senior government source told The Australian. Western intelligence experts say that China has also targeted the US, Canada, Germany and Japan as part of its global intelligence-gathering effort.

<http://www.australianit.news.com.au/story/0,24897,22404605-15306,00.html>

721/07-----

Österreich: Neuer Leiter des Abwehramtes bestellt

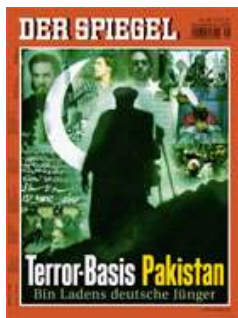
Brigadier Wolfgang Schneider wurde überraschend mit den Agenden des Leiters des österreichischen Abwehramtes betraut. Der Generalstabsoffizier war zuletzt in der Landesverteidigungsakademie tätig. Schneider gilt deswegen als „nicht vom Fach“. - Sein Vorgänger wurde relativ schnell und unauffällig frühpensioniert, nachdem im Eurofighter-Untersuchungsausschuss ein Naheverhältnis zum Rüstungsbetrieb EADS festgestellt worden war.

(a) profil 38 / 2007, S. 32f

(b) <http://www.bmlv.gv.at/cms/artikel.php?ID=3582>

722/07-----

Terror-Basis PAKISTAN



Zugleich Armenhaus und Atommacht, Verbündeter der USA und Brutstätte islamistischer Gewalt, Empfänger deutscher Entwicklungshilfe und Ausbildungsstätte deutscher Mochtegernterroristen: das Pakistan des Militärherrschers Musharraf ist ein Land der Gegensätze - und eine Gefahr für die Welt. Gebürtige Pakistanis waren in die Anschläge vom Juli 2005, August 2006 und Juli 2007 in London, jene vom Herbst 2004 in Barcelona, weiters in jene vom Dezember 2001 in Paris und in 9/11 erheblich verstrickt. (a,b)

(a) DER SPIEGEL 38/2007, S.134-152

(b) Standard, The New York Times, 17.Sept. 2007, S.2

723/07-----

Österreich: al-Qaida-Zelle ausgehoben ?

Im März diesen Jahres wurde im Web ein islamistisches Droh-Video veröffentlicht, das eindeutige Bezüge zur deutschen, mehr aber noch zur österreichischen Politik aufwies und in dem beiden Regierungen mit Anschlägen bedroht wurden für den Fall, die in Afghanistan stationierten Kontingente (momentan dienen vier österreichische Verbindungsoffiziere in Afghanistan) würden nicht abgezogen werden. Obwohl die Urheber des Videos ihre Spuren im Web professionell zu verschleiern versuchten, gelang es dem österreichischen Bundesamt für Verfassungsschutz und Terrorismusbekämpfung (BVT) sie trotzdem auszuforschen. Mittwoch vergangener Woche erfolgte dann der Zugriff durch Spezialkommandos der Polizei. Verhaftet wurden Mahmoud M. und dessen Frau sowie O, welcher mangels dringendem Tatverdacht inzwischen aus der U-Haft entlassen wurde. Zeitgleich wurde in Kanada Said N. verhaftet, der in die Video-Aktion verwickelt sein soll. Während DER SPIEGEL M. als „Lautsprecher bin Ladens“ bezeichnet, das österreichische Innenministerium in einer Pressekonferenz dessen

Gefährlichkeit betont und M. nicht nur zwei radikalen islamistischen Organisationen angehört, sondern in der Tat Zugang zu einem passwortgeschützten Bereich einer al-Qaida-Website hatte und sich 2003 auch in einem Terror-Trainingscamp aufgehalten haben soll, gibt es inzwischen doch auch Zweifel am tatsächlichen Gefahrenpotentials des Verdächtigen: so wurde inzwischen bekannt, dass M. sich vergangenes Jahr mit einer abstrusen und nicht verifizierbaren Entführungsstory an das profil gewandt hat.(a) Unbestritten ist allerdings, dass sich der Vater von Mahmoud M. in engem Kontakt mit dem extremistischen Imam Abu Omar befunden hat. Omar wurde immerhin als so gefährlich eingestuft, dass er von einem CIA-Team in Mailand entführt wurde. Die Verhaftung war jedenfalls Anlass genug, in Österreich die Diskussion zwischen den extremen Generalverdacht für alle Muslime bis hin zu einseitiger Dialogbereitschaft neu zu entflammen.(a-d)

- (a) profil 38/2007, S.16-22
- (b) <http://news.orf.at/?href=http%3A%2F%2Fnews.orf.at%2Fticker%2F265007.html>
- (c) <http://news.orf.at/?href=http%3A%2F%2Fnews.orf.at%2Fticker%2F265115.html>
- (d) <http://www.kurier.at/nachrichten/oesterreich/108770.php>

724/07-----
The Pentagon's Counterspies: The Counterintelligence Field Activity

The National Security Archive quite recently published a collection of documents concerning the organization and operations of the Pentagon's Counterintelligence Field Activity (CIFA) and the TALON/CORNERSTONE database it has maintained. As the Defence Department announced on August 21, today that database will be terminated while work on new procedures for reporting of threats to the Defence Department and its facilities continues. In the interim, threat reports will be transmitted to the FBI. The declassified documents published include the key Department of Defence directive on the collection of information about Americans, as well as documents on the organization and missions of CIFA, an evaluation of charges of mismanagement by CIFA executives, and examples of data collected about protest activities as part of the Threat And Local Observation Notice (TALON) system.

<http://www.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/NSAEBB/NSAEBB230/index.htm>

725/07-----
Ex-General Ante Gotovina angeblich französischer Geheimagent

Der wegen Kriegsverbrechen vor dem UNO-Tribunal angeklagte kroatische Ex-General Ante Gotovina soll in den 1980er Jahren Agent des französischen Geheimdienstes gewesen sein. Das sagte ein ehemaliges Mitglied des Nachrichtendienstes von Frankreich in einem Interview mit der kroatischen Tageszeitung "Jutarnji list". Sein unmittelbarer Chef sei dabei Dominique Erulin gewesen, der dem extrem rechten Lager zugeordnet wurde. Gotovina selbst sei aber laut Angaben des ehemaligen Geheimdienstlers gegenüber "Jutarnji list" an der französischen Innenpolitik "nicht interessiert" gewesen.

<http://news.orf.at/?href=http%3A%2F%2Fnews.orf.at%2Fticker%2F265557.html>
(Special thanks to Mario Muigg for the information)

726/07-----
72 Eurofighter für Saudi-Arabien

Das saudi-arabische Verteidigungsministerium gab den Kauf von 72 Kampfflugzeugen vom Typ Eurofighter Typhoon bekannt. Der Vertrag sei bereits vor einer Woche unterzeichnet worden. Saudi-Arabien und

Großbritannien verhandelten seit dem vergangenen Jahr über den Vertrag, der unter anderem einen begleitenden Technologietransfer und die Ausbildung von Flugpersonal vorsieht. Der Kaufpreis beträgt 4,43 Mrd. Pfund (6,38 Mrd. Euro).

(a) <http://www.ftd.de/politik/international/:Saudi%20Arabien%20Eurofighter/254160.html>

(b) <http://derstandard.at/?url=/?id=3038601>

(Special thanks to Mario Muigg for the information)

727/07-----
„Rationalisierung“ beim NBH

In Ungarn hat im Laufe dieses Jahres eine Umstrukturierung bzw. „Neuorganisation“ des ungarischen Amts für nationale Sicherheit, besser bekannt als NBH (a) stattgefunden.(b)

(a) <http://www.nbh.hu/english/index.htm>

(b) <http://www.nsz.prim.hu/cikk/462800/>

(Die Übersetzung des Artikels ist als pdf-Datei unter http://www.acipss.org/newsletter_archiv.htm zu finden)

(Special thanks to Robert Fuchs for the information and translation)

728/07-----
Kascynski auf Staatsbesuch

Bei seiner ersten Russlandreise besucht Polens Präsident Kaczyski nur Katyn. Dort wurden 1940 tausende polnische Offiziere vom sowjetischen Geheimdienst getötet.

(a) <http://www.taz.de/index.php?id=start&art=4783&id=europa-artikel&src=AR&cHash=1402619a2f>

(b) http://www.electronicmuseum.ca/Poland-WW2/katyn_memorial_wall/kmw.html

729/07-----
CIA verbietet „Waterboarding“

Der US-Geheimdienst CIA hat die umstrittene Foltermethode des sogenannten "Waterboarding" verboten, mit der bei Verhören durch die Angst vor dem Ertrinken Aussagen erzwungen werden sollen.(a,b)

(a) <http://afp.google.com/article/ALeqM5jqZzSWo2T8fFdwnlz9yHsK9xGOrQ>

(b) <http://www.spiegel.de/politik/ausland/0,1518,505939,00.html>

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