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ACIPSS-newsletter

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TOP HEADLINES

0475/2010 -----

The Jihadist CBRN Threat

In an interview aired Feb. 7 on CNN, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said she considers weapons of mass destruction (WMD) in the hands of an international terrorist group to be the largest threat faced by the United States today, even bigger than the threat posed by a nuclear-armed Iran. "The biggest nightmare that many of us have is that one of these terrorist member organizations within this syndicate of terror will get their hands on a weapon of mass destruction," Clinton said. In referring to the al Qaeda network, Clinton noted that it is "unfortunately a very committed, clever, diabolical group of terrorists who are always looking for weaknesses and openings."

Clinton's comments came on the heels of a presentation by U.S. Director of National Intelligence Dennis Blair to the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. In his Annual Threat Assessment of the U.S. Intelligence Community on Feb. 2, Blair noted that, although counterterrorism actions have dealt a significant blow to al Qaeda's near-term efforts to develop a sophisticated chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) attack capability, the U.S. intelligence community judges that the group is still intent on acquiring the capability. Blair also stated the obvious when he said that if al Qaeda were able to develop CBRN weapons and had the operatives to use them it would do so.

http://www.stratfor.com/weekly/20100210_jihadist_cbrn_threat?utm_source=Weekly&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=100210&utm_content=readmore&elq=787b8dd48df345d782525fd0368c5e59



HOT SPOTS / WARS

0476/2010 -----

Secret Joint Raid Captures Taliban's Top Commander

The Taliban's top military commander was captured several days ago in Karachi, Pakistan, in a secret joint operation by Pakistani and American intelligence forces, according to American government officials.

The commander, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar, is an Afghan described by American officials as the most significant Taliban figure to be detained since the American-led war in Afghanistan started more than eight years ago. He ranks second in influence only to Mullah Muhammad Omar, the Taliban's founder and a close associate of Osama bin Laden before the Sept. 11 attacks.

Mullah Baradar has been in Pakistani custody for several days, with American and Pakistani intelligence officials both taking part in interrogations, according to the officials.

- (a) <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/02/16/world/asia/16intel.html>
- (b) <http://www.spiegel.de/politik/ausland/0,1518,678097,00.html>

0477/2010 -----

Taliban's fruitless propaganda attempt

As NATO and Afghan forces attacked the southern Afghanistan town of Marjah, they discovered that the Taliban understood there was no expectation of winning a conventional victory. Instead the Islamic radicals were going for an Information War win. This was anticipated, and short circuited by the NATO strategy of giving the population plenty of time to get out. That was followed by a surprise (2 AM) helicopter assault in the center of the town. Troops quickly occupied key buildings, and the Taliban found that their defense of the town had been wrecked. That wasn't the only damage.

Evidence was found, and publicized, that the Taliban had burned some Korans, apparently in preparation of a photo op where the "desecration" would be broadcast to the Moslem world. But in the case, the Taliban were caught holding the match.

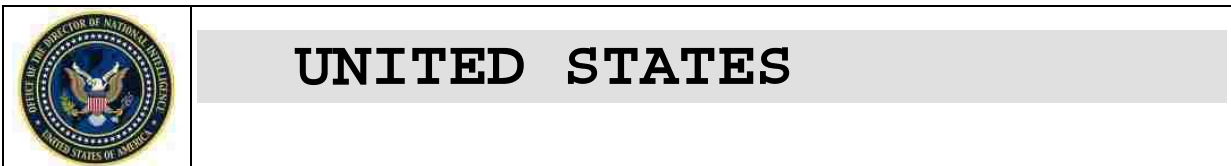
<http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htiw/articles/20100215.aspx>

0478/2010 -----

The Meaning of Marjah

On Feb. 13, some 6,000 U.S. Marines, soldiers and Afghan National Army (ANA) troops launched a sustained assault on the town of Marjah in Helmand province. Until this latest offensive, the U.S. and NATO effort in Afghanistan had been constrained by other considerations, most notably Iraq. Western forces viewed the Afghan conflict as a matter of holding the line or pursuing targets of opportunity. But now, armed with larger forces and a new strategy, the war – the real war – has begun. The most recent offensive – dubbed Operation Moshtarak ("Moshtarak" is Dari for "together") – is the largest joint U.S.-NATO-Afghan operation in history. It also is the first major offensive conducted by the first units deployed as part of the surge of 30,000 troops promised by U.S. President Barack Obama.

http://www.stratfor.com/weekly/20100216_meaning_marjah?utm_source=GWeekly&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=100216&utm_content=readmore&elq=f4f0e0f29cff4673a997c08bd6a34ed4



0479/2010 -----

"The CIA Is Welcoming Itself Back onto American University Campuses"

In the latest edition of CounterPunch magazine, the anthropologist David Price reveals the US intelligence community has established academic outposts at twenty-two US universities over the past four years. Government

agencies, including the CIA, FBI, National Security Agency, Defense Intelligence Agency, and Homeland Security, have helped found "Intelligence Community Centers for Academic Excellence," or ICCAEs—pronounced "Icky." The ICCAEs aim to create a "systematic long-term program at universities and colleges to recruit and hire eligible talent for [intelligence community] agencies and components" and "increase the [intelligence recruiting] pipeline of students." [includes rush transcript].

http://www.democracynow.org/2010/2/9/david_price_on_how_the_cia

0480/2010 -----

Court keeps White House spy emails secret

Two weeks ago, US President Barack Obama declared in his State of the Union address that "it's time to require lobbyists to disclose each contact they make on behalf of a client with my administration or Congress". This does not appear to apply to telecommunication industry lobbyists, who campaigned in favour of facilitating warrantless communications interception through the National Security Agency's STELLAR WIND program.

<http://www.wired.com/threatlevel/2010/02/court-keeps-white-house-spy-docs-secret/>

0481/2010 -----

Protection or cover-up ?

There are times when governments fight to keep documents secret to protect sensitive intelligence or other vital national security interests. And there are times when they are just trying to cover up incompetence, misbehaviour or lawbreaking.

Last week, when a British court released secret intelligence material relating to the torture allegations of a former Guantánamo prisoner, Binyam Mohamed, it was clear that the second motive had been in play when both the Bush and the Obama administrations and some high-ranking British officials tried to prevent the disclosure. Mr. Mohamed, an Ethiopian-born British resident, is a victim of President George W. Bush's extraordinary rendition program, under which foreigners were kidnapped and flown to other countries for interrogation and torture. He was subjected to physical and psychological abuse in Pakistan, Morocco and a C.I.A.-run prison outside Kabul before being sent to Guantánamo. His seven-year ordeal ended when he was freed last February.

At issue in the British court were seven paragraphs derived from American intelligence documents. The Bush administration claimed the material contained top-secret information and threatened to cut off intelligence sharing with Britain if it was released. Last year, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton repeated those threats, despite President Obama's campaign promises of openness and the rule of law in his detainee policy.

The paragraphs contained no real secrets. Mainly, the document – a summary of information that American intelligence provided to Britain's security service, MI5 – echoes previous disclosures by the C.I.A. and Mr. Mohamed's harrowing account of his ordeal.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/02/15/opinion/15mon1.html>

0482/2010 -----

Plans: intel agencies would be consulted before reading of rights

The Justice Department and the FBI will consult with the intelligence community on information about terrorism suspects arrested in the United States before deciding whether to read them their Miranda rights under a plan now under review in the White House, according to senior administration officials.

The proposal follows a controversy over the handling of Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, who is accused in the attempted Christmas Day bombing and who was read his constitutional rights 10 hours after his arrest. Republicans said the decision cost the Obama administration valuable intelligence.

"We are analysing lessons learned [in the Detroit Christmas Day case] with the goal of ensuring full information from across the government is available to law enforcement personnel on the ground as they conduct interrogations and make decisions on how to handle terrorist suspects," a senior official said Friday. He requested anonymity because the new procedures, which arise from a review ordered by President Obama, have not yet been approved.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/02/12/AR2010021205277.html>

0483/2010 -----

Another Chinese Spy Goes Down

A U.S. court sentenced Dongfan "Greg" Chung, an engineer for Boeing, on charges of collecting large quantities of classified data on the space shuttle, and planning to give it to China. Chung worked in the military aerospace industry since 1973 and had a high level security clearance, was caught with over 200,000 pages of classified documents in his home. Chung also had \$3 million he couldn't account for, although the prosecutors were not able to prove how, or if, any classified information was actually transferred to China.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htintel/articles/20100213.aspx>

0484/2010 -----

When an Intelligence Story Isn't

On Jan. 27, The Washington Post published a front-page article with a startling disclosure: American intelligence and military officials were targeting U.S. citizens for "killing or capture." The story quoted an unnamed official as saying that the Central Intelligence Agency and Joint Special Operations Command had drawn up lists of suspected terrorists and that both agencies had identified three Americans targeted for what the CIA used to call "termination with extreme prejudice."

Several days later, The Tribune Washington bureau published an equally compelling story on the front page of The Los Angeles Times and in other Tribune Co. newspapers. It reported that the CIA was about to add its first American to its list of people targeted for attack, Anwar al Awlaki, the New Mexico-born cleric linked to the Fort Hood attacks and the attempted

Christmas Day airplane bombing. The third paragraph declared that "No U.S. citizen has ever been on the CIA's target list."

The Post's piece was written by Dana Priest, a Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter known for her deep and authoritative sourcing. The author of the L.A. Times story, Greg Miller, is a similarly veteran Washington reporter. Yet the stories conflicted on a key point, whether Americans were already being targeted. Such confusion isn't unusual when it comes to covering what are known as "black" programs.

<http://www.propublica.org/feature/when-an-intelligence-story-isnt-0216f>



0485/2010 -----

US files new charges against arms dealer suspect

U.S. prosecutors filed new charges Wednesday in their global pursuit of a suspected arms dealer, hoping to convince reluctant officials in Thailand to extradite him over objections from Russia.

An updated indictment charges that Viktor Bout and his former business associate, Richard Chichakli, conspired to violate United Nations sanctions aimed at stopping bloody fighting in Africa. The new charges appear aimed at helping U.S. authorities overcome a Thai court's objections to extraditing Bout, a wealthy Russian businessman whose case has become a diplomatic tug of war between the U.S. and Russia since his arrest in Bangkok in 2008.

Experts say Bout has been useful for Russia's intelligence apparatus, and Russia does not want him going on trial in the United States.

http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gdY6N_2CXUMScuI6ME8ulRwH6THwD9DU4SU80

0486/2010 -----

Berezovsky Accuses Russian Intelligence of TV Report 'Tricks'

Boris Berezovsky told a London court that Russian security services were behind "tricks" in a television report that suggested he had a role in murdering a former spy.

The allegations are part of a libel suit Berezovsky filed against the Russian Television and Radio Broadcasting Company over a report on the death of Alexander Litvinenko, an ex-KGB agent who was poisoned in 2006. The channel is available in the U.K., where Berezovsky has been granted asylum.

"I have seen many times the tricks of FSB people, and this was absolutely spectacular," Berezovsky said of the report, referring to Russia's Federal Security Service. "Everything was composed in a very professional way."

Litvinenko died in London weeks after being poisoned with polonium, a rare radioactive material. The case worsened U.K.- Russian relations, already tense over Britain's decision to grant asylum to Berezovsky and other Kremlin critics.

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-02-09/berezovsky-accuses-russian-intelligence-of-tv-report-tricks-.html>

0487/2010 -----

Russia's intention to help Mexico fight drug criminality

The United States has no objections to Russian-Mexican joint efforts to fight drug trafficking in the Latin American state, US State Department spokesman Mark Toner has said.

Russia has reiterated its readiness to help Mexico fight the drug criminality, a major woe for the U.S. neighbour. The joint U.S.-Mexican Merida Initiative with the same goal has been widely criticized. Critics say the project has yielded no significant results despite huge investments.

Answering the journalist's question on how the U.S. views Russia's initiative, Toner said there were no grounds for anxiety.

<http://en.rian.ru/world/20100218/157921859.html>

0488/2010 -----

Russland hat Probleme mit S-300-Lieferung für den Iran

Russland hat offensichtlich Probleme mit der Lieferung von S-300 Flugabwehrraketen an den Iran. Es handele sich um technische Probleme, sagt ein Sprecher der Waffenexportbehörde - während im Kreml Israels Premier Netanjahu und Präsident Medwedew den Nazismus verurteilen.

Die S-300 Luftabwehrraketen wären für den Iran ein ideales Mittel, seine Militär- oder auch Atomanlagen vor Überraschungsangriffen aus der Luft zu schützen. Der Liefervertrag war vor zwei Jahren unterzeichnet worden und löste heftige Proteste in den USA und Israel aus. Die Lieferung wurde immer wieder verzögert.

Später wurde spekuliert, russische Waffenhändler hätten versucht, S-300-Raketen auf dem Frachter Arctic Sea heimlich in den Iran zu schaffen, dies sei aber vom israelischen Geheimdienst Mossad verhindert worden.

http://www.aktuell.ru/russland/news/russland_hat_probleme_mit_s-300-lieferung_fuer_den_iran_26317.html



NEAR / MIDDLE EAST / NORTH AFRICA

0489/2010 -----

Mord an Hamas-Funktionär: Killer tarnten sich als Tennisspieler



Der aufsehenerregende Mord an einem Hamas-Führer in Dubai war offensichtlich perfekt geplant. Die Killer sollen in einer geheimdienstartigen Blitzaktion zugeschlagen haben - die Polizei hält eine Beteiligung des Mossad für möglich.

Der Polizeichef von Dubai, Generalleutnant Dahin Khalfan Tamim, will Haftbefehle gegen insgesamt elf Europäer ausstellen, darunter einen Deutschen. Sie sollen Mabhuh erdrosselt haben, unter anderem als harmlose Tennisspieler verkleidet. Die Namen, Fotos und Passnummern der angeblich Beteiligten finden sich an diesem Dienstag auf allen Titelseiten der Zeitungen im Emirat: "Wanted".

- (a) <http://www.spiegel.de/politik/ausland/0,1518,678113,00.html>
- (b) <http://www.jpost.com/Israel/Article.aspx?id=167394>
- (c) Netanyahu faces arrest in Hamas hotel murder if Mossad link proved: <http://www.thenational.ae/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100205/NATION/AL/100209847/0/FOREIGN>
- (d) We'll go after Netanyahu if Mossad killed Hamas man: <http://www.haaretz.com/hasen/spages/1147603.html>
- (e) Israeli immigrants were astonished to find their names on the list of suspects: <http://genevalunch.com/blog/2010/02/17/high-drama-over-hamas-murder-in-dubai-pulls-in-ex-mi5-boss/>
- (f) U.K. summons Israel envoy over passports used in Hamas killing: <http://www.haaretz.com/hasen/spages/1150424.html>
- (g) Timeline: Mahmoud al-Mabhouh's assassination: http://www.channel4.com/news/articles/world/middle_east/timeline+mahmoud+almabhouh+aposs+assassination/3547337
- (h) Dubai Police Issue International Warrants: <http://abcnews.go.com/Blotter/israeli-hit-squad-dubai-police-issue-international-warrants/story?id=9850586>
- (i) see also "Austria"-section

0490/2010 -----

Israeli minister in handshake debacle with Saudi spy chief

Much has been made of an episode in the recent Munich Security Conference, in which Israel's deputy foreign minister shook hands with Saudi Arabia's former intelligence director. As is often the case in international conferences involving high-level participants from Israel and Muslim states, organizers at the Munich Security Conference went out of their way to ensure that Egyptian, Saudi, and -lately- Turkish government representatives were not to meet in the same seminars with Israeli officials. Participants were surprised, however, to see Saudi Arabia's former intelligence chief, Prince Turki bin Faisal al-Saud, present in a seminar that featured a panel contribution by Israeli deputy Foreign Minister Danny Ayalon.

- (a) http://intelligencenews.wordpress.com/2010/02/12/03-146/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+intelNewsOrg+%28intelNews.org%29

- (b) http://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2010/02/06/world/international-uk-israeli-saudi.html?_r=5

0491/2010 -----

Britischer Journalist im Gazastreifen festgenommen

Die Behörden im Gazastreifen haben einen britischen Journalisten festgenommen, als er im Gericht als Zeuge aussagte. Dies melden palästinensische Medien am Montag.

"Der britische Staatsangehörige Paul Martin wird der Gefährdung der Sicherheit und eines Verbrechens gegen die palästinensische Gesetzgebung verdächtigt", sagte ein Vertreter der palästinensischen Polizei ohne jedoch nähere Angaben zu machen.

Martin, der für die britischen Medien BBC und Times arbeitet, wurde festgenommen, nachdem ein Palästinenser ihn belastete, für den Martin im Gericht als Entlastungszeuge aussagte. Der Palästinenser wurde der Spionage für Israel angeklagt.

<http://de.rian.ru/society/20100215/125111631.html>

0492/2010 -----

Sex, Bribes, And On The Take

Fatah leaders are scrambling to cope with a former Fatah intelligence officials recent release of evidence of corruption. The most damaging item was a 2008 video of the Fatah chief of staff demanding sex from a woman seeking help from Fatah. Many Fatah officials are calling the video a fake created by Israel. The video first appeared on Israeli TV last week (it could never get on Palestinian TV, which is controlled by Fatah). But many more Palestinians know the vid is all too real. Lawyer Fahmi Shabaneh, who released the video, and promises much more, is being denounced by Fatah as an Israeli agent.

- (a) <http://www.strategypage.com/qnd/israel/articles/20100215.aspx>
(b) <http://www.zeit.de/politik/2010-02/palaestinenser-sex-skandal>

(see also ACIPSS-newsletter 07/2010, report 0416/2010 «Mukatagate»



FAR EAST & ASIA

0493/2010 -----

India Pursues a Possible Terror Link to Bomb Blast

A day after a bomb blast ripped through a crowded cafe in this western Indian city, the Indian authorities were trying to determine Sunday whether the attack was linked to any known terrorist groups and to a man charged in the deadly 2008 assault on Mumbai.

Home Minister Palaniappan Chidambaram said that the authorities had not determined who was responsible for the attack on Saturday, which killed

nine people and wounded at least 60. But he said Indian officials would renew efforts to interview David C. Headley, a Pakistani-American facing charges in Chicago, who is accused of performing reconnaissance for the Mumbai attacks on behalf of a Pakistan-based terrorist group, Lashkar-e-Taiba. (a)

There are rumors in India and Pakistan that Headley is in fact a renegade CIA informant. (b)

- (a) <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/02/15/world/asia/15india.html>
- (b) <http://intelligencenews.wordpress.com/2009/11/30/03-115/>

0494/2010 -----

Südkoreanischer Shorttrack-Trainer auf Abwegen (Spionage im Sport)

Angebliche Spionage aus dem gegnerischen Lager hat den südkoreanischen Shorttrack-Cheftrainer zur Raserei gebracht. Als ein chinesischer Teambetreuer im Pacific Coliseum von Vancouver das Training der Koreaner filmte, rastete Choi Guang-Bok aus und bewarf den Kiebitz mit vollen Wasserflaschen.

http://www.focus.de/sport/olympia-2010/news/-suedkoreanischer-shorttrack-trainer-auf-abwegen_aid_480242.html

0495/2010 -----

How many government informants are there in China?

The interest of intelligence observers was stirred earlier this week by a rare revelation made by a Chinese regional police official, who said that his bureau employs one in every 33 local residents as an informant. Speaking to Xinhua News Agency, Liu Xingchen, deputy public security bureau director for Inner Mongolia's Kailu County, said his force employed 12,093 informants out of approximately 400,000 inhabitants.

The informants' task, he said, was to provide government with intelligence, to weed out "non-harmonious elements", and to uncover "all sorts of information that might destabilize society". Some reports note that, when applied nationwide, these statistics point to the possible existence of "at least 39 million informants", a number that represents 3 per cent of China's population and "lays bare the enormous scale of China's surveillance network". Such extrapolations, however, are risky for a number of reasons.

<http://intelligencenews.wordpress.com/2010/02/15/01-389/#more-4460>



EUROPE (GEOGRAPH.)

0496/2010 -----

Spanish intelligence probing debt "attacks"-report

Citing unnamed sources, El Pais said the National Intelligence Centre (CNI) was looking into "speculative attacks" on Spain following the Greek debt crisis.

"The (CNI's) Economic Intelligence division...is investigating whether investors' attacks and the aggressiveness of some Anglo-Saxon media are driven by market forces and challenges facing the Spanish economy, or whether there is something more behind this campaign," El Pais said. Officials at the CNI were not available for comment.

The report comes days after Public Works Minister Jose Blanco protested "somewhat murky manoeuvres" were behind financial market pressure on Spain. "None of what is happening in the world, including the editorials of foreign newspapers, is coincidental or innocent," Blanco said.

- (a) <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSLDE61D04V20100214?type=usDollarRpt>
- (b) http://www.marketwatch.com/story/spanish-secret-service-said-to-probe-market-swings-2010-02-15?reflink=MW_news_stmp
- (c) Spaniens Geheimdienst wittert Verschwörungen angelsächsischer Medien und Investoren:
http://diepresse.com/home/meinung/kommentare/539968/index.do?direct=539924&vl_backlink=/home/wirtschaft/index.do&selChannel=573

0497/2010 -----

Spanish Ex-Spy Convicted of Stealing Secrets

A former Spanish intelligence officer was convicted on Thursday of trying to sell secrets to Russia and imprisoned for 12 years, in Spain's first treason conviction since returning to democracy in 1978 after decades of military dictatorship.

The Madrid Provincial Court said Roberto Florez Garcia, 44, took documents relating to spy recruitment and planned to sell their contents to the Russian Embassy in Madrid. The verdict said Florez Garcia stole documents with identities of other agents and information on Spanish intelligence facilities. The court said it did not have conclusive proof that Florez Garcia had actually succeeded in selling or handing over sensitive information.

Florez Garcia worked at Spain's intelligence headquarters from 1991 to 2004, when he quit. He was arrested on the Canary island of Tenerife in 2007 and went on trial in January. He denied any wrongdoing.

http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2010/02/11/world/AP-EU-Spain-Spy-Convicted.html?_r=5

0498/2010 -----

The Missing Mirage Money

Iraq is demanding that France return \$895 million, paid in 1985, for later delivery of 24 Mirage F1 jet fighters. Iraq already owned 90 of these aircraft at the time. Delivery was prevented by a UN arms embargo imposed on Iraq after the 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

French officials are puzzled by the Iraqi demand, since Iraq owes French firms \$6.6 billion for goods delivered and never paid for before 2003.

France has cancelled 80 percent of that debt, and will apparently arrange to have the Mirage F1 debt charged off against money Iraq owes France.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htmurph/articles/20100215.aspx>

0499/2010 -----

US-Radprofi Landis wegen Spionage gegen Anti-Doping-Agentur gesucht

Ein Gericht in Frankreich hat heute einen internationalen Haftbefehl gegen den US-Radprofi Floyd Landis ausgestellt. Dem Profisportler wird Medienberichten zufolge Spionage gegen das französische Dopinglabor Châtenay-Malabry vorgeworfen. Landis hatte im Jahr 2006 die Tour de France gewonnen, war anschließend jedoch des Dopings überführt worden. Im Rahmen des darauffolgenden Prozesses soll der 34-Jährige als geheim geltende Daten aus dem Labor gestohlen haben. Ein Gerichtstermin hatte heute die Vorwürfe gegen Landis klären sollen. Da dieser allerdings nicht erschienen war, stellte der Richter den Haftbefehl gegen ihn aus.

<http://www.news-adhoc.com/us-radprofi-landis-wegen-spionage-gegen-anti-doping-agentur-gesucht-idna2010021582858/>



0500/2010 -----

Professor Michael Clarke: Judgment undermines intel co-operation

In going to the Court of Appeal over the Binyam Mohamed case, MI6 was not trying to protect information that may have come out about his mistreatment in either Pakistan or Morocco. It was trying to protect the "control principle" that any intelligence material is shared with a partner country only on the condition that it is kept secret there as well.

The principle is at the heart of real intelligence co-operation between countries. More sharing of information is a constant rallying cry of terrorism analysts. In truth, little information of any value is actually shared unless it operates under a tight control principle. So yesterday's judgment in the Court of Appeal upholds the control principle but still releases the offending seven paragraphs on the basis that they are already in the public domain in the US. The legal nicety of that will not play particularly well with Washington's security services. There may be a clear civil rights interest in releasing this information but in the US the fact is that secret material it shared with the British has now become a source of public embarrassment - for the second time.

<http://www.independent.co.uk/opinion/commentators/professor-michael-clarke-judgment-undermines-intelligence-cooperation-1895808.html>

0501/2010 -----

Real IRA killed spy Donaldson, say gardai

GARDAI are now satisfied that a faction of the Real IRA was behind the murder of former Sinn Fein administrator-turned-spy Denis Donaldson.

Officers believe that he was shot dead by Derry-based Real IRA dissidents in a bid to create problems for the mainstream Provisional republican movement, which was initially blamed for the attack. Gardai are following a number of lines of inquiry that have emerged in recent weeks.

But a senior officer admitted last night that they did not know yet if these could lead to a breakthrough in the case.

<http://www.independent.ie/national-news/real-ira-killed-spy-donaldson-say-gardai-2055688.html>

0502/2010 -----

MPs demand reform of security oversight

Ministers were tonight coming under mounting pressure to set up a judicial inquiry and overhaul the nature of the committee in charge of scrutinising the security services.

The calls for reform came in response to evidence that MI5 officers were complicit in the inhumane treatment of British resident Binyam Mohamed and misled parliament. Senior Conservative politicians joined the former attorney general Lord Goldsmith in calling for an investigation into whether Britain's intelligence agencies or government were complicit in the torture of British terror suspects abroad.

Former shadow home secretary David Davis laid out to the Guardian the three reasons a judicial inquiry was now needed, while the Conservative chairman of the all-party parliamentary group on extraordinary rendition, Andrew Tyrie, also said such a judicial inquiry was "essential".

- (a) <http://www.guardian.co.uk/politics/2010/feb/14/mi5-security-services-binyam-mohamed>
- (b) <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/goldsmith-calls-for-investigation-into-uks-role-in-torture-1899128.html>
- (c) <http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2010/feb/12/mi5-torture>

0503/2010 -----

UK special forces chief trying to prevent book publication

The director of Britain's Special Forces is actively trying to stop the publication of a new book that sheds unprecedented light on the elite combat group's operations in Iraq. The official, whose name cannot be revealed for security reasons, has said that the book, authored by BBC journalist Mark Urban, will negatively impact the operational effectiveness of the Special Air Service (SAS) and other UK Special Forces units.

The official's objections have come to overshadow a compromise struck earlier this month between Mr. Urban's publishers and the UK Ministry of Defence. Following four months of negotiations, the Ministry reportedly decided that the book "would not compromise the operational effectiveness of the SAS". According to The London Times, the proposed book is based on interviews with current and former members of the SAS, and describes "in tactical detail" operations carried out by the elite paramilitary force in Iraq from the 2003 invasion until last year. (b) The book also sheds light on Task Force Black, a mysterious multinational partnership of special forces units, active mostly in Iraq, which the SAS joined in 2005.

- (a) http://intelligencenews.wordpress.com/2010/02/15/03-147/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+intelNewsOrg+%28intelNews.org%29
- (b) http://entertainment.timesonline.co.uk/tol/arts_and_entertainment/books/non-fiction/article7018454.ece



GERMANY

0504/2010 -----

Germany's Choice

The heart of Germany's problem is that it is insecure and indefensible given its location in the middle of the North European Plain. No natural barriers separate Germany from the neighbors to its east and west, no mountains, deserts, oceans. Germany thus lacks strategic depth. The North European Plain is the Continent's highway for commerce and conquest. Germany's position in the center of the plain gives it plenty of commercial opportunities but also forces it to participate vigorously in conflict as both an instigator and victim.

Germany's exposure and vulnerability thus make it an extremely active power. It is always under the gun, and so its policies reflect a certain desperate hyperactivity. In times of peace, Germany is competing with everyone economically, while in times of war it is fighting everyone. Its only hope for survival lies in brutal efficiencies, which it achieves in industry and warfare.

http://www.stratfor.com/weekly/20100208_germanys_choice?utm_source=GWeekly&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=100208&utm_content=readmore&elq=d8859b8e14884c449355e991894a3347

0505/2010 -----

Interview mit Schmidt-Eenboom: «Deutsche Dienste sind absolut hörig»

Der Kalte Krieg ist vorbei, doch die Zeit der Geheimdienste noch längst nicht. Vor allem nicht, wenn es um Wirtschaftsspionage geht. Im Interview sagt der Geheimdienst-Experte Schmidt-Eenboom: Auch Deutschlands Freunde bespitzeln es.

<http://www.news.de/wirtschaft/855044005/deutsche-dienste-sind-absolut-hoerig/1/>



SWITZERLAND

0506/2010 -----

Schweiz fordert von Deutschland Hilfe bei Jagd auf Datendieb

Die Schweizer Regierung fordert von Deutschland Unterstützung bei der Jagd auf den Dieb von Daten deutscher Steuerhinterzieher.

Zusätzlich zu einem Ermittlungsverfahren im eigenen Land wolle die Schweiz Deutschland um Rechtshilfe ersuchen, sagte Justizministerin Eveline Widmer-Schlumpf der Zeitung "Blick" (Donnerstagsausgabe). "Laut Rechtshilfeabkommen ist Deutschland verpflichtet, uns bei der Durchführung einer Strafverfolgung zu helfen, wenn sich Täter oder auch Mittäter auf deutschem Gebiet aufhalten", sagte Widmer-Schlumpf.

Deutschland hatte vergangene Woche grünes Licht für den Kauf der CD mit Steuerdaten von rund 1500 Bundesbürgern für angeblich 2,5 Millionen Euro gegeben. Die heiklen Informationen von Schweizer Konten könnten deutsche Steuersünder entlarven und den Staat Medienberichten zufolge Einnahmen von bis zu 400 Millionen Euro sichern. Viele deutsche Steuersünder erwägen inzwischen, sich bei den Behörden selbst anzuzeigen: Nach Angaben der Finanzbehörden in mehreren Bundesländern ist die Zahl der Selbstanzeigen in den vergangenen Tagen sprunghaft gestiegen.

Die Schweizer Regierung hat den Datenkauf wiederholt kritisiert. "Weil der Datenklau auch den Tatbestand des wirtschaftlichen Nachrichtendienstes erfüllt, versuchen wir, das zu stoppen", sagte Widmer-Schlumpf in dem Interview.

<http://de.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idDEBEE61A0C420100211>



AUSTRIA

0507/2010

Hypo-Affäre: Detektiv veröffentlicht Tonbandaufnahmen

Wolfgang Kulterer, langjähriger Vorstandsvorsitzender der Kärntner Hypo Alpe-Adria-Bank, hatte es als Chef mit einer Bank zu tun, in der offenbar an vielen Ecken und Enden Geld verschwand, und er hatte Dietmar G. auf Empfehlung von Jörg Haider im Jahr 2006 als Privatdetektiv engagiert. Wolfgang Kulterer hat im Zusammenhang mit seinem G.-Engagement zumindest einen Fehler gemacht: Er hat ihn arbeiten lassen, dann aber das vereinbarte Pauschalhonorar (250.000 Euro) nicht bezahlt. Kulterer hätte wissen müssen, dass G. schon bei geringeren Mätzchen keinen Spaß versteht. Der schon im Zuge des „AKH-Skandals“ 1981 in U-Haft saß, weil er einem korrupten Schweizer Spitalsberater angeblich die Waffe an den Kopf gehalten und sein Honorar gefordert haben soll, jedenfalls aber vom Gericht freigesprochen wurde.

Kulterer hat jedenfalls nicht bezahlt, und nun schlägt G. zurück. Der Privatermittler hat die meisten seiner vertraulichen Besprechungen mit Kulterer aus den Jahren 2006 und 2007 ohne Kulterers Wissen auf Band aufgenommen.

<http://www.profil.at/articles/1006/560/261900/ausgeschnueffelt>

ACIPSS-Newsletter-Kommentar: *Entgegen landläufiger Meinung ist das (reine) Aufzeichnen einer vom Aufzeichnenden selbst mit einem Dritten geführten, nicht öffentlichen Unterhaltung, strafrechtlich nicht pönalisiert, mit anderen Worten: das reine Aufzeichnen ist gestattet. § 120 Abs 2 (österr.)*

StGB stellt lediglich die Zugänglichmachung bzw. Veröffentlichung ohne (vorheriges) Einverständnis des Dritten unter Strafe.

Auf den konkreten Fall übertragen bedeutet das, dass G. sehr wohl befugt war, die betreffenden Gespräche aufzuzeichnen, also diesbezüglich straflos bleibt, nicht jedoch sie einem Printmedium zugänglich zu machen, da angenommen werden kann, dass eine Einverständniserklärung von Kulterer nicht vorliegt. Damit haben sich nicht nur G., sondern auch das „profil“ als Beitragstätter gem § 120 Abs 2 bzw. 2a (österr.) StGB strafbar gemacht.

Der betreffende Tatbestand ist jedoch kein Officialdelikt (d.h., die Strafverfolgungsbehörden dürfen von sich aus kein amtswegiges Verfahren eröffnen), sondern ein sog. Ermächtigungsdelikt. Ob Kulterer eine solche Ermächtigung zur Strafverfolgung erteilt hat, ist der ACIPSS-Redaktion nicht bekannt.

0508/2010 -----

Grüne: Oppositionspakt hat Wirkung gezeigt

Im März läuft die von der Opposition paktierte Blockade von Zwei-Drittel-Beschlüssen aus. FPÖ, BZÖ und Grüne hatten Ende 2009 eine "Notgemeinschaft" geschlossen, um sich gegen das "Drüberfahren" der Regierungsfractionen im Parlament zu wehren. Sie beschloss, bis Ende März alle Gesetze, die eine Zwei-Drittel-Mehrheit brauchen (diese erfordert die Stimmen mindestens einer Oppositionspartei), zu blockieren. Auslöser dieses parlamentarischen Konflikts war das vorzeitige Abdrehen des Untersuchungsausschusses zu diversen Spionage- und Justizaffären durch SPÖ und ÖVP.

<http://derstandard.at/1266278923950/Gruene-Oppositionspakt-hat-Wirkung-gezeigt>

0509/2010 -----

Spindelegger will Bundesheer in den Libanon schicken

In der Regierung bahnt sich der nächste Konflikt an: Außenminister Michael Spindelegger (ÖVP) will mehr Auslandseinsätze des Bundesheers, doch Verteidigungsminister Norbert Darabos (SPÖ) bremst. Ausgelöst wurde der Konflikt durch den Wunsch des Außenministers, sich an der UNO-Mission im Libanon zu beteiligen. „Die Tschad-Mission wurde beendet und auch am Balkan wird man die Soldaten schrittweise abbauen können. Wir sind daher gefordert, uns anderweitig international zu engagieren“, sagt Spindelegger zur „Presse“. Der Hintergrund: Belgien wird sein Engagement im Libanon beenden, die UNO braucht einen Ersatz und hat bei den Österreichern angefragt.

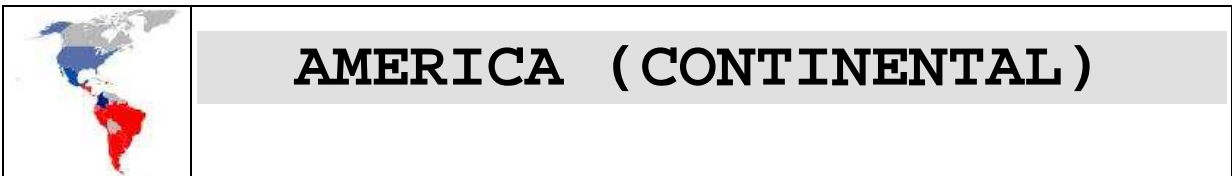
<http://diepresse.com/home/politik/innenpolitik/539011/index.do>

0510/2010 -----

Dubai-Mord: Handies aus Österreich, Kommandozentrale in Österreich?

Wie profil online am Mittwoch berichtete, könnte die Aktion von einer "Art Kommandozentrale in Österreich" koordiniert worden sein. Das habe die Auswertung von Telefondaten ergeben: Die Täter telefonierten nie untereinander, der Kontakt lief über mehrere österreichische Wertkarten-Telefonnummern. Das Innenministerium in Wien bestätigt laut Sprecher Gollia, dass seit Montag Ermittlungen laufen. (a)

- (a) <http://www.profil.at/articles/1007/560/262200/giftmord-palaestinenserfuehrer-dubai-profi-killer-handys>
- (b) <http://www.wienerzeitung.at/default.aspx?tabID=3856&alias=wzo&cob=473196>
- (c) <http://news.orf.at/100217-48155/index.html>
- (d) http://news.orf.at/100217-48155/?href=http%3A%2F%2Fnews.orf.at%2F100217-48155%2F48141txt_story.html
- (e) <http://gulfnews.com/news/gulf/uae/crime/al-mabhough-assassins-in-dubai-left-few-traces-police-1.584276>
- (f) The Austrian connection:
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2010/feb/17/hamas-official-accused-mossad-murder>
- (g) Hamas official's murder allegedly coordinated in Austria:
http://austrianindependent.com/news/Politics/2010-02-17/1039/Hamas_official's_murder_allegedly_coordinated_in_Austria
- (h) Video mit Rufdatendiagramm:
<http://video.gulfnews.com/services/player/bcpid4267205001?bclid=0=66672644001>



0511/2010 -----

CSIS fights to keep Tommy Douglas spying file under wraps

Intelligence agency argues that disclosure could endanger the lives of informants, and set a precedent: Who spied on Tommy Douglas in Canada?

A Federal Court hearing will decide whether to reveal the answer now that the federal government has dug in to fight a lawsuit that challenges its decision to prevent the public from learning the long-held secret. Divulging Cold War spying techniques, the government argues in a document filed recently in the Federal Court case, would imperil today's spies, sources and covert investigations against terrorists.

The government wants to block the Canadian Press's bid for the RCMP's Tommy Douglas dossier. Federal officials say they will never reveal precisely how the Mounties once kept tabs on Mr. Douglas, known as the father of Canada's health-care system.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/csis-fights-to-keep-tommy-douglas-spying-file-under-wraps/article1463748/>

0512/2010 -----

Canadian NATO spy station up for sale

A shuttered Canadian NATO satellite spy station in Nova Scotia on four acres in a forested mountainside is for sale for \$1.4 million.

The facility, about a 75-minute drive from Halifax, was built in 1983 and then shut down in 2006, The (Halifax) Chronicle-Herald reported Wednesday. Sales agent George Kimber said its current owner, who doesn't want to be identified, bought the site from the Defense Department after it was closed. A private paved road leads to a double-gated security fence and guardhouse. The 10,000-square-foot building contains a sterile biotech laboratory, a workshop, living quarters, a kitchen, laundry room and four sleeping quarters, Kimber said.

It also has backup power generators and a very large, golf ball-shaped satellite cover.

http://www.upi.com/Odd_News/2010/02/10/Canadian-NATO-spy-station-up-for-sale/UPI-32641265829358/

0513/2010 -----

Border guards reluctant to use secret intelligence

Canada's border agency isn't using secret intelligence to stop some suspicious travellers because it's worried it may get hauled into court.

The Canada Border Services Agency has been handing out special cards to fast-track businessmen and truckers across the border. Documents obtained by The Canadian Press says the agency may have secret information that some of them may work for organized crime.

The agency is reluctant to use the intelligence because it's worried a traveller may take the matter to court -- and a judge might force it to reveal sources.

http://www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/20100214/border_intelligence_100214/20100214?hub=Canada



AUSTRALIA

0514/2010 -----

Rio Tinto spy controversy thickens

Anglo-Australian mining company Rio Tinto says it is "extremely worried" about four of its staff, who were arrested last July by Chinese authorities and have now been formally charged with espionage.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/business/2010/feb/11/rio-tinto-concern-china-spying-charges>

0515/2010 -----

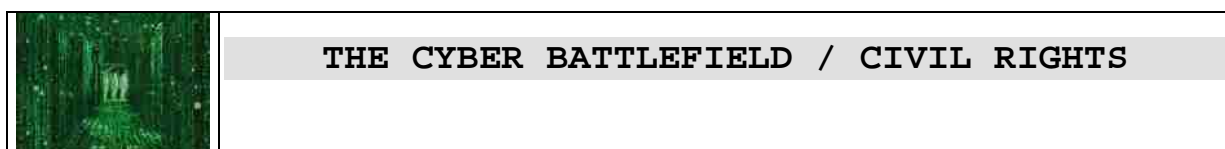
Australia's old ties with U.S. deepened in the past decade

"China will also be the strongest Asian military power, by a considerable margin," the Defense Ministry said in a report. "But the pace, scope and

structure of China's military modernization have the potential to give its neighbours cause for concern if not carefully explained."

Polling by the Lowy Institute over the past five years has documented a significant shift in Australia's mood away from China. In last year's poll, more than half of the respondents said they were uncomfortable with China's rise. By way of comparison, the poll indicated that support for the alliance with the United States was the highest since the think-tank began asking the question in 2006. President Obama is scheduled to visit Australia in March.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/02/13/AR2010021303460.html?hpid=topnews>



0516/2010 -----

Defeating Forensic Examination of Computers

The incinerator and shredder were the crook's best friend prior to the computer era. Today, software is available for the same purpose. A search for "anti-forensics" turns-up a lot of usable information and guidance for those so-inclined.

Of particular interest should be the Metasploit Anti-Forensics Project. If you are unaware of the tools that come under the term, anti-forensics, then an article from CIO entitled, How Online Criminals Make Themselves Tough to Find, Near Impossible to Nab, should illustrate that Investigators now face anti-forensics as part of everyday life.

<http://www.cio.com/article/print/114550>

ACIPSS-newsletter-commentary: The article is from 2007, but is a must-read on the topic.

0517/2010 -----

Former US officials in cyberattack simulation

Former top US intelligence officials will become cyberwarriors on Tuesday in a simulation of how the US government would respond to a massive cyberattack on the United States.

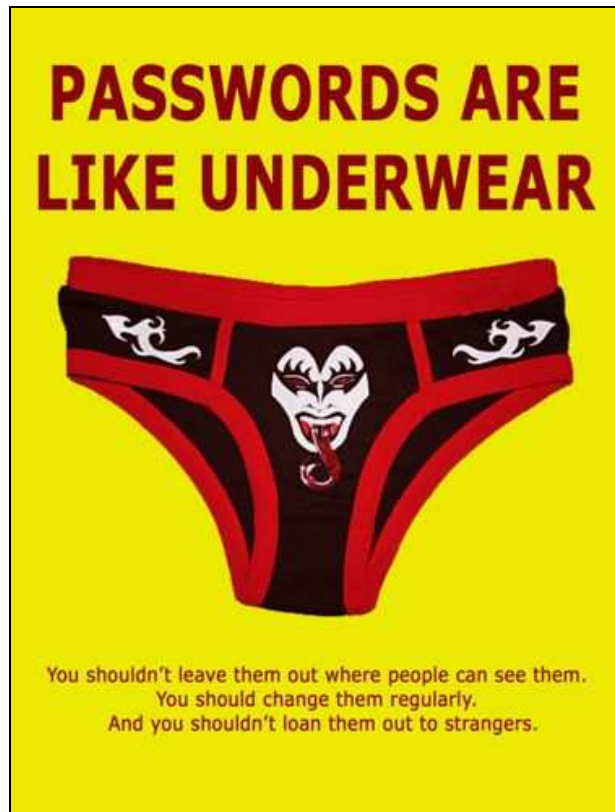
"The scenario itself is secret," said Eileen McMenamin, vice president of communications for the Bipartisan Policy Center (BPC), which is hosting the event dubbed "Cyber ShockWave." "The participants don't even know what it is," McMenamin told AFP. "None of them know what's going to transpire."

For Cyber ShockWave, a room at the Mandarin Hotel here is being transformed into the White House Situation Room, where the president and his top advisers typically meet to address national emergencies.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5h2Ae4qZEzDzeJIZ4Ip0kdq97vhcw>

0518/2010

Passwords are like underwear



www.9gag.com

0519/2010

Zeus Attack Spoofs NSA, Targets .gov and .mil

Criminals are spamming the Zeus banking Trojan in a convincing e-mail that spoofs the National Security Agency. Initial reports indicate that a large number of government systems may have been compromised by the attack.

According one state government security expert who received multiple copies of the message, the e-mail campaign – apparently designed to steal passwords from infected systems – was sent exclusively to government (.gov) and military (.mil) e-mail addresses.

<http://www.krebsonsecurity.com/2010/02/zeus-attack-spoofs-nsa-targets-gov-and-mil/>

0520/2010

ACLU Objects to Reported Google Partnership With NSA

The American Civil Liberties Union is asking its members to contact Google executives and ask them not to work with the U.S. National Security Agency to investigate cyberattacks allegedly coming from China.

The civil liberties advocacy group, in an e-mail sent to members this week, asked them to object to the "troubling" partnership. The Washington Post reported last Thursday that Google and the NSA were drafting an agreement

in which the spy agency would help the company investigate a major cyberattack that allegedly originated from within China.

"Google -- the world's largest search engine company with access to intimate details of our lives -- is negotiating an electronic surveillance deal with the National Security Agency -- the world's largest spying network," said the ACLU letter to members. "The implications of this deal are very troubling. The NSA ... is an intelligence collection agency with few effective checks against abuse and no public oversight of its activities."

http://www.pcworld.com/businesscenter/article/189060/aclu_objects_to_report_ed_google_partnership_with_nsa.html

0521/2010 -----

Rootkit May Be Culprit in Recent Windows Crashes

There are indications that the system crashes and the dreaded blue screen of death (BSOD) that many Microsoft Windows users reported suffering after installing this week's batch of security updates may be caused at least in part by malware infestations on the affected machines.

Patrick W. Barnes, a systems administrator at Cat-man-du, a technology services firm in Amarillo, Texas, said at least three different customers came into his shop with the same blue screen of death after installing Tuesday's patches on their systems. Barnes said that on closer inspection, he found that each had been previously infected with a rootkit, a set of tools sometimes installed by malware that are designed to hide the presence of the infection on the host system.

- (a) <http://www.krebsonsecurity.com/2010/02/rootkit-may-be-culprit-in-recent-windows-crashes/>
- (b) <http://www.krebsonsecurity.com/2010/02/new-patches-cause-bsod-for-some-windows-xp-users/>

0522/2010 -----

India Under Attack

In the second half of January, the Indian government detected a deliberate hacker attack on nearly 500 PCs used by key government officials. At least 30 of these attacks succeeded. Examination of the attacks indicate that the source was China. The information being sought in the attacks would have been of benefit to China, since several security organizations, involved in dealing with China, were hit. The Indian National Technical Research Organization (NTR) had earlier set up rapid reaction teams for situations like this, and the teams were essential in containing the latest attack, and identifying the source.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htiw/articles/20100216.aspx>

0523/2010 -----

'Time Bomb' May Have Destroyed 800 Norfolk City PCs

The City of Norfolk, Virginia is reeling from a massive computer meltdown in which an unidentified family of malicious code destroyed data on nearly 800 computers citywide. The incident is still under investigation, but city

officials say the attack may have been the result of a computer time bomb planted in advance by an insider or employee and designed to trigger at a specific date.

<http://www.krebsonsecurity.com/2010/02/time-bomb-may-have-destroyed-800-norfolk-city-pcs/>



SPYCRAFT

0524/2010

Robust pedestrian detection and tracking in crowded scenes



In this paper, a robust computer vision approach to detecting and tracking pedestrians in unconstrained crowded scenes is presented. Pedestrian detection is performed via a 3D clustering process within a region-growing framework. The clustering process avoids using hard thresholds by using biometrically inspired constraints and a number of plan-view statistics. Pedestrian tracking is achieved by formulating the track matching process

as a weighted bipartite graph and using a Weighted Maximum Cardinality Matching scheme. The approach is evaluated using both indoor and outdoor sequences, captured using a variety of different camera placements and orientations, that feature significant challenges in terms of the number of pedestrians present, their interactions and scene lighting conditions. The evaluation is performed against a manually generated groundtruth for all sequences. Results point to the extremely accurate performance of the proposed approach in all cases.

http://www.joanneum.at/uploads/tx_publicationlibrary/LYY-2007-SPIE.pdf

ACIPSS-newsletter-commentary: *OCR (optical character recognition) errors may be found in the Reference List extracted from the full text article. ACM has opted to expose the complete List rather than only correct and linked references, see <http://portal.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=1555125>*

0525/2010

US Military seeks an intelligence-gathering airship

The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command and the Army Forces Strategic Command are continuing their multiyear search for a futuristic, self-powered, intelligence-gathering airship. The ideal model would be able to linger for more than three weeks over a target area at 20,000 feet, carrying a 2,500-pound payload of signals and imagery interceptors with a view of 173 miles, according to a special notice issued last week.

Its engines would be able to keep a steady speed of 20 knots, but if needed possess an 80-knot "dash speed." Though it is expected to be unmanned and operated from the ground, it may be operated with a crew.

The success in Iraq and Afghanistan of "spy blimps" -- now tethered to the ground but gathering intelligence such as full-motion video used to identify insurgents -- has sparked interest in these new airships.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/02/15/AR2010021503088.html>

0526/2010 -----

Eye in the sky arrest could land police in the dock



For Merseyside police, the "eye in the sky" arrest was a landmark moment in policing history. The force had managed to track down and apprehend a teenager who had fled from a presumed stolen Renault Clio, senior officers revealed, by using a remote-controlled flying robot equipped with thermal imaging cameras.

But the attempt to claim credit for the UK's first arrest using a surveillance drone backfired tonight after it emerged the force itself could face prosecution because officers flew the surveillance aircraft without permission - a criminal offence.

The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), which regulates UK airspace, confirmed it was investigating Merseyside police over the apparently unauthorised use of its drone to pursue the 16-year-old after he fled from a suspected stolen car in Bootle. It is one of three UK forces using the drones.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2010/feb/15/police-drone-arrest-backfires>



INTEL HISTORY

0527/2010 -----

US admits salvaging sunken Soviet submarine

The admission ends more than 30 years of silence over one of the most elaborate and expensive projects of the Cold War.



The CIA has always refused to confirm even the barest details of Project Azorian, a daring 1974 exercise that was backed by the industrialist Howard Hughes and estimated to have cost £1 billion in today's money. However, following an application to declassify the information under the US Freedom of Information Act, the CIA has released an internal account of the mission, albeit with some of the biggest mysteries still unanswered.

In the 50-page article published in 1985 in the agency's in-house journal, the CIA details how President Nixon went against the advice of his senior

military chiefs in the hope of gaining crucial intelligence from the nuclear missiles being carried by the sub.

The Soviet Golf-II sub, the K-129, sank in 1968 in the Pacific, northwest of Hawaii, in circumstances that have never been explained. The Americans buried six lost Soviet mariners at sea, after retrieving their bodies in the wreckage.

Exactly what the operation managed to salvage remains unclear as portions of the CIA text have been redacted, but historians and journalists have concluded that the most sensitive Soviet equipment was never recovered.

- (a) <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/northamerica/usa/7237002/US-admits-salvaging-sunken-Soviet-submarine.html>
- (b) The documents, obtained by the National Security Archive: <http://www.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/nukevault/ebb305/index.htm>
- (c) <http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hD0jln9y2nnSpFzypCq5Feb2nfdAD9DRBEL80>

0528/2010 -----

Secret agent alerted British intelligence agency on Malta invasion

Documents, uncovered in the Churchill Archives in Cambridge and the British National Archives, reveal that way back in 1942, a secret spy "Knopf" working in Hitler's high ranks, had alerted British Intelligence MI6 about German plans to invade Malta, British media have reported.

The Times of London reported the discovery of this agent made by the Cambridge historian Paul Winter. It appears that Knopf provided details regarding Hitler's plots for the Mediterranean and the Eastern Front, field marshal Erwin Rommel's health and even the position of Hitler's headquarters in eastern Prussia, known as the "Wolf's Lair".

Moreover, Knopf also revealed Rommel's plans in North Africa and the Reich's mania to get Stalingrad on the Eastern Front. Knopf was initially recruited by Polish Intelligence, but when the Polish government was in exile in London, it had transferred its intelligence material to MI6.

The real identity of Agent Knopf may remain unknown forever as the archives of MI6 are still closed.

<http://www.dive.com/Default.aspx?ID=72&Action=1&NewsId=69533&newscategory=36>

0529/2010 -----

Allan Kornblum dies; wrote key parts of surveillance act



Allan Kornblum, 71, a federal magistrate for the northern district of Florida who as a Justice Department official wrote key parts of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, died of cancer Feb. 12 at the University of Florida Shands Cancer Center in Gainesville, Fla., where he lived.

Mr. Kornblum, a former FBI special agent, was hired in 1975 by the U.S. Justice Department to

write the FBI's guidelines for domestic security and counterintelligence work. He was appointed three years later by then-Attorney General Griffin Bell to handle all FBI and National Security Agency wiretap applications as deputy counsel for the Office of Intelligence Policy and Review.

In 2000, he left the Justice Department to join the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court as its first official legal adviser, working with the 11 rotating federal judges who heard cases brought under the FISA statute, which allows surveillance of foreigners

Survivors include his wife of 41 years, Helen Kornblum of Gainesville; two sons, Aaron Kornblum of Mercer Island, Wash., and Jesse Kornblum of Silver Spring; and three grandchildren.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/02/14/AR2010021403994.html>

0530/2010 -----

Assignment: Find The Charlotte Observer's Russian spy

An Observer editor tries to find out who was the mysterious Russia correspondent "employed by The Charlotte Observer", whom an FBI report in the 1950s described as "unusually well-connected with the Kremlin":
If you're into spy mysteries, this one's for you.

It's about a case as cold as the Cold War, one with odd twists and weird ingredients. There's the FBI, of course, and Nikita Khrushchev. There's Russian diplomat Molotov of cocktail fame, NBC News and a peeping tom. And then there's us, The Charlotte Observer. It starts, as these usually do, with orders from headquarters.

Things were going so nicely on the afternoon of Jan. 7, 2010, that I was thinking about nipping out a bit early and splashing something cold across the tonsils. Then my boss shimmered over with that look of indigestion that can make all the difference in the gaiety of the workday. "Apparently we had a spy here in the 1950s," he said.

"Find out who it was."

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/195/story/1246311.html>



0531/2010 -----

Defending Australia in the Asia Pacific Century

The 2009 White Paper was developed in the midst of a global recession. The Government has demonstrated the premium it puts on our national security by not allowing the inancial impact of the global recession on its Budget to affect its commitment to our Defence needs. This White Paper produces a substantial additional investment in the capability of our Navy, Army and Air Force. Force 2030 is a balanced force, capable of meeting every contingency the Australian Defence Force may be required to meet in the coming two decades.

http://www.defence.gov.au/whitepaper/docs/defence_white_paper_2009.pdf

0532/2010 -----

Russ. Analyt. Digest, History Writing, National Myth-Making in Russia

This issue of the Russian Analytical Digest examines history-writing and national myth-making in Russia. Firstly, Alexey Miller discusses the concept of history politics; the active political intervention in history-writing by the ruling elite. Secondly, Ivo Mijnsen argues that the Soviet Union's victory over Germany has been promoted by the government as a central tenant of Russia's national identity. Although this policy is supported domestically by "patriotic" youth organizations such as Nashi, it causes disputes with Russia's neighbors. Finally, Galina Mikhaleva discusses the practice of looking back to the country's history as a political tool in Russia. By authors Alexey Miller, Ivo Mijnsen, Galina Mikhaleva.

http://kms2.isn.ethz.ch/serviceengine/Files/RESSpecNet/112634/ipublicationdocument_singledocument/3EF63B3E-D2B0-4AAF-B008-61AB06C80D6C/en/Russian_Analytical_Digest_72.pdf

0533/2010 -----

Die Spuren des SS-Generals und US-Verbündeten Karl Wolff

Hat Stalin sich wirklich, wie er im April 1945 gegenüber Winston Churchill äußerte, darüber gewundert, dass sich die Deutschen im Westen widerstandslos ergaben, während sie im Osten „wie die Wilden um jeden unbekanntem Flecken kämpften“? Oder wollte er Churchill nur auf den Zahn fühlen, weil er ahnte, dass seine Alliierten im Westen Geheimverhandlungen mit der SS über eine deutsche Teilkapitulation an der italienischen Front führten?

„Operation Sunrise“ hieß das Projekt des US-Geheimdienstes OSS unter dem späteren CIA-Chef Allen Dulles, das im Zusammenspiel mit dem SS-General Karl Wolff tatsächlich zum ersten Waffenstillstand im Westen führte. Hitlers Stern war längst am Sinken, als „Sunrise“ im März 1945 auf den Weg gebracht wurde und - so wieder Churchill - zur „historischen Sternstunde“ wurde, die das Kriegsende in greifbare Nähe rückte. Für die Westalliierten war damit der Weg zur Besetzung Süddeutschlands frei, ohne auf Widerstand in der legendären „Alpenfestung“ zu stoßen.

<http://www.tagesspiegel.de/kultur/literatur/art138,3030477>



LITERATURE

0534/2010 -----

Lives of Hitler's Jewish Soldiers, by Bryan Mark Rigg

Lives of Hitler's Jewish Soldiers is, in effect, a second volume to the author of Hitler's Jewish Soldiers (Lawrence: 2002), providing a more detailed look at the ways in which men of Jewish descent served. The volume consists of a series of mini-biographies of a number of men of Jewish descent who served in the German armed forces during the Second World War.

The men are divided into several categories, "full" Jews and men of "mixed-race" who survived by concealing their identities, "half-Jews" who served, sometimes openly, having been drafted into the armed forces or labor service, mixed-race men who were formally "aryanized," with a look at the process of "aryanization," and the role of men of mixed-race in helping other Jews survive the Holocaust.

There are some amazing stories here, and some notable surprises, for Rigg identifies as Jews, at least under Nazi law, several prominent political and military figures, among the Fritz Bayerlein, the noted panzer leader. The stories of these men vary greatly, some trying desperately to be recognized as "real" Germans, others merely trying to survive.

A valuable addition to the literature on the Hitlerite regime and the Holocaust.

- (a) Lives of Hitler's Jewish Soldiers: Untold Tales of Men of Jewish Descent Who Fought for the Third Reich, by Bryan Mark Rigg, Lawrence, Ks: University Press of Kansas, 2009. Pp. xiv, 314. Illus., tables, notes, biblio., index. \$34.95. ISBN:0700616381.
- (b) review: <http://www.strategypage.com/bookreviews/442.asp>



CONFERENCES / LECTURES

0535/2010 -----

Buchpräsentation «Schattenarmeen» von Wilhelm DIETL, 25.2.



Von Staatsterroristen und ihren Handlangern: Der Bestseller-Autor Wilhelm Dietl über die islamischen Geheimdienste.

Sie sind die gefährlichsten Untergrund-Organisationen der Welt und befinden sich permanent im Kriegszustand. Die Geheimdienste im Nahen und Mittleren Osten kennen keine Skrupel und keine Gesetze. Zunehmend operieren sie auch in Europa und werden zu einem ernststen Sicherheitsrisiko. Sie bedienen sich wechselnder Terrorbanden, um politische Ziele mit brutaler Gewalt durchzusetzen. Wenn sie Allianzen mit dem Westen eingehen, foltern und töten sie im Auftrag von Demokratien.

Bestseller-Autor Wilhelm Dietl als Erster beschreibt die verborgenen Strukturen und spektakulärsten Operationen der islamischen Geheimdienste. Nach vielen Reisen und Gesprächen mit Insidern, Ermittlern und konkurrierenden Diensten zeigt er ihre Verstrickung in organisierte Kriminalität bis zur verbotenen Atomtechnologie und beleuchtet die Grauzone der unheilvollen Zusammenarbeit mit den Partnern im Westen.

Buchpräsentation "Schattenarmeen":

Termin: 25. Februar 2010, 19:30hrs

Ort: Universitätsbuchhandlung Kuppitsch, Schottengasse 4, 1010 Wien

Moderator: Martin HAIDINGER



MEDIA ALERTS

0536/2010 -----

NPR Confidential Informant Series

NPR launches a special investigation into confidential informants. They're a vital crime fighting tool, but what happens if those informants go astray? The confidential informants operate in a secret, largely unregulated world.

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=123595397>

0537/2010 -----

Media alerts

am Sa, 20.02. um 08:45 SWR

Die Propaganda-Maschine: Über die Mobilmachung von Gefühl und Verstand

Dauer: 30 min (a)

Beschreibung: Der Film stellt die Mittel, Techniken und Geschichte der Propaganda vor. Umfangreiches Archivmaterial zeigt, wie sehr sich über nationale, zeitliche oder auch politische Grenzen hinweg Propagandaziele und -techniken ähneln.

am Sa, 20.02. um 13:00 PHOENIX

Meine Geschichte - Eberhard Fätkenheuer

Dauer: 15 min (b)

Beschreibung: Auf der Glienicker - Brücke zwischen Westberlin und Potsdam - kommt es am 11. Juni 1985 zum größten Agentenaustausch in der Geschichte des Kalten Krieges. Über zwanzig Mitarbeiter amerikanischer Geheimdienste werden ausgetauscht gegen vier hochrangige Ostspione. Unter denen, die in den Westen ausreisen dürfen befindet sich der 41 jährige Eberhardt Fätkenheuer - ein Kfz-Ingenieur und Familienvater aus Ostberlin.

am So, 21.02. um 16:00 ARD Eins Extra

Giftgas für Alaska - Der Fall Adolf-Henning Frucht

Dokumentation

Dauer: 45 min (c)

Beschreibung: Kaum waren Günter Guillaume, Stasi-Spion bei Kanzler Willy Brandt, und seine Frau Christel verurteilt, da versuchten DDR-Regierungsstellen, die beiden auszulösen. Sie boten für das Ehepaar nicht nur Dutzende von Häftlingen an, sondern Anfang 1976 auch einen Mann "von Kaliber", wie sie meinten: Adolf-Henning Frucht. In Westdeutschland sorgte der Name zunächst für Ratlosigkeit. Wer war dieser Mann?

am So, 21.02. um 20:15 NDR

Hungerwinter - Überleben nach dem Krieg

Doku-Drama

Dauer: 90 min (d)

Beschreibung: Das 90-minütige Dokudrama "Hungerwinter - Überleben nach dem Krieg" rückt die Not der Bevölkerung im Nachkriegsdeutschland in den Mittelpunkt - eine Erfahrung, die eine ganze Generation geprägt hat. Dazu wurden nach einer aufwendigen mehrmonatigen Zeitzeugenrecherche sechs exemplarische Einzelschicksale ausgewählt, die eindrucksvoll zeigen, mit

welchen existenziellen Problemen die Menschen damals zu kämpfen hatten und welche Schicksalsschläge sie meistern mussten. Viele haben das Erlebte von damals bis heute nicht verwunden und sprechen nur mit Mühe über diese Zeit.

am So, 21.02. um 20:15 arte

Themenabend: Spione im Kalten Krieg

Einführung

Dauer: 2 min (e)

Beschreibung: Seit sich die Alliierten direkt nach dem Ende des Zweiten Weltkrieges in zwei konkurrierende Blöcke aufteilten, tanzte die Welt bis zum Fall der Mauer am Rande eines Waffen strotzenden Abgrunds. Beide Lager wären notfalls bereit gewesen, das Terrain ihrer eigenen Verbündeten verwüsten zu lassen, um strategische Vorteile für sich zu verbuchen. Als Anfang der 80er Jahre die Volksrepublik Polen nach der Wahl Karol Wojtylas zum Papst und der Gründung der unabhängigen Gewerkschaft Solidarnosc auszuscheren begann, war der größtmögliche Ernstfall gegeben, der Abgrund schien so nah wie Anfang der 60er Jahre, als Nikita Chruschtschow atomare Sprengkörper auf Kuba stationieren ließ. Von diesen beiden zentralen Gefahrensituationen handelt der Themenabend: In Alfred Hitchcocks Agententhriller "Topas" geht es um die Kubakrise, in dem preisgekrönten Dokumentarfilm "Kriegsspiele" von Dariusz Jablonski um den legendären Major Kuklinski, der als hoher Stabsoffizier des Warschauer Paktes durch seinen Geheimnisverrat an die Amerikaner die Welt womöglich vor dem Dritten Weltkrieg bewahrte.

am So, 21.02. um 20:17 arte

Topas

Spionagethriller

Dauer: 123 min (f)

Beschreibung: Zu Beginn der 60er Jahre spitzt sich der Kalte Krieg bedrohlich zu. Vom stellvertretenden KGB-Chef Boris Kusenov, der sich mit seiner Familie in die USA absetzt, erhält der amerikanische Geheimdienst Informationen über russische Militäraktivitäten auf Kuba. In dieser prekären Lage bittet CIA-Agent Michael Nordstrom seinen guten Freund André Devereaux um Hilfe. Der französische Geheimagent schleust seinen Komplizen Philippe Dubois in eine kubanische Delegation ein, die in einem New Yorker Hotel wohnt.

am So, 21.02. um 22:20 arte

War Games

Dokumentarfilm

Dauer: 110 min (g)

Beschreibung: Wer war Ryszard Kuklinski, der ohne Waffengewalt und ohne offenes politisches Engagement, dafür aber mit starkem persönlichen Einsatz ein Stück Geschichte schrieb? Der Dokumentarfilm zeichnet das Porträt eines der berühmtesten Spione des Kalten Krieges, der selbst beteuert, nur als gewöhnlicher Soldat seine Pflicht getan zu haben - aus Liebe zu seinem Vaterland.

am Mo, 22.02. um 22:05 N24

Die Firma

Das Ministerium für Staatssicherheit der DDR

Dokumentation

Dauer: 54 min (h)

Beschreibung: Das Ministerium für Staatssicherheit der DDR war neben dem Staatsschutz für Auslandsaufklärung und Spionageabwehr, Personen- und Objektschutz sowie Grenz- und Passkontrollen zuständig. Doch vieles, was die "Stasi" verfolgte, fällt unter die Menschenrechte: Meinungsfreiheit,

Demonstrationsrecht, Freizügigkeit. "Die Firma" zeigt die Allgegenwart der Staatssicherheit - vom Ministerium in Berlin über Bunker und Abhörenanlagen bis hin zur geheimen Hinrichtungsstätte der DDR.

am Mo, 22.02. um 22:50 SF1

Leben im Minenfeld - Kambodschas tödliches Erbe

Dokumentation

Dauer: 60 min (i)

Beschreibung: Kambodscha ist ein traumhaft schönes, fruchtbares Land mit lächelnden, freundlichen Menschen. Doch der Schein trügt. 30 Jahre Krieg haben ein tödliches Erbe zurückgelassen. Jeden Monat explodieren hier etwa 60 Landminen. Kambodscha hat die meisten Minenamputierten der Welt: 35'000 Menschen haben hier bei Unfällen Füße, Beine oder Arme verloren. Mit jedem Schritt riskiert man hier sein Leben. Eindrücklich zeigt die norwegische "DOK"-Filmerin Marit Gjertsen, wie selbstverständlich die Bevölkerung mit dieser allgegenwärtigen Bedrohung umgeht.

am Di, 23.02. um 11:45 arte

Die Geschichte von Irène - Die Geschichte des jüdischen Geschwisterpaares Irène und Bernard Hilda

Dokumentation

Dauer: 35 min (j)

Beschreibung: "The show must go on" - diesem Leitmotiv folgend, trat das jüdische Geschwisterpaar Irène und Bernard Hilda auch während des Zweiten Weltkrieges auf: Irène schloss sich beispielsweise als Sängerin den USO Camp Shows an, ihr Bruder leitete unter anderem in Nizza das Varieté-Theater "Le Perroquet", wo auch Pierre Dac, Lucienne Boyer, Édith Piaf und Maurice Chevalier auftraten. Dem Geschwisterpaar war in bewegten Zeiten ein außergewöhnliches Schicksal beschieden.

am Di, 23.02. um 20:17 arte

Burma VJ

Themenabend: Widerstand in Birma - Deutsche Erstaussstrahlung

Dokumentarfilm

Dauer: 83 min (k)

Beschreibung: Tiefe Einblicke in die Realität Birmas, auch Myanmar genannt, die weit über das hinausgehen, was gelegentliche Nachrichten über dieses abgeschottete Land berichten, gewährt der dänische Regisseur Anders Østergaard mit seinem Dokumentarfilm. Er zeigt das Material von Undercover-Videojournalisten (VJs), die den Alltag ihres Landes mit kleinen Handy-Kameras filmen, obwohl sie dafür Folter und lebenslange Haft riskieren. Für Anders Østergaards Dokumentarfilm wurde erstmals eine Vielzahl dieser Aufnahmen zusammengesetzt, so dass größere Zusammenhänge erkennbar werden.

am Mi, 24.02. um 20:15 arte

Der Andersdenkende - Andrej Dmitrijewitsch Sacharow

Deutsche Erstaussstrahlung

Dokumentarfilm

Dauer: 95 min (l)

Beschreibung: Der Physiker Andrej Dmitrijewitsch Sacharow gehört zu den Vätern der sowjetischen Atombombe. Doch der Physiker war nicht blind für das Gefahrenpotenzial seiner Forschungsergebnisse. Immer stärker engagierte er sich gegen den Einsatz von Atomwaffen und die Wahrung der Menschenrechte in seiner Heimat. Trotz einer Auszeichnung mit dem Friedensnobelpreis wurde er seiner Privilegien als Wissenschaftler beraubt und als Staatsfeind in die Verbannung geschickt.

- (a) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-24191021&tvid=477c498a81159bef1dd366450729ac56>
- (b) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-24165472&tvid=477c498a81159bef1dd366450729ac56>
- (c) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-24435182&tvid=477c498a81159bef1dd366450729ac56>
- (d) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-24239140&tvid=477c498a81159bef1dd366450729ac56>
- (e) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-24075464&tvid=477c498a81159bef1dd366450729ac56>
- (f) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-24075465&tvid=477c498a81159bef1dd366450729ac56>
- (g) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-24075466&tvid=477c498a81159bef1dd366450729ac56>
- (h) <http://www.n24.de/php/epg.php?week=1>
- (i) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-24421699&tvid=477c498a81159bef1dd366450729ac56>
- (j) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-24075517&tvid=477c498a81159bef1dd366450729ac56>
- (k) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-24075531&tvid=477c498a81159bef1dd366450729ac56>
- (l) <http://tv.intern.de/index.php?site=Detail&id=216-0-24075568&tvid=477c498a81159bef1dd366450729ac56>

Deadline for application: 23 February 2010

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